

Harmonotes

The Monthly Bulletin Of The Kansas City Chapter • SPEBSQSA

Volume 2002, Issue 6



Anthony Fortino makes his directorial debut with "Keep The Whole World Singing", backed up by proud dad, Mark Fortino!

ARM-WAVERS OUTLOOK by Jim Bagby

If you ever had a doubt that music is the number one product of the Kansas City Chapter (just ahead of fellowship), consider this: the music team met for 12 hours a couple weekends ago, and had lively discussions going right up to adjournment.

You'll be aware, soon and long-term, of many of the decisions we reached and ideas that emerged. For instance, Singing Coach **Bill Biffle** already is working on getting the HOA music leaders to produce an audio vocalizing tape/CD, demonstrating individual voice parts—which could be used by the Society. More on that later.

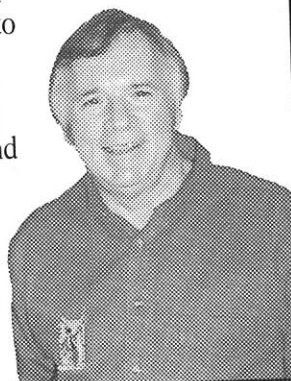
But to me, here's the most significant thing to emerge from the day-long planning and brainstorm session: the *Heart of America Chorus* is going to compete in Montreal. I've thought that all along. But the dozen members of the music team were emphatic in pointing out I had not said that, to the HOA membership.

So you have it in black and white: I believe we can perform in Wichita this October at a level that will get us to the Society chorus contest in Montreal, a year from this July. I know we have the voices, the songs, the experience and the musical and administrative leadership.

Do we have the desire? Only you can answer that. To make our return to international competition for the 15th time (11 CSD titles and three wildcards, if I'm counting right) a reality, there are some challenges to be met. We all know the level of competition is dramatically higher than when we just missed a medal in Detroit, and even better than our last trip to international five years ago (Atlanta).

So we have to perform better. I suggest that begins with commitment to whatever goal(s) the chapter sets, beginning with getting our singers on the risers all the time, week in and week out, one performance to the next.

Your question might well be "is there a plan in place to take our chorus back to that level?" And I respond, on behalf of a very eager, dedicated music team, that's exactly what we're working on refining now! Watch these pages for more details—and come along for the ride! ~



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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.

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

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

Todd Anderson
 17905 East 24th Terrace Court S
 Independence, MO 64057-1332
 (816) 373-8633
 Harmonotes@comcast.net

CHAPTER INFORMATION

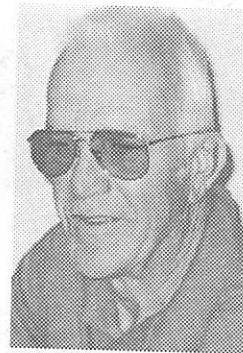
Chapter meets at 7:00 P.M. each Tuesday night, at: St. Peter's United Church of Christ
110th & Holmes - Kansas City, MO 64105

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



A VIEW FROM THE TOP

by John Stucker



John Stucker

Hello everyone. Did you enjoy my article in last month's issue? Wasn't it thought provoking? Now before you go back digging to find an article, it is not there. The reasons for no article in the *Harmonotes* are all centered on the continuing saga of my health, so I guess I need to bring you all up to date (even if you don't want to hear the gory details).

In mid-March I started feeling pretty rough. I hurt in the stomach and could not eat much. I went to see my family doctor thinking I had some kind of stomach flu or something. My family doctor did some blood tests and sent me home. A day or so later I got a call from a surgeon who told me we need to run more tests. After a whirlwind several days, on March 26th I got opened up for exploratory surgery. At that time my surgeon knew what he was looking for and after I awoke from the surgery he told me that I had Pancreatic Cancer! That woke me up real quick! I thought back to 1988 when my father got much the same diagnosis and lived another 3 months! I remained in the hospital for 4 days and went home on Saturday.

The following week I got to see an oncologist. I spent more than an hour with the cancer doctor and for the first time since the surgery I began to see some hope in the future. It was decided that I would start a regimen of chemotherapy. The cancer doctor was very straight forward and told me that the chemo that was going to be used worked on one in three people and that when I started, the treatments would go on for the rest of my life. He also said that he has patients here that have been on the treatments for more than three years and are going strong.

I started the chemo treatments in early April. I was scheduled to judge a spring contest in Hartford, CT in late April and had informed the folks there that I was hoping to be able to make the trip. I did go and for the most part, things went well. On Saturday evening while there, I got to hurting pretty bad and wound up in the emergency room in the main trauma hospital for Hartford. For the next nine hours there was lots of waiting and some very little treatment. At about 3:30 AM they let me go and I went back to the hotel. I left early the next morning (8 AM) to come home. I got off the airplane at KCI and went straight to the hospital at home. I spent three days in the hospital recovering from what I found out was pancreatitis.

So now you know the whole story. My chemo treatments continue except this week where my blood count was too low to get the treatment. I learn next week if I am to be the one in three that the chemo works. I am so sure that it is working that next week I am taking a plane to Ireland and spend two weeks touring the entire country.

Oh, by the way, I have signed up for the Buckeye. Have you? This will be a great opportunity for ALL of us to get to perform in front of a crowd in preparation for the fall contest where we are going to sing and perform better than we ever have. ~

SOCIETY BOARD MEMBER REPORT

by Lud Einess, SBM

First of all, I want to thank all of the delegates that voted for me at Central States District HOD meeting last fall in Topeka, KS. It is an honor that I never thought I would attain, I am humbled by it, and will do my very best to keep your confidence.

After being elected in October, I attended the Society's Leadership Forum in Racine, WI. Among those attending the forum were district presidents and their functional vice presidents, the Kenosha staff, the leadership team and others.

The forum is a fast-paced, four-day meeting of classes, indoctrination, and fellowship, renewing old friends, making new friends and mainly learning about the duties and responsibilities of your elected office.

In late January, I attended the Mid-Winter Convention in cold Anaheim, CA, where I was sworn into office, and participated in the board meeting as a Society board member, what an awesome experience.

As most of you know, a Society board member now represents two districts—mine are Illinois and Central States, and my term of office is for three years. Society President **Roger Lewis** has appointed me to serve on the Planning & Program Development Group, (P&PDG), and has assigned me to serve as liaison to the Ways & Means, Archives and Chapter Support & Leadership Training Committees for P&PDG.

The P&PDG works with the executive director to develop plans for the future, and is also responsible for submitting an annual budget to the Board for approval. As liaison, I am responsible for keeping the P&PDG advised of the workings of my assigned committees, and to assist them any way I can.

On April 12, 13 & 14, the Board met in Dallas, TX for another work in progress meeting, unfortunately, because of the Dallas meeting, I missed the CSD convention and contest, where they qualified four quartets for Portland.

On April 19, 20 & 21, **Betty** and I attended the Illinois District Convention & Contest and had a wonderful time. It was great to see some of our old friends, go to the contests and enjoy the weekend. On Sunday morning, I addressed the HOD meeting, and outlined some of the Society's concerns.

The Board's #1 concern is membership, and to that end, we are asking all chapters of the Society to have a NET gain of at least one new member for 2002.

There are a lot of things being discussed at the Society level, and as time goes by, I will try to keep you informed.

Hope to see you in Portland! With a song! 🎵



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 - 2001 International Seniors Medallists

Rod Rule (tenor), Jon Gathright (lead),
Rich Huyck (bari), Monty Duerksen (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 Heilmann, (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),
Ralph Tallmon (bari), Mike Griffin (bass)

Crosstown Four

Dale Neuman (tenor), Gordon Coleman (lead),
Ron Abel (bari), Val Putzier (bass)

Heartland

*Rick Kready (tenor), David Krause (lead),
Matt Moore (bari), *Dale Comer (bass)

New and Used Parts

Jerry Garrard (tenor), Mike Neff (lead),
Grant Hunget (bari), Keith Schweer (bass)

Polecat Creek

Lyle Wyly (tenor), Wayne Crawford (lead),
Dick Irwin (bari), Eric Weber (bass)

SureFire!

Carter Combs (tenor), Mike Neff (lead),
Grant Hunget (bari), Don Young (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)

Uranium

Dale Neuman (tenor), Charley Drake (lead),
Tom Steele (bari), John Stucker (bass)

*Member of other chapters

GENTLEMEN OF NOTE MEET THE OAK RIDGE BOYS!

by Monty Duerksen

The Plan: Take our wives to Branson to enjoy the *Oak Ridge Boys* on the night before our trip. **Dessie Gathright** and **Rod** and **Sandy Rule** discovered a mutual friend, **Bob Bishop**, who knows the *Oak Ridge Boys* very well. To rekindle the friendship, we invited Bob and his wonderful wife to the quartet "potluck" supper. During the course of the evening, we found that Bob is a terrific singer and has produced 31 albums of music on his own. We decided that it would be fun to all meet in Branson.

When we arrived in Branson at dinner, Bob said, "Maybe I can arrange to have you meet the *Oak Ridge Boys*." Well, during the intermission, we were escorted backstage and introduced. We visited briefly, had our pictures taken with them. They asked, "If we invite you to the stage, will you sing a song for the audience?" *What can you say?* We grabbed the opportunity. WOW! As soon as we finished singing, the baritone stepped to the microphone and said, "Well, after that, we will NOT do our acapella number!" At the conclusion of their performance, they came to the foot of the stage to visit with the people—again making us feel like kings. Such gracious hosts! They left the stage. We went to the lobby and visited people from everywhere in the USA—even sang a mini-concert.

On Sunday afternoon, we met **Larry** and **Rhonda Wilson** at the *Grand Country Buffet*, a

four-star restaurant that they manage. Their management abilities are very evident. Delicious food, great atmosphere, lots of business. Many of us remember Larry as the super bass for the *KC Connection*, CSD champs in 1986 (**Rod Rule**, tenor; **Rich**

Huyck, Bari; **Wayne Lankenau**, Lead; **Larry Wilson**, Bass).

Guess what. GON enjoyed the rich, resonant bass voice of Larry Wilson during the afternoon and after our Convention Show. The reunion brought back many memories for Rod, Rich and Larry.

Now the "icing on the cake" for the weekend. the Mortgage Lenders Convention at Chateau on the Lake. The speaker finishes...the MC asks everyone to pause for a moment of silence to observe the freedom we have. He nods to us. We walk in from the corners of the meeting room, singing the "intro" of "God Bless America", then complete the song at the "mike". Following this, we sang the "Armed Forces Medley" and "The Star Spangled Banner", and our usual show package.

Needless to say, patriotism is alive and well, judging from the comments we heard after our performance.

Looking back on the weekend, we continue to thank **God** for our friendship, for music, for our families and the opportunities HE provides for us. ~



HOA's Gentlemen of Note take a moment to meet and visit with the Oak Ridge Boys, during their recent trip to Branson. Some weekend!

Photo by Eileen Huyck

TONE-HENGE HITS THE ROAD

by Bruce Wenner



Big month for us. We had an entire rehearsal (1, as in “uno”), and we got serious—the beer didn’t come out until we had mastered the new turnaround in *Beer Medley*, and took the dust off some stuff we hadn’t done for a while. The occasion—the upcoming weekend we took our shtick to Nebraska to headline the Papillion

chapter show May 11—two shows, one afterglow, one glimmer. Good trip, fun bunch of guys to hang out with.

Gotta love this kind of weekend. We can get spoiled in HOA, getting used to lots of willing and talented hands to do the work, but that’s not the real world of barbershop. My barbershop career started in a chapter much like Papillion (it was Burlington, Vermont—the Green Mountainaires), and this weekend brings it all back. I was the Program VP before I had been in the chapter four months, and chapter president two years later. I sang two different parts in two quartets (one registered, one not) just so the chapter could put on a 1-hour show. I learned two different parts because if the tenor couldn’t get to a chapter show, I was the tenor section. Sound familiar to anyone? Some of you have been there, including **Dan** and **Jim**.

So...Papillion is not like that, but it’s closer to Burlington than it is to HOA. They lost the services of their one PR guy, which really cut into the attendance, especially in the matinee. Women were serving as stage managers, to free up all the guys for the performances. And did they ever get the guys involved. Seven (count-em, seven!) chapter quartets performed. Granted, a few guys doubled up in two different quartets, but SEVEN!...in a chapter a third the size of ours. Makes you think about how the production from your talent can be maximized. And—put these seven quartets worth of guys into one chorus, and you get some pretty impressive sounds! Now, dream a little. If HOA had a proportionally comparable number of chapter quartets, say 20, what kind of sound would we start with!

The shows and afterglow were in the high school—it took us till the glimmer to FINALLY turn up some beer. Even apart from the beer, the glimmer was a real good time. We performed a little, but mostly we were singing tags and substituting into quartets that were missing a part, and just hanging out with a great bunch of guys. Of course we’d like to let you know that we were thinking of you guys all the time. We’d like to, but our noses are long enough already.

— Ol’ Bruce ~

HOA’S “VESTED” INTEREST

by Jim Porter

Berean Christian School held its annual play May 9 and 10, at the school. Some 30 students were directly involved in the production of “The Music Man” in front of an audience of about 150 each evening.

The students filling the role of the Board of Education needed appropriate costumes, and the wife of the school principal knew exactly what to do. She contacted me, and I said “No problem”. I then contacted **Marty Oldehoeft** and asked for four of our red-and-gold vests with bow ties. As they were worn by junior high school students, they needed to be “small as possible”. Marty came through, and the vests were delivered in time for the show.

The kids were delighted, and several in the audience were quite impressed with the colorful addition to the show. Due credit was given to the *Heart of America Chorus* in the show program.

Who knows, there may be an opening for *Young Men in Harmony* to bring the joy of barbershop singing into this Christian school. ~

INTRODUCING SUREFIRE!

by Grant Hunget

This quartet has just recently formed!
Carter Combs-Tenor; **Don Young**-Bass; **Mike Neff**-Lead; **Grant Hunget**-Baritone.

Our only performance thus far was for Don’s birthday. The pay was a bit low, but the audience was fun!

Mike has been on vocal rest with his node. As soon as he’s healthy, we’ll get to learning some material, and get on with performances. We are looking forward to competing in Wichita this fall. Talk to you again in the July issue! ~

Financial Report for HOA's 2002 Spring Show

by Grant Hunget, Show Chairman, 2002-2003



"Guys, we should be very encouraged by the increase from the prior year..."

Income:	Estimated:	Actual:
a) Ticket Sales (2 shows x 1500 x \$13/ea.)	\$39,000	\$30,331
b) Frank Ancona Program Sponsorship	-0-	\$1,500
c) Afterglow	-0-	\$970
Total	\$39,000	\$32,801

Expenses:	Estimated:	Actual:
a) City of KCMO - rent & user fee	\$5,000	\$5,744
b) Stagehands	\$5,000	\$3,813
c) Talent & Talent Expenses	\$5,000	\$5,570
d) Ticket Printing	\$1,000	\$750
e) Programs & Inserts	\$1,500	\$1,140
f) Printing - flyers/handouts	\$1,300	\$1,200
g) Postage (2) mailers	\$1,500	\$1,244
h) Advertising (radio/TV/paper/Serenade)	\$7,200	\$6,961
i) Afterglow (much was "comped" due to unorganized/sound sys./lack of staff)	\$2,000	\$715
j) Other: (backdrop \$358/ ASCAP fee \$250/ Show Committee Meal \$75/Music Team Meal between shows \$58/Paul Winans - postage, supplies, phone \$245)	\$1,000	\$986
Total	\$30,500	\$28,123
	(Gain)	\$ 4,678

Attendance:	Tickets Sold:	Tickets Collected:	"Comps":
Matinee:	1,052	931	208
Evening:	1,071	994	229

Survey Observation: From 462 surveys collected, 155 indicated attending as a result of various Ads: TV/ Radio/Newspaper (33%)!!!

Guys, we should be very encouraged by the increase from the prior year of about 400 per show. The trend has begun—let's keep it moving in the right direction. Once again, kudos to **Dick Korek**, who did a GREAT JOB with the advertising, which had a very positive impact, based on survey results.

Thoughts and ideas for improvement are already being noted for the 2003 show. If you have ANY thoughts, concerns, ideas in ANY area, please send them to me at (ghunget@kc.rr.com), or call me, at 816-505-9331.

Thanks again for EVERYONE'S HELP! You are truly a GREAT bunch to perform and work with! For now, ON TO BUCKEYE & WICHITA! ~

MUSICAL NOTES

By Keith Schweer, Music Vice President

On Saturday, May 18, your Music Team gathered at **Jim Bagby's** house for an all-day meeting. We had a long agenda, but the two primary topics were:

- 1) An assessment of the first 4-months of the 2002 music program, and...
- 2) Long-range planning for the music program.

On the first item, we noted several areas where we thought the program had improved, but we also identified some areas where we thought we could do better. You'll be seeing some of those changes in the future. I hope you'll continue to give us your feedback, both with things you like and specifics on areas where you see room for improvement.



The long-range planning part of the meeting dealt with goal-setting. The first one we established was for HOA to get back to international competition, and to be recognized as one of the top performing choruses in the Society. Of course, in order to do that, we first have to qualify for International.

If we implement the changes I referred to above, we believe that we can qualify in Wichita this fall. I won't list all the changes we talked about, but most of them are directed at better singing, improved performance abilities and having fun.

The Music Team has accepted the challenge of making these things happen. If you'd like to help or if you have suggestions, please contact me or anyone else on the Music Team. ~

DEADLINE FOR THE JULY ISSUE OF

Harmonotes

Articles and photos are due by

TUESDAY, JUNE 17

For more information, call Todd at 816-373-8633

THE "MUSIC MAN" COMES TO THEATER IN THE PARK!

June 14 is the opening night performance for the *Theater in the Park's* presentation of "Music Man." HOA's own *Gentlemen of Note* is featured in the role of the School Board! **Rod Rule** (tenor), **Jon Gathright** (lead), **Rich Huyck** (bari) and **Monty Duerksen** (bass) have been in rehearsal for the production since early May, meeting three hours a night, Monday thru Thursdays! (*Whew!*)

HOA will score twice on the opening night, as *The Musical Firm of Schwarzkopf, Anderson, Carney & Bray* will also be performing a 30-minute concert prior to the start of the show.

Raymond Schwarzkopf (tenor), **Todd Anderson** (lead), **Randy Carney** (bari) and **Burt Bray** (bass) say they're looking forward to "setting 'em up, so that G.O.N. can knock 'em down!"

The following night (June 15) there will be a mass chorus, comprised of KC area barbershop chapters (Kansas City, Leavenworth, Liberty, Olathe, Overland Park, Topeka and St. Joseph). All area barbershoppers are encouraged to attend and enjoy the festivities!

Tentative schedule for Saturday, June 15:

- 3:00 p.m. - Meet at the park for outdoor rehearsal (location to be announced)
- 4:30 p.m. - eats and BBQ (\$5 per person, wives are welcome!)
- 5:45 p.m. - erect risers at the stage
- 6:00 p.m. - short sound check with chorus
- 6:15 p.m. - free time
- 7:45 p.m. - Chorus sings 30-minute "pre-show"
- 8:15 p.m. - end of chorus; beginning of pre-show official opening of MUSIC MAN ceremonies with press and Mayor, etc.
- 8:45 p.m. - Show "MUSIC MAN"
- 10:45 p.m. - time estimate - end of show

Tentative Songs for the combined chorus:

- The Star Spangled Banner*
- Hello, Mary Lou*
- My Wild Irish Rose or the BBS Medley*
- Sweet & Lovely*
- Bill Grogans Goat*
- Let There Be Peace On Earth*
- Darkness on the Delta*
- Coney Island Baby*
- America the Beautiful*
- God Bless America*

A sign-up sheet will be available at chapter rehearsals. **Dick Korek** will collect the BBQ money.

Let's make the event something that the audience will want to have more of! ~



JUST FOUR FUN

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

"CARLINISMS"

Ever wonder about those people who spend \$2.00 a piece on those little bottles of Evian water? Try spelling *Evian* backwards.

"I am" is reportedly the shortest sentence in the English language. Could it be that "I do" is the longest sentence?

Why do we say something is out of whack?
What's a whack?

If a pig loses its voice, is it disgruntled?

Why do croutons come in airtight packages?
It's just stale bread to begin with.

When someone asks you, "A penny for your thoughts", and you put your two cents in, what happens to the other penny?

Why is the man (or woman) who invests all your money called a broker?

Why isn't 11 pronounced onety one?

If Fed Ex and UPS were to merge, would they call it Fed UP?

Do Lipton Tea employees take coffee breaks?

Why do they put pictures of criminals up in the Post Office? What are we supposed to do, write to them? Why don't they just put their pictures on the postage stamps so the mailmen could look for them while they delivered the mail?

If it's true that we are here to help others, then what exactly are the others here for?

Last night I played a blank tape at full blast.
The mime next door went nuts.

Why do "overlook" and "oversee" mean opposite things?

A LOOK AT THE PAST IN HARMONOTES

By Wade Dexter, Editor Emeritus

Ten Years Ago - June, 1992

Music Director **Jim Bagby** reported that 94 HOA singers had passed their performance tapes and were eligible to go on the International contest stage with the chorus in New Orleans in July. Jim stated that if they all made the trip, it would be the *largest* Kansas City chorus ever to compete at that level. (Looking ahead, it turns out 92 of them actually participated, Considering recent experience, that's pretty good, don't you think?)

And HOA Chorus Manager **Jim White** was hard at work setting up convention registrations and reservations at the Inter-Continental Hotel in New Orleans. Music Vice President **Ron Abel** reminded everyone of the coaching session with **Bob and Rosemary Calderon** on June 14, at which time they would work with us again to perfect our competition performance package.

Sixty-six singers made the long bus trip to Washington, Missouri (near St. Louis) to sing on the struggling Union-Franklin County Chapter's first annual show. We performed in the restored Calvin Opera House, and the afterglow was held in what we were told was the original Busch brewery. (All I can remember was the terrible acoustics and the cold water dripping from the ceiling.)



Twenty Years Ago - June, 1982

Kansas City chapter quartets were busy as usual as the chorus in general planned for its participation in the International contest at Pittsburgh in July.

Bruce Wenner, baritone of the *Prairie Crooners*, reported that lead **Wayne Lankenau** would be departing for the University of Kansas in August, which meant that a replacement must be recruited prior to the fall chapter shows and the district contest. I seem to recall that **John Warrior** sang the lead for at least one annual show. Others in the quartet were **Gordon Lankenau** (tenor) and a bass whose first name was **Jeff**, but I don't recall his last name. I do remember that he was also a KU student who sang with the Lawrence chapter for a short time. I believe he also moved to Colorado later where he sang with a Rocky Mountain District quartet champion.

Tenor **Everett Roth**, reporting for the *Rural Route 4*, described an enjoyable show in Battle Creek, Michigan, that included a comedy quartet called the *Harmony Hounds* who used instruments for rhythm. Everett announced that their last show on the spring schedule would be in Macon, Georgia.

And **Don Kahl**, the tenor with the *Comer Quartet*, described his distaste for flying, especially when the flight plan passes through stormy weather.

Thirty-Five Years Ago - June, 1967

We found this bit of SPEBSQSA history in the June 1967 issue of *Harmonotes*, compiled by **Ray Koenig**. The usual annual show by the *Heart of America Chorus* was skipped in the spring of 1962 and was replaced by the first ever APIC (Association of Past International Champions) Parade of Quartets on Wednesday, June 20, as part of the International Convention and contest week (hosted by the Kansas City Chapter). And what a lineup for a show!

After a welcome by KC Chapter President **Bill Wall**, and a performance by the HOA Chorus under the direction of **Don Webb**, the following past international quartet champions appeared: *The MidStates Four* (1949), *The Schmitt Brothers* (1951), *The Gaynotes* (1958), *The Four Pitchikers* (1959), *The Evans Quartet* (1960) and the *Sun Tones* (1961). ~

From the Heartbeats

by Carol Ramirez, President

Gentlemen:

If any of you have noticed that your wife is making more trips to gardening shops lately, that's probably because of **Francie Wenner's** motivating talk at our May 14 meeting on annuals that grow well in KC. The *Heartbeats* thank her for coming and sharing her expertise.

Also at that meeting we voted to make handkerchiefs for the tux jackets, as well as work on break-away vests. Thanks to **Joan Korek**, who will be heading up the sewing projects.

Thanks, also, to **Jan Mathieu**, who is heading up exploring options for a social event for the chorus and guests at the district contest in Wichita this fall.

Our next official meeting will be a potluck at the home of **Estyl Bowser** on September 17, but we'll be getting together informally for sewing projects this summer. We'll let you know when those sessions are. Please come join us! ~



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the following members!

Win Cady	June 3
Phil Youngs	June 6
Burdett Tordoff	June 11
Bob Coleman	June 14
Don Peck	June 17
Jack Selby	June 19
Rob Mathieu	June 23
Ralph Tallmon	June 23
Reed Alberg	June 25
Barry Sanders	June 28
Keith Schweer	June 29

WHACHA THINK? Test your barbershop trivia skills!

Question:

Name the quartet, its members and the special later claim to fame of the man standing in the middle of the quartet.



Answers: "The Kippers" (Actually, the "new" Kippers of 1964), L to R: **Ken Gabler**, (Tenor), **John Goldsberry**—(Lead), **Jim Riggs**, (Bass), **Gil Letholtz**, (Bar), **Gil** became International President of SPFBSSQSA!

SUNSHINE REPORT

We just learned that **J.B. Witham's** mother has passed away—he will be tending to matters in Wichita, and that **Kevin Beauford's** mother also passed away. Our thoughts and prayers are certainly with both families during this difficult time.

We hear, from **Lee Dorfman**, of the death of **Charles Beaudet** on April 30th in Sun City, AZ. Charlie had retired to Sun City around 1993 with his wife **Sadilee**. Two to three years ago, Charlie suffered a stroke and was in a care facility prior to his death on April 30th. While a member of HOA, Charlie assisted in arranging for housing at Central District and International Conventions. (Lee could not locate an address for Sadilee.)

Congrats to **Willard Yoder's** daughter, **Emily**, who graduated from High School...

...and to **Laura Park**, granddaughter of **George** and **Mary Jo Park** will be graduating from Winnetonka High School. She received a scholarship to pitch softball at Central Methodist in Fayette, MO.

And finally, former HOA member, **David Perry**, son of **Vince** and **Melladee Perry**, will be married June 1. David and [wife] **Julie's** address is 121-1/2 Washington Avenue East, Albia, IA 52531. Best wishes! ~

FINAL WOODSHEDDING WORDS

(Part 5 of 5 in a series)—provided to PROBE by Toban Dvoretzky, President of AHSOW

Woodshedders should be able to create, hear, and recognize these primary chords:

1. Major Triad: “My *WILD* I-rish *ROSE*” (as in Barberole Cat version)
2. Barbershop Seventh: “*MY* wild I-*RISH* ro-*OSE*”
3. Diminished Seventh: “The swee-test flow’r that gro-*O*-ows; *YOU MAY*”
4. Minor Triad: “Shine *ON* me, in the eev-ning” (= the second time through).



These chords make up the vast percentage of the chords employed during woodshedding. And avoid sweating the chord names or types; they’re mentioned here only so you can consciously inform your ear about the chords you ought to listen for. Inform yourself consciously once, then trust your ear to handle the rest.

If authentic woodshedding is to be its most rewarding and fulfilling, it must be the BEST SINGING THAT WE EVER DO. Continuous sound, matched/sustained vowel targets, supported breathing, great intonation, and taking proper tune-up/initial chords are crucial to the ringing of chords and the natural satisfaction that we get from it. If we don’t bother to do what it takes to make the chords ring, then why bother to woodshed at all? If one or more woodshedders fails to apply any of these fundamentals to his efforts, the likelihood increases that one or more others in his woodshed quartet will excuse himself “to go to the restroom” after a song or two. After all, one of the true joys of woodshedding is to stand with the same three other guys from midnight till four a.m., switching parts and extemporaneously arranging an inexhaustible supply of melodies—with no one getting tired of any of it!

Barbershoppers have also asked about publications on woodshedding. One good source of information (and melodies) is available for order from the SPEBSQSA “Harmony Marketplace” in Kenosha (1-800-876-7464): Pocket Woodshedder #1 (stock #6021; \$2.95 + shipping). The price is assumed current. The above item and the part-predominant Barberpole Cat tapes are excellent investments for anyone wishing to prepare himself or his chapter for the fulfillment of woodshedding activity.

A “must-have” item is the new “Discovery Singing” folio of melodies produced by AHSOW in Fall 1998. The folio contains 41 highly woodsheddable melodies that have been exhaustively tested for suitability. AHSOW members (we know who you are) can order this folio at \$3 per copy; for everyone else, it’s \$5 per folio. Shipping is included in these figures. Along with your full address and a note to explain what the funds are for, send a check, payable to AHSOW, to:

Ed Hartley, AHSOW Manager/Treasurer
246 Payne Road
Quilcene, WA 98376-9658, U.S.A.

The AHSOW “Discovery Singing” folio has proven exceptionally popular, so order yours today! ~

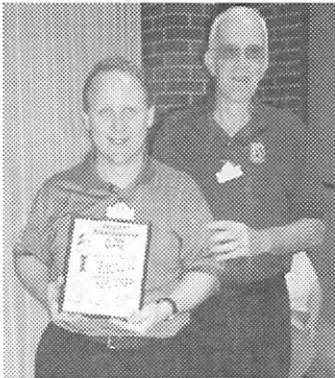
Feel free to contact AHSOW, Inc. at any time with inquiries about woodshedding.

ANCIENT HARMONIOUS SOCIETY OF WOODSHEDDERS, INC.

Toban Dvoretzky, Pres. TBone@selec.net (H)
14531 Ella Blvd., #3806
AHSOW web page: <http://www.ahsow.org>
Houston, TX 77014-2558, U.S.A.

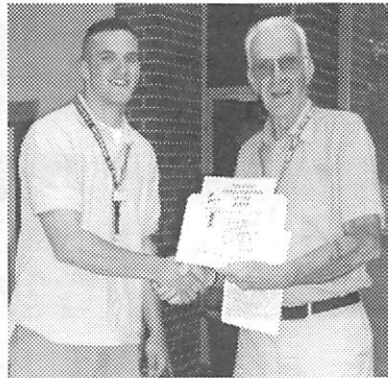


BARBERSHOPPER OF THE MONTH!



Grant Hunget
March 2002

"In grateful appreciation for your work as show chairman for the 2002 Heart of America Barbershop Show March 9, 2002, this certificate is hereby presented to you for the month March!"



Cameron LeBarr
April 2002

"In grateful appreciation for your work planning, organizing, selling tickets and all things necessary to make the Heart of America Barbershop Show at Richmond, MO, April 7, 2002, a resounding success, this certificate is presented to you for April!"

Both men are shown receiving their award from chapter president, **John Stucker**. Photos courtesy of **Ron McIntire**.

EXTRA MILE AWARDS

FOR MARCH...

In recognition for directing the Heart of America Chorus at the 2002 *Heart of America Chorus* Barbershop Show, March 9, 2002, that helped make the show a resounding success, there are six recipients of the March 2002 EXTRA MILE award:

- David Krause
- Mike Neff
- Carter Combs
- Keith Schweer
- Darrell McCune
- Mark Fortino

FOR APRIL...



Mark Fortino

In recognition for your hard work doing all things technical to provide learning tapes for the *Heart of America Chorus* as we prepare for the Buckeye Invitational and all points beyond.

A TIP OF THE HAT

A tip of the hat goes to:

Mark Fortino (L), Mike Neff (L), Keith Schweer (B), Jerry Garrard (T), Grant Hunget (Bari) for their excellent work putting together the learning part tapes for the Buckeye Invitational, fall contest and songs in the current repertoire. See the HOA website under Members for the .MP3 postings.

Vince Perry for his work as "Buckeye Guru." Vince is the guy to see for everything from registration to hotel reservations at the Buckeye spectacular in Columbus. He's doing it all.



John Stucker and Ron McIntire for creating the tapes and CD's of the learning tapes for the guys who need them.

All the prospective and new members of the *Singing Skills Workshop* for stickin' with it. These fellows are the meat and potatoes of new members for our chapter.

May 6 was **Anthony Fortino's** birthday so he was invited to make his directorial debut with *Keep the Whole World Singing* (photo by **Ron McIntire**).





Heart of America



June-July-August Calendar

- June 4** Bill Biffle coaching session
- June 15** Mass Chorus, KC area barbershop chapters, prior to "Music Man". Theater in the Park, I-435 and 87th; rehearsal at 3 p.m., BBQ at 4:30 p.m., perform at 7:45 p.m.
- June 7-8** CSD "Harmony Happening" mini-HEP, St. Joseph
- June 30-July 6** SPEBSQSA contest and convention, Portland, OR
- July 21** HOA Music in the Park, Overland Park
- July 25** Extra Buckeye Rehearsal
- July 26-28** Society C&J Candidate School, St. Joseph
- July 28-Aug. 3** Harmony College, St. Joseph



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Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America
Kansas City Chapter, Inc.
3523 Red Bridge Road, Apt. 3
Kansas City, MO 64137-2145

