

Pioneer District

2015 Events Workplan – Roger Lewis

Executive Summary:

The plan for events is to make conventions more attractive and enjoyable for the attendees, especially the non-competitors; to increase profitability through better budgeting; to expose our attendees to other genres of vocal music, and to make conventions educational for competitors and non competitors.

2015 Goals and Activities:

1. Add new singing events to the convention.
 - a. Add a youth chorus/festival event to the fall convention. If we add it most of the work will fall into the hands of the YIH committee – events will find a time and place for it. Dale Jarvis and Nels Carlson have explored the possibility of getting Gene and Iris Cokeroff to Pioneer for it.
 - b. Find a local a cappella group, preferably male, to appear on our Saturday night pre-show in both conventions.
2. Continue to have a Saturday afternoon inexpensive tag and “food” party. Muskegon was a tremendous success.
 - a. **RPT1. We will have “Finger Lickin’ Tags” or “Rib Ticklin’ Tags” (name is still in limbo) on the 16th floor of McCamly Plaza hotel from 3:30 to 5:30 on Saturday afternoon. Riblets, Pork sliders, cole slaw, kettle chips and soft drinks for only \$7.00.**
 - b. **We wondered how to “reward” the winners of the contest. The 1st and 2nd place tag quartets will get to sing their tag on the Saturday night show.**
3. Encourage more singing.
 - a. **RPT1. At the Spring convention, we are putting tags on the tables in the restaurant, so that the “diiners” may sing tags at the tables.**
 - b. **William Stutts, Jr. is again hosting a “Tag, You’re It” session,**
 - c. **Both of these might add fuel to the “rib tickln’ tag” party.**
4. Invite a Brigade chorus to sing in the spring.

- a. A Brigade Chorus would sing immediately following the Chorus contest, while the CA's are using their abacus's to determine the winner, or in the pre-show on Saturday night.

RPT1: The brigade chorus will sing in the pre-show Saturday night.

- 5. Offer tours or special events for attendees. James O'Dell has volunteered to help me in the promotion and the details of tours.
 - a. **RPT1: We are having a great cooking class by the renowned hotel chef on Friday afternoon. Attendees will get a great lunch, learn how to make each course, and go home with the recipes for each course.**
- 6. Have a quartet development class. Show up if you want to sing in a quartet. Didn't get it done in 2014 – still sounds like a good idea. I may be doing one at HU this summer which will give me some more ideas.
 - a. Maybe in fall? Perhaps the QCA can help?
- 7. Live evaluation of a quartet by 3 judges – all categories.
 - a. This worked well with a quartet in 2014. It may be possible in the fall with a Senior quartet.
 - b. A live eval with a chorus in the fall might be possible. The facility may be the controlling factor.
 - c. With a quartet, this is dependent on the facility. Grand Rapids was ideal. Hotel rooms often are not.
- 8. Improve convention budgeting. Put together a matrix of future convention data and also a history of past conventions, to get a better handle on room costs, room pickups, venue costs, and miscellaneous costs, with Larry Parker's help.
 - a. **RPT1. Still a work in process.**
- 9. Study the convention weekend schedule.
 - a. Are there things we can add to make the weekend more attractive?
 - b. Can we encourage more non-competitors to come?
- 10. Survey attendees. Survey non attendees. Someone versed in IT can help. Must be a coordinated effort with C&J, M&PR, others?
 - a. Need the help of some good survey folks.

11. Late in 2015 or early in 2016 I'll begin looking at sites for fall of 2019 and for 2020. Muskegon has expressed an interest in having us back, and Mt. Pleasant has some new facilities under construction.

Note: A few of the future conventions do not have host chapters assigned. Chapters can request to host a convention by emailing me at rjlewiscmc@aol.com

Future conventions:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Host Chapter</u>
Oct 16-18, 2015	Kalamazoo Radisson	Hillsdale
Apr 22-24, 2016	Grand Rapids Crowne Plaza GR Christian High School	Grand Rapids
Oct 14-16, 2016	Kalamazoo, Radisson	The QCA
Apr 21-23, 2017	Grand Traverse Resort	Mt. Pleasant
Oct 20-22, 2017	Battle Creek, McCamly Plaza W K Kellogg Auditorium	
April 20-22, 2018	Grand Rapids Crowne Plaza	DOC
Oct. 19-21. 2018	Battle Creek, McCamly Plaza	
Apr 26-28, 2019	Grand Traverse Resort	

