

HARMONOTES



The Monthly Bulletin of Kansas City's Heart of America Chorus

CHORUS AND QUARTET SINGING
IN THE BARBERSHOP STYLE



SECOND-OLDEST CHAPTER IN THE
BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

VOLUME 06 - ISSUE 12 - DECEMBER 2006



Doing Good...

"FOR GOODNESS SAKE!"
HOA prepares for what could be
our best year of giving **EVER!**

Dan Henry will be our MC as Kansas City's
troubadours of the treble clef deliver holiday
harmony to area retirement centers!



2006
"Caroling Caravan!"



SING WITH US as we brighten the Christmas Season for OTHERS!
Complete details can be found on page 2 →

Photos of HOA Chorus and Dan Henry courtesy of Don Fuson; Quadio photo courtesy of Jerry Reynolds, Carriage Place Photography

THE HEART OF AMERICA CHORUS: "DRAWN BY HARMONY,...BOUND BY FRIENDSHIP,...STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE!"

HOA Introduces Caroling Caravan Concept For Christmas

by Mike Mathieu



MATHIEU

On Dec. 16 we will initiate a new Bellringing program, in our efforts to grow our fundraising tradition for

the Salvation Army. For those unaware of the problem, the past few years have seen a rapid decline in our fundraising efforts, as it becomes increasingly hard to achieve satisfactory results with our traditional approach.

In 2005, approximately 18 percent of our collection total was raised by our mall audiences. The trend indicates that the audience numbers are decreasing and the desirable locations that are willing to let us assemble our concert facility have all but disappeared. Our concert choices have been taken over by kiosks and other holiday activities.

Since 82 percent of our total collections was generated by member's donations, we have decided to attempt a different fundraising venture. The date will remain the same—the Saturday closest to Christmas which would generate the “biggest bang for the buck.” This year that will be Dec. 16. The location will change from years past. As a matter of fact it will change every hour during the day.

We will visit retirement communities located in a tight geographical area. By staying in close proximity to one another, it should allow us enough time to perform one concert every hour, even allowing for driving time. We will have to be extremely disciplined, but the committee has faith in you and your abilities.

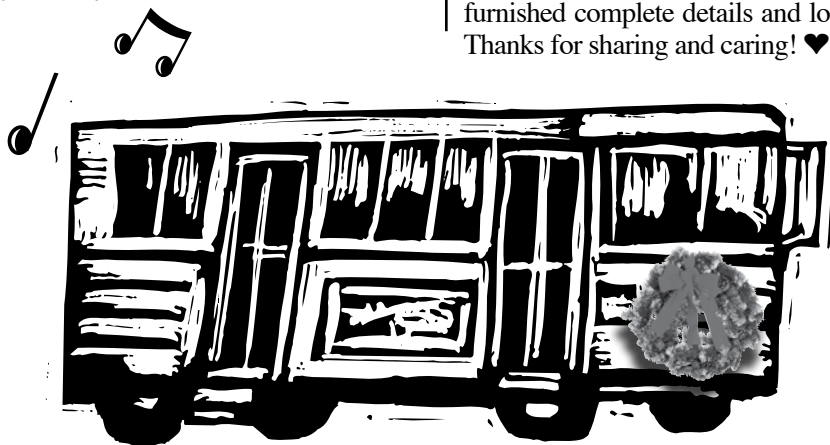
Bob Burdick is contacting the retirement homes and lining up the schedule and the route. We will assemble that morning around 8:45 to warm up for, load a bus, then head to our first concert at 9:30 a.m.. Our next concert will be at 10:30 a.m., then 11:30 a.m., then a break beginning at Noon for lunch.

Our next concerts will be at 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., and the last at 4 p.m.. After that, we will either crash or party at a place to be determined. (We are still seeking volunteers for the party!) It is truly an aggressive schedule, but we know it will be worth the effort. Because of lack of parking at most locations, we hope most will ride the bus, plus it will keep us altogether as we move from location to location.

The homes have agreed to notify all residents in advance of our appearance, and must agree to let us solicit donations to the Salvation Army during our concerts. We will furnish them with advance flyers and posters to place throughout their facilities and will give individual brochures for distribution to their residents. We should generate many times more donations than last year, which was somewhere in the area of \$500.

We should beat last year's \$500 at our first stop of the day. I truly believe that we may more than double our best collection total that we had in the past.

Each HOA member is encouraged to be a part of this fantastic fundraising effort. As we get closer to the date, you will be furnished complete details and locations. Thanks for sharing and caring! ♥



Let's Remember Our Sponsors

by Dick Korek,
Marketing Vice President



KOREK

We extend our continued gratitude to the many companies

who have seen fit to help HOA financially. Checking through show programs from past several years, you realize that we have much to be thankful for.

Many companies have come forward with financial assistance, and many more will. They're waiting for the marketing team to approach them with the HOA message: a chorus of men of all ages dedicated to singing and performing, entertaining audiences with the beauty of music that people love and embrace.

Our support group includes Kinko's, FedX, First Watch restaurants, Sheridan Frozen Custard, the Marriott Hotel Downtown and others that go the extra mile whenever asked.

Current sponsors are listed in this Harmonotes and include **David Hokanson**, who not only maintains membership in HOA but continues to contribute to the chorus as a major backer for the Holiday Harmony Spectacular.

Remember that every member also has the opportunity to invite friends and associates, as well as themselves, to be donors for this, their own 501(c)3 organization. Your donations are tax-deductible.

Let's have a great 2007 as we continue to demonstrate the unique passion that only an a cappella chorus can create with our unique barbershop approach! ♥

DONORS

Members and Friends Of HOA!

Charity begins at home, and for members of HOA it just makes sense to get excited about putting our charitable dollars to work for our very own chapter. Did any member, prior to HOA, ever believe that they would appear on stage in some of the most prestigious auditoriums and arenas in the country? Support for your chapter helps make our various activities affordable for all.

Be included in the listing below.

Gold Heart
(\$1,000 & Up)
Thom Tisdall

Silver Heart
(\$400 - \$999)
Don & Donie Peck

Bronze Heart
(\$100 - \$399)
Arthur Gibson
Dick & Joan Korek
Hugh & Nancy McCreery
David Peck
Tony Strub

Helping Hearts
(Up to \$99)
Richard and Gloria Haberkorn

The Heart of America Chorus is a 501(c)(3) organization.
Donors will receive a receipt for Tax purposes.

Checks should be made out to: HOA
Give to any HOA Board member or mail to:

HOA, c/o Dale Neuman
816 W. 121st. St. • Kansas City, MO 64145-1011

Harmony Foundation Report

by Jim Porter

As of Wednesday, Nov. 8, and 48 drawings:
The total raised for this year (since Nov. 19, 2005) is \$4,500.
Last year, the total raised was \$2,407.
In our best previous year (2003), the total raised was \$2,935.

Our total should contend for best of any chapter in the Society!
Thanks for participating. Let's see what we can do next year!

As of Nov. 29, three drawings in the new year have taken place, and the total raised for Harmony Foundation is \$145. Last year, after three drawings, the total raised was \$193. ♥



Heart of America Chorus

SPONSORS

Thank You For Making A Difference!
We gratefully acknowledge your generosity to the Heart of America Chorus 2005-2006!



DAVID F. HOKANSON FAMILY FOUNDATION



HELVBERG
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KANSAS CITY
DOWNTOWN



SOUND
TREK

The Heart of America Chorus is a 501(c)(3) organization.
Checks should be made out to:

Kansas City Chapter/

Barbershop Harmony Society

Mail to: HOA, c/o Dale Neuman

816 W. 121st. St. • Kansas City, MO 64145-1011



It Was A Very Good Year, But 2007 Could Be Our Best

by Jim Bagby, HOA Chorus Director



It would be difficult to pick the most outstanding *H O A* highlight

of 2006. For me, it's probably a tossup between the March show, with Lt. Col. **Niel Johnson** coming down to direct "America the Beautiful," and the completion of the second chorus CD. When you hear the finished product of "HOA, Happy Together," I know you'll want to buy a drink for **Mark Fortino**, **Dan Israel**, all the directors (I hope) and probably all your fellow singers. Yep, it's going to be that good.

And there were many more: our "A" performances in Indianapolis and Wichita, a great holiday show to wind up the year, the **Jim Henry** coaching session, a record number of songs on the Richmond show and the sweatily successful **Mark Hale** retreat, just to name a few.

But even before the year ends, I'm looking forward to even greater things. The first is our Dec. 16 Salvation Army caravan—an approach we've never tried before. With no viable mall remaining in the Kansas City metro area (or none with space available for the

kind of shows we've done for half a century), **Mike Mathieu** has come up with a great busing concept to a half-dozen large retirement homes.

Mike has assembled a fine committee to help us put this unique plan in motion, and we're set for what could be a record day of fund-raising a fun. And remember, like every bell-ringing day we've ever had, this is for ALL Kansas City Chapter members. We'll sing some holiday chestnuts out of the white books, which will be available, as well as numbers from the holiday show and from our regular repertoire. As the old song says, "come along and sing our song!"

And if you haven't been a regular lately, don't wait until after the first of the year to get back in the fold. Have you heard about the great new songs we're doing for the March show? The opener will be the *Vocal Majority's* "Harmony" (Harmony, we hail the name of harmony) by **David Wright**. The closer will be "All Rise," as done by the *Voices of Lee*, with **Mark Fortino** on the solo. In between is **Clay Hine's** arrangement of "It's a Small World after All" (really fun!); **Lou Perry's** swingy treatment of "Don't Blame Me;" "A Wink and a Smile," and a super new ballad that we'll be introducing this month. If you don't like it, you need to check your barbershop pulse.

absolutely the best part-predominant recording. Right now our plan is to get together with **Mark Fortino** in his home studio the day after Christmas, while most everyone else is taking that Tuesday night off, and make the final recording of the show/contest ballad so we can get it in your hands as soon as possible. These five guys deserve a lot of thanks from all of us.

Looking ahead just a little further, don't forget the installation and awards banquet on Jan. 13. Not only is it a great social gathering, and a chance for you to get your wife or significant other out to a nice meal with no rehearsal and a minimum of singing (probably just one good quartet) involved, it's a great opportunity to honor the incoming and outgoing officers. For me, I can hardly wait to find out who is our Barbershopper of the Year. I have a pretty good idea who will take home the Ozzie for musical contribution in 2006, but I have no idea who will get the John Cross Award, or Heartbeat of the Year. So it's always an exciting and fun-filled night. Please join us there!

Then it's on to the March show in a new home that has so much to offer—I bet we all fall in love with Yardley Hall. And international competition at Denver, in my home state, is full of promise—just about 10 hours away. I'm eager to see what the survey says, and more important, getting back the singers who want to go.

Finally, let me say what a joy and honor it continues for me to say that I'm the director of the great *Heart of America Chorus*. Most Tuesday nights I leave saying "this is the best position in the world." We all know it's the best calling, and who gets to spend more time in front of people who mean so much than I do? So on behalf of **Joann** and me, a giant thank you. And here's to a great holiday season, and a happy and harmonious new year! ♥



Speaking of that ballad, I can't begin to tell you the number of hours your section leaders begin to work on your behalf. **Carter Combs**, **Mike Neff**, **Grant Hunget** and **Keith Schweer**, also known as "New and Used Parts," get together on weekends, before our Tuesday night meetings and other free nights working on learning the parts to these new show songs—and the interpretation—so they can make you

The Songs We Sing

Source: Wikipedia

Compiled by Wade Dexter

Irving Berlin was responsible for many Hollywood film scores. Two of these were *Top Hat* (1935) and *Holiday Inn* (1942), which included "White Christmas," one of the most frequently recorded tunes in American history.

"White Christmas" was first sung by **Bing Crosby** in *Holiday Inn* and sold over 30 million copies when released as a record. The song was re-used as the title theme of the 1954 musical film, *White Christmas*, which starred **Crosby, Danny Kaye, Rosemary Clooney** and **Vera Ellen**.

Crosby's single of "White Christmas" was recognized as the best-selling single in any music category for more than 50 years—until 1998. It was then that **Elton John's** tribute to **Diana**, Princess of Wales, "Candle in the Wind," overtook it in a matter of months. However, Crosby's recording of "White Christmas" has sold additional millions of copies as part of numerous albums, including his best-selling album, "Merry Christmas," first released as an LP in 1949. *[Ed note: For you Generation Xers, LP is the music industry abbreviation for a long-playing record—those round, black, flat things about as wide as a medium pizza, with a small hole in the middle].*

The most familiar version of "White Christmas" is not the one Crosby originally recorded for *Holiday Inn*. Crosby was called back to the Decca studios on March 19, 1947, to re-record "White Christmas" because of damage to the 1942 master due to its frequent use. Every effort was made to reproduce the original Decca recording session, once again including the *John Scott Trotter Orchestra* and the *Ken Darby Singers*. The resulting re-issue is the one that has become most familiar to the public. ♥



Musical Notes

by Keith Schweer, Music Vice President



For the past five years, I have had the privilege of serving as the Vice President - Music and Performance for the *Heart of America Chorus*. During this time we have built a Music

Team full of talented and dedicated folks whose mission is to improve the singing and performance capabilities of the chorus. You wouldn't believe the time and effort these men spend in trying to make us better at what we do. As I turn over the reins to **Carter Combs** for the coming year, I want to take the time to thank everyone on my team:

Jim Bagby – Musical Director

Mike Neff – Associate Director & Lead Section Leader

Carter Combs – Assistant Director & Tenor Section Leader

John Fortino – Assistant Director (past) & Coach

Grant Hunget – Baritone Section Leader

Bruce Wenner – Chorus Arranger & Copyright Law Expert

Dennis Kinghorn – Co-Bass Section Leader

Marty Oldehoeft – Assistant Bass Section Leader

Mike O'Dell – Assistant Lead Section Leader

Mike Schumacher – Assistant Lead Section Leader & Presentation Team

Doug Brott - Assistant Baritone Section Leader

Marlin Weidler – Assistant Tenor Section Leader

Phil Veltkamp – Music Librarian

Mark Fortino – Recording Engineer

Jerry Garrard – At Large Member

Darrell McCune – Vocal Coach

Don Young - Presentation Team

David Krause - Presentation Team

John Landry - Presentation Team

Mike Louque - Presentation Team

Jerry Meier - Presentation Team

Harry Stewart – Presentation Team

That's quite a group, wouldn't you agree? Each of them plays a very important role on our team and we wouldn't be where we are without them. Please take the time to thank them for all they do. As we look forward to 2007, we're in good hands with this special group of individuals.

Merry Christmas and
a happy holiday
season to all! ♥





by Wade Dexter, Editor Emeritus · wadeliberty@aol.com



TEN YEARS AGO: DECEMBER, 1996:

Does anybody remember the night of Oct. 22, 1996? It was a regular meeting night, but Mother Nature dealt the area a heavy blow by delivering the worst early snowfall in over 60 years.

Program Vice President **Jerry Meier** sent your editor a note expressing his appreciation of the 16 members and three guests who actually made the trip --- and stayed.

John Stucker, who lived in Leavenworth, walked in, said "Hello," turned right around and left, mumbling something about at least he wasn't the only crazy one in the chorus. **Val Putzier** came to remind everybody about the American Royal Parade the following Saturday. He said if it hadn't been for the announcement, he'd still be home. **Don Young** called from his car to ask if he could make it from North Kansas City in about 45 minutes. He was told "No," and went back home. **Grant Hunget** called about 8 p.m. from somewhere near I-35 and 87th Street to report that after three hours of trying to make it from downtown, he was giving up.

TWENTY YEARS AGO: DECEMBER, 1986

Talk about starting the new year with a bang! Music Committee Chairman **Dale Neuman** takes the better part of two complete pages to describe the results of an October meeting of his committee for the purpose of "discussing ways of making better things happen in our already good and

regionally successful music program." Space won't permit even a brief summary of what the committee talked about, but here's what they decided to do during 1987:

Reduce the number of songs in our repertoire; use part-pre-dominant learning tapes; use audition tapes to assist members in learning the repertoire or in qualifying for the performing chorus for show and contest; extend the time allotted to voice placement and acceptance of new members who wish to qualify for the performing chorus; emphasize our craft skills such as vowel shapes, breathing techniques, bright faces, etc., in all our singing, not just for contest and show; spend less time on the risers, and have fewer extra rehearsals.

Wow! *All that in one meeting?* We'll try to report on progress made in accomplishing these goals in future columns.

FORTY YEARS AGO: DECEMBER, 1966

Editor **Don Thorne** published a list of the names of the recently elected 1967 board members. **Harold "Sam" Solomon** was the new president. **Al Moritz** and **Ron Abel** are the only members with continuous membership in our chapter since that date. There were some highly placed visitors to the annual installation dinner that year. Among them, Society Executive Director **Barrie Best** and his wife blessed the event with their presence, which prompted Editor Don to remark that "this will be the *Barrie Best* installation party we have ever had." A recent chapter visitor was one **Vince Perry**, who lived at 625 Armour Boulevard in Kansas City. *Could that have been OUR Vince Perry?* An "Off the Cuff" item announced that a **Dan Bowser Henry** had moved to 6828 Woodson in Overland Park. ♥

LIMERICKS



Once again, here are some verses published years ago in a pamphlet distributed by PROBE entitled, "Limericks Unlimited." They appeared in some of the last Harmonotes issues edited by International champion editor Wade Dexter.

Barbershop singing, for sure,
Has been proven to lack a cure.
When a grand overtone
Chills you down to the bone,
You will see why the style will endure.

— Donald L. Fletcher

When your chapter does good barbershop,
Not a novelty number or pop,
And your blend as you sing
Makes the overtones ring,
Then you wish that it never would stop.

— Ariel S. Bean

**Thanks to Wade Dexter for forwarding these to us!
Other limericks appear elsewhere in this issue.**



How Old Is *Harmonotes*? by Ron McIntire (based on research by Editor Emeritus Wade Dexter)

*Editor's Note: We are truly grateful to **Wade Dexter** for the amount of time he has donated in tracking down the history of our chapter bulletin. The fruit of his research will be apparent in future issues as we condense his findings to a wide variety of topics related to *Harmonotes* such as past editors, nameplates and interesting but little known facts. If you wish to read the full, unedited version of Wade's homework, simply send your request to toddanderson@comcast.net.*

By the way, if anyone knows of the whereabouts of any Kansas City Chapter publications prior to 1981, please contact Wade Dexter at wadeliberty@aol.com.

Some months back, *Harmonotes* Editor **Todd Anderson** posed the question: "How old is *Harmonotes*?" Editor Emeritus and *Harmonotes* contributor, **Wade Dexter**, wondered too, so he did some research. What he learned from some of the old-timers who were around in the '40s, '50s and '60s and from his incomplete collection of old bulletins was enough to provide a reasonable answer.

The earliest issues in Wade's collection are Tonic 118 and 119, dating back to July 10, and July 18, 1950. They were mimeographed on both sides of a single, legal-sized sheet of paper and made no mention of a publication name. When **Ham Meisinger** took over as editor, he may have felt the time had come to name the publication. Tonic 120 was issued a month later on Aug. 9, 1950, sporting a nameplate with

the red and blue "Harmonotes" nameplate, the Society emblem, quartet heads, a barber pole, music score and the Indian scout overlooking Kansas City.

Was this the first issue of *Harmonotes*? From the best information available, we believe it is. So until we're told otherwise, we'll say the first issue of the chapter bulletin to appear with the name "Harmonotes" in the nameplate was Aug. 14, 1950.

But what of issues 1 through 119, assuming they began with issue 1, and were consecutive? If they count, then we calculate, based on the bi-weekly chapter meeting schedule, that a bulletin of the Kansas City Chapter has been around in some form since the 1940's.

And who came up with the name *Harmonotes*? Speculation is that it was the work of long-time chapter member **Dan Jacobson**.♥

PLACE OF MEETING:
ENGLISH ROOM - HOTEL PHILLIPS
2nd & 4th MONDAYS, 7:30 P. M.

Harmonotes

KAN-SAS CIT-Y MY HOME-TOWN

HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER, KANSAS CITY, MO.

Tonic No. 120 HAMILTON MEISINGER, Editor, 2004 Grand Ave., Kansas City 8, Mo., Phone VI. 2297 August 9, 1950

MEET AGAIN MONDAY AUGUST 14TH
HOTEL PHILLIPS - 12TH STREET AND BALTIMORE

THOSE OF YOU WHO MISSED THE SWOPE PARK PICNIC - You may still be able to pick up a faint echo of the chorus directed by Joe Stern or of the group singing led by "Pop" Nelson - or you may still hear the mournful wail of a few stray hot dogs overlooked by Jim Henderson, official roaster of hot dogs. It was a great picnic, and a lot of credit is due those responsible for its success. Our President, Orval Wilson was directly responsible for a good part of the great picnic we had. "Pop" Nelson did a fine job of cooking up fun for all. The rest of you who assisted in various ways have our vote of appreciation. Among the visitors was Bob Stone, a former Seranador now living in Chicago. A group was present from Independence and also from Kansas City, Kansas. We were grateful to the Four Sharps and the Royalaires for their part in our entertainment. In addition to our neighboring quartets, we had the Gamboliers, Shrineaires, and Three Nuts and a Bolt. (I know it sounds "screwey" but that's what they said)

THOSE OF YOU WHO MISSED THE LAST MEETING - A new champion quartet was crowned. Singers were picked at random from representative sections and an elimination contest was held. We are quite sure it was strictly "on the level" because of the sterling character of the judges - Joe Stern, Harry Denni, Hec White and Jim Henderson. The winners hardly had time to find a name for themselves, but anyhow consisted of J. E. Gornall, tenor; Robert Chase, lead; Joe Fehrenbach, Sr., baritone; and Herman Wesenberg, bass. We understand one quartet was disqualified because of an unforgivable technicality. Due to the nature of the practice room necessarily used by one of our "coming" quartets they will be called the "Four Hokers."

RECENT GUESTS - Two members of The Lazy Four quartet of Excelsior Springs were guests at our last meeting. It is understood they were to appear on a TV show over WDAF on Tuesday following our meeting. Mr. Otto David, Secretary of the Kansas City Breakfast Club was a guest, and has become or will become a member.

1950-51 OFFICERS*		BOARD OF DIRECTORS	
ORVAL WILSON, PRESIDENT 4307 PARKER - PH. LI. 5079	JOHN H. YONTS, 1ST V. P. AUSTIN THAMES, 2ND V. P. DON R. THORNE, TREAS.	DALE WARRICK, 1946, PAST PRES. HAMILTON MEISINGER	CLARENCE MOYER BEN FRANKLIN
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INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. JUNE 13-14 1952 KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

Harmonotes as it appeared August 9, 1950

Learning A Song by Jay Giallombardo

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While there are many ways to learn music, some methods are more effective than others. When it comes to part singing, how you go about learning an arrangement will certainly affect the quality of your performance.

In a cappella singing, barbershop specifically, tuning, that is locking and ringing of chords, is a hallmark of the style. How you go about learning a piece will have a considerable impact on how well you stay in key and how well you tune chords.

There are three things that affect tuning: **1) Pitch, 2) Volume/Balance, 3) Color.** Of course learning pitches is actually the easy part. Fine tuning the pitch in a chord requires proper balance (volume relationships between parts) and lastly color matching. Color matching can also be thought of as vowel matching. Vowel matching gets you in the "ballpark," but true intonation in chord-singing comes from the matching of resonance and vocal color.

The following method has 3 simple steps: **1) Pitches, 2) Word-Sounds, 3) Integration.**

If you learn your part on "Loo" of "Doo" you will accomplish some very important things that you would not accomplish if you had just plunged ahead the old way - attempting to learn notes and words at the same time.

Our brain is actually a big tape recorder. If you learn pitches first on "Doo" or "Loo," some very interesting things begin to happen. First, there is nothing else for the brain to focus on other than the **pitches and pitch patterns**. There are no words, no changes from vowel to vowel, no changes in color or resonance, no consonants. Because we use the same sound over and over ("Doo/Loo"), we can sort of forget about it and focus on the pitches and pitch patterns. It is all those "other things" which com-

plicate the learning process and which invariably cause us to go out of tune in very short order if they are attempted in the early learning stages, or not applied with considerable skill.

If given a chance to focus on a single task, the brain will actually record the pitches and they will remain in memory in the subconscious. A few times through the song, listening to a part tape/CD that has no words, just the pitch sung with "Doo" is the simplest and easiest way for the subconscious to "record" the pitches of the song. If there are a few tricky places, just spend a little more time listening and "Doo"-ing those places.

After a few times through on "Doo," the pitches are recorded in the subconscious. How do we know this? At first you have to trust, because it is difficult to accept the presence of things that we are not aware of. But that fact will soon be made clear enough.

The next step is **2) word-sounds**. To begin to master the flow of word-sounds, use a method called "silent audiation." That is the process of "mouthing" the word sounds, the vowels, the consonants, the "m's and n's" as if you are performing the song. BUT...you make no singing sound. It is more than just saying the words silently, it is actually singing without making sound. You breath, articulate consonants, form vowel shapes, keep the throat open, lift the palette, arch the tongue forward, place in the mask, i.e., all the things you would do when you sing, but you make no sound. So steps 1 and 2 are "Doo"-ing pitches and "silent audiation." You can do these steps, separately, over and over until you are ready to move to the last step. By doing so, you will be laying excellent ground-work for the final step...**Integration.**



Before talking about integration, a word on "silent audiation" is in order. The purpose of this activity is actually to train the vocal muscles of the body to memorize the flow and positions of the word sounds, while actually hearing the pitch in your head. What makes one song different from another is the combination of pitches and how the phonetics flow.

The elements of the performance are always the same. The same 12 pitches are used, maybe in a different key; words are comprised of the same vowels and consonants. What is different is the order. That is what makes each song unique. So learning the order of events is 90% of the learning process. "Silent audiation" allows one to focus exclusively on the order of "events," from shape to shape, so that the muscles learn the vocal movements and learn to anticipate the movements as the pitches and word-sounds flow along.

By doing this silently, it gives your brain a chance to associate the subconscious pitch with the muscle movement. That is very important, so I will say it again: ***By doing this silently, it gives your brain a chance to associate the subconscious pitch with the muscle movement.***

(Continued on page 9 ♦♦)

Every vowel and its duration of sound is therefore associated with a pitch. If we hear it or can imagine it, the vocal mechanism will go through the process of preparing to sing. When we actually engage the mind and say, "Sing," the shape, if practiced, will be there and the pitch, if previously reviewed (with "Doo"), will associate itself with the shape (i.e. the vowel).

Lanny Bansham, Olympic Sharpshooter, the first to score a perfect 400, (all bull's-eyes), and to win the Olympic gold medal, was unable to go to the practice range to shoot six weeks before the Olympics. So to keep in shape, he practiced the motions of shooting "bull's-eyes" without firing a shot. He steadied himself, cleared his mind, aimed, squeezed the trigger, and imagined the perfect shot, every time. In that six-week period he never even fired a rifle. At the Olympics, he just repeated what he had practiced "silently" before. Such is the nature of the mind, use of imagery, and training the muscle-memory.

At first, you can practice word-sound flow listening to the pitches from the learning CD, but eventually you will want to do "silent audiation" and attempt to hear the sounds of the pitches in your head. That's the "audiation" part... hearing in your head. As you practice, you will discover it is not that difficult. You have to use your imagination and memory, but the "Doo" activity will provide a very strong experience from which to draw.

The integration part will actually be quite simple now. The pitches have been recorded in the subconscious. The muscle memory has been trained to shape and flow through the word sounds. As you now start to sing, you shouldn't

be surprised to find the notes come booming forth from your subconscious as they are associated with the space and shapes of the vowels that you have already practiced.

Many a singer struggles with poor learning habits; they often say, "I may be slow, but this is the way I learn." Too often they discover they learned many places incorrectly, or sing many notes out of tune. The fact is that learning a song is not so much about learning notes and words, as it is giving the pitches a "place to be heard". This method does just that.

Experience shows that singers using this method learn faster and more accurately. They maintain tonal center and sing more chords in tune. Take advantage of learning CDs that use computer-accurate tone generation in a "Doo Voice" sound that works in concert with this learning method.

Harmony Singers... a special tip for you. Spend as much time at first listening to the lead part as well as your own. Ultimately, your harmony part is tuned to the "anticipated" melody line. So, you need to know where the lead is going. (Of course, it helps if the lead actually "gets there".)

Don't learn your part as melody from note to note. A harmony part sung "independently" from the melody will tend to sound out of tune. "Doo" the pitches so that you learn the note patterns. And practice "silent audiation" to get the muscle-memory activated. But then the integration process for you is one of listening to the melody as you sing your harmony part and allow your ear to make the fine-tuning adjustments.

Have Fun Singing...Have More Fun Singing In Tune! ♥

Heart of America Chorus

THIRTEEN-TIME Central States District Champions!

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)

12th Street Rag - 1994 Central States District Champion

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

KC Connection - 1986 Central States District Champion

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

Special Touch - 1984 Central States District Champion

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

Harmony Spectrum - 1982 Central States District Champion

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

Corner Quartet - 1981 Central States District Champion

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

The Morning Times - 1974 Central States District Champion

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

The Four Kippers - 1966 Central States District Champion

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

The Kippers - 1962 Central States District Champion

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

BMA Gamboliers - 1957 Central States District Champion

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

Gamboliers - 1952 Central States District Champion

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

HyPower Serenaders - 1948 Central States District Champion

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

OTHER CHAPTER QUARTETS

12th Street Rag - 2006 International Semi-Finalists

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

Command Performance

Carter Combs (tenor), Jon Gathright (lead),
Rich Huyck (bari), Monty Duerksen (bass)

Crosstown Four

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

Escape

Keith Owen (tenor), *Harold Clark (lead),
Mike Owen (bari), *Bill Bay (bass)

New and Used Parts

Carter Combs (tenor), Mike Neff (lead),
Grant Hunget (bari), Keith Schweer (bass)

Quadrio

Rob Mathieu (tenor), Michael Troyer (lead),
Grant Hunget (bari), Matt Moore (bass)

Tone-Henge

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

*Member of other chapters



Mystery Category - Part II

by Bruce Wenner, MUS judge candidate



WENNER

Last month we reviewed the five performance elements on which the music judge arrives at a MUS score – recall those elements are **consonance, theme, embellishment, delivery and execution**. What about **arrangement** – isn't that an important part of the category? Indeed it is, and it gets into the final score in two significant ways.

First, the MUS judge must determine whether or not the arrangement conforms to the barbershop style. If he determines that it does not, he assesses the degree to which it falls short, and subtracts a "score reduction" from the score he has written based on the five performance elements. The result is the final score for the performance of that song. In the rare case in which the violation of the barbershop style is particularly flagrant, the MUS judge might forfeit the score – i.e., award a final score of zero.

What might provoke a style reduction? Here are a few of the most commonly invoked grounds, from the Music Category Description:

Performances that "favor the use of any other chords over the use of dominant seventh chords and major triads" will be the most likely to be penalized; roughly, at least half of the chords should be barbershop sevenths and major triads. In fact, a penalty may be assessed if there are not enough barbershop sevenths alone – the rough guideline is that at least one-third of the chords should be barbershop sevenths in order to line up with the style.

"Lack of consonant four-part chords" – if there is a single most important characteristic of our style, it is consonant four-part harmony.

"The use of instrumental accompaniment" – you don't see many ensembles pushing this button, but those who do are subject to forfeiture.

"Lack of a predominantly homophonic texture" – in barbershop we tend to sing the same sound at the same time.

"The melody is not primarily sung by the lead." The bass may take the melody for a while, but there is little tolerance for tenor melody – tenor ABOVE the melody is characteristic of our style.

"Excessive use of passages sung by fewer than four parts."

And then there are some rather technical demands that an arrangement should include significant root movement known as circle of fifths – you may recall we discussed that last year in a *Harmonotes* article.

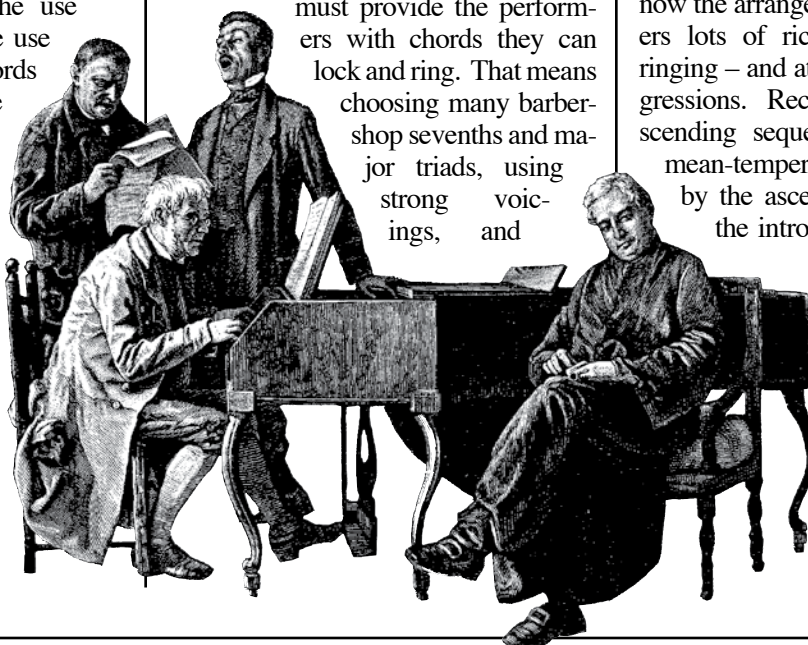
Arrangement is part of the MUS score in a second, more pervasive way: it is involved significantly with each of the five performance elements. **Consonance**, for example – the arrangement

must provide the performers with chords they can lock and ring. That means choosing many barbershop sevenths and major triads, using strong voicings, and

writing voice leadings that allow the singers to arrive at their notes comfortably enough to keep a consistent consonance. Voice leadings also have an important effect on **execution** – natural voice leading makes both good **execution** and good **delivery** more accessible to the performer, whereas awkward skips in individual voice parts can make it difficult to execute cleanly.

Theme is the starting point for a good arrangement; the arrangement should give the performer the raw material to develop the theme effectively (this is tied intimately with **delivery**). If the song has a lyric theme, the arrangement will match the lyrical climaxes with the most dramatic musical treatment. For example, consider how the key changes in both "Auld Lang Syne" and "Apron Strings" contribute to lyrical climaxes. In ALS, the key lift raises the emotion going into the restatement "For Auld ..."; in AS the powerful unison augments the lyrical climax "belong." In a rhythm song like "Runnin' Wild," the arranger will give the performer lots of chances to highlight the rhythm – called rhythmic propellants – like the ones we talked about last month (bass pickups "I'm sayin'" or "oh, baby," or the echo "I'm goin'" in the harmony parts). Then we have the intro on RW – yet another theme, this time a harmony theme. So now the arranger is giving the performers lots of rich, diverse, interesting, ringing – and at times surprising – progressions. Recall for example the descending sequence on "hard-hearted, mean-tempered,..." followed later by the ascending sequence to end the intro; or the surprise chords on the swipes on "gal" and "ground" – all meant to highlight the harmony and to help the performer to develop the harmony theme.

(Continued on page 11 ♦♦)



*(Mystery Category - Part II,
continued from page 10)*

As for **Embellishment** – no difficulty in seeing how this is tied in with arrangement! The performer can't execute embellishments artistically unless those embellishments are present in the arrangement. And the better those written embellishments are, the better the performer's chances of executing them artistically.

There we have it. The MUS score is based entirely on the five performance elements, with the exception of one of those rare style reductions. Let's look again at the issue of score reductions for violations of the barbershop style. These really don't happen very often – for example, among the 84 songs performed at the recent CSD contest there was only one that provoked a style reduction. This is fairly typical – at a given contest, there will usually be at most one number with a MUS score reduction, and more often than not there will be no reductions at all.

There is never any need to take a chance on a score reduction for style – there is plenty of good solid barbershop music out there, and there is more every year. If there is any doubt about a particular chart, the performer is encouraged to send it out to a certified music judge for an assessment (actually, it's safer to send it to more than one). HOA has never come close to taking a penalty. The performers who do take the rare reductions are the guys who choose to push the envelope. That's their choice, but the MUS judge doesn't have a choice. He's the guardian of the barbershop style, and he takes his marching orders from the Music Category Description.

So – does the MUS score for most performances come completely from the five performance elements (**Consonance, theme, embellishment, delivery, execution**), or is the **arrangement** a central piece of the score? The answer is yes. ♥

How To Learn Your Music Quickly by Nick Papageorge

Submitted by Dave Gunther, editor Whittier Choralaires "SHOWCASE"

Here are some simple yet effective steps you can take to help you in the learning process:

Bring a mechanical pencil (not a pen) to every chapter meeting and mark your music with the director's intelligent and musical observations. A mechanical pencil does not need to be sharpened and errors or changes can be erased. Notations on your music will help you to remember what the director wants you to do when you work on your music at home. (You DO work on your music at home, don't you?)

Use your learning tape all the time. This means listening to it and singing along with it while driving to work, to the store, to church or to chapter meeting. Use it so often that it needs to be replaced. And when you use it, get in the habit of rewinding it to repeat a problem area in the music over and over.

Pay attention and be quiet at rehearsals. In case you haven't noticed, there is far too much talking every time the director stops waving his arms. Don't talk as soon as you stop singing. LISTEN! **Earl Moon** used to say that God gave you two ears and one mouth, and He expects you to use them in that proportion. If you stop talking and listen during rehearsal, most of your questions will be answered before you ask them. You don't believe me? Try it!

Immediately memorize the words and the story they tell before working on the notes. It is important for you to know all the words so that everyone sings them together. When you don't know the words to a song, you are always slightly behind everyone else who does know them. This causes the synchronization errors that the judges always talk about. If you don't know the story the words are trying to tell, how can you expect to put on

the correct expressions that will convey that story to the audience? You MUST know the words AND the story they tell.

Don't leave early. When you leave early, you fall behind those who stay. Then you have to catch up the next week, and that slows everyone else down. If you must leave early, plan on working that much harder during the week so you don't become a burden to those who stayed to learn more.

Call on your section leaders with any questions you have about the music. They are called "Section Leaders" for a reason. They are there to help you. If you don't call them when you need help, you may fall behind and slow down the progress of the chorus. I don't know of any Section Leader who will not try to help you if you will just call.

Bring a tape recorder to the chapter meeting. Your personal tape recorder is the best way to get a learning tape of new music long before the official learning tape is ready.

It is apparent that too many chorus members are not working on their music at home. This causes the director to have to spend precious time teaching you the words and notes. That is a tremendous waste of my time and yours. Think about it—you are paying me money to do something you should be doing at home! I should be teaching you how to sing better, interpret the songs we sing and perform them to the best of your ability. If you **learn the music at home** between chorus rehearsals, we can move along and get to the really fun stuff much sooner. It is not nearly as much fun to learn words and notes as it is to work on interpretation and practice performing a song. So let's get past the hard part as fast as we can and get on to the fun stuff. It's up to you to do the first part. Then I will be more than happy to do the rest. ♥





HOA Happy Together

by Doug Brott, Executive Vice-President



BROTT

The Songs are Sung. The recording phase of our CD is complete. **Jim Bagby** provided a very good explanation of the control track process last month. Now it is up to **Mark Fortino**

to put it all together into what will become *HOA-Happy Together*.

The CD cover and liner notes, by **Keith Kavanaugh** of BauWau Design, are almost complete. Thanks also to **Jim Bagby**, **Mark Fortino** and many others for writing and providing editorial comments on the liner notes.

Our goal remains to have the CD by our annual show. Mark has told me that if everything goes just right we MIGHT be able to have it by our February show at John Knox Village. So if you have any control over any of the activities Mark is involved with and can decrease his load, please do it!

We are still looking for early sales. The CD will make great Christmas presents. You could make a big deal out of it and put a certificate in a box, inside a box, inside a bigger box, inside an even bigger box (all nicely wrapped, of course). Just imagine the look on your loved ones face when they finally get to the "gift" and see it is our new CD. The joy will be immeasurable. So please, if you have not already done so, see **Jim Porter** about purchasing *Happy Together*. ♥

Book Your Hotel For Midwinter 2007

taken from *LiveWire!*



Photodisc

The Hyatt Regency Albuquerque will host our 2007 Midwinter Convention. BHS members attending Midwinter will be able to book rooms at the Hyatt at our special convention rate until Dec. 15, 2006.

Please note: A snafu in the hotel's online reservations service led to several people being told the hotel was sold out for the week. It is not—plenty of rooms are available Wednesday, Jan. 24, through the rest of convention week. (There are no rooms available on Sunday, Monday or Tuesday of our convention week. We have filled our block and they have other groups in the hotel. However, there are plenty of rooms available at that hotel from Wednesday through the rest of the week. Apparently some people have tried to book a room online for earlier in the week and are being told that the hotel is sold out. The hotel is sold out only for the first 3 days of the week. We need people to be in that hotel for the rest of the week. We have asked the hotel to fix their online system to show availability later in the week.)

The only Four Diamond among Albuquerque hotels, the Hyatt Regency Albuquerque is conveniently located in the heart of downtown and adjacent to the Convention Center, just ten minutes from Albuquerque International Sunport Airport.

In the city's premier location, otherwise known as The District, recent urban improvements (including restaurants, nightclubs, retail, and loft living) have made the area surrounding the Albuquerque hotel perfect for business or pleasure.

Remember to book your reservations no later than Friday, Dec. 15, 2006 in order to secure the discounted group rate.

\$135.00 for Single or Double Occupancy

\$155.00 for Triple Occupancy

\$175.00 for Quadruple Occupancy

Conference rates available from: 01/17/07 - 02/01/07

Click to book online now - <http://albuquerque.hyatt.com/groupbooking/barbershopharmonysociety2007mid-winterconvention> ♥

Society Purchases Building for New Headquarters

taken from *LiveWire* newsletter from the Barbershop Harmony Society



The Society's search for a new home in Nashville ended this week with the purchase of an existing building at a prime downtown Nashville address.

The Society will breathe new life into the 36,000 square-foot building, located at 110 7th Avenue North, as extensive renovations begin in the next few months. Just off Broadway in the center of Nashville—with easy access off Interstate 65—the Society headquarters will enjoy a prime location, good neighbors, and great potential for return on investment.

Centering the Society in Music City will help increase awareness of the organization and the barbershop harmony art form.

Located in the immediate area of the new Society headquarters are the Nashville Convention Center, the Gaylord Entertainment Center, an arts magnet high school, a Masonic temple and a planned residential building. Only minutes away are the brand new Schermerhorn Symphony Center, Frist Center for the Visual Arts, Ryman Auditorium, and Tennessee State, Belmont and Vanderbilt universities. Nashville, itself, is a prime tourism location.

The news of the Society's purchase brought positive reaction from Tom

Turner, executive director of the Nashville Downtown Partnership. "It's a good thing for downtown. When you take an existing structure and reactivate it, you're going to see a lot of good things happen." Turner ought to know, he's been a driving force behind the redevelopment of downtown Portland, downtown St. Louis, and now, Nashville.

He also pointed out that the Society will add to the diverse musical

mix that already exists in downtown. "When you have a new component like

the Barbershop Harmony Society that has a rich tradition and education programming, it only enriches the fabric of what is here."

Dr. Robert Fisher, president of Belmont University, also sees a warm welcome for the Society in his city. "There is a resurgence of music in the public schools, and I would think kids would have a great interest in this musical form."

Purchase and renovation of the building will be funded by money from the 2003 sale of Society's properties in Kenosha and financing arranged through Sun Trust Bank. Purchase price was \$1,450,000. The anticipated move date is late summer 2007. ♥

Tone-Henge Has A CD!

by Ol' Dan

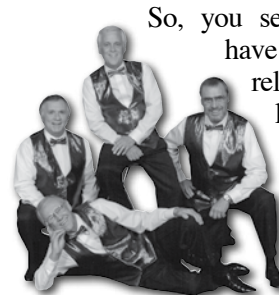


Well, not exactly, but then "exactly" is not in the *Tone-Henge* dictionary. Thus, when we hear someone say, "Sing more exactly," the meaning of the message is completely lost.

So a better explanation is this. *Tone-Henge* is gonna be ON a CD, with the term "on" in this case meaning one song, but we're happier'n a kitten in a catnip field to be included at all! Just listen to who ("whom" maybe?) with which we shall be associated: *RR4*, *Vocal Spectrum* (with **Richard Sturban** of the *Oak Ridge Boys*) doin' "Daddy Sang Bass," *Real Time*, *The Jordanares*, *Gotcha*, *O. C. Times*, *State Line Grocery* and other country music greats and barbershop medalists!

And to make it an even greater thrill, we were asked to be on the CD. *No, REALLY!*

So lemme 'splain. The concept is one created by a young gent who sings in the Nashville chorus and is a great-idea guy named **Mark Hornsby**. Mark is a partner in the Nashville recording studio that advertised on the back cover of the Indianapolis international convention program. Mark has visited our chorus as my guest on occasion, and just happens to be engaged to my daughter. (But that had nothing to do with the invitation to *Tone-Henge* to be included on the CD, Dan said with poorly disguised straight face.) Mark believes the CD will be an excellent marketing tool for the Society in its move to Nashville next year – mix of country and barbershop – and *Tone-Henge* is happy he wanted a tinge of old guys and comedy as well.



So, you see, *Tone-Henge* does have a CD, sorta, soon to be released. We'll let you know when. Please purchase one so the others on it won't think *Tone-Henge* "exactly" messed up their CD. ♥



**See separate file
for pages 14 and 15!**



**See separate file
for pages 14 and 15!**

Installation and Awards Banquet Promises Glorious Night for HOA

by Jerry Garrard, Program Vice President

What a *great* holiday show! And did you go to that afterglow? Some good very music happening there!

HOA will have a few more opportunities to for singouts in the month of December, but make sure you mark your calendars for Jan. 13. You guessed it, the annual HOA Installation and Awards banquet will be that night, at the Overland Park Doubletree Hotel.



Come see your brothers get recognized for some outstanding work this year as we thank our outgoing board members and officers, and install our incoming leaders. We know 2007 will be another fine year for HOA. Now that we have the surveys returned from you and we know what direction you want to head, I'm sure the board will give you plenty of opportunities to shine on stage as well as in competition.

We have many other ways that a member of HOA can shine. **Joe Stern, John Cross** and **Oz Newgard** have set just that example. We have awards named in honor of their efforts. Someday, maybe we could have an award named in your honor. But until then, make sure you set your sights towards getting on the nomination list for these fine awards.

Joe Stern Lifetime Achievement Award - This award recognizes members of the Kansas City Chapter who have devoted many years to the betterment of

the chapter. Presented only on rare occasions.

Barbershopper Of The Year - The Kansas City Chapter has striven to recognize and honor certain of its members for significant and meritorious service during the past year. Through the years, this recognition has been designated "Man of the Year" award, "Honor Night" program, "Achievement Award" and is now known as the "Barbershopper of the Year."

John Cross Award - This award, for which there is no office, is presented annually to the HOA barbershopper with the best attendance record and who is always on hand to take the job no one else wants.

Oz Newgard "Ozzie" Award - This award is presented to the individual who has provided outstanding musical service to the Kansas City Chapter and the *Heart of America Chorus*. Also not presented every year.

Heartbeat of the Year Award - Corresponds to our BOTY, presented annually by our auxiliary organization.

Come hear from our newly elected President of the Central States District, our own chapter member, **Don Fuson**. We will start the evening with a social hour beginning at 6 p.m. and the dinner will be served at 7. The program will begin around 8 p.m.

Come for an evening of joy and tears as we pay tribute to the past year and set our sights for the future. ♥

Quadrio Quips

by Grant Hunget



Quadrio has been rather busy since winning the district championship in Wichita. Not only are we working on expanding our repertoire, each of us has been busy with individual commitments—hence the name.

Michael just finished portraying Jesus (kind of a stretch) in the musical *Godspell* at his church, which has taken a lot of time but was very successful. However, that didn't stop us from singing at the Weston Historical Society in early November, where we conducted a brief presentation on barbershop history. We also sang a few songs, because that's what quartets do, right? **Quadrio** was also very excited about singing on the Dec. 2 Holiday Show.

Thanks to **Rob's** wife, **Haley**, we also landed a gig at the Christmas party for her company (they're going to comp us some food if we sing well enough). I tell you, it's not what you know, it's who you know. And believe me, we don't know much! In order to get in our quota of partying, we will be at **Matt and Jill's** on Dec. 23 for an annual bash they throw. If you didn't get invited, blame Matt. If that's not all, we are singing for another Christmas party in north Kansas City on Dec. 29.

The next night, Dec. 30, is my birthday, but more important, we're finally taking our wives out for dinner to celebrate winning the CSD, um, almost three months ago; sorry for the delay, ladies. We don't know where all the kids will be that night. If you see them out and about, please give us a call.

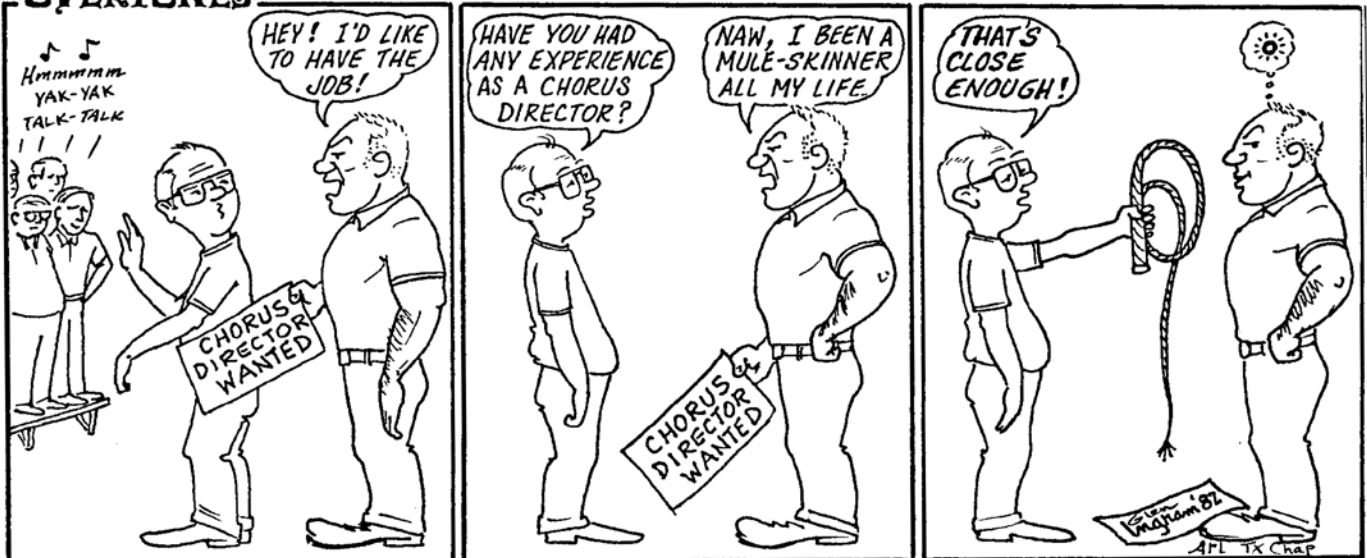
With the holidays rapidly approaching, **Quadrio** wishes each and every one of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! With 2006 coming to a close, **Quadrio** reflects back and feels blessed about our recent success on the contest stage. We hope to keep the momentum going in 2007, starting in the spring and qualifying for international in Denver! Thank you all for your support.

Until next time,
Mattio
Grantio
Robio

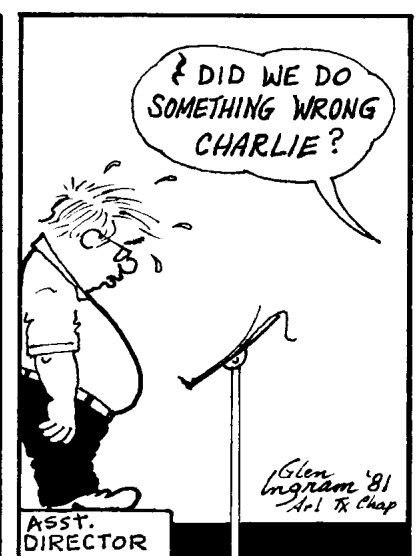
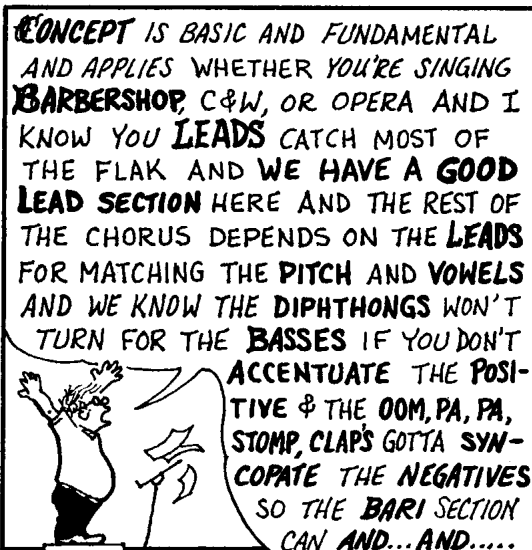
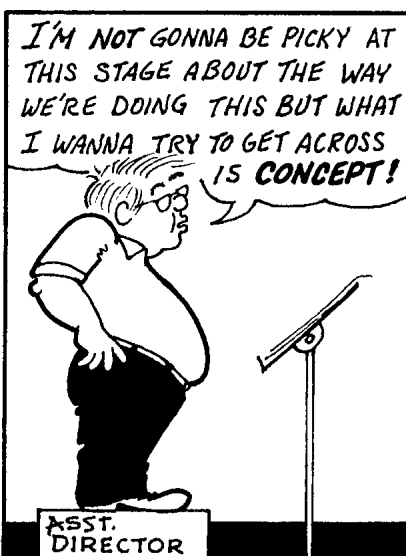
Fabio (*Michaelio just didn't work*) ♥

JUST FOUR LAUGHS!

OVERTONES



WHEN THE BALLAD'S OVER HE'LL GET BACK ON PITCH!





Waddayawatch? - Part III

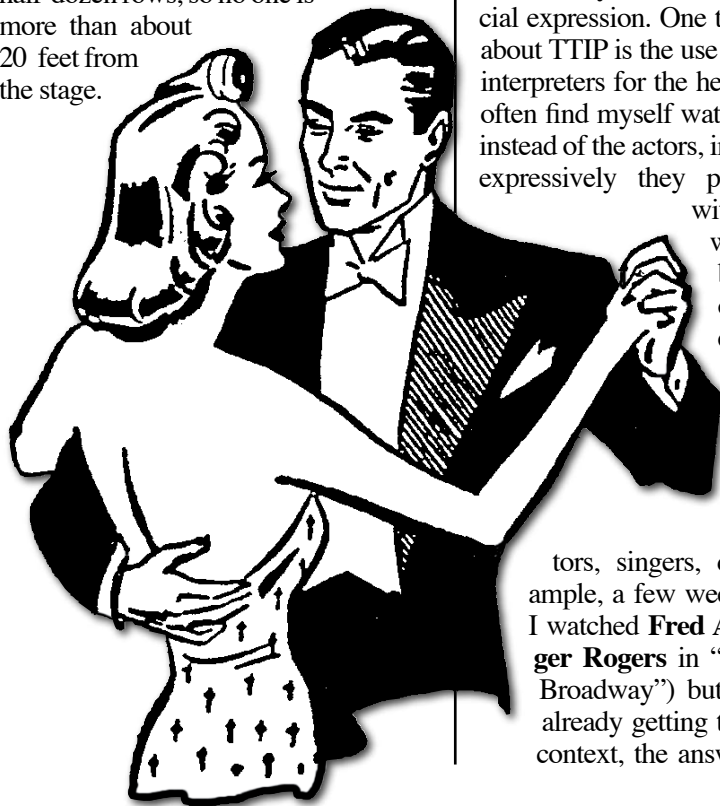
by Carter Combs, Assistant Director



In Part I of this series, I suggested that watching the

director's eyes is a useful and effective tool for us as performers to most accurately present his interpretation of the music. Last month, I concluded that we must perform with our entire beings, because our audiences watch everything. Now we combine those two ideas into one, since each of us is both performer and audience. I hear you respond "Say what?"

Jeffi and I have season tickets to Quality Hill Playhouse, where musical director and pianist **J. Kent Barnhart** presents six cabaret-style shows per season in a wonderfully intimate theater. These shows usually feature three to four performers singing a variety of 20th Century Broadway and popular music. The theater has only about a half-dozen rows, so no one is more than about 20 feet from the stage.



This month we went to the QHP annual holiday show, and enjoyed it very much. The cast presented a wonderfully varied selection of music, and the singers all had beautifully trained voices. But as we strolled to stretch during intermission, we both agreed that one of the singers didn't seem to be at the same level as the others. We were walking near the front entrance and saw photographs of the performers. Jeffi pointed and said "Look, she has a beautiful smile, but we haven't seen that yet on stage." She had a light, clear voice, perfectly suited to the music she was singing, but her eyes and face never convinced us that she was "in the moment."

So, as a member of the audience, I learn something as a performer.

Jeffi and I also enjoy going to events at big outdoor venues, like Starlight Theater and The Theatre in the Park (TTIP) in Johnson County Shawnee. At these locations, much of the audience is hundreds of feet from the stage, so we can't always catch the nuances of facial expression. One thing I appreciate about TTIP is the use of sign-language interpreters for the hearing-impaired. I often find myself watching the signers instead of the actors, impressed by how expressively they present—not just with their hands, but with their entire bodies. Again, as one of the audience, I learn how to be a better performer.

I could go on presenting examples of actors, singers, dancers (for example, a few weeks ago Jeffi and I watched **Fred Astaire** and **Ginger Rogers** in "The Barkleys of Broadway") but I hope you are already getting the point. In this context, the answer to "Wadday-

awatch?" is "other performers." We watch them to learn from great artists and the not-so-great.

Now I sincerely doubt any of us will ever dance as well as **Fred Astaire**, but we can learn a lot by watching his seemingly effortless routines. We can commit to making our performances appear as effortless. Watching classic movie musicals is a rewarding and enjoyable way to learn. Watch **Donald O'Connor** perform "Make 'Em Laugh" in "Singing In The Rain." Watch how **Judy Garland** emotes while singing "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" in "Meet Me In St. Louis." Watch, well, just about everything in "West Side Story."

But just as rewarding, and in many ways even better than viewing movies, is watching live performances. Start going to local productions: concerts and theater, both amateur and professional. Watch and enjoy, but also analyze both what you liked and what distracted you.

There are many benefits to supporting local productions. One, of course, is learning more about performing. Next, we are also local performers and ask the community to support our efforts; it's only fair that we return the favor. Finally, did you notice that all of my examples above were events my wife and I did together? What a wonderful opportunity to spend some quality time with your family and friends! And you have the added benefit that you can discuss the performance with your compatriots.

So the next time someone at work asks if you saw the latest "CSI: Raytown" on television, you can say you don't spend your time watching that stuff. And when they ask "Waddayawatch?" you can reply "I just took my whole family to a great production of the 'Who's A Whatsus' musical at the 'So&So Theater' and we had a wonderful evening together. Let me tell you about it. *By the way, do you sing?*" ♥



Annual Picnic Review by Carl Turlin

After postponing the summer picnic due to a thunderstorm that never materialized, the HOA annual picnic did materialize at Lake Quivira in October, thanks to **Don Peck** and **Harry Stewart**. Twenty-something singers and wives and friends showed up on the cloudy cool afternoon to enjoy camaraderie, food and drink, a boat ride, and of course, some tag singing led by our arm-waving tag-meister, **Jim Bagby**! Picnic organizer Turlin threatens to have another picnic in the winter. *Bring your sled!* ♥



**IT TAKES MORE
THAN FOUL
WEATHER TO
DAMPEN THE
SPIRITS OF A
BARBERSHOPPER.
THESE HOA
CREWMEMBERS
PROVED IT!**



From top to bottom: Revelers pictured in the cold at Lake Quivira are: (left to right) Donie Peck, Carol Ramirez blocking out Mary Jo Miller, Linda Fuson, David Miller, Gordy Coleman, Harry Stewart, and Val Putzier; The HMS HOA on a torpedo run (possibly on it's way to Denver?) Left to Right; Kent Miller, Cindy Miller, Marilou Coleman, Jim Bagby, John Starkey, Don Peck. In the foreground, waving is Marci Turlin. Joann Bagby is to Marci's right; Two hot dogs and 1/2 of Jim Bagby; the big hot dog is Don Fuson, CSD president. Don't know the name of the one in his hand; A gentle, but fierce, Jan Putzier, rips into a song, er...ah...a buffalo wing (sure tastes a lot like chicken!) Photos courtesy of Carl Turlin

Final Analysis Of The District Competitions

by Jim Porter



I now have completed my analysis of the results of all 230 choruses in the fall district competitions. The distribution of the total percentages of the 30 choruses eligible for International shows half this number of choruses are at our level (80 to 84 percent). HOA's score is sixth-best of these 15.

Above us, there are four in the 86 percent range, but just one is in between, suggesting there's a significant barrier between the low-80s and the mid-80s. Above that, there is one chorus in the 87 range, then the top three are well over 90. This suggests a second significant barrier between the mid-80s and the over-90s.

There are therefore two levels above us that we can work to achieve—the contenders for medals (the 86 percent group) and the contenders for gold (the over-90 group). That there are many choruses near our level and relatively few above us shows that reaching the next level is no small feat. But as we've seen recently, it is possible. However, it usually takes a significant change in the chorus program—a new leadership team, a merger, or something of that nature—to bring it off.

Looking at the districts, it is interesting to note that our own CSD had a 73.8 average for all competing choruses—best of all the 16 districts in the Society. However, there were only 10 choruses at Wichita, while most other districts had more. Far Western, Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern each has well over 20 competing choruses. When only the top 10 choruses in each district are considered (including recent international scores for *Vocal Majority* and *Masters of Harmony*), the lineup changes significantly. Central States is still at 73.8, but slips to fourth place in the rankings, behind FWD (79.4), MAD (77.0) and Southwestern (74.2). Close behind CSD is Land O'Lakes (72.8), Dixie (72.74) and Johnny Appleseed (72.68).

Three districts (Ontario, Sunshine and Cardinal) had fewer than 10 choruses competing and were in the mid-to-upper 60s. Having some really good choruses in the district helps these averages, of course, but the strength of our district, and others that are up there with us, is a good number of high B-level choruses. Districts with low averages generally have only a handful of choruses able to average 70 or higher.

It's a good thing to be part of a competitive district like Central States, with four or five choruses behind us but close enough that if we slip back, they can easily surpass us. It should be an inducement for us to keep our performance level high. ♥



Editorial: It's Sure Not 1954 Anymore

by Todd Anderson, *Harmonotes* Editor



Another one of those pesky birthdays just passed me by. As if you need a reminder, a lot has changed since 1954. Just check out the lyrics from a song that **Doris Day** made popular that year:

IF I GIVE MY HEART TO YOU

Written by **Jimmy Brewster**,
Jimmie Crane and **Al Jacobs**

*If I give my heart to you,
will you handle it with care?
Will you always treat me tenderly
and in every way be fair?*

*If I give my heart to you,
will you give me all your love?
Will you swear that you'll be true to
me by the light that shines above?*

*And will you sigh with me when I'm sad?
Smile with me when I'm glad?
And always be
as you are with me tonight?*

*Think it over and be sure;
Please don't answer till you do.
When you promise all those things to me,
Then I'll give my heart to you.*

That era seemed to be chock-full of writers who could really communicate, don't you agree? By the way, *Command Performance* does a great job on this song today.

Now let's compare that sentiment to what is currently the No. 1 hit on the hip-hop charts, as performed by **Snoop Dogg** and **Akon**. The following lyric sample is easily obtained on the internet. Sadly, I cannot print it in its entirety. Why? Putting it mildly, most of it is total sludge. The song title alone, which is unprintable, made me do a double-take. I debated about whether to print any of this. I finally decided to share a snippet; hard to imagine this

passes for entertainment. The number (it's certainly not a song) begins with this breathless bit of romantic poetry:

*I see you windin' 'n' grindin'
up on that pole,
I kno u see me lookin' at you
and you already kno...*

That's the mildest part. It immediately deteriorates from that into lyrics filled with F-bombs and unprintable four and five-letter words.

After listening to the whole thing, which many thousands of Americans are doing, it'd be a breeze to focus solely on the moral erosion that has taken place in our country. I'm sure you'll agree, most of today's lyrics would no more have been tolerated in the '50s anymore than fingernail clippers are allowed on airline flights today. If my dad had ever heard me spewing this type of stuff, he would have duct-taped my lips shut. And trash like this—*some even call it music*—is picking up momentum. It made me think how committed we as parents, grandparents or mentors must be to keep impressionable young minds occupied on interests of a greater worth.

While it's easy to get discouraged about the relentless stream of "rap" manure that's being spread around, there is a twinkle of hope I've seen within the pages of our own chapter bulletin. If you look closely you'll see world-champ parents using barbershop as a strong ally.

For example, over the past couple of years we've watched the **Fortino** boys become immersed in four-part harmony. From my editorial vantage point, they are an integral, valuable part of the chorus. And they're not the only ones. In this very issue, you'll see that nine year-old **Dylan Mathieu** is getting plugged in to *HOA*! Come to think of it, when I first joined *HOA*, I immediately met **Mike Mathieu's** three sons, who would trip over each other to sing a tag first. How are young guys drawn to this hobby over

less-than-wholesome alternatives? Simple. They have parents who made the decision to steer their kids toward that which builds confidence and character. These young bucks are far too involved with high-caliber activities to wallow in the culture of today's depravity. They deserve strong pats on the back for making the right choices!

I see other members of our *HOA* family actively serving in ways that introduce kids to barbershop. *Examples*: I can't imagine Harmony Explosion growing to its present status without our own **Al Higgins'** leadership. *12th Street Rag* has presented barbershop to thousands of kids in school assemblies around the area. I read about **Jim Bagby** working with boys and girls at barbershop clinics around the Central States District. I'm sure you can tell me of many other *HOA* members who use harmony to reach out to young people.

As a new year looms, let's continue to showcase barbershop to youngsters. Unlike hip-hop, barbershop brings out the best in people, not the worst. Plus, unlike rap, I believe it's a much tougher art to master. I mean, how hard is it to writhe around and scream "Yo!" into a microphone? *Did I miss a meeting on that?*

Rappers with names like **Snoop Dog**, **Ludacris**, **Jay-Z**, **50 Cent** and **Diddy** are racing to see who can become the most vulgar. I'm grateful *HOA* showcases an art form which seeks to bring out the best in all who take part in it. ♥



Left to right: *HOA's* Jonathan Fortino, Anthony Fortino, A.J. Meier and Stephen Duncan represent the **BEST** in our youth!

Don Fuson

Can We Get Younger In 2007?

by Bob Murphy, Incoming Membership Chairman



MURPHY

In early November, I had the wonderful experience of attending COTS in Sioux Falls, S.D. I must admit that it really felt like winter in that northern city, but the experience was warm and inviting.

I have come back with many ideas on what we need to do to increase our membership here at HOA. I will begin to share these ideas and begin to implement them after the first of the year. As these plans are put in motion, I'm going to ask every member to lend a hand to help our chapter grow.

One thing that really struck me at COTS was how our society is aging. Our class instructor, Judd Orff from Stillwater, Minn., informed us that the average age of the Barbershop Harmony Society is 62. (I am well above that age, so I'm not helping to bring down the average). If our average age is 62 now, that means that in 10 years it could be 72. I believe that HOA needs to help lower this average. Suggestions from our membership will be welcome.

I am looking forward to the challenge of being your Membership Veep for 2007. ♥

POINTS TO PONDER!

CSD's average age is 58 and is one of the youngest districts.

HOA has been blessed by being able to attract younger family members, but our future will also benefit via an even broader approach to more students and college-age singers alike.

Each member must press to widen their "exposure and invitee" lists to events such as the Holiday show and Annual Show in order to find the next few leads for the future members.

Each member should welcome the invitation to step up to and be involved with chapter operational leadership. YOUR IDEAS and new approaches will help shape the opportunities for all of us during the course of the year. ♥



New Member Spotlight

by Ron McIntire

With this column, we introduce new members of the Kansas City, Missouri Chapter!



Fred Hangartner

Fred Hangartner is a 22-year barber-shopper living in St. Joseph, Mo. with his wife **Connie**. He has a minor in music from Kansas State University, and sang with and directed the *St. Joseph Pony Expressmen* for a period of time. He plays the organ and directs his church choir and makes the trek from St. Joseph every Tues to sing tenor with HOA.



Dylan Mathieu

Dylan Mathieu is a first-time barber-shopper and the 9-year old son of **Joe Mathieu**. He is a 4th grade student at Tomahawk Elementary school in Olathe, Kan.. His teacher says he is good in music and has a lot of potential. His interests include sports and his school friendships. Though he has not been around a lot, HOA can expect to see more of him in the next few years.



Keith Owen

Keith Owen lives in Lansing, Kan. with his wife Lois and directs the *Leavenworth, Kan. Cody Choraliers*. He is a 21-year barbershopper and dual member with the Kansas City and Leavenworth chapters, joining HOA in 2005. His musical background includes piano, percussion instruments and he sang semi-professionally in his younger years. He sings in the church choir and is a past director and organist of the choir. He now sings baritone with HOA and in the *Heartland Harmony* quartet. ♥

**THREE MORE REASONS
why HOA is singing better
EVERYDAY!**



Summary of November 2006 Board Meeting

by Kevin Tritsch, Secretary and Ron McIntire



Editor's Note: Due to schedule conflicts with the Holiday Show rehearsal with the Sweet Adelines the board met in multiple sessions during the month of November. This summary is a compilation of all meetings.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ron Fortino

Operating Funds available on 10/31/06 - \$4,931.82

MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE: Keith Schweer

- The Music Team is moving the retreat to June 22-23, 2007, just prior to the International Convention.
- **Mark Hale** will coach the chorus on February 3 and April 3, and will be on hand for the June 22-23, 2007 retreat.
- Chorus rehearsal will be canceled December 26, 2006.

SPRING SHOW: Jerry Garrard

- First Show Committee meeting is scheduled for mid January.
- Tickets chairman will be **Al Higgins** through November 30.
- Starting December 1, all tickets will be managed by Yardley Hall Ticket Office. Group special needs sales will be handled by Al Higgins. *Editor's note: Yardley Hall ticket office will be closed until January 15, 2007, so Al will manage tickets until then.*
- Jerry is having difficulty getting a contract from *Dapper Dans*, *Humdinger* but is staying in contact with *Metropolis*. They are available for the 2007 show if a contract cannot be signed with the *Dapper Dans*.

Mailing List:

In response to an inquiry by the Sweet Adelines to use the HOA mailing list, the board agreed to have one mailing list managed by **Rich Huyck** which can be used by both the KC Sweet Adelines and the HOA.

Survey:

The board agreed to pay Decision Insight \$850 for gathering the survey data and analysis.

CD Sales:

The board agreed to sell a 2-CD Package of the chorus songs for \$25 at the Holiday Show. ♥

The HOA Board of Directors meets at 6 p.m. on the second Monday of the month, at the Johnson County Car License office, located at 6000 Lamar Avenue. Chapter members are welcome!

Hunget Harmony Hullabaloo

by Grant Hunget



One recent fall weekend was pretty dang fun around our house.

On Oct. 7 in Wichita, my quartet, *Quadrio* (**Rob Mathieu, Michael Troyer, Matt Moore**), ten months after forming and on our first fall attempt, became Central States District champs! We sure hadn't expected it, as we were up against some pretty tough competitors with lots of talent and experience. We're working now towards qualifying for international in Denver.

Earlier that day, HOA had posted solid 82-plus scores to qualify as a wildcard for Denver. Stepson **Steven Duncan** and I stand side-by-side on the front row with HOA, so that's pretty cool.

Just four days later in Las Vegas, at the *Sweet Adeline* convention, my wife **Michelle's** quartet *Zing!* (**LaDonna Cheatham, Melynnie Williams, Susan Ives**) performed wonderfully and landed in the top 10 on their fifth appearance in international competition. Two days later they walked away with FIFTH-PLACE "BIG GIRL" MEDALS, as Michelle so fondly refers to them.

It's been quite a ride for *Zing!* In order of previous international competitions, they've placed 16, 17, 22, 33 and now in the medals. *Zing!* is fired up and looking forward to what lies ahead in Calgary next October.

Over the summer, stepdaughter **MaryBeth Duncan** sang with her first *Sweet Adeline* quartet (with grandmother **Pat Duncan!**) in a Kansas City Chorus "fun night" contest, and WON! So she brought home some "hardware" as well.



If that weren't enough, my dad, **Phil Hunget**, is going to be performing on the international stage in Denver next summer, with a chorus, for the first time since 1960 (that was with Cedar Rapids, where he first joined). You may have heard that some of the guys from his Mason City, Iowa, chapter competed in a joint venture with the Commodores from

Minneapolis, and have also since accepted a wildcard invitation. To top things off, he will be also be receiving his 50-year Society pin!

Pretty cool that Dad & I get to perform at the (same) International contest for the first time ever. ♥

2007: A Vision

by Tony Strub, HOA President



I would like to thank **Betsy Stewart**, the board of Directors and our chapter membership for their work on our *HOA* survey. Sixty five percent of our membership completed the survey and sent it in which is truly remarkable. It is my hope that the tabulation and analysis will mark the beginning of a resurgence of energy, commitment and pride in *HOA* for all of us.

I believe that in 2007 we will see a refocus on the needs of our membership. We should also see an effort to reactivate members who have been absent for a while. I believe that we need an effective strategy to attract youth to our chapter. I can also see all of our members and leadership placing a greater emphasis on *HOA's* mission. I am confident that the results of our survey will indicate to our leadership the changes, additions and adjustments that are needed to make all of these things happen.

I would like to congratulate and express my gratitude to our nominating committee **Bob Rutherford, Ron Abel** and **Don Young** for recruiting a very talented new group of board members for 2007. These new board members along with the returning board members will certainly be challenged to meet their responsibilities and respond to the messages sent to us from our survey. It is my intent in January of 2007 after a thorough study of our survey results to begin the process of developing a strategic plan that will define what we need to do, where we want to go and how and when we intend to get there. It is my hope that once we have the direction and the destination, we will all make the commitment and the effort to attain the goals. ♥

To everyone in the HOA family, we wish you a very

Merry Christmas



World's Most Famous BBS Quartet Headlines HOA Show, In New Venue

by Jerry Garrard, HOA 2007 Show Chairman



March 17 at the Carlson Center's Yardley Hall - JCCC, The Kansas City Missouri Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society would like to welcome to the stage, for the first time in Kansas City History, the *Humdingers* (aka *The Dapper Dans* of Walt Disney World) along with *12th Street Rag*, *Quadrio*, and many other Chapter Quartets.



"Magic Moments" is not just the theme of this years show, but it is a theme of the *Heart of America Chorus*. We will share with our audience the heart and souls of each man on the risers. The joy of expressive singing will ring from the stage and envelop the mind's eye of each member within earshot as we bring to life the best *HOA* show ever.

The joy of happy relaxed nostalgia will be evident on each face as the audience makes their way to greet you. Your friends and relatives will gather around in droves trying to purchase the new "Happy Together" CD that will be for sale in the large lobby of the Carlson Center right after both the 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. performances.

As you know, there will be many more communications about this event as the time grows near. Ticket Chairman, **Al Higgins**, has made tickets available to you earlier than the past years. So take advantage of this time and get the seats you want, before we turn ticket sales over to the Carlson Center Box Office in mid January.

May the joy of your life and the friends you sing with become one with your audience as we prepare to make "Magic Moments" the best *HOA* show ever! ♥

Santa's Helpers

by Dale Neuman

By now we've all been reminded of the good done by a variety of Santa's Helpers who appear this time of year. We even finally got to discover the real identity of the Secret Santa who each year for a number of years has appeared to give \$100 bills to folks in need in Kansas City and elsewhere. Stories such as these leave us with a warm feeling and sense of appreciation for Santa's generosity, as well as one of relief that our personal situations do not require such help from Santa at this time or this year.

But times and circumstances can and do change for all of us. Sometimes an *HOA* member finds that something has happened that makes it financially difficult, maybe impossible, for him to go to contest or to the retreat. And that's when the efforts of *HOA's* Santa's Helpers, who contribute to the Presidents' Helpers Fund, can make things brighter for these men in their time of need. We, too, try to stay as anonymous as we can in our efforts, just as we try to assure the privacy of those we help.

To be clear, I do not equate the prospect of not being able to share in our hobby and passion for excellence with the prospect of going without food or shelter or medicine, or even toys for kids who otherwise would have none at Christmas or anytime. So I urge that folks not forget the need of others as they make their charitable gifts at year's end. I just ask that you not forget the good the *HOA* Presidents' Helpers Fund has done and can do with support from those who find themselves able to include it as one of their charities during this season of giving.



Checks may be made out to *HOA* with "Presidents' Fund" written in the memo space and given to **Ron Fortino** or me. We will make things happen from there. Thanks and Happy Holidays! ♥

FOCAL POINT: Up Close and Personal!

by Ron McIntire

Years ago, before the advent of the current crop of do-everything computers, **Jim Davis** did a lot of the chapter artwork. Whether for the Spring Show, show flyers or signs, the evidence of his creativity was everywhere. Today, new computers and programs have, for the most part, relieved him of that responsibility. But chapter members who were around in the '80s and '90s remember his work.

James H. Davis, known by almost everyone as "Jim," was born in Kansas City and raised in Independence close to Hill Park, in the Englewood area. He graduated from Van Horn High School in 1958, took a few classes at Kansas City Junior College, then landed a full-time job with the Gas Service Company as an engineering draftsman. Ten years later, he left Gas Service and began what was to be a 30-year career in the commercial architecture market, working his way up from draftsman to vice president. He's retired now but likes to keep busy with a few selective "handyman" projects and a part-time job at the Fixture Gallery in Blue Springs.

"I learned to sing at home and in church," Jim says, "and learned to harmonize in grade school, in the days when the arts were considered a part of education." In high school, he sang in the Concert Choir, the Boys Ensemble and Madrigal, where he met and fell in love with Denise, his wife of 45-plus years. He doesn't play any musical instruments, but he did take piano lessons when he was young. "My oldest brother had all the talent," he says.

"I was a charter member of the now-defunct Independence Chapter in 1974," Jim says, "and joined *HOA* in late 1975." He has done almost everything for us: board member, program and membership vice president, show chairman several times and chapter president in 1983. He was named Barbershopper of the Year in 1986. One of his fondest memories is the annual show he headed in 1980 "when we had a western theme, complete with fog and chorus girls."



Jim Davis

In 1979, Jim headed up the first all-male *HOA* makeup crew, taking over for the wives who had been drafted to do the work. Today you still see him helping out at a show or contest. He's competed in the majority of international contests from Minneapolis in 1979 to Salt Lake City in 2005, singing bari, bass or

lead depending on the chorus needs. He's also been in several quartets, one with fellow *HOAer*, and pretty mean tenor in his younger days, **Tom Forsythe**. "Most of the quartets were forgettable," he recalls, "but one was a not-too-shabby gospel quartet that sang a mix of arrangements including barbershop." Today, he sings in his church choir, which he also directed for nine years.

"In 32 years," Jim says, "I've accumulated many wonderful memories: the first district championship in '78 and subsequent trips to International, *HOA's* sixth-place finish in '81, and when *RR4* won the gold in Salt Lake City in 1986. (*Ed Note: He did the artwork for all the RR4 album covers*). Barbershopping and *HOA* have been a major part of my life." ♥



THE ROAD TO MAKING YOUR CHAPTER BULLETIN

1 Each month there are many consistent contributors to *Harmonotes*. Without their input, our bulletin can't communicate anything! From photography that captures a performance, to articles that inform, educate or entertain, we begin with the raw ingredients!

2 Our reporters range from a champion International bulletin editor to leaders throughout HOA. Just a FEW are shown below! (We even have a retired TV weatherman who can write hilarious articles or offer accurate forecasts for our shows!)

3 Your editor gathers up the goods, then spends many hours developing a layout.

4 Several eyes proof our pages, trying to eliminate grammatical errors. Even our director, who already writes numerous pieces, assists other articles to read their very best. (Bet the Associated Press could use a guy like that!)

5 After proofing is completed, an electronic file is sent over the Internet to Overland Park, where Chris Brimble and his dedicated crew at FedEx/Kinko's fire up their presses and print our bulletin! They holler when the publication is ready to be picked up.

6 Every month, HOA's Distribution wizard picks up the finished bulletins, and prepares them for mailing. That means affixing labels and organizing the hundreds of bulletins in such a way so that the post office will accept them. Without his dedication, everything done to this point means nothing!

Start Here! RECEIVE TOP-NOTCH PHOTOS AND ARTICLES FROM MEMBERS!

Matt Bostick

Todd Anderson

Don Fuson

Ron McIntire

Wade Dexter

Jim Bagby

Dan Henry

Keith Schweer

Jim Porter

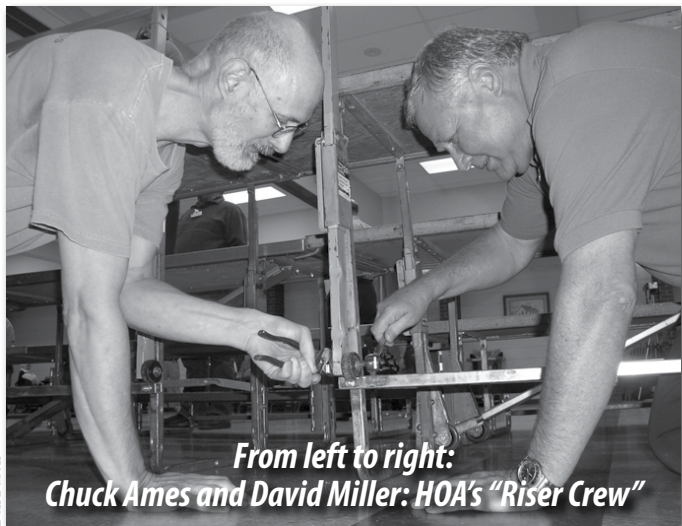
Tony Strub

Dick Irwin

FedEx Kinko's
Office and Print Center

AS YOU CAN SEE, IT TAKES MORE THAN JUST A BULLETIN EDITOR TO BRING YOU A BULLETIN!

Remember! KEEP HARMONOTES STRONG BY GETTING INVOLVED IN 2007!



Don Fuson

From left to right:
Chuck Ames and David Miller: HOA's "Riser Crew"

A TIP OF THE HAT!

The Tip 'O The Hat is recognition to both members and non-members who have made a recent contribution in time and effort to the betterment of the Kansas City, Missouri Chapter.

A big Tip 'O The Hat recognition to **David Miller** and **Chuck Ames** for doing the repair work on the risers.

Hats off to **Darrell McCune** for his ongoing vocal coaching, and to **Carter Combs** for organizing the weekly sessions.

Where would we be without our new uniform chairman, **Charles Ramirez** who took over for veteran uniformer **Brooke Meyers**?

A Tip 'O The Hat to **Jim Bagby, Jo Kraut, Kent McClean** and the Holiday Show Committee for organizing the joint *Sweet Adeline/HOA* show rehearsals; to **Mike Schumacher** and the front row for the 6:30 early choreography rehearsals; and to **Sheri Hart, Mike Neff** and the presentation team for the show staging; to **Kent Miller** for handling Afterglow ticket sales, and to **Bob Rutherford** for show ticket sales.

A special Hat's Off tribute to **Mike Mathieu, Bob Burdick, John Erwine, Tony Strub, Dick Korek, Barry Sanders** and the Bell-Ringing Committee for working hard to organize the Salvation Army Caroling Caravan scheduled for Dec 16. It is through their efforts that the 2006 Salvation Army performances will be a memorable experience for everyone. ♥

DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY ISSUE OF HARMONOTES:

DECEMBER 31



...to the following chapter members!

December 1	Jeff Clymore
December 2	Chris Kinghorn
December 7	Dennis Taylor
December 7	Jim Davis
December 9	Ron Fortino
December 10	John Warrior
December 13	Jim Ballinger
December 16	Val Putzier
December 17	Bill Wheeler
December 17	Steve Duncan
December 23	Jeremy Kaat
December 24	Darrell McCune
December 25	Zach Atwell
December 28	Mike Louque
December 30	Grant Hunget



Don Fuson

Ron "Zipper" McIntire (returning from his heart surgery) and **Bryan King** (visitor from the Springfield, Mo. chapter) were warmly welcomed during the Nov. 28 meeting!



Barbershopper Of The Month!

Ron McIntire



September 2006: Monty Duerksen

In grateful appreciation for your outstanding work organizing the curriculum, schedule and presenters for the 2006 New Member Orientation program. ♥

Xtra Mile Award!

Don Fuson



Above: HOA President **Tony Strub** (at right) presents **David Miller** (on left) with the September 2006 Xtra Mile Award, which read:

September 2006: David Miller

In recognition for doing much-needed repair work on the chorus risers in preparation for the 2006 Central States District convention and contest in Wichita, Kansas. ♥

HARMONOTES

...is published by the board of directors of the Kansas City, MO., Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, a non-profit organization. Photographs that are not attributed are the work of our photographers at large. 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.

Heart of America Chorus

2006 CHAPTER OFFICERS AND BOARD

President	Tony Strub
Immediate Past President	Marty Oldehoeft
Executive V.P.	Doug Brott
Chorus Director	Jim Bagby
Associate Director	Mike Neff
Assistant Directors	Carter Combs
Music/Performance V.P.	Keith Schweer
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Photographers at large	Matt Bostick, Don Fuson, Ron McIntire
Distribution Manager	Dick Irwin
Staff Reporters	ALL 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, content and spelling).

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

The utmost care was used in preparation of this newsletter. Should you notice erroneous copy, please let the Editor know!

Comments/submissions may be made to:

Todd Anderson

17905 East 24th Terrace Ct. South · Independence, MO 64057-1332
(816) 373-8633 · toddanderson@comcast.net

Chapter meets at 7 p.m. each Tuesday night, at:

St. Peter's United Church of Christ
110th & Holmes · Kansas City, MO 64105

The HOA Board of Directors meets at 6 p.m. on the second Monday of the month, at the Johnson County Car License office, located at 6000 Lamar Avenue. Chapter members are welcome!

HOA Website: www.hoachorus.com
Web Address: webstaff@hoachorus.com
Chorus Manager & Webmaster - **Vince Perry**
Chapter Telephone: (816) 221-7888



*As we rapidly close the old year,
Our thoughts turn to friends we hold dear;
Countless chords with them rung,
Endless songs with them sung
Make us say, "Man, it's been a good year!"*

— Robert J. Brown

Heart of America Chorus Calendar

Dec. 16 Caroling Caravan for Salvation Army - *see schedule inside!*

Dec. 26 NO Weekly Meeting – *Merry Christmas!*

Jan. 2 HOA Weekly Meeting (St. Peter's)

Jan. 13 6 p.m. - HOA Installation/Awards Dinner

Doubletree Hotel, Overland Park

Feb. 3 All-day Coaching Session with Mark Hale (St. Peter's)

Feb. 14 HOA Singing Valentines

Feb. 17 6 p.m. - HOA Show - John Knox Village

Feb. 17 Harmony Explosion (Location to be announced)

March 16 HOA Tech Rehearsal for Annual Show (Yardley Hall)

The Kansas City chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society is a singing fraternity whose mission is to learn, teach and perform the highest-quality, entertaining, a cappella music that embraces the barbershop style through the Heart of America Chorus and its chapter quartets, to bring about a spiritual and emotional response from the performer and the audience.

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Barbershop Harmony Society
Kansas City Chapter, Inc.
816 West 121 Street
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