



VOLUME 4, Issue 9
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2002 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

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HUNTERDON HARMONIZER 2002-03 SCHEDULE

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

Regular scheduled Chapter Rehearsal/Meeting, Tuesdays	Elks	7:30 pm
Tues	Dec 24	No practice
Tues	Dec 31	No practice
Tues	Jan 7	WELCOME BACK!
Sat	Jan 11	Installation Dinner at the Mountain View Chalet 6:30 pm

HOLIDAY SHOW A SUCCESS!



The Great Santa Claus Kidnap Caper was a formidable undertaking and, in the opinion of our audience, a rousing success. As with any great accomplishment, there were great efforts put forth, and several of our members and friends went extra miles and miles to make this sparkle. If anyone is missed in

the following list, it isn't for lack of appreciation.

We started with the script, ably and extensively reworked by **Don Reckenbeil** (one of the original authors), **Art Cole**, **Ron Roth**, and **Carmen Olivo**. With the roadmap in hand, the production teams went to work.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy Holidays!!!

I would like to wish each and every one a very happy and safe holiday and I hope that the time spent with your family will be full of love and peace.

At this time I'd like to thank every person who made this past year a success. First of all, it could not have been done without our families who have supported the Harmonizers. Thanks to the Ladies Auxiliary for the long and hard work, both before and during the Holiday Harmony 2002. A very special thank you to Carol McKevitt for making 50 pairs of Elf shoes (and to Dennis who helped a little) and to Linda Kacvinski for

putting up with the countless hours of Harmonizer-time I have spent away from home.

Has anyone thought about the time it takes to put together and mail out this newsletter and wondered who actually does this task??? Well it is none other than Linda Williams, our Editor. I thank you very much for the hours spent and the work it takes to put out a monthly publication, sometimes having to chase down articles promised but not delivered. THANK YOU!!!!

The new year will be a busy one with learning new songs, a new taping program, and the new objective from the membership committee to bring in 20 new members by year end 2003. "Let's help Lee and his committee." The Music Committee has a challenge this year to motivate us to improve the quality of our singing with additional coaching.

We will be off until after the New Year and at the first meeting we will announce a new contest number. So have a safe and healthy New Year. Don't forget our installation dinner/dance on Saturday, January 11, 2003, at the Mountain View Chalet, 154 State Hwy 173, Asbury, NJ (same place as last year). Invites will be mailed shortly so be on the look out.

That's it for now. HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL and too all a Good Night!!

Chord-ially,

Richard Kacvinski
President, 2002

HOLIDAY SHOW A SUCCESS...*(continued)*

Set design by **Carmen Olivo** and **Ron Roth**, and what a set it was. **Charlie Mohr**, **Ed Kunkle**, and **Ted McGinnis** joined the set construction team to bring the ideas to life. Ron took care of the props with various assists and a lot of toys from the troops.

Choreography—**Vida Allworthy**, and an especially great job with the Harmonizer kids.

Costumes—BIG thanks to **Carol McKevitt** for the clever and colorful footwear, hats, etc. that the elves wore. **Dennis** had a hand and an ear in this, I'm sure.

The magical effects were planned by magical **Mike Fordice**, and they were flashy even without flash pots.

Kent Cottingham did the lighting design for the show.

Parodies to support (or undermine) the story were written by **Don Reckenbeil** and **Rusty Williams**.

Our logistics and planning teams were also at work. **Rich Kacvinski** was our ticket chairman and **Rich Cornelison** handled the Christmas dough.

Chris Fordice was our advertising manager—a tough, important, and successful performance.

Mike Fordice was our program manager and pulled a winner out of his hat.

Lee Roth did his standard excellent job managing show publicity.

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HOLIDAY SHOW A SUCCESS...(continued)

On the big day, as our guests arrived, they were greeted by our fantastic Ladies Auxiliary, ushered to their seats, and supplied with goodies during the breaks. Special thanks are due to **Sharon Cole, Linda Kacvinski** (with Karen and Kim kicking in), and **Carol McKeivitt**, with help from **Linda Williams, Barbara**



Mike Fordice as Santa.



Rich Cornelison

Print Services, the company that printed the show program!), who got 1st prize, the quilt.

The talented **Joe Colon** assisted *Harmony Square* and



Harmony Square (The Good Guys)

was a note-worthy addition to our show, both with his performing skills and warmup/coaching. Thanks, Joe.

Bob Brunet permanently captured our “Lost Clause” on video.

Alden Fulcomer set up and ran our sound—it’s important to have a good man at the switches.

Rich Taylor was the gracious host for our guest artists, *High Five* (weren’t they great?).

Bill Watkinson (a.k.a. Frosty) was our transport and storage lead—thanks again, Bill.

Liz Systo was the stage manager, assisting our Stage Director **Joe Systo** in bringing new dimensions to our performance. It was Joe’s direction that added the depth to most of the characters in this story, and we are really grateful for the work he and Liz did to raise our level of entertainment.

Carmen Olivo was our show producer and his work in organizing the animate and inanimate items on the stage (the snow, the slides, etc., etc.) deserves a personal thank you from every Harmonizer.

Bruce Budde and **Rich Taylor** organized and pulled off a very comfortable afterglow at the King’s Buffet. This was a great close to a great day.

And for the final curtain call, kudos to **Art Cole**, show chairman and chief arbitrator. The end product was something you should be personally proud of, Art. Thanks for all the hours and hours of dedicated work.

Lastly, hats off to **Don Reckenbeil**, musical director and inspiration for us all. Thanks to you and your wonderful family for all you do for us.



Voice Activation (The Very Bad Elves)

WANTED
2002 Holiday Music
+
Working Cassettes for Recycling



Scarred for Life

NEW BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2003

- President—Richard Kacvinski
- Executive Vice President Chapter Development—Art Cole*
- Vice President Music & Performances—Mike Fordice
- Secretary—Barry Liefer
- Treasurer—Richard Cornelison
- Past President—Rich Taylor
- Vice President Programming—Ed Kunkel
- Vice President Membership—Lee Roth
- Vice President Public Relations—Jack Gardner
- Members-at-large—Chris Fordice, Charlie Mohr, Tom Moriano, Murray Natkie, and Ron Roth

*This is a new position with focused responsibilities for the growth of the Harmonizers.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2003

by Ed Kunkle, Program VP

Where will you be each Tuesday evening at 7:30 p.m.? A small corps of members will be at the Elks preparing for the evening program. Others will gradually begin to arrive after the first 30 minutes. It certainly would be a welcome change to see a larger number of Harmonizers ready to sing at 7:30. Understandably, there are circumstances that prevent some of the guys from being on this schedule. But for those with no excuse, maybe an examination of will and desire can help inflate the 7:30 corps?

An exciting program might help but excitement means different things to different people. For Lee it means having 10 guests for the first time. For George it means

having enough guys at his warm-up to make it really worthwhile.

As members of the fraternity, there are obligations that need to be met for growth in our vocal quality. It begins at 7:30. So what can you look forward to in 2003?

1. Warm-up beginning on schedule regardless of the numbers. (Is that exciting?)
2. Regular scheduling of quartet time. (Is that exciting?)
3. 90-100 minutes of director time. (Is that exciting?)
4. Use of bulletin boards to increase awareness of present and future happenings. (Is that exciting?)

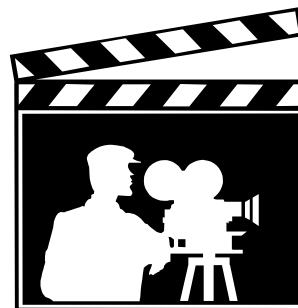
Best wishes to all Harmonizers for an EXCITING 2003!



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3Mike Noland
10Rusty Williams
15Tim Snyder

Any birthday missed only means you didn't age this year, but get me your DOB and we'll make sure you age next year! (Gotcha, Rusty!)



CONTEST CONTEMPLATION

by Don Reckenbeil, Director

NOTE: Don prepared this excellent article for the post-contest bulletin, but it came in while the bulletin was going out. His thoughts on our improvement strategy are just as appropriate now . . . read on.

Competition in the business world helps to keep companies at the top of their game. In the barbershop world, competition has a similar purpose. One reason we compete is to know how we stack up to our peer choruses. But another reason, far more important than a rank order, is that in preparing for a contest, we hone our skills – through craft, drilling, coaching, taping and personal feedback. The rigor that competition introduces to our preparations reminds us that winning in the “marketplace” requires much planning, hard work, and retention.

CONTEST CONTEMPLATION *(continued)*

Last year, our chorus did not qualify to enter the District competition; this year – WE DID. For this alone, you are all winners! And this year, we had the honor of becoming the very first chorus in the world to compete on the stage of the brand-new Wildwood Convention Center!

And so it was that the Hunterdon Harmonizers went into the October 5th competition “seeded” in 19th position. This was the result of our spring divisional contest with 34 singers. We went to Wildwood with 27 singers, and came out with a ranking of 21st. While we may have given back a bit more than we would have liked, we learned a great deal through the experience of performing first in a new venue.

So, what did we learn musically? For this, we turn to the judges who evaluated our performance. All of the judges who reviewed our scores with us are top-rated experienced barbershop judges. In all categories, they thought that our package (song selections/parodies) was excellent and well-written. However, they all would have elevated their scores had they heard a *better sounding* chorus. This means aligning all of the individual voices to a common standard voice, and paying closer attention to phrasing and synchronization.

The **Music Judge** – Steve Jamison, evaluated the *theme* of the package as comedy. As such, he suggested that the many punchlines in the lyrics be delivered more effectively. The **Singing Judge** – Bill Duncan (from Canada), spoke of “*singable energy*”, a phrase he invented. That is, we need to better energize our phrases through well-matched vowel targets and more synchronization. He suggested that the singers’ voices should be aligned like well-spaced fence posts. Bobby Gray was our **Presentation Judge**, who loved our creativity. He “got” all of the sight gags, computer jokes, and explosives. All in all, if we want to score better, we had better sing better.

To this end, the Music Team will continue the practice of taping and providing individual feedback even as we prepare our holiday music. We will be taping 4 songs from the upcoming Christmas Show, and asking you to continue on your journey of continuous individual improvement. In both the business and barbershop worlds, the winner is the one who starts with a great plan, and then executes the plan efficiently and effectively. This strategy will keep our organization one of which we can all be proud. The journey continues...!

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 McKeivitt

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

LADIES AUXILIARY

Co-Chairpersons

- Sharon Cole
Carol McKeivitt

Treasurer

- Linda Kacvinski

Corresponding Secretary

- Alice Rigas

Recording Secretary

- Linda Williams

MERRY

CHRISTMAS!