



21 Reynolds Rd.
Glen Cove, NY
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The year's Rally is:
August 21st. 2009

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www.AtlanticHarmonyBrigade.com

Dear Prospective Atlantic Harmony Brigade Participant:

We are glad to learn of your interest in the Atlantic Harmony Brigade!

If you are an avid, competitive quarteter, please carefully read the following description of the third annual Atlantic Harmony Brigade event for the dates, costs, expectations, criteria for participation, activities, etc.

After reading the following description of the event, if it sounds like something you'd like to do **and it's something you feel confident you can do**, you will need to reconfirm your interest to receive an application. Please read this "prospectus" carefully and follow the instructions.

[Print this entire message and read it carefully before applying.]

About the Brigade Program

If, as a quarteter, you are passionate, ambitious, fast learning, experienced and you yearn for a lot of good, challenging quarteting with a network of solid, local, like-minded and accomplished guys, the Atlantic Harmony Brigade may be for you.

Over Six hundred men throughout the Barbershop Harmony Society and from four countries have enjoyed these unique Brigade rallies; some have been attending the NCHB Rally for over 15 years. In the Mid-Atlantic District, the AHB has been an annual event since 2006 and it has been attended by over 180 wonderfully well-prepared participants from over 18 states! We are proud to have earned the support of the BHS and our District for this grass roots, quartet-oriented program. The AHB is an approved 501 (3) (c) not for profit subsidiary of the BHS.

What the Event Looks Like

This is an invitational weekend event of non-stop quarteting and quartet partner switching. Participants sing in hundreds of quartet combinations. Up to 124 men will arrive in Delaware, solidly prepared, knowing their part on twelve great songs. They'll be ready, willing and able to spend the entire weekend formally and informally quarteting!

There are two rounds of adjudicated quartet competitions (with randomly selected quartet members and randomly selected songs out of the 12 provided. There is also a show open to the public. The cost for the weekend is all-inclusive, covering registration fees, hotel accommodations, meals, and all the learning materials.

The basic information is as follows:

- 1) The event takes place from 4:30 PM on Friday, August 21, 2009, to Sunday breakfast, August 23, in Wilmington, Delaware. The last "official event" is around midnight on Saturday night, but almost everyone stays up late Saturday night quarteting. Sunday morning's breakfast is part of the package and will leave you going with a glow.
- 2) The cost of the event is \$269 and includes a double occupancy room (Friday night and Saturday night), meals (Friday's and Saturday's dinner, Saturday's and Sunday's breakfast, Saturday night's contest afterglow food & refreshment, all the learning materials, and all "registration fees."
Financial assistance and grants may be available. All requests are discreet and confidential. Contact Nealsiegal@aol.com directly.
- 3) Everyone wishing to participate in the event will need to submit an application and a \$129 deposit. **Applications will be sent out, by e-mail, immediately to anyone who reconfirms his interest after reading this "prospectus" by following the directions that follow.**

Participation is limited to 124 qualified men equally distributed among the four voice parts (31 men on each) on a "first to apply and qualify, first invited" basis, tiered, however, as follows:

- AHB Members and last year's participants (who completed their "stage Pass") are given priority early admittance if their application is received no later than Jan. 30th.
- First time guests must be sponsored by an AHB Member. Those who apply with the signature of a Sponsoring Member (a list of Member can be found on our web site- under "About Us) will be given advanced application review between Feb. 1st and Feb. 15th.
- Un-sponsored applicants may submit an unsigned application but they will have to assigned a willing "Board designated Sponsor"; if one is assigned, the application will be reviewed after Feb. 15th.

All applications should be sent in right away to get the benefit of an early review. The final deadline for all applications is March 1st. Learning materials will be issued to all approved Invitees on or about April 15th, giving everyone about 16 weeks to uncompromisingly learn all 12 songs.

If the application is accepted, all applicants will receive additional event information, a fully interpreted high grade learning CD for their voice part, and the sheet music for the 12 songs that will be sung at the event. Deposits will be returned to those applicants who are not accepted or who are "wait listed."

- 4) All participants will be required to learn their part on all 12 songs. ***Everyone is required to have his music and the interpretation completely memorized*** and be absolutely, unfailingly well-prepared when arriving at the event. This is the binding ethic of the Brigade. Participants invest a good deal of time and effort to be completely prepared, knowing that everyone else who is participating will do so also.
- 5) In reviewing the applications, the invitation committee will be looking ideally for individuals with district (or comparable) quartet experience, special musical and performance experience, or a sponsor's reference to support the individual's ability to thoroughly learn 12 medium to highly challenging songs, cold, 100% words, notes, and interpretation.

The Caveat:

As you can see, **the Brigade is not for everyone.** This is an event for ambitious, highly motivated, reasonably experienced quarteters.

While the Brigade is not for beginners, you don't need to be an International Champion either. The object of the Brigade is to provide an exciting venue and a large network for strongly committed, local singers and fertile grounds for the development of high-level quarteting.

Some participants will be looking to form registered quartets. Others will be looking to fill existing quartet vacancies. Still others and everyone will be there to have a great time singing great songs with comparably solid singers! Your job will be to come so well prepared that everyone will be glad they sang with you. They'll be counting on you to make them look good. You can be sure they'll be prepared to do the same for you. They'll be counting on you to make the time they've invested in preparing worthwhile. There is no leaning whatsoever in this event. ***You should be the guy everyone was glad to sing with!***

Here's the typical schedule of activities (subject to change):

Friday:

- 4:30- 6:00 - Register and check-in; pay \$140 balance. Optional early arrival, quartet sing-out. Checkers checked.
- 6:00 - 7:00 - Dinner at the conference center
- 7:00 - 8:30 - Opening remarks; Receive assignment to randomly generated quartet and randomly drawn song (out of the 12 prepared for the event); find the other three guys and rehearse the assigned song.
- 8:30 - 10:30 - 1st Round Quartet Contest (great fun – folks have come up with some great "shtick" in the past). 1st round concludes with outline of Saturday's schedule.
- 10:30 - Late - Sing with as many different combinations as possible. Prizes awarded Saturday for the individuals who sing with the most people. (There are over 1 million possible combinations!!!!)

Saturday:

- 8:00 - 9:00 - Breakfast in the conference center
- 9:15 - 11:30 - General meeting and all business disposed of.
- 11:30 - 1:00 - "Free Time" - Remember to sing with more foursomes. Get some lunch (on your own)
- 1:00 - 3:00 - Rehearsal for show. We will put on a show featuring the 124 man Brigade chorus singing 12 great songs. There will also be some quartet opportunities (all quartets auditioned).
- 3:15 - 5:00 - "Free Time" (Count on a lot more singing going on!)
- 5:00 - 6:15 - Dinner at the conference center
- 6:15 - 7:15 - Get ready (dressed) for show
- 7:30 - 10:30 - Brigade Show!
- 10:30 - 11:00 - Strike stage and return to conference center
- 11:00 - 11:45 - 2nd Round Quartet Contest. Top 5 and 1 special wild card quartet are announced out of the previous evening's contest & will learn what song they will sing
- 11:45 - 12:00 - Winners announced and certificates (suitable for framing) awarded
- 12:00 - ??? AM - Food & Refreshments and more singing!

Sunday Morning:

- 9:00-10:30 - Breakfast and good-byes to many new friends and great quartet partners!

If you have ever attended Harmony College, Harmony College East, or an International or District convention, where you have stayed up well beyond your bedtime singing with other guys for the fun of it, then you will be able to relate to the Brigade experience. The difference is: instead of trying to figure out what you all know, or what three of you know and one of you can try to "woodshed" their way through, you will all have 12 great songs in common - and you will have more time to do it!

Finally: If you know someone who might be interested in the Brigade, send him to our site or have him contact us at info@atlanticharmonybrigade.com.

To apply: Click one of the links below.

www.AtlanticHarmonyBrigade.com/apps/app_new.php - "I did not attend last year's AHB rally, but read this prospectus, understand the Brigade ethos and requirements and I want to apply"

www.AtlanticHarmonyBrigade.com/apps/app_return.php - "I attended last year's AHB rally or am an inducted member of the Atlantic Harmony Brigade, I have read this year's prospectus and want to return."

Thank you for your interest and time.

Jim Hvidding
Membership Chairmen

Neal Siegal
Registration Chairman