



NED's NEWS

A monthly newsletter for members of the
Northeastern District of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

February 2020

Vol 3 Issue 2

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District Web Page
nedistrict.org

Society Web Page
barbershop.org

Submit articles and other
information for the NED News
to Ed Fritzen:
elfritze@gmail.com

Deadline for the
MARCH Newsletter is
Sunday, March 15

Created & written by Ed Fritzen
Edited, produced & published by
Steve Salamin

Letter from the President

Our spring convention season is rapidly approaching. Both our Eastern and Western Regionals are open for convention registration and contestant entry now. Please help our fine Contest and Judging Committee and do not wait until the last minute to enter any of our contests to be held during these conventions.

Just a reminder, we'll be convening in Worcester, MA the weekend of April 17-19 and in Lake George, NY, the weekend of May 1-2. In a first for the NED, both conventions will have International Quartet Preliminary contests to qualify quartets to sing at our International Convention in Los Angeles this summer.

Spring Contest INFO: [EASTERN](#) / [WESTERN](#) / [All Competitors C&J](#)

Once again, our Western Regional convention will feature a big Saturday Night Quartet Finals along with a show featuring our current International Champion Quartet **Signature** and the two-time World Mixed Harmony Quartet Champion, **Double Date**. There might also be some additional surprise quartets who will appear on the show. I hope you will all join us, either in Lake George or in Worcester for a great weekend of barbershopping.

Just as a matter of note, since our Fall Convention is being held in Saint John, New Brunswick this October, our Sunrise Divisions brothers will not be holding their usual Spring Convention. Instead, they will be having their Division Convention and Contest along with the rest of the NED in Saint John. The convention committee is working to ensure that this will be very special District Convention, featuring some traditional activities that have been a part of past Sunrise Division Conventions. You'll be hearing a lot more about our District Convention as plans are being finalized. Now is the time to mark your calendars and to prepare to attend. The dates are October 22-25, 2020, and believe me, you'll want to arrive in time for Thursday, Oct 22 events! Plan to make it a Fall mini vacation! There will be lots to see and do in Saint John!

Information is up and available now on the NED web site:

<https://www.nedistrict.org/2020-fall-district-info>



Travel to Saint John, New Brunswick - Fall 2020

For everyone in the United States planning to travel to Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada for the Fall District Convention - and travelling BY CAR - the NED is simply recommending that each person crossing the border have a valid, current, United States Passport - and - one that is NOT expiring within the next six (6) months of/after October 2020 (e.g. not before April 2021). Contrary to any past statements, please note that a valid, state-issued (new) "REAL-ID" driver's license is NOT adequate for border-crossing, travel to/from Canada.



If you wish to pursue any of these acceptable means, you should do so, soon! After an application is submitted, a U.S. Passport can take 6-10 weeks to acquire, and maybe nearly the same amount of time for an unexpired renewal. A birth certificate and driver's license is no longer an acceptable means of ID/proof at the borders. If you are planning to fly, a U.S. Passport is your only acceptable form of proof. Air travel & TSA requires U.S. Passports, of course.

If you have a U.S. Passport now and it is not expiring before April 2021, you're all set! If yours is expiring between now and April 2021, we recommend renewing it now. If you need a U.S. Passport, why wait? Now is the best time to acquire yours if you want to be sure your border crossings are fast and easy. A U.S. Passport is quite valuable to have, overall, even for domestic travel. Again, don't wait until the last minute! No surprises at the border is best.



More official info is available at these links:

Canada Border Services Agency: <https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/travel-voyage/td-dv-eng.html>

US Dept. of State / Passports: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports/need-passport.html>

Bass River Barbershop Bash? *(Submitted by Ross McCurdy)*

First, let me give you a bit of history. An idea was floated and promoted, at a time when the **Alton Bay Jamboree** had ceased operation, along with the hugely popular **Bolton Landing** event, by long time barbershopper **Ray Miller**, now of Paris, Maine. He saw the need to fill a void and convinced me into hosting the "Beachway Barbershop Bash". This was around 1997 here on Cape Cod. I believe he expected the event to snowball into a large annual and popular event such as Alton Bay had become many decades ago.

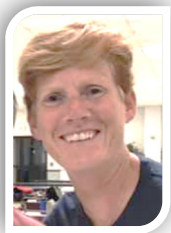
Unfortunately, the event did not generate a great deal of enthusiasm from NED members over the years and was discontinued after 2018. A few folks have expressed disappointment over the loss of this event, but the greatest outcry was from diehard members of the **Mid-Atlantic District** who are now lobbying to have it resume! If there appears to be enough demand from the barbershop community, it can happen. Quartets are needed to put a "favorable voice" out to the public that NED barbershopping is alive, well, and strong! In the meantime, I welcome YOUR feedback, support and whatever interest there may be to resurrect this Cape Cod event. Please!



*If you have any questions about the **Bass River Barbershop Bash**, please direct them to Ross W. McCurdy, (rwmccurdy@comcast.net). It would be a shame to let this event die, especially since it has so much support from barbershoppers outside of the NED. I can't think of anything I'd rather do than to spend a weekend on Cape Cod singing and listening to good barbershop. - Ed*

Congratulations to Terry Bradway and the Watervliet Music Department!

We got this great news from Terry Bradway! (She's a SAI member with the Saratoga Soundtrack Chorus, a BHS member, a music teacher and the wife of Jeff Bradway of the Saratoga Springs chapter). She and her students have been great supporters the HXNE Camps. I'll let her tell the district, in her own words, on a great accomplishment. Her story is truly inspiring and shows just what kind of impact our music can have.



I'm actually the band director in my school (Watervliet High School, NY) - but started a barbershop group several years ago when we didn't have a voice music teacher. We meet after school once a week and almost all the students are from the band program. Since attending BHS Harmony University, it has been a goal of mine to bring a youth group to Midwinter. I wasn't sure of several "qualifying" issues, like, if our level of singing was high-enough, or if our size was too small (currently 15) compared to Debbie Cleveland's chorus, or if we could afford

going. We are a small city school with 87% free and reduced lunch. However, when I saw that 2021 Midwinter would be in New York City... why not try! We sent in an audition tape to BHS and we received word last week that we are one of the 20 youth groups selected!

I just wanted to let you know that reflecting on the journey, to get to this point, Harmony University and bringing my kids to NED HX camp, has made a huge difference to my program. Because we are small, NED HX camp gives these kids an opportunity to learn and sing in a larger ensemble and feel the energy of singing around them. Also, seeing and hearing the quartets on the Saturday night show has made a big impact.

Now the real work begins - planning and preparing the kids to meet their potential so that we can represent ourselves in the best way. To say we are excited is definitely an understatement.

Thanks for your help.

Yours in harmony,

~Terry Bradway



Chapter News – Director Search

The Nashua NH Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS) is seeking a new Musical Director for its **Granite Statesmen** Barbershop Chorus. We are looking for a musician who demonstrates strong leadership skills and possesses a love of our traditional a cappella, four-part style of harmony singing.



Details at our website: <https://granitestatesmen.org/DirectorSearch>

Upcoming NED Events & Important Dates

More online at the NED District Calendar - <https://www.NEDistrict.org/calendar>

DATE	DAY	EVENT	LOCATION
Mar. 14	Sat.	Harmony Sweeps – Boston Regional – Calling interested Choruses and Quartets!	Somerville, MA
Mar. 20-22	F-Sun.	Mixed Harmony Brigade of New England – 2nd Rally!	Bedford, MA
Apr. 01	Wed.	Beverly Bash – 7:30pm - Celebrating the BHS Anniversary w/ Harmony!	Beverly, MA
Apr. 4	Sat.	Chapter Show – Concord, MA – Vocal Revolution's 50 th Anniversary	Bedford, MA
Apr. 17	Fri.	NED House of Delegates Meeting – 2pm – Hilton Garden Inn	Worcester, MA
Apr. 17-19	F-Sun	NED Spring EASTERN Regional w/ Int'l. Q-Prelims	Worcester, MA
Apr. 23-26	F-Sun	HI: Area 2 Convention & Contests	Framingham, MA
Apr. 23-26	F-Sun	SAI: Region 1 Convention & Contests	Springfield, MA
May 1-3	F-Sun	NED Spring WESTERN Regional w/ Int'l. Q-Prelims & SHOW!	Lake George, NY
June 30-Jul 1	Tu-Sun.	BHS: International Convention – Microsoft Theater	Los Angeles, CA
July 26-Aug. 2	Sun-Sun.	BHS: Harmony University – Belmont University	Nashville, TN
Aug. 6-9	Th-Sun.	NED Harmony Explosion Camp Northeast (HXNE)	Worcester, MA
Aug. 7-9	F-Sun.	NED Harmony College & NED Leadership Academy	Worcester, MA
Aug. 14-16	F-Sun.	Alton Bay Barbershop Jamboree – Singing on the Lake!	Alton, NH
Oct. 22-25	Th-Sun	NED Fall District Convention & Contests “NEDCON-2020”	Saint John, NB

Video of the Month

Watervliet High School

I hope this is acceptable to publish here. I thought I'd share the audition performance video of Terry Bradway's students that resulted in their invitation to appear at the BHS Midwinter Convention 2021 in New York City.

The Northeastern District members and leadership congratulate these students of Watervliet High School and Terry Bradway!

The NED is willing to help out as much as possible to make this a truly memorable event for all involved.

Congratulations, again!

<https://youtu.be/RpTRsEqyYfq>



The deadline for the next issue is Sunday, March 15, 2020. Please send me any news you'd like to see here to elfritze@gmail.com