



VOLUME 4, Issue 5
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COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Music:

Assistant Directors

Rich Taylor
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HUNTERDON HARMONIZER 2002 SCHEDULE

make sure to confirm your commitment to performances (sign-up sheets)

Regular scheduled Chapter Rehearsal/Meeting, Tuesdays		Elks	7:30 p.m.
Mon	May 27	Memorial Day Parade	Flemington, late morning
Fri-Sat	June 7-8	Northern Division Contest	
Mon	June 24	Patriots Ball Game	
Thurs	June 27	Concert-in-the-Park at Deer Path Park— MAJOR EVENT!	7:00 p.m.
Sundays	July/Aug	Octets/Quartets various Church Choir relief program	
Sun	Aug 11	2nd Annual Barbershop Ball Game (pending confirmation)	
Sun	Aug 25	Annual Hunterdon Harmonizers' Picnic at Deer Path Park	
Sat-Sun	Sept 21-22	Annual Craft Show in Flemington	
Fri-Sat	Oct 4-5	Fall District Convention in Wildwood	
Sat	Oct 19	CD Taping session (Total chorus)	
Sat	Nov 30	Dickens' Day in Clinton	
Wed	Dec 4	Lights of Love at the Hunterdon Medical Center	
Fri-Sat	Dec 6-7	Holiday Show	
Sun	Dec 8	Christmas Parade in Flemington	

ALEXANDRIA HARMONIZERS SHOW—INSPIRATIONAL!

Heigh-ho, heigh-ho,
harmonizin' we will
go.

Last month's trip to an Alexandria Harmonizers' show was a rousing success. A troupe of Hunterdon Harmonizers and friends boarded their bus at 8:30 in the morning to start the day of Harmony. The performance was held in a wonderfully acoustic concert hall, and the balcony seats were ideal for a full view of all the action on the stage. Alexandria's choreographer, Geri Geis, was just off to the side taking it all in.

The singing was—of course—great, and AH demonstrated that performance moves don't have to



be big. **Lee Roth** noted that the good moves seemed to be subtle, and were so well coordinated that the performers seemed to be hinged to each other. **Chris Fordice** was impressed with the level of performance. "It was inspirational! It showed what can be attained by people like us!"

Kudos to **Ron Roth** who arranged the bus and tickets, and directed the event for our Harmonizers. Great job, Ron—as always!

See Alexandria photo on page 4!



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

H-e-l-l-o!!!

On April 6, the Harmonizer all-day excursion to the Alexandria Harmonizers Show was a wonderful success. Many thanks go to **Ron Roth** for chairing this event. A great time and performance was enjoyed by all.

Our contest package is coming along very well but we still have a lot of work to do. We need to give an all out effort if we want to make this a successful performance. Your undivided attention during rehearsal is really necessary in order to ensure that each and every one of us understand the moves and the meaning of our parodies.

We got together a barbershop ensemble and performed at the Lyon's VA Hospital on May 2 as guests of the Flemington American Legion Auxiliary, coordinated by Betty Bohn. Thank you to all those who participated, and to **Rusty Williams**, a special thank you for coordinating and directing this event.

It's not too early to start thinking about the summer and our Sunday community church performances. This is where we get to sing at a local church in place of their choirs who are on summer recess. This is a great opportunity to show off our Barbershop style of singing to the community.

Here's wishing **Murray Natkie, Jesse & Michael Mazzariello**, and **Jensen Galfond** an enjoyable day at the Youth Festival on May 4.

We still have a few jobs for those not able to sing at the contest. We are looking for someone to run our audio and video camera during rehearsal and at performances. If you know anyone please speak to **Ed Kunkel** or myself.

Chord..ly,

Richard Kacvinski, President



SUMMER SUNDAY SING-OUTS

by Jack Gardner

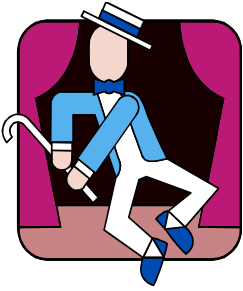
A few summers ago, Rich asked me to fill out a quartet that was scheduled to sing at his church. Don had just introduced the chorus to *The Lord's Prayer*, so we decided to perform it for that morning's worship. Our pick-up quartet arrived a half hour before services for a quick run through. It didn't sound very good. **Brian Lipe** figured out what was wrong and did a mini-coaching session on notes and targets. I didn't feel solid on either one, but we were running out of time.

Well, there was no backing out now. We were even listed in the bulletin! Fear is a great motivator! Somehow, maybe through some heavenly intervention, we sounded a lot better in performance than in rehearsal. The bonus was the enthusiasm of the congregation! They loved it and wanted to know how soon we would be coming back to sing again. This is what barbershopping is all about. Wouldn't it be great if more Harmonizers could take advantage of this experience?

Rich has asked me to organize the "Summer Sunday Sing-out" program this year. Our goal is to expand it – both in number of participants and number of churches. The first step is to find out how many Harmonizers want to participate and when they will be available. A survey has been mailed out to everyone and so far we have only gotten six who say they want to participate. **WE NEED MORE GUYS!**

We need at least 20 Harmonizers to make the program work. Our plan is to have from 6-10 men sing on three or four Sundays this summer. The selections would be ones we already know (TLP and IWWG), so no added rehearsals would be necessary. Just show up that Sunday morning and sing. Since most services start early, you would be home before lunch time.

If you haven't sent your survey form back yet, please do so today. If you have lost it, just e-mail me (gardsavas@aol.com) with the Sunday dates that you would be available. The "SSS" program will provide community service, an enjoyable experience, and a chance to showcase the Hunterdon Harmonizers and possibly attract new members. Let's do a "win-win" for everyone!



CHOREOGRAPHY: WHAT IT MEANS TO ME

by Vida Allworthy, Choreographer

Choreography is the vehicle I use to express emotions both physically and emotionally. When I listen to music, I take into consideration what I'll be creating for—musicals, concert pieces, classical, jazz, hip-hop, R&B, Latin, or Barbershop. The movements should be appropriate to the style and era of the music. Before getting started, I always listen to the whole piece of music. This enables me to get a feel for where I will be going with it.

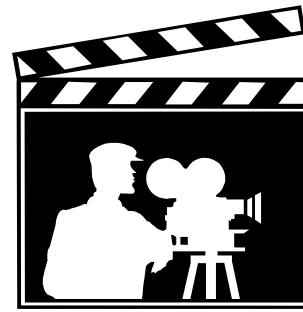
The music and words help me to define what the moves will be. Accents in the music call for movements that accentuate the musical changes and they add to the artistry of the piece. The same thing applies to the barbershop style of music. I listen to the words with the music—they carry the emotion of the song.

Because we are confined to risers in barbershop and are not free to use the whole stage, our moves have to be carried out larger than life and be presented emotionally by our facial expressions and body language. It is extremely important for you to FEEL what you are singing. That way your physical moves help to support the emotion, not detract from it.

In order for this to be accomplished, we have to PRACTICE! Stand in front of a mirror or in front of one another, perform, and try to feel what you are singing and doing. How do you look? Stiff and mechanical or relaxed and confident? Repetition will help you feel secure with what you are doing.

The bottom line is that we want to be believable in our performance so we can involve the audience in the musical journey of the song!

With regard to the contest, I feel we all need to step up to the plate. This means making a real commitment to work! The effort has to be 100% by all involved. You can't ride on the comfort coat-tails of others who show up faithfully, practice, and put a lot of time and energy into rehearsing. The choice to do contest should be taken more seriously. When we slack in certain areas, it shows in our performance and scores. This is a group commitment and should be treated as such.



GOD LOVES ONION SKINS!

by Rusty Williams, Assistant Director

And so did the harmonizers who gathered at Stanton Reformed Church on Saturday, May 4, for the first recording session of our Patriotic and Sacred CD. When we broke up a little after 1 p.m., we had put down high-quality recordings of *The Lord's Prayer*, *I'll Walk With God*, *God Bless America*, and *The Star-Spangled Banner*.

Don stressed Air and Space throughout the session and as we worked on singing easily and with quality, the church's acoustics became our fifth voice.

We heard a lot more of our ensemble sound during this session and several note and pitch problems surfaced. For the notes, some of us have some homework to do. For the pitch, let's all keep thinking about the onion skins analogy that Don applied to the first three notes of *The Lord's Prayer*. The first three notes are the same (Our Fa-ther) but if we just mentally put a single onion skin under the pitch of each successive note, we stay perfectly aligned, and our performance will sparkle. God loves onion skins, and so do we.

The Divisions Are Coming!

- Are you ready to qualify? We want 100% on stage, but each of us needs to qualify to make that happen. The CD recording session identified some problems that also exist on our contest songs. Let's buckle down and "fix it."
- Have you gotten your ticket order to Warren?
- Bring your contest garb (pants, ties, suspenders, etc.) THIS TUESDAY!!



Not recommended
for woodshedding!



The Alexandria Harmonizers at their show!

LYONS VETERANS HOSPITAL VISIT

A baker's dozen Harmonizers traveled to Lyons Veterans Hospital on May 2 to sing a few songs for the veterans in the nursing home. The Flemington American Legion set up this visit and we were—as always—glad to be able to bring “live music” to these vets. **Mike and Chris Fordice** were part of our mini-chorus, taking part in their first public performance with the Harmonizers—they even brought a groupie along (Mike's wife, Tanya). One of the Legionnaires suggested that we should perform a medley of service songs. Well, we've got one on tap for our CD, so maybe next time...

On a side note, Mike will be returning to the same room at Lyons in a few weeks, as he and his magician friends will be visiting the vets. Mike, it's great to have you and Chris in our band of brothers!



IN SEARCH OF CRAFTERS !

by Rich Cornelison

A tisket and tasket, where's your May basket? Well **Rich Cornelison** and **Tony Weber** are searching for crafters to make you one. They have been busy getting the Craft Fair off the ground with some behind the scenes support from **Ted Maginnis**. Clearances and permits have been obtained from the Borough of Flemington for the September 21 and 22 dates. Solicitation letters and response forms were mailed in March to 180 crafters to fill approximately 85 spaces along main street. Ads for crafters are also being run in regional newspapers. At

the end of April, 30 had responded with registration forms and payment, which is 15 ahead of last years response through April. If you know of any exhibitors that might be interested, let Rich or Tony know.

Richard also reports that in his initial meeting with Chief of Police Tirpok, the Chief expressed his thanks for the warmth and beauty our singing brought to the 9-11 memorial events last fall. The Chief was most appreciative and has emphasized that to a number of our members. (You guys might want to throw away your PBA cards and flash a Harmonizer card with your driver's license the next time you get caught speeding through Flemington.)



CRAFT CORNER

by George Schwerdt, Assistant Director

A WORD ABOUT POSTURE

The physical aspects of singing are just as important to our overall sound as pitch and vowels are. Correct singing posture is fundamental to producing a winning performance.

When standing on the risers, your feet should be shoulder width apart with toes pointed a bit outward and the outside foot slightly forward of the other. Weight should be forward; never back on the heels. The hips should be in line with the upper body (How else could we produce in-line singing!) and the chest should be comfortably high and wide.

During our warm-up we sometimes raise our arms above our heads, then lower them leaving the upper body and chest high. It's a nice spacious feeling and one that we need to keep throughout the rehearsal, especially as it begins to get late. Another way to re-expand the chest is to raise your arms out straight in front of you with your palms up to about shoulder height. That might be a bit easier to do in a tight spot on the risers, and there's no rule that says it can only be done in warm-up!

Lastly, your head needs to be level or slightly forward with your jaw relaxed as if you were about to yawn. Any tension in the neck and jaw area will impact the quality of the sounds you produce.

Remember, in singing, YOU are the instrument. If you want to create well-supported, free and resonant tones, a good singing posture is essential.

(to be continued)



MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 07 Frank Scheier
- 08..... Lee B. Roth
- 29..... R. Herbstzuber

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

- (continued)*
- Choreographer*
Vida Allworthy
- Section Leader, Tenor*
George Schwerdt
- Section Leader, Lead*
Rich Taylor
- Section Leader, Baritone*
Brian Lipe
- Section Leader, Bass*
Rusty Williams
- Chorus Manager*
Vacant
- Electronic Equipment & Learning Tapes*
Charlie Mohr
- Music Librarian*
Ed Kunkel
- Vocal Coach*
Vacant

Shows and Performances:

- Craft Show*
Richard Cornelison
Tony Weber
- District Convention*
Lee Roth
- Holiday Show*
Ron Roth
- Picnic*
Richard Kacvinski
Rusty Williams
- Singing Valentines*
Jim Knight
Charlie Sousa
- Church Choir Relief (summer)*
Jack Gardner
- Chorus Welfare:**
- Badges*
Nick Rigas
- Health & Welfare*
Nick Rigas
- Uniforms*
Lou Bowers

Housing (Elks)

- Art Cole
- Chorus Merchandise:**
- T-shirts*
Tim Snyder
- CD's*
Richard Kacvinski
Ron Roth
- Cups, etc.*
Dennis McKeveitt
- Programs:**
- Meetings*
Lou Barile
- Refreshments*
Clarke Applegate
Robert Herbstzuber
- Membership:**
- Bulletin Board*
Jesse Mazzariello
Michael Mazzariello
- Public Relations*
Jack Gardner

Young Men in Harmony

- Ron Roth
- Rich Taylor
- AUXILIARY**
- Co-Chairpersons*
Sharon Cole
Carol McKeveitt
- Treasurer*
Linda Kacvinski
- Corresponding Secretary*
Alice Rigas
- Recording Secretary*
Linda Williams