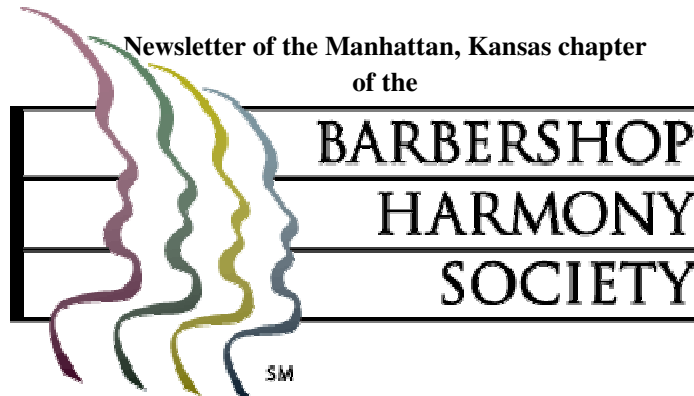


# InCider Press



Volume 30, Number 12

Karen Nanninga, Editor and Publisher

December 2007

## Inside this issue:

- President's message [Page 2](#)
- 2007 to 2008 [Page 3](#)
- BOTM
- Caroling report
- New member Larry Ohlde [Page 4](#)
- Thanks from Ken
- Harmony 101
- Singing Valentines [Page 5](#)
- Activities Report
- Banquet [Page 6](#)
- Harry Harmony
- Karen's Komments [Page 7](#)
- Steve Thompson
- Calendar [Page 8](#)



## Ken Lang is the new Barbershopper of the Year

**Ken Lang** was presented the 2007 Barbershopper of the Year of the Manhattan Chapter of the **Barbershop Harmony Society**. **Bill Hanson**, the 2006 BOTY awardee, presented the award at the chapter's installation dinner on December 13.

The BOTY awardee is voted by the chapter members for a member's outstanding contribution to the preservation and encouragement of Barber Shop Harmony. **Ken** has been a barbershopper member for over 30 years. As chorus director, **Ken** directed the chorus to im-

provement in its singing and performance at the CSD Fall convention. He coached our newest quartet, **Late Night Edition**, in its growth.

**Ken** listened to tapes and critiqued each member's singing the two contest songs that were sung at the Kansas City convention. His critique helped each member. **Ken** continued his teaching the members musical techniques and directing the interpretation and the choreography to communicate a song's message for our Spring Show and community performances throughout the year. Thanks **Ken** for your musical talent in leading and directing the **Little Apple Barbershop Chorus** and chapter quartets. Congratulations! **Harvey Kiser**



Merry Christmas  
and  
Happy New Year

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.....Bob Swenson  
 Membership and  
 Chapter Development VP.....Bill Hanson  
 Music & Performance VP.....Tom Fish  
 Marketing and  
 Public Relations VP.....Harvey Kiser  
 and President Elect  
 Secretary.....Pat Caffey  
 Treasurer.....Bill Bunyan  
 Member at Large.....Don Thomson  
 Member at Large.....Loren Alexander  
 Member at Large .....Chuck Marr  
 Member at Large .....Jim Lindquist  
 Member at Large .....John Thomason

#### 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 Chairmen.....Jim Lindquist and  
 .....Don Thomson  
 Uniforms.....Chuck Marr  
 Bulletin Editor.....Karen Nanninga  
 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*



## And Finally, Brethren

By **Bob Swenson**, President

You may wonder why this title, but I've been "itching" to use it for many years! It was the title of the last sermon the **Reverend Dr. Samuel S. George**, Pastor of Manhattan's First Presbyterian Church, gave as he retired from the active ministry. **Dr. Sam** was the Senior pastor of the Manhattan Ministerial alliance and because of his long service here, had endeared himself to most all of the Manhattan populace. His congregations were always standing-room-only, and he was active and well liked throughout the community.

Now I know I don't hold a candle to the accomplishments of **Dr. Sam**, but I have always remembered that sermon as a summation of what he had tried to convey to his congregation during his many years here. And so as we talk this final time as your chapter president, allow me the opportunity to plant some seeds of advice and wisdom from the perspective of a barbershopper of more than 35 years.

First of all, this is truly a unique and dynamic organization as many of us have experienced. There is room within our Society for you to expand your skills musically, socially, and in community service. Few organizations offer its members the wide range of facilities and services as does the **Barbershop Harmony Society**.

On the music side, we have excellent local music direction via **Ken Lang, Don Thomson, Myron Calhoun** and others who lead sections or provide warm-up exercises. And you just can't find better instruction in our art form than at **Harmony University** as several of our members have witnessed. The opportunity to excel in our craft is there for the taking. You only need to dedicate yourself to being a part of the offerings to increase your skills.

Socially, I'll bet you can name several of the members in this chapter as your friends. I know I consider every barbershopper a friend I know I can trust (with anything but my music!). Some of my closest friends are members of my quartets and this chapter. I am honored and proud that I have developed friends throughout the country because of this organization. Some of these friendships are quite strong, to the point that one Past Society President considers me to be the blood brother he never had!

And in service to our community, what better opportunity is there than to blend our voices in song for our audiences, whether it be at the chapter show, performing for the American Legion Veteran's Day banquet, caroling at area rest homes, or creating smiles through Singing Valentines. We know that our donations to **Harmony Foundation** help keep music programs alive in our local schools, and provide opportunities for students to witness this wonderful art form, with the ultimate goal of spreading the joy of sharing music throughout the world.

And so my final suggestions through this column is to encourage each of you to get involved in whatever segment of this great society that interests you. It may be that you're satisfied with your present participation level, but as **Chef Emeril** says you'll heighten the enjoyment if you "kick it up a notch". In our household, it seems that barbershopping is far more than a club meeting we attend, it has become for us a unique lifestyle. We've been many [Continued on page 3](#)

## 2007 moves on to 2008

By **Harvey Kiser**, 2008 President

What a year the chapter experienced under the leadership of **Bob Swenson**! The installation dinner on December 13 was a night to celebrate and reflect upon an exciting year. The chapter's membership number has grown -- thanks to the leadership of **Bill Hanson**. Significant improvement in the chorus's singing and performances was experienced under the leadership of **Ken Lang** and **Don Thomson**.

Sadly, we lost a couple of friends -- **Ernie Sylvester** and **Mel Emig**, who have joined the Chapter Eternal.

Under the fun-loving and inspiring leadership of **Bob**, the first chapter retreat was held during which the chapter's program was explored and discussed. Also, the chapter experienced the musical input from clinician **Scott Spilker** and direction of **Ken** who the chapter recognized with its 2007 BOTY award.

The retreat followed another successful Singing Valentines program that **Bob** led.

Two clinicians, **Jim Bagby** and **Lance Heilmann**, coached the chapter chorus and the Late Night Edition quartet in their preparation for performing at the CSD convention and contest in Kansas City. The chorus' contest score showed improvement in singing and performance over last year's contest performance. **Late Night Edition**, the chapter's newest quartet, experienced growth and development in its performance at CSD convention and contest. Congratulations everyone!

What will 2008 bring? What are you, each chapter member, anticipating? **Don Fuson**, CSD President, at the installation dinner, challenged all of us, as chapter members and officers, to work and contribute toward a successful year. Let any of the officers or board members know your ideas and thoughts for our chapter in 2008. It takes all of us to move onward and forward for a successful 2008 experience.

To paraphrase a Kansas leader's words spoken in early December:

Goals are passive

Plans are Active

Let's build on our program and let's plan to improve ourselves and our chapter. ♪



**Loren Alexander was presented the Barbershopper of the month award for December by Bob Swenson**

December's BOTM award was an easy choice. As we have defined it, the Barbershopper Of The Month award is given to those who make a difference in our chapter by taking on some special project or exhibiting special enthusiasm for some aspect of our chapter's operation.

In **Loren Alexander's** case, both conditions apply. **Loren** knew the board was wanting to start a new series of "Barbershop 101" sessions to help our newer members get acquainted with this great organization, so he organized and has conducted several sessions where the information interchange can happen. We look forward to several more sessions once the new year gets underway. Thanks, **Loren**, for your foresight, organizational work, and leadership! ♪



[Continued from page 2](#)

places and enjoy the friendship of many great people and friends all over this country and Canada.

Those friends would help us in a moment's notice if we needed it and we would certainly do so in return should they call. There is a special bond created in this brotherhood we call barbershop. I encourage you to enjoy the camaraderie that is available each chapter meeting and develop lasting friendships both locally and throughout our society, where you'll find truly great people.

"And Finally, Brethren - - -" involve yourself in this great society. You'll not go un-rewarded for your participation. ♪



Photo by Janet Kiser



We have pictures of two of the three groups singing at area care homes on December 13. The top photo is at Meadowlark and the bottom photo is at one of the homes at Stoneybrook.

## Christmas Caroling

By **Terry Nanninga**

On December 13 the **Little Apple Chorus members** split into three VLQ's to sing carols at retirement centers in Manhattan. We had members at Meadowlark, Saint Joseph's, and one group sang at both Stoneybrook and Homestead. While it was a cold and icy night, the groups went about bringing cheer to the residents of each place.

Many of the members did not have power at their own residences but carried on a tradition that has been going for a long as I have been a member. Each group had a quartet in their numbers, and the group I was in had **Manhattan Music Machine** sing at Homestead.

Following the caroling we gathered at the American Legion for our installation banquet, and more singing.

Thanks to Bill Hanson for making the arrangements for us. ♪



One of the new members is **Larry Ohlde of Palmer**. He grew up singing beginning in high school and on into junior college. He is semi-retired carpenter. **Kent Erickson** was his sponsor.

## Our chapter's activities are reported

By **Bill Bunyan**

Here is the report Central States District Report of Chapter Activities and Donations to Harmony Foundation:

- Checks written directly from members & quartets- \$950
- Check written from chapter member donations- \$499.50
- Manhattan Area Charities - \$1,053.00  
Total to-date - \$2,502.50

Activities reported:

- Summer Church Performances - 3 Sundays; estimated 20 churches. Most performances were in the Manhattan area but some were in communities to the north of Manhattan - as far north as Axtell, Kansas near the Nebraska border.
- Chorus sang at a funeral
- Performances at four retirement homes (Christmas)
- Veterans Day Performance for the American Legion
- Dedication of the new Fort Riley Military Cemetery (**Late Night Edition**)

Estimated over 3,000 people were reached by our above performances and more than 300 hours were donated by our members in making the above performances.

This report did not include the many performances of our chapter quartets. ♪



## It is time for show schedule again

By **Don Thomson**

Just a quick reminder to the guys (and gals) that we are going to start on "show schedule" in January, and we are going to dress in costume again for the 2008 show. We will outfit in costumes like we saw in the Music Man movie. Lots of plaids and bright colors. More details to come. ♪

## HARMONY 101

By **Loren Alexander**

On February 21, 2008, Barbershop Harmony 101 will begin again. Between now and then our chorus members will concentrate on the generation of a number of quartets for Valentine's Day, preparations for that event, learning our new show songs, and plans for a special retreat. Mark your calendars for 7 p.m. Thursday, February 21 as we once again get together for a half-hour each week to ask and answer questions about anything concerning barbershop harmony. ♪-



## It's Just around the Corner --

By **Bob Swenson**

One of the most fun events of our chapter's year is just around the corner -- \$INGING VALENTINE\$. So it's time to start our preparations.

In general \$inging Valentine\$ this year will be much the same as you've witnessed in the past. There will be announcements at most chapter meetings in January and early February about the program as it develops. As we've seen in the past, most every chapter member can be involved in some way with this program which usually generates enough cash to fund our annual show expenses.

The first thing we need to do is tune up our quartets and get the singing part in order. Once that's on par, then the little red folders will come out and the season has begun. We already know that we'll conclude Valentine's day with a celebration party in place of our regular chapter meeting.

So plan now to start coming at 7:00 on chapter meeting nights if you want to be in a quartet, then reserve the 14th of February for a truly great day and evening of \$inging Valentine\$. You'll be glad you did! ♪



## Thanks to all of you

By **Ken Lang**

A Big thanks goes out to my fellow barbershoppers for the honor you bestowed on me at our Installation Banquet. What a thrill! I'm not sure what earned me this prize when there are so many hard working members in our chapter that work behind the scenes all year to make our chapter successful. If you honor me for the work I did in preparation for the Fall Contest, let me assure you, that is a two way street. Without the effort you all gave, the outcome would not have been as successful or gratifying. I know the audition tape project was scary for most of you, but it was good for me and I hope, good for you. I gained insight about your individual voices which in turn helps me with the chorus rehearsal. I hope that I gave each of you a couple of helpful suggestions and at the same time, a couple of "atta boys". Let's keep growing and learning together so that this next year will be even more enjoyable

Again, thank-you for your support (I know **Dan** didn't vote for me). As those in attendance no doubt saw, it was an emotional event that I will not soon forget ♪.



Central States District President, Don Fuson, installs the 2008 board for the Little Apple Chorus at the banquet December 13.



Alexander Roth, an exchange student from Germany, staying with the Nanninga's accompanied the chorus in Silent Night on his cello. He also played a piece from Bach for our enjoyment.



President Bob Swenson pins new president Harvey Kiser with the president's pin.



Late Night Edition and the Manhattan Music Machine



and Men of A Chord and Alex Roth with his cello all entertained us at the banquet.





**Steve Seals is presented with Barbershopper of the month by our president Bob Swenson, for all his help with props for the contest recently. Steve is also a new member and Rob Ridley is his man on note.**

## Musical information

By **Steve Thompson**

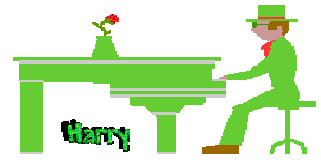
My musical background is that I have been in 2 Country bands and I played the trap set and did some vocals. I also am in the Praise Choir at church with **Bob Ridley**.

I have always been a lover of music and sing at every opportunity. I have always been interested in Barber-shop and love the 4 part harmony. I am retired Army but still work for the Government at Ft. Riley at the Army Benefits Center for Civilians. I have been married to my lovely wife **Kathy** for 25 years, have 2 kids and 8 grand-kids. Apart from work and singing, I love to Ride my motorcycle and go RVing in our wonderful State of Kansas. ♪



Just like this snowman, we have all had our problems with snow and ice this past week. Hope you all have your power back and your can catch up with all you did not get to do last week.

## An Adventure with Harry Harmony



Harry Harmony took his wife and went to the movies the other night. They sat in an aisle seat, and as they usually do, because it feels a little roomier. Just as the feature was about to start, a baby boomer from the center of the row got up and started working her way out.

" Excuse me. Sorry! Oops. Excuse me, pardon me, gotta hurry. Oops! Excuse me."

By the time she got to me, I was trying to look around her and I was a little impatient, so I said, "Couldn't you have done this a little earlier?"

No!" she said in a loud whisper. "The 'Turn Off Your Cell Phone, Please' message just flashed up on the screen and mine is out in the car."♪



## Komments by Karen

Wow, it sure doesn't seem like in a few short days it will be 2008. I have heard you guys make such improvement in your singing this year and enjoyed all of the performances that I have attended this past year. I had the privilege of entertaining you in our home . We wives have started a ladies night and are getting to know each other better. You had a great show in April. 2007 was a good year for you as a chorus I would say. Keep up the good work.

I have enjoyed being your editor and learned a lot when I entered the editors contest. I hope you have noticed that I am doing a better job as I took the suggestions (criticisms) to heart and am working hard on improving your newsletter. One of the things that I was told I needed to include is information from our quartets, I can't do that without your input, and they liked my meet the member articles. I still need more of those. Not all of you have sent me one.

Thank you to all of you who have so faithfully sent me an article. We need to work together for keep this publication going, with me putting it together and your articles. Every one is welcome to send articles and even the wives.♪

Manhattan, Kansas  
Axtell, Kansas 66403  
1379 26th Road  
Karen Nanninga



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

### **Calendar of Events:**

|             |                                 |
|-------------|---------------------------------|
| December 25 | Christmas                       |
| December 27 | Chapter Meeting                 |
| January 1   | Happy New Year                  |
| January 3   | Chapter Meeting                 |
| January 10  | Chapter Meeting<br>Ladies Night |
| January 14  | Board Meeting                   |
| January 17  | Chapter Meeting                 |
| January 24  | Chapter Meeting                 |
| January 31  | Chapter Meeting                 |

**Deadline for submitting articles for the next  
InCider is January 14**

### **Upcoming Events**

**January 20– 27 International Mid-Winter  
Convention in San Antonio TX**

### **Quartet in Name Plate**

**Charades**

**Thanks to the following for contributing articles.-**

**Bob Swenson, Harvey Kiser, Don Thomson, Steve  
Seals, Terry Nanninga, Loren Alexander, Ken Lang  
and Bill Bunyan. Also to Janet Kiser for her photos.**