

# "Har-Mo-Notes"

**Kokomo, IN, Men of Note Weekly Electronic Bulletin  
Meeting Night Program for July 05, 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 21, 2010:** 19 singers: 2 tenors, 7 leads, 4 baritones, 6 basses



**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY! Bob & Cheryl Clawson – July 5; Larry & Berniece Farris – July 9**

**"Best blonde joke of the year - so far!"**

A man was in his front yard mowing grass when his attractive, blonde, female neighbor came out of her house and went straight to the mailbox. She opened it, then slammed it shut and stormed back into the house. A little later, she repeated the whole scene and went angrily back into the house. As the man was getting ready to edge the lawn, she came out again, marched to the mailbox, opened it, then slammed it shut harder than ever. Puzzled by her actions, the man asked her, "Is something wrong?" To which she replied, "There certainly is!" My stupid computer keeps saying, "YOU'VE GOT MAIL!" Ray

## **Program**

*(Remember to bring your folder to every meeting.)*

- 7:00 Warm-up and Polecat songs
- 7:15 Sea Medley (sectionals)
- 7:45 Sea Medley (together) and "Heaven Can Wait" songs
- 8:30 Break and Business
- 8:45 Patriotic songs and summer concert review
- 9:00 Tags and quartetting
- 9:30 KTWWS

## **Kokomo Chapter News!**

### **Upcoming performance and uniform:**

- **July 25** Sing the "Star Spangled Banner" for the Guardian Angel Car Show. Arrive @ 11:30 AM, sing @ noon. You can leave church early on Sunday and support your local barbershop chapter because "it's great to be a barbershopper!" Wear your sport shirts. Bill

Bill included the following suggestions for uniforms @ the below mentioned performances:

- **July 28** Concert at Highland Park with the Kokomo Park Band. Theme is "Under the Sea". We can wear our sport shirts or if you want to make a big impact on the song I suggest (this is only a suggestion) we wear long trunks swim suit and an athletic shirt on top. They really liked our jeans and white T-shirts for "There Is Nothing Like a Dame."
- **Aug. 4** "Heaven Can Wait." The park crowd has never seen us in our tuxes. If it is too hot we can take our jackets off. I suggest we impress the audience by wearing the tuxes. Bill

John Bagby and I are going to see about getting new shirts next week. They will be the fancy ones. I suggested the fancy ones last year but the majority wanted to stick close to the ones we had. Bill Doyel

**Celebrating a birthday or wedding anniversary?** Drop me an email if I missed posting you or your spouse's birthday or wedding anniversary. Ted

## **A singing checklist**

- Am I watching the Director for downbeats, cutoffs, tempo and interpretation!
- "Sing with emotion" – quote from Al
- Breathe together as a section and/or chorus!
- Make strong, secure first note entrances!

- End phrases together w/ a lift . . . then . . . tank up with air for the next phrase!
- Sing fluid, energized phrases! Sing through the vowels, don't clip end of phrases!
- Enjoy what you are singing & convey your enthusiasm to the audience and each other, even in rehearsal!
- Listen to each other in your section – match vocal quality & pitch – sing as one!
- When singing “singable” consonants”, am I remembering to make them “airier”?
- Am I over-singing?



**Singing Tip of the Week: Releasing Tension - - Anthony Winters Vocal Production**

*Continuation from 06-28-10*

Keep moving that sense of "lift" upwards - so that you feel like you are lifting the top half of your head off of the jaw (lower half of your head). You should again feel a kind of stretch of the muscles right in front of your ear (a kind of "unhinging" of the jaw feeling) - but again, think LIFT, not stretch, to avoid tension.

Think of your jaw as a very well-oiled hinge - it should feel "floppy", and move freely not just up and down, but side to side as well. If, as you sing, you feel it wanting to tighten or rigidify, do a little side-to-side shift (either with jaw or with tongue).

Also work on keeping the tip of the tongue in the "resting" place - i.e., behind lower teeth, just touching the gum line. All movement for forming different vowels should come from the middle of the tongue, with the tip remaining in the "resting" place; the tip only comes up to form dental and sibilant consonants (d, t, s, z); otherwise it has no reason to leave it's little "bed" behind the lower teeth.



*Bring a guest to barbershop this week!*

**Business Calendar**

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

October 4<sup>th</sup> – 1st reading of Officers Nominations for 2011

October 11<sup>th</sup> – 2nd reading of Officers Nominations for 2011

October 18<sup>th</sup> – Chapter Voting for 2011 Officers/ Annual Chapter Meeting

**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"

August 8<sup>th</sup> – Sunday – MoN sing for Church Service at First Christian Church, Malfalfa & Sycamore Rd. W. Service @ 9:30 AM



**How to be a great lead**

**Some tips from a world champion lead.**

submitted by Joe Connelly, two-time quartet gold medalist

**Top Ten Habits of Highly Effective Lead Singers**

- Learn basic barbershop chord structures to be aware of proper balance.
- Diligently study successful leads' strengths and adapt them to your own voice and personal style.
- Plan ahead for maximum mental focus in each rehearsal and performance.
- Be fully prepared in every aspect of your music.
- Be consistent -- sing each song the same way every time.
- Practice singing the melody against a continual fixed tonal center -- an electronic pitch pipe works great.
- Always rehearse as though in front of an audience.
- Develop a physical exercise plan that works for you.
- Drink a lot of water every day to keep your body and vocal cords hydrated.
- Find a great bass, baritone and tenor whom you trust musically, and who in return, have faith in you to lead them onward and upward.

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**O.C. Cash says:** “A chorus sadist is the guy who feels obligated to blow the pitch pipe at the end of the song.”  
 “God has given man the seemingly infinite capacity to remember countless tags  
 plus one of the chapter chorus contest songs.”