

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

2010 - No.5 – June-July

The Ian McGillivray Legacy

By Peter Lissett

A few days before the event, we received notice that (left to right in photo) **Heather McGillivray** and Rita's 'children' **Laura Wait** (née Dyrbye), **Ryan** & his wife **Nicole**, and **Brad Dyrbye** were coming to rehearsal on May 11th to present Ian's \$50,000 legacy to the chorus.



Thanks to Tucker's brilliant suggestion, we were mostly decked out in our red GoF shirts. There were in the order of thirty five members present and I'm sure we made an impressive sight. Our guests started arriving at 8:30pm...so they had a chance to hear the chorus in rehearsal. In hind sight, it would have been nice to have sung a couple of songs from the repertoire; just for good measure. However, nobody thought of that at the time.

Our regular business break was postponed in order for the presentation to be made. Laura spoke of how her mother had enjoyed the chorus and the friends she had made. Then Heather recounted the joys of being a barbershop kid and the embarrassment she felt during her early teens of having a dad who wore make up, on occasion, and some pretty strange outfits. It was a great speech, filled with humour and love.

Then the cheque was presented and it was my turn to respond on behalf of the chorus. I must admit, it was a tough speech to give. Having written it, I found that it was going to be difficult to deliver - so I read it. I felt a little ashamed after Heather's fine presentation without a

note. Then, every chorus member filed passed the family to shake hands, hug and share a few remembrances.

President's Thank You

Heather, the words 'thank you' seem so inadequate. Ian's magnificent legacy is a huge and emphatic expression of Ian's love and high regard for the chorus. I want you to know that his love and high regard were, and are, returned in full measure.

Our GoF Vision says "*Working together in Fellowship and Harmony*" and this is exactly what Ian believed in and always lived up to. This legacy is the epitome of Ian's dedication and love of barbershop and barbershoppers. I believe his best friends are here in the chorus.



Ian was always a leader within the chorus. He served on the Music Leadership Team, as VP Music and Performance, and President - and baritone section leader, seemingly forever. I served on the Board of Directors with him for several years. His upbeat, positive and cheerful approach always made the meetings more a joy than a chore.

His passing has left a big hole here. We miss him. So, despite the inadequacy of the expression, on behalf of the chorus I say, "Thank you, and thank you Ian."

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When Insults Had Class

(Before English got boiled down to 4-letter words)

"I feel so miserable without you; it's almost like having you here." Stephen Bishop

[Ian loved a good insult. Ed]

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YIH BC Workshop

By Sean Huston

Saturday May 1, we had a great Youth In Harmony workshop, put on in West Vancouver by combining three music program's students into one collective day. The event was billed as **Choral Waves**, and featured **West Coast Fusion**, **Antique Gold** and the **Gentlemen of Fortune** performing in the beautiful Kay Meek theatre. The event was the brain child of teachers **Ian Brown** and **Katy Mascott**. The YIH contact men were **David Vincent** and **Paul Melhus**, faculty for the day were **West Coast Fusion** (**Sean Huston**, **Andry Layarda**, **Jeremy Wong** & substitute baritone **Mike McKim**), and quartet **And How!** (**Dan Blackburn**, **Allen Upward**, **Ryan Bayes** & substitute tenor **Dave Vincent**). We were also graced by the presence of **Donya Metzger** for a few hours in the afternoon to do choreography for all three numbers.



We started the day with a brief outline and introduction to the style with the two quartets singing a song. Then a group warm up and off to section rehearsals. Due to a Regional competition the following weekend - there were no Sweet Adeline Quartets available to perform so... **West Coast Fusion** learned and demonstrated the Sweet Adeline chart **Locomotion** (arr. Joey Minshall) in the SAI Key (much to the enjoyment and laughter of the young ladies – 35 of them). **And How!** took the 20 young lads off to section practice. About mid-day it seemed as though nothing was going to come together as the mass ensemble was running through the more complicated passages in 59th Bridge Street!

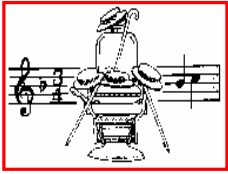


We broke for lunch and chocolate's restorative power seemed to revitalize the crew as we spent the afternoon working choreography with **Donya Metzger**. Towards the end of our joint rehearsal we had a run through of our joint number complete with choreography and every section of the songs came together in a glorious package.

The evening show enjoyed the support of many friends of the Gentlemen of Fortune! Thanks to you in particular for promoting the show and supporting it with an excellent and well attended performance. The kids on stage were treated to front row seats, and given the clear message that singing is indeed a life long activity! The show ended, like all good barbershop shows, with kids in the lobby tag singing until the house staff closed the rooms down.

Through the day we spoke to **Katy Mascott** - the very popular choir teacher at West Vancouver, she told us a little bit about her undirected vocal group, **Aliqua...** Well after the weekend, I looked them up to find a professional vocal group of 8 women, who perform fantastic shows complete with stage costuming, and lighting and choreography. North Shore vocal programs are clearly in good hands.





June 2010
Down
Memory Lane

By Ross Hood

40 years ago this month (1970)

Marty Lovick, in an article written under the “*Viewpoint*” column, outlined the possible cost of travel and accommodation for the Calgary Convention. He states “Charter Flight cost of \$45.00, hotel room \$9.00 per night. Add expenses of food, refreshments and the cost will still be less than 100.00.” (Oh for the good old days). On June 9, the **Vancouver Chorus** hosted a **Howe Sounds Night** at the Vancouver Art Gallery. Proceeds went to helping them get to Atlantic City. They showed the '69 convention film, then the Sounds came on to present their competition package and the **Thunderbirds** performed some of their best.

30 Years ago this month (1980)

The Langley, Seattle, and Lions Gate Sweet Adelines shows and HEP school were all scheduled on the same night in May 1980 (this is not supposed to happen - probably still does) **Chester Colpitts** attended the Seattle show where the **Most Happy Fellows** put on their Wizard of Oz package for the first time before taking it to Salt Lake City. The **Sound Policy** (**Bryan Waplington, Marty Lovick, Ken Wigbers & George Metzger**) were scheduled for International in Salt Lake City. **Bob Bradley** showed up on the guest list.

20 Years ago this month (1990)

Chapter president **Rob Hood** wrote a full page article for the *Harmonizer* about our trip to New York and to Carnegie Hall. I'll try to give you some snippets from the article. It was titled: “*It Takes More Than Just Practice to Get to Carnegie Hall*”. Rob described the troubles finding the right type of performance and the co-operation we got from **Lloyd Steinkamp** and the **Most Happy Fellows**, and goes on to tell about the auditions, performances, money raising attempts, and PR spots. “with the co-operation of the New Westminster city council, the entire cast gathered together on April Fools day to literally paint a brick road yellow...OZ was now more than just a performance package, it was fun, it was entertaining and it had a side effect on the membership. It was serving as a bond within the chapter. Social activities and fund-raiser attendance increased, friendships strengthened and chapter attendance rose ...Now back in New Westminster, we have a treasury of memories...It has been an eventful year. We can truly say that the pot at the end of our rainbow runneth over.”

Obituary



WATTS
Frank Gordon
1920 – 2010

Gordon Watts passed away suddenly on April 29th 2010 at the age of 90 years. He is survived by Tillie, his loving wife of 69 years, son Gordon (Kathy), daughter Karen, 6 grandchildren, 5 great-grand children, brothers Bert and

Jack, and many nieces and nephews. A long time member of the GoF, Gordon was also a member of the Port Moody St Andrews Church Choir and Meals on Wheels. On May 5th, many of his past barbershop friends attended a celebration of his life in Port Moody. The Jones Boys (a GoF quintet) sang the Lord's Prayer; a packed congregation sang some of his favourite hymns.

Memories of Gordon Watts

By Gary Korstrom

Gordon Watts and I both started barbershop in the mid-seventies and, upon first meeting, took a liking to each other. When an up-coming division contest in Kelowna was announced we thought we'd go together. I mentioned this to my wife Florence, who immediately asked if Gord's wife, Tillie was a smoker, as Florence is allergic to cigarette smoke. At the following chorus practice I asked Gord about this and he said, “For Heaven's Sakes! That's exactly what Tillie asked about you and your wife!”

Since we were all non-smokers we agreed to travel together to the Convention, and then over the years we attended many more conventions together. We've all had many a good laugh about our first meeting.

Through the years our families became very close and we've enjoyed a lot of love, friendship and good times, especially at our “family” dinners: Tillie being an exceptional cook and each one a great host and hostess. Good memories too are all the New Years Eve parties down in the rec room with Gordon on the guitar singing his head off. He also supplied the humour as he had quite a stock of jokes.

Gordon was twenty years older than me; our children were eight and ten years old at the time we first met and they enjoyed the privilege of having another set of grandparents. They referred to Gord and Tillie as “Grandpa” and “Grandma”.

I will deeply miss the friendship that we both enjoyed. Gordon was truly “one-of-a-kind”.

New Member



Sean Murch

Sean has worked for 20 years in the entertainment sector, employed as a writer, producer, development executive and studio manager, in both traditional and interactive media, working for companies such as Electronic Arts, Nelvana and Francis Copolla's American Zoetrope. He currently acts as head

of business development for a local games studio - Next Level Games. He is also a founding board member of the BC Interactive Association.

Outside of work, Sean enjoys sailing, skiing and parenting his two children, Duncan (4.5) and Zoe (3), in partnership with his wife, Maggie (age not disclosed).

Though he has no formal musical training, and precious little natural talent (he says), Sean is nevertheless the great grandson of opera prima donna and soprano, **Florence Easton**, who passed on neither her wealth (stock market crash) nor vocal skills. She did however pass on a mildly amusing story which bears repeating:

"On one occasion Florence Easton was engaged to sing the title role in *Madama Butterfly* in Washington, DC, a place celebrated for the strictest child labor laws of any city in the country. The child '**Trouble**' (*Butterfly's* son who appears only in the last act), is always recruited locally, and a resourceful stage manager from somewhere produced a midget. Nobody told Mme. Easton, lest she be a bit squeamish. It is customary for the child playing Trouble to be introduced to the soprano at the first intermission to get him (more often her) accustomed to the Japanese costume and makeup. Mme. Easton asked the traditional three questions: "Would you like to go to the bathroom?" - "No". "Would you like some chocolate?" - "No". "How old are you?" - "Forty two" the little fellow piped up. But this was nothing to Easton's confusion in the last act. When she pressed him to her ample bosom he didn't want to let go."

Thankfully, we have no such problems in barbershop...

Dilbert's Rules of Order

#2: I love deadlines. I especially like the whooshing sound they make as they go flying by.

Puns for Educated Minds:

#16. The man who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran.

New Member



Bert Paquet

I was born in Montreal and raised near Quebec City. In 1993, I joined the RCMP and after training in Regina, was posted to Salmon Arm for 12 years, then transferred to Chilliwack. In 2008, I joined the Vancouver 2010 Integrated Security Unit Public Affairs Department, as a

bilingual spokesperson for the Olympic Security. Right after Sidney Crosby scored "the Golden Goal " I was promoted to the rank of Corporal and transferred to Coquitlam as a Media Relations Officer.

In 2004, I married Pam, truly the better half of this couple. She is a successful corporate trainer and a counselor. With no children, we focus our life together on golf, travels and the simple pleasures of life such as good food, great wines, and greater friends... While in Chilliwack, I joined the Chilliwack Harmony Chorus after attending their annual show in 2004. With no other musical background but a decent ear, I joined the most rewarding hobby and by far, a group of some of the finest gentlemen world wide. I am truly honored to count myself as a member of The Greater Vancouver Gentlemen of Fortune chorus and look forward to becoming an active part of this group

What the Directors Discussed

By Peter Lissett



Here are the highlights from the **May 31st** meeting held at **David Jones'** place:-

Honorary Treasurer **Gord Ross** reported that the increase in members' dues has had a most positive effect on the chapter's finances. There should be no problem in meeting the next four month's expected expenses. He added that the GST rebate that had been applied for sometime ago had not yet been received.

The main purpose of the meeting was to decide how to manage **Ian McGillivray's** legacy. Several emails had been exchanged prior to the meeting with various opinions expressed. The discussion and deliberation at the meeting was extensive. Ultimately, the following motion was passed: *that the Ian McGillivray Legacy be used for the benefit of the chapter for coaching and barbershop education each year at the discretion of the Board of Directors to a maximum of \$5000.*

It was decided that our annual retreat be held at the Mount Seymour United Church on **September 10/11th**

and that our reservation at the NVDSOS be cancelled for this year. **Ed Arnold** has suggested to the church that we put on a 60/40 show on the evening of the 11th to offset the chorus expense of the retreat and benefit the church's fundraising for a new roof.

Byron Walton reported that three new songs had been selected. **Dave Whittier** enthusiastically reported that "Ready, Set, Grow" arrangements were well in hand and that **Marty Lovick** and **John Newell** had agreed to come and coach.

Happenings & Reminders

Choral Waves Show



On May 1st the chorus, with **Antique Gold**, provided the second half of the "**Choral Waves**" Show at the Kay Meek Theatre in West Vancouver. This was the culmination of a very successful all day BC Youth in Harmony workshop for 55 high school students.

Ready, Set, Grow!

Dave Whittier VP Chapter Development

Summer is almost here, and only a few weeks until the August membership drive. "Ready, Set, Grow" has everything we need for success. We have a challenging curriculum, some of the best Barbershop talent in the world and an opportunity to turn this into something special. All we need now are students, so spread the word! Tell your friends, co-workers, anybody who has expressed the slightest interest in this hobby. Bring them in; they have nothing to lose by participating, and everything to gain!

2010 District Convention Registration

Registration Forms for the 2010 Portland District Convention on September 23-26 are available from **Ray Fallan**. Deadline for the \$75 Early Bird All Events registration has been extended to July 15th. After that it is \$100 until August 31st. Remember that **you are now responsible** for doing your own convention registration; ie you have to send the completed form and money **direct to the Host chapter**.

Portland Convention Hotels

Phone direct to get the Convention rate (all are \$95), 1-800 numbers go to central reservations.

- **Red Lion** Convention Center (**Conv HQ**), 1021 NE Grand Ave, Portland, OR 97232, (503) 235-2100
- **La Quinta Inn**-Convention Center, 431 NE Multnomah Ave, Portland, OR 97232. (503) 233-7933
- **Courtyard** Portland/Lloyd Center (Marriott), 434 NE Wasco St, Portland, OR 97232, (503) 234-3200

UNDERSTANDING TOOLS

Pliers: Used to round off bolt heads. Sometimes used in the creation of blood-blisters.

Comment #14 by Bill Gibbons

"Leads; the longer a song is, the higher the probability that the tag will be in your comfort zone."

Deadline for the next issue is August 10, 2010

CALENDAR

2010

- June 27-July 4 International, Philadelphia, PA
- July 16-18 HCNW, Tacoma, WA
- July 25 Anacortes Salmon BBQ
- Aug 3 Start of "Ready, Set, Grow"
- Aug 7 GoF Annual BBQ @ Byron's
- Sept 3-5 Harmony Hollow
- Sept 6 Labour Day
- Sept 10-11 **Retreat** Mt Seymour, N Vancouver
- Sept 23-26 **District Convention** Portland, OR
- Oct 2 **50/50 Show** St Laurence, Coquitlam
- Oct 11 Thanksgiving
- Oct 12(?) Election of GoF Board of Directors
- Oct 19-23 SAI International, Seattle, WA
- Dec 4 **Christmas Shows** MJ Fox Theatre

2011

- Jan 18-23 Midwinter International, Las Vegas
- Feb 14 **Valentine's Day**
- April 1-2 **Division I Convention** Abbotsford
- April 22 Easter
- July 3-10 International, Kansas City, MO
- Sept 28-Oct 2 PanPacific Convention, Brisbane
- Oct 10 Thanksgiving

2012

- Jan 17-22 Midwinter International, Tucson
- July 1-8 International, Portland OR

Internationals

- 2013 Toronto, Ontario
- 2014 TBD
- 2015 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- 2016 Nashville, Tennessee