



the Fort Erie Barbershoppers

Entire Audience Joins In At Barbershoppers Event

FORT ERIE — When "Fort Erie's Al Jolson" wants to sing a solo and when a sell-out crowd applauds wildly and croons along with enthusiasm, one would have to conclude Saturday's "Parade of Harmony" will be a terrific addition to the border town's roster of annual events.

The local chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America put this one on. If it does not become an annual event, all sorts of people will be disappointed.

It was unusual to see Fort Erieans, noted by some for their

conservatism, walk into the auditorium of Fort Erie Secondary School and several hours later walk out singing or smiling.

Starting off the show was the Peace Bridge Area Barbershop Chorus, which warmed things up with "Coney Island Babe" and softened the mood with the tear-jerker, "Just a Song at Twilight".

LOUD CHEERS

Cheers, not mere applause, greeted a local quartet, the Frontiersmen, for its rendition of "When You Were Sweet Sixteen". Comic relief was provided by a Buffalo, N.Y., group, the Nifty-Tones and local fans

got to hear the Erie Tones, an award-winning Fort Erie quartet.

Jolson buffs got a real kick out of "I Would Love to Wake Up in my Mammy's Arms" and "Swanee", rendered by the Good Neighbors, the evening's banner attraction.

In fact at one point in the production, Mayor John Teal, who brought greetings from the municipality, expressed his disappointment at not being allowed to deliver a solo.

A few years ago, he won fame in now defunct minstrel shows as "Fort Erie's Al Jolson", striding down local ramps in black face.

However, he did say that, "If each and every one of us sings more of the songs that are in our hearts, there would be fewer tears tomorrow".

LADY QUARTETS

Described as the "greatest border incident ever", the show featured lady barbershoppers, the first anywhere, from both sides of the international boundary. The Lake Erie Dearies and the Buffalo-Fort Erie Sweet Adeline Chorus upstaged their husbands with such tunes as "Yes Sir, that's my Baby" and "In the Good Old Summertime".

Master of Ceremonies George Shields, of Toronto, conducted a sing song and after the first few bars he could well have taken a front seat. Not only did the gallery respond, but it actually exulted in harmony.

Probably at no time have as many residents made public their desire to sing. Among them were, in addition to Mayor Teal, former choir boys, bathtub baritones, and sinus sopranos.

PRESENT CHARTER

This was a charter night for the local chapter and Ontario president Sam Grey presented a sheepskin to border president Bill Taylor for continued membership.

Mr. Taylor, by the way, was probably the most frustrated soloist of the evening. In a truly funny skit, he was upstaged by star tenor Paul Pudwell every time he opened his mouth for a magnificent "Sweet A-do-line".

It was mentioned during the evening the "Parade of Harmony" might well become an annual affair. The second "border incident" most present realized, will have to be staged in a much larger hall, to accommodate the horde it is sure to attract.

Parade of Harmony



FORT ERIE CHAPTER
S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.

NOVEMBER 4, 1967

WELCOME TO THE
FORT ERIE BARBERSHOPPERS
First Parade of Harmony

1967 SHOW COMMITTEE

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ADVERTISING

Doris Watts
 Pat Hancock

The Ushers are members of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Fort Erie Chapter SPEBSOSA. Mrs. Joby Taylor, president.

The Auxiliary are wives of the "Barbershopper" and were responsible for the selling of all the advertising in this program.

Mrs. Doris Watts, Chairman of Advertising

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On behalf of the International Society, the Ontario District and Fort Erie's sponsoring Chapter St. Catharines, I wish to extend congratulations to Fort Erie Chapter on their recent acceptance as a Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Singing in America.

There are two main benefits that will be felt by the people in the Fort Erie area. One of these benefits will be classified by the Fort Erie Chapter as "Community Activities." What this means is providing entertainment for Service Projects, Fund-raising Projects, Senior Citizens, Shut-ins, Church Groups and other activities that benefit the Community. The other main benefit this new Fort Erie Chapter will provide is an opportunity for men in the area who like to sing, to get together with others for fellowship and song.

The Society has a well organized program that includes a good music program with a high music standard that has attracted many prominent men including Meredith Willson and Fred Waring. The program also includes a unified service project that has been adopted by the Society supporting the Institute of Logopedics (the teaching of handicapped children).

So again may I say: Congratulations Fort Erie Chapter
Congratulations Fort Erie.

Yours truly,

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Fort Erie

The Fort Erie Chapter meets every Wednesday night at 8:00 p.m. in the
Steelworkers Hall, Gilmore Road, Fort Erie

We invite men who love to sing and are willing to devote some of their
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REMEMBER — If you are too busy to sing you are too busy!

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Programme

PART ONE

INTRODUCTION OF THE M.C. MR. GEORGE SHIELDS

**THE PEACE BRIDGE AREA BARBERSHOP CHORUS
OF THE FORT ERIE CHAPTER SPEBSQSA**

**THE FRONTIERSMEN
FORT ERIE CHAPTER SPEBSQSA**

**THE NIFTY-TONES
BUFFALO N.Y. CHAPTER SPEBSQSA**

**THE ERIETONES
FORT ERIE CHAPTER SPEBSQSA
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**THE GOOD NEIGHBORS
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**THE BUFFALO-FORT ERIE SWEET ADELINE CHORUS
OF THE BUFFALO-FORT ERIE CHAPTER SWEET ADELINES**

INTERMISSION

Programme

PART TWO

SING SONG CONDUCTED BY MR. GEORGE SHIELDS

**THE BUFFALO BARBERSHOP CHORUS
OF THE BUFFALO N.Y. CHAPTER SPEBSQSA**

THE NIFTY-TONES

**THE LAKE ERIE DEARIES
OF THE BUFFALO-FORT ERIE CHAPTER SWEET ADELINES**

THE ERIETONES

THE GOOD NEIGHBORS

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Our Master of Ceremonies is no stranger to barbership harmony. George is chorus director of the East York Barbershoppers. He took over as director in 1959 from his brother. His barbershop career goes back to 1950 when he and his brother sang together they called themselves the "Canadian Chordsmen" and went on to win the Ontario District Championship in 1952.

Perhaps George's greatest thrill was back in September of 1964 when he and the East York Barbershoppers went on a goodwill tour of the British Isles. He was past district president of Ontario 1956-57 and International board member the following two years. To top it all off, he is the first winner of the Harry Holle "Barbershopper of The Year" Trophy.

George is now a married man but still devotes countless hours to his first love "Barbershopping." His current project is acting as general chairman of "Harmony Hall," being built in East York. This main Centennial project is destined to become Harmony Headquarters for the Ontario District as well as a daytime recreation center for senior citizens.

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CODE OF ETHICS

The Society aspires to preserve for its members and for all future generations of prospective members the sacred right of men to seek haven from the burden of their daily cares through indulgence in old fashioned vocal quartet harmony, and to that end we do hereby solemnly pledge ourselves to abide by the precepts of the Code of Ethics:

- (1) We shall do everything in our power to perpetuate the Society.
- (2) We shall deport ourselves and conduct the Society's functions in such manner as to reflect credit upon the Society and its membership.
- (3) We shall conform in all respects to the By-Laws of the Society and the rules from time to time promulgated by its International Board of Directors.
- (4) We shall accept for membership only congenial men of good character who love harmony in music or have a desire to harmonize.
- (5) We shall exhibit a spirit of good fellowship toward all members.
- (6) We shall refrain from forcing our songs upon unsympathetic ears.
- (7) We shall not use our membership in the Society for personal gain.
- (8) We shall not permit the introduction of political, religious or other similar controversial issues into the affairs of the Society.
- (9) We shall by our stimulus to good music and vocal harmony endeavor to spread the Spirit of Harmony throughout the World.
- (10) We shall render all possible altruistic service through the medium of barbershop harmony.