



The MVEer Monthly

September 2017

September Calendar

Monday, August 28 – rehearsal at 7:15pm

Hints for Brian Plehn's Quiz:

- As a MVE performing member, I will perform the national anthem with excellent diction and clear brilliant sound.
- As a MVE performing member, I will review my notes and rhythms for the Christmas show.
- As a MVE performing member, listen intently to the performance team to allow ourselves to score in the high A level



Monday, September 4 – NO rehearsal due to **Labor Day**

Monday, September 11 – rehearsal at 7:15pm

Tuesday, September 12 – **Board Meeting**, St. Luke's, 7pm.

Monday, September 18 – rehearsal at 7:15pm

PERFORMANCE on SUNDAY, September 24 – National Anthem at the Brewers vs. the Cubs, tailgate info and call times to be announced.



Monday, September 25 – rehearsal at 7:15pm

Musical Monday at Lake Park & Afterglow

The MVE performed at Lake Park on Monday, August 7, 2017 as well as three great quartets (**Midnight Croon**, **Quarter Notes**, and **One Minute to Midnight**). This was the last performance directed by **Josh Umhoefer** and was the occasion of an excellent afterglow in his honor at **Café Hollander** on Downer afterward.



The chorus has performed at Lake Park a few times over the years, but here is proof from 2010 (left) and then 2013 (right), each time with



different shirts. But here is our photo-album of pictures from the performance and afterglow from **Sarah Nagel**: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/3sbg1z9kcptl67p/AADv8kkYlxRWDuNS5yurBC-qa?dl=0>



Josh Umhoefer, prep before the performance.





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Quarter Notes, with **Bob Bartkowiak, Matt Nagel, Randy Will,** and **Bruce Vitale** entertained us beautifully early in the Lake Park concert.

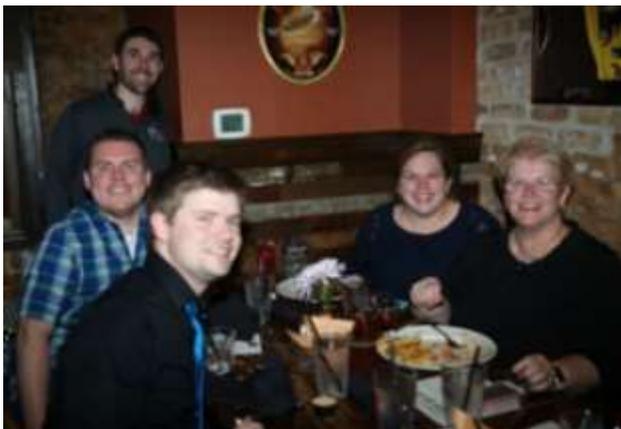
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One Minute to Midnight is **Brian Plehn, Nate Peplinski, Derek Balke,** and **Kevin Morrissey**. They sang *Free Ride In* and *Far Away Cookies*



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Midnight Croon (**Josh and Jake Umhoefer, Tim Zielke,** and **Cody Whitlock**) crushed it with five great songs.

After a beautiful night singing to a great crowd at Lake Park, the whole chorus, family, friends, and groupies went to Café Hollanders for a celebratory afterglow. The chorus partied on both floors of the restaurant, but we mostly congregated on the second floor. The décor is about bicycles, but we made it a song-fest.





The MVE Afterglow was a celebration of Josh's leadership over the past six (*and way more*) years. All found it warm and wonderful.

MVE Interim Director **Brian Plehn**

With Josh stepping down as director to address increased time needs at work, **Brian Plehn** is the Interim Director with **Patrick McAlexander** as Assistant Director. Brian has been warming us up for years, but here he is at Lake Park getting us ready to sing.



Here is a bit about Brian, which is posted on the Cudahy High School site where he is choir director:

"Mr. Brian M. Plehn, director of choirs at Cudahy High School, joined the Cudahy School District in 2013. He directs three curricular choirs: *Treble choir*, a 40+ member non-auditioned women's choir; a 25+ member non-auditioned *Men's Choir*; and the *Concert Choir*, an auditioned upperclassmen SATB ensemble. He also teaches two extra-curricular choirs: *Chamber Choir* an SATB ensemble working on jazz, madrigal and contemporary *a cappella* music; and a women's ensemble, working on jazz and contemporary *a cappella* music. He is an active adjudicator and clinician.

Mr. Plehn graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater where he earned his Bachelor of Music, Choral Education in May 2012. He is an active member of WMEA, WCDA and holds memberships in the National Association for Music Education (NAfME). He also, holds a membership in the Barbershop Harmony Society and he is on the Performance Team of the Midwest Vocal Express, a male *a cappella* chorus in Greendale, specializing in Barbershop music. He has worked with singers of all ages, and he welcomes the opportunity to work with ensembles and soloists.





Mr. Plehn is also the Director of Music at Cross Ev. Lutheran Church in Burlington WI. Where he directs the adult choir, leads the praise band, and is a part time organist.

When not in the classroom making music, Mr. Plehn can be found catching up on the latest TV shows with his wife Sarah and two Cats, Whitacre and Brahms, DJing with the business he owns, "SoundWave DJs", or fishing on a nearby lake, or playing Xbox."

Brian & **Sarah** have just returned from a cruise to Cuba. Bring back any cigars, Brian?

Football Mania Time – Cody Whitlock



Football is approaching quickly! I know it's hard to believe but we only have one Monday rehearsal before the first game on 9/7 (thanks to Labor Day). Please bring stubs and \$\$ on Monday, but we'll keep selling the tickets all the way up until 9/7. All I need to activate the tickets is the stub number so that last week, all you'll need to do is text me the tickets that need activating. Here's my cell: 309-212-0426.

In addition to paper ticket sales, we would like you also to make a strong fundraising push selling tickets online. Selling electronic tickets can be a great way to expand your fundraising reach to friends and family that live outside your geographic area. Please click on the link below and follow the directions to get started and to customize your own fundraising webpage:

<http://www.charitymania.com/register/A709C> The CharityMania website will show me when your page is created and I will be able to track the progress of your online sales.

A Bit of Light Bulb Humor

How many **tenors** does it take to change a light bulb?
Two: One to do it and other to say, "It's too high for him."



How many **leads** does it take to screw in a light bulb?
One. He holds it up and he thinks that the world revolves around him.

What do you call a beautiful woman on **baritone's** arm? *A tattoo. Sorry, no light bulb*

How many **basses** does it take to change a light bulb?
None. They're so macho they prefer to walk in the dark and bang their shins.

How many **choir directors** does it take to change a light bulb, you ask?
No one knows as no one ever watches the choir director.