



Peninsula Division Report



The Peninsula Division has been a very busy bunch over the last few months. From Grimsby hosting the Big Wheel to Hamilton hosting the convention I am happy to provide a brief summary for the chapters as provided by the President's.

Simcoe

- We are preparing to compete at the Spring convention.
- 16 Simcoe chapter members are registered to attend the Ontario Quartet Event in August
- We have tickets for advanced sale to barbershoppers to attend our main fundraiser - Harmony Showcase - which will showcase Ringmasters on Saturday November 8th. The Gentlemen of Harmony will also feature a tribute to The Nylons in this show.
- Approximately 30 Simcoe chapter members will be travelling to MidWinter next January to take part in the Harmony at Sea Cruise as a performing chorus - working alongside Tim Waurick and The Musical Island Boys.
- we have sponsored two young men to attend Harmony Explosion Camp
- in August we are planning to host in Simcoe both Kitchener-Waterloo and Guelph chapters for a 3-chapter visit
- perhaps in June, we hope to meet with Oakville Chapter, either in Oakville or Simcoe

Oakville

- The Entertainers have gone through a lot of change over the past year. In February 2013 we announced the appointment of June Dale as our Director, and due to personal issues we accepted her resignation in February of this year.
- We have appointed Bruce Ott as our new Director and he has generated a lot of excitement in the chorus. As a result of this change the board has tentatively approved sending Bruce to Directors school when the timing is right for both parties. He will be leading us into our show on April 26, and the chorus is working hard to ensure we will deliver an evening of great entertainment, as we are The Entertainers!
- We will be pursuing a guest night following the show and want to focus on chorus growth.
- Our plans also call for an inter-chapter visit, hopefully with Simcoe, and we will end the season with a chorus family barbecue in June.

Grimsby

- Grimsby hosted the annual Big Wheel event with a very solid turnout.
- We are preparing for our first annual show May 3, 2014 with our new director Joy Brunel.
- We have had the addition of one new member this year.



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St. Catharine's

- No report as of this writing

Niagara Falls

- A Cappella Niagara has had an interesting year to date. After a successful time at the 2013 convention, having been recognized as most improved chorus we had a restful summer. We had our practices during July in Chippewa Park in Welland. We entertained the volleyball players and strollers passing by.
- This led to the city asking us to join them at the Welland Community Wellness Centre. In September we moved from Niagara Falls. We now practice in a fully equipped concert hall at the Wellness Centre. This affords us more interaction with the community and has led to four new members and interest from several others who may join. We will be using the centre for our November concert as well as retaining the previous venue in Fonthill.
- In July ACN performed at the Fonthill Community Fair. In spite of competition from music from other areas we held our own and entertained the gathering patrons. This, plus the follow up busking by our resident quartets was well received again and we look forward to next year.
- A Cappella Niagara also performed at the annual corn roast for the St. Catharine's Singing Saints. This is an interesting event held in a barn somewhere in the outskirts of Fonthill, possibly in Welland or Thorold. This event is being held on Saturday, August 23, 2014. We plan to attend and also increase our level of behind the scene activity to help run this well attended event.
- The Christmas season was busy with sing outs at several senior citizen homes in St. Catharine's and Welland.
- Our Valentines activity went very well with increased interest in the Singing Valentines. Our quartets had two full days from early morning to late evening bringing joy and some tears (of happiness) to people of all ages. Good, free publicity in the newspaper and radio helped a lot.
- We also performed at the St Andrews Presbyterians Church in Welland as a lead up to Valentine's Day. We were rewarded with excellent desserts afterwards and a request to return again soon.



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Participation at the Big Wheel was enthusiastic where our Super Novice Quartet took the Gold and our Novice and Senior Novice Quartets took Silvers.

Our youngest member was able to perform with the O Ya chorus in its winning performance at Long Beach.

We are looking forward to the spring convention and by the time you are presenting this we will have seen where our hard work takes us.

Hamilton

- The chorus has now grown to over 90 men having 2 teams of Fathers and Sons and 2 teams of Grandfathers and Grandsons and proudly inducted our youngest chorus member. We were well represented at the last Big Wheel contest hosted by Grimsby where we had men singing in 3 categories from Super Novice through to Mini Chorus.
- In March we performed at a fund raiser organized by Andrew Shackelton and Ron Coulter at the University of Waterloo Theatre of the Humanities to help raise money for Cancer research. We were joined on stage by chorus members Dan Austin and his original college band as well as the team of Jamie and Joy MacPherson. The third act was a country band with Steve Parkinson as the lead singer; a terrific time was had by one and all volunteering their time and talents for such a worthy cause.
- We have had a great volunteer turnout for our hosting duties at "Spring Sing 2014" and look forward to a terrific weekend in Scarborough.
- With our spring show "Higher and Higher" just 4 weeks away we are working hard to again perform and entertain our always appreciative audience.
- Preparations are well along in getting all "tuned up" for our semi-annual coaching session with Steve Tramack in mid May as we ready ourselves for our trip to International in July

Scott Durward

DC – Peninsula Division