

VOLUME 5, Issue 4
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HUNTERDON HARMONIZER 2003 SCHEDULE

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

Regular scheduled Chapter Rehearsal/Meeting, Tuesdays

Elks 7:30 pm

165 Highway 31, Flemington

Other Important Dates:

Sat-Sun	May 2-3	Division Contest	Bridgewater
Sat	May 17	Concert Performance	Lambertville TBA
Mon	May 26	Memorial Day Parade	Flemington
Fri	June 6	Relay for Life	NHRHS TBA
Fri-Sun	June 12-14	Harmony College East	Salisbury, MD
Thurs	June 26	County Park Performance	Deer Path Park TBA
Tues-Sat	July 1-5	International Convention	Montreal, PQ, Canada
Sun	July 27	Heath Village Performance	Hacketstown TBA
Sun	Aug 10	2nd Annual Barbershop Ball Game	Somerset
Sun	Aug 24	Annual Harmonizer Picnic	Deer Path Park



2003 Mid-Atlantic Northern Division Convention

Here are some important facts about this year's convention and contest.

The host chapter this year is *The SomerTones* (Somerset Hills) and the contest will be held in the Bridgewater area.

The quartet competition will be held in the Bridgewater Marriott Hotel ballroom, 700 Commons Way, Bridgewater (908-927-9300) on Friday, May 3 at 7 p.m. The chorus competition will be held at the Bridgewater/Raritan Regional Middle School on Merriwood Drive (less than 3

miles from the Bridgewater Marriott Hotel) on Saturday, May 3, at 10:30 a.m. The Jamboree will be at the school on Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

Each performer (chorus and quartet) is required to have and present a registration in order to perform. Advance registration purchase will guarantee a reserved seat for all events if received with payment by Friday, April 25.

The uniform for the contest is our red and white tuxedo.

Editorial . . .

2003 BETY CONTEST RESULTS

Back in January, I submitted three consecutive issues of our 2002 In Tune bulletin to take part in the Mid-Atlantic District *Bulletin Editor of The Year* contest and just received the results last week. Two good reasons for submitting were to help me improve the quality of the bulletin and get the “Hunterdon Harmonizers” name out there for all barbershoppers to see. It’s working! But in order for me to make improvements I need your help. So I thought I’d share the results with you and encourage you to find ways to help me make our bulletin better, so that next year we might get higher scores. Only five chapters entered their bulletins in the contest and ours placed FIFTH with an overall score of 1537.2 (first place score was 1939.3 for “Charivari”—the Dundalk bulletin). Our 2000 bulletin achieved a score of 1306.7 (fourth place out of five chapter bulletins) with the first place score of 1919.3 for “Charivari”—at least our score went up. What follows is a brief description of the ideas given by the judges for the areas of content, layout & reproduction, and grammar & style, that need improvement.

Content For Each Issue

This area is where most of the work needs to be done.

Activities: For at least two coming events, do details such as time, uniform, etc., that may be needed by the member, his family, friends, etc. Report results of board meetings. Reports of at least two recent activities told in a way to make absentees wish they’d been there.

Editorial Content: Editor needs to write an editorial (and this is my first!).

Recognition and Education: List of guests and their hosts or article about recruitment. Biographical profile of new or current member (background, occupation, family, musical experience). Story, editorial piece, or display ad that, with impact, explains and encourages participation in a chapter-selected philanthropy, Heartspring, SingAmerica/SingCanada, etc.—what are the Hunterdon Harmonizers doing for charity?

History: Story relating the earlier days of the chapter, district, or Society. Article telling of the songs we sing, their composers, or message they convey, or a tag.

Contributed Material: At least three items by chapter officers, committee heads, chapter members, or chapter auxiliaries printed.

Out of a possible 267 pts. for each bulletin, Issues 4, 5, & 6 got 145, 164, and 168 pts., respectively.

Grammar and Style

Grammar is my area and they’ve got a style manual so if I think it’s worth a bunch of points I’ll do it—just for fun. These are comma faults and misuse or omission of capital letters. Oh, and I should spell out whole numbers below 10 and use figures for 10 and above, and not use two-letter postal designators. I think I’d rather sing!

Out of a possible 200 pts. for each bulletin, Issues 4, 5, & 6 got 182.7 pts.

Layout and Reproduction

Nameplate: Some indication of singing and music to make the bulletin look like a barbershop singing publication. Maybe I’ll add music notes? Check it out.

Masthead: Add the chapter and district name. Will do. Of course, Hunterdon Harmonizers Barbershop Chorus, Hunterdon Chapter ... I mean, is there another? I think I’ll just add Mid-Atlantic District.

Add the Elks address. No problem.

Need to add captions to the photos and credits for artwork.

Nothing “employed by the editor” pleased the judge so we didn’t get the 15-point bonus. So I have to figure out what is meant by “employed.” I’ve already got a full-time job. But he did comment, “Great looking bulletin!”

Out of a possible 200 pts. for each bulletin, Issues 4, 5, & 6 got 171, 171, and 170 pts., respectively.

Anyone who went up on the Mid-Atlantic District web site may have noticed a score of “75” for the Hunterdon Harmonizers *In Tune* in the “Content” area. That is an error and I have brought it to their attention via e-mail. The score as mentioned above is actually “477” and as of this date has been corrected on the Mid-Atlantic District Web site.

It’s important to note that all the comments in the content section of the review lead to ways that the bulletin can improve our chapter, not vice versa. If any reader of this—member, officer, wife, friend, or family member—feels they have a thought or idea they’d like to share, let me hear from you. Officers, tell us what you’re doing and let’s keep the chapter informed, aligned, and growing.

—Linda Williams

BARBER 'SHOPPING' IN THE BAY AREA: PART 2

by Jack Gardner, VP Marketing

After evenings experiencing 'The Think Method' and watching an 'Un-performance' it was time to check out that other big chorus in the Bay Area: Tampa Bay's *Heralds of Harmony*. This was a chorus with a record: Sunshine District Champions for the past dozen years, and a consistent top 15 finisher at Internationals. Big question: would a singing snowbird be welcome there?

As soon as you walk into the Masonic Hall in Tampa, you know there's a well-organized, dedicated chorus practicing there. Rehearsal starts promptly at 7 p.m., and the risers are full. Guests are greeted at the door by barbershop ladies, who make sure you fill out a complete registration form, get your nametag and guestbook (which is easy to use, up-to-date, and complete). Also pick up a neat promotion brochure on *Heralds*.

As soon as you are registered, you're immediately welcomed onto the risers to join in the practice session. The timetable for the session was in clear view on a chalkboard, so everyone knew what to expect for the evening and when it would happen.

After about 15 minutes working the contest songs, we broke into sectionals. Basses stayed on the risers, and the Assistant Director worked the rough spots in the contest package. What a great directing job! He kept the session flowing smoothly until the sound he was looking for began to emerge. We began to sound like *Michigan Jake* (which should be no surprise, since he was the bari from that championship quartet!)

After sectionals there was an intense 25 minute practice session on choreography. The new up-tune had been introduced three weeks ago, along with a written sheet describing the moves. At first, the group looked awkward and stiff. By the end of the session, most of the moves were smooth and unforced. No singing during choreography, just speaking the lyrics in rhythm with the moves.

At the break, guests were introduced and greeted. Then came quarteting; in this case a pick-up quartet doing polecats. (Tampa plans to introduce a polecat learning program after Internationals like Ed did for us.) The evening was rounded out by taping sessions for the two contest songs. Visitors were off the risers, so we could enjoy the smooth, round, unforced sound that is characteristic of this chorus.

No question, the *Heralds* are the top performing chorus in the Bay Area. They do it with average singers that work hard at their craft: no talking on the risers, no compromises on vocal quality, with pride in their work.

*If you're in Tampa on Monday night, visit the *Heralds* for a great evening!*

TO OUR SINGING MEMBERS

by Art Cole, Executive Vice President

We all need to do our best to work on our music at home during the week because we have some audiences looking forward to this great chorus. In the month of May we have committed to sing at the Lambertville United Methodist Church. The date for that is May 17 and it is a Saturday night. The time is 7-9 p.m. We have a contract with them to perform for about an hour and then again intermission for about 15-20 minutes more. This will be done with the help of our chapter quartets. The details of what we are singing will be given to you by your music team and our director, Don. The other details have not been worked out yet, but you need to keep that date open because as I said before, we have a contract with them and they are advertising us.

The other date to mark on your calendars is Friday, June 6—the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. I talked to the head of the American Cancer Society and we have been asked to sing in the tent to the survivors this time, besides singing in the field. The music team will be letting us know what to expect in the way of music for this event. More information will be coming so please mark your calendars as this is an important event. I do assure you that after you sing at this event you will feel that this American art of music that you enjoy is all worth it.

Remember that these dates are in addition to the ones you are already aware of, such as singing at Deer Path Park, our great craft show in September, and hopefully a holiday show in December. It might just be a good idea to tack this newsletter on your bulletin board or refrigerator with the calendar showing.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

April 21	Tony Weber
April 24	Rich Cornelison
April 26	Michael Mazzariello
May 7	Frank Scheier
May 8	Lee Roth

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