

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

2011 - No.6 – August

## Scots Wha Hae

By Rod MacLeod



Here's an email I sent to a few people while I was away in Scotland with Martha and Jim & Sue Gibson for the last 3 weeks. We travelled over 1,500 miles from the West coast to the East

coast & almost the full length of the country & had a wonderful time.

“Well, what can I say, we are having a great time. The weather has been super except for a little overcast when we were on the Island of Lewis. We've been to Troon, Oban, Ullapool, Lewis, Dornoch (where I got to play Royal Dornoch, one of the top 5 courses in the world), stayed at the Castle. We are now in Glenfarg staying at Glenfarg House, an Estate where the stables have been converted into lodges (incredible place with our own sheep, Mr. Spook, & a black lab Bertie). Been here for a week now & are leaving on Saturday for Rothesay & the Isle of Bute. Have had 6 games of golf & beat Jimmy 3 times. Martha & I are in Perth now going to go for dinner as Jim & Sue are at their nephew's wedding & we are going to join them at the Ceilidh (Scottish dance) after we have had dinner. The food has been quite a surprise, unbelievably good!

Day trips have taken us to St. Andrews, Edinburgh (saw the Castle), the old pub in Anstruther, The Bunker, and GlenEagles Golf Course - wow what a place, the hotel's 5 star, we could only afford beer. While Jimmy golfed, Martha, Sue and I walked through the town and course.

So far the highlight for me has been going to Lewis and meeting my relatives who treated us fantastically, I will remember this always. Also travelling with Martha, Jim & Sue, you couldn't ask for better travelling partners.”

## Announcing our Newest Affiliate



### Spanish Association of Barbershop Singers (SABS)

On Saturday evening, July 9th, at the Kansas City convention, the Society welcomed its newest official affiliate, the Spanish Association of

Barbershop Singers (SABS), to the fold. Barbershop harmony was virtually unknown in Spain in the mid' 90's when a Spanish student studying in America sent a barbershop book to his dad, who shared it with friends Jorge and Nicolas de las Peñas Plana in southern Spain. They fell in love with the style immediately, eventually attended a BinG! convention in Germany, and started searching for others in their area who might like to join them. As it happened, they found quite a few barbershop-loving expatriates from the UK, Belgium and other countries who had retired to the area. They currently count over 260 members (men and women), and they're still growing. Check the next issue of *The Harmonizer* for more on this story and some great photos! Check out the SABS website [www.sabs.es](http://www.sabs.es) [Courtesy of PROBE-Motor]

### Inside this Issue

- Scots Wha Hae
- Announcing our Newest Affiliate
- Resolutions Chief
- The State of Sunshine
- New Members
- Happenings & Reminders
- Calendar

## *When Insults Had Class*

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

*“He loves nature in spite of what it did to him.”*

- Forrest Tucker

## 2011 Chapter Officers

### President

Doug Affleck 778-284-1179

[dhaffleck@gmail.com](mailto:dhaffleck@gmail.com)

### VP Music & Performance

George Gregory 604-879-0436

[ggregory@gregoryandgregory.ca](mailto:ggregory@gregoryandgregory.ca)

### VP Chapter Development

Carl Gung 604-594-7147

[csgung@gmail.com](mailto:csgung@gmail.com)

### VP Communications & Promotion

Ed Arnold 604-929-2904

[ed\\_arnold@telus.net](mailto:ed_arnold@telus.net)

### Secretary

Al Alain 604-464-7780

[ajalain@telus.net](mailto:ajalain@telus.net)

### Treasurer

Rich Clark 604-572-5588

[clarkr4@telus.net](mailto:clarkr4@telus.net)

### Past President

Peter Lissett 604-929-3235

[plissett@shaw.ca](mailto:plissett@shaw.ca)

### Board Members-at-Large

Sean Murch 604-765-1435

[sean@nlgames.com](mailto:sean@nlgames.com)

Shanti Ghose 604-873-4285

[sghose@shaw.ca](mailto:sghose@shaw.ca)

### Musical Director

Charlie Metzger 604-581-1423

[cometzger@shaw.ca](mailto:cometzger@shaw.ca)

### Assistant Director

Byron Walton 778-689-9337

[waltonbm@shaw.ca](mailto:waltonbm@shaw.ca)

### Youth in Harmony

Bill Martin 604-291-1744

[billthebaritone@gmail.com](mailto:billthebaritone@gmail.com)

## Resolutions Chief



The evening of August 2<sup>nd</sup> had **Charlie Metzger** away at Harmony U teaching his skills. Nevertheless a good time was had by all with **Byron Walton** and **Gerry Borden** taking turns directing and teaching. Parts of our **Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meetings Program**

included **Taro Whittier's Momentous Moment** with Northwest Vocal Project at the Vegas Youth Chorus International, where his tears on stage were genuine; and **LeRoy's King and Court Quartet** with *Only You*. But the highlight of the night was **Resolutions Chief Moe Jones'** soliloquy touching on most of the songs we sang.

Let it be known to all mankind that:

- We are HAPPY for Byron & Gerry to direct us tonight.
- We are SORRY that Charlie is not here
- We are LONELY for those missing tonight's rehearsal.

A Momentous Moment was brought with knowledge of:

*"All the tales that you will hear*

*As through this life you go"*

Taro – *"and cryin' too"*

Hail to the King and Court

*"For the angel did say*

*Born is a"* new quartet this day, and they

*"understand the magic that you do"* (while Wayne holds Byron's hand)

Go ye forth and *"Tell it on the Mountain"* that the

mighty GOF brings *"love and joy to you"*.

Be it resolved, that while at Me-n-Ed's,

*"It's not the glow you feel,*

*From a glass of beer,*

*But the better we shall sing*

*HALLELUJAH"*

## The State of Sunshine

By Dave Ellis



As some of you may know I have recently assumed the portfolio of Sunshine Man from David Jones. Mr. J. has carried out this task for several years and so kudos and thanks from all of us for a job well done.

Obviously this task is almost fully dependent on the swift flow of communication from members of the Chorus to the Sunshine Man if one of our brothers, or a part of their family, is involved in an illness, accident or other unfortunate happening. This is my earnest request – let me know asap and I'll follow up.

My contacts are:  
604-872-3500 home  
604-771-3500 cell  
[dfearch@axion.net](mailto:dfearch@axion.net)

Recently I have called Keena Moller to ask if we can be of any help whatsoever now that some time has elapsed since Bob's passing.

And just last week I found out that our Gordie Ross had been laid low and in much pain at his home with a very painful back injury. He didn't appear to ask any one of us for help which is so easily at hand, so I must assume that a continuous stream of delicious handmaidens tended him - being the eligible bachelor that he is.

Once again chaps: please, if you know of anyone in our GOF orbit that needs comfort or help please contact me as soon as you can.

## New Members

### Jeremy Yang



I am the youngest child of my family and my brother and sister are both in Taiwan now with my father.

I went to a Catholic kindergarten where students were encouraged to learn to play piano, and that's how I first got in touch with music. I

quit after a couple years as I was just too lazy, but I did learn to read music, and I can still play some piano. In grade 4, my music teacher auditioned my class to recruit new choir members. We went one by one, sang a tune to her, along with some basic music theory test. I was chosen and that's how I started singing. I still remember when my entire class questioned why I was chosen, and the music teacher said: "He can read music." Then my class went: "Ooh... what a musician!" It's one of my favourite childhood memories.

For me, singing, like all other art forms, is a means to convey a message or idea. There are countless ways to sing a song and, whenever I sing, I feel that I "choose" to sing the way I do for many good reasons. They can be my personal interpretation, memories related to the song, or even something that has nothing to do with the song itself. I secretly hope people understand why I choose the way I sing a song when they listen because, for me, that is how I communicate, and it brings up a different side that people wouldn't see just speaking with me.

I am currently doing purchasing for a company that makes electrical components. A few years ago the GoF performed at a Simon Fraser University Choir's concert. I was singing with the SFU choir and was impressed with the performance. SFU choir president Ben Ong introduced me to the GoF and I tried out then but wasn't able to make practice nights until now.

### Don Klassen



Born in Winnipeg but raised in Vancouver.

I always loved music and smile when I remember our family singing in the car on vacation trips. Somehow I picked out the harmony in

those old Irish tunes. I sang in elementary school choir and operettas but found myself on the reject list in high school. I couldn't read music.

I enjoyed most individual & team sports (favourites were track & field, skiing, sailing, canoeing & tennis). I'm afraid of heights but jumped from a plane and acquired a private pilot's license. Singing, however, remained something others did while I listened.

I built a house from scratch, taught school, owned a super market, looked into homesteading in the north and then found Real Estate. My adorable wife Patty joined me in '89 and we thrive on advocating for our clients who tell us we make a pretty good team.

Patty and I are active in RYLA (Rotary sponsored leadership event for young men & women from Washington & BC between 18 & 25 yrs). We have three wonderful children (pilot, teacher & singer/actor) and five incredible grandchildren.

In '87 I was introduced to the GoF and joined the group long enough to sing at the Queen E. in the Logopedics Spectacular among 200 voices. What a thrill! Shortly after, I ruined my voice by doing too many imitations of a peacock. Suddenly I could hardly get above middle C.

24 years later I couldn't hold off any longer and with a much older, unused, untrained voice, decided, 'what the heck... I can at least go and listen to them practice'.

I feel blessed to be in the company of such welcoming men and look forward to contributing to the GoF!

### Dennis Burich



Born in Vancouver over 49 years ago I graduated from Maple Ridge Secondary School. I received a BSc in Microbiology from UBC in 1983 and a Medical Laboratory Technological Diploma from BCIT in 1988.

Hobbies include Cowboy Action Shooting and Historical Re-Enactment. My wife Wendy, and I, portray Sir James and Lady Amelia Douglas, Governor of Vancouver Island 1851- 63 and British Columbia 1858 - 64.

I decided to start singing for reasons unknown in my 40<sup>th</sup> year and I have not regretted it. A member of the Langley First Capital Barbershop Chorus for 10 years, when we recently moved to New Westminster I transferred to the Gentlemen of Fortune.

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

**#51:** When you manage to keep your head when all around are losing theirs, you have clearly failed to understand the seriousness of the problem.

# Happenings & Reminders

## Chorus Retreat

Fellow chorus members. For those who have yet to pay for the upcoming Squamish retreat, Carl Gung would like to have all the monies collected by **Tuesday, August 16, 2011**. Your co-operation would be greatly appreciated.

## Random & Visiting Quartets

The most recent quartets (chosen by Charlie) to entertain us at break were: ***Sho nanigans*** (Shoji Whittier, Laurie Dye, Mac Matheson, David Jones) with “My Wild Irish Rose”; ***PABISH!*** (Arthur Loyie, Paul Peachey, Shanti Ghose, Bill Martin) with “Jeannie”; ***Arranged by Height*** (Shoji Whittier, Moe Jones, Taro Whittier, Dave Whittier) with “Jeannie”; ***Tim with Rich Davidends*** (Arthur Loyie[in place of Dave Anderson], Rich Clark, Tim Dirks, David Meehan) with “Freddie” – both Tim & David M qualified on this rendition and it was Tim’s first quartet appearance; ***Generations*** (Ezra Parker, Sean Murch, Ed Arnold, Tucker Goodwin) with “Jeannie” – from early teen to eighty! And ***The King and Court*** (LeRoy Pattison, Wayne Tamkin, Byron Walton, Harry Gray) with “Only You”.

## Groupanizer!!

Have you updated your information on Groupanizer??

- Attendance
- Song Learning Status – that’s if you intend to qualify.
- Going to the Retreat or not? Going to District or not?
- Read the blogs lately?

## 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 – Aug 31<sup>st</sup>.

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. Registration forms are available at practice. **Have you marked your District attendance on groupanizer?**

## Christmas Show

Mark your calendar for the 2011 Christmas Shows which will be at a new location this year. Matinee and evening shows will be at the **James Cowan Theatre**, Shadbolt Arts Centre, 6450 Deer Lake Drive, Burnaby on **Saturday December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011**. As usual, rehearsal will be at the theatre on Friday night.

## Puns for Educated Minds:

**#29:** Did you hear about the Buddhist who refused Novocain during a root canal? His goal: transcendental medication.

## **Comment #91** by Bill Gibbons

“The only reason our pitch pipes have 13 notes is so some wise guy (usually a bari) can “prove” that we dropped a half note.”

## **Deadline for the next issue is September 13, 2011**

# CALENDAR

## 2011

Sept 2-4 Harmony Hollow, Mt Baker, WA  
Sept 9-11 **Chorus Retreat** Squamish  
Sept 28-Oct 2 PanPacific Convention, Brisbane  
Sept 30-Oct 2 **District Convention** Spokane, WA  
Oct 10 Thanksgiving  
Dec 17 **Christmas Shows**

## 2012

Jan 17-22 Midwinter International, Tucson, AZ  
Jan 20-21 QCED Show, Seaside, OR  
Feb 14 **Valentine’s Day**  
Mar 30/31 **Division I Convention** Abbotsford  
April 6 Easter  
June GoF Cabaret TBA  
July 1-8 International, Portland, OR  
Jul 20-22 HCNW, Tacoma, WA  
**District Convention** TBA  
Oct 30-Nov 3 SAI International, Denver CO

## 2013

Jun 30-Jul 7 International, Toronto, ON  
Oct 11-13 **District Convention** Boise, ID

## Internationals

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