

Vol. 28, No. 7 **Dick Kury ~ Editor and Publisher** JULY, 2007  
 Meeting Every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., Our Lady of The Pillar Lunchroom, 403 So. Lindbergh, Just So. Of Ladue Rd. Creve Coeur, MO



### Come Celebrate With Us...

The St. Louis Suburban Chapter (Gentlemen of Sound) was chartered on May 21, 1942.

We will be celebrating our 65th year as of that date. Our chapter, through the years has welcomed and seen many men come and go. Though our chapter ages, we have grown very strong. Our present membership numbers 57. Our goal is to reach 65. In the past several years we have enjoyed 80 to 85 percent attendance at our weekly meetings and performances. This is a number envied my most chapters Society-wide. We have something really great going on here.

*Do you know a man who likes to sing. Let us know, he'll love you for it, and so will we.*

### What is barbershop harmony?

Four-part, unaccompanied, close harmony singing, with melody in the second voice, called the **Lead**.

**Tenor** (counter-tenor voice) harmonizes above the lead singer;

**Bass** sings the lowest harmonizing notes.

**Baritone** provides in-between notes, to form consonant, pleasing chords.

Barbershop is a "melting pot" product of African-American musical devices, European hymn-singing culture, and an American tradition of recreational music. It is part of the continuum of American music, sharing roots with gospel and jazz.

Melodies in the vocal and skill range of the average singer, with lyrical emphasis on simple, heartfelt emotions; love friendship, mother, moon and June and the girl next door.

### Size of our organization...

- 30,000 members in more than 820 chapters in the United States and Canada; world's largest all-male singing society.
- Approximately 2,000 quartets registered with The Barbershop Harmony Society headquarters; an estimated 1,000 more quartets are active but not officially registered.
- Affiliated organizations in: Australia, Germany, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, Sweden, The Netherlands, Great Britain. There are also barbershop singers in Denmark, Japan, Saudi Arabia, Uganda, China, Hungary, Spain, Brazil, Argentina, Iceland, and the Russian Federation. Governed by an elected board of directors; administered by a professional staff at Harmony Hall in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Headquarters relocating to Nashville, Tennessee, in late summer 2007.

*Dear Gentlemen of Sound,*

*As the school year draws to a close I was reflecting on how fortunate we have been again to have you as such great musical friends. Our finale this spring was a combined performance with the Claymont 5th grade orchestra. The S. J. I. kids played xylophone, hand chimes, and recorder along with the Claymont strings on variations on Twinkle Twinkle. It was absolutely thrilling for all of us. and we couldn't have done it without you. This was a first, and next year we're going to find more ways to share our music with others. Thanks to your help, I've started the ball rolling to add guitars to the curriculum next year. This way I can expose the kids to guitar as well as singing, hand chimes, piano and percussion in the hope that every kid will be able to find a means of musical expression that will last a life time. Thanks again for all that you do.*

*Sincerely, Kathy Fenske and the kids from S.J.I.*

**One of The Five Steps Necessary to Produce Quality Tone**  
**by Bud Miller, Music VP, Cherry Hills NJ -- part 2 of 5**  
**submitted by Milt Weisman, editor/publisher, Cherry Hill NJ Tru-Notes**

This is the second in a series of lessons concerning the five steps necessary to produce good tone. The first lesson was about body alignment and posture. The subject of this lesson is proper abdominal-costal (A-C) breathing. Abdominal and Costal refer to the muscle groups mainly involved in the breathing process. The diagram is also involved and is very important in the process, but it is an involuntary muscle and we can exert no conscious control over it. To use A-C breathing correctly, three things must occur:

1. The chest must be high before you breathe (the body must be properly aligned in the ready position).
2. The rib cage must expand sideways.
3. The abdominal wall must relax as you inhale in order for the diaphragm to descend.

The abdominal wall must relax as you inhale in order for the diaphragm to descend.

If you will practice with these three things in mind and master them, it is all you really need to know about breathing. Notice that number one is directly related to the first lesson in this series - body alignment and posture. If your mental imagery has been correct and the body aligned, the position of the rib cage will be correct automatically. That is why any study of voice has to start with posture. If the rib cage is not in a high position, it doesn't matter how you breathe; it will ultimately be unsuccessful. Singing with good body alignment is a plus for both singing and visual categories.

You can actually "feel" number 2 when it happens properly. The expansion should take place in the arc of the solar plexus around the lower ribs. Every time you take a breath in rehearsal or a performance, you must breathe deeply enough to expand the lower rib cage. Only in the case of the very short "catch" breath does the air not go deeply enough to fully expand the rib cage.

Number 3 presents the greatest challenge. Learning to relax the abdominal wall while doing breathing and even singing exercises is easy; relaxing under stress of performance is not so easy. The stress and pressure of performance causes many "untrained" singers to shallow breathe.

The automatic lifting action of the abdominal wall, particularly as it tries to support the end of a phrase, and the accompanying tightness of the muscle, creates a situation in which it is easier for the singer to allow the muscle to stay flexed rather than to allow it to relax properly when taking the next breath. This prevents the diaphragm from descending to allow the intake of as much air as usual. The result is that we are now trying to sing the same length phrases as before but with less than half the original air supply. When this happens, everything suffers - tone quality, synchronization and ultimately the overall performance. You must consciously learn to relax the abdominal wall and subsequently take the deep breath in rehearsal. It will not happen by just talking and thinking about it and then expecting it to be automatic.

Work hard to learn to execute these breathing mechanics correctly in rehearsal (at home and with the chorus). Remember, the real test comes during a live performance. Make sure you are aware of these potential problems as you rehearse. If they are present in rehearsal, you can be sure they will be a problem in performance. Remember, to become a better singer, you must master the techniques of good quality singing one step at a time. Set personal singing goals and lay out the steps to success. You will benefit, and the entire chorus will become better because of you.

***Taken from PROBE information on Craft.***

***Please excuse the wide column, due to space considerations.***

**Here are some hymns that may apply to your profession.**

Dentist's Hymn ..... *Crown Him with Many Crowns*  
Weatherman's Hymn....*There Shall Be Showers of Blessings*  
Contractor's Hymn..... *The Church's One Foundation*  
The Tailor's Hymn.....*Holy, Holy, Holy*  
Golfer's Hymn.....*There's a Green Hill Far Away*  
The Politician's Hymn.....*Standing on the Promises*  
Optometrist's Hymn.....*Open My Eyes That Might See*  
The IRS Agent's Hymn.....*I Surrender All*  
The Gossip's Hymn.....*Pass It On*  
The Electrician's Hymn.....*Send The Light*  
The Shopper's Hymn.....*Sweet Bye and Bye*  
The Realtor's Hymn.....*I've Got a Mansions Just Over the Hilltop*

*The Massage Therapists Hymn.....He Touched Me*  
*The Doctor's Hymn.....The Great Physician*

**And for those who speed on the highway a few hymns:**

45mph.....*God Will Take Care of You*  
65mph.....*Nearer My God To Thee*  
85mph.....*This World Is Not My Home*  
95mph.....*Lord, I'm Coming Home*  
100mph..... *Precious Memories*

*Give me a sense of humor, Lord,  
Give me the grace to see a joke,  
To get some humor out of life,  
And pass it on to other folk*

**Borrowed from InCider Press, Karen Nanninga, editor**

**A Note from the editor:**

*I along with many have been concerned about the drop off in attendance lately. Obviously spring time brings new demands on our time, grass cutting, etc..*

*I for one would like to challenge all of you to make our rehearsals "High Priority" in the week. We always have one or two performances per month and precious little time for our rehearsals. We owe it to our directors and our audiences to give them our best.*

*We have selected this as "OUR" hobby or as Jim Henry said in a recent talk, "it's not a hobby, we don't collect stamps, we should look at what we do as a mission. In many cases our performance is the only entertainment some of these folks have and they don't look forward to a poor performance.*

*How about it guys, will we see you at each rehearsal in the future? Just think how you would feel if you were the only lead or baritone to show up. Or maybe the only tenor....*

**Dick Kury**

**The Songs We Sing**

*by Wade Dexter Source: Wikipedia*

Whenever I hear the song, "Stardust," I wonder which is more popular, the song, or the guy who wrote it, Hoagy, his real first name is "Hoagland" Carmichael. I like the song, but wonder why I've never heard it performed in the



barbershop style. Suppose David Wright has ever given it a try? I've read that at one time, during the early years of the twentieth century, it was the most frequently recorded American song ever written.

Hoagy Carmichael was born in November of 1899 in Bloomington, Ind. He graduated from Indiana University with a law degree in 1926. but decided to devote his talents and energies to music. However, he remained closely affiliated with his alma mater, and even composed the song, "Chimes of Indiana," which was presented to the university by the Class of 1935 and in 1938 became the school's official anthem. He was presented with an honorary doctor's degree in music by the university in 1972. Other popular songs written by Carmichael were "Rockin' Chair," "Heart and Soul," "New Orleans" and "Georgia on My Mind." He also collaborated with Sidney Arodin on "Up a Lazy River," and with Johnny Mercer on "Lazybones," "Skylark" and "In the Cool, Cool, Cool, of the Evening" which won the Best Original Song Oscar in 1952.

Hoagy appeared as an actor in at least 14 motion pictures, along with Hollywood stars such as Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall, Kirk Douglas, Myrna Loy and Frederic March, often singing and playing his own compositions on the piano. He died of heart failure in December of 1981 and is buried in Bloomington.

*Borrowed from Harmonotes, HOA's bulletin.  
Todd Anderson, editor*



## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES JUNE 6, 2007 (unofficial)**

Our president Eddie Kammer called the June board meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present and singing the opening song were Norm Meier, Charlie Grubbs, Morry Kevrick, Dean Carlisle, John Conrad, John Boehm, Del Massey, Don Campbell, Bob Grubbs, Bill Warren, and Dick Kury. Eddie asked for approval of minutes and reports. Charlie pointed out changes in the procedure that will be used to present the future minutes and asked for approval of the board. The changes were approved and, after motion/s the May minutes were also approved by the board.

### **Treasurer's Report - Norm Meier**

Norm reported on monthly income, expenses, and a donation to the St Joseph School music department. After discussion of various items the treasurer's report was accepted as reported.

Additional discussion included assurance that legal reporting is completed and, all members shall be aware of our legal mailing address(1569 Autumn Leaf 63021), business address(403 South Lindbergh 63141), and document file location(9792 Brittleigh Terrace, 63021).

### **President's Comments - Eddie Kammer**

Eddie expressed his pleasure with the Alton Chapter regarding the recent area jamboree and the excellent program planning. The night was a total success and the experiences conveyed by Dr. Jim Henry were inspiring.

Eddie then conveyed update information on current members, Julie Goss, Jim Goldkamp, Bob Schlueter, and Howard Burns, who are undergoing medical treatment and asked that we keep them in our prayers. He thanked Dr. Roger Nelson for his help with medical explanations. and updates.

### **Membership V.P. - Eddie Kammer**

We had one visitor Mike Murphy during this month. Information is that his business has taken him to various cities and states. We invite Mike to return each week when possible.

Eddie indicated our current membership total will decrease at the end of the second quarter if no new members can be brought in. He then asked that everyone concentrate on growth of our singing members.

### **Program V.P. - Bob Grubbs**

Bob reports program participation continues to improve with few exceptions and invites all to get up in front and sing at "The Break."

### **Public Relations V.P. - Del Massey**

Del reports past programs have been received well and outlined the June upcoming performance and after glow locations.

### **Bulletin Editor - Dick Kury**

Dick once again requests increase of member views and articles for publication in our bulletin.

### **Harmony Foundation V.P. - Norm Meier**

Norm reports no harmony news and advises we will rely on Kathy at St. Joseph School for further information concerning the most suitable help suggestions.

Norm asked for nominations of additional charities for future consideration. John Boehm and Dean Carlisle submitted the "Pony Bird" organization as a research project.

## **Uniform Committee**

Assorted current uniform garments are available in a few sizes and quantities. Anyone needing vests, shirts, ties, or trousers can contact Eddie K or Charlie G. Currently available are; vests (green or red), shirts (white or tan), Ties (red or green), trousers (black tux).

The committee is working on information for board approval. Today's discussion included no new information. Don suggests to strongly consider the facts that we must appear well up close to the audience twelve or more times a year and, the single major program must have an Irish green theme.

### **Area Council Delegate - Bill Warren**

Bill repeated the opinion of the attending members that the Alton chapter did an excellent job with the Area Jamboree. He then asked that we all plan to attend and sing at the Harmony Festival II in August.

### **Director / Music V.P.**

Don advises we will continue to gear up for the Corned Beef & Cabbage 2008 performance with new songs and some presentation changes. He is considering changes to show segments, timing, testing, and chorus warm up in order to present a fresh new performance. Don also stressed the need to concentrate on what is corrected at weekly rehearsals, and the requirement to concentrate on the songs scheduled for future performances, as well as exact wording and correct unison vowel projection.

### **Old Business**

Initial request for a learning aid was once again discussed. Don indicated that the learning process decision is not a board decision and shall be made by the music committee. He then approved the idea of two of the new songs to be presented to him so he may instruct section leaders and make a determination of their benefit. Norm suggested we proceed with acquisition of a copy of the two new numbers for Don's review and all agreed.

In other business Charlie asked if the prior suggestion of an exit letter was being written. There has been no action and the board asked Charlie to request completion of the project by Walt Hubbard as soon as tractable.

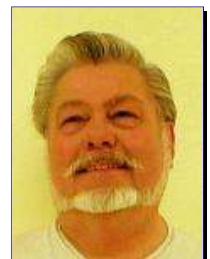
### **New Business**

The 65th Anniversary "Guest Night Reunion" celebration plans are in motion and some contacts are currently being made in order to determine accurate attendance. The committee has visited historical photos and records for previous members and will contact as many as possible. A roster will be considered for venue capacity as soon as possible and formal RSVP invitations will follow. The only definite at present is the date Tuesday evening August 7.

In other new business Dean asked that we make a better attempt to organize singing at future "After Glows." Del agreed to act as a leader to give us direction for a few songs after the next performance.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40

*Submitted by Charlie Grubbs*



## Some Upcoming Events

July 1-8 International Convention, Denver, Colorado

July 14 Southern Division Golf Outing

August 7 (Gents) 65th Anniversary Party to be held at Sybergs (Hwy. 270 & Dorsett)

August 25 Harmony Festival II

Sept. 28-30 Illinois District Convention, Peoria, IL

Oct. 5-8 Central States District Convention, Kansas City, MO

Oct. 25 IL District YIH Explosion, Bloomington, IL

Dec. 1 St. Louis #1 Christmas Show

Dec. 7-9 AoH Christmas Show

Dec. 15 Florissant Christmas Show

**LOTS OF GOOD OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUN**

## July 2007

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   |
| 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  |
| 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  |
| 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  |
| 29  | 30  | 31  |     |     |     |     |

### Member Happy Birthdays

July 14 Morry Kevrick  
July 23 Del Massey

### Spouses Happy Birthdays

July 21 Rosemary McVey  
July 31 Barbara Cody

## Happy Anniversary

**July 24 Julian & Kate Worland**

Birthdays are good for you.  
The more you have, the longer you live.



Do we have your current Bio info., D.O.B for you & spouse, anniversary date etc.? Give it to Dick!



## Nostalgia....

The movies from the early 1930's were, in my opinion, very interesting, due to the fact that "Sound" had just been introduced to the movie industry.

One of these early dandies was "Spring Is Here" starring Lawrence Gray, Alexander Gray and Bernice Claire. I have never heard of these three movie stars, Maybe some of you "real" old guys will recognize them.

This gem was produced by The First National And Vita phone Picture Company.

The theme song from this old timer, written in 1930 was "Have a Little Faith In Me." The lyrics by Sam Lewis and Joe Young and music by the famous Harry Warren.

This was a very early talking movie and wasn't it great.

"From the guy who likes to sing"

**Bob Niedringhaus**



## NOTICE OF COMING EVENTS

**\*\*\*JULY 11 ~** Board Meeting ~ 2nd Wednesday  
**NOTE CHANGE 2ND WED.** Bridgeton Trails Library

**July 8th Annual Picnic at Matthews Park**  
**August 7th 65th Anniversary Party (Sybergs)**

**Join the "Extension Chords" Monday nights.**

Check our website for up-to-date Events & information.

[www.gentlemenofsound.org](http://www.gentlemenofsound.org)

**Thanks to those who've contributed to By-Lines this month.**

**Bob Niedringhaus ~ Charlie Grubbs**



**DICK KURY, Editor & Publisher**  
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**Address correction requested**

## *The Gentlemen of Sound* **ST. LOUIS SUBURBAN BY-LINES**



*Dick Kury, CRB, GRI, PNG ~ Editor & Publisher*  
*We will celebrate our 65th Anniversary as of May 21, 2007*  
*Visit our website: [www.gentlemenofsound.org](http://www.gentlemenofsound.org)*



By-Lines is the official monthly publication of the St. Louis Suburban Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. The St. Louis Suburban "Gentlemen of Sound" meet every Tuesday at Our Lady of The Pillar School lunchroom, 403 So. Lindbergh Blvd. (West side) just South of Ladue Road and North of Hwy. 40, Creve Coeur, MO 63141  
***PHONE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS BEFORE YOU COME, WE MAY BE PERFORMING ELSEWHERE.***

***Don Campbell, Music Director, Larry Throgmorton, Asst. Director***

|  |   |
|--|---|
| President..... Eddie Kammer, 314-849-0763                | Harmony Fond. Chairman .....Norman Meier, 636-225-5643                          |
| Membership V. Pres ..... Morry Kevrick, 314-849-0763     | Music Librarian, ..... .Bob Niedringhaus, 314-423-6028                          |
| Program V. Pres ..... Bob Grubbs, 314-423-8468           | Uniform Chairman, ..... .Eddie Kammer, 314-849-0763                             |
| Music V. Pres. .... Don Campbell, 314-892-7843           | Chorus Manager, .....Eddie Kammer, 314-849-0763                                 |
| Public Relations V. Pres ..... Del Massey, 314-416-7967  | Area Council Reps..... Bill Warren  |
| Secretary, ..... Charlie Grubbs, 314-423-0385            | Immediate Past Pres. .... Eddie Kammer, 314-849-0763                            |
| Treasurer, ..... Norm Meier, 636-225-5643                | Board Members: L. Knebel, Deal Carlisle, John Boehm, Morry Kevrick, John Conrad |
| Bulletin editor & Webmaster .....Dick Kury, 314-504-0689 | eMail: ..... dickkury@swbell.net  |

***Meetings Start at 7:30 p.m.***

***Website [www.gentlemenofsound.org](http://www.gentlemenofsound.org)***

***Harmony Foundation ..... Sing.... For Life***