



In the summer of 2011, Tyler Smith, a member of the St. Croix Valley Chapter in Stillwater, Minnesota, began thinking about how nice it would be to

listen to barbershop music being played on the local KLBB AM1220 Radio Station.

The more he thought about it the more he became determined to see what he could do to make that dream a reality. The KLBB Radio Station in Stillwater plays a lot of music, music from the “good old days” of the 40's, 50's and 60's that he grew up listening to. The station's theme is “*Music of Your Life.*”

Tyler had built a relationship with the station while working with them to advertise his chapter's shows and other important events, so it was natural for him to believe that they might be supportive of his idea of expanding their programming to include our barbershop style of music. It seemed like a perfect fit to Tyler, although he was a little concerned that the management of the station might not share his enthusiasm.

He was sure that he should wait to talk with the station until he had a reasonable “package” to present to them. Over a few weeks time, he put together a sample show that he produced on his own computer software at home. At first he thought that a 15 minute show would be good for the station to consider.

The music he used for his sample show was “lifted” from some of the CD's he had in his personal collection. The songs were all sung by our International Champion Choruses and Quartets. It has always been important to Tyler to offer championship quality barbershop music on the show.

The meeting with the station's management took place in August, 2011. They were very impressed with Tyler's presentation and agreed that our barbershop music would be welcomed by their listening audience and of course liked the idea of gaining a new group of listeners. They also said that the show should be at least one half hour and they had an opening on Saturday mornings at 9am. That sounded perfect to Tyler and he started working with one of the station's Production Managers to produce the weekly show. The first show aired on Saturday, September 10, 2011, and has been on every Saturday since then. As it turns out, now Tyler produces all of the shows at his home and delivers them to the station on Wednesday for the Saturday show.

KLBB has all of the clearances with ASCAP, BMI, SESAC and SOCAN, but it was important to get permission from the choruses and quartets whose recordings would be played on the show. Tyler has been overwhelmed by the cooperation and acceptance he has received from all of the choruses and quartets. Everyone has been very supportive of the show. He is also very thankful for his sponsors that have made it possible to keep “Harmony Time “ on the air each week.

The original idea for the show was that it could be heard in a large area of the St. Croix Valley region, which includes the Twin Cities area of Minneapolis/St. Paul and many suburbs. Well that turned out to be thinking that was pretty narrow. KLBB has a website ([www.klbbradio.com](http://www.klbbradio.com)) offering a “Listen Live Option” that lets people from anywhere in the world listen to the program on the internet.

Tyler noticed that some interviews that the station had recorded were stored on their website and could be listened to at any time of any day of the week. Those interviews were only 5 minutes long so there was doubt that it would be of any use for the show. The company that facilitates producing and storing those recordings is a company called Audio Boo in London, England. In checking with them, Tyler found that they also offer half hour and one hour recording production and storing capabilities. That has been a great addition to expand the listening audience.

Tyler set up a new website ([www.harmonytimeradioshow.com](http://www.harmonytimeradioshow.com)) where all of the past programs are stored and can be listened to from anywhere in the world at any time. With this facility being available, the show currently has listeners in over 30 countries and 300 cities around the world.

The past programs website has a separate Audio Boo recording for each show. The performers in the show are listed for each show. There are three indexes for the past programs. One by show, one by performer, and a third by song. Each index identifies the show where the performance is located.



Another segment of the total “package” of the show is that celebrity messages are also stored on the past programs website. Tyler continues to receive messages that are intended to have well known barbershoppers just talk about their personal experiences as a barbershopper.

Tyler is a retired Manager of Computer Systems Development for the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad and a very active 37 year member of the St. Croix Valley Chapter in Stillwater, Minnesota. He has had the privilege of singing with the Great Northern Union Chorus at three International Chorus Contests. He has also sung in an LO'L District Seniors Champion Quartet in two of the International Seniors Quartet Contests.

Tyler is not a professional radio announcer, but is having a lot of fun as the host of “Harmony Time.” He doesn't spend much time talking on the show. His objective is to present as much barbershop music as possible in the half hour show.

Tyler says “Thanks to all of the wonderful people that support and listen to Harmony Time.”