

**Continued—2003 Highlights of Ontario District Chapters**

**Orangeville:** 1. Recruited **Dave Ammerman** to serve as chorus director, assisted by **Glen Townsend** and **Dave Wilson**.

2. Hosted the Big Wheel Novice Contest in November in the Mt. Forest United Church with **Ken Fisher's** quartet serving as judges for a packed house of over 100 Barbershoppers.

**Oshawa:** 1. Hosted an area night early in the new year which was attended by over 100 Barbershoppers.

2. Continues their very active YMIH activities with a program at Coronation School for students in grades three through eight and also continues with the "Men in Vests" visitors to the chapter's annual show.

**Ottawa:** 1. Our third annual retreat at Camp Smitty on behalf of the Boys and Girls Club of the Ottawa region completing numerous repairs, painting, roofing and cleanup work in three cottages.

2. Started the "Florasing" business venture which has become the Chapter's most significant happening this year, a business developed by our own members to further promote our Society's musical image through florists.

**Owen Sound:** 1. The re-entry of our chorus – the Georgian Gentlemen – to the district contest stage (spring), starting off the process with a solid performance.

2. Restructuring our new (second year) summer program format with lots of fun, member participation (e.g. tag singing, woodshedding and barbershop history) plus three major special events, which all included spouses and families.

**Peterborough:** 1. Achieved their first ever District Chorus Championship victory at the Inn-on-the-Park stage, grabbing three trophies in the process at the spring chorus contest.

2. Held a very successful annual show in November of this year.

**Quinte Regional:** 1. We competed in the spring convention.

2. We celebrated our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary along with choruses from Peterborough, Oshawa and Kingston, with over 30 past members of the Trentones participating.

**St. Catharines:** 1. Held their annual Show on May 30 at the CAW Hall featuring guest quartet *Tri-City Slickers*.

2. Had a very special summer program with family and moved to a busy fall sing out program in nearby locales.

**St. Thomas:** 1. Hosted a visit from Society staffer **Bill Rashleigh** on May 28 and later in the year the fall novice divisional contest.

2. Engaged **Lynda Livingstone** as interim music director in the fall replacing the departed **Don Pyper**.

**Sarnia:** 1. Our YMIH program this year raised an all time high of \$7,865 for distribution to local schools and as scholarships to several outstanding vocal students.

2. Our annual Barbershop Show on November 8, "Doo Wop Barbershop - The Final Frontier" was an outstanding success according to audience feedback and also from a financial point of view.

**Scarborough:** 1. Recruited **Rob Arnold** to take on the duties of chorus director and this has worked out well, despite Rob's busy schedule.

2. Developed a new music program which provides a solid basis for re-entering contests, along with a completely new repertoire.

**Seaforth:** 1. Competed in spring district convention and were well represented at Montreal convention.

2. Held successful annual show in September and community Christmas Dinner and Dance in December.

**Simcoe:** 1. Membership has increased to over 60 members under a great musical program led by **Ray Danley**.

2. Have already developed four new quartets with more in the works.

**Stoney Creek:** 1. Made a donation to "Camp Talk" to assist them with their summer program for the speech challenged.

2. Held a very successful summer meeting program at the homes of four members.

**Strathroy:** 1. Busily completing all of the steps required for chapter incorporation.

2. Participated with the Sarnia Chapter in late August in a special ceremony celebrating the opening of the Bluewater Bridge (in Sarnia), raising a huge Canadian flag.

**Toronto:** 1. Placed second at International again this year in Montreal.

2. Held our annual Christmas Show on December 6, the finest to date! ❁

## Don't miss Harmony College North

By Chuck Alexander, music & performance V. P.

**M**ark your calendars NOW! The weekend is June 4-6, 2004. The place is the University of Guelph. The event is our *Harmony College North*.

This year we are blessed with having as our special guests, our Society's 2001 International Champions, *Michigan Jake*, who will not only be participating in classes over the weekend including coaching of attending quartets, but will also be featured in a Saturday night show.

**Plan to attend!** ❁

## Onta-Fame draw tickets

Roger Carl, Onta-Fame chairman



**T**he past two years we have succeeded in receiving donations for our Onta-Fame draw. This has meant great returns from our ticket sales at spring and fall 2003 conventions. I would appreciate your support once again with the sale of draw tickets which are being sent prior to the convention.

Tickets will again be available on your registration application. Should your chapter not wish to participate in the advance mailing, I would appreciate you advising me by early March. This will save postage costs.

Thanks to all the chapters who were successful selling the tickets sent to them prior to the fall convention. I hope you will once again lend your support to our International representatives. ❁