



In Tune

with the

HUNTERDON Harmonizers

Barbershop Chorus



Flemington, NJ

VOLUME 4, Issue 6
September 6, 2002

Editor

Linda Williams
49A Capner St
Flemington, NJ
908-782-7551

Contributors

Jesse Mazzariello
George Schwerdt
Rusty Williams
Michael W. Fordice, PhD

E-mail

lindaw23@att.net

Website

www.njharmonizers.org

Webmaster

Michael W. Fordice, PhD

OFFICERS

President

Richard Kacvinski

Immediate Past President

Richard Taylor

Director

Don Reckenbeil

Chapter Development VP

Lee B. Roth

Music & Performance VP

Ed Kunkel

Program VP

Lou Barile

Secretary

Ron Roth

Treasurer

Richard Cornelison

Board Members

Art Cole
Jack Gardner
Charlie Mohr
Charlie Sousa

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Music:

Assistant Directors

Rich Taylor
Rusty Williams
George Schwerdt

Choreographer

Vida Allworthy

(continued on page 5)

HUNTERDON HARMONIZER 2002 SCHEDULE

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

Regular scheduled Chapter Rehearsal/Meeting, Tuesdays	Elks	7:30 pm
Sat Sept. 7	Birthday Party Sing	Pittstown see Pat Cerillo
Weds Sept. 11	Memorial Service Sing	Flemington TBA
Sat Sept 14	Sing at MACNJ	High Bridge 10:00 am
Sat-Sun Sept 21-22	Craft Fair 2002!	Flemington 12:00 noon
Fri-Sat Oct 4-5	Mid-Atlantic District Convention	Wildwood
Sat Oct 19	CD Taping session (Total chorus)	Milford 9:00 am-1:00 pm
Sat Nov 30	Dickens' Days	Clinton
Wed Dec 4	Lights of Love	Hunterdon Medical Center
Fri-Sat Dec 6-7	Annual Holiday Show	TBA
Sun Dec 8	Christmas Parade	Flemington TBA



GEEK SURFIN' IN WILDWOOD!

We intend to have more than a megabit of fun in Wildwood, NJ, on October 4 & 5 at the Mid-Atlantic Convention and Contest in the new Wildwood Convention Center!

- We're staying at the Crusader, which is 6 blocks from the Convention Center. Rooms are \$108 for two nights.
- Convention tickets are \$25 per person. Every competing Harmonizer must have a full ticket—and have it with him—in order to go on stage. **Rich Cornelison** is handling the money so see him if you still need to sign up for rooms and tickets.

- Qualification tapes ARE required to sing on stage. Please get yourselves ready and get qualification tapes to your section leaders soon.
- Do your very best not to miss any practices! If we're going to WOW the convention audience with our package, we will have to get it up a notch from Divisions... and we can do it!
- The **Women's Auxiliary** (all Harmonizer mates) will be getting together on Saturday morning for breakfast and social. Call or e-mail Linda Williams if you would like to be included in whatever the plans are and she'll do her best to keep you

NEW WEBMASTER!

Bass, Baron, and Bard, **Warren Lieuallen** brought a lot of pizzazz to everything he touched. We're all very grateful for his work in building the Hunterdon Harmonizer's website. We're going to miss this "Harmony Square" a lot!! (Coming to Wildwood, Warren?) Meanwhile, **Mike Fordice** has graciously volunteered to take over the reins as our Webmaster. He has already enhanced the website with "Site News"—a convenient place to find out what has changed since your last visit. You will also find our Membership List and Phone Chain in the "members only" section of the website (www.njharmonizers.org). Contact the webmaster to obtain the password for this private section.



SO WHAT DID YOU DO THIS SUMMER?

by Rusty Williams, Assistant Director

During this year's Harmonizer picnic, held on a bee-oo-tee-full day in Deer Path Park (note the diphthong...), this was the probing question for "In Tune." We only go after the truly pressing questions of the day.

Between tags, burgers & beans, horseshoes 101, more tags, and volleyball, here's what the Harmonizers admitted to:

- **Don Reckenbeil** and Cathi logged the most miles, with a cruise to the Eastern Caribbean along with 20 or so family members. Don met two barbershop people only on the last day, and since they weren't able to visit Aruba, Jamaica, etc., they took on Germany and the Aauto-yawn with a group of pilgrims from their church. Son Brian had never left the USA before, and here were two trips in the same summer.
- **Art Cole** and Sharon drove to Florida, North Carolina (visiting Jeff & Charlene Logan), and slept around a lot. We'll let them explain that...
- **Ed Kunkel** sweated a lot, and **Marty Vanderwall** DIDN'T try to jump his bike over the Grand Canyon of the Delaware.... didn't even consider it!
- **Lee Roth** and Nan went to the Portland convention, and followed it up with a cruise to Alaska with the Gashouse Gang quartet. They saw—and heard—a lot more quartetting than Don. AND they were able to commune with a moose in Michigan with their family.
- **Carmen Olivo** had so much fun cooking at the Balloon Festival that he joined in the grilling at the Harmonizers' picnic. Careful, Carmen... a job well done is a job kept!
- **Brian Lipe** and his brigade went to Chicago and Wisconsin, and then sent Jamison off to Band Camp. Brian and Conner took a turn on the tandem bicycle at the picnic and played a mean game of volleyball.



- **Charlie Mohr** and Vera commuted to the Poconos, bought a kayak (inquiring minds want to know why...), and WOW! did some blueberry picking.
- **Nick Rigas** and Alice went to Block Island for their grandson's wedding. Nick's tomatoes missed him, and are only now coming out.
- **Rich Cornelison** spent his weekends at Sea Girt with his family, but looks like he managed to keep in the shade most of the time. Besides that, he's been dealing with our Crafter population, preparing for the SOON Craft Fair in Flemington.
- **Mike Fordice** (husband of newest groupie, Tanya), went to the Society of American Magicians Centennial Convention, did magic, and fought with contractors. He handles a deck well, but building one is a different proposition.
- **Dennis McKeivitt** and Carol didn't go anywhere... they went to NYC for a few days and saw *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and *Urinetown*. Dennis felt the story line was odd—no stranger than the name, I guess.

(continued on page 3)

WHAT DID YOU DO THIS SUMMER? (Continued from page 2)

- **Rich Kacvinski** and his troop took the car-train to Florida for their grandson's baptism, Dorney-parked it, and worked too ##### much.
- **Rusty Williams** and Linda spent a week tooling around Virginia looking at old buildings, battlefields, and (it was HOT!) swimming pools and caverns. Then spent time communing with nature in Stokes State Forest... no mooses or bears, but some very assertive raccoons.
- And **Rich Taylor**... besides hosting the Portland Webcast for umpty consecutive hours, went to four CASA (Contemporary A-Capella Society of America) concerts, hosted Villageradio (Crossroads and others came across his soundboards), and is heading for Bolton's Landing for the Labor Day weekend. Neat story: Rich Pierson (NJ CASA rep) proposed to his (now) fiancée at one of the concerts, sharing the stage with Rockapella and a very anxious guard... ask Rich about this one.

AND WHAT DID THE LOCALS DO? (Harmonizer locals, that is...)

- TWO Somerset Patriot Baseball Games (pictures on the WEB (and one in this bulletin), thanks to **Lee Roth** and **Mike Fordice**)
- Heath Village major show... they loved us!
- The Seafood Fest—finally with good weather.
- **OPENING NIGHT** at the *Hunterdon Fine Arts Concert Under The Stars*—well, it was a little wet so we did a great job at Hunterdon Central... we'll be back in the park next year!!
- Two church services with the Summer Choir and two other quartet church fill-ins
- *Voice Activation* did a few songs as **George Schwerdt's** pastor was sent out to pasture.
- A church fair in Clinton.
- There were some significant Harmonizers in Portland!
- Ron Knickerbocker came by for some coaching... details in this edition's "COACHING NOTES."



SCARRED FOR LIFE TAKES THEIR SHOW ON THE ROAD ... uh, TRAIL

On behalf of the Warren Wanderers 4-H Club and the Rocky Springs Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, we would like to thank the members of the Hunterdon Harmonizers who supported us and enabled us to surpass our goal and collect over \$3,500 for our organizations. Half of the amount collected will be used to help sustain the rehab center, enabling them to provide shelter and care for more injured animals. The other half will be used to allow the members of our 4-H Club to participate in a wilderness first-aid course this fall, as well as helping to pay for equipment our future members may need.

Our 100-mile trip across NJ, NY, and CT, was a great success. We started at Worthington Shelter in NJ, and after 9 days, ended at Bull's Bridge, CT. We have now completed 1/10 of 2000+ miles—the length of the Appalachian Trail that spans from Georgia to Maine.

Pictured above are the Warren wanderers: **Jesse Mazzariello**, Jason Fox, Toni Mazzariello, **Mike Mazzariello**, **Murray Natkie**, and **Jensen Gelfond**. We're proud to have these great young men as members of the **Hunterdon Harmonizers**. Like the Warren Wanderers, we're "movin' on down the road."

SUMMERTIME BIRTHDAYS!!

Since *In Tune* took a vacation break, the editor would like to wish those who celebrated birthdays over the summer a "happy belated" one!



June	04.....	Art Cole	August	08.....	Charlie Mohr
	07.....	Dave Stadtmauer		16.....	Dave Holzwarth
	09.....	Don Perry		16.....	Mike Lefkowitz
	14.....	Don Szurley		19.....	Marty Vanderwall
July	01.....	Rich Kacvinski		21.....	Carmen Olivo
	21.....	Carmen Olivo		24.....	Jack Gardner

COACHING NOTES

Many of the Harmonizers were fortunate to take part in an excellent coaching session on August 13 with Ron Knickerbocker, a gold-medal baritone and talented teacher. Here's a few of the points that Ron brought to the fore:

"Lovin' My Baby on Line"

- Lead... sing "ain't it great" with an "O" inside...avoid the wide "A" sound.
- Bass... Also "O" and be high on the intervals to keep the sound alive. A suggested tool is to extend your hand (hatchet-like) and sing down that line. The sound will go out and doesn't come back. This is not suggested as a stage move. SING DOWN YOUR HAND AND KEEP THE SOUND IN LINE. Ron also observed that the Basses were late with their entries. Remember Mark Paul's coaching comment that the Basses MUST get there first! Personal observation (Rusty) is that there were bad notes being sung in our common trouble spots...please fix.
- Baritone... need to "fill the holes," made possible when the other parts, particularly Lead and Bass, provide a strong structure. Listen and fill accurately.
- ALL... the blubber-lip start is flat, and there are flattish sounds on "date," "fine," "line," and "house." This also relates to support upon phrase closure. Vowel sounds are not always pure (refer to inside "O"). NOTE that all concepts discussed are applicable to any song we sing.
- Baritone... Keep throat open for "line" (measure 24), sounded thin and strained.
- ALL... to help keep the throat open (avoiding a thin sound), never "lead with your chin" which creates a greater-than-90-degree angle between the body and the jaw/mouth. Lead with your chest without artificially leaning forward and thrusting your chin out.
- Bass... "flowing blonde hair" needs to stay resonant vs. strident. Do not push this passage, and other parts must play it cool. NOTE that we continue to have trouble with this passage. —MUSIC TEAM ACTION SUGGESTED.
- Tenor / Lead / Bari... recognize Bass melody on "This virus is... etc."

KEY CHANGE:

- "Night"... Leads on Root, Bari on 3rd, Bass on 5th, Tenor on 7th. Root and 5 strong, 3rd sharped, pure, and well-tuned, 7th well-tuned. 3 and 7 GOTTA LISTEN.
- Leads... "Love ev 'ry night" is a descending run. Need to energize up on each downward step and keep the inside "O" especially open in this phrase—don't get lazy!

- Transition to "I" in new key: Bass goes 5-R, strong and level; Bari is 3-3, keep the "O"; Lead is R-5, boost it up a shade; Tenor is 7-R...likewise up a shade. Look for Bass-Tenor to define the new key and others to be within structure.

GENERAL:

- Need a horizontal flow in every song. Visualize singing a 4x4, a solid flow with no lumps or holes. This was demonstrated with "Ain't it Great on a..." vs. "Ain't it Great on a..." Essentially, we want to soften the hard consonants and sing the singable ones. Make the colors continuous vs. abrupt.
- Posture—feet are shoulder-width apart (don't be too optimistic about your shoulders), one foot slightly forward, with good fore-and-aft balance. NO KNEE LOCKS (that's where tension starts).
- Old-art stance (bad): back of hands forward with inherent slouch.
- Young-art stance (good): sides of hands forward, which inherently improves posture and supports higher chest. Do any of you remember the "Monkey...Man... Monkey...Man" demo? And try it with a little bit of palms going forward!!

"Girl on My Screen" (we started late in the evening on this one, but a few comments):

- ALL... support started with good "dear" and "year"... fell off appreciably on "since..."
- Bass... "since WE met"... need to sing the 4x4 here... NOT a laser.
- Bari... "gone" bell chord needs the "O" and accuracy.
- Bass... a w o L... going too high on the L... attention to note and placement.
- Modulation (aka key change)... Leads and Tenors listen, Bari and Bass resonant on "RIGHT"
- Measure 58 (bari?).. chord on BE needs analysis.

HOW CAN WE USE THESE NOTES TO IMPROVE IN OUR CRAFT??

Please read these notes with your music in front of you and try to personally respond to the coaching. If you were at the session you should remember better what was related. If you missed this one, sing the phrases and do your best to pick up the message. Listen at practice for pointers.

When Ron comes back for our next session we want to seriously impress him by showing progress on these points, enabling him to work on new stuff. We are an extremely responsive group to work with... let's be retentive, too!!



THE DIVISION CONTEST, VIEWED FROM CRAFT CORNER

by George Schwerdt, Assistant Director

Good singing—you know it when you hear it, and when you don't.

Singing early in a contest has the advantage of allowing you to listen to some of the other contestants. This year we heard a number of other choruses, including the amazing sound of the Five Towns College chorus who, with only 20 men on stage, blew away the rest of the competition including the 54-man Western Suffolk chorus. Those of us who were in the seats, and who joined in the standing ovation, knew we were hearing something special. It was that sound that feels greater than the sum of its parts—that ringing, expanded sound.

Obviously this was a result of quality, not quantity. Those 20 guys sounded more like 100. Had they matched their vowels? Were they singing tall? Were they unerringly on pitch? I'll bet they were. Were they concentrating on all of that? Probably not. Hopefully, they were concentrating on delivering the story and entertaining the audience.

The point here is that our craft knowledge and execution must become engrained and automatic if we are to become an A-level chorus.

From the warm-up onward we get little reminders about pitch, breath, vowel turning, dynamics, etc., all of which need to become second nature if we are to reach our primary goal of "WOW-ing" our audience.

So Tuesday, think about why we warm up and why we keep practicing. Heck, there's THIRTY+ of us. We can do it, but only if each of us says * I * can do it, and I WILL do it!

(to be continued)



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 01Dave Farber
- 11Clarke Applegate
- 24Pat Cerillo
- 25Ed Hoiler

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

(continued)

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 McKeVitt

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 McKeVitt

Treasurer

Linda Kacvinski

Corresponding Secretary

Alice Rigas

Recording Secretary

Linda Williams