

We are harmonizing members of the Barbershop Harmony Society



# THE IN CIDER PRESS



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Karen Nanninga, Editor and Publisher

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## Little Apple Chorus performs for the Veterans



**The Little Apple Barbershop Chorus performed a set of patriotic songs to a full house at the American Legion dinner and program honoring Veterans Day. In this photo, the chorus had finished singing "TAPS." Some of the chorus members are kneeling around the memorial honoring a fallen soldier. The kneeling members, *Tom Fish, Don Thomson, Pat Caffey, Bart Bartholomew and John Thomason*, have just completed building the fallen soldier display. The chorus members are bowing their heads after the song in respect of those who sacrificed their lives for their country.** Photos by Joan Thomson

The chorus is singing 'America the Beautiful' as background music as **Bart Bartholomew** reads a poem that personified the Flag telling the story of what it has experienced.



### Thank you Veterans

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 VP .....Bill 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 Large .....Chuck Marr
- Member at Large .....Jim Lindquist
- Member at Large .....Terry Nanninga
- Member at Large .....Fred Wachsmuth

**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.....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*

# Everyone's contributions are appreciated

By **Harvey Kiser** President

Many persons contributed to the Fall Open House/Guest Night. Many persons are to be thanked for their contributions.

**Bill Hanson** organized the event. He saw to it that letters of invitation were sent, the name tags were prepared and the meeting rooms were ready. **Chuck Marr** prepared and sent the invitation letters and printed the name tags. Many members were part of the registration and welcome team.

**Don Thomson** organized and coordinated with others the agenda. **Ken Lang** directed the singing of a variety of songs for us to enjoy. The **Late Night Edition** and the **Manhattan Music Machine** shared their special talent of singing that barbershop quartet sound.

**Carol Hanson** coordinated the refreshment time. Our **ladies** prepared and presented an attractive table of refreshments and desserts.

This newsletter will be available after the performance celebrating **Veterans Day** before the **American Legion**. The contributions of chapter members allowed us to celebrate our country and recognize our country's **Veterans**. It is special to be a part of this chapter whose members who work as a **TEAM** in all of these events.

During the month of December we have a special night and a change in our chapter chorus rehearsals nights

The traditional night of singing *Christmas Carols* at retirement centers and participating in the *Christmas/Installation dinner* is **December 18** at the American Legion Hall. All family members are invited to participate in these events. **Leonard Kinzie**, who is the chapter counselor from Topeka, will be the installation officer.

There will be some alternative chapter meeting and rehearsal nights in December at the usual hours of 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. The alternate evenings are on **Mondays, December 15 and 22**. These rehearsals are needed because several will be missed --- Nov. 27 and Dec. 18 and 25. ♪



**Notice**

**Important December dates**

**Alternative dates for Chapter meetings**  
**Mondays, December 15 and 22.**

**Caroling, Installation of Officers and Christmas banquet**  
**December 18**  
**Mark your calendar**



## Meet Member Cam Beatty

I was born and raised in a small farm town in central Michigan, just down the road from Michigan State University, where I got my BA in English and (eventually) my MA in Linguistics. **Jean**, my wife of 44 years now, married me between undergrad and grad school and has helped support me ever since.

My career as a teacher of English as a second language (ESL) led us to live in a lot of interesting places. We spent a lot of years as expats, living first in Taiwan for a year and a half, then in American Samoa for three and a half years before more or less settling down at the University of Toronto for seven years or so. Our first son was born in Samoa, and our second was born in Canada.

After Toronto, we went to Beijing, China for a year and then came back to settle in central Utah for the next 25 years, with a one-year sabbatical in Japan at about the half-way point. In most of those places, Jean practiced her profession as an elementary/special ed teacher in international schools. I've also done some short-term solo volunteer ESL gigs on the Thai-Burma border, in India, and in Hungary. As you might guess, both **Jean** and I love travel.

My first experience of barbershop was via the **Buffalo Bills** in Music Man. (I just realized how long ago that was!) I didn't know any barbershoppers and had no formal knowledge of music, though I loved to sing, and never got a chance to sing with other barbershoppers until late in our Canadian sojourn, when I was invited to sing with the **Dukes of Harmony**. Unfortunately, I was only with them a few months before we went to live in China. So, bottom line, this is my first experience with organized barbershop singing.

**Jean** and I moved to Manhattan in December of last year because we wanted to be closer to our son, a career soldier at Ft. Riley and a permanent resident at Milford, and because we wanted to move to a larger town than the village we lived in in Utah. The move was a great one on both counts. We get to see our three grandkids a lot more frequently than we ever did before, and Manhattan has almost everything we were looking for in a place to retire.

One of the first things I did after we got settled at Meadowlark Hills was look into barbershopping opportunities in the Little Apple. We went to the spring show and I signed up with the chorus immediately afterwards. Haven't been sorry. The music is as great as I remember it being, and the friendship and fellowship have been beyond my expectations. I'm having a wonderful time with the chorus, and I'll be here for as long as my voice holds out. Who knows – maybe I'll even finally learn how to read music! ♪



## Barbershop 101 Volume and parts

By **Loren Alexander Bari**

In Barbershop Harmony 101 on November 20, from 7:00 p.m. – 7:25, prior to our Thursday rehearsal, we will discuss the relationships between parts with respect to volume of loudness. **John Trail** brought this up during a quartet rehearsal session, explaining how one part should have louder/softer volume (loudness) in relation to another part. I recall this discussion in presentations at Harmony University a couple years ago, and have never followed up on it in order to understand it better and have it become a part of my singing.

**Ken Lang** explains volume relationship when we baritones should sing louder or softer in relation to the other parts, most often in relation to bass and lead singers. It made sense at the moment, but I find myself too concerned, usually, with learning words and notes to deal with volume in part relationships as a general skill. With **John's** help during that quartet session, it becomes something of prime importance for me.

Four of us may generate a Valentine's Day quartet; the motivation to get my act together increases dramatically. Here you have some possible questions for the BH101 group (anyone who shows up) to discuss:

1. When does good harmony require that any one part should sing louder than which other part?
2. When should any one part sing softer than which other part?
3. How much louder or softer (increased or decreased volume) should we sing?
4. Why do these situations need the changes of volume?
5. What happens when we have a chorus with more or fewer guys on a part?
6. How much do changes in throat, tongue, lips, head, chest, etc. play a role in volume (note from this older voice – ugly vibrato due to lack of breath support)?
7. Etc. (Any one of these items could occupy us for some time)

A big word of thanks to our directors, who patiently (and sometimes, impatiently, of course) attend to these finer points of singing, i.e. something beyond getting the notes and words correct and memorized. See you the 20<sup>th</sup>.♪



## A discovery

By **John Thomason**  
Marketing and Public Relations VP

My campaign last month concluded with another successful election. I have retained my seat! If you'll recall, from last month, I said that I am constantly conducting my campaign and it is still in progress. The "trail" was a long one and even with all the hard work and success I still haven't reached my goal completely.

Something I have discovered along the way is very exciting and I must share it with you! This "discovery" is very easy to take advantage of and I guarantee you will like it.

Do you work hard and come home tired? Are you retired but still have a busy daily schedule such as volunteering, part-time job, visiting friends/family/shut-ins, traveling or playing golf? Would you like to meet people and enjoy their good company? Do you have multiple talents which you would like to share with or show off to others? If you can answer "Yes" to any or all of these questions then you need to participate in my "exciting discovery"!

You too can relieve stress and revitalize your attitude! You can meet new friends and rediscover old ones! You can get some light exercise and relieve some aches and pains! You can have a good excuse to get out of the house or you may even take your spouse/significant other with you!

Now is the time to share my "Discovery" with you and invite you to join me every Thursday evening at 630 Poyntz Ave. in Manhattan, Kansas, USA for another enjoyable meeting of the **Little Apple Chorus**. The Fun starts around 7 pm and the Harmony commences at 7:30! Get out and cast your "VOTE" for the **Little Apple Chorus** each and every Thursday evening! Thanks for your support! ♪



**Preston Chapel showed up just in time at Guest Night to have the chorus sing Happy Birthday to him.**

## Small details do matter

By **Loren Alexander**



Okay, so it's just a little detail. Last night after we sang "Taps" during rehearsal, **Gary Drake** took only 10 seconds to explain that our guys needed to get together on how each handle their moment before the deceased soldier's personal items after they place an item on the memorial. A couple guys stood silently in reverence before stepping back to position again; the other two stepped back immediately.

What a tiny bit of difference 2-to-3 seconds make! But what a powerful impact those seconds of silent, motionless respect for the soldier's ultimate sacrifice for all of us will have on an audience! I hadn't noticed it, perhaps because I had to continue singing, which requires my attention on the director.

The audience will react to that bit of difference, whether consciously or sub-consciously. I think they will. And they probably couldn't tell you why in detail, but they tell us often that our work has professional quality. **Gary's** bit of concern for the detail of staging can help the chorus to gain respect and deeper attention from the audience.

However much **Ken** and we work to get the song sung well, a staging matter -- singers' actions, use of props, etc. can influence the audience's gut reaction to our performance, positively or negatively. All of us enhance the music when we attend to small details. ♪

## Maybe Mensa is not what is cracked up to be

Mensa is an organization whose members have an IQ of 140 or higher. A few years ago, there was a Mensa convention in San Francisco and several members lunched at a local cafe.

While dining, they discovered that their salt shaker contained pepper and their pepper shaker was full of salt. How could they swap the contents of the bottles without spilling anything and using only the implements at hand? Clearly, this was a job for Mensa! The group debated and presented ideas and finally came up with a brilliant solution involving a napkin, a straw and an empty saucer. They called the waitress over to dazzle her with their solution.

" Ma'am," they said, "we couldn't help but notice that the pepper shaker contains salt and the salt shaker..."

" Oh," the waitress interrupted. "Sorry about that." She unscrewed the caps of both bottles and switched them.

## Actions of the board

By **Pat Caffey** Secretary

The Chapter Board met on Monday night November 10th at Westbank Townhomes Clubhouse. President **Harvey Kiser** announced that the Spring Convention will be held April 24-26 in Springfield, Missouri.

**John Thomason**, our Vice-President for Marketing and Public Relations, will look into a new design for the Valentines Day cards to be given out with our singing valentines. That is being done despite the fact that the old cards are attractive, because we have so many repeat customers that it would be nice to give them variety. He said the plan is to have quartets deliver singing valentines on Friday, February 13th between 8am and 8pm and again on Saturday the 14th between 9am and 7pm.

**Don Thomson** plans to break the chorus into groups again for Christmas Caroling. He will attempt to assign an established quartet with each group.

Beginning in January 2009 the Society's youth membership fee (up to 25 years of age) will be that regular society dues are waived and the new member pays only a \$10 initiation fee. Thereafter the society's dues for youth members will be half. The Central States District fee will be waived for the first year for youth members (and half thereafter.) Our chapter has, for several years charged half fee for young members. That has not changed. The board plans to review that policy as well as our uniform policy in the future.

The board voted to donate \$2000 to Harmony Foundation from the chapter treasury as a supplement to donations totaling about \$1000 in donations from chapter members. Harmony Foundation funds various programs dealing with music education and promotion of musical harmony. Our chapter has received grants from the foundation to support projects.♪



**Charles Hower, our lone guest, is a Freshman in Music Education-Band. His is from Overland Park, Kansas  
Glad to have you Charles.**



**Attending Learning Academy in Lawrence KS on Nov. 15 were Bill Hanson, Harvey Kiser, John Thomason and David Fink. They reported having a good day of learning and fellowship. Photo from Harvey Kiser**

## Joe Barbershopper

By **David Fink**

The day started off going to Lawrence with **Bill Hanson** and **John Thomason** who had attended before. Yes, you can go every year and learn something new. We registered and went to a large classroom where we were given a song to sing as a group. (What a surprise!)

After some directions and singing we went to our respective classes. Mine was called "Joe Barbershop" and was taught by **Gary Drown**. Some of you may remember he was one of the MC's at the convention in Kansas City last year. He taught us history, showed us how our hobby has developed through the years and showed us examples of award winning quartets.

We also learned tags, warm-ups, exercises for the voice and vowel matching, and learned about Woodshedding We heard about all the services available to our chapter from the society and our part in the "big picture". He also talked about judging systems at contests. We learned what is critical to our society today, which is membership and improved performance.

They fed us well and we had a great time! Where is the downside of that? Remember that leadership has so many levels and you are at one of those levels at this academy. I encourage you to go as soon as you can and take Joe Barbershop.♪



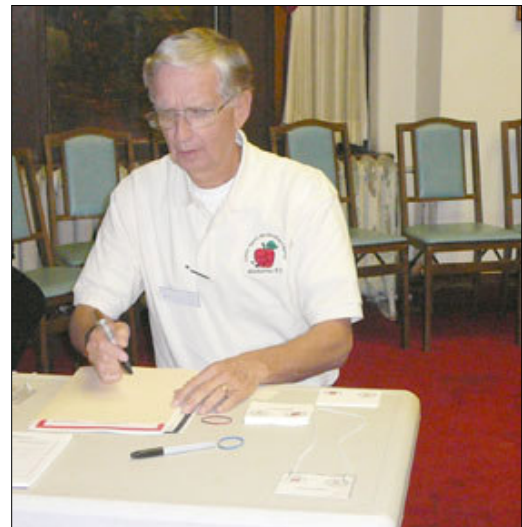
Associate Director Don Thomson rises to the occasion to lead the group in warm-ups



Director Ken Lang leads the chorus at Guest Night



Late Night Edition entertained the group with a number from their contest performance. Below Manhattan Music Machine entertained the ladies or are they excited about the food?



Chuck Marr is busy registering those attending for the evening.



Everyone, including Pat Caffey, enjoyed the refreshments provided by your ladies.



**Harvey Kiser, President of Manhattan KS Chapter, starts off the congratulations to editor Karen Nanninga at a recent meeting**

Photo by Loren Alexander

## KAREN NANNINGA GETS BIG AWARD

Our own InCider newsletter editor, **Karen Nanninga**, gained an award presented by PROBE (Public Relations Officers and Bulletin Editors) at the Barbershop Harmony Society International Convention and Contest at Nashville, Tennessee this past August, 2008. She was second place in the web division, scoring a few points under the winner.

**Karen's** first *InCider* appeared in August 2005. She said: "There's so much improvement since then." She said that she really enjoys editing the newsletter, "tweaking and making things fit," and we certainly enjoy the variety of interesting and personalized content. Let's all give her a word of congratulations for her "high paid" volunteer efforts.♪

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**Thanksgiving**

## An adventure with Harry Harmony



At a recent church service that Harry Harmony was attending the minister was completing a temperance sermon.

With great emphasis he said, "If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river."

With even greater emphasis he said, "And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river."

And then finally, shaking his fist in the air, he said, "And if I had all the whiskey in the world, I'd take it and pour it into the river."

Sermon complete, he sat down.

The song leader stood very cautiously and announced with a smile, nearly laughing, "For our closing song, Let us sing Hymn #365, "Shall We Gather at the River."

OOPS! ♪



## Komments from Karen

I was excited about getting to go to Leadership Academy for an editors' class and have just been informed that there are not enough other editors interested and the class is cancelled. Well I guess I have to make other plans for this week end.

Everyone worked so hard on guest night and we had one lone guest. But he was very welcome. All helping did a very nice job and it was very well put together.

Hope you all have a good Thanksgiving. Oh my before we know it Christmas will be upon us.

After a conversation with **Harvey**, the *InCider* will be issued December 22, so we can include the Christmas pictures. But I still need your other articles by the 11th

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

**Calendar of Events:**

November. 13	Chapter Meeting
November 20.	Chapter Meeting
November 27	Thanksgiving
December 4	Chapter Meeting
December 8	Board Meeting
December 11	Chapter Meeting
<b>December 15</b>	<b>Chapter Meeting</b>
December 18	Christmas Caroling and Installation Banquet
<b>December 22</b>	<b>Chapter Meeting</b>
December 25	Christmas

**Upcoming Events**

**Nov.15 Leadership Academy Sioux Fall SD**  
**Dec. 18 Christmas Caroling and Banquet**

Thanks to the following for contributing articles—  
 David Fink, John Thomason, Harvey Kiser,  
 Loren Alexander and Pat Caffey

**Deadline for submitting articles for the next  
 InCider is Dec 11**