



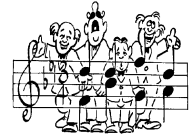
The Dundalk Charivari

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



Let's get behind
our music plan

Volume 50 No. 3

GIT-ER-DUN DALK!

March 2008

Old School tops the bill

No Man Left Behind, a caveat

by **Bob Fogle, Sr.**, past president

In preparation for our 2006 M-AD contest, we adopted the slogan, "No Man Left Behind." We even continue to wear a neat yellow and red badge that says so. This was done as a public relations campaign to let everyone know that Dundalk doesn't compete with a screened chorus of only the best singers available. What we do is to give every man a chance to perform if he desires to, and works to do so. ***Yes, you still do need to know the notes, words and interpretations.***

By our participation at that district contest, and later through our competition at the 2007 International contest in Denver, our message has spread faster than the shot heard 'round the world. I've had many requests from other chapters wanting to know if I could send them information about our motto.

"No Man Left Behind" is a great philosophy. However, I don't want our motto to become a catch-all excuse for anyone wanting to join in the fun. There have been concerns about some members who live a distance away and who are not able to make the rehearsals. The music team, and particularly our director, evaluates each such case, to help insure that performance standards can be met.

ALSO, PLEASE DO NOT use our motto as a recruiting tool to attract members from other chapters, either as dual or transfers. It is in no way intended to be used as a raiding tool. This simply is not ethical!

Small slate, big sounds wow crowd

There were close to 25 quartets originally scheduled to cross the M-AD International Prelims stage during the weekend. However, there seemed to be more scratches than you'll see by a dog living on a flea farm. By the time the dust had settled the audience was treated to some outstanding singing, but the field had dwindled to a mere 16 foursomes, with six of them registering in the Seniors category, and one as a College quartet.

Representing the Dundalk Chapter were *Old School*, *Ringers*, *SAGE* and *Calliope*, with the first two quartets qualifying for the International quartet contest in Nashville. Both of these gave outstanding performances, scoring at the "A" level. They are currently ranked 1-2 in the seeding for the quartet crown. Of course, the M-AD has been the first district to compete, so the M-AD foursomes that qualified would have to be ranked 1-2-3-4 in the Society-wide standings, as of the end of the contest.

Non-Dundalk quartets advancing to the Big Show are *Four Aces* and *Last Kids Picked*. Other M-AD quartets are expected to attempt qualification in outside district contests.

Our meeting starts at 7:30.
When does yours begin?

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

2008 Board of Directors

Position	Name	Phone
President	Paul Murrell	410-557-7263
Immediate Past President*	Bob Fogle, Sr.	410-647-4710
VP-Chapter Development	Dave Gemmell	410-788-4422
VP-Program	Bill Eberius	410-638-1157
VP-Music	Rob Wolff	717-382-1405
VP-Public relations	Bill Fogle	717-227-9881
Secretary	Ed Baker	410-686-2840
Financial Secretary	Bruce Neumann	410-437-1088
Recording Secretary	Frank Sigwart	410-529-0732
Treasurer	Dave McConagha	443-512-0184
Chapter Consultant*	Bud Laumann	410-256-3256
Chorus Manager	Dick Dods	410-252-3352
Members-at-Large	Neil Keihm	302-737-6141
	Sam McFarland	703-448-5949
	Bill Nash	410-557-9403
	Tom Wheatley	410-252-5584

* non-elective positions

The next meeting is Monday, April 21. All members are welcome to attend.

April-May board meetings 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 at the Catch 22, 6000 Eastern Avenue. The next two meetings are scheduled for April 21 and May 19, starting at 7:30 PM. 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.

Charivari distribution guidelines

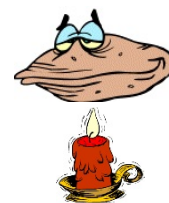
Please remember that while the Charivari is written as a hard-copy edition, all members who have Internet access are urged to download it from the chapter web site. Paper copies will only be sent to those without web access, and to the widows on our mailing list. One advantage of downloading is that the bulletin becomes available to you as soon as it gets posted to the web page, rather than being delayed a week or so by the printing process. You also get to see all those pretty photos in color!

Presenting: The Bull & Oyster Roast

It's not all that far away. I'm talking about the Dundalk Chapter Bull & Oyster Roast that is being held on Sunday, April 20, from 2 to 6 PM at the Rosedale Gardens, 8037 Philadelphia Road. In fact, it could be called The Bull & Oyster & Smoked Ham & Barbecued Chicken & Other-Items-Too-Numerous-To-Mention Feast.

In addition to the goodies, there will be dancing, door prizes, a silent auction, Instant Bingo, a 50/50 drawing and a "Big 6" wheel. Don't be too surprised to find one or two other attractions there. The cost is only \$30 per person. Alternately, you can sign up for a full table of 10 for only \$280.

For tickets, contact **Chuck Hamrick**, 433-567-6471. If you choose, you can also reach him at cjhamrick@comcast.net. To get to the festivities, take exit 30 off I695 and proceed south for two miles.



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Old School scores with tune-up

by **Tom Wheatley**, contest reporter, (with prejudice)

“Representing Alexandria, Dundalk, Marietta, Tampa, Easton, Pa., Chicagoland West Suburban and Galesburg chapters - OLD SCHOOL!” Before that introduction was completed at the recent M-AD Prelims, *Old School* took a tune-up chord behind the curtain. It was the best tune-up chord I’ve ever heard, and the audience reaction seemed to imply the same opinion.

It’s a shame that the judges don’t score quartets on tune-ups. *Old School* wouldn’t even have had to sing their songs! On second thought, I’m kinda glad that they had to sing. What musical treats we would have missed. Presenting a package of “Last Night Was the End of the World,” “Piano Roll Blues,” “Dear Old Girl” and “I Want a Girl,” this foursome took top honors in the contest, with a percentage score of 85.6%. I would have placed them higher, but then, as I indicate in my by-line, I’m a bit prejudiced.

Just for the record, this fine group consists of our own director, **Rick Taylor**, tenor; “**Awesome**” **Joe Connelly**, lead; **Jack Pinto**, bari; and **Joe Kronos**, bass. **Joe Connelly** is also a member of the Dundalk Chapter.

Charivari staff swells

by **Tom Wheatley**, editor

No, I’m not calling the Charivari staff a bunch of swells. I’m saying that there have been several folks who have volunteered to be regular helpers in the production process. You will find them listed below. If you would like to join us in this noble effort, please get in touch with the editor.

As I noted in the last issue, I am counting on the support of a variety of our friends and members to add to the variety and quality of your Charivari. So far, **Marilyn Doyle** has volunteered to join the proof-reading team of **Dick and Nancy Dods**, **Tom McPoyle** and **Dolly Wheatley**. **Cross O’Donovan** has agreed to continue his biographical column, while **Ron Furrow** stepped forward to help with the general reporting. This latter field is one place where I could really use a few more volunteers.

Chorus entertains Oakcrest folks

I was looking at the April, 2000 Charivari, and it had a letter from **Sally Horner**, Oakcrest Coordinator. In it, she expressed her appreciation for the fine job done by the Chorus of the Chesapeake as it entertained the residents. With a track record like that, it should come as no surprise that the chorus performed very well on March 11 of this year, to the enjoyment of about 400 residents in attendance.

When we were done, I went out and talked to several of those in attendance, as is my wont. It was most rewarding to hear their appreciative words. One woman, let’s call her Mrs. J, took me aside and said, “It’s not fair. You made me cry!” She went on to explain that our singing took her back to her happier days when most of her life had been involved in music. This included a lengthy stint as a member of a girl trio that sang professionally. Now we get to one of those moments that our president calls “magic.”

Mrs. J told me that she went to visit a member of her trio recently, a woman who is now in her 80s and suffering from dementia to the point where the nurses have said “she recognizes no one, and is incapable of communication.” Not a glimpse of recognition registered between the two, until Mrs. J started to sing one of the trio’s old standard numbers. The woman with dementia joined in singing the full song, and then addressed Mrs. J by name. This was followed by a fully intelligible conversation.

Never doubt the magic of music!

We’ve had some guests

from **Dave Gemmell**, VP-Membership

<u>Guest</u>	<u>Host or Home Chapter, if noted</u>
Matt Perry	Baltimore Chapter
Luke McCusker	Baltimore Chapter
James Roberts	Newfoundland, Canada
Joe Ruppert	
Ted Tuck	Bowie Chapter
Sean Lazachick	Pottsville Chapter
Josh Hirsh	Bob Hirsh
Gene Brownson	Walk-in
Ward Maynard	John Myers

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

WWXXI brings a plethora of songs

In the last issue, you learned about the winning quartet. However, there were a total of 62 quartet combinations performing at the Danny Cuthbert Woodshed Weekend contest, and that meant that there were 64 songs presented, with very few repeats.

One of the standard practices is to discourage the use of Pole Cat songs, or those that are sung so often that the harmonies have become standardized, making it almost impossible to woodshed. This leads to the performance of some of the lesser known songs. Below, we present a few of the melodies chosen by the lead singers.

I Get the Blues When it Rains, Bright Was the Night, When It's Springtime in the Rockies, I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles, Oh How I Miss You Tonight, Just Break the News to Mother, Oh What a Pal Was Mary, Pack up Your Troubles, Carry Me Back to Old Virginny, Way Back When You Were Ten, I Was Strolling Home with Jenny, Why Did You Say Goodbye, My Carolina Rose, I Love the Silver in Your Hair, Just a Dream of You, Only a Bunch of Violets, I'm Throwing Rice, and I Wish I Had Died in My Cradle.

What's that I hear you say? You've never even heard of half those songs! That's not so odd. Neither had some of the harmony singers, but that's what woodshedding is about - to spontaneously sing the harmonies based upon where your ear tells you they should be. Third weekend in February - be there for the 22nd Danny Cuthbert Memorial Woodshed Weekend. It's an experience you won't soon forget.



One of the WWXXI quartets: Dan Dekowski, Jack Cox, Tom Wheatley and Joe Colon. This group didn't even get past the first round, but at the Woodshed Weekend, every quartet is a winner. Some just woodshed better than others.

AHSOW president sings at WWXXI

Numbered among the participants at the Woodshed Weekend was **Bob Coant**, current president of the Ancient Harmonious Society of Woodshedders. Some of you may remember him as having represented the M-AD on the Society International Board of Directors. Bob was to make his first appearance at the Woodshed Weekend last year, but he lives in the snow belt in upstate New York, and a hundred inches or so of snow on the ground proved to be a tad too much for him to navigate last year.



Bob Coant, AHSOW

The judges at this year's contest didn't seem all that awed with his presidential highness. However, they did let him advance to the round of final four quartets. Singing tenor, lead, bari and bass in the preliminary rounds, he actually qualified for the final four sing-off in two of the voice parts, specifically lead and bari. Then, he lost on both voice parts. Oh, the ignominy of it all! Notwithstanding all that, he vows to be back again next year.

Pat and Ike *by Tom Wheatley*

Hey Pat, I've been wondering, how many baritones does it take to change a light bulb?

Ike, baritones don't change light bulbs, but they will stand around and tell the other guys how it should be done!

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Attend the Pottsville Show April 13!

Don't forget to sign up for the Pottsville Show
Big Job! Big Pay! Bus Transportation Available!
We're counting on YOU!

Lancaster calls us

by **Bob Fogle, Sr.**, Immediate Past President

The Western Division contest will be held in Lancaster, Pa. on May 31. We are scheduled to be the mic testers, and we will receive a score and evaluation. This is a great opportunity for the chorus to perform our new package. We need your commitment to be successful.

On Sunday June 1, 2008, the Mid-Atlantic Quartet and Chorus Pep Rally, formerly know as the Quartet Send-off, is being held, also in Lancaster. The starting time has been set for 11:00 a.m. This is the same place and weekend as the contest. All proceeds from ticket sales and donations will be divided equally among each of the Nashville chorus and quartet competitors who perform at the pep rally.

I realize that this is the whole weekend, but we need to do both of these events. The Dundalk Chapter has always been the leaders, not the followers. Our policy has always been to participate. This is a great opportunity to support our division and district and to provide great public relations for the Chorus of the Chesapeake. Let's be NUMBER ONE!

We are committed to perform at both events, so on behalf of our president, Paul Murrell, "Git-Er-Dun Dalk, not to mention, Just Do It! This is an important event for us. More information will be provided as it becomes available, so be sure to check your in-box regularly.

Contributors to this issue

Dick Dods, Bob Fogle, Sr., Dave Gemmell, Paul Murrell,
Cross O'Donovan, Frank Sigwart

You can be a writer for your award winning Charivari, too.
Come join the fun. Help the editor keep his sanity!

My two cents' worth

by **Tom Wheatley**, editor



Tom Wheatley

First, I wish to express my appreciation to those who have welcomed me back to the position of being your editor. The old fingers are getting a bit rusty, but hopefully, the grey matter is still functioning adequately.

During this past month, I have been looking over some of the past editions of the Charivari, and I expect to lift a few articles from time to time. I was intrigued by how relevant many of those writings still are. Some will be tidbits of history while others might be a tad on the suggestion or editorial side. For example, in the January 1997 issue, I found the following:

A Note from the Prez, (at that time, Bob Fogle)

"Now is the time when every chapter member should take stock of where you've been, where you're going, and most importantly, how you plan on getting there. Sometimes we reach a point in our lives where staying in one place is no way to get ahead. Certainly, it's no way to go considering all the challenges facing us in the coming year. Now is the time to make our move, together and as one.

"We must support our board and director. We must support one another in achieving our goals and exploring possibilities. The chance to make a difference is entirely up to you as a Dundalk Chapter member. Accept the challenge!

"Do those little things that will make a difference, things like supporting everybody else, and learning your music, words, notes and interpretation for each song. The faster we learn, the more we will grow. Pay attention. We must have self-discipline at all times.

"Take it upon yourself not to talk when the director is teaching us. This talking bit whenever we have a break in our singing is very distracting, and it really accomplishes nothing. Stay alert, listen, pay attention. You might just have a whole new barbershop experience!"

To me, it sounds like it could have been written just yesterday. Isn't it amazing how some things seem to be timeless?

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

Flight/quartet Voice parts: Tenor, Lead, Bass, Bari Song **Winners in bold type**

A	1 Red	Bill Amos, Dave Mittelstadt, John Schulkins, Leon Bernard	On Moonlight Bay
	1 Green	Joe Klug, Glenn Schilberg, John Russo, Kenneth Ernst	I Get the Blues When It Rains
	2 Red	Dick Webber, Stan Schultz, Glenn Schilberg, Ken Hoffman	Bright Was The Night
	2 Green	Bill Fogle, John Fisher, Bob Morrow, Oley Olson	When It's Springtime in the Rockies
	3 Red	Joe Colon, Tom Wheatley, Jack Cox, Dan Dekowski	By the Light of the Silvery Moon
	3 Green	Joe Stangl, Ed Dietz, Tom McPoyle, Bob Coant	I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles
	4 Red	Paul Murrell, Bill Stringert, John Treff, Cross O'Donovan	Tell Me Why
	4 Green	Bob Coant, John Grant, Bo Deibel, Bob Hastings	April Showers

Winners advance to second round, below.

5 Red	Paul Murrell, Dave Mittelstadt, Bob Morrow, Bob Coant	Oh, How I Miss You Tonight
5 Green	Bill Amos, John Fisher, Tom McPoyle, Cross O'Donovan	Daisy Bell
6 Red	Bill Fogle, Ed Dietz, John Treff, Leon Bernard	Aura Lee
6 Green	Joe Stangl, Bill Stringert, John Schulkins, Oley Olson	For Me and My Gal

Winners advance to third round, below.

7 Red	Paul Murrell, Dave Mittelstadt, John Schulkins, Oley Olson	On the Banks of the Wabash
7 Green	Joe Stangl, Bill Stringert, Bob Morrow, Bob Coant,	Oh, What a Pal Was Mary

Flight A, Friday 7:30 PM

The winners of this flight advance to the Final Four session on Saturday night

B	1 Red	Dave Johnston, John Grant, John Treff, Ken Hoffman,	I'm Looking Over a Four Leaf Clover
	1 Green	Joe Klug, Stan Schultz, John Russo, Bobby Seay	Just Break the News To Mother
	2 Red	Bill Amos, Tom Wheatley, Tom McPoyle, Dan Dekowski	In the Good Old Summertime
	2 Green	Bill Fogle, Tom McPoyle, Bo Deibel, Kenneth Ernst	Harrigan
	3 Red	Rob Seay, John Fisher, Jack Cox, Leon Bernard	'Til We Meet Again
	3 Green	Joe Colon, Jack Cox, Glenn Schilberg, Cross O'Donovan	Girl Of My Dreams
	4 Red	John Grant, Paul Murrell, Oley Olson, John Russo	Pack Up Your Troubles
	4 Green	Leon Bernard, Bill Fogle, Jim Pugh, Rob Seay	I Don't Mind Being All Alone

Winners advance to second round, below.

5 Red	Leon Bernard, John Grant, Bo Deibel, Kenneth Ernst	Bye, Bye, Blues
5 Green	Dave Johnston, Tom McPoyle, Jack Cox, Rob Seay	Cuddle Up a Little Closer
6 Red	Rob Seay, Bill Fogle, John Treff, Leon Bernard,	I Want a Girl
6 Green	Bill Fogle, John Fisher, Jim Pugh, Ken Hoffman	School Days
7 Red	Bill Fogle, Tom McPoyle, Jim Pugh, Ken Hoffman,	Carry Me Back to Old Virginny
7 Green	Dave Johnston, John Fisher, Jack Cox, Rob Seay	Way Back When You Were Ten

Flight B, Saturday 11:30 AM

The winners of this match advance to the Final Four session on Saturday night.

C	1 Red	Cross O'Donovan, Dan Dekowski, John Russo, Bill Amos	Carolina in the Morning
	1 Green	Leon Bernard, Ed Dietz, Joe Klug, Bob Fogle	Let the Rest of the World Go By
	2 Red	Dave Mittelstadt, Glenn Schilberg, Bill Stringert, Bob Hastings	I Was Strolling Home With Jenny
	2 Green	John Fisher, Bill Fogle, Bob Fogle, Ken Hoffman	Meet Me Tonight in Dreamland
	3 Red	John Schulkins, Dave Mittelstadt, John Fisher, Joe Stangl	Little Annie Rooney
	3 Green	Bob Hastings, Jack Cox, Joe Klug, Joe Colon	Girl of My Dreams
	4 Red	Joe Klug, Bob Coant, John Grant, John Schulkins	Why Did You Say Good Bye?
	4 Green	Joe Colon, John Russo, Bob Coant, Kenneth Ernst	I Don't Know Why

Winners advance to second round, below.

5 Red	Joe Klug, Ed Dietz, Bob Fogle, Joe Colon	Home on the Range
5 Green	Leon Bernard, Bill Fogle, Glenn Schilberg, John Schulkins	That Old Gang of Mine
6 Red	Bob Hastings, Bob Coant, Joe Klug, Ken Hoffman	In the Shade of the Old Apple Tree
6 Green	John Fisher, Jack Cox, John Grant, Bob Fogle	If I Had My Way

Winners advance to third round, below.

7 Red	Bob Hastings, Ed Dietz, Joe Klug, Ken Hoffman	There's a Long, Long Trail
7 Green	Joe Klug, Bob Coant, Bob Fogle, Joe Colon	My Gal Sal

Flight C, Saturday, 12:30 PM

The winners of this match advance to the Final Four session on Saturday night

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Quartet Contest- Woodshed Weekend 21 - February 15-16, 2008

7

Flight/quartet Voice parts: Tenor, Lead, Bass, Bari Song **Winners in bold type**

D 1 Red	Bill Amos, Mike Stoll, John Russo, Oley Olson	A Bird in a Gilded Cage
1 Green	Cross O'Donovan, Stan Schultz, Jim Kimos, Dan Dekowski	Cuddle Up a Little Closer
2 Red	Dave Mittelstadt, Paul Grano, Bo Deibel, Mike Stoll	Shine On, Harvest Moon
2 Green	Bill Eberius, Jack Cox, Oley Olson, John Schulkins	If I Had My Way
3 Red	John Schulkins, Dan Dekowski, Glenn Schilberg, Bill Amos	Don't Cry, Little Girl
3 Green	Dan Dekowski, Jim Kimos, John Schulkins, John Russo	Give My Regards to Broadway
4 Red	Leon Bernard, Glenn Schilberg, John Treff, Bill Eberius	My Carolina Rose
4 Green	Bob Hastings, John Russo, John Grant, Kenneth Ernst	I Love the Silver in Your Hair

Winners advance to second round, below.

5 Red	Leon Bernard, Mike Stoll, Oley Olson, John Russo	On a Chinese Honeymoon
5 Green	Bill Amos, Jack Cox, John Schulkins, Bill Eberius	Just a Dream of You
6 Red	Bill Eberius, Glenn Schilberg, John Russo, John Schulkins	Let Me Hear Those Good Old Chords
6 Green	Dan Dekowski, Jim Kimos, John Treff, Oley Olson	In the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia

Winners advance to third round, below.

7 Red	Leon Bernard, Glenn Schilberg, John Russo, John Schulkins	Only a Bunch of Violets
7 Green	Bill Eberius, Mike Stoll, Oley Olson, John Russo	Where the Southern Roses Grow

Flight D, Saturday, 8:00 PM

The winners of this match advance to the Final Four session on Saturday night

F4 1 Red	Leon Bernard, Bill Stringert, Jack Cox, Joe Colon	Honey Moon
1 Green	Joe Stangl, Bob Coant, Bob Fogle, John Schulkins	I'm All Alone, Nobody Wants Me
2 Red	Joe Klug, Glenn Schilberg, Bob Morrow, Rob Seay	I'm Throwing Rice
2 Green	Dave Johnston, John Fisher, John Russo, Bob Coant	Love's Old Sweet Song

F4 3 Red	Leon Bernard, Bill Stringert, Bob Morrow, Joe Colon	1. Memories
		2. On Moonlight Bay
3 Green	Joe Klug, Glenn Schilberg, Jack Cox, Rob Seay	1. I Wish I Had Died in My Cradle
		2. Why Don't My Dreams Come True?

This is the flight of the Final Four Quartets - Saturday Night, 9:30 PM



Winning Quartet, WW21, Feb 16, 2008

Leon Bernard, tenor; Bill Stringert, lead; Bob Morrow, bass; Joe Colon, bari

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Paul's Ponderings

by Paul Murrell, president

In last month's issue, I rhetorically inquired, "Who needs this?" I then responded, "I do!" but I'm not sure that I explained why. Since then, I've thought about the "why" and I think I've found the answer, at least for me.



Paul Murrell

This month I will be celebrating 45 years as a barbershopper, all of which have been with the Dundalk Chapter. By choice, I wasn't active for a few years as I devoted my major energies toward my family, including two sons who were quite involved in high school and college activities and sports. It wasn't a decision I've regretted, but I did miss the fellowship.

Looking back, I've determined that what has kept me in barbershopping are not our hobby's "routine" moments, although most of those are quite fulfilling. However, the magic moments, whether planned or spontaneous, are among those things that excite the spirit. They are what tends to remain in memory. When you read my "Barbershop Magic" article, maybe you will better understand what I mean.

The many modes of barbershop magic!

by Paul Murrell, president

Chapter I - How my barbershop magic started

The first time I heard the Chorus of the Chesapeake was as a student at Salisbury University. I was asked to be an usher for a chorus that was coming "... from somewhere in the Baltimore area" to charter the newly formed Salisbury Chapter. Since my mother played piano at the silent movies for a living, and our family entertainment involved singing the old songs around the piano, I was quite familiar with the type of music barbershoppers sang.

However, when **Bob Johnson** directed the chorus in "Roll On, You Mississippi," and hit that tag, I almost fell out of the balcony. Never had I heard such a sound in my life, nor did I envision that I would eventually become a member of the Chorus of the Chesapeake. A "magic moment" had occurred.



Bob Johnson

Chapter II - Quartet magic

My next magic moment occurred when I was sitting in the fifth or sixth row in the Convention Center in Atlantic City in 1970. The *Oriole Four* had just finished singing "Danny Boy," and for a few seconds, which seemed like an hour, the crowd refused to applaud. The air seemed to be infused with a spirit akin to reverence! Suddenly, the audience erupted in recognition of what they had just heard. One judge threw his scoring pencil straight into the air. That was, and still is, the best song I've ever heard in competition. Later that evening, the moment gained an added significance as the *Oriole Four* was announced as "The 1970 International Quartet Champion of SPEBSQSA, Inc."

Of course, this moment led directly to the surprise victory celebration held for "the Orioles" later that year at the Le Fontaine Le. The barrels of emotion and love that evolved from that gathering were awe inspiring. And another magic moment had taken place.

Chapter III - Chorus magic

Only one year later, we encountered something quite special. As the Dundalk Chapter president, it was my honor to strut (yes, STRUT) across the International Jamboree stage to receive the chorus championship trophy from my friend, **Warren Boin**, of the Dapper Dans of Harmony from the Livingston, NJ Chapter. I had the privilege (or perhaps that might read "terror") of delivering our acceptance speech. Magic, truly magic!

Chapter IV - Inter-chapter fellowship magic

Then, in the scorching July heat of Atlanta, Georgia, when Dundalk returned to the International to return the traveling trophy in 1972, we had been given a remarkable challenge. Our good friends from the Scarborough, Ontario chapter had proposed a snowball fight in the community park in the hot, sweltering Atlanta weather. Of course, Dundalk accepted, and in good clean fun, snowballs flew. The daring men of the Chorus of the Chesapeake came out on top, as was recorded by several local television stations there. Once more, the magic sprang forth.



Paul Murrell,
about the time
of the snowballs

(Photo credit: Bob Demmler)

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Chapter V - The magic of touching hearts

Then there has been an ongoing type of magic. On innumerable occasions, the chorus has been privileged to sing at assisted care, nursing and retirement homes. The way the members of those communities respond to our singing truly touches the heart of the chorus members. As we would meet with residents after our performances, our hands were often squeezed by arthritic fingers, and we would hear comments such as, "Thank you for coming to entertain us," and, "It was lovely, and God bless you for what you do." How could any chorus man not feel such a magic moment?

Chapter VI - The magic of a unique gift

Of course, our most recent singing venture to Denver was quite special in its own right. When we performed "Auld Lang Syne" in the contest, we gave ourselves the gift of sharing and showing the love and fellowship embedded in that song. One listener had said, "I never knew what that song was about until you guys performed it!" We also gave the audience the chance to share in what was the most heartwarming performance on the contest stage that day. We brought their hearts right up onto the stage, as **Rick Taylor** and **Freddie King** swapped directing roles, giving Freddie the gift of directing once more on the International chorus contest stage. Freddie's performance brought tears of joy to many in the audience. What a gift he gave to them. The magic of the moment brought the entire house to its feet. What a gift the audience gave back to every man on the stage. Magic! Sheer, amazing magic!



Freddie King

Chapter VII - The magic of mourning

Countless times over the existence of the Dundalk Chapter, we have mourned the loss of a chapter member or a member of his family. Each brings its own special feelings and memories, and I am taking this opportunity to recount but one such time.

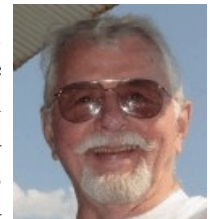
Since that wonderful lady, **Helen Seay**, had served with me when I was a principal in Baltimore County, our relationship was special to me. Of course, it was just icing on the cake that her husband was **Bob "Mr. Dundalk Barbershopper" Seay**. To attend the musical tribute by her family and friends upon her death was a wonderful experience. There was so much talent, all

demonstrating love. As did others, I shed a tear or two, but what a wonderful blessing it was to learn so much about this remarkable woman and her family. Here, too, was one more remarkable and magic moment, in association with my barbershopping involvements.

Chapter VIII - The magic of peace

At last Tuesday's meeting (March 18,) an unusual and special event took place. After **Bill Eberius** had taken us through "Sweet Hour of Prayer," a gentleman who had been seated in the last row of the auditorium rose and asked if he could be heard. He spoke of the loss of his beloved wife only two weeks earlier and indicated how he had been seeking some peace. Upon hearing our rendition, he had to share that the chorus had helped to bring him some of that peace that had been eluding him.

One of our own, **Tom McPoyle**, went to the back, sat with the gentleman and offered additional peace and comfort, as they shared thoughts. Magic is often unplanned, but there is magic nonetheless, and we are privileged to be part of it.



Tom McPoyle

Chapter IX - In conclusion

Without contradiction, I believe I could continue to relate 50 or more additional magic moments that I've experienced since becoming a Dundalk barbershopper. What makes this most important is the fact that each of you could do the same thing. Your magic moments may not match mine, but that is what makes them even more special. So, fellow barbershoppers, I guess the point of this epistle is that there are so many magic moments, planned and unplanned, that will continue to present themselves. Why not become a more involved part of it all?



*To make your music come alive,
Don't count on magic's mystic jive.
Instead of using hocus-pocus,
Study hard and learn to focus.*

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

Meet another member!

by **Cross O'Donovan**, profile reporter

Joe Pollio, Associate Director

Joe is another of our long-time barbershoppers who joined via the high school route. "I thought I was vocally pretty hot stuff when I was a senior at Sparrows Point High School in 1959," Joe said, "and then two of my teachers, **Price Ransome** and **Jim Hackman**, asked me to come to Eastpoint where there were about 225 men rehearsing. They really produced some sound!"



Joe Pollio

Joe had helped the chorus to qualify at the 1960 district contest, but shortly afterwards, went into the Air Force. "While stationed at the Lackland AFB, I visited the San Antonio Chapter. This was before Dundalk made it's big splash at the International level, but when I was introduced as being from the Dundalk Chapter, those guys in the San Antonio chapter treated me like visiting royalty, giving me a standing ovation."

In 1961, Joe came home on leave. "I knew the contest set. I should have asked to be on the International stage, but I didn't. At least I did get to see the chorus win." Unfortunately, his next duty was in Idaho, and there wasn't barbershop chorus in the state.

In 1965, Joe was back in town and went to a Catonsville Chapter show. Pretty soon he was into barbershopping up to his eyeballs as a dual member with Dundalk and Catonsville. He sang lead with the *Sterophonics*, accompanied by **Bill Norris**, **Ted Hicks** and **Jim Farrell**. This had him singing four nights a week. Fortunately, he wasn't married in 1965. This quartet was a long-lasting group staying together for six years, with **Clyde Taber** replacing Norris at tenor.

By 1971 he was singing baritone with **Clyde Taber**, **Danny Cuthbert** and **Dave Geasey** in the *Central Chesapeake Crabcake and Marching Society*, more commonly called simply *The Crabcakes*. In this unique foursome, Joe was dressed in drag for their famous circus style rendition of "Don't Go in the Lion's Cage Tonight."

In 1972, he struck gold with *Reign Beaus End*. For seven years, **Dick Webber**, **Larry Duggan**, **Joe**, and

Bo Deibel sang and competed together. They were the 1975 M-AD champions, and represented Dundalk at the International level four times. Three of those times, they managed to crack the top 20, finishing as high as 15th place. After the Beaus disbanded, Joe shifted from bari to lead as he sang in two more International level quartets. The first of these was *Preservation*, with **Dick Webber**, **Joe**, **Rick Taylor** and **Jim Grant**. The other was *Barnstormers*, which featured **Barry Brown** as the bass. *Preservation* made it to fourth in M-AD and 19 at International, while *Barnstormers* took a third place M-AD ranking and 27th at International.

Then, as so often happens, work supervened. As a salesman for a chemical company, Joe suddenly found himself assigned to the entire Eastern Shore. He relocated from Harford County to Salisbury, Md and accepted the position of Peninsulaires' musical director, a position he proudly held for 17 years. His chapter frequently hosted the Southern Division contests, and in 1985, they hosted the M-AD convention.

Along the way, Joe has garnered many awards. He was elected to the M-AD Honor Chapter, DelaSusqueHudMac, in 1981, and to the Society's Sage Lake Honor Society in 1993. He was Salisbury's BOTY, and in 2005, the Dundalk Chapter selected him as a Dundalk Master Barbershopper. He has coached numerous quartets and choruses, as well as serving on the faculty of M-AD Mini-HEP for seven years. At district conventions, Joe was often found directing the Community Sing. He served in the Dundalk Chapter's Board of Directors for five years, as Music VP and Program VP.

Joe and his wife, Sue, have been married for 39 years, with two children, Chad and Carrie. Carrie carries on the barbershop line pretty well. Her quartet, *Sound Advice*, being a second place Regional finalist.

Joe sold chemicals for 25 years. After that, he worked as a consultant for a company that was part of the construction group building the new Wilson Bridge complex over the Potomac. He also served as a member of the Salisbury Revitalization Committee, coached and umpired Little League, and was involved with the Salisbury Singers and Players. He even had significant roles as Sir Lancelot in Camelot, and as Billy Bigelow in Carousel.

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Splinters from the Board

from **Frank Sigwart**, Recording Secretary

Following is a summary of the more significant items handled at the board meeting of February 18, 2008.

Music VP **Rob Wolff** noted that his mother-in-law had donated nine guest book folders. The music legalization process is ongoing, but will delay use of some of the potential show songs. Our membership now stands at 198, as reported by Secretary **Ed Baker**.

Dave Gemmell, VP Chapter Development, placed **Ted Tuck** up for membership, which was passed. Other membership matters were discussed. **Paul Murrell**, show procurement chairman, noted that he is looking at a possible paid job for December 2, 2008. Members-at-large: **Tom Wheatley** noted that there have been some requests for a membership photo book. The motion was made and defeated. **Rob Wolff** suggested that we put such a roster on our web site. Tom has volunteered to compile such a version.

Events: Fall Show, 2008 - **Bob Fogle** noted that there is still no show chairman. *Max Q* has been invited, but some details remain to be worked out. Singing Valentines - **Dave McConagha** reported that 34 valentines were delivered. The board made a decision that quartet personal expenses, e.g. gas, meals, etc. would not be reimbursed. Woodshed Weekend 21 - **Ed Baker** reported that 65 people signed the roster book, with 37 of them singing in the contest. Three Dundalk members were in the winning quartet. Chapter Picnic - **Bob Fogle** noted that seven chapters have been invited, and five positive replies have been received. YIH Adjudication - **Bob Fogle** announced that 15 men had provided support at the event. Founders' Night - **Dick Dods** noted that the preparations have been completed, and that District President **Joe Stangl** and his wife will be guests of honor. Bull & Oyster Roast - **Chuck Hamrick** is chairing this activity which will be held at the Rosedale Gardens.

Old Business: New Truck - **Bill Fogle** is looking into getting a grant to pay for a new truck. Paper work is in progress and we should hear back by April 1. Wildwood Housing - The board approved the use of the Royal Hawaiian for the Fall 2008 convention. **Tom Wheatley** will be chairing the reservations again.

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 unless otherwise noted.

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Marilyn Doyle, Tom McPoyle,
Dolly Wheatley

The Dundalk Charivari - be part of it

Anonymous articles will not be used.

Summer Choir plans shortened season

from **Dick Dods**, chairman

Due to the conflicts with our trip to Nashville this summer, the choir's schedule is expected to contain only five or six sessions. Details will be made known when they can be determined. However, plan to be part of this rewarding summer outreach program.

The Poet's Corner:

OVER THE HILL

*Over the hill! What a misleading phrase
To describe a man's progress through life.
You'd think that just one of all of man's days
Was the target of all of man's strife.*

*Over the hill! Why it sure makes me frown
To think that the rest of the way
Was just setting me up or letting me down
From that greatest and singular day.*

*Over the hill? I just won't go along,
For life is an ongoing peak.
Each day brings adventure that's robust and strong,
If we just take the time to go seek.*

*Take life by the horns every moment you live.
Enjoy every moment and thrill.
Take hold of the reins of what life has to give,
And you'll never be "over the hill."*

Thomas Henry Wheatley
Md. Poet Laureate Nominee
from Fireside Musings, 2003

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

Table of coming events - April through August*Time shown is event start time unless otherwise indicated by an asterisk.*

Days	Date	Time	Function	Site of show or activity	Uniform*
Saturday	April 5	6:00PM	Dundalk Ch. Founders' Night	Sparrows Point Country Club	Dressy
Sunday	April 6	2-4 PM	Boumi Temple Performance	Boumi Temple, White Marsh	See Weekly News
Tuesday	April 8	7:30PM	Coaching, Joe Connelly	Rehearsal Hall	Your choice
Sunday	April 13	2:00PM**	Pottsville Chapter Show	Pottsville, PA	See Weekly News
Sunday	April 20	2-6PM	Chapter Bull Roast	Rosedale Gardens (See article)	Your choice
Tuesday	April 29	7:30PM	Coaching, Joe Connelly	Rehearsal Hall	Your choice
Saturday	May 10	7:30PM	Chapter Annual Show	Goucher College, Towson	See Weekly News
Tuesday	May 13	7:30PM	Coaching, Joe Connelly	Rehearsal Hall	Your choice
Fri-Sat	May 30-31	—	Western Div. Contest-we perform	Lancaster, PA	See Weekly News
Sunday	June 1	—	M-AD Pep Rally - we perform	Lancaster, PA	See Weekly News
Sunday	June 8	7:00PM	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
Saturday	June 14	TBD	Flag Day celebration	Ft. McHenry, Baltimore	See Weekly News
Sun-Sun	6/29-7/6	—	International Convention	Nashville, TN	See Weekly News
Tuesday	July 29	7PM	Concert in the Park	Heritage Park, Dundalk	See Weekly News
Sunday	Aug. 10	2:00PM	Monumental Life Show	TBD	See Weekly News
Saturday	Aug. 30	12-6PM	Chapter Picnic	Dundalk Athletic Club, Dundalk	Your choice

YES, WE HAVE AN ACTIVE SCHEDULE. ISN'T THAT A WONDERFUL PROBLEM TO BE FACING!

We are a social chapter. We are a performance chapter. We are a competition chapter. For best results, take all three.

* Members are encouraged to wear any informal Dundalk Chapter shirt for casual events. The uniform for all performances will be as 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.

** Show time listed. Lunch is served in Pottsville at noon. There is an afterglow.
See handout sheet for other matters, such as bus departure and return places and times.

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

To download the Charivari, click on Chapter then Charivari boxes 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 April-May Charivari is Tuesday, May 22
Please notify us of any address change as soon as possible.