

"Har-Mo-Notes"

**Kokomo, IN, Men of Note Weekly Electronic Bulletin
Meeting Night Program for April 19, 2010**



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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 April 12th, 2010: 19 singers: 3 tenors, 9 leads, 2 baritones, 4 basses and 1 Guest - former member Steve "Snake" Bachmann who will be one of the "characters" narrating the script for "How the West Was Sung"

 **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** Alice Maish – April 20th; Colin Craig – April 25th;

 **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!** John & Karen Tarkington – April 24th; Myron & Alice Maish – April 25th

Did I read that sign right? In an office: AFTER TEA BREAK STAFF SHOULD EMPTY THE TEAPOT AND STAND UPSIDE DOWN ON THE DRAINING BOARD; Seen during a conference: FOR ANYONE WHO HAS CHILDREN AND DOESN'T KNOW IT, THERE IS A DAY CARE ON THE 1ST FLOOR

Program

7:00 Warm-up, Polecat Songs, "Swing Down Chariot"

7:20 Show songs on the floor, adding action

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

8:43 Ninety second member info time

8:45 Show songs in seats or on floor

9:15 Quartetting on Polecat and/or show songs

9:30 KTWWS

Cardinal District Spring Convention Report



News from the House of Delegates Meeting at the Spring Convention:

- Colin Craig, delegate, and member of the Operations Team, and Ray Briggs, Past District President, attended the meeting.
- Society Board Member, Jim Sams, brought the following information from Bill Biffle, Society President:
 - The number of districts within the Society has increased from 16 to 17 with the split off of the Carolinas District (North and South Carolina) from the Dixie District due to geographic considerations and overload of chapters and members.
 - Under consideration by the Society Board is the awarding of "District" status to current "Associates" if they qualify under a new set of guidelines being prepared by the Society.
 - A clarification of duties was noted. Ed Watson is the Executive Director and CEO of all the Operation Teams within the Society and the Society Board is delegated to Long and Short Range Planning.
- Within the District:
 - Cardinal Chord College (CCC) is scheduled as a one day event on the first Saturday in June (June 5) in Columbus, Indiana.
 - Jim Grissom, from the Louisville Chapter, has agreed to become the new webmaster for the Cardinal District, effective immediately.
 - Two quartets, "65 South" - Elizabethtown and Greater Indianapolis, with 1851 points, and "Forefront", Santa Fe Springs, Greater Indianapolis, Terre Haute and Greater Central Ohio, with 1922 points, will represent the Cardinal District at the International Convention in Philadelphia in July. "Three Longs and a Short", Valparaiso and Rensselaer, was named the District Senior Quartet Winner. Twelve quartets were entered in the contest.
- Score sheets for all of the competitors should be posted to the Cardinal District web page in the near future. (www.cardinaldistrict.org). Click on "Events", then "Conventions" and look for "Contest Results".

Submitted by Ray Briggs

"Live in such a way that you would not be ashamed to sell your parrot to the town gossip." Will Rogers



Bring a guest next Monday!

Business Calendar

- May 3rd** – **Monday** – Music Committee meeting @ 6:00 PM
- May 8th** – **Saturday** – BOD meeting @ 9:00 AM @ 1st Presbyterian Church
- May 24th** – **Monday** – Guest Night
- June 7th** – **Monday** – Music Committee meeting @ 6:00 PM
- June 14th** – **Monday** – BOD meeting @ 6:00 PM

PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

- May 10th** – **Monday** – “How the West was Sung” performance @ North Woods Village; WU @ 6:30; sing @ 7:00PM It is the beginning of National Nursing Home Week.
- May 15th** – **Saturday** – MoN Annual Show “How the West was Sung” (Set up 8:00 A.M.; two shows: 2:30 P.M. and 7:30 P.M.; Clean up immediately after second show)
- July 28th** – **Wednesday** – MoN singing with the Kokomo Park Band

Lay the groundwork for interpretation

The meaning of the song begins before a note is sung. Ways of setting the stage.

by David Leeder, Presentation judge, coach

To properly interpret a song, you must go beyond your feelings about the music and try to get into the audience's head and heart - interpretation is the care and feeding of the audience. What you feel isn't as important as what you can get the audience to feel. You must give information about the story and develop meaningful, natural transitions from one thought or emotion to another. Your focus is communication, on being the "humble servant of the music" and "the faithful messenger of the composer."

View the auditory and visual aspects of your performance as one and the same

When most groups talk about their "interpretation plan," they primarily discuss what the audience will hear. This is partly because we have traditionally called what is heard "interpretation" and what is seen "stage presence."

However, audiences don't see your performance that way: either what they see and hear makes for a great performance or it doesn't. You can't have strong interpretation but flat stage presence, or vice versa -- you either sold the song to the audience or you didn't. Unless the visual and auditory elements are in place and in synch, your audience won't be satisfied. Therefore, as a performer, you must seamlessly blend these two elements into a powerful presentation.

This article primarily addresses the auditory aspect of interpretation; many times, however, this "interpretive plan" will create the stage presence needed to create a complete, satisfying performance.

(to be continued)

Care for the voice, body and mind

Non-rehearsal activities for voice, body and mind

By Jim Emery, Great Northern Union vocal coach, Singing Judge candidate

Most of us have learned effective singing techniques for rehearsals, but what can a singer do outside of rehearsals to always be at his best? The following are my top non-rehearsal activities for the voice, body and mind that can help you be a better singer.

Your Body

- Drink a lot of water. Water is the best medicine for a sick or healthy voice. To see why, rub your dry hands together, then get them wet and try it again. The same thing happens with your vocal cords; hydration keeps the vocal cords moist and flexible. But don't only drink a lot on the day of a big performance; your body hydration level must be built up gradually. Increase the water you drink every day and you'll be ready to sing any time. Avoid drinking too many caffeinated or alcoholic drinks, as they dehydrate your system.
- Don't smoke. Smoke inhaled from a cigarette is around 400 degrees F, which would burn your skin. Imagine what regular exposure to such hot, dry air does over time to your vocal cords, which are some of the most sensitive tissues in your body.
- Exercise your whole body. The voice can't do anything that the body can't sustain. Regular physical exercise is just as helpful as regular singing.
- Get plenty of rest. Athletes don't perform well without rest and, for the same reasons, neither do singers.

Did you hear about the new fish quartet? It was made up of first and second tuna, barracuda, and bass. Usually they sing on porpoise, but sometimes they just sing for the halibut. I think their favorite song is "Under the Sea." Charlie