



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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 66 Bacon Drive, Shelburne, VT 05482

December 17, 2002  
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## Holiday Shows a big hit again!



Three choruses assemble in Burlington for the first of two concerts Sunday-- The Green Mountain Chorus, The Champlain Echoes and The Barre-Tones.

Last Sunday the "Three Choruses" performed their sixth annual Holiday Concert. As last year, two venues, Burlington and Waterbury Center, were used. Although the audiences were slightly smaller in Burlington, the enthusiasm of the audiences was high.

As in several past years, the performers included The Barre-Tones under the direction of Carol Hollenbeck, Lisa Parro, and Jane Watson; The Champlain Echoes under the direction of Becky Senesac and Gail Kiby; and The Green Mountain Chorus under the direction of Greg Morrill and Chuck Laufer.

Quartets performing were The Dreamers (GMC), 4 Tune Hunters (BT), Echoes Christmas Quartette (CE), CVQ (GMC), B Natural (CE), High Voltage (GMC) and The Long and Short of It (BT).

As has been our custom, songs of various genre were grouped together including songs reflecting winter and the approaching holidays, childhood memories, family favorites, rock and roll, as well as traditional carols.

As usual the concert ended with Steve Plumb's eight-part arrangement of "Silent Night" performed by the entire ensemble.

Following the Waterbury Center concert refreshments kept most singers and audience around. Following the social hour most of the 58 singers adjourned to Avrod's for a music and food filled Afterglow.

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 refuse? Seriously, if you can't make the first show because of work, please try to make the second show.

Lastly, Reid Allen has offered to make his home available later that evening for a party. Please see Reid if you are interested.

## 2 First Night shows New Year's Eve

Tuesday, 12/31/02 - Burlington First Night. Warm-up time is 12:00 noon at the First United Methodist Church on the corner of Buell Street and South Winooski Avenue in downtown Burlington. Enter via the side door on Buell St. We'll be doing 40 minute performances at 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Singers in all sections are needed.

We'll be performing selections from our holiday music, our 2002/3 show tunes, and 50's material. The song list will be published as soon as it is available.

Uniform for all performances will be white tux shirt, black tux trousers, paisley vest and bow tie, and black shoes/socks.

In between shows the current plan to trek down to the Converse Home on lower Church Street to perform for the "older folks" who can't attend First Night. (BTW, a current resident is Hilda Jennison, widow of past chapter member Ken Jennison).

First Night is a fun event and great exposure for the GMC. And it's a perfect opportunity for guys working that day to get some comp time from their bosses! Who could

See **First Night** col. 2

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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  
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Tenor - Chuck Laufer	Lead - Denis Brochu
Baritone - Reid Allen	Bass - Jerry Walter
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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**

1. The Music Team last met on 12/3/02 at the St. Francis Xavier School. This report reflects the actions of the meeting.

2. The Team discussed the various aspects of the 12/10 and 12/15 shows and worked out music, emcee, script, costumes, and logistical details.

3. Also discussed was our First Night performances with regard to music, script, emcee, costumes, and logistics. Three quartets will be embellishing the chorus' performance.

4. The status 2003 Annual Show music was discussed. QVP Cerutti is chasing quartets for their songs. We'll be discussing the quartet audition procedure at the next Team meeting.

5. The Team noted that quartets have a difficult time at the UHall sing-outs without amplification. Also noted was that folks at the rear of the Elks Club said they couldn't hear the chorus.

6. The Team discussed and revised a document entitled "GMC Member Vocal Goals". The revised document will be issued soon. .

7. In January the Music Team we will start the discussion of a theme for the 2004 Annual Show (May 29, 2004). All chapter members are urged to submit potential themes and suggested songs to go with their theme(s).

8. The 2003 Music Team has been selected:

Director - G. Morrill	Bari Section Leader - R. Cauley
Ass't Director - C. Laufer	Bass Section Leader - D. Stonecliffe
Music & Perf VP - C. Church	Librarian - J. Zweighaft
Quartet VP - C. Cerutti	Chorus Manager - D. Pierce
Chorus Coach - P. Heise	Program Chair - tbd
Tenor Section Leader - C. Laufer	"At Large" member - R. Allen
Lead Section Leader - N. Cerutti	

The Team thanked departing Team members D. Brochu, S. Janes, and J. Walter for their contributions. The position of Program Chair is a new one for the Music Term and will focus on programing alternatives at rehearsals.

9. Also discussed was ways to get the message out to the guys that they need to do much more with their faces. Techniques were discussed such as 1) video taping individual faces and playing back at the break; 2) buying individual mirrors for everyone; 3) recognizing guys that are doing a good job.

10. The issue of 2003 outside coaches were discussed. Subsequent to the meeting, Karen Rourke has agreed to coach our Spring Retreat, scheduled for March 8<sup>th</sup>. We'll be addressing further 2003 coaching at the next Team meeting. See any Team member with suggestions.

11. Attendance by all chapter members at the 2/1/03 Montreal school is encouraged. The Board has approved \$37 tuition reimbursement for anyone who attends the school.

12. The next Team meeting will be on Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 at the Waterbury Legion. All chapter members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Respectfully submitted by:  
C. Church, Music & Perf VP, 12/17/02

# Photos of the Season



*CVQ with Santa by Santa's Elves*

*Concert photos by Jerry Walter*



## DIRECTOR's

### CO Happy Holidays!

by **Greg Morrill**,  
Music Director

Good job yesterday on the Holiday show! I received several compliments on our singing from Echoes and Barre-Tones who have heard us over the years! So keep up the good work -- and the good singing.

I'm always amazed at how well this Holiday show goes given that we don't "rehearse" the show! Much of the credit goes to those behind-the-scene workers, the techies, those who decorate the stage, those who take care of the mailings, the tickets, and the door prizes. For most of us, all we have to do is show up and sing! Many thanks to all those unsung heroes who made the show a success.

Similarly, you guys deserve a hand for the good job you did last Tuesday in our performance at St Francis. In fact, you did a great job! You sang some songs the best I've heard you do them (such as "Alexander's Ragtime Band").

Finally, a Happy Holidays to all of you and your families. Please extend my best wishes to all of your family. Without their support we couldn't enjoy this marvelous hobby that keeps on giving all year round!

### Go to School for free!

Please seriously consider attending the Montreal school on 2/1/2003. Your Board of Directors has agreed to reimburse 100% of the tuition (if you register before 12/31/02) or \$37 if you register after 12/31 only if you actually attend.

See Jerry Walter if you were unable to print out a registration form or require additional information.

## Save your Harmonizers

by **Reid Allen**,  
Chapter Development VP

Gentlemen, in anticipation of our recruiting program for 2003, I would like you to save your Harmonizers. Please do not discard them until we discuss how we can get some mileage out of them for part of our never ending effort to get our hobby known and appreciated. Bet you can already guess what I am going to ask you do with them. Give me your best ideas, they may be better than mine.

### We get email:

Hi Reid, December 11, 2002

Thanks again for the wonderful concert! I think that since it is such a busy time of year for parents, that we didn't get the draw we would have otherwise because I know that if it wasn't time pressures, many more families would have truly enjoyed a relaxing evening that you offered. I would love to do another concert next year in the late spring or fall when things aren't as busy if you might be receptive to that.

Rachel (at St. Francis Xavier)

### Last U Mall singout this saturday

Warm-up is at 2:15 p.m. in the mall offices at the left rear of the food court. Performance time is 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. We'll be performing all the holiday music we've been working on over the past month plus a few "fifties" songs. Newer members will be allowed to sing from the "spots." Uniform is the red striped shirt, khaki trousers/ green sweater, black sock/shoes. Let's see if we can make Betty Allen happy with more game faces!

## 20 Week Club Winners

12/10 219 Deana Higgs

D. Higgs

12/17 101 Murielle Rugg

D. Blouin



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 Converse Home 2:30

### 2003

January 17 (Friday) -- Installation Banquet Holiday Inn, S. Burlington

February 1 (Saturday) -- Great Northern Harmony Workshop -- Montreal Tuition paid by the chapter

February 14 (Friday) -- Singing Valentines

March 8 (Saturday) -- Spring Retreat Karen Rourke - Place TBD

March 14 - 15 (Fri. & Sat.) -- Eastern Region Contest & Convention and 2003 International Prelims Peabody, Massachusetts

April 4 - 5 (Fri. - Sat.) -- Western Region Contest & Convention - Troy, New York

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!