

# HARMONOTES



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

CHORUS AND QUARTET SINGING  
IN THE BARBERSHOP STYLE



SECOND-OLDEST CHAPTER IN THE  
BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

January 2007

## Survey Says: 98 Percent Agree on Homework

by Jim Bagby, Chorus Director



BAGBY

**W**e have some wonderful music for our 2007 spring show – songs that will delight our audience and be a great addition to our repertoire. Above all, they're songs the *Heart of America Chorus* will derive much fun and pleasure from performing. One of them is our

contest ballad for Denver, and it's one of the greatest love songs we've ever laid a vocal cord on (more about it later).

Some of these songs—in fact several—fall into the category of challenging music, as most of you already have discovered. Our finale, “All Rise,” certainly is one of the most demanding charts we've undertaken, from a range and rhythm standpoint. A special mini-chorus has volunteered to take on the more difficult Chorus 2, and gifted lead **Mark Fortino** (well, how many of us have our own CD out?) will do the soaring solo. It's basically the same version that the *Voices of Lee* did, nicely treated into nine parts by **Brent Dunavant** of the Heart of Texas Chapter.

Then there's “Small World, another multi-part endeavor from the pen of ever-brilliant **Clay Hine**, not as hard as it is lickety-split, and the ultra-exciting **Jim Clancy** arrangement of “Harmony” that will be our *HOA* opener for the next couple of years.

We will have started on all these by the time you read this. All are available on the *HOA* Web site, and on excellent part-predominant CD's—along with all the spring show songs—thanks again to great work by section leaders **Carter Combs**, **Mike Neff**, **Grant Hunget** and **Keith Schweer**, plus production/engineering ace **Mark Fortino** (hmmm, where have I heard that name?) and our usual reproduction team.

HOWEVER, it should be obvious that in order to devote our meeting time to polishing, rather than to the learning process, we must adopt a new attitude and work ethic in 2007. And according to results of the just-completed chapter survey, you agree. That is, 98 percent of the respondents said “we should be studying our music at home.” Now our job is to change that to 100 percent saying “we WILL study our music at home.” Please go back to

Clancy's article in the November *Harmonotes*, where he talks about the *Vocal Majority* members taking 1-3 weeks to learn a new piece of music before the chorus begins to work on it seriously. OK, we may not become the *VM* this year, but with your cooperation, this sure seems like a step in the right direction.

I know your musical leadership is ready to work harder, and smarter. We have a daylong planning session set for Jan. 20, if you have any ideas you want to get to new Music Vice President **Carter Combs**. My weekly sound feedback is going to be much better, thanks to my Christmas present from **Joann**: an Olympus 3100PC digital voice recorder.

We'll know early on how we're progressing. We have a major show at John Knox Village on Feb. 17. Let's see how much of the new music we have ready to perform on that night, even if it's without full staging.

I know one thing for sure we did right in 2006: the new *HOA* CD. I've heard the next-to-final mix and I can promise you'll like the finished product, and be proud of this project. Congratulations are in order for all involved!

And I know we may remember 2007 as the year of “Time after Time,” one of the most compelling ballads ever adopted by *HOA*. This arrangement by the late **Ed Waesche** is one of his finest, and was sung in gold medal performances both by *Power Play* and the *Masters of Harmony*. We have **Mark Hale**'s tag on it, and an interpretive plan created by our music team that's better than that of either aforementioned group (but don't let that out).

Speaking of Hale, he's now scheduled to work with us three times in '07, the first one Saturday, February 24. Please mark (pun intended) your calendar; that replaces the Feb. 3 date where some boob on the music team whose initials are “J.B.” forgot to note a conflict on his calendar.

I'm excited about the coming year, and hope you are, too! Let's round up the backsliders, help incoming Membership Veep **Bob Murphy** add to our numbers and have a bang-up 2007. Happy New Year! ♥

## Mission Possible

by Tony Strub, HOA President



I hope that all of the members of our chapter are familiar with the mission of HOA. Our mission is a very important guide for all of our work and activities. In essence, it says that we pursue excellence in singing four part

barbershop harmony and we share that excellence with the public. For those who may be a bit fuzzy about our mission statement, you can read it each week on the front page of our *In Tune*.

After recently reviewing the results of our survey, I was very pleased to see the strong support for our mission among our membership. It is clear that the vast majority of our active membership is of like mind. We want to get better at our craft and we are willing to work hard to do it. The leadership of our chapter will soon be designing strategies and making decisions that will help us do what we say that that we want to do. It will be up to all of us to get on the same side, work together and support our common goal. At our board of directors meeting on January 8, we make a decision about sharing the survey results with our membership. I am sure that when you review the survey results you will feel as encouraged about the support of our membership for our mission as I was. ♥

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

*to the following chapter members!*

January 1	<b>John McConnell</b>
January 1	<b>Tom Steele</b>
January 3	<b>Don Newman</b>
January 7	<b>Harvey Shapiro</b>
January 9	<b>Bob Rutherford</b>
January 9	<b>Rod Rivard</b>
January 10	<b>Oly Oldehoeft</b>
January 13	<b>Roy Manade</b>
January 14	<b>Kent McClean</b>
January 15	<b>Steve Carruthers</b>
January 20	<b>Robert Tipton</b>
January 20	<b>Gary Mehlic</b>
January 21	<b>Brian Marston</b>
January 25	<b>Bob Burdick</b>
January 30	<b>Rick Foreman</b>

## Holiday Mailbag

*Dear Bob and Heart of America Chorus,*

You all were absolutely great! Please extend my thanks to your group for taking time out of their busy holiday schedule to come to the Forum (Arbor Woods). I hope it was worth your time financially! If I can get a resident who is a former teacher to write a letter regarding what you did for us here, I will send it in to the *Kansas City Star*. Professional letter writing is not my expertise! I think KC needs to know the "good" you are doing for the Salvation Army!

Again, thanks gentlemen, for your blessing. You touched many hearts today with your enthusiasm and your goal for the Salvation Army. It takes special people like you to give of yourself for so many others who are struggling just to get by daily.

We'll look forward to getting a group together to come to the Feb. program at JCCC. ♥

**Susan K. Files**, Program Director  
Arbor Woods

Jim:

Another great [Holiday Show] performance on Saturday! Some of my favorites include "Lida Rose" by the combined choruses and "Mary Had a Baby" by *Command Performance*.

Sweet Adelines were very good this year and I thought that "Mary Did You Know" was very moving.

"What A Lovely Day" was sung very well by *12th Street Rag* and everything done by *Zing!* was wonderful.

*The Heart of America Chorus* was great as usual, and I particularly enjoyed "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas."

Keep up the good work! ♥

**Gene Hall**  
Chairman, Kansas City Jazz Orchestra



## DONORS

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David Peck  
Tony Strub

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The Heart of America Chorus is a 501(c) (3) organization.  
Donors will receive a receipt for Tax purposes.  
Checks should be made out to: HOA  
Give to any HOA Board member or mail to:  
HOA, c/o Dale Neuman  
816 W. 121st. St. · Kansas City, MO 64145-1011

## Harmony Foundation Report

by Jim Porter

**As of Tuesday, Dec. 19:**

Total collected for raffle tickets: \$96

Total donated to Harmony Foundation: \$0

Total donation to Harmony Foundation: \$4.

**Mike Mathieu** won the drawing, drew the white marble and won the \$584 jackpot. (Mike last had a chance to draw a marble last April 25.) For Mike, lightning has struck twice. He won \$275 on Oct 16, 2001. His son **Rob** still has him beat, winning \$612 on May 4, 2004.

Year to date: (Since Nov. 8, 2006) 6 drawings so far.  
Amount carried over in the pot at start of the new year: \$318. Amount paid out to winners of the drawing: \$611.  
Total donated to Harmony Foundation: \$293.  
Total last year to date: \$494. (we'll now be well behind last year) Total collections to date: \$586.

\$0 total has been remitted to the Treasurer, and \$293.50 remains in my possession. Expense fund: - \$0.50. These 3 amounts, plus \$611 cash paid to winners, is \$904, which is the total collections to date plus the initial carry-over amount of \$318. ♥

# Heart of America Chorus

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*We gratefully acknowledge your generosity to the Heart of America Chorus 2006-2007!*

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**The Heart of America Chorus is a 501(c) (3) organization.**

**Checks should be made out to:**

**Kansas City Chapter/**

**Barbershop Harmony Society**

**Mail to: HOA, c/o Dale Neuman**

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



## A Review of the AOH Annual Christmas Show

by Jim Porter



Each year I go to this show with the expectation that it will be even better than what I've seen and heard before. The 140 or so voices of the *Ambassadors of Harmony* did not disappoint me.

Once again this year, they did five shows, all sellouts, in the beautiful Blanche M. Touhill Theatre at University of Missouri-St. Louis. I came looking to see our own **Brian Marston** in their midst, but Brian is in his first semester of college, it was finals week and it may be 40-plus years ago but I know the feeling when Brian had to concede he couldn't do it. I also was prepared to take pictures, but the ushers would have none of that! Fortunately for anyone who might like to see the show later, it will be available on DVD. You can get one for yourself: [www.aohChristmas.com](http://www.aohChristmas.com) or call 314 741-9600.

The format of their show is the same as in past years \_ the first half features the fun songs of Christmas (snow, Santa Claus, etc), and all of the singers were dressed casually with brightly colored sweaters and scarves. This part wrapped up with their hilarious presentation of "Twelve Days of Christmas." There was then an interlude before intermission where *Vocal Spectrum* did a set, then the chorus came back in its formal outfits to do the Story of Christmas, singing the songs that speak of the Christ child after kicking off with "Hanukkah Medley." Most of the songs are old favorites that you can hear on the AOH Christmas music CD. They close, as they always do, with a dignified presentation of "Silent Night," where the members all walk off stage and are all around the back of the theater when the song ends. After that, they can get into the lobby, where we can come out and greet them one by one. I was able to meet **Jim Henry, David Wright** and **Kevin Keller**.

*Vocal Spectrum* sang some songs from their show repertoire, including "South Rampart Street Parade" and "Cruella DeVille," but added a couple of new ones. One was *Gas Hous Gang's* tribute to his son **Rob Henry's** son, **Ryan**, a tune called "Lullabye" from GHG's final CD. *VS's* beautiful "Bring Him Home" might take on a new meaning as we contemplate our future in Iraq.

All in all, it's a challenge to keep the audience coming back year after year, and it's a challenge for the men to do five shows in three days, being onstage for nearly all of each show. But *AOH* is doing it, and I'm looking forward to more next year! ♥

## January 30: HOA Alumni Guest Night!

by Bob Murphy, Membership Vice-President



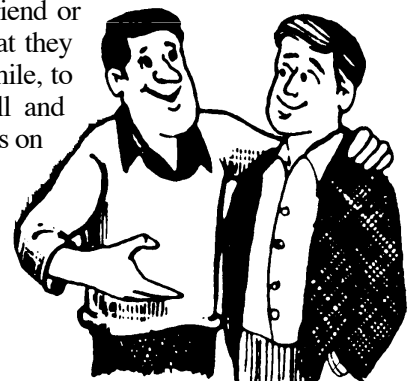
By the time this issue of *Harmonotes* is received, it should be official. There can be no turning back for me, as I will have been installed as the Membership VP on January 13, 2007.

My first thoughts are these. We as a chapter should all be involved in attempting to bring this wonderful hobby of ours to as many new men as we possibly can. We should not wait for official 'guest nights.' I know that many of us have attempted to invite someone and the first thing they will say is "I can't sing." Well, bring them anyway. Let's let the Music Team and section leaders determine that. My challenge for all of us that stand on the risers each Tuesday evening is to bring someone new as often as we can.

Now, for the interesting news. My first official "Guest Night" function will occur on January 30. This is not the traditional guest night. It is being planned as a reunion for all of those members of our chapter that are no longer actively involved. If my information is correct, there are at least 60 members of this chapter that are no longer participating. I know that there are various reasons for this ranging from overloaded career schedules to physically unable to stand comfortably on the risers. However, I believe that it is time for us to invite these men for a special night planned just for them.

The activities I am planning are: they will be able to sing a tag or two, sing some familiar barbershop tunes, hear some of the new music that we are working on for the Spring Show, and two lucky men will receive a certificate to receive a copy of our new CD as soon as it is available. Sheridan's Frozen Custard will also be with us to provide their well-known and wonderful refreshments.

I will be asking some of you to be on a phone committee, to contact personally those members that are inactive and invite them to come for their special evening. I also challenge anyone who has a friend or a section member that they haven't seen for a while, to just give them a call and ask them to be with us on January 30, 2007. ♥





## Our 9th Year; Can It Be? But Ol' Dan Not Kidding

by Ol' Jim



Who'd have thought four really old guys would end up being the Kansas City Chapter's most regular quartet these days? *Not us!*

But *Tone-Henge* has somehow emerged as the *HOA* four—some that most often has all four members on hand. And on our ultra-successful Dec. 14 Salvation Army Bell-Ringing Caravan, just one quartet was available—four guys whose combined age is 274. We thought we might have to administer oxygen to **Dan Henry** by the end of the day, but despite his moaning and groaning, this is one of his favorite

charities (we think he and General Booth were first cousins). And he does get a lot of personal attention from the little old ladies.

Now, the chorus might have gotten tired of hearing the PCV pan pipes and “Christmas Chopsticks,” but we were honored to represent the chorus all day. Just as we’re always proud to say we’re members of the *Heart of America* family as we begin our ninth year as a quartet, Not bad for three baritones and bass who got together just because we are four longtime friends, regulars at the Tuesday night afterglow who enjoyed tagging together and found ourselves without a “regular” quartet to sing in. We kind of drew straws for parts (Dan obviously lost) and the rest is, well, some kind of history.

Speaking of Dan, I know his article in the December *Harmonotes* drew some raised eyebrows, and maybe some outright charges that he’d had one too many Pale Ale’s. But not only can we verify that *T-H* is on a CD, I can tell you I’ve heard the final mix of our cut of “Senior Citizen Blues,” and it’s, uh, not too shabby. The name of the CD is “Welcome to Nashville,” due out this month, produced by Dan’s future son-in-law, **Mark Hornsby**. Joining *Tone-Henge* on the disc welcoming the Society headquarters to Nashville are some aces, including *Vocal Spectrum*, *Realtime*, *Gotcha*, *Stateline Grocery* and *Rural Route 4*. Yep, we’ll be gladda sell you one soon.

Meanwhile, we want to thank you for your support over the past eight years. A comedy quartet would wither away pretty quickly without someone to laugh and applaud, starting at the chapter level, and you guys have always been a pretty responsive sounding board for us. We did shows in four states in 2006, and have several gigs booked for this spring, so I guess we aren’t slowing down too much. Of course, that pace is never anything approaching blazing, so we don’t need to worry much about braking—especially when someone says “Do I hear a beer calling?”

So from these four *HOA* past presidents and barbershoppers of the year, who will always bleed Kansas City Chapter red, and from the *Hengettes*, our wives of 180 years, Happy New Year! ♥

## ISO 2007

by Carter Combs, Music Vice-President



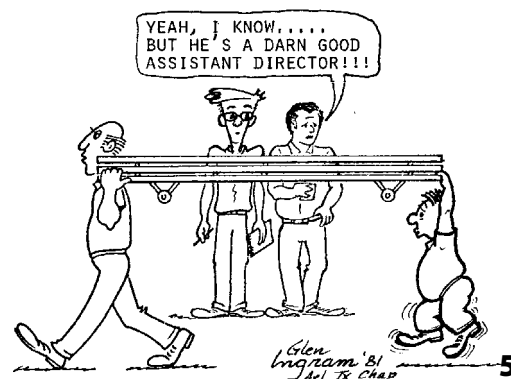
No, this isn’t an article about the International Standards Organization’s methods for measuring the plasticity of unvulcanized rubber. Maybe next month!

In the last few weeks (ever since I was elected the Music VP for 2007) several of you have pulled me aside to chat about our chapter. Without exception, each discussion has been quite educational, filled with your excellent **Ideas, Suggestions** and **Observations**. Each person made some Observation(s) about our chorus, had some Idea(s) about the cause, and made some Suggestion(s) about how we could improve.

The Music Team has already begun to act on some of your ISOs, and I will bring up others to discuss in more detail at our all-day planning meeting on January 20. The entire Music Team is interested in hearing more of your ISOs. After all, two heads are better than one, and betwixt all of us, we have significantly more than two heads!

As in prior years, we are actively soliciting your Suggestions about new music for the chorus. But more importantly, we want your Ideas about how we can improve our musical leadership. We know from reviewing the preliminary survey results that you are committed to advancing in the International ranks, and we all realize that, to accomplish this goal, everyone must actively strive to get better, especially the leaders.

So, whether your Suggestion is something as simple as tweaking a tuning technique, or as grand as re-vamping our rehearsals, let us know. It is our combined efforts toward our common goal that will take us to the next level. ♥





## Our Holiday Show Recalls Golden Years of 'Yore by John Erwine



ERWINE

The 2006 Holiday Harmony Spectacular proved to be all we

had hoped for. I think we performed to our audience's expectations and to our own satisfaction. It was very gratifying to me. I not only got that warm glow of immediate feedback and accomplishment, but something more. During the evening performance something else happened. I'm not sure exactly when, but I think during "Silent Night" is when I became aware of it.

"Stop pushing." "I'm not, you bumped into me!" "Shh-hhh!" "Stop looking through the curtain!" "But there's Mom and Dad...Hi!" "Quit!" "Where's Jimmy? He's supposed to turn on the manger light." "He had to go to the outhouse really quick." "Floyd, did you close the draft on the stove like Miss Mildred asked you to? It looks awfully red." "Okay I'm ready, just as soon as I give the welcome speech, then get with the rest of the wise men, you can open the curtain." "But the sheet is caught on the wire!"

The curtain opened and little baby Jesus was all aglow in the hay with Mary, Joseph, the wise men, angels and animals in the stable gathered closely by. After telling the story of their journey, everyone including the angels and animals, sang "Away In A Manger". It was soon followed by "Oh, Little Town of Bethlehem" and "Silent Night." There were probably others. Some were stories, poems and recitations such as my brother Terry gave, who in kindergarten boldly recited "Fuzzy Wuzzy Wuz A Bear." He hates it to this day.

Yes, I walked to school in those days. It was only half-mile up hill in either direction. Snow drifts were sometimes over our heads. There were no snow days when school could be conveniently closed. On this page is photo taken of Green School (Evergreen District) where I attended 2nd through 5th grades from 1949-1952. Later, when I went back to "town school" I was ahead of most of the kindergarten and first grade students that I'd previously known, in English, geography and science (not so



much in math, I'm sorry to say. But I'll bet they couldn't stoke a very good coal fire, either).

Through the spotlights I could see no one. I was as nervous and excited now as I was some 55 years ago in that little 20' x 24' southern Iowa schoolhouse. I was moved by the moments created by the emotional direction of **Jo Kraut** and **Jim Bagby**.

I was also moved because I knew my family was in front of me, somewhere close but blind to me through the lights. Just as my parents had been close those many years ago sitting in those cramped, old oak school desks while I gave the welcoming speech, played a wise man and sang my heart out to them; the parents I love so dearly.

The not-yet 22-year-old teacher pictured second row left wrote the accompanying article (see page seven), which was published in December 1932, in the *Lamoni Chronicle*, Lamoni, Iowa. There were many more. She must have felt something of the same as she proudly encouraged, inspired and promoted her 10 students in their annual Christmas program a mere 74 years ago this past December. This, in the same one-room schoolhouse that I attended. All those past Christmas programs, from 1932-1934, and from 1949-1952, must have meant as much to her and were as dear to them as it is to us this day.

While reading her article, you can see without question the differences in technology, then and now, and what belief and imagination can do to make life a precious gift. To make music a precious gift. Are things really so different now in our beliefs and our way of expressing them than long ago? What of the similarities of tradition, excitement to share with the community and the efforts to give and support a common worthwhile charity? I can't remember the last time I thought about my years in that one-room schoolhouse. I'm sure many of you have similar memories. For that I thank the music. Good for the heart? Good for the soul? You bet!

Dad has been gone for 20 years now. Mom is still with us in an assisted living facility. How I wish she could have been at the show this year. I wish I could have sung "Silent Night" to them both again as I did in 1950, with the same nervousness and excitement as that night. By the way, did I mention that the young school teacher, Louise Strecker, is my Mother? She'll be 96 on January 16. *This is for you, Mom.* ♥

(Ed. Note: Effie Louise Strecker Erwine didn't make it to her 96th. She died Dec. 23, after this article was written. But John read it at her Dec. 29 service)





The article below appeared in a December, 1932 edition of the Lamoni [Iowa] Chronicle. The scanned image and old school house photo on page 6 are courtesy of John Erwine.

### EVERGREEN SCHOOL

LOUISE STRECKER, Teacher

We have been very busy getting ready for our Christmas program and making presents for our mothers.

We have some new coping saws and everybody is very much interested in making something. We are also making glass pictures.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Thompson brought us a Christmas tree. We appreciated this very much.

Last Friday we drew names for buying our presents.

Wednesday afternoon Superintendent Hutchinson and Miss Parker paid us a short visit. Miss Parker was checking up on the standardization of our school.

Last week Junior Bowen received a fangle pin for having sold 25 cents worth of Christmas seals. Altogether we have sold about \$1 worth.

One day last week the general lessons class made some free hand cuttings of candles, pine trees and snow men. They are very good for the first time. We have them on the front blackboard. Miss Parker liked them.

We have a very pretty blackboard picture. It is of a fireplace, a chair, Santa Claus and a Christmas tree. There is a blazing fire in the fireplace and there are three red stockings hanging from the top of the fireplace.

Across the front of the room we have a green cord with icicles on it. We have some other pretty decorations up.

The sand box is fixed up in two scenes. In one end of it we have Bethlehem, with the wise men there and the baby in the manger, etc. The other end of the box is a snow scene. There is white tissue paper for snow and there are houses and a Christmas tree. Under the tree are some toys that have been made of paper.

We have made many Christmas posters. They are mostly of wise men and Santa Claus.

We are saving cinders to make "Depression Plants" with.

Last week we had vegetable soup three days and cocoa two days.

The Battle Hill school kindly sent us some patterns for our manual training work. They were accompanied by a nice letter from one of the pupils. We expect to send them a letter of thanks soon.

We are going to have our program and Christmas tree tomorrow afternoon, December 23, at 2:30 o'clock. Everyone is welcome to come.

## There's No Dust Settling on Command Performance

by Jon Gathright



**Command Performance** has been very busy the last couple of months.

In November we performed at Greenwood Terrace Homes, **Carter's** brother **Gabe's** church, my mother's funeral service and the VIP opening of the new WWI Memorial Museum

for three hours. Naturally it was the afternoon of the snow storm. If you get a chance, it would be worth a trip to see the museum.

Here's December accomplishments:

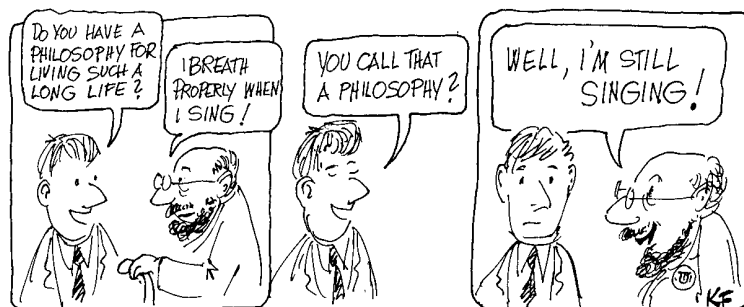
- We did a bus tour at the former Adam's Mark Hotel, that was coming back from Branson and they were a real fun group. Monty trained them all the way up to a standing ovation.

- Then, part of *CP*, **Jon Gathright** and **Carter Combs**, performed with part of *Quadrio*, **Grant Hunget** and **Matt Moore**, which Carter named *Commandio*, for a TV4 promo for the Salvation Army bus tour that **Mike Mathieu** and company put together.

- Then, we had a breakfast date to perform for the Vanguard Club at the Mission Hills Country Club. Carter had to go to Canada on business; so Carter suggested we contact **Anthony Fortino**. We had one practice with Anthony and put together a 27-minute program and performed. Anthony is fantastic; he stole the show. We had him say a few words about our host (**Carl Bolte**), then asked him to come up and sing a song with us. He did it like a professional. Our last song was "When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder," and we had Anthony do a long hanger on the end and the group of close to 100 elderly gentlemen went wild with a standing ovation. Our host was beside himself. This was Anthony's first paid gig and we were thrilled. Thank you, Sir Anthony Fortino, for a job well done.

- On Dec. 30 we took our wives to EBT restaurant for our year-end THANK YOU dinner.

*Command Performance* was truly blessed this year. We hope your 2007 will be blessed as well. We want to thank you all for your support, and wish you a healthy and fun new year. ♥





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



#### **TEN YEARS AGO: JANUARY 1997:**

Not much out of the ordinary in this issue (What am I saying? Everything HOA does is “out of the ordinary”). There’s a large, excellent photo on the front page, taken by **Linda**

**Schumacher**, of “all 60-plus members of the *Heart of America Chorus*, arrayed in those gorgeous gold vests, singing their hearts out for the folks at the Blue Ridge Mall on Dec. 14.” There’s another good one by **John Starcke** on page 3 of the newly installed chapter officers and board members for 1997. And there’s another one on page 5 by John of the new officers of the *Heartbeats*, all except **Sharon Oldehoeft**, the new treasurer.

And finally, on page 7, we see **Don Young**, newly sworn in for his second term as chapter president, presenting the “Barbershopper of the Year” award to **Darrell McCune** in recognition of his contribution over the past year — “and beyond.” John probably took that one, too, although there’s no credit. Like I said, nothing is ever done by HOA that’s not “out of the ordinary.”

#### **TWENTY YEARS AGO: SEPTEMBER, 1987**

Our editor used his recurring column, “COMMENTARY,” to announce a slight change in appearance of the banner of our monthly chapter newsletter. It happened that he had to order a year’s supply of the preprinted front page (about 3,000 copies), and also to add the year “1986” to our string of CSD chorus championships. So, in the process, he decided to follow the advice of the Layout and Reproduction judge in the recent district bulletin contest, who felt that our banner was too large for the page and suggested that he reduce its size to no more than one-third of the page.

The judge also criticized the name of our bulletin, claiming he “couldn’t connect it to your chapter as the judging now expects.” Our editor found that a bit hard to understand when the winner of the 1986 international bulletin contest was *Hot-aire*, the bulletin of the Monterey Peninsula (CA) Chapter.

So the printer was instructed to reduce the size of the banner, which resulted in a gain of about four more column inches of space on the front page. But he assured us all that “we have no intention of changing our name, which goes way back to the early 1950s — at least.”

#### **FORTY YEARS AGO: JANUARY, 1967**

Editor **Don Thorne** devoted the entire front page of this issue to a summary of chapter accomplishments during 1966. These included the growth to the position of the largest chapter in the Central States District, the retention of the chapter’s status in the Century Club (100 members or more), and two highly successful benefit shows for the Institute of Logopedics.

But Don expresses his opinion that by far the most enjoyable event during the year was the annual installation banquet held during the preceding December. According to Don, the highlight of the evening was the installation of the new chapter officers by the Society executive director, **Barrie Best**. Other notables present at the dinner were our own **Bob Gall**, newly elected as the Society executive vice president, and **Pierce Brane**, the 1967 Central States District president. Entertainment was furnished by the *Skyliners* and the *Merry Mugs*.

A fellow by the name of **Dan Henry Bowser** was the recipient of the “Barbershopper of the Year” award. ♥



“Barbershop harmony really begins at the end and works backwards. If a quartet is well equipped with ‘wicked’ endings, the body of the song may be fairly conventional. It is the close that leaves the final fragrance of the barbershop, and if this be beautifully flavored with a nostalgic aroma, it matters little what has gone before. The most obvious harmonies are forgotten in a really subtle finish.”

(Taken from the April-June PROBE moter.

Source: “Barbershop Ballads and How to Sing them,”  
Dr. Sigmund Spaeth, 1925)

**I HAVE SIX LOCKS ON MY DOOR ALL IN A  
ROW. WHEN I GO OUT, I LOCK EVERY OTHER  
ONE. I FIGURE NO MATTER HOW LONG  
SOMEBODY STANDS THERE PICKING THE  
LOCKS, THEY ARE ALWAYS LOCKING THREE.  
— ELAYNE BOOSLER**