

VP - MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE
REPORT TO HOD April 2016

Please note that the budgets for these activities are found in the Treasurers report.

SENIORS TOP GUN COACHING

Two SR. Quartets qualified to participate in the 2016 Mid Winter contest in Reno - Basses Unlimited and On Q! Coaching in the form of a subsidy was offered to these fine quartets.

TOP GUN COACHING SCHOOL

Since LA 2016 was cancelled, we will offer coaching as a TG school or a subsidy in early 2017. We hope to run a TG school in parallel with LA 2017.

LARRY DALE COACHING AWARD

It is surely bitter-sweet that our winner last year was Al Baker. He was able to attend the Spring convention, be recognized as he received his award. I even caught him singing tags in the wee hours. What a great barbershopper! May his great voice and sense of humor fill the chorus in the sky forever.

ONTARIO QUARTETTING EVENT 2016

Sat Aug 13, 2016 will find Harmony Ranch 'alive with the sound of music' - OQE quartets. About 60 men have already registered. At last count we have a waiting list for Basses; There are a few slots for Ba and Lead still open. We are a bit light in Tenors. The venue and the catering are booked. Some 'interesting' problem solving re Canadian copyright law was dealt with. Many thanks to the Simcoe guys for their leadership and work on this exciting project.

ONTARIO SENIORS CHORUS

Please see the attached documentation.

Proposal

Based on the attached documentation, I recommend that the Ontario District endorse the creation of an Ontario Seniors Chorus for the Mid-winter convention 2017.

DO List For 2016

- mount a regional school and quartet coaching day - in Peninsula or Western
- get going on defining a "Music Mentor" program

I welcome any and all other ideas which might assist us to grow our membership, our skills, and provide an exciting, fun singing experience.

Yours Bass-ically
Ken Fisher, VP - M&P

PROPOSED ONTARIO DISTRICT SENIORS CHORUS
Report and Recommendation to the House Of Delegates, April 2016

ONTARIO SENIORS CHORUS PROPOSAL dated April 3, 2016

Preamble

About 18 months ago members of The President's Council, BHS, started investigating the possibility of having a Seniors Chorus Festival at the Mid-winter Convention.

The goals included:

- giving our men over age 55 an added opportunity to have fun singing in a large, good chorus.
- giving them an opportunity to participate in a District Contest with the possibility of performing at an International Convention
- giving them an opportunity to grow their skills and bring these attitudes and attributes back to their home chapters
- give them an opportunity to meet and get to know other men from across their District
- add a new exciting element for seniors at the Mid-winter Convention
- grow the involvement and participation at District Conventions and the Mid-Winter Convention

It would appear to be a huge win-win-win for everyone.

The proposed Seniors Chorus Event is not an official Society contest. It is more like a Festival where the performances will be for evaluation only. This gives a score, but more importantly all the guys get the opportunity to be coached by our excellent coaches/judges. The event will be adjudicated like the Youth Chorus Festival rating system of superior, excellent, good, etc while recognizing a Festival Grand Champion. (Paraphrased from Marty Monson, CEO, BHS, Mar 4, 2016)

Current status - February-March 2016

The District President's Council is finalizing a proposal document which will go to the SCJC (Society Contest and Judging Committee) for approval July 2016. Doug Smeltz is driving the process. The SCJC is aware of the proposal. It is widely anticipated that SCJC will approve the Senior Chorus Festival proposal. Thus the qualifying contests would have to be this Fall.

ONT Secretary Barry Lajeunesse surveyed our chapters in order to get a sense of the level of interest in having a District Seniors Chorus. The results suggest that about 40 men are interested. This is enough to have a viable chorus.

The DMT approved the concept at its February 2016 teleconference. Now we need the approval of the HOD, to establish the chorus as an official District activity/event.

It is planned that the Seniors Chorus will be revenue neutral for the District. However, some start-up funding might be needed to purchase and distribute music and learning tracks.

Dr. Ray Danley and I have been discussing the concept. He has come up with a detailed proposal for songs, tracks, and rehearsals. Thus we could start the publicity, the learning, and the rehearsals even before we had final approval from SCJC.

Proposal

Based on the attached rules, conditions, and budget, It is recommended that the Ontario District endorse the creation of The Ontario Seniors Chorus.

ONTARIO SENIORS CHORUS RULES AND MANAGEMENT

ELIGIBILITY

- all participants must be members in good standing any chapter, including Frank Thorne, of the Ontario District.
- all participants are or will be 55 years old or older on the day of the contest at the Mid-Winter Convention (San Antonio, Jan 17-22, 2017)
- The music team and the director are or will be 55 years old or older on the day of the contest at Mid-winter.
- the average age of the chorus will be 60 or older on the day of contest at Mid-winter

QUALIFYING FOR MID-WINTER

- in its first iteration, 5 Districts will be invited by the BHS to enter a Seniors Chorus Festival
- Invitations will be based on a 2 song score judged by a panel of certified judges.
- Each District Seniors Chorus will sing 2 songs that are contestable by BHS Judging Standards. The panel will consist of certified judges and may be single, double, or triple. All categories will be represented with a currently certified judge.
- The scoring of the seniors chorus should in no way interfere with participation in the chapter chorus competition.

EXPECTATIONS

- Participants in the Ontario Seniors Chorus agree to:
 - commit to learning all the notes and words, and the visual plan for the 2 songs by predetermined dates - probably mid-July for notes/words and Sept for the visual plan.
 - attend at least 4 of the planned rehearsals in Ontario and sing in the Ontario Fall Convention [in Belleville in 2016]. Missing more than one of the rehearsals in ONT automatically eliminates the participant.
 - provide their own tuxedo and any other parts of a uniform as required by the visual team
 - pay for all of his expenses related to this activity - music, learning tracks, convention registrations, travel, food, lodging, etc.

MANAGEMENT

- the chorus will be as inclusive as possible with membership and participation.
- vocal and performance coaching will be part of the experience
- it is anticipated that the chorus will select a management team [Treasurer, Manager, communications group,] from within their ranks at the first rehearsal.
- Music, learning tracks, and the rehearsal schedule will be available by March of the year preceding Mid-Winter. [Clearly this guideline is unlikely to be met in this initial year.]

The District will provide:

- use of the District Website
- a rehearsal space at the Fall convention
- initial start up funding for the purchase and distribution of music and learning tracks
- recognition of the chorus as an official District activity

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COST OF PARTICIPATION

It is estimated that the basic cost per man for participation in the Ontario Seniors Chorus will be about CAN \$20. See attached draft budget.

This basic cost is in addition to the previously mentioned costs of uniforms, travel, and registering for the Ontario Fall 2016 Convention.

If the Ontario Seniors Chorus is invited to sing in the Chorus Festival at Mid-Winter 2017, additional travel and convention registration costs will be incurred.

PROPOSAL FOR 2016 TO MID-WINTER 2017

- Dr. Ray Danley is eager to direct the chorus.
- The songs will be After You've Gone and From the First Hello from the new Polecat II Book. Many senior men will already own or know these songs.
- the District VP-Music and Performance will provide administration until such time as a chorus member takes over
- The Ontario District Seniors Chorus will perform for evaluation at the Ontario Fall 2016 Convention
- the Mid-Winter Convention 2017 is in San Antonio, TX.

NOTE: The Ontario Senior's Chorus is not automatically invited to participate in the Mid-Winter Chorus Festival. The invitation to participate will be determined by the BHS.

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PROPOSED BUDGET - ONTARIO SENIORS CHORUS

ASSUMPTIONS

- total of 40 men, including the director
- minimal cost rehearsal venues
- Music Director is unpaid
- this is a self supporting activity
- District will supply: initial management, use of district website, rehearsal room at the Fall contest
- the songs will come from OQE/Brigade like repertoire
this implies that we will not need to create new learning tracks
- self learning is required
- all participants pay for their own registration at the qualifying contest - ONT Fall 2016
- ONTA Fame funds are not available

EXPENSES

basic

music - songs	\$160.00	2 x 40 x US\$2.00
learning tracks	\$150.00	2 x US\$50 = about CAN \$150
duplicating tracks	\$100.00	CMRRA license fees
postage	\$200.00	
misc	\$150.00	
	\$760.00	= cost/man \$19.49

possible extra costs

- rehearsal venue - 3 days	
Harmony Ranch	\$600.00
- uniforms/shirts @\$30	?
	\$600.00

\$31.03