

The Pitch

Greater Montreal Chapter



The Little Chorus that could!

2005 Mountain Division Champions
2005 NED Great Small Chorus Champions
2005 NED Small Chorus Champions

February 6, 2006

Volume 2006 Issue # 5

COMING UP - ROB'S REQUIRED EVENTS*

Wednesday, March 8, 2006 Performance at Mr. Zingboim's Senior's Residence Cote St-Luc [Details to come] ← NEW
Saturday April 22, 2006, Mountain Division Contest Colchester High School, 131 Laker Lane, Colchester VT
Saturday, June 3, 2006 Annual Show with Vocal Spectrum, Salle Pierre Mercure [13 weeks to go!]
October 6-8, 2006 Fall Forward 2006 Ermitage St-Croix, Pierrefonds [Thanksgiving Weekend]
October 20-22, 2006 60th District Convention and Contest Providence, RI
April 13-15, 2007 Western Regional Convention Albany NY area [Location to be determined]
October 12-14, 2007 Fall Forward 2007 Ermitage St-Croix, Pierrefonds
October 19-21, 2007 District Convention and Contest Montreal, Quebec

*NOTE: It is your duty to inform Rob as soon as you know you will miss any rehearsal or event.

COMING UP - OPTIONAL, BUT FUN and EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

July 2-9, 2006 68th Annual Barbershop Harmony Society International Convention Indianapolis, IN
July 1-8, 2007 69th Annual Barbershop Harmony Society International Convention Denver, CO
June 29-July 6, 2008 70th Annual Barbershop Harmony Society International Convention Nashville, TN

When the chips are down, the buffalo is empty.

GNHW a great success!

We had a great day at the Great Northern Harmony Workshop with **Steve Tramack**, Director of the Granite Statesman, and his team of squad leaders and demonstrators. The day started at 8:00 AM and finished at 6:00 PM, after the mini-concert by the participating quartets and choruses.

The Vocal Boot Camp gave us some useful things to work on to make us more successful as singers. The key concepts are: Relax, prepare your instrument, breathing is power, supported breath is the actuator for phonation, the 3 phases of musical tone, and 4 stage technique under conscious control... a whole lot to remember, an implement. The presentation will be available under Members' Only

Rick Spencer attended the Great Northern Harmony Workshop as his first official function since being named Director of Music Education and Services for the Society, and he came down with laryngitis!

Photographs of the GNHW are available on our Chapter web site at www.nedistrict.org/montreal/.

Congratulations to **Steve Wheaton** for arranging a terrific school again this year. There were great instructors, enthusiastic students and a nice facility that served the purpose very well.

Next year the guest teaching quartet will be *Metropolis*.

Bob Ebers gets PROBE Award.

It took a few months to get here, but **Bob Ebers** received an award for outstanding achievement in public relations work for 2005. The award was conferred in July by PROBE (The Association of Public Relations Officers and Bulletin Editors) at the Society International Convention in Salt Lake City.

Congratulations, Bob, on a great job!

Membership Scoreboard

Last week: Guests = 1 Returning = 0 Follow ups = 2

NO change since last week. Talk to somebody about barbershop this week! Our target for members this year is for a 7 member NET INCREASE by the end of 2006.

To get the Mini-Pitch by email, send your email address to imphillips@videotron.ca

We sing every Monday at Église St-Sixte
1895, rue de l'Église, St. Laurent, Quebec

Show advertising.

The show is only 13 weeks away! That means we have a bunch of new music to learn, tickets to sell and advertising to sell for the show program. We have budgeted to make a profit on this year's show – something we haven't done for the past four years. One way we can do that is to sell enough advertising that we pay for the costs of the show.

It can be done, and there is no time like the present to start. See **Murray** or **Steve!** We will be taking orders for tickets at the same time. So, start to talk up our show with your friends and acquaintances. The price of the tickets will be \$25.00 CDN or \$21.00 US.

Personal Commitment Contract.

The Board of Directors for 2006 wants to make sure we are all pulling in the same direction, and have a growing, happy, competitive Chapter and Chorus.

Most are things we are already doing, and all are intended to help us improve, so if you were away, or haven't signed yet, ask for a copy.

Recording devices.

As part of our Commitment Contract, we have agreed to personally record ourselves on a regular basis. If you are looking for a new recording device, a copy of a great report done for the Heart of Carolina Chorus is available through the Member's Only web site. It is a PDF file, or an Excel spread sheet.

Chapter fund raising ideas.

Coffee and Hot Chocolate, anyone?

Alan Kenley has a supplier that has sent us coffee and hot chocolate on consignment. We sell the units at \$5.00 each and we make \$2.50 per unit for the Chapter. It is good

Here is our current repertoire list:

[mp3] means that the mp3 file is on the *Members' Only* web site

Beautiful Dreamer <i>[mp3]</i>	Orange Coloured Sky <i>[mp3]</i>
Before The Parade Passes By <i>[mp3]</i>	Overture <i>[mp3]</i>
Chances Are <i>[mp3]</i>	Que reste-t-il de nos amours <i>[mp3]</i>
Exactly Like You <i>[mp3]</i>	Sixteen Tons <i>[mp3]</i>
Give My Regards To Broadway <i>[mp3]</i>	The Impossible Dream <i>[mp3]</i>
Hello <i>[mp3]</i>	The Star Spangled Banner
Hello Mary Lou <i>[mp3]</i>	Tonight <i>[mp3]</i>
It Don't Mean A Thing <i>[mp3]</i>	Witchcraft <i>[mp3]</i>
Keep The Whole World Singing <i>[mp3]</i>	You'll Never Walk Alone <i>[mp3]</i>
O Canada	Secret Love 8-part. <i>[mp3]</i>
Let There Be Peace On Earth 8-part. <i>[mp3]</i>	And So To Sleep Again 8-part. <i>[mp3]</i>

quality coffee and hot chocolate, too! A bunch of members already took some, and If you can, take some to sell at your work, or church, or ...

Computer printer cartridge recycling.

Alan Mackenzie reports that we are registered in the ThinkGreen printer cartridge-recycling program. We should be receiving shipping boxes within two weeks and can get started on this easy fundraiser.

If you want to learn more about the program, you can find a lot of information on their web site ThinkGreen.com

He will be back from vacation on February 22nd and will start collecting cartridges the following Monday. A list of eligible cartridges is available on the web site.

This is free and there is no cost to the Chapter, so a little effort on the part of each of us can reap some good financial gain for the group. There is also promotional material available (posters, etc), so you can advertise our program at work, church, bowling league....you get the picture.

Your goal in all of this is to keep me busy packing and shipping cartridges!

FundScrip has new outlets!

The chapter can benefit from your car repairs, your groceries, your clothes, even lunch and coffee! [Harvey's and Second Cup]... all you have to do is get the cards to buy at the outlets from FundScrip.

The weekly deadline to order is on Monday and you receive the cards or certificates the next Monday. It is easy to sign up, and now you can also charge the orders to your credit card, although the Chapter only gets half the amount, but it is still better than nothing!

Practice is something we do at home, every day, between rehearsals!

Rehearsal is what we do Monday evenings, where we reinforce what we have been practising every day!