



# InCider Press



Newsletter of the Manhattan, Kansas chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society

Home of the Little Apple Chorus



Volume 28, Number 1

Bart Bartholomew, Editor and Publisher

January 2005

## Inside this issue:

In Memoriam (continued) [Page 2](#)

It will get better & For wives only [Page 3](#)

Charades activities & [Page 4](#)

Know your music

Register for International & [Page 5](#)

A slip of paper worth \$2

Chapter Development / Membership & Marketing Ourselves [Page 6](#)

**Singing Valentines** [Page 7](#)

Calendars [Page 8](#)

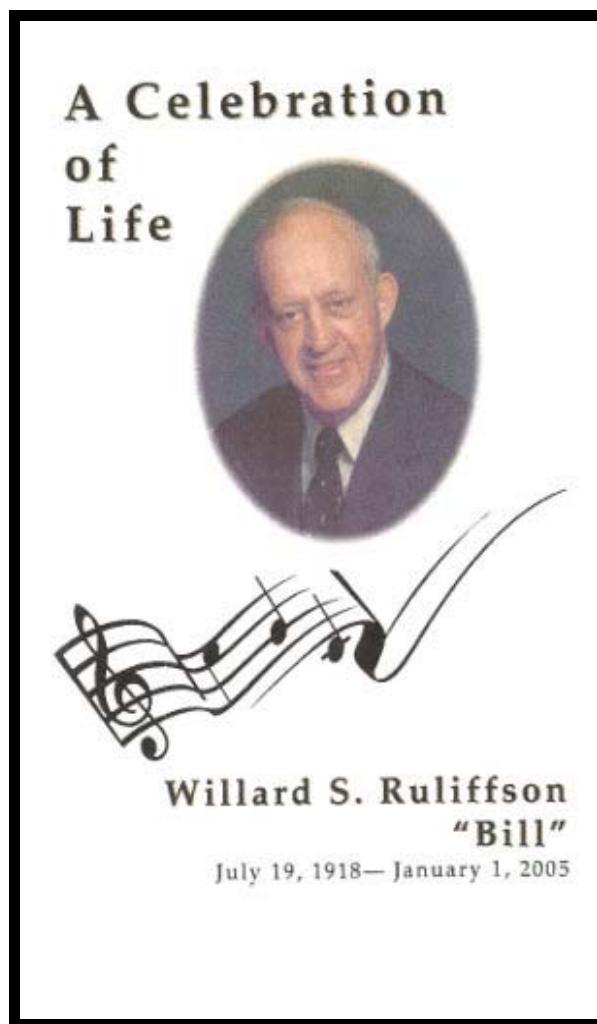
## In memoriam

By Bart Bartholomew, editor

When I joined the Little Apple Chorus among the many people to welcome me was a warm, friendly gentleman in the bass section, **Bill Ruliffson**. As I got to know him I learned that, in addition to singing, we shared a common interest in bicycling. I was very interested to hear about his experiences during the Bike Across Kansas rides. I still haven't made that ride; but, when I make that ride, I will certainly think of **Bill**.

As **Pat Caffey** wrote in a brief letter that he attached to the memorial program he sent me, "**Bill Ruliffson**, a charter member of our chapter, passed away January 1, 2005 . . . Bill had a wonderful bass voice and was an active barbershopper for years. In the last few years of his life **Bill** suffered from dementia due to Alzheimer's, but until then he was an active person. Before he moved away he used to ride in the Bike Across Kansas. In addition to being a good singer and a leader in the

*(Continued on page 2)*



A Celebration of Life



Willard S. Ruliffson "Bill"

July 19, 1918— January 1, 2005

The chapter and chorus meet every Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. at the First Methodist Church Activity Center on the corner of Poyntz and 6th Street, Manhattan, Kansas.

*InCider Press*, a monthly publication, is the official publication of the Manhattan, Kansas chapter of the Central States District (CSD) of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

The Manhattan Chapter is the home of the Little Apple Chorus.

The chapter and chorus meet every Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. at the First Methodist Church Activity Center on the corner of Poyntz and 6th Street, Manhattan, Kansas.

For more information about meetings or joining call or write to the Editor. (see below)

### Chapter Officers

President..... Terry Nanninga  
 Membership and.....Rodney Stanfield &  
 Chapter Development VP.....Bill Hanson  
 Music & Performance VP..... Steve Fisher  
 Marketing and  
 Public Relations VP.....Harvey Kiser  
 Secretary.....Bob Swenson  
 Treasurer.....Bill Bunyan  
 Member at Large.....David Darling  
 Member at Large.....Gary Mott  
 Member at Large ..... Ken Lyle

### Appointments

SPEBSQSA A-063 Delegate.....Bill Hanson  
 Musical Director..... Ken Lang  
 Associate Musical Director.....Don Thomson  
 Assistant Musical Director....Myron Calhoun  
 Music Chairman.....Bob Ridley  
 Service Chairman.....Leonard Purvis  
 Show Chairman.....Rodney Stanfield &  
 David Darling  
 Uniforms.....Chuck Marr  
 Bulletin Editor.....Bart Bartholomew  
 Web Master.....Bart Bartholomew  
[www.littleapplechorus.org](http://www.littleapplechorus.org)

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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.*

*(Continued from page 1)*

chapter, **Bill** was an awfully nice guy. “

The following text is from the brochure from the memorial service celebrating **Bill's** life:

Willard Sloan "Bill" Ruliffson, 86, a native of Storm Lake, Iowa, and a long time resident of Manhattan, Kansas and Watkinsville, Georgia died at the Methodist Manor Retirement Community in Storm Lake on January 1,2005.

Bill Ruliffson was born July 19, 1918, in Balaton, Minnesota, the son of Frank Willard "Bob" and Amy T. (Dahl) Ruliffson. He was the second of four boys: Howard, Willard, Harmon and Franklin. Bill graduated from Storm Lake High School in 1936 and Buena Vista College in May 1940. His first job after college was as a music instructor and science teacher at Quimby, Iowa. He was awarded degrees from the University of Iowa; M.S. in 1948 and a PhD in Biochemistry in 1953. He was a Professor of Biochemistry at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas from 1953-1983.

On April 25, 1941, Bill married his high school sweetheart, Ora Marie Mickle in Storm Lake. Ora died December 20, 1979 in Manhattan, Kansas. He then married Ruby W. Benson Chappelle, a native of Alta, Iowa in 1983, in Manhattan, Kansas.

Bill was a WWII veteran, serving as a commissioned officer and a B-24 and B25 command pilot. He entered active duty on October 6, 1941, and was discharged December 17, 1945.

Bill's family includes his brother, CAPT Franklin R. Ruliffson USN(Ret), Bethesda, Maryland, his daughter, Molly J. Purinton and husband Tom, Watkinsville, Georgia, their son Scott A. Purinton and his wife Rebecca, Atlanta, Georgia, daughter, Amy M. Riley and her husband, Steve, Canton, Georgia, and daughter Sarah E. Highfield and her husband Anthony, Winterville, Georgia. Bill's family also includes his son, Mark H. Ruliffson and his wife Barbara J., Hays, Kansas, their daughter Tammy L. Meyer and her husband Jeffery, Lenexa, Kansas, and son Tad B. Ruliffson and his wife Rebecca L., Shawnee, Kansas. Also surviving are 10 great grandchildren: Avery Lauren, Morgan Scott and Charles Wyatt Purinton; Megan Ariana Hammontree and Marissa Jean Riley; McKinley Sloan Highfield; Nathan Jeffery, Noah Bradley and Natalie Marie Meyer; and Ella Paige Ruliffson. Also surviving is nephew Navy CAPT James H. Ruliffson, USN(Ret), former Navy pilot and Top Gun Commanding Officer, Hudgins, Virginia, and son of Howard and Beulah Canady Ruliffson.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Ora in 1979, his second wife Ruby in 1998, his oldest brother Howard D., Gilroy, California in 1976, brother, Harmon L., Rochester, New York, in 2000, and nephew Eric Ruliffson, Moraga, California, in 2000.

Bill's interests included vocal music, both chorus and barbershop. He was an accomplished clarinet player, even playing in a dance band. He enjoyed tennis, bicycling, and the companionship of a Golden Retriever dog, Cherokee.



### Memorials in Bill's memory may be made to:

Willard & Ora M. Ruliffson Memorial Scholarship at KSU  
 F.W. "Bob" and Amy (Dahl) Ruliffson Endowment Scholarship & Fund at  
 Buena Vista University  
 Methodist Manor Retirement Community

## It will get better

By Terry Nanninga, president

It is great to be a barbershopper!

After the first chapter meeting as I was beating myself up on the way home for the poorly conducted business portion of your chapter meeting (you have time to do this when you travel) I thought, well, it can only get better. The next morning as my wife and I soaked in the hot tub (yes we go every day usually twice) I was telling her about the poor job of time management at the meeting and she replied, "It will get better." When I opened the email a few minutes later notes from **Bill Hanson** and **Rodney Stanfield** said, "It will get better." I want to thank each of you for the kind words. It will get better.

The best part about all this was the number of constructive comments that were given to me; I want to encourage this from each of you. We need to really communicate. All of the members want to be informed of as many things as we can give them and still run the chapter as a whole as effectively as possible.

Electronic communication is both a curse and a blessing but we have moved into that age. Our Barbershop Harmony Society is going to the instant communication mode to discuss efforts to change for the better of all the membership. I see that there is some resistance to some of the changes they made to the convention format and this has been rescinded. We need to try some things new or a least put them on the table to improve the marketability of our hobby. One of the things will be the use of all the tools available to us to improve our sound and our enjoyment of the hobby. Which part of your barbershop experience do you really like? What part of the barber-shopping experience do we need to change to attract others? Can you be tolerant of trying new ways and new methods? Our newsletter editor will be using new ways



**President Terry Nanninga**  
conducting his first chapter meeting as president

to publish this newsletter. It will be edited from San Antonio TX. Good Luck **Bart**.

We will be moving to the show schedule shortly for our chapter meetings and seeking a firm commitment from each of you to be on the show. Our Music team is readying us for a great show. It will be great to be part of Manhattan's sesquicentennial celebration. I have been a part of several centennial church and town celebrations and you will always remember the experience. et's work hard at learning the music and choreography. Be on time and stay for the whole meeting if possible. We will start on riser etiquette shortly for all of the new members on stage for the first time. Enjoy the experience. We will look forward to seeing each of you on Thursday nights. 🎵

## For wives only

By Bart Bartholomew, Sesquicentennial Committee member

Dear Ladies:

I gave your husbands an assignment a week ago and I know they will forget; so, I am asking you to **remind** them. Once again, I am tasked with making slide presentations for this year's show. I would love to use pictures that you have in your treasured family albums. The pictures are to show the images expressed in the

words of our songs such as: "**Dear Hearts and Gentle People, The House I Live In, and God Bless the USA.**"

Please look at the words of the songs and then identify the pictures in your albums. I'll tell you when to send pictures with your husband to a chapter meeting.

Thanks, Bart



## Charades spread holiday joy community wide

By Ken Garwick, tenor

The holiday season kept the **Charades** out and about. We started early this year with a sing-out for the Westloop Merchants Association. On Friday, November 12, and Saturday, November 13, we spent four hours singing in each of the business establishments at Westloop. Santa Claus accompanied us both days and was a real hit with the kids of all ages.

While singing at Little Apple Brewery we were asked if we would come and sing a song to a couple who were getting married on Saturday. We sang "I'm Sittin' on Top of the World" and wished them well.

Saturday, November 20th, found us singing for a fundraiser at City Auditorium for the Salvation Army. We had a little time to catch our breaths and practice some of the Christmas songs for future engagements. December 5th we sang for the Letter Carriers Christmas Party. Thanks to **Myron Carpenter** for coming up to sing a song with us. On December 8th we sang at Meadowlark Hills for the Edward Jones Investment Group. December 13th we traveled to Rambler's and performed for a local Lion's Christmas party. Our December 17th singing engagement took us to the new Grain Science Building at K-State. Thanks to **Harvey Kiser** for coming and assisting us during our singing of "Jingle Bells."



**The Charades:**  
(from left) Ken Garwick, tenor; Gene Wiley, lead;  
Leonard Purvis, bass; and, Jim Eickman, baritone

We finished the holiday sing-outs at the home of **Gary and Yvonne Drake**. They had their seventh annual Christmas Party. There are so many people invited, Gary has to have them come in two shifts. During our first set we were joined by **Bob Swenson, Pete Cooper,** and **Gary** as we formed a VLQ to sing "Darkness on the Delta."

We have enjoyed another year of bringing smiles to many faces. We look forward to another active year together as we enter 2005.



## Know your music

By Gene Klingler, Sesquicentennial Committee chairman

I have never gotten very involved with the workings of our chapter but sometimes, as the saying goes: "When life gives you lemons, make lemonade." This may well be what we are doing with our spring show. No one can replace the incomparable Don Thomson with his enthusiasm, ingenuity, creativity, humor and understanding of staging. But his recent illness (Thank the Lord he is going to have a complete recovery!) has necessitated his taking less of a roll in this year's production.

In the past we sometimes have been able to cover mediocre singing (NOT KNOWING THE MUSIC) by a well-orchestrated visual program. Not so this

year. A committee is attempting to fill the void and as a result the visual side will be less apparent and we must sing at a higher level than perhaps we have in the past. Oh, **Don Thomson** will still get the front row involved in some choreography, and will help out, but it will be up to us to put the show over by **KNOWING OUR MUSIC!**

Yes, there will be some scenery, special effects and color but not to the extent we have sometimes had. There is music to be learned and there are words to be memorized. I for one promise **Ken** and my fellow members that I will get to rehearsal on time, miss as few meetings as is possible and **KNOW MY MUSIC!**



## Time to register for the International and for your summer vacation

Submitted by Harvey Kiser, VP for marketing and public affairs

From SPEBSQSA "Live Wire":



Do you have your summer vacation plans set yet? Would you like to take a second summer vacation and hear some of the best music in the country and maybe the world? Why not plan to attend the International Convention? You can hear the top 40 plus quartets and the top 20 plus choruses in the world.

A plus this year, and almost worth the opportunity to go by itself, will be the [Sacred Gold Concert features Gold Medal Chorus](#). The most awesome assemblage of gold medal singers ever, combined with the 360 voices of the internationally renowned Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

Following the "Music and the Spoken Word" broadcast from the 20,000 seat, state-of-the-art Latter Day Saints Conference Center there will be a Free\* Concert featuring: -- the world renowned Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Dr. Craig Jessop, Music Director; -- the exclusive debut performance of the 600-voice [Barbershop Harmony So-](#)

[ciety Gold Medal Chorus](#) under the direction of Jim Clancy and Dr. Greg Lyne, and -- and an incredible finale of the 960 combined voices of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and the Society's gold Medal Chorus under the direction of Dr. Craig Jessop *plus guest performances by Acoustix, Four Voices and Power Play!*

There is still time to register for the international convention in Salt Lake City July 3 – 10m 2005. The international barbershop convention comes to Salt Lake City July 3-10, 2005. Register online now!



You won't believe your ears in the tremendous Conference Center. An acoustic wonder, the facility seats 21,000 theater-style and provides a magnificent sight lines for all guests.



## A Slip Of Paper Worth \$2?

By Bob Swenson, **Singing Valentine\$** chairman



If someone would trade you one-half sheet of red paper for \$2.00, how long would you keep making that trade? I'd guess some of us would be buying paper by the truckload!

Yet this is exactly what happens when you hand our **Singing Valentine\$** flyers to your friends, acquaintances, and associates. These flyers are the most effective way we can advertise **Singing Valentine\$**, because

they have all the details needed for the customer to place an order, whether by phone or the web.

Breaking down the statistics from several past **Singing Valentine\$** campaigns, we print about 1500 of these flyers for our members to give out. We've made about \$3000 profit, more or less, on each of the last three **Singing Valentine\$** campaigns. That makes each flyer you hand to someone worth about \$2 in profit for our chapter.

Since you don't have to collect any money for them, how many of these \$2 profit-makers can you give away? If you need more, we've got 'em!



## The World of Chapter Development/Membership

By Rodney Stanfield and Bill Hanson, Co-VPs for membership and chapter development

We are off to a fast start. The year ahead is stacking up to be one of plenty of fun, new adventures, and just great opportunities for Barbershopping in our chapter. By the time you get to read this, your board will have already approved a chapter calendar of events for this year (we hope). We have many things on our plate. Some of those opportunities are things that we do every year. Some of them are things that we have not tried in several years, and some are going to be new territory for us.

This past Thursday night you might have noticed the "TABLE" to the right as you walked in the entrance to the meeting/rehearsal area. We would like to move the area for doing business during the meeting to a different position in the meeting room. In the past we have congregated this activity to the back and side of the meeting room. This has caused a congested area and can make getting ready for the meeting a bit difficult at times. This can only mean that we are having a great attendance, and we have much to do each week when we get together. That is one of those problems that you want--we are just moving this table to another location so that the business of the chapter can be conducted smoothly and effectively.

Every week each member will be able to come to the table for any number of items they need to make their Barber-shopping experience better. We will be making copies of all sorts of information available each week. If there is a current sign-up sheet or other handouts, this is where you will need to go to handle that bit of barbershop business. If you have a guest attending with you, this is where you bring him first (after you have introduced him to a few people, of course). The Guest Music folders will be at this table, along with temporary name badges, chapter

brochures and any other information you need to welcome your guest. It is our hope that this and the announcement board will evolve into the information center we need to ensure that all members get the information and materials they need to be good "Joe Barbershoppers."

We will be diligently working with the rest of your Board to make your barbershop experience one that you enjoy. We will also be working to challenge our chapter to reach forward and upward in all we endeavor to do. It is not our wish to just increase "busyness." We all have enough to do to keep ourselves busy. There will be opportunities for you to see just how much the public enjoys our music. We will see that what we do allows us to give back to the community and make the music education experience better for so many kids in our area. Personally, we are hoping that our barbershop experience will improve musically in the coming year. We love the music we make and would love to learn more about how it is made as well as learn to do it at the quartet level. We challenge you to look for the many opportunities that your chapter offers for you to get involved.

Opportunities for you to serve our chapter are numerous. We are not lacking in places where every man can plug in and make an investment of time and effort. We will not list all the "job openings" we have here. There are any numbers of jobs that you can volunteer for that will help to make the Barber-shopping experience enjoyable for all involved. If you are already plugged in somewhere, we would like to thank and laud you for your investment. You are truly the reason our chapter is as great as it is. To those of you that are still looking for a place to serve do not hesitate to ask a Board Member what you can do. Your effort and time will be greatly appreciated as well as rewarding to you.



## Marketing ourselves to our public

By Harvey Kiser, VP for marketing and public relations

Singing Valentines and our Spring Show provide us with an excellent opportunity to market our style of music harmony and mission. Our marketing and public relations will improve with improvement in our singing. Isn't it more fun to sing well in demonstrating our music and communication skills?

We also market ourselves in promoting Singing Valentines and in obtaining ad support in our program booklet for our Spring Show. In doing so, we are challenging ourselves to do our best in communicating a message through song. How we prepare for and respond each Thursday has implications for marketing ourselves to Thursday evening visitors and eventually to our public.

All of this makes it easier for what Steve does in Music and Performance and what Rodney and Bill do in Membership and Chapter Development

Ken works hard in directing, interpreting and listening to our singing. He works extremely hard every Thursday which I believe we can use as an example in working extremely hard to sing as he directs us. I really appreciate the way he brings out the message of the song and how he tunes our chorus to bring out a melodious and meaningful presentation.

As my daughter, who is a music teacher herself says, "You need unity," after the director conveys how the music is to sound and be interpreted. LET'S DO IT!!





## Singing Valentine\$ Update

By Bob Swenson, Singing Valentine\$ chairman



It looks like plans are well under way for another successful **Singing Valentine\$** campaign this year. Quartets have been rehearsing, several have been asking for help, and our pre-meeting gatherings are seeing more guys trying to master the songs. You never can tell if another quartet will form, or some of them may be called upon to step into an already-formed foursome.

**Chuck Marr** has ordered the flowers and will be ready for us at 5:00 on February 11 to assemble the roses. **Harvey Kiser** is planning the advertising which will start in another week or so. **Mike Sexton** has secured the Work Force Center's conference room for us to use a quartet Lounge.

**Don Thomson** is arranging an early morning radio show appearance by one of our quartets as a kick off for the day. **Bart Bartholomew** has the web site ready to accept orders and has our chapter listed at [singing-valentines.com](http://singing-valentines.com). **J. Lester Hooper** is planning the Presenter Schools to be held on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00.

**Helen Cooper**, hostess extraordinaire, has agreed to help out in the quartet lounge, but would like a couple of volunteer ladies to assist. In fact, the only thing we're short of right now is volunteers, but we're sure that our members and their wives/significant others will come through as this project unfolds.

We still need dispatchers, phone answerers at the quartet lounge, runners to get lunch, help with setting up and tearing down the quartet lounge, and substitutes for all the assigned tasks as well as singers ready to fill a quartet spot when the inevitable voice failure occurs. One or two Polaroid Cameras are still needed, so if you can volunteer yours, let us know.

At **Singing Valentine\$** central, the candy and cards have been ordered, the Polaroid film will be secured, the refrigerator cleaned and made ready for the roses, the office will be re-arranged to handle this project, and the help is ready to take the phone orders. The photocopier is ready to make the nearly 1500 copies we require.


The red shirt-pocket flyers are printed and ready for distribution. About half of them were given to our



**Bob Swenson needs YOU to help with the 2005 Singing Valentine\$ program**

members on January 13<sup>th</sup>. There are still more to be given out and the more widely they are distributed, the more successful **Singing Valentine\$** will be.

How can you best help? Well, the easiest and best way is to fill out the blue "availability form" that shows when you can help with this project. If you have a particular skill or want to do a certain job, indicate that on the form. If your plans change, simply fill out a new form, because we keep only the latest one.

And Finally, don't forget the great **Singing Valentine\$** wrap-up party at 7:00 Monday evening, February 14<sup>th</sup> at Valentino's. Bring your guests and treat them to the fine food on the Valentino's buffet line. This party is for the entire chapter, so whether or not you've been able to help out, come and enjoy this evening of fellowship and song as we celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of **Singing Valentine\$** in Manhattan. 



Manhattan, KS  
 Little Apple Barbershop Chorus  
 Bart Bartholomew, Editor  
 3616 Cottonwood Circle  
 Manhattan, Kansas 66503



**Chapter meetings begin at 7:30 p.m.  
 Quartet/polecat practice begins at 7:00 p.m.**

**Calendar of Events:**

January 20; 7:30 p.m.	Regular chapter meeting
January 27; 7:30 p.m.	Regular chapter meeting
February 3; 7:30 p.m.	Regular chapter meeting; <b>Presenter School</b>
February 10; 7:30 p.m.	Regular chapter meeting; <b>Presenter School</b>
February 11; 5:00 p.m.	<b>Assemble Roses</b> at Horticulture Building, KSU Campus
February 13; as requested	<b>Deliver Singing ValentineS</b>
February 14; as requested	<b>Deliver Singing ValentineS</b>
February 14; 7:00 p.m.	<b>Singing ValentineS Party</b> at Valentino's Restaurant
February 17; 7:30 p.m.	Regular chapter meeting
February 24; 7:30 p.m.	Regular chapter meeting

**Deadline for submitting articles for the February InCider Press is February 21**

**District and Society Events**

- January 23-30, Mid-winter International Convention, Jacksonville, Florida
- April 15-17, Spring CSD Convention, St. Joseph, Missouri
- July 3-10, International Convention, Salt Lake City Utah

Quartet pictured in the nameplate of this edition is  
**Manhattan Music Machine in 2004 Show**  
*From left: Don Thomson, tenor; Bob Swenson, lead, Pete Cooper, bass, and Jim Lindquist, baritone*

**Happy Birthday**

- February
- 8 David Darling
- 8 Bill Lewis
- 14 Sam Kvasnica
- 17 Loren Bott
- 18 Frank Bradley
- 24 Leo Dreiling
- 27 Al Roepke

