

CHORUS AND QUARTET SINGING IN THE BARBERSHOP STYLE



VOLUME 11 - ISSUE 8 - OCTOBER 2011



In less than two weeks *HOA* will have hosted and competed in its second convention/contest within three months! This is awesome! Just the other day we had the last planning meeting prior to the convention to finalize every detail. Everything is being held in one place, the KC Hyatt Regency Hotel. This should be interesting!

Next Tuesday (Oct. 4) we are having a formal guest night to kick-off the convention week. We have a special rehearsal planned two days later on a Thursday night. It will be held at the Hyatt Regency. What are we thinking?

The contest venue is in the Regency Ballroom at the Hyatt Regency. It's one of those no-peek deals where there is no curtain and the choruses will take the stage in dimmed lighting. It should be interesting!

HOA's contest numbers are significantly down from a year ago and this is a concern. If we could just fly and drive in all our younger members who are off to college, we'd have a more respectable number. Trust me there is no concern about the sound that HOA produces. It will definitely be impressive! (Rumor has it that AOH is running scared and are working ex-

Chorus photo courtesy of Miller Photography, Louisville, KY

tra hard to continue their string of consecutive CSD AAA Plateau Championships! :-)) It's also no secret that the *Fremont Pathfinder Chorus* is singing at an awesome level. So is KC Metro's *Central Standard*. It will be a wonderful chorus contest! CSD is very blessed with a wealth of talent. I hope you will be able to attend. It should be interesting!

Talk about interesting: our director, **David Krause** has qualified to compete in the *Ambassadors of Harmony* (AOH) right before our contest set. He may be kind of hard to spot in their 154-man chorus but look just a little left of center in the back row and you should see his great face. We are proud of **David Krause**. He has done great things for *HOA* since he took over a few years ago.

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HARMONOTES

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



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

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

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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 Web Address: webstaff@hoachorus.com Chorus Manager & Webmaster - Vince Perry Chapter Telephone: (816) 221-7888





(Continued from front cover)

He's been a stickler for singing in pitch. That's all we heard for the first two years! We're doing a lot better in that regard so he's allowed us to move on to other aspects of good vocal production. Oh, he hasn't forgotten about singing in pitch. We still hear it every rehearsal, over and over again. When we end in key or a smidgen higher, he is overjoyed. He usually says "That was awesome!" ("But we can do it better!") David continues to challenge each member to do better each time we sing. During our last meeting, David admitted that, yes, he's been going to AOH, and yes, he's learned a lot, but no, he hasn't been transformed into **Jim Henry.** "There's only one of him." David said with a big smile on his face. But that's okay with HOA because with David's leadership we are on our own journey of excellence! It's been a fun ride so far and I look forward to many more gold-medal moments in the great future of HOA!

And another interesting thing is that the *HOA* risers and trailer will be busier than *HOA* itself in the next ten days. Yep, they are making appearances at the *Kansas City Chorus of Sweet Adelines* send-off to International next Monday night, then back to *HOA* for guest night on Tuesday, then to the Hyatt for the Thursday night rehearsal, then to the stage for the Saturday contest, then to John Knox Village for a *New Harmony Handful* gig at a Men's Vocal Festival. Kick the tires and make it happen, guys! *HOA* is on the move! Well at least our trailer and risers are! (Any volunteers to be on the *HOA* riser crew?)

HOA has all the above on its plate these days and still we are challenging our members to learn new music. My ipod and I are best buddies most of the time. I can play it through my truck stereo so I'm usually on the learning track of some new song each time I travel back and forth from JoeTown to KC for chapter meetings, board meetings, convention planning meetings, etc, etc! As of late, longtime friend, Fred Hangartner, has been making the Tuesday night trips with me in preparation for contest. I enjoy the companionship but am not overjoyed with his use of my truck stereo to play his tenor predominant learning tracks! On the plus side I've learned a few tenor notes to our contests songs and each time I get annoyed by the tenor track, I count my lucky stars he's not a baritone! (Which a former travel mate Mike McKim was!) But as I said, the chorus is on the move to learning new music. The chorus has just learned the song "Smile" and is in the process of learning a new Kevin Keller arrangement called "Rudolph Montage." It is an 8-part arrangement done especially for the KC Chorus of Sweet Adelines and the KC Heart of America Chorus. It will be performed (all 46 pages) on our annual Holiday Harmony Spectacular show, Dec. 3 at Unity Village Auditorium. Check out our website http://www.hoa**chorus.com** for more details and ticketing.

So *HOA* is on the move! Thanks to all the men and women of the *HOA* family who make all the time we spend barbershopping all worth while! That being said I still miss many of my *HOA* friends I have not seen for awhile. I hope that our upcoming 75th chapter reunion in 2013 will bring a lot of us back together. I'm thinking about an *HOA* Alumni Chorus performing that spring! It could be awesome! I wonder how many *HOA* alumnus are out there? (Did you know that past *HOA* president **Keith Schweer** is working on such a list right now?) Be thinking of who they are and how we can get them to learn a couple of songs and be a part of a 200-plus *HOA* Alumni Chorus in 2013! This could be interesting! It is great to be a barbershopper!

OCTOBER 2011 HARMONOTES

It Ain't Just The Zipper! by John Erwine Executive VP

've finally come to realize that not everything in this world is as I think it is; especially now, when it involves me. I've always been pretty much a neat freak-type person. I have panic attacks at the sight of anything sticky. I can't stand it if my tie is a little off center, or if the pants seam on my behind is off a little one way or the other. And if the belt buckle doesn't line up with my fly and shirt – I ain't goin' nowhere! Yet I don't mind real dirt, grease and grime; strange.

I do admit that I've been known to go a little long between haircuts. That sure doesn't make any sense when compared to what I've just revealed; unless you consider there isn't much there to cut in the first place. When I had a real job a few years ago, I knew that I was overdo when a certain guy would come up behind me and pull at the long neck hairs flaring out – hard! It hurts. He called it my "halo."

I had a very embarrassing event the other morning. And the bad thing, I was by myself. What made it worse was that my wife hadn't even noticed it. Or if she did, was too shy...no, that's not the case. Let's drop that one.

Have you ever been in the position of being in a conversation with, or even being near someone that had a really obnoxious stray hair poking out from somewhere that you just couldn't ignore? Sure you tried, but somehow you just ever so discreetly kept coming back to it. Yet you couldn't bring yourself to say anything. You didn't want to embarrass the poor slob. Besides, he might punch you out!

Well, meet "mister neat." I was face to face with him in the bathroom mirror. I'd just finished shaving with the electric razor. I ran the back of my right hand up alongside my cheek to be sure all was baby smooth. Suddenly I felt real pain. The crown of my ring had just caught on something.

After discovering whatever it was that tried to deface me, I actually almost had a meltdown. I had found one, lone rogue hair about 1½" long just in front of my earlobe. I've no idea how long it'd been hiding there, or how many people had tried to ignore it. So I got out the magnifying glass and started looking around. That's when I found three more on my left cheek in a similar place about ½" long. I needed oxygen.

Long story made short, I'm going back to a straight razor. You can't trust these newfangled devices I guess. Or perhaps I could blame it on poor eyesight and advanced age – but probably won't. If one day I ask you "how do I look," just as **Papillon** did when he stuck his head out of the prison window on Devil's Island off French Guyana, just smile and walk away.

So as we prepare for our CSD contest in a couple of weeks, remember the "halo" effect; and of course - the zipper! It'll help make us look just as jazzy as we are! I know I will.





Make Reservations Now for Midwinter!

Taken from LiveWire!

Come to sunny Tucson for the 2012 Midwinter Convention January 17-22, 2012, and tack on a few days before or after to enjoy the unique beauty of southern Arizona! Visit Saguaro National Park, play some golf, check out an old cowboy movie set, and just feast your eyes on the scenery along Arizona's highways!

Housing reservations are now available. The best rooms will go fast, and Tucson in particular may be a sell-out, so make your reservations now!

We can't wait to see how many young men will take part in the Fifth Annual Youth Chorus Festival! And it's always a treat to enjoy the Seniors Quartet Championship.

Register at TUCSON MIDWIN-TER. Check out the Tucson Visitor's Website at www.visittucson.org/visitor/about/visitorcenter.

KC METRO AREA MEN'S CHORUS AY, OCTOBER 9, 7 P.

FEATURED PERFORMERS IN A GLORIOUS NIGHT OF SONG!

The Methodist Men of Note

Directed by Larry Keisker

Kansas City Metro Mens Chorus



The New Harmony Hand Directed by Jim Bagby

The Circuit Riders Directed by Rich Wilson

A Merry Musical Ministry Directed by Carolyn Gordanier



MBINED NUMBERS by the ENTIR <u>FREE ADMISSION - COODWILL DONATION</u>

Proceeds to benefit John Knox Village Food Pantry and other charities

Handful, Four Other Groups Join in Oct. 9 Festival

by NHH Director Jim Bagby



Okay, it's Sunday night after the Kansas City convention. You're floating on the success of *HOA*, its chapter quartets, the great job the chapter did in hosting the competition, you've watched the Chiefs clobber the Colts and you've had

a nap. Now what? That's easy: head for John Knox Village to see the first Kansas City Metro Area Men's Chorus Festival.

Huh? Who do we know in that? Why, our own *New Harmony Handful*. They will join forces with four other men's groups from across the metro area in a 7 p.m. free concert in the JKV Pavilion, to benefit the John Knox Village Food Pantry and other charities.

Other participants start with the *Kansas City Metro Mens Chorus*, directed by veteran **Noel Fulkerson**, former head of the Raytown High School music program. His protégés include our own former director, **Steve Leone**, now singing with the Lyric Opera, and former member **Al Benz**. In its nine years of existence, the *KCMM* group has helped sponsoring organizations raise over \$170,000 through its concerts and has produced several CD's. Noel's large chorus is preparing for a full fall concert series.

Another *HOA* stalwart, **Lyle Wyly**, not only sings with the *Handful*, he is a longtime member of the Lee's Summit United Methodist Men of Note. You saw this group, directed by **Larry Keisker**, mentioned as featured at last

week's dedication of the Korean War Monument. The *Men of Note* have three CD's to their credit.

Our **Brian Seydlitz** sings with another of the featured groups, the *Men of Praise* from the First United Methodist Church of Blue Springs, directed by Carolyn Gordanier. Formed in 2002, the *MOP* have sung everywhere from the Lansing Correctional Facility to Powell Gardens.

The final group is the *Circuit Riders*, a group we want to get to know, because they sing both gospel and barbershop. Directed by **Rich Wilson**, they have been performing in and around the Jackson County area since 2001.

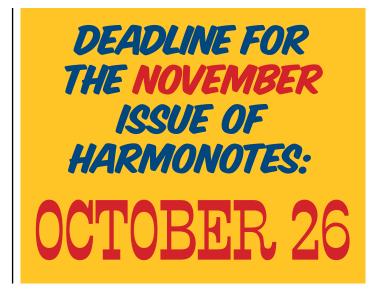
All five groups, totaling more than 120 voices, will combine for a finale of three songs: one religious, one patriotic and one a special number that was commissioned just for the *Men of Note* that they are sharing with us. Two of the final songs are to be a cappella.

Like some of the performances *HOA* has done at the Pavilion, donations will be accepted at the door on the way out for the designated charities. The master of ceremonies will be veteran comedian **Jim Lysaght**. So it promises to be an enriching and entertaining evening — no matter how tired we are.

And if this proves to be a successful venture — one the five directors might consider making an annual event — you can have some input about the possibility of having *HOA* one of the groups involved instead of *NHH*.♥



"THE CASE OF THE BABY AND THE TWO WOMEN
WAS A PEICE OF CAKE. THE NEXT ON IS THE
BARBERSHOP QUARTET COMPETITION."



The Golden Rule

Taken from the *Serenade*, Written by Mike Scott, CSD Membership VP

Christian Hunter, my good friend and fellow District Membership VP from the Mid-Atlantic District, shared this article he wrote in one of his newsletters recently with me. With his permission I will share this along with my brother barbershoppers around the CSD district. It's very simple to follow. Just remember to follow it each week! Now, here's the article...(*Thanks*, *Christian!*)

GREET PEOPLE THE WAY YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE GREETED!

I thought this would be a great time to share some hospitality tips I recently learned from a friend in another chapter, one that's going to be performing at Internationals in fact. For a recent guest night he shared tips on how to socialize with a guest. For many of us, this may be second nature, but not all of us are as comfortable with chatting up someone we have just met.

THE "OPENING"

The first concept is called "Opening." This is the art of starting a conversation and getting a guest to open up about himself. We want to make the guest feel comfortable with us and to be included in not just our musical activities, but the social "down time" as well. If you see a guest who is by himself and not being approached by anyone, that's your guy. Obviously, don't be intrusive, but be welcoming. Obvious conversation openers might include how he heard about us, or who he knows in the chorus. Could be where he's from, his musical background, etc. After a few moments you're bound to find common interests or experiences that will lead to stories

sibly letting him partner up with someone on his part.

"PASSING"

The second concept is called "Passing", and is an equally vital step. I highlight it here because it is perhaps less obvious than opening. Not everyone is going to click immediately, so if you're talking to a guest and don't feel like you have much to say, you may want to pass him to another chorus member. Simply walking away and leaving him standing wouldn't be very hospitable. Rather, introduce him to a member with whom he might have more to talk about or maybe get a group conversation going that he can be part of. Obviously, don't pass excessively — you should get in as much good conversation as you can.

and banter. If he's up for some singing, feel free to get a tag started, pos-

The key with each of these ideas is to be inclusive with the guest. When a guest comes by to see us, it is certain that he'll be left not only with a great impression of our musicianship, but with a feeling of belonging and comfort that perhaps he didn't expect a short amount of time.

2012 International Convention July 1-8 in Beautiful Portland, Oregon

Taken from LiveWire!



Make plans now to attend the exciting 2012 International Convention in beautiful Portland, Oregon. There'll be plenty of drama in the *Ringmasters* vs. *Musical Island Boys* match for the top spot in the quartet competition - but, who knows what contender might challenge both of them? And after placing just a breath away from the gold last year, *Great Northern Union* will be a force for the *Ambassadors of Harmony* to reckon with in Portland. That'll sure be fun to watch!

In addition to the excitement and glamour of our competitions and the fun of singing tags, the Portland area is an incredibly gorgeous place, with so much to see you'll want to spend an extra few days to take it all in! Take in the Rose Garden, Columbia River Gorge, Multnomah Falls, Mt. St. Helen's & Mt. Hood - plus, it's only about 100 miles from breathtaking coastal views of the Pacific!

Early bird housing opens Dec. 15 & general housing opens Jan. 15. Register at PORTLAND INTERNATIONAL. (The URL is http://barbershop.tix.com/Event.asp?Event=381268)



to the following HOA MEMBERS!

October 1 **John Landry**October 5 **Lucas Pherigo**October 12 **Jim Kemper**

October 14 **Brad Dawdy**October 27 **Rob Varney**

Harmony Foundation Report

by Jim Porter



Note that we will have our raffle each time we meet in our regular location. By Board resolution, this year all of the proceeds from the raffle not given as prizes goes to Har-

mony Foundation. In return, the board is able to have the Foundation designate up to 30% of the fund to chapter activities such as Harmony Explosion.

As of Sept. 28, after 34 drawings (4 since last report): The total Harmony Foundation contribution since the last report: \$74.

The total collected for the year to date (since Jan. 3, 2011) is \$779.

The total for the previous year was \$1,490.

The total in our best previous year (2009) was \$3,141.

The total in 2006 (our best full year) was \$3,665.

The total in 2002 (the lowest year of the past decade) was \$970.

The progressive jackpot stands at \$445.

Fa-la-la-la by Ol' Keith



We Tone-Hengers are really excited about performing on the Holiday Show in December. Since our repertoire was low on Christmas tunes we – yes – learned some new music! Here's a preview of our program:

Deck The Halls With Bowser Holly – our lead insisted Christmas Chopsticks/Ah Sow

medley – in Chinese this time *Adios Fideles* – in Latin, of course

Grossmutter bin mit einen Regendir overgerunnen – we're not sure of the language on this one, but we're leaning toward Yiddish

The Six Days Of Christmas – hey, we're in a recession

And the centerpiece of our segment – the 257-page *Rudolph The Red-Nosed Warthog* medley, custom-arranged for us by **Wilbur Wright**. (We understand Wilbur's great-grandson has turned into quite a good arranger, but we'll stick with Wilbur – he's closer to our age. Besides, that young pup's charts are too tough for us.) Can't tell you yet how much time this one will take – we've never made it all the way through.

Tell you what. Put us on first, and when we're finished the rest of you can divide up the time that's left.

!!! Late News Flash !!! *Tone-Henge* is no longer available for the show. Our lead collapsed while carrying the Rudolph medley to rehearsal.

Dobbers Up!

by John Erwine Executive VP



If you're an old fisherman I guess you know what that means. Just in case you don't, it relates to the float on a fisherman's line. In turn, people have used the expression "keep your dobber up" for generations to support those

who may become somewhat depressed or discouraged with a project they are working on, a life experience or any of hundreds of other implications.

Membership and retention has been considered *Job One* for not only our chapter, but for the **BHS** for a number of years. We all know of the many choices there are today for our very mobile and social society to make decisions from. I know I've been discouraged as have many of you that I've talked with.

Not only is it difficult to maintain the membership status quo, much less increase the numbers, it's also reflected in show ticket sales, public appearance requests and general presence and knowledge of what we do.

So the message I bring is this: don't let those factors get you down. I'm not indicating that it's no big deal – it is. But so it is with all organizations and we're absolutely no different in that respect; we simply must explore new methods to deal with it.

Thanks to one of our members, whose quote will appear in the next paragraph, I remembered my own personal situation. I came to the KC area in 1961. It wasn't until 1997, that I even knew *HOA* existed. Then about 2002, before I'd visited them, and December of 2005, that I joined the chapter thanks to **Jim Bagby** who did his best.

Ray Young recently posted this comment: "I have a brother-in-law in Texas. President of a company in downtown Dallas and lives in Ft. Worth. Graduate of TCU. Lived in Ft. Worth 40 years. Last weekend I asked him if he had heard of the Vocal Majority. He hadn't."

Now, can you think of a single reason not to keep your *dobber up*? Just imagine the possibilities!

Barbershopper of the Month



Dave Jobe - August 2011

Vince Perry (left) presents Dave Jobe with the August 2011 BOTM Award which reads:
In grateful recognition for your work in public relations on behalf of the Kansas City Chapter to establish contacts with the Rural Missouri magazine, Hallmark Cards, WWI Museum and Kaufman Center.

Photo courtesy of Ron McIntire

Comcast On Demand October Schedule

Taken from LiveWire!

Comcast customers can watch barbershop on cable through Comcast's On Demand service! Go to the Music Folder, then Music Picks, and choose the Barbershop Harmony category. Artists on demand for October are *Michigan Jake, Platinum, OC Times, Vocal Majority, Ambassadors of Harmony, Northern Lights, Masters of Harmony*, and *Storm Front*. Also learn all 4 parts to a tag - listen to Tag Time #2 with Society Music Specialist Adam Scott!

Enjoy, and let all your friends, family and fans know about barbershop on Comcast! ♥



SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 2011 BOARD MEETING

By Rich Huyck/Ron McIntire



FINANCE REPORT - Jim Porter

- Unrestricted Funds: \$5,989.82 Restricted Funds: \$1,167.60
- Fund Raiser letter has resulted. \$1,200 donations in thus far.
- Spring Show accounting data is now final. Net gain to HOA was \$7,679.37.

MARKETING/PUBLIC RELATIONS - Ray Young:

- Prepared "Save the Date" email blast for the December Holiday Show.
- Working on program preparation for district convention.
 Ted Simon will do the layout.
- Developing Holiday Harmony Show mailer.

OPERATIONS - Jim Clark:

• **Bob Burdick** is handling the risers for the CSD Convention.

MUSIC & PERFORMANCE - Mark Fortino:

- Music team is looking at candidate songs for future contest set.
- Music Team has established a 15 minute break in rehearsal at 9:00 p.m.

PROGRAM VP - Jerry Meier:

 Board approved January 7, 2012, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. for the Installation Banquet. At this point the Overland Park Doubletree Hotel has the best bid for cost of the meal per person: \$29 for adults and \$12 for kids.

MEMBERSHIP VP - Jeff Wolff:

- Board accepted Jake Wozniak as a new member
- Board accepted **Joe Mathieu** as a new member pending passage of vocal audition
- Board accepted **Dylan Mathieu** as a new member pending passage of vocal audition
- A monthly brainstorming committee is being organized to determine how to increase membership ranks.
- Planning is underway for a guest night. October 4, 2011 is the likely date.

Old Business:

KC2011Convention - Update: Mike Mathieu

• Expect between \$13,000 to \$18,000 of International convention proceeds from BHS in October.

- Revenue from the sale of the commemorative pins looks to be about \$6,500.
- Attendance at Fall CSD Convention looking to be higher than expected.

United In Harmony Show - Update: Jim Porter

- Moxie Ladies Quartet returned the travel allowance of \$1,137.20
- *Vocal FX* only charged \$4,500 for rooms at the Hyatt, not the \$5,000 budgeted. **Mike Mathieu** will follow-up on this discrepancy.

Uniform Chairman, Sunshine Chairman, Show Chairman: Vince Perry

• John Erwine has assumed the Sunshine Chairman duties.

Music In The Park: Jim Porter

• Received check from Overland Park for \$200 and \$250 from sponsors.

New Business:

Risers/Trailer Usage by KCSA: Vince Perry

KCSA will use the *HOA* risers and trailer for their International Send-off on October 3, 2011.

Denver Mile High Proposal: Vince Perry

The Denver *Mile High* chapter made proposal to do a show in concert with *HOA* the weekend prior to Harmony University in 2012. The proposal required *HOA* members provide housing for Denver members. Proposal was not considered due to due to the negatives.

Harmonotes Editorial Board: Vince Perry

Jim Bagby submitted a letter to the board suggesting appointing an editorial board to assist **Todd Anderson** in a smooth and appropriately published *Harmonotes*. The general consensus of the board is that the current system seems to be adequate in ensuring that the proper tone and content of articles is monitored.

Chapter History: Vince Perry

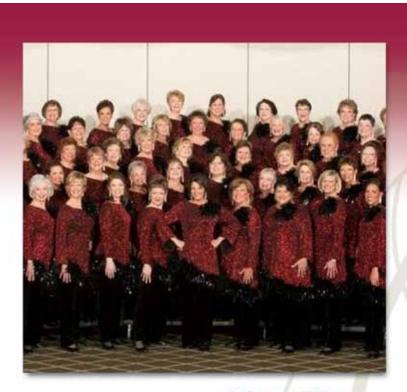
David Krause has been appointed as head of the History Committee. ♥

Hello, Family and Friends!

Please see the attached flier below. I wanted to be sure that all of you knew about this fun, free opportunity to hear the Kansas City Chorus and Legacy quartet. Carol (ed. note: Mike's sister) and I are both in the chorus; Stacy (ed.'s note: Linda & Mike's daughter) directs the chorus and sings lead in Legacy. Both the chorus and quartet will be performing the musical packages that we have prepared for the International Competition coming up at the end of October. The Bell Cultural Center at the Mid American Nazarene College is a very nice, small auditorium...the perfect location to experience barbershop harmony in an intimate setting. Hope to see you all there!

Linda Schumacher

P.S. Mark your calendars for Dec. 3 for our annual Holiday Harmony Spectacular at Unity Village activities auditorium. Featured performers will be the *Kansas City Chorus of Sweet Adelines*, the *Heart of America Barbershop Chorus*, *Legacy* and award winning men's quartet, *Voices Unlimited*. More information and tickets will be available soon at **hoachorus.com**.



Want to See Us Perform?



Kansas City Chorus is the place for you!

A Sweet Offer: FREE SHOW

You are invited to Kansas City Chorus Friends & Family Night!

October 3, 2011 - 8:00 pm

Bell Cultural Center Mid-America Nazarene University 2030 E. College Way, Olathe, KS 66062



Learn more at: www.kansascitychorus.com



Make An Effort To Patronize Our Sponsors!



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































October 7 - 9

CSD Convention & Contests Hyatt Regency, KC, MO

December 3

Holiday Harmony Spectacular 2pm & 7pm **Unity Village Auditorium**



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.