



The CENTRAL STATES Serenade



HALF A MILLION MILES OF MELODY IN MID-AMERICA

Central States District, SPEBSQSA - Colo., Iowa, Kan., Mo., Nebr., So. Dak., Wyo.

Number 3

September, 1973

Kansas City Contest Promises Worlds Of Fun!

Welcome to Kansas City, where everything is "up to date". The NOJOCO Chapter (that's NORTHEAST JOHNSON COUNTY) is excited about hosting your 1973 Contest and Convention, Oct. 5, 6 and 7th. We hope you'll find the hospitality and facilities "First Class." The Music Hall and the Hotel are only one block apart with the underground garage in between them (you won't even get wet if it happens to rain).

Leon Avakian will be Kenosha's official representative to our convention and he may even do a little MCing for us. Also our Society's International President, Charles Abernathy will be one of our judges. And even Hugh Ingram may be in town. You'll want to meet all of these fine barbershoppers.

To help you hear more of that good singing and better meet your old and new friends, we have planned a Mass Singout Saturday noon and a big After Glow Saturday night. Crown Center has invited us to use their new facilities for our Singout. It's an exciting new complex that you (and your wife) will want to see. We will sing only Barber Polecat songs there, so learn all 13 of them; everyone ought to have the new 50¢ packet by now, so bring it with you if you haven't learned them by October. Free busses will transport you there.

The one big After Glow Saturday night will better accommodate everyone (1000 seated at tables with a bar available) than Hospitality Rooms will. But if a chapter would still like to have their own Hospitality Room, just reserve it on the Hotel Reservation form. But please, no bands this year.

If you would like to visit the River Quay shopping area, there will be free double-decked busses to transport you there (a distance of about 1 mile) and return. Also, in order to encourage you to bring the

whole family, we have arranged for reduced rates at the new amusement park, "Worlds of Fun." Your passport will cost \$4.95 for children (under 12) and \$5.85 for adults, which enables you to see every feature and ride every ride as often as you wish during the open hours of 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., either Saturday or Sunday. Public transportation will be available for the distance of about 12 miles or of course you may drive your own car there.

We have tried to make everything as convenient for you as possible. Just mail the TICKET MAILORDER FORM & HOTEL RESERVATION FORM to the same guy, Ken Jackson, accompanied of course with your check. He will mail you back your tickets and name tags, so you won't have to stop at any registration desk when you get here. The hotel will mail you confirmation of your room reservations, and hold them until 6 p.m.

All the meals you may want will be on your own at your own selection from the many fine restaurants in and near

downtown Kansas City. Some suggestions are: Hotel Muehlebach, 12th & Wyandotte; Holiday Inn, 13th & Wyandotte; Crown Center, 25th & Grand; Bretten's, 1215 Baltimore; Gaetane's, 600 E. 8th; Top of the Tower, 9th & Main; Italian Gardens, 1110 Baltimore; Washinton Street Station, 9th & Washington; Gold Buffet, 503 E. 18th in North KC; Golden Ox, 1600 Geneseo; Hereford House, 20th & Main; Landmark in the Union Station; 3550 Broadway; Plaza Inn, 45th & Main; Putsch's, 210 W. 47th; Putsch's Cafeteria, 300 W. 47th; Alameda Plaza, Wornall Rd. at Ward Parkway; Plaza III, 4749 Pennsylvania. There's good eatin' at the home of the "Kansas City Steak".

To make your week-end complete, the Kansas City Chiefs football team will be playing the Denver Broncs at our new Arrowhead stadium on Sunday, Oct. 7 at 1:05 p.m. For tickets, write directly to: KC Chiefs Ticket Office, 1 Arrowhead Drive, Kansas City, Mo. 64129.

So come and enjoy Kansas City.



Hotel Muehlebach and Municipal Auditorium, site of the 1973 Central States District Contest and Convention, October 5, 6, 7th.

The CENTRAL STATES Serenade

Member of PROBE

For the Central States Association of Chapters, Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America.

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1972 In Review 1973 A Breeze

BY Gerry Mohr
St. Charles, Missouri Chapter

The year 1972 is gone forever, but for St. Charles, it will be a year to be remembered. It can be accurately said that 1972 was a year of growth and improvement for the St. Charles Chapter.

That the chapter has grown during 1972 cannot be denied. The last membership roster of 1972, published in November, showed a membership of 65. Of these 65, 30 joined in 1972. Almost half of the November member count joined in 1972. This is a good omen for the chapter in 1973 and in future years. With many of the new comers participating in contests for the first time in 1972, one cannot even begin to imagine the championship potential of the St. Charles Chapter in future contests. Indeed, the sky is the limit!

In the area of improvement, the records again speak for itself. The Daniel Boone Chorus finished third in the 1971 Area Contest and 13th in the 1971 District Contest. In 1972 this same chorus finished second in Area and 10th in District. To add some icing to the cake, the Daniel Boone Chorus finished second in the St. Joseph Chorus Elimination Contest.

The Gaslight Squires, composed entirely of St. Charles Chapter members, had a year of improvement in 1972 that was meteoric. In 1971 they finished third in the Area Contest and 16th in the District. In 1972 they finished 12th in the International Quartet Preliminaries; second in the Area Contest; and 7th in the District contest. What really raises eyebrows about the future is that this is not an old quartet.

The Men of A Chord, half of whose members are St. Charles Barbershoppers, did not have quite as meteoric a year of improvement as did the Gaslight Squires. Nevertheless, at the very worst they held their respectable position as the top quartet in the St. Louis area. For the record, they finished 9th in the International Quartet Preliminaries; first in the area contest; and 14th in the District contest. In 1971 they finished 1st in the Area contest and 4th in the District contest. Even the 14th place finish in District cannot be looked upon too gravely, for the Men Of A Chord, like the Gaslight Squires, are a young, growing quartet.

A year of such growth and improvement like 1972 merits a chronology. The year began, in a sense, with a bang. The All-Champs Show, which featured the Daniel Boone, Gateway, and Pony Expressmen choruses, was practically a sell-out. Only six men attended the

Auditions for Admissions, but two of them became chapter members shortly thereafter. The Optimists Club Show, in Wentzville, Mo., was a repeat success in 1972 as in 1971. The Daniel Boone Chorus not only qualified at the Chorus Elimination Contest, they finished second in a field of five qualifiers.

In late August, the chapter, along with the Sheriff's Reserve of St. Charles County, staged one of the most successful ventures of 1972; the Festival of the Little Hills. This was a week-end of outdoor entertainment of dancing and chorus and quartet singing, held in the cool outdoors in the old section of St. Charles. So successful was this that plans already have been made for the 1973 Festival.

September brought the Area Contest. This was the year that everyone thought St. Charles would take first place. However, it wasn't to be, as the Daniel Boone Chorus finished in second, missing first place by a mere 40 points. Less than a month later, the chapter journeyed to Des Moines for the District Contest. It definitely improved its 13th place finish of 1971, finishing 10th in a chorus contest so close that an additional 60 points would have won the Daniel Boone Chorus 6th place.

The remainder of the year was rather busy. The chapter did two small shows in October, staged its annual Coon Hunt in early November, held a guest night later that month, and hosted the Area Jamboree on Nov. 29.

December arrived, and with it the caroling season. The St. Charles Chapter was not idle in this area, giving rewarding performances for the Carmelite Home, the Emmaus Home, and St. Joseph hospital.

The Chapter held its 11th Annual Show on April 14, 1973, at the St. Charles high school auditorium. The show, appropriately held during Harmony Week, drew a near sell-out crowd of over 600 people.

The show had a definite Southern accent to it and offered a wide variety of entertainment. Featured in the show was the DANIEL BOON Chorus; the MEN OF A CHORD, GASLIGHT SQUIRES, and GADABOUTS quartets, the chapter's ERVEL PHILHARMONIC; and soloist DONNA EMMANUEL.

The event also marked the debut of the chorus' new dual-type uniforms. The more formal adaptation consists of the navy blue blazer, yellow ties and slacks, black socks and shoes, and a white long-sleeve shirt. The less formal version consists of the same shirt, shoes, socks and slacks, but with a brown, SPEBSQSA-

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MEMBER OF PROBE

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continued from page 2

lettered vest and a yellow bow tie instead of the standard long tie.

A well attended afterglow was held at Memorial Hall in nearby Blanchette Park. Guests who attended heard chorus songs not in the show, such as "Autumn Leaves," a Sweet Adelines octet which sang, among other songs, "Chicago," and the chapter's Scott Adams do his magnificent drum work.

Thus ended the St. Charles Chapter's 11th Annual Show. It had to be one of its most successful. The complete sell-out of the tickets assured the success on the financial side. The publicity was a gem, with the local radio station KCLC-FM airing the entire show. From the standpoint of size this show was the largest in terms of chorus size. With director Don Nevins, the Daniel Boone Chorus put 55 men on stage. Nowhere in its history has the chapter put anywhere near that many on stage for the Annual Show. Truly this had to be an evening to be remembered.

Just one month later, the St. Charles Chapter sang at the Six Flags Amusement Park in Pacific, Mo., on May 13. The occasion was the week-end Radiothon for the DANNY THOMAS-promoted St. Jude Hospital. The sing-out featured the MEN OF A CHORD Quartet; the BAYOU BELLES Sweet Adelines Quartet; and the DANIEL BOONE Chorus. Many of the show songs were heard at the park's Old Glory Theatre. However, the dramatic part of the afternoon was when the chorus sang the popular DANNY BOY, to coincide with the appearance of DANNY THOMAS on stage.

The one hour plus appearance of the chapter was preceded by a rock band and followed by country-western music. The events were aired by radio stations WIL and KSLQ.

So, on the heels of a very successful show and a good sing-out, the chapter plans to continue flying high right on through the summer and into the contest season. As director DON NEVINS said, "There will be no let down."

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Ron Phillips

This Is Your Life

by Gary Grimmond
Mason City, Iowa Chapter

Ron Phillips, director of the Mason City, Iowa based River City Chorus the last twelve years, was honored with a "this is your life" program at the Chapter's annual meeting, June 2nd. Members of the chorus, such as Gene Gallogy, who sang with him in a quartet; Phil Hunget, a college mate, and Jeff Albrecht, who had him as a vocal music instructor in high school, took part in the program. Phillips taught in Charles City before coming to Mason City High School where he is director of vocal music. He also taught in St. Joseph, Mo. His students have won numerous awards and Phillips has just concluded a year as president of the Iowa Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association. Past honors include being named the Chapter's Barbershopper of the Year. Lavern Roboltman, Chapter Vice President, was in charge of the program.

The Mid-West Four, a quartet from the River City Chapter, will handle arrangements for the Western Iowa

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Division chorus and quartet contest to be held Sept. 15th in Mason City. Members of the quartet are Don Fraser, bass; Rich Thompson, baritone; Gene Gallogy, lead; and Wayne Johnson, tenor. Fraser offered the services of the quartet after Irvin Boyd, Chapter President and Vice President of the Western Iowa Division, asked for volunteers.

Chapter Vice President, Brad Kiese, reports that about half of the 18 "auditions for admission" prospects have signed up for new members. This puts the membership past the 100 mark.

1972 C.S.D. International Achievement Award

Our heartiest congratulations go to the following chapters in our district for having placed first in their respective plateaus in the International Achievement Awards Program. Scoring was based on the Portention formula and was the result of good chapter programming and membership retention. Nice work, fellows!

Plateau #1 - Dubuque, Iowa Chapter

Plateau #2 - St. Charles, Missouri Chapter

Plateaus #3 - Wichita, Kansas Chapter

Plateaus #4 - Waterloo-Cedar Falls, Iowa Chapter

Plateau #5 - Denver, Colorado Chapter



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5 RIDGWOOD LANE

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IOWA CITY, IOWA 52240

"Snips From The Clippers"

by Jack Stout
Burlington, Iowa Chapter

April 8, 1973. That's the date for the famous Burlington, Iowa Clipper chorus to have held their 1973 Parade of Quartets. 2:30 PM is the posted time for the show to start and the Burlington Clipper Chorus is on Stage ready to go. Visiting Quartets are the Jax of Harmony from Des Moines, The Sound Tracks from Chicago and the Formalities from Iowa City. We know the Formalities have been stranded from their Saturday night's appearance in Minnesota by the weather, and we know the Jax are driving from Des Moines, since the weather had closed in on them prior to their scheduled take off, and we know the Soundtracks are way up in Wisconsin, supposed to be flying in, but their pilot had reported he was having a bit of a problem with the aircraft in Chicago, so now they, too are on the highway to make the engagement with us.

Following our fine program, everyone started back to his appointed home, when the weatherman unleashed his second dose and allowed our general area to have a moust bountiful supply of snow, ice and other allied forms of meteorology, which delayed many of our friends from having reached their homes the same day as planned, but our last report showed that everyone made it home even if it were a bit later than planned. For anyone who really likes a spine tingling performance and allied side events, please make your plans to attend our silver anniversary show on April 21, 1974. We will guarantee the show, and possibly with the co-operation with the weatherman, maybe a side performance from the Mississippi River or from Jupiter Plurvis himself. Anyway, you are assured of a fine show and the added benefits could be passed up if absolutely necessary. WE WILL HAVE A SHOW COME & %\$# or HIGH WATER.

Bryan Auditorium, Robert Morris College, Carthage, Ill., May 6 was the date for a Joint Inter-Chapter program of Burlington, Iowa, Macomb and Quincy,

Ill. Chapters. Individual Chorus and Quartet Appearances from all three chapters as well as joint appearances by the Macomb and Burlington Chapters were featured, and culminating with a joint appearance of all three groups for the grand finale. More than \$900.00 was raided by this performance for the benefit of the Hancock County Mental Health Assn. for the purchase of additional equipment for their local county rehabilitation center. A donation of \$50.00 was given by the Burlington Clipper chorus to this fund.

Burlington's Clipper chorus entertained about 300 members of the Retired Federal Employees Association at the Holiday Inn on Tuesday, May 22nd.

Singouts Galore

by John J. Miller
Elkader, Iowa Chapter

The Keystone Chapter of Elkader, Iowa has been having steady practices this year and is obtaining interest from new prospective members continually. Singouts which the chorus has recently performed include the Riverview Nursing Home in Guttenberg, Iowa; the Clayton County Mental Health Institute in Elkader; the Clayton County Home in St. Olaf; the Fayette County Home in Fayette and the Good Samaritan Home in West Union. On June 13th the chorus will entertain at the McGregor Achievement Night.

We have one registered quartet, the Hawksmen, plus three other quartets who are now practicing but have not registered. Two of the quartets are now actively singing at functions throughout the area.

The chapter's annual parade is scheduled for November 3rd and will feature The Jefferson Lords and the Cavaliers. All chorus numbers have been chosen and are presently being worked on.



THE GEMTONES (left to right) Vern McMahon, Bass; Rod Businga, Baritone; Leroy Maki, Tenor; Ward Smith, Lead. The Gemtones, newly formed quartet in Laramie, Wyoming, ring one in preparation for Larmie's Parade April 14.

Laramie Parade Benefits Logopedics

by John Ward Smith
Laramie, Wyoming Chapter

Laramie, Wyoming, climaxed Barbershop Harmony Week and initiated the spring show season in the Rocky Mountain Division with their Parade April 14. Quartets featured were the "Coloradoans" who marched harmoniously through Alexander's Ragtime Band and the "music Showcase" who sang great barbershop topped off with a ninth chord followed by a crashing thirteenth! The "Gemtones," a newly organized Laramie quartet, made their show debut singing Lida Rose. The show was successful enough to enable the Laramie Chapter to donate \$200 to the Logopedics Foundation.

L. S. (Stew) Chester died May 4, 1973, in Denver's Veteran's Hospital after an extended illness. Former President of the Laramie, Wyoming SPEBSQSA Chapter, Stew was an ardent barbershopper well known in the Rocky Mountain Division. He could form a pick-up quartet almost instantly whenever Barbershoppers were gathered. He sang bass in the Versatilitones quartet. Although very ill, he attended the quartet finals in Denver as the guest of the District, insisting as he left that he'd picked the order the quartets finished. Stew's great bass and infectious enthusiasm will be missed.

Contact:
PAUL HOLLIDAY
1802 Ashland
St. Joseph, Mo.
(816) 232-1802

The Mid-Continentals

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Bari: PAUL HOLLIDAY Bass: RON MENG

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QUARTET SINGING - Try it!

We like it —and so will you!

by Earl Adams, Plainsmen
Quartet, Brookings, S.D. Chapter

Back in about 1964 our local chapter chorus was struggling to just get 8 or 9 guys out for practices. Prior to that attempts had been made by some to sing as a quartet, however, for various reasons they were unable to establish and retain any quartet identity. The present members of the "Plainsmen" were active in the chorus during those struggle years.

As fate would have it then, a local entertainment committee found themselves in need of some talent for a banquet. How they found out about our barbershop quartet singing and what made them think we could fill their needs, we'll never know. But it was a blessing in disguise. While I'm sure we hit a few clinkers, over-all it must have gone over pretty well because other requests slowly came our direction.

I can still remember singing at a small rural school house north of Brookings at a family social. We went there mentally and otherwise prepared to do 3 or 4 numbers. Upon arrival we learned we were "the program" and they were counting on at least 45 minutes from us. We did every number we knew plus some we didn't!

Things continued along in a rather unorganized manner, no regular practice time, no uniforms, no name identity. I wish I could recall and repeat some of the names or ways we were introduced, but suffice it to say, they were something else. Some four years or so after we started singing, we were able to agree on and obtained uniforms. The matter of name selection was an equally difficult decision to make, but compromise we did and that's how we came to be known as "The Plainsmen."

Since our first singouts, we've had a lot of enjoyable experiences. I seriously believe quartet singing helps an individual become a better singer in chorus events, too because he has had to develop confidence in himself. After all, when there's only one lead, there's no one else to lean on; you have to do it. Singouts for us have included everything from church events to annual corporation banquets. Busy business and family schedules have

made practice, yes, even fulfilling appearance requests, difficult and sometimes impossible to arrange. But the rewards have been well worth the sacrifices. We enjoy participating in chorus events, but singing in a quartet has additional rewards. Like I suggested earlier, "Try it, we like it and you may too!"

Sweet Corn And Chicken

by Fred Wagaman
Ames, Iowa Chapter

Busy, busy, seems to be the by-word for the Ametonians for the early part of the summer, with singouts scheduled for four churches in June, and Scandanavian Days in Story City on June 2 where we will share the program with the "Nubbins" quartet from Spencer, and another quartet from Des Moines. It is not all work though, the annual family picnic was held June 14 in Ames, and sweet corn and barbecued chicken on Aug. 23 in Madrid.

Our college students going home for the summer thin our ranks some, but they'll be welcomed back in the fall. Bob Agnes' recovery from his accident is progressing well; and Bill Bie's bout with surgery has him laid up, but we wish him a speedy recovery. Bob is one of our newer members, but Bill is our oldest Barbershopper (not his age, but his years in the Society).

The Pitchmasters, our newest quartet, acquitted themselves creditably at Spring Prelims. They're looking for a baritone now since Dennis Staudt is out of school.

The date has been set for our '74 Parade, Feb. 23, and we have C. Y. Stephens Auditorium contracted. It was a wonderful experience having our show there his year, and we nearly doubled our audience. Comments from the visiting quartets about the Auditorium were all good. Hope to sell out the house in '74.

"Barberhawks"

Support Two Charities

by Wade Dexter
Lawrence, Kansas Chapter

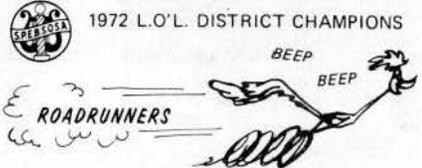
Recognizing the fact that "charity begins at home," the "barberhawks," current Kansas Division Chorus Champions, have found a way to make periodic contributions to a local charity and, at the same time, support our International Service Project, the Institute of Logopedics - all with the same dollars.

As every good barbershopper knows, the Institute in Wichita provides an intensive residential therapy program for about 375 children and adults afflicted with speech and hearing defects. Not so widely known is the fact that approximately 800 less severely handicapped children are served in 24 Institute field centers throughout the State of Kansas. The Lawrence, Kansas, chapter has had one of these field centers right here in the old home town since 1947 - although we were unaware of its existence until about two years ago, when Mrs. Mary Brinkley, the director, called us about tickets for our annual show. Since then we've supported the field center with gifts for the youngsters at Christmas time and the purchase of an occasional item of equipment.

Not a wealthy chapter by any means, the "barberhawks" have been hard put to spread their charitable donations between local needy groups and our favorite International charity. So it was Chapter Service Chairman Harold Lytle who came up with the unique proposal that a part of the money we donate to the Institute each year be earmarked for the local field center here in Lawrence.

Since, to our knowledge, this idea of supporting two charities with the same contributions have never been advanced before, we were uncertain how it would set with International as well as Institute authorities in Wichita. But we are happy to say that after considerable negotiation, the whole scheme had the blessing of all concerned, and the "Barberhawks" have their own local "favorite charity" right in their own neighborhood. Other Kansas chapters with local field centers should look into the possibilities in their own communities.

1972 L.O.L. DISTRICT CHAMPIONS



Contact: Norm Wolfe
10310 Little Circle
Minneapolis, Minn. 55437



GLEN McLAUGHLIN, Tenor
GERALD HOOPER, Bari.

EVERETT ESHELMAN, Lead
GLEN COMSTOCK, Bass

Contact - Glen Comstock Phone 237-1836



CONTACT - DAVID LARSON
8913 WEST 104 TERR
OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS
66212

TENOR - DAVID LARSON
LEAD - TOM TAYLOR
BARI - NELSON MOYER
BASS - DAVE LARSON



Silver Lining Quartet

New Quartet At Topeka

by Herb Crapson
Topeka, Kansas Chapter

Down at Topeka, that new quartet, The Silver Lining, is making progress. They were registered on September 1, 1972 and have since entered two District contests. Their plans include competing

in the Central States District Contest in Kansas City this fall. They have sung in four different State Capitols. Their principal service is in the community where they live, which is Manhattan and Westmoreland, Kansas. They are very enthusiastic Barbershoppers and have car, will travel. They are to be watched.



MORNING TIMES - Kansas City & St. Joseph, Mo. Chapters

Contact Man - Bruce Wenner
612 W. 70th
Kansas City, Missouri 64000

HAPPY DISCHORDS - Flint Hills, Kansas Chapter

Contact Man - Jack Houghton
753 Whittier
Emporia, Kansas 66801

CORDIALLY YOURS - Leavenworth, Kansas Chapter

Contact Man - A. Dean Jones
600 Spruce Street
Leavenworth, Kansas 66048

THE CAUSE AND THE CURE - Marshalltown, Iowa Chapter

Contact Man - James D. Schwake
409 N. 1st Ave.
Marshalltown, Iowa 50158

GRAND VALLEY PROJECT - Grand Junction, Colorado Chapter

Contact Man - Leslie Eklund
403 Dressel Dr.
Grand Junction, Colo. 81501

HI-BINDERS - Fremont, Nebraska Chapter

Contact Man - Lloyd Marshall
540 W. Eagle
Arlington, Nebraska 68002

VOLUME IV - Cedar Rapids, Iowa Chapter

Contact Man - Lee Bendull
106 Riverview Dr.
Vinton, Iowa 52349

FLYING FOUR - Marshalltown, Iowa Chapter

Contact Man - Wally Boddicker
R.R. 2
State Center, Iowa

FRONT RANGE FOUR - Colorado Springs, Colorado Chapter

Contact Man - Thomas Isley
2818 Illinois Ave.
Colorado Springs, Colo. 80907

FOUR FAMILY FLATS - Florissant Valley, Missouri Chapter

Contact Man - Milt Berghoefer
922 Woodway Circle
Fenton, Missouri 63026

MUSIC MEN - Kansas City, Missouri Chapter

Contact Man - Ron Abel

4704 W. 60th Terr.
Mission, Kansas 66205

PROMISSORY NOTES - Lincoln, Nebraska Chapter

Contact Man - Dwight Hammer
1030 N. 48th, Lot 4
Lincoln, Nebraska 68504

HALF MOONS - Colorado Springs, Chapter

Contact Man - William C. Moon
213 Pawnee Ave.
Manitou Springs, Colorado 80829

GOOD TIME FOUR - Columbia, Missouri Chapter

Contact Man - Robert G. Combs
1025 Lakeside Dr.
Columbia, Missouri 65201

RUSHMORE FOUR - Rapid City, S.D. Chapter

Contact Man - Lt. Col. R.D. Snyder
Box 3362
Ellsworth Air Force Base
South Dakota 57706

SADDLE SORES - Denver, Colorado Chapter

Contact Man - Frank Collett
690 S. Alton Way
Denver, Colorado 80231

RANDOM IV - Fremont, Nebraska Chapter

Contact Man - Ray G. Meister
121 S. William Ave.
Fremont, Nebraska 68025

THE ORGANIZATION - Lawrence, Kansas Chapter

Contact Man - Kyle LaFollette
3020 Iowa G-14
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

OLD TIME HARMONY MUSIC CO. Cedar Rapids, Iowa Chapter

Contact Man - Robert Colón
Box 251
Marion, Iowa 52302

UNRENEWED QUARTETS

SPRING TONICS - Colorado Springs, Colorado Chapter

NEW BRASS KEYS - Omaha, Nebraska Chapter

OUTLAWS - St. Louis Sub., Missouri Chapter

INITIAL 4 - Joplin, Missouri Chapter

LEMMON DROPS - Mt. Rushmore, S.D., Chapter

CHORD COUNTRY FOUR - Ames, Iowa Chapter

POT SHOTS - Lawrence, Kansas Chapter

THREE DAYS AND A NITE - LeMars & Denison, Iowa Chapters

EXPENSE ACCOUNTS - Kirkwood, Missouri Chapter

HAWKEYE FOUR - Des Moines, Iowa Chapter

HARMONY PALS - Boulder, Colorado Chapter

RIVER CITY DELEGATION - Des Moines, Iowa and Mason City, Iowa Chapters

MARVELADS - Ames and Marshalltown, Iowa Chapters

Hide The Pitch-Pipes; Here Comes St. Louis Suburban Again!

by Bob Dunford
St. Louis Suburban Chapter

It's that time again, isn't it? Dr. Don's distinctive blue-edged stationery arrived fourth-class bulk-rate (tightened up your budget, eh, Don? Don't feel bad - we're re-inking our typewriter ribbons) and it said "You will haff an article in by May 31 ... you haff relatifs in Chermany, Yes-ss?" (That Don's really got a way about him -- we always were a sucker for soft-sell).

Anyway, what's been happening in St. Louis, suburban-wise? We had a flood of some proportions; meat prices are up; the grass is growing audibly, and above all, Barbershopping is alive and doing well!

On March 14th we held our annual Corned-Beef & Cabbage Dinner, chaired by Al Lampe and assisted by leprechauns too numerous to enumerate here (list available on request - send stamped self-addressed envelope and money). The event was an unqualified success -- at least 250 partook of some foin corned-horse procured by meat-man Walter Portmann (can't feed beef at these prices). Gene Spilker M.C.'d the show, which featured the S.A. Quadriphonics (since Illinois Region Novice Champs & fourth overall); the S.A. Tetrachords (in some competition, second by one point only, 516 to 515); our own Keypickers; the Men of A-Chord (who have since had to temporarily disband due to tenor John Erickson being moved to Chicago); and of course Suburban's own mighty Gateway Chorus, who for that night, were introduced as the "Wednesday Night Hibernian Harmonic Chamber Music Society and Brass Marching Band." (A rose by any other name, etc...)

That same week we performed a sing-out for 300 wonderful elderly persons at the Teamster's Retirement Center, assisted by the ever-present Men of A-Chord. Maestro Sean O'Boyd, incurable optimist that he is, asked for requests after we had performed our February "package" (the lead-off for the Thoroughbreds Show). We filled a few requests - faked a few, and finally drew the curtain after a two-hour show.

On April 4th, we held our Kwickie Koach Quartet Kontest, the off-spring of the square fly-wheel in PVP Bob Stewart's skull-cap. Lot of fun. First place went to Grandpa's Boys (Coach, Bill Thompson - Bari, Jim Graham; Bass, Gene Spilker; Lead, Kurt Seiter; and tenor, Bob Stewart.) In second place were "The Barehanded Wolf-Chokers Old-Tyme Singing Ensemble (Coach, DeJuan Abel - Lead, Al Lampe; Bass, Charley

Peak; Tenor, Paul Nandico; and Bari, Pat Meek). Although Bill Thompson's group was judged the winning quartet on basis of performance, DeJuan Abel was adjudged the winning coach on the basis of the coaching job done overall. (My goodness, that's easy enough to understand - look what he had to work with.) Several weeks later, hand-engraved mugs were presented to all participants and both coaches.

On May 9th, we had a new event, but one sure to become an annual one, it was that good. It was a Covered-Dish Dinner, the brain-child of bouncy Kay Boyd and made a success by each and every one of our lively wives, who decorated the groaning-board with the most delightful array of succulent comestibles (look it up - we had to) seen in recent years. We breezed through a quick chorus rehearsal so the gals could see how we spend our Wednesday nights.

We are particularly busting our buttons over our increase in activity in Logopedics. We have already in the first quarter raised three times our total 1972

contribution. We hope this will help Shelley - our own little girl - find the will and the ability to some day communicate normally with others.

Our membership roster is now up to 64, and climbing. We welcome recent new members Fred Schermes, Art Fowler, Dick Marlowe, Perry Wilson, Bob Willier, Fred Enoch, Vern Shepard, and George Graham. (We're getting so many Grahams, we're going to start calling them by their Social Security number).

Don't get the idea this Chapter is flaky. But in May's Suburbanotes, we had a 3-column list of guests and needed one more name to make the columns even. So we stuck in "Irving Berlin." Why not? We waited a few days -- no comment. Everybody thought they'd missed him. We called President Bob Webb and said "Hey, didn't you even notice we listed Irving Berlin as a guest!" He says, "Great, did you try to sign him up?" Nuf said. Once you've been "touched" by St. Louis Suburbanism, your chances of recovery are slim -- it's usually terminal.

When Disaster Struck

by Gary Mischke,
Rapid City, S.D. Chapter

One year ago disaster struck Rapid City, South Dakota. This year, as a result of one of the many good things that come in the wake of such tragedies, a young Rapid City man will be a little closer to realizing his dream of a college education that encompasses his love of music and a desire to help handicapped children. Two Central States District Barbershop Chapters brought those two events together.

Two of the victims of the Rapid City flood on June 9, 1972, were Jerry and Jane Smith. Jerry Smith was a Charter Member of the Mount Rushmore Chapter and a great ambassador of barbershopping in Western South Dakota. He sang in the Chapter's first quartet, The Dakotans, and was the mainstay of the Shrine of Democracy Chorus tenor section. Jerry's wife, Jane, was a loyal barbershop wife who supported Jerry's love of singing and participated in many of the Chapter's events.

When Jerry and Jane lost their lives, the Mount Rushmore Chapter searched for a way to honor Jerry and Jane Smith in a way that Jerry would have wished to be remembered, as a Barbershopper. The inspiration came with a donation made to our Chapter by the Gateway Chorus of St.

Louis, for use as our Board desired in connection with the Rapid City flood. That donation, matched by the Mount Rushmore Chapter and other donations from Mount Rushmore Chapter members formed the basis for the Jerry and Jane Smith Memorial Scholarship.

On May 25, at intermission of the Mount Rushmore Chapter's Fourth Annual Parade, the Jerry and Jane Smith Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Brian Belet, a Rapid City Stevens High School senior. Brian, who placed in the top ten percent of his graduating class, will use the Smith Scholarship and three others he received to pursue a double major in music and speech therapy at Chadron State College in Chadron, Nebraska. Brian is interested in a career that will use music as a tool for speech correction in handicapped children. He is an accomplished musician and has used some of his spare time in high school working with handicapped children in Rapid City.

The Mount Rushmore Chapter is proud to have a man of Brian Belet's stature and career interest as a recipient of the Smith Scholarship. We know too, that Jerry Smith would have been pleased to have been remembered in such a truly barbershop way.

Hotel Reservation Form

DO NOT mail to the Hotel Muehlebach. All hotel reservations MUST be made through: Ken Jackson, 5108 W. 64 Terrace, Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66208.

If two or more want to stay in the same room, list their names on succeeding lines and bracket them in margin.

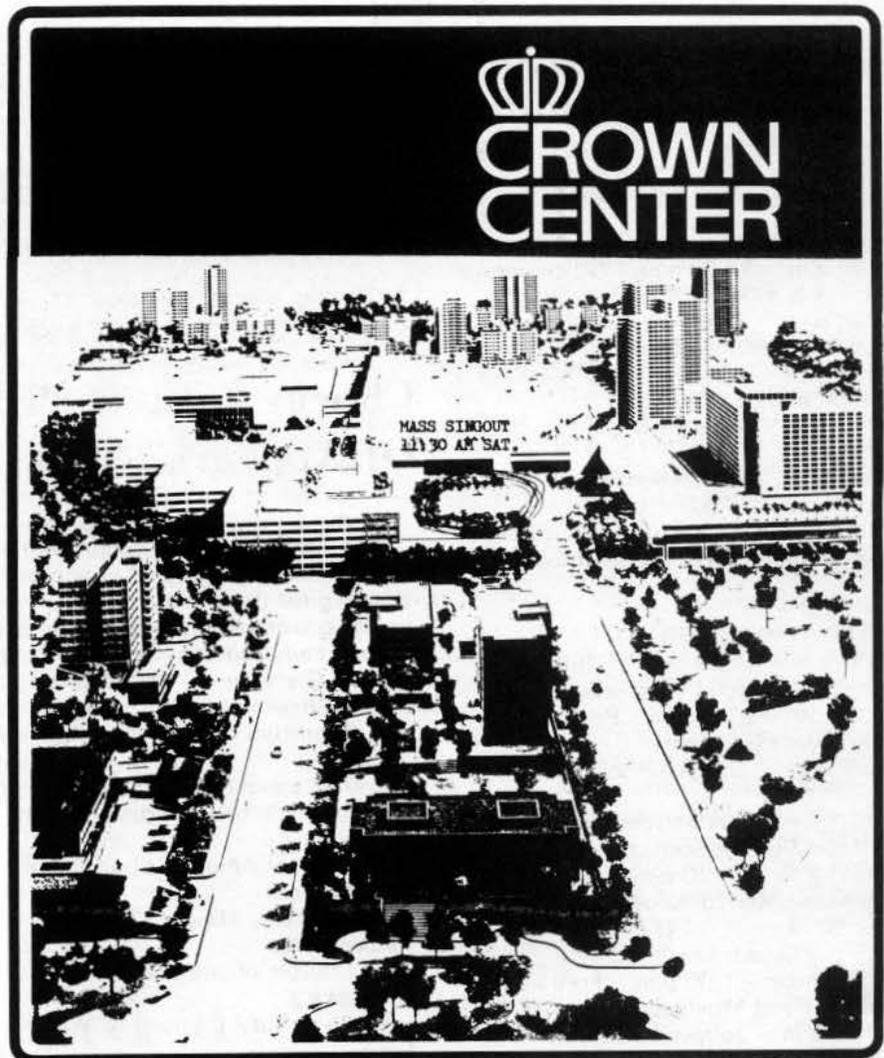
Type Room:

- A. Single, 1 per. \$16-\$22.
- B. One double bed, 2 pers. \$22-\$28.
- C. Twin beds, 2 pers. \$24-\$28.
- D. Two double beds, 2 pers. \$24-\$28.
- E. Two double beds, 3 pers. \$28.50-\$32.50
- F. Two double beds, 4 pers. \$34-\$37
- G. Hospitality Room \$30-\$50.
- H. Hospitality Suite, 2 rooms \$50-\$125.

Name.....
 Address.....
 Type Room Friday Oct. 5
 Saturday Oct. 6

Reservations will be held until only 6 p.m. Ken: Please have hotel mail confirmation for all the above reservations to:

Name.....
 Street.....
 City.....
 State..... Zip.....



A Total Urban Community

Ticket Mail Order Form

Make checks payable to "NOJOCO Chapter" and mail to: Ken Jackson, 5108 W. 64 Terrace, Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66208

All Contests will be held in the K.C., Mo., MUSIC HALL. Headquarters Hotel will be the Hotel Muehlebach. All tickets are transferable, but not refundable. No tickets will be mailed after Sept. 29, 1973.

PACKAGE of 4 tickets for all contest sessions required of all contestants.

Package containing \$3 reserved seat for Quartet Finals

_____ @ \$7.50

Package containing \$4 reserved seat for Quartet Finals

_____ @ \$8.50

Individual Tickets for Contest Sessions

_____ @ \$1.00

Quartet Semi-finals Friday Night

_____ @ \$1.00

Quartet Semi-finals Saturday Morning

_____ @ \$1.00

Chorus Contest Saturday Afternoon

_____ @ \$2.50

Quartet Finals Saturday Night (Reserved seat)

_____ @ \$3.00

Quartet Finals Saturday Night (Reserved seat)

_____ @ \$4.00

SPECIAL EVENTS

All Champs show Friday night in Grand Ballroom of Muehlebach (All proceeds to travel fund)

_____ @ \$1.50

After Glow Saturday night in Grand Ballroom of Muehlebach

_____ @ \$1.00

Worlds of Fun Passport (Children)

_____ @ \$4.95

Worlds of Fun Passport (Adults)

_____ @ \$5.85

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

Please indicate intentions concerning the following:

_____ men will sing in the Mass Singout at the Crown Center Square, 11:30-noon Saturday. (Free busses will leave the Music Hall about 11 (at close of Quartet Semi-finals) and return to the Hotel Muehlebach at 1 p.m.)

_____ will want free double-deck bus transportation to the River Quay shopping area.

_____ will go to Worlds of Fun on Saturday (Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.)

_____ will go to Worlds of Fun on Sunday (Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.)

Worlds of Fun Passports will be good for either Saturday or Sunday, but park officials would like to know about how many will attend each day.

Ken: Please mail all the above tickets to:

NAME.....

STREET.....

CITY.....

STATE..... ZIP.....

1973 Central States District Contest & Convention

OCTOBER 5, 6 & 7, 1973

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5

8:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. - Office open - Rooms 3 & 4, Hotel Muehlebach
1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Registration - Lobby, Hotel Muehlebach
1:00 p.m. - District Board Meeting - Hotel Muehlebach
7:15 p.m. - Quartet Briefing - Music Hall
*8:00 p.m. - Quartet Semifinals - Music Hall, Municipal Auditorium
*10:30 p.m. - All Champs Show - Imperial Ballroom, Hotel Muehlebach

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6

8:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. - Office open - Rooms 3 & 4, Hotel Muehlebach
8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Registration - Lobby Hotel Muehlebach
8:30 a.m. - Quartet Briefing - Music Hall
*9:00 a.m. - Quartet Semifinals - Music Hall, Municipal Auditorium
11:00 a.m. - 11:20 a.m. - Free busses leave Music Hall for Crown Center
*11:30 a.m. - 12:00 Noon - Mass singout at Crown Center Square
12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. - Free busses return to Hotel Muehlebach
12:00 p.m. - Judges Luncheon - Hotel Muehlebach
1:30 p.m. - Chorus Directors Briefing - Music Hall
1:30 p.m. - Choruses assemble and warm-up - Hotel Muehlebach
*2:00 p.m. - Chorus Finals - Music Hall, Municipal Auditorium
*8:00 p.m. - Quartet Finals - Music Hall, Municipal Auditorium
10:30 p.m. - Logopedics Multi-Media Slide Presentation - Imperial Ballroom
11:00 p.m. - After Glow - Imperial Ballroom, Hotel Muehlebach

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon - Office open - Rooms 3 & 4, Hotel Muehlebach
8:30 a.m. - Chorus and Quartet Critique

- Colonial Room, Hotel Muehlebach
9:00 a.m. - C.S.D. House of Delegates Meeting - Tea Room, Hotel Muehlebach

* Singing events we hope all C.S.D. Barbershoppers will be able to attend.

Chorus Contest Order Of Appearance Drawn

At the August 9th meeting of the NO-JOCO Chapter, C.V. "Pete" Petersen, CSD C & J Chairman, conducted the drawing for the order that the choruses will sing in at the CSD 1973 Contest. They were drawn from the hat by Jay Schmidt, NOJOCO's Chorus and Quartet Committee Chairman, in the following order:

1. Suburban Chorus of St. Louis, Missouri
2. Old Capitol Chorus of Iowa City, Iowa
3. Daniel Boone Chorus of St. Charles, Missouri
4. Heart of America Chorus of Kansas City, Missouri
5. Harmony Hawks Chorus of Cedar Rapids, Iowa
6. Chorus of the Plains of Hastings, Nebraska
7. River City Chorus of Mason City, Iowa
8. Pony Expressmen of St. Joseph, Missouri

(INTERMISSION)

9. Wyomingaires Chorus of Cheyenne, Wyoming
10. Lincoln Continentals Chorus of Lincoln, Nebraska
11. De-Moinaires Chorus of Des Moines, Iowa
12. Central Statesmen Chorus of Omaha, Nebraska
13. Denver Mile-Hi Chorus of Denver, Colorado
14. Chordbusters Chorus of Davenport, Iowa
15. Pikes Peak Chorus of Colorado Springs, Colorado

The Chorus Contest will start promptly at 2:00 P.M. in the Music Hall of the Kansas City Municipal Auditorium on Saturday, October 6, 1973.

All 13 of the remaining CSD Quartet Champions of by-gone years have been contacted and everything indicates that we will have a great All Champs Show at 10:30 P.M. on Friday, October 5, 1973. It will be held in the Imperial Ballroom of the Hotel Muehlebach (the same place where the big After Glow will be held the next night) which will seat over 1,000 comfortably at tables. Of course, all of the proceeds will go directly into the travel fund of the new champs. So come and

hear all of your favorite old quartets, and support a very worthy cause at the same time.

Tickets for the All Champs Show are \$1.50 and tickets for the After Glow are \$1.00. Pre-purchase your tickets for both of these great SPECIAL EVENTS along with your contest tickets from Ken Jackson (see the TICKET MAIL ORDER FORM in this issue of the Serenade). There will be no individual CSD member mailing -- so please use the form in the Serenade.

CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT QUARTET AND CHORUS CONTESTS October 5-7, 1973

PANEL OF JUDGES

Harmony	Accuracy	
Anderson		3406 53rd Lubbock, Texas 79413
		Fred Owens 5519 48th Ave. SW, R. 3 Des Moines, Iowa 50321
Balance and Blend	James W. Beutel	318 North Elmore Park Ridge, Ill., 60068
	Alan D. Ives	3805 Crowncrest Cove Austin, Texas 78759
Interpretation	William Busby	107 Virginia Court Franklin, Tenn. 37046
	Dan Waselchuk	1414 Biemeret Street Green Bay, Wisc. 54304
Stage Presence		300 E. Grand Ave. Ponca City, Okla. 74601
	Jerry Snedigar	Municipal Airport, Box 74-F Rapid City, S. Da. 57701
Arrangement	Russell A. Foris	341 Maple Avenue Elmhurst, Ill. 60126
	Warren Haeger	921 N. Spring Avenue LaGrange Park, Ill. 60525
Chairman	C.V. "Pete" Peterson	6112 Lamar Mission, Kans. 6602
Secretary	Bill McLatchie	P. O. Box 153 Durant, Iowa 52747

Clippers to help tie knot

Burlington's Clipper Chorus will have another chore to participate in come Sept. 29. That is the date selected for the wedding of Miss Nancy Beckman and Lead Singer, Ron Guffey. Naturally none of the chorus will actually step up during the wedding to take charge of things, but we have been requested to sing during the wedding reception.

Have the
Morning Times
delivered
to your next show

for Barbershop Style Entertainment

CONTACT: BRUCE WENNER
612 W. 70TH ST.
KANSAS CITY, MO. 64113
(816) 361-3359



INTERNATIONAL CONGRATULATIONS, along with an engraved citation, were presented to the Longmont Barbershoppers upon their 25th anniversary of "Keeping Longmont Singing." Presenting the citation in behalf of the international organization of SPEBSQUA was Al Potts, district president, at right, and receiving the award in behalf of the Longmont chapter was the president, Emil Milner, left.

Longmont Celebrates Silver Anniversary

by Hi Boersma
Longmont, Colorado

The big news from Longmont is that on April 24th our chapter celebrated a quarter century of Barbershopping. This was the theme of our anniversary party. Letters of invitation were sent to all members and former members and the response was heartening. Of the thirty-five whose names appeared on the charter application, five are still active members of the chapter.

One hundred thirty-five were seated at the banquet tables as members of the Anniversary Committee presented "This Is

Your Life, Mr. Longmont Barbershopper." Several quartets were re-assembled and gave forth with great gusto, at times even harmoniously. All in all it was a festive occasion and comments and applause indicated that Longmonters still rate Barbershopping high on the entertainment scale.

Sing-outs, a family picnic, watermelon party, and auditions for admissions are all scheduled for this summer. Plans for the annual show are being formulated and the tentative date is November 3rd. With new members joining, our chapter seems well on its way to celebrating a half century of Longmont Barbershopping!

SONGS AND BITS OF FUN

CONTACT: LARRY LYONS
2529 MARYVIEW LN.
DAVENPORT, IOWA
(515) 355-3833

TIM
NORM
LARRY
DENNIS

THE 4 BITS OF FUN

A BARBERSHOP QUARTET

JAZZ OF HARMONY

BARBERSHOP QUARTET

Contact:

John Mininger, Tenor
1608 Frazier
Des Moines, Iowa 50315
Phone 285-5938
Business Phone 283-6201

Michael Rehberg, Lead
Roger Spahr, Baritone
Jerry Pike, Bass

House Of Delegates And District Board Meetings In A Nutshell

Conventions Chairman Steve Trusty reported that beginning with the 1974 Spring Contest, a registration fee will be collected from all competitors, which fee will include the price of an all-events ticket package. He also stated that bids for the 1975 Spring Convention will be taken at the HEP school in Lincoln, Nebraska on June 30, 1973.

President Potts stated that the District Presidents' Conference at Portland will explore the possibility of obtaining an International Field Representative for each District. He also reported that the Society will surpass \$1,000,000 in contributions to Logopedics in a few weeks. A \$150.00 donation to Logopedics was accepted from the Longmont, Colorado Chapter.

It was announced that C. V. "Pete" Peterson has been named to fill the remainder of Fred Owen's unexpired term, and a plaque will be presented to Fred commemorating his service to the District.

The District Board has allocated an additional \$1000 for HEP school and raised the quarter traveling fund allocation from \$1200 to \$1600 since we are now sending four quartets to the International Contest.

The Board approved the use of a double panel of judges at the 1974 Sioux Falls International Quartet Preliminary Contest and increased ticket prices to \$2.00 for the quartet contest, \$2.50 for the chorus contest and \$4.00 for the Finals.

The budget for the 1973 District Contest at Kansas City, Mo. shows a proposed profit of \$9950.00

The District Travel Fund will be depleted each year after the International Preliminaries, with 40% going to the District Chorus Champion, and 60% or 15% each for four representatives going to the quartets.

St. Joseph, Missouri has withdrawn its bid for a future Spring Convention, but requested permission to re-submit the bid at Lincoln in June.

The District Board disapproved the petition of a Clinton, Iowa Chapter to charter in the Illinois District.

MID AMERICAN CHORDS

A BARBERSHOP QUARTET

CONTACT:
LANCE HELMANN
705 W. 5th St.
DARWIN MISSOURI 64804
PHONE
812-238-8888

Cheyenne, Wyoming, Entertains For Telethon

by Frank Maltese
Cheyenne, Wyoming Chapter

If you've never been on TV, if you've never taken part in a telethon; try it - you'll like it.

The Goodwill Industries Center in Cheyenne, in conjunction with KYCU-TV of Cheyenne, decided to hold a telethon to raise funds for their activities to rehabilitate the handicapped. This meant entertainment was needed, and the Wyomingaires, wishing to do their part, volunteered.

The dates were set, May 19 and 20. Much was needed to be done, and Cary Culver of KYCU-TV produced and directed the entire program. The Wyomingaires were given top billing in that week's TV Guide, and coverage of the telethon was in at least six newspapers. The idea grew to three, then four television stations that included KTWO-TV, Casper, Wyoming; KTVS-TV, Sterling, Colorado; KSTF-TV, Scottsbluff, Nebraska; and KYCU-TV, Cheyenne, Wyoming. The area covered included the entire state of Wyoming, western Nebraska, Southeastern South Dakota, and northeastern Colorado.

The call was first for a live performance, but singing at 11:00 p.m. led to concern that we'd make the notes ring a little below the flats. Arrangements were made to tape our part of the show in the television studio on a regular rehearsal night. Live interviews during the telethon were conducted with our president Bernie Newland, and our director Jerry Donnelly.

Along with our chorus, two of our quartets were booked. The Four Channel Sound sang four songs that included "O

Bury Me Not on the Lone Prairie", and the Three B's and a Bari sang four songs that included "Just in Case You Change Your Mind". They were kind of hoping a talent scout would be out there somewhere.

It was the Wyomingaires' turn. The lights were bright... and hot. Could we wear sunglasses? The order of the day was SMILE! Then we did our thing. The first song? "Smile", naturally. The chorus sang five songs, including the "Navy Hymn". Including the warmup, it took from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Following the taping we all went to Shakey's Pizza Parlor and entertained the crowd there. "You should have been there!"

Came the date of the telethon, the songs were not played in a continued sequence but were interspersed with interviews and other entertainment. Many viewers thought we were live at the time, and were calling in requests with their pledges. When they were informed it was a video tape, there were calls for replays of songs we had already done.

The viewing audience was estimated at 220,000 and there were many complimentary comments not only from the audience but from the TV crew as well.

We have plans now to review the video tape as a learning experience. Sometimes you think you are smiling but it doesn't always look that way. Close-ups will tell the story.

Everyone was quite pleased with our participation to assist Goodwill Industries and our experience in front of the cameras. Goodwill netted about \$10,000 from the program.

If your chorus ever has a chance to participate in a telethon, try it - you'll like it!



The Happy Dischords
Emporia, Kansas

Happy Dischords At Emporia

by Harry Bird
Emporia, Kansas Chapter

The Emporia, Kansas Chapter staged its annual Barbershop Show on April 14th and it was a complete success. The featured quartets were "The Good Times", from Tulsa, Oklahoma; "The Cavaliers", from Wichita, Kansas; and the "Shondells", a Sweet Adeline quartet also from Wichita, Kansas. Also appearing on the show was the chorus from the Emporia, Kansas Sweet Adeline chapter. A large and appreciative audience was in attendance. Plans are already being made for next year's parade.

Recent chorus sing-outs have included appearances in Cottonwood Falls and Madison, Kansas. Both presentations were staged in the local high schools.

The chapters newest quartet, the Happy Dischords, have been kept busy with singing engagements in Hillsboro, Kansas for the local Farmers Organization and also in Iola, Kansas where they sang for the Southeast Grain Dealers Association. Singing tenor is Harry Bird; Lead, Orland Hendren; Baritone, Jack Houghton; and Bass, Bernard Grannon.

IN MEMORIAM

MELVIN McBRIDE - Cedar Rapids, Iowa Chapter

B. A. BOGENRIEF - Le Mars, Iowa Chapter

STEW CHESTER - Laramie, Wyoming Chapter

GARY GIBSON - Greeley, Colorado Chapter

ADOLPH MUELLER - Leavenworth, Kansas Chapter

ROBERT BUTTS - Cheyenne, Wyoming Chapter



Assimilation Of New Members

by Dick Snyder
Des Moines, Iowa Chapter

Our Society attracts men who like to sing. To increase enrollment and to improve retention of those who are attracted, the chapter should have a well planned program to assimilate new members. They deserve more than a friendly greeting, a sheet of music (often out-of-date and sometimes undecipherable), and an invitation to "Sing Along." An effort should be made to teach them the repertoire and to involve them as soon as possible in the performance of barbershop style music.

First teach the contest and sing-out songs; these are the ones they must know as active chapter members. Give them copies of the arrangements AS WE SING THEM. Complete, well organized books of music should be available for guests. Explain to the new members how and why we take the pitch and what the key note and key chord are. Instruct them in what Barbershop style is, how the contest and judging systems work, and how the Society is organized. New men will not feel like part of our group until they know about our organization, understand its operation, and participate as singing members.

New Era Chordbusters

by Bill Morse
Davenport, Iowa Chapter

Chordbuster members recognize the beginnings of a new era because of improvements that have been added to chapter activities.

Of prime importance is the new musical director who is introducing and perfecting a new sound for the chapter. Larry Monson, who has directed the chapter since the first of the year, has a MS degree in music, and has added excitement and challenge to the struggle for musical perfection. The best way to describe Larry's influence is to say, "Lookout for the Chordbusters at the District and International contests of the future!"

A sense of the importance of rehearsals and performances has resulted from the "Performing Chorus Rules and Regulations," now officially adopted and in use by the chapter. The result is a chorus that can produce better quality sound by requiring more from everyone and in a more consistent

This type of program cannot be carried out in one meeting. Perhaps a half-hour instruction and repertoire session could be held every two weeks just before the regular meeting. Concentrating on one previously announced song, these meetings would provide a quicker way for new men to learn the songs, and they would give old timers an opportunity to improve the accuracy of their renditions.

New members (indeed, all members) should have the opportunity and should be encouraged to perform in the regular meeting, probably during the program portion. For instant, high quality, barbershop experience, teach a tag, and have several stand-up quartets sing it. Tags are easily learned and can be performed well after two or three tries. This gives the new man a feeling of accomplishment and belonging that he cannot get stumbling through a song that he doesn't know with a chorus that stops frequently to correct itself. For something more substantial, there is the Barberpole Cat program or something like the Four Star Barbershopper program used by the Oak Lawn, Ill., chapter. These programs are designed to involve members in singing (primarily in quartets) which is the main business of this society. Men join our organization because they want to sing. Let's give them what they want!

fashion. There is more harmony (socially, as well as musically) among the members, who no longer grumble because "fast learners think that rehearsals are a waste of their time." Rehearsals are beginning to be well attended and start on time.

New impetus has been added to membership drives by Charter AVP, Dr. Don Doering. On May 10th the chapter had 16 guests at a "Guest Night." These guests joined Chordbuster members in participating in a chorus contest. Members and guests formed three choruses who competed against one another, and were judged by a panel of judges. In this way guests had a chance to obtain an idea of the contests given by the society.

Responsibilities were divided into four major areas of activities in forming the organization needed to produce the Chapter's 1973 "Hooray for Hollywood" show. These were as follows:

1. Show Production. Responsibilities include the design of the show theme and

the writing of musical arrangements to fit the show theme and the writing of musical arrangements to fit the theme. Assistant musical director, Dick Rode did an outstanding job bringing all the various episodes together in a harmonious manner. To accomplish this required many hours of study for Dick, reading numerous books about Hollywood, selecting the music, and then spending endless hours writing the many musical arrangements required. The effort was culminated on April 7th, when the Chordbusters gave two performances of their delightful show production.

2. Stage Production. Responsibilities involve coordinating chorus movements with a number of stage sets. Bernie Gant accepted the job of training the chorus so that movements of the chorus were timed almost to perfection. The results?--a show given "in the round," depicting the activities involved in filming a Hollywood movie, involving 60 Hollywood characters, all singing and dressed in superb costumes. Fifteen stage hands moved the staging around as part of the theme, while the chorus moved from one scene to another singing famous Hollywood songs along the way.

3. Business Management. Responsibilities included coordinating the efforts of 14 show committees involving ticket sales, advertising, show finance, layout for the printed programs, hospitality, stage construction and placement, house arrangements, make-up, afterglow arrangements, and the procurement of outside talent. Wayne Granneman agreed to accept the assignment knowing full well that "the harder a show chairman works, the behinder he gets." Under Wayne's guidance, two milestones were realized (1) A record in the sale of program advertisements and (2) Record ticket sales at the box office.

4. Musical Direction. Responsibilities were separated from other technical aspects of producing a show, and included musical interpretation of the theme and the development of a variety impacts. A difficult responsibility is that of keeping chorus morale at a high pitch, and emphasizing the importance of rhythm and voice quality. The talents of the musical director were placed into full use without the distraction of other duties.

Dedicated to the idea that "Sing-outs are important," the chapter has entered into a new phase of promotion. "We are available," is the message of brochures printed under the guidance of Rod Bailey, the chapter's expert promotion man. These will be placed at strategic locations to help give publicity and recognition to the chapter.

Something new has been added to the "Note Dispenser," the weekly news publication of chapter activities. Each issue has a cartoon illustration to help

(continued on page 13)

C.O.P. Computer Clunks Correspondence

by Rod Roberts
Hastings, Nebraska Chapter

Sorry we missed sending a note for the last Serenade. We've computerized all of our mail-outs and all the fool machine does is sing the Bari part for Sweet Roses of Morn. Not only that, it has changed our arrangement for After Dark; now we go down a half at the end of the verse. The Chorus of the Plains has been busier than a pitchpipe in a Woodshedding Party, what with sing outs, a trip to Denver, and practicing for a Fall Show. The sing outs, both in and out of town, have been a lot of work and a lot of fun. Besides a half-dozen outings in our own area, we've gone as far as 100 miles west to sing for folks. Recently we entertained at the tenth anniversary of the Public Library (a bookish blast, really) and cut loose for two different church groups, all in the same week. While they interrupt a few evenings, these sing outs keep us in trim and give new members some experience. For us, the word experience means your knees still knock when you sing in front of folks, but you act like you don't know it.

Having held auditions and picked our

contest chorus -- which really means "all you guys who can go to Denver hold up your hands" -- a bunch of we COP types motored to Denver. We appreciated all the hard work done by the locals there, and it was fun to play in the traffic. The third place we got meant a lot to the guys; it was invigorating to qualify for the Fall Contest and we'll see a lot of our Central States buddies there. We were led in Denver by our Associate Director, Ray Crowl, because our Director, Don Goodrich, couldn't go. These two guys really nagged us into shape. We feel that we're very lucky to have two directors of this quality; we couldn't be prouder of these guys if we paid them.

With summer comes a lot of practice and preparation for our show and the Fall Contest. Since we'll be singing in various churches again during the summer, we expect to be busy. However, we're never too busy to welcome a guest; if you find enough gas to get to Hastings on a Monday night, drop in on us. Just come to the Public Library -- the password is "what year did the Quartet From Rigoletto win the District?" The Librarian will tell you where you can go!

Two Shows A Success

by Dick Kruse
Cedar Rapids, Iowa Chapter

The Harmony Hawks 23rd annual Parade of Barbershop Quartets on April 14 was another success. The "two show" format which we first tried last year worked well again this year. It made it possible for twice as many people to get seats closer to the stage and to better enjoy the show which was headlined by the Club House Four and the Mid-Continental. The Hawks chorus presentation, "Song Trails", was on a western theme done in a campfire setting. Our own Vigortones and Certain D's quartets were given featured spots.

Credit should be given to talented Dave Dicken who wrote the script and directed the show. Denny Ferry and his stage crew along with Mrs. Buzz Brown, provided a great stage setting. Chorus director Chuck Traylor did a very good job of getting the musical portion of the show worked out. Dick Greenman was the parade chairman.

Earlier in the year, Dean Kruse was selected as our Barbershopper of the

Year. During more than twenty years as a barbershopper, he has been a member of several quartets and is currently the tenor with the Certain D's. He has many times been a board member and is a past president of our chapter. His attendance through the years has been outstanding and he is always willing to give his help whenever he can. Dean certainly deserves this recognition after many years of service to our chapter.

Another member who should be recognized is "Sip" Strand. Last winter he sold four fine young men on barbershopping and now they are all regular and enthusiastic members. Among the four is Sip's son Gary, who already is at work in a new quartet.

Names on the sick list include Mike Hines, our Central States District secretary, who underwent a major artery replacement. Mike was forced to miss our show and the spring convention in Denver but he is now doing very well. Chapter president Don Elvers entered the hospital right after the show for tests and

treatment but at this time he is also back on the job.

The Board of Directors of the Harmony Hawks chorus are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Len Bjella as chorus director starting immediately. Equal significance to that appointment is the acceptance by Mr. Chuck Traylor as assistant director. This, after lengthy discussions among the board members and Chuck and Len, seems to us to be a phenomenal combination of knowledge, skill, determination, and enthusiasm.

Many of the chorus members are already familiar with Len's musical techniques. We know that the chorus will continue to grow in musical fundamentals by having Chuck work frequently in craft sessions, assist quartets and quartet coaches, aid in sectional rehearsals and generally be a valuable influence on what makes good music sound even better.

We truly owe a great deal of thanks to Chuck Traylor for his exhaustive efforts as Director of the chorus and sincerely hope that this new combination of talent proves to be an excellent experience for "Seekers of the 7th".

NEW ERA

(continued from page 12)

highlight an important or humorous event. There is indication that more members are now reading the dispenser - front to back. What's more, it is read by the wives! The wives really like cartoons!

All of these efforts have created an increased interest for Barbershopping. More and more, the comment is heard, especially among the newer members. "It is great to be a Barbershopper!"



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Let Harmony Ring

by John Snook
Des Moines, Iowa Chapter

"LET HARMONY RING" is the sound of music in Des Moines. Right now the big thing in this community is the Travel Fund Show that will be here on June 9, 1973. The De-Moinaires decided to host the show and the membership is working hard to make the show a financial success. With best talent in the Central States District doing the honors on stage it is not hard to get enthused about selling tickets. "I am sorry this report has to be into the printer before the show but your correspondent will have a more complete report in the next issue."

We had our Spring show on March 31, and while the Tech Hi-School auditorium left some things to be desired the show was a success. Our worth director Jerry Pike, was satisfied with performance by the chorus and the quartets, "The Citations," "The Foreman," and "The Jax of Harmony" rounded out the show for a pleasant evening of Barbershopping. The After Glo was a success, as usual, thanks to the fine quartets that furnished the entertainment.

AUDITIONS FOR ADMISSIONS is continuing to be a very good method of recruiting new members. our most recent one held April 29 was a success to the extent that we had 9 people audition and 3 new members sign up with many of them back for more participation for 3 more evenings. We expect to add at least 4 or 5 new members. Chet Waterman did a good job of planning the evening and advertising the project, but could not be there to oversee it the night of the audition but past president Wendell Suddeth took over and did his usual fine job on anything he undertakes.

The members of the Des Moines Chapter are kept busy with going some place or doing something most of the time. Thanks to Mike Rehberg and John Vande Lune about 28 members of the Chapter and some families flew to Denver for the Pre-Lim contest. The Ozark strike caused them to fly on the United Air Lines, but I have it upon good authority that the stewardess on Ozark missed lan-

ding in the laps of Barbershoppers and De-Moinaires provided United Ladies with corsages and entertainment while in flight. Needless to say a good time was had by all.

A bus trip to Fort Dodge for their Spring show was another good thing that happens to Barbershoppers who participate and take part in the activities.

On May 14 the Chorus and 3 of our registered quartets sang at the Area 11 College in Ankeny, and that same week on May 19, the chorus and two quartets sang for the meeting of the State Heart Association, at the Hiatt House. The Institute of Logopedics will be the beneficiary for this performance, which is very pleasing to The De-Moinaires.

DONN KERR REPORTS: The De-Moinaires were in excellent voice as they presented a concert on May 14th in the Little Theater at the Des Moines Area Community College, Ankeny, Iowa. The purpose of the concert was to raise money for the student emergency loan fund. The De-Moinaires were happy to give \$428. to the college. This contribution was the largest financial boost to the fund since its inception. Again the De-Moinaires took steps to assist those less fortunate than themselves.

What's

Coming Up Next?

- Sept. 8 - Waterloo - Cedar Falls, Iowa Chapter Parade
- Sept. 15 - Lincoln, Nebraska Chapter Parade
- Sept. 15 - Western Iowa Division Chorus Contest - Mason City, Iowa
- Sept. 29 - Waukon, Iowa Chapter Parade
- Oct. 5-7 - CSD Contest and Convention - Kansas City, Missouri
- Oct. 13 - Leavenworth, Kansas Chapter Parade
- Oct. 20 - Sheldon, Iowa Chapter Parade
- Oct. 20 - Sioux Falls, South Dakota Chapter Parade
- Oct. 20 - Olathe, Kansas Chapter Parade
- Oct. 20 - Atlantic, Iowa Chapter Parade
- Oct. 27 - Watertown, South Dakota Chapter Parade
- Oct. 27 - Hastings, Nebraska Chapter Parade
- Nov. 3 - Topeka, Kansas Chapter Parade
- Nov. 3 - Denver, Colorado Chapter Parade
- Nov. 10 - St. Louis, Mo. #1 Chapter Parade
- Nov. 10 - Storm Lake, Iowa Chapter Parade
- Nov. 17 - Brookings, South Dakota Chapter Parade
- Dec. 1-2 - COTS - Lincoln, Nebraska

District Directory

Addendum

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Congrats New SPEBSQSA Life Time Members!

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LYLE J. WYLY - Overland Park, Kansas

TENOR — DICK LEIGHTON LEAD — KEN VOGEL

MEMBERS SPEBSQSA, INC.
THE VIGORTONES
CONTACT: Len Bjella, 1555 Park Ave. S. E.
EM: 1726 Cedar Rapids Iowa

BARITONE — LEN BJELLA BASS — BOB NANCE

DICK CHRIS Contact
JERRY BOB Chris C. Petersen
1523 1st Ave. South
Denison, Iowa

Look Out Central States!

by Irv Boyd
Western Iowa Div. V.P.

It just has to be big news when two Chapters in any Division pick themselves up by the bootstraps, and get off the associate status. Well, that's what happened in the Western Ia. Div. during this last quarter. While the goal of the 20% membership increase in each of the Division's Chapters has not yet been met, there is still enough of the year left to accomplish it. A big push yet this fall by each Chapter will get the job done.

And here is the most encouraging sign of great progress in this division yet. With the Mason City Chapter acting as host, seven of the nine eligible Chapters in the Western Ia. Div. have entered in the first chorus and quartet contest to be held within the Div. Ames, Fort Dodge, Denison, Algona, Forest City, Atlantic, and Sheldon are working hard to walk off with the big one on Sept. 15th in Mason City, Iowa. After the contest, a great show is planned involving all the Chapters.

LOOK OUT CENTRAL STATES - you're going to be hearing more from the Western Ia. Div.

Gil Says Thanks!

by Gil Lefholz
CSD Executive V.P.

HEP SCHOOL

My sincere thanks to each and everyone who helped to make the 1973 HEP School a great success. 123 Central States barbershoppers including ten quartets, were in attendance. The staff was outstanding and from all reports, an educational as well as fun week-end was had by all.

We now look forward to 1974. The HEP School dates have been set so mark June 23 and 24, 1974, on your calendar and plan to be in attendance. Central States is on the move. . . be a part of the great forward surge in our great district.

NEW CHAPTER

The North Kansas City Chapter signed their charter application with 37 names, the day before their license expiration. Their chapter meetings have that electrified atmosphere, the chorus is singing extremely well, and one quartet, the North Chords (who you heard at HEP School in Lincoln) has been formed. The sponsoring chapter is Heart of America.



Holds Auditions

by Bob White

NOJOCO (NORtheast JOHnson COunty) Chapter held auditions for admissions on April 26 and have joined the growing list of chapters who realize that it really works--if you work it. We sent our 142 invitations by mail, purchased 8 one-minute spots on a local radio station, purchased 3 ads in local newspapers, received several public service promotions from stations and papers, and made numerous telephone calls and personal contacts.

We had 19 new guests that night, and 7 have since joined. Auditions for admissions is a sound, well-planned program with which any chapter can make a concentrated membership drive.

Stetsons off to the Olathe Pionaires. NOJOCO was proud to sponsor this new chapter and to participate in their Charter Presentation Night on June 16. They are a great bunch of barbershoppers and have already been very active, receiving more requests for singouts than they can possibly handle. This is what's so great about starting a new chapter--the service to the community and the enjoyment of barbershop harmony that it brings to new fans.

NOJOCO has been active with singouts itself this summer. An Ice Cream Social at the Overland Park Lutheran church on June 24; the JC's Fourth of July celebration at Shawnee Mission Park where ex-POW Lt. Cmdr. Charlie Plumb and Congressman Larry Winn and Senator Robert Dole spoke; the Summer Old-Fashioned Days at the Metcalf South Shopping Center on July 6 and the Senior Citizens' "Christmas in July" party on July 25.

We are pleased that NOJOCO has been able to send \$410.00 to the Institute of Logopedics during the last 6 months. We have had these donations from four different signouts, and it makes our enjoyable hobby even more enjoyable.

As the hosts of your 1973 CSD Contest and Convention October 5, 6, & 7, NOJOCO hopes that every CSD member and his family can come to Kansas City, where "everything is up to date". Use the forms in this issue of the Serenade, and let us know how we can serve you. See you in October.

Jax Alive And Well!

by John Mininger

The JAX are alive and well in Des Moines, Iowa! You may have heard through the Barbershop grapevine that our bass, Jerry Pike, has moved to Waynesville, Missouri where he purchased a motel. Since that decision, we have diligently been seeking a bass who could come up to the standard of excellence set by Jerry.

We have found one and we would like to introduce you to Cliff Pape, currently from Omaha, Nebraska. Cliff is a veteran Barbershopper of seventeen years experience. The majority of Cliff's quartet work has been with the Mello Lads, well known in Central States. Cliff is an experienced musician of considerable talent and we are proud that he has accepted our invitation to join the JAX.

We will of course, be fulfilling all our show commitments with a repertoire that is better than ever. The JAX are still on their way up!

Let's Tell It Like It Is!



by Al Potts

Central States
District President

Nine months have now gone by in 1973 and Central States is pretty much "on course" so far for the year. We are about to charter at least two new chapters and have a few more good prospects for additional growth in extension. However, **RETENTION** is and **continues to be** a problem --- a very serious one! Central States District membership has dropped a net of 86 members from the report of 12-31-72 and there are now ten (10) chapters on associate status and several right on the edge. Gentlemen, I appeal to you --- where is the fierce **PRIDE** that you **should have** in such a fine organization as ours? Once a chapter is established, I cannot conceive of the men who formed it letting it "go down the tubes." **SPEBS-QSA** is **the** finest singing organization in the **whole world** and for any **one** man not to do his part in furthering our growth and stature, is downright sinful! We do much for the communities in which we are located and provide endless hours of joy and entertainment for countless thousands of people. The very fine work that is done at the Institute of Logopedics has been supported by donations of over

\$1,000,000.00 through our efforts as "singing ambassadors of philanthropy." **PRIDE** is the key, gentlemen, and I can truthfully say I am proud to be a **BARBERSHOPPER!** --- can you?

My wife, Shirley, just jerked my soap box out from under me, so I'll quit my sermon for now --- **but I'll be back!**

Central States now is entitled to **4** quartets at the International Contest and we were represented in Portland by the finest with great quartets having qualified in Denver this past April --- Jax of Harmony, MidAmerichords, Morning Times and The Arrangement. Also, we're 100% behind the Pony Expressmen from St. Joseph, Missouri who let 'em know that CSD is Barbershoppin' country!

Guys, I can't repeat it often enough --- it's **your** District! Sure, you've elected a group of men to preside as District Officers and do much of the work --- but it's still **your** District. Many, many chapters were not represented at the House of Delegates meeting in Denver and I don't think it's fair for a few to decide for the majority. Please find the **man**, the **time** and the **funds** to take a more active part in the affairs of **your** District.

The DMA program has provided much interest and some participation on the part of chapters, choruses and quartets around the District. There are still some "bugs" in it but an evaluation and study are being conducted to bring the aims and purposes of the program into better focus.

In closing, I urge **each** and **every one** of you men to "Keep America Singing" --- from the "Heartland of Harmony."



Leon Avakian To Be International Rep

Leon Avakian of Asbury Park, New Jersey, is an International vice president of the 35,000 member Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America. His election first took place at the barber shop harmony society's 33rd annual convention in New Orleans in June, 1971 and he was re-elected the next year at Atlanta.

Avakian is a long time Barbershopper, having joined the society in 1950. Since that time he has been active in nearly all administrative branches of SPEBSQSA. He is Past President of the Mic-Atlantic District Association of barbershop chapters (the society's largest) and also served on the Society's International board of directors.

He is married and has two sons. In business life he is president of his own engineering consulting firm.

CENTRAL STATES SERENADE

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