



# In Tune



with the

# HUNTERDON Harmonizers Barbershop Chorus



Mid-Atlantic District, Hunterdon Chapter

Flemington, NJ

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#### 2004 OFFICERS

##### President

Art Cole, Jr.

##### Past President

Richard Kacvinski

##### VP Membership

Lee B. Roth

##### VP Music & Performances

Michael W. Fordice, PhD

##### VP Program

Rich Cronce

##### VP Public Relations

Jack Gardner

##### Secretary

Ron Newsom

##### Treasurer

Rich Cornelison

##### Board Members

Chris Fordice  
Charlie Mohr  
Ed Kunkel  
Murray Natkie

##### Director

Don Reckenbeil

##### Administrative Assistant

Sharon Cole

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

##### Music:

##### Assistant Directors

Rusty Williams  
George Schwerdt

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## ♪ HUNTERDON HARMONIZER 2004–2005 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	Dec 21	Ward Singing	HMC	TBA
Sat	Dec 25	<b>MERRY CHRISTMAS!</b>		
Sat	Jan 1, 2005	<b>HAPPY NEW YEAR!</b>		
Tues	Jan 11	Ron Knickerbocker coaching session at Elks		7:30 p.m.
Sat	Jan 15	2005 Planning Meeting	TBA, Flemington	9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Sat	Jan 15	Installation Dinner	Mountain View Chalet	6:30 p.m.
Tues	Feb 8	Ron Knickerbocker coaching session at Elks		7:30 p.m.
Sat–Mon	Feb 12–14	Singing Valentines	TBA	TBA
Thurs	June 30	Deer Path Park Performance	Deer Path Park	6 p.m.

## “THE RETURN OF THE GRINCH” THANK YOU...

by Ron Newsom, Secretary and Show Chairman

It goes without saying that this year's show was a very successful project. It happened as a result of everyone pulling together and dedicating their time and effort in bringing the words and actions on paper to life. There are so many to thank.

The Show Committee of **Don, Mike Fordice, Rusty, Pat, Carmen, Bob Burnet, Jack Gardner, and Ron Roth** played a vital part from developing music and lyrics to staging design, sound, and lighting, etc. Many hours were spent putting the best possible ideas together for the show. **Ed Kunkel** is to be applauded for fantastic ticket sales and pushing to get as many seats sold as possible. **Ted McGinnis** kept up with the props and made sure we got all the staging where it needed to be. **Ron Roth** and his crew of **Charlie Mohr** and **Ed Kunkel** came through with another great set design. It was very amazing. **Mike** and **Chris Fordice** produced another great ad book. **Mike's** ideas for the book were great and it was a very professional production. His poster and postcard design gave an eye-catching sparkle to promoting the show. **Carmen** was instrumental in keeping all of us looking good and in position during the show. His input for the lighting cues and format were excellent and made a



PHOTO BY KATHY BUDDÉ

major difference. **Liz Systo** was terrific in keeping everyone on cue and making sure the props and characters were where they needed to be. **Joe Systo's** directions added life and drama as well as laughter to the characters and kept the flow in order for the show. **Vida's** choreography this year was outstanding. Again, the flow was great and kept the show moving. The kids were very professional and kept their focus. They and all of us can be very proud of them. **Bob Burnet, Alden, and Murray** provided the sound we needed. It was the best that I have been associated with in the past three shows. A big thanks to **Amy Heitkamp** for her costume ideas and designs. She and a host of others worked many hours on the Grinch costume, snowman suit, sweatdog outfits, and chorus costumes. **Alison**

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**Fordice** made the Grinch disguise used during the Grinch's trip to Who-Ville. Excellent work. Hats off to all of you who worked on your costumes, helped with building the set, and then moving the sets from one place to the other. Thanks **Pat Cerillo** and **Rich Cornelison** for the afterglow arrangements. Well done and enjoyed by all. **Jack Gardner**, **Lee Roth**, and **Sharon Cole** teamed up to give full coverage publicity for the show which really helped increase attendance. Thank you, **Lee**, for the many pictures you took that were spread far and wide in many publications. Thanks to our **auxiliary** for all their support and for setting up the lobby area and taking care of ticket sales, the raffle, selling cookies, greeting everyone, etc. You do a wonderful and important job in making our guests feel welcome. You are never appreciated enough. A big thanks to **Bill Tabor** and **Bob Burnet** for filming the show. Preliminary results are excellent. This will help for future shows and promotion.

A special thanks to **Don Reckenbeil** for his imagination, dedication, and numerous talents. He is "Mr. Showman" to say the least, staying after us and giving those added expressions, perfect notes, and personalities that made the show what it was. Your efforts can never be supported enough with thank you's. You do make a difference in the show.

**Florindo** was a superb narrator. It would not have been the same without the tones and expressions that gave realism to the  
*(continued on next page)*



## LOOKING FORWARD TO 2005

The year of 2005 is going to be an exciting time for the **Harmonizers**. The first thing that will get it going will be your Board of Officers going to COTS school to learn what ideas the Society can offer to help us to do our jobs more efficiently.

Then comes the meeting of January 15<sup>th</sup> at the Union Hotel. This meeting is open to all members and will serve as the launching pad for the year. One group will break away to discuss music, shows, and quartet programs for the year 2005. There will be another group working on social activities and fundraising. We will have some work to do on continuing to market our chorus using Public Relations to attract more members. We will also have some time to discuss how we can make our Tuesday nights more effective.

If we get enough members to take part in the planning meeting we will be able to break into three or four discussion groups, and then we can come together to compare ideas and develop strategies for going forward over the next couple of years. It will be great to start the year off together on the right foot. As your president, I would like to have an even better year than we had in 2004. This means I need your help, guys. This chorus's administration is not just the board members: it's all of us working together towards one goal.

I hope everyone gets to spend some relaxing time with those they love through the Holidays. Enjoy your mini-vacation, because we will be tuning up for some exciting happenings after the New Year rings in. 🎵



WOW and the Mayor of Who-ville.



Voice Activation and the Sweatdogs of Who-ville.

## SECRETARY'S CORNER

by Ron Newsom



**Renewals:** Please congratulate the following for their continued years with the **Hunterdon Harmonizers**:

Member:	Years
<b>Mark Bentley</b>	43 (Congratulations!)

**Next Renewals are for 1/31/2005.** You can renew your membership on line if you wish <http://www.spebsqsa.org>. If you need help, let me know. 🎵

words and kept the show moving along. Major thanks also to **Ali Reckenbeil** (our sweet Cindi-Lou) for the major effort in making her character real. Your stage presence was remarkable.

The Grinch—now there's a character. **Chris Fordice** did an awesome job bringing his role to life. You were so good and Jim Carey-like. Thank you for all your hard work.

To the cast of the *Hunterdon Harmonizer Barbershop Chorus* and to the kids I have one thing to say. I appreciate the dedication that all of you showed! I am proud to be a part of a team that took a concept in a short period of time and made it come alive as Who-Ville and its villagers. One of the guys at the school doing the lighting said that he was amazed how great the production was given the short amount of rehearsals.

As for myself, I loved being the mayor. I had a lot of fun. You made it fun for me. Yes, I put in the effort and the time. Not everything was a picnic. I always knew that it would be a great show. Develop a plan and stick to it. It happened because of you and a belief that this would work.

When you think of it, the work of so many reflects what we as Barbershoppers believe. Songs tell a story and how we present them conveys the meaning to all within hearing distance. Our song was "The Return of the Grinch". Our ears were the audience. We had them believing in Who-Ville and all its characters. Christmas is giving and caring and loving. What I saw on stage Saturday was the gift of Christmas for all to enjoy. Keep smiling and keep your hearts always forgiving.

Thank you all for that gift. 🎵

## THE LIGHTS OF LOVE

by Rusty Williams, Assistant Director

Once again the *Hunterdon Harmonizers* turned out to support the Hunterdon Medical Center's "Lights of Love" celebration. With luminarias all around, a group of 16 *Harmonizers* entertained the hospital's supporters with about 25 minutes of holiday entertainment. **Don** sent a tambourine of jingle bells coursing through the crowd, and a cute picture of one of the younger members of the audience trying to figure out what to do was featured in the *Hunterdon Democrat*. There was a nice shot of the chorus in the same article. It's very satisfying to be able to contribute to community events like this one—we are fortunate to be *Hunterdon Harmonizers*.



## YOUNG MEMBER SAYS THE SHOW "WAS MAGICAL!"

by Barbershopper Max Sabor

We all know what went well at the show—just about everything! That show was magical! We sang, danced, played, acted silly, entertained, and had fun. But the most magical part of being in this Chorus wasn't just the show. The magic was in each practice, talking and singing with all of these nice guys.

I've heard people say that it is the simple pleasures in life that makes life worth living. Singing in the *Harmonizers* is one of those simple pleasures that each and every one of us creates when we join in song. The single regret about the *Harmonizers* that I have had is that I didn't join sooner! This is a great bunch of people to be with. We are almost a family. It's great to be a Barbershopper, especially in Hunterdon County!

It was really fun to play the trumpet with such talented players as **Pat** and **Michael**. Thanks for including me. I thought I would be nervous singing in a quartet, but when I got up to the microphone it was thrilling! Last but not least, thanks to **Don** for letting me do so much in this show.

*EDITOR'S NOTE: In Tune is distributed to all members of the HH, several friends of the chapter, members of the NJ State Council on the Arts, to several other Barbershop newsletter editors, and to many Mid-Atlantic District Barbershop Officers. For the benefit of these readers who are not members, I want to point out that this article was submitted by one of the chapter's newest members—12-year-old Max Sabor. The Harmonizers are very proud to have him as a member... P.S. He was also one of the dancers!*



Rusty, Max, and George.

## WHAT DO LACROSSE AND BARBERSHOP HARMONY HAVE IN COMMON?

by Rusty Williams, Assistant Director

If you have kids on the Somerville Girls' and Boys' Lacrosse teams, AND you're a member of the Somerville Parents' Lacrosse Organization (SPLO), AND you're part of the annual fundraiser, AND that fundraiser is an auction, AND you know three other guys who like to sing, AND one of the songs you know concerns an auctioneer... simple, huh?

**Don, Pat, George, and Rusty** (aka, *Voice Activation*) got together the day after our holiday show at the new Neshanic Golf Course Clubhouse to kick off the SPLO's auction/fundraiser with "The Auctioneer." **Don** put together a parody on "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas" that encouraged generous bidding, and then **Pat** set the standard for auctioneering. As we finished, the real auctioneer didn't miss a beat and the bids started flying. A good close to a great Barbershop weekend! 🎵

## MERRY CHRISTMAS!

### BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

#### OUR MISSION:

We enrich lives through singing.

- We perpetuate and celebrate the barbershop harmony style.
- We serve each new generation of singers through support of vocal music education.
- We serve audiences through an uplifting, wholesome variety of a cappella musical entertainment.
- We serve our members by sharing fellowship, performance skills, and leadership development.
- We help build better communities and a better world, bonding diverse people through the pure fun of a cappella harmony as we "Keep the Whole World Singing!"

—reprinted from *The Harmonizer* (December/December 2004), by Rob Hopkins, Society President 🎵



## WHAT 'PR' MEANS

by Jack Gardner, VP Public Relations

What does PR mean? That sounds like a dumb question. After all, I've been VP of PR for HH for several years. If I haven't figured it out by now, there's no hope. Of course PR stands for 'public relations'. This is what we do when we send out press releases, cultivate members of the press, encourage people to take pictures of our shows and print them in their publications. Public relations also means keeping our target audience aware of what we are doing, by singing at hospitals and nursing homes, marching in parades and doing all those public things the Harmonizers do.

As I wrap up my term as VP of PR, I want to thank the officers I've served with and the guys I've worked with for their help in making my job both easy and fun. Lots of people have gotten involved to help make our PR more effective. The results of the PR efforts for this year's shows *can* be measured: how about that great turnout!

Mike and others got some great pictures and posters created. Don spotted a local newspaper willing to give us good coverage. Lee helped get a front page picture in the Star Ledger after the show. Ron N. spearheaded a sustained and focused effort to promote the show. Good PR is truly a team effort. I'm sure Mike can count on this level of continued support as he takes over PR in 2005.

But PR means something else: Personal Relationships. This is one of the things that makes the Harmonizers so special. Because of the relationships we have developed with each other, we are a stronger chapter, we sing better, and we all have a much richer experience. Not all chapters have cultivated this attribute: we care about each other.

A friend of mine who came to the Holiday Show and the afterglow made this comment: "Now I understand why you love this group so much. It's a lot more than just a bunch of guys singing together." It starts with the things you share the whole year through. (Sounds like a lyric we sing!)

So what does PR mean? Though the end product may be effective Public Relations, it all starts with Personal Relationships. Thanks to everyone for their talents and effort they expended in making Holiday Harmony 2005 such a success. And thanks to all for developing the personal relationships that made it happen! 🎵

## NEWS FROM OUR AUXILIARY

by Carol McKeivitt and Sharon Cole, Co-Presidents

### A JOB WELL DONE!!!

Congratulations to the *Hunterdon Harmonizers* for two successful performances of the "Return of the Grinch"!

Thank you to all the family and friends of the *Harmonizers* for volunteering your time and culinary talents at both of the performances on Saturday. The auxiliary was able to continue the annual tradition of ushering, selling show tickets and raffle tickets, and maintaining the very busy refreshment table because of you, the members of our *Harmonizer* family. We couldn't have done it without you!

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy "Harmonizer" New 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](mailto:lindaw23@earthlink.net) or send them to Linda Williams, 24 Toad Lane, Ringoes, NJ 08551. 🎵

# Happy Birthday! 🎵

January 3  
Dennis McKeivitt  
January 7  
Bill Haller  
January 10  
Nick Rigas  
January 16  
Murray Natkie  
January 20  
Ron Roth  
January 26  
Ted Maginnis  
January 28  
Bruce Budde



\*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! 🎵

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS (cont'd)

*Choreographer*  
Vida Allworthy

### 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 McKeivitt

### Programs:

*Meetings*  
Rich Cronce

*Refreshments*  
Clarke Applegate

### AUXILIARY

*Co-Chairpersons*  
Sharon Cole  
Carol McKeivitt

*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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