



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

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March 2003

Upcoming Events

- Little Apple Chorus Show, "Juke Box Saturday Night", 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- Apr 12
- April 24 Guest Night

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"To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift"

STEVE PREFONTAINE (1951-1975), Champion runner

By Rodney Stanfield, President

I believe that we would be safe to declare that the gift is not being sacrificed around our chapter. Twenty-three days before our show, I am convinced that all involved are giving their all and the best of their every effort to help us be ready for our show.

I am endlessly impressed how we find the constitution to continue to work with a standard of excellence as the weeks progress toward our show. I don't know about you, but the 4 – 6 weeks prior to our show become tiring to me. Don't get me wrong, I did not say, TIRE-SOME, but, TIRING. The Thursdays seem to be twice as long as any other day of the week. At the beginning of our meetings, I can see it on the faces and in the shoulders of many of you as the weeks get closer to show time. Also, I can see the anticipation that you are about to be a part of something great. I can see that you are proud of what you have chosen to do with your time on Thursday evening. Our rehearsals (meetings) are an opportunity for all of us to give our best at something we love to do. The fact that you love it is evident, because you choose to come (and sometimes even invite people) and participate, even when you are tired.

The Spring District Convention is upon us. If you have never participated in this



President Rodney Stanfield

adventure, I would highly encourage you to make your reservation and enjoy this experience. What can be more fun that spending a whole weekend listening to and talking about Barbershop Music? The convention is the first weekend of April in Lincoln NE. If you would like to go, Bill Hansen and I would love your company. See the reservation form in your latest **District SERENADE** magazine, or see the District Convention Registration coordinator, our very own Chapter Secretary, Bob Swenson. Call Now!!! Time is running out.

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Chapter Officers

President.....Rodney Stanfield
 Chapter Development VP.....Bob Ridley
 Music & Performance VP..... Mike Shepherd
 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 Delegate.....Bill Hansen
 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

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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

April

3 Tom Miles
10 Gene Wiley
16 Ken Garwick
20 James Beck
25 George Dickerhoof



BOARD MINUTES

By Bob Swenson, Secretary

MANHATTAN CHAPTER SPEBSQSA, INC. REGULAR BOARD MEETING - February 13, 2003, WESTBANK TOWN-HOMES CLUBHOUSE

MINUTES:

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

Officers Absent: none

Others: Don Thomson, Preston Chapel

Call to Order: Membership Vice President, Bob Ridley, opened the meeting at 7:31 PM with the group singing, "The Old Songs".

Officer's and Committee Reports:

Secretary: The minutes of the January 13th meeting, previously distributed by email and also available at this meeting, were approved on a motion by Ken Brooks which was seconded by Ken Garwick.

Treasurer: The treasurer's report prepared by Bill Bunyan was distributed at the meeting. Bob Swenson moved, and Richard Van Nevel supported, to accept the treasurer's report. Motion passed.

VP of Music and Performance: Mike Shepherd reported that he will be leaving the Chapter before the next meeting. There was additional discussion among the group about possible replacements for this important position.

VP of Chapter Development: Bob Ridley reported that one youth policy set of forms has been returned properly completed, and we have only one more form to complete in order to comply with this new policy.

VP of Public Relations: Harvey Kiser reported that he had prepared two articles for the Clay Center Dispatch, had entered into an agreement to have our show ad placed in the McCain Artist Series programs and was successful in getting articles in the paper regarding our installation banquet and barbershopper of the year. He also was revising the library database information for the Manhattan Public Library.

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Director of Music: Don Thomson indicated that he had investigated the possibility of acquiring a fourth step for our chorus risers and has cost figures available. There were additional comments about the additional storage required should the chapter obtain additional riser equipment.

Show Chairman: Preston Chapel passed around forms for the show ads and reported that he had made one-fourth page flyers for distribution during singing valentines. Preston reported that distribution of the show flyers and tickets as well as other show preparations are on schedule.

Singing Valentines: Bob Swenson reported that 52 singing valentines had been sold so far. J. Lester Hooper presented two weeks of schooling for the presenters. Four quartets had already been approved for singing valentines presentations, and that as a result of the orders so far, we would need at least one quartet to sing on Thursday afternoon.

Old Business: none

New Business: It was moved by Mike Shepherd and seconded by Harvey Kiser that the chapter contribute up to \$350 to the St. George Elementary School Honor Choir to help them attend a special event called "Blast" while the choir was in Wichita during the Bobby McFarin appearance. Motion passed.

There was discussion about our society's relationship with the Boy Scouts of America. It was agreed that the chair should appoint a committee of three to investigate how our chapter can be involved with the Boy Scouts of America and this new relationship which has been established nationally.

It was moved by Ken Brooks and seconded by Richard Van Nevel that the chapter institute a Ron Zelch night. These nights will happen approximately monthly and will be celebrated by extra special treats during the break. Motion carried.

It was moved by Harvey Kiser and seconded by Richard Van Nevel that we continue association with the Manhattan Arts Chapter at the \$250 sponsor level. Discussion ensued regarding whether this was a good use of our chapter's funds. With the indication that several of our members would investigate our need to

support this group, it was moved by Richard Van Nevel and seconded by Ken Garwick to table this motion. Motion to table passed.

It was moved by Harvey Kiser and seconded by Mike Shepherd that the chapter purchase five fourth step risers extensions for our current ringer risers at a cost of approximately \$1500. Motion passed.

Adjournment: It was moved by Ken Brooks and seconded by Harvey Kiser to adjourn. President Rodney Stanfield adjourned the meeting at 8:47 by leading "Let Me Call You Sweetheart"

Good of the Chapter: It was generally agreed that our performance in Clay Center was an excellent opportunity for all involved and should be repeated occasionally, perhaps even in other surrounding communities.

The next meeting will be held March 10, 2003 at 7:30 PM, at the Westbank Townhomes Clubhouse. Richard Van Nevel will provide refreshments for that meeting.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!!!

To the Little Apple Barbershop Chorus;

Thank you very much for the grant money!!! I will use it to benefit my elementary music program here at Linn. I will purchase the chromatic Boomwhackers and also the "Music Memory" notebook for my elementary classroom. I know my students will enjoy using both of these products in our classroom. Again, thank you very much for supporting music in the public schools!!!!

Thank you,
Marilyn Pachta
K 12 Music Instructor
Linn School, Linn Kansas

President's message (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

GUEST NIGHT! I am sure Bob Ridley will say something about this soon. In our chapter, every night is GUEST NIGHT. Yet, a couple times a year we designate a night as a special night for all members to invite friends to come and try us out. The rehearsal is coordinated as an opportunity to show ourselves to potential members and let them try US out. Our chapter does a stellar job at inviting friends (this too is a sure sign you are proud of what we do). Start now; if you haven't already, nudging that friend or co-worker you have been nudging about visiting with you at your favorite hobby. This GUEST NIGHT

would be a great time to have them come and see what we do. The Guest Nights where we have 6 to 10 guests are always a blast.

One more comment as we finalize our prep for the show. Thanks for your efforts at all we do to prepare for the show. The space I have available here would not allow me to properly recognize all that people have done. The list would involve almost every entire member of the chapter and some of their wives. I am grateful for all that all of you do.

Standing at the Jukebox. . .

Your President, Rodney

Treasurer's Report

By Bill Bunyan, Treasurer

Our 2002 Barbershop year started with a balance of \$2269 and reached the base level of \$942 in February as we prepared for Singing Valentines. Thanks to the harmonic talents of several quartets and tonal assistance of all chorus members our bank account was boosted to just over \$4300 by singing Valentine efforts. Just the boost needed to meet publicity needs for our Spring show. With show proceeds our "green" grew to \$18,000 by mid-May. "Happy Days" were here again! But, like our lawns that faded with drought, insects, hail and neglect, our green quickly faded with the show bills and over \$6000 donated to local and SPEBSQSA charities.

Now once again we are in February with a balance of approximately \$1300 and awaiting our Singing Valentine net income. "Singing is Life, The rest is Details."

Thank you for trusting me to take care of the \$ details.

Bill Bunyan

(Editor's comments: This article was submitted in February but didn't fit in the February *InCider Press*)



Dear Barbershop Chorus,
 Thank you so very, very much for the grant money. I have ordered the Boomwhacker supplies and I'm looking forward to using it in my May Program. Our program is titled "Animal Talk". The boomwhackers will fit right in and the students can't wait to give it a try. We will walk like the animals walk, and talk like the animals, talk and learn about the animal kingdom. Thanks again.
 Gay Lynn Manning

Pretty Packages

By Bob Swenson, 1996-2003 Singing Valentines Chairman

Our chapter is used to providing "pretty packages" and on February 13 and 14, we delivered about 144 of the prettiest musical packages of which we're capable during our **Singing Valentine\$** campaign. Armed with hours of practice and dressed in our finest Tuxes with boutonnieres, our chapter's quartets sang their way across the area from Wamego, through Manhattan, on to Ft. Riley and Junction City, then on to Clay Center, bringing joy, surprises, and yes, even a few tears as we conveyed messages of love from one person to another.

Our packages this year had extra special wrappings, because our presenters were trained by our Master Presenter, Mr. J. Lester Hooper. There is no wonder quartets speak for his services early, because he has that extra flair that make the whole presentation such a pleasure to witness. On two successive evenings, our **Singing Valentine\$** presenters were given the opportunity to benefit from J. Lester's expertise in making our "pretty package" even prettier. Thank you, J. Lester.

Besides taking extra time to work on their own skills, several of our regular quartets helped other "novice" and beginning quartets with words and notes so that they could obtain approval of our musical leadership. Our Directors, Ken Lang and Don Thomson, coached and helped quartets until they were capable of singing with the flair necessary to make each presentation a "pretty package." We gathered at 7:00 for 5 Thursdays before the 14th to hone our skills and make sure that we knew all the words and notes to our 3 standard **Singing Valentine\$** songs. With a few personnel changes necessary, we fielded a total of eight quartets armed with smiles, long stemmed roses, candy kisses, and love songs for both guys and gals.

Ably administered by Sondra Nelson at Manhattan Data Systems, who was assisted by Karen



Nanninga and Kathy Wilson, the orders were arranged so that presenters could pick up their assignments and supplies at headquarters, head to the quartet lounge hosted by Helen Cooper and Marilyn Bunyan, pick up their quartet and work themselves out of a job, only to return and start the process over.

Because of early heavy orders, we had to add Thursday afternoon the 13th to our schedule to accommodate some special situations, which are always fun to do. Can you imagine the joy one of our recipients received when she was entertained by five of our quartets during the day. Her husband sent her a quartet for every year they'd been married, and she didn't have to witness a single repeated song! We also sang to some pretty important people of the community, including members of the KSU football coaching staff, at a wedding reception, for a troop deployment ceremony, and the Commanding General of Ft. Riley.

Of course, the day was recapped at our wrap-up party arranged by Mike Sexton and the American Legion. Quartets got to tell of their experiences and highlights of the day and we all enjoyed sharing a great Pizza Party arranged by Sharon Stanfield.

During the evening, we were able to report that by our own statistics kept during each presentation, we had about 2,800 people witness our "pretty packages" during these two days. But the prettiest package? I guess you'd have to count that treasury addition of approximately \$3,600 to be the prettiest of all!

Music Grants Given By Chapter

By Harvey Kiser, VP for Public Relations

Eight public school music teachers received a total of **\$1,122** in music grants this winter semester from our chapter. These were chosen from a total of 36 applications. These teachers are those who attended KSU Music Symposium last June. The grants are possible because of the monies we netted from last year's Singing Valentine and Spring Show. Here are the awardees and what they plan to do with the grant.

Scott Freeby -- Eisenhower and Anthony Middle Schools, Manhattan -- \$200: to prepare music teaching posters.

Janet Armstead -- St. George Elementary School, St. George -- \$275: to purchase 'Finale' academic music writing software

Kathy Brax -- Junior and Senior High School, Washington -- \$75: to purchase music for changing voices

Gay Lynn Manning -- Elementary School, Washington -- \$240: to purchase two sets of boomwhackers and chromatic tubes

Marilyn Pachta -- Linn High School, Linn -- \$145: to purchase 'Music Memory' basic notebook and a set of five chromatic boomwhackers

Patricia Klenda -- St. Mary's Grade School, Salina -- \$280: to purchase 'Music Memory' basic notebook and music for boomwhackers

Lola Wall -- Park Grade School, Lyons -- \$180: to purchase a 'Whack-a-Tune package including two sets of 8 diatonic boomwhackers, piano accompaniment, lesson plans and teacher guide

Susan Howey -- Wineteer Elementary School, Wichita -- \$105: to purchase Music Memory program

These teachers said with these purchases they could use another method to excite and motivate the students and create a group of children who would be knowledgeable of the great works of our musical past. Some said that the boomwhackers and music would help the students tune their music skills, improve sight-reading skills, and enhance math skills as well as advance thinking skills, pattern recognition and creativity.

These grants allow our chapter to carryout its mission of "preserving and encouraging vocal music, in our education systems and in our communities, as a lifelong recreational activity and an essential element in one's cultural well-being." When you all see Rodney Stanfield, thank him for getting this activity started. This is the third year we have provided music grants like this.

Grant Recipients Send Thanks

Photograph below accompanied a thank you letter from **Lola Wall, Park Grade School, Lyons**. The requested diatonic Boom Whackers have already been received and are being put to good use.



See thank you notes from **Gay Lynn Manning, Elementary School, Washington** on page 4 and from **Marilyn Pachta, Linn High School, Linn** on page 3.

Chapter Quartets Help Celebrate Tom Hart's 90th Birthday

By Pete Cooper

About 50 relatives and friends gathered in Westmoreland on Saturday, March 15th to honor Tom Hart on the occasion of his 90th birthday. Among those attending were members of the *Apple Core Tet* (Myron Calhoun, Bill Hanson, Bob Ridley and Leonard Purvis) and the *Manhattan Music Machine* (Don Thomson, Bob Swenson, Jim Lindquist and Pete Cooper).

After a delicious beef brisket and ham dinner, Tom's son-in-law, Bill Hanson, presented a slide talk on some of the highlights of Tom's life. Barbershop music was an important part. The two quartets joined to sing "Fun In Just One Lifetime", after which they each sang a few numbers to entertain the group.

Tom was one of a handful of men who were instrumental in starting the Manhattan Chapter, and when we received our charter at our first spring show 26 years ago this month, Tom was not only a charter member, but the first chorus director. For the better part of two decades, he was one of the most faithful members of the chapter, and although he is not an active singer now, he still retains his love for the music.



Tom Hart
Charter Member
Director Emeritus

The Thrills of Hearing and Singing With the Champs

By Harvey Kiser, VP for Public Relations

David Davis and I enjoyed Kansas City's **Heart of America Chorus's (HOA)** show on Saturday, March 15. A great show and the 2 1/2 hours passed very quickly. We not only had the opportunity to hear the HOA quartets including *12th Street Rag*, but also the 2001 International Champions -- *Michigan Jake*. David and his brother Daniel and father Chuck were there also.

I learned from David that he had the opportunity to

sing on that stage last year. His high school mixed quartet was a winner in **HOA's** Harmony Explosion and they sang on stage. His quartet's name was *Sibling Rivalry* in that he and his sister and his friend and his sister made up the quartet.

Ask him about the opportunity to visit with *Platinum* quartet, 2000 International Champions, and singing with *12th Street Rag*. What a thrill for them!

Individual Responsibility: It is the "individual responsibility" of each Chapter member to learn the words and choreography for each song in Juke Box Saturday Night.

Bart Bartholomew, Editor
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MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the Manhattan, Kansas, Chapter of SPEBSQSA is to proclaim, perpetuate, and enjoy the vocal-music art form known as "barbershop."

- By promoting and encouraging harmony and good fellowship among our own members, families, and friends,
- By providing and supporting opportunities for our members to sing,
- By encouraging and promoting the musical education of our members,
- By accepting new members based on their ability to contribute to our activities,
- By initiating, promoting, and participating in charitable projects,
- By promoting public appreciation of Barbershop harmony, and
- By providing opportunities for others to participate in Barbershop singing and in all other vocal music activities.

