

The Newyorker Times

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



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Poughkeepsie, New York

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Delay

We regret the delay in the availability of this issue. The problem is that the Editor, the layout artist, the production staff, and the fulfillment staff entered the hospital on 6 February to undergo a bilateral total knee joint replacement. The operation took only a short time, but it was followed by just over a month of recuperation and physical therapy. We only returned home on 10 March. We had a tablet PC with us, but unfortunately there was no suitable place to set it up. Moreover, when we did find a place, we learned that our word processing program was not functional, and we had no way to replace it. This is being written on 12 March, and that is just the beginning of the process. We hope to have the issue on its way to our readers by the end of the week. Please accept our apologies.

George L. Trigg

Society Purchases Building for New Headquarters

News flash from Kenosha
by way of Lake County's *Overtones*,
Al Ries, Editor

The Society's search for a new home in Nashville ended with the purchase of an existing building at a prime downtown Nashville address. The Society will breathe new life into the 36,000-square-foot building, located at 110 7th Avenue North, as extensive renovations begin in the next few months. Just off Broadway in the center of Nashville—with easy access off Interstate 65—the Society headquarters will enjoy a prime location, good neighbors, and great potential for return on its investment.

PRIME LOCATION

Centering the Society in this Music City will help increase awareness of the organization and the barbershop harmony art form.

Located in the immediate area of the new Society headquarters are the Nashville Convention Center, the Gaylord Entertainment Center, an arts magnet high school, a Masonic temple, and a planned residential building. Only minutes away are the brand new Schermerhorn Symphony Center, First Center for the Visual Arts, Ryman Auditorium, and the Tennessee State, Belmont, and Vanderbilt Universities. Nashville itself is a prime tourism location.

NASHVILLE AWAITS WITH OPEN ARMS

The news of the Society's purchase brought positive reaction from Tom Turner, executive director of the Nash-

ville Downtown Partnership. "It's a good thing for downtown. When you take an existing structure and reactivate it, you're going to see a lot of good things happen." Turner ought to know: He's been the driving force behind the development of downtown Portland, downtown St. Louis, and now Nashville.

He also pointed out that the Society will add to the diverse musical mix that already exists downtown. "When you have a new component, like the Barbershop Harmony Society that has a rich tradition and education program, it only enriches the future of what is here." Dr. Robert Fisher, president of Belmont University, also sees a warm welcome for the Society in his city. "There is a resurgence of music in the public schools, and I would think kids would have a great interest in this musical form."

Purchase and renovation of the building will be funded by money from the 2003 sale of the Society's properties in Kenosha and financing arranged through SunTrust Bank. Purchase price was \$1,450,000, and the anticipated move date is late summer 2007.

Nashville Harmony Experience Planning Begins

From the Society's newsletter *LiveWire*,
by way of Lake County Chapter's
Overtones, Al Ries, Editor

What will the Society's new HQ look like? Talk to the team planning the public spaces of the proposed facility. Planning is underway for a (See "Planning" on Page 2)

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- Assisdtant 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

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



- 20–21 Apr Regional contests, Schenectady
- 28 Apr Annual Show, 3:00 p.m., F. D. Roosevelt High School, Hyde Park

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE
28 MARCH

Happy Birthdays in March:

Joe O'Neill	17
Chris Schulze	17
Jack Tacinelli	30

No Anniversaries in March

Planning (From Page 1)

public exhibition area in the Society's new Nashville headquarters. Preliminary plans call for visitors to be able to experience the thrill of ringing a four-part harmony chord, view recorded performances of championship quartets and choruses, and make contact with chapter representatives near their homes. The Society has hired veteran museum planners LaPaglia & Associates of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, to help with the effort. The working title for the project is the Nashville Harmony Experience.

Got an idea that you'd like the planners to consider? Send an email to NHEIdeas@barbershop.org. The message will reach LaPaglia & Associates and members of the Society Board's Public Facilities Subcommittee (Peter Fee-ney, Dick Girvin, Bob Morrissey, Roger Ross, and Rick Spencer).

Quartet College Offers "Bring Your Baritone for Free" Opportunity!

From the Society's newsletter *LiveWire*, 2 February

Find out how the first twenty Society Quartets to register for Quartet College at the 2007 Harmony University can have their baritone receive a tuition scholarship.

That's correct: The first 20 Society quartets to register for the 2007 Quartet College at Harmony University will receive a full-tuition scholarship for one of their members.

Quartet College offers coaching by some of the finest Society coaches. Some names on the coaching roster include Bill Myers, Brandon Guyton, Joe Connelly, Mark Hale, Marty Lovick, and many more.

Quartets will also have the opportunity to choose from over 20 classes like "Rehearsal Techniques for Quartets," "Effective Quartet Warm-ups," "Development of the Quartet Personality," and (See "Baritone for Free" on Page 3)

Baritone for Free (From Page 2)

“Barbershop Butterflies Bite the Dust.” Plan ahead so that each quartet member goes to a different class than the others. Take away as much as you can from the experience!

Other highlights will include:

Keynote Address by Dr. Jim Henry. Jim was the bass of the very popular The Gas House Gang quartet (1993 International Quartet Champions) and is currently the Director of the Ambassadors of Harmony (2004 International Chorus Champions).

The Harmony University Saturday night show featuring the Next Generation Chorus, the Honors Chorus, the Directors College Chorus, and Vocal Spectrum (2006 International Quartet Champions).

Early admissions last until March 1, 2007 to get the discounted rate of \$525/person. We only have room for 30 quartets so sign up soon. www.barbershop.org/harmonyu

Newyorkers, Not New Yorkers

By Bob Chieffo

Attention: Poughkeepsie, NY, Chapter members of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

We have been getting some great “press” lately. But there seems to be one outstanding continuing error. That’s when our chorus is called the “New Yorkers.” That is not the chorus name. It is “Newyorkers.” When our banner was designed some years ago, it was decided to be also known as the “Poughkeepsie Newyorkers.”

Either one is fine. But let’s make it clear to any press or business we’re dealing with that it’s “Newyorkers,” one word, small “y.”

Please, let’s give them the correct name. That extra “small y” notation could be the “hook” that helps make us remembered.

Spread the Word—Who Do You Know?

From Orlando Chapter’s *Orange Slices*,
George Williamson, Editor,
by way of Lake County Chapter’s
Overtones, Al Ries, Editor

Think back to your first experience with barbershop harmony, or the first time you attended a chapter meeting. Someone reached out to you, whether it was a friend who talked to you about his harmonizing hobby and invited you to a meeting, or you came on your own and were greeted at the door or at a break. If you want to attract new members, you have to reach out. The “If we build it, they will come” approach will not fill positions on the risers.

So spread the word. Talk, talk, talk, talk! Too often we confine our personal recruiting efforts to a specific, pre-selected group of men we think fit the image of Barbershop-

pers, and never think to mention the hobby to anyone else. You probably know dozens of good candidates for membership. Start with people you know. Then, move on to people you don’t know. Every man you meet in the course of the day is a potential member. You meet dozens of people every day. Talk to your co-workers, suppliers, and customers. Talk to the people at local stores, the ball game, or your children’s school. And don’t forget the women who have husbands, sons, and brothers. Widen your horizons!

Singing in Tune (Part 3)

By Fred King, International Coach
From the PROBE website,
by way of Lake County Chapter’s
Overtones, Al Ries, Editor

The resonating cavities can be fully utilized only when the throat is relaxed, open and the upper throat arched in a high-palate position. The mouth is best used as a resonance chamber when all the muscles, including the tongue, are relaxed and the cavity of the mouth is enlarged. The nasopharynx and the nasal cavity are most effectively used when a slight opening between the oropharynx and the nasopharynx is maintained, thus allowing an extension of the vibrating column of air emanating from the larynx. The feeling involved in this is similar to yawning.

If the resonance is closed, muffled, nasal, or pinched, as the result of partially closed resonators, the singer will tend to flat. Let’s take the first three areas covered and make up an expression which holds true to a great degree.

Alert Posture + Accurate Hearing + High Arched Tone Utilizing the Resonators = No Flattening.

Next part, we’ll get into more of the discussion of control aspects needed for good singing.

Great Honk Gooses Gold in Buffalo Bills Contest

From the Society’s newsletter *LiveWire*, 2 February

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (Jan. 27)—Great Honk took the gold in today’s Buffalo Bills-Era Quartet Contest in Kiva Auditorium.

The youngest quartet among the competitors, members of Great Honk are tenor Shane Scott, lead Eddie Holt, baritone Drew Ellis and bass Jay Hawkins. The quartet name is a reference to *The Music Man*, which opened on Broadway 50 years ago with the Buffalo Bills starring as the School Board Quartet. Great Honk captured medals, trophies, and a check for \$3000 as first prize.

Second place, and a check for \$2000, went to SAGE. Members are tenor Dick Webber, lead Dave Mittelstadt, baritone Fred King and bass Tom Felgen.

Perfect Timing won third place and a check for \$1000. Members are tenor Ed Boehm, lead Robert Thiel, baritone Robert Haase and bass (See “Great Honk” on Page 4)

Great Honk *(From Page 3)*

Robert Lemkuil.

Finishing out of the money were Brazen Overture in fourth place and Central Statesmen in fifth. Members of Brazen Overture are tenor Gene Woolcott; lead Ralph Brooks, baritone Dick Kingdon and bass Ed Chapman. Central Statesmen members are tenor Pat Flynn, lead John Marshall, baritone Bill McLaurine and bass Bob Cearnal.

The contest was held held by the Barbershop Quartet Preservation Association (BQPA) in conjunction with the

Barbershop Harmony Society's annual midwinter convention this week in Albuquerque. Funds for the prizes came from the BQPA, an independent subsidiary of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

Judging for the contest hailed back to a five-category system used in 1948 that scored competitors on the arrangement, balance and blend, harmony accuracy, stage presence and costume, and voice expression. Today the Barbershop Harmony Society uses a three-category system, judging on singing, music and presentation.

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

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