

## 2005 Ontario District Chapter Historical Highlights

Collected by Dave Daniels

### Barrie Chapter — County Chordsmen

This has been a banner year for us in so many ways including record high membership, excellence in singing, an award winning bulletin and consistently high performance. We topped this off by jointly hosting another superb *COTS Orillia Opera House Show* featuring *North Metro Sweet Adelines*.

### Brockville Chapter — Melodymen

Our chapter held a highly successful and profitable garage sale in June and a very active *Carol Crawl* in several local hospitals and retirement homes later in the year.

### Burlington Chapter — Roadshow

Made the extremely difficult decision to cease regular chapter functioning as of January 1, 2006, but then decided to experiment with a seniors afternoon program which, hopefully, will appeal to many members in our area.

### Cornwall Chapter — C-Way Sound

Continued an excellent year of progress culminating this process with a highly successful spring show with support from four Ottawa quartets and the *Capital City Chorus*. Continued with the very effective recruitment program “Men Discover Your Voice.”

### East York Chapter — East York Barbershoppers

Continued with business as usual adding several new members. We continue to lead the way in our *Harmonize For Speech* fundraising and services activities.

### Etobicoke/Mississauga Chapter — Humber Express

Participated in a memorable show on October 1, at St. Anne’s Anglican Church in Toronto, a national historic site with its Byzantine style wall painting. Participants included *Toronto Northern Lights* and *Inclination Quartet* (Etob/Miss) who joined soloists **Corinne Lynch**, **Laura Schatz**, **Bernie Lynch** (also chorus director) and guest soloist **Mark DuBois**. The program ended with the four soloists and the TNL doing a **Steve Armstrong** arrangement of “The Prayer” which earned a standing ovation.

### Greater Toronto Chapter — The Mega City Chorus

Continued to grow. Lost **June Dale** as director, but gained a new one — none other than **Chris Arnold**, who is leading the way in the ever increasing performance curve and forward thrust of our chapter.

### Grimby Chapter — Knights of Harmony

Were all thrilled to have longtime member, **Bruce Herdman**, recognized with the Barbershopper of Renown designation. The chapter continues with its very active social/sing out schedule.

### Guelph Chapter — Royal City Ambassadors

Continued its upward swing with a highly successful April show just before entering the spring chorus contest. We steadily added new members and renewed plans through Town Hall meetings.

### Hamilton Chapter — Harbourtown Sound

Continued in our very active community involvement program kicking off the Hamilton Children’s Telethon, the Ticat home opener and attending Harmony College North. We also

assisted in several other events such as helping Harmony Inc. in their hosting of the International convention in Hamilton.

### Huntsville Chapter — Muskoka Music Men

Hosted the very successful *Northern Division Big Wheel Contest* in October, featuring a total of 25 competitors in the combined categories. Judges were *Bob’s Yer Uncle*, who entertained later in the day and re-won many of their old fans. Also district president, **Wylie Forster**, attended and brought along *Backroads* for everyone’s entertainment in the show that followed.

### Kingston Chapter — Townsman

Our chorus re-entered the contest scene and were pleased with their eighth-place finish after launching our brand new chapter web site which heralded in our very successful spring show.

### Kitchener-Waterloo Chapter — Twin City Harmonizers

Moved to a new rehearsal hall — the Schwaben Club, and had a great spring show presenting a “Salute to Satchmo,” followed by a youth recruitment program and the hosting of the highly successful June Heartland *Big Wheel Contest* in Kitchener. Started preparations for our 60th anniversary show on April 29, 2006, featuring former quartets and directors.

### London Chapter — Men of Accord

Continued to improve our upward performance curve, benefiting from the coaching of **Chris Arnold** and a program to increase membership.

### Markham Chapter — Men of Harmony

Continues in its role as one of the strong chapter contributors to the District’s H4S Program of fund raising to support persons with speech related challenges.

### Midland Chapter — Huronia Harmonizers

Had a historical moment and payback at the *Northern Division Big Wheel October Contest* when they won, for the first time ever, the Henry Light Memorial Plaque donated many years ago by them to be awarded each year to the mini-chorus champions. This served as an encouragement for a number of our newer members.

### Mount Forest Chapter — Harmonaires

A year of successes and changes starting with the chapter’s participation in a special show (attended by 200) for a five-year-old girl suffering from autism. After this came a successful two-day fall show and the retirement of longtime director/friend **Dave Litwiller** who has turned over the directing reins to **Grant Lawson**.

### Nepean Chapter — North Stars Chorus

Our solid singing chorus from the near north continues its upbeat path with fine performances in the spring contest, a June show and a unique H4S fundraiser — the shaving of the chorus director and the lead of *Polaris* during the afterglow. We sent five men to *Harmony/Director’s College* last July and had some good coaching from **Sandi Nason**.

### Newmarket Chapter — Upper Canada Chordsmen

We continue to excel as every man’s chapter on the top of Metro — a place where Joe Barbershoppers meet and enjoy.