

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.

Jerry Walter, Editor (802) 985-8714
66 Bacon Drive, Shelburne, VT 05482

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John Villeré, President Sworn in *in absentia*

by Jerry Walter, Editor

On Friday, January 4, our 2002 Board of Directors was sworn in under the careful supervision of **Steve Janes**, Presentation Judge and long time chapter member.

As a departure from more theatrical approaches to induction of officers, seen in some recent years, the ceremony was strictly serious and very pertinent to our situation. This may have been a surprise for some coming from Steve, who is our most **theatrically** proficient member.

Surprise officer of the evening was **John Villeré**, as president, who although not present was sworn in with the remainder of the group, which included:

- VP Music & Performance **Charlie Church**
- VP Development (administrative) **Dick Labrecque**
- VP quartetting (tentative) **Al Allen**
- Secretary **Dave Merrill**
- Treasurer **Denis Brochu**
- Program VP and Past President **Gary Brunell**
- Members at Large **Al Carpenter** **Dale Higgs**

Serge Rizzo Jerry Walter

The board held it's first monthly meeting on January 9, at which the need for new risers was discussed as well as the potential for package shows in Morrisville on June 7 and a possible show in Randolph.

Music team input included announcement of March 2, as the Spring (winter) workshop and that contest songs for the division contest will be "Mister Touchdown USA" and "Once Upon A Time." **Reid Allen** is our non-paid singout coordinator for 2002.

Singing Valentines coming soon!

Just a reminder, we will be doing Singing Valentines with the Champlain Echoes again this year. Price again will be \$40 for two songs, balloon, card and candy. Co-chairpersons for the Echoes are Susan Culbert and Heather Anderson. Flyers and order forms will be available next week. Those interested in participating contact Jerry Walter, GMC coordinator.

CVQ sings "Stardust"

by Brian Stone

Last Sunday was a celebration occasion for a long time theater friend in Central Vermont. About 640 friends and acquaintances, a full house at the Barre Opera House, turned out to celebrate the life of Russell Smith, long time producer, director, actor, song writer, basketball referee and much, much more. Russell is seriously ill but was able to attend with his family. Nearly 100 performers were in the cast that included songs, dance and monologues from shows done by the Barre Players and the Montpelier Theater Guild.

CVQ was asked to sing "Stardust," one of Russ's favorite songs. After some research Neil discovered a Walter Latzko arrangement for the quartet. Typical of Mr. Latzko it was a great arrangement but a challenge for CVQ to learn. Happily, it all went well and was extremely well received by the audience. "Stardust" has now joined the permanent repertoire for the quartet.

DIRECTOR'S

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New beginnings!

by **Greg Morrill**,
Musical Director

Rhearsals will now start at 7:00 p.m. (sharp) with an official warm-up. For awhile now we've been starting with a gang sing and then going to a warm-up. The rationale is to set the mental attitude of singing our best even when we're just singing polecats or tags. This will work best if we have good attendance right at 7:00! So I urge everyone to take a note from the Grevatt book and be there on time!

We also will start a vocal craft program that will review some of the basics of good singing. We haven't had one of these for awhile and the feeling is that even our experienced members can benefit from "going back to the basics."

So those are the first two facets of our 2002 strategy to emphasize quality singing every time we sing. Next week I'll discuss the strategy we're recommending for learning our new music.

And speaking of new music, the learning schedule is posted again for your convenience in the next column.

Music learning schedule

Intro	Out of spots
"Teach the Children To Sing" Jan 8	Feb 5
"The drinking Song" Jan 8	Feb 5
"Mister Touchdown USA" Jan 22	Feb 19
"Gaudeamus Igatur" Feb 12	Mar 12
"Moments To Remember" Mar 19	Apr 16
"Halls Of Ivy" Apr 2/9	May 7

DeBusman visit 1/31

Don't forget, there will not be a regular meeting on Tuesday Jan. 29, but there will be a special meeting at South Burlington High School on Thursday Jan. 31. Jim DeBusman, Society Music Specialist/Quartet Development/Coaching Guild, will be in town for a great working session.

Jim will also be available to provide workshops for local high schools. He is scheduled to appear at Mount Mansfield Union High school and at Colchester High School. He will be available to visit other schools as well. Please contact Reid Allen (802 862-8987) with any additional contact information.

20 Week Club Results

12/25	3 Marion Beaulieu	Dan Venditti
01/01	33 Carol Henson	Dick Labrecque
01/08	247 Bob Bouvier	Dick Labrecque



January 29 (Tuesday)	- No regular meeting
January 31 (Thursday)	- Special meeting with Jim Debusman from Kenosha
February 2 (Saturday)	- Mountain Division Harmony Workshop - Montreal Chapter pays \$37 tuition
February 14 (Thursday)	- Singing Valentines
March 2 (Saturday)	- Spring Workshop Details TBA
April 19-20 (Fri. - Sat.)	- Division Contest Manchester, Connecticut
May 3 (Friday)	- 20 Week Club Banquet South Burlington K of C
May 25 (Saturday)	- Montreal's Annual Show
June 1 (Saturday)	- 2002 Annual Show College Days featuring Michigan Jake
July-August	- Vermont Expos singouts
September	- Annual Retreat
October 25-26 (Fri. - Sat.)	- NED Fall Convention Lake Placid, New York

Jerry Walter

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