



PRIDE PIPER ACT II

Black Hawk Metro - Waterloo, Iowa

Sept./Oct. 2021

FREE CONCERT!!

The men of the Proud Image Chorus are excited to announce their upcoming **FREE CONCERT: BACK TO BARBERSHOP!** To celebrate their love of singing and to show their appreciation to the community and loyal boosters, the Cedar Valley is invited to attend a **FREE CONCERT** on **Saturday, September 25th at 2:00 p.m.** at Cedar Valley Church, 3520 Ansborough Ave. in Waterloo. **No tickets or reservations required. Just mark your calendars and plan now to attend an afternoon of heartwarming entertainment and harmony!**

From PI's President, Steve Klawonn
It's Time To: **Powder Your Face**

I must say that I am very proud of the men of Proud Image! We have taken an extraordinarily difficult last year and a half and navigated the minefields of Covid, and continue to do so. We have managed to gather together these summer months to restore in our hearts the ringing of the minor chords and refresh the show songs from our cancelled 2020 show in our minds. The restoration of our relationships with one another has been wonderful in addition, we have been working hard at getting our music back to the championship caliber performance for which we are well known.

Gentlemen, it is now time to "Powder Your Face" in preparation for our upcoming show "Back to Barbershop." September 25th will be here before you know it and what a celebration we are planning as we reawaken the Cedar Valley with our distinctive four-part harmonies. Cedar Valley Church has been gracious enough to allow us to perform in their sanctuary. There

is enough seating for upward of 900 fans and patrons! What a wonderful facility to have for our show and we thank them for their hospitality.

We now have a mission in these last four weeks that can shape the direction of the Proud Image for the next few years. Each and every one of us is encouraged to start talking to every friend, relative, church congregation member, business associate, and your family, to invite them to our show. If people you know have been reluctant in the past for some reason, this year is the perfect year for them to attend because...it is **FREE!!!** How awesome would it be to perform our hearts out to a full house? We can do it; the time is now!

Posters will be made available immediately and please, take them around town to all the places you do business and see if they will allow you to put one in their window. While doing so, personally invite all the employees to come and see the show. If you are out to buy an ice-cream cone, invite the person at the counter. You see an acquaintance at the grocery store, invite them. When you are checking out, talk to those in line. The point is, our success begins with each one of you. We can all do it, and make this the best show audience in years. We might even be singing to future members as they listen and imagine themselves on the risers singing and having a wonderful time making music and putting smiles on their faces.

The time to prepare for success is now! Look around, be a part, let's have fun and make your chorus the very best in the Central States as we "Keep the Whole World Singing."

The Pride Piper



This 1980's photo billboard, displayed at 3620 University Ave., has been donated by Marie Easter and Mary Trettin in memory of their spouses and charter members, Jerry Easter and Bob Trettin.

REPORTS OF SIGHTING OF I.C. GOLD!!

The past few months, I.C. GOLD has been watching and paying attention to the PI. He wants to see the numbers grow, the sound continue to 'wow' listeners and bring back the enthusiasm from years ago! There was a sighting of I.C. GOLD a few days ago. After a bit of encouragement, he penned the following for you, the members.

Welcome to the Proud Image fellow singers! Some of you remember me from years gone by; others, simply don't have a clue. I stand for all things Proud Image. From offering sage riser advice to alone time with your music between rehearsals. Learning or rehearsing our music has always been a hurdle we must all conquer. With the advent of learning tracks for all four parts, one would believe leaning new music would be a snap. Beware, don't trick yourself into thinking all I have to do is to listen to a particular track 50 or 60 times while singing along ought to take care of "knowing" the music. Trust me, you plebes, unless you can sing it through, without the track running and not holding your music, you don't "know it." Attending rehearsals expecting some sort of osmosis to occur is both lazy and ineffective. Going to rehearsals with an earned attitude of "I've got this" makes a huge difference. All hobbies require effort,

love and time. We wouldn't be here if we didn't love barbershop and have the time to invest in the product. Our music, without effort, not much changes for you or the group from one rehearsal to the next. Let's all increase our effort, both inside and outside of rehearsal. I challenge you, not to lean closer to the singer next to you to determine the next word or phrase. I challenge you to be a working asset to the Proud Image. I challenge you to take your abilities to the next level and be prepared to accept the accolades of our friendly audiences as well as the doubters. When we have thirty or fifty guys on the risers with this winning formula, you will see gold, like I.C. GOLD. Been there, done that!



PI ENTERTAINS AT AFTERNOON SING-OUT!

June 19th, 2021 marked the first public appearance of the PI since before the pandemic. River Place Plaza, downtown Cedar Falls, was the venue for their afternoon sing-out!



GETTING UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL WITH TWO MORE MEMBERS OF THE CHORUS



Meet, Charter Member, Kevin Anderson.

Kevin was introduced to the Proud Image Chorus when his wife, at that time, encouraged him to attend a chapter meeting. It was something she thought he would enjoy and she was right!! Forty-three years

later Kevin is still singing bass with the Chorus!

Kevin grew up in the Waterloo/Hudson areas and sang in chorus and several small groups in junior high, high school vocal music and his church choir. Kevin has been known to sing solos for weddings and funerals.

Kevin lives outside of Grundy Center and has two grown sons. He is a school bus driver and by trade, Kevin is a goldsmith and owns his own jewelry business called: The Jewelry Shop. When he was only nine, he began visiting Rock Hound Trader, a close-by neighbor, and bought rocks and stones and jewelry parts from him. That's when he started

making jewelry and selling to adults. When he was 17, he worked in a jewelry store as one of his co-op classes.

The comradery with the fellow members is what keeps Kevin coming back year after year. His favorite song is "Gospel Medley" and his favorite memory with The Proud Image is winning contest in Kansas City in 1980! However, as the Chorus prepared for more District and International contests in the 1980's, the excitement and enthusiasm grew when news articles appeared in Jerry Easter's Pride Piper. Someone known as IC Gold was posting inspirational, encouraging, uplifting words and tips to get ready for the biggest stages in the barbershop world! But who was it? And then one night at rehearsal, in walks **I.C. GOLD**!! The Chorus erupted with cheers and elation! That night remains embedded in Kevin's mind forever!

Thanks, Kevin, for sharing your story! By: Mary Trettin

Introducing, Front Row Lead, Alan Ferden



This reporter was on the move for this issue of the PRIDE PIPER, ACT 11 and many memories relived. We are proud to showcase ALAN FERDEN. He is a self-employed tile installer since 1995. However, a little time out will be required for

upcoming knee surgery on 7/27. He shares his home with wife Doreen, and 3 children have moved from the nest. Bryn, a Realtor, Lindsay, RN, and Kyle, Attorney. Al is pretty proud of his children and 4 grandsons. So how did Alan happen to become a barbershopper? He lived on Sonya Dr, Waterloo, new to the neighborhood and organized a block party. One of the neighbors attending was Kevin Andersen. When the party was over, a few guys were sitting at the picnic table having a beer and doing a little singing and Kevin invited Al to attend a PI rehearsal. Al said maybe, and every week for about a month and a half, Kevin called Al, finally Al was feeling a little guilty for always thinking up a reason why he couldn't attend. So, he went to a PI rehearsal

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with Kevin. Al was placed with the leads in the first row. Into the rehearsal, Al decided he could sing just as well as the old guy standing next to him. The old guy was Jerry Easter. (I loved hearing this part). At the time there was an audition, the first one Al clutched and couldn't do it. The next week he went back with the attitude I will get this done because that is me. Disappointment again. He had one more time to audition! Jerry appeared again and gave Al a tape of the pole cat songs, and said to learn these 3 songs. According to Al, for the next week he was married to that tape. Next rehearsal, he auditioned, sang the first song and was everything the chorus needed to hear, in the kitchen at Trinity Lutheran. Al let them know he learned 3 songs and they were going to hear the other 2 as well. And I can just hear Al! In 1983 Kevin sponsored Al, still singing lead. In addition to being a very faithful, dependable chorus member, Al is finally singing in a registered quartet AT LAST, Steve, Denny, and Jeff get to fill in the other parts. He did sing in 2 unregistered quartets, one was Corporate Punishment along with Gary Cooper, Joey Rigdon, Jerry Easter. When they couldn't come up with a name, Jerry and Al decided to read the front page of the COURIER, Al was convinced they would find the name. And there was Corporal Punishment. The other quartet was the Accidentals. This guy—has been President multiple times, Membership Chairman, Board Member At Large. Also has been honored with the coveted Barbershopper of the Year award. The memory bank is full, being backstage when PI won the district, singing St. Paddy's, it was electric in the chorus, they felt they had won district, putting Kansas City aside. The brotherhood of PI is the best ever. Bob Brock and John Staut directing, Al took a two-month hiatus, Denny Craun, Sr. called Al and said we need you back, Dave Boyd is our director now! And in preparation for contest, Al was having difficulty with the choreography for "Steamboat Comes to Town," Jons Olsson got that all taken care of. The brotherhood continues to be the best ever for Al. Another very special memory is the 2 years that son Kyle sang with the chorus. There is another part of Al's life, he did not get to be in the military due to knees from football days, attended college at Waldorf, UNI, worked at Winnebago, was a realtor. Actually, I'll end here and suggest you talk to Al, ask him a few questions, believe me, you will be the richer for doing this!! I love this reporting and the memories it brings back. By: Marie Easter

RAGBRAI MEMORIES

As RAGBRAI 2021 rolled through Waterloo a few weeks ago, memories surfaced from RAGBRAI 1989 when Cedar Falls was a host town. The Proud Image never liked to pass up an opportunity to either sing or make money so the Chorus went into full gear brainstorming ways to take advantage of the audience of bicyclists. Many nights of taste testing brats were held to perfect the recipe, ordered a van load of buns and gathered at the UNI Dome to sell our products. Jerry Easter went to a corner outside of town with bananas to offer the bikers as they rounded the corner. You really don't want to know how much food we had left over!!

And true to the PI style, tee-shirts were designed to mark the occasion, certain that each RAGBRAI enthusiast would want to wear one of our shirts! The memory of that event is embedded in those of us who were there as the guys and the gals served brats and sang to everyone who passed by!



Pictured: Dick Meyer, Craig James and John Timm



Pictured: Mark Vaughan, Jim Halsor, Mary Trettin, Dick Meyer, John Timm, Bill Moran, and Jerry Easter.

The Pride Piper



Uniform Library

The Proud Image is under way with a new program to be able to re-purpose shirts and tuxes when a member is no longer singing with the chorus or needs another size. The Proud Image will take your donation of any uniform in order to re-purpose them. Your donations or questions may be directed to:

Steve Klawonn poppastorklawonn@gmail.com or
Dennis Craun dcaun13@gmail.com.

Notes from the Music Committee, Dan Bogart

Hello everyone! This is an excerpt from an article at <https://www.lustrequartet.com/basic-intro-barbershop/> titled, "A Very Basic Intro to Barbershop." It describes four characteristics of Barbershop music. The first two are: Barbershop music is sung a cappella, and Barbershop music is sung in four-part harmony. The next two characteristics are covered more in depth here:

Barbershop music has a certain musical structure. In order to be considered true barbershop, the musical arrangement must adhere to certain rules and guidelines. Without getting too deep into music theory technicalities, here's a very simplified summary:

The lyrics are understandable.

The melodies are easily singable and recognizable, and you can easily hear what key the song is in.

The harmonies and chords used in the song's arrangement come from a specifically defined list of options. Chords that are not on the list are used sparingly, if at all.

Perhaps it is this last bullet that makes a barbershop arrangement so distinctive. Modern Western music has evolved into some very elaborate harmonic structures. Many chords found in pop, jazz, blues, or other modern styles of Western music are not included in the barbershop style, so when we hear barbershop, we can recognize it as being unique. This limitation on chords has a very good reason, and that is that...

Barbershop music contains "ringing chords." In fact, this could be called the defining characteristic of barbershop. When a chord "rings", it produces a specific acoustical effect called an "overtone". If the four voices sing with proper vocal technique, properly tuned, on the right combination of notes (i.e., the right chord), then the frequencies and harmonics in their sounds combine to create an overtone, which sounds (somewhat magically) like a fifth note being sung. At the same time, the four voices combine into one blended, unified sound. The result is a musical sound that is incredibly exciting and pleasing to the ear, both for the singer and the listener.

It all boils down to the Ringing Chord. The goal of barbershop singers is to create this ringing sound as much as possible – to ring as many chords as possible. That's why we rehearse, take vocal training, hire coaches, and attend workshops to learn how to sing with this vocal quality. That's why barbershop arrangements only use a limited set of chords – because only those certain chords can combine to create that ringing sound. That's why barbershop is sung a cappella – to eliminate any sound frequencies that might ruin the vocal effects of the ringing sound.

Just a reminder of how unique and special this hobby of ours is and why when we sing for an audience they are able to hear and experience something they typically don't at any other time. If you want to read the rest of the article, click on the link at the top of this column.

Keep on singing!

Dan

PI FAMILY PICNIC

The whole family is invited to a PI Potluck Picnic! Bologna and corn-on-the-cob will be provided. Please bring a dish to share, your own drink and table service plus lawn chairs.

RSVP: pichorus@gmail.com

**GUEST NIGHT
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5th
7:00 p.m.**

Men in the Cedar Valley who would like to find out more about singing with the award-winning Proud Image Chorus are invited to attend a special evening designed just for you! Please join us at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 4031 Lafayette Road, Evansdale. You may call Membership VP, Eric Boyd at 319-504-4645 for more information!

*****THE FINAL TAG*****

Many of you may know or remember a favorite barbershop tag,
To Reach the Unreachable Star!

Just as in barbershop music, a tag is a dramatic variation in the last section of a song; this last section will be dedicated to updates on chorus members!

We want to extend our thoughts and prayers to Alan Ferden and Jace Hicok.

If you would like to add a note to our final tag, please contact editors:

Mary Trettin: mytrettin@hotmail.com

Marie Easter: marie.easter@gmail.com

A Fellow Barbershopper....

Condolences to the family of Byron Myers, of St. Joseph MO who recently passed away. Services were held Monday, July 19, 2021. Byron was a well-known Central States District chorus director for many years, most recently The Barber Boys in St Joe. Byron was also well known as a quartet singer. One of his quartets, The Mid-Continental, sang on a Proud Image show some years ago. Byron was active in his church and The New Generation Singers. He will indeed be missed by many. And on a personal note, Marie knew him well and that he loved pumpkin pie. She often baked a pie which was taken to district events for Byron.