



President Truman signed an Act of Congress Aug. 3rd, 1949 designating June 14th of each year as National Flag Day.

Kokomo Men of Note

Program –Meeting Night (6/8/09)

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.

June 1st attendance: 15 members: 1 Tenors, 6 Leads, 2 Baritones, 6 Basses;
and 2 guests: John Bagby and Mark Moss – both in the lead section

Thought for the day: *“Chickens - the only animal you can eat before they are born and after they are dead.” Ray*

Program

7:00 Performance at Northwoods Village (Arrive prior to 7:00PM @ 1st Presbyterian)

7:45 We have been requested to sing for a lady who is a terminal cancer patient. She and her husband have been to almost all of the barbershop shows we have produced over a long period of time. They were unable to come to our past show because of her illness. Be prepared to car pool and go in a "convoy" up to the North Judson church area - not too far from where Tom Gillam lives - to sing to this lady immediately after we sing at Northwoods Village. We will be back in Kokomo well before our regular closing time and may even be back in time to run through "There is Nothing Like a Dame" a couple times before we head for our homes.



**The great summer Barbershopping event, Cardinal Chord College,
is coming this July 11th and 12th to Marion, Indiana**

Your attendance will give you the following benefits:

1. The always amazing and thrilling Harmony Explosion Camp Kids Concert, including District and International talent.
2. Chorus coaching by ‘Professional Barbershoppers’
3. Quartet coaching by members of the 1996 International Champion Quartet “Nightlife”
4. Great buffet meals with all the trimmings and great conversations
5. Training in vocal techniques that will improve your personal singing and improve your chorus or quartet performance.
6. Saturday night afterglow/pizza party with performances by participating choruses and quartets, plus the amazing Gold Medal hour with questions and answers between you and the CCC Staff.
7. A weekend that will help generate great relationships with your District brothers, that will in turn make all of your District events more meaningful and more fun to attend.

Commuter rate = \$90. Covers Friday night HX show ticket, 3 meals on Saturday and all training classes available.

Full registration rate = \$135.00 Covers Friday night HX show ticket, 2 nights lodging on campus, plus 3 meals on Saturday and breakfast Sunday morning.

Our chorus could make giant advances if you would all commit to attend this event together. The success of the District and your chapter will continue to grow if you come to the CCC!! Colin



Mark Your Calendar Bring a guest to the next meeting night!

June 8th – Monday – BOD meeting @ 6:00PM

June 8th – Monday – singout at Northwoods Village @ 7:00 – meet @ 1st Presb (MoN shirts/black pants)

June 17th – Wednesday – KMoN w/ the KPB – “Nothing Like a Dame” for Broadway/Hollywood night

June 19th – 6-9PM Harmony International (Ladies Chorus) regional Convention @ Courtyard Marriott

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

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

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

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.

(Check your calendar and indicate availability on sign up sheet-we would like to take the Kokomo Chorus)

July 29th – Wednesday – KMoN in concert with the KPB – medley about the theme "See The U.S.A."

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

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

What can each of us do to help cause growth in our chapters? Here are some ideas:

- 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.



"American Harmony"

The documentary "American Harmony" will be airing at the **Keystone Art Cinema at Keystone at the Crossing** from Friday June 5 through Thursday June 11. Show times are 2:30, 5:00, 7:15 & 9:30PM daily. Ticket prices are as follows: Matinees (anything starting before 6pm) - \$7.00, Adults - \$9.50, Seniors (62+) - \$7.00 all the time, Kids (11 & under) - \$6.50 all the time.

Director's Review:

I did make it down there Friday but had a hard time finding the theater. I drove all around Keystone at the Crossing and couldn't see any sign of a theater anywhere. Finally I asked a guy and he gave me directions, but even then it was not well marked. You have to first find Nordstrom and then take an escalator upstairs to the Cineplex. I bought my ticket and a small Coke (\$3.50) and finally found the theater. There were very few people there - maybe 10 at most.

The film starts out with a little history of the Barbershop Harmony Society showing some guys singing on the top floor of a hotel and some images of quartets from the olden days, kind of like silent movies - no singing - just pictures. It moves on to feature some typical barbershoppers talking about what barbershop means to them and trying to explain the high we get from ringing chords.

The film then jumps to a series of later International Conventions, starting with Denver (06), and basically follows four quartets as they prepare for and compete in these conventions. The quartets featured are Vocal Spectrum, O C Times, Max Q, and Reveille. It takes you backstage as each quartet gets ready to perform for the international crowd and for the judges. It shows you the pressure they are under to compete at the highest level and the disappointment when they don't quite realize the goal of International Quartet Champion. Max Q is a quartet that was formed with four top-notch voices; two of the members had already won the gold twice, and of course they were one of the favorites to take it all. But they didn't quite make it in 2005 or 2006. Vocal Spectrum won in '06 in Indianapolis and Max Q was second, a big disappointment to them. I remember that convention well because I worked as a volunteer and saw Jeff Oxley (bass of Max Q) between sessions in a hotel lobby. He was not a happy camper - he came to win, and second place was not acceptable to him.

Max Q did finally win the gold in '07 in Denver, and so Tony De Rosa (lead) and Jeff Oxley have now joined Joe Connelly (one of the commentators on the film) as the only three-time International Quartet Champions. O C Times almost won it in '07 but a missed note by the lead in a tag at one of the final sessions put them in second place. They did win the gold last year ('08) in Nashville, which Vicki and I also attended.

I guess I expected the film to take a broader view of the Barbershop Harmony Society. I thought they might show some chapter meetings or some choruses performing at different functions (including contests), but it was all about these top level quartets. It was enjoyable, but showed only a part of what barbershopping is all about. I would have liked to have seen some quartets and choruses performing on chapter shows, at ball games, at health care facilities, at high schools and many of the other places we demonstrate how much fun we have singing for people. I talked to another couple who also saw the film, and they said it wasn't what they expected either. They were big Boston Common fans and the wife was a Sweet Adeline.

If you're a real fan of high level quartet competition in barbershop, then this is a film you should see. I think the title of the film was a little misleading; instead of "American Harmony" they should have called it "Going for the Gold." Just my opinion; you should see it for yourself and make up your own mind.

Charlie

