



# *Fanfare*

Strathroy, Ont.  
Chapter  
Established  
1995  
Member of  
Ontario  
District

“Home of the  
Vocal Federation  
Chorus”

*“Trumpeting the Federation’s news to its borders”*

## **Babbling From Bob**

by

**Bob Howlett**  
Music Team Section Leader.



### **Hi Guys !**

Once in a while I like to put a note in the Fanfare related to anything and everything. I have been barbershopping for over 15 years and I have had a lot fun with everyone in our chapter meetings and performances. I would like to thank everyone for being themselves and bringing uniqueness to the chapter.

It is fantastic that the new members are ticking off the pole cat songs and some classics. I challenge some of the longer-time members to do the same. Get organized with learning tapes in your car or a mobile tape player that is completely portable. It makes learning songs fun and easy. Remember to listen many times before singing any notes and then when you sing, use the techniques we have been taught (support breathing, open back of throat and for leads and baritones, use “head tone” when in your upper range).

Thank you everyone for being “coachable”. Did you know that the best singers in the world continue to coached. In our circles it is often called a fifth set of ears (coaches can make the same mistakes that they are trying to correct in a fellow singer ( no one hears themselves the same as someone else).

Here’s a challenge for someone in the Vocal Federation chorus. An afternoon group could have additional fun and many performances paid and otherwise. There is a real need for an afternoon group. Did you see in the Trillium that a songfest is planned for 2002 for seniors groups of any kind.

This could be like a district convention to attend except that there is no contest. Everyone performs for the fun of it.

This brings me to a topic on which I would like to reflect. Competition, I can take it or leave it, but I would like to sight some of the pros and cons. Competition does push us to do our very best but often at the expense of much hard work and a smaller repertoire. If the chorus or quartet does well compared to their expectations, the hard work is worth it because of the sense of accomplishment. For some, winning is where they want to eventually be, no matter how hard or how long it takes. For some, singing just for the fun of it, as long as it’s not bad, suits them just fine. In our district and society, we have both kinds of chapters, and that’s great that each can do what they need to be happy. However, most chapters are made up of members who have a lot of each kind of person, competitive and non-competitive.

I believe we need to have lot of respect for each other. The Society, District, Division and Chapter have ample opportunity for contest oriented members. I don’t think there is nearly enough opportunity for the sing your best for fun only members. The seniors 55 years and over, now have an event for this each year. I would hope that more of these events could be held for all chapters and members. For example, the chapters could have a 2 song performance, by quartets once a year (not judged but evaluated).

The District could have one convention each year for competition and one for a songfest of all ages, choruses and quartets. Just as an aside, no one is going to sing for anyone, unless they give it their best shot so work and craft would be attended to along with no pressure from a judging panel and lots of raw fun.

Further, I wonder sometimes if retaining members has a lot to do with competition.

**Bob** (Continued from page 1.)

Competition at high level takes a deep commitment of time, effort and money. Most of us are lacking in one of the three all of the time or at least much of the time, especially at an age of under 55 years. When we are supposed to be in our prime for being a good competitor.

Further for some, competition in business is prevalent at all levels, competition in a hobby for most is not a desire. Singing well and for fun for them is where it is at. Finally, I recognize not everyone will risk making a fool of themselves, like I did at the Christmas party. But you must remember, no guts no glory. It is glorious for me to ring chords with 3 other fellows. If we can entertain a little while we're at it, that's glorious as well.

Have a wonderful New year.

It's great to be a barbershopper!

**Spring Convention, Brantford - April 19-21**

**Hotel Information:**

Please make all your members aware of the following:

- The Brant Park Best Western has no more rooms available.
- The following Hotels that have rooms left are as follows.
- Holiday Inn - (519)758-9999 -40 rooms available
- Days Inn (519) 759-2700 Ext. 125 -5 rooms available.
- Comfort Inn (519) 753-3100 -3 rooms available.
- The Sherwood Hotel located at 797-799 Colbourne St. E. Hwy 2 Brantford (519) 756-5261 has no rooms secured for us. This will be on a first come, first serve basis.

**Roger Carl**  
Convention Committee



**QUARTET NEWS**

by **Jim McDougall,**  
Past President.

Fourthwith Sound provided the entertainment at the wedding reception of Jamie Cann and his new bride at the Bethel Baptist Church on Sept. 29/01

Steadily rehearsing for upcoming events.

**FALL REMINISCENCE**

Sylvia and I sure were a busy pair throughout the month of October and it just seems to continue. It all started with our Open House on Thanksgiving Day. Then that Saturday was the Big Band Dance fund raiser.

The following weekend, we traveled to Battle Creek for the Pioneer Convention. The next weekend was the Ontario Convention in Brantford. There we witnessed the NORTHERN LIGHTS win the preliminary round to sing at International in Portland next summer. It just so happens that they scored the highest of all choruses in all of those preliminary rounds in the whole Society. We also heard the quartet TKO swoop the Ontario District Quartet Contest.

The following weekend, Nov. 2,3,4, Sylvia and I went our separate ways. She visited her Aunt in Ann Arbor, while I attended the Leadership Forum in Racine. This function brought the Society Board, District Presidents and several of the DVP's together from all over the Society. On my returning flight from Milwaukee, I had a little scare in the airport. Now grown men don't scare easily. Ask me sometime about my confrontation with a sniffer dog. Yes, it was only doing its job and No I was not packing any drugs or explosives. Gee, its great to be busy.



**Brian McDougall**  
sings with **CROSSFIRE**  
(see page 7.)

**Next Fanfare Deadline:**  
**Feb. 6, 2002**

## GOOD NEWS and DON'T WANNA HEAR NEWS

by

**Les Campbell**  
Treasurer.

DON'T WANNA HEAR NEWS ? Well we have to talk about it. Editor John had an article in the November's Fanfare about the Society Board's approval of an International dues increase of \$2.00 (from 70.00 to \$72.00) effective with December 31, 2001 renewals. Also approved were increases of a further \$4.00 for 2003, \$2.00 for 2004 and \$2.00 for 2005. I feel that these increases are minimal and reflect the rising costs of every service that the Chapter encounters.

On the other hand, my concern is with the increase in the exchange rate, pegged by the Society from the previous 1.5381 to 1.6031 for Canadian dollars. When we take International dues @ \$72.00 plus Ontario District dues @ \$29.26 for a total of \$101.26 U.S. dollars times the exchange rate, we send Kenosha \$162.32 for every registered member. This leaves our Chapter only \$37.68 out of your current \$200.00 dues.

At the Chapter's November Board meeting, it was the general opinion that our dues would have to increase to compensate for the increases from the Society. No motion was tabled at that meeting but I, as your treasurer, was asked to write this article so every member would know the facts. My personal recommendation at the January 2002 board meeting will be that we increase our dues by \$5.00 every year for 2002, 2003 and 2004. This would bring our chapter's revenue per registered member to \$42.68 for the year 2002. I trust that all members will understand and be harmonious in our hobby.

Now the good News!

The last January to March 2001 publication of the Ontario District "The Trillium" Volume 55-1, Chapter donations for 2001 to H4S were listed. Out of Ontario's 37 Chapters, we placed 24<sup>th</sup> with a per member contribution of \$64.32 each.

By my records for the 2001 year, we will be donating a total of \$2510.01/\$1722.51 to H4S and \$787.50 to Harmony Foundation. Fellows, this makes me proud as we have increased our per member contribution to \$69.72 each.

In case you didn't read that issue of "The Trillium", Ontario District chapters have donated in the past 24 years \$3,155,066.51 to the H4S cause.

**"IT'S GREAT TO BE A BARBERSHOPPER"  
HARMONIZE**



**FOR  
SPEECH**

## 2001 AWARDS

At the annual Christmas party on Dec. 1, 2001, awards for the year were presented as follows:

### i) Rookie of the Year:

This award was won by **Barry Done**.



### ii) Barbershopper of the Year:

This award was won by **Blake Hughes**.



### iii) Hall of Fame Award.

The Chapter's most prestigious award was won by **John Gough**.



**Congratulations to all three award winners. Keep up the great work. The chapter would not be the same without you.**

At the Christmas party, **Harold's Angels** donated \$3000 from their fund raising to the Chapter for 2001. It is my understanding that this brings their total contribution to the Chapter to over \$20,000 for the past 6 years. Wow! What a job by the ladies. And by the way, they are pretty good singers as well!

contributed by

**Les Campbell,  
Treasurer.**

During the past 10 years, SPEBSQSA leaders have been seriously examining the SPEBSQSA Charitable Mission and our relationship with Heartspring (formerly the Institute of Logopedics). In November 2000, the SPEBSQSA Board of Directors unanimously adopted a resolution declaring that, "it shall be the Charitable Mission of SPEBSQSA to preserve our musical legacy through support of vocal music education in our schools and communities." This change has created some confusion and we trust the facts presented in this document will help to educate the SPEBSQSA chapters and members on why the change had to be made.

- In 1949, The Institute of Logopedics was first brought to the attention of the SPEBSQSA leadership by the Wichita, Kansas Chapter. Logopedics was this chapter's local charity and, at that time, a speech correction center which treated hundreds of children. Logopedics had plans to create local clinics or field centers across the nation. That plan never materialized and today Logopedics has evolved into Heartspring, where Barbershoppers supported a residential school program with space for a maximum of 40 students.
- In 1964, when the Society adopted The Institute of Logopedics as its Unified Service Project, one of the major reasons was that, "music plays a major therapeutic role in communicating with patients." Today, Heartspring does not have a music therapy program. The Society has offered to help fund music research that could benefit thousands of children, but Heartspring has declined this offer.
- Logopedics was also selected as a Service Project so SPEBSQSA, "could play a major role and not be merely one of many supporting organizations." Today, Heartspring has the support of six other patron organizations, and operates at a substantial surplus.
- In 1964, few public schools were staffed and equipped to deal with multi-challenged students. In 1975, landmark legislation, the Education for All Handicapped Children Act passed by the United States Congress, made it mandatory that each school district in the country provides education for every student within its boundaries, regardless of physical or mental disabilities. This also allows Logopedics/Heartspring to obtain money from states and school districts for their residential students.
- During the past 37 years, Barbershoppers have contributed more than \$16 million dollars through Harmony Foundation to Logopedics/Heartspring. Additionally, Barbershoppers have helped Heartspring pay for a state-of-the-art \$14 million dollar campus, a \$4 million endowment fund, and the Shaklee Institute for research.
- With Barbershoppers' help, Heartspring is now operating with a surplus. In 1999 and 2000 combined, Heartspring reported \$4,292,441 of operational income over expenses. And, Heartspring reports 2000 total assets of \$25,173,957 and total liabilities of \$731,109, resulting in total net assets of \$24,442,848.



- For more than 10 years, SPEBSQSA leaders have been examining our Charitable Mission and evaluating the change in direction Heartspring has taken from the original intent of our relationship. This examination was conducted by the Society Board of Directors, the Society's Marketing Committee, a special task force in 1994, the Future 2001 Committee in 1995, and it culminated with the Charitable Mission Task Force recommendations in 2000. Throughout this process Heartspring officials were aware of the considerations and, indeed, commended the Society's move to make our Charitable Mission more focused on vocal music.

If SPEBSQSA was an organization just being formed today and was searching for a charitable cause that would be closely associated with our musical fraternity, the preceding facts would not point to Heartspring as they did to Logopedics nearly 40 years ago. SPEBSQSA leaders have now chosen to return to music as the major focus of our charitable mission. This, too, is based on many facts.

- Singing is disappearing from our culture. Choirs and choruses are shrinking in numbers or disappearing altogether. During the last several decades many schools have experienced funding challenges and school music programs have suffered cuts eliminating, or severely reducing the quantity and quality of music education.
- In the past three years alone Barbershoppers—individuals, quartets and chapters—have supported 42 grants totaling nearly \$250,000 to community and school music programs all over the U.S. and Canada. We estimate that nearly 10,000 people, mostly young people, have directly benefited from the grants, and more than 50,000 parents and audience members have indirectly been touched.
- Barbershoppers have also funded 15 Harmony Explosion Camps that have given over a thousand young men and their teachers a weekend of choral music and barbershop harmony education and fellowship.
- Vocal music has turned many young lives from destructive to positive endeavors. We have received letters and testimonials from students, parents and teachers thanking us for our help. We also know from nationally acclaimed studies that music builds mental and social skills in young people, and can also have therapeutic value.

Unfortunately, the leadership of Heartspring has recently chosen to try to divide our charitable efforts by soliciting direct donations from Barbershoppers and their chapters. This shocking and unauthorized attempt to divide the SPEBSQSA membership has forced the Society to direct Heartspring to cease and desist their solicitation of our members. Society support of Heartspring has always gone through Harmony Foundation, and Heartspring can continue to request future assistance directly from the Foundation, but not from our chapters and members.

Gentlemen, we hope you share these facts with your members and express the importance of this change. As we close one era, we open a new and exciting one. We have the opportunity to make a colossal difference in our culture. Please be a leader in this cause. Be vocal in your support and enthusiasm for the SPEBSQSA Charitable Mission and Harmony Foundation. Working together, we can help thousands **Sing...for life.**

## Coming Events

- Jan.11-13.....COTS Plus 2002..Geneva Park,  
Orillia.
- Feb. 19 .....9.15 a.m. /10.10 a.m. Glencoe  
Schools.
- Feb. 23, 2002.....Host ..Western Division  
Novice Contest.
- March 9, 2002.....Retreat.....SCCS.
- April 6, 2002.....2002 Show...SCCS.
- April 19-21, 2002.....Ontario District  
Convention- Brantford.

## Celebrations

### Chapter Birthdays

|            |                   |
|------------|-------------------|
| January 1  | Peggy Abel        |
| January 1  | Tom Linden        |
| January 9  | Eunice Fennell    |
| January 9  | Marilyn McPherson |
| January 19 | Paula Campbell    |
| January 20 | Blake Hughes      |
| January 29 | Lydia DeRuiter    |
| February 1 | Bill Robertson    |
| February 4 | John King         |
| February 5 | Gil Craenen       |
| February 8 | Bob Day           |

### Two More New Members

#### Mario Deluca –Lead.

422 Metcalfe St. W. Strathroy, ON. N7G 1N7.  
519- 870-5873 or 245-1239.

Business: attends school.

Mario prefers more quartetting because it has  
great harmony and he enjoys it.

#### Blair Mott– Lead.

404 Beachwood Ave., London, On. N6J 3K1.  
519-474-6453.

Business: Investment Advisor

255 Queens Ave., Suite 1900 London, On.  
519- 646-3023.

Blair would like to learn “Coney Island Baby” as  
it seems everyone he meets knows it.

**WELCOME !**

## A THOUGHT FOR THE NEW YEAR!

contributed by **Hugh McCutcheon**

Don't bother getting a pen and paper... just read... if  
you can't answer them, just keep going.

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America  
contest.
4. Name ten people who have won the Nobel or  
Pulitzer prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winners  
for Best Actress.
6. Name the last decade's worth of World Series  
Winners.

How Did you do?

The point is, none of us remembers the headliners of  
yesterday. These are no second-rate achievers.  
They're the best in their fields. But the applause dies.  
Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten.  
Accolades and certificates are buried with their  
owners.

Now here's another quiz. See how you do on this  
one:

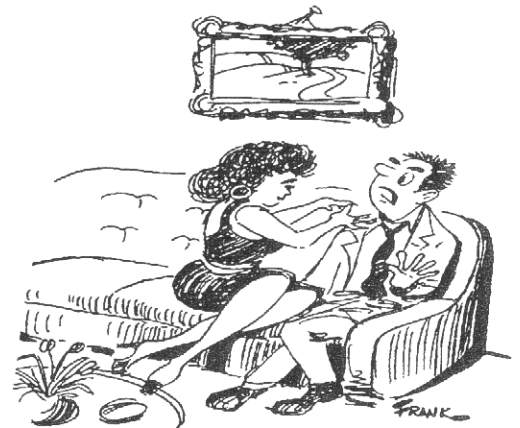
1. Name three teachers who aided your journey  
through school.
2. Name three friends who helped you through a  
difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something  
worthwhile.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel  
appreciated and special.
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.
6. Name six people whose stories have inspired you.

Easier?

The Lesson?

The people who make a difference in your life aren't  
the ones with the most credentials, the most money,  
or the most awards. They're the ones who care.

–Inspiration



"Not tonight, honey, I have to  
sing in the chorus tomorrow!"

## REPORT FROM VP CHAPTER SUPPORT AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING

How long has it been since your chapter members had the chance to voice their opinion in a chapter questionnaire? Are they satisfied with your chapter meeting format? Do they like the direction your chapter is heading? Maybe your chapter Mission Statement needs to be reviewed? Has your Chapter Coach given you all the Hot Tips to make sensational successes throughout the next year? Call him. Make a date for your next chapter board meeting.

Make a difference for the future. Make 2002 sizzle. Current CHAPTER COACH designation:

Rob Arnold - Barrie, Kitchener-Waterloo,  
Scarborough, Toronto.  
Mac Dallman - Kingston, Markham, Oshawa,  
Trenton.  
Dave Daniels - Mount Forest, Orangeville, Owen  
Sound, Peterborough.  
Bruce Dibble - Huntsville, Midland, Newmarket,  
North Bay.  
Doug Drew - Brockville, Cornwall, Nepean,  
Renfrew.  
Tom Hare - Burlington, Etobicoke-Mississauga,  
Greater Toronto.  
Jim McDougall - East York, Guelph, Niagara  
Falls, St. Catharines.  
Tom Nairn - London, Simcoe, Strathroy.  
Don Pyper - Sarnia, Seaforth, St. Thomas.  
Gerry Selkirk - Grimsby, Oakville, Ottawa, Stoney  
Creek.

CHAPTER COACHES will make themselves available upon request. Unfortunately, two Chapter coaches, Bruce Dibble and Doug Drew are resigning this year. We are recruiting new people to train.

The ideal circumstance is just two chapters per Chapter Coach. As you can see, we are slightly overloaded and I would invite the names of any potential candidates to be forwarded to me at once. We all know many experienced and seasoned barbershoppers who can lend their expertise. Give it some thought.

COTS is soon approaching. Do your best to convince all your chapter board members to attend.

Sing-cerely  
**Jim McDougall**



## New Quartet Raises Eyebrows

by **Jim McDougall**  
Past President.

A brand new quartet called **CROSSFIRE** sure surprised a lot of people in the Pioneer District this fall. Nobody had heard tell of them until the Friday night contest in Battle Creek. When they made the cut with a powerhouse sound, every one was buzzing.

In late August, Sarnia member, Rich Lauzon and Strathroy member, **Brian McDougall**, teamed together with Grosse Point member, Rob Smith and Macomb member, Scott Risley to form a mighty fine sounding quartet. With only ten rehearsals ahead, they placed an astonishing third place bronze in the Pioneer District Quartet Contest. Better still they won the Singing category on Saturday night by one point. I'm sure we'll hear a lot more from **CROSSFIRE**.

As a proud Papa, I think number ONE son has set a huge fire in Pioneer District with the quartet **CROSSFIRE!**

**We Get E-Mail**  
from **Oval Allen**  
**Show committee Chairman.**

### "2002 Annual Show Committee Update"

-SHOW COMMITTEE MEMBERS:  
Messrs. Allen (Chairman), Les Campbell, Dixon, Fennell, Bill Gough, Hughes, King and Jim McDougall.

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| CHAPTER RETREAT:    | ANNUAL              |
| SHOWS:              |                     |
| Saturday March 9/02 | Saturday April 6/02 |
| 9.00 a.m./4.00 p.m. | Matinee 2.00 p.m.   |
|                     | Evening 7.30 p.m.   |

RETREAT and ANNUAL SHOWS LOCATION:  
Strathroy Community Christian School (SCCS)  
7880 Walkers Road, Strathroy, Ont.

THEME NAME:  
The Melody Lingers On

SHOW PARTICIPANTS:  
Vocal Federation chorus and quartets;- Fourthwith Sound, Rural Roots and 4 Reasons Y, School Board and Courtney Fox.

TICKET PRICES FOR BOTH SHOWS:  
Adults \$12.00  
Under 13 \$5.00  
Family Pack, i.e. Parents and Children Under 13,  
\$30.00.

**STRATHROY CHAPTER**  
 Western Division - Ontario District - SPEBSQSA  
 Home of the "Vocal Federation"  
 The performing chorus of the Strathroy Chapter

**Meeting at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church**  
 the corner of Albert and Richmond Streets in  
 Strathroy - **Wednesday Evenings at 8:00 pm**

**Board of Directors**

|                            |                   |                |
|----------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| <b>President</b>           | Frank Knoll       | (519)264-2856  |
| <b>Past President</b>      | Jim McDougall     | (519) 245-0843 |
| <b>Treasurer</b>           | Les Campbell      | (519) 245-0359 |
| <b>Secretary</b>           | Orval Allen       | (519) 641-0331 |
| <b>Chapter Dev. V.P.</b>   | Bob Fennell       | (519) 693-4280 |
| <b>Music V.P.</b>          | Blake Hughes      | (519) 264-1245 |
| <b>Program V.P.</b>        | Bill Gough        | (519) 245-2244 |
| <b>Performance V.P.</b>    | Arnold Dixon      | (519)294-0128  |
| <b>Communication V.P.</b>  | Bud Jackson       | (519) 245-5747 |
| <b>Board Mem. At Large</b> | Roswell McPherson | (519) 245-1711 |
| <b>Board Mem. At Large</b> | Ian Cooper        | (519) 287-9902 |

**Appointments**

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| <b>Quartet Activity Chairman</b>                   | Gord Vair       |
| <b>Attendance Recorder</b>                         | Hugh McCutcheon |
| <b>Historian</b>                                   | Ernie McEwen    |
| <b>Nominating Committee Chairman</b>               | Jim McDougall   |
| <b>Service Projects &amp; Fundraising Chairman</b> | Ian Cooper      |
| <b>Uniform Chairman</b>                            | Bill Galbraith  |
| <b>Show Committee Co-Chairman</b>                  | Orval Allan     |
| <b>Fanfare Editor/Directory Publisher</b>          | John King       |
| <b>Kitchen Steward</b>                             | Les Campbell    |
| <b>Sunshine Chairman</b>                           | Gord Nisbet     |

**Music Team**

Music V.P. - Blake Hughes  
 Chorus Director - John Gough  
 Chorus Director - Jim McDougall  
 Chorus Director - Don Pyper  
 Librarian - Arnold Dixon

**Section Leaders**

Tenor - Ernie McEwen  
 Lead - Bob Howlett  
 Baritone - John Gough  
 Bass - Jim McDougall

**We Sing.....That They Shall Speak---** Speech, like song, unites the voices of children and men in common understanding. Like singing, speech is easily learned by some; for others special effort is required.

**WEB SITES**

**Strathroy Vocal Federation**  
[www.bam.on.ca/vocalfederation/](http://www.bam.on.ca/vocalfederation/)

**Ontario District-** [www.ont.spebsqsa.org](http://www.ont.spebsqsa.org)

**Barbershop International-** [www.spebsqsa.org](http://www.spebsqsa.org)

**Ashow**  
[www.ahsow.or](http://www.ahsow.or)

**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 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 members vocal talents 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 benefit 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 the 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 projects which will benefit the Ontario District's barbershop charity, Harmonize For Speech.

**Fanfare**

**Editor - John F. King**

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

**Fanfare** is a publication of the Strathroy Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing America, Inc.