

# HARMONOTES

HIGH DEFINITION  
2007 CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT CHAMPIONS

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

## 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 08 - ISSUE 10 - NOVEMBER 2008

## From the Prez

by Doug Brott, Chapter President



**C**edar Rapids is over. What a weekend! HOA singing and placing third and seven quartets representing HOA. That's what contest is supposed to be (well maybe not the third part).

As the second largest chapter in CSD, we should be in the forefront when it comes to music, performance and putting men on stage in quartets. The more we sing, the better we will be, the more men we will attract, the better we will sing.

Competition within choruses in CSD is getting better. That should only push us as HOA members to work harder still and improve our talents. See the last sentence of the first paragraph.

We are near the end of 2008. We have our Holiday Show with Kansas City Sweet Adelines and our Caroling Caravan. Then we start the new year again. *What are our next steps?* See the last sentence of the first paragraph.



**Above: HOA chorus members perform during District sendoff Oct 7, 2008. Photo courtesy of Ron McIntire**

I am really looking forward to 2009. We have returning and new leadership. We have new ideas that will be implemented by the Board and Music Team to move us forward and make us better as singers, performers and citizens of Kansas City. 2009 will prove to be better than 2008 I am sure. What can you do? Don't be afraid to ask and see the last sentence of the first paragraph. ♥



**ABOVE: The "CSD All-Stars," under the direction of Jim Bagby, served as mic testers for the 2008 chorus contest in Cedar Rapids. Members came from a half-dozen district chapters, with the largest group from Manhattan, Kans. Photo courtesy of Matt Bostick. View other photos from the Central States District contest on page 00!**

## INSIDE OUR NOVEMBER ISSUE:

**Page 2** - Make Your Own Music

**Page 3** - Caroling Caravan Getting Ready to Roll

**Page 5** - *Dappers* Still Rule the Barbershop World

**Page 8** - Matt Bostick Photos from Cedar Rapids

# 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

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!

Comments/submissions may be made to:

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The HOA Board of Directors meets at 6 p.m. on the second Monday of the month, at St. Thomas More Church, 118th & Holmes, Kansas City, MO 64131. Chapter members are welcome!

HOA Website: [www.hoachorus.com](http://www.hoachorus.com)  
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Chorus Manager & Webmaster - **Vince Perry**  
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## Make Your Own Music by Brad Dawdy

Leaves are turning, weather is chilling, and there is barbershop music in the air. The Central States District is holding its annual competition and I am competing in a quartet for the first time. I am both nervous and excited as I think about performing, with my quartet-mates, before a CSD crowd filled with both enthusiasts and my peers.

As we gather for warm-ups and begin to move through the pattern, I become focused on our task at hand. We are not just here for the judges, but to entertain and uplift the audience. Standing back stage, waiting for our name to be announced, I think back to the short journey our quartet has taken and what it has meant to me as a barbershopper.

A short three months ago, my very good friend, **Doug Brott**, and I were discussing the possibility of competing at district in a quartet. We identified a couple of guys in our chorus and asked if they might be interested as well. Thankfully, they said yes, we chose some songs and *Stepping Stones* was born. The "stones" consisted of myself on tenor, Doug singing bari, **Steve Gordon** on bass, and **Duane Lawson** as our lead. We chose a couple of new songs, for Friday, and a couple we already knew...just in case.

As we practiced and developed our songs, I learned about voice blending, vowel matching, song interpretation and performance skills. We practiced both by ourselves and also had some coaching as well. The experience of working with three other guys to bring a piece of music alive was fantastic. The opportunity to focus on your own singing and performing skills was most satisfying. We worked our sets right up until performance day.

Our coaches were other guys from our choruses who simply wanted to help us be a better quartet. Central Standard's **Mike Neff** and **Mike Louque** helped us on several occasions. **David Krause**, *Heart of America* Director, sat with us for a session. And we had some "drive by" advice from **Rick Spencer** at a chorus rehearsal. Each one gladly shared their time and talents with us. We owe them a big "Thank You."

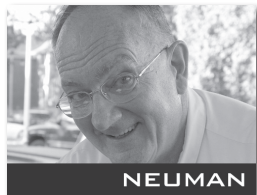
Once on stage we all four worked together to give the best performance we could. It was a special experience I hope to repeat over and over again. As we sang, I could hear our hard work emanate from the stage. This experience has, personally, made me a better singer. (Some would say the bar really wasn't set that high to start). Even more beneficial was the fun we had and the camaraderie we developed. It was undoubtedly worth the time and effort.

Choruses are wonderful. Performances they can provide can be tremendous. But the opportunities that quartetting provides are a must for all who practice our "hobby." The joy of creating something unique with three other guys. To perform and deliver music in your unique and special way. The chance to personally affect the way a song is communicated to an audience. These are the joys and benefits of quartet singing. I advise, no implore, everyone...get out there and make your own music. ♥



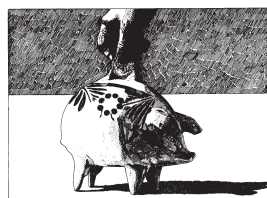
## The Presidents' Helpers Fund Needs Help

by Dale Neuman



**HOA** has been fortunate over the years to have need for the fund—we've traveled a lot and competed a lot—and to have the fund to make it possible for chorus members to travel

with us when their financial circumstances would not otherwise permit. It is time to again rebuild the fund as it has been employed to aid in travel to Nashville in July and to Cedar Rapids more recently. A recent review of the fund shows that we have spent more than 50% of what we started the year with so it is time to replenish it. We do not want to have to deny help when help may be needed in the future.



We will have some time to "restock" as International will not be on our calendar this year. This will allow us to make modest contributions over time which can put the fund in

good order for 2010 when it should once again be on our calendar. There will also be CSD next October to anticipate. So, plan now on how you can help the fund—maybe a check this month payable to **HOA** (memo: Helpers Fund) or one in December as you do some year-end tax deduction charitable donations. No amount is too small; it all helps. Thanks. ♥



## Give Harmony Marketplace a Listen!

taken from LiveWire!

**W**hen you visit the [www.harmonymarketplace](http://www.harmonymarketplace) website and browse through the audio records area, you'll discover almost 150 audio samples are now available from over 30 of our most popular recordings. More samples will be made available soon. Enjoy! ♥

## Caroling Caravan Getting Ready to Roll on December 13

by Bob Burdick

**A**gain this year the Caroling Caravan of **HOA** members will spread Holiday cheer to area retirement homes. At the same time, we will be fund raising for the Salvation Army. We have lined up six stops on our tour which will be on Saturday, Dec. 13.

We will start in the morning and continue until late afternoon.

The exact times and meeting place will be announced as the date gets closer. Hopefully all **HOA** members will plan to spend a fun day entertaining and raising money. Combined with our concert the previous week it is a great way to celebrate the Holiday season. ♥



## Check Out the New Website: [www.barbershop.org](http://www.barbershop.org)

taken from LiveWire!

**A**fter several months of beta-testing, the Barbershop Harmony Society's content site has been re-launched to better meet the needs of our members and the thousands of other folks that visit the site each year. While there is much work yet to be done, the feedback on this new site has been very positive. If you encounter difficulties viewing the new site, click on the tools/options tab, click "Internet Options," under the "Browsing History" section click delete temporary internet files and/or cache. Anyone with constructive feedback is encouraged to contact our new Web Developer, **Gena Dickey** at [gdickey@barbershop.org](mailto:gdickey@barbershop.org). ♥

## Convention CDs are Here!

taken from LiveWire!



**T**he 2008 Nashville Top 20 Quartet and Top 20 Chorus CDs have begun to ship. If you haven't ordered your CDs, now is the time to do so. Visit [www.harmonymarketplace.com](http://www.harmonymarketplace.com) or call the Harmony Marketplace at (800) 876-7464 to place your order today. (The Nashville Convention DVD is at the plant being duplicated and should be ready to ship in the next few weeks.) ♥





## Harmony Foundation Report

by Jim Porter



PORTER

**Note** that we will have our raffle each time we meet in our regular location. One fourth of the proceeds is designated to Harmony Foundation and one fourth will be given to the Central States District to help promote their programs to support and encourage Young Men in Harmony and other youth programs.

As of Wednesday, Oct. 22, and 45 drawings so far: The total raised for Harmony Foundation in the past month is \$495. The total raised for the year to date (since Nov. 15, 2007) is \$2,303. Last year, the total raised to date was \$2,185. In 2006, the total raised to date was \$4,390.

The current jackpot remains unclaimed, and is above \$1,600! That is the second highest it has been in the history of the raffle. ♥

## Looking Back–Looking Ahead

by Carter Combs



COMBS

**It** never fails. When I start to write an article for the *Harmonotes*, I usually go back and review what we've done recently, and I am always amazed at how much we have done. The 60 days since our semi-summer break have been jam-packed, capped by our performances at fall contest and three major shows! I honestly don't know of any other chapter in the Society that is this active.

**Late August** saw us at St. Peter's for a fun, informal "Pay The Rent" gig. *HOA* filled about half the time, rounded out with appearances by *Tone-Henge*, *Command Performance*, and the premiere public performance (with slightly unsteady new tenor) of *ListenUp!*

That was followed a mere week later in early September with our show at Harrisonville for the Cass County Historical Society, headlined by the awesome **Yoders'** *Jubilee Transfer* mixed quartet.

Unfortunately I was out of the country and missed what was, by all accounts, an unforgettable coaching session with the extraordinary **Rob Mance**. I definitely won't miss him the next time. I want to see him work his magic in person.

**Fall Contest in Cedar Rapids**—it isn't often that both the International Silver Medalist chorus and quartet are in the same district, but CSD has 'em, and both *AOH* and *Crossroads* were incredible to behold! They make it look so easy...what a tantalizing goal for us. Plus it is fantastic that we had so many of our area quartets to cheer on. Now, of course, the competition for choruses behind *AOH* has really tightened up. Not only *HOA* and *Central Standard*, but also the *Fremont Pathfinders* nipping at our heels, less than 1 point per judge behind us. I don't know about you, but I'm feeling pretty motivated right about now.

**Wrapping up our 60-day marathon** was our quasi-annual appearance in the Lee's Summit Concert Series at John Knox just last weekend. It was another fine chorus performance, ably assisted by a couple of our usual chapter quartets, plus our friends in *Homeward Bound*, *Chordtime* and *Escape!*

**Coming up** - our Holiday Harmony Spectacular, and then the Caroling Caravan. These two events always get the season started right for me and my family, and I hope are just as special for you and yours. By the way, if you haven't already, take the time to thank **Mark Fortino** for his beyond-the-call efforts to get our new holiday learning media just right.

**By now you have all heard** that the Music Team has recommended, and the Board approved, a rehearsal break in December. That means we won't be rehearsing together the last three Tuesdays of this year. It also means we will all be rehearsing separately, learning new music during the break, so we can hit the ground running when we come back together in 2009. We have some great new charts in the works that we're sure you will love performing. ♥



November 3 **Larry Colburn**  
 November 3 **Ken Neujahr**  
 November 7 **Al Higgins**  
 November 10 **Kent Miller**  
 November 20 **Dick Korek**  
 November 21 **Dick Winter**  
 November 22 **Tom Millot, Sr**  
 November 23 **Jerry Snyder**  
 November 23 **Brooke Meyers**  
 November 24 **Mike O'Dell**  
 November 24 **Steve Starr**  
 November 28 **Todd Anderson**  
 November 28 **Vince Perry III**  
 November 29 **Paul Winans**  
 November 30 **Jim Page**



## Dappers Still Rule Quartet World by Jim Bagby



Quick: what's the world's most famous barber-shop quartet? Society members might say the *Buffalo Bills*,

but I suggest the most common answer across America probably should be the *Dapper Dans*.

The quartet was started in the late 1950s at Disneyland by vaudevillian and a member of the South Bay, Calif., Chapter, the late, legendary **Bub Thomas**. One of the originals in the Anaheim park was **Neel Tyree**, who later moved to Disney World when it opened in Orlando. Neel, brother of *Orphans* (1954 gold medalist from Wichita) bari and former Kansas Citian

**Pete Tyree**, sang with daffy and brilliant FWD champ *Bunster Freely Quartet*. That was back in the days when a FWD quartet was composed of three tenors and a guy who sang reeeel high...but I digress.

The *Dans* have flourished at WDW as well; that's where the foursome came from that headlined our 2006 show. In fact, as I understand it, there are more than twice as many *Dans* at WDW as at Disneyland.

For the uninitiated, the *Dapper Dans*' primary job is partially crowd control (the same as several other groups who entertain on Main Street in the "Magic Kingdom"), helping slow the flow of folks arriving in the park. Crowds stop to hear the quartet sing —and immediately become fans as well. For many, it's their first exposure ever to barber-shop, so these guys are great ambassadors of four-part harmony. They appear about eight times a day for a 15-20-minute show of non-stop song and dance, including the unique organ chimes that have become their trademark.

*Heart of America* members will recall that *Tone-Henge* parodied those instruments on last year's holiday show, with our bamboo angklungs. And any quartet in the world would do well to emulate the mostly singing, little talking, rapid-paced, good clean fun and sparkling harmonies of the *Dans*. They are excellent singers and polished performers, in addition to

hoofers and comedians. Who wouldn't be taken by their act? And it's fresh, no matter how many times you've seen it.

I was reminded of all this when **Joann** and I made a recent trip to our Orlando area time share and spent several days visiting the Disney parks. I know everyone has a favorite experience, so I won't list everything we like. But we'd bet money and a half-dozen Fast Pass

tickets that you won't find anything in any of the four parks you'll get much bigger kick out of than "Soarin'" and "Illumi-Nation," both at EPCOT, or "Fantasmic" at Hollywood Studios, and "Tough to Be a Bug" in Animal Kingdom.

But ranking right up there with those attractions was the chance to get to sing a song or two with the *Dapper Dans*. We saw them a couple of times on different days, with different combinations. Two of the guys have fond memories of Kansas City: bass **Kevin Miles**, who was here to win with *Platinum* in 2000, and tenor **Dan Bullock**, who raved about the hospitality when he was here with the foursome on our show two years ago.

We started out as kids going to Disneyland; then we took our daughter to both parks, then our grandchildren. Now we go just the two of us, and it's still just as much fun (and certainly less expensive than taking the grandchildren!) One constant over all the years: one of the first places we head is to Main Street USA to be entertained by the *Dapper Dans*. ♥



Cinderella Castle at Florida's Walt Disney World

## The Songs We Sing: "It's Magic"

Music by Jule Styne,  
Words by Sammy Cahn

No song was ever more important to a singer's career than "It's Magic" was to the career of **Doris Day**. In 1948, the former band singer was signed by Warner Brothers for her first starring role in *Romance on the High Seas*. Her debut inspired **Cahn** and **Styne** to fashion the song establishing her both as movie star and recording artist. It wasn't long before the ballad became even better-known than the film; as a consequence, when it was shown in England, the title of the film was changed to "It's Magic." ♥

## YouTube Video Contest!

taken from LiveWire!

The Society is holding a contest open to all male or female barber-shop singer or fans of barber-shop music on the planet that runs from Oct. 15 to Dec. 31, 2008. Participants answer one or more questions (on video) about how barber-shop has impacted their life and upload their answers to **www.YouTube.com**. Winners will be selected in two categories:

- 1) Most entertaining video;
- 2) Most uplifting and inspirational video; the name of each winner will be announced at the 2009 Midwinter convention in Pasadena.

Each winner will receive a brand new Flip Ultra Video Camera, valued at \$150. For more information, visit **www.barbershop.org** ♥



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



DEXTER

### TEN YEARS AGO: NOVEMBER, 1998

"After five years, over 250 rehearsals, 14 appearances on a competition stage (including a district championship and five trips to International) the release of a recording, a lot of fun shows and a host of other experiences that any Barbershopper would treasure, **Mark, Joh, Micah** and I evaluated our goals and agreed that it is time for a change." That's the way bass **Keith Schweer** began his swan song resignation from the *12th Street Rag*, "one of the finest quartets ever to be formed within our chapter. But Keith assured us that his space would be filled by another fine bass, **Barry Moore**, who was member of the *Ambassadors of Harmony*."

### TWENTY YEARS AGO: NOVEMBER, 1988

The selected "Barbershopper of the Month" for November 1988 was **Paul Beard** who "unquestionably earned his award by handling all of the leg work involved in the purchase of our new riser trailer. He contacted the vendor, picked up promotional literature and other data, negotiated for an acceptable (to the chapter board) price, and then took the whole package to the board for approval."

"And he's not finished! He's trying to sell the old trailer (asking price—\$500)! And who do you suppose hauled the loaded trailer all the way to Davenport and back? And is prepared to do it again when asked? Now do you see what it takes to make BOTM?"

What a hustler this guy was!

### FORTY YEARS AGO: NOVEMBER, 1968

*Harmonotes* Editor **Don Thorne** announced that the featured quartet for this issue was a foursome known as the *Missouri Pewkes*. This quartet was formed away back in 1967 when three members of the Kansas City chapter attended the inter-

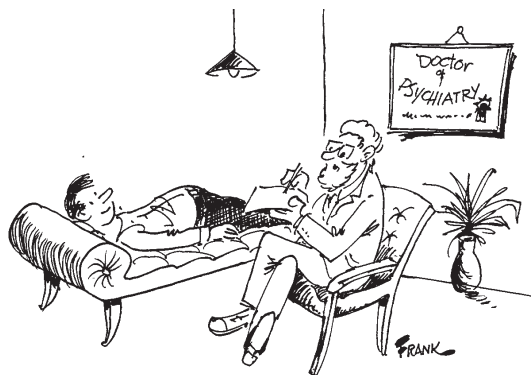
national convention in Hawaii. They were joined by another chapter member, a tall bass named **Joe Costigan**, and were invited to attend a meeting of the Honolulu chapter, where they participated in a pick-up quartet contest and, surprisingly, finished in second place.

About that name, the *Missouri Pewkes*...Here's the way Don explains it: "The name 'Missouri Pewkes' has a very authentic and historical meaning. During the 19th century, many families took the advice of **Horace Greeley** to 'Go West, young man, go West.'" The migration was on. People from Indiana were nicknamed the 'Hoosiers.' From Illinois, the 'Suckers.' From Kansas, the 'Jayhawks,' and the migrants from Missouri were nicknamed the 'Missouri Pewkes.' What more significant name could these four Barbershoppers from Missouri, visiting our newest state, select for the name of their quartet." (Yeah, but what the heck is a "Pewke?" I've looked everywhere—even the Internet, where all I could find was something about a woman named Zulah. E. Pewkes—with no success. Anyone got the answer?)

Don goes on: "After returning to Kansas City, Joe Costigan looked to greener singing pastures and joined up with the *Heights of Harmony* quartet. After many, many applications had been examined...a new bass was initiated into the group."

Don said that, "Every one of the present foursome is a past president of the *HOA* chapter. Every one has achieved the "Man of the Year" Award. The total years of barbershopping of the four add up to a staggering 93 years. Let's not add up their combined ages!"

The members' names were **Bill Wall** on lead, **Ed Eichman** on baritone, Don himself on tenor and **Orval Wilson** singing the bass. Quite an illustrious group, don't you think? ♥



**"A FEW MORE SESSIONS  
AND YOU WILL BE READY  
TO JOIN THE QUARTET."**



**Tickets Are On Sale! ACT NOW!**

2008  
*Holiday Harmony  
Spectacular*



*Experience the Holiday Spirit with beautiful music  
of the season presented in four-part harmony!  
Invite your family and friends to join us.*

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2008**  
**UNITY VILLAGE PERFORMANCE THEATER**  
**350 Highway & Colbern Road**  
**TWO SHOWS: 2 p.m. & 7:30 p..m.**

*Featuring*

**THE HEART OF AMERICA  
BARBERSHOP CHORUS**

13-Time Central States District Chorus Champions

**KANSAS CITY CHORUS OF SWEET ADELINES**

Current third place International Medalists

**HIGH DEFINITION**

2008 Central States District Champs

**ZING!**

5th Place

2007 Sweet Adelines International Finalists

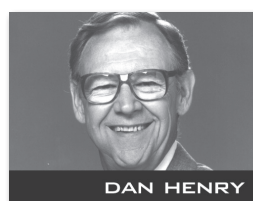
Available seating is \$22, \$17 and \$12 and may be purchased by calling 816-437-7365 or visit HOA at  
[www.hoachorus.com/holiday\\_show.htm](http://www.hoachorus.com/holiday_show.htm)  
For Group Rates (10 or more),  
contact John Erwine at 816-781-8542

**REMAINING SEATS ARE SELLING QUICKLY!**

**Act now!**



by Ol' Dan



DAN HENRY

It's tough to write about quartet "doins" when your quartet ain't doin' nuthin'. (*Editor, please ignore the double negative*) However, still in the 'spirit' of Halloween, I came across some epitaphs that date back to the ancient times that *Tone-Henge*

represents. I hope this deviation from quartet news will serve, and hope it brings a chuckle or two.

"Here lies an atheist. All dressed up and no place to go."

"Here lies Ezekial Aikle, age 102. Only the good die young."

"Anna Wallace. The children of Israel wanted bread and the Lord sent them manna. Clark Wallace wanted a wife and the Devil sent him Anna."

"Here lies Johnny Yeast. Pardon me for not rising."

(In Silver City, Nev.) "Here lies the kid. We planted him raw. He was quick on the trigger, but slow on the draw."

"On the first of June, Jonathan Fiddle went out of tune."

"Under the sod and under the trees, here lies the body of Jonathan Pease. He is not here, there's only the pod. Pease shelled out, and went to God."

"Remember, man, as you walk by, as you are now, so once was I, As I am now so shall you be. Remember this and follow me." (to which someone replied by writing on the tombstone...)

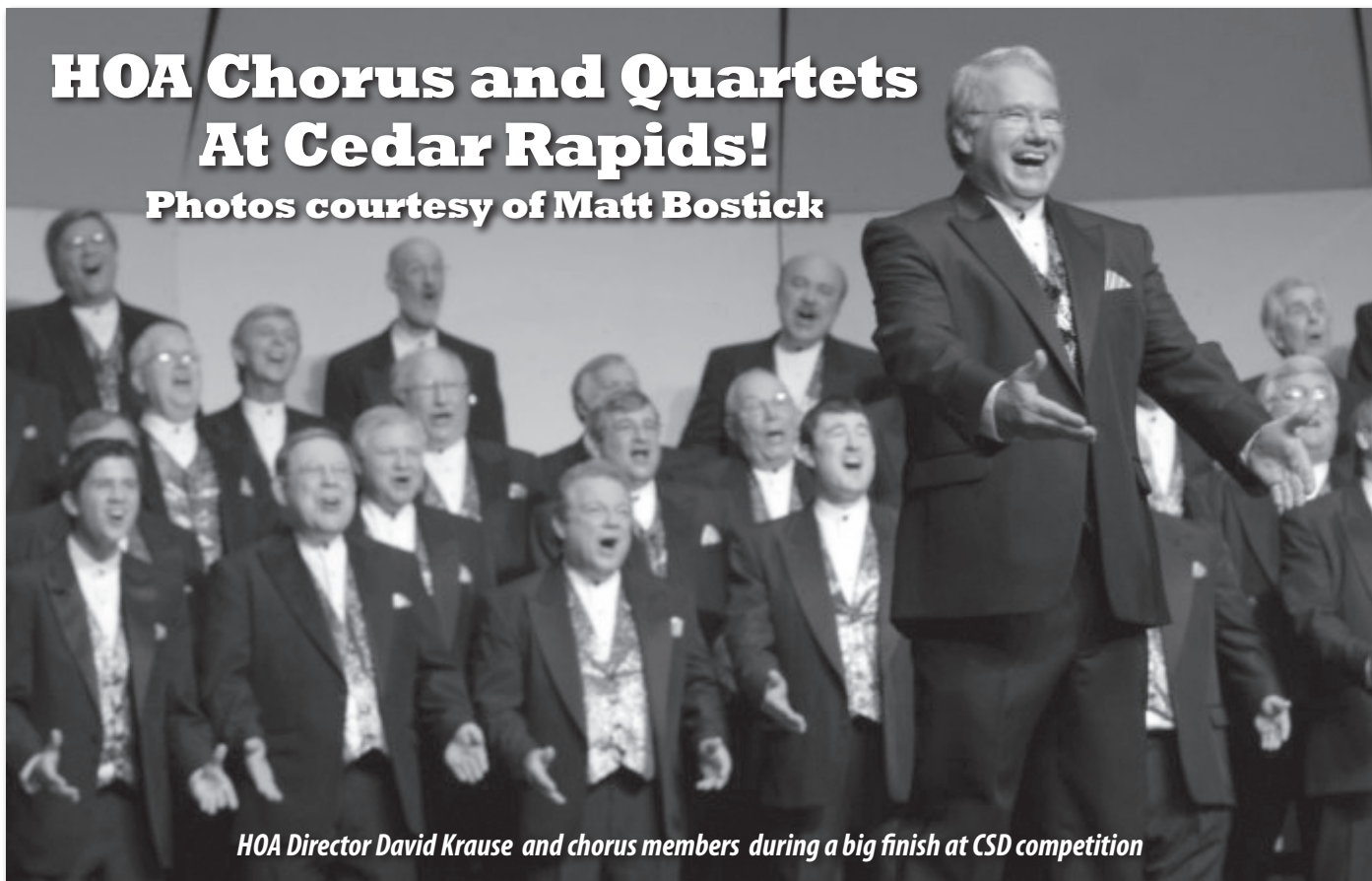
To follow you I'll not consent  
Until I know which way you went !

Long live *Tone-Henge*! We have barely seen each other recently. ♥



# HOA Chorus and Quartets At Cedar Rapids!

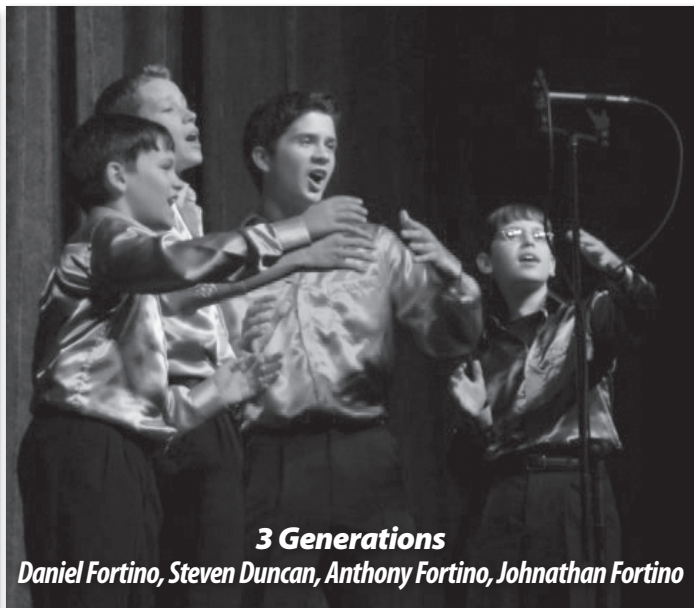
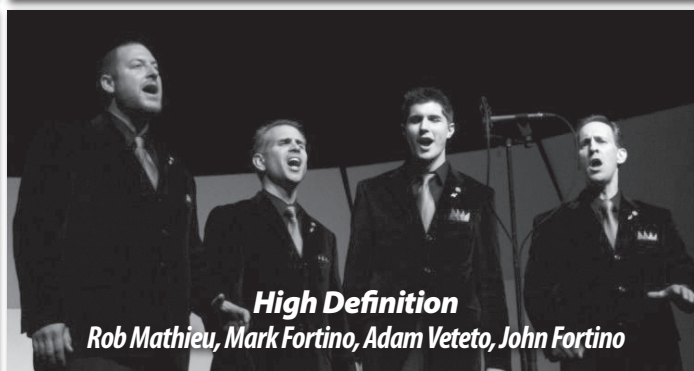
Photos courtesy of Matt Bostick



*HOA Director David Krause and chorus members during a big finish at CSD competition*





**ESCAPE***Keith Owen, Harold Clark, Bill Bay, Mike Owen***3 Generations***Daniel Fortino, Steven Duncan, Anthony Fortino, Johnathan Fortino***Chord Time***Ed Witham, Don Ransom, David Webb, Fred Hangartner***High Definition***Rob Mathieu, Mark Fortino, Adam Veteto, John Fortino***Split Decision***Jake Pirner, Mike Neff, Mike Louque, Brandon Yarbrough***Homeward Bound***Mark Yeokum, Dee Clark, Carl Turlin, Don Fuson***Stepping Stones***Doug Brott, Steve Gordon, Duane Lawson, Brad Dawdy***Listen Up!***Carter Combs, Jerry Garrard, David Stockard, Tom Wenner*



## Coming in Last

by Carl Turlin

Never saw it coming, that coming in last place thing. We had coaching sessions from some good coaches; we videotaped ourselves and reviewed what we saw, we practiced together every week; we watched the best quartets and discussed what we saw and heard; we even felt pretty darn good about ourselves backstage afterwards. Last...dead last...ummm.

Makes ya wonder, ya know, what's it all for?

Yeah I've heard those pithy sayings like, "get back in the saddle," "shoot for the moon and if you miss, you're still aiming high," "take the lesson from your failures," "what doesn't kill ya makes ya a better man..."

We went to the evaluations and got some really good techniques and suggestions, and had some epiphanal moments. I noticed that nobody said, "Dang, you guys came in last! What were you thinkin'? You guys stink!" Coulda sworn that everybody in the halls was thinking that, but nobody said it out loud.

So, I got some sleep, woke up and darn, it was still true. Thought about my options; could quit, could keep on keepin' on, could work on the basics individually, could do that AND work on the evaluation suggestions with the quartet, could go fishin'...a lot. Sure makes ya humble.

Well, so far, I'm working on the basics of music and of singing. The guys in the quartet want to entertain and so do I, so we'll try to get better. We'll put it out there, try to learn as we go and relax a little more. Oh yeah, I went fishin' with my daughter last week and had a great time! ♥

# SING!

***"Being a singer is a natural gift. It means I'm using to the highest degree possible the gift that God gave me to use. I'm happy with that." – Aretha Franklin***

***Some days there won't be a song in your heart. Sing anyway. – Emory Austin***

***Sing out loud in the car even, or especially, if it embarrasses your children. – Marilyn Penland***

***I sing like I feel. – Ella Fitzgerald***

## Summary of September 2008 Board Meeting

by Rick Foreman/Ron McIntire

### TREASURERS REPORT: Harvey Shapiro

Operating fund \$9,029.95, Total Restricted funds \$8,000.00.

### OPERATIONS VP: David Miller

Recommended: repairs and adjustments should be made to the riser trailer before taking it to Cedar Rapids.

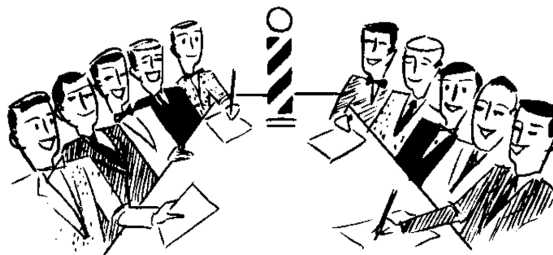
### MEMBERSHIP VP: Bob Murphy

The board accepted Craig Wilcox (lead) as new member.

### NEW BUSINESS:

#### **St. Peters Food Pantry Program:**

St. Peter's UCC is starting a food pantry and suggested that HOA participate. Larry Colburn has agreed to act as liaison between the HOA and St. Peter's ♥



## Heart of America CHORUS SPONSORS





# SEPTEMBER 2008

## Xtra Mile Award



Ron McIntire

Above: HOA President **Doug Brott** (left) presents **John Erwine** with the September 2008 Xtra Mile award! In grateful recognition for repairing the damage to the HOA riser trailer and selecting new tires suitable for highway travel.



Ron McIntire

Long time member, **David Hokanson** (right) presents former HOA Marketing & PR VP **Dick Korek** a check for \$2,000, to go towards the Friends of HOA program.



# THINK "NEW MEMBERS!"



# 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 Directors: **David Krause**, **Jerry Garrard** and **Carter Combs**; Quartets: *Command Performance*, *Listen Up!*, *Escape! Homeward Bound*, *Chord-time*; 56 HOA Chorus members and an unknown number of riser heroes who carted the rises to and from the trailer and set them up, for their work in the John Knox Village performance, Oct. 18. ♥

## The Very Best Vocal Coach

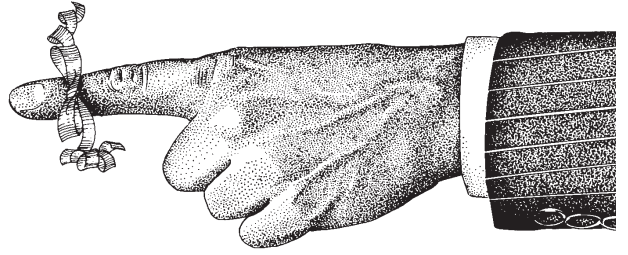
by Carol Johnson, Director, Manahawkin Chapter  
(Seen in several chapter bulletins, most recently in the Atlantic, Iowa, Nishna Notes, Gordon Renfeld, Editor)

I will remember the first time I heard myself on a tape recorder. It didn't sound anything like me! My friend sounded exactly like herself, but that strange voice singing with her just wasn't mine. I was shocked to realize that it was indeed me. I suddenly know that the "wonderful voice" I have lived with all of my life isn't the same voice that everyone else hears. For months, I taped myself singing in the chorus. I listened in amazement to this awful voice...it sang wrong notes, wrong words, bad vowels, made funny sounds, scooped, and even went flat! I became very aware of pitch and went right to work to produce a better voice.

Little by little, I improved myself as a singer under the cold truth of this heartless coach, my tape recorder. Yes, your tape recorder is the best coach you'll ever find! It gives you the opportunity to hear the voice that everyone else hears.

Remember that the only person who hears the voice in your head is you! Any time you are serious about good singing, the truth is there for you to hear. Just press the button. ♥

# Heart of America Chorus Calendar



**Dec. 6** Holiday Harmony Spectacular, Unity Village Auditorium, Unity Village, MO

**Dec. 20** Salvation Army Caroling Caravan

**Jan. 3** Installation/Awards Banquet @ Overland Park Doubletree

**March 7** Harmony Explosion, Olathe East High School

*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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