



FORTUNETELLER



Newsletter of the Greater Vancouver Gentlemen of Fortune
An affiliate chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, Evergreen District
Editor Harry Gray: e-mail bunionbari@syccorp.com
Info: (604) 526-2212 or online <http://www.gof.bc.ca>

"WORKING TOGETHER IN FELLOWSHIP, WE ENRICH SOCIETY WITH WORLD-CLASS BARBERSHOP ENTERTAINMENT"

April - May 2008

Barry Smorenburg Award

The Barry Smorenburg Award is given to a member of a Division I Chapter who has exemplified the ideals of promoting harmony within the Division. The award recipient must be a member of a Division I Chapter and have contributed significantly to the furtherance of barbershop fellowship in the Division. Consideration is given to those individuals who have served multiple chapters, coordinated conventions, shows, Big Wheel and Harmony Hollow events. They may be a director, a chapter officer or a chapter member who has had a distinguished barbershop career within Division I.



The Barry Smorenburg Award recipient for 2007 is **Jim Bates**. There is no one who works as hard for Barbershopping, bolstered by his dear Sue at every turn. Whether it's getting a quartet ready for Valentine's or competition, taking a dramatic role in a performance,

organizing a Harmony Hollow weekend year after year for our Pacific Northwest singers and families, running afterglows with his eyes closed - at a Contest Hotel or after the Chapter show; and almost single-handedly keeping the Moustache Wax industry in the black! There is much more that can be said, but we know all that.

Past Recipients

1991	Barry Smorenburg	1992	Chester Colpitts
1993	Tucker Goodwin	1994	Model -T Four
1995	Mike Gibbs	1996	Charles Metzger
1997	Ross Relyea	1998	Marty Lovick
1999	Harry Squires	2000	Gerry Staton
2001	Ron Edwards	2002	Gerry Borden
2003	Richard Smorenburg	2004	Lorne Downton
2005	Eric Janzen	2006	John Boyd

Division Convention



West Coast Fusion

On April 4/5 the Langley Chapter hosted the 2008 Division I Convention and Contests at the Abbey Arts Centre in Abbotsford. Everybody enjoyed themselves although attendance was down. Because of a number of reasons, including illness and quartets breaking up, there were only 8 quartets and two with GoF members. **West Coast Fusion (Andry Layarda, Sean Huston, Jeremy Wong, Pat Downton)** took first place and **Straight Up (Clarence Stad, Jim Lohnes, George Metzger, Ian McGillivray)** were not far behind. Chorus Champs are **Bellingham Mount Baker Toppers (GoF sang for score and evaluation only) with Nanaimo the most improved chorus.** There were 240 on stage including GoF, a VLQ and the Mic Testers (see below).



Straight Up

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There were a number of firsts for Division 1:

- The chorus mic testers were first time convention participants **San Juan Island Chordsmen Plus**, a barbershop mixed chorus well known in the Islands. They came by invitation and the judges agreed to coach them and evaluate their performance. By all accounts they had a terrific weekend, and they joined the **Langley First Capital Barbershop Chorus** singing the National Anthems to start the Saturday Show of Champions.
- Singing with a remarkable sound for only 10 men, the **Abbotsford Voices of Harmony** became the first VLQ Division 1 Champions. **Very Large Quartet** is a new category open to non-competing choruses who have 6-11 men on stage with no Director. [A competing chorus must have at least 12 including Director. Ed]
- "**Forward Quartetting**" was introduced where pick up quartets were encouraged to sing a polecat, get a special pin and then pass the quartetting and pins on to other participants. Much singing in the halls.



Contest photos by Jerald Walliser Photography

The Show high liners were the **GoF** and **Realtime** (not a first) but their lead **Doug Broersma** was getting over a fever and went mute after 3 songs (it was amazing that he had survived after directing the Toppers that morning and evening). **Tom Metzger** asked if there was a lead in the audience who knew any of Realtime's songs and, after some hesitation, **Pat Downton** (baritone of the new Division 1 Champs **West Coast Fusion**) stepped forward and sang lead with Realtime in their contest version of "*Heart of My Heart*". The crowd went wild.

At the Afterglow Tom Metzger explained that **Realtime** had declined their honorarium for the show but that Convention Chairman **Wayne Sephton** insisted they take it, so they donated the \$1,000 to the Division I Youth in Harmony Fund. **Sean Huston** (lead of **West Coast Fusion**) joined Realtime to sing "*Come Fly With Me*" and did a great job.

EVERYDAY LAWS

Law of Logical Argument:

Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about.

2008 Chapter Officers

President

Peter Lissett 604-929-3235

plissett@shaw.ca

VP Music & Performance

Rick Morrison 604-948-0766

rickmoe56@gmail.com

VP Chapter Development

Arthur Loyie 604-594-3706

arthur_loyie@shaw.ca

VP Communications & Promotion

John Loucks 604-589-1238

johnloucks@shaw.ca

Secretary/Treasurer

Don Rush 604-434-6418

drush@telus.net

Past President

Ian McGillivray 604-597-4818

ian.mcgillivray@ge.com

Board Members-at-Large

Don Giles 604-929-7864

donald.giles@nrc.gc.ca

David Jones 604-984-4047

davej34@telus.net

Musical Director

Charlie Metzger 604-581-1423

cometzger@shaw.ca

Assistant Director

Andry Layarda 604-420-6969

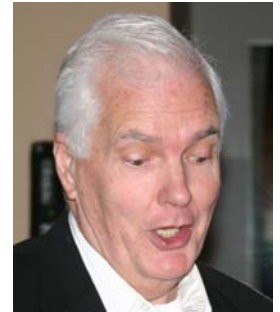
alayarda@gmail.com

Barbershoppers of the Month

(February) By Peter Lissett



Ray Fallan



Bob Moller

One of the nice things about being your President is that I get the chance to recognize people who have done some exceptional work for the chorus.

Ray Fallan, who could almost be given this award every month, filled his house, backyard and garage with assorted choice items that chorus members wished to donate to the cause and ran, not one, but two garage sales over two weekends. It really was a huge effort on his part...not to mention the time involved in sorting and arranging the 'stuff' for sale. I'd also like to thank all his assistants who helped direct traffic, load cars and so on, on the days in question.

Bob Moller, who is not enjoying the best of health these days, nonetheless stepped into the breach, and ran the Valentine's Day quartet singouts with great efficiency. This is the first time he's done the job, having taken over from the ten year veteran, **Lawrence Spencer**, and he did very well indeed. Recognition also goes to his wife **Keena**, Bob's right arm. There were eight quartets to coordinate and over a hundred singouts.



April 2008
Down
Memory Lane

By Ross Hood

A special note

70 years ago this month (1938)

It was 70 years ago this month that our Society was formed by **O.C. Cash** and **Rupert Hall**. The opening statement of the letter that was sent out to men who it was thought would be interested in a society to preserve and propagate barber shop quartet sing went like this: "In this age of Dictators and government control of everything, about the only privilege guaranteed by the Bill of Rights, not in some way supervised or directed, is the art of Barber Shop Quartet Singing." Letters were sent, along with copies of the following music: *Dear Old Girl, Down Mobile, In The Evening by the Moonlight, I've Been Working on the Levee, Let Me Call You Sweet Heart, In the Good Old Summertime, Mandy Lee, Aura Lee, Sweet Adeline, I Had a Dream, Honey that I Love So Well, and I Want A Girl*. The invitation went out to 14 men and 26 showed up. The following week 70 came and the rest is history.

40 years (1968)

Burnaby Mayor, **Allan Emmott**, proclaimed April 8th to 14th as "**HARMONY WEEK**". I, being the Secretary and Bulletin Editor at the time, was given the opportunity to become the first delegate to the District House of Delegates in Idaho Falls, Montana. We have since that



Sound Policy

time generally sent someone to represent us. An idea in a St Petersburg chapter bulletin suggested a membership program where you were to bring a certain membership of a vocation each month. For instance January was Layers, Feb. was Bankers and so it went down through the months with something different.

30 years ago (1978)

We put on an "Auditions for Admission" at the Lougheed Mall where we not only auditioned many new members but also sang for an appreciative audience. The **Sound Policy (Marty Lovick, Ken Wigbers, Brian Waplington, George Metzger)** and the **Jim Dandies (Bob O'Shaughnessy, Jim Leger, Lawrence Spencer, Ron Harvey)** also showed their stuff. Burnaby Mayor **Tom Constable** was presented with a document naming him "Honorary President" of the chapter.

20 years ago (1988)

We hosted an open house guest night to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Society's forming, where everyone was requested to wear their 1938 duds. The write up in the bulletin, edited



Jim Dandies

by **Wayne Tamkin**, talked about a great time and afterglow at Moldovanos. After many letters and requests to Revenue Canada, we finally received a number as a non-profit Charitable organization.

What the Directors Discussed

By Peter Lissett



Highlights from your Directors' last meeting held **March 17th**.

Honorary Treasurer **Don Rush** had circulated the financial documents prior to the meeting. Hence the chapter's finances were examined closely. Don reckoned that there were no out of the ordinary expenses since the previous meeting and that dues were coming in on time. The Valentines Day fund-raiser netted around \$2,600 and Ray's Garage sale brought in \$1,629.

Membership statistics remain about the same, though accessing the society data base in Nashville frustrates Mr. Rush no end. Someday...

Ian McGillivray is still looking for ways to improve our website without incurring outrageous expense along the way. **Rick Morrison** gave him a lead, pardon me, on an individual who might be able to make a valuable contribution at little to no cost. VP Music and Performance **Rick Morrison** announced that he had assembled his Music Leadership Team, and was commended on assembling such a distinguished group.

Rick's Notes

By Rick Morrison - Music & Performance VP



1979 Youthful Conspiracy- Rick Morrison 2nd from the left

Music Leadership Team: Charlie Metzger, Andry Layarda, Alex Leung, Jeremy Wong, Ian McGillivray, Ray Fallan, George Wakeham, Ed Arnold and Allan Pinvidic. A few items that your Music Leadership Team (MLT) is working on:

Music Warm Up Team: They are: Charlie Metzger, Andry Layarda, Alex Leung, Jim Bates, George Gregory, George Metzger and Rick Morrison. They volunteered to provide this training for us on a weekly basis. Please give them your attention and support. If anyone else wants to join the team please contact me.

Division Contest: We didn't compete but our point total was the highest of all competing choruses. Our performance was good both in contest and later on the evening Show of Champions. Thanks to all who attended. Judges gave good advice on how to improve.

Spring Show: Gord Ross is chairing the show and reports the progress is good. The push for selling tickets is on but everyone needs to sell them to make it a success. The chorus has learned the show songs and has just over a month to polish the performance. There will be two extra practices - **April 27th** and **May 25th** at 1.00 pm in the Como Lake Church.

Bootstrap: Last year we had a three month training session for chorus members. This will be held again during the summer months. More info to come.

Summer BBQ or Golf Tournament: Idea is to have a chorus summer BBQ. I'm looking for someone to organize the one day event? Any takers out there?

Squamish Retreat: The annual event will be held on September 5/6/7 at the North Vancouver Outdoor School just north of Squamish. This is a **must attend** for all members so mark your calendars. The chorus contributes about \$30.00 per person towards the cost.

District Contest in October is in Boise, Idaho. GoF will not be there as we are going to the Pan Pacific Convention. Some of our members will be attending to compete in the quartet contest.

Pan Pacific Convention: We have approximately 53 members attending the convention. If you have made your hotel & plane reservations it's time to lock them in.

Christmas Show 2008: Carl Gung and George Gregory have agreed to Co-chair the event and planning is underway. We need a **new ticket man** to step up and fill Don Giles' boots as he is stepping down. Our show is December 6th so clear your calendars. Carl & George are looking for talent and suggestions for the show.

Uniforms: I have asked Ray Fallan to strike a committee to look at new chorus uniforms. We expect a report to the MLT by the end of May. If you have any suggestions, please see Ray.

Harmony College Northwest: July 18-20 in Tacoma. Please go to the website (www.evg.org) and check out the classes that you can participate in. This is a fun weekend for barbershoppers and I recommend it to all.

Harmony Explosion: July 17-19 Barbershop for youth. Please check the website for this exciting weekend event for the young barbershoppers. Event is in Tacoma.

Harmony University: July 27 – Aug. 3. A fun packed week of learning, singing and performing barbershop with your friends from around North America. I recommend everyone attend this event at least once in their barbershop career. Come see me for more information. Charlie and Marty will be teaching.

Show Bookings: If you have a lead or know of where the chorus may perform, please bring the information to Ed Arnold. Ed will do the follow up and make the presentation to the MLT for consideration.

Our future shows include;

- **May 8th** at 8:00 pm – 20 minute set at the Kay Meek Centre in West Vancouver for VoxFest 8. We are performing with a multitude of other a cappella groups.
- **May 10** at 1:00 pm - 20 minute set at the Canadian Blood Services, Blood Donor Clinic on Saturday. The Clinic is located at Unit #10, 6830 King George Highway (corner of KG Hwy and 68 St.) in Surrey.
- **May 31**, 50-50 Show at Como Lake Church.
- **June 14**, Spring Show, Cabaret and Silent Auction at the Hellenic Centre on Arbutus in Vancouver.
- **Oct 29 to Nov 1:** Pan Pacific Convention in Hawaii
- **December 6:** Gentlemen of Fortune Christmas Show at Michael J Fox Theatre in Burnaby.

Comment #29 by Bill Gibbons

“Choruses who don't work at what they've learned from post-contest Evaluation Sessions will repeat those mistakes. Those who do work at it will find other ways to err.”

Spring Cabaret Showtime

A Musical Tribute to the Silver Screen

Gord Ross, Show Chairman



Our cabaret is now less than 2 months away and all committees have been working hard to ensure a great evening.

We will be transforming the Hellenic Centre into a venue representing a Hollywood grand opening. Let your guests know that they should be dressing as if attending such an event (formal/semi-formal). We will have a vintage car out front and a red carpet running to the entrance. Guests can have their pictures taken stepping out of the car. Hosts will welcome guests and escort them to their tables.

From **6:00 to 7:00**, guests will visit the bar, socialize and start the auction bidding. Our DJ for the evening, **Doug Affleck**, will be providing background music. From **6:30 to 7:00**, **Jeremy Wong** will be doing an informal solo performance for passers-by. At **7:00**, guests will be called to dinner and a wonderful 4 course dinner will be served (see menu below). GOF members who have bought tickets will join their guests for dinner. Other members who have not bought tickets will have to entertain and feed themselves during this time.

Towards the end of the meal, **old time movie clips** will be projected onto a large screen for audience entertainment. This will be the cue for the GOF to gather in the dressing rooms, change into costume and warm up for the show. During this time, our guests will have the opportunity to visit the bar and auction again.

At **8:30** our show will begin and run approximately 1 hour. At the end of the show, the guests will again have the opportunity to visit the bar and auction. Dancing will begin at approximately **10:30**. We are still determining the timing for the closing of the auction and announcement of the results.

Throughout the evening, there will be movie quizzes, door prizes, 50/50 draw, and other entertainment provided.

The bar will close at **1:00am** and we must exit the hall by 2:00am. The GOF are asked to help remove all our equipment and decorations from the hall. We do not have to do general cleanup as this is included in the hall rental.

The Show Team has done everything they can to put together a great evening. What is still required can only be done by you, the members. Ticket sales are still far short of a sell-out so we need each and every member to contact their friends, relatives, work associates, etc to **promote the show**. When you look at what is being provided, it is the best deal in town! Where else can you experience such a night with all the added touches of a **Hollywood grand opening, cabaret style, a great meal, our show of popular musicals, dancing, other entertainment and silent auction for only \$50!** You should have no trouble demonstrating the value of the evening to your guests.

I would like to thank all those members who have provided or solicited donations. We have some great items for the auction and in many cases some guys/wives have come forward with multiple items. For those that do not think you have any connections to get donations, consider the email I sent to the chorus last week about my successes in only an hour with a few local businesses. If each member took just a couple of hours to visit a few local businesses, we could have well over a 100 items and could probably raise over \$20,000. It really takes very little effort.

Dinner Menu:

Cold Appetizer Plate: Feta, olives, smoked salmon, marinated artichokes, tomatoes, cucumbers

Hot Appetizer Plate: Spinach pies, meatballs, deep fried zucchini

Mixed Green Salad (Raspberry Vinaigrette)

Double Breasted Boneless Chicken Breast with White Wine Mushroom Sauce

Red Nugget Potatoes, Medley of carrots, snow peas and cauliflower

Assorted Dinner Rolls with Butter

Coffee and/or Tea

Italian Pastries Platter



Deadline for the next issue is June 10, 2008

CALENDAR

2008

April 27 **Rehearsal** Como Lake Church
May 2-3 Prelims & Div IV, Portland, OR
May 8 **Singout** Voxfest, W Vancouver
May 10 **Sing For Life** Surrey
May 25 **Rehearsal** Como Lake Church
May 31 **50/50 Show** Como Lake Church
June 14 **Spring Cabaret & Silent Auction**
June 29-July 6 International, Nashville, TN
July 19-20 Harmony College NW, Tacoma WA
July 27 Anacortes Salmon BBQ
Sept 1 Labour Day
Sept 5/6/7 **Retreat** Brackendale
Oct 13 Thanksgiving
Oct 24-25 District Convention Boise, ID
Oct 30-Nov 2 **Pan Pacific Convention** Hawaii
Dec 6 **Christmas Show** Michael J Fox

2009

Jan 16-17 QCED Show Seaside, OR
Jan 29-31 Midwinter, Pasadena, CA
Feb 14 **Valentine's Day**
April 10 Easter
June 28-July 5 International, Anaheim, CA
July 18-19 HCNW, Tacoma, WA
Sept 7 Labour Day
Sept 11-13 **Retreat** Brackendale
Oct 12 Thanksgiving
Oct 30-Nov 1 **District Convention** Whistler, BC
Dec **Christmas Show**

2010

Feb 12-28 Winter Olympics, Whistler
Mar 12-21 Winter Paralympics
April 2 Easter

Internationals

2010 Philadelphia, PA
2011 Kansas City, MO
2012 Portland, OR
2013 Toronto, ON
2014 Minneapolis, MN

VOXFEST

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Presents

'8'—Concert for Peace

*"Can we create 8 minutes of World
Peace?"*



VoxFest, the Lower Mainland's premier,
professional, A Cappella Festival
claims the Main Stage at The Kay Meek Centre—
West Vancouver, BC

Thursday, May 8th, 2008 at 8:00 pm



2008 International Blood Drive & Donor Recruitment Program

May 10, 2008
6830 King George Highway (at 68th St)
Surrey