



VOLUME 6, Issue 9
September 20, 2004

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COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Music:

Assistant Directors

Rusty Williams
George Schwerdt

Choreographer

Vida Allworthy

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♪ HUNTERDON HARMONIZER 2004 SCHEDULE ♪

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

Regular scheduled Chapter Rehearsal/Meeting, Tuesdays, at the Elks

165 Highway 31, Flemington, NJ

7:30 p.m.

Next Music Team meeting at Don Reckenbeil's house, TBA

8:00 p.m.

3rd Monday of each month, Board Meeting at Lee Roth's office

91 Main Street, Flemington, NJ

Other Important Dates:

Tues	Sept 28	Family/Guest Night	Elks	7:30 p.m.;
				Guests: 8 p.m.
Fri-Sat	Oct 1-2	M-AD District Contest		Wildwood TBA
Sat	Oct 16	Micro-HEP	Boonton	9:15 a.m.-5 p.m.
Fri	Oct 22	Brightside Benefit	Copper Hill CC	TBA
Mon	Nov 1	AARP performance	Phillipsburg	12:30 p.m.
Sat	Dec 4	Holiday Show	HCHS	2 & 7:30 p.m.
Weds	Dec 8	Lights of Love	HMC	TBA
Sat	Dec 11	Holiday Show	Lambertville Church	TBA

ARBOR GLEN COMMEMORATES 9 / 11

by Jack Gardner

On Saturday afternoon, 9/11/04, the Arbor Glen retirement community celebrated *Amerifest 2004*. This annual festival is held each year on the Saturday after Labor Day as a way to introduce people to this large and well-appointed facility in Bridgewater. This year, the event fell on 9/11, so the commemoration of this tragedy became the theme.

For the first time, the *Hunterdon Harmonizers* were invited to be one of the featured performers. Others included a *40s Radio Days* show, the *Hillsborough Rockettes*, an Elvis impersonator, the *Jazz Prophets*, and the *Notables*. The *Harmonizers* performed under the big tent for the visitors, then went inside to entertain the residents in the upstairs dining room. Both audiences were warm and enthusiastic. It was clear that they really appreciated both the selections and the way the Harmonizers performed them.

The half-hour show featured our full repertoire



PHOTO BY TANYA FORDICE

of patriotic and inspirational songs. **Pat Cerillo** and **Steve Thomas** provided solos, and an instant quartet filled in the middle bars of the new "Civil War Trilogy." It got a great response and a few tears from the crowd. As **Rich Cronce** put it: "Now that we have performed it, we really should learn it!" Good advice.

President **Art Cole** gave two solid plugs for our Holiday Show, and invited people to take advantage of

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ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR—DAY 1



Sharon Cole holds the umbrella for our dedicated members who tried real hard to bring some sunshine to the Flemington Craft Fair with their Barbershop harmony ... oh well, "The sun will come out, tomorrow ..."

PHOTOS BY RUSTY WILLIAMS

THE SUN WILL COME OUT, TOMORROW ♪

by Rusty Williams

Neither rain nor snow nor Hurricane Ivan can stop the hardy *Hunterdon Harmonizers* in their appointed sounds. We're halfway through our annual craft fair with undampened spirits, but with soggy shoes.

Despite the drizzle, the lack of amplification, the departure of most of the crafters, and the lack of an audience, we went ahead with our performance. It was only when the carillon's ringing rendition of "Anchors Aweigh" seriously interfered with our pitch that we decided that discretion was the better part of harmony and hung it up for the day. It took a while, but yes—we do know when to come in out of the rain.

We had decided to sing on the steps of the Union Hotel, and at one point the Flemington police pulled over a motorist in front of us. I'm concerned that this particular audience member was not particularly interested in our performance, but we'll take 'em any way we can get 'em. Tactfully, no-one tried to sell the motorist a ticket.

Rich Cornelison has performed excellently in staging this great community event, and there are over 70 crafters signed up to participate. One uninvited participant (H. Ivan) caused most of them to decide that tomorrow will be a better day. Since the weather prediction for tomorrow is great, we're all hopeful that the crafters and the crooners will all have a beautiful SUNDAY. ♪



Art Cole, Jr.

WEEKLY REHEARSALS

If the average singer was asked whether they notice anything special about our weekly rehearsals, I'm pretty certain it wouldn't be anything like what I am about to mention. Sometimes things are taken for granted too much. Things like certain people always doing certain tasks just because they need to be done. I think that each one of us needs to be thankful for what is done week after week.

So, how about thanking somebody for the work that they do to make our so-called "hobby" more enjoyable week after week?

Here is an example of those members that I am talking about.

- 1) The members who come to our rehearsals early week after week to set up the risers and the chairs. Then they put away the risers and chairs afterwards.
- 2) Members who enjoy the refreshments at break time need to realize that these refreshments don't just show up at rehearsal each week—someone brings them in.
- 3) The Board members who give of their time and meet monthly to try and determine what is best for the chorus.
- 4) Our Director and the Section Leaders who try to make us sound better each week. No one knows the hours that are put into listening to tapes and what our director has to do each week to move us forward.
- 5) The individuals who make sure we have risers (and sometimes sound equipment) at singouts, and also bring them and help set them up.

If someone wanted to, they could easily find something and someone I left out. I am only trying to make a point of highlighting those who go the extra mile extra week after week.

We have some members who come to rehearsals straight from work, and some who even have to work late. We value everything that you do to get to rehearsal each week. Guys, we must all remember that each one of us do what we do because we enjoy it! So thank someone, and try to help in any way you can to make our group, the *Hunterdon Harmonizers*, the best it can be. ♪

UNTAMED DOES MANHATTAN!

by Rich Cronce



L-R: James Maitland (tenor), Art Cole (baritone), Les Paul (the great Jazz guitarist), Pat Cerillo (lead), and Rich Cronce (bass), pose for a picture at the Iridium Jazz Club in Manhattan where they introduced Barbershop to Jazz.

On Wednesday, August 11, *Untamed*, with **James Maitland** (tenor), **Pat Cerillo** (lead), **Art Cole** (baritone), and **Rich Cronce** (bass) performed with the *High Point Harmonizers* from Sussex County at the New Jersey State Fair in Augusta. *Untamed* gave a high-quality, energizing performance singing “Wedding Bells are Breaking That Old Gang of Mine,” “Darkness on the Delta,” “Lida Rose,” “Paper Doll,” and “Under the Boardwalk.”

After the performance the quartet did some strolling quartet work with the support of **Don Reckenbeil** and **Kyre Cahoon**. Every stop to sing throughout the fair brought a crowd of from 25 to 50 people to hear the tight barbershop harmonies. During one of these stops a couple approached us and said, “We’re professional musicians, let’s hear what you got.” Not ones to step down from a challenge, *Untamed* gave their most emotional and inspiring performance of “All Dressed Up with a Broken Heart.”

When we were done the gentleman identified himself as Tom Doyle, the sound engineer and protégé of modern musical legend, Les Paul. He and his friend, Sandy Cory, were struck by the tight, close harmonies they heard, and Tom asked us if we would be interested in singing for Les Paul at the Iridium Jazz Club at 51st and Broadway in Manhattan some Monday night. Are you kidding me? Of course, we would love to do it! Not being smart enough to be intimidated, we pursued the opportunity. Lo’ and behold, 12 days later, there was *Untamed* driving into Manhattan on Monday, August 23, to meet Les Paul and perform during his second show that evening.

Arriving early, we were warming up under the marquee of the Wintergarden Theatre when this gentleman walked up and tilted an ear in to have a listen. Just thinking this guy was an interested bystander, we didn’t think much of it. Just before

entering the club, the doorman told us one of the guys in Les’ quintet, Lou Pallo, was over there and had heard us. Looking over to where the doorman was pointing it was the “interested bystander” we hadn’t thought twice about earlier! He really liked what he heard and told us he was looking forward to hearing us. Now the nerves started kicking up.

We entered the club downstairs and immediately found Tom Doyle. Tom took us backstage to meet Les Paul. Although Mr. Paul was surrounded by guests and friends, he took the time out to acknowledge us, thank us for being there and tell us he was looking forward to hearing us. It was amazing just to be in the presence of this legend. Just about then, Frankie Avalon came backstage with his sons. Talk about being awestruck!

The maître d’ put us at a table near the stage but came back shortly to ask us to move to another table nearby. As we were sitting at the other table, we looked over and there was Frankie Avalon and his family at the table we had just left. We figured that was okay with us. We had better seats now anyway.

We were thoroughly enjoying the entire show when the maître d’ came up and had us go up near the stage entrance. This was it. Time to turn it on. Les Paul introduced the next special guests as the first ever Barbershop quartet to perform in the 20+ years of his show at the Iridium Jazz Club. Oh great, not that just being there wasn’t pressure enough we now had the future of the entire Society in our hands. Who am I kidding, we LIVE for times like this!

We take a pitch and proceed to nail “Darkness on the Delta.” We started with ringing chords and energy and we finished with ringing chords and energy. What a moment. While we were singing you could see and hear the reaction of the 150+ in the audience as they heard chord after chord ring in a way they never heard before. These people were music lovers of the highest quality and they were loving every minute of it. Best yet, *Untamed* was making it happen.

Well, Mr. Paul was sitting on his stool right next to **Art Cole**, with a smile from ear to ear the entire time. The applause roared as we snapped off the final chord. Les, loved it! He asked us to do another number like that one. We had planned to do a ballad so we did a quick change of plan and pulled out “Wedding Bells are Breaking Up that Old Gang of Mine.” We did it with the same energy and quality as “Darkness” and finished to thunderous applause. Les loved it, the crowd loved it, we loved it. It was the most amazing, amazing, amazing experience!

Afterwards, we were up by the stage thanking Tom Doyle for setting up this opportunity for us when Les came out from backstage to meet the fans who had lined up to meet him. We took the opportunity to take a couple of photos with the guitar legend. Les reiterated his admiration of our music and his appreciation of the quality of our performance. This was truly a magical evening. We feel we made a huge impact exposing this mainly jazz-loving crowd to Barbershop harmony in an enormously positive way, with a professional and entertaining performance. ♪

ANNUAL HARMONIZER PICNIC FUN!

by Rusty & Linda Williams

This year's picnic was great fun and what beautiful weather we had! A pleasant surprise after a rainy forecast! We even had a little one-year-old, our grandson, Nicholas, who heard Barbershop music for the first time and was amazed at the beautiful sound coming out of men's mouths.

Untamed entertained us with their antics and the chorus joined in the vocals after the dogs, burgers, meatballs, crepes, brownies, beans, eggs, salads, pickles, chips, cupcakes, pies, shrimp, elephant, and veggies were digested.

"Shoes" and volleyball rounded out the day, and we had another great day of fun and fellowship.

It's great to be a Barbershopper, especially in Hunterdon County (burp). 🎵



FINAL PRE-CONTEST SESSION WITH RON KNICKERBOCKER

by Rusty Williams, Assistant Director

Ron's time with us on September 14 wasn't fully dedicated to our contest package, but—as usual—everything he addressed is totally relevant to becoming a better performing chorus. Straight to the notes...

- "Simple Melody"—Basses need to watch Don and not drive the pace so fast that the leads can't keep up with the words. We also need to keep the sound bright, high, and happy, and not swallow the "bum-bum-bum."
- Same message to basses on "Lovin' My Baby."—the "it's goin' my way" line needs energy, brightness, and height—otherwise it's dull and flatted.
- The "American Duology/Trilogy" needs to have a lot of "O" in our sound to keep it pretty—especially for the intro. The key change is still rough. NOTE that we need to be solid on the first part of the measure 40 chord so the modulation has a reference point.
- "Paper Doll"—Leads need to sing the first phrase with the intent of going from "guess" to "more" smoothly and in-tune. Make "more" your target. Basses & tenors—be aware that "guess" and "more" are on the same note for each of your parts, so you can really help the leads here!
- "Paper Doll"—There is a pretty quick crescendo on FALL, and it had a bad case of premature consonant...keep the tongue down. The word "steal" was also cited for letting the L cut off a good EE sound.
- The tag was more muscular than musical... NOTE to basses on our swipe... Ree —ee (l) ... lotsa ee, very little (if any) L on real. With a good EE sound, you will have an easier time of getting all the way up to the target note.
- "Beautiful Doll" had some key-change problems when we sang with the room darkened. As noted above, lock in on the pre-change note (you—measure 56) really well, and the change sings much more accurately.
- "Beautiful Doll" tag was enhanced when the basses backed off in the non-solo parts, then swelled back in at the end (wait for the "final four" to crescendo).

There were lots more points made, with a number of note problems still in evidence, which is disturbing at this juncture. Check your tapes and qualification notes for backsliding, guys.

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PHOTOS BY LEE ROTH



L-R: Ed Kunkel, Ron Newsom, and Charlie Mohr, loading up with goodies and lining up for the burgers and dogs.



L-R: Jim, Pat, Rich, and Art, our famous UNTAMED quartet, entertains us at the picnic.

**HARMONY
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ARBOR GLEN COMMEMORATES 9/11 *(continued)*

the early-bird tickets (which were on sale at our booth at the festival). With some encouragement, maybe Arbor Glen could bring a busload of residents to the afternoon show. Worth looking into.

As Harmonizers walked around the festival after our performance, we were stopped by many people who thanked us for the songs, and told us how much they enjoyed hearing us. Julie Harp, the director of marketing at Arbor Glen and organizer of "Amerifest," conveyed her appreciation for our being there. She was so impressed that she invited us to perform at "Amerifest 2005." Let's mark our calendars.

All-in-all, it was a very appropriate way to commemorate 9/11. There was a sense of sadness, but also a feeling of hope and resiliency that we shared with the audience. It was great to celebrate our country and its spirit in song. Thanks to all the Harmonizers who were a part of this event, and to our audiences who really appreciated it. ♪

PRE-CONTEST SESSION *(continued)*

One final comment has to do with the abnormally high level of "chatter" coming from the risers on Tuesday. A large portion of the commentary was surely related to what was just sung or said, but we need to rely on (and listen to) the people in front to recognize and address the issues that are most important to the ensemble. There is no "gag order" for our merry band, but at times I would be favorably inclined to some gentle choking.... ♪



See you in Wildwood!

Happy Birthday! ♪



October 2
Jim Knight



*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!

PUBLISHING DEADLINE!!

Manuscripts must be in the editor's hands on the **20th** of each month for publication in the *In Tune with the Hunterdon Harmonizers* bulletin. E-mail articles to lindaw23@earthlink.net or send them to Linda Williams, 24 Toad Lane, Ringoes, NJ 08551. ♪

COMMITTEE CHAIRS (cont'd)

Music:

- Section Leader, Tenor*
George Schwerdt
- Section Leader, Lead*
Pat Cerillo
- Acting Section Leader, Baritone*
Mark Bentley
- Section Leader, Bass*
Rusty Williams
- Electronic Equipment & Learning Tapes*
Charlie Mohr
- Music Librarian*
Ron Todd
- Vocal Coach*
Ron Knickerbocker

Shows and Performances:

- Craft Show*
Richard Cornelison
Tony Weber
- District Convention*
Bruce Budde
- Holiday Show*
Ron Newsom
- Picnic*
Richard Kacvinski
Rusty Williams
- Singing Valentines*
Jim Knight
Charlie Mohr
- Church Choir Relief (summer)*
Jack Gardner

Membership:

- Public Relations*
Jack Gardner
- Young Men in Harmony*
Ron Roth
- Chorus Welfare:**
- Badges/ Health & Welfare*
Nick Rigas
- Uniforms*
Lou Bowers
- Housing (Elks)*
Art Cole
- Chorus Merchandise:**
- CDs*
Richard Kacvinski
Ron Roth

- Cups, etc.*
Dennis McKevitt

Programs:

- Meetings*
Rich Cronce
- Refreshments*
Clarke Applegate

LADIES AUXILIARY

- Co-Chairpersons*
Sharon Cole
Carol McKevitt
- Treasurer*
Linda Kacvinski
- Corresponding Secretary*
Alice Rigas
- Recording Secretary*
Linda Williams

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



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c/o Linda Williams, Editor
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