

# "Har-Mo-Notes"

Kokomo, IN, Men of Note Weekly Electronic Bulletin  
Meeting Night Program for March 29, 2010



Happy Easter

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1<sup>st</sup> 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. (Adopted 5/08/06)

Attendance for March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010: 22 singers: 3 tenors, 9 leads, 3 baritones, 7 basses



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Mike Lantz – March 31<sup>st</sup>

Interesting sign: Sign on the back of a Septic Tank Truck: "Caution - This Truck Full of Political Promises"

## Program

7:00 Warm-up, Polecat Songs, "Don't Blame Me"

7:20 "Oklahoma"; "Home on the Range"; "Deep in the Heart of Texas"; "Gold Mine in the Sky"

8:00 Octet practice on "I've Got Spurs" and sectional on "Don't Fence Me In"; "Ragtime Cowboy Joe"

8:30 Break and Business (Let's keep break & business to 15 minutes, please!)

8:43 Ninety second member info time

8:45 "Oklahoma"; "Home on the Range"; "Back in the Saddle"; "Happy Trails" on risers – from memory.

9:05 "Deep in the Heart of Texas" and "Gold Mine in the Sky"

9:15 Quartetting on Polecat songs

9:30 KTWWS

Reminder that next week's song to be off-music is "Don't Fence Me In."

Show notes! . . . . "How the West Was Sung!"



Timeline for learning show songs

<u>Song</u>	<u>Off music by</u>
"Back in the Saddle Again" . . . . .	March 22, 2010
"Happy Trails" . . . . .	March 22
"Home on the Range" . . . . .	March 29
"Oklahoma" . . . . .	March 29
"Don't Fence Me In" . . . . .	April 5
"Ragtime Cowboy Joe" . . . . .	April 12
"There's a Gold Mine in the Sky" . . . . .	April 12
"Deep in the Heart of Texas" . . . . .	April 19
"Jingle, Jangle, Jingle" (Octet) . . . . .	April 19



Tags!\*

(Excerpt from *The British Barbershopper – A Study in Socio-Musical Values*)

In terms of musical form, the tag is the coda to a song, the structural signal that it is coming to an end. It often repeats the last few words or the "hook" of the song, and will often feature a post (a long held tonic note to provide tonal stability) around which the other three parts harmonize. It usually involves the more exciting and adventurous harmonies.

Ron Willis describes it as a 'small but complete phrase' in which singers can 'endeavor to produce overtones of that wonderful sound that is Barbershop!'

"I would like the last sounds I hear before I die to be a tag that has a flatted 13<sup>th</sup> in it!"

CONGRATULATIONS . . BUTLER BULLDOGS . . 2010 NCAA MEN'S FINAL 4



**Bring a guest next Monday!**

**Business Calendar**

**April 5<sup>th</sup>** – Monday – Music Committee meeting @ 6:00 PM

**April 12<sup>th</sup>** – Monday – BOD meeting @ 6:00 PM

**April 9<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup>** – Cardinal District Spring Convention in Fort Wayne

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Monday – Music Committee meeting @ 6:00 PM

**May 10<sup>th</sup>** – Monday – BOD meeting @ 6:00 PM

**May 24<sup>th</sup>** – Monday – Guest Night

**PERFORMANCE CALENDAR**

**May 15<sup>th</sup>** – Saturday – MoN Annual Show “How the West Was Sung”

**Six things every director wishes you already knew about rehearsing!**

As a chorus member, what you can do to make those rehearsals be more fun for everyone.

*By Bill Rashleigh, Music specialist, chorus director development*

Directors are constantly striving to improve the response of the chorus. It behooves us as chorus members to be prepared for rehearsals, to respond to them with the vitality they deserve. This is the conclusion of the article, presented last week.

4. Singing well takes a lot of exertion. Singing requires more concentration, for a longer period of time, than any other activity. Psychologists will tell you the mind works in concentration spurts, about 7-10 seconds, then we think of something else. Most activities that require concentration require it for very short periods of time, but a song lasts 2-1/2 to 3 minutes. That is a very long time. So train your mind, through a variety of exercises, to increase the length of time you can concentrate, and you will be able to handle the demands of the music.

You probably already know how to sing good vowels, sing in tune, balance chords, and outwardly exude what the music demands. You have these skills and have done them in isolation. The challenge is to do them for the duration of the song and beyond if you are in a performance. Practice does help. Use a mirror and sing, karaoke style, some of your favorite quartet songs to see if you look like they sound. Take ownership of some aspect of singing and practice, practice, practice. Video cameras are also great for giving truthful feedback for such practice.

5. Skills take time to learn and more time to re-learn. The instructions in golf are very simple: Hit the ball into the hole with the club, 18 times in a row ... duh! But anyone who has tried that knows it is not easy. Singing is the same way. The instructions are simple: Sing all the word sounds, perfectly matched amongst singers, in perfect intonation in relationship to the chord and the key, in proper balance, with perfect unity and precision while expressing that in a believable, heartfelt manner creating seamless artistry ... duh! We know it is not easy. Allow yourself the privilege of honing skills and know that it will pay off. Singing is a marathon sport, running over the course of your singing life.

6. *You should have fun when you sing. Like each other and share in the joys of making great music because you don't know when you won't be able to do so again.*

**Top Reasons for Being a Tenor:** *(submitted by Charlie Rose)*



- Tenors get high without drugs.
- Name a musical where the bass got the girl.
- You can show the sopranos how it SHOULD be sung.
- Did you ever hear of anyone paying \$1000 for a ticket to see The Three Bases?
- Who needs brains when you've got resonance?
- Tenors never have to waste time looking through the self-improvement section of the bookstore.
- When you get really good at falsetto, you can make tons of money doing voice-overs for cartoon characters.
- Gregorian chant was practically invented for tenors. Nobody invented a genre for basses.

The Cardinal District's Spring Convention in Fort Wayne, Indiana is almost upon us! Convention Registration and Hotel Reservations are currently open and details are available at: <http://cardinaldistrict.org> Convention Registration Early-Bird deadline & Room rates have been reduced; cutoff date has been extended to Wednesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>

*Question that needs an answer! . . . What hair color do they put on the driver's licenses of bald men?*