



*The Danbury Mad Hatter Barbershop Chorus*

# Hatter Chatter

Newsletter of the Danbury Chapter, Yankee Division, Northeastern District of the Barbershop Harmony Society  
Meeting every Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. at Church of Christ, 90 Clapboard Ridge Road, Danbury, Connecticut

Volume 18 Number 3

[www.madhatterchorus.org](http://www.madhatterchorus.org)

April 2011

## Mad Hatters Take To the Ice

*By Dick Zang*

On Friday, March 11 the Danbury Mad Hatter Chorus arrived at the Danbury Hockey Rink to kick off the third game in the best-of-five semi-final playoffs in the Federal Hockey League between the Danbury Whalers and the slightly-favored New York Aviators.

The chorus was part of the opening ceremonies that featured our rousing rendition of "God Bless America" followed by the Bethel Elementary School's chorus performance of the "Star Spangled Banner."

Baritone, John Bradley, thought we should have sung, "Slip Sliding Away."

To get to our singing position we had to fight our way through the sell-out crowd of loyal hockey fans. The parking garage filled up early and at least a couple of us had to find street parking on the far side of Main St.



*The Mad Hatters performing at the Danbury Hockey Rink while Chuck Kreiger takes a nap*

We were ushered to a sky box [I use the term loosely] on the west side of the rink to sing our song and then told to exit quickly to make room for the paying customers. On the way out we were given our free tickets – SRO.

Nice. But at least Tim Kaiser's wife, who had found a seat on the opposite side, reported that we came through loud and clear. Those who stayed for the game saw a good one, with the Whalers winning 3-2 in overtime.

## All-day Coaching Session

*By Dick Zang*

On Saturday, March 26, the Mad Hatters were whipped into shape for our upcoming Division Contest by not one but two outstanding coaches: Tony Nasto, tenor of Men In Black, and Joe Hunter, recent director of the Big Apple Chorus.



*Tony Nasto (L) and Joe Hunter coaching the Mad Hatters.  
Picture by Terry Dunkle*

The chorus worked tirelessly on our two contest songs, "The Sunny Side of the Street" and "Five Foot Two, Eyes of Blue," with only a short break for pizza. The chapter is now ready to take on the Yankee Division on April 16 in Schenectady.

As usual, members sent in their "three things," a listing of what specific knowledge they took away from the session. Submissions included: "The audience wants to be entertained - let them see you are having fun," "Be ready from the opening of the curtain," "Be in the moment and focused, prepared to project the sound forward," "Dynamics need to go across the extremes to be effective," and "Believe in the story."

## Repertoire Notes

"Has Anybody Seen My Gal?" was a popular song of the 1920s. It is often titled, as it is in our barbershop version, "Five Foot Two, Eyes of Blue."

Because songs of that era were often performed without being recorded, there are conflicting sources regarding who originally composed "Has Anybody Seen My Gal?," as the song was often adjusted and had lyrics and verses added or removed several times.

Some sources credit Percy Weinrich (music) and Jack Mahoney (lyrics) as writing the song during 1914, but for the song in its most popular form, credit is given to Ray Henderson (music) and two lyricists, Samuel M. Lewis and Joseph Widow Young.

The song was first recorded by The California Ramblers in 1925 on their self-titled album, *The California Ramblers*.

The simple, four-verse song remained popular during and after World War II, and has endured as a representation of the culture of the 1920s and of the experiences of a soldier coming home after an extended military stay.

The song has been covered by many artists, including Shane Fenton and The Fentones (entitled "Five Foot Two, Eyes of Blue"), Mitch Miller and actress/model/designer Milla Jovovich in a cover called "Has Anybody Seen My Girl?"

The song was used as the theme song for The Ina Ray Hutton Show during the 1950s.

Part of the song was often used for the soccer terraces of England during the late 1960s and early 1970s in reference to particularly forceful tackling defenders, with the words changed to "six foot two, eyes of blue [name of player]'s after you".



## Baritone Deep Thought of the Month

**I had to decide between making salad with my mom or playing catch with my dad. It was a toss-up.**



## Chattertorial

*By Dick Zang*

### Let Us Entertain You

Elsewhere in this issue we reported on the March 26<sup>th</sup> coaching session during which 'entertainment' was stressed.

We've got to do a better job selling ourselves during performances. It can start with our local sing-outs – showing we enjoy being there – and smiling. No more shuffling out of the warm-up room, expressionless and more concerned with finding the right spot on the floor than making eye contact with the audience. No more quartets stepping out unsure of the song they are going to sing or who has the pitchpipe or the key of the song or the first word.

This past month I attended two great shows at Newtown High School. First, the students' production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and then a benefit featuring folksinger Tom Chapin and some very young local talent.

There is a lot to be learned just watching the professionals on stage or TV. Notice how they always relate to the audience.

Let's remember that when we're in front of an audience we are always on. Even when a quartet is singing in front of you, you don't become invisible. Your movements or lack of involvement can be distracting.

This year the chapter is planning an annual show without a guest quartet or group. The only way we will be able to pull it off is to step up our entertainment value. I'd like to introduce a new term to describe the goal – "Showmanship."

Let's be more than a bunch of guys that can sing – let's be entertaining.

## Quartet Corner

*News from our chorus quartets*



### Real Chemistary – By John Bradley

March was a pretty busy month for Real Chemistry. On Thursday evening, the 17<sup>th</sup>, we performed on the stage of the Meadow Ridge Senior Living Community Auditorium in Redding, CT.

According to the facility's staff, the evening was a welcome to spring, a chance to put the cold, snowy winter aside and welcome an anticipation of warmth and flowers.

Unfortunately, our repertoire is not heavy with spring songs, but we did feature our nice weather in Brooklyn song, "Coney Island Baby."

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## Quartets

*Continued from the previous page*

We debuted "Hushabye Mountain" (We call it "Dick's Song"), a pretty lullabye in which bass Dick Walter handles the melody.

Not realizing that a good part of the audience was a little hard of hearing, we decided to perform without microphones. When we realized lead Bob Bradley's jokes were going unheard, we did "plug in." The audience quickly suggested we unplug again for the rest of the show.

The quartet also sang for a birthday party at Joey's Restaurant in New Milford on Sunday evening, March 20. Dick and Shirley Walter remained at the eatery after our performance to try out the cuisine. They will be submitting a restaurant review in the next issue of the *Hatter Chatter*.



## Emails to the Editors

*Please e-mail your questions and comments to either the Hatter editor, John Bradley, at [jbrad1313@earthlink.net](mailto:jbrad1313@earthlink.net), or the Chatter editor, Dick Zang, at [jezang@charter.net](mailto:jezang@charter.net). If your e-mail appears, you will receive an autographed picture of our 2008 Yankee Division Bulletin Editors Award*

April 16th has been set as the deadline to submit advance donations to the HX Camp fund.

The District Board of Directors was informed that the cost per student this year will be \$300, less whatever amount is donated by April 16th to reduce that amount. Each student attending the Camp will then have to pay the adjusted fee to participate, starting this year.

On Saturday, April 16, immediately following the VLQ portion of the contest, and while the judges are completing their tally of the scores, we will have Joe Hudson on stage prepared to receive any and all donations from the chapters in your Division, a Parade of Chapters if you will.

This is one of the truly significant District projects we support in the NED. Many of you have seen the kids at the Camp, talked with them at lunch, sung a tag with them on the lawn, shed a tear when they sang in the show.

We really need your support to keep this program running.

Please help.

Walt Lane  
Immediate Past District President



## The President's Podium

*By Danny Anderson*

Spring is finally here! The cold weather is behind us and bulbs are starting to push up through the soil. All the signs of Spring are around us.

One of the most important signs of Spring for the Mad Hatters is the contest this month in the Albany, NY, area. We have worked hard perfecting the music and learning the choreography.

Thanks to everyone who attended the coaching with Joe and Tony. Much was learned, and there were remarkable changes in our sound and the presentation of the songs. We stand to have a great performance if each member does his very best.

This year the chorus will be represented at the quartet competition by three chapter quartets: The Hatter Tones, Traveling Men and Loco Fedora. If it can fit into your travel plans, come up on Friday, April 15, and join us in encouraging these men.

Due to situations beyond his control, Tim Kaiser is having to relocate. He and his family will be moving to Oklahoma in the next few months. Tim had taken on several roles within the chapter. He was our treasure, tenor section leader and an assistant director. He has been the driving force of The Traveling Men. Those of us who have sung in this quartet will miss him. We had a goal when we formed last September of qualifying for the district competition, but sadly, Tim will be unable to sing. Joe Hudson has volunteered to fill in for the forthcoming competition.

The Board called a special meeting in March to select and to approve Dave McKee as our new treasurer. Dave has a strong business background and will do an exceptional job with this position in the chorus. Dick Walter, our former treasurer, will aid Dave as he settles in.

During our last Board meeting it was approved to send a check for \$600 to the district earmarked for Youth in Harmony. Our director, Joe Hudson, is the VP for Youth in Harmony for the District. He reported that the Camp last year went into the red. There were over 200 teen and music educators who attend the Harmony Explosion Camp last summer. The goal of this and other camps like this is to: (1) expose young men, women and music educators to our hobby, and (2) ensure the future of barbershop singing.

With this in mind, the Board wants to encourage each member to make an individual contribution towards this valuable program. You can make your contribution directly or give the funds to Dave and he will send it on to the District.

The Board is reviewing a program in which the chapter will offer "Free Singing Classes."

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## Thoughts From The Program VP

*By Lyle LaPlante*

We hope our chapter meetings are providing something for everyone. Our chapter meetings have a variety of objectives. Rehearsing to learn new songs and refine ones we have learned gets most of the time. Incorporated into this time are teaching points which will help us to sing better - both as a chorus and individually. (Hopefully the two are not mutually exclusive!)

Along with this, we try to incorporate less structured activities such as Polecat tags, dueling choruses and quartet festivals. Other activities include the business meeting, member introductions and learning and singing tags. All these things are enjoyable, and if we follow the script that Joe issues each week, we get a lot done and have fun.

With the Board's approval, Joe has arranged to have coaching on a monthly basis to improve our performance - not just for contests but for our regular singouts.

As a chorus we should always be trying to improve, and we certainly have over the last few years. This more frequent coaching will keep us on the upward track. On those nights with coaching, the meeting agenda will be less structured to take full advantage of working on those areas the coach sees in need.

But we can certainly improve every meeting if each member looks forward to coming each week and takes the time to prepare. I know that when I occasionally miss a meeting. I really want to find out what I missed and get caught up. So, if you aren't finding the meetings all that you would like, tell us why and give us some suggestions for improvement.

The Society provides a lot of material to the Program VP and Director to improve meeting quality. But the meetings are for you guys, so we need YOUR input to help us improve.

## The Mad Hatters Visit Meadow Ridge (Yet Again)

*By Terry Dunkle*

On Saturday, April 2, the chorus made its 107th visit to the Meadow Ridge Continuing Care Retirement Community in Redding, CT. Jim Hopper was our director and Dr. Robert Golenbock our raconteur.

We sang pretty well through a few minor distractions that included: Beeps from the ceiling, EMTs walking through with radios blaring, whistles from the ceiling, staff coming in to administer medications, horns from the ceiling, staff trying to feed a spoonful of pink pudding to a patient (which she refused), a girl walking through with a barking Pomeranian...

Despite singing well, although the last part of "Columbus" was a shipwreck.

Rare Occasion sang "September Song," "Only You," and "Lullaby in Ragtime." This was my first time singing bass on "September." The morning beforehand, I had pulled out the sheet music and discovered that I really didn't know the song at all, much less have it off paper. By singing it over and over for two hours, however (much to the consternation of my family), I managed to pull it off with only a couple of unsure notes in the tag.

I was feeling pretty proud of myself until I sang a wrong note very loudly during "Thanks for the Memory," embarrassing myself to a crisp.

A pickup quartet also sang. I'm not sure I remember the personnel correctly. Robert told the audience that this was not a regular quartet and had no name. I suggested "The Irregulars," but fortunately only Charlie Rosa heard me.

During the drive home, I attempted to get ahead of a slow-moving convertible by taking a shortcut. The attempt failed. As I continued following the pokey car (the guy was actually driving at the speed limit, fer cryin' out loud, I realized that the driver was Lyle LaPlante. This embarrassed me beyond recognition. (Sorry, Lyle. Step on it.)

## COTS Redux And Free Singing Lessons

*By Andy Bayer*

You never know what you will learn at the COTS Leadership Academy.

You know that you will have a lot of fun---singing tags, polecats, and other repertoire songs with people whom you know and also with many whom you have only met for the very first time.

I clearly remember how bizarre it was, (following an extremely long week and worrying whether Dave McKee and I would get to our destination before the roads got really bad) to be standing in the lobby of our hotel singing a tag with the hotel manager, a former barbershopper, and singing in the Leadership registration line with other barbershoppers!

I then recall a group of us going into the (attached) restaurant and singing with another group of gentlemen to a table of diners who no one knew and hearing a round of applause from other unknown persons, and then being approached by a group of waitresses who asked us to sing for one of their waitress friends.

It was amazingly fun, invigorating, and a true affirmation of how easily our hobby binds unknown people together.

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## COTS

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Then there was the academic side of the weekend. As someone interested in membership, I attended an all-day workshop on growing our chapter and society numbers. (The secret is to have fun and believe that you are really learning and growing in your competence). Roger Menard, district president, ran this session.

Roger was well organized and demonstrated great enthusiasm for the topic. Moreover, he presented a successful, practical program that he has used in his own chapter and has piloted with other chapters----with great success.

The goal is to attract men who like to sing but who may not have had a lot of prior experience. The theory is that they don't believe they have the skills or ability to add to our chorus. In short, they are scared to try. These men will learn four-part harmony singing, proper vocal production, breathing technique and basic performance skills in a series of three free singing lessons.

The program, as described, is fun and requires students to sing harmony using tags beginning with their very first session, not alone, but with a "tag team"---since many of us got "hooked" by the excitement experienced when *we* contributed to the ringing of our first chord!

All of the details were presented by Roger and he generously made available a large portion of his materials to us. The unique part of this presentation was the opportunity to work jointly with those individuals who had selected the marketing and public relations workshop.

The teaming of both sessions produced some powerful ideas working towards this common program. With that in mind, Dave McKee and I met with Dickson and others to discuss the feasibility of this program for our chapter. We have finally presented it to the Board and they have endorsed this initiative.

We hope that you will be looking forward enthusiastically to our first series of free singing lessons to take place on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>.

Please stop by and ask me or Dickson whether you can do anything to help----there are lots of small jobs to do that won't take too much time but will be exceedingly helpful.

This is a fantastic opportunity to share our love of barbershop singing with a whole new group of interested men, add to our sound, and increase our membership numbers as well.

Keep an eye (and ear) out for future articles about the program and tasks that can help make it a true success for the Madhatters!!

## Podium

*Continued from the Page 3*

There will be three to four classes conducted on consecutive weeks prior to our weekly meetings. When this begins, if you know of someone who might be interested, encourage him to come. Above all we need to be on time so that we can begin on time and be there to welcome the students to our practice. More information will be forthcoming.

Several people have not logged on and taken advantage of the benefits of Groupanizer. All our music is there to listen to and to print if you need a new copy. All our practice schedules and performances are listed. Please sign in and fill out your profile and begin to see what is available to help you..

Join me in welcoming our newest member, Alex Zobler, to the chapter. Alex is a young man with many talents and will have a great influence on the chapter. Alex sings tenor and can read music.

### Relive the Wizard of Barbershop

The Wizard of Barbershop, the Mad Hatter's 2010 Annual Show, is available online in a format that preserves the details of the original video but is much smaller in size for uploading and downloading.

The files are in a public folder on a service called Dropbox. The show can be accessed from the following sites, There are eight files.

<http://dl.dropbox.com/u/20672637/The%20Wizard%20of%20Barbershop%20pt.1.flv>

<http://dl.dropbox.com/u/20672637/The%20Wizard%20of%20Barbershop%20pt.2.flv>

<http://dl.dropbox.com/u/20672637/The%20Wizard%20of%20Barbershop%20pt.3.flv>

<http://dl.dropbox.com/u/20672637/The%20Wizard%20of%20Barbershop%20pt.4.flv>

<http://dl.dropbox.com/u/20672637/The%20Wizard%20of%20Barbershop%20pt.5.flv>

<http://dl.dropbox.com/u/20672637/The%20Wizard%20of%20Barbershop%20pt.6.flv>

<http://dl.dropbox.com/u/20672637/The%20Wizard%20of%20Barbershop%20pt.7.flv>

<http://dl.dropbox.com/u/20672637/The%20Wizard%20of%20Barbershop%20pt.8.flv>

If you don't have Winamp or RealPlayer or another player that can read these files, you can download a free flash video player at:

<http://applian.com/flvplayer/>

Hope you like the show! Robert Golenbock

# How To Learn Your Music Quickly

By Nick Papageorge

Submitted by Dave Gunther, editor Whittier Choralaires,  
"SHOWCASE"

How can you learn your music quickly and efficiently? Here are some simple, yet effective, steps you can take to help you in the learning process:

1. Bring a mechanical pencil (not a pen) to every chapter meeting and mark your music with the director's intelligent and musical observations. A mechanical pencil does not need to be sharpened and errors or changes can be erased. Notations on your music will help you to remember what the director wants you to do when you work on your music at home. (You DO work on your music at home, don't you?)

2. Use your learning tape all the time. This means listening to it and singing along with it while driving to work, to the store, to church, or to chapter meeting. Use it so often that it needs to be replaced. And when you use it, get in the habit of rewinding it to repeat a problem area in the music over and over. The more you repeat a difficult passage, the easier it will be to do it correctly the next time.

3. Pay attention and be quiet at rehearsals. In case you haven't noticed, there is often far too much talking every time the director stops waving his arms. Don't talk as soon as you stop singing. LISTEN! Earl Moon used to say that God gave you two ears and one mouth, and He expects you to use them in that proportion. If you stop talking and listen during rehearsal, most of your questions will be answered before you ask them. You don't believe me? Try it!

4. Immediately memorize the words and the story they tell before working on the notes. It is important for you to know all the words so that everyone sings them together. When you don't know the words to a song, you are always slightly behind everyone else who does know them. This causes the synchronization errors that the judges always talk about. If you don't know the story the words are trying to tell, how can you expect to put on the correct expressions that will convey that story to the audience? You MUST know the words AND the story they tell.

5. Don't leave early. When you leave early, you fall behind those who stay. Then, you have to catch up the next week and that slows everyone else down. If you must leave early, plan on working that much harder during the week so you don't become a burden to those who stayed to learn more.

6. Call on your section leaders with any questions you have about the music. They are called "section leaders" for a reason. They are there to help you. If you don't call them when you need help, you may fall behind and slow down the progress of the chorus. I don't know of any section leader who will not try to help you if you will just call.

7. Bring a tape recorder to the chapter meeting. Your personal tape recorder is the best way to get a learning tape of new music long before the official learning tape is ready. Bring the tape recorder, tape the new music or the parts you are having trouble with, then use it every day to learn your music.

Too many chorus members do not work on their music at home. This causes the director to have to spend precious time teaching you the words and notes. That is a tremendous waste of time.

Think about it—the director should be teaching you how to sing better, interpret the songs you sing, and perform them to the best of your ability. If you learn the music at home between chorus rehearsals, the chorus can move along and get to the really fun stuff much sooner.

It is not nearly as much fun to learn words and notes as it is to work on interpretation and practice performing a song. So let's get past the hard part as fast as we can and get on to the fun stuff.

It's up to you to do the first part. Your director will be more than happy to do the rest.



*Improvising new chords during March 26 coaching session*



*Mad Hatters preparing for contest  
Pictures by Terry Dunkle*



## Society and District Notes



### Seacoast Quartet Open

WOW!! What a response to the first ever Seacoast Quartet Open! We announced the event two weeks ago today just so you'd reserve the date and already have 12 quartets ready to sign up and a list of folks who want us to hold tickets. We thought we'd have a little time to gauge your interest but you've already told us that this could be a sellout so we're ready to roll.

For those of you reading about the SQO for the first time, here's what we are planning. We're combining the best features of the Buckeye Open and the Bolton Landing quartet festival into what we hope will be a fun, annual event.

There will be no certified judges so all your preconceptions about judging go out the window. As per the Buckeye, some of our judges will be selected from the audience so we expect judging to follow normal audience appeal kind of factors, you know, the kind of things that you feel when you're watching a show. There will be three divisions of quartets---Novice, Amateur, and Pro---and the audience judges will judge the first two. For the Pro Division (quartets on or ready for the chapter show circuit) we will have an outstanding show quartet act as judges and we're proud to say that Road Show will be handling those chores and performing for us. We expect a lot of hooting and hollering as our judges will be allowed to make comments when they hold up their scores a la what you see on Dancing With the Stars.

We said we are borrowing from Bolton Landing. Well, one of the features of that all-day contest was the ability of the quartets to "bribe" the judges with food and other trinkets (no money!!). Made for a fun-filled day!

So that's basically it for stuff the quartets should know. Oh, yeah, there will be no warm-up rooms so quartets will have to sit in the audience. And there will be cash prizes for the top three places in each division and a limit of 10 quartets in each division. Sign-up forms for quartets and other contest details are available on the Seacoast Vocal Union website.

<http://www.seacoastvocalunion.org/seacoast-quartet-open/>

Ticket order forms will be ready soon so watch this space for that info. We expect tickets to be scarce because our hall holds only 350. Ticket info is on the website.

And for those of you who live a distance away from Portsmouth, we have reserved a block of rooms at the Best Western Wynwood Hotel & Suites for \$74.50 plus tax (double occupancy).

Contact info is on the website

Remember, Portsmouth, NH is a great tourist destination so come and spend a weekend with us.

The date: Saturday, April 30, 2011---afternoon and evening.  
The place: The Jarvis Center of the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Portsmouth, NH.

We'll leave the light on for ya!

Jim Dodge  
Director - Portsmouth (NH) Seacoast Vocal Union  
[jamesdodge@comcast.net](mailto:jamesdodge@comcast.net)  
603-749-2084

### Four Wall Release Plan

American Harmony completed its 30-city traditional theatrical release in mid-2010, having garnered accolades along the way at various film festivals around the country, including winning Best Documentary at the 2009 San Diego Film Festival. For an independent documentary, a traditional theatrical release that large is a major accomplishment in itself.

That being said, a 30-city release doesn't begin to reach the totality of the audience that the producers and the Barbershop Harmony Society would like to reach with this film. With over 800 chapters in cities across the US and Canada, there are 50,000 barbershoppers (BHS, SAI, and HI) out there whom we'd like to reach. Now that the American Harmony DVD is released, we can move on to the second phase of screenings: the four wall phase. A four wall screening is one which can take place in any space with four walls, seating, and the right projection and sound equipment (hence the name "four wall"), and which is usually scheduled for one night (or two). The venue could still be an actual movie theater (if the financials work) or a hotel ballroom, library screening room, church hall, or a community center.

The four wall release plan will allow any barbershop chapter the ability to put on a public screening of American Harmony not only for their members, but for family, friends, and possible members, and make some money to boot. Under this plan, the chapter becomes the producer of the event (as a membership drive, fund raising event, etc), and American Harmony is just the "hired entertainment..

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# Notes

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The advantage to this approach is that the chapter, being a 501(c)3 non-profit entity, may be able to get venues at a discounted price (or even free).

Sound interesting? Contact [info@tijat.com](mailto:info@tijat.com) for more information on the financial, marketing, logistical and technical aspects of hosting American Harmony.

Michael Klein  
978.764.1923 (c)

## Contest Photos

Now available for online viewing and download! Share with family and friends! All performance photos from the Eastern Regional Convention in Rhode Island from last weekend (Mar. 18/19). Go to:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/singsalamin>

There is also a direct link on the NED home/main page, too. Thanks to the Lincoln, RI chapter - Ocean State Chorus - for hosting a GREAT weekend! Great performances by ALL, too! Congrats to the "top guns" - and great to see everyone there! Thanks for your hard work, fellowship and FUN!

In harmony, STEVE SALAMIN, Unofficial Contest Photographer, Contest Program Editor, District VP - Membership Development Northeastern District of the Barbershop Harmony Society

## Want to Join the District Board?

Now the day-light Savings time has arrived, it is time for your District Nominating Committee to reach out to each of you to determine whether you might be interested in stepping up to a position on the District Board of Directors for the 2012 calendar year. The elections will be held next August at the HOD meeting at the HCNE School in Worcester. Actually, two positions are already filled. The Immediate Past President will be Roger Menard, and the incoming District President nominee will be Michael Klein. The remaining positions, in no apparent order, are District Secretary, District Treasurer, DVP Music and Performance, DVP Membership, DVP Marketing, DVP Events, DVP Chapter Support and Leadership Training, DVP Chorus Director Development, DVP Contest and Judging, DVP Youth in Harmony, and Executive Vice President.

I will be working with our District web master to post on our web site the Society descriptions for each of these positions. They are not so different from the chapter positions which you may be familiar with.

In addition, I will be at both the Eastern and Western Division conventions over the next several weeks and would be happy to sit down with you to discuss any of these positions in more detail with you. And you are welcome to contact Art Lively, Jim Kew, and myself directly with any questions you may have.

Thank you for considering "doing one more thing" for barbershopping.

Jim Kew (860-658-6881)  
Art Lively (603-744-3755)  
Walt Lane (518-762-8259)

## Mad Hatter March Board of Directors Meeting Minutes



Meeting called to order by chapter president Danny Anderson on April 5, 2011, at the Church of Christ.

6:01 PM	6:02	6:03	6:04	6:05	6:06
6:07 PM	6:08	6:09	6:10	6:11	6:12
6:13 PM	6:14	6:15	6:16	6:17	6:18
6:19 PM	6:20	6:21	6:22	6:23	6:24
6:25 PM	6:26	6:27	6:28	6:29	6:30
6:31 PM	6:32	6:33	6:34	6:35	6:36
6:37 PM	6:38	6:39	6:40	6:41	6:42
6:43 PM	6:44	6:45	6:46	6:47	6:48
6:49 PM	6:50	6:51	6:52	6:53	6:54
6:55 PM	6:56	6:57	6:58	6:59	7:00

Next meeting: May 3, 2010 at 6PM.

*Note: March Board meeting minutes were not available at the time of distribution of this issue.*



*Tony Nasto and Joe Hunter coaching the Mad Hatters  
Picture by Terry Dunkle*

# Ye Olde Joke Boarde



*Submitted by the Unknown Barbershopper*

A new Middle East crisis erupted last night as Dubai Television was refused permission to broadcast "The Flintstones." A spokesperson for the channel said, "A claim was made that people in Dubai would not understand the show's humor, but we know for a fact that people in Abu Dhabi Do."

• • •

An Indian chief was feeling very sick, so he summoned the medicine man. After a brief examination, the medicine man took out a long, thin strip of elk hide and gave it to the chief, instructing him to bite off, chew and swallow one inch of the leather every day. After a month, the medicine man returned to see how the chief was feeling. The chief shrugged and said, "The thong is ended, but the malady lingers on..."

• • •

A barbershop baritone answered his front door and found two little boys standing there holding a list.

"Mister," one of them explained, "we're on a scavenger hunt, and we still need three grains of wheat, a pork-chop bone and a piece of used carbon paper to earn a dollar."

"Wow," the baritone replied. "Who sent you on such a challenging scavenger hunt?"

To which the little boy replied, "Our babysitter's boyfriend."

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## Current Mad Hatter Repertoire

### Performance A

Always  
Breaking Up Is Hard To Do  
Give My Regards to Broadway  
Goodnight Sweetheart  
Heart  
I'd Rather Have A Bottle In Front Of  
Me Than A Frontal Lobotomy  
Hey, Look Me Over  
How Are Things in Glocca Morra  
I Feel a Song Coming On  
I Found a Million Dollar Baby  
Lullabye in Ragtime  
On the Sunny Side of the Street  
Over the Rainbow  
Please, Mr. Columbus  
Thanks For The Memory  
There is Nothing Like a Dame  
Thank God and Greyhound She's  
Gone

### Contest Songs

Five Foot Two, Eyes of Blue  
I Don't Mind Being All Alone

### Patriotic

Star-Spangled Banner  
This Land is Your Land/America the  
Beautiful Medley  
God Bless America

### Inspirational

Amazing Grace  
I Believe  
Lord's Prayer  
You'll Never Walk Alone

### Upcoming Songs

Loch Lomond  
Have Yourself a Merry Little  
Christmas  
If I Loved You

### Future Songs:

Shenandoah  
Armed Forces Salute  
Bare Necessities  
Ten Feet Off The Ground  
Can You Feel The Love Tonight  
When You And I Were Young,  
Maggie  
My Honey's Lovin' Arms  
River Of No Return  
Blue Skies  
They Say It's Wonderful  
How Deep Is The Ocean



"He who sings  
scares away  
his woes"

Miguel de Cervantes  
Saavedra

## Mark Your Calendars

### The Danbury, CT Chapter SPEBSQSA

PO Box 5149  
Brookfield, CT 06804-5149

<b>President:</b>	<b>Danny Anderson</b>
<b>Musical Director:</b>	<b>Joseph Hudson</b>
<b>Assistant Director:</b>	<b>Jim Hopper</b>
<b>Assistant Director:</b>	<b>Don Sutherland</b>
<b>Membership VP:</b>	<b>Andy Bayer</b>
<b>Public Relations VP:</b>	<b>Dickson DeMarche</b>
<b>Music VP:</b>	<b>Jim Hopper</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Robert Golenbock</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Dave McKee</b>
<b>Member at Large:</b>	<b>Chuck Kreiger</b>
<b>Member at Large:</b>	<b>Art Roberts</b>
<b>Member at Large:</b>	<b>Dick Walter</b>
<b>Program Committee</b>	
<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Lyle LaPlante</b>
<b>Uniform Chairman:</b>	<b>Andy Bayer</b>
<b>Harmony Foundation</b>	
<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>Danny Anderson</b>
<b>Music Librarian:</b>	<b>Lyle LaPlante</b>
<b>Sunshine Chairman:</b>	<b>Don Smith</b>
<b>Package Show Chairman:</b>	<b>Dick Walter</b>
<b>Chorus Manager:</b>	<b>Robert Golenbock</b>

### The Hatter Chatter

Serving the Mad Hatter community since last Tuesday

John Bradley, Hatter editor 39 Beekman Drive Lake Carmel, NY 10512 <a href="mailto:Jbrad1313@earthlink.net">Jbrad1313@earthlink.net</a>	Dick Zang, Chatter editor 2 Camelot Crest Sandy Hook, CT 06482 <a href="mailto:jezang@charter.net">jezang@charter.net</a>
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Proofreader: Miss Taralily

The editors of the Hatter Chatter welcome submissions from all chapter members and friends of the Mad Hatters. E-mail, mail, paper airplane us your thoughts, observations, opinions, singing tips and whatever, and we'll turn them into Pulitzer Prize copy

**April 10:** Chapter Singout. The Village at Brookfield Commons, 246 Federal Road Brookfield, CT. Warmup 1:00 PM, sing 1:30 PM

**May 2:** Interchapter Night with the Big Apple Chorus, NormanThomas High School, Park Ave. at 33rd St, NYC. Details to be announced.

**May 17:** Chapter Singout. Meadow Ridge Independent Living Center, 100 Redding Road, Redding, CT. Warmup 7:00 PM, sing 7:30 PM.

**May 20:** Chapter Singout. Congregational Church of Newtown, 14 West Street, Newtown, CT. Warmup 7:00 PM, sing 7:30 PM.

**November 12:** Annual Show. Brookfield High School, Details to be announced.

**NED**  
**Spring**  
**2011 CONTESTS**

**Yankee Mountain**  
DIVISIONS  
*April 15-16*  
Schenectady (Colon)  
NEW YORK

**Colonie Central High School**  
**1 Raider Blvd**  
**Colonie, NY**

Headquarters hotel is the Marriott at 189 Wolf Road (parallel to I-87 Northway. Phone contact at the Marriott is 518-437-6333 (Donna LaRocca). Rooms for \$85 per night.

For more information and registration, go to:  
<http://www.nedistrict.org>

## April Milestones

### Birthdays

4 – Patricia Griffin  
11 - Robert Golenbock  
12 – Carl Zlamany  
15 – Bill Keenan  
16 – Vivien Cheeseman  
27 – Alex Zobler  
27 – Ronnie Fehling  
28 – Don Sutherland

### Wedding Anniversaries

14 – Fred and Vera Baran  
16 – Diane and Craig Johnson



## The New Yorkers Turn 50!

On Saturday June 4, the New Yorkers will present their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary show beginning at 2PM.

For more information, contact:

Steve Miller

[50@newyorkerschorus.com](mailto:50@newyorkerschorus.com)

