

# "Har-Mo-Notes"

## Kokomo, IN, Men of Note Weekly Electronic Bulletin Meeting Night Program for June 14, 2010



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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 June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010:** 17 singers: 1 tenor, 8 leads, 3 baritones, 5 basses

**NOTICE: We will be showing the video of "How the West Was Sung" on Monday night. Be there if you would like to learn how we did and how we can improve. (See yourselves as others see you!!)**

A blonde's year in review: July: Lost breast stroke swimming competition - - learned later that the other swimmers cheated. They used their arms!

August: Got locked out of my car in a rain storm - - car got swamped because convertible top was open. Ray

**Program**

**Last call for Western show music; please bring any you have Monday night. Also, remember to bring your folder to every meeting. Thanks. Charlie**

7:00 Warm-up and Polecat songs

7:15 Repertoire review, Sea Medley

7:45 Sectional practice on Sea Medley

8:30 Break and Business

8:45 Watch video of "How the West was Sung"

9:30 KTWWS

### Kokomo Chapter "Notes"



#### Letter of Thanks

Men of Note:

Thanks for the delightful "Cowboy" show for our residents on May 10<sup>th</sup>. It was very entertaining. Our folks talked about it for days! We sincerely appreciate all you've done for the less-fortunate of our community through the years. We wish you the best of success in bringing happiness to others.

Best wishes, Conrad  
Activities Dept.  
North Woods Village



So sorry for the unenthused "Men of Note." Remember last Monday night when our President Colin invited people to help pass out programs from our cowboy show. You missed out hearing how people feel about the "Men of Note." John Bagby and I passed them out Tues. and Wed. and the response was overwhelming.

People were blessed that our show was such a success. The big guy at City Tire said he was sorry that he didn't get to go but his mother went and enjoyed the show a lot. The Guardian Angel Hospice asked if we could sing the Star Spangled Banner at their fund raiser in Highland Park Sun. July 25, 2010 and their big fund raiser in Feb. 2011. They want a blues show and I said we had one, "Moments to Remember" with songs such as: "In the Still of the Night;" "The Lion Sleeps Tonight;" and "Moments to Remember." Of course she has to take it to a higher power to get approval but she was very interested in us performing for them.

When I came into the chapter we were about as low as whale hips in the bottom of the ocean, but look at us NOW. People love us and are coming to us for engagements. Be Proud of you Barbershop Chorus and volunteer to help. I feel we have a very big year coming in 2011 make sure you are ready to help. You can start by helping your chapter this summer and Christmas time.

Bill Doyel



**Bring a guest to barbershop this week!**

**Business Calendar**

- June 14<sup>th</sup>** – Monday – BOD meeting @ 6:00 PM
- July 5<sup>th</sup>** – Monday – Music Committee meeting @ 6:00 PM
- July 12<sup>th</sup>** – Monday – BOD meeting @ 6:00 PM
- August 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Monday – Music Committee meeting @ 6:00 PM
- August 9<sup>th</sup>** – Monday – BOD meeting @ 6:00 PM

**PERFORMANCE CALENDAR**

- July 28<sup>th</sup>** – Wednesday – MoN singing with the Kokomo Park Band
- August 4<sup>th</sup>** – Wednesday – MoN summer “Concert in the Park” @ Highland Park – 8:00PM. The theme is "Heaven Can Wait"

**Singing Tip: “Sing Better as You Age”**

From the book, Sing Better as You Age (which recently was named the #1 book by the Canadian Choral Directors Association), here are some more thoughts to ponder and apply.

**Increase Breath Control**

*A decrease in breath control may be caused by...*

- compromised posture
- insufficient inhalation
- loss of exhalation control

*Improve Posture*

Posture is improved when our stamina is strengthened.

*Improved Inhalation*

Sufficient inhalation is supported by upright, expansive posture. A deeper breath is also encouraged by exhaling as completely as possible before taking a fresh breath. (Use the air that you take in to create a full rich tone.)

*Control of Exhalation*

This is aided by singing the warm-ups with complete breaths and working on some longer phrases.

Breathing the proper way, producing warm air, with an up-front sound is a priority, along with hearing the other parts & knowing your position in the chords. Coaches constantly preach to sing like a cello & not a guitar. A worksheet on vowels could be done on all new songs, along with carrying over the diphthong to the beginning of the next word. This, and singing the full time interval at the end of words, will take care of white spaces. These tips will help improve the sound of the chorus & therefore make the performances entertaining. *Tom Kilgallon, Bass*

**Simple steps to grow your chapter**



What you can personally do to make your chapter more attractive to potential members

*By Byron Meyers, Sr. Chairman, Society Membership Committee*

Keep a positive attitude about your chapter. Look for the things that are unique to your chapter and then tell others about them.

- Think about what your chapter can offer folks in your community that no other group can. Start talking that up to guys you meet.
- Make up your mind that you will work hard at singing better, so the guest next to you will want to join. Gaining a new member is better done by creating a desire to join before asking the question, “Want to join?”
- Help make your chapter membership plan a success. It truly is not the other guys’ job in your chapter to do “membership things.” We all must participate in making the plan a success.
- Try to be the guy who challenges any degree of apathy that may exist in your chapter.
- Meet with some other guys whom you know feel as you do about your chapter’s need to grow. Talk about the need for new voices in weak sections in the chorus, the need for new leadership to get things done in the life of your chapter.

(Make a list of your own; article will be continued)

**The Songs We Sing:**

The original lyric for this perennial George M. Cohan favorite came, as Cohan later explained, from an encounter he had with a **Civil War** veteran who fought at **Gettysburg**. The two men found themselves next to each other and Cohan noticed the vet held a carefully folded but ragged old flag. The man reportedly then turned to Cohan and said, "She's a grand old rag." Cohan thought it was a great line and originally named his tune "You're a Grand Old Rag." So many groups and individuals objected to calling the flag a "rag," however, that he "gave 'em what they wanted" and switched words, renaming the song "**You're a Grand Old Flag.**" — Library of Congress

**Happy Flag Day, U.S.A.**