

"Har-Mo-Notes"

Kokomo, IN, Men of Note Weekly Electronic Bulletin Meeting Night Program for June 21, 2010



Editor: Ted Hinkle - rosetedhinkle@gmail.com



Chapter Contact: Ray Briggs - ray_briggs@juno.com

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. (Adopted 5/08/06)

Attendance for June 14th, 2010: 19 singers: 2 tenors, 6 leads, 5 baritones including guest Larry Mann, 6 basses including newest member, Mark Williams



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Karen Tarkington – June 16th; Tim Farkas – June 17th; Judy Farkas – June 17th

A blonde's year in review: September: The capital of California is "C" isn't it?

October: Hate M & Ms . . . they are so darned hard to peel . . . Ray

Program

(Remember to bring your folder to every meeting.)

7:00 Warm-up and Polecat songs

7:15 Repertoire review, Sea Medley

7:45 Review "Heaven Can Wait" songs

8:30 Break and Business

8:45 Critique "How The West Was Won"

9:00 Review "Heaven Can Wait" songs

9:30 KTWWS

Kokomo Chapter Board of Directors Meeting



The slate of officers will be presented to the chapter October 4 and 11, with the Annual Meeting being held on October 18, 2010, for the purpose of election of officers.

The educational video, taken by Scott Stephenson, the light and sound man for "How the West Was Won", was shown to the chapter after the break on Monday night. We all got to "see ourselves as others see us". Comments will be welcomed at our next meeting.

At a special meeting of the BOD on Monday evening, immediately following the chapter meeting, Mark Williams' application for membership in the Society and the Kokomo Chapter was accepted unanimously. Welcome aboard, Mark. You are now an official member of the chapter.

Raman Briggs

Singing Tip of the Week: Opening the Throat - - Anthony Winters Vocal Production

Opening the throat is perhaps the second most important technical issue in singing. Opening the throat while you sing achieves two results:

1. It relaxes the voice and allows the vocal folds to vibrate freely and comfortably, even on high notes, where there is a natural tendency to force the voice to operate. Forcing the voice is almost never a good idea, as you will sound fairly awful and eventually destroy your voice. A lot of singers have had early ends to their careers once they were performing regularly, because they didn't have enough training to protect the instrument, especially in Rock music. This also used to be a common problem in Opera, where attractive young singers would accept roles they weren't ready for vocally, but nowadays there is much more awareness of the need to gradually build up to certain levels of singing, even after one is already a professional singer.

2. The extra space created by opening the throat while singing adds resonance to the voice, which makes it richer and more beautiful. Especially in the high voice, where notes tend to be thin naturally, many harmonics can be added to the sound, in the same way recording studios add reverb and echo effects to Pop voices. Of course the richer the singer sounds, the more that can be added to the sound in the recording studio.



Bring a guest to barbershop this week!

Business Calendar

- July 5th** – Monday – Music Committee meeting @ 6:00 PM
- July 12th** – Monday – BOD meeting @ 6:00 PM
- August 2nd** – Monday – Music Committee meeting @ 6:00 PM
- August 9th** – Monday – BOD meeting @ 6:00 PM
- October 4th** – 1st reading of Officers Nominations for 2011
- October 11th** – 2nd reading of Officers Nominations for 2011
- October 18th** – Chapter Voting for 2011 Officers/ Annual Chapter Meeting

PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

- July 28th** – Wednesday – MoN singing with the Kokomo Park Band
- August 4th** – Wednesday – MoN summer “Concert in the Park” @ Highland Park – 8:00PM. The theme is "Heaven Can Wait"
- August 8th** – Sunday – MoN sing for Church Service at First Christian Church, Malfalfa & Sycamore Rd. W. Service @ 9:30 AM



Simple steps to grow your chapter *(Final segment of the article)*

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.

- Maintain a positive attitude toward chapter growth. Think about the happiness you can bring to new people, the fun of being around new personalities with new ideas and new synergies. Focus on guys in your community who would bring new energy to your chapter.
- Help your chapter make a decision to grow. Many chapters have had success simply because they made a “group decision” to grow. Want some inspiration? Look to Beatrice, Neb., a town of approximately 12,000 that had a chapter of around 50 guys. They made a group decision to grow. In one year, they grew to more than 100! Why? The membership bought into the plan and they were focused on the goal. Their growth came from some fun and unusual ways to get attention and meet prospects. (See The Harmonizer, March/April 2006, page 14.)
- Recognize that we not only need some younger members, but we also need singers of any age. Break into teams of two or more to go after younger guys, newly married guys, mid-50s guys– solid 60s guys and super 70s-plus guys.
- We all know you can not depend exclusively on your circle of friends to supply you with new contacts. Start asking people you don’t know, because there a lot more of them. Make it fun! Wear a badge, button or something musical. Then use an opening line like, “I’m trying to find other singers. Who do you know that might like to sing?”
- Finally, establish a personal goal of recruiting one new member this year or one each quarter. Five this year? Bring what you think, what you say and what you do into harmony and we will grow.

(Make a list of your own and keep it in your folder)

How to be a great lead

Some tips from a world champion lead.

submitted by Joe Connelly, two-time quartet gold medalist

When the audience is leaving the auditorium after a show or contest, what will they be humming? The melody, of course (music judges excluded, for reasons we can't explain here.).

It is the lead singer's job to execute (no pun intended) each melody line with precision and flair. It is this "recognizable line that is familiar to audiences and puts them at ease. Although this makes the lead part the easiest to learn, it also means that the lead singer is the most vulnerable. When you sing melody, you can run, but you can't hide.

So, what does it take to be an awesome lead singer? Let's take a look at three of my personal favorites, and observe what I consider to be their most outstanding qualities. (Keep in mind that these all-time greats were blessed with phenomenal harmony-part singers who helped support and showcase their talents.)

(To be continued . . . can you name the lead singers implied by Mr. Connelly?)

What O.C. Cash forgot to tell us!

by Bill Gibbons

- There is no such thing as being a little flat.
- The worst (insert your choice: tenor lead, bari or bass) always sings the loudest.
- 90 % of the members of any given barbershop chorus will consider themselves to be in the top 50 % of that chorus talent pool.