



Kokomo Men of Note

Program – Meeting Night (2/16/09)

1st Presbyterian Church - 2000 W. Jefferson Street

Please visit our website: <http://www.kokomomenofnote.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.

February 9th Attendance: 24 singers! 4 Tenor, 8 Leads including our newest official member, Jake Farkas, 3 Baritones, 9 Basses including Skip Holston and Mark Williams

Cute saying of the week: *“A hole has been found in the nudist camp wall. The police are looking into it”*

Program

Tip for next week's rehearsal: Remember the standing arrangements we were assigned Monday night and be prepared to sit in the same arrangement on stage. Think Formation "A" to begin rehearsal. Ray

7:00 Warm up and Polecat songs

7:15 Show music "God Bless America," "When I Lift Up My Head," "Thank You, Dear Lord for Music"

7:55 Sectional practice on "Don't Blame Me," "A Wink and a Smile."

8:30 B & B (Break and Business) Sing Barberpole Cat songs in quartets during break.

8:45 Contest music - Don't Blame Me and A Wink and a Smile (Memorized - on risers)

9:10 Barberpole Cat qualifying

9:30 KTWWS (Keep the Whole World Singing)

“Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.”

Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919) 26th U.S. President

Colin's corner



Thanks to Al, his committee, volunteers, quartets, customers, advertisers, and all who made the 2009 Singing Valentines successful!

Thanks to Sherry for creating the flowers!

Charlie requested help with choreography to add movement to our contest selections. Please submit prospective names to Charlie, Ray, or Al. Colin



Singing Valentines recap

Al called Thursday evening 35 Singing valentines as of 10:30PM

We had a GREAT day doing 15 Singing Valentines on Friday. (We also did 3 SVs on Thursday). Our "quartet of the day" was Dave Hawkins, Ray Briggs, Bob Clawson and Tom Gillam. We initiated Bob into the "Singing Valentines Singers" and he did a really super job with us. We had a couple rather emotional jobs, which we hadn't really prepared him for, but he did very well. Thanks Bob! The weather was supercalifragilisticexpialidocious! Ray

We ended up with 44 Valentines, up considerably from last Monday! I will make a preliminary report on Monday. Item of note: The *Sometimers*, with Colin, did a Valentine at Olive Garden at 9PM on Valentine's Day, and received \$100, a \$55 tip. We took the opportunity to take our wives out to dinner in order to sing the Valentine. We ended up singing to the Olive Garden Staff!! Also Bob Clawson got his feet wet singing with the *Sometimers* on Friday, and did a GREAT Job! *More Later. Al*

What O.C. Cash forgot to tell us by Bill Gibbons

- ❖ Although you can't beat the acoustics, think twice before practicing your part to the tag "love me darling and the world is mine" in the men's room.
- ❖ A wise man once told me that to grow, I should "meet regularly with those who hold vastly different views than I did." Could that be your director's motivation?
- ❖ Yes, we have our contests. But, the true soul of barbershopping does not rest in how well you sing it, rather, in how great it makes you feel while you're singing it.



Mark Your Calendar

Bring a guest to Barbershop Monday night!

March 2nd – Monday – Music Team meeting @ 6:00PM

March 9th – Monday – BOD meeting @ 6:00PM

March 27 -28 - 29– Cardinal Dist.Spring Convention – Kokomo to participate in chorus contest (Mar. 28th)

April 6th – Monday – Music Team meeting @ 6:00PM

April 13th – Monday – BOD meeting @ 6:00PM

May 16th – Kokomo Men of Note Annual Show – 2:00pm Matinee; 6:30PM meal/7:30PM Show

June 17th – Wednesday – KMoN in concert with the KPB –reprise “Nothing Like a Dame” for Broadway/Hollywood night

June 19th – 6 - 9PM (core times) Harmony International regional Convention @ old Ramada, Kokomo

June 20th – 11 AM – 3:00 PM (core times) Harmony International regional Convention

July 8th – 10th – Harmony Explosion Camp (Do you know interested youth we can sponsor and send?)

July 10th – 12th – Cardinal Chord College w/ concentration on Chorus and Quartet coaching & training.

August 5th – Wednesday – KMoN Concert in the Park – Time TBA

BARBERSHOP HISTORY-GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

author: Mark Axelrod, editor of "Blue Chip Chatter," Teaneck, NJ

Clarification: In the last quiz I noted that vaudeville was barbershop's #1 showcase from approx. 1880 until 1920, thereby suggesting, misleadingly, that vaudeville ended abruptly in 1920. Vaudeville, in fact, existed until the early 1930's when it finally fizzled due to the ever-increasing prevalence of radios which brought entertainment right into peoples homes, and because most folks were then struggling mightily through the depression and spent their money on basic necessities, not entertainment. What did happen in 1920, actually in the late teens immediately after WW1 concluded, was that barbershop went into a rapid and steep decline having nothing to do with vaudeville. It remained in eclipse until the barbershop revival movement took off, initially with the quartet contests in NYC starting in 1935, and continuing in 1938 (and thereafter) with SPEBSQSA.

Singing Tip of the Week:

“Oversinging” (Part 7)..... By Chris Hebert, the outgoing Singing Category specialist

Build strength and stamina in your voice. Anyone who has heard a lead singer try to make that high post at the end of a song and not make it, or tried to make it through the last song of his second chapter show of the day, understands the need to avoid excessive fatigue.

A person gets only get one larynx, and if it is damaged there may be long-term implications for voice use. If you want your voice to perform well for a lifetime, it is important to use it in a manner that will not harm it. Proper care will also give you the vocal energy for the stresses of performance, whether it be a contest (short duration and high energy) or two chapter shows in a day (long duration).

- **Warm up properly.** The principles behind proper vocal training are quite similar to athletic training. Singing involves the use of various muscles and connective tissue, which will always function better and more efficiently if they are properly trained, conditioned, and warmed up prior to use.
- **Build up gradually.** The voice must be built up slowly from short periods of voice use to longer periods, just as a distance runner must begin with shorter runs to get in shape before running long distances.

(With Valentine’s Day only 2 days removed, may I suggest you serenade your “sweetheart” with the following poem?)

Drumming Behind You in the High School Band

by William Trowbridge

Rehearsing in street clothes after school,
we measured off the football field
in the spice and chill of early fall.
Through roll-off, counterpoint, and turn,
by the grunt and pop of blocking drill,
I marked the cadence of switching hips
no martial air could ever hold.

How left was left, how right was right!
We had a rhythm all our own
and made them march to it, slowing "The Stars
and Stripes Forever" as the sun stretched
our shadows toward the rising moon
and my heart kept stepping on my heels.

"Drumming Behind You in the High School Band" by William Trowbridge, from Enter Dark Stranger.

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(Does the Trowbridge poem bring back memories?)

*(Not used 2-16-09) A young child says to his mother, "Mom, when I grow up I'd like to be a musician."
She replies, "Well honey, you know you can't do both."*