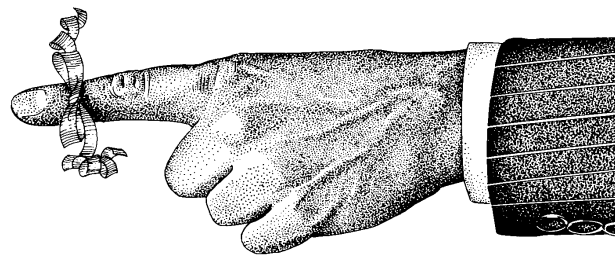


# Heart of America Chorus Calendar



- Sept. 7** 6 p.m. - HOA Concert for St. Peters Church
- Sept. 9** 7 p.m. - St. Joseph Show Chorus Fall Show with Vocal Spectrum
- Sept. 10** 1 p.m. - HOA Annual Picnic at Lake Quivira
- Sept. 11** 6 p.m. - HOA Monthly Board Meeting
- Sept. 15** 7 p.m. - HOA Annual Retreat in Atchison -**Mark Hale and David Leeder**, Clinicians
- Sept. 16** All Day - HOA Annual Retreat in Atchison -**Mark Hale and David Leeder**, Clinicians
- Sept. 17** 7 a.m. - HOA Annual Retreat in Atchison -**Mark Hale and David Leeder**, Clinicians
- Sept. 29 - Oct. 8** All Day - Fall District Conventions: CSD, MAD, SUN

*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.*

# HARMONOTES



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

CHORUS AND QUARTET SINGING  
IN THE BARBERSHOP STYLE



SECOND-OLDEST CHAPTER IN THE  
BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

September 2006

## Quartet, Chorus Contests, CD Occupy HOA

by Jim Bagby, Ye Olde Arm-Waver

Summer doldrums? *Heart of America* never heard of 'em.

The first week of August, just up the road at St. Joseph, brought Harmony University—and just the highlights of that glorious event could occupy this entire issue. So let me just say that you should plan next year AT LEAST to take in the special weekend rate offered by the Society to all Central States District members. More about that later.

On the heels of HU came our annual (nearly) Spring Fling quartet contest, moved back at bit this time into a “New Adventure” summer competition under the guidance of **Jerry Garrard** and **Harvey Shapiro**, with a final lineup of 16 quartets competing. What a joyous night, with many *HOA* members getting their first taste of quartetting and/or performing in public.

We could also write lots about this just-for-fun event, and the creativity that always goes into it. But we also heard lots of good singing (see the article elsewhere in this issue). On behalf of the music leadership, just let me say congratulations to all the participants, to those who worked to make the contest a success and a big “thank you” to the friends and families who turned out to cheer all the foursomes.

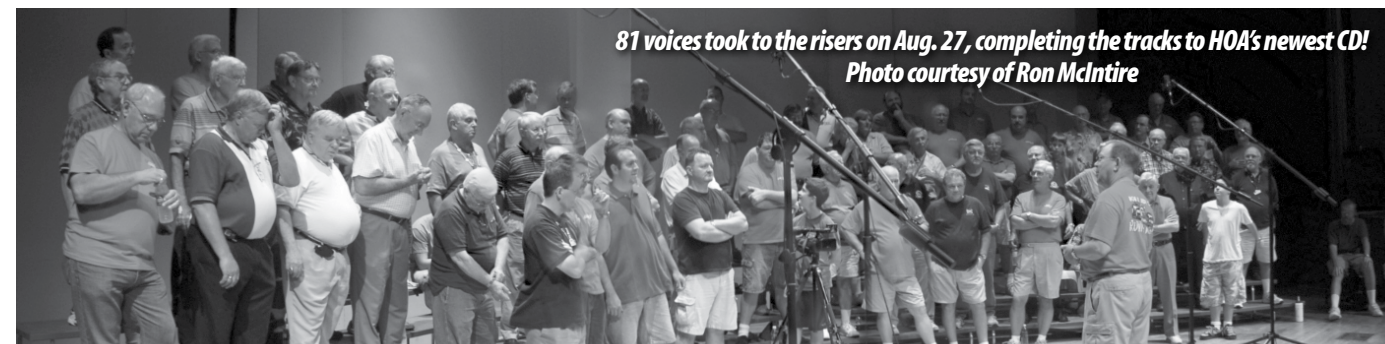
We wound up August with 81 guys on the risers at the University of Missouri's White Recital Hall, in an intense but productive day of recording. We got the final five tracks of our second CD completed—despite the threat of a tornado that almost forced the chorus out of the building. It did require ace engineer **Dan Israel**

to negotiate with the emergency officials to let us finish “Apron Strings” before they burst into the hall. Dan says he can edit out the sound of the UMKC campus warning siren that just barely intrudes over the tag.

It was another great *HOA* team effort, from the early arriving riser crew, to all the extras provided by Business Manager **Vince Perry**, to the pizza dinner and side dishes set up by the *Heartbeats* to the sound expertise our own **Mark Fortino** lends to assist Dan. And at the end of the six-hour session, the risers and equipment seemed to disappear in minutes.

Next come the control tracks and the mixing, with our goal still to have the CD on sale by our March 17 show at Yardley Hall. Many thanks to the willingness of the *HOA* chorus to respond with the repetition and discipline so necessary to the recording process. I know we'll all be proud of the finished product.

Now it's on to the retreat the weekend of Sept. 15—you are signed up, aren't you?—with one of the greatest clinician duos we've ever assembled: **Mark Hale** and **David Leeder**. You know Mark as the director of the perennial gold medal *Masters of Harmony*, as well as lead of our 1996 quartet champs, *Night Life*. David, who's been with us once before, is a Presentation judge, a master interpreter and a coach whose people skills rank him among the Society's best. It should be a marvelous weekend, leading to our Oct. 7 appearance in Wichita! ♥



81 voices took to the risers on Aug. 27, completing the tracks to HOA's newest CD! Photo courtesy of Ron McIntire

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## It Is My Responsibility

by Tony Strub, HOA President



Discipline is training that is designed to develop a specific skill or behavior. Discipline can be external that comes from the top down or outside in as one would find in a military style organization. Discipline can also be internal that comes from within an individual or group as one would find in a very democratic style organization or an individual working hard to develop his/her skills at playing the piano. An individual or group is said to have good self discipline if they choose to do one particular thing to pursue a goal even though at the time they actually would prefer to do some thing else. The choice of which style of discipline might be most effective would depend on the activities and mission of the organization or individual.



The Barbershop Harmony Society and *The Heart of America Chorus* are democratic organizations. Its members choose to join. They choose to abide by the rules and support the mission. They choose the degree to which they participate in the activities, work and responsibilities. Being the type of organization that we are in *HOA*, the most effective style of discipline for us is that which comes from within. Peer example, support and pressure are our tools. It is not the responsibility of the directors to maintain discipline on the risers. It is the responsibility of every individual on the risers. On several occasions in recent months, we have been criticized for our lack of group discipline on the risers. In general, we have acknowledged that our group discipline is not as good as it should be and that we would like to see it improve.

The board has asked **Rich Huyck** to chair a committee of board and music team members to come up with recommendations to improve riser discipline that can be ready to introduce to our membership at our retreat in September. Improving the way that we work on the risers is a challenge for all of us. We as individuals must change some of the ways that we do things and get rid of some bad habits. It will not be easy and the results will not be achieved over night. If we are supportive, determined and patient, improvement will come. Working together, we will succeed and be a better organization for it. ♥

## I've Never Heard of That One Before!

by Mark Fortino



That's what we expect people are going to be saying when they hear *12th Street Rag* over the next six months. Internationals brought us a wonderful new friend in **Joe Johnson** who has arranged for some of the top quartet's in our Society. Joe has taken a personal interest in our quartet and in the last several months has been turning out incredible arrangements customized for our voices faster than I can open up my email and hear "YOU'VE GOT MAIL!"

We had a conference call one evening and said, "Hey, what about that one song...". I emailed Joe while we were talking and before we finished our two-hour conference call, the pdf of the music and computer learning files were coming across my email! Now that is someone who really wants to make a difference for our quartet.

This is something we have been missing for many years. When you think of the *Bluegrass Student Union* you think of **Walter Latzko**. When you think of the *Classic Collection* you think of **Lou Perry**. When you think of the *Gas House Gang* you think of **David Wright**. Having a great arranger take an interest in you is an incredible honor that we are not taking lightly. We have much that we need to accomplish if we ever hope to have a similar correlation happen between *12th Street Rag* and Joe. But, there is a lot of positive energy right now in our quartet. We're coming off our best finish at Internationals, we're all healthy, unlike last year when my larynx issues put us out of commission for five months, and we have A LOT of very AWESOME music that we are working on.

I won't say the names of the songs at this point, but let's just say if you liked "Yes, Sir That's My Baby," you ain't heard nothin yet! Joe is a brilliant arranger and is giving a real boost to a quartet that has been searching for the right stuff for a long time. I guess good things *do* come to those who wait. ♥

## DONORS

### Members and Friends Of HOA!

Yep, charity begins at home, and for members of *HOA* it just makes sense to get excited about putting our charitable dollars to work for our very own chapter. Did any member, prior to *HOA*, ever believe that they would appear on stage in some of the most prestigious auditoriums and arenas in the country? Support for your chapter helps make our various activities affordable for all.

*Be included in the listing below.*

**Gold Heart**  
(\$1,000 & Up)  
Thom Tisdall

**Silver Heart**  
(\$400 - \$999)  
Don & Donie Peck

**Bronze Heart**  
(\$50 - \$399)  
Arthur Gibson  
Dick & Joan Korek  
Hugh & Nancy McCreery  
David Peck  
Tony Strub

**Helping Hearts**  
(Up to \$99)  
Richard and Gloria Haberkorn

The Heart of America Chorus is a 501(c) (3) organization. Donors will receive a receipt for Tax purposes.

Checks should be made out to: HOA  
Give to any HOA Board member or mail to:  
HOA, c/o Dale Neuman  
816 W. 121st. St. • Kansas City, MO 64145-1011

## Can't Keep Those Leads Down

Back on the risers and headed to Wichita with *HOA* are veteran leads **Ron Fortino** and **Frazier Allen**, both after hospital stints that would have sidelined lesser men! Ron underwent triple-bypass heart surgery, and Frazier suffered a minor stroke. Ron, head of the three-generation Fortino nation, was gone less than a month from the chapter, returning in time to see his grandsons, with **Steven Duncan**, take fifth place in the *New Adventure* quartet contest. Frazier was expected to be out several weeks but rehabbed briefly and was back with *HOA* after only two missed Tuesdays. We welcome both back, and admire their rapid recuperative powers! ♥



## Heart of America Chorus

### SPONSORS

*Thank You For Making A Difference!*  
**We gratefully acknowledge your generosity to the Heart of America Chorus 2005-2006!**



DAVID F. HOKANSON FAMILY FOUNDATION



**The Heart of America Chorus is a 501(c) (3) organization.**

**Checks should be made out to:**

**Kansas City Chapter/  
Barbershop Harmony Society**

**Mail to: HOA, c/o Dale Neuman  
816 W. 121st. St. • Kansas City, MO 64145-1011**



## Secrets of 2006 Harmony University

by Mike Owen



It's always easier to learn by taking good advice, yet it amazes me when I fail to listen. Let's see if you, the reader, can do better. The advice I didn't take for several years was to attend Harmony University. This year I finally did attend and this article is to let you in on some of Harmony University's well-kept secrets.

1. The entire campus is just full of all sorts of 'hardware' hanging from guys necks.
2. There are all sorts of Society 'icons' you've all read about, heard about or talked about for the entire time you've been in the organization.
3. These same icons and 'hardware' guys not only want to share their expertise, but without exception I found them to be regular guys just like you and me.
4. Free ice cream (even sugar-free kinds).

The Society office does a great job of organization, preparation and execution of the task. I can't think of a single serious complaint heard about the entire week. The more non-serious complaints include: weather was too hot, the food too good, plentiful and fattening, the schedule too full, the work too much fun and no naps.

One of the wonderful parts of HU was sharing the experiences with three of my close friends, my quartet members. I'd be remiss if I didn't extend a big "Thank You" to our wonderful *Heartbeats* for selecting me to receive the **Orval Wilson Memorial Scholarship**. I shall endeavor to be worthy of the investment you've made in me.

On a serious note, HU is one of my fondest musical experiences. The week was long and tiring and a serious educational opportunity. Attendance required a week of vacation, a little travel and some dollars but the experience was well worth the investments. Men, don't wait until 'a few years' have rolled by to take advantage of this resource that's held in our own back yard. I met people from all over the world who travel great distance to attend. Sign up right now for next year's wonderful experience of Harmony University. I promise you'll be happy you followed the advice. ♥

*"The problem with the designated driver program, it's not a desirable job, but if you ever get sucked into doing it, have fun with it. At the end of the night, drop them off at the wrong house."*

— Jeff Foxworthy

## On the Horizon: HOA's Annual Retreat!

by Al Higgins



HIGGINS

Three weeks and counting until HOA's annual retreat on September 15-16-17. The retreat will one again be held at the Atchison Heritage Conference Center with a few changes. Instead of working at the conference center, we will be rehearsing at the Atchison Memorial Hall, which is downtown. Check out the *HOA* website for info and pictures of the facilities.

Registration will begin at 5 p.m. on Friday and the first session will start at 7:30 p.m. There will be shuttle service to the Memorial Hall leaving at 7:10 p.m. (It's only a five-minute trip from the conference center to the Memorial Hall).

All meals will be eaten at the conference lower level dining facilities except the Saturday lunch, which will be served to us at the Memorial Hall.

Quartet and chorus gold medalist **Mark Hale** (director of the *Masters of Harmony*) along with the top-flight Presentation guru **David Leeder** will be our clinicians. They should be a great help in getting us prepared to compete at the district contest in Wichita.

With generous support from the board, the retreat is affordable for all chorus members and all should make plans to attend. Be sure a register on line or at rehearsal by Sept. 12. The two nights lodging and four meals will cost each member \$50 with the chapter picking up the balance.

This once-a-year event promotes some of the best fun, fellowship, and learning that the chorus enjoys. The music team, the directors and the board encourage each *HOA* member to attend and help make *HOA* the best chorus possible. ♥

## Membership Dues Reminder for Sept. 30!

Frazier Allen  
Jimmie Ballinger  
Matthew Bostick  
William Campsey  
Jim Clark  
Marvin Faulwell  
Jon Gathright  
Stew Grosser  
Myron Hultgren  
Dennis Kinghorn

David Krause  
Duane Lawson  
Brian Marston  
Bruce Marston  
Joe Mathieu  
Chris Meeks  
Andrew Meier  
Mark Meyer  
Matthew Moore  
Don Newman  
Don Peck

Jacob Pimer  
John Renfro, Jr.  
Rod Rivard  
Raymond Schwarzkopf  
Keith Schweer  
Alex Scott  
Harry Stewart  
Carl Turlin  
J.B. Witham  
Calvin Yoder

## Saturday Night Special: Rehearsal Road Trips

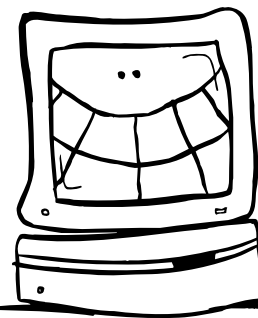
by David Krause



A brand-new quartet has been formed by that name and is official as of a couple of days ago. There is only one member of the quartet from our chapter but many of you know all of the guys. Somehow I convinced **Jeff Veteto**, from Springfield, MO to sing bass, **Scott Spilker**, from Beatrice, NE to sing bari, and **Rick Kready**, from Topeka, KS to sing tenor. It didn't even cost me much. However, you can imagine how much the gas is costing us to rehearse. We've got about 10 songs we almost know and plan to have most of those ready to perform by the time of the convention in Wichita. As you might guess we usually don't meet as a foursome. Luckily, a wonderful minister in Hiawatha, KS makes his church available for us every time we ask for a trio and **Dave Mari**, in Clinton, provides his church for duet-ing. One good thing about that kind of rehearsal schedule is that it forces you to do what most quartets have found to be the secret to success, duets and trios. Sure hope it works for us and hope to be able to perform a few of these great arrangements we are attempting to learn for you soon. ♥

## Pre-order 2006 Chorus and Quartet CDs NOW

taken from *LiveWire*!



Hear and see the best barbershop in the world! Order now from Harmony Marketplace, [www.harmonymarketplace.com](http://www.harmonymarketplace.com).

Production is under way on the 2006 contest recordings, with delivery expected in time for Christmas. Place your pre-order now online at <http://harmonymarketplace.com/incon.html>

Track list is still to be determined... but expect a few bonuses. ♥

## Heart of America Chorus

THIRTEEN-TIME Central States District Champions!

### 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 Huyck (bari), Monty Duerksen (bass)
- HyPower Serenaders** - 1948 Central States District Champion  
Don McPherson (tenor), Ben Franklin (lead),  
Bert Phelps (bari), Dale Warrick (bass)
- Gamboliers** - 1952 Central States District Champion  
John Dooley (tenor), Eddie Schliebs (lead),  
Orval Wilson (bari), Jimmy Byrnes (bass)
- BMA Gamboliers** - 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 Goldsburly (bari), Don Page (bass)
- The Four Kippers** - 1966 Central States District Champion  
\*Ken Gabler (tenor), \*Byron Meyers (lead),  
John Goldsburly (bari), Gil Lefholz (bass)
- 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** - 2006 International Semi-Finalists  
\*Micah Jeppesen (tenor), Mark Fortino (lead),  
John Fortino (bari), \*Barry Moore (bass)
- Command Performance**  
Carter Combs (tenor), Jon Gathright (lead),  
Rich Huyck (bari), Monty Duerksen (bass)
- Crosstown Four**  
Dale Neuman (tenor), Gordon Coleman (lead),  
Ron Abel (bari), Val Putzier (bass)
- New and Used Parts**  
Carter Combs (tenor), Mike Neff (lead),  
Grant Hunget (bari), Keith Schweer (bass)
- Quadrio**  
Rob Mathieu (tenor), Michael Troyer (lead),  
Grant Hunget (bari), Matt Moore (bass)
- Tone-Henge**  
Bruce Wenner (tenor), Dan Henry (lead),  
Jim Bagby (bari), Keith Schweer (bass)

\*Member of other chapters





## Who is Moving Up? Who is Fading? by Jim Porter

The first consideration in any contest cycle when comparing scores between contests is how strict was the judging panel? The panel at Indianapolis was an easy one, especially kind to the top performers. The average score for the top 10 choruses was more than 2.8% higher than the average for the same choruses at their district contests last fall. For the second 10, the improvement vanished. The average scores at Indy were 0.6% BELOW the averages from last fall. The remaining eight choruses (excluding the BABS and SNOBS choruses, who lacked fall scores for comparison) were over 2.5% lower at Indy than last fall. *Heart of America* was down 0.5% from last fall, which proved to be normal for the choruses in the same range of scores.

Movement among the choruses is very rare in this competition, but this was a rare competition. Anyone who was there was blown away by the incredible performance of the Westminster, CA, chorus, who was competing for the first time on International stage. What an introduction! They almost, but not quite, knocked off the *Dallas Vocal Majority*, improving their spring score by a HUGE margin of 7.3%. *Vocal Majority* needed to raise their score by 2.5% to hold onto the trophy. Westminster's score was higher than the *Masters of Harmony* posted last year in Salt Lake City. For the *Vocal Majority*, it was their closest call since 1994, when they scored 2813 (compared to 2838 this year) and won by 20 over New Tradition Chorus. *VM's* score matched their 2003 winning score, but was below their scores in 1997 and 2000. (Scores prior to 1994 are not comparable to current scores. However, *Vocal Majority* won easily in 1985, 1988 and 1991.)

Another new chorus in the hunt is *Atlanta Vocal Project*, who finished 10th in their first year on stage, improving their spring score by 3.8%. The other major gainer was the one who closed the competition with an incredible



package, the *Midwest Vocal Express*, up 6.2% from their spring score (when they presented last year's package from Salt Lake City).

Among choruses in the low-80s range like *Heart of America*, there wasn't much change. The 15 choruses ahead of us all were also ahead of us last fall, and all of the choruses behind us were also behind us last fall. Some programs with a rich tradition appear to be fading back, including *Southern Gateway* and *West Towns Chorus*, both past gold medalists, but both down over 1.5% from their performances last fall. Alexandria posted only a small gain to hang onto a position in the top 10.

Our encouragement is that a top-10 finish isn't that far out of reach. 10th place was at 85%. It's a longer stretch to medal (5th was 89%), but it isn't an unrealistic objective for us to have a goal of being an 85% chorus and shooting for the top 10.

Among the quartets, the judging panel in Indianapolis was also very receptive of the best. The top 10 quartets all posted higher results that they did in the spring prelims, and the average was over 2% higher. For the quartets further down, this margin disappeared. The Indy panel scored the 2nd 10 quartets only 1% higher, and the rest were no higher than the spring.

*Vocal Spectrum* improved an astounding 5.5% to win the gold medal. *Max Q* gave them a run for it, improving their score 3.7%. Others to watch for: *Wheelhouse* (up 3.6% to finish 5th) and *State Line Grocery* (up 2.5%, 7th, only their second time on stage). Two other up-and-comers are *Four Aces* and *The Allies*, both competing for the first time at International, finishing 12th and 13th respectively. *Four Aces* improved their spring scores 5.0% (their Thursday set was 85%, 6th place overall), and *The Allies* were up 2.7%. Another comer is *Hot Air Buffoons*, who improved their spring score 4.0% and finished 16th. In addition, among quartets not making the top 20, *Ignition!*, *Vantage Point*, *NeXus*, and *Fermata Nowhere* were all 4% or more above their spring scores and could be quartets of the future. Last year's college champion *Men in Black* were 17th, with a score 1.7% above their spring prelim score.

**The losers?** *Three Men & A Melody*, down 1.9%. (*12th Street* was down also, just 0.4%) Others with lower (by 1% or more) scores than in the spring contest were out of the top 20. *Premiere* and *Voices Only* were down over 2%. The last four finishers, *Reveille*, *HotShots*, *Dazzle!* and *Keep 'Em Guessing*, all were down substantially from their spring performances. (It may be the case that one or more of their singers was ailing and not at his best.) ♥

## Where's Waldo? Where's Quadrio? by Michael Troyer



The title says it all. *Quadrio* has been pretty scarce for various reasons. Between all the softball games, vacations, business trips and all the other hoopla the summer brings, we are finding out how hard it really is for three middle-aged guys and one senior citizen (I'm not naming any names!) to get together to just practice! But don't be discouraged, *Quadrio* will be ready to hit the stage in Wichita with full force!

*Quadrio* did however have several sing-outs shortly after prelims this past spring. Since *Quadrio* was a new quartet, the *Voices of America* had a full slate on their annual show in May, but they did ask us to perform for the dinner they sponsored between the shows for the chorus. It was a lot of fun and I got to make fun of **Byron Meyers, Sr.** some.

The next "gig" we had was at the Oakwood Country Club in Kansas City. A fine club it was, if it wasn't for the rain that day. The plan was to stroll around and sing for club members as they came in after playing in a tournament. Well, the tournament was cancelled so the plan was modified to stroll while members had pre-dinner cocktails (Tenor **Rob Mathieu** had a few also). It all worked out and everybody was happy!

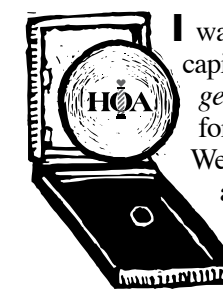
Lastly, we would like to extend a big congratulations to the *Heart of America* and the *Voices of America* choruses for a strong showing at Indy this year! I know both choruses worked very hard to prepare for international.

Now that Indy is over and gone, *Quadrio* is back on schedule and is working very hard to prepare for Wichita in the fall. We hope we make both our chapters proud! ♥

**CORRECTION:** The August issue of *Harmonotes* contained a look back at *Rural Route 4* taking first place at International in 1986. Trouble is, the photo that was married to the article included Wesley Yoder instead of Don Kahl who sang Tenor in the *RR4* winning combo! Apologies galore for that error (the editor will be shot at dawn)! If you'd like to see the '86 winners in all their splendor, just look at the top of the front cover. We're told that particular photo was taken within mere minutes of winning the trophy!

## HOA CD Update

by Mike O'Dell



I want to remind everyone of our need for capital to fund our new CD, *HOA-Happy Together*. To date there have been pre-orders for approximately 300 CD's raising \$4,500. We have also had interest-free loans in the amount of \$3,850 provided to the chapter by members of *HOA* as well as others within our *HOA* family. With our up front production cost projected to be \$19,000, we still need to raise more money.

Those of you who have pre-ordered CD's or have made us an interest free loan, we thank you very much. For those of you who have not, please give strong consideration to helping by pre-ordering CD's or making us an interest-free loan, or just a donation to the project.

I know sometimes we feel that the time commitment we give to the chorus is enough support, but with special projects like the CD we need more.

If you have not pre-ordered CD's and would like to do so, see **Jim Porter**. If you have already pre-ordered CD's and would like to increase your order, see Jim Porter. If you would like to make an interest free loan or donation for the CD please see me, **Mike O'Dell**. Also as a reminder to those who have made interest-free loans, or considering doing so, all loans will be repaid after the release of the CD, and will be repaid in the order they were received.

If anyone has any questions please contact me. ♥

## CD Recording Sessions Complete by Doug Brott

The second recording session for our new CD, *HOA-Happy Together*, was completed on Aug. 27. We had about 80 enthusiastic men spend the day singing the final six songs that will be used for the CD. Now the "backroom" work begins putting everything together to produce the Master that will be used for final production. As of this writing we still expect to have the final product ready to sell at our 2007 spring show.

If you have not yet purchased your CDs, now is a good time to do it. In addition, we are still accepting interest-free loans for those people who can help us that way. We still need monies to cover our upfront expenses so any help you can give is greatly appreciated. Please contact **Jim Porter** for CD purchases and **Mike O'Dell** for the loan program. ♥





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



DEXTER

#### TEN YEARS AGO: SEPTEMBER 1996:

Remember “Operation Harold Hill?” Probably not. I didn’t, either, but I’ll bet **Monty Duerksen** does. “Operation Harold Hill” was a member recruitment program devised by the So-

cietty to be implemented by each chapter over the first six months of 1996. The goal for each chapter was 20 new members recruited by June 30 with a minimum of one new member per month. And, of course, Monty Duerksen, in his capacity as membership vice president, was the guy whose responsibility it was to see that the Kansas City chapter achieved those goals.

Well, you know Monty. Give him a goal to achieve, and then get out of his way! The September 1996 *Harmonotes* doesn’t reveal just how many new members were brought aboard, but Monty’s efforts resulted in a congratulatory letter from **Ev Nau**, Society manager of membership development, to President **Don Young** advising him that our chapter had won a silver medal for bringing in 20 new members, plus the “Marathon Award” for signing up a new member in each of the six months. Ev also reported that the total result Society-wide during “Operation Harold Hill” was 2,906 new members.

#### TWENTY YEARS AGO: SEPTEMBER, 1986

Don’t know whether it was due to some kind of virus that swept through the chapter membership or the enthusiastic approach Membership Vice President **Ed Ward** applied to his duties, but the first six months of 1986 were also a period of vigorous membership growth. At the beginning of the year, Ed had established a motto, “26 in ‘86.” But by the end of August, he had brought on board 28 new singers, and had revised his motto to, “36 in ‘86.”

An item in the September *Harmonotes* indicates that during the 31-day period (which should have included at least four Tuesday night meetings) from July 22 through August 19, 13 of the 18 visitors were either former members (3), became new members (5) or current members from other chapters (5).

#### FORTY YEARS AGO: SEPTEMBER, 1966

Not much news to report, so Editor **Don Thorne** had a lot of fun explaining how to adapt a white shirt so as to accommodate the paper dickey and collar that went with the uniform that was worn by chorus members at the time. I wasn’t a member in 1966, but I do recall that the uniform looked exactly like an outfit I wore as a teen-aged usher in a theater in my hometown of Oshkosh, WI. Don very carefully instructed the members to ask their wives to remove the collar of a white shirt and add the two buttons needed to secure the paper collar. I had a better solution. I wore no shirt at all under the dickey. ♥

## The Songs We Sing

by Wade Dexter  
Source: Wikipedia

**Irving Berlin** was born on May 11, 1888, in Tyumen, Siberia (or possible Mogilev, now Belarus). He was an American composer and lyricist, one of the most prodigious and famous American songwriters in history. Berlin got his start as a lyricist for other composers, and although he never learned how to play a piano or read music beyond a rudimentary level, he wrote over 3,000 songs.

About half of Berlin’s works became popular on Broadway and in Hollywood, leaving an indelible mark on American music and culture with hits such as “God Bless America,” “White Christmas,” “Alexander’s Ragtime Band” and “There’s No Business Like Show Business.” Berlin produced 17 film scores and 21 Broadway scores in addition to his individual songs. ♥

#### Quotes Attributed to Irving Berlin:

*A patriotic song is an emotion and you must not embarrass an audience with it, or they will hate your guts.*

*Life is 10 percent what you make it, . . . 90 percent how you take it.*

*Never hate a song that’s sold a half million copies.*

*Our attitudes control our lives. Attitudes are a secret power working 24 hours a day, for good or bad. It is of paramount importance that we know how to harness and control this great force.*

*The toughest thing about success is that you’ve got to keep on being a success.*

*There’s no business like show business.*



## Where Did The Year Go?

by Eileen Campsey, *Heartbeats* President

**W**hew! Seems like this year just began and already it is September. Now it’s time for the chorus to roll through the competition in Wichita and on into the joyous holiday season. I wanted to take this time to give everyone a quick update.

Let’s start with Indianapolis and the International competition. You ladies were the best. All of your hard work and support were greatly appreciated by the chorus members. Every time there was a request for help everyone jumped in and made it happen! The sendoff was decorated festively and the car “pins” were perfect. I saw many of them inside the lapels of the competition jackets. The snack bags and food before the rotation, and finally the chorus dinner all went off without a hitch.

WELCOME to the new ladies who joined us at the send-off: **Sandy Burdick, Yvonne Foreman, Linda Fuson, Cristy Scott, Lois Owen, Brenda Smith, Donnie Peck, Cindy Miller, Jessica Owen, Linda Truman, Haley Mathieu, Juli Weber and Joann Bagby.**

Another great big THANK YOU to all the ladies who helped make the final recording session such a success. It seems that pizza is the food of choice for the chorus members! Your baked goodies and fruit were perfect finishing touches.

The Leavenworth ladies are planning a wonderful outing for you during the men’s retreat in Atchison on Sept. 15 & 16. There will be several museum opportunities, antique shopping, and lunch at the English tea room. I will be walking in the three-day (60 mile) breast cancer walk but will be well represented by the ladies here in Leavenworth. Be sure to watch your email for more details.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, Sept. 19. We’re going to have a potluck dinner at the church for a more central location. Please email me at **Eilene.campsey@wildblue.net** with your anticipated dish and I’ll fill in the gaps for dinner. We’ll be planning the Wichita chorus competition activities as well as making plans for the chorus holiday season. As past-president, Sharon Oldhoeft will chair the nominating committee. If you are interested in serving on that committee or as an officer for the 2007 year, please email me as well.

*Again, thanks for all you do! ♥*

## Photos From Indianapolis!



*From top to bottom: Send-Off (Mary Fortino) “The finish line is in sight!”, Chorus rehearsal in Indy (Margo Campsey and Linda Fuson), Jim Bagby and table at the Chorus Dinner in Indy, Mike Owen and Bill Campsey “Runnin’ Wild” through AOH territory in St. Louis enroute to Indy Photos courtesy of Eileen Campsey*



# You scream,...I scream! We ALL scream

for....

# Sheridan's Frozen Custard!

by Dick Korek



As promised, Tuesday Aug. 22 was not only youngster guest night but another appearance of Sheridan's Frozen Custard. I was privileged to be a fill-in for the master frozen custard man, **Mr. Jerry Sheridan**, and it worked out pretty well.

With some very fast instructions from Andrew I managed to put the requested toppings in the individual cups. With five toppings to choose from, and many chose all five, it kept me dipping and serving frantically. Andrew closed up the traveling Sheridan's Frozen Custard stand and left only after everyone had huge smiles on their faces.

Once again we owe a major thank you to Sheridan's Frozen Custard for their willingness to "treat" the chorus. When you or your family need that "special" treat... head for Sheridan's Frozen Custard. It's the best way to say "Thanks." ♥



*Lud Einess takes the lead, showing other eager HOA members just how it's done!*



*Fountain Manager-for-a-night Dick Korek watches Sheridan's number one ace catering man, Andrew, create a masterpiece for some lucky barbershopper!*

Photos courtesy of Ron McIntire

## Board of Directors July 2006 Meeting Highlights

by Kevin Tritsch, Secretary/Ron McIntire



### TREASURER'S

#### REPORT: Ron Fortino

Operating fund as of 6/30/06 was \$11,068.57

### CSD Contest and Retreat

- The board agreed to set the member cost for the retreat at \$50 and to help members financially if they need it. Money will come from the Members Fund in the treasury.
- The board agreed that the chapter will pay the registration fee to the district contest in Wichita for every member attending the competition. The fee will be refunded to the chapter if the member does not go.

### OPERATIONS: Chuck Ames

- The old sound system will be put on eBay to be sold.

### PROGRAM: Harvey Shapiro

- \$4,000 has been paid to the Johnson County Community College for the spring show. Answers to questions about Yardley Hall will not be available until after school starts.
- The New Adventure quartet contest is on track for Aug. 8.

### MARKETING: Dick Korek

- The chapter received \$800 for the Music in the Park performance. The park reported that 744 people attended the 2006 performance.
- The board agreed to schedule a Music in the Park performance in 2007.

### MEMBERSHIP: Stew Grosser

- Guest Night, Aug. 8 is on track. Will include cookout.
- 1. Jr. Guest night, Aug. 22 – ages 8 to 18 is on track.
- 2. New member orientation program – still in progress.

### MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE: Keith Schweer

- Coaching Schedule
- 1. Aug. 15 – **Jim Henry**
- 2. Retreat, Sept. 15-17 – **Mark Hale and Joe Hunter**
- Wichita Preparations
- 1. No Thursday rehearsals
- 2. Qualification taping – Everyone who was in the Indianapolis chorus must tape "Runnin' Wild." Deadline for submitting a tape is Aug. 22.
- 3. People who were not on the International stage at Indianapolis must qualify on both songs. Deadline for submitting a qualification tape is Aug. 22. ♥

## Tone-Henge Competes

by Ol' Bruce

Well, sort of. Let's back up a minute. What with various travels by **Jim** and **Keith**, we haven't all gotten together for the last month. Keith and **Connie** actually went across the pond for a European cruise —don't you just hate them? And their excursion coincided with our summer chapter quartet contest. If Keith had been here we would probably have donned disguises and attempted to enter the contest together under assumed names, but with Keith in Europe that was not an option.

So, Jim, **Dan**, and I went our separate ways in the three different quartets to which we were assigned. By the time the contest dust had cleared, our three quartets were announced as winning first, second, and third place! *Tone-Henge's* most successful contest ever, and we owe it all to Keith.

Our other highlight of the month was being coached by the incomparable **Jim Henry**. Well, sort of. We WERE there (all four of us this time) while Jim coached the chorus, and wasn't that a masterful performance! Of course we have no intention of transferring these techniques to our quartet singing – too much work. ♥







## Harmony Foundation Report ; RECORD JACKPOT WINNER!

by Jim Porter



It was Brian Marston's last evening with HOA before he headed off to St. Louis to start college, looking forward to studying under one of the best in the business, Professor **Jim Henry**. How appropriate that Jim Henry was coaching HOA that evening! At the same time, the Harmony Foundation jackpot, which had been building since the previous record winner in January, was reaching past the \$2,000 mark as HOA members and guests showered me with money (\$638 in one night) for the chance to be one (or more) of over 1,600 tickets in the bucket, from which Jim Henry would draw one winning ticket.

**Bruce Marston** was among those playing, offering up \$10 for his 25 tickets, and as the drawing took place, Bruce said a little prayer promising God that he would help his son with his college expenses, if only... *Yes, Bruce, God does answer prayers!* Defying odds of 585 to 1, Bruce not only held the winning ticket, he pulled the white marble from the bag with eight other marbles and claimed the huge wad of money (\$2,100) I had been carrying around for months. Jim Henry, who soon will have Brian as one of his students, observed "For half that, you can get an 'A' in my class!" However, Bruce honored his promise to God and gave the entire bundle to son Brian as everyone celebrated their good fortune.

What a climax to a long evening! Hollywood couldn't beat it. Jim Henry was just overwhelmed, as we were with the fact that he had gotten so much out of us in one evening. Brian, God's best to you as you go, and we'll look for you in Denver next July! ♥

## Dear HOA Family and Friends

by Brian Marston

I could not have asked for a better send-off than what I received on Tuesday night. That was truly AMAZING! I honestly don't think HOA could have "planned" it any better. You did plan that, right? Planning **Jim Henry** to coach my last night at HOA and for him to pick my dad's raffle ticket for the drawing was awesome. My dad said that he knew he was going to give all the money to me even before he won. \$2100?! INCREDIBLE! I was in complete disbelief when he gave it to me. I don't know who was happier—me or my fiancé **Esther**. The Indy shirt was a very nice touch and I want to thank all of you for providing some decoration on my apartment room wall here at UMSL. Makes it feel like home a

*Below: Jim Porter and Brian Marston display shirt signed by chorus members and the drawing dollar\$ that his father won.  
Bottom: Brian leads HOA in "Keep The Whole World Singing."  
Photos courtesy of Don Fuson*



little bit. I feel very blessed to have a great group of friends in the *Heart of America Chorus*. As for the *Ambassadors of Harmony*, I auditioned after their rehearsal on Thursday night with "I'd Love To Live In Loveland" singing tenor, of course. **Eric Dalbey** sang lead, Jim Henry sang bass and **Jonny Moroni** sang baritone. **David Wright** nodded his head in approval after we finished and I was pushed out of the room for a moment where I'm told they quickly gave me the "OK." So, I'm almost officially an *Ambassador of Harmony*. I'll keep everyone posted on how the progress is going, but I am looking forward to seeing all of you in Wichita, KS in October. ♥



## Marston Transitions to AOH

by Jim Porter

It was Thursday, my wife was out of town with her cousin, and I could get the afternoon off, so why not? I got in the car and drove to St. Charles to sing with the *Ambassadors of Harmony*. I was sort of curious how **Brian Marston** was getting along with his new group, and I wanted to get a peek at them preparing for Wichita and maybe even sing their songs with them. Eighteen years ago, I showed up the first week of September for the first time with what was then the *Daniel Boone Chorus*, and was able to qualify for the district contest with them six weeks later when they won their first championship. I challenged Brian to duplicate that feat this year! I think it is safe to say he will do it. He is a very talented and motivated young man. This was only his second night on the risers, and I watched him singing with them all evening with no sheet music. He even did all the moves for "New Ashmolean Band" right along with everyone else. And check out the picture below—both of us were there in our red Indy HOA shirts, and no, we did not talk about that before we got together!



*Top (courtesy of Bruce Wegner): Jim Porter, AOH Director Jim Henry and Brian Marston during a Tuesday night AOH rehearsal.  
Bottom (courtesy of Jim Porter):  
Brian begins his AOH rehearsal time on the risers.*

Anyway, it still isn't all that difficult to get on the risers with the *Ambassadors*. Brian auditioned last week, and he was welcomed right away! Contrast that to the challenge **Shawn Jeffries** had last year earning his place on the risers with the *Vocal Majority*!

It was also a wonderful evening for me, as I got to meet dozens of fellows from my days with them, now 15 years in the past, and was invited to get on the risers with them. The first song was a beautiful ballad "Fare Thee Well Love" that **Jim Henry** worked on a while to the point I could sing it with them and feel the excitement of matching chords with them. We then took on an up-tune "Friend Like Me." That was just once through, with the moves, and I had no chance. Fortunately they didn't move around on the risers, it was all done in place!

Then it was time to work their contest set. It will be the same set we saw them do in Louisville. Jim Henry noted that the guys "wore" the ballad "I Have Dreamed" like a comfortable pair of shoes. Nevertheless, he worked the song for a good hour, going over tougher places time and time again until the chords were just right. And yes, those guys have to be drilled to keep the pitch up just like we do. By the time they were finished with that one, I was singing it confidently with them and thoroughly enjoying the experience.

When they started in with "New Ashmolean Band," I had a problem. They do a lot of movement in that one, and I was just plain in the way! I did what I had to do, accept the invitation to get down and watch them. I watched as they drilled groups of guys one at a time to be sure all the movements were precise and correct. Brian looked like a veteran up there! I wish I could learn moves as readily as he can!

They then spent some time on what will be their "up" tune in Denver. (Some of the guys said I shouldn't reveal it to you!) It was their second week with that music, and they are expected to be off the spots the next week, when **Greg Clancy** comes to coach them. Jim Henry patiently worked the guys through a difficult passage, one chord at a time, until he was satisfied with each one, then turned to **David Wright** and thanked him for providing such a beautiful chord sequence! It's sort of unique to have the arranger of the music you're doing right there on the risers with you! It was 10:30 when it was over, but they were then singing that passage as if they had learned it months before, with that same high quality performance we've grown to know the *Ambassadors* for.

They ended the same way we do, with a Harmony Foundation drawing and "Keep the Whole World Singing." Jim Henry still remembered what he saw when he was with us, the \$2,100 jackpot for Brian. I was not getting out of there without having a talk with their Harmony Foundation chairman! So, guys, we may have some serious competition in that sector next year! ♥

*Editors note: I'm not sure I've ever had two facing pages of information on one HOA member! However, with all that Brian Marston has been through lately, it seemed appropriate to have both of Jim Porter's articles dovetail with each other. We wish all the best to Brian as he begins a new chapter with AOH!*

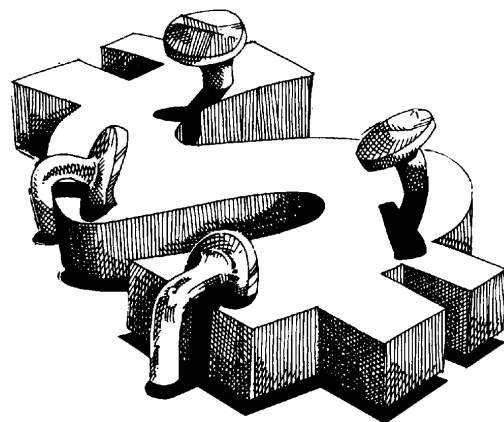
## Fundraiser Update!

by Harvey Shapiro

The coupon book selling price is \$20 this year, a \$5 decrease from last year. It would be great if every member of the performing chorus would check out a minimum of two books.

The fundraiser started Aug. 1 and will end with all monies turned in and all books sold by Sept. 12. Six weeks should be plenty of time! Please help make this a reality. I will be available at 6:45 Tuesday nights, and will stay 15 minutes after rehearsal.

Thanking all of you in advance for your support! ♥



## Harmony Foundation Report

by Jim Porter

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

As of Wednesday, Aug. 23, and 38 drawings:  
In the past month, our chapter has raised \$879 for the Harmony Foundation.  
The total raised for this year (since Nov. 19, 2005) is \$4,077.  
Last year, the total raised was \$1,919.  
In our best year (2003), the total raised was \$1,987.  
The ENTIRE YEAR total in 2003 was \$2,935.  
We are on a pace to DOUBLE the previous record!  
Plus, we had a big winner—\$2,100—on Aug. 15! ♥

**DEADLINE FOR THE  
OCTOBER ISSUE  
OF HARMONOTES:  
SEPTEMBER 30**

## Barbershopper Of The Month!



Ron McIntire

### Vince Perry

Above: HOA President Tony Strub presents Vince Perry with the July 2006 BOTM award, which reads:

In grateful appreciation for the outstanding thoroughness and quality in the detail of your work, and the degree to which it helped the members and their families in going to the 2006 International Convention ♥

## Xtra Mile Award!



Ron McIntire

### Mike O'Dell

Above: HOA President Tony Strub presents Mike O'Dell with the July 2006 Xtra Mile award, which reads:

In recognition for taking on the important responsibility of managing the CD Fund loan for the 2006 Heart of America Barbershop Chorus CD. ♥

## Adventure Quartet Contest Winners

### First Place

*Fire House Five Minus 1*

Tenor - Rob Mathieu  
Lead - Gordy Coleman  
Bari - Don Fuson  
Bass - Jim Bagby



### Second Place

*Musical Marauders*

Tenor - Bruce Wenner  
Lead - Dick Irwin  
Bari - Duane Lawson  
Bass - Jack Selby



### Third Place

*Harmony Hullabaloo*

Tenor - Brian Marston  
Lead - Jon Gathright  
Bari - Dan Bowser  
Bass - Bruce Marston



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to the following chapter members!

September 5	Thom Tisdall
September 6	Jerry Garrard
September 8	John Braden
September 10	Rich Huyck
September 11	Willard Yoder
September 12	Ken Hennix
September 13	Walt Bates
September 14	J.B. Witham
September 15	Ron Abel
September 16	Sam Solomon
September 23	AJ Meier
September 23	Phil Veltkamp
September 24	Frazier Allen
September 26	Mark Meyer

*"Suppose you were an idiot. And suppose you were a member of Congress.  
But I repeat myself."*

— Mark Twain

## HARMONOTES

...is published by the board of directors of the Kansas City, MO., Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, 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.

## Heart of America Chorus

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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. However, should you notice erroneous copy, please let the Editor know!

Comments/submissions may be made to:

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Chapter meets at 7 p.m. each Tuesday night, at:  
St. Peter's United Church of Christ  
110th & Holmes • Kansas City, MO 64105

The HOA Board of Directors meets at 7:30 p.m. on the second Monday of the month. Place TBA. Chapter members are welcome!

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

