

Fanfare



Strathroy, Ontario Chapter Established 1995
Member of Ontario District
"Home of the Vocal Federation Chorus"

Issue 13-2
April 2008

"Trumpeting the Federation's news to its borders and beyond"



1st place seniors quartet **The Over The Hill Gang** 1st place novice quartet **Generation Gap**

Strathroy Singers Win Novice Contest

On Saturday, February 23rd the St. Thomas Elginaires hosted the Western Division Novice Contest at Grace United Church in St. Thomas. All members of the Barbershop Harmony Society, chapters from Seaforth, St. Thomas, London and Strathroy attended this afternoon of fun and competition. Judging and adjudication duties were performed by "Nito" a quartet from the Toronto Chapter.

The London "Men of Accord" won first place in the chorus category and in the VLQ (Very Large Quartet) contest London's entrees "Half Accord" and "Forward Motion" won 1st and 2nd place. And from Strathroy, with the combined voices of Bob Fennell, Jim McDougall, Frank Knoll, Don Bazely, Adrian Smith, John Gough, Henry Wiersema, Gil Craenen and Bob Howlett, "Second Avenue" took 3rd place.

First place in the Seniors Quartet finals went to the Strathroy quartet "Over the Hill Gang" with Bob Fennell (T), Don Bazely (Bs), Ron Smith (L) and Gord Stacey (Ba). To qualify as a senior quartet the combined age of all four members must be more than 250 years with the minimum age of fifty-five years old.

The regular Novice Quartet Contest 1st place was won by the Strathroy quartet "Generation Gap" comprised of Adrian Smith (T), Bill Robertson (L), Don Bazely (Bs) and John Gough (Ba). London's "Four in Accord" took 2nd and in 3rd place Strathroy's "Adrian's Quartet" with Adrian Smith (T), Bob Howlett (L), Frank Knoll (Bs) and Roswell McPherson (Ba).

Since Strathroy's Chapter placed 1st in the chorus contest last year it was not allowed to compete this year, but with the VLQ 3rd place, seniors 1st place and a 1st and 3rd place in the regular quartet contest the members of the "Vocal Federation" had a great day!!!!

More Pictures from the Western Division Novice Contest



3rd place quartet **Adrian's Quartet** 2nd place VLQ **2nd Avenue**

Strathroy Chapter 2008 Board of Directors



rear row – Orval Allen, secretary, Henry Wiersema, public relations, Bill Robertson, communications, Bob Fennell, member at large, Roswell McPherson, music
front row – Ray Mason, performance, Gil Craenen, president, Frank Knoll, past president
Absent: Leigh Laughton, program, Larry Driessens, chapter development, Les Campbell, treasurer.

WESTERN DIVISION FINAL RESULTS FOR FEBRUARY 23RD, 2008

QUARTETS	Singing	Music	Presentation	Presentation	Sub Total	Total	Place
SENIOR							
Over The Hill Gang - Strathroy							
Wait Til The Sun Shines Nellie	56	54	53	53	216		
Sweet & Lovely	62	56	56	57	231	447	1st
2 + 2 - London							
Louise	53	46	45	42	186		
You Tell Me Your Dreams	52	50	42	41	185	371	2nd
REGULAR NOVICE							
Generation Gap - Strathroy							
Barbershop Style	63	62	64	66	255		
Coney Island Baby	67	67	67	62	263	518	1st
Four In Accord - London							
I'm Beginning To See The Light	62	64	57	56	239		
Beer Barrel Polka	67	58	60	65	250	489	2nd
Adrian's Quartet - Strathroy							
Let Me Call You Sweetheart	60	55	57	58	230		
Heart of My Heart	61	57	59	59	236	466	3rd
2 + 2 - London							
Louise	53	46	45	42	186		
You Tell Me Your Dream	52	50	42	41	185	371	4th

WESTERN DIVISION FINAL RESULTS FOR FEBRUARY 23RD, 2008

VLQ	Singing	Music	Presentation	Presentation	Sub Total	Total	Place
Half Accord - London							
I Don't Know Enough About You	63	63	56	62	244		
It Had To Be You	62	65	57	61	245	489	1st
Forward Motion - London							
Goodbye Dixie	64	54	58	58	234		
Back In The Old Routine	59	58	61	61	239	473	2nd
2nd Avenue - Strathroy							
Shine On Me	68	58	55	55	236		
Honey/Little Lize	63	54	57	57	231	467	3rd
Talbot Station - St. Thomas							
Let Me Call You Sweetheart	58	52	58	60	228		
Heart of My Heart	55	52	60	60	227	455	4th
1st Avenue - Strathroy							
Wait Till The Sun Shines Nellie	60	49	49	51	209		
Down Our Way	63	51	47	50	211	420	5th
Pieces of 8 - Seaforth							
What A Wonderful World	54	53	42	40	189		
Hello Mary Lou	57	52	52	51	212	401	6th

To The Best Little Chapter In The Western Division

Thank you for your participation in all quartet activity. I believe everyone is more comfortable singing in front of an audience because of this participation. When you are a little more comfortable you sing better. When you sing better, you feel better. When you feel better, it is more satisfying and fun.

Now, if all of the above takes you too far out of your comfort zone, that's okay. Just tell me and I will leave you alone, otherwise, I will keep encouraging you to do more, (just ask Arnold).

Thank you for allowing me to group you in such a way so that we all have the opportunity to sing in a quartet. Now that most of us have sung unrehearsed in front of the chapter members and some of us in front of the division, I would like to attempt to get us all a little more organized. I will try to set up a schedule so that you can pre-practice a song of your choice at home and then at the break with three other parts. That way you will be better prepared for singing at quartet activity time after the break. This of course will make you more comfortable, sing better, be more satisfied and have more fun. Sounds like a plan, lets see if we can do it.

Congratulation to everyone who sang at the chapter and division level. We entertained ourselves as barbershoppers and had fun doing it. That's what is all about.

Yours for a song, Bob Howlett

Quartet Activity February 20, 2008 (Chapter Contest)

Quartet # - First Round

1. Gord Nisbet, Bob Howlett, Frank Knoll, Ken Vanderheyden (Wild Irish Rose)
2. Bill Gough, Bob Howlett, Les Campbell, Ros McPherson (Down Our Way)
3. Gil Craenen, Bob Fennell, Frank Knoll, John Gough (Sweet Adeline)
4. Ray Mason, Bob Howlett, Don Bazely, Ros McPherson (Heart of My Heart)
5. Henry Wiersema, Adrian Smith, Jim McDougall, Ken Vanderheyden (Wait 'Til the Sunshines)
6. Grant Knox, Frank Knoll, Adrian Smith, John Gough (Let Me Call You Sweet Heart)
7. Bill Robertson, Adrian Smith, Don Bazely, John Gough (Barbershop Style)
8. Ron Smith, Adrian Smith, Frank Knoll, Ros McPherson (O Honey/Little Liz)
9. Bob Howlett, Adrian Smith Jim, McDougall, John Gough (Sitting On Top of the World)
10. Ron Smith, Gord Stacy, Don Bazely, Bob Fennell (Wait till the Sun Shines/ Story of the Rose)

Quartet # - Second Round

8. Ron Smith, Adrian Smith, Frank Knoll, Ros McPherson (Sweet Roses of Morn)
7. Bill Robertson, Adrian Smith, Don Bazely, John Gough (Hello Mary Lou) ---*1st place winners*
6. Grant Knox, Frank Knoll, Adrian Smith, John Gough (My Wild Irish Rose)
5. Henry Wiersema, Adrian Smith, Jim McDougall, Ken Vanderheyden (Barbershop Style)
4. Ray Mason, Bob Howlett, Don Bazely, Ros McPherson (Let Me Call You Sweet Heart)

Very Large Quartets (VLQ)

1. Grant Knox, Bill Gough, Bill Robertson, Jim McDougall, Frank Knoll, Les Campbell, Ken Vanderheyden, Adrian Smith
2. Henry Wiersema, Gord Nisbet, Ray Mason, Don Bazely, Frank Knoll, Les Campbell, Ros McPherson, Bob Fennell
3. Bob Howlett, Gil Craenen, Ron Smith, Jim McDougall, Don Bazely, Adrian Smith, John Gough, Frank Knoll

Birthdays

March:

March 16 – Joanne Vanderheyden
March 22 – Maxine Mason
March 23 – Fran Galbraith
March 28 – Henry Wiersema

April:

April 3 – Orval Allen
April 4 - Heather Smith
April 9 – Audrey Gough
April 12 – Barb Howlett
April 22 – Mary Robertson
April 27 – Phyllis Laughton

Anniversaries

March:

March 1 – Bill & Isabel Bowron
March 28 – Bill & Audrey Gough

April:

April 6 – Bill & Mary Robertson
April 17 – Jim & Sylvia McDougall
April 20 – Ray & Maxine Mason



Why Men Still Need A Good Woman Around

Submitted By: Frank Knoll

Scratch Golfer

Two men were put together as partners in the club tournament and met on the putting green for the first time.

After introductions, the first golfer asked, "What's your handicap?"

"Oh, I'm a scratch golfer," the other replied.

"Really!" exclaimed the first gentleman, suitably impressed that he was paired up with him.

"Yes, I write down all my good scores and scratch out the bad ones!"

The Benefits of Barbershopping

Laughter.

They say laughter is the best medicine. Well, we get large dosages in this hobby! We probably sing more than we laugh, but you'd never know it by the way we carry on sometimes! Any time you gather a group of men with a similar interest, they are guaranteed have a blast; the singing just takes it to a higher dimension.

Friendships.

Barbershoppers are just a bunch of ordinary guys who want to succeed in striving for a common goal. Friendships are made easily because singing just brings out the best in each of us! Even men's families become well acquainted as members get to know one another. The poet couldn't say it any better: "There is a destiny that makes us brothers, no one goes his way alone. All that we send into the lives of others, comes back into our own."

Great Family Entertainment.

People of all ages seem to enjoy barbershop. When you hear the laughter and applause, you quickly understand that we do, indeed, connect with our audience. Audiences fondly remember barbershop shows and often talk about them for years to come.

Opportunities to Express Your Creativity.

Very few men are likely to have an opportunity to express all (or any!) of their creativity at their jobs. Everyone should develop this dimension in their life to provide personal balance and a sense of personal accomplishment. There is a little "ham" in all of us! You may be surprised at what you can do and how satisfying it will feel!

Personal Enjoyment

There is nothing more pleasing to the ear than four-part harmony produced by male voices. The resonating bass voice combined with the melodious lead, then enriched by the sparkling tenor and dignified baritone produce a sound together that makes each chord a work of art. This unique harmony of male voices remains unaccompanied by any musical instruments, except a humble pitchpipe, which only gets us started in the right key.

(copied from the Kentuckian Chorus website)

COMING EVENTS

Saturday, April 12, 2008: Annual Show
"You Ain't Heard Nothin' Yet"

Strathroy Community Christian School *only 9 days left to sell those
last few tickets*

Wednesday, April 16, 2008:

Guest Night: *Bring a friend or neighbor to this meeting*

April 18 - 20, 2008

Ontario District Convention
Collingwood Blue Mountain Resort

Tuesday, June 17, 2008

Ontario District "Pep Rally"
Location: Capital Banquet Center
Dixie Road, Mississauga.
Time: 7:30 P.M.



Wednesday, July 11, 2008

First rehearsal of "Finale Song".
Starting at 6:00 P.M. at St. Thomas
Followed by rehearsal at
Grace United Church.



Saturday, October 25, 2008

Celebrating St. Thomas Chapter
40th Anniversary.

ORDER OF SONGS FOR "YOU AIN'T HEARD NOTHING YET"

ACT 1:

- O Canada (opening song)
Mirage Quartet – 2 songs cameo
[1] **Chorus** - My Mammy
[2] **Chorus** - I Love A Jolson Song
[3] **Rural Roots** - Carolina In The Morning
[4] **Rural Roots** - Night Time In Dixie Land
[5] **Sterling Silver** - When The Midnight
Choo-Choo Leaves For Alabam
[6] **Chorus** - I'm Sitting On Top Of The World
Gord Vair – ventriloquist vaudeville act
[7] **The Gin and Tonics** – up to 4 songs
[8] **Sterling Silver** - Me And My Shadow
[9] **Chorus** - Little Pal
[10] **Chorus** - If You Knew Susie

ACT II:

- [1] **Chorus** - I Love A Jolson Song [only part of song]
[2] **Chorus** - California, Here I Come
[3] **Rural Roots** - Toot, Toot Tootsie
[4] **Chorus** - Sonny Boy
Mirage Quartet – 20 minutes set.
[5] **Sterling Silver** - Rock-A-Bye Your Baby With a
Dixie Melody
[6] **Chorus** - Swanee
REPRISE
"Teach The Children To Sing" or
"We Sing That They Shall Speak"
and "Keep The Whole World Singing"

Strathroy Chapter
Western Division-Ontario District-Barbershop Harmony Society
Home of the "Vocal Federation"
The performing chorus of the Strathroy Chapter

Meeting at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
At the corner of Albert and Richmond Streets
In Strathroy – Wednesday evening at 7:30 PM

Board of Directors

President	Gil Craenen	519 – 245 - 2888
Past President	Frank Knoll	519 - 264 - 2856
District Delegate	Gil Craenen	519 – 245 - 2888
Secretary	Orval Allen	519 – 246 - 1234
Treasurer	Les Campbell	519 – 245 - 0359
Chapter Development	Larry Driessen	519 - 245 - 2851
Music	Ros McPherson	519 – 245 - 1711
Communications	Bill Robertson	519 – 245 - 0979
Program	Leigh Laughton	519 – 264 - 1464
Performance	Ray Mason	519 – 264 - 1850
Marketing & P. R.	Henry Wiersema	519 – 589 - 5562
Member at Large	Bob Fennell	519 – 693 - 4280

Appointments

Quartet Chairman	Bob Howlett
Historian	Ernie McEwen
Service Projects & Fundraising	Bill Smith
Uniform Chairman	Bill Galbraith
Show Committee Chairman	Orval Allen
Fanfare Editor	Bill Robertson
Kitchen Steward	Les Campbell
Sunshine Chairman	Gord Nisbet

Music Team

Music VP – Ros McPherson	Tenor – Ernie McEwen
Music Director – John Gough	Lead – Bob Howlett
Music Director – Jim McDougall	Baritone – John Gough
Librarian – Larry Driessen	Bass – Craig Bycraft

Section Leaders

Websites

Vocal Federation: www.bam.on.ca/vocalfederation
Ontario District: www.ont.spebsqsa.org
Barbershop Harmony Society: www.spebsqsa.org
Ashow: www.ashow.org

*Remember to share your Fanfare with all of your family, friends and neighbours.
Share the joy of singing.*

PROBE – Public Relations Officers and Bulletin Editors
The most influential fraternity in the society

Vision Statement

The Strathroy Chapter will provide the opportunity for men of all ages to blend their voices in the unique style of barbershop harmony singing and will provide the wholesome musical entertainment to people of all ages throughout this and neighbouring communities wherever our services may be desired.

Mission Statement

To realize our vision, the Strathroy Chapter will:

- Provide the means for men to participate in and enjoy the singing of barbershop-style harmony, both in chorus and quartet singing
- Provide for its membership an organized process to learn and sing barbershop-style harmony from written arrangements, or by "ear singing".
- Develop member's vocal talent and performance abilities so that each time they sing together, they perform at the best level possible.
- Provide an atmosphere and programs, which result in a high level of camaraderie and social benefits to members.
- Be a community leader in the cause of preserving and encouraging vocal music in our schools and our communities, by singing barbershop music for schools, churches and social events.
- Enrich the lives of less fortunate people in our communities, by singing barbershop music for senior citizen homes, nursing homes and hospitals.
- Initiate, promote and participate in charitable projects, especially those, which will benefit the Ontario District's barbershop charities.

The Vocal Federation's
Fanfare

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The Vocal Federation's Fanfare is a publication of the Strathroy Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. Fanfare is published on eight occasions annually. Contributions are invited and will be acknowledged. The Editor may edit all for clarity, content or to fit the space. All stories written by the Editor, except those carrying another byline, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Chapter, it's officers or members.