

**CSD Fall 2022 House of Delegates Meeting
 Double Tree Hotel, Lawrence, Kansas
 Friday, October 7, 2022, 11:00 a.m.**



Where the Harmony Began

District President Duane Lawson opened the meeting at 11:00 a.m. and reminded the Delegates of the mission of the Society “to bring people together in harmony and fellowship to enrich lives through singing” with the vision of “Everyone In Harmony”. Veteto led



“The Old Songs”. Secretary Fuerniss stated we have a **quorum**. Business will be conducted following Roberts Rules of Order for small boards.



Recognition of Past District Presidents and dignitaries: President Lawson recognized District Immediate Past President, Chad Schuetz; past presidents John Marshall, Harvey Kiser, and Jim Nugent. From Harmony Hall, Society Representative, Luke Davis; Society President, John Donehower: BHS Board Member-elect, Tim Myers; Harmony Foundation International CEO, Perry White.

Invocation and Chapter Eternal Invocation was offered by Executive Vice President Matt Suellentrop and the following deceased CSD barbershoppers were inducted into the CSD Chapter Eternal

Maynard Schudel	Ord, NE	Boyd Ostrem	Viborg, SD
Burdett Tordoff	Kansas City, MO	Paul Lundberg	Des Moines, IA
Edgar Sunderman	Kansas City, M	Dan Wiedel	Beatrice, NE
Jimmie Pierce	Springfield, MO	Austin Stiles	Leavenworth
Kenneth Clement	Ord, NE	John McNamara	Davenport, IA
Gilbert Nussbaum	St. Charles, MO	Dale Vanderford	Lincoln, NE
Stephen Waters	Elkader, IA	Joel Sult	Mason City, IA
Junior Thede	Waterloo, IA	Charles Scherz	Greater Ozarks, AR
Doug Boelman	Blackhawk Metro, IA	Charles Meyer, Jr.	Leavenworth
Robert Schuerman	Beatrice, NE	Jim Inghram	St. Charles, MO
Robert E. Sharp, Jr.	Leavenworth, KS	Dale Neuman	Kansas City, MO
Frederick Whisman	Kansas City, MO	Ron McIntire	Kansas City, MO
Michael Short	Cedar Rapids, IA	Richard Korek	Kansas City, MO

Self Introduction of Board Members: District President, Duane Lawson; Matt Suellentrop, Executive V.P.; Mike Bass, Missouri and Arkansas State V.P.; Chad Schuetz, Immediate Past President; Mark Fuerniss, Secretary; Larry Warrick, Treasurer; Kevin Barker, Kansas State V.P.; Jake Bartlett, Nebraska State V.P.; Jeff Arians, Iowa State V.P. (Dave Stephenson, South Dakota State V.P, absent.)



Song Break: Jeff Veteto and “Down Our Way”.

Treasurers Report. President Lawson reported that the Board passed a motion to receive the Treasurer's Report with an amendment. Treasurer Warrick reviewed the report as posted on the District website <https://www.singcsd.com>: The Fall 2022 Financial report consists of three reports.



- Spring Convention 2022 Report
- Financial Report Income and Expenses as of September 1, 2022
- Balance Sheet as of September 1, 2022

Spring Convention 2022 Report. Warrick pointed out a Hotel Room Attrition expense on page 2 under Travel & Meeting Expenses of \$5,465.30 because we did not meet our negotiated room/nights at the Spring Convention. Warrick commented that we probably would have been okay if we had choruses in attendance at this convention. With just quartets, we were short rooms. Kudos to Doug Brott who tried to negotiate this expense with the hotel. Bottom line for the Spring Convention, we were in the red \$16,446.58. Fortunately, we have reserves that can take care of this.

Income and Expense as of September 1, 2022 we were \$12,862.85 in the red basically because of the Spring convention.

Balance Sheet as of September 1, 2022 In our checking account we have \$62,763.47; \$16,846.81 in our Money Market Account, and \$22,278.98 in our Certificate of Deposit, and in current assets another \$3,000 in Convention Funding Advance. Total cash assets as of September 1 were \$104,889.26. During the pandemic, our expenses went down to practically nil while we had income from dues, Harmony Foundation donations and BHS Development funds coming in. Goal is to reach \$116,000 before I leave office. These reports are posted on the District website <https://www.singcsd.com>.

There were no questions on the 2022 Fall Financial Reports.

2023 Budget. Treasurer Warrick stated that the board approved an amended budget last night. The 2023 revised Proposed Budget is in the black \$150.45: This budget includes income of a little over \$19,000 for spring convention, \$44,000+ for the fall District convention, projected dues of \$24,840, and other incidental income, for a total projected income of \$116,571.00. \$800 was proposed as an expense for a history display environmentally controlled storage space. \$2,500 for Board Meeting and Conventions was added last night for a board/PAT retreat meeting sometime next year. \$2500 for Membership Development (Line 8495) was not requested so was taken out. \$180 is a guess for the price of an ad at International. Total ordinary expenses for this part of the budget is \$86,065.22. The rest of the budget are expenses for Board and PAT members, hotel and travel to conventions based on rough mileage from Google aps and hotel rates. At the bottom of the budget, President Lawson asked for \$5,000 for Chorus Director Development, a program we have not had for a number of years. This brings total expenses to \$116,420.55, and an overall budget for 2023 of \$150.45 in the black. Lawson added that Larry Monson will be running the Chorus Director Development program with a committee including Jake Bartlett. We're expecting about half the money to go towards attending conventions and the rest for director scholarships for our district to go to Harmony University. It was noted that there no longer funds from the Society for director scholarships to Harmony U. Warrick added that this last year the district provided one full and two half scholarships to directors to Harmony U.

Harvey Kiser moved to approve the budget as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes and Consent Calendar. Secretary Fuerniss stated the minutes of Spring 2022 meetings and Consent Calendar have been posted on District website and asked if there were any additions, corrections. Lawson added that the minutes were approved by the Board last night. Past President Kiser noted that in the Executive Director’s report, of the Consent Calendar, the Midwinter Convention in 2024 will take place in January 9 – 14 in New York, rather than July 9 – 14. Society representative Davis clarified that a chorus member must be a chapter member, although a chapter member need not be a chorus member. Past President Marshall moved for the approval of the Consent Calendar. If approval of the Consent Calendar is not necessary, Marshall withdrew his motion.

Chad Schuetz Nominations of officers

Slate of officers for the Board was presented: Matt Suellentrop for District President, and Brett Randolph for Executive Vice President. Kiser moved to approve the slate as presented. Seconded by Marshall, passed unanimously.

Nominations received from chapter presidents for State V.P.s: Mike Bass for Missouri, Arkansas; Dave Stephenson, South Dakota; and Rick Pape for Nebraska. These men were elected to the respective State V.P. office by their state chapter presidents.

Program Administrative Team Reports. Suellentrop summarized: for

- **Events**, Doug Brott: 518 attendees with 443 full registrations. *Vocal Spectrum* is currently engaged in Youth outreach visiting various high schools in the Kansas City area which may bring in additional attendees. We are in Lawrence for the next two fall conventions and in Iowa City this coming spring and again spring 2025. Conventions sites are on the website through 2027. Events team is always looking for chapter willing to host a convention. There is a financial incentive for hosting a convention. The new date of next spring’s convention is correct and on the web site, March 16 – 17, 2023 in Iowa City.
- **Chapter Support and Leadership Training, Leadership Academy**, Bret Randolph November 19 in Shawnee, Kansas, for current leaders, incoming leaders, future leaders and potential leaders. Lunch catered by Old Shawnee Pizza. For every five registrants, fifth one is free. Officer centered training in the morning, general sessions in the afternoon. Finishing off with a performance by Union Station.
- **Contest and Judging**, Carter Combs Next year window for contest and judging applicant July – end of year. If you are interested or know of someone that may be, visit with Carter.
- **Music and Performance, HEP School**, Jeff Veteto, Annual HEP School planned for February 25, 2023, in St. Joseph, one text away from confirming location, an opportunity for quartets and choruses to get some great coaching.
- **Marketing and P.R.** Excited to have Sandi Wright as the new V.P. for Marketing and P.R.



State V.P. Goals

- **Missouri and Arkansas V.P.**, Mike Bass, challenged us to find barbershoppers that have been missing since 2019, invite them back.
- **Iowa V.P.**, Jeff Arians, impressed with Iowa City’s Cookie Festival. Would like to get all Iowa chapters together next year.
- **Nebraska V.P.**, Jake Bartlett, Nebraska chapter collaborated with 190 singer performed the National Anthem at the Nebraska football game against Georgia Southern. Goal is to keep

active chapters active, introduce incoming State V.P. Rick Pape to chapters he may not know yet and continue working with him next year. Continue informal review of Nebraska chapter websites.

- **South Dakota V.P.**, Dave Stephenson could not make the convention.
- **Kansas V.P.**, Kevin Barker, Would like to get Kansas chapters together to sing the National Anthem somewhere.

Good time for a song break.



Song Break: Jeff Veteto, "Hello Mary Lou".

Unfinished Business

Chapter Festivals. Chad Schuetz, a couple years ago some money was set aside in the budget that chapters could use for start-up/seed money to develop inter-chapter activities. Going to put together a format/guidelines so that it's easier to request monies through your State V.P.s. Hopefully clarification will encourage you to apply for the funds. Goal is for inter-chapter activities. Lawson suggested perhaps \$500/event based on available funds. Past President Jim Nugent of the Greater Ozarks, AR chapter announced plans for an all day clinic in Joplin, MO, April 14, 2023 as part of **Joplin's 150th Anniversary**



celebration and Ragtime Salute to Percy Wenrich. A concert planned for each night, Friday April 14 and Saturday April 15 at Missouri Southern State University with barbershoppers all over the Central States District with a big show featuring rag-time music on April 15. Featured are two internationally known quartets, *Forum* and *Titanium*. Totally free. Barbershoppers will be able to sing both nights, Jeff Veteto Friday night and Jim Henry Saturday night. Bobby Gray has more information. Harmony Foundation is helping sponsor this event through their AIC Outreach Program; \$2500 from the Greater Ozarks chapter and \$5000 from the Joplin Chapter.

District Bylaws A committee, comprised of Mark Erikson, Mark Fuerniss, Chad Schuetz, Matt Suellentrop, and Duane Lawson have been reviewing our district bylaws aligning them with the BHS Standard District Bylaws. Major changes were the removal of gender references. Our proposed District Bylaws have been approved by the BHS Governance and Bylaws Committee and have been posted on our website. Moved and seconded by Warrick to approve the bylaws. Motion passed unanimously. Secretary Fuerniss pointed out there are BHS Standard Chapter Bylaws posted on the BHS Document Center, search for Chapter Bylaws.

Society Representative and BHS Customer Service Manager, Luke Davis addressed the House.



Originally from O'Fallon, MO, currently BHS Customer Service Manager. Current membership numbers for the Society, 13,790, an 8% growth since the start of the year; 635 chapters; 733 choruses; 13 women's choruses; 116 chapters with all voice choruses; 715 registered quartets; 24 women's quartets; 16 mixed quartets. In 2021, Society raised \$300,000. Step-Up Campaign, with a \$100,000 donor matching funds, currently has \$58,000 been matched. We have programs to help chapters fund raise for themselves.

85% money raised goes to the chapter, 15% to impact areas of the Society. A little over 5,000 attended

this year's **International Convention**, first International Convention for 1/5 attendees; 37 competing choruses; 48 competing quartets; 14 singing communities, quartets and choruses, participated in the festival. The financial impact was not as much as they wanted, but the convention was a significant financial contributor. 326 reported covid cases from 1200 attendees returning surveys. Central States was well represented on faculty at **Harmony University**. The districts did provide scholarships for directors attending Harmony U, \$23,000 from all districts. Over 400 attendees with 60 faculty members. **Next Generation**, Song Writers project, linked choruses up with song writers. 139th Street Legacy Prize awarded at next International. Highest scoring quartets with at least two new members to barbershop eligible to win \$10,000. **Social Media**, 34,000 likes on Facebook; also have Instagram and Twitter accounts. 187,000 YouTube subscribers with 91,000,000 views. Videos from international will be released the next two weeks. A big watch party on the 17th with performances in order and quartet interviews. Big focus for all branches of staff is how we can get people to return. **Customer Service**. Trying to make processes simpler for our chapter and district leaders, to help manage members. Encourage delegates to educate themselves with tutorials on Member Center. The more you know, the better you can help your members. Report problems with tutorials to him. New tool on Member Center is the Membership Dues Calculator. There are a lot of improvements to make. **Upcoming Dates**. Virtual Harmony U coming up in November. Feb 7 – 12, 2023 is Midwinter. International in Louisville next July. Harmony U end of July. And Midwinter in January 2024, not July.



Society President John Donehower recalled being in a small chapter in Wisconsin at an early age, and dreamed of standing on International stage at quartet finals, and 50 years later, he stood on International stage in Charlotte but instead of being handed a trophy as he dreamed as a kid, he was handing the trophy to our new champions. “Now there is an old saying that ‘It is better to give than to receive.’ hmm. . .” John recognized the many chapter, district, and society leaders that helped him become a leader. Rather than looking for “leaders” look for those that have the potential to be a leader. You have to make your leaders. Invest your time with your chapter. It's been an honor. Be kind to each other. Appreciate each other. Thank each other for coming to sing. Bless you all.



Harmony Foundation International CEO, Perry White. Gave a brief update on three programs donors to the foundation are supporting that he mentioned at the spring House of Delegate Spring: AIC outreach program, Power of Harmony Program, and District Direct. **AIC Outreach Program** started one year ago in Land O' Lakes, Illinois, and Far Western districts. Have 10 AIC quartets, including *After Hours*, *Crossroads*, *Forefront*, *Main Street*, *Sync*, *Storm Front*, *OC Times*, *Vocal Spectrum*, *Masterpiece*, and *Forum*, participating in the AIC Outreach program going out into underserved communities and public schools. Over \$50,000 went out to those districts and chapters that participated in bringing those quartets to their area. In 2021, impacted about 2100 students, their teachers, and hundreds of barbershoppers in two days in the southern California area. In 2022, there are seven districts, including Central States, that have taken advantage of the AIC Outreach Program, eight chapters as well, with \$174,000 going out to support the preservation and perpetuation of barbershop at the local and regional level. By the end of



2022, there will be an additional 3,000 students engaged with those quartets. Paseo Academy, from Kansas City will be coming to the convention as a result of *Vocal Spectrum* working with them. Schools are busing student to Liberty, MO to work with *Vocal Spectrum*. The Kansas City chapter received a AIC Outreach grant to host an event the first of December and will be bringing in Main Street. The event in April in Joplin, MO that Jim Nugent mentioned may be the largest AIC Outreach event to date. Hope the district gets behind it, that its publicized and gets students and barbershop there. [Power of Harmony](#), anti-recidivism program for youth, all four phases, performance, education, participation, and membership, are fully implemented in the State of Ohio. The *Men of Independence Chorus* will do their



Christmas program in all three facilities in the state of Ohio. Taking and singing and music education programs into those facilities; have singing ensembles in all three institutions. To change lives, must change behaviors that got them there. Must have network of mentors to engage the young men. Starting a program in Gainesville, Texas, with the assistance of the Vocal Majority. This program is much needed in our Society. HFI received funding from the Josh Groban's "Find your Light" Foundation and some private family foundations. Received an individual gift of \$195,000 to fund administrative component of Power of Harmony program for the next three years so that every dollar that is given will go directly to funding the components of the program. We have proposals on our desks of nearly \$700,000 at the federal, state, and family foundation levels majority of those coming up from . The Foundation ends its fiscal year on September 30 so those receiving **Donor Choice** checks, District Direct Dollars, etc., those checks should be in your post office box now or in the next couple weeks. Over the first three quarters, donors of the Foundation have pumped in \$612,000 to districts, chapters, brigades, communities that are promoting singing through the District-Direct model, our national granting pool, through Donor's Choice, and AIC Outreach. Most pleased that these dollars to support our programs are coming from all over the country. Proud that the Foundation can serve as a conduit to pool those dollars and try to get those dollars and support where they are needed the most. If you are a donor, "Thank You". Your gifts are making all of these things happen. If you're not a donor, think about becoming one.

No other items from the floor. President Lawson thanked the delegates for their time. Encourage them to reach out to the Program Administrative Team members and board members. Michael Bass moved to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

John Donehower reminded President Lawson that this will be his last meeting and Central States President. Thanks Duane.

Jeff Veteto led the House in "Keep The Whole World Singing.

Meeting adjourned 12:35 pm

Minutes compiled by
Mark Fuerniss, Secretary
Central States District