

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.

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Singing Valentines – a great day but more would be the greatest!

by Jerry Walter, Editor

Our 2002 Singing Valentines program brought lots of love and joy to only 43 recipients but the thrill and joy of delivering was just as great as in past years. Five quartets participated in delivering, two from the **Champlain Echoes** and three from the **Burlington Chapter**.

Singing for the Echoes in Quartet No. 1 were **Becky Senesac, Sally Boutin, Debbie Bouvier** and **Anne Nichols**. They delivered 13 Singing Valentines.

Becky recalled that their quartet had medical students running around the Given Building at UVM helping them locate a medical student to sing to. The order was called into Pat Longchamp at midday and she relayed the directions to the quartet but the room number did not match the floor number in the directions. It took everyone almost 30 minutes, but they eventually did find her and sang to her! (They also sang "Java Jive" to the helpful medical students figuring they could use the "coffee" for their efforts!)

In the Echoes Quartet No. 2 were **Nancy L'Ecuyer, Irene Knight, Gail Kirby** and **Sharon Talbert** delivering 10 SVs.

Male quartets included the GMC Morning Quartet of **Dick Labrecque, Denis Brochu, Charlie Church** and **Jerry Walter**. They delivered seven paid SVs in such diverse places as Milton, St. Albans (3) and Burlington.

Lake Effect Harmony including **Tom Fountain-Provost, Ron Clarke, Rick Bunning** and **Jerry Walter** (substitute bass), delivered ten paid SVs and about five complementary numbers including one at Champlain College, where the Morning Quartet missed their intended by minutes and where the quartet left a video SV because the intended had gone to the airport. They did catch up with their recipient at the airport and found that the day was also a first wedding anniversary. They ended a great day by delivering a "freebie" at "The Pour House" and received drinks all around for their effortless performance.

High Voltage (**Charlie Church, Bruce Spector, Greg Morrill** and **Denis Brochu** (Substitute bass) finished out the day by making three deliveries: one in Jericho, one in Vergennes and one in Burlington.

Thanks to **Heather Anderson** and **Susan Culbert** from the Echoes and **Jerry Walter** from the Burlington Chapter for co-chairing this great event this year. Thanks also to **Pat Longchamp** and Susan for standing by the phones during the day.

Over all, the Champlain Echoes sold 24, the Burlington Chapter sold 16 and three were phoned in during the day. Other sources of sales included our ad placed in *Seven Days* (thanks to **Serge Rizzo**), the SingingValentines.com web site and **Lyric Theatre's** email list (thanks to **Dick Labrecque**) and one forwarded by email from **Steve Wheaton** in Montreal.

Watch for recap of Jim DeBusman's visit— next week.

Music team news

Two chapter quartets attended the "Pop Gun" school in Nashua, New Hampshire on January 19 and two chapter quartets attended the Mountain Division Harmony Workshop in Montreal on February, 2.

2. The Music Team met on February 7 at Shaw's in Berlin Corners with eight members in attendance. The rest of this report reflects deliberations/actions at that meeting.

3. 2002 Music Team Goals and Work Plan has been updated with some sections less restrictive.

4. The 2002 Music Team has been firmed up and published in the February 5 issue of *The Undertone*.

5. The 2002 Annual Show staging, MC, scripting and costumes was discussed. The Music Team is ready and willing to assist the show chair in these areas. What can we do to help? (e.g. we envision the chorus dressing in "college" outfits for the April 19 Division Contest. Can we work together to make this happen?)

6. The 2002 Annual Show quartet songs status was reviewed. All quartets have been heard from except Lake Effect Harmony. Reid Allen is organizing an Octet. An audition schedule for quartet songs was established and will be distributed to quartets.

7. Jim DeBusman spoke glowingly about his work on 1/31/02 with Mount Mansfield Union High School students and their teacher, Andrea Hollenbeek. Jim suggested the following, which the Music Team supports and suggested board action on:

A. Invite to the MMU boys group to appear on our Annual Show

B. Consider a donation for services rendered above; make sure it gets to the music program.

C. Sponsor Andrea Hollenbeek/students at NED Harmony Explosion camp and/or sponsor Andrea at Harmony College.

8. The Music Team recommended to the Board that Reid Allen be appointed YMIH chair.

9. Due to known attendance problems, the Spring Retreat has been moved to March 30. Times = 9:00 to 4:00; Venue - tbd.

10. Division Contest songs will be "Mister Touchdown, U.S.A." and "Once Upon A Time." The date

and location will be April 19/20 in Manchester, CT. Quartet contest is Friday evening; Chorus contest starts at noon on Saturday - GMC to sing eighth. A contest sign-up list is circulating. Music Team recommended to the Board that quartet and chorus transpiration be addressed.

11. The 2003 Annual Show theme will be "A Salute To The Buffalo Bills". Song selection is in process - see any Music Team member with your favorite Bills' song.

12. Reid Allen will be scheduling "early bird" sing-outs - see him with suggestions.

13. The next Music Team meeting will be on Thursday, March 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the Waterbury or Burlington area.

Show Committee Meeting Saturday

by **Dick Labrecque**, Chairman

There will be a Show Committee Meeting at Dick Labrecque's home, 357 Hinesburg Road, South Burlington, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. this coming Saturday, March 2, 2002.

Anyone is welcome. I, also, plan to get started on selling ads for a show program, even though we do not have a chair person for that yet.

Material will be ready for you by Tuesday, March 5, 2002. So get your customers lined up now.

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
02/12	175 Conrad Hazelton	Charlie Church
02/19	157 Ray Quimette	Charlie Church



March 2 (Saturday)	- 2002 Show Committee Meeting 2- 5 p.m. Dick Labrecque's
March 7 (Thursday)	- Music Committee Watch this space
March 19 (Tuesday)	- Early Singout Country Park Warm up 6:30
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

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**IT'S GREAT TO BE A
BARBERSHOPPER!**