



*Where the Harmony Began*

Central States District  
Association of Chapters Of  
The Barbershop Harmony Society, aka  
The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet  
Singing In America, Inc.

Report to the House of Delegates (Consent Calendar)

April 26, 2026



*[Our bylaws grant authority to the Board of Directors to manage the district affairs when the House of Delegates is not in session provided that all actions by the board are subject to approval by the House of Delegates. Acceptance of the Consent Calendar by the House of Delegates is the process by which action by the Board of Directors are approved.]*

*Reports received as of 3/21/2026*

# Table of Contents

Reports	3
Report #1 --- BHS CEO	3
Report #100 --- BHS President	4
Report #120 --- BHS CFO/COO	5
Report #200 --- CSD Events	6
Report #220 --- Contest and Judging	7
Report #300 --- Marketing and Public Relations	10
Report #340 --- CSD Philanthropy	10
Report #400 --- Music and Performance	10
Report #420 --- Chorus Director Development	11
Report #470 --- Membership Development	11
Report #480 --- Chapter Eternal	12
Report #510 --- Iowa State V.P. Report	13
Report #520 --- Kansas State V.P. Report	14
Report #530 --- Missouri/Arkansas V.P. Report	15
Report #540 --- Nebraska State V.P. Report	16
Report #550 --- South Dakota State V.P. Report	16
Report #560 --- District Secretary's Report	17
Report #570 --- District Treasurer's Report	18
Report #590 --- Executive Vice President Report	19
Report #600 --- District President Report	19

-----

# Reports

## Report #1 --- BHS CEO

Robert Rund, Society Chief Executive Officer

[Additional Updates Here](#)



### Highlights:

- **Harmony Huddles:** Each month, District Presidents and District EVPs will be invited to a casual lunchtime meeting with Robert and other special guests (such as the SBOD President). These group meetings are optional and informal with a goal of staying connected. These huddles will be a great way to connect over lunch and conversation.

- **Bill Stauffer has joined the BHS staff as the Director of Music and Education!** He brings more than three decades of leadership experience across the nonprofit and technology sectors, more than 40 years of barbershop experience, and an abiding love for building community through song.



- **Meet your Philanthropy Team:** You may see familiar (and new) faces joining upcoming events! Reach out to the team at [philanthropy@barbershop.org](mailto:philanthropy@barbershop.org)! Extra: Watch Director of Philanthropy, Joe Cerutti, discuss his rich experience as a Barbershopper, student of leadership, and architect of a model community involvement initiative, to weave a compelling vision of the future of BHS.



- **Update on BHS Headquarters Building in Nashville, TN:** The Barbershop Harmony Society has entered into a purchase agreement with Sanders Carter Development. The Society expects to remain headquartered in the Nashville / Middle Tennessee region, and we will likely utilize temporary operational space while we carefully evaluate the long-term space needs of the organization.

-----

## Report #100 --- BHS President

Kevin Keller, Society President



Below is the current list of topics being discussed by the Society Board of Directors. For questions or discussions about any of the below topics, please send an email to: [societyboard@barbershop.org](mailto:societyboard@barbershop.org)

Topic	Details
Harmony Hall Sale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2023, BHS has put Harmony Hall up for sale.</li> <li>• A buyer has currently expressed interest.</li> <li>• Information will be shared as more details develop.</li> <li>• NOTE: <i>Commercial Real Estate is nothing like Residential Real Estate – it takes time. Deals fall through and we start over. But there is continued interest. We debated about putting a pause on the sale since our financials were in better shape. Then a new offer came in. This is a long game.</i></li> </ul>
Moving after Harmony Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operations (Harmony Hall) understands what their needs are and what footprint/space is required for missional and preservationist activities and assets.</li> <li>• Assets have been categorized. The SBOD will review the assets at Midwinter 2026 in Pasadena.</li> <li>• A committee (Harris, Krause, Prietto, Wright) reviewed the assets and provided a decision tree on retention of materials. The SBOD agreed with the decision tree logic, which puts the power in the hands of Harmony Hall to follow. There have been previous attempts to donate the Old Songs Library without success. There is a new university showing interest. Although the OS� had strategic value 40-50 years ago, it no longer does and there are many online resources without spending a fortune to house and digitize. Completed item.</li> </ul>
Strategic Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With recent changes to adding Harmony Foundation as a Type I supporting organization as well as other pressures on globalization of barbershop, the SPC will be working with Harmony Hall to retool the strategic plan, especially in creating a shorter term plan.</li> <li>• With Robert’s arrival, there has been a reorganization at Harmony Hall to be more effective. More will come out of this over time.</li> </ul>
Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SBOD reviewed the plans for investing ultimate Harmony Hall proceeds and aligned on strategy for investment.</li> </ul>

Topic	Details
CEO Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The budget is doable but tight for 2026.</li> <li>• Now that a new CEO is hired, we will be aggressive in defining goals for 2026.</li> <li>• This is an ongoing committee.</li> </ul>
Election of Board Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of the highest complaints raised by members is how the Society Board elects its members and not having a voice in the election process.</li> <li>• In 2024, an independent committee was formed to make recommendations for revisions to the process • SBOD reviewed at Midwinter in San Antonio, TX.</li> <li>• Working with DPC to understand current roles and processes. We will vote on a couple of modifications at the next Midwinter to affect 2026. 2025 elections were not affected by future changes. • Communication on this is forthcoming.</li> <li>• Due to unforeseen absences in Pasadena, this is tabled for a future SBOD meeting.</li> </ul>
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As the SBOD looks at a variety of issues the design of the SBOD will be revisited to see if a more effective model can be generated to address gaps – this will occur in early 2026.</li> </ul>
BHS & HFI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BHS &amp; HFI announced operational alignment on November 4, 2025: <a href="#">A stronger future in harmony</a>. Completed item.</li> </ul>

-----

**Report #120 --- BHS CFO/COO**  
**Eric Dove, Society Chief Operating Officer**

Some notes from BHS Highlights: Q4 2025 - Feb. 2026. The full report can be found at: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JfI869GctO9zTYUlpbel8fOyymZYSXq/view>.

Our focus in 2026 is to position ourselves for growth - solidifying our core and preparing to capitalize on emerging opportunities.



- The Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS) is showing solid operational performance across most program areas and continued momentum. Despite early-year seasonal cash usage and budgeted losses, the Society's overall financial position is stronger than planned. Key highlights through December, 2025, include:
  - Total Revenue:** Ahead of budget by approximately \$410K.
  - Operating Net Income:** Positive Net Income was \$196K, \$96K favorable to the 2025 budget of \$100K.

- iii. **Event Revenue:** Strong Midwinter and International performances, even factoring in lower-than-planned NextGen Barbershop youth attendance at Midwinter. The International Convention in Denver was the largest since 2016 (Nashville).
- iv. **Cash Flow:** Net operating cash flow from operations in 2025 was a positive \$382K
- [Statement Regarding Acceptable Taste](#): The Society Contest & Judging Committee is currently working on a process to provide additional guidance on what is acceptable on the BHS stage. This work will be done in the upcoming months, with an update expected in early 2026.
- Music Education
  - a. **NEW RESOURCE for Senior Singers:** [The Senior Singer Resource Center](#) is a centralized hub of programs, tools, and resources tailored for singers aged 55+ that includes ready-to-launch program models (daytime choruses, Music Medics, etc), and provides practical toolkits such as: repertoire lists, recruiting strategies, promotional templates, step-by-step guides, and success stories from chapters.
  - b. **NEW RESOURCE for Music Educators:** BHS is excited to offer [FREE professional development sessions](#) with the ability to receive live or self-paced PD credit! This quarterly series explores innovative ways to engage students through barbershop harmony and a cappella singing.
  - c. [Vol 1-3 of Arranging Barbershop](#) is now available!!!
  - d. **FUTURE/UPCOMING:** Tag Book for ALL (music educators especially) coming very soon
- Singing Community statistics, Spring 2026
  - Society members, 13,886: 11,568 male, 2,178 female, 54 non-binary, 53 prefer not to say
  - Chapters, 568: 373 male, 3 female, 166 all voices
  - Choruses, 664: 437 male, 15 female, 212 all voices
  - Active Quartets, 993: 693 male, 66 female, 234 all voices

A Snapshot of Membership Numbers:	
<b>2015:</b>	21,529
<b>2016:</b>	20,985
<b>2017:</b>	20,446
<b>2018:</b>	19,624
<b>2019:</b>	18,700
<b>2020:</b>	15,167
<b>2021:</b>	13,682
<b>2022:</b>	13,445
<b>2023:</b>	14,257
<b>Summer 2024:</b>	14,296
<b>Fall 2024:</b>	14,346
<b>Spring 2025:</b>	14,152
<b>Summer 2025:</b>	13,913
<b>Fall 2025:</b>	13,988
<b>Spring 2026:</b>	13,886

**Report #200 --- CSD Events**

Doug Brott, District Events V.P.



2026 started off with a successful Leadership Academy (LA) held in Shawnee KS on January 10. Following the LA, Spring Convention is scheduled for April 10-11, 2026. Once registration was opened for the Convention and Contest, it became apparent attendance

was going to fall short of numbers needed to cover costs. We were able to cancel the hotel contract on March 9 and confirm a new hotel and venue. The venue is Shawnee Presbyterian Church (SPC) in Shawnee KS and the hotel is the Quality Inn in Merriam KS, about 1.5 miles from SPC. Due to the changes, the Convention will be somewhat curtailed. It was decided early in the year that the Board Meetings and HOD Meetings usually held at the Spring Convention would this year be virtual. This was done to save travel expenses for the District but also probably hurt attendance. The Singing Contest will be International Prelims and of course quartets and choruses can take advantage of Coaching from the Judges. We will have a Harmony Platoon opportunity as well. Classes have been curtailed however. We did end up with 12 quartets in the Prelims and 6 singing for Score and Feedback, and one chorus for Coaching.

August 1, some chapters in South Dakota are planning to gather for a small festival in Viborg, SD. Details are still being worked out with South Dakota VP, Cliff Huot, but it is shaping up to be a fun day. Matt Webber from the SmorgasChorus will be the guest clinician. Each chorus will have time for coaching, and the day will wrap up by learning 1-2 songs to sing as a mass chorus with all chapters that attend.

Fall Convention will again be held in Lawrence Ks, with the DoubleTree as the Headquarters Hotel and the venue is the Lied Center. Dates are October 8 - 11, 2026.

---

## **Report #220 --- Contest and Judging**

**Carter Combs, Contest and Judging V.P.**



### ♪ **SCJC (Society Contest and Judging Committee) announcements:**

- SCJC has released updated versions of both the **BHS Contest Rules**, and the **Contest & Judging Handbook**. They can both be found at: [www.barbershop.org/contests/contests-judging](http://www.barbershop.org/contests/contests-judging)
- SCJC is in the final year of its 3-year program of new judge training. CSD has 4 Candidates:
  - **2 Administrative** – Kelby Cluck, Brett Randolph
  - **2 Musicality** – Keegan Eich, Matt Webber
- New for **2026 International** - a “**sing-in**” single-session contest early in the convention week consisting of quartets that score at least a 78.0 in a preliminaries contest and do not receive a wild card invitation. The top two quartets from this contest will advance to the quartet quarterfinals contest.
- To better manage the number of international competitors at both the Midwinter & International contests, the SCJC is gradually increasing the qualifying target scores. The announced target scores for upcoming contests are listed below.

### ♪ **BHS Conventions & Contests:**

- **2026**
  - **January 13 – 18: Midwinter @ Pasadena, CA**
    - Seniors Chorus Contest
      - **1<sup>st</sup> place Champions: Ozark Overtones**



- **April 26-29: CSD Spring Convention @ TBD**
- **October 11-14: CSD Fall Convention @ TBD**
- **2030**
  - **April 25-28: CSD Spring Convention @ TBD**
  - **October 10-13: CSD Fall Convention @ TBD**
- **Fall Conventions**
  - CSD Leadership (Board, PAT, & Convention Team) has decided that, in addition to holding **all** of our District-level contests in the Fall, we will **add the Quartet International Prelim** to the customary Chorus International Prelim and Seniors Quartet International Prelim.
- **Spring Conventions**
  - We will continue to hold the Quartet International Prelim, and the Seniors Chorus International Prelim in the Spring.
  - This change provides opportunity to offer a wide variety of classes, coaching, Platoons, etc.

## Central States District - Contest Calendar

Spring - Effective 2025

Fall - Effective 2025

Spring		Fall	
<u>Quartet</u>	<u>Chorus</u>	<u>Quartet</u>	<u>Chorus</u>
Quartet Int'l Prelim - [2]	<u>International</u> Seniors Chorus Int'l Prelim	<u>Prelims</u> Quartet Int'l Prelim - [2] Seniors Quartet Int'l Prelim	Chorus Int'l Prelim Seniors Chorus Int'l Prelim
		<u>District Contests</u>	
		District Quartet - [2] Novice Quartet SuperNovice Quartet Seniors Quartet SuperSeniors Quartet Youth Quartet	District Chorus District Seniors Chorus Plateau IV Chorus Plateau III Chorus Plateau II Chorus Plateau I Chorus VLQ - Very Large Quartet

Contests denoted above by [2] are 2 rounds. All others are 1 round only.

♪ / *Keep the Whole World Singing* / *Everyone in Harmony* / *Go Chiefs!* /

*CHORDially,*  
*Carter Combs*  
 Cell [816-914-2998](tel:816-914-2998)  
*Central States District - Contest & Judging Vice President*

-----

## **Report #300 --- Marketing and Public Relations**

**Chad Schuetz, Marketing and Public Relations V.P.**



Our goal is to strengthen two-way communication between the district and chapters and highlight all the great things happening across CSD.

To support this, there will be a designated marketing/media contact in every chapter. Our State VPs will be helping compile the list so we can reliably share chapter news, promote events, and showcase successes across the district.

The marketing team will continue to focus on consistent communication through the *Serenade*, social media, email, and website updates. Recently, we worked with Tim Suellentrop to improve deliverability with our email messaging system, helping ensure district messages reach members more reliably.

We are always looking for content for the *Serenade*. If your chapter or quartet has news, photos, or upcoming events to share, please send them to [marketing@singcsd.com](mailto:marketing@singcsd.com).

Thanks to Rick Ziegler, Michael Pommier, Jim Tanis, and Tim Suellentrop for their ongoing support of district communications and marketing.

-----

## **Report #340 --- CSD Philanthropy**

### **Barbershop Harmony Society**

<https://www.barbershop.org/donate/?form=giving>



### **Harmony Foundation International**

<https://www.harmonyfoundation.org/>



-----

## **Report #400 --- Music and Performance**

**Duane Lawson, Music & Performance V.P.**



In January, the CSD had a booth at the Missouri Music Educators Association conference in Osage Beach, MO. We have not had a presence as a vendor in a very long time. Bradley Sheeley, from Central Standard, approached the district leadership and volunteered to represent the district. For 4 days, Bradley and other volunteers handed out information about the Barbershop Harmony Society and sheet music. We also gave out a contact

list, so music educators could reach out to nearby chapters. I know of at least one presentation is already scheduled from the efforts of Bradley. Very exciting.

On August 1, some chapters in South Dakota are planning to gather for a small festival in Viborg, SD. Details are still being worked out with South Dakota VP, Cliff Huot, but it is shaping up to be a fun day. Matt Webber from the SmorgasChorus will be the guest clinician. Each chorus will have time for coaching and the day will wrap up by learning 1-2 songs to sing as a mass chorus with all of the chapters that attend.

Don't forget coaching opportunities are available at the Spring and Fall Conventions!

If there is anything that I can do to assist in lining up a coach for your chapter, please let me know. Email: [music-performance@singcsd.com](mailto:music-performance@singcsd.com)

-----

### ***Report #420 --- Chorus Director Development***

**J.P. Marshall, Chorus Director Development V.P.**



Directors are often the lifeblood of a chorus and so we are working on recruitment, expectations, and skill advancement of our chapter directors. Over the last few months since I have taken on this role, I have been starting conversations with colleges and universities to make sure that their students know that barbershop and other community groups are often a good opportunity for them to have supplemental work and expand their experience as they move out into the directing world. I have also been working with them to put together some ideas about how we should work to recruit directors and what expectations of the directors and the group they would be looking for in a contract to make the offer enticing. Over the next few months, I will be talking to different choruses to find out if they have contracts with their directors and what they say to build some suggestions of what contracts should say and make sure that contracts include the directors expectations of the chorus beyond pay.

-----

### ***Report #470 --- Membership Development***

**Membership Development V.P., Don Fuson**



Spring CSD Membership VP Report

As the new year is underway, chapter support to every member continues to be one of the most important things we must understand.

- What changing expectations do members have?
- Do our members what to try and perform in new places?
- Does the chapter board continue to reach out to involve all members?
- Does someone watch out and contact those members who seem to be missing more?
- How are chapter members re-trained on the welcome we should give to all guests?

These (and other) considerations are critical to continue to increase the strength of the member-led chapters we belong to.

CSD continues to offer training on member expectations, chapter operations, and future leadership development. Existing chapter leaders can involve other members by expanding committee membership, giving more members some defined action for completion, and also reviewing all projects for member resources and planning.

Every member in every chapter is a future leader. Just like music teams work to expand and hone member singing skills, the chapter board must entrust decisions to members outside of the current board. Those members must have the coaching and guidance to allow them to plan their own steps for success. If something “fails,” then that becomes the “First Attempt in Learning” and a review of the plan, the resources, the timing can all become a learning point for everyone.

Our chapters will continue to grow through the future leaders that YOUR chapter board helps to develop. Your CSD team wants every chapter to reach your 2026 goals, develop new leaders, and also be aware that the same needs exist at the CSD level to support all of our chapters and members.

We all want more singers, more harmony, and more community outreach! Support every member and their view of how to make that happen.

-----

## **Report #480 --- Chapter Eternal**

**Larry Hlavacek, District Secretary**



<b>Member</b>	<b>Chapter(s)</b>	<b>Chorus(es)</b>
William “Bill” Arnold	Lincoln, NE	Lincoln Continentals
Larry Bloebaum	St Charles, MO	Daniel Boone and Ambassadors of Harmony
James Erbe	Cedar Rapids, IA	Harmony Hawks Chorus
George “Ron” Flock	Papillion, NE & Omaha, NE	Sarpy Serenaders & Heartland Harmonizers
Ken Gabler	St Joseph, MO	Pony Expressmen
John Garwick	Manhattan, KS	Little Apple
Bill Hamm	Topeka, KS	Capitol City
Clinton “Clint” Kegel	Topeka, KS & Billings, MT	Capitol City & Big Sky
Scott Johnson	St Joseph, MO	Pony Expressmen
Earl Martin	Olathe, KS	Trails West Barbershop
Kenneth (K.B.) Mehl	St Charles, MO	Ambassadors of Harmony
Kenneth (Ken) Byron Oster	Columbia, MO	Boonslick Chordbusters
Dale (Peep) Pieper	Beatrice, NE	Homestead Harmonizers
Brian Smith	Sioux City, IA	Siouxland Discovery
G. Byron Stephens	Olathe, KS	Trails West Barbershop
Eric Valentine	Hastings, NE	Chorus of the Plains

-----

## **Report #510 --- Iowa State V.P. Report**

**Allan Mebus, Iowa State V.P.**



Hello Central States District,

This is the confession of “the new guy”. I am excited and honored to have been elected Iowa VP. Just a bit of my history..... I was introduced to barbershop singing back in high school when I was invited by a member of the Cedar Rapids Harmony Hawks. I did sing through my college years and shortly after, but my work schedule took over for many years. I live in Coralville, IA and am a member of the Old Capitol Chorus (Iowa City) for 20+ years and currently the quartet “No White Socks”. (Shameless plug) As a new guy, I realize I only think I know things. As I find answers, it only prompts more questions. I look forward to getting to know the Iowa Chapters as this year continues. I’ve had some good conversations with some great chapter leaders. I am anxious to meet with all chapters face to face and sing barbershop. New friendships await.

There are some chapter events that have been and still coming in Iowa:

- Keystone Chorus (Elkader)- 75th Anniversary Show February 28
- This was sadly the final show for the chapter. They will be completing efforts to close their charter.
- Old Capitol Chorus (Iowa City)- Annual Spring Show March 7
- River City Chorus (Mason City) with Proud Images Chorus (Waterloo)- Spring Show March 28
- Proud Images Chorus (Waterloo) with River City Chorus (Mason City)- Spring Show April 11
- Chordbusters Chorus (Davenport)- Spring Show April 25
- Harmony Delegation (Des Moines)- Spring Show April 25
- Vox Infinitus (Des Moines Metro)- Show June 6

The contact I have had with Iowa Choruses shows there has been fun over the past months with the Holiday Season with sing outs at various locations in their area as well and a whole bouquet of Valentine love songs. Please send me the titles your chapter is singing....

I did receive a bit of training at the end of 2025 by attending the Officer Installation of Harmony Delegation (Des Moines) and Proud Image Chorus (Waterloo). I witnessed the mastery of Larry Hlavacek as he completed his term. Thank you to both choruses and Larry for allowing me to participate.

I had the pleasure of installing the new officers of the Harmony Hawks (Cedar Rapids) as well as the Old Capitol Chorus (Iowa City) earlier this year. Fun evening with a few laughs. Thanks fellas.

I am a stickler for details, but I am asking that no one studies these words too closely. You may find that “some” of the words may seem similar, and there are no footnotes detailing your work. Thank you for your guidance.

Enjoy the spring and summer and keep the whole world singing. (There, I think that’s everyone)

Allan Mebus  
[lowavp@singcsd.com](mailto:lowavp@singcsd.com)

-----

## **Report #520 --- Kansas State V.P. Report**

**Mike Shepherd, Kansas State V.P.**



### **🎵 Welcome, Barbershop Aficionados! 🎵**

Step right up to the Spring Convention, where the harmonies are as warm as the Kansas sun (even if the weather’s been more “hibernation” than “celebration” lately)! While most folks have been bundled up, the Kansas Chapter has been buzzing like a quartet on show night—plotting, planning, and prepping for a year packed with musical magic.

### **What’s on the docket?**

- Spring Shows are popping up faster than tulips after a thaw.
- The guys are tuning up for their big contest set in Saint Louis this July—expect some serious vocal fireworks!

### **Ready for a real adventure?**

Registration is now open for the legendary Brigade On The Range! This isn’t just any event—it’s your chance to join the action right here in Kansas. Check out all the details at <http://www.BrigadeOnTheRange.org>.

### **What’s a Quartet Brigade, you ask?**

- Imagine two days of non-stop, round-robin quartetting—10 to 12 songs, each one a new challenge and a new chance to shine.
- You’ll swap parts, sing with everyone, and maybe even discover your inner bass (or tenor, or lead, or baritone)!
- There’s an informal competition with randomly-mixed quartets, and a grand concert starring the headlining quartet Fleet Street, the brigade chorus, and select brigade quartets.
- Of the 10 songs, 7 will be sung at other brigades this year—so you’ll be part of a musical movement sweeping the nation

So, as the days get longer and the harmonies get sweeter, remember:

**Enjoy Spring and Summer—and Keep The Whole World Singing! 🎵**

---

## **Report #530 --- Missouri/Arkansas V.P. Report**

**Steven True, Missouri/Arkansas State V.P.**



Hello CSD!

Missouri/Arkansas were wonderfully represented at the midwinter convention this year. Once again the Ozark Overtones brought home the gold.

In late January the district sponsored a booth at the Missouri Music Educators Association (MMEA) conference. We had a great team of barbershoppers volunteer their time there and spark interest in our artform among many of the educators there. We gave out a ton of music and provided contact information for the BHS chapter nearest to them. We've already had direct repercussions as a result of this booth. Members of the Metro Kansas City Chapter traveled to Warrensburg, MO to put on a barbershop workshop for the University of Central Missouri's American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) chapter. They taught a couple tags, educated them on the history of our artform and performed some songs as well. They were very well received. I'm working on fostering a relationship with the leadership of that chapter to open doors in other universities in Missouri and Arkansas in the hopes all of our chapters can forge stronger community bonds with higher education institutions.

I have yet to hear from all of the MO/AR chapters this year so I will only be reporting on the ones that have recently communicated with me. If you're a MO/AR chapter president reading this and we haven't had our chapter check-in please schedule that with me as soon as you can.

- Metro Kansas City
  - Hosting Spring Convention
  - Held Inaugural Gala for new endowment fund in mid-March and raised over \$36,000
- St. Joseph
  - Membership still at a critical low
  - Bemo Myers is stepping back into the scene and taking over the chapter
  - The 70th anniversary of the chapter charter is in a couple years. Hoping to hold a large event to celebrate its history.
- St. Louis #1
  - Maintaining around 20 members
  - Very successful Christmas show
  - Many objectives and strategies to achieve those objectives were shared with me including recruitment/retainment, improving the overall chorus performance package and overall being better leaders in their chapter.

## **Report #540 --- Nebraska State V.P. Report**

**Rick Pape, Nebraska State V.P.**



Many of the Nebraska chapters have spent early spring preparing for their annual spring shows.

The Nebraska City Chapter presented their Patriotic set for their show, Happy 250th Birthday America, on March 7, with featured quartet International Seniors Champions 12th Street Rag. A good time was had by all. Their tenor, Micah Jeppesen, had a short commute from Omaha to Nebraska City.

On March 14, the Fremont Pathfinders performed two performances of a golf-themed show called, “Par for the Chorus.” This was a very funny and entertaining show that saw the reuniting of a former international competitor quartet, Boomers, entertaining the crowded auditorium. The featured quartet, Tapestry, out of Des Moines was definitely a crowd favorite.

Another patriotic set, “America’s 250th,” was presented by the Beatrice chapter’s Homestead Harmonizers on March 21 and 22, with special guest international competitor Daily Special out of the Northeastern District.

The Papillion chapter’s Sarpy Serenaders performed another patriotic performance, “Americana Revue” on March 22.

The Lincoln Continentals continue to prepare for two performances of their spring show, “Best of Broadway,” which occurs on May 16. The Lincoln chapter will then transition quickly into their Star City Sound mixed chorus practices, a summer mixed chorus, which goes for six weeks. Star City Sound will have many performances around the Lincoln community in August. Last year, the the mixed chorus had 71 participants on stage ranging in age from 9 to 90.

The Hastings chapter is keeping busy doing community singouts and was featured on a local news story during their performance in Grand Island, Nebraska.

The majority of the Nebraska chapters were very busy during the Valentine’s Day weekend this year, bringing in funds for their chapters and sharing the love of harmony all over the state.

Rick Pape  
CSD NE VP

-----

## **Report #550 --- South Dakota State V.P. Report**

**Cliff Huot, South Dakota Sate V.P.**



Consent Calendar For South Dakota  
Spring Convention 2026

We are in the early planning stages of a SD workshop on Aug 1st with the help of Duane Lawson.

SD chapters enjoyed getting quartets out in the communities on Valentine Day to serenade the lucky recipients.

Tri-Valley Chorus is celebrating their 75th show on April 18, 2026. They are looking forward to a great concert and the opportunity to see fellow barbershop members. Guest quartet will be Storm Front and 3 & ½ Men.

Cliff Huot  
South Dakota State V.P.  
March 13, 2026

---

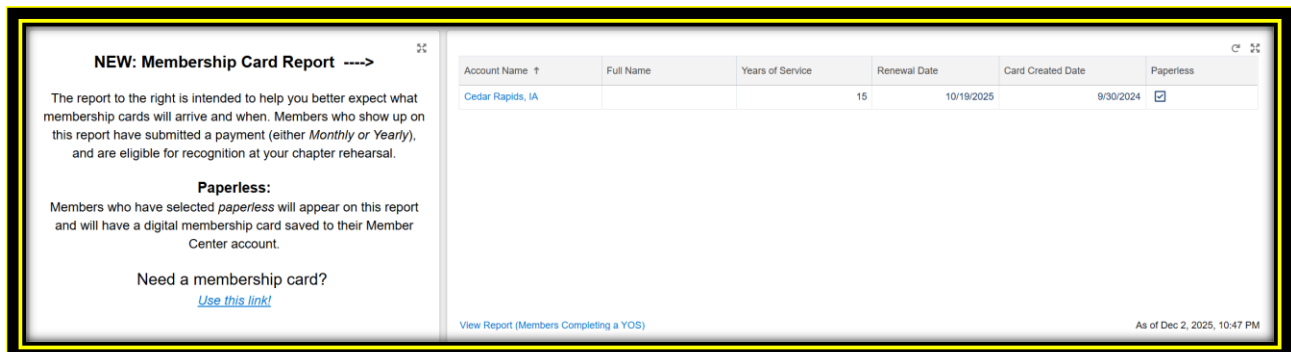
## **Report #560 --- District Secretary's Report**

**Larry Hlavacek, District Secretary**



**A giant thank you goes out to Mark Fuerniss for his 22 years as District Secretary.** He has been invaluable to the district, and Society, for all he did during those 22 years. He also provided two years of training to me during his tenure to make it a smooth transition to a new Secretary. And having done it for so many years, he is still getting mail and emails that are relevant to the district.

A new feature in the Member Center for Chapter Presidents, Secretaries, and Treasurers is a small report on your main page following logging in, that shows the people who recently renewed their membership. This is extremely important for acknowledging people who have checked “paperless” in their member profiles. They do not get membership cards, so the Secretary doesn’t necessarily know when they renew. Scroll to the bottom of the logged-in page and you will see a box that has “NEW: Membership Card Report”. You will see the names of the people who recently renewed and whether they are paperless. Below is a sample of what you should see:



**NEW: Membership Card Report ---->**

The report to the right is intended to help you better expect what membership cards will arrive and when. Members who show up on this report have submitted a payment (either *Monthly* or *Yearly*), and are eligible for recognition at your chapter rehearsal.

**Paperless:**  
Members who have selected *paperless* will appear on this report and will have a digital membership card saved to their Member Center account.

Need a membership card?  
[Use this link!](#)

Account Name ↑	Full Name	Years of Service	Renewal Date	Card Created Date	Paperless
Cedar Rapids, IA		15	10/19/2025	9/30/2024	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

[View Report \(Members Completing a YOS\)](#) As of Dec 2, 2025, 10:47 PM

Thank you to everyone for uploading your 990-N or required IRS filing form, and the financial review document. Please remember to add the file that contains the filing or review contents. This is done after you add the document in the “Compliance Files” area. Click on the document

entry that you added. Then click on the “RELATED” word. Click on “Add Files” and add the document. Here is a tutorial for [uploading Compliance Filings](#) into the BHS Member Center.

Finally, before a chapter show can be advertised in District media, performance licenses should be obtained by completing a BMI/SESAC License Application for Show Clearance. Submit this form, along with a check made out to BHS in the appropriate amount, to the District Secretary. Forms are available on the [BHS Member Center](#).

Larry Hlavace, CSD Secretary  
4728 Sugar Pine Dr NE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402  
[Secretary@singsd.com](mailto:Secretary@singsd.com) or [larry.hlavacek@gmail.com](mailto:larry.hlavacek@gmail.com)  
319 981-0724

-----

## ***Report #570 --- District Treasurer's Report***

**Jeff Arians, District Treasurer**



It's hard to believe that I am already on my second term as the CSD. I have enjoyed meeting a bunch of chapter Treasurers this year and know that the chapters of the CSD are in good hands. I have been working hard on Treasurer duties, and I will highlight some of them below:

- Timely reconciled all of our bank accounts
- Maintained the CSD PayPal account
- Worked with our EVP to transition our payment processor from PayPal to Zeffy
- Used my expertise as a Certified Public Accountant to dive into our financials/clean-up some outstanding items
- Prepared the fall convention financial report
- Presented December 31, 2025, financials to the board at our board planning meeting in January
- Expense vouchers and bills have been paid in a timely manner with CSD President's approval
- Assisted a couple chapter Treasurers on issues with their banks recognizing the chapter's chorus name on checks/documents
- Worked with our President, EVP, and Past President to look at expenses we can reduce for the future

As you can see, I've been busy in the last few months. As always, if anyone ever has questions regarding their chapter or quartet's accounting/taxes, don't hesitate to ask!

Thank you!

Jeff Arians  
CSD Treasurer

---

## **Report #590 --- Executive Vice President Report**

**Dan Bodtke, Executive Vice President**

Midwinter in Pasadena started off the year strong for CSD! So many quartets represented us so well and the Ozark Overtones won the Seniors chorus contest while receiving the highest score for a Seniors chorus! I was able to attend Midwinter this year to support our groups, but was also able to meet with BHS representatives to exchange ideas and get an understanding of where the Society is at as a whole.



For Spring Convention, the events team has been working to cultivate a solid event while keeping the performers, attendees, and the budget in mind. We've also implemented a new registration processing tool called Zeffy. This tool is more straightforward to use for attendees while also giving the district team better features on the backend. Another pro of using Zeffy is that it's free for the district to use and there are no processing fees.

The CSD Board and the Program Admin Team have been brainstorming ways we can be more financially stable. One of those ideas is to create a district sponsorship program. This is still in the early stages of development. We're working on various sponsorship tiers so individuals, quartets, choruses, and businesses can donate to the district directly while getting perks. More info coming soon!

The District Board and the Program Administrative Team strive to serve the district to the best of our ability and we're always looking for constructive feedback. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have ideas on how we could improve and how we can best support you and our CSD community.

Dan Bodtke  
[evp@singcsd.com](mailto:evp@singcsd.com)  
507-993-2597

---

## **Report #600 --- District President Report**

**Brett Randolph, District President**

Hello barbershoppers of the Central States District! I am hopeful that the first few months of 2026 have been successful for you and your chapters. It certainly has for the CSD! The talent of the district showed brightly at the Midwinter Convention held in Pasadena, California, where three youth quartets, two youth choruses, two



senior quartets, and one senior chorus participated in festivals and contests. All of the groups represented the district well and one group came home with some hardware and set the scoring record for a seniors chorus! Congratulations to the Ozark Overtones for being named the 2026 Barbershop Harmony Society International Seniors Chorus Champions! What a way to start the celebration of the 80th anniversary of the Central States District!!

The Board of Directors and the Program Administrative Team have been working to host events throughout CSD for our members that help achieve our mission to bring people together in harmony and fellowship to enrich lives through singing. This convention does that in a robust way. The Spring Convention will host the International Preliminary Quartet and International Preliminary Senior Chorus Contest while also offering chorus and quartet coaching for non-competing groups as well as classes on a wide variety of barbershop and leadership topics. There will also be dedicated space at the convention venue for fellowship and tag singing into all hours of the night! Additionally, the Board of Directors and House of Delegates meetings will be held virtually and moved to a date outside of the convention weekend to save costs and to open the schedule of events to accommodate these amazing learning opportunities. A big thanks to the convention team for all of the work they have done to make this convention full of opportunities for all of the members of the Central States District.

District leadership is committed to creating a support structure to allow the chapters and members to have the best barbershop experience possible. That is why one of our main focuses this year is to make it easier for chapters and members to get access to resources for membership, marketing, and coaching. We recognize how much impact barbershop has had on our lives and how important it is to have chapters that strive to be the best that they can be. Whether that is as a community chorus, a competitive chorus, supporting music education, or just getting together once a week to sing songs and tags. Feel free to utilize the expertise of our highly dedicated leaders. I hope to see you all in Lenexa!

Brett Randolph  
District President  
president@singcsd.com  
316-371-1269

