

HARMONOTES



The Monthly Bulletin of Kansas City's Heart of America Chorus

CHORUS AND QUARTET SINGING
IN THE BARBERSHOP STYLE



SECOND-OLDEST CHAPTER IN THE
BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

VOLUME 07 - ISSUE 4 - MAY 2007

Hunter Helps Set Us On Course For Denver

by Jim Bagby, HOA Chorus Director



HOA is humming these days as the chorus points for our trip up the mountain, to the Mile High city. I hope you're excited as I am, especially in the wake of the May 1 coaching session by ball-of-fire Presentation Coach **Joe Hunter**.

That came on the heels of some creative work by **Mike Louque**, **Mike Neff** and the *HOA* Presentation team to give us a totally new, fun look on "Runnin' Wild." And Joe, the droll PRES category specialist, was obviously a lot of help in getting the new plan implemented—silly characters and all.

Now it's up to us to keep **Mark Hale's** singing reminders in the forefront as we work toward Denver. We an 80-plus-voice chorus, having maximum participation also is a key as we polish through May and June.

I hope everyone has the June 22-23 retreat in Atchison on your calendar, when **Joe** and **Mark** will be back to work in tandem two weekends before we hit the stage in Denver. We should have a pretty good idea by then how we feel about our chances!

I expect Music Veep **Carter Combs** will address this topic, so I won't double-team you, but it is worth a reminder that we'll be singing one mile above sea level. I am a native of Colorado, and spent summers there even after my family moved to Oklahoma. One summer when I was a teen, we went back for vacation in the mountains of southwest Colorado, near Antonito—just gorgeous trout fishing country. We drove up to our cabin near the Conejos River, I hopped

out of the family van, carried an ice chest to the porch, set it down and passed out. You have to get used to the altitude.

For all of us, some extra attention to diet AND especially aerobic activity will pay off. For those who can't get to Denver early, before our first practice Wednesday, take it easy; try to get in some extra walking, slowly at first. The *Ambassadors of Harmony* are bringing in a nutritionist to talk to their guys about the recommended practices from a diet perspective to help make the transition to the higher altitude.

Speaking of *AOH*, St. Charles is arguably the favorite for the chorus gold, and we support 'em all the way, just as we are rooting for *12th Street Rag* to maintain their lofty spot—sitting in the medals so far going into the contest! *The Noise Boys*, which include longtime friends **Bemo Myers** from St. Joe and **Jeff Veteto** from Springfield, also qualified at the same Sioux Falls contest with *12th Street*. And veteran *3 Men & A Melody* from the Kansas City metro area are bound back to Denver with scores that rank that just below *12th Street*.

In the collegiate contest, our own **Brian Marston**, now singing with *AOH*, also will be competing in Denver with *Blue Notes*, who ran away with the collegiate contest in Sioux Falls. Their scores should make them a medalist favorite in Denver, so let's get there and cheer for 'em along with dad **Bruce Marston**, who will be singing with us in Denver. ♥



Beep, Beep!

by Tony Strub, HOA President



During the months of February, March and the first half of April, the activities of *HOA* accelerated from our normal speed of Mach I to full warp speed. In a span of just ten weeks, our chapter organized, prepared

and presented the following outstanding events: Singing Valentines, Harmony Explosion, John Knox Village Show, Strategic Plan, Coaching with Mark Hale, Spring Show, Trenton Show, Spring Fling, and The Colonial Church of Christ chorus presentation. All of this was in addition to our regular Tuesday rehearsals, music team meetings and board meetings. To do all of this and to do it as well as it was done is a real credit to the quality, commitment and dedication of our membership. I want to thank all of those who worked so hard to make all of these events so successful. Now, we must look to July and Denver.

In order to succeed in Denver, we must have the same commitment and work ethic that we have seen so far in 2007. Because of the successes of the past few months, our chapter budget has experienced above normal revenues. As a result, the board has authorized the reimbursement, in Denver, of the cost of the international convention registration for each member of the contest chorus. It is our hope that this will be of some help to our members who have already signed up for Denver and perhaps make it more attractive to those who are still thinking about it. ♥

Harmonotes Awarded First Place at CSD!

by Todd Anderson, Editor and so-so Lead

Photo courtesy of **Chuck Ames**

HOA's monthly communication tool, for the second year in a row, has received a first place nod from the Central States District bulletin judges. *Congrats, HOA!*

What, you say? The award goes to the EDITOR, doesn't it? Well, yes, it does. I get a nice plaque with my name carved in it. However, the plaque really needs to be a LOT bigger in order to contain all the names that gave so much to making our bulletin shine.



**CSD President Don Fuson presents
Harmonotes Editor Todd Anderson with
the BETY Award for 2006**

The first round of profuse thanks goes to a strong team of dedicated folks who help make it happen.

Matt Bostick, Don Fuson and **Ron McIntire** make a point of sending me photos that help tell the chapter's story each month. We are lucky to have such great photographers in our midst.

In 2006 we also had a conscientious crew of article contributors and helpers including **Wade Dexter, Ron McIntire, Jim Bagby, Tony Strub, Dick Korek, Jim Porter, Dan Henry, Stew Grosser, Carter Combs, Mike Neff, Kevin Tritsch, Jerry Garrard, Al Higgins, Dan Henry, Bruce Wenner, Keith Schweer, Monty Duerksen, Eilene Campsey, Vince Perry, Mike Mathieu, Doug Brott, Grant Hunget, Carl Turlin, Bob Murphy, Phil Velkamp** and **Dale Neuman**. We even had guest articles from such notable society names as **Jim Clancy, Jay Giallombardo** and **Ben Ayling!**

Then there are the proofing eyes of **Jim Bagby** who are no doubt bloodshoot from trying to eliminate the pesky mistakes that are repeated by me continually. You'd think at some point I'd remember that there's a style guide available online.

Then there's **Dick Irwin** who tirelessly gathers the bulletins, prepares them for mailing, then gets them to the post office. Without his help, there's no bulletin!

All of the above people providing their best for *HOA*....and yet I'm the guy who gets anointed with high praise and a plaque. Oh, well. Who am I to abolish years of tradition? (grin)

While I'm eagerly looking forward to seeing what the chorus accomplishes in Denver, you can bet I'll also be sitting on the edge of my seat to see how we fare in the bulletin category. Last year we were blessed to reach third place. If we're recognized again, it'll be because of the many dedicated folks who gave something of themselves for the readers of *Harmonotes*.

Well done, gang! Stay the course! ♥

HOA Provides Funds For CMH

by Monty Duerksen for *Command Performance*

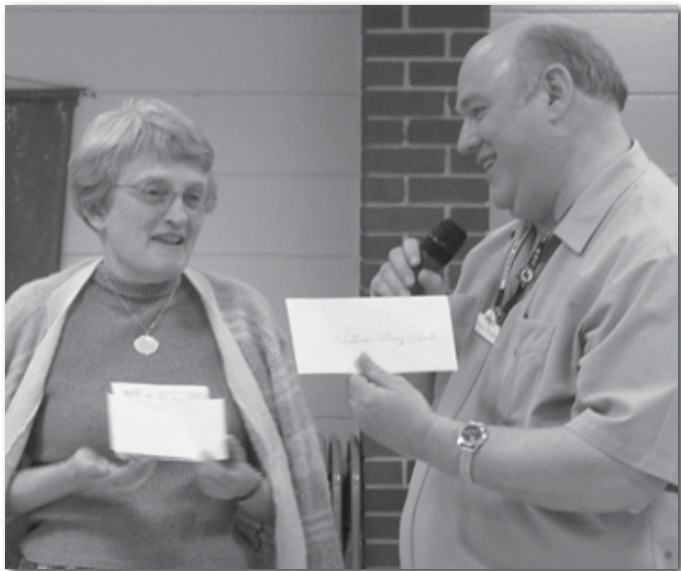


Photo courtesy of **Ron McIntire**

Tuesday, April 17, 2007 was a very special day for Children's Mercy Hospital. **Cynthia Jacobsen**, Director of the Hearing and Speech Department was presented with a check for \$2,000 by **Marlin Weidler**, chairman of the HOA Singing Valentine event this past February. The following letter was sent by Cynthia to the Chorus

Dear Chorus:

Thank you so very much for your concerned help for our children. We've been blessed these past 14 years with additional funds to purchase equipment to help our children. We've been able to promote good hearing, speech and voice. This year we plan to buy equipment that helps children with loudness and pitch.

You have a strong, vibrant chorus. It is amazing to me how 80 voices sing as one and can rehearse on risers for 3 solid hours. Your commitment to be "Drawn by Harmony, Bound by Friendship and Striving for Excellence" is evident. Please extend my thanks to the Heart of America Barbershop Chorus.

Cynthia H. Jacobsen, Ph.D., Fellow, ASHA
Director of Hearing and Speech Department
Children's Mercy Hospital
Kansas City, Missouri ♥



Children's Mercy
HOSPITALS & CLINICS
www.childrens-mercy.org

Spring Fling Results!

by Harvey Shapiro

Approximately 60 guys participated in the April 10 Spring Fling! The winning quartets are shown below in the photo provided by **Don Fuson**.

Music Men made up of **Bob Burdick, Gordon Coleman, John Gathright** and **Doug Brott** took home the gold member. Second place and taking home the silver medal was *Babbling Bros. & others* made up of **John Erwine, Al Fehlauser, Phil Owen** and **Keith Owen**. The bronze medal was awarded to *Staff Stoolies* made up of **Mike Schumacher, Tom Elefson, Barry Sanders** and **Rich Huyck**. Judges for the competition were **Dick Irwin, Alex Scott, Vince Perry** and **Marty Oldehoeft**. MC for the evening was **Carl Turlin**, and co-chairmen were **Harvey Shapiro** and **Don Young**.

Various C.D.'s and \$20 gift certificates to AppleBee's were awarded to the winning quartets. A big thank you to all the guys who helped make this a very successful and rewarding evening. A special thanks to **Carl Turlin** who did his best to keep the competition moving along. Also a big thanks to **Ron McIntire** for putting together the 2007 Spring Fling certificates! ♥



Photo courtesy of **Don Fuson**

An Irishman named O'Leary, who loved to sing as he worked, bought a mule to farm his garden. The mule worked well, but was almost totally deaf. So, when his owner yelled "Whoa!" the animal often continued plowing. Asked how the mule was working out, O'Leary shook his head. "There was a time," he said, "when all my neighbors could hear was me singing my lilting melodies. Lately, I'm afraid, all they've heard are my riled Irish whoas."

— from the *Macon, GA Sharptalk*, **Fred Hinesley**, editor



May 8 Orientation by Bob Murphy, Membership Vice-President

On May 8 we will have an orientation for new members and any member that has not attended an orientation. This will be a little shorter than the one held last year. I have asked 10 members to speak for only 10 minutes. This will include our President, members of the music section leaders, directors teams, person in charge of the uniform, and others. This information only meeting should help all new and newer members to better

understand how the chapter is operated and how things get done.

In early June, I plan to have an orientation meeting for all HOA members that are going to Denver. This meeting will be held on a separate day from our regular meeting. What will be presented will include schedule, hotels, rehearsal times, and other information such as how to save on food while in Denver. I believe that this will be a very helpful

session and would hope that most of those planning to go to Denver will attend.

If you have any suggestions on what you would like to have included in the Denver orientation, please let me know. ♥



MURPHY

Barbershop Quartets, Children's Book Join in Perfect Harmony

by Angie Schmitt, Suburban News Reporter, taken from the Worthington (Ohio) News

The four-part vocal harmonies of barbershop quartets have inspired Galena resident Mary Ann Watson in more ways than one.

Two years ago, Watson met her future husband, Chuck, while he was performing with an a cappella barbershop singing group.

Now, the 59-year-old freelance writer has dedicated her first published work to informing others about the traditions and customs of the musical genre.

The Watsons spend many of their weekends attending conferences and competitions of the Barbershop Harmony Society. The society's 30,000 members—and their children and grandchildren—are the primary targets of Watson's marketing plan for her book, Ethan's barbershop Singing Family.

"There are no other children's books on barbershop singing," said Watson. "I think it will be very successful overnight."

The illustrated story walks readers through the basics of barbershop music, led by a young boy named Ethan.

Barbershop music is a family tradition



Photo by Jeffrey Konczal

in Ethan's household. His relatives help recount some of the history and customs of the music Watson loves.

Although Watson has been writing for six years, Ethan's story is her first published book. Watson dedicated the book to her grandchildren and the Southern Gateway Chorus, her husband's vocal group.

The book has earned Watson a reputation among barbershop singers. "I'm kind of the barbershop book lady now," she said.

At times, said Watson, the response has been a little overwhelming. "It

was like I wrote War and Peace or something," she said, laughing as she recalled one society members response.

"But it has obviously captured the love these guys have for barbershopping."

Although the Watsons share a love of barbershop music, it's mainly Mr. Watson who carries the couple's tune.

"We both love music," said Mrs. Watson, "but I don't sing at all. I'm more of a cheerleader."

Watson's book was self-published by a company called Booksurge. It is available online at amazon.com. ♥



The President's Fund —A Reminder

by Dale Neuman



NEUMAN

As we enter the final two months of chorus preparation for International, most of us are also making our travel plans and plans for other things to do or see in Denver or en route. All these plans require us to consider our budgets and make decisions accordingly.

The Chapter Board has already announced that *HOA* will reimburse all who compete in Denver for the cost of an “early bird” registration and this will surely help with the budget of everyone who does compete. But it will be after the fact. So plan accordingly.

Another part of planning for Denver, for some, might be to consider the President's Fund. As I have written here before, this fund was created a number of years ago to provide modest assistance to men who otherwise might not be able to participate in contest. If you find that your budget plans are such that you are not planning go to Denver and compete, please visit with either **Carter Combs** (Music VP) or **Vince Perry** (Chorus Manager) about your situation and they and I will see what help might be possible. Over the years many different men have been helped by the Fund and many different men have helped the fund stay a viable source of modest support.

The ground rules are fairly straight-forward. If you get help, you are not obliged to pay it back—but many do when they are able. If you get help, it is expected that your budget will be “economy style”—car pooling, room sharing, etc., so that each dollar goes as far as it can to get you there to sing. The fund does not support social events. ALL requests must be submitted by mid-June so that we have a good idea of how much we may need to allocate. And, we try to keep the whole matter as confidential as possible within the process outlined.

Finally, a reminder to those who have helped the President's Fund and would like to do so again, we will need to replenish the fund as well. You can make your checks payable to *HOA*, designated for the President's Fund, get them to me and our treasurer will do the rest. Thanks in advance. ♥

Getting/Keeping Sponsors and Donors

by Dick Korek, Marketing & PR VP



KOREK

We are fortunate to have an excellent group of donors and sponsors. It's important to let them know that we appreciate their support and generosity. In gratitude for their support we should all “go out of our way” to reward these folks with our thanks and our patronage.

- We all appreciate **Jerry Sheridan's** (Sheridan's Frozen Yogurt) generosity.
- FedEx Kinko's does short notice printing and helps with the monthly *HOA* newsletter.
- Frank Ancona Honda needs some “thanks” from chorus members as well as some serious tire kickers.
- **David Hokanson**, of Family Wealth Counselors LLC, has been generous whenever needed and has set up the *HOA* Endowment for long-term financial help.
- Metcalf Bank continues to support our Music In The Park event and this year we once again received financial help from Bank of Blue Valley.
- Helzberg Diamonds keeps coming thru for the Singing Valentine drawing.
- We appreciated the “real roses” from Tobler's Flowers as well as the Russell-Stover chocolates for our Singing Valentine program.
- Various hotels continue to help including the Marriott downtown, the Doubletree of Overland Park, the Sheraton of Overland Park as well as Four Points at The Plaza Sheraton.
- Next time you're at a First Watch restaurant let them know that you appreciate their support.
- Many folks might not know that Sam's Club has been a financial sponsor for several years, as well as the Overland Park Convention and Visitors Bureau.
- A *HOA* member purchased a Pulte home recently and Pulte also became a financial sponsor.
- Some of our sponsors enjoy quietly giving us financial and in-kind support, i.e. The Green Company, XS Lighting & Sound and Kenmark who furnishes our show backdrops.

Some of our sponsors prefer to be anonymous and we thank them for their generosity. It's good to know that we have friends who understand our passion to perform. ♥



Tone-Henge Van for Eight Ran Late, but S.D. Trip Great

by Ol' Dan, Ol' Bruce, Ol' Keith and Ol' Jim

The second weekend in April found *Tone-Henge* bound to headline in Viborg, S.D., a show where **Dan**, **Keith** and **Jim** had collectively appeared in other quartets four times before. Partly because we know how great the audiences and hospitality are there, and partly because we'd scoped out a great place to stay—plus a famous museum—not far from Viborg, we convinced our lovely brides to tag along.

To that end, we rented an eight-passenger Chevy van from a place that will remain nameless in Overland Park (just in case any of our readers have friends or relatives who work there, but it starts with a C). We left **Keith's** house and had traveled about 10 minutes before the first driver, **Bruce**, announced, "We've lost power."

Yeah, in the middle of Metcalf, the busiest north-south street in Overland Park. Bruce cranked the engine to no avail, so we called the dealer and (after getting cut off three times) got them to agree to send a replacement van. Meanwhile, a policeman pulled up behind and observed that we were blocking traffic (no kidding) and probably in danger (we noticed!). He used his squad car to push us into the left turn lane, just south of 83rd.

Then he stuck his head in the driver's window to look at the dash and observed dryly, "looks to me like you're out of gas." We protested that we had just rented the vehicle, and who would ever send one out empty? And besides, **Bruce** had checked the gauge, and...well, sure enough, the needle was so low, it covered up the bottom of the "E," making it look like an "F." That's his story and he's sticking to it. The fact that there was an "F" at the top of the gauge? Well, it just looked like a pitch pipe.

So we called the dealer back and said we don't need a new van, just gas. Sure, they said, but he's already on the way. From 55th and Antioch. And finally gets there. We just need gas, we say. Sure he says. And disappears—but not to the service station we can see a block away. Nope, back to 55th and Antioch. He won't be back for another half hour.

JOANN: "We'd read all our magazines, done all our crossword puzzles, caught everyone up to date on our grandchildren and we hadn't even gotten out of town."

After an hour and a half on Metcalf, the police car flashing behind us, we were finally on our way—about three minutes before the cop said we would have been towed.

It was mostly delightful after that, although the fourth seat of a Chevy stretch van rides something like a buckboard, so whoever got stuck back there was likely to comment forcefully on the highway department, or the driver, or both.

We stayed at the Buffalo Run Winery in Vermillion. It houses a fine bed and breakfast run by Vietnam hero (two Distinguished Flying Crosses) and now state legislator **Eldon Nygaard** and his family. It was the first vineyard in the state and has been so successful there now are 12. We took the tour and came home with some excellent wines. **Estyl** said we should have gotten more.

FRANCIE: "For me, the joy came from spending a quiet weekend with some of the best people I know. We found a great restaurant (the Mona Lisi) and ate there both nights as it was pretty much the only game in town, and just spent time exploring the little town of Vermillion. Three days together at a leisurely pace was a rare treat!"



Hengers and Henge-ettes at Buffalo Run Winery in Vermillion

It was more leisurely for the ladies because they decided not to accompany us to the show—after all, they hear us sing all the time.

Saturday morning after breakfast, we headed for the National Music Museum, on the campus of South Dakota University. The museum houses thousands and thousands of instruments dating back to the 15th century. It would take more than an article to describe this place, but it would be well worth anyone's time to visit. We were all fascinated. As **CONNIE** said, "We actually saw a double-bell euphonium!" Not to mention a slide saxophone, a spittoon that belched fire, a Stradivarius banjo, beautifully preserved harpsichords, glorious organs—just too much to do justice to here.

Saturday afternoon we did have time for some shopping (well, they shopped and we trooped dutifully behind) before our early dinner and departure for Viborg.

JOANN: "Maybe you can't even picture the hysterical sight of the eight of us in the teeny town of Vermillion popping in and out of nearly every open store, but Keith captured it on film. We did what we could to help the economy." Did they ever.

Being left behind did have a downside for the wives whose second-floor rooms were over the main room of the B&B, where a so-rority dance was held Saturday night. Yep, the primary music was rock, and the thump of the bass was pervasive—for 2 1/2 hours.

ESTYL: "Now I know what prisoners being tortured feel like."

The Viborg show itself was great; a full house and an appreciative crowd, and virtually all of them stayed right there in the gym for the afterglow, after going through the punch-and-cookie line. We shared the stage with the Viborg chorus and "Package Deal" collegiate quartet from the Wichita area.

Keith's favorite recollection of the evening was a woman of perhaps northern farm stock seated in the front row, who was determined to laugh at none of the *Tone-Henge* antics. She covered her mouth, shook, bit her lip, shifted side to side in her chair, looked at the ceiling and apparently never let out so much as a chuckle, even while her companions were guffawing. Then came the afterglow. The lime punch must have gotten her: she finally broke loose and laughed out loud.

As we headed back toward Vermillion, **Ol' Dan** delivered his finest compliment: "Well, we didn't make any enemies."

Dan's only real complaint for the weekend was that his room did not have a shower. Each of the other rooms either had a jacuzzi or a tub, and all had a shower. Nope, **Dan** said, not his and **Estyl's** room, although it did have a bracket above the tub for a shower holder. Then on Sunday morning, **Estyl** was in the tub musing, "I wonder why this microphone's sticking up over here?" ♥

Summary of April 2007 Board Meeting

by Rick Foreman/Ron McIntire



TREASURERS REPORT: Ron Fortino

Amount of donation to Children's Mercy Hospital from Singing Valentine's was \$1764.94. The board agreed to round up the figure to an even \$1800.00. **Dick Korek** will invite the representative from Children's Mercy to the April 17 rehearsal for presentation.

A check for \$12.00 was presented to **Ron Fortino** from the sale of used cell phones.

VP MUSIC & PERFORMANCE: Carter Combs

Joe Hunter confirmed for coaching session May, 1 in place of **Mark Hale**.

VP MEMBERSHIP: Bob Murphy

Bill Dawdy, and **David Stockard** accepted as new members of the Kansas City Chapter.

OLD BUSINESS:

Director's Contracts: Names and dates on contracts have been updated and will be issued to the Director, Associate Director and Assistant Directors.

NEW BUSINESS:

Spring Convention in Sioux Falls: **Al Higgins** will represent the Kansas City Chapter at the 2007 Spring convention in place of Tony Strub. AI will be compensated \$100 to cover expenses.

Projection Screen: Agreed to lend *HOA* projection screen to the Overland Park Chapter for their show. ♥

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



We recognize the donors and sponsors that are leading HOA:

Sponsors:

Anonymous Donor
Bank of Blue Valley
Frank Ancona Honda
Marriott Hotel downtown
Overland Park Convention & Visitors Bureau
Pulte Homes
Sam's Club
The Green Company

In-Kind Donors:

David Hokanson
Doubletree Hotel of Overland Park
FedExKinko's
First Watch Restaurants
Helzberg Diamonds
Kenmark backdrops
Marriott Hotel, downtown
Metcalf Bank
Sheridan Frozen Custard
Tobler's Flowers
XS Lighting & Sound

The Theme for 2007 is *FRIENDS OF HOA*

Everyone is invited to participate in helping support the *Heart of America Barbershop Chorus* in the ongoing mission to pursue excellence in a cappella singing.

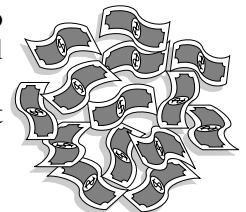
Harmony Foundation Report

by Jim Porter

Note that we will have our raffle each time we meet in our regular location. Half of the proceeds is designated to Harmony Foundation. You can, of course, give money directly to Harmony Foundation any time we are together, just by letting me know.

As of Wednesday, Apr. 25th, and 24 drawings: The total raised for Harmony Foundation in the past month is \$179. The total raised for this year (since Nov. 14, 2006) is \$1049. Last year, the total raised to this point was \$2147. In 2005, the total raised to this point was \$1250.

Congratulations to Jim Page, our latest big winner, \$315 on April 17! ♥



DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE ISSUE OF HARMONOTES:

MAY 23

Progress Evident At New BHS Headquarters

Article appeared locally in Nashville

Barbershop quartet singing can be compared to beets, bagpipes and badminton.

You either like the music, or you don't.

Many folks aren't thrilled by the harmonizing of four men singing "Good-bye, my Cooney Island Baby." Rather, the typical music listener would prefer hearing her or his favorite commercially palatable hip-hop, pop, rock or country tune.

But give barbershop singing a chance, and it may grow on you as fully as the moustaches that many practitioners of the craft once sported (and still do to a lesser extent).

Regardless, the genre cannot be overlooked - despite its perceived fringe popularity - as the Barbershop Harmony Society, currently based in the fine community of Kenosha, Wis., has a membership of about 30,000.

On that theme, the society has bought the handsome McQuiddy Printing Building at 403 Seventh Ave. N. downtown and will relocate from cheese country to Music City. To accommodate BHS administrators, the society is having Nashville-based Tuck Hinton Architects give McQuiddy a full face-lift.

And what a beauty the old girl will be.

THA front man **Seab Tuck** says the design firm will reinvent both the façade and interior of the pre-World War II-built McQuiddy.

Of major interest, Hinton says the new-look structure (completion is slated for August) will incorporate four new circular columns that will be exaggerated and offer a spiral texture reminiscent of barber poles.

In addition, Tuck Hinton designers are moving the entrance of the building from its center to its right side and, in the process, creating a so-called "tag chamber" - that is, an external vestibule in which quartets can sing (in barbershop quartet singing parlance, a "tag" is a portion of a song).

"We've basically gutted the building and are giving it a new roof, new electrical and mechanical systems and new windows," says Tuck, who is being assisted on the project by **Mary Roskilly** and **Curtis Lesh**.

Adding a contemporary flare, THA will give the building exterior a black and white paint job (currently, the building's bricks are a light gray).

The updating of the McQuiddy Building is noteworthy on three levels.

First, it is one of the few remaining small, old brick buildings still standing in what is the central business district's western half.

Second, the society will have upwards of 30 employees toiling within the structure, thus generating pedestrian traffic for downtown.

Third, and perhaps most important, McQuiddy has a fine history. Designed by **Henry Hibbs**, the building lost about 12 feet of its original front when the city widened a segment of Seventh Avenue in the 1960s.

Tuck says the current building frontage is not as ornate as the original, making the recreation of that face all the more important.

Todd Wilson, the society's director of marketing, said the price tag for the renovation work will be between approximately \$1.5 and \$1.7 million. Already, the society has spent \$1.45 million to purchase the land and the building. That type cash outlay could spur members to pen a new barbershop ditty, perhaps.

"We chose the McQuiddy Building because it's in the middle of everything," Wilson says. "We wanted to be in a high-profile location."

And in a very cool old building, I might add. ♥

Annual Mathieu Tag Party Slated for May 19 by Joe Mathieu

I've been having the tag party for 10 years in a row now and it's one of the highlights of the year for me.

Who: You, your spouse or significant other, parents, children, grandparents, grandchildren, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, etc. You get the point!

What: The barbershop party of the year!

When: Saturday, May 19 starting at 5 p.m. The party will go until **Jerry Garrard** watches the campfire go out. In other words, LATE! Or should I say EARLY?

Where: 16356 W. Briarwood Ct., Olathe, KS, 66062. Mapquest it for directions.

Why: To ring some chords and catch up with friends. Basically, to have some fun!

How: By showing up!

I'll cook burgers and hot dogs on the grill. If you want to bring your own meat to cook, feel free. Please bring a side dish. Beer and drinks will be provided. We ran the keg dry last year because some forgot to RSVP. *You know who you are!*

We'll have pool, darts, air hockey, tether ball (if **Haley** doesn't get the ball caught in the tree branch), a campfire with S'mores and any other yard game you can think of.

WE WILL ALSO PLAY POKER! Probably "Texas Hold'Em." If you plan on playing, keep in mind that you have to bring something to the game other than your poker face!

Also, we've got two pullout couches and a guest bedroom upstairs. Someone always ends up taking us up on our offer to stay the night and drive home in the morning!

Hope to see as many of you there as possible! It's gonna be great. PLEASE RSVP to me via e-mail at joeandshawna@earthlink.net! Thanks! ♥



Pride of Iowa Show

by Jim Porter



The theater was packed as the 50 to 60 men of the Des Moines *Pride of Iowa Chorus* took the stage the evening of April 28 to present their 60th annual show "She Loves Me, She Loves Me Not."

My wife and I were there together with our former pastor (now pastor of a church near Des Moines), his wife, and another friend from our church here. A slimmed down **Randy Weir** led us all on a journey of love as all the songs on the program focused on the beauty of love and the challenge of keeping it fresh.

The curtain opened with the men in their formal outfits on the risers with a bar set up at one side and a young lover commiserating with the bartender about love. The narration nicely tied together the several songs presented by the chorus, which together told the story told so often about love found, love relished, then sadly, love frustrated. All six songs in the first set were ballads, sung without planned choreography, with the emotions coming through the facial expressions and subtle body movements.

For the first break, their quarters "Quodlibet" and "Silver Tops" each did a two-song set. The curtain was lowered behind them so the audience could focus on the quartets and the guys on the risers could relax before singing their second 5-song set, which continued the theme established at the outset. When the curtain rose, the quartets rejoined the chorus, the dialog continued from the bar scene and the love story was renewed with most of the songs being livelier, happier up-tunes.

After the break, *Catalyst* and *Paradigm* each did a set, choosing light-hearted music with a touch of comedy to set the stage for the featured quartet of the evening, *Patient Pending*, a comedy quartet from Fremont, Nebraska. These fellows may not be a top-notch quartet on the contest scene, but they were thoroughly entertaining and the audience just loved it! It was noteworthy that this was the first show I can recall done in Des Moines where the *Jurassic Larks* did not appear. It's been 10 years since they won the Seniors quartet competition. Age may very well be catching up to this great quartet.

The chorus then came out for the finale, three songs with a Christian theme, basically thanking God for life, love, and the joy of song. We all joined them for "Keep the Whole World Singing" at the end, then left knowing it was an evening well spent and already looking forward to April 26, 2008, when they will do their next show. ♥

Come Join 12th Street Rag in the Rocky Mountains!

WHERE: Breckenridge, Colorado

WHEN: June 29 - 30 & July 1, 2007

WHAT: Events will include things like:

- Friday Evening
- Tag Singing
- Meet and greet barbershoppers and Sweet Adelines from all over the world
- Altitude Breaker

Saturday

Rehearsals at 10,000 feet - come and watch some of the best Barbershop Quartets and Choruses from around the world rehearse and get expert coaching. All in preparation for the coming events at the Barbershop Harmony Society International Event at the Pepsi Center in Denver, CO July 2 - 9.

Master Classes

Saturday Evening

Tag contests, longest note contest, highest note contest, loudest Tag contest, and more - all with prizes
Afterglow

Sunday

International "Sing HIGH" show at noon - Enjoy both Contest Performances and Show Packages. Over 2 hours of the Best International Barbershop available in one place. Both Men's and Women's Quartets and Choruses

Groups that have already committed to perform are:

Choruses

- *Vocal FX* (Wellington, NZ Youth Choir)
- *Ladies First* (past BinG Champion)
- *Skyline* (4th place Sweet Adelines International Chorus)

Quartets

- *Musical Island Boys* (2006 International Collegiate Champions from New Zealand)
- *Pitch Invasion* (BABS Quartet Champion)
- *After Hours* (LABBS Quartet Champion)
- *Ignition!* (21st place International Quartet)
- *NeXus* (26th place International Quartet)
- *The Allies* (13th place International Quartet)
- *12th Street Rag* (11th place International Quartet)
- *OC Times* (3rd place International Quartet)
- *Glory Days* - Southwest District qualifier, **Gary Parker**, bass

Check out information on the entire event at www.harmonize.com/singhigh.



A Brief Look Backwards

by Carter Combs



First, the tragic tale of the lost article, or “How my PC ate my homework.”

Last month, *Silicaca*, the mischievous pixie who bedevils computers, and *RedEye*, the tormentor of road warriors, conspired to prevent me from submitting my *Harmonotes* article by deadline. While flying up to Montreal on business, I had typed up a pretty decent piece.

But then I arrived at the vendor site, and their tech staff attempted to connect my laptop to their network. A few “oops” later, my PC was completely locked up, packed up, and FedExed right back to the good ol’ US of A, along with my sadly irretrievable article. That said, here’s the short revised version of what I wrote for last month.

Hurrah & Huzzah! I am so proud to be part of a chorus that can step up and present such an amazing parade of shows! John Knox, Yardley, Trenton, and then the “Part Of America” performance at Colonial Church, all performed with pizzazz, and enthusiastically received by our appreciative audiences.

(OK, it was a lot longer and much better stated last time, but (CSD 1st Place Editor!) **Todd Anderson** nixed running both articles, so we have to settle for the *Reader’s Digest* condensed version.)

This month, we are solidly into preparation for Denver, both individually and collectively. I have heard from several chorus members who have already made significant progress getting in shape for the Big Show. Some have been dieting. One has already lost over 50 pounds, with more to come off. **Dick Irwin** lost 30, but we don’t recommend his method. Heart surgery just ain’t the way to do it, folks!

Many members have stepped up their exercise programs, with emphasis on aerobic conditioning. This is extremely important, both to our success as a chorus, and to our individual well-being. Some extra time on the treadmill now will pay big Denver dividends.

Several in the chapter have begun researching the best methods for quickly acclimating to high altitudes. We’ll provide tips along the way, but your best bet is to be in good physical condition before you arrive.

By now, we will have already had our first opportunity to work with **Joe Hunter**, and I have no doubt it was a memorable evening. We are charging toward our June 23-25 weekend retreat with both **Joe and Mark Hale**. Several modifications have already been made to our retreat schedule this year. The most obvious change is the timing, now scheduled as prep for International, instead of District. We plan to have the coach wrap-up on Saturday night, instead of Sunday morning, so that those heading back to church don’t miss out. We’ll still stay over Saturday night for fun, tags, socializing, poker, etc, and breakfast will be served Sunday morning. We have some other plans in the works—should be ready to announce next month.

Our likely schedule in Denver sets the first *HOA* rehearsal on Wednesday at 5pm (between quartet semifinal sessions) so plan to arrive well in advance of that if at all possible. We’ll also have a few hours together on Thursday, very likely an hour Friday morning, then start “the pattern” at about 4pm. I’m delighted that our schedule this year will allow us the opportunity to see every chorus compete, with the possible exception of *Heart of Texas*, who immediately follows us. We can’t ask for any better than that. This has the making of a fabulous week! ♥

The Songs We Sing

by Wade Dexter

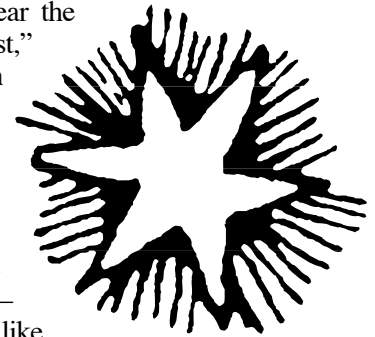
Source: Wikipedia

Whenever I hear the song, “Stardust,” I wonder which is more popular, the song, or the guy who wrote it, **Hoagy** — his real first name is “**Hoagland**” —

Carmichael. I like

the song, but wonder

why I’ve never heard it performed in the barbershop style. Suppose **David Wright** has ever given it a try? I’ve read that at one time, during the early years of the twentieth century, it was the most frequently recorded American song ever written.



Hoagy Carmichael was born in November of 1899 in Bloomington, Ind. He graduated from Indiana University with a law degree in 1926, but decided to devote his talents and energies to music. However, he remained closely affiliated with his alma mater, and even composed the song, “Chimes of Indiana,” which was presented to the university by the Class of 1935 and in 1938 became the school’s official anthem. He was presented with an honorary doctor’s degree in music by the university in 1972.

Other popular songs written by Carmichael were “Rockin’ Chair,” “Heart and Soul,” “New Orleans” and “Georgia on My Mind.” He also collaborated with **Sidney Arodin** on “Up a Lazy River,” and with **Johnny Mercer** on “Lazybones,” “Skylark” and “In the Cool, Cool, Cool, of the Evening” which won the Best Original Song Oscar in 1952.

Hoagy appeared as an actor in at least 14 motion pictures, along with Hollywood stars such as **Humphrey Bogart**, **Lauren Bacall**, **Kirk Douglas**, **Myrna Loy** and **Frederic March**, often singing and playing his own compositions on the piano. He died of heart failure in December of 1981 and is buried in Bloomington. ♥

BITS & PIECES

Rob Campbell, the Music Category specialist, wrote this to all the judges in the category. There are about 45 going into the August qualifying school in St. Joseph. There also are seven candidates; Bruce is the only one who has been selected, because of his track record during training over the past three years, to be asked to judge a regular contest.

Subject: Some Good News

Something nice happened at the recent NED [Northeast District] Mountain Division contest in Niskavuna, NY. The tripe panel consisted of two certified judges and one candidate, **Bruce Wenner** (CSD), who functioned as a regular judge; scores counted, evals etc. The certified guys had a pretty good weekend, with only two asterisks each. [Asterisks are score differences of 10 points or more].

Bruce, on the other hand, had NO asterisks, and his scores looked as good as a seasoned vet. How did he do that? We don't use the smoke signals any more, so it must have been talent and category knowledge. *Congratulations!* ♥

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to the following chapter members!

May 1 **Charles Ames**
 May 2 **John Starcke**
 May 4 **Phil Owen**
 May 4 **Bob Murphy**
 May 5 **Wade Dexter**
 May 6 **Anthony Fortino**
 May 6 **Chris Smith**
 May 7 **Carter Combs**
 May 9 **Dan Henry Bowser**
 May 10 **Bruce Marston**
 May 12 **Keith Owen**
 May 12 **Stew Grosser**
 May 13 **Kevin Beauford**
 May 20 **Dale Neuman**
 May 21 **Walt Patterson**
 May 24 **Joe Mathieu**
 May 27 **Mike Owen**

Quadrio Just Missed!

by Grant Hunget for *Quadrio*

We had a busy April. Three straight weekends to be exact. We appeared on the Topeka Chapter Show April 14th (and so did Mighty Fine!), and then the Springfield Show April 28. Lots of fun in both towns, and very appreciative audiences!



Sandwiched in the middle was INTL Prelim contest in Sioux Falls, SD on April 20-21. We had a great time, and even though our average score (74.5) was nearly the same as that from District Contest last fall (74.6), we feel that we've improved. Poor **Matt** was under the weather with some allergy gunk, and the overall sound just wasn't quite the same as normal. It's a longshot, but by the time you read this, we hope to have *maaaaaaybe*, possibly received a Wildcard invite to Denver. As of this writing, we are awaiting the results from LOL and SUN districts. Currently, eight quartet slots remain. Some people say a total of four will qualify from those two districts, which results in four Wildcard invites. And yes, we are currently 4th down on the list of "non-qualifieds". So as long as no other "non-quals" nudge in ahead of us, we may just get the invite. We'd just love to give Matt a well-deserved 2nd shot! *Stay tuned.* ♥

Photo courtesy of Ron McIntire



Above: Friends of HOA, "Back in Business," —Bari: Jonathan Andrews; Bass: Shaun Whisler; Lead: Danny Wellman; Tenor: Josh Abel—stopped by Tuesday, April 17 to sing a couple for the chorus. Shaun says, "We have several gigs coming up in the near future including singing on the Overland Stage Chorus afternoon show, Saturday, May 19. And we'll be competing at the Oct. 2007 district contest in KC and in the following Spring contest in April '08. We hope to be a long-term 12th Street Rag-Like quartet!"

"Thanks so much for your kind reception and allowing us to sing for you and with you. We had so much fun and we learned a lot just from one night with you all. Looking forward to seeing you all again!"



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



DEXTER

TEN YEARS AGO: MAY, 1997:

This issue of *Harmonotes* is chuck full of informative, interesting, and in some cases, humorous articles. But I would consider myself remiss if I didn't remind those of you who,

like me, were around ten years ago, of the passing of one of our beloved *Heartbeats*, name of **Dixie**, devoted wife of our own Ron Abel, who succumbed after a long illness. Dixie was an active member of the *Heartbeats*, and served as president of the auxiliary during 1994, for which she was picked as the "Heartbeat of the Year." Our chapter was represented at her memorial service on March 27 by the *Rural Route 4* and a rendition of "I'll Walk with God" by as many *HOA* members as could make it.

We used to run a "Barbertrivia" item in each issue of *Harmonotes* back a decade ago. In an issue previous to the May edition, I asked a question something like, "Who was the first *HOA* musical director?" Getting no response from the membership, I offered my own answer, which I obtained from a special December 1955 copy of *Harmonotes*, that the first arm-waver we had was a fellow named **Tom "Moonlight" Murphy**. This led to a call from **Frank Leone** who told me that our answer was wrong, that 59-year member **Orval Wilson** had told him that Murphy wanted to be the director but couldn't handle the job. According to Frank, Orval told him that the first *HOA* musical director was one **Jimmy Fern**, who was a musician and an accomplished choral director who demanded a lot from his singers and was rather intolerant of inattention." Does anybody remember him?

TWENTY YEARS AGO: MAY, 1987

When it comes to winning, the Kansas City chapter can hold its own when the circumstances favor it. The *K.C. Connection* grabbed the top spot in the CSD international

preliminary quartet contest at Fort Dodge, and would be among the three quartets that would represent the CSD in international competition the following summer. Quartet members were **Rod Rule**, tenor; **Wayne Lankenau**, lead, **Rich Huyck**, baritone; and **Larry Wilson**, bass.

Then, for the second year in a row, 12 *HOA* guys walked away with the CSD *VLQ* (that's Very Large Quartet) Championship, also at Fort Dodge. Singers in this group were **Wayne Lankenau**, **Ed Sundermeyer**, **David Krause** and **Merlin Barcus** (leads); **Ron Abel**, **Bruce Wenner** and **Rich Huyck** (baritones); **Wade Dexter** and **John Stucker** (basses) and **Ross Lankenau**, **Lyle Wyly** and **Rod Rule** (tenors).

Finally, the Kansas City chapter won the 1986 International Achievement Contest for the Central States District in Plateau 6 (chapters with 100 or more members). This was the competition where, based on monthly and quarterly activity reports (which are no longer required) submitted by all chapters, points were awarded for such activities as our annual show, contest participation, performances, board meetings, quartet activity and the like.

FORTY YEARS AGO: MAY, 1967

Not much of interest in this issue of *Harmonotes*. The chapter was busy enough, with a performance in Bethany on April 21 and coming engagements in Higginsville on May 13 and Warrensburg on June 10. And President **Harold "Sam" Solomon** issued a plea for more member participation in these paid engagements. **Bert Phelps** wrote an article in which he referred to "our rededication ceremony" in the Muehlebach lobby on April 18. That must have been when we hung the plaque on the pillar in the hotel lobby. And someone, probably Editor **Dan Thorne**, mentioned that on December 23, 1963, the following men were guests at the chapter meeting: **Joe Costigan**, **Dr. Sal Iannazzo**, **Warren Edmonds**, **Gil Lefholz** and **Jim Hillory**. Quite a coincidental bunch, don't you think? But who the heck was Jim Hillory? ♥

LIMERICKS OF OLD!

Retrieved from the
May 1986 issue of *Harmonotes*
by Wade Dexter

When is the best time to sing?
Summer, fall, winter or spring?
When men get together,
In all kinds of weather,
That's when you make harmony ring.
— Harold E. Durham

A chorus director named Lincoln
At his chorus would stare without Blincoln.
When an error he heard,
In a note or a word,
Or when singin' was generally Stincoln.
— Bill Clipman



FOCAL POINT: *Up Close and Personal!*

THOMAS "TOM" S. MILLOT, Sr.

If you've been a barbershopper for awhile, chances are you've run into **Tom Millot** at one time or another. And if you were at the Membership Reunion night in January of this year, you may have met him.

He is a well-known 60-year member of the Barbershop Harmony Society, a two-time member of the Kansas City Missouri Chapter, a past president of at least three chapters and has served in all the chapter offices. In 1982, he became associated with the *Ancient and Harmonious Society of Woodshedders*, known by all barbershoppers as *AHSOW*. Over the years he's been Certifier and Chief Certifier in the Mid-Atlantic District, Central States District and served on the International Board of *AHSOW*.

Tom was born in 1919 in Pana, IL, a small town 30 miles north of I-70 and halfway between St. Louis, MO and Terre Haute, IN. His family moved to St. Louis when he was in the eighth grade and he attended and graduated from McKinley High School in St. Louis. Following WWII, he attended Washington University in St. Louis and graduated in 1949 with a Bachelor of Architecture degree. He worked for various architects and architectural firms and went with the U. S. Postal Service as an architect in the early '60s.

His military service began in 1938 when he joined the U.S. Navy and was assigned duty aboard the aircraft carrier USS Saratoga (CV 3). "After we were torpedoed in '42," Tom recalls, "I spent 18 months in Samoa and finished out the war on the converted Liberty ship USS Shaula (AK-118)." While attending Washington University, and as an active member of the Naval Reserve, he applied for and was commissioned an Ensign. His rank made him a prime candidate for active duty in the Korean conflict in which he saw duty aboard the attack cargo ship USS Alshain (AKA-55). He eventually retired from the Navy as a Lieutenant.

"I have no formal musical training," Tom says, "but I've sung all my life and have attended Harmony College 18 times." He joined the St. Louis #1 Chapter in 1946 and later joined the St. Louis Suburban Chapter as a dual member. In 1970, his job with the Postal Service transferred him to Kansas City to work with the Corps of Engineers and it wasn't long before he joined the Kansas City Chapter.

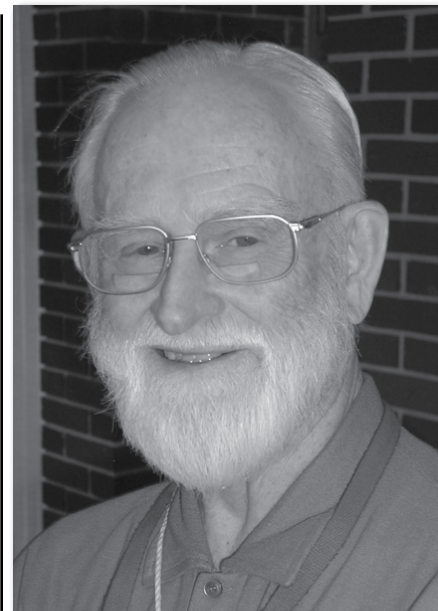
"When I was in the #1 St. Louis Chapter," Tom recalls, "we held a yearly weekend getaway at Meramac State Park, a 7,000-acre state park southwest of St. Louis. We called it a *No Fishing Trip*. A fair-sized contingent from Kansas City also came including **Barney Wasson**, **Gene Bowers**, **Al Moritz** and others, and one man, **Herb Ives**, who always came down from Chicago. "After I joined the KC Chapter," he says, "I organized a camping, fishing and cook-out weekend at Lake Perry. Sadly, the program was never continued."

Tom notes that the KC chapter has used **Jim Henry** on retreats and for other coaching. "It might not have happened," he says. "I worked with Jim's father, **Bob Henry**, and discovered that Jim was an above average singer. I thought he should be in barbershopping. It was a hard sell but I finally persuaded him to join me on the No Fishin' Trip which included woodshedding behind a tent 'til 4:30 in the morning. That did it."

In the late 1970s, his job transferred him to the Washington, DC area where he worked for awhile and sang with the Fairfax, VA Chapter. In 1998 he returned to the Kansas City and rejoined his friends in *HOA* and joined the Overland Park Chapter as a dual member.

He's been in many quartets over the past 60 years, the most memorable, he recalls, was the 3 Generation 4. "In that quartet, I sang with Floyd Lankenau and two of his sons, Gordon and Wayne. I don't remember if we ever competed, but we did a lot of sing-outs." Now, he has teamed up with three guys in the Overland Park Chapter in a new quartet venture. "We don't have a name yet," he says. "Every time we pick a name, it's either taken or its sound and spelling are too close to an active quartet—but we're still looking."

Tom is an active guy. Somehow, he says, he's managed to find time for hobbies in slide photography, boating, fishing, water skiing, cycling and gourmet cooking. When asked, he says people would be surprised to know that "I was water skiing using a slalom well into my eighties." ♥



From top to bottom:
Tom Millot in 2003. He shaved his beard prior to the bottom photo, taken in January 2007, but says it's on the way back!
Photos courtesy of Ron McIntire



Barbershopper of the Month!



Bob Burdick

Above: HOA President **Tony Strub** presents **Bob Burdick** with the December, 2006 BOTM award, which reads:

In grateful appreciation for your work in arranging the venues, and organizing and coordinating the transportation for the Salvation Army Bell Ringing performances at area retirement homes. ♥



Jerry Garrard

Above: HOA President **Tony Strub** presents **Jerry Garrard** with the March 2007 BOTM award, which reads:

In grateful appreciation for your work as chairman of 2007 Heart Of America Chorus Barbershop Show and for accepting and handling the many challenges of moving the show to Johnson County Community College. ♥



A TIP OF THE HAT!

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

A big Tip 'O The Hat to **Mike Louque** and his team of high-stepping advisors: **Mike Neff**, **Mike Schumacher**, **Jerry Meier**, **Don Young** and **David Krause** for their work on the new choreography for *Runnin' Wild*.

To the 42 guys who came out on a bright Sunday morning, Apr 15, 2007 to sing at Colonial United Church of Christ; the team of muscle men who horsed the risers to and from the church; to **Carter Combs** and **Jerry Garrard** who handled the directing duties of the day; Command Performance who added their sparkle to the performance and to **Mike Schumacher** who stepped in to provide solo help on "I have seen the Light" with **Jerry Garrard** and **Jon Gathright**, we Doff Our Topper and say "Well Done!" ♥

Xtra Mile Award Winners!



Al Higgins

Above: HOA President **Tony Strub** presents **Al Higgins** with the March Xtra Mile award, which reads:

In recognition of your work coordinating and selling show tickets, helping with the sound system and preparing the venue for the 2007 Heart of America Barbershop Show. ♥



Fall Convention 2007

by Mike Mathieu, Convention Co-chairman



MATHIEU

October 18, 19, 20 of this year, Kansas is surely the place where all Central States District Barbershoppers will want to be. As the old popular song used to say, "Everything's Up To Date In Kansas City", well if you want to come and experience it first hand, you will be able to see that "Everything is Space Age Cutting Edge in Kansas City."

In the last few years, downtown Kansas City has been bursting at the seams, and by attending this years fall convention you will be able to experience all the excitement first hand. Some of the ongoing projects have already been completed, and there are scores of others that will be completed by October. Some of the more noteworthy projects will be noted in this article.

The brand new H & R Block world headquarters has opened a few blocks away from our headquarters hotel, the downtown Marriott. The brand new Sprint center arena, the venue for our 2011 International Convention will be opened the first week in October and is within one block of the H & R Block structure.

The refurbished Hilton President boutique hotel has re-opened and is located one block from the Marriott Muehlebach. Adjacent to the hotel, the H & R Block building, and the Sprint Center will be the brand new entertainment district. It will consist of restaurants, shopping areas, and other entertainment venues designed to attract tourists of all ages and preferences. All of this excitement is within walking distance of the headquarters hotel.

Other items of note include the only World War I Museum in the country located at the base of the Liberty Memorial, our ever-expanding restaurant population in the freight house district near Union Station, our huge IRS Building located adjacent to the Original Downtown Post Office, and the ever-expanding list of tourist destinations at Crown Center.

Combine this with some of the best Barbershop singing and contests in the world and this will be an event you surely won't want to miss. Complete details are still being finalized, but we are working on events you have never seen before at a Fall Convention. In addition we hope to re-create some events that are native to Kansas City and have worked well in the past.

If you like to come to town early, you can come in on Thursday evening, spend all day Friday exploring some of the new and exciting things going on in our town. Friday afternoon or evening will begin the quartet countdown. Saturday morning we hope to have a most unique Ladies Breakfast and tour at a new restaurant you won't want to miss. Perhaps you ladies could even hijack a tour bus and force the driver to take a detour to the world famous Country Club Plaza!

Saturday late morning we will have the district chorus contest that will be kicked off by one of the most phenomenal mic testing choruses you have ever heard--watch the Serenade or your district website for soon-to-be finalized details. In the late afternoon on we will have a huge Kansas City style Bar-Be-Que hosted by one of KC's world famous BBQ Restaurants.

After dinner it will be back to the Music hall for the Quartet Finals, followed by a show of champions that you won't want to miss. After that we will have an old style Barbershop Afterglow featuring all quartets and maybe even a chorus or two!

Because of the size of the headquarters hotel, all competitors will be able to stay in one hotel and no transportation will be required to get you back and forth to the contests. Once you park your car after you arrive, you won't have to get in it again until you depart for home Sunday morning. Don't forget to mark Sunday morning on your calendar, because the Church Service is one you won't want to miss! Trust me on that one.

As you can see, we have plans galore to make your weekend in the Heart of America, an experience you will always remember. We hope you all plan to come and join us. ♥

HARMONOTES

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

Heart of America Chorus

Chorus Director - **Jim Bagby**

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All chapter officers and quartets are expected, and chapter members encouraged, to contribute their ideas on a regular basis.

The editorial staff reserves the right to deny publication of material deemed inappropriate for *Harmonotes* and to edit all submissions for reasons of space and clarity (grammar, content and spelling).

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

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

Comments/submissions may be made to:

Todd Anderson

**2909 West Trevor Trail • Ozark, MO 65721-8438
(417) 581-2961 • tanderson@centurytel.net**

Chapter meets at 7 p.m. each Tuesday night, at:

**St. Peter's United Church of Christ
110th & Holmes • Kansas City, MO 64105**

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

HOA Website: **www.hoachorus.com**

Web Address: **webstaff@hoachorus.com**

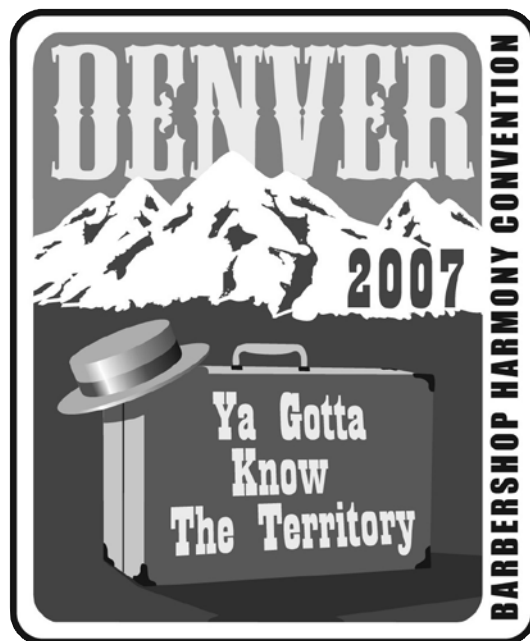
Chorus Manager & Webmaster - **Vince Perry**

Chapter Telephone: **(816) 221-7888**



Heart of America Chorus Calendar

- June 2** Kansas City Chapter founded on this date back in 1938
- June 23-24** All day - HOA Friday/Saturday Retreat in Atchison, Kansas with **Mark Hale & Joe Hunter**
- July 1-7** International at Denver, Colorado
- July 22** Concert in the Park at Overland Park ("Annual Battle with the Cicadas")
- July 29** Harmony University, St. Joseph, Mo.



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

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