

Editor: Linda Williams

E-mail: lindaw23@injersey.com**HARMONIZER SPRING 2000 SCHEDULE***make sure to confirm (sign-up sheets) performances*

Tue	Mar 28	Rehearsal	Elks Bldg	7:30 p.m.
Fri	Mar 31	Coaching	—	8-10 p.m.
Sat	Apr 1	Youth Festival	NHRHS	9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Tue	Apr 4	Rehearsal	Elks Bldg	7:30 p.m.
Mon	Apr 10	Music Team Mtg	TBD	7:30 p.m.
Tue	Apr 11	Regular rehearsal	Elks Bldg	7:30 p.m.
Mon	Apr 17	Board Meeting	8 Main	7:30 p.m.
Tue	Apr 18	Regular rehearsal	Elks Bldg	7:30 p.m.
Tue	Apr 25	Regular rehearsal	Elks Bldg	7:30 p.m.
Sat-Sun	Apr 29-30	Retreat or special practice	TBD	
Mon	May 1	Music Team Meeting	TBD	7:30 p.m.
Tue	May 2	Regular rehearsal	Elks Bldg	7:30 p.m.
Weds	May 8	Visit to Princeton	Duh...	
Tue	May 9	Regular rehearsal	Elks Bldg	7:30 p.m.
Fri-Sat	May 12-13	Division Contest/Convention	Parsippany, NJ	
Mon	May 15	Board Meeting	8 Main	7:30 p.m.
Tue	May 16	Regular rehearsal	Elks Bldg	7:30 p.m.
Weds	May 17	Hunterdon Cty Business Expo	St. Magdalen's Church	
Tue	May 23	Regular rehearsal	Elks Bldg	7:30 p.m.
Mon	May 29	March in Memorial Day Parade	Flemington	
Tue	May 30	Regular rehearsal	Elks Bldg	7:30 p.m.
Tue	June 6, 13, 20	Regular rehearsal	Elks Bldg	7:30 p.m.
Sat	June 24	Beaux Arts 2000	Deer Path Park	
Tue	June 27	National Anthem at Somerset Patriots	Baseball Field	6:30 p.m.
Sat	Aug 26	Harmonizers Picnic	Deer Path Park	11:30 a.m.-
Fri-Sat	Oct 6-7	District Convention	Wildwood, NJ	

HARMONY TIDBITS

Beaux Arts, 2000—We will be putting on a Barbershop Demo at Deer Path Park on June 24. We'll need support to make a good impression. Come on out and support a good cause—sponsored by Hunterdon Arts Alliance.

A Harmonizer 2001 Odyssey—The Hunterdon Harmonizers are booked for 2001 to be the Practice Chorus for Harmony College East on June 14-16, 2001, in Salisbury, Maryland at Salisbury State University. Great opportunity to get intense coaching over a great social and educational weekend. **BOOK THE DATE NOW!!** (Is this advance notice or what?)

Hunterdon County Business Expo will be on May 17, 2000, at St. Magdalen's. The Hunterdon Harmonizers will have a booth at this locally supported event. We had a great time singing and selling our craft last year. Look out for signup/singing opportunities to assist in this all-day affair.

PRELIMS WERE GREAT (says all who attended). BSQ was #1, trailed by Premier. Freddie King filled in as Premier's baritone, becoming the first person ever to qualify for international competition in SIX DECADES . . . Oriole 4 in 1959!!

QUARTETS—Have you registered for divisions?

COLLEGE DAYS—The Hunterdon Harmonizers hosted

two College A Capella Groups over the past several weeks. The Accidentals from the University of Georgia joined the Harmonizers at our March 7 meeting and really impressed us with their close harmony and exuberance. The following week, the Xtension Chords from U of Illinois appeared on WDVR (hosted by Dick Taylor for the Hunterdon Harmonizers). Special thanks to Jim Knight for room and board for both ensembles—hospitality above and beyond!! We're now a regular stop on their tour routes!!

MAY 8 VISIT TO PRINCETON—We're going down to visit our neighbors to do our Contest package (they will reciprocate) just before our Contest weekend!! This is a WIN-WIN!!

The Vocal Instrument . . .

To begin with let's quickly review the process of singing, beginning with a description of the five main parts of the vocal instrument: the power and control (breathing) muscles; the vibrators; resonators; articulators; and regulators.

THE BREATHING MUSCLES

The largest and principle breathing muscle is the diaphragm. There are secondary breathing muscles in the rib area and abdomen that work with the diaphragm in the inhalation/exhalation process. The lungs rest on the diaphragm, a rubbery muscle that divides the chest from the abdominal cavity. On inhalation, the singer lets the diaphragm flatten (drop) and the rib cage expand, allowing the lungs (especially the bottom parts) expand and fill with air. On exhalation, the diaphragm is carefully controlled in its return to its original shape by the intercostal rib cage muscles and the abdominal muscles, allowing a small, steady stream of air to flow through the windpipe and vibrate the vocal folds, which are in the larynx ("Adam's Apple"), sitting on top of the windpipe.

VIBRATORS—THE VOCAL FOLDS

The vocal folds, sometimes called cords, are made of very elastic tissue and are something like an extra pair of lips running horizontally from fore to aft just behind the front point of the "Adam's Apple." During breathing, the folds are open in a V shape (wide part in the back of the larynx). The brain sends a signal to the muscles that make the folds open (the glottis), tense and vibrate. For proper sound production, the vibration occurs on the exhalation of the air stream. The breath comes through the glottis before phonation begins, hence the term "sing on the breath" and the thought of placing an "h" in front of every tone. The whole vocal mechanism works at split-second speed when the brain gives the order. With exhalation and the brain's command, the vocal folds produce the *initial* sound for tone production. The pitch of the tone is controlled by the intrinsic muscles of the larynx itself, and those muscles are controlled in terms of the effects

they produce (thus, by the ear). (There are extrinsic muscles that pull between the larynx and various outside attachment points, such as the jaw and breastbone. These muscles can distort the production of pitch, thus the jaw must not be raised or lowered during singing.)

RESONATORS—THE HEAD CAVITIES

As with any instrument, a sounding board or resonating area is needed to intensify, enrich and amplify the initial sound produced; in this case, by the tiny stream of air vibrating the vocal folds. The primary resonators for the singer are the throat (pharynx), mouth and nasal cavities. Deeper type voices may also feel some vibrating sensation in the upper chest. A singer must never force the tone produced by the vocal folds into the resonating areas. The tone must be free to find its own resonating area, and freedom results from good posture, breath control, a relaxed and mobile jaw and an open throat.

ARTICULATORS—LIPS, TONGUE, TEETH, PALATE, JAW

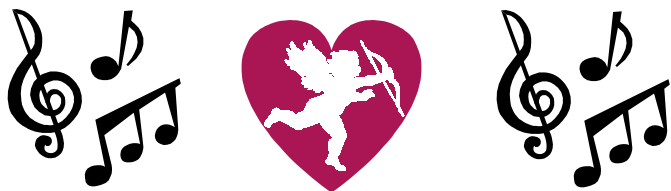
The articulators are the mouth areas (tongue, teeth, lips, hard and soft palate) plus the jaw and part of the throat. Vowels are formed mostly inside the mouth, with lip movement used for greater clarity (as well as some throat adjustment). Consonants stop the tone, except for those singable consonants that can be voiced (m, n, l, r, v, z) and fricatives th and zh. All the vowels are "sung," so they and the singable consonants are the song.

REGULATORS—THE EARS

Pitch discrimination is brought about by a closed loop neural system that includes the inner ear, brain and connecting nerves that command the vibrators. The frequency of the impulses from the source (the vocal folds) is also the frequency with which the sound waves beat upon the ear drum as alternating compression and rarefaction waves. The inner ear then analyzes the mechanical movements caused by the vibrations and transmits the results to the brain. All singers must learn to listen with their minds, so they can match tones quickly with other singers. This is called "listening out front."

Ed Ringel passed on a paper by Ed Waesche entitled "Singing in Tune" that addresses some of the fundamentals of our craft. This was an excerpt, and we'll have copies of the whole paper available soon.

**SHOP RITE COUPONS =
5% CHORUS SUBSIDY
AT NO COST TO YOU
See Rich Kacvinski**



SINGING VALENTINES

Great job to all involved! We did a total of about 118 sing outs with a total of over \$4,300 profit for the chorus.

Special kudos to Lee Roth for getting the publicity into a gang of newspapers, Dick Taylor for having his house as the nerve center and dispatching the quartets, and Linda Williams for doing the great Valentine cards. Special thanks to rookie Jim Knight for handling many of the calls at his place of business on that very busy Monday the 14th.

Extra, extra special salutations to those who took off from work on that Monday. We could not have done it without you. The chorus truly appreciates your sacrifice and effort. Wasn't it great fun to see those faces? We're looking forward to an even bigger 2001!

--The Journey Continues--

Charlie Sousa, Valentine Chairman

DISTRICT CONTEST IN WILDWOOD, NJ

The harmonizers are "in the draw" for a limited number of convention tickets for this event, and we've decided to go as a chapter whether we're competing or not. **October 6 & 7 at Wildwood NJ Convention Center.**

CHECK YOUR CALENDAR NOW SO WE CAN REACT QUICKLY TO THE TICKET OPPORTUNITY.



OFFICERS/CHAIRMEN

President:	Dick Taylor
Director:	Don Reckenbeil
Chapter Development:	Lee Roth
Music & Performance:	Rusty Williams
Singing Valentines:	Charlie Sousa
Uniforms:	Lou Bowers
Tshirts:	Charlie Mohr
Badges:	Nick Rigas
Learning tapes:	Rusty Williams
Public Relations:	Jack Gardner
Youth Festival (Apr 1):	Lee Roth
Chapter Welfare:	Nick Rigas
Guest Night:	Charlie Mohr
Program Team:	Lou Barile
Correspondence:	David Holzwarth
Coffee cups, magnets, etc.	Dennis McKevitt
Shop Rite coupons	Rich Kacvinski

BARBERSHOPPERS OF THE MONTH

The January barbershopper of the month was **Lee Roth**. Lee was responsible for a fantastic amount of publicity for the Harmonizers. Great job Lee.

Our February barbershopper of the month was **Charlie Sousa**. He was in charge of the Valentine's Committee and the effort he put into this endeavor speaks for itself.

Congratulations gentlemen!

The following harmonizers were in the running:

- **Warren Lieuallen** for joining a quartet which includes Dennis McKevitt and Art Cole.
- **Dick Taylor** for losing so much weight. There is talk that the room in his pants has dropped him to a Baritone.
- **David Farber** for coming to one rehearsal before 9:30 p.m.
- **Tim Snyder** for joining a quartet which includes Dennis McDevitt and Art Cole.

—Lou Barile

-----DATES TO REMEMBER-----

June 27, 2000

**Somerset Patriots Baseball Field
6:30 p.m. arrival, 7:05 p.m. Ball Game**

August 26, 2000

PICNIC!!!

Deer Path Park

11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

**Games, friends, and woodshedding—
put it on your calendar!!**



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It's Great to be a Barbershopper in Hunterdon County!