

Introductions

By: Joshua Oxley

Hello everyone! I'm Joshua Oxley your new Youth in Harmony Director. First, let me thank Dick Staedt for his many years of service to the LOL District and the Youth in Harmony program. It will be quite a task to follow him.

A little about myself: I am married to my beautiful and patient wife Holly and we have a dog named Mozart. I got my start in Barbershop from my dad Todd Oxley (Oshkosh, WI Chapter) who was always singing with his quartet (The Sawdust City Slickers). It didn't take too long before I tried to sing just like him... but you can't sing barbershop by yourself right? So, after years of forcing my family to sing with me, I started the Oshkosh West High School Barbershop Chorus. After directing them for three years, I had to graduate (despite my loudest protests). I then moved to Madison and started singing with my family officially as the Cheery-O's. It took me only a little while before I found the Madison Chapter. I have, ever since, been leading them in song.

I have 6 very capable men working with me to expand our district's Youth in Harmony activities. They are Jack Kile (Packerland), Ashley York (Division One), John Buss (10,000 Lakes), Nathan Oxley (At large), Jacob Oxley (At large), and John Miller (At large). Dick Staedt and Dale Montgomery will also be helping out as they will still be handling the HX Camp in LaCrosse (Many thanks to Dick and Dale).

My primary goal this year as your Director of Youth in Harmony is to increase our district wide communication about Youth in Harmony, so be prepared for regular phone calls or emails from myself or the YIH committee. Also, I would like to remind everyone that there are many ways you can get involved in Youth in Harmony. The favorites are, of course, the YIH Festival and HX Camp, but there are many other ways. Giving out scholarships, sending quartets to schools, attending school concerts, and being chaperones at the HX camp are all great ways to get involved with Youth in Harmony.

If you would like more ideas or would just like to let me know what your chapter is doing for Youth in Harmony send me an email at frustratedinternetuser@hotmail.com or give me a call at 920-410-4564. Even if your chapter has no immediate plans for Youth in Harmony let me know that too. Let's just keep the information flowing around our wonderful district and great things are bound to happen. Remember, through Youth in Harmony you preserve the future of the Barbershop sound. Let's make our future bright!