

pioneer
TROUBADOUR



APRIL 1971

ON THE TROUB COVER



The Traverse City Chapter may soon rank among the District's great chapters (along with Muskegon and Windsor) as convention hosts. That is, if we can believe all of the advance notices. For a comparatively new chapter, they have taken the "bull by the horns" and are organized well beyond the hopes of anyone. They are seemingly doing everything right - advance reservations and registrations, a magnificent hall, local publicity abounding, committee meetings to iron out the many facets of the chorus and quartet contests - in short, musically speaking, they have "left no tone unsternead." (bad pun)

The site of the convention is Traverse City, Michigan's near north playground and international seaport nestled in the heart of the cherry country on Grand Traverse Bay.

The convention weekend is April 23-24-25, but you already know that. Quartet and Chorus registration is well ahead of previous contests with - quartets and 10 choruses entered three weeks before the contest, and it's exciting to see some of the chapters that are "returning" to competition at the chorus level. The chorus contest to this point consists of:

Milford	Traverse City
Pontiac	Muskegon
Flint	Grand Rapids
Wayne	Windsor
Grosse Pointe	Boyer City

And, the quartet contest, which may be one of the most exciting contests in recent memory, lines up like this:

Chord Reporters	Sharplifters
Soundsations	Galaxies
Bean Town Four	X-L's
Vagabonds	Gentlemen's Agreement
Hi Lites	Cartunes
Note-Worthies	Rolling Tones

With more to come. The Quartet contest will again approach 20, and several of these are capable of taking one of the two international representative spots.

Add to all of this the probable controversy of the House of Delegates meeting and you have a little bit of everything for everyone. It promises to be a great convention and our hats are off to the Traverse City Chapter (before the fact) for their foresight and planning.



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:

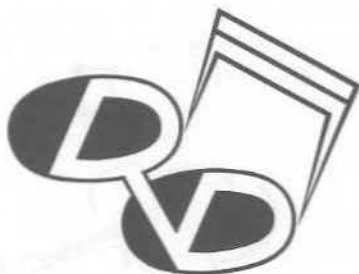
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 THE PIONEER TROUBADOUR
 P.O. Box # 1971
 Madison Heights, Michigan 48071

POSTMAN:

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



DICK VAN DYKE



There are at least three proposals to be brought before the House of Delegates meeting in Traverse City on the 25th April. Please be sure your delegates to the convention are aware of how you feel about the proposals.

The essence of the proposals are:

1. By Oakland County Chapter;
To change the name of the Pioneer District to Great Lakes District.
2. By Oakland County and Pontiac Chapters to change the two year ban on choruses that win District Championships to only one year, and
3. To discontinue the current "senior" and the "junior" champion designations in chorus contests and to institute in their places a chorus champion. All choruses will be eligible for the chorus championship, and the Silver Division champs will be selected from the best of the choruses whose chapter membership falls in the lower half of the total district membership.

To explain, this spring contest would line up like this (based on Feb. 28th figures):

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

Detroit	116 ineligible	}	1969 Champs
Oakland County	103 ineligible		1970 Champs
Grand Rapids	83	}	Gold
Wayne	75		
Grosse Pointe	70		
Traverse City	57		
Muskegon	55		
Kalamazoo	47		
Jackson	46		
Lansing	44		
Pontiac	42		
Flint	39		
Saginaw-Bay	37		
Battle Creek	37		
Windsor	35		
Boyer City	33		
Milford	33		
Holland	33		
Fruit Belt	32		
Monroe	32		
Niles-Buchanan	31		
Holly-Fenton	27	}	
Sault Ste. Marie	27		

Cadillac	26	}	ineligible
Les Cheneaux	25		
Hudson	24		
Three Rivers	20		
Gratiot County	16		
Tecumseh	15		
Big Rapids	9		
Au Sable	22		

It has been brought to my attention that there is no small amount of bias in the editing of the Troub. I add, immediately "Prove it".

I have gone overboard to not mention my chapter (which is just north of Detroit, between Macomb and Livingston Counties and immediately south of Genesee County), and it's an easy thing to do. What purpose would it serve to myself or my chapter to do so?

The chapter speaks for itself. Over 100 members and growing; a championship chorus; five registered quartets; sponsored 10 (or more) new chapters in the (then) Michigan District; winners in both the Silver and Gold Divisions in achievement; home of the traveling jug; International reps; District champs Galore; heavy contributors to Logopedics; active in all District oriented functions; etcetera, etcetera.

Needless to say, I'm sold on my own chapter. . . but then, you're sold on yours, too.

If you're among those who think the Troub. is slanted, I DEFY you to produce one shred of evidence. If the letters to the Editor are mostly from my chapter it's because most of the letters I get are from my chapter (every letter I receive is printed in its' entirety as long as it's not obscene or derogatory); if my chapter has more pictures in it's chapter report it's because they send me pictures (I welcome pictures from your chapter and guarantee that they will be printed if they are black & white and of fairly good quality).

If you think the editorials are slanted, you're wrong. only two editorials (in my first 16 months) have been written by members of my chapter, and only one of those was controversial. Several knowledgeable barbershoppers from around the district have been asked to write guest editorials and have refused (for a variety of personal reasons).

YOU ARE HEREBY FORMALLY INVITED TO WRITE A GUEST EDITORIAL FOR THE TROUB. (again); you are requested to send pictures; you are required to submit interesting articles regarding our hobby if you think they are interesting to other barbershoppers as well as yourself. It will be printed.

The Troub will continue to be an uncontroversial unbiased organ of the Pioneer District; the editorials, however, will continue to be as controversial as the writers wish to make them.

EVERYBODY WINS!

Herb Reed

Twelve years ago Grosse Pointe's incomparable Mark Roberts beat out of his typewriter the final draft of his now famous "Roberts Rules" for a different and remarkable type of Inter-Chapter Quartet Contest. Although Mark has moved to Florida, he is still a life member of our Chapter, an honor bestowed some years back.

Last month we enjoyed the 12th and best contest of the series with the Detroit Chapter which takes place each December and is alternately hosted. Although these contests are now all even at six each with the Joe Wolf Trophy in possession of Grosse Pointe until next December, we feel that no one has ever lost. This seems the general consensus of opinions from members of both sides. Something they cannot afford to miss. When you can be a participant in and listen to the best efforts of 24 other quartets in one evening of old time harmony you're eating high on the hog of a barbershop feast.

Every meeting has been a winner regardless of who carries away the trophy for another year. The interest mounts when preparations begin for another fray and even the most novice "four" aim to do their best for the cause, which is of course to retain or bring back the trophy. Activities include regrouping quartets, practice and more practice, contacting old members who may have been lax in attendance, scrounging for new members and all this results in making a real quarteting chapter. After a contest the spirit continues surprisingly. In many cases, we have gotten four fellows together who have never sung in a quartet, and having tasted the honey, continue boondogling to find the hive with a bee-flat.



So we are now reaping the benefits of Mark's thoughts behind his dream. The basis of course, of this success is in the rules, a few of which are that there shall be no stage presence judging. Also of importance is the rule that in scoring no quartet gets less than 20 points per song. This is the reason to get as many quartets in readiness as possible whether or not they are required to balance the contest. They all may sing the lead part and still come up with 40 points for two songs. Then also all contestants must be a member in good standing and no man can compete in more than one quartet unless holding a dual membership in both competing chapters.

Judging is generally donated by some outstanding quartet in the district who are asked and always willing to demonstrate how it should be done. At our last contest the Vagabonds, past District Champions, honored us for the chore and wound up the meet with their usual extremely fine renditions.

The Grosse Pointe Chapter is proud to have had Mark, who originally organized the Chapter and served as its first president, with us so many years. Only recently, and it seems too long ago, he moved to Florida. There, we learn he is again in the saddle and riding herd for the Clearwater Chapter. Editor of their bulletin "Overtones" and serving as program vice-president. I gather that Clearwater knows a thing or two about sizing up a man. Hurrah. "Mark rides again."

If any chapter in the district would like a copy of the complete rules, please let us know. I know it would make Mark happy to do anything he could for the Pioneer District, and we may just be interested in accepting a challenge from any other chapter in the district to such a contest.

chapter news

OAKLAND COUNTY

by Jim McCatty

Having just received my Harmonizer, I proceeded to glance through to see if any articles of earth shaking magnituae were sandwiched there-in. Well, one thing that did cause an uh. uh. was in coming events section of the fourteen (14) Districts mentioned, only two names needed clarification; sunshine (Florida) & Pioneer (Michigan). Even this isn't right in our Districts' case as it does not include our Canadian Brothers in Windsor and Sault St Marie. What to do, what to do? Well, lets take the guess work out of where our District is located in North America. Think "GREAT LAKES DISTRICT" amen.

Anyone singing in a chorus has a hard time judging how they sound during a performance. There are a few times you know the chords are not solid and you're sure the audience has heard all the wrong notes. Well thank goodness the February Show didn't have any of those flakey spots, so the whole thing came off like a dream. The quartets, "Hut-Four," "Gentlemen's Agreement," "Vagabonds" and "Chord Reporters" were at their very best. Our patrons were very well pleased to phrase it mildly.

Our chapter meeting on March 5th was a great deal of fun for all who attended. This was our night to show our appreciation to those who bought adds in our Show Program and to invite the local service clubs to spend the evening with us. Three Quartets performed for us, the "Chord Reporters," the "Car-Tunes" and the always great "Curb Stone Serenaders." I don't know whether Fran Durham arranged for all these quartets or it was just plain luck that they all dropped in but they sure made many people happy that night.

Looking back over the month indicated our Chorus and Mini Chorus have been busy. We did a Mini Show for the East Side Shrine Club with Norm Thompson as director and our Chorus performed at the Arnold Home on Detroit's west side. The Senior Citizens at the Home have not lost their love of good music and it is our pleasure to sing for them.

By the looks of the coming events in our District, the Wolverine Chorus will really be on the move for the next three months. We all hope to be seeing you in Traverse City, Battle Creek, Kalamazoo or, you name it, any place you can hang your hat, on a chord, is home.

FLINT

by Les Lang

The Flint Chapter now 42 strong is busy preparing for our April 17th Show. Our Chorus under the direction of Fred Kienitz is sounding real good and we hope to make the Flint Chapter really heard in the Pioneer District.

We hope to compete in Traverse City at the District Spring Convention.

We are surprising many guests by having 30-35 guys singing every Tuesday night, and our uniforms are in the making.

Looks like it is going to be a real good year for us. Hope to see you all in Traverse City.

THE 'TROUB' WELCOMES



YOUR BLACK & WHITE PHOTOS!

TRAVERSE CITY

by Dean Fischer

Traverse City is getting things in shape to make everybodys stay up here a most pleasant one.

I hope by now everyone has registered to compete and sent in their reservations.

We are rehearsing, I suppose like everyone else, to put on our best, plus two Quartets are working hard to get our sound straight.

The weatherman (I hope) will cooperate on the 23-4-5 to show everybody the clear skies we talk about.

Early reservations show that this should be a great contest. Our headquarters hotel is full and our Holiday Motel almost full. By the time this issue gets out there will be but a few days before the 23rd and Traverse City Chapter would like to give you all an advance --

WELCOME TO GODS COUNTRY.

HOLLY FENTON

GRANT L. WRIGHT

Our chorus made its first public appearance of this year, on March 18th when they sang for the Fenton area Golden Age Club at the Fenton Community Center where they were very well received.

At a recent chapter meeting our two newest members, David Lonsbury and Ernest Roe were presented with their Society lapel pins and membership certificates in a formal initiation ceremony and Vice President Jay Welch received another Golden Note Award.

REMEMBER OUR SHOW WILL BE MAY 15.

DETROIT

by Bob Stone

Our chapter meeting on March 12th was another Super-Dooper with Mike Donahue doing the M.C. job for 100-Count'Em-Barbershoppers and their guests in a rollicking St. Patrick's Day theme program that lasted till the wee small hours, with Famous Chef Shamus type chow.

Mike later said everything went according to the strict planning when he purchased exactly 100 Irish Party Hats the week before and it turned out that exactly 100 Barbershoppers came in the door. And of course the Top Hats and Sombreros went first so those that wound up with the Irish Colleen Sunbonnets with the Green Ribbons caught their share of blarney.

And this was a double visitation night with "19" Jackson and "17" Windsor Chapter members thru our door. Detroit turned out "35" in the chorus that Arm-Waver Bill Butler steered thru several songs as well as doing the Gang-Singing Leading chores. The Windsor and Jackson Choruses did a fine job as did our guest quartets like the Final Decisions, the Noteworthy's, the Interlochens, and the Skeletones (Kitchen Krew).

But the program topper was naturally the appearance of the reconstituted Sharplifters with new lead, and Detroit member, Clay Schumart. Altho Clay doesn't have years of Barbershopping, his voice, professional and musical background, and savoir faire (French for "moxie") certainly fit right in. The Spring Contest at Traverse City immediately took on a new aspect with this group in competition.

Our Lovely Ladies completed their Big Rummage Sale on Saturday, the 20th of March at the Ferndale Community Center. And as usual they came thru with over \$300.00 profit towards the purchase of new Chorus Uniforms for hubby members. Not only does the entire chapter membership express gratitude, but all thanks go to those who gave of their time and effort both in sorting, pricing, and arranging all the Good Junk on the Friday night before, but spent most of the day actually working during the sale.

The Chorus appearance at the Robert Jones K. of C. Hall in Lincoln Park on March 24th was a winner. Seems like more appearances, more work, new song learning, surmounted difficulties, and shared experiences in a group like ours is what Barbershopping is all about. This is not a new thought, but it bears repeating occasionally. Some night on any Monday come on down at the Legion Hall in Dearborn and join a going concern --- and we mean going up.

KALAMAZOO

Carroll Stander

Our '71 Parade is now history, and what a show it was.

The ORIOLE FOUR sang like their namesakes, Truly Great. It'll take real courage for any of our group to sing "Danny Boy" after hearing their rendition. (ours is more tearful, as it's real sad)

The Chorus was resplendent in their new plaid uniforms with derbys, spats, ascotts, and all, and did their "bit" of the show better than ever. (to the amazement of Director Dick Peterson)

The NUBBINS from Iowa, were the crowd pleasers they always are, our After-Glow M.C., George Brooks, remarked they had tired arms from flying so far. (and they fly their own plane.)

The HARMONY HOUNDS of Battle Creek, did a beautiful job of entertaining, their usual brand of showmanship really "Wowed" them. They presented Pres. Gary Brown with a statue of a lop-eared hound, and he reciprocated by presenting them a box of puppy snacks.

Al Burgess' STOMPERS did a Bang-up job filling in between acts and at intermission.

Our hats off to Chuck Wilson for the After-Glow arrangements in the face of adverse conditions - like finding out at the last minute you've lost the hall to hold it in. We'd planned on Holiday Inn but they had a reservation foul-up, soooo . . .

Our Seer of the year award for contracting the ORIOLE FOUR just BEFORE they became Champs, goes to Gary Brown. This is the fourth time Kazoo's talent spies have foreseen the future and picked the winners before the contest.

Note to Int'l judges: Watch our scouts, pay attention and save all that scoring work.

We have a sing-out April 6th at Upjohn Nursing Home (Senior Citizens) This type of Sing-out is more rewarding than "Paid" jobs. What an attentive appreciative audience. We do these "jobs" on meeting nights, an hour or so before our scheduled meeting time and go right to rehearsal afterward, warmed up, and with an inner glow of having made someones day a little brighter.

We are also singing for the Kazoo Power Squadron on April 30th. (after we win at T.C.)

Our show M.C. Al Burgess, has recovered from his Red Face, as you know, Al hails from Muskegon, and in bringing on our first quartet, (the HOUNDS) announced, quote: "and now let's hear a big MUSKEGON welcome" (silence --- tittering --- and then the slow dawn of awakening) Don't feel bad Al, my hero Spiro did the same thing in the last campaign.

Several guests were at our first meeting following the show, hope we can turn them into "keepers".

The kick-off of our "auditions" program will be in May, hope we can put 60 on stage from it, to compete in Grand Rapids this October.

At a solemn meeting of those members who are dedicated to doing all they can to further the cause of Good barbershopping, (short of quitting themselves), the following was affirmed.

Resolved: We are going to compete in Traverse City.

Resolved: We are going to have FUN.

Resolved: To score as high as possible.

Resolved: See YOU in Traverse City.

LANSING

Mike Strauss

March has been a busy month once again for us. On our first meeting of the month we got an unexpected visit from the Gross Pointe Chapter. They were sixteen strong and brought with them the Little Brown Jug. After a full night of woodshedding our visitors left us with the problem of where to take the jug next.

The following week we had a singout in Charlotte for the High School Band Boosters Club. That night we had to battle terrible weather causing us to have a "mini" chorus and a relatively small audience as well. However, it was worth it. We had a good time and once again we got a possible new member from it.

At our board meeting we decided to pass on the Little Brown Jug to Battle Creek Chapter. On March 15th we took the Blue Goose and 24 members to invade their meeting. As we walked in we were surprised to hear the sound of their chorus. They were great. After many great songs by their Harmony Hounds and our Range Finders, the night was highlighted by our combined choruses singing "Keep America Singing." I declare, that together we would give OCC a sure challenge. It was a fantastic sound.

Our director, Ken Gibson, is really working us hard for Traverse City. We plan on surprising a few people with our sound to go along with our great stage presents of last year in Muskegon. Hope to see you there.

WINDSOR

Ted Verwey

On March 8th Chet Fox, International Administrative Field Rep., gave our executive and other members who were present much to think about. He outlined a format for meeting nights and a variety of ways of putting our Chapter activities in a good spotlight in our community.

Tom Pollard, Zone I, V.P. showed the film Auditions for Admissions. It gave us something to think about. We were glad to have our new Area Counsellor Clay Jones with us on that night.

Our newest members are: Ralph Gilbert and Alexander Davidson, who both sing a nice lead. Welcome aboard Ralph and Alex.

On Friday the 19th we visited Detroit Chapters Annual St. Patrick's Day "Feast in Harmony and refreshments". A sizeable delegation from Jackson and several area quartets helped to make the evening a real success. The sound of the new "Sharplifters" is great. Their own background plus the musical know-how of their new lead will get them places.

Sun Parlour Chorus is really pitching in and we hope to do a presentable job in Traverse City.

BATTLE CREEK

BUD BURRILL

This last month has been one of much work and preparation in getting ready for our big parade --- the "16th Annual Night of Harmony", March 27th at the W.K. Kellogg Auditorium. Headliners for our show will be the "Gentlemen's Agreement" (a rather new quartet we understand) and the Delonnaires from the Coldwater Chapter Sweet Adelines (WOW) Plus the local talent of the "Harmony Hounds" the "Burriel Brothers" and the "Millionaires". Everything is "GO".

Doesn't look as though the Battle Creek Chapter will be sending any quartets to Spring Convention in Traverse City. Previous engagements have ruled that out, but watch for us in the Fall.

Had a surprise visitation from the Lansing Chapter and they just happen to have in their possession a "Little Brown Jug". It was great to have them here, and renew old friendships and chords (who said that)? Had a good time plus the added bonus of the Ringmasters "ringing a few" for us.

In our never-ending quest to become better barbershoppers, we invited Ed Grakema, Certified Judge Stage Presence, to come down from Grand Rapids and give us the inside scoop on the finer points of S.P. Ed did a fine job and we wish to thank him again.

And --- don't forget the International Send-Off June 12th here at the W.K. Kellogg Auditorium. It is going to be a fabulous show for a good cause. All seats are reserved so go get your tickets as soon as possible after Traverse City Convention. More on it next month.

Remember the famous words of "Buzz Barber-shopper" "Who once said any barbershopper who can't feel a "seventh" is probably still on a "fifth". See you next month.

WAYNE

by Morrie Giles

According to reports and comments from customers it would seem that on March 6, 1971 Wayne succeeded in putting on another show worthy of our reputation of which we are extremely proud. It is indeed most gratifying to know that people will come out under adverse weather conditions to hear good barbershopping. Once again the demand for tickets far exceeded the seating capacity of the auditorium.

On Feb. 28th, The Wonderland Chorus put on their annual show for the mental patients at Eloise Hospital. These poor unfortunates get very little out of life and anything that affords them a bit of enjoyment is well worth what little effort we may put out.

From now until April 24th we'll be working diligently on contest numbers along with filling a few prior engagements including a "Re-Run" of our Mar 6th show (minus the Mark IV).

March 19th Wayne was joined in a meeting with the Plymouth Sweet Adelines, their husbands, the "Wonderful Wayne Wives", several guests from the Pontiac Chapter, and the "Sharplifters", for what promises to be perhaps the biggest bash of the 1971 Spring Season. The Sweet Adelines were directed by Gordie Limburg and they sure sounded like championship material. It is also our concerted opinion that the "Sharplifters" will place among the top ten at International this year.

As of Tuesday, March 23rd, the Wayne Wonderland Chorus will have a private, permanent rehearsal room at the Plymouth High School under the auspices of the Plymouth Adult Education Program. This move will in no way alter the fact that we are a Wayne Chapter.

Regular chapter meetings will continue to be held at Hawthorn Valley Country Club at Warren and Merriman Roads the 3rd Friday of each month, so come on out and visit us.

If this gets printed before the contest please consider yourself invited to visit our hospitality room at Traverse City.

GRAND RAPIDS

Dick Williams

Boy-oh-boy - Grand Rapids has really been busy this past month. We've had two visitations, one to Holland, their area wing ding, and Muskegon's Hobo night, plus plenty of Chapter Activity.

We've had excellent turnouts for all of these and have really had a ball. The hospitality shown us at Holland and Muskegon was nothing less than super; but then our neighbors are the greatest.

The KASUAL D'S came over to help us "kick-off" our Great Lakes program and ticket sales to the members. These fellows are terrific and as always we all had a good time.

With new additions to our uniforms, new quartets, new members, new music, and singouts plus great attendance our enthusiasm and exuberance are at a near fever pitch as we head into the stretch towards our show and the contest.

We have two fine package shows coming up, one March 26th, and one April 3rd, so by show time April 17th and contest time we hope to be at razors edge.

By the time you read this both our shows and the contest will be over with and we'll know how much our efforts have paid off. I think you'll all be surprised.

It seems every chorus and quartet man has made an extra effort to learn his music, moves, etc, so that at practice we can really "bust those chords". Everyone has really put out 110% and it has been rewarding, even our director, what's his name, is smiling; not too much though, he might give us the wrong impression - like he likes what he's been hearing.

REMEMBER: We're looking forward to seeing you all here in Grand Rapids for the Fall Convention. Don't forget, October means Grand Rapids.

I'd like to welcome CLIFF GRITTER, GARY BRANCH, TERRY HUYGE, TOM WICKHAM, HENRY SIKKEA, and JIM EPIE, into the Chapter and Chorus.



CADILLAC

Chester Polega

The chorus is working very hard and very diligently in preparation for State Competition in Traverse City this month. We will be ready to show our stuff and willing to walk-away with some of the honors that come from winning. Our director, Warren Marsh has had some pleasant dreams about our winning. Hopefully and wishing it will be so.

Our chorus did a real nice job with their recent "sing-out" on March 9th at the Meadow-View Home for the Aged located at Reed City, Mich. The old folks loved every bit of our entertainment including renditions sung by our beloved CADILLAC-AIRES and THE HUMDINGERS. It gave all of us a whole lot of personal satisfaction just to see these folks be so happy.

Following the Traverse City event this month, comes the BIG CADILLAC SHOW on Saturday, May 15th, featuring the HARMONY HOUNDS, along with the Bay-Tones, Cadillac-Aires and The Humdingers. This is our 3rd Annual Show, and we are looking for a sell-out crowd. Before all the tickets are gone, could I send you what you need? Write to: Chet Polega c/o Cadillac Chapter, 8548 M-115 Road, Cadillac, Michigan 49601 and I'll see to it that you get your tickets pronto by return mail. Ticket prices are: \$2.00 Adult Size and \$1.50 for the kids. AFTER-GLOW TICKETS are also available for \$2.50 per person with all you can eat and all the singing you want to hear. GET ON THE SHOW WAGON NOW. DON'T WAIT OR HESITATE, OR YOU'LL BE SORRY.

March was a great month for the "ON THE GO PONTIAC CHAPTER". Pontiac's new Program V.P., RAY GUERIN, 3059 Herbell, Pontiac, Michigan 48054, Phone - 682-0836, is really turned on. Our March chapter meeting was a great one. We were honored with a visit from the ORIGINAL CHOICE, from the Saginaw-Bay Chapter. What a great night they provided us with. Merle Brazelle had it all going for him as our M.C. The Four Townsmen, Ed Lilly, Ray Guerin, Mike Frye, and Cliff Douglas, layed a few songs on us also. Come contest time, Pontiac will really be rooting for these guys.

The magic word is "TRAVERSE CITY". Yes, the Pontiac Chorus, under the direction of Dan Rafferty, will be there. The Chorus is growing with each rehearsal. Our Chorus Manager, Hank Geyer really has us turned on.

MEMORIAL WEEK-END CAMP-OUT. The reservations are going fast. FAULKWOODS SHORES in Howell, Michigan is the place. Absolutely the finest facilities in the state. Contact: Dick Guerin, 1371 Irwin Dr. Pontiac, Mich, 48054., Po 674-1353. The flyers are already in the mail. If you will send your: Address, Car License and Make, Type of Equipment and length, No. of persons in party, we will make out your reservation for you, and it will save a lot of correspondence. Don't delay, the reservations are going fast.

Paul Page, Ray Kirby, Dan Rafferty-dual membership, Charley Picket, Jack Torosian, Frank Domke-Transfer from Iowa, Chuck Wood-Renewal, and Loyd Peltier, are our newest Pontiac Members. Man of Note Awards to: Bill Pascher, Mike Frye, Hank Geyer and a Texas Tenor, Curt St. John, Asst. manager of the Holiday Motel in Pontiac, are contemplating a membership. Stan Lawrence, our Adm. V.P. has big plans on a membership drive for our April meeting.



Feminine OBSERVER

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

Well, the Feminine Observer is back after a month's vacation in California, where we visited our son Donald and his wife Loretta. We experienced two earth quakes while there and they sure are frightening. We were surprised and honored by Calif. Barbershoppers formerly from the Detroit area by having a party for us. It was held at Newport Galaxy Club House in Tustin Calif. Complete with a band and a barbershop quartet made up from guests that attended. . . (Ray) and Ruth Guerin, (Bill) and Goldie Wales, (Bob) and Marion Wharton, (Dale) and Bette Carpenter and husband Otto. The husbands made up the quartet. Many other friends attended.

Jack and Eileen Klaiber recently visited Frank and Sarah Tiggelman, who now reside in Georgia, formerly from Grand Rapids.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes to the Clifford Jorgenson family on the recent death of his mother.

Grosse Pointe Chapter held their dinner dance Feb. 27th, at Thomas Manor Hall. They had a big turnout, an evening of dancing, singing, good food was enjoyed by all.

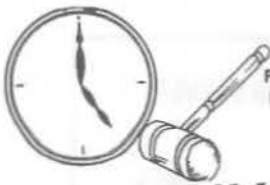
Grosse Pointe's Ladies Auxilary, held a fund raising (first) rummage sale on March 9th. It was a financial success.

Motor City Chorus wives (Detroit Chapter) have been busy collecting items for their rummage sale March 20th. The last two meetings prior to the sale were hosted by Carol Barron and Nell Warner where final plans and posters were made.

Carroll and Frankie Adams report they are both in fairly good health, living in Vermont, one is 79 and one is 80, but they won't tell who is the oldest. They had 40 out of state visitors this past year and say they would like to see or hear from their many, many friends sometime. Address is P.O. Box 584, Montpelier Vermont, 05602.

Traverse City is sponsoring a (Harmony Fair) for their Spring Convention April 24th. They have made available in their Hospitality Room on the main floor of the Park Place Hotel, the most unique shopping and browsing Boutique. Their shops will consist of mink, jewelry made especially for Barbershoppers and their wives, camera and supplies, cosmetics, wigs, ceramics, maple syrup and misc. items, and of course the men are welcome to shop here too.

The hours will be from 10:00 A.M. until 7:30 P.M. on Saturday



Minutes

PIONEER DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING

12-5-70

A meeting of the Pioneer District Board of Directors, held on Saturday, December 5, 1970, was called to order by President Tom Damm at 3:05 P.M. All district officers were present except Treasurer E.E. "Pat" Ryan. Also present were Treasurer elect John Gillespie as well as C & J Chairman Merle Clayton and Bob Drabik from the Oakland County Chapter.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as read.

Secretary Warner read a letter from E.E. "Pat" Ryan with which he submitted his final treasurer's report showing a balance in the treasury of \$8,998.54, which included the District's share of the net proceeds from the Fall convention held at Windsor which amounted to \$1,085.42.

Pat thanked the board for the fine spirit of cooperation everyone has shown over his years as the district officer. "I wish you every continued success in the operation of the district and I'm going to miss those all day Sunday get-to-gethers, especially during the Football Season."

President Tom Damm expressed the unanimous opinion of the Board when he thanked Pat and commended him for his efforts as a District Board member over the past five years. He indicated that we all will miss Pat at our meetings and wished him every success in his new business venture.

President Damm asked Zone I for a renewed effort to get a final 990 tax report for Ann Arbor, Redford, and Dearborn chapters.

A discussion ensued concerning the problem of communication between chapters and between the District and Chapters. It was the unanimous opinion of the Board that the Bulletin Editor should be present at every Board meeting in order to provide some help with the problem.

President Damm called on C & J Chairman Merle Clayton who presented an excellent summary of the problems involved from his department in the conduct of the district and international prelim contests. His report was quite detailed and presented several helpful suggestions regarding the conduct of future contests, including several different proposed schedules of convention events.

A motion was made by IBM Gene Gillem that the double panel of judges be adopted as standard procedure. Seconded by Don Funk. MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Bill Warner that, as suggested by the C & J Chairman, Traverse City contest be authorized to provide two test judges, one in each of the two new categories, at the 1971 Spring Convention at an expense not to exceed a total of \$200.00 to be charged as convention expenses. Seconded by Gene Gillem. MOTION CARRIED.

C & J expenses as presented by Merle Clayton were approved for payment.

President Damm reported on the Air Line Charter for New Orleans and the progress made to date.

President Damm called on Bob Drabik of the Oakland County Chapter who presented to the board a suggestion for award to individual chorus members as the winners in the district chorus contest.

A motion was made by Gene Gillem that the OC Chapter be authorized to procure ribbons at the expense of the district for the competitors in the winning chorus in the District chorus competition in Traverse City's 1971 Spring Convention. Seconded by Dick Simpson. MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by Gene Gillem and seconded by Bill Warner that a suggested bylaws change be initiated at the Spring Convention to make the Junior chorus champion award related to chapter size with choruses in the lower half of the chapters by total members and all ties be eligible for the Junior Championship. MOTION CARRIED.

A discussion ensued relative to chorus eligibility for the District Chorus competition. It was pointed out that the current district by-laws, as amended in 1961, indicate that a district chorus champ is not eligible to win the championship for the next two years. On this basis the secretary was instructed to inform the MOTOR CITY CHORUS that they, along with the WOLVERINE CHORUS, would be ineligible for the Spring, 1971 contest in Traverse City.

A motion was made by Capt. Cliff Maclean to re-zone the district, adding a fifth zone and relocate the boundaries as outlined on the map presented, reducing the size of Zone IV. The south boundary of Zone IV was set at M-55 while the south boundary of the new Zone V was set at M-59, including Pontiac. Seconded by Don Funk.

MOTION CARRIED.

Tom Damm appointed Noel "Bud" Carpenter Vice President of Zone V.

President Damm outlined the instructor assignments for COT school for Sunday, December 6, 1970.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 A.M. Sunday, December 6, 1970.

Respectfully submitted,

William C. Warner
District Secretary



letters to the editor

To: all Pioneer District Barbershoppers:

On May 3rd, 1968, at a House of Delegates meeting in Muskegon, an important decision was made. The motion to change the District name to "PIONEER DISTRICT" was passed by a large majority vote. This was by no means a hasty decision, as letters, explaining the plan in all details was mailed out to every chapter president and secretary. This message was received in sufficient to be discussed and voted on by all members at the chapter level and to instruct their Delegates.

Could so many members have changed their view, or proved to be wrong in just three years.

What about the motion presented at the House of Delegates Meeting in Monroe, on Oct. 18th of the same year, to the effect that the District name be changed to "Michigan-Pioneer". As this new name indicated only a half measure of what the former name change purported to accomplish, the Monroe motion was defeated.

Now if you men do not consider it worthwhile to name our District in honor of the early Barbershoppers of the area, (who by their action made our SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL in status, by sponsoring the first of fifty-five Canadian Chapters), then by all means let us forget the whole idea. I suggest we could channel our time and energy in more constructive endeavors, and maintain peace all around at the same time. After all, over the years of its existence the original name "Michigan District", was quite acceptable to everyone, including the Windsor

Chapter, for which I'm presenting this message. Let us all be pulling in the same direction: ahead.

Of course, if we should relinquish our present name, there is no reason why any other District could not proudly accept it for their own District.

Why becloud the issue? We already have a "Land O' Lakes District", just west of our own, a name (and especially a new name) with so much similarity would certainly cause more confusion than we bargained for. Or, is this what we are looking for?

So let a smile be your umbrella and Let's get on with our fun and various important programs.

Ted Verwey,
for Windsor Chapter

P.S. I suggest that all Chapters take a little time to discuss and vote on this important matter and instruct their delegates. Let's have each Chapter represented at our meeting on April 25th in Traverse City, gaining five Achievement Award points for your Chapter.

ED: Received by registered mail on March 18, 1971 and printed verbatim.



To All Chapters, Pioneer District

Gentlemen:

The Jackson Chapter Board of Directors adopted the resolution to oppose the proposed plan of changing the name of the Pioneer District. Our delegate to the Spring Convention was instructed to vote accordingly.

Our Board felt that several years of deep thought were needed to delve into all of the facets of the problem when our District changed its name to "Pioneer". All suggested names were carefully scrutinized before a decision was made. If our District allows high-pressure splinter groups to continually change our name year after year, our self-imposed discipline will shatter and our organization will crumble like the walls of Jericho.

We suggest that each Chapter take a long, hard look at this problem and vote "NO" for changing our District name.

INTERNATIONAL SEND-OFF

It looks like you'd better set aside June 12th for the "Greatest Show on Earth" which will feature the Gentlemen's Agreement, the Vagabonds, the Wolverine Chorus, and many more at Battle Creek's 2400 seat Kellogg Auditorium. This night will be called INTERNATIONAL SEND-OFF, and all of the proceeds will go to the Chorus and Quartets that are going to New Orleans to represent the Pioneer District in International Competition in June (The Wolverines from O.C.C. have already won that right and the Quartets will be selected at the Spring Convention in Traverse City.)

Keep America Singing

STEPHEN SUTHERLAND
2870 OAKDALE DR 141
ANN ARBOR MI 48104

HERE'S A BARBERSHOPPER



men of

 note

FEB 1971

John	Seemann	1
Francis	Jones	2
Jay	Welch	3
Leo	Rudloff	3
Kenneth J	Rysenga	1
Richard	Peterson	1
Bruce	Mulligan	2
Richard	Mueller	1
Dan	Shelles	4

Coming Events

SEND REQUESTS FOR PARADE CLEARANCE TO:

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

Apr. 23-25	District Convention and Contests - Traverse City
May 1, 1971	Bush League Contest - Boyne City
May 15, 1971	Holly - Fenton Show
Sep. 25, 1971	Gratiot County Parade
Oct. 16, 1971	Fruit Belt Parade
Oct. 23, 1971	Lansing Parade