

Harmonotes

March 2000

The Quarterly Newsletter Of Kansas City's Heart Of America Chorus

Spring Issue

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



SPRING SHOW IS TALENT-FULL

by Mike Schumacher, 2000 Show Chairman

Wow, I'm not sure how we could put more talent and energy into our spring show unless we expanded it to 3 hours. *Not!!* Nonetheless, you should be making plans to be on the show and selling tickets to every living soul you know. I have gone as far as to personally guarantee a great time for all the people going from my church. Satisfaction guaranteed with our customers is pretty easy thing to provide when you have an exciting guest quartet, UPTOWN SOUND plus 6 chapter quartets. The winners of our Youth Outreach contest will sing for us and that is always fun. And the music that the chorus is doing will definitely show off the talent this chorus has always had (and we keep getting better with the help of our wonderful music team and **Mike Nef f**). If you've been to our rehearsals lately, you have to realize that the energy level is constantly being reinforced by our director, **Gordon Lankenau** and his assistants **Darrell McCune & Mike Nef f**. You have got to see this show or miss something truly special.

By the time you read this, it will be too late to buy or sell ads for this year's program BUT there should be plenty of time to sell, sell, sell those tickets. I have said over and over again, I believe that this chorus, this International caliber chorus is one of the best kept secrets in Kansas City and personally I'm tired of it. Our publicity staff is going to arrange some great appearances for us this year but let's toot our own horn and toot it loud!!!

Please sell, sell, sell those tickets. Give everyone you see **Al Higgins** phone number (816-765-3434) and let's see if we can make it ring off the wall.

I hope you can tell, I'm very excited about this show and I hope all of you are to. If any of the non-singing members would like to volunteer to help usher or work back stage or at the cast party (for tickets see **Jim Davis**), give me a call. One person can't do it, it's going to take a group effort. *Make that a Chapter effort!* ~

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JUNE 3 AT ARROWHEAD STADIUM
HOA suits up!

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:

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CHAPTER INFORMATION

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FROM THE TOP OF OUR HEART

By Dick Irwin

Valentines singing was a blast this year. On Sunday morning I filled in with *Arpeggio* for one delivery. It turns out the recipient recognized me from work. Then on Monday I sang with a quartet I called *Hugs and Kisses* (it's the first quartet name I ever used in barbershopping). I did my best to scratch out an acceptable lead part while **Gordon L., Eric Weber** and **David Bousema** did their best to hold me up. Thanks guys. The final numbers are being tabulated by **Dick Sutton** and his worthy crew and are found elsewhere in this issue. I think Dick and his helpers deserve more than just an attaboy. Year after year they continue to put a great effort into getting this organized and run. Great job, Dick, and your crew!

February was one of the months **Dan Henry** targeted as a "non-push" month for our 200-in-2000 program. It didn't seem to matter much as we still had lots of new faces at most of our meetings. We've been doing a pretty good job of attending to the new-comers. I think if there were something more we could do to make the chorus seem that much better it would be to show more riser discipline and be more on time in getting on the risers. Remember, we have only one chance to make a first impression! Let's make it our best effort!

KC2000 (also known as Music Man 2000) is fast approaching. The chair-persons are beginning to make final plans for their areas. International is reporting excellent numbers in registrations. We are nearing what could be one of the finest International conventions ever. It could be and will be if we all make the effort to help. We will be needing nearly 400 volunteers during the convention week. We have received indications from several CSD choruses that they are willing to volunteer the assistance of their entire membership. We are the HOST chorus for this convention. The way I see it we should have no less than 100% of our members (those who are able obviously) signed up as volunteers. It takes only two 4-1/2 hour shifts to earn one of the wonderful shirts the chorus has selected. What a bonus! It has one of the nicest embroidered logos I've ever seen. I'm looking forward to wearing mine with pride. But, mostly I'm looking forward to looking back at how successful we were with this convention. I want the society to remember Kansas City 2000 for a long, long time. How about you??? Fill out a volunteer form now if you haven't already.

Last and far from least this month: We are about to present our 54th annual show. A lot of effort has gone into preparing for this performance. We need to continue to focus on our individual efforts as we near curtain time. This chorus is a team. The team can only perform its' best when each member of the team performs their best. As you practice your part think about how it blends with the other parts to make a whole. Think about how you can know your part well enough that the people around you will feel your confidence. No leaders...No learners!!! Let's give 'em the best darned show they've ever seen!!!! ~



FROM THE FRONT

By Gordon Lankenau, Director

What an exciting year we have ahead of us. Bear with me as I refer to the year in terms of a football game. The staff is all working hard to insure that every aspect of the game is prepared. Beginning with

practice, every attempt is being made to include activities in which every player can contribute to the best of their ability. Time for some self-analysis!! What kind of player are you and what kind of performer do you want to become?

Are you a starter or first string player who gives his best effort at all times, whether in practice or the big game? Are you a "go to" guy that can be counted on to do what has to be done even if it does not benefit you directly? Do you willingly accept assignments and coaching to improve your performance level, realizing that there is always room for improvement? Are you the kind of player who can be counted on to recruit other players or help that rookie player get through his first year? Do you go out of your way to let people know what team you play for and how proud you are to be a part of such a great group? All kinds of teams need cheerleaders too!

Regardless of what type of player you are or have the potential to become, PLEASE DON'T BE an armchair quarterback—or worse yet, a spectator who sits idly by watching the things go on around him, knowing full well that all you have to get in the game is simply get up and show the staff that you're ready to play. You had the potential all along. The more we have on our team, think of the possibilities of getting the jobs no one wants to do done more efficiently so that more time can be spent enjoying the fruits of our labors.

It is first and ten, gentlemen. It's early in the game. We have shows in March and June, potential performances every month, International to host, and activities planned throughout the year that all have a great impact on the future of our group. I look forward to being a part of that future. How about YOU???? Contact any board member, officer or music committee member of interest. No reasonable offer refused!!!! ~

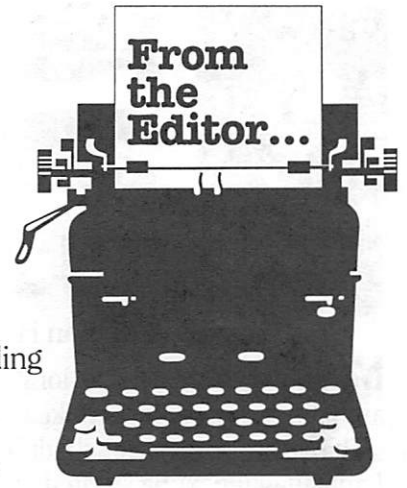
Editor's note: Since Gordon already brought up "football", check out the article on page 9 regarding June 3rd!

With this issue of *Harmonotes*, I take on the role of Editor. Up to now, I have enjoyed providing only the print production effort for HOA via **Dale**

Neuman. Dale has been a treat to work with. Ya know, it's crazy seeing how many HOA positions he has held over the years. I'll guess there are others that have done the same,...*but I'm guessin' there's not many!*

These are exciting days at HOA. Lots of ambitious plans are under way and **Dick Irwin** (Assistant Editor) and I look forward to bringing you, the reader, the up-to-date scoop on everything that's taking place (*gee, I'm already starting to sound like Tom Brokaw*). You'll have this quarterly newsletter, and the months you *don't* you'll receive *Harmonotes Express*—an abbreviated compilation of chapter happenings. While digging for newsletter material is our assignment, we still can't do it all by ourselves. It takes each of you, taking time out to *provide* information about your specific area of service or quartet, garnering the necessary *photos*, etc. If we don't get that kind of support, then there's not much for these editors to work with.

Don't be afraid to let us hear from you. Tell us what you don't like, what you *do* like (especially *that* part!),...perhaps what you'd like to see more of. We'll always do our best to comply. ~



At your service,

TODD ANDERSON
Editor





200 in 2000 UPDATE

by Dan Henry

Man the oars!! Our year-long voyage is under way, and all us sailors are going to have to pull like mad to weather the seas ahead of us!

The busiest one-year schedule HOA has ever attempted lies ahead. Landfall will next be sighted on January 1, 2001. Between now and then we will have accomplished more than in any 12-month period since the chapter began! *Think of it!* Valentines, regular chapter show in March, an extra chapter show in June, hosting International, the Holiday Spectacular, bellringing...and all the additional performances under the 200 in 2000 plan, including "Music In The Park" and the Park College performance with the Sweet Adelines.

Whatever you do, don't let go of your oar now!!!!

The seas ahead aren't rough. In fact, it'll be one of the most enjoyable years of our barbershopping lives. But each and every member of our crew is going to have to pull like mad, or our little happy ship is gonna flounder.

Just a word about the monthly sing-outs. The schedule is almost complete. I've been reluctant to list performances in February (Valentines), July (Int'l), and December (Holiday Spec and bells), but there are some venues waiting in the wings, so two or three additional performances could still be scheduled. An up-date is posted on our bulletin board each week. Please read and reserve these dates on your personal calendar.

I'm sure glad to be a member of this crew!

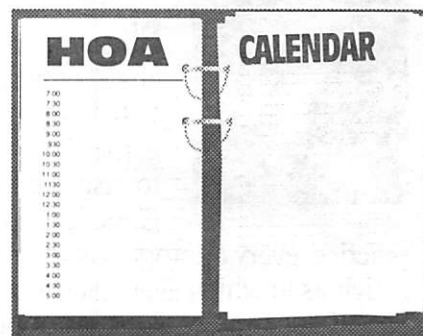
I can swim, but I'd rather sing! ~

UNIFORM MANAGER NEEDED

After several years of dedicated service **Marty Oldehoeft** would like to take a breather from his duties as Chorus Uniform Manager. This leaves the chorus needing someone to fill his shoes (so to speak). The uniform manager is responsible for distributing all chorus uniform pieces, coordinating ordering of replacement uniform items, ensuring that all new chorus members are properly uniformed, tracking of uniform items that are not purchased by individual members, and several other uniform inventory tasks.

Please, if you would like to help the chorus look its' best, why not volunteer for this very important position? We would be happy to consider a team of 2 or more people if this seems to be more than one person wants to do. If you want more details on exactly what the uniform manager does, talk to Marty. If you want to volunteer please see **Dick Irwin** or any other board member and let them know. ~

WHAT'S AHEAD ON THE...



March 2

Special Chorus Rehearsal

March 4

Harmony Explosion
Olathe East High School

Chorus Performance at
Harmony Explosion

March 9

Special Chorus Rehearsal

March 17

Spring Show Tech Rehearsal

March 18

Spring Shows - Music Hall

April 11

Spring Fling
Quartet Contest

April 14 - 16

CSD Spring Prelims
Lincoln, NE

April 29

200 in 2000 Performance
Old Mission
Methodist Church

☞ "ONE-A-DAY" ☞ 1ST QUARTER UNDERWAY!

What say you? I can win a trip to International 2001 in Nashville?

Yes, you can!! There is an incentive-based membership drive underway right now, and YOU could be earning points towards many great rewards!!

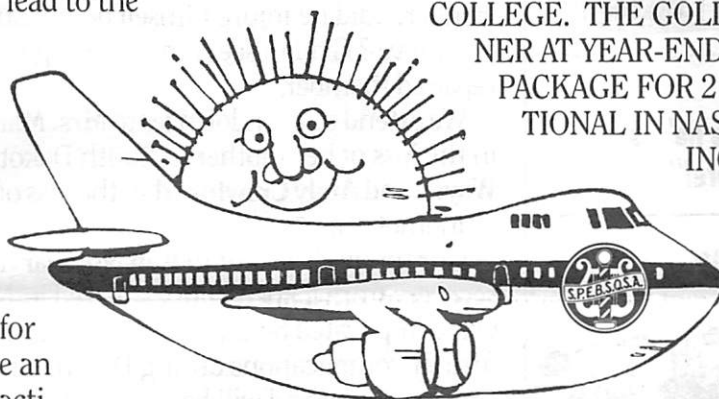
This board-approved plan is in addition to **Dan Henry Bowser's** "200 in 2000", so don't confuse them. With efforts of the masses, these two programs may just lead to the chapter's largest 1-year growth ever!

Here's the scoop: Make it your personal goal as a member to mention our wonderful hobby to "One-a-Day". When you bring guests, are responsible for a new member, or cause an inactive member to "reactivate", you earn points. *That's It!!*

Most of us have spoken to our neighbors & friends, and many times simply forget, or are not prepared to speak to people. So, the membership team is providing "tools" to help with your "prospecting". Yes, once we've asked all of our friends & co-workers, we need to speak to acquaintances, and oh my goodness - STRANGERS TOO. True, this can be a bit awkward, but heck, if you extend a hand to the next guy you see in the elevator, or at the gas station & he says "no thanks - I can't carry a tune in a bucket", fine. What have you lost - 30 seconds? Big deal. On the other hand, the next guy you visit with may just be the next new member. Try it!! Why? Well if not simply for sharing the idea of a GREAT hobby with him, then how about what you may WIN? Points accumulate, and are rewarded weekly, monthly, quarterly, and at year-end.

In just 5 weeks, nine different members have earned points & won SOMETHING!

Bob Howard is the current leader through end of January! YOU may just be the next recipient of any of the following: fun trinkets from Harmony Marketplace, dinners/passes for 2 to local restaurants/attractions, paid registrations to DISTRICT Contest, paid registrations to INTERNATIONAL, or paid registrations to HARMONY COLLEGE. THE GOLD MEDAL WINNER AT YEAR-END WINS A FULL PACKAGE FOR 2 TO INTERNATIONAL IN NASHVILLE 2001, INCLUDING AIRFARE, HOTEL, AND CONTEST REGISTRATIONS!!



THE GOLD MEDAL WINNER AT YEAR-END WINS A FULL PACKAGE FOR 2 TO INTERNATIONAL IN NASHVILLE 2001...INCLUDING AIRFARE, HOTEL, AND CONTEST REGISTRATIONS!!

This is an exciting 1-year exercise, and may or may not be offered in future years, so start talking to guys you see, have fun, and WIN FUN STUFF! The

program is broken into 4 "quarters of play", ending 3/31, 6/30, 9/30, and 12/31. This provides the opportunity for more members to take advantage of the great rewards available.

"GUYS NIGHTS OUT": Remember, ANY night is a guest night, but these five evenings will provide refreshments and special entertainment. If they work well in the your guest's plans, use them: March 28, June 13, July 18, October 10, December 12.

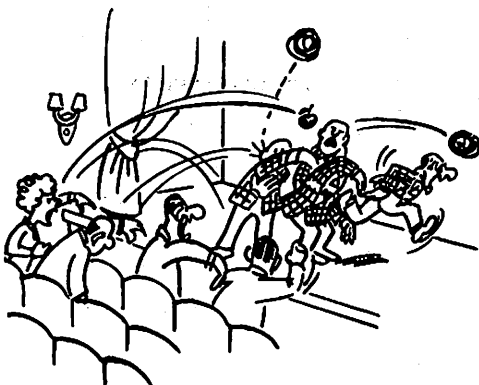
Should you need explanation via the phone, or mail give a call to Membership VP **Grant Hunget** @ 816-283-3662. Email questions to: grant@jwilbur.com.

JUST FOUR FUN

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



"Something tells me he's never directed before!"



"But what avocation doesn't contain some risk..."



"Okay, one more chorus of 'Smoke Gets In Your Eyes'"

SUNSHINE NOTES By Max Boise

Last issue came and went while I had a "senior moment" - *not!* I trusted memory and should have known better. Please, please let me know promptly when a member, spouse or child has had great experiences that should be recognized. This column will try and relate them so our entire membership can share your joys or sorrows, in the event of a tragedy.

Since "last time", **Mike Mathieu** had abdominal surgery, with some complications, but has now recovered we're glad to say. **Gil Lefholz** also had some gastrointestinal upsets but has recovered nicely. The Mathieu family has two new members. The first is **Ashton**, a son, born 9/23/1999 to **Rick and Tanya**. The second was **Jennaca Rae**, a daughter, born 10/28/1999 to **Joe and Shawna**. You know the saying ... each dad says their kid is "growing like a "

Don Young had surgery on his right shoulder (rotator cuff) just before the Holiday Harmony Spectacular, I'm told. I wonder...did he injure himself demonstrating some choreography move? Glad to see him regaining mobility in the now-repaired member.

We extend our condolences to **Mrs. Marty Oldehoeft (Shar on)** in the loss of her mother in South Dakota. Our thoughts also for **Wayne and Andy Crawford** in the loss of Waynes' mother, Andys' grandmother.

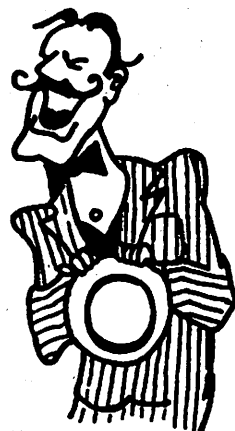
Our thoughts go out to **Ken Nuehjar** as he completes his recovery from a knee injury suffered in November. His recovery was complicated by catching the flu and then pneumonia with further complications during December. Ken will have also begun a new position and will be doing a great deal of certification training over the next six months which will result in his absence from meetings. We wish him the best of luck and look forward to his return to the risers.

Finally (as far as I know) a number of our chorus family have had varying degrees of difficulty with colds, flu, pneumonia etc. This pesky "stuff" hopefully is tapering off and we'll all get back to normal (or at least our normal) soon.

Remember, phone me if something should be reported in this column. My phone number in the metro area is (816)320-3875, if you don't catch me at St. Peters at meeting time. ~

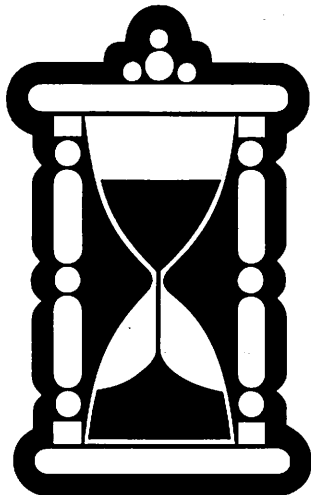
TONE-HENGE by Dan Henry

Tone-Henge is delighted by the invitations to appear on three chapter shows in March: our own, Kearney, NE and Mason City. Throw in an additional appearance at John Knox Village, and come April you're gonna see four pooped "Henge-ers"...*but smiling!* Thanks to all for encouragement and support. It's really appreciated! ~



A LOOK AT THE PAST IN THE HARMONOTES

By Wade Dexter, Editor Emeritus



Ten Years Ago— March, 1990

Show chairman **Al Moritz** reported a good show on March 24th. I had forgotten that **Phil Youngs** and his piano virtuosity were featured with the chorus on one of the songs on the program and also during the intermission. Al praises **Burdett Tordoff** *"who willingly accepted my last-minute request to stand out on a cold, windy 13th Street to pass out and affix parking permits to the windshields of the school buses."*

Upcoming activities reported by Public Relations Chairman **Mike Mathieu** include an April performance in Clinton (at the time, we had four members from that city: **Mark Smith, Dave Marti, Buck Wilkins** and **Dick Pierson**), a show on May 13 (that was Mothers Day! Ouch) for the Plaza Merchants Association, another paid performance for the PMA on Grandparents Day (September 9), and a show with the Overland Park Chapter at the "Theatre in the Park" on August 18.

An article by **Linda Rusche** reported that the Heartbeats had adopted new bylaws at the meeting on March 6 at the home of **Ruth Sunder meyer**. **Connie Schweer** was president, and the bylaws were developed by **Jan Mathieu** and **Donna Lefholz** for approval by the Heartbeats membership.

Twenty Years Ago—March, 1980

Music committee chairman **Kent McClean** announced a reorganization plan to provide a section leader who would handle administrative duties for each section of the chorus, and a voice leader who would conduct section rehearsals and auditions, determine performing chorus qualifications, etc.

The formation of a new quartet consisting of three baritones and a bass was reported. Membership consisted of **Rod Rule** (tenor), **Rich Huyck** (lead) (bet you didn't know that Rich sang with the 1956 Johnny Appleseed District chorus champion from Toledo, Ohio), **Jim Davis** (baritone) and **Kent McClean** (bass). They called themselves the 12th Street Regulars.

Music director **Jim Bagby** announced the "very first" coaching session in preparation for the 1980 International chorus contest in Salt Lake City to be held on Sunday (!), May 4. Our coach would be **Darryl Flynn**, then Sound Category Specialist, later our International President, and currently our society Executive Director.

Under "NOTES," we find the announcement that **Manley Vance** was recently elected president of the Missouri Association of Elementary School Principals... At a recent meeting, the chapter board approved **Ross Lankenau**'s membership, appointed **John Stucker** the new co-chairman of the riser committee and approved **Marv Faulwell**'s membership on the board replacing **Joe Costigan**.

Thirty years ago—March, 1970

Editor **Dick Ham** writes about two recent performances by the HOA Chorus with the Kansas City Philharmonic Orchestra on February 1 and 13. Dick mentions the hazards of an amateur group performing with professionals. *"Actually,"* said Dick, *"we didn't come out too badly"* with the critics. Dick's article includes a reminder of chapter policy that prohibited drinking prior to a chorus performance. He says, *"This policy was not enforced... at the Philharmonic concert at the Plaza Inn... If you think about it, there is probably more than a little truth to the saying 'It's usually the drinkers who throw in the clinkers.'"*

It was announced that the Kansas City Chapter would bid at the Atlantic City Convention for the 1974 International Convention to be held in Kansas City. ~

WHAT AN EXPERIENCE...

...from out of nowhere to get the recognition of *Barbershopper Of The Year*. Seems what I always tried to teach my children still works, if you say you're going to do something...do it the best you know how and don't look for a thanks. Well, you gentlemen thanked me anyway and in a way that truly humbled me. Recognition is still the food of life, will always be.



Sure hope those that attended enjoyed the "Aloha" Installation night. Many years ago, my wife **Joan**, and I agreed never to do one of those type parties again. We love them, they just take too much work. But what are you going to do when you just love a good party and doing it right!

We're into an exciting year, performing regularly and learning, polishing and learning some more. As the PR representative for the chorus, new contacts are continually being made. Some of them need nurturing and time to be convinced that the sound of Barbershop Harmony is a very real form of entertainment. As many people have said, in many instances, we are still an unknown. But that can be good because it means we're fresh, a new exciting form of entertainment. Look at the reception most of the singing valentine groups received. We make people feel good. We bring smiles to people. People of all ages look with wonder at what we do, listen to what we do and, in many instances, wish they were doing it too.

Let's continue to perform with pride and confidence. Let's make **Dan Henry** the hero he deserves to be and put together a truly large, dynamic chorus. Let's all look around to the leadership for the right way to do things—from learning the spots, to how to stand, to drive **Gordon** crazy with unequalled attention. Watch the section leaders, learn from them. I usually say that if **Keith** can stand all night well, *damn*, so can I!

I promise to give y'all "my best shot" at everything I do for the chorus in 2000. Let's have fun and give **Bill Power**, our PVP, all the support we possibly can. ~

Thanks again for the recognition,
Dick Korek
Barbershopper Of The Year 1999



LADIES HOSPITALITY ROOM

by Sheli Irwin

All who have attended an international competition in the past know how hectic the week can be and how little time there is to spend with your significant other. That's where the Ladies Hospitality Room comes in by offering a place to gather, have a cup of coffee and generally hob-knob with others who have become "convention widows"!

The Heartbeats will be hosting the Ladies Hospitality Room this year at the Music Man 2000 convention. We will be providing many activities to entertain our "convention widows" including daily door prizes (actually one drawing per hour) raffles including a "Best of Kansas City" basket. This is where the guys can help (since they made us "convention widows" in the first place)!

The Heartbeats are seeking donations for door prizes and the "Best of Kansas City" basket. Door prizes may be any "new" item donated or purchased. The door prizes are not a "white elephant", so please no used items. Items for the "Best of Kansas City" basket must be manufactured or produced in the greater Kansas City area. This basket is intended as a showcase of Kansas City offerings. Let's show the world what we have here in our city!

If you have any questions or wish to make a donation please contact **Sheli Irwin** at (816) 455-8258. ♥

Attention,

Ladies of our Kansas City Chapter members

Things are starting to go together for ladies hospitality but we need all of you to help make it a success. If you have time to give, please fill out a volunteer profile sheet and get it back to **Ron McIntire** or **Dick Irwin** ASAP. Ron's address is on the form

Our goal for donations of cookies and dessert breads is 600 dozen, which is for the Ladies Hospitality room, so you can understand how every one's help is needed. We are asking for five dozen home baked cookies or 3 loaves dessert breads from each of you.

You will be getting a call from a Heartbeat member so please say you will help, we truly appreciate it

The Ladies Breakfast will be held Thursday, July 6th at the Marriott Hotel. **Jan Mathieu** and her committee are working on the center pieces and souvenir favors for the tables, incorporating the Music Man 2000 theme. Our emcee for the event is the always cleaver and funny **Donna Lefholz**. And our guest quartet is **FRED**, 1999 International Quartet Champs. With this line up you are guaranteed to have a great time.

A list of events will be in the next issue of the *Harmonizer*, please make the Ladies Breakfast one of your top priorities.

To host an international convention is a lot of fun but is also a lot of work, so come and be a part of this great hobby we share with our men and help us make Music Man 2000 the best ever International Convention.

Any questions, please feel free to call me,
Betty Einess, @ (816)-228-2088. ~

Ladies Hospitality Team:

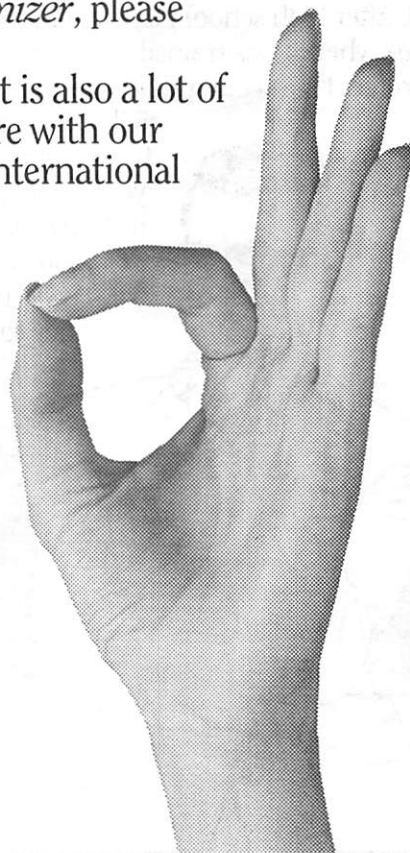
Betty Einess, Chairman

Jan Mathieu, Asst. Chair & Ladies Breakfast Chairman

Mary Jo & Kim Miller,

Co-Chairman, Ladies Hospitality Room

Sheli Irwin, Chairman, Raffle & Door Prizes



PERSONALLY SPEAKING

by Dick Irwin

Have you ever looked up and down the risers and said to yourself *"I wonder what he does for a living?"* or *"I wonder where that guy's from?"* Well, you could look in your chapter/chorus directory. Each member entry has an indication of where they work. Although that's really a nice feature of the directory it doesn't tell you very much and it doesn't give you any background on where somebody comes from. Since this chorus is really just a big extended family why not have a way to learn a little more beyond what you can learn while talking to someone. Why not use the *Harmonotes* to promote a little chapter closeness? This column will be dedicated to learning about someone different each issue of the quarterly *Harmonotes*. For now I will act as the gossip columnist unless any of the rest of you would like to step in. My idea... *I guess I'll go first.*

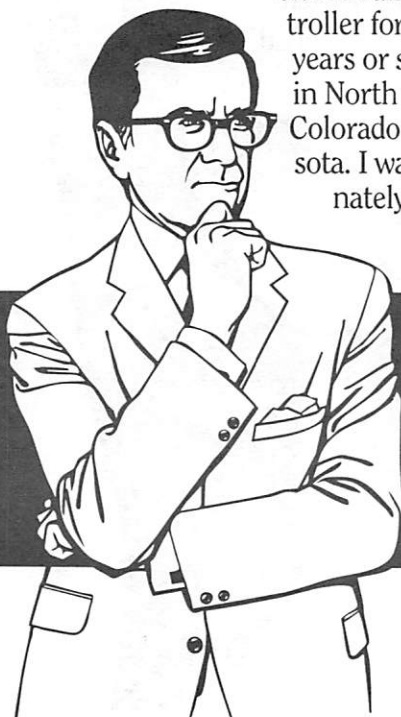
My name is **Dick Irwin** (Richard, actually, but that name only gets used when somebody is not too happy with me). I was born August 20, 1950 in Kansas City, Kansas at Providence Hospital. I lived in the Raytown area until I was 5 when we moved to Topeka. Dad was in the Air Force and we moved from Topeka to California then to Colorado where I graduated from High School in 1968. After high school I enlisted in the Navy for 4 years where I was trained as an air traffic controller. Following my Navy time I worked as a

civilian air traffic controller for another 6 years or so in positions in North Dakota, Colorado and Minnesota. I was unfortunately caught in the PATCO strike

in 1981 where my air traffic control career ended. I now work as a computer programmer analyst for DST Systems, Inc. in Kansas City.

I have been married for nearly 4 years to **Sheli**. Between us we have 5 children and 1 soon to be 2 grandchildren. Our kids are scattered from coast to coast and in-between. We have a daughter living with her Navy husband in Jacksonville, FL, another daughter living in Franklin, TN, another daughter in St. Paul, MN, a son living with his mother in northwest Minnesota, and a daughter in the Navy stationed in the Seattle area. Sheli was born and raised in St. Paul, MN. She finds the heat in this area to be just a little uncomfortable. She doesn't seem to understand why Kansas Citians think it's cold when the temperature isn't even below freezing. Oh, and if she cuts herself she bleeds **PURPLE** (as in the Vikings)!

I began barbershopping in January, 1994. I have performed in district competition with 4 choruses and 1 quartet. I have performed in 3 straight international competitions with 3 different choruses. My old quartet, *Mint Condition*, continues on with a new baritone since I moved from Minnesota nearly 3 years ago. But, they haven't made it back to district competition since I left. This hobby has been a fabulous outlet for my need to be seen and to compete. I love the friends I have all over the nation as a result of getting to be in 2 different districts and the chances I have had to be a part of the international conventions over the past 3 years. Being elected President of HOA is probably the biggest responsibility I've had except for my kids and air traffic control. I am truly honored to know that I am leading one of the finest groups of people I've ever been a part of. ~



Have you ever looked up and down the risers and said to yourself *"I wonder what he does for a living?"* or *"I wonder where that guy's from?"* This column will be dedicated to learning about someone different each issue of the quarterly *Harmonotes*.

A BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

by Dick Irwin

How many of you know what a "sesquicentennial" is? *Anybody?* OK, so there are a few of you who know that it is the 150th anniversary of something. In this case it is the 150th anniversary of our fair city.

Between now and June 3rd of this year Kansas City will be celebrating *its*' sesquicentennial. There will be many local activities culminating in one big birthday party to be held at Arrowhead Stadium on the evening of June 3rd.

What does this have to do with the Heart of America Chorus you ask? Only this...we have been asked and have agreed to participate as one of the performers during the final celebration at Arrowhead on June 3rd!

HOA WILL SOON TAKE THE FIELD!



Although details are not yet known as to names, there are supposed to be some big celebrities sharing our stage that evening. This is a fabulous opportunity for us to share this hobby we love so much with the city we call home. This chapter and our society are very much a part of the first 150 years of Kansas City history. Let's get together on June 3rd and make some more chapter history.

We need every performer ready and on stage that night. The show will be a great chance to perform for a very large audience. And we can consider it a warm-up in a way for the show on June 10th at Yardley Hall. Let's try to put 80 or more people on the Arrowhead stage on June 3rd. More details will follow in upcoming issues of the *Harmonotes*. ~

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Harmony Hotline:
913-888-7370
In-Tune Announcements:
660-429-3161
Sunshine Chairman:
816-320-3875
Harmonotes Editor:
816-373-8633



RULES Of Good Singing

- Drink plenty of water on a daily basis
- Maintain good posture
- Stand with your outside foot slightly ahead of your inside foot
- Keep your shoulders perpendicular to the floor
- Keep your chest raised and supported
- Breathe on a vowel shape - AIR is your friend
- Support sound completely through the ends of phrases
- Enunciate the words clearly and crisply (Music Man Medley)
- Anticipate what comes next
- Be a confident, proud performer!
YOU can be awesome!

**DEADLINE
FOR THE
NEXT**

**Harmonotes
express**

**ALL COPY...
for the April issue
is due by March 21, 2000!
(subject to change)**



WOW! How quickly time goes by when your having such a good time!

It is hard to believe that we have been planning Convention 2000 for several years and now it is only four months away. For those of you not aware, **Ron McIntire** and **Dick Irwin** are co-chairing the staffing committee, which is a huge job. Ron and Dick are responsible for sending out and receiving volunteer forms and then as those forms are received back, they are transferred to special software in the computer so they can keep track of who is working where and the times worked.

We expect ALL active members of the KC Chapter to help, but it doesn't stop there. We would like the wives /significant others to help and, if possible, mom, dad, brother, sister and whom ever else you can enlist.

We also are counting on the help of the not so active chapter

members and their families.

In the next few weeks, all members of the KC chapter who have not yet volunteered will be called and we ask you to step up and answer the call.

Any person who works at least two 4-1/2 hour shifts will receive a very attractive Music Man 2000 souvenir shirt that you will be proud to wear anywhere.

We would hope that most of you will volunteer to work the entire week, especially the retirees, if not, do the best you can.

We need upwards of 300 volunteers so you can see how important it is that you participate. Remember, the success of the Music Man 2000 International Convention depends on YOU. ~

Thank you very much,
Lud Einess, General Chairman
Music Man 2000



*We would like
the wives,
significant others,
...mom, dad,
brother, sister
and whom
ever else you
can enlist.*

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