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SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The Scholarship and Awards Committee Chair Gerry Borden (EVG) has announced that Scholarships will be presented to four [Orangeville](#), ON area young women of Sweet

Sing Canada Harmony's e'Newsletter has become the major communications link for all Canadian men and women Barbershoppers and members of other choirs and ensembles coast to coast. Please ensure that all your risermates and friends enjoy the opportunity to read every issue. Please let them know that if their names are on our distribution list for the e'newsletter, they will not be used for any other purpose.

In this issue you will find news, announcements, award winners, ideas for chapter planning, a feature article about "Giving Back" and a notice of the very recent passing of Brian Etmanski, well known Ontario quarteter, Director of men's and women's choruses and Barbershop Harmony advocate. The concluding article mentions the organization of Canadian Harmony Explosion Camps.

FOUNDER'S CLUB ANNOUNCEMENT

Barbershop Harmony Society founder, O.C. Cash, loved barbershop singing and dreamed of spreading its harmony throughout the world. He set that dream in motion in 1938. This dream continues today in the hearts and voices of thousands of men and women Barbershoppers and their families throughout North America and around the globe. The Founder's Club of Sing Canada Harmony provides an ideal way for hundreds of others to join in OC's dream and create a legacy of their own at the same time. Men and women who share OC's love of close harmony now have a way to ensure the joys experienced through singing will be available for future generations. Sing Canada Harmony is proud to announce that **Charlie and Karen Metzger** of Surrey (Vancouver Chapter) have joined the Sing Canada Harmony Founder's Club at the Silver Level.

Charlie, a charter Board Member of Sing Canada Harmony, is a Barbershop Harmony Society Senior's Quartet gold medalist, renowned coach, director, District and Chapter officer, learning facilitator and Harmony University faculty member, He and Karen want "to ensure someone will sing tomorrow" through support of "Director Education". Sing Canada thanks Charlie and Karen for their commitment to Barbershop Harmony and its future in Canada. When you visit the Sing Canada website or attend an International Convention of the Barbershop Harmony Society be sure to check out the list of Founder's Club members. Charlie's and Karen's names will be the newest addition you will see on the list.

Adelines International "Rising Stars Quartet" Contestants as follows: Dani Austin, Lindsay Lewis, Shannell Lewis, and Lexie Houghton. The foursome sings in a quartet "Lost in Harmony" which competed at, and performed well in, the [Sweet Adelines International Convention in Seattle](#). Congratulations to these special Young Women in Harmony who along with other youth across Canada represent the future of Canadian Barbershop. Sing Canada Harmony is proud of your achievement.



LOST IN HARMONY

Scholarships will also be awarded to Devon Frost, a talented young man from Oshawa; Bob Robson of Calgary who will attend Alberta Harmony College; and, Sue Twohig a Harmony Inc. Member of [Valley Voices](#), Kentville, NS., who will attend CAPCOTS for Chapter Officers in Eastern Canada.

Congratulations to all recipients. AND THANKS TO ALL SING CANADA HARMONY DONORS for "making it happen"

YOU ARE AWESOME!

EBiz entries for Chapter Sing Canada Harmony Chair

Many Chapters have been enquiring about how to enter data for "Sing Canada Harmony Chapter Chairs" on "EBiz" when entering Chapter Officers' listings. Eddie Holt, Web Developer for the Barbershop Harmony Society, has fixed the problem. There is now a new listing for all chapters for the role called "Chapter Sing Canada Harmony Chair". You can find it in the dropdowns now when you add a new chapter leader. Many thanks to Eddie for his assistance.

REMEMBRANCE WEEK 5 to 11 NOVEMBER

Many Canadian Barbershoppers served in the Armed Services of Canada and the Canadian Armed Forces or are the daughters or sons of those who served. Each year, from November 5 to 11, Canadians join together to celebrate Veterans' Week – this year is no different. During this week, hundreds of commemorative ceremonies and events will take place across the country to recognize the achievements of our Veterans and honour those who made the ultimate sacrifice. During remembrance week, our thoughts of remembrance go out to them and all Canadians who never came home. Please wear a poppy to honour them and what they did to make it possible for us to enjoy freedom and its benefits today. Plan to sing at a service or make a special effort to "remember" during a rehearsal. Consider joining the choruses and quartets that will be singing at services in schools and communities throughout Canada. Visit this site for details of [Veteran's Week](#)

AN INVITATION

D. Sullivan of the [Seaway Sounds Chorus](#) (SAI) in Sarnia ONT. has invited our readers to visit [Border Lakes Region 2](#). Region 2 is an organization of American and Canadian women singers which advances musical excellence in barbershop harmony through education and performances.

FEATURE ARTICLE

Two Letters – Two Words – "Giving Back"

The "Giving Back" thing

J.R. Digger MacDougall, Sing Canada Harmony Board Chair writes: When you have benefited from the generosity of others and then become involved in volunteer and/or charitable work like many of us have, you gain a real understanding of what "Giving Back" means.

For me, "giving back" is a pillar of my life: Giving is an interest; giving is a need; giving is a value and giving enhances my self esteem. I have been involved with volunteer organizations and charities for most of my 73+ years and I have served on the Boards of Directors of them for the past 42 years.

Articles and photos used in future e'Newsletters will provide links back to the Chapters or organizations as seen in this newsletter. Please click on any one of the above and see how you are linked immediately to the source Chapter or District.

Please talk to Chapter, Chorus and Choir leaders about how you will help build a better Canada by supporting children and youth.

IN MEMORIAM

Memory of MAX WOULDSTRA to be honoured

The memory of Max Woudstra, [Scarborough Chapter](#), will be honoured for all time on the Sing Canada Harmony "KEEP A MELODY RINGING" Plaque in [Barbershop Harmony Society](#) Headquarters in Nashville, "Music City". Thanks to the generosity of the Scarborough Chapter and Members of [Ontario District, Region 16 \(SAI\)](#) and local [Harmony, Inc](#) Chapters, Max's name and his Chapter name will be engraved on the plaque along with years of birth and death. Max was a Chapter President and a highly respected member of the Ontario District Barbershop community.

WELL KNOWN ONTARIO BARBERSHOPPER PASSES AWAY

Barbershoppers were saddened to learn that Brian Etmanski passed away on 2 November. Brian was a Chorus Director, Ontario District Champion Quarteter ("Mirage" 2002), Chapter Officer, International Quartet Contest Representative and friend to many Barbershoppers Brian sang with the District Representative Quartet "MIRAGE" at the Barbershop Harmony Society International

Most human beings search for happiness and fulfillment in their lives. Some learn the value in "giving" and "volunteering" early, some become enlightened later in life and some search for meaning until they die, never finding what "a real balanced life" meant and never finding the gift of feeling really good about oneself through sharing time and resources.

I like the advice of Dorothy M. Neddermeyer, PhD, Life Coach and Author of "101 Great Ways to Improve Your Life." She said: "Many people want to 'give back' as a way to live meaningful lives in which they play a contribution and make a difference. Without the ingredient of 'giving back,' people tend to search for the less-satisfying aspects, such as the acquisition of more material goods, to find meaning and powerfulness--albeit short lived. True satisfaction and meaning in life comes from being able to effect a positive change in a state of affairs that you feel passionately about...The dilemma is that many people do not know how they want to make a difference--nor do they stop to think about it or check out options. Thinking things through is a vital first step.

When I tell friends and relatives what I am doing and what I have done in the volunteer and charity environments they try to understand some of my motives for "giving back". That understanding is easier for those that are charitable and have volunteered than it is for those who have made "withdrawals" without "giving back". Needless to say, if one is "giving back", that means that one must have made a "withdrawal" at some time during his/her life.

Life is full of "givers" and "takers". Some take or receive very little and give back much; some take or receive much and give back little; others try to balance their lives through "giving back". In the final analysis, it seems that those who strive to "balance the books" enjoy life more.

The Two Letters

Since establishing Sing Canada Harmony a few years ago I have received a lot of correspondence from across Canada; most of it comes from men and women Barbershoppers and other singers. Recently I received two letters that helped me gain a deeper understanding of the value of "giving back".

Quote from Letter 1

"Thanks for setting up Sing Canada. You provided me with a means of giving back to Barbershop for everything I have received since I joined many years ago. I was looking for a way to make a meaningful repayment of the debt I owe to all those who helped me when I needed help; helped me be a better person and helped me through fellowship and song. I knew I was doing something good for someone when I sent my donation and when I saw the photo of the deserving young man and young woman in the Sing Canada Newsletter, receiving their scholarships. I suddenly became aware of how my gift was helping youth, was helping Canada and was helping Barbershop Harmony. You can count on me becoming an Ambassador of Song" L.M.

Quote from Letter 2

"Thank you for your kind letter after my donation to Sing Canada. I wish I could afford to give more and some day I might, but that's it for now. I am glad Sing Canada is helping people to sing, to sing better

contests of 2002, 2003 and 2007. For many years Brian Directed the [North Bay Baytones Harmony Chorus \(HI\)](#) and the North Bay Gateway Harmony Company Chorus (BHS); he was a member, and past Music Director, of the [Huntsville chapter](#) – Muskoka Music Men. he sang with Toronto Northern Lights. Brian will be missed. The Board of Directors for Sing Canada Harmony extends condolences to Brian's family, friends, [Gateway Harmony Company](#), the [Baytones](#) and [Toronto Northern Lights Chorus](#) for their loss. Remembering Brian, Chuck Alexander, Past Ontario District President, wrote this credit to Brian "for being a strong supporter of the (ONT) District as he and his fellow Mirage mates attended 14 consecutive Harmony College North events where the quartet acted as coaches throughout the weekend as well as performing on the Saturday night show. Brian and Mirage also graced the stage at the Orillia Opera House as part of the Top Gun program when it was moved to Geneva Park. They were always the first to accept the invitation to be part of the LA (COTS) weekend. My fondest memory of their being at COTS was when we had the Sing with the Champs at lunch and dinner with Mirage being the District Champs and Power Play being the International Champs." (Arrangements for services had not been made at press time. For further information and making online condolences please click here for the [Martyn Funeral Home](#), North Bay.

Friends of the late Brian Etmanski have initiated a fund to honour Brian's memory. Please consider a donation to this fund by visiting Sing Canada Harmony donation page and state that your gift is "To honour the memory of

and to sing barbershop. I feel I am a better barbershopper because in a small way I am helping a bit.

Thanks for giving me a chance to do this."

B.P.

We have a great deal for which to be thankful, not so much that we are lucky but because someone cared. There is always a way to balance our life's account through the many opportunities to "give back" to those who cared and to the organizations of which they were members, namely Barbershoppers and our three great singing organizations in Canada.

If you are reading this e'Newsletter you are probably a singer and probably a man or woman who enjoys the gift of song, Barbershop Harmony and the joy of being with people who like to sing. Whether you are singing in a quartet, a chorus or both you are sharing, you are giving and you are receiving. You have already discovered that the power of song does change lives; you've seen it on the face of others. You know how good you feel when you return home after a rehearsal and how high you feel after a performance. You have the power to ensure others enjoy those good feelings by making it possible for "someone to sing tomorrow". That's what Sing Canada Harmony does by ensuring that "someone will sing tomorrow". So when you think of "giving back" - Think of Sing Canada.

Every donation matters. Every donation helps deserving Canadian children, youth, men and women through scholarships.

Help Sing Canada Harmony make a difference while Sing Canada provides a means for you to "give back"

If you are not already a donor, please visit our website now to learn about the ways to "give back" or talk to your Chapter/Chorus Sing Canada Chair or Liaison about becoming a member of President's Council, a member of Founder's Club or an Ambassador of Song. If you are a donor, we sincerely hope that you will continue to give back. If you would like to learn more about "giving back" please contact us at Donations Info@SingCanadaHarmony.ca

Brian Etmanski". The Etmanski family will be notified that you have honoured Brian.

PLANNING FOR YOUTH

Nancy Watson [Greater Kingston Chorus](#) and Wendy Collinson [Nickel City Sound Sudbury](#) are two Barbershop leaders in who will be putting together teams of committed and dedicated - men and women Barbershoppers - in their respective communities, to plan, organize and implement HARMONY EXPLOSION CAMPS for young men and young women. If you would like to volunteer to join one of these first HX teams please let them know at HX@SingCanadaHarmony.ca



Brian Etmanski with Toronto Northern Lights

CHAPTER PLANNING FOR 2011

Over the past year, Chapters and Choruses have shared a number of ideas for getting youth, children and young adults involved in singing and singing Barbershop. Whether your chorus is large medium sized or small there is something you can do to get young Canadians involved in singing and Barbershop Harmony.

When you elect your Chapter executive for 2011 and plan your outreach events, make a point of having two key individuals on your Chapter leadership teams: Youth (School or Community) Outreach Chair, and Sing Canada Harmony Chair.

One is for action; the other, for financial support through scholarship awards.

It is absolutely incredible what even the smallest Chapter can do for schools, communities and youth programs once the support mechanism is in place for the outreach leaders.

When your Chapter leadership team meets to plan the coming year, please consider joint or cooperative rehearsals and performances with community and school choirs. Please share any ideas you develop and implement. Sing Canada Harmony will publish your ideas and share them with Barbershoppers from coast to coast.

[There is no greater joy than singing and sharing Barbershop Harmony with young men and young women. Please make this sharing part of your plans](#)



**GET
CANADA
SINGING!**