

CSD Fall 2023 House of Delegates Meeting

Double Tree Hotel, Lawrence, KS

Friday, October 13, 2023, 11 a.m.



Executive Vice President Randolph opened the meeting in the absence of District President Suellentrop at 11:05 a.m. with a **quorum**. Past District Presidents were recognized: Duane Lawson, Past Society, Past District President Don Fuson directed “Honey – Little Lize’ Medley”. Robert’s Rules of Order for Small Boards will be used for the House of Delegates meeting.



Delegates Present:

- Board Members
 - Duane Lawson, Immediate Past President
 - Brett Randolph, Executive Vice President
 - Mark Fuerniss, Secretary
 - Larry Warrick Treasurer (via Zoom)
 - Jeff Arians, Iowa State Vice President
 - Kevin Barker, Kansas State Vice President
 - Michael Bass, Missouri/Arkansas State Vice President
 - Rick Pape, Nebraska State Vice President
 - David Johnson, South Dakota State Vice President
- Past Presidents
 - John Marshall
 - Don Fuson
 - Harvey Kiser
 - Mark Erikson
 - Chad Schuetz
- Chapter Delegates
 - Kavid Knapp, Davenport, IA
 - Elliot Sheaff, Des Moines, IA
 - J.P. Marshall, Iowa City, IA
 - Gary Horchem, Hays, KS
 - Mike Shepherd, Manhattan, KS
 - Jeremy Kindy, South Central Kansas
 - Joe Silsby, Topeka, KS
 - Mike Schumacher, Kansas City, MO
 - John Stockstill, Springfield, MO
 - Janet Myers, St. Charles, MO
 - Tom Westman, Fremont, NE
 - Bill Leslie, Grand Island, NE
 - Kent Zimmerman, Lincoln, NE
 - Keith Hammons, Papillion, NE

Recognition of Past Presidents: Duane Lawson, Don Fuson, Harvey Kiser, Chad Schuetz, Mark Erikson, and John Marshall. International Harmony Foundation, Dr. Perry White.

Self-Introduction of Board and Program Administrative Team members: Duane Lawson, Immediate Past District President; Dave Stephenson, South Dakota State Vice President; Jeff Arians, Iowa State Vice President; Kevin Barker, Kansas State Vice President; Mark Fuerniss, District Secretary, Mike Bass, Missouri/Arkansas State Vice President; Rick Pape, Nebraska State Vice President; Larry Warrick, District Treasurer, via Zoom; Don Fuson, Membership Development Vice President; Carter Combs, Contest and Judging; Jeff Veteto, Music and Performance; Chad Schuetz, Chapter Support and Leadership Training.

Invocation and Chapter Eternal Induction

Immediate Past District President Lawson offered an invocation. The following were recognized and inducted into the CSD Chapter Eternal:

- Walter Huebner, Ord, NE;
- David Scot, Cedar Rapids, Linn County Metro, and Iowa City, IA;
- Allen Finkbeiner, Hays, Ks;
- William Severa, Cedar Rapids, IA;
- Hank Junior Biere, Greater Ozarks, AR;
- Chris Upp, Springfield, MO;
- George Grovert, Cedar Rapids, IA;
- Robert Brockoff, Denison, IA;
- Gerald Clemmens, Cedar Rapids, IA;
- Harold Blackledge, Cedar Rapids, IA;
- Donald Ostendorf, Kearney, NE;
- Norman Giebler, Hays, KS;
- Kenneth Jackson, Olathe, KS;
- Laurence Poisner, Frank Thorne, Kansas City, MO, and Overland Park, KS;
- Larry Grinstead, Springfield, MO;
- Ed Shaw, Lincoln and Beatrice, NE;
- Wenell Shaffer, Kansas City, MO, and Overland Park, KS
- Richard Kimball, Omaha and Papillion, NE;
- Ron Abel, Kansas City, MO;
- James Cunningham, Fremont, NE; and
- Michael Niebaum, Fremont, NE.

Treasurer's Report by CSD Treasurer, Larry Warrick

Fall financial reports consists of Spring Convention 2023, Income and Expenses as of September 30, 2023, and Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2023, as posted on [CSD Website](#)

- **Spring Convention 2023:** Total income of \$13,519.72, a little short of projected. There were some unexpected, expenses that were not budgeted, e.g. contest microphones of \$3,824.50, and new software for the registration, \$399. Net income for the Spring Convention was in the red -\$10,962.79.

- **9 months vs. Budget:** The year in the heading should be 2023. Total income, \$38,754.39. Our third quarter dues, \$7358.40, will be coming in a couple weeks or so. We also should be receiving money from Harmony Foundation, around \$4500. Expenses are what we expected. Net income is minus \$21,187.65. There are no glaring items that stand out.
- **Balance Sheet.** Will be carrying over to new treasurer a checking account balance of \$43,453.84, a Mone Market Account of \$16,932.37 (to guarantee or checking account), and \$22,278.98 in Certificates of Deposit. Our cash assets are \$82,665.19. WE are currently in a good solid financial state.

Erickson asked what procedures are in effect in the purchase of new microphones. Randolph responded that the microphones would travel with the convention team. WE do not have insurance on the microphones yet. Lawson said if we did not have the microphones, we would have to rent them. Also, we saved money by not sending President and EVP to mid-winter. Marshall commented that with the money on hand we should consider being self-insured. There were no other questions/comments on the financial report. Warrick moved that we receive the financial report for Fall 2023 as presented.

Motion to receive the Financial Report for Fall 2023 as presented passed unanimously with a voice vote.

Proposed Budget for 2024 as posted on [CSD Website](#).

Treasurer Warrick reminded the House that the budget is a working document, not set in stone. Warrick reviewed the budget posted on the District Website. The budget shows \$110,075 for Total Revenue, which includes district dues, convention registrations, advertising revenue, HEP and Leadership Academy registrations and other categories, contest recordings, Harmony Foundation contributions. The majority of expenses are expenses presented from convention team. There are no unusual expenses. Line item 8321, "Travel-Chorus & Quartet Intl Subsidy" and "Travel-Next Gen Quartet", travel for choruses, quartets and Next Gen quartets was increased, \$8,500 for choruses and quartets, \$2,500 for Next Gen quartets. (We usually give quartets \$500 and choruses \$1,000.) Line Item 8331 was added, \$1,000 for Next Gen chorus. Also, Line 8490, Harmony University, \$700 expense for a subsidy for a scholarship for a director to go to Harmony University, can be adjusted if we need to. We don't have to worry about Category School next year. Category School won't come around until 2027. Leadership Academy, Recordings are all the same. Pay Pal fees. Web Site expenses are about the same as before. Already bought new software for registration. \$180 for Big Screen Ad at International was added; \$200 Nebraska State Fair booth. Subtotal expenses are \$76,112.54. Below Subtotal Expenses are travel expenses for various Board and PAT members. \$2,000 was added under President's expenses for a Planning Meeting. Also travel to International and Mid-Winter for President and Executive Vice President. There may be additional expenses for the District Treasurer transition, e.g. purchase of checks. Quick books is set up for three users so we won't have to purchase Quick Books. We have a black **2024 budget of \$4,636.22**. Did not have to use any reserve funds to get a budget in the black.

J.P. Marshall asked if there were "actual amounts" for the full year 2022. In particular income from contests are not close. About \$20,000 was budgeted for Int'l Prelim Contest in 2023 and Actual amount for first 8 months shows \$13,000, and we're still budgeting \$21,000. Why are we budgeting about the same or more? Warrick answered that full year amounts have not been used in previous budget reports, but such a report could be run. Numbers provided by the convention team are used in these reports and are projections. No other questions/comments regarding the budget. Randolph stated that the Board voted to move the budget to the House of Delegates for approval. John Marshall moved that

the 2024 Budget as presented be approved. **Motion to approve the 2024 Budget as presented passed unanimously with a voice vote.**

Song Break. Veteto led the House in “Down Our Way.”



Contest and Judging update, Carter Combs, Contest and Judging V.P. Combs announced we have 30 quartets and a dozen choruses at this contest. Delighted to have Hays chorus participating. This is the season for applications for new judges. Interested applicants should contact Combs.

Approval of Minutes, House of Delegates meeting, Spring 2023. Secretary Fuerniss asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the Spring 2023 House of Delegates meeting posted on the [CSD website](#). Kindy moved that the minutes Spring 2023 House of Delegates be approved. Motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.

Approval of the Fall 2023 Consent Calendar. Kiser moved to approve the Fall 2023 Consent Calendar as posted on the [CSD website](#). **Moton to approve the Fall 2023 Consent Calendar passed unanimously with a voice vote.**

Election of Officers, Duane Lawson, Immediate Past President, chair of the Nomination Committee.



Larry Hlavacek was elected as the 2024-2025 Iowa State Vice President by the Iowa chapter presidents. **Mike Shepherd** was elected the 2024-2025 Kansas State Vice President. Jeff Arians and Kevin Barker were thanked for serving as Iowa and Kansas State Vice presidents respectively. Jeff Arians



has been nominated for District Treasurer, succeeding Larry Warrick who has served as District Secretary for over a decade; Mark Fuerniss has agreed for at least one more term as District Secretary. **Lawson asked that combined slate, Arians for District Treasurer and Fuerniss for District Secretary, be approved. Motion carried unanimously with a voice vote.**

Program Administration Team Reports

Chorus Director Development, Larry Monson, assists chorus directors get to Harmony University. Contact Monson if you are interested in setting up a one- day session with neighboring choruses and would like a coach brought in.

Leadership Academy, Chapter Support and Leadership Training, Chad Schuetz. Leadership Academy is being planned for November 18, 2023, at Shawnee Presbyterian Church, Shawnee, KS. Survey of last year’s LA indicated an interest Music Team feedback and training. Larry Monson will be putting together a music team chorus.

HEP School, Music and Performance, Jeff Veteto, February 24, 2024, at Shawnee Presbyterian church, Shawnee, KS. Top-flight faculty to work with quartets and also area choruses.

Events: Doug Brott. About 550 registrants for this convention. Dates for future conventions are posted on the [District website](#). Next spring convention will be April 19 – 21, 2024 in Ames, IA, next fall, October 10, 2024 in Lawrence, KS.

Marketing and Public Relations, Sandi Wright, has been extremely busy and has helped the district this past year. She will be stepping down as Marketing and Public Relations V.P.

Membership, Don Fuson, Membership Development V.P. Fuson works closely with BHS Customer Cares advocating improvements to [BHS Member Center](#). Membership renewal reminders are sent to the individual member and not to the chapter. Only the member receives notices from the Society, an email 60 days before renewal date, a letter 30 days before renewal date. Every member on the chapter board needs to be reviewing their chapter roster on Member Center to identify members whose renewal dates are upcoming. Chapter leaders should make sure the member receives his renewal notice from the Society. Contact Fuson if you need assistance obtaining a chapter roster. The member's renewal card is sent to the Chapter Secretary and could be presented to the renewing member during a chapter meeting. Renewal cards can be formally presented to the renewing member during a chapter meeting or mailed to a member who doesn't regularly attend chapter meetings. The Society releases district reports twice a month on Member Center. There are chapters showing very few members, 1, or 2, or even 0. When a chapter closes, existing members should get reassigned to the Frank Thorne Chapter. Jefferson City Chapter shows 1 member, yet have chapter shows with 25 singers! There are a lot of chapters with 4 or 5 members, but in an average week probably not enough for a quartet. If that chapter happens to be down the road from you and you have a wandering quartet, go visit them on their chapter night. Find out when and where the chapter is meeting. Some chapters have a propensity to hide. Reach out to the chapter leaders and reach out to the members to keep them engaged. Fuson also encouraged chapters to send their representative to Leadership Academy on November 18. New chapter leaders, they do not need to be chapter president, secretary or membership guy to attend Leadership Academy, a great development opportunity for any chapter member that would like to get more involved in your chapter. not just chapter presidents, secretaries, and treasurers.

Executive V.P. Lawson stated the **State Vice President reports** are in the Consent Calendar which can be found on the District web site, www.singcsd.com, under Convention Documents. The State Vice Presidents are here to serve you. They are the face and voice of the board.

Harmony Foundation International Report

[Harmony Foundation International](#) President and CEO, Perry White. White mentioned the [Keep A Melody Ringing Memorial](#) hangs in Harmony Hall honoring deceased barbershoppers. ("Once memorial gifts for an individual total \$1,000 the individual earns a place among the honored on the [Keep a Melody Ringing plaque](#) ".) There is also a [digital Keep A Melody Ringing plaque](#). Marshall wondered how chapters are notified if their members are on the memorial or how much they are short of getting their name on the board. Fuson said to contact Harmony Foundation International. White hopes to release individual donation "thermometers" to the districts soon. Want to ask you to help us to help you with things we can do together. The 2024 fiscal year is the 20th anniversary of the Presidents Council level of giving, i.e. \$1,000+. In 2019, about 24% of the barbershop community contributed to Harmony Foundation to support barbershop. Today, that's 11%. The *Presidents Council* and *Ambassadors of Song* giving is the core of what supports our barbershop programs.



AIC Outreach gets barbershop into schools. Midtown coming to the St. Charles are in the Summer 2024, ACAPPELLOOZA. **Power of Harmony** anti recidivism program for male juveniles, fully functional in all three Ohio systems and in the Dallas/Gainesville facility working with Vocal Majority; and opening a new facility in Indiana this fall. HFI received their 3rd grant from the Josh Groban *Find Your Light* Foundation, \$165,000, to support *Power of Harmony* through the end of 2026 to support the administrative elements of the program. *Presidents Council* and *Ambassadors of Song* programs also support Barbershop Harmony Society programs, the **Next Gen** program, the choruses, quartets, as well as Harmony University and those scholarships. *Presidents Council* and *Ambassadors of Song* gifts are eligible for **Donors Choice**, up to 30% of your gift can come back to the chapter or district. After the lawsuit was settled HFI had to shelve the district direct program, which was giving dollars back to Central States, and the national grants program which was giving most of those grants back directly to chapters around the country. *Presidents Council* and *Ambassadors of Song* helps HFI support barbershop at the local and regional levels in addition to what HFI does at the national level with BHS. Take this message back to your chapters. The Lombard family out of Sunshine District issued a challenge, up to \$150,000, to match every new, increased, or reinstated *Presidents Council/Ambassador of Song* gift. Donors Choice portion coming back to the district could help with HEP School coaching expenses, district scholarships to Harmony U, Leadership Academy expenses, etc. Help us to help you. Encourage your members to give to the Foundation, increase their gifts to take advantage of the Lombard challenge, and encourage them to use Donor's choice. District's Donor Choice should be in our account, about \$2,270. The donor list comes through the mail. The goal of the Foundation is to promote barbershop at the local, regional and national levels. As a result of the settlement, all philanthropic contributions to the Society come through Harmony Foundation. The Society itself is no longer accepting donations.

District Historian position is currently vacant. Want to continue digitizing historical records. The historical records Tom Schulein has are to go to Duane Lawson.

With no objections, Fall 2023 House of Delegates meeting was adjourned with "Keep the Whole World Singing" under the direction of Jeff Veteto. 12:15 pm.



Minutes compiled by

Mark Fuerniss

Mark Fuerniss, Secretary
Central States District

