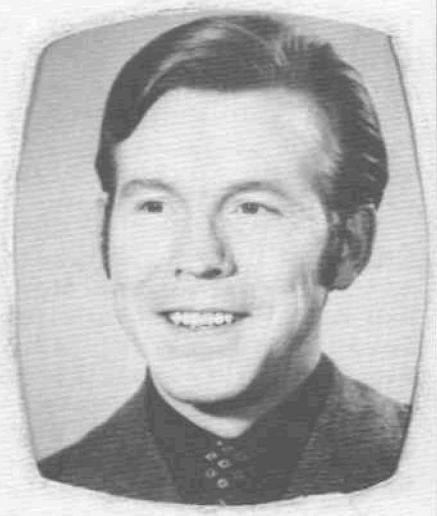


SEPT 70

pioneer

# TROUBADOUR



*"The Gentlemen's Agreement"*



SEPTEMBER 1970

# THE PIONEER TROUBADOUR

Official publication of the Pioneer District of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc. with offices in the First National Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan. 48226

Printed by Advance Printing of Pleasant Ridge, Michigan

Editor - Dick Van Dyke  
Art & Layout - John Morris  
Advertising rates available on request  
Subscription rates - \$2.50 per year  
Single copy price - 25 cents  
Copy deadline - Chapter reports 25th, all other material, 20th  
Published monthly except July & Aug.  
Photography by Bill Pascher  
Mail all pertinent correspondence to:  
Dick Van Dyke  
THE PIONEER TROUBADOUR  
P.O. Box # 1970  
Madison Heights, Michigan 48071

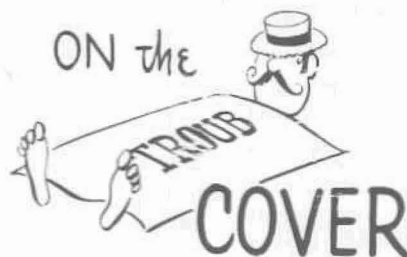
## POSTMAN:

Mail address changes and undeliverable copy to the above address. Second class postage paid in Detroit, Mich.

### FOUR STATESMEN Sing with Boston Pops

Barbershoppers will be interested to learn that our 1967 Champion FOUR STATESMEN will be appearing with Arthur Fiedler and the Boston Pops Symphony Orchestra on Sunday night, September 27, 10 pm Eastern Daylight Time. It's the Pops' annual Old Timers' Night, and the program will be carried by virtually all the nation's 180 Public Television stations. (In Michigan, THE STATESMEN will be carried by Channel 56 in Detroit, 10 in E. Lansing, 19 at University Center, and 14 in Mt. Pleasant.) Remember, it's Sunday, September 27, 10 pm Eastern Daylight Time, for the famous Boston Pops and the tops in barbershop harmony.

# CHAPTER OFFICER TRAINING SCHOOL



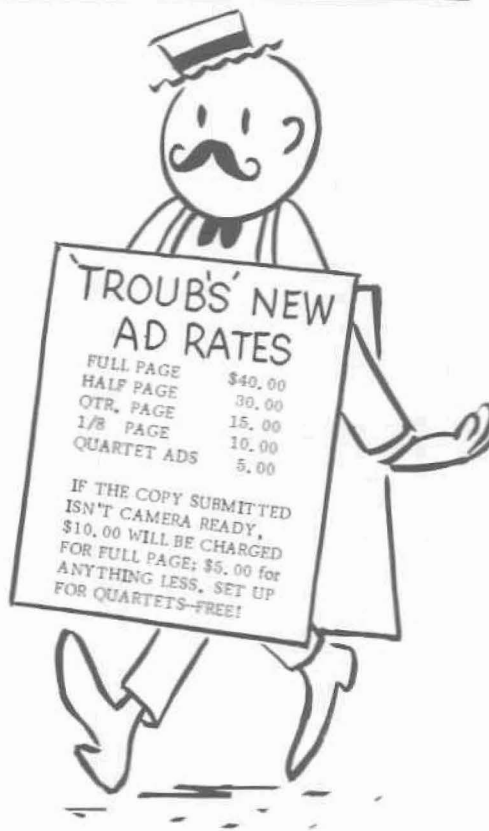
As the song states—"Great Things are Happening" to the Pioneer District once again, and the vehicle for the happening is the newly-formed GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT. They came from out of nowhere and rose to 4th place in International Competition this past June in Atlantic City.

While they are a new quartet to the Society, they aren't exactly neophytes. Glenn VanTassel and Al Rehkop formerly sang with the 1966 International Champion AUTOTOWNERS, and Bob Whitledge and Drayton Justice sang with the CHORDIALS. All four have long been active quartet men in the Society.

Since their sterling performance in Atlantic City, they have received show offers from all over the country. Bob Whitledge, bass and contact man for the quartet reports that they will be appearing in New London and Hartford Conn., Roanoke, Va., Erie, Pennsylvania, The CABO Show in Chicago, Davenport and Des Moines, Iowa, Toledo, Maumee, Aurora, And many, many shows in Michigan.

Their song, "The Sweetest Story Ever Told," which was arranged by Al Rehkop, will be published by the Society very soon.

Yes, indeed, great things are happening to our District . . . . . and it's only the beginning.





# PEARLS from the PRESIDENT TOM DAMM

Well, the summer season is about over, and we're ready to roll back into full swing in the Pioneer District. There is so much to be done, and so many things coming up for us all to enjoy, that it would behoove everyone to get going right now. In a few short weeks, we'll be having our Fall Convention in Windsor Attendance the last few years has been quite gratifying, but it could and should be better. Let's all get over to visit our Canadian brothers, and make this one the biggest ever. And that reminds me, be sure your chapter has selected your delegates to be at the meeting on Friday night, October 9th at 9 pm. There will be several items of business that concerns us all, so be sure you are represented.

I was certainly pleased to see about 10 dozen Pioneers at Atlantic City. We should all be very proud of the SHARPLIFTERS, the GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT, and the WOLVERINE CHORUS. My own personal thanks to Bob Drabik, Bob McDermott, the VAGABONDS, and all the great guys who worked with them to make our District a very important part of the convention. Our booth was great, and that Pioneer District Hospitality Room was something else. If you missed Atlantic City-plan now to be with the troops in New Orleans. (See article elsewhere in this issue)

As a result of some programs adopted at the International Convention (to complicated to give details here), it is especially important that we concentrate on improving our membership. Naturally, we would want to do that anyway, but here is the special reason:

The 1971 International Quartet Quotas will remain in effect automatically for 1972. If our membership is large enough on December 31, 1970 to let us send 3 quartets to New Orleans, then we will be assured 3 quartets in Atlanta. Conversely, if we only get 2 quartets for 1971, we only get 2 in 1972, no matter how much improvement we might show in membership next year. So-the next three months are critical. All of us have to get busy recruiting. (Membership VP's, don't sit on those applications, get them into Kenosha immediately.)

We are the 1300 best Barbershoppers in the Society now, let's make it 1800 before the end of the year

## "Check that Ampex"

Federal law makes it illegal to make recordings of our quartets and choruses singing copyrighted material. 99% of the songs used are copyrighted. Making at Parades, After-Glos, Ladies Nites, or Chapter meetings can (and has) resulted in fines. The person operating the recorder (and possibly the Society) are responsible under the law. Persons in charge at these affairs are advised to insist that no recording equip-

ment be allowed.

Why take a chance? Why make a tape to take home and play for the neighbors, or your brother-in-law? If they want to hear good singing, bring them to the meetings and sign them up.

## "Let's fly United"

Negotiations are now under way for the District to charter a plane for New Orleans next June. In the past, the participating chorus has sometimes done this. (As Oakland County did for Atlantic City.) But there are reasons to consider doing this at a District level. Greater participation will make it possible to provide better service at lower rates. The fun of the whole District contingent going together adds that much more to the whole experience. The representative chorus is spared the job of making all the arrangements when they should be busy getting ready for competition.

The questionnaire below is for the purpose of determining the possibility of the plan. At this point, there is absolutely no obligation. The proposed schedule shown below is only an example, and the estimated costs are based on preliminary figures from United Air Lines. If you are interested, please fill out the form below, and mail to:

Tom Damm  
18148 Lovell Road  
Spring Lake, Michigan  
49456

(Please return by October 10, if possible)

## PIONEER DISTRICT FLIGHT TO NEW ORLEANS

June, 1971

Questionnaire

(this is not a ticket order form)

YES- I think I might be able to go. \_\_\_\_\_

I would be going alone. \_\_\_\_\_

I'd probably have \_\_\_\_\_ members of my family in addition to myself.

I would prefer to leave from Detroit Metro \_\_\_\_\_  
Lansing \_\_\_\_\_

I would rather leave at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock.

I would rather return at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock.

I would prefer to have the trip down to New Orleans scheduled for Tuesday, June 22 nd. \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

REMEMBER: Passage on such a flight is limited by FEDERAL LAW to : Members of the Pioneer District, (they must have been a member for six months prior to the flight), their wives, their children (unmarried under 23 years old, living at home)

The cost per person would be affected by the number going. It could be as low as \$85.00 (123 people), or as high as \$120.00 (77 people). At any rate, air fare should be at least 25% below regular economy fare.

This price includes:

Round trip air fare from either Lansing or Detroit. (which city will be determined later.)

Cocktails or refreshments in flight. (No limit, as long as you behave.)

Luncheon in flight.

Ground transportation by chartered bus at New Orleans between airport and convention-area hotels.

Complimentary flight bag for every passenger.

Car parking additional- Lansing \$1.25/day; Detroit \$1.75/day.

Airplane would be 727 (96 seats), or Stretch 727 (123 seats), or if response warrants, we'll get a 707 (about 155 seats).

WEDNESDAY, June 23, 1971

Proposed departure time:	11:00 am
Arrive New Orleans airport:	1:08 pm
Arrive downtown New Orleans:	2:00 pm

SUNDAY, June 27, 1971

Leave downtown New Orleans:	12:00 Noon
Leave New Orleans airport:	1:15 pm
Arrive Michigan:	3:23 pm

When the questionnaires are evaluated, we'll print details and actual order forms with guaranteed maximum rates. The sooner we can contract for such a flight, the better chance we have of protecting ourselves from any future air fare increases, so please give it some thought, and return the form as soon as possible.

#### NOTICE TO ALL CHAPTERS

There will be a meeting of the Pioneer District House of Delegates at the Holiday Inn, Windsor, Ontario, Canada on Friday evening, October 9, 1970, at 9:00 P.M. (E.D.T.).

Included on the agenda will be the election of District officers for 1971, and a proposed change in the by-laws by the Oakland County Chapter as follows:

PROPOSED:

That, "effective, this date, the District name be amended to read- GREAT LAKES DISTRICT".

William C. Warner  
District Secretary



ZONE 1 by Dora Vogel

309 BELANGER ROAD  
GROSSE PTE., MICH.  
48236



Grosse Pointe, Dearborn, Detroit,  
Redford, O.C.C., Windsor, Wayne,  
Ann Arbor, Monroe, Milford, Pontiac

Earl and Esther Liss celebrated their first anniversary in Hawaii recently.....Our heartfelt condolences to Marge Wearing and her family on the loss of her father, Lester Tenny. Johnny is recuperating at home after a recent illness.....Tony and Laura Scooros proudly announce the marriage of their daughter Melissa to Tom Marcus of Grand Rapids; Tom formerly sang with the University Glee Club.....Carl and Elizabeth Shiffer announce the birth of their first grandchild born to Grant and Judy Shiffer.....Former District Treasurer, Jack Klaiber, is recovering from a heart attack he suffered recently in Los Angeles..... Best wishes to George and Ellen (Harrington) Roskopp on their recent marriage.....Our sympathies go to John Neighorn and family for the recent loss of his father.....Also to Pat (Mrs. Tom) Tompos for the loss of her father in an auto accident; Mr. and Mrs. Tompos recently celebrated their fifth anniversary....Russ and Shirley Seeley recently added to their family (an eight months-old boy named Keith) ; they summered (partly) in Hawaii.....Detroit's family picnic at Camp Dearborn was a real fun day with games and prizes.....Motor City Chorus wives are planning a dinner dance at the Athena Hall in Roseville, on September 19th, tickets are available from any chapter member, or their wives.....Mark and Isabel Roberts moved to Florida recently to join Lou Wally, George Cox, and Bill Otto from this area. They'll be organizing a (Michigan) quartet, the Robert's address is #99 Shangrila, Largo, Florida, 33450.....Recently married Jay Richens (and Nancy Cooper), honeymooned in Hawaii.....A capacity crowd was entertained on the Detroit-sponsored Moonlight Bob-Lo Cruise by the Motor City Chorus, the INTERLOCHENS, CHORD REPORTERS, STATELINERS, BROTHERS 3 & ME, the HARMONY HOUNDS, and the Sweet Adeline ADAPT - A-CHORDS; the crowd was met at the dock by Bob Farrington and the Banjos of Michigan.....All of the wives that went on the plane to Atlantic City were presented orchids by the airline stewardesses; the wives helped man the hospitality room; Fred and Joan Kienitz almost lost their daughter in that huge crowd on the boardwalk.....O.C.C.'s Greenhorn Quartet contest (ladies night) was a huge success. Competing quartets included the GENERAL DISAGREEMENT, the FOUR BOARDS, SCORPIO 4, BLOOD, SWEAT AND GORE, the FUNATICS, the DRAWBACKS, CLEFF PALLETES, and the SPARE PARTS. Bob McGrath (formerly from here) of California attended. The evening was topped off with a chicken dinner.



# chapter news

## SAGINAW BAY

by Bob Melton

At the board meeting of the Saginaw Bay Board of Directors held on August 3rd, Len Johnson resigned as the Chorus Director because of personal reasons, but said he would help us as Assistant Director. Bob Glover has consented to return to direct us. Bob was our director for several years and does a very fine job.

Our meeting night has been changed from Tuesday night to Thursday night and the time changed from 8 to 8:30 p.m. We will continue to meet at the Messiah Lutheran Church in Bay City until further notice.

The tentative arrangements for our fall show is as follows: The place will be the John Glenn Auditorium, on October 24th, in Bay City, Michigan. The price will be \$2.00 for show tickets, and \$1.00 for the After-Glo, held at the A.L.F. Hall on Bay Road. The Co-Chairmen will be Len Johnson and Bob Glover. We hope to have the GENTLEMENS AGREEMENT and the FOUR-TUNE TELLERS, as guest quartets.

After our sing-out on Sunday, August 16th in Sanford, Michigan, we are all invited to Bruce Milligan's for a picnic, sort of a family After-Glo. The wives of the attending barbershoppers are requested to call Bruce's wife for instructions. This is at Fisher and Two Mile Road in Bay City, and will begin at 2:30 sharp.

We wish to express our deepest sympathy to Dick Mueller on the loss of his mother.

## HOLLAND

by Jack Essenburg

The Holland Chapter held its annual Tulip Time Parade of Quartets on May 15. All indications show it was one of the finest programs we have ever presented, and was well received by the sell-out crowd.

Mr. Del Doctor, M C for the evening, did an outstanding job and kept things rolling besides directing the WINDMILL CHORUS as part of the show. Mr. Diekema did the honors conducting the mass chorus in "Keep America Singing" as a grand finale.

Many thanks are in order to all chairmen and committees for all the work and effort put forth to accomplish a successful show and After-Glo.

Many barbershoppers are also avid campers as was evident at the camp-out held on the camping grounds of Gashorn Lake on the 19th, 20th, and 21st of June. There were 25 campsites representing 107 campers. There were also many visiting guests, bringing the total to 159 people.

Joyce Mast and Ardy Jeltema won the jarts contest, while Bob and Jack Essenburg took top place at horse-shoes. Proceeds from the contests and other activities totaled about \$60.00, which is being forwarded to Log-pedics.

After a potluck dinner, a campfire program was next on the agenda. Chet Oonk M C'd the show, which

consisted of three picked-at-random quartets, group-singing led by Del Doctor, and topped off by some ringing chords by the TUNE TAILORS and the SOUNDSATIONS.

We hope by this time those in attendance have found their ways home, and sincerely hope we can have another camp-out with such a grand group.

## WAYNE

by Morrie Giles

Once again the Fall Season and Harrisville are upon us with absolutely no conscience over the fact that we did not have a long enough summer.

Barbershoppers are barbershoppers and beavers are beavers, but sometimes barbershoppers work like beavers. All during the summer vacation period "WAYNE WONDERLAND CHORUS" has averaged close to 90% attendance at rehearsals. Our director, Gordie Limburg has been hitting us with one new song a week. We're really pushing hard, and enthusiasm is running higher than ever.

Besides the contest in Windsor, our chorus has quite a full schedule of appearances from August through next April, including at least two full-scale shows. Chorus manager, Pete Anderson, is a very busy man. Pretty soon we could wind up with more engagements than rehearsals.

Wayne sent nine men (two quartets plus one) to HEP school in Wisconsin. It would appear that this school is aptly named, since our group came back so "hepped-up" it'll probably be rubbing off for months.

This year our annual chapter picnic was moved to Camp Dearborn at the request of the Dearborn Department of Parks and Recreation. In exchange for park facilities, we put on an evening show for the "tent city" campers, and were very warmly received.

Wayne's summer chapter meetings have been out-of-doors at various summer cottages. Our program v.- p. managed to bring in several quartets for the occasions, including some from out-of-state.

Chorus excerpts from Wayne's show tapes are now being heard over WAAM radio in Ann Arbor on Saturday mornings.

Wayne hopes you all had a good time at Harrisville, and we'll see you next month in Windsor.

## JACKSON

Dan Labumbard

Greetings from Jackson where the Action is. We all hope that you had a fine summer, and that Harrisville was a huge success.

By the time this is read, our Parade of Harmony will be past. Held September 12th, in Jackson High School, before a crowd of 1,200 people, the show featured the VAGABONDS; the CHALKDUSTERS from Canton, Ohio; the NOTEABLE 4; the JACKSONAIRES CHORUS and the SWEET ADELINES CHORUS. Highlight of the evening was the 1000th quartet appearance by our champions- the FOR-TUNE TELLERS. A great time was had by all, and we will have a full report next month.

Summertime has been busy with chorus rehearsals for the show, two lake meetings, and a visit from Wayne. We are invading Wayne on October 2nd with bag and baggage, so we issue an invitation to join us, as we sing and swing.

All of us in the Pioneer District were proud of the fine showing of the GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT in Atlantic City, and we wish them the best of luck in the

future. Keep singing and we will see you next month.

## TRAVERSE CITY by Dean Fischer

WOW- what a long time between Troubadours  
Lost track of all that has happened since competition.

Our June show was a sell-out, thanks to the GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT and the RENEGADES. Just the forerunner of things to come in Traverse City.

Since our show we've gained about 9 new members, and our sound is shaping up.

Tom Gentil from Western Hills Chapter, Cincinnati, visited our meeting, and WOW, what a director. We learned lots from Tom.

Several of us visited the Cederville show the last of July, you should hear their chorus, they're soundin' good.

Two summer picnics were fun for all attending, even the out-of-town guests.

Our fearless director returned from Chorus Directors College at Racine, wound up like an 8-day clock--- NEAT--- Learned lots of good stuff to improve our guys singing- watch out downstate.

Cadillac's director was also at Racine, and while both our directors were gone, caddy came to T.C. and we had a great time.

We are winding up a group to go see the Windsor competition come October. Tho', we're not competing, we are still going to have a hospitality room and invite all reading this to visit us.

Swig it up at T. C.'s hospitality room.

From now on, it's sing-sing-sing-we're shaping up for Spring '71 competition, which will be here in T.C., come April. Lots of pre-groundwork has been done, and except for those that know Traverse City, I think everybody is in for a surprise when they see our facilities, auditorium, hotels, motels, etc. It's going to be great here.

Spring '71 Competition  
Traverse City, Michigan

## DETROIT

Larry King

At recent meetings of their respective chapters, Detroit and Dearborn members voted overwhelmingly to a merger of the two. The combination produces the second largest chapter in our Society, exceeded only by Dundalk, Maryland.

The Detroit and Dearborn chapters have for years been among the most active in the Pioneer District and the combined experience of their members and officers will result only in the betterment of Barbershopping. The Motor City Chorus welcomes the addition of Dearborn's fine voices and we expect to represent the District in New Orleans.

Thanks largely to the support of Barbershoppers from most of the chapters in the southern and southeastern portions of the Pioneer District, and their friends, our annual moonlight Cruise was a huge success. Over 1,100 people enjoyed a program that alternated between good four-part harmony and dancing and the weatherman arranged the nicest evening we have had in years. Our thanks to the many quartets that participated.

Congratulations to the District representatives in Atlantic City, the Wolverine Chorus, the GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT, and our own quartet, the SHARPLIFTERS.....

## FLINT

Les Lang

Flint has had a quiet summer, regular meetings, but not too well attended. Now as fall approaches, we have many activities scheduled.

Starting September 1st, we will be meeting every Tuesday evening at 8:00 p.m.

On September 11, we have a Quad-Chapter Chorus rehearsal scheduled at the Elks club in Flint.

September 21st and 28th, we are holding two Audition for Admissions nights, and we will see what happens about getting some new members. We hope to get off the ground this fall and really go places and sing.

We also have two more audition nights later this fall, one in Grand Blanc, and one in Mt. Morris, which should produce both new members, and better participation by our present members, so we can have a really GOOD chorus. September 21st is also Quad-Chapter meeting night in Flint at the regular place.

## WINDSOR

by Ted Verwey

Yes, Fall is here and "A REAL BALL" is in store for everyone of you PIONEER Barbershoppers and their wives or sweethearts.

Windsor's Convention Committee, under the capable guidance of the "MERRI-MADICS" Quartet with co-chairmen Paul Eberwein and Fred Sorrell, has made elaborate plans for your comfort and supreme entertainment.

You have by this time received your copy of the planned "Goings-On", but to refresh your memory, here are a few of the Highlites.

(All events are listed in WINDSOR'S DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME)

- \* House of Delegates Meeting-Friday 9 pm- Holiday Inn.
- \* Pre-Glow-Friday 10 pm-Holiday Inn
- \* Contests-Cleary Auditorium-Saturday 10 am, 2pm, 8 pm.
- \* After-Glow- 10:30 pm, At the Holiday Inn
- \* Quartet Critique- Sunday 9 am-Holiday Inn

Headquarters are in the beautiful new Holiday Inn, with a limited number of rooms overlooking the Detroit River, and the beautiful Detroit sky-line. (first come, first served) Order direct from the Holiday Inn, Riverside West, Windsor, Ontario, Canada. You don't have to leave the building for your Saturday evening "Special Barbershoppers only, (and friends), Singalong Smorgasbord", complete with many courses for \$4.25, taxes and tips included.

The Convention Committee is presently working on a few surprises. For duty-free beverages, the "Am-mex" stores are located on the American side of the Bridge and tunnel.

You owe it to yourself to come and "Woodshed" with us on the beautiful deck at the Holiday Inn, built right out over the water of the Detroit River; which separates us from our American Barbershopper-Brothers.

For further Pre-Convention information contact:

Paul Eberwein  
2970 Askin

Windsor, Ontario, Canada

Day #519-253-9133 Evening #519-969-5156

I'll be on deck all through the convention. KEEP SINGING.

Please make the following changes re/ (page 19)  
Windsor Executive Committee in your District Directory:  
Due to job transfer to Saskatchewan, President Bill Loyd had to resign.

New President:  
Andy McCann  
311 Dandurand  
Windsor 21, Ontario # 519-969-6949  
New Program V.-P.:  
Ed Schultz  
R.R. # 1 Old Castle # 519-734-6234  
New Secretary:  
Earl Dykeman  
4191 Mount Royal  
Windsor, Ontario 21 # 519-969-2788

## OAKLAND COUNTY by Jim McCatty

Hi Men: Things have been happening fast and furious in our Chapter this August.

Seven quartets entered the Greenhorn Contest and are listed in the order in which they placed. GENERAL DISAGREEMENT, BLOOD, SWEAT, & GORE, FUN ADDICTS, DRAWBACKS, CLEFF PALLETES, SPARE PARTS and 4 BOARDS. For the critique; Judges Bill Wickstrom, John Seeman, Bill Shannon, and Carl Dahlke all shook their heads sadly as they washed and washed their hands.

One hundred sixty-five men and women witnessed these happenings and had a marvelous time. Listening to the TRIADS and the HERRAISERS was a real treat, and to put the finishing touch on the evening, Pat and Norm Heomke prepared a delicious chicken dinner, with all the trimmings. T'was quite a night.

The chapter was invited to a Corn & Kielbasa Roast at Norm Schram's home on August 20th. About 40 fellows were on hand, trying to make those chords ring in between bites. Dick VanDyke hosted a weiner roast at his home for the men and their wives on the 21st of August. They also had a good turnout. Thanks fellows.

August may still be with us, but now and again you see a brown leaf in the breeze, that makes you realize that September is not far off. It's time to look ahead a bit to the activities we have planned. There are some worth mentioning, such as Harrisville, where 'it's really at' from the first through the seventh of September.

Our Chapter has a family picnic planned for September 19th at Metropolitan Beach Park. We are looking to have a good crowd with lots of fun for all.

If you have a 1971 calendar, you should plant a BIG RED "X" on February 5th. This will remind you that Oakland County Chapter is showing the film of the 1970 International Contest at Atlantic City. This should be interesting. Plan to be there, 8:30 pm, K. of C. Hall, 2299 W. 12 Mile Road, Berkley, Michigan. See you there. . . .

For those of you who said, "what happened to Bob Drabik", well, he will be back in January of 1971. And there's another big "X" for your calendar.

## GRATIOT COUNTY by Maynard and Fred

The summer of 1970 will go down as a busy one for the Gratiot County Chapter. To begin with, some four of us got our eyes and ears opened by our first visit to the Lansing Fish-Fry. All we can say is that we should have gone sooner, 'cause Don Funk puts on a good show.

On June 15th, the losing team in our recent contest treated all of us to a nice pancake supper at the conservation league building in Alma. Jerry Wolven and his team put on a real feed to end the fueling for another season.

The Old-Fashioned 4th of July Celebration in Breckinridge, attracted a big crowd to hear the crowd-pleasing MIDSTATESMEN put on an evening performance on the athletic field there. They were so pleased with us, that we were invited back to Breckinridge High School on August 7th to sing before the reunion of old-timers. It sort of gives one a real nice feeling to get a standing ovation, doesn't it?

On July 29th, we sang for the Gratiot County Senior Citizens at the community center in Alma. They were a very appreciative group, and we are always glad to put on a show for them.

Members of the Chapter began to converge on St. Joseph Island (Canada) early in the week for our fishing-singing weekend of August 21st to the 23rd. There were 18 men who made the trip this year. There were also 3 wives and 4 sons who helped swell the ranks of fishermen. Everybody had fish to bring home, in spite of some damp weather on Saturday and Sunday night. But it takes more than a little rain to dampen the spirits of a bunch of good barbershoppers. We put on a real nice show for the people of the island on Saturday night, with four quartets and plenty of chorus numbers. They were a fine audience, and always look forward to our coming back next year. On Sunday morning, 13 of us went over to the United Church of Canada in Richard's Landing, and sang for their morning service. Now we are all busy telling fish stories and making plans for our return next year.

Of course the capper-offer of the summer will be the big Labor-Day weekend at Harrisville. It looks like there will be more of our chapter there this year than ever before.

And y'all out there in Barbershopperland--don't forget the Gratiot County Parade on September 26th. It is going to be a real whiz-bang show this fall. One you will not want to miss.

We hope your summer has been as interesting as ours has been.

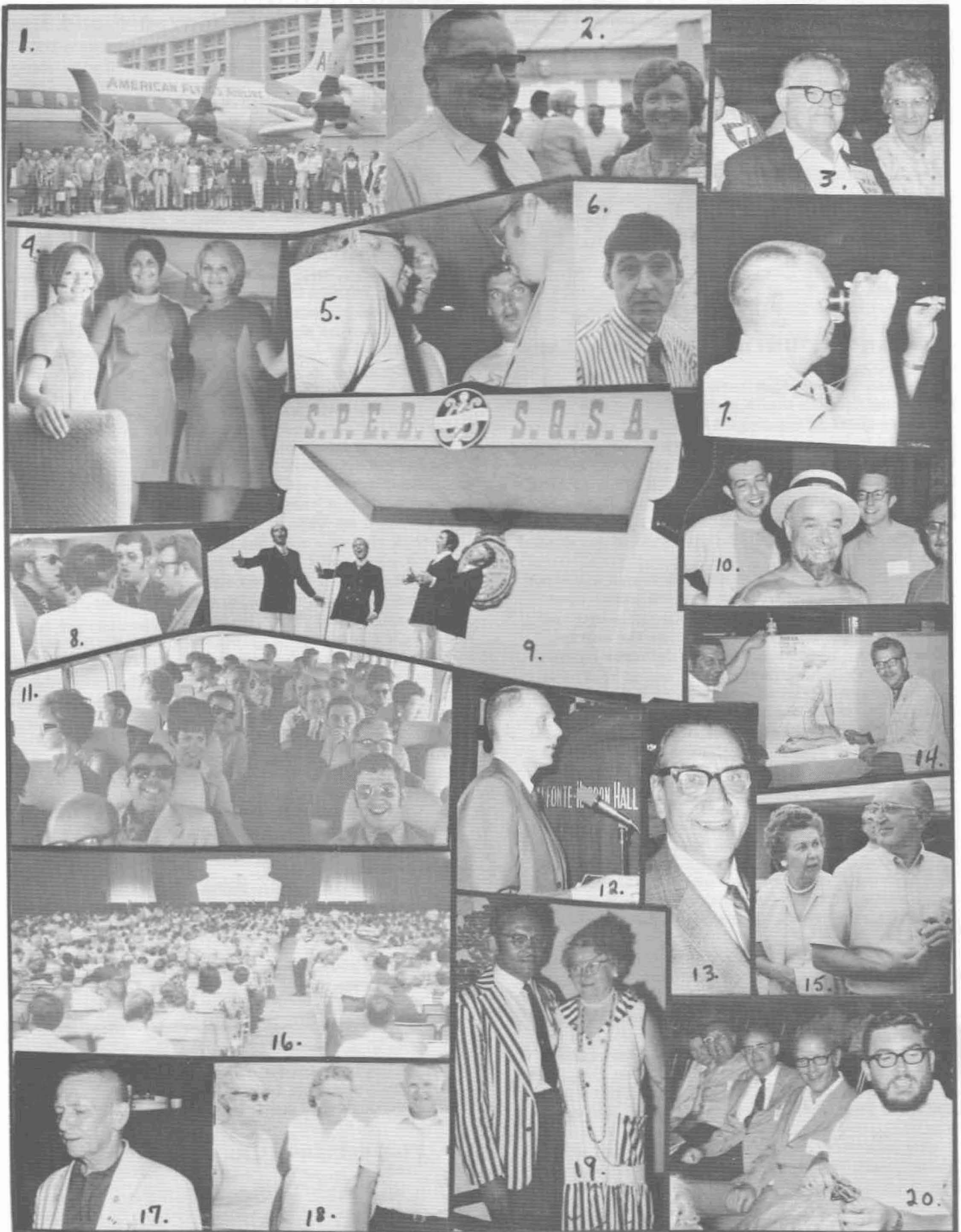
---

District Prexy Tom Damm wishes us to print his work phone number in case anyone wants to get a hold of him during the day- It is done, Prez.-

PLYLE PATTERN & MFG. CO. (616) 733-2173



# INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION 1970







# ATLANTIC CITY

LEGEND FOR PICTURES, PRECEDING PAGES

1. Will they all fit?
2. Mr. & Mrs. Tom Schull
3. Mr. & Mrs. Em. Spurling
4. Stewardesses on the flight.
5. Bill Warner, Tom Damm, Jack Stephan, & Friend.
6. Bud Carpenter, perplexed
7. Wrong end, Eric.
8. The old & the new.
9. The GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT on stage.
10. When's the last time you didn't see the bearded wonder at a convention?
11. Bus load from the plane to the hotels.
12. Tom Damm giving Pioneer District report.
13. Wally Joure
14. O.C.C.'s President discovered a way to keep Wolverine Chorus Director Carl Dahlke well fed while his wife was away.
15. Mr. & Mrs. Geo. Dyer
16. Part of the convention crowd between quartets.
17. Les Lang
18. Mr. & Mrs. Cecil Craig & Evelyn Pascher
19. Mr. & Mrs. Bill Pascher (The Gay Nineties parade was cancelled, due to rain.)
20. Dan LaBumbard & the JACKSON GANG
21. Bob Whitledge proudly displays his 4th place medal.
22. SUNDOWNERS on stage. (2nd place)
23. SHARPLIFTERS walk-on recieved the biggest ovation of the Convention, as their walk-on was delayed for 45 minutes, due to loud construction in the building.
24. Airport lobby before the flight.
25. VAGABOND Denny Gore
26. Jack Teubert
27. Joe Kiley
28. VAGABOND wife Pat Gore
29. Atlantic City skyline
30. Dinner with a star- Enzo Stuarti.
31. Wives chatter before the flight.
32. SHARPLIFTERS on stage
33. Dick Simpson and Pat VanDyke, bus back to the airport.
34. Stu Gates, Norm Schram, Ron Sawdon, Bob Whitledge
35. Early Monday registrants, Bill & Evelyn Pascher.
36. Pioneer District booth
37. Past President, Gene Gillem
38. The Quartet judges
39. Bob Johnson-Gang singing
40. Carl Dahlke & Bobbi Bostick
41. Parts of the VAGABONDS & the GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT
42. Norm & Mary Ellen Schram
43. Bill Fitzgerald, Eric Schultz, & Bill Warner
44. Jim Lekander Sunday afternoon; why is he tired?
45. John Fynmore (alias, Shifty-eyed Slade?)

# Milford MINNI-CHORUS CONTEST

510 W. Commerce Rd.  
Milford, Mich.

Friday, September 25 th.  
9:00 P.M. American Legion Hall 684-9375

**FUN!  
FOOD!  
FELLOWSHIP!**

CHORUS TO BE JUDGED IN  
HA-BB-VE

- 🎵 Chorus must have 12 to 20 men
- 🎵 only 2 men in any REGISTERED quartet can sing in any one chorus
- 🎵 A chapter can have more than one chorus



## FOLLOWING the CHAMPS

# 1969



### the VAGABONDS

Our 1969-70 Champs are drawing to a close, "their year". It's been an active one. . . something we have come to expect of Pioneer District Champs.

Their summer wasn't exactly uneventful. They did themselves, their chapters, and the District proud at the International Contests by singing everywhere they could, and by M. C.-ing the District's hospitality room in the Chalfonte Haddon Hall. They kept quartets coming until nearly five in the morning. It was an exciting convention, and the VAGABONDS helped to make it so.

Another exciting "happening" was the removal of the hallowed tonsils of Tenor-par-excellence Kenny Gibson in early July. (Isn't that exciting?) Subsequent practices demonstrate that the sound of the VAGABONDS wasn't affected by the removal of the sacred spheres.

Just prior to the application of the surgeon's knife, Ken was honored at a Lansing Chapter's Ladies Night, when he was selected for the Lansing Chapter's "Barbershop Oscar," the story of which is shown in the pictures at the right.

Picture #1 shows Kenny warming up outside with a "pick-up" quartet, still not suspecting that this would be his night, and #2 shows the same quartet on stage. Picture #3 demonstrates some of the wives who were asked to write a brief synopsis relating why their husband should be picked for the Barbershop Oscar. #4 shows Kenny Gibson as he is announced as the recipient of the award, and #5 shows the VAGABONDS displaying the "Oscar". (Kenny is the one out of uniform.) Picture #6 shows the VAGABONDS singing "You are a Wonderful Mother" to Ken's mother; and #7 shows the TRIADS who also sang at the festivities. (Ken's wife at arrow.) Pictures #7&8 show some of the crowd that gathered for the event of the year in Lansing. Ken tells us he was totally suprised, as he should be.

But back to serious things . . . . The Champs have several Parades lined up for the next two mos, after Harrisville. Plan to see them at one or more of the following shows:

- Sept 12 Jackson Parade
- Sept 19 (Sweet Ads) Interlakes Parade
- Sept 26 Gratiot County Parade
- Oct 3 Benton Harbor Parade
- Oct 9-11 District Convention, Windsor
- Oct 17 Lansing Parade
- Oct 20 Milford Parade

Contact man for the quartet is Tony Scooros, (313)-549-4958.





The material contained in this editorial does not necessarily reflect either the attitudes or opinions of the Troubadour, its staff, or the Pioneer District's Board of Directors. It does, however, display the American right of free speech.

by **CARL DAHLKE**

### WHAT IS IN A NAME ?

Ever try to find a name for your new quartet???? Most of us have, and if this includes you, then you are aware that the prime consideration in selecting a name is whether you can identify with that name.....Does it describe us?.....It should be simple and obvious to be effective.

I could write pages and pages of names appropriate and indicative of the group it represents, e.g. : From Miami, the SUN TONES needs no explanation, the CONFEDERATES in Grey Uniforms and swords, The DAPPER DANS CHORUS, The LOUISVILLE THOROUGH-BREDS, the FOUR STATESMEN, the MOTOR CITY CHORUS, the HOLLAND WINDMILL CHORUS, and any one of our neighboring districts names.....which slyly brings us to the thrust of my message.....

In Atlantic City, we had a District booth which boasted the name-PIONEER DISTRICT.

I wish I would have counted the number of people who asked me what it meant. All that was missing was the stage coach and Indians burning down the town.

If the name "pioneer" appeals to you, then probably you do not experience your barbershopping outside the borders of your District; we want to relate to all of barbershopping, not just our own little world.

A barbershopper from Kansas City sees PIONEER and thinks we are from Wyoming or Utah or some other place west. If you have to explain a name, I do not see how you can say it is a name we can identify with. I do not mean to trample on history or tradition, but even with my 15 years of barbershopping, I do not FEEL like a "pioneer", and CANNOT identify with the name.

All of the other districts (except 2 ) have geographic names. If a man tells me he is from the DIXIE DISTRICT, there is not much doubt where he is from..... but PIONEER??????

If Oakland County had gone to the first International as the BARBERY HOST CHORUS, everyone would have expected a San Francisco Chorus, but O.C.C.s Board of Directors, thinking beyond its county borders, elected to be known as the WOLVERINE CHORUS, for the sake of being identified with the entire District and recognized anywhere.

Now, before I lose my good friends in Canada, I want to make it clear that I agree that they should share 100% in the identification of our District, and



what name more consistently ties in all of our chapters than- the GREAT LAKES DISTRICT??? Windsor is surrounded by Lake Erie, St. Clair, and Huron; Michigan is bordered by Lakes Michigan, Superior, and Huron.

The fact that there is a LAND OF LAKES district just west of here causes no confusion. The Great Lakes are distinctively unique bodies of water that are recognizable, by name, the world over.... and, they surround our District.

Minnesota was obviously laying no claim to Lake Michigan as "theirs" when they selected LAND OF LAKES as their name.

We could split hairs forever as to whether their land of small lakes could be confused with our great lakes.

Imagine that you are from Tulsa, Oklahoma, and you approach a district hospitality room; which name would identify this group of barbershoppers best for you,,, PIONEER???? or GREAT LAKES????? Somehow I cannot keep a straight face and tell someone from Colorado, that I am from the "PIONEER" District.

Let's get in tune with the realities of public relations and change to a name we can all identify with.... not just the few people who remember their pioneer days in barbershopping.







## Minutes

EXECUTIVE  
BOARD  
MEETING

A meeting of the Pioneer District Board of Directors was held on Saturday, July 25, 1970 at Capt. Cliff MacLean's home in Cedarville, Michigan. The meeting was called to order at 2 pm by President Tom Damm. Present were Tom Damm, Gene Gillem, Dick Simpson, Don Funk, Cliff MacLean, Pat Ryan, and Bill Warner. Absent: Tom Pollard and Ron Gillies. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

A treasurer's report by E.E. "Pat" Ryan showed a balance of \$8,547.53.

### Zone Reports:

Zone I. Efforts are being made to clear up the final details on the charter revocation of Ann Arbor and Redford Chapters.

Zone II. Dick Simpson reports Tecumseh Chapter doing well under a new chorus director. Roger Louis of Battle Creek chapter has been appointed to replace Gary Brown as area counselor in Area 13, effective immediately. The HARMONY HOUNDS of Battle Creek have advised that they have several pictures taken on their Far Eastern tour, and have offered to show them to any chapter at a meeting or ladies night and sing for the chapter if and when asked.

Zone III. Don Funk reported on a letter he had recieved from Kenosha, regarding the Grand Haven Chapter and its apparent demise. President Damm suggested that a letter be sent to all members of the Grand Haven Chapter asking them to transfer their membership to one of the existing chapters on the area. Don Funk will handle this. Big Rapids Chapter is still holding together and entertaining people in the area. Muskeogon Chapter is presenting a twenty-minute sustaining radio program every Saturday night over the local station.

Zone IV. Cliff MacLean reported that the southern chapters in the zone are doing well with lots of planned activities. Traverse City's show was a great success. Canadian Sault reports enthusiasm running high. They plan to send three men to HEP school in Racine.

I.B.M., Gene Gillem reported on the action taken at the International Board meeting.

President Damm read a letter from Chet Fox announcing his visit to Pioneer District beginning the week of September 13th. A tentative schedule for his visit is as follows:

Monday	9/14/70	Flint
Tuesday	9/15/70	Lansing
Wed.-Fri.	9/16-18/70	Extension work in Roscommon

E.E. "Pat" Ryan, as President of the Detroit #1 Chapter, asked that the Board consider the proposed merger of the Dearborn and Detroit Chapters. A motion made by Dick Simpson, seconded by Gene Gillem, that the Pioneer District grant its permission for the Dearborn Chapter to merge into the Detroit #1 Chapter. Motion carried.

Paul Eberwein has been announced as the chairman for the District Fall Convention in Windsor.

Registration fees for the convention were established as follows:

Regular Registration	\$6.00
Competitor Registration	\$5.00

Registration fee includes the all-events package of tickets. Every competitor, chorus or quartet, must be registered in order to compete.

The convention committee was reminded to arrange for a room for the House of Delegates meeting that will seat a minimum of 75 men.

Secretary Warner advised that registration forms will be mailed shortly to all quartets and choruses as well as a notification of the House of Delegates meeting to all chapters.

It was pointed out that it is important to stress that Windsor is on Daylight Savings Time, rather than Standard Time.

The next meeting for the Board of Directors was set for September 13th at Inn America in East Lansing Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted William C. Warner  
District Secretary

### PIONEER DISTRICT CHORUS CONTEST INTERNATIONAL PRELIM

Saturday, October 10, 1970  
Cleary Auditorium  
Windsor, Ontario, Canada  
2:00 P.M. (E.D.T.)

### CHORUS ENTRY BLANK

William C. Warner, District Secretary  
23531 Meadowlark  
Oak Park, Michigan 48237

Please enter the \_\_\_\_\_  
chorus from the \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter in the forthcoming contest.

We agree to abide by the rules of the contest, as stated, and to accept the decisions of the judges as final.

We will have approximately \_\_\_\_\_ members in our competing chorus.

Our director is \_\_\_\_\_

Our chorus contact man is \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signed (for the chorus) \_\_\_\_\_

(All entries must reach the District Secretary's office three weeks prior to the contest.)

PLEASE NOTE: Windsor is on Eastern Daylight Time

1970-71 PIONEER DISTRICT QUARTET  
CONTEST

October 10, 1970

PRELIMINARIES 10:00 am (EDT)

FINALS 8:00 pm (EDT)

ENTRY BLANK

(All entries must reach the District Secretary's  
office not later than September 23rd)

William C. Warner, District Secretary  
23531 Meadowlark  
Oak Park, Michigan 48237

Please enter for competition in the 1970-71 District  
Quartet Contest the following Barbershop Quartet as  
listed:

Name of Quartet: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever competed in a previous contest?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Tenor \_\_\_\_\_

Lead \_\_\_\_\_

Bari \_\_\_\_\_

Bass \_\_\_\_\_

The above quartet members are eligible for compe-  
tition and are bona fide members, with dues paid to  
the \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter of S.P.E.

B.S.Q.S.A., Inc. We will, without protest, abide by  
all decisions of the judges.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (for the quartet): \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE NOTE: Windsor is on Eastern Daylight Time

IN ANSWER TO THOUSANDS OF  
REQUESTS FOR A PICTURE OF  
'TROUB' ARTIST JOHN MORRIS,  
WE REGRETFULLY OFFER THIS  
UN-RETOUCHED PHOTO OF  
JOHN AT WORK IN HIS STUDIO



letters  
to the  
editor

Dear Editor,

Pioneer District, Where is that?

While entertaining in the Peachtree Chorus and  
Dixie District hospitality room in Atlantic City, the  
big question from the audience was, "Where is the Pi-  
oneer District located?"

Bill Wickstrom, in his inimitable style, rattled off  
a number of firsts and pioneering barbershop ideas  
that came from Michigan. After all this was over, a  
comment came back, "What have you done for the So-  
ciety lately?" and they still wanted to know where the  
Pioneer District is located.

This is a typical example of the comments that are  
heard about the non-discript title of our District. It  
appears we should again take a closer look at the title  
which describes our District. How about "Great Lakes  
District?"

Sing-cerely,

Bill Shannon  
Lead, SHARPLIFTERS



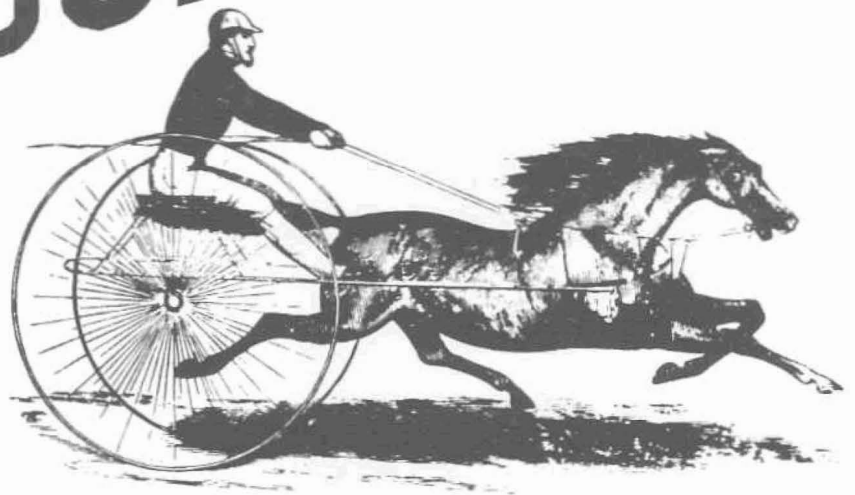
The LANSING CHAPTER

PRESENTS

The LOUISVILLE

# THOROUGHBREDS

also the VAGABONDS  
& RANGE FINDERS



Tickets \$2.50

OCTOBER, 16th.  
EASTERN HIGH SCHOOL  
AUDITORIUM  
8:15 P.M.

for tickets contact

Gene Johnson  
Phone (517) 485-2968

THE DEADLINE FOR COPY WILL BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO:

CHAPTER REPORTS - 25TH OF PRECEDING MONTH  
ALL OTHER COPY INCLUDING ADS MUST BE IN BY THE 20TH OF THE PRECEDING MONTH

Keep America Singing

ROBERT MILLER 141  
576 DE SOTO MI 48197  
YPSILANTI

*DON'T FORGET  
C.O.T.S. DEC. 6TH!*

HERE'S A BARBERSHOPPER



**INN AMERICA  
E. LANSING, MICH.**



## Coming Events

SEND REQUESTS FOR PARADE CLEARANCE TO:

William C. Warner  
23531 Meadowlark  
Oak Park, Mich. 48237

SEPT 26, 1970  
OCT. 3, 1970  
OCT 9-11, 1970

NOV. 7, 1970  
MARCH 20, 1971

GRATIOT CTY. PARADE  
FRUITBELT PARADE  
DISTRICT MEETING AND  
CONTESTS, WINDSOR  
DETROIT #1 PARADE  
KALAMAZOO PARADE