

Harmonotes

The Quarterly Bulletin of the
Kansas City Heart of America Chorus

CHORUS AND QUARTET SINGING
IN THE BARBERSHOP STYLE



SECOND-OLDEST CHAPTER IN THE
BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

VOLUME 14 • ISSUE 3 • SUMMER 2015

In This Issue:

3 Wrapup of the 2015 International Chorus Competiton in Pittsburgh

3 Wadda yawatch?

5 The *Happy Harmonizers* sing with GQ!

5 A Busy *New Harmony Handful*!

6 Only for Golfers? I Don't Think So!

6 Awards Banquet Scheduled

A BUSY AUTUMN BARBERSHOP SEASON FOR HOA!

by Carter Combs, Chapter President



The busy autumn barbershop season is almost upon us, and HOA is busy getting ready for it!

First up, the *New Harmony Handful*, under the capable guidance of our own Director Emeritus **Jim Bagby**, has been invited to perform for the families of an Honor Flight. From their Mission Statement: "Since

America felt it was important to build a memorial to the service and the ultimate sacrifice of her World War II veterans, the Honor Flight Network believes it's equally important that they actually get to visit and experience their memorial." Having had the privilege to perform for some of our veterans groups in the past, I can tell you this is an emotional and rewarding experience that is appreciated more than you can imagine.

A couple weeks later, we all get to join in the fun... the Blue Springs Fall Fun Festival, that is. This is our first year at this event, thanks to **John Braden** making the contact. If it goes well, it may become an annual, similar to our Overland Park gazebo gig.

Our biggest fund-raiser of the last several autumns has been the Golf Scramble. **Kent Miller** is once again wrangling prizes and foursomes, getting ready for the big event up at Falcon Lakes. It's not too late to get a few more golfers together!

The biggie coming up, of course, is the Fall Convention. As in many years past, we are both hosting and competing. (Continued on page 2 ⇨)

Harmonotes

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

2015 CHAPTER OFFICERS AND BOARD

President	Carter Combs
Immediate Past President	John Erwine
Executive V.P.	Marlin Weidler
Music/Performance V.P.	Brad Dawdy
Membership V.P.	Jerry Meier
Program V.P.	Mike Mathieu
Marketing & PR V.P.	Ted Simon
Operations V.P.	Mike Schumacher
Secretary	Jim Porter
Treasurer	Harvey Shapiro
Board Members at Large	Tony O'Brien
	Steve Keisker
	Bob Velazquez
	Dale Neuman
	Carter Combs
Board Member Emeritus	
District Delegate	

MUSICAL LEADERS

Chorus Director	Jerry Garrard
Director Emeritus	Jim Bagby
Associate Director	Bob Velazquez
Assistant Director	Carter Combs

SECTION LEADERS

Tenor	Carter Combs
Lead	Jerry Garrard
Baritone	Bruce Wenner, Rich Huyck
Bass	Darrell McCune, David Stockard

HARMONOTES STAFF

Editor Emeritus	Wade Dexter
Editor	Todd Anderson
Photographer at Large	Ron McIntire
Staff Reporters	ALL Our Chapter Members!

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

Comments/submissions may be made to:

Todd Anderson (Editor)
2909 West Trevor Trail • Ozark, Mo. 65721-8438
(417) 766-2367 • todd@andersondesign.biz

HOA Board meetings take place at 6pm on the second Monday or Tuesday 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**



MEMBER
PROBE
BARBERSHOP

(Continued from front cover)

To prep for the contest side, we have been receiving some excellent visual coaching from **Sheri Hart**, and vocal technique from **Steve Scott**. Both are masters at their craft, and Jerry has been efficiently incorporating their suggestions into our performance. Steve will be with us for our retreat, joined by his brother **Adam**. We have had two clinicians before, but never siblings. If it's anything like me with my brothers, it should be an interesting weekend!

As for hosting, we are lucky to have **Mike Mathieu** at the helm once again. He has already put together a local team to coordinate with the District organizers. His in-depth experience...decades of helming both District and International conventions...ensures that this will be yet another incredibly well-run and successful event.

Some big news was just announced last week...we are bringing back the Bush League Quartet Contest! This is an inter-chapter event, so call your buddies from any chapter within a hundred miles, form a quartet with no more than two from an existing registered quartet, and get ready to sing! HOA used to do this every year, and we are thrilled to bring it back.



Later in October, we will once again assist with the Great Midwest Balloon Fest. Specifics are still being negotiated, so we are not sure yet if we will be performing there, as we did last year. Details to follow.

The Holiday Harmony Spectacular and Caroling Caravan teams are both busy as well, but we'll save details on those for the next *Harmonotes*. Until then, get some sleep...we're gonna need it. ♥

Harmony Foundation Report

by Jim Porter



Note that we will have our raffle each time we meet in our regular location. All of the proceeds of the raffle not given as prizes or used for expenses of the raffle goes to Harmony Foundation at the end of each year. In return, we are able to have the Foundation designate up to 30% of the funds given to chapter activities such as Harmony Explosion.

As of Aug. 26, after 33 drawings (12 since the last report):
The total collected for Harmony Foundation since the last report is \$332.
The total collected for the calendar year to date is \$753.

We had a big winner, **Jim Porter** won \$210 on Aug. 18.
The carry-over jackpot as of August 26th is \$17. ♥

Wrapup of the 2015 International Chorus Competition in Pittsburgh

Editorial by Jim Porter



You have the scores, you know who won or placed better than expected, what this summary highlights is the quality of the preparations in the months between the district qualifications and the main event.

In the past 12 years of chorus competitions (the field was expanded to approximately 30 choruses in 2005), it is normal to see an improvement in scores for the top 10 choruses each year.

Over that time, the average improvement by a top 10 chorus has been 2.01%. Therefore, a chorus that improves by more than 2% can be expected to finish higher than indicated by their qualifying score, while a chapter that fails to improve by at least 2% will finish lower than indicated by their qualifying score.

In 2015, the chorus that showed the greatest improvement was *Central Standard*, with an improvement of 5.58%. The *Kansas City chorus* took third-place medals (for the first time) after being seeded sixth based on its qualifying score.

The greatest move upwards in the rankings was Ohio's *The Alliance*, which improved by 3.53% on its 16th-place qualifying score, placing 7th in Pittsburgh. The *Nashville Music City Chorus* also won a medal for the first time, improving its 7th-seeded score by 3.28% to capture fifth place.

At the top, *Westminster Chorus* improved by 2.97% while *Ambassadors of Harmony* improved just 1.86%. That 1.11% difference was significant, as the *Ambassadors* had the best score in the qualifying competition.

On the down side, the *Alexandria Harmonizers* were 0.74% BELOW their qualifying score. They therefore finished in 4th place after being seeded 3rd in the qualifying competitions.

Overall, the top 10 average was 2.24% above the average in the qualifying competitions, somewhat better than the 12-year average.

In past years, there have been only a few instances where a chorus improved by more than the 5.58% shown by *Central Standard* this year. Some noteworthy cases stand out:

- In 2013, Toronto's *Northern Lights* improved 4.53% to seize gold from Westminster, which improved not at all (-.03%).
- In 2012, Oregon's *Senate-Aires* improved 7.52% to capture a 5th place medal after placing 16th in the qualifying round. That same year, Sweden's *Zero8 Chorus* improved 5.50% to finish 4th after being seeded 7th.
- Also in 2012, Seneca Land's *Upstate Harmonizers* improved their lowest of all qualifying scores by 6.42% to finish 26th. (2012 was a good year for improvement all around, the top 10 averaged 3.52% improvement, the best of all 12 years.)
- In 2010, Westminster improved by 5.32% to seize the gold medal from the top-seeded *Dallas Vocal Majority*. That year, Toronto's *Northern Lights* improved by 5.82%, placing 3rd after finishing 7th in the qualifying round.
- In 2009, the *Ambassadors of Harmony* improved 2.81% with that "76 Trombones" set (they were seeded 1st that year and won).
- In 2008, *Kentucky Vocal Union* improved 5.57% to finish 10th after finishing 21st (HOA was 20th) in the qualifiers.
- In 2006, Westminster burst on the scene, improving 6.37% to place 2nd behind Dallas; the *California chorus* had been 3rd in the qualifiers. That year, *Midwest Vocal Express* (remember the fish set?) improved 5.22% to take 5th-place medals (12th qualifying).

In conclusion, effective preparations prior to a contest can and often do allow for substantial improvements and surprisingly strong finishes, such as we saw from our friends in *Central Standard* this year. ♥

Waddayawatch?

by Carter Combs

I can still hear the voice of **Coach Dunbar** saying "Combs! Wad-daya lookin' at?" as he surveyed my feeble attempts at one-on-one defense in gym class. "The ball, Coach," I hollered back, just as the ball slipped effortlessly past me to become yet another pass, shoot, score.

Of course I was watching the ball... that's where all the action was. Wasn't my job to steal the ball, or make sure the other guy couldn't shoot?!? The ball was naturally the center of my attention.

Coach pulled me from the scrimmage and gently explained: "You idiot! The ball's the last thing to move! You gotta anticipate! You gotta figure out where it's goin' before the other guy does! That's the only way you can get ahead of him!" (Coach always talked in exclamation points!)

"But Coach," I stammered, "I can't read his mind..."

"Obviously! You gotta watch him!"

"But Coach, I was watching..." I gulped, "Waddayawatch?"

"Watch his gut! He can't do anything without his gut going first!"

(Continued on page 8 ⇨)

The Happy Harmonizers sing with GQ!

by Jerry Meier

Ladies and gentlemen - I was able to capture a "Once in a Lifetime" moment that took place earlier this summer. The Happy Harmonizers Barbershop Quartet - made up of Olathe East Sophomore girls **Janet Butler** (Tenor), **Lindsey Hart** (Lead), **Quinn Cole** (Baritone), and **Abby Lacy** (Bass) - sang their 2015 Harmony Explosion song *Something Good / Happy Together* Medley with the ladies in GQ. This is the same Harmony Explosion Quartet that sings for us each year at our Annual Spring Show, after winning Top Gold Medals at our Harmony Explosion, and is well known in the Sweet Adelines International for singing *Something Good / Happy Together* Medley.

Search YouTube for the words "GQ and the Happy Harmonizers 2015" and you can watch the short video of the girls singing with GQ after the *Central Standard* Concert. It is truly amazing to watch the reactions from the audience that gathered around, and from the GQ quartet members themselves -- they had no idea that the *Happy Harmonizers* were so good!

Why is this so important? None of this would happen if our chorus—the *Heart of America Chorus*—did not sponsor and promote Barbershop Singing through our annual Harmony Explosion program. This event is one of many sponsored by our chapter that benefits our society, our community, our patrons and our chapter members. Thank You for being active members of our chapter! ♥



Above, left to right: Lindsey Hart (L) - Ali Hauger (L) - Abby Lacy (Bs) - Katie Macdonald (Bs) - Quinn Cole (Br) - Katie Gillis (Br) - Janet Butler (T) - Amanda McNutt (T).

Sidenote: GQ is a Top 11, award-winning Sweet Adelines International Quartet. They are SAI Region 19 Champions and 2012 Sweet Adelines International "Rising Star" Champions. They have earned several barbershop and a-capella singing awards since forming in 2011.

- 2012 Mid-Atlantic Harmony Sweepstakes in Alexandria, VA. First Place. Best Original Arrangement. Audience Favorite.
- 2012 National Harmony Sweepstakes in San Francisco, CA. Second Place. Best Original Arrangement
- 2012 Sweet Adelines International "Rising Star" Champion.
- 2013 SAI Region 19 quartet champions
- 2013 ACA Award – Favorite Barbershop Group
- 2013 ACA Award- Favorite Group without vocal percussion
- 2013 Barbershop Barbie Award – Album of the Year
- 2013 CARA Award – Best Barbershop Album
- 2013 CARA Award – Best Barbershop Song

Honor Flight, Knee Surgeries, Oct. 18 Joint Concert Among Highlights for Busy New Harmony Handful

by Dave Hokanson

Not to the surprise of the 10 members on hand, and our wonderful leader, **Jim Bagby**, singing for North Cross Methodist on Aug. 23. turned out to be a great experience.

Our first song was sung as we stood outside in the narthex to welcome hundreds of church members as they processed into the church from their fellowship hall. We even added a second prelude song on the spur of the moment (A FIRST). Another first, we sang one song during communion while seated (and kept on pitch!) Only one Bari? No problem—we had the amazing **Jim Davis**. [Our other three baritones has signed up but dropped out one by one during the week for various reasons, and we lost one lead along the way from our original commitment of 14 singers]. Mr. Davis also blew the pitches in the rare absence of regular piper **Ron Abel**.

On Sept. 6, even though that's Labor Day weekend, 14 *Handful* members plan to meet at Downtown Airport for an Honor Flight sendoff. We continue to add gigs as long as we can get schedules that allow us to get as many members as possible. Upcoming on Oct. 18 at the John Knox Village Pavilion is our annual joint concert with the *Methodist Men of Note*, directed by **Larry Keisker** (Steve's dad) and the *John Knox Singers*. I understand there may be other performers on the show.

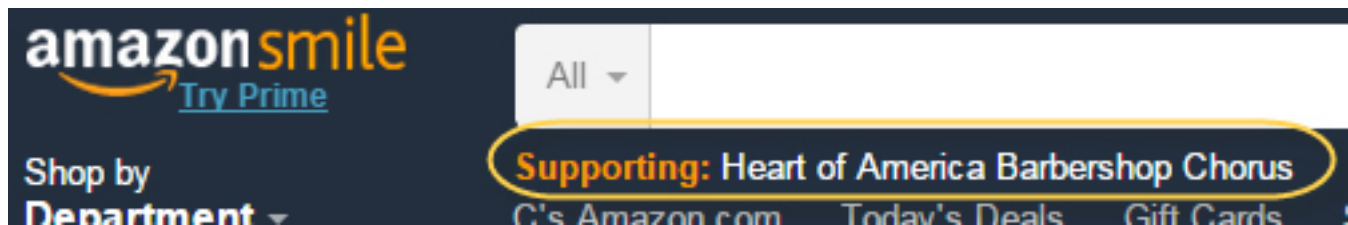
Later in October we return to one of our favorite retirement home audiences, Del Mar Gardens in Lenexa. Our *NHH* administrator, **Tony Strub**, says that will be our 19th performance of the year. It looks to be another record year for singing engagements... too much fun!

The *Handful* welcomes a new member, veteran lead **Gordon Coleman**. And our mini-chorus plans to be a Hole Sponsor at the upcoming *HOA* Golf Tournament.

On the health side, lead **Roy Manade** missed only one rehearsal while undergoing August knee replacement. He was back with us less than two weeks later for our next performance. Jim's wife, **Denise Davis**, underwent knee replacement on Aug. 25 and is recuperating now. **Bob Murphy** never misses despite the boot on his foot and his ongoing pain issues.

We have finally gotten a new publicity photo of our group, thanks to the efforts of **Don Fuson**. And our "fashion consultants," **Bob Howard** and **Marty Oldehoeft**, are looking at new short-sleeved logo shirts for the *NHH*. ♥

YOUR BOARD HAS APPROVED AND SET UP AN EASY WAY FOR US TO FUND-RAISE!



Simply go to smile.amazon.com from your web browser, search for and select “Heart of America Barbershop Chorus” and then shop. One half percent of all purchases will come back directly to HOA. That’s all there is to it. And in the future, just remember to go to smile.amazon.com, instead of www.amazon.com. Happy Shopping!

Details from the Amazon website:

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you’ll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from nearly one million organizations to support.

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

Which products on AmazonSmile are eligible for charitable donations?

Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked “Eligible for AmazonSmile donation” on their product detail pages. Recurring Subscribe-and-Save purchases and subscription renewals are not currently eligible.

Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

How do I select a charitable organization to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. We will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

How much of my purchase does Amazon donate?

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges. From time to time, we may offer special, limited time promotions that increase the donation amount on one or more products or services or provide for additional donations to charitable organizations. Special terms and restrictions may apply. Please see the relevant promotion for complete details.

Can I receive a tax deduction for amounts donated from my purchases on AmazonSmile?

Donations are made by the AmazonSmile Foundation and are not tax deductible by you. ❤️

ONLY FOR GOLFERS? / I DON'T THINK SO!

by Kent Miller



Yes, it's that time again! Time to have a great time playing in a golf scramble and help your chapter with what is now a very important fund raiser. Wait! It's only for golfers, right? NO WAY! It's a Scramble, which means everyone in the foursome hits the first shot, then you

pick the best one, everyone hits from that point...and so on. If you make a putt or two you've helped, but who cares? It's just for fun and you can win more prizes in the door prize drawings and in the raffle, both of which require no golf skills whatsoever.

So find a couple of golfers, tell them that, as usual, the prizes in this tournament are likely to be triple or quadruple the prizes of other tournaments they're used to, and they can help a really great cause and have a wonderful time at the same time. They really will appreciate you telling them about it. So please do!



The tournament is at Falcon Lakes Golf course on Thursday, Sept. 24 (shotgun start at 1 pm), which will probably be about two weeks away by the time you read this, but that's still plenty of time to sign up. Click on the golfer on the HOA website, www.hoachorus.com.

Please contact me if you would like to be a sponsor or you know someone

or some business whom you think would like to be a sponsor. Sponsorships at the higher levels include a foursome, tickets to our shows, and other benefits. Email me at kmiller268@aol.com for more sponsor information.

It's still \$95 per player. What a deal! ♥

Awards Banquet Scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 9, 2016

by Jerry Meier

Make plans NOW to attend the Kansas City Chapter's Annual Awards Banquet on Saturday, Jan. 9, 2016 in the Jack Stack Martin City Private Dining Facility. Recognize that name? Maybe it's because we were there last year! We loved it so much, and we booked it again this year!

Details at a glance:

Kansas City Chapter's Annual Awards Banquet

Time: 6 pm to 9:30 pm

Date: Saturday, Jan. 9, 2016

Location: Jack Stack Martin City Private Dining Banquet Room

Address: 13645 Holmes Road, KC, MO

Dress Code: Somewhere between formal and casual

Note: The private dining facility is one block south of the Martin City BBQ Restaurant



Once again we will enjoy an All-You-Can-Eat menu of Rolls/ Butter, Buffet-style Beef, Chicken, Turkey, and Pork Entrées with traditional Jack Stack sides (Hickory Pit Beans; Creamy Coleslaw; Cheesy Corn Bake), served with Coffee / Tea / Water and Dessert. Is your mouth watering yet? The cost will most likely be \$30 per person for an absolutely DELICIOUS meal.

Plan to arrive after 6 pm to partake in the cash bar. Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm and the events will start promptly at 7:30pm. Speeches and jokes will be kept to a minimum so that we can complete all award presentations and depart at 9:30pm. The 2016 Installing Officer has yet to be determined, but we can count on **Dr. Dale Neuman** to do the honors once again as a back-up!

Stay tuned for additional details, but make plans NOW to attend. Be sure to invite fellow and former members like Al Moritz that do not regularly get e-mail updates. Please give them a call to check on them, and to tell them about the wonderful HOA Awards Banquet! Bring your spouses or significant others to share in this fellowship. ♥

Photo © 2015 Fiorella's Jack Stack Barbecue



BARBER SHOP MEETS BARBERSHOP!

Check out the pictures below from previous Heart of America Annual Golf Scramble Fund Raisers. Shouldn't you be getting in on some of this fun? This year's tournament is Thursday, Sept. 24. Sign up NOW!



9th Annual Four-Person Golf Scramble Thursday, Sept. 24, 2015

OVER \$2,000 IN PRIZES LAST YEAR!

Falcon Lakes Golf Course – 5 miles north of I-70 on Highway 7

Hole prizes • Longest Drives • Longest Putt
Mulligans • Player gifts • Fabulous Raffle • Flight prizes • Door prizes

ENTRY FEES:

\$95 per player if paid by Sept. 17, 2015

\$105 per player if paid after Sept. 17 up to & including the day of the event.

Kansas City Chapter - Barbershop Harmony Society

816 W. 121st • Kansas City, MO • 64145

Armchair Chorderbacks - Ready, Willing, and Able!

by Mike Mathieu



A/C has been busy as usual, mostly traveling and filling in between trips with as many gigs as we can find. This quartet stuff is really starting to interfere with my travel schedule, but lately we all have been able to manage,

fortunately. As I write this, **Jim Bagby** is out in Colorado on a week-long fishing and long deserved vacation.

Since last time we have performed at a street festival in Lee's Summit on a Friday evening in July. Temperature was in the upper 90's on the 3rd Friday evening in July. We started at 6:00 PM and walked around to different stores that were displaying art objects of different shapes and varieties. We'd sing a few songs, have a glass of wine, then walk a few stores, sing again, and keep on down the street. At 8:00 PM, we had been to about 15 different stores, restaurants and even one liquor store and one ice cream parlor. We don't remember how well we sang, but we sure had a great time! (Really just kidding about the drinking, but we did do a lot of singing. We must really be a senior quartet when we refused alcohol at almost every stop!)

Aug. 22nd, we sang at 9:30 AM for a breakfast function at Shawnee Mission Park, Theatre in The Park Pavillion, as JUCO hosted a breakfast function of thanks for all the users and other volunteers that work so diligently at Yardley Hall through the year. We sang for between 150 and 200 people and they seemed to enjoy it immensely. Great bunch of folks.

Later on the same day we were honored to be the headliner quartet at the Leavenworth Chapter's annual show, and Afterglow. We renewed acquaintances with many of our friends up at our neighboring chapter. They had a nice audience and we truly enjoyed that singing opportunity. That made for a busy day on Aug. 22nd, but we loved every minute of it.

Greatest part of many of our performances is that we oftentimes take our wives along so they can enjoy us having such a great time.

We have performances planned for most of the upcoming months, and most months two or three performances. Sure is a great hobby and we would like to encourage all of you to grab three other guys and get that quartet practicing as soon as possible. It will start to forge lasting relationships that you will cherish forever. ♥

Waddayawatch? *(Continued from page 3)*

Now I'll be the first to admit I never mastered Coach's gentle advice for basketball. I spent much more time in choir and band than on the court or in the field. But I found that the question "Waddayawatch?" kept popping up, and often I had to figure out the answer myself.

"Tenors, your entrance was late!" the director says.

"But we were watching, Coach, um... I mean, Director."

"Watch closer next time!"

Really, we were watching, and watching closely, but perhaps we're not watching correctly?

Let's step back and think about what a Director does. His job is to "play" the chorus, just like a musical instrument, to make music. He has to know what he wants the music do, and know what the chorus is capable of, and know what movements to make to cause the chorus respond the way he wants. To do that, he has to think far ahead, so that his own body moves early enough to signal the chorus. Our job is to see, interpret and respond to his signals at the correct time. If a Director ever responds to what he hears, it's too late, the moment is gone... at that point he's just trying to recover, to recapture the music.

In addition, each Director has his own unique style of directing... some stand quite still and make precise moves, others are whirling-dirvishes, and everything in between. They are not machines, so their style will often change based on the type of song, and also on their own level of energy, time of day, climate, meals, lighting, etc.

So, with all that variety going on... *waddayawatch?*

In my experience, you watch the eyes. "Eyes are the window to the soul," and our job in the chorus is to express the music in the director's soul. The slightest flicker of the eyebrows is enough to tell you he hears a crescendo coming up, before he even has a chance to move his hands or raise his elbows. And as soon as he perceives that we are already responding to that, his mind is free to add that little embellishment, that slight tug on a key word that adds critical meaning to the lyric. The crinkle around the edges tells us we are heading for that funny part, and the wink says "yes, thank you, that was exactly right."

While watching his eyes, we'll still see the hand movements that precisely signal entrances and cutoffs, but that is incidental, since we are already reading each others' minds.

Then why does the director move around so much? That's for the audience... call it "acting with the back." Body moving back and forth, arms waving, they can tell he's involved, but they can't see his eyes. For the audience, the chorus is the window to the music in the director's soul. ♥

BARBERSHOPPER OF THE MONTH



Larry Colburn - May 2015

Chapter President **Carter Combs** (right) presents **Larry Colburn** the BOTM for May, 2015. "In grateful appreciation for organizing and collecting the Heart of America food pantry donations." Photo courtesy of **Ron McIntire**.

BARBERSHOPPER OF THE MONTH



Bob and Janet Velazquez - July 2015

Chapter President **Carter Combs** (right) presents **Bob Velazquez** the BOTM for July, 2015. "In grateful appreciation for graciously hosting the afterglow following the 2015 Music in the Park performance at Santa Fe Park in Overland Park, Kansas, July 12, 2015."

Photo courtesy of **Ron McIntire**.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Men's Choral Spectacular,
benefit for John Knox Village
Food Pantry, Sunday night,
Nov. 6. Concert begins at
6 p.m. in JKV Pavilion.

HEADLINERS:

Men of Note

from Lee's Summit
First Methodist Church,
directed by **Steve Keisker's**
dad, **Larry**

OUR OWN

New Harmony Handful,
and the *John Knox Village*
Men's Glee Club

Other quartets will appear
and admission is **FREE**;
a freewill offering will
be collected.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

...to the following HOA MEMBERS!

July 11 **Mike Templar**
July 12 **Al Moritz**
July 14 **Dave Parker**
July 16 **J.P. Marshall**
July 17 **Adam Veteto**
July 18 **Matt Moore**
July 20 **David Stockard**
July 22 **Calvin Yoder**
July 23 **Ed Grape**
July 26 **David Miller**
July 30 **Vince Perry IV**
July 30 **Bob Velazquez**

August 2 **Lyle Wylly**
August 4 **Mark McCullough**
August 7 **Jonathan Fortino**
August 7 **Gordy Coleman**
August 7 **Monty Duerksen**
August 14 **Denny Briley**
August 18 **Harry Stewart**
August 19 **Mark Fortino**
August 19 **Greg Busch**
August 20 **Dick Irwin**
August 20 **Jonathan Andrews**
August 25 **Charley Drake**
August 30 **Michael Hillenburg**
August 30 **Mike Schumacher**
August 31 **Carl Turlin**

September 2 **Ted Iliff**
September 5 **Thom Tisdall**
September 6 **Jerry Garrard**
September 7 **Frank Lasta**
September 8 **John Braden**
September 10 **Rich Huyck**
September 11 **Willard Yoder**
September 13 **Walt Bates**
September 13 **Dan Wager**
September 14 **Matthew Fortino**
September 15 **Ron Abel**
September 16 **Sam Solomon**
September 16 **Michael Meier**
September 23 **Phil Veltkamp**
September 23 **A.J. Meier**
September 27 **Steve Hankins**

October 1 **John Landry**
October 1 **Wendell Shaffer**
October 2 **Steve Keisker**
October 5 **Lucas Pherigo**
October 14 **Brad Dawdy**
October 27 **Rob Varney**

November 3 **Larry Colburn**
November 8 **Tom Gray**
November 10 **Kent Miller**
November 20 **Dick Korek**
November 22 **Tim Millot, Sr.**
November 24 **Mike O'Dell**
November 26 **Dick Henderson**
November 28 **Todd Anderson**
November 28 **Vince Perry III**
November 29 **Paul Winans**

December 7 **Jim Davis**
December 9 **Ron Fortino**
December 16 **Val Putzier**
December 24 **Darrell McCune**
December 31 **Dave Jobe**





by Jeffi Combs

For the Ladies....

You are invited to our next *HOA Heartbeats* meeting - a h'appy-tizer potluck on Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 7PM. Please bring your favorite fall h'appy-tizer, along with the recipe, to share. In addition to enjoying delicious 'nibbles', we will be addressing how best to coordinate support for the Harmony Marketplace and Ladies Hospitality Room at the Fall Convention Oct. 9-11, 2015.

Looking ahead...at some dates to remember:

Friday, Oct. 2 – HOA Pre-convention Chorus Performance at Blue Ridge Presbyterian Church

Saturday, Dec. 5 – 3PM – Annual Holiday Harmony Spectacular at Unity Village. The Performance will be followed by an Afterglow at Unity Village, and a 'Glimmer' at **Carter and Jeffi Combs'** home.

Tuesday, Dec. 15 – 7PM – *HOA Heartbeats* Meeting – Cookie and Ornament Exchange. Meeting Focus: Prepping Caroling Caravan Lunch Bags

Saturday, Jan. 9, 2016 - Annual Installation Banquet and Awards Dinner. Please plan to join us at these upcoming events. Bring a friend and meet a friend... Hope to see you there!!

The *HOA Heartbeats* group meets with the purpose of:

- Promoting fellowship among female supporters of *HOA Chorus* members
- Assisting the *HOA Chorus* in their endeavors ♥

CSD Harmony Marketplace - Fundraiser for HOA

Time for some retail therapy, gentlemen! The *Heartbeats* will be placing the order for the upcoming CSD Harmony Marketplace on Tuesday, Sept. 15. In an effort to increase sales (and increase *HOA* profits) at this year's CSD Marketplace, we want to order what you want to buy! So, the *Heartbeats* want to know what's on *your* 'Harmony BUY' list!

Many of the items that are available at the International Harmony Marketplace online can be pre-ordered for our District Marketplace. By purchasing those items at the District Marketplace, you save on taxes, shipping, and you help earn your chorus some extra money!! So here's all we are asking you to do before Sept. 15:

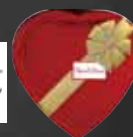
1. Please take a few minutes to go online to www.barbershop.org and identify what Barbershop logo items, CD's, etc. you or your spouse want/need for yourselves or as gifts for the upcoming holidays.
2. Send a note listing those items, including size/color quantity, etc., to Jeffi Combs at: inharmonyjeffi@gmail.com.

The Heartbeats will include your items with their CSD Marketplace pre-order, and will have your items available for your purchase at the CSD Convention in October. Thanks for helping us make this year's CSD Marketplace a successful fundraiser for the chorus! ♥



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!



HEART OF AMERICA CHORUS CALENDAR

Saturday, September 19 - 5:00-5:45pm
Fall Fun Festival concert in Blue Springs

Thursday, September 24:
HOA Four Person Scramble Golf Tournament

September 25-26
Friday-Saturday HOA Chorus Retreat, Camp Chippawa

October 9-11
CSD Convention & Contests in Overland Park, KS

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.