



Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> - First Full Day of Fall

It's GREAT to be a barbershopper!

### **Kokomo Men of Note**

#### **Program – Meeting Night (9/21/09)**

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.*

**September 14<sup>th</sup> Attendance:** 20 singers: 2 tenors, 10 leads inc. John Bowers,  
3 baritones, and 5 basses inc. Mark Williams

Oxymorons: Terribly pleased; Tight slacks; Definite maybe; Pretty ugly; Twelve-ounce pound cake!



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Ken Grohman–September 23<sup>rd</sup>**

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

- 7:00 Warm-up and Polecat tunes
- 7:15 Christmas music
- 8:00 Praise and Thanksgiving Music
- 8:30 Break and Business
- 8:45 Western music
- 9:15 Quartetting on Polecat tunes or Show Tunes
- 9:30 KTWWS

### **Polecat Learning Series is about complete –Have you earned your pin?**



#### **Five Quartet Singing Talents . . . . Vocal Equipment**

By Lou Perry (continued from 9-14-09)

Except for the lead, who should have some characteristics of what is usually referred to as a "voice," with strength, lyricism, and controlled vibrato for added color, the first two talents are more important. A good mind and ear can improve an average voice, but a voice with no guiding intelligence very often deteriorates.

Voices in general are not fully formed until about age twenty-four. Young voices can be ruined for life by forcing them into a form they are not yet fitted for, especially in the lower registers. We should be most careful, then, to encourage interest in young people by letting them sing only material adapted to their capacities.



### **Membership Corner!**

#### **Results of exploratory efforts regarding Successful Chapters**

**SUCCESSFUL CHAPTERS** have planned weekly meeting programs and monitor them closely. There is virtually no wasted time. Some chapters provide printed programs for what is to occur at each weekly meeting, and some also list songs that will be rehearsed at the next meeting.

**SUCCESSFUL CHAPTERS** provide a variety of sprightly activities at each meeting to allow for a brief respite from any one thing becoming overwhelmingly dominant. The content and frequency of these diversionary but productive activities may differ from one chapter to another.

**SUCCESSFUL CHAPTERS** have fully operational leaders and a functioning board of directors that meets regularly to plan and monitor progress. All chapter officers fulfill their responsibilities completely and in a timely manner. There are either assistants or a qualified person to fill-in during the absence of a designated leader.

*(During future installments of our bulletin we will identify aspects of SUCCESSFUL CHAPTERS and compare the Kokomo chapter to the criteria in the article)*



**Bring a guest to the next meeting night!**

- September 28<sup>th</sup>** – 1st reading of Officers Nominations for 2010
- October 2-3-4** – Cardinal Dist. Fall Conv. @ Columbus IN (Int'l Chorus Prelims/Dist. Quartet Contest)
- October 5<sup>th</sup>** – Monday – Music Team meeting @ 6:00PM
- October 5<sup>th</sup>** – 2nd reading of Officers Nominations for 2010
- October 12<sup>th</sup>** – Monday – BOD meeting @ 6:00PM
- October 12<sup>th</sup>** – Chapter Voting for 2010 Officers/ Annual Chapter Meeting
- November 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Monday – Music Team meeting @ 6:00PM
- November 9<sup>th</sup>** – Monday – BOD meeting @ 6:00PM
- November 21<sup>st</sup>** – Saturday– Sing @ Evening of Praise & Thanksgiving @ Tipton HS Auditorium

**The Songs we sing . . . “Coney Island Baby”**



Where it came from..... Thanks to the Ontario Canada District Newsletter

“Goodbye, My Coney Island Baby” was written in 1924 in Muncie, Indiana by none other than Les Applegate. Neither of the songs was ever published, according to Les. To give you an idea of how such a song came into existence, we can do no better than quote Les’ letter. “. . . I swell with pride when I come to “Coney Island Baby.” It was not unusual back in tabloid show days to frame a song to fit a certain situation in the play, not originally written in by the author. Some times a tune was framed up overnight to feature a certain character doing a lead part and tried out the next day in the show. The orchestra leader on these small touring shows was always the piano player and he’d jot down the notes, as they were given to him, perhaps in the dressing room, after or between shows.

“Such a situation arose in Muncie in 1924, when we were doing a condensed version of the musical comedy “No, No, Nanette.” The second act called for the male performers to bid Nanette a mock farewell on the beach and it seemed better theatre for them to sing it rather than speak it. Nanette, being a swell baby-on a beach-and the only beach we knew of being Coney Island, I put them together and the result was “Goodbye, My Coney Island Baby.” When it was rehearsed and revamped a bit it made a very appropriate number. In later years I used the song with numerous quartets at a faster tempo and for comedy effects. “Many of the songs of that period were used a season or two and forgotten. To my knowledge, none of them ever reached the publishers and I have heard and used hundreds of them and composed, or rather, ‘framed up’ quite a few myself.”

**Cardinal District Fall Convention**



October 2-3-4 in Columbus IN

There is a great weekend planned and hope you've registered and have your rooms. If not, it's still not too late to plan on attending. Registration forms are available on line, in INKY Notes, and thru chapter officers.

Once again we will have class sessions on Saturday afternoon for those interested. Also the tag singing room is back so you can sing all the way through the weekend. There is a Hospitality area that will be open during the weekend and with a little luck...coffee. If some of you are so inclined, please feel free to bring along some cookies. Before each prelim and contest there will be an audience sing-along so come early!

Our first VLQ (Very Large Quartet) contest will be held on Saturday evening @ the Holiday Inn after the Quartet Finals. Registration for the VLQ (\$1 per singer) will start at 8:30am Saturday morning with only 10 openings so come in early! We are in need of 10 Judges for the contest. Again registration is at the same time and cost to be a Judge is \$5. All proceeds go to the Harmony Foundation. (VLQ's are made up of 5-13 singers) Hope to see you there! *Dave Robertson, M&PR Cardinal District*

**An Old Farmer’s Advice: “Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.”**

