

# Harmonotes

August 2003

The Monthly Bulletin Of The Kansas City Chapter • SPEBSQSA

Volume 2003, Issue 8

## TONE-HENGE RENDERS TAG IN HARMONY HALL—NO IMMEDIATE DAMAGE APPARENT

by Ol' Dan (Henry)

We didn't really expect the ceiling to crack, but our wary eyes kept glancing upward as we belted "end of the world". Honest! Not a speck of plaster moved! And although overtones were not what you'd call abundant, we weren't asked to depart the premises, a definite plus for *Tone-Henge*.



Fact is, we were heartily welcomed by Society Execs **Darryl Flinn** and **Greg Lyne**, who took several hours of their valuable time to show us through the mansion that has been Society HQ for lo these many years. Our most sincere thanks to them both! And what a magnificent, gorgeous edifice it is! (Continued on page 3) ➡

Above: *ToneHenge* members **Jim Bagby**, **Keith Schweer**, **Dan Henry** and **Bruce Wenner**, pose with **Greg Lyne**, Director of Music Education and Services for the Society.  
Photo courtesy of **Connie Schweer**. Upper right: Chorus photo courtesy of **Matt Bostick**.



## THIS ISSUE:

**Page 2**  
**VETERAN OR FRAZZLED?**  
Director **Jim Bagby** is honored by *Kenosha*!

**Page 4**  
**ANNUAL PICNIC 2003**  
Check out the fun and food at this year's outdoor event! (Pics on Page 11!)

**Page 5**  
**12TH STREET RAG: BACK IN TOP 20!**  
**Mark Fortino** checks the horizon for their next challenge!

**Page 8**  
**MONTREAL? MON DEAUX!**  
A look back at the happenings in *Montreal*

**Page 9**  
**SUMMER HUMMER 2003**  
Quartets take aim at the first-ever prestigious summer singout!

**Page 10**  
**SO, WHAT'S IT LIKE?**  
...to meet **Tom Brokaw**, **Jimmy Carter**, **Bob Dole**, **Rudy Guiliani** and **Tom Brokaw**? Ask **Dan Henry**!

# 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.

## 2003 CHAPTER OFFICERS AND BOARD

President	John Stucker
Immediate Past President	Dick Irwin
Chorus Director	Jim Bagby
Music/Performance V.P.	Keith Schweer
Membership V.P.	Ken Neujahr
Program V.P.	Jerry Garrard
Marketing & PR V.P.	Dick Korek
Operations V.P.	Chuck Ames
Executive V.P.	Marty Oldehoeft
Secretary	John Winfiel
Treasurer	Charles Ramirez
Youth Outreach	Al Higgins

## SECTION LEADERS

Tenor -	Jerry Garrard	Lead -	Mike Neff
Bari tone-	Grant Hunget	Bass -	Keith Schweer

## BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

Carter Combs	Steve Carruthers
Jon Gathright	Richard Huyck
Val Putzier	Phil Veltkamp

## HARMONOTES STAFF

Editor Emeritus	Wade Dexter
Editor	Todd Anderson
Distribution Manager	Dick Irwin
Special Correspondent	Ron McIntire
Staff Reporters	<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

Member Of



## PATRON/SPONSORS

for the HOA 58th Annual Show  
at the Music Hall, Kansas City, MO  
March 13, 2004



**Frank Ancona Honda**  
1000 North Rogers Road  
Olathe, KS 66062  
(913) 782-3636  
[www.frankanconahonda.com](http://www.frankanconahonda.com)



**Looking Glass Press**  
Lenexa, KS  
(913) 254-7266  
[www.lookingglasspress.com](http://www.lookingglasspress.com)

*Please give our PATRONS/SPONSORS your support.  
They care about us—it's the best way to say "thanks."*

## VETERAN or FRAZZLED?

**Our Jim Bagby** received a Society plaque in Montreal recognizing 10 years in the Contest and Judging program. He was certified in 1992 as a Stage Presence judge, and has been in the Presentation Category since 1994, including two terms on the Board of Review. ~



# **TONE-HENGE RENDERS TAG IN HARMONY HALL—NO IMMEDIATE DAMAGE APPARENT**

by Ol' Dan (Henry)

(Continued from Front Cover)

But it's only ours to occupy 'til October, at which time a new owner will turn it into a lovely domestic residence again, and we'll be moving to our Sheridan Road facility in Kenosha, which is imposing in itself.

Corner any one of us for a full-blown account of a great trip, but for now, just a few highlights:

- Wives accompanying us made the trip delightfully harmonious, and probably accounted for the warmth of the welcome we received at Harmony Hall. Thanks **Francie, Estyl, Joann** and **Connie** ! You're all the best!
- While in the room where the *Harmonizer* is created, we printed the words, "Tone-Henge Feature", on the bulletin board that serves as the editor's reminder as to what to print in the next issue. (Don't tell!)
- The Harmony Hall visit was immediately followed by a jaunt to Chicago to take in a stage show. The route took us past Wrigley Field just as a Cubs' game was ending. We're talking gridlock, folks, but excellent vehicle maneuvering by drivers (two cars) **Jim** and **Keith** got us to the show on time, a performance of the "Blue Man Group." I'll make no attempt to describe it, 'cause it's so indescribable. But we'll all heartily recommend it. See it if you can, then describe it if you can.
- Toss in visits to several of Chicago's great museums, great flights, great weather, great dinners etc., etc....and well, you know...it was great ! ~

## **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**

##### **5th Street Four**

Niel Johnson (tenor), \*Rob Vay (lead),  
\*Al Fehlauer (bari) and \*Bill Varney (bass)

##### **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), Don Newman (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)

##### **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



## SOUNDS LIKE *SOUNDS LIKE* *TREBLE* IS GETTING READY FOR CONTEST

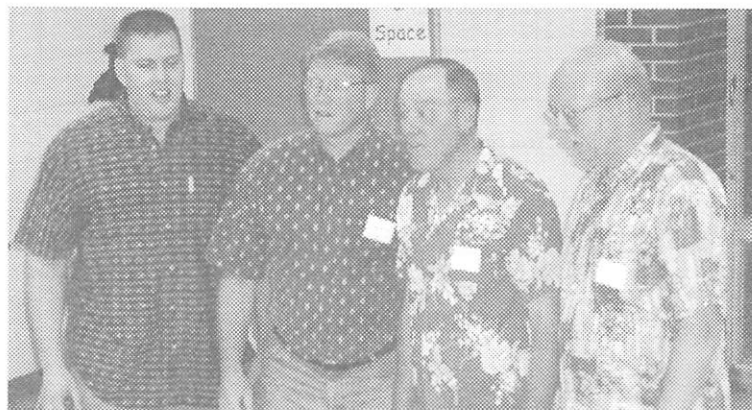
by Dr. Niel Johnson

*Sounds Like Treble* has been practicing hard lately, trying to get four songs in good enough shape to be coached this September. We know what they are, it's just a matter of deciding which will be our strongest two and polishing them first. Being how this is our first contest together, we're going with a strategy of singing relatively simple songs and singing them very well. Our goal is to average 60 points per judge per song, which is a lofty but attainable goal. We've been around long enough to know that setting realistic goals is important, so we've got some practicing to do. With a little luck we may be able to talk those handsome, thin, successful *Surefire!* guys into coaching us a little bit at the retreat. Or maybe those young, virile, and generous *Tone-Henge* gentlemen. Or other HOA singers with a good ear and an eye for what judges will look for. We have no money yet, but we bring food and aged barley malt products as offerings.

We've been busy with a few singouts in the Leavenworth area, all of which have been booked by word of mouth. Interestingly, they have all been lunchtime performances, so we're well-fed if not well-paid.

**Rob** and **Al** have expressed an interest in auditioning for HOA in time to perform at Cedar Rapids, so we've also been rehearsing the two HOA contest numbers a lot as a quartet. By the time this is printed, we'll know if either has made the commitment to dual member with HOA.

By the way, in case you didn't notice, we had to change our name from *Treble-Makers* because it's already being used. The quartet member, whose name will remain anonymous, (let's just say his notes are just below the lead...) misspelled it when looking it up. Oh well, *Sounds Like Treble* will do! ~



*SOUNDS LIKE TREBLE* members Niel Johnson,  
Rob Varney, Al Fehlauer and Bill Krondike

Photo by Ron McIntire

## PICNIC 2003

by Jerry Garrard



**OK.** So, It was HOT, HOT, HOT! But guess what? The lake water level went up due to the amount of water lost by all our HOA attendees.

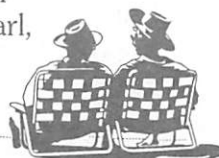
When I arrived, with my daughter **Courtney** (10 and a half) in tow, the site was pitiful. There was **Bruce Wenner** soaking wet sitting with **Tom Millot** and **Chuck Ames** just looking at each other while **Carl Turlin** (picnic guru) was doing everything he could to stay away from this crew of 3 guys looking to croon a tune. **Vince** and **Melladee Perry** were trying to figure out how they were going to eat all of their ice-cream without any of us noticing—RIGHT!!!

Courtney and I dropped our groceries and split up for the attack. Courtney went to Carl and suckered him into playing catch with the baseball, while I went over to see if these guys knew any songs. Tom Millot perked right up in his lawn chair and started to ponder a melody and away we went. Singing non-stop—tunes like “Silvery Moon,” “Edelweiss,” “Darkness on the Delta” and then here came the **Bagbys**. Could you believe they left **Landon** (Grandson) at home? **Joann** and **Jim** were toting everything from the local “Piggly Wiggly” grocery store. Wait a second—we don't have Piggly Wiggly's up here.

Well, you get my point, water and all kinds of goodies, all the while Jim's saying, “You guys aren't singing?” We all turned to each other and just started to laugh.

The day went on with food, fun, and fellowship. I think I got a head count of about 34 (Photos are located on page 11). We had quite a good showing considering the weather. Jim Bagby stated that the temperature was 106 degrees on his car thermometer.

What more can be said about having fun with your family and friends at a barbershop picnic? We hope to expand this gathering to include other chapters in the future. Carl, are you up for that challenge? Keep “cool” this summer! ~



## A WILLY FOUL TALE

by Jim Bagby

In the spring of 1983, when **Willard Yoder** and I were in *Harmony Spectrum* (with **David Krause** and **Gene Bowers**), we were practicing for the spring CSD prelims. We had formed the quartet pretty much as a lark just to be in the previous fall contest, but ended up winning, so we thought we owed it to the district to compete in the spring, since the *RR4* were laying out that year.

So on a chilly April night, we finished rehearsal about 9 p.m. at David's house and Willy and I headed back south. Passing Kauffman Stadium, we found the Royals game in the 8th inning, so we decided to stop in and watch the rest. The park was almost empty and we strolled down behind the Texas Ranger dugout.

Before we even sat down, a foul ball came bounding toward us. It hopped off a seat and into Willard's big hand.

He didn't even have to move.

Last week, the AP had some extra tickets for a Royals game.

I went with Willard and **Velma** and his two younger girls. We got seated in

the View Level just as the game started. The third Oakland batter lofted a foul into the upper deck. It caromed off seats in front of us. Lanky Yoder casually stepped over one empty row and made a one-handed grab.

I've been going to Royals games since 1971 haven't gotten a foul ball yet. Next time I'm gonna' sit on the shoulders of that big farmer...~



## 12TH STREET RAG BACK IN THE TOP 20!!!

by Mark Fortino

Well, I have to admit, it feels pretty darn good. OK, actually, ...it feels GRRRREEAATT!!!!!! We are pretty excited about being back in the TOP 20. We finally got that "can't break the top 20 unless Internationals is in our home town" monkey off our back! Of course, we had to go to a foreign country to do it but... :)

It was so great getting emails from so many of you telling us you heard us and that we sounded better than you've ever heard us before. My only question is...is it a good thing to be told that, when you know that people are listening to your performance over 2-inch computer speakers?!?!?!? WHAT DID WE USED TO SOUND LIKE IN PERSON!!!! Seriously, thanks for all the support and encouragement.

TOP 10? Yea that's the next step! Many of you told us you thought we were in there this year...and I have to admit, the thought did cross our minds based on what so many people told us during the convention week, and most importantly, how we felt about our performance. However, we know we still have work to do and progress to make to make it into that elite group of quartets.

This past Thursday night, we devoted our entire rehearsal to a strategic planning session for the next 12 months. We set out our goals, talked about individual commitment to those goals and have charted a course. We have A LOT of new music on the agenda, a religious CD that we would like to record and have out by spring, and if we are serious about being one of the TOP 10 quartets in the world, we MUST improve our individual voices through coaching and physical exercise to build stamina.

Kind of sounds like work doesn't it? Well, to a certain extent it is, but what a THRILL it was to be announced in the TOP 20 again, and place 15th. What a THRILL it is to be going to Hartford, CT for a show this fall, and Bethlehem, PA next May for a school tour and show weekend. What a THRILL it is to be looking to produce another CD of all of our religious music that we love so much to sing. My father always told me that anything in life worth having has to be earned and worked for. There is NOTHING that can compare to Barbershop with all the great experiences and great people. Yea,...I'd say it's worth having...and worth working for!

As **John Stucker** would say...are we having fun yet???? YOU BETCHA!!!

Our best wishes go out to *SureFire* as they take on some very good quartets in the upcoming Buckeye Invitational. We know they'll do well and we'll be pulling for them!!! ~



# JUST FOUR FUN

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

It is good to remember that  
the tea kettle, although up  
to its neck in hot water,  
continues to sing.

— *God's Little Instruction Book*  
Honor Books



Cartoon by  
Johnny Morris

## DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF *Harmonotes*

Articles and photos are due by  
**TUESDAY, AUGUST 19**

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

### ***Ten Years Ago- August, 1993***

1994 Show Chairman Dale Neuman promised something "extra special" for the finale of the show that would involve the *Heart of America Chorus*, the *Rural Route 4*, and our guest quartet, the 1990 International Champions, *Acoustix*. He stated he was also exploring whether the (Music Hall) organ would be in shape for organist, Dr. Richard M. Faulwell (we all know him as "Marv") to appear on the program. *Rural Route 4* bass

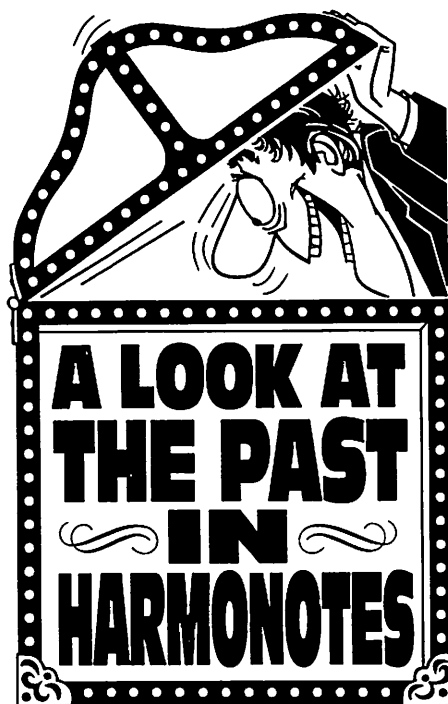
Willard Yoder announced that he put 5,100 miles on a rented van during the trip to Calgary for the International convention. He also reported that lead Cal Yoder's son, Wesley, who later became the tenor of the *RR-4* when Don Kahl moved to Texas, and his sweetheart Kate, got married during the trip. Sadly, we were told that the *Rural Route 4* had "no plans to continue singing beyond 1994." We know that never happened, don't we?

The May 22 show at the RLDS Auditorium that was coproduced by the St. Charles Chapter showed a profit of \$8,957.48. Not bad, but not as good as we had hoped.

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

(Sorry, but we don't have a copy of the August, 1983, issue of *Harmonotes*.)

Much space in this issue was devoted to analysis of our performance that led to an eighth-place finish at the 1982 International contest at Pittsburgh. Referring to our eighth-place finish three years earlier, Music Committee chairman Bruce Wenner said, "We know how much better we were in Pittsburgh than in Minneapolis." Coach Lance Heilmann, in a characteristically lengthy article, stressed the importance of attitude and preparation and said, "Our performance was, in my estimation, our best ever." And Music Director Jim Bagby had this to say, "There is no doubt HOA gave it all it had for those six minutes." The Vocal Majority came away with their second gold medal. ☺



By Wade Dexter, Editor Emeritus



## ***Fifty-Two Years Ago - October, 1953***

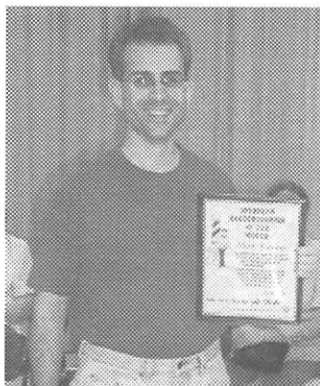
Chapter President **Don Thorne** complained that although the majority of the chapter members attended the regular meetings in the English Room at the Hotel Phillips, too many of the guys had lately been spending the entire meeting time woodshedding in the men's room. Does that sound familiar?

Society Vice President **Bernie Simner**, whose home was in St. Louis, was a guest at a recent HOA chapter meeting. Said he had assumed temporary leadership during the illness of President **Ed Smith**, who couldn't have been too seriously ill—he didn't die until March of 1982.

Speaking of illness, **John Cross** (remember him?) underwent minor surgery at Osteopathic Hospital on September 28. ~

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** *to the following chapter members!*

<b>Lyle Wylly</b>	<b>August 2</b>
<b>Gary Jordan</b>	<b>August 4</b>
<b>Gordon Coleman</b>	<b>August 7</b>
<b>Monty Duerksen</b>	<b>August 7</b>
<b>Dennis Kinghorn</b>	<b>August 9</b>
<b>Harry Stewart</b>	<b>August 18</b>
<b>Mark Fortino</b>	<b>August 19</b>
<b>Charles Drake</b>	<b>August 25</b>
<b>Mike Schumacher</b>	<b>August 30</b>
<b>Carl Turlin</b>	<b>August 31</b>



**Barbershopper of  
the Month for  
JUNE  
Mark  
Fortino**

## **LADIES, MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

by Carol Ramirez



**Tuesday, Sept. 9** the *Heartbeats* will gather at the home of **Joan Korek** at 7 p.m. for our annual potluck dinner meeting. The address is 9615 W. 96th Street in Overland Park. The nominating committee will present the slate of officers for 2004 and we will discuss fall contest plans. We would like to encourage all of those who are new to come join us.

Congratulations to *12th Street* for placing 15th at International! The *Heartbeats* are really proud of you.

Congratulations also to **Grant Hunget** for being selected as the **Orval Wilson** Harmony College Scholarship winner. Thanks to **Sarah Fortino** and **Jan Putzier** for heading up the selection process.

Thanks to all of the ladies who helped with the two luncheons we had for the men during the taping sessions. At the May 31 luncheon, **Marilou Coleman**, **Dessie Gathright**, **Mary Kuricina** and **Carol Ramirez** helped set things up and serve the boxed lunches. At the June 21st luncheon, **Mary Kuricina**, **Roberta Porter**, **Carol Ramirez** and **Linda Schumacher** did the honors of arranging the vast array of fruits and cookies that were donated by so many of our families. Those who sent food were: **Marilou Coleman**, **Jeffi Combs**, **Peggy Elefson**, **Mary Jo Miller**, **Sharon Oldelhoeft**, **Mary Jo Park**, **Roberta Porter**, **Jan Putzier**, **Carol Ramirez**, **Terri Sanders**, **Linda Schumaker** and **Jeanette Veltkamp**.

**Vince Perry** and **Jim Bagby** both sent notes that the chorus was appreciative of our efforts.

That's it for now. Hope to have a great turnout for the September potluck. ~

Photos by **Ron McIntire**

## MONTREAL? MON DEAUX!

by Jim Bagby, Ye Old Arm-Waver



This is the Barbershopping Season: international convention, followed rapidly by Harmony College and the fall contest looming around the corner. Whatta hobby!

Montreal was another exhilarating experience, and one we got to enjoy a little more since I made an uncharacteristic decision to be a little less busy at my 40th Society convention. It was Joann's 38th. (My first was 1962, in Kansas City, and her's was San Antonio in 1964).

No, there's no test later. But here are a few of the most memorable highlights from the week, which began with our arrival on Monday. The district C&J vice presidents met for a good part of Tuesday. We were joined by Society geek **Scott Hogue** about improving how contest entries, forms, etc. are handled.

That's when we learned that Scott's laptop had been stolen from his room. He was able to retrieve and/or re-create all the big screen ads that had been stored there. But he could recapture the program that was to allow the contest scores to be displayed on the big area screens at the end of each session.

My personal high for the week was singing in the lobby with two of the *Four Rascals* and *Randy Loos*; we did three of the old **Lou Perry**/Rascal arrangements, and I still hear the sounds. Later in the week, I also got a chance to sing a little bass with the three surviving Vikings, who were honored on the 50th anniversary of their 1953 championship. In case I've never told you, the biggest joy of being a member of the AIC is the heroes we get to sing and associate with.

In non-competition venues, the *Four Voices* joining the *Voices of Lee* for "All Rise" was almost as electric as it was in Nashville two years ago. A totally memorable and moving experience, providing one of those rare, unanimous, everyone-up-at-once standing ovations. Another most enjoyable performance came from our current Senior champs, the *Barons* of the Cardinal District, with old friend **Ken Buckler** on bari. And *Freestyle's* Saturday night mic testing, with *FRED*, *Four Voices* and Lord knows who-all involved, was brilliant.

The best chorus song I heard all week was St. Charles' "Kid Named Joe." Others said the same thing. The VM put an exclamation on their 10th gold with a wonderful "Puttin' on the Ritz." But Toronto's "little guy-impossible" set was worth going for. So was Greendale's GI Joe masterpiece and Cambridge doing a memorable mother-in-law parody that was the best thing BABS has ever sent over.

In the quartet competition, I thought *Power Play* led all the way after "Sunshine of Your Smile" in the first round—but *Metropolis* actually led (by 4 points) after their masterful "Afraid of the Girls/They Go Wild" in the first set. *Power Play* wrapped it up with "The Best Times I Ever Had" (about bumbling dad/bass John) and "Love at Home" in the finals. Great champs. And kind of the same appeal on stage that *12th Street Rag* exhibited in shooting up to their all-time high of 15th. Boy, was I proud to say "Yeah, I know those guys!"

*Cheers* made big impression with "Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?" and *Uptown Sound* was lovely on "If I Love Again." *Gotcha* again ripped Nellie, with **Jim Kline** taking up for us old-timers on the bass tag hanger that's still echoing around the Bell Centre.

I could go on and on (ok, I did) without beginning to mention all the great moments. Suffice to say, our art form improves every year, our quartets and choruses generally get more entertaining (the Music judges did get another workout—enough said) and it's a joy to be a barbershopper. ~



# SUMMER HUMMER 2003

by Jerry Garrard (Program Vice President)

**WOW!** What a great time. I know you didn't miss the fun that we had with this years replacement for the spring fling. The chorus was busy with activities through the spring show, so it was decided to have a *Summer Hummer* rather than a *Spring Fling*.

The Summer Hummer had a whole bunch of rules that made it fun for every guy involved. To make the recap simple, all names were submitted via the website (Thanks, **Vince Perry**) or on the table during the meetings and quartets were put together to consist of two registered quartet guys and two non-registered quartet guys and they had to sing one song and one tag. This allowed the most quartet participation in a long time with 24 guys in 7 quartets. Yes, I know 7 X 4 isn't 24. As you can guess there were some folks that did double duty. ~

Here is a list of competing quartets:

## **1st Place - The Note Steppers**

Dick Irwin (B)  
Don Young (Ba)  
Mark Fortino(L)  
Anthony Fortino (T)

## **2nd Place - 3 Computer Geeks & A DJ**

Dick Irwin (B)  
Brooke Meyers (Ba)  
Thom Tisdall (L)  
Carter Combs(T)

## **3rd Place - 4 Guys Singing**

Doug Brott (B)  
Jack Selby (Ba)  
Mike Mathieu (L)  
Dale Neuman (T)

## ***And in no particular order:***

### **Lead The Way**

Steve Carruthers (B)  
John Stucker (Ba)  
Jim Moynihan (L)  
Tom Elefson (T)

### **Tag Masters**

Grant Hunget (B)  
Keith Schweer (Ba)  
Phil Veltkamp (L)  
Alex Scott (T)

### **Ringers 4 Sure**

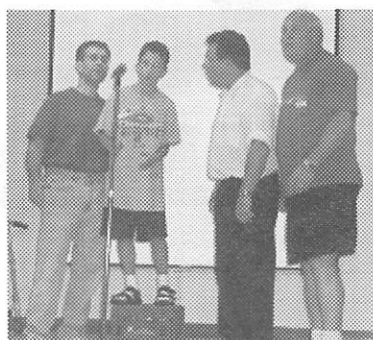
Grant Hunget (B)  
Chuck Ames (Ba)  
John Winfiel (L)  
Neil Johnson (T)

### **3 Singers & A Rock**

Rich Huyck (B)  
Ron McIntire (Ba)  
Jeff Brown (L)  
Jim Bagby (T)

## ***Congratulations & THANKS ...for the good time had by all!***

***From the left and counterclockwise:  
Your Summer Hummer winning  
foursome--The Note Steppers, all the  
participants, Quartets singing:  
4 Guys Singing, Tag Masters, Lead  
The Way, 3 Singers & A Rock, Jerry  
Garrard discusses judging with the  
Summer Hummer judging panel.***



Photos by **Ron McIntire**

## MUSICAL NOTES

by Keith Schweer, Music Vice President



Here's a look at what your Music Team is working on these days:

We're planning and scheduling follow-up sessions with our recording engineer, **Dan Israel**, to begin the mixing and mastering work for our CD. Others are working on making sure we have the proper licensing to sell our recordings, while still

others are working on the art design of the CD package. I hope everyone is considering how many of the CDs they can commit to selling (or giving as gifts) so the project will be a financial success as well as a critical success.

We have selected the new music for the holiday show and for our 2004 March show. We are in the process of acquiring the music and starting to learn it so we can make learning tapes and CDs.

We are reviving individual vocal coaching. We will concentrate on new members and others that request individual attention.

I'm finalizing our coaching plan for the rest of the year. We currently have **Bill Biffle** scheduled for Aug. 12 and Nov. 18 and **Dwain Brobst** scheduled for an all-day Saturday session on August 16. And, of course, we have both Bill and Dwain scheduled for our retreat Sept. 26-28.

Speaking of the retreat, we have reserved the same great facility in Atchison that we have used the last several years; planning is underway for that.

And the event we're all focusing on this year is the District Convention and Contest in Cedar Rapids October 10-12. Chorus Manager **Vince Perry** is asking members to sign up and provide him the information necessary to make our experience there a success. We believe this is THE year that HOA will qualify to return to international competition.

So, sign up and put these dates on your calendar. We're on our way! ~

## SO, WHAT'S IT LIKE? by Ol' Dan



You probably read about the 4-day event surrounding the dedication of the **Robert J. Dole** Institute of Politics on the K.U. campus, a Saturday through Tuesday big-time doings that coincided with Dole's 80th birthday. I was invited to MC the Monday, July 21 evening portion of the event, the first half consisting of speeches by many individuals of world renown and the second half featuring a reproduction of a WWII USO show.

I've been asked to describe the personal emotions I experienced upon meeting and introducing this stellar entourage; **Rudy Guiliani**, **Jimmy Carter**, the great grandson of **Winston Churchill**, **Jack Kemp**, **George McGovern**, **Elizabeth Dole**, **Bob Dole**, **Tom Brokaw**, **Nancy Kassebaum Baker** and **Howard Baker**.

Well, obviously it was *a-a-a-awesome!* It's not that often you find that many dignitaries in one cluster, let alone have the opportunity to welcome each one to the podium. Here I am shaking hands with the 39th President Of The United States whose glistening smile is as broad as ever, while my gaping jaw is bouncing off the floor!

It was AWESOME!!! I plan to recover in a year or two. ~

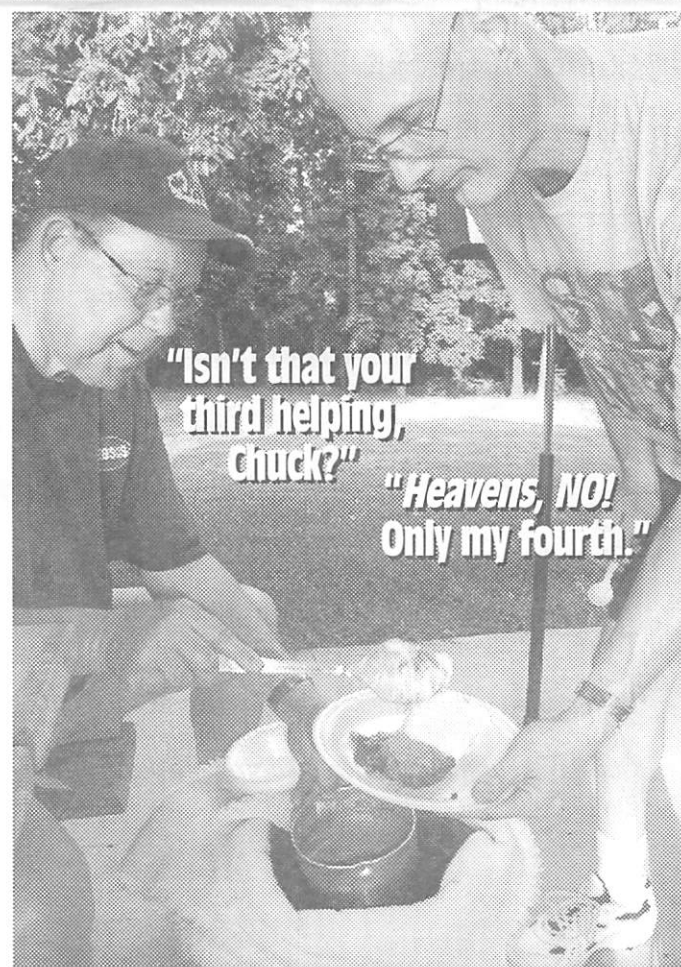
*(Editor's Note: What REALLY would have been awesome? If Dan would have had the chance to teach a tag to Carter, Dole and Brokaw. Those four might have won Summer Hummer!)*

## A TIP OF THE HAT!

1. A big TOTH for **Carl Turlin** who organized, managed and manned the BBQ pit at the picnic.
2. To **Mary Jo Miller**, **Joann Bagby**, **Donie Peck**, **Melladee Perry** (and others) for helping to set out the food and clean up.
3. A special TOTH to **Jerry Garrard** for his work setting up the 2003 *Summer Hummer*.
4. To **Vince Perry**, who put the picnic information on the HOA website, and **Ron McIntire**, who provided pictures of the picnic shelter area for the website. ~



# PICNIC 2003



**"Isn't that your  
third helping,  
Chuck?"**

**"Heavens, NO!  
Only my fourth."**

*At top, left to right:  
Attendees begin to prepare for the picnic  
feast, tag singing was in abundance, Carl  
"Ole Smokey" Turlin works his magic on the  
grill, Jerry Garrard with daughter Courtney,  
looks like everyone's too busy chewin' to  
sing, Chuck Ames loads up on Vince Perry's  
best ice cream, diehard tag singers toward  
the end of the hot summer day!*



Photos by Ron McIntire



## UPDATE ON ROB HENRY by Jim Henry



**Hi, everybody.** Rob's doctor put a call in to M.D. Anderson Cancer Hospital a couple days ago. It is the number one cancer facility in the country, and we were hoping they might have some ideas for treatment options that none of us knew about. Unfortunately the person with whom

Rob's doctor spoke didn't offer any new hope. Rob's performance rating (how his body is dealing with the cancer) is extremely low, as evidenced by the clotting in his legs (even though that appears to have gone down a bit), his loss of appetite, his various body chemistry abnormalities, the further spread of his cancer, and the fact that he has been bed ridden for nearly three weeks now. In short, his cancer is laughing at the chemotherapy regimen he is on, and his weakened condition renders him ineligible for and/or incapable of accepting

experimental treatments or more potent forms of chemotherapy. We've gotten some helpful leads from many barbershop friends (most recently our dear friend, **Bill Cain**, bass of the legendary *Suntones*, who himself has been dealing with cancer and I'm sure would welcome all prayers on his behalf as well) on natural treatments that build the immune system. I'm going to

order those and try to convince Rob to try them. Of course we would be ecstatic if they would help, or even better if God would just decide to go ahead and heal him outright. But until that time, our conversation is now turning to what can be done to perhaps bring Rob home from the hospital and make him happy and comfortable for whatever amount of time he has left with us.

As any of you who know him would expect, Rob is taking this news with amazing bravery, strength and dignity. I have always been proud to have Rob for a big brother, but I have never been more in awe of him than I am now. He has told me that one of the blessings that has come from this situation is that it has afforded him the opportunity to heal all his relationships on earth and in heaven. It has brought us all closer to one another, and it has renewed and strengthened his personal walk with Jesus. May we all learn from Rob's example.



*The above photo may be viewed on the Gas House Gang's website. The caption reads:  
Rob and wife, Sue...getting ready to hit the pool!*

As usual there are far too many people to thank, but I want to use this forum to particularly express our gratitude to the 40 *Ambassadors of Harmony* guys and their families who, led by new Ambassador **Eric Drennen**, descended on Rob's house this past Saturday to attack all the chores that needed doing. (I'm sure pictures will soon be posted at [www.aoh.org](http://www.aoh.org) and/or [www.gashousegang.com](http://www.gashousegang.com).) What a blessing to be associated with people whose love of music is eclipsed only by their love for one another!

Rob sure has appreciated all your cards and e-mails, so please keep writing.

Address: 101 El Caballo, St. Peters, MO 63376;

E-mail: [getwell@gashousegang.com](mailto:getwell@gashousegang.com)) ~

## FROM KIPP BUCKNER



I have received a lot of personal emails of very generous people wanting to make a donation to Rob's family. The best way to do so is to send a check to the following address: **Sue Henry**

101 El Caballo

St. Peters, MO 63376

Please make all checks payable to SUE HENRY. Thank you all once again so much. ~

*Editor's note: Our thanks to the Gas House Gang for allowing the use of these messages and photos. May God give your families increased strength during this tough time. Our prayers are with you!*

## UPDATE ON JOHN, ROD

by Jim Bagby



Chapter President **John Stucker** and former President **Rod Rule** both remained hospitalized at press time with cancer-related problems.

**Jane Stucker** reports

John underwent surgery on Wednesday (July 23) for a stomach blockage that had caused him major eating problems for several weeks. Doctors attached the upper intestine to the stomach. Jane writes "It was the cancer that caused the problem. It grew and pushed against where they had originally done the bypass and closed it off. Taking out the tumor, I assume, was not an option so they bypassed it again. After he heals from the surgery he should be feeling much better again for awhile—hopefully a long while."

The operation postponed John's plan to visit the Anderson cancer center in Houston.



On the same day as John's emergency surgery, **Sandy Rule** says Rod got another laparoscopic biopsy on the tumor in his leg. She writes: "They want to get a bigger piece of the

mass to test, as it was determined that the mass is no smaller than it was—really to begin with... They need to get more specific diagnosis of the type of lymphoma to see how to treat it. His spirits are good, so that's a plus!" ~

## ATTITUDE DETERMINES ATTITUDE

I woke up early today, excited over all I get to do before the clock strikes midnight. I have responsibilities to fulfill today. I am important.

My job is to choose what kind of day I am going to have.

Today I can complain because the weather is rainy or I can be thankful that the grass is getting watered for free.

Today I can feel sad that I don't have more money or I can be glad that my finances encourage me to plan my purchases wisely and guide me away from waste.

Today I can grumble about my health or I can rejoice that I am alive.

Today I can lament over all that my parents didn't give me when I was growing up or I can feel grateful that they allowed me to be born.

Today I can cry because roses have thorns or I can celebrate that thorns have roses.

Today I can mourn my lack of friends or I can excitedly embark upon a quest to discover new relationships.

Today I can whine because I have to go to work or I can shout for joy because I have a job to do.

Today I can complain because I have to go to school or eagerly open my mind and fill it with rich new tidbits of knowledge.

Today I can murmur dejectedly because I have to do housework or I can feel honored because the Lord has provided shelter for my mind, body and soul.

Today stretches ahead of me, waiting to be shaped. And here I am, the sculptor who gets to do the shaping.

What today will be like is up to me. I get to choose what kind of day I will have!

— Author Unknown





# Heart of America



## August-September Calendar

- Aug. 12 (Tuesday) **Bill Biffle** HOA coaching  
Aug. 15 *SureFire!* competes in Buckeye Invitational  
Aug. 16 (Saturday) **Dwain Brobst** HOA coaching  
Aug. 23 Liberty Show  
Aug. 24 HOA Park Concert, Overland Park  
Sept. 26-28 HOA Retreat, Atchison, Kan.

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

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

