

Harmonotes

March 2004

The Monthly Bulletin Of The Kansas City Chapter • SPEBSQSA

Volume 2004, Issue 3

ANOTHER GREAT SINGING VALENTINES CAMPAIGN IS COMPLETED!

by Rich Huyck, Singing Valentines 2004 Coordinator



As one would expect, the great team spirit of HOA and Kansas City Chorus once again provided an excellent experience for our customers. The quartets performed marvelously, evoking a full range of emotions in the recipients of singing valentines as well as in co-workers, bystanders, family members, etc. I know this because I have received a number of emails and calls praising the quartets that delivered the wonderful messages of love!

Of course, the quartets and their drivers do the important

work in this fun and sometimes challenging event. The quartets and their members are listed on page 4.

There is also much work that must be done in preparation weeks and months ahead of Valentines Day and there are many people that helped in this regard:

John Landry worked many hours to convince *Russell Stover* management to participate in our campaign with a complementary supply of candy.

Jon Gathright and **Monty Duerksen** worked tirelessly to coordinate the formation of quartets and the assignment of drivers: they deserve the medal of honor for being able to put eleven good quartets on the delivery routes!

Mike Mathieu did a masterful job of arranging for promotional time on radio and TV stations along with the Channel 9 prize drawing on Sunday morning Feb. 15. Mike was also very helpful in scheduling the quartets in the delivery zones after we received all orders.

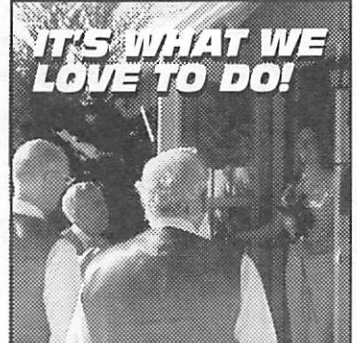
Ron McIntire shaped up the computer order processing system interfaces to *Metro Message Services* and the HOACHORUS web-site order system with **Vince Perry's** help.

Vince Perry implemented a very appealing and user-friendly web page for Singing Valentines. Our major sponsors were very pleased with the presentation of their company logos! (Continued on page 4) →



THIS ISSUE:

IT'S WHAT WE LOVE TO DO!



14 energetic quartets delivered HUNDREDS of Singing Valentines to homes/offices throughout the Kansas City Metro area!

Page 4

VALENTINE QUARTETS

Thanks to these fantastic foursomes for sharing their time and harmony!

Page 5

WINNERS OF SINGING VALENTINE PRIZES

Congratulations to these lucky ladies!

Page 7 & 10

CROSSTOWN FOUR and **AMES BROTHERS**...share Valentine memories

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ANOTHER VIEW!

Jim Porter shares what it's like to be on the receiving end of a top-notch HOA Singing Valentine!

Page 12

SAY "AAAAHHH":

Detailed info about "Strep Throat"



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.

Heart of America Chorus

The Kansas City, MO. Chapter S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.

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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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Heart of America Chorus

ELEVEN-TIME Central States District Champion!

CHAPTER QUARTET CHAMPIONS

- Rural Route 4 - 1986 International Champion**
Don Kahl (tenor), Calvin Yoder (lead),
Jim Bagby (bari), Willard Yoder (bass)
- Gentlemen of Note - 2001 International Seniors Medallists**
Rod Rule (tenor), Jon Gathright (lead),
Rich Huyck (bari), Monty Duerksen (bass)
- HyPower Serenaders - 1948 Central States District Champion**
Don McPherson (tenor), Ben Franklin (lead),
Bert Phelps (bari), Dale Warrick (bass)
- Gambolliers - 1952 Central States District Champion**
John Dooley (tenor), Eddie Schliebs (lead),
Orval Wilson (bari), Jimmy Byrnes (bass)
- BMA Gambolliers - 1957 Central States District Champion**
Barney Wasson (tenor), Eddie Schliebs (lead),
Orval Wilson (bari), Harold Robinette (bass)
- The Kippers - 1962 Central States District Champion**
*Ken Gabler (tenor), *Tom Taylor (lead),
John Goldsbury (bari), Don Page (bass)
- The Four Kippers - 1966 Central States District Champion**
*Ken Gabler (tenor), *Byron Meyers (lead),
John Goldsbury (bari), Gil Lefholz (bass)
- The Morning Times - 1974 Central States District Champion**
Dave Snook (tenor), Roger O'Dell (lead),
Steve Leone (bari), Stan Grossman (bass)
- Corner Quartet - 1981 Central States District Champion**
Don Kahl (tenor), Lance Heilmann, (lead)
Steve Leone (bari), Stan Grossman (bass)
- Harmony Spectrum - 1982 Central States District Champion**
Gene Bowers (tenor), David Krause (lead),
Jim Bagby (bari), Willard Yoder (bass)
- Special Touch - 1984 Central States District Champion**
*Rick Kready (tenor), David Krause (lead),
*Bud Clark (bari), Matt Moore (bass)
- KC Connection - 1986 Central States District Champion**
Rod Rule (tenor), Wayne Lankenau (lead),
Rich Huyck (bari), Larry Wilson (bass)
- 12th Street Rag - 1994 Central States District Champion**
*Rick Kready (tenor), Mark Fortino (lead),
John Fortino (bari), Keith Schweer (bass)

OTHER CHAPTER QUARTETS

- 12th Street Rag - 2000 International Semi-Finalists**
*Micah Jeppesen (tenor), Mark Fortino (lead),
John Fortino (bari), *Barry Moore (bass)
- Arpeggio**
Marlin Weidler (tenor), Rick Dunaway (lead),
Ralph Tallmon (bari), Don Newman (bass)
- Crosstown Four**
Dale Neuman (tenor), Gordon Coleman (lead),
Ron Abel (bari), Val Putzier (bass)
- Heartland**
*Rick Kready (tenor), David Krause (lead),
Matt Moore (bari), *Dale Comer (bass)
- Mother's Guys**
Joe Mathieu (bass), Rick Mathieu (bari),
Rob Mathieu (tenor), and Mike Mathieu (lead)
- New and Used Parts**
Jerry Garrard (tenor), Mike Neff (lead),
Grant Hunget (bari), Keith Schweer (bass)
- Sound Alibi**
Tom Elefson (tenor), Jerry Garrard (lead),
Shawn Jeffries (bari), Don Koehnlein (bass)
- Sounds Like Treble**
Niel Johnson (tenor), Rob Varney (lead),
Al Fehlauer (bari) and *Bill Bay (bass)
- SureFire!**
Carter Combs (tenor), Mike Neff (lead),
Grant Hunget (bari), Don Young (bass)
- Tone-Henge**
Bruce Wenner (tenor), Dan Henry (lead),
Jim Bagby (bari), Keith Schweer (bass)

*Member of other chapters

ANOTHER GREAT SINGING VALENTINES CAMPAIGN IS COMPLETED!

(Continued from front cover)

In the headquarters during the delivery, many people helped to make the process flow smoothly:

Al Higgins, veteran Singing Valentine operational trouble shooter, manned the HQ phones and resolved many delivery problems with great alacrity.

Eileen Huyck, my much better half, kept the provisioning for the quartets on track to ensure that the quartets had delivery requirements covered, as well as for the contingency of orders being called to the quartets from HQ. Her management of that side of the HQ operation freed me up for just sitting around and asking everyone else how things were going!

Joan Korek, Sandy Rule, Dessie Gathright, Jerry & Jean Snyder, Marilyn Roberts, Nat Elswood, Steffi Combs, Charles Ramirez, Dave Marti, Roy Manade and Walt Patterson all provided support for the numerous tasks with a can-do attitude at the headquarters at the Courtyard Hotel.

There are probably others who made contributions to making this year's Singing Valentines effort a success and I will make an earnest attempt to identify them and give proper recognition in the next article to Harmonotes when we can announce the results of our labor of love! ~



The quartets that gave of their time and talent are listed below. They deserve a great thank you from all of us at HOA! You will notice that the quartets listed have more than 4 people involved. Included are the singers and drivers that worked with each quartet.

HOA QUARTETS:

Ames Bros.

Jim Porter
Todd Anderson
Tom Forsythe
Chuck Ames
Harry Stewart

Babbling Brooks

Dave Glastetter
Mike O'Dell
Doug Brott
Brooke Meyers
Dave Krause
Matt Moore
Jim Kinyon

Crosstown 4

Bob Rutherford
Dale Neuman
Ron Abel
Gordon Coleman
David Miller

Monty's Pythons

Marlin Weidler
Monty Duerksen
Jon Gathright
Kevin Beauford
Matt Bostick
Brian Seydlitz

Polecat Crooks

Lyle Wyly
Rick Dunaway
Jerry Meier
Gary Jordan
Max Boise
Chuck Ames

Quad Squad

Dave Marti
Mike Mathieu
Don Newman
Dennis Kinghorn
Rob Mathieu
Doug Brott
Al Moritz

Sound Alibi

Tom Elefson
Jerry Garrard
Dick Irwin
Eric Weber
Thom Tisdall
Keith Schweer



Surefire!

Mike Neff
Don Young
Grant Hunget
Carter Combs
Jana Henderson

Tony's Troubadors

Don Koehnlein
Jim Moynihan
Tony Strub
Dick Korek
Lud Einess

Turlin's Tooners

Alex Scott
Carl Turlin
Rod Flater
Marty Oldehoeft
Charles Ramirez
Tom Forsythe

Veltkamp's Volunteers

Niel Johnson
Phil Veltkamp
Jim Davis
Harvey Shapiro
Gary Mehalic
Bernie Brink

SWEET ADELINE QUARTETS:

Sound Investment

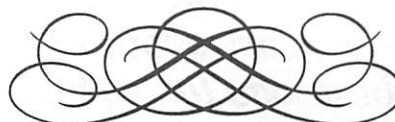
Betty Smead
Nancy Walters
Carolyn Ruhland
Sandy Davis

Just Because

Vi Reko
Chris Deweese
Carolyn Anderson
Linda French

Matinee Circuit

Teel Haas
Ruby Pitzer
Anita Wolfe
Sue Pruenete



CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE 2004 SINGING VALENTINE PRIZE WINNERS!

**Marriott Downtown
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Terry Freeman-Hogan**

**4 Points by Sheraton on the Plaza
Sweethearts Package
Glenda Davis**

**Doubletree Hotel of Overland Park
Sweethearts Package
Shelley Kimbell**

**Sheraton Hotel of Overland Park
Sweethearts Package
Linda McCall**

**Helzberg Diamond Earrings
Linda Datschefske**

DELIVERING VALENTINES: THE BEST PART

by Dick Korek

I was privileged to be with **Lud Einess, Jim Moynihan, Tony Strub** and **Don Koehnlein**. Lud and Jim switched off and we all had great experiences through the day.

We began with Lud being the critic for the first few deliveries, then the groove started to happen. The fun for me was describing to Jim the reactions from the ladies as we would proceed through the rep.

The last delivery was Friday at 7:30. We were "there"!!!

Platinum BEWARE...with grams, three other ladies, and then three men including gramps we did our stuff.

From "awe" to "tears" to "smiles" then with that Sweetheart tag—wow, they came unglued.

The best thing about the day was the time spent with the quartet and getting to know each other better. ~

TONE-HENGE FORGOES FEB.

by Ol' Dan

Rehearsal and learning new stuff is just a bit difficult when most every member of your foursome exits the premises. Such was the case for *Tone-Henge* during the entire month of February.

The **Wenners** took advantage of an ages-long invitation to visit college friends in New Zealand, and we figure the time it takes to get there and back, leaves 'em about a day and a half to visit. Anyway, there went February.

The **Bowsers** opened a window of escape from winter by visiting their daughter in Fort Lauderdale for a week, and found out that 80 degrees is better than no degrees.

Jim Whatsisname spent February weekends coaching somebody somewhere on the planet, but then, that could be said about any month.

We don't think **Keith** left town, but he did move his office closer to his house. We think his commute time is something close to 90 seconds, 60 of which he uses warming up the car.

But we'll be ready for our show...well, as ready as we've ever been. ~

ROLL CALL

by Jim Porter

The *Gideons* of southern Johnson county have a banquet once each year to honor the Pastors in that area.



From left to right:
Ted Weathers (tenor), HOA's **Jim Porter** (lead),
Wayne Gaeddert (bass) and **Phil Gaeddert** (bari).
Phil is Wayne's son. All are members of Berean Bible Church in Olathe.

(The *Gideons* are the organization that provides Bibles to hotels and motels, as well as schools, hospitals, nursing homes, etc.) This year, I was asked to lead the singing and bring the special music. I had the solution within my own church body, a barbershop quartet, consisting of three from our church choir and myself. We sang "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder" for about 100 guests at the banquet, including the pastors from about 20 churches in southern Johnson county. It was very well received, and our own pastor has asked us to sing it again at our praise service Feb. 15. I extend thanks to the chorus music team who brought that song into our repertoire, and look forward to more like it in future months! ~

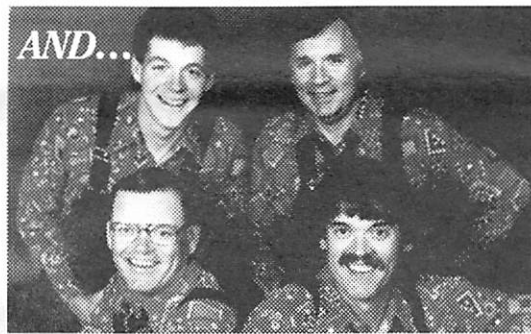
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MUSICAL NOTES

by Keith Schweer, Music Vice President



We're in the middle of preparing for our March show and it'll be here soon. It looks as if it's going to be another GREAT show. Just look at this lineup: *The Heart of America Chorus, Rural Route 4, 12th Street Rag, Surefire!, Gentlemen of Note, Sound Advice, Sounds Like Treble* and *Tone-Henge* (don't look TOO closely at this one!). Show Saturday is always one of the most fun days of the year for HOA, one

that I look forward to every year. After spending weeks learning words, notes and staging, we'll go out on that Music Hall stage and give one of our finest performances ever. I know we will. We always do.

By the time you read this, the Music Team will have had another of our every-so-often all-day Saturday meetings. At these meetings, we assess our progress and, if necessary, revise our plans and direction. Our agenda includes discussing the positive steps we've taken, as well as ones we need to take to move forward. Keep your section leaders informed by contributing ideas, problems, etc. so that they can be prepared for these meetings in the future. It's your chapter and our job is to try to make your musical experience the best it can be. ~

SPONSORS: LOOKING FOR A NEW GROUP!

by Dick Korek, Marketing Vice-President

We're calling it *Sponsorship 2004*. A new set of incentives and considering listing some very "real" needs to help the chorus (ie: uniforms, cost of registration at Louisville, hotel costs in Louisville, other real costs to help us through 2004 and beyond).

We do great things in our community—we have a real interest in encouraging youngsters and we care about charities. We all have connections in companies who already are familiar with HOA and what we do. That's a great place to start letting them know we could use their help. I'll help you with a presentation to "inform" them.

In almost every instance the companies, individuals I meet with just "didn't know." Let's do this together! ~



CROSSTOWN FOUR (PLUS AND MINUS) AND SINGING VALENTINES

by Dale Neuman

Some of the new guys heard a version of the *Crosstown Four* preview part of their Singing Valentines set on Feb. 10 while the more veteran guys recall several different foursomes under that name. Actually, the *Crosstown Four* is more like the *Crosstown Six* right now. Let's see if I can keep this simpler than I did in my attempt to involve our audience in singing "America The Beautiful" (while we did the "Overlay") at our pre-Valentines performance for the Volunteers of CASA on Feb. 9. After looks of total confusion appeared on the faces of the audience, engineer **Gordy** stepped forward, explained succinctly (no professorial contingency statements included) what was expected, and it actually worked out fine! He also broke them up at a later point using **Marty Oldehoeft's** Installation Banquet joke about the lady returning home from bible class and apprehending the man who burgled her house by merely citing scripture—when the burglar misunderstood her citation of "Acts 2:38" to mean that she had an axe and two thirty-eights.

The current regular members of CT4 are **Gordy Coleman** (lead), **Ron Abel** (bari), **Val Putzier** (bass) and I (tenor). But because Val is wintering in Texas and has been dealing with a medical problem, **Bob Rutherford** is and has been our Singing Valentines bass for two years now. Prior to that **Win Cady** filled in when Val went south. Well, Gordy and **Mary Lou** are leaving on a driving trip to Florida on the 21st so the performance we have set for the evening of the 20th will find **Mike Schumacher** singing lead in place of Gordy at an event set up by Bob Rutherford in Lee's Summit.

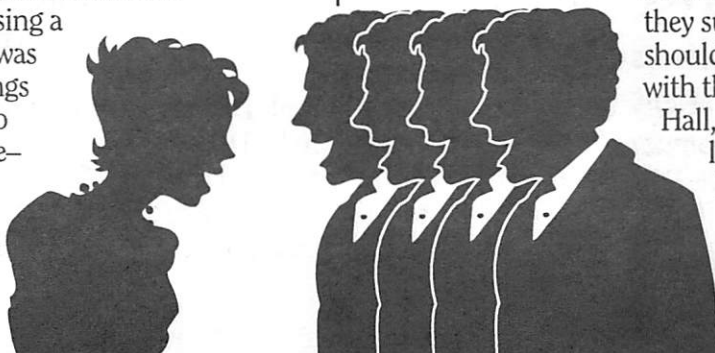
Over the now more than 20 years that the *Crosstown Four* has existed, we have changed all the parts but one—I am the original tenor. **Dean Trapp** (now barbershopping in South Dakota) was our first bari. **Fred Whisman** was the original bass and **Ed Sundermeyer** was the original lead. We have delivered singing valentines every year that HOA has done them and that goes back some years. But substituting for one or another has been common.

When Ron was unable to sing a few years ago, **Jim White** was our bari. And to keep things simple, we asked Jim to do what Ron had always done—hand the card to the recipient at the segue between the "Intro" and

"Heart of My Heart." We all had our respective items in hand as we approached the office we were to enter but Jim stopped in the men's room en route. We waited for him and when he came out he was very agitated and his face was red. He said he supposed that the recipient probably would not be impressed with a wet valentine's card and did we have any extras in the car? It seems that Jim did not have as good a grip on the card while attending to matters in the men's room as he had thought. Luckily, our driver had parked nearby, we had more cards, and we were only a minute or two behind schedule. Needless-to-say, we had much fun at Jim's expense for the rest of the day. **Jim Buettel** also sang bari with the quartet one year in a shuttle system where I would stop off at UMKC to teach a class (Ron Abel would move over to tenor), then at the end of my class they'd come by and get me, we'd turn Jim loose to be with another quartet for while and then when I had another class, we'd meet up with him again and Ron would once more be the tenor.

We've also had some great??? drivers—yes, they were because they always got us safely to all of our appointed rounds and on time. I probably will not remember all of them over the years—but they've included **Manley Vance**, **Bob Rutherford**, **Marty** (backwards on I-435) **Oldehoeft** driving Ron Abel's car, **David Miller**, **Tony Strub** and **Ken Thompson** (with the Lincoln that was 45 feet long). I have been the route planner over the years and our routes have covered every part of the metro from KCI to Paola to Edwardsville to Independence to Lee's Summit to Cleveland (and a number of times the neighborhoods east of Troost and north of 47th Street. Ken was a very literal person and more than once he would ask: "Turn Left here?" and I'd say "That's right"—and of course we'd turn right—more than once. So, now SOP on responding is "That's correct" or "No."

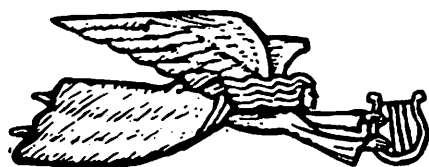
We've had more hugs and tears than I can recall in singing to some ladies as young as two weeks and as old as 101 years. And, we've even been heard to say that when the time comes that they suggest to us that we should no longer sing on stage with the Chorus at the Music Hall, we hope they will still let us sing for valentines. It is now the highlight of the CT4 (plus or minus) year. ~



JUST FOUR FUN

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

ARRIVING AT HEAVEN



A Lead died and went to Heaven. St. Peter stopped him at the gate asking, "Well, how many wrong notes did you sing in your life?"

The Lead answers, "Three."

"Three times, fellows!" says Pete, and along comes an angel and sticks the Lead three times with a needle.

"OW! What was THAT for?" asks the Lead.

Pete explains, "Here in heaven, we stick you once for each wrong note you've sung down on Earth."

"Oh," says the Lead, and is just about to step through the gates when he suddenly hears a horrible screaming from behind a door. "Oh my goodness, what is that?" asks the Lead, horrified.

"Oh," says Pete, "that's a Tenor we got some time back. He's just about to start his third week in the sewing machine."

DEADLINE FOR THE APRIL ISSUE OF

Harmonotes

Articles and photos are due by

MONDAY, MARCH 22

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



Ten Years Ago: March, 1994

"NEW 'SINGING VALENTINES' RECORD SET AS HOA GROSSES NEARLY \$10,000!" That was the headline of Chapter President **John Pennington's** article on the front page of the March 1994 issue of *Harmonotes*. John reminded us that "Three years ago, we sold only eight Valentines. Two years ago it was 25. And last year, we did 220. This year our total was 290!" John gave much of the credit for our success to "all the work and planning by **Monty Duerksen**, our most famous singing TV celebrity, and **Gordon Coleman**, our Valentine hot line phone man." And our editor paid an additional tribute to **Mike Mathieu**, also one of the leaders of the endeavor.

In his "Armwaver's Outlook," Director **Jim Bagby** was looking forward to the performance of the "Ode..." (that was a fantastic barbershop arrangement of the "Ode to Joy" from the Choral of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony in D minor) on our annual show on March 19 which would feature the HOA Chorus and our quest quartet, the *Acoustix*, 1990 International Champions. Jim also announced that the program would include "one of the best new quartets to come along in some time," the *12th Street Rag*, and the final HOA show performance for the *Rural Route 4*.

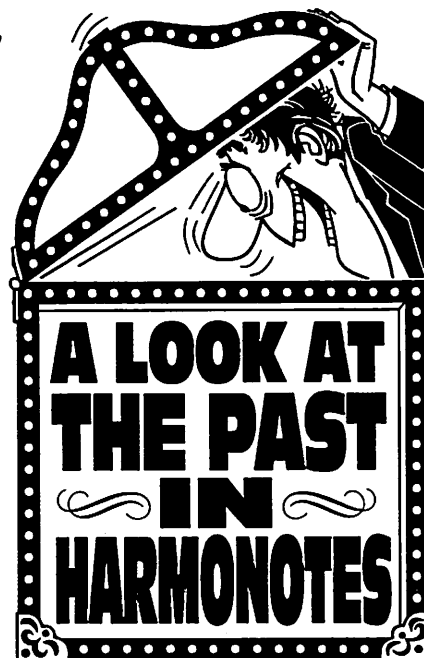
And **Lud Einess** announced the official selection of Kansas City to host the 2000 international convention. Lud would serve as general convention chairman.

Twenty-Five Years Ago: March, 1979

The *Heart of America Chorus* was preparing for its first annual show as Central States District Champions. **Fred Whisman** was chapter president. **Gene Bowers** was show producer. Featured quartets would be the *Friends of Yesterday*, international medalists; the *Rural Route 4*, international finalist, and the *K.C. Chord Classiques* in their premier performance on a chapter show.

MVP **Frank Lasta** presented a review of fund raising efforts engaged in by HOA. One of these was operating a concession stand, which had produced \$1,092 in revenue to date. Frank said that 36 people had worked a total of 377 hours. It appears that each member of the crew needed a liquor license.

(Continued on page 3)→



By Wade Dexter, Editor Emeritus

Does anybody remember why? Frank also pointed out that "the baseball season will soon be here and we're going to be scheduled for two stands every Wednesday and Friday home game." Why aren't we taking advantage of this source of revenue now-days?

Fifty Years Ago: March 5, 1954

Harmonotes Editor **Austin Thames** provided a report of Chapter President **Don Thorne's** efforts to put together a program for an appearance at the Roanoke Christian Church. *The Chordialaires* were hastily recruited, and a foursome called the *What Notes Four* consisting of **Dennis Taylor** (tenor), **Arlo Moore** (lead), **Frank Leone** (baritone) and **Bob Gall** (bass) sang "O'Brien Has No Place To Go" and another song which was not identified. A rather inexperienced quartet (Austin wrote that they needed "more appearances for confidence") from the Independence chapter was **Glenn Classon** (tenor), **Dr. W. H. Mowder** (lead), **Jack Boetjar** (baritone) and **Orvil Martin** (bass). Austin goes on, "Then, with some hurrying and scurrying to get **Bob White** fresh from the mail car, the *Rudy Fick Royalaires* were presented to the audience, who liked them and kept them singing." **Don Stephens** and **LaVerne Cable** were codirectors on the show. ~

HAPPY BIRTHDAY *to the following chapter members!*

Eugene Bowers	March 3
Ron McIntire	March 4
David Krause	March 6
Don Koehnlein	March 10
Eric Weber	March 16
Don Young	March 17
Charles Ramirez	March 23
John Winfiel	March 24
Jim Kinyon	March 24
Pinky Johnson	March 25
Jerry Meier	March 29

HEARTBEAT HIGHLIGHTS!

by Sharon Oldehoeft, 2004 Heartbeat President

March is here and that means plans are being made to provide lunch for the men, March 13, before their 58th annual show, "From the Heart." We thank all who volunteer to provide food items for this lunch and help with setup and cleanup. "From our Hearts" we send our encouragement and support to each member of HOA and say "Break a Leg!" You always give us a wonderful and entertaining show.

We have several ladies who have already been busy "doing" this year. To **Jeffi Combs**, **Dessie Gathright**, **Eileen Huyck**, **Joan Korek**, **Sandy Rule** and **Jeanne Snyder** we send a big heartfelt *Thank You* for helping at Singing Valentines headquarters. To **Ann Abel**, **Cindy Manade**, **Sharon Oldehoeft**, **Carol Ramirez**, **Terrie Sanders**, **Chris Selby**, **Jeanne Snyder** and **Jeanette Veltkamp** we send a big heartfelt *Thank You* for providing refreshments for the **Bill Rashleigh** visit on Feb. 17. We also thank **Mary Fortino**, **Sharon Oldehoeft**, **Roberta Porter**, **Sheri Smith** and **Jeanne Snyder** for helping to serve those refreshments.

We had our *Heartbeats* meeting Feb. 24 and discussed a busy and exciting year ahead HOA is hosting the Spring Convention, April 16-18 and **Jeffi Combs** is busy planning and organizing the Ladies Breakfast. She will let us know what we can do to help.

We extend our sympathy to the family of **Donna Lefholz**. Donna was a member of *Heartbeats* and was awarded Heartbeat of the Year for 1989. We will miss her. ~

UPDATE ON MANLEY

Past Chapter President **Manley Vance** continues to recuperate at North Kansas City Hospital, after post-surgery complications for colon cancer. He had a reaction to chemotherapy that put him in a coma, and it appeared touch-and-go for a time. But as of the middle of this month, the former *Hubbub* lead was beginning to eat again, walking farther each day, beginning physical therapy and looking forward to returning home. Keep him in your thoughts! ~

THE AMES BROTHERS DELIVER! by Jim Porter

Our day began early (7 AM) at the hotel as your editor, **Todd Anderson**, sang lead with **Chuck Ames (bass)**, **Tom Forsythe (bari)** and me, **Jim Porter (tenor)**. We were the *Ames Bros.*, and I don't suppose it has anything to do with who our bass singer was, or with a more noteworthy quartet from my parent's day.

Nothing ever goes quite as planned, as Todd was totally wasted after a sleepless night with stomach flu. You just can't keep a good man down and he was ready and as rarin' to go as anyone in his condition could be.

We accepted a group of 10 assignments and headed out for the Far East (i.e. Grain Valley) to deliver the first one. **Harry Stewart** was the designated driver, and Todd provided his van for the day. I had my metro area road atlas and summer's experience as a courier to guide us safely and quickly to each stop with only a few minor glitches along the way. I also brought my digital camera, which turned out to be an extra bonus at most of our deliveries. At each stop, we informed the lucky lady that she could have pictures of the occasion, all she needed to do was provide a blank floppy. Harry popped the floppy in Jim's camera and took pictures, then after the presentation was done, popped the floppy out and gave it back to the recipient as an extra added memento.

What makes this event such a delight is seeing the expression on the faces of the ladies we meet, and the obvious delight it brings to each one. For a few minutes, she is the center of attention while all her co-workers gather around to take in the performance. On a couple of occasions, it was at the lady's home, so the only other ones there to hear were her children and pets, but all the others were in a work situation. One stop even took us to the Chiefs administration offices at Arrowhead Stadium, where 10 or so people heard us sing. Of course, we needed some pictures to remember that occasion by (*shown on the right, courtesy of Harry*)!

One stop looked to be a two-for-one deal. Two different ladies, exactly the same office in Raytown, same time. We decided each deserved their own time in the sun, so went in with just one set of goodies, planning to do our thing, walk out the door, then just go back in for the other one. Imagine our surprise when we asked for the first lady, found out she wasn't there, and that a Singing Valentine quartet had been there the previous day for her! Hey, things happen, but this time, no problem! The one who told us all this was the other lady, so she was quite properly surprised when we told her it was her turn!

While at Childrens Mercy Hospital, some spotted us and said "Say, we saw you on TV last night!" and we were of a mind to just let them believe that!



At our last stop, at a home in Raytown, we thought we would have a no-show. The sheet said "stay-at-home mom," but our entreaties at the front door brought forth no response, so we contacted the husband who ordered the valentine. He was not there to take our call, but the one who answered agreed to call him, then let him call us on the cell. We then went to a nearby gas station to fill the tank, and the phone rang while we were there. "The gal will be waiting...please return!" was the message. Of course she was standing at the open door as we drove into her driveway, and the delivery was completed as she held her youngest in her hands. Perhaps she just was not too sure about four strange guys dressed up in those loud red vests with matching bow ties!

Everything went so well that we were at the bottom of our pile at 1 PM, with just one delivery that was designated for 3:30 PM. Todd was ready to call it a day, so we asked for that one to be reassigned, and we were thus done for the day. We became a leadless trio (since when did leads become scarce?) and I might have sung lead, but who would sing tenor? Chuck was ready to give it a whirl (Harry could do the bass), until he conceded he didn't know the part. Since we found out there were 14 quartets and 267 SV's ordered, I guess we didn't really do our share. But we had our part, and went our separate ways knowing we had absolutely made the day for 8 lucky women and the 8 lucky guys who ordered the Singing Valentines for their one true love. ~

ANOTHER VIEW: ON THE RECEIVING END!

by Jim Porter



Tom Elefson (tenor), **Jerry Garrard** (lead), **Keith Schweer** (bass) and **Dick Irwin** (bari) added the perfect touch to the evening!

I made myself unavailable for delivering Singing Valentines Saturday evening, as I felt my own Valentine deserved to have her time. A group of 10 men at our church planned a banquet together to honor their wives and I joined in this effort. The idea of special music was brought up, and they were delighted at my suggestion. I ordered a Singing Valentine for my wife and gave them a two-hour window, the time we would be together at the banquet.

Right on time, here comes **Tom Elefson**, **Jerry Garrard**, **Keith Schweer** and **Dick Irwin**, dressed in their showtime best, to deliver **Roberta** her Singing Valentine. I've done this for her before, and she has been of the attitude that I didn't need to do it again, but this time she was thoroughly delighted to be able to share the moment with the 10 other couples also present, including our church pastor and music director. The group was superb (I told the people afterwards that HOA sent us one of the best), and they offered us far more than I ordered as they sang a good 15 minutes, offering up renditions of several chorus favorites such as "How Deep is the Ocean," "Paper Moon" and others—love songs all. When they left, the others in the room were very impressed, and now have a good idea why I get so excited about barber-shop singing. Who knows, maybe this year some of them will come out to see the show.

Thank you, Tom, Jerry, Keith and Dick for providing much more than I ordered and being the highlight of our evening. Thank you, **Rich** and **Monty**, for sending out one of the best quartets to our get-together. ~

BARBERSHOP ON TV

Adapted from *LiveWire*, the weekly news from the barber-shop harmony society

What could be more appropriate for a TV show that features products that are made in America, than to have music that was made in America?

Tall Order, a quartet from the Cardinal District, was recently asked to sing for the [Feb. 28] episode of the new Travel Channel TV series called "**John Ratzenberger's Made in America**." Ratzenberger (*Cliff Clavin* from *Cheers*) travels the country to do stories about small towns in the U.S.A. where products are produced or packaged.

Tall Order drove to Elkhart, Indiana, for a segment about *Barbasol* shaving cream. Ratzenberger visited the plant where they package *Barbasol*, then went downtown to the *Seville Barber Shop*. That's where the quartet was filmed singing "My Wild Irish Rose" outside the shop.

Tall Order moved into the shop while John was getting a shave and sang an arrangement of the *Barbasol* jingle that included a verse with his name in it. **Adam Kruse**, son of lead **Michael Kruse**, wrote the arrangement of the jingle and also filled in for the tenor who was unable to get off from work that day. ~



COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT **STREP THROAT**

Taken from *Primary Care Matters* and used with permission.

Special thanks to **Niel A. Johnson, MD, FAAFP, MAJ, MC Chief, Primary Care Services**

What is Strep throat?

What are the signs of Strep throat?

Strep throat is an infection caused by bacteria. It is called "Strep" because the bacterium that causes the infection is called Streptococcus. Adults with Strep throat may have a sore throat, a fever and swollen neck glands. They usually don't have a cough or a runny nose. Children with Strep throat have a sore throat and may have tummy pain or a red rash with small spots. The rash is worse under the arms and in skin creases.

How is Strep throat treated?

Your doctor may give you or your child an antibiotic. Antibiotics kill bacteria, which helps Strep throat go away a little faster. It can also prevent a few rare but serious conditions that people with Strep throat might get. It is important to take all of the medicine your doctor gives you.

Should all sore throats be treated with antibiotics?

No. Not every sore throat is Strep throat. Bacteria only cause about 5% to 10% of sore throats. Viruses or other problems cause the rest, and antibiotics will not help. Your doctor can do a test to make sure it is Strep throat.

What tests can tell I have Strep throat?

Your doctor may use a test called the rapid Strep test. For this test, the doctor uses a long cotton swab to take some material from the back of your throat. The results of this test can be ready in about 15 minutes. Your doctor may also do a culture of the throat material. A sample of the throat material is sent to a laboratory. This test is called a throat culture. It takes more than 24 hours to learn the results of a Strep culture. The rapid Strep test and the culture can tell your doctor if you have Strep throat. If something else is causing your sore throat, these tests do not tell what it is.

Can other people catch my Strep throat?

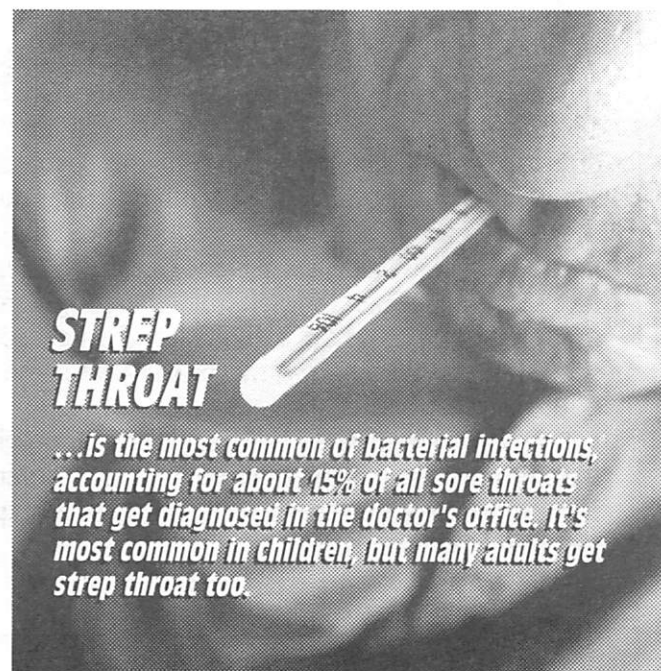
Yes. You can give the infection to other people until you have been treated with an antibiotic for 1 to 3 days. Children with Strep throat should not go back to school or day care until their fever has gone away and they have taken an antibiotic for at least 24 hours.

What can make my sore throat feel better?

- Taking ibuprofen (brand names: *Advil, Motrin*) or acetaminophen (brand name: *Tylenol*). Children should not take aspirin. Aspirin can cause Reyes syndrome—a serious illness—and in some cases, death when it is used in children under 18 who have the flu.
- Gargling with warm salt water (1/4 teaspoon of salt in 1 cup [8 ounces] of warm water).
- For adults and older children, sucking on throat lozenges, hard candy or pieces of ice.
- Eating soft foods, drinking cool drinks or warm liquids or sucking on Popsicles.

Can people get Strep throat from their pets?

This could happen, but it is very rare. ~



SOUNDS LIKE TREBLE GEAR- ING UP FOR CONTESTS (YES...*PLURAL!*)

by Niel Johnson

Niel, Rob, Al and **Bill** are busy fine tuning a few new songs for the upcoming spring contests. *Contests?* That's right. Not only will SLT be competing in their second quartet competition, but they will also be ringing chords with the Cody Choraliers from Leavenworth, Kansas, in the CSD small choruses competition in Kansas City.

The challenge has been finding a way to learn the music to standard when both choruses rehearse on Tuesday nights. The hardest part (but most funnest part) for the dual-membered crooners has been rehearsing the Choraliers' songs as a quartet, with veteran bass **Bill Bay** as the "tutor." Fortunately, with their erratic work schedules, the guys manage to rehearse locally with the Leavenworth chapter at least once every 4-6 weeks, if, for any reason, to attend the afterglow where 50% of the chapter shows up to regularly.

SLT's training hard with HOA every Tuesday has made a positive impact to the Choraliers' sound. Just wait til you hear it! Sharing the vocal techniques we've learned with our brothers in Leavenworth is a win-win for everyone. We get the opportunity to reinforce what we've learned, and the chorus members get to pick up a few pearls along the way. We're one society, one voice, I think, and the art form can only benefit from this collaboration.

So don't think you're seeing double when you see SLT up there twice. We appreciate your support and look forward to representing our chapters well!

The quartet package is coming along well, and the foursome is looking forward to some good coaching in the next few weeks to polish their new songs. ~



ARMWAVER'S OUTLOOK

by Jim Bagby

Heart of America emotions went around the heart in a six-day span this month.

It began with delivery of the first of almost 300 Singing Valentines on Friday, Feb. 13. That continued, of course on Valentine's Day.

And about 10 o'clock that Saturday morning, **Donna Lefholz** died. The wife of our past chapter, district and Society president (twice) had been struck with Alzheimer's and complications, and was suddenly gone, at age 71.

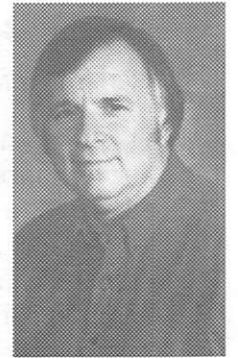
I was in Florida for a barbershopping campout when I got the news from **Joann**. One of the first people I told was **Harlan Wilson**, venerable baritone of the *Suntones*. After awhile, he said, "She was one of the most fun ladies I ever knew." **Donna** and **Gil** had hosted the *Suntones* and many other HOA show headline quartets over the years.

Donna's lively talent and wit sparked many HOA sendoff pep rallies put on by the *Heartbeats*. She headed ladies hospitality when Gil served as chairman or co-chairman of international conventions here. Her sense of humor will be remembered by all those who came in contact as she served as Society First Lady. She and Gil produced **Kim**, who's a highly successful ob/gyn in Fort Worth,—and a heckuva baritone.

On Tuesday, Feb. 17, HOA was joined by members of Leavenworth, Overland Park and Liberty chapters—about 140 strong—for a presentation by **Bill Rashleigh** of the Society music staff. One highlight of the evening was a fascinating recorded program by the new Society Historian, our own **David Krause**.

And the following morning, Donna's service attracted a standing-room crowd overflowing a Raytown funeral home. Members of the HOA family joined the Lefholz relatives and former Sweet Adeline associates. The throng included members of Gil's "Kippers" CSD championship quartet from Kansas City and St. Joseph, past district presidents **Bill McLaurine** (St. Charles), **John Marshall** (Des Moines), **Bob Swenson** (Manhattan) and **Myron Hultgren** (Kansas City) and their families. And **Carl Hancuff** of Edmond, OK, the Society's top emcee who's a long-time Lefholz family friend, delivered a warm, laugh-filled eulogy.

It was a fitting tribute to a unique lady. ~



ARE YOU GOING TO THE ROADSHOW?

Taken from *LiveWire*, the weekly news from the barbershop harmony society

This spring, an interchapter event called the *Roadshow* is coming to 21 different cities in the Society. Led by some terrific personalities and presenters, each Roadshow offers a two-hour festival of song featuring:

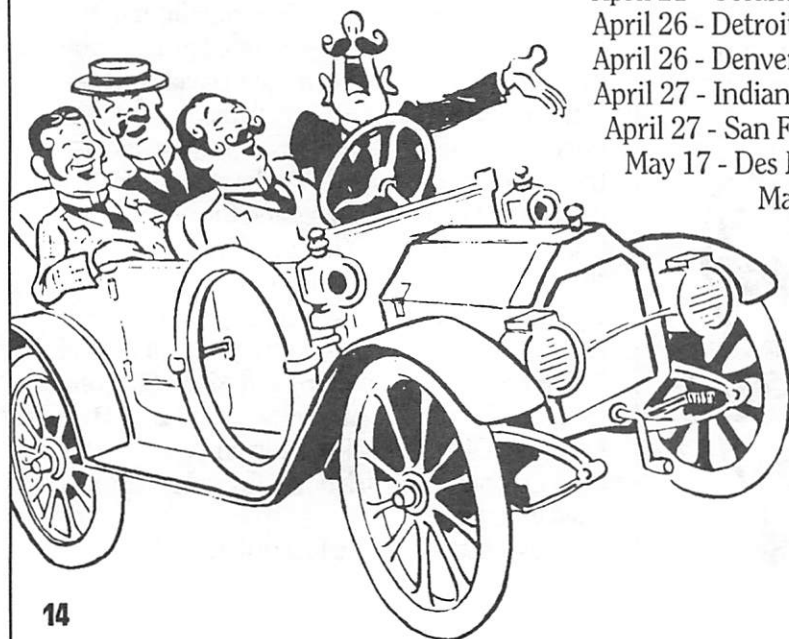
- Learning a new song that can be shared at future planned "reunions"
- Lots of singing of songs and tags—this a participatory event, not a lecture
- Quartet singing and guest quartets...and more surprises, based on each presenter.

The emphasis of each *Roadshow* is to reconnect each Barbershopper with the thrills of singing for the sheer joy of it. Additionally, each attendee will receive a packet of information and materials to help him find new prospects for the Society and its growth. Every member is encouraged to bring a guest. The guest will get a free gift just for coming to the *Roadshow*. Let's help him to experience the music, fraternity and fun that we have. Chapters are encouraged to make it possible for all their members to attend. In fact, you might want to reschedule your weekly meeting so that the *Roadshow* will be a common destination for all your members. We're expecting huge turnouts—don't be the ones that missed it.



The current Roadshow schedule is:

March 15 - Washington, DC area, featuring **Ev Nau**
March 22 - Dallas, TX area, featuring **Bill Myers**
March 22 - Houston, TX area, featuring **Bill Rashleigh**
March 22 - Hartford, CT area, featuring **Jim DeBusman**
March 23 - Los Angeles, CA area, featuring **Bill Rashleigh**
March 23 - Atlanta, GA area, featuring **Lloyd Steinkamp**
March 23 - Philadelphia, PA area, featuring **Jim DeBusman**
March 24 - Minneapolis, MN area, featuring **Lloyd Steinkamp**
March 29 - Louisville, KY area, featuring **Dave LaBar**
March 30 - Rochester, NY area, featuring **Dave LaBar**
April 5 - Seattle, WA area, featuring **Joe Liles**
April 7 - Chicago, IL area, featuring **Joe Liles**
April 19 - Toronto, ON area, featuring **Greg Lyne**
April 20 - St. Louis, MO area, featuring **Ev Nau**
April 21 - Columbus, OH area, featuring **Ev Nau**
April 26 - Detroit, MI area, featuring **Mel Knight**
April 26 - Denver, CO area, featuring **Jim Bagby**
April 27 - Indianapolis, IN area, featuring **Mel Knight**
April 27 - San Francisco, CA area, featuring **Jim Bagby**
May 17 - Des Moines, IA area, featuring **Ev Nau**
May 25 - Orlando, FL area, featuring **Greg Lyne**



**Mark your calendar now
and bring a gang of guys
with you. It's going
to be spectacular!**

THE BOARD ROOM

by John Winfiel, Secretary



During the February board meeting Music VP **Keith Schweer** reported that the music committee has firmed up coaching commitments for this year.

Rosemary Calderon will be here March 23. **Duane Brobst** and **Don Kahl** will be here for an all-

day coaching session on Saturday, May 8, to help us prepare for the international convention.

Due to health concerns, Membership VP **Ken Neujahr** has stepped down. The board wishes Ken a speedy recovery. President **Marty Oldehoeft** will begin the search for a replacement right away.

The board voted to accept **Ron Fortino** and **Jonathan Fortino** as new members. There is no truth to the rumor that the chorus is changing its name to the *Fortinochords*.

The board voted to loan our risers to the *Kansas City Chapter of the Sweet Adelines* the weekend after our March show once again, for them to use during their convention.

Marketing VP **Dick Korek** reported that *Kansas City Power and Light* provided the chorus with a \$500 sponsorship. Dick also reported that he and **Tony Strub** are working on a grant from *Target*.

The board voted to provide four tickets to our March show for **Dan Israel**, in thanks for all his help with the *From The Heart* CD. ~

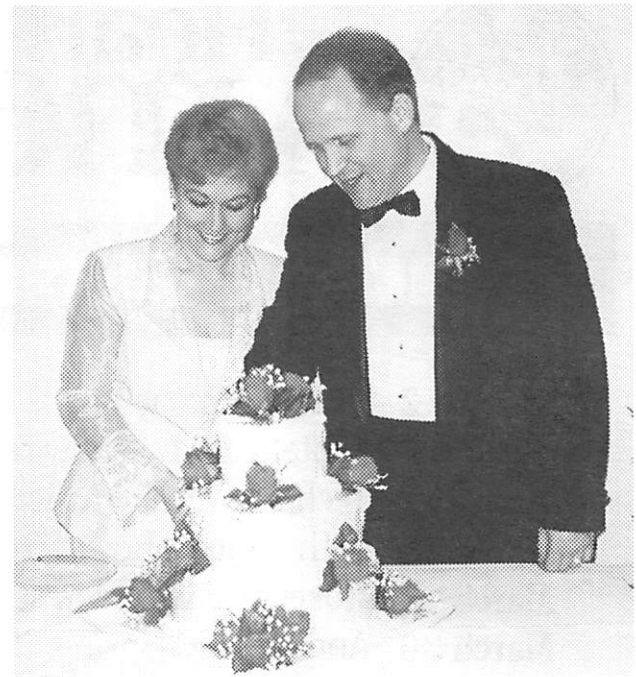


Photo by Mike Neff

WEDDING BELLS by Mike Neff

Grant Hunget and **Michelle Duncan** tied the knot on Saturday, Jan. 17, in the presence of family, friends and their own quartets. *Zing!* serenaded the groom with "If I Give My Heart to You," while *SureFire!* sang "My Best to You" to the new bride. Both quartets sang at the reception and later joined together on "I Wonder Why/You're Just in Love" and "If There's Anybody Here From My Hometown."

Once the groom gets back from his honeymoon, we'll get back to a normal rehearsal schedule again!

Congratulations, Grant and Michelle! ~

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Heart of America



March-April Calendar

- March 2** Bill Biffle coaching
- March 4** Tentative extra show rehearsal
- March 12** Tech rehearsal, Music Hall
- March 13** 58th annual show, "From the Heart," Music Hall, 2 and 7:30 p.m.
- March 23** Rosemary Calderon staging of contest uptune
- March 30** Annual HOA Spring Fling quartet contest
- April 16-17** CSD Prelims, hosted by HOA, Overland Park, KS
- April 20** Tentative HOA coaching session



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