



CHORUS AND QUARTET SINGING
IN THE BARBERSHOP STYLE



SECOND-OLDEST CHAPTER IN THE
BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY®

VOLUME 08 - ISSUE 4 - APRIL 2008



Photo courtesy of Matt Bostick

This year's show comes with many new factors. New director, new sound system at Yardley, new songs, etc. But as we worked up to and through the show, it was like old hat. **John Warrior** is a superstar. He can take any situation on the stage and make it look absolutely professional. John is one man whom *HOA* needs in order to put this show on with such professional attention to details.

Sure, there were a lot of things to consider as we took the stage of this venue for the second time. **Al Higgins** had his focus on ticket sales; this came with a new twist for the Carlsen Center ticket office. Al worked it out so ALL cash flow came through *HOA* until the week of the show. This was completely against the Carlsen Center's standing operating procedure.

Al helped me with many other facets of this year's production, but the one that holds the highest need for recognition is the relationship between Al Higgins, the Kansas City Chapter, the

Barbershop Harmony Society and the DoubleTree Hotel of Overland Park. We hit a catering law snag with the folks at JCCC and needed to pull an afterglow site out of our magical bag of tricks. I could only think of about two things: One, cancel, or two, call Al. This phone call ended with me doing back flips in my living room. What a wonderful location and setup! *Thanks, Al!*

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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

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

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

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

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

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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!

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Looking Ahead To 2009

(Continued from front cover)

To let you in on a secret... You can tell that **David Krause** is mad if he has a smile on his face. The rosier the cheeks and fuller the smile, the madder he is. I actually enjoyed bringing this show together under his suggestions and direction. But there were many times when I could see his broad smile and hear his cheery voice as he was telling me, "Maybe we could...How about doing...Wouldn't you agree that..." I've learned that when David starts a sentence with these phrases, there is a 45-minute (or six e-mail) exchange of thoughts about to take place. I'm very, very happy that he was so involved with the show order and the other aspects of the show. Hey, David, maybe we could...Possibly...I'm sure you would agree that next year..." (There, I got the jump on you this time!)

What a wonderful show; the energy was very high! The transitions were smooth. The believability and performance of the entire show was at a consistent high level. Now for the exciting news! Next year, if we want to stay at Yardley Hall, there is a strong possibility that we'll get to do the tech rehearsal and show all in one day. Mark your calendars for MARCH 14, 2009. Headliner? Yet to be determined. (Note to self: "How on earth do we get a better headliner? I know! Switch it up a bit!") Yeah! ♥

Gearing Up For International

by David Krause, HOA Chorus Director



International contest will be here before we know it. I'm guessing that we may have the most to do of any chorus going, since we haven't even sung a note of either song yet! In some ways, that will make it even more fun, as far as I'm concerned. Please do what you can to come to rehearsals as

prepared as possible on both of those songs. Feel free to hold music as needed but please don't be sightreading. We'll be off the pages quickly. And, let's really try hard not to spend too much time talking at that meeting, as can often happen.

To those of you not in our performing chorus as of now, we need you. Nashville will be great fun and I'm going to do all I can to get us to 100 guys on that stage. I'm very committed to the idea of no "required" rehearsals and very few extra rehearsals. However, I'm also committed to encouraging, enticing, cajoling, and motivating as many as possible to attend as often as possible.

Now, would be the perfect time to come join us and learn three or four new songs in the next two months with us. Please help me spread the word that all can be a part of our chorus as often as they can. If a guy can learn the two contest songs well on his own with our interp, etc. and join us as often as possible for the next couple of months and then almost all of June he should be able to qualify to sing in Nashville. Some guys have the talent and drive to do it with fewer rehearsals and some will need more. We'd love to have you for any times you want to come sing, even if only one Tuesday. With all of that said, I think we could easily put 100 on stage in Nashville. Let's do it. ♥

HOA Provides Opportunities for All!

by Doug Brott, HOA President



As you read this, our Annual Show is in the can and our next stop is Nashville. Hopefully by now everyone is off the spots on our two new songs for International. How about our learning media? *Isn't it great?* In my humble opinion, this is the best way for us to learn new music. Great learning media and 3-4 weeks to learn the song, on our own. Then, target a specific date to start singing the new song, on the risers, without music. Then all we have to do is polish, practice, polish, practice, practice, practice, practice.

Speaking of practice, how about that Guest Night in March? *What a deal.* 103 in attendance. How many of the guests that were here on March 18 are still here? Have you done all you can to help with guests and turn them into members? Remember it is a team effort. One or two people cannot do it all. If you want to see *HOA* grow, if you want to see the Society as a whole prosper and start increasing membership instead of decreasing, what can you personally do to help? **David** wants guest nights in April and May. His goal is to take 100 men to Nashville. Everyone must help if we are to achieve that goal.

Membership is not the only issue you can help with. We have many opportunities coming up. The golf tournament, our retreat, Nashville, Singing in the Park, *HOA* Picnic, fall contest, John Knox Village performance, Holiday Harmony Spectacular; all are big projects that need your help. Are you personally doing all you can? That is a question only you can answer. It is said that in any volunteer organization, 20% of the members do 80% of the work. I truly believe *HOA* does better than that. However, there is always room for improvement. Please volunteer to help. Don't be shy. There are always things to be done and jobs to do. Talk to any board member and we will be happy to get you involved.

See you on the risers. ♥

HOA Financial Corner

by Kent Miller, Financial Committee



This month's topic was to be Gift Annuities, but there is a more important event to report. You will hear about Gift Annuities at a later date.

Heart of America has established a relationship with the Truman Heartland Community Foundation. The Truman Foundation is considered one of the top 10 foundations in the Kansas City area in terms of total assets, gifts and grants. They provide creative charitable solutions and resources. *HOA* is a 501 (c) 3 organization and is therefore a charitable organization, which is why donors can give to us and take a tax deduction for their gift.

Kansas City has several foundations to which we have made application for grant funds. To date that effort has been unsuccessful, but we intend to continue that process. Those foundations offer monetary assistance but usually do not offer any other kind of assistance.

Truman conducts an ongoing program of needs assessment, particularly in Jackson County (our home) that sets them apart from other foundations. They will identify resources to create successful strategies. They will help donors with the sometimes-complicated process of setting up contribution accounts such as Gift Annuities and Charitable Remainder Trusts. They will help match us with donors interested in contributing to our organization.

We established the relationship with Truman by setting up a foundation account, officially named the "*Heart of America Chorus* Foundation Fund", which will earn us a net of 3.8% per year. The money is kept in a money market account at Truman, but remains our money and is totally liquid. Establishing this account puts us in the "Truman family" and provides a place that donors can use to contribute to *HOA*, using any of the various methods available for charitable contributions. It's working. Very recently we have had a bequest (an amount named in a will) of many thousands of dollars naming our foundation as the beneficiary.

This is a great start on our quest to become financially self-sufficient. ♥



Ron McIntire captured this candid shot of HOA members Eric Weber, Mike Mathieu, Tom Forsythe and Lud Einess giving their vocal cords a break, between the two Show performances, by taking in a game of cribbage.



Heart of America Chorus 2008 ANNUAL SHOW!

Top to bottom/left to right: HOA Director David Krause takes the helm of the 2008 show; Al Higgins introduces some of this years Harmony Explosion winners; Command Performance, Metropolis, High Definiton all score big with the audience; Dan Henry's smile wins 'em over as do Tone-Henge and Top Notch; Carter Combs, Jerry Garrard and Ron Fortino direct with gusto! Show photos courtesy of Matt Bostick





HU Scholarship Deadline: MAY 6!

by Carol Ramirez and Mary Fortino, Scholarship Committee



The HOA Chorus and the *Heartbeats* are sharing the cost of one scholarship to Harmony University for July 27 to Aug. 3. Harmony University will be held this year at Missouri Western State University in St. Joseph, Mo.

This scholarship is open to any first-time participant at Harmony University. Please go to the web site for the application form and submit it no later than Tuesday, May 6. The deserving person selected for the scholarship will be notified by May 13, 2008 by the committee. Good luck to all of you!

The following is a letter to the *Heartbeats* from **Mike Mathieu**:

Dear *Heartbeats*,

In 2007, I was privileged to win the coveted Orval Wilson Scholarship to Harmony University. The week started with Jim Henry giving the keynote speech, a speech that is now known throughout the barbershop world, and generally considered one of the finest barbershop addresses ever given. That was the first event of the week. How on earth could we ever top that?

Every day the singing started at 9 a.m. sharp. We joined in with about 500 other barbershoppers by learning a tag, and then we would all sing a song we had learned prior to heading to St. Joe. There were guest directors every day, and everyone did a great job in getting everyone singing beautifully, some with their eyes still closed from having too little sleep the previous night.

2007 was the first year of the Harmony University "Honors Chorus" directed by **Jim Henry**. (In order to qualify for the chorus, you had to submit a short learning tape or file, to be judged by Jim. If you qualified, you were sent the music and learning CDs so you would know all of the songs without music when you arrived in St. Joe).

As a daily part of our curriculum, we sang for two hours every afternoon, and it seemed like the class lasted 15 minutes. In one week, Jim took 28 singers from all parts of the world and molded them into a pretty darn good chorus, plus we learned SP on two of the songs, ably taught by **Cindy Hansen**. Most of these guys were from small choruses, and I think Alex Scott and I were the only two guys in the chorus who had ever been on the international stage. The excitement that these guys generated during our practices and the dedication that they put into those practices were something to behold. Without a doubt, the "Honors Chorus" was the biggest of many special highlights of my Harmony University experience. Add to that special vocal technique classes taught by **Nick Papageorge** and tag classes taught by the one and only **David Wright**, and it was all frosting on the cake.

Thirty-nine years a Barbershopper, and I had never before attended Harmony University. What a thrill it was, and it certainly was everything that you hear guys rave about forever.

Thank you, *Heartbeats*, for allowing me the opportunity to be "drenched in barbershopping for an entire week. ♥

Mike Mathieu

Harmony Foundation Report

by Jim Porter



Note that we will have our raffle each time we meet in our regular location. One fourth of the proceeds is designated to Harmony Foundation and one fourth will be given

to the Central States District to help promote their programs to support and encourage Young Men in Harmony and other youth programs.

As of Wednesday, March 26, and 17 drawings so far: The total raised for Harmony Foundation in the past month is \$175.

The total raised for the year to date (since Nov. 15, 2007) is \$560.

Last year, the total raised to date was \$870.

In 2006, the total raised to date was \$1,942.

The last year with a lower total to date was 2002, it was then \$498.

Our latest winner was **Roy Manade**, who won \$40 on March 18! ♥



April 7 **Raymond Schwarzkopf**
 April 11 **Frank Leone**
 April 11 **John Erwine**
 April 14 **Bob Howard**
 April 14 **Chris Meeks**
 April 16 **Jim Clark**
 April 17 **Mike Mathieu**
 April 21 **Dick Krueger**
 April 21 **Tom Elefson**
 April 24 **Marlin Weidler**
 April 25 **Bruce Wenner**
 April 28 **Mike McKim**

Transitions

by Carter Combs, Music & Performance VP



Transitions. We all go through them. From childhood to adulthood, from school to career, from bicycles to bifocals. How we handle the transitions in our lives is a pretty good measure of character.

From what I've seen recently, *HOA* has great character. The transition from one director to another is often a treacherous journey, especially when the former guided the chapter for decades, and had such a profound impact on the course of the chorus. This type of situation can often present a significant challenge for the new director to successfully introduce new ideas and methods. Yet *HOA* has obviously opened our hearts and minds to **David's** self-proclaimed "crazy" ideas, and the proof of the pudding, as they say, has been in the tasting.

With a mere 10 rehearsals under David's direction, we presented an excellent show last weekend, implementing much of what he has begun to teach us. We received many appreciative comments from our knowledgeable audiences, complementing our sound with phrases like "free," "open," "relaxed," "resonant," "in tune" and "in pitch."

As we gain consistency in all those areas, we now begin another transition. We will begin to layer in additional elements of musicianship. These techniques will help us "sell the story" of each song in a believable and likeable manner. And of course, applied to our new contest songs, they will lead us to new heights. ♥

HOA FIRST CLASS

Jim:

Linda and I went to the afternoon concert Saturday and enjoyed it a lot.

"Danny Boy" was a particular favorite of ours, and I liked, "Don't Blame Me."

Tone-Henge was excellent, as usual, as were the other quartets. It is hard to believe that *High Definition* was formed only last August. *Metropolis* was a show stopper with its routine.

We missed seeing you as director of the chorus and as a member in the line up.

All in all, it was another fine performance.

Your critic,

Gene Halla



Command Performance Looks Back at Three Outings

by Jon Gathright, Lead of Command Performance



March has been another busy month with five performances, three of which stand out as very memorable.

We had a request to entertain the good folks at the Kendallwood Retirement Home in North Kansas City. When we arrived we were greeted by a familiar barbershop friendly face, **Mr. Dick Henderson**. Glad to report that he looked great and was happy to see us, particularly **Monty** and **Rich**.

Everywhere we go it seems that someone knows Monty and it's usually a female! *Monty is our "Chick Magnet!"*

Another very memorable performance was for the fine folks at the Westport House. It was to entertain their association meeting which went well. After we closed someone said that they had a lady that was 98 and would be 99 years young in May, so we performed a couple of numbers for her. When we were through, she came up to us, using her walker and asked if we wanted her to play the piano for us so we enthusiastically said yes! So she spryly made it to the piano played three numbers for us. Made our day! Her name is **Marie George** and she said she was a former President for the *Kansas City Chorus of Sweet Adeline's*, so we are trying to get a Ladies Quartet together and plan on going back in May and celebrate with a little performance.

Then we had booked a performance in Fredonia, KS for high school reunion of which one man was the lone survivor but they combined a few other classes for the reunion. There was "real trouble in River City," so to speak, one gentleman came up to our host and informed her that they had a real problem. Apparently some of the Class of 1949 was sitting at the Class of 1937 table and didn't want to move, but they got it worked out.

Monty did his training routine and about 3/4 of the crowd stood for his "Standing Ovation" which was quite an effort for most.

We are looking forward to a great *HOA* Show, which will top off a fun month! ♥

Tone-Henge Churning Into Spring of Action

by Ol' Jim

We started to say "springing into action," but that presented such a ludicrous picture we could see *Harmonotes* being sued for libel. However, *Tone-Henge* is in the midst of our busiest stretch of performances in memory...and you can take that for what it's worth. (**Dan Henry** already can't remember what we sang on the *HOA* show—and none of us can remember what we were supposed to sing on the afterglow).

But we know we thoroughly enjoyed our spot on the March 29 show. The following weekend found us doing three shows with our old friends, the *Harmony Hawks*, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. We have another in-town show later in April, then go to Wichita to do the Air Capital show at the end of the month.

In between, we hope to be a few miles west to watch those Central State District phenoms, *Crossroads*, when they appear on the Topeka show. The *Capitol City Chorus* is directed by **Rick Kready**, who will be singing tenor with *HOA* Director **David Krause**, bass **Brian Belof** of *3 Men & A Melody* and an over-the-hill but handsome baritone from your favorite senior quartet (no autographs, please) in an upcoming Starlight Theater production of *The Music Man*. Mark your calendars: it will be the last week of July. More information will be coming, but David says *HOA* will be doing "The Star Spangled Banner" at least one night that week at the 8,000-seat outdoor amphitheater.

Finally in this momentous April, you can bet that all or most of *T-H* will be in Iowa City the weekend of April 18 for some great CSD competition. Among the highlights will be our own shoot-for-stars *High Definition* and surprising *ListenUp!* on the same stage with the aforementioned *Crossroads*, in a field of 17 quartets vying for spots in Nashville. That oughta be worth the trip alone! What you won't see in Iowa City are any quartets eligible to win the 2008 District Senior Quartet championship—and that's a shame. If you are a senior reading this, excuse the editorial plug, but think about getting a foursome together for the 2009 spring convention. Don't forget, *Tone-Henge* is a CSD senior champ...that got ya' thinking, didn't it?



One look back for our foursome before we retire for a much-needed nap: Dan's lovely wife, **Estyl**, and **Keith's** much better half, **Connie**, both celebrated March birthdays. Neither will tell us which one. But we do know that next month SOMEBODY in the quartet turns 83. ♥

Local Wedding Includes Crosstown Four's Harmony



Here, left to right are: Kevin Tritsch (singing in place of Gordy Coleman), Dale Neuman, Val Putzier and Ron Abel of the Crosstown Four with the former Becky Johnson who took all three of her degrees (B.A. M.A and Ph.D.) at UMKC as one of Dale's students. The wedding was held at The Silent Chapel of Unity Village in November. Becky and her Mom had come to a number of HOA shows over the years and wanted barbershop music at her wedding. The Quartet was honored to oblige. Photo taken by Roland Thibault



Stew Grosser, Don Young and Ron McIntire share some camaraderie backstage during the Annual Show.



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



DEXTER

TEN YEARS AGO: MARCH, 1998

David Krause, then CSD Historian, made the following announcement in the March 1998 issue of *Harmonotes* (remember, the bulletin was published on a bimonthly schedule in 1998, and

there was no issue for April): "Kansas City will be the place to be on Saturday, April 4, 1998, if you're a Barbershopper. The Kansas City chapter and the Society will be rededicating the Founders' Plaque in the original lobby of the recently reopened Muehlbach Tower of the Marriott in downtown Kansas City, Mo. A special ceremony and reception will be held from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to commemorate the chance meeting between **O. C. Cash** and **Rupert Hall** in this same place 60 years ago. This meeting led to the founding of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc. The Society's president, board of directors, executive director, the Kansas City Chapter, and the Society's only 60-year member, **Orval Wilson**, of Kansas City, will be participating in this event along with other special guests." Does anybody know where the plaque is today?

TWENTY YEARS AGO: APRIL, 1988

The men of the *Heart of America Chorus* were looking forward to the "50th Birthday Party" of the Kansas City Chapter of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc., to be held at the Ranch Mart Auditorium in Leawood on April 11. In addition to the *HOA Chorus*, the program would include the *Rural Route 4*, *Special Touch*, *KC Connection* and *Old Bones*. As I recall, it was a great success. (*Old Bones*? I don't remember that one. *Do you?*)

FORTY YEARS AGO: APRIL, 1968

Editor **Don Thorne** doesn't have much in this issue that's useable for this column. He reminds the membership that the international quartet preliminaries would be held in Denver on April 26-28. He announced that the *BMA Skyliners* and the *Merry Mugs* would be among the 16 quartets that would be competing for the coveted top three that would qualify to compete in the international contest at Cincinnati next July. He also mentioned a quartet named the *Heights of Harmony* and a new yet-to-be named quartet that might also be going to Denver. Singing with the unnamed foursome were **Don Wickens** (tenor), **George Closson** (lead), **John Wolzak** (baritone) and **Dave Larson** (bass). ♥

Entry Fee Deadline Changed!

by Kent Miller

We have decided to change the entry fee deadlines on the golf tournament. As I pen this, we are all concentrating on the show, which of course should be our primary concern, but that will leave one week for us to contact our golfing friends to meet the \$90 per player April 5 deadline. A second reason is that many of our prospects are concentrating on another deadline, April 15 (taxes), so our deadline becomes secondary.



So, to lessen the pressure on everyone, we have changed the schedule to:

Entry Fees:

\$90 per player if paid by April 19, 2008.

\$100 per player if paid after April 19, 2008 up to and including the day of the event.

The tournament is open to anyone (not just barbershoppers) so we welcome anyone who would like to participate. In addition, *HOA* is issuing a challenge to all area chapters to field a team in our tournament and compete (in addition to all of the other prizes) for a traveling trophy that will be passed from chapter winner to chapter winner each year. We will hold this "tournament within a tournament" if we receive applications from at least three chapter foursomes (including *HOA*). The teams must be made up of members of your chapters.

The tournament is scheduled for Saturday, April 26 at Falcon Lakes Golf Course (Falcon Lakes is located north of Bonner Springs about 5 miles north of I-70 on KS-7 in Kansas). Many who played in our tournament last year deemed it one of the best scrambles in which they had participated, probably because besides having barbershop singing in abundance, we had over \$1,400 in prizes which were given as hole prizes, door prizes, and raffle prizes. Here is a sampling of last year's prizes:

- Nights stay for two in area hotels.
- 10 dozen golf balls.
- Dinner gift certificates at area restaurants.
- Walmart \$50 gift certificate.
- Various golf items from Golf Discount.
- Many music CDs.
- Swing Evaluation from Golf Tec.

You may register at www.hoachorus.com (click on the golfer). Please make sure to indicate if you are registering as a chapter foursome. Please also let me know by e-mail (kmiller268@aol.com) if you are planning to enter a chapter foursome. ♥



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 of the old noggin cover to **Jerry Garrard** for his expert handling of the spring show; to **Al Higgins** for his work handling the ticket sales; to **John Warrior** for his magic behind the curtain; the staff at Yardley Hall who helped with the production and to the guys who showed up early, say around noon Friday, to put up the risers, and take them down and pack them away after the show.

Hooray and Hats Off to **Al Higgins** who worked his magic with the DoubleTree Hotel to provide a venue for the HOA Afterglow.

A deep bow and hardy Tip 'O The Hat to the *Heartbeat* crew who put together the lunch for the HOA guys. The sandwiches were great.

Hats Off to **Ron McIntire** for another great job on the new 2008 Chapter Directory. And thanks to **Wade Dexter's** article in the March '08 issue of *Harmonotes*, he was able to collect many of the names of past chorus directors of HOA. To top it off, because of some Office Depot coupons, the chapter cashed in on a \$66 savings on the printing. You bet the chapter can use the coins. ♥

Delivering Love to the Metro

by Jim Porter



One of life's greatest blessings is to know something you've done brings happiness to someone else. This is why I am so blessed to be able to deliver Singing Valentines each year. Each of us who gave their time to sing in a quartet should say a special thank you to our own special someone who gave up this day so we could show love to others across our area.

For the third year I had the pleasure of singing tenor with bass **Marty Oldhoeft** (this year he was somewhat of a media sensation), lead **Kevin Tritsch** and bari **Rod Flater**, who was the driving force in our group. Rod is a stickler for accuracy and knows a good chord when he hears one, so it was a learning experience for us all. He had us sounding pretty good in my humble opinion, but I suppose we aren't any threat to *High Definition*. After each delivery, we could count on Rod to let us know what we could do better next time.

We had a grand tour in our dozen or so assignments, ranging from downtown KCK all the way to Linwood, with a stop in Platte Woods for a family that are close friends of Marty. Here's a huge tip of the hat to **John Erwine** and **Marlin Weidler**, as we had no trouble making the time slots for each assignment. In fact, we often had to bide our time waiting for the appointment rather than having to scramble to not be late. At one stop, a valentines party for a church, we were five minutes early and we were asked to wait those five minutes outside until it was time! I also tip my hat to Kevin, who did all the driving in his truck, (nearly 200 miles!) and faithfully turned when I told him to, even for the occasional U-turns and 5-mile detours!

We visited teachers in two schools (in KCK, the kindergarten teacher had her students lay down their pencils and listen, which all did. After our first song, here comes two other teachers leading their classes behind them for our second song!), three homes, and several places of business. At each office stop, of course, we drew a crowd of everyone within earshot! After Tuesday's rehearsal, I spotted a stack of 30 or so of those cards announcing our spring show on one side and the Singing Valentines on the other, and I had passed them all out by the end of the day together with a handful Marty brought with him.

Our last stop was an engagement party for some friends of Kevin. We had it planned to not only sing the valentines set, we were also practicing to do "Sweet and Lovely," featuring Kevin on the hanger as we sang "Soon we'll marry, you'll be my blushing bride," but alas, nearly 12 hours of singing and driving was enough and Kevin had to call it off. We then went our separate ways, all feeling blessed, but Marty was still looking for a copy of the *Kansas City Star*! ♥



Summary of March 2008 Board Meeting

by Rick Foreman/Ron McIntire

TREASURERS REPORT: Harvey Shapiro

Operating Fund: \$20,108.67 in the Operating Fund,
Members Fund: \$9,427.75
Restricted Fund: 6,777.26
Receipts from Singing:
Singing Valentines 2008: \$5,492.59
Holiday Show (as of 2/29/08): \$12,178.71.
Net income from the Spring Show: \$607.98.

MARKETING: Brad Dawdy/Dick Korek

Sponsors: Since January 1, 2008, We have received a total of \$3,000.00 from the following: William Schutte, First Watch Restaurants, Frank Ancona Honda, Mark Gilman, and Gill Studios (Mark Gilman).
Donations: A total of \$500.00 from the following: Dick O'Dell, Friends of HOA, Premier Realty (Mike O'Dell), Leroy Wisner, and Peggy Bowels.

OPERATIONS: David Miller

Riser Transportation to Nashville has been secured.

MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE VP: Carter Combs

Performance at John Knox Village show is scheduled for Oct. 18, 2008.

NEW BUSINESS:

BHS Blood Drive:

The Board agreed that the Chapter will support the Barber-shop Harmony Society blood drive. Details pertaining to logistics and committees will be addressed at a later time.

Attorney Proposal:

The Board agreed to have an attorney available for potential legal problems on an as-needed basis at the fee of \$250.00 per hour. The attorney would not be on retainer.

HOA Foundation Confidentiality:

The Board agreed that both the current president and financial chairman will be charged with the responsibility for keeping the files of anonymous donors to HOA confidential. ♥

**DEADLINE FOR THE MAY
ISSUE OF HARMONOTES:
APRIL 24**

Guest Night Draws a Crowd!

by Bob Murphy, Membership Vice-President



When David Krause announced shortly after he became Chorus Director that he wanted a guest night and that he wanted 100 men in the Risers on March 18, he knew what needed to be done to accomplish this goal.

He told us that he was making phone calls and also visiting various church choirs and inviting men to attend on March 18.

Well, the date came and what a night it was. We had 103 on the risers, or seated that night. I was truly a wonderful night. The risers were almost full and the sound was great.

There were new faces and old faces. Inactive members and former members were also on the risers. *Rural Route Four* even attended (with one substitute) and sang one number for us.

I would list those how signed in the guest book but the list would be to long for this article. There were 25 names on the list.

The music was projected on a large screen so this gave all the guests the ability (along with copies of the music) to sing all evening with us.

Overall, the experience by all was positive. We will have another night like this one sometime in April, and again in May.

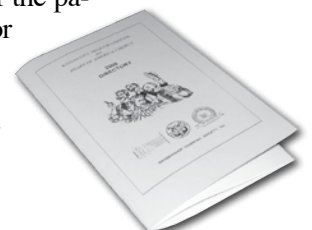
My request of the membership is to bring in as many guests as you can in April and again in May. ♥

Flash! The Directory is HERE!

by Ron McIntire

The new 2008 chapter directory is here! If you haven't picked up your copy, now is a good time. Look for them on the table as you come in the door to the rehearsal hall. I'll mail a copy in the next week or two to the inactive chorus members.

I've added a new item to the history section in the back of the book this year. It came about at the funeral for **Don Webb** when **Ron Abel** suggested I add a list of the past directors of HOA to the directory. Through the collective help of **Wade Dexter** in his article in the March issue of *Harmonotes*, **La-Vern Webb**, **Frank Leone** and others, I was able to back up to what I think is the beginning of the parade. But, there is always room for "adjustment" so if you know of any director we've missed, let me know and we'll make the correction next year. ♥





MARCH Barbershopper of the Month!



Ron McIntire

John Erwine

Above: HOA President **Doug Brott** (right) presents **John Erwine** (left) with the March 2008 BOTM!

John Erwine - In grateful appreciation for planning, organizing and co-chairing the 2008 Kansas City Missouri Chapter and Heart of America Chorus Singing Valentine program. ♥

Xtra Mile Award Winners!



Ron McIntire

Rich Huyck and Kevin Tritsch

In grateful recognition for being a member of the sound crew that faithfully does the work of maintaining, transporting, storing, managing and setting up the sound system.

Heart of America CHORUS SPONSORS



FRIENDS OF HOA - 2008

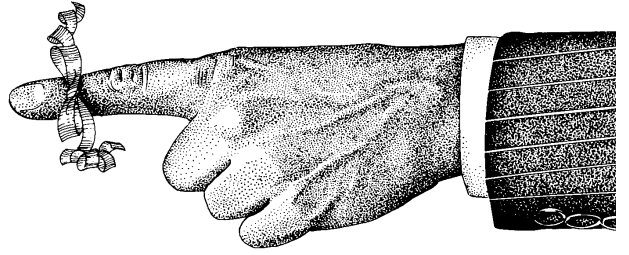
We're off and running for the new year. Two members, Dick O'Dell and Keith Schweer, have come forward with investments of \$100.

A new display will show-up shortly with the famous "glass bowl." "FRIEND OF HOA" pins are available for all \$100 and up donors, AND names will be drawn from the bowl of names before the MUSIC-IN-THE-PARK concert on July 20 for:

- Night and breakfast at the Downtown Marriott
- First Watch certificates
- Sheridan certificates

**Let's get on board
the promotion!
WE ALL WIN!**

Heart of America Chorus Calendar



- April 12** Topeka Chapter Show, TWO SHOWS! 2:30 & 7 p.m., with guest quartet *Crossroads*
- April 18-20** Central States District Spring Convention, Iowa City, Iowa
- May 16-17** HOA Retreat in Excelsior Springs
- June 2** Kansas City Chapter of Barbershop Harmony Society founded in 1938
- July 1-5** 2008 Barbershop Harmony Society International Chorus Contest, Nashville, Tenn. (HOA sings 6th in the afternoon on Friday, July 4)

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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