



CHORUS AND QUARTET SINGING
IN THE BARBERSHOP STYLE



SECOND-OLDEST CHAPTER IN THE
BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

VOLUME 11 - ISSUE 10 - DECEMBER 2011

It Just Can't Be December!

by Vince Perry, Chapter President



It just can't be December, but it is! Wow, it seems like just yesterday Al Higgins and I were checking out possible bus routes for the International Convention. And now the chorus is putting the final touches on the Dec.

3 Holiday Harmony Spectacular performances. I wonder how many years we've had the HHS now? My best guess is it's the 14th annual starting way back in December 1998!

This year's show is really special with the combined choruses doing the Kevin Keller's forty-six page arrangement entitled "Rudolph Montage." Many thanks to *HOA* Director **David Krause** for undertaking the daunting task of pulling this whole piece together. I hope you get to see it as **Dan Henry Bowser** is not only the narrator but also will be singing a solo on the beautiful song "Silver and Gold." It will be quite a treat!

Besides the sounds of the holiday from the award winning *Kansas City Chorus of Sweet Adelines (KCCSA)* and *Kansas City Heart of America Chorus (HOA)* this show will feature the two reigning local region/district quartet champions: *Legacy* is the 2011 Region 7 Champs and *Voices Unlimited (VU)* is the 2011 Central States District Champions! *VU* will have a new three-track Christmas CD for sale at the show. The quartet will be competing in the Dixie District International Quartet Preliminary Contest next spring due to several conflicts including their co-starring appearance on *HOA's* Annual Show "Smile Darn

Ya Smile" on April 14, 2012. Let's all help ease their excessive travel expenses to the Dixie Prelims by purchasing one of their new holiday CD's. Also, if you are attending the holiday show, you can help *HOA* and *KCCSA* support the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots program again this year. Toys must be new and unwrapped (sorry no stuffed animals or toy guns.) Bring your contributions right down front and place them up on the stage. We all can make a Rudolph proud with our gifts!

Are you ready for some "Caroling Caravan"? Yep it's coming up Dec. 17 and it's already the 6th Annual!! Again this year, Co-chairs **Bob Burdick** and **Mike Mathieu** (gee it seems they've been co-chairs a lot this year!!) have it all lined up. It's Bell Ringing for The Salvation Army, concert style at six area Retired Living Communities. It's a day full of fun, singing, fellowship, and bringing smiles (and a few tears) to many grateful and wonderful people. *HOA* has been ringing bells and raising money for The Salvation Army since **Dan Henry** was a kid way back in the heyday of when Emery, Bird, Thayer was the place to shop in downtown KC! It is the Season! Let the Bells and Chords Ring! ♥

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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.



Chapter meets at 7 p.m. each Tuesday night, at:
St. Peter's United Church of Christ
110th & Holmes - Kansas City, Mo. 64131

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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!

Comments/submissions may be made to:

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The HOA Board of Directors meets at 6 p.m. on the second Monday of the month, at St. Thomas More Church, 118th & Holmes, Kansas City, MO 64131. Chapter members are welcome!

HOA Website: www.hoachorus.com

Web Address: webstaff@hoachorus.com

Chorus Manager & Webmaster - Vince Perry

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Heart of America Officer Installation and Awards Banquet

by Jerry Meier



The HOA Installation Banquet will be held on Saturday, Jan. 7, from 6pm to 10pm in the Overland Park Room of the Overland Park DoubleTree Hotel. Here are the details at a glance:

Location: Overland Park Room at the Overland Park DoubleTree Hotel

Address: 10100 College Boulevard, Overland Park, KS 66210

Dress Code: somewhere between formal and casual

Date: Saturday, January 7, 2012

Time: 6pm to 10pm

This year we will enjoy a sit down menu of Rolls/Butter; Soup or Salad; Chicken Breast or Beef Tender or Cheese-filled Ravioli; Chocolate Mousse or Cheesecake; Coffee / Tea / Water. The cost will be \$29 per adult (and \$13 per children's plate).

Prior to the banquet, attendees will be asked to select their menu options: Mixed Green Salad (Ranch Dressing) **OR** Caesar Salad **OR** Soup of the Day

Chicken Florentine Roulade Topped with Sun-dried Tomato Sauce (stuffed, baked chicken breast) and Chef Selection of rice / potato / vegetable

OR

Lemon and Rosemary Marinated Grilled Petite Beef Tender over Chive Whipped Potatoes and Vegetable Medley Topped with Balsamic Glaze

OR

Cheese stuffed ravioli with white crème sauce

Chocolate Mousse **OR** Cheesecake with Strawberry Sauce

The children's meal will be chicken fingers + fries + fruit + milk or juice.

The evening will start at 6pm with a cash bar and tag singing. The cash bar will remain open for the entire evening. We plan to begin eating at 6:45pm so that the installation can start promptly at 7:30pm. Speeches will be kept to a minimum (with luck) so that we can depart around 9:30pm. Stay tuned for additional details and make plans to attend. ♥



Portland: Here We Come and We Need Your Help!

by Mike Mathieu, HOA's Portland FAM Representative



The weekend of Nov. 18-20 I had the opportunity to attend the Fam (iliarization)

trip along with twenty-nine other chorus managers, representing most of the choruses that will be competing there next summer. The purpose of our trip was to tour the hotels and contest venue and warm-up areas out there and get the "lay of the land."

There are 31 choruses that will be in Portland. The Society made a housing draw prior to our

Portland arrival, and we were drawn 27th out of 31; not too whippy! So our choice of hotels will be limited. We need to approximate our rooming needs to International in December so be ready to look into your Portland crystal ball very soon.

Most of the hotels have plenty of doubles, two beds in one room, which could end up being pretty economical if you wanted to share a room. In two days we toured twelve hotels, the contest venue the Rose Garden, and the Convention Center, which is attached to the Rose Garden. It was a busy but necessary two day junket to the Great Northwest.

At the end of the day at our wrap-up meeting a chorus contest singing order draw was held. We will sing 23rd,

Central Standard will sing 22nd, and *AOH* is 17th. *Fremont* will sing 13th and *Hilltop* contests in 24th spot right after us. Should be a great contest and the second half will be loaded.

As for the hotel choices, we have no clue where we will end up because of our placement in the draw. Pricing varied greatly for \$119 to The Embassy Suites at \$179 (includes made-to-order daily breakfast and an evening reception with heavy

snacks, beer, wine and mixed drinks). The average hotel cost is approximately \$140-\$150 a night.

All hotels are located within two blocks of the MAX, Portland's light rail system that is free to all attendees within the downtown area.

Vince will be having a signup soon so please be planning to let us know if you would want a King Room, or a Double. Your answer is not binding in any way, but merely gives us an idea of your most likely intentions. We hope to have a survey out within the next few days, if not, simply respond to **Vince Perry** at JoeTownBass@gmail.com and indicate Portland Yes or No, and King or Double.

Looking forward to a grand time in Portland, and the opportunity to just sit and relax and enjoy a great convention! ♥



Frazier Allen

by Ron McIntire

Frazier Allen was such a quiet man you hardly knew he was around. Yet he enjoyed a good laugh—especially at himself.

In an earlier time, Frazier sang in two or three short-lived quartets in the Wichita area and for four years, beginning in 1956, sang tenor with the CSD champion *Four Cavaliers*. They were good years. He loved to talk quartetting and barbershop and loved singing with the *Heart of America Chorus*. He attended nearly every District and International chorus contest.

Frazier Allen died at the Villa St. Joseph Rehabilitation Center in Overland Park, Oct. 26, 2011, after suffering a fall and a subsequent stroke that ended his many years as a barbershopper, and a lifetime of accomplishments. He will be missed by the Barbershop Society, the Kansas City Chapter and his many friends at *HOA*. ♥



Photo by the Allen family

Half of *Tone-Henge* Gets Preserved by Ol' Jim

Yeah, right away I'll bet you're thinking something unkind – like **Dan Henry** got pickled, or the old guys finally got put out to pasture. Not so, pitch pipe breath. And this time it's not Dan at all. The half of the quartet being referred to is Ol' **Keith** and me.

Yep, for those of you lucky enough to be followers of that marvelous Society publication, *Preservation*, you'll find the two of us, uh, prominently displayed in the latest edition titled "Brothers in Harmony." Now if you haven't read it, the title should give you a clue. You can find it, and all the issues produced by brilliant Dallas-based editor and Society historian **Grady Kerr**, at <http://www.barbershop.org/preservation-publication>

In fact, if you go back a few issues of *Preservation*, you'll find an article by our own **Dan Henry** about **Joe Stern**, **Bert Phelps** and one of the Kansas City Chapter's most

famous quartets, the *Barber Pole-cats*. It's well worth reading.

For those of you not familiar with Bro. Kerr, you likely saw another sample of his meticulous research and attention to detail at the recent international convention here. Grady assembled the booth that paid tribute to the *Suntones* and *Rural Route 4* as they celebrated their 50th and 25th anniversaries, respectively. Grady had on display everything from album covers and pictures detailing the history of each quartet to an actual outfit worn in competition by each four-some.

In his preservation research, Grady comes up with dozens of fascinating people and topics. He devoted a special issue to barbershoppers directly involved in the 9-11 attacks and aftermath. Another issue featured Society headquarters

through the years. He paid tribute to Society legends as they passed, like **Jim Miller**, **Freddie King** and **Walter Latzko**.

The brothers issue goes into amazing detail about some 40 sets of brothers – from **Jim and Rob Henry** to two sets of **Wright** brothers (can you name them? Hint: the ones we know best are not in a quartet together). There are the **Slamkas** (and family), **Knudsens** (you might know them better as *Six*). And of course the **Halls** and **Schmitts**.

Ok, so it's time to admit that **Keith** and I are NOT mentioned with our fraternal brothers – although I did begin my barbershopping career with the *Bagby Brothers*...wonder how Grady overlooked that?

We kinda' snuck into this issue with some more famous brothers. Keith is pictured with the **Fortino** boys, **John** and **Mark**, from his 1994 CSD championship days with *12th Street Rag*. And I show up alongside a coupla country boys named **Calvin** and **Willard Yoder** in the section on the *RR4*.

Otherwise, *Tone-Henge* had a purty satisfying November. We sang for a Lutheran beer and brats luncheon (now that's a lunch!) and performed briefly at the 95th birthday party for **Harvey Shapiro's** aunt, **Marian**. Now we're gearing up for caroling with *HOA* Dec. 17. Hope to see you all there. Meanwhile, happy holidays from us and the *Henge-ettes*! ♥



Harmony Explosion 2012 - Coaching Young Quartets

by Jerry Meier

Coaching the Harmony Explosion quartets will start the week of Jan. 9, 2012. That gives these young singers about six weeks to prepare their songs and polish their stage presence for the event on Saturday, Feb. 18 at the Olathe East High School.

Most of the quartets have to rehearse before school, starting at 7:15am, because these fine young students are involved in after-school clubs and sporting activities. Quartets that can rehearse after school start singing at 3:15pm, but the majority of the quartets will rehearse before school starts.

Are you available to help this year? If so, please give me a call or see me during rehearsal. Coaching is easy – just take the **Mike Slamka** approach – share what you have heard from so many other fine coaches! It's easier than you think – all YOU have to do is give it a try. And it's fun!

Your presence with a young group in a coaching session will help the students work out the problem spots in their songs. With repetition and lots of encouragement, the students will be able to perform their songs on the Harmony Explosion stage with confidence, and they will be ever so thankful for your input.

Please consider to volunteer your time to coach and encourage these young quartets – just 30 minutes on a school day can make a huge difference in their ability to sing on stage.

Contact Jerry Meier (913-780-1822 Home or 913-226-5394 Mobile) if you would like to discuss this activity. ♥

Presidents' Fund Needs Your Support

by Dale Neuman



This coming year presents us with what is in effect a double whammy in that, coming off of a year when we could stay at home for much less and compete in both District and International, in 2012 we have to go to Portland, Oregon and Des Moines, Iowa to compete. So, having to plan for two trips and, in particular, the long trip to Oregon will mean more expenses for everyone. And with the CSD having to support the travel of four choruses to Portland, its travel fund will take a sizeable hit.

So *HOA* needs to find a way to help everyone as much as possible. For those who otherwise will not be able to go without more than the Chapter can provide, the Presidents' Fund needs to be able to step in and help. At last reading of our accounts, the Fund had less than a thousand dollars. That amount will not help very many in ways that could make a difference. Thus, my usual plea has more than the usual urgency as the Board looks to how it will financially deal with the Portland and Des Moines contests. Checks can be made payable to KC Chapter SPEBSQSA, Inc. (with Presidents' Fund in the memo space) and sent to me or to **Vince Perry**. We will get them to the treasurer and get you a receipt for your tax records. Thanks. ♥

Yes, each year at this time I make my pitch for donations to the Presidents' Fund as a way

Harmony Foundation Report

by Jim Porter



Note that we will have our raffle each time we meet in our regular location. By

Board resolution, this year all of the proceeds from the raffle not given as prizes goes to Harmony Foundation. In return, the board is able to have the Foundation designate up to 30% of the fund to chapter activities such as Harmony Explosion.

As of Nov. 23, after 42 drawings (4 since last report):

- The total Harmony Foundation contribution since the last report: \$85.
- The total collected for the year to date (since Jan. 3, 2011) is \$954.
- The total for the previous year was \$1,670.
- The total in our best previous year (2009) was \$3,684.
- The total in 2006 (our best full year) was \$4,357.
- The total in 2002 (the lowest year of the past decade) was \$1,192.

The progressive jackpot stands at \$555. ♥



Caroling Caravan Time is Rapidly Approaching

by Mike Mathieu and Bob Burdick

Gents, it is the Salvation Army time of year again. Caroling Caravan version number six will soon be upon us. We will venture out on Saturday Dec. 17 for one of the most rewarding and “feel good” experiences of every year.

We will be singing at the same place that we did last year, The Atriums, The Forum, Town Village, Grand Court, Silvercrest at Deer Creek, and Tallgrass Creek. We have actually received a request to do a 7th retirement center in Missouri, on Wornall, and if we can get enough interest and volunteers doing it, we might check the possibility of doing it at 7pm on Tuesday Dec. 20. We were planning on taking that night off, but if we could squeeze it in, we could sing early, then head to a “watering hole” and have a few refreshments of the season to celebrate all our accomplishments of 2011. More on that at we get the HHS completed.

We will have a new warm-up place this year. It will be the Sunflower Room of the Residence Inn, located at 12010 Blue Valley Parkway, Overland Park, Kansas. That is located just to the west of the Bank of Blue Valley, where **Mark Fortino** works. It is a little more centrally located between our first stop and our last stop. Before we leave the Residence Inn, I have promised **Becki Ohl**, our contact there, that we will sing a few songs for the guests of the hotel that morning that will be in the eating area, so please be prepared for that. I bet we might collect a few dollars there also!

Those not singing with us on the Holiday Harmony Spectacular need not be eliminated from this fun-filled event as we will sing many songs from the green and white Christmas books, and we know everyone knows those songs. We should all plan on being at the meeting on Dec.

6 and 13 to run through the songs we will be singing on the 17th. If you have any potential members, feel free to invite them to come down those two weeks also, and then join in the fun on the 17th.

This year we will also be welcoming back our friend and veteran bus driver from at least one, possibly two Caroling Caravans, **Bob Eddy**. You may remember Bob as the person that unfortunately lost his step-dad a few years back at about 5am the morning of our Caravan. Unable to get a substitute driver that late in the day, he showed up and drove for us the entire day and deferred being with his friends and family until after our six performances. I do not think we will ever find a more dedicated bus driver.

Bob had moved to Austin, Texas a few years ago, but luckily for us, he has now moved back. He drives for the Bonner Springs School district, and even brings his bus with him, and all we have to pay for is the fuel for the bus. Bob has said he does not need to be paid

at all, but please come prepared to donate to him for his time.

Bob Burdick has contacted all of the Retirement Homes and they are all looking forward to our visit. Please make certain that you are at the Residence Inn by 9am, Saturday Dec. 17. ♥



**From top to bottom:
Chief Bell Ringer: Dan Bowser;
Event Emcee: Mike Mathieu.
Photos courtesy of Don Fuson**

Barbershoppers Discover Fountain of Youth!

by John Erwine, Vice President



Well, perhaps we didn't really discover it, but maybe we've been unknowingly partaking and benefitting from it. Now I'm going to let you in on a little-known study that may explain it. I hope you leak it to others – especially prospective new members.

You see, we do lots of deep breathing, some dancing (very little), we employ an enormous amount of focus and brain function while learning and recalling music, we have to listen and interpret, and we give willingly of our time to many functions that benefit others.

This Fountain of Youth I speak of is called "Volunteering." Take a look at the article I was given some time ago at my weekly cardiac rehab class:

Volunteering — A Possible Prescription for Better Health!



Does volunteering make you healthier, or do healthier people volunteer? A report issued in April of 2010 by United Healthcare and Volunteer Match provides compelling evidence that volunteering can enhance physical and mental health.

Among key findings:

- More than 68% of those who volunteered in the past year report that volunteering made them feel physically healthier.
- 29% of volunteers who suffer from a chronic condition say that volunteering has helped them manage their chronic illness.
- 89% of volunteers agreed that volunteering improved their sense of well being.
- 73% of volunteers feel that volunteering lowered their stress levels.
- 92% of volunteers agree that volunteering enriches their sense of purpose in life.
- More than three-quarters of volunteers who participate in service activities through work report that they feel better about their employer because of the employer's involvement in volunteer activities.

Other studies also have found the following potential health benefits, particularly for older adults:

- Improvement in cardiovascular health. Being a volunteer can lower your blood pressure and improve heart problems. A study from the University of Michigan Research Center showed that among individuals with a history of heart problems, those who volunteered had reduced chest pain and lower cholesterol levels.
- Lower risk of death. Another study on older adults who volunteer regularly demonstrated that those who spent time volunteering may enjoy a longer lifespan.
- Better mental functioning. Concerned about preserving your brain power? An increase in cognitive (mental) functioning is yet another potential benefit of volunteering.
- Overall mind and body improvement. Volunteers have been shown to have reduced anxiety and depression and an overall sense of well-being. Volunteers also have been found to recover more quickly from surgery, sleep better and have healthier immune systems compared to people who do not volunteer.

Volunteering may do more than make you "feel good;" it could turn out to be "good for you" as well!

So what do you think? Sure, we pay an annual membership fee for the privilege. Consider it the cost of organizing and maintaining some sense of order. Still it sounds like a lot of what we do, right? How many of you feel better when you leave a chapter meeting than before you got there? How about after a show or the Caroling Caravan? What about Singing Valentines? How many of you who volunteer in activities related to your employer feel better? What about your church activities? Perhaps more importantly, just the random event that hits you unexpectedly and you nail it!



I believe in this "fountain." I believe it's part of "the good life." I like it. I believe it's much of why I'm still here. ♥

One Look at District Chorus Competitions, 2011

by Jim Porter, Interested Member

As this is more than a month beyond the district competition, you know that *HOA* qualified for the international competition in Portland next July with an average score of 79.1 percent. What you may not be aware of is how lucky *HOA* was to qualify.

Our score was 24th-best among all Society choruses entered in the fall contests. And the chorus that placed 25th was a mere three points (17-hundredths of one percent) behind us. Our seed was the 10th and last available seed. However, six districts qualified a district champion for the 2012 International with a score lower than ours.

Overall, 29 choruses competed and qualified for International 2012. The average score was 81.5 and the average number of men on the risers was 51. A total of 291 choruses competed in 17 North American districts, British Isles and Sweden. I could not find scores for Australia, New Zealand or any of the other overseas affiliates.

At the top of the heap is *Ambassadors of Harmony* at 94.6. They will be challenged by *Great Northern Union*, who scored 93.7. No one else is close. The three bronze medals will be contested by *Kentucky Vocal Union*, *The Alliance* (Ohio), *Southern Gateway Chorus*, *Zero8* from Sweden and *Atlantic Vocal Project*, all of whom posted scores between 84 and 88. Four of the choruses that chose to sit out posted higher scores (over 88) in last year's district competitions.

Central States District continues to be one of the stronger districts in the Society, both in terms of number of choruses competing and average size of competing chorus. Nine districts and the BABS affiliate had at least 15 choruses competing (CSD had 16), CSD averaged over 40 men per

chorus, best of all districts, and the average performance level (68.7) was the best of all districts with at least 15 competing choruses, and third-best among all districts. RMD was number one, at 69.6 with 10 choruses. Overall, the average size of a competing chorus was 31 men and the average performance level was 65.7%.

With so many high-quality choruses on the sidelines this year, any attempt to measure the strength of the districts looking at the best five or ten choruses from each district needs to account for these quality choruses not competing this fall. Note that these choruses were included by selecting their district score in 2010. International scores were not considered in this analysis.

Looking at the best five, Central States averages 82.8, behind only Far Western District (with two reigning champions) at 85. Close behind are Mid-Atlantic (81.9), Southwestern (81.1), Johnny Appleseed (80.9), Land of Lakes (79.8) and Dixie (79.2). The average for the best five from each of the 19 districts was 76.7.

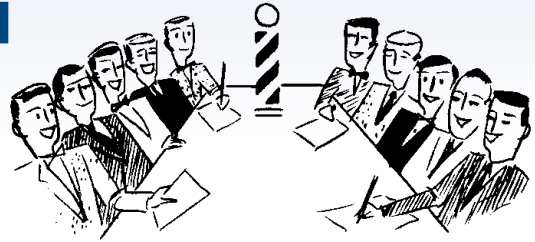
When the best 10 choruses from each district are considered, CSD (74.7) stands fifth behind Far Western (78.3), Mid-Atlantic (77.6), Dixie (75.6), and Johnny Appleseed (75.4). Last year, CSD was third in this group at 76.6, so the district average score declined nearly two percent from last year. The overall average over 19 districts for this group was 71.5, compared to 70.9 last year.

To HOA's good fortune, a few International Contest powerhouses like the *Denver Mile High Chorus*, *Tornoto Northern Lights* and the *Vocal Majority* decided to forego the contest next July in Portland. So *HOA* is going to the show, Life is good! ♥



SUMMARY OF NOVEMBER 2011 BOARD MEETING

By Rich Huyck/Ron McIntire



FINANCE REPORT - Jim Porter

- Unrestricted Funds: \$20,683.30 Restricted Funds: \$1,217.60
- Received settlement from BHS in October for proceeds for hosting the 2011 International Convention of \$15,237.34
- Harmony Marketplace transactions during the District Convention resulted in a net to HOA of \$711.94
- Final accounting for the United In Harmony Show confirms a net loss of \$5,933.26.
- Backup of treasurer data to **Vince Perry**.

MARKETING/PUBLIC RELATIONS - Ray Young:

- Mailer for the Holiday Harmony Spectacular show was printed and mailed.
- Posters for the Holiday Harmony Spectacular were designed and printed.
- Dave Jobe has established a Twitter account for HOA.
- Ads were created and placed in the program at The New Theater.
- Will make a presentation to Kansas side activities directors association and BCQ will provide the entertainment.

OPERATIONS - Jim Clark:

- Light in the riser trailer needs a replacement bulb. Will be checking the tire pressures next weekend.
- Considering installing shelving in the front compartment of the trailer to get equipment off the floor.
- Licensing of trailer renewal is being handled by **Dale Neuman**.

MUSIC & PERFORMANCE - Mark Fortino:

- Negotiating with potential headliner quartets for the 2013 spring show. Quartets in the mix right now: *Crossroads*, *OC Times*, *Main Street Station*, *Realtime*(2?).
- 2012 Spring show headliner is Max Q. Need suggestions for the name of the show.
- Need to decide which chapter quartets are to be invited to perform on the 2012 spring show.
- Music team would like to schedule a retreat for May 18-19, 2012. Venue needed. Considering one of the following as clinician: **Jim Henry**, **Mike Slamka**, **Brandon Guyton**, **Kevin Keller**.
- **Dave Jobe** appointed Music Librarian.
- Mark has been chatting with **Kevin Keller** on the idea of Kevin coaching HOA on a regular basis (monthly).
- Songs for new contest set are Smile Medley and Sunshine of Your Smile.

PROGRAM VP - Jerry Meier:

- The 2012 Installation Banquet will be Jan. 7, 2012 at the Overland Park Doubletree Hotel 6pm to 10pm.

MEMBERSHIP VP - Jeff Wolff:

- The secretary to report on deceased members to the district secretary.
- Solicit members to provide names, phone numbers and emails to the membership committee who will do the inviting.

Old Business:

Chair Appointments - Vince Perry

- Uniform Chairman - Marty Oldehoeft,
- Sunshine Chairman - John Erwine,
- Show Chairpersons - Kent and Cindy Miller.

CSD Convention - Post Report: Mike Mathieu

- All went well. Should realize approximately \$7,000 from the 2011 CSD Convention.
- Need decision from district for 2013 convention in Kansas City

Int'l Convention - Post Report: Mike Mathieu

- 54-page final report will be filed with chapter documentation.
- 2011 Installation/Awards Banquet: **Jerry Meier**

New Business:

Portland FAM: Vince Perry

- Operations VP will now be responsible for logistical issues that were in the purview of the Chorus Manager.
- Since the 2012 Operations VP Elect will not be available, Mike Mathieu will cover the Portland FAM trip.

Learning Academy (COTS): Vince Perry

- Saturday, Feb 4, 2012 in St Joseph.
- Need to know all that are interested in attending.
- Secretary will fill out the form and Treasurer will send check to district. ❤️



to the following HOA MEMBERS!

December 7 **Jim Davis**
 December 9 **Ron Fortino**
 December 16 **Val Putzier**
 December 24 **Darrell McCune**
 December 24 **Jim Twyman**
 December 28 **Mike Louque**
 December 30 **Grant Hunget**
 December 31 **Dave Jobe**



Vince Perry provided this photo above taken Nov. 8 as HOA and the KCSSA rehearsed the "Rudolph" montage. David Krause is the director and Dan Henry Bowser is the narrator.

Barbershopper of the Month



David Krause November 2011

Vince Perry (right) presents David Krause with the November 2011 BOTM Award which reads:

Has generously given his valuable time and dedication to the Kansas City Missouri Chapter over a period of time to do work when manpower was not available and to promote and encourage chapter-related activities.

In grateful appreciation for your work over and above your normal duties, for planning and hosting the Vocal FX chorus during International Week, riser work multiple times, and for transporting judges to and from the airport.

Photo courtesy of Ron McIntire

**DEADLINE FOR
THE JANUARY
ISSUE OF
HARMONOTES:**

DECEMBER 28

HOA Chapter/Chorus Strategic Planning Meeting Scheduled in December!

by Vince Perry, Chapter President

The annual plan for the chapter and chorus for 2011 was pretty much set in concrete when the current Board and Music Team took the reigns because of our hosting commitments for the two conventions being held in Kansas City. This is neither the case for next year nor the next few years for that matter. Please don't get me wrong, the Music Team under V.P. **Mark Fortino's** leadership has already done some great planning for 2012. Still, it's time that we as a chapter, pause and reflect on where we are; what have we done right; what have we done wrong; identify our strong areas and our weak ones; and what can be done to improve our weaknesses. Where do we want to be chapter and chorus-wise in say, three years from now? And of great importance, how do we plan to get there? These are some of the topics that will be discussed and tossed about this month in a special chapter/chorus strategic planning meeting.

Don Young assembled an ad hoc committee back with the same tasks when he was *HOA* President. If you remember, it was an effective tool in pointing the chapter toward positive attainable goals.

After conferring with Don, I have formed an ad hoc committee of nine *HOA* members who will meet on Monday, Dec 12. The committee will meet one time unless it is decided that another meeting is needed. The committee is in no way an attempt to circumvent the work of the Board or the Music Team. Matter of fact the ad hoc committee is comprised of four board members and three music team members plus two additional chapter members. There is not enough time to create and implement a full blown chapter survey which was done several years ago. And from past experiences of this sort in my school district, large group planning meetings even with a facilitator were basically a waste of time. I am hopeful that a smaller group will have a productive meeting.

Past President Don Young will be the facilitator of the meeting. If you have strong feelings concerning the chapter/chorus past, present, or future and would like your thoughts considered please send them to me at joetownbass@gmail.com. If you would like your comments to be anonymous you may send me your comments through the following webform: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?hl=en_US&formkey=dGt4cFNkdJ3YIBGSDZ4dlFURmF1eXc6MQ#gid=0

Many thanks for any and all input from the membership. ♥

"You can always amend a big plan, but you can never expand a little one. I don't believe in little plans. I believe in plans big enough to meet a situation which we can't possibly foresee now." —**Harry S. Truman**

Thank You from the Anna Lee Perry Family

On behalf of the whole Vince Perry family I would like to thank each and every person within the *Heart of America* Chapter Family for all the forms of sympathy and condolences we have received upon the passing of my mother and Vince IV's grandmother. So many have reached out in so many ways: emails, Facebook posts, cards, online funeral home posts, and visitations.

Mom was ninety years young and proud of it! We threw her a 90th birthday party that was probably the greatest fun she had in the last four years since dad died.

Mom never missed a Holiday Harmony Spectacular or an annual show. And I'm talking about almost fifty years of annual shows if you count my years in the St. Joseph Pony Expressmen. There will be an empty seat at the matinee on Dec. 3 in her honor.

Families have traditions and one for Mom and I was going go out to Cracker Barrel's every Thursday morning for breakfast. A few weeks ago a sign caught my eye when entering the restaurant. The next week I bought it on the sly and nonchalantly carried it out in the sack when I helped mom back to the car. She never asked what was in the sack. Somehow I have a feeling she knew it was for her. I was going to give it to her for Christmas when all the family was around. It was a colorful list called "Mom's Rules for a Happy House". How true they were for my mom and her house! She really didn't need a sign but I thought it would look great in her kitchen.

Many thanks to *HOA* again for all your love and support!

Here's Mom's Rules for you! ♥



Holiday Harmony Spectacular!



Voices Unlimited



Legacy

Kansas City Chorus of Sweet Adelines and Heart of America Barbershop Chorus

Special this year! The combined chorus takes you on a special journey with the unabridged musical story of that most famous reindeer of all...Rudolph****



Saturday, December 3, 2011

2:00 p.m. and 7:00 pm performances

Unity Village Auditorium near Lee's Summit, MO

Tickets

Front/Center	\$22.00
Back/Sides Floor	\$17.00
Balcony (stair access only)	\$12.00

Buy tickets online at www.hoachorus.com
or call 816-886-9040
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Heart of America Chorus Calendar

December 3

**Holiday Harmony Spectacular • 2pm & 7pm
Unity Village Auditorium**

December 17

Bell Ringing Caroling Caravan for Salvation Army

December 20 & 27

NO HOA MEETING

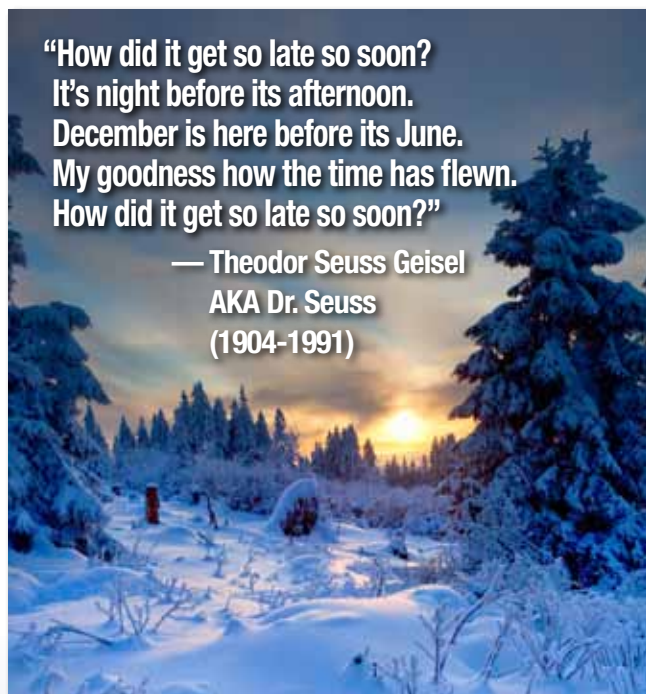
2012

January 7

**HOA Installation/Awards Banquet
Doubletree of Overland Park**

"How did it get so late so soon?
It's night before its afternoon.
December is here before its June.
My goodness how the time has flown.
How did it get so late so soon?"

— Theodor Seuss Geisel
AKA Dr. Seuss
(1904-1991)



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.