

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

2011 - No.4 – May

## Random Quartets

At the March 30<sup>th</sup> meeting of the GoF Board of Directors there was a discussion about getting quartets to sing after the break and it was suggested that perhaps quartets could be “created” to sing repertoire songs after the break. Charlie agreed to consider this and went right ahead with the idea starting on April 5 with ***Antique Gold*** (Dave Anderson, George Wakeham, George Metzger, Charlie Metzger).

Charlie explained that he would post the quartet member names a week ahead so that they could get together and choose a repertoire song to sing (no polecats) – I believe he also chose their quartet names. April 12<sup>th</sup> brought out



the ***Lucky Lyricists*** (Clarence Stad, Rod MacLeod, Gordon Ross, Andy Holisky) to sing “*Nevertheless*”. They were followed on April 19<sup>th</sup> by the ***Boisterous Bards*** (Dave Anderson, Sean Murch, Jim Bates, Bill Martin) who sang “*Happy Days and Lonely Nights*” with Sean in his first appearance in a quartet.



April 26<sup>th</sup> we heard the ***Top-Tier Troubadours*** (Ezra Parker, Wayne Tamkin, David Jones, Don Giles) perform “*Nevertheless*” and this was also Ezra’s first quartet appearance, though you’d never know it.

May 3<sup>rd</sup> was the turn of the ***BaLLaDeers*** (LeRoy Pattison, Bob Bradley, David Meehan, Lawrence Spencer) with “*Jeanie with the Light brown Hair*” another first time in a quartet, I think, for David Meehan.



May 10<sup>th</sup> saw the ***Artful Dodgers*** (Arthur Loyie, George Gregory,

George Metzger, Ed Arnold) with “*Nevertheless*”. In his usual efficient way Carl Gung has been videotaping each quartet, and posting them on his website, so that they can see how they performed – a very useful educational tool.



## Sing Canada Harmony Awards Scholarships

In April, Sing Canada Harmony, the official charitable arm of the Barbershop Harmony Society in Canada, awarded almost \$18,000 in scholarships to 34 recipients. Most of the scholarships were to assist recipients to attend Harmony University/Director’s College in St. Joseph, Missouri this summer. Recipients come from chapters of the Barbershop Harmony Society, Sweet

Adelines International, and Harmony, Inc.

These scholarships are made available by the generous donations of chapters, businesses, quartets and individuals. They believe in the mandate of Sing Canada Harmony – to support vocal music education our schools and communities. To donate and receive a federal tax receipt, to contribute go to:

<http://singcanadaharmony.ca/donate.html>

To apply for a scholarship from visit the website at:  
<http://singcanadaharmony.ca/scholarship.html>.

The next scholarship intake date is October 1. For more info talk to Gerry Borden.

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## When Insults Had Class

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

“He can compress the most words into the smallest idea of any one I know.” Abraham Lincoln

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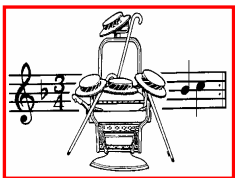
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## May 2011 Down Memory Lane

By Ross Hood

### 40 years ago this month (1971)

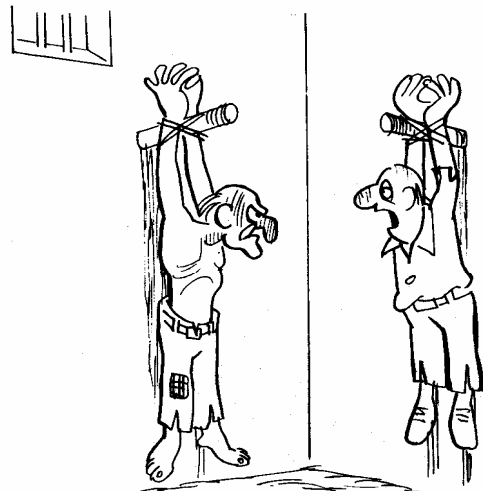
Evergreen District was to be represented at International in New Orleans by the **Spokane** chapter. The Society membership had surpassed 31,000. The Association Of International Champions was officially underway asking for registration from previous champs. An article in the *Harmonizer* penned by **George Shields** of the East York Chapter (Toronto), warns that they are going for the gold in New Orleans. This would be their ninth shot at it. That was some kind omen, they placed ninth. H.E.P. School (Harmony University) was now held in Reading Pennsylvania at a cost of \$85.00.

### 30 years ago this month (1981)

In May of '81 we performed at a beer garden in Maple Ridge, to a very appreciative gathering. We also sang for the IBM convention at the Agridome sharing the bill with the Mounties Musical Ride. In June we sang in Chilliwack for the second year for radio station CHWK's anniversary. As MC, **George Meehan** had them rolling in the aisles. We were given a portion of the profits from the show which amounted to nearly \$2,000.00. We also raised almost that much at a **Services Auction** where members offered various services, such as painting, lawn cutting, car washing, business services, or lessons of some kind to be auctioned off.

### 20 years ago this month (1991)

The latest program from International was "**Membership Begins with ME**", and we sent out 1,000 letters, advertised in 13 newspapers, issued news releases, and contacted some local men's clubs. The results showed 11 prospective members. Seven members were also added to the roster from a previous membership promotion. Included in that list were **Lloyd Sullivan, Rod MacLeod, Terry Bucknell** and **Doug Morrison**. Membership stood at 90 in June of '91. **Jim Bates** was complaining about the lack of help setting up the risers (20 years ago). He was trying a system where the members of two voice parts do the set up (and take down) for a month.



"Oh, nothing much... I just kept talking while the Director was trying to teach!"

### Puns for Educated Minds:

**#11:** A sign on the lawn at a drug rehab center said, "Keep off the Grass".

## What the Directors Discussed

By Peter Lissett



The most recent Board meeting was held at Carl Gung's residence on **April 27<sup>th</sup>**. Here are the highlights.

Honorary Treasurer **Rich Clark** reported the chapter's financial picture was basically unchanged. We're still heading for a \$6,000 deficit. The GST rebate of \$280 had been received. The riser chair fund stood at \$564.

VP Music and Performance **George Gregory** requested the Board's approval for **Donya Metzger** to record learning tracks for two Christmas songs which was granted. He reported that **Byron Walton** had stepped down as Christmas Show Chairman. **Carl Gung** and **Peter Lissett** agreed to take on the project as co-chairs.

The most recent recording session was attended by about forty members. Evaluation of the recordings will be taking place fairly soon.

VP Chapter Development **Carl Gung** discussed the new brochure. He will be circulating the latest edition in the next few days.

VP Marketing and Promotion **Ed Arnold** will evaluate the value in attending an open house for event planners. He indicated that some leads for gigs were trickling in, but so far, there was nothing on the horizon before September. He was asked to follow up a mall singout.

**Sean Murch** reported that the response from potential agents for the chorus was disheartening. He added that there may be an opportunity for a small chorus (10-12) performing monthly at the Pan Pacific. He will be following this up.

Sean reported that the cost of selling tracks through iTunes was greater than expected. In addition to the album costs, there was a \$15 per song charge to register. Sean is investigating having the chorus sing at the West Van Music Festival and will report at the next meeting.

**Charlie Metzger** expressed concern that some members were having difficulty keeping up with the learning pace.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

### Dilbert's Rules of Order

**#35:** Even if you are on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there.

## Save \$\$\$\$! - Second Quarter Membership Dues

By Rich Clark



For those who have Society and District dues to pay this month/quarter, and who normally pay on line by credit card, here is an opportunity to save a few bucks.

The total US\$ dues for most of us is \$143. Last quarter the Canadian equivalent was \$144.86 but, due to the positive position of the Cdn\$ versus the US\$, the equivalent (based on the Society 2nd quarter exchange rate of 0.9598) is now \$137.25 if you pay by cheque. This is a savings of over \$7. Now I realize that some of the big time spenders will consider this difference not worth the effort of mailing a cheque, as they regularly whisk this amount away on a Starbucks latte or a new golf ball. However, if every member paid by cheque and contributed the \$7 savings to the chorus, that would amount to over \$350. For those interested in making this donation, I will arrange to mail, upon receipt in a batch with others, your dues cheque made out to Barbershop Harmony Society with your membership number on the cheque (or your society notice attached), and THE DONATION OF THE \$7 IN CASH OR CHEQUE (to the GOF). If you make it \$10 you will get a tax receipt.

Remember, if you pay on line by credit card, your credit card company charges you somewhere between a 2% & 4% conversion rate, so you will likely pay very close to the US\$143, just for the convenience.

If you require any further explanation let me know.



## Happenings & Reminders

### Meat Sale Order pickup

David Jones thanks all of you for your meat orders and reminds you that they will be ready for pickup **11.00am Saturday May 28<sup>th</sup>** at Ray Fallan's house – 2802 McGill St Vancouver.

### District Convention Registration

The 2011 Evergreen District Convention will be in Spokane, WA on September 30 – October 2. The Mighty GoF will be there in force so make sure that you get your Hotel bookings done early and your Registration (All Events) before the Early Bird deadline.

Headquarters Hotel is the DoubleTree City Centre (\$99) and there are others nearby. For all the information go to: [www.pagesofharmony.org](http://www.pagesofharmony.org) and click on “District Contest 2011” in the top tool bar on the right. There are links to the hotels, Spokane map and the registration form. There is a \$5.00 discount if you register on line at: [www.brownpapertickets.com/ref/44276/event/159149](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/ref/44276/event/159149)

Remember that everybody on stage **must** have an All Events registration. If you have any problems or questions ask Laurie Dye, Ray Fallan or Harry Gray.

### CD Recordings

The next recording session for our new CD will be in mid-June provided that enough members have qualified on the songs. Details to follow. All singers needed please so let's get learning.

**Comment #82** by Bill Gibbons

“The three other parts can reform, but a bass is forever.”

### Deadline for the next issue is June 21, 2011

## CALENDAR

### 2011

June	CD Recording
July 3-10	International, Kansas City, MO
July 22-24	HCNW Tacoma, WA
July 31	Anacortes Salmon BBQ
Jul 31-Aug 7	Harmony University, St Joseph, MO
Aug	CD Recording
Sept 2-4	Harmony Hollow, Mt Baker, WA
Sept 9-10	<b><u>Chorus Retreat</u></b>
Sept 28-Oct 2	PanPacific Convention, Brisbane
Sept 30-Oct 2	<b><u>District Convention</u></b> Spokane, WA
Oct 10	Thanksgiving
Oct	CD Recording
Dec 3	<b><u>Christmas Shows</u></b>

### 2012

Jan 17-22	Midwinter International, Tucson, AZ
Feb 14	<b><u>Valentine's Day</u></b>
Mar 30/31	<b><u>Division I Convention</u></b> TBA
April 6	Easter
June	GoF Cabaret TBA
July 1-8	International, Portland, OR

### Internationals

2013	Toronto, Ontario
2014	Las Vegas, Nevada
2015	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
2016	Nashville, Tennessee
2017	Minneapolis, Minnesota
2018	Orlando, Florida
2019	Salt Lake city, Utah

## STOP PRESS

### **\*Harmony Hollow has gone state-side\***

and has a new home just east of Bellingham. After several years of looking for a new permanent location since losing the incredible Kwomais, we were all wondering if we would ever find something as good.

Well, not only did we find something as good, it is better many times over! There many options to stay (tents, RV's, dorms, cabins and lodges), and amazing facilities - everything from multiple community gathering places, coffee shack, enormous deck with umbrella seating, camp kitchen for our use and much more. Including the coup de grâce - an indoor theatre with a stage and sound system! Our contests and shows will be amazingly in-house and well-mic'd!

CLICK here <<http://www.harmonyhollow.org>> to learn more about all the amazing things Harmony Hollow has in store this year! We are starting a blog there to update everyone with developments, so check back often!

There is info on:

- registering for the quartet contests: men's, youth, women's and mixed categories.
- lodging; some lodges with full kitchens, and all cabins with bathrooms, as well as 21 RV hookups!
- catalogue; early bird prices are in effect until **July 15th only**, and spaces are on a first-come, first-reserved basis, so register now!
- activities; announcements will showcase some of the fun activities we have planned for non-singers while they are there! Crafting, knitting, hiking - you name it - Harmony Hollow is fun for EVERYONE!

Kari Metzger