



Kokomo Men of Note

Program – Meeting Night (12/14/09)

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.

December 7th Attendance: 22 singers: 3 tenors, 10 leads, 4 baritones, and 5 basses;

Friendship Haven concert Attendance: 15 singers: 1 tenor, 7 leads, 3 baritones, and 4 basses;



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY! Amos & Phyllis Blakeslee – December 16th, Colin & Colleen Craig and Don & Carol Silvey – December 18th

Thought provoking questions: Ever wonder what the speed of lightning would be if it didn't zig zag? Why do they report power outages on TV?; Why is the third hand on a watch called the "second" hand?

Program

7:00 Warm-up and Polecat/Valentine tunes - "You Are My Sunshine", "Love Me Tender"& "I Love You Truly"

7:15 Children's Christmas medley, Go Tell It On the Mountain

7:45 Review selected Christmas package songs

8:30 Break and Business

8:45 Western Music

9:15 Quartetting on Polecat, Valentine or Show Tunes

9:30 KTWWS

Target: I would like to get "Go Tell It on the Mountain" to where we can perform it at least once this season, although I realize it's a difficult arrangement. Charlie

Kokomo Men of Note Chapter News

The Barberpole Cat chart has been reworked and now includes the Valentines songs. If you want to sing Valentines in a quartet, you need to qualify on all of these songs.

We had another great job from the Men of Note at Autumn Wood Village in Tipton. I received several good comments and a couple of hints that we might be asked to come back. Keep up the good work! There are only three more Christmas performances to go. Charlie

Craft: Singing in Tune by Fred King, international coach

The article below is the 2nd of a series of sections dealing with singing in tune.

Chapter 2

Assuming the quartet/chorus started on pitch and energized enough to prevent flattening, let's go on to the next step. This is correct voice production. Incorrect tone quality and production can block the hearing so that a singer is unaware of singing flat. This is a real biggie in the inexperienced chorus or quartet man.

The first step in correcting the faulty tone is to have the singers open the resonators so that the tone will be supported by the breath. Let's backtrack a minute and talk about resonance and the location of the resonators. Resonance is the amplification and enrichment of a fundamental tone emanation from the larynx. The resonators are the pharynx, mouth and nasal cavities. (Some authorities also consider the apranasal sinuses, the trachea, the bronchi and the chest cavity to be part of the resonating system.) These are shown in Figure 1. They are located on each side and above the vocal cords (or more correctly vocal folds) and their job is to amplify the vibrations produced by the vocal cords, and to increase their intensity as they are projected from the larynx. The resonance cavities are divided into two classifications: fixed and adjustable. The nasal cavity is fixed, while the pharynx and the mouth are capable of special use. More on these will be covered in next week's installment.

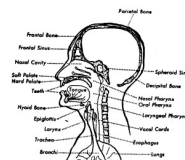


Figure 1.



Bring a guest to the next meeting night!

Business Calendar

December 14th – Monday – BOD meeting @ 6:00 PM – **Select the Kokomo Chapter BOTY. – Sign up for Installation Banquet & set menu**

January 2nd – Saturday – Officer Installation Banquet @ St. Joseph Center in Tipton, Nice dress up clothes Jackets & Ties or warm Sweaters suggested 6:00PM

January 4th – Monday – Music Committee meeting @ 6:00 PM

January 9th – Saturday – COTS (Leadership Training) @ Columbus Holiday Inn

January 11th – Monday – BOD meeting @ 6:00 PM

April 9th -11th – Cardinal District Spring Convention in Fort Wayne

PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

December 15th – Tuesday – St. Joseph Hospital Christmas Party (Warm up @ 12:30PM in the Board Room located in the Berkley Wing of the hospital on the main floor. Sing @ 1:00PM in the Conference Center in the basement of the hospital)

December 19th – Saturday – VFW Children's Christmas party @ the VFW on N. Washington St., Kokomo. Sing from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. - dress TBA

December 22nd – Sing @ Century Villa Greentown (WU3:00PM; show 3:30)

February 1st – Monday – Golden Corral Restaurant - Sing for the Golden K Kiwanis Club at 12:30 p.m. Dress - chorus casuals

March 7th – Sunday – MoN performance @ the Rhum Academy sponsored by the Kokomo Symphony – 7:00PM

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**BARBERSHOP HISTORY-GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ - #2**

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

- 1- Name the most famous "close harmony" quartet (The term barbershop was not yet in use, see last week's quiz) of the pre-Civil War era.
- 2- The golden age of the writing of songs that lend themselves to the barbershop style was in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and came from a wonderful place in Manhattan called "Tin Pan Alley." How did the term come about?
- 3- Where was Tin Pan Alley?
- 4- Which quartet first recorded a barbershop song; where and when was the recording made?

Answers to this month's history quiz:

- 1- The Hutchinson Family Quartet, founded in or about 1840
- 2- A journalist named Monroe Rosenfeld did a series of articles about NYC's thriving music industry and the district in which it was centered. While walking down the street, the sounds coming out of open windows of pianists banging out newly written tunes sounded to Rosenfeld like the clatter of pots and pans.
- 3- West 28th Street between Broadway and Fifth Avenue.
- 4- The Manhattans Quartet, at Thomas Edison's Studio on September 27, 1891

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Singing Tip

When in small groups, singing in a circle helps to hear the others and match vowels, turn diphthongs, unify attacks and releases, blend voices. But this is during the learning of the song only.

As soon as possible, you should re-format your positions into your performance stance. The sounds you hear when spread are different than when in a circle. These sounds are what you need to deal with, using an outside coach and/or recordings with separate video and audio devices, if possible, to maintain your 'circle' sound and develop good stage presence.

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**FYI:**

- Menu for this year's Officer Installation Banquet: Parmesan Chicken, Tossed Salad, Cranberry Salad, Sour Cream Potatoes, Stir Fry Supreme Mixed Vegetables, Variety of Moore's pies.
- Make your reservations for the Installation Banquet – all are urged to attend
- Note our Holiday meeting dates: Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> and Dec. 28<sup>th</sup>

**Baby Boomer Songs: The Temptations -- Papa's Got a Kidney Stone**

