

## Thanks — It's been great!

By Darryl Flinn, retiring Society executive director

**H**ello friends, as I wrap up my time here at Harmony Hall, I'd say a fond farewell as executive director and at the same time say not only how enthusiastic I am — but how fortunate we all are to have made a beginning with **Don Harris**.

Don, our new executive director/CEO, is on board and has already begun to make a difference. FYI, Don is at extension 8544 and at

Effective March 1, 2004, I shall change hats and begin as coordinator of the MUSIC MAN program. This concept will be reworked in an attempt to design in a membership thrust and to be in sync with our CDDC training work, our CSLT/Chapter Counselor program and with SOP.

Our great hope is that this program becomes invaluable and will become part of the solution. This work will be important enough to require invaluable help from many of you, for which I say thanks in advance. FYI, I'll be working out of my home office until mid to late summer.

All of this causes me to reflect on the past eight years and our journey together. I'm grateful to have been here at the right time, surrounded by just the right people. Now, however, we are facing the challenges and opportunities of our new governance, our ongoing envisioning process, and so critically important — our commitment to marketing our Society.

This feels like the right time for my retirement and just the perfect time for a new, dynamic and empowered Don Harris to begin leading us onward and upward.

It's a brand new day! Best wishes and Godspeed to Don and to us all. \*

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[ED: Taken from LiveWire, Reed Sampson, editor.]

## Are you going to the Roadshow?

By Reed Sampson, Society office

**T**his spring, an inter-chapter event called the *Roadshow* is coming to 21 different cities in the Society. Led by some terrific personalities and presenters, each Roadshow offers a two-hour festival of song featuring the following.

- & Learning a new song that can be shared at future planned reunions.
- & Lots of singing of songs and tags — this a participatory event, not a lecture.
- & Quartet singing and guest quartets.
- & And more surprises, based on each presenter.

The emphasis of each Roadshow is to reconnect each Barbershopper with the thrills of singing for the sheer joy of it. Additionally, each attendee will receive a packet of information and materials to help him find new prospects for the Society and its growth.

Every member is encouraged to bring a guest. The guest will get a free gift just for coming to the Roadshow. Let's help him to

experience the music, fraternity and fun that we have.

Chapters are encouraged to make it possible for all their members to attend. In fact, you might want to reschedule your weekly meeting so that the Roadshow will be a common destination for all your members. We're expecting huge turnouts — *don't be the ones that missed it*. The current Ontario Roadshow is scheduled for April 19, 2004 at the Oakville's Chapter meeting hall on Dundas Street in Oakville.

Remember, the purpose of the Roadshow is to give you an opportunity to celebrate the barbershop art form by learning some new music with some new friends, sharing the hobby with some potential members and getting some useful helping hints for finding even more singers to join us.

From all reports, the Society's goal of 3,000 attendees at the 21 different Roadshows may well be shattered. Don't be the one who missed this exciting, fun-filled barbershop extravaganza.

So mark your calendar now and bring a gang of guys with you. It's going to be spectacular! \*

