

**WORKING TOGETHER IN FELLOWSHIP AND HARMONY, THE GENTLEMEN OF FORTUNE CHORUS ENRICHES SOCIETY  
WITH EXCELLENT BARBERSHOP MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT**

**2010 - No.3 – April**

## 2009 Awards

### Barbershopper of the Year

*The criteria for this award are really wide open and include contributions in any area of barbershop activity whether it is musical or administrative.*

#### Harry Gray (r) & Moe Jones (c) - Jointly



For their superb job of putting together the Evergreen District Convention in Whistler last October. Co-chairing the Convention they spent many, many hours of leadership and devotion to this project over the past two years.

In addition, they are advisors to many Board and Chapter members on administrative matters; Moe is always available to take on tasks; and Harry does an outstanding job of producing the *FortuneTeller*.

### Barbershop Fellowship Award

*This award recognizes a demonstrated high degree of fellowship, love and harmony toward one's fellow chapter members. The focus here is on the first phrase of our mission statement "Working together in Fellowship..."*



**Carl Gung** - Carl has that kind of personality that has fellowship written all over it. He will take on any task, immediately, that you ask him to do. This certainly was the case with the convention committee.

He has done a tremendous job of taking photos of our chapter activities and he produces them

on a timely manor to all the chorus members. He also made a significant contribution to the Christmas Show.

### Barbershop Woman of the Year

*The criteria for this award are wide open and all encompassing. They may include, but are not limited to, contributions in the areas of social events, catering, makeup, costuming, conventions, special events, etc.*

#### Dorothy Fallan & Maya Whittier - Jointly



nominated these two great ladies worked tirelessly on our recent Whistler District Convention Committee.

**Dorothy** (r) was our Ladies Host and coordinated numerous activities

with Tourism Whistler. She traveled to Whistler on her own initiative several times to make sure that arrangements were made with various vendors, including restaurants, and suppliers. There were many compliments from ladies attending the convention of how welcomed they felt and how appreciative they were with their convention kit. Dorothy helped the committee in other ways including registration and marketing.

**Maya** (l) was our Volunteer Coordinator and did she do a terrific job. At previous conventions, each committee member recruited their own volunteers which was a struggle at times. The Whistler convention was made so much easier for all of us as Maya administered a crew of over 70 volunteers. She worked long and hard with phone calls and emails and allocated each volunteer to a specific job. Needless to say the volunteer program was a tremendous success.

#### Inside this Issue

- 2009 Awards
- Awards /Installation Luncheon
- Chapter Dues Increase
- Olympics/Paralympics
- Down Memory Lane
- MLT update
- Happenings & Reminders
- Calendar

## 2010 Chapter Officers

### President

Rich Clark 604-572-5588  
[rich.clark@investorsgroup.com](mailto:rich.clark@investorsgroup.com)

### VP Music & Performance

Byron Walton 778-298-2409  
[waltonbm@shaw.ca](mailto:waltonbm@shaw.ca)

### VP Chapter Development

David Whittier 604-466-2920  
[scarybari@shaw.ca](mailto:scarybari@shaw.ca)

### VP Communications & Promotion

Ed Arnold 604-929-2904  
[ed\\_arnold@telus.net](mailto:ed_arnold@telus.net)

### Secretary

David Jones 604-984-4047  
[davej34@telus.net](mailto:davej34@telus.net)

### Treasurer

Gord Ross 604-736-2204  
[gordon.ross@telus.net](mailto:gordon.ross@telus.net)

### Past President

Peter Lissett 604-929-3235  
[plissett@shaw.ca](mailto:plissett@shaw.ca)

### Board Members-at-Large

Don Giles 604-929-7864  
[dongiles@shaw.ca](mailto:dongiles@shaw.ca)

Doug Affleck 778-284-1179  
[djaffleck@telus.net](mailto:djaffleck@telus.net)

### Musical Director

Charlie Metzger 604-581-1423  
[cometzger@shaw.ca](mailto:cometzger@shaw.ca)

### Assistant Director

Byron Walton 778-298-2409  
[waltonbm@shaw.ca](mailto:waltonbm@shaw.ca)

### Youth in Harmony

Bill Martin 604-291-1744  
[baribill@shaw.ca](mailto:baribill@shaw.ca)

## Awards/Installation Luncheon

By Peter Lissett



**2010 GoF Board** (l to r): Doug Affleck, Don Giles, Dave Whittier, Byron Walton, Gord Ross, installer Harry Gray, David Jones, Ed Arnold, Rich Clark, Peter Lissett, Charlie Metzger.

As I stood looking around at the assembled crowd of barbershoppers and some of their respective wives on this beautiful sunny afternoon, resplendent in my brand new IOC tie, I was having a hard time trying to think. What a noise! Everyone seemed to have lots to say to each other. Maybe we hadn't met since 1993, it can't have been just the previous Tuesday, surely, that we were all together discussing words and notes. Every one

was smiling, laughing; obviously very happy to be there. This was the scene at the Old Spaghetti Factory in New Westminster on Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup> 2010.



Soon we had all ordered and eaten an excellent pasta entrée and enjoyed some ice cream and it was time for the Installation. Board Installer par excellence, Harry Gray, was called into action. Harry has done this job many times before and it always follows a different path. This time a Monopoly set was the means by which each board position was defined and each director was called to the front and handed his particular piece according to his function. The Past President was given the rule book and advised that his job was to bring a sense of history to the deliberations around the table at meetings. It was all very well done and most amusing. Way to go, Harry!



After the new board had sung 'Down Our Way', directed by Charlie in his Evergreen Hall of Fame blazer, it was time to present the awards. For the first time, in my experience, both the Barbershopper of the Year and the Barbershop Woman of the Year received joint nominations. This was clearly the wish of the membership. Congratulations to **Moe Jones & Harry Gray** and **Dorothy Fallan & Maya Whittier** on their respective awards. They were thoroughly deserved! The Barbershop Fellowship Award went to **Carl Gung** who has done innumerable tasks for the chapter over the last year and is always, always smiling. Well done, Carl!

After the celebrations people finished off their libations and their coffee and set off for home. A most successful event! [Thank you for organizing it Peter. Ed]

## Additional Award

After the BWOTY award was presented **Dorothy Fallan** said she had a presentation to make. She called up **Maya Whittier**, her BWOTY co-winner, and presented her with the 2009 Whistler Convention Ladies Gift Bag. This was a token in appreciation of all the work that Maya did organizing the volunteers and helping with the ladies program.



## Chapter Dues Increase

By President Rich Clark



Over the past few years as our chapter expenditures have been rising, and our revenues decreasing, we have been depending on the provincial grant and a cash surplus. The provincial grant is no longer available, based on the recently released Provincial Budget, and the cash surplus was reduced with the purchase of our uniforms in 2008.

In addition to cutting the expense in some of our programs, we have felt it is necessary to increase the chapter dues. When I first joined in 1997 the chapter dues were about \$1 per week at \$55 per year. In 2006 the dues were increased to \$75 per year or \$1.50 per week. On March 15 the Board voted unanimously to increase the chapter dues from \$75 to \$150 per year, retroactive to Jan 1, 2010.

Total member annual dues will now be approximately \$300 per year, depending on the exchange rate, when the Society and District dues portions are included. That works out to about \$6 per week. This revised budget still includes an unspecified revenue number of \$5,200 that has to be created through additional singouts, a lottery, donation of money from your recyclables, etc.

Based on the enjoyment and skills development that we get from the chapter's programs, the membership dues are good value to maintain this hobby.

*[Cash donations to the GoF are tax deductible. Ed]*

## Olympics/Paralympics



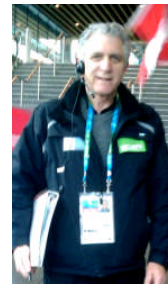
Some more stories from the GoF Olympic Volunteers.

**Rod MacLeod:** I was originally assigned to be the driver for the Kenyan delegation but that fell through as they didn't show. After hanging around for a day they had a trip for me which turned out to be the Georgian President & Vice President to be driven up to Whistler to identify the body of their Luge athlete who was killed in Whistler. Needless to say without going into detail it was a trip in the rain up & back from hell. The next day Vanoc asked if I would take over as the driver for the Chairman of the USA team & his wife, as the previous

driver quit because he was putting in 14 to 16 hrs a day & couldn't handle it anymore. Rod to the rescue and, as it turned out, a memory that I will not soon forget.

Stories are numerable, spent a lot of time in the USA House, both here & in Whistler. Saw 3 finals, Halfpipe, Ski Jumping, & 3 man speed skating, along with other events (not finals) as, short track skating, hockey, cross country, & some pretty fine restaurants. His name is Larry Probst III & if you google him you will see just what kind of person I was dealing with. Also another interesting person you should look up, that I had the pleasure of meeting & talking with for over an hour, was their Head of Security, Larry Buendorf. He was the Secret Service man who saved President Ford's life and the stories are endless once you look his name up. Anyways, fantastic time, long hours, great food and a little sorry it all had to end.

**Doug Affleck:** On Jan 30 after many hours of training my wife and I stepped into our roles as security personnel, a part of the 2010 Olympics Integrated Security Unit.



Jeannette was a Security Screener, a similar job to an airport screener, and I took on the role of a supervisor. We were both assigned to the Media Centre - the old and new Vancouver Convention Centres, and were there to ensure no prohibited items entered the

Building. At times it was a strange feeling as we were enclosed in this glass bubble and spent our days looking out at the throngs of thousands on the streets of Vancouver. When we left work each day and went out onto the street it was a bit like arriving at a party sober after most people had been drinking for hours.

Working with 10,000 media personnel we saw many of those personalities we see everyday on TV. From politicians like Joe Biden, the USA Vice President, Steven Harper, our Prime Minister, to Media personalities such as Matt Lauer of NBC, Steven Colbert, Lloyd Robertson of CTV, Jimmy Fallon and many more. There were also lots of gold medal athletes wandering the building. We took our job seriously and fortunately there were no security breaches. An added benefit to the job was the people we met. We worked closely with police from all over the country: Ottawa, Montreal, Barry ON, Taber AB, Regina etc. Our own team personnel included a number of new Canadians from around the world including China, Malaysia, Tunisia, Spain, Italy, Russia, Afghanistan, Iran, India and others. There were also a number of First Nations personnel. It was a great experience and we were a little sad when we worked our last shift on February 28<sup>th</sup>.

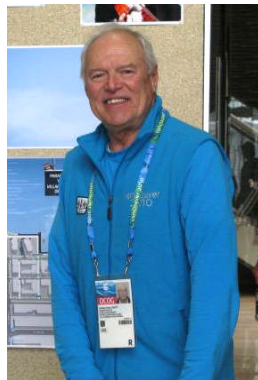
## Paralympic Village Life

By Peter Lissett

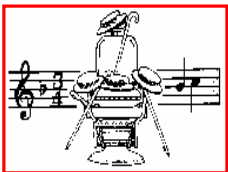
*“The Team Canada mouse has been seen in the Swedish office. Urgent action is required.”*

One of the first things the conscientious Residence Services volunteer does is to check the Task Manager computer file where items requiring attention are listed. This is the first thing I saw on my first shift since last week. Coincidentally, one of the last things I saw last week was the report of the mouse in the Team Canada building. I guess the wily mouse is still at large gnawing on sledge hockey players’ kit or nibbling at game plans.

On my way out last night, I overheard a big man in a Canada jacket talking to a lesser sized, but similarly clad, gentleman as they were entering Team Canada’s building, saying that the guys were ‘very much down in there’. Poor old Team Canada’s sledge hockey team had lost by a whisker in a very hard fought game with Japan and was out of gold medal contention.



The ‘Blue’ building houses the Residential Service headquarters and there is significantly more traffic there. One thing that strikes you is how cheerful all the Paralympics athletes are. They are full of conversation and humour, and move about the village with amazing speed in their wheel chairs, on crutches, or with barely perceptible limps. I’ve really enjoyed being part of the event and being able to help some of these amazing individuals.



### March-April 2010 Down Memory Lane

By Ross Hood

#### 40 years ago this month (1970)

**By Gordon**, President for 1970 was expounding on what a wonderful year we were going to have with an enthusiastic executive. We had a visit from **Dave Stevens** of our International Office. At the time he was called “the new guy”. At the Mid-winter Convention held in Seattle, the Society Board decided to change the judging category from VOICE EXPRESSION to INTERPRETATION. We started a new program in which we started singing at 8:00 pm no matter how many members were there. Blowing my own horn – I was the recipient of the Evergreen District Bulletin

Editor of the Year Award for 1970. I was cutting stencils and running everything by hand in those days, using Letraset for titles and saving headlines from newspapers. **Ben Fast** agreed to become our musical director after **Abie Klassen** decided to retire. The **Howe Sounds**, **Most Happy Fellows** and **Poets** were the top three at the Spring Prelims with the **Model T Four** placing 5th.

#### 30 Years ago this month (1980)

We had sold 2,200 tickets to the LOGOPEDICS SPECTACULAR at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre. It was a show with all the lower mainland choruses contributing. **Charlie** had just developed a “Standing Ovation” package that was designed by the **Sun Tones** quartet. We had an overflow bus load of members who attended the BIG WHEEL contest in Anacortes. The **Mismatched 4** from our chapter won the rookie award. They were **Rod Lock**, **Doug Blue**, **Daryl Hillen** and **Sam Hobbs**. (Who? You’re saying). **Charlie Metzger** had the honour of being named the District Barbershopper of the Year, an honour shared by only a few elite among us. For the first time our membership numbered 100. The **Sound Policy** (**Marty Lovick**, **Ken Wigbers**, **Brian Waplington** and **George Metzger**) placed in the top 3 at the prelims and were going to International contest in Salt Lake City. **Bob Bradley** showed up on the guest list in April 1980.

#### 20 Years ago this month (1990)

The chorus took a bus trip to Penticton to perform at a bash put on by BC LOTTERIES as a thank you to 5,000 volunteers who helped the BC winter games. We also performed our Wizard Of Oz package for the local barbershoppers (one of our first full dress performances). All our expenses were covered including hotel, food and travel (plus a \$1,200 fee). President **Rob Hood** congratulated the chorus members for all getting behind the Oz package. We were becoming the “Wizards of Ahs”. In 8 months we learned 8 new arrangements, put together some creative costumes, memorized dialogue, and learned a lot about stage directing and acting. We performed a cut down version of the WIZ package at Abbotsford for competition. Our thanks to **Lloyd Steinkamp**, **Jack Lyon** and **Ev Nau** for their arrangements and coaching. We took first place by a fair margin. **Next month – remembering Carnegie Hall.**

### UNDERSTANDING TOOLS

**Hammer:** Originally employed as a weapon of war, the hammer nowadays is used as a kind of divining rod to locate the most expensive parts adjacent the object we are trying to hit

## MLT Update

By Byron Walton, VP Music & Performance



### New Performance Standards

**Program:** The Music Leadership Team has worked on a new Performance Standards Program to be introduced to the Chorus in May. The program will be focused on providing tools and feedback to members to assist in

improved vocal and visual training and take the GOF to the "A" level of singing and performance. Full details of the program will be provided in May.

**"Visual Team"** members!!! The MLT is looking for members who are interested in learning how to generate visual plans and teach them to the chorus. If you have a creative mind and would like to contribute to the chorus please advise Byron Walton.

**Generating Revenue:** Gentlemen, at our March 2010 BOD meeting, it was realized the Chapter will have a tough year ahead financially. The annual budget was finalized and approved and we will experience a significant shortfall unless we can come up with some creative ways to generate additional revenues. One such way is for the Chorus to identify additional public performance opportunities. If you are involved in other organizations, have contacts in other organizations, or know of public venues in your communities where we could perform please pass this information on to **Ed Arnold** who will approach them and promote the Chorus.

### **Dilbert's Rules of Order**

**#6:** I don't have an attitude problem, you have a perception problem

## Happenings & Reminders

### New (old) Member



**Gary Austin** has returned to the lower mainland after a number of years in the Penticton – Grand Forks area of BC where, he says, there was no barbershopping within commuting distance. He has rejoined the GoF and is remembered by the 'older' members. Gary sang in a number of GoF quartets including **North Pacific Union** with Rob Hood,

Wally Coe and Charlie Metzger (placing 5<sup>th</sup> at 1980 District), and **Pacific Exchange** with Rob Hood, Dick Clark and Charlie (placing 4<sup>th</sup> at 1983 Prelims and 1984 Division I Champs). Welcome back Gary.

## Division Contest Preparation



Over the last while **Donya Metzger** worked with the chorus to block out the performance moods and choreography for our contest songs. **Marty Lovick** spent all afternoon Sunday March 14<sup>th</sup> polishing the performances. He has also spent two Tuesday evenings with the chorus and the results are phenomenal. Now, if only we can remember all that until at least contest time.

## Convention Registration

Registration Forms for Division & District are available from **Ray Fallan**. Portland District Early Bird May 31<sup>st</sup> deadline. April 9/10 Division I Abbotsford Convention - send your completed form and cheque to the Vancouver Thunderbirds. **You must have an All Events ticket and have paid all your dues in order to compete on stage.**

## **Puns for Educated Minds:**

**#4.** No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.

**Comment #36** by Bill Gibbons

"It's always darkest just before the curtain opens."

## **Deadline for the next issue is May 4, 2010**

## CALENDAR

### 2010

April 9-10	<b><u>Division I/Prelims</u></b> Abbotsford
May 1	<b><u>Singout</u></b> West Vancouver
May 24	Victoria Day
June 27-July 4	International, Philadelphia, PA
July 16-18	HCNW, Tacoma, WA
Aug 7	GoF Annual BBQ @ Byron's
Sept 6	Labour Day
Sept 10-12	<b><u>Retreat</u></b> Squamish
Sept 23-26	<b><u>District Convention</u></b> Portland, OR
Oct 11	Thanksgiving
Oct 12(?)	Election of GoF Board of Directors
Oct 19-23	SAI International, Seattle, WA
Dec 4	<b><u>Christmas Shows</u></b> MJ Fox Theatre

### 2011

Jan 18-23	Midwinter International, Las Vegas
Feb 14	<b><u>Valentine's Day</u></b>
April 22	Easter
July 3-10	International, Kansas City, MO
Sept 28-Oct 2	PanPacific Convention, Brisbane