

The Newyorker Times

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



New Series, Volume 7
Poughkeepsie, New York

Number 1
January 2006

Installation Dinner Set for 28 January

By John Hadigan, Dinner Chairman

The installation of the new Chapter Officers will take place on Saturday, 28 January 2006, at Coco's Pasta and Grill, Route 9, Hyde Park, New York. The affair will run from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. There are four menu choices:

Chicken Marsala, served w/ linguini

Prime Rib, served w/ choice of potato and mixed vegetables

Pork Loin, served w/ choice of potato and mixed vegetables

Stuffed Filet of Sole - served with rice and mixed vegetables

All dinners include salad, bread, soft beverages, coffee and tea. The price is \$25 per person (please make checks payable to the Poughkeepsie Newyorkers).

For reservations contact John Hadigan at 485-2339 or e-mail me at Bigjohbass1@aol.com.

A Member's Reaction to Barbershopping

By Joe O'Neill

I am, or at least I consider myself, fairly new (a couple of years) to Barbershop. I must say I'm considerably disappointed in myself for not having realized that Barbershop even existed. I've always loved to sing and didn't even know that Barbershop was around. Now that I've found it, I definitely want to be part of it. My big problem? Now that I'm getting older, I don't have as good a memory as I once had. So I kind of hesitate when it comes to quartetting. I sing lead—and Lordy, the lead **MUST** remember all the words.

At the various places we have sung, we were always well received; I mean, people verily adored us. Who could not like singing when you are received this way? I do think if we can get people, especially men, to hear us they definitely would like to join us..

We also have a director, Renée Silverstein, who is very talented and who works very hard to get us to present songs properly. She, along with her co-directors Steve Hagerdon and John Hadigan—both of whom work very hard to con-

vey their knowledge to us—are a delightful group to work with. We should all be very grateful for their presence..

In closing I would like to say that I'm very grateful that the Good Lord has seen fit to connect me with such a wonderful group of people while I was still able to join them and take part in such a wonderful activity as Barbershop singing.

“Harmony for Hospice” Enjoyable Despite Difficulties

By Jack Tacinelli

[An informational handout for the employees of Hospice, Inc., called “CheckNews,” contained the following passage:

On 11 December, the Hospice Foundation organized the sixth annual “Harmony for Hospice” concert, featuring the Newyorkers Barbershop Chorus singing old-time and holiday favorites for more than 300 people at the Poughkeepsie Galleria. This year, the Newyorkers were joined by the Roy C. Ketcham High School Men's Vocal Ensemble, who delighted the crowd with their appealing melodies and engaging harmonies. Both groups donated their time and talents to benefit Hospice, Inc.'s Tree of life.]

Well, since I took sick and wasn't able to sing, Barb and I had the pleasure of sitting in the audience to listen to our favorite barbershop chorus. Let me say we enjoyed the show.

The first half was strong in spite of being short handed. The energy level was high with well coordinated choreography. All voices and sections blended well with no one voice or section heard above the others. Songs flowed well, one into another. I did enjoy the quartets, in spite of the initial microphone problems. Placement of the quartets throughout the first half of the show gave voices a chance to rest.

The program was long and it became apparent that fatigue was setting in during the second half. Losing chorus members as a result of other commitments compounded the weakness of the second half. A shorter show with more performers might have improved the second half of the show.

(See “Review” on Page 2)

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Meetings
 Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.
 First Reformed Church
 70 Hooker Avenue
 Poughkeepsie, New York
 ALL SINGING MEN WELCOME
 Website address www.newyorkerschorus.org



14 Jan Newyorkers performance, Castle Point VA
 Medical Center—2 p.m.
 21 Jan Newyorkers Installation Dinner, Coco's
 Restaurant, Hyde Park—5:30 p.m.
 17–18 Mar Yankee Division Contest, Manchester, CT

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE
25 JANUARY



**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 Bar-
 bershop Harmony Society

Happy Birthdays in January:

Antony Takahashi	7
Gerry Weiss	7
“Bix” Doughty	10
Faith Krzywicki	12
Steve Hagerdon	13
Lynn Takahashi	31

Happy Anniversaries in January:

Steve and Barbara Plumb	27
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Review (From Page 1)
 Over all the show was enjoyable, and I appreciated the
 opportunity to listen to a Newyorkers performance.

An Observation
 By Gene Haff
 From St. Petersburg's *Scoops & Swipes*,
 Clare McCreary, Editor,
 by way of Worcester's *Key Notes*,
 Roy Hayward, Editor

Sometimes members of a chorus are disappointed that,
 during a rehearsal, they don't often get to sing a song all
 the way through without stopping. Actually, this is some-
 thing that is largely under the control of the singers them-
 selves. When a chorus director hears something that is not
 right, he or she has two choices: (1) Stop right then and
 correct the error, or (2) ignore the error and let the chorus
 finish the song without stopping. Since the second choice
 would set the error more firmly in place, the director of a
 chorus that is really interested in improving will probably
 select the first choice. One thing that every chorus member
 can do to help ensure that a song will not be interrupted
 during rehearsal is to strive to (See "Observation" on Page 3)

Observation *(From Page 2)*

sing it so well that the director has no reason to stop it. While this writer certainly does not always succeed in meeting this challenge, he believes that this is a worthy goal.

Roy Hayward appended the following note, which can fit everywhere: "[These points] seem to apply to many chapters—are we one of them?"

Manchester Chapter Sets Show Date

From flier

The Manchester Chapter presents "Serenade on the Seas" in two performances, 1:30 and 7:30 p.m., on 14 January. Featured performers include the chapter's 2005 Yankee Division Champion Silk City Chorus, 2005 International third place medalist quartet Metropolis, 2005 Northeastern District champion and 2005 International Collegiate Champion quartet Men In Black, and a quartet from the U.S. Naval Academy, Clean Shave. Performances will be at the Manchester (CT) High School, 134 Middle Turnpike East. General admission is \$15.00; seniors and students \$12.00. For tickets call 860-529-3664.

Spring Prelims and Yankee Division Contest

By Scott Salladin

The Poughkeepsie Chapter has been entered into the Yankee Division Contest on 18 March 2006. Chapter quartets that want to compete at the Yankee Division Contest or for Spring Prelims must enter by 15 February.

New regulations for contest are for all contestants to pay by the filing deadline of 15 February. All contestants must purchase a full registration even if only singing in the Yankee Division contest. The registration fee for the full weekend is \$20 for contestants. Please pay Scott Salladin by 15 February. Please keep this date open and sign up as soon as you can.

For any guests that may be coming the costs are as follows:

Multi-Session (Full Weekend)	\$20
(includes all Spring Prelims competitions)	
Single Session Competitor	\$20
Single Session Non-Competitor	\$15

Student Registration \$ 7.50

Collegiate registration \$ 7.50

For those wishing to stay on Fri or Sat nights here are the hotels available:

Headquarters Hotel
Hawthorne Inn
2387 Berlin Turnpike
Berlin, CT 06037
860-828-4181

2nd Hotel
Best Western
New England Suites & Inn
2253 Berlin Turnpike
Berlin, CT 06037
860-828-3000

Contest Location:

Catherine M McGee Middle School
899 Norton Rd
Berlin, CT 06037

Student Programs Moniker Becomes "Youth In Harmony"

From the Society's newsletter
LiveWire, 22 November

Responding to the needs of the music education world, the Barbershop Harmony Society has rebranded its student programs with the more-inclusive name Youth In Harmony.

"When we talk with high school music educators, the first thing we're asked is, 'what do you have for the girls, too?'" said Society staffer Rick Spencer, who oversees Student Activities programs. "We often work with Sweet Adelines International and Harmony Inc. on school programs, and our 'Young Men in Harmony' label is perceived to be limiting.

"Our aim is to help young people experience the joy of barbershop harmony, and we don't need any limiting labels standing between us."

Known variously through the years as Young Men In Harmony (YMIH) and Youth Outreach, the program encompasses music teacher education, the MBNA America Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Competition, and chapter and district efforts to bring music to local education systems.