

## Royce Ferguson's fabulous visit

By Bill Vermue,  
Ontario District Executive Vice President elect

I'm just easing down from one of the biggest barbershop highs I have ever experienced, that being, watching and experiencing **Royce Ferguson** at work.

After his visit to Kingston on Thursday night, which by all reports was fabulous, he arrived in Ottawa on Friday. *Play It Again!* had the pleasure of an hour's coaching with him, then dinner, after which he coached two other quartets.

Saturday was spent from 9 to 4 p.m. with the *Ottawa* chorus and he squeezed in another quartet coaching from 4 to 5 p.m..

To double our pleasure, **Barry Towner** was with us. While Royce worked sections, Barry worked presentation with the rest. Then in the afternoon they tag teamed and put it all together. **WOW!**

Then on Sunday he worked with the *Nepean* chorus for four hours and squeezed in some personal coaching after that.

We were truly blessed to have Royce with us in the Eastern Division. Monday he left to work with the *MegaCity* chorus, *East York* chorus, *Hamilton* chorus and *Barrie* chorus.

If you were not a part of any of these sessions, you missed a great experience. It will be, as **Jim Henry** put it at *Harmony University*, one of your barbershopping "Gold Medal Moments."

Ontario District owes a huge thank you to **Paul Tamblyn** for taking the initiative for this visit and then making it happen.

[ED: I attended the Hamilton coaching session and it was a fantastic experience!] ✨



## Who is Royce Ferguson

By Ken Fisher,  
Ontario District V. P. Chorus Director Development

**W**estminster Wins GOLD in Denver 2007! The *Westminster Chorus*, under the direction of **Royce Ferguson**, is the 2007 International Chorus Gold Medalist and 2007 *Far Western District* Champion of the *Barbershop Harmony Society* (SPEBSQSA, Inc.).

Uniquely composed of only young and committed singers, the chorus in its current formation has been in existence only four



### Doing Anything Wednesday Afternoons ?

If you're a senior barbershopper in the BHS,  
and you'd like to get in some more singing,  
come join a bunch of friends your age  
and sing with the

### SUBURBANAIRES Barbershop Chorus.

We practice every Wednesday afternoon  
from 12:00 noon 'til 3:00 pm, in Markham.  
(Bring a lunch!)

We practice **Sitting Down!**

We have **no Upper Age Limit!**

We have singers from six chapters and *Frank Thomas*.  
Many of our members sing in their regular chapter  
choruses as well as the Suburbanaires.  
And you can keep on singing with us long after  
the thrill of competing and standing on the  
risers for three hours is gone!

**A true hobby chorus for senior singers!**

Want more info? Drop in any Wednesday.  
St. Patrick's Church Hall, 5633 Hwy 7, Markham,  
(park in the lot behind the church)

Or contact Ross Sutherland, 905-294-1095

Email

or Bob Burrell, Email:

years. Motivated by the joy of joining with other young brothers in harmonious song, the chorus is truly grateful for the recent recognition it has earned and thrilled for the new performances and competitions to soon come.

Royce was born in San Diego, California, and is 30-years-old. He has been a Barbershopper since 1989 and is currently a member of San Diego's *Sun Harbor Chorus*, where he earned a fifth-place International bronze medal in 1991. He has held the positions of section leader and music director in that chapter.

Royce has sung both lead and tenor in many quartets. Prior to winning the quartet gold medal, he earned his first Far Western District championship with *Revival* in 1997.

Completing his Jazz studies music degree at San Diego State University, Royce plays bass guitar and teaches piano.

He has served on the faculty of several Harmony Education programs and Director's Colleges throughout the country and enjoys coaching quartets and choruses. ✨