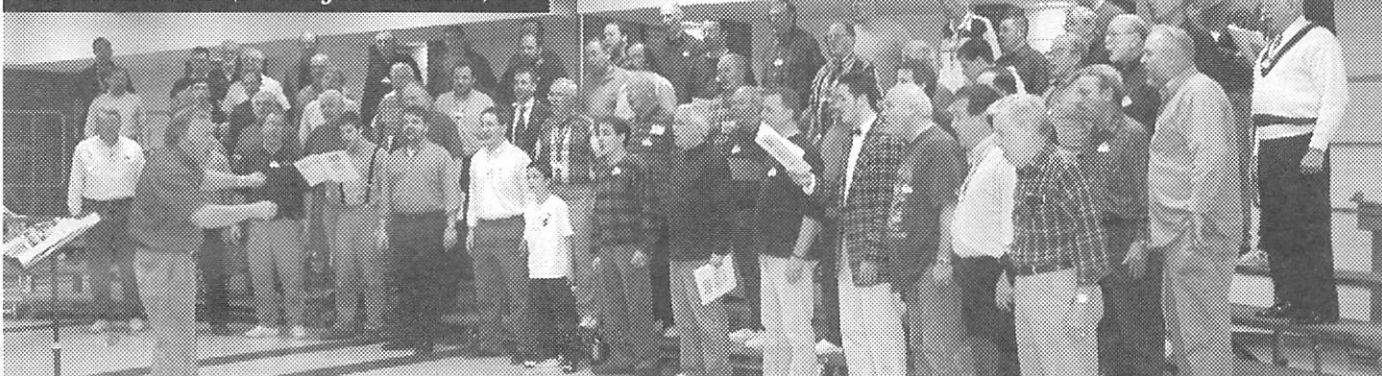


# Harmonotes

The Monthly Bulletin Of The Kansas City Chapter • SPEBSQSA

Volume 2002, Issue 12

*Jim Bagby directing HOA through a session of Christmas Carols! (Photo by Ron McIntire)*



## RING 'DEM BELLS!

by Jim Bagby

**IT'S ALMOST HERE:** our longest and potentially most enjoyable singing day of the year.

That's the annual HOA bell ringing concerts for the Salvation Army, Saturday, Dec. 21, this year at Metro North Shopping Center—on Barry Road, at the 169 intersection.

We'll perform about 30 minutes on the hour, beginning at 11 a.m., with the last presentation at 4 p.m. In between, you're encouraged to grab a kettle and a bell. But we attract the most money while we're singing!

Chapter quartets are invited (encouraged) to attend. So are our past/inactive members and guests—we'll do a lot singing out of the white books, inviting men in the audience to join us. Is that effective? Ask **Charles Ramirez**.

**Mike Mathieu** will be providing more details, including uniform choice (I hope we can wear the new cream-colored shirts). But here's what I hope you'll keep in mind: it's our final time together as a chorus in 2002 (no meeting on 24th and 31st; next one Thursday, Jan. 2). It's a time of sharing and giving. And you can participate on a variety of levels.

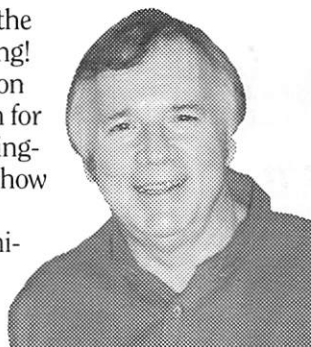
For a donation of \$25 to the S.A. kettle fund, you can direct any song in our repertoire, or a Barbershop Polecat number. For \$10, you can request any song in the repertoire. The idea, of course, is to raise lots of money for this great cause; encourage your family and friends to bring or send their annual Salvation Army contribution to our kettle.

Speaking of family, it's a dandy time to finish Christmas shopping; Metro North is one of the largest malls in the area. And there are a number of places to eat lunch.

Meanwhile, I extend my gratitude to all who worked to make the Dec. 7 shows so musical and successful. It's quite an undertaking!

Wouldn't it be a kick to have as many singers as the ladies do on the risers next year? All it takes is you sharing your enthusiasm for this amazing hobby with all you come in contact with. The "Singing Is Life" video is a great tool you're welcome to borrow and show to all prospective members.

From **Joann** and me, best wishes for a happy, healthy, harmonious season! 🎶



## THIS ISSUE:

**Page 3**  
**RR4 EXPERIENCES A NEAR-MISS IN WICHITA**

*A hedge of divine protection keeps the Yoders singing!*

**Page 4**  
**USING LEARNING TAPES**  
**Dr. Dave Anderson** tells how to get more out of this rehearsal method

**Page 5**  
**BUSH LEAGUE 2002**  
**Mike Mathieu** offers info about the Dec. 10 contest!

**Page 8**  
**HARMONY HALL FOR SALE**  
*A home, not an office!*

# 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.

## 2002 CHAPTER OFFICERS AND BOARD

<i>President</i>	John Stucker
<i>Immediate Past President</i>	Dick Irwin
<i>Chorus Director</i>	Jim Bagby
<i>Music/Performance V.P.</i>	Keith Schweer
<i>Membership V.P.</i>	Mike Schumacher
<i>Program V.P.</i>	Jerry Garrard
<i>Marketing V.P.</i>	Dick Korek
<i>Operations V.P.</i>	Chuck Ames
<i>Secretary</i>	Reed Alberg
<i>Treasurer</i>	Charles Ramirez
<i>Youth Outreach</i>	Al Higgins

## SECTION LEADERS

<i>Tenor -</i>	Jerry Garrard	<i>Lead -</i>	Mike Neff
<i>Bari tone-</i>	Grant Hunget	<i>Bass -</i>	Keith Schweer

## BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

Bob Burdick	Carter Combs
Monty Duerksen	Grant Hunget
Dale Neuman	Marty Oldehoeft
Val Putzier	Carl Turlin
Phil Veltkamp	Bruce Wenner

## HARMONOTES STAFF

<i>Editor Emeritus</i>	Wade Dexter
<i>Editor</i>	Todd Anderson
<i>Distribution Manager</i>	Dick Irwin
<i>Special Correspondent</i>	Ron McIntire
<i>Staff Reporters</i>	<u>ALL</u> Our Chapter Members!

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:*

**Todd Anderson**  
**17905 East 24th Terrace Court S**  
**Independence, MO 64057-1332**  
**(816) 373-8633**  
**Harmonotes@comcast.net**

## CHAPTER INFORMATION

*Chapter meets at 7:00 P.M. each Tuesday night, at:*  
 St. Peter's United Church of Christ  
 110th & Holmes - Kansas City, MO 64105

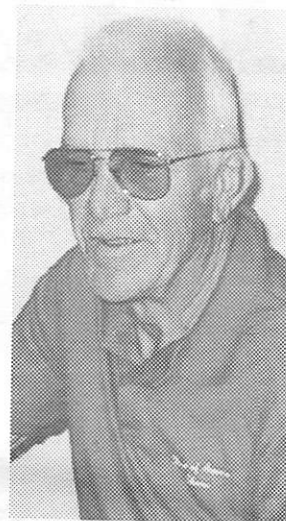
*HOA Website:* [www.hoachorus.org](http://www.hoachorus.org)  
*Web Address:* [jmathieu@hoachorus.org](mailto:jmathieu@hoachorus.org)  
*Chapter Telephone:* (816) 221-7888



## A VIEW FROM THE TOP

by John Stucker

In my last article I talked primarily about the Central States District Contest/Convention. An interesting event happened today. Just as I was gathering my thoughts about what to write about, I went to retrieve the mail and what do you suppose was in the mail? Without having you wait to find out, our certificate for Most Improved Plateau AAA Chorus was there. This certificate is very impressive and the icing on the cake in a year that saw us get back Jim as director, go to the Buckeye and come back the winner in the male chorus category, and finally the most improved chorus in the CSD Fall Contest! I know we had a goal of getting back to International competition in Montreal, but that was a real lofty goal and we really were very close to accomplishing it. We were 6th-place wild card and not that far from the qualifiers. More significantly we were 16th place overall and outscored six of the districts winners.



The next significant event on our plate is the Holiday show with the Sweet Adelines. For us old-timers, this is probably the performance we enjoy the most. It is hard to describe to those who have not been involved in his show in the past, but suffice to say it's a real hoot!!

How about a gaze into the crystal ball and find out what is in the future?

One of the most exciting items is the production of our first CD. Hard work has gone on in the background to get this project going. The most exciting news here is that when we release the CD, it will be the very first in the nation to use the latest technology of sound surround 5.1. This sounds like some techno-babble, but it is the very latest in audio recording; the quality and clarity are simply amazing.

Being the second-place district chorus, we have received an invitation to the Buckeye Invitational again. The music team and the board are discussing the invitation and welcome chorus members input. We really need to know the feelings of the membership concerning a possible return to the Buckeye next August. I am sure you will see here additional information on this issue.

The Liberty Chapter has invited the chapter to a "Tag Lottery" on Jan. 14, 2003. We will hear more about this later. ~

# RR4 HEADLINE DISTRICT PAST CHAMPION SHOW, DESPITE NEAR-MISS IN WICHITA

by Calvin Yoder, for the *Rural Route 4* family

What a treat it was for the *RR4* to get together again and sing for the world's best audience, bar none. To bring a little joy and laughter into the lives of people, especially those we love, has always been something special to us...even more so as the years roll by.

That experience was topped perhaps only by the opportunity to see you personally, shake your hand, and visit a little, not to mention singing a few tags.

It was so good, also, to see and hear the *Jax of Harmony*. They brought back such good memories of contest and shows done together.

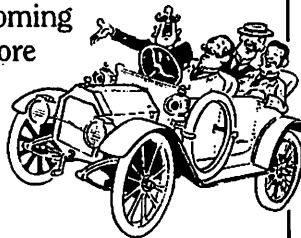
*RR4* always enjoyed competition. It's hard to believe it's been 16 years since we walked out on the contest stage. Where does time go?

Many of you didn't realize (and we wanted it that way) that the weekend was marred only by the auto accident we had as we were coming into Wichita Friday night, just before the show. A Chevy Blazer ran a red light and hit us in the left rear side, totalling my van. Of course, it doesn't take a whole lot to total a 1988 van with 200,000 miles on it.

We thank the Lord for all your thoughts and prayers as well as His protection, as no one was seriously hurt—even though there were seven of us in the van. My wife, **Mary**, had 4 stitches above her right eye and a bruise or two; daughter, **Mindy**, a sore shoulder, and **Mary's** mother some neck and shoulder pain. We believe in guardian angels.

Nonetheless, we enjoyed the weekend and thank CSD for making that possible. We love you all and thanks for the memories. And congratulations to AOH and HOA for two super chorus performances! ~

P.S. My son-in-law, **Chris**, really got hooked on barber-shop while singing tags late Saturday night. Thanks, **Don Kahl** and **Stan Grossman**!



## 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 Heilmann, (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),  
Ralph Tallmon (bari), Mike Griffin (bass)

##### ***Crosstown Four***

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

##### ***Heartland***

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

##### ***New and Used Parts***

Jerry Garrard (tenor), Mike Neff (lead),  
Grant Hunget (bari), Keith Schweer (bass)

##### ***Polecat Creek***

Lyle Wyly (tenor), Wayne Crawford (lead),  
Dick Irwin (bari), Eric Weber (bass)

##### ***SureFire!***

Carter Combs (tenor), Mike Neff (lead),  
Grant Hunget (bari), Don Young (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)

##### ***Uranium***

Dale Neuman (tenor), Charley Drake (lead),  
Tom Steele (bari), John Stucker (bass)

\*Member of other chapters



# TONE-HENGE REHEARSED!

by Ol' Dan, for *Tone-Henge*

Back in the days of my youth (we're talking circa 1803) every back yard had chickens. Not infrequently this toddler would witness the demise of a fowl that would involve beheading by one method or another. Immediately upon losing its cranial peninsula, the unfortunate remains would run with fluttering abandon in all directions, and only after some lengthy time, would succumb to the inevitable. Although gory, the display included just a glint of humor. The phrase, "running around like a chicken with its head cut off," has to be at the top of the list of things that require no further description.

I'm working toward an analogy here. *Tone-Henge* is, arguably, not headless, and only some of the music we produce can be described as gory, but the "running around like..." is most certainly applicable. Not that the scurry is aimless and without definite purpose, but it can behead a rehearsal date quicker'n an axe can fall. So here's the good news for us chickens...

*Tone-Henge* actually rehearsed!! The get-together had to be scheduled after the Salvation Army tree-lighting ceremony, but it actually happened, starting at 7:45 p.m. on Nov. 13, 2002, and ending at beer time, which, if memory serves, could have been 10:00 p.m. (...could have been, but it was more like 8:15) Anyway, this prelude to a date in Hastings, NE has been accomplished! *Tone-Henge* was delighted to play "second-banana" on the Hastings show to our own "12th St. Rag," leaving the musical wizardry of 'Fortinos and Company' to offset any audience animosity toward four old fowl. ~



## USING LEARNING TAPES

Contributed by Dr. Dave Anderson for the *Gentlemen of Fortune*

### LEARNING NOTES AND WORDS USING A RECORDING

These days we often work on notes and words by listening to a recording purchased from the Society or recorded at a rehearsal. Sometimes chorus organizations also provide auditory learning aids. Here are some pointers to make this learning method as productive and useful as possible.

### PREPARATION: CULTIVATE FAMILIARITY

- Care about doing the best you can do. The intention to do well increases the quality of your attention. Attention to the task is a major determiner of success.
- Listen to the selection all the way through in order to get a sense of the whole. Listen for the song's structure, its melodic line, its harmonic pattern, its word meanings, its word sounds, and its emotional content. Imagine body expression that matches what you hear.
- Find an efficient way of returning to the song's beginning point: one song per tape, counting the time to rewind, taping in both directions, etc.

### REPETITION: ESTABLISHING NEURAL PATHWAYS

- Listen without singing until each note as it comes, is not surprising but expected.
- See the rise and fall of the notes as you hear them. Move your hand up and down to the notes' rise and fall. Watch the music if appropriate.
- When each note is expected before you hear it, start to sing along softly so that the recording predominates. Continue this way until your voice matches the words and notes of the recording. Repeat until every word sound, note and breath is the same.
- Attend to tempo, quality and volume so that the recording is leading your learning and your voice is "inside" the sound of the recording. Follow rather than lead.
- Now start turning the balance control to begin eliminating your part and hearing more and more of the other parts. If your player has no balance control, use a headset and place the earphone away from your ear.

### MAKE TIME YOUR FRIEND

- Work in a time frame of 10-15 minutes at a time. Stay within your attention span time. Work at it often. Several times a day works well, but don't miss a day if you can help it.
- Recognize that your brain is working on this task unconsciously as well as consciously. You will notice progress between sessions.
- Decide to use as much time as you need. Some are faster, some slower at this skill. Take the time and be content with it. You will probably get faster at it over time.

### OTHER OPTIONS TO CONSIDER

- Listen to small sections and memorize them one at a time.
- Use the repeat function of a CD player or Mini-disc player.
- Deal with subsequent changes to the original by understanding and accepting the reasons for the change and relating the change to the original.
- Eventually, sing your part while audiating the other parts. (Hearing them in your mind.)
- From time to time, sing with the music to give yourself a visual check.
- Cultivate patience with yourself to persist and achieve success. Set aside any frustrations you might feel and choose to be aware of your own progress. ~

# HOA BUSH LEAGUE 2002

by Mike Mathieu

The "umteenth" annual HOA sponsored Bush League Quartet contest is rapidly approaching. It will be held around 8:27 p.m. on Dec. 10, at our normal meeting place—St. Peter's United Church of Christ located at 110th Street and Holmes in Kansas City, Missouri. You are encouraged to either attend or bring three other guys with you and join in the competition. Our basic rules seem to change a little bit each year, so please read on and find the guidelines for this year.



Any non-registered quartet in the Central States District is eligible to compete. Competing quartets shall be composed of four males, no more than two of which may be from a registered quartet. You may have a third person from a registered quartet, but at least one of those in a registered quartet must sing a part different than he sings in his quartet. The fourth person may not currently be in any quartet, nor have competed in district quartet contest for a period of four years. Sound confusing? *It is.*

The competition will consist of one song, and one tag, either a regular Society arrangement, a parody, a chorus number or other suitable arrangement. Patriotic and religious songs are not eligible (that means you may sing them but you will be disqualified). Uniforms are not required, but encouraged. We will have judging in the three standard Society categories, Music, Presentation and Singing. Quartets may sing the tag and the song in whatever order they prefer.

You are eligible to be in as many quartets as you desire, however each quartet must conform to the rules stated above. Appropriate prizes will be awarded.

To increase participation, we will add one new competition category that will be called the "76'er" division. Rules are similar to the other quartets except that the total ages of all quartet members cannot exceed 76, and one member must be under 18 years of age. We will call this our "open division" meaning that nonmembers can comprise some or all of the quartet, (let's spread the word to our Harmony Explosion Quartets)!

Both singing divisions will be interspersed during the competition. Singing order will be assigned when you check in the night of the contest.

To enter the competition, please complete the form (below) and either mail it to me, or e-mail it to: **Mike Mathieu** at [SingMM@aol.com](mailto:SingMM@aol.com), or **Mike Mathieu**, 12720 W. 116th St. Overland Park, Ks. 66210. All entry forms must be received by me by Saturday, Dec. 7.

Please feel free to come at 7 and join us in singing some songs of the season, and stay late for our Afterglow (place and specifics to be announced).~

**BUSH LEAGUE QUARTET NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

Tenor \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Lead \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Baritone \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Bass \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

## MUSICAL NOTES

by Keith Schweer,  
Music Vice President

On Saturday, May 18 of this year the Music Team had a "mini" retreat. The purpose of the retreat was to establish goals for the music program of the chapter and to develop plans to achieve those goals. The process seems to have worked pretty well for us so far, so we're going to do it again. On Saturday, Nov. 23 we'll meet from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. to review our progress, clarify our goals for next year and beyond and lay out plans and programs to help us realize our objectives. We'll also take a close look at the chorus repertoire, consider and choose some new music and develop a rollout schedule for that new music. By the time you read this, Nov. 23 will have come and gone, but your input and suggestions are always appreciated. This is your chapter and your music program. The more you put into it, the better it will be. ~



# JUST FOUR FUN

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



"My wife just gave birth  
to a quartet."



"We're trying to teach him to  
sing from the diaphragm..."

Cartoons by John Morris

## DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY ISSUE OF *Harmonotes*

Articles and photos are due by  
**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17**

For more information,  
call Todd at 816-373-8633

### ***Ten Years Ago- December, 1992***

HOA was planning the first of what was to become a chorus tradition—the annual Christmas concert. This event, which took place in the Music Hall, was unique in that male singers—non-chorus members—were invited to sing along with the chorus (they would be allowed to read from the printed music).

Plans for the day-long performance at the Ward Parkway shopping center were also under way. HOA members would also ring the bells and proceeds would go to the Salvation Army.

And **Monty Duerksen** announced that it was time to begin making a list of potential recipients of "Singing Valentines," come February 12-14. I believe this was the first year we tried what was to become a source of revenue that rivalled our annual show, thanks to the hard work of Monty and others.



By Wade Dexter, Editor Emeritus

### ***Twenty Years Ago - December, 1982***

The *Gut-R-Busters* triumphed over three other quartets in extremely close competition during HOA's annual Bush League Quartet Contest. Members were **Gordon Lankenau** (tenor), **Matt Moore** (Lead), **Tim Kerrick** (Baritone), and **Gary Tripp** (Bass).

Over 50 HOA barbershoppers and members of other area chapters enjoyed an educational visit with the Society's new director of music education and services, **Joe Liles**, with the St. Joseph chapter on Nov. 16.

**Leo Erickson** was the chairman of the bell-ringing session for the Salvation Army at Ward Parkway. There is a note that **Charlie Ramirez** first saw us during this event the previous year, and look where he is today!

There were congratulations to **Gordon Lankenau**, who had recently been named the music director of Northland chapter of Sweet Adelines.

### ***Thirty-Five Years Ago - December, 1967***

**Dave Larsen** (many of you old-timers should remember him) submitted a full-page article describing his first year as an HOA member. Says he was brought to his first meeting as a guest of his next door neighbor, **Bob Coe**. He was impressed by what he heard (he had thought you had to be a member of a quartet in order to qualify for chapter membership) and joined the chapter on Sept. 16, 1966. He sang with the chorus for the first time on that year's Logopedics Spectacular. The guest quartets were the *Four Rascals* and the *Salt Flats*. What a combination that must have been! The *Salt Flats* appeared again on his first chapter show, along with the *Four-Do-Matics* (didn't they have neat names for their quartets back in those days?). He goes on to describe his administrative activity in the chapter—how his enthusiasm for barbershop rubbed off on his wife, **Nancy**, who joined the Indianapolis Chapter of Sweet Adelines, and even joined a quartet! Yes, barbershopping can be contagious. Hope they never develop a shot for it! ~



# From the Heartbeats

by Carol Ramirez, Heartbeats President

The Heartbeats have decided to do a silent auction as a fundraiser, with proceeds going toward a Harmony College Scholarship.

To encourage as much participation as possible, we have changed our November meeting to Dec. 10 to coincide with the Bush League contest.

Here is how all of the HOA women can help participate: Send (or bring and join in the fun!) a baked good, a craft or a suitable item to the Dec. 10 meeting. We would like the items as early as 6:30 so that we can set up and have the guys look over the items, placing their bids before the Bush League contest starts. After the competition, the items will be sold to the highest bidders.

Questions? Call **Carol Ramirez** at 816-373-9311 or e-mail me at [Ramirez816@aol.com](mailto:Ramirez816@aol.com).

With a little extra effort, we can all have some fun and make this a profitable venture for some lucky guy going to Harmony College next August. Thanks for your help! ~



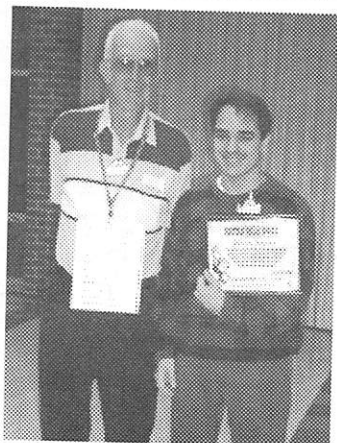
## BOTM for October:

**John Stucker** is shown presenting **Mark Fortino (L)** with the Oct. 2002 Barbershopper of the Month! ~



## EXTRA MILE Award for October:

**Shawn Jeffries** receives the award from HOA president **John Stucker** ~



# PRESTO! CHANGE-O! THE NEW WEB SITE IS UP!

by Reed A. Sampson, SPEBSQSA

Anyone receiving UPDATE electronically no doubt has noticed already the changes to the Society's flagship site at [www.spebsqsa.org](http://www.spebsqsa.org). Code-named *presto*, the next-generation site boasts more than 700 pages of content, some 200 of which are brand-new this fall.

Most visitors are finding the site easy to use and search, although some material is not "where it used to be." We trust that with time and increased familiarity you'll find the site is fast and efficient for getting to the heart of the barbershop hobby.

Exciting new content just added: Who We Are, Singing Is Life (watch a great video that tells why men love to sing barbershop, and how it makes their lives better), Jukebox Songs, learning tapes, archived ARI programs, Arrangements catalog and downloadable sheet music. ~



## CONGRATULATIONS

...to **Rob Mathieu**, who married **Haley Winans** on Sept. 28. Rob sang to Haley during the ceremony. They honeymooned in Orlando and now reside at 727 A Lincoln Lane, Gardner, KS 66030.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to the following members!

Chris Kinghorn	December 2
Jim Davis	December 7
Dennis Taylor	December 7
John Warrior	December 10
David Glastetter	December 11
Fred Whisman	December 15
Val Putzier	December 16
Max Boise	December 19
James Kaut	December 20
Jeremy Kaat	December 23
Darrell McCune	December 24
Grant Hunget	December 30

## A MESSAGE FROM SOCIETY PRESIDENT ROGER LEWIS

The Society's vision statement:

"The Society is to be an ever-growing fraternity of Barbershop-style singers, leading the cause of encouraging vocal music in our schools and communities."

The Society Board's dedication to our vision is one of the key reasons we commissioned a study of Harmony Hall, east and west, by a Task Force. We are not a "Historic Building" restoration society, nor a preserver of old buildings. Our focus is preserving a style of music for ourselves and future generations, and sharing our art form with our communities.

But that was not our only concern. Our wonderful old mansion is badly in need of repair. Just to repair the moisture related and mechanical problems would cost us more than a million dollars. Another \$600,000 is needed to restore it to its former splendor. That doesn't include some needed future expenditures, such as a total rewiring of the mansion to accommodate new technology.

Even if we moved toward restoration, the house is very inefficient as an office. Only 40% of the building's square footage can be used for office space. The kitchens, pantry, hallways, beautiful stairways, bathrooms with showers, and even the living room take lots of space that cannot be used. Simply put, it's a house, not an office.

As we've grown, we've had to house our staff in separate locations—and therefore purchased our Sheridan Road property. Having staff in two locations creates management and communication problems that we would like to eliminate. Often, **Darryl** must feel like he manages two separate "businesses," and each has its unique culture.

Managing the day-to-day problems of the building is a diversion from our core business. Yes, one or two people take care of this. But a leak in the roof over the Old Songs Library would immediately call every staff member into service. (DELETE: like a Chinese fire drill.) If a water pipe would burst, as one did across the street in July, we would lose priceless, irreplaceable property.

The blue ribbon Task Force that we commissioned early this year (**Ed Waesche**, Chair; **Alan Lamson**; **Dan Waselchuk**; **Jim Warner**, and **John Schneider**, staff liaison) presented the board with a number of options. Included were opportunities to trade both Harmony Hall and Sheridan Road properties for vacant land in the Racine, Wisconsin, area on which we could build. The board chose to list Harmony Hall (east) for sale as a first step.

Following this first giant step, a number of options will open. We can make arrangements to house the entire staff at Sheridan Road. We currently rent out a large



*The historic Alford Mansion in Kenosha, Wisconsin, home to the Barbershop Harmony Society, is being offered for sale.*

portion of the building to other tenants. Building added office space there is also a consideration. At that point, we can decide to continue the process; use Sheridan Road as our permanent home, or continue to search for suitable office space.

Concurrent with the listing of Harmony Hall, as you read in the post from HQ, we will have an architectural study done on Sheridan Road to determine the cost and space needs if we move staff there. At the same time, the Task Force will investigate other opportunities in the Wisconsin/Texas corridor (**Ed Waesche's** term) that might include Dallas, Houston, St. Louis, Atlanta, Kansas City, etc.

There may be an "angel" Barbershopper or a benefactor somewhere who might offer property at a low cost to purchase or lease on a long-term basis, much the way we acquired Harmony Hall in 1957. It is simply good business on the part of the board to investigate any such opportunities.

As I'm writing this from the Sweet Adelines International Convention in Nashville, I do not have many of my hard copy notes with me, so I hope I've covered the situation as the Board sees it. I'd certainly entertain questions or input.

My thanks to the Harmony Hall Study Task Force, who presented us with a study far beyond expectations. I'm continually amazed at the depth and breadth of talent we have in the Society. A huge thanks, too, to our Society Board, who have the intestinal fortitude to make tough decisions.

Thanks to you, our members and supporters. We're beginning a new journey, aren't we?

**Roger Lewis**  
Society President



# A TIP OF THE HAT

**A tip of the hat goes to:**



The Music Team for creating the 2002 Christmas Learning Tapes and CD's, especially: **Jerry Garrard, Mike Neff, Grant Hunget, Keith Schweer and Mark Fortino.**

Preliminary TOTH to Co-Directors extraordinaire, **Jim Bagby** of HOA and **Jo Kraut** of the Kansas City Chorus of Sweet Adelines for doing a superb job directing both choruses in the Harmony Spectacular Christmas Show.

**Ron McIntire** for burning the learning CD's and audio tapes of the 2002 Harmony Spectacular music.

**Mike Neff** and **Carter Combs** for taking over the HOA Chorus in Director **Jim Bagby's** absence during election night, Tuesday, Nov. 5.

**Mike Mathieu** for setting up the Salvation Army Christmas Fund Raising Kickoff, Nov. 13, 2002 at the Salvation Army Headquarters building on Broadway in Kansas City, MO. The temperature was 61°F, under a clear sky and half-moon.

The 22 HOA guys who showed up at the Salvation Army Fund Raising Kickoff, Nov. 13th, to sing Christmas Carols: **George Park, Jerry Garrard, Jerry Snyder, Carter Combs, Grant Hunget, Mike Mathieu, Keith Schweer, Don Young, Stew Grosser** (new member), **Al Higgins, Val Putzier** (who drove in from Paola, KS), **Dick Korek, Colin Smalley, Logan Smalley** (the smaller Smalley, not yet a member), **Vince Perry** (who drove in from St. Joseph, MO), **Bernard Brink** (new member), **Bruce Wenner, Jim Bagby, Dale Neuman, Ron McIntire, Kent McClean, David Miller**

## October 2002 BOTM - Mark Fortino

In grateful appreciation for your unselfish dedication, hours of extra work and the use of your home and personal equipment to produce part-predominant learning tapes for the 2002 Harmony Spectacular!

## October 2002 EXTRA Mile - Shawn Jeffries

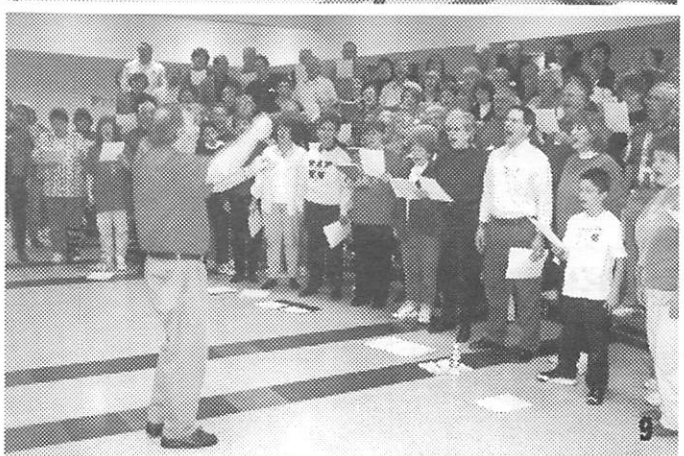
In recognition for translating the emotions of the contest songs into believable emotions that helped propel the Heart Of America Chorus to higher contest scores October 18-20, at the 2002 CSD Chorus Contest in Wichita, KS. ~

# Christmas ...IS IN THE AIR!

**Ron McIntire** clicked a few shots of our Nov. 12 preparation time for the upcoming Holiday Harmony Spectacular. Some 100 singers from both HOA and the Kansas City Sweet Adelines converged to add even more polish to the show numbers!

From top to bottom: Old-time member **Maurice Smith** was in attendance. Maurice has traveled too much over the years and could not remain active with HOA. However he hopes to return upon retirement!

**Mike Neff** warms up the combined Christmas show chorus, **Jo Kraut** directs the KCSCA as they serenade HOA with some yuletide cheer, and **Jim Bagby** front and center, reaping the results! ~

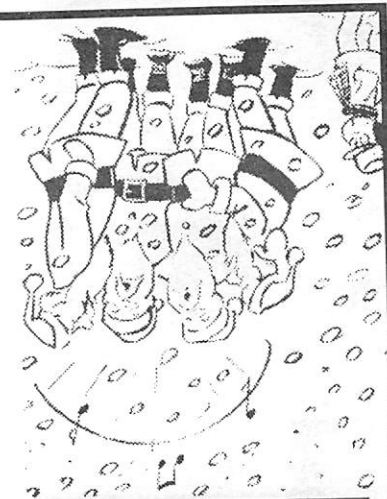




Society for the Preservation and Encouragement  
of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America  
Kansas City Chapter, Inc.  
210 West 100th Terrace - Apt. #204  
Kansas City, MO 64114-4431

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

Cartoon by John Morris



**Dec. 7** Holiday Harmony Spectacular,  
Unity Village Activities Center  
Show times: 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

**Dec. 21** Salvation Army Bell-Ringing

**Jan. 11** HOA Awards & Installation Banquet  
(details to be announced!)

## December-January calendar



Heart of  
America

