



The Burlington



The Voice of the Burlington Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society-Member since 1947

We meet Tuesdays at 7:00 PM at St. Francis Xavier School, Winooski, Vermont-Call 879-3105

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WEB SITE: www.nedistrict.org/greenmtn/

ELECTION OF OFFICERS COMPLETED

On Tuesday, October 26, 2004 the Chapter voted in the following officers for 2005:

Elected

President -- Richard Labrecque
Secretary - David Stonecliffe
Treasurer - Howard Walter
VP Marketing/Public Relations - Gerald Huetz
VP Development - Charles Church
VP Music - Neil Cerutti
VP Quartet - Charlie Cerutti
VP Program - Brett Goertmoeller

Members at large

Daniel Blouin
Maurice Cerutti
Gary Brunell
Albert Carpenter
Robert Cauley
Immediate Past President-John Villere

Appointed officers:

House of Delegate-John Zweighaft
Show Chairman - Maurice Cerutti
Booking Agent - Allan Carpenter
YMIH Chairman - Robert Cauley
Singing Valentine Contact - Howard Walter
Bulletin editor - Gerald Huetz
Sunshine Chairman - Jim Mallabar
Harmony foundation Chairman - OPEN
Chorus Manager - OPEN
Music Librarian-John Zweighaft
Uniforms - Tif Crowell

Learning Tapes-Dan Venditti
Learning CDs-John Villere

HOLIDAY SHOW DEC.5th IN THE WORKS

---Submitted by Charlie Church

The following announcement was sent from Charlie Church about the upcoming Holiday Show—put it in your calendars!---

On December 5th the GMC and the Barre-Tones will present the eighth annual Barbershop Holiday Concert. There will be two concerts. The first concert will be at 3:00 p.m. at the North Avenue Alliance Church, 901 North Avenue In Burlington. The second concert will be at 6:30 p.m. at the Hunger Mountain Christian Assembly in Waterbury Center. Ace chapter members Blouin, Villere and Huetz have already been at work on advance plans. Your humble co-chair person is looking for assistance on Tickets, Door Prizes, House, and Decorations. A flyer will be in the mail around November 15th. Tickets are planned to be available for chapter member sale next week. We'd like to have each and every chapter member target to sell **five tickets** in advance of the concerts. Tickets sold by GMC chapter members can be used at either concert location."

"Chapter Quartets - if you're planning to sing in the December 5th concert, please get your available song list ASAP to Greg and/or Charlie Cerutti. Armed with these data, show content decisions will be made at the November 3rd. Music Team meeting."

UNIFORM UPDATE

So far a majority of khaki slacks have been distributed. The cost is \$21 per slack, payable by check to the Green Mountain Chorus, or cash. Jerry Huetz will be collecting the funds. Please take care of this asap. Thanks.

The uniform for the Veterans Day event will be decided on Tuesday, Nov. 2.—either green shirt and slacks with appropriate outerwear for outdoor activity, or a variation of the Spector suit. A decision will be made Tuesday night.

BIO BY BLOUIN-

Our latest member who is in the lead section in our chorus is Oren Lane. He is from St Albans, just retired this July after being a United Methodist minister for 14 years. Oren all his life had a love for music. He sang in a chorus in HS and college and also jammed it up playing the trumpet in a jazz band. He is married and has two grown sons. Another main passion he has is photography which he has been doing for the regional conference church. In the Franklin area, he has been involved in the hospice program as a Chaplin and is also on the BOD for the homeless. Credit goes to Steve Raymond for bringing in Oren.

-Submitted by Dan Blouin

Ten

**Expectations of a Champion
(THE FIRST FIVE ARE SHOWN
BELOW-THE REMAINING 5 WILL
BE IN NEXT WEEK'S
NEWSLETTER).----**

Make these hallmarks of excellence part of your internal makeup, the fabric of who you are as a singer. Tips from a master class presented by the Masters of Harmony.

Consistently excellent singing and performance spring from consistently excellent rehearsal and repetition. Each time you do something “righter than before,” you make it easier for yourself to repeat that level of quality in subsequent performances. Regardless of the music, the performance setting, the ensemble, or the director, there are some hallmarks of excellence you can make part of your internal makeup, principles and techniques that are a part of the fabric of who you are as a singer. Then, cued with only quick reminder, you can redouble your energy and effectiveness in the best parts of making music, without distracting yourself with executing technique.

Post this list on a big board in front of the chorus as you rehearse, and refer to it often during the meeting. The singer will get to know them by number and soon you can just hold up five fingers, say, and all will focus the tone better.

1. Singer's Posture

Always sing with one foot slightly in front of the other, weight comfortably forward, chest comfortably lifted in a proud position, shoulders resting comfortably down and a little back, head in line with the body. Stand tall. Controlled relaxation is the goal; an attitude of readiness for anything. Everything in perfect balance!

2. Active Face

Singing is not a passive experience. When singing, have your entire face always doing something, ideally to reflect the particular emotion conveyed by the lyrics. Lift the cheek muscles a little, raise and extend the upper lip a little, energize the eyes a lot, get involved facially. Always sing with facial animation. Check yourself by practicing in front of a mirror.

3. Vowels that look right

Make an “oh” vowel look like an “oh.” All vowels should be vertical in approach and encourage space inside the mouth. Create as much space as possible without inducing tension. Avoid any vowel which looks horizontal.

4. In-line singing

Make all the vowels sound similar, each to another. That is, no vowel should pop out at the listener disturbing the musical line; they should all be of a similar character.

While an “ah” is certainly distinct from an “oh” or an “ee,” it should not be different in the way it’s placed, vocally, or in its inherent resonant characteristics. This is achieved by consistent vocal production, consistent placement high in the head, and a consistent approach to the musical line. At its best, there should be a continual, uninterrupted resonance (ring) throughout the entire vocal line, through the full range of word sounds and pitches. Go for a constant placement, constant breath pressure and a minimum of jaw movement.

5. Focused Singing

The sound is simply focused into a resonant point. Start the chorus with their hands held wide apart and have them sing a unison pitch while slowly bringing the palms together in front. Have them listen to the “focusing” of the sound. This is related to #4, above, especially in the consistency of the placement of the resonance and the focus of the tone.

They will feel the tone placed in the front of the bony mask, generally behind the eyes or a little higher. Always work for the feeling of resonance in the head. It should never feel like the tone is produced from the throat position. Think spin and resonance in the tone without weight in the tone. The tongue position is also critical here: tip touching lightly the lower gum ridge. Carefully monitor a relaxed tongue position. It must be carefully taught. Any tension in the tongue is counterproductive.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov. 3-Music Team Mtg.-Waterbury

Nov. 6-Veterans Day Parade, Waterfront Park, Burlington, @2PM-Meet 12:30PM-at the Park near the stage

Nov. 10-BOD Meeting-Williston

Nov. 20, 28-U-MALL Holiday Singouts 3-5PM

Dec. 18, 19-U-MALL Holiday Singouts 3-5PM

Dec. 5-Holiday Show with Barre Tones-tbd

Dec. 12- Holiday Show-Vergennes Opera House

Dec. 31- First Night Rutland

Jan 7, 8-COTS, N.Conway, NH

Jan. 14-Wild Game Dinner-Berlin

Feb.5-HEP School, Montreal

Feb. 9-Farmers’ Night-State House

Feb. 13, 14, Singing Valentines

Feb. 25-27- VACSummit-Burlington