

# Harmonotes

The Monthly Bulletin Of The Kansas City Chapter • SPEBSQSA

Volume 2001, Issue 4

*"Drawn By Harmony, Bound By Friendship, Striving For Excellence."*



## RADIO DAYS 2001 - A SUCCESSFUL SHOW!

By Dale Neuman, 2001 Show Coordinator

From every musical and performance perspective, our show was a great success. I have received nothing but compliments on its content and quality. Thanks to everyone in the chorus, the Music Team, the *Heartbeats* (the lunch was great as usual!) and our extended HOA family, our Sweet Adeline and community volunteers and the members of my committee who made it all happen. I have been show chair a number of times before and this was the easiest time I ever had!

I wish I could also report a record-breaking financial result but that did not happen. We will not know final numbers either for attendance or for net proceeds for some time as we are still processing paperwork and auditing tickets. Our budget was based on an projected sale of 1,000 tickets per show and we fell short of those targets. We got a late start and we missed the calendars of a number of groups that plan in November for their activities the next year. We also need to get our mailing list more up-to-date. We did do a fairly extensive audience survey. We got several hundred responses which **Kent McClean** and I will analyze and report to the Board on for future show planning purposes.

At the risk of leaving someone out (and with apologies in advance should my occupationally-driven professorial absent-mindedness still plague me in retirement), I would like to specifically thank certain folks who took on tasks and did them well. Thanks to **Dick Korek** who conceived and created our brochures, advertisements and show program. He then bought and placed the ads and found a sponsor to pay for printing the program. Thanks to **Dan Henry Bowser** for helping with the voice-over radio spots. Thanks to **Jim Davis** (and **Monty Duerksen**) for creating the radio days scenario that worked so well. Thanks to **Mike Mathieu** for suggesting **Dan Hurst** as our MC and hosting him during the show. (continued on page 3) ♦

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*They're goin' FAST!*

# Harmonotes

...is published by the board of directors of the Kansas City, MO., Chapter of SPEBSQSA, Inc., a non-profit organization. Unless accompanied by a byline, all articles have been written by the Editor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the officers and members of the chapter. Space will be made available for opposing points of view.

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The editorial staff reserves the right to deny publication of material deemed inappropriate for *Harmonotes* and to edit all submissions for reasons of space and clarity (grammar, phrasing, and spelling).

Permission to reprint articles is granted to barbershop chapters as long as the author and *Harmonotes* are acknowledged.

*The utmost care was used in preparation of this newsletter. However, should you notice erroneous copy, please let the Editor know! Comments/submissions may be made to:*

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## CHAPTER INFORMATION

Chapter meets at 7:00 PM each Tuesday night, at:  
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110th & Holmes  
Kansas City, MO 64105

HOA Website: [www.hoachorus.org](http://www.hoachorus.org)  
Web Address: [jmathieu@hoachorus.org](mailto:jmathieu@hoachorus.org)  
Chapter Telephone: (913) 221-7988

Member Of



## FROM THE TOP OF OUR HEART

by Dick Irwin, HOA President



A great big hand and many words of thanks to **Dick Sutton** and his Singing Valentines team. Once again HOA has stepped forward to be one of the top Valentine sellers within our society. This year our numbers have allowed us to make a tremendous donation to the Speech and Hearing Program at Children's Mercy Medical Center. To all of

you who volunteered your time and your talents to performing we say thank you very much from the bottom of our hearts.

Our *Harmony Explosion* program was once again a big success as well. By the time you read this we will all have seen the winners on our annual show. Thanks to **Al Higgins**, **Monty Duerksen**, and all of you who turned out on a pretty nice Saturday to help with this effort to reach out to the youth in our area. We look forward to more success next year.

I also want to say thanks to **Tom Steele** for all of his efforts in making part-tapes for the chorus. This is a long and hard job with little reward for the effort. Next time you see Tom, be sure to add your own *atta-boy*. It has amazed me the number of people this chapter has working in the background, especially those who cannot perform with us on a regular basis. Can you imagine what this chapter and chorus would be like if we ALL made that kind of effort? ~

## A WORTHWHILE PROGRAM

by Lud Einess

At the funeral service for **Orval Wilson** at Park Lawn Funeral Home, envelopes were available for memorial donations to be directed to HOA Chorus and *Harmony Foundation* at Society headquarters. A third option is now available to us.

Central States District has set up our own endowment fund to help and support CSD members and programs. It is a very worthwhile program and I encourage all of you to seriously consider sending your donation. Please make checks payable to:



**CSD Endowment Fund**  
c/o Paul Cartwright, Treasurer  
4216 92nd Court  
Urbandale, Iowa 50322

Try it, you'll like it! ~

(Editor's Note: our apologies for not getting this information in our last issue. An email glitch kept it from arriving prior to print time. Sorry, Lud!)



## TONE-HENGE TIES ONE ON

By Jim Bagby

Well, it may have been the most serious dilemma in our brief but undistinguished history.

First the good news: we got invited to sing a coupla songs on our annual show, which by the way we thought was a smashing success (the show, not us...we were just smashed). Then the startling news: you gotta dress in '40s period costumes. We thought at first about the old *Hubbub* knight suits. But no, **Jim Davis** said he didn't mean the 1240s. So we cleverly decided just to add some wide ties to colorful shirts we already had. That brought up the predicament—or even a couple. **Dan** went out to buy the ties and they cost so much, we almost hadda dip into the quartet beer fund. Coulda been the end of us. The other perplexity? The wives hated the ties.

Now it's on to the district senior contest (we figger there's gotta be some judges somewhere who'll put up with us), as soon as **Keith** gets recuperated from the effort of heading up the cast party. At his age, he has to rest after scratching his head.

*Hope to see you in St. Joseph! ~*

# Heart of America Chorus

**ELEVEN-TIME Central States District Champion!**

### CHAPTER QUARTET CHAMPIONS

#### *Rural Route 4 - 1986 International Champion*

Don Kahl (tenor), Calvin Yoder (lead),  
Jim Bagby (bari), Willard Yoder (bass)

#### *Gentlemen of Note - 2001 International Seniors Medallists*

Rod Rule (tenor), Jon Gathright (lead),  
Rich Huyck (bari), Monty Duerksen (bass)

#### *HyPower Serenaders - 1948 Central States District Champion*

Don McPherson (tenor), Ben Franklin (lead),  
Bert Phelps (bari), Dale Warrick (bass)

#### *Gambolliers - 1952 Central States District Champion*

John Dooley (tenor), Eddie Schliebs (lead),  
Orval Wilson (bari), Jimmy Byrnes (bass)

#### *BMA Gambolliers - 1957 Central States District Champion*

Barney Wasson (tenor), Eddie Schliebs (lead),  
Orval Wilson (bari), Harold Robinette (bass)

#### *The Kippers - 1962 Central States District Champion*

\*Ken Gabler (tenor), \*Tom Taylor (lead),  
John Goldsbury (bari), Don Page (bass)

#### *The Four Kippers - 1966 Central States District Champion*

\*Ken Gabler (tenor), \*Byron Meyers (lead),  
John Goldsbury (bari), Gil Lefholz (bass)

#### *The Morning Times - 1974 Central States District Champion*

Dave Snook (tenor), Roger O'Dell (lead),  
Steve Leone (bari), Stan Grossman (bass)

#### *Corner Quartet - 1981 Central States District Champion*

Don Kahl (tenor), Lance Heilman (lead),  
Steve Leone (bari), Stan Grossman (bass)

#### *Harmony Spectrum - 1982 Central States District Champion*

Gene Bowers (tenor), David Krause (lead),  
Jim Bagby (bari), Willard Yoder (bass)

#### *Special Touch - 1984 Central States District Champion*

\*Rick Kready (tenor), David Krause (lead),  
\*Bud Clark (bari), Matt Moore (bass)

#### *KC Connection - 1986 Central States District Champion*

Rod Rule (tenor), Wayne Lankenau (lead),  
Rich Huyck (bari), Larry Wilson (bass)

#### *12th Street Rag - 1994 Central States District Champion*

\*Rick Kready (tenor), Mark Fortino (lead),  
John Fortino (bari), Keith Schweer (bass)

### OTHER CHAPTER QUARTETS

#### *12th Street Rag - 2000 International Semi-Finalists*

\*Micah Jeppesen (tenor), Mark Fortino (lead),  
John Fortino (bari), \*Barry Moore (bass)

#### *Arpeggio*

Marlin Weidler (tenor), Rick Dunaway (lead),  
Mark Grisham (bari), Mike Griffin (bass)

#### *Boomerang*

Lee Tubbs (tenor), Rob Mathieu (lead),  
Matt Harader (bari), Joe Mathieu (bass)

#### *Crosstown Four*

Dale Neuman (tenor), Gordon Coleman (lead),  
Ron Abel (bari), Val Putzier (bass)

#### *From The Heart*

Matt Bostick (tenor), Mike Neff (lead),  
Grant Hunget (bari), Gordon Lankenau (bass)

#### *Heartland*

\*Rick Kready (tenor), David Krause (lead),  
Matt Moore (bari), \*Dale Corner (bass)

#### *Old Mission Messengers*

Reid Ecton (tenor), John Warrior (lead),  
Ron Abel (bari), Bryan Van Deun (bass)

#### *Polecat Creek*

Tom Elefson (tenor), Wayne Crawford (lead),  
Dick Irwin (bari), Eric Weber (bass)

#### *The Musical Firm of Schwarzkopf, Anderson, Carney & Bray*

Raymond Schwarzkopf (tenor), Todd Anderson (lead),  
Randy Carney (bari), Burt Bray (bass)

#### *Tone-Henge*

Bruce Wenner (tenor), Dan Henry (lead),  
Jim Bagby (bari), Keith Schweer (bass)

\*Member of other chapters



## RADIO DAYS 2001 — A SUCCESSFUL SHOW!

(continued from front page)

Thanks to **John Warrior** for another superb job as our stage manager and to **Jim Kinyon** for being available to assist John. **Kent McClean** was always available to help me with the many tasks and on-the-spot decisions that go into keeping things moving—I did not worry about much since I knew that he could and would do things well. I appreciated the Music Team's willingness to work with our ideas in doing something a little different this year as well as their extraordinary efforts at having us so well-prepared musically for every part of the show. (A special thanks goes to **Sheri Watts** for the neat "Ritz" package and her frequent visits to rehearsals to help us make it happen.) **Mike Schumacher** who could have said no when I asked him for help getting the ushers, ticket takers, and others we needed to get people into their seats—since he had already done that a number of times—did in three days what I had been unable to do in three weeks. He then met with them before each show and monitored their efforts to assure things went right. Thanks, Mike. **Marty Oldehoeft** hauled the riser trailer in and out of downtown twice during those peak traffic periods—if you thought you had problems parking!!! Thanks, Marty. **Chuck Ames** made sure everything was set up and taken down in proper fashion and **Al Higgins** made the signs for the dressing rooms, the cue boy, and managed the Harmony Explosion Quartets portion of the program. **Phil Youngs** was our show treasurer and **Gordon Coleman** kept the cash flow coming as he ran all of the credit-cards into our account through his computer. **Ron McIntire** set up the video system so that we could watch and listen back stage and **John McConnell** led his very capable makeup crew as they made us all look younger and better! **Grant Hunget** was our host for the *Gas House Gang* and has agreed to be the 2002 Show Chairman so get ready to say 'yes' when he asks for your help to make that show better than this year's!

Finally, to **Paul Winans** and his wife **Gwen** (they also loaned and delivered the radio that was on stage), who gave up their rights to peace and quiet for about 10 weeks as they answered the ticket phone line, I say a special thank you. Having been there and done that for about five years sometime ago, not only do you worry about getting everything done and done accurately, but you try to maintain the tradition of HOA being user-friendly. This means creating replacement tickets for those lost or left back in Topeka or finding "one more seat nearby the ones I bought three weeks ago" since one more person wants to come. This means answering phone calls early and late. It means having a smile in your voice every time. Since I called Paul and Gwen a number of times on other show matters, I can attest that they were wonderful every time. Gwen, you get Paul back for a while—but there's always next year???? ~



## THE PERFORMANCE COACH SEZ:

by Jim Bagby



The 65 or so guys we put on stage for the March show did very well, and the progress in the last couple of weeks before the show was most encouraging.

And that was a bigger chorus that we had for any performance in the past year.

However, we are unlikely to achieve what we want to this fall with that number on stage. **Mike Schumacher's** guest and recruiting program is going well, but we need the singers and performers back from the missing half of our chapter (yes, we do have about 150 members). Wouldn't you like to sing again with 80 or 90 guys in the competition chorus?

Let's PERSONALLY encourage the AWOL and backsliders to rejoin us for the May 1 Spring Fling, and for the next **Tony DeRosa** coaching session, and for the September retreat and the October contest in Topeka! ~

## MORE MAYO!

For those of you serious about improving your vocal quality and range, breath support and other fundamentals, one of the best tools around still is **Paul Mayo's** tape.

This veteran west coast vocal instructor demonstrates on one side of the tape a dozen exercises, each with a specific purpose. The other side of the tape is the exercises with proper sequence and number of repetitions; all you gotta do is sing along.

The tape is available from the Society; if you'd like to preview it, **Jim Bagby** has one to loan. If you want an endorsement of the value of the Mayo experience, ask **David Krause**, or anyone who's been exposed to Mayo at *Harmony College*. ~

## THE TENOR'S CREED

by Earl McGhee

1. I will remember that I am a Tenor and that Tenors are unique among men. I will conduct myself accordingly.
2. During chorus rehearsal, I will allow myself to be shushed by the Director, but at the performance, I will drive my high notes to the far corners of the room.
3. I will show a certain respect for the Bass, for few men could sing with their knuckles dragging upon the ground. I will not get mushy about it.
4. I will always remember that the Baritone really thinks that those strange notes are hauntingly beautiful. I will respect his intentions, but I will not get mushy about it.
5. I will not forget that all Leads really wish they could sing tenor, but I will not let my pity for them become obvious.
6. I will be very selective about the Lead, Bari and Bass that I will consent to sing with in a quartet. I know that I will always be in great demand, for they are many and we are few.
7. I will practice until no one can tell when I go from natural voice to falsetto, for I know it drives the others crazy.
8. When pickup quartetting, I will insist upon trying to sing the bass part, for I know it causes the real Bases great pain.
9. Whenever, in a show, my quartet manages to create an overtone, I will let a sly smile play across my face that says "Yes, I really did hit that note".
10. I will hold my head high, remembering that I am a Tenor and that humility is for those who can not afford arrogance.

## LEAD'S CREED

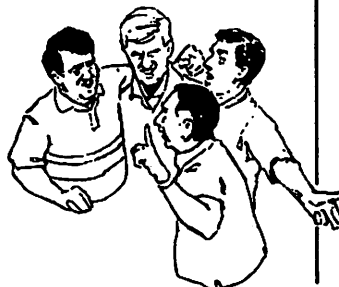
1. We will not flaunt in front of others the fact that we have the best voice in the group (unless the music calls for it, which, come to think of it, it usually does).
2. We will do our best to stay in tune, but won't worry too much about that since the other guys have to follow us anyway.
3. As consummate gentleman, we will continue to let the Bases feel like they're the most important part of the group, even though without the melody they would have nothing to harmonize.
4. As we focus on shaping and caressing the song, if we forget a word (or all of them), we won't worry too much since the other guys have to follow us anyway.
5. We will never allow a baritone to sing louder than us, even when we're on the seventh. The melody must be heard!!!
6. We will be sensitive to the Tenor's need to feel special. We won't overdo it, though.
7. In a chorus, although we will do our best to follow the Director, we realize that we have to take advantage of all of the opportunities in a song to show off our wonderful Lead voice. After all, that's what the audience has come to hear, right?
8. We will do our best to cover the fact that the Baritone has a weak, emaciated instrument, otherwise he'd be singing Lead.
9. When in doubt, pitch it up!!!
10. When a Coach/Director advises us that we were under pitch, or too loud, we will always nod appreciatively, all the while knowing that we were just doing what the Composer/Arranger originally intended (even if the Coach/Director IS the Composer/Arranger).

## THE BARITONE CREED

1. I will not sing a single note that isn't right in pitch,
2. I won't contribute harmonies that have a single glitch,
3. I won't be last to learn the music - leave that to the lead,
4. I won't be late for practice 'cause my part has such a need,
5. I'll fill in cracks and crevices the basses leave behind,
6. I'll use some sweet finesse in every seventh that I find,
7. I'll monitor the volume so the chords will really ring,
8. I'll make a thing of beauty every note that I will sing.



**Editor's Note:**  
These "creeds" were recently posted on the internet, so we felt compelled to share them. Two came with an author's name—two did not. However, we're bettin' they ALL were created by the same person!



## THE BASS' CREED

by Earl McGhee

1. I will always remember that Bases are God's chosen people and will strive to convince others of that truth.
2. Whenever the notes fall within my "Power Range", I will sing in a manner that conveys the message "I am a Bass! Hear me roar!"
3. Whenever there exists the slightest opportunity for a swipe, I will take it, whether the music is so written or not.
4. I will, on rare occasions, allow the Baritone to take a swipe.
5. I will always remember that the Bass establishes the sound of the quartet or chorus and I will not allow the Bari, Lead and Tenor to forget it.
6. I will remember that the lead carries the melody and message of the song and so, will show him a modest amount of respect. I will not over do it.
7. I will remember that the Tenor, though he sings girlishly, is a rare and hard to find guy and so, will treat him with grudging respect. I will not over do it.
8. I will not step on the Lead's pickups and will tune my voice to his, even though he is prone to drop pitch. For I am a Bass and I can reach it.
9. I will frequently remind the Bari that his proper function is to make the Bass sound good.
10. I will do all of the above in a spirit of humility befitting one of God's chosen people.

# JUST FOUR FUN

Feel free to submit humorous anecdotes and/or thought-provoking quotes to the Editor!

## THE GIFT OF LIFE!

On the very first day, God created the **cow**. He said to the cow, "Today I have created you! As a cow, you must go to the field with the farmer all day long. You will work all day under the sun! I will give you a life span of 50 years."

The cow objected, "What? This kind of tough life you want me to live for 50 years? Let me have 20 years, and the 30 years I'll give back to you." So God agreed.

On the second day, God created the **dog**. God said to the dog, "What you are supposed to do is to sit all day by the door of your house. Any people that come in, you will have to bark at them! I'll give a life span of 20 years."

The dog objected, "What? All day long to sit by the door? *No way!* I give you back my other 10 years of life!" So God agreed.

On the third day, God created the **monkey**. He said to the monkey, "Monkeys have to entertain people. You've got to make them laugh and do monkey tricks. I'll give you 20 years life span."

The monkey objected. "What? Make them laugh? Do monkey faces and tricks? Ten years will do, and the other 10 years I'll give you back." So God agreed.

On the fourth day, God created **man** and said to him, "Your job is to sleep, eat, and play. You will enjoy very much in your life. All you need to do is to enjoy and do nothing. This kind of life, I'll give you a 20 year life span."

The man objected. "What? Such a good life! Eat, play, sleep, do nothing? Enjoy the best and you expect me to live only for 20 years? *No way, man!* Why don't we make a deal? Since the cow gave you back 30 years, and the dog gave you back 10 years and the monkey gave you back 10 years, I will take them from you! That makes my life span 70 years, right?" So God agreed.

**AND THAT'S WHY...**in our first 20 years, we eat, sleep, play, enjoy the best and do nothing much. For the next 30 years, we work all day long, suffer, and get to support the family. For the next 10 years, we entertain our grandchildren by making monkey faces and monkey tricks. Then, for the last 10 years, we stay at home, sit by the front door and bark at people! ♡

## A LOOK AT THE PAST IN THE HARMONOTES

By Wade Dexter, Editor Emeritus

### Ten Years Ago - April 1991

Show Chairman **Marv Blakeman** needed two and a half columns to express his gratitude to all members (there were 92 singers on the risers) for their support and cooperation in producing our annual show on March 16. Coming up next was a reprise of our show program for the Clinton, Missouri, Chamber of Commerce on Sunday, April 7. Chorus Manager **Ed Shaw** informed us that the **Dave Marti/Mark Smith** families had arranged for us to meet at the Clinton Country Club after the show for a period of refreshment and relaxation.

Ed also reminded us of another paid performance for the Shawnee Mission Medical Center at their annual employee recognition banquet at the Marriott Hotel on April 25.

These two events would each bring us a check for \$1,000 which was to go to the transportation fund to help pay for the trip to the International Convention in Louisville, Kentucky, later that summer.

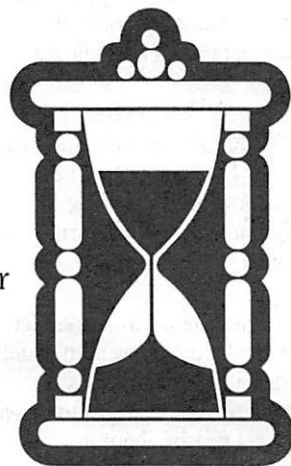
### Twenty Years Ago - April 1981

There's an article about the *Prairie Crooners* (author unknown), describing how they were "dabbling in TV." "Two weeks ago, we recorded a lead-in for a new locally produced show called, 'Thursday Night Blue Light Specials.' For those of you on the Johnson County Cable, the show is on Channel 10A on Thursdays, 6:30 to 7 p.m. every time the national baseball telecast is blacked out (which is whenever the Royals are playing, either at home or away). If you tune in at the beginning or end of the show, you'll hear us singing something that vaguely resembles 'What Do You Do With the Drunken Sailor' as they show the credits. You won't see us, though; TV is not yet ready for our faces."

**Jim Bagby** announced that our two contest songs for the Detroit International would be "That Old Quartet of Mine" and "Gotta 'Be On My Way."

Bogden Candy sales netted the chapter \$1,236.95, presumably to go toward travel expenses for Detroit. The number one candy salesman was **Frank Leone** with \$398.40.

New members included **Clarence Bond, Bob Nash, Steve Lindsay, Ken Kraut, Eric Rule, Akikiro Noma, Dean Cling, and Dennis Yeager.** (continued on page 6) ♡





# SUNSHINE REPORT

by Max Boise



This month was pretty quiet, thankfully. We had very few illness problems. We do want to wish **Matt Bostick** a "get well soon".

He has been laid-up with some bug for a couple of weeks now.

He even had to miss the annual show. We hope you'll make it back soon, Matt.

On another good note, **Dick Sutton** returned from a recent trip to Las Vegas with a story and some new artery equipment. It seems Dick suffered a mild heart attack while

visiting the city in the desert. The doctors were able to locate the problem and inserted a couple of stents to help shore-up his aging arteries. Since he's been able to participate in all of our rehearsals and the annual show we know he's following doctor's orders in his recovery. Glad to have you with us, Dick! ~

♦ (continued from page 5)

## Thirty Years Ago - April 1971

(Good News! We found our March, April, and May issues of Harmonotes! Somehow the July issue was filed between February and March.)

The final show financial report submitted to the board showed a net profit of \$3,719.39. Top ticket sellers were **Bob Gaul** (\$970.00), **Gil Lefholz** (\$566.75), and **Frank Leone** (\$404.25). Gil was to be the 1972 show chairman. Chapter officers were **John Garbett** (president), **Joe Costigan** (immediate past president), **Fred Whisman** (administrative VP), **Steve Leone** (program VP), **Marvin Faulwell** (secretary), and **Don Stewart** (treasurer). ~

# WHACHA THINK?

*Test your barbershop trivia skills!*

Who is the first (and only) quartet to have all its members become double gold medalists?

Answer: The Interstate Rivals 1987

# DON'T HESITATE— PURCHASE YOUR SING! TICKETS NOW

by Reed Sampson

Sing! tickets are now available to the general public through *Ticketmaster*. Barbershoppers who are waiting to order might want to move more quickly.

The Monday night show, July 2, with **FRED**, the *Big Chicken Chorus*, *Riptide* and the *Swingle Singers*, is already more than half sold out with public advertising just about to start. Barbershoppers can order tickets from...

<http://www.spebsqsa.org/2001/registration.htm>

or [www.singacappella.com](http://www.singacappella.com)

...and avoid service charges. ~

## GRAMMY-AWARD WINNERS! THE SWINGLE SINGERS!



# Heart of America

## April - May Performance Calendar

April 9

Board Meeting - 6:30 PM

Doubletree Hotel - Downtown Kansas City, MO

April 20-22

CSD Spring Prelims - St. Joseph, MO

May 14

Board Meeting - 6:30 PM

Doubletree Hotel - Downtown Kansas City, MO

# TOPEKA

*(Not just another  
pretty town!)*

***You'll want  
to be there  
in October!***

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. Postage  
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Kansas City, MO  
Permit No. 1215

Society for the Preservation and Encouragement  
of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America  
Kansas City Chapter, Inc.  
3523 Red Bridge Road, Apt. 3  
Kansas City, MO 64137-2145

