



Fanfare

Strathroy, Ont.
Chapter
Established
1995
Member of
Ontario
District

"Home of the
Vocal Federation
Chorus"

"Trumpeting the Federation's news to its borders"



The Vocal Federation entertains with Christmas Carols for Strathroy businesses on December 18 with Jim McDougall directing. A great time was had by all.

Over 20 members of the Vocal Federation chorus entertained downtown businesses in Strathroy again this year on the evening of December 18. The chorus started at Zehrs grocery store and proceeded to Poag's Jewelers, The Dollar Store, Kersey's, Strathroy Audio Video, Tim Horton's, Goudie's, Just Your Style, etc. and eventually ended with singing at Johnny Bucks

We go to these businesses as a token of our appreciation for their support, and the support of many other businesses in our community. They support our chapter through their annual contributions for advertising in our chapter show. Of all the times I have been at one of these "sing-outs", I don't believe I have had a better time or seen the chorus better received.

Without notice, an Age Dispatch reporter turned up right on schedule to take the Chorus' picture for the next edition, the local jeweler reached into his "till" and made a contribution to the chapter and everyone we encounter seemed extremely pleasant, polite and generous with their comments. To top it all off, we had our usual good time with songs, food and liquids at Johnny Bucks where the audience was really appreciative.

So to what do we contribute our good fortune? ...are we good singers? are we becoming better known? was it just good luck? was it just the time of the year?
I don't know, but the chorus members who missed this event, certainly missed a lot of fun.

2002 Awards presented at the Chapter's annual Christmas party



Music Directors John Gough and Jim McDougall receive gifts from President Frank Knoll for their dedication and outstanding efforts in 2002.



Patti Bycraft is presented with a birthday cake by Sylvia McDougall.. (Patti claims she's 50 , but I don't believe it, she looks much younger to me).



**Bill Gough does a stand-up job as MC at the Christmas party
(I think he said he loves the job)**



Orval Allen receives the Barbershopper Of The Year Award from Blake Hughes.



Rural Roots

L to R_ Ernie McEwen,(l),Bob Howlett (L),
Craig Bycraft (b) and Roswell McPherson (bari)
Entertains at the Chapter's annual Christmas
party at the Legion in Strathroy on December 13.



Sylvia McDougall presents Mary Vair, President
of Harold's Angels, with a gift of appreciation for
her hard work in leading the Angels to raise a
substantial sum of money for the chapter again
this year. Mary presented a cheque to chapter
Treasurer, Les Campbell, at the Christmas party



The 2002 Hall Of Fame Award is presented to
Blake Hughes by John Gough.



Blake Hughes presents the
Rookie Of The Year Award
to Bill Robertson

Coming Events

January 8...Sing-out Wardsville-Nursing Home

January 10-12COTS

Jan.19-26....Midwinter Convention...Albuquerque, New Mexico

March 8.....Strathroy Chorus retreat.

April 5....Spring Show

June 20-July 6..... International Convention..Montreal

Celebrations

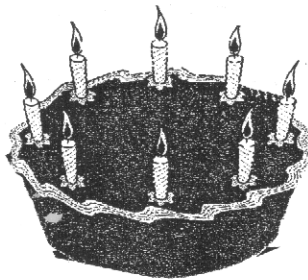


Chapter Anniversaries

- December 18 Gord & Jean Nisbet
- December 25 Les & Donna Campbell
- December 28 Tom & Elaine Linden
- December 31 Ron & Dianne Carradine

Chapter Birthdays

- January 1 Peggy Abel
- January 1 Tom Linden
- January 9 Eunice Fennell
- January 9 Marilyn McPherson
- January 20 Blake Hughes
- January 29 Lydia DeRuiter



**Next Fanfare Deadline:
February 5, 2003.**

Your New Year's Smile

by **Bob Fennell**
V.P. Chapter Development

A couple of New Jersey hunters are out in the woods when one falls to the ground. He doesn't seem to be breathing and his eyes are rolled back into his head. The other guy whips out his cell-phone and calls the emergency services. He gasps to the operator: "My friend is dead! What can I do?" The operator, in a calm soothing voice, says: "Just take it easy. I can help. First, let's make sure he's dead." There is a silence, then a shot is heard. The guy's voice comes back on the line. He says: OK, now what?"

Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson go on a camping trip. After a good dinner and a bottle of wine, they retire for the night, and go to sleep. Some hours later, Holmes wakes up and nudges his faithful friend. "Watson, look up at the sky and tell me what you see." "I see millions and millions of stars," Watson replies. "And what do you deduce from that?" Watson ponders for a minute. "Well automatically, it tells me that there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, I observe that Saturn is in Leo. Horologically, I deduce that the time is approximately a quarter past three. Meteorologically, I suspect that we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. Theologically, I can see that God is all powerful, and that we are a small and insignificant part of the universe. What does it tell you, Holmes?" Holmes is silent for a moment. "Watson, you idiot!" he says. "Someone has stolen our tent."



Chapter Incorporation

I have received inquiries of concern regarding this message about chapter incorporation and in contacting the president and president elect, I am sending you this information.

The President and the District Board is in the process of having an "incorporation" lawyer check into and verify that, in Ontario, chapters of the "Ontario District Association of Chapters" fall under the Ontario District's incorporation umbrella, and as such are, in fact, incorporated.

SO, DO NOT DO ANYTHING.

If we learn that there would be a requirement or some added benefit to having each individual chapter incorporate, we will advise you. Jim Warner of the Society is involved in this issue and there may be some procedural changes required.

We expect that we will have an answer for the House of Delegates meeting at COTS.

Bev Grahlman
Ontario District Secretary

International Convention

Well , here's the good news.....I have received a confirmation from VIA Rail that lays out a program straddling the International Convention dates in Montreal next year :

VALID : June 27- July 10, 2003

TERRITORY : VIA Rail System Wide to/from Montreal,Que

Restrictions : Fare applies to maximum of two passengers per purchase .

Discount : 35 % discount off the full adult economy class , minimum fare \$ 14.00
05 % discount off the full adult VIA-1 first class and sleepers

Railways usually quote 1 way fares so in effect the VIA-1 round trip equals 10 %

As you know , I started looking for something convenient and cost effective for my own (MegaCity Chorus) group and ended up speaking to the right people who took quite an interest in what was happening . The first step was the

Windsor- Montreal corridor then they added Ottawa- Montreal then it was opened up system wide in Canada .

Not only is this convenient and cost effective but it is also flexible . Each person/couple can make his/her/their own arrangements from and to ports of their choice at times of the schedule that suit them.....as long as they go thru Montreal .

The only thing travelers will have to know and state at the time of booking is the

CONVENTION PROMO # 10016

Graham Fagan

SPEBSQSA's Harmony Travel

is proud to announce our updated new web site is now online at www.harmony-travel.com. At this web site you will find a comprehensive listing of tours being offered by SPEBSQSA Travel Partners throughout 2003. Several Harmony Travel tours feature quartets or other notable Barbershop personalities who will host the tour.

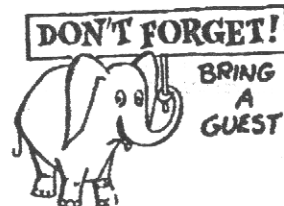
When you and your friends book a tour through a Harmony Travel partner, you are also supporting SPEBSQSA. Harmony Travel Partners include TravelEx International, Global Music Exchange, and The Larivee Company Tours.

Currently there are several exciting packages to the Caribbean, Ireland, England, Germany, Russia, China, Scotland, Austria, Italy, Hawaii, and more. In addition, you can also find out about Harmony Travel's Pre-Montreal Tour and Post-Montreal Convention Cruise. Details for each tour are provided including dates, itineraries and prices, and the name of quartets or hosts on selected tours.

When you go to our new site, sign up for Harmony Travel's periodic email newsletter. When you do, you will receive announcements for new tours in 2004, the addition of quartets or hosts to our tours, and other Harmony Travel news.

Please take a moment now to see the all-new Harmony Travel web site at www.harmony-travel.com, and thank you for supporting Harmony Travel!

Reed A. Sampson
SPEBSQSA



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 (519)

Frank Knoll.....	President.....	264-2856
Jim McDougall.....	Past President.....	245-0843
Orval Allen.....	Secretary.....	246-1234
Les Campbell.....	Treasurer.....	245-0359
Bob Fennell.....	V.P. Chapter Devel.....	693-4280
John Gough.....	V.P. Music.....	264-1031
John King.....	V.P. Communications.....	245-0762
Bill Gough.....	V.P. Program.....	245-2244
Arnold Dixon.....	V.P. Performance.....	294-0128
Roswell McPherson..	Board Member at Large....	245-1711
Bill Robertson.....	Board Member at Large...	245-0979

Appointments

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

Music Team

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

Section Leaders

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

WEB SITES

Strathroy Vocal Federation

www.bam.on.ca/vocalfederation/

Ontario District- www.ont.spebsqsa.org

Barbershop International- www.spebsqsa.org

Ashow

www.ahsow.or

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



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Editor - John F. King

24244 Saxton Rd., R.R.1.
 Strathroy, ON., Canada. N7G 3H3
 (519) 245-0762.
 Fax (519) 245-0762 (call first)
 E-mail: jfk@execulink.com

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.

P . R . O . B . E .

*The Fraternity of
 PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICERS AND BULLETIN EDITORS.*