



# Serenade

The Official Publication of the Central States District of the Barbershop Harmony Society

Volume 54 No. 3

ISSN 8750-2232

August 2007

## CSD Fall Convention `07

### Kansas City, Missouri...

### Barbershop and BBQ

By Mike Mathieu, Convention Co-chairman

During October 19-21, 2007, Kansas City will surely be the place where all Central States District Barbershoppers will want to be. As the old popular song says, "Everything's Up To Date In Kansas City," and if you want to come and experience it first hand, you will be able to see that "Everything is Space Age Cutting Edge in Kansas City."

In the last few years, downtown Kansas City has been bursting at the seams, and by attending this year's fall convention you will be able to experience all the excitement first hand. Some of the ongoing projects have already been completed, and there are scores of others that will be completed by October.

The brand new H & R Block world headquarters has opened a few blocks away from our headquarters hotel, the downtown Marriott. The brand new Sprint center arena, the venue for our 2011 International Convention, will be opened the first week in October and is within one block of the H & R Block structure.

The refurbished Hilton President boutique hotel has reopened and is located one block from the Marriott Muehlebach. Adjacent to all these facilities will be Kansas City's entertainment district. It will consist of restaurants, shopping areas, and other entertainment venues designed to attract tourists of all ages and preferences. All of this excitement is within walking distance of the headquarters hotel.

Other items of note include the only World War I Museum in the country, located at the base of the Liberty Memorial, the ever-expanding restaurant population in the freight house district near Union Station, the huge IRS Building located adjacent to the Original Downtown Post Office and the ever-expanding list of tourist destinations at Crown Center.

Combine all of this with some of the best Barbershop singing and contests in the world and this is an event you surely won't want to miss. Complete details are still being finalized, but we are working on events you have never seen before at a Fall Convention. In addition, we hope to recreate some events that are native to Kansas City and have worked well in the past—and that means a huge Saturday evening Barbeque.

Fall Convention continued on page 16

## Ambassadors of Harmony and Westminster tie for 1<sup>st</sup> Place in International Chorus Contest

**AOH takes home Silver Medal in tie-breaker**

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## Society Events on the Horizon

**CSD Fall Convention - Kansas City, MO**  
**Oct. 19-21, 2007**

**COTS – Des Moines, Iowa**  
**November 10, 2007**

**COTS – Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**November 17, 2007**

**Mid-Winter Convention – San Antonio, Texas**  
**Jan. 23-27, 2008**

**CSD Spring Convention – April 18-20, '08,**  
**location to be determined**

**International Convention - Nashville, TN**  
**June 29-July 6, 2008**

**CSD Fall Convention - Cedar Rapids, Iowa**  
**Oct 10-12, 2008**

## Central States District Serenade

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Published by the Central States Association of Chapters, Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc., with office of publication at 13029 Alhambra, Leawood, KS 66209.

The Serenade is the official publication of the Central States District. Articles written by the editor do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the members and officers. Space will be made available in the Serenade for opposing points of view.

**NEXT Submission Deadline:**

**October 25**  
**(online edition)**

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## Denver Musings and CSD "Makings"

By Don Fuson, CSD President

We are looking forward to the CSD Fall Convention in Kansas City and hope that every member and chorus is planning on coming

and participating in the various activities.

It is also the "right time" of the year for a mid-year 2007 check-up and planning for several things for 2008.

The mid-year check up list should include:

a) **MEMBERSHIP**—strengthening the chapter membership plans – including inviting more guests, reviewing the processes to contact all members, orienting and supporting new members and retaining those who may be inactive by reaching them to find out how to put some fun back in the weekly meetings for them.

b) **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**—verifying that the chapter nominating committee is "already at work" in reviewing chapter members who will be the leaders in 2008, and helping to develop future leaders by getting each member involved in supporting "some" element of chapter planning.

c) **CHAPTER GOALS**—reviewing the chapter goals and plans for 2007 and modifying them for 2008 – what worked well and why? What needs a bit of tweaking and change to make it successful for 2008? What new programs do the members want and will support with their time and talents in 2008? What vocal skills need refreshing? What new music can be introduced to the chapter quartets (and form some new ones!) and chorus?

At the Denver International Convention, I had the privilege of addressing the Society Board and representing all District Presidents with a short status report. It had four basic elements:

1) **COMMUNICATION**—each District needs to continue to reach out and strengthen the communications to every chapter within the Society. Each chapter is unique with its own members, its own goals and resources and performs within its own community. Society plans are suggested ideas to consider and then adapt to those very chapter-specific conditions that only the chapter members can embrace. Chapters need to be able to leverage and use plans from the various Society Committees to benefit the local members.

2) **SOCIETY AIMS**—they need to be simplified and be focused to support chapter-level objectives. We are moving toward MEMBERSHIP, MUSIC, OUTREACH and MONEY. These four elements represent what individual chapters need to combine and use to reach their own goals.

3) **CHAPTER SUPPORT**—Society and District support to the chapters. In order to support the average Joe Barbershopper, the local chapter needs to be able to describe

their own goals. The Society and the District can then bring potential resources to the chapter to help them help themselves.

4) **NEW COMPUTER**—Society Data needs to be more available. Once deployed, our new Society computer system, named APTIFY, promises to support chapter secretaries and district webmasters with making more membership data available for use. Chapter may also be asked to report additional attendance detail as well as creating a written plan for chapter objectives that are being pursued.

As a final note, **Don Blank** (CSD EVP) has completed a survey of all district bulletins and also a spot survey of the readership of our own Serenade. You can read those results in Don's article elsewhere in this issue. Increased communications with all members throughout CSD is one goal we must attain.

This is a potential topic that your House of Delegates and the district leadership will review at the Fall HOD meeting.

Here is a final mid-year thought – continue to plan well and include all members in your chapter goals. Don't overlook the experience and talents of each member as a current resource and also for future chapter leadership. That is a formula that will bring individual chapter success.

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After the Pan Pacific & Sweet Adelines  
Conventions in Honolulu, Hawaii  
**HAWAIIAN ISLANDS CRUISES**  
NOV. 2 - 9, 2008 and NOV. 9 - 16, 2008

Harmonize away the Fall Chill aboard the NCL Pride of Aloha. Sing in the mixed chorus directed by Drayton Justus, past President of the Barbershop Harmony Society on the Nov. 2 departure.  
Chorus director on the Nov. 9 departure to be announced.  
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## OUR SERENADE— WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

By Don Blank, CSD EVP

One of the prides of the Central States District over these many years has been our district bulletin, the SERENADE. It was and still is the only way that the officers and committee chairmen can educate and communicate with every barbershopper in the district, as well as tell what events are upcoming and happening in all of our chapters.

So what's the problem? It's the same problem that faces everyone so much of the time at both the local chapter and district level---and that is money. We used to be able to print the SERENADE, send it out by mail, and have everyone be able to take it out of their mail box and read it. But times have changed! With the cost of printing and mailing increasing every day, other options had to be considered. To continue to send out every issue meant taking a bigger chunk of the district budget, and shortchanging other vital programs and services.

So the district board considered other options. Almost immediately, the perfect solution seemed to be to publish the SERENADE online, because the obvious thinking was that in this day and age, our members could go to the district website, read the SERENADE and---VOILA!---our problem is solved. No printing cost, no mailing cost, and we're home free. There is only one problem---and that is that we found out for a variety of reasons that more than 3 out of 4 of our members weren't reading the on line printed version of the SERENADE. And a SERENADE unread is a worthless document.

Realizing that online issues were not being read, the district board decided to "split the difference," and print and send out the two copies that preceded our Spring and Fall district conventions, and then print the other two issues each year online. But it is very obvious with the on line issues not being read, we end up with only two effective issues a year. And we have way too much information to get out to the members, to have only two issues being read a year.

And so we're back to the original problem---how do we get our message out 4 times a year under budget restraints? Other vital programs are running on tight budgets, and cutting any of them is not feasible.

What are other districts doing? We did run a survey several months ago, and found that there is no one accepted method, printing and mailing or online, from the districts. Many print totally online, some mix online with printed issues and a few print all of their issues. At least one district is looking for a District Editor and has not published in six months!

Most of the districts that do print totally or partially online have the same concerns that our district have---and that is that the online issues are just not getting read. It is obvious that the districts that are printing and sending out their bulletins have by far the best potential communication between each of its members and the district. Their members have the potential to read each issue and be well informed!

So what is the answer? No member in our district should be denied the opportunity to read the SERENADE---the district is no better than its members, and if they are uninformed, the members, the chapters, and the district are being shortchanged.

So all of you out there, put your thinking hats on, and let's find a solution. We want the CSD to be the best in the society, and to do that, we must have well informed members!

---

## THE HEART OF AMERICA CHORUS SEEKING A NEW DIRECTOR

**Jim Bagby** is stepping down as director of the **Heart of America Chorus** after twenty five years of outstanding musical leadership in the Kansas City chapter. The chapter is seeking a new director to assume the position effective January 1, 2008.

The should have traits as an effective leader, a motivator, a teacher and a model member of the BHS. He/She must have a strong knowledge and background in four-part harmony choral music in the barbershop style and must fully support the mission of our chapter: 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.

For further information contact **Doug Brott** (search committee chairman) [dougb@canackc.com](mailto:dougb@canackc.com)



## Society Moves to Nashville in September!

By John Marshall,  
Society CSD and ILL Paired  
District Board Member

The Barbershop Harmony Society will open its doors in Nashville Tennessee on September 4 of this year. Things are moving very fast and are still on schedule, in fact we are a little ahead of schedule with the building. The building is located right downtown in the center of the music scene, right across the alley from the Nashville convention center and just around the corner from the Sommet Center (formerly the Gaylord Center). I had an opportunity to see the building during the destruction phase and again during the beginning of the building phase, so I could better envision the finished product. What a kick!

As I look at the plans and the pictures of what has been accomplished already, I am becoming very excited to see the finish product. I will be there in November for a meeting and I can't wait. The Museum is still in the works, but likely will not be completed for the Nashville convention. Keep tuned for further details. I hope every one of you takes an opportunity to stop in and see it when you have a chance. Next summer would be a great time when you come to the International Convention in Nashville! If you didn't come

the last time we were in Nashville, I can tell you, it is a great convention city and you will not regret making the trip.

The Society Headquarters is still up and running and plans are to keep on serving you right up to the move without missing a beat. The plan is to have the offices officially closed from the end of business on Friday Aug. 24 until Tuesday Sept. 4 when we will officially begin using the new building. The web site will continue to function right up to the move. The 1-800-876-SING will continue to operate the entire time during the move. There may be a day or two when you will get someone on a cell phone, but they will be there. Many of the Staff have already made the move and I have heard rave reviews about their housing opportunities and what a great city it is to live in.

We have made connections with several organizations in the music industry and the community is welcoming us with open arms. What an exciting place to be and to put Barbershop on the map as an art form!

There is an excellent article in the May June Harmonizer which gives great detail about the building, what we are doing to it, its location in relation to the rest of the downtown and what a good investment it has turned out to be. Check out all the great things happening!

[Editor's Note: John Marshall is completing his fourth year as the Society Paired-District Board Member for the CSD and Illinois Districts this fall. Our thanks for a job well done. In Denver, Greg Caetano from suburban Chicago was elected to take John's position, effective 1/1/08.]

## THE CENTRAL NEBRASKA BONANZA IS COMING!!!!

BY STEVEN SCOTT, CHAIRMAN

Attention all barbershoppers! The annual Central Nebraska Bonanza is approaching. This year's Bonanza will be held in Grand Island, NE on Saturday, September 8, at Grand Island Northwest High School. We are pleased to announce that this director for this year's day-long clinic is going to be none other than Jim Henry, director of the Ambassadors of Harmony in St. Charles, Missouri! We are looking forward to a wonderful day of barbershop harmony, which will, as always, conclude with a show on Saturday night. The registration fee for this year's Bonanza will be \$30, which includes the following; music, learning CD/tape, light lunch, and an all-around great time! We are also offering a reduced rate of \$15 for students (high school or college). The five songs for this year's event are Chordbuster's March, Old St. Louie, The Lion Sleeps Tonight, When There's Love At Home, and Hello Mary Lou. It would be appreciated if registration could happen as early as possible, so that we can have the music learned as well as we can so that day can be spent making us a great chorus rather than learning

notes. The music and learning CD's/tapes will be sent out upon receipt of your registration, along with a rough schedule for the day and directions to Northwest High.

As has been the case in the past, we will also be offering quartet coaching on Friday night, September 7, by some of the finest coaches our district has to offer. More information regarding this part of the weekend will be sent out to the quartets that register. So, if there are any quartets out there who would like to come receive coaching, we would love to have you here! The cost for the coaching will be \$15 per quartet member. Also, each quartet, if they so desire, will have the opportunity to sing on the Saturday night show.

As you can see, we have a great weekend lined up, so I hope to see many faces in Grand Island on September 8! Contact snjscott04@yahoo.com or phone 308-384-1697 for complete info.

## LET'S COME TOGETHER!

By John Donehower,  
Music Men Director and Twenty-First Century  
Vocals Co-Director

I've been talking up inter-chapter cooperation for sometime now here in Eastern Iowa and looking for new ways or reasons to get our various groups together more often. I'm convinced of the importance of networking with other chapters for reasons of administrative, musical, directorial and even basic moral support. Many of our smaller chapters are struggling to "get the job done" with our undersized and overburdened memberships. But, by combining our forces and cooperating, we're sharing the load and bringing our guys a broader experience than our local chapters may be able to provide by themselves.

I'm currently writing this article during a break at the International contest in Denver. There were great performances and GREAT conversations with friends, new and old. In some of these conversations, I was surprised and pleased to learn that there are similar Inter-chapter movements going on all over our district. I wish I could say that I could report on all of these projects. I have an inkling of what's going on but few details. Here are some of the Inter-chapter activities that you may not be aware of and I want to know more about. (I feel a little like a gossip columnist...)

**Spring Contest 2007-MUSCATINE/NEW LONDON:**  
A half-dozen singers from **New London** became dual members with **Muscatine's Heartland Harmony Chorus** and competed together at the contest. From what I hear, neither chapter probably would have competed if the other hadn't joined in. **Don Fuson** mentioned to me a while back that Muscatine had a much greater, fuller sound. No doubt due to the addition of their New London brothers!

**International Contest 2007- MASON CITY, IOWA/MINNEAPOLIS, MINN:** Anyone at the Denver convention was thrilled to see the 148-man Minneapolis **Commodore Chorus** from the LOL District and shocked to recognize 50 or so faces from the **Mason City, Iowa Chapter** of the CSD. There have been close links between **Jayson Ryner** and **Paul Wigley**, the directors of the groups, and the chorus members joined to qualify and participate in Denver. The result was SUPER COOL!

**Music Men Annual Show:** Dubuque, Iowa's Music Men will be joined on the risers by the six members of the **Linn County Metro, Iowa Chapter's Twenty-First Century Vocals** chorus for our annual show. Earlier this year, the Music Men reached out to these great guys and asked if they'd be interested in singing with us, as Music Men, on our shows. We're thrilled to say that they jumped at the chance to sing with us! One of the problems with have a six-man chapter is the difficulty in putting on shows. So,

it's a "Win-Win": We pick up six great singers. They get a rare chance to perform on an annual show!

**Future CSD FALL Chorus Contest (2007?) – NEBRASKA or KANSAS:** I heard a rumor that some of our Nebraska or Kansas brothers (Not sure which!) were joining forces to compete in an upcoming large chorus contest. I wish I could tell you more because it sounds fun. Can someone fill us in?

**CSD SPRING Chorus Contest, 2008- TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY VOCALS, Linn County Metro, Iowa:** This one I can tell you more about. A handful of singers from each of the **Linn County Metro, Dubuque, Iowa City, Davenport and Frank Thorne Chapters** are planning on competing together at the 2008 CSD Spring Contest. We plan on having once-monthly Saturday rehearsals and a few coaching sessions. There should be about 36 or so singers becoming dual members in the Linn County Metro Chapter in the coming months. The PROJECT, as we're calling it, is being co-directed by myself, **Chad Knipfer and Dean Sellers** and has already met three times and been coached once! We're requiring that PROJECT singers must remain active in their home chapters to be eligible to participate. (We're not willing to risk the health of five chapters just so we can have a little competition fun in another.) I don't know how we'll do at the contest, but the journey sure is fun so far!

Speaking of inter-chapter cooperation, don't forget: Our 2007 Harmony Holiday Shows will be on Saturday, December 1 in Muscatine and Iowa City. Our festival chorus is open to any Society singer who can learn 10 Holiday songs and is available for the performances and our

**Donehower continued on page 7**



**Dean Sellers direct the Twenty-First Century Vocals at "The Project's" first meeting. Photo courtesy of David Haase.**

## Donehower continued from page 6

one combined rehearsal on Thursday, November 29 in Iowa City. This year we hope to have 125 men on stage! You should be one of them! For more info, contact me via e-mail at the address listed below.

That's about all I can report for now. As I've said, I would love to hear more details about the inter-chapter endeavors I have touched upon in this article and about any other inter-chapter activities going on in the CSD. (No, I am not above borrowing your good ideas!) Please forward information to me at [donehower3@mchsi.com](mailto:donehower3@mchsi.com). I look forward to hearing from you!

---

## Great Kansas Sing Out planned for September 8

By Lee Richards, Coordinator

Saturday, September 8, 2007 will be the fourth year for the Kansas Men's Barbershop Chorus to perform at the Kansas State Fair, in what we call without apologies, "THE GREAT KANSAS SING OUT"!!!

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## Prospective members need your help!

By Dean Beckman, CSD Membership

I have a favor to ask the chapters of the CSD. We currently have a group of about 15 individuals in Centerville, Iowa that are gathering together on a weekly basis to sing. They are using what music that can beg and borrow from Barbershop chapters and members. They have downloaded some of the "Free Music" that is available on the Society website and are discussing the possibility of filing for a Charter.

I recently received a request from them asking if I could locate about 10-15 copies of "Just Plain Barbershop" .

If your chapter has some extra copies and would like to donate them to this fledgling group, it would be greatly appreciated. If you have barbershop arrangements of music that you would be interested in donating to this group that would also be appreciated.

If you would be able to mail some music you can contact me at [deanancy78@msn.com](mailto:deanancy78@msn.com) and I can tell you how you can be involved in mentoring this group.

Thanks for your time and consideration

We will have twelve barbershop choruses representing their respective chapters and communities from around the State of Kansas. In previous years chapter representatives from Nebraska and Missouri have been on stage with us as well. This is all in keeping with the suggested Kansas State Slogan, "Kansas, Flat & Happy!" Flat is a given and happy is a state of mind which Barbershop Harmony brings to all of us and our audiences.

We just can't forget that just two years ago at the State Fair, we performed on stage with Mr. Garrison Keillor, of National Public Radio fame. It was a terrific day for all.

As Bob Barker would say; "Come on down!!" and join with us for a fun filled day of singing, what else but four-part Barbershop Harmony at the Kansas State Fair on Saturday, September 8, 2007, at the State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson, Kansas. We will be rehearsing in an auditorium at the Fairgrounds from 9:30 until 11:30 a.m., with the performance scheduled for 2:00 p.m. at the 2000 seat AT&T arena.

For more information contact:

**Lee Richards, Coordinator, Kansas Men's  
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Hesston, KS. 67062  
Ph: 620-327-2186 or Fax: 620-327-2945  
E-mail: [rams1@cox.net](mailto:rams1@cox.net)**

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## The Gift of Music in Support for the Gift of Life

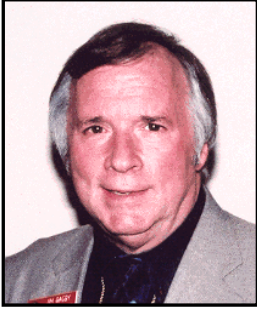
By the Society Marketing and PR Committee

**SAVE THIS DATE: MAY 10, 2008**  
International Blood Drive and Awareness Project,  
Sponsored by **The Barbershop Harmony Society  
and Your Chapter** in cooperation with **Hema-  
Quebec, America's Blood Centers, Canadian  
Blood Services and The American Red Cross.**

This will be an opportunity to support your local agencies and will be a good chapter event to plan.

Expect opportunities to perform and also assist others in this worthwhile effort.

Watch for more details in the coming week!!!



## THREE CSD JUDGES HONORED; SOCIETY POLICIES CHANGED, CONSIDERED

By Jim Bagby,  
CSD C&J Administrator

Your Society Board of Directors still has not resolved the issue of whether choruses can compete out of district, or how easily they can, as quartets now do. The primary sticking point is the financial burden to the home district. The Society Contest and Judging Committee that's handling this proposal does not want to get involved in negotiating financial arrangements between districts.

We spent considerable time discussing this matter at our recent meetings in Denver, and the outcome will not be known at least until the next Board of Directors meeting this fall. But there was progress on other fronts, which is bittersweet good news for our **Ambassadors of Harmony**.

**ICJC Chairman Larry Clemons** reported emphatically that never again will a competing group appear on the same venue as the contest prior to the competition, as happened in Denver with the **Westminster Chorus and O.C. Times** (both were on the Tuesday night Harmony Foundation show at the Pepsi Center). There previously had been no rule to prevent that.

Did it give either group an unfair advantage? One wag said of Westminster, "Oh, probably no more than 10 or 11 points." The California chorus tied AOH for the top spot and took the chorus gold by virtue of an 11-point edge in the Singing category.

**THREE CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT** judges were among 11 announced as receiving the prestigious Judge Emeritus award. They are **Lance Heilmann** of El Dorado, KS; **Alan Ives** of Overland Park, KS, and the late **M.O. "Oz" Newgard**. The award recognizes years of distinguished service to the judging fraternity. All three were formerly members of the Kansas City Chapter. Newgard also served in the Mid-Atlantic District before moving to the Kansas City area in 1975. Ives began his judging career in the Southwestern District, and Heilmann also served in the Dixie and Johnny Appleseed districts.

Newgard was a Balance and Blend judge before becoming a senior Sound Category judge. Ives was a Singing Category judge who helped design the Sound Category. Heilmann served as category specialist in the old Interpretation Category and later as a Presentation judge. Coincidentally, all three at one time coached the **Rural Route 4**, our 1986 International Quartet Champions.

All three will be recognized at the fall CSD convention in Kansas City.

**NEW METHODS WERE DISCUSSED** for competitors to report their experience on stage at international to the ICJC. For instance, the last few years chorus and quartets have had the option of choosing lighting backgrounds. But the sound on stage is set to give the audience maximum enjoyment – sometimes to the detriment of choruses. Competitors are asking how we can liven the stages so all rows of choruses can hear better, even if it means bringing back chorus shells and less spectacular lighting effects. The ICJC said it will prepare a feedback form for competitors to complete, that will give the committee a better feel for what's happening on stage.

Another key issue to be addressed is the length of time it's taking to complete the chorus contest. Choruses at international are instructed to use no more than 12 minutes to set up, complete their performance and clear the stage. If you were in Denver or watched the Web cast, you know that ain't happening. Or as Singing Judge Hank Hammer said, "Isn't it amazing how we can take a 3 1/2-hour chorus contest and cram it into 5 hours?" So the judging community may have to consider time penalties for choruses that take an inordinate amount of time. Stay tuned....

**SPEAKING OF CHORUS COMPETITION**, we're in a central CSD location this fall – Kansas City. **AAA** and **AA** choruses, you need to be there, especially if you haven't been on the boards in a while. **A** choruses, although not eligible for plateau awards, are more than welcome, too. Let me know if I can help get you some coaching or encouragement!

**CATEGORY SCHOOL AND BEYOND** – In the next issue of the *Serenade*, we'll report on all our newly certified CSD judges from the tri-annual category school the last week of July, just prior to **Harmony University**. Then it's time for anyone who ever thought about being a judge to stick a hand in the air, dip an oar in the water, holler out loud. A couple of guys already have their applications in to be candidates. The only time you can be part of the process in the next three years is from Sept. 1 to Dec. 31. You need letters of recommendation from two certified judges in the category you've chosen, sent to me anytime in that aforementioned period. If you have any questions, drop me a note: [jbagby3@kc.rr.com](mailto:jbagby3@kc.rr.com) and we'll discuss it. Judging is a time-consuming labor of love, but obviously a role the Society needs.

### CSD Chorus and quartet entry deadline

**ALL QUARTET AND CHORUS COMPETITORS:**  
Entry deadline for the fall CSD contest in Kansas City is  
Friday, Sept. 28. To enter go to  
[www.centralstatesdistrict.com](http://www.centralstatesdistrict.com) and click "Conventions"

The draw will be sent out on Sept. 29.

## Special activities lined up for Fall Convention in KC

By Jon Gathright,  
Chairman of Special Activities

The CSD Convention is coming to Kansas City this October and the Extra-Curricular Activities committee is ready for you wonderful CSD Barbershoppers. Kansas City is really changing and we have more quality points of interest than ever before. Our ladies have put together a "Don't Miss" Breakfast that is a real treat!

Calling All CSD Ladies!!! This fall's CSD ladies' breakfast is one you won't want to miss. Seating is somewhat limited; so, get your reservations in early so you're sure to have a seat. Transportation, breakfast, entertainment and lots of door prizes are included for only \$20.00. The breakfast is being held at the Webster House at 16<sup>th</sup> and Wyandotte in downtown Kansas City at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Webster House Restaurant with its warm red walls, beamed ceiling and amazing antiques make it a special elegant setting for breakfast. The building was originally a schoolhouse designed in 1885 by Manuel Diaz who was the architect for the Kansas City School Board. It is believed to be the oldest standing Kansas City public school building and is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places. The building has been carefully restored to its present beauty. Webster House specializes in 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century European and American antiques and decorative arts. The main level offers a wide selection of unique decorative accessories and personal gifts and you will have a little time to shop following breakfast.

You will be entertained by one of CSD's finest quartets in addition to surprise entertainment. Busses will transport you from the Marriott to the Webster House and back. Reservations can be made when you sign up for your CSD convention.

We hope you'll take pleasure in the elegant surroundings, find a special treasure in the shops and enjoy our delicious breakfast. The Heart of America ladies want to "Welcome" you to the Webster House!

For all, we have some brand new world-class additions to the Kansas City Skyline; so come early and spend some time seeing the sites.

The Bloch Addition to the Nelson Museum is a World Class Structure that has put Kansas City on the "You Gotta See It" map. It is like nothing else in the world. The brand new Sprint Center Sports Complex which has been referred to as the Glass House, will be completed and it is spectacular. Of course, there is shopping in Kansas City's nationally known Plaza where wonderful shops and fantastic

restaurants set in Southwest Spanish motif offer the very finest.

We have more shopping in the beautiful Crown Center close to downtown and across the street from the amazing, newly re-opened must see World War I Memorial with very interesting displays and the Glass Bridge over Fields of Poppies. North of downtown there is the unique Zona Rosa Shopping in a village setting with great restaurants and outdoor entertainment. In the River Market Area is the Historic Steam Ship Arabia wooden ship that sank in the Missouri River, was discovered, and then placed in the museum with pre-civil war artifact treasures.

We have our new world class Kansas Speedway Stock Car Race Track, which is on the national circuit, plus an amazing array of surrounding shopping, like Nebraska Furniture Mart, Cabella's Sporting Goods, and very interesting and different restaurants galore and much, much more. Don't forget the Chiefs and the Royals Sports Complex and all of our Casinos.

Did I mention restaurants? Well, I'm saving the best for last! There is going to be a Special Saturday Night World Class Barbecue Dinner by Kansas City's own, Fiorella's Jack Stack Barbecue, voted Kansas City's Best! This event will be held in nearby Bartle Hall Convention Center.

For only \$ 23.00 per person we are offering a fantastic Jack Stack, Trailblazer BBQ Buffet with – Burnt Ends - Brisket - Smoked Turkey Breast – Hickory Pit Beans - Cheesy Corn Bake - Creamy Coleslaw – Potato Salad - Cookies and Brownies - Tea and Lemonade. All the fixin's!!!!

All this and it will be fast and convenient. If you don't leave Full and Content it will be your fault. I know you will be asking how to take some of this home, well Jack Stack is nationally known for shipping this wonderful Barbecue nation wide, so just order as you leave or later.

Heart of America is working very hard to make your convention experience memorable and enjoyable, so come be with friends and experience the New Kansas City. We're changing and we're on the move.



Central States District Fall Convention  
 October 19-21, 2007 Kansas City, Missouri  
**CONVENTION REGISTRATION**

Name (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Membership # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chapter/Quartet Name \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** All competitors must purchase a regular or super registration, must also enter the contest and make housing reservations. Early registration discount applies if postmarked by **September 28, 2007**. Single event registrations, if available, will be sold at the convention. Registrations will not be processed without full payment. Registrations and discounts are 1/2 price for **non-competing** students to age 23.  
**IF SPECIAL SEATING IS REQUIRED – PLEASE ADVISE. Wheelchair \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_ (unable to climb stairs)**

Regular registration includes all competition events, \$12 Semifinals, \$16 Chorus, \$23 Finals	Super Registration includes all competition events & \$12 Past Champ Show	<i>Please circle registration amount requested</i>			
		Regular Registration	Super Registration	Early Registration Discount Until September 28, 2007	Total
		↓	↓	↓	
1. Registrant _____		38	48	-5	_____
Additional Registrants: _____	Membership # _____				
2. _____	_____	38	48	-5	_____
3. _____	_____	38	48	-5	_____
4. _____	_____	38	48	-5	_____
5. _____	_____	38	48	-5	_____
6. _____	_____	38	48	-5	_____
7. _____	_____	38	48	-5	_____
8. _____	_____	38	48	-5	_____
9. _____	_____	38	48	-5	_____
10. _____	_____	38	48	-5	_____

**All seats reserved for all contest sessions** **GRAND TOTAL \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: **CSD Convention, SPEBSQSA**  
 To use credit card: VISA MasterCard Discover Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card # \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Groups (20+) and electronic registration is available at [www.centralstatesdistrict.com](http://www.centralstatesdistrict.com).  
 Please include your email address for confirmation. \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Completed forms to: CSD Registration Chairman Bob Swenson 300 Yuma Manhattan, KS 66502-6238	Registrations and tickets <b>are not</b> refundable.  Additional fees will apply to declined credit cards.	Registration packages will be available In the convention registration area. Registration Questions? <b>Phone: (785) 539-5216 or 537-7811</b> <b>Email: <a href="mailto:bbcsd@sbcglobal.net">bbcsd@sbcglobal.net</a></b>
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Central States District Convention Housing Form
October 19 - 21, 2007

Hosted by the Kansas City Chapter

This fall convention WILL NOT have a drawing since we are using only one hotel.

Deadline to submit hotel registration is September 20, 2007; show all persons occupying room.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_
Arrival Date & Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* SPECIAL NOTE: If only one name is listed on this form, you will automatically be assigned a single bed room. Please list all names staying in the room:

1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_
3) \_\_\_\_\_ 4) \_\_\_\_\_

Room rates listed DO NOT include taxes.

Kansas City Marriott Downtown Hotel

- \$100.00 Single / Double Occupancy
\$110.00 Triple
\$120.00 Quad Occupancy
Parking \$13.00 per day - self parking
\$16.00 per day - valet parking

All Marriott Hotels became totally smoke-free effective October 16, 2006. Smoking rooms are not available.

If you require special needs for housing, please indicate:

Note: Hotels require a credit card to make a room reservation or a check for the first night room rate, or the hotel will not accept the reservation. Prices listed do not include any taxes. The hotels will not accept direct individual or group reservations.

Room Reservation by credit card: Type of Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_
Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit housing form to: LARRY WARRICK • 2603 Lynner Drive • Des Moines, IA 50310-5834
515-277-9884 • Fax (515) 286-3364 • E-mail biglare01@msn.com

PLEASE NOTE: PHONE ORDERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

To register online go to www.centralstatesdistrict.com click on the Convention button and click on Housing Form. This form will go directly to the Larry Warrick, Housing Chairman when submitted.

**(Tentative) KANSAS CITY FALL CONVENTION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS****Thursday, October 18, 2007**

5:30		Pre-Convention Meeting	Julia Lee A & B
7:00		Board Meeting	Andy Kirk A

**Friday, October 19, 2007**

9:00	11:30	PAT Meeting	Andy Kirk A
10:00	6:00	Registration	Jay McShann B/Foyer
10:00	3:00	Harmony Market Place	Mary Lou Williams A & B
10:00	3:00	History Room	Bennie Moten A & B
10:00	3:00	Hospitality Room	
10:00	3:00	Harmony Foundation	Lester Young A
10:00	3:00	ASHOW	Lester Young B
10:00	3:00	Tag Singing	Big Joe Tuner B
12:30	2:30	House of Delegates	Andy Kirk A & B
1:00		Sound Check	Music Hall
3:30	5:30	Quartet Semi-Finals	Music Hall
5:00	6:00	ASCS Chorus Rehearsal	Count Basie Ballroom
5:00	7:00	Harmony Market Place	Mary Lou Williams A & B
5:00	7:00	History Room	Bennie Moten A & B
5:00	7:00	Hospitality Room	
5:00	7:00	Harmony Foundation	Lester Young A
5:00	7:00	ASHOW	Lester Young B
5:00	7:00	Tag Singing	Big Joe Tuner B
7:00	10:00	Quartet Semi-Finals	Music Hall
10:00	12:00	Quartet Evaluations	Judge's Rooms
10:00	12:00	ASCS Past Champs Show	Count Basie Ballroom
10:00	12:00	ASHOW	Lester Young B
10:00	12:00	Tag Singing	Big Joe Turner B

**Saturday, October 20, 2007**

7:00	10:00	Ladies Breakfast	Dubuque/Davenport
7:00	10:00	Harmony Market Place	Mary Lou Williams A & B
7:00	10:00	History Room	Bennie Moten A & B
7:00	10:00	Hospitality Room	
7:00	10:00	Harmony Foundation	Lester Young A
7:00	10:00	ASHOW	Lester Young B
7:00	10:00	Tag Singing	Big Joe Tuner B
8:00	10:00	Registration	Jay McShane/Foyer
10:30	3:00	Chorus Contest	Music Hall
3:00	4:00	Chorus Evaluations	Music Hall
4:00	6:30	Registration	Music Hall
4:00	6:30	Harmony Market Place	Mary Lou Williams A & B
4:00	6:30	History Room	Bennie Moten A & B
4:00	6:30	Hospitality Room	
4:00	6:30	Harmony Foundation	Lester Young A
4:00	6:30	ASHOW	Lester Young B
4:00	6:30	Tag Singing	Big Joe Tuner B
4:30	6:30	BarBQ Buffet	Convention Center
5:00	6:00	Judges Dinner	Marriott
7:30	10:00	Quartet Finals	Music Hall
Following Contest		Quartet Evaluations	Judges Rooms

**Sunday, October 21, 2007**

8:00	10:00	Convention Team Wrap-up	Julia Lee A & B
9:00	10:00	Church Service	Count Basie Ballroom

\*\* All times and locations subject to change.



**Are we there yet?**  
By Bob Aderholt,  
Music and Performance  
Administrator

The International Convention is over and we have had our last spoon full of ice-cream at Harmony University. What can I do now to satisfy my craving for MORE, More, more Barbershop? Barbershop music that is; because you see, I have played all of the CD's that I bought until the dog and cat leave the room even if I just look at the sound system. They leave because it is not the loudness or the music itself but me. I can't sit still. I am up, moving around the house, quickly if it is an upbeat song or more quietly as a ballad begins to play.

Our dog and cat follow me where ever I go. If I am in the study, like right now writing this piece, they are at my side. Yep, right beside me. They would probable slip under the desk if there was room. And yes, they follow me to the

Bathroom. (. . . but not in it. You need to draw the line somewhere.) You got the picture now, I tire them out. Who needs to take the dog for a walk? Just play some Barbershop music.

I wonder if **Tim Warrick** (Tenor - Vocal Spectrum) has this problem when he is practicing or making all the learning tapes that he does so well.

What does this have to do with my title: Are we there yet? Those of you that raised or still have young children around know where that phrase came from. Many are the times when on a family outing, a voice from the back seat asks: "Are we there yet?"

After International and or Harmony University, I know that many of you made personal vows to do better in perfecting this craft, we call Barbershop. It can be as simple as "making sure that your lips are off your teeth (**Freddy King** excluded) when singing that 'EEEEEE"

**Aderholt continued on page 18**

**Comedy sells tickets !**  
**Smiles and laughs create memorable shows !**

**Let TONE-HENGE hep ya**



(clockwise)

**Old Keith, Old Bruce, Ancient Dan, Old Jim**

**We may be old but we're funny, and won't charge a whole lot of money. Our forte is gags and we know tons of tags, and Folks say our act is a "HONEY !"**

**Cheaper than MICHIGAN JAKE. Funnier than ACOUSTIX. Take up less room than EXPANDED SOUND.**

**2001 CSD Seniors Champs**  
**2002 Buckeye Comedy silver medalists**

**Just call Keith Schweer: 913-906-9771, or email [keithschweer@kc.rr.com](mailto:keithschweer@kc.rr.com)**

2006 Central States District Champs

4-Part Harmony  
for your  
next event!

Contact: Rob  
913-963-1513  
[robmathieu@comcast.net](mailto:robmathieu@comcast.net)



## **COTS IS COMING! But it's not November yet....**

**By Dan Brown,  
CSLT Administrator**

Notice the banner headline? It won't be too long and summer will be over, Fall Convention will be upon us, and every chapter will nominate and elect officers for 2008. That also means that new chapter officers will need training to do their duties effectively in support of their chapter.

This year's COTS (Chapter Officer Training Seminars) will be held in two locations and on adjacent weekends so we avoid the winter weather problems we experienced at the St. Joseph location in January. The times and locations for 2007 are:

**Saturday Nov. 10 – Des Moines Area Community College, Des Moines, IA**

**Saturday Nov. 17 – Southeast Technical College, Lincoln, NE**

**Times for both:** Registration at 8:30 a.m., classes begin at 9:00 a.m., conclude at 6:30 p.m.

**Estimated cost:** Approximately \$25-\$30 per officer attending (like last year)

### **Deadlines:**

**Now – activate your chapter nominating committee.**

**Oct 1 - Present a slate of officers to chapter members**

**Oct 15 – Hold chapter elections and submit 2008 chapter officers to International.**

**Oct 26 - Registration deadline for either COTS session**

Each chapter will be responsible for their own hotel reservations. This has worked well over the last two years and will remain in place as standard procedure. **ALL INFORMATION WILL BE ON THE CSD WEBSITE UNDER THE COTS TAB.** Notice the capital letters? Once the hotel arrangements and the room blocks are finalized, all lodging info will be on the website in addition to the registration forms and pricing for all attendees. Everything should be in place by the end of August (or shortly after receiving your Serenade) so don't panic if you haven't seen it yet. At the very least the 2006 info should be gone!

Past attendees are happy with the reduced pricing structure so smaller chapters can send more officers. CSD had great turnouts in 2006 and the use of smaller community

colleges with nearby hotels has helped reduce the facility prices to make attendance more affordable for every chapter.

In addition to having back-to-back weekends, this is the first year that mostly in-district faculty will lead the classes. As the Society continues to have the districts assume a greater share of the costs in providing COTS instruction, CSD is fortunate that several CSD members are certified instructors. The district hopes to increase our numbers over the next year so we can eventually provide classes at all locations to cover our entire District, not just in an every other year fashion.

Since the classes are so close together, the registration deadline for either session will be Oct. 26. This will allow time to get rosters to our instructors and finalize arrangements at our locations. Your chapter should already have activated your nominating committee for action so you can present and vote on a slate of officers by Oct. 15. All chapters should make every effort to make this schedule. The Society would like to have each chapter's officer slate prior to the COTS season. These dates are similar to last year's deadlines and they appeared to work well.

If your chapter has any questions at all, don't hesitate to call. CSD is looking forward to another successful COTS cycle and we look forward to seeing you and your chapter leaders in Des Moines and Lincoln.


**PATENT PENDING**

**A Top 10 District Quartet**

*Who Loves To Make 'Em Laugh!*

**Call Gary: 308-236-2083**

[jdrown@kearney.net](mailto:jdrown@kearney.net)





## Music Man of Note get CSD Convention seating perk

By Dean Beckman, CSD Membership

What a great convention in Denver! It is so exciting to see CSD represented so well on the stage. I appreciate the opportunity I have to meet with so many of the CSD members and visit with you about your chapters and the great things that are happening for you.

I continue to work on our preparations for Fall Convention in Kansas City. The District is planning to celebrate the hard work that so many of you have been doing to promote membership within your chapters. We have a number of individuals who have been actively pursuing new members and the list of those who have received at least one new Music Man of Note is impressive to say the least. Many

have been able to achieve several Men of Note and we are preparing a special acknowledgment for them. Special seating arrangements within the VIP seating area is in the planning phase and the executive leaders of the CSD are very interested in making this happen for members who have recruited 3 or more new members. Special VIP seating arrangements will be available for the member having received 3 or more MMON and his spouse or significant other.

I encourage each of you to continue to invite men to your chapter meetings and show them the joy of singing and the enjoyment gained by membership in this wonderful hobby! Shortly after the 1<sup>st</sup> week of September will be the cut-off date for the convention VIP seating to enable appropriate seating plans and seating assignments so I encourage each of you to talk to your friends and neighbors about visiting your chapter meeting and help them discover the Excitement of Barbershop.

Don't forget that if you reach a goal of at least 5 new recruits in 2007, your Society and District dues will be free for 2008!!

I look forward to seeing you all in Kansas City in October!

## Reflections on "Open Mouth.. Insert Foot"

By Dick Kury, St. Louis Suburban By-Lines editor and webmaster

Greetings,

I thought I would alert those not yet involved in bulletin editing to be aware of the "Open Mouth.. Insert Foot" method of getting involved.

John Conrad, past editor of By-Lines, a monthly publication of the St. Louis Suburban Chapter, one evening announced his retirement. The Chapter President quickly said "who wants to try it?"

Having been involved in several volunteer groups before I knew of the danger of giving the job to anyone who could merely stand erect, pronounce their name or fog a mirror with regard to their ability to do the job. I quickly spoke up and said, "for Pete's sake don't just give the job to anyone willing to TRY IT. After all John had garnered quite a few awards in the 15 years he did the job, many District awards and a first place International award. Let's not tarnish his record by giving the job to anyone just willing to TRY IT!"

The president then said, "are you volunteering?" I quickly said "NO," but please don't make that mistake. The next week, after a good deal of encouragement, I became the new editor, i.e. Open Mouth, Insert Foot.

Not having had any specific editing experience but with some other abilities necessary there I was! I must say, it has been a good experience for the last nine months.

"Open Mouth.. Insert Foot No. 2" I am now webmaster of our website which had just been started and was not quite functional when I opened mouth again. This too has been a lot of fun and quite interesting. Now it feels like I have a full time job in our barbershop chapter.

I wouldn't trade the experience for anything, not even the million dollar salary I was offered and turned down.

One of the best things about all this is the privilege I have had in meeting so many of the Society's editors and web folks. They are a great bunch of guys and gals, always ready to help, even with the dumb questions

Bless you all for the work you do for our wonderful society.

If you find yourself in the St. Louis area, look me up, let's sing a tag or two.



**Do The Write Thing**  
Help Your Editor  
With a News Item  
For The Next Issue

# Harmony Foundation donations needed to support youth programs

By Dean Beckman, CSD Harmony Foundation

Having just spent the week at the BHS International Convention in Denver, I find it extremely exciting to see the acceptance and encouragement of youth programs within the Society. I watched the Westminster Chorus, O.C. Times, and Road Trip all receive medals. I enjoyed the performances of Smorgaschords, Blue Notes, Night and Day, and Downpour, all from the CSD compete in the Collegiate Contest. These

youth are unbelievable performers. It is great to know that we support our youth both in the CSD and the Society. This support comes from individuals, chapters and from the

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## Fall Convention continued from page 1

If you like to come to town early, you can come in on Thursday evening, spend all day Friday exploring some of the new and exciting things going on in our town. Friday afternoon or evening will begin the quartet countdown. Saturday morning we will have a unique Ladies Breakfast and tour at a new restaurant you won't want to miss. Perhaps you ladies could even hijack a tour bus and force the driver to take a detour to the world famous Country Club Plaza!

Saturday late morning we will have the district chorus contest featuring the **Ambassadors of Harmony**, plus many other choruses from throughout the district. Before the contest starts, you will hear two selections by one of the most phenomenal mike testing choruses you have ever heard—a Then and Now chorus comprised of singers from throughout the district not competing in an official chorus, and we may invite youngsters from throughout the district to join in on the fun. This group will sing two songs directed by **Brad Stephens** and **Chris Drogenmiller** of **3 Men and a Melody**.

In the late afternoon on we will have a huge Kansas City-style BBQ hosted by Jack's Stack, one of KC's world famous BBQ Restaurants.

After dinner it will be back to the Music hall for the Quartet Finals, followed by a show of champions that you won't want to miss. After that we will have an old style Barbershop Afterglow featuring all quartets and maybe even a chorus or two!

Because of the size of the headquarters hotel, all competitors will be able to stay in one hotel and no transportation will be required to get you back and forth to

Society. Funds that are given to the Harmony Foundation go, in part to support and encourage our youth and to continue to reach out to youth programs in our District, Chapters and Schools!

I encourage each of you to consider giving to the Harmony Foundation that we may continue to help our youth to enjoy barbershop harmony.

Ways in which you can be involved in giving to our youth through your charitable donations to the Harmony Foundation include: The Founders Club, The President's Council and the Ambassador of Song program.

Please contact me if you would like to be involved in a charitable program or if you desire more information.

Thanks to you all for your support to the Harmony Foundation and to our youth!

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the contests. Once you park your car after you arrive, you won't have to get in it again until you depart for home Sunday morning. Don't forget to mark Sunday morning on your calendar, because the Church Service is one you won't want to miss, with a special prayer leader, Calvin Yoder.

As you can see, we have plans galore to make your weekend in the Heart of America, an experience you will always remember. We hope you all plan to come and join us.

## Bulletin Browsing By Wade Dexter, Editor Emeritus

As I write this, I have not yet been informed as to how *Harmonotes*, the Kansas City chapter bulletin has fared in this year's international bulletin competition. But Editor **Todd Anderson** had an item in the May edition in which he revealed the high degree of member involvement in the publishing of a newsletter that helped to result in the first place finish in the district contest last year. He told us that he could count on regular assistance from **Matt Bostick**, **Don Fuson**, **Ron McIntire**, **Jim Bagby**, **Dick Irwin** and yours truly. In addition, Todd consistently received articles from 26 other chapter members throughout 2006. And that doesn't include such notable Society names as **Jim Clancy**, **Jay Giallombardo** and **Ben Ayling**. CSD bulletin editors please note, this is one way to turn out a really outstanding chapter newsletter.

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In the May issue of *By-Lines*, edited by **Dick Kury**, I find that the St. Louis Suburban chapter has recently lost a couple of veteran members. **Morry Kevrick** describes his long and cherished friendship with **Larry Knebel**, who died on

**Bulletin Browsing continued on page 17**

**Bulletin Browsing continued from page 16**

April 6. Says Morry, "How do you characterize someone like Larry? He epitomized the definition of the word 'unique' --- comedian, storyteller, master of ceremonies, caring, forgiving, with a comforting voice --- he was all of these and more." And **Bob Niedringhaus** chimes in with "Larry Knebel was indeed a good friend and a truly dedicated Barbershopper who really enjoyed his craft." And **John Tully**, who writes in memory of **George Steiner**, who also passed away in April, adds "We miss you, Gerry. Teach those angels some tags until we see you one day."

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We learn, via the *InCider Press*, edited by **Terry Nanninga**, that **Leonard Purvis** has resigned as the long-time Harmony Foundation representative for the Manhattan chapter. As **Bob Swenson** puts it, "For everybody, there is a point in which you either lose steam or simply wish to point your interests in a different direction." It's reassuring to learn that Leonard plans to remain active with his duties as bass section leader of the "Little Apple Chorus" and as the bass in his quartets. I recall that Leonard was also the CSD Harmony Foundation representative for many years. He has certainly acquired a wealth of experience in that area of responsibility.

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Chapter President **Darryl Baker** reports that the "Waffle Man Project" was a great success. It seems this guy just makes waffles and people stand in line for them. In this case, 272 guests went through the line for waffles and sausage, and the net receipt of funds was \$450.00. Yes,

that's quite a success. How do you get in touch with this "Waffle Man?" Now if I could just find out how they got those extra 60 guys on stage at the Christ Lutheran Church

\*\*\*

From **Sharon Ocker's** June issue of *Siouxland Saga*, we learn of yet another Barbershopper, **Vern Unruh**, who died after a 16-year battle with cancer. Editor Sharon tells us that Vern was at the top of his list of names of Barbershoppers who would be featured in his column, "Meet a Man of Note." He describes Vern as a "kind of quiet guy singing his bass part softly and tenderly. He had an impish sense of humor, and he would catch you with it if you weren't on your guard." We need more men with a personality like that.

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The March/April issue of *The Plains Notes* (honest, that's the most recent one I have), edited by **Lonnie Miner**, contains an account of the success of the Hasting chapter's first YIH Festival on March 12. There were 107 high school and 44 college students from schools west of Highway 81 in Nebraska. In addition, there were students from as far south as Garden City, Kansas, and a couple from Colorado. The festival was held at Hastings College in Hastings, and the clinician was Jim DeBusman from Society headquarters. There were participants from the Hasting College Men's Choir and the Hastings College Sinfonia. There are nearly two pages of fine photographs that make it appear that everybody had a howling good time. Hope they plan to repeat the event next year.



## How Many Members Did You Get?

by **Harvey Kiser, CSD Marketing and Public Relations Administrator**

How about tattooing on your foreheads this phrase – **"Publicity must ultimately equal membership?"** Does every performance and advertisement have a membership angle?

The best way to convey our three basic messages is by example. Share our *lifeblood* of barbershopping by having your prospect or reporter sing with you! By singing others discover that (1) Barbershop singing is easy, (2) Barbershop singing is fun, and (3) "You" can do it. The most skillful image-making in the world only works if it prompts activity or involvement. Viewers need an invitation to respond and an easy way to do so. Our Society tells us that more than a third of our members have never sung formally before joining. Less than one percent of our members are formally

trained musicians. By comparison, about half of the general population says they have never sung formally.

For face-to-face public relations, a leave-behind hard copy such as a chapter brochure, chapter business card or the Society's pamphlet "You Can Sing Too" builds awareness. Get everyone in your chapter into the habit of using them. A habit – something we learn to do over and over again. This takes practice just like the habit of singing well.

Improving awareness is important, but bringing folks in the door for membership or performances is even more important. When your chapter performs at community events or your show, program inserts or a handout offering door prizes is an easy way to attract interest and participation. Provide space on the insert or handout for the audience to provide name, address and telephone number as well as check boxes about interest in attending an evening of fun singing, in show mailings, or in quartet/chorus bookings.

You can find hundreds of ways to grow your chapter and the Society AND to encourage vocal music on the Barbershop Harmony Society's web site. There are many possible ideas and suggestions for each chapter to consider. [http://www.barbershop.org/web/groups/public/documents/pa ges/pub\\_cb2\\_00527.hcsp#P-7\\_0](http://www.barbershop.org/web/groups/public/documents/pa ges/pub_cb2_00527.hcsp#P-7_0)



## Convention and ASCAP reminders

By Mark Fuerniss,  
CSD Secretary

I hope all of the readership is planning to join the rest of the Barbershoppers in Kansas City, MO for the Fall 2007 Convention/Contest. What better way to finish out our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary than the birthplace of The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America!

Some things to keep in mind as you plan to attend the Convention/Contest:

1) Each chorus and or quartet planning to enter the competition must officially enter the contest using a CJ-20 online form found on the Central States District web site under "Conventions" which directs you to "members only" pages of the Society website.

2. Each member of a competing singing group must be a paid-up member of the Society and purchase at least a "regular" convention registration. Often your chapter secretary coordinates sending these individual registrations to the convention registrar so that members of your chapter will have adjacent seating in the theater as all seats are reserved. If your wife and family members or friends wish to sit with you, their registration must be sent in with yours.

3. Take advantage of Convention housing. You may be able to save a few bucks by staying elsewhere but the convention hotel gives the district some breaks (saving the district money, thereby keeping registrations costs and district membership dues reasonable) with the understanding that our members and their families will occupy rooms in their hotel. Also, you will be close to the action by staying at the convention hotel. Do yourselves a favor. Stay in the convention hotel.

### Aderholt continued from page 13

sound to making sure that we are "off the Music" when the director and Music Committee say so.

Many of us have heard these stories and even shared the same guidelines to others about "standing tall", "focus on the Director", "Staggered breathing", and oh yes, being respectful and quiet in the ranks when the director is working with a an individual or section.

**Gary Drown**, of the Kearney Area 1733 Chorus, said it best: Courtesy. He meant, courtesy to your singing partner, section, and chorus. Courtesy means not just "not talking" but doing nothing distracting that may cause an interruption to whatever procedures that are going on.

OK, I know that I am "not there yet" but I hope that you can see me trying. Are you "there yet"?

### New ASCAP procedures for show chairmen or chapter secretaries and treasurers.

ASCAP and the Society have come up with new arrangements concerning ASCAP fees. ASCAP fees are now to be paid directly to ASCAP and not the Barbershop Harmony Society. If your chapter puts on a show during 2007, your chapter owes ASCAP \$204, payable to ASCAP:

**Adria Deeds, Account Service Manager  
ASCAP  
2690 Cumberland Parkway, Suite 490  
Atlanta, GA 30339**

You should not send payments to Society Headquarters.

After your first show of the year, make out a check or payment to ASCAP in the amount of \$204. Go to the Society's website and complete the ASCAP form giving size of venue and ticket price. An invoice will be printed. Send the invoice and \$204 to ASCAP in Atlanta. Until you have accumulated \$204 in ASCAP fees, ignore the instructions to send the amount listed on the invoice to the Society, but send the invoice to ASCAP in Atlanta.

Once your accumulated ASCAP fees exceeds \$204, which probably won't happen unless you put on a half dozen or so shows in a calendar year, send payment for fees exceeding \$204 with the invoice to ASCAP in Atlanta. The Society will no longer collect ASCAP fees. As stated in the 2007 Chapter Secretary's manual, additional questions should be addressed to "**BHS, Attn: John Schneider, Staff Counsel, 7930 Sheridan Road Kenosha, WI 53143, (800) 876-Sing (7464) x8444, [jschneider@barbershop.org](mailto:jschneider@barbershop.org)**."

Nothing has changed regarding show clearance applications and BMI/SESAC licenses. Continuing sending Form 3016 "Application for Show Clearance and BMI/SESAC License" with its four copies and check made payable to The Barbershop Harmony Society or SPEBSQSA to me, your district secretary.

## Anderson, Haase elected to PROBE Board

Central States District members **Bruce Anderson** and **David Haase** were elected to the **PROBE (Public Relations Officers and Bulletin Editors)** Board of Directors at the PROBE annual meeting at the BHS International Convention in Denver.

Bruce Anderson will be the Public Relations VP for one year, completing the two-year term of **Ted Sayle**. David Haase will be Membership VP for the next two years. Both start their new positions on October 1.

## Ambassadors of Harmony tie for first place, take home silver medal on tie-breaker

Heart of America, CSD quartets, and collegiate quartets do well at international  
By Dave Haase, Editor



The Ambassadors of Harmony perform "Fit As A Fiddle" at the International chorus contest in Denver, Colorado. Photo courtesy of Loren May.

Coming into the international chorus contest everyone was anticipating the shootout between the **Ambassadors of Harmony** and the **Westminster Chorus**. These two polished choruses didn't disappoint the crowd at Denver!!

The Ambassadors of Harmony under the direction of Dr. Jim Henry unveiled a new package with "They'll Never Believe Me" and "Fit as a Fiddle." Their singing was clean, chords rang causing goose bumps, and their presentation on "Fit As A Fiddle" was outstanding. The package was championship material.

The Westminster Chorus performed great as well. They wowed the crowd with the formation of the "W" and their hand clapping and foot stomping during "Strike Up the Band."

At the announcement of the top two choruses the crowd was stunned when they announced there was a first place tie. The contest administrator explained that in the event of a tie the chorus with the highest singing category score will be declared the winner. Everyone was on the edge of their seats when they made the announcement, "Your silver medalist chorus for 2007 is the Ambassadors of Harmony of St. Charles, Missouri." My heart broke for the Ambassadors of Harmony. They came away with the silver medal. but we all know they are champions in every aspect. Congratulations to the Ambassadors of Harmony on a magnificent performance. I can't wait until next year when they take on the Masters of Harmony.

The tie was only the second time in the history of the international chorus contest. The other time came in 1990 when Master of Harmony and the Louisville Thoroughbreds tied and Master of Harmony was awarded the gold.

Our other CSD chorus representative, the **Heart of America Chorus from Kansas City**, did a fine job as well, Heart of America placed 20<sup>th</sup> out of 31 choruses. It was a very competitive and tight chorus contest.

In the international quartet contests all the CSD quartets did a great job. **12<sup>th</sup> Street Rag and 3 Men and a Melody** made the semi-final round but didn't make the quartet finals. 3 Men and a Melody and 12<sup>th</sup> Street Rag ended up 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> respectively. Looking at the score sheet 12<sup>th</sup> St Rag was only 62 points away from being in the quartet finals. When you consider 15 judges per song, two songs per round, and two rounds you're only looking at a point per judge from two CSD quartets from making the quartet finals.

Our third CSD quartet, the Noise Boys came in 23<sup>rd</sup> place, just missing the semi-final round by eight points. I'm sure all of our CSD quartets are working hard to make the international quartet finals next year.

As for the collegiate quartet contest all four CSD college quartets did quite well in a very exciting and competitive contest. **Blue Notes**, the CSD College Quartet Champions, placed 7<sup>th</sup> out of 23 competitors, **Downpour, Night and Day**, and **Smorgaschords** placed 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 16<sup>th</sup> respectively.

It would be an understatement to say that CSD is justly very proud of our choruses, quartets and collegiates who represented us during the International Convention. It will definitely be an exciting time in Nashville next year. This is one international you don't want to miss. Congratulations to all of our CSD representatives!!!

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## KC's Todd Anderson takes second place in PROBE's International Bulletin Contest

Once again **Todd Anderson** was recognized for having edited one of the best bulletins in the Society. Anderson, editor of Kansas City's *Harmonotes*, placed second in PROBE's annual International Bulletin Contest. Last year Anderson placed third in the contest. The announcement of all the winners was made at the annual PROBE meeting at the BHS International Convention in Denver, Colorado.

**Karen Nanninga**, editor of Manhattan's *InCider Press*, placed 17<sup>th</sup> out of 25 entries. Congratulations to both Todd and Karen!

**District and Society Calendar**

Forward all five copies of Form 3016 (Show Clearance and BMI License) along with check to Barbershop Harmony Society to Mark Fuerniss to request a show date.

**Chapter Shows**

Oct 6 - Mitchell, SD, A-018 - Corn Palace.  
Nov 3, Hastings, NE, A-061 - Masonic Center( 2 shows).  
Dec 1, St. Louis #1, A-052 – Jefferson College in Hillsboro, MO  
Dec 15, Florissant Valley, A-094, Florissant Civic Center  
April 4-5, 2008, Mason City, IA – NIACC (3 shows)  
April 12, 2008, Hays, Kansas, A-022, Beach/Schmidt Performing Arts Center

**Society Events –**

January 23-27 - International Mid- Winter Convention, San Antonio, Texas  
  
June 29-July 6, 2008 - International Convention - Nashville, TN



**Reserve these CSD Dates –**

**Oct. 19-21, 2007 - CSD Fall Convention, Kansas City, MO**  
  
**November 10, 2007 - COTS, Des Moines, Iowa**  
  
**November 17, 2007 - COTS, Lincoln, Nebraska**

**And next year . . .**

**April 18-20, 2008 – CSD Spring Convention, Site TBD**  
(Site will be announced in a future issue of the Serenade)  
  
**October 10-12, 2008 – CSD Fall Convention, Cedar Rapids, Iowa**

For more potential dates and events visit [www.centralstatesdistrict.com](http://www.centralstatesdistrict.com) and click on the “calendar” section

**EVERYONE NOTE: The next Serenade will be online approximately November , 2007.**

Society for the Preservation and Encouragement  
of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America  
Barbershop Harmony Society  
Central States District – Kansas City Chapter  
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