



SE Wisconsin: New All-Voice Chorus!

The Greendale, WI chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society is excited to establish a BRAND NEW All-Voice Chorus! Under the direction of **Bryan Ziegler**, this chorus provides a new outlet to all barbershoppers across southeastern Wisconsin. *(Photo: Courtesy of Derek Balke of the inaugural rehearsal)*



The chorus will meet every other Sunday evening from **7-10pm**. We're excited to announce details for next several rehearsals as we to push toward the **Land O'Lakes District** Contest in Minneapolis on October 15!

Sundays: Aug 28 & Sept 11 at **HiWay Harry's**, Johnson Creek at 710 Glover Ln, Johnson Creek, WI

Sundays: Sept 25 & Oct 9 at **Emmanuel UCC** near Hwys 18/67 in Dousman at 36821 Sunset Dr, Oconomowoc, WI 53066

The songs we've selected for contest are:

On The Street Where You Live (arr. David Wright)

Let's Start The New Year Right/Auld Lang Syne Medley (arr. Bryan Ziegler)

All are welcome at our next rehearsals. If you wish, send an email to director@mve.org. Thank you so much!

The Impact of Barbershop and the International Contest has had on my Joy of Singing - Michael Cook



I have had significant struggles with singing since my voice changed in high school. I would strain to sing notes comfortably, and my voice would get tired and even painful. It was bad enough that I stopped singing in choirs after my sophomore year of college. I continued to sing back-up vocals occasionally with bands at church, but the problem only got worse over time. My attitude about singing and my assessment of my voice was very negative, even though I love to sing.

Around 2012, the YouTube algorithm brought **Crossroad's** 2009 contest performance of **Lucky Old Sun** to my feed. I was enraptured with my first viewing. I still think of it as perhaps my favorite live performance of any music of all time. I was immediately hooked on barbershop, and every month or so I would spend hours down the internet rabbit hole of barbershop videos and articles.

My sons all can sing, and my second son is an especially gifted bass singer for his age. He started taking classical lessons early in high school, and I decided to start taking lessons from the same instructor in 2020 to see if I could start rehabilitating my voice. We spent the first eight or so months *only* doing vocal exercises – no songs at all. I had to relearn how to just make a sound in a healthy way. During some of these exercises, we would use falsetto, which I could do much more easily than my chest voice. I had always thought that using falsetto wasn't "real singing," so I had never sung with it, even though it was easier for me. That started to change when my instructor, an operatic tenor, told me that I was doing things with falsetto that he couldn't do. Maybe I could do this barbershop thing after all.



In the fall of 2021, I joined MVE, and everything changed. I was so encouraged by everyone's welcome and the value that is placed on the tenor voice. It was such a wonderful transformation to move from frustration and discouragement with my voice to joy and encouragement. The peak of this experience was attending the AIC performance in Charlotte. I knew that this was going to be **Crossroad's** farewell performance, and of course they ended their set with *Lucky Old Sun*. I



was in tears during the performance (and after..., and most times still when I think about this...) thinking about what a wonderful process they started in my life the first time they sang that song on a big stage. And now I was there with them the last time they sing it on a big stage. I was able to share this story with **Fred Farrell** (tenor of Crossroads, pictured here) during intermission. and he was very touched and gave me a big hug.

Finally, of course, this story has a happy ending only because of MVE. Without MVE, I wouldn't have had the opportunity to experience the joy of competitive barbershop singing and falling back in love with singing overall. So, thank you all!

Up and Coming MVE Events – Jim Franklin

Sept 5 Monday - **Labor Day**, No rehearsal

Sep 24 Saturday -**MVE Golf Outing**, Edgewood (See Mike Lietke' s article below)

Oct 14 – 15 Friday, **Saturday LOL District Convention & Contest**
Hilton Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport



SAVE the DATES:

Dec 9 Friday 5:30PM- Light the Square, Drexel Town Square Oak Creek

Dec 10, maybe 11th - MVE Christmas Show(s)

MVE Golf Outing – Saturday, September 24 - Mike Lietke

We will be returning to **Edgewood GC in Big Bend (W240s9950 Castle Rd)**. **Tee Times Start at 9 sharp** - PLEASE be there by **8:30am** so that we can get all of the payment, instructions and such out of the way. This is just us folk. It is not filled with great golfers. Come on out and give it a shot.

- It will be a scramble, meaning all 4 golfers hit their shot, and then the foursome decides which is the best position. From that best position, all four hit their next shot until it is in the hole. I have reserved 32 spots (8 tee

times). If we get more players.... GREAT! We will try to get more tee times.



- The cost is **\$65 per golfer**. You can pay me cash, Venmo, or check. Unfortunately, the greens fees price went up to \$57.75 this year, and Edgewood did away with their post-Labor Day discounting in 2019. For next year, if we go back to NB Hills or someplace that costs less, I will adjust it down again.
- There will be 3 hole prizes: longest drive in fairway, women; closest to the pin in 2; longest putt.
- Just like last year, we will also have prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. The places will be interesting, however. As you hand in your card, you will draw a card from the deck. That number will equate to strokes-relative-to-par number on it. If you get a red card, just like in pro golf, it equates to an under par score. If it is Black, it is an over par score. Since there are 13 cards in a suit, we will have two suits, and the Jack is 11, the Queen is 12. Both kings will be Even Par. The first place team will be that team whose actual strokes to par come closest to the drawn number. Once again (as always), any ties will be settled on the putting green in a putt-off until the victors have announced themselves through their superior luck Skill. This is a lot easier to pull off than it is to explain. Trust me. The one thing this should do is allow everybody a chance at the prizes.
- We will make the best prize for the **best story from the day**. Once again, a person should not let the truth get in the way of a good story. This is an audience-voted award, so be ready.
- Our first tee time is at 9:00. Please be there at least a half hour early. I will take payment from the time I get there (8:15) until 8:45. If it is later than that, I will get it after the round.
- We are trying to have our special guest "Ranger" circling the course on a cart of his own once again. **Chuck Crary** will not be playing. However, if you can entice him over to do so, on one of the holes he will be allowed to putt with your group as a fifth player. If he holes the shot, his putt counts.

After we are done, we will do the prizes at the golf course. Then we will travel to our house to enjoy the patio. It is also in New Berlin, at **3953 S. Camrose Ave.** We will be making homemade pizza for the crew that shows up.

We believe this will start around **2:30pm**, but if you are there before we are, please go around back and make yourself comfortable. Pop open a beverage or something - we'll be there soon. We will have some food and some other stuff, but please bring whatever you like that makes you happy. We can fire up the grill, whatever...

Happily, I have also been told some folks that might not be golfing might be coming over. That's great! It's about the social aspect of it. Hopefully we'll even hear some singing.

The Waukesha County Freeman Front Page

- July 1, 2022 - suggested by Erik Anderson

Former teacher reunites with his 'kids' after 53 years: Former Echo Glen School students celebrate teacher **Dale Heinen by Hunter Turpin**

WAUKESHA — Echo Glen School, built in 1924, was a three-room school on Guthrie Road in Waukesha, near where Minooka Park is now. The school has since been demolished, but the sixth-grade class of 1968-69 still remembers of a



year of jokes, music, learning and their favorite teacher, **Dale Heinen.**

“You know how you can just remember those great memories and that it was a good year? That’s how that class was,” said Colleen Christensen, a student in the sixth-grade class.

On Wednesday, 53 years later, the class held a surprise reunion to thank **Heinen** for his work in education and the impact he left on them, some of the students having pursued education careers of their own, saying they were inspired by him.

“(The surprise was) overwhelming. It was simply wonderful,” said **Heinen**, 81, who still refers to the former students as “kids.”

Of the 25 students in the sixth-grade class, 12 came to the reunion at The Steaming Cup in downtown Waukesha; five students who couldn’t make it wrote letters to Heinen, one of the students who organized the event, was grateful for the turnout.

Students in Heinen’s class said that he was an encouraging teacher who made them feel safe and secure. This was the first time many of the students had a young man as a teacher. Prom said she remembers how **Heinen** treated the boys and the girls in the class equally.

For the **Rest of the Story** go to:

[Former teacher reunites with his ‘kids’ after 53 years | Waukesha County News | gmtoday.com](http://www.waukesha.com/news/2019/09/11/former-teacher-reunites-with-his-kids-after-53-years/)

Football Mania – Scott Ganswindt

As you know, Midwest Vocal Express is using the **Football Mania** fundraiser to raise money. In addition to paper ticket sales, you can sell 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:

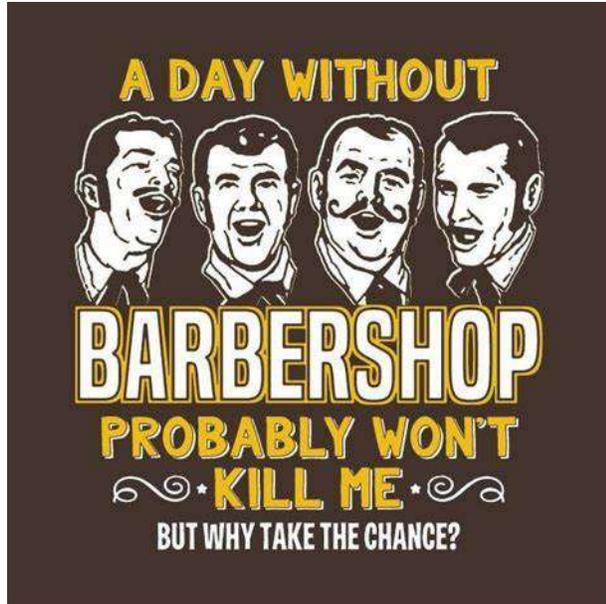
www.charitymania.com/register/AC180

The Charity Mania website will show me when your page is created, and I will be able to track the progress of your online sales.

Scott Ganswindt, 414-630-6533, sganswindt@sbcglobal.net.



Humor Corner



Addiction to harmony is a real disease. It can be found in singers around the world. Symptoms include cringing at bad chords,

knowledge of pointless barbershop facts, and late-night tag singing. If you or someone you know has been affected by harmony addiction, repost this for harmony addiction awareness week.