

## Eastern Division members going to Harmony University

By Bill Vermue, Eastern Division Co-ordinator

**Brockville Chapter** — The snow birds are back and the *Melodymen* are looking forward to an active year with their new director. The *Brockville Chapter* was represented by one quartet at the Eastern Division novice quartet contest hosted by Ottawa on May 7, 2007, along with a good number of chapter supporters to cheer them along. See below.

Membership increase is the primary goal for Brockville in the coming year.

**Cornwall Chapter** — The *C-Way Sound* is also glad to see their snow birds back, which includes director **John Hamilton**. They too were represented in Ottawa by one novice quartet. Like Brockville, membership is one of the primary goals for the *Cornwall Chapter*.

**Kingston Chapter** — *The Townsman* are very busy and focused on their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show on May 25, 2007. Guests were *Chameleon*. Because of preparations for their show, they were unable to send a quartet to the novice contest, as planned.

**Nepean Chapter** — *The Northern Stars* had two very exciting shows on May 4 and 5 titled "Big Screen, Little Screen" meaning that all songs had to be from movies and/or TV programs. Guest quartets included *Polaris*, *Black Velvet* (a HI quartet) and *Play It Again!*. The Northern Stars had 21 singers on stage and included combinations to form five chapter quartets. There were many highlights including an arrangement of "Harbour Lights," arranged by their own **Chris MacMartin**.

The show ended with **Jim Clancy's** "How do You Keep the Music Playing" which is mostly eight-part, and at times a 12-part arrangement. Quite a feat for any chorus, but for a chorus of 21 singers another WOW!

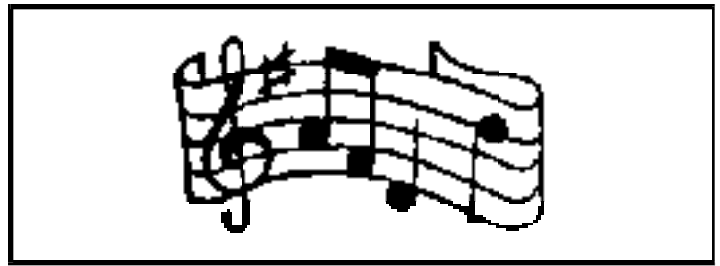
All three of Nepean's directors are headed for Director's College in St. Joe's, and joining them will be *What a Blast*, the current Ontario District novice champions, plus several chapter members. It appears as though they may have the highest percentage attendance (based on membership) from Ontario, at Harmony University for the second consecutive year.

**Ottawa Chapter** — Like Kingston, the *Capital City Chorus* is also busy preparing their anniversary show. In Ottawa's case it is the 50th and is being held at the National Arts Centre on the June 2, 2007.

On May 7, 2007, the chapter organized both a High School quartet contest and the Eastern Division novice contest. It was truly marvelous to see the young high school students embrace our style of music and display some great talent.

Ten quartets participated in the Eastern Division novice quartet contest; five from Nepean, three from Ottawa and one each from Brockville and Cornwall. Most performed challenging songs and arrangements with only one polecat song on the entire slate. Many supporters were in attendance, including a number from nearby Harmony Inc. and Sweet Adeline chapters.

The winning quartet the *Young and the Reckless* were from the Ottawa Chapter. Second was *Pipe Down* from Nepean and third was *4 Cryin' Out Loud* from Ottawa. A huge thank you to **Pierre Carignan** for organizing this event.



## Oakridge Division chapter activities and news

By Al Spence Oakridge Division co-ordinator

**Oshawa Chapter** chorus held their 58th Annual Show on April 28, 2007, titled "Harmony Night in Canada," that featured the current Ontario District Quartet Champions, *Chameleon*, as well as the a cappella quartet, *Cruisin'*. Members recently had the pleasure of being entertained by two of the quartets in the District's spring contest. *Fusion* visited on April 2, 2007, and *The Chromatics* visited on April 28.

The chapter's annual anniversary night dinner was held on Sunday, May 6, at which **Carl Rainey** was awarded the 2006 Barbershopper of the Year trophy. The chapter continues to grow with the addition of new members and is also continuing its search for a new musical director.

**Peterborough Chapter** had four quartets participate in a very successful Singing Valentines program on February 14, 2007. Each of 38 clients was serenaded with two songs and presented with a card and rose during the day.

The chorus attended this spring convention and competed in the district chorus contest. The chapter will be holding a large yard sale on May 12, at Northminster United Church to raise money for chapter activities.

On June 3, the chorus will be participating in the morning service at George Street United Church in Peterborough, and later on that day, at 2 p.m., in the Lower Lounge of Showplace Performance Centre in Peterborough.

One of the chapter's quartets, *The Kawartha Chordsmen*, is organizing a fund-raising concert to aid the York-Durham Aphasia Centre (Peterborough Site). The concert is titled "Contrasts in Harmony" and will include a variety of musical styles.

**Quinte Regional Chapter** also put final touches on their annual show, "Songs of Summer," which was held on May 12, 2007 at 8:01 p.m. at the Empire Theatre in Belleville and feature **Lenni Stewart** from the county.

The chapter held a very successful Valentine's Party on February 14, where both the chorus and the chapter quartet *In-four-mation* entertained.

The chorus also performed in a concert at Christ Church in Belleville on April 21, 2007.

The chapter is also looking forward to hosting their second annual novice quartet competition in June which should be a fun night again. ♣

The Ottawa Chapter will also have great representation at Harmony University with all three directors attending as well as a number of chapter members. ♣