

Heart of America Chapter – A048  
Barbershop Harmony Society  
Kansas City, Missouri  
Minutes for Board of Directors Meeting  
August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Location: St. Thomas More Catholic Church, 11822 Holmes Road, Kansas City MO 64131.

Meeting called to order at 6:03 PM by President Carter Combs.

Board Members present at that time:

Carter Combs (President), John Erwine (Imm. Past Pres), Harvey Shapiro (Treasurer),  
Ted Simon (Marketing VP), Mike Mathieu (Program VP), Mike Schumacher (Oper. VP),  
Bob Velazquez (At Large).

Board Member Connected by Telephone (out of town): Brad Dawdy (Music VP).

Board Members Arriving by 6:15 PM:

Jim Porter (Secretary), Jerry Meier (Membership VP).

Board Members Absent:

Marlin Weidler (Exec VP), Tony O'Brien (At Large), Steve Keisker (At Large).

The minutes for the previous meeting on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 were prepared in printed form by secretary Jim Porter. These were accepted as presented.

Treasurer Harvey Shapiro presented his report for June.

Total income for July:	\$ 500.00;	total expenses	\$ 1,938.35.
Holiday Show YTD Inc:	\$ .00;	total expenses	\$ 545.52. (Initial mailing.)
Unrestricted funds (members or social fund) available:	\$ 6,648.01.		
Restricted funds (operating fund) available:	\$ 2,721.07.		
Designated funds:	Net on deposit:	\$ 800.00.	
Total in checking account:	\$ 3,260.58,		
Total in Truman Foundation:	\$ 6,908.50;	Total:	\$10,169.08.

The report was placed on file for audit as presented.

The fund transfer to cover the shortfall from the Spring Show Afterglow (\$248.00) was NOT completed in July.

Membership Report (Jerry Meier) Provided written report.

**Member Count:** 123 presently, no change since the July report. Ten overdue, 4 likely will drop.

Six new members have joined since January 1<sup>st</sup>. (No changes from May report.)

Eleven members have been dropped since Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>. Twelve prospective members were listed by name.

Next scheduled guest night is August 25<sup>th</sup>. There was no guest night July 28<sup>th</sup>.

(Continued on Page 2)

### **Membership Report (Cont.)**

The Annual Awards Banquet is planned for January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at Jack Stack's Barbecue, Martin City (same location as this year). A deposit of \$750 is needed to secure that date. Last January, the cost was \$31 per person, 64 reservations. We collected \$25 per person from 56 people. Jerry recommended charging \$30 per person for the upcoming banquet. While there are plans to check for other suitable facilities, it will be tough to improve on this arrangement.

### **Music Team Report** (Brad Dawdy, by telephone)

The music team met on August 8<sup>th</sup>. They have chosen 3 new songs for the Holiday Show. The new 8-part song is "Go Tell It On The Mountain", arranged by Aaron Dale, and the new chorus song for HOA is "Sleigh Ride", arranged by Jay Giollombardo. Voice part files for these are now released to the members. A third Jewish song will be announced later. The show will also include a performance by a quintet (Ted Simon is coordinating this), more details later.

There was also discussion about new music for Spring Show 2016. Two songs from the recently released Barber Pole Cat songbook are being considered, "Drivin' Me Crazy" and "I Don't Know Why (I Just Do)".

The Chapter Retreat will be held at Camp Chippewa, Ottawa KS, starting Friday evening September 25<sup>th</sup> and continuing through the next day (ending in the late afternoon). Coaches will be Steve and Adam Scott. The cost was estimated to be \$80 per member, assuming 30 in attendance. After some discussion, it was agreed that the chapter did not have the funds available to provide a subsidy and each man would be asked to pay the full \$80. It was recognized that there would be hardship cases, these would be considered on a case by case basis. There is \$200 available in the President's Fund for this purpose. At this time, 32 members are expected to compete with the chorus at the district contest.

Coach Steve Scott will also be at our chapter meetings starting August 18<sup>th</sup>. In subsequent meetings, Steve has made himself available to coach each individual chorus member in a 15-minute one-on-one session.

### **Operations Report** (Mike Schumacher) Oral report.

Mike has received a request from the Kansas City Sweet Adelines chapter to use our risers on Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, for their Friends and Family night in Olathe. There was discussion about levying a fee in such circumstances, but the consensus was to NOT do so for this instance, but to consider having a fee schedule starting in 2016. Expenses involved are transportation costs with the trailer and possibly insurance costs.

### **Marketing Report** (Ted Simon) Oral report.

**Publicity for Holiday Show:** Postcards for the first mailing are out (note cost in treasurer's report). Other events:

**Blue Springs Festival:** (Sat. Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 to 5:45 PM) This will be a free chorus performance. We have asked to be considered for a fee paid performance in 2016. (Trails West show is scheduled for the same day in Olathe.)

**Honor Flights:** (sendoff at airport for veterans being flown to Washington, DC, for recognition)

September 6<sup>th</sup>: Armchair Chorderbacks will appear on this occasion.

November 8<sup>th</sup>: Possible appearance by the entire chorus.

**Vocality Show:** (Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>) Still no venue fixed at time of the meeting. Secretary Jim Porter contacted St. Peter's Church later in the week, they are available to host this show for a fee, either in the sanctuary or in our meeting hall downstairs. More details later as plans are completed.

**Program Vice President** (Mike Mathieu) Oral report.

Plans remain to be made for the Bush League quartet night. October 20<sup>th</sup> is the target date.

The new Polecat Songbook is out and Mike has handled payments from members and distribution of songbooks and learning media files to the members. A segment of each of the past several meetings has been given to learning songs from the new book. This has been well received and will continue. One song recently worked on, "Drivin' Me Crazy", is being considered as a song for Spring Show 2016 (see Music VP report).

Mike has extended invitations to local area quartets that plan to compete in the district contest to appear before the chorus and present their set at a meeting prior to the convention. Armchair Chorderbacks sang for us on August 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Events Summary.** (See preceding Marketing Report for performances upcoming)

**Golf Tournament** (September 24<sup>th</sup>). Chairman Kent Miller was not present. All agreed it was time to start rounding up prizes, sponsors and participants for this event.

**District Convention:** (Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>): The chapter has agreed to host this event, but there is much work to be done and the time frame is short. Mike Mathieu has agreed to head up this event and asked all to sign on as volunteers without specifying particular responsibilities. All on the board signed, and agreed to present the sign-up list to the members at the chapter meeting the next day. It was noted that Mike's co-chairman at previous conventions, Bob Burdick, was seriously injured and hospitalized and would therefore be unavailable to help this time around.

**Great Midwest Balloon Festival** (Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>): The venue is the amphitheater in Bonner Springs. We will be paid to assist, possibly have an opportunity to perform. This remains unconfirmed at this time.

**Holiday Show:** (Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>): As noted in June, the decision has been made to do ONE show, at 3:00 PM. The next meeting of the Holiday Show Committee will be August 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.

**Valentines 2016:** (Valentine's Day is Sunday) John Erwine reports there has been discussion about organizing a joint effort which would involve Central Standard, Trails West (Olathe) and Leavenworth chapters. All have previously done their own program and all report declining interest and other problems similar to ours. Children's Mercy Hospital has also been invited into these discussions. John will provide a report at a later date. One thing is certain – there is a need to organize quartets sooner so that they have time to practice together and present a better product than before.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Historical Archives:** Nothing added in past month, scanning operations are underway for material already in hand.

**William Jewell:** This possible expansion of Harmony Explosion to the Liberty area is on hold until the fall.

**Casual Shirts:** A design was introduced (see next page) and approved by the Board by voice vote. Ted Simon will order one in each size (Med, Lg, XL, 2X, 3X), logo yet to be determined, will be embroidered. Cost will be in the neighborhood of \$30 per shirt.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

James R. Porter  
Secretary

