

NORTHLAND BARBERSHOP CHORUS FACT SHEET

The Sault Ste Marie Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society

Founded Dec. 1961

Mission Statement: “To provide a fulfilling musical and personal experience for our membership, and to enrich the life of our communities through barbershop harmony.”

Chapter Meeting Night: Every Monday night from the first Monday after Labour Day until mid-to-late June. No meetings are held in July or August, or for two weeks at Christmas. A new season begins each Sept.

Meeting Time and Place: 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 pm at Salvation Army Hall, 670 John St., Sault, Ontario.

Extra Rehearsals: Two rehearsals per year apart from Monday nights are scheduled for the individual sections to meet with their section leaders. These are usually held on a Sunday afternoon. Two Saturday rehearsals (9 am - 4 pm) are scheduled leading up to the show. During the week before our annual show, we meet nightly from Monday-Thursday. The dates for these extra rehearsals are announced in September.

Annual Show: Usually the first Saturday in April unless that is the Easter weekend. On April 8th, 2017, our 53rd Annual Show will be held at Kiwanis Community Theatre Centre located inside White Pines High School.

Expectations:

- Admission to the Chorus is based on your ability and desire to sing. You must have the basic ability to carry a tune and match a pitch. A private evaluation and voice placement will be done before you are offered an admission application. You will be given advice as to which voice part best suits your vocal timbre and range.
- Members of the Chapter are normally expected to attend a minimum of **75%** of the regular rehearsals, and **100%** of the special rehearsals and coaching clinics. We take attendance!
- New music and learning CD's are handed out in Sept. along with a rehearsal Master Plan for the year. Music is taught by the quartet teaching method and memorized through the member's individual use of part-specific learning CD's. Many additional learning tools are available to members through our website: www.northlandchorus.com The ability to read music, while an asset, is not required. Doing your homework, however, is! Our goal is to rehearse not until we get it right, but until we cannot get it wrong!
- Members are expected to be “off the music” (all words and notes memorized) by a specified mid-January date.
- The Chorus sings at 10-15 functions per year in addition to the annual show. We do not accept invitations to sing in public until each man has indicated whether or not he will commit to attend. The commitment of a sufficient number of singers in each section is required before we undertake to sing a public performance.

Dues: Dues are payable upon acceptance of your application for membership, and once per year thereafter.

The current annual dues structure is as follows: (adjusted annually – current exchange rate = 25%)

- New members: \$170 US/\$220 CDN Youth New Member (25 & under): \$12 US/\$15 CDN – 1st Year
- Regular Annual Renewal: \$160 US/\$208 CDN Youth Annual Renewal: \$80 US / \$104 CDN

The Chapter keeps less than 10% of the dues it collects. The balance is forwarded quarterly to our regional District office and to the International head office in Nashville for use in the provision of member services.

Uniforms: These are provided at no charge but a refundable \$50.00 deposit is charged when a uniform is issued. These uniforms remain the property of the Chorus. You will need your own black shoes. Members are responsible for dry cleaning and normal upkeep of uniforms.