

The Newyorker Times

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



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Poughkeepsie, New York

Number 10
October 2004

Editorial

Performance Behavior

We trust that by now most, if not all, active chapter members have read Steve Hagerdon's e-mail message about the situation with regard to a performance scheduled for 29 October. His comments, together with some points communicated to us by Scott Salladin, raise a substantial question: Are we serious about our commitment to barbershopping?

Proposed performances are announced some weeks in advance, and the information is also sent by e-mail to those who have e-mail addresses. We are requested to indicate on a sign-up sheet whether we will be available for a proposed performance. It is a simple procedure: Merely check "Yes," "No," or "Maybe" (and if you check "Maybe," settle the matter as soon as possible). It should be possible within a week to check our schedules, and confer with spouses, to see whether there is an unavoidable conflict, and to sign accordingly. But this is not being done in any sort of timely fashion. In addition, there have been several instances in which a substantial fraction of those who signed "Yes" have failed to show up, and have not notified anyone ahead of time that they would not be present.

Performances, whether paid or not, provide opportunities for our chapter and chorus to gain recognition in the area as a source of an interesting and enjoyable form of music. But if a commitment has to be canceled because of lack of performers, or if a commitment is made for a chorus of 20 members and only a dozen show up, the result is a bad impression—and such word gets around. And our financial situation suffers because our reputation does.

If we are not willing to give time to the chapter activities, maybe it is time to fold the chapter. We do not make that suggestion lightly. Your editor loves barbershopping, but would not feel able to travel over an hour to reach another chapter—and the closest others are all that far. He would have to give up the hobby if the Poughkeepsie chapter ceased to exist. And he is probably not the only one.

We do not pretend to insist that every member be present for every performance. There are some things that rightly have precedence over the chapter: work, family, and church, at least. But ultimately, it is up to us to make the chapter function. So come show your support for the chapter by signing up for these performances in a timely manner and then showing up when you said you would.

George Trigg

Message From the Director

By Renée Silverstein

Gentlemen:

We're on our way to another contest, to do our best for our peers. Here's why I look forward to going. It may sound a bit rambling on my part, but then you all know I have a tendency to do that.

Contests help us work to constantly improve our abilities. Scores are not the only way to reflect our growth. Comparing the videos from contest to contest makes us the judges as to our growth. Striving to grow musically makes us champions, and everyone grows at a different rate. Having fun along the way and supporting one another builds our self esteem. Taking pride in every performance we do makes us ~~the best~~ *(See "HarmonyFest" on Page 3)*

HarmonyFest Help

Forwarded by Bill Standish

Hello Bill,

My name is Monica Taddeo and I participated in HarmonyFest 2003 for my first barbershop experience. My chorus-mates and myself enjoyed it so much. We've been looking forward to the next one in 2004. We learned so much from last year's festival and have gained better understanding of music. We've even started our own little barbershop quartet in our school to perform at concerts and special events. I've been hearing that you're not going to have it this year and then some people say that you are. I just read the website that said you weren't because of insufficient funds. If you could, let me know what I can do. I know I don't come from a *(See "HarmonyFest" on Page 2)*

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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

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 activi-
 ties 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 Mem-
 bership, and
 To foster and enhance the ideals and principles of SPEBSQSA,
 Inc.

Happy Birthdays in October:

Charlotte Howard	7
Bill Booth	8
Dave Maurer	15
Frank Ruggiero	15
Bob Chieffo	20
Nancy Rand	22
John Haverkamp	24
Joan Ross	25
Rudy Veltre	31

Happy Wedding Anniversaries in October:

Bill and Linda Standish	9
Eric and Suzanne Bram	16

HarmonyFest (From Page 1)

very large school, but we will fundraise in any way possible in order to keep HarmonyFest going. Please let me know, we are willing to literally do anything. Thanks for your time and I hope you will get back to me as soon as possible. Have a good day!

Sincerely,
 Monica Taddeo

Ed. Note: Bill says that he has written back to Monica regarding 2005.

Message From an Oldyorker

Forwarded by Bob Chieffo

I just want to thank you again for forwarding "The Newyorker Times" to me. The Newyorkers hold a special place in my heart. I had a lot of good times there. Please say hello to anyone that remembers me there.

Larry Ahlgren



22-24 Oct NED Fall Convention and Contest, Lowell, MA
 29 Oct Paid performance for Republican Club at Spruce Lodge, Montgomery; arrive 7:30 p.m.
 7-9 Jan 2005 COTS 2005, Conway, NH

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE
27 OCTOBER



Director (From Page 1)

ion without medals around our necks. Stepping out on the stage late in the contest this year will let everyone in the audience see and hear our growth.

We may be small in number; however, there are many choruses like us, and in my opinion small choruses are the backbone for the Society. Big choruses are the backbone for competitions. Both are equally important to this Society.

So let's go out there, keep those smiles on our faces and have a good time. I already feel that we are champions.

Renée

E-Mail Reminder

The New Yorker 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

Doris Sherow Passes

From *The Poughkeepsie Journal*,
Forwarded by Scott Salladin

Doris E Sherow, 77, of the Town of Clinton, died on Saturday, September 4, 2004 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie. Mrs Sherow was a secretary for Dr Michael Thompson in Pleasant Valley for 10 years.

Born on July 4, 1927 in Poughkeepsie, she was the daughter of Ralph and Ella Cookingham Pryor. On August 26, 1967, she married Macy Sherow, Jr., in Holmes, NY. Her husband survives at home.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by two daughters, Arline Dedrick of Poughkeepsie and Carrie Spear of Charlotte, VT; and a son, Macy Sherow II of Pleasant Valley; a sister Thelma Williams of Pleasant Valley; several grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

We extend our sympathy to Macy and his family.

Sermons in a Sentence

From Greater Montréal *Mini-Pitch*,
Murray Phillips, Editor

"Don't say you don't have enough time. You have exactly the same number of hours that were given to Helen Keller, Pasteur, Mother Teresa, Thomas Jefferson, and Albert Einstein."

"Lead your life so you won't be ashamed to sell the family parrot to the town gossip."

"Learn from the mistakes of others. You can't live long enough to make them all yourself."

"When it comes time to die...make sure all you've got to do is die."

"You don't have to attend every argument you're invited to."

"Don't be afraid to learn. Knowledge is weightless, a treasure you can always carry easily."

"A mistake not corrected is another mistake."

"Where will you spend eternity?"

- a) Here
- b) Heaven
- c) Hell
- d) not sure

Is that your final answer?"

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

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