

Our first time at Mid-Winter Convention

By **Marilyn Bunyan**

This was the 1st Mid-Winter for **Bill** and me. It was held in San Antonio, TX; pleasant, warm and comfortable. NOT! The time until Saturday that we were there it rained and was chilly.

We stayed with cousins and they did the driving. They also bought individual tickets for the four events - the senior contest; Youth chorus contest and two shows. This was their 1st Barbershop experience and enjoyed it - especially the shows. One Youth chorus was from New Zealand.

It was announced that this was the 2nd largest mid-winter for attendance. I believe it was around 1300. **Eureka** was the top Senior Quartet. The oldest performing senior in a quartet was 79. Also the dads of three from **Storm Front**, International 3rd place, were in a senior quartet.

All of the top five quartets from International were there for the shows. The **Jurassic Larks** performed for their 10th year anniversary. I first heard them at a district event the year they became senior champs. They have been my favorite senior quartet ever since. This is a small, intimate convention/contest; much different than International.

It does give you a sense of the larger picture of Barbershop. We liked it



More preparation for singing valentines is a presenters class by J Lester Hopper. Pictured here are J Lester, Terry Smith, Brian Swenson Gary Mott, Terry Nanninga, Gene Klinger, Bill Bunyan and Harvey Kiser.



Helping prepare roses for the Singing Valentines are : **Joyce Mott, Bill Bunyan, Fred Wachsmuth, David Darling, J. Lester Hooper, Kent Kimmins, Gary Mott, Chuck Marr, Loren Alexander, Donn Leach, Frank Carpenter, Gene Wiley, Chaz Martin and Joan Thomson.**

Photo by Harvey Kiser



Working hard putting the chocolate kisses into bags but totally enjoying themselves is the group of ladies that gather monthly. They are starting at the left Helen Cooper, Marilyn Bunyan, Telva Swenson, Carol Hanson, Carolyn Dreiling, Connie Lee, Cindy Lang, Cindy Garwick, Joyce Mott, Janet Kiser, Kathy Thompson, Sharon Purvis, Phyllis Wiley, Pat Schlander and taking the picture Karen Nanninga



Harmony 101

By **Loren Alexander** Board Member

Thursday, February 21, 7 p.m. we will have Session #4 of Harmony 101 in the parlor. All may attend, ask questions, give answers, discuss any issue. If we find it difficult to answer a query, we'll get an answer somewhere to bring to a following session.

Notes on previous sessions:

Session #1 10-25-07 & Session #2 11-1-07

Taking Pitch: Someone blows (plays) the key note (tonic note) ("Do" of do-re-mi-fa-sol-la-ti-Do...) (in Key of C: "C"); all sing this note; Bass drops to an octave lower (same note pitched 8 steps lower) (do-ti-la-sol-fa-mi-re-DO) (c-b-a-g-f-e-d-C); Baritone drops down a fourth (fourth note down the scale from the lead ("Sol") (c-b-a-G), or up from the bass to the fifth ("Sol") (c-d-e-f-G); Tenor goes up a third (do-re-MI) (c-d-E). We end up singing a full, rich chord. The note you sing here may or may not come out as your beginning note in the song. It establishes the tonal basis for the beginning of the song. This chord (C-G-C-E) constitutes a "major" chord. Some songs are composed in a "minor" key....and that means we need a change in the chord. More later...

Vibrato: "A measured waver in the tone." "Normally banned in barbershop," i.e. sing a steady tone and pitch. If you find a vibrato in your voice, generate a firmer, steadier breath support. Record and listen to yourself! It shocked me, when I heard myself doing this. (I usually find that **Ken's** admonitions to do something better usually refer to me, too!) In a quartet some vibrato, especially in the Lead, can enhance the sound. Poor posture can contribute to a lousy tone, including a poor vibrato.

Here you can find **Jim Debusman's** article "Vibrato is an important part Sound"(URL:www.barbershop.org/web/groups/public/documents/pages/pub-id-06337.hcsp) NOTE: This article appears to focus on quartet singing.

Session #3 11-15-07

Harmony Foundation: Leonard Purvis served as a representative of Harmony Foundation for our **Little Apple** Chapter for years; **Brian Arthaud-Day** became our new representative recently. **Leonard** and **Brian** attended this session to help us understand how Harmony Foundation works and to give us some history of

our efforts along the line of service. My notes follow : Harmony Foundation (HF) is a charitable wing of Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS). HF collects money to help propagate barbershop harmony singing. HF scholarships go to youth for Youth In Harmony events. HF has an endowment that continues to grow. Our Chapter has run a successful Youth In Harmony event for area youth. Several local music teachers assisted.

Some years ago, our Chapter got seriously involved in supporting a start-up effort in Wichita, the Institute of Logopedics, which was struggling financially. Our members generated a lot of funds, interacted closely with the Wichita organization, and welcomed children who had experienced successful treatments to attend our shows as visitors and once as performers. This organization grew greatly after legislation that required local school boards to gain treatment for children, which resulted in much more funding. The name then changed to Heartstrings and operates today.

These days we can get involved in Harmony Explosion Camps that last one day or a weekend for about 100-200 junior high and senior high youth. As someone noted, the Harmonizer reports on HF activities each issue. We thank **Leonard** for his past work, and for his overview of the history of our Chapter with HF. We also thank **Brian** for taking on this position and look forward to more insights into this important effort and for possible involvement by all of us financially and by some of us directly.♪

Actions of the board

By **Pat Caffey** Secretary

At the board meeting February 11th the board set the date of April 11th for our 2009 annual show. Between CSD Convention and the McCain Auditorium schedule there were few alternatives. Unfortunately that show will be the Saturday before Easter.

In other action the board decided that we will sing for Sunday services at chapels on Fort Riley on either March 30, April 6th or April 13th, this year. We will poll the members and consult the director to decide which Sunday to choose.

Prices were set for the 2008 afterglow tickets as follows:

Admission without meal \$5.00

Admission with meal \$15.00.

The board approved the purchase of seventy purple vests at \$48.50 each. Members will be asked to repay the chapter \$30 of the cost.

It was decided that we will provide one free ticket for each show for each child in the Bergman Elementary School Choir who will sing on our show this year, so one parent can attend to supervise them.

Costume information

By **Don Thomson** Associate Director

Most of you know now what your costume will be for the show. If you do not, you can see the LAC Lady who is overseeing your section for costume selection. They are:

Basses: **Helen Cooper** and **Pat Schlender**

Baritones: **Carolyn Dreiling**

Leads: **Telva Swenson** and **Karen Nanninga**

Tenors and Quartets: **Joan Thomson**

I would like to thank these ladies for volunteering to oversee the costume selection process. You may see them at rehearsal from time to time, if not, you might want to give them a call and find out what you are expected to wear on the show. We will plan to have a "costume or dress rehearsal" on March 27th. Please mark that date on your calendar! This should give you plenty of time to locate and acquire your costume.

As you can probably tell, our rehearsals are going at a little faster pace now. **Ken** is doing a lot of teaching, and most of what he does is AFTER the notes and words are learned. If you are absent from a rehearsal, you are really going to miss a lot of instruction. Also, if a member is absent, it requires **Ken** to "reteach" the lesson, and quite possibly for that one member who was absent. We understand that absences are going to occur from time to time, but we ask that you make Thursday evening rehearsals a priority on your schedules between now and April 26th! We have 60 guys who have committed to singing on the show! That's Great!...but our attendance is really essential to preparing and presenting a good show.

We now have a week break. I think this is a good time for the break. We now have almost all of the songs learned, and when we come back from the Valentine break, we can start with a new sense of purpose. Hope to see you on the 21st!♪



My apology to Bob Swenson for accidentally leaving his name off as having contributed an article. Editor

It wouldn't be funny if it wasn't so true

From an e-mail

Julie Andrews turned 69 - To commemorate her 69th birthday on October 1, actress/vocalist Julie Andrews made a special appearance at Manhattan's Radio City Music Hall for the benefit of the AARP. One of the musical numbers she performed was "My Favorite Things" from the legendary movie "Sound Of Music."

Here are the actual lyrics she used:
Sing along and enjoy

Maalox and nose drops and needles for knitting,
Walkers and handrails and new dental fittings,
Bundles of magazines tied up in string,
These are a few of my favorite things.?

Cadillacs and cataracts, and hearing aids and glasses,
Polident and Fixodent and false teeth in glasses,
Pacemakers, golf carts and porches with swings,
These are a few of my favorite things.

When the pipes leak, When the bones creak,
When the knees go bad,
I simply remember my favorite things,
And then I don't feel so bad.

Hot tea and crumpets and corn pads for bunions,
No spicy hot food or food cooked with onions,
Bathrobes and heating pads
and hot meals they bring,
These are a few of my favorite things.

Back pains, confused brains, and no need for sinnin',
Thin bones and fractures and hair that is thinnin',
And we won't mention our short shrunken frames,
When we remember our favorite things.

When the joints ache,
When the hips break,
When the eyes grow dim,
Then I remember the great life I've had,
And then I don't feel so bad.

Ms. Andrews received a standing ovation from the crowd that lasted over four minutes and repeated encores



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Karen Nanninga

Manhattan, Kansas

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

Calendar of Events:

Singing Valentines	February 14
Chapter Retreat	February 16
Chapter Meeting	February 21
Chapter Meeting	February 28
Chapter Meeting	March 6
Chapter Meeting	March 13
Ladies Night	
Chapter Meeting	March 20

Upcoming Events

Chapter Retreat February 19

Spring Show April 26

**Deadline for submitting articles for the next
InCider is March 10**

Thanks to the following for contributing articles—

Marilyn Bunyan, Harvey Kiser, Terry Nanninga, Pat Caffey, Don Thomson, Loren Alexander and Steve Fisher