

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

March 2008

2007 Awards

Barbershopper of the Year

The criteria for this award are really wide open and include contributions in any area of barbershop activity whether it is musical or administrative. The contribution may be within the chapter, or external to include the Evergreen District or the Barbershop Harmony Society



Jim Bates (right) with 2006 BOTY Ed Arnold. Jim works tirelessly behind the scenes for the GoF including making the learning CDs and tapes, and copying our music. He opens and closes the rehearsal hall, is the chapter phone and email contact, is a choreography assistant and front row, and he runs the afterglows.

Barbershop Fellowship Award

This award recognizes a demonstrated high degree of fellowship, love and harmony toward one's fellow chapter members. The focus here is on the first phrase of our mission statement "Working together in Fellowship..."



Andry Layarda (left). With his smiling face up front, Andry is always positively encouraging us to perform and gently chiding us when we don't meet his expectations. He continues to help the tenors and baritones where needed.

Arthur Loyie (right). He is the first and cheeriest contact for everyone who attends a rehearsal for the first time. He is always enthusiastic and positive, making guests welcome.

Barbershop Woman of the Year

The criteria for this award are wide open and all encompassing. They may include, but are not limited to, contributions in the areas of social events, catering, makeup, costuming, conventions, special events, etc.



Dorothy Fallan (left) with 2006 BWOTY Yvonne Martin. Dorothy has been a big part of GoF for many, many years helping with contests, fundraisers, shows and afterglows. She unfailingly ensures our makeup is properly applied before all contests. A gracious host for meetings and parties, Dorothy has given her home for gatherings as well as use of her garage and yard for Ray's props and garage sales.

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Award Winners: Andry, Arthur, Dorothy and Jim

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

drrush@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

Installation & Awards Banquet

By Peter Lissett

2008 Greater Vancouver Chapter Board of Directors



L/R: Peter Lissett, Rick Morrison, Don Rush, David Jones, John Loucks, Arthur Loyie, Ian McGillivray, (Don Giles absent)

Due to a momentary memory lapse, (we had to turn around after five minutes' driving to retrieve our tickets) it was after 6:30pm when we arrived at the West Vancouver Yacht Club on February 23rd. The parking lot was already pretty full with all the choice spots taken and inside, the place was buzzing. **John van Zanten** was organizing the many door prizes he had brought while **Ray Fallan**, Master of Ceremonies, resplendent in suit and tie, was making sure all was in order.

The room was nicely arranged with ten tables seating six at each. This was quite convenient since there were sixty-one tickets sold. However, not everyone showed up due to changes in work schedules, car length adjusting situations, and so on.

Dinner featured roast leg of lamb with a delicate 'jus' and mint sauce, for those who have to have it, and all the trimmings. There was plenty on hand and it was good to see those who obviously need a little extra nourishment trot up to the buffet for their extra helpings. Sadly, I was a tick off regular form, having contracted a nasty cold from, I'm sure, Arthur Loyie. Well that's my story and I'm sticking to it.



The Chorus performs for the ladies

While we were finishing dessert and drinking our coffee, **Rick Morrison**, with a little help from the club staff, got the DVD of the 2006 International Convention up and running on the big screen. We saw a song each from the 4th and 5th place choruses and then full packages of the top three. It was both interesting and enjoyable. Not one of the songs seemed to be less than five minutes in duration and some of the SP was amazing. Rick added some enlightening comments on each performance.

After a short 'comfort' break, it was time for **Harry Gray** to install the new Board; and a masterful job he did of it too! He had me going a bit when I thought he had forgotten our **VP Music and Performance, Rick Morrison**. Rick too, I think! However, it was all part of his plan and made for an amusing situation. Well done!

After the **President's** short speech, thanking everyone for their work on behalf of the chorus over the past year, it was time for **Ian McGillivray** to perform his duties as the man in charge of the Annual Awards. Congratulations to the winners and to all who were nominated for awards. Thank you for your collective contributions to the Gentlemen of Fortune over the year.

After all the official business of the evening had been completed, Andry directed us in a couple of songs for the ladies and the club staff, who had looked after us so well during the evening. No one seemed in a particular rush to go home while the odd quartet sang in a corner and conversation flowed. What an evening!

Valentine's Day Doings

Bob and Keena Moller

Well all in all I think it went very well, 8 quartets managed to do close to 100 singouts, ranging from **North Vancouver** to **Richmond** to **Abbotsford**. There were enough gigs in Abbotsford to warrant a quartet and it went quite well. **CQT** was the latest I think with their last one at 9'oclock and the Jones boys close behind at 8.00pm. **Stad's**



Pacific Spirit

Studs had a sing out in the *Gillnetter* so we are not sure what time they finished. I gave away 2 singouts to **Langley** as it was just too awkward for us to do them. Plus I had two calls from **Kamloops**; I tried to find somebody but to no avail. I also had a request for **Harrison Hot Springs** but had to pass on that one too. **Lawrence** has agreed to do the final tally so once everything has been received we will have a total. **Keena** and I didn't do too badly together, but next year she has agreed to let me do the routing and she will answer the phone. Thanks guys, it was fun and not too stressful so we look forward to next year.

GoF Quartet Members – tenor, lead, baritone, bass

CQT: Andry Layarda, Alex Leung, Charlie Metzger, Jeremy Wong

Something Smooth: Jim Bates, Rod MacLeod, Mac Matheson, Ray Fallan

Central Park: Shoji & Taro Whittier, Rich Clark, Dave Whittier, Gord Ross

Stad's Studs: Clarence Stad (Chris Ogilvie), Jim Lohnes, Ian McGillivray, George Metzger

The Jones Boys: Bob Bradley, Gary Korstrom (Laurie Dye), David Jones, Don Giles

B's & G's: Bill Lake, George Gregory, Andy Holisky, Shanti Ghose

Pacific Spirit: LeRoy Pattison, Wayne Tamkin, Don Rush, Gar Discher

Next Attraction: Gord Nerland, John Van Zanten, Al Alain, Lawrence Spencer

VDQ: (cancelled 'cos of 'flu) Bill Martin, Arthur Loyie, Ed Arnold, Peter Lissett

Random Acts of Harmony

By Dave Whittier

Central Park had a few new members for our Valentine's Day Sing Out this year. In addition to **Rich**

Clark as lead and **Gord Ross** as bass, this "quartet" had the entire **Whittier** gang: **Dave** sang baritone while **Taro** and **Shoji** sang tenor. The boys' mom **Maya** deserves an honourable mention as well. She worked the boys like proverbial dogs in the week or so prior to the big day, as well as providing some good tips to the grownups.

We started the day with an 8:00am gig in Vancouver. This sounds fairly unspectacular until you remember that the Whittiers live in Maple Ridge, so we had to execute a mind numbing 5:30 am reveille in order to make our first appointment. We made it all right, with enough time before our first performance to realize that only two songs out of our three song repertoire were actually performance ready that day! Thank goodness we had learned three.

From a newbie's perspective the experience was outstanding. We sang at houses, schools, workshops and board rooms. We even had time between gigs to track down a couple of friends and sing just for the joy of it. One of these "freebies" occurred at VANOC headquarters and I think it was a neat experience for all of us.

We went in to serenade my friend Nicole, who works in reception. We tracked her down in the cafeteria with some of her friends, which gave us a nice little ready made audience. They pretty much went gaga over Taro and Shoji, who had captured the market on the cute factor. I mean, I'm sure the rest of us contributed to the success of the sound, but I guess nothing beats a couple of kids in suits with the ladies.

When we finished, Nicole said "So, have you sung to John Furlong yet?"

John Furlong of course is CEO of VANOC. When the five of us snorted up our collective sleeves and said no, of course not, Nicole stood up,



took us to the fourth **Central Park** floor, strode into John's office and announced that there were some gentlemen here to sing to him. Luckily for us, one of the two songs we actually knew was "My Wild Irish Rose" and, since John is decidedly Irish, we were a smash hit. All in all, an excellent day, and one that the Whittiers are keen to repeat next year!

The Jones Boys

By Bob Bradley

The day started out with it looking like the JB's were



going to have to go it with only three wings. Their stand-in lead (BB), having started out at 6.00am to meet with the rest of the guys at Don

Giles' place at 8.00am for their first gig, had to wrestle with a turned over tractor trailer on the highway, and then a poor soul trying to take his life, by jumping off a light standard? He just made it in time for their first gig, though the day went uneventful with excellent timing thanks to Bob Moller. At days end (8.00pm), West and North Vancouver, and North Burnaby were left a tearful, slobbery mess after our heart throb (**Gary Korstrom**) got through with them. Our thanks go to **Laurie Dye** for getting us around in absolute comfort (big black Lincoln) and who ably stood in for Gary on a couple of gigs. Bring on next year for it was a blast.

Stad's Studs

By Ian McGillivray

Clarence Stad, Jim Lohnes, Ian McGillivray & George Metzger spent most of the day in the Maple Ridge area singing to a variety of clients many of whom were Jim's Rotary Club contacts.



The highlight (or lowlight) came with a gig in a factory for a girl named Fatima. When we arrived, and the excited staff saw our outfits, they rushed into the factory to bring Fatima out. As she emerged through the office/factory door, she took one look at us and said, "Oh no, you guys. I'm sorry but I can't have you do this. I've broken up with the guy and never want to hear from him again". Somewhat nonplussed, we offered to sing for the rest of the staff and were more warmly received.

The curious epilogue to this story is that, as we were leaving, Fatima came running out and said: "Wait a minute - was there a card with this Valentine? I just want to make sure it's the guy I think it is." Fortunately, but sadly, it was the guy she expected, so he'll never know what might have happened had he used an alias.

Next Attraction

By Al Alain

John Van Zanten, Gord "Curly" Nerland, Lawrence Spencer & Al Alain. The day started with a 7:30am

performance for a very appreciative lady. The warmth and appreciation that was shared energized everyone especially considering the early hour. The person who ordered the presentation admitted that he had done so from a card he picked up while at a pub! This was the start of



a total of 10 paid performances with the most rousing response at the RCMP detachment in Abbotsford where every open corner of the room was filled with delighted onlookers.

The most successful was when the quartet sang at *Lou's Diner and Pub* for one of the charming waitresses. Although the quartet sang for her before the place was packed, as they were leaving, after eating lunch, a rousing rendition of "Mary Lou" was sung for all the staff and patrons. This resulted in the Administrator of the Mission Hospital ordering a presentation for his staff in the Emergency, Ambulatory and Medical Wards where the staff and patients were delighted with the presentations.

The most appreciated performance was at the MCC personnel office where even the onlookers were moved to tears and the recipient indicated that her husband was certainly going to benefit from this very wonderful gesture (the rest is left to one's imagination.) The day was concluded by singing for John Loucks' wonderful front desk staff at his ReMax office. There was one "freebie" that was done for John's daughter at the high school in Abbotsford in front of some 50 grade 12 students in the gym which resulted in a very emotional presentation by John and a rousing response from the students.

**It's A Great Day
For The Irish**

Happy St. Patrick's Day on March 17th

B's & G's

By Andy Holisky

I sent pictures to a customer, which one of her colleagues had taken with my camera. Her response (below) was typical of the sentiments expressed to us directly as we sang our way through Valentine's Day. We did ten singouts, and each one was a confirmation of not only the pleasure we bring to our recipients, but also of the joy we feel in delivering those messages.

"Thank you sooo much for the pictures. I had a wonderful Valentines Day thanks to you guys... everyone at the office enjoyed the beautiful love songs. Thanks again Rene."



Something Smooth

By Jim Bates

Rod MacLeod, Mac Matheson, Ray Fallan, Jim Bates. We started our day by meeting at Ray's house at 8.00am. Two of our group were not feeling at their peak but after some vocal warm ups and running through the songs a few times (along with the special coach and infamous fifth wheel Holly), off we went for a grand day of making hearts feel better. Our first was at 9.00am to a very surprised lady in a Life Insurance office. We also sang for a young lady working in VGH Emergency, as well as a large group of ladies at a Real Estate office. This was sent to them by their boss.

But I think the highlight for me was when we sang to a recently newly wed lady at the BC Law Office. When we arrived, we found out that she was in a meeting so we went downstairs for a coffee and they would call us up when she was free. Well we had just sat down when they came to get us and we followed her up to the office one elevator later. We sat down in the reception area and were surrounded by her fellow workers. After singing the two songs and presenting her with the Rose, I noticed that she was crying (before you say it, it was not from bad notes). It turns out that all she had asked of her husband was for some flowers this day. I do believe that we made it her highlight of the year. Looking forward to next year and more of the same.

EVERYDAY LAWS

Law of the Telephone:

If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal.



March 2008 Down Memory Lane

By Ross Hood

40 years ago this month (1968)

There was a bit of a problem with the Society regarding renewal of our membership in December (all memberships in those days were due in December.) and our chapter was put on an "associative status" because we appeared to be less than 25 men. This took several



months to straighten out. We were then working on "68 members in 68" (Maybe we could now work on "10 new members by 2010"). The division agreed to bid for the district convention in 1970. **Al Shea**, the lead of **The Buffalo Bills** (Int'l champs 1950, and

famous for "*The Music Man*") passed away. **The Model T Four** were off on a whirl wind trip all over western Canada and Montana.

30 years ago (1978)

The **Burnaby Sweet Adelines** invited our chorus to sing on their show, dressed in monk's garb. (I questioned the writer of the show tonight. She couldn't remember 1978, but she remembered the appearance of the chorus). We sang (wait for it) "**Brother Can You Spare a Dime**". She tells me now that she wrote-in a quartet called the **Tsawwassen Ferries**, but couldn't convince them to come in dressed in drag.

20 years ago (1988)

We had **Paul Mayo** from International come and show us his 'open mouth' singing routine. With 50 chapter members in attendance the night was a big success. **Blue Chip** (clockwise from the top: **Doug Blue, Ross Hood, Brad Aitchison, and Byron Walton**) sang 23 singing valentines on March 14 - the first of our chapter's valentine's projects.



Garage sale

By Ray Fallan

The GoF garage sale was held this year on Saturday February 2nd as well as on the weekend of the 16th and 17th. There were **so many donations** that I had to open the sale early for one day just to sell off as much as possible - my car port was full, the basement was full, as well as under the sundeck; that one day sale made almost **\$550.00**. Then the big stuff started to come in. On February 16th and 17th my carport was full, the back yard was full, and the basement was full. I could not have taken any more **stuff** - I had no more room. The guys really came through with donations this year. As a matter of fact it was a bit too much, but we made room. In total the sale made **over \$1,628.00** for the Chorus and is the biggest sale I have had yet. I am still working on getting rid of things that didn't sell and I can't wait to get my basement back to normal. So, thanks to all that helped set things up and sell, and thanks to all that donated to the sale.....LAST TIME!!

Correction

John Riley was listed in the last issue as "Grandpa George M's friend". His Grandpa is actually **George Wakeham**. My apologies, Ed.



Comment #7 by Bill Gibbons
"Chorus sadist: the guy who feels obligated to blow the pitchpipe at the end of the song."

Deadline for the next issue is April 22, 2008

CALENDAR

2008

Mar 8 **Singout** Tsawwassen Coast Hotel
Mar 21 Easter
April 4-5 **Div I Convention** Abbotsford, BC
April 10-13 SAI Region 26 Convention, Surrey
April 19 Youth Harmony Xperience, Langley
May 2-3 Prelims & Div IV, Portland, OR
May 10 **Sing For Life** Surrey
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

2009

Jan 25-Feb 1 Midwinter, Pasadena, CA
Feb 14 **Valentine's Day**
April 10 Easter
June 28-July 5 International, Anaheim, CA
Sept 7 Labour Day
Sept 11-13 **Retreat** Brackendale
Oct 12 Thanksgiving
Oct 30-Nov 1 **District Convention** Whistler, BC



Wendy & Carl -photographers



Ray & Ian - Emcees



Harry - de Judge



President Peter & "The Spread"



John & Lynn-flower prize donors

Seen at the Banquet



Gord-Cabaret Show Chairman