

The Newyorker Times

The newsletter of the Poughkeepsie, New York, Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society



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Poughkeepsie, New York

Number 2
February 2009

Chapter Logo Formally Adopted

By Bill Florie

Newyorkers,

Yes, it is official! We finally have a new logo! Below is the logo design accepted by the board as our official chapter logo. Thank you Bob Chieffo for the design, and thanks to every member who participated in the process. I know that it did not happen as quickly as I would have liked, but I think the end result is something that we can be proud of.

Thank you,
Bill Florie

Ed. Note: The version shown here is the complete logo, intended for use on stationery and the like. We have used the pictorial part in the logo of the Times, and will continue to do so.



Bringing harmony to the Hudson Valley since 1961

The Rest of the (Logo) Story

By Bob Chieffo

I wanted to share some history about the development of our new Newyorkers Chorus logo.

Many years ago, Bill Lahl came up with a logo that was screen-printed on a set of windbreakers we ordered. It was a square design featuring New York state, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Poughkeepsie, and Newyorkers. Unfortunately it never went any further than the jackets. We never utilized the banner design developed in the 1960s either. So in recent (25?) years we had no identifying symbol.

For the past several years I had been ordering business-card mini-flyers for our annual Shows. Done early, they give members an easy handout for potential Show customers. I ordered online thru VistaPrint.com, getting 250 cards

for about \$6.00. After several orders, I got to be a "preferred customer." Several new options were available, one being create your own logo. Always interested in having a working Newyorker logo, I started playing with their artwork. Since I wasn't planning on buying any design, I saved each one via a Windows "print screen" into a Word document.

This past year when Chapter Development VP Bill Florie started a logo search, I submitted several new designs plus my designs from VistaPrint. Unfortunately, the VistaPrint ones were only small images on a Word document. The design with a the large red note and Poughkeepsie Newyorkers Chorus became the popular choice. But most folks wanted some reference to barbershopping. I quickly found a nice straw skimmer clip art and Diane "topped" it on the note. That worked! (See "The Rest of Story" on Page 2)

The New Yorker Times

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Chapter Officers

- President Stephen Miller
VP, Chapter Development William Florie
VP, Music & Performance John Hadigan, Jr.
VP, PR & Marketing Dan Landa
Secretary Scott Salladin
Treasurer Michael Murphy
BOD Members-at-Large Eric Dickstein, Richard Schaffer, Rich Merry
Immediate Past President John Hadigan, Jr.
Youth Outreach William Standish
Chorus Director Renée Silverstein
Assistant Directors John Hadigan, Jr., Steve Hagerdon
Chorus Manager Scott Salladin

Meetings

Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.

St. Andrew's Church, 110 Overlook Rd. (Co. Rte. 46) Poughkeepsie, New York

ALL SINGING MEN WELCOME

Website address www.newyorkerschorus.org

Poughkeepsie Chapter Mission Statement

The mission of the Poughkeepsie Chapter shall be: To perpetuate the art of Barbershop Harmony, and To promote and provide opportunities for vocal harmony activities for its members and potential members such as, but not limited to, Quartetting, Vocal crafts and techniques Coaching Chorus singing, and Competitive preparation and participation, and To provide public appreciation of barbershop harmony through public and charitable performances, and To promote good fellowship and camaraderie among its Membership, and To foster and enhance the ideals and principles of the Barbershop Harmony Society



- 13/14 Feb Singing Valentines—notify Steve Miller if you are planning to sing in a quartet for those dates listed and what time you will be available for.
17-18 Apr NED Contests, Holden, MA—details TBA.
30 May Annual Show, Cuneen-Hackett Arts Center Theater, 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie—details TBA

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE 25 FEBRUARY

Happy Birthdays in February:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Age. Greg Howard 12, Steve Plumb 26, Eric Dickstein 28.

No Anniversaries in February



Directions

By Renée Silverstein

VOWELS AND CONSONANTS

Vowels

When we sing it is the vowels that carry the tone. We need to decide what the vowel sound is and then unify it. Each needs to be focused, centered and accurate. Vowels have many colors, and that can depend on what words we are singing and at what volume level. We can sometimes modify too soon or too much and can lose the unity. The past few weeks we have been working on that and working to not overdo the shape. Gotta keep that up!

Consonants

Robert Shaw said, "The right note and the wrong time is the wrong note." Another subject that we are addressing during vocal craft: placing that consonant ahead of the downbeat. That's one of the reasons we experience out-of-sync singing. The vowel sound is late. Uncontrolled breath patterns add to that problem. Mastering the catch breath in one way to get that under control. This also applies to the final consonants and the ends of phrases. Gotta keep working on that!

Result: unity.

The Rest of the Story (From Page 1)

But the hat was white and had a shadow attached. Newyorker Matthew Kambic was very helpful in bringing the image into Photoshop, getting rid of the shadow, tinting the hat straw-colored, and enhancing the whole image.

The next big problem was the font. Matthew tried to find one, but did not come close enough. I really liked the original font. But after three of us (Continued on Page 3)

The Rest of the Story *(From Page 2)*

searched hundreds of fonts (talk about getting bleary-eyed), no luck. Then a stroke of luck: I looked down at the pile of telephone books I have under the corner of my computer desk and lo and behold, I spotted the font in the Yellow Book's logo! Googling around I found that logo and ultimately a reference to Linotype. It was THEIR font—"Serpentine Bold Oblique." Wife Diane took over and we were able to purchase a download. She worked it into the Photoshop file, and after her bearing with my "fussiness" about the location of the note and position/tilt of the hat, our new Newyorkers logo was finalized.

So, a BIG, BIG thanks to Matthew Kambic and especially to my wonderfully supportive and graphically talented wife, Diane.

I hope you like it. I do.

The 2008 Newyorker of the Year

By Steve Miller

The Newyorker of the Year is a member of the Poughkeepsie, NY, Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society who has exhibited sustained, unselfish service to the chapter, usually but not necessarily peaking in the award year. He or she epitomizes the spirit of the Newyorkers by cheerfully assuming and discharging many chapter responsibilities, resulting in the short- and long-term health and success of the chapter. The award was founded in 1972 by Chapter President Joe Alber who, at his passing, was memorialized in it.

The charge of selecting the Newyorker of the Year for 2008 falls on its past recipients. This is a responsibility they do not take lightly. This year the past awardees have chosen an individual who clearly stands out among the Newyorkers for his continued service to the chapter.

This individual has been an active member of the chorus and the chapter for over a decade, providing his consistent enthusiasm and expertise for the musical success of the chorus. His overwhelming knowledge of the mechanics and nuances of music in general and the barbershop style in particular are a great advantage to a chorus that is adamant about singing well. He is always quick to provide the director and chorus with his wisdom concerning the musicality of a song in those instances where his trained ear detects a bad note or chord.

While the past few years have seen his physical faculties cause a curtailment in his participation at actual performances with the chorus, he still finds the strength to attend regular rehearsals and provide his support for the activities of the chapter, in particular this past year's division contest and the annual show.

The honoree has painstakingly and single-handedly provided the chapter with his superb editorship of the Newyorker Times over the years, never failing to encourage the membership to participate in the journalistic pursuit for the success, development, and growth of the chapter.

By his independence and spirit and his never-ending support of the goals of the Newyorkers, he has been, and is, an inspiration to the chapter.

At this time we present to you The 2008 Newyorker of the Year, George Trigg.



The BYOY certificate

2008 Awards for Merit

By Steve Miller

The "Magistratus of the Nightus" Award to Larry Rand for installing the 2009 officers and directors.

The "Cornucopia" Award to Jack Tacinelli for providing nourishment to the performers at the Newyorkers Annual Show.

The "Men's Wearhouse" Award to Dick Schaffer for the care and supply of uniforms and attire for the Newyorkers.

The "Marcus Welby, MD" Award to Bob Chieffo for rebounding from ill health in 2008.

The "Dr. Kildare" Award to Bill Booth for rebounding from ill health in 2008—twice!

The "What Needs Doin'?" Award to Bud Fair for his help at the Division Contest, in moving to St. Andrew's, and with Sing for Hospice.

The "Claude Monet" Award to Bill Florie for his artistic ability and construction of the scenery for the annual show.

The "I Love U" Award to Scott Salladin for the many years of single-handedly orchestrating the Singing Valentine's program for the Newyorkers.

Manhattan Show on 28 February

Adapted from a flier

Big Apple Chorus presents Unity Spectacular Winter Show with special Chorus guests the four-time International Chorus World Champion Alexandria Harmonizers plus New York's newest chorus sensation the Voices of Gotham, and Featured Quartets BIGTIME, Round Midnight, and Highline—an extraordinary evening of a cappella music at its very best: Broadway, Pop, Oldies, Jazz, and a little Comedy.

In addition, that *(See "Manhattan Show" on Page 4)*

Manhattan Show (From Page 3)

night you will be joining the Big Apple in recognition of the Men & Women of the United States Armed Forces. In appreciation of their sacrifices the BAC has donated 100 tickets to the Wounded Warrior Program, and all should be with us that evening. If you would like to be listed as a booster Contact Art Pitrie, bassman45@optonline.net, for cost details, which are surprisingly modest: 28 February 2009, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$35 & \$25. Special Discount offer: \$5 off face value of ticket if ordered by 31 January 2009. Senior, Student, and group discounts also available.

Sing for Life!

From the Society's newsletter *LiveWire*, 31 October

Singing for Life, our society-wide blood drive, was a solid success in 2008, with 176 chapters participating, representing close to 6,000 performers across North America, according to Bob Ebers, former chairman of the Marketing and Public Relations Committee. Over 3,000 units of blood were collected with our American and Canadian Blood partners. Héma-Québec reported that 95 donors gave blood at the DDO Community Center in Montréal, and 23 persons were giving blood for the first time (their average is about 10 percent). At the other end of Montréal (Brossard) they collected another 87 pints of blood for a

total of 182 donors being serenaded by five choruses (100 singers). At the Surrey Blood Donation Clinic in Surrey, British Columbia, 150 singers from 14 a cappella groups performed for five hours—what a treat for donors! The Michigan Community Blood Centers collected 120 units of blood from donors with help from the Great Lakes Chorus, who sponsored a blood drive and car show (how's that for creativity?). Chapters in Traverse City and the St. Joseph area were also key contributors. United Blood Services of Las Vegas collected 84 units.

The media coverage was equal to, or in some cases better than, the coverage markets get during the Singing Valentines campaign. In addition, many chapters experienced their first cross-promotional opportunities with other performing-arts organizations, and some reported new-member prospects as a result.

The 2009 SFL Project encompasses the entire month of May this year, so that chapters have more flexibility in planning their events. It will be enhanced with more direct communication from committee members. A new FAQ is on our website outlining the positive changes to make this event better, and the registration website is already registering chapters for the 2009 campaign. Please talk about this prospect with your chapter leadership and let SFL bring joy to your community and new potential growth to your chapter.

Website for Poughkeepsie Newyorkers: <http://www.newyorkerschorus.org>