

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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66 Bacon Drive, Shelburne, VT 05482

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Experimental Division contest coming next week

by Jerry Walter, Editor

Next Friday and Saturday a combined Yankee and Mountain Division contest will be held in Manchester, Connecticut — yes, that's still in New England, but barely.

While the Burlington Chapter plans to send a barely representative — 24 man — chorus, other neighboring chapters, namely Montreal, South Shore and Plattsburgh, have opted to sit this one out and to attend our local District Contest in Lake Placid in October as spectators.

Despite hardship, 17 of the eligible 23 choruses have registered to sing. If they all sing, this represents significantly better participation than occurred last week in Portsmouth, New Hampshire where only 13 of 27 choruses sang.

The two-contest scheme is an experiment in cost reduction for the District by combining five division contests into three. Because of its remoteness, the Sunshine Division based exclusively in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick is so far away

little thought was given to moving its contest venue out of Canada. It is rare for competitors from the Sunshine Division to participate in District Contests.

In any event, the plan has certainly stirred up controversy within the district. [More on this later.]

For those Green Mountain Chorus members attending the contest you will want to get a copy of the driving directions available from your editor as a handout and, hopefully via email. The contest will be held in the Manchester High School, 134 East Middle Turnpike, Manchester, Connecticut. [You might try your luck as using the web site www.mapquest.com for directions.]

The schedule includes the quartet contest for both the prelims and divisions beginning at 7:00 Friday. The chorus contest begins at Noon on Saturday with A& R following in the school. Quartet finals for the prelims will commence at 8:00 and be followed by a show of champions. More next week.

Lake Effect Harmony Qualifies!

by Ron Clarke, Lead, LEH

Some great news for Lake Effect Harmony! Last Friday in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, Lake Effect Harmony qualified for the District Quartet Contest this fall in Lake Placid.

At the combination Granite and Pine division and Patriot division quartet contest, Lake Effect Harmony managed to pull off a qualifying score of 1116. Placing 5th out of 24 quartets, the top four quartets were all from the Granite/Pine division. The highest score achieved in the Patriot division was 1110 but enough said about that.

To say the least, the quartet was psyched! I would like to just say to any singer in this chorus, if you want to sing better, pay close attention to the fundamentals, it really makes the difference.

On behalf of Lake Effect Harmony, I would like to thank none other than Mr. Carl Phillips, (Lake Effect Harmony-Official Sound Coach), for helping us to see the light! Thanks Carl!

A Chording 2 Your President

by John Villeré

Following our Spring Retreat we had a brief chapter meeting. The object of the meeting was to try to develop some consensus on where we should be steering the chapter for the future. We used a “brainstorming” format and noted highlights on a flipchart.

Following such a successful coaching session it is no wonder that “Quality Singing” was the very first item on the list. Whether we're being judged at a contest, in front of a paying audience, or singing among ourselves for the sheer joy of it, quality singing is a driving force that brings us together week after week. “Good Presentation” was brought up as being important in the total picture.

Many agreed that they participate because they “Like to Perform.” Getting in front of an appreciative audience and demonstrating quality singing seemed to be the major motivator for more than a few of the contributors.

“Improvement — Help to do better.” I considered the first to be the desired outcome while the second is the means to get there. The Spring Retreat is the obvious example of this but weekly rehearsals afford us this attribute on

a routine basis.

The similarity between most of the remaining items is worthy of review. “Positive Attitude,” “Appreciation” and “Encouragement,” each contribute to making our endeavor more enjoyable. Take them away, and much of the joy is gone. People often mention “having fun” as a key element in getting singers on the risers week after week. I submit that the driving force which inspires the continued efforts is merely “feeling good.” One way or another, people do this because they “feel” better than they would if they didn't do it.

The final entry on the flipchart was “Esprit de Corps.” Webster defines this as “the common spirit existing in the members of a group and inspiring enthusiasm, devotion, and strong regard for the honor of the group.” What a worthy goal. I hope we can use all the other components to advance towards this achievement.

Reminder: Uniforms

Uniform for the contest is our standard, black tuxedo pants, white tuxedo jacket and shirt, paisley vest and bow tie, black shoes and socks.

**Board of Directors
meeting
Wednesday April 10
Shaw's Supermarket – 7:30**

20 Week Club Results

Week	#	Winner	Seller
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
02/26	70	Becky Senesac	Dan Venditti
03/05	81	Don Goliber	Dan Blouin
03/12	18	Walter Fischer	Ed Bechtel
03/19	219	Deanna Higgs	Dale Higgs
03/26	65	Dan Smullen	Jerry Huetz
04/02	60	Kerra Desseau	Denis Brochu



- April 17 (Wednesday) - Extra Chorus Rehearsal 7 -9 at South Burlington HS
- April 19-20 (Fri. - Sat.) - Division Contest Manchester, Connecticut Chorus warm up 11:00 a.m. See handout and front page
- May 3 (Friday) - 20 Week Club Banquet South Burlington K of C
- May 21 (Tuesday) - Early sing-out Blair Park Williston Warm Up 6:30
- May 25 (Saturday) - Montreal's Annual Show
- June 1 (Saturday) - 2002 Annual Show College Days featuring Michigan Jake
- June 8 (Saturday) - Package Show – Morrisville
- July 23 (Tuesday) - Workshop at SBHS Coach - Karen Rourke

Jerry Walter

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