

# CSD Fall 2020 Board Meeting

## Virtual Zoom meeting

### October 10, 2020, 10:00 am



*Where the Harmony Began*

**President Chad Schuetz** opened the Fall Board of Directors meeting opened with "The Old Songs" We operate under Roberts Rules of Order for Small Boards. Introductions were made.



#### **In Attendance.**

**District Board Members:** Chad Schuetz, District President; John Marshall, Immediate Past District President; Duane Lawson, Executive Vice President; Larry Warrick, District Treasurer; Mark Fuerniss, District Secretary; Lyle Schwery, Iowa State V.P., Leonard, Kinzie, Kansas State V.P.; David Stephenson, South Dakota State V.P.; Jake Bartlett, Nebraska State V.P.; Paul Fuhrmann, Missouri-Arkansas State V.P.

**Special guests:** Blair Brown, BHS Board Member at Large. Past District Presidents: Don Fuson, Dale Schulz, Mark Erikson, and Harvey Kiser. Other guests: Brett Randolph, District Chapter Support and Leadership Training V.P.; Mike Bass, District Membership V.P.; Doug Brott, District Convention Chairman; Michael Pommier, District Marketing and P.R. V.P.; Jeff Veteto, District Music and Performance V.P.; Matt Suellentrop, District Events V.P.; and Carter Combs, District Contest and Judging V.P.

#### **Convention Update:** Doug Brott, CSD **Convention Chairman,**



The Spring 2020 and Fall 2020 conventions were cancelled. Assuming we can have a Spring Convention in 2021, the convention will be in Iowa City. We are scheduled to return to Lawrence, KS in Fall 2021; Fall 2022 in Altoona, IA. **Events V.P. Matt Suellentrop** reported contracts were reworked to have the Spring 2022 in Wichita, KS.

One more year of a three-year contract for Iowa City in Spring 2023. Future convention dates are posted on the CSD website under "Conventions". A site visit was conducted in Mason City at the beginning of the year, 2020 for a future convention there. Discussions are taking place with hotel and schools in Iowa City about cancellation date for Spring 2021 convention. Donna will help with negotiations with the Hotel. In addition to high schools in Iowa City, John Marshall and the Iowa City Chapter Convention team is considering the Coralville Convention Center. Fuson asked at what point in time would choruses/quartets commit to coming to our Spring Convention. **Contest & Judging V.P. Carter Combs** stated that, in the event CSD does not have a Spring Convention in 2021, International competing quartets can qualify by video or competing in another district. (20:54) Chorus qualifiers from last year are automatically qualified. Choruses can compete in Cleveland in a chorus festival and qualify to compete in the actual chorus finals. State V.P. should make sure their chapters are aware of these opportunities. Qualifiers for the Los Angeles Convention are grandfathered into the Cleveland Convention. Anyone who competed and scored above 81 in the prior year is also grandfathered in. See *Livewire* articles (09.04.20) and *Harmonizer Magazine* (May/June 2020), Society web site

(<https://www.barbershop.org/events/international-convention/contests>), and the Fall 2020 Consent Calendar.

**Financial Report** Larry Warrick, CSD Treasurer, reviewed the financial reports for Fall 2020 posted on CSD web site, under “Administration”.



**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter vs Budget.** Gross Profit for the first nine months is \$26,118.75. Net income is \$10,779.37 in the black.

**Balance Sheet.** Our checking account has \$41,927.83; State Nebraska Bank has \$100; the Money Market Account has \$11,815.93; and Certificate of Deposit, \$21,046.79. Total Assets are \$77,890.55.

Treasurer Warrick moved that we receive the Financial Report. **Motion to receive the Financial Report was accepted unanimously.**

**2021 Proposed CSD Budget:** 2021 proposed budget is a little over \$4,500 in the black. Warrick reviewed some of the new items in the budget. We are now receiving member donations through BHS, in the last two months received \$299, put \$600 in the budget for revenue. (35:42) Budget includes \$5,000 expense for chorus festivals. \$2,5000 expense added to budget for membership development, \$2,000 for ACSC quartets to host recruiting events, master classes, school tours, etc., and \$500 funding to award BHS Club status to unassociated singing groups. After Oct 1, a check from Harmony Foundation Incorporation was received for \$2,785.71 as part of HFI donor choice designations (Endowment Fund Contributions), about \$400 less than last year. We should be receiving our dues for July – Sept. a little over \$6,000, about \$2,000 down from a year ago. With no questions/discussions, Warrick made a motion to accept the proposed budget for 2021. **Motion to accept the proposed budget passed unanimously.**

**ACSC Show** In place of the normal “Past Champs” show, a virtual show featuring 26 quartets using footage from CSD contests, past ACSC shows, was put together. ACSC (Association of Central States Champions) partnered with BHS to do this. BHS helped with marketing. The show will be streamed on You-Tube tonight through BHS You-Tube channel with over 140,000 followers. 85% of donations will go to the ACSC travel fund and the remaining 15% to BHS to support BHS programs. (33:02)



**Approval of minutes and Consent Calendar,** Secretary Fuerniss reported the minutes of Spring 2020 CSD Board Meeting, Spring 2020 CSD House of Delegates, and three other “emergency” meetings on May 19, May 31, and June 28, dealing with the Fall Convention scheduled for Altoona, have been posted on CSD web site. There were no questions. Motion was made by John Marshall to approve the minutes as posted. **With no objections, motion to approve the minutes was approved.**

**The Consent Calendar** for Fall 2020 has also been posted on the CSD web site. No questions on Consent Calendar. Secretary Fuerniss noted that a couple reports were submitted late and thanked the web

manager, Matt Suellentrop, for reposting the latest version of the Consent Calendar. Revisions to the Consent Calendar are noted on the cover page and at the end of the report. Two revisions are noted, October 6 and October 9, and are included in the posted Consent Calendar. (A report from John Marshall on the Election of State V.P.s did not make it to the Consent Calendar and will be posted as an addendum to these minutes.) Fuerniss thanked those that submitted reports. Motion made to approve Consent Calendar by John Marshall. **With no objections, Consent Calendar was approved.**

**Leadership Academy. Chapter Support and Leadership Training V.P. Brett Randolph** reported that he and Matt Suellentrop have had discussions with BHS Dustin Guyton regarding the possibility of hosting a virtual Leadership Academy with live sessions and on-demand sessions. Similar to what we have had in the past few years but would be a virtual, on-line setting. It would be open to all chapter members and include the usual tracks and other tracks that would be of interest. It would include some sort of virtual show to draw attendees. Waiting for feedback from BHS. (46:30) Schuetz pointed out that a virtual meeting removes some of the costs associated with an in-person event. Idea is to pair Society facilitators up with district leaders. This would be a pilot project with Harmony Hall. Randolph welcomes any suggestions as to topics to be included at the Leadership Academy that would be beneficial to chapters and their members. Mark Erikson suggested: How to keep the barbershop fellowship during the pandemic. Would have live sessions for officer training but also recorded sessions on other barbershop topics. Fuson reminded us that not all barbershoppers are technologically competent. There may be individuals that should be attending but don't know how to. District appreciated the opportunity to provide input on a recent BHS survey and timely feedback on the survey. Schuetz acknowledge greater cooperation between Presidents Council and Harmony Hall over the past year. A registration fee for the Leadership Academy is under discussion. A lower registration fee as an incentive to attract more participants. Perhaps make Leadership Academies hybrid type opportunities in post-Covid. Veteto interjected that we will not have a live HEP event next year. Have separate weekends for LA and HEP to get more involvement. Will we have quartets interested in virtual coaching? Will there be quartets comfortable getting together? (A discussion topic for the November retreat).

**Nominating Committee Report.** John Marshall, Immediate Vice President

**State V.P.s** Three states needed to elect Vice Presidents to represent chapters in their states; Nebraska, South Dakota, and Missouri-Arkansas. Supposedly at least two names for each position are to be presented to chapter presidents in each state. Must have at least 60% of chapters in each state voting for a valid election. We did not get two names for each position this year. We did not get 60% response in any of the states. Names to be presented to the House of Delegates: Jake Bartlett for Nebraska, currently serving as an appointee, will be eligible for two more two year terms; David Stephenson for South Dakota, serving as an appointee, will be eligible for one more two-year term; and Mike Bass for Missouri-Arkansas.

**Other Board Positions.** Chad Schuetz, finishing the second of a two year term, will be Immediate Past District President; Executive V.P. Duane Lawson will be the nominee for District President; and nominating committee will place Matt Suellentrop as Executive Vice President. Doug Brott will be moved into Events V.P. position. Convention Chair to replace Brott is under discussion. Secretary and Treasurer positions expire in odd years. Jeffrey Arians said he is willing to succeed Warrick if needed.

**PAT Reports.** Duane Lawson. Many of the reports appear in the Consent Calendar. A resignation was received from Aaron Zart as Youth Outreach V.P. Jonathan Andrews has accepted this position. Aaron Powell will be an assistant to Micheal Pommier as Marketing and Public Relations V.P. to help promote chapter shows.

**BOD/PAT Retreat,** live and virtual is being planned for November 21, 2020 in Harrisonille, MO. Deadline for hotel room reservation is 16<sup>th</sup> of October.

**Committee to Review Bylaws.** Secretary Fuerniss explained our current District Bylaws are dated 2012. The Society issued Standard District Bylaws in 2019 which are binding on all districts. The District is currently operating under two sets of bylaws. Schuetz would like to see a proposal regarding District bylaws by the April Board/HOD meetings. Schuetz will set up a committee to review bylaws and code of regulations and make recommendations. Mark Erikson volunteered to help review the bylaws.

### Unfinished Business

**Chapter Advocates. Brett Randolph.** District is in need of more chapter advocates for Iowa and Missouri. Chapters haven't seemed to have reached out to their chapter advocates to help with their needs. We will continue our training of chapter advocates and use them as a communication tool between the district and their chapter to meet the needs of chapters and their members.

**Chapter Festival.** \$5,000 was approved as seed money to help chapter put on a regional festival. These funds are available through the State V.P.s. Chapter or regional festivals may be a way to reintroduce chapters to their communities and their membership to market themselves, as soon as it's safe to do so.

**Marketing Plan.** Marketing and Public Relations V.P. Michael Pommier presented a marketing plan for the Spring 2021 convention in Iowa City. (1:17:35) The marketing plan includes social media, print media, utilizing *Serenade* etc. Provide a guide to promote the Spring Convention, to be posted on the Facebook page and Twitter account. Goal of "Why I Attend" was to reach out to selected individuals as to why they attend conventions and share their testimonials with chapter members. Promote the convention, not just the contest. Try to get more non-competitors to the conventions. Time lines and launch dates are listed in the plan. Include Iowa City attractions. Always a challenge is to get "contestant order of appearance" out to readers. Pommier will work with Convention Chair Doug Brott. *Serenade* portion of plan outlines pre- and post- convention issues. Goal of quartet clips is to reach out to some quartets participating in the convention for short clips promoting the convention in Iowa City, with a timeline. Perhaps get a chorus to submit a short clip. Matt does a good job getting information about the convention on the convention page. Promote the convention on the home page with some convention information, perhaps a video invitation from the District President and Host Chapter President. In addition to our traditional barbershop church service Include a list of religious services in the area on the Convention page. Include a convention FAQ section. Work with local/host chapter and reach out to local media outlets, local convention bureau; invite them to the convention. Send out press releases. Schuetz added it is great to have the timelines so we can get information out to our members as consistently as possible.



**Items from the floor.** (1:32:50) Contest & Judging V.P. requested that the state v.p.s remind their chapters that the **Society Contest and Judging Community** invited choruses to take advantage of their services by scheduling judges to join their virtual meetings to provide coaching, SCJC has received very little response. Asked the state v.p.s to reach out and encourage chapters to respond to the SCJC emails or if the chapters did not receive the emails. Chapters can submit a recording of their chorus performing to the judge.

Informal discussion followed as to how some chapters are dealing with **member apathy** due to Covid restrictions.

Don Fuson emphasized the importance of connecting with chapters via the **telephone**.

**Meeting adjourned** with a recording of "Keep The Whole World Singing". 11:50 a.m.



*Mark Fuerniss*

Recorded and transcribed by  
Mark Fuerniss, Secretary  
Central States District

## **Appendix.**

### **Election of State VP's letter**

### **Election of State VP's**

October 9, 2020 10:57 AM

From: "CSD Board" <csdboard@yahoogroups.com> on behalf of "John Marshall  
john@sellitwithjohn.com [csdboard]" <csdboard-noreply@yahoogroups.com>

To: "CSD Board" <Csdboard@yahoogroups.com>

Reply  
To: "John Marshall" <john@sellitwithjohn.com>

Gentlemen,

Having requested names and then votes from the chapter presidents to select the State VP's for MO/AK, SD and NE. this is the result of the process.

As has been the case in the past, I didn't get a response from at least 60% of the chapters in any of the States, so by rule, the election is invalid and the HOD will elect the state VPs from the slate. The good news is that South Dakota chapters who have been somewhat disconnected from CSD in the last few years, had the most responses which was 3, but they needed 4 to reach 60%.

We are supposed to submit 2 candidates for each position, but I didn't receive more than 1 for any of the positions. All the votes I received were in favor of the candidates submitted and no write-in candidates were received.

Here is the slate that needs to be presented to the HOD

Nebraska – Jacob (Jake) Bartlett  
South Dakota – David Stephenson  
Missouri/Arkansas – Mike Bass

John  
Nominating Committee Chair

**John Marshall**  
**CSD Past President**  
**Home: [319-338-3565](tel:319-338-3565)**  
**Cell: [319-330-5479](tel:319-330-5479)**  
**Email: [John@pro-technologies.net](mailto:John@pro-technologies.net)**  
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**Iowa City, IA 52245**

