

"WORKING TOGETHER IN FELLOWSHIP, WE ENRICH SOCIETY WITH A-LEVEL BARBERSHOP ENTERTAINMENT"

2009 - No.7 – September-October

Squamish Retreat (25th)

By Byron Walton

Our Coaches



Bill, Donya, Charlie, Byron, Allan, Andry, Royce, Rick

Wow, a weekend to remember! **Royce Ferguson** is an outstanding coach & gave us so many things to help us both individually & as a chorus. I felt we came together as a chorus on the weekend and produced an awesome sound at times (A+ level??). What is fascinating is we have shown we can produce a tremendous unit sound and all we have to do is remember what was taught & implement this unique sound each and every time we sing. I am very excited about the future of the chorus and heights we can accomplish if we all buy into this new way of singing as a group.



Charlie takes the chorus warm up



Royce helps a quartet.

His stock phrase

"Make sense?"

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Harmony Hollow

By Byron Walton

What a great weekend...very wet inside & out!! Although the weather did not cooperate with us I think all who attended had a wonderful time. The quartet contest & Sunday evening "Ham-It-Up" shows were great, with some awesome singing & performances. The quality seems to be getting better & better every year!! Marg & I even had an opportunity to sing a tag with my son Doug & his youngest son Nicholas on the ham-it-up show...now that was exciting!! I sure hope that more of our members will take in the Harmony Hollow weekend next year. I would also like to thank Jim Bates for all of his hard work in organizing the weekend & ensuring everyone is taken care of & has a great time.

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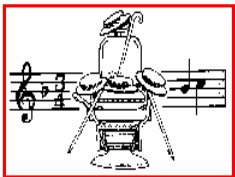
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September 2009

Down Memory Lane

By Ross Hood

40 years ago this month (1969)

Hazelmere Golf Club was the place for the annual district golf tournament. There were 32 participants, with 24 from our chapter. We hosted the first divisional chorus competition as part of our annual show. We came second to **Vancouver Thunderbirds**, with **Bellingham, Penticton, North Vancouver** and **Anacortes** following. **Ben Fast** and **George Meehan** transferred to our chapter from the Vancouver Thunderbirds.

30 Years ago this month (1979)

At the Harmony Hollow quartet contest **Chester Colpitts** sang in the winning quartet, singing "*Brother Can You Spare A Dime*" with **Jim Leger, Ray Young,**

and **Ross Hood**. They called themselves "**The Mis-Four-tunes**". Our annual show featured **The Rural Route Four** from Kansas, the **Aliens** from Oregon and our own **Sound Policy**. A new name for the chorus was being bandied about. Some of the ideas were "*The Canadian Sunset Chorus*" and "*The Voices Of The Canadian West Coast*". I'm sure glad they didn't get much support.

20 Years ago this month (1989)

Including air from Seattle and accommodation, it was going to cost each member and each partner \$1,140 for the trip to New York to sing at **Carnegie Hall** in 1990. We had a savings plan and many money raising ideas in place with a point system ready to go. Auditions were to be held for all characters for the **Wizard of Oz** package, asking for actors not necessarily singers. **Jim Gibson** joined our ranks in September '89.

Celebrations of Life

Ian & Rita McGillivray

By Jim Lohnes

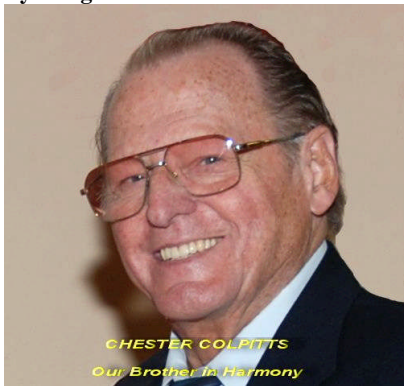


On Monday Aug 24th, 2009 the Gentlemen of Fortune Chorus set the tone with the singing of "*Freddie Feel Good and his Funkie Little Four Piece Band*" for the Celebration of Life event held at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club honoring the lives of **Rita and Ian McGillivray**. A beautiful sunny day with the Vancouver Harbour provided the backdrop for the friends and family as they recalled the many memories of these two amazing people who touched so many lives. Close to 300 people made light work of the gourmet sandwiches and cheese followed by trays of gourmet chocolates. A slide presentation of Ian's and Rita's families was followed by the Chorus singing of the "*Irish Blessing*". The event was finished off with the distribution of ribbons for Mothers Against Drunk Driving and the staff handing out shot glasses of scotch. A toast to Ian and Rita was presented by their good friend, and executor of their estate, Bruce Wiesmiller.

Ian and Rita would have loved this celebration with family, good friends, singing, good food, chocolate and a cleansing scotch. They will be deeply missed by all!

Chester Colpitts

By Doug Affleck



It wasn't a marathon; however, Chester finally had the send off that he wanted and deserved. On Saturday September 19th over 200 people gathered to celebrate Chester's life. It all started at the Como Lake United Church where we remembered and rejoiced in Chester's life. **Bob Bradley** graced us with his stellar solo of "The Sweet Bye and Bye" one of Chester's favourite hymns. Bob was accompanied by **Craig Ross**. We heard from both **George** and **Charlie Metzger** on how Chester had left his mark, not only on the Barbershop community, but also on the community at large. The service was lead by **George Elgstrand**, of Como Lake United Church and the GoF sang "Love at Home", "The Lord's Prayer" and "Irish Blessing".



Immediately after the service we all headed out to the Port Moody Recreation Centre where we partied in Chester's name. There were many, many times when Chester talked about how there had to be a big Barbershop party when he was gone. Well, I think he would have been pleased. There was lots of food and refreshments, and we made sure that the scotch was brought out to end the evening. Chester would have insisted on a night cap. We had quartets singing, a mass chorus of over 60, and many tributes to Chester and how he had impacted our individual lives.

When everything was cleaned up it was off to George Wakeham's for the "Everglow" - a tradition that Chester would have wholeheartedly supported. As Chester would have said, "It's not a marathon you know", but it was a great send off.

New Members

By Arthur Loyie

A warm GoF welcome to our two newest members:



James Wilson (bass)



Ron Maki (lead)

For the past several months, both have been working hard to learn our repertoire of songs and will be joining us on the risers for our Evergreen District Convention in Whistler next month.

Their positive contribution to the chorus through enthusiasm and continued development of vocal skills can only add to the improvement in our chorus singing. Thanks for becoming GoFers.

Happenings & Reminders

Christmas Shows & Singouts

Ed Arnold asks you to make a note of these singouts, with more to come.

1. St. Mary's Parish 50:50 Show, evening, **Sat. Nov. 28**
2. Lions Gate Hospital, afternoon, **Wednesday, Dec. 9** (small chorus or quartet)
3. Como Lake United 50:50 Show, **Dec. 12 or 13** to be determined
4. Fleetwood Centre 50:50 Show, afternoon, **Sat Dec. 19**

Annual Christmas Shows

Byron says: the Show Committee has been working very hard to make this year's show a huge success. We have a very exciting show to share with **Lions Gate Sweet Adeline Chorus** (hopefully to be Gold Medal Winners this October in Nashville, Tenn.), **Realtime, Antique Gold & us!!!** We are going to call the show "Goin' For The Gold" or "Notelympics" or we are open to other suggestions. I would like to also encourage you all to attend the "After Glow" this year, as this is your party for all of the hard work you put into contributing to the show's success.

Whistler Registration

Have you registered yet to compete at District? There are just 4 weeks left to get the All Events registration. It is mandatory for all who will be on stage; also, up-to-date membership in the BHS, District and Chapter.

UNDERSTANDING TOOLS

Skill Saw: A portable cutting tool used to make studs too short.

Comment #126 by Bill Gibbons

“I make a point of taking my tape recorder to every chorus rehearsal. My section leader thumps my back and my chorus director beams his approval. The batteries died three months ago.”

Deadline for the next issue is November 10

CALENDAR

2009

- Oct 12 Thanksgiving
- Oct 30-Nov 1 **District Convention** Whistler, BC
- Nov 28 **50/50 Show** St Mary's Parish
- Dec 5 **Christmas Shows** MJ Fox Theatre
- Dec 9 **Singout** Lions Gate Hospital
- Dec 12 or 13 **50/50 Show** Como Lake United
- Dec 19 **50/50 Show** Fleetwood Centre

2010

- Jan 26-31 Midwinter International, Tampa, FL
- Feb 12-28 Winter Olympics
- Feb 14 **Valentine's Day**
- Mar 12-21 Winter Paralympics
- April 2 Easter
- April 9-10 **Division I /Prelims** Abbotsford
- May 24 Victoria Day
- June 27-July 4 International, Philadelphia, PA
- July 16-18 HCNW, Tacoma, WA
- Sept 6 Labour Day
- Sept 23-26 **District Convention** Portland, OR
- Oct 11 Thanksgiving

Central Park



Clarence Stad, Rich Clark
Gord Ross, Ross Hood

Pacific Spirit



LeRoy Pattison, Wayne Tamkin
Don Frost, Don Rush

Something Smooth



Rob Goldsmith, Rod MacLeod
Doug Walton, Allan Pinvidic

Some Quartets

seen at

Chester's Party

Tags a Lot from Ross

Alice Blue Gown

lov - ely blue - - - - gown.
Blue gown - - - - own. gown.
lov - ely blue - - - - own. gown.
lov - ely blue - - - - gown.

