**Report o the Fall 2018 MAD House of Delegates Meeting**

**Oct. 7, 2018**

**Everyone in Harmony**

BHS representatives were present to answer questions and concerns regarding the Society's Everyone in Harmony strategic vision. One recommended watching the barbershop.org video of Disk Powell and others discussing EIH. Also recommended is <http://www.barbershop.org/everyoneinharmony/faqs>.

On a show of hands, two chapters indicated they were considering going mixed, four were considering setting up additional choruses to include women, and most were not considering such changes.

The Society is considering amending the standard chapter bylaws by the end of this year.

Women will not be allowed in BHS chorus competition for the 2019 cycle (already underway), and almost certainly won't be allowed for the 2020 cycle. This may very well change by the 2021 cycle.

It is has had a "healthy conversation" with Sweet Adelines International (SAI) regarding EIH. SAI representatives basically asked "Why would you do that?" Part of the answer is concern over possibly being sued if they didn't admit women. BHS has committed to defending any suits against chapters for remaining single gender.

As matters stand, women can join BHS, but chapter admission policies are up to individual chapters. If women ask whether they can join, we should give them a positive answer, suggesting alternatives such as SAI or Harmony Incorporated.

**District Matters**

MAD President Dennis Ritchie gave a State of the District report. The district has 84 active chapters. Membership has declined from 2760 in 2015 to 2453 currently. Contest participation has declined sharply from 61 choruses competing at the Division level in 2000 to 28 in 2018.

The President's, Secretary's and Treasurer's reports are available to all members at <http://www.midatlanticdistrict.com/?Code=BOD-Docs>. Management and Administration expenses were cut stay within budget.

The Atlantic District Endowment provides scholarships for directors, youth quartets and selected senior quartets.

Sean Devine heads the Legacy of Harmony foundation ([HarmonyFoundation.org](http://harmonyfoundation.org/)), which accepts estate bequests for Harmony Foundation.

The next HOD meeting will be on April 27 at the Northern Division convention/Prelims in Allentown.

Rob Frantz, who heads Leadership Academy, is adding online training courses for various chapter offices. A treasurer's course already exists.

The 2020 Leadership Academy will likely be held at Harmony College East at McDaniels College in Westminster, MD.

VP for Membership Christian Hunter is asking for both success and failure stories concerning recruiting programs.

2019 District officers were elected:

President—Bob Eckman

Immediate Past President—Dennis Ritchey

Vice-President—Brian Schreiner

Secretary—Bud Miller

Treasurer—Dave Welter

Member-at-Large—Robert “Chas” Byram

Member-at-Large—Steve Kirsch

Member-at-Large—Dylan Lupo

Member-at-Large—Steve Skolnick