

The Newyorker Times

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

**BARBERSHOP
HARMONY SOCIETY**



New Series, Volume 6
Poughkeepsie, New York

Number 3
March 2005

Editorial

Let's Learn From The First Ladies

Every Tuesday, the "Life" section of the Poughkeepsie Journal contains a page called "Verge," directed chiefly at teenagers. The left-hand column of the page, called "TeenAges," always consists of an article written by a teen-ager. On the morning of 22 February, the author was a girl named Laura Doe, a senior at FDR High School and a member of their a cappella group The First Ladies, who have appeared on our annual show. Laura told about some of her experiences with the group, and about her feelings growing out of that experience. She is clearly an exceptionally astute young lady, and part of her column says something that the Newyorkers could well take to heart. Here is what she said:

"... [W]e spent lots of time practicing the competition songs as if we really had a judgmental audience watching us perform. This meant increasing our energy level, body movement and use of dynamics—a big transition from our previous performance style of mostly just standing around and singing.

"One of the differences between a great group and a so-so group is the amount of energy brought to the performance—you obviously can't entertain people with a deadpan face and stiff body movements."

Out of the mouths of babes ...

Singing Valentine Comments

By Scott Salladin, Singing Valentine Chairman

Here are some of the comments that were sent in with payments for the Singing Valentines that were delivered.

"Thanks to you and the Poughkeepsie Newyorkers for making Valentine's Day memorable."—Judy Elkin

"Just a note of thanks to the members of the Poughkeepsie Newyorkers that made this Valentine's Day so special for my wife Nancy. The members [PARADOCS] that sang the Valentines was the hit of the day at Ulster County Social Services. Everyone there thought it was more special than either flowers or chocolate. My wife said that when someone in the office gets flowers is it just for that person, but your group entertained everyone and they also thought it was special. Thank You, Michael Ward."

"Dear Scott, It went perfectly! The guys [Footlighters] were wonderful. My wife LOVED it! See you in May. Best, Joe Fitzpatrick."

"Dear Scott, The men [Orange Co.] were phenomenal! It made for a memorable Valentine's Day. Please thank them for me—and I sent extra for their services. Best Wishes, Diane Greenwald. P.S. I'll contact you again for our next party!"

"The Singing Valentine was excellent. Please let the men [Footlighters] know that (See "Valentines" on Page 2)

Erratum

In the masthead of the previous issue, the e-mail address for Chapter President Eric Dickstein was given incorrectly as the result of a transposition. The correct address is erictd@hvc.rr.com. We regret this error.

Western Regional Contest

By Scott Salladin, Contest Co-ordinator

The Western Regional Contest (Mountain and Yankee Divisions) contest will be held the weekend of 8–9 April at the Latchis Theater, 50 Main St., Brattleboro, VT 05301. Headquarters Hotel is the Quality Inn & Suites, 1380 Putney Rd., Brattleboro, VT 05301. For reservations call 1-866-254-8701. The special rate is \$69 per night; mention the Barbershop Harmony Society.

The cost for contestants is a full registration (quartet or chorus), \$20 per person. Admission for those people who are not in the competition: Single Event is \$15, Junior Registration (18 or younger) \$7.50, full registration \$20 (Friday evening and Saturday Chorus). A show is planned for Saturday night.

Chorus members going to contest please pay Scott Salladin your \$20 registration fee, in cash or check made out to the chapter, before March 30.

If you expect to appear on the (See "Contest" on Page 3)

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 Rudy Veltre
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 Chorus Director Renée Silverstein
 Chorus Manager Steve Hagerdon

Meetings

Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.

First Reformed Church

70 Hooker Avenue

Poughkeepsie, New York

ALL SINGING MEN WELCOME

Website address www.newyorkerschorus.org



8 Mar Chapter meeting—7:30 at the church. NOTE
 CHANGE OF DAY
**16 Mar Coaching by Roger Payne at the regular
 chapter meeting and rehearsal**
 18–19 Mar International preliminaries for quartets,
 Providence, RI
 23 Mar BOD meeting—6:00 p.m. at the church
**8–9 Apr Western Regional Convention and Contest,
 Brattleboro, VT**
**14 May Newyorkers’ Annual Show, F.D.R. 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:

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Vic Salladin | 5 |
| Chris Schulze | 17 |
| Joe O’Neill | 19 |
| Pat Cortellino | 21 |
| Jack Tacinelli | 30 |

No Anniversaries in March

Valentines (From Page 1)

they were fabulous and everyone loved them at Bacchus.
 Sincerely Yours, Sarah Stinson & Betsy Strong.”

“My husband was VERY pleased with the singing tele-
 gram (as were his co-workers). We are looking very forward
 to seeing the show in May. As a matter of fact, I was won-
 dering how I might get 2 more tickets for the Show? Sin-
 cerely, Elizabeth Hanrahan.”

I personally want to thank the following people for
 stepping up to sing throughout the Valentine’s Day week-
 end: Renée Silverstein, Chris Schulze, Steve Hagerdon,
 Jack Tacinelli, Ralph Harlow, Bill Booth, Bob Waltke,
 George Trigg, Eric Dickstein, Steve Miller, Mike Murphy,
 Bob Hitchcock, Ronnie Pierson, Jack Ostmark, Bob Chief-
 fo, Lew DiStasi, Dick Schaffer, and myself. I also want to
 thank Dave Lumb for being willing to step in if needed for
 the Orange County quartet. With 50 paid Singing Valen-
 tines throughout Sunday, 13 February, and Monday, 14
 February, and also one gig on 8 February, we had 19 peo-
 ple willing to make the Singing Valentines a success.

Next year we will be trying out different forms of noti-
 fications to the public about the Singing Valentine pro-
 gram. If you have any suggestions on how to make this
 happen, please let me know.



Contest (From Page 1)

stage, please make sure your membership is up to date, and carry your membership card.

Thoughts About Contest

By Renée Silverstein

Preparing for the upcoming contest is more important than the contest itself. Contest should not be only about winning, although that would be nice, or scoring higher than another chorus. The contest is between you and... YOU.

Every man standing on the risers should set his own goal each time and try to better it each time the songs are performed. Is the message and the music getting to you, through you, through me, and out to the audience? Is your face involved the entire time? I'm out there to support you, full of confidence and happiness for you to see and give back to me. I expect to hear singing all the way through without flatting. I expect the leads to come in together as a unit sound. I expect the baritones to make the most of their tiddlies. I expect the basses to support the chords and make the most musical sounds. I expect the tenors to sparkle like icing on cake. I don't think I'm expecting too much.

What we do is very special. Sharing our love of music, this particular kind of music, with each other and our audience is the best gift we have. Gifts are meant to be given.

Harmony College/Directors College 2005 Location Update

By Dr. Greg Lyne,

Director of Music Education and Services

You'll be pleased to know that we've signed the contract with The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, for Harmony College/Directors College. The dates of Harmony College are 31 July–7 August 2005.

Being at The Ohio State University promises excellent housing, beautiful facilities, and the wonderful 2,400-seat Mershon auditorium. Additionally, we'll now be able to expand our barbershop universe to include members and non-members from around the world.

We hope to have the marketing and registration process in place for Harmony College/Directors College by March 1.

Harmony College-Directors College Tuition Prices

| | |
|---|--------|
| Society Member | \$575* |
| Music Educator | \$575* |
| Front Line Director of a Society Chorus | \$575* |
| Non-Member and Affiliates | \$749* |
| Society Member Commuter | \$429* |
| Non-Member Commuter | \$575* |
| Next Generation (Society Members Ages 11-23 Only) | \$399* |

*A \$100 increase will be applied to all registrations

received after 6/15/05.

“Since singing is so good a thing,
I wish all men would learn to sing . . .”

William Byrd, 1588

Membership Renewals

By Scott Salladin, Secretary

This is to inform the following people that your Society and Chapter dues need to be paid by the end of March. If you are planning to compete with the chapter in a quartet or the chorus for the Western Regional/Yankee Division Contest in Brattleboro, VT, 8–10 April 2005, your dues must be up to date. You may be required to show your membership card to be allowed on the stage.

Eric Bram
Bob Chieffo
Lew DiStasi, Jr
Bill Florie
John Hadigan
Greg Howard
Dan Landa
Breck Martyn
Jack Ostmark
Steve Plumb
Larry Rand
Pat Schneider

E-Mail Reminder

The Newyorker Times is available by e-mail, in PDF format, which is readable on any computer with Adobe's Acrobat Reader, available as a free download from Adobe's web site. The e-mail version gives the advantage that any colored matter appears in color, rather than in black and white as in the printed version. If you wish to subscribe this way, notify Chief at ChiefBari@purrera.com

Newyorkers “Rise(r)” To The Occasion

By Eric Dickstein

At long last, as of 16 February 2005, the chorus will be getting riser rails! Not only are we getting four back rails, but a set of side rails was ordered too!

The monies for the back rails came from the Bob Bet-scha fund. This fund was created to pay for the rails. The side rails came from the largesse of the members who were present at our chorus rehearsal on 16 February. The fund did not have enough for side rails too, so at the business meeting that evening, the issue was presented to the chorus members present. The group decided that ordering side rails at the same time as the back rails was a good idea, and so a “hat was passed,” and those that could contribute did. Enough money was raised to include the side rails!

I would like to thank all those (See “Risers” on Page 4)

Winners (From Page 3)

persons who contributed; you know who you are :) . Special thanks to the New Yorkers' Board, and to Bob Hitchcock who did much of the legwork regarding pricing.

To anyone else who was involved with this project, in any way, whose name I didn't specifically mention—THANK YOU!!! THANK YOU!!! too. Your efforts are really appreciated!

Annual Show: Update

By Christopher J. Schulze
Show Chairman

We have a working title for the show: "Remember When" The concept is that we will attempt both to do a show like yesteryear and to show the audience the type of show that was done in the heyday of the New Yorkers' existence. We are trying to do a program like an old newspaper. Along with the usual ads, agenda, etc., we are trying to feature photos and anecdotes from times past.

The first half of the program will feature the New Yorkers themselves, and assorted quartets from within the chapter. The second half will feature our own Footlights quartet and our guest quartet, Men in Black, the current NED Collegiate Quartet champions, and will close with a Finale.

Some nitty-gritty details: The services of Vittoria Sprague have again been obtained for programs and ads. Ad prices have not yet been set; they will depend on the program logistics. We expect to have them finalized by 16 March. The necessary insurance has been obtained.

All in all, things are going satisfactorily.

Upcoming Performances

By Scott Salladin, Chorus Manager

Please put the following dates into your calendars.

Wednesday, 13 April 2005—Fishkill Health Center, 22 Robert R Kasin Way, Beacon, NY; fee: donation to HarmonyFest 05. Arrive at 6 p.m. for performance at 7 p.m. Uniform: burgundy shirt, black pants, black shoes and socks.

Wednesday, 27 April 2005—Castle Court, Concord Village, Van Wagner Rd., Poughkeepsie, NY; fee: donation to HarmonyFest 05. Arrive at 6 p.m. for performance at 7 p.m. Uniform: burgundy shirt, black pants, black shoes and socks.

Saturday, 18 June 2005—Moulton Memorial Baptist Church, Newburgh, NY; paid performance. Arrive at 7 p.m. for performance at 8 pm. Uniform: Full tux.

Tuesday, 21 June 2005—St. Simeon Senior Housing, Beechwood Ave, Poughkeepsie, NY, financed by Dyson Grant. Arrive at 6 p.m. for performance at 7 p.m. Uniform: full tux.

Wednesday, 20 July (rain date Thursday, 20 July) 2005—Poughkeepsie Recreation Department, Bartlett Park (across from church); paid performance. Arrive at 6 p.m.

for performance at 7 p.m. Uniform: burgundy shirt, black pants, black shoes and socks.

Sunday, 20 November 2005—Poughkeepsie Reformed Church, 70 Hooker Ave, Poughkeepsie, NY. Fees collected towards rent for rehearsal hall. Arrive 2:30 p.m. for performance at 3:30 pm. Includes Holiday Chorus members. Uniform: full tux.

Please note that if we are selected for the Empire State Games, the date would be July 27. Also please keep 11 September open.

Headquarters Location Committee Appointed Potential sites to be evaluated

By Rob Hopkins, Society President
From *LiveWire*, 4 February

At its Board meeting on Friday, January 28, the Board adopted the following motion:

That a Board Committee be established with the Chief Executive Officer as chairman to pursue the future headquarters sites of Nashville, TN, Atlanta, GA, Dallas/Fort Worth, TX, and Austin, TX, and that they communicate their findings to the Board no later than March 20, 2005.

The Board will then be able to address the proposals of the Headquarters Location Committee at its spring planning meeting April 8–10. I cannot tell you that the Board will make a decision at that time—only that it will be on the agenda and we MAY make a decision at that time.

I have appointed the following men to the committee:

Don Harris, chairman
Bill Biffle
Clarke Caldwell
Joe Jenkins
Alan Lamson

I want to thank these men for their willingness to take on this important responsibility.

And the Winner Is...Texoma Sound!

From *LiveWire*, 4 February

JACKSONVILLE, FLA. (Jan. 29)—Texoma Sound swept the 2005 Barbershop Harmony Society International Seniors Quartet Contest today, beating out 23 other competitors and achieving the highest score in the last several years. The contest was held in conjunction with the Society's annual midwinter convention this past week in Jacksonville.

Members of Texoma Sound are tenor Frank Friedemann of Tulsa, Okla.; lead Jim Casey of Denison, Texas; baritone Bill Thompson of Stillwater, Okla.; and bass Tom Pearson of Houston, Texas. They scored a total of 909 points. The quartet represented (See "Winners" on Page 5)

Winners *(From Page 4)*

the Society's Southwestern District.

Second place was won by Savoir Four of Illinois; third went to Antiques Roadshow of Michigan; fourth to Talisman of Illinois; and fifth to Antique Gold of the Greater Vancouver Area, British Columbia.

Like all members of the Society, competing quartets sing barbershop harmony as a hobby. In "real life," Texoma Sound's Friedemann, 61, is a counselor-public relations manager for Musgrove-Merriott-Smith Funeral Service; Casey, 66, is a self-employed vocal music instructor; Thompson, 68, is assistant sales and service manager for General Motors Corp.; and Pearson, 63, is an orthodontist.

No member of any competing seniors quartet may be younger than 55, and the cumulative age of the quartet

must be 240 years or more. They were judged on presentation, singing and music.

Members of Savoir Four are tenor Rick Anthony, 59; lead Dick Bek, 65; baritone Lynn Hauldren, 82; and bass George Sotos, 58. Hauldren was honored as the oldest competitor.

Antiques Roadshow members are tenor Raleigh Bloch, 71; lead Dennis Gore, 62; baritone Roger Lewis, 67; and bass Lee Hanson, 73.

Talisman members are tenor Gene Woolcott, 65; lead Chuck Sisson, 57; baritone Dick Kingdon, 62; bass Edward Chapman, 64.

Members of Antique Gold are tenor Tom Bates, 69; lead Wally Coe, 63; baritone Charlie Metzger, 58; and bass George Metzger, 57.

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

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