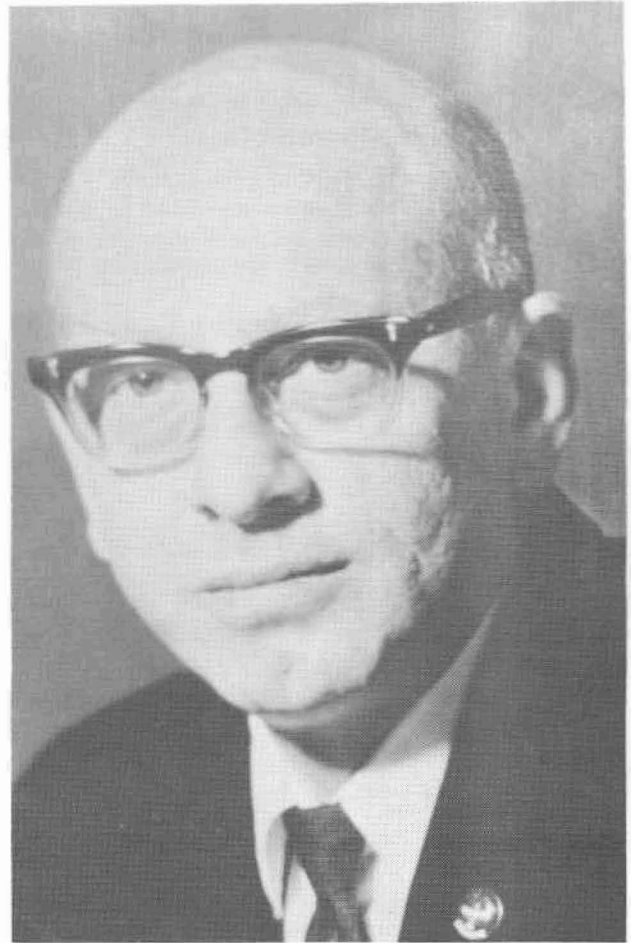


Spring Convention

*that's where it's at
for Pioneer this year*

Midland
April 25-27



SAM ARAMIAN

APRIL 1975



pioneer
TROUBADOUR



Fran Durham, Pioneer District Logopedics Chairman
14851 Stahelin, Detroit, Michigan 48223
Phones: Business, 313 751-3410; Residential, 313 272-0892

DID we put our money where our mouth is?

In the October issue I published a listing of how the Pioneer District Chapters and Quartets stacked up for the first six months of 1974. Let's see how the Pioneer District did Chapter by Chapter and Quartet by Quartet for all of 1974.

Pioneer District Logopedics Donations January-December 1974

Chapter	Donations	Chapter	Donations
Alpena	\$140.00	Muskegon	—
AuSable Valley	43.72	Niles-Buchanan	55.00
Battle Creek	300.00	Oakland County	1,730.00
Boyer City	531.00	Pontiac	300.00
Cadillac	61.00	Port Huron	—
Detroit #1	1,269.80	Saginaw-Bay	—
Flint	136.00	St. Joseph Valley	236.00
Fruit-Belt	—	Sault Ste. Marie	—
Grand Rapids	1,185.00	Traverse City	197.21
Grafiot County	150.00	Wayne	881.35
Grosse Pointe	—	Windsor	100.00
Holland	100.00		
Holly-Fenton	40.00	Grand Total	\$7,995.08
Hudson	66.00		
Jackson	—		
Kalamazoo	—	Quartet Donations	
Lansing	142.00	Galaxies	\$100.00
Les Cheneaux	—	Perfect-A-Chords	45.00
Milford	155.00	Vagabonds	10.00
Monroe	176.00	Total	\$155.00

INDIVIDUAL AND NON-MEMBER DONATIONS \$567.00
DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS 25.00

**TOTAL PIONEER DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS
\$8,742.08**

Twenty-two of our thirty-one chapters contributed to Logopedics in 1975. This is an increase of five chapters from the January-June report. Only three of our better than forty quartets in the district contributed although some may have indirectly contributed through their chapters. As I said before, quartets do have a responsibility for supporting the Society Unified Service Project also.

I am happy to report that we have exceeded the 25% increase in giving that each District Logopedics chairman committed for. In my next article, I will publish the yearly Logopedics contributions of all Districts so that you can see just where Pioneer stacks up against the other Districts. We can be proud of our contributions this year. Let's strive for 100% chapter participation next year!

Checks for Logopedics should be made payable to:

"Harmony Foundation"

and sent directly to:

D. William Fitzgerald, SPEBSQSA Inc.
6315 Third Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin 53141

Acknowledgements will be sent to contributors and a record of the contribution sent to me.

House of Delegates will meet in Midland April 27

The Spring meeting of the Pioneer District House of Delegates will be held at the Holiday Inn, Midland, Michigan on Sunday morning, April 27, 1975 at 10 a.m.

Chapters desiring to present any matters for consideration by the House of Delegates should forward these matters at once to the District Secretary.

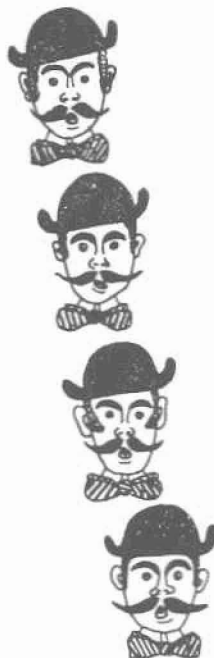
On Saturday, April 26, the International Quartet Preliminary Contest will be held at the Center for the Arts at 9:30 a.m., with the finals at 8 p.m. The Pioneer District Chorus Contest will be held at 1:30 p.m.

CHORD-ially,
Lawrence G. King
District Secretary

Directory Change

Please note, contrary to what is shown in the new directory, that the Battle Creek chapter meets Mondays at the Davidson Bldg. at Kellogg Community College.

Also the zip code of Monroe President Wilbert Matthes should be 48140.



**Keep
America
Singing**

Pioneer TROUBADOUR



Official Publication of the
**PIONEER DISTRICT
S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.**

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Printing by Slade's Printing Company
1502 Baldwin, Pontiac, Michigan



POSTMAN: Mail address changes and undeliverable copy to Box 49, Highland, Michigan 48031. Second Class postage paid at United States Post Office, Highland, Michigan 48031.

Advertising rates available on request
Subscription rates — \$2.50 per year
Single Copy price — 40c

Published February, April, June, August,
October, and December.

Mail all Troubadour Correspondence to Box 49, Highland, Michigan 48031. Personal correspondence may be sent to the Editor at above address. Deadlines: Chapter reports 15th of preceding month; all other copy and material by the 10th.

Spring Convention, Send-Off Show, Boyne Bush League makes busy season for Pioneer Barbershoppers

Anyone who checks the Coming Events column carried on the back of the Troubadour on each issue can readily see that this is the busy season for Pioneer Barbershoppers.

Of course, all the happenings are not listed there, since only those cleared through District Secretary Larry King are published in this column. But you don't need to read very far to find something in your part of the District, as a rule.

There are at least two big "must" events for all of us in the month of April, however; the first being the International Send-Off Show at Jackson High School on the 12th. This one is important to all of us because it is the big source of funds to help send our wonderful quartets and our chorus representative to International competition. Since you may not have gotten the word in time, you might want to plan now to take in this great show and help send our guys to Indianapolis. You won't find a lineup like this one on many stages.

Then, of course, there's the Spring Convention at Midland, covered in the February issue rather extensively. While the contests are an important segment of this three-day affair, it is fitting that we remember that this is a "Convention", and, whether we compete or not, all Pioneer Barbershoppers should be there. This is homecoming, reunion, or whatever you want to make it, and there is really something for everyone.



Sam Aramian will be International Rep at Spring Convention

Sam Aramian, International Vice President from Glendale, Arizona, will be the Society's representative at the Pioneer District Spring Convention in Midland April 25-27.

Sam is a long-time Barbershopper, having joined the fraternity in 1957. He has been active in both the administrative and singing areas, having held almost every chapter office in the Far Western District, including the presidency. He is also a past member of the International board of directors and for the past few years has been very active in the Society's educational programs as a faculty member for chapter officers training schools.

Sam has sung in a number of quartets, probably the best being the Desert Knights, both district champions and International competitors. He is also a judge in the interpretation category.

In business life, Sam Aramian is general manager of Luke Federal Credit Union which serves Department of Defense personnel in the Phoenix metropolitan area. He and his wife Virginia are the proud parents of four children, two of whom are members of the Phoenix Chapter.

Pioneer District officers and members extend a hearty welcome to Sam on his visit to Midland. Glad to have you aboard the Pioneer Conestoga!

Saginaw-Bay has worked hard to make this our very best and we should do our part to see that it is.

The Wolverine Chorus from the Oakland County Chapter will be in Midland to present the trophy emblematic of the District championship to the newly selected champs.

If you haven't had the experience afforded by the men up in Boyne Country, we heartily recommend the Boyne Bush League on May 3rd. It's a great show from the time Barbershoppers start checking in to the old Dilworth on Friday night until they check out again on Sunday morning.

Loton Willson informs us the Dilworth is in the process of being remodeled and is now known as Anthony's Inn. The new owners have redone both dining rooms, but work has not started on the upstairs quarters as yet.

For those new quartets, and a lot of the older ones, there's no place like the Bush League for getting a taste of competition and just plain enjoying a great Barbershop week end.

The Oakland County Chapter will be holding a Pre-Boyne contest at 8:30 p.m. at the K. of C. Hall on 12 Mile Road, between Woodward and Coolidge in Berkeley April 4th. They have an entry fee of \$4 per quartet, and \$50 goes to the winning quartet, providing they attend and participate in the Bush League at Boyne City. If they don't, it goes to the next highest finisher agreeing to go.

Standard judging rules apply, except for stage presence and costumes. The Voice Quad, current Bush League champs, will do the judging.

So, keep those two-suiters packed, along with the shaving gear and accessories, because Spring is here, and Barbershop is bustin' out all over Pioneer District.

**Boyne City
Bush League
is Big League
Barbershop
in everything
but name**

MAY 3

Boyne City, Michigan

Niles-Buchanan visits Chicagoland Association show

Probably the one thing that Barbershoppers enjoy doing more than anything else (except singing), is listening to other Barbershoppers sing, and did we ever get to do some fine listening recently. We really hope that the rest of you troops in other parts of the District don't think we're gloating (in spite of the fact that we are) but the CABC annual show has got to be one of the finest we've had the pleasure of attending in many moons.

Backing up and explaining a bit, the Chicagoland Association of Barbershop Chapters, some 18 strong and ranging from Hobart, Indiana to Evanston and Arlington Heights, Illinois organizes and presents this CABC Show each year.

It is intended as a showcase for the finest in Barbershop singing, and for a number of years has included the current International Quartet Champs — all of this being done in addition to each of the individual chapter shows.

Anyhow, we figured that since Chicago was only about four inches from Niles as the crow flies (or as the toll road bends 120 miles), it might make for a good Chapter activity which could well include the ladies. So, good old (before he was elected, even) ProgVeep Ed Stutz from Southeast Niles, late of the late Elkhart Chapter, having organized several of these trips on other occasions, rose to the bait and commenced to make more than a few phone calls. As a result some 45 Chapter members, wives, etc., boarded the bus in Elkhart and Niles midafternoon Saturday the 25th, and headed for that "toddlin' town."

It was a real experience to ride in a vehicle with CB "ears" and hear the "18 wheelers" tell "Ol' Gramps" about "Smokey's" whereabouts on the toll road. The phrase "hammer down, old Buddy!" meant that we were at Chicago's North Side for dinner in a little over two hours, including a rather interesting trip up Clark Street and Broadway from the Lincoln Park area.

The Japanese meal was really fine (references furnished on request) and we are not aware of anyone that permanently injured themselves sitting on the floor. Ask Dave about his personal pair of "special" chopsticks. We're still wondering if that's the first time Barbershop harmony was ever sung in a Japanese restaurant. Anyway, the waitresses applauded.

The trip south to the Aerie Crown Theatre, in McCormick Place, wouldn't have been bad, but we discovered that there are a significant number of motorists in the city, that don't get much of a chance to handle glare ice, and there were some strange happenings occurring on the Lakeshore Drive. It also was probably a good thing that the bus wasn't any taller.

Enough preliminaries — the main course was the show, and it was great. Well worth the trip. In spite of the fact that the show didn't include the current International Champs, the '71 Champs, Pioneer's own Gentlemen's Agreement very adequately headlined the event. It was the consensus of our party (not prejudiced at all) that the GA is singing better than ever.

We did feel that it was a bit shabby to limit headliners of this stature to five songs. That's poor planning on somebody's part. The other events on the show were not slouches by any stretch of the imagination — Fourth Place Interna-

tional Medalists Insiders from Southwestern District's Houston Chapter, Fifth Place International Medalists Soundtracks from Illinois District's Arlington Heights Chapter; International Finalists, 10th place, Grandma's Boys from Illinois District's North Shore Chapter, Fifth Place International Medalist Chorus Arlingtones, from Arlington Heights, with Doug Miller directing, Second Place Cardinal District 1974, the Chorus of the Dunes from Hobart, Ind with Dick Mackin returning to the helm, and Master of Ceremonies Donald "Red" Blanchard (Drive carefully, the ice is freezing with the slippery side up.) All in all, a fine evening of some of the best in Barbershopping.

We're already starting to think about doing it again next year. If you're inclined to enjoy a Barbershop show of a Saturday evening, and you don't live too far away, maybe you can help us fill two busses next time. —Dan Shelles

Duane Mosier, Pioneer Historian, is dead at 85

Pioneer District Historian Duane Mosier, 85, died Saturday, March 7 in Mt. Carmel Mercy Hospital, Detroit.

Duane had spent more than 25 years in Barbershopping and was well known in the Society for his storehouse of knowledge that suited him so ideally as the chronicler of Pioneer history. The many fine articles on the life and people of the district and Society that have appeared in the Troubadour from time to time have been his legacy to our members. His personal friendship with so many of the people who fill the pages of the Society's history made him uniquely qualified for this work.

Most of us will remember Duane as a valued friend and Barbershopper. But outside the fraternity he lived a very active and useful life as a public servant and private citizen.

A 1913 graduate of the University of Michigan, he served as assistant attorney general from 1916 to 1925 and from 1923 to 1929 was law clerk for the state senate.

After moving to Detroit in 1927 he served on the Wayne County Board of Supervisors from 1945 to 1960. He was a member of the appeals board of the Michigan Employment Security Commission.

Duane also served as president of the Wayne County Taxpayers' Association of Northwest Detroit.

He was a member of the State Bar of Michigan and a trustee of St. John United Methodist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Polly, and one brother. Burial was in Grand Lawn Cemetery.

Area Barbershoppers and members of his Detroit #1 Chapter made a visitation prior to the services to pay their last respects to one of our finest and most respected members.

1975 PIONEER DISTRICT
**Send Off
Show**

featuring the

**Wayne
Wonderland Chorus**

under the Direction of Gordie Limburg
1975 Pioneer District Chorus Representatives

and the

**Oakland County
Wolverine Chorus**

Directed by Glenn Van Tassel
1974-75 Pioneer District Chorus Champions

at the

**JACKSON
HIGH SCHOOL
AUDITORIUM**

**Wildwood Street
Jackson, Michigan**

PLUS

*such top flight
Pioneer District
Quartets as the*

**April 12, 1975
at 8:00 P.M.**

★

All tickets
\$3.00

★

**Call Dick Simpson
Area Code 517
787-4726**

CLASSMATES
Saginaw-Bay

AIRE - MALES
Wayne

NORTHERN HIGHLIGHTS
O.C.C. and Grosse Pointe

FORTUNE TELLERS
Jackson

PHIDAVONICS
Niles-Buchanan

FINAL EDITION
Wayne

GENERATIONS
Hudson

and O.C.C.'s
**Innocent Bystanders
Metro-Chords, and
Square Root**

Traverse City extends an invite to spend Memorial Day week end at Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park

By Maurie Allen and Mike Ouwerkerk
Co-Chairman, 2nd Annual Memorial Day Campout

Last year on the Memorial Day week end some of the Barbershoppers and their families from Traverse City, Grand Rapids and Holland plus a couple of other chapters enjoyed a fun and song-filled week end of camping at Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park in Traverse City. In all, eighteen families were there to enjoy the beautiful weather, singing and fellowship that the week end afforded. In fact, so much fun was had that we would like to make this an annual affair and would like to invite the Barbershoppers and their families throughout the district to join us during this year's camp out on the Memorial Day week end — May 23 to May 26.

Jellystone Park, fashioned around the cartoon world of Yogi Bear, is a delight for all campers, especially the children from age 0 to 100, and with the heated swimming pool, mini-golf, playground, outdoor theater, and planned activities the family can really enjoy themselves while we indulge in the fine art of four-part harmony.

Ranger Smith, formerly of the Wayne Chapter, as one of the operators of the park has promised a fun-packed week end for everyone's enjoyment, and has also informed us that the Barbershoppers will receive a \$1 per day discount on their campsite rent. All he asks in return is that we have fun and that we let him elbow his way in for an occasional tag. With the discount the daily rates are \$5 with electricity, \$5.50 with water and electric, and \$6 with water, electric and sewer.

For reservations, write to Jim Smith, Jellystone Park, 4050 Hammond Rd., Traverse City, Michigan 49684, or call (616) 947-2770. With your reservation request, include a \$5 deposit, the date you will arrive and depart, and the fact that you are a Barbershopper.

If you can join us for this fun filled weekend, make your reservation NOW because the park is expected to be filled that week end and the reservations are taken on a first come-first served basis.

"Sharplifter's Night" — A toast to a great Society Quartet

The Pontiac Chapter hosted a great party Friday, February 21st, at the Chief Pontiac Legion Post to honor "four of the greatest guys in our Society" — the Sharplifters.

Pioneer Barbershoppers, aware of the impending departure of lead Clay Shumard, who has taken up residence as the new baritone with the Vagabonds, flocked to the hall to show their appreciation for the many happy hours of harmony shared with this wonderful quartet, and to join in the toasting and roasting which highlighted the evening.

Many mementos of the foursome's checkered years were presented for their pleasure; many words, kind and unkind, were needled into the evening's fun with the skill of a Navy corpsman at a Marine recruit depot. But none of the roasters could match the polished wit of the old master, tenor Bill Wickstrom, who dispatched his tormentors with ease during the course of the rebuttal.

Participating in the musical portion of the evening were the Four Fits, the Dropchords, the Metrochords, and the Motormen Chorus. Members of the panel were President Funk, Bill Butler, Fred Kienitz, Russ Seely and Glen Van Tassell.



Battling Bill Butler started the basting and lambasting with a touch of bitters and barbs . . .



and was followed by Russ Seely, who seemed to have a problem with his socks.



Fred Kienitz, he of the tired ankles, placed a few choice briquets on the coals, much to the delight of President Don Funk and the members of the panel, Russ Seely, Glenn Van Tassell and Bill Butler.

Quartet Vignettes:

THE POINTE 4—Grosse Pointe Quality

In 1973 the Grosse Pointe Chapter initiated a "Chapter Quartet of the Month Contest" as a means of living up to Society goals, and perhaps as a method of developing a few more entries for those mini-competitions around the metropolitan area where the Chapter always seems to score so well.

Whatever the intent of the Chapter, one of the fine quartets to come out of this program is the "Pointe 4", a group that was born with the modest goal of capturing this contest, and perhaps a few others. It wasn't long until the foursome found itself being asked to sing at other chapter meetings in the area — enter shirt and slacks. Soon they found themselves singing before a variety of community clubs and organization — ener sport suits, ties, socks and shoes, etc.

Hams at heart (aren't they all in that chapter?), and armed with 20 songs under their belts, the Pointe 4 has now been bitten by the bug. With the hopes of being recognized and accepted by their "peers", they have decided to give the contest route a whirl. Boyne City, lookout! Win, lose or draw, the Pointe 4 is looking forward to the battle and the enjoyment of many years with the greatest hobby in the world — the acts and antics of a Barbershop Quartet.

Tenor Bill Wickstrom, with "typical" modesty, acknowledges the many fine "compliments" of the evening, then skewered the entire panel of roasters in a flaming shish-kabob of verbal goodies that delighted Sharplifter fans who gathered to honor their great!guys.



THE SHARPLIFTERS



Premiere showmen and pride of Pioneer.
Get well, soon, guys! We'll miss you.

Jim Phelan, the lead, was exposed to the Society in 1971, and within minutes had an application blank in his hands. They don't fool around on that score in Grosse Pointe! Jim's worth to his new associates can be summed up in the fact that he became part of the administration, a section leader in the chorus, and a quartet man — all in his first year! He was also helpful in organizing the Port Huron Chapter, where he holds an associate membership. Jim and his wife, Mary Jo, live in Anchorville, and have nine children. He is self-employed.

Bass Dick Brouckaert has been a Barbershopper since 1958, and has a wealth of musical knowlege. He has shared his musical background with his fellow members by serving as director and co-director in the two chapters of which he has been a member — the former East Detroit Chapter and currently Grosse Pointe. Like most quartet men, Dick has worked his way up through the ranks by singing in several chapter-level groups. He was a member of the Village Airs prior to joining the Pointe 4. Dick and his wife Theresa reside in St. Clair Shores and have four children. He is employed at the G.M. Tech Center in Warren.

Tenor Hank DeMars, contact man for the quartet, is a 17-year member, having joined the East Detroit Chapter in 1959. He has served in many chapter administrations and participated in several chapter quartets. He sang with the Village Airs for six years. His desire to sing in a competition quartet was largely responsible for his part in forming the Pointe 4. Hank and Jane DeMars have two children and live in Sterling Heights. He is employed by Michigan Bell.

Gordy Dubrul, baritone, was 18 years old when he joined the Oakland County Chapter in 1948. Serving on program committees and singing in local and district level quartets have occupied a large part of Gordie's Barbershop life, but one of his prime contributions has been the spreading of the Barbershop gospel. He joined the Onchords in 1956, moved to the Sonic Airs, then to the Wonderlads for 12 years. In 1971 he transferred to the Grosse Pointe Chapter and joined the newly formed Car-Tunes, and sang with the Chorus. Next to singing Barbershop arrangements, he loves to boon-doggle — and sing with his new quartet, the Pointe 4. Gordon and wife Lucille have two children. The Dubrul's make their home in Warren. He is also self-employed.

GORDON DUBRUL
BARITONE

DICK BROUCKAERT
BASS



JIM PHELAN
LEAD

HANK DE MARS
TENOR

Phone HANK at 939-7382

Wayne is Wonderful

A song for all seasons was music for all ages

The Wayne Chapter's 1975 Pitchpipe Parade was an excellent testimony to what some of our Society officers have been saying for years — You don't need to bring in a lot of high-priced talent to have a great show when you have great talent, right in the District.



THE LIVONIA BENTLEY CONCERT CHOIR, directed by the dynamic Dr. JERRY Smith, brought the audience to their feet in a standing ovation.



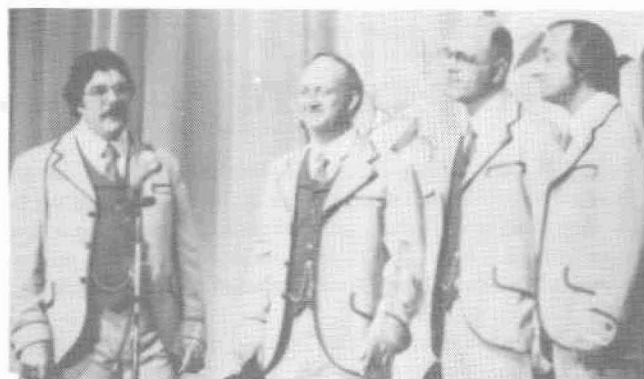
A close look at some of the beautiful faces of youth from the Bentley Concert Choir.



THE AIRE-MALES, former District Champs and long-time favorites of Pioneer Barbershoppers, liven up the afterglow.



THE AFTER SHAVES, another fine Wayne quartet from a seemingly-endless stable of fine quartets.



THE NORTHERN HI-LITES on stage at the Wayne Show. Could this be the year our former District Champs make it to the International?



THE FRONT OFFICE DOOR, Lansing Chapter's 5th place International Sweet Adeline medalists. Four charming ladies with a wealth of great four-part harmony.



THE FINAL EDITION, Wayne's '74-'75 Novice Champs, are singing it according to the book, and that means good!



Fall means football, and beautiful cheerleaders, and the Wayne Wonderland Chorus scores a touchdown in this scene from a Song for All Seasons at the annual Pitch Pipe Parade.

Oakland County gets priorities in order

The Oakland County Chapter hosted its 7th Annual Harmony in Review Friday, February 28 and Saturday, March 1, and according to a message printed in their fine program the "Pal Tals" are "Happy to see from the show theme that your priorities are finally in order."

"Girls 'n' Music" was the theme, and the Pal Tals just happen to be the Chapter's auxiliary — the gals who suffer through all those inconveniences so the average Barbershop Joe can indulge in his favorite hobby.

The show got off to a rousing start as Doran McTaggart introduced the Wolverine Chorus at an old fashioned reunion, which was promptly interrupted by a genuine tub-thumping, drum-beating, placard-carrying demonstration by the long-suffering gals demanding their just dues.

After some vocal tributes by the Chapter's fine quartets, the Square Root, the Oakland Counts, the Innocent Bystanders and the Metro Chords, the Chorus demured to the ladies and yielded the stage to the Chord Motor Company, a grand quartet of Sweet Adelines from the Farmington Hills Chapter, who are the

1975-75 Northern Region 2 champs.

The Sharplifters left the fans laughing and crying as they took their final turn on stage with the current edition. With lead Clay Shumard moving to the bari spot with the Vagabonds, the Sharplifters will be taking time out to shop for a new lead and rest up from the wars before having another go at it.

The Boston Common, third place International medalist at Kansas City, and one of the Society's most popular quartets, rounded out the headlining entertainment in their own distinguished style.

All in all, it was quite a concession to the gals, as the Wolverine Chorus presented no less than 11 numbers in their honor. The big finale found all the visiting foursomes on stage with the Chorus, singing and dancing their way through a Broadway-style production of "Mame" to send the crowd home excited and happy.

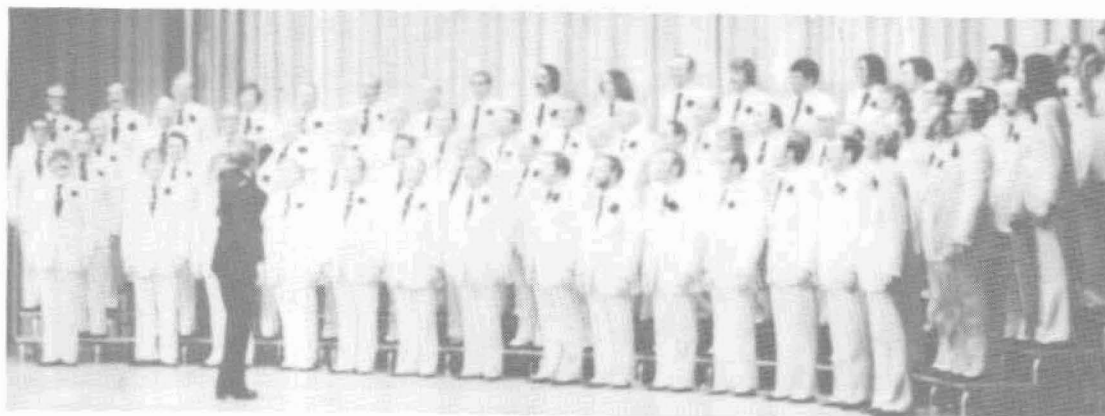
The cast afterglow featured a splendid buffet, with music for dancing furnished by a live combo, and music for listening furnished by the three great guest quartets. The Oakland Counts and Ike Hornbeck are to be congratulated in arranging the party.



THE CHORD MOTOR COMPANY, pride of the Farmington Hills Sweet Adeline Chapter, in a moment of modesty at the afterglow.



THE BOSTON COMMON, 3rd place medalists at Kansas City, relax with a melody in their own distinctive style.



GLENN VAN TASSELL leads the Wolverine Chorus on stage at O.C.C.'s Harmony in Review.



TERRY CLARK, bass of the Boston Common, enjoying the antics of Bill "Gabby Hayes" Wickstrom and the Sharplifters.

Monroe

It has been quite some time since a report from the Monroe Chapter has appeared in the Troubadour, so I thought it best to let everyone know we're still alive and kicking.

Our 11th Annual Show is now history. We had the Vagabonds and the Four Nubbins from Iowa lined up to sing our show. The Vagabonds came down to Monroe with bells on; the Four Nubbins came down with the flu. It was the first show for the Vagabonds with their new bari, Clay Shumard, and let me tell you this quartet will be something to reckon with at Indianapolis.

After some last minute efforts, we were able to obtain the Schmitt Brothers, of Two Rivers, Wisconsin. The Schmitts had been on our show twice previously, so they were no strangers to the audience. They were supposed to sing at their niece's (Joe's Godchild) wedding that same day, but after hearing of our plight graciously came to help us out. The Schmitts are Champions in every way as far as we, in Monroe, are concerned.

Our 1975 officers are: President Wilbert Matthes, Program V-P Dick Metz, Adm. V-P Don Schroeder, Sec. Paul Sheldon, Treasurer Gordon Sauer, and members of the

board, Thayl Piltz, Jack Frucci and Gil Steinman. Chorus director is Paul Tkach, and his assistant is Chuck Drouillard.

As for the future, we held Auditions for Admission on Monday, March 10th. We are scheduled to sing at two churches during Lent, along with some other activities later on.

In connection with the article in the Troubadour about Marshall Well's death, I would like to add that Marsh was a paid-up member of our Monroe Chapter for 4 years. We had communicated with him prior to his passing and had he lived, I feel he would have renewed his membership. Along with the awards that were mentioned, he was presented an International Public Relations award by Hugh Ingraham of our International staff at our Society's convention in New Orleans in 1971. A picture of the presentation appeared on page 18 of our July-August, 1971 Harmonizer. At his Memorial Service, the Wells family requested the Gentlemen's Agreement sing four songs and the songs surely added to the service. As a Barbershopper and a farmer, I was and am proud to have received the Man of Note credit for Marshall's membership.
—Don Schroeder

Grosse Pointe

Who says auditions for admissions don't work? We sang at Macomb Mall in January and signed up nine (9) new members, everyone an enthusiastic singer. In fact, by late January, some of the new members were working at organizing a quartet. How about that?

On January 23rd the Chorus sang at Tel-Twelve Dodge. This singout was covered by Channel 7 News and Time Magazine who took the photo below. It appeared in the February 10th issue of Time magazine.

Early in March we had our annual "Ladies Night" dinner dance at the Roostertail. The ladies took the occasion to present the Chapter with a financial gift. Our hats are off to

the ladies, especially Cathy Krass who made the presentation as head of the Ladies Auxiliary.

This year the Chapter named Bill Brower as Barbershopper of the Year. Congratulations Bill! You are most deserving of this award. Bill has been an officer in the Chapter for several years and is currently our Treasurer. If you've had any financial dealings with him, you would know you've dealt with an expert.

Another member, Minrad Braun, received his 25 year membership card at the ladies' night party. Minrad still sings a lot of tenor and never hesitates to fill out a quartet. Congratulations are in order.
—Sully Mazur



—Photo courtesy Time Magazine

Grosse Pointe Lakeshore Chorus at Tel-Twelve Dodge Carnival

THE ALPENA THUNDER BAY CHAPTER

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.

proudly presents the

2nd Annual Nite of Harmony

Saturday, May 17, 1975, 8:02 P.M.
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Mike "Frog"gett
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Wayne

Since last we met in print the Wonderland Chorus has been busy two and three nights a week. Besides rehearsals for our two-night show and working like mad for the contest in Indianapolis we were able to throw in a few other activities as well.

Started off by taking the Detroit Octet Contest for the second year in a row. Then the Wayne Mini-Chorus went to Windsor and taped a show with "Bozo the Clown" which your kids probably saw on CKLW-TV real early one Friday morning. On Feb. 15 the Mini-Chorus braved a blizzard to appear on the "Wewayco" Sweet Adelines show, "Shaking the Blues".

Regular chapter meeting was on Feb. 21.

On Feb. 25 the Chorus did a show for a father and son banquet before coming to regular rehearsal, and I believe that was the night Detroit dropped in on us with 17 men — 10 dollars — and the Little Brown Jug, which we subsequently passed along to the Monroe Chapter on March 10.

March 7th and 8th saw the fruits of our labor for the past 4½ months when we presented our annual Pitchpipe Parade, "A Song for all Seasons," featuring the Northern Hi-Lites, 4-Fits, The Front Office Four (5th place International Sweet Adelines medalists), the Aire-Males, The Final Edition, the After Shaves, and the Wayne Wonderland Chorus.

Did I leave out someone? I sure did! Perhaps one of the

biggest attractions we have ever had the privilege to present — the state champion Livonia Bentley High School Concert Choir, under the direction of a superb musician and showman, Dr. Jerry Smith. These kids took the audience by storm, receiving a standing ovation both nights. In fact, the general concensus of opinion is that this group makes most professional choruses look like amateurs!

The Wayne Chapter owes a tremendous vote of thanks to those who spent so much time and effort putting our show together. To mention a few: Tom Pollard, who wrote the script, secured the talent, and acted as ticket chairman; Dale Collins and Terry Welch, who were in charge of stage settings and designs — plus their working crew; Don Clark, in charge of program aids; and the one man we seem to take for granted — our director, Gordie Limburg, who is a glutton for punishment. Small wonder he didn't turn completely gray at our lousy dress rehearsal. And let's not forget our assistant director, Steve Sutherland. Steve is also a music major at Eastern Michigan University. I'm sure I left out someone — sorry chum!

Troub editor Roger Morris has promised more news and pictures from our show, so I don't wish to overlap his coverage. (Probably already did!)

Come visit us at the Airport Ramada Inn in Indianapolis June 25-28.

—Morrie Giles



BOZO T. CLOWN introduced the "Minute Men" to his area-wide TV and studio audiences at a video-taping session for CKLW, Channel 9, Windsor, Ontario. The "Minute Men" are from the Wayne Wonderland Chorus, Pioneer's representative this year at Indianapolis.

The Minute Men sang three songs for an enthusiastic group of children and their moms . . . and some dads, too. The show, which was telecast Friday morning, February 7 included Wayne's Final Edition, District Novice Championship winners at Windsor in October.

The Final Edition, in their distinctive uniforms, delighted the kids with a tricky rendition of a nursery rhyme medley, featuring solos by each member of the quartet and concluding with a 4-part counter-melody in which each voice repeated his solo, simultaneously with the others, all in perfect harmony.

The Wayne group has been invited back to CKLW studios for an encore later this spring.

Muskegon

Another year is past and we are now going ahead with a new group of officers: President, Delmer Doctor; Member v-p, Berney Kitchen; Program v-p, Marty Bomers, Trustees, Robert Essenberg, Alvin Martin, Ed Ralya; Appointed, Sec. Wayne Hamilton, Treasurer John Harrison, Public Relations, Ed Ralya.

To start the year our Jan. 21st Chapter meeting "WhingDing", which included Grand Rapids and Holland Chapters. The Grand Rapids Chapter entertained with several "busters", and the Shore Four, a quartet from Mona Shores High School (and these four high school fellows really do a beautiful job with Barbershop, plus, even, stage presence), and our own "Dune Tones" helped round out a nice night of real good entertainment, under the chairmanship of Marty Bomers. The Galaxies from Grand Rapids topped the night.

On Feb. 11th, we held an Audition for Admissions nite at the Lithuanian Club, at which we were able to get 14 new interested applicants. There were 8 at the following Chorus practice nights. We are happy to welcome them to the Chapter.

The Ladies Nite on Feb. 14th (Valentine's Night) was held at Tiffany Woods Recreation Center and it all started at 8:30 p.m. with a prize drawing for the first twelve "Early Bird" couples to arrive. This was a real evening of Barbershopping, entertainment and just plain fun. The evenings entertainment was enjoyed with a magician act by Robert Cowan and assisted by his beautiful wife. The "Current Events" were the start of Barbershop as they are a Sweet Adeline quartet from Grand Haven, with a real sound for four female voices. Next were our own chapter Dune Tones who are developing a new sound, and we are proud of them. During the evening a raffle was made of a donation by Berney Kitchen, which was over \$28, which went to Logopedics. The evening was topped off with some group singing, and a nice lunch prepared by your scribe, with the professional help of Helen Bomers and Helen Barrs.

The program was conducted by our program chairman, Marty Bomers. Delmer Doctor and Dave Hollar rationed out the liquid refreshments. We must not forget that one of our new members, Robert Essenberg and wife, decorated the hall for the evening, and a very nice job it was.

Muskegon's Port City Chapter may have been sort of "tacking" for a while, but we sure aren't dead yet, so we warn all you Pioneer Choruses and quartets that we are on the move. We are on our way to the District Convention in Midland in April, so take heed "You-All". —Harry J. Barrs

Cadillac

After a long absence from the pages of the Troubadour, I thought perhaps it would be well to let everyone know that we are still alive and singing along the Old Mackinaw Trail. We have kept pretty busy this winter with several sing-outs and several more scheduled. As we go into the Spring and Summer season, don't forget that the Mackinaw Trail Chapter meets every Monday night and we sure enjoy having visitors stop in and sing one with us. If you do, we promise to make you as 'Welcome as the Flowers in May'. —Ken Gaunt

Holland

Greetings from Holland! Long time—no word, but we want the District to know we are still singing.

We had a membership drive on March 7, which resulted in picking up about 10 very interested singers. We are still working to pick up more so we can become active again in competition.

Plans are nearly completed for our annual Parade of Quartets on May 16. The Happiness Emporium and Schizophrenics have been secured, with correspondence with others almost complete. You might want to include this in your plans if you will be attending Tulip Time.

New officers for 1975 are: President Frank (Butch) Lievense; Adm. V-P Nick Fridsma; Prog. V-P Bart Tillitt; Secy. Carl Bos; Treas. Chester Oonk.

Our new director is Dale Mattis who is doing a fine job!

1975 looks like a promising year, so look for bigger and better things from Holland! —Dale Van Langevelde

Clinton Valley

The December "Troub" carried some pictures taken by Roger Morris at a meeting of a new group then known as the Quad Cities "Chapter" and asked the question "A new chapter in the making?" You bet your Gladys Swarthout fan club cards! We've just received notification from Kenosha that the licensing documents submitted on Feb. 5 to our sponsors, the Pontiac Chapter, have been accepted and the Clinton Valley Chapter, 31 strong, are now the "new kids on the block".

We meet every Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the Crystal Room (Downstairs) at the Colonial Bowling Lanes in downtown Utica on Van Dyke just ½ mile north of the M-59 (Hall road) intersection. Our music director is Stan Salter, and his assistant is Galen Oliver. Our chapter meetings are every fourth Friday night, also in the Crystal Room. Come and visit whenever you can — and when you can't, send five other guys!

Our fun nights have been tremendous, thanks to visits by the Port Huron Chapter chorus (which we returned on Feb. 19), consistent support from Grosse Pointe members, appearances by quartets such as the "Square Root" (Oakland County), "Voice Quad" (Detroit No. 1), "Rolling Tones" (Oakland County), "Pointe 4" (Grosse Pointe), and our own "Motor Mugs".

Without question the two greatest evenings in our young history were built around eight of the nicest and most talented guys in our society — "The Northern Hi-lites" and "The Sharp lifters". These two evenings showed over 100 attendees what the sound and sight of Barbershopping can be at its very best.

Our deep thanks to all these, as well as to Zone V Counselor Dick Guerin, Zone V V-P Cliff Douglas, Pioneer President Don Funk, Tom Cogan, field representative from Kenosha; International Board Member Bill Warner, and "Troub" editor Roger Morris for their guidance and encouragement as we've gotten off on the right foot. —Tom Gay

**We
get
letters!**



To the editor: Something which has disturbed me for the past 4 years in regard to the judging program at both International and District levels prompts this letter which I realize will cause much controversy both for and against. I think this will be good, to get the feelings of Barbershoppers and especially quartets.

At the International level, I feel the Society has taken a giant step backward in the Arrangement Category as I find very few quartet members who understand the plus and minus scoring, whereas with the 200 point max for each category, I have heard no complaints. I might point out that I was a judge (certified) for 25 years, and for several years was certified in all categories. Also the consolidation of categories into a new Sound System puts much more strain on this judge due to the coverage of more things, and I fail to see the advantage.

At the District level, although it is not mandatory, Pioneer has used the double panel for several years. The reason, we are told, is that the quartets demanded it.

In my 25 years of judging, I never had a quartet express dissatisfaction with the single panel of judges, and this was at a time when the District contests were judged by Michigan judges almost 100% of the time. I am sure if quartets were unhappy, I would have heard of it, if not from them, from their friends.

The double panel is fine except I think the District cannot afford to continue to import judges from many hundred miles twice a year. I realize judges from other Districts must be used, and if you will consult your Directory which you just received, you will note the Balance & Blend, Interpretation and Arrangement categories are all vacant, which means we have no one certified, and no candidates. I believe this lack of interest in becoming a judge is the direct result of changing the system from what I considered the ultimate, to a backward step that is not looked on favorably by prospective judges.

Please don't take this letter as sour grapes, as I was not "kicked off" the judging system, but resigned due to not agreeing with the trend. If the majority of quartets let us know that I am "off base", I will crawl in the woodwork and button up.

Loton V. Willson

Holly-Fenton

Due to a series of unfortunate circumstances, we are suspending all chapter activities for a period of about five months, after which we intend to make every possible effort to rejuvenate our chapter and renew regular activities.

We hope most of our members will be visiting other chapters and continuing to do a lot of singing during this time.

—Grant L. Wright

To the editor: Once again we're gearing up, and starting to think about going to the International Convention — we'll hardly find one much closer — and I'm starting to recall my frustration from the past conventions that I haven't been able to attend. I'm not really sure that a letter to the editor is a solution, but maybe there's an idea that might be worth passing on.

I get a little frustrated and concerned, and I guess it's not really your fault, Troub, but you're visible to quite a few people, and maybe somebody will get the idea.

Last year, during the big week in Kansas City, I kept my nose close to the tube, my ear to the radio, and one eye on the newspapers (not a very good position for working) to try to find out what had happened to our Pioneer District stalwarts. Guess what I found out. Right! Not a (expletive deleted) thing. Maybe I'm naive, but it seems to me, with the people of influence that are members of our Society, that there ought to be some way to get the word down to Joe Barbershopper by Monday after the event as to just what happened.

I realize that only about 100,000 or so people around the country are directly concerned with these proceedings, but when you consider the totals of all of the audiences in all of the cities for all of the shows, parades, etc., then at least the top five in quartet finals, and the top five choruses ought to be worthy of mention — maybe just a line score below the Little League results on the Sunday sports pages, or instead of another household hint on the womens' pages (excuse me, make that homemakers page — women's lib and equality, you know).

I think you're probably getting the point, and if you're interested enough, maybe we can put together a big, ornery lobby to get AP, UPI or somebody to get the word out. Barring that, would this be of enough interest to put our District emergency communications chain to a test? Let's see if it works.

Nuff said.

Bari-truely,
Dan Shelles

To the editor: I cannot fathom an injustice committed by the editorial staff of the Troubadour since last fall!

Always the District Quartet Champions have received a picture and/or write-up in the issue of Troubadour following fall competition.

This year? *Nothing!* That's REAL encouragement!

The Four D Minors of Battle Creek are a fabulous four—some personally and in harmony. They deserved some recognition in your publication just as any other championship unit in the past.

Why? Is it because they're from out-state? Could this belittling omission reflect prejudice?

Inaction was even more belittling than this quartet's appearance at the afterglow following competition, when they were on the tail end of the show — after most of the audience had departed.

Just hope that if you can't make amends that you can live with the memory.

Look back to see what Troubadour did for the great Galaxies the year before.

Sincerely,

(See the February Troubadour)

Paul B. Weeldreyer

Down Our Way



with the Editor

The old Troub Mailbox has been a busy depository of correspondence since the last issue, and consequently for the first time under our stewardship, the editor has had something to edit.

It was the ancient and venerable Satchel Paige who said, "A pitcher is just to pitch!" when asked why he never chased too many ground balls and line drives.

The same applies to an editor, in normal circumstances — he's just to edit!

But nothing ever being "normal" in this beehive of Barbershopping, the editor does just about everything but edit, of which he does very little, if any.

With the coming of the new year and a brand new season of great shows within driving distance, the Pioneer Pinto has kept the pavement hot on almost every week end, taking in everything possible. We regret that one of those shows we had to miss was the great one at Kalamazoo, featuring the Dealer's Choice. Our invite to this one came a few weeks after we had accepted a similar offer from Wayne on the same night.

Our own Milford Chapter had one of its wild Ladies Nights on February 22nd, with the 4-Fits, the Metro-Chords, and the Jokers Wild sampling this pocket of Barbershop mania.

Chapter officers and members are grateful to that grand quartet from Mill Creek, Indiana, for their warm gesture of friendship in traveling the distance to help make our show a memorable one. Considering the fact they had to be in Chicago on Sunday afternoon for a coaching session, it was quite a sacrifice on their part!

For those of you who have never had the opportunity to attend one of these fantastic sessions in Milford, we have another one coming up on Saturday, May 10, and it promises to be a great one, also. But write for tickets, or call the editor, because they don't usually last long enough to be picked up at the door.

The quality of formal shows in our District never ceases to amaze this corner. The unforgettable show in Lansing last fall, the fine Pontiac offering in January, the Oakland County show and the Wayne Pitch Pipe Parade — all splendid examples of stage scenery and props, beautiful, magnificent! How much the work of our dedicated Barbershoppers who are possessed with the talent to produce these ideas and translate them to canvas and paint and props can add to the enjoyment of our wonderful hobby!

How lucky we are to be blessed with such wonderful talent in our own ranks that transcends our singing talents, and manifests itself in so many ways — script preparation, MC chores, lighting, stage direction — even program preparation — all a bonus for our craft.

The Wayne show, alone, went through at least four changes of stage scenery — one for each season — with great imagination. The sylvan setting for Spring, the park scene for a summer reunion, and the football stadium in Fall were fabulous. Pom-pom girls, cheerleaders, all added to the picture. But the most significant, we think was the checkered-flags of Indianapolis flying over the splendidly bedecked Wonderland Chorus while director Gordie Limburg circled the track in a sleek roadster and garbed in green coveralls. A touch of class that made you forget the wheel chairs and crutches which abounded in the ski lodge from the Winter portion of the show.

It was our privilege to return to Bay City for the St. Paddy's Day Thaw on March 15, along with Zone V-P Cliff Douglas and Area Counselor Dick Guerin and their party from Pontiac. If we don't get our film back in time for this edition, perhaps we can run some pics later on this one. The Thaw is always a delight, and the Classmates were there to give a sample of why they will have to be reckoned with at Midland in April. The Used Parts were also on the show, along with the Milltown Misses of the Millington Sweet Adelines.

At this writing, the Battle Creek Show is next on our list, and then the Easter break.

As stated earlier, we received a lot of mail this issue, and a lot of thanks to all of you who submitted articles, chapter reports, pictures, etc. We may not get to run all of them due to the technical problems peculiar to printing, but we will try to get as much in as possible.

Some of our chapters have been doing a lot of PR work, and that's great. Just remember in sending your photos that we prefer a glossy black and white print, rather than color; and unless the pictures clipped from other publications are of a manageable size, it is almost impossible to get a decent reproduction of them for this publication. Such pictures have already been screened, the process of Half-toning, which gives you the contrasts that make up a decent reproduction. To shoot them and reduce them after they have already been screened would give them a mottled effect that is not suitable for publication.

If we have left anyone or anything out, try us again. We are rushing this edition to get out word on the Send-Off Show in Jackson, which we hope everyone will attend. See you in Jackson and Midland!

My sincere thanks and appreciation to members of the Detroit #1 Chapter and the many Barbershoppers who were responsible for the beautiful flowers in remembrance of my husband, Duane Mosier. Your kind thoughts and expressions are deeply appreciated.

Polly Mosier



Send requests for
Parade Clearance to:
Lawrence G. King
15403 Artesian
Detroit, Michigan 48223

—1975—

APRIL —

- 5 GREAT LAKES INVITATIONAL —
Grand Rapids
- 5 Sault Ste. Marie Chapter Show
- 12 INTERNATIONAL SEND-OFF SHOW —
Jackson
- 12 Flint Chapter Show
- 25-27 DISTRICT CONVENTION —
Saginaw-Bay at Midland

MAY —

- 3 Boyne City Bush League Contest
- 10 Alpena Chapter Show
- 16 Holland Chapter Show
- 31 Au Sable Valley Chapter Show

JUNE —

- 7 Traverse City Chapter Show
- 23-28 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION —
Indianapolis, Indiana

JULY —

- 18 Detroit No. 1 Moonlight Cruise

SEPTEMBER —

- 27 Gratiot County Chapter Show

OCTOBER —

- 10-12 DISTRICT CONVENTION —
Grand Rapids
- 18 Jackson Chapter Show

NOVEMBER —

- 1 Detroit No. 1 Parade
- 15-16 COTS — Lansing

JANUARY — 1976

- 17 Lansing Chapter Show

FEBRUARY —

- 14 Pontiac Chapter Show

APRIL —

- 10 GREAT LAKES INVITATIONAL —
Grand Rapids

MAY —

- 1 Boyne City Bush League

JULY —

- 18 Detroit No. 1 Moonlight Cruise

OCTOBER —

- 8-10 DISTRICT CONVENTION —
Grosse Pointe

NOVEMBER —

- 6 Detroit No. 1 Parade

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE PIONEER DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pontiac Michigan
January 18, 1975

The meeting was called to order by President Funk at 11:45 p.m. at the home of Treasurer George Schmidt at 563 Sedgefield Dr., Bloomfield Hills, Mich.

Present were President Funk, Executive Vice President Gillespie, Vice Presidents McTaggart, LaBumbard, Hegle and Marsh, Treasurer Schmidt, Secretary King, IBM Warner, Troubadour Editor Morris and International Field Representative Tom Cogan.

The minutes of the October 11, 1974 and November 10, 1974 meetings were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report for the period ended December 31, 1974 and the 1975 budget were read and accepted.

For the benefit of the new members of the board and the new area counselors, the area counselors' remuneration policy was reviewed, viz.: for visits to chapter meetings or chapter board meetings — mileage only; for attendance at district house of delegate meetings — one night's lodging at the single rate and mileage; for attendance at district board meetings (if invited) — mileage only; telephone and postage expense incurred in the discharge of their duties. Mileage will be reimbursed at the rate of 7c per mile and a report on the visit to chapter meetings or chapter board meetings must accompany the expense report.

Treasurer Schmidt is to prepare an expense report form for use by all officers and area counselors.

Editor Morris reported that it had recently come to his attention that the district is paying postage on the Troubadour at the rate charged a profit, rather than a non-profit, corporation. He will pursue the proper rate.

The President reported that the Flint chapter had recently passed an IRS audit, the first chapter in the society to be audited.

The vice presidents reported on conditions in their respective zones. The possibility of another chapter being formed in the Windsor area, to be associated with the Ontario District, was discussed. Tom Cogan will discuss the propriety of such a move with others in the International office.

Tom Cogan gave a brief review of his recent trip through the district. He requested an activity report on every chapter in the district by April 1.

Under old business, LaBumbard commented that the choruses from the Oakland County and Wayne chapters have been invited to appear on the send-off show and that three quartets have confirmed their appearance. It was agreed that participants in the show would not be charged admission.

The son of a member of the Traverse City chapter has been nominated for the A.I.C. scholarship and the nomination was given to Charman Gillespie.

The following were elected to the District Hall of Fame, to be formally inducted at the Spring Convention: Roscoe Bennett, Gordon Grant, Rawley Hallman and John Hill.

Extension of associate status will again be requested for the Les Cheneaux and Holland chapters.

The secretary was asked to again notify the chapters of the presentation at the spring house of delegates meeting of the proposed change in district by-laws that was presented by the Niles-Buchanan chapter at the 1974 fall meeting.

Following a short discussion, upon motion by Warner and seconded by Gillespie, the all-events registration at the 1975 Spring Convention was set at \$9.00, with an early registration of \$8.00.

George Schmidt commented on the progress in the organization of a new chapter in the Troy-Utica-Rochester area. Also mentioned as sites for extension were Sterling, Mt. Pleasant, Durand, Cheboygan, Ann Arbor and Marlette.

President Funk reported that Bob Johnson will conduct a "Young Men in Harmony" program if the district arranges the schedule.

The 1975 COTS will be held in Lansing on November 15 and 16.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30

Respectfully submitted,
Lawrence King
District Secretary