



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

August 2011

Chorus Croons at Country Fair

By John Bradley

Along with pie contests, games, a talent show, rides, a plant sale, live music and various animal and livestock shows, the Danbury Mad Hatter Barbershop Chorus appeared at the 40th annual Putnam County 4-H Fair on Saturday, July 30, at the Putnam County Veterans Memorial Park in Kent, NY.

Fourteen chorus members performed to a small but enthusiastic crowd in the Shady Grove Theater. Some of the veteran chorus members tried to determine how many years the chorus had performed at the event. The best guess was that this was our 11th year.



Putnam County 4-H Fair

The fair started out as a community service project for the local 4-H Clubs back in 1971. With the help of the Cornell Cooperative Extension, the fair's sponsor, the 4-H clubs got together to showcase their various technical and agricultural projects.

In the early 1970's, Putnam County's countryside still hosted many local farms, and the fairgrounds were basically a dirt road and a field. Over the next forty years the fairgrounds changed along with the county. Barns were added along with horse rings, the Shady Grove Theater and a paved road.

But the community has worked hard to retain the fair's country charm and provide children and adults with a reminder of the area's rural past.



Passers-by stop to watch the Mad Hatter sing

"The weather was almost perfect, and we actually started on time," said bass Dick Zang. "Most of the audience was to our left, sitting in the shade. It was a little strange singing to a hillside of empty benches."

"We sang pretty well," added music director, Joe Hudson, "although there were some interesting and unique chords from time to time."

At one point in the Mad Hatters' performance, a contingent of fair volunteers in Revolutionary War costume decided to demonstrate the firing of their muskets for a group of youngsters.

"We've sung to Ben Franklin and to farm animals at this fair," said chorus raconteur, Bob Bradley, "but this is the first time we've been shot at. The audience usually waits until we are finished singing before they open fire."



In Memorium

By Dick Zang

The Mad Hatters mourned the passing of three close friends this month.

Terry Dunkle, bass with the chorus and Rare Occasion, and his wife, Mary, lost their son John, on June 29. John, who was just 30 years old, had attended Danbury High School and WestConn and was a computer programmer.

The chorus took part in the memorial service on July 6 held at the King Street United Church of Christ, singing "Amazing Grace," "The Lord's Prayer," and "What A Friend We Have In Jesus." Chorus members contributed to the Travel Abroad Scholarship Fund at Danbury High School in John's name.



John Dunkle

Ray Wixted, former Danbury chorus director, sent word that Sid Greer, a charter member of the Mad Hatters, passed away on July 24 at his home in Vero Beach, Florida.

Sid was the bass in Ray's first quartet called the Nutmeggers Four for almost five years. Bob Bartley was the lead, Paul Wallich was baritone and Ray sang tenor. At one point they were the only quartet in the state of Connecticut, so they were called on many times to sing at sing-outs with other chapters and were one of the few chapter quartets to make money.

Sid continued as a Society member after moving south.



Sid Greer

Lou Christos, who sang tenor with the Mad Hatters in the 1990's and early 2000's, passed away on July 17. The chorus was invited by the family to sing at his wake on July 20 at the Cornell Funeral Home in Danbury

We had a good showing and were reinforced by a friend of Lou's who is a member of the Westchester Chordsmen. The family was clearly moved by our singing of "The Lord's Prayer" and "Amazing Grace."



Quartet Corner

News from our chorus quartets

Rare Occasion – By Fred Baran

On Thursday, June 9, we entertained about 60 ladies and a half dozen men at a luncheon for the Ladies Auxiliary of the Salvation Army on Foster Street in Danbury. We sang for about a half hour and really made a connection with our audience, many of whom were our contemporaries.

Many audience members sang along as we performed our repertoire, mixing up-tempo swing tunes and ballads. They rewarded us for our *pro bono* performance with a delicious lunch and a beautiful plaque, which we plan to hang at the church. We passed out our business cards and received two bookings for upcoming gigs from this appearance, and had the opportunity to advertise both the Annual Show and the Singing Valentines Program for the chorus. We really enjoyed singing for this group of music lovers.

On Saturday evening June 11, we sang at a 50th Birthday Party at La Fortuna Restaurant in Bethel.. There we about 35 people in the private room and our performance was very well received.

Our hostess was Cynthia Cornelius, a Brookfield podiatrist who we first had the pleasure of singing for this past Valentine's Day. She has since hired us twice to sing at birthday parties for her friends, and we really appreciate her support for our group. We encouraged the men in the audience to come to one of our rehearsals and take some free singing lessons. You never know where the next new singer may come from.

On Sunday afternoon, June 19, Father's Day, we performed for a crowd of about 50 people celebrating the 60th birthday of Dennis Janofsky, owner of Quality Gem Jewelry in Bethel. The party was held at Bennett Park picnic grounds in Bethel and the weather was perfect. We sang about 15 or 16 songs, from 3-4 pm, and were very encouraged by the music lovers in the crowd who seemed to really enjoy our songs.

While we were unable to perform all the songs the audience requested, I think we provided a pretty good cross-section of musical selections from our repertoire, which is constantly being expanded.

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Quartets

Continued from the previous page

We sang the haunting ballad "Mam'selle" for the first time to an outside audience and it seemed to go over very well. We also attempted to recruit a few men in the audience to attend a chorus rehearsal.



Rare Occasion singing to Dennis Janofsky at his 60th Birthday Party. Photo by Julie Janofsky

Travelling Men – By Danny Anderson

The Travelling Men have lived up to their name this month. Our individual travels have taken us to Panama, India, Canada, North and South Carolina, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, and the Dakotas. If only we could spend as much time practicing as we have traveling. We plan to attend Harmony College, to obtain coaching.



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

Fellow Hatters:

Thank you again for making the music so special at my son's funeral -- and for all your individual kindnesses as well.

Mary, Bill, Tom, and I will be making a contribution to the Mad Hatters in John's memory.

Although I've never heard the Hatters sing better, one funeral guest -- my two-year-old great-nephew, Noah Dunkle -- is apparently not a barbershop fan. This is what I saw when I turned to watch you sing "The Lord's Prayer."

Terry Dunkle



I heard your chorus sing recently at the Putnam County 4-H Fair. You really sounded great. I'd love to be able to sing with a group, I've been told I have a good voice, but I get really scared in front of a group of people. Do you ever get stage fright?

Cal in Carmel

Thanks for writing to us, Cal. Yes, I do sometimes get nervous before performing, even though I've been performing and speaking to groups for most of my life. After one barbershop contest, a judge told me my leg was shaking so much he thought the wind was blowing across the stage.

I've read a lot about dealing with stage fright. Imagining people in their underwear doesn't work; in fact, it can be scary, especially when performing for a group of fellow barbershoppers (not a real goodlooking bunch).

I've found feeling completely prepared helps me. I try to know my words and music as best I can, feel confident with any choreography and moves, and, most importantly, know who I can look at and blame if I make a mistake.

Repertoire Notes

"Please, Mr Columbus (Turn the Ship Around)"

Lou Monte (1917 - 1989), born Louis Scaglione, composed "Please, Mr Columbus." He was an Italian-American singer best known for a number of best-selling, Italian-themed novelty records, such as "Pizza Boy-U.S.A. (The Italian Cowboy Song)" and "Shadda Up You Face," which he recorded for both RCA Records and Reprise Records in the late 1950's and early 1960's.

Monte's first big hit came in 1954, with the release of his version of "Darktown Strutters' Ball."

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Repertoire

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In 1962, Monte released his first million-seller, "Pepino the Italian Mouse," which was awarded a gold disc. "Please, Mr Columbus" appeared on this recording.

Sung in a pastiche of both Calabrese and English, "Pepino the Italian Mouse" tells the humorous tale of a mischievous mouse who lives within the walls of a man's kitchen and who comes out at night to eat cheese, drink wine, frighten Lou's girlfriend when she comes over and befriends the cat sent out to catch him.

Monte's third verse and chorus of "Please, Mr. Columbus," differs from the Society's version the Mad Hatters perform.

"And then one day they sighted land
just off the starboard side
Columbus said "I told you so the journey's over now"
An Indian shouted from the shore,
(le petanta u pizza pan)
Luigi turned around and said,
(hey, doosie putta Italiano)

Please Mr. Columbus, don't take me back no more
I'm gonna stay right here
and make the chief my father in law
I'm glad you tella Isabella that the world is round
I don't know where we are
but there's paisanos all around."

Groupanizer Instructions

By Lyle LaPlante

Groupanizer is a powerful tool for our chapter, and everyone who has anything but an antique computer can and should learn to use it.

Once you've got it down, you can make learning CDs, print back up sheet music, check performance schedules, get a member's phone, email and slow mail addresses and many other things.

For those who haven't called me, for whatever reason, on my earlier offer of help, I have tried to outline below how to get started. Try it on your own and call me if things aren't working. I'm not a computer whiz, but I did figure it out for my computer, so maybe I can help you as well.

Groupanizer instructions:

1. Get your password from Bob Golenbock for initial sign in (Later on you can change your password to something you prefer, but this will get you started).
2. The site address is madhatters.groupanizer.com
3. Sign in. Your screen name is the initial of your first name followed by your last name. for me it would be "llaplante."

4. Explore the site to view all the resources.
5. To get sheet music and learning tracks, go to "repertoire" at the top. You will find all of the present and new songs as well as some of the oldies.
6. Click on any of the songs and you will find info on the song and a list in blue of the tracks(mp3 file) and sheet music (pdf file) available.
7. To listen to a track or view the sheet music, simply left click on same.
8. To get sheet music or a learning track into you computer, right click on the blue words. Sheet music is the pdf file and the learning tracks are labeled by part as an mp3 file
9. When you right click, there will appear a menu with the option "save target as..."
10. left click on this option, and you will be prompted with a screen (Save As) to choose where to save it. I generally save mine in a folder labeled "barbershop" in the "my documents" folder , but most Windows versions have a "My Documents" or a "My Music". Whatever you prefer.
11. When you have the Folder you want, at the top of the "Save As" screen in the "Save In" box, simply press Save at the bottom of the screen and the sheet music or learning track is now on your computer.
12. You can print the sheet music by opening that file and executing the print command when the file comes up. (The pdf file should open in MS Word. but if you don't have this, you can fiddle to find the right program for your computer.
13. If you want to put a group of learning tracks on CD, you can use Windows Media Player. If the tracks you downloaded from Groupanizer are not already in this program, (or another program such as iTunes if you use that), you can import them into the program library from wherever you put the files for the tracks.
14. Create a playlist of the tracks you want to make a CD for and then proceed to burn your CD.
15. I found that some versions of Windows Media Player will only burn CD-R, NOT CD-RW

I'm not familiar with Apple systems, but hopefully most of the above will apply. If you have problems, give me a call at 203-744-7535.

Are We Having Fun Yet?

By Lyle LaPlante, Program VP

We get together on Tuesday nights to have fun – mainly through singing but also by being with a bunch of great guys. If we didn't have fun, we wouldn't be there as often as we can make it.

Sometimes, rehearsing can seem like work. But just as an athlete by training comes to enjoy his sport, we should look at the "work" part of our meetings as helping us to enjoy the product of our efforts – a good sound which is enjoyable to us and to our audiences.

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The President's Podium

By Danny Anderson

July was a busy month for the chapter with sing outs, singing for funerals, practices and for many, days of vacations.

This month we have had visitors almost every week, and for that we are thankful and hope that this will continue.

Thanks to those who attended and sang for the funeral of Terry's son. John did enjoy the barbershop style of music. Thanks also to those who contributed funds for the memorial fund being set up in memory of John. Once again this shows how much we care for one another.

A couple of weeks ago we had a visitor from the District staff. He remarked several times how the chorus appeared to enjoy singing and to enjoy one another's company.

Joe attended Harmony College this month. We have spoken a couple of times, and it is apparent that he has learned a great deal and is excited about sharing what he has learned with the chorus.

In August we have the opportunity to attend Harmony College. The last couple of years our chapter has been well represented. People have remarked to me about the number of green shirts they see during the meal and at social gatherings. They know that DANBURY is there!

The classes, coaching, socializing and singing get better each year. This year's program should be even better than last year's. Plan to attend and stay for Saturday night's show.

Tuesday, following Harmony College, we will have our second coaching session with Joe Hunter. These sessions are beneficial for all members' whether you plan on going to competition or not. We will be using many of the techniques Joe is teaching us in all of our performances.

Excitement is growing as we prepare for our annual show. The date of the show is November 12, and it is being held once again at Brookfield High School. Dick Zang is our show chairman this year. He and others working with him have prepared our show flyer. I would encourage each member to begin planning NOW where they might place several flyers.

A place we can all display one is in the rear window of our cars, on the driver's side. These can be seen by other drivers and by pedestrians as they walk by our cars in parking lots.

Our goal again this year is for our ad sales for the program book to pay for all the expenses we will incur with the show. Should this happen again, then the ticket sales will be "profit." With that being said, begin planning who you will contact to sell ads.

We are blessed to have a few men who sell the vast majority of the ads for the program book. I am thankful for their work. Just think how great it would be if each of us sold a couple of ads.

I know that the summer months are busy for all of us, with travel, family and many other events. Our attendance at practices has been discouraging and the attendance for sing-outs has been poor. The last two sing-outs we did NOT have a registered quartet to perform, we had to mix and match to form quartets. What makes it worse is that people commit to coming to the sing-out and then do not appear. This makes it difficult to plan the songs to perform. Too often we do not have the balance between voice parts.

Dick Walter works hard at finding venues at which we can perform. He announces the event well in advance so we can mark our calendars and NOT have a scheduling conflict. We need to be better at keeping these dates clear and be in attendance.

We also need to improve our attendance at weekly practice. The lead section seems to never have the same people in attendance from week to week. Each week we have to spend time teaching again what was learned the previous week.

We need to come to practice prepared to sing the songs Joe has announced when he sends out the agenda for the night. We each have Grouponizer available to us where we can listen to the old and new songs selected for that evening practice.

We need to come to practice to refine the songs NOT to learn the music. Not being prepared hurts the chorus and stops us from going forward.

Fun?

Continued from the previous page

And, our singing is a team activity, so to make it fun for all members of the team, we owe it to the rest of the team to do as good a job as each of us can.

This of course means outside practice, so that when we sing together we can all enjoy the sound we produce. I can't overemphasize the need for outside practice, but be careful to practice the right words and notes. Listen to those learning tracks, sing softly and be sure you are hitting the right notes with the right words.

But chapter meetings don't have to be all "work." We presently have 2 ½ hours of meeting time. Society guidelines for Program VPs suggest that two of these hours should be devoted to the director for rehearsal of music as he sees the need. Of the remaining half-hour, we need some break time and time to conduct chapter business. So we still have 15 minutes to fool around with tags and impromptu quartet singing.

Everybody should find enjoyment in the chapter meetings. Let me know what you would like to see us doing that we aren't doing at present, keeping in mind that we have time constraints. We are a performance chorus, so we need to devote most of the time to being able to give our audiences a creditable performance. But we should still find enjoyment (fun?) in preparing and performing.

July Board of Directors Meeting Minutes



Submitted electronically without any expectation of gratitude or remuneration by Robert Golenbock, Secretary.

Meeting called to order by Andy “Danny? Danny Who?” Bayer at 6:06pm on July 5, 2001 at the Church of Christ.

SECRETARY’S REPORT was widely publicized in last month’s *Hatter Chatter*, a source that none of the Board members has apparently read yet.

TREASURER’S REPORT: We will look into how to maximize our maturing CD at Newtown Savings Bank. Often the value of keeping our money at a bank that buys a show ad outweighs the value of a low-interest CD. Motion to receive the treasurer’s report by R. Golenbock and seconded by R. Walter was approved.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: No new members No new prospects. We are officially at 37 members, but we average 18-20 at rehearsals and sing-outs. Andy suggested that we need to survey those who don’t show up regularly. Andy will draft some questions and collaborate with Danny and Joe. After the Board approves the survey, Joe will send it out. Another survey we might send to the entire membership would question the optimal starting and ending times for our rehearsals.

VP PUBLIC RELATIONS: Advertsing for the show starts in August. We need to do better at selling tickets. Also we need to advertise to other chapters. Dick Walter suggested we emulate the Manchester flyer and use the back side to give explicit information about ordering tickets. Other issues to be dealt with: the possibility of ordering tickets over the internet, the possibility of purchasing reserved seating, the availability of flyers to bring to Harmony College.

We need to try the singing lessons again. Jim Hopper recommended sending flyers to area churches the next time we advertise.

MUSIC COMMITTEE: Qualifications for contest can run the gamut from “Everybody goes, no questions asked” to “Strict qualifications – no more than two wrong notes and two wrong words while singing your part in the chorus”. There is a middle ground wherein we can offer everyone the opportunity to learn the contest songs and choreography and offer assistance to those who are not quite ready in the opinion of the Director and the Section Leaders. This more subjective approach would also be less threatening to people who don’t do well when put on the spot. Consistent attendance would also be taken into account.

On the subject of consistency, Joe explained that he could develop more consistent seating and riser placement if attendance were more consistent.

A final subject of the Music Committee was a discussion of the theme for the Annual Show of 2012 so that music (including unused music we have already purchased) could be chosen for the coming year.

OLD BUSINESS: In a brief Board meeting last Tuesday we agreed to ask Men in Black to be on our annual show this year. We are hopeful that they will be available. Uniforms: Shirt samples will be arriving soon. Dick Zang submitted an interim report for the Annual Show. The report was received gratefully by the Board members, and not just because they were running out of places to doodle. Jimmy Hopper will be investigating alternate venues for the Afterglow.

NEW BUSINESS: In view of the lateness of the hour a discussion about making CD/DVD demo was tabled.

OFFICERS PRESENT: L. LaPlante, D. DeMarche, P. W. Herman, D. McKee, DelaWalter, O’Hudson, MacBayer, N’Golenbock, DelKreiger.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm. Next meeting August 2, 2011.

August Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Respectfully submitted in absentia by Robert Golenbock, Secretary

Meeting called to order by Danny “Auf Flugeln des Gesanges” Anderson at 6:12pm on August 3, 2011 at the Church of Christ.

SECRETARY’S REPORT was handed out and accepted on a motion by Dick Walter, seconded by Lyle LaPlante. The secretary himself was unaccountably absent. Apparent time zone shifts had rendered him more than usually confused.

TREASURER’S REPORT: The report was received on a motion by Dickson DeMarche, seconded by Dick Walter.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: The Board discussed the problem of attendance and how to get members to show up regularly.

MUSIC COMMITTEE: We are trying to identify the appropriate number of new songs our chorus can comfortably learn in one year so we can spend time on repertoire during meetings and have polished singouts.

OLD BUSINESS: We are preparing simultaneously for the annual show and the district contest.

NEW BUSINESS: It’s time to have new Board elections. Joe will read the slates and ask for candidates.

OFFICERS PRESENT: D. Anderson, R. Walter, L. LaPlante, D. McKee, C. Kreiger, D. DeMarche, A. Roberts, J. Hopper.

Meeting adjourned at 7:26pm. Next meeting 09/06/2011.

Three Things



After each coaching session, music director Joe Hudson asks the members in attendance to submit three things they learned that can help continue to move the chorus forward.

Here is a compilation of the “three things” submitted by the Mad Hatters after July’s coaching session with Joe Hunter.

1. We all still need to focus better on listening to the tuning note being sounded (without humming anything while it's being blown!)

2. Before "oooing" the tuning note, start the air flowing out before making the sound (this requires some practicing) .

3. Practice hitting the note exactly as I heard it. "Nail it!" (not flat, not under, not sharp, not over, make it precisely right!) Then have someone else listen to me do this.

4. Regarding Joe Hudson's 2nd point : One of the things I never knew was that someone in the baritone section understood Chinese !

Chuck Kreiger

1. The triplets in the middle section of "Sunny Side" should slow down on the backbeat and be smooth rather than rushed.

2. If the tuneup isn't right, we shouldn't proceed until it is.

3. Being forced to critique one-on-one the singing of someone else in the chorus, while provoking anxiety, is useful.

Wynn Gadkar-Wilcox

1. Find support level at tune up.

2. Keep up energy levels

3. Come out with intent

Ed Feinberg

1. At the start of a song, place hands in pockets during the tune up to show the despair then begin removing the hands and building enthusiasm as we crescendo on the word “song.” of a measures, then reset.

3. When holding a note, make it do something,

Danny Anderson

1. Moves should show intent

2. Work on avoiding flatting (not a short form of flatulation!)

3. Sell the message

Lyle LaPlante

1. Moves should be smooth and natural, not robotic.

2. When we're having fun, the audience is having fun.

3. We must work to maintain musicality as we move through our steps.

Nick Godano

1. Intro to "Sunny Side" will begin with hands going into our pockets and heads facing down center during the tune-up.

2. Baritones, be slightly sharper on the Chinese 7th chords.

3. Every "gezouta" (coming out of a move) should have a purpose beside getting out of the move.

Joseph P. Hudson

1. Moves are not inserts in the presentation. They are phases of a single, flowing presentation.

2. When resetting after a move don't rock back and forth - that adds a confusing element that is distracting.

3. Convince the audience we are having fun and enjoy singing for them.

4. Know where your cell phone is at all times.

Dick Zang





Society and District Notes



808-258-0029

*

rwmccurdy@comcast.net

District Barbershopper of the Year

Now is the time we start the process of looking for the next Northeastern District "Barbershopper of the Year" (NED BOTY). We will also be accepting nominees for the NED "Barbershopper of Distinction". (NED BOD).

If you know of someone who has gone above and beyond for the District, please email me their name and the reason why you think they should be honored as the NED BOTY or NED BOD.

The nominees will be reviewed by past NED BOTY recipients and the honoree will be announced at the fall contest. Don't delay, as we will need to make a decision by mid September so that we may have everything in place for the October presentation.

In harmony,
Steve Isherwood, Current NED BOTY

Director Sought

The Poughkeepsie New Yorkers Chorus, celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2011, is seeking a dynamic, barbershop savvy, go-getter to direct us as we strive to increase membership and improve our level of music and performance.

The New Yorkers, a small 18-man chorus located in the central Hudson Valley, produce an annual show and present several paid and gratis performances a year. We compete at the division and district levels, with the New Yorkers having won the Yankee Division Small Chorus Award in 2010.

The New Yorkers have a strong chapter leadership that is actively engaged in attracting new members and developing the music and performance skills of the chorus.

Interested individuals should provide a resume and contact information to Steve Miller (smiller@badey-watson.com).

Scott Salladin, Phone 845-790-3339, Cell: 845-337-8935
Toll Free: 877-595-7601, email: scott.salladin@gmail.com

Come to the Bass River Barbershop Bash

Saturday, September 17, my house - 114 Mayflower Terrace,
So. Yarmouth, MA 02664

Come early, stay late. Bring your quartet or put one together here and go on the show that nite at the Cape Cod Cultural Center, South Yarmouth, right down the road from the house, where Downtown Crossing will be headlining.

Kayaking, chord ringing, woodshedding, fishing, eating, imbibing. Quahoag chowdah, baked stuffies, burgers and dogs, beer and soft drinks. You want something different? Bring it along

I would appreciate a heads up if you're coming so the food/drink can be on hand.

Ross on the Cape
<http://on.fb.me/bassriverbash>

The 2011 NED Fall Convention is Coming.

This announcement is to welcome all qualifiers to officially register and enter the fall district contests. Here are the details for this great event:

Date: October 21-22, 2011

Host: Springfield, MA chapter: Pioneer Valley Chordsmen

Venue: Edward Bellamy Middle School, 314 Pendleton Avenue, Chicopee, MA.

HQ Hotel: Sheraton Springfield Monarch Hotel, One Monarch Place, Springfield, MA 01144 (8 miles from contest venue).

The convention will included our annual Northeastern District championships for quartets (including senior) and choruses, plus the International Preliminary Qualifier for choruses and senior quartets. Very Large Quartets (VLQs) will compete right after the choruses. The usual awards for novice, most improved, plateaus, and the Great Small Chorus Champion will be announced.

To register for the competitions, go on-line to the BHS site and select "Members Only," and find the tab for "Contest Entry" at the top of the page.

Indicate the sessions for which you are qualified. Completing this will cause a form "CJ-20" to be sent to me, from which I will confirm your selections

Steve Plumb, NED VP of Contest and Judging
plumbbari@cs.com



Ye Olde Joke Boarde

Submitted by the Unknown Barbershopper

A very large, old, building was being torn down in Chicago to make room for a new skyscraper. Due to its proximity to other buildings it could not be imploded and had to be dismantled floor by floor. While working on the 49th floor, two construction workers found a skeleton in a small closet behind the elevator shaft. They decided that they should call the police. When the police arrived they directed them to the closet and showed them the skeleton fully clothed and standing upright. They said, "This could be Jimmy Hoffa or somebody really important."

Two days went by and the construction workers couldn't stand it anymore; they had to know who they had found. They called the police and said, "We are the two guys who found the skeleton in the closet and we want to know if it was Jimmy Hoffa or somebody important."

The police said, "It's not Jimmy Hoffa, but it was somebody kind of important."

"Well, who was it?"

"The 1956 Barbershop Baritone National Hide-and-Seek Champion."

• • •

A barbershop baritone walks into a doctor's office and says, "Doc, I'm horribly sick!"

The doctor looks at him and asks, "Flu?"

"No, I drove here."



Current Mad Hatter Repertoire

Performance

Breaking Up Is Hard To Do
Give My Regards To Broadway
Goodnight Sweetheart
Heart
Hey, Look Me Over
If I Loved You
Loch Lomond
Lullaby In Ragtime
Over The Rainbow
Please, Mr. Columbus
Thanks For The Memory
There Is Nothing Like A Dame
Mixed Up Bull From Palermo

Patriotic/Inspirational

Amazing Grace
God Bless America

I Believe
Lord's Prayer
Star-Spangled Banner
This Land Is Your Land Medley
You'll Never Walk Alone

Contest

Five Foot Two, Eyes Of Blue
On The Sunny Side Of The Street

In Progress/Upcoming

Who Stole My Provolone
Armed Forces Medley
Bare Necessities
Blue Skies
Can You Feel The Love Tonight
How Deep Is The Ocean
My Honey's Lovin' Arms
River Of No Return

Shenandoah
Ten Feet Off The Ground
They Say It's Wonderful
When You And I Were Young,
Maggie



"He who sings
scares away
his woes"

Miguel de Cervantes
Saavedra

The Danbury, CT Chapter SPEBSQSA

PO Box 5149
Brookfield, CT 06804-5149

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

The Hatter Chatter

Serving the Mad Hatter community since last Tuesday

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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

July Milestones

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 Milestones

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

Joe Hunter coaching sessions:

Tuesday August 16

Tuesday September 20

Butch Ashdown coaching session:

Saturday September 17

These nights, we will focus on "Five Foot Two" and "On The Sunny Side Of The Street."

September 11: Chapter Sing-out. United Jewish Center, 141 Deer Hill Ave., Danbury, CT. Warmup 3:00 PM, sing 3:30 - 4:30 PM.

October 16: Chapter Sing-out. Monroe Town Public Library, 7 Fan Hill Rd. #1, Monroe, CT. Warmup 1:30 PM, sing 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM.

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

Northeastern District Fall District Convention & Contests

October 21 & 22, 2011
Springfield, Massachusetts

Host Chapter:

Pioneer Valley Chordsmen, Springfield, MA

Venue: Edward Bellamy Middle School, 314 Pendleton Avenue, Chicopee, MA.

HQ Hotel: Sheraton Springfield Monarch Hotel