

55 YEARS *The*



Undertone



What's Happening in the Burlington, Vermont, Chapter
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet singing in America, Inc.
Member of the great Northeastern District since 1947.
We meet Tuesdays - 7:00 p.m. South Burlington High School, South Burlington, Vermont - Call (802) 985-8714 for Information.

Jerry Walter, Editor (802) 985-8714
66 Bacon Drive, Shelburne, VT 05482

February 12, 2002
Volume 18, Number 6

A chording 2 your president, “Doing your part!”

by **John Villeré**, President

My last article ended with “Do, as well as sing, your part.” I implored members to get involved. Board membership is not for everyone, but there are so many other ways for individuals to contribute.

Singing Valentines is a great way for a chapter to earn some cash and to get exposure to individuals that we may not be able to reach in other ways. Alas, I fear that we not only fell short of our potential, but we may be well below recent years' achievements.

Come June we are scheduled to have our Annual Show. Our chapter relies on the Annual Show as a major source of revenue for other chorus activities. We are fortunate to have had **Dick Lebrecque** step up to the plate as Show Chairman. **Michigan Jake** will be back again as our Quest Quartet. **Bob Hothem** will likely, once again, grace us with his voice as MC with scripting provided by the talented **Reid Allen**. **Greg Morrill** will direct the chorus in the songs we shall have dutifully learned by then.

Charlie Church shall coordinate the general technical aspects including the **SBHS drama students** doing our sound and stage lighting. **Jerry Walter** will ensure that the makeup kit is in place and offer assistance where needed.

Charlie will help make certain that _____ has acquired appropriate props and has them in place. Charlie will also coordinate the efforts of _____ who will have worked out the costume design and ensure that we are all

delightfully attired on stage. Speaking of stage, set design and staging will be handled by _____ who will coordinate with Charlie so that everything goes into place just right on performance day. Charlie certainly will be busy coordinating the efforts of all those various technical people!

As House Chair, **Dave Merrill** will make certain that **The Champlain Echoes** are there to usher in our audience and that _____ has acquired door prizes and has them ready for the drawings.

Speaking of the audience, we hope to have a sizable crowd due in no small part to the efforts of **Dan Blouin** and his team. These guys will take the promotional show flyers designed by _____, and get them out to well over three thousand people on our mailing list. Dan has already done extensive computer work on this mailing list, but that is just the start. After getting the flyers from the printer the team will address and fold each one. Then they will carefully sort them into neat, banded and counted stacks by zip code so that the chorus gets the very best mailing rate. Besides Dan, those team members are _____.

Don Pierce will take care of mail order sales while **Jim Mallabar** coordinates the rest of us in member sales. _____ will make all the contacts necessary for block ticket sales.

Additional revenue will be realized thanks to the efforts of _____ who, by now, should already have started ad
See **Your Part**, column 3

Valentines Day Thursday!

by **Jerry Walter**

While sales are off from last year, we still expect a fun filled day of delivering Singing Valentines all day on Thursday. We have been able to field four quartets, just enough to guarantee deliveries through out the day. As you know, we will again be splitting proceeds with the **Champlain Echoes**. Last year we each made \$1,200.

Thanks to all those would sold Valentines.

Undertone best in NED

The 2002 Bulletin Editor of The Year (BETY) contest for the Northeastern District is over and the winning bulletin is your **Undertone**, by a mere **two** points over Hanover, New Hampshire's **Chips**.

The top two contenders now advance to the International Bulletin Editor of The Year Contest. With the winner to be announced at the International Convention in Portland, Oregon in July.

Your Part from column 2

sales for the program. We will have a great looking program because of the skillful design and layout efforts of _____.

So thanks to Dick Lebrecque and the others mentioned above we should be able to have a fun and entertaining annual show that will, hopefully, be an economic success.

We have a lot to look forward to. Ra Ta Ta, Ta Ra Ta Ta Ta Ta, Hurray!

[Please feel free to insert **your name** in any of the above blank spaces. Ed.]

DIRECTOR'S

CORNER The everyday barbershopper?

by **Greg Morrill**,
Musical Director

Continuing along the same line as my article last week, I'd like to suggest some ways you can become an everyday barbershopper. Our goal is to find opportunities in our busy schedules to practice between rehearsals.

The easiest way for those of us who commute to work is to use that time in our cars. The most obvious way is to use the learning tapes or CDs! But you could also use the time behind the wheel to mentally review what you want to carry from one rehearsal to the next: what fixes did we make? what changes did we make? what songs did we review?

You could also practice vocal craft although this may not be the best atmosphere for great singing. However as we learned from Jim DeBusman, the standard driving position puts us in pretty good singing posture — even sitting down.

From there you can practice breathing without involving the shoulders. The seat belt should get tight around your waist when you inhale! Just do remember to keep an eye on the road ahead — I don't want to hear about traffic accidents caused by practicing barbershoppers!

For those who either don't commute or have a shorter commute, look for

other opportunities in your daily schedule. In the morning when you're shaving in front of the mirror, assume a good singing posture and practice facial expressions. If you take long showers, use the time to mentally review or even vocalize. It's true what they say about singing in the shower, you'll never sound better.

Anyway, make an effort to fit Barbershop into your day. You'll become a better singer and our chapter will progress musically!

Music team news

The Spring workshop previously scheduled for March 2, has been move to Saturday March 30, at a location yet to be determined.

2002 Music Team

Musical Director - G. Morrill
Music and Perf. VP - C. Church
Assistant Director - C. Laufer
Chorus Coach - S. Janes
Quartet VP - open
Tenor Section Leader - C. Laufer
Lead Section Leader - D. Brochu,
assistant - N. Cerutti
Bari Section Leader - R. Allen,
assistant - C. Church
Bass Section Leader - J. Walter;
assistant - open
Librarian - J. Zweighaft
Chorus Manager - D. Pierce (acting)

Division contest

A sign-up list will start circulating tonight for the April 20th Division Contest in Manchester, CT. Contest songs will be "Mister Touchdown" and "Once Upon A Time"

20 Week Club Results

12/25	3 Marion Beaulieu	Dan Venditti
01/01	33 Carol Henson	Dick Labrecque
01/08	247 Bob Bouvier	Dick Labrecque
01/15	75 Donna Walter	Jerry Walter
01/22	80 Christina Gonillo	Ed Bechtel
01/31	211 Adam socinski	Dan Blouin
02/05	244 Matthew Higgs	Dale Higgs



February 14 (Thursday)	- Singing Valentines
March 30 (Saturday)	- Spring Workshop NEW DATE! Details TBA
April 19-20 (Fri. - Sat.)	- Division Contest Manchester, Connecticut
May 3 (Friday)	- 20 Week Club Banquet South Burlington K of C
May 25 (Saturday)	- Montreal's Annual Show
June 1 (Saturday)	- 2002 Annual Show College Days featuring Michigan Jake
July-August	- Vermont Expos singouts
September	- Annual Retreat
October 25-26 (Fri. - Sat.)	- NED Fall Convention Lake Placid, New York

Jerry Walter

The Undertone

66 Bacon Drive
Shelburne, VT 05482

IT'S GREAT TO BE A
BARBERSHOPPER!