



# Illinois District Association of Chapters, SPEBSQSA Inc. Spring 2025 House of Delegates Meeting **AGENDA**

Location: Doubletree Hotel at 10 Brickyard Dr, Bloomington, IL 61701

Date/Time: Friday, March 21<sup>th</sup> 2025 at 7pm

**CALL TO ORDER**

BEN DIRKS

**ROLL CALL & DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

MIKE ISELY

**READING OF THE DISTRICT MISSION & VISION STATEMENTS**

TERRY LUDWIG

Mission Statement – *The Illinois District fosters a state of close harmony by bringing the joy and excitement of music to all people.*

Vision Statement – *To keep everyone singing throughout their lives.*

**WELCOME**

BEN DIRKS

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

MIKE ISELY

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS HOD**

MIKE ISELY

Prior meeting was on September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024



## **CONSENT CALENDAR REPORTS**

MIKE ISELY

1. President's Report – Ben Dirks
2. Membership – Doug Finkbiner
3. Music & Performance – Mark Servos / Nathan Gross
4. Marketing & PR – Glenn Mills
5. Contest & Judging – Terry Ludwig
6. Events – Jeff Bowyer
7. IDEA – Jim Waldorf
8. YIH – Evan Patrick
9. Chorus Director Development – Carrie Marcotte
10. CSLT – John Q. Morris
11. Historical – Rich Hansen
12. Awards – Doug Ferrier

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

LEIF WILDMAN

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Harmony College Midwest – Mark Servos / Nathan Gross
2. Chapter President's Council – William Rathmann
3. Four year plan – Ben Dirks
4. Website update – Glenn Mills

## **NEW BUSINESS**

5. Fall Convention – Jeff Bowyer
6. District-wide survey – Ben Dirks
7. Chapter Liaisons – Ben Dirks
8. Dues Discussion – Ben Dirks
9. Fall 2025 HOD Date – Mike Isely

## **ADJOURNMENT**

BEN DIRKS



HOD Attendance (P for Present, A for Absent, L for Late)

<b>Chapter Delegates</b>			
<b>IF YOUR CHAPTER HAS THE WRONG DELEGATE HERE THEN YOU NEED TO FIX THIS BEFORE THE HOD MEETING TAKES PLACE. PLEASE CONTACT <a href="mailto:isely@pobox.com">isely@pobox.com</a> FOR QUESTIONS</b>			
<b>P/L/A</b>	<b>Chapter Name</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Delegate</b>
	Arlington Heights, IL	E002	* Calvin Cheng
	Aurora, IL	E003	* Lester Grossman
	Belleville, IL	E005	* William Rathmann
	Bloomington, IL	E007	David Garrett
	Macomb, IL	E008	Craig Rigg
	Northbrook, IL	E009	Earl Holtz
	Danville, IL	E013	* Bryan Schroeder
	Decatur, IL	E014	James Barr
	Coles County, IL	E017	+* Leif Wildman
	Elgin, IL	E018	* Keith Rosborough
	Rockford Metro, IL	E019	* Richard Schultz
	Lake County, IL	E021	* Timothy Ferguson
	Bureau County, IL	E024	* John Swanson
	Chicagoland West Suburban, IL	E030	* Anthony Emerson
	Peoria, IL	E044	* Michael Cosner
	Chicago Metro, IL	E045	* Bonnie Jones
	Rockford, IL	E047	* Dan Adler
	Rock Island, IL	E048	!
	Will-Cook, IL	E050	* Neil DeVore
	Sterling Rock Falls, IL	E052	* Tim Pashon
	Waterloo, IL	E054	* James Heise
	Springfield, IL	E061	Patrik Claussen
	DuPage Valley, IL	E066	* Kevin Connell
	Kishwaukee Valley, IL	E067	!
	Carbondale, IL	E075	!
(total = 0 / 25)			

\* Chapter did not specifically declare a delegate; substituting Chapter President  
 + Delegate appears in multiple places or is a District Governance Board officer or a Past President; thus will still only have ONE vote!  
 ! No information provided by this chapter (missing declared chapter officers), thus no delegate



HOD Attendance (P for Present, A for Absent, L for Late)

<b>Governance Board</b>		
<b>P/L/A</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>
	Benjamin Dirks	President
	Glenn Mills	Executive VP
	Mike Isely	Secretary
	Leif Wildman	Treasurer
	Doug Finkbiner	At-Large (Membership)
	Jeff Bowyer	At-Large (Events)
	Terry Ludwig	At-Large (C & J)
	John Q. Morris	At-Large
N/A	(Terry Ludwig)	Imm. Past President
(total = 8)		

<b>Active Past Presidents</b> (and not currently on Gov. Board)	
<b>P/L/A</b>	<b>Name</b>
	Mike Bagby
N/A	(Jeff Bowyer)
	Bob Cearnal
	Dave Cowin
	Rich Hansen
	Jeff Lathom
N/A	(Terry Ludwig)
	Earl Meseth
	Brett Mulford
	Bob Squires
	Will Thorndike
	Jim Waldorf
	Syl Wetle
(total = 11)	

<b>Operations</b>		
<b>P/L/A</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>
	Glenn Mills	Marketing & PR
	Evan Patrick	Youth In Harmony
	Kevin O'Keefe	Membership
	Mark Servos	Music & Performance
	Nathan Gross	
	Rich Hansen	Historian
	John Q Morris	CSLT
	Carrie Marcotte	Chorus Director Development
	Doug Ferrier	Awards
(total = 9)		

# IL District Association of Chapters, SPEBSQSA

## Balance Sheet

As of January 31, 2025

	TOTAL
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
1010 Checking Account	27,554.00
1015 US Bank Money Market	52,572.49
1020 Wells Fargo	0.00
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$80,126.49</b>
Other Current Assets	<b>\$ -932.00</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$79,194.49</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$79,194.49</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$79,194.49</b>

# IL District Association of Chapters, SPEBSQSA

## Profit and Loss by Class

	FALL CONVENTION	2024-BLOOMINGTON	TOTAL FALL CONVENTION	TOTAL
<b>Income</b>				
5100 Event Income				\$0.00
Hotel Rebates/Comp Room Credits		1,960.00	1,960.00	\$1,960.00
On Line Registrations		14,495.06	14,495.06	\$14,495.06
On Site Registrations		1,450.00	1,450.00	\$1,450.00
<b>Total 5100 Event Income</b>		<b>17,905.06</b>	<b>17,905.06</b>	<b>\$17,905.06</b>
5450 Advertising Revenue		1,085.65	1,085.65	\$1,085.65
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$18,990.71</b>	<b>\$18,990.71</b>	<b>\$18,990.71</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$18,990.71</b>	<b>\$18,990.71</b>	<b>\$18,990.71</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
7500 Contract Services Expenses				\$0.00
7510 Chapter Convention Stipend		500.00	500.00	\$500.00
7540 Judging Expense		5,344.89	5,344.89	\$5,344.89
<b>Total 7500 Contract Services Expenses</b>		<b>5,844.89</b>	<b>5,844.89</b>	<b>\$5,844.89</b>
8100 Nonpersonnel expenses				\$0.00
8110 Supplies		94.77	94.77	\$94.77
8120 Awards, Plaques & Pins		1,127.30	1,127.30	\$1,127.30
8170 Printing & Copying		1,325.50	1,325.50	\$1,325.50
<b>Total 8100 Nonpersonnel expenses</b>		<b>2,547.57</b>	<b>2,547.57</b>	<b>\$2,547.57</b>
8200 Facility & Equipment Exp				\$0.00
8210 Rent, parking, & other		12,885.85	12,885.85	\$12,885.85
<b>Total 8200 Facility &amp; Equipment Exp</b>		<b>12,885.85</b>	<b>12,885.85</b>	<b>\$12,885.85</b>
8300 Travel & Meetings Expenses				\$0.00
8330 Hospitality		197.24	197.24	\$197.24
<b>Total 8300 Travel &amp; Meetings Expenses</b>		<b>197.24</b>	<b>197.24</b>	<b>\$197.24</b>
8400 Education Programs				\$0.00
8450 Recordings of Contestants		1,510.32	1,510.32	\$1,510.32
<b>Total 8400 Education Programs</b>		<b>1,510.32</b>	<b>1,510.32</b>	<b>\$1,510.32</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$22,985.87</b>	<b>\$22,985.87</b>	<b>\$22,985.87</b>
<b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$ -3,995.16</b>	<b>\$ -3,995.16</b>	<b>\$ -3,995.16</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$ -3,995.16</b>	<b>\$ -3,995.16</b>	<b>\$ -3,995.16</b>

# IL District Association of Chapters, SPEBSQSA

## Profit and Loss

January - December 2024

	TOTAL
Income	
5100 Event Income	
Comp Registrations	310.00
Har. Found/Fest. Chorus/Brigade	547.00
On Line Registrations	21,838.06
On Site Registrations	1,751.34
<b>Total 5100 Event Income</b>	<b>24,446.40</b>
5210 District Dues	18,539.57
5310 Interest Income	1,309.85
5450 Advertising Revenue	115.65
5800 Special Events Revenue	
5820 Gift Revenue	362.93
<b>Total 5800 Special Events Revenue</b>	<b>362.93</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$44,774.40</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$44,774.40</b>
Expenses	
7030 Support	
Quartet Support	2,000.00
<b>Total 7030 Support</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>
7500 Contract Services Expenses	
7510 Chapter Convention Stipend	500.00
7540 Judging Expense	5,344.89
7570 Event Meals	3,719.10
<b>Total 7500 Contract Services Expenses</b>	<b>9,563.99</b>
8100 Nonpersonnel expenses	
8110 Supplies	138.16
8120 Awards, Plaques & Pins	1,127.30
8170 Printing & Copying	1,325.50
8180 Historian	90.94
8190 Publishing	-1,228.81
<b>Total 8100 Nonpersonnel expenses</b>	<b>1,453.09</b>
8200 Facility & Equipment Exp	
8210 Rent, parking, & other	13,592.65
8230 Storage Rental Charges	1,164.00
8260 Equipment Rental	200.59
<b>Total 8200 Facility &amp; Equipment Exp</b>	<b>14,957.24</b>
8300 Travel & Meetings Expenses	
8310 Travel	5,904.81
8330 Hospitality	1,011.15
<b>Total 8300 Travel &amp; Meetings Expenses</b>	<b>6,915.96</b>

	TOTAL
8400 Education Programs	
8440 IDAH	1,500.00
8450 Recordings of Contestants	1,510.32
8480 YIH Program	3,000.00
<b>Total 8400 Education Programs</b>	<b>6,010.32</b>
8500 Other Expenses	
8540 Bank Charges	35.00
8550 Credit Card Fees	-0.01
8560 Outside Computer Services	4,181.95
<b>Total 8500 Other Expenses</b>	<b>4,216.94</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$45,117.54</b>
NET OPERATING INCOME	<b>\$ -343.14</b>
NET INCOME	<b>\$ -343.14</b>



# IL District Association of Chapters, SPEBSQSA

## Profit and Loss

January 2025

	TOTAL
Income	
5210 District Dues	3,533.75
5310 Interest Income	59.08
5450 Advertising Revenue	850.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$4,442.83</b>
GROSS PROFIT	<b>\$4,442.83</b>
Expenses	
8100 Nonpersonnel expenses	
8180 Historian	152.63
<b>Total 8100 Nonpersonnel expenses</b>	<b>152.63</b>
8500 Other Expenses	
8560 Outside Computer Services	178.95
<b>Total 8500 Other Expenses</b>	<b>178.95</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$331.58</b>
NET OPERATING INCOME	<b>\$4,111.25</b>
NET INCOME	<b>\$4,111.25</b>



Fellow Barbershoppers,

It is an absolute honor to stand before you today as the President of the Illinois District. As a third-generation member of this district, I have had the privilege of witnessing both the highs and the challenges we've faced over the years. I have seen the power of this organization to bring people together, create lifelong friendships, and make a lasting impact through the music we love. That history is what makes me so passionate about serving in this role and ensuring a bright future for our district.

As your president, I want to make one thing very clear: I am here to listen. The success of our district depends on understanding the needs of our members, and I promise to keep an open line of communication with all of you. Our 2025-2026 district board is committed to strengthening and growing our district while ensuring that we uphold the traditions and values that have made Illinois such a strong barbershop community.

You will hear me say this time and time again—if we don't know, we can't do anything about it. That's why we will be actively reaching out to you, our members, for your feedback and opinions on the improvements we are considering. Whether it's enhancing our events, increasing membership engagement, or finding new ways to support our chapters, your input will be the driving force behind the decisions we make.

Our goal is simple: to make this district better for everyone, whether you've been a member for decades or just joined last week. Together, we will find ways to grow, adapt, and ensure that barbershop in Illinois thrives for years to come.

Thank you for your time, your dedication, and your passion for this great district. I look forward to working alongside all of you to make the next two years a success.

In Harmony,

Ben Dirks

Illinois District President



## Membership Report, Spring 2025

The current membership of the Illinois District is 552. Three chapters have official memberships under 10:

**Bureau County** currently has nine members. President John Swanson says the chapter is active in the community and has been invited to hold their rehearsal in a new youth center soon to open in Princeton. The goal is to get more community involvement and interaction with young people.

**Macomb** has an official membership of eight and remains active in the community. President Craig Rigg said they have 12 active singers, including four women who are unlikely to join the society.

**Peoria** has a listed membership of six. Calls to the president have not been returned.

I have had a chance to stay in touch with two chapters as a liaison.

**Carbondale** has a 13 members and has discussed holding a joint performance with another chapter. They held their annual show last September.

The **Waterloo** Chapter has 17 members. They remain quite consistent in their membership and activity. I caught their annual show last Fall and they had a nice turnout.



## Illinois District Chapter Census

### March 20, 2025

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Number of Active Members</b>	<b>Status</b>
Champaign Urbana	0	Voluntary Dissolution of Charter
Chicago Metro	14	Active
Chicago No. 1	0	Charter Closed
Chicago Western Suburban	48	Active
Coles County	33	Active
Collinsville	0	Charter Closed
Frank Thorn	15	Active
Danville	30	Active
Decatur	2	Active
Peoria	6	Active
Northbrook	61	Active
DuPage Valley	49	Active
Quincy	0	Charter Closed
Elgin	19	Active
Rock Island	1	Active
Rockford Metro	19	Active
Rockford	17	Active
Arlington Heights	23	Active
Aurora	12	Active
Sandoval	0	Charter Closed
Belleville	26	Active
Bloomington	74	Active
Kankakee	1	Voluntary Dissolution pending
Kishwaukee Valley	1	Active
Bureau County	9	Active
Lake County	26	Active
Springfield	29	Active
Carbondale	13	Active
Macomb	8	Active
Sterling Rock Falls	17	Active
Waterloo	17	Active
Will-Cook	16	Active
<b>Total</b>	<b>552 Active Members</b>	<b>26 Active Charters</b>



## **Spring 2025 IL District Marketing Report**

*Mission Statement – The Illinois District fosters a state of close harmony by bringing the joy and excitement of music to all people.*

*Vision Statement – To keep everyone singing throughout their lives.*

### **Website**

Here are the key items done since the HOD meeting at the September convention:

- Updated the site with convention-related information: award winners & contest winners. A big thank-you to Doug Ferrier, who also captured a lot of excellent backstage convention photos.
- Published fall and winter issues of “From the Vault.” A big thank-you to Rich Hansen.
- Updated the site with new data for 2025, downloaded from the BHS members-only database:
  - Chapter officers, chapter/chorus contact information, and chorus rehearsal sites.
  - District officer and operations team information.
  - Active quartets.

Note: if a chapter or quartet notices that their info is incorrect on the website, please do two things:

1. Fill out a change form from the website (or just email [marketing@illinoisdistrict.org](mailto:marketing@illinoisdistrict.org).) AND
2. Update the info with BHS member center; otherwise the next BHS data download will override any manual changes made based on their change request to the district.

- Worked with the IDEA trustees and revamped their page on the website.

Moved the QCA board info and member listing to a password-protected, members-only place.

Updated the QCA facts & trivia to reflect the 2024 contest results and moved it to the QCA “about” page.

- Periodically updated the messages on the yellow banner, the news events, and the calendar events to keep things current and make it convenient for site visitors to quickly find the latest information.

**Social Media**

- Began posting on Instagram, and started building followers there. Continued posting on Facebook for both the IL District page and the page for Harmony College Midwest.
- Highlighted all chapter shows and key public performances I was aware of. I continue to ask chapters to make IL District a co-host of Facebook events so we can promote them.
- Engaged with many posts by chapters and quartets (likes, comments, sharing posts). I worked to highlight all chapter and quartet performances, guest nights, social events that I was aware of.

**Leadership Development & Planning**

- Participated in the online Leadership Development training, attending all sessions and leading a class on marketing & music with Mitch Greenberg, New Tradition's director, and John Q. Morris.
- Traveled with Ben Dirks to the District President's meeting in San Antonio, participated in those sessions, and worked with Ben on reviewing our 4-year plan as well as some potential improvements for the fall 2025 district convention.

— Glenn Mills, EVP + District Marketing



3/1/25

To: Benjamin Dirks, President Illinois District  
Illinois District Board of Directors  
Illinois District House of Delegates

This report is going to be fairly short as I am still in the process of learning/figuring out my new position as C&J for the District. I am excited to serve in this new capacity and look forward to making the contest an enjoyable and rewarding experience for all competitors.

My goal is to open the registration process for choruses and quartets on or about August 1<sup>st</sup>. This is a little earlier than normal and should give all ensembles plenty of time to get registered.

For choruses, I am looking at going back to something we used to do in the “old days.” I would like to offer a choice of riser configuration. This will allow our smaller choruses the chance to get farther downstage and not look so small. We are working with the BCPA as I write this to see if that is going to be possible.

That is all for now. I look forward to seeing many groups cross the stage at our fall convention!!

Terry Ludwig  
C&J



**Events Report**

March 2, 2025

Jeff Bowyer VP-Events

***Future dates and locations***

***Harmony College Midwest 2025***

**March 21-23, 2025**

**DoubleTree Hotel:** All classes will be in the DoubleTree Hotel Convention area. Contracts signed.

***Fall 2025 Illinois District Convention***

**Sept. 26 - 27 2025**

**Headquarters Hotel:** DoubleTree Hotel Bloomington: Contract signed. Room block of 120 rooms per night.

**Contest locations:**

**Friday: BCPA:** will be the location for the Quartet semi-finals Friday evening.

**Saturday: BCPA:** will be the location for the Chorus Finals and Quartet Finals.

***Harmony College Midwest 2026***

Date and location not set.

***Fall 2026 Illinois District Convention***

**Sept. 25-26, 2026**

**Headquarters Hotel:** DoubleTree Hotel Bloomington: Contract signed. Room block of 120 rooms per night.

**Contest locations:**

**Friday: BCPA:** will be the location for the Quartet semi-finals Friday evening.

**Saturday: BCPA:** will be the location for the Chorus Finals and Quartet Finals.

**Future Convention Dates:**

**2027: 9/24 - 9/26**

**2028: 9/22 - 9/24**





The fund's value after the market close on 3/7/25 was \$197,900.94 as compared to \$197,118.92 on 12/31/24 and \$169,065.52 on 12/31/23. During 2024 the fund's investment performance was 17%. The IDEA trustees approved disbursements during 2024 of \$5660 for four YIH programs, two Ready-Set-Sing programs, Harmony College Midwest, Linc 182 quartet, & Chicago Metro contest. Contributions in 2024 to the fund were \$2535 including \$730 from IDEA Direct and contributions year-to-date in 2025 have been \$839 including \$140 from IDEA Direct. Since inception of IDEA in 1990, fund disbursements have totaled \$47,529 and contributions to the fund have been \$57,142. The difference between total contributions and disbursements have been invested and have grown to the current fund balance of \$197,900.

Earl Holtz  
IDEA Trustee and Treasurer



## CSLT 2025 Report

The 2025 leadership summit was held virtually on Saturday Feb 1 and Sunday Feb 2. The Saturday event started at 10 AM and concluding at 4 PM. The Sunday event started at 1 PM and concluded at 4 PM on. My job was to create communication notices for the event and then facilitate the online workshops via zoom. We sent three communication notices through the Illinois District mail service thanks to Mark Leverett. Each day we kicked off the workshops with a message from Kevin Keller to the Illinois District that was recorded at the 2025 Midwinter Convention in San An ono thanks to Glenn Mills and Ben Dirks.

The subject matter experts for the president's workshop, the first of three held on Saturday were Ben Dirks and Glen Mills. The subject matter expert for secretary, workshop was Mike Isely. After an overview of the secretary's responsibility, Mike conducted a breakout session where he reviewed the BHS member center webpage. The third workshop on Saturday was for the treasurers and was conducted in collaboration with Leif Wildman as the subject matter expert. Each workshop was designed to present information and allow chapter officers to ask questions throughout the presentations. At the end of each presentation, contact information was provided for each of the district officers who participated in the workshops. On Saturday we had 15 participants and 4 subject matter experts. A total of 11 chapters were represented.

On day two Sunday, February 2 the topics included marketing membership and music. Ben Dirks, Glenn Mills and Mike Isely were district officers who help present and answered questions from the participants Special guest. Mitch Greenberg, the director of the New Tradition chorus covered the music portion Sunday's workshop. His material was very well received. The Sunday workshop had a total of 22 participants and 4 subject matter experts from 12 different chapters.

Feedback from the post workshop survey all participants marked likely or very likely for recommending the workshop to others. Two areas of improvement for future workshops suggested by participants were more focus on retention and gaining of new members and cross chapter collaboration. Overall, the 2025 summit, which was the second one I have facilitated showed a much-improved participation rate compared to 2024. I want to thank everyone who participated and was part of the subject matter expert team, I have recordings of the workshops and the slide decks used for the presentations available in a pdf format on the g drive link below.

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/10YRmbALROZyhO3j\\_SlZ\\_VmaCUzHWP64r?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/10YRmbALROZyhO3j_SlZ_VmaCUzHWP64r?usp=sharing)



## DISTRICT HISTORIAN REPORT – SPRING 2025

- Since the last report, donations of materials have been made to the archives. They include the following:
  - **SPEBSQSA Clock Wood Piece by Mark Byzstkski (George Zima Collection)**
  - **Info/Photos of “The Uncalled Four” Quartet by Kathy Young**
  - **Aurora Chapter Historical Materials by Jim Fourmont**
  - **Misc. Pieces/Awards/Records/Plaques/Medals & Trophies by Terry Foley (Jim Foley Collection)**
  - **Don Barnick’s Grandma’s Boys Sweater & Toy Soldier Hat/Gloves by Anonymous (Dan Jordan Collection)**
  - **Misc. Photos/Items from Earl Meseth (Dick Johnson Collection)**
  - **Music Educator Guide Songbook by Mike Lockett**
  - **Misc. Barbershop LPs by Bev Friese**
  - **Misc. SPEBSQSA Finalist Pins & Old Logo Block Press by Anonymous**
  - **Barbershop Ballad Songbook/George Coulsen Membership Certificate by the Alan Kershner family (Richard Hise Collection)**
- With the passing of Joe Sullivan, and taking into consideration the ages of current historical committee members, I have appointed two new members to the district historical committee effective January 1, 2025 - **Mr. Dale Jarvis** and **Mr. Tom Kentish**. Both men bring a wealth of barbershop knowledge and experience and will be helpful in preserving our district history.
- In the fall, I received an email from Mr. Jim Gammon in Florida requesting a copy of the Mid-States 4 History & Songbook. I sent him a copy of what we have in our archives and in appreciation, he sent IDEA a donation.
- I purchased an 8 x 10 PR photo of “The Four Statesmen” off of ebay that fills a missing gap in our archival collection of champ photos. Also purchased were a mannequin torso that can be used for displays at the district fall convention and an additional 5 shelf utility shelving unit. Our collection keeps growing and space is needed for more artifacts. Receipts have been given to Leif Wildman, treasurer, for reimbursement.
- I posted the fall and winter issues of “From the Vault” in November and January respectively.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard J. Hansen  
 Illinois District Historian (2019-present) & Past District President (2015-2016)



Here is my board report for the status of HCM:

For HCM 2025:

- Clinicians are all confirmed and lodging is booked, rooms assigned.
- Hotel banquet event contract has been approved and signed.
- Quartet grid and schedule for the day have been created and distributed to the patrons, as well as the music and tracks for the HCM chorus.
- All quartet slots (11/11) have been filled for the event. One quartet applied for the QCA scholarship and was approved.
- Only two (out of 10) IDEA scholarships have been claimed so far. Will be doing additional scholarship plugs at reasonable intervals as we get closer to the event.
- Attendance for the individuals is only at 26 so far, but Tim and Dan reported that the numbers are always low until a couple weeks before the event and they pick up significantly.
- Planning joint afterglow rooms for clinicians hospitality suite and presidents hospitality suite(were able to secure rooms next to each other).

Considerations for 2026:

- Will book featured quartet immediately after we secure 2026 dates. Considering Three and a Half Men, Gimmie Four, First Take, Quorum, and others.
- We will pursue securing the head clinician at the same as the quartet. The difficulties in securing the head clinician were why things were so backed up this year for advertising. Goal will be to have secured by no later than the beginning of August so we have time to get promotional material made and sent at the Fall Convention.
- May consider increasing the number of quartet coaches by 1 or 2 to add additional quartet slots.

Let me know if you need anything else.

Thanks!

Mark



## **Illinois District Chapter Presidents' Council Report**

**The Chapter Presidents' Council** held its initial meeting in June, 2024.

**The intent** is to provide a mechanism through which individual Chapters can communicate and collaborate amongst each other directly. Hopefully, by getting together and relaying our local concerns and or suggestions, we can assist the District in its decision making process involving Barbershop Harmony's policies and its future direction. (*there is strength in numbers*)

**Topics that have been discussed include:** Conventions, upcoming Chapter activities, developing inter-chapter activities like Jamborees, membership retention, youth-in-harmony and community outreach, etc...

**Last meeting**, we had approximately 8 participants. Mike Isely has conducted an "audit" of Chapter Presidents and has reached out to them in an attempt to "draw in" more participants throughout the District.

Any and all representative voices from the Chapters in our District are invited and encouraged to participate.

CPC meetings are held every two months via Zoom on the second Sunday evening of the month. The next meeting will be held on 11 May at 8 PM. There is also an email group for online communication, [bhs-illinois-chapter-presidents-council@googlegroups.com](mailto:bhs-illinois-chapter-presidents-council@googlegroups.com) – see Mike Isely to be invited to it if not already subscribed.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**William B. Rathmann**  
**President**  
**Sounds of Harmony Chorus**  
**Belleville, Illinois**



Fall 2024 House of Delegates Meeting

27-Sep-2024 1:00PM

## **Illinois District Association of Chapters, SPEBSQSA Inc.**

### **House of Delegates**

Sep 27<sup>st</sup> 2024

Mission Statement – *The Illinois District fosters a state of close harmony by bringing the joy and excitement of music to all people.*

Vision Statement – *To keep everyone singing throughout their lives.*

**Location:** Brookridge Room, Doubletree Hotel, Bloomington IL

**Time:** 1:00 PM

**Called to order:** 1:04 PM

### Call to Order

1. Roll Call / House of Delegates quorum – yes or no – Mike Isely
  - 27 members present, out of a potential total of 43.
  - Quorum minimum requirement of 30% (= 13). With 27 present we have 63%, quorum established
  - [See Appendix titled “Attendance” for detailed attendance record]
2. Reading of Mission & Vision Statement – Jeff Lathom
  - (see above)
3. Welcome – Terry Ludwig
4. Approve Agenda – Mike Isely
  - **Motion: Approve Agenda**
    - ♦ **Offered by: Paul McCracken, Jeff Bowyer**
    - ♦ **PASSED (voice vote, 1 nay (Raymond Schwarzkopf))**
5. Minutes of previous HOD Meeting (April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024) – Mike Isely
  - **Motion:**
    - ♦ **Subject: Approve Spring 2024 HOD Minutes**
    - ♦ **Offered by: Mike Bagby, Jeff Lathom**
    - ♦ **PASSED (voice vote, 1 nay (Raymond Schwarzkopf))**
6. Approve Consent Calendar – Mike Isely
  - Pull IDEA report, Music & Performance, YIH report



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→ **Motion: Approve Consent Calendar minus IDEA, Music & Performance, YIH**

- ♦ **Offered by: Bob Cearnal, Pat Claussen**
- ♦ **PASSED (voice vote, 1 nay (Raymond Schwarzkopf))**

→ Accept the following reports, CSLT else moved to Old Business:

- ♦ President's Report [Attachment: "02a-rpt-president.pdf"]
- ♦ Membership Report [Attachment: "03a-rpt-membership.pdf"]
- ♦ Marketing Report [Attachment: "05a-rpt-marketing.pdf"]
- ♦ Contest & Judging Report [Attachment: "06a-rpt-drcj.pdf"]
- ♦ Events Report [Attachment: "07a-rpt-events.pdf"]
- ♦ Chorus Director Development Report [Attachment: "10a-rpt-cdd.pdf"]
- ♦ Chapter Support and Leadership Training Report [Attachment: "11a-rpt-cslt.pdf"]
- ♦ Historian's Report [Attachment: "12a-rpt-historian.pdf"]

## TREASURER'S REPORT

7. Treasurer's Report – Leif Wildman

- We have a net income (yay)
- [Attachment: "01a-rpt-treasurer.pdf"]
- **Motion:**

- ♦ **Subject: Receive the Treasurer's Report**
- ♦ **Offered by: Jim Waldorf, John Q. Morris**
- ♦ **PASSED (voice vote, 1 nay (Raymond Schwarzkopf))**

## MEMORIAL

8. Memorial – Rich Hansen

- See appendix

## OLD BUSINESS

9. Chapter President's Council – Bill Rathmann (team lead)

- Overall summary of what the CPC is doing
- Meeting planned in person tomorrow (Sat) at 3:30pm – 30 minutes after the end of the chorus competition.
- We'd like to spark lots of inter-chapter activity – something that happened in the past and which we'd like to do more of.
- This is a venue for chapters to communicate amongst themselves. This is not about the district. This is not a one way street of communication.



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- Exchange of ideas among chapters for things like membership recruiting, shows, skills, morale, creativity.
- 10. Four year plan – Terry Ludwig / Benjamin Dirks
  - Review of things accomplished, more to be done
  - Chapter Presidents Council (CPC) created
  - Still want to generate more judging candidates
  - New website!
    - ♦ Scoresheets on website (will be available almost immediately), paper copies to no longer be routinely printed during convention
- 11. Harmony College Midwest – Mark Servos / Nathan Gross
  - Dates – Mar 21<sup>st</sup>/ 22<sup>nd</sup>, at the Doubletree Hotel in Bloomington (normal location)
  - Classes being lined up
- 12. Fall Convention Update – Jeff Bowyer
  - Competitors WILL be asked to show their badges before going on stage. No wristbands this time
  - Single day passes tonight sold at the church, tomorrow at the ticket office at the BCPA.
    - ♦ Note: BCPA day passes also at ticketmaster – but notice that by default you’re buying two tickets. No ticketmaster fee for the box office purchase.
- 13. Website update – Glenn Mills
  - Scoresheets under awards / contest score archive
    - ♦ <https://illinoisdistrict.org/contest-score-archive/>
- 14. Chapter Officer Training – John Q. Morris
  - [Attachment: “14a-handout-bhs-cslt.pdf”]
  - Training material is moved elsewhere on the BHS website. Requires new username / password. Why? No idea.
- 15. IDEA Report
  - IDEA Report [Attachment: “08a-rpt-idea.pdf”]
  - The fund hit \$200K as of today
  - [Attachment: “13a-handout-idea-direct.pdf”]
  - Bob Squires just retired, with 1 year remaining
  - Jeff Bowyer nominated to serve as IDEA trustee, in place of Bob Squires
    - ♦ **Motion: Appoint Jeff Bowyer an an IDEA trustee**
      - **Offered by: Jeff Lathom, Rich Hansen**
      - **PASSED (voice vote, 1 nay (Raymond Schwarzkopf))**
    - ♦ **Motion: Reappoint Earl Meseth**





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- **Offered by: Neil DeVore, John Q. Morris**
  - **PASSED (voice vote, 1 nay (Raymond Schwarzkopf))**
- List of IDEA trustess
- ♦ Jim Waldorf
  - Earl Holtz
  - Bob Cearnal
  - Jeff Bowyer
  - Earl Holtz
16. Music & Performance
- Nothing else here
17. Youth In Harmony
- Four festivals happening this fall:
- ♦ Springfield
  - Coles County
  - Northbrook
  - Bloomington

## NEW BUSINESS

18. Perry White
- HF presentation, information about active quartets reaching out to youth
19. Approval of the 2025 District Budget – Leif Wildman
- [Attachment: “97-budget-2025.pdf”]
- Predicted \$15k loss for 2025
- ♦ Assuming inflation related increased expenses
- Came in under budget by \$13k last year (1 nay, Raymond Schwarzkopf)
- ♦ But we got a \$5K grant from the state
- Keep in mind that we have a reasonable savings balance, meaning we can afford to take the risk of a loss. This is not to say that we are shooting for a loss, only that it is the worst case and the reality may be considerably better. And with the higher bank balance we are not risking insolvency if that doesn’t work out.
- **Motion: Approve 2025 District Budget**
- ♦ **Offered By: Mark Barone, Dave Garret**
  - ♦ **PASSED (voice vote, 1 nay (Raymond Schwarzkopf))**
20. Election of 2025/2026 District Slate – Terry Ludwig
- [Attachment: “98-slate.pdf”]
- **Motion: Elect offered Governance Board slate for 2025/2026**
- ♦ **Offered By: Ray Monroe, Mike Bagby**



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♦ **PASSED (voice vote, 1 nay (Raymond Schwarzkopf))**

21. BHS Training – Terry Ludwig

- Joe Cerutti is running 2 society-wide training sessions (D.C. and in Dallas) for improving your chapter, i.e. reaching out to the community, chapter leadership organization
- Strong recommendation that your chapter send 1 or 2 people each

22. Bloomington social event

- June 7<sup>th</sup> – Jamboree sponsored by SOI
- Everyone in the district (and the adjoining districts and HI and SAI) is invited
- major planned social event
- cost to attendees: ZERO.
- SOI website has a link for signing up; will also be put on district website.
- Lunch / dinner on your own dime, though SOI may organize some food trucks.
- Announced first here at the HOD

23. Farewell message from Terry

- Expression of appreciation for all officers from Terry

24. Spring 2025 HOD Date – Mike Isely

- 21-Mar-2025 (Friday night before HCMW, in person, possibly hybrid)

**Adjourned: 2:19 PM**

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Isely – Secretary



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**Appendix: Attendance**

(taken computationally from delegate sign-in spreadsheet)

<b>Chapter Delegates</b>			
<b>P/L/A</b>	<b>Chapter Name</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Delegate</b>
P	Arlington Heights	E002	Dave Theile
P	Aurora	E003	Mark Barone
P	Belleville	E005	* William Rathmann
P	Bloomington	E007	David Garrett
A	Macomb	E008	Craig Rigg
P	Northbrook	E009	Earl Holtz
A	Danville	E013	* Bryan Schroeder
A	Decatur	E014	James Barr
P	Coles County	E017	Ron Hawkins
P	Elgin	E018	Raymond Schwarzkopf
P	Rockford Metro	E019	* Richard Schultz
A	Lake County	E021	* Brian Cromer
A	Bureau County	E024	* John Swanson
P	Chicagoland West Suburban	E030	Trenton Ferro
P	Peoria	E044	Harold Harkness
A	Chicago Metro	E045	* Bonnie Jones
P	Rockford	E047	Ray Monroe
A	Rock Island	E048	!
P	Will-Cook	E050	* Neil DeVore
P	Sterling Rock Falls	E052	0
A	Waterloo	E054	!
P	Springfield	E061	Patrik Claussen
P	DuPage Valley	E066	* Kevin Connell
A	Kishwaukee Valley	E067	!
A	Carbondale	E075	* Peter Gimse

15/ 25

\* Chapter did not declare a separate delegate; substituted Chapter President

! No information provided by this chapter (missing declared chapter officers), thus no delegate



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<b>Governance Board</b>		
<b>Present</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>
P	Terry Ludwig	President
P	Benjamin Dirks	Executive VP
P	Mike Isely	Secretary
P	Leif Wildman	Treasurer
P	Doug Finkbiner	BMAL (Membership)
P	Jeff Bowyer	BMAL (Events)
N/A	(Jeff Lathom)	BMAL (C & J)
P	John Q Morris	BMAL
P	Jeff Lathom	Imm. Past President

8 out of 8

\*John Q Morris added by motion during the meeting, not part of initial quorum

<b>Active Past Presidents (not on Gov. Board)</b>	
<b>Present</b>	<b>Name</b>
P	Mike Bagby
N/A	Jeff Bowyer
P	Bob Cearnal
	Dave Cowin
P	Rich Hansen
N/A	Jeff Lathom
	Earl Meseth
	Brett Mulford
	Bob Squires
	Will Thorndike
P	Jim Waldorf
	Syl Wetle

4 out of 10

8+4+15 = 27 present

8+10+25 = 43 total possible



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**Appendix: Chapter Eternal**

[Conducted by Rich Hansen]

**Memorial Service for Deceased Members**

*Heavenly Father, we come together in your presence today to honor and recognize our brother barbershoppers who have passed on during this last year. Those men include:*

<b>Chapter Eternal 2024</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Chapter</b>
Bob Hedgcock	Decatur
Peter Torchia	Kankakee
Bill Kerschbaum	Will-Cook
John Kaindl	Chicagoland West Suburban
Gerald Hansen	Frank Thorne
George Lambert	Springfield
Bernard Martin	Arlington Heights
Gerry Carroll	Chicago Metro & DuPage Valley
Jack Hoffman	Rockford
Ralph Johnson	Bloomington
Nolan Sullivan	Rockford
Joe Sullivan	Northbrook
Dave Fullerton	Bloomington
Al Quinn	Peoria
Ray Henders	Frank Thorne

*If there are any other members who have deceased in the past year that have not been mentioned, please state their name and the chapter they represent.*

<b>Chapter Eternal 2024 Additional</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Chapter</b>
Glenn Dancey	Sterling-Rock Falls
Bob Rich	Springfield
Jim Bixby	Bloomington
Robert Smith	Northbrook
Mark Klemm	Rockford
Harold Herren	Rockford Metro
Lauras Schuster	Aurora

*I ask that we observe a moment of silence in remembrance of these men.*

*Father, we thank you for your gift of music and song so our hearts can be lifted up to you. We thank you for these ties that bind us together with the old songs and fellowship. We give thanks to You for these departed men who have enriched our lives and who have left us all with a song in our hearts.*

*In your holy name, we pray – Amen.*