



## New CSD President outlines goals for 1990

by Fred Teller  
CSD President

I am most grateful and more than a little humble as I thank all of you CSD Barbershoppers for electing me your president for 1990. The men who have held this position in the past have done many wonderful things for our District. I will try my best to measure up.

I'm especially appreciative of all the guidance and helpful information given me these past two years by President **Bob Swenson**. We all owe **Bob** and **Telva** a standing ovation for the fantastic amount of time and effort they've put forth on our behalf.

So what's ahead? Plenty! Your new District Board, in two meetings, has helped me put together our 1990 Work Plan. Here are the highlights:

- \* A five percent increase in membership
- \* Two new registered chapters
- \* Two new licensed chapters
- \* Develop performance teams to assist chapters
- \* Encourage every chapter to use the "MEMBERSHIP BEGINS WITH ME" campaign (see item on Logopedics)
- \* Increased attendance at District conventions
- \* A crowd of Barbershoppers at our HEP School on June 8-10
- \* Continued help with Logopedics as well as other local charities.
- \* Increased public relations and publicity on a District and especially a local level.

Membership is number one! We can't continue to be a "Society for the Preservation . . ." if there is no one to do the preserving.

CSD loses about 17 to 18 percent of its membership annually. That means that in order to realize a five percent gain, we must bring in about 550 new members this year! Impossible? Not at all, but it'll take everyone working on it. So "MEMBERSHIP BEGINS WITH ME" means me and all the other 2,500 "me's" in the Central States District.

You'll hear more about our other goals as the year goes on.

We have a terrific bunch of new District officers and Area Counselors, all pledged to work just as hard as

(Continued on Page 12)

Central States District

# Serenade



Iowa · Kansas · Nebraska · Missouri · South Dakota

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## What's going on here?



Can you name this chorus and its chapter, its musical director, the man in the dark suit, and the occasion on which this picture was taken?

## School bells ring for CSD chapter officers, new CSD officers for 1990 inducted

Two hundred fifty-seven newly elected (or re-elected) CSD chapter officers for 1990 converged on the Red Lion Inn in Omaha on the weekend of November 18 and 19 to join 12 faculty members for the 1989 running of the CSD Chapter Officer Training School (COTS).

Eager chapter administrative and musical leaders, representing 45 of the 65 CSD chapters, met with experts who had been Internationally trained for orientation sessions in each of the basic chapter offices — president, music vice president, membership vice president, program vice president, secretary, and treasurer.

Two additional classes taught by specialists picked by the International Office were one for Public Relations Officers and a new class, presented for the first time this year, entitled "Successful Performance" and taught by **Gary Stamm** of the International Office.

In addition to the above sessions, which were arranged for by the International Office, three sessions were offered by the Central States District. These were a session for District Offi-

cers and Area Counselors, taught by International Vice President-Treasurer **Bob Cearnal**, of Mascoutah, Illinois, one for chapter bulletin editors with **Dick Teeters**, Immediate Past President of PROBE, of St. Paul, Minnesota, and a third class of musical directors, led by **David Wright**, director of the **Daniel Boone Chorus**, of St. Charles, Missouri. **Dave** also led the two general massed chorus sessions on Saturday afternoon and evening.

Every one of the 10 Nebraska Division chapters and the six in the South Dakota Division was represented among the 257 participants in this year's COTS. Attendance from other divisions was 15 of the 21 Iowa chapters, 10 of 17 from Kansas, and four of 12 from Missouri.

In other COTS business, the slate of 1990 District officers was installed, readying them to begin their terms of office officially on January 1. **Chuck Hunter**, 1989 Southwestern District President and instructor for the COTS Presidents' session, did the installing honors.

All new CSD officers were on hand except Immediate Past President **Bob**

**Swenson** (we missed you, **Bob!**), who was on the COTS faculty for the Dixie District, and **Lud Einess**, new Missouri Division Vice President, whose daughter picked the wrong weekend for her wedding.

We mustn't fail to mention the fine job done by the **Missouri Valley Music Company** of entertaining the COTS student body and faculty during the Saturday night dinner. And the **Omaha Chapter** put together what they called **M.A.C.H.O.**, which stood for **Midlands Area Close Harmony Organization** (we understand it was the brainchild of **Dennis Sorge**), a 70-man chorus made up of singers from the **Omaha, Papillion, Nebraska City, Fremont, Lincoln, and Beatrice Chapters**, plus some guys from **Atlantic**, all under the direction of **Fremont's Pete Stibor**.

### A Barbershopper's Prayer

Lord, grant me the courage to sing the notes and chords that I can.  
And the patience to hold back on the notes I cannot.  
And the wisdom to know the difference.

—Tom McGorray, Editor  
Sunshine Sayings,





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# From the Edge -



by Wade Dexter  
Editor, the Serenade

This time I'm going to take the lazy way out and use an item from another bulletin, the *Pioneer Troubador*, the bulletin of the Pioneer District, edited by **Bob McDermott**.

In his December/January edition, **Bob** has published an article by current Pioneer District President **Clay Jones** that deals in part with a subject that has bothered me for a long time. Here's what **Clay** has to say:

"At the District Presidents' Forum in Kenosha this past November, the question was raised, 'How do we insure (that) Society units (quartets and choruses) performing in public, representing the Society, do so at an acceptable level?' Many horror stories were told of extremely bad quartets and choruses performing for the public, many for a fee, suggesting that they are expected to present at least a partially semiprofessional or somewhat competent performance, but instead have been so bad as to be an embarrassment to audience and singers alike. Could this be part of our problem (of attracting new members)?

"Are audiences turned off and potential members discouraged from joining our ranks because they cringed through a totally inept, worse than amateurish singing performance by non-singers purporting to represent what we like to call the largest male singing organization in the world?

"In the past, this topic has been carefully avoided as being too hot to handle, but President **Charlie (McCann)** believes 'it is time to address it to see if (1) there is widespread support for the concept, (2) can we

develop a positive way to accomplish the objective (perform at an acceptable level), and (3) do we have the resources to do so?'

"One suggestion offered was for each of our Society's performing units to submit a video tape of their performance package to an evaluating body who would sanction them with a 'seal of approval' if acceptable. This approach is fraught with controversy, of course, because, among other effects, it might intimidate all quartets and choruses into withdrawing from making any public performances. We might end up singing only for ourselves.

"Certainly a way can be found, however, for our members to receive an evaluation of their performance package and be coached towards improvement without being so negative as to discourage any further participation in front of the public. If this concept receives enough support, a committee will be appointed at International Staff level to study and formulate a strategy."

We've all seen and heard Society quartets and choruses perform before an audience of non-Barbershoppers in a manner that could not but have done irreparable damage to the image of competence and professionalism we're trying to project as a singing fraternity. What's the solution? Let us have your thoughts on the matter. We'll publish them in the *Serenade*, a copy of which goes to the International Office and our Society President and other members of the International Board.

## From the Mailbox

Dear Wade:

Thanks a lot for the feature article depicting **St. Charles** as the 1989 CSD chorus champion for the second time. There is one issue I would like for you to better understand.

We are the **Daniel Boone Chorus!** We don't call ourselves the **David Wright Chorus** because our **David Wright** arrangements get a few points, nor do we refer to ourselves as the **Brian Roemer Chorus** due to his ability to gain us a few stage presence points.

Wade, we had 75 men on stage when the curtain opened and 75 when the curtain closed, and each one of us worked hard to make a significant contribution to our performance. It wasn't luck or any one man's performance that allowed us to score well. We have no heroes in our group.

I am somewhat surprised and hurt that you didn't mention how well I performed our choreography! Third row, just left of center. Watch for me next contest.

**Jack Martin**  
**Daniel Boone Chorus**

Dear Wade:

Enjoyed the November/December 1989 *Serenade* coverage of the fall contest very much. I was disappointed no mention was made of the wonderful Sunday morning worship service that was held in the East Ballroom at the Red Lion Inn. The **Pathfinder Chorus** sang several religious numbers that were inspirational as well as beautifully done. **Pete Stibor** had an excellent message that spoke to everyone there. He's as good at speaking as he is at directing! If he ever decided to be a preacher, he wouldn't have to take a back seat to anyone.

My wife and I thought this was the highlight of the convention and contest. We don't always get to attend but did get to both the spring and fall events this year and attended the

Sunday morning worship both times and were favorably impressed with each. The fall service was better attended than the spring one was.

I would urge other Barbershoppers to attend in the future. It's a great way to end a great weekend.

Sincerely,  
**Bob Runcie**  
**Chorus of the Plains**  
Hastings, Nebraska

## Help the Pioneer District celebrate its 50th birthday

**Jim Styer**, the Pioneer District's perennial promoter of big events, is hoping for a record number of birthday cards to be sent to his district's spring convention in honor of its golden anniversary. He's looking for at least 10,000 cards; that means a card from one in three Barbershoppers.

The district has already received cards from **J. Frank Rice**, lead of **O.C. Cash's Okie Four** quartet, and from **Cash's** daughter, **Betty Anne**. Senders are asked to sign the card with their name, address, chapter, and district.

"Store-bought cards, homemade ones, postcards, messages written in crayon, all are acceptable," **Styer** said. "It's all up to you. Get friends to send a card, also the mayor, Sweet Adelines, the postman, anyone you can contact; we want huge numbers."

A birthday with the cards will be held at the Pioneer District Convention on April 29-30, 1990, in Battle Creek Michigan. Send cards to: Happy Birthday, Pioneer, P.O. Box 50, Battle Creek, MI 49016.

The deadline for sending cards is March 31, 1990.

(Taken from *Update* edited by **Ray Heller**.)

## Serenade resolutions for 1990

The "editorial staff" of the *Serenade* does solemnly resolve during 1990 to remember:

— Not to place a "t" before the "z" in the name of CSD Executive Vice President **Dale Schulz**. We will also remember that, no matter what **Bob Swenson** says, **Dale** is not 43 years of age!

— That **Matt Moore** sang bass with the 1984 CSD Quartet Champions, **Special Touch**, and not with the **K. C. Connection**, our 1986 champions.

— That **Bob King**, recipient of our 1989 CSD "Award of Merit," is from **Des Moines**, which is in the **Western Iowa** Division.

— To omit the "Jr." from CSD President **Fred Teller's** name.

## Woodshed lead lines wanted

**Tom Gentry** says that the Music Department at International is considering production of cassette tapes of old, ear-singable, woodshed-type melodies. Anyone having an old favorite, the rarer the better, is asked to record himself singing the song and send the tape to **Gentry**. The song will be considered when the cassette is produced.

Any interesting information about the song should be included on the tape.

## What happened?

If some of you guys who were at COTS in Omaha and thought that your pictures were taken are wondering what happened to the photos, we'll have to blame it on a camera malfunction that ruined an entire roll of film! Sorry!

## Serenade Deadlines and Mailing Dates

Edition	Deadline	Approx. Mailing Date
March/April	February 15, 1990	March 1, 1990
May/June	May 4, 1990	May 18, 1990
July/August	July 13, 1990	July 27, 1990
September/October	August 15, 1990	August 29, 1990
November/December	October 15, 1990	November 1, 1990

## Area contest in St. Louis attracts groups from Illinois

by Keith Stockberger  
St. Louis #1 Chapter

The Area Council of Greater St. Louis sponsored a chorus and quartet contest on Saturday, September 23. The program was held in the Affton High School Auditorium, and the **St. Louis #1 Chapter** served as hosts.

St. Louis area choruses that participated included the **Kaskaskia Trail Chorus** from Waterloo, Illinois; the **Gateway Chorus** of the **St. Louis Suburban Chapter**; the **Bell-Notes** from Belleville, Illinois; and the **Florissant Valley Chorus** from Florissant. A chorus from the **Alton, Illinois chapter** and the **Little Egypt Chorus** from Carbon-dale, Illinois, also accepted.

The quartet competition followed the chorus performances. Competing foursomes included the **Counterpoints**, the **Tri-Towners**, Har-

monic **Tonic**, **Strollin' Harmony**, the **Other Guys**, the **New Breed**, and the **Rivertown Sounds**. The **Tri-Counts** from Charlestown, Illinois, were the mike testers.

Competition by the choruses and quartets was keen, and as usual, the audience compared their choices for winner with the official results. The winning chorus was the **Bell-Notes**, followed by **Little Egypt** and the **Florissant Valley Chorus**. The quartet winners were the **New Breed** from the **St. Charles Chapter**. The runner-up foursome, **Rivertown Sound**, and the third place **Tri-Towners** are both from the **St. Louis #1 Chapter** (the bass **Ron Grooters**, belongs to the **St. Charles Chapter**. No charge for the plug, Ron!)

It was a great evening of barbershopping, and all involved look forward to another competition next year.



The **Chordbuster** Chorus of Davenport recently gave the residents of Maquoketa, Iowa, a taste of barbershop entertainment they'll not soon forget. The **Chordbusters** exported their very popular spring show, "Don't Touch that Dial," at the request of the Maquoketa Arts Committee. Over 300 people from the small community were thrilled by the fast-paced spoof on memorable TV programs. A local high school chorus of 35 boys (shown above) joined the chorus, led by Assistant Director **Harry Swarts** for the finale number, "Yes, Sir, That's My Baby." Photo and story provided by **Amos Glanz**.

## South Dakota Division plans midwinter chorus festival

by Norm Grosz  
South Dakota Division V.P.

Our midwinter chorus festival is our big event coming up on Saturday, February 3, at Augustana College in Sioux Falls. We're planning all-day workshops, beginning at 10 a.m., and an evening show at 7:30 p.m. featuring choruses and quartets from our Division, plus a massed chorus.

Our program will include the **Downstate Express** from Minnesota as our teaching quartet, and we'll be joined by **Ev Nau** of the International Staff.

In other events in our Division, the **Dakota Heritage Chorus** of Aberdeen will present their annual show on April 7 and will feature the **Ralston Creek Reunion** as their headline quartet. They're sending their director, **Dean Trapp**, to the Chorus Directors' Course in Kenosha in June.

The **Brookings Chapter** is working to increase their membership. Currently, their principal activity involves

Christmas caroling.

The chapters at **Huron** and **Milbank** are planning spring shows and are also busy with Christmas performances. **Milbank's** director, **Jack Gable**, is also interested in attending the Chorus Directors' Course.

And the **Stateline Celebration** will headline the **Sioux Falls Chapter** show on March 31. **Mark Lohse** is back as the director of the **Sioux Emperians**.

Over in Viborg, the **Tri-Valley Chorus** is bringing in the **139th Street Quartet** from the west coast for their show on April 21.

The former chapter at **Watertown** and a new group at **Mitchell** are working toward licensure. I met with 20 men at Watertown who want to sing — when they find a director.

**Ev Nau** of the International Staff will visit **Viborg** on January 29, **Mitchell** on the 30th, and **Huron** on the 31st. On February 1, he'll be in **Watertown**, and he'll spend the 3rd at the festival in **Sioux Falls**.



The **New Breed**, of **St. Charles**, won the quartet contest sponsored by the Area Council of Greater St. Louis and hosted by the **St. Louis #1 Chapter**. Chorus winners were the **Bell-Notes** of Belleville, Illinois.

## Looking way ahead, Cedar Rapids plans for 1990 fall convention

by Merrill Aitchison  
Convention Chairman

Plans are in full swing for the 1990 CSD fall convention in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, "the land of the all-new Harmony Hawks."

A great convention is in store for Central States Barbershoppers and their families in Cedar Rapids next October 12 and 13, and it's not too early to make plans to be there. The people in Cedar Rapids still talk about our last convention with pleasure and are eager once again to throw out the welcome mat as host city for the fall contests.

The beautiful Stouffers Hotel Complex will again serve as headquarters, and contest sessions will take place in the Paramount Theater of Performing

Arts, one of the finest performance facilities in the Midwest.

As was seen in Omaha this past fall, more and more choruses and quartets are entering competition, the result of which has been an ever-improving musical quality in Central States. Cedar Rapids should witness the best contest ever this fall, and you should take advantage of the opportunity to be a part of the fun. We're working very hard to provide you with an outstanding convention. Plan now to come join us.

### Here's the singing order for choruses in San Francisco

- 1) Big Chicken Chorus — DIX
  - 2) Cincinnati Western Hills — JAD
  - 3) Thoroughbreds — CAR
  - 4) New Mexichords — RMD
  - 5) Daniel Boone Chorus — CSD
  - 6) Big Apple Chorus — MAD
  - 7) Masters of Harmony — FWD
  - 8) New Tradition — ILL
  - 9) Great Northern Union — LOL
  - 10) Cascade Chorus — EVG
  - 11) Friends of Harmony — SLD
  - 12) Great Lakes Chorus — PIO
  - 13) Big Orange Chorus — SUN
  - 14) Hallmarks of Harmony — BABS
  - 15) OK Choral — SWD
  - 16) Narragansett Bay Chorus — NED
  - 17) Dukes of Harmony — ONT
- (Taken from *Update*, edited by Ray Heller.)

## Eastern Iowa Division plans winter weekend workshop

A weekend of family fun and music education has been scheduled for all Eastern Iowa Division and neighboring chapters in Cedar Rapids on February 23-24.

Chapters will be asked to bring their choruses and perform 20 to 30 minutes on Saturday afternoon. This will be followed by a critique session conducted by International Staffmen **Gary Stamm** and **Ev Nau**.

Other activities will include a warm-up of the 150-man-plus chorus sched-

uled to perform at the Eastern Iowa Cookie Festival in May, quartet workshops conducted by Society Director of Music Education and Services **Mel Knight** and others, poolside mixer activities, woodshedding, and a Saturday night show featuring the current CSD Quartet Champs, the **Stateline Celebration**.

For additional information, contact **Amos Glanz** at (319) 359-6772 (evenings) or (309) 782-4584 (days).

### In Memory

Neal Wright  
Ottumwa Chapter

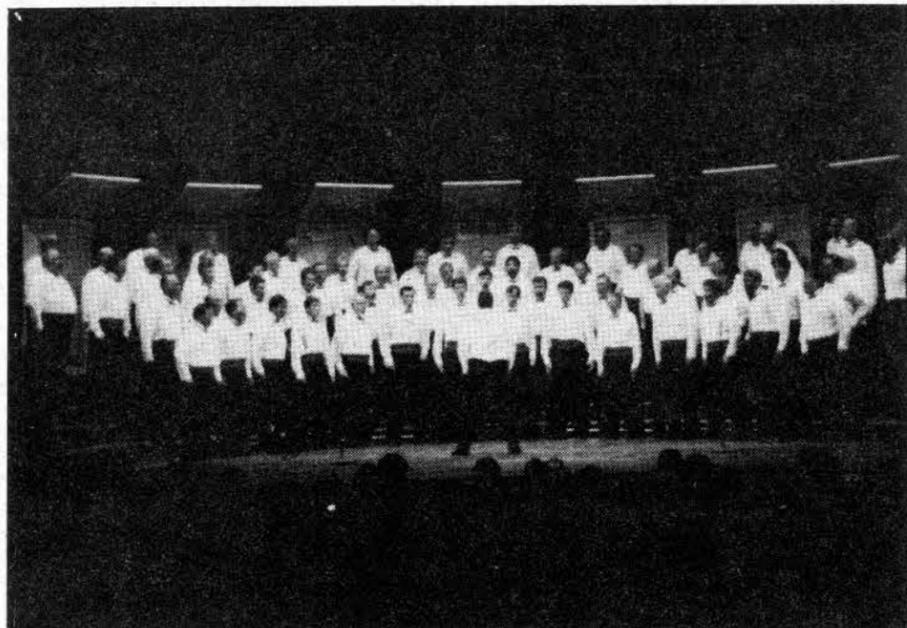
Jim Loy  
Cedar Rapids Chapter

The *Serenade* is the official publication of the Central States District of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. All articles not accompanied by a by-line have been written by the editor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the members and officers of the Central States District or the SPEBSQSA. Space in the *Serenade* will be made available for opposing points of view.

### We apologize

To the **New Arrivals** of the **Sioux Falls** and **Huron Chapters** for inadvertently omitting them from our coverage of the CSD fall quartet contest in the November/December *Serenade*. With **Steve Jurgensen** (tenor), **Ric Morren** (lead), **Ken Jump** (baritone), and **Dave Sternbog** (bass), this fine foursome turned in a highly respectable fifth place finish. And thanks to **Amos Grosz** for alerting us to our error.

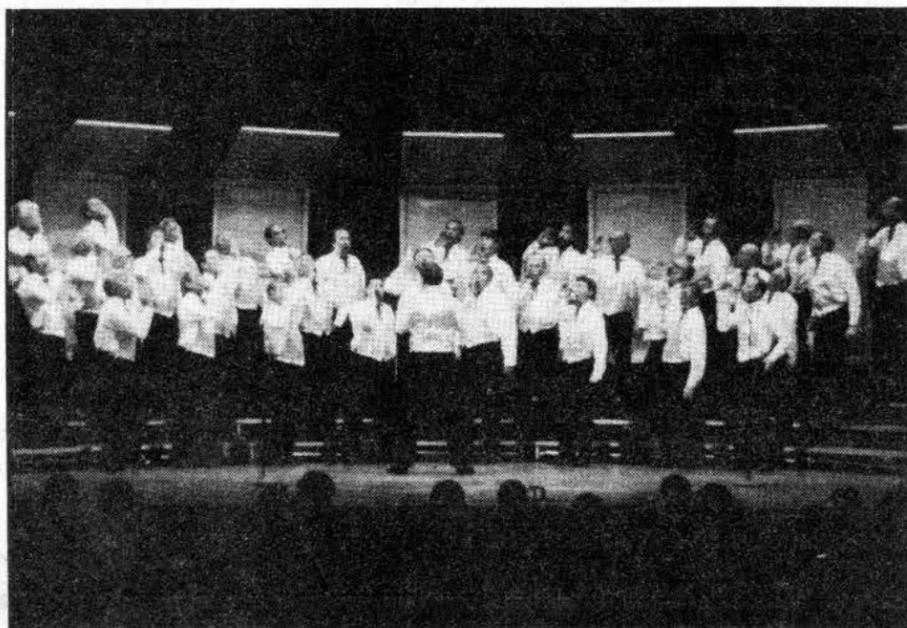
# CSD Choruses in action at Omaha



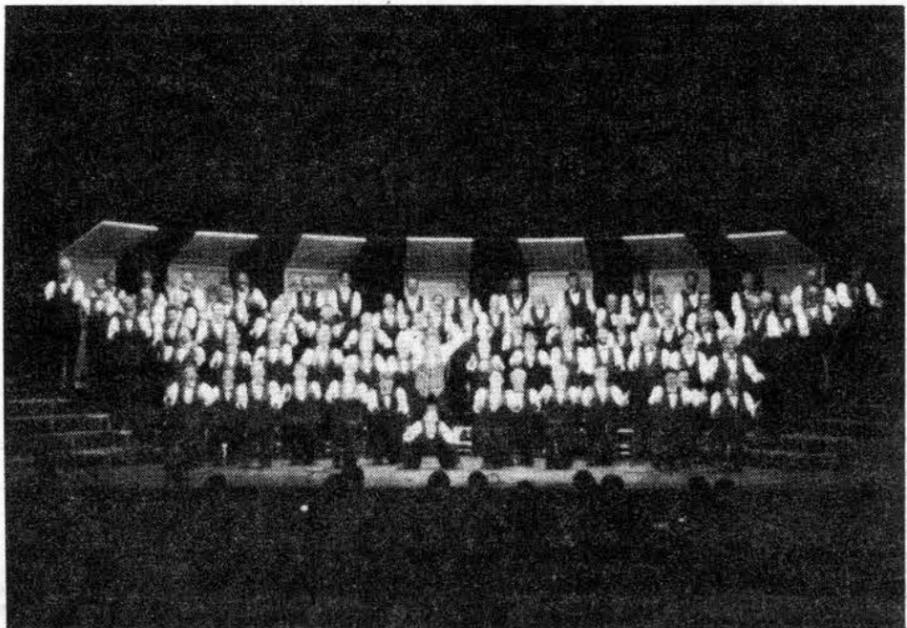
Pathfinder Chorus of Fremont, Pete Stibor, Director



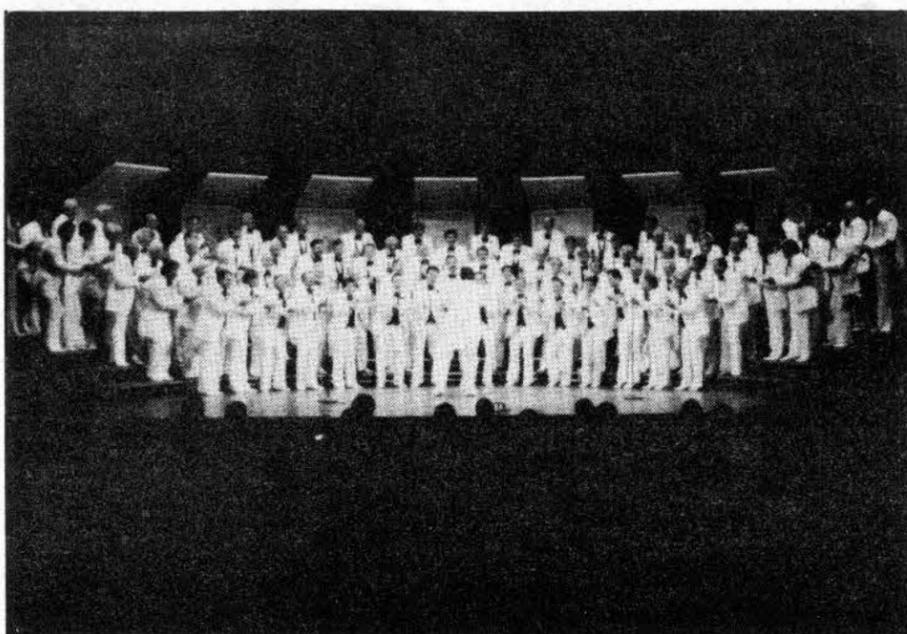
Happiness Express of Denison, Don Farrell, Director



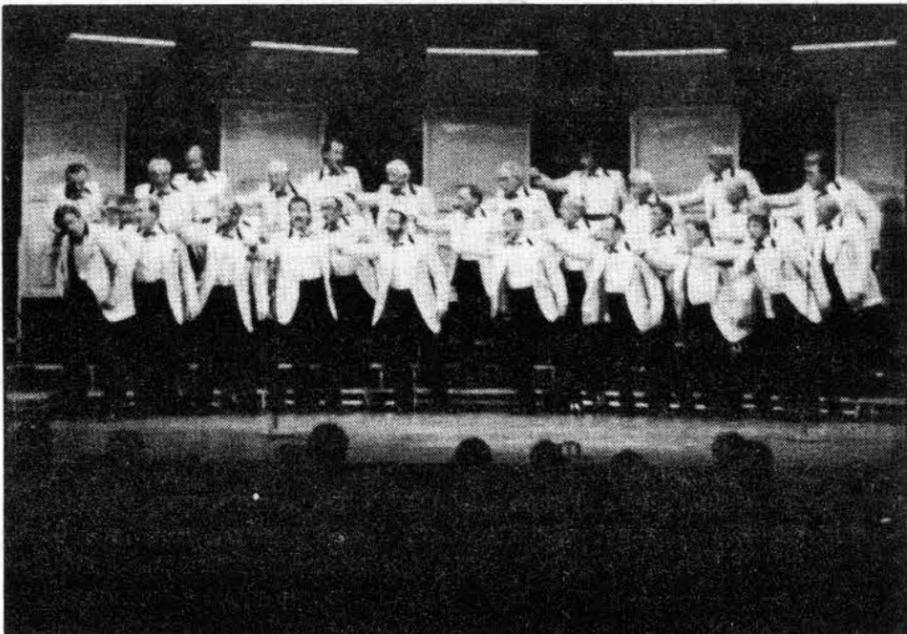
Lincoln Continentals of Lincoln, Dale Comer, Director



Daniel Boone Chorus of St. Charles, David Wright, Director



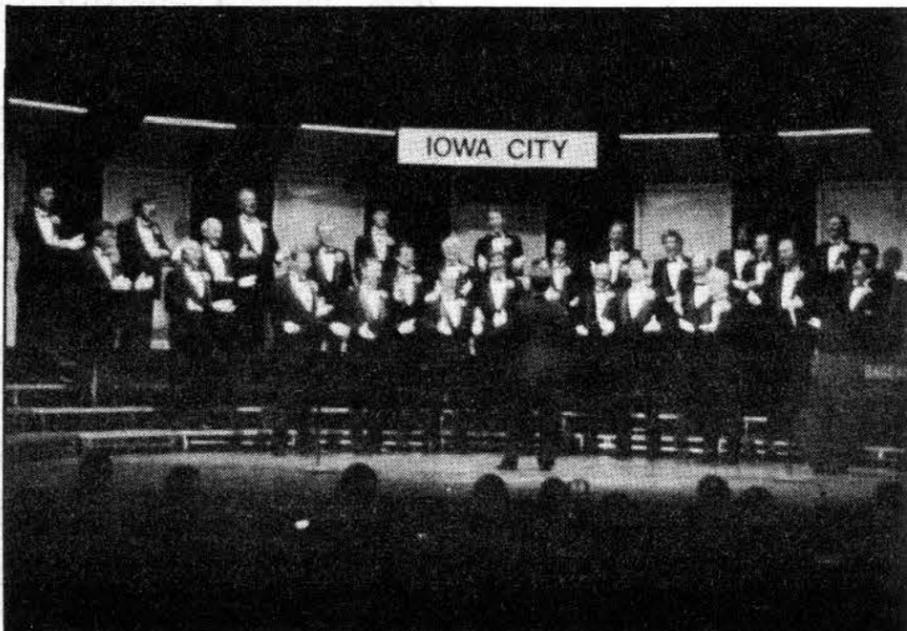
Heart of America Chorus of Kansas City, David Krause, Director



Pride of the Prairie of Newton, Steve Parnell, Director

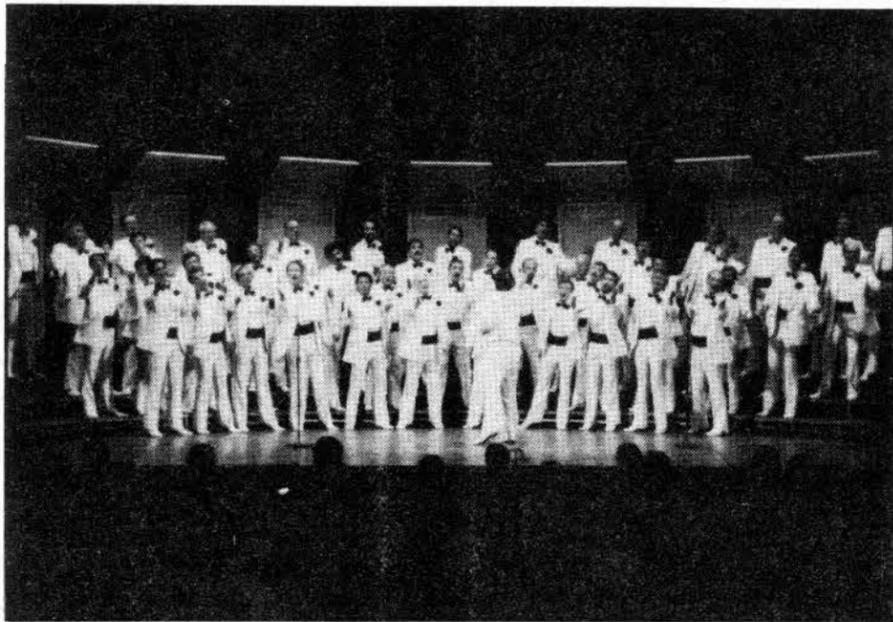


River City Chorus of Mason City, Paul Wigly, Director

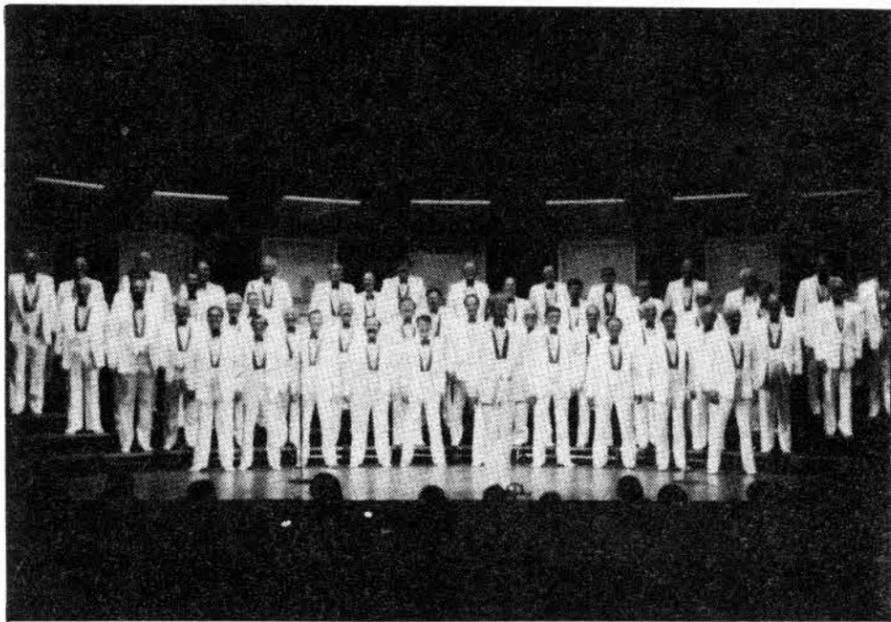


Old Capitol Chorus of Iowa City, James Inghram, Director

# More CSD Choruses on stage at Omaha



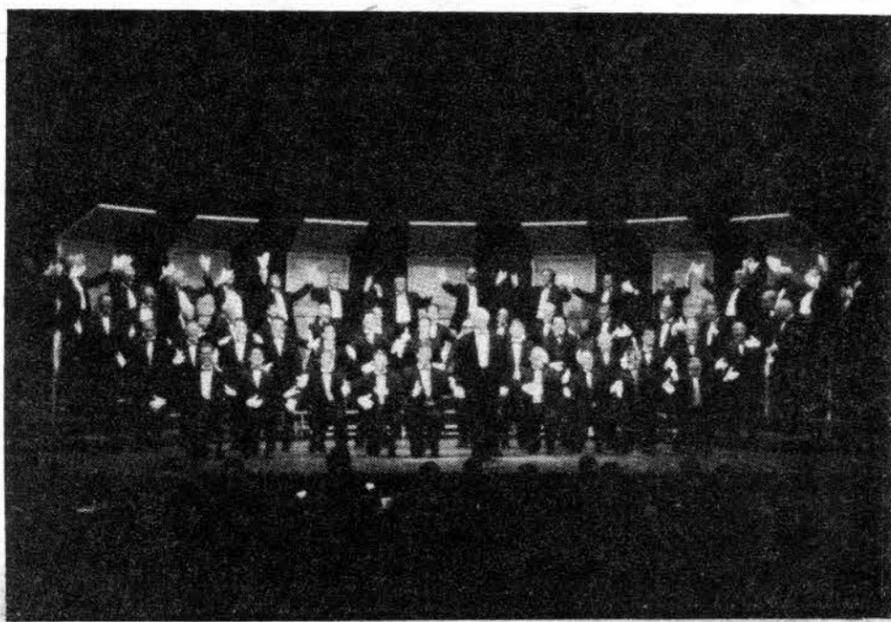
The Proud Image of the Black Hawk Metro Chapter, Joe Caulkins, Director



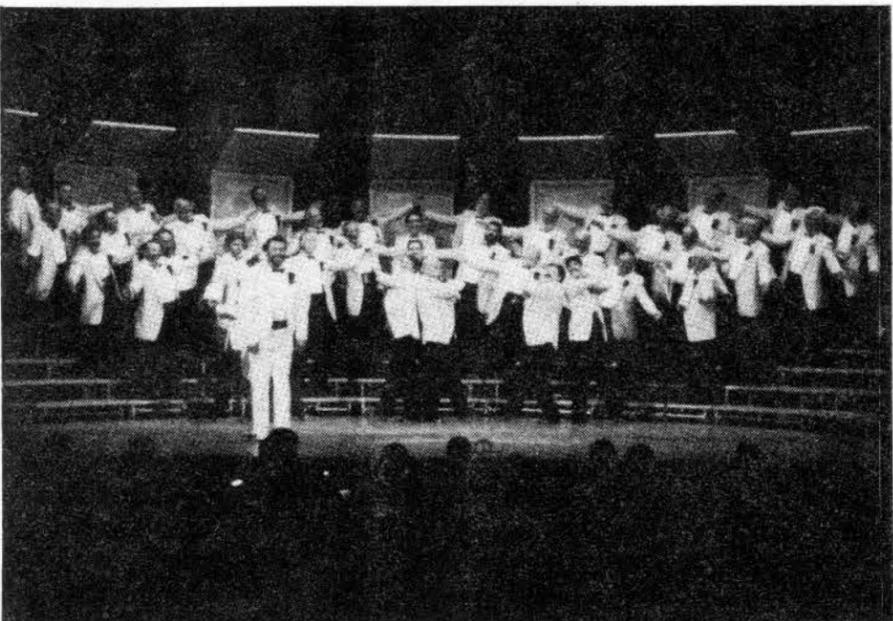
Demoinaires of Des Moines, Rich Thompson, Director



Chordbusters of Davenport, Gary White, Director



Pony Expressmen of St. Joseph, Byron Myers, Director



Air Capitol Chorus of Wichita, Ron Stucky, Director



Sho-Me Statesmen of Springfield, John Stockstill and Jeff Beteto, Co-Directors



Heartland Harmonizers of Omaha, Jerry Leslie and Dan Naumann, Co-Directors

# Stateline Celebration — The Evolution of a Barbershop Quartet

On October 14, 1989, a wonderful thing happened in the lives of four men — **Bill Hansen, Kent Madison, Dennis Hagen, and Bill Trees**. That wonderful something was, of course, the achievement of a long time goal when **Stateline Celebration** was named Central States District Champions on stage at the Orpheum Theater in Omaha, Nebraska.

It began in 1979 when **Bill Hansen** and **Bill Trees**, then members of the "North Forty Chorus" (a non-sanctioned chorus which sang primarily barbershop music) and two other men decided to form a quartet. This early quartet was short-lived, however, as two of the members moved from the area.

**Dennis Hagen**, the soon to be baritone of **Stateline Celebration**, heard the "North Forty Chorus" sing and joined the chorus. Later, on a bus bound from Sioux Falls, South Dakota, **Dennis** learned the lead part on two songs along with a pick-up bass, and the group performed at the singout.

A short time later, **Kent Madison** was introduced to the group as an acquaintance of **Bill Hansen's** and "voila," the birth of **Stateline Celebration** occurred on April 21, 1982.

We were fortunate enough to meet and work with **Paul Wigly** soon thereafter and decided to enter the CSD fall district competition in 1982, which we did, and placed 29th for our effort. Undaunted, we sang on, enjoying our new found companionship and the music we were signing.

We soon had met and spoken with **Barry Clapper**, of the LOL District, who agreed to help us along. We competed twice more finishing 18th and 22nd, respectively. This was with **Dennis Hagen** as lead, **Bill Hansen** as bass, **Bill Trees** as baritone, and **Kent Madison** as tenor.

Then we decided to do some switching around of voice parts. What the heck — couldn't hurt! So we appeared in our fourth competition with **Dennis** as bari, **Bill Hansen** as bass, **Bill Trees** as lead, and **Kent** as tenor. This produced a 13th place finish.

We tried again, with **Bill Hansen** as lead, **Bill Trees** as bass, **Dennis** as bari, and **Kent** as tenor; we finally broke the top ten at spring prelims in Sioux City in 1986. We were thrilled, and our sound was starting to come around, but we knew we needed help.

At about that time, **Paul Wigly** moved from Mason City to Algona, where we were members of the **Algona Cornbelt Chorus**. **Paul** began directing the chorus and coaching our quartet.

Things began to happen, folks. We claimed fifth place, then third, then second. We were actually beginning to think we could win, but knew we had to be fine tuned.

We turned to **Jim Bagby** for help and got it. An afternoon spent in the den of **Jim's** home in Kansas City proved to be a wonderful experience with a fine gentleman, and it really helped us over some hurdles.

One last stop. In the office of an attorney in Lincoln, Nebraska, one afternoon, things finally all came together. **Dale Comer** added the last bit of confidence and expertise we needed. We walked on stage in October feeling



Here's the **Trees** family — **Darin**, standing, and left to right, seated are Father **Bill**, Mother **Sue**, and **Brandy**.

very good about ourselves and knowing that our dream was possible if we performed as well as we had been coached. Apparently we did!!!

How it all happened is sort of "twilight-zonish" as we look back on it. **Dennis Hagen** is born and raised near Dunnell, Minnesota. **Bill Hansen** is born and raised on a farm near Ringstead, Iowa, and stays in that area, as he works in a lumber yard there. **Kent** is born and raised on a dairy farm near Lone Rock, Iowa, and continued the family business. **Bill Trees** is born and raised in Armstrong, Iowa, and eventually settled down to a career in law enforcement in Estherville, Iowa.

All four lives run parallel, within 35 miles of each other, but none of these men knows any of the others until later in life as they expand their interests in music.

Paths begin to cross as barbershop music becomes the focus of attention, and finally they are united — not just acquainted — united, by a bond of friendship unlike any other they have ever known, one that withstands arguments, jealousy, and trivialities, and only grows stronger through it all.

Not, however, without the constant encouragement of wonderful people willing to give of themselves on our behalf, and many others willing to pass along a friendly smile and a pat on the back as they pass. We love you CSD-ers, you bet we do!

## **Bill Trees — Age 43— Bass**

I began enjoying music at an early age; music was always a part of our household and our family gatherings. Basic to my appreciation and understanding of music was my mother's encouragement of piano lessons (which I dreaded). Lots of good "outdoor playtime" was lost while I sat on the bench in front of our player piano pondering my fate.

However, it was there that I developed an interest in music as I pumped the bellows and listened to lots of old time tunes on the player piano. I never really became proficient at playing — a fact my folks always said would make me sorry some day — but so far I'm still not heavily grieved over it.

My sister took up the slack when she began piano lessons, giving me the opportunity to sing while she played. This, to me, was a far better arrangement and it allowed me to develop my true ability — singing.

I used this ability throughout high

school and college as opportunities developed, the highlight being singing with college stage bands and doing some night club work with various combos.

Although I was probably vaguely aware of barbershop music, I never really encountered it until I went home with a music fraternity pal of mine for the weekend. This year was 1966 or perhaps early 1967. He lived in Cedar Rapids, and his folks took us to a barbershop concert which featured the **Harmony Hawks** Chorus and a fine quartet by the name of the **Foremen** from Rolfe, Iowa. I was hooked, even though I didn't become active until some years later — 1975, to be exact — when I joined the **Nishna Valley Chordsmen** in Atlantic, Iowa.

It was there that I was truly "initiated" into barbershopping by a group of wonderful fellows whom I will always hold dear in memory. It was there as well that I first heard one of the finest quartets ever in my opinion, the **Jax of Harmony**, and another great quartet (before they were even District champs, I think), the **Rural Route 4**.

Needless to say, I was wowed! So inspired was I that soon after, I plunged headlong onto quarteting, and that began my journey toward singing a part in a Central States District Championship Barbershop Quartet.

Somewhere along the way, I met my wife of eighteen years, **Sue**, and we harmonized to form (by the grace of God) two lovely children — son **Darin**, now completing his senior year of high school, and daughter, **Brandy**, now in her freshman year of high school.

**Sue** and both the kids are appreciative of music and have often been included in my tonal wanderings.



In an idyllic setting here are **Kent and Pam Madison** and from left to right, **Mandy**, 8, **Kellen**, 6, and **Melanie**, 11.

Whether included or not, they have been and continue to be, very supportive of me and able to forgive me for spending nights with the quartet that probably should have been spent at home.

Anyway, and here's the neat part, sometimes (usually late at night when they think no one is listening) I hear music of a different kind coming from behind closed doors — yes, it's barbershop music! And even a young voice singing along with the tape sometimes!! Ahhhh! ain't it grand?!

I'd like to use this patch of paper to tell you how our quartet single-handedly beat all the odds and won on sheer talent alone. But I can't, because it would be a lie. We won because so many other people gave of themselves — their time, talent, and expertise, so that we could excel. And even though they worked with us and for us, they also worked through us to give to a much greater cause — that being an absolute love of music as presented in a pure form — Barbershop!

So, how do we say thanks? Well, except to thank the good Lord for the ability He has given us, I think by doing the same one day for other men who are enjoying our hobby. And by being true to the strict form of our style and adhering to our Society's rules.

Lastly, by appreciating all of our Central States audiences and well-wishers who encouraged us by their kind comments of appreciation and exhortation. And by acknowledging the men of the quartets with whom we shared the competitive stage as they pushed us toward the top. Great people — great music. That says it all, I think.

## **Kent Madison — Age 34 — Tenor**

I joined the **Algona** Chapter in the fall of 1979. They had been asking me to guest nights for 2 years, and I always had an excuse not to go. Finally, I gave in, and it was love at first sound! Since then I've been an avid Barbershopper.

Since joining the chorus, I've been **Algona's** MVP, PVP, and president, and now am their chorus director. We were very pleased to win the CSD Small Chorus Championship in 1988.

I come from Lone Rock, Iowa, (population 125) which is about 20 miles north of Algona. My wife, **Pam**, and I have three children: **Melanie**, age 11; **Mandy**, age 8; and **Kellen**, age 6. All three have a good ear for music (of course).

**Pam** is a nurse and works part time at a local clinic. We operate the family dairy farm. We milk 30 registered Holsteins and farm approximately 450 acres.



Mary and Dennis Hagen are surrounded by Jeff, top left, and Tim, and in the bottom row are Angela, left, and Larissa.

Besides dairy farming and barbershopping, I find time for other activities as well. Both Pam and I teach Sunday School in the Lone Rock Presbyterian Church. I also direct the choir and have served as elder.

I am also active in the Kossuth County Farm Bureau and serve on the State Dairy Advisory Committee. I am also the Kossuth County Dairy Promotion Chairman.

Barbershopping has given our family the opportunity to travel and meet a lot of new friends from all over the CSD. We thank you for your support and friendship. **Stateline Celebration** is honored to be your champion for 1989-90.

**Dennis Hagen — Baritone**

My introduction to barbershop music came in 1981. An unregistered chorus of barbershoppers from Estherville, Iowa, was performing at a summer festival in Ceylon, Minnesota, a little town near where I live. I liked what I heard, inquired about the chorus and its practice schedule, and soon was attending weekly practice sessions in Estherville.

Soon after that, the chorus and their wives chartered a bus to go to the Veteran's Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. On the trip out there, I was asked to come to the rear of the bus and sing some lead to "Sweet Roses of Morn." This quartet consisted of current **Stateline Celebration** members **Bill Hansen** and **Bill Trees**.

After arriving at Veteran's Hospital and singing with the chorus for the veterans, this pick-up quartet did indeed sing "Sweet Roses of Morn." Needless to say, I was hooked on quarteting. We called our quartet the **Rainbow Connection**.

I come from a musical family background. My mother and grandmother both were church organists, and my mother also played violin at an early age. I played cornet in my high school band from the eighth grade on, playing first cornet for the final four years.

I also played trumpet in the post military band while stationed in Indianapolis in 1961, and in the early 1970's played trumpet for two years in a polka band called "The Moonlighters." I've also sung for many weddings, funerals,

church choirs, and community choruses over the years.

My wife, **Mary**, and I were married 25 years this past May, and our marriage has been blessed by four children. All four are musically inclined, having earned star ratings, both vocally and instrumentally, at Minnesota high school district and state competitions.

**Jeff**, 24, is a two-year member of SPEBSQSA and is currently serving in the Army in Ulm, Germany. **Tim**, 23, lives and works in Tacoma, Washington, is married, and has given us our first grandchild, **Jessica**, two years old. **Angie**, 19, lives and works in Grand Forks, North Dakota and is a part-time student at UND. **Larissa**, 15, lives at home and is a freshman at Ceylon High School.

I have been farming since my discharge from the Army in 1964. I own and operate the family farm that my grandfather homesteaded in 1900. I raise hogs and beef cattle and plant corn, soybeans, oats, and alfalfa on the farm.

I have been a member of SPEBSQSA since 1982, having joined the **Algona Cornbelt** Chorus in Algona in September of that year.

**Bill Hansen — Age 36 — Lead**

Fellow Barbershoppers, and all other friends who read the fascinating Central States District *Serenade*:

Greetings from your good buddy, **Bill Hansen**, lead singer for **Stateline Celebration** newly crowned District Champs.

I'm mighty proud to be a part of this quartet and I hope we can represent the District to make you proud, too.

As you can see, I come from a pretty good size family of seven children (three older than me, three younger). I'm right in the middle, same way I'm sort of wedged in the middle of the quartet.

I have one older brother, **Dennis**, and two older (much older, I keep reminding them) sisters, **Judy** and **Kathy**. Three younger brothers round out the family: **Gary**, **Steven**, and **Brian**. They are all doing quite well, thank you. Then there's my Mom and Dad. They are OK as far as Moms and Dads go. They are great supporters of

my music and great non-supporters of my bachelorhood.

I live in Ringsted, a small town in northwest Iowa. I work for Ringsted Builders Supply Company, the local lumberyard. They call me the assistant manager, but there are only two of us running the yard, the manager and me. So you can call me last if you want to.

My musical background is somewhat limited. I sang in high school and a little in college. I sing for a lot of funerals and weddings to sharpen my solo skills. I sing in church choir and

some chorus groups, but my main love is the barbershop style and barbershop harmony. I really do love it.

As you read this issue, the holidays will have come and gone. I hope you had a safe and Merry Christmas and a super New Year. Every time I look at that trophy, it reminds me of how great 1989 was and of how much our quartet is looking forward to 1990. It would be our privilege.

(Editor's Note: The *Serenade* is grateful to **Bill Trees** for putting this article together.)

**Omaha convention may have been biggest money maker in CSD history**

The argument in favor of picking the city of Omaha as the permanent location for all future CSD conventions got a big boost when CSD Conventions Chairman **Steve Trusty** recently released his preliminary financial report for the 1989 fall meeting which showed the second highest net profit of any convention in CSD history.

With the tentative 1989 bottom line at \$19,648.84, only \$283.92 under the CSD record by **Des Moines** in October of 1987, and money for this year's event still to be collected, **Steve** expects the final 1989 figure to set a new record as the District's primary source of operating revenue for the coming year.

Convention registrations topped out

at 1,009 for a total of \$18,162. Additional ticket sales for the quartet semifinals and finals, the chorus contest, and the Saturday night afterglow totaled \$11,214.

The share of the profits (10%) that went to the host **Omaha** Chapter amounted to \$7,859.54, while the District got \$11,789.30.

In other convention activities, the Past Champions' Show on Friday night sold 261 tickets for a total of \$783. Expenses for refreshments came to \$35, leaving a balance of \$748 for the CSD Chorus and Quartet Travel Fund which will be used to underwrite the cost of sending our CSD chorus and quartet representatives to San Francisco next summer.

**Plan now for Harmony Education Program in Lincoln weekend of June 8-10**

Our District will have six weeks of visits from the International staff in 1990. **Ev Nau** is scheduled to visit the **Viborg** Chapter on January 29, the **Huron** Chapter on January 31, the **Watertown**, SD extension site on February 1, and the balance of the week he will spend in **Sioux Falls** participating in the South Dakota Mid-winter Festival on February 3.

**Bill Rashleigh** will visit CSD the weeks of March 12-17 and August 27-Sept. 1.

**Tom Gentry** will visit CSD the weeks of May 14-19 and October 1-6. **Burt Szabo** will spend the week of July 16-21 in CSD. Divisions have not yet been assigned to **Rashleigh**, **Gentry** or

**Szabo.**

A weekend Harmony Education Program is scheduled for June 8, 9 and 10 to be held at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education at 34th and Holdridge in Lincoln. Vocal techniques, chorus directing, successful performance, and quartet coaching are included in the format. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend. It promises to be an exciting weekend with excellent instructors.

Don't forget the first Chorus Directors College to be held at Carthage College in Kenosha on June 17-24. The directors from every chapter in the District should attend. It is a legitimate chapter expense.



This is **Bill Hansen's** family. Back row, left to right — Brothers **Steve**, **Brian**, and **Gary** and **Bill**. Middle row, left to right — Mother **Evelyn** and Sister **Judy**. Front row, seated, left to right — Sister **Kathy**, Father **Bill**, and Brother **Dennis**.



Have you ever thought you'd wind up doing a performance behind bars? On November 7, the **Sioux Emperians** Chorus of Sioux Falls performed for about 40 inmates in the auditorium at the South Dakota State Penitentiary. Immediately following the performance, all of the inmates shook each chorus member's hand, and one of them remarked, "If the rest of the guys had known it was going to be this good, they'd have been here, too." It was a lot of hassle going through security, but in the final analysis, it was worth it. In fact, one person is due to get out in six months and would like to join us on a Tuesday night at chorus rehearsal. Left to right — **Phil Lundquist, Lee Hogie, Len Tschetter, Don Hennies, Randy Kolden, and Mark Lohse.** Photo and story furnished by **Terry Roisum.**

## From the Serenade —

### Ten years ago

The annual CSD Chapter officer Training School (COTS) was held on the weekend of November 17-18 at the Breech Training Academy in Overland Park, Kansas.

The **Favorite Sons** of Mason City won the 1979 CSD Novice Quartet trophy. Later they went on to win the CSD Championship the following year.

President **Lester Seuser** described how the men of the **High Plains** Chapter of **Hays** put on a special show to raise \$1,252 to help pay the medical expenses for a seven-year-old boy who was seriously ill with a blood disorder.

The **Chordbusters** of **Davenport** got together for a first-ever chapter reunion that included 44 former members. Event organizers were **Gary White, Don Doering, and Bob Caparula.** Former directors **Don Howard** and **Dick Rode** helped with the music.

Six Iowa chapters presented a joint show to raise funds for the Joint State Council of Handicapped Concerns. Quartets and choruses from **Ames, Centerville, Des Moines, Fort Dodge, Marshalltown, and Mason City** got together in the Des Moines Civic Center and raised \$2,500 for the JSCHC. **Desmoinaire Bob King** was the organizer.

### Twenty years ago

New CSD chapter officers for 1970 were signing up for COTS to be held at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education in Lincoln on the weekend of January 17-18. **Dale Heiliger** was handling the details for the host **Lincoln Continentals**, and the total cost amounted to one thin ten-dollar bill!

New registered quartets in CSD were the **Smith Brothers** of **Sheldon, Don Farrell**, contact; the **Ring Kings** of **Hastings**, the late **Joe Heltné**, contact (**Joe** sang with his son, **Terry**, in the **Classic Collection** when they won the CSD Quartet Championship in 1975); the **Mod Squad** of **Iowa City, Bob Stone**, contact; the **Personal Touch** of **Topeka and Emporia, Greg Lyne**, contact (less than a year later, these guys were CSD champs), and the **Lonesome Lads** of the **NOJOCO** (now **Overland Park**) Chapter, **Bob Johnson**, contact.

**Al Winter** described how the **Air Capital Chorus** of **Wichita** presented a package show that included the **Shondells** (Sweet Adelines), the **Captain's Crew**, and the **Cavaliers** to help raise funds for the purchase of an electrocardiograph for the Kansas Masonic Home.

## Show Announcements

March 24 — **Manhattan Chapter Show, Gas House Gang**, Contact **Pete Cooper**, (913) 539-4195

March 31 — **Sioux Falls Chapter, State Line Celebration** Contact **Don Hennies**, (605) 334-4358

April 7 — **Davenport Chapter, Dealer's Choice**, Contact **David Skogman**, (319) 332-7547

May 5 — **Ottumwa Chapter, Salty Dogs and Lakeside Harmony**, Contact **Jim Emry**, (515) 684-8729

NOTE: If your show is scheduled for March or later and you would like to have it announced in the March/April *Serenade* (or later), send us the date, the name of your headline quartet(s), and the name and phone number of someone to contact for ticket and other information.

## Chapters can get help with performance package

**Gary Stamm** and **Ev Nau** of the media and performance staff at the International Office are prepared to work with chapters to improve the level of the public performances. (We use to call them "singouts.") They can visit your chapter and give a two-hour presentation designed to improve showmanship, or if you prefer, they will provide a complete written analysis of your annual show.

**Nau and Stamm** also coach narrators, put on weekend classes about show administration or production, and review show scripts. Alternatively, they will review a video tape of your show and provide suggestions for improvement for next year.

To schedule a visit or analysis, contact your District Music Educator (DME), or drop **Ev** or **Gary** a note and let them know how they can help.

(Taken from *Update*, edited by **Ray Heller**.)

## Central States District's "Men of Note"

These are the Central States District Barbershoppers who received gold "Man of Note" awards for recruiting new members into their chapters during the months of July, August, and September of 1989. Congratulations, guys, and keep up the good work!

Chapter	Member	Chapter	Member
Nebraska City	Dean Thomsen	Kansas City	Wade Dexter
Davenport	Ken Hoffman		Mike Mathieu
	Dave Wurth		Ron McIntire
Sedalia	Dick Haskell		Don Young
	John Vandekamp	St. Louis #1	R. Neel
	Don Hofheins	Lincoln	Marvin Pape
Denison	Don Farrell	Brookings	Larry Bates
Joplin	Bob Green		Jim Bohart
	Dave Reber (2)	Manhattan	Bob Ridley
	Harold Koontz	Viborg	Boyd Ostrem
Fremont	Ralph Diffey	Sioux Falls	Dick Goldammer
Ottumwa	Rex Strait	McPherson	Bruce Elmore
	Dave Yoho	Mason City	Wayne Lawhorn
Leavenworth	Bill Pope	Waterloo-C.F.	Bob Dallenback
Newton	Greg Yarnell	St. Joseph	Byron Myers
	Orlando Schmidt	Vince Perry	
Lexington	Wayne Buchholz	Tommy Taylor	
	Glen Anderson	Emporia	Jack Houghton
Kearney	Marv Spellman	Florissant	Roy Lewis
Black Hawk M.	Jay Hall	Overland Park	John Baeke (2)
Wichita	Bob Wise		Dave Monk
	Don Rose		Don Peck
	Tim Rose (4)		Cliff Knox (2)
St. Charles	David Wright	Algona	Ken Kerber
Sioux City	Jay Smith	Beatrice	Reiner Andreesen
	Al Sitzman		
	Leroy Christensen		

## PLAN AHEAD

### CSD Conventions

1990	Spring	Omaha
		April 27-29
1990	Fall	Cedar Rapids
		Oct. 12-14
1991	Spring	Omaha
		April 12-14
1991	Fall	Kansas City
		Oct. 11-13
1992	Spring	Omaha
		April 10-12
1992	Fall	Omaha
		Oct. 9-11
1993	Spring	Des Moines
		April 9-11
1993	Fall	Des Moines
		Oct. 8-10

### COTS/ Omaha

1990	November 17-18
1991	November 16-17
1992	November 14-15
1993	November 13-14
1994	November 12-13

### International Conventions

1990	San Francisco, CA	July 1-8
1991	Louisville, KY	June 30-July 7
1992	New Orleans, LA	June 28-July 5
1993	Calgary, Alta.	June 27-July 4



The Rivertown Sound took second place in the St. Louis area contest in September. Left to right — **Ron Grooters, Dan Monahan, Tom Scharfenberger, and Steve Harris.** Photo provided by **Keith Stockberger.**



Third place in the St. Louis area quartet contest in September went to the Tri-Towners. Clockwise from lower left — R.L. Neel (tenor), Ken McInnis (lead), Paul Ogle (bass), and Dan Monahan (baritone). Photo provided by Kieth Stockberger.

## Raffle and church service add to CSD Logopedics donations

Activities designed to raise funds for the Institute of Logopedics, although limited in scope, were successful in raising nearly \$500 during the CSD fall convention on Omaha back in October.

According to a report prepared by CSD Conventions Chairman **Steve Trusty**, only four of the 65 CSD chapters responded to a request for CSD Logopedics Chairman **Leonard Purvis** to donate a prize for the Logopedics raffle. However, interest in this activity was quite high and resulted in a total of \$185.01 being raised in this manner.

A collection taken during the Sunday morning church service brought \$310.34, to the credit of the **Fremont** Chapter which hosted the service.

Here's how the various chapter donations fared in the Logopedics raffle:

\*The **Kansas City** Chapter donated

a **Rural Route 4** album which was won by **Russ Hartwig** of **Davenport**. The album brought in \$27.75 for **HOA**.

\*The **Black Hawk Metro** Chapter of **Waterloo** offered a 14-carat gold tie tac designed by **Kevin Anderson** which also brought in \$27.75 and was taken home by **Bill Martindale** of the **Wichita** Chapter.

\*A mini-cassette tape recorder donated by the **Davenport** Chapter did much better at \$53.65. The lucky winner was **Dr. Myron Hultgren** of **Wichita**.

\*The **Omaha** Chapter donation was an original painting by **Lori McQuinn**, won by **Bill Ball** of **Aurora, Missouri**. The sum of \$75.86 was credited to the guys from **Omaha**.

The bottom line for the raffle and the church service together came to \$495.35.

## The Society credit card — a potential revenue producer

by **Charles McCann**  
International President-elect

Use of the Society-sponsored credit card by Barbershoppers holds enormous potential for providing SPEBSQSA with non-dues income and could go a long toward keeping members' dues to a minimum. The card is a relatively new concept for Barbershoppers, and not all of its possible benefits are clearly understood.

The greatest potential for income from the card lies in a .5% commission received on all purchases. But the Society also receives a royalty of \$1 for each card issued and \$3 each time the card is renewed.

In addition, Society members can obtain \$300,000 in accident insurance whenever fares for common-carrier travel are charged to the card. Members are covered for amounts up to \$3,000 for loss of luggage and personal effects during such travel and up to \$15,000 for collision reimbursement when auto rentals are charged.

What's more, all of these advan-

tages can be obtained at no annual charge during the first year. If your credit card account is paid in full each month, there are no interest charges. If the account is not paid in full each month, interest on the unpaid balance is only 17.9%, a lower rate than is charged by many other cards.

The primary reason for use of a credit card is convenience. It is for convenience that many of us use MasterCard and VISA, or cards provided by individual stores, for routine purchases. Purchases made using these other cards could just as well be made with the Society card.

For example, meals charged at restaurants, goods purchased at drug or department stores, gasoline and maintenance charged at a service station, all could be charged to the Society credit card. By making a conscientious effort to use this card instead of other credit instruments, each of us could make as much as \$400 or \$500 worth of purchases each month from which the Society would benefit. In addition, each member using the card

exclusively would have the convenience of covering the month's bills by writing only one check.

It doesn't take a mathematical genius to translate annual purchases of \$5,000 to \$6,000 into \$25 to \$30 in income for the Society. If we were to have as many as 10,000 cards in use (fewer than one in three members), they could develop an annual income of \$250,000 to \$300,000.

Unrealistic? Not at all. All it takes is the conscientious cooperation of our membership.

## Leonard's Lines on Logopedics

by **Leonard Purvis**  
CSD Logopedics Chairman

1989 is now history, and our efforts for the Institute pale beside the records of 1988. This was to be expected and is certainly no disgrace, but we are now beginning a new year. Our goal of 1990 is \$41,000 and can easily be attained if we all do our part throughout the year.

We had several chapters who managed to give more per man this year than they had ever given before. Congratulations to you all. We will soon know, if we managed to meet this year's goal, and we will again honor those who reached the various plateaus of giving at the spring convention.

If your chapter has found a good way to increase your giving potential or ways of raising funds, please let me know, and I'll attempt to share them with other chapters. We also need to thinking of an appropriate prize for CSD at the San Francisco Convention. Remember it needs to be something which can be shipped fairly easily and cheaply.

I hope many of you will be able to attend this Convention. We'll be asking some of you to help work at the Logopedics booth for a few hours while you're there. If you're interested, please let me know. If I don't get enough volunteers, I'll be tapping on a few shoulders.

As we continue to improve our singing and harmony, let us continue to improve our giving so the Institute can provide the best possible care for its students, just as we strive for the best possible sound.

## St. Louis Suburban chorus makes appearance on cable TV

by **John "Doc" Johans**  
President, **St. Louis Suburban** Chapter

Most of our **Suburban** membership will recall the evening when Ms. Rene' Marie Shea, producer/director of "CenCom of Missouri III" and her television crew recorded our rehearsal in action.

At a later date at Ms. Shea's request, I was interviewed as President of our chapter concerning the background of our Society, our purpose, our aims, the Institute of Logopedics, and what were my personal reasons for joining the Barbershoppers.

Representing the chapter chorus and

wearing the chapter's uniform, the members of the **Sound Prescription** were introduced, and they sang a song at the request of our hostess.

This five-minute bit of public relations is now being aired on cable TV, CENCOM Highlights, entitled "CENCOM: on Location, Creve Coeur, Missouri." It is currently being showed on Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday at 6:30 p.m. and on Sundays at 7 p.m.

Ms. Shea has further encouraged me by volunteering future segments of TV time to promote our endeavors.

I like to think of this venture as having gotten our "musical" foot in the door of a valuable avenue in which we can further promote our Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America.

(Editor's note: We're grateful to **Larry Knebel**, editor of *By-Lines*, the **St. Louis Suburban** Chapter bulletin, for sending us this item.)

## In Memory

**Morrel R. Solem**  
1919 - 1989

The men of the **Sioux Falls** Chapter mourn the passing of fellow **Sioux Emperian Morrell Solem**, who died on October 11 at the age of 70. **Morrell** was born in **Yankton County, South Dakota**. A teacher by profession until his retirement in 1984, **Morrell** served in the **South Dakota Legislature** in the 1950's as a **State Representative** from **Yankton County**.

## Get ready for Valentine's Day

With turkey day behind us, it's time for your chapter to contemplate singing valentines next February. Arrange now to take the day off to sing for the ladies.

The typical singing valentines project involves quartets that are paid a fee to deliver a musical message. Chapters must organize quartets, arrange for publicity, and create flyers that will be used to locate and solicit patrons. People will be needed to take orders and schedule quartets.

If done well, the project will make the chapter treasury grow. It's good for public relations, it gets members singing in quartets who don't usually do so, and it makes everyone in the community feel good. It's a winner of a program!

For further information, the **Santa Rosa, California**, Chapter sells a complete manual for \$12. Contact PR Officer **Ray Crowder** at 2565 Brookhaven Drive, **Santa Rosa, CA 95495**.

(Taken from *Update*, edited by **Ray Heller**)

## Chapter Anniversaries

*Happy birthday to the following Central States Chapters*

**Algona, Iowa**  
30 years on February 19

**Fort Dodge, Iowa**  
30 Years on February 29\*  
\*1960 was a Leap Year!

## "Littlest Theater" is latest addition to Museum of Barbershop Harmony

Visitors to Harmony Hall, the Society's International Headquarters in Kenosha, Wisconsin, can now view video tapes of championship quartets, early leaders in the world of barbershopping, or International Conventions in a new facility completed this fall. Called the "Littlest Theater," the room is the latest addition to the Museum of Barbershop Harmony.

As the name implies, the theater is small; after four people are seated, it's standing-room only! But it's a place that will grow in popularity, where Barbershoppers can catch a glimpse of their place in history.

The Littlest Theater was developed under the guidance of the International Archives Committee and was designed by its chairman, Past International President **Dan Waselchuk**. Construction was supervised by Ruth Blazine/Joyce, museum curator and archivist.

Video tapes are stored in a rack that holds up to a dozen cassettes. Visitors can select a tape and insert it into a VCR. A curtain opens automatically, revealing a video monitor; and house lights dim, and the show begins.

When the tape has finished playing, the curtains close, and the lights go off automatically after the room becomes vacant.

The Littlest Theater is the result of an ongoing effort by the Archives Committee to preserve the history of our Society for the benefit and education of Barbershoppers and the general public. All museum, archive and committee activities are funded by voluntary contributions; no dues money is used.

A large portion of the theater construction was provided by contributions to the **Hugh Ingraham** Fund, a memorial to a former executive director of the Society who died in the

summer of 1988. Contributions may still be made to that fund.

The museum has grown and prospered since it first opened in the spring of 1988 as part of the Society's 50th-anniversary celebration. Among its collections are uniforms worn by many of our International quartet champions when they won their gold medals. These garments are protected in storage cabinets and will be displayed in future exhibits.

An exhibit featuring the 1941 Champion **Chord Busters** is being prepared, for example, that will contain their uniforms. It will also include photos of the quartet, a taped interview with a member of the group, and sounds of the quartet singing.

Meanwhile, work continues in the archives, where collections of correspondence, photographs, and other materials are being cataloged and preserved. All items in the museum collection are carefully described and indexed on a computerized file system.

The museum project has had a strong beginning, and the results are exciting. Caring for and preserving the collection is a continuing process as materials from early Society leaders, quartets, and individual Barbershoppers are constantly being received.

Carrying on this work will require ongoing support through voluntary contributions. An annual request for funds has been mounted by the Archives Committee for this purpose.

Anyone interested in preserving our barbershopping heritage is urged to respond to this request; funds received will be appreciated and will be put to good use. As members visit the International Office and see the work that is going on, the museum is reinforcing a sense of pride in our Society.

## Ten quartets to appear on Mid-Winter's Parade of Quartets

Friday's "Parade of Quartets" during the 1990 Mid-Winter Convention in Tucson during the week of January 22-28 will include:

- A Crowning Touch
- Atonic Explosion
- Amigos
- Back in Time
- Chordiac Arrest
- Grand Slam
- Main Event
- Nightlife
- Quincy Avenue Quartet
- Remember When
- Silver Tones
- The World's Largest Barbershop Chorus

The top three Medalists from the 1989 International Quartet Competition will appear on Saturday's "Best of Barbershop" show, along with the 1989 and new (1990) Senior Quartet Champions.

The word from Tucson is to be sure to order your tickets **now** for these shows while good seats are still available. Order forms (blue) are in your convention packet from Kenosha. First orders received are first orders filled. Tickets will be mailed after December 1, 1989.

For further information, call **Fred Koch** at (602) 747-1216.

## The Russians are coming! The Russians are coming!

International President **Jim Richards** has designated the **139th Street Quartet** as a committee to explore the possibility of bringing the Russian barbershop quartet to the San Francisco convention next summer.

**Pete Neushel**, baritone of the **139th Street Quartet** and chairman of the Russian Quartet Committee, is in charge of working out details for the proposed visit. **Bob Bisio** of the Far Western District is also on the committee as liaison with the Russian consulate.

It is anticipated that as much as \$20,000 will be needed in order to host the Soviet foursome. Soviet citizens are not allowed take rubles out of their country. Therefore, all food, lodging, and travel must be provided by the host country.

At this point, the Russians have agreed to make the trip if financing can be arranged. **Neushel** is asking chapters to put on fund-raising shows or interchapter meetings to assist the program.

"If 200 Barbershoppers can be assembled for an evening with the Russians during June of 1990," he said, "A donation of \$5 each would provide \$1,000 for the travel fund."

At this point, more than half of the required amount has been raised,

including a major contribution from MBNA America, the bank that is sponsoring the Society's credit card.

The committee feels that bringing the Russian quartet to San Francisco will add greatly to the international flavor of the convention. It should also lead to national media coverage of barbershopping.

"It will provide them with an opportunity to have a beer, sing a few tags, and become better acquainted with us and our style of music," **Neushel** said.

If your chapter would like to become involved in the Russian quartet project, contact the International Office or **Pete Neushel** evenings at (213) 541-7452.

(Taken from *Update*, edited by **Ray Heller**.)

## Good singing posture

The key to good singing is to stand erect, maintain a natural, comfortable position, and remain relaxed, not rigid or tense.

There are three basic steps to a proper standing singing position.

(1) Position each foot directly below each shoulder, respectively, and balance the weight of the body slightly forward on the balls of the feet, being careful not to rise up on the toes.

(2) Place both arms to the side and raise them forward to an over-the-head position. Then lower the arms outward from each side and downward to the thighs, without bending the elbows. The hands should be palms in at the thighs, the shoulders should be up and slightly back, and the chest should protrude normally, leaving the diaphragm free to operate efficiently.

(3) The head should be in a normal, relaxed, straight position at all times. Do not tilt the head backward or forward unless the body is also bent in that direction.

Note: When singing in a sitting position, the singer should keep both feet firmly planted on the floor with the back straight (but relaxed) and with the shoulders positioned as in step number 2. It might help if hands are placed on the legs at the knee, palms down. Then slowly turn the hands (palms down) until the thumbs are on the outside of each leg and the fingers are pointing toward each other. This tends to physically put the singer into the proper lift position while seated.

The reason for this lesson is quite simple — good posture while singing helps to protect the singer from vocal fatigue. It is possible to sing without good posture, but good posture makes it possible to improve one's singing. And that is really what all of us are anxious to do — improve.

(Editor's note: We found this item in the *Red Rose Rag*, the bulletin of the **Red Rose** chapter of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, edited by **Stirling Snyder**, who says he took it from the Society's "Basic Barbershop Craft Manual.")

## Legal arrangements on file with Harmony Foundation

by **Tom Gentry**  
Music Specialist

As you no doubt know, Harmony Foundation has compiled a list of legal

arrangements cleared with the publisher through Ruth Marks, and makes this valuable resource available to our members for a fee of \$5. For a variety of reasons, some of you have asked whether it would be possible to clear certain arrangements through Harmony Foundation without having them appear on the list. This option is now available to you.

If you arrange a copyrighted song which you clear through Ruth (which we recommend over going directly to the publisher), and you prefer not to have it listed, simply let Ruth know that fact in writing. This written request must come from the arranger, not from a quartet or chorus. This offer is not retroactive, however, since the list has already attained wide distribution. If after a period of time, you change your mind and want a given arrangement listed, simply let Ruth know, again in writing.

Because arrangements of copyrighted songs belong to the copyright holder, not the arranger, a person who somehow finds out that you have arranged Song X and asks to purchase a copy for his group will be able to do so. If you're into secrecy, then keep your secrets well.

Our hope is that by providing these choices, we can make more good music available to our members, treat our valued arrangers fairly, and encourage compliance with the copyright statutes.

## Heritage Hall Museum needs your help

The following letter from **Dan Waselchuk**, Past International President and chairman of the International Archives Committee is quoted in part:

"Gentlemen songsters, I need your help!

"We've made great progress this past year in building a museum to capture the flavor of our Society and to provide a place to preserve our rich history and heritage for future Barbershoppers.

"The Littlest Theater is complete — high tech in an 1890's setting to enjoy video tapes of our great moments!

"Artifacts, memorabilia, and records of our past are preserved and stored in the archives, computerized for access by Barbershoppers and researchers. New material is coming in continually.

"Right now we're planning additional exhibit space, audio booths, and other exciting enhancements (a museum is never really complete), but here's where I need your help."

**Dan** goes on to remind us all that Heritage Hall is supported solely by contributions from individuals, quartets, and chapters. He asks that we communicate to our readers the importance of preserving our Society's unique history for future generations.

**Dan** also requests that we encourage each chapter to budget a contribution annually **in addition** to the wonderful support it has given to the Institute of Logopedics, our International Service Project, and that we urge individual members to do the same.

Contributions should be sent to SPEBSQSA, 6315 Third Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin, 53140-5199.





# Bulletin Browsing

Here's a treat for CSD Barbershoppers, especially those living near the eastern extreme of our district. We learn from the *Vocalizer*, the bulletin of the **Dallas Metro Chapter**, edited by **Bob Arnold**, that the **Vocal Majority**, five times International Chorus Champions will headline a show put on by the Riverblenders, a St. Louis Sweet Adeline Chapter, on Saturday, May 5, 1990. That's all we can tell you at this time. Stay tuned!

**Gale Demaree**, Acting Editor of the **Tristate Chordsman** of **Joplin**, has another response to the perennial question, "How many Barbershoppers does it take to change a tire?" The answer is four, one to do the work and three to try to think of a song to sing while he works.

**Sam Kvasnica**, editor of the *InCider Press*, reports that the Life Saver Award has been presented to veteran **Manhattan** Barbershopper and Chapter Secretary **Bill Ruliffson** for meritorious service to his chapter. Working behind the scenes, **Bill** carefully monitors the details of record keeping, mailing list updates, and communication to the various Society offices.

The surging **Pathfinders** of **Fremont** are congratulating themselves, and rightfully so, on turning in the third best Sound score, behind **St. Charles** and **Kansas City** at the CSD fall contest in Omaha and becoming once again the "Number One Chorus in Nebraska."

We mentioned the "FEVR" in this space last time but couldn't tell you what it meant. Now, thanks to **Dick Owston's Trailblazer**, we know that it was the "Fremont Elkhorn Valley Railroad" that transported the **Pathfinder** Chorus of **Fremont** to the town of Hooper, Nebraska, on October 21, where as many as 75 folks visited the Hooper American Legion Post No. 18 for an evening of song, good fellowship, and pizza before making the return trip to Fremont.

The **Sioux Emperians** of **Sioux Falls** are mourning the loss of **Morrell Solem**, who died on October 12 at the age of 70. According to Editor **Terry Roisum**, writing in the *Staff Notes*, **Morrell** was one of those dedicated members who is always on hand to take care of the little things that need to be done. We met him a few years back when he attended one of our COTS bulletin editor sessions. **Morrell** was a retired college professor who was a member of the South Dakota State Legislature back in the 1950's. He will be missed.

There's terrible news from Cedar Rapids. In **J. P. Jones' Hawkeye**, we read of the tragic death of **Jim Loy**, who, with his wife, was struck by an automobile while enroute to New York to visit their son, **Dennis**. The **Loys** had stopped at a motel near Hazelton, Pennsylvania, and were returning on foot from a nearby restaurant when the accident occurred. **Jim's** wife, **Beverly**, was hospitalized in serious condition.

And **J.P.** also reports the death of fellow **Harmony Hawk** **Larry Spear** at the age of 61, following a long illness. An 18-year veteran Barbershopper, **Larry** had been active for years in chapter administration and sang with two quartets, the **Five Seasons Four** and the **Bankers Boys**.

**Roy Warman**, editor of the **Ames** Chapter's *Ametones Notes*, has the right idea. He says his goal is to "help at least one **Ametone** each year get published in our regional and/or national journals." Of course, he's referring to the article by **Ametone Brian Duster** on "computer-guided learning" that appeared in both the *Serenade* and the *Harmonizer*. Says **Roy**, "There are ideas right here in **Ames** that can be of interest elsewhere." Right on, **Roy!** Hope our other chapter BE's pick up on your proposal. And congratulations to you, **Brian!**

We hate to be the bearer of sad tidings, but now we read in **Joe Millsbaugh's Wichi-Tones** where the **Wichita** Chapter lost a 16-year member when **Herb Shannon** and his wife, **Tommie J.**, were killed in an airplane crash near Helen, Georgia. **Herb** and **Tommie J.** will be sorely missed.

From **Bun Regan's River City Pitch**, we learn that **Bill Imlau**, one of **Mason City's** most recent additions to the lead section, was picked for the 1989 "Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame" award from Worth County. **Bill's** volunteer activities span 40 years and include 4-H leader, soil conservation commissioner, church council, Sunday School teacher, church choir, county beef producers, county Republican chairman, Farm Bureau county president, vice president, county and state voting delegate, state resolutions committee, and county legislative chairman. Oh, yes, he's also served on the county extension council. Wonder how he finds time for barbershopping.

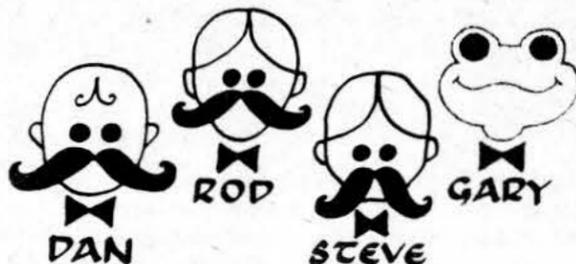
(continued on Page 12)

## SPEBSQSA Membership Summary

	10-31-88	9-30-89	10-31-89
SPEBSQSA membership .....	34,922	36,124	34,895
SPEBSQSA chapters .....	814	814	814
CSD membership .....	2,399	2,579	2,485
CSD chapters .....	64	65	65
CSD divisions			
Eastern Iowa .....	529	526	499
Western Iowa .....	329	328	319
Kansas .....	467	500	485
Missouri .....	562	656	621
Nebraska .....	343	401	396
South Dakota .....	178	168	165
Licensed CSD chapters			
Papillion, NE .....	20	-	-
Beatrice, NE .....	20	-	25



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# COTS 90

Chapter Officers Training School .....

Red Lion Inn/Omaha  
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Shades of balmy seasons! We ran out of material with this space vacant, so we thought we'd show you this photo of **Kent McClean** (right) accepting the low gross trophy from Tournament Chairman **Fred Whisman** following the annual "Heart of America" (Kansas City Chapter) golf tournament on last August 26. **Kent** shot a 79, and **Clarence Bond** was the individual runner-up at 85. Photo provided by **Jim Baabv**.

## Bulletin Browsing — (continued from Page 11)

And further from **Joe Millspaugh's Wichi-Tones**, we read that the entire complement of the original **Four Cavaliers** — that would be **Frazier Allen**, **Bill Rose**, **Byron Brittain**, and **Jay Bond** — has been reinstated with the **Wichita Chapter**. Understand **Tim Rose** was the lucky guy who picked up four "Man of Note" awards as result of this action. Is there a story here, **Joe**? Does this mean that one of the most popular comedy quartets our District has ever known — not to mention that they were our 1959 District Champions — is planning to become active again? Let us hear from you, **Joe**!

We found this, not in a bulletin, but in a letter from **L. A. Skogie**, Secretary of the **Sioux Falls Chapter**. "On November 7, our chorus 'did time' in the state penitentiary doing a singout for the 'residents' (we were all released afterward). A few days later,

one of our members received a letter from an inmate stated that he enjoyed vocal music, was very musical, and was interested in volunteering for an audition to join our chorus — when he is released in about six months." We have yet to hear how the **Sioux Falls** guys responded.

**Manhattan Barbershoppers** are to be congratulated for the largest per-member donation to Logopedics in chapter history. A total of \$1,100 amounted to \$30 per member.

## CSD President — (continued from Page 1)

you'll let us. The CSD Directory should be out early this year, so you'll know who's who. In the meantime, the Division Vice Presidents are contacting each chapter to let them know about Area Counselors, etc.

There is a neat story about a father who, in order to keep his youngster occupied, cut up a map of the world and told him to put it together. The child did it in record time, and when dad asked how, he said, "There was a picture of a child on the other side, and I knew that if I put the child back together, the world would take care of itself." Doesn't that apply here? If each chapter does its part, the District will take care of itself.

Keep on singing! Keep on bringing new members! And keep it fun!

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