

The Pitch

Greater Montreal Chapter



The Little Chorus that could!

2005 NED Great Small Chorus Champions
2005 NED Small Chorus Champions
2006 Mountain Division Small Chorus Champions

May 1, 2006

Volume 2006 Issue # 14

COMING UP - ROB'S REQUIRED EVENTS*

Saturday, June 3, 2006 Annual Show with Vocal Spectrum, Salle Pierre Mercure [5 weeks to go!]

Monday, June 12, 2006 Guest Night Église St-Sixte

Wednesday, June 21, 2006 Mondial Choral Loto-Québec Avant Spectacle, Scene Loto-Québec

Thursday, June 29, 2006 Mondial Choral Loto-Québec Église Ste-Rose, In Concert Series, 19:30 – 22:00

Monday, September 11, 2006 Guest Night Église St-Sixte

October 13-14, 2006 Fall Forward 2006 Church of St. Augustine, 176 Westcliffe, Pointe Claire

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

Saturday, September 30, 2006 Hanover, NH Chapter Show with *Realtime* Tickets on sale NOW! ← NEW SHOW

January 21-28, 2007 Mid Winter Convention Albuquerque, NM

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

Life is like a shower. One wrong turn and you're in hot water.

Montreal City Voices qualifies.

At the Area 2 contest and Convention the women of the Montreal City Voices qualified for International in Jacksonville FL, placing 5th in an excellent contest. The Capital Chordettes of Ottawa placed first.

We saw the energy and finesse that MCV brought to the stage at the Karnak Temple, so we can appreciate the quality of the contest. They were every bit as good on Saturday. Congratulations to our friends in Harmony, Inc.

Membership Scoreboard

New members = 2 Members in process = 0

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

Philippe Bourque visited us last week. He is quite different than most guests. He was looking at our style and us to see if there was a match. Welcome Philippe!

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.

Remember: If you recruit 5 members this year, your International, District and Chapter dues for 2007 are **100% fully paid!**

Editor needed for "The Pitch."

This has been seen in the *Mini-Pitch/The Pitch* before, but this time it is becoming urgent. The Phillips mansion is on the market, and when it goes, your editor goes against the flow and "goes East, old man."

Before that happens, it is important to the Chapter to have a willing volunteer to publish a newsletter for the Chapter on a regular basis. Weekly is best, but every two weeks would be fine, even monthly would be great.

Interested? Talk to **Murray** or **Bert Brossoit**, soon!

"A Night to Remember" is June 3.

This years show is only 5 weeks away! Tickets are available, and **Bert Brossoit** is the ticket manager. This is the time to tell people we are once again the Small Chorus Champs of the Mountain Division, and that our guest quartet is going into International ranked as #2. Try to sell

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

all your tickets by May 15, 2006 or see Bert to reassess the value of the tickets you still have.

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. Flyers are available online.**

It can be done, and there is no time like the present to start. See **Murray** or **Steve!** Talk up our show with your friends and acquaintances. The price of the tickets is \$25.00 CDN or \$21.00 US.

The Physics of Sound

By Phil Richards from a Harmonet Post and from Barbershop Wiki

Let's start out simple. Octaves represent a doubling of the sound frequency. So there is A - 220 Hertz, A - 440 Hertz, A - 880 Hertz, A - 1760 Hertz. (Hertz used to be cycles per second). Then there is the fifth interval which is like five white keys up, E - 330 Hertz, E - 660 Hertz, E - 1320 Hertz. This is seven semitones (each semitone is one twelfth of an octave) above the root tone. And the octave is then 5 more semitones up. These are all approximate because the fifth that we sing is about 0.1% above the piano fifth. The thirds we sing are 4 semitones up from the root, but not quite. We try to convince everybody that they are higher, but in reality they are about 0.8% low from the piano key tone. The seventh tone that we sing most often is the flat seventh, and is 3 semitone above the fifth, but not really since it is sung about 1.8% flat compared to the keyboard.

A chart for one set of frequencies is below. Note that everything changes with a different root tone except the piano keyboard where the tones are always the twelfth root of two multiplier (5.9463%) between half tones.

| Keyboard Hz | | Sung Hz | Difference |
|-------------|-----|---------|------------|
| 220 | 220 | Root | |
| 233.0818808 | | | |
| 246.9416506 | | | |
| 261.6255653 | | | |
| 277.182631 | 275 | Third | -0.79% |
| 293.6647679 | | | |
| 311.1269837 | | | |
| 329.6275569 | 330 | Fifth | 0.11% |
| 349.2282314 | | | |
| 369.9944227 | | | |
| 391.995436 | 385 | Seventh | -1.78% |
| 415.3046976 | | | |
| 440 | 440 | Root | |
| 466.1637615 | | | |
| 493.8833013 | | | |
| 523.2511306 | | | |
| 554.365262 | 550 | Third | -0.79% |
| 587.3295358 | | | |
| 622.2539674 | | | |
| 659.2551138 | 660 | Fifth | 0.11% |
| 698.4564629 | | | |
| 739.9888454 | | | |
| 783.990872 | 770 | Seventh | -1.78% |
| 830.6093952 | | | |
| 880 | 880 | Root | |

Ringling chords is simple trying to get the frequency multiples to be exactly the same, and then create overtones that also match. The sound we make contains many frequencies that are called harmonics. Harmonics are 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, etc. times the basic sung frequency and give the voice character. For example to lock a chord, the third harmonic of the root tone sung by the bass should match the second harmonic of the fifth tone sung by the baritone, creating a greater emphasis on that tone than natural. That is a simple look at lock and ring.

The Barbershop Wiki is a new project and can be found at <http://www.barbershopwiki.org/index.cgi>

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> |
| Hush-a-Bye Mountain <i>[mp3]</i> | |

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!