

We are harmonizing members of the Barbershop Harmony Society



THE INCORPORATED PRESS



Bulletin is published by the Manhattan Kansas Chapter and Chorus

Volume 31, Number 11

Karen Nanninga, Editor and Publisher

December 2008

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A resident of Stoneybrook is enjoying the Christmas carols sung by a VLQ from the Little Apple Chorus

Photo from Naoki Nemoto

Two VLQs (Very Large Quartets) and quartets performed Christmas carols on December 18. One VLQ performed at the Homestead Assisted Living and Stoneybrook Assisted Living facilities.

The other VLQ performed in the Community Room and in the Bramlage and Wrotten Assisted Living facility of the Meadowlark Hills Retirement Community. Residents enjoyed singing the carols with the VLQs. One resident requested that the VLQ come another time of the year. The VLQ members enjoyed performing in festive attire with one member ringing sleigh bells to Jingle Bells. Two quartets that were available (**Late Night Edition** and **Apple Core-Tet**) also enjoyed performing.

**Christmas
Caroling
2008
style**



Another VLQ is serenading residents of Homestead Assisted Living. We aren't sure who enjoyed it more.

Photo from Steph Thomason

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.....Harvey Kiser
- Membership and Chapter Development VPBill Hanson
- Music & Performance VP.....Tom Fish
- Marketing and Public Relations VP..... John Thomason
- Secretary.....Pat Caffey
- Treasurer.....Bob Swenson
- Member at Large.....Don Thomson
- Member at Large.....Loren Alexander
- Member at LargeChuck Marr
- Member at LargeJim Lindquist
- Member at LargeTerry Nanninga
- Member at LargeFred Wachsmuth

Appointments

- SPEBSQSA A-063 Delegate.....Bill Hanson
- Musical Director.....Ken Lang
- Associate Musical DirectorDon Thomson
- Assistant Musical Director.....Myron Calhoun
- Music Chairman.....Bob Ridley
- Service Chairman.....Brian Arthaud-Day
- Show Chairmen.....Jim Lindquist and Don Thomson
- Uniforms.....Chuck Marr
- Bulletin Editor.....Karen Nanninga
- 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



A look at the past and onward to 2009

By **Harvey Kiser** President



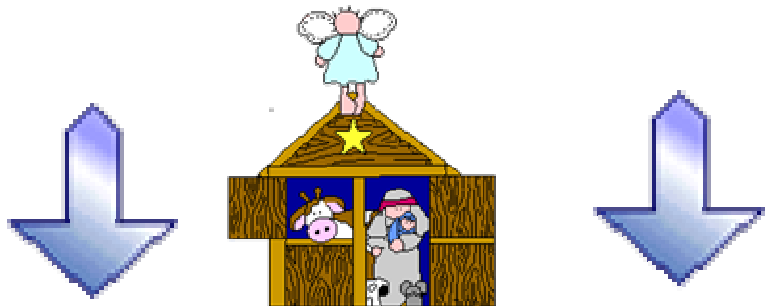
Our chapter accomplished much this year. Congratulations to everyone who contributed their leadership skills and talents to the chapter's successful performances and events in 2008.

The contributions and support of our ladies were important for the retreat, singing valentines, spring show, summer picnic, conventions, the Christmas/Installation dinner and contributions to the publication of an award-winning chapter bulletin. Thank you for encouraging us in our performing arts organization and enjoying it with us.

Performances and events were: chapter retreat, singing valentines, spring show, summer church performances, chapel performance at Ft. Riley; performance with the Manhattan Municipal Band, summer picnic, open houses/guest nights, Veterans Day performance and caroling. Members participated in Central States District programs such as the spring and fall conventions and Leadership Academy and in the Barbershop Harmony Society's International Convention and Harmony University. This participation provided members the opportunity to enjoy quality barbershop singing and performances, improve their craft, and improve their chapter operations.

These experiences have changed us. Change is inevitable, and if change inside the chapter is greater than the change outside of it, the chapter can grow and make progress.

Each chapter member is invited to discuss his ideas for our 2009 chapter program with any of the officers or board members. This is YOUR chapter. What are your ideas about performances, quartetting, singing tags, and woodshedding, about membership development and growth, chapter development and chapter marketing, and about reaching out to our communities? Let's create the chapter's future where we will see growth and progress`



Monday, December 29 - Last Thursday night the chorus members decided to meet on the 29th given that we will not be meeting on Thursday, January 1. We will commence our singing at 7:30 p.m.



Pictured here are Terry Nanninga, Karen Nanninga, Julien Beuve-Mery, Harvey Kiser and Loren Alexander at the Leadership Academy in Sioux Falls, South Dakota

In November, many chapter members attended CSD's Leadership Academies. In Lawrence, Kansas those who attended from our chorus were **Bill Hanson**, president class; **John Thomason**, marketing and public relations class; **Dave Fink**, Joe Barbershopper class.

In Sioux Falls, South Dakota those who attended were **Loren Alexander**, music and performance class; **Terry Nanninga**, Joe Barbershopper; **Karen Nanninga** (chapter bulletin editor), Joe Barbershopper; and **Julien Beuve-Mery** of Brussels, Belgium (an ERDT [Educational Resource Developmental Trust/Share exchange student with the Nanningas), Joe Barbershopper. **Harvey Kiser** facilitated the Marketing and Public Relations class at both locations ♪ **Harvey Kiser**



Loren Alexander gives directing a try with Jim Bagby looking on at Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

December actions of the board

By **Pat Caffey**, Secretary

Although no official action could be taken due to lack of a quorum, the chapter board met on Monday, December, 8th, at Westbank Townhomes Clubhouse.

Treasurer Bob Swenson submitted his report in absentia. He reported that last month the chapter sent \$2000 to Harmony Foundation. In addition another \$1167 was sent from contributions made by chapter members and quartets. That sum included \$425 contributed by the Charades and \$200 from Manhattan Music Machine.

Don Thomson reported that the plan is to begin show schedule in January. On show schedule we will meet at 7:30 as usual, but we will continue until 10:00 p.m. We will remain on show schedule until show time. Don suggested that each chapter member obtain a recording device to record the show songs for his own learning tape (or CD).

There was a discussion about doing some mini concerts such as a performance at the Junction City Opera House.

Board Meetings are open to any chapter member who wants to attend--not just board members. They are generally held at 7:30 p.m. on the second Monday of the month at the club house at Westbank Townhomes. The next meeting is set for January 12th. ♪

P.S. Please note that several of you are due to renew your membership by December 31st.

If you have e-mail service you should have received a reminder from me.

Seasons advice and greeting from your directors

By **Don Thomson** Associate Director

Well, this is the time of year when we can let ourselves run down and even get ill. We, of course, need to take care of our bodies, but also to remember that our voice is part of the body...and a very important part of the body if you like to sing!

So this is just a quick reminder to get plenty of rest (amidst all of the holiday activity), drink lots of water (keep you vocal chords lubricated), wash your hands (keep those germs out of your system), and sing often (keeps your spirits high). **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year** from your directors! ♪

Ken, Don and Myron



Men of a Chord in performance mode.

Pictured from the left are John Desper, Ken Lyle, Tom Miles and Steve Fisher

Photo from Ken Lyle

The history of Men of a Chord

By **Ken Lyle** Lead

Men of a Chord came into existence during the Holiday season of 2003. Our first public performance was Singing Valentines of the following year. Quartet members are: **John Desper**, tenor; **Steve Fisher**, bari; **Ken Lyle**, lead and **Tom Miles**, bass. We have been a registered quartet with the **Barbershop Harmony Society** since 2004. Our quartet is usually well-represented at all of the functions and performances of the **Little Apple Chorus**. Our rehearsals are held in the sanctuary of St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

We participated in the Singing Valentine's performances but called upon **Brian Swenson** to fill the bari slot for one afternoon when **Steve Fisher** was fighting a cold. Thanks, **Brian!** **John Desper** taught a class on Thursday evenings during the Spring semester and was unavailable to participate in our quartet's activities in the Spring Show. We were fortunate to have **Stewart Gardner** do a great job singing tenor. John rejoined us at the afterglow as **Men of a Chord** sang a couple songs. Another special event for 2008 was **John Desper's** wedding on August 2nd (OK, not a musical event, but still pretty impressive).

Recent performances of **Moac** include: singing at a birthday party for a gentleman celebrating his 90th who requested we sing "The Daring Young Man on the Flying Trapeze". We didn't honor his request and substituted a couple Polecats songs instead; a performance at the KSU Union for some retired extension folks (**John** and **Pat Schlender** were in the audience); at the train depot for a seniors' Christmas party sponsored by the city of Manhattan; and a 7 a.m. performance for the Manhattan Breakfast Optimist Club (you gotta be an optimist to get up that early); and a couple

other performances of Christmas music.

Men of a Chord looks forward another year with **Little Apple Chorus** and to whatever quartet activities may materialize. We hope to be able to attend Harmony University, but so far have been unable to work around scheduling conflicts. Maybe this is the year. ♪



It's the season to be ...

-- John Thomason

Jolly, Happy, Glad, Thankful, Joyous: Pick one or choose one that fits your particular mood this time of year! I feel all of these, and then some.

What a GREAT Season of the year! Family and Friends are in my thoughts and prayers especially during the Christmas Season. So are all my special Friends in the **Little Apple Chorus**. I enjoyed our evening of Caroling and the dinner afterwards. Even the installation of officers can be a cause for celebration. From our Home to Yours, **Stephanie** and I wish you and yours the Best of the Season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. ♪



Komments
from
Karen

Where did 2008 go to? Sure went fast it seems.

In November, we wanted to take **Julien**, our exchange student, on a short trip. We decided to go to Learning Academy in Sioux falls, where they were going to have an editors class. Well I signed up for it but I was the only one so they did not have it. Instead we went to Joe Barbershopper lead by **Gary Drown**. That man knows his stuff. We all enjoyed it. **Julien** went also.

And now it is time for the new officers to take over. Although there are not too many new ones, so the leadership of your chapter will continue to be good. Hats off to your board for the great job that they do.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



Late Night Edition belting one out. From the left are Brian Swenson, Brian Arthaud-Day, Tom Fish and Travis Troyer.

Photo by **John Thomason**

Late Night Edition notes

by **Travis Troyer**

Since the end of October and competition, Late Night Edition hasn't been too active. We have enjoyed getting together and singing on Thursday nights and we run through the music we have worked on. We had one performance for Youth for Christ on a Thursday night. The performance went well and we were well received. We have also worked on a few Christmas songs but our performance fell through.

Our goals now are to prepare contest pieces, expand our repertoire and continue to get a better cohesiveness in our sound 🎵



It's a romantic full moon, when Pedro said, "Hey, mamacita, let's do Weeweechu." "Oh no, not now, let's look at the moon!" said Rosita.

"Oh, c'mon baby, let's you and I do Weeweechu. I love you and it's the perfect time," Pedro begged. "But I wanna just hold your hand and watch the moon." replied Rosita. Please, corazoncito, just once, do Weeweechu with me."

Rosita looked at Pedro and said, "OK, one time, we'll do Weeweechu." Pedro grabbed his guitar and they both sang

"Weeweechu a Merry Christmas, Weeweechu a Merry Christmas, Weeweechu a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year."

Vests and Why We Wear Them (And Why We Don't Button the Bottom Button)

By **Chuck Marr**



We have utilized a vest under our tuxedo coats or as a decorative feature of it's own in our Little Apple Chorus. It is easy (and cheaper) to create a colorful, change of appearance with a vest while keeping the traditional black and white of the tux and shirt. You may (or may not) be interested in a brief history of the vest.

The vest came to be on October 7, 1666. This date was dutifully recorded by a secretary to **Charles II** of England that first wore a black vest with a white satin lining under his coat. It is thought that the vest was adapted, shortened and styled from longer military coats of the time. Immediately, everyone started to emulate the king and wore vests. Most people think that **Charles** objective was to ridicule the ostentations clothing of the French aristocracy of the time by creating a simple English sensible appearance. For a time, black vests were the style but in Victorian times vests began be created in various decorative fabrics and became part of the English style 'suit' for hundreds of years-either in matching fabrics or contrasting fabrics to the coat and pants. Up until 1750 or so vests had sleeves but then they started to be made sleeveless. About the time of WWII, vests began to decline in popularity thought to be due to central heating and the increasing popularity of the sweater for warmth. They remain today usually as a brightly colored emphasis in formal attire.

It is tradition that the bottom button of the vest is never buttoned! **King Edward VII** (also known as '**Bertie**'), the son of **Queen Victoria**, was so fat that he couldn't stretch his vest to button the bottom button. Of course, no one wanted to make the King feel awkward so everyone started leaving the unbuttoned bottom button and the tradition still remains today.

Merry
Christmas





Bill Hanson recently received the Barbershopper of the Month award. Here President Harvey Kiser presents Bill his certificate.

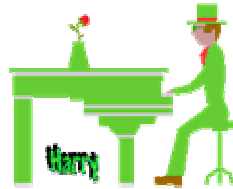
Barbershopper of the Month is Bill Hanson

By **Harvey Kiser** President

Bill continues to demonstrate his passion for barbershopping and for the Manhattan, Kansas barbershop chapter. He faithfully fulfills his weekly responsibilities as chapter vice president of membership and chapter development, sings in his quartet (the Apple Core-Tet), provides encouragement and support to quartets, and plans and carries out special events as well. One of these events was organizing the fall guest night. This involved asking chapter members for names of persons to invite, coordinating the mailing of invitations, and coordinating the evening activities and the refreshments that were provided by our ladies group.

Perhaps his most satisfying accomplishment this fall was working out the details for the chapter members to participate in the CSD Fall convention contest Mic Testing Chorus in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The Mic Testing Chorus, "CSD All-Stars," was directed by Jim Bagby, director emeritus of the Heart of America Chorus. Bill coordinated and arranged transportation for chapter members and coordinated the rehearsal arrangements with the director. Thirteen of the 22 members in the chorus were from our Chapter.

We thank you, Bill, for your leadership and for being an important contributor to our Chapter's life and suc-



An Adventure with Harry Harmony

The generation gap proved glaringly obvious at the mail-order music company where Harry's wife works as a customer service representative.

Some college students, who were working part-time inputting customer information, wrote the following notes regarding some golden oldies: "Customer is looking for two song titles: 'Shovel Off Two Buffaloes' and 'Honey, Suck a Rose,'



Our new BOTY, Pat Caffey accepts the award from last year's winner, Ken Lang.

2008 Barbershopper of the Year is Pat Caffey

By **Harvey Kiser**

Ken Lang, the chapter's 2007 BOTY awardee, presented **Pat Caffey** the 2008 BOTY award. Chapter members voted **Pat** to receive this honor. **Ken** said that **Pat** is there every year for the chapter designing and producing scenery sets and props for the annual spring show. The directors indicate what is wanted and **Pat** produces an excellent product. **Pat** has held numerous chapter officers over the years, such as president, publicity and treasurer. Currently, he serves as chapter secretary.

Congratulations Pat

Hear Ye, Hear Ye



Installing Judge, Bob Swenson, presented the officers, board members and directors to chapter members who served as jurors. He charged, in a humorous and appropriate way, each one with their responsibilities. He asked the jury of members if those being

charged were guilty or innocent. He then charged the 'gang' of officers, board members and directors to fulfill their assigned duties in 2009.

Photo by Steph Thomason



A joint practice in preparation for the April show was held recently.

Photo by Bart Bartholomew

The **Little Apple Chorus** of Manhattan Barbershop Chapter and the Wamego **Dutch Mill Sweet Adeline Chorus** enjoyed rehearsing three songs at the Wamego High School. These songs will be performed jointly next April 11 for the Manhattan Chapter's spring show in McCain Auditorium on K-State University campus. Directors **Kathy Cornish** and **Ken Lang** led the rehearsal comparing notes in preparation for the joint April performance. ♪



The Little Apple Core-Tet enjoyed singing Christmas Carols at Stoneybrook. Left to right are Myron Calhoun, Bill Hanson, Leonard Purvis and Bob Ridley.

Photo by Steph Thomason

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 29	Chapter meeting
Notice day change	
January 8	Chapter meeting <u>InCider Articles due</u>
January 12	Board meeting
January 15	Chapter meeting Ladies night
January 22	Chapter meeting
January 29	Chapter meeting
February 5	Chapter meeting

**Deadline for submitting articles for the next
 InCider is January 8**

Upcoming Events

**Jan.25 – Feb. 1 BHS Midwinter Convention,
 Pasadena, CA**

Thanks to the following for contributing articles–

**Harvey Kiser, Don Thomson,
 John Thomason Pat Caffey and Chuck
 Marr**