



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

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www.madhatterchorus.org

December 2014

Mad Hatters Delight Throughout Holiday Season

By John Bradley and Dick Zang

It was a busy December for Danbury's favorite barbershop chorus.

On the afternoon of December 6th, in the main hall of the Church of Christ on Clapboard Ridge Road, the Mad Hatters hosted their third annual Christmas show, "The Secret of Christmas." Emceed by Lee Smeriglio and featuring performances by the Traveling Men and Blue Moon quartets, the chorus presented a number of traditional and more modern holiday pieces such as "Silent Night," "Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer," "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas," "Jingle Bell Rock," "Feliz Navidad" and, of course, "The Secret of Christmas."

The audience especially liked the Traveling Men's rendition of Gustav Holst's 1904 composition, "In the Bleak Midwinter," which was arranged by their baritone, Wynn Gadkar-Wilcox.

The audience, encouraged to sing along on the more well known numbers, helped kick off the holiday season with a good deal of spirit. It's always the chorus's objective to pick up a few new members after a performance and judging by the audience reaction this show may have done just that.



*The Mad Hatters during their annual Christmas Show.
Picture by Peter Daubner.*

"Each year we've done this the audience seems to get louder and more enthusiastic," said bass, Dick Zang.

On Saturday, December 13th, the chorus traveled across the state line to sing at the Patterson, New York public library. A packed house awaited us. In fact, the room was so stuffed people who arrived late to hear us were turned away.

It's a good thing the local fire marshal didn't stop by - a few of our basses would have had to stand outside.



*At the Patterson Library with Traveling Men up front.
Picture by John Bradley*

Mixing holiday music with songs from its regular repertoire, the Mad Hatters stepped it up a notch and the audience loved it. At the end of the show they gave the chorus a standing ovation and requested an encore, a request which was happily fulfilled with "Breaking Up Is Hard To Do," the group's official encore song.

The audience and the Mad Hatters hung around for a while after the performance because the library staff had set up tables in the hallway filled with ornaments and holiday decorations for sale as well as complimentary cookies and punch.

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December Harmonies

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“This is the second time we’ve sung here,” said music director, Joe Hudson, “and each time we’ve sung well and been very well received.”

On Tuesday morning, December 23rd, a small contingent of Danbury barbershoppers made the yearly trek down the Housatonic River to Ansonia’s Prendergast Elementary School where they entertained the lower grades with about 30 minutes of Christmas songs.

Unfortunately, due to a shortage of lead singers, Bob Bradley could not don his Santa costume. But, even without Santa’s visit, kids both large and small enjoyed the singing.



The Prendergast kids. Picture by John Bradley.

The chorus’s final concert of 2014 was its 15th appearance for Danbury’s First Night celebration on Wednesday evening, December 31, at St. James Episcopal Church.

Over the years the chorus has spent New Year’s Eve singing through cold nights and snow storms, in churches, office buildings and theater lobbies, each time sharing with the audiences of friends, families and neighbors the gratitude that we got through yet another year and the hopes for a better new one.



The Danbury Mad Hatters at First Night Danbury.

Quartet Corner

News from our chorus quartets

Real Chemistry – *By John Bradley*

Joined by Mad Hatter tenor, Richard Schoonmaker, Real Chemistry enjoyed a Singing Valentines-type day on December 6th.



Immediately following the Mad Hatter Chorus’s annual holiday concert, we drove to Carmel, NY, to present 20 minutes of Christmas music at Drew Methodist Church. The performance was part of the hamlet’s 20th annual Holiday on the Lake and Menorah Lighting celebration.

Unfortunately, due to the cold, heavy rain that evening, the parade was cancelled, but the inside entertainment and the tree lighting went on with pretty good crowds in attendance. Every one seemed to be in good spirits despite the downpour.

After the final chord of “Let it Snow,” we quarteters motored over to Camp Herrlich in Patterson, NY, to perform for a family christmas party.

The family of camp director, Bob Gentile, has been having their annual family holiday party for 28 years. And, looking at the size of the family, it’s a good thing they have access to a 130-acre summer camp to house it.



Christmas trees along Carmel, NY’s, Lake Gleneida.

Turns out Bob is an accomplished musician, having earned a Composition Degree from Berklee College of Music in Boston. He’s also owned two music stores, taught private music lessons and played the bass in a variety of bands throughout the United States.

Despite his musical knowledge and the fact that other guests were also professional musicians, and with the help of some liquid spirits liberally scattered throughout the camp’s dining hall, the partiers seemed to genuinely enjoy our performance.

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Quartets

Continued from the previous page

After singing our favorite holiday song for a lit audience, "Coney Island Baby," the quartet caught a quick dinner at Rocco's Italian diner on Route 22, then headed off to yet another holiday party in Patterson.

Wendy Gentile, assistant principal at Carmel's Fischer Middle School and some sort of relative of Bob at the last party, was also hosting a group of similarly lubricated people. Again we must have sounded really good based on the group's enthusiastic reception to our music.

The evening ended with bass Dick Walter positioned at the buffet table, the other quartet members discussing barbershop harmony with party guests and the last drops of rain dripping down the bay window, Christmas lights flashing outside.

Traveling Men – By Wynn Gadkar-Wilcox.

In December, the Traveling Men had a busy month. While bass Andy Bayer returned from Africa, baritone Wynn Gadkar-Wilcox visited Seattle, Washington, and then Mumbai, India, and lead Danny Anderson traveled to Minnesota, leaving poor tenor Art Cilley to his own devices.

Despite these travels, the Traveling Men managed to perform very successfully on two occasions. First, they performed "In the Bleak Midwinter" at the Mad Hatter Chorus's "Secret of Christmas" concert, and second, at the Rotary Club. On the latter occasion, the Traveling Men availed themselves of the considerable talents of one James Hopper, who substituted admirably for Wynn Gadkar-Wilcox.

Can You Name This Venue?



The Danbury Mad Hatter Barbershop Chorus recently performed in this building. Can you name it?

Emails to the Editors

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



I'm very sorry I was not able to appear at your annual performance at the Prendergast Elementary School in Ansonia this year. It's been a very tough Christmas season so far.

I've outsourced my North Pole workshop to China so I've had to spend much more time on conference calls and remote communications. Quality control is tougher and I've been dragged into meetings with legal teams over lawsuits involving lead and other contaminants in toys as well as contract negotiations with the International Brotherhood of Elves and Little Persons. I've had to work overtime with my logistical teams planning new routes around North Korea and the Middle East. Plus, all the warmer weather and lack of snow cover has forced me to refit my sled, taking additional money normally spent on non-Christmas Eve visits such as yours.

Speaking of money, I can only stretch the budget so far - need to keep a good deal of US Dollars offshore to avoid Uncle Sam's tax bill. But, fortunately, the kids are young and will get over my not being there. Anyway, Joe Hudson has been on the naughty side this year. Merry Christmas. Maybe I can catch you guys on First Night.

Santa Claus
271 Park Ave, New York, NY.

Dear Editors, my choir of young, inexperienced singers never seems to know how soft or loud I want them to sing. It's very boring to hear them sing at the same volume all the time. Is there a way I can have them mark their music to indicate the volume level I want them to sing?

Amadeus in Mahopac

Dear Amadeus, sooner or later your singers will have to learn the universal musical notation for volume levels. Try to teach them the following very basic terms.

Pianissimo (pp) Very soft

Piano (p) Soft

Mezzo piano (mp) moderately soft

Mezzo forte (mf) moderately loud

Forte (f) Loud

Fortissimo (ff) Very loud

You will be surprised how easily your singers will respond to this instruction and you will begin to hear a new richness to their sound.

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Emails

Continued from the previous page

My forty-year-old son has been paying a psychiatrist \$75 an hour every week for two- and-a-half years. He must be crazy! Do you think joining a barbershop chorus can help him?

Ned from New Milford.

Ned, your note reminds me of a song I heard some years back, "It's Cheaper Than a Shrink." Singing can be very relaxing and beneficial to mind and spirit, and our membership dues are much less expensive than what you mention. Joining a barbershop chorus certainly could not hurt your son. I know of one that meets each Wednesday night in Poughkeepsie, NY.

Baritone Deep Thought of the Month

Indecision may or may not be my problem.



Repertoire Notes

"Bye Bye Love" is a popular song written by Felice and Boudleaux Bryant and published in 1957. It is best known in a debut recording by

The Everly Brothers, issued by Cadence Records, as catalog number 1315.

The song reached number two on the US Billboard Pop charts and number one on the Cash Box Best Selling Record charts. The Everly Brothers' version also enjoyed major success as a country song, reaching number one in the spring of 1957.

The Everly Brothers' country success was concurrent with another country version, recorded by Webb Pierce, at the time one of country music's top entertainers. Pierce's version reached number seven that summer.

The Everlys' "Bye Bye Love" is ranked 210th on Rolling Stone magazine's list of "The 500 Greatest Songs of All Time".

In 1974, George Harrison recorded "Bye Bye, Love" for his album, *Dark Horse*. As well as inserting a comma in the song title, Harrison wrote additional lyrics and a radically different melody line. He also arranged it in a minor key and wrote customized lyrics. The new words were in reference to his wife Pattie Boyd having left him for their mutual friend Eric Clapton. Rumors circulated that Clapton himself contributed on guitar and Boyd on backing vocals, but they were incorrect.

Many artists have covered the song, including Connie Francis, Roy Orbison (the title was spelled "Bye-bye, Love"), Ray Charles, Trini Lopez, The Dials, Simon & Garfunkel, Ray Stevens, and many others.

The President's Podium

By Danny Anderson



A successful year for the chorus is almost finished and a new exciting one is about to begin.

We will soon be delivering Singing Valentines. With this occurring on Saturday we should have a large number of engagements. As requested earlier, I am asking each member to book at least one Valentine.

We are using Facebook as a new advertising tool. We had good success with this medium when advertising the annual show and expect equally good responses for Singing Valentines.

We are also preparing for our next annual show in May. We have learned several new songs which should be toe tappers for the audience. To aid us in our learning the new songs, learning tracks are available through Groupanizer. Should you need a part specific CD let me, Joe or Peter know and we will make one for you.

We are still in need of someone to take the lead as the annual show chairman. Many of the support positions have been filled, we just need someone to monitor the show preparations and to ensure we are staying on track. See Andy or me to volunteer.

Plans have been made for several coaching sessions to help us prepare for contest in October. We will focus on singing improvement using John Ward, a singing judge, to work with us along with other selected individuals.

I'm excited by how far we developed in 2014 and the possibilities for continued growth, both in our singing abilities and in chapter membership, for 2015.

Happy new year to all.

Interesting Music Facts

Stage Names vs. Real Names

Eric Clapton Eric Patrick Clapp
John Denver John Henry Deutchendorf
Bob Dylan Robert Zimmerman
Jimi Hendrix James Marshall Hendricks
Elton John Reginald Kenneth Dwight
Courtney Love Love Michelle Harrison
Marilyn Manson Brian Warner
George Michael Yorgos Panayiotou
Sting Gordon Matthew Sumner

December Board of Directors Meeting



Respectfully submitted by Robert Golenbock, Secretary

Meeting called to order by Danny “I Want A Hippopotamus for Christmas” Anderson at 6:09 PM on December 2, 2014, at the Church of Christ in Danbury, Connecticut.

SECRETARY’S REPORT: The report was smuggled out in the Hatter Chatter and received on a motion by Al Paparesta and seconded by Dickson DeMarche. Reviews were mixed. The *New York Times* called it “a delightful romp.”

TREASURER’S REPORT: There was no significant income this month. The report was received on a motion by Andy Bayer and seconded by Robert Golenbock.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Andy Bayer again reported on our two new members. Andy is meeting with a prospective member and making contact with some returning guests.

VP PUBLIC RELATIONS: Al Paparesta sent out press releases for the Christmas show. Ads are running on TV and print. Al asked the management of Stop & Shop if we can be inside the store this year for Valentine’s Day. He gets an answer tomorrow. Of thirty-seven Valentines last year we had 11 responses from the *News-Times* (with a cost of \$500 and an income of \$550). *The News-Times* does provide us with visibility and press coverage, but obviously at a cost. Six chorus members had a total of seven Valentines. Four Board members had 18. We had one from our Stop & Shop experience. We are also trying a Facebook ad this year.

MUSIC COMMITTEE: 1. On an experimental basis we will incorporate our warm up skills with a repertoire song at 7:15 PM. This new plan encourages members to be on time and it gives us an extra 15 minutes of repertoire work.

2. Holiday show singalongs will be songs that we sing and then repeat for the audience to join us. The audience will have the words in their programs.

3. We are asking John Ward to coach us several times. He is the tenor of Up All Night. We are planning to ask Sean Devine to lead our all day workshop.

4. New music – We will assign a section of a new song and only those off paper will be invited on the risers during the first runthrough. We hope this change will be a gentle reminder to work at home rather than feel like a scolding. We will be asking section leaders to mark members’ music. We also want to do more quartetting to show people what they do or don’t know.

5. “May I Never Love Again” and “Drivin’ Me Crazy” were chosen as contest songs.

6. The break plus the announcements will be 15 minutes. Whatever time is left over from the announcements will be our break. So talk fast.

OLD BUSINESS: 1. Show chairman – Danny and Andy have approached someone. Watch this space for more information.

2. We need to encourage people to bring in Singing Valentines. Jim’s suggestion is for members to buy one for their wives. It would also give some members an opportunity to sing to their wives on Valentine’s Day. We are looking at possible incentives for selling Valentines. We are also planning to train people to speak to people they know as well as people they don’t know about our Singing Valentine program.

3. Al and Art Cilley are working on a secret plan to get business sponsorship. I could tell you the plan, but then I’d have to remember what it is.

4. The Memorial Fund was given by Terry Dunkle to encourage membership, especially younger members. Robert Golenbock recommended using the Fund in a ten year plan to be spent on yearly \$100 scholarships to Harmony Explosion. A committee of Andy, Dickson, and Robert will meet to develop a recommendation to the Board.

NEW BUSINESS: We haven’t finished up the old business yet.

MEMBERS PRESENT: W. Barlow, R Ryan, T Coughlin.

OFFICERS PRESENT: W. Wilcox, D. DeMarche, A. Bayer, J. Hopper, A. Cilley, A. Paparesta, R. Golenbock, D. Anderson.

Meeting adjourned at 7:01 PM. Next meeting 01/06/2015. Happy New Year!

How To Be A Great Baritone

An oxymoron, perhaps... but it's worth exploring.

By Ron Knickerbocker, The Regents, 1974 champions.

There are only two things one must do to be a great baritone: use proper vocal production and understand (and obey) the baritone's job description. For purposes of this discussion, let's pretend we all produce sound correctly and focus on the job.

A quartet baritone or baritone section in a chorus has three basic responsibilities:

- tuning chords
- balancing chords
- staying out of the way

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How to

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Some people, mostly basses, feel that the bari has a fourth job -- making the bass sound good -- but I won't address the impossible here.

In both tuning and balancing it is critical to know what part of the chord you are singing.

For mathematical reasons, fifths should be sung a tad sharp, and minor (barbershop) sevenths need to be tuned a bit flat. Thirds should be sung sharp, because we habitually sing them way too flat). As a general rule, it is easier to tune to the bass than to the lead.

A bari's balance responsibility is dictated by two things. The first is where your note is with respect to the melody. Bari notes above the melody need to be sung somewhat softer (how much softer depends on how far above the melody your note is), while notes below the melody should be sung relatively louder.

Some coaches maintain that balancing isn't necessary as long as your quality matches that of the lead. I agree that a bari can sing a bit more loudly if he matches the lead well, but the melody must still be predominant. Thus, balance is no less important than it used to be thought, just a little easier to do.

The second factor in balancing chords is the part of the chord you are singing. As a general rule, sing roots and fifths more loudly than other parts of the chord.

Staying out of the way means the bari must do whatever he can to enhance the musical flow. Maintain vowel integrity, energize singable consonants and soften hard consonants.

Most of the time it is desirable to substitute softer consonants for the hard ones, like using "d" instead of "t." The substitutions must be subtle, however. Don't hit the listener over the head with the fact that you are using a different consonant.

Most rules have exceptions, but if you adopt these general suggestions, you will be well on your way to becoming a great baritone. Now, if we could only find a bass that deserves you!

RON'S 10 TIPS FOR BETTER BARIS

- Produce sound correctly.
- Balance to the lead, but...
- Tune to the bass.
- Know what part of the chord you are singing.
- Sing thirds and fifths a little sharp, AND....
- Sing minor (barbershop) sevenths a bit flat.
- Balance to the melody.
- In general, roots and fifths should be a little louder than other notes in the chord.
- Extend the duration of vowels
- Reduce the duration and percussiveness of consonants



A men's shelter in Providence, RI. Picture by Peter Daubner.



He really can sleep standing up! Picture by Peter Daubner.



HXNE 2015

August 6-9, 2015

Worcester State University, Worcester, MA

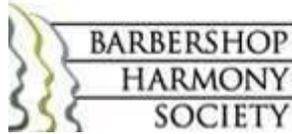
Harmony Explosion Camp Northeast 2015 is a three-day music camp for male & female high school students and music educators sponsored by the Northeastern District of the Barbershop Harmony Society and co-sponsored by Harmony Foundation, Inc., Harmony, Inc., and Sweet Adelines International

General information and registration will be posted very soon, please go to:

<http://nedyih.groupanizer.com>

or Contact Antonio Lombardi, HXNE Director

hxcamp@nedyih.groupanizer.com



Society and District Notes



The Silk City Chorus Explores Pure Imagination

The 2015 Silk City Chorus Annual Show takes a twist that previous show attendees have probably never experienced. The performance by the host Silk City Chorus is entitled "I'm Your Puppet," an entertaining joint performance with students and faculty of the **University of Connecticut Puppet Arts Program**. The performance will feature students from the University's puppet arts program and unique puppets they have created just for this show. Many aspects of the art of puppetry will be featured as an artistic component of the host Silk City Chorus' musical performance.

The show will also feature medal-winning a cappella groups from different parts of the world. Guest quartet **Main Street**, 2014 International Third Place Bronze Medalist quartet, will join us from Florida as the featured quartet.

Their members, Mike McGee – Baritone, Myron Whittlesey – Bass, Tony DeRosa – Lead, and Roger Ross – Tenor, have been together since 2011. Their entertaining style harkens back to traditional barbershop harmony, with soft shoe dance, slapstick routines and nostalgic songs—tipping their hats to the turn-of-the-century song and dance men.

Also performing on the show will be "**Be S#arp**", the highly regarded a cappella group from Conard High School in West Hartford, CT.

There will be two performances of the entire show, with each of the featured performers: on Saturday, January 24th at 1:30 and 7:30 PM at Manchester High School, 134 Middle Turnpike East, Manchester, CT 06040.

All seating for both shows is reserved. Advance seating pricing are: Primary (front 4 rows): \$28.00; Secondary: \$23.00; Classic: \$20.00; Standard: \$17.00. Seating prices are \$3.00 higher at the door on the day of the show.

For tickets, please visit the chorus website:

<http://www.silkcitychorus.org/2015AnnualShow>,

Or call 860-298-8820, or write: Jerry Wistrom, 23 Country Club Drive, Windsor, CT 06095.

Attention Chapter Leaders

You can never learn enough to help you run your organization. There are always new ideas to aid your success.

ATTEND LEADERSHIP ACADEMY NORTHEAST !!

This year the academy is on January 17. Start off your weekend with the Friday evening House of Delegates meeting. Have a say in your District management, be an integral part of your District.

Then on Saturday take part in the class of your choice. There are classes for chapter presidents, treasurers, secretaries, Youth in Harmony coordinators, the Standing Ovation Program, and more. Learn about the new contest system and how to's from chapter organization to grants

Directors, assistant directors, section leaders - pick up new tips and ideas

SUPERCHARGE YOUR CHAPTER. Here's a chance to spend an entire day with Paul Ellinger.

REGISTER NOW:

www.nedistrict.org

Robert Bradley, DVP of Chapter Support and Leadership Training.

Leadership Academy Course Descriptions

Director's Workshop, with special guest educator **Adam Scott, Music Educator & Music Publications Dept. at BHS.** This year's Director's Workshop will expand to include all musical leaders in your chapter. It will be a mock chorus rehearsal allowing you to actively participate. You will have the opportunity to see our guest instructor in action as well as receive instruction for your specific role. Upon registration for this course, you will electronically receive a PDF and learning tracks of "All I Do Is Dream Of You" which will be used for our mock rehearsal. Please learn/familiarize yourself with your voice part for this workshop.

Supercharging Your Chapter, with special guest educator and director and... (well, his bio is kinda long...) **Paul Ellinger.** The growth arm of Supercharging Your Chapter! can be used on its' own or in conjunction with any recruitment program.

Supercharging Your Chapter! is built upon a sound, effective, simple approach which has been field tested and has chapters around the Society growing like they never thought possible. Supercharging Your Chapter! continues to create real growth and your chapter could be the next one to add to the momentum.

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Notes

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Supercharging Your Chapter! was designed to address the two "wants" that virtually every chapter has: to sing better and to grow! So, Supercharging Your Chapter! actually has two outreaches:

- a. Wavebox Singing (Seven Simple Steps to Better Barbershop - "It's about what to think, not about what to do")
- b. The Sparkplug of Growth (shows a chapter how to begin, maintain and perpetuate growth with no upper limit).

This course/class/seminar is NOT just for chapter membership folks! Send many or all of your chapter members! Open to anyone who wishes to assist in making the EXPERIENCE better for your chapter AND for your community! So come on over to Worcester and let's do this RIGHT!

SingingValentines.com

Hello all! I wanted to send out a quick note about the www.singingvalentines.com website, which I've also been sharing with any members who have been emailing me asking where it has gone.

A few months ago as a result of some general system maintenance, server migration, money-saving measures, etc, the service for the older www.singingvalentines.com website was killed. We still own the www.singingvalentines.com domain name, of course, but the actual service and the old database on which it ran was killed while we await to create a new match making service for 2015.

The old service, while conveniently free to use for all, was actually quite ineffective in its match-making purpose. Not all of our Society choruses and quartets even used (or signed up for) the service, and the actual searching mechanism for the end user was a bit clunky and at times, very inaccurate.

What we're going to do for just this year is implement a quick and short term solution. For this year only, we're going to build a new [singingvalentines.com](http://www.singingvalentines.com) front page that will simply link to our "Find A Society Chapter" and "Find a Society Quartet" page that we already have working on our public search page. We may also link to the Sweet Adelines database for all their choruses, and possibly Harmony Inc as well, since groups from both organizations have been active participants in the SV service.

In the past, we've typically only had maybe a few hundred groups total register each year which didn't provide very broad coverage for potential customers looking for quartets.

But this year, we're hoping that by utilizing our database of chapters/quartets that's already COMPLETELY populated, we'll be able to cast a wider net. And also, we're hoping that this will facilitate more engagement from our communities to be automatically connected with chapters in their area. Both SAI and HI also have fully-functionality chorus search mechanisms, so this will cast an even wider net right out of the gate, wider than we've ever come CLOSE to in the past.

This may take some of our non-participating chapters by surprise, but if so, even better! And for chapters who are already geared up for Valentines, then they'll be ready already. Chapters MAY want to log into their details in Ebiz to ensure that the Chapter Contact is the right phone number, email, etc, so that they don't miss a beat. But all chapters should already have contact info by default, regardless.

Again, this will only be a temporary solution for this year but hopefully things will go smoothly, and we're going to attempt to keep a close track of overall website behavior and see if we get more effective match-making this time around.

Thanks!

Eddie Holt, Web Developer, Barbershop Harmony Society.

National Music Festival Seeks A Cappella Groups

A cappella music is in the national spotlight as NBC's a cappella prime-time special, The Sing-Off, returns with six top a cappella groups competing to be this season's champions.

www.nbc.com/the-sing-off

The Harmony Sweepstakes A Cappella Festival was the inspiration for the show with Sony Pictures, the show's producers, filming our National Finals years back to help sell the concept to NBC. This will be our 31st annual season and we are so pleased to be a part of the current popularity of a cappella music.

We are now accepting applications from vocal groups of any style, age or experience for our 2015 season. We always like to support new groups who are trying something different as well as more traditional ensembles to everything in between.

If you have a great 10 minute set then we want to hear from you! Last year all our events sold out and a great time was had by all. So come join the fun, there's some great music to be sung.

<http://www.harmony-sweepstakes.com/>

Steve Salamin, District VP - Marketing & Public Relations

Ye Olde Joke Boarde



Submitted by the Unknown Barbershopper (with help from Nick Gordano and Jim Hopper)

One winter morning while listening to the radio, Bob, a barbershop baritone, and his wife hear the announcer say, "We are going to have 4-6 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the even numbered side of the street, so the snowplow can get through." So, Bob goes out and moves their car.

A week later, while Bob and his wife are eating breakfast, the radio announcer says, "We are expecting 6-8 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the odd numbered side of the street, so the snowplow can get through." So, Bob goes out and moves their car again.

The next week they are having breakfast again, when the radio announcer says, "We are expecting 8-10 inches of snow today. You must park..." then the electric power goes out.

Bob is very upset, and with a worried look on his face he says, "Honey, I don't know what to do. Which side of the street do I need to park on so the plow can get through?"

The wife then says, "Why don't you just leave it in the garage this time?"

• • •

Two barbershop baritones went deep into the woods searching for a Christmas tree. After hours in the cold and a few close calls with hungry wolves, one baritone turned to the other and said, "I'm chopping down the next tree I see. I don't care if it's decorated or not!"

• • •

An Englishman, a Scotsman, an Irishman, a Welshman, a Gurkha, a Latvian, a Turk, an Aussie, a German, a Yank, an Egyptian, a Asian, a Mexican, a Spaniard, a Russian, a Pole, a Lithuanian, a Jordanian, a Kiwi, a Swede, a Finn, a Canadian, an Israeli, a Romanian, a Bulgarian, a Serb, a Swiss, a Greek, a Singaporean, an Italian, a Norwegian, an Argentinian, a Libyan, a Muslim, a Hindu, a Buddhist and an African went to a night club. The bouncer said, "Sorry, I can't let you in without a Thai."

Current Mad Hatter Repertoire

Regular Repertoire

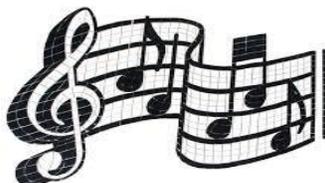
Almost Like Being In Love
Breaking Up Is Hard To Do
I Don't Know Why (I Just Do)
Crazy Little Thing Called Love
Fun In Just One Lifetime
Happy Together
It's Only A Paper Moon
On The Sunny Side Of The Street
Shenandoah
At the Gas Station of Love, I Got the
Self Service Pump)
They Say It's Wonderful
Where is Love?

Patriotic/Inspirational

Armed Forces Salute
Auld Lang Syne
God Bless America
I Believe
Star-Spangled Banner
This Land Is Your Land/America The
Beautiful Medley
Come out of the Wheatfield Nellie,
You're Going Against the Grain

Coming Soon

Beach Boys Medley
Blue Velvet
Bye Bye, Love
Come Go With Me
Daydream
Long and Winding Road
Tonight, Tonight
How Deep Is The Ocean
Moonlight Brings Memories
Sentimental Gentleman From Georgia
59th Street Bridge Song (Feeling
Groovy)
50's Rock and Roll Medley



The Danbury, CT Chapter SPEBSQSA

104 Lexington Blvd.
Bethel, CT 06801
203-744-9480

President:	Danny Anderson
Musical Director:	Joseph Hudson
Assistant Director:	Wynn Gadkar-Wilcox
Director Emeritus:	Don Sutherland
Membership VP:	Andy Bayer
Public Relations VP:	Al Paparesta
Music VP:	Jim Hopper
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Treasurer:	Dickson DeMarche
Program VP	Vacant
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Member at Large:	Wynn Gadkar-Wilcox
Immediate Past President	Robert Bradley
Uniform Chairman:	Andy Bayer
Harmony Foundation	
Chairman:	Danny Anderson
Music Librarian:	Peter Daubner
Sunshine Chairman:	Don Smith Package
Show Chairman:	Dick Walter
Chorus Manager:	Robert Golenbock

The Hatter Chatter

Serving the Mad Hatter community since last Tuesday

John Bradley, hatter editor editor 39 Beekman Drive Lake Carmel, NY 10512 Jbrad1313@earthlink.net	Dick Zang, chatter editor 2 Camelot Crest Sandy Hook, CT 06482 jezang@charter.net
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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

January Milestones

Birthdays:

- 1 - Andy Bayer
- 4 - Pat Sutherland
- 4 - Craig Johnson
- 6 - Charlie Rosa
- 6 - Don Smith
- 15 - Lee Smeriglio
- 30 - Chuck Kreiger

Wedding Anniversaries:

- 14 - Bill and Gloria Keenan



Mark Your Calendars

Performance

First Night Danbury. Wednesday, December 31. St. James Episcopal Church, 25 West Street, Danbury, CT. Warm-up 6:30 PM. Sing 7:00 – 7:45 PM.

Installation Dinner

Tuesday, January 13. Nick's Restaurant and Catering, 4 Starr Street, Danbury, CT. 7:15 PM.

Coaching Session

Tuesday, January 20, Church of Christ, 90 Clapboard Ridge Rd., Danbury, CT. 7:15 pm.

Singing Valentines

Friday, February 13 and Saturday, February 14. Details to be announced.

Performance

Saturday, March 14, St. Paul Episcopal Church, 802 Bantam Road, Bantam, CT (44 Minutes from The Church of Christ). Warmup 2:30 PM, sing 3:00 PM.

**2015 Fall
DISTRICT
CONVENTION**

BURLINGTON, VT Oct. 16-18

2015 Northeastern District
Fall Convention & Contests
Friday & Saturday, October 16-17
Burlington, Vermont

More Information - Not even soon - yet!

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**Saturday, January 17th, 2015
at Worcester State University**