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MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE
REPORT TO HOD April 2017
Ken Fisher, VP Music and Performance

A very exciting and busy 2016 culminated with the activities of The Mid-Winter Convention in San Antonio last January, 2017.

ONTARIO QUARTET EVENT

2016

A final report, including the final Budget is attached. OQE 2016 ended up with a surplus of just about \$700. This was returned to the District and immediately put to use for OQE 2017.

The Simcoe Team led by Ross Gowan did a fabulous job last August. Huge thanks from the District to him, Terry Pond, and Mitch Sinclair for their wonderfully successful work.

2017

The event will be held at Harmony Ranch, August 12. Registration is open via the District website or by contacting Terry Pond or Ken Fisher. An exciting bonus this year is a discount for quartets that register. We are delighted to announce that OQE 2017 is nearly 100%. Chapter leaders, thank you for your great work of publicizing this fun event. Simcoe is inviting any other interested chapters to job shadow and potentially take over the management of OQE. Let's share the load of keeping our District Great.

ONTARIO SENIORS CHORUS PROJECT - 2016-2017 THE MAPLE LEAF CHORD COMPANY

Exactly one year ago this project was approved by the HOD. The 2016-17 project wrapped up with the hugely successful Seniors Chorus Festival at the Mid-Winter convention in San Antonio, 2017.

It is an understatement to say that this was an amazing journey, jammed to the eyeballs with triumphs and a huge amount of work/learning. Huge thanks to Ray Danley and our Music Team of Bobby Gibson, Lynn Brown, Dave Wallace, Rob Swann, Barry Stringer and Ron Whiteside. Pat Brown did a stellar job as performance Coach.

Over the summer we had 4 rehearsals in different venues spread from London to Port Hope. The Maple Leaf Chord Company put 72 men on stage at the Fall District convention and scored an impressive 74.9.

Some men could not get to Mid-Winter, other men found that they could participate after all. So in the end about 60 men performed at Mid Winter. We had one rehearsal in Nov, a meet-greet-sing and one true rehearsal in San Antonio. The MLCC was one of only two Superior seniors choruses with the thrilling score of 73.9. Contest day was a BLAST!!!!!!!

REVIEW OF THE PROJECT

From the very first note that the guys sang together in London, it was obvious that we had a great chorus. The men came prepared with their music and were eager to get better. This continued right through to Mid-Winter. We were all excited and thrilled by the process.

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Many! Many men told us that by singing and performing with this chorus they found a renewed interest and delight in our hobby. One long time barbershopper said it best. Paraphrasing his remarks - 'I did not know if I would be able to learn and keep up with the group. What a delight that I was able. This chorus gave me a first ever opportunity to sing in a big chorus, a first ever opportunity to perform in a really good chorus, AND the opportunity to sing on the International stage. I was not even nervous. The Seniors Chorus Project, MLCC, let me accomplished 3 lifetime goals.'

BUDGET - the Budget Summary is attached

The project was close to revenue neutral at the end of November 2016. In late Nov-Dec 2016 we found out that the BHS support for choruses at Mid -Winter is minimal. Thus we had unexpected rehearsal expenditures in San Antonio. The total cost to the District was \$516.70. These funds were taken from the VP-M & P allotment.

MANAGEMENT

In 2016 Ray Danley took charge of all of the musical aspects while Ken Fisher did all of the management details. The Music Team was highly effective! Thank you Men. Although the management work was time consuming, it was relatively straight forward up until the time that we knew that the MLCC would be invited to Mid-Winter.

Unbeknownst to us, the BHS provides minimal management and services for choruses participating in the Mid-Winter convention. Other than the Headquarters Hotel, few other hotels in the area are mentioned. There is no local host chapter to provide advance information: - eg rehearsal space possibilities, group meal possibilities, local transportation for people with mobility issues, maps, restaurants, etc. Indeed the BHS only created the detailed contest rotation in the week prior to the event.

This lack of attention is a frustration for the Youth choruses but they have the advantage of being together most of the time. Our seniors were spread out all over the city, so making last minute schedule refinements was not feasible.

Making travel arrangements and trying to get all of us seated in one area of the theatre was also a big headache. The BHS was using a new ticketing service and they did not have protocol for group bookings built into the software yet. A Simcoe barbershopper, John Featherstone - Featherstone Travel, was a great help in finding a fine nearby hotel at a good price, flights and an airport shuttle service. However, literally at the last moment before I left my house there were some ramifications of group bookings. This became intense due to bad weather as we tried to return home.

FUTURE MAPLE LEAF CHORD COMPANY

See proposal and motion for the endorsement of Maple Leaf Chord Company 2017-18.

Schools, Top Gun, Music Mentors,etc are all works in progress
Yours Bass-ically Ken Fisher, VP music and Performance



FINAL REPORT

The 2016 OQE was clearly a successful venture due to several factors. Simcoe Chapter is now well experienced as the host chapter and has the administrative tasks clearly defined so is able to pay attention to the details that make the event flow well. Financially, this event returned \$698.83 in net revenue to the Ontario District.

Seventy-two men registered to attend, and 70 of those ended up participating. Attendees included 20 leads, 19 basses, 16 baritones and 15 tenors. There were 18 coaches available to assist throughout the day. These also doubled as judges for the quartet contest. Harmony Ranch is a wonderful venue for this event, and there was plenty of help from Ranchers and Simcoe partners. Rob Arnold helped with logistics and as contest administrator.

A new feature for the 2016 event was an auditioning process in the morning. Singers came better prepared, knowing that there would be a screening process in place, and perhaps some who weren't ready didn't register or stayed home. Only 4 singers were screened out, and these singers continued to participate with a coach through the remainder of the day and performed as a non-competitive quartet in the evening program alongside the competitive quartets.

The evening quartet contest resulted in 4 quartets being recognized, with a tie for third place. The members of these quartets are:

1st place - Graham Ross, Jim Wilson, Daniel Roy, John Deacon

2nd place - Geoff Shields, David Richer, James Mossman, Murray Atkinson

3rd place - Ian Smith, Paul Wagg, Alex Mirhady, Ian Loughrey

3rd place - Frank Berg, John Smith, Fraser Gordon, Wylie Forster

Thirty-eight participants completed an on-line evaluation for the 2016 OQE. The feedback was highly positive, for the most part, including feedback about the auditioning process used. One person commented that the screening should have been stricter.

The team directly involved includes:

From Ontario District – Ken Fisher, OQE Coordinator, and Michael Black, webmaster

From Simcoe Chapter – Ross Gowan, Terry Pond, Mich Sinclair, John Deacon, and Ray Danley

A profit and loss statement follows on page 2.

Respectfully submitted by Ross Gowan, Host Chapter Coordinator

Ontario District - OQE 2017
PROFIT AND LOSS
November 2015 through October 2016

Income

registration	\$ 6,460.00
Shirts	\$ 224.00
Meals, extra	\$ 944.00
Music	\$ 1,150.00
other	\$ 29.00

<u>Total Income</u>	<u>\$ 8,807.00</u>
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Expenses

Music Book and CD	\$ 1,183.36
Mailing Expenses	\$ 126.07
Licensing	\$ 1,074.15
Meal Expenses	\$ 3,905.65
PayPal expenses	\$ 240.08
Ranch expenses	\$ 653.71
Shirt expenses	\$ 867.84
Promotion	\$ 57.31

<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>\$ 8,108.17</u>
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NET INCOME	\$ 698.83
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		THE MAPLE LEAF CHORD COMPANY			
		ACCOUNTS	SUMMARY		
REVENUE				EXPENSES	
Registration @ \$20				PayPal fee 0.58 each	\$ 53.80
62 on line		\$ 1,220.00			
12.5 in cash/cheque*		\$ 290.00		Music Purchase	\$ 184.41
				40 copies each	
Water donation		\$ 69.70		CMRRA	\$ 99.44
				\$50.03/song	
				Venue rental	
* = one person was				June - London	\$ 90.00
only charged \$10				July - Port Hope	\$ 250.00
				August - Newmarket	\$ 80.00
				Sept - Millgrove	\$ 100.00
				Nov - Harmony Hall TO	\$ -
				VENUE TOTAL	\$ 520.00
				postage @ \$2.034	\$ 46.78
				\$1.80/kit +13%tx x 23	
				23 blank CDs @0.50	\$ 11.50
				envelopes, etc	
				Photocopying	\$ 81.50
				Name Tags	\$ 11.19
				OSC ties	
				@\$5 each X 70=\$350	
NET District Cost				actual	334.04 \$ 381.33
Pre Mid-Winter		-\$ 69.77		tx 47.29	
including Mid-Winter		-\$ 516.70		Registration refunds (July)	\$ 40.00
				Coaching	
				Pat Brown	\$ 200.00
				water	\$ 19.52
				TOTAL - pre Mid WINTER	\$ 1,649.47
				Mid Winter	
				La Quinta Hotel	\$ 410.65
				rehearsal space +coffee	
				PR photo CD	
RE Bank Fees				US\$15 x 1.34988	\$ 20.48
in order to do a group registration for				Bank fees 4 mo@\$3.95	\$ 15.80 see note
Mid-Winter I set up a specific bank account				Mid-Winter TOTAL	\$ 446.93
for electronic transfers. The final cost of					
9 Registrations was \$39.60 less than the				TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,096.40
original estimate.					
Thus I owe the District #23.80.					