



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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Barbershoppers do Mozart!

by Bob Cauley, Slave



Slave/Priest Bob Cauley, evil Monostatos Mike LeMay, and techie extraordinaire Mo Cerutti. From the Echo Valley Arts Council production of Mozart's "The Magic Flute."

BARRE -- You may have noticed a few of our members among the missing over the past few weeks. Well, it was Mozart beckoning to three of them with his "Magic Flute."

Mike LeMay, Bob Cauley and Mo Cerutti are presently participating in the Echo Valley Community Arts' production of Mozart's magical opera, at the Barre Opera House. Mo is working with the stage crew, while Bob and Mike are out on stage giving it their all with their GMC-seasoned vocal apparatus. Mo told Mike and Bob, when

they first joined GMC, that singing would come a lot easier once we got into barbershop and he was very right.

While Bob has a supporting role as a slave and a priest, Mike takes a lead role in the part of the cruel, lecherous Monostatos. Monostatos is a real trouble maker as Prince Tamino tries to rescue the Queen of the Night's daughter, Pamina, from her abductor, Sarastro. Tamino has Papageno, the bird catcher, as his helper and their only aids are a magic flute and magic bells, gifts from the Queen. As they face ter-

See **Magic Flute** page 2

International Convention next week!

by Jerry Walter, Editor

MONTRÉAL-- Our Society's annual convention and contest will be held the closest to our terf ever next week. As is our tradition, there will not be a regular chapter meeting next Tuesday, July 1.

For those lucky enough to attend all or part of the convention, the following should be helpful.

First time conventioneers

If you have questions and/or any confusion about the Montréal convention, just shoot me an e-mail this coming week or contact me at the Queen Elizabeth (Fairmont) in Montreal starting next Tuesday evening (7/1/03). Helpers are still needed at the convention. Charlie Church.

Also feel free to contact your editor, Jerry Walter, who will be editing the daily bulletin at the convention at his email address jerwalter@hotmail.com any time. I'll be in Montréal from noon on Sunday on. **More info on page 4.**

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2001 Northeastern District Bulletin of the Year

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Chapter Barbershopper of the year 2002

Al Carpenter

Division Barbershopper of the year 2000

Charlie Church

Music team update:

The Music Team met last on 6/12/03. Here are salient points from that meeting:

1. Details were worked out for the Dan Signor coaching session on 6/25. We're looking to schedule another Tuesday coaching session later in the summer.

2. 2004 Annual Show - All 2004 show music has been received and distributed, Learning Tapes have been received and are being collated and distributed. Song learning order has also been established and published in the Undertone. [See sidebar page 3.] Introduction and "out-of spots" dates will be announced soon. An available list of songs has been distributed to quartets; Quartet VP to coordinate. Given a large and growing membership from central Vermont, a suggestion has been received that the chapter look at having a second annual show in that area.

3. Songs, script, talent, emcee, technical issues were worked out for 6/22 Package Show. Quartet talent is being sought for the 8/23 Vergennes Show.

4. The Music Team will continue the riser stool program - one at a time. Cushions will also be investigated. The general consensus is that individuals should pay for their own stools. Pat Heise will coordinate this program

5. The following songs have been eliminated from the GMC repertoire "Doin' The Raccoon," "Drinking Song," "Gaudeamus Igitur," "Gospel Medley," "The Halls of Ivy," "Lulu's Back in Town" and "Mister Touch-down, USA." Chapter quartets and/or VLQ are free to pick them up.

6. Summer efforts at vocal improvements will continue. In addition to concentrating on good vocal techniques in warm-up, craft classes will kick-off soon.

7. Fall Contest songs will be the same as in the Spring. K/O date is Wednesday 6/25. The Team elected to set a Fall Contest Goal of achieving enough points to win a ribbon. The Fall Retreat will be held on September 19 and 20.

8. Date and Time of next meeting: Wednesday, August 6 at 7:00 p.m. in Waterbury.

Respectfully submitted by:

C. Church, Music & Perf VP

6/24/03

Magic Flute from page 1

rible difficulties and mortal danger, Pamina undergoes agonizing trials involving Monostatos' unwelcome advances and her mother's increasingly unwholesome influence. Will Tamino and Pamina live happily ever after? What will become of Sarastro, the Queen and Monostatos?

You still have two more chances to delight in this bewitching fairy tale, this Friday and Saturday, 27 and 28 June, at the Barre Opera House. Give them a call at 476-8188 for tickets and watch Mike, Bob and (in the background) Mo uphold the GMC barbershop tradition of musical excellence!

“On the road” or “Travels with Jerry”

by Jerry Walter, Traveller

Whether it be Jack Kerouac or John Steinbeck adventures were nothing like those of your editor on his way home from Tunbridge, site of the Tunbridge World's Fair for well over a century. If you live in Vermont and haven't been to Tunbridge, shame, but understandable.

On the road to the Fair

Tunbridge is one of those places in Vermont that you can't get there from here. True, even for Vermonters, the Vermont Historical Society provided three different directions to get to Tunbridge from the north.

First, the most direct, was to take Interstate 89 south to exit 3, then take Vt 14 east to Vt 110. Problem? Vt 14 is a north-south byway, although if you head east on Vt 14 South, you will be going in the right direction.

Second, you can get off of I89 at exit 4 and “head east” and eventually reach VT 110, then go south to Tunbridge.

Third, you can get off of I89 at exit 8, 7 or 6 go east to East Barre, take US 302 and then take VT 110 south 22 miles to Tunbridge.

The Neil Cerutti's and myself chose the simple directions and found that getting off of I89 at exit 3, was a breeze, then we came to a “T” at Vt 14, our choices were 14North and 14South. We wondered which is “east?” Since it was so near noon, we couldn't use the sun's shadow to help and resorted to our handy Vermont maps to determine that

south was east, just as US 2 west is north in Vermont. Makes sense to me. Following that decision, the rest was easy.

At the Fair

Well, at the Tunbridge World 's Fair grounds, all was simple, if you were smart enough to ask directions you could park right next to the “main stage.”

Our 45 minute show finished in about 37 minutes due to a lack of live quartets. Grade A Fancy getting the thrill of the footlights as they debuted “When There's Love at Home,” filling in for The Dreamers and High Voltage both of which were originally scheduled to perform.

CVQ saved the day by filling in several numbers for the missing foursomes.

The performance included segments from the “Salute to The Buffalo Bills” as well as some left other favorites from our “Songs of the 50's” show.

Obviously, “*Sam, You Made the Pants too Long,*” as well as several other numbers were sure hits with the ever-increasing 200+ crowd, which included several of our “regular” family members as well as three or four from the Champlain Echoes. Thanks for your support.

The finale, “God Bless America,” continued in its ability to generate a standing ovation from the crowd.

On the way home

Following the well received performance, the chorus members scattered, some leaving, some getting a well deserved beer and others just taking in the sights. As I headed toward my car, I passed Denis Brochu and Dianne Potvin and they mentioned how nice a ride it was **not** riding the Interstate all the way to Tunbridge. I took the bait and pulled out my trusty Vermont map and quickly saw that if you draw a straight line from Tunbridge to Shelburne, **that** surely was much shorter than taking the Interstate and it was a perfect afternoon for a drive through the beautiful Vermont countryside.

So off I headed north on VT 110 along the White River. When I got to a nice solid black line on my map leading off to the left (west) toward East Randolph, I took it. This was my first lesson as to why highways mostly like to follow rivers – they're relatively flat. The roads running perpendicular to the main valley roads are **not** flat, no way. First, I went up, up and more up then down, down and reached East Randolph where another “river road” the Second Branch White River goes

north toward Williamstown. I didn't go far before I came to a nice two lane **red** on tyhe map road, Vermont state highway 65 which headed west again. Just what I wanted and there seemed to be a Vermont attraction along the way – whatever a “floating bridge” is.

So off I went on VT 65. I should have guessed when the road signs showing which way the main road turned and twisted were overgrown with weeds. Soon I came to what turns out to be Brookfield, the site of Sunset Lake — and the floating bridge which goes all the way across the lake.. Well, they should call it the partially floating bridge as only the ends and center actually float, the rest had sunk. There was no way to tell if the bridge was intact or how deep the water was, so I was prepared to go back and find me a river road to follow home. When I tried to back up, I saw two trucks of **Real Vermonters** behind me and just managed to get off of the “highway” enough for them to pass. They didn't even hesitate but just zoomed across the bridge water and all. Well, I knew I wouldn't sink, so across I went — I'm not sure why the people fishing from along both sides of the bridge stared at me, perhaps this was the first VW Beetle they had seen in 30 years.

Once across the lake, the road of dirt was of little concern as I headed for yet another river road. And shortly ended up in South Northfield heading north. Next, in Northfield Center, I headed west again. At this point I had managed to go **eight** miles west and 16 miles north, plus about 25 miles up and down from Tunbridge. I took VT 12A heading south to Roxbury where my next chance to head west was presented with a sign that said, “Road may be closed in winter, four wheel drive recommended.” But, it goes just where I want to go and there are no floating anything.

Again, it was up, up, up and then down, down, down until I finally reached Warren — we did a package show near here a few years ago. Now, I get to go on the big north-south Vermont highway VT 100 (also a river road – Mad River) but for only five miles when I arrive in Irasville where VT 17 gives me another chance to head west. Now, I've seen everything or have I? Starting up the mountain, I find some of the famous Vermont ski resorts like Sugarbush and Mad River Glen. Reminiscent of the Notch Road in Stowe, but a lot longer, the road (yes, it's paved)

See **On the road** page 4

2004 Annual Show songs

"Battle Hymn Of The Republic"

"South Rampart Street Parade"

"Way Down Yonder In New Orleans"

"Darkness On The Delta"

"The Birth Of The Blues"

"Basin Street Blues"

"Hush"

"The Impossible Dream"

"When The Saints Go Marching In"

"How Great Thou Art"

DIRECTOR'S

C Another Wow!

by *Greg Morrill, Musical Director*

Great job in Tunbridge on Sunday!

As I surveyed the stage layout before the show with that biiiiig wide track leading to an empty grandstand, I was filled with some trepidation. Singing outdoors (albeit

under a roof) is never easy. Singing to a far away audience is not easy. Put them together and it can be a recipe for less than a stellar performance. However you guys rose to the occasion and put on a quality, energized performance!

Now one of the contributing factors was a good sound system which allowed us to know that we were being heard. That helped keep us from over-singing, but we also can take some credit for good quality singing! I particularly want to recognize the lead section. While by the numbers we were "lead light," the leads who were there did a great job of producing a quality, solid unit sound! They definitely gave the harmony parts something with which to harmonize which helped in all aspects.

To reinforce this perception of a good performance, the woman in charge of booking acts for the event came up to me right after the performance. She was delighted with our show and said she'd contact AI about booking us for next year! Also a longtime observer of the Green Mountain Chorus (Heather Anderson), remarked how energetic our performance came across. All of these are indications of the strength of our performance in Tunbridge. Thanks again, guys!

On the road from page 3

makes many switchbacks as it first ascends and then descends the mountain before coming out near Jerusalem and then South Starksboro. Finally, I arrive at VT 116 near Mary's at Baldwin Creek just south of Hinesburg, that means I'm almost home.

Well, I got home at 5:00 only two and a half hours from Tunbridge. Not bad since it took one hour and a half by way of the Interstate and the river roads.

What a great ride. I'd do it again in a minute. Viva Vermont!

Where are my tickets?

by *John Schneider, Kenosha*

Because of ticketing problems with the Bell Centre, none of the tickets for the AIC Show, World Harmony Jamboree and Harmony Foundation Presents (Rockappella) have been mailed. There are roughly 5,000 tickets sold for AIC, 2,000 for WHJ and 1,400 for Rockappella. I am going to set up six booths on the Mezzanine Level (one level below the Convention Level where Registration, etc. will be held) for people to pick up their pre-paid tickets for those three events. That should keep a lot of congestion out of the Registration area.

People who don't get their tour tickets can be directed to the tour buses on the day their tour is to take place. We have (and the tour people will have) a complete list of everyone that has paid for every tour.

All those folks who haven't received their tour tickets need to do is come to the tour departure location (lobby of the Fairmont Queen Elizabeth Hotel) and check in with the tour operators. If their name is on the tour list, they can get on the bus without their tickets.

See you in Montréal!



June 29 - July 6	--	2003 International Convention and Contest MONTREAL!
July 1 (Tuesday)	--	NO MEETING
July 8 (Tuesday)	--	Regular meeting St. Francis School
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
August 23 (Saturday)	--	Package show Vergennes
September 16 (Tuesday)	--	Early Singout Wake Robin Shelburne 6:30
September 19-20 (Fri. - Sat.)	--	Fall Retreat place TBD Coach - Gary Bolles
September 20 (Saturday)	--	Champlain Echoes Show Flynn Space, Burlington
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
January 31 (Saturday)	--	Great Northern Harmony Workshop, Montréal with Uptown Sound
February 14 (Saturday)	--	Singing Valentines

