

# BARBERSHOP DELCHORDIAN

AUGUST 2006

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DELAWARE COUNTY (PA) CHAPTER OF THE MIDDLE ATLANTIC DISTRICT OF THE HARRY DREW, EDITOR

BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

VOLUME 50 NUMBER 4

#### Delchordians at the Lansdowne D.A.R. Flag Day Observance



George Van Dusen, Phil Fredericks, Bill Laurence, Hank Bachofer, Gil Doan, John Stager, Ed Davis, Harry Drew, Ed Matte

## IN THIS ISSUE



# We've had a busy summer . . and we're just getting warmed up

John Stager's been on the phone again...and again...

ohn, our official business manager and job-getter, has been outdoing himself lately (don't miss the new schedule on the back page). No sooner do we finish our summer patriotic routines (Flag Day and Independence Day) and the Cape May "Night Game", and John is handing out a schedule that takes us through Thanksgiving.

You're a good man, John Stager!!

Most of the locations we have been to before but there are a couple of new places that sound very interesting. In addition to singing at his new church, Hope United Methodist, and the Country House, there's a Saturday afternoon engagement in September that is a wee bit different.. Ollie Armitage, along with his Iron Workers Bank, has gotten us a spot at Chester Day

at the Tinicum waterfront – Governeur Printz Park to be precise. The final details will be forthcoming but it's an engagement that none of us want to miss! In fact, we should <u>all</u> want to attend <u>all</u> of the performances on the schedule. We are

the performances on the schedule. We are an entertaining group – to ourselves as well as to our audiences.

# A lot of new music is coming to the library

Get your tape-players warmed up

Your Music Team and 2007 Show guys have been wrestling with themes for next year's show, plus ideas for general revisions to our sing-out (cont'd on page 2) Page 2 THE DELCHORDIAN AUGUST 2006 NEW MUSIC (cont'd from page 1)
repertoire. A couple of decisions have been
made, the music bought and we are all currently learning them. It won't be long before
we have a load of music to attack and master.

BE THERE!!

# We sing about the U.S.A. but Cape May weekend seems to cap the summer

We have been singing at the Lansdowne Daughters of the American Revolution's Flag Day observance for several years and the Lansdowne Athletic Union Independence Day celebration for a while, too. But it seems that the Cape May weekend (and it has become a weekend – a whole week for some) has great attraction – second only to the Spring Show. More and more guys are singing on the Mall on Saturday night and more and more are not from our chorus! They know when we'll be there and they show up to sing.

Ah, the magic of barbershop harmony!



AUGUST BARBERSHOPPER OF THIE MONTH



PHILL FREDERICKS

Great bari

Been a member of other good choruses

Very well organized

Has good ideas – needs to be listened to

(Sorry, Phil, but it's the only picture we have)

SEIP'S

Smile, darn ya, smile!!

Barbershop Craft

The following is an excerpt from the HARMONIZER, May 1960. It was written by JIM ERWIN, Chairman, Barbershop Craft Committee

#### BREATH SUPPORT

Here again there is glaring weakness—especially in our choruses. There is no need for this weakness, for breath support is easy and clear cut and just a matter of forming good habits.

The voice is produced in the larynx (Adam's apple) by forcing the breath through tightly stretched vocal cords. A considerable volume of air is needed, especially on loud, sustained, or very high tones, and this air must usually be at some pressure, and, above all, the pressure must be steady.

The air is supplied by the lungs and by the pressure of what is called the diaphragm—a web of muscles underneath the lungs. It is the diaphragm that supports your tones, consciously or unconsciously. What want to do is consciously move the diaphragm to support every tone.

Stand erect, weight slightly forward, chest high, relaxed, and breathe normally. Notice that when you inhale, the abdomen moves outward as the diaphragm moves down, permitting the lungs to fill with air. When you exhale, the abdomen moves in as the diaphragm moves up and applies pressure on the lungs. Take several breaths consciously moving the diaphragm to facilitate the breathing. Do not force or jerk the muscles—just apply steady pressure.

Take a normal brreath and open your mouth wide but relaxed. Now, starting with a nasal hum (back of tongue high), sing "Ah" on the G just below middle C. Sustain the tone as long as you can without straining, and as the air in your lungs is depleted, consciously move the diaphragm upward to apply a steady pressure on the lungs.

It may seem silly to do consciously what Nature will do for you anyway; but the fact is that by mentally directing the pressure applied on your lungs and by forming the habit of consciously supporting every tone, you can double your lung capacity.

Support every phrase you sing.

## Wouldn't it be neat to have a Barberpole Cat program?

... any volunteers?

There a lot of newer members who have not really been exposed to the Polecat songs. If anybody would like to take on this fun project for the Chapter, just speak to anybody on the Board and we'll get going!

# CHAPTER CHIT - CHAT

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### BIRTHDAYS

### August

- 18 Bruno Tonelli Ed Davis
- 21 Nicole Agran Marj Davis
- 24 June Ricci
- 29 Gabe Ricci

# September

- 14 Gil Doan
- 21 Bill Burger
- 22 Gloria Armitage
- 29 Don Lenz

If I have missed anyone, I apologize. Please let me know and I will correct my list. Thanks ED.

### . . FROM AUGUST 1996



Barberpole Cat Project Progressing Just Fine, Thank You!

IT'S REALLY GREAT to hear so many guys get up in front of the chorus to sing in a strange quartet and do it well enough to qualify for Barberpole Cat credit!... and some in more than one voice! Next month we'll publish the names of the guys who are leading the pack.

Remember, Gabe's goal is nothing short of the whole chapter. Just do it!

#### **DELCO CHAPTER OFFICERS**

#### DATES TO KEEP IN MIND

PRESIDENT Don Lenz	PAHO	-		HATO THE ACTION OF
VP CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT	August 15	Tuesday	7:30	Beaumont at Bryn Mawr
Chuck Spencer	20	Sunday	10 A.M.	St. Mark's U.M. Church
VP MUSIC & PERFORMANCE				
PROGRAM VP	23	Wednesday	7:00	Whitehorse Village
Phil Fredricks	30	Wednesday	7:00	Simpson Meadows
VP MARKETING & PR Buzz Miller	daunuA	vveunesuay	7.00	Simpson Meadows
TREASURER	Sept. 6	Modpoodov	7.00	Country House
Gil Doan	Sept. 0	Wednesday	7:00	Country House
CORRESP-SECRETARY Jack Lawler	16	Saturday	2 - 4	Chester Day at Tinicum waterfront
RECORDING SECRETARY Bill Laurence	27	Wednesday	2 P.M.	Coatesville VA Hospital
DIRECTOR AT-LARGE				
Ed Davis	October 17	Tuesday	7.00	Cronito Forms Fatatas
Bruce Keller MUSIC DIRECTOR	October 17	ruesday	7:00	Granite Farms Estates
Bob Seip				
Assistant Directors	Mayambaa	0 14/5-4-5-4-1	7.00	Tallia: Hamadanah
Harry Drew	November 8 Wednesday 7:30			Tel Hai – Honeybrook
Phil Lieggi	12	2 Sunday	11 A.M.	Hope U.M. Church, Havertown
BUSINESS MANAGER				
John Stager George Van Dusen	2	Tuesday	7:30	Riddle Village

The Delaware County Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society meets every Monday evening from 7:30 to 10:00 at St. Marks United Methodist Church on Sproul Road in Broomall.

For meeting and membership info, call John Stager, (610) 446-0203.

For performance and booking information, call John Stager or George Van Dusen, (610) 789-6955.