



District Membership (2/29/80)
1385 + 20 Licensed (Coldwater)

April • May

pioneer

TROUBADOUR





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

Pioneer did it in 1979! We went over the top in our Logopedics Contributions for a total of \$14,786.64. Wow! Not only that, the Society went over the THREE MILLION DOLLAR mark in contributions when our own Wayne Chapter sent in their contribution and was notified to that effect by Burt Schindler, Society Director of Communications.

Sixteen, count 'em, sixteen chapters have earned the Harmony Foundation Award for 1979. And, in addition, quartet and chapter contributions were on the increase in 1979. What a great year for Logopedics!

Chapter	Contribution	Per Capita Members	
Alpena	\$ 320.00	25	\$ 12.80
Battle Creek	794.00	38	20.89
Benton Harbor	522.00	39	13.38
Detroit #1	1488.20	143	10.40
Grand Rapids	2181.47	96	22.72
Grosse Pointe	1295.00	105	12.33
Holland	345.00	25	13.80
Hudson	337.50	24	14.06
Jackson	410.00	41	10.00
Milford	230.00	22	10.45
Monroe	540.65	54	10.01
Oakland County	1050.00	97	10.82
Port Huron	616.00	41	15.02
Saginaw	830.00	46	18.04
St. Joe Valley	270.00	27	10.00
Wayne	1540.89	96	16.05

The following is a listing of thirteen additional chapters in the District who contributed to Logopedics this year. This means that twenty-nine of the thirty-two chapters in the Pioneer District contributed to Logopedics in 1979. Well done!

AuSable	\$ 200.00	25	\$ 8.00
Boyne City	12.00	33	.36
Clinton Valley	73.97	27	2.73
Flint	262.00	41	6.39
Gratiot County	320.00	44	7.27
Huron Valley	51.75	37	1.39
Kalamazoo	180.00	50	3.60
Lansing	368.00	62	5.93
Livingston County	133.80	38	3.52
Niles-Buchanan	50.00	26	1.92
Sault Ste Marie, Ont.	14.41	38	.37
Traverse City	250.00	33	7.57
Windsor	100.00	38	2.63

Sixteen quartets also contributed to Logopedics in 1979. This is very encouraging. Keep up the good work!

Bankers Choice	\$ 50.00
Cadence Counts	45.00
The Common Bond	200.00
The Country Estate	25.00
The Cross Town Exchange	35.00
Danny's Boys	20.00
The Great Lakes Express	250.00
The Grim Determination	75.00
Motor City Music Company	75.00
Pilgrims Progress	25.00
Schizo Phonics	13.29
Smokey and the Bandits	40.00
Sounds Around	40.00
The Tall and Short of it	50.00
Those Other Guys	20.00
The Very Idea	35.00

Fran Durham
Pioneer District
Logopedics Chairman



FRED WARING and the Young Pennsylvanians performed at the Institute for staff and children on November 28. Waring is no stranger to the Institute of Logopedics. He has been a friend of communicatively handicapped children for more than 30 years, and is a former member of both the Institute's Board of Trustees and the Board of Governors, a nationwide advisory board.

In his 64th year as an entertainer, Mr. Waring and The Pennsylvanians are currently engaged in a coast-to-coast tour, including their recent visit to Wichita and the Institute.

Contact:
485-2968
743-3137

Pioneer
District



THE TUNESTERS UNION

"Union"
Contracts
are fair



Guaranteed
Barbershop
Harmony

Gene Johnson
(Baritone)

Larry Horton
(Bass)

Jim Miller
(Lead)

Art Cardy
(Tenor)

The Tunester's Union of East Lansing, St. John's, Corunna and Lansing, Michigan, have been together for a little more than one year. We are enjoying ourselves and at the same time our audiences have expressed their pleasure with our show performances.

Gene Johnson, baritone since we began, is the veteran of our quartet. Gene has thrilled many audiences with his clear and distinctive style. He was the lead with the Acoustichords, the Used Parts and the Patch Chords. His conversion to baritone has brought about a rich blend in our quartet. Larry Horton, our bass, has been around for some time as well. He formerly sang with Gene in the Used Parts. Our tenor, Art Cardy, and lead, Jim Miller, previously sang with the Subtle Impressions.

The Tunester's Union is accepting engagements for chapter shows as well as other singing jobs. We have worked hard over the past year. We attended Bill Butler's Mini-HEP School in February, 1979. We were thrilled with that experience and encourage all quartets, experienced or novice, to attend and learn from some fine Barbershop coaches.

We have competed a number of times, the last being in October, 1979, at the District in Kalamazoo. We missed the cut by one point but we sang well and enjoyed ourselves and so did our wives. (Art is the only bachelor in the quartet).

We placed second at the Boyne City Bush League contest last year and we plan on returning this year to try again. What a super time we had there! We recommend it to all Barbershoppers.

The Tunester's Union are looking forward to Spring competition in Ann Arbor. We plan to sing our hearts out and hope that we will be well received by everyone, including the judges.

We are being coached by David "Gilly" Gillingham, Chorus Director for the Lan-

sing Chapter "Capital City Chordsmen". We are also seeing Ken Gibson for coaching. (I'm sure you all remember Ken's fantastic tenor with the one-and-only Vagabonds).

Tune-ing up for you,
The Tunester's Union



Directory Changes:

Pg 3: COTS dates should be
1980 Dec 6-7
1981 Dec 5-6
1982 Dec 4-5



Pg 10: Bob McDermott is Area
Counselor for Milford and Livingston
County Chapters.

Pg 14: Hubbs Grimm's address is:
8941 Colony Farm
Plymouth, MI 48170

Pg 24: The Lansing Chapter now meets at:
UAW Hall, Local 652
426 Clare St.
Lansing, MI (on Mondays)

Pg 31: Under International Quartet Champs,
the first date should read - 1944.



The "New" MEMORY LANERS

REG.
BARBERSHOP QUARTET

GEO. MEINSCHIN, TENOR

MARTY ZURN, BARI

GARY FRANCIS, LEAD

GENE BEATY, BASS

CONTACT GENE: 9253 COLORADO, LIVONIA, MI. (313) 522-7040



The Memory Laners were formed in January, 1977, as a fun quartet and quickly became known for their classics such as the Baseball Song and Heisie's Old Dutch Band, among others. Although we did some serious numbers, we never truly entered the contest route very heavily, preferring to give our show audiences the lighter side.

In early 1978, we had a change in the lead part, acquiring the services of 'John Denver' (Gary Francis, to you) and we got a whole new sound.

Rather than inflicting the old repertoire on our great new lead, we kept a few of the best and decided on some fine songs for us all to learn. With a couple of these, we tried our fledgling group out on the Boyne City Bush League contest, where we finished third.

Greatly encouraged, we renewed our efforts to enlist the services of super-coach, Bob Whitledge (bless his patient heart), and just a few weeks before contest, we had our first of two sessions with him. You guessed it - disaster!! We became completely unglued with a mixture of good, bad and indifferent in all categories.

With Mini-HEP to help, more sessions with Bob, and more time, we think we have it all together -- so come on shows and parades -- look out district -- here come the Memory Laners.

QUARTET CORNER



These NEW Quartets have registered....

The MASTER MARKS

contact: Bill Derby
548 Hayes
Ithaca, MI 48847

ALL FOUR A SONG

contact: Kenneth J. Rysenga
2255 Tipperary Rd.
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

THE LONG AND SHORT OF IT

contact: Nelson Brown
29074 Van Riper
Flat Rock, MI 48134

The NITTY GRITTY GOOD TIME FOUR

contact: Al Van Iwaarden
1483 - 54th St. S.E.
Kentwood, MI 49508

Please note this CHANGE....

The CROSSTOWN EXCHANGE

contact: Steve Sutherland
37815 Joy Rd. #105
Westland, MI 48185

And, regretfully, the following quartets have "hung up the old pitchpipe":

The FLINT'S TONES

FOUR OF A KIND

The UNION STREET ARRANGEMENT

The TONE COLLECTION

The KENT KOUNTY KHORD KOMMITTEE

The RAPIDAIRES

The MAJOR EVENT

The NEW BALTIMORE EXIT

THE OTHER DIRECTION

The BI-VOCALS



Take A Bow!

We have received notification from Hugh Ingraham, Executive Director of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., of the following Pioneer District winners of the International Achievement Award:

Plateau 6 - (President)
GROSSE POINTE CHAPTER Sully Mazur

Plateau 5 -
GRAND RAPIDS CHAPTER Donald Lacy

Plateau 4 -
LANSING CHAPTER John Longstreth

Plateau 3 -
PORT HURON CHAPTER Melvin Totzke

Plateau 2 -
BENTON HARBOR CHAPTER Donald Bartz

Plateau 1 -
ALPENA CHAPTER Bernard Martin

The International Achievement Award is our way of recognizing those chapters who are doing the most of those things that indicate the well-being of a chapter. For instance, points are received for having a Chapter Show; for appearing in Chorus Competition; likewise in Quartet Competition; for having Monthly Board Meetings; for Delegates at the Delegate Meeting; for Publishing a Monthly Bulletin; for the number of Activities of the Chapter throughout the year; for the Membership Gain or Loss; for the number of new Officers at C.O.T.S.; for the number of Registered Quartets in the Chapter at the end of the year; AND for the number of Monthly Reports sent to International to report all these good things!

For winning first place in their respective plateaus, each Chapter will receive a certificate of recognition and a voucher worth \$25 of Society-published music.

Congratulations, gentlemen, and keep up the GOOD WORK!



COLDWATER CHARTER SHOW

Saturday, May 31st, 8:00 p.m.

at TIBBITS OPERA HOUSE

STARRING THE FRONT PORCH MAJORITY
from RACINE, WISC.

TICKETS \$3.50 (advance)

Due to limited seating, advance orders are suggested...

contact: Bob Huntley

344 Hull St.

Coldwater, MI. 49036

We Get Letters



From: Robert D. Johnson, Director of Musical Education and Services

To: Joe Barbershopper

Subject: NEW STAFF MEMBER

Dear Joe:

The Music Department is pleased to announce that Lyle E. Pettigrew has joined the International staff.

Lyle is current director of the Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario Chapter Chorus. He is also a member of the Royal Assent Quartet, 1977 Ontario Quartet Champions who are on the 1979 Quartet Album.

He is a school teacher and will complete his teaching assignments and join the staff in July. His duties will be concentrated on chorus development and chorus director training in the eight Eastern Districts during 1980.

Lyle is married and he and his wife, Sandra, have three sons (Scott, Lee and Todd) and a daughter (Pam).

Should you wish to drop him a line of welcome, his address is: 19 Greenwood Dr., New Hamburg, Ontario, Canada, NOB 2G0.

Musically,
Bob Johnson

DURHAM visits the Institute of Logopedics

Fran Durham, District Logopedics Chairman, attended a seminar at the Institute of Logopedics, February 21-23, 1980, along with the other 15 district chairmen. The seminar is held bi-yearly to update the district chairmen about the programs and services provided in support of the communicatively handicapped. They, in turn, communicate this information to their district membership.

The 300 clients at the Institute are from twenty-seven states and two foreign countries. About 110 children, many of whom are multiple-handicapped, live at the Institute. Another 100 commute daily for classes. The remainder receive outpatient services in audiology and speech/language pathology. The Institute has served over 44,000 individuals since its inception in 1934.

Durham is pictured with a client at the Institute in the greenhouse which the students operate. The greenhouse is one of



many learning environments at the Institute where, in the context of nature, vocationally-related skills are taught, in addition to reinforcement of classroom objectives.

The Society contribution to the Institute in 1979 was over \$400,000.00 and has amounted to over \$3,000,000.00 since the Institute was adopted in 1964 as the Society's Unified Service Project.

Incidentally, April is officially designated as "Harmony Month" throughout the Society for it was in April 1938 that O.C. Cash, our founder, started this wonderful organization. The Society, in 1966, established the O.C. Cash Memorial (birthday) Fund to support special projects, such as scholarships to students who use music to break through the wall of silence experienced by some children.

The O.C. Cash Memorial Fund is maintained by chapters making a special donation of \$1.00 for each of the Society's birthdays. This being our 42nd Anniversary, the donation this year is \$42.00. This should be over and above your normal Logopedics contribution. It will, however, be credited to your chapter's account toward qualifying for the Harmony Foundation Service Award.

Every chapter in the district is encouraged to contribute the \$42.00. If your chapter is in financial difficulty and cannot afford the \$42.00, contribute what you can. Remember, though, to make your check payable to the O.C. Cash Memorial Fund so that it will be properly credited.

Fran Durham



Musical Notes from the Big Bear

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

By the time you read this, our Quartet and Coaching Clinic will be history. This is our fifth annual Spring Clinic, and it will be, without doubt, our most successful. Our limit of twenty quartets has been reached, and we have four quartets on the waiting list. That's great! Also, there are eighteen men registered to study to become coaches. These are your schools and it's great to see you making use of them. Our next Pioneer District School will be held September 12-14, 1980. It's our Har-

mony Round-Up and it will have something for EVERY member of Pioneer, so make plans NOW to attend. It will be announced in June, so have your deposit ready or you may end up on the waiting list!

This past year, I have attended some shows that have been very disappointing because the sound systems were inadequate. I hope everyone will read, and take to heart, the article in this issue written by Jim Stephens. Jim is one of your Ass't DME's, and is very knowledgeable in the area of sound systems, etc. I'm sure he would be glad to answer any questions you may have regarding sound systems for your shows. His address is listed in your District Directory, under Music Education.

I hope to see all of you at our Spring Convention and International Prelims Contest, hosted by the Wayne Chapter in Ann Arbor.

Bill Butler

BARBERPOLE OF BABEL

by Maurice Trudel

I would never have predicted
I could ever be addicted
Just a month of barbershopping
Has my happy heart a-hopping.
Whenever a chorus pal of mine
Suggests we sing "Sweet Adeline,"
With each rehearsal I discover
I've become a singing lover
of a group called, by the way,
S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.
S.Q.S. who? You stutter....and
Perhaps pretend to understand?
I know exactly how you feel.
They use a language that's unreal.
Although harmonically enthused
At times I'm chorally confused.
They sing in sounds so clean and pure
But speak in tongues I find obscure.
Mr. Director, when you direct
You have my absolute respect
But I'm more apt to understand
The silent symbols of your hand.
Tell me please, what in tarnation
Do you mean by 'intonation?'
You blow the 'pipe' to get the 'pitch'
And when we 'hit it' you yell 'switch.'
If we 'belt it out' you howl
Try to 'modify your vowel.'
'From the edge,' 'attack,' 'release!'
'Back off, be there, soft, increase!'
'Support, don't swipe, let's balance, blend.'



'Tag,' the 'climax!' Whew, the end.
And that, 'tear-jerkers,' is what's known
in the 'circle of fifths' as an overtone.

Pardon me but I'm not able
To grasp this barberpole of Babel.
I've read a dozen HARMONIZERS
Trying to learn who are the risers?
I've probed my chapters KEYNOTES
To find what 'diphthongs' denotes.
Did Rupert Hall or Owen Cash
Encourage all this balderdash?
And is it not a bit ironic
Leads are told to sing the 'tonic'
Basses 'roots' and baris 'fifths'
While tenors, fond of liquid lifts
By all directors are implored
To sip on high and 'milk' the chord?

I'm out of tune, I must acknowledge
Send me to Harmony College
To describe the sounds we've sung!
The Barberpolecat has my tongue!
They may furnish a thesaurus
Help me understand this chorus.
Find the phrases that are kosher.
Teach me to pronounce Kenosha.
Change me from a speechless pauper
To a proper Barbershopper!



Barbershop Spectacular will open season at Pine Knob theater Saturday, May 24

Buoyed by the success of their initial spectacular last May, Southeast Michigan Association of Chapters (SMAC) is tooling along in high gear as it looks toward Saturday, May 24 when Barbershoppers from nine or more chapters comprising the organization will go on the risers for the 2nd annual happening at Pine Knob, the country's premiere outdoor theater.

In case you missed it, last year's big show at this beautiful pavilion turned out to be the biggest thing to hit the Pioneer District in our long and colorful history.

Nearly 5,000 people, mostly non-Barbershoppers, turned out on a perfect evening in May to see and hear a chorus of some 250 men open the show under the direction of Tom Hine in a stirring performance that set the tone for a memorable evening of harmony.

SMAC used the occasion to pay a farewell tribute to our retiring Vagabonds. What a party! The show included the Citations, those four fine gentlemen who direct and hone the Louisville Thoroughbreds to championship pitch year after year.

And the New Baltimore Exit shook up the crowd with their great blend of comedy and harmony.

Joining in the fun were Detroit's Motor City Chorus, Grosse Pointe's Lakeshore Chorus, and the Wolverine Chorus from Oakland County Chapter.

Then there were the Vagabonds . . . guests of honor who honored us in turn with a fitting finale to their long and illustrious career — champions to the very last ringing chord.

It was an evening among evenings — a show of shows. Those of us who participated experienced a thrill that could rank right up next to being on the International stage. It was that great!

The show marked the first big accomplishment for SMAC. The publicity generated by this single show has had a resounding impact around the district, and it promises to get bigger this year.

With the interest being shown by other area chapters who are not in Division I but still close enough to participate in the organization, and able to make the meetings and rehearsals for such events, this year's mass chorus should go over 300 men. What a sound! Tom Hine will travel from Chicago, where he now resides, to direct the chorus once again. Our favorite emcee, and now International Board Member, Doran McTaggart has his visa and is ready to swim the "creek" again for this one.

Earl Berry, talent chairman, has confirmations from the Classic Collection, sixth-place quartet in the '79 finals from Denver; our own Great Lakes Express, 15th in their first outing at Minneapolis; and those zany guys from Chicago-land, the Schizophonics.

The Motor City, Wolverine, Lakeshore and Wayne choruses will also appear on the show.

Darl Wiley, show chairman, has been busy preparing for this show, making contacts, presiding at meetings, and doing all the things a show chairman must do.

Bob Miquelon, SMAC president, is riding herd on his committee chairmen, leaving no stones unturned, as we prepare for the big day.

Meantime, the Clarkston and Waterford/Drayton Plains Rotary Clubs, the gentlemen who sponsor us at Pine Knob, are working hard to prepare their end of the detail — tickets, advertising, programs, staging, etc. It's great to have their backing. If we all do our work as we should, Pine Knob can be a sellout this year. That could mean as many as 11,000 people under the canopy and up on the grassy slopes!

It also means a lot of money in the coffers for the participating chapters, and for SMAC's lowly treasury. The chapters receive \$2.00 for each ticket sold under their agreement with the Rotary Clubs. SMAC gets a percentage of the net over operating expenses. Tickets will be priced at \$4.50 this year, according to the latest word we have received. That's a bargain that you will never find at Pine Knob, or anywhere else, for that matter.

Last year the Detroit chapter led in percentage of tickets sold per chapter member, with Milford placing second.

While this year's date falls during the earliest Memorial holiday week end in our memory, SMAC officers and members are hoping a lot of people will opt to stay closer home this year due to the petro situation. A short trip to Pine Knob on Saturday evening is just the ticket for an inexpensive holiday outing. So bring your picnic basket and take I-75 to Clarkston and Pine Knob — we promise you a great evening of harmony and entertainment.

For tickets, contact Detroit, Grosse Pointe, Huron Valley, Livingston County, Milford, Monroe, Oakland County, Wayne or Windsor Chapter officers or members. Port Huron is also participating, and other chapters in the area have been invited to get in on the action.

If you can't get in touch with any of these people, call me at (313) 887-4272 just about any time before 11 p.m. I'll see that you get your tickets to Pioneer's biggest spectacular ever.

—Roger O. Morris



the SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION of CHAPTERS
S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.

and the
Clarkston and Waterford/Drayton Rotary Clubs

Present the 2nd Annual

PINE KNOB BARBERSHOP
SPECTACULAR



Saturday, May 24, 1980
8:00 p.m. — at the Pavilion

CHORUSES—

- **Motor City Chorus**
Detroit #1
- **Lakeshore Chorus**
Grosse Pointe
- **Wolverine Chorus**
Oakland County
- **Wonderland Chorus**
Wayne Chapter

QUARTETS—

- **The Great Lakes Express**
'79 International Semi-Finalists from Pioneer District
- **The Schizo-Phonics**
4 Zany Guys from Chicagoland
- **The Classic Collection**
'79 International Finalists from Colorado

And A Mass Chorus of All S.M.A.C. Chapters

Directed by Tom Hine

DORAN McTAGGART, M.C.

All for the Spectacular Price of only \$4.50 (\$5 at box office)

TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED FROM ANY PARTICIPATING S.M.A.C. CHAPTER TICKET CHAIRMAN. (Checks should be made payable to that chapter to assure the proper distribution of profits). TICKETS MAY ALSO BE PURCHASED BY WRITING OR CALLING S.M.A.C. TICKET CHAIRMAN PHIL WRIGHT, 1015 MARYWOOD, ROYAL OAK, MI 48067; 313/544-2477.

PARTICIPATING S.M.A.C. CHAPTERS

Detroit #1 • Huron Valley • Milford • Oakland County
Grosse Pointe • Livingston County • Monroe • Pontiac
Port Huron • Wayne • Windsor • Clinton Valley • Flint

BORED DOIN'S...



by Doran McTaggart, I.B.M.

The Mid-Winter Convention in Colorado Springs was most productive. I will brief-list below a few of the decisions of your International Board:

.The history of the Society will be updated for the 50th Anniversary year.

.Some number-changes were made to aid faltering chapters:

20 men needed to license.

30 men needed to charter.

Less than 30 men = a concerned chapter.
Less than 20 men = an endangered chapter. Any chapter dropping below that level, will be given 60 days to report the necessary membership increase before the Charter will be automatically revoked by International.

.Some changes were also made in the Stage Presence category. From now on, each song will be given from 10 to 90 points; Attire will be awarded 0 to 8 (= or -). There will be no disqualification because of color or cut. Non-singing time (entrance, applause acceptance, pitch-pipe technique, and exit) will be scored from 0 to 12 (+ or -).

.There will be a dues increase of \$5.00 effective April 1, 1980. This increase allows for the hiring of 2 new field men, in addition to Lyle Pettigrew, who will start July 1, 1980. (see Pettigrew story elsewhere in this issue)

.The Coaching/Judging Study Committee interim report was most interesting. They will report in July in Salt Lake City. The

30/60-day rule is still in effect.

.The 1982 Mid-Winter bids from Hartford and New Orleans were not accepted. A new bidding procedure will be tried.

.The Seattle and Pittsburgh Conventions were flip-flopped. The 1982 International will be held in Pittsburgh, with 1983 to be held in Seattle.

.The mortgage on Harmony Hall West is now COMPLETELY PAID! Income from the yearly rental to other tenants is \$60,500.

.A new system of half-yearly dues for NEW members was adopted. If the new member wishes, he may initially pay for 6 months and pay the balance due before the end of the 6 month period. This proposal must be passed by the Pioneer District House of Delegates before becoming effective. It will be considered at Spring Convention in Ann Arbor, April 26, 1980. For example:

Step #1.

\$ 7.50 - New member fee pd. to Internat'l.
15.00 - Internat'l Dues - Partial Payment
3.50 - District Dues - Partial Payment
4.00 - Chapter Dues - Partial Payment

\$30.00 - Paid upon acceptance as a member.

Step #2

\$15.00 - Internat'l Dues - Final Payment
3.50 - District Dues - Final Payment
4.00 - Chapter Dues - Final Payment

\$22.50 - Final payment due to Chapter at end of second quarter following acceptance as a member.

YOU KNOW IT'S GOING TO BE A BAD DAY WHEN..

- . You wake up face down on the pavement.
- . You call suicide prevention and they put you on hold.
- . You see a '60 Minutes' news team waiting in your office.
- . Your birthday cake collapses from the weight of the candles.
- . Your son tell you he wishes Anita Bryant would mind her own business.
- . You want to put on the clothes you wore home from last night's party - and there aren't any!
- . You turn on the news and they're showing emergency routes out of the city.
- . Your twin sister forgets your birthday.
- . You wake up to discover that your waterbed broke and then realize you don't have a waterbed.
- . Your horn goes off accidentally and remains stuck as you follow a group of Hell's Angels on the freeway.

Listen...

"A SOUND INVESTMENT"



by Jim Stephens

In this day and age of electronic marvels, good sound re-inforcement is an absolute must for our chapter shows and after-glows. It is unthinkable to spend good money for talent and then not provide any funds for a sound system to insure that our audiences may hear comfortably. They pay their admission expecting to hear undistorted sound at proper volume levels and it is our responsibility to see that they are not disappointed.

The speaker system must be large enough to move air throughout the auditorium without blasting the front of the house out of their seats. Little six or eight inch co-axial speakers cannot do the job. The amplifier should be powerful enough to handle peak volume levels without clipping or distortion. Equalization, however small should be included. Two speaker bins containing at least 15 inch bass woofers with separate horns for treble clarity are a must. Quality microphones that will handle the input level of a good "ringing tag" are also necessary. The entire system should be impedance matched and checked for "phasing".

The sound system should be constantly monitored from somewhere in the audience, not backstage, and preferably by a technician who knows more than just how to hook-up the system. Consider hiring a technician. Consider renting good equipment. Depending on the requirements of the auditorium, and the equipment necessary, a budget may well extend upwards from two to eight or nine hundred dollars. It is well worth it.

The travel expenses, lodging and talent fees of two top-notch quartets (many chapters feature at least two on their shows) can exceed the two thousand dollar figure. It is unrealistic to expect our audiences to settle for anything less than proper showcasing for these performers. Given good quality sound we can be assured that the audience will eagerly await our next chapter show and, chances are, they will bring friends along to share their enjoyment. Providing sufficient money in our show budgets to insure full, clear, Barbershop Harmony, with all its undertones and overtones, is a 'sound investment'.

Wayne—

We recently received a letter from Mauri Giles, my predecessor as Wayne's reporter to the Troub, from his comfortable retirement retreat down in Seminole, Florida. We learn that the St. Pete Chapter will be representing the Sunshine District at Salt Lake City, this year, but Mauri preferred to join Clearwater, as they made him feel more welcome. Maybe there's a message there. Mauri and Tillie now have a phone and their number is: (813) 397-9995. They would love to hear from you.

Wayne, as well as other area chapters, continues to export good Barbershoppers, but, fortunately, we are importing and "baptising" new ones. I'm happy to report that we have gained six new members since January 1st.

By publication time for this Troub, our 1980 show, "This Is Your Life" will be history. Gee, I hope it was a good show. Chairman Jim McLane, Co-Chairman, Jim Honhart, Producer, Jim Pollard, and the legions of minions all have earned a hearty "Well Done!"

Like training for the Olympics, we will have no time to rest:

March 29th - Art Auction in Dearborn Hgts.

Call Cheryl Grimm (313) 455-9799

April 25-27 - We host the Pioneer District in Ann Arbor. Y'all Come!

May 3rd - Boyne City Bush League Contest.

May 24th - Pine Knob II. A bigger and better spectacular than Pine Knob I (and that was something!)

May 31-June 1 - Chorus Coaching Camp-Out near Lexington, on the Lake Huron shore.

June 13th - International Send-Off Show at the Caboto Club in Windsor. (A tip: Bring Canadian money and an empty gas tank..You'll save money buying gas in Windsor.)

July 7-12 - Salt Lake City, in the shadow of the Wasatch Mountains and the Mormon Tabernacle. Pray that we do our best in representing the Pioneer District.

After all this, we'll catch a few ZZ's, then play host to Oakland County Chapter (officially, but ALL of you are always welcome!) at Hil Andrews' farm, in Farmington, on August 15.

Don't forget our Chapter meeting are on the third Fridays at the Country Place Community Center in Northville. Call me at (313) 525-0370 or Art Hackett 348-6952 for directions.

Bob Miquelon

Milford—

Chapter members are busy preparing for their fourth annual show at the Kiva in Lakeland High School Saturday, April 19. The Huron Valley Chorus will be assisted by the Mid-Lakes Chorus from Livingston County and directed by Mike Roxberry.

The chapter has booked three of the District's finest quartets for this year's show — The Great Lakes Express, the Motor City Music Company, and the Saturday Night Feature. Fred Kienitz will be master of ceremonies.

Theme for this year's show is "Sing Out a Song". Sharing the stage with us for the first time will be Milford High School's award-winning Jazz Concert Ensemble, directed by James Cutty.

The chapter has been busy throughout the past year, even though it was without a regular director for most of that time. Marty Zurn, who guided the chorus for many years, resigned following last Spring's competition in Saginaw. Bob Moll, assistant director, kept the guys singing after Marty stepped down.

With the summer season at hand, the chapter was approached by a delegate from Livingston County concerning the prospect of mutual cooperation on several scheduled performances to which the two chapters were committed.

The arrangement found the chapters traveling back and forth until the first of the year, fulfilling numerous singing performances in both communities; a very successful ladies night in Milford, the annual cruise on the Island Queen, and a lot of singing and fun all around.

Mike Roxberry welded the group into a fine performing chorus and all of us enjoyed a year that might have been chaotic otherwise.

The two chapters had a joint installation dinner in Brighton, with Russ Seely as installing officer. He brought along the Motor City Music Company to entertain us, and they were joined by Wayne's newest, the Public Address.

Following the installation of officers, the two chapters decided it was time that each returned to its own regular programming. However, we still get together for rehearsals on the first Monday of the month in Howell, and the fourth Tuesday at Muir Junior High in Milford, where we are working on our show package.

Later in the year, Milford will join Livingston County in producing their annual show.

In the meantime, Milford is busy breaking in a new director to the Barbershop Style. He is Rick Dale, who currently directs a church choir in Sterling Heights, and also directs the Huron Valley Community Chorus in Milford. We are happy to have Rick join us, and look forward to his development as director of our chorus. Rick got his first taste of Barbershop harmony at last year's Pine Knob Spectacular.

Don't forget, our annual show is just one week before Spring Convention at Ann Arbor. Come out and enjoy a great evening of harmony. Lakeland High School is located on Bogie Lake Road in White Lake Township, just about 1.3 miles south of M-59 and the Alpine Valley Ski resort.

The Milford Chapter, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc. invites you to

"SING OUT A SONG"

— with —

☆ **The GREAT LAKES EXPRESS**

1979 International Semi-Finalist

☆ **The MOTOR CITY MUSIC COMPANY**

1979 International Quarter Finalists

☆ **The SATURDAY NIGHT FEATURE**

Pioneer District's Newest Show Quartet

The Huron Valley Chorus

and

The Mid-Lakes Chorus

MIKE ROXBERRY, director

Milford Hi's JAZZ CONCERT ENSEMBLE

JAMES CUTTY directing

Master of Ceremonies: FRED KIENITZ

in the Kiva, Lakeland High School

Saturday, April 19, 1980

8 p.m.

Admission: \$4.50

For Tickets: 313/887-4272

Sound Ambassadors



The Sound Ambassadors formed in the Spring of 1979 intending to rehearse only enough to have some fun and sing a few dates for our friends and churches. While audience reaction was enthusiastic, we quickly realized that some additional help would be required to raise the quality of our performances. For this reason, we enrolled in the Fall HEP school, figuring that the faculty would greatly assist our efforts. Since we had no intention of competing in the Fall contest, we determined that we would use the training to improve our sound and show package.

To our surprise, the HEP school faculty strongly encouraged us to compete in Kalamazoo, and based on their recommendation and exceptionally fine coaching, we decided to do so. We were delighted, therefore, to make the cut and win the Junior

Quartet Championship. Frankly, we owe our small measure of success to the HEP school faculty, their coaching, and, more importantly, their encouragement. We highly recommend these sessions for all quartets, since they obviously are beneficial to all participants.

Our performances and rehearsals have been severely limited for the past six months by the horrendous work schedule of our lead. For some time now, he has been working from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m., six days a week! This has forced us to become very resourceful in scheduling rehearsals and has made it virtually impossible to perform for other chapters - something we want very much to do.

Once Ken goes on days (hopefully by the end of June), we will try to schedule some of the inter-chapter jobs we turned down previously. Until then, we will continue working with our coach, Jim Stevens, getting ready for the Pre-Lims, Boyne, and the Fall Contest.

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Benton Harbor-St. Joe—

This year we had no "after-the-holidays" letdown. We did two free public appearances in January. At both places they passed the hat for our favorite charity, Logopedics, and a total of \$69 was raised. "We Sing That They Shall Speak." February 1st found us at St. Joseph High School singing prior to the St Joe Queen Contest. The sound system was set up for a queen contest rather than a chorus performance so the back half of the auditorium could not hear us, but we were a hit in the first 15 rows. The local radio station picked up on a couple of our numbers and we heard good comments about that. Our favorite quartet, "The Jones Boys," sang during one of the costume changes later in the program and were a big hit before the 900+ audience.

After our performance at the queen con-

test, we came back to our rehearsal hall for some refreshments and a birthday cake in honor of Diane Lang. Diane and Don have both done a lot to help promote our chapter. Don is Chairman of Judges for Pioneer District and sings tenor in "The Jones Boys."

February 14 we sang at Whitcomb Towers Retirement Home and February 17 at the Orchards Mall shopping center. After our show at the mall, Ron Ruff, a chorus member, treated the chorus to coffee at his restaurant in the mall and we sang until the mall closed at 5:30 PM.

It looks like we will have two quartets and three student coaches at the clinic in March. We also have a number of singing engagements coming up and Roger Valentine, our director, has us hard at work on our Spring Contest selections. The Benton Harbor-St Joseph Chapter is having FUN!

Ray Neiman

Oakland County—

The Wolverine Chorus is looking forward to competing at the Spring Convention in Ann Arbor with their usual enthusiasm. Music Director, Al Fisk, with a couple of contests under his white belt, is sure to bring the chorus along fabulously.

The chorus has invited Ron Phillips, director of the River City Chorus of Mason City, Iowa, to conduct a Mini-Hep School on March 14th and 15th to help us improve our sound.

Ron has been very active in the Society for many years both as a competitor and a judge. He is the Chairman of Vocal Music and the Director of Choral Activity for the Mason City Public Schools. The Chapter welcomes him to Oakland County. His talents as a coach will be appreciated.

The Chorus' 1980 show was a sellout and the audience of friends and relations enjoyed the theme, "You Oughta Be In Pictures" as well as the performances of The Royal Assent, The Soundsmen, The Crosstown Exchange, and our own The Very Idea quartets.

Our regular first-Friday Chapter Meeting for March was the very popular Mini-Chorus Contest. This year, for the second year in-a-row, the "Old Oakland Bucket" Trophy was won by The Capitol City Chorus, from Lansing. Congratulations, guys. Well done!

Bill Kellogg

Grosse Pointe—

Things are happening at Grosse Pointe!

We had a big weekend in Chatham, Ontario, with twenty-four couples enjoying themselves no end, with raquet ball, bowling, skating, swimming and tennis. When the Spring Convention rolls around in April, not only will you be hearing some great chords, you will be looking at a trim crew. We are getting into shape in all categories. All we need now, to complete the image, are seventy-five sunlamps or two weeks in Florida. Maybe the Suntones will invite us. We won't mind the off season!

On February 22nd, we had great fun at our annual Inter Chapter Contest with the Port Huron and Clinton Valley Chapters. Twenty quartets graced the boards. Port Huron and Clinton Valley are marvelous hosts and we loved every minute of being there. We are looking forward with eagerness to our next meeting, at our place.

Chapter contests have got to be one of the greatest ways to come together in song and fellowship. The spirit moves when you see and hear some of the quartets perform. The range in age of some of the participants was impressive, for there were a number of talented young men, under the age of twenty, and they were balanced off by one youngster of eighty-two. Just imagine starting in this great hobby in your teens before the Sweet Capperals, the Coca-Cola and staying out till 11 PM took its toll.

The Lakeshore Chorus, as of this writing, is adding up the hours preparing for our annual show and the Spring Convention, both in April. That stage presence is just devastating, and we'll need a big stage in Ann Arbor. I hope you folks were able to buy tickets for our show featuring the Suntones. It sure looks like a winner. Based on our past reviews, and the publicity that this show is receiving, we are bound to attract a large audience. Next year, maybe my wife will come.

Jim Kerrigan

Gratiot County—

The Gratiot County Chapter got off to a good start in 1980 with their Ladies Night on Saturday, February 16th. The hit of the evening was the appearance of a quartet known as the 'Gruesome Foursome (a picture was to accompany this article, but they were so gruesome that the picture wouldn't develop!). Future bookings for this quartet are doubtful because their fee is most unusual -- fresh blood, raw meat, a full moon, etc.

We have our Mini-Show coming up on Saturday, April 12th, with a Test T.V. Show as our theme. It will feature the Mid-statesmen Chorus, and four or more quartets from our chapter. If you can make it to the theater in St. Louis that night, we guarantee you'll have a fun night.

An Open House is scheduled for Monday, May 12th. We have already started learning some new songs with an eye toward participating and placing in the chorus contest at the Spring Convention in Ann Arbor in April. Interchapter meetings, singouts, our annual camp-out, and the St. Joe Island fishing trip are being scheduled.

Our annual Fall Show is set for Saturday, September 27, 1980. There will be two shows and an afterglow. More information will appear in coming issues of the Troubadour. Watch for it.

Clarence Lamoreaux.

Silver Threats Among The Gold...

by Bud Harvey

With the opening of hunting season, I was faced with the unnerving prospect of being bagged mistakenly for a bison unless I had my bangs trimmed. And so, propelled by some atavistic impulse, I returned to familiar haunts and sought out Mr. Holley, whose artistry with comb and shears had won my admiration years ago, before the snows of approaching winter had drifted into my raven locks.

The old neighborhood had changed little. Flugelhorn's bakery had yielded to a discount chiropodist and Parsimony's grocery was now a storefront cathedral for an obscure Oriental cult that practices possum worship. Otherwise, things were much the same.

Except that Mr. Holley's tonsorial parlor had undergone a dramatic transformation. Gone was the weathered red and white striped pole, traditional badge of heraldry. Gone, too, were the well-thumbed copies of the Police Gazette and the August, 1939, National Geographic. Gone the six-foot rattlesnake skin on the wall and the browning photographs of professional hopscotch players.

Even the enamelized lettering on the window proclaiming the place a barbershop was gone, replaced by a discreet neon sign advertising "Hair Styling: \$10.00." My wallet recoiled in horror, spinning me halfway across the sidewalk, and my first impulse was to flee, taking my chances with the many astigmatic hunters who were swarming the countryside. But a wave of nostalgia swept me through the door and into the shop where a born-again Mr. Holley was plying his art on a head that would make a handsome trophy for a Cuzco Indian in the upper reaches of the Amazon.

Time had dealt gently with Mr. Holley. His leathery features retained the fine, durable texture of an alligator hide varnished and he had added a stone or two around the equator. But the rowdy thatch of hair that resembled a mocking bird's nest had given way to a marcelled seascape of silver and white. And yesterday's flowering pima shirt with its lavish smorgasbord of breakfast stains had been replaced by a snowy jacket usually affected by orthodontists, TV laxative pushers and Prussian duelling masters. Wall sconces bathed

the place in a soft, golden glow, replacing the naked neon tubes that used to mutter and flare overhead and the old oiled floor boards of Georgia pine had been buried beneath a coverlet of blue and white tiles.

One relic remained, however, as a reminder of days gone by. The old battered lute still stood in the corner, as it has stood since the days of Charles the Feeble. I crossed to it, drew it into my arms, and struck a plaintive F-seventh. Mr. Holley's shears paused in mid-snip. He flashed a look at me, his eyes widening in recognition. Another customer, immersed in a Dell comic book, looked up in mild surmise.

I strummed another chord and began to sing softly, "Dear old girl, the robin sings above you..."

Mr. Holley cocked his head and swung smoothly into a rich bass: "Dear old girl, it speaks of how I love you..."

The waiting customer put down his comic book and moved in, adding a light tenor: "The blinding tears are falling as I think of my lost Pearl..."

I looked expectantly at the back of the head in the chair, expecting it to swing around and introduce a suave baritone to round out the chords. And, indeed, the chair did swing around to disclose the features of a flinty-eyed matron who pinned Mr. Holley with a savage glare.

"What is this?" she snarled. "A barbershop or a rehearsal hall?"

"Excuse me, Mrs. Willoughby," he mumbled. "I'm afraid I got carried away..."

Mrs. Willoughby sniffed coldly.

"All right, Mr. Holley," she snapped. "Let's keep it barbershop!"





What's Next ?

APRIL

11 Grosse Pointe Chapter Show
12 Grand Rapids Chapter Show
25-27 Spring Convention - Ann Arbor

MAY

3 Boyne City Chapter Show
3 Kalamazoo Chapter Show
17 Niles-Buchanan Chapter Show
24 Pine Knob Spectacular

JUNE

13 International Send-Off Show, Windsor

JULY

7-13 International Convention -
Salt Lake City.

AUGUST

3-10 Harmony College - St Joseph, Missouri

SEPTEMBER

12-14 Harmony Round-Up, Ypsilanti

OCTOBER

17-19 Fall Convention, Jackson

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Rusty

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