

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

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Our Healthy Selves

by John Erwine, Chapter President



ERWINE

Walt Disney was quoted as saying: *"Around here we don't look backward for very long. We keep moving forward, opening new doors and doing new things, because we're curious...and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths."*

At my last writing, I concluded my article with a toast – *"Here's to the future stability and growth of the Kansas City Chapter!"* I believe since that summer issue was published, we have in all aspects carried out that hope. It is always tough to carry forward one's mission when the previous years' activities have overshadowed the current one. Last year, busy to the extent we didn't know if we could accomplish all it demanded of us – this year not nearly so much. But that's okay, and most likely the right thing for now.

This was our second year to participate in the Great Midwest Balloon Festival held Aug. 8-10, at the Kansas Speedway near the MCI Airport. There were many more balloons than last year, the weather cooperating until Sunday morning when the rain descended.

(Continued on page 2 ⇨)



DRAWN BY HARMONY...BOUND BY FRIENDSHIP...STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE!

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:

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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)

Our highlight was for HOA to take center stage on Saturday for about 40 minutes to a noise-afflicted, carnival runway crowd that was grateful for a more pleasant sound. Our own *Armchair Chorderbacks* contributed to the success of the day.

Next up was our 8th annual HOA Golf Tournament on Sept. 18, held again at Falcon Lakes in Leavenworth. As always, HOA's **Kent Miller** came through with another very successful event. The dipstick we use to calibrate success – not one complaint from anyone that I'm aware of. Now there are those of us that he brow-beat coming into the event, but that's another story.

As sometimes usually happens, you plan for the best but hope for the worst. That is sort of what happened putting together a last-minute retreat prior to fall contest. We finally got a date scheduled at Lake Chippewa in Ottawa, Ks, only to find out they had double booked us with another group. So we were out. Last minute efforts granted us our facility at St. Peter's where we rehearse weekly.

On Oct. 26 and 27, the final preparations formulated for this last-minute event were finalized. The high point of the event was the star coach, being none other than **Mr. Rik Johnson**. I know I've shrunk over the last few years, but this dude is tall – maybe up to his breast-bone if I hugged him – not! Joking aside, yes he is tall in stature, but also tall in knowing what he is talking about!

We found Rik to be one of the most patient, yet demanding coaches I've ever seen. He's the guy that gets through to you when you've heard the same story a dozen times before, and you still don't get it. Then Rik comes into play, and – Bang! There it is. Things like "legato" is the secret sauce, take a full, deep breath even when you don't need it while remembering "this is easy," posture, open wind pipe and larynx, shape and trajectory of the sound. And then remember to verbally celebrate the VICTORIES! Most times these will rub off to help correct many insufficient habits. Also, remembering that "we are one" with each other and our Director in trust, delivery, tone, sections and all things Barbershop. Finally, but certainly not last on his list, remember "*it's the journey*" that counts, not the numbers or placement in a contest setting. Only we control our destiny, and fun has to be the ultimate experience within it.

I think it was **Mike Schumacher** that left this quote with us on the last day of the retreat by **Tony Robbins** "*If you do what you've always done, you'll get what you've always gotten. It's not what we do once in a while that shapes our lives, but what we do consistently.*"

Oct. 4 found us at the Ritz Charles Hotel in Overland Park as the guest entertainers for the Cross-Lines Gala fundraiser event for many worthwhile charities in the metro area. This was a great venue to not only give back to the community that supports us, but practice our contest set for the CSD contest in Cedar Rapids later in the month.

On Oct. 7th we welcomed many guests to our send-off rehearsal for our upcoming CSD contest. It was such a great evening, finished off with all those “sweet” things to enhance your health and singing – ha!

Now to the center ring of the “big show.” – The CSD Annual Convention and quartet/chorus competitions for qualification to the 2015 International Convention in Pittsburgh, PA. Beautiful Cedar Rapids was a dry, non-flooded city as opposed to our 2008 gathering. We were wrapped in the luxury of the beautifully restored Paramount Theater.

I have to say that the weekend was awesome! Not only the chorus productions, but quartet offerings as well. My first competition was in 2006. I can only emphasize the huge increased and positive difference in singing and presence on stage there has been since that time.

What does this mean to me? It means that I’m very proud of how we presented ourselves on stage. It also means that there is no way we can give up on trying to improve upon what we personally contribute each week. Not only for others, but primarily ourselves. Competition numbers and placement have nothing to do with this philosophy. They only tend to confuse the issues at hand. Most of what Rik and others taught us stuck like glue.

Whatever it is we do in this short life, if we do it pretty well we don’t want to do less next time, or there will be disappointment and frustration over time. If we do it really well, the same rule applies. Sure, there may be a shortcoming now and then, but the continuing long-term efforts continue to raise and reward. So if we strive to do our own personal best each time, just think about the collective effect it may produce. We may never be, or even want to be, “the best” – but we certainly can and should always want to be “our best.” In my thinking, therein lies the secret to success at whatever level you may want to define it.

Now to the last, and perhaps most important decision I’ve imposed on this Chapter in two years. I moved our regularly scheduled meeting nights Tuesday 21st to the 23rd,

and Tuesday 28th to the 30th. This move was intended to accommodate all showing any interest, of any degree, in the 2014 World Series of Baseball; especially for the great and faithful Royals/(Giants) fans in this great supportive Kansas City Metro area! I hope it saves my hide!

A few last thoughts; in my mind we have grown closer together as a brother-hood and core unit than in some times past. We are trusting Director, **Jerry Garrard** more than ever, and he in turn us as well. We have demonstrated that whatever we are confronted with, we will prevail in accomplishing it successfully.

All that being said, our consistent riser numbers range between 28-40 for rehearsals and performances. We are also aware that, although we have a big sound for our numbers, in order to better fill and balance that big sound strongly, and carry the song’s message successfully, we need to increase our numbers as we move forward. I strongly believe that our “curiosity” and “forward-looking” leadership will continue to open new ways into the future and accomplish this desire.

I have a long-term belief in this Chapter. I believe we are solid, progressive, curious, forward-thinking, and always looking for new doors to open; new paths to follow in ways to exploit the future. Once more, thanks for all your efforts in achieving the standards that this chorus is known for. ♥



WHO WAS MORE SURPRISED?

On **Jim and Joann Bagby's** 50th anniversary Mediterranean cruise, these four members of the dining room staff showed up one night to offer a surprise serenade. The four, all from the Philippines, broke into a very out-of-tune rendition of “Let Me Call You Sweetheart.” The anniversary couple did their best to grin and bear it for most of the song, but then Jim broke in with some harmony, breaking up the quartet! (Photo by Joann)

HOA 2014 GOLF TOURNAMENT

Photos by Ron McIntire



Photographer
Ron McIntire
Driver
Cindy Miller



Admin Team L to R:
Denny Briley, Vince Perry, Jim Porter and John Erwine



Tim
Nobles
Jerry
Garrard
Clint
Evans



Left to Right:
Ricky Foreman, Adam Foreman,
Jane Lamb and Jerry Lamb



Jeremy
Turlin
Carl
Turlin



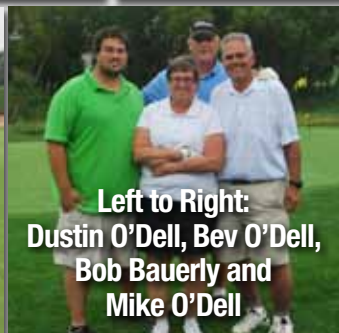
Carl
Turlin
Jeremy
Turlin
Bob
David



Carl
Turlin
Jeremy
Turlin



Left to Right:
Steve Keisker, Gavin Allan,
Weldon Harris and
Harvey Shapiro



Left to Right:
Dustin O'Dell, Bev O'Dell,
Bob Bauerly and
Mike O'Dell



Don Young & Jana Henderson



Tournament
Director
Kent Miller
John
Orndorff



Tony Strub



**Des Moines Chapter's
EASY ACES QUARTET:**
Lynn Bridie, Mike Rehberg, Stan Doser,
and Cecil Goettsch



Left to Right:
Duane Lawson, Doug Brott,
Brandon Yarbrough, and Brad Dawdy



Left to Right:
Don Young, Jana Henderson,
Kevin Schumacher, and
Mike Schumacher



Left to Right:
Ray Young, Russ Bloom,
Kenny Manuel, and Dale Carder



Left to Right:
Jack Strange, Kent Harrison,
John Orndorff, and Kent Miller



Left to Right:
John Zillman, Barry Thompson,
Mike Levine, and Ron Whitehouse



Kevin Tritsch, Bob Kruetzkamp, Tony Strub



The Easy Aces sang before dinner

**It took me seventeen years
to get three thousand hits in
baseball. I did it in one
afternoon on the golf course.**

— Hank Aaron



Kent Miller

CSD Rankings

by Jim Porter

The 17 BHS districts completed their fall competitions on Oct. 25, and the lineup for the International chorus contest in Pittsburgh in July 2015 is thus finalized [barring later withdrawals].

While the ranking is of some interest, in most district competitions involving a top-level chorus there was little doubt who would emerge as district champion, and the only important consideration was to make the cut and qualify for International. Therefore, the rankings in these competitions may not be very strong indicators of who will emerge with the medals next July. That said, the top 10 choruses, with percentage scores are:

- 1: *Westminster*, 94.5% (FWD)
- 2: *Ambassadors of Harmony*, 93.8% (CSD)
- 3: *Alexandria Harmonizers*, 90.9% (MAD)
- 4: *Denver Mile High*, 89.1% (RMD)
- 5: *Central Standard*, 87.2% (CSD)
- 6: *Nashville Music City*, 86.4% (DIX)
- 7: *Hamilton Square NJ*, 85.7% (MAD)
- 8: *Voices of Gotham*, 85.3% (MAD)
- 9: *Tampa Heralds of Harmony*, 84.6% (SUN)
- 10: *Bloomington Sounds of Illinois*, 83.5% (ILL)

Other notables:

13: *Fremont Pathfinders*, 82.9%, the third CSD chorus in the running

11, 12, 14: *Men of Independence*, *Southern Gateway*, *The Alliance* — three choruses from JAD.

20: *Sunrise, FL, THX*, 81.6%, the last qualifying wildcard chorus.

Two more CSD members, South Central Kansas (28th) and Mason City, IA (30th) fell just short of qualifying [but still could be called if there are dropouts]. *The Heart of America Chorus* finished 48th overall, just ahead of Grand Rapids, MI, (50th) which qualified for International as the Pioneer District champion. ♥

[Ed: See the complete chorus draw on the Society web site]



Coaching a Harmony Explosion! Quartet

by Jerry Meier



Coaching a Harmony Explosion! Quartet is one of the easiest and most reward-

ing activities that you can do to make a difference in a young person's life. **Coaching is easy** — just take the **Mike Slamka** approach — share what you have heard from so many other coaches in the past. It's easier than you think — all you have to do is give it a try. **Coaching is really fun** — you actually help students work on the problem spots in their songs. With repetition and encouragement, the students will be able to perform their songs on the Harmony Explosion! stage with confidence. And the students will be ever so thankful for your input.

Coaching will start the week of Jan. 19 and will continue for five (5) weeks. Most of the quartets have to rehearse before school, starting at 7:15 am. Some quartets rehearse after school start singing at 3:15 pm, but the majority of them sing before school starts.

Please volunteer your time to coach and encourage these young quartets — just 30 minutes on one school day can help a young quartet succeed on stage. You can make a huge difference in their confidence and ability.

Contact Jerry Meier in any one of the following ways:

Email: jmeier@kgptel.com or LILHOSSKS@aol.com

Phone: 913-393-6733 Work or
913-780-1822 Home or
913-226-5394 Mobile ♥

Caroling Caravan Ready to Roll on Saturday, Dec. 20

by Bob Burdick and Mike Mathieu



Plans are now in place for Caroling Caravan VIII to travel to six retirement homes on Saturday, Dec. 20. 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 eight years we have raised more than \$100,000 for the Salvation Army and we look forward to adding to that total this year. ♥

HARMONY EXPLOSION!

Announcing Harmony Explosion 2015

by Jerry Meier

Who: YOU!
What: Harmony Explosion! 2015
When: Saturday, Feb. 21 from 8 am to 5 pm
Where: Olathe East High School,
14545 W. 127th Olathe, KS 66062
How can I help? Volunteer your time and sing with your Chorus!

You are invited to participate in a very exciting opportunity to support our youth – Harmony Explosion 2015! – to be held at Olathe East High School on Saturday, Feb. 21. Harmony Explosion! 2015 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, as we have done for more than 20 years.

Harmony Explosion! 2015 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 on stage!
- Goal #2 – get the students excited about singing

a cappella music on their own and with their friends!

- Goal #3 – get the students to understand that singing 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 *3 Men and a Melody*, *Legacy*, *BoomTown*, *Premium Blend*, and *ZING!*

Getting the students to sing on stage is a HUGE accomplishment:

1. Builds character and self-confidence
2. Improves their self-esteem
3. Teaches them responsibility and accountability
4. Uses Barbershop Music as the vehicle for fun!

The schedule for the day will look something like this:

8:30 am	Registration Opens
9:00 am	Opening Session
10:00 am	Preliminary Quartet Performances
12:30 pm	Quartet Finals Announcement
2:00 pm	Quartet Finals Performances
4:45 pm	Awards Ceremony

Make plans now to attend. You can volunteer to assist or simply be an active audience member! Either way, you will thoroughly enjoy the experience – I GUARANTEE IT! ❤️

New Harmony Handful Stays Busy

by Dale Neuman

When I was invited to join the *Handful* more than a year ago, I did not realize how busy some of my days would become as our business manager, **Tony Strub**, prefers to do “doubleheaders” to save time and travel for the guys who sing. Since the start of 2014, we have done 12 performances and have at least four more scheduled between now and the end of the year including another doubleheader on Oct. 24. And we will be part of the Men’s Choral Festival at the John Knox Village Pavilion at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 2, where the free will offering will benefit their food pantry. All of us are pleased to be seeing a much trimmer **Mike O’Dell** back at rehearsals after his surgery earlier this year.

Our ecumenical approach has let us fill in for Baptist, Christian, Episcopal, Lutheran, Methodist and Presbyterian choirs during worship services this past summer. We have also sung for women’s organizations that were church-affiliated. We have provided music at a number of retirement complexes and care facilities across the metro area. We were able to visit with long-time *HOA* member **Sam Solomon** when we sang at Santa Marta on July 23. (And we visited *HOA* one Tuesday night and did two numbers for their program.)

Typically, for those programs that are not part of a church service, we do a mix of religious music, patriotic music, Disney music, other movie music, and country music—most in barbershop arrangements. We also do a barbershop demo where we encourage the audience to join us in picking on the baritones for the weirdness of the part they allegedly sing.

Several times recently we have had to perform with our director **Jim Bagby** not there to guide us—once planned

and once not planned. Generally, we do not schedule a performance when he cannot be there or if we would not have enough men on each part to have a balanced sound. The time we planned to perform knowing that he was not going to be there, **Rob Abel** and **Jim Davis** did the directing and **Don Fuson** served as our MC. This was for a Lutheran Women’s Leadership Conference at the Holiday Inn Conference Center near KCI in June. The

program went very well as all three did great jobs. The other time we performed without Jim for at least the first song or two was more recent and he (he claims) was busy doing barbershop business on the internet only to see a reminder from Tony to arrive at 9:45 that morning to warm up. When he looked at his watch, it was

already 9:45 and he was still at home, not in uniform, the venue was on NW 79th Terrace—and Jim lives near Raytown. That he got there to take over by the second song is testimony to his speed at many things, an ability to multi-task and maybe a good radar detector.

We also enjoy the social side of being in the *NHH*. We helped **Ron Abel** celebrate his 88th birthday on Sept. 15 with a surprise featuring birthday cupcakes. (Did I mention we eat at every rehearsal? Luckily, we rehearse only once a month.) A holiday dinner is being planned for late December by **David Hokanson** and **Bob Murphy** where the men of *NHH* will treat their wives to a night out of the kitchen.

As the newest member of *NHH*, I can say that it has been a treat and a pleasure to be part of this group—all of whom are members of *HOA* and many who still sing with *HOA*. ❤



Photo courtesy of Ron McIntire

Well, Surprise! *Chorderbacks* Going to Land of Jazz!

by Baritone Jim Bagby

There we were, one rehearsal away from the Central States District contest in Cedar Rapids, laying 'em in the aisles with this boffo comedy routine! What could be more natural for a quartet with a bass 9-feet tall and as wide as an Army truck and a baritone next to him about the size of fireplug? Bring out a stool, have the bass ignore the shenanigans of the bari, treat him like a stepchild, step on his glasses, kick the stool into the wings...yowser!

The only problem for *Armchair Chorderbacks* was that no one was laughing. We tried the "Cinderella" routine, complete with the stool, rose-colored glasses and finale bridal veil, twice in the space of a week before audiences and the timing wasn't working. So one night before heading into Iowa, we chucked the props, got another dandy coaching session from HOA's own **Calvin Yoder** and just concentrated on singing as well as we could. We had also worked a couple of times with a second gold medalist lead, **Rick Knight** of St. Louis.

That paid off with earning the right to represent CSD at the international senior quartet competition next January in New Orleans. We also made the top 10



Photo courtesy of In-Tune Productions

in Cedar Rapids, which was really a surprise, since we hadn't worked on four songs. But as they always say, you can't place any lower than 10th, so we had a good time in the finals, placed 9th and got some nice words (mostly from HOA guys. Hmmmm....)

Well, we also got some real help in the evaluations, especially from **Brian Barford** and **Joe Cerutti**, which is a lot of what competition

is all about. Singing Category candidate **Steve Scott** from our area (he directs the St. Joseph chorus and sings with Central Standard) also chipped in some helpful vocal advice for us. So on

behalf of **Carter Combs**, **Mike Mathieu** and **David Stockard**, we thank you for your support.

We also are grateful to (top down) **Jeffi**, **Jan**, **Joann** and **Jabbie**, er **Abbie** for being our charming and cheerful groupies. All were in Cedar Rapids and all are going to New Orleans (well, there goes the treasury). No, of course, ladies, we're delighted and wouldn't go without

you.

Abbie was especially happy about the late change in "Cinderella." She said it was her favorite quartet song until we tried to make David the mean guy. Most of you know that's a role he's not comfortable with – and he was supposed to switch genial to grouch and back instantly. At his size, he doesn't do much of anything quick. ❤️

Mark Fortino, 2014 CSD Hall of Fame...Really?

by Mark Fortino



I was totally blown away by the Central States District recognition of me as a “Hall of Famer” at the District Convention in Cedar Rapids on Saturday night, Oct. 11.

I am so grateful to all who entered my name for consideration and especially to my brother **John**, who has been with me every step of the way and who did much of the legwork in gathering the data for this award.

John forwarded me the data he put together and I’ll bet there aren’t a lot of people that know that I once placed 27th at a district contest with a score of 50.72. In fact, it took me seven years from the time I joined the society to break 70. While I will forever cherish such a prestigious award, I hope that everyone will always think of me as just “another barbershopper” who loves to sing!

Someone recently told me **Jim Henry** wasn’t always “**Jim Henry**.” Meaning, we glorify our heroes because of their accomplishments and the things we have witnessed them achieve. But we many times forget that they are the same person today that they were long before they accomplished so many great things and became our hero. The fact is that all of us have a potential within us. All of us have the ability to inspire others around us to reach their potential and become the next “**Jim Henry**.”

While I’m no “**Jim Henry**”, although I might be taller than him (maybe) I’m the same guy today that I was when I placed 27th with a score of 50.72. How is it even possible that “I’m in the “Hall of Fame”? It’s possible and it’s a reality be-

cause so many of you believed in me and encouraged me, applauded for me, cared about me, and helped me grow and develop my social, musical and professional skills which then enabled me to accomplish all that I have been blessed to do over these 30 wonderful years as a barbershopper.

I was looking to see who scored a 50.72 in this contest and there wasn’t anyone! The lowest score was a 57.3 and there were only three quartets that scored under a 60.0%. Just think one or more of those 12 guys in those 3 quartets may someday qualify for 21 consecutive international appearances and/or win 4 district championships! We all need to continue to believe, encourage, applaud and care about each and every performer. Who knows, we just may create another future “Hall of Famer.” It’s all up to us!

Finally, there are no words that can adequately describe my love and appreciation to the woman who truly has made all of this possible; my Hall of Fame Wife, **Sarah!** **Jim Bagby** coined the phrase “Saint Sarah” years ago and it’s so true! My amazing wife of 26 years has hung out in barber-tot rooms year after year after year, taken care of the family and home while I was away singing on chapter shows weekend after weekend after weekend, chorus rehearsals week after week after week. You name it, she did it, and never complained! AMAZING women...hence the name “Saint Sarah!” I Love you!!!

To **Randy Wier** and all of the Hall of Fame Committee members, all I can say is Thank You, and may we all be blessed with many many wonderful barbershop experiences yet to come! ❤️

Awards Banquet on Saturday, January 17, 2015

by Jerry Meier



The *Heart of America Chorus* will host its annual Awards Banquet at 6:30pm on Saturday, Jan. 17, 2015 in the Jack Stack Martin City Private Dining Facility. Here are the details at a glance:

Time: 6 pm to 9:30 pm
Date: Saturday, Jan. 17, 2015
Location: Jack Stack Martin City
 Private Dining Banquet Room
Address: 13645 Holmes Road, KC, MO
Dress Code: Somewhere between formal and casual

We will enjoy a menu of Rolls/Butter, Buffet-style Beef, Chicken, Turkey, or Pork Entrées with traditional Jack Stack sides (Hickory Pit Beans; Creamy Coleslaw; Cheesy Corn Bake) and Coffee / Tea / Water and Dessert. The cost will most likely be \$30 per person with a special discount price of \$50 per couple (details and pricing still being negotiated).

Plan to arrive after 6 pm to partake in the cash bar. Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm and the events will start promptly at 7:30 pm. Speeches and jokes will be kept to a minimum (with luck) so that we can complete all award presentations and depart at 9:30pm. Our very own **Dale Neuman** will be the Installing Officer for the 2015 Board of Directors. Stay tuned for additional details and make plans to attend. ♥

Harmony Foundation Report

by Jim Porter



Note that we will have our raffle each time we meet in our regular location. All of the proceeds of the raffle not given as prizes or used for expenses of the raffle goes to Harmony Foundation at the end of each

year. In return, we are able to have the Foundation designate up to 30% of the funds given to chapter activities such as Harmony Explosion.

As of Oct. 24, after 37 drawings (12 since the last report): The total collected for Harmony Foundation since the last report is \$202.

The total collected for the year to date is \$663.

There have been FOUR jackpot winners so far in 2014, each for \$100.

As a result, the prize fund is in deficit \$62 as of Oct. 24. ♥



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 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 31 **Dave Jobe**

HOA Financial Corner

by Kent Miller, Financial Committee



I have discussed in past columns a few of the many planning strategies that you can use to make planned gifts to HOA or to any other charitable organization. You should know that the Heart of America Chapter holds two accounts at the Truman Heartland Community Foundation. One account is a charitable fund and the other is an endowment fund.

As stated in their recent newsletter, the Truman Foundation..."is a public charity committed to improving area communities by promoting and serving private giving for the public good. Founded in 1982, THCF serves the region with assets reaching \$34 million and annual grants surpassing \$3.5 million. THCF serves individuals who, through their private giving, wish to support the public good and help them do it in the most tax-wise and effective manner. Through the Community Foundation, donors can set up their own family foundations, scholarship funds, field of interest funds, endowment funds, charitable gift annuities and many other charitable vehicles which utilize shared resources of the foundation to maximize the impact of their philanthropic dollars. In addition to donor services, the Community Foundation provides asset development for nonprofit organizations, awards community grants, assists organizations in planned giving and serves as a community leader in addressing community issues."

There are many ways you can leave a legacy and help to perpetuate the good that the Heart of America Chapter does in the Kansas City area, a few of which are:

Charitable Remainder Annuity Trusts
Charitable Gift Annuities
Bequests in Wills
Outright Gifts
Gifts of life insurance

HOA has established relationships with Truman and other organizations that can help you with any of these strategies. Contact me at kmiller268@aol.com and I will put you in touch with them. ♥



HARMONY PLATOON AT MIDWINTER January 6-11

*Sing the hottest charts with people
who actually know them*

Make your New Orleans Midwinter Convention experience better than ever by signing up for the Harmony Platoon, a quality quartet experience that is challenging, exciting, and fun.

Instead of coming to a convention and hoping to find a few more singers to eke out a few Polecats, Platoon singers arrive fully prepped with sheet music and learning tracks to four top-notch arrangements, then participate in casual pickup singing and three "Luck-of-the-Draw" quartet contests. You must know all four songs from memory to participate in the contests.

- After You've Gone • Be Our Guest
- Hey Good Lookin' • Rhythm of Love

Platoon registration for Midwinter 2015 includes a deluxe color-coded Harmony Platoon lanyard to help locate men to sing these great songs all week.

Platoon registrations for Midwinter are due Nov. 15. Sign up now and get access to the learning tracks and charts as early as October 15. Questions: **Don Salz**, don@rosye.com (916) 813-2959 or www.harmonyplatoon.org.



CENTRAL STATES QUARTETS!

Photos courtesy of Dave Jobe



BoomTown

2014 Fall Convention District Quartet Champion
Zane Sutton, Caleb Fouse, Shaun Whisler, and
Aaron Walker



Armchair Chorderbacks

2014 Central States Senior Quartet Champions
Carter Combs, Mike Mathieu, David Stockard and Jim Bagby



Vintage Sound - 8th Place

Nathan Green, Shon Bruellman, Bruce Baedke, and
Jonathon Fortino



Special Touch - Seniors Division

Rick Kready, David Krause, Matthew Moore, and
Charles Clark



Augmented Trio - CSD Novice Quartet

Kwesi Seals, Jake Purdy, J.P. Marshall, and Ruxton Smith

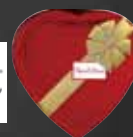


Clef Notes

Robert Misfeldt, David Adler, Eric Grimes, and Brad Dawdy

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

Nov. 10 - Dual HHS Rehearsal - 7pm @ KCCSA

Nov. 18 - Dual HHS Rehearsal - 7PM @ HOA

Nov. 23 - Dual Rehearsal - 2PM? @ HOA

Nov. 29 - Sounds of the Season at Union Station

Dec. 6 - Holiday Harmony Spectacular at Unity Village Auditorium - 3pm

**Dec. 20 - HOA Caroling Caravan for
The Salvation Army Bell Ringing Campaign**

**Jan. 17 - Annual Dinner (installation & awards)
Jack Stack Martin City Private Dining Facility.**

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.