



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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66 Bacon Drive, Shelburne, VT 05482

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Coach Gary Bolles travels across country to coach GMC!

by *Charlie Church, Music VP*

This weekend will be our long anticipated Annual Fall Retreat. This is a "must attend" event for all chapter members, particularly for those who will be singing with the chorus in the district contest on October 25 in Saratoga Springs. The Retreat is guaranteed to be a learning experience for all.

Leading the learning experience will be our coach Gary Bolles. Gary comes to us from California where he is the recently retired director of the Pot O'Gold Chorus of the Bay Area Metro Chapter (a perennial chorus representative of the Far Western District at International) Gary is one of the Society's premier coaches, a Music Judge, including a past Interpretation Category Specialist, and is a key consultant to NED's Singing A's program.

Gary retired last year as the inaugural director of the Pot O'Gold Chorus and was a founder of that California chapter dedicated to match the Vocal Majority in the Far Western District. In his 14 years as director, Gary let his chorus to three District championships in 1994, 1999 and 2000 and qualified for two additional trips to International as wild card entries; finishing seventh in New Orleans.

Gary, originally from Rhode Island, has been a Barbershopper for over thirty years and began his judging career just in time to give the Green Mountain Chorus a third place Division Contest finish in Poultney in 1973. [Steve Plumb was not happy!]

Gary will be arriving Friday and will be staying with Jerry and Judy Huetz for the weekend. He will be working with Grade A Fancy Friday afternoon.

The Retreat will be at Lone Pine Campground. Please see the article on page 4 if you need directions. The Friday portion of the Retreat will start at 7:00 p.m. sharp (and it won't hurt you to be early). You might want to bring along bottled water, a flash light, and dress warmly. The Saturday portion of the Retreat will start at 9:00 a.m. (again, it won't hurt to be early). Coffee will be brewed by Gary Brunell. If your wife or significant other can provide some goodies, it would be appreciated. Please let me know what you'll be bringing.

For lunch on Saturday you can either bring a sack lunch or eat at any nearby local restaurant (e.g. McDonald's or Burger King at exit 16).

See **Retreat** on page 4

Annual Retreat this Friday & Saturday!

by *Don Pierce, Chorus Manager*

This Friday and Saturday The Green Mountain Chorus will hold its Annual Fall Retreat. This year for the second time in twenty-one years we will be holding our coaching sessions at Lone Pine Campgrounds in Colchester and not at our historic site at Camp Keewaydin on Lake Dunmore. There will be two sessions; the first Friday evening from 7:00 to 10:00 and the second beginning at 9:00 Saturday morning until 4:00, if we are able.

For additional information and directions please see the articles on pages 1 and 4.

This retreat is a "must do" for all chorus members regardless of whether you will be able to sing with us this fall. Please contact Greg or Charlie Church if you cannot attend and you are planning to sing in Saratoga Springs.

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2001 Northeastern District Bulletin of the Year

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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.

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Baritone- Bob Cauley	Bass- Dave Stonecliffe
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Package Show Producer	Charlie Church

Chapter Barbershopper of the year 2002

Al Carpenter

Division Barbershopper of the year 2000

Charlie Church

Music Team Report - September 2003

The Music Team last met on 9/9/03 at St. Francis School. Here are salient points from that meeting:

1. The Fall Retreat (Friday, 9/19 and Saturday, 9/20) appears to be will under control. Jerry and Judy Huetz will host coach Gary Bolles for the weekend. Grade A Fancy will avail themselves of Gary's expertise on Friday afternoon. The Friday evening chorus session at Lone Pine Campground will run from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.; the Saturday session from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Chorus members might want to bring drinking water along and any required snacks.

A tip of the hat goes to Reid Allen for obtaining the Campground again this year. Gary Brunell is coordinating Saturday morning coffee and doughnuts. Folks will be on their own for lunch. We'll have a "happy hour" at about 4 o'clock. Bob Cauley is organizing a Saturday evening dinner with Gary at a local restaurant - all are welcome (including wives and significant others) - folks should see Bob if interested in attending. Based on the excellent attendance and progress made over the past two weeks, the Music Team feels that Gary will bring the chorus to new levels of achievement.

2. We briefly reviewing the status of 2004 show music - we're slightly behind schedule on song learning - clearly the Learning Tapes are not being used by all members. We received a report on the status of the VLQ - Dave Stonecliffe has received limited response with regard to participation.

3. The Team discussed the Fall Contest in depth. We reviewed the impact of Greg's letter, the progress of the chorus to-date, the plan to get Sections and Section Leaders more involved in the learning process, etc. Section Leaders present were queried for their thoughts/concerns and to what extent we could further do to enhance their effectiveness in achieving section unit sound. Gary Brunell has volunteered to be the "hoopla" coordinator. Jerry Huetz showed the Team his suggestion for a new red/black vest. The Team supported Jerry's selection and offered it's support as the issue now goes to the Board for approval.

4. We reviewed in depth the proposal for a second 2004 annual show in Barre. Show Chair Mo Cerutti was present and discussed a number of items pertinent to the proposed Barre Opera House venue. The Music Team continues to support the concept of a second show in Barre and has recommended that the Board approve the proposal.

5. The next Music Team meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 1 in Waterbury at the state complex. All are welcome.

Respectfully submitted by:

C. Church

Music & Performance VP 9/15/03

Rob Henry memorial for son

A lot of people have asked us the best way to help Sue Henry with financial donations. Rob's employer, American Nationwide Mortgage, has sponsored a college trust fund for Rob and Sue's son Ryan who is two years old. If you care to make a donation, please see the instructions below.

On behalf of the Henry family and The Gas House Gang, we thank you all for everything you have done.

Mail To:

American Nationwide Mortgage
ATTN: Patrick Flynn
224 Mid Rivers Center
St. Peters, MO 63376

Make checks payable to: Edward Jones
Please write in the memo field: Ryan Henry

Want to sing?

VLQ to organize

by *Dave Stonecliffe*

We are very interested in organizing a Very Large Quartet. I have observed how so many members are eager and so much enjoy singing in large quartets on rehearsal night or out in public. The Music Committee has asked me if I would spearhead the effort. Our goal is to have: three to four leads, two tenors, two baritones and four bases for a total of 11 to 12 singers. We will be singing a variety of music including chorus repertoire.

This opportunity offers someone interested in changing parts to give it a try without a permanent commitment.

The uptune "Take Me To The Land Of Jazz" has been selected for our VLQ for the 2004 show. The rating on this song is "2U," that is a moderately difficult uptune. There are many other details to discuss and finalize however, our immediate concern is we are looking for men who want to volunteer for this unique quartet experience. Please let me know if you have the time and you are interested in participating in the VLQ.

Dale Higgs: Happy Birthday!

Last Sunday, Dale Higgs, a 32 year member of the chapter, celebrated his 64th birthday with the help of an impromptu quartet "High Maple Dream Effect" featuring Monroe Allen, tenor, Ron Clarke, lead, Charlie Church, baritone, and Jerry Walter, bass. Although the quartet has a total of 138 years singing experience, it had some difficulty in making choices from its extended repertoire. They were able to sing their entire repertoire including Barberpole

Cat songs and some chorus numbers including "Hello, Mary Lou," and "Darkness On The Delta."

Although bedridden, Dale was able to sing along on most songs. He and his brother-in-law shared the birthday spotlight as all present enjoyed the performance. The quartet discounted praises by the collected audience and felt there were a few opportunities for improvement.

Yes, it's true, -- It's great being a Barbershopper!

Nominations for Officers for 2004

by *Gary Brunell*

Your nominating committee has been working overtime this year and is proud to present the following slate well before the deadline this year. Elections will be held next Tuesday for 2004 officers.

Here are the candidates:

President -	Dick Labrecque
Secretary -	John Zweighaft
Treasurer-	Denis Brochu
Music VP -	Neil Cerutti
Membership VP -	Reid Allen
Quartet VP -	Charlie Cerutti
Program VP -	[Unfilled]
Members at large:	

Al Carpenter
Mo Cerutti
Jerry Huetz
Serge Rizzo
John Villere
Jerry Walter

Excalibur: 8 X Top10 retires

by *Brent Graham*, via the Harmonet

The 1993 LOL District Champs and perennial International Finalist quartet, Excalibur, will be hanging up their "SWORD" this Fall. We will be performing twice at the LOL District Convention in Rochester, MN - once on the Association of District Champions Show, Friday, Oct 24 and once on Saturday, Oct 25 after the LOL District champ is crowned. Our final performance will be on the St. Paul, MN chapter show on Nov. 15, 2003.

All six members of the quartet - original members John Moksnes, Greg Dolphin, Greg Volk and John Korby, plus recent additions Brent Graham and Jay Giallombardo - will be in Rochester. Each version of Excalibur will sing some of your favorite Excalibur songs, and word has it that Greg Volk will be arranging a 6-parter as our "big finish".

DIRECTOR's

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Big weekend ahead!

by **Greg Morrill**
Music Director

Great job at last week's rehearsal. You guys responded well to the inputs of myself and Pat.

It was also a good turnout and I hope that bodes well for this weekend's retreat at the same location. Our coach, Gary Bolles, may be new to some of you, but he has a national (possibly international) reputation. Until June of last year, he directed the Pot O'Gold Chorus in the San Francisco Bay Area and has directed them on the International stage five times. That chorus isn't "big" -- I believe they usually have about 50 on stage -- but they sing like a big chorus. I really believe he can make a difference for us. So let's show him a good turnout starting Friday night!

Retreat from page 1

We anticipate that the Retreat will end at 4 o'clock on Saturday. If there is interest by the campground residents, we may present a short program at 4:00 p.m. -- stay tuned on this -- Reid is pulling the strings. You may recall that the Lone Pine residents loved us when we sang there last year.

Lastly, if you/spouse/significant other have any interest in going to dinner with Gary on Saturday evening, give me or Bob Cauley a holler ASAP.

Champlain Echoes Show Saturday!

This Saturday, the Champlain Echoes will present their annual show in the Flynn Space in Burlington at 2 and 8 p.m..

Their special guest quartet will be Dan Signor's mixed quartet, 'Round Midnight.

Ticket are \$10 for adults and \$7 for students and seniors.

Retreat at Lone Pine this weekend

by *Reid Allen*

This Friday and Saturday, we will be holding our Annual Fall Retreat at the Lone Pine Campground in Colchester. We will start at 7:00 on Friday and go until 10:00. Saturday's session will begin at 9:00 sharp, break for lunch, and finish by 4:00

For those requiring directions, please follow these simple directions.

The camp ground is just west of Interstate 89 in Colchester on Bay Road. [Jim Mallabar can probably walk there.]

From Burlington or thereabouts, take North Avenue towards Colchester, past the beltway to Prim Road, at Bay Road turn right and follow Bay Road around the lake, bearing left at Bayside Park. After Bay Road leaves the lake to head East, look for the entrance to Lone Pine on your left just before passing under I89.

From the South, use Exit 16 from I89, turn right on US 7, go north and look for the Mobil station on the right. Turn left on Bay Road and just after passing under the Interstate, Lone Pine is on the right.

From the North, use Exit 17 from I89 and turn left to reach US 7, turn right on US 7 and go south past the blinker to the Mobil station on your left. Turn right on Bay Road and just after passing under the Interstate, Lone Pine is on your right.

After entering the camp ground, bear right past the Office and take the center paved road. Look for the building with multiple garage doors and park to its left.

Bring bottled water, a flashlight and warm clothes and, if Isabel arrives, rain gear.

See you there!



- September 19-20 -- Fall Retreat Lone Pine
(Fri. - Sat.) Campground
Coach - Gary Bolles
- September 20 -- Champlain Echoes Show
(Saturday) Flynn Space, Burlington
2 and 8 p.m. featuring
'Round Midnight
- September 27 -- Barre-Tones Show
(Saturday) Barre Opera House
- October 24-25 -- NED Convention and
(Fri. - Sat.) Contest -- Saratoga
Springs, NY
- December 6 -- Annual Holiday Show
(Saturday) (Tentative)
- December 7 -- Elks Memorial Service
(Sunday) Warm up 12:30
- December 14 -- Vergennes Holiday Show
(Sunday) 2:00 p.m.
Vergennes Opera House
- December 16 -- First 20 Week Club
(Tuesday) Drawing
- 2004
- January ? -- Installation Banquet
- January 31 -- Great Northern Harmony
(Saturday) Workshop, Montréal
with Uptown Sound
- February 14 -- Singing Valentines
(Saturday)
- March 19-20 -- NED Prelims, VLQ and
(Fri. - Sat.) Western Division
Contests, Albany area
- April 30 -- 20 Week Club Banquet
(Friday)
- May 29 -- Annual Show featuring
(Saturday) Chordiac Arrest
- June 27-July 4 -- International Convention
(Tues.-Sun.) and Contests - Louisville,