



Chimo Chirps

A Publication of the Saskatoon Chapter of the **Barbershop Harmony Society**
Meetings every Monday night at Sask. Abilities Council, 2310 Louise Ave., 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 22, 2007 [# 1]

Membership Awards Luncheon

On Saturday, Jan.13/07 our Appreciation Luncheon and Awards Event was held at the Bessborough Hotel. It was the second successive year the event was held at the Bess. It turned out to be a delightful luncheon and we were treated to an excellent buffet followed by an inspiring and insightful keynote speech by **Steve Fish**.

The newest B.O.T.Y. Award winner was announced and our new board members were introduced. Several special membership awards were also presented and this event is fast becoming the highlight of our year-end activities. Again, about 50 people were in attendance and a good time was had by all. Thanks to all who came.

Our new **Barbershopper of the Year** was announced, and the winner is... **Chuck Will!**

This is a well deserved award for **Chuck** who has been a Chordsmen member for over 14 years. He has served on the chapter executive in several different positions and rarely misses a chorus sing-out. And he has always been more than willing to help out wherever needed. He's a constant promoter of chapter activities and has been the leader in our spring show fund-raising project, signing up the most businesses for show sponsors & supporters.

The award was presented by **Larry Hanna**, last year's B.O.T.Y. winner. All former B.O.T.Y. recipients who are active in the chapter, select the new B.O.T.Y. award winner. Selection is based on sustained contribution over several years to ensure the success of the chapter, and is the highest honour given a member.

Congratulations **Chuck** for your on-going work in the chapter and for winning this **B.O.T.Y.** award. You are a fine representative of our chapter.

Chapter president, **Bob Stevenson** presenting four other awards. First, the **Chapter Booster Award** was presented to **Tom Evans** for the untiring energy he brings to everything he does for the chapter. He'll be our Co-ordinator for all activities in May related to the Winnipeg competitions for our chorus.

Three Presidential Service Awards were made as well:

1. to **Jerry Fraser** for his long and dedicated service and contribution to the chapter;
2. to **Chuck Will** for the quality of secretarial services he provided to our president this past year;
3. to **Erwin Dueck** for his participation in most chapter activities and for being the chapter "riser transporter".

Ken Stephenson then introduced the 2007 Chapter Executive in his usual professional manner. Ken invited each inductee to step up, he described their new responsibilities, and then identified each person with a specific theme song.

For example, **Frank Zunti** - treasurer, was tagged with his song - "If All My dreams Were Made Of Gold".

Our new secretary - **Allan Merkowsky**, came with "Get Out Those Old Records" - very fitting indeed.

Levi Borisenko - VP Music & Perf. was tagged with, "If I Could Write A Song and Get The Whole World To Sing Along". That's quite a title!

Les Ennis - VP Program, came in with, "Ain't We Got Fun".

Past President, **Larry Hanna** - his song just had to be, "Somebody Else Is Taking My Place".

Chuck Will - VP Chapter Dev. & Membership - his song was, "I'll Be Seeing You",

...and appropriately, President - **Bob Stevenson's** song was, "It All Belongs To Me"..... Naturally!

A very entertaining presentation Ken, - well done!

Closing out the afternoon, **Steve Fish** directed the chorus singers through a rousing version of our Barber-shop theme song.

Thank you to all members, their spouses, and guests for attending this **Appreciation Luncheon & Awards Event**. Next year we need to find a way to include the remaining 20 chorus members who are missing out on a very entertaining noon luncheon at a very classy place.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sat. Feb.3/07:- Chorus Sing-out at Convalescent Home, at corner of 31st St. and Idylwyld. Be there at 1:00 pm for warm-ups. Wear your burgundy, red(?), tee-shirt, and black pants.

On Monday in Feb. 5, 2007:- Start at 7:00 pm. We begin our Monday night practices a half-hour earlier 2 weeks from now. We'll really get going on our spring show songs, so plan your supper hour a half-hour earlier. We need the extra practice time.

Wed., Feb. 14/07:- Singing Valentines Program. Read more news about this Barbershopper event elsewhere in this Bulletin.

Wed. Feb. 21, 2007:- 7:00 pm - Chapter Board Meeting with chapter executive & board members. Meet in Sask Abilities - Board Room. All welcome.

Winnipeg- May 4 & 5, 2007:- Annual Convention for Land O'Lakes District, including competitions for chorus and quartets. District champions will be selected for the Annual International Convention. These Winnipeg competitions will be as close to our city as they ever will be - and our Chorus is competing this year. Please sign-up for this major event - all singers are needed this Winnipeg trip.

2007 Clear Lake mini-HEP:- postponed to 2008. Major changes are planned for this annual June event. It has been postponed to June 2008 in Brandon. Read more about this Barbershopper event elsewhere in this Bulletin.

YMIH / YWIIH - Harmony Festival to be held in the fall of 2007. Our Youth Co-ordinator is **Mark Coulter**, so if you are willing to volunteer in the set-up or in committee work, please get in touch.

Saturday, April 28, 2007:- Annual Spring Show at the Circle Drive Alliance Church Auditorium. It's a "celebration of sound" with 12th Street Rag from Kansas City as our headliner quartet. They were Central District Champions a few years ago.

Saskatoon Chimo Chordsmen

2007 New Chapter Executive & Board

- President Robert Stevenson
- Secretary..... Allan Merkowsky
- Treasurer Frank Zunti
- V.P. Music & Performance Levi Borisenko
- V.P. Ch.Dev./ Membership..... Chuck Will
- V.P. Program Les Ennis
- Past President Larry Hanna
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- Musical Director Steve Fish
- Ass't. Musical Director Levi Borisenko
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- Services Chairman Jack Tait
- Youth-in-Harmony Co-ord..... Mark Coulter
- Sunshine Man Ken Britton
- Historian Carl Bungay
- Publicity Larry Hanna
- Wardrobe Ralph Passmore
- Music Librarian Gord McDonald
- Coffee Mate Wayne Davis
- Bulletin Editor..... Erwin Dueck
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- {2007 Show Co-chairmen } Levi Borisenko
- { " " " } & Erwin Dueck

Are you the next Show Chairman?

We'll need to decide very soon who will look after the **2008 Show** and it would be beneficial if a couple of you would step up to volunteer to share these duties, (*just like Levi and Erwin are doing again this year*). We need a "shadow team" to observe and gradually become aware of the routine involved in putting on the current barbershop show

To ease the load, it has been found that two people are better than one, so grab a friend and convince each other that you will give it a try.

It has been suggested that for 2008 we could repeat the method of using a "prepared show" from the Harmony Society library. That would avoid the concern about picking a theme and selecting appropriate music. A headline quartet may already be picked for you by the current show team. (*negotiations are already underway*). And an ideal venue is available at the C.D.A.C. on Preston Ave.

Therefore much of the concerns of previous Show Chairmen have been dealt with already. So please consider doing this for your chapter. It can't always be done by the same group of guys. Any of you are capable of it - - it just takes the will to try.

Grab your buddy and pitch in. Just step up & do it.

THE END OF AN ERA

----- Les Ennis

This story centers around the mini-HEP schools that many of us attended at Sportsman's Park, just outside Riding Mountain National Park at Clear Lake, Man. Most of this material was derived from the chapter archives, which were set up by Carl Bungay. Thanks very much Carl, for a job well done.

Prior to the days of Sportsman's Park, these mini-HEP schools were located at Bemidji, MN. The schools were facilitated in a college in that city. Accommodations were fine but it was ultimately a long drive from Saskatoon - and driving was the only way to get there.

Then for reasons that were never made clear to me, the Northwest Division council decided to relocate these schools further south from Bemidji, which pushed them out of reach for the nearby Canadians to attend. As good fortune would turn out, someone set about to have these fun-filled weekends in Canada for the benefit of us Canadians!

The results of this decision was the beginning of an era. Hosted by the McKelvy family at Sportsman's Park, owner and Society member Ron McKelvy had been a long time supporter of our hobby, having been one of the original members of the Neepawa Chapter. We are forever grateful that he issued an on-going invitation for this school to happen at his park.

So for the past 20 years we have enjoyed the hospitality of Ron McKelvy and family at Sportsman's Park. But time had marched on, and the McKelvy's decided to sell their park and business. Thus, the end of an era! A satisfactory experience and settlement could not be reached between the Barbershoppers and the new owner. So, we too have moved on. As a result, beginning in the summer of 2008, our next mini-HEP School will be held in Brandon.

This location is not necessarily the permanent new home, but will give us continued hope that this school will still happen for us and our families for many more years to come.

SHOW NEWS

Show tickets are available in packs of 10. Our show ticket manager, **Gord McDonald** has handed out ticket envelopes to most of our members. Be sure to pick up the package assigned to you. Turn in your money and left-over tickets ASAP.

Prepare your list of potential customers - friends, neighbours and relatives, (you all have at least 10 of the above). Then call them and remind them our Spring Show is coming up in April with an all new program, guest quartet, and brand new songs.

Show Program Ads: More than a dozen Chordsmen participate in this annual fund raising activity. It is one of the few fund raisers we have for our show and if you have not participated as yet, why not give it a try.

Just drop in to see some of your former business acquaintances and colleagues, and mention our Barbershop Show coming up in April. Ask them to support our chorus with a small donation to get their Company name on the list of program sponsors and supporters. Most will find the \$25. category as quite a minor contribution to this cultural event.

It's been an on-going feature in Saskatoon for over 30 years so it's quite a well established event for this city. They may be more than willing to get on the band wagon and become identified with us. If they say no, then they may be willing to purchase a couple of tickets. Give it a try - it won't hurt.

The deadline to return your completed ads forms and donations is Monday, March 5th. Pick up your kit and blanks from Erwin this week.

We're on TV

Shaw Cable network has recorded excerpts of our chorus singing during our Mini-Show last October and will be airing portions of it on one of their programs next week.

Check out Ch. 10 at one of the following times:

Jan. 31 - at 7:30 pm

Feb. 4 - 12 noon

Feb. 5 - 3 pm

SHOW PROGRAM (3rd Draft)

Chorus Song List - Summary

Show Theme "**CELEBRATE THE SOUND**"

ACT I - Variety Segment

Chorus: - **Sound Celebration** - opener
- **Lazy River**

Quartet: - EXTENSION CHORDS

Quartet: - 42nd STREET

Chorus: - **Sweet Adeline** (*long version*)

Quartet: - CLOSE CHORDERS

Quartet: - VOICE-MALE

Quartet: - SOUTH OF SIXTY

Chorus: - **Climb Every Mountain**

ACT II - Cabaret Segment

Chorus: - **Cabaret**
- **Love Letters**

Quartet: - TOP DRAWER - (Carol Hansen's qrt't.)

Chorus: with }- **Lida Rose**
TOP DRAWER }

Chorus: - **A Wink And A Smile**

----- INTERMISSION -----

ACT III - Headliner Segment

Guest Quartet: **12th STREET RAG**

ACT IV - Gospel Segment

Chorus: - **Hush, Soon One Morning**
- **I Believe**
- **A Little Talk With Jesus**
- **This Little Light / Do Lord**

Chorus:all on-stage & finale.....
- **Theme Songs**

"CELEBRATE THE SOUND"

ACT I - Variety Segment

Sound Celebration

Lazy River

Sweet Adeline (*long version*)

Climb Every Mountain

ACT II - Cabaret Segment

Cabaret

Love Letters From The Heart

Lida Rose (*duo*)

A Wink And A Smile

ACT IV - Gospel Segment

Hush, Soon One Morning

I Believe

A Little Talk With Jesus

This Little Light / Do Lord

Theme Songs

(For your convenience cut and paste the)
(above Summary to your Show music folder)

Missing Learning Tapes

Our library of learning tapes is growing and includes those from past shows and of other barbershop songs. However over the past few years several learning cassettes have gone missing. Some of them may have been borrowed from the library and not returned.

So please check your music binder or your home files to see if you have any of the following tapes. If you have other tapes that are no longer useful for you, donate them to our library for new members to use.

- Toot-Toot Tootsie Goodbye - Bass
- Tenor
- Chordbuster's March - Bass
- Baritone
- There's No Business
Like Show Business - Tenor
- Oom - Pah Polka - Tenor
- Grandpa's Attic - Bass
- Tenor

**Please, Wear Your Name Tag
Every Monday Night**

Singing Valentines Program - 2007

If you've never delivered a Singing Valentine, you just don't know what you're missing!

Did you know that Singing Valentines introduces more people to good Barber Shop than even our annual show? The media exposure, publicity and special-event news coverage of this single-day event builds an immense amount of good-will for the Chimo Chordsmen, and the fact that we do it in support of a well known charity puts our hobby in a very positive light. Since February is Heart month, it's appropriate that the proceeds from Singing Valentines go to support the Heart & Stroke Foundation of Saskatchewan.

For the tenth year in a row (yes this IS the tenth), quartets from our chapter will deliver Valentine's Day greetings to surprised sweethearts all over the city. (And a few out of the city, too). Would you believe it? Last year we delivered our one 1,000th Singing Valentine in Saskatoon. That's a whole lot of smiling happy people.

For those who don't know, a Singing Valentine consists of a tuxedo-clad quartet singing an appropriately sentimental song such as 'Let Me Call You Sweetheart' or 'Heart of My Heart' (there are others) and delivering a box of Harden & Huyse chocolates with a personalized Valentine's Day card. Of course, in most cases, the recipient doesn't know that the delivery is going to happen, so the whole thing comes as a surprise.

We'd like to have four quartets participating, so if you've ever thought about singing in a quartet, this is the time to get together with three other guys, learn both 'Let Me Call You Sweetheart' and 'Heart of My Heart' and hear how great it sounds. We'll arrange some review time to help you to get the best sound you can from your foursome. It's not difficult to do, and you may even find that you'll want to continue singing with them after Valentine's Day.

This year, February 14th falls on a Wednesday. As in past years, **Valentine Central (242-7204)** is already open to accept the bookings, and will look after all the details for you. In the weeks ahead

there will be LOTS more publicity material and there will be a huge media push in the week before Valentine's Day.

What is expected of a Singing Valentines quartet?

- Practice so that you will produce the best sound you can.
- Commit to clearing your day for singing.
- Arrange for a driver with a van to be your transport for the day.
- Arrange to have a cell phone for your quartet for the day.
- All members of a quartet need to be attired the same, in matching black tuxes.
(Red bow ties and/or cummerbunds are a nice touch, just be sure that they all match.)
- You and your driver will need to attend a one-evening training session which will cover the role of the driver, the roles of the singers, and how to handle some of the more unusual situations that will occur.
- Commit to promoting Singing Valentines by putting up posters, handing out business cards and telling everyone you meet about it.

What is expected of Chapter members?

- Help promote Singing Valentines by putting up posters, handing out business cards and telling everyone you meet about it. Remember that even though it's the quartets that are visible in public, it's the Barber Shop singing that is remembered and the chapter that we're promoting.

If you'd like to participate as a driver, please give me a call. Vans are the most convenient vehicle for carrying 5 people, plus the chocolates, cards and a few other goodies.

A Singing Valentine is a VERY special message for someone to give and for someone to receive - the memory of it WILL last a lifetime. The memories you will have from being the messenger will also last a lifetime. Just ask anyone who's been the messenger.

Questions? Call Steve Walker at 242-7204 for answers.