



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. at St. Francis Xavier School, Winooski, Vermont -- Call 802 985-8714

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 66 Bacon Drive, Shelburne, VT 05482

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Al Carpenter 2002 BOTY! "Singing is life" -- theme of installation



Photo - Jerry Walter

Al Carpenter shows off his certificate announcing his selection as Barbershopper Of The Year 2002 of the Burlington Vermont Chapter.

S. BURLINGTON -- Last Friday evening at the 2003 Installation Banquet, Burlington Chapter President, John Villeré, after acknowledging the significant contributions of several other chapter members, announced that the 2002 Barbershopper Of The Year was Al Carpenter.

Al, a dedicated 13 year member, is officially our Booking Agent for paid performances but has long been a financial advisor to the chapter. He is also a Board of Directors' Member at Large.

Although missing the actual presentation, his wife, Nadine, gave a deserved 'thumbs up' at seeing Al's certificate.

The next main activity, in addition to the buffet dinner, was the installation of officers for the year 2003. This year we were surprised with two treats; the first was the fact that our Chapter Coach, Pat Heise (a.k.a Mrs. C. Church), was our inductor and the second was that the ceremony written by Society President Roger Lewis entitled "Officer Installation - Singing Is Life" as found on the Society web page.

Roger's motto for the Society is "SINGING IS LIFE... the rest is just details." And so it was. Pat spoke of a book, some of which was about "singing" and some of which was about "details."

The President, John Villeré, being the spearhead of the chapter will get to write the Foreword and be responsible for the entire book.

Reid Allen, being VP Chapter Development will get to write the chapter "MEMBERSHIP IS LIFE...the rest is just details."

See **Installation** page 3

Early sing out next Tuesday

On Tuesday January 28, the chapter will hold an early bird sing out at the home of Dale and Barbara Higgs at 6 Jonathan Avenue, South Burlington.

As many know Dale has been partially incapacitated and has difficulty getting around. This problem is difficult for both Dale and chapter members, some of which have stood next to Dale on the risers over 30 years.

We felt it timely to bring the chorus to Dale since he can't come to us.

We will meet at Dale's at 6:30 to warm up in more ways than one. (Temperature is expected to be in negative double digits -- and that's Fahrenheit for you Canadians!)

We will return to St. Francis School for a regular meeting around 8:00.

Directions are on page 3.

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The Undertone

2001 Northeastern District Bulletin of the Year

A publication of the Burlington, Vermont Chapter of SPEBSQSA, Inc., a nonprofit, charitable and educational organization, published each Tuesday on which a chapter meeting is scheduled.

Unless accompanied by a byline, all articles are written by the editor, who assumes all responsibility for accuracy and content. Articles represent the opinions of their authors and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the members or officers of the chapter. To the extent permitted by space, all written communications received by the editor will be published. The editor, reserves the right to edit all copy for punctuation and length.

Deadline for copy is 9:00 p.m. Monday preceding each issue. Copy is accepted in the following order of preference: e-mail, IBM compatible 3.5 diskettes - almost any word processor, ASCII text; facsimile to 802 -985-866, oral dictation by phone and, of course, hard copy.

E-Mail: JerWalter@hotmail.com

Burlington Chapter

Board of Directors

President	John Villeré 802 859-3403
VP Devel. (Membership)	Reid Allen 802 862-8987
VP Music & Performance	Charlie Church 802 879-1981
Quartet Vice President	Charlie Cerutti 802 485-6924
Secretary	John Zweighaft 802 879-6422
Treasurer	Denis Brochu 802 860-6465
Program VP	[Vacant]
Members at Large	
Al Carpenter	Jerry Huetz
Dick Labrecque	David Merrill
Serge Rizzo	Jerry Walter
Immediate Past-President	Gary Brunell

Additional Officers

Music Director	Greg Morrill
Assistant Director	Chuck Laufer
Chorus Coaches	
Gary Bolles	Pat Heise
Steve Janes	Brian O'Leary
Steve Plumb	Dan Signor
Karen Rourke	Steve Tramack
Learning Tape/Quartet Coordinator	[vacant]
2003 Show Chairman	[vacant]
Harmony Foundation Chairman	Dale Higgs
Sunshine Chairman	Gary Brunell
Public Relations Chairman	Serge Rizzo
20 Week Club Chairman	Dick Labrecque
Uniform Chairman	Tif Crowell
Booking Agent	Al Carpenter
Section Leaders	
Tenor - Chuck Laufer	Lead - Neil Cerutti
Baritone - Bob Cauley	Bass - Dave Stonecliffe
Librarian	John Zweighaft
Chorus Manager	Don Pierce
Package Show Producer	Charlie Church

Chapter Barbershopper of the year 2002

Al Carpenter

Division Barbershopper of the year 2000

Charlie Church

This is the article you didn't write!

Please feel free to make notes here.

Music Team Report - January, 2003

by Charlie Church, Music VP

1. The Music Team last met on 1/14/03 at the St. Francis Xavier School. This report reflects the actions of the meeting.
2. The Music Team supported a “free-bie” GMC appearance proposed by Reid Allen for Sunday, 3/23/03, at MMU. The GMC would make a choral presentation and also sing jointly with the MMU boys - “Teach The Children To Sing” and “Hello Mary Lou”.
3. The Music Team is requesting that non-Society registered chapter quartets be prepared to sing their Singing Valentines song(s) in front of the chapter on or before 2/11/03.
4. The Music Team is starting to work on 2003 outside coaching. Karen Rourke will be with us on Saturday, March 8th for our Spring Retreat (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). For Summer Retreats, we’re again planning on Tuesday evenings; up to three Tuesdays. Potential Summer coaches have been identified and will be contacted in the near future. For the Fall Retreat, we’re suggesting that Gary Bolles be asked to coach again.
5. The Team has received seven proposals for themes for the 2004 Annual Show. We will start sorting them out at the next meeting. Further theme suggestions are welcome.
6. The Spring Western Regional Contest will be held on April 5 in the Troy, NY area. The GMC is currently slated to sing 18th (out of 23). We will be contacting the District Contest & Judging Chairman to see if the GMC can be moved toward the front of the contest as the later start time may impede some chorus attendance (CVQ and two other central Vermonters will be performing in “The Music Man” at the Barre Opera House that evening). No extra rehearsals are planned at this point nor attendance/audition requirements. The Team picked the following songs for the contest: “Roses Of Picardy” and “Goodbye, Dixie, Goodbye”.
7. It is not too late for Chapter members to sign-up for the school in Montreal on 2/1/03. Join the nineteen other Burlington Chapter members who have signed up so far!
8. The next Music Team meeting will be on Thursday, January 30th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Waterbury American Legion. All are welcome

Quartets needed for Singing Valentines

We need quartets for this year’s SV program. We will be singing from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Friday February 14. Contact Jerry Walter if you are available to sing.

Thanks to those who have already replied.

Installation from page 1

VP of Music, Charlie Church, will get to write the chapter “MUSIC IS LIFE...the rest is just details.”

Program VP, unfilled at present, will get to write the chapter “ENTERTAINMENT IS LIFE...the rest is just details.”

Treasurer, Denis Brochu, will get to write the chapter “MONEY IS

LIFE ... the rest is just details.”

Secretary, John Zweighaft, will write the chapter “DETAILS ARE LIFE...the rest is just singing.”

And so until she got to the Board Members at Large who will get to write the chapter “SINGING IS LIFE ... the rest is just **invisible.**”

After having the officers promise to do their best to fill each members’ LIFE with SINGING, the final chapter “SINGING IS LIFE... .” will be written by the remaining members, significant others and friends.

The board ended the ceremony with the only song of the evening -- there being none of our four chapter quartets in full strength.

2003 will be a very good year!

Directions to Dale Higgs’ home

Dale lives on Jonathan Avenue in South Burlington just a little South of the intersection of Interstate I189 and US Route 7.

Go South on Route 7 to the light at Perry’s Fish House, Across from the Saturn Dealer. Turn left on Baldwin Avenue, **(those traveling North on Route 7 will turn right on to Baldwin Avenue)** at the fork in the road bear right then make the first **left** (Greening Avenue), go to the end of the block and Dale’s house is straight ahead number 6 Jonathan, the white house with the drive to **your** right.

See you there.

Tax deductible?

Read on...

[Editor's note: This article is based on the article found at the Society web site "Personal Income Tax Deductions for Barbershoppers" to which several points of clarification have been made.]

Yes, some things you do as a Barber-shopper are tax deductible. If you itemize your deductions, you may be entitled to include some expenses for barbershop activity.

Some things you do as a Barber-shopper are tax deductible. If you itemize you deductions, you may be entitled to include some expense for barbershop activity. If you had verifiable out-of-pocket expense in connection with a chapter duty as an elected or appointed officer or board member, or, if you sang in one or more local shows, such expenses as travel (14¢ per mile, or actual cost), telephone, postage, parking, etc., for which you were not reimbursed are deductible.

Expense of travel to chapter meetings is not deductible unless you hold an office directly involved in conduct of the meeting.

A different rule applies to travel away-from-home, i.e. to contests and other events in which you participate. Transportation, meals and lodging may only be deducted if there is no significant element of personal pleasure, recreation or vacation in the trip. If golf games, sight-seeing, and similar activities heavily overbalance singing and participation in meetings as a duty for the away-from-home expenses, these expenses would not be deductible.

The cost of tuition at schools is specifically barred as a deduction as well as Society, district and chapter dues.

The cost of raffle, bingo or lottery (20 Week Club) tickets are **not** deductible as a charitable gift, but may be deducted as "Other Miscellaneous

Deductions to the extent of income reported on line 21 of Form 1040.

If you use these deductions, here is the procedure. With Form 1040, use Schedule A, under "Gifts to Charity -- Gifts by cash or check," enter the total cash or check gifts or other out-of-pocket expense including allowable mileage expense. (Remember the words "non-reimbursed" and "verifiable.") Keep all cancelled checks and receipts or written records which categorize expenses by groups (lodging, transportation, etc.), captioned "Expenses incurred in connection with contributions of services to an organization classed as exempt under Section 501 (c) (3)." Then state the name and location of your chapter and the full name of the Society. If any **one** gift is over \$250 you must have a statement from the Society indicating the amount and the value of any goods or services, which must be deducted. Multiple gifts of less than \$250 are considered as separate gifts.

For "Gifts to Charity --- Other than by cash or check" enter the total of property, stock or other item and 'fair market value.' If the total of all gifts of property (i.e. things) are over \$500 complete and attach Form 8283 specifying the property and its value.

Your chapter should have a list of events, such as conventions, contests and shows that are applicable to this expense tabulation.

Your cash contributions to the chapter or the Society or to Harmony Foundation Inc. (for the General Fund to support our service projects or to the Endowment Program) are directly deductible. Include this figure in Schedule A, under "Gifts to charity -- Gifts by cash or check."

20 Week Club Winners

Date	No	Winner	Seller
12/10	219	Deana Higgs	D. Higgs
12/17	101	Murielle Rugg	D. Blouin
1/07	225	Carol Hathaway	E. Bechtel
1/14	136	Virginia Charlotte	D. Labrecque
1/21	129	Arletta Allen	Al Allen



January 28 -- Early Sing out at Dale Higgs' (Tuesday) home 6 Jonathan Ave., South Burlington Warm up at 6:30 See page 1

February 1 -- Great Northern Harmony Workshop -- Montreal Tuition paid by the chapter (Saturday)

February 14 -- Singing Valentines Quartets wanted! (Friday)

March 8 -- Spring Retreat Karen Rourke - Place TBD (Saturday)

March 14 - 15 -- Eastern Region Contest & Convention and 2003 International Prelims (Fri. & Sat.) Peabody, Massachusetts

April 4 - 5 -- Western Region Contest & Convention - Troy, New York (Fri. - Sat.)

May 2 -- 20 Week Club Banquet S. Burlington K of C (Friday)

May 31 -- 55th Annual Show Featuring 2002 Champs Four Voices (Saturday)

June 29 -- 2003 International Convention and Contest July 6 MONTREAL! Sign up now!

Go to School for free!

Yes, there is still time to register for the great Mountain Division Harmony Workshop in Montreal on February 1.

Classes are offered on many aspects of barbershopping including: MC'ing, Vocal Care, How to be a section leader, How to Coach, History of barbershop singing, Barber-shop Theory and many more.

See Jerry Walter for registration forms.