



CHORUS AND QUARTET SINGING  
IN THE BARBERSHOP STYLE



SECOND-OLDEST CHAPTER IN THE  
BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

VOLUME 09 - ISSUE 6 - JULY 2009

## Looking Back At The Barbershop Harmony Festival

by Doug Brott, Chapter President



**Jerry Garrard warms up his Leavenworth  
Cody Choraliers Chorus**

**W**ow, what month June was. The absolute highlight was the Barbershop Harmony Festival. What a day to remember. We really went into the planning and execution of this event with

absolutely no idea what to expect. We all just knew it would be something that could be good for our art and our chapters. Three joint rehearsals, about 130 men from seven different area chapters, and an almost full auditorium. I am not sure we could have asked for better results.

My goal in pushing the festival was to see if it could work. I think it worked well. Now we need to start planning for next year. We need to keep the chapters working together to plan and promote and raise some funds. Wouldn't it be great if we could have an even bigger festival next year? Wouldn't it be great if we had 150, 175, even 200 men on the risers? Wouldn't it be great if we could once again raise monies for a good cause AND raise monies for each chapter? Wouldn't it be great if we could raise awareness of our art through promotion and a completely full auditorium? All of this is possible.

Right up there with the Harmony Festival was learning *HOA* had been awarded its first grant. This grant, about \$2,175.00, provides funding for our Harmony Explosion program and is from the Arts Council of Metropolitan Kansas City. Many persons have worked hard behind the scenes for a number of years to make this happen. All that work has finally paid off. A huge thank you and many, many kudos to **Dick Korek** for making us aware of the opportunity. A huge Thank you to **Kent Miller** for writing the grant and submitting the paperwork. A big thank you to the persons that reviewed and provided editorial comments on the grant. A huge thank you to **Tony Strub** and **Jerry Meier** for attending the meeting and answering the questions the decision makers had. It was definitely a team effort and one that has paid off.

Now we know we can do it, let's celebrate, then get right back to work on the next one.

Thanks to you all. Remember: *Excellence in All We Do!* ♥

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# HARMONOTES

...is published by the board of directors of the Kansas City, Mo., Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society®, a non-profit organization. Photographs that are not attributed are the work of our photographers at large. 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.

## Heart of America Chorus

Chapter meets at 7 p.m. each Tuesday night, at:  
St. Peter's United Church of Christ  
110th & Holmes · Kansas City, Mo. 64131

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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, content and spelling).

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

The utmost care was used in preparation of this newsletter. Should you notice erroneous copy, please let the editor know!

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The HOA Board of Directors meets at 6 p.m. on the second Monday of the month, at St. Thomas More Church, 118th & Holmes, Kansas City, MO 64131. Chapter members are welcome!

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Chorus Manager & Webmaster - Vince Perry  
Chapter Telephone: (816) 221-7888



## All Heart of America Chorus Members

by Mike Mathieu



MATHIEU

To Mike Mathieu, HOA doesn't mean three letters in our alphabet. It means *THE HEART OF AMERICA CHORUS!* The Heart of America as in the middle of our great country. The melting pot about all that is good in our country. All nationalities, all ages, all work backgrounds, all family backgrounds, fathers, sons, brothers, grandsons,

cousins, "brothers in harmony", basically all that is good in our country. It means coming together each Tuesday evening and striving to be the best singers that we can be, as we meld ourselves into one of the best singing organizations in the world.

If it means going to a meeting eight days after a double hip transplant, or six days after heart surgery, or three hours after getting off a plane at KCI, or being on the risers with a "touch of a cold" when we might rather be home in bed, or cooking burgers and dogs in the rain, or taking down risers when I'm 80 plus years old, or staying at a meeting past 10 pm when my director asks, or re-reading all the coaching tips that we have been given through the years, or volunteering for that job I really didn't want to do, basically whatever I can do to help make my chorus better in many ways, that is some of what THE HEART OF AMERICA CHORUS means to me.

In addition to what I can do to make the singing better, my belonging to this organization means many other things to me. It's dedication like **John Cross**, 36 plus years with never missing a meeting or a performance. It's the leadership of **Bob Gall** and **Gil Lefholz**, two of our members who have ascended to the role of International President of this organization. **Joe Stern**, one of our chapter's founders and great International leader. It's all the quartets that have one chapter contests, district contests, and the one that has one the International Quartet Championship. It's hours and hours of singing and ringing chords because it makes us feel good, and it also pleases the audience when we perfect our craft as well as we can make it. To me it is not saying, I'm pleased with as well as we are singing and I'm working hard enough! When we stop attempting to improve our craft I believe we are falling behind. We will then be accepting mediocrity, which I will never accept!

In July of this year there will be an International convention in Anaheim. For many reasons, our nationwide membership has decided to stay home in huge numbers. Less than 5,500 registrations sold as of last week. Next year our convention will be in Philadelphia, and the following year we will be hosting the convention here in our home town. I feel an obligation to try and "turn this ship around". We all need to help to get this done. We need to start today, not tomorrow, not next week, but today. We all have to help in this task.

We have to pay tribute to the great tradition of our Society, our District, our Chapter, and to our many departed brothers whom have created the proud tradition of the *HEART OF AMERICA CHORUS*. In 2000 we hosted a convention, and we attracted 9,958 paid attendees to our hometown. If we are going to beat that great figure, we need to start working on it today. 2011 will be the 50th anniversary of the Suntones International championship, and the 25th anniversary of the *Rural Route 4* victory in Salt Lake

City. What a couple of great quartets we will be able to commemorate and build a great convention around.

That also means that we should all plan on being in Philadelphia next year at the International Convention for three very important reasons. First is to compete on the contest stage as one of the 30 best choruses in the world. Secondly we all need to plan on being there to shadow the folks running the convention next year, so we will know what to do the following year. The third reason is that we need to start pre-selling the convention that will be held here in 2011. The best way to get excitement going for your convention is to spread the word the year before at the International Convention. We need to pre-sell at least 3,500 registrations next summer in Philadelphia if we are to meet our goal of total attendees. Together we can reach those goals!

Start thinking of all the great things we can use to promote Kansas City. The new raceway, Village West, Schlitterbahn water park, the Power and Light District, the World War I Museum, the new Performing Art Center, The Sprint Center, and on and on. This is a great place to be, participating in the greatest hobby in the world, with all the guys that are like family to me. We need to strive for excellence and make our Chapter the "place to be" for any male singer in the greater metro area. We will attract those singers by constantly striving to get better every week.

Every song I sing every week, I try to emulate **Mike Slamka's** tip about "breathing through your ears" and trying to open the hinges of your jaw as wide as you can get them. When my part is told not to sing, I still sing "silently" and try to express the proper emotion of the song, as Jim Henry pleaded with us to do EVERY NIGHT, EVERY SONG ALL NIGHT LONG. Remember how Jim told us that folks in the chairs should not be able to tell if we are singing or not, even though our section may not be singing. We must do what our coaches implore us to do if we want to improve. We must recruit new members constantly. We must always try to improve our singing.

That's what the *HEART OF AMERICA CHORUS* means to me; Striving to sing well and be one of the best performing choruses in the world at all times. Being an administrative leading chapter in the *Barbershop Harmony Society* and a model for any other chapter to emulate. The host of more International Conventions than any other chapter. A fraternal singing organization that has a membership of over 100 current, and hundreds of former members that I am proud to call my friends. A brotherhood that has various charitable endeavors that would rank favorably with any organization in our community.

I can't wait to be on the risers again with all of you! I can't wait to start brainstorming about the 2011 Convention here in Kansas City, and I can't wait till next week to start telling all our barbershoppers what a great convention we are going to have here in two years! I can't wait for district convention

when we can earn the right to be on the contest stage again in Philadelphia next summer! Now that the *Ambassadors of Harmony* won the gold medal in Anaheim, the doors are wide open for us to win the District Chorus Championship, and I can't wait to be District Champs Again! I can't wait to start working harder to make all of the above Barbershop dreams come true! Please come and join me as we take the first step through all of my "can't waits"! What a great couple of years lie ahead for the HEART OF AMERICA, CHORUS! Come on down and join the fun. ♥

## Direct From The Front

by David Krause, HOA Chorus Director



**C**ongratulations to all who helped make the Festival Show a great success! As far as I could tell all had a great time, including a very nice audience. Most of them who visited with me didn't even complain about the A/C issue!

Congratulations especially to the men of *HOA Chorus*! You guys did a fine performance on a very hot stage and may not have even realized how well you did. Thanks to a recording made by **Tom Wenner** I was able to analyze our songs a bit this am. Not only did you capture the essence of our goal for the musical feel of "Basin Street" but you stayed in key all of the way to the last key change on a very difficult piece of music! And, on the recording I really didn't notice any individual voices! Starting tonight we will make ourselves relearn that last key lift and maintain that new key til the end! Can't wait. In addition, the music team has decided to keep "Joshua" so we'll start working it tonight and add it to our repertoire very quickly. To prepare, please learn the rhythms exactly as they are on the learning media and we'll correct a few bass notes as we did for the Festival Chorus.

Pat yourselves on the back for the progress you've made! ♥







## HOA Golf Fundraiser: May 2, 2009

by Kent Miller

**W**eather worries again! Last year Friday's forecast for Saturday's tournament was possible rain and an occasional thunderstorm, but we escaped both. This year we were inundated with bad forecasts and actual rain for more than a week prior to the tournament, but again we escaped! All who participated seemed pleased with the weather, the golf, the food, and the fellowship. The day was a great success.

Those of you who helped with prizes went "above and beyond" this year. We ended up with prizes worth close to \$2,500! Many participants walked away with prizes valued more than their entry fee. I've said this before, but I would challenge anyone to find a golf scramble that comes anywhere close to the prizes we have each year.

The tournament was a wonderful success and it could not have happened without the help of many, many chapter members, spouses, and their families. The list includes most of the *Heart of America Chapter* in one way or another, so I cannot possibly include all of the names, but we extend our thanks and appreciation to all who helped.



We have decided to schedule next year's tournament on a weekday to avoid conflicts with Chapter shows, contests, and other weekend activities. Tentative dates are May 6, 2010 or May 13, 2010. We will let you know the exact date as soon as possible. Remember, this event is open to everyone, and we encourage you to spread the word now for next year. If you would like to be on the list for information about the 2010 tournament, e-mail me at [kmiller268@aol.com](mailto:kmiller268@aol.com).

com. ♥

## Man of Note Recognition

by John Erwine, VP Membership



**H**ave you ever wondered when a new member is inducted, how many of your fellow HOA riser



buddies own these little gems? Have you ever wondered how it might feel to be awarded your first one? How about your 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> or 41<sup>st</sup>? Or do you reflect on how it feels to not have one at all? Well, I have.

For those of you who have never seen one, it's a small, heavy, golden music note mounted on a pin fastener so you can wear it on your lapel, shirt or display proudly in your home or office. It is a symbolic statement that you have worked your tail off to recruit a new member into the Barbershop Harmony Society.

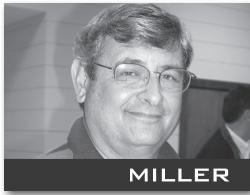
Did you know that as of 06/30/09, the total HOA membership roster contained only 142 members? Of that number, 87 members own 1 or more Man of Note awards. In total, those 87 members own 388 of them. Of those only 4 members own a whopping 94 Man of Note awards. Now this is a little deceiving because these 4 guys in total have 181 years of barbershopping between them. So when you look at it in a somewhat slanted way, they each would have recruited just about 1 member every 7-1/2 years. Believe me, these stats aren't meant to be intimidating, but aren't they awesome?

So, you ask, how can I get one of these little beauties? Well, as with anything else, with just lots of plain old fashioned hard work. My point here is that we all are Membership and Chapter Development recruiters. When out and around, during casual conversation, somehow work barber shopping into it. Share your stories and experiences with them. Invite them to come and experience it with you. Don't give up. Don't be obtrusive either. If I remember correctly it took my mentor two or three years to get me to commit. Have patience, more patience but never give up. Also, although not for new member recruitment, it's never too late to re-recruit inactive members. Go through the chapter phone list and give those that you haven't seen for some time a call. Ask them to come and see how we've progressed in vowel sounds and our vocal tuning.

And lastly, be sure to thank those you know that own one of these. For without those who own one, where might the Chapter be today? So each time we induct a new member, give a real rousing applause for the guy who gets that little gold pin. You know he's worked long and hard. Just think, as **David** would say, "What if..." we could each recruit a new guy every year or so? ♥

## HOA Financial Corner

by Kent Miller, Financial Committee



MILLER

**David Stockard, Don Fuson** and I had an excellent meeting recently with **Paul Thomson**, President of the Truman Heartland Community Foundation (THCF). As you know, *HOA* started a fund with THCF last year. That fund is doing quite well, thanks to both the interest it has earned and to some monetary help from the Foundation.

Probably the most important idea coming from that meeting was that *HOA* needs to establish an endowment fund. We learned that many charitable donors, including many of THCF's donors, only donate funds to organizations with an established endowment fund.

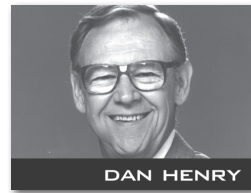
How does an endowment fund differ from the fund we already have with THCF? The basic difference is that we can invade principal at will in our current fund. In an endowment fund we would only use a percentage of the fund each year for operating expenses (the percentage, probably 5%, will be set by board resolution). The money remains ours, but it would take a two-thirds vote of the board to invade principal or change the interest rate used.

A potential donor knows that the money contributed to our current fund may be spent immediately. The same donor knows that money contributed to an endowment fund will likely stay there and help the organization forever. They very much want their gifts to be meaningful for the long term. They want to be part of a legacy.

This concept is so important that THCF has generously agreed to start our endowment fund with a gift of \$500. Your board unanimously passed a motion to set up the fund, and we will develop the resolution shortly to set up the necessary parameters. ♥

## Bob Gall Honored

by Dan Henry



DAN HENRY

**Bob Gall** was president of our Society in 1969, one of many achievements enumerated by the Lathrop school board in placing Bob's name on the recently established "Hall Of Fame" rolls of Lathrop High School, in the town just about an hour north of Kansas City, up Interstate 35.

Graduating in 1943, Bob's name joins five others, including that of his brother Bill, who was one of three recipients named in 2008.

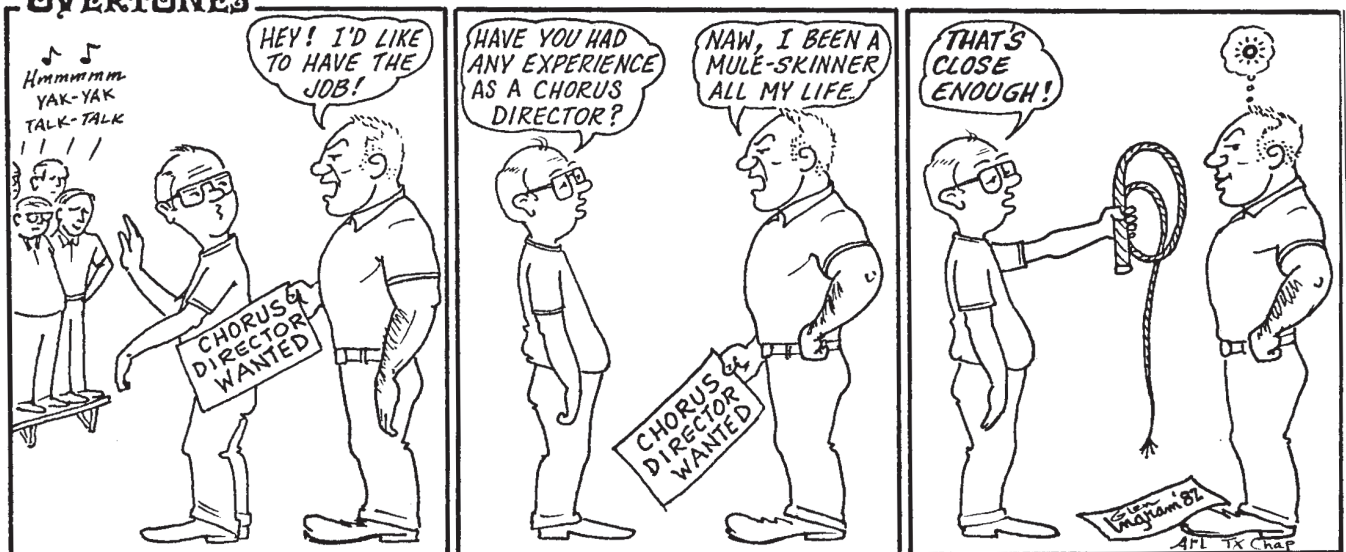
Bob's many accomplishments in the business, scholastic and humanitarian areas were admirably presented at the new Lathrop school. A trophy was presented to the family, who was represented by Bob's middle son, Jeff, during the May 16 ceremony.

In *HOA*, Bob will be remembered as a past president, Central States District president, championship ticket seller and the bass of several quartets. The most prominent of those was the *Merry Mugs*, the first foursome chosen by the Society to make the U.S.O. tours of military bases and hospitals during the Korean War. I was privileged to sing with Bob in that group along with **Frank Leone** and the late **Ed Rooker**.

Bob later sang in Hubbub with me, **Jim Bagby** and the late **Manley Vance**.

Bob died in 1995 at age 69. ♥

## OVERTONES







DEXTER

**TEN YEARS AGO: JUNE, 1999**

**“Dr. Anne Meeker Miller**, choral director at Pioneer Hill Junior High School for thirteen years, was presented the Society’s Award of Harmony by the Kansas City Chapter of SPEBSQSA at its May 15 show in recognition of her work bringing barbershop music alive in her music program. She has been so successful that the quartets consistently win the right to appear on the annual *HOA* afternoon show. Her students carry their interest on to high school where they tend to make up most of the membership of groups like *Men In Tux*, which also do barbershop and do it well.”

Dr. Miller is seen in the photo in this issue of *Harmonotes* with members of this year’s junior high winners, *Moonshiners* (young ladies) and *Whatever* (young men) as they appeared on the show.

**TWENTY YEARS AGO: JULY, 1989**

“Let’s Sing For Jim And Eby”

“As many *HOA Chorus* members as can make themselves available are asked to assemble in the main lobby of the Western Crown Center Hotel at 3 p.m. on Saturday, July 1, to provide a rousing musical welcome for International President **Jim Richards** and his wife, **Eby**, upon their arrival in Kansas City. Wear your new informal red-and-white shirts, your new Navy-blue slacks, black sox, black shoes (no jogging shoes, please, not even if they’re black) and a black belt.

“This will be Jim’s and Eby’s first impression of Kansas City as the host of the 1989 International Convention. Let’s be sure it’s a highly favorable one.”

**FORTY YEARS AGO: JULY, 1969**

I found this in the July, 1969, edition of *Harmonotes*. I figured you’d find a bit of amusement in it. Notice how it would taste as good today as it did forty years ago:

**RECIPE FOR SUCCESS**

- Take one *Heart of America (SPEBSQSA) chorus*,
- Add one thoroughly competent musical director,
- Multiply by good attendance, minus minimum absenteeism,
- Mix in generous quantities of hard work and determination,
- Blend with top quality songs, note-perfect and sound that’s true.  
(NOTE: Close attention must be applied while blending and mixing. Do not expose to excessive conversation, disruption or unfamiliarity with the words or music.)
- Sprinkle generously with the best last chord in all of *SPEBSQSA*.
- Cover with sharp new uniforms.
- Do NOT attempt this recipe without using any of the listed ingredients.

There are two or three references in this edition of the “last chord” and how important it is. We would have asked, “How about the other chords? Aren’t they equally important throughout the entire performance?” Can anyone answer that question? Remember, it was forty years ago. ♥



**Combined Chorus** during preparation for June 27 Harmony Fest  
Photo courtesy of Ron McIntire



## Rules For Singing Music In A Chorus

Submitted by Matt Bostick, Author Unknown

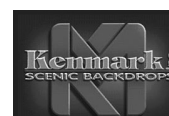
1. Everyone should sing the same piece.
2. Observe the repeat signs only if what you just sang was interesting.
3. If you sing a wrong note, glare at one of the other singers.
4. Carefully warm up your voice before singing. Then if you sing out of tune, you can at least do it with a clear conscience.
5. The right note, at the wrong time, is a wrong note. (And vice-versa.)
6. A wrong note, sung timidly, is a wrong note.
7. A wrong note, sung with authority, is simply your interpretation of the phrase.
8. If everyone gets lost except you, follow the ones who are lost.
9. Strive to always sing the maximum notes per second. This will intimidate the weaker singers and gain you the admiration of the ignorant.
10. Markings for slurs, dynamics, and accidentals should be completely ignored. They are only there to make the score look more complicated.
11. If a passage is difficult, slow down. If it is easy, speed up. Everything will even itself out in the end.
12. You have achieved a true interpretation when, in the end, you have not sung one note of the original piece.
13. When everyone else stops singing, you should stop also. Do not sing any notes you may have left over.
14. Blessed are those without perfect pitch, for the kingdom of music is theirs. ♥

**DEADLINE FOR THE  
AUGUST ISSUE OF  
HARMONOTES:  
JULY 28**

## Make An Effort To Patronize Our Sponsors!

### Heart of America CHORUS SPONSORS

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





# International 2009—The Best Ever?

by Jim Porter

This judges panel must have loved what they were seeing. The average score for the top 10 choruses was 91.3%, compared to 88.8% average from their respective October districts (not including the New Zealand score, which was unavailable).



*Union.* I reckon the only reason the *Ambassadors* and the *Vocal Majority* did not improve 3% is that they were pretty high (around 94%) in October and there isn't much room for improvement!

Consider that **Greg Lyne's** chorus (*Bay Area Metro*) improved over October by 1/2 percent and slipped from 4th to 8th place. This is because their competition all posted gains over 2.5%.

Consider also that *The Alliance* posted 90% and did not get a medal! Last year, the 3rd place chorus posted 89.8%. You might say it is getting crowded at the top. The 10th place score was 88.2%, a score that would have won a 5th place medal last year.

Even the second 10 scored better than in their districts last October. The average score for these choruses was 84.2% in Anaheim compared to 82.6% in the district competitions. Note that an 80% score would have placed 21st this year.

It is also interesting to note there are some falling stars. *Northbrook* scored 83.9% (14th) after 86.8% (7th) in district. *Heart of Texas Chorus* scored 77.8% (24th) after 84.1% (12th) at district. *Toronto Mega City* scored 75.6% (28th) after 79.3% (22nd) in their district.

The Most Improved award goes to *Southern Gateway Chorus*, with 87.9% (11th) after 83.3% (13th) in their district. It looks like they are on track to once again reassert themselves as a medalist chorus. But watch out for those Swedes. There's something special going on over there. New Zealand also has a pretty good thing going. Other choruses with improvements over 3% include *Great Northern Union*, *Sound of the Rockies*, *The Alliance*, *Alexandria Harmonizers*, and *Kentucky Vocal*

In the quartet competition, the judging panel also must have loved what they were seeing, as scores at Anaheim were generally higher than at the preliminary competitions last spring. For the top 20 quartets (excluding *Musical Island Boys*, for which no preliminary score was available), the scores at Anaheim averaged 2.57% higher than at the preliminary competitions.

All of the top 33 quartets posted increases over their preliminary competition scores.

The most improved quartets were *The Edge* and *'Round Midnight*, both improved over 6%. Others with 5% increases are medalists *Storm Front* and *Ringmasters*, also *The Party*, which had the lowest qualifying score in April but placed 27th at Anaheim.

Looking back, the performance by *Crossroads* (8433 pts, 93.7%) was the 2nd best gold medal performance posted since the current scoring system began in 1994. The best was 8453 by *Platinum* in 2000 (93.9%). The 3rd best was Max Q in 2007 with 8339 pts (92.7%). It is interesting to note that the only scoring penalty by any quartet was assessed against *Crossroads* in the semis. *The Gas House Gang* won in 1993 with a score that would adjust to 8392 points on the present scale, but was posted under the previous scoring system and can't be considered to be a valid comparison. ♥



June 4 **Kevin Tritsch**  
 June 6 **Phil Youngs**  
 June 11 **Maurice Smith**  
 June 11 **Duane Lawson**  
 June 11 **Don Fuson**  
 June 14 **Tony Strub**  
 June 15 **Dave Hokanson**  
 June 17 **Don Peck**  
 June 18 **Rod Rivard**  
 June 23 **Rob Mathieu**  
 June 23 **Dylan Mathieu**  
 June 25 **Al Fehlauer**  
 June 28 **Barry Sanders**  
 June 29 **Keith Schweer**

July 5 **Tom Forsythe**  
 July 6 **Marv Faulwell**  
 July 9 **Gene Hall**  
 July 10 **Alex Scott**  
 July 11 **Mike Templer**  
 July 12 **Al Moritz**  
 July 18 **Matt Moore**  
 July 20 **David Stockard**  
 July 21 **Mike Neff**  
 July 22 **Calvin Yoder**  
 July 23 **Howard Barrows**  
 July 25 **John Stock**  
 July 25 **Tom Wenner**  
 July 26 **David Miller**  
 July 29 **Joel Stockard**  
 July 30 **Vince Perry IV**





## It Couldn't Be Done



TURLIN

Hey Guys, as we look to the district contest this October, we once again gear up for an uphill battle, with both ourselves and the competition. Here's a poem by **Edgar A. Guest** from the 1800's that came to my attention

and I thought of us and the struggle that we have chosen.

### It Couldn't Be Done

Somebody said that it couldn't be done,  
but he with a chuckle replied  
That "maybe it couldn't" but he would be one  
who wouldn't say so till he'd tried.  
So he buckled right in with the trace of a grin  
on his face. If he worried he hid it.  
He started to sing as he tackled the thing  
that couldn't be done, and he did it.

Somebody scoffed: "Oh, you'll never do that:  
at least no one ever has done it";  
but he took off his coat and he took off his hat,  
and the first thing we knew he'd begun it.  
With a lift of his chin and a bit of a grin,  
without any doubting or quiddit,  
He started to sing as he tackled the thing  
that couldn't be done, and he did it.

There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,  
there are thousands to prophesy failure;  
there are thousands to point out to you one by one.  
The dangers that wait to assail you.  
But just buckle in with a bit of a grin,  
Just take off your coat and go to it;  
just start to sing as you tackle the thing  
that "cannot be done," and you'll do it.

These words reflect many of our feelings as we rehearse over and over, meeting after meeting, phrase after phrase. We need to remember these words of "just start to sing as you tackle the thing that cannot be done, and you'll do it". Every word, every note, from the heart. ♥

## 2009 Harmony Fest Photos Courtesy of Ron McIntire



*Above: Barbershoppers enjoying the big hamburger and hot dog feed.  
Below: Back In Business and Listen Up during their performances.*





# Summary of May 2009 Board Meeting

by Vince Perry/Ron McIntire

## FINANCE REPORT -

### Harvey Shapiro:

As of 04/30/2009

- Operating/Social fund - \$16,685.35
- Restricted Fund - \$8,850.32
- Net profit for the Spring Show is \$7,469.79 pending unforeseen adjustments.
- The Chapter received \$950 in response to the Annual Fundraiser letter.

## MARKETING/PUBLIC

### RELATIONS - Brad Dawdy

- Work has begun on the chapter website
- Due to poor response by the membership, the media committee will not form, but **Brad Dawdy** will continue current efforts on media promotion.

## OPERATIONS David Miller:

- One set of risers will not stand up straight. **Mike Schumacher** will contact **Wenger** for a replacement.
- Arrangements are complete for the transportation of risers to St. Joe joint for the Harmony Festival rehearsal.
- Securing the meeting hall at 7:30 p.m. and the Buddy System after hours is working fine.

## MUSIC & PERFORMANCE -

### Kent McClean:

- **Jim Henry** and **Cindy Hansen** coaching sessions were very successful. Cindy will be asked to return on a Tuesday night. Expenses will be shared with the *Kansas City Sweet Adelines* if funds are available.

- The Music Librarian has resigned but will stay on until a replacement is found.
- The Music Committee will develop agenda for rehearsal lengths and chorus qualifications.

## PROGRAM - Carl Turlin:

- All five *HOA* quartets contesting at International Prelims April 24-25 were invited to sing at an *HOA* meeting prior to the contest. *ListenUp!*, *Back in Business* and *Stepping Stones* performed.
- Singing For Life (*HOA* supporting community blood drive) is set for May 16, 2009. The chorus will sing from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. **Jerry Garrard** will direct.

## MEMBERSHIP - John Erwine

- The **Jim Henry** Coaching/Guest Night cookout sponsored by **Stew Grosser**, yielded three guests and several inactive members.
- Board members agreed to accept membership application of **Max Filmore** pending Bass Section Leader recommendation.

## Old Business:

### Annual Four Person Scramble

#### Golf Tournament - Kent Miller:

The event was successful. 56 players participated. Preliminary income statistics indicated a net \$3,200.

## Foundations & Grants -

### VP Kent Miller:

Miller will open an endowment account through the Truman Foundation for the KC Missouri Chapter of BHS, Inc under the name of *The Heart of America Chorus* using a \$500 donation from the Truman Foundation for the *HOA* Golf

Tournament as seed money pending follow up by the Board with a resolution as to the percentage of the account that may be used by the Chapter annually to sustain operations.

## Annual Show report -

### Doug Brott:

The Board agreed that in the future, the show ticket chairman must agree to track all ticket sales with the computer software Wintix owned by the Chapter.

## New Rehearsal Site Search -

### David Miller:

**Chuck Ames** will meet with St. Peter's to discuss our financial problems and our need to find a less expensive meeting place. He will ask if they are interested in renegotiating our contract.

## New Business:

### Budget

The Board agreed to work on revising the budget in an Executive Session during the month of May and make recommendations at the June 2009 Board Meeting.

## Recruiting Video

### President Brott:

Finding a producer and director to create a video similar to the YouTube video by the *Home-stead Harmonizers* is in progress. ♥





## Harmony Foundation Report

by Jim Porter



**Note** that we will have our raffle each time we meet in our regular location. One fourth of the proceeds is designated to Harmony Foundation and one fourth will be given to the Central States District

to help promote their programs to support and encourage Young Men in Harmony and other youth programs.

As of July 1st, after 29 drawings (9 since last report): The total collected for Harmony Foundation since the last report is \$315.

The total collected for the year to date (since Nov. 10, 2008) is \$2,792.

The total for the previous year was \$1,091.

The total in our best previous year (2006) was \$2,832. ♥

## Extra Mile Award



### Stew Grosser • April 2009

Above: HOA President **Doug Brott** (right) presents **Stew Grosser** with the Extra Mile Award!

For your willingness to share a portion of your HUGE JACKPOT cash prize winnings with your HOA brothers by hosting a hot dog and hamburger feed April 28, 2009.

Photo courtesy of **Ron McIntire**



## A TIP OF THE HAT!

*The Tip O' The Hat is recognition to both members and non-members who have made a recent contribution in time and effort to the betterment of the Kansas City, Missouri Chapter.*

Hats Off and a big Tip O' The Hat to **Mark Fortino, David Krause, Don Fuson, Jerry Garrard, Mike Neff, Byron Meyers**, the hot dog and hamburger lunch crew who fed everyone, the riser crew who muscled the risers in an out of the venue, the 125+ chorus members from the seven area barbershop chapters, and all the unsung heros who helped make the 2009 Harmony Festival, June 27, 2009 at Oak Park High School, a smashing success.

A Tip Of The Hat to **Rob and Haley Mathieu** on the arrival of **Ella Rose Mathieu** July 5.. ♥





# Heart of America Chorus Calendar

August 16  
Music In The Park

September 13  
HOA Annual Picnic  
Lake Quivira



*The Kansas City chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society is a singing fraternity whose mission is to learn, teach, and perform the highest-quality, entertaining, a cappella music that embraces the barbershop style through the Heart of America Chorus and its chapter quartets, to bring about a spiritual and emotional response from the performer and the audience.*

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