Famon Jes

The Monthly Bulletin Of The Kansas City Chapter • SPEBSQSA

Volume 2002, Issue 11



As the Heart of America Chorus prepared for the 2002 CSD contest, chorus members experienced a growing camaraderie! Ron McIntire provided this dynamite panoramic photo of the chorus performing "Friends."

ARM-WAVER'S OUTLOOK By Jim Bagby

It's hard to come down from a contest high when a feller goes straight from the competition site to Disney World, family in tow. Taking three grandkids through four theme parks on a six-day park-hopper pass: now there's an exhausting high! Oh, and I need a raise

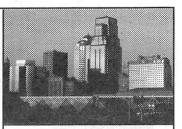
But looking back on Wichita, let me say first a huge thanks to the 68 men on stage. We lost some along the way, as always happens, but what an effort! And as I've said before, I hope you'll express your personal thanks to the relentlessly hard-working HOA Music Team and the Presentation gang.

Some special recognition is due Music Veep **Keith Schweer**, enthusiastic and supportive arm-wavers **Mike Neff** and **Carter Combs**, show-stealer **Anthony Fortino**, the folks who put his picture on a captivating booster button, his parents, the front row that switched spots at the last minute to cover the loss of hard-working **Mike Schumacher** (who was at his mother's funeral almost the same time we were competing), trip captain **Vince Perry**, those non-stop vest-sewing *Heartbeats*, victory dinner organizer **Jan Mathieu**...the list goes on and on. Certainly not least, we all need to recognize the support from our families for the amount of time we devote to what's supposed to be a hobby!

If we had been able to apply all the guidance of super coaches **Bill Biffle, Dwain Brobst, Rosemary and Bob Calderon** and our own **David Krause**, no telling how high our A average would have been. In particular, all the judges in our evaluations (and later in the judges suite), mentioned the tuning/balancing problem with the last three chords of the verse to the ballad. I take responsibility for not spending more time on that critical passage. That kept us out of the A's in the Music category, but virtually all the other scores from a triple panel were in the A range.

One of the most encouraging points was that we performed "Changes Made" better than at any other time—and peaking on stage is about the most you should ever hope for.

So it's on to the Holiday Show with an even larger and more enthusiastic chorus, then some wonderful new music for the annual show in March, and the continued GOSO application I'm confident will get us qualified for Louisville. Hope you'll encourage everyone to come along for the ride!



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TO SEND-OFF, TO CONTEST!
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Harmonotes

...is published by the board of directors of the Kansas City, MO., Chapter of SPEBSQSA, Inc., a non-profit organization. Unless accompanied by a byline, all articles have been written by the Editor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the officers and members of the chapter. Space will be made available for opposing points of view.

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

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

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

The utmost care was used in preparation of this newsletter. However, should you notice erroneous copy, please let the Editor know! Comments/submissions may be made to:

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CHAPTER INFORMATION

Chapter meets at 7:00 P.M. each Tuesday night, at: St. Peter's United Church of Christ 110th & Holmes · Kansas City, MO 64105

HOA Website: Web Address: Chapter Telephone: www.hoachorus.org jmathieu@hoachorus.org (816) 221-7888



A VIEW FROM THE TOP

by John Stucker

The 2002 Fall Convention is now history. I am absolutely sure you will find other articles in this publication talking about the events of the convention. I just want to tell the entire HOA membership that while we came up just short of the major goal of getting back to the International stage, we accomplished very nearly all

of what we went after. We did, however accomplish one of the private goals for **Keith** and me. We (Keith and I) talked immediately after we heard the results and found out that the most improved chorus award was the one we were both hoping for and had not said so publicly.

HOA's performance at this contest was the BEST ever. Even when HOA was competing at the International level on a regular basis, the quality has never been as high. A lot of the credit for this magnificent performance goes to the music team. They gave us the tools to get the job done. No one should forget what **Jim** has meant to us in the short time he has been back as director. Last year's score was 1378 versus this year's 1462. Last year St. Charles beat us by 199 points and this year by 117 points. Doesn't that sound like we are on the right path? At the chorus evaluation session, Greg Lyne said that HOA was an "Icon" of the Society.

How about those of you who (for any reason) that have fallen away come back and visit us and see just how exciting things are now.

Congratulations are in order for all the quartets that competed. These active quartets only make us better as a chorus. A bit of useless trivia: Uranium placed 17th last year and this year (several different part changes). The quartet Jerry Garrard and some of the music team sang in placed 13th last year and this year. Speaking for the guys in *Uranium*, who took a page right out of the *Tone Henge* playbook by having just three practices and still finishing in the middle of the pack, there was no quartet singing in the competition that had a more satisfying experience. At our evaluation session on Friday night, the presentation judge was starting to tell us how we could have improved our performance and just happened to ask how long we had been together. When I told him that we had three practices, he just flipped his score sheet behind him and said that would explain most of his notes. Special kudos' go to SureFire! for their third-place finish. I am fairly certain that Mike Neff got back to Kansas City Sunday without burning any gas at all. The last I talked Mike and Grant, they were still flying high and basking in the glow.

In other news, the chapter board elections were held on the 15 of October. The chapter Officers for calendar year 2003 are:

President: John Stucker
Music & Performance VP: Keith Schweer

Chapter Development (Member Services VP): Carl Turlin

Program VP: Jerry Garrard
Marketing & PR VP: Dick Korek
Secretary: John Winfiel
Treasurer: Charles Ramirez
Operations VP: Chuck Ames
Executive VP: Marty Oldehoeft

Members at Large: Carter Combs, Steve Carruthers, Jon Gathright, Richard Huyck, Val Putzier and Phil Veltkamp.

New chapter bylaws were adopted at a special chapter meeting. The new bylaws include several change to the makeup of the board. A new position of Executive VP was added and the at-large members were decreased from 10 to 6. A section concerning under-age members was also added.

GOALS BECOME REALITIES!

by Monty Duerksen

All of the expectations of the RETREAT this year, have become realities.

THE GOALS: Refine our performance and singing skills to be reflected in our scores at the CSD Contest.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED:

- HOA receives MOST IMPROVED CHORUS AWARD in Wichita at CSD Contest.
- Strengthen friendships within the chorus, get to know each other better, and create an atmosphere of team spirit.
- Involve everyone in enjoyable singing activities throughout the weekend.
- Experience AH's, AHA's, & HA HA's throughout the weekend.
- MOST IMPORTANT: Work hard & accomplish the Goals, with alot of fun on the way.

We did all of the above and presented awards for various achievements by attendees.

WOW! It was great to see and hear everyone there singing tags with various teams—various people singing different parts. Our tremendous clinicians served as judges for the TAG QUARTET CHAMPS, VLQ TAG CHAMPS, & OUTSTANDING PERFORMER AWARDS.

Dr.Niel Johnson was named the Best Performer ... WAYNE'S WORLD (Tenor-Gerold Stephens... Lead-Wayne Crawford, Bari-Shawn Jeffries, Bass-Barry Sanders) won the TAG QUARTET CONTEST...singing the tag from "Each Time I Fall In Love." SOUNDS APPEALING were crowned the VLQ CHAMPS singing the Tag from "Last Night Was The End Of The World"...Rod Rule and Jerry Garrard supplied the tenor, Mike Neff & John Starcke sang Lead, Rich Huvck & Dick Irwin were the bari's, and Rutherford and Meyers sang Bass. Bill Biffle & Dwain Brobst received CERTIFICATES of APPRECIATION for their outstanding work throughout the weekend. AND-with intense investigation-we found that Phil Veltkamp's head size determined that he should receive the GREATEST BRAIN CAPACITY AWARD...& Lee Dorfman's shoe size determined that he should win the GREATEST UNDERSTANDING AWARD...no-one else can fill Lee's shoes. Keith Schweer attained the OUTSTANDING POKER PLAYER AWARD...and I cannot remember who the chorus selected as MR. CONGENIALITY...but I do know that there were 28 names written in...good sign that we are a bunch of friendly individuals. It was a great weekend filled with fun! The awards given were designed and created by Ron McIntire...who made them unique, AND VERY FUNNY!! Thank You, Ron for your help...AND THANK YOU HOA for your hard work.

(Editor's Note: Monty was named Mr. Congeniality!)

America Chorus

ELEVEN-TIME Central States District Champion!

CHAPTER QUARTET CHAMPIONS

Rural Route 4 - 1986 International Champion Don Kahl (tenor), Calvin Yoder (lead), Jim Bagby (bari), Willard Yoder (bass)

Gentlemen of Note - 2001 International Seniors Medallists
Rod Rule (tenor), Jon Gathright (lead),
Rich Huvck (bari), Monty Duerksen (bass)

HyPower Serenaders - 1948 Central States District Champion Don McPherson (tenor), Ben Franklin (lead), Bert Phelps (bari), Dale Warrick (bass)

Gambolliers - 1952 Central States District Champion John Dooley (tenor), Eddie Schliebs (lead), Orval Wilson (bari), Jimmy Byrnes (bass)

BMA Gambolliers - 1957 Central States District Champion Barney Wasson (tenor), Eddie Schliebs (lead), Orval Wilson (bari), Harold Robinette (bass)

The Kippers - 1962 Central States District Champion
*Ken Gabler (tenor), *Tom Taylor (lead),
John Goldsbury (bari), Don Page (bass)

The Four Kippers - 1966 Central States District Champion
*Ken Gabler (tenor), *Byron Meyers (lead),
John Goldsbury (bari), Gil Lefholz (bass)
The Morning Times - 1974 Central States District Champion

The Morning Times - 1974 Central States District Champion Dave Snook (tenor), Roger O'Dell (lead), Steve Leone (bari), Stan Grossman (bass)

Corner Quartet - 1981 Central States District Champion
Don Kahl (tenor), Lance Heilmann, (lead)
Steve Leone (bari), Stan Grossman (bass)

Harmony Spectrum - 1982 Central States District Champion Gene Bowers (tenor), David Krause (lead), Jim Bagby (bari), Willard Yoder (bass) Special Touch - 1984 Central States District Champion

*Rick Kready (tenor), David Krause (lead), *Bud Clark (bari), Matt Moore (bass)

KC Connection - 1986 Central States District Champion Rod Rule (tenor), Wayne Lankenau (lead), Rich Huyck (bari), Larry Wilson (bass)

12th Street Rag - 1994 Central States District Champion
*Rick Kready (tenor), Mark Fortino (lead),
John Fortino (bari), Keith Schweer (bass)

OTHER CHAPTER QUARTETS

12th Street Rag - 2000 International Semi-Finalists *Micah Jeppesen (tenor), Mark Fortino (lead), John Fortino (bari), *Barry Moore (bass)

Marlin Weidler (tenor), Rick Dunaway (lead), Ralph Tallmon (bari), Mike Griffin (bass)

Crosstown Four

Dale Neuman (tenor), Gordon Coleman (lead),
Ron Abel (bari), Val Putzier (bass)

Heartland
*Rick Kready (tenor), David Krause (lead),
Matt Moore (bari), *Dale Comer (bass)

New and Used Parts
Jerry Garrard (tenor), Mike Neff (lead),
Grant Hunget (bari), Keith Schweer (bass)

Polecat Creek
Lyle Wyly (tenor), Wayne Crawford (lead),
Dick Irwin (bari), Eric Weber (bass)

SureFire! Carter Combs (tenor), Mike Neff (lead),

Grant Hunget (bari), Don Young (bass)

The Musical Firm of Schwarzkopf, Anderson, Carney & Bray
Raymond Schwarzkopf (tenor), Todd Anderson (lead),
*Randy Carney (bari), *Burt Bray (bass)

Tone-Henge
Bruce Wenner (tenor), Dan Henry (lead),
Jim Bagby (bari), Keith Schweer (bass)

Dale Neuman (tenor), Charley Drake (lead), Tom Steele (bari), John Stucker (bass)

CONGRATULATIONS FROM TONE-HENGE

by Ol' Bruce, for Tone-Henge

Congratulations from *Tone-Henge* to the Most Improved CSD AAA Chorus and our six competing quartets, and for all the hard work and commit-



ment behind your great performances in Wichita! We were proud to be part of that exciting HOA presentation (including our bari's expert arm-waving), and hollered ourselves hoarse in cheering on our chapter brothers in the quartet contest. We'd like to say that we wished we were in the contest along with you guys—we'd like to say that, but it wouldn't be true. There seems to be something wrong in the chemistry between *Tone-Henge* and judges. But—we did enjoy singing the hospitality rooms Saturday night, starting with our own room, even though we had to share our bari with *Rural Route 4*.

We've finally achieved the right balance between rehearsals and performances. In September we had zero rehearsals and three performances—well, before one of the singouts we crammed in a 15-minute touchup session, but we're not counting that as a rehearsal. Matter of fact, in the two months between Buckeye and Wichita we had a grand total of one rehearsal-meant to have another, but it got canceled. That's what happens when you have guys like Jim and Dan running out of town at the drop of a pitchpipe. Better mend our ways, though-we share the stage in Hastings, Nebraska, next month with 12th Street Rag. We plan to double our rehearsals to prepare (are you counting? How many is that?).

SUREFIRE! 3RD AT DISTRICT!

Who woulda thunk it??!! Our GOAL was simply to break into the TOP 10 at the CSD Contest in Wichita. "We got 3rd! We got 3rd! We got 3rd!" We



just keep saying it to ourselves, and it won't sink in!

After an EXCITING Friday night round (the crowd was VERY responsive, and we were FREAKED by how well we felt the set went!), **Jim Bagby** pulled **Mike** aside and said, "We gotta talk—just pick something that you can sing well!" What were we supposed to think of that!? We had a short repertoire, and went with our two next-best numbers, which lacked some in preparation. After the finals Saturday night, Jim's comment made more sensewe had only been 11 points out of First Place after Friday night!

Carter's wife Jeffi (and a bunch of their relatives!), Don's lady, Jana Henderson, and Phil & Connie Hunget all provided great family support.

Thanks to all you GREAT GUYS IN THE HEART OF AMERICA CHORUS, AND OUR WONDERFUL "HEART-BEATS" for the kind words and encouragement. Thanks to Bill Biffle, and Dwayne Brobst for coaching us. MOST OF ALL, thanks to Jim & Joann Bagby. Jim coaches us, and walked us through the pattern both nights. Joann, thanks for sharing Jim with us, through all the countless hours he spends away from home. We truly appreciate the sacrifices you make.

We are VERY excited about getting back to work, and putting to use what the judges and coaches have shared with us. Don says he's going to keep his membership one more year now (this is his very FIRST quartet and contest)!

We've been busy with local gigs too: 8/24 - US Bank; 9/7 - Kobe House Alzheimer's Benefit Dinner & American Royal "National Anthem" audition; 9/20 - Liberty Show; 9/28 - Sweet Adelines Show Afterglow; 10/7 - Sweet Adeline's Meeting; 11/2 - American Royal "Community Stage" & Lee's Summit Alzheimer Center Grand Opening; 11/15 - American Royal "National Anthem"; 11/17 - Overland Park Convention Center Grand Opening.

Talk to va next month!

- Carter, Mike, Don, Grant

HOA "STANDS" "A"LONE AT DISTRICT

by Al Higgins



The many hours, days, weeks, and months of preparation for the 2002 Central States District contest came to and end at 1:45 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 19 at Century II in Wichita, Kansas.

The great improvement made by HOA is reflected in the fact that the "A" scoring average placed

HOA along side the *Ambassadors of Harmony* from St. Charles as the only two singing groups (quartet or chorus) to average an "A" score from the judges. To further the excitement created by the outstanding HOA performance, HOA received the ONLY standing ovation given by the audience during the contest. Further recognition was given when HOA received the "Most Improved AAA Chorus" award.

Perhaps the greatest satisfaction can come from the comments made by the audience following the performance. Comments such as "WOW", "You were awesome," "...the best I've ever heard HOA sing," "The ballad was absolutely gorgeous," "The excitement created was great," "The whole performance was truly professional," "The kid was magnificent and was the cherry on top of the cake," "The boy was truly in charge and flawless in performance," and "HOA's performance was the best I've ever heard at a district contest."

Comments at the President's reception on Saturday night reflected much the same sentiment and the best one says it all: "HOA is back on top of its game where it belongs. Congratulations to all for a job very well done."

KUDO's go to the six HOA quartets for their great performances. And special HOORAY's to *SureFire!* for finishing third in the quartet contest. For a new quartet in their first contest to finish at the top is truly a tribute to their hard work and desire.

The "pride" is back and much of the credit goes to the leadership of Jim Bagby, Keith Schweer and the Music Team, the Presentation Team, our special coaches Bill Biffle, Dwayne Brobst, the Calderones, and David Krause. Special thanks goes to each member of the chorus who took control of their space on the risers and made it the best performance spot possible.

MUSICAL NOTES

by Keith Schweer, Music Vice President



Well, contest is over and HOA finished second to St. Charles. But, it was more than finishing second. It was an excellent perfor-

mance-maybe the best we've ever done! Don Kahl said to me, "You boys flat lit up the stage" And he's right. Energy and excitement were all over that stage and you sang your fannies off. I couldn't have been prouder. What happens when a group of men comes together with a common goal and are willing to sacrifice for the good of the whole is a powerful thing. Yes, I know we didn't win and we probably didn't qualify for Montreal, but all of your hard work has paid off with a big improvement over last year, as evidenced by our being recognized as the "Most Improved AAA Chorus". That is an obvious indicator that we have been doing the right things. Through an increased emphasis on quality, fromthe-heart singing, we have elevated our scores in every category. You know you are singing and performing better and you enjoy it. But, we're not stopping here. This is just the beginning. We are going to continue trying to improve. I want to go to Louisville in 2004.

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



"Doctor asked me to bring in a stool sample."



"Now THERE'S a note you don't hear very often!"

Cartoons by John Morris

DEADLINE FOR THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF

Harmonotes

Articles and photos are due by

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15

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

Ten Years Ago-/ November, 1992

With a margin of only 18 points over the surging secondplace Ambassadors of Harmony the Heart of America Chorus sang their way to their 11th District Championship in a 15-year span and a trip to Calgary, Alberta, Canada, the following summer. And 21 HOA singers in six different quartets, four of which were totally HOA. mounted the stage of the Orpheum Theater in Omaha for the quartet competition. The



By Wade Dexter, Editor Emeritus

best finish among them was fourth place by *Heartland*, with **Larry Wilson** on bass and **David Krause** singing the lead. The other two guys were former members of *Main Street Station*, winner of the 1999 CSD trophy.

Twenty Years Ago - November, 1982

Editor **Dennis Yeager** was positively lyrical over the fact that for the first time in Central States District history, one chapter captured both the chorus and quartet championships in two consecutive years. In 1982, (you guessed it!) was HOA and the *Harmony Spectrum* that came out of far left field to win the quartet title their first time in competition. (The *Corner Quartet* and HOA did it in 1981.)

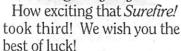
Thirty-Five Years Ago - November, 1967

Not much of great interest in the November 1967 issue of *Harmonotes*. HOA had finished in fifth place at the CSD contest in Des Moines. We were planning to host the 1968 District convention. The annual "Woodshed Contest" (we call it the "Bush League Contest" now) was coming up on November 14. And a show at the high school in Liberty was scheduled for the 24th. Oh, yes, editor **Don Thorne** mentioned that a member by the name of **Bob Valle** had really "busted a gut" and was recovering at home. Wonder what that was all about? ~

Heartbeats

by Carol Ramirez, Heartbeats President

Congratulations to HOA for earning Most Improved AAA Chorus at the fall contest! That award validates all the hard work you guys have been doing. Way to go!

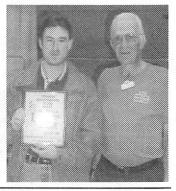




The *Heartbeats* business meeting Nov. 19 will consist of voting on our slate of officers for 2003 and discussing our part in promoting Harmony College. Hope to see newcomers and current members at the church at 7 p.m.

BOTM for September:

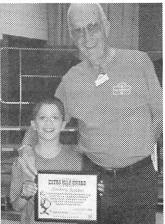
John Stucker is shown presenting Joe Mathieu (L) with the Sept. 2002 Barbershopper of the Month!



EXTRA MILE Award for September:

Anthony Fortino receives the award from HOA president John Stucker

Photos by Ron McIntire



WHACHA THINK?

Test your barbershop trivia skills!

Question:

Name this quartet and its members?



Answer:
Sound Impression with:
Dick Henderson, Tenor; Mark Fortino, Lead; Don
Koehnlein, Bass; and John Fortino, Bari.
Many thanks to Dale Neuman for submitting
this photo and question!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to the following members!

John Stucker
Rod Rule
Al Higgins
Ed Sundermeyer
Dick Korek
Colin Smalley
Dick Winter
Tom Millot
Brooke Meyers
Jerry Snyder
Mike O'Dell
Todd Anderson
Vince Perry
Paul Winans

November 3
November 5
November 7
November 12
November 20
November 20
November 21
November 22
November 23
November 23
November 23
November 24

November 28 November 28

November 29

USE OF THE 4-COLOR HOA ENTERTAINMENT PROMOTIONAL FLYER

by Dick Korek, Marketing Vice-President

Most members of HOA have already seen and have in their possession the 4-color flyer with a picture of Jim Bagby, in action, on the front cover. This flyer is being used to promote future appearances of HOA at major conventions, conferences, fund-raising events, client appreciation events and others as the requests come in. These are "paid performances" and as such are typically negotiated for fee. As you should be aware, we are gaining in public and corporate awareness. This takes time, and the best thing we individu-

ally can do is to make every appearance special, spectacular and so memorable that our audiences want to see more of HOA. It's impossible to know where the next referral or call will come from but, experience has shown that a referral works best.

How can you help with this 4color marketing tool? Well, if you like it and it's message, be proud to be a member of HOA. Show it to friends and business associates with pride. You'll never know when a spark will light and answer a need for entertainment for an event that you probably are not aware of. Let the flyer do the work. Your individual

efforts to share this flyer, HOA Entertainment, with business associates, fraternal contacts or any social groups you are in contact with may trigger a performance. You just never know. Keep talking with pride about this hobby, about HOA, and the pride we all take into competitions and paid performances.

How is the flyer being used? First, realize that I don't have all the answers. As marketing and PR vice-president, I have made contact with most hotel sales directors, the K.C. MO Convention & Visitors Bureau, the Overland Park Convention & Visitors Bureau, Meeting Planners International, and a variety of associations and event planning groups. To the best of my abilities, the 4-color HOA Entertainment flyer is in many hands. Contacts, new and continued, are being made constantly, both locally and nationally.

We probably will have two "paid performances" in April. One is firm the other is pending regarding an available date. My challenge is to schedule paid performances around the already scheduled chapter, district and society events. Let's have a great, entertaining 2003!

My favorite closing remark to future clients is... "we'll put a smile on your face and a song in your heart."

REFLECTIONS

by Monty Duerksen

Question: Who understands the importance of less than a minute? Answer: K-State, The Chiefs, & The Gentlemen Of Note.



If being Seniors provides us the right to have a big time senior moment, we took advantage of that right on Friday night...on the contest stage! Less than a minute before the Tag of "Sittin' On Top Of The World," we found ourselves singing some chords that we, nor anyone else, had ever heard before...so we RE-WROTE THE TAG ON STAGE & ENDED THE SONG. Demoralizing to say the least. Our ballad, we thought, had been performed satisfactorily-audience response seemed very warm and accepting. The scores on "Apron Strings" and the senior moment performance reflected a much less than acceptable response from the judging panel. As a result, we will not be your representative at the Seniors International in January. We are sorry that we failed to fulfil your expectations...and our own.

We congratulate the Central Statesman quartet for their excellent singing at the contest. They will represent us very well at the Seniors International.

One of the greatest honors we enjoyed at the CSD Convention was to have the opportunity to entertain the ladies at the District breakfast and to provide the sacred music for the church service on Sunday.

We were so happy to have SureFire! place third in the contest. CONGRATULATIONS! And to Sound Alibi, Uranium, Arpeggio, and Polecat Creek, we congratulate you for competing and are in tune with your feelings, concerns, and questions, for we've been there, done that! Robert Schuller says: Give ourself a faith talk and go forward-don't give up.

We are members of a great chorus, we have a lot of very loyal friends who support us no matter what happens. Thank God for all of this. Plus, we have much to look forward to! On behalf of GON:

Tho' some of our errors are holy terrors, That lay our lives in ruins; We rarely repeat the same mistakes, But BOY, DO WE FIND NEW ONES!

ATIP OF THE HAT

A tip of the hat goes to:

Keith Schweer and the entire HOA music team for their excellent guidance as HOA prepared for the CSD contest in Wichita, Oct. 17-19.

Teaching Quartet for the new songs that magically appeared on the chapter website.

Unknown members of the HOA music team who provided transportation for HOA chorus coaches **Dwain Brobst** and **Bill Biffle** at the 2002 HOA Retreat in Atchison, KS, Oct. 4-6.

Monty Duerksen, you did a splendid job as emcee for the Saturday night happenings at the 2002 HOA Retreat in Atchison, KS, Oct. 4-6, 2002.

Ron McIntire for making up the fun certificates for the Saturday night gig at the HOA Retreat in Atchison, KS. What a hoot they were.

The entire HOA Chorus for their hard work and dedication to bringing home the second-place contest medal and the recognition of "Most Improved Chorus" at the 2002 CSD Chorus Contest in Wichita, KS, Oct. 17-19.

A special TOTH to **Vince**, **"You da Man" Perry** for his excellent work for arranging transportation, hotel accommodations, fighting to get our early registration packets and generally mothering the HOA Chorus at the CSD Convention in Wichita, KS, Oct. 17-19.

Jerry Garrard for emceeing the Saturday night dinner at the CSD Convention in Wichita, KS, Oct. 17-19.

The makeup team, John Stucker, Jim Davis, Carl Turlin and John McConnell, for their efforts at making the HOA chorus look pretty in record time before we went on stage at the CSD Convention in Wichita, KS, October 17-19.

Ron McIntire for collecting the money and handling the chorus picture orders.

Jim Bagby for directing the best HOA chorus yet and his tireless efforts to keep us reminded of the small but important point getters that got us into the "A" chorus bracket.

Jan Mathieu, Carol Ramirez and Charles Ramirez (who collected the money) for setting up a great Saturday night dinner following the CSD Chorus contest.

Shawn Jeffries for translating the emotions of the contest songs into believable emotions that helped propel the HOA chorus into higher contest scores.

Chuck Ames and the fellows who manhandled the risers that made our before-contest rehearsal possible and to Val Putzier who got the risers to the Wichita.

Al Higgins for setting up and doing all things necessary to make the HOA retreat in Atchison, KS, Oct. 4-6 the best experience yet. Whatta weekend.

A resounding TOTH to the *Heartbeats* lead by Joan Korek, Carol Ramirez, Dessie Gathright, Sandy Rule, Sarah Fortino, Roberta Porter, Mary Jo Miller, Marilou Coleman, Donie Peck, Estyl Bowser, Jan Mathieu, Jan Putzier, Cristy (Scott Alexander), Ann Able, Pam Beauford, Jennifer Combs, Janet Veltkamp, Mary Kuricina who worked very long hours and expended great quantities of energy creating, modifying and then doing last-minute rush modifications of the modifications on the contest tear-away vests. Without their work, help and support the uniform look of the chorus could never have been possible.

A sad TOTH to **Mike Schumacher** who could not compete when he suffered the loss of his Mother but whose work on the choreography, and with the choreography team, decidedly helped HOA achieve its contest goals.

To the Wichita Kansas Chapter and Air Capital Chorus, the Raddison Broadview Hotel, the Hyatt Hotel and to all of Wichita for making the 2002 CSD Contest and convention a memorable and fun experience.

To the staff and management of **St. Benedicts** in Atchison, KS. Their services helped make the 2002 HOA retreat in Atchison, KS a top notch experience for HOA.

To Bill Biffle and Dwain Brobst, chorus coaches for the HOA retreat, who, for one very short but hard-working weekend, became honored and much-loved members of HOA. Your efforts did not go unrewarded.

To all the unsung and behind-the-scenes heroes of the Kansas City Chapter and Heart Of America Chorus, not mentioned in this TOTH column, who made the 2002 CSD contest effort a success. No one was indispensable.



PRESIDENTS' HELPERS FUND

by Dale Neuman

It is that time of the year again when folks start planning their holiday gift giving and trying to take tax deductions before year's end. So as is my want every year about this time, I'd like to remind you that there is a way you can be very efficient and do BOTH at the same time. And that is by donating to the Presidents' Helpers Fund of HOA. I want to thank at this time those who requested that their contribution to the now-liquidated building fund be turned over to the Helpers Fund.

This fund, started a number of years ago by several benefactors of the Chorus and Chapter, is to help men who might not otherwise be able to financially afford to go to the retreat or to contest or to do whatever we expect to help us perform. Sometimes, it is too many unexpected expenses at the same time; sometime it is a job change or loss that tempts them to drop out. Sometimes they have been students who are not employed. The fund is to provide short-term assistance so that they can continue to participate. The Fund does not expect to be paid back dollar for dollar. If that happens, fine. But our true goal is to keep everybody performing with us who has made the effort but cannot afford to do so.

For many years I was informally in charge of this—from raising the money to allocating the aid. The Board this past year has formalized the fund and my role in administering it. I still raise the money and I still work with the music team and others who have responsibilities for getting us to the events scheduled by the music team. Donations are receipted by the Treasurer for tax purposes but, as a general rule, only he, I and the donor knows who donates. Similarly, only someone on the music team, I, the Treasurer and whomever is keeping financial records on activities for which help might be available knows who may have requested and been given some help.

So can I ask you to help us be able to continue this fine tradition into the future, by making a donation in whatever

PAY Kansas City Chapter, SPEBSQSA \$

Helpers Fund
Joe Barbershopper

amount you are comfortable, with a check payable to the Kansas City Chapter, SPEBSQSA and on the memo line write *Helpers Fund?* (We also will take and receipt cash.)

Thanks to all who have helped in the past and all who plan to help this time around.

HOLIDAY HARMONY SPECTACULAR 2002

by Kent McClean

Sign up NOW for the 5th (almost annual) Holiday Harmony Spectacular.

Those of you who have been around a while know that this is always the most FUN event of the year. Some details:

Joint show with the *Kansas City Chorus of Sweet Adelines* (many time International competitor and Medalist).

Saturday Dec. 7, 2002 – shows at 2 and 7:30 PM at the Unity Village Activities Center. Technical rehearsal Friday evening.

HOA will sing 25 minutes on our own plus six songs with the combined chorus.

Quartets include *12th Street Rag* and *ZING* (SA Regional Champions).

Cast Party (afterglow) will be held at the Unity Village facility.

Joint rehearsals Monday, Oct. 28 (at their meeting), Tuesday, Nov. 12 (at our meeting), and Sunday, Nov. 24 1:30-4:30 PM.

SELL TICKETS! We have a great opportunity for a sellout with your help. Order forms will be available on the table at all meetings. Or call 913-851-7464 to order tickets. Remember, all seats are reserved, so the early bird gets the best seats.

ANOTHER PRODUCTION OF THE MUSIC MAN by Cameron LaBarr

Richmond High School will present *THE MUSIC MAN* as its fall musical. The show will open on Friday, Nov. 15 at 7:30 and continue on Saturday, Nov. 16 at 7:30 and Sunday, Nov. 17 at 1:30. All shows will be in the historic Farris Theatre on Main Street.

As most of you know, *THE MUSIC MAN* opened in 1957 and has been a hit ever since. Many community and high school groups produce this play because its a favorite of many people. As critic **Robert Coleman** wrote in 1957, "If you want to be happy, spend an evening with THE MUSIC MAN. It'll make your feet snap into a marching step to "Seventy-Six Trombones," make you reach for your hankie to mop moist eyes in "Goodnight, My Someone" and want to dance in the aisles to "Shipoopi." What a show! What a hit! What a solid hit!"

We have a pretty solid cast with me playing the role of Harold Hill. He is joined by two girls taking on the role of Marian Paroo; Megan Penny will play the role as well as Catherine Anderson who has been serving as the understudy. Catherine will play the role on one performance. Also in the show are: Nick Padgett as Marcellus, Mike Spear as Charlie Cowell, Caleb Westbrook as the Mayor, Rachel Lyday as the Mayor's wife, Josh Wolf as Tommy Djilas, Keri Haynes as Mrs. Paroo, Victoria Hill as Zaneeta, Valerie Aversman as Gracie, Stephanie Hurd as Alma, Jessica Bloom as Maud, Mallory Penny as Ethel, Carissa Stewart as Mrs. Squires, Tabitha Phegley as the Constable and a townsperson, Ashley Foxall as a young girl, Melissa Peterson, Mary Leahy and James Gant as townspeople. The young people in the show include Max Blair as Winthrop, who has the lisp, and Audrey Penny as Amaryllis. Others in the chorus include Haley Padgett, Caley Blair and Lexi Jones.

THE MUSIC MAN is known for its barbershop music and this production has a wonderful quartet which is comprised of: Tof McWilliams, Hal Middleton, John Richardson and Ryan Kugler. Tof McWilliams is also the music director for the show. Jill Jones is directing and Donna Matthews is the accompanist.

The technical crew consists of: **Erin Dooley** as stage manager, **Christian Taylor** as backstage, **Ray Smith** on lights and **Kirk Zwiers** on sound.

"This is such a fun play and it seems to be lots of people's favorite," says director **Jill Jones**. "I directed it back in 1986 and really enjoyed it. Tof really wanted to do it this year and I thought it would be a great idea. We've done some really deep shows lately and this is certainly a switch. It's time for just some good 'ol fun. The cast is great and we've been having fun in rehearsals."

The high school also received a grant from Theatre League in Kansas City who is celebrating their 25th anniversary by promoting musical theatre in Kansas City as well as area high schools.

I'll have more info on tickets a little closer to the show. At that time, I ll be able to sell them at rehearsal.

On another note, I am also working on another play right now—the annual production of SCROOGE! I will be returning this year as the ghost of **Jacob Marley**. SCROOGE! is not a high school production. It is sponsored by the Ray County Arts Council. It includes some very fine singers from the community. It takes place December 6 and 7. That's right...the same day as our holiday show. Some things just don't work out. I will only be in the afternoon Holiday show since SCROOGE! is that right. So if

show since SCROOGE! is that night. So, if there's no rehearsal for HOA on that Friday night and you are free, come on over to Richmond.

PROJECT MANAGER SOUGHT

from the Society's October Update

A project manager—
project management profession
certified would be ideal—is being
sought to develop and implement
an overall project plan to oversee
the Society's Music Man project.

So what is the Music Man **project?** Briefly, the Music Man project is a two-part chapter assistance program. The first and immediate part of the Music Man project, is to implement the musical assistance portion. The Music Man will establish rapport with the chapter, find out what they want, and deliver what they want. The coaching skills and personal communication skills of the Music Man will be paramount for success. The second part of the Music Man project is to provide assistance in the area of membership. The details of the membership portion of the Music Man project will be defined in the next several months.

What is the timing of the Music Man project? The need for a project manager is immediate since a pilot program will be run in the first half of 2003 within a volunteer district in the Society. Continuous monitoring of the volunteer district and a post-pilot review will aid in the decision making process to see if the project will continue into the program phase. From there, with positive results and approval by the Society board, a full deployment plan will be developed and implemented.

Those interested should so indicate in writing (e-mail) to Gary Denton, chairman of the Society Marketing & PR Committee, at: gary.denton@dentonfamily.org.

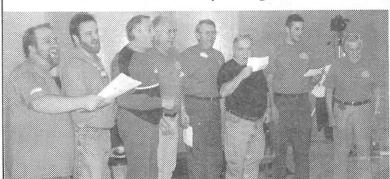
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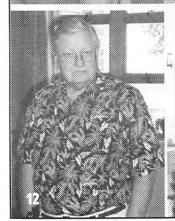




Top to bottom:

- Sound Alibi and Gentlemen of Note perform after lunch.
- -Al Higgins recognizes Marie, St. Benedict's Director of Food Service.
- -One of the Tag VLQ quartets in performance. (L to R) Jerry Garrard, Carter Combs, Dennis Kinghorn, Harvey Shapiro, Mike Schumacher, Jim Moynihan, Cameron Labarr, and Ron Abel. (And they said Jim Moynihan couldn't read.)
- **Dwain Brobst** discusses chorus progress and Bill Biffle extends some words of wisdom to HOA at the Sunday morning breakfast.









FROM SEND-OFF TO CONTEST!









Top to bottom:

- Performing for our guests at Send-off Night... **Anthony Fortino** finishes off "There'll Be Some Changes Made," and the chorus puts the finishing touches to a measure,
- Long-time HOA member, Al Moritz (L) with Ron Abel,
- Mary Kuricina, visiting exchange student from Latvia, staying with Carol and Charles Ramirez, helped with the HOA vests!
- -John Stucker and Mike Schumacher presents Tom McCurdy (new member) and Ken Neujahr (Man of Note).
- New HOA men who have never competed in chorus contest included (L to R) Gerold Stephens, Tom McCurdy, Brooke Meyers, Niel Johnson, Anthony Fortino, Colin Smalley, Stew Grosser and Alex Scott (not shown)
- Jim Bagby gives the chorus last-minute reminders prior to going on stage at CSD.



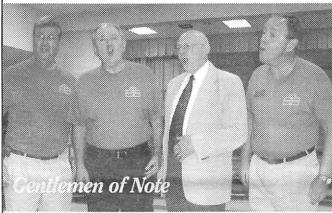




FROM SEND-OFF TO CONTEST!

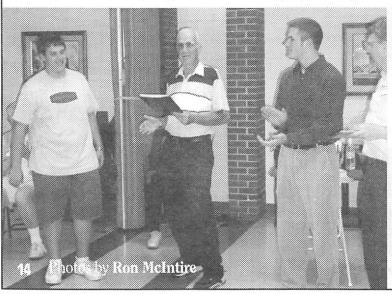








- -Send-off night found plenty of HOA quartets...ready and willing to perform for guests. Great sounds were heard from (clockwise) *Sound Alibi* (L to R) **Tom Elefson, Jerry Garrard, Don Koehnlein** and **Shawn Jeffries**...*SureFire!* members **Carter Combs, Mike Neff, Don Young** and **Grant Hunget**...*Uranium* elements **Niel Johnson, Mike Mathieu, John Stucker** and **Charlie Drake**...as well as *Gentlemen of Note:* **Rod Rule, Jon Gathright, Monty Duerksen** and **Rich Huyck.**
- -Left to right at bottom: President John Stucker and Mike Schumacher welcome Gerold Stephens (NEW HOA member (L) and Cameron Labarr (third from left) Man of Note #1!
- -Long-time Sweet Adeline and HOA coach Harriet Gall chats with Mark Fortino.





TAKE US OUT TO THE BALL GAME by Todd Anderson

Sean Hogge, a friend of our quartet (which is truly remarkable in itself) turned his apartment into a recording studio in order to capture our quartet's repertoire for the ages. Sean



Randy Carney, Todd Anderson, Burt Bray and Raymond Schwarzkopf at Arrowhead. (Now that Todd has shed 67 pounds, he fits more easily on to the JUMBOTRON screen)

had the patience of **Job**, as we spent about three hours hammering out the notes.

One of the numbers we recorded was the national anthem, which actually came out pretty decent.

Burt (Bray) took the cut to the *Wizards*, to see if we fit into their pregame plans. They were thrilled when they heard our CD (shows you how bad their taste is) and asked us to come to their Sept. 18 game. It was a grand time. We rang some chords for the cheerleaders (whew!), for **Howie**, the *Wizards* production coordinator...even for **Lamar Hunt** as he strode by en route to the field. Our time arrived and we successfully lipsynched the anthem to the deafening roar of the 8,000+ soccer fans that were in attendance. All of us, plus our families, were allowed to stay and enjoy the game.

We then took the same approach with the *Royals*. Once again, to our amazement, we were contacted. This time to sing for their Sept. 28 duel with the *Tigers*. It was the last week of baseball and here we were, standing at home plate, once again moving our mouths to what we had recorded at Sean's apartment weeks earlier (technology is amazing). I think the crowd totaled about 10,000—not bad considering the two worst teams in baseball were squaring off.

We now have our bid/request in to the *Kansas City Chiefs* front office...we'll keep you posted if that happens, for sure. I'm not holding my breath. The eight national anthems that are provided at Chiefs games, each year, are reserved for the likes of **Pavarotti** or *12th Street Rag*. However, you don't know until you ask, right?

In the mean time, we're learning some new numbers and enjoying a few gigs here and there. All of this, as time allows. Kind of like *ToneHenge* licking their elbows (see **Dan Henry's** article in the October issue of *Harmonotes*).

We salute the Heart of America chorus members, as well as the chapter quartets, who made folks sit up and take note at the CSD. "Attaboys" to you all!

TUITION ANNOUNCED FOR 2003 HARMONY/ DIRECTORS COLLEGE

from the Society's October Update

There has been an adjustment in the tuition charges for the 2003 Harmony/Directors College. Registrations received after July 1, 2003 will incur a late charge of \$50 per registration.

Registration packets and online registration will be available after the first of the year.

Direct any questions to **Lani Dieter** at 800.876.7464 x8551.

Early registrations ONLY for those who attended 2002 HC/DC

(Must be received by January	ı 1, 2003)
Adult HC or DC	\$425
Students 18-23	\$250
Students 11-17	\$200

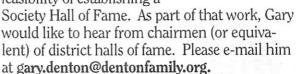
All registrations after January	1,2003
Adult HC or DC	\$475
Students 18-23 yrs. old	\$300
Students 11-17 yrs. old	\$250

All registrations after July 1,	2003
Adult HC or DC	\$525
Students 18-23 yrs. old	\$350
Students 11-17 yrs. old	\$300 ~

HALL OF FAME PROJECT UNDER WAY

from the Society's October Update

Society Marketing & PR Committee Chairman Gary Denton heads up a project investigating the feasibility of establishing a





Heart of Ca



November-December Calendar

November 9-10 7:00 a.m. - KCSA will join HOA at St Peter's

November 12 CSD COTS, Omaha

November 12 Joint rehearsal - HOA and Sweet Adelines

November 24 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Combined rehearsal at Mission Mall

Dec. 7 Holiday Harmony Spectacular,

Unity Village Activities Center

Show times: 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

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