



January 19, 2020

Let's Grow Together

Joe McDonald
Pioneer District President

Greetings Fellow Barbershoppers!

A new decade is upon us. We are half-way through January and finally becoming accustomed to writing 2020 on our documents and checks. I hope you have had an enjoyable holiday season and that you are refreshed and ready to enjoy your upcoming barbershop year.

I joined other district leaders for a couple days of networking and training in Jacksonville, FL the second week of January. Paul Ellinger, your new district executive vice president (EVP) joined me. The two and one half day Leadership Summit helped both of us come to understand the 2020 Harmony Hall goals and objectives and offer our insight on how to move barbershop forward. It was valuable to put a face with the name of people we interact with on a recurring basis!

The third day we attended the semi-annual District Presidents Council (DPC) meeting where we connected with leaders from the other 16 districts and helped chart a course for collaboration and focus for the coming year. Paul and I look forward to working with our fellow barbershoppers from around North America and with our good friends right here in Pioneer in 2020!

It will be an exciting year in Pioneer. There are a number of district connected events on the calendar that will be educational and fun this year.. Please put these events in your 2020 calendar and watch for details on each one of them. You can always check the district webpage for dates for these events and additional chapter shows or events.

- Leadership Summit 2020, February 1, 2020, Mt Pleasant
- Spring Music Summit 2020, February 29, Mt Pleasant
- Spring Convention 2020, April 24-26, Battle Creek
- Harmony Explosion Camp 2020, July 8-11, Mt Pleasant
- Bush League Quartet Experience 2020, August 14-15, Cadillac
- Fall Music Summit 2020, September , Mt Pleasant
- Fall Convention 2020, October 2-4, Kalamazoo

Each of these events were included in a document we provided to Harmony Hall the middle of December. The document is a Memorandum of Collaboration (MOC). It is an outline for what we have planned for 2020 in Pioneer. Other districts and entities submit the same document.

Your 2020 district board met in November to identify items and ideas that will help move the district forward in the coming years. Many ideas/items were shared and collected. We will

continue to add to the list as we move along and encourage you to send your ideas to the district board. Five items from the November list made it into the MOC. They include;

- District Policy Manual Update - January through April 2020
- Expansion of Outreach Program - Ongoing
- New Judge Development - Ongoing
- New Chapter/Chorus Development - Ongoing
- Share Family Chorus Program - January/February

A number of requests from Harmony Hall were included in the MOC. Examples include asking for BHS staff people to attend and contribute to programs like Harmony Explosion and Bush League. I expect answers by the end of January. The document will be finalized and signed by myself and Marty Monson after that.

We are beginning the process of creating the 2021 MOC now with the intention of completing it by mid March. This is being done now so as to have items that we request from BHS that have budget connections can be included in the 2021 BHS budget which is planned in April/June of 2020.

Let's Grow Together is the theme of my two year term. Growing as performers, as leaders, as organizations, and how we treat everyone are some of the ways we can move forward together. There are many levels of this theme. We will talk about them another time. Just understand that decisions I make in the coming two years will be measured using this theme.

I am still considering how I will handle these communications going forward. I am not fond of long emails as I fear they get tossed aside, but here I am, sending a long email. So...while I find my way you can expect communication that are mostly on a single topic and that come at irregular intervals, as the need arises. Feel free to share my emails with your membership. Not everyone sees Pionet or Mail Chimp or Facebook posts!

Here's wishing you a great 2020, in life and in barbershop!

SINGcerely!

Joe McDonald
District President

Email - pioneerdistrictbhs@gmail.com Phone - 989 560 6181



Vision - Everyone in Harmony

***Mission - Bring people together in harmony
and fellowship to enrich lives through singing.***