

Harmonotes

The Monthly Bulletin Of The Kansas City Chapter • SPEBSQSA

Volume 2001, Issue 1

"Drawn By Harmony, Bound By Friendship, Striving For Excellence."



FROM THE TOP OF OUR HEART

By Dick Irwin, HOA President

Happy New Year to all!!!

I'll be brief this month. We are beginning 2001 with a great deal of hope and anticipation. The new officers and board are ready to help move the chapter and chorus into a new era for HOA. We have a director and music team who are preparing to give us all the direction and instruction we will need to make this chorus one of the best again! Our annual show is scheduled for March 24th and will feature *The Gas House Gang*. **Dale Neuman** with assistance from **Kent McClean** have taken on the task of chairing the show this year. We are looking for someone to handle the 2002 show already. We have contracted with *PLATINUM* for that show.

Last year is past and we've had an opportunity to look back somewhat and try to learn from what we see. I believe we have an excellent group of leaders put together for 2001 and I am looking forward to a fun and event filled year.

Let's all work together to move forward to becoming the best chorus in the Central States District. ~



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Harmonotes

...is published by the board of directors of the Kansas City, MO., Chapter of SPEBSQSA, Inc., a non-profit organization. Unless accompanied by a byline, all articles have been written by the Editor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the officers and members of the chapter. Space will be made available for opposing points of view.

2000 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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| John Landry | Keith Schweer |
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| Editor Emeritus | Wade Dexter |
| Co-Editors | Todd Anderson |
| | Dick Irwin |
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| Staff Reporters | Chapter Members |
| Staff Photographer | Matt Bostick |

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

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

Permission to reprint articles is granted to barbershop chapters as long as the author and *Harmonotes* are acknowledged.

The utmost care was used in preparation of this newsletter. However, should you notice erroneous copy, please let the Editor know! Comments/submissions may be made to:

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17905 East 24th Terrace Court S
Independence, MO 64057-1332
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CHAPTER INFORMATION

Chapter meets at 7:00 PM each Tuesday night, at:
St. Peter's United Church of Christ
110th & Holmes
Kansas City, MO 64105

HOA Website: www.hoachorus.org
Web Address: jmathieu@hoachorus.org
Chapter Telephone: (913) 221-7988



INSTALLATION DINNER JANUARY 13TH

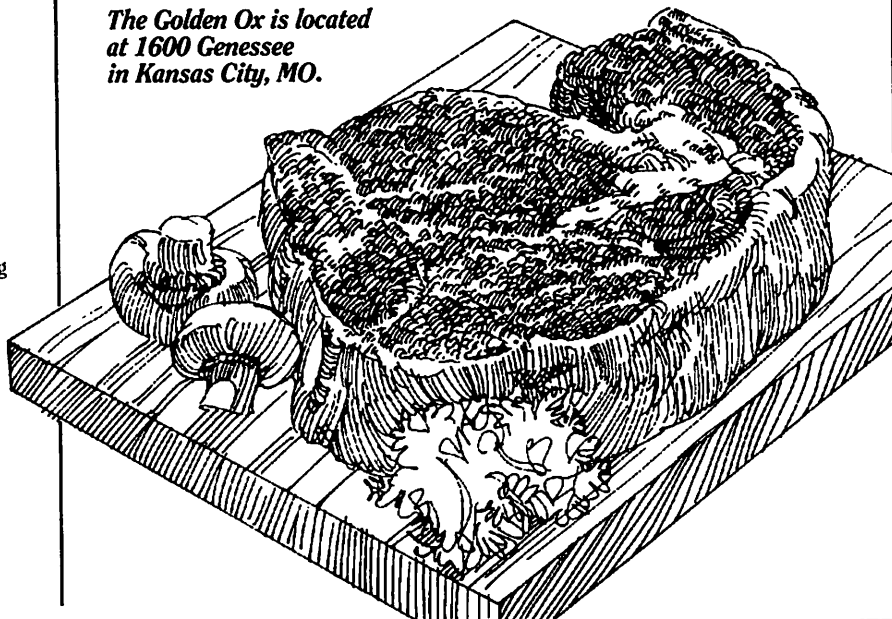
The annual Kansas City Chapter installation and awards banquet will be held on Saturday January 13th at the *Golden Ox* in Kansas City. Among the fun for the evening will be a special guest appearance by our very own *12th Street Rag*. **Don Young** will be acting as emcee and former Society President **Gil Lefholz** will perform the installation ceremony.

Meals available are chicken (\$22), top sirloin (\$25), or prime rib (\$25). These prices include tax and gratuity and a slice of cheesecake for dessert. Please sign-up ASAP at a meeting or send **Dick Korek** an email with your request. Payment is required in advance and the last date to sign-up is January 10th.

Hope to see everyone there.

Act quickly...*seating is limited!* ~

*The Golden Ox is located
at 1600 Genessee
in Kansas City, MO.*





WHAT'S NOTEWORTHY... FROM THE GENTLEMEN OF NOTE

By Monty Deurksen

WOW!! The *Twelfth Street Rag* will sing for us at the Awards and Kudo's Installation of Officers Banquet in January! These men have attained a level of "Singing Skills" that we hope we can attain some day! We look forward to their performance on the 13th.

As soon as we can meet with **Tom Steele**, we will make a part predominant set of tapes for the "Harmony Explosion" quartets...for "*Whispering*". **Al Higgins** has already been working with many of the quartets...including *Polecat* learning tapes. We look forward to an active role again this year in the event at Desoto High School on March 10th.

At the request of **Dick Sutton**, we will be helping quartets with their "Singing Valentines" music again this year. We made a learning tape last year so all interested participants could, and can again, become proficient with their music. I wonder if "*It Had To Be You*", our new chorus song, would be a refreshing new possibility for Singing Valentines?

We are working hard...preparing for the International Seniors Quartet Contest. If this old, decrepit bass can just remember the words and notes, perhaps we won't embarrass ourselves. This will be a blast again! We'll meet a great bunch of "seasoned barbershoppers".

The year 2000 has been a good one. We thank the chorus members for your support. It was an honor to be included on the "Harmony Spectacular". Most important...**Sandy, Dessie, Eileen, & Shirley**...we love you for your encouragement, patience & coaching! You make us *Gentlemen of Note*. ~

Heart of America Chorus

ELEVEN-TIME Central States District Champion!

CHAPTER QUARTET CHAMPIONS

- Rural Route 4 - 1986 International Champion**
Don Kahl (tenor), Calvin Yoder (lead),
Jim Bagby (bari), Willard Yoder (bass)
- Gentlemen of Note - 2000 Senior Champion**
Rod Rule (tenor), Jon Gathright (lead),
Rich Huyck (bari), Monty Deurksen (bass)
- HyPower Serenaders - 1948 Central States District Champion**
Don McPherson (tenor), Ben Franklin (lead),
Bert Phelps (bari), Dale Warrick (bass)
- Gambolliers - 1952 Central States District Champion**
John Dooley (tenor), Eddie Schliebs (lead),
Orval Wilson (bari), Jimmy Byrnes (bass)
- BMA Gambolliers - 1957 Central States District Champion**
Barney Wasson (tenor), Eddie Schliebs (lead),
Orval Wilson (bari), Harold Robinette (bass)
- The Kippers - 1962 Central States District Champion**
*Ken Gabler (tenor), *Tom Taylor (lead),
John Goldsbury (bari), Don Page (bass)
- The Four Kippers - 1966 Central States District Champion**
*Ken Gabler (tenor), *Byron Meyers (lead),
John Goldsbury (bari), Gil Lefholz (bass)
- The Morning Times - 1974 Central States District Champion**
Dave Snook (tenor), Roger O'Dell (lead),
Steve Leone (bari), Stan Grossman (bass)
- Corner Quartet - 1981 Central States District Champion**
Don Kahl (tenor), Lance Heilman, (lead)
Steve Leone (bari), Stan Grossman (bass)
- Harmony Spectrum - 1982 Central States District Champion**
Gene Bowers (tenor), David Krause (lead),
Jim Bagby (bari), Willard Yoder (bass)
- Special Touch - 1984 Central States District Champion**
*Rick Kready (tenor), David Krause (lead),
*Bud Clark (bari), Matt Moore (bass)
- KC Connection - 1986 Central States District Champion**
Rod Rule (tenor), Wayne Lankenau (lead),
Rich Huyck (bari), Larry Wilson (bass)
- 12th Street Rag - 1994 Central States District Champion**
*Rick Kready (tenor), Mark Fortino (lead),
John Fortino (bari), Keith Schweer (bass)

OTHER CHAPTER QUARTETS

- 12th Street Rag - 2000 International Semi-Finalists**
*Micah Jeppesen (tenor), Mark Fortino (lead),
John Fortino (bari), *Barry Moore (bass)
- Arpeggio**
Marlin Weidler (tenor), Rick Dunaway (lead),
Mark Grisham (bari), Mike Griffin (bass)
- Boomerang**
Lee Tubbs (tenor), Rob Mathieu (lead),
Matt Harader (bari), Joe Mathieu (bass)
- Crosstown Four**
Dale Neuman (tenor), Gordon Coleman (lead),
Ron Abel (bari), Val Putzier (bass)
- From The Heart**
Matt Bostick (tenor), Mike Neff (lead),
Grant Hunget (bari), Gordon Lankenau (bass)
- Heartland**
*Rick Kready (tenor), David Krause (lead),
Matt Moore (bari), *Dale Comer (bass)
- Old Mission Messengers**
Reid Ecton (tenor), John Warrior (lead),
Ron Abel (bari), Bryan Van Deun (bass)
- Polecat Creek**
Tom Elefson (tenor), Wayne Crawford (lead),
Dick Irwin (bari), Eric Weber (bass)
- The Musical Firm of Schwarzkopf, Anderson, Carney & Bray**
Raymond Schwarzkopf (tenor), Todd Anderson (lead),
Randy Carney (bari), Burt Bray (bass)
- Tone-Henge**
Bruce Wenner (tenor), Dan Henry (lead),
Jim Bagby (bari), Keith Schweer (bass)

*Member of other chapters

HOW CUM I SHOULD GO TO THE INSTALLATION/ AWARDS DINNER?

By Jim Bagby, HOA Awards Committee Chairman

Elsewhere in this issue likely are all the details about our annual awards and installation dinner, Jan. 13 at the Golden Ox Hoof and Horn Room.

Here are some reminders about why you should be there:

A very promising new slate of officers, ranging from relative newcomers like **Tom Elefson** to veterans like **Bruce Wenner** and **Mike Schumacher**, will be installed. Mr. Easy-Going Dedication himself, **Dick Irwin**, is gonna take another stab at being president.

And **Gil Lefholz**, one of the Society's few two-time presidents, will be the installer. He always does a great job (despite heckling from **Donna**).

One of our chapter's best quartets ever, *12th Street Rag*, is making a rare Kansas City appearance as the headline entertainment. Bet they'd even let you buy one of their great new CD's.

Then there's my selfish reason for wanting you there: we have some of the most deserving people ever who will be announced as Barbershopper of the Year, OZZIE Award winner and John Cross Award recipient. Who would you pick? Who do you think? Aren't you curious? Don't you think they deserve your acclaim on the spot? Why, the **Wenners** are hurrying all the way back from Florida just to be on hand for the big night.

And ladies, the Heartbeat of the Year also will be presented. Whatta night!

Let's not forget, the Golden Ox is one of the city's premier steak houses. We've had some wonderful food and times there. Do you remember the year **Steve Leone** had a \$100 bill vaporized by a magician?

So if you are a past president, a former winner of any of the aforementioned honors, or a member of the Society's second-oldest chapter, you owe it to yourself, your spouse and HOA to be on hand for the Jan. 13 festivities.

See you there! ~

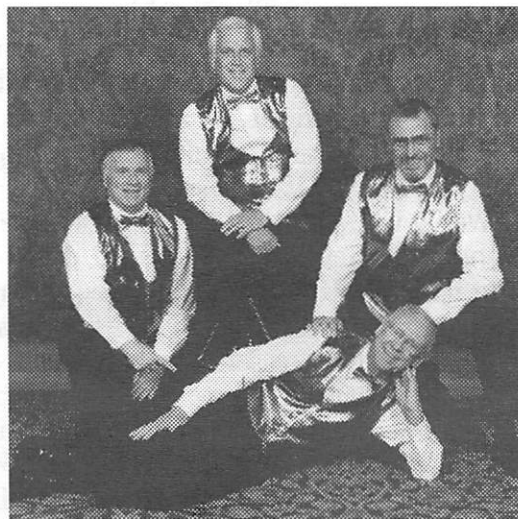
FOR A BUNCH OF OLD GUYS, WE FIGURED IT OUT PRETTY FAST...

By Bruce Wenner

We just flatover-rehearsed for district contest. Definitely should not have held that third rehearsal in September, for example. So—we did the only logical thing. We cut down to one practice per month since district.

Probably wouldn't have had *that* one either, but we had to prepare for headlining the Sweet Adelines show Nov. 4. That worked out great. We drove over late morning, sang a matinee and an evening show, and were all back home by midnight. They have a very impressive fourteen-voice chorus, which looks like it could grow soon—they invited about twenty more ladies to sing several songs with them on the show, and we're betting a bunch of them will sign on. We sure appreciate thier inviting us over. Of course we repaid them by leaving their lovely stage full of busted beer mugs.

Whoops. Another practice this month. Oh, well. We'll just bring out the beer earlier. ~



HOW TO LEARN YOUR MUSIC QUICKLY

by Nick Papageorge

Submitted by Dave Gunther, editor Whittier Choralaires, *SHOWCASE*

Dave asked me to write about ways that you can learn your music quickly and efficiently. Here are some simple, yet effective, steps you can take to help you in the learning process:

1. **Bring a mechanical pencil** (not a pen) to every chapter meeting and mark your music with the director's intelligent and musical observations. A mechanical pencil does not need to be sharpened and errors or changes can be erased. Notations on your music will help you to remember what the director wants you to do when you work on your music at home. (You **DO** work on your music at home, don't you?)
2. **Use your learning tape all the time.** This means listening to it and singing along with it while driving to work, to the store, to church, or to chapter meeting. Use it so often that it needs to be replaced. And when you use it, get in the habit of rewinding it to repeat a problem area in the music over and over. The more you repeat a difficult passage, the easier it will be to do it correctly the next time.
3. **Pay attention and be quiet at rehearsals.** In case you haven't noticed, there is far too much talking every time the director stops waving his arms. Don't talk as soon as you stop singing. **LISTEN!** **Earl Moon** used to say that **God** gave you two ears and one mouth, and He expects you to use them in that proportion. If you stop talking and listen during rehearsal, most of your questions will be answered before you ask them. You don't believe me? Try it!
4. **Immediately memorize the words and the story they tell before working on the notes.** It is important for you to know all the words so that everyone sings them together. When you don't know the words to a song, you are always slightly behind everyone else who does know them. This causes the synchronization errors that the judges always talk about. If you don't know the story the words are trying to tell, how can you expect to put on the correct expressions that will convey that story to the audience? You **MUST** know the words **AND** the story they tell.
5. **Don't leave early.** When you leave early, you fall behind those who stay. Then, you have to catch up the next week and that slows everyone else down. If you must leave early, plan on working that much harder during the week so you don't become a burden to those who stayed to learn more.
6. **Call on your section leaders with any questions you have about the music.** They are called "Section Leaders" for a reason. They are there to help you. If you don't call them when you need help, you may fall behind and slow down the progress of the chorus. I don't know of any Section Leader who will not try to help you if you will just call.
7. **Bring a tape recorder to the chapter meeting.** Your personal tape recorder is the best way to get a learning tape of new music long before the official learning tape is ready. Bring the tape recorder, tape the new music or the parts you are having trouble with, then use it every day to learn your music.

It is apparent that too many chorus members are not working on their music at home. This causes the director to have to spend precious time teaching you the words and notes. That is a tremendous waste of my time and yours. Think about it—you are paying me money to do something you should be doing at home! I should be teaching you how to sing better, interpret the songs we sing, and perform them to the best of your ability. If you learn the music at home between chorus rehearsals, we can move along and get to the really fun stuff much sooner. It is not nearly as much fun to learn words and notes as it is to work on interpretation and practice performing a song. So let's get past the hard part as fast as we can and get on to the fun stuff. It's up to you to do the first part. Then I will be more than happy to do the rest. ~

JUST FOUR FUN

Feel free to submit humorous anecdotes and/or thought-provoking quotes to the Editor!

Baritones lose fishing contest; say others cheated

adapted from a story sent to Fred Hinesly, editor Macon, GA *Sharptalk*

A Wisconsin SPEBSQSA chapter, we are told, decided to hold an ice fishing contest among the four voice parts, and, on a winter weekend, the guys went to a large frozen Wisconsin lake where they began the competition.

At the end of the first day the scores were: Basses: 42 fish, Tenors: 38 fish, Leads: 33 fish, Baritones: 0 fish.

That evening the baritone section leader got his men together and said, "I suspect that some kind of cheating is taking place."

Accordingly, the next day, he sent one of the baritones to spy on the other sections. The bari spy hid behind bushes and trees near each of the other sites and watched the other sections as they fished.

After a short time he returned with his report.

"Well," said the bari section leader, "is there any cheating going on?"

"There sure is," the spy replied. "The guys in the other sections are cutting holes in the ice." ~

A LOOK AT PAST IN THE *HARMONOTES*

By Wade Dexter, Editor Emeritus

Ten Years Ago - January 1991

Included in the January 1991 *Harmonotes* is a fine photo of 22 past KC chapter presidents who were introduced at the 1990 installation banquet. They were **Orval Wilson** (1950-51), **Dan Jacobson** (1954-55), **Bob Gall** (1956-57), **Don Webb** (1959-60), **Bill Wall** (1962), **Nile Abbott** (1963), **Dennis Taylor** (1964), **Gil Lefholz** (1966), **Sam Solomon** (1967), **Frank Leone** (1972), **Al Moritz** (1973), **Ron Abel** (1974), **Bruce Wenner** (1976), **Dale Neuman** (1977), **Fred Whisman** (1979), **Keith Schweer** (1981, 1985), **Jerry Fullington** (1982), **Jim Davis** (1983), **Manley Vance** (1984), **Bob Rutherford** (1986), **Marvin Faulwell** (1987), and **Jim Bagby** (1989). Nice turnout, huh?

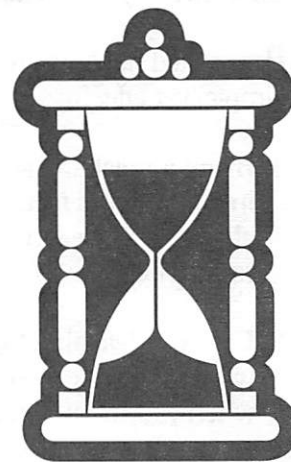
Mike Mathieu was picked as "Barbershopper of the Year" for 1990, The "Ozzie" Award went to **Keith Schweer**, **Paul Beard** got the "John Cross" Award, and **Joann Bagby** became the "Heartbeat of the Year."

New members included **Matt Bostick** (we told you all about him and his antecedents in this space back in December), **Greg Castator**, **Tom Urbaniak**, **Pete Van De Mark** and his son, **Matt**, and **Brad Carney**, who joined brothers **Randy** and **Chris** on the risers. According to the 1999 chapter directory, only **Matt Bostick** and **Randy Carney** have survived the past ten years. Ah, they come and they go.

Twenty Years Ago - February 1981

(Sorry, we're missing a copy of the January 1981 issue in our *Harmonotes* collection.)

Al Benz was the editor of *Harmonotes* as the February issue went to press. (I notice Al's name is missing from the current chapter directory. Has he dropped out?) Some guy by the name of "Keith" has an item on the front page about the approaching annual show. He reminds the membership that the "evening performance is traditionally a sell-out. The Matinee, however, is another story." Seems to be the other way around these days, doesn't it? **Bill Wall** was the ticket chairman. (Continued on page 7)→



The *Heartbeats* were planning a garage sale as a fund raiser for the Travel Fund. Coordinators were **Cathy Warrior** and **Millie Robinette**.

The first "Man of the Month" award went to **Walt Bogden**. PVP **Jim Davis** was the presenter, and we gather from a brief item by Editor **Al Benz** that the award was—you guessed it—reception sticks. You newer members can ask one of the old-timers what that was all about.

Ed Sundermeyer was uniform custodian, and **Leo Erickson** was business manager. New members were **Wayne Chapman** (he was a member of the old Lawrence Chapter at one time), **Keith Carr**, and **Glen Turpin**.

Thirty Years Ago - January 1971

President **John Garbett** reported that the only chapter goal set by the board of directors at their first meeting of 1971 was "First place at District." As well-intentioned as our officers may have been, it was another seven years of "also rans" before we finally pulled off the big win. ~

ENCOURAGE USE OF THE MEMBERS ONLY SITE

The Members Only site is a powerful tool for all Barbershoppers. It is a way for individuals to monitor their personal information on file with the headquarters, to update e-mail address (which change frequently), as well as other information such as mailing addresses and phone numbers. The changes can be made quickly and easily, and each member can be certain that current information is on file.

Simply go to the Society web site, <<http://www.spebsqsa.org>> <http://www.spebsqsa.org>, click on *Members Only* and follow the instructions. First-time users will be required to request a password ...but that is e-mailed to the individual immediately. ~



SUNSHINE REPORT

by Max Boise

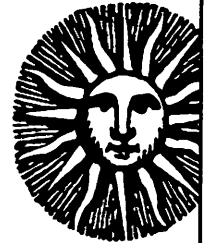
George Park fell on December 8 injuring the leg he had just had knee replacement surgery on. He's recovering nicely.

Chuck Ames fell in the parking lot at St. Peters on December 11th following the board meeting. Although he seemed to be OK at the time he did have quite a headache the next day. According to **Lyle Wyly**, Chuck is now doing fine.

Dick Irwin's dad was admitted to North Kansas City Hospital on Monday, December 11th. He was taken in for observation originally and it was determined later that he had suffered a mild heart attack. He is resting in the cardiac ICU and undergoing further tests.

Bruce Wenner is a grandfather for the fifth time. **Marie Elizabeth Michael** was born to **Kathleen** (nee Wenner) and **Jeff Michael** at 3:00 pm, Monday, December 11, 2000. Marie's brother **Nathan** and the fifth family member Schatzie, their German shepherd, welcomed the 9 lb. 6 oz, 21-inch baby home on December 13th. According to grandpa Bruce, Marie's arrival was overly welcomed by her mom who was "starting to look like she had swallowed a beach ball". *Congratulations to all!*

In mid-December **Rod Rule** took a slight trip (on the ice) and ended up breaking his elbow quite badly. He underwent surgery to repair the damage during the week of December 20th. At last report he is doing well recovering at home. We all wish you a quick recovery, Rod. ~



GETTING OLD?

You're getting old when you don't care where your wife goes, just so you don't have to go along.

You're getting old when you wake up with that *morning-after* feeling, and you didn't do anything the night before.

It's hard to be nostalgic when you can't remember anything.

You're getting old when *getting lucky* means you find your car in the parking lot. ~

DECEMBER BOARD HAPPENINGS

by Dick Irwin, HOA President

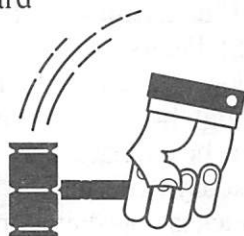
The Kansas City Chapter Board and Officers, both current and incoming for 2001, met on two days in December.

The first was December 11th, and due to inclement weather the meeting was continued on December

21st. This permitted a better turnout of members as well as an opportunity for the group to hear a presentation from **Gordon Lankenau** about plans for 2001 for the HOA chorus. The group discussed the upcoming Singing Valentines effort scheduled for two dates this year, February 13 and 14. **Dick Sutton** is once again coordinating this effort. The current board also accepted **Dale Neuman** as chairman for our spring 2001 show. Also, **Kent McClean** will be assisting Dale during a time when Dale will be absent.

Our main discussions during the December meetings centered around where we want this chapter and chorus to be going for 2001 and beyond. It is the general feeling amongst all present that we want to return to competition this fall with a vengeance. Gordon has presented a very active and workable plan that the music team and our new Program Vice-president, **Tom Elefson**, will be helping to incorporate. More details about the plan will be provided over the next few weeks as we begin to get together once again in the new year. We are all excited about the new songs chosen for this year's annual show. We will also plan to utilize our chapter quartets more in the teaching process. I believe overall we can anticipate a much more active and exciting year in 2001.

As we go through the year I will try to make this column a regular in each *Harmonotes*. There may be some revisions during this process. I trust everyone will be patient with this effort. ~



Heart of America

January - February Performance Calendar

January 8, 2001

**HOA Board Meeting
Doubletree Hotel Kansas City, MO**

January 13, 2001

**Annual Installation and
Awards Banquet at the Golden Ox**

February 13 & 14, 2001

**Singing Valentines
Sign up for a quartet now!**

February 24, 2001

Performance - John Knox Village

SHE QUARTETS

There wasn't always the harmonious relationship that exists now between male and female barbershoppers. In 1947 there were many scathing letters to the editor of *Harmonizer* knocking Sweet Adelines and "she" quartets. To the credit of SPEBSQSA, none of these letters were printed. The Society didn't want *Harmonizer* to become a trash magazine.

Source: Adapted from Melodies for Millions, Will Cook, copyright 1965, SPEBSQSA, used with permission.

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING—BLUE RIDGE MALL

by Ron McIntire

Despite the snow and ice, especially on the west side of town, 43 HOA Bell Ringers made it to the Blue Ridge Mall December 16th; 28 were there all day. Even more would have been there had the roads not been so icy. This averages out to 37 singers per performance. Here's how the attendance broke down:

6 PERFORMANCES

Tom Millot
Rod Rule
Gordon Coleman
Lud Einess
Roy Manade
Mike Mathieu
David Miller
Don Peck
Rich Rusche
Mike Schumacher
Dick Sutton
Carl Turlin
Phil Velcamp
John Winfiel
Ron Abel
Dan Henry
Al Higgins
Grant Hunget
Chuck Ames
Jim Bagby
Jim Davis
Dennis Kinghorn
Dick Korek
Ron McIntire
Ken Neujahr
Marty Oldehoeft
Vince Perry
Joe Mathieu

5 PERFORMANCES

Mike Neff
Tom Elefson
Bruce Wenner
John Stucker
Jim White
Mike Griffen

4 PERFORMANCES

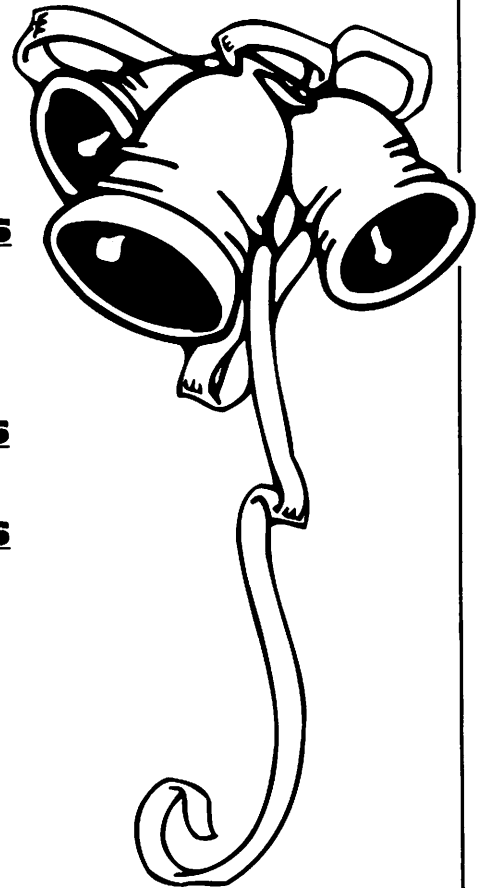
Jeremy Kaat
Jim Kinyon
Lee Dorfman
Barry Sanders

3 PERFORMANCES

John Starcke

2 PERFORMANCES

David Krause
Rich Huyck
Harvey Shapiro
Paul Winans



And, during the performances, we saw some old friends: Nile Abbott, Bill Maloney and John Hill, long time Kansas City Chapter members, Carl Bolte who used to work with us at the Music Hall and Bob Cass, a former member of the Des Moines, IA Chapter now living in Kansas City. ~

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL! by Mike Mathieu and Jim Davis

Just got a total from our bellringing efforts at Blue Ridge Mall. Our efforts for just that day were \$2,069.73. Remember that is just what we took in that day. Since that time members that could not make it last Saturday have contributed, others have mailed additional monies to me, and others have sent donations direct to the Army. In addition to those totals, we also can add an amount that was donated through our longtime member, and past bellringer of the year Bill Wall, who died last April 14th. The total additional funds that weren't collected last Saturday are probably at least \$625, which would give an ongoing total of \$2,705, far surpassing last year's total of \$1,800 or so.

If you'd still like to help the cause, send any size donation to either me personally or mail direct to the Salvation Army at Division H/Q, 3637 Broadway, Attn: Sandra Johnson, Kansas City, Mo. 64111. Put a note with your donation that you would like it credited to the Heart of America Barbershop Chorus.

Thanks for all your "Sharing and Caring." ~

WELCOME 2001!



To all our Harmonotes readers, best wishes for a healthy, prosperous New Year!

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