

**DISTRICT PRESIDENT
TED DEVONSHIRE**

Great convention

Welcome to fall! Hope you all had a great summer. Your president and better half, **Joyce**, had the joyous pleasure in July of attending yet another International convention, this time in the beautiful City of Roses, Portland, Oregon. It is a most enjoyable city to visit as a tourist, with free public transit on surface trains and busses, streets as clean as you could think of (they actually power wash the brick sidewalks at night) and roses everywhere.

The convention facilities were superb, the weather perfect and the people delightful. The competitions were awesome! Our own *Toronto Northern Lights* chorus was truly magnificent and won the hearts of the audience again with another stunning silver medal performance with that most beautiful ballad "Polka Dots and Moonbeams," followed by the best version of "Alabama Bound" that I've ever seen and heard. Congratulations Toronto Northern Lights!

As good as Northern Lights were, they were nosed out by an awesome performance by the *Masters of Harmony*.

The competition next year, in Montreal should be one to behold. Watch out *Vocal Majority*! There's a storm coming up in the North! I hope each and every one of you is planning to attend the convention in Montreal. It won't be this close or easy to get to for a long time to come.

I truly believe that if you haven't been to an International convention, you haven't fully experienced being a Barbershopper. Make your plans now!

The Society Board passed some motions in Portland that have some positive changes coming into effect.

- First, thanks to the initiative of our own Society board member, **Don Pyper**, the Society has adopted the practice of representing the Society as "*The Barbershop Harmony Society*"!

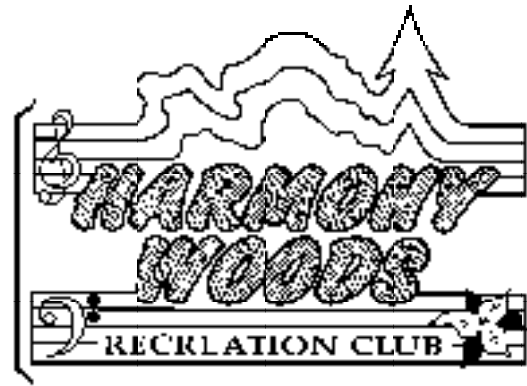
The official name is still SPEBSQSA, but all day-to-day reference will henceforth be *The Barbershop Harmony Society* and we should all start referring to it as such in our conversations and communications. Changes will be made to all visual communications.

A new logo, possibly with crossed Canadian and American flags, will be designed and added to the Society's stationery and other printed and electronic materials to visually indicate our Society is a North America international organization. The *Harmonizer* will also implement the same measures.

Way to go Don Pyper! Thanks for your initiative and persistence that got this accomplished. And thanks for your love of our great hobby and country.

- The other significant change that has just been passed by the board (via an 'electronic' vote) has to do with the CSLT program.

Up to now there has been definite confusion and a non-understanding about what the CSLT program and the



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chapter coaches are all about. Well, the first thing that has changed is the name.

They will no longer be referred to as 'Coaches' (there has been a major misconception that these are singing coaches!).

The name has been changed to truly represent their job. They are now called *Chapter Counselors*! The description of their duty sounds quite simple. That is to "Help chapters develop their Mission Statements and establish and meet their objectives."

The putting into practice is another much more involved matter. Many chapters have perceived contact by these men to represent an intrusion into the chapter operations and have been reluctant to engage their assistance. These men have a wealth of knowledge and experience to draw upon and are in an excellent position to help chapters with any aspect of their operations, from planning to problem solving.

So, if you have not had contact with your assigned Counselor yet, get in touch with your V.P. of CSLT, Jim McDougall and **find out** who your assigned counselor is. Call him and ask him to visit and attend a chapter meeting and a board meeting. You just might find it a valuable experience.

So, as we head toward the last quarter of the year, I hope you are enjoying your hobby and getting all the singing you want. If not, why not try quartetting. After all, isn't that what we're really all about?

See you around the district, and maybe we can harmonize an 'oldie' together. ♣