

# The Monthly Bulletin of the Kansas City Heart of America Chorus

## HARMONOTES

Chorus and Quartet Singing  
in the Barbershop Style



Second-Oldest Chapter in the  
Barbershop Harmony Society

Volume 12 • Issue 3 • March 2012

### HOA Goes the Extra Mile in February 2012

by Vince Perry, President



I remember at the Installation Banquet when all the Heartbeats who helped with hosting the 2011 International and District Contest were named "Heartbeats of the Year." I thought that was an excellent idea, especially since so many women worked so hard to make it happen. This came to mind again the other day when I was considering all the men in the chapter who have worked their buns off for the good of the chapter this past month. It is truly amazing and very gratifying. You are all Barbershoppers of the Month for it was definitely a total chapter effort. I'll name a few of the leaders of the pack but it's impossible to name everyone since there were literally dozens of guys making it happen.

Leading the way was your Executive Vice President **John Erwine**. Despite a death in the family, John was able to organize all aspects of the Singing Valentine program. This included securing the candy from sponsor **Russell Stover Chocolates**, a diamond pendant from **Helzberg Diamonds**, the red roses from **Flowerama**, the Headquarters location from **Bank of Blue Valley**, and sweetheart getaway hotels stays with **KC Marriott Downtown, Doubletree by Hilton, Residence Inn by Marriott**, and getting permits for our outside signs. He did all this before the event. Then during the event he scheduled quartets for the deliveries and handled all the last minute phone calls and details. When asked about the event, John said "it was the smoothest Singing Valentine operation I've ever been involved with. Not one complaint!" He even said he really enjoyed the experience this year as opposed to the hassle and complaints in years past causing him to wonder if it was all worth it. Congratulations and many thanks to John. I was happy to participate in the Singing Valentine program by setting up operating the computer ordering system. Even the telephone orders ultimately came through the secure HOA server.

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"Drawn by HARMONY...Bound by FRIENDSHIP...Striving for EXCELLENCE!"

[www.hoachorus.com](http://www.hoachorus.com)



# The Monthly Bulletin of the Kansas City Heart of America Chorus **HARMONOTES**

**Harmonotes** is published by the board of directors of the Kansas City, Mo., Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society®, a non-profit organization. Photographs that are not attributed are the work of our photographers at large. Unless accompanied by a byline, all articles have been written by the editor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the officers and members of the chapter. Space will be made available for opposing points of view.

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

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All chapter officers and quartets are expected, and chapter members encouraged, to contribute their ideas on a regular basis. The editorial staff reserves the right to deny publication of material deemed inappropriate for *Harmonotes* and to edit all submissions for reasons of space and clarity (grammar, content and spelling). Permission to reprint articles is granted to barbershop editors as long as the author and *Harmonotes* are acknowledged. The utmost care was used in preparation of this newsletter. Should you notice erroneous copy, please let the editor know!

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HOA Board meetings take place at 6pm on the second Monday or Tuesday of the month, at St. Thomas More Church, 118th & Holmes, Kansas City, MO 64131.

Chapter members are welcome!

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(Continued from front cover)

I was pretty well stuck at my computer in JoeTown receiving orders, checking them for completeness and accuracy, assigning order numbers and then sending them on to John. This was my third year of providing this service. Others making it happen were **Jim Bagby**, Director Emeritus who once again organized and qualified the SV quartets. He's amazing! **Carl Turlin** helped out in the headquarters and **Mike Mathieu** got the cell phones from **Verizon Wireless** for the umpteenth time. Now add in all the guys and gals who sang in quartets and acted as chauffeurs and you've got a lot of people working for **HOA** and **Children's Mercy Hospital**.

Four days later was Harmony Explosion 2012. Leading the way again this year was Past President **Tony Strub**. Sharing the load of chairmanship this year was **Rob Mathieu**. Between these two guys schools were contacted, information on the website updated, reservations processed, meals ordered, teaching quartets and clinicians secured, getting the awards, and contracting and setting up the venue for the event. I thought it was interesting that after the event, Tony said basically the exact same thing as John about how smooth everything went. I could tell how relaxed and happy Tony appeared this year throughout the whole event. Isn't it amazing how easy some jobs become when so many others help out? Many thanks to Tony, Rob, **HOA** Director & clinician **David Krause**, and teaching quartet, **3 Men and A Melody** (**Rob Mathieu**, **Eric Derks**, **Brad Stephens**, and **Brian Bellof**) for a job well done. Others actively involved were Program Vice President and youth quartet liaison **Jerry Meier**, Emcee **Craig Wilcox**, contest pattern coordinators **Mike and Linda Schumacher**, and lunch line coordinators- all the guys from the current Central States District Plateau A Chorus Champions led by Director **Jerry Garrard**, the Leavenworth **Cody Choraliers Chorus**. Add in all the guys who judged both contests and emceed the preliminary contests, which I was unable to attend because I was judging the finals, and you have more unnamed heroes of the day. Finally an invitation was extended the week before the event to the **HOA** Performing Chorus members to not only attend Harmony Explosion but also to help out with coaching and singing in the men's chorus. I didn't get a count but it was gratifying to see so many **HOA** guys on the risers lifting their voices in song with all the young men participants in the singing of "God Bless America/ Give Me Your Tired Your Poor." I got to sing in the rehearsal chorus and the afternoon performing chorus and it was a heartwarming experience. We hope that some of the young men will accept our invitation to join HOA singing the same songs on stage on our April 14 annual show "Smile, Darn Ya, Smile!" Also, many thanks to **HOA** photographers **Rich Huyck** and **Ron McIntire** for pitch hitting on short term notice for **Don Fuson**. *Great coverage, guys!*

Yes, February was a total team effort. On behalf the entire Kansas City, Missouri Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society I would like to thank all the young women and men who participated, all their dedicated sponsors, the staff and administration of Olathe East High School, and all the men and women of the *Heart of America Chorus/Heartbeats* and *Kansas City Chorus of Sweet Adelines* for making Harmony Explosion 2012 a triumphant experience in the encouragement and preservation of the art form of singing barbershop harmony! This is what the society is all about! **Keep The Whole World Singing!** ♥

# Singing Valentine's: February's Hero's

by John Erwine, SV Chairman



Once again this year we were very fortunate to be the recipients of donations from: **Bank of Blue Valley** (headquarters), **Russell Stover Candy** (sweetheart candy), **Helzberg Diamond** (diamond pendant), **Flowerama** (fresh red roses), **Kansas City Marriott Downtown**, **DoubleTree by Hilton** and **Residence Inn by Marriott** (sweetheart packages). Without the support

of corporations such as these, our effort to contribute to Children's Mercy Hospital and our own message would be almost certainly fruitless.

There are also those other unheralded, valiant contributors that if not for them, this fund-raiser would be fruitless. They come in many varieties – male and female, retirees, those who work either full or part time, those who live close and far away, ones who have done this for many years and some that it's their first.

Have you ever considered the cost to these valiants for their devotion to this cause? First, we have the drivers who transport three other gents (or ladies) with them. This year with fewer deliveries and fewer delivering quartets, most drivers put several hundred miles on their vehicles. Conservatively, gasoline that day averaged about \$3.25. Not one complaint!

Next would be those who work either part- or full time. They have to schedule days off months in advance in order to participate in the delivery process. Some are able to take compulsory or vacation time off; others might lose a day's wages. However, they do get to deliver valentines.

Next may be the strongest of the lot. They are those who schedule the days off, then end up getting a phone call from me indicating they won't be needed this time around; not enough deliveries to make it worthwhile. First is the disappointment of not being able to participate, then perhaps the thought that they may have better used those scheduled days off some other time. Yet they keep coming back.

Then there are those who do the preparatory work many weeks and months in advance of the actual event itself; the untold hours of preparing a flier, procuring and coordinating radio/TV promo spots, quartets to do those promos, and making sure the computer programs are current, tested and ready to go. There are the ones who devote their time and expense to procuring and preparing the appropriate delivery supplies. Next is the difficult task of routing and assigning orders to the appropriate number of quartets while trying to make everyone reasonably happy.

To these valiants of all variations, I salute and commend you all! There is truly something magical in efforts such as these that reward and renew the soul -- a feeling that nullifies all effort and expense experienced. I know this because you return year after year to do it all over again. *You are truly February's Heroes.* ♥

# A Tone-Henge Valentine Summary

by Ol' Dan

We got to thinking (dangerous territory for us old coots)...but while **Tony Strub** was driving us around Feb 14, we were trying to recall the number of years we had been delivering Valentines.

OK. We've been together 14 years, and OK, there were a few of those we had to miss for various reasons....so how many did we do? Well, let's guess. OK, ten.

And how many Valentines delivered each year, on average. Well, let's guess again. It was 13 this year...izzat about average? Well, we guess maybe.

Do we realize what that means? Over time, we have forced tears from 128 women and some guttural groans from a couple guys!

Ah, but was it sweet sentimental thoughts that caused those reactions, or the fact that they had to listen to our special Valentine song that included... those PIPES!

*Tone-Henge* sincerely hopes to never find out. ♥





# Our Singing Valentine Experiences

by Jim Porter

It was a lovely Valentine's Day as I joined with lead **Kevin Tritsch**, bari **Rod Flater** and bass **Marty Oldehoeft** to deliver 10 Singing Valentines to delighted ladies in the Northland area. We're becoming regulars now, as this was our fifth year (at least) together -- four guys dressed alike with our old HOA paisley vests and bow ties, drawing attention wherever we went: "Marty's Merry Men."



**Above: Marty's Merry Men in action!**  
**From left to right: Jim Porter, Kevin Tritsch, Marty Oldehoeft and Rod Flater.**

Our original assignment was 13 Valentines. When I found out six of these were for the same two-hour window in the morning, I turned three of them back to **John Erwine** at headquarters, and he was able to re-assign them to *Tone-Henge*. Great job as usual, John. Your contribution to this effort is more valuable than you could ever know!

Marty's wife, **Sharon**, got our first Valentine, as we sang for her Bible study group at a Methodist church. My wife, **Roberta**, was also there, Sharon's guest for the day. All present got a small box of candy, compliments of Sharon. From there, it was to Ravenswood Elementary School, where we serenaded a kindergarten teacher in front of her students and a cameraman from the Kansas City Star, who interviewed us after the delivery. We made the paper, at the top of Page 4 the next day (Feb. 15). Alas, I was not in the picture, which showed the lady hugging Marty!

Later, we visited the home of **HOA member Dick Henderson** and his wife [Ed. note: **Bess**] in Liberty. (Some may remember Dick as the tenor in **Mark Fortino's** first competing quartet 20 years or so ago.) That was a wonderful time of reminiscing, but we had to cut it short after a half hour so we could make the rest of our stops! Later stops included **Brian Bellof's** wife [Kim] at North Kansas City Hospital and **Carl Turlin's** daughter at a firehouse near the Legends in Kansas City, Kan. (There we also serenaded about 10 male firefighters!)

We were able to make all the deliveries, but some were a challenge. We stopped at the Clay County Courthouse in Liberty only to find out that the lucky lady was on a remote campground on the north side of Smithville Lake. (We had a GPS and it found her there). Later, we were directed to go "just before 3 p.m." to a clinic on Barry Road. We arrived at 2:50 only to find out that the gal had left for the day, at 2:30. We were able to get to her home in Liberty later to deliver that one.

Every stop was a delight! Some of the ladies hugged us, most were the center of attention as others joined for the singing, one even donated \$15 (we agreed to let that go directly to Children's Mercy Hospital), and all agreed we did a good job singing together. Several times we did an encore ("Sweet and Lovely") for others in the area that missed the main event. Not bad for an unregistered quartet with a short repertoire that gets together only once a year! ♥

# Harmony Foundation Report

by Jim Porter



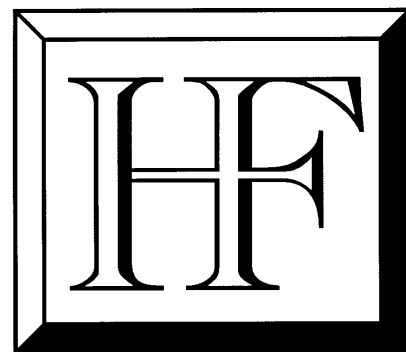
**Note** that we will have our raffle each time we meet in our

regular location. By Board resolution, this year all of the proceeds from the raffle not given as prizes goes to Harmony Foundation. In return, the board is able to have the Foundation designate up to 30% of the fund to chapter activities such as Harmony Explosion.

As of Feb. 22, after seven drawings (three since last report):

- The total collected for Harmony Foundation since the last report is \$46.
- The total collected for the year to date is \$142.
- The total for the previous year was \$176.
- The total two years ago was \$295.

The progressive jackpot stands at \$60. (Minimum prize is \$100) ♥



# Harmony Explosion 2012

by Rob Mathieu, Harmony Explosion Director



MATHIEU

This year at Harmony Explosion, there was not only a record number of registrations, but also

a record turnout of schools that attended this year's festival. And, the competition is getting tougher. There were a total of 53 quartets this year! Wow, those facts are simply amazing, no matter how you cut them. The CSD VP of YIH, **Matt Suellentrop**, who attended the event, said he will never miss another one. Thanks to Matt who drove in from St. Louis to get involved and participate in HE 2012! Thanks and kudos, to the *Heart of America Chorus*, *Cody Choraliers*, and the *Kansas City Chorus of Sweet Adelines*, and everything they did to produce, organize and execute this wonderful youth in harmony event.

I personally want to thank the staff at Olathe East High School who continue to support the Harmony Explosion festival year after year. Staff members include **Dr. Dwayne Dunn**, Choral Director, **Jan Holthous**, Choral Director, Principal **Bill Webber**, and VP of student Activities, **Amanda Faunce**. Without their help, support and approval, this wonderful youth in harmony event wouldn't be possible. As always, a HUGE thank you to **Jerry Meier** of the *Heart of America Chorus*, for meeting with, and keeping the communication going between teachers and students, and teachers and schools, about Harmony Explosion, organizing and scheduling coaching sessions for quartets at their respected schools with members of both the *Heart of America Chorus* and the *Kansas City Chorus of Sweet Adelines*. Another big Thank You to **Linda French**, for organizing the women's and Sweet Adeline's side of Harmony Explosion. Without the support and organization from the *Kansas City Chorus of Sweet Adelines*, this event also wouldn't be possible.

A big shoutout to our Harmony Explosion Musical Directors, from both the *Heart of*

*America Chorus*, and *The Kansas City Chorus of Sweet Adelines*, **David Krause** and **Lori Carrender**. They both did a fantastic job of organizing, directing and teaching both the women's and men's youth choruses. Thanks to you both; your efforts are greatly appreciated by all!

While I'm on the subject of thank you's, I would personally like to thank our outgoing Harmony Explosion Director, **Tony Strub**. Tony has been running this program for the last seven years, and what a finish for him with a record turnout of quartet registrations and schools! I also want to thank him for allowing me the opportunity to 'carry the baton' in planning and organizing this youth festival for years to come. Tony has taken it upon himself to meet with staff, students, teachers, *HOA*, *KCCSA*, etc. and organized the Harmony Explosion for nearly a decade. All the hard work and dedication that goes into producing an event of this caliber year after year is certainly to be commended. Thank you, Tony, for all you do and have done to empower the success of the Harmony Explosion festival. Your efforts are certainly appreciated by all!

## And, the thank you's go on:

Thanks to our MC for the event, **Craig Wilcox** who has done an outstanding job for the last several years. I already have a commitment from him for HE 2013! Thanks Craig.

Thanks to our Harmony Explosion Judging Panel: **Joe Mathieu**, **Brian Bellof**, **Shaun Whisler**, **Keith Schweer**, **Duane Lawson**, **Matt Suellentrop**, **Vince Perry** and **Jerry Garrard**. And, thanks to **Linda French** of *KCCSA* for organizing the ladies judges.

Thanks to our annual Contest Administrators, **Carl and Marci Turlin**, and our contest pattern 'Runners', **Mike and Linda Schumacher**. They take great pride and initiative year after year in their job duties, and do a wonderful job taking care of the judges, tallying the scores, allowing the contest pat-

tern to run smooth and efficiently, and their organization is absolutely amazing. Thanks guys, for everything you do. I would also like to include **Kevin Tritsch** and Coach **Jim Clark** for their help with the contest pattern.

Thanks to the *Cody Choraliers* for their help and organization with the meal for the day. Your efforts are greatly appreciated year after year!

Thanks to our teaching quartets, Parade, from the *KCCSA*, and *3 Men & A Melody* for being clinicians for the day. The excitement they bring to the students with their wonderful harmonies and skills are also greatly appreciated. The kids absolutely loved both groups!

Thanks to our HE photographers, **Rich Huyck** and **Ron McIntire**. Can't wait to see the photos!!

I should have taken better notes in order to individually thank all the guys for *HOA* that attended, helped out with various duties, and sang with the boys chorus, to help them learn "America the Beautiful/Give Me Your Tired." So thanks again to all of the members of *HOA* that attended and made this event such a success.

Thanks to all of the members of *HOA* and *KCCSA* who took time out their busy schedules to coach the HE quartets, and help raise the bar in the contest realm. Your efforts are also greatly appreciated by all!

Harmony Explosion 2012 was a very fun and rewarding experience, that you won't want to miss next year! Stay tuned for details on HE 2013, and we'll 'start spreading the news.'

Thanks again to everyone (especially the folks I missed)! ♥



# Harmony Explosion – Thank You, Coaches!

by Jerry Meier



Harmony Explosion was a blast! It always is and always will be, thanks to the support provided by the *Kansas City Chorus of Sweet Adelines* and the *Kansas City Heart of America Chorus*.

The kids really enjoyed singing on stage and hearing other quartets perform. All of the Music Educators that I talked to said the same thing – their students loved it! Harmony Explosion was a blast (pun intended)!

Didn't you think there were some really good quartets? Maybe it's because they had the chance to practice multiple times with a coach. Guess what? You are absolutely right! Thanks to the coaching volunteers, these kids were able to sing their songs multiple times before Harmony Explosion. This would not be possible if the Music Educators had to do this alone.

Please give a special **Thank You** handshake along with a pat on the back to these fine individuals that volunteered their time and talents to help these young kids achieve greatness on stage:

- **Jon Gathright, Shaun Whisler, Don Young, David Krause, and Jim Bagby** from *HOA*.
- **Michelle Hunget and Sheri Hart** from the *KCCSA*. Sheri was in such high demand every week – many quartets now call her Queen Sheri the Super Coach! She had to turn down requests because she was so busy. Everybody loves to work with Sheri! *Thanks so much!*

I cannot explain the overwhelming gratitude that kids have for all of you coaches! You are fantastic ambassadors of our hobby. Thank you very much helping these kids, and for making your small contribution to our Barbershop Harmony Society. ❤️

Winner photos courtesy of **Ron McIntire**





# New Harmony Handful Gets in Six Performances in Three Days

by Dave Hokanson, NHH Lead

This month has proven to be one of the busiest, and yet one of the most rewarding, to all of us. We started extra practice early in February, and then at the end of the month had two days in one week where we spent both days visiting nursing homes and singing for church groups (total of five – plus one restaurant appearance).

Very interesting phenomenon when you're singing to a nursing home where the responses are not what you would get from any other group. And at first it's somewhat unsettling and unusual. However, as you leave these groups, the appreciation, sometimes not even verbal, is overpoweringly strong and makes the time spent very worthwhile.

We had the occasion to on the first day to eat lunch together at a Gladstone restaurant that was close to our next performance, and was asked by one of the patrons to sing a song for them impromptu, it was a group of maybe 35 to 40 patrons, and we got overwhelmingly strong response and were able to hand out flyers to a number of the patrons for the April HOA show. That again made the day worthwhile. And we mentioned the show wherever we performed, particularly for a lively senior church group.

We did two nursing homes and the church group on Tuesday, then two more nursing home stops on Thursday. **Tony Strub** said of the week: "My thoughts and feelings when we were singing to the residents of the nursing and rehabilitation homes: I had a profound sense of gratitude to these Americans for all that they have contributed in their lives to our country, our culture and to our freedom and security with which we are blessed."

Director **Jim Bagby** shared a moment at the end of our last session on our first day, after one little lady in her wheelchair took both of his hands and told him with tears in her eyes it was "the best music I've ever heard." I don't think she was trying other than to make Jim stay, but we think it's moments like that that make these times special and worthwhile.

Our last day was as great as the first and we ended our day with a rather small nursing home but while the residents were few, they were lively and we suggested that they should get a bus to bring them to the April program. Their response: "By George, we might have to do that!"



Above: NHH enjoying at lunch at the Corner Café in Riverside on Feb. 23, between engagements. Burp! Photo courtesy of Rich Huyck

## Reflections from some other NHH members on the week:

Did anyone notice, at one of our performances yesterday, a woman in a high-backed wheelchair. She was so thin as to be almost skeletal. She didn't move and I don't know if she could. Her head was turned up and to the left. I

noticed her, initially, when we came into the room. The second time I looked her way, she was singing along to "Let Me Call You Sweetheart." That's way cool. - **Roy Manade**

Was that a couple of great days or performing or what? I can not get over some of those faces we saw, and I was taken back by all those that sang along with us, mouthing most every word. I could not help but picture in my mind how it would have been like if my own mother and dad were their to enjoying our singing. - **Bob Howard**

The gratification of singing in nursing homes and assisted-living facilities is hard to totally describe. The patrons are so appreciative and thankful that you took the time and effort to help make their day, it is immeasurable. We urge all Barbershop groups to just try it, a big payoff awaits! - **Jon Gathright**

(Continued on page 8 ➡)

# Harmony Explosion: An Awesome Singing Experience!

by Jim Porter

Imagine yourself young again, in a chorus of 120 voices, surrounded by a sound you've heard only from the best, and you'll get a sense of what I and others in our chorus experienced Saturday, Feb. 19, as Harmony Explosion took over Olathe East High School for a day.

I have had the privilege of singing with some of the best over the years, including three International champion choruses, but this experience Saturday ranks right up there. What an exciting time it will be on our show April 14 if even half of these young voices are on stage with us for that closing song!

It was my first year to be around all day for this event. My, how I have missed out on a blessing these past few years! My hat is off to **Tony Strub** and others who organized everything for how it has blossomed into what it is today. Being the treasurer, I know. This year, we sold 248 registrations (lunch tickets) to middle and high school participants from eight or so school districts, including a contingent from Salina. Most of these were from Olathe, who had contingents from three of their four high schools and at least two middle schools. The group was about equally divided boys and girls, and the day's activities closed with a chorus presentation by each group, girls and boys. This was a 30% increase over a year ago, which in turn was 18% over 2010.

The boys gathered in the morning for an hour with **David Krause** directing and *Three Men and a Melody* as section leaders, and were introduced to our new patriotic song "America the Beautiful Medley." All were given a copy of the sheet music, and in

that hour, the group was singing that song reasonably well while holding the paper. The group met again in the afternoon for an hour, and by the end of that time it was sounding pretty good! For that hour, we were on the risers. Then, at the end, it was show time! Those kids sure learn fast! It was just awesome. You had to be there.

The main event was the quartet competition. This contest has rules more relaxed than what we are used to. One winning quartet sang a Gospel song. Some of the competitors were octets, not quartets. There was a competition in four divisions (middle school girls, middle school boys, high school girls, high school boys), where each group sang one song for four judges from our chapter in the preliminary round in the morning, after which the top five groups in each division were chosen for the final round in the afternoon. Most, if not all, of these groups sang the same song in the afternoon round for a different panel of four judges. All 20 of these groups were given medals, but scores were announced so you know who won out. Top scores were around 70%, but all in all, there were some pretty good groups up there that electrified the audience and had fun while doing it.

Now, imagine the potential there is in this area. Over half of these young people were out of Olathe School District. Imagine if we could have the same level of participation from other area school districts or any of the school districts on the Missouri side. There could be over a thousand voices out there, right in this area! Let's all help make Harmony Explosion really explode in the future! WOW. ♥

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## NHH Gets in Six Performances in Three Days

(Continued from page 7)

I've said it before, but I really miss the camaraderie of singing with the chorus, but I certainly felt it today! I would be hard-pressed to say that our audiences were more blessed than I was! It has been said that: "He who sings prays twice!" I have been! Thanks for making my day-off truly something out-of-the-ordinary! - **Jim Davis**

For many years this has traditionally been a nation that dusts off its older generation, placing them where those doing the dusting no longer have to worry about the dust. I hope we are part of those that are trying to change that. When you first encounter an experience such as this, it only takes a couple of melodies to

see the reaction that you impose. An elderly woman, wheelchair bound, seemingly non-functional begins humming and tries to sing. She shows no acknowledgement of your presence, that she may be obtrusive to your message, yet still continues. Later she becomes silent, and still seemingly somewhat non-functional. However when I leave, I present her with a rose. She touches my hands, draws me near and whispers in my ear, "Could you possibly sing for my electric company?" She'd been there with us all along and we just didn't recognize it. It gives me more hope than I can express for what we did that one day, in that one moment for that very special Lady. I hope one day, I will be treated as well. - **John Erwine** ♥





by Marci Brown-Turlin,  
Heartbeats President

**We'd love to see you!  
If you would like to...**

- ♥ Get to know other wives and lady friends of the *Heart of America Barbershop Chorus*.
- ♥ Support the endeavors of the *Heart of America chorus*.
- ♥ Have fun!

...then join us at our next events while our fellows are rehearsing.

Please join us at 7:30 p.m. for these upcoming events at St. Peter's Church of Christ, 110<sup>th</sup> and Holmes:

- ♥ March 13 with Hostesses **Jana Henderson** and **Jeffi Combs**
- ♥ May 8 with Hostesses **Lois Kemper** and **Cindy Miller**
- ♥ Sept. 11 for our *Heartbeats* Appetizer Potluck with Hostesses **Linda Fuson** and **Linda Schumacher**
- ♥ Dec. 11 for our *Heartbeats* Christmas Cookie and Ornament Exchange with Hostesses **Betsy Strub** and **Sharon Oldehoeft**



Questions?  
Call President  
**Marci Brown-Turlin** at 816-356-1356. ♥

## SMILE, But Please Don't SNOOZE!

by Kent & Cindy Miller, 2012 Show Chairs

You can SMILE, because our ticket promotion for our Saturday, April 14, 2012, *Smile, darn ya', Smile*, was successful in that as this is written we have sold over **600** tickets, representing over 50% of the total tickets sold to our 2011 Spring Show and a shade under 25% of the total house at JCCC (Yardley Hall)!

Please don't SNOOZE, though, because we need to double those sales in the next seven weeks. There are lots of reasons to continue to market this event. It's at a great venue with a great location and great free parking – easily accessible to all. We have wonderful quartets, including the headliner quartet *Max Q*, **the 2007 International Champions!** The tickets are extremely reasonable, and you can make them even more reasonable by ordering them in groups of 10 or more to get a \$5 discount **per ticket!**

As great as those reasons are we actually have much **better** reasons to market this wonderful product! If you don't want to think about selling think about why people should donate to HOA. Share with people the news article about HOA raising \$23,000 in one day for the Salvation Army. Ask them to donate to HOA by coming to our show so we can "stay in business" and continue to raise money for the Salvation Army and for Children's Mercy and so we can continue to put on Harmony Explosion, which set records this year for the number of kids we helped, and so we can continue to bring millions of dollars to the Kansas City economy by hosting conventions!

I've tried this approach and actually had people thank me for sharing the Salvation Army information. People appreciate knowing what we are doing for Kansas City and they appreciate knowing what you are doing to help.

So, take posters with you everywhere you go. Carry around the news article about HOA raising \$23,000 in one day for the Salvation Army. Carry around last year's program to show the great color ads they can have at a very reasonable price.

We need everyone's help to make this a success. ♥

# SELL, DARN 'YA SELL!







**The Pink Ladies**  
Pioneer Trail  
Silver Medal



**The Baristas**  
Pioneer Trail  
Silver Medal



**Abra-Chord-Abra**  
Olathe East  
Silver Medal



**The Breaking Point**  
Olathe East  
Gold Medal



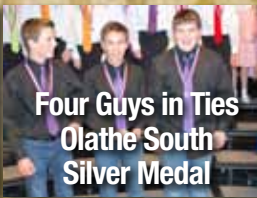
**California Dreamin'**  
California Trail  
Gold Medal



**Fourtet**  
California Trail  
Silver Medal



**Hooked On Tonics**  
Pioneer Trail  
Silver Medal



**Four Guys in Ties**  
Olathe South  
Silver Medal



**The Chord Police**  
Olathe East  
Silver Medal



**The Dreamers**  
Pioneer Trail  
Silver Medal

# HARMONY



# EXPLOSION!



**Lady La La's**  
Bishop Meigs  
Gold Medal



**Basket Case**  
Olathe East  
Gold Medal



**Satin Dolls**  
Salina South  
Gold Medal



**Alatta Feremata**  
Olathe East  
Gold Medal



**The Perfect Fourths**  
Olathe East  
Gold Medal



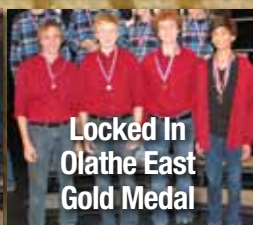
**Supernaturals**  
Olathe South  
Gold Medal



**Stay Sharp**  
Olathe East  
Gold Medal



**Key Change**  
Olathe South  
Gold Medal



**Locked In**  
Olathe East  
Gold Medal



**Thrillride**  
Olathe East  
Gold Medal





Clinician/Director David Krause teaching the boys chorus their song during the morning session.



Boys learning the chorus song.



3 Men & A Melody helping their sections learn their parts.

# 248 YOUNG VOICES! 53 QUARTETS!



Girls Chorus in afternoon rehearsal



Girls Chorus in afternoon rehearsal with Clinician/Director Lori Carrender on right



Girls Chorus in afternoon rehearsal with teaching quartet Parade helping their sections



*Heart of America Barbershop Chorus* presents

# Smile! *darn 'ya* Smile!



MaxQ  
2007 International  
Quartet Champions



Voices Unlimited  
2011 Central States District  
Quartet Champions

**Saturday, April 14**  
**Yardley Hall**

**Johnson County Community College**

- Show times: 2pm and 7:30 pm
- For \$25 or \$20 tickets call 913-469-4445
- Also available at [www.hoachorus.com](http://www.hoachorus.com) (service fee additional)
- Group and Student Discounts • Free Parking





The 2012 International Convention in Portland, Oregon is going to be exciting on so many levels! You'll experience the drama between Musical Island Boys and Ringmasters as they vie for the top spot in the quartet competition and try to keep other contenders at bay! Whoever wins, it will be fun to watch.

Equally exciting will be the chorus contest, where Great Northern Union, having had a taste of precious metal in 2011, is certainly not going to back down from the contest with Ambassadors of Harmony.

There'll be beautiful music and beautiful scenery all around, with the International Rose Test Garden, the Columbia River Gorge, and Multnomah Falls all within easy reach! See what we're talking by visiting <http://www.travelportland.com/things-to-see-and-do/attractions/top-sights>. And, breathtaking coastal views of the Pacific are only about 100 miles away! ♥

## Passport Day in the USA March 10, 2012: Be Ready for Toronto



Looking ahead to our **2013 International Convention** in Toronto, Ontario, do you have a passport? Is it current? Do you know you need one to enter Canada? Here's how to avoid the last-minute rush and ensure you have yours in time.

Normally you have to make an appointment, but the Department of State Passport Services will open the doors to walk-ins at post offices and clerk's offices on Passport Day, March 10, 2012.

Get your forms and more information on requirements at the State Department website (<http://www.travel.state.gov/>), and be ready to head to Toronto next year! See more about Passport Day and find locations at [http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport\\_5535.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_5535.html). ♥

## The PREMIERE Event for Barbershop Music Education!

**ATTN: Harmony University  
2012 Students:**

Due to technical problems, online registrations **were not successful** from February 9 - February 15. Please register again at <http://www.barbershop.org/harmony-university-main.html>. We apologize for the inconvenience!



Here's your chance to really dig in to the essence of this great hobby! Come to Harmony University, July 29 - August 5, 2012 at the beautiful Missouri Western State University campus, and enjoy learning at Harmony College, Directors College or Quartet College. Also back by popular demand, Coaching College and Private Vocal Instruction, which were debuted last year with great response.

Enjoy a performance by special guest *Old School*, the 2011 International Champion quartet, and the keynote address, delivered by the future new Society CEO. Harmony University participants under 25 will sing in the *Next Generation Chorus*.

Men and women are welcome, and special discounts are available to choruses that come as a group.

Faculty includes giants such as **Steve Armstrong, Tom Gentry, Kirk Young, Russ Young, David Wright**, and many more. Quartet coaches include seasoned experts **Brian Barford, Marty Lovick, Kim Vaughn, Kevin Keller, Brent Graham**, and others.

Scholarships are available for directors, quartets, arrangers and FIRST-TIME attendees — but they're limited, so act fast!

**Editor's Note: HOA's Orval Wilson Memorial Harmony University Scholarship is given annually to an HOA first-timer by the Heartbeats and HOA. The selection committee is accepting applications now. The Application forms are available online on the HOA Members Page and the deadline for filing is March 13. Completed applications may be sent by email to Marci Brown-Turlin at [carlmarci1345@att.net](mailto:carlmarci1345@att.net).**

Register online at <http://www.barbershop.org/education> by MIDNIGHT, March 15th, to get the lowest rates possible. ♥



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 big Tip O'The Hat to **Joe Mathieu** and **Dave Jobe** for establishing the *HOA* Twitter account and then tweeting with people about *HOA*! Dave is relentless in getting more "followers" on Twitter.

Also, another Tip of the old hat to **David Krause** for his recent work chairing the *HOA* history committee. Hats off to **Keith Schweer** for his efforts in compiling a list of past and present *HOA* members. It's rather lengthy. Any future help would be appreciated by **Keith**.

Also a nod of the bowler to *Voices Unlimited* (**Mark and John Fortino, Micah Jeppesen, and Shaun Whisler**) and **Tony Strub** for conducting an all day tour of area schools promoting barbershop harmony, Harmony Explosion and our upcoming annual show. The same tip of the hat to *BCQ* (**Rob Mathieu**, substitute lead **David Krause, Matt Moore** and **Tom Wenner**) for also conducting a five-school tour for the good of barbershop harmony. These are huge accomplishments! Many thanks.

Hats off to **Kent and Cindy Miller** for establishing and running a very successful pre-annual show ticket sales blitz that included multiple discounts and a chance at winning a Kindle Fire.



And one last tip of the hat to everyone that contributed the successes of our Singing Valentines and Harmony Explosion programs. *Heroes you are!* ♥



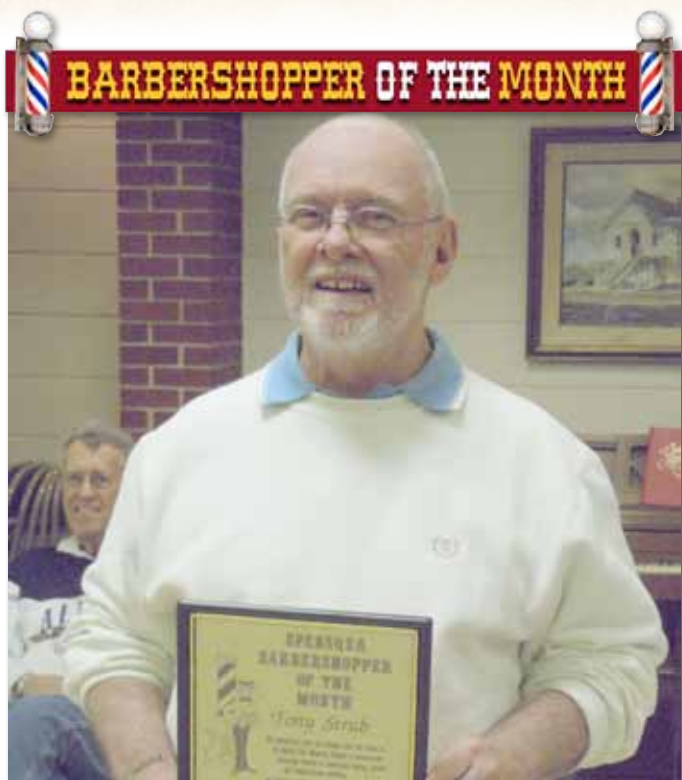
...to the following **HOA MEMBERS!**

March 4 **Ron McIntire**  
 March 6 **David Krause**  
 March 16 **Eric Weber**  
 March 17 **Don Young**  
 March 21 **Bronson Garrard**  
 March 23 **Price Carter**  
 March 23 **Charles Ramirez**  
 March 29 **Jerry Meier**  
 March 29 **Jake Wozniak**  
 March 30 **Doc Jeppesen**

**DEADLINE**  
**FOR THE APRIL ISSUE**  
**OF HARMONOTES:**  
**MARCH 28**



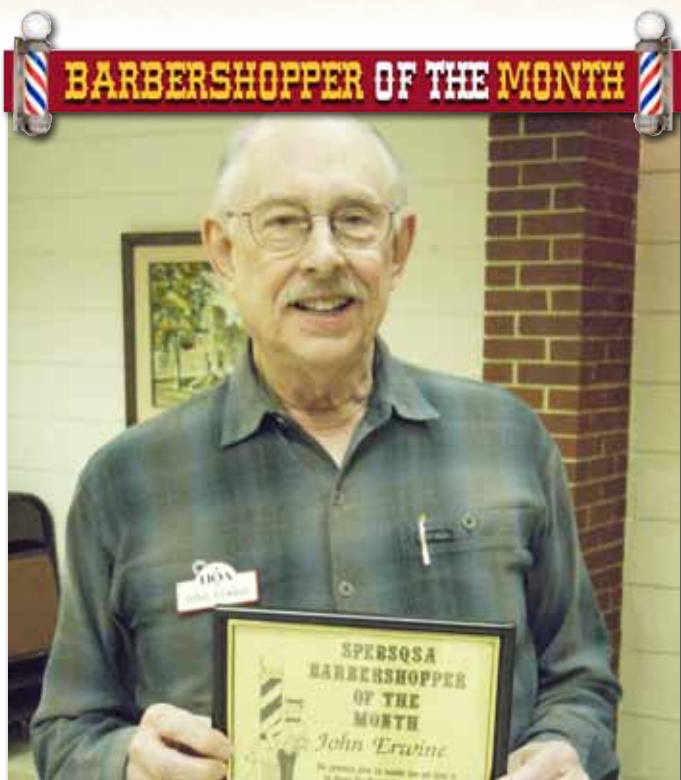




### Tony Strub - February 2012

In grateful recognition for your work planning, organizing and managing the 2012 *Heart of America Chorus* Harmony Explosion program at Olathe South High School, February 18, 2012.

Photo courtesy of **Ron McIntire**



### John Erwine - February 2012

In grateful appreciation for your work planning, organizing and managing the 2012 Singing Valentine program, February 13-14, 2012.

Photo courtesy of **Ron McIntire**



### Ron McIntire - February 2012

**Ron McIntire** (left) is shown receiving the Feb. Extra Mile Award from Executive Vice President **John Erwine**.

In grateful appreciation for your work planning, organizing and publishing the 2012 Kansas City, Missouri Chapter and *Heart of America Chorus* chapter directory. Photo courtesy of **Ron McIntire**



### Jim Bagby - February 2012

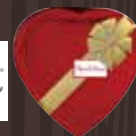
Director Emeritus **Jim Bagby** (right) is shown receiving the Feb. Extra Mile Award from Executive Vice President **John Erwine**.

In grateful appreciation for your work organizing, coordinating, and qualifying quartets for the 2012 *Heart of America* Singing Valentine program, February 13-14, 2012.

Photo courtesy of **Vince Perry**

## Make An Effort To Patronize Our Sponsors!

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



## Heart of America Chorus Calendar

**April 14 (Saturday)**

2012 Annual Spring Show at  
Johnson County Community College  
2PM & 7:30PM

**May 18 - 19 (Friday – Saturday)**

2012 HOA Chorus Retreat at  
Lake Doniphan featuring  
Mike Slamka!

**April 20-22**

CSD Spring Convention with  
International Preliminary Quartet  
Contest & Plateau A Chorus Contest

**July 4 - 7 (Wednesday – Saturday)**

2012 International Competition in  
Portland, Oregon

### **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.