

# 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 4

OCTOBER, 1969



The Sheraton-Fontenelle, main stockyard where herds of Barbershoppers will be quartered.

Members of the AK-SAR-BEN Chapter are thrilled at the prospect of hosting the Central States Convention this year and are dedicated to making this one of the high-spots in CSA history. If the interest expressed by the many chapters who have already sent in their entries is any barometer, this convention will indeed top them all.

The Sheraton-Fontenelle hotel will be convention headquarters and is conveniently located only three blocks from the Civic Music Hall where the chorus and quartet competition will be held. Registration opens at noon on Friday and the first session of the Quartet Semi-Finals begins at 8:00 p.m. All you delegates remember the House of Delegates Meeting scheduled for 10:00 p.m. at the hotel. 9:00 a.m. signals the start of the second session

of the Quartet Semi-Finals and the Chorus Contest begins promptly at 1:30 p.m.

A ladies brunch and tour is set for Saturday morning starting at 9:30 a.m. from the Fontenelle. Outstanding entertainment has been secured, and it is an event the ladies won't want to miss. The After-Glow in the main ballroom will start glowing about 11:00.

Barbershoppers and their wives should plan to arrive early so that they will have plenty of time to visit the hospitality rooms of many of the chapters. They will also want to visit the Union Pacific Railroad Museum at Union Pacific's Headquarters Building; the bomber museum at Strategic Air Command Headquarters; Westroads, the brand new and eighth largest shopping center in the United States; the

many exhibits at beautiful Joslyn Art Museum and the nationally famous Henry Doorly Zoo. And speaking of fame, Omaha has the finest steak houses in the nation.

Many Barbershoppers fail to register at conventions because of the delay and confusion at the registration desk. In an effort to minimize this delay and encourage everyone to register, a pre-registration form is included elsewhere in this issue of the Serenade. This will eliminate waiting in line and will provide more time for woodshedding and participating in the many activities.

As is true of all international contests, it will be necessary that each Barbershopper competing in chorus and quartet competition must purchase an All-Events Ticket Package. No

chorus or quartet entry can be accepted unless these tickets have been purchased for each competing member. Someone will be at the stage door to take tickets so be sure you have one in your possession if you expect to sing.

You can rest assured that the AK-SAR-BEN Chapter will do everything possible to make this convention "the best one yet!" Don't be a member of the "wish I had gone" club, it's more fun as a member of the "glad that I went."



Civic Music Hall, site of the 1969 CSA Chorus and Quartet Happening.

## Pre-Registration Form

SEND TO -  
WILLIAM DAVIS  
2806 HANSEN CIRCLE  
BELLEVUE, NEBRASKA 68005

1969 CSA DISTRICT  
CONVENTION  
OMAHA, NEBRASKA  
OCTOBER 17-19, 1969

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_

NICKNAME \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIFY \_\_\_\_\_

CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_TENOR \_\_\_\_\_LEAD \_\_\_\_\_BARITONE \_\_\_\_\_BASS

# The CENTRAL STATES Serenade

Member of PROBE

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

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## Tips from The Top

By HOWARD MESECHER

Why do our quartets mostly leave Stage Presence go to the last thing before entering contest?

I'm sure that many of you that have competed in quartets have worried about learning your notes and words and worked so hard on your musical presentation that you have completely forgotten the visual presentation until the last couple of practices before contest. Then someone remembers - we had better use our arms here - or smile here or do something else here.

Stage Presence is the visual sincerity of your presentation. When you come onto the Stage you must let everyone realize that you are really happy for the opportunity to perform for them. (Don't show anyone that you are scared to death). You should be very professional in your pitch-pipe technique. Don't make a big production out of blowing the pitch-pipe but blow the pitch and find your note - as quickly as possible and do it with assurance.

One of the big faults with so many of our quartets is the use of their arms for practically everything. They use them to pump water while they are singing - for directing the other members of the quartet when to start and stop or to move on a swipe. This is not professional deportment. Stand relaxed with your arms hanging loosely down at your sides. When you move your arms - it should have a definite meaning in conjunction with the lyrics that you are singing. Just as you would use your hand to emphasize a certain point when you are speaking. But don't hold your arm up all during the singing performance.

Take a few minutes to practice your bows. Make them with assuredness. Let everyone know that you practiced this bow and are capable of accepting the applause that a good musical performance will bring. Make your exit as the applause is still at it's height. Don't walk off the stage with the thought - "Gee, I'm glad we're through" - Rather this attitude - "Thanks for letting us entertain you - we had a ball."

And most of all - remember-a smiling face is much better to watch and will allow you to sing with better tone formation and projection.

## Longmont Parades

by Hi Boersma

The Longmont Chapter has been busy this summer preparing for the Rocky

Mountain Area Chorus and Quartet Contest held in Fort Collins, Colorado on August 16th. Chorus Director Keith Williamson, is pleased with our sound. The 4-K's quartet from our chapter was also entered in the contest.

On Friday, August 22nd, our chapter entered a float in the Boulder County Fair and Rodeo parade. Plans are progressing for our annual Parade to be held on the evening of Saturday, November 1st. Several top quartets are being contacted for the feature position. Chapter Secretary, James Crisp, was privileged to attend the International Contest, a wonderful time and a real boost to his barbershiping enthusiasm.

## Come To The Fair

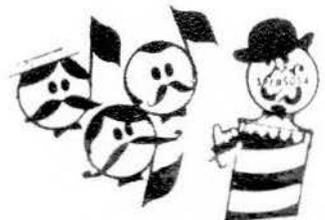
by Don Langr

"Come to the Fair" was a common greeting to the members of the Fort Dodge Town and Country chorus as the chapter scheduled two fair sing-outs for the summer. On July 24, the chorus and quartets put on the evening grandstand show for the Humboldt, Iowa, County Fair. With one of the largest member turnouts for the performance, the chorus was at its best. Three quartets, including the Foremen, also shared the spotlight. We already received an invitation for next year. (If a chorus wishes to see how good they are, try bucking the fair midway for an hour and a half.)

The Iowa State Fair at Des Moines provided the setting for a second sing-out on August 23. The warm-up consisted of a tractor-wagon rehearsal around the grounds. This was followed by two performances later in the evening shared by other Iowa chapters and quartets.

The summer slump in member attendance that hit Fort Dodge this year has appeared to have passed with preparation for the October contest. Chapter enthusiasm increased with a spine-tingling singout at the Methodist Church for an August Sunday morning service. The excellent acoustics of the church were a credit to The Battle Hymn and to The Lord's Prayer. The chapter has a performance gauge. If the director, Dick Johnson, is smiling it sounds good, if he scowls it means shape up. This Sunday he was all smiles.

The chapter is still building by getting new members. The dimensions of the chapter, "70 by 70," are more realistic with the chapter now up to 65 members.



# The CENTRAL STATES Serenade

MEMBER OF PROBE

## Advertising Rates

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Two Thirds - \$30.00  
Half page - \$25.00  
One Third - \$20.00  
One Sixth - \$15.00  
Column - \$3.50

15% Discount to Dist. Chapters



# Successful Rocky Mountain Divisional Contest

By Milt Hayden

The third annual Rocky Mountain Divisional contest, held in Fort Collins on August 16th, proved to be a successful financial venture. The Poudre Valley Chapter's loyal fans turned out to swell the appreciative crowd to over 500. The winning chorus and quartet will receive financial assistance in attending the Central States District contest in Omaha later this fall. The ranks of some of the six competing choruses were thinned by summer vacations and some quartets were unable to compete for a variety of reasons. But the singers who were there turned in very respectable performances.

Six quartets vied for top honors in the division, with first place trophies going to Denver's Silver Kings. The Fire Marks of Cheyenne placed second, with the Tall Timbres of Colorado Springs filling the third position. The Timbre Kings of Fort Collins, in their second public appearance, came in a very respectable fourth. This group has only been singing together about two months. The Four-Tune-Four of Denver, and the 4-K's of Longmont filled out the remaining positions.

In the Chorus competition, it was a close battle between Denver's Mile High Chorus and Cheyenne's Wyomingaires. With the rivalry running high, the Mile High chorus out pointed the Cowboy State entry by a score of 654 to 618. Third place went to a deserving Boulder Chorus, and fourth was the lot of the home town aggregation, whose ranks were badly depleted by a variety of summer ailments. Fifth position went to the other Wyoming entry, from Laramie, followed by the Longmont Chorus. All who competed were pleased with the efficiency of their Poudre Valley hosts. And the large crowd of Fort Collins supporters were well pleased with the show.

The finale, featuring the Rocky Mountain Chorus and led by Denver director, Tom Manion, was a fitting close to the evenings festivities. The Rocky Mountain Chorus is composed of the members of all the division chapters. The sound of over 200 men's voices raised in song is nothing short of inspirational. Next year, the divisional contest is tentatively set for Boulder in April, when it's hoped we can escape the summer doldrums and have a larger turnout.

Now, after spearheading the most successful divisional contest ever, the Poudre Valley Chapter is planning for an action-filled fall program which will begin with the return of our wandering minstrels after Labor Day.

# Falstaff A Success

by Bob Stewart

The annual Falstaff sponsored "Lighted Evenings in the Park" again included the St. Louis #1 and St. Louis Suburban chapters in special performances dedicated exclusively to Barbershop Singing. These two chapters, along with the able assistance of several of their chapter quartets, again set the parks ringing with Good Close Harmony. Tilles Park on July 31st was the first site of these affairs and Sylvan Springs was the second on August 21st.

St. Louis Barbershoppers were saddened at the news of the sudden passing of a great old Barbershopper, George Dain. George was a long time member of the St. Louis Suburban chapter and of other chapters in the area, including Florissant Valley and St. Louis #1. At times George was a dual member and lent a hand and his support where it could be used. He was at one time an Area Counselor and a District Vice-President for the state of Missouri. His passing was very sudden. George's ready smile, helping hand and available Baritone or Bass will be missed by his many friends throughout the Society. His most recent job was that of Bulletin Editor for the St. Louis Suburban chapter.



Just  
what  
the  
doctor  
ordered!

By CSD PRESIDENT  
- Merrill Aitchison

Now that the International Convention and most vacations are over, it is time to concentrate on the matters of our chapters and of the CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT. By now, many of you have attended the 1969 HEP School in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Administrative Vice President, Chet Whitney, and the fellows from Sioux Falls, really do a fine job of hosting such an excellent school. Those of you who were unable to attend missed a very fine school run by excellent instructors.

This is only the start of what will be available for you. It is the concern of your District Board that enough educational programs and schools haven't been made available to the Central States District. We will offer additional quartet,

chorus directors, and arrangers schools in the future. Funds are being budgeted in order to offer you a better rounded educational program to make the Central States District the top District in the Society. Let's all get on the Band Wagon and help to promote and attend these functions as they are made available to you.

Why haven't we in Central States made a better showing in International Contests with our quartets and choruses? Fellows part of it is mentioned in the paragraph above. We must get more people involved. This will help to make more good quartets and good choruses. To you Program Vice Presidents, lets start NOW in having pick-up quartets in your own chapters. You can have tag quartets, comedy quartet contests, etc. These are fun things to do and in turn helps to stimulate interest in quartets and also helps in adding new members.

Have all of you made your plans to attend the District Contest in Omaha? The boys from Omaha are planning a real gala week-end. If you haven't attended a contest in Omaha, please do so this year. We have a great time and meet all of our friends. The competition for both quartets and choruses should be tops. If you haven't sent in your application to sing, do it now. What a great opportunity for a new quartet.

A special CONGRATULATIONS to Pueblo, Colorado and Greeley, Colorado on their recent chartering. We welcome you into the Central States District.

We hope to see all of you in Omaha. Make your plans now for one of the highlights of the year, the fall District Contest. Come and support your favorite quartet and chorus. Remember, we are from the CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT and mighty proud of it!

# Algona Sings For Governor

BY Gene Hutchins

Normally summer distractions cause a lull in the chapters activities. This year, however, a well balanced chorus presented the musical segment of the program at the Algona Country Club for the Northwest Iowa Mayors Association. This program was attended by state and municipal dignitaries and included an appearance by Iowa Governor Robert E. Ray.

The Serenaders quartet participated in the Barbershopping activities at the Iowa State Fair in Des Moines in the Plaza area on August 24th. The Fall-kick-off-practice-picnic-ladies night is scheduled for the Call State Park on September 8th, and plans are already being made for our Parade next spring on April 4th.

# Jester Park Rings Again

by Roger Spahr

With the help of chapter members from Ames, Iowa City and Marshalltown the Des Moines annual sweet corn and beef feed, held August 9th, was a tremendous success. 157 people went through the chow line to partake of the food prepared by George Richard, Glen Appenzeller and company. After the grand feast everyone settled back for the evenings program. The program consisted of pick up quartets, tag quartets (including members from Ames, Iowa City, and Marshalltown), a group from Ames under the direction of Glen Accola, the TONE-MASTERS, JAX OF HARMONY and the combined forces of all barbershop members present to wind up the show.

Once again the Des Moines participated in the State Fair parade held August 14th. This year our segment of the parade was larger than ever. It consisted of: a Dunn Buggy, three convertibles carrying the following people, Erik Erikson and family (our director), Officers from the Des Moines Sweet Adelines and the JAX OF HARMONY: a float carrying the TONE-MASTERS, five Model A's carrying Norwalk Sweet Adelines and Des Moines and our barbershopper of the year Marty Bell. Last but not least we had a harmony express train carrying the rest of the Des Moines Sweet Adelines. Also incorporated in our portion of the parade were fourteen people riding tandem bicycles all dressed depicting the Roaring 20's era.

Throughout the rest of the fair choruses and quartets from all over the state of Iowa participated daily on the plaza stage at the Iowa State Fair. This is the second year that the Des Moines have organized the State Fair Stint. Last year it was received by the fair goers with a great amount of enthusiasm and this year we have received the same amount of enthusiasm. We would like to thank all of the choruses and quartets that have participated in the program this year for it is through your participation that the State Fair Program is such a great big success.

## Thirty Days Has . . .

by Bob Stock

The past month has left many experiences, some good and some sad. First we lost Larry Monson our Director in July, then eight good active members since, due to transfers, etc. This is always a blow to the morale of a Chorus.

However, we have a new Director Bob McMeen, who was introduced to our chap-

ter by Larry and who in the past month has more than proved himself deserving of our support. Although Bob is new to Barbershopping he has taught vocal music professionally since 1960.

Our first step toward getting Bob hooked on Barbershop was to send him and his wife Kay to St. Louis for International. Then, after only one week of directing us we subjected him to two sing-outs in one night. Three weeks later we did three sing-outs in one week, so you can see we really broke him in in a hurry. (Boy what a sneaky bunch.) Bob's a real trooper and a very hard worker; we were very fortunate in getting him.

Some more good news, although our membership has dropped from those transfers, our active membership is up 14% over last year. This is due I'm sure to the enthusiasm of this years Administration headed by our President, Jerry Leslie and Administrative Vice President, Mort Hanna.

Keep up the good work fellas!

## Busy Year For Chordmasters

by Al Vogel

Reviewing the activities of the Sheldon Chapter for the first seven months of 1969 reveals that we have had twelve sing-outs in and around the Sheldon area. These include singing for regular church services, special Lenten services, Chamber of Commerce meetings, benefit programs, and singing on a float in parades.

Add to this seven board meetings, a guest night for the high school boys glee club, a mystery night (a surprise visit to Chorus practice by our wives) our annual chapter picnic with the traditional bratwurst, plus an inter-chapter visit to Sioux Falls to view the International Contest film, a few hardy souls at the campout at Storm Lake, and the Worthington, Minnesota area get-together.

The calendar ahead looks like this: Trip to Des Moines to sing at the Iowa State Fair, the contest in Omaha, our fall parade, Christmas party, and more sing-outs.

With one membership transferred in and three new members, with several regular practice sessions have been going great guns.



## Air Capitol Chorus

By Herb Crapson

Sunday, August 24th was a big day for Barbershoppers in Kansas. Seven Kansas Choruses entered the State Wide Contest at Emporia, to compete for the No. 1 position. The Air Capitol Chorus from Wichita won the coveted spot and the traveling trophy. The NOJOCO Chorus from Overland Park took second place and the Capitol City Chorus from Topeka was number three. This is a new program for Kansas and already there is talk of the 1970 contest to be. International President, Bob Gall was the MC. The Rip Chords from Topeka and the Captains Crew from Wichita entertained the audience between chorus performances. The judging was the same as for a District Contest.

Following the contest and critique all barbershoppers with their wives and friends, gathered for an afterglow. There was a bounteous dinner and plenty of good old barbershop entertainment. What a contest, what a show, what a day, what a boost for barbershopping in Kansas.



COUNT FOUR - NOJOCO & Heart of America Chapters

Contact Man - Martin Gray  
9213 Reeder Dr.  
Overland Park, Kansas  
62214

SHOW ME STATESMEN - St. Louis # 1 Chapter

Contact Man - Bob Darr  
9527 Garber Rd.  
St. Louis, Mo. 63126

TIMBRE KINGS - Poudre Valley Chapter  
Contact Man - Paul Richter  
229 Clover Lane  
Fort Collins, Colo. 80521

PRAIRIE DOGS - St. Charles Chapter  
Contact Man - Larry Groeblichoff  
R. R. # 2  
O'Fallon, Mo. 63366

## Dropped Quartets

PLAINSMEN - Frank H. Thorne Chapter  
SE KANS - Pittsburg, Kansas Chapter  
RIVERBOATERS - Florissant Valley Chapter  
DIGITS - Heart of America Chapter  
FOUR KEY PICKERS - St. Louis Suburban Chapter

## District Convention Schedule

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1969

Noon to 10:00 p.m. - Registration Area Open, Sheraton-Fontenelle.

5:45 P.M. - Judges Dinner meeting, Sheraton-Fontenelle.

7:30 p.m. - Quartet Briefing, Backstage, Music Hall.

8:00 p.m. - Quartet Semi-Finals, Music Hall.

10:00 p.m. - House of Delegates Meeting, Sheraton-Fontenelle.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1969

8:30 a.m. - Quartet Briefing, Backstage, Music Hall.

9:00 a.m. - Quartet Semi-Finals, Music Hall.

9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. - Registration Area Open, Sheraton-Fontenelle.

9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - Ladies Tour & Luncheon, Sheraton-Fontenelle.

1:00 p.m. - Chorus Briefing, Backstage, Music Hall.

1:30 p.m. - Chorus Contest, Music Hall.

6:00 p.m. - Judges Dinner (wives incl.), Sheraton-Fontenelle.

8:00 p.m. - Quartet Finals, Music Hall.

11:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. - Afterglow, Sheraton-Fontenelle.

1:00 a.m. to ??? - Everglow, Anywhere.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1969

8:30 a.m. - Critique, Sheraton-Fontenelle.



Pictured above is St. Louis #1's newest quartet, the HARDWAY FOUR. From left to right they are JIM ROTHERY, baritone; DOC MEYER, bass; GEORGE STREBLER, lead; and GEORGE BAGOT, JR., tenor. Bagot is a member of St. Louis Suburban chapter. This is the first Inter-chapter quartet in the area in many a year.

## Harmony Hawks

by Jerry Nelson

Words can not adequately express the appreciation that we, the Harmony Hawks, have for the great Central States District. In the past three years we have represented Central States at International and have had the privilege of the District's support. But this year in St. Louis we realized the full impact of competing in our own District and receiving well wishes right from the audience. It is difficult to express our disappointment in not doing better at the Contest, but no matter what place we are in we rank Central States as number one in the Society!! A great big "Thank You" to you the Central States District!

The summer is coming to a close and Fall Activities will soon be upon us. During the summer Sundays the Cedar Rapids Chapter has once again been filling in for vacationing church choirs. This has become a satisfying community service program and we would recommend it to all chapters if the opportunity is there.

July 20th saw members of the Harmony Hawks participating in the Annual Barber-shop's Picnic at Back Bone State Park sponsored by the Cedar Falls - Waterloo chapters and including Chapters from the Northeast Iowa area. Food, Fun and lots of singing was the bill of fare and we hope that more Northeastern Iowa members will join us next year.

The Hawks sang for the boys and girls at Camp Good Health near Cedar Rapids on August 14. The audience was small but very enthusiastic as they always are at the Camp. We couldn't honor all of their song requests, but we always had one - "something like that."

The Hawks also sang for the Sunday afternoon crowd on August 17, at the Iowa State Fair in Des Moines.

Back to the old drawing board - as the saying goes. The Harmony Hawks will be working on numbers for the District Contest in Omaha. Hope to see you all there!

## No Time For Nothing

By Bob White

Everybody knows that summertime is slump-time with many Chapters. Not so at NOJOCO where meetings are being held each week at Antioch Park during the months of July and August. There on Thursday nights under the stars, impromptu concerts by the Chorus are enjoyed by those who have come to the park for a picnic or just to cool off.

With the International Convention in St. Louis only a few hours away by car, many NOJOCO members attended the contests with their families.

The following week on the Fourth of July, the NOJOCO Chorus and the IV COUNTS Quartet entertained the many who



Mike Michel (right) Chairman of Judging at the First Annual NOJOCO Octet Contest presents the trophy to Harry Clifford (left) accepting for the NOJOCO Octet Number One, who in turn presents it to Martin Gray, chapter President. Background, L. to R., Bob Johnson, Jack Eskilson, Bill Lucast, and Lee Huddleston.

gathered at Shawnee Mission Park to hear an address by Congressman L. Winn and to watch the Annual Fireworks display presented by the Overland Park JC's.

Since July was another five Thursday month, a special Guest Night was on the agenda for July 31st. And the next night, August 1st, the Chapter traveled to Urich, Missouri, for an engagement.

On Sunday afternoon, August 10th, NOJOCO invited area chapters to participate in an Octet Contest and potluck picnic at Shawnee Mission Park. It is hoped that this will become an annual event and while especially aimed at Emporia, Lawrence, Leavenworth, Kansas City, St. Joseph and Topeka, all others are welcome.

The wind-up of Summer activities was the chorus contest for Kansas chapters held in Emporia on August 24. So now Summer is about over and its time to think of Fall programs. Gosh, no time left for a Summer slump.



CONVENTION

CENTRAL STATES ASSOCIATION
-District Quartet & Regional Chorus-
October 17-19 \*\*\* Omaha, Nebraska

CONTEST

Table with columns: Hotel, Single Bedrooms, Double Bedrooms, Twin Bedrooms, Other. Lists various hotels and their rates.

Motels on Outskirts of Town

Omaha Travelodge, 39th & Dodge -- Prom-Town House, 70th & Dodge
New Towers, 78th & Dodge -- Holiday Inn, 3321 So. 72nd Street

If accommodations at hotel indicated as first choice are not available at time your reservation request is submitted you will be assigned to next available alternate choice.

APPLICATION FOR HOUSING

Detach this page and mail to:
W. C. Davis
2806 Hansen Circle
Bellevue, Nebraska 68005
Phone: 402-291-7676

From:

Name

Address

City, Zone, State or Province

Hotel:

1st Choice \_\_\_\_\_ 3rd Choice \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Choice \_\_\_\_\_ 4th Choice \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE RESERVE THE FOLLOWING ACCOMMODATIONS

Single Bedroom ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Suite (Parlor and 1 or 2
Double Bedroom ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Bedrooms ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
Twin Bedroom ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Dormitory ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAMES OF OCCUPANTS

(Fill in Accurately Listing ALL Occupants or Form Will Be Returned for Completion)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Arrival \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Departure \_\_\_\_\_

Time of Arrival \_\_\_\_\_

Time of Departure \_\_\_\_\_

# Official Ticket Requisition

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Contest Ticket Chairman:  
 W. C. "Bill" Davis  
 2806 Hansen Circle  
 Bellevue, Nebraska 68005  
 Phone: (Home) 402-291-7676  
 (Office) 402-294-2150

Mail To: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please issue tickets as indicated for the 1969 CSA District Convention at Omaha, Nebraska, October 17-19, 1969. Full remittance is enclosed. Make checks payable to: SPEBSQSA, Inc. CSA Convention 1969.

QUANTITY	PRICE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
_____ All-Events Ticket Package	\$6.00	\$6.50 value. Remember all competing members must purchase this package.	_____
_____ Ticket #1	\$1.00	No Reservations. Quartet Semi-Finals Friday Night and Saturday Morning.	_____
_____ Ticket #2	\$2.00	No Reservations. Chorus Contest Saturday Afternoon.	_____
_____ Ticket #3	\$3.50	All Seats Reserved Saturday Night Finals. Seats Rows A thru N, Left Center, Center, Right Center.	_____
_____	\$3.00	Seats Rows O thru Y, Left Center, Center, Right Center, Side Aisles.	_____
_____	\$3.50	All Mezzanine Center, Right Center, Side Aisles.	_____
_____	\$3.50	All Mezzanine	_____
_____	\$2.00	All Balcony	_____
Total Enclosed.....			_____

Every BARBERSHOPPER appearing on stage must have an ALL-EVENTS TICKET PACKAGE. Order as many extra tickets as you wish. Admittance to all doors by ticket only. No tickee - no singee.

Full cash (check or money order) must accompany all order-requisitions. No reservations, hold orders, will call, deposits, pick-ups, etc. without full amount. No refunds, exchanges or replacement of lost tickets.

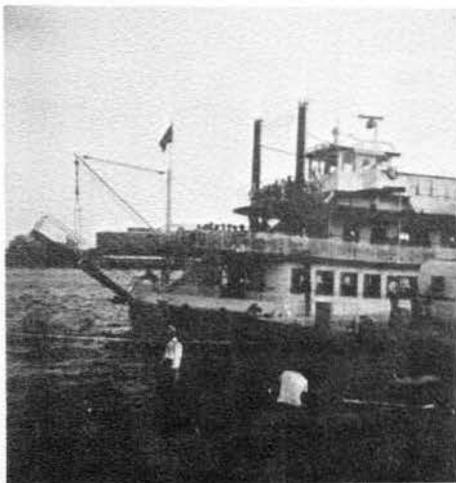
All events will be staged at the Music Hall Civic Auditorium. Reserved seats will be located on first come - first serve basis. Ticket mailings will start in late July via Certified Mail. UNSOLD RESERVED SEATS WILL BE OFFERED TO LOCAL PUBLIC AFTER SEPTEMBER 15.

Your Ticket Committee will endeavor to supply tickets exactly as ordered. The right is reserved to substitute where seats in a requested section are not available. This may particularly apply to requests for large blocks of seats in a specific section when requisitions are late in arriving. The seating capacity of the Music Hall is relatively small. Better Hurry.

# We'll Take a Train to Omaha

By Marty Riese

With the CSA Chorus contest only a few weeks away, the Chordbusters are busy making plans for their trip to Omaha by chartered train. It may not be the Chattanooga Choo Choo, but it sure will sound like it when the hundred man chorus gets on board. Stops will be made in Iowa City and Des Moines and other points along the route to pick up any and all Barbershoppers who care to join the Omaha Express.



Never express an idea among the Chordbusters, or it may become a reality. Such was the case with the suggestion of entering a float in the International Contest parade. Under the guiding hands of Jack McGinn and Bob Hendershot and with the help of other Chordbusters, the float was transported to St. Louis, re-assembled and went the parade route. While not winning the competition, everyone knew the riverboat was from Davenport. Some 35 'Busters' and their wives attended the convention.

Two hundred twenty-five Barbershoppers and their ladies boarded the paddle-wheeler, Tom Sawyer, for the Davenport Chapters' annual "Cruise Up the River," on August 17th. It was a perfect night for harmonizing and the singing was so loud it echoed off both sides of the Mississippi River, Iowa City, Davenport, Galesburg, Ottumwa, Rock Island, and Sterling-Rock Falls chapters were represented aboard the Sawyer and all were enthusiastically making plans for next year. A special attraction was the fireworks display from mid-river sponsored by a local radio station.

Now attention is being given to preparation for producing our 13th annual "Holiday In Harmony" parade of barbershop quartets featuring the Avante Garde and the Sundowners in addition to the O.K. Four.

Latest project of the Chordbusters has been the production and release of their first record album, "Here Come The Chordbusters." The record features the Chordbusters, their quartets and soloists, in singing songs from past and present Holiday in Harmony parades and contest numbers. See advertisement in this issue for prices and contact man.

Remember, it's Davenport in '70!

## Tonemasters Stormy Campout

By Lee Braun

It'll take more than a little wind and rain to dampen the spirits of the Tonemasters, DeMoinairs Chapter, Central States, who, along with their families, staged their first annual 4th of July Campout at Twin Anchors Campground near Colo, Iowa. The hearty outdoorsmen, including three wives (so far Bari Lee Braun has successfully avoided the apron strings), and nine kids, braved the stormy weather for a week, with the exception of a couple of sunny days, which permitted fishing, swimming and boating. The hearty, pioneer spirit was nearly overwhelming for two of the families who arrived early. Three tornadoes were spotted near their camp and they were given the thrill of riding out a



storm caused by the backlash of the twisters.

However, the inclement conditions during the week proved ideal for Tenor Lee DuBois, Lead Gary Lewallen, Bari Braun, and Bass Bob Cass to brush up on some old songs and learn a couple of new ones.

On the eve of their departure, they were generously received at the weekly Saturday night Bonfire and Entertainment Hour sponsored by Cora and Harold Kimberley, campground owners.



SINGING IN THE RAIN are Lead Gary Lewallen, Tenor Lee DuBois, Baritone Lee Braun and Bass Bob Cass.

## St. Louis Quartets Perform At Contest

On Sept. 27 at the Kirkwood Community Center in Kirkwood, Mo. the eight Chapters comprising the Greater St. Louis Area furnished Choruses and Quartets competing in the Annual Contest. Five Qualified Judges were on hand to do the Judging chores in all five categories. Trophies were awarded the winning Quartet; with a "Traveling" trophy to the best Chorus. Bill Thompson of St. Louis Suburban Chapter was the Contest Chairman and he reports they had a capacity crowd in the 400-seat Kirkwood Auditorium. Tickets were \$1.00 each.

## Death Takes George Dain

The Central States District expresses its deepest sympathy in the death of George Dain, member of the St. Louis Suburban Chapter, former Area Counselor and CSA Vice-President for Missouri, Chapter Bulletin Editor and frequent contributor to the Serenade.

# To Chapter Secretaries

A recent change by International Headquarters in the Chapter Quarterly Activity Report has caused some confusion among our chapter secretaries.

The District Secretary does use this report (Form SC-33) to determine the points earned by the chapters for the Chapter Achievement Award. The District point system is shown on page 18 of the District Directory. It will be used throughout 1969. It will be noted the form does not call for all activities for which this District allows points. If needed, a sheet may be added to list the additional activities. The points may be shown if desired, the District Secretary's opinion will be final. We can determine the points

earned without them being shown on the report.

It is recommended that when preparing the quarterly report, you examine carefully all listings as shown in the District Directory. Chapters have failed to receive credit for accomplishments simply because the accomplishments were not listed in the report.

HERBERT L. CRAPSON,  
District Secretary

## Casper Plans First Parade

By T. C. Daniels

The Casper, Wyoming Chapter has started to work hard on the preparation of its first annual parade scheduled for October 4th in the Natrona County High School auditorium. The theme will be "Grand Central Hotel" an ancient and quite famous hostelry. The seating capacity of the auditorium is upwards of 1,500 and the chapter is hoping and planning to fill it.

The Cavaliers quartet will headline the program and will be aided by the Silver Kings of Denver. The Chapter chorus, its quartet, the Oil Slickers, and the Cheyenne chorus will round out the program. Don Bean is chairman.

The President reports good attendance at the Monday night meetings in the Presbyterian Church. The chapter was organized with over 40 members, and despite the inevitable change by the moving away of certain members, it has maintained its strength well. Joel Monson is director and is doing an outstanding job. The chapter met with the Cheyenne and Laramie chapters for a joint sing and good time at the intermediary point of Wheatland this summer with about seventy men present from the three chapters.



MAN OF NOTE # 1: Howard Tingley, Dave Shoemaker, Charles Traylor, Roger Thompson, George Boone, Ken Demirkean, Dr. Frank Mollsberry, Vern Chlinger, Ray Lauters, Vern Mallo, Levin Everman, Clark Warner, Glick Bishop, Frank J. Francone, Arlen Black Well, Frank Bowson, Lee C. Irwin, John Cook, Leo Kinnick.

MAN OF NOTE # 2: Joe Byrnes, Winfield Rogers, Raymond Boo, Nicholas Shilby, W. C. Davis, Kenneth E. Carrel, Hayden Ireland, Richard Patzer, Robert Henry, Jerry Kelley, Orval Wilson, J. C. Heltna, Bill Greene.

MAN OF NOTE # 3: Burdett Thompson, Arnold Liewer, Richard D. Brown, Sr.

MAN OF NOTE # 4: J. D. Dillard, W. L. Winder.

MAN OF NOTE # 5: Herchel Stroud, Harold Vant, Bob Klausia, Thomas Howard.

MAN OF NOTE # 9: Ivan Yoss.



## Chicken Cacciatore

by H. H. (Bob) Harnack

The River City gang has been quite alive this summer. Two big camp-outs really helped to get some of the older and newer members better acquainted. One of the older members very enthusiastically put it this way ... "if you really want to get better acquainted with the gang, go on a camp-out."

The River City chorus will lose its happy home, the Moose Hall, but, the prospects for another place are good. However, after you have been going to a place for ten years it may take a while to feel at home elsewhere.

The chorus and the Midwest Four have been just nicely active during the summer. Both averaged about one outside singout per month. Practice was a steady affair with no layoffs. Have two fine arrangements picked for contest. And, expect to be right in there pitching for that top spot again. Have two singouts scheduled for September and one for October so things look interesting for this fall. We always look forward to contest time. Omaha is a swell place.

Ye Ed, was labeled the 'Worst Man' by the local Gazette. Seems a pretty bad pun appeared in the River City Pitch during August. One has to be a bit of a student of American history to fully appreciate the fact that on August 7 we celebrate the fact that on this date the early Americans began training chickens to catch British sympathizers. First chicken cacciatore.

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# Meet Your CSA Executive Vice-President Bill McLatchie

Chicago's claim to fame, outside of being known as the windy city, has to be that Bill McLatchie was born there on April 15, 1925. Bills' penchant for travelling began at the tender age of one, when the family moved to Cincinnati, Ohio. By the age of three, he was ready to move again, this time to Calamus, Iowa. He completed his education in the area, and graduated from the Wheatland, Iowa high school in 1943 where he participated in baseball and basketball. His love for singing was ignited in the high school chorus.

Uncle Sam was waiting for Bill when he graduated from high school. He volunteered for the Paratroops and was assigned to the 503rd Parachute Regimental Combat Team, seeing considerable action in the Pacific Theatre during World War II. He is the recipient of the Order of the Purple Heart.

His first encounter with barbershopping was back in 1948 when he became a member of the Rock Island, Illinois chapter. "I Found A Million Dollar Baby In The Five and Ten Cent Store" must have been one of the songs he learned, for he met his lovely wife, Lucille, at a Woolworth Store in Davenport, Iowa. They were married on November 26, 1949, and are the parents of two children, Jane and Bob. Jane is a senior at Durant high school, and Bob is a freshman at Iowa State University.

In 1952, Bill was instrumental in the founding of the Davenport Chordbuster chapter, and has served as its Bulletin Editor, Secretary, and President. Starting as a lead, Bill has, over the years,

worked himself down to bass. He has been a member of several fine quartets including the Quad-Aires and the Chordhawks, competing in the District Quartet contest in 1967.

On the district level, Bill has served as an Area Counselor and District Convention Chairman. He is currently Area Vice President for Eastern Iowa and has been nominated for 1970 District Executive Vice President. He is also a candidate in the Secretary-Timer judging category.

Bill is presently employed as Chief Radio Dispatcher for Eastern Iowa Light and Power with offices in Wilton, Iowa. He is an avid golfer and helped formulate plans for the Wakhonsa Country Club. His two biggest known vices are chewing toothpicks and drinking Pepsi-Cola. We're proud to have Bill McLatchie as a CSA Vice President!



## Texans Entertained

By Harry Herrick

The Elkader chapter has been quite busy this summer. Thirty-three strong, we chartered a bus and journeyed to the International Contest in St. Louis. We all had a great time and a lot of fun.

On August 14th, we sang for 130 Oelwein residents and 32 visiting Texans who came to observe Iowa farm life. On August 17th we sang at the crowning of the Clayton County Sweet Corn Princess, which was the climax of the two day Junior Chamber Sweet Corn Festival. We also recently sang at the consecration of Bishop Dunn in Dubuque. He is a former resident of Elkader.

## The Tommy Drum Saloon

by Tom Hartley

In the early history of Hays, Kansas, the Tommy Drum Saloon was the social center of that Western Kansas military post, railroad stop and farming community.

In the past three years the Tommy Drum Saloon Show has become an instant tradition for the members of the High Plains Chapter as well as the residents of Hays and surrounding communities.

Beginning with the Hays City Centennial in 1967, the Tommy Drum Saloon featured Barbershop Quartet singing by the then founding chapter with various chorus members appearing as the Feedlot Four. The show ran for ten days. The following year the show opened in conjunction with a local retail promotion and ran for three nights.

In July the Saloon opened again for a one-night stand and again was tied to a retail promotion. The show sold out three times in three openings. The beauty of the Tommy Drum Saloon Show is that its heritage and lineage exist mostly in the minds of the performers, so great liberties are taken with history, drama and any other aspect of production, except for Barbershop sound.

Included in the program were the two mainstays of the High Plains Chapter—the Travel-Aires and the Fort Hays Tags—along with the Chorus, a gals' quartet, the B-Flats and three non-barbershop numbers. Added attractions were a chorus line, bar girls in appropriate costume, a rinky tink piano and a bar which served free soft drinks.

Not only does the show lack a standard format, but it has used more locations than a floating crap game. This year it came to rest in a former newspaper printing shop. A local merchant unwittingly aided the cause when he stored the furniture from a defunct restaurant in the building. The barbershoppers put booths, tables and chairs back into operation, lending the most authentic flavor to the saloon that it has seen in its brief history.

One chorus member, who is the drama coach at a local high school, raided his drama department for stages and lights to add a professional dimension to a thoroughly amateur production. Another member turned his hand from painting signs which advertised the weekly specials at his supermarket to publicity posters and interior decorations. Sample: "Ladies, we are not responsible for the behavior of your husband while he is in this saloon."

While the show stole precious rehearsal time from preparation for the State Chorus Contest, it also provided a welcome break in the routine and pulled together a chorus of 30 in the middle of the summer.



Members of the Elkader, Iowa, Keystone Chorus, board bus for journey to International Contest in St. Louis.

# First CSA H.E.P. School A Winner!

This was the week-end that was the most exciting ever staged in the Central States District. Eighty-two souls felt the vibrations put forth by Freddie King, Howard Mesecher, Greg Lyne, and Dick Johnson, and came away enthusiastic, exhilarated, and exhausted.

The campus of Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, was the site of the first CSA H.E.P. school and the facilities were superb. It all began with lunch and tag singing led by Howard Mesecher on Saturday noon and for dessert we listened to Darrell Stitt M.C. his Barbershop show over KSOO. First order of business was meeting the faculty for the week-end in Gilbert Science Center and then it was on to class for twelve hours of stimulating instruction and discussion, interspersed with tag singing, quartet contests, jokes, learning new songs, and coffee breaks.

Howard Mesecher does nice work in teaching the fine art of chorus promotion and directing and that Freddie King, director of the Dundalk, Md., chapter, has got to be the greatest quartet promotion man in the business. His antics

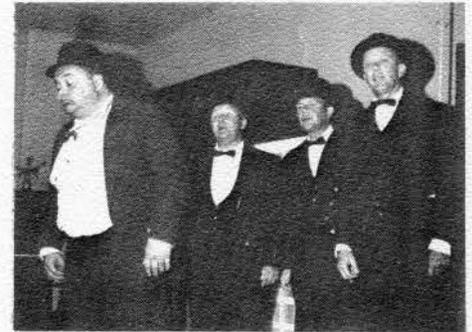
top Bob Hope anyday and were worth the price of admission alone.

The arrangers were closeted with our great young CSA arranger, Greg Lyne, ably assisted by Dick Johnson of Fort Dodge, whose latest hit number is "Davenport." They came up with a profuse number of tags they had arranged in addition to the Central States "Son of the Year" - "Where The Southern Roses Grow." This arrangement will be the first from a District H.E.P. school to be published by International. Greg also introduced us to his latest arrangement to be released, "Those Good Old Fluffy Ruffle Days," and it sings great!

The Afterglow, at the Oddfellows Hall, featured the singing of the Sioux Emperians chorus and as a special added attraction "The Gay Ninety's," from Montevideo, Minn. The ladies served sandwiches, cake and coffee to round out the evening. Our hats are off to Chet Whitney and his band of Sioux Emperians for arranging one of the most magnificent week-ends of Barbershopping this district has ever seen!



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# What's

## Coming Up Next?

Sept. 13 - Waterloo-Cedar Falls Chapter Parade.

Sept. 20 - Viborg, S.D. Chapter Parade.

Sept. 21 - Lincoln, Nebraska Chapter Parade.

Sept. 27 - Waukon, Iowa, Chapter Parade.

October 4 - Casper, Wyoming, Chapter Parade.

October 4 - Davenport Chordbusters Parade.

October 11 - St. Louis # 1 Chapter Parade.

October 11 - Hastings, Nebraska Chapter Parade.

October 17-19 - CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT CONTEST AND CONVENTION - Omaha, Nebraska.

November 1 - Elkader, Iowa, Chapter Parade.

November 1 - Longmont, Colorado, Chapter Parade.

November 8 - NOJOCO Chapter Parade.

November 8 - Sheldon, Iowa, Chapter Parade.

November 14, 15 - Denison, Iowa, Chapter Parade.

November 15 - Topeka, Kansas, Chapter Parade.

November 23 - Buena Vista Chapter Parade.

December 13 - Lawrence, Kansas, Chapter Parade.

# Nominating Committee Report

The following is the late of nominees as selected by the Nominating Committee for District Office for the year 1970.

For President: Don Little, Lincoln, Nebraska.

For Executive Vice President: Bill McLatchie, Durant, Iowa.

For Vice Presidents: Rocky Mountain Division - Oak Stockton, Colorado Springs, Colo.; Eastern Iowa - Howard Mesecher, Davenport, Iowa; Kansas - Jim Nugent, Hays, Kansas; Missouri - Gil Lefholz, Raytown, Missouri; Western Iowa-Nebraska-South Dakota - Jerry Leslie, Omaha, Nebraska.

For Secretary: Will Winder, Wichita, Kansas.

For Treasurer: Jim Graham, Creve Coeur, Missouri.

For International Board Member: Merrill Aitchison, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Immediate Past President: Merrill Aitchison, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Additional nominations may be made from the floor, providing the House of Delegates member who makes such nominations has notified the District Secretary in writing at least 10 days in advance of the Annual Meeting of his intention to make such nominations and has specified in the notice the names of the nominees whom his candidates are to oppose in the election and has written evidence that his nominees will serve if elected. (9.01 - Article IX)



## Air Capitol Chorus Of Wichita Wins State Contest

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### Contact

**PHIL HUNGET,**

President

**River City Chapter  
Corwith, Iowa**

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## DISTRICT CONTEST AND CONVENTION OCTOBER 17-19

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