

Gray Matters

Official Semi-Periodic Publication of The Association of International Seniors Quartet Champions

April 2006



Tom Bates, Tenor George Wakeham, Lead George Metzger, Bass Charlie Metzger, Bari

Antique Gold

2006 International Seniors Quartet Champions

Antique Gold particularly enjoys performing in the swing song style. Their repertoire includes Embraceable You, Moonglow, Lullaby of Ragtime, Don't Be a Baby, Baby, and Paper Moon. They can be contacted through Charlie Metzger by email at cometzger@shaw.ca, or by phone at 604 581 1423

Tenor, Tom Bates, the quintessential barbershopper, as a kid loved music and excelled in piano, placing first in the province in his 1948 exams. He played in bands and learned about love; married Pat and became responsible. He loved and raised his family and attained his CGA by 1978, then looked around for ways to enjoy life even more. He joined the YMCA and SPEBSQSA to exercise his body, his voice and his heart. Tom is a great friend to many and is dearly loved by all who know him.

We call **Lead, George Wakeham** "Big George" because he's bigger than George Metzger, came to the quartet last, and we won't call him "George W" for political reasons! Big George runs a fire and flood restoration company and spends almost all his time humming and singing, a habit he picked up listening to his mother's records. He fell in love with Mario Lanza's singing at age 9, learned the accordion and guitar so he could play and sing along, and has fallen in love consecutively with 50's pop, the Kingston Trio, Brothers Four, Ian and Sylvia, Peter Paul and Mary, Country, classical Enrico Caruso, and Barbershop!

Bass, George Metzger and his brother, **Charlie (Bari)**, have known each other since George was born in 1947, eleven months after Charlie. They harmonized on family road trips, took piano together, sang in the Concordia Male Chorus in high school, sang in quartets, strummed the guitar, and sang on the bus on the way to basketball games. They joined barbershop in 1969, and have sung in many quartets together and coached each other's quartets. Charlie is also active in the Society as Chair of the Chorus Director Development Committee and is a member of the Directors College Faculty.



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Antique Gold and Realtime at Sacramento

Antique Gold is looking forward to coaching and performing at the Rocky Mountain Harmony College on February 2-4, 2007 at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park, Colorado. The entire weekend is conducted on the YMCA campus including room and board. The quartet will conduct a general discussion period on being a Senior Quartet Champion which hopefully will be a joint "International / Senior Champion" question and answer session with Realtime who may also be there. Saturday evening will include a parade of quartets which is open to the public.

Going to Indy? If so, then plan on attending the First Mid-Summer Pre Mid Winter (FMSPMW) warmup rehearsal for our show in Albuquerque in January 2007. The rumor is that the music selected is a bit challenging and a fun early bird rehearsal will really help to insure a fine musical performance on the show. Details on time and place will be forthcoming.

AISQC IS ALIVE AND WELL – UP AND RUNING

Darryl Cremer

We may be "senior" but we are "champs" and there's a lot going on within AISQC that proves that. Let me share some of these things with you.

Ken Buckner, our Marketing VP is doing a great job of updating our marketing materials, website (take a look at it if you haven't seen it lately), promoting us across the country and finding opportunities to showcase our new champs (like the Rocky Mountain Harmony College program). Ken is also working with John Schneider on the development of a "competitor" pin for all contestants in the Seniors International Quartet contest.

Jim Richards is working with manufacturers to update and re-design our badges so they are consistent with our new medal design.

Joe Liles, our Music VP is working on the new music for our AISQC chorus for our 2007 Albuquerque show. You've already heard from Joe on some of this. By the way, our first rehearsal for the new music will be at the Indy convention. If you're planning to be there, make sure to make time for our rehearsal.

Carl Taylor is developing a plan to involve AISQC in the Youth Harmony Explosion program. This will be a real plus for us. You'll be hearing more about this as the plan develops.

Dave Cowin, our Treasurer is working with BHS to finalize the expenses and revenue from both the Jacksonville and Sacramento shows (a major task). In addition, Dave is working with BHS on the supply of our casual shirts and the process for ordering one of the newly designed gold medals.

Grif Griffith has agreed to serve as our "Sunshine Chairman". Grif will keep us posted on our members that are undergoing challenging times and as appropriate send them a card so they know AISQC is with them and thinking of them. Grif needs all of our help on this, so please keep him posted.

Dan Tangarone, our Secretary, has agreed to be the focal point and manage all changes to our website. In this role, he will work with Ken Buckner, our Marketing VP and Leo who has done such a great job of helping us with this.

Before I got involved in the administration of AISQC, I used to wonder what happened with AISQC between Midwinter conventions. I no longer wonder about that. A ton of things go on, all of which are aimed at making us better. Champs never stop being Champs as evidenced by the list above. Do you have any recommendations? Would you like to get involved? Let us know, we need your championship style and we need you to help keep us "Alive and Well" and growing.

Have a great summer. Hope to see you at Indy.

