



Submitted photo

As Time Goes By (L-R)

T: Rod McGillivray, L: Jim Whitehead,
Bs; Rod McKenzie, Ba: Andre Carriere



Ottawa quartets vocalize support for Harmonize For Speech projects

By Rod McKenzie, Ottawa Chapter

Earlier this year, Ottawa Chapter's most experienced quartet *As Time Goes By* once again had the opportunity to support our Harmonize For Speech chairman, **Brian McGurrian**, in the presentation of awards for academic excellence (a total of \$900) as well as text books (\$2,240) to the students of the Ottawa University School of Speech Therapy.

This school, which operates out of the Ottawa Hospital's Rehabilitation Centre, is one of several Ontario schools that train Speech Therapists. The other schools are the University of Toronto, the University of Western Ontario and Georgian College in Barrie.

These young people are dedicated students who, after completing a Bachelor's degree, study for an additional two years before they go out into the world to help those afflicted with conditions which impair normal speech.

The awards and text books provided by the Ontario District H4S fund are just one example of the fine work done by our favourite charity in our community.



H4S aiding speech problems

By Mike Kvenich

On behalf of the Ontario District Association of Chapters of SPEBSQSA, the *Seniors Moment* quartet presented *Erinoak Halton and Peel Preschool Speech and Language Programs* the sum of \$2,500 from the *Harmonize For Speech* fund. This money is raised from chapters throughout Ontario.

Leslie Styba speech pathologist at Erinoak, said that the funds will be used to provide earlier detection of speech problems. She hopes to encourage the current age of four for detection to

Polaris sings for CASLPA

By Rod McKenzie, Ottawa Chapter

One of Ottawa's newest quartets, *Polaris*, was invited to perform at the 40th Annual National Conference of the Canadian Association of Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists (CASLPA) (not quite as long as SPEBSQSA but just as difficult to pronounce!).

The conference was held in Ottawa this year and the conference organizers wanted something special for their 40th anniversary. They thought a barbershop quartet might be just the thing.

Being a national conference, it was attended by representatives from across the country. Many have never heard of barbershop harmony or our Ontario District Harmonize For Speech Fund.

H4S provided the association with a \$1,500 grant, and *Polaris* was more than happy to perform for these dedicated people who work daily in the trenches helping people with speech and hearing difficulties.

To accompany the arrival of a huge birthday cake, *Polaris* sang a quickly arranged bilingual version of "Happy Birthday dear Canadian association of speech language pathologists and audiologists..." which got a big laugh from the attendees (who normally just call themselves Cassellpa).

After a couple of barbershop favourites, baritone **Mike Purdy** shared with the audience his own personal testimonial of growing up with a terrible stutter that he learned to overcome through singing.

Naturally "We Sing That They Shall Speak" closed the official program, but *Polaris* stayed for more informal mingling, chatting and some up-close and personal performances with the crowd. What a lovely way to spend an evening!

**We Sing,
That They
Shall Speak!**



be brought down to two. This earlier detection will significantly affect success results.

Erinoak is the lead agency for the preschool speech and language initiatives in Halton and Peel.

The Halton and Peel Preschool Speech and Language Programs provide services to preschool children living in these regions who have communication delays and disorders. They are part of a community partnership that involves a network of many agencies, supports and resources including daycare centres, parent-resource centres and health care services.

Their commitment is to provide speech and language services with a focus on prevention, early identification, early intervention, education, and public awareness.

The services are family focused. Parents and caregivers are an important part of the program and there is no cost for the service.

