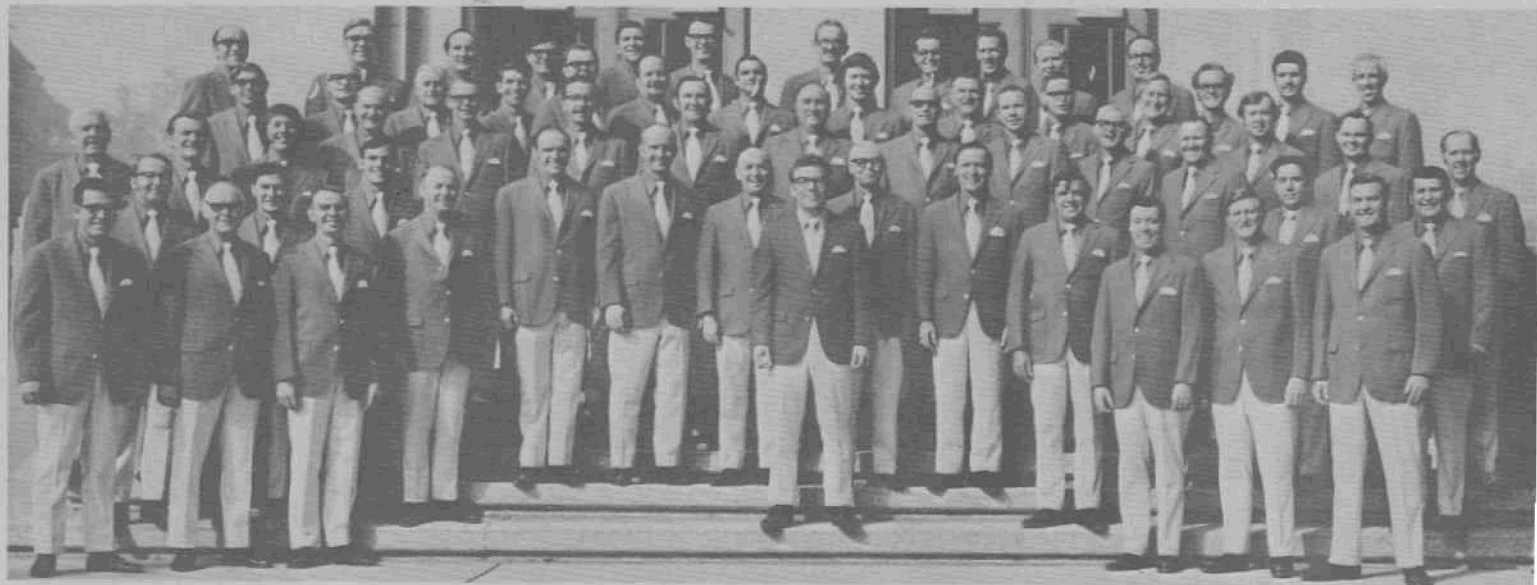


pioneer  
**TROUBADOUR**

'71 District Champs



**The Original Choice**



**Atlanta Bound -- the Wolverine Chorus**



ROGER'S RAMBLINGS

by Roger J. Lewis,

Editor

# ON THE COVER

There they are! Our 1971 PIONEER DISTRICT QUARTET CHAMPS and our 1972 INTERNATIONAL CHORUS REPRESENTATIVES. To paraphrase a well-known Bush League verse: "They sang loud, they sang long, they sang sweet, they sang lustily; and they sang loud enough, long enough, sweet enough, and lustily enough to become members of the "WINNAH"; and our congratulations to them all.

To the ORIGINAL CHOICE, our Pride and Joy for '71; BOB DEMCHAK, tenor; BUD CARPENTER, lead; JIM GROSS, baritone; and LEN JOHNSON, bass: And to the WOLVERINE CHORUS under the direction of CARL DAHLKE: To all, take a bow, you're the greatest!:

YE GODS! Look at the chapter reports!!

Not only did I get an all time high number of reports (during my editorship) (well, so it's only my third issue); but I EVEN GOT TWO REPORTS FROM ONE CHAPTER -- Cadillac. Sorry, Ken, but I used Chet's, 'cause he's got more seniority.

Of course I got quite a few comments about the excuses used last month, and from the sounds of things, I'm going to hear about those for some time to come--if you don't believe it, read the chapter reports. MIKE STRAUSS of Lansing says, he isn't even married, and his excuse was, "He was teaching his son about the birds & the bees." (you know, Mike, I've always heard that a bachelor was a man with no children to speak of....) (Oops! Ethnic).

Took a poll at the convention, to see how everyone liked the last TROUB, and here are partial results: 821 couldn't read the small print on the first two pages, and of these, 22 had trouble with the rest of the print, too. (7 out of these 22 couldn't read at all, and the other 15 were partially blind). One said it was too small to wrap the garbage in; one commented that it was hard to light when he burned the rest of the papers; and one chapter reporter was very offended because I used such a ridiculous excuse for him. He told me the reason he didn't send in a report was because his wife had asked him to fill the salt shaker, and it took him all week to push the salt through those little holes.

BUT ONE BARBERSHOPPER TOLD ME HE LOVED IT!! And it made all those 3:00 A.M. mornings seem worthwhile. In spite of the shape he was in already, I bought him another beer.

One final statistical note: of the 821 who had trouble with the print, 647 have been referred to an eye specialist. (Actually, I was trying to work out a deal with my eye doctor, and get a little "cut" on everyone I could send.....).

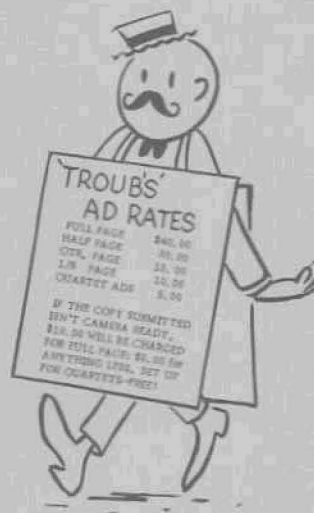
Speaking of "what's coming up" (well, I was, even if you weren't) that column hasn't been appearing, because I haven't been able to get dates far enough in advance to run it in the TROUB. So for the coming year, I challenge you new Program Vice-Presidents to feed this info to me so it can be run. Does Detroit want attendance at it's Canadian Night? Dog-Gone right it does! What about Quad Chapter Meetings? Green-Horn Quartet Contests? Picnic's? Showings of International Films? And the list goes on and on. Let's face it, these events are often planned 3 months to a year in advance, aren't they?

So P.V.P.'s, let's give it a whirl (that's free publicity, too, ya know). (By the way, a late news flash says there's a Detroit Canadian Night November 12 at the American Legion, Ford Post, 4211 Maple, in Dearborn.

Grand Rapids contest results, comments and views are spread throughout this issue. In my opinion, we really made a great stride in one very important area --PARTICIPATION! 16 Choruses and 16 Quartets just has to be some kind of record. And everyone, whether first, last, or somewhere in the great expanse of the middle (sounds just like some guys are starting to look, doesn't it?) came away a "winner"---- knowing a little more about this great hobby of ours, feeling a little better, whistling a new tune, and telling yourself "wait till next year".

Don't know if there are any "official" records, but a rough guess says that more than 50% of our District Membership attended and/or participated in the District Contest. As I recall, the figure has previously only been around 30%, for which the Grand Rapids and the Convention Committee should be commended.

But let's not rest on our laurels. Why can't it be 75%? Or 80%.



THE PIONEER TROUBADOUR

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

Printed by B & R Letter Shop of Battle Creek, Michigan.

Editor - Roger J. Lewis  
Layout - Roger J. Lewis  
Advertising rates available on request  
Subscription rates - \$3.50 per year  
Single copy price - 35 cents  
copy deadline - Chapter reports 5th all other material 1st  
Published monthly except July & Aug.  
Photography by Bill Pascher  
Mail all pertinent correspondence to:  
Roger J. Lewis  
THE PIONEER TROUBADOUR  
P.O. Box 1502  
Battle Creek, Michigan 49016

**POSTMAN:**

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

# Chapter News

## Jackson

by DAN LA BUMBARD

Best wishes for continued success to the "WOLVERINE CHORUS" and to our new quartet champs the "ORIGINAL CHOICE". Even tho our chorus was among the "Also-Rans" we are serving notice that we will be in there plugging in Midland. Also, good luck to BILL WARNER and all his fellow officers.

Our Oct. 30 show will be history by the time this is read but it will have been the best Parade since 1970. Wow--what a show.

November is busy with the big Logopedics Night at the Hotel Hayes on Nov. 5; Past President's Night, Nov. 12; Dan's 6th Annual Pick-up Quartet Contest with the VAGABONDS as judges on Nov. 26; and a possible visit by the Monroe Chapter.

On the basis of our new chorus sound we have already lined up 2 package shows in 1972 and we are looking for more.

We will close for now but if you're ever in the area, come to the Hayes and visit Jackson - where the ACTION is!!

## Grand Rapids

by DICK WILLIAMS

HAIL TO THE CHAMPS:  
ORIGINAL CHOICE  
WOLVERINE CHORUS

Whew - after the smoke had cleared and the last hurrahs were said, we in the Grand Rapids Chapter, most certainly, feel very humble and honored to have had you all here.

To say simply thanks, meant in all sincerity, seems very inadequate at this time.

Your response, enthusiasm, and participation in this Convention certainly was outstanding. Everyone of you should feel justifiably proud of yourself for making this Convention what it was --- a success.

The esprit de corps of all the contestants and even guests was really an exciting sight to behold. Anytime you have 16 quartets and 16 choruses or 630 men on stage competing, you guys must be congratulated on a job well done, for the Pioneer District is on the move.

Speaking of the Chorus Competition, it was the best I have seen in a long, long time. To see all of the Choruses in action - WOW - what a thrill and what a fantastic job everyone of you did. You all deserve the title of Champion.

A very special thanks to the past District Champs, the SHARPLIFTERS or SUNTONES or what have you, past District Champs and International Semi-finalist, the VAGABONDS and the one and only current District and International Champions, the GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT, for making the Pre-Glow on Friday nite, and for just being here.

In fact, we salute all of the great quartets for the outstanding job they did all weekend. To those of you that made the Pre-Glow we thank you for making that one of the finer Pre-Glows seen and heard in many a year, and of course, to the 16 competing quartets who turned in great performances both in the afternoon and evening. Boy wouldn't it be great to send three quartets to International?

With this kind of action going on in our Chapters in both the quartet and chorus level we of the Pioneer District can hold our heads mighty high and be darn proud to belong.

Again our thanks to YOU, the Pioneer members, for making this a great Convention and an honor to serve and have you as our guests - YOU'RE THE GREATEST.



## Wayne

by MORRIE GILES

Now that summer has gone the way of all summers and the Harrisville bang has subsided, it's time to think most seriously in turn, about the Fall Contest, our Annual Ladies' Night, and our big Spring "Pitch Pipe Parade". Also Election of Officers, Chapter Meetings, Chorus Rehearsals, Visitations, Sing-outs, and perhaps another "Auditions for Admission". Sounds like enough to keep the whole chapter hopping for some months to come.

Since this shy reporter(?) is not given to bragadisia I won't even mention that Wayne captured the Harrisville attendance trophy 4 times out of 5, or that we intend doing it again next year.

To avoid any vacation-time conflict we held our yearly chapter picnic in September instead of July or August. As many of you know, our picnics start with breakfast at 5:30 A.M. and run till dark or later. With games for all age groups, it's sometimes difficult to tell who has the more fun, - - the kids or the "Big Kids".

On Sept. 25, a sizable group from Wayne attended the big "International Night" at Sarnia Ont. Aside from all the wonderful entertainment, mention should be made of the number of fine prizes and all the delectable food for such a small fee. Congratulations to our Canadian Confreres.

The Wayne "Wonderland Chorus" is scheduled to appear in concert with the Plymouth Community Band on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 31. We feel that this type of exposure brings us before audiences not necessarily acquainted with Barbershopping.

Did we have the pleasure of seeing you at our Hospitality Room in Grand Rapids?

## Battle Creek

by BUD BURILL

GREETING! Now that my refrigerator is all papered and painted, I can get on with the task at hand. Has anybody ever thought about making a doctor's appointment for the Troub editor? After this last issue, better keep a sharp eye on him.

The Battle Creek Chorus has been working diligently on songs for competition, and doing just great. This is the year of the young chorus (everybody's under 30, no generation gap) and these guys are sharp. Some of the chorus members (over 30) have commented that it has been a long time since Battle Creek has sounded good and loud. Boys, we're off and running. Somebody ought to start a rumor about a champion chorus from the Cereal City, but I won't.

We are having a Ladies Night October 18, cause we know on which side the bread is buttered. The NU-TONES from Laporte, Ind. will provide the official entertainment, plus surprises and gifts for the gals that will make it a lively evening of entertainment.

Battle Creek takes this opportunity to introduce to the Pioneer District two new Quartets: The TRAVEL-CHORDS and the CIRCUIT BREAKERS. From left to right, the TRAVEL-CHORDS are GARY HOEFLER, tenor, MAYNARD MC DONALD, lead, JIM CRAMER, bass, and DOUG SWAN, bari. The CIRCUIT BREAKERS: AARON HELDT, bass, BOB DIXON, bari, LOWELL WOLFE, lead, and KIRK NORTON, tenor. Take a bow, fellas! Maybe a debutante party is in order?

Once again this year, as in the past, the Battle Creek Chapter is proud to be able to help a deserving student who has chosen music as his career. Scholarships have been awarded through our local Community College, Kellogg Community College. This years recipients are Joel E. Beamish, Ronald B. Kelley, and Rex Whitmore. Congratulations to these fine young men. (Rex is a barbershopper already).

POST CONVENTION FLASH! How about those guys from Battle Creek? 4th place Chorus! Like I said, fellas, we're off and running! Hot Dog!

Congratulations are also in order for the HOUNDS, and BURRILLS, placing 2nd and 11th respectively. Those guys have got to be the hardest working and singing barbershoppers around. Let me warn you, next year is all ours.

Thanks to Grand Rapids for a good convention. They really know what team work is all about.

Got to be off in a cloud of seventh's - - all progressive.



# Cadillac

by CHESTER POLEGA

Now that the summer months are over we are back to our normal way of living and I hope that everyone had an enjoyable vacation. Cadillac's summer has been an especially busy one what with all the activity centered around the big Centennial Celebration, the participation of the chapter in the activities, parade and sing-outs have kept the Cadillac Chapter a very very busy one.

Our sincerest congratulations are extended to the winning quartet, THE ORIGINAL CHOICE, of Saginaw Bay-Grosse Pointe and to the WOLVERINE CHORUS of Oakland County under the direction of CARL DAHLKE. You guys were simply great.

Among our most recent activities, the CADILLAC CHORUS participated in a sing-out at the Odd Fellows Hall for their yearly Western Circuit gathering on Sept. 25, 1971 and we also journeyed to the Traverse City Chapter for the Dave Stevens rehearsal on September 27th.

Show Committees have been appointed for the up and coming Cadillac Show which is tentatively scheduled for March 11, 1972. Watch for future announcements on this.

\*My version of Attributes for True Success---A grateful heart, a thoughtful mind, a friendly smile, a kindly word, a helping hand, a loyal and courageous spirit and harmonious participation in a Barber Shop Chapter.

# Saginaw Bay

by A. J. SHOWALTER

Congratulations to the new Pioneer District Champs, "THE ORIGINAL CHOICE". After some stiff competition, LEN, JIM, BUD AND BOB brought home the bacon. The chapter is particularly proud of the Wolverine Chorus for prevailing as the District representative to International. I am sure they will carry our banner high in Atlanta next year.

I am still so dazzled by the terrific week-end at Grand Rapids that it is hard to collect my thoughts. Any time the GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT lays a song on you, you have to come away dazzled. They are just too much!! The host chapter went all out to make this a grand convention and they certainly succeeded. Saginaw Bay chapter has already started laying plans for the big spring get together at Midland. Mark your calendars now for April 28 and 29, 1972.

Congrats, too, to our own Timberland Chordsmen. We had hoped to place a little higher but the competition was terrific. A really fine job was done by all the choruses and quartets. I am sure plans are already being made for the competition in the spring.

Best Wishes to President BILL WARNER and the new Board of Directors for the Pioneer District. They have some big shoes to fill. TOM DAMM and the retiring board did a fine job in carrying the District forward. We are sure BILL will keep the momentum building.

Chapter activities are really humming for October with election of officers, a sing out and a halloween party planned. Looking forward too, to AFA on Nov. 4 and the Quad Chapter meeting Nov. 12 at Pontiac.

If any of you are planning a trip to the north country for deer hunting or whatever, remember the Saginaw Bay Chapter meets at the Wenonah Park Building in downtown Bay City every Thursday night at 8 P.M. Stop in and sing a tag with us!

# Kalamazoo

by CARROLL STANDER

Sorry I missed the deadlines for the first two issues but will try to re-coup and catch up on our summer activities.

Our first "Program" in June was a rousing visit by the FOUR-TIME TELLERS from Jackson, thanks fellas for a great nite of fun.

A bus trip to Lansing's Annual Fish Fry was our next fun activity and if you were there, you know it was.

July 10, found our chorus participating in The Richland Centennial.

Our annual (planned) Pontoon Ride on Gun Lake was the 13th, as P.V.P. I had set the date several weeks before, but awoke to 20-30 mile winds, (ulcers all day) we had three pontoons scheduled, but because of the weather only seventeen of the fellows showed so we used A.V.P. STU BENEDICTS 28 footer. The highlight (Hi-water) was our crash dive. We had broken into quartets and as it happened, the foursome way out on the bow were hitting the best chords so our "Load" gradually shifted forward. I happened to be spelling Stu on the wheel, running at half speed, fairly calm seas when despite our pleas to move "Aft", just enough more moved forward to cause the front edge of the fore deck to slip under the next wave, then the deck acted like a diving

plane on a sub and our speed drove us down. Boy! did they move aft then. I chopped the throttle and we re-surfaced and we continued to STU BENEDICTS cottage where his wife had a terrific buffet waiting. Many thanks Joyce.

FRAN DYOT arranged a sing out for us at Gull Lake View Country Club which included free golf and free meal and the invite was also extended to our wives, sure was sorry to miss that one, from all reports it was a winner.

PAUL and EUNICE WEELDRYER were our hosts for our Fifth Annual Corn-roast, sorry, I should have said "Their" instead of our, for they've carried the ball on this for five years and I mean it was a ball.

The guest quartet was Cardinal District Champs THE NUTONES, very fine singers and their showmanship had us rollin' in the aisles.

On the dis-staff side, THE MUSIC-CALS, a fine new quartet from our local Sweet Adelines let off the show. They called themselves the Mike Warmers but I think it was "Well done" when they finished. They did a great job and we wish them well in their contest.

# Grosse Pointe

by DICK BROUCKAERT

The Pioneer District has enjoyed another fine, exciting convention, this time thru the hospitality and hard work of the Grand Rapids Chapter.

Our congratulations to the WOLVERINE CHORUS. We of Grosse Pointe Chapter are pleased to be represented once again by this group. So good luck and onto Atlanta.

G. P. C. is proud to have our name linked once again to the District Champions. BOB DEMCHAK is one of the pillars of our chapter. To the man we respect him as a person and musician. With the possible exception of his solution to the Baritone Problem, ask him about it sometime. These four men have come from non-existence to District Champions in only four weeks. Not bad for kids.

The performances of two other groups will not soon be forgotten--THE MOTOR CITY CHORUS and THE HARMONY HOUNDS. Both sang Barbershop Harmony at its best. There are even those who believe - They wuz robbed.

Grosse Pointe Chapter takes this opportunity to thank Dick VanDyke for the excellent job he and his staff did with the "Troub" in their tenure as editor. In the same breath, we wish ROGER LEWIS and his staff well for as long as he can endure the task.

G.P.C. issues - - - A CHALLENGE - - - to every chapter in the Pioneer District. We challenge you to an inter-chapter quartet contest. We will accept the first challenge to reach our quartet promotion chairman, BOB BROWER 715 Washington, Grosse Pointe, Mich. 48236.

PAUL JOHNSON and HERB REED, our master craftsmen, have created the MARK ROBERTS TROPHY for this annual event, the first, in June 1972 to be hosted by Grosse Pointe. Roberts rules will be sent to the challenging Chapter.

Should G.P.C. have to relinquish the Mark Roberts, we claim a rematch the following year and every successive year until the trophy is regained by Grosse Pointe, at which time another challenge will be accepted. The Mark Roberts Trophy will not be allowed to pass permanently from Grosse Pointe's possession. In this manner, G.P.C. hopes to exchange visits with chapters outside the Metropolitan area.

Our Lakeshore Chorus is going to Grand Rapids prepared. We're nipping at the heels of some of the consistent front-runners and anticipate a great contest.

The Ladies auxiliary, on Sept. 25, held their first Box Lunch Social (which I for one hope will become at least an event) complete with the old country store and nostalgic dress. It is gratifying though not surprising to see the amount of imagination and plain hard work that these gals go through on our behalf.

Looking forward to another year of harmony, the Grosse Pointe Chapter invites all to join with us any first or third Friday and we'll show you how the Quarteting chapter in the District Preserves and Encourages Barbershop Harmony in America.



## Holly - Fenton

by GRANT L. WRIGHT

We are again meeting every Tuesday night after a vacation schedule of meeting twice a month, average attendance remains about the same.

In August about 15 members performed at a civic reception Fenton hosted for a Welch singing group from our "sister city" Flint, Wales. A large group of our members attended the meeting in Flint when DAVE STEVENS visited that Chapter.

An octet from our Chapter helped entertain when our neighboring town, Linden, celebrated their centennial during the Labor Day week, many of our members were at the big camp-out in Harrisville at that time.

Our Annual Chapter Picnic was held early in September at the Runyan Lake home of one of our newest members, ROGER TOONDER, there was plenty of good food and fun for all attending, swimming, games and lots of woodshedding.

At this writing a Halloween box social is being planned for Oct. 26.

This has been a great success (and a good money raiser) for the last two years. November 12 the whole Chapter will be attending a quad-chapter meeting in Pontiac, along with Flint and Saginaw-Bay Chapters.

The welcome mat is always out at the American Legion Hall in Fenton, every Tuesday night. If you happen to be in the neighborhood--stop in and bust one with us.

## Niles - Buchanan

by DAN SHELLES

Boy! What a time we had in Grand Rapids!! Sounds like the title to a song, doesn't it? The weather cooperated, the choruses and quartets were fine, and the hospitality of the Grand Rapids chapter was really beyond compare. Our "Gateway" star-spanoled, genuine styrofoam straw hats are off to you fellows for pulling off a fine convention and contest. While we're at it, we'd like to extend a tip of the topper to all of the winners in the various contests, and to the outgoing District officers for jobs well done. As others have stated before, the only real losers in the long run are those who don't participate (we're sure Idioter Lewis can come up with excuses for them, though!). While the kudos are going around, we'd like to thank the Detroit #1, Wayne, Flint, and Grand Rapids chapters for permitting the Gateway 8 to expose themselves in public at their hospitality rooms (that didn't come out the way it was intended!). We're pretty proud of them. We're also proud that our PHIDAVONICS and the whole GATEWAY CHORUS were there. Hopefully, this is the start of something big (another song title!) from our area.

Besides preparing for our contest appearance, the chorus appeared during the halftime of one of the MICHIANA HAWKS football games in Buchanan, in a benefit performance for the BIEK family of Niles (victims of a rather serious fire), and at a "Gay Nineties Near-Beer Party" for residents of the Carlyle Nursing Home in South Bend.

Of note is the formation of a new quartet in our chapter. Since the members are PHIL PIERCE, bass; DAVE HIBINGER, tenor; LAVONNE ZELMER, lead; and VIC VIGANSKY, bari, they coined the name "PHIDAVONICS." They are all veteran quartet men, and they share quite an extensive common repertoire. Besides, I've been told they work cheap! Contact man is PHIL PIERCE, 502 W. Front St., Buchanan 49107.

We are fortunate to have BILL CRAMER, bass; GORDON DANIEL, lead; and ARV STAHL, tenor, as new members; congratulations are due to Men of Note ART MOULD (2), DICK HEMPHILL (2), and CRISS NEFF (1). We would also like to welcome back lead JON GAND; the world's finest hobby triumphs again!

With regret, we have accepted the resignation of VIC VIGANSKY as Tune Topics editor. He has done a fine job over the years and has set high standards for new co-editors BOB THOMAS and ROLAND "BRAD" BRADLEY. We wish them much luck.....

111-lay: Lead and sometime soloist ART MOULD had surgery at South Bend's Memorial Hospital the last of last month and is now making a satisfactory recovery at home, so we hear.

ALL CORRESPONDENTS PLEASE COPY (as the wire services say): Please change the address for our chapter secretary (me) given in the District Directory to 311 Front St., Buchanan 59107. We've only lived there for four years now, and we occasionally notice a nasty note on the forwarded mail:

We've started looking toward April in Midland (another song--give us a pitch and we're off); how 'bout you? 'Til the next time, keep smiling--it makes folks wonder what you've been up to.....

## Lansing

by MIKE STRAUSS

Well another convention is now history. I would like to thank the Grand Rapids Chapter for a very fine job in hosting the "Harmony Weekend." Saturday proved to be a very exciting day with the quartet preliminaries and then the chorus competition. We were very pleased how our chorus sounded and also we were proud to show off our new outfits.

Then when the quartet finals came about, I knew our Range Finders would do well. In behalf of our whole chapter I would like to say "CONGRATULATIONS RANGE FINDERS" on your fine 4th place finish in a very tough competitive field. They have come a long way in the last year and will be right in the thick of the competition next spring. They truly deserve to be the Junior Champs of 1971.

Also I would like to congratulate the ORIGINAL CHOICE and the WOLVERINE CHORUS for their great job done. I'm sure both will be busy in the next year.

Now that the convention is over we are working hard on our show which might be over by the time this is printed. We can hardly wait to have the GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT here on our show. Imagine a whole night with the best.

Just prior to competition the RANGE FINDERS sang for the Lansing Junior Child's Study Club as a free gratis job. They insisted on giving the quartet a check so it was sent to the Logopedics Foundation. This was their first contribution to our great cause. I'm sure it won't be the last.

Well I guess I'd better say so long for now as I must "teach my son about the birds and the bees." You'll never hear the end of that Roger.

## Milford

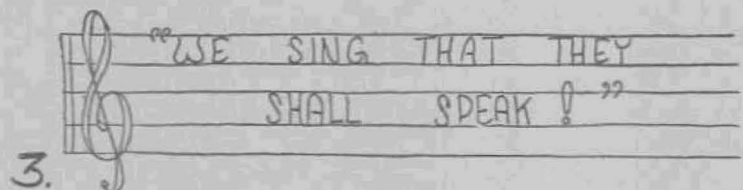
by DON SHERIDAN

A NITE IN THE LIFE OF A BARBERSHOPPER:

Friday nite, Sept. 17th the subject: MILFORD MINNI CHORUS and the results: EVERYONE A WINNER!! I don't see any other verdict except to say the 75 lucky individuals who attended were all winners. Although I must admit some sang better than others and this was probably the reason Oakland County Chorus, lead by Doc Caldwell walked off with the honors dethroning Detroit Minni Chorus 1970-1971 Champs (who sang very well, lead by John Seeman) who came in second. Milford likes to take pride in feeling they are one of the many chapters who put a lot of emphasis on hospitality as many other Barbershoppers from other chapters have told us in past visits. Even though the hospitality was there, the food was passable, and the price reasonable, we in Milford have to give most of the credit to THE GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT who made the night for many of us memorable. If those people who were lucky enough to be in attendance had any doubt as to why the GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT got where they are, with such speed, all doubts were dispelled, they were unbelievable. I am not a judge, don't sing too well, and can't even read music, but I have one criticism of the GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT, and that is that they made their name too long, they should have been called "THE GENTLEMEN" and left it go at that, because they certainly are gentlemen to come out to our small chapter, to act as judges, and to entertain us in a manner all of us could and did appreciate. So, to the Gentlemen a very big THANK YOU from Milford. Now, if that isn't enough to make those of you who stayed away miserable enough, guess who popped up unexpectedly---THE VAGABONDS, as yes, and when they lay their new song "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" on you, it's going to make you get religion. Also to the VAGABONDS for showing up and sounding great a hardy THANK YOU from all of us at Milford.

THAT, WAS A NITE IN THE LIFE OF A BARBERSHOPPER!! Friday, Sept. 17th 1971 Milford Michigan.

I couldn't sign off without a word about Milford's Ladies Nite, Oct. 2nd. With the FOUR TUNE-TELLERS headlining the show and help from the CAR-TUNES and ROLLING TONES it couldn't miss. Then add the Inter-Takes Chapter of The Sweet Adelines and a surprise visit from the Pontiac Chorus. Is it any wonder the hall was filled to capacity and the people went home saying "The Best Ever!" The same nite Milford got it's feet wet with it's new Director, MARTY ZURN from the Wayne Chapter. When we get a few more members (and we will) and with Marty's enthusiasm and dynamic drive -- MILFORD WILL BE HEARD -- and when we put it all together -- WATCH OUT!



# Pontiac

by DICK GUERIN

Well the summer is over, and what a summer it was for the Pontiac Chapter. To recap, The Lansing Fish Fry, Quad-Chapter Picnic, Quad-Chapter meeting, visitations to the Detroit and Oakland County Chapters. Pontiac Golf Outing, Korn & Keilbasa Roast, visitations from the Oakland County and Maumee, Ohio Chapters, plus many singing engagements, plus chorus rehearsals straight through the summer. To finally end it all, HARRISVILLE. 21 members and their families attended the greatest Harrisville ever. Thanks to our friends at Oakland County.

By the time this article comes out, RAFFERTY'S RAIDERS (The Merry Motormen Chorus) will have returned from Grand Rapids. Without question it was well known they were there. 34 men on stage, as compared with only 21 for the Spring Convention. Let it be known, THE RED FOX says we'll be the New District Champs come April (and he doesn't lie).

If you don't believe this old reporter, drop in on the November 19 WAYNE CHAPTER MEETING. RAFFERTY'S RAIDERS will be there, along with the rest of the Pontiac Gang.

Many thanks to the DROP CHORDS and CURBSTONE SERENADERS, the ROLLING TONES, plus Pontiac's newest quartet, THE LONG AND SHORT OF IT. LEE FRAYER is their contact man. 6235 Snowapple Ln. Clarkston, 48016. Ph. 62-55147. Mr. Smiles, GEORGE VAN DE VELDE on tenor, HANK GEYER on Bass, A. J. VAN ACKER on Lead, and LEE FRAYER on Bari. These quartets gave Pontiac a lot of good entertainment over the summer.

THE PONTIAC CHAPTER'S PARADE OF QUARTETS DATE: JANUARY 29. Pontiac Northern High School. Afterglow: Waterford C.A.I. Bldg.

NUFF SAID.

# Monroe

by ART LUSTY

Monroe Chapter wishes to thank the Grand Rapids gang - Members and wives for the excellent hosting of the District Convention. We were there to add our bit to the entertainment and enjoyment. Half our Chapter Chorus was new and this was a grand occasion to initiate the newcomers to the "stage presence". Behind the scenes during the quartet contest - THE TWILIGHTERS had one very sick member, but in the "show must go on" tradition they appeared and sang. The new slate of officers follows: President, GEORGE HENNIG; First Vice-President, DON SCHROEDER; Secretary, ARMAND ARCE; Treasurer, ART LUSTY; Vice-Program, RICHARD MEIZ; Trustees, JOSEPH WEIGAND and GORDON SAUER.

Our "Evenin' On The River" shared with the Toledo Chapter was a 50 man success with hanging charcoal cooked hot dogs and bi'in' corn. Labor Day as entertainers at the Ida Fireman's Annual Benefit and guest singers for the Deefield Co-op Assn. were two events of immediate past activities for our Floral City Chapter.

November 1, our next Auditions for Admission will be capped by Polaroid Pics of those attending for the first time, sent to their wives to verify "the nite out with the boys".

Congratulations to the new District Champs, Ole Carl did it again. They were pretty!!

# Oakland County

by JACK CLARKE

We always knew that barber shops and close shaves went together, but 22 points?

Grand Rapids had to be the greatest chorus competition our district has ever had, in addition to being another great district convention. And if the Wolverine Chorus can carry that same spirit to Atlanta, remembering all the work that went into the contest by all the contestants, we should give our district the kind of representation that competition like that deserves.

We were also pleased by the fine job turned in by Oakland's ROLLING TONES and the mike-testing VAGABONDS.

Saturday night we also heard what has to be the world's greatest Octet in Detroit's hospitality room when the GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT (accent on first word) and SHARPLIFTERS got together during their circuit through the Pantlind.

Everything prior to Grand Rapids seems somewhat anti-climactic now but some of our activities represented a great deal of hard work and deserve mentioning.

We began the month of October with our chapter meeting which was designated "Old Timers' Night" and saw several of our "lost sheep" returning to the fold, at least temporarily. The meeting also included a chapter visitation from our Grosse Pointe friends.

# OAKLAND COUNTY CONT.

October 11 the chorus performed, with the flush of victory still on our cheeks, for the Detroit East Side Shrine Club.

Going back a little further on the calendar, the chorus was featured at Wolverine Raceway's "Good Old Days" (guess what we sang) pre-race entertainment program on September 10. Chorus members and their wives were then guests of the track for a buffet dinner and watched the evening's card. Don't think we were all winners that night.

On September 18 the Oakland mini-chorus, directed by "Doc" Caldwell, won Milford's annual contest, in a great demonstration of objectivity by the judges, four guys from Detroit wearing those funny things around their necks.

New officers have been elected for 1972. They include: JOHN MCCLINCHEY, President; GEORGE ELLIS, Vice President - membership; FRAN DURHAM, Vice President - program; LARRY CHUBET, Corresponding Secretary; DON GRAMZA, Recording Secretary; BOB REHE, Treasurer; CY PELICAN, DAN SPRINGER, and BOB SAGE, Board Members, and JACK TEUBERT, BOB MC DERMOTT, and JIM ST. AMAND, Delegates.

Plans are also shaping up for our "Auditions for Admission" program which will be conducted in early November. More next time on that.

# Flint

by LES LANG

September was an active month for Flint. Quad-Chapter on the 14th, DAVE STEVENS on the 21st. Chorus practice every Tuesday and Thursday night, 21 to 30 members in attendance. One new member, VICTOR HENRY has joined, a very talented Bass, he has had as his guest, RON POOL AND BILL CARPENTER who are in the process of joining. BARNEY WIRICK has a new member signed up, GEORGE SPRINGER, tenor.

October promises to be a busy month too: -- District Chorus competition. Election of officers. Auditions for admissions. Chorus practice every Tuesday night. Fun night, the 12th and 26th. Several are shows and parties to attend. JACK LYONS & GEORGE DARRAH, who attended the school in Reading, are showing a lot of enthusiasm and have promised some interesting meetings in the near future. Looks like Flint is going to have a very good fall season.

# Chorus Contest

# Scoring Summary



Category: Song No.:	H A		R S B		I N T		S P		A R R		TOTAL
	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	
Rank Contestant	<b>FINALS</b>										
1. Wolverine-Oakland	149	142	148	147	135	140	315	10	7		1193
2. Motor City Detroit #1	141	142	145	149	122	139	322	7	4		1171
3. Wayne Wonderland	125	134	144	142	131	136	297	3	10		1122
4. Cereal City Battle Creek	126	111	124	126	105	100	272	3	6		973
5. Merry Motormen Pontiac	119	121	116	121	107	99	270	-9	3		947
6. Kalamazoo Mall	114	108	117	117	93	97	286	-3	-3		926
7. Great Lakes Grand Rapids	109	110	116	121	98	103	235	-1	3		894
8. Lakeshore Grosse Pointe	110	111	112	107	98	95	267	-2	-8		890
9. Capitales Lansing	108	113	112	112	96	99	215	-4	-3		848
10. Traverse City	101	96	103	107	88	84	248	3	-2		828
11. Gateway-Miles-Bu.	101	95	101	107	99	110	199	-2	1		811
12. Floral City Monroe	103	99	100	99	91	98	208	-13	1		786
13. Timberland Ch'd'n Saginaw Bay *	93	102	107	113	96	98	235	-2	-4		778
14. Flint	93	97	96	93	84	87	200	-7	-8		735
15. Jackson	88	85	94	94	88	86	193	-4	-7		717
Disqualified - Article 14 (b) 4 bcd - Chorus Contest Rules.											
Port City	104	103	108	111	86	83	226	-7	-1		813
Muskegon											

\* time penalty, 60 points

# LOGOPEDICS

Chapter	Membership thus far 1971	Avg. amt. per man 1969	1970	Thru Oct. 18 1971	Total \$ 1971 thus far per Chapter
AU SABLE	22	0	0	0	0
BATTLE CREEK	44	4.51	.61	.86	38.00
BIG RAPIDS	14	0	0	0	0
BOYNE CITY	28	0	6.91	4.89	136.84
CADILLAC	24	0	.83	1.38	33.00
DETROIT	108	5.00	4.95	0	0
FLINT	43	7.14	0	2.51	108.00
FRUIT BELT	31	3.88	12.08	7.76	240.59
GRAND RAPIDS	78	2.11	9.28	.42	33.00
GRATIOT COUNTY	31	0	4.84	6.45	200.00
GROSSE POINTE	75	0	0	.44	33.00
HOLLAND	28	.74	5.44	.89	25.00
HUDSON	25	0	0	0	0
HOLLY FENTON	27	0	1.92	0	0
JACKSON	48	0	1.43	1.56	75.00
KALAMAZOO	46	26.08	31.91	26.63	1,225.00
LANSING	41	10.58	.55	.48	20.00
LES CHENEAUX	23	.91	1.04	0	0
MILFORD	29	0	0	1.72	50.00
MONROE	45	0	3.00	2.95	133.00
MUSKEGON	45	4.14	0	2.55	115.00
NILES	30	0	2.70	2.50	75.00
OAKLAND COUNTY	103	14.42	5.64	6.80	700.00
PONTIAC	56	9.69	11.78	3.60	202.00
SAGINAW	48	0	0	0	0
SLT. ST. MARIE	28	1.02	0	0	0
TECUMSEH	13	0	0	0	0
THREE RIVERS	21	20.30	15.31	0	0
TRAVERSE CITY	51	2.08	.59	4.08	208.16
WAYNE	84	1.57	.31	2.39	200.00
WINDSOR	35	0	0	0	0

In explanation of the chart:

This chart is a record or history of the money donated by individual chapters in the Pioneer District to Logopedics. These donations have been broken down per capita for each chapter. We thought it would be of interest to each member in the district to know how their chapter averaged out for each man. Listed below is a breakdown of all donations per chapter starting with year 1969, 1970 and thus far in 1971, current through Oct. 18, 1971.

These figures are accurate to the best of our knowledge according to donations recorded with the Pioneer District Logopedic's Chairman. If these figures do not correspond with your chapter records it could be that some donations were sent direct and did not get channelled through the Logopedics Chairman. If any errors do exist please contact LOWELL E. WOLFE (Logopedics Chairman) RR#2

Delton, Mich. 49046

and these errors will be rectified.

Let me state once more all donations should be sent through the Logopedics Chairman so proper recording and recognition will be attained.

As you can see from the chart some chapters are doing an outstanding job while others haven't gotten off the ground! What a fine example has been set by Kalamazoo Chapter as they have led in donations per man the last 3 years.

As was announced at the District Convention in Grand Rapids, the Pioneer District is having an area Wing Ding (strictly stag) to be held in Jackson, Mich. Hayes Hotel, 8:00 P.M., Nov. 5th. If any chapter has donations they have been holding for some special occasion, this will be an excellent time to present your contributions. Let's make this the biggest Wing-Ding ever--with all proceeds going to Logopedics.



## NOV. 5

LOGOPEDICS AREA WING-DING.

All registered Quartets attending will be asked to sing. Quartets signed up so far are:

- THE CIRCUIT BREAKERS - Battle Creek
- THE NOTABLE FOUR - Jackson
- THE LATEST EDITIONS - Kalamazoo
- THE GALAXIES - Grand Rapids
- THE HARMONY HOUNDS - Battle Creek
- THE 4 TUNE TELLERS - Jackson

Only \$1.50 per man for a fantastic evening of fun and singing. All proceeds go to Logopedics. Let's put the Pioneer District on top!!!



### NEW QUARTETS

PHIDAVONICS  
Phil Pierce  
502 W. Front  
Buchanan, Mich. 49107

VOCAL GENTRY  
Donald Fraser  
14408 N. Bluff Road  
Old Mission, Mich.

DROP CHORDS  
Rawley G. Hallman  
6101 Ortonville Road  
Clarkston, Mich. 48016

### QUARTET CHANGES

WHY NOT QUARTET  
Stephen Sutherland  
2125 Golfside 2 - 8  
Ypsilanti, Mich.

THE LONG & SHORT OF IT  
Lee Frayer  
6235 Snowapple Dr.  
Clarkston, Mich 48016

SHARPLIFTERS  
John Seemann  
3609 Ridgeland Dr.  
Orchard Lake, Mich.  
48033

### DROPPED QUARTETS

VILLAGE-AIRES  
Grand Rapids, Mich.

VAGABONDS  
Dennis Gore  
3346 Parker Drive  
Royal Oak, Mich.  
48072

HI-LITES  
Niles Buchanan & Fruit Belt  
Michigan

CAR-TUNES  
Detroit, Mich.



HARMONY HOUNDS - 2nd



ROLLING TONES - 3rd



RANGE FINDERS - 4th



LOCAL GENTRY - 5th



TWI-LIGHTERS - 6th



SOUNDSATIONS - 7th

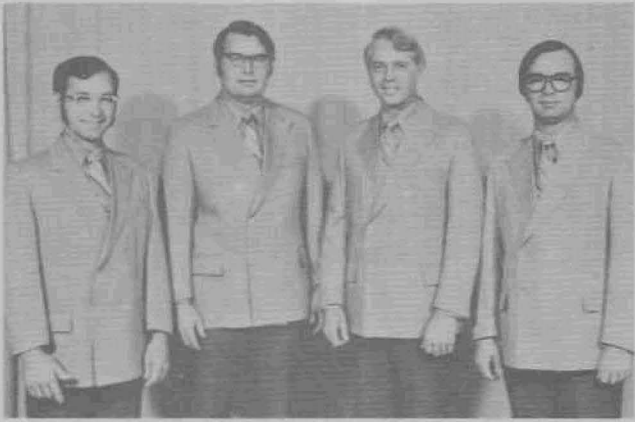


LATEST EDITION - 8th

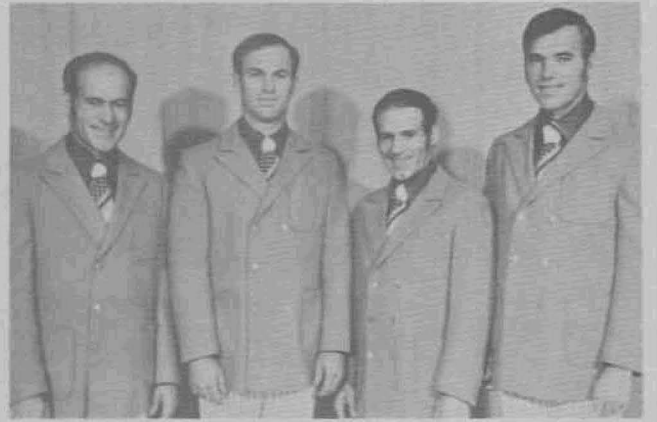


GALAXIES - 9th

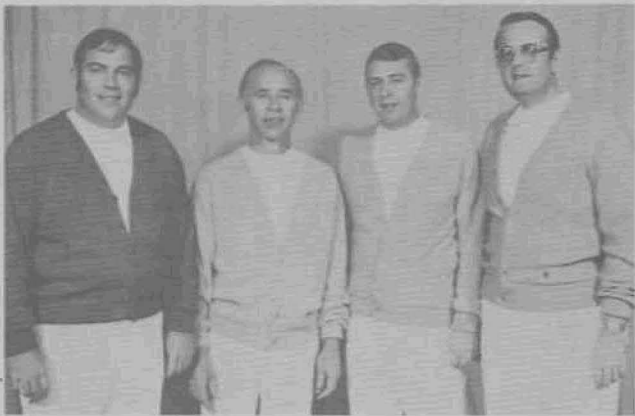




DUTCH MASTERS - 10th



BURRILL BROTHERS - 11th



SMORGASCHORDS - 12th



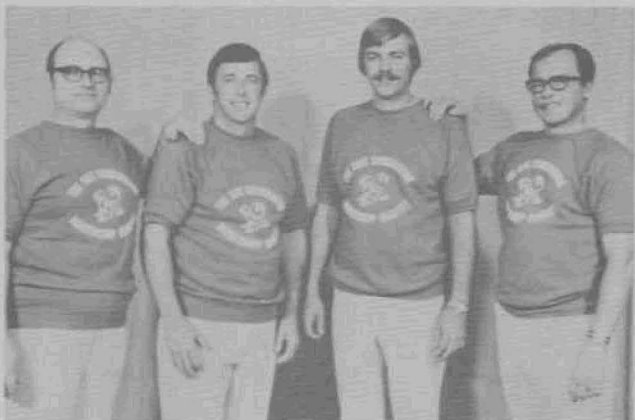
PHIDAVONICS - 13th



HUM BUMS - 14th



FOUR BITS - 15th



SAFE COMBINATION - 16th

The Panel of Judges

Chairman.....	Merle Clayton, Battle Creek, Mi.
Harmony Accuracy.....	Ered Owens, Des Moines, Iowa
	Willis Wood, Okemus, Mi.
Balance & Blend.....	LaVerne Moore, West Allis, Wis.
	Rush Wyman, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
Interpretation.....	Ken Warner, Newark, Ohio
	Ken Williams, Madison, New Jersey
Stage Presence.....	O.S. Falls, Jr., Jackson, Mi.
	Clifford MacLean, Cedarville, Mi.
Arrangement.....	Warren "Buz" Baeger, LaGrange Park, Ill.
	Greg Lyne, Kansas City, Kansas
Secretary.....	Darrell Devitt, Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.
Ass't Secretary.....	Ed Gaikens, Grand Rapids, Mi.
Timers.....	Bill Wild, Sr., Grand Rapids, Mi.
	Bill Wild, Jr., Grand Rapids, Mi.
Practice Panel Ch'n.....	Ed Gaikens, Grand Rapids, Mi.



HARRISVILLE HAPPENINGS

New attendance records were set again this year at the 9th Annual Barbershopper's Labor Day Week-end at Harrisville. As usual the State Park was filled with campers, the V.F.W. Park was heavily occupied, and the motels displayed their "No Vacancy" signs. Some eager campers even made two weeks of it. Now the canvas is neatly folded, the trailers are swept and locked, and the signs and displays are wrapped and stored for another year. However, the memories linger on and will forever be promoted by these pictures of some of the highlights.

The Oakland County games for kids is certainly one of these as Billy Van Dyke (Pic. 1) is shown in action just before his team won the water balloon toss. The girls too, had their turns as Rennee Queen and Donna Beatty (Pic. 2) were close winners in the three leoped race, as some of the others wound up in a tangle.

For the first time, The Pioneer District Officers held their summer board meeting at Harrisville, as host Tom Pollard offered his beautiful Lake Huron Beach home as the site. It was here that a Traverse City contingent (Pic. 3) led by Convention Chm. Mike Duwerkerk (or was it Co-Chm.?), Morrie Allen, and Dean Fischer (rear), handed over the convention proceeds to Dist. Treas. John Gillespie (L.) as Dist. Pres. Tom Damm flashes an approving smile.

Saturday night at the V.F.W. Hall finds Sir Len Johnson (Pic. 4) sporting a dashing beard as an admiring audience looks on. At the next table (Pic. 6). It was a pleasant surprise to find the long lost lead of the ever popular Lansing "Merri-Men", Dale Rullock. The night spots were crowded too, as evidenced by the Pontiac Chapter take-over of Al Wehrle's Greenbush Tavern (Pic. 5).

Naturally, the camp sites were the focal point for good fellowship, boondoggling, and family gatherings, as Mary Skunski (Pic. 7) hosts a foursome, the Anderson clan (Pic. 10) welcomes Bob Miller, and Marguerite Durham (Pic. 12) shows off her clever "Silent Sophisticated Singers".

The always genial gentleman from Jackson, Red Shaw (Pic. 8) boasts of his impromptu quartet doesn't seem to be making much of an impression on his guests (Pic. 9). Almost perfect weather turned the Lake Huron Beach into a lively spot, and of course, Dan Davey, Dick McHuoh, Bill Shannon, and John Wearinn (Pic. 16) had to limber up their lungs.

Saturday's golf tournament had its share of excitement (not all good) and the "Same old winners" smile over their prizes (Pic. 17). Chm. Jim St. Amand, congratulates (L. to R.) Bill Bischoff, Mike Drabik, Ron St. Amand, Art Horler, and the tardy Cliff Douglas (inset).

The public Sunday afternoon Barbershopper's Show, required some rehearsal of the massed choruses, as the girls serenade outside the men's John in the park (Pic. 14), while the men take to the shady grass outside of the V.F.W. Music Shell (Pic. 11).

Here's an opportunity to thank Murlene Smith (Mrs. John) for her tireless effort in signing up all barbershoppers and Sweet Adelines. All week she searches the State Park and during the Sunday show she sticks to her table (Pic. 15) until the last registration is counted. Show your appreciation when you next see her.

A cartop seemed to be the best place to display the 1971 "Travel Trophy" (Pic. 13), made new each year by your paranatetic picture packer, and won by Doug Powell, now living in Seattle Washington. This award, which goes to the Michigan member who travels the farthest to attend, was formerly won by Lloyd Steinkamp, Kenosha, Wisconsin (1966); Ben Landino, Hollywood, Florida ('67); Norm Swanson, Davenport, Iowa ('68); Don Cowles, Chicago, Illinois ('69); and Bon Von Ins, Holland, Michigan ('70).

That's all for now! "Put your dreams away 'till another day"--- And keep smiling --- at Bill Pascher.

Quartet Competition



Category: Song No.:	H A		B&B		INT		S P		ARR		TOTAL
	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	
<b>SEMI-FINALS</b>											
1. Original Choice	133	139	126	130	121	127	269	5	0		1050
2. Harmony Hounds	137	137	128	131	109	123	300	-4	-15		1046
3. Rolling Tones	110	111	105	116	121	124	257	-2	0		942
4. Range Finders	102	105	116	122	117	115	241	-6	4		916
5. Vocal Gentry	116	101	117	116	106	102	261	-7	-5		907
6. Twi-Lighters	107	106	97	99	106	108	253	-10	0		866
7. Soundations	114	131	103	105	99	98	225	-2	-9		864
8. Latest Edition	109	106	91	98	103	107	228	-10	-1		831
9. Galaxies	103	93	98	98	96	93	229	3	0		813
10. Dutch Masters	103	95	100	105	97	94	225	5	-14		810
11. Burrill Brothers	109	111	102	106	80	85	194	2	-12		777
12. Smorgaschords	111	105	95	97	104	105	173	-18	-13		759
13. Phidavonics	90	83	93	93	87	93	165	-18	-12		674
14. Hum Bums *	87	81	78	77	77	75	162	-13	-5		619
15. Four Bits **	100	88	87	88	85	89	179	-18	-33		545
16. Safe Combination	86	90	89	89	77	82	165	-25	-26		487
<b>FINALS</b>											
1. Original Choice	131	125	132	136	126	132	274	-1	-2		2103
2. Harmony Hounds	121	123	121	122	112	111	311	1	-3		2065
3. Rolling Tones	122	109	117	120	123	123	270	6	-3		1929
4. Range Finders	114	108	111	118	101	107	232	2	-3		1806
5. Soundations	119	119	103	103	109	118	188	3	-11		1715
6. Twi-Lighters	103	90	94	95	91	87	213	-6	-12		1621
<b>Disqualified-Article 14-Quartet Contest Rules</b>											
Vocal Gentry	106	89	107	104	107	97	237	-4	-8		1742

\* time penalty, 120- points  
\*\* time penalty, 140 points

**FEMMININE** **OBSERVER**  
 ZONE 1 by Dora Vogel  
 308 BELANGER ROAD  
 GROSSE PTE., MICH.  
 48030

Great Falls, Dearborn, Detroit, Redford, O.C.C., Windsor, Wayne, Ann Arbor, Monroe, Willard, Pontiac

Motor City Chorus wives Detroit Chapter held their last meeting at the home of Sylvia Rock, getting acquainted with new members wives, card games, a (White Elephant) silent auction took place, funds from the event go to the wives fund and will later be given to the Motor City Chorus for uniforms. Many other activities were planned, the evening was topped off with coffee and dessert. New officers for the coming year were presented long stemmed Pink Carnations, these include: Pres. Jeane Ryan, Vice Pres. Ruth Kinjorski, Sec. Sylvia Rock, Treas. Phyllis Carey.

The Camp-out at Harrisville was a huge success again and the fantastic singing there for Labor Day week-end, signals a return to indoor activities for fall and winter. Wayne Chapter needs to be congratulated for having the largest number of Barbershop members and families there. The City of Harrisville has been proclaimed the "Barbershop Capitol" of the Pioneer District on Labor Day, by a vote of the Pioneer District House of Delegates.

O.C.C. Chapter held their Sept. meeting at Milt and Marge Friedrichs bar in Harrisville, this was a big event with most of the profits going to Loopedics, quartets entertained. Other events scheduled for Barbershoppers and families were kids fishing contest, Indian Ghost Walk, Inter Chapter Horseshoe Contest, Golf Tournament, womens watermelon contest and Tug-O-War, a parade of quartets and choruses for Harrisville residents at the V.F.W. grounds followed by a chicken dinner put on by the Harrisville residents. To some folks the biggest thrill of all was just to sit around a bonfire at night singing and listening to great barbershop songs and tapes and enjoying great fellowship. Many are thinking about next years return already.

It was a double occasion for Chuck and Luella Willcock celebrating their wedding anniversary, also Luella's Birthday as well, just recently.

Enjoying a vacation to Europe are Ralph and Jean Schirmer.

Happy Anniversary wishes go to Pat and Jeane Ryan their 25th, celebrated September 28th.

men of note

ROBERT WHITTLEDGE	1	JOSEPH HUBBARD	1
JERRY REID	1	GERALD SMITH	1
JUDD LEWIS	2	ALTON MURRAY	1
PAUL HEITZMANN	1	CARROL C. STANDER JR.	2
ARTHUR MOULD	2	BOB GIBSON	1
NORMAN TOUZEAU	1	JACK W. TEUBERT	3
W. D. BUTLER	6	GEORGE VAN DE VELDE	1
CLEVELAND HAYES	1	EARL PERRIGO	1
GERALD WOLVEN	1	JAMES A. MC LANE	1
CHRISTIAN NEFF	1	MARVIN SKYPSKI	1
DALE SCHROEDER	12	RAYMOND SIKKENG	3
DONALD SCHROEDER	5	KIRK D. NORTON	1
ROBERT THOMSON	2	ROBERT DIXON	4

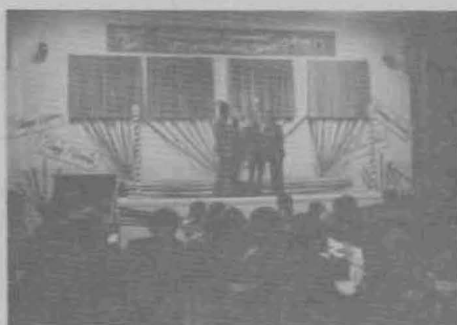
# The Gentlemen's Agreement

DETROIT, OCTOBER 15, 1971

How do you say "THANKS" to a quartet that has gone from nothing to everything in two years? To four great individual guys, top-rate performers, yet as common as the guy next door? To four of your own chapter members you've known all your life, it seems?



WELL, DETROIT FOUND A WAY:



ON FRIDAY NIGHT, OCT. 15, THE GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT arrived at the U.A.W. Hall to sing an engagement (was Leonard Woodcock really there?) and found 600 of their Pioneer friends, their wives and families waiting with one of the biggest surprize parties any of us will ever see.



THE FOR-TUNE TELLERS



THE HARMONY HOUNDS



SHARPLIFTERS

Maitre D' BILL BUTLER had a world famous menu prepared--THE DETROIT MOTOR CITY CHORUS, THE FOR-TUNE TELLERS, THE S.O.C. CHORUS, THE HARMONY HOUNDS, THE SHARPLIFTERS, THE SONGPIPERS: but all only appetizers to the main course of the evening --THE GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT.

Cameras clicked and whirred all evening long, sad songs were sung; glad songs, funny songs; praise, thanks and admiration got all wrapped up together, and at one time or another there wasn't a dry eye in the entire hall.



THE SONGPIPERS



BILL BUTLER \*\* "PRESENTATION TIME" \*\* TOM DAMM



## 1971 International Champions

And once again, they captured our hearts, just the way they've captured all of America, and some other parts of the world as well.

And at the close of the evening, the "GENTLEMEN" were presented rinos by the Detroit Chapter, and plaques by the Pioneer District--just to say "Thanks" and "We Love You", THE GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT---our friends, our heros, our INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONS of 1971!

## VOICE PRODUCTION

by MAC HUFF

Voice training is developing musical habits, and the process is more psychological than physiological. It is based on two fundamental principles:

- (1) The right idea of tone, and
- (2) The right condition of the vocal instrument.

The right idea of tone or tone concept is a thing of far greater importance than that generally attached to it. If each voice could produce but one tone quality the problem of forming a correct tone concept would be permanently eliminated. But such is not the case. The amazing thing about the human voice, the thing which places it above all other musical instruments is, that it can produce a variety of tone quality ranging from the best to the worst. Further, it can produce a large number of tone qualities all of which are good for the expression of different moods. Here enters the difficulty: The voice responds to the idea controlling it. This idea is the taste of the individual. Whatever satisfies his taste is accepted as right although it may be far from it. One's ear, which is another name for his taste, shows his stage of development in that particular thing.

In forming a voice the coach (or director) undertakes to make it produce his concept of a beautiful tone. Whatever satisfies his ear he accepts as good. It is right here that most of the mistakes are made in voice training. A thoroughly refined ear is the voice coaches' most valuable asset.

### THE NATURE OF THE PROBLEM

That the members of the human race be able to communicate with each other is fundamental and necessary, and this must be done through the medium of one of the senses. The sensitiveness of the atmosphere to vibrations makes sound the most natural and effective means of communication, and to this end nature equipped man with a sound producing instrument, the voice, and at the same time, a sound receiving instrument, the ear.

The next step was to make sounds and combinations of sounds stand for definite ideas, so that when one individual wished to transfer an idea to another he could do it unmistakably. Thus language came into being to meet a human need.

The voice is automatically operative from the moment of birth, and throughout life it enables one to make known to others his exact state of mind and feeling by means of what are called words. The work is a sign which, by universal agreement represents an idea. It will be noticed that we transfer ideas. The medium is material, but the thing transferred is mental.

### THE ELEMENTS OF SPEECH

Words consist of two elements, vowels and consonants. Consonants are the intellectual elements of speech, vowels are the emotional elements. Here we find the origin of singing. The aim of speech is to express definite ideas. Therefore, in speaking, the vowels are passed over rapidly and the consonants are made distinct. When we wish to convey not only the idea but its accompanying emotions the order is reversed. The vowels are prolonged and the consonants shortened. When this is done according to rhythmic and melodic laws the result is singing. Singing is therefore a more compelling form of utterance than speaking in that it combines the intellectual and emotional elements of language.

Singing is an art and its aim, like that of all the arts should be to express that which is wholesome, beautiful, and worthy to be perpetuated, that which adds to the joy of life and is a factor in character building.

### THE VOCAL FOLDS (CORDS)

When air from the lungs is moved between tightly drawn vocal folds by the diaphragm and abdominal muscles, the vocal folds are excited into rapid motion. This vibration produces a rather soft unpleasant buzzing sound that could quite aptly be termed noise. This raw sound is not musical in nature because the bands and the membrane connected to them vibrate in segments as well as in over-all length, simultaneously.

These highly irregular vibrations are loaded with overtones that are unrelated and discordant. It remains for the cavities above the vocal folds to select and re-inforce those overtones which are harmonically related and amplify them along with the fundamental tone in order to give the voice timbre (tone color). This is what is commonly referred to as resonance.

## THE RESONATORS

The sound waves after leaving the vocal folds pass out through the pharynx, mouth and nasal cavities. Here they are converted into voice; that is, into vowels and tone qualities. Let it be remembered that we are speaking here of sound waves, not of breath. A change in the form of the primary resonators (the pharynx, mouth and nasal area) changes the quality and color of the tone.

The resonators are parts of the voice apparatus that determines the distinctive sounds of our individual voices.

By developing the quality of the tone color (through proper use of the resonators) of each individual voice and by instructing those individuals in the art of proper diction and all this executed with the utmost concern for good basic voice quality, it will be interesting to discover that the blend of four or forty voices will be naturally sounder.

## THE SINGING TONE

Voice culture properly begins with the development of the singing tone. Its aim is to provide the singer with the best possible instrument through which to express himself. The singing tone is full, steady, round, rich, resonant, and sympathetic. How to develop it is a problem to which a large and growing number of people are giving the most serious attention. This has resulted in a considerable number and variety of methods which in themselves are responsible for the general belief that voice training is a difficult and uncertain undertaking.

However, training the voice is neither difficult nor uncertain when the nature of the problem and its basic principles are understood.

First, it must be stressed that even though an individual may not use his singing voice more than once or twice a week, he should, nevertheless, do his utmost to develop it for beauty of tone (good quality) that is well supported.

For years Barbershoppers have been content to sing like sounds (words) on harmonically pleasing pitches and nothing more. Our major concern was that the lead, because he carries the melody most of the time, should possess and exhibit good voice quality at all times.

If our style of music is to progress, and if our quartets and choruses are to improve, good voice quality must be stressed in all voices. The days of throaty OOM-PAH-PAH basses, weak, off key baritones, and squeaky tenors is gone forever!

Second, to insure a long life, vocally, the singer must be encouraged through education to treat his voice properly. The voice is a precious instrument - care for it - it's the only one you are going to get.

## FALSE QUALITY

There is a tendency by some coaches to manufacture false or unnatural sounds in their quartet personnel in order to achieve a certain overall vocal effect or presentation. Bear in mind, the voice becomes limited when these unnatural sounds are produced. For instance, if a lead singer possessing a baritone type of voice quality, is encouraged to produce a more treble or tenor-like quality, he most often is asked to resort to a strident, thin and unpleasant voice quality. The voice then becomes limited in range and quality, and very often is subjected to severe throat strain causing fatigue, hoarseness and sometimes a loss of voice.

## HOW TO CONTROL THE INSTRUMENT

It is of supreme importance that in the beginning of voice training, singers be made to understand that an anatomical knowledge of the voice is of little practical value in learning to sing. Singing is learning to play upon the vocal instrument rather than a study of its construction and the more unconscious one is of his throat the better he is likely to sing. The vocal cords respond automatically to the thought of pitch, and everything else involved in singing should respond in the same way.

(CONTINUED NEXT MONTH)

(Ed. Note: This is just the first in a series of articles designed to help you and me become better singers - to improve our voices, our methods of singing, and many other areas that will benefit each of us.)



September 20, 1971

Mr. Duane H. Mosier  
SPEBSQSA  
16196 Harlow Street  
Detroit, Michigan 48235

Dear Mr. Mosier:

Thank you for your letter of September 15, 1971. You may have our permission to reprint the chapter entitled: SPEBSQSA Preserves A Tradition from pages 163 to 168 from the book, DEAC (C.T.) MARTIN'S BOOK OF MUSICAL AMERICANA by Deac (C.T.) Martin. It is understood that this material is to be utilized only as follows: one time in your publication entitled TROUBADOUR - in three installments.

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Eileen Abrahamsen  
Subsidiary Rights Department  
Assistant to Subsidiary Rights Director

THIS PERMISSION COVERS ONLY MATERIAL ORIGINAL WITH OUR AUTHORS.

SPEBSQSA Preserves a Tradition'

Here I shall enlarge occasionally upon bits of personally recorded history of the ten years that followed the bursting of that musical bomb over Tulsa. When I wrote KEEP AMERICA SINGING (1948) as an eyewitness of the phenomena that followed, it was as a commentator twenty years closer to the explosion than now.

On April 17, 1938, the Tulsa Sunday Tribune asked in a headline, "Barber Shop Harmony a Thing of the Past?" It answered its own question by adding in a subhead: "S.P.B.S.O.S.U.S. is Formed to Preserve it." At first look, that might indicate the scrambling of the symbols SPEBSQSA, which today mean "Those quartets - - I love 'em" to millions throughout the States and Canada who've heard them in public concerts. But Virginia Burch's story disproves any mix up of the letters. She wrote: "The Society for the Propagation of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in the United States - - Yes, sir, that's what they call it." Then she told how the nucleus had formed when the trails of two Tulsa acquaintances, tax attorney Owen C. Cash's and investment executive Rupert I. Hall's, crossed by chance at the Hotel Muelbach in Kansas City, Missouri. (A plaque in the hotel lobby now commemorates that meeting.)

Their acquaintanceship led from travelers' talk about matters back home to more personal interests. Music was one of them. Each found that the other liked the kind of songs favored by men when four yearners able to sing four parts got together under conditions favorable to harmonizing. Such occasions were as rare in Tulsa as throughout the nation, and they were growing rarer as radio promoted listening instead of participation. Cash's personal recollections add color to the TRIBUNE'S account of the meeting of the two harmony-hungry Tulsans. "I ran into Rupert Hall, whom I knew slightly. I was lonesome that night and I asked if he could sing tenor. He said "I suppose I'm the best barbershop tenor in the United States". I tried him out on "I Had a Dream, Dear" and he stayed on pitch". The results were so satisfying that they canvassed the lobby for a lead and a bass. "We picked up a couple and went to Rupe's room and developed a fairly good quartet."

The two talked late into the night about Cash's dream of organizing a barbershop-quartet club as he had discussed it with other Tulsans with whom he sang baritone infrequently. Hall promised to call Cash at the first opportunity "and get this thing started." He arranged for a meeting at the Tulsa Club. Cash drafted the invitation, dated April 8, 1938, to known Adeline addicts: "In this age of Dictators and Government control of everything, about the only privilege guaranteed by the Bill of Rights, not in some way supervised or directed, is the art of Barber Shop Singing. Without doubt we still have the right of 'peaceable assembly'

"DEAC" TELLS IT AS IT WAS.

District Historian, DUANE H. MOSIER has secured permission from Prentice-Hall Inc. to publish a chapter of the late "Deac" Martin's masterpiece, "Musical Americana". It is the first chapter of Part 3 dealing with the birth of SPEBSQSA. It is delightful reading and gives an intimate and humorous picture of the problems confronted by O. C. Cash and his associate Rupert Hall in getting the Society on the road.

Articles have been published in the Troubadour depicting formation highlights, but "Deac" gives us the details in incidents that happened as only he could do, based upon his early membership and acquaintance with the persons who made the wheels turn. His book is something every barbershopper should own. You would love reading it.

The Troubadour is glad to publish the story in installment form and hopes the members will follow each segment with profit and interest.

Appreciation and thanks go to the publishers of the beautiful volume.

Credit is expressed in the following:

Credit line:  
From the book, DEAC (C.T.) MARTIN'S BOOK OF MUSICAL AMERICANA by Deac (C.T.) Martin. 1970 by Deac C. T. Martin. Reprinted with permission of the publisher, Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N.J.

which, I am advised by competent legal authority, includes quartet singing. The writers have for a long time thought that something should be done to encourage the enjoyment of this last remaining vestige of human liberty. Therefore, we have decided to hold a singfest on the Roof Garden of the Tulsa Club on Monday, April 11, at six-thirty P.M." The invitation continued in that light vein. "We will have a private room and so will not be embarrassed by the curiosity of the vulgar public. You may bring a fellow singer, if you desire." It was signed "Harmoniously yours, THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND PROPAGATION OF BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN THE UNITED STATES Rupert Hall, Royal Keeper of the Minor Keys, Braniff Investment Co.-O.C.Cash, Third Ass't. Temporary Vice-Chairman, Stanolind Companies."

They could think of only about a dozen who might be interested. Actually, fourteen received the invitation and twenty-five men turned out for that first meeting. Continuing Cash's narration, "Rupe Hall got there first. Donnie O'Donovan of Station KV00, Elmer Lawyer of the Tulsa Paper Co. and I were next." The three were standing 'round when S. M. (Puny) Blevens, well over six feet, arrived and asked, "What are we waiting for?" Blevens sang lead, O'Donovan tenor, Cash bari, and Lawyer bass. The first song sung under society auspices was "Down Mobile," an oldie even then in 1938.

No one took time to eat much at that meeting. Hall, who has lived to see his local singing club grow to international proportions, says: "After an hour or so of catch-as-catch-can singing, someone suggested the organization of a permanent club. Someone else asked 'When do we meet again?' An enthusiast yelled "Tomorrow night!" Actually, they delayed the next meeting until the following week. As the word got about, more than seventy harmony-hungry men came to that second one.

It didn't occur to anyone, while making up for time lost in the lean years, that they were also making news. But, as reports were relayed from one singer to another, chain reactions set in. Hall reminisces:

"Owen Cash, who originated the idea of the singing club, and I were busy answering 'phone calls and letters and visiting with those who hadn't been at either meeting but were practically crying to meet in harmony."

The third meeting was the one that really started the rush to the Cherokee Strip, so called when in 1893 for the second time the government opened Indian Territory lands to settlers in land "rushes" which were races from a starting point. (Those who reached a desired piece of land first were entitled to "stake a claim" on it.

by JACK SIDOR

Chances are, you became a barbershopper for two reasons; you like singing and harmony, and, more important, you wanted to have that nice warm feeling of belonging to something. It is that something which our society provides--a unique brotherhood of guys, like you, looking for that same feeling.

I have been a member for ten years, but, it was at Albright College, Reading, Pennsylvania where I really got that feeling of belonging. This quiet and beautiful little town on the side of a mountain was the scene of this years Harmony College. It was here that the "something" happened and in a peculiar manner. But let me back up a bit.

I knew I was going to attend so I wrote Kenosha for some names of other district members enrolled in order to form a ride pool. One was already made up of three members from Wayne; Pete Anderson, Mart Qum, and Paul Pitch. They said they needed a tenor - I volunteered (Yikes)

We had a fine trip marred only by a two hour delay where road repairs choked the traffic flow, so we arrived a little bit late. Bob Johnson's secretary, Jody, told us to rush over to the dining hall. We just made it under the wire for supper but we did not escape a scolding from Bob for being late. After being on the road for fifteen hours, I was not too receptive to the scolding so I shot back, "We would have been on time if it had not been for the tie-up on your damn turn-pike." I didn't know until later that this was a religious college and that the guy sitting next to Bob was the reverend dean of the school.

The supper was great as were all the meals that week, prepared by a matronly Dutch woman and her crew of college kids. The meal calmed me to the point where I even apologized for my outburst.

We had a mass assembly then, and Bob laid down the ground rules -- no singing in the dorms after 11:00 PM. - no alcohol on campus- etc. He is a tough, task-master and when he says, "Breakfast at seven", he means exactly that, no matter how late you might have stayed up.

All the top society brass were there. Besides Bob, there was Dave Stevens, Mac Huff, Hugh Ingraham, Joe White, and many top quartet coaches and song writers and arrangers like young Greg Lyne - he is a genius - and Lou Perry - a white haired marvelous man. I got to meet and chat with all of them through the week.

We had to choose three courses out of about fifteen offered. I picked Music Theory and Beginning Arranging, Script Writing and M.C.-ing, and, Beginning Quartet Coaching. Each was a three-hour course. In addition, everyone was required to attend a daily mass session for Sight Reading, Vocal Techniques, and Rehearsal. In all, that was twelve hours of school per day. They even managed to cram in a couple more hours explaining the new judging system. As you might guess, the classes were lively. If Dave Stevens saw anyone yawning he would halt for a tag, or a "tiddly" as he calls them.

The week moved along swiftly with a brief time-out on Wednesday night for a steak fry and "special" liquid refreshment about six miles away from the campus. It was rainy and chilly but otherwise great, singing tags with the top guns. Most of the week was rainy, in fact, six inches of it.

Most of our training took place in the basement of a beautiful new chapel. I calculate that the sixty-two hours I spent in church that week takes care of my regular church attendance until 1980. Our mass sessions were held upstairs in the main auditorium. It was here that the strange feeling got me.

Among the many new songs and arrangements we were to learn were two hymns. There is something which goes beyond description when 250 barbershoppers find all the right notes on a sacred song. About the middle of the week we reached an emotional peak while Bob was directing "Oh Sacred Head Now Wounded". Tears

ran down his cheeks. There was a long time of reverent silence then, in which much was said without words. I felt a large lump in my throat and found it impossible to sing. Judging by all the throat clearing around me, I was not the only one with strange feelings. As I said earlier, I could not really understand the feeling right then. It took awhile.

Sometime after, all the classes combined their talents to produce a show - a fine show with a select chorus, about eight quartets, and capped off by our Gentlemen's Agreement; - some time after I began to figure out the feeling.

Let me put it this way, when you were a kid watching movies like "Boys Town" or some thing about a military academy - or any one of many war time films -- did you envy the warm comradeship of guys working, playing and living together? That was the extreme feeling - the "something" I felt while singing that hymn.

Next time Kenosha offers a school, get out of your daily routine and give it a try. I can guarantee you will never forget the experience. There were loads of hilarious moments - the trio of Johnson, Stevens and Huff is constantly comic. They even agree with each other once in awhile on things like, "down with baritones".

Some body noted Bob wearing a bright yellow jump suit and referred to him as "The 185 pound canary". One fellow told me that Bob asked him to take a walk with him but he refused because he was afraid of being hit by a speedboat.

Besides doing a lot of laughing you can do a lot of learning about what it is that makes our hobby so fascinating. And who knows, you might even find a tear or two running down your face when you discover that you, too, have found "something".



## FOLLOWING THE ORIGINAL CHOICE 1971 THE CHAMPS

We of the ORIGINAL CHOICE would like to thank the members of the greatest "Chapter" in the world, the PIONEER DISTRICT, for their support and good wishes. Thanks a million to Dick and Mary McHugh of the Flint Chapter who have opened their home in Grand Blanc for our practice sessions so that we could meet halfway.

Each of us in the ORIGINAL CHOICE will learn all four parts of all of the Barberpole Cat Program songs. We ask all of you to do the same. We challenge you to be ready to sing them with us when we visit your chapter.

On October 23, we sing the Manistee Sweet Adeline Chapter Show, and on November 6, LEONARD JOHNSON will wed MARGIE CLAYTON in Lansing.

### bob - bud - jim - len



# CHAPTER OFFICER TRAINING SCHOOL

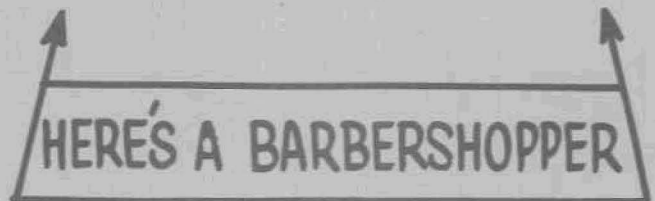
*DON'T  
FORGET!*

Keep America Singing

ROBERT MILLER  
576 DE SOTO 141  
YPSILANTI MI 48197



NOV. 14, 1971



## Coming Events

SEND REQUESTS FOR PARADE CLEARANCE TO:

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



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V.P. Zone 4	- MAX CARTER
V.P. Zone 5	- NOEL (BUD) CARPENTER
Treasurer	- ROBERT DRABIK
Secretary	- JOHN T. GILLESPIE

HERE ARE YOUR 1972 DISTRICT OFFICERS, AS ELECTED AT THE DELEGATES MEETING IN GRAND RAPIDS. Although they're a good bunch of talented guys, THEY NEED YOUR SUPPORT to do an effective job. We'll introduce them more thoroughly in a later issue.

Nov. 6, 1971	DETROIT PARADE
Feb. 12, 1972	PONTIAC PARADE
Feb. 26, 1972	OAKLAND COUNTY
Mar. 11, 1972	BATTLE CREEK PARADE
Mar. 18, 1972	KALAMAZOO PARADE
Apr. 8, 1972	GREAT LAKES INVITATIONAL
Apr. 8, 1972	FLINT PARADE
Apr. 15, 1972	BOYNE CITY BUSH LEAGUE
Apr. 28-30 1972	SPRING CONV. MIDLAND
July 21, 1972	DETROIT MOONLIGHT CRUISE
Oct. 13-15 1972	FALL CONV. FLINT
Nov. 4, 1972	DETROIT PARADE
Apr. 7, 1973	BUSH LEAGUE BOYNE CITY
Apr. 27-29 1973	DISTRICT CONV. LANSING
May 5, 1973	GREAT LAKES INVITATIONAL
July 20, 1973	DETROIT MOONLIGHT CRUISE
Oct. 12-14 1973	DISTRICT CONV. BATTLE CREEK
Nov. 3, 1973	DETROIT PARADE
Apr. 20, 1974	GREAT LAKES INVITATIONAL
May 4, 1974	BUSH LEAGUE BOYNE CITY
Apr. 12, 1975	BUSH LEAGUE BOYNE CITY
Apr. 3, 1976	BUSH LEAGUE BOYNE CITY