



**Kokomo Men of Note
Program –Meeting Night (3/2/09)**

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 23rd Attendance: 22 singers! 4 Tenor, 8 Leads, 4 Baritones, 6 Bases including Skip Holston
Saying of the week: "Don't join dangerous cults: - practice safe sects." Ray



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Serena Coon- March 2nd;  **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY! Tony & Sharon Jones
– March 5th**

~~~~~ **Program** ~~~~~

**Remember your seating arrangement for Monday night - "A"**

- 7:00 Warm up and Polecat songs
- 7:15 Show music "There's A Meetin' Here Tonight," "Daddy Sang Bass," "Gospel Medley"
- 7:55 Contest music "Don't Blame Me," (on risers)
- 8:30 B & B (Break and Business) Sing Barberpole Cat songs in quartets during break.
- 8:45 Contest music "A Wink and a Smile," on risers
- 9:10 Barberpole Cat qualifying
- 9:30 KTWWS (Keep the Whole World Singing)

~~~~~ ***District News!*** ~~~~~

How time has flown by and spring is almost here!

SPRING CONVENTION

Over the past few months we asked for your opinion on how to improve conventions in the Cardinal District. You will find many of your ideas implemented in the Spring Convention in Columbus during the weekend of March 27 – 29, 2009! This is only the start. We still have more of your ideas to implement with the Fall convention. Please go to the district website and register to attend this Spring's convention to see you and your fellow barbershopper's ideas come to life.

We still want your ideas and comments! After you've attended the Spring Convention, please take the time to drop me a line as to what you thought and what you'd like to see. We want this to be YOUR convention! Contact me at diberal@yahoo.com after the convention.

SING FOR LIFE

This is to be the largest blood and donor recruitment drive ever in North American history. For the Cardinal District we have 10 chapters participating; up from the four chapters last year. Involvement is greatly appreciated! Just last month my wife had a surgery that at the last minute required her to have two units of blood. It made me think of what we are doing here....saving lives! So a personal thank you from me! The chapters participating are: Indianapolis, Mammoth Cave, Lafayette, South Bend, Lexington, Columbus, Rensselaer, Terre Haute, Valparaiso, Louisville T.

Dave Robertson, Cardinal District Marketing & PR Chairman



The Chorus Singer's Job

by Allan Webb (Santa Fe Springs & La Jolla Ca. chapters)

The job of the chorus singer isn't to sing every word and note. The job of the chorus singer is to make sure that every word and note they sing is perfect. If that means you only sing 10 notes in a whole song, then that's what you need to do.

For a given individual, this could mean stagger breathing every 5 seconds so as not to get out of breath, or dropping out for a whole phrase to catch your breath, or only singing notes within a third of middle C, or whatever. Do what you can do right and practice the rest at home!



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

Principles of Good Singing (con't)

By Ann Howard Jones, Professor and Director of Choral Activities, Boston University

Here are six principles of good singing that I think will help anyone who is interested in vocal development for singers in chorus.

2. APPROPRIATE WORK - For me it is impossible to think about singing as a relaxed activity. Singing is physical. It is athletic. It requires the action of appropriate muscles and the releasing of others. Some are voluntary, some are involuntary. The diaphragm, for example, is an involuntary muscle. The neck, mouth, shoulders and head should be released so that the muscles of inhalation and exhalation can do their work. Managing exhalation is important. Expansion in the area below the rib cage is inevitable as the lungs fill.

These are things about which most of us would agree, but all of this is a complex coordination of musculature, and it is not “relaxed”. The muscular activity required in singing is explained differently by different singers and teachers and people experience different sensations when they sing. So I think it is less controversial and less difficult for the singer if I emphasize releasing the muscles that interfere (jaw, throat, neck, shoulders, face, legs, etc.). There is too much room for misinterpretation and misunderstanding in this area for me to wade in casually! Many vocal exercises are designed to emphasize the release of the muscles that are working when they should not be. Stretching, moving, swinging the arms and all kinds of physical activity can help release the inappropriate muscles so that the appropriate ones can work.

BARBERSHOP HISTORY-GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ - #59

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

QUESTIONS:

- 1- From the late 19th century through the present day, barbershoppers have referred to (and obsessed over) ringing chords, but the word describing that aural delight has changed over the years. Prior to barbershop's golden age (before 1890), what term was used to describe a ringing chord?
- 2- How did vaudeville and Tin Pan Alley symbiotically help each other?

ANSWERS:

- 1- A cracking chord.
- 2- This is not a trick question and the answer is exactly what you would think, i.e., the acts of vaudeville singers (certainly to include barbershop harmony singers) were filled with Tin Pan Alley songs, and the denizens of Tin Pan Alley used vaudeville as the premier vehicle by which to promote their songs and boost their sheet music sales.

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

- ❖ When you can no longer duck from taking a job in your chapter, become the chapter's bulletin editor. To begin with, it doesn't take much talent and you can do the job entirely in the comfort of your own home. In many ways it's much like singing lead; it requires a heavy dose of attitude adjustment. If you can restructure your thinking to truly believe that you are only responsible to some level of barbershopping higher than your chapter, your district, or Kenosha, you'll have a lock on it.

Q: How are trumpet players like pirates? A: They're both commit murder on the high Cs!