



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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## Chorus cycle begins Westminster wins FWD -- then DQed

by Jerry Walter, Editor

October 5 began the month-long cycle of chorus selection for the 2003 International Chorus Contest in Montreal next July.

After two rounds, eight districts have competed and, as expected, there are many familiar 'faces.' The Alexandria Harmonizers top the list putting only 86 on stage in the Middle Atlantic District. Close behind is Sound of the Rockies from Denver and the Senate-Aires from Salem, Oregon. The Big Chicken from Dixie is the fifth highest scorer following Saltaires, second place finisher in the Rocky Mountain District.

With The Masters of Harmony sitting out their two years, there was lots of scrambling in the Far western District. At the contest in Bakersfield, the apparent winner was the 19-man Harmony Showcase Chorus from Westminster followed by San Jose's Garden City Chorus.

Westminster rose from the ashes, so to speak, as until earlier this year the chapter was dwindling. Then a bunch of high school and other young barbershop enthusiasts created a

"new" 15-man Harmony Showcase Chorus with an average age of 19 and no one over 27 qualified for the district contest by competing in another division in April. They were third.

Westminster went on to out score the rest of the district on October 5, only to be disqualified on a dual membership violation.

Based on information from District President, John Krizek, as reported on the Harmonet, one young college student, a current member of the San Jose Chapter, who incidentally also competed with San Jose in the contest, is attending college in Westminster territory, out side of Los Angeles. He was advised of his need to apply for a dual membership, but delayed until just days before the contest.

Because the rule on competing with different choruses within the same contest cycle requires receipt and necessary approvals prior to the contest -- and apparently this did not happen, Westminster was disqualified, leaving San Jose district champs. Bummer!

## Show in Randolph this Sunday!

by Don Pierce, Chorus Manager

This coming Sunday afternoon (10/20/02) we will present a two hour concert starting at 3:00 p.m. at the Chandler Music Hall in Randolph, Vermont. From a chorus perspective, this show will be a virtual copy of our recent Package Show in Vergennes. Warm-up at Chandler will start at 1:30 p.m. the "techie" call will be at 1:00 p.m. (helpers are needed, see Charlie). A stage manager is also needed - good job for a spouse, sig other, or new member!

Car poolers should plan on leaving the Sheraton in South Burlington at 12:15 p.m. If you plan on car pooling, it would be wise to firm up plans tonight before you leave rehearsal. To get to the Chandler Music Hall from the Burlington area, it is

See **Randolph** page 3

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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.

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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### Burlington Chapter Board of Directors

President	John Villeré 802 859-3403
VP Devel. (Membership)	Dick Labrecque 802 864-5439
VP Music & Performance	Charlie Church 802 879-1981
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Baritone - Reid Allen	Bass - Jerry Walter
Librarian	John Zweighaft
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**

## Music Team Report - October, 2002

by **Charlie Church**, Music VP

1. The Music Team last met on Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> at St. Francis School.
2. We discussed the Fall Contest in depth. We decided to try to experiment further with the vamp on "I Can't Give You Anything But Love;" discussed trying to get the guys to sing up to their potential every time they sing/rehearse; and need more baritone in their solo spots. Presentation plans were also discussed as well as costumes and props. We're proposing to outfit the chorus in sweatshirts with iron-on G's or GMC's, etc, khaki trousers and comfortable shoes/sneakers. A recommendation went to the board on funding same. In the props department - we're looking for some stationary props such as megaphones, pom poms, goal posts, etc.
3. Chorus Contest Logistics: The GMC is singing 19<sup>th</sup> in the contest; our on-stage time will be approximately 2:30 p.m. We're recommending that the Chorus breakfast start at 10:00 a.m. and the Chorus warm-up start at 1:00 (Lake Placid High School). R. Allen reported that he has lined up Goldberries (137 Main St.) for the Chorus Breakfast. Evaluation sessions be at the contest site (1980 rink) directly after the competition ends. Chorus members are welcome to attend.
4. We briefly reviewed our progress on the 2003 Show songs. We need to continue to convince the guys to use their learning tapes. The "Buffalo Bills Medley" will be our initial use of Gary Bolles' suggestion on unison singing. Quartets should update C. Church on the songs they have chosen for the 2003 show.
5. We reviewed R. Allen's "Early Bird" sing-out schedule:
  1. October 15<sup>th</sup> - McAuley Square; sing Happy Birthday early on; rehearse later at St. Francis.
  2. November 19<sup>th</sup> - Cathedral Square.
  3. December 17<sup>th</sup> - Holiday Concert fund raiser at St. Francis (new booking).
6. We chatted about the October 20<sup>th</sup> Package Show in Randolph and worked out the scripting, show flow, and emcee activity. Six quartets will be participating - we'll most likely stretch the show beyond the contracted time in order to give all the performers adequate stage time.
7. An Interchapter meeting is tentatively scheduled with Hanover Chapter and Norwich U. barbershoppers in Northfield on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Hanover and GMC Prez/PVP are OK with the date. N. Cerutti is contacting Col. Bennett, C. Laufer will coordinate the evening's program for the GMC. Per Dan Signor's desires, we hope to be able to establish contact with the Norwich quartets at this meeting.
8. E-mails are floating around indicating that the Holiday Concert(s) is tentatively scheduled for December 15<sup>th</sup>. After the contest is over, Greg, will work on the show content/scripting with Carol Hollenbeck (Barre-Tones director) and Becky Senesac (Echoes director). CMC quartets should identify their desired songs ASAP to Greg.
9. A handout from Jim Dodge on the Standing Ovation program was distributed but we ran out of time to discuss same.
10. The next Music Team meeting will tentatively be either Wednesday or Thursday evening, November 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 or 7:30 at American Legion in Waterbury.

# Randolph Package Show - Song Order

Muskrat Ramble .....	Chorus
Oh, You Beautiful Doll .....	Chorus
Alexander's Ragtime Band.....	Chorus
Drinking Song .....	Chorus
The Whiffenpoof Song .....	Chorus
Moments To Remember .....	Chorus
Doin' The Racoon .....	Chorus
Mr. Touchdown, U.S.A. ....	Chorus
Feature Quartet .....	The Dreamers
Feature Quartet .....	Charisma
Feature Quartet .....	CVQ

## Intermission

Feature Quartet .....	Ken's Barbershop Quartet
Feature Quartet .....	High Voltage
Feature Quartet .....	Lake Effect Harmony
The Lion Sleeps Tonight .....	Chorus
Hello Mary Lou .....	Chorus
Bye, Bye, Love .....	Chorus
Once Upon A Time .....	Chorus
I Can't Give You Anything But Love .....	Chorus
God Bless America .....	Chorus & Quartets

## Contest update - Costumes

by **Charlie Church**, Music VP

Under the superb chairmanship of Dick Labrecque, contest costumes have been nailed down and an action plan in place to make them happen. The costume will consist of a light-weight sweatshirt with a big college letter(s) stenciled on it, travel outfit khaki trousers, and comfortable shoes or sneakers.

Next Tuesday evening, 10/22/02 we'll be passing out the sweatshirts and will run through the contest package to see what things look like. It will be helpful if you wear khaki trousers next Tuesday evening.

The cost of the sweatshirts is being born by the chorus \_ we'll ask for their return after the contest.

## 2003 Officers nominated

by **David Merrill**, Secretary

The elected chapter officers for 2003 were reported to the board of directors as:

President **John Villere**  
 Treasurer **Denis Brochu**  
 Secretary **John Zweighaft**  
 Music VP **Charlie Church**  
 Development VP **Reid Allen**  
 Members at Large

**Jerry Huetz**  
**Dick Labrecque**  
**David Merrill**  
**Serge Rizzo**  
**Jerry Walter**

**Gary Brunell** will remain a member of the board as Immediate Past President.

## Props needed for Contest

The Music Team is looking for some "stationery" props to dress the contest stage for our football fan theme. Things like cheer leader megaphones, banners, etc. See Charlie Church if you have something that will fit. Plan on bringing it to next week's rehearsal.

## Contest trivia

27 quartets are scheduled to sing on Friday night in the District/Seniors quartet contest in lake Placid. That calculates out to 108 singers, assuming that no one is singing in more than one quartet. Of the 108 singers, at least 12 of them are current Vermont residents.

Can you name 12? If so, see Charlie Church for a free drink at the chordingorium in the Hilton after the Saturday night contest.



## Randolph from page 1

suggested you take I89 South and get off at the Randolph exit, exit 4. Take Route 66 west for approx 3 n miles to Randolph. The Chandler Music Hall is at 71-73 Main Street.

The chorus costume will be the same as Vergennes and the second half of recent shows: white tux shirt, black tux trousers, black shoes/socks and paisley vest and bow tie. Quartets may wish to embellish their costumes.

Stay tuned -- Reid may be organizing a dinner after the show.

## DIRECTOR's

### CO R N E R A few minutes a day!

by **Greg Morrill**,  
Music Director

Two weeks to the District Contest!

We'll be doing a couple of things a little differently for our contest preparation this year. First as you may already have noticed, we're not having any extra rehearsals. Second, on the day of the contest we plan to shorten our preparation time versus what we've done typically. We'll gather at 1:00 in the warm\_up room for a projected 2:30 on\_stage time. If we subtract about 30 minutes for the logistics that take us from our warm\_up room to have pictures taken and to holding areas that lead to the stage, we'll have about one hour of warm\_up and rehearsal!

I may not take the time and space here to explain all our rationale for the above, but I will give you my opinion of what that should mean in terms of your personal preparation. For you to do your personal best on that stage you need to find some time every day between now and the contest to mentally review the package. This is particularly important on the Wednesday after rehearsal! Review what we did and what you have to remember. We won't have time during our preparation at Lake Placid to remind everyone about everything. We won't run the entire package that day before we go on stage. We need to conserve our energy so that we can give 100% on stage.

So I want everyone to come to Lake Placid focused and confident that they know the plan and what they have to do!

Just remember --- a few minutes a day makes permanent. Perfect practice makes perfect performance!

## We get letters

From **Gary Bolles** -  
Hiya Jerry!

Thanks for forwarding this [October 1] (and the previous) issue of the Undertone!

Your notes were amazingly accurate -- I'm impressed!

I'm glad you all enjoyed the weekend as much as I did. I'm looking forward to spending some more time with you all in the future...

gab

### From **Murray Phillips** -

Thanks for a great editorial [in the October 1 issue], Jerry. As you know the Greater Montreal Chapter sacrificed the opportunity to qualify for District to make this very point.

Thanks for your well crafted and well thought out contribution to the discussion. I hope that the "powers that be" read your words and heed your advice.

We certainly support local division contests.

**Murray Phillips**  
imphillips@videotron.ca

Past President, Greater Montreal

## Updated rosters

New rosters are now available. Please report any errors/updates to Charlie Church. Address changes should also be reported to Chapter Secretary Dave Merrill. Or you can make address changes yourself in the Members Only section of the Society web site.

An updated chapter e-mail address listing is also available -- contact Charlie if you want a copy. Use of the chapter e-mail address list should be limited to official chapter business. With this Roster update, we've added more e-mail addresses. 88% of the chapter members are now quickly reachable via e-mail.



October 20 - (Sunday) Package Show - Randolph, Warm up 1:30 -- Show 3:00 See details pages 1 and 3

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 30 (Saturday) -- Holiday Ensemble sings at University Mall -- 2 -- 5

December 1 (Sunday) -- Elks Memorial Service

December 14 (Saturday) -- Holiday Ensemble sings at University Mall 2 -- 5

December 15 (Sunday) -- Possible Holiday Show

December 17 (Tuesday) -- Show at St. Francis School

December 21 (Saturday) -- Holiday Ensemble sings at University Mall 2 -- 5

December 24 (Tuesday) -- NO MEETING Christmas Eve

December 31 (Tuesday) --- First Night Burlington Performances 1:00 and 4:00

### 2003

January 17 or 18 (Friday or Saturday) Installation Banquet

February 14 (Friday) -- Singing Valentines

May 2 (Friday) -- 20 Week Club Banquet S. Burlington K of C

May 31 (Saturday) -- 55th Annual Show Featuring 2002 Champs Four Voices

June 29 --

July 6 -- 2003 International Convention and Contest MONTREAL! Sign up now!