

THE VAGABONDS—Tenor Ken Gibson, lead Dennis Gore, bass Norm Thompson, and bari Clay Shumard



JUNE 1975



Ready

for the

Checkeded

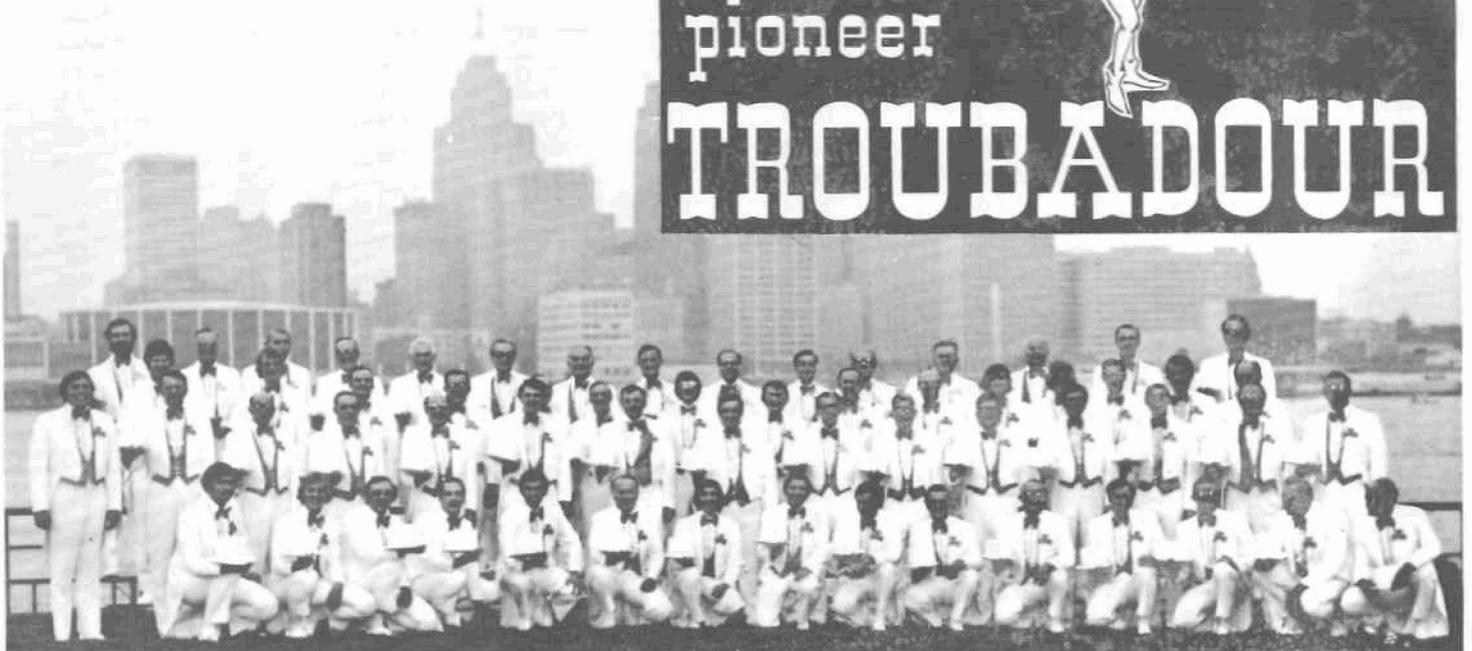
Flag



THE 4-FITS — tenor John Waring, lead Russ Seely, bass Marv Burke, and bari Tom Hine



pioneer
TROUBADOUR



THE WAYNE WONDERLAND CHORUS — Director Gordon Limburg
... his "Irish" songsters will carry the Pioneer banner into the Big Race at Indianapolis



Harmony Foundation Service Award

The trustees of the Harmony Foundation have recently established a special award for Society Chapters whose per-capita contributions to our International Service Project, the Institute of Logopedics, averages \$10.00 or more per member each calendar year. A record of the contributions for this purpose began January 1, 1975.

An inscribed plaque known as the "Harmony Foundation Service Award" will be presented to each chapter reaching this annual plateau of contributions. After initially receiving the plaque, chapters will be presented with attachments to be placed on the plaque each year they reach or surpass the \$10.00 per member average.

As indicated, the award is given on a "per-capita" basis so all chapters, big and small, can compete on an equal basis. I would hope that every chapter in the district will strive to win this honor which will signify that your chapter really does "Sing . . . That They Shall Speak."

Records of all contributions are compiled at the International Office. They are compiled on a monthly basis. Your Chapter Logopedics Chairman may obtain updated information about your chapters contributions by writing to Bill Fitzgerald at International.

This recognition of chapters who consistently support our Service Project is long overdue. It may serve, also, as an impetus to "get chapters moving" who have not lent much support to Logopedics in the past.

Pioneer TROUBADOUR

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

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The following is a listing of chapters in the Pioneer District who have made contributions from January 1st through April 30, 1975. Contributions are listed in four categories — "suspense accounts", "unrestricted contributions", "O.C. Cash Memorial Fund" and "Memorial" contributions. I have also listed the chapter's membership as of December 31, 1974, and the per-capita amount for that chapter.

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

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.

Pioneer District Chapter Logopedics Contributions as of April 30, 1975

| Chapter | Suspense | Unrestricted | O.C. Cash | Memorial | Total | Members 12/31/74 | Per Capita Contributions |
|----------------|----------|--------------|-----------|----------|--------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Fruit Belt | 0.00 | 400.00 | 0.00 | 30.00 | 430.00 | 39 | 11.02 |
| Les Cheneaux | 35.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 35.00 | 16 | 2.18 |
| Detroit | 0.00 | 879.74 | 0.00 | 115.00 | 994.74 | 103 | 9.65 |
| Port Huron | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 34.00 | 34.00 | 43 | 0.79 |
| Grand Rapids | 0.00 | 98.66 | 0.00 | 30.00 | 128.66 | 64 | 2.01 |
| Graiot County | 0.00 | 200.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 200.00 | 43 | 4.65 |
| Grosse Pointe | 0.00 | 150.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 150.00 | 116 | 1.29 |
| Holland | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 10.00 | 18 | 0.55 |
| Jackson | 0.00 | 225.00 | 0.00 | 30.00 | 255.00 | 56 | 4.55 |
| Lansing | 0.00 | 52.00 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 152.00 | 44 | 3.45 |
| Clinton Valley | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 15.00 | 15.00 | — | 0.00 |
| Oakland County | 0.00 | 0.00 | 37.00 | 70.00 | 107.00 | 120 | 0.89 |
| Pontiac | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 10.00 | 50 | 0.20 |
| Wayne | 0.00 | 110.00 | 37.00 | 50.00 | 197.00 | 103 | 1.91 |
| Cadillac | 0.00 | 50.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 50.00 | 36 | 1.38 |
| Battle Creek | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 39 | 0.25 |
| Flint | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 25.00 | 25.00 | 42 | 0.59 |

*Notice that Fruit Belt with 39 members and contributions totaling \$430.00 is on top for the first four months of 1975 with a per capita total of \$11.02 per member. This goes to show you that the small chapters can compete. Congratulations Fruit Belt!

**Notice, too, that only Oakland County and Wayne had contributed the \$37.00 asked for the O.C. Cash Birthday Fund which was due April 1, 1975. How about the rest of the chapters making their contribution?

Off to Indy and the races!

**Vagabonds, 4-Fits capture Prelims;
Motor City wins 5th crown (Ho, hummm!)**

Eighteen Pioneer District quartets went into the battle at the Spring contests in Midland's Center for the Arts Saturday, April 26, but when the showdown was over and the judges tallied the scores every Barbershopper in the District came away a winner!

Oh, yes! The Vagabonds, with bari Clay Shumard joining Dennis Gore, Ken Gibson and Norm Thompson for the first time in competition, assured themselves of another go at the Gold Medal in Indianapolis. And the 4-Fits, those loveable rascals from Detroit and Grosse Pointe, who have given us so many laughs since they won the District some years ago, surprised a lot of people by edging the Northern Hi-Lites for the second spot allotted Pioneer in the International. But the big winners had to be the 1,470 Barbershoppers, their families and friends, who make up this great unit of the Society.

The Saginaw-Bay Chapter had the Convention machinery well oiled and running smoothly for the horde of harmonizers who descended on Midland for the week end. Convention Chairman Rick Meldrum, the Chapter officers and committees, and all who worked so hard to provide a great convention can take a bow! This had to be one of our greatest!

With 15 entries in the afternoon Chorus competition, Bob Whitledge directed the Motor City Chorus from Detroit No. 1 to yet another District Championship. The Men in Blue ton the nod from the judges with "Make Believe" and "Back in the Old Routine". Grosse Pointe's Lakeshore Chorus finished second, 76 points off the pace and 141 points ahead of the Silver Division Champs from the Cereal City Chorus from Battle Creek.

Whitledge left Midland without knowing that his men had won the crown, flying east to make a show with his Gentlemen's Agreement Saturday night. Detroit President Rene LeBlanc got the message to him, however.

"Someone's got to win, and someone's got to lose" — that's a line from one of our favorite Barbershop arrange-

ments. But if there were any losers at Midland, they were not in evidence. Disappointments, yes! Losers, no! The losers were the ones who did not make it to Midland — those quartets and choruses who did not enter or sing; Pioneer members who did not attend.

If anyone had a reason to be disappointed, it was probably those four wonderful guys who are the Northern Hi-Lites who came into the Prelims with hopes high to shed the "bridesmaid" position and to get a chance, at long last, to stand in the spotlight at an International Convention.

Trailing the Vagabonds and the Sharp lifters two years in a row, and with the Sharp lifters out of the fight this year, the smell of roses was theirs. But they reckoned without the 4-Fits, a non-contender in recent years who suddenly began to play down the comedy and take a turn toward the serious.

When Pioneer members start taking their recruiting duties that serious we will no longer have to leave quartets of this caliber at the post.

The Classmates from host Chapter Saginaw-Bay were a strong 4th place finisher, followed by the Stateliners from Monroe, who took 5th by a tie-breaker in Harmony and Accuracy over the current District Champs, the Four "D" Minors of Battle Creek. The '73 District Champion Galaxies with new tenor, Bob Buffham, finished 7th in the evening finals.

Other quartet and chorus results are printed in the official summaries in this issue.

As in all Barbershop conventions, there was a lot more than just the singing and contests in this one. The Board meeting on Friday night was a busy and productive session, as usual. International Vice-President Sam Aramian sat in on the meeting and addressed the officers and guests, as he did on Sunday morning at the House of Delegates meeting. Sam proved to be a popular representative for the Society in his visit to Pioneer and made many new friends. He also proved a very adept MC at the morning quartet preliminaries.

**Pioneer District
WAYNE CHAPTER — WONDERLAND CHORUS**

PRE-CONTEST PEP-RALLEY

THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 1975

Immediately following the evening quartet competition

Ramada Inn—Airport

Oak and Spruce Rooms

Indianapolis, Indiana

Plan to stop by and cheer the Wayne Chapter and our District Quartets to Victory

SUPPORT THE WAYNE CHAPTER TRAVEL FUND

Souvenir Hats and Badges Available Now **\$ 2⁰⁰**
for All Pioneer District Members and Families

CONTACT:

**Bob Magurie 532-2918
Jim Swisher 425-3317**

Barbershop returns to Royal Oak St. John's; Autumn Harmony Festival goes to 2-night stand

Continuing a tradition of bringing great music to the people, the St. John's Episcopal Church in Royal Oak, Michigan, has scheduled a solid program of Barbershop singing in their 1,000-seat sanctuary for the second year in a row.

Last year's festival of Autumn Harmony filled the big hall to overflowing on October 5, when the Vagabonds, Sharplifters, Northern Hi-Lites, Wolverine Chorus and the Sweet Adeline's Front Office Four sang for a full house in an unforgettable show. They were literally sitting in the aisles — on chairs, of course.

The enthusiastic reception caused program chairman Bill Martin to remark, "This was so much fun, we may want to do it again next year!"

Obviously, Bill meant what he said.

In a conversation with the Troubadour editor May 15, Bill informed us that he has booked the church for two nights this year: Friday, September 26 at 8 p.m., and Saturday, September 27 at 7:30 p.m. Both shows will feature top-notch talent from Pioneer District chapters, and Friday night's show will have a definite Sweet Adeline flavor as the 1975 International Queens of Harmony the Sounds of Music, from Dayton, Ohio headline the bill along with our Vagabonds. The Macomb County Sweet Adeline Chorus, directed by Carl Dahlke, and the Silvertone Quartet from Clawson join the Michigan Banjos in rounding out Friday night's show.

Saturday's program will feature the Gentlemen's Agree-

ment, the Vagabonds, and the Wolverine Chorus. They will be augmented by the Harmonica Men and the Jills, a group of young girls from the Birmingham area who sing and play the bells in their show-stopping act.

The Vagabonds will be making their only remaining 1975 show in this area.

There is plenty of free parking at the facility on the southeast corner of 11 Mile and Woodward in Royal Oak. Tickets for the Friday night show are \$3, and Saturday night's tickets are pegged at \$4 for the 7:30 p.m. performance.

The Autumn Harmony Festival is a fund-raising event for the church's youth program in the area. Tickets may be obtained by enclosing a check for the number wanted and the show you desire to attend, along with a self-addressed stamped envelope to the ticket chairman, NATS, St. Johns Episcopal Church, 115 So. Woodward, Royal Oak, Mi. 48067.

Please send Tickets @ \$3 each
for Friday 8 p.m. performance
Please send Tickets @ \$4 each
for Saturday, 7:30 p.m. performance

Enclosed is my check or money order made payable to
NATS, ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Return this order with a self-addressed stamped envelope to

TICKET CHAIRMAN
ST. JOHN'S AUTUMN HARMONY
115 South Woodward Ave., Royal Oak, Mich. 48067



AUTUMN HARMONY

2 BIG NIGHTS

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT BARBERSHOP STYLE

Friday, Sept. 26—8 p.m.
Donation \$3

- ★ **The Sounds of Music**
International Queens of Harmony Dayton, Ohio
- ★ **The Vagabonds**
6th Place 1974 International Finalists
- ★ **Macomb County Sweet Adeline Chorus**
Directed by Carl Dahlke
- ★ **Silvertone Quartet** Gospel Singers
Clawson, Michigan
- ★ **Michigan Banjos**

Featuring **Saturday, Sept. 27—7:30 p.m.**
Donation \$4

- ★ **Gentlemen's Agreement**
1971 International Champions
Monroe, Detroit and Saginaw-Bay
- ★ **The Vagabonds**
Oakland County, Detroit and Lansing
- ★ **The Wolverine Chorus**
Director: Glenn Van Tassell
- ★ **The Harmonica Men**
Versatile Trio
- ★ **The Jills**

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
11 MILE at WOODWARD *Plenty of Free Parking* ROYAL OAK
1,000 seats available — order tickets early to avoid disappointment!

Official Scoring Summary, SPEBSQSA, Inc.

Pioneer Spring Convention

Midland, Michigan • April 14, 1973

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY QUARTET CONTEST

| Category: Song Numbers | HA | | B&B | | INT. | | SP | ARR. | | TOTAL | SINGING SECONDS | |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|------|----|-------|-----------------|-------|
| | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 2 |
| SEMI-FINALS Rank—Quartets | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Vagabonds | 152 | 149 | 157 | 154 | 158 | 152 | 314 | 4 | 3 | 1243 | 137 | 172 |
| 2. Four Fits | 139 | 136 | 137 | 140 | 136 | 133 | 290 | 6 | 2 | 1119 | 185 | 129 |
| 3. North. Hgts. | 127 | 123 | 134 | 131 | 137 | 140 | 305 | 5 | 6 | 1108 | 109 | 147 |
| 4. Classmates | 127 | 121 | 113 | 114 | 119 | 124 | 248 | 9 | 7 | 982 | 149 | 119 |
| 5. Stateliners | 120 | 121 | 108 | 113 | 131 | 129 | 245 | 3 | 0 | 970 | 162 | 131 |
| 6. Four D Minors | 123 | 112 | 119 | 120 | 119 | 112 | 234 | 1 | 1 | 941 | 122 | 155 |
| 7. Galaxies | 118 | 119 | 110 | 113 | 94 | 111 | 221 | 2 | 6 | 894 | 141 | 133 |
| 8. Used Parts | 111 | 109 | 96 | 98 | 104 | 101 | 218 | -2 | 5 | 840 | 145 | 130 |
| 9. Patch Chords | 109 | 96 | 104 | 111 | 99 | 96 | 230 | -6 | 0 | 839 | 120 | 163 |
| 10. Metrochords | 107 | 110 | 101 | 105 | 102 | 106 | 197 | 3 | 2 | 833 | 104 | 139 |
| 11. Square Root | 115 | 100 | 92 | 88 | 104 | 94 | 188 | 1 | -1 | 781 | 133 | 116 |
| 12. Inn. Bystdrs. | 89 | 94 | 80 | 82 | 95 | 95 | 196 | 0 | 3 | 734 | 130 | 155 |
| 13. W.G.H.M. 4 | 98 | 79 | 91 | 92 | 89 | 87 | 194 | -19 | -3 | 708 | 146 | 117 |
| 14. Golden Oldies | 84 | 82 | 79 | 78 | 86 | 84 | 208 | -8 | -4 | 689 | 141 | 140 |
| 15. Chordwoods | 80 | 77 | 80 | 82 | 87 | 82 | 151 | 2 | -2 | 639 | 155 | 136 |
| 16. Shore Four | 86 | 86 | 96 | 93 | 76 | 86 | 117 | 0 | -2 | 638 | 145 | 121 |
| 17. Model A Flats | 97 | 91 | 83 | 77 | 88 | 88 | 169 | -2 | 4 | 625 | 114 | 119** |
| 18. Evil Companions | 80 | 78 | 73 | 78 | 81 | 85 | 155 | -1 | -5 | 624 | 129 | 131 |

*Time penalty 7 seconds @ 10 points per second.

FINALS

| Song Numbers | HA | | B&B | | INT. | | SP | ARR. | | TOTAL | PREV. PTS. | SINGING SECONDS | |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|------|---|-------|------------|-----------------|-----|
| | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 2 | | | 1 | 2 |
| 1. Vagabonds | 159 | 158 | 157 | 159 | 152 | 150 | 317 | 8 | 5 | 1243 | 2508 | 161 | 99 |
| 2. Four Fits | 139 | 137 | 137 | 136 | 133 | 128 | 297 | 5 | 0 | 1119 | 2231 | 164 | 145 |
| 3. North. Hgts. | 121 | 122 | 121 | 122 | 138 | 138 | 298 | 3 | 5 | 1108 | 2176 | 123 | 191 |
| 4. Classmates | 135 | 128 | 124 | 124 | 123 | 122 | 271 | 3 | 3 | 982 | 2015 | 145 | 172 |
| * 5. Stateliners | 119 | 117 | 119 | 121 | 118 | 110 | 240 | 5 | 3 | 970 | 1922 | 146 | 142 |
| 6. Four D Minors | 119 | 114 | 114 | 121 | 116 | 122 | 271 | 3 | 1 | 941 | 1922 | 166 | 172 |
| 7. Galaxies | 129 | 127 | 120 | 121 | 119 | 117 | 245 | -1 | 0 | 894 | 1871 | 134 | 128 |

*Tie broken by HA scores — total of Semi-Final and Final.

VAGABONDS and FOUR FITS will represent Pioneer District at International Convention in Indianapolis. NORTHERN HI-LITES are alternates.

CHORUS CONTEST

| Category: Song Numbers | HA | | B&B | | INT. | | SP | ARR. | | TOTAL | SINGING SECS. | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|------|----|-------|---------------|-------|
| | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 2 |
| Rank—Chorus | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Detroit | 150 | 146 | 153 | 152 | 152 | 148 | 292 | 7 | 2 | 1202 | 169 | 165 |
| 2. Grosse Pointe | 137 | 137 | 147 | 148 | 131 | 129 | 295 | 0 | 2 | 1126 | 162 | 103 |
| 3. Battle Creek | 131 | 123 | 126 | 126 | 117 | 113 | 237 | 7 | 5 | 985 | 123 | 156 |
| 4. Grand Rapids | 119 | 123 | 116 | 117 | 103 | 108 | 210 | 7 | | 911 | 143 | 116 |
| 5. Niles-Buch. | 110 | 96 | 91 | 93 | 100 | 97 | 167 | 8 | 4 | 766 | 137 | 150 |
| 6. Port Huron | 117 | 107 | 108 | 104 | 91 | 92 | 142 | 1 | -2 | 760 | 129 | 154 |
| 7. Benton Harbor | 102 | 98 | 95 | 94 | 106 | 103 | 137 | 1 | 0 | 736 | 152 | 158 |
| 8. Pontiac | 104 | 97 | 98 | 100 | 85 | 90 | 166 | -7 | -4 | 729 | 130 | 143 |
| 9. Windsor | 94 | 87 | 92 | 89 | 88 | 92 | 189 | -5 | -3 | 723 | 156 | 172 |
| 10. Gratiot County | 89 | 87 | 102 | 105 | 82 | 82 | 143 | 1 | 5 | 696 | 176 | 138 |
| * 11. Kalamazoo | 91 | 83 | 80 | 75 | 92 | 98 | 154 | -2 | -9 | 662 | 181 | 160 |
| 12. Cadillac | 88 | 80 | 89 | 88 | 88 | 94 | 136 | -1 | 0 | 662 | 115 | 128 |
| 13. Alp. Th. Bay | 102 | 92 | 96 | 96 | 94 | 88 | 143 | 0 | 0 | 631 | 131 | 101** |

*Tie broken by HA score.

**Time penalty 8 seconds @ 10 points per second.

PANEL OF JUDGES

| | | DISTRICT |
|---------------------|--|------------------|
| Chairman of Judges | Merle A. Clayton, Battle Creek, Michigan | Pioneer |
| Harmony Accuracy | John Aldridge, Normal, Illinois | Illinois |
| | Jim Miller, Louisville, Ky. | Cardinal |
| Balance and Blend | A. M. Learned, Geneva, N.Y. | Seneca Land |
| | M. J. Margison, London, Ontario | Ontario |
| Interpretation | Ken Warner, Newark, Ohio | Johnny Appleseed |
| | Gareth Evans, Ontario, Canada | Ontario |
| Stage Presence | Joe Cutsinger, Louisville, Ky. | Cardinal |
| | Robert Mulligan, Highland Park, Mi. | Pioneer |
| Arrangement | Thomas A. Gentil, Cincinnati, Ohio | Johnny Appleseed |
| | Robert Margison, London, Ontario | Ontario |
| Secretary | R. H. Severance, Carmel, Indiana | Cardinal |
| Assistant Secretary | Lawrence King, Detroit, Michigan | Pioneer |
| (Quartet) | John Gillespie, Kalamazoo, Michigan | Pioneer |
| Timers | Glenn VanTassell | Pioneer |
| | Lamott Bates | Pioneer |

1975 Pioneer District Officers Area Counselors

PRESIDENT — Don Funk, 1451 Harvard, East Lansing, Mi. 48823. Bus. phone 517 393-3447; res. 517 332-2160.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT — William C. Warner, 23531 Meadowlark, Oak Park, Mi. 48237. Bus. phone 313 542-5564; res. 545-8873.

EXECUTIVE V.-PRESIDENT — John T. Gillespie, 712 Newgate Road, Kalamazoo, Mi. 49007. Bus. 616 345-2135; res. 343-4188.

V.P. — ZONE I — Doran McTaggart, 890 Buckingham, Windsor, Ontario, Canada. Res. 519 948-0637.

V.P., ZONE II — Dan LaBumbard, 1113 Greenwood, Jackson, Mi. 49203. Res. 517 787-2347.

V.P., ZONE III — Thomas Hagle, 315 Summit St., Rockford, Mi. 49341. Res. 616 866-2786.

V.P., ZONE IV — Warren Marsh, 205 S. Lake Dr., Cadillac, Mi. 49601. Res. 616 775-5334.

V.P., ZONE V — Cliff Douglas, 6067 Northrup, Waterford, Mi. 48095. Res. 313 623-1102.

TREASURER — George Schmidt, 563 Sedgfield Dr. — Bloomfield Hills, Mi. 48013. Bus. 313 963-4920; res. 333-7721.

SECRETARY — Lawrence G. King, 15403 Artesian, Detroit, Mi. 48223. Bus. 313 963-4920; Res. 836-6815.

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IBM — William C. Warner, 23531 Meadowlark, Oak Park, Mi. 48237. Bus. 313 542-5564; res. 545-8873.

Area Counselors

DIVISION I — Russ Seely, 791 N. Oxford, Grosse Pte. Woods 48236.

Clay Jones, 1868 Rush Lake Rd., Pinckney, Mi. 48169.

John McClinchey, 606 Woodcrest, Royal Oak, Mi. 48067.

DIVISION II — Don Barrett, 4213 Cedarcrest, Kalamazoo, Mi. 49009.

Ron Neff, 118 Forest, Niles, Mi. 49120.

Harold Macklin, 5752 Reynolds Rd., Jackson, Mi. 49201.

Division III — Jim Horton, 4274 Prairie SW, Grandville, Mi. 49418.

DIVISION IV — Fran Sanborn, Rte. 3, Box 312, Traverse City, Mi. 49684.

Bernie Poelman, 4699 Grantwood SE, Grand Rapids, Mi. 49508.

Don Bazely, 52 The Drive, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

DIVISION V — Dick Guerin, 1232 Dundee, Pontiac, Mi. 48054.

Minutes of the meeting of the Pioneer District Board of Directors

Holiday Inn
Midland, Michigan

April 25, 1975

The meeting was called to order by President Funk at 8:45 p.m. All officers were present, plus Troubadour Editor Roger Morris, Convention Chairman Rick Meldrum, host chapter President Frank Bateson and International Vice President Sam Aramian.

All officers having received copies of the minutes of the previous meeting, the reading of the minutes was waived.

The treasurer's report was read and accepted. It was agreed that a breakdown of the dues allocation to expense categories to show the current deficit operation would be published in the Troubadour.

Executive Vice President Gillespie announced that International Field Rep. Tom Cogan would be in the district the week of April 27, concentrating on extension in the Mt. Pleasant area. Mac Huff will visit during the week of September 22 and Cogan will return on October 30 and 31 and for COTS on November 15 and 16.

On the subject of the AIC scholarship, Gillespie reported that no action has been taken by the international committee on the candidate submitted by the Pioneer District, but he does not expect any problems.

Bids have been received from the Lansing Chapter to host the Spring 1976 convention and from the Kalamazoo Chapter to host the Fall convention 1977. Gillespie pointed out that the by-laws require approval of convention sites by the House of Delegates and the bids will be presented to the delegates at the April 27 meeting. Data on past conventions will be made available to future host chapters as an aid in planning. The board was reminded that the new convention format will be adopted in the spring of 1976.

Division reports were given by the respective division vice presidents. The president thanked the Jackson chapter for sponsoring the International Fund Raiser Show and complimented them on a job well done. The vice presidents were requested to submit future reports in writing in advance of the meeting.

Under committee reports it was announced that the Niles-Buchanan chapter finished second in its plateau in the International Protection contest and an award will be presented on the evening show on April 26. The name of Lou Harrington was suggested as a successor to the late Duane Mosier as District Historian. It was also suggested that the historian and other Barbershoppers make tape recordings of interviews and conversations with older members in the district who remember some of the early builders of the district and the significant events in the district's history.

The International Hospitality Suite Committee will be chaired by Clay Jones and will sponsor a pep rally at the Ramada Inn at Metropolitan airport.

Under unfinished business, the president announced that the Logopedics spectacular that was to have been held in September at Camp Interlochen has been cancelled.

Under new business, upon motion by Gillespie and second by LaBumbard, the by-laws will be changed to provide for the written notice in the Troubadour of any business to be brought before the house of delegates, the purpose being to assure that all delegates and members are aware of such business and will be prepared to discuss it. Motion carried.

Douglas was appointed chairman of a committee consisting of LaBumbard, Gillespie and King to investigate the standardization of the District Quartet Champion trophy.

A short discussion was held on two nominees to the Hall of Fame, with no action taken.

International Vice President Sam Aramian addressed the meeting, expressing concern over the apparent lack of interest in the craft sessions held by Mac Huff and Dave Stevens. He also commented on the society activities committee which is studying the continually mounting costs of operating the society.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence G. King
District Secretary

Minutes of the House of Delegates meeting

Midland, Michigan

April 27, 1975

The meeting was called to order by President Funk at 10:10 a.m. and Vice President McTaggart led the assembly in the singing of "The Old Songs".

A quorum was declared present with only nine chapters not represented.

International Vice President Sam Aramian addressed the delegates, commenting on the society's relationship with English singing clubs, and the various international committees that are studying the protection of the Barbershop style, commercialism by members, society services, associate chapter status and supplemental income.

Because the minutes of the previous delegates meeting had been printed in the Troubadour, upon motion by the International Board Member and second by Battle Creek, the reading of the minutes was waived.

The treasurer's report was read and accepted.

The division vice presidents reported on the activities in their divisions.

District Achievement Awards were presented to the Traverse City chapter in the Gold Division and to the Niles-Buchanan chapter in the Silver Division.

Committee reports were received. Upon motion by the Division II vice president and second by the International Board Member, the bids of the Lansing and Kalamazoo chapters to host the Spring 1976 and the Fall 1977 conventions, respectively, were accepted.

Logopedics Chairman Durham reported on the contributions made by the several chapters in 1974 and received contributions from the delegates.

The AIC Scholarship has been awarded to the son of a member of the Traverse City chapter.

Under the old business, the proposed change in the by-laws previously submitted by the Niles-Buchanan chapter, copy attached, was discussed. Upon motion by the International Board Member and second by the Muskegon chapter, the motion carried. The Niles-Buchanan recommendation to change the format of Chapter Officers Training Schools was discussed. Upon motion by Niles-Buchanan and second by the Division II vice president, the motion passed.

Awards were presented to the highest scoring chapters in each plateau of the International Protection contest.

Clay Jones of the Wayne Chapter received an award as the Area Counselor of the Year in 1974.

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence G. King
District Secretary

QUARTET VIGNETTES:

Close-up of the Four "D" Minors

By MERLE CLAYTON

The current District Champion Four "D" Minors have a unique history among Pioneer District quartets. When they took the trophy at Windsor last October it was the culmination of one of their fondest dreams.

Three of the four members have been together since birth, for they are truly brothers. In fact, two of them (Dean, tenor, and Don, bass) are twins. Dorn, baritone, is the "older brother". They organized and registered the Burrill Brothers Quartet, along with younger brother Sanford, in 1968, and have competed regularly in nearly all contests they were eligible to enter since then.

When Sanford found it necessary to leave the quartet, Howard "Dick" Spear happened to be available as the replacement. All four of these men have been ardent members and leaders in the Battle Creek Chapter and the Cereal City Chorus. They have served as section leaders, board members, show chairmen, scenery builders, shell builders, "music finders", and as all-around nice guys. They warm up to visitors and new members and make them feel wanted and welcome. Dorn is a Past Chapter President and Dick Spear has served as Secretary since 1965, and as sometime bulletin editor on an "as needed" basis.

Dorn Burrill is Yardmaster in Battle Creek on the Chicago Division of the Grand Trunk Railroad. Wife Judith, a fine bowler, and their children Robert 14, Tenesa 7, and Mandy, 6 weeks, love to hear the quartet. Prominent among Dorn's non-singing hobbies are golf and fine cabinetry.

Dean Burrill is a co-owner of Burrill Bros., Inc., General Contractors, and his wife Beverly is a former Sweet Adeline chorus member. Daughter Carla is sweet sixteen; son Jim is

ten and Joe is nine. All of them enjoy the quartet. Dean, too, has non-singing hobbies: golf, cabinetry and art.

Don Burrill is also married to a Judith who also has been active in a Sweet Adelines chorus and as baritone in the former Cereal Belles quartet. Their children, Timothy 12, Michelle 10 and Nicole 2½, can sing many of the songs the quartet sings, and they enjoy dad's nice round bass. Don is employed by Burrill Bros., Inc., and his hobbies include fine cabinetry, automobiles (real ones) and guitar playing. At one time Don played professionally.

Howard "Dick" Spear is married to Virginia. Their daughter Mary Ruth just turned eighteen and son Mark is six. They, too, have enjoyed hearing Dad sing. Dick went to the Far East on a USO tour in 1970 as a member of the Harmony Hounds, and sang lead with them when they narrowly missed the District Championship in 1971. He is employed in the Breakfast Food and Beverage Division of General Foods in Battle Creek. In 1965 Dick represented Michigan in the National Talent Contest of the National Grange, held in Topeka, Kansas. Dick sang tenor with the former Keynoters Quartet, and then tenor and later lead with the Harmony Hounds before the formation of the Four "D" Minors in 1973.

Since winning the District Champion title, the Four "D" Minors have expanded their singing engagements within the District, and have also performed on shows in other districts, notably Ontario and Land O' Lakes. They have an extensive repertoire of Barbershop songs which is steadily increasing, and they have a busy schedule. Why don't you give them a bid for your next show?



THE FOUR "D" MINORS
Pioneer District Champions
Dean, Dick, Dorn and Don



MIXED OCTET? — Not really; just four great guys and four lovely gals who presented pins to their men on behalf of their chapter.

Judging Categories currently open

All judging categories *except* SOUND are now open, and we need Judge Candidates in this District. We are looking for men who have quartet and/or chorus experience, and who will dedicate themselves to this part of our hobby.

Be aware that the judging system has been undergoing some changes that have improved the training, and thus the quality of judges, in an already good judging system. The changes of the past several years have been designed to eliminate the unnecessary overlaps, and to confine a given category to its own boundaries. It has also standardized terminology and so has helped for better explanations in the clinics.

The training period will vary with individuals and in categories, but the average qualified man should be able to reach certification within two or three years. Each category has a definite order of steps to be accomplished on the goal to certification. The last step in the singing categories and Stage Presence is successful completion of one of the schools, and then practice at an International Contest.

Members with music majors or minors, or private training, and credits in harmony should find the Arrangement category an interesting area. The Interpretation category evaluates the feeling and impact of the musical and lyrical elements of a song presented by the performers. Stage Presence is concerned primarily with the visual portrayal of the songs. The secretary category, although non-scoring, is concerned with accurate and precise record-keeping during contests and the publication of an accurate official scoring summary of the contest results.

If you think you are interested, purchase a copy of the Contest and Judging Handbook (\$3.50) from International Headquarters in Kenosha, or from the Sales Unit when you go to the International Contest and Convention down in Indianapolis this June. Read up on the category you are interested in, and study the Judge Candidate Regulations. Then send a letter or note requesting application blanks, indicating your category interest to: MERLE CLAYTON, 77 Eldredge Street, Battle Creek, MI 49017.

Jump on a jaunt to Jones to get unjangled!

By DAN SHELLES

What is so rare as a day in June? . . . except, maybe, a whole weekend in August devoted to our favorite hobby, combined with the appeal of camping and the particular brand of nostalgia that's only available in Jones, the Good Old Days town.

Hopefully, that leadin will have piqued your interest enough so that you'll at least want details, so here they are!

The Niles-Buchanan chapter is sponsoring, in conjunction with Jones, Michigan (The Good Old Days Town), the first annual Barbershop Festival and Open Novice Quartet Jamboree. We are planning the following activities for the weekend of August 15, 16 and 17:

Friday evening — rally, woodshedding, family fun, set up camp, etc. ("etc." available at the Puddin' Head Jones saloon).

Saturday morning — enjoy the Jones attractions, woodshed, latecomers registration and set up camp, or what (do your own "or what").

Saturday afternoon — Open Novice Quartet Jamboree Prelims.

Saturday evening — Quartet Finals and Show (After-glo???)

Sunday morning — R&R, enjoy the Jones attractions.

Sunday afternoon — Niles-Buchanan Show, winners invited to participate.

There is no charge for camping, which is on the primitive side, except for electric hookups, water and portajons which are provided.

Some prepared food will be available, or BYO.

Entrance fees for the contest are \$1 per quartet, which includes two complimentary tickets per competitor to "Memory Lane." Non-competitor fees are \$1.50 each for the Prelims, \$2 each for the Finals, \$3 for the package (a REAL bargain!)

Basically, the Quartet Jamboree procedures will be followed, with certain exceptions: All members of a competing quartet will wear at least one item of common uniform or costume, which gives the Stage Presence judges something to do. Each quartet will prepare two songs from the Quartet Jamboree list. Program VPs and Area Counselors have the list — copies furnished on request and receipt of stamped, addressed envelope. The same set of songs may be used in each session.

Maximum time for singing is six minutes; no minimum.

Regular Society quartet contest judging categories will be used, with certified, candidate, or otherwise qualified judges (single panel — cheaper).

Participation awards for all competitors, special awards for top three quartets, and rotating trophy of a suitable nature for champs will be presented.

In conjunction with the Quartet Jamboree program, the individual chapters are encouraged to hold qualifying rounds, though the Festival Open is just that — if you feel you want to, enter anyway! We'd really like to fill that 1,000-seat amphitheatre (with lights and P.A.) and impress the natives hereabouts (we sometimes think that they don't understand us).

Please start to pre-register now!! Snow us under . . . inundate us with your enthusiasm . . . make us have to hire help to handle mail . . .!

We'll get an information package to the immediately adjacent chapters, but for those of you outstate (Greater Detroit, for example), drop us a line c/o Jerry Davies, Chairman, 210 Ironwood Dr., Niles, Michigan 49120. Home phone 616 684-3439; office 616 683-0720. Use your dime, please!

As you may note, we'd like to make this an annual event, and admit it . . . doesn't it sound like fun?

Gateway to the South?

Show is the thing at Kellogg, and what a show for Battle Creek!

The W. C. Kellogg Auditorium in Battle Creek has been the scene of many a Barbershop event over the years but none have been more enjoyable than the one hosted by Cereal City Chapter on Saturday evening March 22nd.

Curtain time found just about every seat occupied in this great hall with its fine acoustics affording great listening pleasure for everyone.

The officers and members of the Battle Creek Chapter always put a lot of planning into their big night and this show was no exception. From program through afterglow at the MEA camp at St. Marys Lake, the results of this planning paid off.

The show featured the Soundtracks from Arlington Heights, Illinois for the second year running. Our 5th place International medalists seem to be improving with every performance and should make things very interesting at Indianapolis in June.

Joining the Soundtracks in the spotlight were the Harmony Hounds and District Champion Four D Minor, both from the host chapter, and the Northern Hi-Lites, Pioneer's alternates to the last two International contests who promise to light some fireworks of their own between now and Indianapolis.

While the quartets always glory in the limelight, one of the most significant events of the show was the appearance of the Kalamazoo Mall City Chorus on stage with the Cereal City Chorus, producing a great sound and singing like championship material under the direction of Larry Swan and Craig Stage of Kalamazoo.

The Mall City Chorus was repaying a similar visit by Battle Creek to their show two weeks earlier and Barbershop fans in the two cities came off the winner. As Larry said following the show when being complimented on the sound of the combined choruses, "It's going to be hard to go back to just meat and potatoes".

The About Four from Kalamazoo joined in the quartet activities at the "Battle Creek Railroad Station" in the open-

ing set and also gave a fine performance at the afterglow.

The station scene found a jam-packed waiting room full of unhappy Southbound ticket holders stranded at the depot while their trains were held up by an old fashioned Michigan blizzard. To relieve the boredom while waiting it was only natural that the passengers while away the time in song and with all that talent waiting at the station the evening became quite a showcase of harmony.

Master of Ceremonies Dave Eddy, the Barbershopping disc jockey from WBCK, spent most of the time trying to talk the guys out of going South for the winter questioning their motives for leaving that fair city. But each traveler had his own particular reason for departing and when those reasons were stacked up against Dave's reasons for sticking around the evidence "did him in".

Naturally there were a rash of songs about the South and even a Dixieland band to emphasize the attraction of that sunny clime.

It is no easy chore to go up against the Harmony Hounds on any stage but when a visiting quartet bangs heads with them before the hometown folks, that's murder! Nonetheless, the Soundtracks came back for a return match and with the irrepressible humor of tenor Ray Henders, managed to battle the Hounds on rather even terms.

The Hi-Lites added a little humor of their own to this potpourri of Barbershopping as they always do, and gave a convincing argument for their bid to represent the District at Indy this year.

And the Four D Minors rewarding their favorite audience of home-towners, did what they do best — producing some beautiful harmony as we all love it, and singing their crowd-pleasing ballads as only they can sing them.

Battle Creek is lucky, indeed, to have such a live and vibrant organization in their city and Pioneer is lucky to have Battle Creek. One can never go away from an evening in Kellogg Auditorium after one of these productions without feeling that this was a night of entertainment to remember.



THE SOUNDTRACKS



THE HARMONY HOUNDS



Checking in . . .



Merle Clayton briefs judges



Bob Rock—Bulletin Editor of the year



Exec. VP. Gillespie makes a point



Singing for your dinner



IBM Bill Warner and Society vice Sam Aramian



The Model A Flats



Alpena's Chordwoods



It's Bateson and Glover

Many faces o



Square Root—O.C.C.



The Galaxies



That's Barbershop!



Glen Van Tassell's Wolverine Chorus



Champions to the end . . .



Clay Jones, A/C of the Year



The Vagabonds



The 4-Fits



Fran Durham—Dollars for Logopedics



The Warren G. Harding Memorial Four



Lansing's Patch Chords



"Ho-ho, ho-ho . . ."
Doran McTaggart



Classmates



the Northern Hi-Lites



Showtime!



House of Delegates



It's Hospitality!



relinquishes District trophy



to Motor City's new Champs!

Saginaw-Bay lives it up with St. Paddy's Day Thaw

The Saginaw-Bay Chapter took time out from their preoccupation with hosting the upcoming Spring Convention to unwind with their annual St Paddy's Day Thaw.

The Classmates, Lansing's Used Parts, and the Milltown Misses provided a great evening of Barber-shop Harmony and enjoyment, following a fine buffet at the K. of C. Hall in Bay City.

Following the entertainment, the stage was pushed aside and a band provided music for dancing. Those guys up in that chapter never do anything if they can't do it big!

The Troub camera was on hand to catch a few snaps of the action.



Lansing's USED PARTS



The MILLTOWN MISSES, Millington



The CLASSMATES of Saginaw Bay

Busy Wayne prepares for Indianapolis showdown

The Wayne Wonderland Chorus benefitted from the coaching of the Citations from Louisville, Ky. Jim Miller, Thoroughbred director, and his quartet members, along with Joe Wise, are the backbone of the International champs from the Cardinal District.



JIM MILLER



BILL MEYERS



KEN BUCKNER



RON NETHER-
TON



WAYNE WONDERLAND listens intently



JIM MILLER puts them through their paces

FUN for the whole family in **JONES**
MICHIGAN

BARBERSHOP



MUSIC FESTIVAL

SCHEDULE

Visit **JONES, MICHIGAN**, at the intersection of Routes M-60 and M-40.

"The Good Old Days Town" features many live attractions throughout the summer, and the weekend of August 16 & 17 will feature a Barbershop Music Festival and Quartet Jamboree sponsored by the Niles-Buchanan Chapter, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. Come join the fun and the music.

SEE YOU THERE!

August 16 & 17 - Campsites free to barbershoppers.

Friday - Set-up, register, Wood Shed

Saturday Morning - Jones Attractions, register, Wood Shed.

Saturday afternoon - Preliminaries.

Saturday Evening - Finals, show.

Sunday Morning - R & R.

Sunday Afternoon - Niles Show.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call or write:

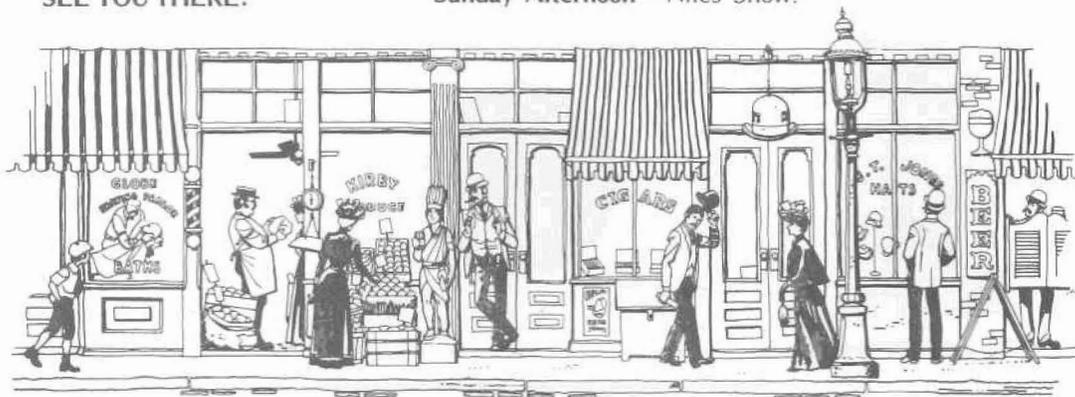
Jerry Davies

210 Ironwood

Niles, MI 49120

(616) 684-3439 (H)

(616) 683-0720 (O)



Hall of Fame inducts four more members

The Pioneer District Hall of Fame inducted four outstanding Barbershoppers at the Midland Convention during the evening quartet finals.

Rawley Hallman was on stage to receive his award from President Don Funk and joined John Hill, Roscoe Bennett and Gordon Grant as the newest members on the growing list of those honored by the District for their contributions to the promotion of Barbershopping in the Pioneer association.

If you have made a nomination in the past, or if you have a name to submit for this honor, please send the name with a written resume detailing why you think the nominee should be named to the Hall of Fame to Doran McTaggart, 890 Buckingham, Windsor, Ontario N8F2C8, Canada. Many names have been submitted without any details as to why they were nominated.

Remember, your nominee does not have to be a champion, a quartet man, a district president or official — the Hall of Fame is interested in those people who have rendered outstanding service to the District. Under the rules of selection, the information in regard to the nominee is essential to consideration.



MAYOR HOLTFOFER welcomes Pioneer Barbershoppers to Midland.



RAWLEY HALLMAN was on hand at Midland to be inducted into Hall of Fame by Pioneer President Don Funk.



RON NEFF of Niles-Buchanan accepts International Protection award from President Funk. His chapter placed 2nd in the Society.

Troub Deadlines: Chapter Notes: July, Sept., Nov., Jan., March, May 15th.
All other matter, on the 10th.




THE CITY OF MODERN EXPLORERS

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, with an international membership organized into more than 700 chapters, The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. has established itself in less than forty years as a protector of this American art form with a certain amount of good humored ferocity and fearlessness as unique as its initials; and

WHEREAS, each year the Society selects an International Champion quartet from quartets judged "qualifying" in fifteen District contests and grants international honors to competing choruses; and

WHEREAS, Midland has been honored to host the Pioneer District and more than one thousand participants of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. April 25th, 26th, and 27th, 1975 at the Midland Center for the Arts, now

THEREFORE, I, Gene W. Holthofer, Mayor of the City of Midland, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim the period April 25th through the 27th, 1975 as BARBER SHOP HARMONY DAYS in Midland to do proper honor to The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc., to laud their goal to sing in harmony and to live in harmony, and to focus the attention of the Midland Community on their welcomed visit.



Adopted at a Council Meeting held Monday, April 21, 1975



Gene W. Holthofer, Mayor

A case for balancing the budget

Your District Officers may be "out of tune" with current fiscal policy but we still believe in a balanced budget; the basic principle that annual income should be sufficient to pay for normal District operating costs.

For the past two years this has not happened and we have been forced to subsidize income by using funds from prior years' equity. The inflationary spiral that has affected our personal costs of living has also increased many District expenses, especially in the areas of travel, postage, printing and telephone costs. The following per capita breakdown of 1975 budgeted costs, based on 1974 actual expenditures, clearly highlights this situation:

| 1975 Per Member Operating Costs Pioneer District | |
|---|----------|
| Troubadour Publication | \$2.41 |
| District Directory | .41 |
| Contribution to International Travel Fund | 1.31 |
| Officers and Area Counselors Travel | 1.50 |
| Telephone, Postage and Supplies | .85 |
| Board Meetings | .82 |
| Training Seminars | .70 |
| Awards and Sundry Expense | .75 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total Operating Costs Per Member | \$8.75 |
| Income—Membership Dues | 5.00 |
| <hr/> | |
| Additional Cost to be Funded | \$(3.75) |

The obvious, and easiest solution, is to fund this deficit by an increase in membership dues but the Board is determined to consider this only as a last resort. Any combination of the following will produce the desired result without an increase in dues:

- 1—An increase in attendance at Spring and Fall Conventions.
- 2—An increase in total District membership (estimated additional cost to the District for each new member is \$1.50).
- 3—Supplemental income from special fund raising projects (drawings, shows, merchandise sales, etc.).

An increase in membership is the ideal solution. This will raise income from dues, increase Convention attendance and also enable the Pioneer District to send a third quartet to international competition. How are you going to contribute to the Budget Balancing?

George J. Schmidt
District Treasurer

Sunshine and Sorrow

Aera Counselors, Zone V.P.'s and Pioneer District members are reminded to make use of the Hot-Line established for the reporting of sickness and death of our members.

This service was initiated at the suggestion of Bill Butler in order to accelerate the flow of this important information to the membership. When the occasion arises, please get in touch with your area counselor or zone vice-president, who will, in turn, notify Bill, thus saving a lot phone calls and still keeping all of us informed.

Bill's office phone is 313 383-3450. His residence phone is 313 721-4747.

Quartet Registrations

WARREN G. HARDING
MEMORIAL FOUR — 3/31/76
J. Franklin Reid
21531 Michigan Ave.,
Dearborn, Mich. 48124
(Detroit & Jackson) 108-119

STATELINERS — 4/30/76
Tom Granata, 6103 Dixon
Toledo, Ohio 43613
(Monroe) 160

We
get
letters!



On behalf of the Jackson Chapter and the Pioneer District may I extend our thanks for your participation in the Send Off Show April 12. Your appearance proves your involvement in the Preservation and Encouragement aspects of our great Society.

Although final figures are not yet in, the District Travel Fund will be enriched by at least \$500. We could not have achieved this profit without both your support and the support of your chapter.

We hope that your visit to our city was enjoyable and we look forward to both hearing you and seeing you again very soon.

CHORD-ially
Dan LaBumbard
Send Off Chairman

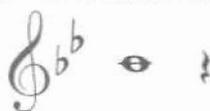
Hello Roger!

On behalf of Al, Gary and Brian, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to you and your confederates for the very sharp, concise and generous coverage of our recent appearances in the Pioneer District. We have been fortunate to appear in your District three times since January and have been absolutely awed at the enthusiasm and hospitality of Pioneer Barbershoppers. We Texans pride ourselves on good, down-to-earth hospitality, but you folks are in a class by yourselves. To you, and the members of the Pontiac, Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids Chapters, we say thanks . . . it's great to be a Barbershopper!

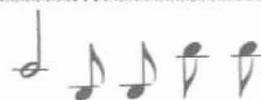
We were also quite surprised and pleased to see you this past weekend in Huntington, W.Va.! That was our first trip to that fabled state and we were all quite impressed with the beauty of the Appalachians. (Texas isn't noted for it's mountains!) We especially appreciate the copies of the Troubadour that you brought along and we compliment you on an exceptional job as editor. Keep up the fine work and put us on your mailing list. Also, we would appreciate your advertising rate card when you get a chance.

Again, Roger, thanks very much for your thoughtful efforts in our behalf. Hope to see you again soon!

CHORD-ially,
Bill Thornton



CHAPTER NOTES



Clinton Valley

The Clinton valley Chapter has been working hard, concentrating mostly on a big AFA which we scheduled for May 30, when we hope to pick up enough members to put us well over the top and qualify us for our Charter.

Administrative VP Galen Oliver has his goal set for 40-50 members by charter time, and hopes the AFA will make that goal a reality. We have scheduled the 4-Fits as our featured quartet for the evening, and we couldn't have asked for a better break at an AFA than that.

Gary Glomstead and Jim Harrison are in the middle of a program designed to provide a visiting quartet for each regular Wednesday meeting, and they have booked several four-somes to date.

Stan Salter has been giving us a musical education with his craft sessions which should add new dimensions to our singing.

But right now, the magic word for us is "CHARTER", and that goal is all-consuming. Treasurer Wes Tomlinson has been working out the details on our incorporation papers, and everything is just about go. All we need are those new members!

Clinton Valley meets each Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the Crystal Room of the Colonial Lanes, on Van Dyke in Utica, just ½ mile north of M-59. Drop in and sing a song or two with us, and bring a friend.
—Tom Gay

Detroit

Things have really been jumping around the Detroit #1 Chapter hall. The beginning of the new year found the motor city chorus with a new director, for Thom Hine stepped down to take the position of Program V.P. Thom was replaced by "The Ox" from the Gentlemens' Agreement, none other than Robert Whitlege. Bob really knows how to get the most out of a chorus, and he proved it by firing the chorus up and directing it to an unprecedented fifth district championship win at Midland in late April.

May found things still hopping around Detroit when Detroit hosted Wayne at the monthly chapter meeting. The meeting was the annual Detroit-Wayne Quartet Contest and in spite of a valiant effort by the Wayne quartets, Detroit emerged victorious.

May also found Detroit #1 putting on a show for the American Legion featuring the Gentlemens' Agreement, the Vagabonds, the Aire-Males and a brand new comedy quartet from Detroit #1, the Warren G. Harding Memorial Four. The afterglow found the G.A. putting on a grand show and the W.G.H.M.F. singing Coney Island Babe backward, a feat which really surprised the audience.

Well, June is upon us and we see no slacking of the pace for Detroit #1 has an "A for A" scheduled for June 9 at Livonia Mall in Livonia, Michigan and preparations are well underway for the annual Detroit Bob-Lo cruise on Friday, July 18.
—Don Smith

Battle Creek editor wants to exchange bulletins

Battle Creek has a dandy new Chapter Bulletin and is anxious to share it with other chapters. The only strings attached calls for a reciprocal exchange of your Chapter's bulletin.

You don't have a chapter bulletin, you say? For shame! Get on your president's back — ask him why! Or better yet, volunteer for this rewarding task and become an instant VIP in your chapter.

Send your bulletin to Bob Hartom, 152 Clayton Ave., Battle Creek, Mi. 49017.

Bob might even consider sending your chapter a bulletin even if you haven't got one of your own. After all, some Chapter's news is better than no news at all!

Grand Rapids

Grand Rapids is hale and hearty and in the process of enlarging our Chapter and Chorus. We have several new members on our rolls and have been very busy preparing for the Spring Contest and Convention in Midland. We expect to have 3 quartets in competition, plus a larger chorus. A lot of interest and enthusiasm is being exhibited.

We have a new Assistant Director in the person of Bob Buffham, brother of Chuck. Bob was the Director of the Peoria Chorus until he moved back to Grand Rapids a few weeks ago.

Our chorus sang for the Teachers Appreciation Dinner at a local Church in February, then went across the street and sang for Curt Morse, one of our members who has not been able to get out for quite a while. We are happy to report that since that time, Curt has improved to the point that he has been out to dinner a couple of times.

Our Chapter had the opportunity to have Dave Steven here for a Friday night and Saturday session in February. Those who attended, found it well worth while and lots of fun, too.

The present finds us all involved in preparing for our Great Lakes Invitational show, which will be held on April 5th. We will have the Dealer's Choice, Both Sides Now, Vagabonds, Galaxies and the Great Lakes Chorus. Ticket sales are looking good and it all points to a very lively weekend.

You will notice a change in personnel in the Galaxies. Bob Buffham has replaced Terry Huyge at Tenor. Terry has found it necessary to devote more time to his work. We wish them success.

We meet each Tuesday night at the Lexicon Club, 108 Lexington Ave., Grand Rapids. Step in and meet our new members, as well as the rest of us guys.
—Bob Lovell

Pointe Four scores win in Boyne Bush League

Those guys up in Boyne Country threw another one of those big bashes on Saturday, May 3 — the 29th Annual Bush League Contest and Show — and came away smelling like roses once again.

With 10 quartets giving it that old Barbershop try, only one of them could walk away with that brass gaboon emblematic of the Bush League Championship, and that one was the Pointe Four.

This fine quartet, subject of an article in the April Troub, set sight on the trophy in its first serious competition attempt and carried it home to Grosse Pointe. The Pointe Four edged Lansing's up-and-coming Patch Chords by a mere 6 points.

Oakland County's MetroChords placed third, followed by Wayne's Final Edition, the Replacements, Heirs of Harmony, the Chordwoods, the Flatland Four, Model A Flats and the Grosse Exaggeration, in that order.

Slats Ramer handled the Mike chores for the contest.

The evening show, with Doran McTaggart as MC, had a little bit of everything for everybody.

After Ron Bishop, president of the Boyne City Chapter, welcomed the visitors to "God's Country", the Epsilon Jazz Band took over the stage, followed by Slats Ramer's quartet.

Sure and we'll be Wearing of the Green

By **JIM SWISHER**
Wayne Chapter President

On October 3, 1974, the Wayne Chapter celebrated its 30th Anniversary as a Chapter in our great society. In October, 1974, we also celebrated our 13th year of competition, having entered our first Chorus Competition in 1961. Now I ask you, how much more lucky can the number 13 be for the Wayne Chapter? The Competition in Windsor will long be remembered as Wayne's Finest Hour. Under the direction of Gordon Limburg, we wowed the audience and judges to win our first trip to the International Chorus Competition. Decked out in our white top hat and tails with kelly green accessories we sang like the "Fightin' Irish" and like we had never sung before.

We have had two weekend coaching sessions with the Citations from Louisville, Kentucky, and have been working hard to make the Pioneer District proud of its representatives. We will again be decked out in top hat and tails with green accessories for the contest in Indy. We will be singing "Great Day for the Irish" and "Irish Mother." We hope to knock you out of your seats with our opening number and bring tears of emotion to your eyes with our second song.

The Wayne Chapter would like to thank everyone in the district for all their support and good wishes. We are looking forward to seeing all of you at our Pep Rally Thursday evening in Indianapolis at the Ramada Inn-Airport.

The Voice Quad, 1974 champs, then relinquished the crown to the Pointe Four and both quartets entertained. The Patch Chords carried the show into intermission, after which the Snow Belt Chorus, directed by Dale Hanson, gave the hometown fans something to cheer about.

The Northern Hi-Lites were in the spotlight as the featured quartet of the show, and gave the audience a sample of the kind of performance we have come to expect from these crowdpleasers.

It may have seemed a bit strange for many Barbershoppers to arrive in Boyne City and find that the old Dilworth, Bush League headquarters for so many years, is no more.

However, the building remains and new hosts Mike and Judy DeFazio welcomed the Barbershoppers to "Anthony's Inn", just as the Young family had done in the past. The inn has undergone some remodeling and the work is not finished, but this didn't stop the festivities from going on as usual.

If you haven't made the Bush League, now is a good time to start planning for next year. This should be a big one up North, the 30th anniversary of the contest, and the Nation's Bi-Centennial Year. It all comes on May Day — the first day of the month in 1976.

Indianapolis contest results will be available by phone

For those of you who cannot make it to the biggie at Indianapolis this year, here's a bit of good news that will help you get the scoop on the contest results and help Ma Bell recover from the economic slump at the same time.

Contest results will be available by dialing long distance (how else?) 317 639-1865. This is NOT a toll-free number. It is a special phone number and will be in use from the end of the contest on Thursday night through Sunday night.

A lot of our members have always wondered why results were not made available more rapidly in the past. This should be a big help. Please remember, however, that only one line will be assigned for these calls, so you may get a busy signal on your first try. But don't despair; give it another try — or two, or three!

A lot of dialing can be saved if you will share this information with your fellow Barbershoppers once you have received it. Perhaps some chapter member could be assigned to report the results to others. You might even want to send a release to your local paper.

Directory Change

The secretary of the Windsor chapter is Fred Peltier, 1425 Ellrose, Windsor, Ontario N8Y3X4.

The Administrative vice president of the Niles-Buchanan chapter is Ron Neff, 118 Forest, Niles, MI 49120.

Gratiot County

Well, it's over! Yes, competition is over for awhile. For us, the Midstatesmen, all the work that went into rehearsing has paid off. We improved considerably over last year. That is what it takes. Hard work year after year to keep that steady improvement going until one day we'll have that first place.

With the help of our director, Ken Smith, I know we'll get there. Ken has the ideas and the determination to make a top-notch chorus out of us. I would like to say thanks to Ken from all of us. Also, one of our Chapter's quartets went to Boyne City and competed. We call ourselves the Flatland Four. The quartet consists of lead Gerald Jenkins, bari Roger Boyer, bass Lowell Boyer, and yourstruly, tenor Ron Chaffee. We didn't take first but we didn't take last either. So with the smell of competition, Midland Center for the Arts and Boyne City still in our nostrils, so long till next time.

—Ron Chaffee

Grosse Pointe

Little did I realize when I planned this article that I would be announcing that Russ Seely has resigned as our Chorus Director to devote more time to his quartet, The 4-Fits, who, as you know, will be one of the two quartets representing Pioneer District at International. Russ has led the Lakeshore Chorus for seven years. He led us out of the cellar to the brink of success as a Number One Chorus. We all feel sad about losing Russ. It was a real pleasure to sing under his direction. Russ will still be with us as a coach. Good Luck to you, Russ, from all the Chorus members.

Our congratulations to the Ponte 4, our own guys, who recently won the Pre-Boyne contest at Oakland Chapter and then went on to win at the Boyne Bush League contest. One thing that caught my eye in Boyne was the matching outfits the Pointe 4 wives were wearing. You can see they have full support at home.

We had our annual quartet contest with Wayne in March. Grosse Pointe showed up in large numbers and we managed to out-point Wayne to retain the Seely Trophy for one more year. Our thanks to the Metro Chords and Bill Guerin of Oakland who served as judges and secretary for the contest.

Our chapter received the Plateau VI Protention award for the second year in a row. Plateau VI is for chapters with over 100 members.

See you all on the Detroit Chapter moonlight curise.

—Sully Mazur

Holly-Fenton

The Holly-Fenton Chapter had a Board Meeting April 29th in Fenton at which it was decided to resume regular meetings. A meeting was scheduled for May 13th at which time a new site was to be selected. In addition to the Tonsorial Tune Teasers, two other quartets have been rehearsing regularly.

—George R. Darrah

St. Joseph Valley

Well the St. Joseph Valley Chapter is another chapter you haven't been hearing from but we are still very much alive.

Our show (April 19) was a great success with a large enthusiastic audience. It gave everybody in the Chapter a much needed lift.

We have activities planned for the summer including a chorus engagement in Bronson in June, and we sing at the Covered Bridge Festival in Centreville in July. Also, we are planning our annual strawberry shortcake feed for June. The plans are now to invite Kalamazoo, Niles-Buchanan, and Battle Creek to this event.

We are also planning an A.F.A. for September. We are just under the 25 member limit but we feel confident we can make it this year.

We always have.

—George Dieffenderfer

Wayne

Presently, the chief aim of the Wayne Wonderland Chorus is to make the Pioneer District proud of having sent us to Indianapolis to compete in the International contest. We are doing everything we can to improve the quality of our singing. In fact, we have four of the very best coaches in the Society working with us. They are from Louisville, Ky., and are better known as "The Citations". They are director and co-directors of the International Champion Thoroughbred Chorus.

These four men came up for a 2-day session on Easter week end and returned for another session May 16-17. They also will be with us again in Indianapolis.

April 12 Wayne joned the Wolverine Chorus and many fine District quartets in Jackson for the annual International Send-Off Show to raise funds to help defray the expenses of the quartets and chorus going to Indianapolis. I'll leave the details for the Jackson Chapter reporter.

May 4-10 was National Music Week and Wayne observed it with our annual visit to Livonia Bentley High School on May 6. Thir male chorus and 100-voice mixed Concert Choir thrilled us for a half hour with their championship performance. Then the Wonderland Chorus filled out the next half hour. The rest of the evening was taken over by the greatest quartet in the Society's history, the Gentlemen's Agreement. The kids nearly tore the walls down with their applause.

Wayne has two traditional annual quartet contests on an inter-chapter basis. One with Grosse Pointe, and the other with Detroit. This year we lost both. Should we say that the other guys had the advantage of being in home territory? That may be the same excuse they'll give when we beat them next year.

May 13 the Wonderland Chorus did a show for the patients and administrative guests at the Westland Convalescent Center. Makes one feel good all over to get out and do things like that. Sometimes we just don't realize how fortunate we really are until we view the helpless condition of others.

Have a nice summer.

—Morrie Giles

Down Our Way

with the Editor



So, it's on to Indianapolis and the greatest Spectacle in Barbershopping!

Time continues to fly, and deadlines still seem to be a big hangup with this editor.

This has been another busy, busy season of harmony in Pioneerland, as they all seem to be, with Send-Off shows, District contest and convention, chapter shows in abundance, sing-outs, weekly rehearsals, etc.

We are always happy to receive an invitation to attend a chapter show or dunction, though we run into a few conflicts here and there, and we try to take in as many as possible. Of course, we don't always wait for an invitation, either. If we find a free week end and know there is a show we would like to make, that's where you'll find us.

The editor and wife Alice lucked into a real goodie back in April when we found ourselves in a position to get away for a few days to West Virginia for a visit with our families. Leaving for work the night prior to the trip, the thought occurred that somewhere in Johnny Appleseed's "Cider Press" we had read about a show in our hometown of Huntington. Doublechecking, we found that the show in the old City Auditorium was headlining the Dealer's Choice and the Bluegrass Student Union, alias "Those Rotten Kids!"

It was a scramble to make it from Highland on time, further complicated by the realization that Huntington was on an hour faster schedule than we were at that time, but the show was worth the effort. Steve Hanrahan, former IBM and Society Interpretation judge who was in the pits at Portland when the DC scored that big win, made us welcome when we gave him a call on arriving in his city. Our brother Karl came from St. Albans to join us in an evening we will long remember.

The Huntingtones surprised us with some crisp, solid interpretations of some great songs. Director Paul Dempsey, son of the chapter's first director, got a lot of music from a medium-sized chorus.

The stage props, the show script and the entire show was strictly first glass. The Writers Opinion, a quartet formed to do just one number in the show, was too good to stop there, and they didn't. The Dealers Choice, like old man river, seems to keep right on rolling along, and their performance in that cavernous hall was a masterpiece. It had to be, because Those Rotten Kids from Louisville came on with all the charm of a slick medicine man!

The afterglow in the Frederick was one of the best we have ever attended. Very little in the liquid refreshment department, unless you include coffee in that category, but what a breakfast! Those fried apples, hot biscuits and butter will get this old editor any day in the week, and they were only a small part of the big buffet which was served by the hotel's staff.

Steve's quartet, the Almost Heavens, gave their fifth final appearance at the afterglow, much to everyone's pleasure. We were seated near the guys from Dallas, and had a very pleasant visit. They were surprised to see us in the Mountain State, which called for a bit of explanation on our part.

Coming off that week end, we hurried home and to Midland for the Spring Convention. The Center for the Arts is down in our book as just about the finest facility anywhere, and certainly those guys from Saginaw-Bay rate as tops among convention hosts. The people at Holiday Inn had to do some quick shuffling when a squall hit the facility and drenched a few rooms, but they did a fantastic job as a head-

quarters unit. (Seems Holiday had the same problem up in the Land O' Lakes District, too.)

We have had a lot of problems, large and small, some self-inflicted, some technical in nature, in trying to get the June issue out before the International. Here's hoping we make it.

We wanted to go late this month, but not quite this late. So, if we have left out some things we were instructed to get in, or if we failed to cover something we should have, please forgive!

An apology to the fine chapter at Flint is in order, but we were committed to the Send-Off show in Jackson before the tickets arrived for the Flint show which was on the same night, unfortunately.

Grand Rapids, we just couldn't make it this year, and we know we missed a great one! And Loton Willson, sorry we had to pass up the Bush League, even after making plans to be there for a whole year! Somethings just don't always come off right for us.

Spring is a time of great Barbershopping fun for all of us, but it is also time to shoe the horses, plow the fields, mow the back forty, and try to keep a little of that harmony around the homestead. Blessed with a patient, understanding wife who shares our love of great music, this old boy doesn't want to stretch that patience too thin. We are sure there are a lot of Barbershoppers and wives out there who can understand and appreciate that sentiment!

So, on to Indianapolis! Go Vagabonds, go 4-Fits, and go Wayne Wonderland! Pioneer salutes you!



"THOSE ROTTEN KIDS!"
The Blue Grass Student Union
Louisville, Kentucky



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

Keep America Singing

STEPHEN SUTHERLAND 106811
2870 OAKDALE DR I41
ANN ARBOR MI 48104

Chapters are requested to get Parade Clearances and dates approved for all public events your chapter expects to hold in your area. Do it well in advance EACH YEAR or even up to five years in advance. This will help avoid conflicts with talent and audience pull.

—1975—

JUNE —

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

JULY —

18 Detroit No. 1 Moonlight Cruise

AUGUST — 15-17 Niles-Buchanan

Jones, Mich. Music Festival

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

—1976—

JANUARY —

17 Lansing Chapter Show
31 Niles-Buchanan

FEBRUARY —

7 Monroe Floral City Show
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



“Chapter Chips” wins 1974 B.O.T.Y. AWARD

By BOB McDERMOTT

The Detroit Chapter bulletin, “Chapter Chips”, edited by Bob Rock, was awarded the top honor in the District’s first annual PROBE Bulletin Contest. The announcement and presentation of the trophy took place during the quartet finals at the Pioneer District’s spring convention at Midland.

Four bulletins were entered in the first of what is planned to be an annual competition among bulletin editors in the Pioneer District. The scoring was as follows:

| | Edit. Content | News Content | Syntax & Grammar | Comp. & Layout | Total |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Chapter Chips—Detroit | 80 | 65 | 251 | 91 | 487 |
| Gentlemen’s Songster—OCC | 85 | 65 | 227 | 95 | 472 |
| Harmony Rag—Niles-Buchanan | 86 | 86 | 209 | 81 | 462 |
| Pitch-Pipe—Grosse Pointe | 72 | 62 | 248 | 74 | 456 |

Judging this close contest were Roger Morris of the Milford Chapter and Bob McDermott of the Oakland County Chapter. The top two bulletins were entered into the International competition for 1974, with winners to be announced at the International Convention in Indianapolis in June.

The only real losers in the contest were the many Chapter bulletins published throughout our District which were not entered. It is hoped that next year we will have a minimum of ten bulletins.



THE MEMORY LANERS

REG.

BARBERSHOP QUARTET

GEO. MEINSCHIN, TENOR

MARTY ZURN, BARI

MIKE BOURGOIN, LEAD

GENE BEATY, BASS

Contact Mike: 29673 Chester, Gdn. City, Mi. (313) 261-6938