

**Webmaster
Report for the House of Delegates
October 2015**

Goal Progress

2015 Goal	Progress
<i>Making available digitally archived historic pictures and documents from Harmony Hall</i>	Pictures of all of the past district quartet champions and international qualifiers has been added to the <i>History</i> section of the website. In addition, a "Historical Items" section has been added for users to upload images and documents of historic significance to the Ontario District. Barry Tripp will be helping to populate this section of the site in the coming months with digital historic images he collected leading up to Toronto International 2013. This section will hopefully be used in the future to begin archiving the contents of Harmony Hall, Harmony Manor, and private collections.
<i>Exploring changing to online submissions for some award nominations and show clearances</i>	After working with Gerry Selkirk, the website will now be used to accept nominations for the Barbershopper of the Year and Barbershopper of Renown awards. Chapters/individuals complete a form on the website (available in the <i>Operations</i> menu) and the submission is emailed directly to Gerry. A spreadsheet of nomination data can also be exported for easy organization. Ideas for other uses for this type of submission process are welcomed.
<i>Adding and updating chorus and quartet pictures and information</i>	Contact information for all active quartets has been added to the "Quartets" section of the website. Individual quartets should be encouraged to supplement this information with pictures, member names, and a quartet description. All chorus information is up-to-date, including the addition of the new Northumberland Hills chapter and the removal of the Greater Toronto chapter. Choruses are encouraged to keep their information up-to-date if they have any changes.
<i>Keeping recent news up to date</i>	The homepage and news sections of the website have been kept current with brief articles on district events and information, and with articles from news sources that mention Ontario District quartets and choruses. The latest articles from BHS headquarters also appear on these sections of the site.

Other Progress

- In June a new "flatter" theme was added to optimize the site for mobile users and minimize the time it takes to load time of the site
- The new event registration system implemented last November was used for both conventions, OXQE, and the Harmony Explosion Camp to great success

Website Additions

Some sections of the website will be greatly improved with input and content from the relevant chairman/committee/VP. These include:

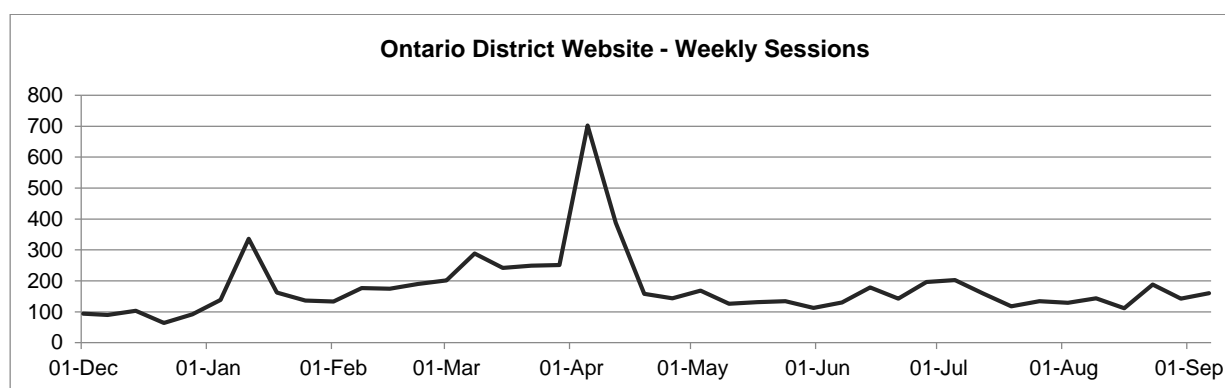
- APOC
- History and Archives
- OntaFame
- Bylaws Operations and Policies (in progress)
- HOD/DMT/Executive files (in progress)
- Youth in Harmony (in progress)

I encourage anyone who has any ideas or additions for these or any other sections of the website to get in contact with me.



Usage

- Since the new site was launched last November, we have had 59 new registered users, including 19 who are able to edit their own quartet, chorus, or page content without going through the webmaster
- Since December 1, 2014, the website has been visited 8,134 times by 4,859 unique visitors. The average visitor stays on the site for 2:55, and views an average of 3.31 pages. 75.5% of sessions are from Canada, and 12.5% come from the United States.
- Weekly sessions stayed pretty consistent throughout the year, with the exception of spikes in sessions when an email was sent out in January inviting the district to visit the new site, and a dramatic spike the week of Spring Contest



Future Goals - 2016

- Use EventSpot registration system for Leadership Academy and post all relevant learning materials from the event to the website
- Explore the option of using the website as the platform for the district mailing list
- Keep chorus, quartet, and news information current

Budget

Expense	2015 Budgeted	2015 Actual	2016 Budgeted	Justification
EventSpot	\$230	\$263.83	\$350	More events using it than anticipated. Poor CAD to USD exchange rate.
Hosting	\$180	\$363.98	\$220	Both 2014 and 2015 hosting was billed in 2015. Poor CAD to USD exchange rate.
Adobe Photoshop	\$160	\$184.15	\$160	Poor CAD to USD exchange rate.
Domain Transfer	\$0	\$14.30	\$0	One-time expense with new website
Search Engine Optimization workshop - Camp Tech, Toronto	\$0	\$0	\$85	Optimizing the site for web searches.
Total	\$570	\$826.26	\$815	

Respectfully submitted,

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October 5, 2015