



THE VAGABONDS SERENADE MARGARET McTAGGART, WIFE OF OUR PIONEER DISTRICT PRESIDENT



JULY 3-8, 1978

FEBRUARY 1978

pioneer

TROUBADOUR





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

While I do not yet have the final figures from International in regard to Logopedics contributions in 1977 from chapters and quartets in the Pioneer District, I feel that I am fairly safe in indicating that the following chapters earned the Harmony Foundation Award for 1977: Battle Creek, Detroit #1, Grand Rapids, Grosse Pointe, Holland, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Oakland County, Saginaw, St. Joseph Valley, and Wayne.

Congratulations to Holly-Fenton for contributing \$227 to Logopedics in the process of dissolving their chapter funds. We are sorry to see Holly-Fenton lose its identity as a chapter.

The Harmony Foundation awards will be presented at the Saturday night quartet finals in Lansing in April. Be sure your chapter has a representative there to receive the award.

Several chapters came up with sizeable contributions, in the month of December, which qualified them for the award. The District will not reach the \$12,000 I was projecting for the year but it will come in at about \$10,000. This is great but it doesn't help my nerves any for chapters to wait until the last minute to send in their contributions.

Nine chapters won the Harmony Foundation Award in

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.

1976. At least 12 chapters will win it for 1977. Despite the fact that we didn't reach the \$12,000 projected, we still had a good year! Congratulations to the chapters listed. How about making it 15 chapters in 1978?

The following quartets contributed to Logopedics in 1977: The Brightline Express, Danny's Boys, The Drop Chords, The Flint Tones, The Golden Oldies, The Pitchblenders, The Registered Males, The Major Event and The Vagabonds.

Congratulations to these quartets for their contributions to Logopedics. I know quartet members contribute to Logopedics indirectly, through their chapter contributions, but it is very appropriate for them to be recognized for contributions as a quartet.

We need a suggestion and an offer of a gift for the drawing to be held at the Logopedics breakfast at International this summer. The Grand Rapids Chapter arranged for the contribution of a Gibson refrigerator-freezer last year, which is a product of Michigan. How about an offer of a product from another chapter in the District this year?

There will be a meeting for Logopedics chapter chairmen at the Spring contest in Lansing. It will probably be held at

the same time as the House of Delegates meeting on Saturday morning. More information will be forthcoming. If your chapter has not yet appointed a Logopedics chairman, please do so and report the man's name to me. Every chapter in the District should have a chairman.



Coming Events

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

—1978—

MARCH 3-4—Wayne Pitchpipe Parade
APRIL 1—Great Lakes Invitational, Grand Rapids
APRIL 8—Gratiot County Show
APRIL 8—Milford Chapter Show
APRIL 14—Kalamazoo Chapter Show
APRIL 15—St. Joseph Valley Chapter Show
APRIL 22-23—SPRING CONVENTION, Lansing
MAY 6—Niles-Buchanan Chapter Show
MAY 13—Boyer City Bush League
JULY 3-8—INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION, Cincinnati, Ohio
JULY 29—Au Sable Valley Show
SEPTEMBER 30—Gratiot County

All Chapters should request clearance for their shows well prior to their show dates in order to protect their ASCAP license and to be published in this column.

Pioneer TROUBADOUR

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

Pioneer District Officers

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
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| Executive Vice President | Dan LaBumard |
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| Division III Vice President | Fran Jones |
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October and December

Mail all Troubadour Correspondence to Box 49, Highland, Michigan 48031. Personal correspondence may be sent to the Editor at above address.

Members should report changes of address directly to Society headquarters at Kenosha, Wisconsin to avoid unnecessary delay in delivery and to avoid the expense to the District incurred by returned postage.

Lansing prepares for Spring convention; contest site moved to Sexton High School

Convention Chairman Don Funk and his committee are busy in Lansing preparing to host another great Spring Convention beginning April 21.

The Lansing Board of Education has notified Don that Lansing Eastern High School's auditorium will not be available this year. However, the auditorium at Lansing Sexton is available for our use, and Don says it is a bit more "posh" and has a slightly larger seating capacity.

So, with these details out of the way, it is time for quartets, choruses, and Barbershoppers to get those early registrations in and also those room reservations. If the Fall contests in Kalamazoo are any indication, Pioneer music activities are definitely on the upswing, and Lansing could see one of the largest contests this district has seen in many years.

That can be an omen of greater things to come for all of us. With more quartets and more choruses entered in the competition, it only stands to reason that all of us will reap the benefits of such competition through greater singing ability.

Headquarters for this Spring's convention will be the Holiday Inn South, just off the Cedar Street exit of I-96 on Pennsylvania Avenue. That's close to the Ramada, where we were headquartered at our last convention in Lansing. There is also a Howard Johnson motel at the same exit. See the convention ad in this issue for more information and for registration forms.

While headquarters are at the Holiday Inn, it is important to remember that the registration desk is in nearby Ramada Inn.

Quartet Preliminaries begin at 9 p.m. Friday, the chorus contest is set for 1:30 p.m. Saturday, and quartet finals will begin at 8 p.m. Saturday.

The District Board will meet at the Holiday at 2 p.m. Friday and the House of Delegates convenes at 9 a.m. Saturday at the same location.

Other important dates and times for various events are: 7:30 p.m. Friday, Judges Clinic; 9 a.m. Saturday, quartet preliminary elimination critique; 11 a.m. chorus directors briefing; and Sunday, 9 a.m. quartet finalists critique. All the foregoing are scheduled for the Holiday Inn.

Pre-registration forms have been sent out to all chapters, enabling them to register in mass. All pre-registrations should be mailed so they can be received prior to April 20. They should be addressed to Ms. Pinky Hanson, 1034 Kimberly Drive, Apt. 7, Lansing, Michigan 48912. Be sure to include your registration fees.

Room rates at the Holiday Inn are \$21 single, \$26 double, and \$5 for each additional person. At the Ramada and Howard Johnson Motor Lodge they are \$19 single, \$25 double, and \$5 for each additional person. Please send your requests directly to the motel of your choice. Use the form on page 4, and remember that such requests are for 2 nights, April 21 and 22, and they guarantee arrival. "No Shows" will be billed. If you are unable to make both nights, it might be wise to check other Lansing area facilities.

While there are adequate dining facilities and enough parking in the area of the motels, one thing there is a short-

age of is hospitality room facilities. So if your chapter plans to have a hospitality room at Lansing, it is advisable to get your requests in as early as possible, since they will be handled on a first come, first served basis. Grand Rapids Chapter had a swinging afterglow in the halls of one motel at Lansing, which, fortunately, was off in a wing where most of that chapter was quartered.

Pre-registration can save you \$2 per person over the standard rate, if you get your money and request in before April 20. A check to Lansing Chapter for \$8 will get you an all-events badge. After April 20 the rate goes to \$10. Single event tickets are \$4 per person.

Lansing Sexton High School is located at 102 McPherson. Be sure to pick up a map at the registration desk if you don't know how to get there. In the meantime, let's all get with those rehearsals and help our quartets and choruses get ready for a super week end in Lansing in April!

If you need further assistance, contact Don Funk at 1451 Harvard Rd., East Lansing, Mich. 48823. Don's home phone is 517/332-2160, and his office phone is 517/393-3447.

Get your entries in now for Bulletin Ed's contest

Chapter bulletin editors who want to get in on the annual Bulletin Editor's contest should get their entries in as soon as possible. As usual, we seem to be running late on this matter, but there is still time to get the judging done on the district level so that we may select two entries for the International contest. Deadline is March 6.

Chapters publishing monthly bulletins will need at least eight copies each of three consecutive issues from the 1977 publication year. Those publishing weekly bulletins will need to send bulletins from four editions, eight copies each.

Requirements limit the contest to those bulletin editors who have published at least ten issues in the contest year. If your chapter changed editors during the year, you will have to set this one out. However, chapters having co-editors, where the responsibility is shared through the year, are still eligible. Just be sure the copies you select are all from the 1977 year.

Please forward your bulletins to R. J. "Rusty" Ruegsegger, 2185 Princeton, Berkley, Mi. 48072.

While Rusty will be coordinating this effort for the district, as one of the contributing participants, he will not be doing the judging. As a member of the District PROBE committee, he has accepted the responsibility of handling the contest this year.

If your chapter is not publishing a bulletin, you are short-changing your members by lack of communication. Why not get with it and get started on the right track. And while you are at it, be sure to include the Troub editor on your mailing list. We don't get many of our own district bulletins, for some reason, and we hope all of our chapters will put us on their mailing list.

Lansing Chapter

WELCOMES YOU

to the

1978 PIONEER SPRING CONVENTION



April 21-22-23, 1978

in LANSING, MICHIGAN

Contests at Lansing Sexton High School

102 McPHERSON — Pick up map at Registration Desk

HEADQUARTERS: HOLIDAY INN — Cedar Street exit-I-96

Registration Desk is at the Ramada Inn

Area Motel Accommodations

RAMADA INN
1000 Ramada Drive
517/393-5500
S. Pennsylvania at I-96

HOLIDAY INN South—Hq.
6501 S. Pennsylvania
517/393-1650
I-96 at Interchange

HOWARD JOHNSONS MOTOR LODGE
6741 S. Cedar
517/694-0454
At I-96 Interchange

Ample Dining Nearby — Ample Free Parking

Pre-Registration \$8.00
All-Events after April 20 \$10.00
Individual Events \$4.00

For Pre-registration, mail requests prior to April 20 to:
Ms. Pinky Hanson, 1034 Kimberly Dr., Apt. 7
Lansing, Michigan 48912

Reservation Form

Check or Money Order payable to Lansing Chapter must accompany application for Convention Registration

Please reserve _____ tickets at \$8.00 each at Lansing Sexton Auditorium for:

1. _____
2. Names _____
3. _____
4. _____

Contact: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Return this form to above address

ROOM RESERVATION REQUEST

Please get your room requests in as early as possible. Requests are for 2 nights, April 21 and 22, only. "No Shows" will be billed. Mail directly to motel of your choice

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Phone _____ Area Code _____

Arrival Date _____ Time _____ Departure Date _____

Number of Accommodations Necessary: _____

Single _____ Double _____

Hospitality Rooms _____ Limited number available

OVERNIGHT ROOMS MUST BE GUARANTEED

Hospitality Rooms Available are Limited—Remember the Halls?

Society plans 4-Star membership award

A special "4-Star" chapter and member award program is being launched by the Society in connection with the celebration of our 40th anniversary year.

Designed to bring our membership total to 40,000 during 1978, the 4-Star program will recognize both chapters and members who bring in four members during the first quarter of 1978. The awards are specially designed plaques, which will go to chapters who recruit four new members (above their December 31, 1977 total by March 31, 1978).

That means only four new members during the first quarter can win your chapter this award. If these men are reported to the International Office by April 4, 1978, your chapter will be the recipient of a handsome plaque which will reach you in time for presentation during Harmony Week in April.

Individual members recruiting four men will be awarded a personalized 4-star plaque, in addition to the regular Man-of-Note-awards. The member will receive this plaque by bringing in four men at any time during the entire year, but if both the chapter and the individual member obtains four new members by March 31, both will receive plaques.

Other great programs are being planned to celebrate our 40th anniversary. The January Harmonizer carried a complete run-down on all the plans for this event.

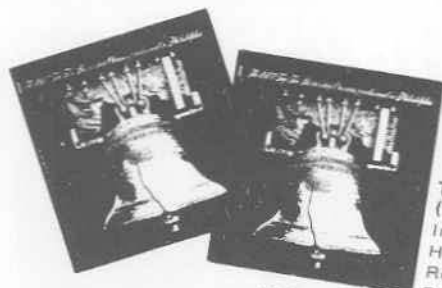
**Want to reach
5,000 Barbershop
Fans at a
minimum cost?**

**Did you know that
a full page ad
in the
Pioneer
Troubadour
can carry details
of your next
Chapter Show
for as little as \$50!**



**And we do the mailing
for you!**

Our Latest & Greatest.



1977's Top 10 Quartets
Most Happy Fellows
139th Street Quartet
Vagabonds
Boston Common
Roaring 20's
Blue Grass Student Union
Grandma's Boys
Nova Chords
Rural Route Four
Friends of Yesterday

Stock No. 4829...\$5.50...LP
4830...\$7.50...8-Tr.
4831...\$7.50...Cass.

1977's Top Five Choruses
Dukes of Harmony
Thoroughbreds
Sun Harbor
Southern Gateway
Dapper Dams of Harmony

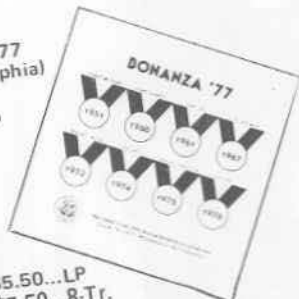
Stock No. 4832...\$5.50...LP
4833...\$7.50...8-Tr.
4834...\$7.50...Cass.



The Best of Barbershop (1964-1976)-13 Champs
Insiders
Happiness Emporium
Regents
Dealer's Choice
Golden Staters
Gentlemen's Agreement
Oriole Four
Mark IV
Western Continentals
Four Statesmen
Auto Towners
Four Renegades
Sidewinders
Stock No. 4961...\$5.50...LP
4938...\$7.50...8-Tr.
4939...\$7.50...Cass.

Barbershop Bonanza '77 (Recorded at Philadelphia)
Insiders
Happiness Emporium
Dealer's Choice
Regents
Four Statesmen
Suntones
Evans Quartet
Schmitt Brothers

Stock No. 4923...\$5.50...LP
4924...\$7.50...8-Tr.
4925...\$7.50...Cass.



BARBERSHOPPER'S SHOP

**NO SHIPPING
AND HANDLING**



SPEBSQSA Recordings Order Form

Name _____ Date _____

Street _____

City _____ State/Prov. _____

ZIP/P. Code _____

**SHIP ME THE FOLLOWING RECORDINGS,
AS INDICATED BY MY CHECK MARKS.**

| | | | | |
|--------------|------------|-----------------|------------------|----------|
| '77 Quartets | ___ LP ___ | ___ 8-Track ___ | ___ Cassette ___ | \$ _____ |
| | 4829 | 4830 | 4831 | \$ _____ |
| '77 Choruses | ___ LP ___ | ___ 8-Track ___ | ___ Cassette ___ | \$ _____ |
| | 4832 | 4833 | 4834 | \$ _____ |
| '77 Bonanza | ___ LP ___ | ___ 8-Track ___ | ___ Cassette ___ | \$ _____ |
| | 4923 | 4924 | 4925 | \$ _____ |

Best of Barbershop - 38 Years (3 Album Set)
(1938-1976) ___ LP ___ \$ _____
4960

Best of Barbershop - 13 Years
(1964-1976) ___ LP ___ 8-Track ___ Cassette ___ \$ _____
4961 4938 4939
Total \$ _____

Mail to: SPEBSQSA, Dept. T
P.O. Box 575
Kenosha, WI 53141

SPEBSQSA Members Only:
Membership No. _____ Chpt. No. _____



Clinton Valley holds 3rd annual show



BILL WICKSTROM
and LARRY SWAN



STAN SALTER and THE CLINTON VALLEY CHORUS

The Clinton Valley Chapter featured the Vagabonds, the Harmony Haounds, and the Bass-ically Four at their third annual show in December. Bill Wickstrom was master of ceremonies for the evening, and Stan Salter's Clinton Valley Chorus treated the crowd at Utica High School to a fine show, with cameo performances by two Chapter quartets being spotlighted. Here are some scenes from the show.



HARMONY HOUNDS



BI-VOCALS



THE VAGABONDS



BASS-ICALLY FOUR



JOHN'S JOTTINGS

JOHN T. GILLESPIE
International Board Member

With 1977 having drawn to a close, so has my term of office as President of Pioneer District. For the most part, it was a fantastic two years. Betty and I will always be grateful for the opportunity we had to travel throughout our District and meet so many great people, friendships that we will always cherish.

Sure there are disappointments. Failure to achieve our Membership Goal is the major one. But some great things happened, too. Under the fine direction of D.M.E. Bill Butler, we have seen our musical activities increase as never before. (When is the last time you recall seventeen choruses and eighteen quartets in competition, as occurred in Kalamazoo last October?)

District President Doran McTaggart has announced reversing the trend of declining membership as his major goal. I urge each and every member of our fine District to assist Doran in accomplishing this objective. It's our Society, guys; and each of us is charged with the responsibility of Preserving and Encouraging.

Again, thanks for the privilege of serving as your District President. My promise to you is to do the best job I can in serving as the Pioneer District member of our Society's International Board.

Former Society President O. H. "King" Cole is dead

O. H. "King" Cole, past International president, died January 7 in Palm Springs, California. King was the Society's eighth International president and served two terms, 1948-49 and 1949-50.

A native of Wisconsin, he was instrumental in the formation of the Sheboygan and Manitowoc Chapters and retained membership in both chapters, though he retired to Palm Springs several years ago. In Palm Springs he was active in the formation of the new Coachella Valley Chapter.

The Society's first expansion fund was started by King and his dream of having an International office of our own came true with the purchase of Harmony Hall in Kenosha in 1957, when our headquarters was moved from Fenkell Avenue in Detroit.

King's interest in the success of the current expansion fund was also evident. According to Executive Director Hugh Ingraham, he received a letter at least once a month from King inquiring as to the status of the drive, and to see if he could do anything to help in its success.

King's wife, Mildred, lives at 2526-C Whitewater Club Drive, Palm Springs, CA 92262, for those who wish to write her at this time. At this date, it is not known whether any memorial is being planned, but a contribution in his name to the expansion fund would be a fitting tribute.

His daughter Ginny, who sang with the unforgettable Chordettes, has informed members of the Sheboygan Chapter that contributions to Logopedics would be welcome.

Services for King were held Tuesday, January 10 in Palm Springs.

*In the Spring a Barbershopper's fancy
turns to Boyne Country*

and the

Boyne City Bush League

Saturday, May 13, 1978

BOYNE CITY, MICHIGAN

OFFICIAL ENTRY BLANK
32nd ANNUAL BUSH LEAGUE CONTEST

May 13, 1978

Boyne City, Michigan

Quartet Name _____

Contact Man _____

Tenor _____

Lead _____

Baritone _____

Bass _____

Chapter Name _____

New Quartets and those not registered with International are welcome. NO

ENTRY FEE REQUIRED

Registration time 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. May 13, 1978



Entry deadline May 13, 1978
Program deadline May 3, 1978

Return to: Karl L. Mueller
Box 1943 Leroy Street
Boyne City, MI 49712

Pioneer District HEP School scheduled for September 15-17 at Eastern Michigan University

Finally, we have arranged the Big Event of the Barbershop year for the Pioneer District in Music Education and learning how to enjoy your hobby even more.

We are talking about the gigantic Mini-HEP School (a mini Harmony College).

WHEN—September 15th thru 17th, 1978 (BE SURE TO SET THAT DATE ASIDE NOW!!) commencing at 8 p.m. Friday night the 15th, and running through noon Sunday the 17th.

WHERE—Eastern Michigan University, Hoyt Conference Center Ypsilanti, Michigan. A map will be provided in the August issue of the Troubadour.

WHO—EVERY BARBERSHOP MEMBER OF THE PIONEER DISTRICT.

COST—For two nights lodging, breakfast, lunch, and dinner Saturday, and breakfast Sunday, all registration fees, coffee breaks, your complete cost will be THIRTY DOLLARS (\$30.00). A ten (\$10) dollar deposit is required with your registration (non-refundable) and the balance of twenty (\$20) dollars upon arrival.

THIS SCHOOL IS SPECIFICALLY FOR JOE BARBERSHOPPER, and THAT MEANS EVERY BARBERSHOP MEMBER IN PIONEER DISTRICT. The name is Mini-HEP School.

The Clinic is being set up for 150 men total and will be on a first come, first served basis, **SO DON'T DELAY! DO IT NOW!** Don't be left out of this extremely important fun and learning week end.

The faculty will be headed up by the International Music staff of Bob Johnson, Joe Liles and Dave Stevens, plus many other well-known and qualified faculty members not yet confirmed for the Mini-HEP school.

Classes available to you will be as follows:

1. Beginning Chorus Directing: for all who may aspire to Chorus Directing, including Section Leaders.
2. Advanced Chorus Directing: Every Chorus Director in the District.
3. Basic Barbershop Craft.
4. Advanced Barbershop Craft.
5. Beginning Arranging.
6. Advanced Arranging.

New Baltimore Exit



1/2 mile WITTED

CONTACT: PAT YACQUES (313) 725-8401

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

7. Repertoire — Music reading.
8. Introduction to Judging: Process and requirements to be a Judge; what is judging and analysis of our contest and judging program.
9. Quartet Clinic: for quartets.
10. Quartet Coaching: An opportunity to learn the coaching game.
11. Parade and Show Production: Scripting, makeup, planning and presentation.
12. P.R.O.B.E.: A class for Public Relations Officers and Bulletin Editors.

This will be the largest and most important Harmony Education College, fun and learning event in the history of the Pioneer District, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. As a matter of fact, the finest in the history of the entire Society, with the one exception — THE International Harmony College. And you will get about the same thing in our Mini-HEP that you receive at the International Harmony College, except that you will not be able to have as many different subjects per man, and each of the classes will be condensed into sixteen hours of study.

Register now — don't be left out. If you don't make this one — you'll be sorry! See the registration form attached to the ad on the opposite page. **PLEASE MAKE ALL DEPOSITS PAYABLE TO PIONEER DISTRICT S.P.E.-B.S.Q.S.A.**

With the Quartet and Coaching Clinic scheduled for the 24-26 of February having been fully subscribed since the middle of January, we send our regrets to those of you who tried to get in but were too late. Better luck next time, guys. We're looking forward to a great Clinic this month at the MEA Conference Center in Battle Creek. We strongly urge those of you who were unable to make the quota at Battle Creek to register early for the Mini-HEP School at Ypsilanti in September.

Yours for better singing—*Bill*

W. D. 'Bill' Butler, D.M.E.
33748 Pawnee Drive
Westland, Michigan 48185
Phone 313/721-4747

Please register me for the September 15-17, 1978 Mini-HEP School to be held at the Hoyt Conference Center, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Michigan.

Enclosed is my check made payable to Pioneer District SPEBSQSA in the amount of \$10 deposit or \$30 full registration. (Check one)



Pioneer Mini-HEP School



Singing — Learning — Fun

FIRST SESSION: Friday, September 15, 1978, 8:00 P.M.
and running to noon, Sunday, September 17, 1978

— featuring —

**International Music Staff
including**

Robert D. 'Bob' Johnson

International Director of Music Education

and Assistant Directors

Mac Huff, Joe Liles and Dave Stevens

plus an Internationally Recognized Faculty

**at the Excellent Facilities of
Eastern Michigan University
Hoyt Conference Center
Ypsilanti, Michigan**

THE FIRST 150 REGISTRANTS ARE IN!

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED

**A Mere \$30 Registration includes all fees
(A Legitimate Chapter Expense)**

Minimum \$10 Deposit

Accommodations: 2 Men to a Room — 2 Nights

OFFICIAL REGISTRATION—MINI-HEP SCHOOL

My first and second choice of classes is:

1. _____

2. _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Chapter _____

IF QUARTET, LIST PERSONNEL:

Lead _____

Tenor _____

Baritone _____

Bass _____

Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Address _____

Steve Hanrahan resigns C & J post in JAD to become Dean of Science at Marshall U.

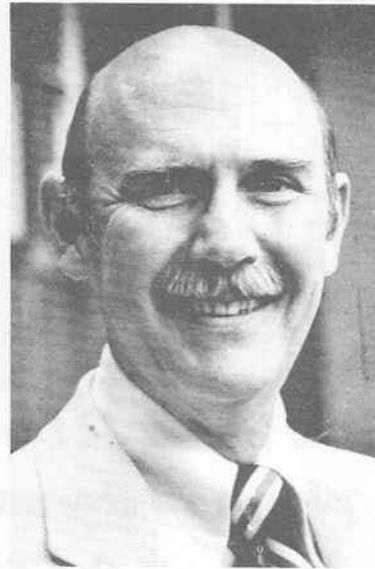
When the Troub learned through the pages of Johnny Appleseed District's fine publication, the Cider Press, that Contest and Judging Chairman Steve Hanrahan had resigned because of added duties in his work, we should have known that it must have been something big to take this busy Barbershopper away from his favorite hobby. Unfortunately, our good friend and editor of the Cider Press, Dick Stuart, didn't spell out the details.

When we received an alumni bulletin from Marshall University, our alma mater and where Steve has been a chemistry professor for several years, we learned the reason for his resignation.

First, it is now Dr. Steve Hanrahan, and he has been named as Dean of the newly created College of Science at the university, which is located in Huntington, W.Va., Steve's hometown, as well as that of the Troub editor.

Marshall, a state university, is a growing institution serving a busy tri-state area.

Pioneer members have had the benefit of Steve's expertise as an interpretation judge in our district on many occasions. He has served on numerous International panels as well. We know that his new work will consume a lot of time and, therefore we will see a bit less of him at Society functions. However, we doubt that his zeal for Barbershopping will be any the less, and we wish him continued success in his new and most important position.



DR. E. S. HANRAHAN

HARMONY WEEK '78

(April 9-14)

40th ANNIVERSARY



Pioneer District will have PROBE display booth

The Pioneer District board of directors has voted to enter a PROBE display booth in the competition at the International Convention in Cincinnati in July.

The Troub editor, as PROBE chairman for the district, has been asked to plan and prepare this display. HELP! Anybody out there in Pioneerland having ideas for this display? If so, please let us know — and soon! We have a short time to get it ready. The editor will transport the display to Cincy in his van, so that problem is accounted for. We will need help, however, in constructing a backdrop panel and perhaps two side panels. If you have some good material, including photos, slides, movies, etc., that tell the story of our chapters and district, they could be of some great benefit.

There was no competition in Philadelphia last year due to lack of space in the headquarters hotel. However, there will be room at the Netherland Hilton in the Queen City, and this is our chance to exhibit that Pioneer Pride, and hopefully, bring some honors to our District.



PIONEER TROUBADOUR

Detroit Ladies Night a pleasant experience

The snows of winter withheld their fury long enough for us to enjoy a very pleasant evening at the Wayne Community Center on a Saturday night in January when members of the Detroit #1 Chapter honored their ladies with a fine evening of food and entertainment.

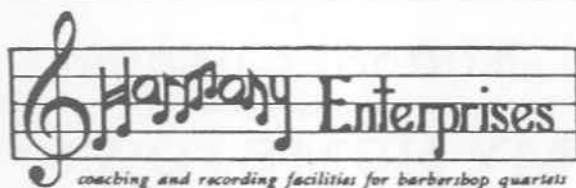
The Troub editor and wife, Alice, joined President Doran McTaggart and Margaret, and Past President John Gillespie and Betty as invited guests of the chapter. Our thanks to the guys from Motor City for some great hospitality.

The Motor City Music Company provided the quartet entertainment while the dance band took a break, giving out with some of their fine harmony.

Carla Hine was honored as the chapter's Lady of the Year for her many contributions to the Chorus through the year, including the choreography and stage presence presented at Philadelphia.

Earl Berry, president of Detroit #1, was the recipient of the Barbershopper of the Year.

The only thing missing from the affair was a camera to get some pictures. Normally, Detroit happenings are well sprinkled with photographers, but it seems everyone came to enjoy the fun this time, and no one brought a camera — not even John Neighorn!



JOHN SEEMANN

(313) 851-8652

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CHAPTER NOTES

Deadline for all material is
the 25th of the month prior to publication

Detroit—

Well here it is February with temperatures cold enough to freeze a pitch pipe, but things are warm around Detroit #1. We've launched into the new year with a strong desire to make the "Record" in Cincinnati. We expect to have the largest Pioneer chorus ever at International under the direction of Thom Hine, attired in brand new uniforms, singing songs that we've never used before. To lead us on our quest, we have one of the finest slates of officers we've ever elected:

President Earl Berry, A.V.P. Chuck Simmons, P.V.P. Ken Ledford, Chorus Director Thom Hine, Treasurer Mike Donahue, Recording Secretary Ted Holz, Corresponding Secretary Mike Tarn, Bulletin Editor Bill Fanfalone, and Public Relations Don Smith.

Uniforms, officers, and songs, however, are not the only things changing around Detroit #1. In the interest of creating better Barbershoppers and having more "Fun" while we do it, we have changed our meeting format to provide more variety and opportunities for quartet development through revitalization of the Pole Cat Program under Ken Ledford, tag quartet instruction under Bill Butler, chapter performances by mystery quartets, and other new activities scheduled throughout the year.

Detroit #1 is also changing the format of some of its social activities. Recently we had our "Ladies Night", an annual function where we honor our wives. This year was one of the most successful ones ever. We moved office installation to a chapter meeting night and treated our wives to more dancing and enjoyment. We also moved the affair to a much nicer location and everyone that attended had a wonderful time.

—Don Smith

Other Chapter News on page 14

Milford—

The Milford Chapter, still small in numbers, but trying to add a member or two as we go along, is busy working on some new numbers to add to our program for our show on April 8.

This will be our second performance in the fantastic Kiva at Lakeland High School, and our first attempt to put on a full scale show there, complete with props and the works.

Theme for the show is "My Hometown". The Motor City Music Company, current District Champs, will headline the show, along with two other quartets still to be confirmed. This will be one of the few shows scheduled this Spring in this area by MCMC, so come on out and enjoy this great foursome and join Milford in a great evening of Barbershop harmony and fun. There will be an afterglow at the Commerce Hills Country Club, (formerly Bogie Lake CC).

Loses battle with cancer

Ron Riegler was a showcase of courage, talent and humanity

THE ROARING 20's—

Ron Riegler is dead.

The long, arduous struggle against a relentless foe ended on December 7, 1977, at the age of 34. Ron would have been 35 on December 31. Barbershoppers everywhere have lost one of their most talented and dedicated members.

For those of us who were in San Francisco in 1976, and more pointedly, to those of us who were in Philadelphia last July, little needs to be said or can be said that would add luster to the courage shown by this one warm human being.

The standing ovation given to the Roaring 20's as they finished fifth for the second consecutive year in the quartet competition was not only a tribute to a great quartet, but to the courage of this one man. It was a rare tribute and one of Barbershoppers' finest hours.

While Ron was best known as the effervescent baritone of the Roaring 20's, perhaps his contribution to the Southern Gateway Chorus of Cincinnati's Western Hills Chapter, has had more impact on the Society than any one thing we can think of at this time. For it was Ron who created the exciting choreography that was so instrumental in Southern Gateway winning the 1973 chorus championship at Portland, Oregon.

And that rousing performance and exhibition of stage presence has reverberated throughout the entire Society, adding a whole new dimension from that day forward.

For the last two years he taught the stage presence course at Harmony College and was primarily responsible for staging the traditional Saturday night show. He worked with the Gem City Sweet Adelines from Dayton — a chorus that was crowned twice as International Champions, and most recently last October in London.

Ron developed abdominal pains after the 1975 convention in Indianapolis. He rallied from an operation after cancer was diagnosed, and went on to the contest in San Francisco. But pain continued to plague him, and he was hospitalized again in early 1977. It took a lot of sheer courage for this tall man of the long swinging arms and the rolling eyeballs to make the scene in Philadelphia, but the rest is history.

Inducted into Johnny Appleseed's Hall Of Fame in 1975, Ron was a tireless worker, striving to improve the visual appearance of choruses and quartets everywhere. Even during the final months of his illness, he continued to give of his talents to others. He kept busy at his work as director of art design for King Productions, developers of King's Island theme park near Cincinnati, where Barbershoppers will have an opportunity to see his work this July. His work may also be seen at King's Dominion, another park near Richmond, Virginia, where the Roaring 20's quartet can be heard as the voice of the dancing, singing toadstools.

Following the International, on July 27, Ron made his last appearance with his quartet and chorus at the Mississippi Riverboat Festival in St. Louis. In October he judged stage presence at Pittsburgh in the district competition. Barbershop was the heart of the man, and it was hard to let this heart stop beating.

It was he who suggested Mike Connelly, one of the men who helped him begin the quartet, as his replacement at baritone. Mike sang with the Roaring 20's at Nashville on a Sweet Adeline show in November and a tape was given to Ron.



Don Gray Gerry Kelly Jim Gentil Ron Riegler

A few days later he fell asleep and departed this world shortly thereafter. At the burial mass, conducted by a classmate of Ron's at St. Xavier High School, the Southern Gateway Chorus sang Amazing Grace and ended the Mass with Keep America Singing. Members and former members of his quartet were pallbearers.

Gerry Kelly, writing in JAD's Cider Press summed it up when he said, "He accomplished more and influenced more people in his short life than most of us hope to do in a normal lifetime."

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CHAPTER NOTES



Oakland County—

Dear Roger,

The tears welled up in my eyes when I read your catalog of horrors for the editor in your December "Down Our Way". I was so moved, in fact, that I asked that the Oakland County Chapter board appoint me as chapter reporter. I realize that this was very reckless and not at all in keeping with my usual policy of trying to make myself invisible when the work details are being made up, however I do own a cranky old Royal and a dictionary and so here I am. (You might say that discussion over my appointment was minimal.)

I believe your "rag" is bi-monthly, so I may be late for your February rendition, and since I didn't run around taking notes all last month we'll just have to wing it from here.

Oakland County is now working hard (for us) on our 10th annual Harmony in Review entitled "A Salute to Irving Berlin, 'Mr. Music'." Quartets will be The Note Wits, the Pieces of Eight and Basically Four (Sweet Ad's). We expect to warm up the chorus' talents on a singout January 28th for the Detroit Theater Organ Club at the Redford Theater.

Oakland County is returning to our first Friday (without fail) Chapter meetings, our 1978 board has resolved to have twelve or bust. (With the possible exception of September, which will be held at Harrisville.)

—Bill Kellogg

Ed's Note: Results at last! Welcome aboard, Bill, and keep the Chapter news coming.

More Chapter News on page 10

Pontiac Chapter on move; Woodshed contest March 31

Things are stirring in the Pontiac Chapter that indicate a rosier future for this once-vibrant organization.

Dick Liddicoat became director of the Motormen Chorus in August and things began to happen. There are at least eleven new faces in the chorus, which has been busy preparing and producing their 35th annual show on February 11. The show, "A Visit To Harmony Town", featured The Pieces of Eight, The New Harmony Hounds, The Drop Chords, and Bass-ically Four, along with the chorus.

Doran McTaggart was on hand at the December meeting to install the new chapter officers, and to help the chapter pay honors to retiring Division V Dick Guerin. The Baytown Ramblers came down to entertain at this affair. Newly appointed area counselor Nels Gregersen, Clinton Valley Chapter, also attended the meeting.

The Pontiac Chapter will follow a St. Patrick's Day Party on Friday, March 17 with it's annual woodshed contest on March 31. This is the 5th Friday of March, a night when area chapters should all be able to participate, since it should be a night off from regular activities. The Milford Chapter will be on hand to defend the Carroll P. Adams Bennington Trophy, which it won again last year. This is a great evening for Barbershoppers, so plan to be there.

Wayne—

First, let me thank Editor Roger Morris for the mighty kind words he printed about me in the December issue of the Troubadour. For some time now, I've been wondering just exactly how many in the Pioneer District actually do read the chapter reports and was seriously considering asking the Chapter president to appoint someone else for the job. Now I'd like to keep it if they'll let me.

Late in November we picked up 14 new chorus members with an A for A at Westland Mall.

December 3rd we held our annual Ladies Night, starting with hors d'oeuvres and champagne, followed by dinner and an evening of square dancing. The annual "Barbershopper of the Year" award was bestowed upon Gordie Limburg.

Also in December the Wonderland Chorus paid its yearly visit to "Presbyterian Village" to entertain the elderly residents there.

The 1978 roster of Chapter officers for Wayne is as follows: President Jim McLane; Administrative VP Herb Hibner; Program VP Mike Bourgoin; Treasurer Bob Vandorf; Corresponding Secretary Frank Maton; Sgts. at Arms Dennis Millot and Bob Cosselman.

The man elected to the post of recording secretary was Pete Anderson, but as of the 1st of the year he has accepted a job at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. Yes, I said Vassar — where all the girls are.

Just before Christmas Wayne was invaded by a group of nuts from Monroe Chapter carrying a Little Brown Jug with money in it. We subdued them, took their jug full of money away, and made them sit in on chorus rehearsal, including time on the risers.

The Wayne Wonderland Chorus now has two directors. Gordie Limburg (our former director for many years) has signed on as co-director with Steve Sutherland. Steve's youthful exuberance and Gordie's veteran experience should benefit us very nicely.

"Every Step of the Way" will be the theme of our 1978 Annual Pitchpipe Parade on March 3 and 4th. We've been working hard on this show and can promise you won't be disappointed if you attend.

I suppose it is somewhat impolite and vulgar to toot your own horn too loudly, but those of you who have followed our past performances will surely agree that Wayne has never put on a bad show and we certainly don't intend to start now. In fact, we take pride in the general feeling that each show for the past 15 years has surpassed that of the previous year. Come see us; we won't let you or ourselves down!

The headliners for this year's show will be the Western Continentals, International Champions from Phoenix, Arizona, along with some surprise quartets.

If you're around our area on any 3rd Friday, we'd love to have you visit us at the Rosedale Gardens Civic Center, Hubbard and West Chicago in Livonia.

—Morrie Giles

What's New in Your Chapter?



CUT US IN!

Deadline for all material is
the 25th of the month prior to publication

Down Our Way

with the Editor



There is some promising news forthcoming from the efforts of REX Chairman Bill Warner and his assistant, Pat Warren from Grand Rapids. While it is no news to most of us that our membership has taken an unhealthy downturn, the efforts of these two men are beginning to surface with some results — especially in the extension area.

Pat has been busy in two or three locations doing some spade work toward formation of new chapters.

Ludington shows promise, according to word we get from Pat, while work continues at Hastings and Mt. Pleasant. Livingston County may charter at the Spring Convention, so we hear, and we attended an organizational meeting on Tuesday, February 7, in Ann Arbor.

It has been several years since Ann Arbor's original charter was surrendered, with most of those members joining the Wayne Chapter. The meeting this month at the Holiday Inn East in that city was well attended. District Music Educator Bill Butler and his assistant Glenn Van Tassell, now a resident of Ann Arbor, were on hand, along with REX Chairman Warner and Division I VP Thom Hine. The informative and productive session was supported by several members from Monroe Chapter, and various other chapters, including Wayne, Oakland County, Detroit and Milford.

The Motor City Music Company came out to entertain the gathering with their great music, and the Arbor City Four, a quartet that was active with the first Ann Arbor Chapter, gave a surprise appearance.

Ken Gates, bass of the Arbor City Four, is the only member of this quartet who still belongs to the Society. He is a member of Wayne Chapter. Other members of the quartet are Dean Millard, bari; Gene Oliver, lead; and Jack Frayer, tenor. These four men form a nucleus around which the new organization hopes to grow into a full fledged charter chapter in the very near future.

Several men plunked down their money and signed up at this meeting. A meeting was scheduled for the following Tuesday, and plans for a regular meeting place at St. Luke's Lutheran Church were discussed.

President Doran McTaggart has set a goal to get at least four new members in each chapter this year, thus raising our membership back above the 1,500 mark, and boosting the Society's efforts to reach 40,000 members in our 40th anniversary year.

As a student, rather than a member of the faculty at COTS in Battle Creek last December, we did not get the opportunity to cover the school to any great extent. We would like to say that those chapters not having their officers present are losers when they fail to benefit from the strong administrative orientation imparted at these schools. The weather was not so great for traveling, but some 27 or 28 chapters had officers present, including Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, as well as Windsor. Here's hoping we do better at next falls COTS sessions.

The Grosse Pointe Chapter has scored a coup by bringing the original Gentlemen's Agreement and the 4 Fits out of retirement for a big day of symphony and Barbershop music at Detroit's famous Orchestra Hall. There will be two shows with the Grosse Pointe South High School Symphony on May 14, with afternoon and evening performances. More details will be available in the April issue of the Troub. Orchestra Hall, one of the country's greatest accoustical halls in its day, was saved from the wrecker's ball not too long ago, and many scars still remain from years of neglect.

Grand Rapids informs us they have two new quartets, one of them with some familiar faces to all of us. The Bright Majority joins Jim Johnson, Al Van Iwaarden and Bernie Poelman with a young "old" friend, Terry Huyge, and that is also very good news! The second quartet, "full of rookies", is the Key Elements, combining the talents of Joe Mills, Bob Topp, Rich Turker and Pat Warren. This gives the chapter five quartets.

MINUTES OF THE PIONEER DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MEA CONFERENCE CENTER Battle Creek, Michigan DECEMBER 10, 1977

Directors Present: All Directors were present.

Also Present: Committee Chairmen Butler, Lang, and Warner; Directors-Elect Hine and Lewis; and Area Counselor-Elect McDermott.

The minutes of the previous meeting were not read by the Secretary inasmuch as they had been mailed to all Board Members and Committee Chairmen. The minutes were accepted as written.

Treasurer Schneider's written report through November 30, 1977, showed a cash balance of \$4,534.32, which does not include the final accounting from the Kalamazoo Fall Convention.

DME Butler announced a Coaches and Quartet Clinic to be held February 24-26, 1978, at the MEA Conference Center in Battle Creek, and a Mini-Hep School to be held at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti September 15-17, 1978.

REX Chairman Warner's written report indicated that a letter of inquiry covering the October 31, 1977 non-renewals was under way. He also outlined extension plans for 1978 and announced that the Livingston County Chapter was licensed with 25 members and had four of their officers at COT School.

C & J Chairman Lang announced that he had received three Candidate Judge Applications since the last meeting, two candidates for Secretary and one for Stage Presence.

Logopedics Chairman Durham's written report indicated that \$8,010.87 had been contributed to Logopedics by Chapters in the District as of October 31, 1977, far short of \$12,000 projected at the beginning of the year.

IBM Funk reviewed plans for the 1978 Spring Convention in Lansing. Competition will be held at Eastern High School Auditorium, while the headquarters hotel will be the Holiday Inn South.

As an outgoing member of the Board of Directors, Funk also expressed his gratitude for the opportunity of serving on the Board for several years and for the cooperation he received during that time.

President Gillespie thanked the Board Members for their support during his term of office and introduced President-Elect McTaggart.

McTaggart expressed thanks on behalf of the Board of Directors to both Gillespie and Funk for their service to the District and the Society. He stressed that if the Society is to continue growing, teamwork and communications must play an important part; and Area Counselors must be utilized to the utmost. Inasmuch as 1978 will mark the Fortieth Anniversary of the Society he outlined plans for increasing membership so that the Society may reach its goal of 40,000 members in its 40th year.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ John M. McClinchey
JOHN M. McCLINCHEY
Secretary, Pioneer District

MINUTES OF THE PIONEER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
HILTON INN
Kalamazoo, Michigan
OCTOBER 7, 1977

The meeting was called to order by President Gillespie at 1:40 p.m.

Directors Present: All Directors were present except DVP Guerin.

Also Present: Committee Chairmen Durham, Lang and Warner; DME Butler; Troubadour Editor Morris; and Area Counselors Rollie Gregory, James Gougeon and Thom Hine.

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting were dispensed with inasmuch as they had been mailed to all members and committee chairmen and published in the Troubadour. The minutes were accepted as written.

The Treasurer's written report for the quarter ending September 30, 1977, showed a balance of \$6,214.52, and was accepted as presented.

IBM Funk submitted a written report outlining the "cash flow" problem at the International level and the resultant dues increase. He emphasized that the dues increase was essential under the circumstances, and that it must be accepted by the membership. Funk stressed that he voted against the increase, urging a curtailment of many programs as an alternative, but that his vote was of the minority.

EVP McTaggart submitted a written report outlining the convention sites through the Spring of 1980 and announced that the A.I.C. Scholarship applications would be mailed to the individual chapters within the coming weeks. A bid was received from the Traverse City Chapter to host the Spring 1981 Convention. The bid was accepted to be presented to the House of Delegates for action.

Written reports were submitted by all Division Vice Presidents outlining the status of each chapter under their jurisdiction. President Gillespie regretfully accepted the resignation of DVP Guerin due to ill health and thanked him, on behalf of the District, for his commendable service while in office and wished him Godspeed in his recovery. He announced that James Gougeon, Area Counselor in Division IV has been appointed to fill out the remainder of Guerin's term.

REX Chairman Warner's written report included a survey letter that he had sent to all those members who had not renewed their membership as of the second quarter, and the results of that survey. Each DVP was given the replies that came out of his respective Division for follow up. He also outlined the active extension sites and announced that the Livingston County Chapter has petitioned International Headquarters for the license. The Wayne County Chapter will be their sponsor.

DME Butler's written report emphasized the need for greater participation in the Music Education Program, although there has been a 100 per cent increase in attendance over the previous year. He announced that a Mini-Hep School proposal with a format of Thursday evening through Sunday noon would be discussed at the Music Education Seminar in Kenosha in late October. It would be necessary for 140 men from the District to participate to make it worthwhile, which is about 10 per cent of the District membership. The general feeling of the Board was that, though commendable, this would be very difficult to accomplish.

Logopedics Chairman Durham's written report indicated that the District had not yet approached the quota of \$12,000 set for 1977, although ahead of last year at this time. As of this time, only one chapter is eligible for the Harmony Foundation Award (\$10 per capita), whereas nine chapters won this award in 1976. It was anticipated, however, that several chapters would be increasing their contributions at the Logopedics meeting during the weekend. He announced that the Lee Wynn "HELP 77" bike ride through the District swelled the coffers by nearly \$1,000 thanks to the efforts of the Grand Rapids and Jackson Chapters.

The Secretary was instructed to resubmit to the International Board the previously proposed resolution concerning the fining of those chapters that fail to apply for ASCAP clearance for shows and parades. The proposal was originally turned down by the International Board because they felt that it was a District function. The Pioneer District Board feels that it is indeed a function of the International Board. The Troubadour Editor and the L & R Chairman will furnish the Secretary with supporting evidence for our stand on this matter.

Based on the results of a canvass conducted by EVP McTaggart concerning the current Friday night through Saturday evening convention format, the motion was made

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PIONEER DISTRICT



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and seconded that the Pioneer District retain said format permanently. Motion carried.

The proposed By-Law changes to be brought before the House of Delegates on Saturday were again reviewed by the Board.

President Gillespie announced that some chapters had failed to submit financial reports to International as required on a monthly basis. Each DVP affected was to police this matter.

President Gillespie emphasized the necessity for each chapter to file Form CS2000 with the State of Michigan by October 1 of each year. This is mandatory under the Michigan Annual Report for Non-Profit Organization Law in order to retain the non-profit corporation status of each chapter.

The motion was made and seconded to support the Southern Gateway Chorus Quilt Project. This quilt will include the logo and name of the Board Members of all the Districts in the Society and will be raffled off with the proceeds going to the International Expansion Fund. Each District will contribute \$25 plus \$1 for each Board Member. Motion passed.

At the request of the Oakland County Chapter concerning a refund policy on advance registrations, the following resolution was proposed to be presented to the House of Delegates:

RESOLVED: Pre-registration fees will be refundable provided written request is received by the Convention Chairman from the registrant prior to the opening of the Convention registration.

A proposal from the Wayne Chapter concerning the fees of dual members was read by President Gillespie to be brought before the House of Delegates for action. If passed, the Secretary was instructed to forward same to the International Board of Directors.

President Gillespie reviewed the action taken at the August Board Meeting concerning the recommendation to rescind the awarding of the Spring 1979 Convention to the Saginaw-Bay Chapter due to their failure to submit a final and complete financial statement regarding the Spring 1977 Convention which they hosted. The matter was to be brought before the House of Delegates for action. Inasmuch as there was no representative from the Saginaw-Bay Chapter in attendance, the Board's position remained unchanged.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ JOHN M. McCLINCHEY
John M. McClinchey
Pioneer District Secretary