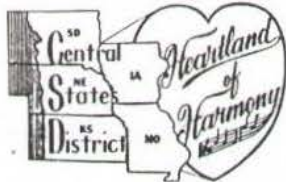


Central States District



# Serenade

Iowa • Kansas • Nebraska • Missouri • South Dakota

Volume 45, No. 2

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March/April 1998

## JURASSIC LARKS

1998 International Seniors Quartet Champion



Flanking the International Seniors Quartet Champion traveling trophy are (l to r) Vic Neilsen, tenor; Vince Yinger, lead; Barney Alleman, bass; and G.W. Lewallen, baritone.

Story on



page 4

Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

John Petterson, Editor  
 1017 Meadow Drive  
 Norwalk, IA 50211-1215  
 515-981-0057 (Home)  
 515-270-8048 (Business)  
 515-270-8056 (FAX)  
 Bltnedjpa@aol.com (E-mail)

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The *Serenade* is the official publication of the Central States District. Articles without a by-line have been written by the editor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the members and officers. Space will be made available in the *Serenade* for opposing points of view.

**ADVERTISING RATES**

The flat charge for a single insertion of an ad is \$4.00 per column inch (based on a three-column page). Full-page ad, \$114.00; half-page, \$57.00; quarter-page, \$28.50. The charge for a typical quartet card is \$12.00 per issue. Make checks payable to "Central States District." All advertising copy must be camera ready. Send all copy and payments to the editor, at the address above.

**Next Serenade  
 Deadline:  
 April 6, 1998**

**Anticipated mailing date:  
 April 22, 1998**

# Would you like to host a convention or division contest?

By Merrill Aitchison, CSD Convention Chairman

We are inviting bids for chapters to host spring and fall conventions for the years 2001 and 2002. We are also inviting bids to host the four division contests each year for 1999 and 2000. These will be great opportunities for your chapter to be publicized in your community as well as throughout the district. Be proud to publicize your community. You can also expect to earn income for your chapter from the events.

If the idea of hosting a convention or a contest appeals to you or you would like some additional information, please contact Merrill Aitchison, Central States District Convention Chairman, 1625 47<sup>th</sup> St. N.E., Cedar Rapids, IA 52402, e-mail: dmichel@fyiowa.infi.net

Talk to your local visitors and convention bureau; you will be amazed how much help they can give you.

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## 1997 Central States District Officers

- President.....Lud Einess  
 2100 SW Regency Ct., Blue Springs, MO 64015 lude1@juno.com
- Immediate Past President.....Jim Nugent  
 8 Cheviot Pl., Bella Vista, AR 72715-5404 bvjan@specent.com
- Executive Vice President.....John Marshall  
 1339 Cedar St., Iowa City, IA 52245 (319)-338-3565 jmarsha@mcleodusa.net
- Society Board Member ..... Dale Schulz  
 10608 Watters Forest Dr., Dubuque, IA 52003 (319) 582-3093
- VP Marketing Public Relations ..... Gary Drown  
 114 Huron Dr., Kearney, NE 68847 (308) 236-2083 jdrown@kearney.net
- VP Member Services ..... Norm Grosz  
 1406 So. Norton Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57105 (605) 332-0079 ferruccitoni@msn.com
- VP Events ..... Bill Hanson  
 247 Ridge Dr., Manhattan, KS 66502 (913) 776-5395 WVhanson@msn.com
- VP Chapter Support and Leadership ..... Jim Jay  
 #2 Country Lane, Florissant, MO 63033 (314) 831-2485 James.L.Jay@Boeing.com
- VP Music and Performance ..... Rick Kready  
 6501 SW 40<sup>th</sup> St., Topeka, KS 66610 (913) 478-3724 rick\_kready@wstnres.com
- VP Chorus Director Development ..... Kent Madison  
 3209 50<sup>th</sup> Ave., Lone Rock, IA 50559 (515) 925-3526
- VP Contest and Judging ..... John Stucker  
 1445 So. 22<sup>nd</sup> St., Leavenworth, KS 66048 (913) 682-1385 johnstucker@lvnworth.com
- Secretary .....Gale Demaree  
 3 Stonebridge Way, Bentonville, AR 72712 (501) 273-2827 gdema74252@aol.com
- Treasurer ..... Ron Morden  
 7059 Andrews Terr., Panora, IA 50216-8705 (515) 755-3217 Ron\_Morden@aric.com

# WE FROM CENTRAL STATES COULDN'T BE PROUDER, CAN'T HEAR A SOUND SO YELL A LITTLE LOUDER !!!!!!!!!!!

By Lud Einess, President

Talk about being proud, last October in Des Moines at our fall convention three choruses qualified to go to Atlanta to compete and one of those choruses, **AMBASSADORS OF HARMONY**, could very well win the gold medal.

Now, at the midwinter convention in Tampa our very own **JURASSIC LARKS** from the Des Moines area **WON** the seniors quartet contest. Betty and I were fortunate enough to be there and I can tell you first hand that they were great and wowed the audience. So, congratulations and a huge thank you to Vic, Vince, Barney and G.W. for representing CSD so well.

At the midwinter, the district presidents met for one day and covered a plethora of topics. Some of interest to you is a quartet entertainment package for the top five quartet finalists that is being tested in several districts and will be discussed at our board meeting in Topeka.

Also, there will be two new classes at COTS, Youth Outreach and Chapter Services and there will be a COTS faculty training session in Milwaukee this September.

The Society is again asking the chapters to send all monies collected for charitable causes to the Harmony Foundation and they will determine how the money should be divided.

It is suggested that district and chapter dues should be waived for all 50-year members.

Lastly, some real good news. The Society has reinstated Chapter and District of the Year awards. **UNFORTUNATELY, THE DEADLINE IS MARCH 10, 1998, BUT ALL CHAPTERS CAN START NOW TO WORK TOWARDS CHAPTER OF THE YEAR FOR 1999.**

Don't forget to get your registration for spring convention in Topeka, it promises to be a good one.

With a song, Lud. ✍

*"If you get off to a bad start, don't worry.  
It's the finish not the start that counts."  
—Edge Keynote*

## The Founders' Plaque is returning to Kansas City

By David Krause, CSD Historian

Kansas City will be the place for Barbershoppers to be on Saturday, April 4, 1998. The Kansas City Chapter and the Society will be rededicating the Founders' Plaque in the old lobby of the recently reopened Mehlbach Tower of the Marriott Hotel.

A special ceremony and reception will be held from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to commemorate the chance meeting of O.C. Cash and Rupert Hall in the same place, sixty years ago, which led to the founding of SPEBSQSA. The Society's president, board of directors, executive director, the Kansas City Chapter and the Society's only sixty-year

member, Orval Wilson, along with many other special guests will be participating in the event.

The old lobby is now a special reception area, and Mr. Cash and Mr. Hall would easily recognize the place. Chords still ring well there, also.

There are many other attractions to enjoy in Kansas City, including a new 18<sup>th</sup> and Vine Historic Jazz District with national Jazz and Negro Leagues Baseball Museums.

All members of the Society are invited to attend and help celebrate this very special anniversary. ✍

# Jurassic Larks take gold, get mayor's proclamation

By Vince Yinger and G.W. Lewallen

**JURASSIC LARKS** formed in July 1997 when Vince recruited Vic, G.W. and Barney to sing in a seniors quartet "on a lark." Vince was already singing baritone in another quartet that was quite active and successful in performances and contests, but he wanted to try a seniors quartet just for fun. Vic and Vince have sung in so many quartets together (this one is the fourth) that their names have become interchangeable. They are often called by the other's name, especially by those who know them well. They answer to either name, or sometimes just call each other "Vink."

Barney, Vink and Vink have all been in many competing quartets in the Central States District during the past 24 years. They have never achieved district champion, but they reached top five several times.

G.W. has been in several entertaining quartets over the years, has served as chorus director of a nearby chapter and is in frequent demand as an emcee for Barbershop and Sweet Adeline shows and contests.

The quartet wives, "Lady Larks," are all good singers in their own right, too.

The **JURASSIC LARKS** quartet is thrilled and amazed to win the 1998 International Seniors Quartet Championship, January 24, 1998, in Tampa, Florida. They enthusiastically look forward to a wonderful year of sharing joy and harmony on behalf of SPEBSQSA, Inc., the Central States District and the Des Moines Chapter.

## A Proclamation from the Mayor of Des Moines

Whereas, When a local barbershop quartet of senior citizens, known as the **JURASSIC LARKS**, got together six months ago, no one would have guessed their musical talents would bring them the great distinction of winning the 1998 International Seniors Barbershop Quartet Finals held January 24, 1998, in Tampa, Florida; and,

Whereas, The **JURASSIC LARKS** are members of the Des Moines Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. Their philosophy

is, if every man, woman and child would spend more time singing together, there would be less time to argue with each other; and

Whereas, The National Society is very active throughout the United States and Canada and is divided into sixteen districts. After winning the Central States District, the **JURASSIC LARKS** advanced to the International Championship in Tampa and competed against twenty-five other district barbershop quartets; and,

Whereas, Blending in close harmony, tenor Victor Neilsen, lead Vincent Yinger, baritone G.W. Lewallen and bass Barney Alleman, each with twenty-five to thirty years plus experience in barbershop singing, have proven to the world, they are the winning combination.

Now, therefore, I, Preston A. Daniels, Mayor of the City of Des Moines, do hereby proclaim Monday, February 2, 1998, as:

### **JURASSIC LARKS DAY**

and congratulate the **JURASSIC LARKS** for their recent victory and for their dedication and commitment to excellence.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Des Moines to be affixed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February, in the year of our Lord, nineteen hundred ninety-eight.

/s/ Preston A. Daniels

## **CORRECTION**

In the Jan/Feb '98 issue of the *Serenade*, an 800 phone number was listed incorrectly in the Aspen Barbershop Harmony Celebration! ad on page 23. The correct number for hotel reservations at Snowmass Village at Aspen is: 800-525-9402 (the same as listed in the article on page 16).

The "Side-by-Side-by-Side" article in the same issue was listed with an unknown author. The article is the work of Quentin Gates, Overland Park, Kan., Chapter. Sorry for the oversight—Ed.

Central States District Spring Convention  
 April 17-19, 1998, Topeka, KS  
**CONVENTION REGISTRATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter/Quartet Name \_\_\_\_\_ Voice Part \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** All competitors are required to purchase at least a full registration, must also enter the contest and make housing arrangements. Early registration discount applies if mailed by **April 3, 1998**. Single event tickets, if available, will be sold at the convention. Registrations will not be processed without full payment.

	Full registration includes all competition events	Super Registration includes all competition events & Saturday night show	<i>Please circle registration amount requested</i>			
<u>Registrant</u>			Super Registration ↓	Full Registration ↓	Early Registration Discount Until April 3, 1998 ↓	total
Additional Registrants: _____ Membership # _____			42	30	-5	_____
_____			42	30	-5	_____
_____			42	30	-5	_____
_____			42	30	-5	_____
_____			42	30	-5	_____
_____			42	30	-5	_____
_____			42	30	-5	_____
_____			42	30	-5	_____
_____			42	30	-5	_____

**GRAND TOTAL \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: \_\_\_\_\_ To use credit card: VISA Mastercard (circle one) Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card # \_\_\_\_\_

CSD Convention, SPEBSQSA. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Completed forms to: CSD Ticket Chairman Bob Swenson, 300 Yuma Manhattan, KS 66502-6238	Registrations and tickets are not refundable. All Contest & Show seats are reserved.	Ticket packages <b>will not</b> be mailed unless specific arrangements are made in advance with the Ticket Chairman
--	--	---

**Please use 1 line per registrant and copy this page if necessary**

# C&J CORNER

By John Stucker, VP Contest and Judging

## *CSD Contests*

Every year, Central States District conducts four quartet qualifier (divisional) contests, one fall district quartet contest, and one spring small chorus contest. In addition to the above district contests, International prelims for quartets in the spring, International prelims for choruses in the fall, and International seniors quartet qualifier contest are also held.

Last fall, the District House of Delegates (HOD) voted to conduct one of the quartet divisional contests in conjunction with the spring prelims, so this year we will conduct the Southwest Division quartet contest along with the quartet prelims. Depending on number of entries, we may have to have two sessions, so stay tuned for further information. In the future, the spring convention site will rotate to each division area.

During the district board meeting last fall, the district president appointed a committee to study the contest structure and report back this spring with any recommendations for change. Among several changes to be considered is the inclusion of choruses in the divisional structure. Again, stay tuned for further information. The bottom line for all of this is the desire of the district board to offer opportunities to all without the travel distances requirements of the spring and fall contest.

The contest structure for 1998 is as follows:

1. Spring Quartet Prelims/Southwest Division Quartet Contest/Small Chorus Contest, April 17-19, Topeka, Kan.
2. Southeast Division Quartet Contest, May 16, Columbia, Mo.
3. Northwest Division Quartet Contest, May 30, Sioux City, Iowa
4. Northeast Division Quartet Contest, June 20, Ft. Dodge, Iowa
5. Fall Convention/International Chorus Prelims/Senior Quartet Qualifier Contest, October 9-11, Omaha, Neb.

# AHSOW – Alive and well in CSD

By Keith Harris, Central States District Chief Certifier, AHSOW

Last year was another “very good year” for woodshedding in Central States District and the Ancient Harmonious Society of Woodshedders (AHSOW).

Here is a listing of new members by state:

**Arkansas:** 8 AHSOW members (one chapter, Greater Ozarks): Gene Gnuse and Dick Holt.

**Iowa:** 19 AHSOW members: Wes Brown, Tom Keenan, Steve Parnell (reinstated).

**Kansas:** 26 AHSOW members: No new members.


**Missouri:** 31 AHSOW members: Carl Daniel, Glenn Kiepe, Win Latham, Wayne Schwitzer, Allen Theiler, Lee Tubs, Dick Wadell, H. C. Hall (deceased).

**Nebraska:** 15 AHSOW members: Donald Goodrich, Robert McPherson, Bill Leslie.

**South Dakota:** 2 AHSOW members: No new members

We now have 101 AHSOW members in Central States District. This is an increase of 55 since 1993 when we began the “Lifeblood” experiment.

Tom Millot Sr. is back in CSD from Mid-Atlantic District where he was District Chief Certifier. You will enjoy singing with him at Topeka.

See you in Topeka. 

*Discover the Joy of Singing Barbershop  
Without Written Arrangements*

## AHSOW

Ancient Harmonious Society Of Woodshedders



# Approximate travel time and miles to Topeka's barbershop convention

April 17 thru April 19, 1998

By Rick Kready

## CHAPTER TRAVEL TO TOPEKA

<u>CITY</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>MILES</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Aberdeen	S.D.	544	07:59
Algona	Iowa	349	05:21
Ames	Iowa	285	04:06
Atlantic	Iowa	202	03:05
Beatrice	Neb.	137	02:05
Cedar Rapids	Iowa	379	05:27
Chanute	Kan.	108	01:42
Davenport	Iowa	422	06:02
Des Moines	Iowa	257	03:40
Dubuque	Iowa	448	06:31
Elkader	Iowa	439	06:26
Emporia	Kan.	59	00:51
Florissant	Mo.	300	04:17
Fort Dodge	Iowa	304	04:39
Fremont	Neb.	198	03:02
Grand Island	Neb.	268	04:02
Hastings	Neb.	250	03:50
Hays	Kan.	204	02:55
Huron	S.D.	466	06:51
Hutchinson	Kan.	171	02:34
Iowa City	Iowa	368	05:16
Joplin	Mo.	195	02:59
Kansas City	Mo.	65	00:55
Kearney	Neb.	299	04:28
Leavenworth	Kan.	62	00:54
Lexington	Neb.	320	04:54
Lincoln	Neb.	169	02:38
Manhattan	Kan.	53	00:48
Mason City	Iowa	377	05:24
McPherson	Kan.	148	02:06
Milbank	S.D.	464	06:57
Mitchell	S.D.	413	06:02
Nebraska City	Neb.	119	01:49
New London	Iowa	332	04:56
Newton	Kan.	134	02:00
Norton	Kan.	263	04:02
Omaha	Neb.	164	02:30
Overland Park	Kan.	64	00:55
Ottumwa	Iowa	278	04:06

Papillion	Neb.	160	02:29
Pierre	S.D.	564	08:14
Salina	Kan.	112	01:36
Sedalia	Mo.	144	02:08
Sheldon	Iowa	317	04:44
Sioux City	Iowa	259	03:51
Sioux Falls	S.D.	344	05:04
Springfield	Mo.	221	03:19
St Charles	Mo.	291	04:10
St Joseph	Mo.	85	01:18
St Louis #1	Mo.	312	04:28
St Louis Suburban	Mo.	299	04:17
Union	Mo.	282	04:15
Viborg	S.D.	331	04:53
Waterloo-Blackhawk	Iowa	365	05:20
Watertown	S.D.	443	06:29
Wichita	Kan.	139	02:00

## The world comes to Topeka!

Well, at least CSD does!

By Roy Sullivan, Convention Chairman

The finishing touches are being put on what promises to be the BIGGEST and BEST Spring Convention and Quartet Prelims in the proud 60-year history of the Central States District. We have been working hard to deliver on our promise to host the most "Joe Barbershopper"-oriented convention ever, and we're ready!

You may be asking yourself, "Why should I go to Topeka April 17-19? I'm not in a competing quartet, or even a competing small chorus!" Well, there are MANY answers to that question, starting with the EXTRA VAGANZA on Saturday night that is included in the "Super Registration" package of \$42 (\$37 if you register before April 3rd!).

Besides the usual performances by the qualifying quartet(s) and the Small Chorus winner and the Southwest Division Quartet winner and the College Quartet winner, we have some EXTRA SPECIAL performances lined up by our International Qualifying Choruses HEART OF AMERICA from Kansas City and AMERICAN BARBERBOYS from St. Joe! But hang on to your everlasting, heart-ringin' chords, 'cuz we also have the current Sweet Adeline Queens of Harmony CLASSIC EDITION, from Topeka and Lawrence,

Kan!! This evening alone should be enough reason for you to attend, but WAIT...there's MORE!

As we in the CSD continue to emphasize Youth Outreach, we have the outstanding Young Men in Harmony group from Olathe East High School, **MEN IN TUXES**, 40 dynamic and entertaining students singing our barbershop style that will be on the Saturday afternoon program with the College Quartet contest. Did we mention that any student, except competitors, including college with ID, can buy ANY registration package or the Saturday night Finals and Extravaganza ticket AT HALF PRICE? What a deal!

What's that? You're worried about having to walk the three short blocks from the headquarters, newly remodeled, ultra-inexpensive, New Orleans' French Quarter atrium-featuring Ramada Inn to the world class Topeka Performing Arts Center for the competition events? Well, not to worry! We have FREE "olde time" Topeka trolleys to transport you in heated/air conditioned comfort to and from the Ramada!

So come to Topeka and help CSD celebrate 60 years of barbershopping, and the **CAPITAL CITY CHORUS** and Topeka Chapter, your hosts, celebrate our 50th anniversary! Oh yes...the Society's Director of Music Services, and Topeka's own, Dr. Greg Lyne will be judging in the music category, and the plan is to have him lead a huge mass sing on the steps of the Topeka Performing Arts Center immediately following the Chorus competition on Saturday afternoon!

Add in all the other non-competition events we have lined up, including an all-comers professional karaoke on Friday night and Parade of Non-qualifying Quartets, and you're all set for a really GREAT weekend!



## But what are we gonna wear?

By Gary Drown, VP Marketing Public Relations

I'll not forget the time I saw four portly gentlemen take the contest stage wearing jumpsuits. We all thought it was going to be a comedy routine. It wasn't.

Image. We've been dedicating this spot to improving our image...how your audience sees you through the quality of your singing, or the style of songs you bring to them, or how much heart you put into your performance.

Now let's look at another key to the image your quartet of chorus presents. What are you wearing? Does a mild argument begin every time you ask the question...what are we gonna wear? Some guys want casual...some want spiffy. My suggestion is to lean toward the spiffy, and here's why. I saw a picture of myself on stage with the rest of my quartet. It's time to start another diet!!! Also, how about this old picture of our chorus. I didn't realize how all those tummies could roll over a cummerbund. Lordy, why did we think we could do summer singouts in those nylon golf shirts. At least the song we were singing was appropriate....roll out the barrel!

So...what do we wear? Cummerbunds, or do we invest in some nice, large, full-size vests which look sharp and cover a lot of paunch? How about those stretch golf shirts...time to donate them to the Salvation Army? If weather permits, should we wear our tux or sports jackets? Yes! Patent leather shoes...all of us? Yes! Tux shirts? Yes! Open shirt collars or ties? Ties! Turtlenecks or button down collars with ties? Collars and ties, please. Why? Because we want to sing great, perform like pros, AND LOOK SHARP!

So...if your chapter is having a mild squabble over what to wear to the next performance, let me suggest you dress the best for the occasion. Don't dress down...dress up! Need a visual example? Turn to page 22 in our recent *Harmonizer* and check out the pictures of "Chapters in Action," then decide for yourself. Which of those groups might we guess would give us the best show?



## Central States District Spring Individual Housing Form April 17 - 19, 1998

Hosted by The Topeka, Kansas, Chapter

**Please send no later than March 18, 1998;** show names of all persons occupying room.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival Date & Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Hotel:** \_\_\_\_\_ Ramada Inn - Main Building \$ 62.00 flat (1-4 persons)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Ramada Inn - Tower Building \$ 72.00 flat (1-4 persons)

**Type of Accommodations:** One Bed \_\_\_\_\_ Two Beds \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Smoking \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Smoking \_\_\_\_\_

Sharing Room with: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** To guarantee reservations, the first night's stay must be paid in advance by check or credit card. Reservations that are not guaranteed are held until 4:00 p.m. Price does not include tax. **No phone orders will be accepted. Reservations will not be accepted by the hotels.**

To guarantee room by credit card: Type of Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this housing form to: DALE SCHULZ, 10608 Watters Forest Dr., Dubuque, Iowa 52003-9667

Phone number (319) 582-3093 Fax number (319) 588-0570

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**Featuring:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Movie Greats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over The Rainbow</li> <li>• Lullabye In Ragtime</li> </ul> <p><b>Barbershop Classics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I Wonder What's Become Of Sweet Adeline</li> <li>• Last Night Was The End Of The World</li> </ul> <p><b>Big Band</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• And The Angels Sing</li> <li>• Moonlight Serenade</li> </ul> | <p><b>Rags</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That Barbershop Rag</li> <li>• Johnson Rag</li> <li>• 12<sup>th</sup> Street Rag</li> </ul> <p><b>Gospel/Contemporary Christian</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great Gettin' Up Mornin'/ Good News Medley</li> <li>• Celebrate The Child</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

**AND MORE!!!**

1994 Central States District Champions  
4 Time International Quarter-Finalists

**ORDER NOW AND BE AMONG FIRST TO RECEIVE THIS EXCITING COLLECTION OF MUSIC!!!  
CLIP AND MAIL YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TODAY!**

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_____ CD @ \$15 = _____ _____ Cassette @ \$10 = _____ Sub total _____	Name _____ Address _____ Phone # _____
Add \$2.00 shipping and handling for each Tape or CD @ \$2 ea. (all taxes included) Amount Enclosed _____	

**For Performance Information Contact: Keith Schweer, 9623 Lowell, Overland Park, KS 66212, (913) 648-0121**

## Topeka bound???

By Jim Clowers and Eddie Day

If you haven't made plans to be in Topeka April 17-19, 1998, you better get movin'. Fill out your registration forms and mail them in. Then get the mileage and driving time off the chart that is included in this *Serenade*, and get ready for some great barbershopping!!!

The convention headquarters will be at the Ramada Inn, downtown, just off I-70. You can see it from the interstate, so you really CAN'T miss it. As well as being comfortable (it has Gold Key status), it is also unique. It has a covered atrium/courtyard, which will handle about 1,200 people.

The courtyard is decorated with fronts of different colors and wrought iron to remind you of the French Quarter in New Orleans. Talk about sound!!! We had a quartet sing in the courtyard, and the music was ringing all over. Think what it will sound like with several quartets or choruses. We plan to have some of our non-competition events there—namely the Tag and B-flat. There will also be karaoke Friday night, and a parade of quartets at the karaoke.

For those of you who are coming to compete, the contest performances will be held in the Topeka Performing Arts Center, one of the premier places in which to perform in this part of the United States. We have our annual show there, and it is a real pleasure. For those of you who are coming to watch and listen, there is not a bad seat in the house. It's a new, modern facility with comfortable seats and none of the blind spots some of the older theaters seem to be plagued with. For those of you who are into walking, it is only three blocks from the Ramada. For those of you who aren't, there will be shuttle trolley buses making regular trips.

In addition to the competition, and a host of non-competition events, there is another neat Barbershopper thing you might want to try. You will not know what sound is until you sing in the middle of the Capitol Building where it goes clear up to the dome. Slip over there and try it. The folks over there like good music!!! Suffice it to say that the

die-hard Barbershopper can be involved all day into the wee hours of the morning doing what we all love to do – listening to good music and/or singing good music.

What's that you say? You may be bringing someone along who is NOT a die-hard Barbershopper? Someone who may need to come up for some air that isn't ringing with chords once in a while? Well, Topeka does have a little something for everyone, and it's all easy to get to.

If you are into museums, there is the Kansas History Center, which has an impressive railroad display, and the Combat Air Museum. If you are a racing enthusiast, you might want to drive out and look at Heartland Park. We have already mentioned the Capitol Building. Gage Park features the nationally known Topeka Zoo.

However, if shopping is the therapy that is necessary, there is plenty of it. The Wanamaker corridor has practically every known national store and restaurant, and a large mall with multiple theaters. There are also numerous strip malls scattered throughout the city. All in all, if you, or someone close to you, need some variety with your barbershopping, there is plenty of it here.

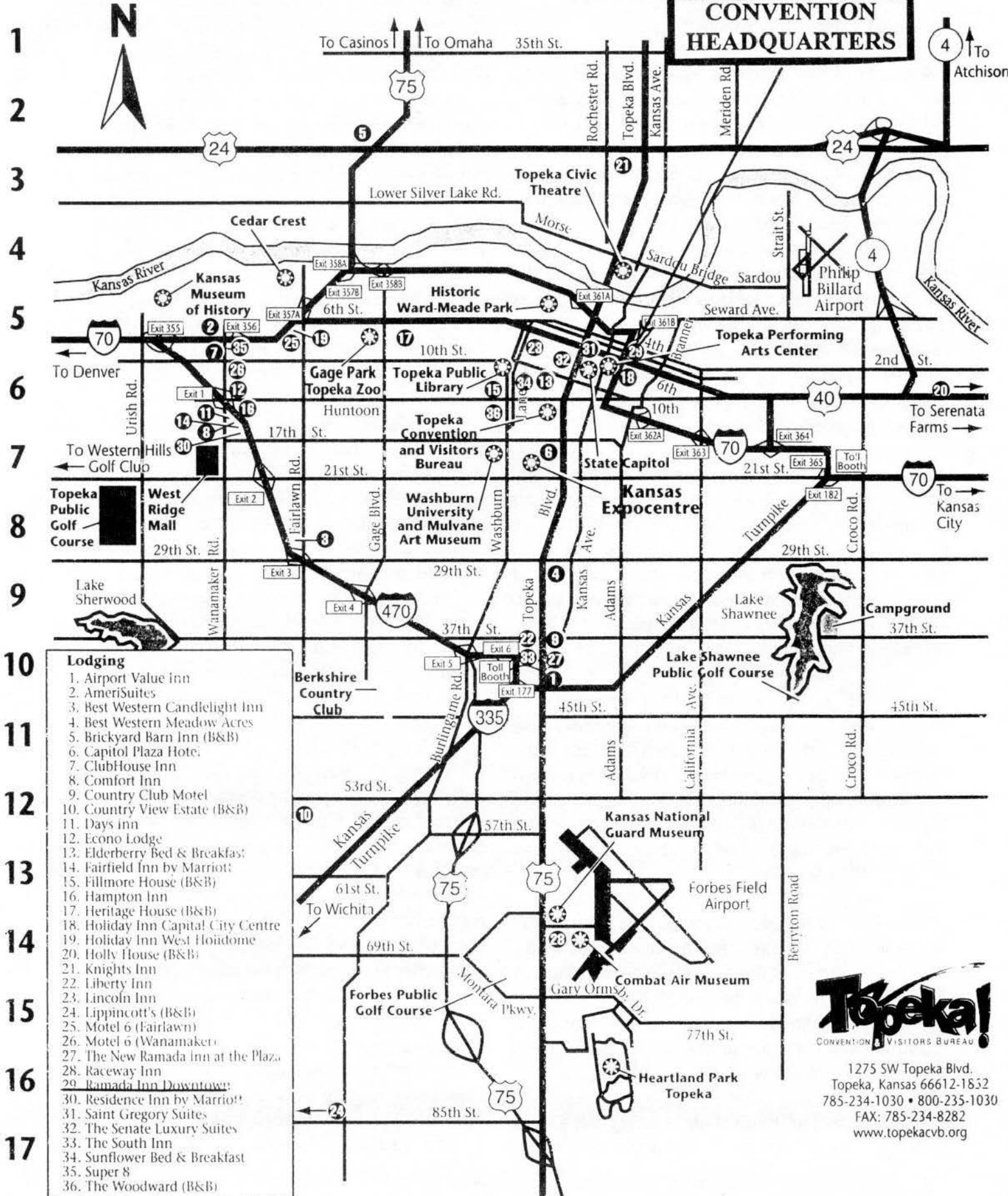
See you in April!!!!

✍

CONTACT: Dr. Herschel Stroud, 3640 Drury Ln., Topeka, Ks. 66604, 913/272-0620

JOIN THE "BIG QUARTET" EXPERIENCE AT  
DISTRICT CONVENTIONS. SEE YOUR CHAPTER  
QUARTET PROMOTION CHAIRMAN  
AND BECOME A  
**Barberpole Cat**

# TOPEKA VISITOR MAP



**CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS**

- Lodging**
1. Airport Value Inn
  2. AmeriSuites
  3. Best Western Candlelight Inn
  4. Best Western Meadow Acres
  5. Brickyard Barn Inn (B&B)
  6. Capitol Plaza Hotel
  7. ClubHouse Inn
  8. Comfort Inn
  9. Country Club Motel
  10. Country View Estate (B&B)
  11. Days Inn
  12. Econo Lodge
  13. Elderberry Bed & Breakfast
  14. Fairfield Inn by Marriott
  15. Fillmore House (B&B)
  16. Hampton Inn
  17. Heritage House (B&B)
  18. Holiday Inn Capital City Centre
  19. Holiday Inn West Holidome
  20. Holly House (B&B)
  21. Knights Inn
  22. Liberty Inn
  23. Lincoln Inn
  24. Lippincott's (B&B)
  25. Motel 6 (Fairlawn)
  26. Motel 6 (Wanamaker)
  27. The New Ramada Inn at the Plaza
  28. Raceway Inn
  29. Ramada Inn Downtown
  30. Residence Inn by Marriott
  31. Saint Gregory Suites
  32. The Senate Luxury Suites
  33. The South Inn
  34. Sunflower Bed & Breakfast
  35. Super 8
  36. The Woodward (B&B)



1275 SW Topeka Blvd.  
 Topeka, Kansas 66612-1852  
 785-234-1030 • 800-235-1030  
 FAX: 785-234-8282  
 www.topekacvb.org

## BULLETIN BROWSING

By Wade Dexter, Editor Emeritus

We note in the *Ambassadors Journal*, edited by Ron Grooters, that the **AMBASSADORS OF HARMONY** of St. Charles are planning a trip to Europe in 1999. Immediate Past President Bill McLaurine is coordinating the effort. Won't it be something if they are able to wear their shiny, new International gold medals during the trip?

Paul Schulte has three articles in Ron's bulletin. First, he explains (and your [BB] editor is possibly the last to know) that EIB, referring to our current district quartet champ, stands for **EXCELLENCE IN BARBERSHOPPING**, and aptly so.

Paul also announces that **AOH** is on the Internet. Their first class home page, designed by Win Latham, may be found at [www.aoh.org](http://www.aoh.org).

\* \* \*

From Walter Schmidt's *Vocalizer*, we learn that the St. Louis No. 1 Chapter will celebrate 60 years of barbershop singing on October 28, 1998. We seem to remember reading somewhere (we can't check it out because a lot of our reference material remains packed following our recent move) that St. Louis No. 1 is the third oldest chapter in the Society behind Tulsa and Kansas City.

\* \* \*

According to an item in *High Notes*, edited by Virgil Quint, the Hays Chapter will contract with International finalist **BANK STREET** for their feature performer on the Hays' 1999 annual show for a total tab, including fee and expenses, of \$2,600. That's quite a bargain when you consider that most top-flight quartets charge nearly that much for their fee alone.

\* \* \*

Steve Farr, newly elected music vice president of the Sioux City Chapter, has a nice article in the December edition of the *Siouxland Saga*, edited by Jack Lederer, in which he relates how learning to breathe using the diaphragm and practicing the technique while yelling at ball games made him a better singer! Might work for you, too.

\* \* \*

We see that Paul Krull is still putting out a heck of a fine newsletter as editor of the *Pitch* for the

Mason City Chapter. His December issue includes a nice article by veteran Barbershopper Phil Hunget who traces the history of the **ASTRO-NAUGHTS**, the 1964 CSD quartet champion. Besides Phil, who sang tenor, the members were Gene Gallogly (lead), LaVern "Roby" Robeoltman (baritone), and the late Ron Phillips on bass.

Phil tells how the quartet competed in the 1964 spring prelims at Davenport and qualified to represent the district in the International contest in San Antonio the following summer. Much to their surprise, they made the cut to the semifinals and wound up in 15<sup>th</sup> place. They went on to win the district trophy the following fall in Omaha and become one of the most popular show quartets in our district over a five-year period.

\* \* \*

The **HEART OF AMERICA** Chorus of Kansas City produced a highly successful "Holiday Harmony Spectacular" on December 6 in collaboration with the Kansas City Sweet Adelines. The show was held in the RLDS Auditorium in Independence. According to Co-chairman Mike Neff, the two groups will split proceeds (less expenses) amounting to around \$45,000 from the sale of tickets, ornaments, the afterglow, and a between-show meal. Writing in *Harmonotes*, the Kansas City bulletin, edited by Dale Neuman and Todd Anderson, the event was so successful that a repeat performance has been scheduled for December 5, 1998.

\* \* \*

Speaking of special holiday shows, word comes via *Harmony Overtones*, the Des Moines Chapter bulletin, edited by John Petterson, of a "Men's Metro Holiday Chorus," made up of a hundred Barbershoppers and young men and women who performed at the Hoyt Sherman Place Auditorium on December 13. Proceeds will go to the auditorium renovation fund. John says the special chorus rehearsed on five Monday evenings prior to the show. Some of the men continue to attend chapter meetings and are contemplating becoming members.

\* \* \*

Writing in the *Suburban By-Lines*, edited by John Conrad, Leroy Kumbier describes what has apparently become an annual jaunt by 15 members of the St. Louis Suburban Chapter to the Illinois District's fall convention in Peoria. Leroy says it's

always a real fun event, due largely to the dedicated efforts of member Larry Knebel, who organizes the trip by getting guys to go, figuring out who's going to drive and who rides with whom, making reservations far in advance for connecting rooms at the headquarters hotel, plus dinner arrangements at the best restaurants, and local transportation. Sounds like a fun possibility for other groups who might sometime want to take in the LOL, RMD, or SWD conventions.

\* \* \*

The Denison Chapter is reviving the "Barbershop Bucks" program to provide an incentive for chapter members to apply themselves more diligently to such beneficial chapter activities as learning their music at home, being on time for rehearsals, qualifying for contest, quartet participation, and bring potential new members to meetings as guests. Members may accumulate "Barbershop Bucks" to be used at the annual picnic next summer to purchase items that will be provided for sale. We found this item in *Locomotion*, the Denison Chapter bulletin, edited by Dennis Cook.

\* \* \*

Writing in *The Ozark*, the Springfield Chapter bulletin, edited by Earl Schnaath, former SHO-ME STATESMEN Music Director Len Bjella, referring to an article in the June *Smithsonian* about the life, training, and career of opera soprano Renee Fleming, makes an interesting comparison of opera singers to Barbershoppers: "To be sure, opera is a row to hoe in tougher terms of a career, but in both opera and barbershop performance, we sing without holding music, move around on a stage, and try to be emotional in the way we look and sound. It takes guts to show feeling, to try to touch people. Here's to us pros and amateurs alike!"

\* \* \*

Former CSD President and IBM Fred Teller, who sings with a quartet of oldsters called FOUR DADS, has this to say, "With a senior quartet, it's sort of like being around small children—you never know what's going to come out of their mouths (hopefully, not lunch)." We found it in *The Plains Notes*, Lonnie Miner, editor.

\* \* \*

Editor Roy Warman explains that budget restrictions have forced the Ames Chapter to publish a bulletin about four times a year, to be widely dis-

tributed, with fliers being sent out locally at other times during the year. We hope the *Serenade* continues to be included on the "widely distributed" roster.



## NEWS FLASH

By Randy Weir

After years, months, days, hours, minutes and seconds of pleading, begging and bribing,  
(Payola)

### SOUND LEGACY

finally found a studio to allow us to enter and do damage to their equipment.

Yes! We are actually producing and preparing for the release of our first recording. Look for "FROM THE EDGE" to be available in the near future.

(This is a pre-anthology recording.)

For more information:

SOUND LEGACY

7480 21st Avenue

Blairstown, IA 52209

319-454-9009

musicmn1@netins.net

## Service projects in review

By Leonard Purvis, Service Chairman

1998 is well underway and I hope you all are keeping our service projects in mind. There has been a major change in how these activities are handled. Harmony Foundation is now the supervising organization for all service projects.

There are three main areas of emphasis:

- 1) **Heartspring:** The original service project of the Society. We are committed to a sizeable monthly contribution to this fine school in Wichita for scholarships and have not recently managed to meet our commitment, consistently. More is needed!
- 2) **SingAmerica and SingCanada:** This is a new and different area of concern that is just being developed into a great opportunity for the Society and educational institutions to work together to keep our youth involved in the arts. Since this is a new program we need to continue the giving we've managed the last few years, but—More is needed!
- 3) **Heritage Hall Museum:** The archiving and displaying of the mementos, benchmarks, documents, recordings, files and photos of our Society. The headquarters building in Kenosha is a registered historic landmark, and a perfect place for our museum. Until recently, free-will offering of visitors was funding this project. More is needed!

In addition, there is a Harmony Foundation General Fund that deserves our support. Obviously, it behooves our local chapters to be involved in a charitable way in the home community. We are very excited about these opportunities as well, and need to be keeping appropriate records of these activities. More is needed!

CSD finished 1997 with some impressive totals on record. This was a little misleading, however. Due to some timing and clerical errors, a large portion of our 1996 giving was not credited until 1997. Please accept our most sincere apologies in that regard. This does give us a great goal for 1998, if we can just match the recorded giving for 1997 of \$76,430.61. Let's go for, at least, one dollar more in 1998.

Each chapter received a letter several weeks ago requesting some information regarding your local service chairman and the status of your plaque for recognition of your annual contributions. Only a few chapters have responded. This information would be very helpful as we work toward the finalizing of the Harmony Foundation record keeping and recognition procedures for the future.

**Chapter presidents,** if you have not seen the letter, the information needed is the name and address, etc. of your chapter's service chairman (if not already listed in the 1998 directory) and which type plaque (if any) your group currently maintains to identify your chapter's level of giving in previous years. I am very anxious to hear from local service chairmen anytime that you are involved in a local charity project so we can begin to develop ideas and records for such activities.

I hope many of you will be able to attend the International Convention in Atlanta this summer. As we do each year, a raffle will be held at that time to help support our service projects. Each district provides a prize for that raffle. I need your suggestions and ideas soon in this regard. We would like something that might, in some way, represent the Central States area and have a value of \$200.00 or more.

Let's keep our service project in mind throughout the year and start early collecting and sending in funds as we work toward our goal of \$76,431. ✍

## Possible barbershop money-raiser

Submitted by Rick Kready

VP Music & Performance

(Harmonet clipping - Subj: Singing Christmas Cards)

Members of Harmony Hills Chorus, Sweet Adelines International, will be delivering singing Christmas cards in the Birmingham, Tuscaloosa, and Anniston, Alabama, metro areas from December 5 through December 19.

For a donation of \$30 you can surprise a special someone with a card, two Christmas songs, plus a special holiday greeting. To make reservations to deliver your gift of song or for more information, contact [SABARI@aol.com](mailto:SABARI@aol.com) ✍

# 15<sup>th</sup> Annual South Dakota Barbershop Festival

By Norm Grosz

What a beautiful weekend we had for the South Dakota Festival in Pierre on February 6 and 7. Registration was 110 and the temperature was 50.

Seven quartets took advantage of coaching sessions on Friday night, and what coaching we had! 1996 Central States District Quartet Champion **NEBRASKA COMPROMISE** from Fremont, Neb., was the clinician quartet, along with the **NEW ARRIVALS** quartet from Sioux Falls, S.D. They sure primed up the men for the Saturday events.

On Saturday, we started at 10:00 a.m. with a general session, tag singing and chorus coaching. We had Pete Benson from Land-O-Lakes District. Pete lives in Wahpeton, N.D.

Pete Benson, **NEBRASKA COMPROMISE** and **NEW ARRIVALS** coached nine choruses. Pete also directed the men in rehearsal for the massed chorus, twice in the afternoon.

Saturday evening we had our show featuring the choruses and quartets singing two songs each, along with an appearance of **NEBRASKA COMPROMISE**.

Each year, a fellow Barbershopper is chosen as the Barbershopper of the Year. This year's recipient has been a Barbershopper for 39 years, or since he was a junior in high school. He has been in two chapter and three quartets. He helped organize the Mitchell Chapter, and his name is Richard Goldammer of Mitchell, S.D.

Under the direction of Pete Benson, the massed chorus sang "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles" and "Irish Blessing." What a treat for these men to sing in a hundred-man chorus – what a sound!

Next year, the South Dakota Barbershop Festival will be held in Aberdeen on February 5 and 6. ✍



# Convention schedule

By Rick Kready

## FRIDAY, APRIL 17

8:00 a.m. - noon	CSD Board of Directors meeting
Noon - midnight	Registration desk opens
Noon - 6:00 p.m.	Hospitality/Heartspring
Noon - 6:00 p.m.	Barbershoppers Shop
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.	House of Delegates meeting
5:00 - 6:00 p.m.	Tag Singing- Atrium by the fountain
5:00 - 6:00 p.m.	B flat Gang Singing 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.	AHSOW woodshedding
7:00 - 10:00 p.m.	Quartet semi-finals TPAC
10:30 - closing	Karoke - atrium patio
	AHSOW woodshedding
	Parade of quartets at karoke
	Hospitality/Heartspring
	Barbershoppers Shop
	Quartet A&R judges suite

## SATURDAY, APRIL 18

8:00 a.m.	Registration Opens
8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Hospitality/Heartspring
8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Barbershoppers Shop
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Tag singing atrium
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	AHSOW woodshedding
12:30 - 2:00 p.m.	Small Chorus Contest TPAC
	"Men in Tuxes" Olathe Kansas
2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Out in front of Tpac for mass sing
2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	SWD Quartet Contest
	College Quartet contest
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Hospitality/Heartspring
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Barbershoppers shop
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	AHSOW Woodshedding
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Quartet Finals TPAC
9:00p.m. - 10:30 p.m.	Barbershop Extravaganza TPAC
10:30p.m. -	President's Hospitality Suite

## SUNDAY, APRIL 19th

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Barbershoppers Church Service
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Quartet A&R judges suites
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Convention wrap-up ✍

# Barbershop...What's it all about?

By Dan Warschauer, Youth Outreach Chairman

You all know that I have a strong love for barbershop and that I have said many times, and in many ways, why I think it is important to get young men involved in the hobby. We've talked about the future of barbershopping, the fun, the contribution to school choral programs, etc.

I have a new reason. Call it a "Cause," if you will. It comes from a kind of purist attitude, perhaps, but it may ultimately be one of the most meaningful reasons for bringing young men to barbershopping.

Before I proceed any further, please understand that I am editorializing here. My views are my own. They come from simply observing what is going on around me, particularly at the school where I teach.

I am concerned about a desensitization of young people. There is hardly a facet of society that does not reflect in one way or another our craving for violence. Much of the music of the last twenty years is the product of a society geared toward violence. The TV entertainment industry is wrestling with how much violence is appropriate, and who hasn't heard about the fight that broke out in a hockey game? You all have heard more than enough about the subject.

Another trend disturbs me now, that of technology in music. Technology has distinct advantages. To be able to sit down at a keyboard, play a piece of music and have it come out of a computer in printed form is indeed a big step forward. To have computers help children to recognize intervals and develop ear-training is a noble thing. However, today's students are being exposed to technological "advances" that I question.

State music associations are beginning to allow computer programs at music contests that allow soloists to play their selection without live accompanists. Instead, the computer accompanies the student with accompaniments created by studio musicians. The program has the ability to follow the student's dynamics and tempi, actually slowing down and speeding up as the student plays. At first this sounds terrific. There are many arguments for

the concept, including the fact that the student does not have to rely on the accompanist's practice schedule and the fact that the computer will not make mistakes in the accompaniment. But we are talking about a LIVE musical performance, which includes that human communication between soloist and accompanist.

Another technological advance is that of creating music so complex that only the computer can play it. Fine. It certainly leads to new and creative combinations of sounds never before possible. But again, the human element is missing.

A greater number of schools are relying more and more on electronic keyboards and less on acoustic pianos. As good as these keyboards are, as sophisticated as they have become with digital sound, reliable tuning, and touch sensitive keys, they are still not able to bring out exactly what the musician may be demanding, including those little imperfections that a live performance with acoustical instruments brings. Do I sound like a modern-day Bach, who had little use for the "modern" piano-forte? What's this got to do with barbershop?

It has EVERYTHING to do with barbershop. Because real barbershop made up of four individuals singing together, creating real natural sounds, leaves all the room for genuine human interaction and expression. For the student it can become one of the best musical vehicles, together with other forms of a cappella singing, such as madrigal, which force each participating member to listen not only for vowel matching and intonation, but for those nuances in expression that no electronic device can duplicate. Also, listening for those things early in life just HAS to create a more sensitive and compassionate human being.


Barbershop is fun. Barbershop can give you a real high. But NOW we are approaching a time when we can offer barbershop as a vehicle that can serve a much greater purpose in our schools. We can offer a music that requires students to pay very close attention to words, their meaning, and ultimately their musical interpretation. Every Barbershopper has heard the term "Mood generation." Sometimes I feel the term has lately been left to technological tricks. Barbershopping isn't about tricks. It's about real music. It's about human emotions. What better reason for introducing it to young people? ✍



## Vocal hygiene for performers

Submitted by Lud Einess, President

- ♪ Increase vocal fold lubrication. Increase fluid intake of water to 8-10 eight-ounce glasses daily.
- ♪ Identify and reduce vocal abuse and misuse. Habitual throat clearing and coughing are particularly traumatic to the vocal folds.
- ♪ Avoid irritants. Smoking and alcohol are major irritants of the vocal/respiratory tract.
- ♪ Know the effects of medication on the voice. Carefully consider the effects that any drug, including over-the-counter medication, may have on your voice or your performance.
- ♪ Warm up adequately. Although the exact effects of warm-up are unknown, most singers and actors find that appropriate warm-up prevents vocal injury and enhances performance. It is also important to complete a post-performance vocal cool-down to relax the system.
- ♪ Use vocal pacing. Pace yourself with regard to frequency, intensity and duration of rehearsal.
- ♪ Use appropriate respiratory support for the voice, both on and off stage. Many voice problems occur in performers as a result of poor respiratory and vocal habits offstage.
- ♪ Develop easy onset on phonation. A sudden slamming together of the vocal folds an arytenoid cartilage (glottal attack) injures the voice.
- ♪ Avoid working at the extremes of pitch and loudness range. Singers should perform songs that are within their range.
- ♪ Maintain relaxation throughout the body. Most performers reduce stress through the active, rather than passive, relaxation.
- ♪ Maintain jaw relaxation. Teeth should never be clenched, as this can lead to increased tension in the extrinsic/intrinsic laryngeal muscles and temporomandibular joint pain or dysfunction.
- ♪ Maintain postural alignment. Vocal function is dependent on the alignment of the body so that the system can function efficiently.
- ♪ Avoid illness. Good health includes a proper diet, a good exercise/conditioning program,

getting enough sleep and avoiding drugs, excessive alcohol and smoking. 

## Once is nice Twice is better


By Paul King, Springfield Music Company

Building on their long-standing reputation as an entertaining comedy show quartet in the Central States District, and their status as 1996 Comedy Quartet Champion in the Southwester District, the **SPRINGFIELD MUSIC COMPANY** was again featured on Tony Orlando's "Salute to Veterans" show, held in Branson, Mo., on Nov. 11, 1997. It was the quartet's second successive appearance as featured entertainment on Orlando's annual Veterans' Day show. The show culminates a week of "Veterans' Homecoming" festivities held in the nationally renowned entertainment city.

Among a host of national and Branson-based professional talent, the **SPRINGFIELD MUSIC COMPANY** (consisting of Warren Carlson, tenor; Clyde Stant, lead; Ron Wallace, baritone; and Paul King, bass) again more than held its own on behalf of the Society. Tony Orlando perhaps best summed up the quartets performance this year when he commented to quartet members, "I'm amazed at how you guys can come out on stage and grab an audience."

The **SPRINGFIELD MUSIC COMPANY** was also selected from among the other acts that appeared on Orlando's show to make an unscheduled special second appearance as the opening act at the "Veterans' Homecoming" Closing Ceremonies, held at Branson's Grand Palace Theatre later that same evening.

For more information, contact:

Paul W. King  
Springfield Music Company Barbershop Quartet  
917 E. Maplewood St.  
Springfield, MO 65807-5365  
Phone: 417-862-6100 or 417-883-1043  
Fax: 417-862-3200 

# Tapes available for chapter use

By Norm Grosz, VP Member Services

There are several tapes available for chapters to use that may be used for member information, new member orientation and youth outreach, just to name a few.

If you would like to use any of these tapes, let me know and I will send it to your chapter. I ask that you return the tapes in two weeks so someone else may use them.

1. Lou Perry – On Barbershop Singing
2. Frank and Fred
3. The Family in Harmony is Forever
4. SPEBSQSA – 8 Points of Fun
5. Institute of Logopedics (Heartspring), 1991 – ACOUSTIX
6. Harmony Explosion
7. This Could Be the Start of Something Big
8. You're As Welcome As the Flowers in May
9. What Are We Trying to Preserve? – Dave Stevens

Order from:

Norman C. Grosz  
1406 So. Norton Ave.  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105  
605-332-0079

✍

## The art of self renewal

By Jim Wheeler, VP CSLT (Rocky Mountain District, *New Harmony Horizons*, M. Lou Schuman, Editor)

Years ago I read a book by John Gardner entitled "Self Renewal." His thesis in the book was that every system, every organization, every creation is subject to the forces of "entropy." If you look up this \$25 word (used to be \$5, but inflation has taken its toll), you may be dazzled by the complexity of the definition. However, in simple, non-scientific terms, entropy means that any system put into motion immediately begins to slow down and return to its previous static state of being.

A common example of the forces of entropy is the man-made satellites that circle the Earth. We all know every one of these satellites will eventually slow down, lose their orbit, and pummel back toward earth only to be burned up in the atmosphere. Gardner maintains that organizations, like satellites, begin to decay the moment they are launched. However, unlike satellites, organizations can persist if they are willing to recreate themselves on a regular basis. He argues that every organization must commit themselves to a self-renewal philosophy or they are doomed.

It seems to me that our Barbershop Harmony Society is in a stage of self-renewal. Evidence for this can be seen all around us. Creation of SingAmerica is an example. Creation of the Society's new organizational structure is an example. The new contest judging system is another.

The list of examples continues: emphasis on youth outreach including youth camps; new membership recruiting programs; revitalized COTS curriculums; emphasis on chorus director development; emphasis on quartet development, such as "Top Gun" schools; development of new chapters; singing valentines; new marketing and public relations techniques; use of the latest communications technology; development of the Harmony Foundation. These are a few of the new initiatives that come to my mind. You can probably think of more.

From my perspective, it is a great privilege to belong to an organization that is so dynamic. This dynamism gives me great hope for the future of barbershop harmony. I must admit that it is hard to change and I have a tendency to long for the comfort of the good old days. However, when I find myself doing this, I harken back to John Gardner's thoughts on self renewal and realize that if I start feeling really comfortable with the familiar, it is time for me to begin the painful practice of the art of self renewal.

Notice the motto of our District President, "Make something different happen." Note the motto of our International President, "Let's grow young together." I've concluded that both of these are self-renewal statements. Let us overcome our complacency and move forward in our chapters to renew ourselves. Have a great 1998 with this in mind.

*Here's to harmonious perpetuity  
and beyond!*

✍

## Barbershopping — alive and well in the Rio Grande Valley

By Warren Jones, former CSD member

It seemed for awhile that this was a well-kept secret. The **MAGIC VALLEY MEN OF A CHORD** barbershop chorus existed, but with little exposure.

When I retired in 1991, my wife and I went to the Valley for the winter months. I missed ringing chords with the Algona **CORNBELT CHORUS**, where I am a 21-year member. Finally, I saw a small ad, "Men Wanted" to sing barbershop. That was enough—I went to a rehearsal in McAllen, and the rest is history. They needed tenors, and soon I was also involved in a quartet.


Rehearsals start in early November, as soon as Winter Texans begin to arrive, and they are usually all there by January. The guys are currently from 15 states and Canada. Around the middle of January the chorus starts its schedule of appearances in various RV parks from Mission to Weslaco—usually about eight or nine shows. At present, three quartets also appear on the "singouts." Our chorus is directed by Norman L'Hommedieu, and he is assisted by co-directors Warren Jones and Wiley Miller.

After each park singout, we usually have two or three new visitors who attend the next rehearsal and soon sign on as members. We have some turnover each year, the chorus has now grown to 45 members, with a potential for 50-plus next season. Many of the fellows are current card members from other chapters or are former Barbershoppers who need to "ring a chord" again. Some are new to barbershopping, but have sung in another type of chorus.

The past two years, the McAllen Chamber of Commerce has promoted a show called Center Stage Review at its civic auditorium, and it is a sellout. Senior Ambassadors (a men's chorus with accompaniment), Fiesta Village Singers (a mixed group), and **MAGIC VALLEY MEN OF A CHORD** (barbershop) make up the first half of the show. Then the McAllen Town Band completes the afternoon program. This has been great expo-

sure for our chorus and an opportunity to "sell" barbershop singing.

The main idea is that we have a great bunch of fellows who are willing to work, love to sing, and have fun keeping our hobby alive.

Keep the Whole World Singing! 


## Everything you need to know to get your show date in the *Serenade*

By Gale Demaree, Secretary

Quite often, chapter members throughout the district will contact *Serenade* Editor John Petterson or me asking why their chapter's show date and location are not listed in the *Serenade*. Here is the answer to that question.

Official clearance for chapter show dates must be obtained by completion of Form 3016 (Application for Show Clearance and ASCAP and BMI License) and submission of appropriate fees for ASCAP and BMI license, payable to SPEBSQSA. Show dates will not be cleared officially without the completed Form 3016 and fees paid. The forms are to be submitted to Central States District Secretary Gale Demaree, 3 Stonebridge Way, Bentonville, AR 72712.

Upon receipt and completion of the Form 3016, the white copy will be returned to the chapter secretary and becomes the license for the show. At that time, the cleared date will be reported to the *Serenade* editor for publication.

When your chapter plans the date for its show, you may inquire of the district secretary if a date is acceptable before setting the date and applying for show clearance; however, the date will not be officially cleared until the Form 3016 has been submitted. If another chapter within 100 air miles has scheduled a show for the requested date and has official clearance, you will be so informed so that you may select an alternate date to avoid such conflicts. 

TENOR — DEAN KRUSE                      LEAD — KEN VOGEL



MEMBERS SPEBSQSA, INC.  
**THE VIGORTONES**  
 CONTACT: Bob Nance, 3140 Norman Dr.  
 Marion, IA 52302  
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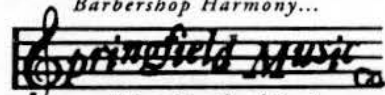
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 Marv Spellman    Fran Wilson  
 3718 Avenue C    3411 Avenue M  
 Kearney, NE 68847  
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# update

news from spebsqsa headquarters

SPEBSQSA  
6315 Third Ave.  
Kenosha, WI 53143-5199  
(414) 653-8440 • (800) 876-SING  
FAX (414) 654-4048  
Internet: update@spebsqsa.org



Update is regularly distributed to selected officer positions at all Society levels. Because many recipients hold one or more offices at various levels, duplicate receipt may occur from time to time. Three copies are sent to each chapter: president, secretary and bulletin editor. Please share with others.

February 1998

## Jurassic Larks wins seniors contest

The medalist quartets in the 1998 Seniors Quartet Contest in Tampa were:

1. Jurassic Larks ..... CSD
2. Tri-County Reclamation Project ..... ILL
3. The Alumni ..... JAD

Look for photos in the next *Harmonizer*.

## 1999 midwinter limited to 1,200 registrations

Due to seating limitations in the auditorium in Biloxi, registrations for the 1999 midwinter convention will be limited to about 1,200—attendance in Tampa was 1,323. Registration forms were available at the Tampa midwinter and will be available at the Atlanta convention in July.

Registration forms will first appear in *The Harmonizer* in the May/June issue. Get yours in early.

## Barbershop in the movies

The recently opened movie, *Good Will Hunting*, has a segment filmed at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The script called for a barbershop quartet to perform at an MIT alumni reunion.

Central casting contacted *Northeast Connection*, and offered the gig, which was naturally accepted with alacrity. Filming took place last April.

To avoid royalty fees, the foursome, Matt Mercier, tenor; Ralph St. George, lead; Dan Washington, bari and Bob Lynds, bass, were searching for a public domain song. Joe Liles gave them permission to use his "If I Had The Last Dream Left In The World."

About 28 seconds of the song may be heard on the sound track, and the quartet got about eight seconds of screen time, but both appear in the closing credits. Good show!

## Society Board midwinter meeting notables

At the Society Board's midwinter meeting in Tampa in January, outgoing president Tim Hanrahan cited two significant high points of his two-year term of office: In 1996, Society membership grew for the first time in a number of years. The Society's governance restructuring was also accomplished during 1996 and 1997, and positive results are beginning to settle in.

Ed Waesche was officially inducted as Society president for 1998. In remarks at the beginning of the meeting, he posed the following question to the Board members and gallery: "What can we do to make a difference in the lives of our members?"

The Board set the qualifying score for quartets to compete at the international contest in Atlanta at 1,824 points for a double judging panel or 2,736 for a triple panel. As before, each district will be guaranteed one representative, regardless of score.

A published directory of coaches available to assist choruses and quartets with their performances is being compiled by the Music and Performance Committee. This directory, to be available by late spring, will list coaches by district.

The minimum age for an individual participating in the MBNA America College Quartet Contest will remain at 17, as was passed by the Board last year.

The Board approved Society designer checks to be sold through Harmony Marketplace, and a life and health insurance service to be offered through MBNA America. Watch for details on these products in future *Harmonizer* and *Update* issues.

## Society to sponsor three HX camps for 1998

In addition to the efforts of the Far Western District and the Buckeye-Columbus Chapter, the Society will sponsor three HARMONY EXPLOSION Camps for 1998. These four-day educational events are designed for teachers and students and culminate in a Saturday evening concert.

The first HX Camp was successfully launched at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, in 1996. In 1997, two camps were held, one at Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina, and the other in Muncie, reaching more than 150 students and 30 teachers. This year, a third camp will be added, to be held in conjunction with the SWD Harmony Ranch at the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas.

Posters will be sent to more than 3,000 high school choral directors in 10 states announcing the events. For more information about how your chapter can contribute to this great program, contact Bill Rashleigh, Youth Outreach Coordinator, at the Society headquarters office.

## Harmony College scholarships available

The Whittier Chapter of the Far Western District is accepting application letters for deserving Barbershoppers, selected by their respective boards of directors, to attend Harmony College in the name of Earl Moon. A limited number of paid tuitions will be available in 1998 through the Earl Moon Memorial Endowment Fund. For further information, contact:

Malcolm Lincoln  
Secretary, Whittier Chapter  
12112 Rose Drive  
Whittier CA, 90601  
Telephone (562) 695-5675

HARMONY COLLEGE  
DIRECTORS COLLEGE

August 2-9, 1998  
Missouri Western  
State College  
St. Joseph, Mo.  
Contact Lani Dieter at  
(800) 876-SING  
or HCDC@spebsqsa.org

## Convention countdown

End of January registration total:  
Atlanta ..... 7,478



## Charitable goals and award changes

Harmony Foundation, which now oversees all fund raising and granting for the Society's service projects, officially announced a goal of \$600,000 for 1998. Within that overall goal we hope to raise minimum amounts of: \$150,000 for SingAmerica (SingCanada); \$350,000 for Heartspring, \$25,000 for the Heritage Hall Museum and \$75,000 for other projects. The Foundation Trustees encourage chapters, quartets and individuals to make their donations to the Harmony Foundation General Fund so that all of the goals can be accomplished.

The Harmony Foundation award structure for chapters was also revamped. A bronze award certificate will be given to each chapter that contributes a minimum of \$25 per man, a silver award certificate for donations of \$50 per man and a gold award certificate for donations of \$100 per man. These totals are for chapter contributions to the General Fund or any of the specific projects mentioned in the first paragraph. Documented chapter donations to other charities will also count toward the award. An additional award for chapters in six plateaus will be introduced, as well.

Full details on the new award program will soon be available through your district service chairmen. Details will also be sent to chapter service chairmen. If you have not identified your chapter chairman to the Society office, it's not too late to do so.

## Grant money is available through local arts councils

The Kalamazoo, Mich., Chapter recently discovered what several other chapters are learning: there is grant money available through local cultural affairs or fine arts councils to fund barbershop activities. The **Mall City Barbershop Chorus** was awarded a \$2,000 grant by the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs to fund its Popgun Coaching Clinic (Harmony Roundup).

The grant was submitted through the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo Inc., to which the Kalamazoo Chapter belongs. Chapter member Raleigh Bloch attended a grant-writing class sponsored by the arts council, and was able to turn right around and have the course instructor review the grant application before it was submitted. That's doing it right.

## You've gotta have heart

Final figures weren't tallied as of the *Update* deadline, but chapter Singing Valentine registrations with the headquarters office have already passed the 350 mark, well above the 1997 total of 285.

The Society's new Singing Valentine Manual was released just in time for this year's Cupid Follies. Any chapter that has not yet had a Singing Valentines program should consider ordering the manual from the Harmony Marketplace, stock no. 4058 at \$10, in preparation for next year.

More and more chapters have discovered the value of Singing Valentines, both as a public relations vehicle within their communities and as a highly profitable fundraising venture. Prices ranged from a low of \$25 to a high of \$150. Most Singing Valentines are delivered Feb. 13 and 14, but some chapters have started as early as the 12th and gone as late as the 16th.

Success stories, program management tips and photos should be sent to *The Harmonizer* so they may be shared with other chapters in a Singing Valentines feature story planned for the November/December issue.

## SPEBSQSA Endowment Fund report

Harmony Foundation oversees many funds to serve the charitable mission of our Society. Perhaps the one most critical to the Society's future is the SPEBSQSA Endowment Fund. An endowment is a fund in which the principal, or corpus, can never be used, only the earnings from the fund may be used. These earnings can provide grants or services for any of our Society needs. Therefore, the larger the endowment, the more grants and services we can provide.

The Society's Endowment Fund currently has more than \$280,000 in assets. In addition, there are nearly \$4,000,000 (that's four million dollars) in pledges to the endowment. Most of the pledges are in the form of end-of-lifetime gifts from dedicated barbershoppers.

The O.C. Cash Founder's Club was established for persons who donate or pledge at least \$1,000 to the Society's Endowment Fund. There are more than 200 Founder's Club members today. We hope to raise that number to 2,000 by the year 2000.

For information on how you can become a Founder's Club member and help insure the future of SPEBSQSA, call Larry Gilhausen at (800) 876-SING ext. 8448.

## Arrangements catalogs now available

Two copies of the *Barbershop Arrangements* catalog for 1998 (stock no. 2079) have been mailed to each chapter. Additional copies of this compendium of sheet music arrangements published by the Society may be ordered by individual members free of charge.

Another catalog of legal, but *unpublished*, arrangements is now available for \$5, also through the Harmony Marketplace (stock no. 4352).

## Barbershop symphonic scores available

Seven scores for symphony orchestra and barbershop chorus are available to choruses and quartets. Performances of these works have proven very popular with symphony audiences, especially in "pops" concerts.

They cover a range of difficulty of performance, and chapters are advised to look over the chorus parts before committing to a performance. Five of the seven scores (and accompanying orchestral parts) are available through the Old Songs Library at Harmony Hall:

- "Battle Hymn Of The Republic," using Joe Liles' recent vocal arrangement
- "Barbershop Medley"
- "The Music Man Medley"
- "Yuletide Favorites" (using the corresponding Society holiday songbook)
- "Barbershop Christmas"

Also available through outsources are a "Music Of Irving Berlin" medley and a "George M. Cohan Medley." Contact information is on file for these two. Call (800) 876-7464, ext. 8548, for any of the above.



More next time,

Dan Daily  
Publications Editor

**MEMBER SERVICES**

Dues and fees, renewals, address corrections, Charting and licensing.

**Everett Nau**

*Managing Director of Member Services*

ext. 8418 enau@spebqsa.org

**Lois Blanchard**

*Computer Operator/Data Entry Coordinator*

ext. 8416 lblanchard@spebqsa.org

**Sherrill Filip**

*Adm. Assist. - Member Services*

ext. 8474 membership@spebqsa.org

**Patrick Tucker-Kelly**

*Membership Specialist*

ext. 8459 ptucker@spebqsa.org

**MUSIC EDUCATION AND SERVICES**

Quartet registry, Music education, Media production, Learning tapes.

**Greg Lyne**

*Director of Music Education and Services*

ext. 8549 glyne@spebqsa.org

**Jim Debusman**

*Music Specialist/Quartet Dev./Teaching Guild*

ext. 8566 jdebman@spebqsa.org

**Lani Dieter**

*Adm. Assist. - Music Program Coordinator/Quartet Registrar*

ext. 8551 ldieter@spebqsa.org

**Russ Foris**

*Media Production and Services Manager*

ext. 8586 rforis@spebqsa.org

**Bill Rashleigh**

*Music Specialist Chorus Development/TMH Liaison*

ext. 8560 brashleigh@spebqsa.org

**Kirk Young**

*Music Specialist*

ext. 8541 kyoung@spebqsa.org

**OLD SONGS LIBRARY**

Songs and arrangements, copyright questions

**Tom Barr**

*Old Songs Librarian*

ext. 8545 tbarr@spebqsa.org

**Nancy Foris**

*Library/Licensing and Media Assistant*

ext. 8548 nforis@spebqsa.org

**Joe Liles**

*Editor of Music Publications*

ext. 8553 jliles@spebqsa.org

**MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS**

External media relations, press kits, market research, publications, *The Harmonizer*

**Brian Lynch**

*Public Relations Director*

ext. 8554 blynch@spebqsa.org

**Dan Dally**

*Publications Editor*

ext. 8561 ddally@spebqsa.org

**Reed Sampson**

*Public Relations Specialist*

ext. 8592 rsampson@spebqsa.org

**Ruth Blazina-Joyce**

*Museum Curator/Archivist*

ext. 8558 rblazina@spebqsa.org

**Robin Burkee**

*Adm. Assist. - Marketing and PR*

ext. 8552 rburke@spebqsa.org

**CONVENTIONS**

Convention planning, ticketing

**John Schneider, Jr.**

*Manager/Conventions and Meetings*

ext. 8444 jschneider@spebqsa.org

**Kathleen Gilliver**

*Adm. Assist. - Conventions and Meetings*

ext. 8462 kgilliver@spebqsa.org

**HARMONY MARKETPLACE**

Merchandise, catalog orders, shops

**Betty Madson**

*Merchandise Operations Manager*

ext. 8481 bmadson@spebqsa.org

**Cheryl Jankowski**

*Order and Billing Coordinator*

ext. 8457 cjankowski@spebqsa.org

**Audrey Paul**

*Order and Billing Clerk*

ext. 8455 apaul@spebqsa.org

**Nancy Jarocki**

*Mail and Merchandise Operations Assistant*

ext. 8413 njarocki@spebqsa.org

**Isabelle Olson**

*Shipper/Handler*

ext. 8413

**FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**

**Frank Santarelli**  
*Director of Finance and Administration*

ext. 8450 fsantarelli@spebqsa.org

**Nicole Clelland**

*Junior Accountant II*

ext. 8456 nclelland@spebqsa.org

**Laurie Mitch**

*Junior Accountant I*

ext. 8458 lmitch@spebqsa.org

**Bruce Rodgers**

*Operations Coordinator*

ext. 8451 broders@spebqsa.org

**Senja Underwood**

*Adm. Assist. - Finance and Administration*

ext. 8461 sunderwood@spebqsa.org

**Scott Hoge**

*Manager of Information Services*

ext. 8485 shoge@spebqsa.org

**Gerl Sorensen**

*Lead Programmer*

ext. 8474 gsorensen@spebqsa.org

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

**Darryl Filim**  
*Executive Director*

ext. 8543 dfilim@spebqsa.org

**Charlene Granger**

*Receptionist/Administrative Support*

ext. 8540 cgranger@spebqsa.org

**Melissa Rogstad**

*Relief Receptionist/Clerical Assistant*

ext. 8563 mrogstad@spebqsa.org

**Dee Yessertck**

*Assistant to the Executive Director*

ext. 8542 dyesertck@spebqsa.org

**HARMONY FOUNDATION**

Service projects and fund raising

**Gary Stamm**

*Executive Director of Harmony Foundation*

ext. 8446 gstamm@spebqsa.org

**Larry Gilhousen**

*Director of Development*

ext. 8448 lgilhousen@spebqsa.org

**Laurel Peterson**

*Adm. Assist. - Harmony Foundation*

ext. 8447 lpeterson@spebqsa.org

**PRINTING & MAILING**

**Pete McCarville**  
*Print and Production Supervisor*

ext. 8453

**Roy Spieker**  
*Print and Production Coordinator*

ext. 8453

**Abdiaz Clichocki**  
*Finishing Press Operator*

ext. 8453

**Linda Knudsen**  
*Mail Clerk*

ext. 8454

**Donna Pierce**  
*Sue Pulera*

ext. 8454

ext. 8454

CSD Serenade  
c/o SPEBSQSA, Inc.  
6315 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Kenosha, WI 53143-5199



Editor's address is on page two

## Chapter Shows Schedule

Reported by Gale Demaree, Secretary

- Mar. 8 – Kearney, Neb. – Kearney High School  
Mar. 14 – Elkader, Iowa – Volga City Opera House  
Springfield, Mo. – The Gateway Theater  
Mar. 21 – Wichita, Kan. – Century II Concert Hall  
Chanute, Kan. – Bowlus Fine Arts Center,  
Iola, Kan.  
Mar. 27, 28 – Fremont, Neb. – Fremont High School  
Mar. 28 – Greater Ozarks – Old High Middle School,  
Bentonville, Ark.  
Davenport, Iowa – Capitol  
Overland Park, Kan. – Shawnee Mission High  
School  
Hays, Kan. – Beach-Schmidt PAC, FHSU  
Ames, Iowa – City Auditorium  
Aberdeen, S.D. – Johnson Fine Arts Center NSU  
Apr. 3, 4 – Florissant Valley, Mo. – Florissant Civic  
Center Theater  
Fort Dodge, Iowa – Iowa Central Auditorium  
Apr. 3, 4, 5 – Mason City, Iowa – NIACC Auditorium  
Apr. 4 – Viborg, S.D. – Viborg High School  
Waterloo (Blackhawk), Iowa – West High School  
Milbank, S.D. – Milbank High School  
Lexington, Neb. – Middle School Auditorium  
Apr. 11 – St. Louis Suburban, Mo. – Saint Anne Community  
Center  
Apr. 25 – Ottumwa, Iowa – Ottumwa High School  
Manhattan, Kan. – McCain Auditorium  
Iowa City, Iowa – West High School  
Des Moines, Iowa – Des Moines Civic Center  
May 1, 2 – Cedar Rapids, Iowa (Harmony Hawks) – Theater  
Cedar Rapids  
May 2 – New London, Iowa  
Papillion, Neb. – Bellview East High School  
May 8 – Hutchinson, Kan. – 4H Camp  
May 30 – St. Joseph, Mo. – Central High School  
Oct. 3, 4 – Hastings, Neb. – Hastings High School  
1999  
Apr. 24 – Viborg, S.D. – Viborg High School  
Apr. 30, May 1 – Cedar Rapids, Iowa (Harmony Hawks) –  
Theater Cedar Rapids

## District and Society Events

- Apr. 17-19 – Spring district convention and Southwest Division quartet contest, Topeka, Kan.  
May 16 – Southeast Division quartet contest – Columbia, Mo.  
May 30 – Northwest Division quartet contest – Sioux City, Iowa  
June 20 – Northeast Division quartet contest – Ft. Dodge, Iowa  
June 28-July 5 – International convention, Atlanta, Ga.  
Aug. 2-9 – Harmony College/Directors College, Mo. Western State College, St. Joseph, Mo.  
Oct. 9-11 – Fall district convention, Omaha, Neb.  
Nov. 20-21 – Chapter Operations Training Seminar (COTS) – Kansas City, Mo.  
1999  
Jan. 25-31 – Midwinter convention, Biloxi, Miss.  
April 16-18 – Spring district convention, Sioux City, Iowa  
June 27-July 4 – International convention, Anaheim, Calif.  
Oct. 1-3 – Fall district convention, Cedar Rapids, Iowa  
Nov. 18-19 – Chapter Operations Training Seminar (COTS)  
– location pending