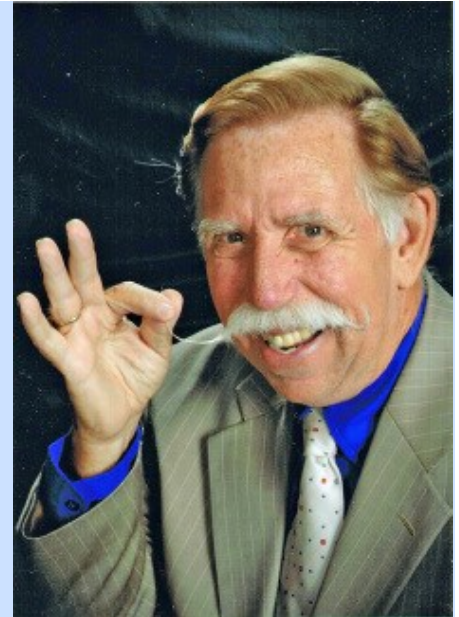




SPOTLIGHT ON OUR MEMBERS

Ed Cotton ***Member At Large***



Ed was born in the small rural town of Sayre, Oklahoma, but grew up in Bethany, OK, which is now a suburb of Oklahoma City.

He and his wife have one daughter whose family have given Ed a grandson and a granddaughter, all living in Norman, OK.

Ed graduated from Oklahoma University in 1973 with an MD and began a 10-year stretch in Family Medicine from 1974 to 1984 in both Watonga, OK, and in Marcellus, MI. Additionally, from 1980 to 1984, Dr. Ed was the Team Physician for the Kalamazoo Wings IHL Hockey Team, which was the farm team for the Detroit Red Wings. In 1984, Ed became the President of the Michigan Academy of Family Physicians.

In 1985, Dr. Ed changed his path in life by becoming a Flight Surgeon in the US Air Force, where he served honorably until 2005, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel and moving back to Las Vegas. He had previously been assigned to Nellis Air Force Base, NV, and began singing with the City of Lights Chorus in his off-duty time.

Now concentrating on his love of music and barbershop singing, Ed returned to education to complete a bachelor's degree in music from UNLV in 2012. He has sung with the Master Singers, plus the City of Lights and Silver Statesmen Barbershop Choruses. Ed has also directed the Celebrity City Chorus of the Sweet Adelines, Inc.

Ed enjoys his volunteer work with advocacy for the less fortunate, traveling, and also sings Baritone in a barbershop quartet, *4-Ever Yours*.



Our weekly meetings are at the **University United Methodist Church at 4412 S. Maryland Pkwy, LV 89119**, on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

UNIVERSITY CHURCH is located across the street from the University of Nevada-Las Vegas (UNLV) on Maryland Parkway, between Flamingo Rd and Tropicana Ave.

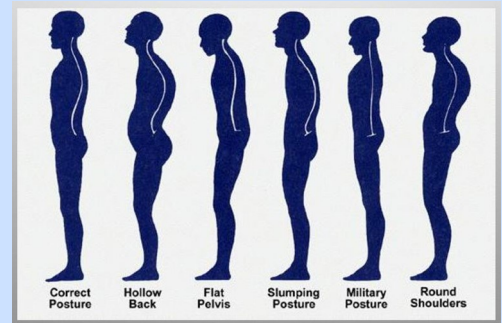
You can see an online location map here:
<https://goo.gl/maps/JnQu8S85t7DkpVmK8>

Can Poor Posture Cause Poor Pitch?

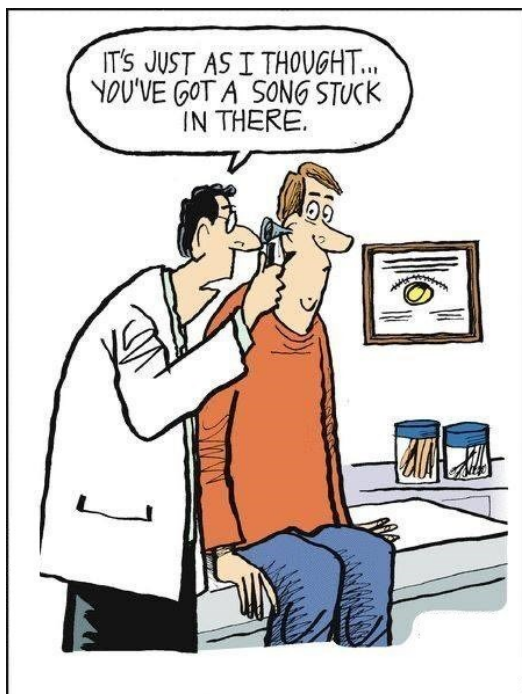
You certainly have heard of the importance of good posture for singing and good vocal production. Did you know it also affects pitch and staying in tune?

That makes standing in the correct singing posture all the more important:

- Place your feet slightly apart with one foot just in front of the other foot. Transfer the weight of your body from your heels to your toes.
- Maintain a slight bend in your knees. Never lock your knees.
- Place your hands at your sides. Keep your hands relaxed.
- Your stomach should be flat and firm, yet expandable.
- Pull your shoulders back and down.
- Keep your chin parallel to the floor.



**MUSIC IS LIFE,
THAT'S WHY OUR
HEARTS HAVE BEATS.**



Rehearsal Etiquette

(shared by Brian Sellnow)

Now that we're done with the pandemic (hopefully) and meeting in person (except for a few glitches!), and also have some new members (yay!!), it's probably a good time to review some of the rules of etiquette that make our chapter meetings more fun and productive. These general guidelines can be found in numerous places and are well-established standards of conduct for singing organizations.

The first rule of choral rehearsal is respect and consideration. Respect the director, other singers, and yourself. Treat others the way you would like to be treated, and bear in mind that no one member is more important than the chorus as a whole.

Remember that we are a singing organization. We are certainly a social one as well, and I consider everyone in the chorus to be a friend, but the singing has to come first. We don't drive through traffic for a half hour every week just to chat and socialize.

Mute your cell phone when you arrive at the chapter meeting. This hasn't been a problem, but it's a good habit to be in.

Save your chatting with friends for break time and before or after rehearsal. Choral singing is a sociable pastime and choruses are full of sociable people! The camaraderie in a chorus is one of the most important aspects. Socialize to your heart's content before and after rehearsal and during the break. It is really easy to start up little conversations with your neighbor during rehearsal. When this happens, the director has to either talk over you or wait until you are quiet. Chatter slows down rehearsal and distracts fellow singers who may be attempting to learn something. You may think you are being quiet, but you aren't.

This also applies to the business section of the meeting. If someone is addressing the chorus, please be quiet and pay attention. You may think you're talking quietly, but I assure you, everyone can hear you, even from the back of the room.

If you have a question or comment for the director, stop first and ask yourself if it really needs to be handled RIGHT NOW. If not, then wait. Remember that the director already has more to accomplish than he has time to do it, has a plan, and needs to follow his own rhythm. Interruptions make it harder for him to do his job. If it is absolutely urgent, raise your hand and wait for him to acknowledge you.

When the pitch pipe is sounding, don't hum the pitch or sing. It keeps you and everyone else from hearing the pitch accurately. It's almost certain that people humming the pitch will be flat, and it doesn't take long before the actual pitch is forgotten. If you don't know the starting note for a song, then practice at home until you've learned it. After the pitch pipe blows, the next and only sound should be the first note of the song.

Listen when the director is demonstrating something. If you sing along, then you aren't hearing what he is trying to demonstrate, and you keep everyone else from hearing it as well. Likewise if the director is speaking to the chorus. Even if he isn't talking to you, you might learn something by paying attention, and your conversation distracts others who are trying to hear him.

Resist the urge to fix your neighbor's mistakes right away. If it's really noticeable, you can be sure the director noticed it. If he doesn't take the time to fix it right then, then it can wait. If the director pauses the singing to say something, that's not an opportunity to start a coaching session.

Try to arrive on time, and participate in the warmups as much as you can. The warmups get you physically and mentally ready to sing, and the exercises reinforce good singing habits. Be ready to sing when you get there! Warm up your voice in the car, drink plenty of water, and focus on singing and having fun.

Have a pencil ready. If you (or the guy next to you) are having trouble with a certain place in the music, circle it. Then ask your section leader to help you with it. Do not ask the director to stop the rehearsal and go over a passage that you are having trouble with.

Does this mean we have to sit in our chairs like robots for two or three hours and be silent unless told to sing? Absolutely not. We're there to have fun with our friends. There is time between songs to say hi to a friend, crack a joke or point out something in the music that other people in your section might have missed. Just use good judgment, and don't let our camaraderie become disrespectful to others or disrupt the fun we have in singing together.

Silver Statesmen Calendar
Calendar Events for
2022

JULY

3rd - Patriotic Songs Performance at Dr. David Dorway's organ concert at Grace Presbyterian Church, 1515 W. Charleston Blvd LV 89102 - 2:00 p.m.

3rd - National Anthem and God Bless America Performance at the Las Vegas Ballpark for the Aviators baseball game, 1650 S. Pavilion Center Dr LV 89135 - 6:05pm

3rd-10th - International Convention (Charlotte, NC)

AUGUST

20th - "Viva Las Vegas" - 2:00 p.m. - Winchester-Dondero Cultural Center, 3130 Mcleod Dr, LV 89121

SEPTEMBER

23rd - "Viva Las Vegas" - 7:00 p.m. - Siena Senior Community 55+, 10525 Siena Monte Ave, LV 89135
(Residents Only)

OCTOBER

13-16 - FWD Fall Convention - Fresno, CA

NOVEMBER

12th - Veterans Day Show - 2:00 p.m. - Clark County Library Theater, 1401 E. Flamingo Rd, LV 89121

13th - Veterans Day Show - 2:00 p.m. - Windmill Library Auditorium, 7060 W. Windmill Ln, LV 89113

DECEMBER

10th - Christmas Show - 2:00 p.m. - Winchester-Dondero Cultural Center, 313- McLeod Dr, LV 89121

Puns to Make You Chuckle

What would bears be without bees? Wait for it....wait for it..... Ears!!

**My friend went bald years ago, but still carries around an old comb with him...
He just can't part with it.**

**In case you're wondering, after the birth of your first child, your role in life will
become apparent.**

What do you call a bear caught out in the rain? A drizzily bear...

I don't have a fat belly! That's where I store my extra brain cells!!

Always borrow money from a pessimist. He won't expect it back...

**WE ALL NEED MORE
SMILES TODAY!!**

~ FRED

Exercising can add years to your life. For example, I rode my stationary bike today and now I feel 93.

It's pretty wild that we used to eat cake after someone had blown on it...

Don't be sad...
Because sad backwards is das and das not good

Oops! Forgot to go to the gym today! That makes 8 years in a row now...

It amazes me how much exercise and extra fries sound alike!

I love putting on warm underwear fresh out of the dryer. Plus, it's fun to look around the laundromat and guess who they belong to...



And remember, do NOT pronounce the 'R's



Long-time barbershopper, former director of the Gamble-Aires, and baritone for the *Broadcast* quartet, John Waugh, passed away on Sunday, June 19, in New Mexico on his way to Texas. Our chorus member, Antwun Puckett, is John's grandson and we extend our heartfelt condolences to him and the rest of the family. John will be returned to Las Vegas for funeral services.

John was Director Emeritus for the Gamble-aires chorus which was bestowed upon his retirement as the director. He will be sorely missed as he was a great pedagogue for our hobby. He had been in failing health for the last several years suffering with kidney failure, post-polio syndrome, fibromyalgia, and diabetes.



Our Mission Statement:

"To share our passion for music, to preserve the art form known as Barbershop singing, to enrich the lives of our members, community, and audiences through performance and to bring people together in harmony and fellowship."

