

HARMONOTES



Kansas City, Missouri's Heart of America Chorus

CHORUS AND QUARTET SINGING
IN THE BARBERSHOP STYLE



SECOND-OLDEST CHAPTER IN THE
BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY®

VOLUME 08 - ISSUE 1 - MARCH 2008

Harmony Explosion 2008!

by Tony Strub



Don Fuson



STRUB

On Saturday Feb. 16 from 9 am to 4 p.m., the auditoriums at Olathe East High school were filled with sounds of barbershop singing. *Zing* and *High Definition* wowed the early morning audience of students and teachers with world

class barbershop harmony. **Jerry Garrard** followed with vocal warm up exercises and a tag that had the students singing in the barbershop style like old pros. Jerry also directed the boys chorus activity with the members of *High Definition* as his teaching clinicians. **Helen Shores** directed the girls chorus with *Zing* as her teaching clinicians. The afternoon chorus performances were excellent and very entertaining.

Congratulations and a big "Well Done" to the teachers of the participating schools and the coaches from *HOA* and *KCCSA*! The students in the quartet competition this year were energetic, enthusiastic and well prepared. The quality of the singing and presentation was very impressive. Congratulations to all of the medal winners especially the division champions who will sing with *HOA* in our 2008 Spring Show.

I want to say a very special thank you to **Dr. Dwayne Dunn** and the Olathe East High School administration for once again being the host of Harmony Explosion. Thank you to the Down Town Rotary Club and the Hotel and lodging Association of Kansas City for their financial support. A big thank you also to *High Definition*, *Zing*, our Emcee **Al Higgins**, to our Directors **Jerry Garrard** and **Helen Shores**, to our judges and to all of the men and women of *HOA* and *KCCSA* who gave of their time and expertise to provide a memorable and very special day for our students. Without all of this help Harmony Explosion would not happen. ♥

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HARMONOTES

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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. 64105

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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!

Comments/submissions may be made to:

Todd Anderson (Editor)
2909 West Trevor Trail • Ozark, Mo. 65721-8438
(417) 581-2961 • andersonsdesign@centurytel.net

The HOA Board of Directors meets at 6 p.m. on the second Monday of the month, at the Johnson County Car License office, located at 6000 Lamar Avenue. Chapter members are welcome!

HOA Website: www.hoachorus.com
Web Address: webstaff@hoachorus.com
Chorus Manager & Webmaster - **Vince Perry**
Chapter Telephone: (816) 221-7888



HOA Financial Corner

by Kent Miller, Financial Committee



Would you (or someone you know) like to make a donation to the *Heart of America* Chapter in your Will and not have your heirs lose any of their inheritance? You can with a **Charitable Remainder Trust**.

There are several ways for members of *HOA* to make contributions to *HOA* and receive significant tax benefits. One of the best ways is to use a Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT), which greatly benefits both the donor and the beneficiary (*HOA*). If you play your cards right, your heirs would not lose any of their inheritance and everyone wins except the IRS.

Congress wants people to use trusts to benefit charities, so in 1969, they created a new type of trust that helped charities and not-for-profit organizations generate more revenue for their causes. The trust is technically a Charitable Uni-Trust, but is more commonly known as a Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT).

Once you set up a CRT, you designate a beneficiary (for our purposes *HOA*, but you can use multiple beneficiaries and change them at any time), you receive income from the trust during your lifetime, and then the charity receives the residual of the trust when you pass away.

The following is an example in which I used Real Estate with a value of \$500,000, but please do not fall into the trap of thinking that this only works with real estate or numbers like \$500,000. It works just as well with stocks, bonds, funds, and cash and will work with \$10,000 as easily as \$500,000 (or \$5,000,000).

The donor donates appreciated real estate worth \$500,000 to an *HOA* foundation. Assuming an original cost of \$100,000, the donor would save about \$60,000 in capital gains tax (that he would pay if he sold the property himself). The foundation sells the real estate (no tax) and invests the money in some growth vehicle averaging 10%.

The donor receives an immediate tax deduction of 30% (\$150,000), which in a combined bracket of 38% saves him \$57,000 in taxes the first year.

The donor takes 5% out each year (\$25,000) and uses it to pay the premiums on a \$500,000 life insurance policy with his heirs as beneficiaries.

When the donor dies, *HOA* would own the \$500,000 plus any appreciation. The donor's beneficiaries would receive the \$500,000 in life insurance proceeds, equal to their inheritance had the CRT not been set up.

Everybody wins! ♥





Congratulations to the 2008 HARMONY EXPLOSION WINNERS!

Photos courtesy of Don Fuson

◡ FIRST PLACE ◡



Sr. High Men 1st Place
Olathe East High School
Olathe, Kans.

"TOUCHE"



Sr. High Women 1st Place
Olathe East High School
Olathe, Kans.

"THE SENSATIONS"



Jr. High Men 1st Place
St. Thomas Aquinas High School,
Prairie Trail Jr. High, Oregon Trail Jr. High,
Prairie Center Elementary

"TOP NOTCH"



Jr. High Women 1st Place
Pioneer Trail Jr. High
Olathe, Kans.

"BIG MACK"

◡ SECOND PLACE ◡



Sr. High Men 2nd Place
Center Restoration School,
Oak Grove High School

"HUBCAPS"



Sr. High Women 2nd Place
Center Restoration School

"SWEET SERENADES"



Jr. High Men 2nd Place
Pioneer Trail Jr. High
Olathe, Kans.

**"HARMONY
HUSTLUZ"**



Jr. High Women 2nd Place
Pioneer Trail Jr. High
Olathe, Kans.

"FOOTNOTES"

◡ THIRD PLACE ◡



Sr. High Men 3rd Place
Bishop Miege High School

**"Lil' John &
The Flames"**



Sr. High Women 3rd Place
Olathe East High School
Olathe, Kans.

"HAPPY EVERAFTERS"



Jr. High Men 3rd Place
Pioneer Trail Jr. High
Olathe, Kans.

"RIP CHORD"



Jr. High Women 3rd Place
California Trail Jr. High
Olathe, Kans.

"B DAZZLED"



A WORK OF HEART!



*Many dedicated, talented individuals invested time and energy to ensure HOA'S 2008 Singing Valentine campaign ran smoothly!
(Above, left to right) Rick Foreman, John Erwin, Pat Ross (KC Sweet Adelines) and New Member Mike Templer help with checking Singing Valentine orders and book keeping; Dick O'Dell (helper), Ron McIntire (Computer Processing) and Rick Foreman (helper) do a little hands-on computer work; and at the end of a long day, Chairman Marlin Weidler looks for a place to sit. - Photos courtesy of Ron McIntire*



Above left: from l to r, Jerry Garrard, Mike O'Dell, Kent Miler and Doug Brott deliver a Singing Valentine to the Marriott Hotel-Courtyard staff; Don Fuson, Marlin Weidler, Carl Turlin and Mark Yeokum at the Gardner, KS City Hall with many of the City Government Ladies, hosted by Mike Gardner (in front)



From left to right, Marlin Weidler, Carl Turlin and Mark Yeokum at Jones-Marshall (Clothing Distributor) in Olathe, at Layne-Christianson Engineering in Westwood where Marlin works, at Bubba's Restaurant in Olathe on 151st Street - the valentines was for Paul, who said he was "nervous" when we walked in; (he had already brought the flowers for his friend with the big smile who purchased the SV), and...



...from far left, at Prairie Life Center on 151st Street; and Mark Yeokum (Frank Thorne Member, Tenor), Carl Turlin, Bev Weidler, Marlin Weidler and Don Fuson posing for cupid's camera.



Ron McIntire

Don Fuson

Don Fuson

Don Fuson

Don Fuson

Don Fuson

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 Wednesday, Feb. 20, and 12 drawings so far:

- The total raised for Harmony Foundation in the past month is \$110.
- The total raised for the year to date (since Nov. 15, 2007) is \$385.
- Last year, the total raised to date was \$643.
- In 2006, the total raised to date was \$1,589.
- The last year with a lower total to date was 2002, it was then \$379.

Our latest big winner was **Ron McIntire**, who won \$120 on Feb. 5! ♥



March 4 **Ron McIntire**
 March 6 **David Krause**
 March 16 **Eric Weber**
 March 17 **Don Young**
 March 23 **Charles Ramirez**
 March 29 **Jerry Meier**
 March 29 **Jake Wozniak**

Qualifying Process Tweaked

by Carter Combs, HOA Chorus Director



You've heard the rumors about our changing performance qualification process. Here's the deal:

Yes, it's true! No taping!

We will no longer interrupt rehearsals for several weeks in a row to try to get "perfect" recordings from each member. Instead, section leaders will listen and evaluate during sectionals and rehearsals. Section leaders may request one-on-one time or a tape from individuals who need more assistance mastering the music.

Yes, it's true! Less dancing!

Since our primary emphasis right now is better singing, we are reducing and simplifying the visual plan. Presentation team members may request one-on-one time with individuals who need more assistance mastering the unified visual package. (This offer may expire after July, 2008)

Yes, it's true! No minimum attendance requirements!

We recognize that life happens, and some of us cannot be at every rehearsal. We also realize that some performers have sufficient barbershop competition experience to add quality to the chorus performance with fewer rehearsals, while others may need more repetitions with the chorus to master the package.

In short, our goal is to qualify everyone who provides a positive impact on the performance. The directors and section leaders will determine who performs. We will simply expect all members to take on the individual responsibility to live up to the *HOA* mission statement:

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. ♥

**DEADLINE FOR THE APRIL
ISSUE OF HARMONOTES:**

MARCH 25



More About HOA Chorus Directors by Wade Dexter, Editor Emeritus

The recent change of music directors that the *Heart of America Chorus* has undergone, plus the death of former director, **Don Webb**, have prompted a suggestion from our own **Don Fuson**, that somebody put together an article for our bulletin naming the string of music directors of our chorus since it's inception away back in 1938. Because I had acquired an interest in that very subject, and had included one observation in the "Ten Years Ago" segment of "A Look at the Past in Harmonotes" in the June 2007, bulletin, I told Don that I'd be happy to describe for you what my research has revealed.

There was somewhat of a controversy over who was HOA's very first music director. I had found in a special edition of the December 1955 *Harmonotes*, something about a fellow named **Tom "Moonlight" Murphy** being our first arm-waver. When I published that fact in a column in our bulletin called "Barber Trivia," I got a call from **Frank Leone**, who told me that my answer was wrong, that 59-year member **Orval Wilson** had told him one time, long ago, that Murphy wanted the job but couldn't handle it. According to Frank, Orval told him that our first music director was one **Jimmy Fern**. You may recall that I included these facts in "A Look at the Past in Harmonotes" in the June 2007 edition.

One day, back in December of 2007, I received an e-mail from a gentlemen named **Edward J. Fern**, who lives in Mission Viejo, California. He did not identify himself, or reveal anywhere in his message that he was a member of a barbershop chapter, or even belonged to the Society. Let me quote from his message:

"I've just done a Google search on "Jimmy Fern" and found what appears to be the June '07 edition of the news letter of an organization called, "Harmonettes," in which you report that my father was your first director.

"My dad was born in an unincorporated place called West Mineral, Kansas, very near the entrance to the Star mine, where Irish folks were able to find work. When my dad reached high school, he came under the influence of a music teacher who informed him that each year Emporia State Teachers' College offered a free ride to (any student) applicant simply because he or she was able to play (any) instrument they happened to need in their orchestra. My dad spent the next four years learning to play every instrument represented in the Emporia State orchestra.

"He moved to Kansas City in 1930, because his teaching contract was not renewed at Ellsworth, Kansas, High School. Apparently, music and penmanship were expendable courses (during) the depression. My dad offered individual voice and piano lessons, conducted a chorus for a local brewery, a quartet for a funeral home and band concerts for the city recreation department. He also had a weekly radio show on WDAF until he missed one show because he was at the hospital for my own birth in January of 1945. The next year, he became the first "Muzak" (elevator music) salesman west of the Mississippi River. Dad passed away in 1993. I miss him.

"Yes, Dad had little tolerance for inattention. When he called his little boy to supper, I had better respond to the first call, or there would be a swat on the rear waiting for me at the front door when I finally showed up.

"So I will assert that your organization enjoys the great benefit of having been under the direction of a great man who started life in a two-room house, brought joy and laughter to nearly everyone he ever met and finished his journey in quiet dignity. Best of everything with your continuation of his legacy. - Ed"

Wow, quite a revelation, isn't it? If Frank Leone never knew Jimmy Fern, and Orval Wilson was acquainted with him, but was never able to provide us with more information regarding the subject—probably nobody ever asked him—it's unlikely that we'll ever have positive affirmation that Jimmy Fern was the HOA Chorus' first music director.

As for the list of HOA music directors over the years, the voids among the early issues in my collection of *Harmonotes* make it difficult to find out who was appointed to the position, when did he accept it, how long did he hold it, and who replaced him. Another obstacle was the fact that emphasis back in those days was placed on quartets, and there were only infrequent mentions of the chorus and their directors.

In a special issue of *Harmonotes*, dated December, 1950, that honored **Joe Stern**, I found a short mention of a **Don Stephens** as our chorus director. Then, in a bunch of *Harmonotes* given to me by **Lester Jackson**, I found in the Sept., 1965, issue an article headed "SPEBSQSA History," by **Ray Koenig**, that read as follows: "On May 24, 1957, a special show was held at the London Heights Methodist Church. The show was a success, but it marked the final appearance of **Don Stephens** as the chapter chorus director. Don had been the director for about 10 years, and was the chapter president in 1955 and 1956 ... **LaVerne Cable**, assistant director for several years, announced his resignation due to health and pressing school duties, but stayed on until a new director could be located."

In that same issue, it was said that Joe Stern was the one who organized the chorus into four parts (wonder how they were singing prior to that), that resulted in the possibility that "this may be the first real barbershop chorus in the country."

(Continued of page 7 ♦♦)

(Continued from front page 6)

I'm unable to find anything in my meager collection of *Harmonotes* publications that tells of the arrival of Don Webb and his appointment as our chorus music director. However, it's apparent that he held that position during the late 1960s. I know that he was the *HOA* director in 1965 when I joined the St. Joseph chapter. **Jim Bagby** tells me that Don was our director when he transferred to the Kansas City chapter in the fall of 1971. He recalls that when Don Webb resigned, **Dan Henry** became the director on an interim basis, with Jim and Steve Leone as assistants.

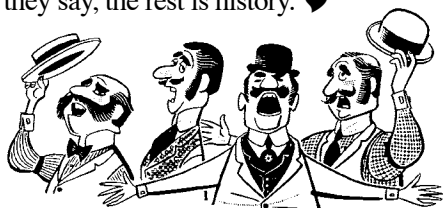
In the fall of 1973, Jim says, then chapter president **Al Moritz** asked him to be the director, starting in 1974. "I was taken aback," says Jim, "because Steve had more seniority, having been an assistant to Don Webb. But Al said the board didn't think Steve was ready, so I took over and made Steve my associate."

When I transferred from the Lawrence chapter to Kansas City late in 1984, I was motivated by the opportunity to sing under the direction of Jim Bagby. You can imagine my disappointment that in December of that year, there were two articles in the *HOA* bulletin, one by Jim, who sang his swan song as the *HOA* director, and **Steve Leone**, who announced his appointment as Jim's replacement. (I seem to recall that Jim's resignation was more of a sabbatical, during which he would focus on the *Rural Route 4* and their resolve to win the international championship.) And Steve was well qualified, and indeed took the chorus to Central States District championships in 1984 and 1986.

When Steve Leone resigned at the end of 1987, **David Krause** stepped forward and accepted the position of music director. He had joined the Society and the Kansas City chapter in 1975 and had served as assistant director in 1983 and associate director in 1986. He led the chorus to second place finishes in district competition in 1988 and 1989.

It was a surprise announcement at the end of the May 22, 1990, regular chapter meeting, that David announced his decision to resign, effective July 1 of that year. In a note he later handed to *HOA* President **Bob Howard**, David said, "It seems that my goals and the goals of the majority of the chapter membership are not in agreement at this time." Fortunately for all of us, David assured us that he intended to continue as an active member of the chapter, which happily led to his recent acceptance of the position upon Jim Bagby's retirement.

And so, as they say, the rest is history. ♥



Donald G. Webb (1919-2008)

by Ron McIntire



Ron McIntire

You may not have heard the words "When **Don Webb** was....," or "... didn't he sing under Don Webb?" But the name, Don Webb, will always be an important part of the history of the Kansas City Missouri Chapter and *Heart of America Chorus*.

Don was born in Independence, MO, in 1919, and for 88 years he lived a full life. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge during WWII with the U.S.

Army Combat Engineers and was awarded the Bronze Star. He built homes for a living after the war and helped raise two children always encouraging them to have a strong musical background. He directed the Independence Sweet Adeline's *Trailblazers* chorus for 15 years, coached quartets and from 1957 to 1971, directed the *Heart of America Chorus*. He served as chapter president in 1959 and 1960 and was named Barbershopper of the Year in 1963. Music, singing and barbershopping were his passion. Though he and his wife, **Lorraine**, divorced after 26 years of marriage, they became best friends and for the last 40 years they spent time together, many times attending Barbershop shows. She was with him every day during his last illness.

Many knew Don as a musician but everyone knew him as a friend and mentor. He always had a smile and communicated with the chorus often with just a nod. He always regretted that *HOA* never won a District Contest under his direction.

On May 3, 2005, the *Heart of America Chorus* honored him with a "Tribute to Don Webb" night. Some of the past members who sang under his direction were there to remember those days and shake his hand. Lorraine was there too. She recalled later that "he rode high in the clouds for days afterward."

Ed: Don wrote a thank you letter to the chapter a few days later that appeared in the June 2005 issue of Harmonotes.

Don Webb, barbershopper, musician, friend, died Feb 6, 2008 of kidney failure.

The following fourteen members of the *Heart of America Chorus* sang "Precious Lord" and "Friends" at the 2 p.m. funeral service, Feb. 10, at Mount Washington Forever Funeral Home. ♥

David Krause: Director
Dan Henry Bowser
Ron Abel
Bruce Wenner
Dale Neuman
Mike Mathieu
Vince Perry

Marty Oldehoeft
Ron McIntire
Mike O'Dell
Keith Schweer
Carter Combs
Jim Porter
Bob Howard



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



DEXTER

TEN YEARS AGO: MARCH, 1998

You know, I often feel I can refer to myself as an “old-timer,” with 43 years as a member of the Barbershop Harmony Society, and 84 milestones down the road to eternity. But I’m acutely aware that there’s a half-dozen or so chapter members who may not be as far down that road as I am but with a few more years of BHS membership. Nevertheless, I feel a bit of nostalgia when I recall some of the guys with whom I’ve barbershopped over many years.

I wonder how many of you *HOA* guys remember a fellow named **Walter Wendell Cochren**? Recently, while browsing through the March issue of *Harmonotes*—remember, it was published quarterly that year—for stuff to use for this, the March 2008 edition of our chapter bulletin, I came across a flashback—you could call it a “remembrance,” like *The Kansas City Star*—by the late **Manley Vance** in which he commemorated “Wendell”—as we called him—and his many years as a Barbershopper.

According to Manley, “Walter Wendell started his barbershop experience as a charter member of the *Pride of the Northland* chorus in 1972. With that chorus, Wendell was the bass in a quartet called the *North Chords*, with **Rich Huyck** (bari), **Rollie Fletcher** (lead) and **Rolly Boyles** (tenor). *The North Chords* competed at the spring prelims at St. Joe in 1975. He later sang bass with the *Heck-sa-Decibels* with **Rich Huyck** (bari) **Walter Bates** (lead) and **Dick Henderson** (tenor).

“Wendell joined the *Heart of America Chorus* in 1977 and competed with *HOA* in all of the district and international contests in which the chorus participated until his health dictated otherwise. During these years, he also competed at the district quartet contest level as bass in the *Principle Ingredients*, with **Rod Flater** (bari), **Manley Vance** (lead) and **Dick Henderson** (tenor).

“To say that Wendell was an avid Barbershopper is indeed an understatement. Odds are that Wendell has already made himself known to the director of the most magnificent chorus of all, the *Angelic Hosts*. Membership open to all.”

TWENTY YEARS AGO: MARCH, 1988

Can you imagine the Kansas City Chapter inviting the *Vocal Majority*—and Director **Jim Clancy**—to come to our fine city and put on a performance for the local public --- plus a probably generous share of the Central States District? Well, the minutes of the Dec., 1987, chapter board meeting, as presented in the Jan., 1988, issue of *Harmonotes*, reveal that this idea had been in the minds of the board members for some time, and had been under negotiation. It was planned that the four-times international barbershop chorus champions—at that time—were to put on a performance at the University of Missouri-Kansas City during the week-end of Aug. 6-7, provided *HOA* would provide \$20,000 to help to finance the cost of bringing the VM here. Chapter President **Marv Faulwell** had proposed a Saturday evening appearance at the Music Hall and another on the UMKC campus the following afternoon.

Well, it was fortunate that the members of the *HOA* board of directors finally came to their senses and realized that the members would not be able to sell enough tickets to compensate the VM for their expenses. The matter was tabled pending further negotiations. However, there’s nothing in the “Board Report” in the March *Harmonotes*, but we all remember that the idea was ditched.

FORTY YEARS AGO: MARCH, 1968

Had to resort to the March 1968 issue for something of interest in the this column of the February edition of *Harmonotes*. Remember the *Nighthawks*? They were from London, Ontario, Canada, and were to headline the 22nd Annual Parade of Quartets—that’s what we called our annual shows back in those days, because the emphasis was on quartet performance rather than the chorus—and were the international medalists in 1961, 1962, 1963 and 1964. Also appearing on the program were the *Vigortones*, of Cedar Rapids, and our own *Skyliners* and *Merry Mugs*.

And Editor **Don Thorne** reports that, after 15 years, the *Rudy Fick Royalties* had finally gotten their picture frame and hung in the sacred halls of Harmony Hall at Kenosha. Wonder if it’s still there?

And the list of recent guests included a fellow by the name of **Milt Grafrath**. Why does that ring a familiar bell? Lemme know for the next issue of *Harmonotes*.♥



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.

A Tip of the Top Hat to the Magnificent Seven: **Carter Combs, Barry Sanders, Vince Perry, Chuck Ames, John Landry, Brad Dawdy** and **Doug Brott**, who spent a great deal of time and effort to finding, evaluating and select a new director of the *Heart of America Chorus*.

A big Tip 'O the Hat to the crew who organized and managed the 2008 Singing Valentine effort: **Marlin Weidler** and **John Erwine**; the crew who worked in the office to take orders, put together candy, rose and card packages and answer phones: **John Erwine, Ron McIntire, Pat Ross** (Kansas City Sweet Adelines), new member, **Mike Templer, Rick Foreman** and **Dick O'Dell**; and the nine male quartets and four female quartets who dodged traffic throughout the Kansas City area and surrounding counties, on both sides of the state line, to deliver 175 Singing Valentines.

A special Tip Of The Hat to our stalwart and favorite quartet, Command Performance: **Rich Huyck, Carter Combs, Monty Duerksen** and **John Gathright**, for making time to appear on early morning TV to deliver a Singing Valentine to the news anchors of Channel 9 TV and promote our Singing Valentine program. ♥

Busy Month for *Tone-Henge* by Ol' Bruce



Tone-Henge has spent the last month singing to old ladies. We mean OLD. Two of them were celebrating their 100th birthdays, and several others were in their nineties. They fooled us, though – some of them looked like they weren't a day over seventy-five. Which meant that **Dan** related to them perfectly.

Singing Valentines was a change of pace – this time the ladies were 50-60 years younger. This was the ninth SV for *Tone-Henge*, and we always have a great time. Especially with the balmy weather this year! And in spite of our croaking baritone – **Jim** had sung himself out at a barbershop jamboree the previous weekend, and on Valentine's Day his voice was doing some very interesting things.

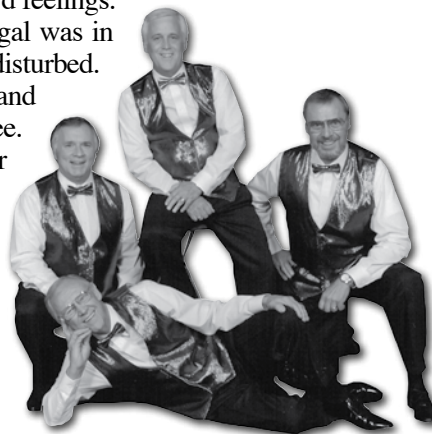
We use the pipes to start with, and then either "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" or "Heart Of My Heart." The former gets a grateful and sentimental reaction, but the latter really brings on the gushers. Maybe the gals are trying to tell us something.

Every year something goes a little out of kilter. This year it was a valentine a guy bought for his former girl friend. That's right – *former*. And, apparently, former by way of some hard feelings.

When we went to deliver it the gal was in conference and could not be disturbed.

We went to deliver a few others, and called back to see if she was free.

She informed us she had left for the day and had no interest in being serenaded courtesy of old what's-his-name. Funny thing, though – an hour later she called back and asked us to sing her a song on the cell phone (of course we did so). This one was a first for us. ♥



CORRECTION

THANKS to Ron Abel for catching a faux pas in our February issue. It occurred on page 7 "A Trip Into Barbershop History." The caption under the quartet picture was incorrect. Ron states:

From left to right: Don McPherson, tenor (he could also sing good bass); Bob Turner, lead; Bert Phelps (always the baritone) and a very young Pete Tyree. Both Bob and Pete were former HOA chapter members. "Bob Turner" is incorrectly listed ahead of Don McPherson. And I'm quite sure Don's last name is "McPherson" not McPerson.



Summary of February 2008 Board Meeting

by Rick Foreman/Ron McIntire

TREASURERS REPORT: Harvey Shapiro

Operating Fund \$16,373.88; \$11,725.59 Members Fund; \$6,577.26 in the

MARKETING: Brad Dawdy/Dick Korek

1,800 Spring Show pocket info cards were printed for the quartets to hand out at their stops for Singing Valentines. Any left over will be available at rehearsal.

John Knox Village has asked us to consider a show date of Oct. 18, 2008. They will pay between \$2,500 and \$3,000 for the performance. Dick is working with the Music Team to secure this date.

OPERATIONS: Quotes are being secured for new risers.

MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE VP: Carter Combs

The Music Team and director are working out the transition to the new director.

OLD BUSINESS

Spring Show Update: The songs for the show have been selected and finalized and the quartets have been lined up. Ticket sales are going well, the center section for both shows are almost sold out.

Singing Valentines: The candy has not arrived as yet but the vendor has assured us it will be here in time. Cell phones have been lent by Verizon.

Harmony Explosion: **Tony Strub**, Harmony Explosion is now fully staffed.

Foundation Report: We have been talking with the Truman Heartland Foundation. The Foundation who has a group of donors they go to for charitable donations. They charges 1% user fee for their work. They require a minimum investment of \$5,000 to establish a relationship. The Board agreed to allocate \$10,000 for this purpose.

Meeting Location: The Board agreed to hold board meetings at St. Thomas Catholic Church, 118th and Holmes. They have three rooms suitable for our monthly meeting. They require a minimal donation and to sing for the church.

Past Presidents Pins: The Board agreed to purchase six Past Presidents pins at \$16.95 each, for distribution to past presidents.

NEW BUSINESS:

Request to use Risers: The Board agreed to lend the Kansas City Sweet Adelines our risers for their regional contest on April 3-6, 2008. ♥



Ron McIntire

In honor of Tony Strub's wedding, he (Tony) contracted with Jerry Sheridan (right) to provide Sheridan's Custard treats for the chapter. Dick Korek (left) and an unknown employee of Jerry's help gather together the frozen treats.

Music Position Available



St. Paul's United Methodist Church has an opening for a Director of a men's chorus. The group is called *The Acafellas* and mainly sings barbershop style harmony. Current membership of the group is 8-12. Rehearsal is on Saturday mornings. The group is to perform in Sunday services every six weeks and other times as appropriate.

The duties of the Director are:

1. Select and purchase, within the confines of the budget, (TTBB) music.
2. Conduct weekly 60 minute rehearsals beginning in the month of August and continuing into May.
3. Seek and encourage new members in the group.
4. For those Sundays when the group is performing, provide the information for the bulletin to the church office in a timely manner.

Qualifications:

Required –

1. A strong commitment to quality music specifically geared to male voices
2. An enthusiastic desire to better the group through quality practices and performances.
3. Knowledge of and ability to employ standard music directing & teaching skills including new music research.

Desirable –

1. Prior experience directing a men's group
2. Able to play the piano for practice sessions and as needed for performances

This position is based on 2 to 3 hours a week. Please contact Rev. **Jim Darby** at 913-26809551 or jimdarby@stpaulslenexa.org. ♥



February Barbershoppers of the Month!



Ron McIntire

Don Fuson & Carl Turlin

Above: HOA President **Doug Brott** (center) presents **Don Fuson** (left) and **Carl Turlin** with the Jan. 2007 BOTM!

Don Fuson - In grateful appreciation for your work coordinating, and managing the 2008 Kansas City Missouri Chapter Awards and Installation Banquet, Jan. 5, 2008

Carl Turlin - In grateful recognition for your work collecting "This is your life, Jim Bagby" information and helping to prepare the program for the Kansas City Chapter Installation and Awards Banquet, Jan. 5, 2008 ♥

Xtra Mile Award Winners!



Ron McIntire

John Landry, Chuck Ames, Barry Sanders, Doug Brott (see below), Vince Perry, (not shown) Carter Combs, Brad Dawdy

In grateful recognition and appreciation for your work on the Director Search Committee to find, interview and evaluate a new director for the *Heart of America Chorus*.

Doug Brott

In grateful recognition of your work as Chairman of the Director Search Committee to find, interview and evaluate a new director for the *Heart of America Chorus*.

Heart of America CHORUS SPONSORS



Support the

Heart of America Barbershop Chorus!

Consider being a sponsor to financially assist the *Heart of America Barbershop Chorus*. HOA has been performing in our community for over 60 years and will continue to educate youngsters about the fun and excitement of four-part harmony. HOA is one of the top 15 choruses in the world and a member of the Barbershop Harmony Society. Founded in Kansas City in 1938, the Barbershop Harmony Society has over 800 chapters and over 30,000 members worldwide. HOA has hosted several District and International Conventions to the Kansas City community in the last 50 years. These events have an economic impact of over \$50,000,000 to our community. In 2011, Kansas City will, for the sixth time, host the International Convention. The *Heart of America Barbershop Chorus* needs your support. Note that HOA "is Kansas City" wherever they appear on the International stage.

Thanks for your continued financial support to the *Heart of America Barbershop Chorus* and the economic growth in the Kansas City community.

DONOR LEVELS:

Patron	\$10,000 and above
Benefactor	\$5,000 - \$9,999
Donor	\$1,000 - \$4,999
Promoter	\$500 - \$999
Supporter	\$250 - \$499
Friend	\$100 - \$249
Contributor	up to \$99

All donations over \$100 receive a "Friend of HOA" pin.

Make Checks out to - HOA Chorus 2008

Please send your contribution to:

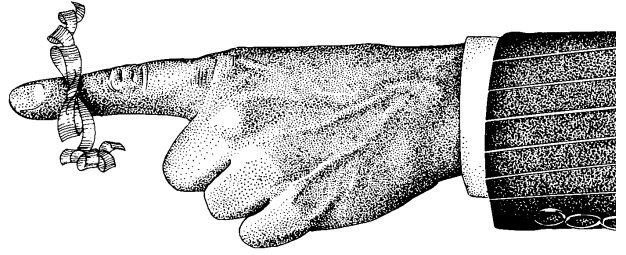
Harvey Shapiro, Treasurer

Heart of America Barbershop Chorus

1117 SW Pacific Dr.

Lee's Summit, MO 64081-3242

Heart of America Chorus Calendar



- March 1** HOA sings at Colonial Presbyterian for an evening songfest, 7 p.m.
March 28 HOA Technical Rehearsal at Johnson County Community College
March 29 62nd Annual Show at Yardley Hall in The Carlson Center, in the Johnson County Community College, 12345 College Blvd. Overland Park, Kans., 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
April 12 Topeka Chapter Show, TWO SHOWS! 2:30 & 7 p.m., with guest quartet *Crossroads*
April 18-20 Central States District Spring Convention, Iowa City, Iowa
May 16-17 HOA Retreat in Excelsior Springs
June 2 Kansas City Chapter of Barbershop Harmony Society founded in 1938
July 1-5 2008 Barbershop Harmony Society International Chorus Contest, Nashville, Tenn.
 (HOA sings 6th in the afternoon on Friday, July 4)

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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