



NED's NEWS

*A monthly newsletter for members of the
Northeastern District of the Barbershop Harmony Society.*

August 2018

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District Web Page
www.nedistrict.org

Society Web Page
www.barbershop.org

Contact Us:

Submit articles and other information to
[NED News:](mailto:elfritze@gmail.com)
elfritze@gmail.com

*Deadline for the
September
Newsletter is
September 15*

Letter from the President

I'm a little late this month getting out this newsletter, but as they say... better late than never. I can't believe how quickly the summer has gone by. I'd like to start off by thanking Alan Briand, our VP of Music and Performance, along with his outstanding team for a very successful Harmony College Northeast and Top Gun. We had to cancel this event last year, and it was great to bring it back under Alan's leadership. From all accounts, participants had a great time. It was great to be coached by and to learn from both **Forefront** and **Category 4** quartets. I'm sure we'll be hearing the benefits from their efforts during this Fall's District Convention.



Another big thank you goes out to Dan Anthony, Camp Director, and to Niall Trimby, NED VP-Youth In Harmony, for another fantastic Harmony Explosion Camp Northeast. This has been our most popular program and continues to excel at bringing the best barbershop singing to the high school youth throughout our district. The energy and enthusiasm shown by the campers is contagious and carried over to the Saturday Night Show, which has become one of the best shows in the District. Congratulations Dan, Niall and to all the "staffers."



Finally, by the time you read this, registrations and hotel information is posted, open and ready for you on our District web site for our Fall Convention in Portland, Maine. Qualifying contestant groups (quartet, chorus and VLQ) can enter their respective contests via the invitation sent from barberscore.com. The information is available in plenty of time to make your plans, so please don't delay. Get your registrations and contest entries in as soon as possible. Please don't wait until the last minute. It really helps both Bob Bradley and Alan Lamson in planning for the convention and contests. Portland is a great city, and our venue for the contests is an outstanding facility. You should make every attempt to attend. From what I hear, we could have upwards of 30 quartets and 21 choruses competing. We might even get to hear a chorus or two from the Sunrise Division, which is always special. I hope to see everyone there.

Ed



Quartet News:

Odds N' Ends Recounts their First International Experience

*NED was well represented at this year's International with two quartets, **DRIVE** and **Odds N' Ends**. This was a first for **Odds N' Ends**. I thought it would be nice to hear from them on what it was like being the new kids on the block, so to speak. Thanks go to Chris Howard for providing the following first hand account of the experience.*

Whirlwind ride - that's the only phrase we can use to describe the last two years for each of us. For a bunch of guys from mid-coast Maine to go from strangers to International Competitors is more than we ever could have imagined. But there we were in front of 2000 of our closest friends in the Chapin Theater and thousands more at home watching the webcast, and it was more fun than we ever thought!

Being on stage certainly was fun, but the experience of non-stop barbershop is truly the purpose of Internationals. For three of us, it was the first time ever to such a convention in any capacity, and it was fun from start to finish. Every day held something special and interesting for us, from our plane to Orlando delayed with the repairman ripping "spare nuts and bolts" out of our plane, to meeting die-hard fans at our hotel from far-away places such as Scotland, to singing with the Downeasters on Friday during the Chorus Contest. That last one held special meaning for Jim and Phil, since both their fathers were there for the moment: Jim's in the audience cheering us on, and Phil's up on stage joining him and the rest of our brothers in song.

There's far too many things people have done for us to this point to help us along the path, so we will attempt to thank them all here briefly - we apologize for those left out. Huge thank you's to: Renae and Tom Misner, Diane and David Patterson, Steve and Renee Tramack, Jay Wiley and Kathy Greason, and Kirk Young. Special thanks to Exchange Street Quartet, our big brothers in harmony, especially Miles Hunt and George Feinberg for all the coaching. And thank you to the Downeasters - your support means everything! We'll see you all soon as we welcome you to Portland in October for the NED Fall Convention!



Jonas, Chris, Jim, and Phil

Odds n Ends

Everyone in Harmony

By now everyone has heard about the Society's bold initiative "Everyone in Harmony", which allows people of all genders to become members of the Society. I'm sure there must be a lot of questions regarding what this might mean to my chapter, and my barbershop experience. Such questions are natural and are being addressed at both the district and society level. While I don't have all the answers, I'm very interested hearing from you on what you think this means. I would ask that if you have any questions regarding "Everyone in Harmony" than you submit them to me and I'll attempt to answer them here. Questions can be sent to my email, elfritze@gmail.com. I'm interested in hearing what everyone thinks. Thanks!

Announcements ... Don't forget the ...

<p>New England Harmony Brigade SHOW! Saturday Night A Cappella Showcase! • September 15, 2018 • 7:30 PM • Courtyard by Marriott, Marlborough, Mass. with special guest headliner quartet... OC Times (BHS 2008 International Quartet Champions!) <i>Limited number of show tickets available.</i> Start Here: http://www.nehb.net/</p>	<p>Bass River Barbershop Bash The biggest barbershop event on Cape Cod! • Saturday Sept. 22, 2018 • All day, all night! Bring your quartet or find one there, and go on the benefit show that night! 508-258-0029 or rwmccurdy@comcast.net</p>
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Chapter Show Announcement

The North Country Chordsmen (Hanover, NH) are pleased to announce that **Signature Quartet** (2017 BHS 2nd Place Silver Medalists), will highlight their Annual Show, "How The West Was Sung!" on Saturday, September 22, 2018. **Signature** will be joined on the show by **Aged To Perfection**, Harmony Incorporated's 2016 Area 2 Quartet Champions, and third place finishers at HI's 2017 International competition. ATP will compete again this year at HI's 2018 International. NCC's chorus, quartets and VLQ also will perform. Lebanon Opera House.

Upcoming Events

from the online District Calendar - more information can be found there.

DATE	EVENT	
Sept. 14-16	New England Harmony Brigade	Marlborough, MA
Sept. 22	Bass River Barbershop Bash	Yarmouth, MA (Cape Cod)
Sept. 22	Hanover Chapter Show (with Signature Quartet)	Lebanon, NH
Oct. 26-28	Fall District Convention and Contests	Portland, ME

Tag of the Month

Here's a tag written by the late Dave Stevens. Dave was one of the first Society Music educators hired. I encourage everyone to watch his video on YouTube, recorded many years ago at Harmony College, on "What it is we're trying to preserve". You should be able to find it on the BHS YouTube channel.

5. My Heart Is Free

My heart is free, I long to be way down home.

Dave Stevens

One More Thing

As always, this newsletter is always looking for interesting articles. I know there are activities out there in your chapters that you'd be willing to share with your fellow NED barbershoppers!! Send any information to me before Sept 15 and I'll be sure to get it published here.