

# The Newyorker Times

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



New Series, Volume 8  
Poughkeepsie, New York

Number 1  
January 2007

## Thanks from Hospice

A letter sent to Bob Chieffo

Please pass along my sincerest appreciation to John, Rene [*sic*] and the entire membership of your chorus for their wonderful performance this past Sunday at the Poughkeepsie Galleria Mall. As always, the enthusiasm and professionalism of the entire performance was excellent, and helped us raise significant contributions.

Enclosed, please find a small token of the appreciation felt by everyone here at Hospice for all you have done over the years in helping spread the word of Hospice during this Holiday Season. I know how busy everyone in the chorus has been during this season and this gift is meant to help lessen some of that stress.

Once again, and on behalf of all the patients and families we serve, thank you and may each of you have a very happy and peace filled new year.

Sincerely,

[s]

Michael Murphy  
Executive Director

## Payment for 9/11 Performance

The following letter speaks for itself.

To: James O'Neill  
Fraternal Order of Police  
Stephen P Driscoll Memorial Lodge # 704  
PO Box 7  
Carmel, NY 10512

From: Scott Salladin  
Poughkeepsie Chapter, BHS  
166 Academy St. A-2  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Subject: Donation

Dear James,

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you and your organization for the generous dona- (*See "9/11" on Page 4*)

## Quartet Corner

### Footlighters Perform to S R O Audience

By Bob Chieffo



The Footlighters gave another mesmerizing performance on 6 December, singing their hearts out to a "Standing Room Only" audience at Adams Fairacre Farms, Newburgh. The shouts of "Bravo!" poured forth from the (peanut) gallery. Yessiree Bob, we were "top bananas" again at this annual gig. Dare I say, "the apples of everyone's eye!"

There is nothing so satisfying as lining up in front of the potato bins and belting out Popeye's old song "I Yam What I Yam". And you can't beat serenading the Fish Dept. with "Old Cape Cod". Shoppers eagerly crowded around (the free cookies and cider table) to hear us sing seasonal favorites too, like "White Christmas," "Feliz Navidad," and "Please, Mr. Columbus" (yeah, that's seasonal).

Needless to say we had a great thyme strolling about and singing to young and old alike. The warm applause and season's greetings we received were especially heartening as we closed with our wish for 2007, "Let There Be Peace On Earth."

A special thanks to Carol Ostmark who snapped that cute photo above.



**The New Yorker Times**

Published by the Poughkeepsie, NY, Chapter of the  
Barbershop Harmony Society  
Yankee Division, Northeastern District  
Editor: George L. Trigg,  
18 Duzine Road, New Paltz, NY 12561-1304  
845-255-9488; e-mail [GeorgeL.Trigg@alum.wustl.edu](mailto:GeorgeL.Trigg@alum.wustl.edu)

**Chapter Officials**

- President . . . . . John Hadigan, Jr.  
845-485-2339; e-mail bigjohnbass1@aol.com
- VP, Chapter Development . . . . . John Chisholm  
845-462-0656; e-mail Unkie907@aol.com
- VP, Music & Performance . . . . . Steve Miller
- VP, PR & Marketing . . . . . Joe O'Neill  
845-229-9756; e-mail joekev2@aol.com
- Secretary . . . . . Scott Salladin
- Treasurer . . . . . Mike Murphy
- BOD Members at Large . . . . . Bill Florie, Bob Hitchcock,  
Dick Schaffer
- Immediate Past President . . . . . Eric Dickstein
- Youth Outreach . . . . . Bill Standish
- Chorus Director . . . . . Renée Silverstein
- Assistant Directors . . . . . John Hadigan, Steve Hagerdon
- Chorus Manager . . . . . Scott Salladin

**Meetings**

**Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.**

**First Reformed Church**

**70 Hooker Avenue**

**Poughkeepsie, New York**

**ALL SINGING MEN WELCOME**

Website address . . . . . [www.newyorkerschorus.org](http://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 Jan**      **Installation Dinner, Hudson's Ribs & Fish, Fishkill—6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Price \$30 per person. Special guests: Steve & Barbara Plumb**
- 14 Feb**      **Singing Valentines—join in if you can**
- 20–21 Apr    Division Contest, Schenectady
- 28 Apr**      **Annual Show, FDR High School, Hyde Park**

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE  
31 JANUARY**

**Happy Birthdays in January:**

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

**Happy Anniversaries in January:**

Steve and Barbara Plumb	27
-------------------------	----

*Directions*

*by Renée Silverstein*

**Not Just a Hobby**

Let me say a few things about this hobby. Singing well is where the real fun comes with this hobby. But we have to get over the attitude that says this is *only* a hobby, which sometimes translates to “We don’t work at hobbies, like singing.”

Maybe we can liken this to football. The learning of notes and words is the same as putting on your uniform. The uniform is vital to your success as a player but it does not *make* you a player. In the same way, just knowing the right notes and words is only the first step to success, but you have to sing with your riser mates for the entire ensemble to work. We all have to be together on Wednesdays. We all need to have the same goal in mind, and so we need to work on individual skills so that when we come together we can work on ensemble skills. Quarterbacks, receivers, linemen, running backs, and kickers all have their own instruction times with coaches (we have section rehearsals with section leaders) where skills are sharpened and fine tuned. Some skills are learned at home, alone. Then we all come together for scrimmage (rehearsals) and the head coach pulls it together and determines how each play will be run so that we can all learn to work together producing a good team. Then comes game day. You (Continued on Page 3)

**Directions** (From Page 2)

have become performers who have learned the skills well, taken all the individual parts and become a real team, victorious in performance and thrilling the audience.

Let's go for the super bowl!

---

## Audience Etiquette

By Bill Standish

I would like to apologize and at the same time address a problem that exists within our chapter when quartets are performing in front of us on rehearsal nights.

First of all, thank you all for making LouAnne and Nancy feel very welcome. They commented on the many compliments you gave them and thought it was especially nice that we sang "Welcome..." and came over to introduce ourselves. I would also like to thank those who had the presence of mind to bestow only gracious remarks on the ladies rather than try to be a "clinician" and offer advice on their possible bad points while they were performing. Please remember that when guests are with us, they are *guests*. Guests are not impressed with how much you know to tell them to correct—certainly not at the first meeting. So, from the feedback I have received from the ladies, you got high marks on that. Thanks again. We needed to make them comfortable rather than self-conscious, and I can only suspect you succeeded.

So where is the problem? When our own chapter quartets perform, the rest of us sit and listen attentively and politely, *always* showing support—or DO we? Last night, as on many nights, that was not the case. All conversations should stop (including mine!); and really, when mistakes happen, it's very disturbing to the quartet to see their own buddies snickering and laughing.

Perhaps I'm taking this a little too far? I don't really think so. Twice last night I allowed myself to talk to someone else while a quartet was performing, and I apologize for that. I also witnessed some other conversations and banter. I would like to ask everyone of us (*every one* of us—no exclusions) to please show proper courtesy to any and all performers, informal or formal, and for that matter, to do the same when someone is speaking.

I'm not sure I would have had the "dare" to write this if I hadn't also been a part of the problem; it makes it very easy to point out the problem, as I am no better than anyone else. I am reminded of what Doug Murray said to me a few years ago about the fact that he was very disturbed to come to chapter and hear guys talking and goofing during rehearsal time but worse, when someone wanted annoying conversations to stop, they would shout "Shut up!" It may seem trivial, but a member who no longer attends didn't think so, and neither do I. Our deportment in front of our own members, rehearsal night guests (*potential members??*), and many times in public is ragged, unpolished. When we are paid for a performance, we are paid according to our total professionalism. Think about that.

So to the two quartets performing last evening, even though it was a pick-up quartet in an informal setting, *I apologize*. Can we all ask each other to be more attentive and courteous going forward? And to our Board of Directors, this entire item should be coming up at your next Board meeting, and should never leave the agenda—it's that important.

Thank you for listening to a member who has obviously gotten much older, because he is much crankier, but frankly these issues never seem to go away.

---

## Manchester Chapter's Show on 13 and 14 January

Adapted from a flyer

The Manchester (CT) Chapter announces its 44th annual show, "Time After Time," to be presented at South Windsor High School at three times: Saturday, 13 January, at 1:30 and 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, 14 January, at 1:30 p.m. All shows feature the Silk City Chorus, the 2006 International medalist quartet OC Times, and the 2005 NED champion quartet Men In Black; the Saturday shows feature, in addition, the 2006 International champion quartet Real Time. Reserved seats are available for \$28.00 and \$23.00, general admission for \$18.00, and seniors and students for \$15.00. Tickets can be ordered by mail from Silk City Chorus, c/o Peter Arico, 28 Maxwell Drive, Rocky Hill, CT, with check made out to Manchester Chapter-SPEBSQSA; or e-mail [petersings@sbcglobal.net](mailto:petersings@sbcglobal.net), call 1-860-529-3664, or visit the web site at [Silkcitychorus.org](http://Silkcitychorus.org).

---

## New Officers To Be Installed on 13 January

By George Trigg

On Saturday, 13 January, at Hudson's Ribs and Fish in Fishkill, the following officers of the Poughkeepsie Chapter for the year 2007 will be installed by Steve Plumb:

President, John Hadigan

VP Chapter Development, John Chisholm

VP Music and Performance, Steve Miller

VP Marketing and Public Relations, Joe O'Neill

Secretary, Scott Salladin

Treasurer, Mike Murphy

BOD members at Large, Bill Florie, Bob Hitchcock, and Dick Schaffer

Immediate Past President, Eric Dickstein

Chorus Director, Renée Silverstein

The installation will be preceded by a dinner, starting at 6:30 p.m. The price is \$30 per person. Reservations should be made with Scott Salladin at 845-790-3393 as soon as practicable.



## Real Stage Presence



We all know barbershoppers are hams. But when Chris Schulze spotted that photographer he went all out! This picture was taken by Pat Usifer on 19 November 2006 as the Newyorkers performed for the residents of the Fishkill Health Related Center. It was a great performance for all. I'd say Chris really enjoyed it!

---

### 9/11 *(From Page 1)*

tion we received as a result of our performance at the 9/11 5th year anniversary service in Carmel. On behalf of the chorus, we were truly honored to be a part of this event, and it's one that we'll remember for many years to come.

Our Board of Directors has decided to return the \$350 to you to be donated to the Stephen P. Driscoll Memorial Fund. Being a part of this memorial was payment enough for us. Thank you again, and have a Happy Holiday.

In Harmony,  
John Hadigan  
President -  
Poughkeepsie Chapter  
Barbershop Harmony Society

Sing ...for Life,  
Scott Salladin  
Poughkeepsie Chapter Secretary

---

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

**The Newyorker Times**  
18 Duzine Road  
New Paltz, NY 12561-1304