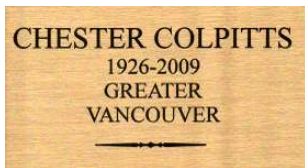


**WORKING TOGETHER IN FELLOWSHIP AND HARMONY, THE GENTLEMEN OF FORTUNE CHORUS ENRICHES SOCIETY  
WITH EXCELLENT BARBERSHOP MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT**

## 2012 - No.1 – February

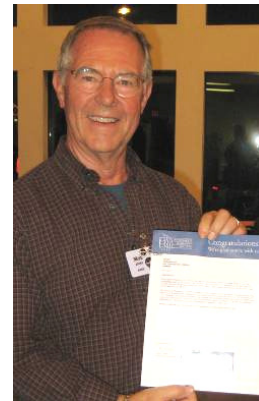
### Chester Colpitts Memorial Plaque



On the wall of the Society HQ lobby in Nashville is the Sing Canada Harmony **Keep a Melody Ringing Plaque**. It is a *“Tribute to Canadians who loved Barbershop Harmony”* and is funded by memorial donations to Sing Canada Harmony. A new plate honours the memory of **Chester Colpitts**, a long time and much loved member of the GoF who passed away in 2009. J.R. (Digger) MacDougall, Chair and CEO *Sing Canada Harmony* says the plate will be mounted this month.



### Moe's Quinquagenary (50<sup>th</sup> year)

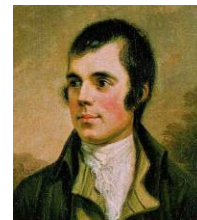


Congratulations to **Moe Jones** who is now in his **50<sup>th</sup> year** as a member of the Barbershop Harmony Society. When he left High School, after leads in Gilbert & Sullivan operettas, his teacher suggested he try “singing barbers”. It was only after completing his CGA at UBC that he looked it up, got **Abie Klassen's** name, and joined Vancouver Thunderbirds 1/1/1963.

With the **Howe Sounds** quartet he went on to win District in 1968. Moe says: “my most momentous BS moment would be in Oct. 1969 in Portland, ending the Howe Sounds' champ year with a standing ovation as we walked on at the beginning of our set. I think we earned the crowd's appreciation because we did a lot with chapters and the District.” His second mm would be doing the **Music Man** show in 1993 with **Bob O'Shaughnessy, Tom Bates & Tucker Goodwin**.

A member of the GoF since 1980 Moe says: “The last 12 years has been mostly administration stuff with the GoF. I started on the show committee, then chair; VP of Music; then President; Conventions and other duties, e.g. CDs; worked with the Treasurers re reports, etc.”

His present Job is President of QCED “which is a lot of fun and gratifying as it involves dealing with my American friends.”



### Robbie Burns

Born January 25, 1759

*“That man to man, the world, o'er  
Shall brithers be for a' that.”*

#### Inside this Issue

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## 2011 Awards Nominees

Here are the Greater Vancouver Chapter 2011 Award Nominees. Note that the Board of Directors are responsible for reviewing nominations to the GoF Hall of Fame and deciding on which candidate, if any, should go forward.



**Voting will be electronic on Jan 27- 31.** Awards will be presented at our Annual Awards & Installation Dinner/Dance **February 25<sup>th</sup>** at the Legion.

### **Barbershopper of the Year**

**Al Alain** - Al's contribution on the Christmas Show production team, including putting up with some [unsuccessful] attempts to override his plans, was significant. He also contributes to the chorus "Visual Package" team.

**David Anderson** - David instructs the chorus on song learning techniques. He coaches many quartets.

**George Gregory** - George is very committed to the chorus and is doing a great job as VP Music and Performance helping us better ourselves all the time.

**Carl Gung** - Carl does an enormous amount of work for the chorus. He is serving his second year as VP Chapter Development and does all the video recording for our visual improvement work as well as for each quartet every week. He is also at our singouts with his camera. His contribution to the Christmas Show was enormous.

**Peter Lissett** - For the last 8 years Peter has given his time and expertise to the Chapter Board. Having served as President he didn't fade into the background as a Past President but filled in during long periods of absent Presidents. In addition, he chaired the Show Committee guiding the GoF through a successful Christmas Show with full houses in a new venue. He has organized the Awards & Installation Banquet for the last few years.

**Gord Ross** - Always a stalwart GoF member supporting chorus activities, he is currently heading up the Cabaret 2012 committee.

### **Barbershop Fellowship Award**

**Al Alain** - The friendly script & visual presentation man.

**Gerry Borden** - Aside from all the things Gerry does for the district, division and chapter, he epitomizes the phrase "working together in fellowship" in our mission statement. He is always friendly, cheerful and helpful. He is extremely unselfish in his efforts to help the chorus and individuals within it.

**Ray Fallan** - Always approachable and friendly to all chorus members, he does a great job as Chorus Manager. He has towed the riser trailer around for years and handled the business announcements at rehearsal break. He hosts the annual Christmas Carol party at his house.

**George Gregory** - George's affable, outgoing personality, ready wit and forthright comments have both uplifted and chastised the chorus during the year. As our Emcee to the public he embodies barbershop "fellowship".

**Carl Gung** - For all of the work he puts into the chorus: Videotaping each quartet, video coaching the chorus, and helping everybody who asks. Always smiling and friendly.

**Rob Hood** - Rob has been a backbone for our show and cabaret scripts for countless years [I believe] – always working quietly behind the curtain and stage. I am not sure he has ever been recognized for his contribution.

**Arthur Loyie** - Arthur is there every night to greet all the guests and make sure they have the music and that they are made welcome. He has done this job for years.

**Peter Lissett** - The perennial Past President. Affable and always ready to lend a hand.

**Clarence Stad** - Always very genuine and supportive.

### **Barbershop Woman of the Year**

**Jeanette Affleck** - Jeanette worked behind the scenes for the installation dinner with Doug, providing the back up for the music.

**Dorothy Fallan** - Dorothy is always supporting the chorus behind the scenes and the hostess behind the Christmas Carol party. Believe me, Ray couldn't put this one on his own!

**Roxie Giles** - Roxie was the woman who stayed home all day on Valentines last year taking all the late calls and routing the nearest quartet to them. A huge task!

**Wendy Gung** - This lady comes to all our singouts to take the photos of the chorus during the performance.

**Kari Metzger** - Kari coached the chorus preparing us for Contests and inspiring us to improve our emotional involvement and performance as individuals and ensemble, and put us back within reach of A-level.

**Maya Whittier** - Whenever there is a job to be done, Maya steps in to do it. Most recently selling the 50/50 tickets at the Christmas Show, and collecting all the door prize name and address slips from our patrons.

## 2012 Chapter Officers

### President

Harry Gray 604-447-3749  
[bunionbari@gmail.com](mailto:bunionbari@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  
[clarkrs4@telus.net](mailto:clarkrs4@telus.net)

### Past President

Doug Affleck 778-284-1179  
[dhaffleck@gmail.com](mailto:dhaffleck@gmail.com)

### Board Members-at-Large

Sean Murch 604-765-1435  
[sean.murch@me.com](mailto:sean.murch@me.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)

## GOF Cabaret and Silent Auction

By Gord Ross (Cabaret Chairman)

First of all, the exact date is **Saturday June 23, 2012**. Mark that date on your calendar today!



Over the past 8 months, work has been going on in the background in preparation for a GOF cabaret and silent auction in June. There has been no "official" announcement until now as it was still a ways away and we were busy focusing on our Christmas Show. However, it is now only 5 months to go and it's time to start

communicating the plans and details to all members. To those new members who were not around for our last 3 cabarets in 1999, 2003 and 2008, these have been extremely popular and successful events with over 400 guests at each.

Now let me introduce each of the committee heads:

Cabaret Chairman - **Gord Ross**  
Show Production - **Elie Savoie & Rob Hood**  
Venue - **Peter Lissett & Ray Fallan**  
Food and Beverage - **Moe Jones**  
Silent Auction - **Jim Gibson**  
Guest Performers - **Jean Michel Mistrot**  
Marketing and PR - **Ed Arnold**  
Ticket Sales - **Don Giles**  
Treasurer - **Rich Clark**

Each of these guys will be looking for help on their respective teams. Please say yes when they approach you or, better yet, think about what you would like to get involved in and offer your services to the respective committee head.



The venue will be the historic **Columbia Theatre** in New Westminster, previously known as the Burr Theatre. Originally built in 1927 as a theatre style facility, it has recently been bought by LAFFLINES Comedy Club and converted into a cabaret style venue, perfect for our type of event. It holds 290 people with table seating on 4 levels. The building itself has been carefully restored and maintains much of its original character and charm.

Let me describe the event as we see it at this time. All ideas are still under development so our plans will be evolving over the next few months. The theme and title should be finalized in the next month and we will communicate that as soon as it has been confirmed. As at past cabarets, our guests will be asked to get into the mood of the evening by coming dressed consistent with the theme we choose. The evening will begin with happy hour socializing and bidding at the silent auction. This will then be followed by a buffet dinner. After dinner the show portion of the evening will include the mighty GOF, other guest performers and audience participation activities. Following the show, guests will have the opportunity for more socializing and bidding at the silent auction. Later on in the evening our DJ will fire up the dance music. Throughout the evening we are also

planning other types of strolling entertainment. As you can see, our goal is to provide a fun filled evening full of activities that will keep our guests entertained from the moment they walk in the door.

Don't forget, our last three cabarets have been extremely successful events with over 400 guests at each. This is a smaller venue so will sell out earlier. Don't procrastinate. Start inviting your friends and family now and have them hold this date **June 23<sup>rd</sup>**. We will advise when tickets will be available for sale.

## What the Director's Discussed

By Al Alain



Our last Board meeting on Jan 17<sup>th</sup> was under the leadership of our New President **Harry Gray** and one of the first items reviewed was the pleasant announcement that our Christmas Show – netted us a profit of approximately \$4,500. There are still a few loose ends to tie up but that is encouraging.

We are meeting our charitable contribution obligation for 2011 by donating \$500 to Speech Therapy and \$500 to Sing Canada Harmony. While speaking of finances the management has been effective over the past year and we finished the year on a positive, not in the red, situation. The budget process for this year is underway.

Speaking of this year, the planning session planned for Feb. 4 will be a growth activity building on the foundation generated from the Music Leadership Team planning session. We are already seeing some positive results from this meeting.

It was reported that there will be several quartets competing at Division. It was also reported that there is a performance planned for Apr. 22 at Queen's Avenue United Church. This will be an opportunity to tune up for our Cabaret which **Gord Ross** reported on and noted it is scheduled for June 23.

**Peter Lissett** advised that the Installation and Awards banquet will be held on Feb. 25 in the Legion where it was so successfully held last year.

## When Insults Had Class

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

*"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go"* – Oscar Wilde

## Dilbert's Rules of Order

#41: I am a nutritional overachiever.



## January 2012 Down Memory Lane

By Ross Hood

### 40 years ago this month (1972)

**Paul Beaupre** was chosen as Barbershopper of the Year for his continued work throughout the year. **Hugh Tanner** took over as Editor and producer of the *Lake City Reflections*. 10 inches of snow didn't stop the Installations Banquet that was held at the old Russell Hotel in New Westminster. **Alex Hood** was installed as President and **Ben Fast** was to continue as Chorus Director. \$313.00 was presented to the Hearing Handicap Society.

### 30 years ago this month (1982)

It was a dark rainy night but that didn't stop a crowd of barbershop fans from gathering at Forest Grove Ballroom in Birch Bay, Wash. The event was fund raiser for our chapter's Pittsburgh Travel fund. **Mount Baker Toppers** and our chorus put on a show for an audience of 800 members, wives and friends. **Pacific Exchange** made up of members from both chapters, the **Jim Dandies** and **Vintage 81** added their part. **Lloyd Steinkamp** made a visit and gave us his brand of enthusiasm, attempting to make us feel confident about our possibilities on the stage in Pittsburgh, our first chance at the International Stage. We made a commitment to raise \$40,000.00 to get us (80 men) to Pittsburgh. Many schemes were being worked on to make this possible.

### 20 years ago this month (1992)

In '92 the news letter, edited by **Ken Pask**, became a weekly bulletin with few reports from members and only an announcement of things to come. It was decided that NO announcements were to be made at break time; Ken asked that they use the bulletin. **Wayne Tamkin** was to produce a *Fortune Teller* every 2 months, so little history is recorded each month. More next month.



## Gung Hei Fat Choy

Welcome to the Year  
of the Dragon  
(January 23<sup>rd</sup>)

## Midwinter Convention in Tucson

By Rich Clark

The Seniors International Quartet Contest was Friday afternoon January 20<sup>th</sup> and 27 quartets competed. **Rusty Pipes** of Johnny Appleseed District won with 73.9%. **Time After Time**, from Evergreen District, sang well but didn't make the top five.

The AISQC Show Friday night began with the Phoenix Chandler High School Girl's Chorus directed by **Lori Lyford**, a Sweet Adeline. This was a sneak peak of the singing quality to come at the Youth Festival. Their enthusiasm and energy with the 60's pop songs brought the audience to their feet. **A Mighty Wind**, 2011 International 4<sup>th</sup> place quartet provided some great singing and comedic elements due to **Clay Hines**, a former member of **FRED**, and tenor **Paul Saca**, who owns 7 collegiate quartet medals. **Masterpiece** 2011 3<sup>rd</sup> place included an arrangement of Tennessee Waltz, which I hadn't heard done by a quartet. **Main Street**, 2011 5<sup>th</sup> place, couldn't make it so **the Humdingers**, Disneyland performers, provided an entertaining segment of singing, dancing and comedy.

Saturday's Youth Chorus Festival started with the **Chandler High School Men's Chorus**, directed by Lori Lyford. Fourteen youth choruses followed, with the only Canadian entrant from Ontario. Choruses were evaluated in 3 average age categories and then as Good, Excellent or Superior using the 3 BHS categories. All the choruses were inspiring to hear and watch.

The convention capper was the Show of Champions. **The Scottsdale Chorus**, 2011 SAI International Champs, directed by Lori Lyford making her third appearance, dazzled the audience with a stunning show of motion and sound. 2012 Seniors Quartet Champs and 2011 Collegiate Quartet Champion **Prestige** entertained in quick succession. My favourite, the **Musical Island Boys**, 2011 international 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishers, and strong contenders for the 2012 gold medal, presented a great mellow balanced sound. The evening was topped off by **Old School**, 2011 International gold medalists.

Saturday night about 60 Canadians met for dinner. The BC table had **Gerry & Linda Borden**, **Shari & I**, and **Carol & Barry Munro**, from the **Village Squires** and the Tucson chorus when he winters there. The **Tucson Sunshine Chorus** practice Monday night had accolades for the great convention they hosted, and a special treat was a training session coached by **Jim DeBusman**.

My first Midwinter Convention was one to remember and worth the money. If you are wondering about the source for the future barbershoppers, this convention is where you might see some of them.

## The Future of Barbershop & Our Legacy

By Rich Clark



Watching the Youth Festival for the first time was like watching your own child perform in their first music or dance recital. The emotion of pride that one feels when they see a young person accomplish something positive, and possibly imagine what it would

have been like for us to have had that opportunity. For those of you who have been to Midwinter Conventions over the last five years, you know what I am talking about. I expect that **Dave Whittier** would be able to explain the emotion from his first-hand experience.

During a conversation with **Gerry Borden**, he divulged the work being done in Chilliwack developing young singers at two schools where a lunch time chorus program is being conducted. At the Tucson chorus rehearsal, a member told me of his involvement with music educators and choruses at local schools that developed from an initial visit by **Jim DeBusman** about 5 years ago.

The only Canadian youth chorus came from the Ontario District. The Youth convention is expecting 28 chorus entrants for 2013, up from 15 in 2012. In the US at least, the youth segment of the convention is being funded in large part by Harmony Foundation. Gerry advises that the Ontario Youth chorus received funds from **Sing Canada Harmony**. The interest in barbershop seems to be exploding in the US, albeit only a minor explosion at the moment.

So what is the point of all this seemingly unrelated information? The GoF has a pool of money that we have dubbed the **Legacy Fund**. If we changed the focus for its use to that of developing a youth chorus, that objective could contribute to the future of barbershop. This focus could also reduce the temptation for us to dip into the fund for our own needs, which should be funded by our chorus members.

The proposal that I am suggesting to the Board, is to develop a plan for a Youth Chorus and rename the Legacy Fund to that objective. This could go a long way to promoting the **Gentlemen of Fortune** and attracting some new members from the relationships developed from such a project.

[The Editor: Come to the **Planning Meeting** on **Saturday February 4<sup>th</sup>** in New Westminster and discuss this, and other possibilities for the Mighty GoF Future – see below]

## Happenings & Reminders

### GoF Planning Meeting

On **Saturday February 4<sup>th</sup>** the annual planning meeting starts **9:00 am** (sharp) at: 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor 1185 Quayside Dr New Westminster. The chorus planning-brainstorming meeting lasts about 3 hours. The agenda will be designed to discuss and develop consensus of the chorus about:

- where we are,
- where we are going,
- where we ought to be going,
- how to get where we want to be, and
- anything else that seems worthwhile to talk about.

All who have attended these in the past have found them productive and well worth the time.

*All members are invited. Help to plan our/your future.*

### Valentine's Day Quartets

Just over 2 weeks left before the GoF quartets go out and perform their love songs to gals (and guys). However, **you all need to SELL the gigs** – posters, cards, calls, emails, facebook, tweets, whatever. Get the orders in!

### Awards & Installation Banquet & Dance

Our Annual Banquet & Dance will be held on Saturday **February 25<sup>th</sup>** at the Coquitlam Legion again with Doug Affleck as DJ. The 2011 Awards will be presented and the 2012 Chapter Officers installed with the usual pomp & circumstance. Mark the date.

Theme: **MARDI GRAS**

Time: Cocktails 5.30pm; Dinner 6.30pm

Dancing: until midnight

Emcee: Bert Paquet

Tickets: \$40 from Paul Peachey

### Division Convention March 30/31

The chorus is competing at the Evergreen Division I Convention in Abbotsford March 30-31. Quartet Contest Friday night, chorus contest Saturday morning and Show of Champions Saturday night. All members who will be on stage **MUST** purchase an All Events Registration - \$45 before March 1, \$50 after. For complete registration information go to [www.topperschorus.org](http://www.topperschorus.org) where you can register and pay on line. Afterglow and Lunch (prepaid only) are not included in All Events.

Headquarters Hotel is the Best Western Regency (1-800-771-3077); \$109.95 S/D including hot breakfast. There is a major hockey tournament in town the same weekend so reservations need to be made **by Jan 31<sup>st</sup>**. Back-up hotel is the Comfort Inn 1-604-859-6211 (quote Mt Baker Toppers).

### Random & Visiting Quartets

The most recent quartets to entertain us at break were:

***The Men & Boys Who Stare at Notes:*** (George

Wakeham, Dave Whittier, Taro Whittier, Shoji Whittier) with “*Down Our Way*”; ***Young at Heart:*** (Arthur Loyie, Young Li, Ed Arnold, Jeremy Yang) with “*Bring Him Home*”; ***Easy Does It:*** (Ezra Parker, Travis Gamble, Charlie Metzger, Byron Walton) with “*Beautiful Dreamer*”; ***Desperate Measures:*** (Ezra Parker, George Gregory, Andy Holisky, Bert Paquet) with “*Overture*”; ***The Pick-Ups:*** (Wayne Tamkin, Peter Lissett, Dave Whittier, Bill Lake) with “*Never-the-Less*”.

**Comment #58** by Bill Gibbons

“Have reservations about joining a quartet in which the lead follows the other parts.”

**Deadline for the next issue is February 21, 2012**

## CALENDAR

### 2012

Feb 4	GoF Planning Meeting, New West
Feb 14	<b><u>Valentine's Day</u></b>
Feb 25	GoF Awards & Installation, Legion
Mar 30/31	<b><u>Division I Convention</u></b> Abbotsford
April 6	Easter
April 22	<b><u>50/50 Show</u></b> New West
April 27-28	Division II/Prelims, Auburn, WA
June 12	GoF Annual General Meeting
June 23	<b><u>GoF Cabaret</u></b> New West
July 1-8	International, Portland, OR
July 20-22	HCNW, Tacoma, WA
Sept 7-9	<b><u>Retreat</u></b>
Sept 28-30	<b><u>District Convention</u></b> Spokane, WA
Oct 8	Thanksgiving
Oct 16	GoF Election of Officers
Oct 30-Nov 3	SAI International, Denver CO

### 2013

Jan 8-13	Midwinter International, Orlando
March 29	Easter
Jun 30-Jul 7	International, Toronto, ON
Oct 14	Thanksgiving
Oct 18-20	<b><u>District Convention</u></b> Boise, ID

### **Puns for Educated Minds:**

**#26:** Two fish swim into a concrete wall. One turns to the other and says: “Dam!”

### **George Carlin-isms**

Daylight savings time – why are they saving it and where are they keeping it?