

Harmonotes

The Monthly Bulletin Of The Kansas City Chapter • SPEBSQSA

Volume 2001, Issue 2

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



GENTLEMEN OF NOTE TAKE THIRD PLACE AT SENIORS INTERNATIONAL!

(Editor's Note: An editorial "attaboy" to Al Higgins for getting the news to us!)

Gentlemen Of Note, comprised of **Jon Gathright, Monty Duerksen, Rod Rule** and **Rich Huyck**, brought big honors to HOA by taking third place at the 2001 Seniors International competition held in Jacksonville, Florida. As *Harmonotes* readers already will recall, the foursome placed eighth last year—their first appearance on the International stage—but apparently weren't content with just making the top ten! Our hearty congratulations on being the first to medal since *Rural Route 4* won the International championship in 1986! We're proud of you! ~



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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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All chapter officers and quartets are expected, and chapter members encouraged, to contribute their ideas on a regular basis.

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

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BACKGROUND ON THE "OZZIE" AWARD

M. Osmond Newgard was a senior Society Sound Category judge, former director of the *Alexandria Harmonizers* and a member of our chapter from 1975 to his death in 1983. He was the resident HOA sound coach, anchor of the bass section, an assistant director and primary coach of the *Rural Route 4*.

The RR4 established the *Ozzie Award* in 1989 to honor musical service to the Kansas City Chapter; it is presented by the chapter in years there is deemed to be a worthy candidate. The award is chosen by the RR4 and past Ozzie winners. Alexandria also has an award named for **Oz Newgard**. ~

AND THE "OZZIE" AWARD GOES TO... (WHO? ME?)

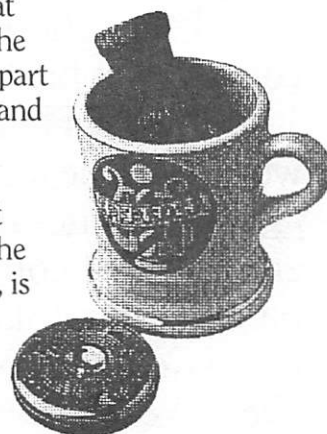
by Don Young

As most of you know I am rarely, if ever, speechless. However, Saturday, January 13th at approximately 9:00 PM turned out to be one of those times. Much to my surprise I was honored with receiving the Kansas City Chapters' "Ozzie" award.

This award is normally reserved for someone in the chapter who has given outstanding leadership in the musical department and since I have yet to learn how to read music, I thought I would never be granted such a privilege.

I must say that I love being with and in front of each and every one of you and consider all of you as good friends. Among this bunch however, you could not have picked a better presenter than **Jim Bagby**. When I joined the chapter back in the mid 80's (1980's that is) **Steve Leone** was the director. But shortly after that he started asking me to step down from the risers and demonstrate actions and facial expressions. Without his encouragement I may never have gotten this involved. Embarrassed at first, I soon learned that I enjoyed the activity and since then have been a part of an excellent choreography team and front row. I am truly honored to receive this award.

But I want all of you to know that watching each of you standing on the risers, performing at your PSP best, is one of my greatest thrills. Thanks to all of you for what you do for this chapter and chorus. ~



A MUSICAL REFLECTION

by Ron McIntire, 2000 Barbershopper Of The Year

I've had a number of experiences in my life that will stay with me forever. Three of the most memorable are related to my life as a barbershopper.

In the late 1970's the new minister of our church commissioned his wife to start a choir. She played the organ and was adept at talking people into doing things so my wife and I joined. It was the first time since high school Glee Club that I had uttered a vocal note outside the bathtub. I did the best I could but after about a year I decided I should take some voice lessons. I found a small music school in Independence that taught various subjects in music—sight reading, theory and voice. It was just the thing **Brenda** and I were looking for.

Through the fall of 1980 and into the spring of '81 we learned the basics of music and singing. In one of the sessions I recall my instructor saying, "I'm working with a barbershop quartet. Two of them are brothers named Yoder." We chatted a little about them but then went back to work and nothing more was said. When May came and the term ended, each student was required to do a recital piece to demonstrate what we had learned. I sang my song, as did the others, and then up stepped the **Rural Route 4: Jim, Calvin, Willard and Everett Roth**. When the recital was over, the quartet invited me to sing a tag with them and I was hooked. It's been 20 years since that afternoon and though I've long forgotten the song I sang, I can still see the recital room, four guys in red plaid shirts and funny looking overalls, and the small audience in the dozen or so chairs lining the room beaming from ear to ear as the **Rural Route 4** sang about their windup music box.

Ten years later, I received the Barbershopper of the Month Award. What a feeling that was. It stayed with me for days.

Now, 19 years after joining the Society, I've been voted *Barbershopper of the Year*. I can think of a hundred guys who could stand in front of me on this one. I can only say thank you. I can't think of anything I've had more fun doing than singing with the Kansas City Chapter and Heart of America Chorus. ~

-Ron

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 Cathright (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

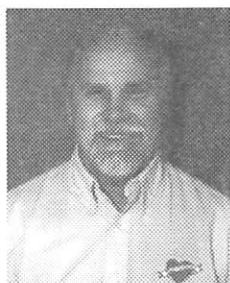
- 12th Street Rag - 2000 International Semi-Finalists**
*Micah Jeppesen (tenor), Mark Fortino (lead),
John Fortino (bari), *Barry Moore (bass)
- Arpeggio**
Marlin Weidler (tenor), Rick Dunaway (lead),
Mark Grisham (bari), Mike Griffin (bass)
- Boomerang**
Lee Tubbs (tenor), Rob Mathieu (lead),
Matt Harader (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 Comer (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

FROM THE TOP OF OUR HEART

By Dick Irwin, HOA President

Does anyone else feel it? That excitement, that thrill, that goose-bumpy feeling? There seems to be a movement by everyone at the meetings to become more involved, more committed. This all by itself has started showing results in improved singing and overall performance of the chorus. Let's keep this great feeling building as we move toward our first "Tony" coaching session for 2001 on March 6th and beyond.



February looks to be a busy month for HOA. There are Singing Valentines on February 13 and 14. We have connected with Helzberg Diamonds again this year to offer one of our customers a special jewelry prize. See **Dick Sutton** ASAP if you want to help or participate. We also have a performance at John Knox Village on February 24th. This show is a sell-out!!!

I'm excited about working with the officers, board, and other team members this year. I think we are well on our way to putting Kansas City back on the Central States District map in October. Let's all have fun while we're working toward our goals. Take time each meeting to talk to someone different, ...say Hi. It's a great way to renew old friendships! ~

SingingValentines.com OPEN FOR BUSINESS



by Reed Sampson, SPEBSQSA

By the first week of January, more than 142 chapters and quartets had registered at **SingingValentines.com**, and V-Day is still six weeks out. Registration helps direct traffic to your Singing Valentines web page, contacts and email addresses, and best of all, it's **FREE**.

Be sure to include a link on your own pages and flyers directing people to nationwide referrals: **www.singingvalentines.com**.

THE TAX MAN COMETH

by Reed Sampson, SPEBSQSA

Some things you do as a Barbershopper are tax deductible. If you itemize your deductions, you may be entitled to include some expenses for barbershop activity. If you had verifiable out-of-pocket expense in connection with a chapter duty as an elected or appointed officer or board member, or, if you sang in one or more local shows, such expenses as travel (14¢ per mile, or actual cost) telephone, postage, parking, etc., for which you were not reimbursed are deductible.



Expense of travel to chapter meetings is not deductible unless you hold an office directly involved in conduct of the meeting. A different rule applies to travel away-from-home. Transportation, meals and lodging may only be deducted if there is no significant element of personal pleasure, recreation or vacation in the trip. If golf games, sightseeing, and similar activities heavily overbalance singing and participation in meetings as a duty for the away-from-home expenses, these expenses would not be deductible. The cost of tuition at schools is specifically barred as a deduction as well as dues. If you use these deductions, here is the procedure. With Form 1040, use Schedule A, under "gifts to charity, other than cash or check," enter the total of your out-of-pocket expense. (Remember the words "non-reimbursed" and "verifiable.") If over \$500 attach the appropriate schedule and categorize expenses by groups (lodging, transportation, etc.), captioned "Expenses incurred in connection with contributions of services to an organization classed as exempt under Section 501 (c) (3)." Then state the name and location of your chapter and the full name of the Society. Your chapter should have a list of events that are applicable to this expense tabulation. Your cash contributions to the chapter or the Society or to Harmony Foundation Inc. (for the General Fund to support our service projects or to the Endowment Program) are directly deductible. Include this figure in Schedule A, under "gifts to charity, cash or check." Be sure to retain verifying records such as appointment books, calendars with notes, etc. ~

WHO'S OUT THERE?

Mike Schumacher, Membership Vice-President

Everyone that has been in the HOA chorus and/or the Kansas City Chapter has heard all the recruiting catch phrases before. The best one is "Membership begins with ME". And it's true, the survival of the chapter membership does not solely reside with the Membership VP or even the Membership committee, it belongs in the capable hands of every single member. And for the most part, all you have to do is be willing to talk to anyone and invite them to come see and hear what we do. When it comes to getting something done that I feel like I can't do, I stop and think about the HOA retreat in Atchison when **Don Young** showed us a video. On the video, for those that weren't there, the late **Jim Valvano** said he always remembered a saying that he once heard and kept a sign of it in his office so he could see it everyday. That sign read "Ordinary people do Extraordinary things every day!" Not every ordinary person is going to do extraordinary things everyday, but this just might be your day. *Why not?* Do you realize that the very next person you introduce to barbershop might be the start of a District Champion Quartet, or the next singing judge for the Society, or maybe even the International Board member? Or maybe just a really enthusiastic bass or lead singer? Maybe that next person, will be another **Greg Lynne**. Living in a city the size of Kansas City, even with two other chapters in the area, there are thousands of guys that need to be introduced to our hobby. This can be done in a couple of ways, invite them to a show or invite them to our meetings. Within the next several weeks, I will have business cards printed so every member, active and inactive, can carry 4 or 5 cards to hand to that next prospective member. I don't think I have ever written anything profound in my life but I hope my articles will be at least thought provoking. Maybe stating something you've heard before but expressed in a way that makes it finally click into place.

I also implore you to take the opportunity to get to know some of our newer members and teach them a tag, ask them about themselves and maybe tell them about a great moment in your barbershop life. You might make a friend for life!!! ~

Monthly thought to ponder:

Who are some of the significant people in your life that you would not have known except for your Barbershopping experience?

JACKSON AND HOPKINS? SOUNDS LIKE A LAW FIRM.

by Jim Bagby, HOA Performance Coach

As Alexandria prepared to win its third gold medal at Miami in 1995, the *Harmonizers* and their fans had a mantra: *once in a lifetime*.

The slogan, visible on buttons everywhere, came from the verse to their contest ballad, the 1938 Kahal-Fain classic, "*I'll Be Seeing You*." But it was not a verse anyone had heard.

The *Harmonizers* had it written by the multi-talented **Eric Jackson**, and arranged by veteran **Rob Hopkins**—arguably the most talented barbershopper in upstate New York. The rest, you could say, is history—with this happy footnote: now that verse is in the possession of HOA.

Jackson may be best-known as instructor of the creative interpretation class that's one of the most popular courses in Harmony College history. He is the prime mover behind the "Lifblood" experiment. He's a championship level chorus director in the powerful Mid-Atlantic District, an administrator, musician, creator and much more. If you look in the dictionary under "one enthusiastic idea per minute," it says: *Eric Jackson*.

HOA and many groups have done Hopkins' creative and singable arrangements. He's a longtime key member of the Society C&J community, including past chairman, as well as a former Society Board Member (our terms overlapped by one year). Rob is a quartet man, chorus director and judge, as well as top arranger.

And now you know of "the rest of the story" as we embark on our "once in a lifetime" experience. ~



JUST FOUR FUN

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

CONVERSIONS MADE *EASY*

For those who thought the hardest part of Physics 101 was the constant conversion from MKS or CGS units to English units, here are some useful English system conversions.

Ratio of an igloo's circumference to its diameter:
Eskimo Pi

2000 pounds of Chinese soup: **Won ton**

1 millionth of a mouthwash: **one microscope**

Time between slipping on a peel and
smacking the pavement: **1 bananasecond**

Weight an evangelist carries with God: **1 billigram**

16.5 feet in the Twilight Zone: **1 Rod Serling**

Half of a large intestine: **1 semicolon**

1000 aches: **1 megahurtz**

Basic unit of laryngitis: **1 hoarsepower**

Shortest distance between two jokes:
A straight line
(Think about it)

10 cards: **1 decacards**

10 rations: **1 decoration**

100 rations: **1 C-ration**

2 monograms: **1 diagram**

8 nickels: **1 paradigm**

2000 mockingbirds: **two kilomockingbirds**
(work on it)

A LOOK AT THE PAST IN THE *HARMONOTES*

By Wade Dexter, Editor Emeritus

Ten Years Ago - February 1991

You fellows who've been around for the past decade or so should recall the "break out" sessions that were implemented by PVP **John Pennington** at the beginning of 1991. The concept called for devoting a portion of each chapter meeting during which members would "break out" into separate rooms (we were meeting at the Unity Temple then) for instruction in various aspects of our hobby by experienced barbershoppers from our own chapter. John reported that the first series of sessions began in mid-January and would continue through our meeting on February 26. I remember enjoying the session entitled "History I," taught by **David Krause**. The "break out" idea originated with the Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, chapter, and was designed to provide "something for everyone." I would guess it was probably promoted heavily at COTS the previous November.

Don Kahl, tenor of our own *Rural Route 4*, International quartet champions in 1986, announced his resignation. He had been a quartet member since 1983. According to Jim bagby, Don had moved to the Dallas, Texas, area and communication with the rest of the quartet had become quite a problem. Jim said a replacement was under consideration whom he didn't want to reveal at the time. We all know now that the new tenor for the RR4 was none other than lead **Calvin Yoder's** son, **Wesley**. At that point, baritone **Jim Bagby** was heard to remark that he was "the only de-Yoderized one in the bunch."

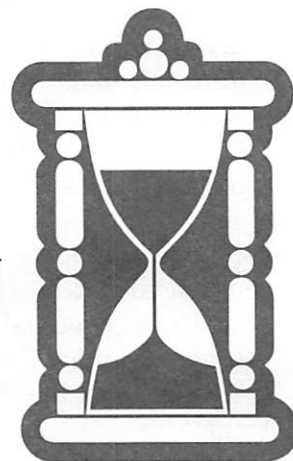
Fifty-three member **Orval Wilson** had recently renewed his membership. Gosh, that was ten years ago! Surely, by now, he must be the senior member of the Society by several years!

New Hearbeats officers were **Jan Mathieu** (president), **Evelyn Blakeman** (vice president), **Connie Howard** (secretary), and **Aileen Beard** (treasurer).

Twenty Years Ago - February 1981

Editor **Al Benz** reminded all members that they were invited to the "Afterglo" at 4th and Delaware in KCMO every Tuesday night after the regular chapter meeting. There's also a note that **Fred Whisman** and his wife, Jean, host a Sweetheart Party at the Afterglow on Saturday, February 14, Valentine's Day.

Ticket prices for our annual show at the Music Hall on March 14 ranged from \$4 to \$7. ♦ ♦ ♦



Thirty Years Ago - February 1971

Guess who was general chairman for the 1971 annual show scheduled for March 13th? None other than **Mr. Dan Henry Bowser!** Dan expressed his appreciation to others who would assist him: **Bob Gall** (Music Hall), **Bernie Geier** and **Ed Eichman** (tickets), **Bob Gall** (guest quartets), **John Wolzak** and **Joe Costigan** (publicity), and **Gil Lefholz** (afterglow). **Bill Wall** and **Al Moritz** were responsible for designing and building a shell and engineering a "black light" number with audience participation to be featured on the musical program. **Frank Leone** arranged for green jackets, and son **Steve** developed the choreography. I recall attending this show (I was a member of the Lawrence chapter), and I believe Dan was the chorus director—at least for the "black light" number. It was something like follow-the-bouncing-ball numbers they used to feature in movie theaters many, many years ago. Very impressive! ~

SING! *AND* INTERNATIONAL!

SING !

AN A CAPPELLA CELEBRATION

**A SUMMER
OF GREAT
HARMONY!**



Register for both events online at:
<http://www.spebsqsa.org/2001/>

SUNSHINE REPORT

by Max Boise

This report makes me sound like the bearer of bad news, something off key, etc. Hope (and think) we'll have some good news to report next month. Again, I appreciate hearing from you with "Sunshine Stuff".

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families...

...of **Bill and Doree Wall**.

Many of you will recall our report in April, 2000 of Bill's passing. Doree passed away in late December with services on December 20 at Mt. Moriah and Freeman at 10507 Holmes in Kansas City.

...of **Keith and Connie Schweer** in the loss of Keith's mother, **Audrey**, on December 31, 2000. Her services were at Messiah Lutheran Church in Independence, MO on January 5, 2001. Keith also lost his father **Raymond** in 1999

...of **Sal Innazzo** whose wife **Barbara** passed away on January 16, 2001 at St. Lukes Hospital. Services for her were January 20 at St. Catherine of Siena.

... of **Jeanne Snyder**, wife of **Jerry** (who is my "riser buddy") underwent surgery on January 24th for possible cancer. Last word has Jeanne recovering at Menorah Hospital. She is expected to be in the hospital for several days.

The following is a note from Jim Bagby about Al Moritz:

Al Moritz had two stents installed today (1/24), in a wide-awake procedure of about 2-1/2 hours. He seems his normal lively self and apparently will be released from St. Luke's tomorrow (that would be 1/25/2001). He has had visits from several chapter members, and flowers from his shrine banjo band. When I left he was studying how to fix his malfunctioning drug monitoring machine...

On a positive note, **Dick Irwin's** dad was released from North Kansas City Hospital on January 16th after nearly six weeks following a heart attack in early December. He is doing well recovering at home. ~



BIG MUSICAL PLANS FOR HOA IN 2001

by Bruce Wenner, Music Vice-President

Big plans are in the wind. Your music team is committed to musical excellence and artistic performances, and we are planning with the goal of "raising the bar". We grizzled veterans know how much fun it was to be king of the hill in Central States, and we know how close we have come to medalling at International. We want to reclaim our rightful place in CSD (our rightful place, of course, is on top!) and develop the chorus potential to the fullest.

The most exciting new development is that **Gordon, Mike, and Darrell** will have the regular coaching help of one of the premier coaches in the entire Society—none other than our esteemed director emeritus, **Jim Bagby**. As good a director as Jim was and is, he is an even better coach. He is sought after nationwide as a coach, both for choruses and quartets; his fellow *Tone-Hengers* have become especially aware of the demand for his services when we try to plan for quartet rehearsals or performances around his crowded schedule. For years he has been on the faculty of Harmony College as a quartet coach and as a teacher of classes that train the Society's coaches. We are delighted to anticipate his regular services as the HOA Chorus Performance Coach.

We have additional long-range plans for coaching this year with **Tony DeRosa**, who has worked with us so well at the most recent retreats. (Most of us know Tony as the two-time gold medal baritone with *Keepsake* and *PLATINUM*.) Tony will be with us again at our retreat, scheduled at Atchison for the weekend of Sept. 7-9. He will also be coming in for four Tuesday night sessions during the year, on March 6, June 19, Sept. 18, and Dec. 11. We should be loaded for bear by the time CSD contest comes around, with our new contest numbers *I'll Be Seeing You* and *Sweet Georgia Brown*.

In the more immediate future is our Chapter Show March 24 at the Music Hall. The chorus songs will be *Wonderful Day Medley*, *Kansas City*, *God Bless America*, *Chanukkah Medley* (that's right—nothing in it that demands it just be sung in December!), *It Had To Be You*, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Ballpark*, *Puttin' On The Ritz*,

Please Mr. Columbus, and *I'll Be Seeing You*. Rehearsals for the show chorus begin Jan. 30; eight Tuesday nights before the Friday night tech rehearsal and Saturday shows, Thursday night rehearsals March 8 and 15, and Saturday afternoon at John Knox on Feb. 24, before our concert there that evening. That's eleven rehearsals—we're asking for a commitment to attend at least nine of them in order to sing with the show chorus. In the event that something prevents you from meeting that requirement, but you do know your stuff, check with your section leader as to what he would like to hear from you in order to qualify.

Your 2001 section leaders are **Jerry Garrard**, tenors; **Mike Neff**, leads; **Grant Hunget**, baritones; and **Keith Schweer**, basses. Please sign up with them to sing in the show. You won't be sorry—we're going to put on a great show, and we're going to have a ball doing it. ~

Heart of America

February-March Performance Calendar

February 13 & 14

Singing Valentines - Sign up for a quartet now!

February 24

Performance - John Knox Village

March 6

**Coaching Session with Tony Derosa
Regular Meeting Place**

March 10

**Harmony Explosion
DeSoto, Kansas High School - all day**

March 24

**55th Annual Show at Music Hall, KCMO
Featuring *The Gas House Gang***

SHOWTIME!

By Dale Neuman, 2001 Show Chair

As those who have been attending our Tuesday night meetings are aware, the 2001 annual show at the Music Hall on March 24th will include a host of new and exciting numbers by the HOA Chorus. What they and others may not know is that our featured quartet will be the *Gas House Gang* who will present their full show package. *12th Street Rag* will also have a major role in the show. This will be our 55th annual show and, musically, should be among our best. What we would also like to see is that it be better attended than have those in recent years.

To that end, we have decided to go outside the nine dots in several ways. The show will be structured around a theme and may feature a local media personality as MC if we can get all the details in place. While there may be room for some chapter quartets to make cameo appearances, the featured quartet will do more than in the past. We are not asking members to sell program ads since we are not using a conventional program. We are, however, asking each member to therefore work harder at selling tickets. (And there is nothing wrong with going to those who have bought ads before and this time asking them to buy tickets for themselves, for friends or for their business associates.) Another way to help is for members to purchase tickets, give them away to someone other than family members and take the cost as a tax deduction in support of HOA.

Paul Winans is our ticket chairman and the direct ticket phone line is **816-537-0038**. It is equipped with a digital answering system. Flyers are being mailed and the marketing team is busy getting PR out into the community. But as in years past, the most productive sales will be those that are done by members. I and a number of members of the show committee personally send letters to friends, neighbors and

former ticket purchasers with a reminder about the show and an offer to get and deliver tickets for "the best seats in the house" to them from the ticket chairman if they so wish. One member even gives his personal guarantee that if his customers do not like the show, he will refund their money. No one has, as of yet, taken him up on the offer. Paul will have member order forms as well as a process for taking tickets out on consignment. The tickets are \$18, \$13 and \$8. Only the \$13 and \$8 tickets may be taken out on con-

signment and ALL CONSIGNED TICKETS NOT SOLD must be returned by March 7th or the member will be expected to pay for them.

Jim Davis is coordinating the production and **John Warrior** will be our stage manager giving lighting and sound cues to the stage hands employed through the city. John has asked that we find him one or two "under-

studies" to learn and help with what he does. He has done this for almost 20 years in a row and worries that should he not be able to do it sometime, we would be at the mercy of who knows who? So I am asking any members who might like to work with John Warrior to let me know. Or if you have a family member or neighbor or work associate who enjoys stage management and would like to help, please let me know ASAP so that we can put them in touch with John.

There will also be an Afterglow but whether it is a cast-only-party at the Music Hall (like we have done the past several years) or an available-to-the public event at a nearby hotel (like we used to do until attendance dropped below that needed to meet costs) is still being debated. More on this later. ~



This will be our 55th annual show and, musically, should be among our best.



"COMMUNICATION TREE" DEVELOPING!

GET ON THE HOA-NET FOR CHAPTER COMMUNICATION!!! TO GET ON BOARD,
SIMPLY SEND A MESSAGE INDICATING SUCH TO: richhuyck@kc.rr.com

Mike Schumacher's membership team is developing a chapter "COMMUNICATION TREE". This will soon be your means of receiving any late-breaking/important chapter news, performance information, and various district & society readings of which many now partake. And remember, if your desire is to not read ALL that comes across HOA-NET, you have a delete key.

In any necessary instance of good news, sad news, or otherwise, the following 3 steps will be taken to reach YOU, the chapter member: 1) blitz message to HOA-NET; 2) email message to those NOT on HOA-NET; 3) phone-call the rest. Obviously, the more folks who can be reached electronically will save time, AND BE FASTER. PLEASE assist the membership team, and get on the HOA-NET TODAY!!!! ~

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