

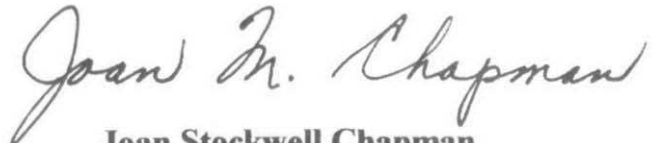
## IN APPRECIATION

*Ruth Geils was wisely chosen as the author of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary booklet, outlining the first twenty-five years of the development of Harmony, Inc. There may be others as gifted in the art of writing as she...and, yes, there are even a few Charter members still active in the organization. It would, however, be difficult to find anyone else willing and able to do the research necessary to produce these page. Ruth spent nearly a year combing through thousands of pages of minutes, history books and other background material. Ruth has the additional advantage of having endured the anguish and personal torment of struggling to overcome the administrative inadequacies in the governmental structure of Sweet Adelines, Inc. during her term as Regent for the period prior to the founding of Harmony, Inc.*

*Equipped with this knowledgeable background and further endowed with her enviable talents as a medallist chorus director and a member of International championship quartets in both Sweet Adelines, Inc. and Harmony, Inc., Ruth has unfolded the historical events of the growth of Harmony, Inc. with a warmth and dedication known only to one who has devoted most of her life to the promotion of our barbershop hobby. The aim and purpose of this booklet is not only to clarify for our members the motivation behind the toilsome task of forming a new organization, but also to revel in the triumph and pride we share in attaining our goal of the close family unit unique to our organization in barbershopping. The following pages will bring back nostalgic memories to our "old-timers" and offer a new appreciation and insight to those who have joined us in recent years. In accomplishing this feat, Ruth has reinforced her devotion to Harmony, Inc. with the same zest that once inspired her to compose the Harmony Creed.*

*The privilege of writing this has given me the opportunity to express the gratitude and devotion I feel in my heart towards hundreds of Harmony friends, amongst whom the bond of friendship wipes out the geographical border between the two nations. My first five years in a new and exciting hobby introduced me to the barbershop sound and the challenge and thrills of competition, but it wasn't until the birth of Harmony, Inc. that I experienced the warmth and fulfillment of true CLOSE HARMONY FROM THE HEART AS WELL AS VOICE.*

*May the ensuing twenty-five years be as progressive and rewarding for Harmony, Inc.*



**Joan Stockwell Chapman**  
**TORONTO ACCOLADES Chapter of**  
**Harmony, Inc. (1984)**