



Kokomo Men of Note

Program – Meeting Night (2/22/10)

1st Presbyterian Church - 2000 W. Jefferson Street

Please visit our website: <http://www.kokomo-men-of-note.org>

The mission of the Kokomo Chapter is to promote, encourage, preserve and sing the barbershop style of music; and lead the cause of supporting and encouraging vocal music in our schools and community.

February 15th Attendance: 23 singers: 3 tenors, 10 leads plus guest Alec Whitacre, grandson of Bob Whitacre, 3 baritones plus guest Larry Ives and 7 basses

Interesting signs: In a "Non Smoking" area: "If we see smoke, we will assume you are on fire and take appropriate action!"; On a fence: "Salesmen welcome! Dog food is expensive!"



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! George Washington – February 22nd; Matt Heckert – February 24th

Program

Spring Show Kick-off

7:00PM

- ❖ Eat - Blessing - Don
- ❖ Introduction/Welcome to ladies & Guests
Don Silvey/Colin Craig
- ❖ Chorus
The Old Songs
Polecat Songs
Happy Together
- ❖ Introduce Show (outline)- Charlie
- ❖ Chorus - repertoire review
Gospel Medley
Swing Down
- ❖ Brief History (very brief) - Ray
- ❖ Quartet(s) a song or two
Sometimers, Sound Celebration or Sycamore Road
- ❖ Chorus - rehearse show songs w/ time left.
- ❖ KTWWS (Keep the Whole World Singing)

"Spring Show Kickoff"

Monday "Kokomo Men of Note" is sponsoring a "Spring Show Kickoff" at 1st Presbyterian Church. We are inviting men who like to sing to join us as we introduce Chapter plans for our Spring show. Visitors will have an opportunity to learn show music along with the rest of the Chapter and sing in the show this May. Music, training CD's and pizza will be available. Perhaps the guests you are bringing would be interested in a 90 day commitment to sing in our show. Joining the society would be welcomed, but not necessary. (90 day initial commitment only) We need your help to accomplish these goals.

Join us and bring a friend. Wives and significant others are welcome.

Yours in song,

Don Silvey,

Vice President, Kokomo Men of Note

Congratulations!

Matthew Heckert for his participation in the State ISSMA Solo & Ensemble Contest last Saturday

The Birth of Barbershop Chorus Singing

The year had been 1939, and the place was a hotel in St. Louis. Owen Cash was making his first visit to a group organized by Dr. Norman Rathert as the third chapter in the Society. Rathert wasted no time in bringing up the subject of barbershop chorus singing: "If you get a group of men together and . . . teach them to sing their parts . . . look how many quartets you are bringing into being, real fast." Cash was interested, and when the Society held its first midwinter meeting in St. Louis in 1940, Rathert directed his chorus, the first in Society history, for all to enjoy. *Dr. Val Hicks, HERITAGE OF HARMONY*



Bring a guest to our guest night next Monday!

Business Calendar

- February 22nd** – Monday – **"Spring Show Kickoff"**
- March 1st** – Monday – Music Committee meeting @ 6:00 PM
- March 8th** – Monday – BOD meeting @ 6:00 PM
- April 5th** – Monday – Music Committee meeting @ 6:00 PM
- April 12th** – Monday – BOD meeting @ 6:00 PM
- April 9th -11th** – Cardinal District Spring Convention in Fort Wayne
- May 24th** – Monday – Guest Night

PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

- May 15th** – Saturday – MoN Annual Show "How the West Was Sung"

SINGING TIPS

- Sing something everyday. Rehearse chorus music several times each week using current chorus tapes
- Sing tension free with as much accuracy as possible. Observe good singers and their habits and try to emulate them.
- Check posture and breathing frequently. Also check your tongue position (down), jaw position (relaxed), soft palate (pre yawn position).

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER

Summary of the discussion – submitted by Charlie Rose

Numerous items were discussed during the roundtable:

- It was suggested that members be called to remind them of guest night Monday.
- Singing Valentines: what to improve, cost, getting the word out to more places.
- Spring show: need general chairman, props, humor, food, cost, length.
- Summer show: possibly using gospel quartet, props.
- Discussed incorporating gospel singing into more of our productions.
- Membership: project based chorus participation (i.e. 90 day commitment for the show). We are growing in membership and a good number of guests are repeat visitors! How do we keep them involved?
- Utilize a Program Vice President: to promote and run the activities of the weekly chapter meeting.
- We will probably not be going to contest because we will be too busy getting ready for the show.
- Colin called a special board meeting (since the whole board was present) and we accepted Bill Doyel's grandson, Jeremy Kirkmeyer, as a student member of the chapter and Society.
- Each person present was given the chance to express his feelings about the way things were going: most thought we were moving in a positive direction.



"What is the Barbershop Harmony Society all about?" . . . inquires the potential member.

The society posts this explanation:

Purpose

- perpetuates and celebrates harmony in the barbershop style
- promotes fellowship and friendship among men of good will
- provides the opportunity to experience the joy of four-part a cappella singing
- introduces and sustains music in the lives of people everywhere

Values

- The joy of singing and ringing chords in four-part barbershop harmony
- Fellowship and friendship
- Service to others through our music

Mission

- The Barbershop Harmony Society brings men together in harmony and fellowship to enrich lives through singing.

Vision Statement

- To be the premier membership organization for men who love to sing.

ANSWERS FROM STUDENTS ON MUSIC EXAMS: "Music sung by two people at the same time is called a duel; if they sing without music it is called Acapulco."