



*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 19 Number 7

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

August 2012

## Hatters Hone Harmonic Habits At HCNE

*By Dick Zang*

**Worcester, MA** - This year something was missing from HCNE – the HX Camp (Harmony Explosion) was canceled, so there were no girls and boys to amaze us on Saturday night. But aside from the shorter lines in the cafeteria, the rest of us hardly noticed. The classes and coaching were again outstanding and the Saturday show featured more top quartets than usual.

Harmony College Northeast (HCNE) was held at Worcester State University starting with dinner, a general session and classes on Friday night, August 10, and ending with breakfast on Sunday morning. No one could complain about the food or the accommodations and not even a little rain or the skunk on the campus could spoil the fun.

The Saturday night show featured TNS, the 10th Place finishers from the International Competition in Portland this past July, an entertaining Sweet Adeline quartet, the reigning queens of Harmony, Inc., Foreign Exchange, and all the quartets that had been coached earlier.

We also appreciated the hospitality of Dan, Gaye, Chris and Lisa of the Honeymooners, who made sure that we had someplace to sing until the wee hours every night.



*Loco Fedora performs at Harmony College.  
Picture by Steve Salamin*

Danbury was well represented – Danny Anderson, Joe Hudson, Wynn Wilcox, Andy Bayer, Chuck Kreiger, Jim Hopper, Robert Golenbock, and I all had terrific experiences.

We shared some of them at the chorus rehearsal the following week. We then broke into the song we learned during the general sessions, “Kentucky Babe.” We all liked it well enough to talk about presenting it at competition.



*TNS (the guys) and Foreign Exchange (the girls) at HCNE.  
Picture by Robert Golenbock.*

Loco Fedora enrolled in the quartet coaching sessions on Saturday and got a lot of help from Dave Carden, bass of TNS; Larry Bean; Steve Janes, judge and former director of Saratoga; and Ryan Killeen, lead of TNS. All had something different to make us think about. See if you can notice any improvement the next time you hear us sing.

According to our lead, Robert Golenbock, “The coaching was great. It was as if I had never learned to sing before and now I know all these very difficult techniques for making beautiful chords with three other guys.”

The other Mad Hatters took courses in arranging, singing with nine senses, vocal techniques, and sight singing. There’s always a course for everybody.

Next year the chapter may try to get enough members to enroll for chorus coaching. Mark your calendars for the weekend of August 9 through 11.

## Shop For A Cause

The Danbury Mad Hatter Barbershop Chorus, along with other non-profits, are working with Macy's on a program called Shop For A Cause. The event will be held on August 25, 2012, at all Macy's stores.

In its seventh year, Shop For A Cause has raised more than \$42 million for charities across the country. Non-profit organizations with a 501(c) or 170(c)1 tax exempt status, school booster groups and religious organizations are eligible to participate in the event.

Each participating non-profit receives free a quantity of savings passes to sell for five dollars each. The non-profit then sells the passes to its constituents through the day of the event. Macy's also sells the savings passes within its stores to benefit its own national in-store beneficiary, the March of Dimes.

The discount passes, or coupons, are good only for August 25 and are good for 25% discount on clothing and a 10% discount on jewelry and electronics. The non-profits keep the money they raise for selling the coupons

In addition to the special sales on the 25th, Macy's at the Danbury Mall will also be hosting special events, prizes and other in-store excitement, such as an appearance by the Mad Hatters. The chorus will be given a table on the second floor by the petites section where we can promote the chorus. We will also be performing at that location at 3pm.

A special thanks to Al Paparesta for all of his work setting up this fundraiser and performance for the chorus.



*Shoppers lining up at Macy in anticipation of the Mad Hatter's performance Saturday.*

### Baritone Deep Thought of the Month

*Instead of engaging in my own hobbies, my wife has me constantly helping her in her garden. I guess you could say I am pistil whipped.*

## 2013 Chapter Officers Selected

Each year, the Danbury Mad Hatters nominate a new slate of officers for the coming year including President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership VP, Music VP, Public Relations VP, and three Members-at-Large. There are also a number of appointed positions such as Chorus Manager, Uniform Chairman, Package Show Chairman, Music Librarian, Sunshine Chairman and Harmony Foundation Chairman.

How does the election process work? If there is no competition for any position, the slate will be announced to the chapter membership three times at three consecutive meetings and voted on. If there is competition, an actual election will be held for the contested position(s). This year's process is completed. Following is the listing of 2013 Board members, as selected by the chorus.

PRESIDENT: Danny Anderson

TREASURER: Dickson DeMarche

SECRETARY: Robert Gollenbock

VP OF MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE: Jim Hopper

VP OF PUBLIC RELATIONS: Al Paparesta

VP OF MEMBERSHIP: Andy Bayer

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: Wynn Gadkar-Wilcox, Art Roberts and Terry Dunkle.

## Harmony College Saturday Show a Winner

*By Dr. Robert Golenbock*

*The Hatter Chatter welcomes renown and infamous barbershop reviewer Dr. Robert Golenbock to our pages this month.*

This year's Saturday night show at Harmony College was held in the Blue Room at the Worcester State University's Student Center, not the larger auditorium, because of the unfortunate cancellation of the Harmony Explosion Camp: there were no kids and no parents. At least the sight lines were better, but the acoustics weren't great.

The highlights of the show were the featured quartet, TNS, and the reigning queens of Harmony, Inc., Foreign Exchange. TNS has a very fluid style. They made it to the top ten the first year they got together just singing polecats. As Mad Hatter music director, Joe Hudson, said, "I finally got to hear what a polecat really sounds like." Their lead can hold a note and shatter glass at the same time!

Of course, the women's voices are so melodious when they're good. Loco Fedoa baritone, Jimmy Hopper, called their tenor "the voice of an angel". And their bass must have three lungs. I think she can go lower than I can, and she never needs to breathe. The lead is the wife of Mike Gabriella, the tenor of Roadshow. She can really emote.

Overall, it was a very enjoyable show.

## Singers Sizzle at Summer Singouts

The Danbury Mad Hatter Barbershop Chorus has been enjoying a string of cool performances in the midst of the persistent heat and humidity of western Connecticut's summer of 2012.

One such performance was on July 19 at the Cascades Assisted Living facility of The Bethel Health Care Center.

Dr. Bob Golenbock took on the dual roles of director and raconteur, as Joseph Hudson and Bob Bradley were unable to attend the singout.

The small contingent of barbershoppers showed remarkable vocal agility as they improvised with keys and chords on a number of songs. But, perhaps, the most enjoyable part of the evening was watching members of the audience sing with the chorus. They seemed to know the words of our pole cats better than we did.

On the following Tuesday evening the chorus trekked south on US Route 7 to Wilton, CT, where they performed at The Greens at Cannondale to another appreciative and lively audience.

The nasty weather did catch up to us, however, on July 28 when the chorus had to cancel its annual outdoor performance at the Putnam County 4-H Fair in Kent, NY, due to heavy thunderstorms.

## Quartet Corner

*News from our chorus quartets*

### Rare Occasion – By Fred Baran

On Saturday afternoon, June 30, Rare Occasion traveled to Yorktown Heights, NY, to sing at the 60th Anniversary Party for Nancy and Ed Serocki. They are the parents of Elena Serocki, who formerly worked with Terry Dunkle at *Reader's Digest*.



We carefully selected about a dozen songs from our repertoire that were appropriate to the occasion and were delighted to hear the couple singing along with us. They both had good voices, held hands throughout our performance and seemed to genuinely enjoy our song selection. Elena videotaped our entire performance and promised to provide us with a copy.

There is nothing more rewarding to a barbershop quartet than to feel positive vibrations coming back from the audience as they enjoy our close harmony as the music brings them back to earlier times in their lives.

With this pair of octogenarians, I think we hit a home run as we helped them celebrate their anniversary.

On Wednesday, August 1, we entertained about 45 members of the Candlewood Lake Club, a private community in Brookfield, CT, adjacent to Candlewood Lake. We sang at a luncheon held in their clubhouse with a magnificent view overlooking the Lake.

Among the crowd was Peter Daubner, a member of the club and fellow Mad Hatter who acted as our host for lunch and photographer during our performance. Thanks, Peter.

We were well received by our audience as we sang a dozen songs from our repertoire, offering a variety of musical styles and tempos. We enjoyed a delightful lunch catered by Two Steps of Danbury, and met and chatted with many members of the club.

Our hostess, Lori Hutchinson, said we should come back and sing for them again. She had previously heard Rare Occasion sing several years ago on Valentine's Day at La Fortuna Restaurant in Bethel.



*Rare Occasion performs at the Candlewood Club.  
Picture by Peter Daubner*

### The Traveling Men – By Wynn Gadkar-Wilcox

The Traveling Men are on a summer hiatus from rehearsal due to our busy travel schedules. Tenor Wynn Wilcox recently returned from a trip to Ithaca, NY, and Bass Andy Bayer just got back from a very exciting cruise through Italy and Greece (he appreciates compliments on his tan).

Three members of TM attended Harmony College Northeast -- Wilcox, Bayer and lead Danny Anderson. Bayer and Anderson report that they have learned a lot about identifying chord structures and singing technique, while Wilcox struggled through the all-day arranging workshop. He has concluded that someone needs to smack him upside the head everytime he writes a major nine chord into a barbershop arrangement.

### Real Chemistry – By John Bradley

On Friday, August 10, Real Chemistry shook off the rain and performed for an ice cream and tea social gathering at the Ridgefield, CT, Senior Center's Founders Hall

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## Quartets

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The quartet performed for about 45 minutes, finishing with a memorable rendition of our rainy day favorite, "Coney Island Baby."

We really wanted to sing "Trickle, Trickle" to celebrate the day's monsoon-like downpours, but we couldn't remember how to start the song. After the performance we gave it one more try and learned that songs are so much easier to remember when you start on the correct key.

The highlight of the afternoon show was the appearance of lead Bob Bradley's three-year-old grandson, Jackson. He managed to get a bigger ovation than our bass and Senior Center member, Dick Walter, who usually gets the senior ladies swooning with his rumbling deep voice.

When Jackson was asked to evaluate his Grandfather's performance, he said, "It was great!"



*Audience enjoys Real Chemistry performance at Founders Hall, Ridgefield.*

## 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*

I saw a performance by your chorus some time ago. The songs were wonderful, as were the harmonies. One of the quartets sang "Coney Island Baby" for a woman in the front of the audience who was born and raised in Brooklyn. I'm from Staten Island. Do you have any songs about that borough?  
Steve from Stapleton

*Steve, interesting question. I lived on Staten Island for a number of years. I reviewed the chorus's repertoire, looking for something appropriate.*

*You can close your eyes when we sing "Shenandoah" and dream of the Arthur Kill. "Over the Rainbow"? I don't remember seeing too many rainbows through the smog rolling in from Secaucus. "Breaking Up Is Hard To Do"? Staten Islanders have wanted to succeed from New York City for some time.*

*There is a Joni Mitchel song, "I Went to Staten Island." I also found a song called, "The Waves' Rippling Song," written, in 1922 by Hungarian immigrant, Frank Ujaky, about his adopted home in South Beach, Staten Island.*

*I couldn't find a barbershop arrangement of either, though.*

## Repertoire Notes



"**Almost Like Being in Love**" is a popular song published in 1947. The music was written by Frederick Loewe and the lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner.

The song was made popular by David Brooks and Marion Bell in the musical *Brigadoon*. It was later performed in the 1954 film version by Gene Kelly.

The song was revived as a downbeat ballad version by singer Michael Johnson. It was also made popular by British singing sensation, Dame Shirley Bassey.

Nat King Cole recorded more than one version of the song, including one that was used to close the 1993 movie, *Groundhog Day*, which starred Bill Murray.

In 1961, Judy Garland performed the song as a medley with "This Can't Be Love" at the *Judy at Carnegie Hall* concert.

## Vowel Matching

*Tom Raburn, Big D Bulletin*

Question: When does  $2 + 2 = 5$ ? Answer: When barbershop harmony is sung correctly, creating harmonic overtones and expanded sound.

One of the most important factors in the achievement of choral blend and expanded sound is unity of vowel sounds. Vowels are what we sing and sustain, separated by consonants to make words.

When we match vowel sounds, we create like harmonics and the sound expands in intensity through reinforcement.

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## Vowels

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In singing, vowels are created through the natural resonance of the human vocal tract.

The tongue, lips and jaw are used to fashion the resonators into their vowel shapes.

Some basic rules to follow when forming vowel sounds are:

1. When producing all vowel sounds, the tip of the tongue should be placed gently on the lower gum ridge, with the tip barely touching the base of the lower teeth. This helps keep the throat open so the vocal chords can vibrate naturally through the resonators (mouth, throat, and sinus cavities).
2. The jaw should be allowed to relax naturally with a swinging down and back motion.
3. The lips should leave the teeth uncovered.
4. Although the mouth must be open wide, it is not how wide it is open but the shape that is most important.

Every vowel can be sung with one of three mouth shapes: round (example, “oh”), square (example, “ih” as in sit) and oblong (example, “ah” as in pop).

Refinements to form each specific vowel sound are made by the degree to which the tongue is arched in the mouth, and the degree to which the jaw is dropped.

For instance, both the “oh” sound and the “oo” (as in moon) sound are made with the round mouth shape, but the “oh” sound is made with the mouth as open as possible while the “oo” sound is made with the smallest, most rounded shape.

As you sing the songs in your repertoire keep in mind the basic mechanics of producing vowel sounds and think about the target vowel sound for each word in the song.

Properly matched vowels can enable a small chorus to fill the performance setting and create the expanded sound that makes barbershop harmony so much fun to sing and hear.



## Three Things

After each coaching session, music director, Joe Hudson, asks each attendee to submit three things learned to share with those who could not attend. Following is our list from the July coaching session with Joe Hunter.

- In “Paper Moon,” the change in sight focus from “paper moon” to “cardboard sea” is only about 90 degrees. Don't exaggerate the move - keep it natural. We're all down the tiles at this point, so the move is the same for everyone (perhaps 43.6 degrees to either side).
- Basses have to watch their “bum bum ba dos” in “Paper Moon.” The last “do” is only an eighth note - no time for a breath - before “but.”
- The last move in “Paper Moon” is a barbershop spread. No jazz hands.
- Almost every choreography move in “Paper Moon” has a preparatory “gizinta” so that actual move lands on the beat.
- Involve the entire body in performing. It will reduce tightness in your singing and add to the presentation.
- FUN, FUN, FUN. “Paper Moon” is all about FUN.
- In “Maggie,” on the SPRUNG chords: Leads -- forward and light, Bass -- more AH than UH, Baris --- less barilazy (a new word!), TENORS -- more OH than UH.
- Leads --- sing with a head tone throughout the majority of “Maggie.” Basses, sing like leads and less like MACHO basses.
- In “Paper Moon”, no more hand move on “DIVINE, SO DIVINE.”
- In “Paper Moon” the moves have changed for EV-ry-THING-soFINE. The explosion now occurs down the chorus from R to L in 3 sections. On this move, go up onto your toes.
- In “Maggie” make sure each phrase connects into the next phrase THROUGH the breath.
- In “Maggie” basses must sing softer but with more intensity.
- In “Paper Moon” basses are responsible for maintaining the rhythm in a rhythmic song.
- Baritones need to stay high and in equal volume with the basses on the last two notes of “Maggie.”
- The new words are “let us sing of the days that were ours” in the last verse (“Maggie”). Put an accent on the word “still” in Maggie, but in a way that avoids hissing.



## The President's Podium

*By Danny Anderson*

We have had several good sing outs this month with good participation. Doctor Bob did a wonderful job, directing the group at Bethel Health Care. The performance at The Greens at Cannondale went very well. Fifteen guys singing made a great sound together and the audience greatly appreciated us being there!

We are excited about the visitors we have had over the past month. Three of them have taken applications, so we look forward to them joining the chorus.

Our coaching session with Joe Hunter on July 31 went very well. Our contest songs, "Maggie" and "Paper Moon," are progressing. It's very important for all members to attend the coaching sessions since we will sing these songs in all of our performances, not just contest.

Harmony College Northeast has come and gone. I know I learned some very useful things that I plan to share with all of our members. I encourage all chorus members to attend next year. You will not be disappointed.

As for Shop For A Cause, Al Paparesta has done a wonderful job to procure both the sale coupons from Macy's (see him for your bunch) and arrange for a performance on the day of the sale (August 25). The coupons sell for five dollars which entitles the coupon holder to a 25% discount to their purchases that day. The Chapter gets to keep the five dollars. During the day we will be allowed to set up a display table in Macy's with information concerning the Mad Hatters. We will need members to volunteer to man the table throughout the day.

We have been invited to sing at the ceremonies for the Vietnam War Memorial being held in Danbury. The memorial will be in on display at the Danbury War Memorial in Rogers Park from September 20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>. It is unknown as of this writing if we will participate in the opening ceremony or the closing one. Please sign up on Groupinzer ASAP

Fred has set up an engagement to sing at the Danbury Hospital softball game. This too is a fund raiser. Please indicate in Groupinzer your intention to participate.

On October 19 and 20 the Northeast District Contest will be taking place at the Westbrook Performing Arts Center in Westbrook, ME. The headquarters hotel will be the Best Western Merry Manor Inn, 700 Main Street, South Portland, ME. Call [207-774-6151](tel:207-774-6151) to make your reservation. Or, you can drive up the morning of the contest. From the church to the Performing Arts Center is 4 hours and 43 minutes.

Once again I want to encourage each member to spend time each week going over his music. Learn your notes and words. When we arrive at practice you should be ready to work on the unit sound of your particular voice part. Practice should be PRACTICE, not a time to LEARN words and notes.

## July Board of Directors Meeting

*Submitted by Robert Golenbock.*



Meeting called to order by Danny "One Singular Sensation" Anderson at 6:10 pm on July 10, 2012, at the Church of Christ.

SECRETARY'S REPORT was received on a motion by Andy Bayer, seconded by Dick Walter.

TREASURER'S REPORT: We are still in a positive cash flow. The report was received on a motion by Joe Hudson, seconded by Dick Walter.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: We had three guests last meeting who received newcomers' packets and follow-up e-mails. Andy Bayer handed out an "Ideas" sheet from the Harold Hill program. Suggestion to improve our visibility and our numbers included singing at actual barbershops and a contest rewarding the member who brings in the most members (who retain membership for at least one year).

Also, we discussed the mechanics of "Supercharging Your Chapter", the possibility of a sing out at the mall, and the wearing of "I Sing" buttons. We are preparing letters to churches.

VP PUBLIC RELATIONS: So far we have had a quartet on the radio; we have solicited on Craig's List, YouTube, and Facebook. We are looking to recruit in a larger catchment area. Al Paparesta has sent out radio ads and an ad in the City Center Danbury blog. Wynn, Terry, and Al are meeting to plan an organized membership campaign.

MUSIC COMMITTEE: As discussed last month, we are emphasizing polishing the repertoire we have before we add new songs. We will be getting more coaching from Joe Hunter.

Dick Walter suggests more quartets and octets and an emphasis on making meetings more fun. Robert Golenbock noted that not everyone agrees on what is considered fun and, furthermore, those fun things are the reward for showing up prepared so we don't have to take up so much time learning notes and words in rehearsal.

OLD BUSINESS: The district competition is in October. Our 2013 Annual show is scheduled for May 18 in White Hall. We are negotiating with North Shore A Cappella to headline the show.

NEW BUSINESS: Nothing. What's new with you?

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ed "Too Tall" Jones.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Wynn Wilcox, Andy Bayer, Dick Walter, Terry Dunkle, Joe Hudson, Danny Anderson, Robert Golenbock.

# August Board of Directors Meeting Minutes



*Submitted under cover of darkness by Robert Golenbock, Secretary*

Meeting called to order by Danny “Kentucky Babe” Anderson on August 7, 2012, at 6:05 pm (not verified with atomic clock) at the Church of Christ.

SECRETARY’S REPORT was not handed out and not accepted. So sue me. It wasn’t that interesting. By the way, our chapter filed again with the Secretary of the State of Connecticut.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Our annual show report highlighted the problems we had in promoting our show. We sold very few tickets and we sold very few ads. Some of our “heavy hitters” were not available this year. The treasurer’s report was approved on a motion by Dick Walter, seconded by Robert Golenbock.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: We have two new members – both from the same family. And we hope to sign up a third member of the family soon!

Harold Hill update: Andy Bayer is scheduled to talk to Bill Biffle, and Joe has sent out letters to churches inviting their choir members to sing with us.

VP PUBLIC RELATIONS: We need a “maximum effort” for our August 25 appearance at Macy’s. The PR committee has been meeting. They advise a radio ad with musical accompaniment. We need to figure out where to place such an ad for optimum effect.

The committee of Andy, Wynn, Terry, and Al presented the following ideas for our consideration. 1. We need to use a sign to identify ourselves at performances. 2. We should offer to sing at venues like the mall, barbershops, stores, and restaurants. 3. We should look into corporate sponsorship not only for the access to funds but because a corporate sponsor can help us with our own brand recognition and dissemination of our singing.

MUSIC COMMITTEE: The Committee considered music choices for the next Division contest. We are still confirming a date for Saturday coaching.

OLD BUSINESS: We are asking each member going to contest to consider paying \$20 toward the registration fee. Our contest outfit will be a teal shirt and tie under tuxedo pants and jacket.

The motion by Joe Hudson and seconded by Dick Walter to have members purchase the shirt and tie for \$24 was approved.

NEW BUSINESS: We have made the decision to have our annual show in the late afternoon. That way we will not conflict with so many other performances, and older members of our audience will be more willing to come out. This decision was approved on a motion by Jimmy Hopper, seconded by Dick “I’ll second anything” Walter.

We discussed the 2013 Leadership Training Conference, and we are considering having our own meeting because the information available at the meeting is not likely to differ from the previous years. We could save time and money while discussing goals that are more germane to our unique situation. Danny mentioned that it might be preferable to do a planning session with the new Board in November or December.

Dick Walter asked us to adopt a procedure for cancelling scheduled singing performances. Joe Hudson explained that he did not have a contact number for the people at the Putnam County Fair, and he was unable to reach Dick or John and Bob Bradley to communicate the decision by the leadership that we should not drive in flash flood conditions. Next time Joe and Danny should have a working contact number in case there is a problem.

Joe Hudson brought up the idea for our next annual show: Barbershop Jeopardy. The answer would be the title of the musical number we sing. The question would be something unexpected and – with luck – humorous.

Dickson DeMarche asked us to move forward with a new sandwich board, new business cards, and an updated photo.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Al Paparesta, Al Jolson.

OFFICERS PRESENT: D. Anderson, J. Hudson, J. Hopper, A. Roberts, D. DeMarche, D. Walter, R. Golenbock, U. Bolt

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm. Next meeting is September 4.

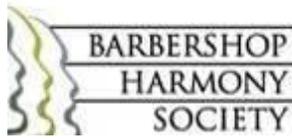
## The First Annual New England Harmony Brigade

The date is fast approaching: Saturday September 15 at 7:30 PM. Many of you will be coming to see the Saturday Evening Show - featuring Men in Black, Village Green, a parade of quartets from the Harmony Brigade attendees, and the NEHB 100 man chorus!

Tickets are on sale now through our website - Don't Wait! - order now and make sure you get your tickets.

Assabet Valley Regional Technical H.S., 215 Fitchburg St., Marlborough, MA. Adult (\$15.00), Student under 18 (\$10.00).

Go to [www.nehb.net](http://www.nehb.net).



## Society and District Notes



### Barbershop Harmony Society announces new CEO

The Barbershop Harmony Society is pleased to announce the appointment of its new CEO/Executive Director. Twenty-three-year member Martin "Marty" Monson was named to the post after an extensive search process conducted by the Barbershop Harmony Society's Board of Directors and the search firm Genovese, Vanderhoof & Associates. Nearly 60 candidates, many with extensive musical and association management experience, were considered for the position.

Marty is currently president and owner of Visual Communication Advisors, a strategic planning consulting firm. Prior to that, he was vice president of business development for Glowpoint, a telecommunications and teleconferencing company.

"I am honored by the opportunity to serve the Barbershop Harmony Society in this capacity," Marty said. "I'm eager to get started." Society staff was informed of the decision on the morning of Friday, July 20.

Marty has been president of the Hilltop, MN, Chapter (LOL) of the Barbershop Harmony Society for the past five years. His leadership has helped to significantly grow membership and transform the Hilltop chapter (and its Great Northern Union chorus) into one of the Society's most dynamic organizations. An article about this transformation appears in the [November/December 2009 issue](#) of *The Harmonizer* magazine.

"Marty brings unbridled passion and enthusiasm to this role," said Alan Lamson, president of the Barbershop Harmony Society and interim CEO. "His ideas for the future, his successes with Great Northern Union, as well as his business successes, gave the Board the confidence that he was the right person at the right time for the Barbershop Harmony Society. We are also excited by his ability to work with staff, committees, the Board and the membership to move us forward."

"The search committee was looking for a strong blend of skills, experiences, energy and vision as demonstrated in business and barbershop," added Shannon Elswick, Society executive vice president. "Marty's success at the chapter level is undeniable, his energy is boundless, and he brings a vision that we believe will engage current members and attract new ones."

We also believe Marty will use the great resources we have as an organization to broaden and enhance overall awareness of barbershop harmony."

### 2013 NED Leadership Academy

Mark your calendars for the 2013 NED Leadership Academy in Worcester, MA, for January 18-20, 2013 (a new date!) The major portion of the school will be held on Saturday, January 19 at the Worcester State University. The Hilton will be the headquarters hotel. More information to follow on that.

We are planning for an increased variety of classes to be offered to prepare the chapter leadership, and future chapter leaders, to carry on the activities of their local chapters. With that in mind, would you be interested in teaching a leadership class in any area pertaining to a barbershop chapter? We will cover president, secretary and treasurer, but the rest is wide open. What is your field of expertise?

What could you bring for a class of one hour, three hours, or all day, that would offer our chapter leaders the best opportunity to have a fantastic year in 2013?

Send me a brief synopsis of the class, including how it meets the needs of a chapter leader, and an outline of the topics you might cover. I am on a tight time frame, so please aim for the first week of September for your response.

Third, I really need some help with the planning for this school. The Events Team will be handling all the logistics of rooms, hotel, meetings, meals, etc. But the LA Team will review options for classes, help select instructors, plan the flow of the weekend, etc. I will be very hard-pressed to do that on my own.

If anyone has had some experience with planning an event like this, and you would be willing to give me a hand, I will be ever grateful. Please let me know if you can become a part of the 2013 LA Team. Again, send me a note by early September, or before.

Finally, Chapter Presidents current and future, this Leadership Academy has one primary purpose: to prepare the men in your chapter to serve the needs of your chapter, to make it the best place to sing barbershop in your neighborhood.

We can only achieve our purpose if you bring us those members to be trained. We are quite good at what we do. Nearly every participant has left the school in the past delighted with the experiences they had there. We are counting on you, Mr. President.

Walt Lane, LA Coordinator  
NED Past President  
COTS Secretary Instructor

# Ye Olde Joke Boarde



*Submitted by the Unknown Barbershopper*

One day a barbershop quartet was driving through the desert when all of a sudden their car broke down. They decided they would all walk to civilization.

The lead said, "I'm going to take water so if I get thirsty I can drink it." Then the tenor said, "I'm going to take some food so if I get hungry I can eat." And then the baritone said "I'm going to take the car door, so if I get hot, I can roll the window down!"

...

Bob, a barbershop baritone, had finally made it to the last round of the \$64,000 Question. The night before the big question, he told the Emcee that he desired a question on American History.

The big night had arrived. Bob made his way on stage in front of the studio and TV audience. He had become the talk of the week. He was the best guest this show had ever seen. The Emcee stepped up to the mic.

"Bob, you have chosen American History as your final question. You know that if you correctly answer this question, you will walk away \$64,000 dollars richer. Are you ready?"

Bob nodded with a cocky confidence - the crowd went nuts. He hadn't missed a question all week.

"Bob, your question on American History is a two-part question. As you know, you may answer either part first. As a rule, the second half of the question is always easier. Which part would you like to take a stab at first?"

Bob was now becoming more noticeably nervous. He couldn't believe it, but he was drawing a blank. American History was his easiest subject, but he played it safe. "I'll try the second part first."

The Emcee nodded approvingly. "Here we go Bob. I will ask you the second half first, then the first half." The audience silenced with gross anticipation...

"Bob, here is your question: And, in what year did it happen?"

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## Current Mad Hatter Repertoire

### *Performance*

Bare Necessities  
Breaking Up Is Hard To Do  
Can You Feel the Love Tonight  
Give My Regards To Broadway  
Heart  
If I Loved You  
Over The Rainbow  
Please, Mr. Columbus  
Shenandoah  
Ten Feet Off The Ground  
Thanks For The Memory  
There Is Nothing Like A Dame  
On The Sunny Side Of The Street

### *Patriotic/Inspirational*

Amazing Grace  
Armed Forces Medley  
God Bless America  
I Believe  
Lord's Prayer  
Star-Spangled Banner  
This Land Is Your Land Medley

### *Contest*

It's Only A Paper Moon  
When You And I Were  
Young, Maggie

### *In Progress/Upcoming*

From The First Hello  
Get Off the Table, Mabel (the \$2 is for the Beer)  
River Of No Return  
Somewhere Out There  
How Deep Is The Ocean  
My Honey's Lovin' Arms  
They Say It's Wonderful  
Saddle Up the Stove, Ma, I'm Riding the Range Tonight



## 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>Wynn Wilcox</b>
<b>Music VP:</b>	<b>Jim Hopper</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Robert Golenbock</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Dickson DeMarche</b>
<b>Program VP</b>	<b>Vacant</b>
<b>Member at Large:</b>	<b>Terry Dunkle</b>
<b>Member at Large:</b>	<b>Art Roberts</b>
<b>Member at Large:</b>	<b>Dick Walter</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 whatevers, and we'll turn them into Pulitzer Prize copy

## Milestones

### July Birthdays:

2 - Paul Just  
3 - Linda Horhota  
14 - Carol Rosa  
16 - Bob Bradley  
22 - Ed Feinberg  
27 - John Bradley  
27 - Mary Dunkle

### Wedding Anniversaries:

7 - Frank and Veronica Fehling  
7 - Steve and Linda Horhota  
14 - Terry and Mary Dunkle

### August Birthdays:

2 - Bette Zlamany  
3 - Ron Keith  
8 - Bob Connolley  
8 - Joanne Zang  
13 - Jim Hopper  
18 - Frank Fehling  
28 - David McKee

### Wedding Anniversaries:

1 - Dick and Joanne Zang  
8 - Dan and Patricia Griffin  
8 - Paul and Janet Just  
15 - Art and Susan Roberts  
17 - Jim and Marti Hopper  
31 - Charlie and Carol Rosa

## Mark Your Calendars

**Saturday August 25: Chapter sing out. Shop For A Cause. Danbury Fair Mall, Sing 3:00 pm, warm-up 2:30 pm. Sing for 1 hour.**

**Saturday September 8: Chapter sing out. Meadow Ridge Assisted Living Center, 100 Redding Rd, Redding, CT. Warm-up 3:30 pm, Sing 4:00 pm for 1 hour.**

**Friday September 21: Chapter sing out. Dignity Memorial Vietnam Wall, 1 Memorial Drive (Rogers Park), Danbury, CT. 9:30 am Start Time.**

**Saturday September 22. Coaching session with Joe Hunter At the rehearsal hall, Church of Christ. 9:00 am - 4:00 pm.**

**Saturday September 29: Chapter sing out. Carolyn Deering Nursing Fund Charity Softball Game. Details to follow.**

**Saturday October 20: District Contest. Westbrook Middle School, 471 Stroudwater Street, Westbrook, Maine. Doors open at 9:00 am. Contest begins 10:00 am.**

**Tuesday October 23: Chapter sing out. Ridgefield Crossings, 640 Danbury Rd., Ridgefield, CT. Warm-up 6:30 pm, sing 7:00 pm for 1 hour.**

**Saturday December 1: First Annual Mad Hatter Holiday Concert and Sing-Along. Church Of Christ, 90 Clapboard Ridge Road, Danbury, CT. Details to follow**



Oct. 19-21 • Westbrook & S. Portland, ME

**28 Quartets & 21 Choruses  
QUALIFY!**

**Wow! It will be a great Fall Contest Weekend!  
Portland is beautiful too!**

**See you there? We hope so!**

