



# InCider Press

Newsletter of the Manhattan, Kansas Chapter of SPEBSQSA  
Home of the Little Apple Barbershop Chorus

Chapter meetings are every Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m.. at the First Methodist Church Activity Center on the corner of Poyntz Ave. and 6th St., Manhattan, KS



Volume 26 Number 8

InCider Press

August 2003

## Upcoming Events

Oct 10 - CSD  
12 Fall Convention

Jan 25 - Mid-Winter  
Feb 1, 2004 Convention

## Inside this issue:

July Board Minutes Page 2

Russ Young visit Page 3

Prez message and Minutes (continued) Page 4

Barberpole Cat Program Page 5

Continuations Page 6

New Member Doug Beauchamp & Quartet Singing Page 7

Another view of Russ Young visit Page 8

## Why do you do Barbershop?

By Rodney Stanfield

What makes you choose this craft...this hobby? Last month I discussed how hobbies and work do not mix. I am pretty sure, for every man in our chapter there are as many differences in reasons for participating in our kind of music. I have been asking myself this very question. Why do I participate in this hobby? For me, it is a hobby. Every time I fill out one of those personal information sheets, I list Barbershop among my hobbies.

I like what we do first and foremost because of the music. That harmony - those overtones we get when we put it all together right. I love the songs. The new arrangements we get from Don are a treat that I look forward to every year. I am most pleased when we do the songs for people. The looks on their faces tell me every meeting was worth the effort.

The men in our chapter have chosen this hobby for various reasons. The beauty of what we do resounds in the unity found at our meetings. Regardless of the personal reasons for coming, each man takes his position, sings his part and the result is a combination of chords that can bring smiles to even the lowest soul. Even if that soul belongs to the singer himself. This has happened to me at many meetings.



President Rodney Stanfield

We have men that join with us while in Manhattan or this area for only a season. Some of those come around only a number of months out of the year. We also have members that I honestly cannot remember the last time they missed a meeting. We also have members so dedicated to this hobby; they will drive over an hour one way every week just to join in fellowship with other barber shoppers to make our kind of music.

So, why do you do barbershop music?

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Chapter Officers

President.....Rodney Stanfield  
 Chapter Development VP.....Bob Ridley  
 Music & Performance VP.....Mike Sexton  
 Public Relations VP.....Harvey Kiser  
 Secretary.....Bob Swenson  
 Treasurer.....Bill Bunyan  
 Member at Large.....Ken Brooks  
 Member at Large.....Ken Garwick  
 Member at Large.....Rich VanNevel

## Appointments

SPEBSQSA A-063 Delegate.....Bill Hanson  
 Musical Director.....Ken Lang  
 Associate Musical Director.....Don Thomson  
 Assistant Musical Director.....Myron Calhoun  
 Music Chairman.....Frank Bradley  
 Service Chairman.....Leonard Purvis  
 Show Chairman.....Preston Chapel  
 Uniforms.....Chuck Marr  
 Bulletin Editor.....Bart Bartholomew  
 Web Master.....Bart Bartholomew

**Web Site:** <http://littleapplechorus.org>

## Bulletin Editor

Bart Bartholomew  
 3616 Cottonwood Circle  
 Manhattan, KS 66503

Telephone: 785-537-0144  
 Email: [bart@bartbartholomew.com](mailto:bart@bartbartholomew.com)

Unless carrying a byline or some form of credit to borrowed sources, all items in this bulletin are by the editor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the chapter or board. All photos in the bulletin are by the editor, unless otherwise identified.

*All chapter officers are expected and chapter members are encouraged to contribute their ideas on a regular basis.*

## Happy Birthday

### September



9 Gary Mott  
 10 David Davis  
 24 Ned Valentine  
 30 Leonard Purvis

## BOARD MINUTES

By Bob Swenson, Secretary

### MANHATTAN CHAPTER SPEBSQSA, INC. REGULAR BOARD MEETING - JULY 14, 2003, WESTBANK TOWN-HOMES CLUBHOUSE

#### MINUTES:

**Officers Present:** Rodney Stanfield, Bob Swenson, Bill Bunyan, Harvey Kiser, Richard Van Nevel, Ken Brooks, Bob Ridley

**Officers Absent:** Mike Sexton, Ken Garwick

**Others:** Preston Chapel

**Call to Order:** President Rodney Stanfield called the meeting to order at 7:39 PM with the singing of "You Tell Me Your Dream".

**President's Message:** President Rodney Stanfield indicated that he would like to see as many as possible attend Harmony College in St. Joe the last part of this month, since reservations can still be made. Board members were encouraged to find chapter members who might be able to attend. President Rodney Stanfield also suggested that we work toward a social event for the chapter. Planning for such as event needs at least two, and perhaps as many as five weeks in advance so the event may need to be held later in the fall.

**Secretary:** The minutes of the June 9, 2003, regular meeting had been distributed by email. Copies were also available attached to the agenda. It was moved by Bill Bunyan and seconded by Richard Van Nevel that we approve the minutes as submitted. Motion passed.

**Treasurer:** Treasurer Bill Bunyan presented a financial report showed that the chapter had some \$16,000 in available funds as of the end of June. Current memorials available are the Ray Sharp memorial totaling \$758, and the Brown memorial totaling \$180. It was moved by Ken Brooks and seconded by Harvey Kiser that we accept the treasurer's report as submitted. Motion passed.

**VP of Music and Performance:** Although Mike Sexton was absent, there was some discussion regarding our recent church performances. While there were many positives surrounding these ventures, including the excellent participation and great acceptance by those for whom we sang, it was agreed that in the future we need better communications both internally and externally for this project so that all those involved can be more informed and comfortable.

**VP of Chapter Development:** Bob Ridley presented a list of possible grant recipients from attendees at the KSU music educators Symposium. A committee needs to review these grant requests to deter-

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Russ Young Visits The Little Apple

By Bob Swenson, Secretary



**Russ Young, SPEBSQSA's Category Specialist for the Singing Category, coaching Chorus on July 25**

Call it pure luck, a stroke of genius, or just plain havin' fun, Russ Young's visit to the Little Apple was a great success. Russ, a well-known and sought after barbershop coach and chorus director, had planned to visit friends in Manhattan prior to attending our Society's annual Harmony College in St. Joseph, Missouri, where he would again serve on the faculty of this great school.

An accomplished judge, Russ currently serves as Category Specialist for the Singing Category of our Society's judging program. In this position, he is responsible for making assignments for all Singing category judges to some 90 different contests our Society holds each year, is responsible for overseeing the training and certification of candidates who want to become judges in the singing category, and represents the category as a member of the Society's Contest and Judging Committee. Russ currently directs a new chorus in the Phoenix area, and coaches several quartets. His next quartet is "in the works", but when it does debut, it undoubtedly will be one of high quality and national rankings.

Since he had been here in Manhattan for one of our shows as the baritone/bass of SRO Quartet several years ago, Russ contacted Bob Swenson about possibly having

some fun at our chapter meeting on July 24. Russ was visiting Jack and Norma Larson, whom he had worked with in a high school in Arizona. Jack, as the principal, and Russ, as the choral director, had developed a great friendship so his mission to Manhattan served two purposes.

Needless to say, the evening was full of electricity, great chords, fun, and learning as Russ worked with the chorus on "Once Upon A Time" and "Irish Blessing". Russ's fun way of making corrections, his insistence that we "stand while sitting" and his great understanding and experience in the barbershop world made a wonderful evening of leaning and sharing.

As luck would have it, neither of our "regular" directors were able to be with us that evening, yet with Assistant Director Myron Calhoun heading up the evening, we had a great "regular meeting". While we wouldn't trade Russ for either Ken or Don (or both for that matter!), we're sure all in attendance felt that Russ Young would certainly be welcome for a return engagement. Thanks, Russ, for a great evening!

**Why Do You Barbershop?** *(Continued from page 1)*

I am not so sure it matters why you are at the meetings as much as it matters that you are committed to enjoying the craft. Do not let anything or anyone in the way of that enjoyment.

In closing, it is my wish that every man that comes to our meetings gets the opportunity to make the kind of music that he wishes. If you are a member that works diligently to make the correct sounds and sing the right notes almost on a daily basis, or if your approach is more casual, I hope you get that opportunity. I wish for you that you find the fellowship with other men at our meetings something uplifting and an encouragement that you can be better at this hobby than you think you can.

Your President,  
Rodney Stanfield

**Board Minutes** *(Continued from page 2)*

mine those items we wish to fund. Bob also indicated that we need to plan a fall guest night but plans there have not yet been made.

**VP of Public Relations:** Harvey Kiser reported that he continues to submit items about the chapter to the papers.

**Director of Music:** Don Thomson was unable to be present and presented a written report through President Rodney Stanfield. It appears that our technical rehearsal at McCain would be held either on Wednesday or Thursday night preceding the show if we want to continue our two- show schedule for Saturday, April 24, 2004. Don's report had several questions including whether or not we were going to have a summer picnic, whether the sixth riser extension had been ordered, and whether or not we could start pre-meeting quartet activities sometime in the near future. Don indicated that he had not talked to Reg Pittman but needed guidance from the board as to how to continue our relationship with Reg. Don has also created the schedule for rehearsal for July 24 when Russ Young would be present.

**Show Chairman:** Preston Chapel indicated that the jury is still out on whether or not we should have two

shows next Spring. This decision needs to be made by the board sometime in the near future.

**Old Business:** It was moved by Bob Swenson and seconded by Harvey Kiser that we bring the subject of riser chairs from the table. Discussion followed and it was generally agreed that we still do not have property management capabilities sufficient to support purchase of this type of equipment at this time. We received \$753 from the Sharp family for this project, and need to continue work on it. It was moved by Bob Swenson and seconded by Richard Van Nevel to table this item of business. Motion passed.

**New Business:** Van It was moved by Ken Brooks and seconded by Harvey Kiser that we approve the membership transfer of Mike Shepherd to the Des Moines Iowa chapter. Motion carried.

It was moved by Bob Swenson and seconded by Bob Ridley that we offer a \$50 honorarium to Russ Young for his appearance at our chapter meeting July 24. Motion carried.

It was moved by Richard VanNevel and seconded by Bill Bunyan that we contract with **The Noise Boys** for our April 24, 2004, Spring show. Motion carried.

It was moved by Ken Brooks and seconded by Bill Bunyan that the chapter hold two shows on Saturday, April 24, 2004. The tech rehearsal will need to be held on Thursday night, April 22. Motion passed.

It was moved by Ken Brooks and seconded by Harvey Kiser that the chapter support any member who wishes to attend Harmony College either in 2003 or 2004. Motion carried.

It was moved by Ken Brooks and seconded by Richard Van Nevel that the chair appoint a committee to investigate the subject of director compensation for our chapter. Motion carried.

**Adjournment:**

The next meeting will be held July 14, 2003 at 7:30 PM, at the Westbank Townhomes Clubhouse. A red-faced Rodney Stanfield has volunteered to provide refreshments for that meeting, to atone for his absent-mindedness in not bringing them for this meeting.

**Register for Conventions at:**

[www.spebsqsa.org](http://www.spebsqsa.org) > Happenings > Midwinter Conventions  
or [www.centralstatesdistrict.com](http://www.centralstatesdistrict.com)> Conventions

## The Barberpole Cat Program

By Myron Calhoun, Assistant Music Director and Barberpole Cat Recorder



**Bob Ridley, Wayne Bailie, Myron Carpenter and Myron Calhoun singing "Down by the Old Mill Stream" to help Wayne earn his Barberpole Cat pin**

Have you ever seen a Barbershopper wearing a little lapel pin that has a smiling cat's head on top of a short barberpole? Have you wondered what that little pin meant and why that Barbershopper was so proud of wearing it? I can't help you with the first question, but here is the answer to the second one:

In 1971, International SPEBSQSA President Ralph Ribble launched a new Society activity known as the "Barberpole Cat Program":

- \* To encourage quartet activity at chapter meetings;
- \* To provide Barbershoppers with a common repertoire of songs they can sing with any three other Society members at inter-chapter activities, conventions, other barber- shopping events, and even in airports and waiting rooms;
- \* To enable Barbershoppers to gain confidence in performing in a quartet in an informal, supportive atmosphere; and
- \* To teach Barbershoppers a repertoire of easy arrangements that a beginning quartet can perform. The Barberpole Cat song list was slightly different when our Chapter was chartered, but the current list

of 12 songs, selected by a vote of Society members in 1987, includes:

- Bb **Shine on Me**
- Bb **Down Our Way**
- Ab **You Tell Me Your Dream**
- Bb **Honey-Little 'Lize Medley**
- Bb **Sweet, Sweet Roses of Morn**
- Bb **Let Me Call You Sweetheart**
- Bb **My Wild Irish Rose (short version)**
- Ab **Down by the Old Mill Stream**
- Ab **Heart of My Heart**
- Bb **You're the Flower of my Heart, Sweet Adeline**
- Ab **Wait 'Til the Sun Shines, Nellie**
- F **Sweet and Lovely"**

Becoming a Barberpole Cat is simple:

\* Learn the 12 songs -- in any order and in your normal voice part. You should probably start with copies of the printed arrangements: all twelve are in ***THE BARBERPOLE CAT PROGRAM AND SONG BOOK***, or you can find the first eight in ***JUST PLAIN BARBERSHOP***, the next two and a half ("Nellie" is missing the verse) in ***STRICTLY BARBERSHOP***, and "**Sweet and Lovely**" is available in sheet-music form. If you want to practice while driving, four cassette learning tapes are available through the Barbershopper's Emporium catalog; each tape features one voice part, with that part predominant on one side of the tape and subdued on the other side.

*(Continued on page 6)*

**Barberpole Cat Program** *(Continued from page 5)*

\* Sing each song (WITHOUT using printed music) with three other voices (who may use music, if they don't let you look at it!-) in front of the entire chapter (or at least a significant number of other Barbershoppers); if your audience thinks you have sung the song satisfactorily, be sure your experience and voice part are recorded on one of Myron's "early palm pilot" notecards. If there were too many sour chords or you forgot some words, no harm done -- just feel good for trying, practice a little more, and try again!

\* After you have sung any six songs on the list, you will receive a Barberpole Cat Certificate, and after singing the remaining songs, you will receive one of those coveted little Barberpole Cat lapel pins.

\* Finally, if you are really gung-ho, you can earn Certificates and Pins for the other three voice parts!

Currently, our chapter has fifteen pinned Barberpole Cats: Wayne Bailie, Myron Calhoun, Frank Carpenter, George Dickerhoof, Melvin Emig, Larry Hansen, Bill Hanson, Sam Kvasnica, Chuck Marr, Mike McCaffrey, Leonard Purvis, Bob Ridley (two voice parts!), John Schlender, Don Thomson, and John Trail.

An additional ten men have received Certificates: Bart Bartholomew, Pat Caffey, Pete Cooper, Jim Gardner, Tom Hart, Gene Klingler, Jim Lindquist, Chas Martin, Terry Nanninga, and Bob Swenson. Furthermore, two of those ten lack only one song and another two lack only two songs to earn the Pin!

In the last 31 years, many Barbershoppers have enjoyed the Barberpole Cat Program. The goal is not necessarily the formation of registered quartets (although that would be a great result if it were to happen); rather, the program introduces men (and boys) to the joy of singing with three other guys. I hope the Barberpole Cat will become your favorite animal.

**Another View of Russ Young Visit** *(Continued from page 8)*

them the same way we've always done it. It's just a matter of working on our craft.

I remember once when some of us were in the "post mortem" session with a judge after we went to contest and being told there are three elements to good barbershop singing. 1) Sing in tune (listen), 2) sing together (watch the director), and 3) sing alike (pay attention to vowels, watch the "r's", etc.) And why don't we do all these things? According to the judge, we 1) just don't think it really makes any difference, so forget it, or, 2) we can't, for one reason or another. Most of us can shape vowels so they sound the same, so I guess we must think it doesn't make enough difference to worry about.

Last week during warm-up Don fixed some chords in "The Old Songs", one of the songs we almost always sing to start our meeting. How many of us have since looked at the music to make sure we were singing all the right notes? I

confess I haven't, and I had evidently been singing the wrong note on one chord since I joined the chorus 16 years ago.

I guess what I'm getting at is this: - Sure, it's a blast to have the Russ Youngs of the world come and share their experience with us once in a while, but the Little Apple Barbershop Chorus is incredibly lucky to have the musical leadership we're blessed with. And there's no reason we can't improve as a chorus if we'd just try a little harder to match the effort Ken and Don make to help us to sing better. Sure, we all enjoy the camaraderie, and just getting together to share what's going on in our lives, have fun, and socialize in other ways. But isn't barbershopping about singing? And wouldn't it be more fun if we brought down the plaster with more chords ringing in every song we sing?

Are we better than we were 10 years ago? Of course. Can we get better still? YES! Let's get on the edge of our chairs when Ken is in front, and really give it a whirl!

## New Member: Doug Beauchamp

By Bart Bartholomew



**Doug Beauchamp (left) being congratulated by Bart Bartholomew after his formal induction into the Little Apple Chorus**

Doug Beauchamp, our newest addition to the bass section, resisted previous invitations to join the Chorus while he served as an officer with the Manhattan Elk's

Lodge. As soon as his term of office expired and Thursday evenings became free, Doug gave in to Bart Bartholomew's urgings and joined the Chorus.

Doug and his wife, Donna, have lived and worked in Manhattan for the past 30+ years. Doug grew up in the Kansas City, Missouri area, graduated from high school, served four years in the Air Force, and soon thereafter moved to Salina, Kansas where he met his future wife and began his career in the accounting field. After interruptions due to job changes, Doug graduated from KSU in '75 with a degree in accounting and worked until his recent retirement as an accountant with Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Doug and Donna are the proud parents of two sons, one daughter and five grandchildren. Doug, now retired from BC/BS works part-time with his stepson, Darrell Hills, in Darrell's audio replacement service company; his other retirement avocation is golf.

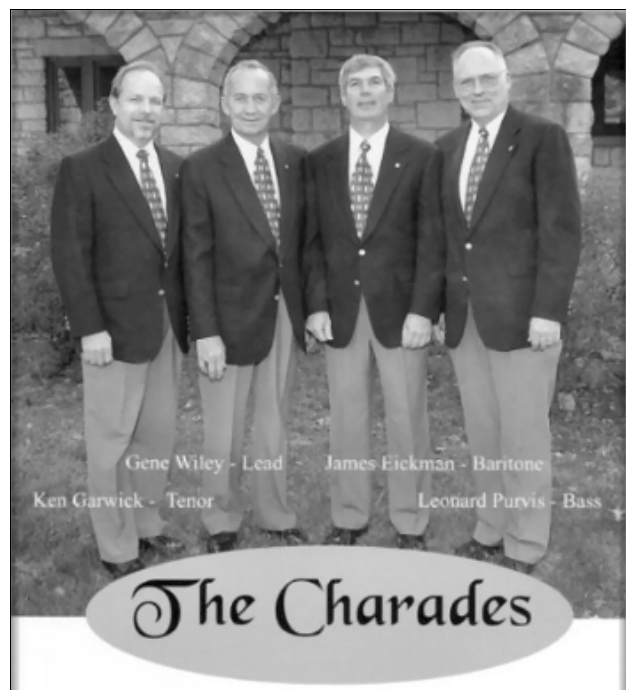
Singing in his high school chorus, playing guitar and singing around campfires and playing a "bit" on the piano have previously provided outlets for Doug's musical talents. However, after hearing those ringing barbershop chords while the Little Apple Chorus had its after-glows at his Elk's Lodge, Doug was smitten with the desire to be a barbershopper. Welcome, Doug, we're glad that you joined us!

## Quartet Singing within the Little Apple Barbershop Chorus

By Harvey Kiser, VP of Public Relations

Have you heard one of our barbershop quartets sing this summer? Approximately 530 persons heard two of our quartets – **The Manhattan Music Machine** and **The Charades** - sing. **The Charades** had a particularly interesting summer singing to eight different groups. **The Charades** members are: Ken Garwick – tenor, Gene Wiley – lead, Jim Eickman – baritone, and Leonard Purvis – bass. Members of the **Manhattan Music Machine** are: Don Thomson – tenor, Bob Swenson – lead, Jim Lindquist – baritone, and Pete Cooper – bass.

These men sang for a wedding, a wedding reception, an 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party, as a surprise birthday present, a 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, a service club dinner, a Christian women's group, a local Sunday morning church service, and a 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. They sang in Manhattan, Junction City, Lawrence, and Abilene. Future performances will take them to Junction City and Madison, Kansas.





Bart Bartholomew, Editor  
3616 Cottonwood Circle  
Manhattan, Kansas 66503

## Another View of Russ Young Visit

By Bob Ridley, VP for Chapter Development

What a great time with Russ Young a couple of weeks ago! I always look forward to chapter meetings, and often refer to our time together Thursday evenings as my weekly therapy session. Sometimes it's more fun than others, depending on how many we have in attendance, and whether Ken or Don (or both) are able to be there, but it's always fun and the time with Russ was certainly no exception. We were all on the edge of our chairs, granting him our undivided attention as he worked through "Once Upon A Time" and "May the Road Rise To Meet You". And because we were, at least for the most part, on the edge of our chairs and trying to do what he asked of us, the sound we made was really better.

As I left the chapter meeting after thanking Russ for coming, I couldn't help but think of an adage we sometimes use in academia: "An authority on a subject is someone from another university with a set of kodachromes". Or for those scripturally inclined: "A prophet will always be held in honour except in

his home town, and among his kinsmen and family." (Mark 6:4; NEV)

Let's be honest; Russ really didn't say anything or ask us to do anything to improve our craft that we haven't heard over and over from Ken or Don. Haven't we all heard Ken say we were individually or collectively by parts a "quarter of a tone flat"? Haven't we heard him ask us to think about what we were singing, and to interpret the music rather than just sing the notes? Haven't we all heard him ask us to connect our phrases, smooth out our sound, back off when we don't have the melody, sing with more feeling, connect our notes, listen to the other parts, watch him, and on and on? I can almost hear Don saying "OK, you've convinced me you know the notes, now let's make it music." Hardly a song is sung without Ken reminding us of the importance of vowel sounds, yet the next time we sing the same phrase we revert back to shaping

*(Continued on page 6)*