

Harmonotes

The Quarterly Bulletin of the
Kansas City Heart of America Chorus

CHORUS AND QUARTET SINGING
IN THE BARBERSHOP STYLE



SECOND-OLDEST CHAPTER IN THE
BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

VOLUME 13 • ISSUE 3 • FALL 2013

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BUSY: The New Normal

by John Erwine, Chapter President

Where indeed has the time gone? I can remember months ago when it seemed that this time of the year was way too far distant. Not so – we're there! It's been a busy year for this chapter.

Among our many activities was a fundraiser in August to help offset the costs associated with our upcoming Carnegie trip. The **U.S. Bank Great Midwest Balloon Festival** (see related article on page 11) held in Olathe was a huge success and was also one to remember. We earned \$3,000, one kid at a time!

Kent Miller performed his usual magic by organizing probably the biggest golf tournament we've hosted to date. Again, it was held at Falcon Lakes Golf Course in Basehor, KS, on Sept. 12, on a beautiful day just perfectly made for golf. Topping it off were the surprise offerings of the *Easy Aces* from West Des Moines.

Next up was the return on Sept. 17, of the renowned **Joe Connelly** for another wild and productive coaching session in preparation for the fall contest. This was Joe's third appearance with us this year. However he did bring along a surprise visitor this time – acting and choreography coach, **Theresa Weatherbee**. She also was a great contributor that evening.

(Continued on page 2 ➡)



Harmonotes

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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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Comments/submissions may be made to:

Todd Anderson (Editor)

2909 West Trevor Trail • Ozark, Mo. 65721-8438
(417) 581-2961 • andersondesign@centurytel.net

HOA Board meetings take place at 6pm on the second Monday or Tuesday 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
Chapter Telephone: (816) 221-7888



(Continued from front cover)

As if we didn't have enough to do, **Carl Turlin** prodded us along with his favorite way to de-clutter our lives – a garage sale. Although I had to be out of town that weekend, I donated a few things prior to it, but also probably took almost as much stuff home – **WINNING!**

Now getting a little more serious as we near convention weekend; something that is normally quite unusual for us, we had two extra Thursday rehearsals. Aside from progress made, it was encouraging that there was no drop in attendance for either of those, or, even normal Tuesday attendance. **Mark Fortino** and crew must be doing something right.

A much expanded form of coaching this season was provided by our own **John Fortino**. I've never seen week after week, that much energy exuded by one who is so committed to see us achieve our goals. What a great coach and friend he is. I'm still not sure what Mark had to promise him to do this.

Convention weekend was pretty much a blur, as we were all busy with hosting duties in addition to keeping focused on the competition. However, with the help of all those who could, it was just about as seamless a weekend as you could get. This was organized and accomplished by the leadership of veteran co-chairs, **Bob Burdick** and **Mike Mathieu**. A huge amount of thanks to these guys and all who helped!

The chorus contest was won by our brothers of *Central Standard*, insuring them an invitation to International in Las Vegas in 2014. The *Pathfinder Chorus* placed second and *Heart of America* placed third. *Premium Blend* won the quartet championship and *Armchair Chorderbacks* were the senior quartet champs. Each should be congratulated and we're very proud of all. Another footnote – attendance post-convention – still very high, and creating a new normal!

The evening was capped off by an afterglow open to all comers in a suite graciously donated to us by CSD President, **Dean Beckman**. There was a steady stream of guest quartets coming by until – what hour? Among the little-known notables were the *Gas House Gang*, *Premium Blend*, *Boomtown*, the new *3 Men & a Melody*, plus so many other wonderful ones that I can't recall, so at peril, I apologize to them in advance.

We still are certainly not done with the year. Carnegie Hall in New York City on Sunday, Dec. 1, is our next big undertaking. We're almost ready. We are currently polishing up the Festival Chorus numbers which will be performed with the Mason City, IA, River City Chorus and an untold number of participants from around the globe. We estimate at least 160 voices in total.

On the next weekend, Dec. 7, we will be performing with the *Kansas City Chorus of Sweet Adelines*, our **Holiday Harmony Spectacular** at Unity Village. It's still not too late to ask someone you know to learn three easy songs, and perform them on stage with us.

So, busy? I wouldn't change it if I could. It feels pretty darned good! ♥



The Big Apple Party of 2013

by Carl Turlin

Preparing for our Carnegie trip, **Marci** & I decided to host a get-together aimed mostly for those going to the Big Apple, New York City. So, on Friday, Oct. 25, we opened the house to those who were interested in sharing their plans and hopes about the trip.

18 folks shared not only their favorite apple dessert, but also their personal stories of being in Manhattan previously and their destinations within Manhattan on this trip.

The gals have more time than the guys, since they don't have to rehearse, so it sounds like the K.C. gals will be shopping, having tea and working out their walking shoes on the NYC sidewalks while the guys are fine-tuning the Carnegie songlist.

There were a few NYC shirts and red shirts at the party, no doubt in line with the New York-Apple theme. Our New York trivia game gave us the opportunity to put our thinking/guessing caps on, regarding factual but perhaps stupid facts about the Big Apple. All in all, it was a nice opportunity to share stories and hopes about our upcoming once-in-lifetime gig at Carnegie Hall. ♥



Above: **Marci** delivers the New York trivia questions at the Big Apple Party. Folks you might recognize include **Don Fuson, Betsy Strub, Ron & Mary Fortino, Ray Young** and **John Erwine, Jan Mathieu, Kathy & Bob Murphy, Marci Turlin** and **Bob Burdick**. Photo courtesy of **Carl Turlin**
Hall photos © 2013 Carnegie Hall Corporation

HOA Garage Sale 2013

by Carl Turlin



Our Garage Sale 2013 brought in about \$540, which is about half of our previous years sales income. There's a number of factors to account for the lower dollars, which the board is aware of.

I am dismayed at the lack of not only our income, but the lack of physical support from chorus members. Thanks go out to the six guys and eight ladies who helped prepare, work and clean up the sale! It could be that we're all too busy or maybe we feel that we're doing enough by learning so much music and preparing for our late-season Carnegie Show and Holiday Show. I'm not sure what the reasons are. Consequently next year, if I offer to run this again, I'll begin recruiting earlier to see if it's worth attempting. ♥



Above, top to bottom:

Folks shopping through our sale items at our 2013 Sale; **Judy and Denny Briley** jumping to a sale while **Kent Miller** prepares for the next one! Garage sale photos courtesy of **Carl Turlin**

Handful Break Our Record for BUSY!

by Jim Bagby, Director

Since Sept. 8, the *New Harmony Handful* have performed 10 times as of the first Sunday in November. And we have three more November outings on the calendar. Between our schedule and HOA's crunch Holiday Show and Carnegie preparations – we're punting our November rehearsal.

But it has been a delightful time. The highlight probably was a clinic at Unity Village that included about 250 boys from the three Lee's Summit high schools, where they got to hear three different styles of male choruses and got some great coaching from a top-ranked clinician. We also took part in a concert at the John Knox Village Pavilion, where our own *Resonation* was the very capable headliner. And we joined a variety of entertainment, including some elderly belly dancers, for an annual Grandparents Expo at the Jack Reardon Center in Kansas City, Kan. Came with an audience of several hundred and a great meal!

NHH administrator **Tony Strub**, ably abetted by the charitable group of women known as the *Assistance League*, has gotten adroit at getting us double (and sometimes even triple) bookings in the same day. That's good for folks like bass **Val Putzier**, who drives all the way from Paola, Kan. He says if we sing in Smithville or Gladstone, as we frequently do, he leaves yesterday. And when we sing twice, we like to work in a jolly NHH lunch in between. Someone always knows a good restaurant in the area.

Twice we have sung for an Alzheimer's unit. The first time we entered with our 16-18 singers, a lively lady stood and counted us, then announced: "47!" One of the listeners immediately matched the pitch every time **Ron Abel** blew the pipe. And even if she didn't keep up with the words, she was only a little behind the beat in finding the melody – right in key – all the way through each song. And beaming all the way!

Our original, primary mission was to sing at churches across the metro area while choirs are on summer vacation. We still do a lot of that. But we have found probably even more satisfaction in going to senior citizen centers and nursing homes – from the upscale to places where virtually everyone is in wheelchairs and applause is something you have to imagine. Afterwards, we all go greet the members of the audience, similar to what HOA does during the Caroling Caravan.

The difference here is these folks – who could be our parents or grandparents – grab our hands a little more earnestly, and sometimes they tell you with their eyes what their voices can't. It's frequently an emotional experience, and always a rewarding one.

The Oct. 29 choir festival at Unity was conceived by **Larry Keisker**, director of the *Methodist Men of Note* in Lee's Summit and father of HOA's **Steve Keisker**. Larry enlisted the *Kansas City Community Men's Choir*, directed by retired Raytown music educator **Noel Fulkerson**, and the NHH. We underwrote the program, which featured the youngest choirs from Lee's Summit, Lee's Summit West and Lee's Summit North high schools. One of the outstanding directors was **Vince Perry's** brother, **Steve**. The clinician was former *Chanticleer* and *Kansas City Chorale* soloist **Gabe Lewis-O'Connor**. He worked with each of the three prep choirs, then conducted a mass number with all singers at the end of the day.

Each group got to perform separately, and **Gabe** was very complimentary about the NHH, especially noting to the high schoolers the visual involvement of the barbershoppers. He also noted that he knows hundreds of tags, but we didn't have enough time during the highly structured day to get to sing one with him.

One final happy note: former HOA president, BOTY and longtime activist **Dale Neuman** is the latest member of the *Handful*, singing lead, with tenor as a backup part. Welcome, Dale! ♥

Caroling Caravan Ready to Roll on Saturday, Dec. 21

by Bob Burdick and Mike Mathieu

Plans are now in place for Caroling Caravan VIII to travel to six retirement homes on Saturday, Dec. 21. We will be singing a thirty minute concert at each location with our emphasis on entertaining the people AND raising money for the Salvation Army.

Please mark your calendars to join us for the full day which will begin with warm-ups about 9:30 am and end after our last performance about 5 pm. More detailed instructions and sign up information will be coming out in early December.

Please plan on joining the chorus for a day of fun and successful fund raising. In the last seven years we have raised nearly \$100,000 for the Salvation Army and we look forward to adding to that total this year. ♥



Harmony Explosion! 2014 on Saturday, Feb. 22

by Jerry Meier

Who: YOU!
What: Harmony Explosion! 2014
When: Saturday, February 22 from 8am to 5pm
Where: Olathe East High School, 14545 W. 127th Olathe, KS 66062
How can I help? Volunteer your time and sing with your Chorus!

Harmony Explosion! 2014 – YOUR chance to contribute in a positive way!

I want to invite YOU to participate in a very exciting opportunity – Harmony Explosion! 2014 – to be held at Olathe East High School on Saturday, Feb. 22. Harmony Explosion! is a one-day clinic that introduces Middle School and High School students and teachers (and family members and friends) to the 4-part a cappella harmonic sounds created by singing Barbershop style music. *The Kansas City Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society* and the *Kansas City Chorus of Sweet Adelines* join forces to sponsor this event, to be held for the 18th consecutive year.

Harmony Explosion! includes vocal music activities for students that wish to sing Barbershop music in quartets or in larger groups – with a common goal to promote 4-part a cappella singing in a mistake-friendly environment that encourages participation and performance with plenty of support and fun!

Goal #1: Get the students to sing Barbershop music on stage!

Goal #2: Get the students excited about singing Barbershop music and Barbershop Tags on their own, with their friends, when they leave the event!

Goal #3: Get the students to understand that Barbershop music is a life-long hobby – they can participate in school, in college, as young adults, and throughout their lifetime.

Goal #4: Provide excellence in vocal music singing through demonstration and education with wonderful Featured Quartets such as Boomtown!

Goal #5: Introduce the *Heart of America Barbershop Chorus* and the *Kansas City Chorus of Sweet Adelines* to the students, the teachers, the family and friends.

Getting the students to sing on stage is a HUGE accomplishment. It builds character and self-confidence, improves their self-esteem, and teaches responsibility and accountability using Barbershop Music as the vehicle for fun! Getting the message about Barbershop being a life-long hobby that can be enjoyed by all levels of talent, ability, age their entire lifetimes!

The Schedule of the Day will look something like this:

8:30 am Registration Opens – Auditorium Lobby
9:00 am Opening Session – Main Auditorium
10 am Preliminary Quartet Competitions
12 noon Quartet Finals Announcement!
1:30 pm Quartet Finals – Main Auditorium
4:45 pm Awards Ceremony – Main Auditorium

The actual schedule will be determined by the total number of quartets that register. Every effort will be made to stay on track. What can you do to help? Please volunteer. Show up on that Saturday and be ready to assist the students, the teachers, the guests, the judges, the Contest Administrators, the ushers, the chaperones, the custodial staff, the event staff, and yes, even the Security Guard!

Contact Jerry Meier in any one of the following ways:

Email: jmeier@kgptel.com or LILHOSSKS@aol.com
Phone: 913-393-6733 Work, 913-780-1822 Home, or 913-226-5394 Mobile ♥

Coaching a Harmony Explosion! Quartet

by Jerry Meier

Interested in Coaching a Harmony Explosion! Quartet? It is probably the most important and rewarding activity that can help a young quartet succeed on stage! Coaching will start the week of Jan. 20 and continue for five (5) weeks. Most of the quartets have to rehearse before school, starting at 7:15 am, because these fine young students are involved in after-school clubs and sporting activities. Quartets that can rehearse after school start singing at 3:15 pm, but the majority of the quartets will rehearse before school starts. There will also be coaching requests during the day as Harmony Explosion! draws closer.

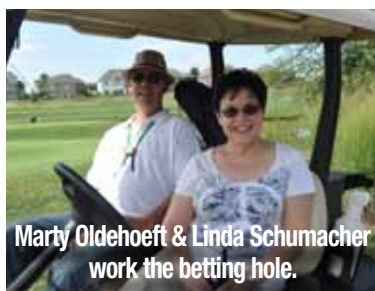
Coaching is easy – just take the **Mike Slamka** approach – share what you have heard from so many other fine coaches! It's easier than you think – all YOU have to do is give it a try. And it's so much fun! Your presence with a young group in a coaching session will help the students work out the problem 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** in any one of the following ways:

Email: jmeier@kgptel.com
LILHOSSKS@aol.com
Phone: 913-393-6733 Work
913-780-1822 Home
913-226-5394 Mobile ♥

HOA 2013 GOLF TOURNAMENT

Falcon Lakes Golf Course 10 miles south of Leavenworth, KS
Photos by Don Fuson & Vince Perry



Marty Oldehoeft & Linda Schumacher work the betting hole.



Kent Miller (far right) & his foursome.



Another happy foursome!



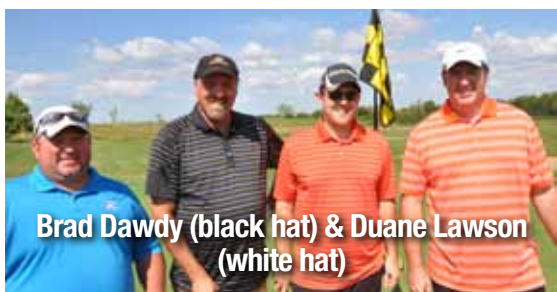
Not HOA members, but happy to play!



R to L: Jana Henderson, Don Young, Mike Schumacher and friend



Rick Foreman (2nd from left)



Brad Dawdy (black hat) & Duane Lawson (white hat)



Jeff Wolff enjoys his tee shot



Jeff Wolff (orange) & foursome



Non HOAers in car



Four more happy participants!



Body language helps!



Vince Perry



Watching a putt



Don Fuson (photographer)
Cindy Miller (driver)



A group decision!



Harvey Shapiro (left)



Don Young



Jim (Coach) Clark (red)



Carl Turlin (left) with friends



Mike O'Dell (blue shirt)



Ray Young (black hat) with friends



Easy Aces Quartet



Barry Sanders (left) & foursome



Buffet line attracts some hungry golfers



Easy Aces sing after buffet dinner



Easy Aces quartet from Des Moines, IA sing



Kent Miller (left) and volunteers



Duane Lawson
n buffet line

Editorial: Fall Contest Summary

by Jim and Roberta Porter

Heat of America Chorus competed in the Central States District contest on Oct. 12, with high hopes of qualifying for a position in the international competition at Las Vegas in July 2014. The HOA score of 1427 (79.3) was virtually the same as in 2011 and 2012 in this competition. It placed them third in the district behind district champion *Central Standard* (85.9) and the *Fremont Pathfinders* (83.6). In previous years, this score would have qualified for one of the 10 wild card slots in the International contest.

That is not the case this year. The 10th and final wild card seed fell to the *Voices of California* chorus, which posted a score of 80.7. This is the highest the cutoff point has been since international competition expanded to 30 or so choruses a decade ago. It is noteworthy that FIVE district champion choruses scored below HOA but received their district's automatic invitation to Las Vegas.

One factor is that in recent years, several of the top-rated choruses opted out of the competition, leaving spots available for others behind them. This year, only two choruses, *Westminster* and the *Alexandria Harmonizers*, opted out. *Westminster* deferred to *Masters of Harmony* (their parent chapter) and *Alexandria* competed in their district (MAD) for evaluation only, posting a score of 89.2, well ahead of district champion Hell's Kitchen, NY.

The biggest matchup will be between the *Dallas Vocal Majority* (top qualifier with 93.9) and the *Masters of Harmony* (2nd qualifier, 91.4). These chapters have been competing, and usually winning, for more than 20 years, but NEVER BEFORE have they competed in the same contest. This should be a historically awesome competition!

Following in order are the *zero8* chorus from Sweden and *Great Northern Union* (Minnesota). Both posted scores of 89.4. *Denver Mile High* posted 88.8 Elizabethtown, KY, posted 87.9 and *Greater Central Ohio* posted 86. It is reasonable to think the top five medalist choruses will emerge from this group.

Next in line is *Central Standard*. Its score ranks 9th among all (including Alexandria) and it would appear probable our sister chapter in Kansas City will place in the top 10. It would not be a huge step upwards for them to be in the hunt for an international medal. Fremont is not far behind; its score was 13th-best among all and earned the top wild card seed.

There are other chapters that have been regulars at International in past years that failed to make the cut this year. Among these are the Greendale, WI, *Midwest Vocal Express*, the Manhattan *Big Apple Chorus* and the Jacksonville, FL, *Big Orange Chorus*. Others missing the cut are Tampa, Louisville and Columbus, OH. The Evergreen District had a very close competition, with three choruses within one-half percent of one another. But all of the scores were under 80.7 and only the champion (Salem) got an invitation.

Insofar as the quartets are concerned, each district has a competition and a district champion is chosen, but past district champions are ineligible. The spring preliminaries are the superior quartet competitions, as all of the quartets (other than international champions) are eligible. Just three quartets posted a score over 80, and TWO of them featured a singer named **Fortino**! The best was *Via Voice* from Evergreen (85.5). Second was our own *Premium Blend* (**Mark Fortino**) with 81.8 and third was Southwest District champion *Bonus Track* (80.3) with **Anthony Fortino**. Note that a quartet with a score over 76 will usually qualify to compete at International.

Each district also had a seniors quartet competition, and our own *Armchair Chorderbacks* won the nod in Central States District with 69.2. The top score in each district qualify for the International Seniors Quartet Contest in January. The best quartet to emerge in this competition was *St. Croix Crossing* in Land O'Lakes District, which posted 75.3. Second was 71.3, and *Armchair Chorderbacks* had the sixth-best score. They therefore should have a very good shot to qualify for a medal at the mid-winter competition. ♥



Armchair Chorderbacks Score a Touchdown!

by Mike Mathieu

What is an Armchair Chorderback? It is a name for a new, or rather “Old” quartet that popped into **Jim Bagby’s** mind one night in late August of this year. **Carter Combs** and **David Stockard** thought it would be great to put four guys into a senior quartet and join in the fun at our 75th Anniversary Convention, being held on our home court here in Kansas City. They invited Jim and me to join them.

Now what would be the hardest thing to do with this quartet? If you guessed time to

practice, you would be correct. We managed to sneak in one official practice session, and two “mini-sessions” before our regular Tuesday night meeting, for the month of August. We thought that if we could schedule another few practices, we’d soon be off the music. In response to that, I took 10 days off, heading Osage Beach for two days, then continuing on to Florida for an additional week.

Got back home and **Jim** left for a week. Jim got home, and I left again for five days in Wisconsin. Three

weeks to go until contest was here, “no problemo”—lots of time. We managed one more 30-second “mini-session” before our Tuesday meeting, and then got in two full rehearsals, a coaching session with **Calvin Yoder**,

thought that for a quartet that had seven official practice sessions, we were very happy with the fun we had on stage.

Friday evening they announced the standings in the “senior’s quartet portion” of the contest, with the highest scoring quartet representing CSD at the Society Wide Senior’s quartet contest in Long Beach next January. To our collective delight we won that honor, so now we will represent CSD in a



and one more session to design a presentation plan, and we were about as ready as we could be. Contest here we come.

We only performed two songs in the contest, because that is all we knew. Friday came, we did our thing had a great experience on stage, and even got some folks to stand up out of their chairs. Evidently the emcee said that after our quartet was done singing, there would be a 30 second stand up and stretch break. Whatever happened, we had a blast, and we

few months, at the big dance for quartets with four members at least 55 years old, and their cumulative ages equaling at least 240 years. The privacy act prevents me from telling whom is how old, so I’ll let you all keep guessing as to our ages.

Thanks for your support and we really look forward to representing our home district in Long Beach. **Carter, Mike, Jim** and **David** appreciate your collective kind words and we hope to represent you well in Sunny Long Beach. ❤️

Awards Banquet on Saturday, January 4, 2014

by Jerry Meier



The Awards Banquet will be held on Saturday, Jan. 4, from 6pm to 10pm in the Prairie Room of the Crowne Center Hotel and Conference Center. Here are the details at a glance:

- Location:** Prairie Room of the Crowne Center Hotel and Conference Center
Address: 12601 West 95th, Lenexa, KS (SE corner of I-35 and 95th Street)
Dress Code: Somewhere between formal and casual
Date: Saturday, January 4, 2014
Time: 6pm to 10pm

This year we will enjoy a sitdown menu of Rolls/Butter; Garden Salad, Chicken, Pork, or Pasta Entrée with Coffee / Tea / Water and Dessert. The cost will most likely be \$38 per plate (still being negotiated).

Prior to the banquet, attendees will be asked to select their entrée:

Chicken Roulade (spinach and provolone stuffed inside a breaded, baked chicken breast) with Chef Selection of rice / potato / vegetable

OR...

Pork Loin Medallion (with caramelized onions and a blue cheese crust, served with a port wine sauce) with Chef Selection of rice / potato / vegetable

OR...

Pasta Primavera (sautéed vegetables with fresh herbs and garlic served over a bed of angel hair pasta topped with sautéed mushrooms)

The evening will start at 6pm with a cash bar. The cash bar will remain open for the entire evening. We plan to begin eating at 6:30pm 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. **Don Fuson** will be our Installing Officer for the 2014 Board of Directors. Stay tuned for additional details and make plans to attend. Contact **Jerry Meier** if you have questions. ♥



October 1 **John Landry**
 October 2 **Steve Keisker**
 October 5 **Lucas Pherigo**
 October 12 **Jim Kemper**
 October 14 **Brad Dawdy**
 October 25 **Big D Fenster**
 October 27 **Rob Varney**

November 3 **Larry Colburn**
 November 8 **Tom Gray**
 November 10 **Kent Miller**
 November 20 **Dick Korek**
 November 23 **Brooke Meyers**
 November 24 **Mike O'Dell**
 November 26 **Dick Henderson**
 November 28 **Todd Anderson**
 November 28 **Vince Perry III**
 November 29 **Paul Winans**

December 7 **Jim Davis**
 December 9 **Ron Fortino**
 December 14 **Matthew Quinn**
 December 16 **Val Putzier**
 December 24 **Darrell McCune**
 December 28 **Mike Louque**
 December 30 **Grant Hunget**
 December 31 **Dave Jobe**

Up, Up and Away...

by John Erwine, Chapter President



are transported and soaring with them.

Then, hollering and mayhem! Suddenly reality kicks in and you're smack in the middle of dozens of howling kids that are everywhere like ants in an anthill. You're trying to keep track of them, protecting them from any sort of harm that could befall them. After all – their parents are entrusting them to your care. You've no doubt heard the old expression "like herding cats?" Cats are a snap!

Of course I jest, as this was a wonderful experience. When *Gypsy John*, somewhere in Florida, heard that the fund-raising committee for our Carnegie trip was looking for ways to help alleviate some of the expense, he knew just what to do. Long-time and proud HOA Lead, **John Landry**, contacted one of his closest friends.

Photo by Don Fuson



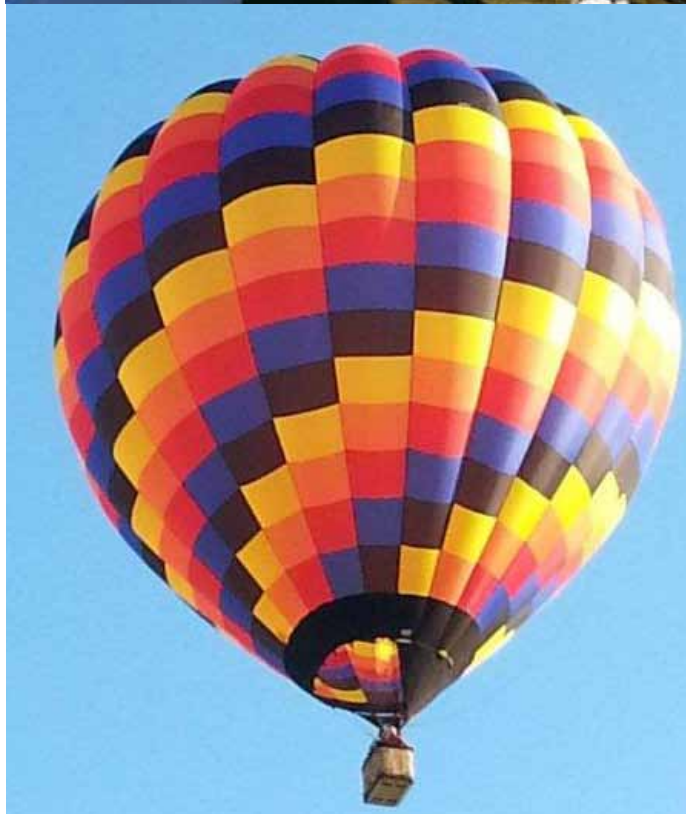
Left to right: John Erwine, Carol Baker and Robbie Small

It seems John was aware of a first ever Fox and Hound Charity Balloon Race to be held in Olathe. The event, **U.S. Bank Great Midwest Balloon Festival**, created an opportunity for 25 major area charities to raise funds by participating in it. John called this friend, **Carol Baker**, who just happened to be the events coordinator. She was looking for a 501(c)3 organization to provide volunteers to man the kids inflatable balloon area. The event needed plenty of help to supervise and protect the kids from injury. The job paid \$3,000 for the two-day event. We nabbed it!

The event chairman and founder, **Robbie Small**, was also on hand and seemed to be everywhere at the same time, just as Carol was. After the event was over, we were given perhaps the greatest reward of the weekend – a compliment of the highest degree. Our management and follow-through of the responsibility we took on was never a concern to them. We performed admirably. So much so, that we will be asked to participate again next year. Way to go *Heart of America!* And thanks to our very own gypsy!

Let's see now – where did the little kid go who forgot his shoes? ♥

Balloon photos courtesy of John Erwine



Introducing our **FOUR** newest members of the Chapter – now adding **FIFTEEN NEW MEMBERS** since January 1!

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Photos by Ron McIntire



Mark McCullough is no stranger to barbershopping. He first joined the Society in 1989 but after an interruption of several years has returned to carry on this hobby. He and his wife, **Robin**, live in Leawood, KS. You will recognize Mark from the Spring Fling Quartet Contest earlier this year where he won two medals in two quartets. Mark sings lead in the *HOA Chorus*.



Matthew Fortino is a third-generation Fortino barbershopper. He follows in the footsteps of the eight-member Fortino clan of *HOA* and is the youngest Fortino, having just celebrated his seventh birthday, to perform on stage with the chorus. He debuted in the 2013 CSD Fall Contest in October and will sing tenor with *HOA*.



John Marshall is a dual Member with *HOA*, Iowa City, IA and St. Charles, MO chapters. He and his wife **Ronda** live in Iowa City, where he sings lead with the *Old Capitol Chorus* and the *Regular Joes* quartet. John is a past Central States District president and former Society Board Member. He drives a grueling eight hours round trip each week to sing lead with *HOA*.



Joshua "J.P." Marshall is a dual Member with *HOA*, Iowa City, IA and St. Charles, MO chapters. He lives in North Liberty, IA and sings lead in the *Old Capitol Chorus*. Like his father John, J.P. has been active in the administration of the Central States District and drives the eight hour round trip to sing lead with the *HOA Chorus*.



Jim Porter - July 2013

Chapter President **John Erwine** (left) presents **Jim Porter** the BTOM for July which states: In grateful appreciation for collecting, reporting and paying the Carnegie Hall registration fees and invoicing each individual attending the Carnegie Festival program in New York City, December 1, 2013.

Photo courtesy of **Ron McIntire**.



Jerry Meier - August 2013

Chapter President **John Erwine** (left) presents **Jerry Meier** the BTOM for August which states: In grateful appreciation for your presentation of the work the Kansas City Chapter does to support our youth, the Salvation Army and other organizations, to the Kansas Choral Director's Association and Kansas City Arts Council, July 12-13, 2013.

Photo courtesy of **Ron McIntire**.

EXTRA MILE AWARD



Harvey Shapiro May 2013

(Above) Chapter President **John Erwine** (right) presents **Harvey Shapiro** the EMA for May which states: In grateful recognition and appreciation for your work conducting the annual audit of the 2012 chapter finances as required by the Barbershop Harmony Society. Photo by **Ron McIntire**.

Charles Ramirez May 2013

(Above) Chapter President **John Erwine** (left) presents **Charles Ramirez** the EMA for May which states: In grateful recognition and appreciation for your work conducting the annual audit of the 2012 chapter finances as required by the Barbershop Harmony Society. Photo by **Don Fuson**.

EXTRA MILE AWARD



Jerry Garrard - July 2013

Chapter President **John Erwine** (right) presents **Jerry Garrard** the EMA for July which states: In grateful appreciation for pulling the riser trailer to the Liberty Fourth Fest performance in Liberty, MO, and the Music In the Park performance in Overland Park, KS. Photo courtesy of **Ron McIntire**.

EXTRA MILE AWARD



Kent Miller - July 2013

Chapter President **John Erwine** (left) presents **Kent Miller** the EMA for July which reads: In grateful appreciation for your continuing work to petition organizations for grants to promote efforts by HOA to bring barbershop music to the KC Metro community. Photo courtesy of **Ron McIntire**.

EXTRA MILE AWARD



Carter Combs - August 2013

Chapter President **John Erwine** (left) presents **Carter Combs** the EMA for August which reads: In grateful appreciation for scheduling and assigning workers for the Sheridan Custard and Midwest Balloon Festival fund-raising effort to support the Carnegie Hall Concert. Photo courtesy of **Ron McIntire**.

Eleven HOA Quartets Compete in CSD Quartet Contest

Oct. 11-12, 2013
Sheraton
Crown Center
Kansas City, MO

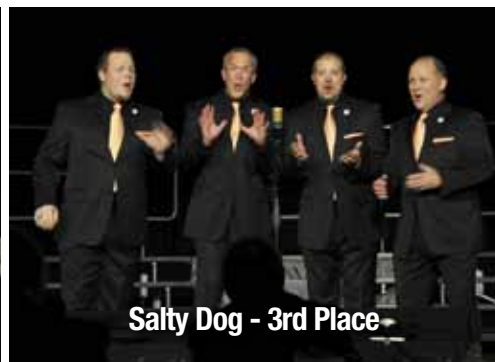


Premium Blend - New Central States District Champions!

Photo by Jayne Morden



BoomTown - 2nd Place



Salty Dog - 3rd Place



Resonation - 7th Place



Armchair Chorderbacks
2013 CSD Senior Quartet Champs



Clef Notes - 16th Place



Priorities - 17th Place



Exit Strategy - 23rd Place



Homeward Bound - 24th Place



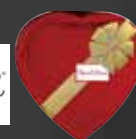
Regular Joes - 29th Place



Mariah - 30th Place

MAKE AN EFFORT TO PATRONIZE OUR SPONSORS!

The Heart of America Chorus membership owes it to our sponsors to be aware of their support. Please use and/or support their products/services whenever possible and make an effort to let them know that we are thankful for this support!



HEART OF AMERICA CHORUS CALENDAR

Rehearsals w/ Sweet Adelines:

Nov. 19 (Tues) - St. Peter's

Nov. 25 (Mon) - 7 pm at Metcalf South Hall

Nov. 29 (Fri) - Sounds of the Seasons at Union Station!

Dec. 1 (Sun) - Perform at Carnegie Hall in New York City!

Dec. 7 (Sat) - Holiday Harmony Spectacular at Unity Village!

Dec. 10 (Tues) - Bush League Qrtet Contest!

Dec. 21 (Sat) - Caroling Caravan!

Jan. 4, 2014 (Sat) HOA Annual Banquet!

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.