



The

# Undertone



What's Happening in the Burlington, Vermont, Chapter  
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop 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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## Quartets a hit at Central Vermont hospital

by *Bob Cauley and Chuck Laufer*

Two quartets, CVQ and Grade A Fancy, recently combined their resources for three Barbershop events on three consecutive days at Central Vermont Hospital in Berlin, Vermont. The occasion was "Nurses' Appreciation Week," the first week in May. Six members of the quartets sang in various combinations of four and five members on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Tuesday was "Hospital Tour Day." Mo and Charlie Cerutti, Bob Cauley, and Dave Stonecliffe visited 10 nurses' stations throughout the hospital. There were several tour highlights:

The Emergency Room presented a minor challenge when a patient on a gurney was wheeled toward the quartet's location midway through "Heart of My Heart." The four singers deftly repositioned themselves, missing nary a beat.

In Endoscopy, the nurses must have some way of flipping a switch to put their procedures on "hold," because it looked like they were all ready and waiting for us at the nurses' station. One even called home and held the phone out so the receiving party could listen in.

The quartet was also quite a hit at Same Day Surgery, where they moved us from the patient waiting area right into the surgical recovery suite. One gal in one of the recovery rooms gave us a thumbs up as we walked by, confirming we had contributed to her speedy recovery.

Wednesday found Neil and Charlie Cerutti, Chuck Laufer, Dave Stonecliffe and Bob Cauley performing for approximately 25 nurses at an evening hors d'oeuvre dinner given in recognition of the nurses' efforts during the past year. The quintet started off with a couple of songs from the Green Mountain Chorus repertoire, followed by two from the GMC 2003 annual show, and ending with excerpts from "Music Man." It is amazing how much enthusiasm is generated by such a small group. We were jokingly encouraged to sing all night! Consequently, flyers announcing the upcoming GMC 2003 show disappeared as quickly as they were placed on a table.

Mo, Dave, Chuck and Neil closed out the three days of barbershop on Thursday morning in the hospital's upper and lower lobbies. They sang twice

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## Annual Show Update:

by *Jerry Walter, Editor*

### General information -

For those who need to be reminded [and for those reading this journal from afar] our 55th Annual Show "A salute to the Buffalo Bills" featuring the 2002 International Champion quartet **The Four Voices** will be presented on Saturday May 31, at 2:00 and 8:00 p.m. at South Burlington High School [same as last year]. Tickets are available as follows: at the afternoon show adults \$15, seniors (65 older) \$10, students and children (18 and under) **free**; at the evening show all tickets are \$15 (students are still free). Booster tickets are available for \$20 at both performances.

There will be an afterglow following the show at the Elks Lodge on North Avenue in Burlington for a cost of \$7.50 per person. See the article on reverse.

### Chapter member info

All performing members will be required to attend a technical rehearsal at South Burlington High School beginning at **9:30 a.m. Saturday, May 31.**

See **Show** page 2

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## DIRECTOR'S

**C** "Three weeks and it  
**O** couldn't be worse!"

by Greg Morrill, Musical Director

**R** Well we have three Tuesdays until  
**N** show time! And, if I got the lyrics  
**E** right of Cole Porter's "Another  
**R** Op'nin', Another Show," from "Kiss  
Me Kate," I believe they apply.  
We've got to start turning these songs  
into a show. That means we can't spend  
all our time on notes and words! Be-  
tween now and show I'm asking that you  
spend some time every day preparing for  
the show. Listen to those tapes and CDs.

This show will be a success  
whether we as a chorus do our best or  
not, but it will be a great show if the cho-  
rus demonstrates what it is capable of.

I keep coming back to what Gary  
Bolles said, "You know, you guys sing  
pretty well when you decide you want to!"  
Well, I'm asking each of you to make that  
decision for this show. Let's decide to  
make this "the best show ever" by mak-  
ing the chorus numbers a highlight and  
not just fillers.

**Board of Directors  
meeting  
Wednesday  
May 14  
7:30 Shaw's Supermarket  
All welcome!**

## Show from page 1

The reason is due to the unavailability of  
the auditorium Friday evening.

Technical persons [and others who  
wish to set up] should be at the school by  
**7:00 a.m. Saturday.**

Call times to begin warm up are **12:00  
noon** for the afternoon show and **6:30**  
for the evening show.

## Program materials

If you have any material for the printed  
program, that is: ads, quartet photos or  
write up, lists of important people or what  
ever, please get copies to Jerry Walter as  
soon as possible.

Tonight is the deadline for ads, but if  
you have additional copy contact Jerry.

## Quartets from page 1

in each spot, settling into a 15-minute  
set of 8 songs, including Barberpole Cat  
songs and GMC repertoire. As usual,  
"The Lion Sleeps Tonight" was a fa-  
vorite, but by the fourth time through,  
the Lion's roar became a muffled growl  
as Chuck Laufer's voice was feeling  
the jungle heat. Dave Stonecliffe in-  
vented a new ending to "Alexander's  
Ragtime Band" (Just ask him...he'll sing  
it for you). Also, being relatively new to  
quartet singing (as compared to chorus),  
Dave was heard to say, "There is no  
place to hide in a quartet!" And, of  
course, no one can sing a Pole Cat like  
Mo Cerutti.

And ... the patient who was wheeled  
by us on the gurney in the Emergency  
Room? Well, he managed a bit of a smile  
as he went by, no doubt forgetting, if  
only for a moment, why he was there.

## Afterglow news

by Reid Allen

The Afterglow this year will be at the  
Burlington Elks Lodge, North Avenue.  
We will have a cold buffet: assorted  
cold cuts, cheese, sandwich rolls, po-  
tato salad, lettuce salad and a few other  
items. Cash bar.

It is important that you let me know  
how many tickets at \$7.50 that you will  
need so that I can plan accordingly.

I expect about 100 or so, but will need  
to be pretty accurate. We will allow for  
a few unexpected walk-ins, but hope  
that will be a minimum.

See me, call me, email me, but let  
me know asap.

## Convention News: Volunteers still needed!

Yes, it's not too late to volunteer for  
the International Convention and Con-  
test. Many more persons are needed in  
the contest venue. A Convention regis-  
tration is **not** needed to volunteer.

If you have already volunteered,  
please make sure you complete a vol-  
unteer form, also, as times of availabil-  
ity (both days, and hours) are needed to  
staff all of the open positions.



- May 14 (Wednesday) -- Board of Director's meeting Shaw's 7:30
- May 31 (Saturday) -- 55th Annual Show Featuring 2002 Champs Four Voices
- June 6 (Friday) -- Package Show Morrisville, VT
- June 22 (Sunday) -- Package Show Tunbridge, VT
- June 25 (Wednesday) -- Mini Retreat - Dan Signor 7:00 p.m. St. Francis School
- June 29 - July 6 -- 2003 International Convention and Contest MONTREAL! Sign up now!
- July 11 (Friday) -- National Anthem Vermont EXPOS Warm up 6:30
- July 27-August 3 -- Harmony College St. Joseph, Missouri Sign up now!
- August 1 (Friday) -- National Anthem Vermont EXPOS Warm up 6:30
- August 8-10 (Fri. - Sun.) -- Harmony College NE
- September 19-20 (Fri. - Sat.) -- Fall Retreat place TBD Coach - Gary Bolles
- October 24-25 (Fri. - Sat.) -- NED Convention and Contest -- Saratoga Springs, NY
- December 7 (Sunday) -- Elks Memorial Service Warm up 12:30
- December ? -- Annual Holiday Show 2004
- January ? -- Installation Banquet
- February 14 (Saturday) -- Singing Valentines
- June 5 (Saturday) -- Annual Show Featuring Chordiac Arrest