



# The Dundalk Charivari Dundalk, Md. Chapter



Barbershop Harmony Society, (formerly known as SPEBSQSA)

Official Bulletin of the Dundalk, Maryland Chapter, Western Division, Mid-Atlantic District

Meets every Tuesday, 7:30 P.M. at the Govt. Center Auditorium, Merritt Blvd. and Wise Ave., Dundalk, Md.

International quartet champion Oriole Four, 1970

SPEBSQSA International chorus champion, 1961, 1971

Top P.R.O.B.E. International bulletin, 1971, 2001

Home of the Chorus of the Chesapeake, Mr. Rick Taylor, directing

**Dundalk Barbershopper-of-the-Year - 2006 James Yeh**



Volume 50 No. 1

**GIT-ER-DUN DALK!**

Jan-Feb 2008

## Singing Valentines brighten lives

### The old order changeth back,

by Tom Wheatley, member

Some of you may recall that it was about three or four years ago that the flame of my editor's lamp flickered and went out. I've been busy since then, including holding the post of Content Judge for PROBE, the bulletin editors' group that heads up the judging process for Society bulletins. In the process of judging for, lo, these last few years, I realized that I missed the task of editing the Charivari.



Thus it was that I asked Cross if he would mind if I snatched the job back. He graciously agreed, and so, once more you have me. I will note that one of the things that helped to dim my flame was the lack of article inputs participation by the membership. I will do my best to urge better participation. Accordingly, if you are heading up or even involved in some operation or function, expect me to bug you for a report on your plans, progress, experience or results.

Is it a deal? Assuming that the answer is in the affirmative, I now declare my editor's lamp to be burning once more.



### Five quartets share the joy

by Tom McPoyle, coordinator

Many a barbershopper, at the end of a very satisfying and exciting adventure on Valentines Day, finally relaxes and relives the events of the day with his quartet buddies, loved ones at home and anyone else who could appreciate what the day means for him. This is a day that, for most barbershoppers I know, is the most fun and the most heartfelt of all the things we do as barbershoppers. Valentines Day of 2008 was certainly no exception.



Tom McPoyle

The Dundalk Chapter had thirty-three valentines to deliver and five quartets to accomplish that "task". The quartets assembled were: *Calliope*, with **Ray Agnello, Ted Evans, Dan Dekowski** and **John Treff**; *Classic Collection*, with **Danny Smoot-Wood, Ed Shaw, Bob Mattes** and **Roger Heer**; *Dundalk Avenue*, with **Johnny Myers, Bud Laumann, Tim Long** and **Cliff Meekins**; *On The Way Out* with **Ned Decamp, Neil Keihm, Dave McConagha** and **Morgan Smith**; *Surprise*, with **Cross O'Donovan, John Grant, Bob Hirsh** and **Tom McPoyle**, (filling in for **Bruce Minnick**, who was recovering from open-heart surgery.)

Thanks, in large part, to the **Dundalk Eagle**, a lot of the jobs were in the Dundalk area and they were assigned to, of course, *Dundalk Avenue*, who responded in their typical fashion by doing such a

(Continued on page 2)

**Singing is fun. Singing well is much more fun. Let's have much more fun !**

(Five quartets, continued from page 1)

wonderful job that they drew letters of thanks and praise from five of their people, who sent the letters along with their checks. This quartet had a long day and finished the day with an extra job they did for a very thankful donor who called to say how much he appreciated it.

All of the quartets had stories to tell of how the donees (the people who were sung to) reacted - nearly always with grateful happiness - I say "nearly" because there was one lady who had recently broken off the relationship for just cause and was very annoyed by the valentine. There was one older woman who was in the beauty parlor, ready for the final step in a permanent wave and who simply looked at the quartet throughout like "how dare you sing to me here!!" but who, at the end of the song, burst into tears and thanked the quartet with a big smile!

There was one donee who was a huge man (we later learned he's 6'7") and who radiated "niceness," if you can imagine that, with a wonderful smile and who very patiently stood (with his rose) with the quartet while a number of his co-workers took pictures. Another was a very lovely young woman who listened with both surprise and appreciation to her husband's gift and the fact that her father, the grandfather of her two children, was a member of the quartet.

Nearly all of the reactions to the singing valentines are tears of grateful happiness, which can be infectious, making it very difficult to sing but which, at the same time, make the Singing Valentines program the very best, the most enjoyable thing that a barbershopper does all year. If you've never tried it, you owe it to yourself to do so, believe me, even if you have to make up a quartet just for that reason!

### Charivari distribution guidelines

Please remember that while the Charivari is written as a hard-copy edition, all members who have Internet access are urged to download it from the chapter web site. Paper copies will only be sent to those without web access, as well as to the widows on our mailing list. One advantage of downloading is that you get the magnificent photos in color.

### 2008 Board of Directors

Position	Name
President	Paul Murrell
Immediate past president	Bob Fogle, Sr.
VP-chapter development	Dave Gemmell
VP-program	Bill Eberius
VP-music	Rob Wolff
VP-public relations	Bill Fogle
Secretary	Ed Baker
Financial Secretary	Bruce Neumann
Recording Secretary	Frank Sigwart
Treasurer	Dave McConagha
Chapter Consultant	Bud Laumann
Chorus Manager	Dick Dods
Members-at-large	Neil Keihm
	Sam McFarland
	Bill Nash
	Tom Wheatley

*The next meeting is March 24.  
All members are welcome to attend.*

### March board meeting note

Be sure to thank the above dedicated members for their efforts throughout this year to serve YOUR chapter. Except for July and December, the board is scheduled to meet on the third Monday of the month. However, due to a conflict with St. Patrick's Day activities at our meeting site, the meeting has been pushed to March 24, and will be held at the Catch 22, 6000 Eastern Avenue.

Do you have a comment, suggestion or problem of which the board should be informed? Write a note and pass it on to any member-at-large. Handling such items is but one of the several tasks that these gentlemen have on their shoulders.



*"Could he mean ME? I'm just trying to help."*

***Singing is fun. Singing well is much more fun. Let's have much more fun !***

## Paul's Ponderings

by Paul Murrell, president

The initial intent of my column for this month has taken quite a turn. I had planned for a completely different set of subjects. However, yesterday (February 24) I attended the "Nancy With the Laughing Face" quartet extravaganza at Chesapeake College on the



Paul Murrell

Eastern Shore. The show was a fund raiser to help **Nancy Sterling**, a talented barbershopper, defray some of the medical costs incurred with her illness, generally known as "Lou Gehrig's Disease."

On occasion, as a chapter administrator, I have during my somewhat immature moments, selfishly asked, "Who needs this grief I'm getting?" The answer is quite simple. "I do." When I take the time to assess the pluses and minuses of being the president in this chapter, or of being just one of the thousands of "Joe Barbershoppers," for me, over 95% of what experienced is so positive, and much less than 5% could possibly be a bit better. Wish I could say the same when I'm on the golf course. If so, I would never be exiting the fairways or greens.

My 45 years in the Dundalk Chapter has blessed me with an awareness of the caring and love for one another that exists in our local "fraternity" of singers. Nancy's show simply supported my feelings, but it was also an awakening that love was not just in the Dundalk Chapter, but was a phenomenon permeating throughout our entire barbershopping family of men and women. I have never met Nancy face-to-face, although I know her husband, Tom, moderately well. However, there were at least 150 faces in the audience that I did know, and that knew Nancy. By the tone of our conversations, Nancy became "personally" known to me, and I've also come to love her.

As I shared with Director Rick, the tribute was at times, emotionally draining, but all three hours of it were spiritually rewarding. Most gratifying was the fact that there were at least 24 Dundalk men, many with their significant others in attendance to show support for Nancy. By the way, her quartet did themselves proud as they opened the show.

What's the point of all this? I'm not totally sure, but the show and its purposes demonstrated that despite some of the differences which are bound to occur in our hobby or any other, we are blessed with the bonding features that serve to make the glass more than half full. These include the barbershop harmony we enjoy, and the ability which barbershoppers exhibit to support and love when the chips are down.

For those Dundalk folks in attendance, tell the truth. Don't those barbershop chords ring just a bit brighter and sound so much better when they are sung not just to entertain, but with love encompassing each note? They did yesterday for this writer.

Finally, I just want to add,  
It's great being a barbershopper - in Dundalk -  
SINGING BARBERSHOP! God Bless!

## Founders' Night approaches

by Dick Dods, chairman

This annual event is a highlight of the social side of the Dundalk Chapter. On this evening, we celebrate and honor the founders of our chapter and of the Society. In addition, we pay tribute to our special guests, our ladies, the past presidents, and our Board of Directors.



Dick Dods

The evening's events include a special musical tribute to the Founding Fathers and the departed members of our chapter. There is also a congratulatory salute to men who have reached the milestone of 25 years of membership. Also receiving accolades are our Master Barbershoppers, past Dundalk Barbershoppers of the Year, and we announce the 2007 BOTY.

A cocktail hour and a delicious dinner precede this meaningful program at the beautiful Sparrows Point Country Club, beginning at 6:00 p.m.. Musical selections will be performed by the chorus, followed by dancing to the music of Nite-Life. Jacket and tie is the favored dress, while formal wear is optional. Plan to attend this year's Founders' Night celebration on Saturday, April 5. See **Dick Dods** for reservations. The cost is \$40 per person.

*Singing is fun. Singing well is much more fun. Let's have much more fun !*

## Man bites Snake!

In his infinite wisdom, the M-AD president (and Dundalk member) **Joe Stangl** has put the bite on our own **Bob “Snake” Fogle**, tapping him to be M-AD VP-Membership. Bob succeeds Dundalk’s **Sam McFarland** in this important post. Wouldn’t you think they would learn what the Dundalk Chapter is like from Sam?



*Bob “Snake” Fogle*

Actually, the Snake is only the latest Dundalk man to be on the board this year. Also on the 2008 M-AD Board of Directors are **Rick Taylor** and **Neil Keihm**, as Members-at-Large

## Western Div. offers opportunities

The rules of the contest game state that if you qualify for the International as a result of your performance at the district contest, you are automatically allowed to have a bye to get you past the following division competition round. This year, the Chorus of the Chesapeake has such a bye.

However, rather than bypassing the Western Division chorus contest altogether, we’ll be singing as mike testers and will be scored and critiqued, although it won’t be an actual part of that chorus contest.

What’s the benefit! We have two brand new songs, and this will give us a chance to be fully reviewed by a judging panel before we have to take them to the International contest in Nashville, thus giving **Rick Taylor** and **Joe Connelly** another opportunity to fine-tune our package. Every man is strongly urged to take part.

Then to add to the weekend’s festivities, we have been asked to perform at the M-AD Pep Rally, which is being held on that Sunday. This event replaces the International Quartet Send-off that used to be held just before our qualifying quartets left for the International contest in July. Let’s all plan to be a part of this and to give one more performance before a full audience.

## Officers installed by Joe Stangl

On Tuesday, January 8 of this year, the board and officers of the Dundalk Chapter were installed by our M-AD president, (and Dundalk member) **Joe Stangl**. If you look at the listing on page 2, you may note that there are a number of new faces.



*Joe Stangl*

Actually, some of the faces may be getting old, but they’re new to the board. Thanks go out to **Bill Eberius**, **Neil Keihm**, **Dave McConagha**, **Sam McFarland** and **Bill Nash**, for bringing some fresh blood into our Board of Directors. Thanks also are due to all who volunteered to serve and to help lead the Dundalk Chapter to even more success in 2008.

## *Where’s my popcorn tub?*

by **Tom Wheatley**, WWXXI staff

Generally, I’m a pretty easy-going sort of fella, but things have gone just too far! On Friday of the Woodshed Weekend, I thought I’d be a nice guy. So I loaded up a large Fisher’s popcorn plastic tub with broken pretzels that Dolly and I had just bought from Utz’s pretzel factory in Hanover. I felt it would be a good treat to share with the WWXXI gathering room crowd.

I took the top off the pretzels and set the tub out on one of the tables for folks to help themselves. I expected the pretzels to go fairly fast, and folks were eating them by the handfuls. But then somebody went just too dad-blamed far. Poof! About a quarter-tub full of pretzels disappeared, along with the tub.

Why does this bother me, you ask? I had every intention of getting a refill of Fisher’s popcorn when I go down to the Sweet Adelines contest in Ocean City this coming April. Now I have to get a fresh tub, and pay the full price. Sometimes, life just ain’t fair!

**If you know the whereabouts of the missing tub, please bring it to the meeting on some Tuesday night. No questions will be asked, nor will the police or FBI be contacted.**

*Singing is fun. Singing well is much more fun. Let’s have much more fun !*

## On the trail of staying legal

by Rob Wolff, VP-Music

This article is meant to inform the members of the mighty Chorus of the Chesapeake about why we do what we do with the music. The bottom line is - we must be legal! You can read more about the legalities of music in the article, "Making Music Come Alive ... Legally."

This document can be easily downloaded at [www.judygbari@gorge.net](http://www.judygbari@gorge.net).



Rob Wolff

For new arrangements, we must purchase more than enough copies for currently active members and for our guest books. We need to keep records on when the music was purchased, how many copies were paid for, names of members who have one of these "working copies," how many copies are available for guests, and eventually who returns the working copies of the music. That is why we number all of the arrangements with your name on them. You must remember that the music belongs to the chapter, for the use of the chorus. It does not belong to the individual members.

So, what does one song of new music cost the chorus? A typical piece of music, along with the accompanying learning track, can get rather expensive. Not counting various shipping and handling fees, here's the breakdown.

Sheet music 150 @ \$2.65 per copy	\$397.50
Licensing for 400 CD tracks	\$51.40
License "handling fee"	\$15.00
Total:	\$548.90

Add to these the costs of making our learning CDs. These include \$100 for having the master tracks created, which is well below the standard rate for quality work. Then there is the cost of the CD blank disks, which will run about \$80, when purchased in bulk. All-in-all, these expenses bring the total PER SONG to roughly \$630 per song. At a projected minimum of six new songs per year, that makes the music cost around \$3,780 annually.

Some pieces of music only cost \$1.65 a copy. Accordingly, the cost of those pieces would only come to about \$480. However, you can see that either way,

it gets rather expensive when we are learning several new pieces per year. That is why it behooves us to keep a close eye on the music.

For old arrangements, we must be able to prove that we did purchase enough music for members and guests. This is why we ask you to return music to the chapter after we are done with it, i.e., no longer in the current repertoire. We cannot print more music unless we pay for the additional copies. This is an added expense that the chapter doesn't need. The number of copies we purchase must be accounted for. We must keep track of old music so we can distribute it at a later date if we want to be legal when we sing such a song.

For CD learning tracks, we must purchase a mechanical license for each song we want to duplicate. A fee of 9.1 cents a copy is paid to the copyright holder for each recording track. These learning tracks are also the property of the chorus. They are for your use, but they will also have to be returned to the chorus eventually.

For a single piece of music, this may seem relatively simple, but it all gets much more confusing and complicated when you consider the total picture. Consider, the Dundalk Chapter has 198 members on record at the present time, all potentially active members of the chorus. Last year, we had 142 men scheduled to actually appear on the International stage. We had about 138 performing at the M-AD contest, and we expect about 120 or so to sing on our annual shows. However, consider that the same men don't show up all the time. Our less active members show up once in a while, which is great. Of course, they also need music.

So here's the rub. We can't afford to buy 200 or more pieces of music for each song. We attempt to reach a reasonable strategy by buying 150-160 copies. That will be more than enough for our regular members and guests.

How do we intend to handle this? Regular chorus members will be assigned a permanent number. This they will keep as long as they sing with us on our annual shows. Those who regularly sing with us in contests will be provided numbered music with their name. Each piece will have a number on it, but it won't always be the same one.. (Continued on page 5)

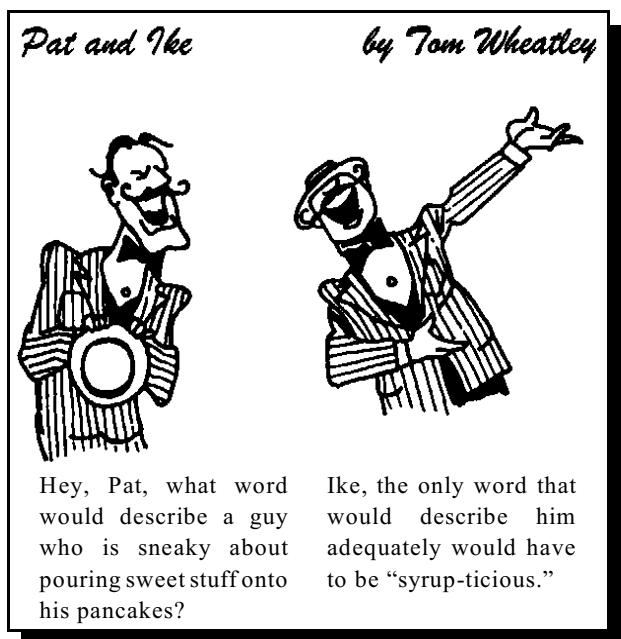
***Singing is fun. Singing well is much more fun. Let's have much more fun !***

**On the trail**, continued from page 5

Those less active members who come to visit once in a while are always welcome. They will be able to borrow a “guest book” for the evening. At the end of the rehearsal, they **MUST** return the guest book to the chapter. This way, we should be able to keep expenses down, and also to keep track of the music. The whole idea is to keep our whole singing process fun and simple, while still protecting the chapter and its music. With your cooperation and patience, I think we can accomplish these goals.

**Here's the bottom line summary.**

1. Musical arrangements are the property of the chapter, not the individual members.
2. In general, you are assigned a number. Your name and number will be placed on the top right hand corner of the music. This is your “working copy.” It's yours to use, but not to keep.
3. When we are done with a piece of music, it is to be handed back to the chorus so we will have it for later use.
4. Learning tracks are also property of the chorus. Like the sheet music, they are for your use, but eventually, they also must be handed back to the chorus.

**Dundalk hosts YIH adjudication**

*(The Charivari is pleased to be able to share this letter from Allan Dean, M-AD VP Youth in Harmony to Dan Dekowski, who chaired the event.)*

Gentlemen,

Thank you for all your work in making the Youth in Harmony Adjudication at the Patapsco School such a success. The program ran smoothly because there were so many dedicated hands available to usher the singers and administer the adjudication. The young singers gained immeasurably from the coaching they received from our talented judges. Many thanks to our mike testing quartet, *Calliope*, and also to our guest quartet, *Reveille*. The audience truly enjoyed your performances. It was a terrific day, thanks to all of you.

Kindest Regards, **Allan Dean**

**Woodshed Weekend champs crowned**

It was only a small crowd, but an enthusiastic one. The Twenty-first Annual Danny Cuthbert Woodshed Weekend was held at the Crowne Plaza. The quartet sing-off went smoothly, thanks to the nimble fingers of **Bud Laumann**, who matched the 248 quartet vacancies to the 39 men who signed up to be a part of the contest. It shouldn't take much thought to realize that some had to sing in more than one quartet to make a go of things. Photos of the various quartets will be placed onto the Dundalk web site as soon as the editing of over 600 pictures can be completed.

However, since it is fitting to give the devils their due, here are the men who took the gold medals at the end of the mix, match and sing process.



*WWXXI Champs: Leon Bernard, Dundalk; Bill Stringert, Pittsburgh-Northern Hills; Bob Morrow, Dundalk; and Joe Colon, Dundalk*

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**THE**  
**Chorus of The Chesapeake**  
 PRESENTS OUR ANNUAL...  
**Bull & Oyster Roast**  
 Rosedale Gardens  
 8037 Philadelphia Rd., 21237  
 (Take 695 to exit 30, proceed south for two miles)  
 Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup> 2:00pm – 6:00pm  
 Cost: \$30.00 each                      Table of 10 = \$280.00

## Bull & Oyster Roast scheduled

from **Chuck Hamrick**, chairman

From 2PM to 6PM, on Sunday, April 20, the Dundalk Chapter will be hosting a Bull & Oyster Roast. The event will be held at the Rosedale Gardens, 8037 Philadelphia Road. To get there from the Beltway, get off at Exit 30 and proceed south for two miles.

After a lapse of several years, it is hoped that the Dundalk Bull & Oyster Roast will once more become a vital part of the Dundalk Chapter's annual calendar of social events.

Various attractions include Big 6, a plant wheel, door prizes, a silent auction, Instant Bingo, and a 50/50 drawing. Dancing will be by "All American DJ's." A partial listing of the foods to be served include oyster stew, oysters on the half shell, top round of beef, pit ham, Maryland crab soup, barbequed chicken and Swedish meatballs. Right about here should go "etc.," because there's a long list on the flyer that you will see when you get your own copy.

For tickets, contact **Chuck Hamrick**, 443-567-6741. All proceeds from the event will be going into the Nashville fund.

### Contributors to this issue

Charlie Allen, Allan Dean, Dan Dekowski, Dick Dods, Chuck Hamrick, Tom McPoyle, Paul Murrell, Rob Wolff

You can be a writer, too.

Come join the fun. Help the editor keep his sanity!

## Give 'em a night out.

by **Charlie Allen**, former member (a reprint)

For several years now, I have been a patient at the Riverview Nursing Centre. I've gone through rehabilitation, and there have been times when I've been confined to my bed and room. I know what most of the patients at the center go through when they don't have contact with the outside. Many do not have an opportunity to break the boredom, monotony and frustration.



Charlie Allen

The reason I'm writing this is to draw attention to the shows that a chapter or quartet can put on for the shut-ins. These are rare "night out" opportunities for these residents. They get out of their beds and dress up in their best. Then it's into their wheelchairs and out they go. "Out" for them is getting to the dining room to hear your entertainment.

Many don't applaud, because they are unable. However, look into their faces, and you will see something better than any applause. So the next time you are asked to visit a nursing or retirement home, please think of those who need a "night out."

This is from one who knows. We have a gift to share, and there will rarely be a more appreciative audience to share it with.

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*I know this has been printed before, but I believe a rerun is in order. Even though he is now in the "big chorus," I think that Charlie's thoughts might be a good message to share with all barbershoppers.*

*From the time Charlie went into the nursing home until his death a couple of years back, he often appeared on the risers with us on Tuesday nights, thanks to the efforts of several of our members who provided transportation. He often said that getting out and singing with us worked better than all the medicines they gave him at the home. Charlie could get his "night out," but he felt for all those others who never had such a chance.*

*Sometimes we say, "It's just a nursing or retirement home, no big deal. I'll just skip it." Each time we book a performance at some home, remember Charlie's words. It is a big deal!*

Editor, Tom Wheatley

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## Youth Outreach gives back

by **Dan Dekowski**, Dundalk YIH Coordinator

When we sing our closing song, it often reminds us to "Keep the Whole World Singing." Youth Outreach, in the form of music education for school teachers as well as students, supports that mission. For Society chapters, it is a charitable endeavor. It's something that we give to our community without any expectation of returns. In spite of that, a lot of good things have come from our participation in the Society's Youth in Harmony (YIH) program.

The Dundalk Chapter has been far ahead of the curve with our past support of YIH. We started earlier than most chapters and have been at it for more than 10 years. We've identified more than a dozen teachers who have an interest in the way we sing, and some of them have, in turn, organized quartets.

Over the years, we've visited more than 40 schools. At least six schools in the area have sponsored high school quartets to represent the Dundalk Chapter at adjudications in the M-AD. In some years, as many as half of the young participants at district conventions have represented our chapter.

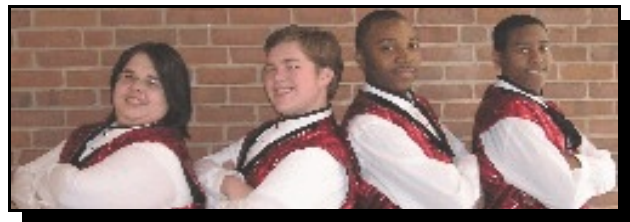
The school we know the best is Patapsco High, a magnet school for the arts, just down the street from our rehearsal hall. **Bev Bruening** was the head of the music department at the school for many years before her retirement. Over the past nine years, she has organized and coached quartets at the school. She continues her work there on a part time basis as the quartet program moderator. Bev's involvement in the quartet program and interest in the program has inspired her to join the Dundalk Sweet Adelines where she is the assistant director.

**Howard Baker** is the father of several YIH children including daughter Liz, who has worked with the chorus on several occasions. Howard became interested through his involvement with the YIH program at Patapsco and has become a devoted member of the chapter. He sings in a quartet, while Liz often visits us on Tuesday nights.

The current male quartet at the school, *The Perfect Blend*, recently performed at the YIH Adjudication on February 9. Just prior to their adjudication, they came to one of our meetings and sang for us.

A previous YIH quartet sang on our Fall 2006 show and were a huge hit. Their appearance added greatly to the variety and quality for our patrons.

Some other members of the Society who found barbershop quartet singing through the YIH program include **Steve Matezewski**, **Matt Swann** and **Joe Eckert**. Matt is the proud owner of an International Collegiate gold medal, as is **Joe Eckert**. They have made us proud to know that their involvement and success evolved because of the Dundalk Chapter and our youth outreach efforts.



*YIH quartet The Perfect Blend, Patapsco High  
Hayden Borkowicz, Jimmy Lewis,  
William Moody, Montario McArthur*

## DELA elects three Dundalk men

What is DELA? In a nutshell, this is the Honor Chapter of the Mid-Atlantic District. To be more exact, the fully complete name is DelaSusqueHudMac, which contains parts of the names of the four major rivers of the Mid-Atlantic District area; namely the Delaware, the Susquehanna, the Hudson and the Potomac. Election into the honor chapter is based upon significant and long term service to the district, its chapters and/or the Society.



In the election held by DELA at the beginning of this year, the Dundalk Chapter was honored to have three of its own selected for inclusion on its roster, making up three-quarters of this year's election quota. These men are **Rob Seay V**, **Neil Keihm** and **Ev Nau**. The Charivari is pleased to offer its congratulations to each of these fine gentlemen. They now join the 19 other Dundalk members who are currently active in DELA.

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## Calliope sings on Valentine's Day

by **Dan Dekowski**, baritone, Calliope quartet

Calliope was one of the five chapter quartets that delivered Singing Valentines to lucky ladies (and gentlemen) scattered from Woodstock in Howard County, to Arbutus, Catonsville, downtown Baltimore, Highlandtown and Dundalk. Along the way, we delivered one to a macho guy at the Baltimore County courthouse in Catonsville. When we walked into the building, the first thing we encountered was a metal detector and a half-dozen armed officers of the court. Rather than risk getting shot for trying to force our way in, we announced that we had something for Walter. All the guards smiled jubilantly and invited us in. Four times in quick succession, the alarm sounded as we passed through the detector.

A gentleman walked up to us, announced that he was Walter and quickly motioned for us to follow him, obviously not wanting the other guards to hear. In spite of Walter's effort to conceal the event in the back room, about 30 people quickly gathered to hear *Calliope* sing our love song. We immediately followed that with an up-tune to ease the tension. Walter's response; "Wait until I get home and get her for this!" Apparently, the captain of the guard detail has to try to preserve his macho image, but despite his efforts, it simply melted away that day.

Through the rest of the day, we saw the usual smiles and tears. As we completed our challenges, we visited the Dundalk Eagle to thank the paper for its support of the Chorus of the Chesapeake in this fund-raising effort. They asked for some additional information and took some photos. It wouldn't be surprising to see an article in some issue soon.

As has been a *Calliope* practice over the years, we took the opportunity to step into a Dundalk barbershop, getting permission to sing a few barbershop numbers for the three lady barbers and their customers. As we began to leave, one customer called out something about money. He mentioned that he had read in the paper that the Dundalk Chapter was delivering Singing Valentines for \$50. We confirmed his understanding, and he replied, "Well, I want one for these three ladies."

With all deliveries completed, we had just enough time to stop at the Poplar Inn, just across the street from our meeting hall, feeling good about the

day's events. A patron across the bar asked why we were all dressed alike. When we told him we were a quartet, he asked for a song, upon completion of which, he told the barmaid to give him our check. What a fun day!

## Prepare for the picnic

If you take a close look at the Dundalk Chapter schedule, you will note that it's missing a favorite activity that's been held for over a decade. This would be the Lady Baltimore Boat Ride Down the Bay. However, don't you fret and don't you frown. There's an alternative activity where you'll be able to join your many barbershopping friends.

This will be the always fantastic Dundalk Chapter picnic at the Dundalk Athletic Club, where else but in Dundalk. **Snake Fogle** has agreed to chair this event once more and is inviting chapters from all around the area. So far, the response has been encouraging.

The date of this event is Saturday, August 30, which is the beginning of the Labor Day holiday. More info will follow as details develop.



*The Fogle Majority at the 2004 Dundalk Chapter picnic. Left to right: Bob Hastings, Bill Fogle, Bo Deibel, Bob Fogle, Sr.*

### Charivari staff and credits

All articles not written by the editor are as credited.

Be a contributor, and see your name in print.

Photos are by Tom Wheatley, except as noted.

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*The Dundalk Charivari - be part of it.*

***Singing is fun. Singing well is much more fun. Let's have much more fun !***

## Sympathies extended

In the fourth in a recent series of losses, the Seay family has lost another member. This time it was the mother of **Rob Seay V**, and the grandmother of **Bobby Seay VI**, who passed away. Rob's dad, **Robert Seay IV**, died a few months back, preceded by his grandparents, **Bob Seay III** and **Helen Seay** last year. **Bob Seay III** was a prime mover in the founding of the Dundalk Chapter and its Chorus of the Chesapeake back in 1956. The Dundalk Chapter extends its sympathies to the entire family.

## WWXXI held in Timonium

For those of you who are unfamiliar with the abbreviation above, it means the twenty-first annual Danny Cuthbert Memorial Woodshed Weekend gathering, hosted by the Dundalk Chapter. This year, it was to be held at the Holiday Inn Select in Timonium. And that's the address many of our devotees used in their GPS systems.

Then, when the little tracking beast announced "You have arrived," the Holiday Inn Select was nowhere in sight. It seems the hotel had become a Crowne Plaza facility on the day before the start of our convention, leaving our potential attendees wondering what to do for a while. Fortunately, they seem to have overcome that obstacle and signed in at the WWXXI registration table. There may be a few folks still driving around looking for the Holiday Inn Select, but that we'll never know for certain.

There were many who pitched in to help during the convention, but I didn't get them all written down. However, there's no doubt of the identities of some of the gentlemen who sat at the registration table. From left to right below, are **John Treff**, **Chuck Freeman**, **Paul Murrell** and **Ed Baker**.



## One for the money, two for the show,

by **Dan Dekowski**, member

There's a bit of musical history that occurred recently at our regular after-rehearsal watering hole, the Catch-22. On occasion, songs get sung back-to-back, but on this occasion, the repeat process went over the top.



*Calliope* was seated at a double table when we sang "Darkness on the Delta." When we finished, **Glenn Phillips** mentioned something about the song, so we invited him to sing it with us. Glenn chose to sing lead, instead of his usual baritone part. "So what?" you say, "The same song back to back is no big deal."

But then, **Chris Yates** made a comment that led to the number being sung a third time, but with Chris on lead this time. Glenn switched to tenor. That left only the bottom half of *Calliope* in the mix.

By this time, **Sam McFarland** had wandered over to make some sort of a comment regarding a song near and dear to his heart. He must have noticed that by this time, the song was sounding like an endless tape. However, to him, it only seemed natural to provide his own heartfelt interpretation of one of his favorites. Sam demonstrated his versatility as a lead, rather than his regular bass role. This time, Chris switched over to bass, Glen sang bari, and **Ray Agnello** rejoined to tackle the tenor part.

Glenn gets the prize for singing the most parts, but Chris amazed the guys with his great lead voice on his first go-round, followed by a fine resonant bass on his reprise. Four times in a row may seem to be a bit much for any song, but I can assure you that it was a different song each time.

## Remember the deadline

by **Tom Wheatley**, editor

The deadline for the next issue of the Charivari has been set at Tuesday, March 18. If you are able to get items to me earlier, I will greatly appreciate it. The diversity of the Charivari depends upon you.

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## Barbershopper-of-the-Month

by **Tom Wheatley**, Board Member-at-large

Every month or so, the four Board Members-at-Large get together to designate a BOTM. Sometimes, there are one, two or even three men who have made significant contributions, all within a given month. On occasion, we encounter a month where nothing much of singular significance is going on right within the time frame, and we may choose someone who has been contributing on a more ongoing basis.

In these past two months, we have had both situations. Accordingly, for January, we have selected **Rob Wolff**, who has been handling the impressive task of climbing across the legal spider web of getting our music to conform to the many confusing aspects of the music industry. By January, the task seems to have gotten reasonably well in hand, and we felt it was an appropriate time to publicly recognize what has been going on.

On the other hand, February proved to be a busy time indeed. As a result, we have chosen three gentlemen for that month's recognition. The first of these is **Dan Dekowski**, for his ongoing work in supporting the Youth In Harmony program (YIH) over many years. Dan coordinated the YIH Adjudication held at the Patapsco High School in February. On the day of adjudication, Dan showed up with *Calliope* to perform as mike testers. It was only then that he surprised **Bob Fogle** by sloughing the on-site task of running the support staff onto the back of **Bob Fogle**. Dan claims that he didn't slough off the job. He was "just delegating!" (I daren't reprint the exact words that Snake used that morning.)

The second honoree is **Tom McPoyle**. Tom headed up the Singing Valentines program this year, where we had five quartets wandering around delivering happiness to 45 delighted (and sometimes embarrassed) recipients. He was responsible for taking all orders and organizing each route and time schedule.

BOTM #3 went to **Ed Baker**. Ed has served as chairman of registrations for the annual **Danny Cuthbert** Woodshed Weekend for countless years. This is a job that typically dwells in the background and gets no significant recognition. We are pleased to at least make a dent in the changing of that status.

## My two cents' worth

by **Tom Wheatley**, editor



Tom Wheatley

Well, it has been three years since I last wrote this column, and I am happy to be back at it. My first declaration will be one of great appreciation for my predecessor, **Dr. Cross O'Donovan**, who tackled the daunting task of publishing the Charivari.

I knew he was good at giving us the needle, by means of the annual flu shot inoculation program, but I was pleasantly surprised when he stepped forward to take over the Charivari. Thanks, Cross!

The success of the Charivari will depend on contributions from our membership and readers. Read that last statement as referring to the person reading this article, namely, YOU. It's not just the job of "somebody else." As I said back when I held the position of president, "Together, we can make magic." Let the Charivari magic continue with your help

## The Poet's Corner:

### Unless the World Stops

Unless the world stops in its turning today,  
The sun will go down in the west  
While lovers will park  
    down those lanes where it's dark,  
As robins turn in for their rest.

Unless the world stops in its turning tonight,  
The sun will come up in the east.  
Small children will play,  
    and they'll chatter all day  
And never be tired in the least.

Unless the world stops, our lives will go on,  
And we'll worry, or work, or we'll sing.  
Then we'll open our eyes  
    to each brand new surprise,  
As we find what the morrow will bring.

Thomas H. Wheatley 2007  
Md. Poet Laureate Nominee

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**Table of coming events - March through June**

*Time shown is event start time unless otherwise indicated by a single asterisk.*

Days	Date	Time	Function	Site of show or activity	Uniform**
Fri-Sat	Mar 7-8	-----	District Spring Convention	Lancaster, PA	See Weekly News
Tuesday	Mar 11	5:45PM*	Oak Crest Performance (Rehearsal afterwards at the home)	Oak Crest Retirement Home	See Weekly News
Saturday	April 5	6:00PM	Dundalk Ch. Founders' Night	Sparrows Point Country Club	Your choice
Sunday	April 6	2-4 PM	Boumi Temple Performance	Boumi Temple, White Marsh	See Weekly News
Thursday	April 8	7:30PM	Coaching, Joe Connelly	Rehearsal Hall	Your choice
Saturday	April 13	See Note	Pottsville Chapter Show	Pottsville, PA	See Weekly News
Saturday	April 20	2-7PM	Chapter Bull Roast	Rosedale Gardens	Your choice
Tuesday	April 28	7:30PM	Coaching, Joe Connelly	Rehearsal Hall	Your choice
Saturday	May 10	7:30PM	Chapter Annual Show	Goucher College, Towson	See Weekly News
Fri-Sat	May 30-31	—	Western Division Contest	Lancaster, PA	See Weekly News
Sunday	June 1	TBD	M-AD Pep Rally - we perform	Lancaster, PA	See Weekly News
Sunday	June 8	TBD	NCEON Benefit	AA County	See Weekly News
Tuesday	June 10	7:30PM	Coaching, Joe Connelly	Rehearsal Hall	Your choice
Thu-Sun	Jun 12-15	—	Harmony College East	Salisbury Md	Your choice
Sun-Sun	6/29-7/6	—	International Convention	Nashville, TN	See Weekly News

Notes:

1. Pottsville Show - See handout for details of bus and performance times and locations.
2. \* Arrival time. Show starts at 7:30
3. \*\* Members are encouraged to wear any informal Dundalk Chapter shirt for casual events. The uniform for all performances will indicated in the Weekly News, since that decision is usually made only in the week or two prior to performance, too late to be included in this publication.

**Visit us on the Web at <http://www.dundalk.org>**

To download the Charivari, click on Chapter then Charivari on the tool bar at the top of the page.

You will need to have a PDF reader, e.g. Adobe Acrobat Reader, to view & print the bulletin.

**Dundalk Md. Chapter, SPEBSQSA, home of the Chorus of the Chesapeake, Mr. Rick Taylor, directing**

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Please Read Our  
Bulletin Entirely.

*DON'T FORGET*

The deadline for the March Charivari is Tuesday, March 18.  
**Please notify us of any address change as soon as possible.**