

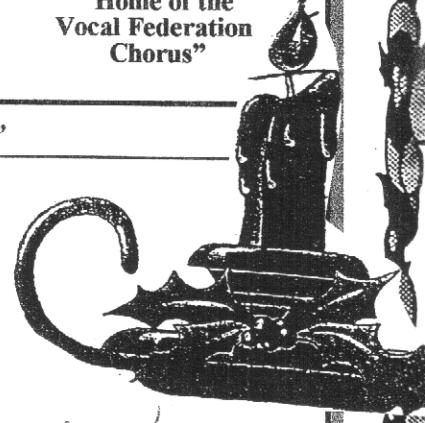


Fanfare

Season's Greetings

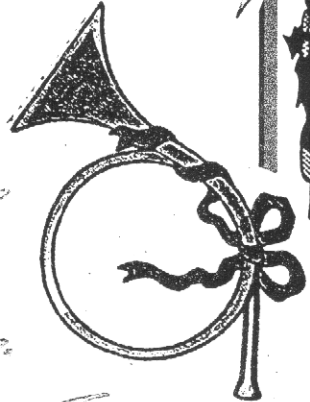
"Home of the
Vocal Federation
Chorus"

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



Bob

John + Ernie Bough Bob + Barb Howlett
 Bill + Mary Lamb
 Leola + Phyllis Stangl
 Bill + Audrey G
 Eric + Eileen McQueen
 Les + Norma Campbell
 Grant + Barbara Knox
 Jim + Sylvia McDougall
 Russell + Meredith McPherson
 Audrey + Blake Hughes
 Henry + Gail Weissman
 Bill + Fran Fallaeth
 Wil + Denny Croonen
 Arnold + Pat Dixon
 Gail + Jean Wickham
 Ray + Marlene Massey
 Ted + Jiggy
 Mrs + Jeanne King
 Noah + Norma Allen
 Wal + Lydia De Ruit
 Dan + Betty Schieman



Editor's Report

by **John King,**
Fanfare Editor.



It's been a long time since I've written an editor's report for the chapter's bulletin. However, since this is my last issue as editor, it is a way of saying goodbye to chapter members and other readers of Fanfare in the barbershop Society.

As most of you know by now, 2004 will be my last year in barbershop. It is hard to believe that I have been a proud barbershopper for eight years with five years as bulletin editor/directory publisher, five years on the show committee and the past two years as V.P. Communications. How time flies! It's been a great experience in a chapter that has some "great guys".

During my eight years with the chapter, I had the opportunity to attend or participate in numerous barbershop activities including an international convention, COTS, several chorus competitions at the district level, numerous performances and eight annual chapter shows. Although there was lots of work with these activities, it sure was a lot of fun.

As a barbershopper, I never had a chance to see one of our chapter shows. I was always behind the stage. So I'm looking forward to seeing next year's show as a spectator for the first time. So please do a good job because I'll be watching you.

Similarly, I never had a chance to see a district barbershop competition. It always seemed that we were near the last to perform and we had to stay in a room rehearsing until most of the competition was over. Well, enough about the past.

As for the future, I will be trying to make the transition of duties as smooth as possible. In this regard, I have already passed on my

computer files for the Directory to Orval Allen so that the Chapter Directory for 2005 can be updated. In a similar fashion, the files for Fanfare and the show committee can be relayed to my successors, once they are known.

Best wishes for the holiday season to all barbershoppers and their families. "Keep smiling and keep on singing!"

From the President's Desk:

by **Dr. Frank Knoll,**
President.



As the joyous season of Christmas approaches for 2004, I'd like to take a minute to reflect on the past year for the "Vocal Federation."

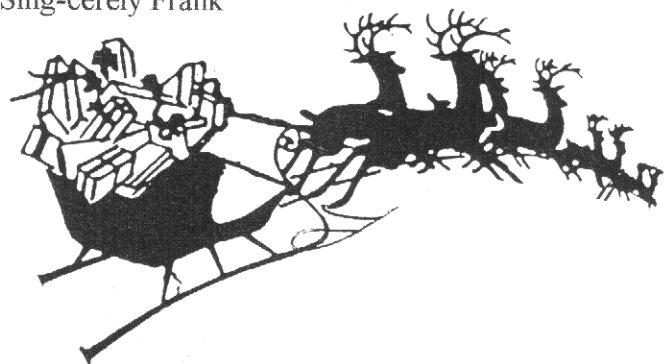
Guys, we can be proud to say it's been another great year for the Strathroy chapter. Certainly our greatest achievement this year was having both shows sell out in April. Hard work, great talent, and showing the audience we ENJOY performing together have all been keys to such success.

I'm sure each of you can think of other highlights through the year, whether it be a new member joining, the Middlesex Pork Barbecue in July, starting our CD, one of our social events, or just hearing a funny story at practice.

In any case I'm proud to be a member of such a great bunch of gentlemen who enjoy singing and a lot of fun.

All the best of health and happiness for the season and for the New Year from Joan and myself to everyone.

Sing-cerely Frank



Harold's Angels

by Marilyn McPherson

Dates to mark on your calendar

Dec. 4th - Christmas Party

This year our Chapter party will be held at the Presbyterian Church. Dinner will be at

6 o'clock. There will be a table of Diny's crafts available for sale. She has added knitted scarves and baby sets to the items she has to sell.

There will be raffle tickets sold on a Santa and the draw will take place during the party.

Quilt Draw

The draw will be made for the quilt at the spring Show. Tickets are available now. All efforts to sell tickets are greatly appreciated.

Tapes - Regal - Doll Cloths

Please save your tapes from A&P, Dominion and Zehrs, also Campbell soup labels. These can be given to Gil Craenen. Orders for Regal can be given to Sylvia McDougal

Next Meeting - To Be Announced

CELEBRATIONS

Chapter Birthdays

November 19	Craig Bycraft
November 27	Gail Wiersema
November 25	Bob Howlett
December 12	Doug Langs
December 13	Patti Bycraft
December 16	Eileen McEwen



Chapter Anniversaries

December 2	Deb Boekhoven
December 18	Gord & Jean Nisbet
December 25	Les & Donna Campbell
December 28	Tom & Elaine Linden
December 31	Ron & Dianne Carradine

Coming Events

- **Nov. 25th, Carol Singing downtown Strathroy**
- **Nov. 27th, Canadian Tire and Giant Tiger. 2pm**
- **Nov 28, Western Division Christmas**
December 4th - 10 am to 12 noon: Carol Singing at McNaughton's Hardware, Newbury
- **December 4th - 5.30 pm Vocal Federation Annual Christmas Dinner the Presbyterian Church, Strathroy.**
- **December 10th - 8.15 pm Knights of Columbus: at Mary Immaculate Parish .**

Located at 1980 Trafalgar , corner of Admiral Dr. & Trafalgar.

January 9 -11th, 2005 COTS at Orillia - Registration deadline is December 1st, 2004.

February 26th, 2005: Western Division Competition in London, Choruses, VLQ's, and Quartets

"Keep the light of hope glowing at Christmas for those in need... give to the Harmonize For Speech Foundation so that barbershoppers can help those with speech and hearing difficulties".

FANTASTIC!

A BIG thanks to Bob and Eunice Fennell for organizing an evening featuring my favourite sport - Eating! Thanks also to all the folk who assisted them in various ways including the salads and corn.

What a menu - Bunnie stew, wild turkey, scrumptious sausages, etc. And, how about that salad bar in the canoe; now where else could you find that!!

I'm sure I express appreciation on behalf of all of us who participated in the wild game banquet.

Interesting too was the explanation of wild turkeys and their habits; this provided us with an education on the conservation aspect of that game in our area.

Not to be forgotten is all the work and preparation, not only of the meal, but also the setting up of the garage (nicely done) and the tables and chairs.

Again, a Big thankyou to everyone involved in giving our group a most enjoyable evening.

For those who missed it -- "Eat Your Heart Out!"

Gord Vair

SOCIETY NEWS

(received as e-mail)

There has been a lot said and speculated on concerning the Barbershop Harmony Society's plans to carry on its current programs and levels of service to its members. With all my heart, I know that the continuing staff at headquarters is committed to serving our members to the highest professional levels possible in all areas.

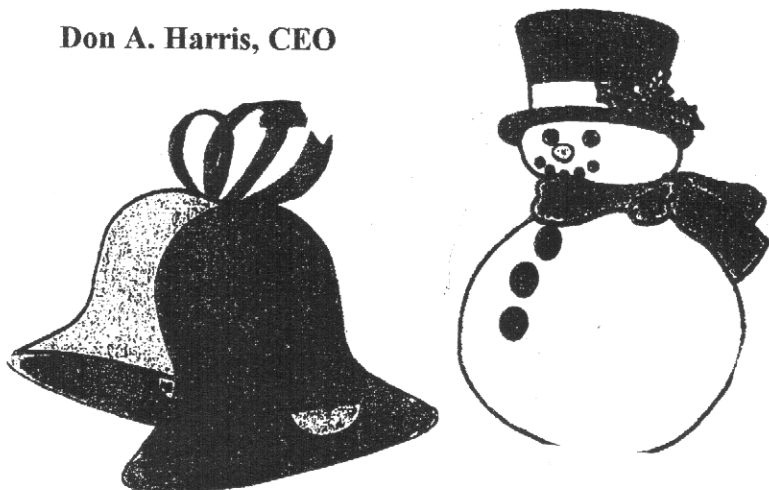
That's not to say that occasionally we won't stumble just like every organization occasionally stumbles. However, we are dedicated to providing our members with quality service and attention to needs.

Numerous members of our staff will be asked to take on new and/or additional responsibilities as we strive to grow our Society and its service to our members. Those plans will be fully announced in the coming weeks, as internal changes are made. At no time have we ever thought about not having a dynamic membership or public relations function within the Society. Those are critical parts of our operation and will remain on the forefront of our activities.

I appreciate the patience and understanding of everyone as we work to provide excellent service and support for the great American art of barbershopping, while also complying with the fiduciary and budgetary responsibilities of the Society.

Thank you.

Don A. Harris, CEO



Be nice to your kids — they'll choose your nursing home!

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Proud Barbershopper

by **Bob Howlett**



I am very proud to belong to Strathroy Vocal Federation. We have a great deal of fun, we sing well and we have hard working dedicated talented members.

While singing with Rural Roots on Sunday, November 27 at the division Christmas concert, the looks of encouragement on the faces of the Vocal Federation, makes it all worthwhile.

I am not sure how the results of our recording session turned out, but I think we all learned that softer and sweeter can be more gratifying. Everyone put their best foot, I mean voice, forward. Since I have a lot to say to the leads, most of the time, I want to tell you it sounded the best I have ever heard. Now you know what it takes, lets keep it going, then it will become even more satisfying and fun.

Thank you for your support of Rural Roots and for allowing me to be a part of a great bunch of guys.

Yours for a song

Bob Howlett

More Society News

Highlight actions taken by the Society's Board of Directors at Racine:

- Made the Chapter Vice President for Marketing and Public Relations a mandatory office in chapters with more than 25 members.
- Specified a target of 45 Society quartets in the 2005 International Quartet Contest in Salt Lake City.
- Approved a \$6.34 million budget. An anticipated increase in member dues will become effective with December 2004

"If people do profit from their mistakes, most of us have a great future".

Anon.

renewals. The base Society dues rate will be \$82.

International Convention-Salt Lake City, Utah

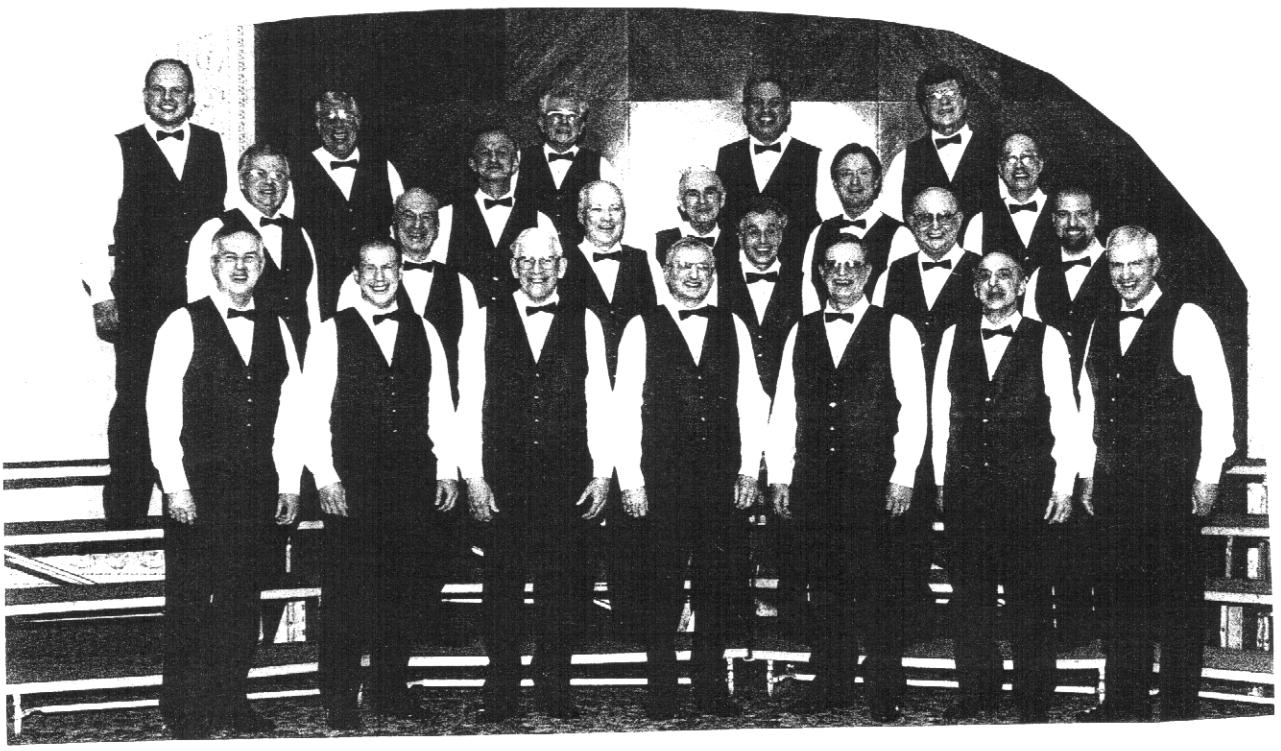
An estimated 10,000 close-harmony singers and fans from around the world will gather in Louisville when the Barbershop Harmony Society holds its 67th international convention and competition July 3-10, 2005. Shows, clinics and contests to determine international champions highlight the summer event. For the public, it is an opportunity to see and hear the world's finest barbershop quartets and choruses.



Good Advice from Orval;

"A positive attitude may not solve all your problems, but it will annoy enough people to make it worth the effort"

♪ "Thanks For The Memories" ♪





Frank Knoll, Arnold Dixon and John King at COTS January 2000.



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

<u>Board of Directors</u>	
President	Frank Knoll (519)264-2856
District Delegate	Jim McDougall (519) 245-0843
Treasurer	Les Campbell (519) 245-0359
Secretary	Orval Allen (519) 246-1234
Chapter Dev. V.P.	Bob Fennell (519) 693-4280
Music V.P.	Arnold Dixon (519)294-0128
Communication V.P.	John King (519) 245-0762
Program V.P.	Bill Gough (519) 245-2244
Performance V.P.	Bill Robertson (519) 245-0979
Board Mem. At Large	Roswell McPherson (519) 245-1711
Board Mem. At Large	Gil Craenen (519) 245-2888

Appointments

Quartet Activity Chairman	Gord Vair
Historian	Ernie McEwen
Nominating Committee Chairman	Jim McDougall
Service Projects & Fundraising Chairman	Bill Robertson
Uniform Chairman	Bill Galbraith
Show Committee Co-Chairman	Orval Allan
Fanfare Editor/Directory Publisher	John King
Kitchen Steward	Les Campbell
Sunshine Chairman	Gord Nisbet

Music Team

Music V.P. - Arnold Dixon
 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.*



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 charities.

The Federation's
Fanfare

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

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The Federation's

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.