



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. at St. Francis Xavier School, Winooski, Vermont -- Call 802 985-8714

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August 21, 2002
Volume 18, Number 21

Society board takes stand on youth essentially bans participation w/o parent!

by Jerry Walter, Editor

At the annual Society Board of Directors meeting this past July 2, the board considered 33 motions in three hours [that's one motion every five minutes and 24 seconds] including one in which the board adopted a "Youth Policy Statement" provide rules for participation of Youth in Society, i.e. international, district and chapter "Activities." The following is your editor's interpretation of the effect of this new policy.

The policy covers all Youth, defined as "persons who have not attained the legal age of majority in the jurisdiction where the Activity takes place."

"Activity" is defined as "all activities of the society or any of its subsidiaries, districts, and chapters, and to all activities of Society members where they are (or are reasonably expected to be) identified as being members of, or acting on behalf of, the Society or one of its subordinate units, when such activities involve participation by Youth." Activities may include "meetings, performances, clinics or schools, social events, or other

public or private events."

Youth involvement is defined as including "participation as a guest, student or enrollee, audience or observer, or participation as a Society member."

Up to this point, the policy covers all persons under the age of 18 when ever they are present at any event or gathering in which it can be inferred that others present can be identified as Society members.

Whenever such a Youth participates, i.e. is present, at such an activity, his or her "Parent" must be "personally present" or "written designation, naming and authorizing another person who will be present, to act in place of the Parent to fulfill the role and responsibility of the Parent."

A "Parent" is defined as "the parent, guardian, school or institutional representative or other person or persons having parental or supervisory responsibility and authority for the Youth." If there is no such person present, then a

See **Youth** page 2

Vergennes show this Saturday!

by Don Pierce, Chorus Manager

This Saturday (8/24/01) we will present a one and half-hour concert beginning at 1:00 p.m. at the Vergennes Opera House in downtown Vergennes. From a song perspective, this show will be a virtual copy of our recent Package Shows although we will not be focusing as much on "college" material, nor dressing with college costumes in the first half. The song order (See page 2) has also been changed.

Warm up at the Opera House will start at 11:30 a.m. sharp. The "techie" call will be at 11:00 a.m. (helpers are needed, see me). Those car pooling should plan on leaving the KMart Plaza parking lot in South Burlington at 10:45. Car pooling is

See **Vergennes** page 3

Inside

Ideas needed for Retreat	p.3
Songlist for Vergennes	p.3
Nashua plans fest for 8/28	p.3
Keep up the good work!	p.4
Southside scores zero...	p.4
Coming Events	p.4

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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.

Deadline for copy is 9:00 p.m. Monday preceding each issue. Copy is accepted in the following order of preference: e-mail, IBM compatible 3.5 diskettes - WordPerfect or most any other word processor, ASCII text; binary files in the above formats by modem to editor's home phone; oral dictation by phone and, of course, hard copy.

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Chapter Barbershopper of the year 2001

Ed Bechtel

Division Barbershopper of the year 2000

Charlie Church

Youth from page 1

“written designation” must include (1) “specific authority to obtain, provide or give consent for any necessary emergency medical treatment to the Youth, including (but not limited to) surgical procedures that may be recommended by a physician... “ and (2) such designation must “filed in the appropriate chapter ... permanent records and remain currently effective.”

Considering the specific language of the written designation required, one can only assume that if a person not having the authority to authorize medical treatment is not present, then the written designation is required.

In addition, Youth are not permitted attend any Activity where alcohol is served without a Parent or written designation on file.

In ordinary language, it means that high school students cannot attend a meeting, show or afterglow without a person who has authority to give consent for providing medical treatment for that student. It means that high school students cannot attend a Vermont Expos' baseball game in which a society chorus sings the national anthem without a Parent or written designation on file.

While such “rules” appear to isolate the Society from responsibility for injury or causes of actions by parents of Youth, they also appear to stretch the common sense practices of all parents I am aware of, at least here in Vermont.

Although “sample forms” for the required “written designation” are said to be available at the Society Laws and regulation Committee,” no samples are on the Society web site at present.

Were I to propose changes in this policy, I would reduce the

implied authority to one in which a parent or guardian, school or institutional representative, or other person familiar with the Youth having apparent supervisory authority is not present, then I would seek the existence of written authority for another person to have authority to give consent for medical treatment in absence of consent being obtainable from a parent or guardian.

Thus, for a Youth accompanying a group on a specific outing without another adult having at apparent authority, the requirement for written permission is reasonable.

The act of being present in the audience of a public performance by a Society group, requiring written designation of a person present being “on Permanent file” is quite a requirement to expect Society members to enforce is quite unreasonable.

Perhaps, this country lawyer has misread the policy



Ideas for 'post' retreat wanted

by **Gary Brunell**, Program VP

We will have our annual fall retreat this year at Lonepine Campgrounds in Colchester on September 26 and 27. On Saturday, we are planning on finishing the formal activities 4:00 in the afternoon.

An idea has been presented to determine if the chapter members are interested in doing anything special afterwards. As far as we know, we can use the hall at the campground for whatever activity we want. We

can have a cookout or something else in the evening with loved ones or wives! Get the gist?

If you would be interested, or if you have any ideas, please let me know, either at rehearsal, or call or email but let me know. Thanks.

Vergennes from page 1

advised and it would be wise to make your arrangements by the end of tonight's rehearsal.

To get to the Opera House, take Route 7 South from Burlington and turn right onto Vermont 22A at Vergennes. The Opera House will be on your right after 1.2 miles (it is upstairs over the Police Station/City Hall and directly across the street from The United Methodist Church where we have previously sung).

Park on the street or continue onto the next traffic signal, turn left onto Green Street and park in the former Hannah's Market (just before the Vergennes Fire Dept). Enter the Opera House through the front door, the driveway to the right we used last year is blocked due to a land dispute.

The chorus' costume will be the same as the second half at recent Package Shows _ white tux shirt, black tux trousers, black shoes/socks and paisley vest and bow tie. Quartets are encouraged to embellish their costumes.

There will be no need to bring "college" props or costumes.

Songlist for Vergennes

Muskrat Ramble	<i>Chorus</i>
Oh, You Beautiful Doll	<i>Chorus</i>
Drinking Song	<i>Chorus</i>
The Whiffenpoof Song	<i>Chorus</i>
We're Working Our Way Through College	<i>CVQ</i>
Moments To Remember	<i>Chorus</i>
Sweetheart of Sigma Chi	<i>CVQ</i>
Doin' The Racoon	<i>Chorus</i>
The Halls of Ivy.....	<i>Chorus</i>
Notre Dame Fight Song	<i>The Dreamers</i>
Mr. Touchdown, U.S.A.	<i>Chorus</i>

Feature Quartet	<i>The Dreamers</i>
Feature Quartet	<i>CVQ</i>
The Lion Sleeps Tonight	<i>Chorus</i>
Hello Mary Lou	<i>Chorus</i>
At The Hop or Little Darlin'	<i>CVQ Bye,</i>
Bye, Love	<i>Chorus</i>
Once Upon A Time	<i>Chorus</i>
I Can't Give You Anything But Love	<i>Chorus</i>
God Bless America	<i>Chorus & Quartets</i>

Nashua Plans End of Summer Party

Well, with the mercury topping out in the high 90's throughout New England, I bet you're thinking, "where did this summer go?" [:_)] Why not send off the summer of '02 with an evening of fun, fellowship and music! The members of the Nashua Chapter and the Granite Statesmen Chorus would like to invite you to an "End_of_Summer" Party on Wednesday, August 28 at

7:30 p.m. at the Senior Activities Center, Temple Street, Nashua, New Hampshire. We'll supply the food, drink and hall — you supply yourselves! There's sure to be lots of woodshedding and informal singing, and we'd love to have each chorus and quartet in attendance perform throughout the evening. And, even though it's a bit past the Fourth of July, we also thought it might be fun to celebrate our Country's birthday by learning a song to sing together

See **Nashua** page 4

DIRECTOR's

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Keep up the good work!

by Greg Morrill
Music Director

Once again, last week you guys showed that you're willing to work at singing well. Early in the rehearsal when we had less than a full compliment of singers, you still did some good singing. Traditionally we've had to achieve a "critical mass" to start producing that result! Similarly after we've worked on new songs where we don't know the notes and words, it's sometimes difficult to go back to quality singing. But you ended the evening with some good work on "MrTD!"

Also my thanks for the good turnout at the Expos game (particularly from the basses). That turnout produced a rousing rendition of the "Star Spangled Banner!" If the Expos had played baseball at the same level we sang the anthem, the game would have come out differently.

I urge you to review the program we've planned for Saturday's show in Vergennes which should appear elsewhere in this issue. As those who were there last year know, the Vergennes Opera House is a fantastic place to sing. Let's show them how good we can sound!

If you'd be so kind to let us know if you're coming, we'll make sure there's plenty of food and drink for everyone. We'd love to see you on the 28th!



Southside – scores zero for French

from the Harmonet, 8/12/02

At the recent Harmony College, our own Mountain Division quartet, Southside, performed a "welcome to Montreal" song on the Friday night quartet showcase show. The song was "Pal of My Cradle Days" sung in French. As gathered from the Harmonet, apparently quartets singing at this show are informally judged on their performances by Music judge candidates.

While there is no requirement that the songs be contestable, the innocuous judging caused somewhat of a stir among the judge candidates — some giving the French version a score of zero while other scored the song in the 70s. The issue was the contest rule that lyrics be "understandable." The clarification was made that this means that the lyrics must be in English. According to the immediate past Music Category Specialist, Roger Payne, such a requirement may be explicitly stated in the rules in the future.

Nashua from page 3

(we'll provide a copy of the Rob Hopkins, Society_published version of "America") that might also be a nice addition to your chorus' or quartet's repertoire in this time of increased Patriotic awareness.

Of course, they'll be plenty of time for just sharing in the joys of harmony and fellowship!

If you'd be so kind to let us know if you're coming, we'll make sure there's plenty of food and drink for everyone. We'd love to see you on the 28th!

Marcel Kates
President, Nashua Chapter
Marcel.kates@hp.com



- August 24 (Saturday) - Package Show -- Vergennes, VT
Warm up 11:30, details next week SHOW TIME 1:00 p.m.
See details page 1
- August 28 (Wednesday) - Nashua End of Summer Gala
See article page 3
- August 30 -- September 1 (Fri. -- Sun.) - Bolton Landing Barbership Festival
- September 17 (Tuesday) - Early singout Converse Home
Warmup at 6:30, Sing 7:00
- September 27-28 (Fri. -- Sat.) - Fall Retreat Lonepine
Campground ---Gary Bolles
- October 20 (Saturday) - Package Show - Randolph, VT
- October 25 - 27 (Fri. - Sun.) - District Convention and Contest -- Lake Placid , NY
- November 19 (Tuesday) - Early singout 3 Cathedral Square, Burlington
Warm up 6:30 -- Sing 7:00
- December 1 (Sunday) - Elks Memorial Service
- February 14 (Friday) - Singing Valentines
- April ?? - 20 Week Club Banquet
Date, place and time TBD
- May 31 (Saturday) - 55th Annual Show
Featuring 2002 Champs
Four Voices
- June 29 -- July 6 - 2003 International
Convention and Contest
MONTREAL! Sing up now!