

CHIMO CHIRPS



A publication of the Saskatoon Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

#2 Feb 27, 2007

Meetings - Monday night at Saskatchewan Abilities Council, 2310 Louise Ave., 7:30 p.m.

This is the first bulletin by your new editor, so I'd be pleased to have your constructive criticism and your time sensitive articles as well as articles of general interest. On behalf of the members many thanks to Erwin Dueck who looked after this job for several years. He did a fine job along with other numerous duties. It's a wonder he had time to sing

NOTES & REMINDERS

Your board is recommending a method to improve our performances. A master learning tape and CD has been processed in all four dominant voices and reproduced for each member. The selections would include current and future show songs and singout selections. A special thanks to Dave Lessor and Gavril Tarasoff for preparing these selections – **now let's use 'em !**

Our coffee break should be limited to 15 minutes including business time. I think this should be especially adhered to for the following weeks so that we can concentrate on practice.

It's been also suggested that we should acquire two more keyboards for sectional practice. The baritones have found this method useful in the past. If you have access to a keyboard for this purpose please get in touch with Levi Borisenko.

In successive years we might consider holding our shows on a Friday night, with possibly a matinee show on the Saturday afternoon. The alliance church will be approached with this possible change for next year.

March 5th is the deadline for **ad sales** for the show program. A big thank you to those who have sold these ads in the past. It's a valuable fund raiser and promotional concept.

March 30 & 31st – Harmony Festival 2007.
A workshop for young folks at Sask. Abilities Council. Thanks to Mark Coulter for getting this event going.

April 28, 2007 Saturday - **Annual Show** .
The theme will be 'Celebrate the Sound' with 12th Street Rag as headliners. Sell those tickets – NOW!

May 4 & 5, 2007 is the annual LOL convention and prelim competitions for Land o' Lakes District , **“Bonding at the Peg”** Note that the board has approved a \$100 subsidy for each participating member. Thanks to Tom Evans for organizing our chapter for this event.

Please wear your name tag high on your shirt so that I don't have to be embarrassed in straining to see who you are - thanks !

Ticket Sales Status ?

By Erwin Dueck

How are your ticket sales coming along? Hope that your first set of 10 tickets are either sold or "spoken for". And, if those 10 are all gone please take another 10 and do your best to sell them too.

As you know, the vast majority of our tickets are sold through direct contact by members. As you also know, we've had quite a drop in membership since the last show in 2006. Since these former members were also ticket sellers, these "sales" are not really available to us. That means the current, (smaller), membership will need to be even more vigorous in their sales efforts. We can do it, but it will take real effort by everyone to achieve the sales target we've set for ourselves.

Gord McDonald reports that not many members have turned in any ticket revenue yet. That's not a good sign! By now we should be almost 1/3 of the way into our target. That hasn't happened yet - so let's get enthusiastic about pushing ticket sales. It is going to be a wonderful show, and we'll be performing in a great venue. All of the people I've talked to are quite enthusiastic about seeing and hearing us again at Circle Drive. So we know the public demand is high. Be sure you give your friends and relatives an opportunity to see us - - but you need to sell them a ticket first. Let's do it!

Program Ads Donations

March 5th is the deadline to return your business ads and donations for the printed show program. The program layout needs to be finalized and then goes to the printers the following week. Financial success, (*the profit*), will be calculated later but hopefully it will show real benefit from this fundraising project.

Thanks to all of you for doing your part to help in reaching our financial target. If you have any businesses that still might contribute to our campaign please let Erwin know this week and he will find a way to accommodate these last minute entries.

Show: Dress Code and On-stage Scenario

Here is some information you'll want to remember regarding the on-stage uniform and dress code for the show. It's quite simple this year because we'll be making full use of our existing Chorus uniforms.

That is, the basic **first-half dress code** will be the purple reversible vests, our regular long sleeve white shirt, black bow tie, black tuxedo pants, and of course black shoes and socks. If quartets wish to use their own unique costume, that should be OK. For the **second-half dress code** we're back to our good old tuxedo and regular white shirt with the new coloured straight ties.

Part 1- Variety scenario is as follows: The stage will be set up with 5 risers, there will be a few tall stools at both ends to be used by anyone who needs them. Two small round tables & chairs will be placed near the risers, and will be used during Part 2 "Cabaret Segment" of the show.

The chorus will wear purple vests in Part 1, and will alternate their songs with the 5 quartets, as shown on the program you have all seen. If the YMIH can create a show-quality quartet, they will also perform during this Variety Segment.

In Part 2- Cabaret Segment, while the MC is introducing a musical change-of-pace, the chorus members will quickly remove their vests (*passing them to the back row*) and be ready to sing in white shirts, black bow tie and tux pants helping to create a more exotic atmosphere for the cabaret.

While the chorus is singing "Cabaret", the MC will escort TOP DRAWER quartet to their tables near the ending of the song - just as we reach meas. #54.....

..... *"Come blow your horn, start celebrating,
Right this way your table's waiting..."*

After the next chorus song, TOP DRAWER performs their set, then join the chorus in a duet of "Lida Rose"

Part 3 - Headliners: During intermission the chorus switches to their formal tuxedo outfits. The Headline quartet opens the second-half with all chorus members sitting in the front rows of the auditorium, just like we did last year on the show closer. The audience will be invited to join in singing our theme song.

Part 4 - Gospel Segment ends the show with "This Little Light Medley" as the show closer. The audience will be invited to join in singing our theme song.

Singing Valentines Initial Report

On February 14th, three quartets from our chapter brought smiles to faces all over the city.

Collectively, Close Chorders, Forty Second Street and South of Sixty delivered nearly 70 Singing Valentines, and in the lead-up to Valentine's Day, made appearances on CTV, Global TV, CJWW, Hot 93, Magic 98.3, C95 and Rock 102.

Additional media coverage was provided by Shaw TV, CBC Radio. Special thanks to South of Sixty for their very first early-morning live radio appearances – they even had their photo on C95's website .

More details will be coming, but the preliminary total looks like we raised over \$4000 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation – great job guys !!

Contest preparation – a full committment

1. Do you know your own voice? It's strengths and weaknesses? Do you have a plan for improvement?
2. How well do you know your music?
3. How well do you respond to the music director?
4. Are you attempting to be all that you can be physically?
5. Do you have a personal goal – a sound in our chorus that will win points and favorable reviews?

There are so many things that make for a great sound, most of which Steve Fish has already made you aware of in his enthusiastic manner. Hopefully these comments coming from a different source may get your attention. I hear a few harsh R's as an example, so practice in front of a mirror saying 'rivah' or 'remembah'. Play closer attention to how you blend. It's amazing how we can get a chord to ring if we listen to how our voice blends with the other parts when we change the shape of our mouths or tongue position or even modifying our intensity without losing brightness. This all boils down to listening – so how do you listen and sing at the same time? By knowing your words and music, so that you can become an integral part of the whole sound. Think sharp – “and you'll be sharp” ! Lastly I'd like to say (once you know your stuff) that you need to get out in front and listen but more importantly see who is expressing himself with slight actions and facial expression. You'll notice that you enjoy watching a fellow who actually appears that he's enjoying himself and that he is feeling the intent of the song. Then go back and do it ! Many of you look like your shoes are nailed down sorry. Now ... after all that, I've got to say that we do have a fine sound. There's nothing like the thrilling sensation of the sound of **men's** voices in harmony. So good luck at Winnipeg but above all have fun and get to know some of the people there who you don't see often and your fellow Chimos as Bob Stevenson has stressed.



Saskatoon Chimo Chordsmen 2007 Chapter Executive & Board

President	Robert Stevenson
Secretary	Allan Merkowsky
Treasurer	Frank Zunti
V.P. Music & Performance	Levi Borisenko
V.P. Dev. & Membership	Chuck Will
V.P. Program	Les Ennis
Past President	Larry Hanna
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Musical Director	Steve Fish
Ass't Musical Director	Levi Borisenko
.....	
Services Chairman	Jack Tait
Youth-in-Harmony Co-od	Mark Coulter
Sunshine Man	Ken Britton
Historian	Carl Bungay
Publicity	Larry Hanna
Wardrobe	Ralph Passmore
Music Librarian	Gord McDonald
Coffee Mate	Wayne Davis
Bulletin Editor	Ray Penny
.....	
2007 Show Chairman	Levi Borisenko
“ “ “	& Erwin Dueck

A tribute to Jerry Fraser

Jerry has retired from our chapter after a long history with barbershop harmony. He is now living comfortably at St. Ann's Village on Louise St.

He was a charter member back in '73, chapter president in '86, bass section leader, show chairman in '78 and '96. Jerry was Bulletin Editor for a lot of years with his old Olivetti. He naturally sang in several quartets and an octet. He was also a long serving choir member at St. Philip's Catholic Church. We all have great memories of a guy that was always enthusiastic about singing no matter where he was, and what a great bass and a swell guy.

We wish Jerry well and he would like to have you **drop in** to reminisce about those good old days. Thank you Jerry !

Unfortunately there are several more members that have retired since last fall, and they are recognized too for their involvement with the chorus, as follows: John Quillinan, Martin Arndt, Neil McCulloch, Gerald Sansom, Harold Walker, Ike Dyck, Jerry Johnson, Oli Laxdal, Doug Smith, Bert Ward, Al Freizen, & Carman Whyte. We remember them as well. Thank you fellas.

CHIMO CHORDSMEN CHAPTER HISTORY

(COMPILED BY HANS KORVEN & JERRY FRASER UP TO 2000)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Chapter President</u>	<u>Music Director</u>	<u>Chapter Members</u>	<u>Show Chairman and/or Co-Chairman</u>	<u>Show Sites</u>
1972	Jack McDowell	Frank Strange		- -	- -
1973	Jack McDowell	Frank Strange	47	Gord Thurston & Bruno Konecsni	W.D.M.
1974	Bob Klein	Frank Strange		Ray Penny	W.D.M.
1975	Ken Stephenson	Frank Strange		Ken Fisher	W.D.M.
1976	Les Ferguson	Frank Strange		Bob Klein	Cent.Aud.
1977	Gord McDonald	Les Ennis		- no Show -	- -
1978	Joe Thain	Les Ennis		Jerry Fraser	Cent.Aud.
1979	Gerry Schroeder	Les Ennis		- no Show -	- -
1980	Gordon Kidd	Les Ennis		Ken Stephenson	Cent.Aud.
1981	Gordon Kidd	Les Ennis		Ken Stephenson	Cent.Aud.
1982	Steve Walker	Les Ennis	57	- in competition -	- -
1983	Ken Stephenson	Gareth Evans		Gerry Schroeder	Cent.Aud.
1984	Bill Lockert	Gareth Evans		Greg Wirth	Cent.Aud.
1985	Bill Lockert	Gareth Evans		Roy Procter	Cent.Aud.
1986	Jerry Fraser	Gareth Evans	65; 62	Les Ennis	Holiday Inn
1987	Neil McCulloch	Ron Knoll	50	Gerry Schroeder	W.D.M.
1988	Neil McCulloch	Ron Knoll	47	- no Show -	- -
1988	Harvey Burrows	Ron Knoll	47	Les Ennis & Greg Wirth	Cent.Aud.
1989	Harvey Burrows	Ron Knoll	44; 40	Harvey Burrows	Sk.Abilities
1990	Tom Evans	Roy Procter	37; 34	Hans Korven	Sk.Abilities
1991	Tom Evans	Roy Procter	32; 29	- no Show -	- -
1992	Percy Crosthwaite	Roy Procter	25; 29	- no Show -	- -
1993	Hans Korven	Dick Wells	33; 38	- no Show -	- -
1994	Hans Korven	Dick Wells	41; 44	Harvey Burrows/Ken Stephenson	Sk.Abil.
1995	Jack Tait	Dick Wells	47	Ken Stephenson / Frank Tappin	Sk.Abil.
1996	Frank Ward	Dick Wells	51; 56	Jerry Fraser / Frank Tappin	E.D.Feehan
1997	Frank Ward	Dick Wells	58; 61	Ken Stephenson	St.Joseph
1998	Erwin Dueck	Dick Wells	61	Ken Stephenson / Erwin Dueck	St.Joseph
1999	Erwin Dueck	Dick Wells	60	Ken Stephenson / Erwin Dueck	St.Joseph
2000	John Quillinan	Dick Wells	63; 67	Erwin Dueck	St.Joseph
2001	Martin Arndt	Dick Wells	69	Tom Evans	Cent. Aud.
2002	Ray Penny	S.Fish & C.Hansen	68	Tom Evans	Cent. Aud.
2003	Larry Hanna	Fish & Hansen		Ewan Pollock	Cent. Aud.
2004	Larry Hanna	Fish & Hansen		Ewan Pollock	Cent. Aud.
2005	Bob Stevenson	Fish & Hansen		Doug Smith	Cent. Aud.
2006	Bob Stevenson	Fish & Hansen		Erwin Dueck & Levi Borisenko	Circle Drive Ch.
2007	Bob Stevenson	Steve Fish		Erwin Dueck & Levi Borisenko	Circle Drive Ch.

Author's Note: In 2000, I reviewed the lists of Presidents, Music Directors, Show Chairs and Venue sites that Jerry Fraser included in some of his 1995 *Chimo Chirps*. This table updates those lists and adds the membership numbers. I thank Jerry for his help in compiling this information. If anyone can add numbers to fill the gaps, please let me know. . . . *Hans Korven*. (Up-dated in 2007 by Erwin Dueck)