

## Re: Further notes on Gray's comments

To Richard Jones <richardosj@comcast.net> • Bruce Barker <bbarker21@gmail.com> Copy drgneff@gmail.com

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Gentlemen,

I was a bit concerned that I did not have any positive comments from Rich in my recorded notes. I am trying to remember if there were any. Bruce?

Perhaps I was too shell shocked to note anything else.

However, I do remember that Rich did say he had talked to Parkside and asked how they were handling it. Rich said they have a member always sitting in on the women's "board". He said it as if it was control and oversight rather than encouragement, or support.

I believe Mr. Gray sees the issue in terms of quality and competing. "If your chorus is good enough, we'll let you join the chapter." "I reserve the right to audition anyone who wants to join." He does not envision how actually to "encourage and support barbershop singing". Ready Set Sing for him is recruitment, not teaching, to suck in and identify those who can already sing up or close to the Pine Barons standard. (However, I am not naive enough to think all people can sing. There are some folks who might not ever be able to sing acceptably. But we should give 'em a shot! My elementary education degree had courses that said a thing or two about that.)

How have new choruses convened and grown before? Can't the chapter support that? We can even learn from the growth and success of our Big Brothers, the Barons! I.e. TEACH folks interested in singing barbershop! One whole evening learning tags! Families singing!

If we take in members for a new mixed ensemble from Barons and Jersey Sound gals who want to sing mixed, we will already have a good base of trained singers. Different night, every other week to start. Think "Just Guys" plus Rose, Valerie, Scollay, Amanda, and whoever else might be interested. (When George is no longer struggling with the graphics load, he might find time to learn his music!)

We'll have to see what happens tonight. (I can't understand why I keep getting "up" for this. Like a puppy with a sock. May be the echoes of chords ringing in my head. Though, I may growl menacingly if someone tries to take my sock away.)

Hmmmm. 27 to 10 last time? Before they saw that Hersey first place mixed performance? We shall see. There apparently is a new org - Mixed Barbershop Harmony Association. Roxanne Powell is the President. If all else fails.

Ann

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 21, 2019, at 9:42 AM, Richard Jones <richardosj@comcast.net> wrote:

These comments feel like Mr. Gray's attempt to avoid the issue. The committee was charged to frame the "what if" rights, responsibility, requirements, which we did.

So attending by video link meant he didn't have to see the visual reactions of the board members. How convenient!

This is still our chapter and our chorus, we hired mr. Gray as musical director, not chairman of the board.

Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Droid

On Oct 19, 2019 8:56 PM, George Neff <drgneff@gmail.com> wrote:

Gentlemen,

Here are my full notes on Richard Gray's reaction to the Operations Manual prepared by our committee.

It is your decision whether or not to share this with the whole committee. If there is anything else in your notes, Bruce, please let me know.

Ann Neff