

The Newyorker Times

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



New Series, Volume 6
Poughkeepsie, New York

Number 5
May 2005

Society's CEO Resigns A message sent on behalf of Society President Rob Hopkins

From the Society's Newsletter *Live Wire*, 20 April

The Board of Directors of the Barbershop Harmony Society (SPEBSQSA, Inc.) has accepted the resignation of CEO Don Harris, effective April 20.

"We are grateful for the new perspectives that Don brought to us, and for his many efforts to move the Society forward during a period of significant transition," said President Rob Hopkins. "We wish him well in future endeavors," he said.

President Hopkins named Past President Roger Lewis as the interim CEO, pending the completion of a search for a new CEO and the appointment of same by the Society Board of Directors.

New Group Formed & Named: "BQA"

From Worcester Chapter's *Key Notes*,
Ray Hayward, Editor

In mid-February, there was information and reports posted by e-mail on the First Annual Convention held in Boulder City, NV—and announcing the formation of a newly formed **Barbershop Quartet Association** (BQA). This group "... is an extension of what is known as the 'Pioneers,' which was founded in 1982. The formation of the BQA is essentially to provide an alternative organization for those who wish to reinstate the good times that were had back in earlier years."

"The primary reason for formation of this group is to get back to singing the kinds of music that was [*sic*] popular in the heydays of Barbershop, 1890–1930, in lieu of singing the blues/jazzy/bebop, more modern music that is now popular in the BHS."

The above organizational meeting was attended by about 100 guys who "... came from all over the North American Continent." As we review their mentioned names, we see members from some championship quartets are heavily represented.

Further reading on this formative group can be drawn from e-mail As one editor comments (and we concur), "Your editor neither supports nor condemns the new association, but we believe all current and former Barbershoppers ought to be aware of its existence."

Content for the above came via Tad Wallace—from "Montana" Jack Martin. For contact:

[<Jmartin30@Tampabay.rr.com>](mailto:Jmartin30@Tampabay.rr.com)

Barbershop Harmony Society Releases New Graphic Identity

From the Society's Newsletter *Live Wire*, 11 March

If the revitalization process of the Society's image were a reality show, this would be the "reveal." Together, we are stepping forward today to meet the needs of our members. We've done it by answering your needs for a forward-facing image that welcomes singers into our Society. We've done it by re-energizing our Society's image in a way that will help you share the joy of making music with more singers. We've done it by learning what making music means to our prospective members—and designed a logo that speaks to their aspirations for music and fellowship.

Restating our identity as the Barbershop Harmony Society was the first step. Now, we're ready to introduce to you—and to a world that is largely unaware of our Society—a successor to a logo that has served us for more than 60 years.

"Our new logo is a marvelously elegant statement of who we are: singers of four-part harmony," said Society President Rob Hopkins. "It brings to mind a quartet, but it also could be four men in any row of a chorus," he explained. "The different colors of the facial profiles remind me that our members come from all different walks of life, yet share the core elements of singing, fellowship, fun, enrichment, and creativity. I love the way that the facial profiles add depth to the design, and the clean, uncluttered, contemporary look is great"

Dozens of concepts submitted from a variety of sources were reviewed and refined before the final version was approved by the Society Board of Directors. Look for the new logo to begin appearing imme- (See "New Logo" on Page 2)

The Newyorker Times
 Published by the Poughkeepsie, NY, Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.
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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



13 May Rehearsal for Annual Show, FDR High School, Hyde Park—6:30 p.m. *sharp*, earlier if possible
 14 May Newyorkers' Annual Show, FDR High School, Hyde Park—5:30 p.m. cast call, 8:00 p.m. performance
 15 May BOD meeting at church—6:00 p.m.
 25 May Performance at Hudson Haven Care Center, 37 S. Mieser Ave, Wappingers Falls—arrive at 6:00 p.m. for 7:00 performance; uniform burgundy shirt, black trousers, socks, and shoes
 3–10 Jul International Covention and Contests, Salt Lake City, UT

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.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE
24 MAY

Happy Birthdays in May:
 Dan Griffin 7
 Steve Ross 7
 June Pierson 31

No Anniversaries in May

New Logo (From Page 1)
 diately in various publications and web pages.

Part of a process
 This new logo is only a starting point in the process to re-energize the Society's outward focus, and to create a vivid awareness of our Society's unique sound and the experience of barbershop singing. This new image evolution, while greatly significant to us all, is not in itself the single step that will change our fortunes. However, it is the right and necessary first step. What comes next is an aggressive membership recruitment plan later this year, a strong media relations plan, and a general new direction toward dynamically marketing our Society. Along with our members' earnest and intense recruitment efforts, our Board of Directors has put the Society on a positive path toward growth and prosperity for the future.

2005 Chorus Contest Order of Appearance

From the Society's *LiveWire Newsletter*, 11 March

Here are the orders of appearance for the chorus wild card playoff and chorus contest finals.

Wild Card Playoff, Thursday, July 7
 Wild Card placements (See "Chorus Order" on Page 3)

Results From Brattleboro

Following is the official scoring summary from the Division Contest held at Brattleboro, VT, on 9 April.

Choruses

Chapter, chorus name, count	Numerical score, percentage score
1. Manchester	1247
Silk City Chorus, 51	69.3
2. Central	1139
Connecticut Yankee Chorus, 25	63.3
3. POUGHKEEPSIE	976
NEWYORKERS, 16	54.2
4. Norwich	946
Rose City Chorus, 23	52.6
5. Danbury	912
Mad Hatters, 47	50.7
6. Bridgeport	887
Coastal Chordsmen, 33	49.3

Most improved chorus: Norwich
 Small chapter champion chorus: Central Connecticut

Quartets

1. On Q	1283
	71.3
2. A Simple Pleasure	1220
	67.8
3. Clubhouse Rules	1124
	62.4
4. Senior Momentum	1072
	59.6
5. Nickelodeon	1010
	56.1
6. The Harmonic Xperience	986
	54.8
7. HUDSON VALLEY EDITION	938
	52.1
8. Real Chemistry	913
	50.7
9. Hattertones	865
	48.1

Most improved quartet: On Q
 Seniors Quartet champion: Senior Momentum (only contestant)
 Novice Quartet champion: Nickelodeon

Chorus Order (From Page 2)

are by random draw and have no relevance to the order of finish from the Preliminary round. There will be a separate drawing after the Preliminary Chorus Contest to fill in the name of the chorus for each wild card position noted below.

Chorus	Score in District contest
1. The Big Apple Chorus	1019
2. Singing Buckeyes	957
3. Saltaires	994
4. Tidelanders	996
5. American BarberBoys	983
6. Texas Millionaires	987

Chorus	Score in District contest
7. MegaCity Chorus	954
8. Chorus of the Keys	952
9. Southern Gateway Chorus	1018
10. Spirit of Phoenix	1012
11. Midwest Vocal Express	1025
12. Pacific Coast Harmony	935

After the wild card playoffs round in Salt Lake City, the top six scoring choruses move on to the Chorus Finals (see www.spebsqsa.org/ID_063276 for full description of the process), joining the District Representatives and invited affiliates. *(Continued on Page 4)*

Chorus Order (From Page 3)**Chorus contest finals, Saturday, July 9**

Chorus	Score in District contest
1. Friends of Harmony	903
2. Wild Card Chorus #1	
3. Thoroughbreds	934
4. The Big Chicken Chorus	975
5. Alexandria Harmonizers	1055
6. Masters of Harmony	1078
7. Senate-Aires	958
8. Sound of The Rockies	1040
9. Wild Card Chorus #2	
10. Wild Card Chorus #3	
11. Harmony Heritage Chorus	882
12. Heart of Texas Chorus	1000
13. City of Sails Chorus	
14. Great Northern Union	1039
15. The Northern Lights	1074
16. Wild Card Chorus #4	
17. Heralds of Harmony	983
18. New Tradition	1057
19. Heart of America	993
20. Wild Card Chorus #5	
21. The Alliance	1019
22. Wild Card Chorus #6	
23. Granite Statesmen	939
24. The EntertainMen	

Erratum

Through an error on the part of the Editor, Jack Ostmark was identified as an "Oldyorker," and the headline of the article about him included that erroneous label. The term "Oldyorker" is used to denote a man who is no longer a member of the Poughkeepsie chapter. Jack, while he is not active in the chorus, is still a member in good standing of the chapter—as he has been since he joined in the mid-1970s—and makes significant contributions to its welfare. We regret the error.

Memorizing a Song

Adapted from an article by

Merrill Miller, Minneapolis Commodores,
by way of San Antonio Chapter's *The Chordsman*,
Riverside Chapter's *Key Chord Editor*, and
Worcester Chapter's *Key Notes*

Memorization involves three aspects: commitment, a method, and a formula. Nothing is memorized until and unless you *decide* to do it. Until you consciously try to commit it to memory, it won't happen. That's *commitment*.

Each of us has the same number of hours in the day to spend in some manner. Assign a priority to memorizing and put this activity ahead of something else. Give yourself a reasonable deadline.

Some good methods are (a) putting the music down as

soon and as often as possible when the song is being taught; (b) writing the lyrics over and over until it can be done perfectly *three* times in a row; (c) taping the song, then playing it while driving, riding, waiting, or whatever.

Several formulas may be helpful: (a) Learn the *form* first—e.g., intro-verse-chorus-tag. (b) Pay particular attention to *first words* of phrases, ending words of preceding phrases. (c) Learn the *story line*—how does it begin and end, and what is the sequence of happenings. (d) Identify which significant notes, words, swipes, etc. are *repeated exactly* in different places in the song; conversely, what things happen *differently* in similar places. Finally, (e) notice what *other voices* are doing when they are not using the same rhythm or words as yours.

Halifax Convention Schedule

By Mark Radcliffe,
Sunrise Division Manager
Forwarded by Scott Salladin

Dear NED Barbershoppers!

In response to a request from our President, Greg Caetano, I am including (below) a first cut at our Halifax NED Fall Contests and Convention schedule. Hopefully, this will help you with your travel plans, etc., to Halifax. Unfortunately, our website (<http://www.hhe2005.ca>) content is not being updated at a very rapid rate right now, so I will be sending info out to the E-groups as soon as I get it. However, you can still register on-line for our Convention through our website.

Please keep in mind that this schedule is designed to handle roughly 30 quartets and 30 choruses. Times may have to be adjusted if fewer groups compete. The content of the Saturday Night Show has not yet been completely determined, but we'll keep you posted when it has. Please do not hesitate to e-mail me or phone me (902-462-7852) if you have any questions or thoughts about the Halifax Convention. We are all looking forward to seeing you up here in the Maritimes in the Fall!

- Yours In Harmony,
Mark Radcliffe
Sunrise Division Manager

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Thu-29-Sep-05

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12:00 pm Newfoundland Chorus, Parade Square (tentative)
7:30 pm Thursday Night Show, Rebecca Cohn Auditorium
Sunrise Massed Chorus
"7th Wave" Quartet
Dartmouth Schools City Wide Choir
"Narragansett Bay" Chorus (Providence, RI)
"Scollay Square" Quartet
"Road Show" Quartet

(See "Halifax" on Page 5)

Halifax (From Page 4)

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Fri-30-Sep-05

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- 12:00 pm Mass Sing, Parade Square
- 3:00 pm Quartet Semi-Finals (1st Round), Metro Center
- 5:00 pm Judge's Dinner
- 7:00 pm Quartet Semi-Finals (2nd Round), Metro Center
- 10:00 pm Sunrise Quartet Evaluations

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Sat-1-Oct-05 (Metro Center)

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- 10:00 am Chorus Contest (1st Round)
- 1:00 pm Lunch
- 2:00 pm Chorus Contest (2nd Round)
- 5:00 pm Judge's Dinner
- 6:30 pm Quartet Finals
- 8:00 pm Saturday Night Show
- 10:00 pm Afterglow, etc.

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Sun-2-Oct-05

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- 9:00 am Sunrise Chorus Evaluations
- 11:00 am Church Service, St. Matthews United

Thank You

By Scott Salladin, Chorus Manager

I want to thank everyone who has offered to be a member of a pickup quartet for all of the quartet requests we have had in the past couple of months. Remember, it is the quartets that can really keep the chapter moving forward. Quartets on the radio are equally important in expressing the true meaning of Barbershop Harmony here in Poughkeepsie.

Upcoming Performances

By Scott Salladin, Chorus Manager

- 1. Hudson Haven Care Center, 37 S. Mieser Ave, Wappingers Falls, NY, Wednesday, 25 May—6 p.m. arrival, 7 p.m. performance. Uniform: black pants, black socks and shoes, burgundy polo shirt
- 2. Moulton Memorial Baptist Church, Newburgh, Sat-

urday, 18 June—6 p.m. arrival, 7 pm performance. Uniform: FULL TUX.

3. St Simeon Senior Housing, Poughkeepsie, Tuesday, 21 June—6 p.m. arrival, 7 p.m. performance. Uniform: FULL TUX.

4. Bartlett Park (across from Church), Wednesday, 20 July (rain date Thursday, 21 July)— 6 p.m. arrival, 7 p.m. performance. Uniform: black socks and shoes, black pants, burgundy polo shirt.

5. Empire State Games Opening Ceremonies, Marist College—TBD

6. Renegades game, Wednesday, 10 August—6 p.m. arrival, 7 p.m. National Anthem. Uniform: Black socks and shoes, black pants, burgundy polo shirt.

7. Poughkeepsie Reformed Church, Sunday, 20 November—2:30 p.m. arrival, 3:30 p.m. performance. Uniform: FULL TUX.

Last Advance Article On the Show

By George Trigg

We regret having to announce that Show Chairman Chris Schulz had to step down for personal reasons. Bob Chieffo, last year's chairman, will be filling in for the next few weeks.

Bob says, "All the Show planning is coming to fruition. On May 14 we will have a great fun time performing for you all! This is a great opportunity to see and hear that sensational young quartet Men In Black, our district collegiate champ. Of course, we can't forget the Newyorkers chorus in our 44th annual show. Many quartets will be stepping out in front of the chorus, especially our newest Chapter quartet, Hudson Valley Edition. Opening the second half will be our perennial favorites The Footlighters. They will delight you with some good singing and zany antics as they celebrate their 30th year in the Society.

"Mark your calendars, call for tickets or buy them at the door. It'll be a terrific evening out for the whole family."

Schedule Variations

- Jun issue: Deadline 24 May, distr. 8 Jun
- Jul issue: Deadline 30 May, distr. 13 Jul
- Aug issue: Deadline 28 Jul, distr. 3 Aug
- Sep issue: Deadline 1 Sep, distr. 14 Sep