



# 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

May 28, 2002  
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## “College Days!” here at last!

by Jerry Walter, Editor

There are now only three days left to sell tickets for our annual show. We are looking for two sellout performances, but we will not achieve this if everyone doesn't get out and solicit ticket sales. How many tickets have you sold?

Don't forget that you need to turn in all of your ticket money and unsold tickets by Friday evening or you will have denied the chapter the right to sell the tickets and you will have bought them. Return money and tickets to Jim Mallabar as soon as possible. Please use the forms provided to account for your tickets.

If you have sold tickets and they need to be picked up at the door, please put the tickets in an envelope marked with the person's name, number of tickets and an indication of

if they have been paid for.

Friday evening's technical rehearsal will begin promptly at 7:00 at the High School. This is not a "dress" rehearsal, so uniforms and costumes will not be required.

As stated in the adjacent article, the Saturday call is 12 noon. Be as ready to go as you can be when you arrive at the school. The curtain goes up at 2:00 promptly.

Saturday evening call is 6:30 with the curtain at 8:00.

The uniform for the first half is: various "college" stuff. (See last week's article for ideas.) And white tuxedo shirt, white jacket, paisley vest and tie, black pants, shoes and socks for the second half.

The Afterglow, at \$5 per head, is at Hauke Hall, Champlain College on Maple St. just north of S. Willard.

## Show schedule Update

by Charlie Church, Chief Techie

Here's a time line for this weeks show at South Burlington High School.

For techies and other helpers, we will load into SBHS beginning at 4:00 p.m. Friday.

Fri. May 31 - 7 p.m. tech rehearsal - all hands.

Sat. June 1 -

Noon warm up

2:00 - First show curtain

6:30 - Warm up

8:00 - Second show curtain

10:30 - Afterglow

Champlain College - Hauke Hall \$5.00 per person - tickets limited to 100.

### Break a leg!

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# The Undertone

2001 Northeastern District Bulletin  
of the Year

A publication of the Burlington, Vermont Chapter of SPEBSQSA, Inc., a non-profit, 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.

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E-Mail: JerWalter@hotmail.com

## Burlington Chapter Board of Directors

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Lighting/Sound Coordinator	
Chorus Manager	Don Pierce
Package Show Producer	Charlie Church

Chapter Barbershopper of the year 2001

**Ed Bechtel**

Division Barbershopper of the year 2000

**Charlie Church**

**Don't forget!**  
**Next Tuesday we will be meeting at**  
**St. Francis School**  
**5 St. Peter Street, Winooski**

## Directions to St. Francis School

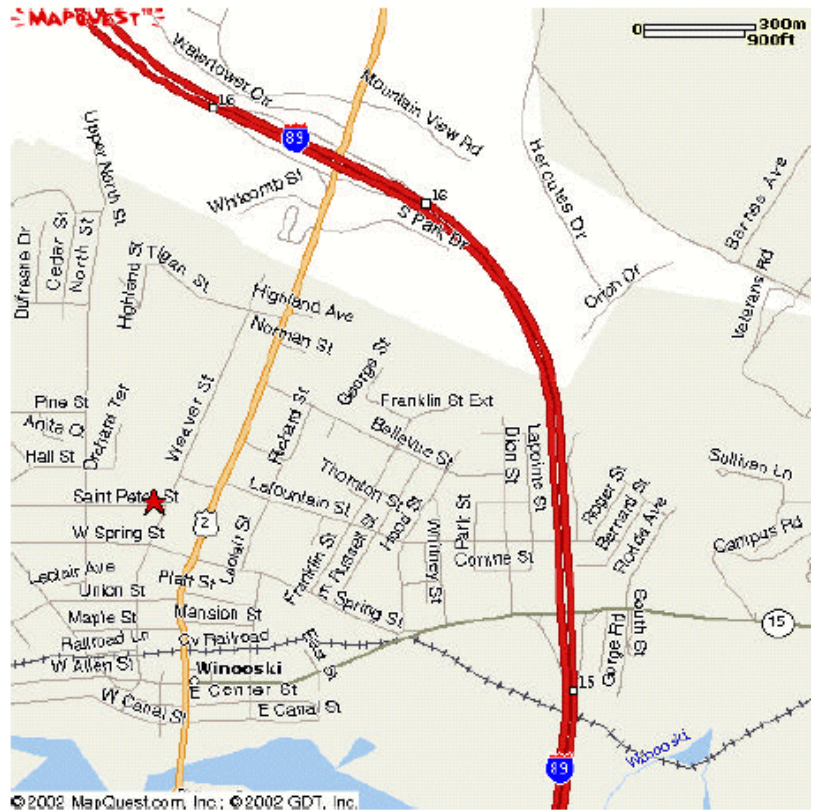
The school is located on St. Peter Street in Winooski just next to St. Francis Xavier Church. I'll give a choice of approaches.

From the North, take I89 South, at Exit 16 turn right on US2 south then at the third traffic light ( W. Spring St.) turn right go one block to Weaver Street, turn right and go one block north, turn left on St. Peter Street and turn right into the church/school parking lot. Enter the school by the main entrance door on St. Peter's Street.

If you are going south on US2 correct four lights after passing under I89, then turn right on Spring, right on Weaver and left on St. Peter, as above.

From the South, you have two choices. First choice: take I89 north to exit 16, turn left (US 2 South) and pass under the Interstate and at the fourth light turn right on to Spring street and then the next right on Weaver Street and the next left on St. Peter Street to the school.

Second choice, take I89 North to Exit 15, Vermont 15, and turn left at the end of the exit ramp – Vt 15 West. Go under I89 keeping in the right lane past one light for about 1/4 mile you will see the Railroad Crossing and a Y-intersection where the right lane must turn. This is East Spring Street. Go straight for about a half mile past one stop sign to the first traffic light. Go straight across US 2 and turn right at the first street (Weaver Street), then make the first left on to St. Peter Street. The school is on your right. Enter by the door on the St. Peter's Street side.



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# A Chording 2 Your President

by **Jon Villeré**, President

It's no secret that some of us are much more interested in entertaining appreciative audiences than we are in trying to impress a panel of judges. Our annual show this Saturday is our foremost entertainment event of the year. This is our opportunity to entertain!

Our song selection this year is fun, but challenging. My experience with both Theatre and Barbershop over the years has consistently demonstrated

performers' ability to make quantum leaps and rise to the occasion of a live audience. As often as I have experienced it, I still get a high each time.

To me, a live stage performance is a magnificent demonstration of human symbiosis. The results, at times, seem only slightly short of miraculous. For those prone to stage fright, take comfort. Provided we have done the prerequisite practice and rehearsing the magic

of the stage can carry us over those last few feet of what, today, may look like a chasm.

We still have opportunities to do some final work on the package. Your best tools are still the learning tapes/CD's. Use them every opportunity you get.

I look forward to standing with the rest of you, looking out over the smiling audience as they enjoy our show. See you there!

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## Music Team Report

by **Charlie Church**, Music VP

1. The Music Team met on May 1<sup>st</sup> at the American Legion in Waterbury. A tip of the hat to Reid Allen for securing this fine facility on very short notice.

2. We reviewed openings on the Music Team (Quartet VP, Ass't Bass section leader, & Chorus Mgr) and discussed possible candidates to be contacted.

3. We held a post mortem on the recent Division Contest. The Team shared their thoughts and engaged with Director Greg on his observations and some potential fixes by section. Guest Carl Phillips shared his observations. He felt that we benefitted greatly from Dan Signor's coaching but slipped backwards when we introduced other concepts such as presentation techniques. We need to focus on the techniques that Dan was stressing.

4. We reviewed the status of 2002 Annual Show music. All songs appear to be do-able for the show. We will work on problem spots during sectional.

5. 2002 Annual Show - other. We're still looking for a school chorus to sing on the Annual Show.

Should we not find a group, the Chorus will open the second half with a 12-15 minute segment. We discussed the script with R. Allen and made suggestions on moving songs around and segue ideas. Staging was discussed and plans formulated for signs, tables, chairs, etc. Costumes were discussed - a list of costume ideas will be published.

6. Summer and Fall Retreat plans were reviewed and updated. Karen Rourke is coming on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. We're trying to get sessions with Dan Signor in June and August - these sessions will not be on Tuesdays due to Dan's schedule. Dates of June 19<sup>th</sup> and August 21<sup>st</sup> were selected with Dan. Gary Bolles is coming on Sept. 27/28.

7. 2003 Annual Show - A Salute to the Buffalo Bills." Arrangements have been paid for, leaning tapes ordered, & music ordered. Song learning order has been determined. The first song will be introduced on June 11<sup>th</sup>. We're looking for an Artistic Director to start planning the show since there is no script available. A list of quartet songs will be published.

8. 2002 Fall contest songs were

discussed. We picked "Mister Touchdown, USA" and are looking at doing a parody.

9. Early Bird" sing-outs/performance scheduled include May 14<sup>th</sup> in St. Albans and June 18<sup>th</sup> at Eagle Crest in Blair Park in Williston.

10. We reviewed the three Summer/Fall Package Shows scheduled, looking at song selection, scripting, MC, Sound/Lights and personnel.

11. We discussed at length the chapter's biggest perceived problem - membership.

12. The Mountain Division's "Singing A" coaching team is now available (M. Nichols, C. Phillips, K. Abbott, T. McQueeney, M. Joyce, C. Eaker). C. Phillips gave us a presentation on the Singing A's program which includes emphasis on fundamentals, the hierarchy of the fundamentals and the goal, which is long term growth gained by moving through the hierarchy of the fundamentals. To-date, the program has been very successful with quartets. More info is available on the NED web site.

13. The next meeting will be Thursday evening, June 6 at 7:00 p.m. in Waterbury, place TBA.

## DIRECTOR'S

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### Another opening, another show!

by **Greg Morrill**,  
Musical Director

It's show week! Basically we have tonight, Friday's tech rehearsal and then Saturday's prep to pull everything together! While we debated having an extra rehearsal Thursday night, I have opted not to. That does mean I'm counting on you to use your tapes so we can pull off the two new songs!

For Friday's tech rehearsal plan to be here at 7:00 sharp! That way we'll have some time to do music rehearsal before we get into the tech rehearsal. As most of you know the tech rehearsal as the name implies is for the technical aspects of the show: lighting cues, sound cues and staging.

In general, we won't even necessarily sing the entire songs. The stage manager is in charge and there may be times when we have to hold and wait

while technical details are worked out. I ask for your cooperation and patience as that will help make this go faster.

Saturday plan to be at the school at 12:00 sharp. Remember, we have a lot to do and need every there to be able warm up properly. There may be others in the building, but don't use that as an excuse to be late!

We'll need every minute of prep time we can muster. When you arrive at the school drop your uniforms off in the designated dressing room and report immediately to the stage for warm-up.

Saturday evening we'll plan to gather on-stage at 6:30 for warm-up and rehearsal.

If there's any detail about the show you're not sure of, make sure you get answers before Saturday! That way you can channel 100% of your effort and concentration Saturday into the performance.

So, as the song says, "Let's go, on with the show!"



May 31 (Friday)	- Tech rehearsal for Annual Show South Burlington High School 7:00
June 1 (Saturday)	- 2002 Annual Show College Days featuring Michigan Jake See page 1
June 4 (Tuesday)	- Meeting at St. Francis School Winooski - See page 2 for details
June 6 (Thursday)	- Music Team Meeting Waterbury Place TBD 7:00
June 8 (Saturday)	- Package Show – Morrisville Details next week
June 18 (Tuesday)	- No meeting see next item below
June 19 (Wednesday)	- Mini Retreat @ St. Francis Coach – Dan Signor
June 25 (Tuesday)	- Singout – Eagle Crest Blair Park, Williston Warm up 6:30
July 1-7 (Mon. - Sun.)	- International Convention Portland, Oregon
July 2 (Tuesday)	- No meeting
July 20 (Saturday)	- National Anthem – Vermont Expos Time TBD
July 23 (Tuesday)	- Mini Retreat Coach – Karen Rourke
August 10 (Saturday)	- Package Show Troy, Vermont
August 15 (Thursday)	- National Anthem Vermont Expos

Jerry Walter

### ***The Undertone***

66 Bacon Drive  
Shelburne, VT 05482

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