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HARMONIZE FOR SPEECH

Proudly Sponsored by Ontario Barbershop Singers

HOD REPORT – SPRING 2016 - TORONTO

Some exciting episodes have taken place from our Fall 2015 report to the House of Delegates. For example:

➤ H4S donations to Sept. 30 were down by almost \$10,000 from 2014 to 2015, but year-end responses from Chapters and individuals brought the 2015 total to \$84,900, as compared to \$86,458 in 2014.

➤ “SHAKEN NOT STIRRED” (Bill Wells, Brad Brown, Dave Rozycki & Rob Lamont) donated \$1,000 in recognition of George’s 90th birthday, bringing such donations to almost \$3,000.

➤ For the 15th year, the Quartet, “BACK IN TIME” – Ron Madill, Ron Smith, Peter O’Donnell & Bruce Green filling in for Max Charlton – performed at the UWO Convocation School of Communication Sciences & Disorders, to their usual standing o.! London Chapter’s KEN DODGE presented the CAM MILLER Harmonize For Speech Awards. The students love this event at which H4S plays a major role!

➤ Two years in a row I had enough air miles to fly to Ottawa for the Awards Ceremony & Luncheon at the Audiology and Speech-Language Program, School of Rehabilitation Sciences, University of Ottawa. Fellow Trustee, Christopher Brand, picked me up and first we visited dear friend and staunch H4S supporter, Doug Drew. It was like old home week, but we just made it in time for the introduction of the Ottawa foursome comprised of Paul Boucher, Fraser Gordon, Denis Laflamme & Ottawa President, Neil Rask. To say that their choice of songs, great singing and fine presentation made a hit with the students and faculty is an understatement. After the presentation of awards, plus a textbook for every student, Christopher & I joined the Quartet in singing our two theme songs, to thunderous applause. What a thrill! H4S also helped to provide a fine lunch. Christopher had to be in Toronto that evening and I had arranged to hitch a ride back with him. We talked “barbershop” most of the way and the time passed quickly. I was home at 6:00 – a day to remember!

➤ We received a letter from the wife of a prominent barbershopper and she happens to be a Speech Pathologist. Bruce Dibble has just put Meghan’s letter on our website www.harmonize4speech.org, for our April Communiqué and you will want to put the attached copy on your Chapter Bulletin Board. It will make every reader proud to sing that they shall speak!

The Harmonize For Speech Trustees thank both Seaforth Harmony Kings’ REIN BREITMAIER for designing the fine H4S notice shown overleaf and the Ontario District for putting it in the Spring ’16 Program.

We Sing That They Shall Speak

2015 DONATIONS TO H4S FUND

East York	\$15,167
Scarborough	12,775
Kitchener/Waterloo	8,287
Barrie	7,688
Simcoe	6,223
Ottawa.....	5,449
Huntsville	2,800
London	2,600
Oakville	2,379
Seaforth	2,335
Toronto	2,107
Strathroy	1,887
Newmarket.....	1,750
Hamilton	1,325
Etobicoke/Mississauga	1,320
Guelph	1,271
Sarnia	1,070
Frank Thorne	1,025
Oshawa.....	1,010
Other Ontario Chapters	2,578
Miscellaneous funds	<u>3,854</u>
TOTAL FOR 2015	\$84,900



"To provide financial assistance for those with communication disorders as follows:
Provide assistance through therapy, education, research or related equipment"



Please go to:
www.harmonize4speech.org

The Trustees of the H4S Fund take pride in honouring all the members of the BAKER'S DOZEN group for their contribution of \$3300 through their many sing-outs and strong community efforts on behalf of the Guelph Chapter and the entire Ontario District.
 Men of the Baker's Dozen, we salute you!



Since last Spring's Convention, we have received a considerable number of memorial tributes for JOHN CARDIFF, VIVYAN BRUBACHER, DYSON PINHEY, JAKE BASKETTE, BRIAN MITCHELL, HARRY MAYS, BILL SEXTON, RON BALL, BILL BROWN, JOHN TRAVIS, LOIS SINGER (a renowned Speech Pathologist & strong H4S supporter), PAUL GOODWIN, JOHN PYNN, FRED STAHL, ELMA (SHIELDS) KELLY & MARY EAGER. These memorial gifts represent a sizeable percentage of the District's Harmonize For Speech funds, with many of these donors being non-members of our District. Bruce Dibble sends out income tax receipts and I'm certain that many of the recipients are finding out for the first time that Ontario Barbershoppers Sing, That They Shall Speak. It was sung with pride at some of these funerals.

NOTE: Memorial Book is kept in Harmony Hall's Boardroom.



GS-16-01-01

January 19, 2016

Dear Chairman Shields and Colleagues of the Harmonize for Speech Fund,

On behalf of WeeTalk - Wellington-Dufferin Preschool Speech & Language Service System, we would like to thank you for your enthusiastic and dedicated support of our profession and clients. As a wife of a fellow Barbershopper, I have had the pleasure of getting to know many men and their families, and have been so touched by the support the community members provide for each other. This extends into the greater community. As a Speech-Language Pathologist, I see firsthand how you bring awareness to the ever so important need to communicate with one another.

* We provide services to the preschool population, from birth to 5 years of age in our catchment area. We provide family and child centered assessments and therapy for a variety of speech, language and social needs. In years past, you have gifted us with funds to be used to support children whose parents would not otherwise be able to afford to take them for a hearing test. For so many of the children with whom we work, their hearing may be significantly impacting their ability to have a voice, to communicate. *The reason for accessing a hearing test is to identify factors that may influence communication difficulties. Once identified, we are better able to provide the best speech and language therapy for each child.* We are asking for funding as a support to our assessments and therapy, not as a means to fund hearing intervention. It is part of early identification for children at risk of, or having difficulties speaking.

We hope you will again consider our request for financial support. The funding you have gifted us has been a tremendous and indispensable support to so many children in the preschool population here in Guelph.

Yours sincerely,

Meghan Austin, CCC-SLP, Reg. CASLPO

Speech-Language Pathologist

On behalf of the Speech-Language Pathologists and Communication Disorders

Assistants with WeeTalk

c/o Karen Wedekind

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