

The Newyorker Times

The newsletter of Poughkeepsie, New York, Chapter, SPEBSQSA Inc.



New Series, Volume 4
Poughkeepsie, New York

Number 3
March 2003

Editorial VOLUNTEER TO HELP AT INTERNATIONAL

As of mid-February, volunteers were still needed to provide staffing at the International Convention and Contest in Montréal this July. The Northeastern District is the host District, and it behooves the membership of the District to come forth to help. Murray Phillips, Co-Chairman of the Convention, advises that anyone who is willing to should contact Alan Kenley, Volunteer Services Chairman, at alankenley@aol.com. Has anyone from our chapter, besides the Editor, volunteered? Scott Salladin will be involved, as he always is, of course, by virtue of his District position. How about the rest of us? Show that we care!

George L. Trigg

WESTERN REGIONAL CONVENTION

By Norm Mendenhall
Mountain Division Manager

Well, thanks to Ken Abbott, Fred Schonenberg, and a bunch of others, we finally have a location for the Western Regional Convention!!! It will be in Watervliet, NY, and on the same dates as originally scheduled: April 4 & 5.

Details will be forthcoming, but the school will open around 4:00 p.m.-ish for the quartet contest to start at 7:00 p.m. on the 4th and somewhere around 9:00 a.m.- ish for a start of 12:00 noon for the chorus contest on the 5th.

Maps, directions and final details and times will be forthcoming soon. Whew! This was a tough one but all seems to be finally coming together at last.

No one has been officially assigned the local contest chairman to take care of all this stuff, but it will probably be me, Ken or Fred or a combination of the three, not necessarily in that order.

SPECIFIC DOCUMENTS REQUIRED TO ENTER CANADA

From *SPEBSQSA Live Wire*, 13 January

Canadian law specifies that anyone entering the country must present two of the following documents:

Photo ID (such as a valid driver's license)

A valid passport

A certified or notarized copy of a birth certificate
If married or divorced, and name is different than either passport or birth certificate, then a certified marriage or divorce certificate is also required.

Official passport forms and info can be found at www.travel.state.gov. NOTE: It can take six weeks or longer to process a passport application.

THE RITZ ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

By Darryl Flynn
Executive Director and friend

The Ritz, 1991 international champion, has announced that the quartet will retire following the 2004 international convention in Louisville. Interestingly, Louisville is where the quartet won the international championship.


The Ritz got started like most quartets, for their love of music, harmony and the barbershop style of singing. As time went by, these four music educators—Jim Shisler, tenor; Doug "Nic" Nichol, lead; D.J. Hiner, baritone; and Ben Ayling, bass—found lots of other reasons for being. They found that they had four extraordinarily well matched voices and personalities. They found a warm, unusual and loving brotherhood. They found themselves improving musically—enough so that they had a real shot at our highest honor, the coveted international quartet championship and the gold medal.

Both before and after their winning performance in 1991, The Ritz showed its championship colors by being more than a great quartet. They were, in fact, making their mark as ambassadors of harmony around the world and throughout our Society as skilled teachers and coaches, as emissaries of our unique style in schools and colleges, and as mentors to developing quartets. They were the featured quartet on the Society's first trip (See "The Ritz" on Page 2)

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 Yankee Division, Northeastern District
 Editor: George L. Trigg, 18 Duzine Road, New Paltz, NY 12561-1304
 845-255-9488; e-mail GeorgeLTrigg@alum.wustl.edu

Chapter Officials
 President Dick Schaffer
 845-562-1381; e-mail elyndell@webtv.net
 Development VP Al Cavalari
 845-562-0088; e-mail FLAGGUYS@aol.com
 Music & Performance VP John Hadigan
 Secretary Scott Salladin
 Treasurer Bob Durand
 BOD Members at Large Ray Brock
 Bob Chieffo
 John "Duke" Chisholm
 Public Relations Officer Bill Standish
 Youth Outreach Bill Standish
 Chorus Director Renée Silverstein
 Chorus Manager John "Duke" Chisholm

Meetings
Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.
First Reformed Church
70 Hooker Avenue
Poughkeepsie, New York
ALL SINGING MEN WELCOME
 Website address www.angelfire.com/fl/gbnagy



5 Mar Ash Wednesday
 7 Mar First Friday luncheon, 12 noon, Aloy's Restaurant
 14-15 Mar **NED Quartet Prelims, Peabody, MA**
 19 Mar BOD meeting, 6 p.m. at church
 4-5 Apr **Western Regional Convention and Contest, Watervliet, NY**
 12 May **Annual Chapter Show, 8 p.m., FDR High School, Hyde Park**

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE
26 MARCH

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 SPEBSQSA, Inc.

Happy Birthdays in March (date order):

Pauline Cavalari	7
Jeff MacAvery	10
Pat Cortellino	21
Tammy Crameer	22

The Ritz (From Page 3)
 to Russia.

The Ritz will leave a tremendous legacy of accomplishments and contributions to the Society. As a quartet dedicated to giving of their time and talents for the betterment of the Society and the Association of International Champions, they saw a way of doing even more. They were the first quartet to join the O.C. Cash Founder's Club at the gold (\$100,000) level. Their very generous and leading donation to Harmony Foundation, the charitable arm of the Society, set the stage for other quartets to follow.

Having personally known Jim, Nic, D.J., and Ben since the beginning, I have the honor to say thanks and congratulations for a brilliant career and to offer my best personal wishes and those of the Society to them as they begin to wind down.

Whoever it was that said "All good things must come to an end" had to be thinking about The Ritz. And what a good thing The Ritz has been.

NOTE: The Ritz will continue to accept show dates through June of 2004. The quartet can be reached at Ritzben@aol.com

BOOK COST REDUCED

Jim Coates, the publisher of *Laughter, Love, and a Barbershop Song*, has informed *The Newyorker Times* that a change in his mode of operation has permit- (See "Book" on Page 3)

Book *(From Page 2)*

ted a reduction in the cost of the book. Charges for shipping and handling, which were originally \$5.00 per copy, are now \$3.00 for the first copy in each order, \$0.50 for each additional copy. It is now even more of a bargain than before.

p.m., and on Sunday, 13 April, at 2:00 p.m. Then on Saturday, 26 April, at 8:00 p.m. and on Sunday, 27 April, at 2:00 p.m., he will play in an original play of his own writing, "A Fantasy Farce." Those of us who saw him in "A Night in the Ukraine" know there is a treat in store for anyone who catches either or both of these shows.

DAN LANDA TO STAR AGAIN

Dan Landa, one of our top leads, will star in two stage productions at Dutchess Community College in the near future. He will play the role of Otto Frank in "The Diary of Ann Frank" on Thursday-Saturday, 10-12 April, at 8:00

RECYCLE YOUR HARMONIZER

Give your copies to Bob Chieffo when you are finished with them. He will relabel them and recycle them to hospital waiting rooms. Good advertising for the Society—and, indirectly, for the chapter.

MORE PICTURES FROM INSTALLATION DINNER



Gerry Weiss, the rarely seen George Sprague, Jim Facciolla, and Bill Standish ring some.



The Editor, Doug Murray, former President Butch Ashdown, the rarely seen Greg Howard, and Bob Hitchcock form a five-man quartet.



The Footlighters in a more informal mood.



Ron Pierson, Jack Ostmark, IPP Schaffer, and "Big John" Hadigan make beautiful music together.

More on Page 4



The Footlighters, this time with their fifth man, Lew DiStasi, in a rare role as bass.



Al Cavalari makes his final appearance with Just 4 Awhile.

“APPLAUSE” SHOW GOES FULL TIME

By Rich Taylor

For those of you who have loved a cappella radio, and the live “APPLAUSE” Show with Rich Taylor and T J Barranger, this is a posting you should read from top to bottom. It’s long, but exciting and IMPORTANT!

We are so excited about an announcement that the owner of Regional Broadcasting Services, the parent company of WVRM in Upper Montclair, New Jersey, made last Thursday night prior to the weekly broadcast of The “APPLAUSE” Show, that we want to share that announcement with you.

As you know, in January of 2002, The “APPLAUSE” Show moved from a public broadcasting station in western New Jersey to WVRM Radio, 1620AM, 91.9FM, and in north Jersey on Comcast Channel 34. The Internet access is at www.villageradio.com. The owner of Regional Broadcasting Services is a fan of barbershop harmony and a cappella music. He offered The “APPLAUSE” Show a 4½-hour slot, making the show the longest single slot of radio dedicated to barbershop and a cappella music. He also said that after the show was on for a while, he would evaluate our audience and perhaps give us the opportunity to change the format of the radio station to 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year Barbershop Harmony and A Cappella Music.

Last Thursday, George Louvis, the CEO of Regional Broadcasting, announced to us that he was ready to make that change for a trial period. We are providing Mr. Louvis with the music of 60 artists from the barbershop harmony and contemporary a cappella communities, from which he will create a prerecorded rotating play list that will be broadcast all day, EVERY DAY for all but the contracted times of other shows already on Village Radio (these amount to approximately 8 hours of broadcast time). This programming change will take place as soon as the play list is assembled.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR BARBERSHOPPERS EVERYWHERE?

1. You will be able to access a 24 hours a day (with mi-

nor exceptions) to hear your favorite barbershop and a cappella artists.

2. We will now be able to build other “APPLAUSE” type shows in any part of the world. If your chapter or group wants to do a weekly live radio show of your own, we will be able to switch from the studios of WVRM to anywhere in the world that has the appropriate equipment (we will provide those specifications) Imagine: “Live from (wherever)... the (name your show) Show” featuring barbershop and/or a cappella music.

3. We will be in a position to simulcast any event with proper equipment in place—i.e., The Buckeye Open, or the Harmony Sweepstakes, or you name the event)

Now, what is necessary to develop this fully? Well, first and foremost is the support of the barbershop and a cappella communities. We need to show Mr. Louvis that our organizations and our members will financially support this format change. We will be asking you individually, your chapters, groups, and the major harmony organizations to make financial contributions to Regional Broadcasting to fund the broadcast of 24/7 Barbershop and A Cappella. We will be offering advertising opportunities for companies that market to the a cappella communities, including chapters and quartets and groups that have CDs to sell, or shows to promote, or events to promote.

Together, you, our listeners, and the APPLAUSE Team can make this the most exciting opportunity for all concerned—a truly “Win-Win” situation.

Stay tuned for more on this throughout the next month. If you have not contributed to the show, go to our web page at www.harmonize.com/applauseshow and find out how you can support the show.

CANCELLATION OF THE WESTERN REGIONAL SHOW

By Art Lively
Executive VP, NED
Thanks to Butch Ashdown

At our District Board meeting today, President Alan Lamson announced that because a (See “Show” on Page 5)

Show (From Page 4)

venue for the show has not been secured, the plans for a regional Saturday night show must be scrapped. He stated that time has run out to find a suitable facility and still allow enough time to put together a show.

Ed. Note: Be aware that this is only the Saturday night show, **not** the convention and contest.

MUSIC MAN REMAKE

From *SPEBSQSA Live Wire*, 10 February

Many of you are aware that "The Music Man" will be shown on Disney, Sunday February 16 (check local listing for time and channel). There has been a great deal of discussion about the quartet that will appear, who they are, etc. They're a Canadian group called Voices In Public, and generally don't do barbershop. The following is a taken from the Harmonet—thanks to Allan Webb, who wrote directly to VIP through their web site. Here is his question and the quartet's response.

"I have a question for you: when you recorded the quartet numbers for The Music Man, did you record Meredith Willson's arrangements from the score or did you record the arrangements as performed by the Buffalo Bills on Broadway and in the original movie? The reason I ask is that Meredith Willson was not a barbershop arranger. When he hired the Buffalo Bills he expressly asked them to modify the arrangements as necessary to better fit the barbershop style. They did, and that is what was performed on Broadway and in the movie. However, those changes were never reflected in the original score.

"Most barbershop quartets who are hired to do The Music Man for local theatre groups know this, and do the arrangements as performed by the Buffalo Bills, not what is in the score. The quartet arrangements in the score are, for the most part, not great barbershop arrangements. Willson knew this and took steps to make sure that what got performed was more authentic, but I'm betting Disney didn't.

"Can you clarify this issue for me?"

I received the following response from Marty Beecroft, one of the members of VIP:

"Hi Allan,

"Your question was passed on to me from the V.I.P. website. I am a member of the group V.I.P. who is the quartet in the upcoming film of 'The Music Man.' It is a very well informed question you have posed.

"It may be a Disney film, but that only means Disney money. Everyone brought in to work on this film (director, actors, choreographer, music director,...) were all top notch and well respected. There was a very high attention to detail with regards to the music, and making sure it sounded authentic for the time period. We didn't use Willson's arrangements nor did we use The Buffalo Bills' arrangements. The music director took various arrangements and made his own changes when necessary. I know he felt that

at times the arrangements from the original film sounded too much like barbershop from the 1960's and not from 1912 (i.e., types of chords/harmony used) and would make changes to give it a more authentic 1912 barbershop sound. He also worked extensively with us to get the exact phrasing he was looking for.

"Generally speaking, I think the entire production crew had the vision of staying true to Willson's script and music, but at the same time taking a fresh perspective on the musical, not merely recycling the past. I hope you are able to watch the film and I hope you enjoy it, especially the barbershop numbers!!! :)

"Thanks for the question,

"take care,

"Marty."

ANNUAL SHOW ADS

by Scott Salladin
Ad Chairman

On March 4th I will be handing out the Ad Contracts and Ad Specifications for the "Magic of Music" Program Booklet. The prices for ads are as follows: Booster (single line), \$10; 1/8 page (Business Card), \$20; 1/4 page, \$35; 1/2 page, \$60; full page \$110.

Last year we sold 138 ads so let's try to sell 150 ads in 2003. Everyone who sold ads last year will receive ad contracts, ad specifications, and program booklets from last year. This is to show our patrons the ads they did last year. Make sure you leave each of them a copy of this program. After the show is over you will be required to give each of them a copy of the 2003 Show program.

OLD SONGS LIBRARY SHEET MUSIC AVAILABLE ONLINE

Public domain sheet music is now available to members in the Members Only Section of the Society website (www.spebsqsa.org). You'll find the Old Songs Library Online "Society Info & Services" in the Members Only menu. The music is free for viewing or printing. Approximately five new titles will be added per week, or as time permits.

Any questions may be directed to Tom Barr at 800-876-7464 x8545 or tbarr@spebsqsa.org

CURRENT REPERTOIRE

By Renée Silverstein

The following songs are the ones in the Newyorkers' current repertoire. The songs in italics are the ones of priority learning. The title of each is preceded by the key it is sung in.

D *Basin St. Blues*

E♭ Beautiful Baby

(See "Repertoire" on Page 6)

Repertoire (From Page 5)

B♭	Down Our Way	B♭	<i>Oh, How I Miss You Tonight</i>
F♯	<i>Georgia on My Mind</i>	G	<i>Old St. Louie</i>
A♭	Heart of My Heart	A♭	<i>Rose Colored Glasses</i>
B♭	<i>Hello, Mary Lou</i>	B♭	Shine on Me
E	<i>I'll Be Seeing You</i>	E♭	<i>Sing Me That Song Again</i>
F♯	Irish Blessing	F	<i>Sittin' On Top Of The World</i>
A♭	I Love You Truly	A	Star Spangled Banner
G	<i>I'm Beginning To See The Light</i>	B♭	<i>Sweet Adeline</i>
E♭	I Believe	F♭	Sweet and Lovely
E♭	<i>I Love That Old Barbershop Style</i>	E♭	Teach the Children To Sing
E♭	Keep the Whole World Singing	A♭	Ten Feet Off the Ground
B♭	Let Me Call You Sweetheart	F	<i>That Old Black Magic</i>
F	<i>Lazy River</i>	A	<i>This Little Light of Mine/Do Lord</i>
B♭	My Wild Irish Rose	C	You're As Welcome as the Flowers in May
			All Christmas Music

Website for Poughkeepsie Newyorkers: <<http://www.angelfire.com/fl/gbnagy>>

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New Paltz, NY 12561-1304