



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

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

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Gary 'Maestro' Bolles travels cross country to coach GMC!

by **Charlie Church**, Music VP

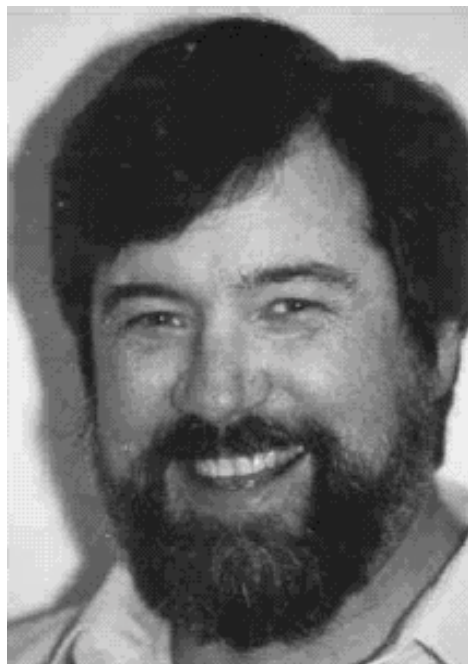


Photo courtesy of **The Gold Standard**
Tom Ennis, Editor

Gary Bolles, certified Music Judge and past director of the Bay Area Metro **Pot O'Gold Chorus**.

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 who will be singing with the chorus in the district contest on October 26 in Lake Placid. The Retreat is guaranteed to be a learning experience for all. Leading the learn-

ing experience will be our coach Gary Bolles. Gary comes to us from California where 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 in June 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

See **Gary Bolles** page 2

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 first time in twenty 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 article on page 4.

This retreat is a 'must do' for all chorus members. Please contact Greg or Charlie Church if you cannot attend and you are planning to sing in Lake Placid.

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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.

E-Mail: JerWalter@hotmail.com

Burlington Chapter Board of Directors

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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

Gary Bolles from page 1
division contest finish in Poultney.
[Steve Plumb was not happy!]

Gary and his wife Tobey will be flying into Manchester, New Hampshire, on Wednesday from Oakland, visiting his parents on Thursday in Providence, and driving up to Burlington on Friday. After visiting with his brother, Mark Bolles, in Charlotte on Sunday, they'll head over to New Hampshire for further leaf peeping and fly back to Oakland next Tuesday. The basic premise of their trip is to work with us so let's have a real good turn out and a warm GMC welcome.

The Retreat will be at Lone Pine Campground. Please contact your section leader 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 Dale Sommerfeld. 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). We anticipate that the Retreat will end at 4:00ish on Saturday. If there is interest by the campground residents, we may present a short program at 4:30 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 Tuesday.

Lastly, if you/spouse/significant other have any interest in going to dinner with Gary and Tobey on Saturday evening, give me a holler by Thursday.

BC at Montreal on November 2, 2002

The Boston Common, the fabulous quartet that changed the way many of us think about barbershop and have influenced hundreds, if not thousands of quartets and quartet singers will be taking the stage in Montreal, Quebec, Canada on Saturday, November 2, 2002.

This is a performance which will benefit the Harmony Foundation, since The Boston Common were generous enough to offer themselves for a show to the highest bidder, and we won!

In addition to The Boston Common, SPEBSQSA 1980 International Champions, the Island City Chorus and the Sweet Adeline's West Island Chorus will perform.

DATE:

Saturday, November 2, 2002

TIME: 8:00 PM

PLACE:

The Salvation Army Citadel
2085 Drummond Street
Montreal, QC H3G 1W6

TICKETS: \$20.00 CANADIAN
(\$13.00 US)

This is a great venue, with wonderful acoustics. Don't miss this chance to see one of the all time great quartets, and they sing like they just won yesterday!

Murray Phillips
imphillips@videotron.ca
Chorus Manager,
Island City Chorus,
Greater Montreal Chapter

Music Team report -- September

by **Charlie Church**, Music VP

1. The Music Team last met on Sept. 4th at the Waterbury American Legion. Seven Music Team members and one guest chapter member were present.

2. We discussed the upcoming Fall Retreat in depth. The musical section of the Retreat with coach Gary Bolles will be from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Friday, 9/27 and 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, 9/28 with a potential sing-out for Lone Pine residents at 4:30 p.m. Lunch on Saturday will be either your bag lunch or lunch at nearby restaurants.

3. Denis Brochu has developed presentation plans for each contest song. He will be introducing them shortly. The plans will be simple as we intend to concentrate on singing excellence.

4. Section Leaders will be getting a Contest Y or N from everyone in their section. This will help Greg establishing the line up, assist the registration chair, and alert us to headcount related section problems. There will be no extra rehearsals, attendance requirements, and audition / tape requirements. However, chorus tape themselves at rehearsals

and to submit their tapes to Section Leaders as an educational vehicle.

5. We discussed continuing to have Pat Heise working with us. There was unanimous support from the Team for Pat to continue. Pat and Greg will discuss further on how to team up for an effective action plan.

6. We are looking into embellishing the "college" costume theme for the Contest. Dick Labrecque has volunteered to chair this effort. We're hoping to put some visual excitement on the stage and at the same time motivationally excite our chorus members.

7. Contest goals were discussed. Greg will take time over the next few rehearsals to discuss possible goals and hopefully reach consensus.

8. We're continuing to press forward on the 2003 Annual Show. We met the first "out of spot" date and expect to close to the schedule. The "near-in" dates are 9/17 for "Happy days" and 10/1 for "Roses of Picardy". Many guys appear to be using their Learning Tapes. Quartet song sign-ups and teaching quartets

were discussed.

9. Reid Allen, Community Sing-Out Coordinator, has scheduled the following "Early Bird" sing-outs:

A. September 17th - Lone Pine - we'll stay there for rehearsal.

B. October 15th - McCauley Square

C. November 19th - Cathedral Square

10. We discussed the concept of doing a concert at St. Francis in December in lieu of our traditional caroling on the Tuesday before Christmas. The Music Team supported Reid's idea and felt it would work well if the show could include some St. Francis students.

11. Dan Signor, NED YMIH co-chair, has requested that the GMC provide an interface person and/or coaching for Norwich U quartets. CVQ will discuss the possibility of their helping.

12. The Music Team is looking at a couple options to involve youth in our First Night sing-out.

13. The next Music team meeting will be probably be on Wednesday October 2nd in Waterbury.

Nominations for 2003 being sought

The new year is quickly approaching and the time is here to elect Chapter Officers and Board of Directors for 2003. Currently we are in need of either a Music Vice President or Chapter Development VP (Membership).

Also, we are in need of a 2003 Annual Show Chairman, Singing Valentine Chairman, Quartet Vice President. If any Chapter member is interested in serving in one of the above positions please contact either Gary Brunell or Dave Merrill.

Society by-laws require we elect the new Board by the end of October.

Remember this is your chapter and all should feel that their active participation in both the musical and administrative duties is welcomed.

DIRECTOR's

C O R N E R Big weekend ahead!

by Greg Morrill
Music Director

Great job last week at Lone Pine! You guys responded well to a good audience and truly entertained them. We even brought some tears to folks eyes on "God Bless America!"

It was also a good turnout last week and I hope that bodes well for this weekend's retreat at the same location. Our coach, Gary Bolles, may be new to many of you, but he has a national (possibly international) reputation. Until June of this 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!

Volunteers needed for 2003 Convention

We are in need of volunteers to work in many areas of the International Convention that we will be hosting on behalf of the Northeastern District. I can guarantee you will have some fun, meet some nice people, and make a valuable contribution to the success of International.

We will have volunteer forms in Lake Placid at District, but you can reply directly to volunteer by email to Steve Wheaton at--

st.wheaton@sympatico.ca.



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

See you there!



- September 27-28 - (Fri. -- Sat.) Fall Retreat Lonepine Campground ---Gary Bolles See articles on pages 1 and 4
- October 15 -- (Tuesday) Singout - Mc Cauley Square Warm up 6:30, sing 7:00
- October 20 - (Saturday) Package Show - Randolph, Warm up 1:30 -- Show 3:00
- 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
- November ?? -- Holiday Ensemble sings at University Mall -- 4-6 Weekend days 2:00 to 4:00
- December 1 -- (Sunday) Elks Memorial Service
- December 8 -- (Sunday) Possible Holiday Show
- December ?? -- (Tuesday) Possible Show at St. Francis School
- December 24 -- (Tuesday) NO MEETING Christmas Eve
- December 31 --- (Tuesday) First Night Burlington Performances 1:00 and 4:00
- 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!