



The Mackinac Bridge connects Michigan's Upper and Lower Peninsulas

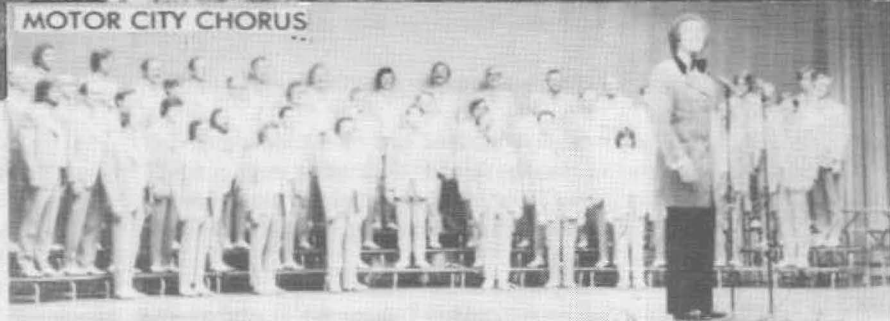


*from Mighty Mac to the Golden Gate—*

The Golden Gate Bridge spans San Francisco Bay



MOTOR CITY CHORUS



June 1976

NORTHERN HI-LITES



pioneer  
**TROUBADOUR**

VAGABONDS



CLASSMATES





The Spring Convention in Lansing brought several chapter contributions to Logopedics. A total of \$1,757.65 for Logopedics was presented at the House of Delegates Meeting. This is great but let me again emphasize that Logopedics contributions should be *sent in as they accumulate* and not held until they can be presented at the Spring or Fall House of Delegates meetings.

I know the recognition is nice but we do not want Logopedics giving to become a contest as to which chapters cough up a check and which give the most. It is my intention to deemphasize this aspect of proceedings at the House of Delegates meeting. In fact, if it can be arranged, I would like to have a meeting of the chapter Logopedics chairmen held entirely separate from Delegates meeting at the fall contest.

There is a lot of Logopedics business to conduct and I feel a separate meeting would be productive. I am thinking of a Saturday morning breakfast meeting or possibly a Sunday morning meeting. Any Logopedics chairmen reading this (and I hope you are) please give me your reaction to having such a meeting.

There are several items on the tentative agenda for the fall meeting.

1. International has assured me that the Logopedics chairman's Handbook is in the printing stage and will be distributed soon. It would be helpful to go through the Handbook at the fall meeting and get your comments about it.
2. A progress report as to how much money the Pioneer District has contributed to Logopedics as of September 30th. We are committed to a 20% increase over our giving in 1975. We are off to a slow start. Only three chapters, for example, have contributed the \$38 asked for on April 1st to the O. C. Cash Birthday Fund, as of April 30th. Prior to the House of Delegates meeting only \$338 had been contributed by the Pioneer District to Logopedics since January 1, 1976. \$13,500 is still a long way off and this is the amount of money hoped for from the Pioneer District!
3. A report from the Battle Creek Chapter about their recently completed Logopedics Spectacular. I am sure that Battle Creek will do a splendid job. Congratulations to the chapter and to Roger Lewis for taking on the project!
4. Progress reports from each Logopedics Chapter Chairman. A sharing of ideas. What are you doing to get your chapter quartets to contribute to Logopedics?

In closing this article, I want to make mention of a very successful Barbershop Quartet Jamboree which was held Friday, May 14, 1976 in Jackson.

The event was co-sponsored by the Jackson Chapter and the Jackson Rotary Club as a benefit for the Institute of Logopedics and the Crippled Children's Society of Jackson.

Dan LaBumbard informs me that there were about 900 people in the audience and that the proceeds from the show are expected to be somewhere between \$2,000-2,500 to be shared equally by the Institute and the Crippled Children's Society. Dan indicates that the Rotarians responded with enthusiasm and that it is a great way to raise money for Logopedics.

I am sure that Dan would be happy to answer any questions that members of other chapters might have about putting on such a show under cosponsorship. Congratulations to the Jackson Chapter.

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

### **Headquarters expansion expensive; you and your chapter can help!**

The big move is underway in Kenosha where headquarters personnel are busy shuffling staff and departments into the newly acquired annex facilities.

The move is going well, according to Executive Director Barrie Best, but the one thing that could be moving faster is the flow of cash into the fund drive.

With a goal of \$300,000, Barrie says that "Hopefully, most members have at least perused the material we sent them . . . Now we need to have every chapter member make a contribution."

Some ideas mentioned include individual member gifts, chapter contributions, purchase by members of the 15-year 5% callable debentures which will be offered shortly, and investment of chapter savings in the debentures.

In 20 years the Society has grown and so has its needs to be able to serve the members properly.

Give it some thought!

## **Pioneer TROUBADOUR**

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**DEADLINES: All material must be received by the 25th of the month preceding publication**

## **OPEN UP THAT GOLDEN GATE!**

# **Vagabonds, Northern Hi-Lites, Classmates, Motor City Chorus ready for San Francisco**

Convention fever is hitting a new high in Pioneerland and there's no relief in sight! At least, not until our men have had a chance to stake a claim to some of that gold in the City by the Bay.

Pioneer District will have its biggest contingent entered in the International in many years, with three quartets and the chorus representative set to do battle for Society honors.

We'd like to say that we earned that third quartet as a result of an increase in our membership, but that's not the case. We are happy to say, however, that it is a direct result of the 5th place medallions that currently hang about the necks of our Vagabonds.

Those same Vagabonds, after racking up an impressive score at the Spring contest in Lansing, will be going all out to capture the crown at San Francisco, and a lot of knowledgeable Barbershoppers think this is the year they will do it.

The Northern Hi-Lites will be getting their first crack at the big time after having waited in the wings as first alternates for the past three years. They have been a great source of pride to the district since they burst upon the scene a few years back, and we know that the people in the Cow Palace are in for a real treat when they take the stage.

The Classmates, to no one's surprise, grabbed the third spot on the ticket at Lansing. This quartet has evolved through some personnel changes and a lot of hard work into a great singing competitor and we can expect them to give a solid performance in their first go on the big stage.

If there was a surprise in the Spring prelims, it had to be the Sound Spectrum's great showing in the Saturday night finals. This quartet, entering at the last minute, barely made

the cut following Friday's semifinals, but they were ready to make their move when the chips were down, and move they did — from an 8th-place finish to 4th place and the first alternate's slot! That's quite a jump, as any seasoned contestant can tell you, and they did it with a couple of simple Barberpole Cat tunes which they sang to perfection.

While our quartets were preoccupied with getting by the Spring contest, the Motor City Chorus was busy on many fronts, but mostly preparing for the International. They have worked hard, performed in several shows, spent hours and hours in rehearsal with some topnotch coaching talent helping Bob Whitledge to get them ready, and from the sound that we've been hearing from them, we believe Bob will make good on his pledge last fall in Grand Rapids.

Pioneer has not fared too well over the years in the chorus competition, not because we haven't had the voices, but simply because the competition has been loaded with a lot of first class organizations who seem to take these contests a lot more seriously than we do.

Perhaps this is the year when things are going to begin to change.

With the Charter Flight sold out long ago and the Group Flight bulging to the seams, the District should be well represented at this year's convention. There will be many traveling by car and other facilities, so Pioneer should be much in evidence at this one. Let's get together and support our representatives in San Francisco. They deserve every bit of help we can give them.

The Year of the Pioneer is at hand! Open up that Golden Gate!

## **Plane talk!**

### ***Group, charter flights await takeoff***

Don Funk, Pioneer's IBM and premiere travel agent, informs us that the Group Flight will depart Detroit Metropolitan at 12:22 p.m., Monday, July 5 for San Francisco.

Those holding reservations for Monday departure should be at the terminal well in advance in order to check baggage, claim reservations and get seat assignments. The flight, American Airlines 213Y, will stop in Chicago for 30 minutes, but it will not be necessary to change planes since this is a through schedule. 213Y will arrive in San Francisco at 3:20 PDT, and there will be airport limousines or charter busses there to take you to the Hilton Hotel.

Group ticket holders will depart the convention headquarters by bus at 7:30 a.m. Sunday, July 11, leave San Francisco on American's flight 92Y at 8:45 a.m. and arrive back at Metro at 4 p.m. EDT.

Currently, there are 57 seats booked on the Group Flight.

The Charter Flight leaves Metropolitan at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 6. Members are requested to be there by 9:30 a.m. to facilitate boarding and baggage handling. American Airlines will have a separate area for our charter group.

Charter flyers will enjoy a fillet mignon dinner en route west, and on arriving in the convention city, busses 1, 2 and 3 will carry those persons going to the Drake. Bus 4 will go direct to the Hilton.

The busses will leave the hotels at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday for those returning on the charter trip. Takeoff time is set for 3 p.m., PDT, with Breast of Chicken Kiev being featured for the evening meal. Touchdown at Detroit is scheduled for 10:15 p.m. EDT.

Every charter member must have at least two pieces of I.D. — your membership card and your driver's license or Social Security card.

Don says the requirements at Metro are tight, and we don't want to mess up a good thing, so be prepared if you are asked for your identification. He has mailed all the details to both group and charter ticket holders. Read them and follow the instructions given. All phone numbers are on the manifest that he was required to furnish, so the FAA has a good check.

"This is a clean list," Don says, "and we want to keep it that way!"



THE BOSTON COMMON

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Barbershop**  
**on Parade . . .**  
 Reviewing the Shows with the Troub  
 \*\*\*\*\*



THE MILLIONAIRES

**A Night of Harmony in Battle Creek**

Battle Creek celebrated its 21st Night of Harmony with a great Salute to America that brought a standing ovation from a jam-packed house in W. K. Kellogg Auditorium. The Boston Common headlined the show, which also featured The Classmates, The Harmony Hounds, Four "D" Minors, the Millionaires, and the Cereal City Chorus, which was joined by the Sweet Adeline Chorus, both directed by Larry Swan.



HARMONY HOUNDS



RAY SIKKENGA

BOB HARTOM



FOUR D MINORS



DAVE EDDY

PIONEER TROUBADOUR

**Great Lakes Invitational emphasizes Barbershop Heritage**

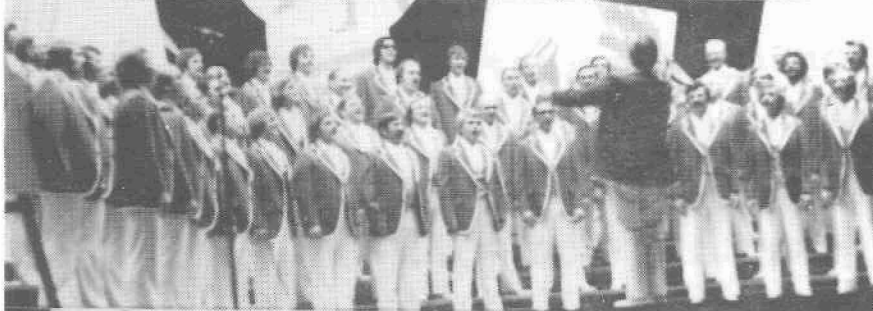
Grand Rapids hosted its 33rd Great Lakes Invitational April 10 in Civic Auditorium with emphasis on Barbershop as a part of our American heritage. With 60 men on the risers, Bob Buffham took the chorus through a bevy of great and popular old songs. Stepping out for cameo performances were the Galaxies, Model A Flats and The Fringe Benefit. The show featured 1967 International Champs the 4 Statesmen, the current Sweet Adeline Queens of Harmony, the Front Office Four from Lansing, and the ever-popular Citations, International finalists from Louisville, Kentucky.



THE 4 STATESMEN



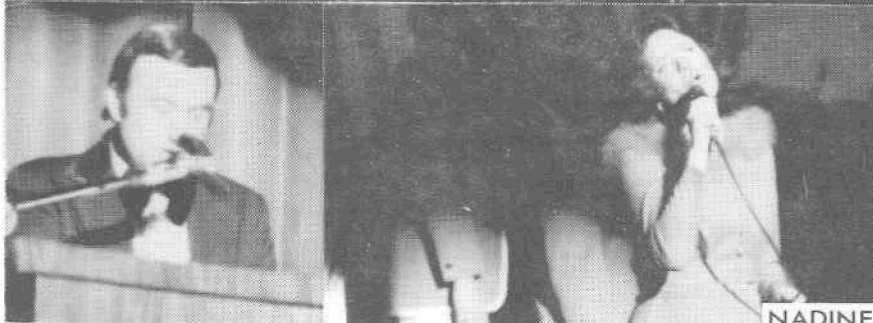
THE FRONT OFFICE FOUR



THE GREAT LAKES CHORUS



THE CITATIONS



NADINE



THE GALAXIES

ST. JOHN'S AUTUMN HARMONY

☆ presents ☆

☆ STAR SPANGLED ☆  
☆ HARMONY ☆

— featuring —

☆ The VAGABONDS

☆ The HARMONICA MEN TRIO

☆ The FRONT OFFICE FOUR

☆ Oakland County's WOLVERINE CHORUS

☆ with narration by  
WJR's Award-Winning

MIKE WHORF

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SATURDAY, SEPT. 25, 7:30 P.M.

DONATION  
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☆ \_\_\_\_\_ FOR SATURDAY, SEPT. 25, 7:30 P.M. PERFORMANCE.



Enclosed is my check or money order for \$ \_\_\_\_\_



(Payable to NATS, St. John's Episcopal Church)



### 13 quartets enter competition!

## Patch Chords grab brass gaboon at 32nd Boyne City Bush League

By BILL WARNER  
Detroit #1 Chapter

Wow! What a week end that was. Another smashing success at Boyne City on Saturday, May 1, when 13 (count 'em) thirteen quartets competed in what proved to be a real barn burner of a contest. Only 126 points separated the 2nd and 13th quartet. When all the votes were in and tabulated, they showed the Patch Chords from Lansing (Mike Johnson, tenor; Gene Johnson, lead; Don Horton, bari, and Doug Pearson, bass) to be far and away the best of the lot.

Second to them was a new quartet — a sleeper from Detroit — called the Parts Unknown. I didn't hear them, but I'm told they did a fabulous job! Of course, when four baritone get together to make up a quartet, you never know who is going to sing what — thus the Parts Unknown: Dave Carey, tenor, lead, bari; Bill Warner, lead, bari, bass; Bob Wisdom, tenor, lead, bari, bass; and Dick Barron, tenor, lead, bass.

Third place went to the Rumbleseat Ramblers from Grosse Pointe, followed in order by The Memory Laners from Wayne and Milford, Chord Woods from Alpena, The Highwaymen from Detroit and Grosse Pointe, The Extemporaneous Exemplification of the Total Spectrum of Sound from Traverse City, The Innocent Bystanders from OCC, The Golden Oldies from Grand Rapids, The IOU Chords from Holland, Honest Pleasure from Grosse Pointe and Port Huron, With One-A-Chord from OCC and Carriage Trade from Alpena.

The evening show was a tremendous success with the Boyne City Chorus doing an outstanding job on the Bicen-



tenial package — together with a great performance by International finalist quartet, the Soundtracks.

Not only was the afternoon contest tremendous and the evening show fabulous, but they were only the beginning of the week end festivities. You haven't Barbershopped in the Pioneer District if you haven't spent a week end at the Dilworth Hotel (better known now as Anthony's Inn!)

Following the evening show was, as usual, a rousing afterglow that lasted into the real small hours. Our congratulations to the Boyne City Chapter and particularly to Loton Willson who, for the 32nd time, managed to make the week end a huge success!

Mark your calendar right now and don't miss it next year. I understand it is going to be bigger and better.

## Wayne Wonderland Chorus takes District crown in stiff competition

Steve Sutherland set a new record for the high jump when his Wayne Wonderland Chorus was announced as the winner of the District Championship at Lansing. Steve, long an assistant and associate director under some great leadership at Wayne, achieved success on his first try at the helm of the Wonderland band. Wayne, International finalists at Indianapolis, had to overcome some stiff competition to get to the top.

Grosse Pointe, under Gordon Limburg, finished only 28 points behind and just five points ahead of a surging Grand Rapids Great Lakes Chorus that fielded some 60 men on stage.

Monroe, with Glen Van Tassell directing, finished a strong 4th, followed by Saginaw-Bay, Traverse City, Lansing, Clinton Valley, Port Huron, Benton Harbor, Windsor and Gratiot County.

Saginaw-Bay, directed by Jim Gross, captured the Silver Division trophy with a fine performance and a growing chorus that promises to continue on the road to excellence.

## Pioneer is sending 3 great quartets to California

The Vagabonds, as expected, jumped into a first round lead in the Spring quartet preliminaries and solidified their position in the Saturday night finals to assure their presence on stage at the Cow Palace in July.

With three spots to be filled in Pioneer's quota for this year's International, the remaining 12 entries pulled out all the stops for the judges and gave district fans another great Barbershop experience as they battled to the wire.

The Northern Hi-Lites, three times the bridesmaid, were not to be denied this year as they sang their way to a second place finish, 161 points off the pace set by the Vagabonds.

The Classmates came on with some consistent scoring and a fine showing in the arrangement category to grab third place and a trip out West.

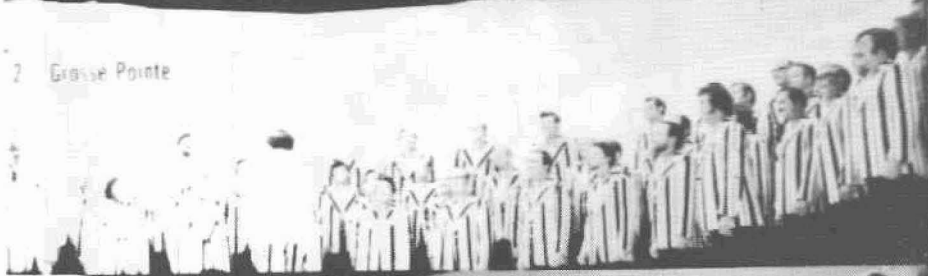
They were followed by the surprising performance of the Sound Spectrum, good enough to make first alternate; the Final Edition, another late entry that overcame some sore throat problems to finish fifth and only 16 points away from the alternates; the Stateliners, the Four D Minors and the Patchchords from the host chapter.



1—Wayne District Chorus Champion.



4—Sound Spec.



2 Grasse Pointe



MERLE CLAYTON

HAL BAUER

Inducted into Hall of Fame



3 Grand Rapids



1 Monroe



Jim Gross accepts Silver Award from Bill Butler

George Fitzgerald gets winner's trophy from Tom Hin



5 Saginaw-Bay Silver Division Champion.



6 Traverse City



8—Clinton Valley



10—Benton Harbor



7 Lansing



9—Port Huron



4—Sound Spec.

5—Final Ec

MERLE CLAYTON HAL BAUER  
Inducted into Hall of Fame

7—Four D Min.

9—WGHM 4

10—

11—Evil Companions

Jim Gross accepts  
Silver Award  
from Bill Butler

George Fitzgerald  
gets winner's trophy  
from Tom Hine

10—Benton Harbor

11—Windsor

9—Port Huron

12—Gratiot County



**Lansing put it all together for us!**



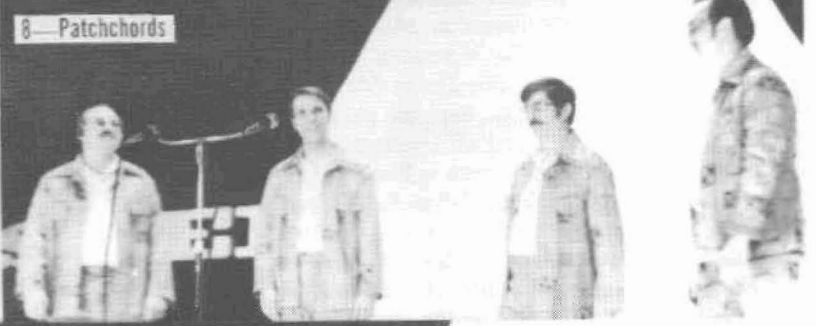
5—Final Ed.



6—Stateliners



7—Four D Min.



8—Patchchords



9—WGHM 4



10—Fringe Benefit



11—Evil Companions



12—Chordwoods



13—Rapidares



11—Windsor



12—Gratiot County



Steve Sutherland collects Gold Award for Wayne

## Port Huron Chapter keeps busy with area singing performances

Pat Yaques and his Huron Harmony Chorus from Port Huron are comparative newcomers in Pioneer, but they perform like a band of seasoned troupers.

The chorus doesn't end its season with the annual show, which comes early in the year, as a lot of chapters are prone to do. This enthusiastic bunch of Barbershoppers will perform at the drop of an old straw hat, wherever there's an opportunity.

After appearing in the Spring contest, the guys from the Bluewater Country joined in a bicentennial festival on Port Huron's waterfront as a part of a big musical week end in that city. They also traveled to Marine City for a rare Sunday show in the high school auditorium which featured the Northern Hi-Lites, the Sound Spectrum and a strong contingent from Grosse Pointe's Lakeshore Chorus.

During the intermission at Marine City the crowd was herded into the halls by a tornado warning which delayed the show for an hour. But Doran McTaggart, fresh from a week end at Boyne City, kept the people happy with some community singing, along with performances by the quartets, while we waited for the storm to blow over.

The Huron Harmony Chorus has six members from one family on its roster, and all six sang on the risers in contest this year. Jim Phalen and his five sons are practically a chorus in themselves. Add the Sweet Ad sisters in the family, and Mrs. Phalen on the piano and you have quite a show.

Wallace Joure, Pioneer's basso profundo who really be-

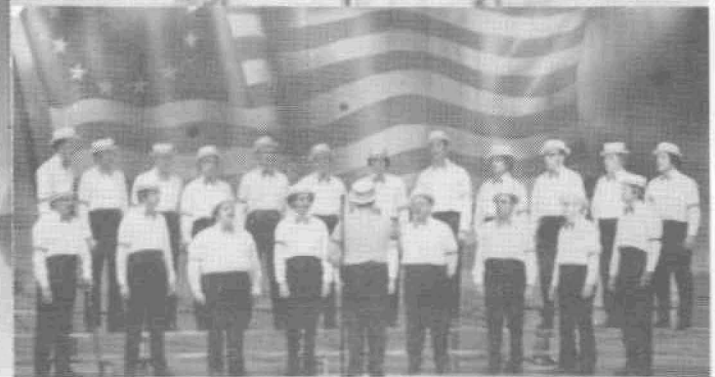


**A FAMILY AFFAIR** — Jim Phalen and his five sons are all members of Port Huron's chorus. Son Dennis is a member of the Sound Spectrum, first alternates to San Francisco.

lieves in Keeping America Singing, brought a quartet back to his hometown at Marine City for an appearance on Memorial Day as part of the town's great celebration. Wally, accompanied by Jack Adams on his banjo, entertained at the VFW following the Memorial services, and they tell us he sang for four hours. He was still hoarse of throat when the Troubadour editor visited him the next day, but showed little wear and tear for his 81 years.

## Flint Barbershoppers join in Salute to America

The Flint Arrowhead Chorus, directed by Jack Lyons, featured the Salute to America package on its April 10th show at Davison High School. Bill Wixstrom MC'd the show which featured the Classmates, the 4-Fits, and the Flint's-Tones, along with the Sound Stylists, an up and coming Sweet Ad quartet in the area. The 4-Fits stunned the audience by announcing their retirement at the conclusion of their act. We regret that we were not furnished pictures of the Sound Stylists.





## CHAPTER NOTES



### **Au Sable Valley**

We had a good AFA! The 13 guests from Houghton Lake, Gladwin, Gaylord and Grayling were fine singers, and great potential members. Congratulations to Greg, Rod Ames, Rick Townsend, and all who had a part!

Moe Weaver reports that Cedarville, Boyne City, Alpena, and AuSable Valley are committed to the July 31 chorus contest. A total of 6 or 7 chapters are expected to participate in the first annual "Milltown Barbershop Chorus Contest", which will be held at the Grayling High School at 8 p.m., July 1976.

Headline quartet for the event will be the Sound Objective, featuring the antics of "Handsome" Fred. Afterglow will be at the Holiday Inn.

We have been a busy chapter, with performances in Houghton Lake, Higgins Lake, Mid-Michigan College, and Grayling during the past month.

Other coming attractions include our annual Alpenfest show, which Lyle Ames has arranged for on Friday night, July 16, at 8 p.m. in the Gaylord High School. Other details are not complete at this time.

—Earl Whaley

### **Oakland County**

Barbershopping is still fun at O.C.C. We had a few disappointments at our May meeting — the Airmales couldn't make it — but the Square Root and other quartets from the Chapter saved the evening. Everyone had a good time. I have found that if you participate in Chapter functions, good times come automatically.

The chorus is forging ahead under the able hands of our director, Don Barrett. We are getting ready for our St. John show. It is hard work but the time and effort is worth it.

In June O.C.C. will have the return of the Traveling Jug. It had a bad start by being misplaced, but it was brought up to the Lansing Convention and passed around in the Hospitality rooms. It is still on the go. The money goes to the quartets going to International.

—Cy Pelican

### **Wayne**

Proud? Of course we are. After all, it isn't every day that we become District Chorus Champions. And, if possible, we are even more proud of our director, Steve Sutherland.

Steve came to us only a few short years ago as part of a very scared high school quartet. Since then he has gone through Eastern Michigan University where he studied music. Presently, he is practice teaching in the Plymouth school system. As assistant director for the past two years he served mostly as warmup director with only a very few public appearances. Then last summer he became associate director along with Dave "Doc" Caldwell. After our March show Steve was pushed into the role of full director while Dave, through choice, became our voice coach.

We all feel a close relationship with Steve, since he came up through the ranks with us. We make mistakes together and try to correct them together.

While plaudits are being sounded, we mustn't forget Dr. Jerry Smith who followed us to Indianapolis last year and was thus in an excellent position to point out the big flaws in our singing techniques. During the winter he gave us a series of lectures in voice development.

Congratulations to the Vagabonds, the Northern Hi-Lites (one-fourth ours), and the Classmates who will represent the Pioneer District in San Francisco.

A word might be said, also, about the fifth place quartet, the Final Edition. With the tenor down with a virus and the lead suffering from a throat infection, they decided only Wednesday night to enter competition with practically no rehearsal. Under these circumstances we think they did very well.

The Wonderland Chorus and the entire Wayne Chapter would like to thank, most sincerely, all the many well-wishers who visited our hospitality room and to express deep appreciation to the continuous flow of quartets which kept our place hopping until 3 a.m.

The much touted quartet contest between Wayne and Grosse Pointe wound up with Wayne getting the trophy. We're pretty sure those guys cheated just a little bit, too. Otherwise, how come we only won by a measly six points? We don't come right out and say they tried to bribe the judges (the Patch Chords), but we had to raise our offer to four beer tickets and a collection of Wilkie buttons.

Our next target is Detroit on May 14.

The Wonderland Chorus recently sang for the patients at the Hendrie Nursing Home in Plymouth. The audience was small, but very appreciative.

On May 11 the Wonderland Chorus met with the Livonia Bentley High School Choir and Glee Clubs in the fourth annual Battle of the Choruses.

This group, under Dr. Jerry Smith, could make most professional choral ensembles sound like amateurs. We always listen with somewhat hypnotic attention when they perform. And you'll never find a more enthusiastic audience while we are singing. The high point of the evening was the appearance of the Northern Hi-Lites. The kids roared their approval by bringing them back for two encores and a standing ovation.

Next week (too late for copy deadline) Wayne Wonderland Chorus will open the International Send-Off Show on Friday evening, and on Saturday we will give a repeat performance of our March show, "What A Country", under the auspices of the Northville Rotary Club at Northville High School.

Since mailing in the June copy, I received the April issue of the Troubadour and find that the deadline for copy has been extended to the 25th instead of the 15th, so it pleases me no end to add this little postscript informing those of you who have been waiting with baited breath (?) that Wayne won the 1976 annual quartet contest with Detroit — and on their home ground, too. Wayne Hosted the affair, but at Detroit's meeting hall. The contest was MC'd by Al Fricker and very ably judged by the International-bound Classmates.

Have a good Summer.

—Morrie Giles



## CHAPTER NOTES

### DEADLINE for CHAPTER NOTES

Chapter correspondents are requested to have all chapter news in the mail in time to reach the Troubadour no later than the 25th of the month prior to the month of publication. If you have a problem with late-breaking news of sufficient importance to warrant special consideration, please call the editor. If we have not gone to press we will accommodate you.

### Gratiot County

I think it's about time Gratiot County let Pioneer know that we're still plugging away. Last time I wrote was last fall.

We have another contest under our belt, and after getting over the initial shock of being last place, we have our spirit back and are more determined than ever to go right back again and score higher. The next time you see us, watch out!

We are proud that we showed 31 fellows on stage. We have a numerous amount of activities coming up this year, but most important is the show on September 25th. We've been having great shows, even turning people away at the door because we have a full house, and this year will be better yet. One good reason is because the Dealer's Choice will be our star quartet.

So don't forget the Gratiot County Midstatesmen and our 30th annual show, September 25th at Alma High School. And next competition, we'll be there. —Ron Chaffee

Gratiot County is still in there pitching. Many performances, growing membership, enthusiastic members and directors all add up to one mighty fine chapter.

Performances lately included a Masonic Lodge banquet, Wickes Lumber Company open house, and a Mother-Daughter banquet.

We've been to Lansing for the competition, placed last, but somebody has to. We're going to try and see that it doesn't happen next time. Where was your chapter if you weren't there?

Saturday we're holding a White Elephant yard sale with an eye towards new uniforms. Two weeks from now we'll be in the Alma Highland Festival Parade with at least 30 men on the float. July shows a family week end campout with at least 20 families and August shows a performance on St. Joe Island, where at least 25 fellows, many with families, will fish all day and sing half the night.

Hats off to the new Barbershoppers, Gary Chapin, Ken Best, Max Shaw, Jim Robar. May you sing forever.

We also enjoyed and appreciated a work session with Mac Huff, with Lansing Chapter coming to partake.

Our hearts go out to a brother, Bill Derby, whose son died recently after crashing into a horse and tree on a dark night.

—Grant Colthorp

*Ron and Grant must have been determined to get Gratiot County in the Chapter Notes this month, since we received these two reports within a day or two of each other. Good to see that kind of interest.—Ed*

### Milford

The Milford Chapter, though busy as most, has not been heard from for a while. Former scribe Don Sheridan is now president of the chapter, and also keeps some long hours in the pharmacy, so we hope we can get a new man to take over this duty.

For this month, however, the Troub editor will try to bring you up to date.

On Saturday, May 8, the chapter closed out the season with another fantastic Milford Ladies Night with the Harmony Hounds, the Patch Chords and the Memory Laners joining the chorus to make it an unforgettable evening of fun and harmony.

The packed house was stunned by the announcement that Lowell Wolfe and Roger Lewis will be leaving the Hounds shortly. However, Larry Swan assured us that the quartet is not disbanding and will be ready to go again with an eye toward competition as well as their great comedy routine.

We wish Lowell and Rog the very best and express our thanks for many happy hours of entertainment.

The Patch Chords, fresh off their Bush League win, gave a solid demonstration of the singing that helped them cop the brass gaboon at Boyne and found themselves very much in favor with the full house at the Legion Hall. These guys continue to improve with each performance and we can expect great things of them in the future.

Of course, the Memory Laners from the Wayne and Milford Chapters added another fine dimension to the show. Chapter members are still trying to perform some corrective surgery on Marty's jokes, but the patient seems hopeless.

One of the best things that has happened to the Chapter lately is the return to print of the Milford Chapter News, capably edited by workhorse Ernie Marlow. Ernie manages to keep it interesting and newsy, and that's what a chapter bulletin should be.

The Huron Valley Chorus was unable to muster a positive commitment from enough members to make the Spring competition, much to the regret of the chorus and our director, Marty Zurn. We still seem to have problems with work schedules and the conflicts they bring to all of us who love to sing. Here's hoping this can be remedied in time for the big one at Dearborn this fall.

Chapter members have a great love for performing at nursing and convalescent homes. We all realize a great sense of satisfaction when we know we have brightened the day for these people in an otherwise dreary world. Recently we performed at Hickory Haven in Highland, Beverly Manor in Novi, and for Past Master's Night at the Brighton Masonic Lodge. The reception was great in all three instances, and we are ready for our next booking.

The Main Street Improvement Association, a chapter quartet, recently traveled to Battle Creek to entertain at the Veteran's Hospital. Bob Moll, Joe Mikulec, Don Sheridan and Skip Book spent the day there singing and entertaining the patients and returned home elated with the reception given them by the veterans. Hats off to these four guys who had to rearrange some scheduling to keep the date in Battle Creek.

There has been a certain aura of aloofness around the chapter since the Woodshedding contest at Pontiac. We can lay the blame on Dick Guerin's doorstep, since he's the one

who spouted off in the Pontiac Pow-Wow about Milford not having shown its face at the Woodshed for a while. That brought out Bob Moll and Milt Ericson, among others, and those two joined Raleigh Hallman and Paul Morgan to take the marbles. That's where our troubles all started. Those badges attesting to Bob being the world's greatest bass and Milte the supreme tenor have made it necessary to get an appointment to speak to them!

Milford meets each Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. in Muir Junior High School in Milford. If you are in the area, join us for an evening of song and fellowship. —Roger O. Morris

## Detroit

California here we come!

The Motor City Chorus is on its way. After all the week of practising, polishing, working on stage presence and being harrangued by Bob Whitlege, the chorus is "chompin' at the bit" to get on stage in San Francisco. We hope to do better this year than any other Pioneer District Chorus Representative has ever done.

Of course, not all of our time has been spent preparing for International (it just seems that way). We have taken time out to sing on the Send-Off Show and our own "Bach-to-Barbershop" concert, in addition to making plans and selling tickets for our annual Bob-Lo Moonlight Cruise.

We owe a special word of thanks to the Zone I Chapters for the financial support generated by the Send-Off Show and especially to OAKLAND COUNTY and WAYNE who provided additional contributions for our travel fund.

We also wish to thank Emil Raab and his fine Bowling Green University Symphony Orchestra for for the super job in "Bach-to-Barbershop". They add a new dimension to Barbershop shows, presenting a program that is a showcase of talent and versatility.

Also, our thanks goes to the quartets who participated in the show, the Warren G. Harding Memorial Four, the Vagabonds and the Gentlemen's Agreeemnt. Many in the audience who had never been to a Barbershop show before commented on how well the quartets and chorus sang, and promised to return again. I guess we can't ask for anything more. And let's not forget the Classmates!

Hugh Ingraham, SPEBSQSA's director of communication, added a special touch of "class" to the show, and for that we are most appreciative. All who participated in the combined chorus-symphony music commented about "hairs standing on end." It was a unique please and thrill to be a part of such a rare and exciting event.

We'd like to remind all our Pioneer District friends of the Bob-Lo Moonlight Cruise we are sponsoring on July 16. Dancing will be available as well as continuous Barbershop entertainment, possibly on two levels of the boat. Tickets are \$5 per person and can be obtained by sending your ticket request with the appropriate amount of money to Art Schultze, 13303 Longview, Detroit, Mich. 48213.

—Chuck Simmons

### Wayne president has new phone number

Wayne Chapter secretary Barry Wallace informs us that Wayne Chapter President George Fitzgerald has had his phone number changed to 464-6636.

## Joint show was success for Jackson and Logopedics

The Jackson Chapter joined the local Rotary Club on May 14 to sponso a benefit show for Logopedics and the Crippled Children's Society of Jackson, and each of the organizations came out a real winner.

While Logopedics and the Crippled Children's Society reaped the benefits, the paying customers received their fair share for the evening from Grandma's Boys, Illinois District's great crowd pleasers, and Battle Creek's Harmony Hounds..

The show received excellent PR coverage with free radio spots, two stories with pictures and five donations of billboards featuring the posters from International.

Grandma's Boys found themselves in the unique position of singing for their supper following the show. The quartet did not have the opportunity to dine before going on stage, so Dan LaBumard and his son, Chad, took them to the nearest eaterie 8 McDonald's. Store managers Dennis Wells and Steve Wuckert recognized the green suits worn by the Barbershoppers and made them a challenging offer.

After a few minutes of woodshedding, Grandma's Boys deserved a break that day as they received a free meal following their rendition of the well-known commercial.

Chapters interested in a similar adventure for Logopedics can gain a lot of knowledge by contacting Big Dan for particulars. He never seems to run short of ideas to promote Barbershop and our favorite service project.

## Saginaw-Bay

We are just getting our feet back on the ground and starting to work again after being in the clouds over our Silver Division win at the April contest. We took fifth in overall competition. We are also elated over The Classmates' championship performance.

Our chapter has scheduled three jobs this summer to date which are as follows: Wenonah Benefit in Bay City, June 13; Bay County Fair, July 12; Delta College Summer Festival, July 13.

Plans are also being firmed up for our Fall show which will be held October 16 in Bay City. This week we selected our Fall contest songs and will begin work on them in the near future. —Don Miller

### WANTED A JAM-UP CHORUS DIRECTOR FOR A JAM-UP CHAPTER!

We are losing a humdinger and are looking for the guy who can develop our potential and make us a real competitor. You name it, we've got it in Birmingham — a great chapter with some of the world's finest people, good singers, strong administration. We'll work — but we have a lot of fun, too. If you're interested in working hard, having fun, and enjoying the satisfaction of doing well, contact Neil R. Bruce, 116 Stoneview Road, Birmingham, Alabama 35210, with a little of your background and aspirations. We'd like to talk to you. We can help the right man get relocated. Our need is immediate, so let us hear from you!

## Notes from the MusEd Director



W. D. "Bill" Butler, Director Music Education

33748 Pawnee Drive

Phones: Res. (313) 721-4747

Westland, Michigan 48185

Bus. (313) 383-3450

Hi Guys! Five weeks from now, be the good Lord willing and the creek don't rise, a lot of us will be in San Francisco, including me.

It doesn't seem possible that time flies that fast but here we go.

While in Lansing at our District Convention in April, just listening around Headquarters Hotel, I heard the following dialogue at least forty to fifty times (maybe you will recognize them):

Four guys are standing around talking, telling jokes, and renewing old acquaintances, etc., when all of a sudden, one of them realizes, "Hey, we've got four parts here, why don't we sing one?"

"Hey, why not? What'll we sing?"

"I don't know."

"I don't know either, what songs do ya know?"

"It's up to the lead. All I know are chorus numbers."

"How about 'Carolina in the Morning'?"

"No, I don't know that one."

I'm sure we have all experienced the above on several occasions. Well fellows, that shouldn't happen. If every member of the Society would take time and learn the (here it comes) Barberpole Cat songs, then you would always know at least sixteen songs and could sing to your hearts content, anytime or place four Barbershoppers get together.

These Barberpole Cat songs are, for the most part, simple arrangements to learn and sing. The only reason you haven't learned them is laziness, or lack of effort on your part.

**ATTENTION CHORUS DIRECTORS:** You will help all of your chapter members get their kicks if you will spend just twenty minutes a week on the Barberpole Cat songs, and add to your chorus repertoire for performances. It will also assist in Quartet development and activity, woodshedding, and overall participation. Why don't we make this another goal?

Every District member can be qualified and wearing their Barberpole Cat lapel pin by the Spring Convention, 1977. I'll guarantee you'll have more fun singing than you've ever had before. Everybody do it, OK?

On previous occasions I have asked that every chapter place me on their mailing list for their chapter publication, and so far only a few have done so. Please guys, I'd appreciate receiving your chapter blurbs. Also, don't forget the Music Ed. Committee is always open to suggestions, so don't be bashful.

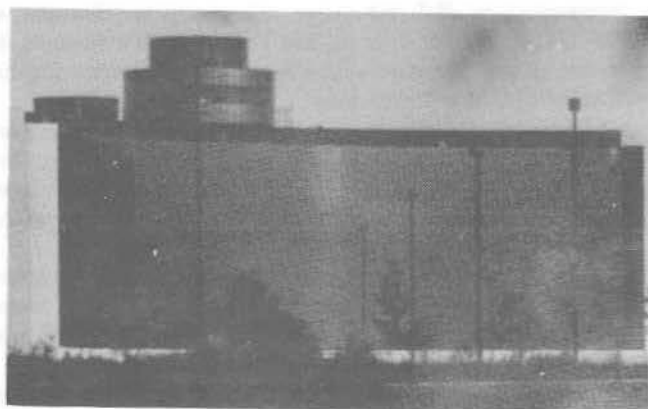
The Music Education Committee at this time, in addition to W. D. "Bill" Butler, Director of Music Education, is Merle Clayton, 77 Eldredge St., Battle Creek, Mi. 49017; 616/963-6628. Dan LaBumbard, 1113 Greenwood Ave., Jackson, Mi. 49203; 517/787-2347. Glen Van Tassell, 15591 Horger, Allen Park, Mi. 48101; 313/381-8839.

## The Grosse Pointe Chapter

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Visit nearby Greenfield Village, dine in the Regency Ballroom Saturday night (reservations only), join the massed chorus in song at the Hyatt and Fairlane Shopping Center, ride the people-mover to the center for some great shopping. Free parking from Friday afternoon until Sunday afternoon. You will never stay at the Hyatt Regency for less. Other motels and camp sites will be listed in future information to be sent to each member before October. This will be the greatest convention in Pioneer history. You won't want to miss the fun!

#### **ROOMS AT THE HYATT:**

Single \$29.00                      Double \$34.00  
Hospitality Suites    Approximately \$75

#### **REGISTRATION:**

All Events \$9.00  
Before September 10 \$8.00  
Individual:  
Prelims \$4.00  
Chorus \$4.00  
Finals \$4.00

DON ADAMS  
Convention Chairman  
15704 Ego Blvd.  
East Detroit 48021

# Down Our Way

with the Editor



We will try to keep it short this month to save some space for more important things.

It seems most of the Troubadour is taken up by announcing or reporting conventions, information that the large bulk of our membership is aware of without our prattle. However, there are always those who have not been filled in on the details, and to them this is the main source of information.

Hats off to those wonderful chapters who were presented those beautiful plaques for their Logopedics contributions, and to Co-editor Merle Clayton and Hal Bauer, Pioneer's newest members of the Hall of Fame.

We are running some pretty heavy, and expensive, issues, which we would like to cut down, where possible. We miss some things that should be printed. One thing that we were asked to remind the membership is that, even though you may have missed the chance to pre-register for a convention at the discount rate, it still saves a lot of time if you will send in your registration anyhow and eliminate a long wait at the registration counter at convention time. This applies to every convention.

The House of Delegates meeting is one of the most important functions of the convention. At this year's delegate meeting there was a \$2 district dues increase voted upon and passed. The vote was not unanimous, and actually the discussion did not consume as much time as might have been expected for such an important matter.

There was much apprehension throughout the week end at Lansing among those present concerning this increase. It weighed heavily on the shoulders of officers and delegates alike, but when the question was called for talk was at a minimum and the vote was convincing.

The increase is needed by the district to keep the budget in balance. We regret that the Troub consumes as much money as it does, but we realize that it could consume a lot more if we did not take advantage of some of the facilities and methods available to us.

Some of this expense will be cut down when we finish billing for the ads that have been printed. The enormous amount of time spent in covering district and Society events and the mechanics of publication leaves us little time to take care of the business matters. The Troub could use a good business manager, that's for sure. Any volunteers?

Now it's off to San Francisco for the editor, his wife, and a great Pioneer delegation. No — the district will not be paying that expense! That's our pleasure and a wonderful working vacation for us each year.

Our hopes are high for some even greater news in the August issue. Good luck to Pioneer's finest, and go get 'em!



To the Editor:

As a Society which is both devoted to "vocal harmony and good fellowship" and at the same time is "charitable and educational" in nature, it concerns me to hear continued discussion and support for the elimination or reduction of our 25 man requirement for charter continuance. How many "hats" can one man wear before some of them begin to fall off, become soiled and loose shape, and detract from his appearance and that of his group?

It seems clear, according to our current structure, that a viable CHAPTER (versus a chorus or quartet) requires numerous administrative and musical positions to attain its goals and fulfill its purposes. Currently, there are 13 required officer of committee responsibilities. Add to these the jobs which are inherent in the development and maintenance of a strong music program (director, assistants, chorus member, quartet member, etc., etc.) and it becomes obvious that the larger a group the less hats one man must wear. Consequently, he should be able to more fully enjoy his affiliation.

Those in favor of reducing the number of men necessary to maintain a chapter's charter argue that we can attain the Society's goal as long as there are enough members to sing in a quartet. Although this may have once been the case, I would disagree in today's society, pointing out that our goal of perpetuating Barbershop Quartet Harmony requires the freedom and monies made possible through our tax exempt status and the stature gained through our charitable service. Such a classification as "educational and charitable" requires the administrative structure and manpower to implement the duties accompanying this status.

It would appear that a disservice would be done to our Society and brothers of harmony if we continue to support less than adequate membership — expecting everyone to wear numerous hats or permitting some to be hung on the rack gathering dust when in fact they are necessary to complement the Society, District and Chapter's appearance. It should be recognized that men, as women, are governed by a nature which affects style of dress. Let's keep a variety of hats in our Society's "Haberdashery" and invite enough men in to permit personal choice while upholding our excellence of grooming. Even "big heads" have limitations as to how many sombreros they can wear at once.

Ron Neff

Niles-Buchanan Chapter

To the Editor:

With reference to the Detroit Moonlight and the Traverse City Show (article mentioned in your column, current issue in the Troub, page 23, the third paragraph from bottom of page, lower right:

Hope you can make the Detroit Moonlight this year. The Traverse City show is on June 19th, the Detroit Moonlight is on July 16th (the date of the Moonlight as it appears in the Troub was reported wrong, which is not your fault).

To confirm the date of the Detroit Moonlight, enclosed find (2) tickets, as guests of the Detroit Chapter.

See you Aboard.

Arthur H. Schulze, sr.

General chairman, Detroit Moonlight





Send requests for  
Parade Clearance to:  
John McClinchey  
606 Woodcrest  
Royal Oak, Michigan 48067

# Coming Events

—1976—

- JUNE—**  
4 "Bach to Barbershop"—Detroit  
19 Traverse City
- JULY—**  
5-10 International Convention, San Francisco  
24 Les Cheneaux  
31 Au Sable Valley
- SEPTEMBER—**  
11 Logopedics Spectacular, Battle Creek  
25 Gratiot County
- OCTOBER—**  
8-10 District Convention, Grosse Pointe  
23 Jackson  
30 Fruitbelt
- NOVEMBER—**  
6 Detroit

—1977—

- FEBRUARY—**  
5 Pontiac  
12 Lansing
- APRIL—**  
15 Kalamazoo  
16 Great Lakes Invitational, Grand Rapids
- MAY—**  
Bush League Contest, Boyne City
- NOVEMBER—**  
5 Detroit

—1978—

- APRIL—**  
1 Great Lakes Invitational, Grand Rapids
- MAY—**  
6 Bush League Contest, Boyne City

—1979—

- MARCH—**  
24 Great Lakes Invitational, Grand Rapids
- MAY—**  
5 Bush League Contest, Boyne City

—1980—

- MAY—**  
3 Bush League Contest, Boyne City

For the record, those chapters having ASCAP clearances through the secretary for the month of May 1976 were Boyne City and Kalamazoo, May 1; Grosse Pointe and Milford May 8; Jackson May 14; Holland May 14 and 15; Alpena May 15; and the Zone I International Send-Off in Warren May 21. All District units are cautioned that an ASCAP license is mandatory when performing before a paying audience.

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**The Dealer's Choice**  
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