

# The Squires Wire

March 29, 2016

BucksMont Squires of Song

*Home of the 2013 Atlantic Division Plateau A Chorus Champions*

## ReMEMber - MEMbership begins with ME

**Calendar Alert** – **New items** are listed in “Mark Your Calendar” and the website as follows:

- April 15, Scott Petri Expo
- April 27 Delaware Veterans Home
- May 14, Bristol Stroll, combined with Country Gentlemen
- May 17, Guest Night
- June 18, Squires + Vintage Harmony Combined Picnic

**“If You Want To Grow, First Determine Why To Grow,”** by Marty Monson, Society CEO, is an article in the May/June 2015 issue of the Harmonizer. It came from an experience he had with a ... 10 member chapter ... that is doing some important things right and is looking to grow (Sound familiar?) His talking points were a) 10 members ... strong, b) Perfect shouldn't be the enemy of good, c) Path to growth: improvement, purpose and fun, d) Prioritize fun, e) Have a purpose.

A summary follows:

For small choruses, the motivation to get together is no different than ... years ago when African-Americans gathered ... to harmonize. They weren't trying to create a 150-member chorus; they were just getting together to ring some chords. Musical leadership is a key feature of chapter health ... to ensure members kept coming forever to be reinvigorated through song.

Can we expect that any chapter's music leader will stay forever? The answer is no. Yet, without a good director, chapter membership ebbs and flows. Your community likely has directors both inside and outside barbershop circles ... allow them to simply do what they do well – teach ensemble singing. Meanwhile, the chapter can continually develop members into better leaders so that when your director goes away(!), your leadership and vision – and your chapter – remain intact.

Never move past the fundamentals of *why your chapter is meeting every week*. Sometimes you can be consumed with “I want to grow.” But how and *why do you want to grow?* What is your culture? What do you want to accomplish? What musical styles ... to add ...? How often?

There is a ... need to drive for musical improvement on the one hand, and the priority to have fun on the other. You need both, or eventually you'll have neither.

Singing has made a difference in your life. I hope you are using singing to change lives throughout your community. Look for programs unique ... to your communities ... you'll connect with those who can strengthen your chapter's mission or even join you on the risers.

*“How to grow is only half the equation – you also need to decide why!”*

*Happy Birthday for the Month of March to: **Ray Cramer** (31)*

## EVENTS CALENDAR

*(Events are also listed at website: [bms.harmonize.com](http://bms.harmonize.com))*

<b>PERFORMANCES &amp; OUTINGS</b>	<b>EVENTS OF INTEREST</b>
April 15, Fri, Scott Petri Expo April 27, Wed, Delaware Valley Veterans Home	Mon, April 11, National Barbershop Quartet Day Sat, April 23, Passover (Starts sunset, Apr 22)

## **Mark Your Calendar**

- ◆ Pine Barons Show, April 2, Saturday, 2 & 7:30pm, Blackwood, NJ
- ◆ Mainliner Show, April 9, Saturday, 2 pm, Malvern, PA
- ◆ National Barbershop Quartet Day, April 11, Monday
- ⇒ Spring Prelims, April 15-16, Reading, PA
- ⇒ **Rep. Scott Petri Expo**, (178<sup>th</sup> District), April 15, Fri, 10-2, arr. 9:45am, Spring Mill Manor, Ivyland. Blue outfit, half table display.
- ⇒ **Delaware Valley Veterans Home**, April 27, Wed, arrive 6:15pm. Wear vestless outfit with patriotic cap
  - ◆ Brothers in Harmony Show, April 30, Saturday, 2pm, Bordentown, NJ
- ⇒ **Newtown Welcome Day 2016**, Sun, May 1. Arrive 1:15pm, Sing at 2PM, Blue outfit.
  - ◆ YIH Festival, May 7, Saturday, 7 pm, Doylestown, PA, Sponsor – Bucks County Country Gentlemen
- ⇒ M-AD Central Division Convention, May 13-14, Harrisburg, PA
- ⇒ **Bristol Stroll**, May 14, Sunday, Joint appearance with Country Gentlemen; arrive 8:45am
- ⇒ **Guest Night**, May 17, Tuesday, Blue outfit
- ⇒ M-AD Harmony College East, June 17-19, Salisbury, MD
- ⇒ **Squires + Vintage Harmony Combined Picnic**, Sat, June 18, arrive 11:30am, Core Creek Park, Pavilion #9
- ⇒ **31<sup>st</sup> Lansdale Songfest** at Sellersville, June 21, Tue, arrive 6pm
- ⇒ **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Middletown Independence Parade**, July 4, Mon, Arrive 8am, Blue Outfit, Patriotic hat
- ⇒ BHS International, July 3-10, Nashville, TN
- ⇒ **Northampton Concert**, Thurs, July 28, Northampton Municipal Park. Arr 6:15, Sing at 7PM; Black outfit
- ⇒ **Ft. Washington Estates**, Sep 1, Thurs, 6:15 pm arrival, sing at 7pm; Vestless uniform
- ⇒ M-AD Fall District Convention, Sep 16-18, Lancaster, PA



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*The BucksMont Squires of Song represents the Abington-Levittown Chapter,  
Central Division, Mid-Atlantic District, of the Barbershop Harmony Society*  
<http://bms.harmonize.com>; [www.MidAtlanticDistrict.com](http://www.MidAtlanticDistrict.com); [www.barbershop.org](http://www.barbershop.org)  
Email: [BucksMontSquires@gmail.com](mailto:BucksMontSquires@gmail.com)

Follow us on [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com); our page is "BucksMont Squires of Song"

*The Abington-Levittown Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization*

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