



DIRECTOR WANTED

Award winning York Highlands Chorus is a group of sixty women who sing a cappella and are based in Newmarket Ont. We are seeking a **HIGH ENERGY, EXPERIENCED** and **ENTHUSIASTIC** director to take us to the next level.

Send resume to Heather Deslauriers
McCuaig at

Tel:905-884-7915 Fax:905-953-9469


www.yorkhighlandschorus.com

A huge **THANK-YOU** to **Dave (Wally) Wallace** and the **VM Show Committee!**

By **Ted Devonshire**, Ontario District president

On behalf of the *Ontario District Board of Directors* and all Ontario Barbershoppers who attended the "best barbershop show ever in this part of the world," I want to extend sincere thanks and congratulations for an absolutely superb job of organizing and running the *Vocal Majority Show* on August 18th.

The audience, though limited in numbers, was certainly unlimited in appreciation. There have been many, many communications from the Vocal Majority praising the organization and acknowledging that no detail was missed in the arrangements. They had a fabulous time performing for our audience in Roy Thomson Hall.

So — to **Dave (Wally) Wallace** (chairman), **Paul Greer** (transportation and housing), **Rodger McTaggart** (tickets and auditorium), **Craig MacPherson** (contact and liaison), **Paul Goodwin** (promotion and advertising), **Steve Coulter** (stage, sound and lighting) and the many others who assisted, thank-you thank-you thank-you! 

Texas Takes Toronto Twice

By **Murray Byrne**, Peterborough Chapter editor

At different times during their smash hit performance at Roy Thomson Hall last Saturday, the *Vocal Majority* and *Acoustix* thanked the audience for being so appreciative and hospitable to the extent of even having the *Blue Jays* throw a game in their honour.

Notwithstanding the irony and the fact that the Blue Jays offered up another game the next day, the Vocal Majority proved to be as promised, "Arguably the best male choral ensemble in the World."

From the opening march to the risers, which in itself was rewarded with a standing ovation, to the final march off, similarly rewarded, this multitalented and beautifully disciplined group offered a program to satisfy the hungry heart of every VM fan present.

Barbershoppers comprised the vast majority of the somewhat disappointing crowd and those who chose to attend both performances were treated to a full panoply of the VM repertoire.

That isn't to say that one was cheated if not attending both shows — not at all. Each was outstanding in itself. The major difference being the addition of the wonderful Hymn section comprising "I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked" and "The Lost Chord" accompanied by the pipe organ in the evening performance.

Acoustix was hot, particularly in the evening when they were definitely in the "zone" musically and really loose between songs. Some felt there was a little too much banter but the opportunity for **Joel T. Rutherford** to shine among his friends was perhaps too good to pass up.

By the way, Joel handled himself very well, thank you, proving to be quite adept with the quips and the barbed shots at his American cohorts. From their reactions to his comments it appeared that he was winging it and scoring to their delight and surprise. The audience loved every bit of it. What a bass instrument!

Musically we were treated to a program that touched on each well known facet of the Vocal Majority's considerable collection. From the opening "Mardi Gras March" medley through the smooth accompanied "Singing in the Rain" to the anticipated "Walls of Jericho," the audience was fully engaged and appreciative, especially for the beautiful "Somewhere Medley" and particularly the closing combination of "Let there be Peace On Earth" and "One Voice."

Theatrically, the production was well paced, thoughtfully lit and cleverly scripted. The use of an "in-chorus" spokesman kept the audience informed and well set up for what was to follow.

As usual with Barbershopper audiences, they endured the mandatory dosage of humour in good grace. But nothing was said or done without plan or purpose and this served the audience well in that it rendered a solid two hours of program with enough variety, a minimum of talking (other than Acoustix) and a maximum of musical entertainment possible.

Little wonder the CD-laden table in the lobby was completely sold out!

And if the Blue Jays did throw the weekend games for the benefit of the VM, it was well worth it. 