

*Merry Christmas  
and  
Happy New Year  
from  
the Pioneer District Officers  
and  
the Troubadour Staff*

WINTER 1980

*December—*

*January*

*Volume XX*

*Issue 6*

pioneer

TROUBADOUR



# Pioneer TROUBADOUR

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

(Publication No. USPS 346080)

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

## TROUBADOUR DEADLINES

Some of you have expressed dismay at  
having just missed a deadline with the ad-  
vertisement to your upcoming show. So, in  
order to prevent this from happening in  
the future, here is the schedule we will  
try to adhere to henceforth:

For Articles to appear in this issue...	Information must be given to the editor by...
Feb - Mar . . . . .	Jan 1
Apr - May . . . . .	Mar 1
Jun - Jul . . . . .	May 1
Aug - Sep . . . . .	Jul 1
Oct - Nov . . . . .	Sep 1
Dec - Jan . . . . .	Nov 1

Please check your significant upcoming  
dates and determine NOW when publicity  
must be available for inclusion in the  
TROUBADOUR. Remember, it is still your  
most economical way of telling every Bar-  
bershopper in Pioneer District about your  
event, -- and -- if you just happen to  
sneak all the information into an article  
and camouflage it as Chapter News -- it's  
FREE! Every Chapter budget should be able  
to handle that.

## Bulletin Editor Of The Year

The search is on in Pioneer District to  
find the man who qualifies for this award.  
So, if you are proud of your bulletin and  
you would like to have it judged by some  
qualified people and perhaps get a few  
pointers as to further improvement, then  
read on....

When you send in your bulletins, they  
will be sent to three different judges.  
Each issue will be judged in three differ-  
ent categories...1)CONTENT...2)LAYOUT and  
REPRODUCTION.... and 3)GRAMMAR and STYLE.  
After the contest, you will receive back  
your issues with the judges comments which  
are only designed to help you improve your  
effort. All this at no cost to you and you  
have a chance at winning the Bulletin Edi-  
tor of the Year Award for Pioneer as well  
as representing the District in the Inter-  
national Bulletin Contest. Top prize in  
the International Contest is a beautiful  
trophy which was donated by Roger Morris  
of the Milford Chapter.

### HERE ARE THE ELIGIBILITY RULES:

1. Bulletins must be from ONE Editor.
2. Only bulletins from 1980 are eligible.
3. Entrants must have published at least  
8 monthly issues in 1980.
4. Three consecutive monthly issues must  
be submitted, plus one additional (not  
necessarily consecutive) of the Edi-  
tor's choice.
5. Eight copies of each of the selected  
bulletins are required. (Two must be  
of the original production copy -- the  
balance may be photo copies.)

### AWARDS

Awards will be given to the top TWO (2)  
contestants.

### INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN CONTEST.

The top two judged entries from Pioneer  
District will automatically be entered in  
the International Bulletin Contest for  
1981. Winners will be announced here in  
Detroit, at the PROBE meeting.

### DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES

Deadline for entries is no later than  
December 15th, 1980. Late entries will  
NOT be accepted.

Forward your entries to:

R.J.Ruegsegger  
2185 Princeton Ave.  
Berkley, Mich. 48072



## Musical Notes from the Big Bear

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

1980 Was a good year in Music Education. Now it is on to bigger and better programs as they were presented at Kenosha by the International Music Staff, District Presidents, and District DMS's. 1981 is the Year to Re-member and we hope that your Musical Educational Program will be just that. Your participation will make it a Year to Remember. Keep in mind, it's your dues money that is helping to support our Music Ed. program, so why not participate and get your moneys worth?

The first big event of 1981 will be the Quartet and Coaching Clinic, to be held February 27, 28 and March 1, 1981, at the

Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, at the Hoyt Conference Center. We are, of necessity, limited as to registrations of Quartets because of space and faculty. So, remember, it's first come - first served. Last year we had to turn away two quartets because we were full. Don't you miss out!

The other BIG EVENT is "HARMONY ROUND-UP" (Mini-Hep) which will be held on September 18, 19 and 20, at Eastern. There will be visitations by Joe Liles, (International Ass't Director of Music Education) Dave Stevens and Dave LaBar, of the International Music Staff.

You will also be hearing soon about a new program called "Direct Hit," along with one or two-day Chapter and Divisional clinics or schools. YOUR participation will make these programs a success. It's the only way to go!

I sincerely hope you have a very Merry Christmas and a most Happy and Prosperous New Year, along with a Happy and Successful year, Musically.

Bill Butler

### PIONEER DISTRICT QUARTET AND COACHING CLINIC REGISTRATION

FEBRUARY 28-29, MARCH 1, 1981

PLEASE REGISTER \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL FEE:  
Name of Quartet  
\$ 45.00 PER MAN  
OR \_\_\_\_\_  
Coaching student

QUARTET PERS: TENOR \_\_\_\_\_ BARI \_\_\_\_\_  
LEAD \_\_\_\_\_ BASS \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT OF DEPOSIT: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ (Minimum Deposit)  
\$20.00 = Student Coach  
\$80.00 = Quartet

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
(Area) \_\_\_\_\_  
CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: JIM STEPHENS, ASS'T DME  
6336 Clarendon Dr.  
Canton, MI. 48187

Ph(313) 459-4011

LIMITED ENROLLMENT-----DON'T BE LEFT OUT-----REGISTER NOW



# WHERE WILL YOU BE NEXT JULY?

- You Could be staying in the world's Tallest & Most Modern Hotel!
- You Could be riding a trolley with Keystone Cops!
- You Could be strolling through yesteryear in Greenfield Village and the Henry Ford Museum!
- You Could be watching your new car being made at Ford or General Motors!
- You Could cross the world's largest International Bridge and visit Canada! (Where your dollar goes further)
- You Could have a reserved seat for the finest Quartets and Choruses in the world!
- You Could have the finest week of your life!

It's all waiting for you . . . and much, much MORE . . . in Detroit '81.

Will YOU be there? All your friends are expecting you! Just fill out the registration form below and the BIG ONE is all yours!



INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION  
REGISTRATION ORDER FORM

I hereby order registrations as follows:

QUANTITY		RATE	TOTAL AMOUNT
	ADULT	@ \$30.00	\$
	JR. ( UNDER 19 )	@ \$15.00	\$
← TOTAL REGISTRATIONS		TOTAL → PAYMENT	\$

TICKETS AND BROCHURES MAY BE SENT VIA UPS; THEREFORE A STREET ADDRESS IS PREFERABLE. IF UPS IS NOT CONVENIENT FOR YOU, PLEASE CHECK HERE. ☐

NAME	
STREET ADDRESS	
CITY, STATE, PROVINCE	POSTAL CODE

DATE

## INSTRUCTIONS

**ORDERING AT CONVENTION:** Fill out order form in full and give to clerk at Convention Registration Desk. Full payment must accompany order. DO NOT DETACH - Clerk will issue 2nd copy as your receipt.

**ORDERING BY MAIL:** Fill out order form and mail both copies with payment to:

SPEBSQSA, P.O. Box 575, Kenosha, Wis. 53141

**REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES:** Admission to all official events; reserved seat at all contest sessions; a registration badge and souvenir program.

Registration tickets and event information will be sent in the first weeks of April prior to the convention. In the meantime, please keep receipt for your records.

If your address changes before convention, please send a special notice to SPEBSQSA CONVENTION OFFICE, BOX 575, KENOSHA, WI 53141.

Make checks payable to "SPEBSQSA." Registrations are transferrable but not redeemable.  
FOR 1981 CONVENTION ONLY- INT'L. OFFICE COPY





## **DETROIT'S RENAISSANCE CENTER**

That's the site of the 1981 International Convention of SPEBSQSA . . . and YOU are cordially invited to enjoy the biggest event in Barbershopping! There's just nothing like the fellowship and excitement of the BIG ONE . . . woodshedding 'til the wee hours . . . Chord-itorium every night . . . hospitality rooms everywhere . . . exciting and colorful contests . . . mingling and singing with the Champions . . . the Mass Sing . . . The Saturday Night Show of Champs . . . it's all going to happen next July 5 to 11 in the Renaissance City!



The Society Museum Program is off and running with the first meeting of the Committee at Harmony Hall recently. Under the chairmanship of Bob Hockenbrough, committee members met to lay plans for the display and dramatization of the history of the Society. Present plans call for the museum to be housed in Harmony Hall and to feature displays, films and music highlighting the history of Barbershop music and heritage. The Decrepits Association is spearheading the operation and will present a complete program to the Society in the near future.

The V.M. on P.M. or the Vocal Majority on PM TV Magazine. Excellent TV coverage was presented recently with an eight minute segment on Texas PM TV show, soon to go national. Watch your local listings for PM Magazine in your area to catch this show. While you're at it, watch for another national PM Magazine show produced in Salt Lake City during the recent International Convention. This features the Boston Common and Grandma's Boys, along with scenes of the mass sing and interviews. It's slated to hit the national TV waves, too, in the near future.

And Speaking Of Publicity...an upcoming issue of Fortune Magazine (possibly December, 1980 issue) will feature interviews with many Barbershopper Executives discussing their Society activities. Story theme is how busy corporate officers relax with our favorite hobby.

Award of Harmony Plaque orders are rolling in. If your chapter is planning to participate in this truly effective Public Relations program, it is suggested that plaque orders be sent to International Office fairly soon to be sure your plaque is on hand for engraving and presentation to the recipient. A flyer illustrating the Award of Harmony Plaque has been sent to all Chapter Presidents.

Wanna Sing With A Whale? Well, you can if you attend the Mid-Winter Convention January 28-31, 1981 in San Diego. Shamu (of TV Fame) the friendly Killer Whale at San Diego's Sea World is being specially trained to perform with the Grand Tradition Quartet and the audience at the special Barbershopper's Night at Sea World Show January 30. John Spafford, member of the San Diego Chapter, is Shamu's trainer and promises the whale will stay on key. Check your current HARMONIZER for complete registration details. Incidentally, your editor met Shamu on a recent planning trip to San Diego and after petting his tongue (the whale's, that is) is assured that all will go very "smoothly". Other events include Board Meetings, trips to Mexico, Harbor Cruises and the Show of Shows, featuring: Boston Common, Chicago News, Roaring 20's, Grand Tradition and Classic Collection. Seats for the show are assigned in the order received. For Snowbird Barbershoppers, San Diego promises a welcome respite from the "winter wearies".

Detroit '81 International Convention registrations continue to roll in. Looks like another 'monster' in the offing. Recent three-day planning with the Detroit Committee resulted in some great programs for members....tours throughout Canada.... just across the river..special shows every day in the Hart Mall between the Headquarters Plaza Hotel (world's tallest hotel) and Cobo Arena..yesteryear nostalgia trips to the world-famous Greenfield Village. We've recorded thousands of registrations so far...but the big Chorus Blocs are just about to come in...so you had better get YOUR registration in today!

It's Election Time throughout the Society in October... and our best wishes to all those who will take the Chapter and District reins for 1981. COT School for all new officers will be held December 6-7 in Pioneer District. Be sure that your chapter officers all attend. It's one of the key elements in developing a strong leadership team for the future of your chapter.



CHORD-ially,

Burt Schindler  
Director of Communications

SPEBSQSA

# PONTIAC CHAPTER

## 38<sup>th</sup> Annual PARADE

VALENTINE DAY  
of PARADE  
BARBER SHOP  
QUARTETS

SATURDAY  
FEB. 14  
8:00 P.M. - 1981

ADMISSIONS

\$ 5.00  
SHOW

\$ 5.00 AFTERGLOW

PONTIAC'S  
"MERRY MOTOR MEN"  
CHORUS

DON BARRETT  
DIRECTING

BRING YOUR  
VALENTINE  
PARTY  
TO THE  
AFTERGLOW

FOR A  
PARTY OF  
EIGHT OR  
MORE ---  
WE WILL  
RESERVE YOU  
A TABLE !

Featuring the...  
"CINCINNATI KIDS"  
CINCINNATI - COLUMBUS - CLEVELAND  
SUPER SHOW SENSATIONS  
Johnny Appleseed District Champs  
and "The MUSIC MART"  
former "CARDINALS"  
PAST CARDINAL  
DISTRICT  
CHAMPS

And the...  
"SATURDAY"  
NITE FEATURE  
Michigan's Third  
Place Winners  
1980-81

### PONTIAC NORTHERN HIGH SCHOOL

TICKETS AT : GRINNELL'S - Pontiac Mall  
OR CONTACT : GEORGE MEKRAS, 8251 WHITE LAKE RD.  
CLARKSTON MI 48016, or call 625-1776

Scenery & Production by Bill Pascher



## Introducing our 1980 PIONEER DISTRICT QUARTET CHAMPIONS

### Center Stage

At the time of the formation of this Barbershop Quartet in late 1979, its members boasted a combined total of 75 years of membership in the Society. Among them, they can proudly claim two International Gold Medals, one Silver Medal, four Bronze Medals and several District Championships. All have competed at both District and International levels in both quartets and choruses many times, and have entertained on Chapter Shows and for general audiences outside the Society all over the United States and Canada.

Why, you say, if they have done so much would they want to do more? An honest question, I'm sure, but remember, these men are singers. It is what they do. The joy of it is theirs and they want to share it with their friends. Very simply, they have to sing. Come, enjoy it with them... share CENTER STAGE.



WENDELL PRYOR, tenor, is a transplant, recruited from Eighty-Four, Pennsylvania, to sing with CENTER STAGE. A 13 year member of the Society, whose experience belies his boyish good looks, Wendell sang in two International Contests with a quartet known as "Re-Arrangement". It was with this quartet, in 1978, that Wendell won the District Championship. He previously sang with several other quartets while in the Pittsburgh area. Wendell works as a commercial sign painter in Ypsilanti, MI. He has two teenaged sons who take great pride in their Dad's music as does their mother, Nancy, who is a very involved Sweet Adeline.

DENNIS GORE, the lead with CENTER STAGE brings with him the experience of having sung lead with "The Vagabonds", who were Pioneer District Champions in 1969, and many-time International Competitors, having won Top-Five Medals in 1975, '76, & 1977. This very popular quartet was the Second Place (Silver) Medallist in 1976. Denny is a 14 year member of the Society. He is the Systems and Procedures Supervisor for Chrysler Fleet Sales. He lives in Sterling Heights, MI, with his lovely wife Jan. He is a graduate of Ferris State College and is the father of a teenaged boy and an almost-teenaged girl.

GLENN VAN TASSELL, the baritone, was introduced to barbershopping in Binghamton, New York, and migrated to the Detroit area after touring with a professional concert chorus for two seasons as baritone soloist. Although involved in many Society activities, Glenn is probably best known for his accomplishments as a singer...he is the only man in the history of the Society who has won International Championships singing two different voice parts...he sang lead with "The Auto Towners" in 1966, and baritone with the "Gentlemen's Agreement", 1971 Champions. Glenn somehow finds time to be active in chorus directing, coaching and is a Certified Interpretation Judge. Glenn and his wife, Donna, enjoy barbershopping as a mutual hobby and also share their vocation...they are Sales Representatives in the Office Products Industry.

LEE HANSON, bass, has been involved with music most of his life, beginning with piano lessons at the age of four. He already had considerable singing experience when he joined the Society in 1962. Since then, his membership has spanned the country. He has sung with Chapters in Ohio, New Jersey, Tennessee, Virginia and California as well as here in Michigan. He has performed on the International stage four times with both choruses and quartets. He has been a member of two district champion quartets and two district champion choruses, one, of which, as their director. Lee and his wife, Jan, have three children, and live in Birmingham, MI. A graduate of Michigan State University, he is Vice President and General Manager of WQRS - Timeless FM 105, a classical music radio station in Detroit, Michigan.

continued on next page



There you have it, a profile of the men behind those beautiful sounds. Should you wish to contact the group, write to:

Glenn VanTassell  
5876 Mohawk Dr.  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

## **Wails from Wayne . . .**

by Bob Miquelon

We gave it our best shot ever, and we walked off that stage in Jackson very proud! Truly, since I rejoined the Wayne Chapter in the spring of 1968, I have sung in all of our contests except one, and I have never felt more pleased and proud than I did on Saturday afternoon in Jackson, October 18, 1980. It was our best performance ever, and they can't take that away from us.

The Great Lakes tide from Grand Rapids had to be super to beat southeast Michigan's best choruses at this contest, and they were! Congratulations to Clay Shumard and the great Grand Rapids Chapter... this has certainly been their year. We will all look forward to a great performance from them in Detroit next summer. I predict they will place better than 14th, because they have shown to all that chorus competition in our Pioneer District has been improving steadily in terms of quality over the last few years. We at Wayne salute you!

We can now focus our full attention on the big job facing us... the biggest job we've ever had, and that is working together with the other chapters in S.M.A.C. to put on the biggest and best International Convention ever.

Two major activities pending at this writing are an A.F.A. Program at Westland Shopping Center on October 28, and our 9th Annual Past President's and Old Timer's Night (Irreverently referred to as P.P.O. T. Nite) on Friday, November 14th, at our new regular meeting place, Country Place Community Center, just north of Eight Mile Road, West of Meadowbrook Road. (It's in Novi Twp. with a Northville P.O. address.)

One of the highlights of the evening will be the re-induction of Clare Wilson, who was President of the Wayne Chapter way back in 1949-50. Clare was recently 'discovered' in Northville by one of our members and he's decided to re-join. Another highlight will be the appearance and per-

formance of our new 1980 District Champion Quartet - the Center Stage!

Our 1981 Chapter Officers are:

President, Bob Riedel; M.V.P., Al Friker; P.V.P., Paul Millis; Treas., Roger Smith; Corresp. Sec'y, John Ashford; Recording sec'y, Warren LeBaron; Sgts. at Arms, Charles Uhler and Bob Irwin; Bulletin Editor, Ken Kostielney; P.R. Officer, Bob Miquelon; Immed. Past Pres., Hubbs Grimm; Musical Dir., Steve Sutherland; Assoc. Musical Dir., Gordon Limburg, Chorus Comm. Chairman, Jim McLane.

The Wayne Chapter Telephone No. (which also serves Southeast Michigan Chapters is (313) 525-0370.

From here on out until March, we will be concentrating on our Annual Show, on March 6 & 7, 1981. With no contests to worry about until next October (except for Mike-Tester appearance in Cobo Hall on Saturday afternoon, July 11, 1981), we can safely predict that Wonderland Chorus will perform to the new high standard established in Jackson last October...in other words, it'll be a really great show.

## **Gratiot County Chapter News . . .**

The Midstatesmen had hardly arrived home from their fishing trip - singout on St. Joe Island, Canada, when they were put to work by director Mike Bowen learning some new songs for the fall show "Vaudeville". We had a very successful two-show performance with the help of our great guest quartets, the "Friends of Harmony" from Baltimore, MD., and from the "Harmony Hounds" of Battle Creek, on Saturday, September 27th.

Just two weeks later we put on a scaled down version of that show at Montcalm Community College. We were warmly received by all at their Red Barn Theater.

We have held our election of officers for the new year with Ken Best, President; Jim Hall, M.V.P.; Paul Hull, P.V.P.; 'Shorty' Bilow, Secretary; Jeff Rayburn, Treasurer; Dave Rayburn, Show Chairman; Greg Brown and Bill Freeman as trustees. Mike Bowen will be our Director and Jeff Rayburn, his assistant. The old and new boards have already held a joint session, with many ideas discussed. One idea which was approved was to move the fall show to October, after the Fall Convention.

Installation of Officers will take

continued on next page . . .

place in December, probably at the Christmas Party with the wives in attendance.

Some new songs are being learned, two of which we will probably sing at competition next spring in Traverse City. The midstatesmen are talking about, and planning to attend the 1981 National Convention in Detroit, next July. We feel that 1981 will be OUR YEAR!

NUMBER ONE IN EIGHTY ONE!

Merry Christmas and a "Happy Woodshedding New Year."

Clarence Lamoreaux

### **Monroe Chapter News . . .**

Our Floral City Chorus sang at the First Annual Apple Festival in New Boston. The weather was cool, but the music was fine. The only other activity in October was preparing for and going to Jackson. I guess we didn't impress the judges sitting at the tables very much, but some of the 'judges' sitting in the audience thought we did real well. We felt we did well, and isn't that the important thing? Thanks to the Jackson Chapter for all their efforts for the Contest and Convention.

We picked up several members this year. They are John Bogan and son, Mike, Roger Barnes, Wendell Murphy, Perry Main, Bob Rauch, Sam Soloman, Todd Smeltzer, Willy Scott, Jim Stenson and Ed Terry. Welcome fellas and help us "Keep America Singing." An open house is scheduled for the first two Monday nights in November. It would be great to add some more to the list.

We are looking forward to our 17th Annual Show, February 20th and 21st, to be held in beautiful St. Mary's Academy Auditorium. Featured quartets will be the "Harmony Hounds," a very good comedy quartet from our District, and the "Boston Common," our current International Quartet Champions, who look good, sing great, and put on an excellent performance. For ticket information, call Jerry Klaes - - phone (313) 753-9720.

Best Wishes for the Holidays from the Monroe Chapter to all of you.

Don Schroeder

### **Muskegon Chapter News . . .**

Muskegon is trying to get more new mem-

bers so we can be a full-fledged chapter again.

We have 5 new members who have never sung barbershop harmony before and we have some others who are interested.

We had a fish fry on October 9th at which we had a good turnout. We had six visitors that night and are enjoying their company at our rehearsals.

We went to Jackson and took two of our new members to introduce them to some good chorus singing.

We went to Grand Rapids for their Hobo Night and had a very good time, enjoying some good hobo stew.

Chord-ially...

Berney Kitchen

### **Report from S.M.A.C.**

We are trying to nail down the date for Pine Knob III so we can engage the Louisville Chapter's Kentucky Thoroughbred's Package Show.

We still need volunteers for committee activity for the 1981 Convention. Please call Bill Warner 542-0581 (buss. 280-0555) Clay Jones 878-3662 (buss. 961-1643), or Bob Miquelon 421-6132 (buss. 525-0370) to add your name to the growing list of volunteers. What is your specialty field or preference?

The current officers of SMAC were re-elected for another year. They are: Bob Miquelon, President (Wayne), Phil Wright, Vice-President (Detroit), Sterling Berry, Secretary (Grosse Pointe), and Gene Harrington, Treasurer (Oakland County).

Bob Miquelon

## **RISERS FOR SALE**

The Wayne Chapter is selling a set of four-step risers, eight sections, all in usable condition.

**Price - \$500.00**

Call Hubbs Grimm on (313) 455-9799.

# MONROE CHAPTER IN "BARBERSHOP DAYS"

PRESENTS THE

## 17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL "PARADE OF HARMONY"

- FEATURING -

THE  
"BOSTON COMMON"  
FROM  
BOSTON, MASS.  
1980 INTERNATIONAL  
CHAMPS

THE  
"HARMONY HOUNDS"  
FROM  
BATTLECREEK, MI.  
A FUNNIER KIND OF  
BARBERSHOP QUARTET

PLUS THE

- ★ "MONROE FLORAL CITY CHORUS"
- ★ "COUNTRY ESTATE" - MONROE
- ★ "LONG & SHORT OF IT" - MONROE

FEB. 20 & 21

8:00 ST. MARY'S ACADEMY - MONROE

FOR TICKETS CONTACT: DICK METZ 269-6388

## Gene Gillem elected to Pioneer District Hall of Fame

BARBERSHOPPER, 55, STILL TUNING UP.

by Fred E. Garrett, The Saginaw News

Eugene C. Gillem, 902 Ardussi, Frankenth, is only 55.

But he has been an amateur singer for 45 of those years, is one of Michigan's best-known barbershoppers, and has been a barbershopper for 40 of the 42 years the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America (SPEBSQSA) has been in existence.

And true to the 'pure-ear' theory held by many barbershoppers, Gillem truthfully cannot read a note of music.

He has belonged to five different barbershop chapters - including the old Saginaw Chapter and now the Saginaw-Bay Chapter - and is former president (1968-69) of Barbershopping's Pioneer District, which is made up of Michigan and parts of Canada and is one of barbershopping's 16 districts in the country.

In 1955, he was president of the Battle Creek Chapter and in 1961-62, was elected president of the old Saginaw Chapter.

On top of that, he has been a Pioneer District counselor, served on the Pioneer District board, and acted as the Pioneer District representative on the International SPEBSQSA Board at Kenosha, Wis., in 1970-71.

He was the 1971 president of barbershopping's International Decrepits, made up of SPEBSQSA past-presidents and other officers of the SPEBSQSA International board.

Right now, he is a member of barbershopping's exclusive Ah-So Club, which means he must be able to sing three of barbershopping's four harmony parts in 10 songs while performing with other barbershoppers with whom he is not acquainted.

"Oh, it's really a hobby, a labor of fun and love -- like all barbershopping should be," said Gillem, who is midwest sales representative both for Jefferies Hosiery out of Burlington, NC, and Walkover Shoes of Brockton, MA. Gillem formerly owned two shoe stores, both in Battle Creek, and was formerly employed by the old B.F. Goodrich Footwear Co.

"I think I've been present at some time during almost every barbershop chapter

practice throughout the Pioneer District (33 chapters)," Gillem said.

It all started for Gillem, who was born April 30, 1924, in Benton Harbor, when - at the age of 10 - he sang baritone in the "Gillem Trio," made up of him and two of his brothers, Vern (then age 5, the tenor) and Lynn (then age 8, the lead).

"We first sang a six-week engagement for the WXYZ Kiddies Carnival - just before the Lone Ranger show - in Detroit, in 1934. That same year, we sang on Quinn Ryan's Amateur Hour on Chicago Radio Station WBBM," said Gillem.

"We almost appeared on an amateur show on a New York City radio station, but we just weren't good enough," he said.

In 1940, when he was 16, his family moved back to Kalamazoo from Detroit and he joined the barbershop chapter there. Then came a brief stay in Toledo, where he again was a barbershopper, and then a move back to Kalamazoo. He joined the Kalamazoo chapter and - for a time - was a member of both the Kalamazoo and Battle Creek barbershopping chapters.

He graduated from Kalamazoo High School in 1944 but was not drafted because he was bothered seriously by asthma. After opening two retail shoe stores in Battle Creek he was employed as a salesman for the B.F. Goodrich Footwear and Converse Shoe Co.

In 1961, when he was transferred to Saginaw by Goodrich, he helped reorganize the Saginaw barbershop chapter, becoming chapter president in 1961-62. He was then asked to serve as the Pioneer District Area Counselor for this part of Michigan.

While in Kalamazoo, he sang with several barbershop quartets, including the "Crosstowners" made up of Battle Creek and Kalamazoo barbershop chapter members.

He once sang with Lansing's John Hill singers - a group of nine women and five men.





## What's In A Name?

by Bud Harvey, Sunshine District

As Billy Shakespeare was saying just the other day to the boys down at the livery stable, "What's in a name? A rose by any other name would smell as sweet..."

They haven't allowed Shakespeare within 50 feet of the livery stable ever since.

We have just gone through the catharsis of naming a new quartet, which reminds me of the Shakespeare incident. Naming a new quartet is tougher than having a baby. Not since the "Rutherford B. Hayes Memorial Four" flickered briefly and died ignominiously in district competition, has there been such soul-searching. My recommendation that we parade under the banner of the "Puckering Valley Glee Club" was treated with the lofty disdain it deserved. Even my alternate proposal to call ourselves the "Martin County Philharmonic" never had a chance.

And so, at the earnest behest of the Bishop of Jensen Beach, we have been inscribed on tablets of gold in Kenosha as the "Final Touch". I'm dubious. It has a certain mausoleum ring to it. I feel it belongs on a headstone, not on a show program. And when I test marketed it on the memsahib, she looked up from her Gothic novel and inquired brightly, "What are you doing now - opening an interior decorating shop?"

All of which brings me to the core of this month's soliloquy: What ever became of those good, honest, forthright quartet names like The Suntones, The Four Hearsemen, The Four Statesmen and the assorted sets of Brothers? Time was when the name of a barbershop quartet gave you a broad hint that you were dealing with four guys. Sometimes, the name went one step further and even clued you in on the fact that it was a vocal group. Imaginative quartet christeners devised happy monikers like The Notewits, The Surf Chords and The Cleff Dwellers.

Those were the good old days.... in the Key of B-flat.

Then, all of a sudden, barbershop quartet names began sounding like the names of boutiques. Or (heaven forfend!) like rock

groups from Liverpool. I remember when the remnants of the old Village Squares turned up, running from the Texas wishbone, and calling themselves "The First Edition." I figured they were going to open a rare book shop or, at worst, turn themselves over to a team of newsboys for home delivery.

The Song Machine came out of Pensacola and turned out not to be a mechanical monster at all, but just four guys singing barbershop. The Allegheny Express is a quartet in West Virginia, not a spin-off from Amtrac. There are the Optical Illusion, the Broken Record and, here at home, the Harmony Factor, the New Combination, New Edition, Act IV, the Right Approach, Impact!, and Unimpeachable Source.

Now I ask you, Owen - and you too, Rupert - what do you make of names like these? A far cry from the Hard Rock Harmony Four and the Pittsburghers, eh?

Mind you, I have no quibble with odd-ball names like the Opa-Locka Gas Company or the Grace B. Ferguson Storm Door and Airline Company. These are frankly 23-skiddoo names, baldly advertising a comedy skit and the more the merrier.

It's just that I can't get used to barbershop quartet names that look like they belong over the doors of cute little shops in Provincetown and Bar Harbor.

Or maybe its just that I'm getting old and cranky and I'm having trouble adapting to modern inventions like love bugs, mouthy teen-agers, the metric system and quaint sounding quartet names.





Fran Durham, Pioneer District Logopedics Chairman  
14851 Stahelin, Detroit, Michigan 48223

Phones: Business, (313) 751-2110 x 40; Residential, (313) 272-0892

Make checks payable to Harmony Foundation and mail to:  
Ruth Marks, SPEBSQSA, Inc.,  
6315 3rd. Ave. Kenosha, Wisc. 53141

## Children learn to communicate through Music

The squeaks and honks of tuning instruments filled the room.

Jamie, with a teacher's assistance, patiently assembled his trumpet and set up his music stand. Kevin carefully strummed his guitar following the notes with his eyes. Later that day, Tommy practices the lyrics to a new song.

Kevin, Jamie and Tommy are students at the Institute of Logopedics in the music program.

In 1959, a music teacher, Betty Welsbacher, moved to Wichita to enroll her son at the Institute of Logopedics. She felt a need for a music program and consequently developed the first special music program in the nation. It has since blossomed into an established form of therapy that has been proven to optimize the learning process.

The music program at the Institute is a unit within the special education division. Through the use of instruments and singing, music reinforces techniques learned in regular classrooms. The program is mandatory for each student enrolled at the Institute.

"Music not only deals with musical concepts, but aids in developing motor, visual, and manipulating skills," according to Verlene Warner, music supervisor.

Music educators are trained to offer the exceptional child many benefits including: emotional release, personal awareness, and an orderly sequence of educational experiences. A Special Music Education program is currently offered at Wichita State University, training future teachers to work with handicapped children through the vehicle of music.

The use of music as a form of therapy has been used throughout the years. But to Tommy, Kevin, Jamie and the other children at the Institute, it is special. It gives them a means to express their feelings and to communicate.

We take music for granted and we sing for fun and fellowship. To the children at the Institute, music can be a lifeline. Lets continue singing for fun and fellowship but at the same time, lets spread the word about barbershopper's support of the Institute of Logopedics and the common interest that we have.

(Article, courtesy of the Institute of Logopedics.)

Fran Durham  
Pioneer District  
Logopedics Chairman



THE MOST HAPPY FELLOWS, 1977 International Barbershop Quartet Champions, entertained and were entertained at the Institute while in town for the May 10th Wichita Air Capitol Chorus Spring Show.

## Barbershoppers Top \$3 Million Mark

This year is a milestone in the annals of Barbershop giving to the Institute of Logopedics, for this year the 37,000-member organization topped the \$3 million mark in contributions to the Institute's programs for serving the communicatively handicapped.

Barbershoppers (or the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.) have supported the Institute as their international service project since 1964. Their slogan is "We Sing That They Shall Speak."

Since that time, Barbershoppers in 750 chapters throughout the world have raised their voices in song, that children might be helped to speak. Through sing-outs, and stage shows, raffles and benefit bike rides—even a proposed parachute drop in Montana—Barbershoppers have carried the Institute's message to millions.

Barbershoppers are considered special friends to the Institute children, and when a Barbershop family visits, they get special smiles of gratitude.



Communicating, like singing, takes ability and natural talent with which some people are born — but which others must learn. The Institute of Logopedics is dedicated to serving persons with disorders affecting communication. Barbershoppers are dedicated to supporting this work, having selected the Institute as their International Service Project.

For information about Institute of Logopedics programs, contact: Director of Admissions, Institute of Logopedics, 2400 Jardine Drive, Wichita, Ks. 67219. Phone (316) 262-8271.



## ***IOL Student Honorary Barbershopper***

Mike, 15, a student at the Institute of Logopedics, is an Honorary Member of the Maple City Chorus, New York Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America.

Mike enrolled at the Institute in 1973 and has made substantial advancements in the special education program. His academic interests include math and language, but his favorite subject is music. Mike is gifted with perfect pitch and is currently under private piano instructions given by Verlene Warner, Music Supervisor. He is also active in the Institute chorus and enjoys singing in Sunday School.

Like most teenage boys, Mike enjoys sports, kites, picking mulberries, puzzles and girls.

**STUDENTS EXPAND** the scope of sensory experiences through a variety of art forms. Shape, texture, and color hold their own fascination for students in the Institute's art classes.

**PRE-SCHOOL YOUNGSTERS** in the Oral Program for Hearing Impaired Children receive emphasis on pre-academic skills. The program is designed for children whose major handicapping condition is hearing impairment.



**AUDIOLOGICAL TESTING** and evaluation is conducted periodically on children with a hearing loss or related medical problems to monitor the status of hearing. The audiology program offers both diagnostic and rehabilitative services for persons of all ages.





# S/S NORWAY

The Grand Rapids Great Lakes Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America . . . . .

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14.	International, Pool, Viking, Norway, Fjord, Atlantic Biscayne Decks Inside Stateroom, two lower beds or double bed	\$1,190.00
15.	Atlantic, Biscayne, International, Pool, Viking, Norway, Dolphin Decks - Inside Stateroom, two lower beds or double bed	\$1,130.00
12.	Viking, Norway and Atlantic Decks - Upper & Lower beds, Outside Stateroom	\$1,095.00
17.	International, Pool, Viking and Norway Decks Upper & Lower beds, Inside Stateroom	\$1,040.00

*Rates subject to change without prior notice.*



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### RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS

A \$250.00 deposit per person is due in order to secure space. An additional \$250.00 per person is due by May 20, 1981. FINAL PAYMENT is due no later than AUGUST 14, 1981.

### CANCELLATIONS

In the event of cancellation, a charge of 25% of the cruise fare will be made at the cruise lines discretion if reservations are not cancelled in writing at least 60 days prior to sailing.

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St. Thomas. It's one of the Caribbean's loveliest sights — emerald mountains on both sides of your ship as you sail through the narrow entrance to St. Thomas harbor, in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Charming brick warehouses from Danish colonial days have been converted into elegant duty-free shops, offering bargains in perfumes, liquors, cameras, and much more. After shopping, ride up to Bluebeard's Castle and sip a daiquiri on a high terrace, overlooking the harbor.



**Okay, boys and girls . . .  
it's STORYTIME!**



This is a story of two very close friends - Sam, the Clam, and Freddie, The frog. Close friends, yes, but their style of living was very different. Freddie was very pious; he was dedicated to his family and he attended church regularly. Sam, on the other hand, was a free spirit, who drank deeply of the cup of 'Life's Pleasures' and smelled ALL the flowers along the way.

It's sad to tell, but one day as they were out riding together, they were involved in an accident and both were killed. Just as we are taught, Freddie, the Frog, went straight to his reward. Immediately after his interview with St Peter, he was issued his set of wings and given a personalized, custom-made harp.

Contrary to our beliefs, however, Sam, the Clam, did not go to eternal suffering! Instead, he opened a Disco on Main Street, in downtown Hell, and that's where he could be found every night, boogying-down.

It wasn't long, however, before they became lonesome for one another and so Freddie placed a long-distance call to his old buddy. Sam was delighted to hear from him and before they had talked very long, he had invited Freddie to come down for a visit. Freddie immediately went to St Pe-

ter to ask permission to make the trip and after much pleading, Peter reluctantly agreed.

"But only for one day," said St Peter, "and remember to be back before midnight, because that's when the gates are locked."

So, bright and early on the morning of the appointed day, Freddie set out on his trip. What a joyful reunion they had and how they enjoyed themselves that day! Later in the evening, Freddie accompanied Sam to the Disco and they really "cut loose."

The evening hours simply flew by and all of a sudden, Freddie, remembering St Peter's admonition, looked at his watch. 11:55! He said a hurried goodbye to Sam, and rushed to the elevator.

As he reached Heaven, and the elevator doors opened, he could see that the pearly gates had started to close! He literally flew, and made it through just as St Peter was about to turn the key.

(Okay folks, here it comes!)

St Peter turned to Freddie and said, "Well, I see you made it back, but, there's just one thing . . . WHERE IS YOUR HARP?" (get ready!)

Freddie (sounding a lot like Tony Bennett) said . . .

"I LEFT MY HARP IN SAM CLAM'S DISCO!"



**BARBERSHOP IS**

**LOVE**



The truth of this slogan was proven to me again the other day when I read about an episode which Al Smith, editor of "The Vocal Chord," swears is TRUE!

It seems that there was a young man in the Danver MILE HI Chorus who was trying to improve his relationship with a certain young lady. So he had this bright idea and, when the chorus gathered for a luncheon meeting in Salt Lake City, at Convention, he arrived with 50 post cards addressed to this would-be sweetheart. When

he was given the opportunity to speak to the group, he asked if anyone would take a card and write him a character reference or a personal testimony. Amazingly, all 50 cards were immediately snapped up and soon the only sound to be heard was that of 50 ballpoint pens scratching out words of wisdom....?

No one seems to know how the situation came out but one thing for certain, if she has a sense of humor to match his, they certainly deserve one another.

# SCORING SUMMARY

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

## Pioneer District Chorus Contest

Held at Jackson, Michigan - October 18, 1980

### The Panel of Judges

Chairman..... Larry King, Farmington Hills, MI  
 Sound..... Thomas Ewald, Mechanicsburg, PA  
 ..... David Patterson, Pleasant Valley, CONN  
 Interpretation..... Meyer Press, Sharon, MASS  
 Stage Presence..... Joe Cutsinger, Louisville, KY  
 ..... Joe Mason, Wellesley, MASS  
 Arrangement..... Mel Knight, Lebanon, ORE  
 ..... Nick Lawrence, Austin, TX  
 Secretary..... John T. Gillespie, Kalamazoo, MI  
 Ass't Secretary..... Herm Dykema, Kalamazoo, MI  
 Timers..... Dick Simpson, Jackson, MI  
 ..... E. A. (Van) VanDeZande, Hudson, MI



### District

Pioneer  
 Mid-Atlantic  
 Northeastern  
 Northeastern  
 Cardinal  
 Northeastern  
 Evergreen  
 Southwestern  
 Pioneer  
 Pioneer  
 Pioneer  
 Pioneer

CATEGORY: SONG NO.:	SOUND		INT		STAGE PRES.	ARR		TOTAL	SINGING SECONDS
	1	2	1	2		1	2		

RANK	CONTESTANT	SOUND		INT		STAGE	ARR		TOTAL	SINGING
		1	2	1	2	PRES.	1	2		SECONDS
1.	Grand Rapids	139	136	152	156	307	+1	+2	893	185 129
2.	Wayne	156	151	146	148	294	-10	0	885	142 179
3.	Detroit #1	149	137	140	128	285	+1	0	840	157 131
4.	Oakland County	127	124	148	134	228	+5	+4	770	130 113
5.	Grosse Pointe	125	120	142	146	198	0	+4	735	149 125
6.	Huron Valley	127	124	132	128	203	-1	+4	717	157 131
7.	Monroe	118	113	126	136	192	+4	+6	695	135 130
8.	Lansing	130	138	120	128	119	-6	+3	632	130 171
9.	Kalamazoo	105	111	100	112	147	0	0	554a	135 102
10.	Benton Harbor-									
	St. Joseph	105	100	124	116	196	0	0	522b	89 134
11.	Port Huron	91	88	108	100	157	+2	-2	425c	133 90

### Ineligible Contestant (per Article 5(d) of Chorus Contest Rules

Clinton Valley 102 106 116 120 117 +3 +4 554d 119 119

a - Time penalty - 21 points (3 sec. @ 7 pts./Sec. )

b - Time penalty - 119 points (17 sec. @ 7 pts./Sec.)

c - Time penalty - 119 points (17 sec. @ 7 pts./Sec.)

d - Time penalty - 14 points (2 sec. @ 7 pts./Sec.)



Grand Rapids will represent Pioneer District at the International Chorus Contest in 1981.

Wayne is the Alternate.

# Official Scoring Summary

## Pioneer District Quartet Contest

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

Held at Jackson, Michigan

- October 18, 1980



Category:	<u>SOUND</u>		<u>INT</u>		STAGE	<u>ARR</u>		SUB	PREV.	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>SINGING</u>
Song No.:	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>PRES.</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>POINTS</u>		
RANK Contestant											

### Finals

1.	Center Stage	148	144	156	160	305	-1	+4	916	899	1815	156	176
2.	Black Velvet	123	122	144	148	244	+8	+4	793	829	1622	129	176
3.	Saturday Nite												
	Feature	143	137	148	160	274	0	+6	868	727	1595	152	119
4.	Sounds Around	146	136	144	156	227	+6	+2	817	763	1580	165	180
5.	Cadence Counts	112	106	132	134	259	+1	+3	747	719	1466	181	143
6.	Dutch Masters	122	104	144	136	213	0	-16	703	650	1353	127	136
7.	The Tunester's												
	Union	110	104	130	136	196	0	+1	677	631	1308	159	149
8.	The Sound												
	Ambassadors	97	87	128	132	194	-2	+1	637	662	1299	150	171

CENTER STAGE IS THE PIONEER DISTRICT QUARTET CHAMPION.  
DUTCH MASTERS IS THE PIONEER DISTRICT JUNIOR QUARTET CHAMPION.  
SOUNDS AROUND IS THE PIONEER DISTRICT NOVICE QUARTET CHAMPION.



### Semi-Finals

1.	Center Stage	160	176	154	154	241	+3	+11		899	193	131
2.	Black Velvet	132	131	154	148	264	0	0		829	147	121
3.	Sounds Around	140	133	132	148	209	-3	+4		763	143	180
4.	Saturday Nite											
	Feature	121	120	120	132	224	+6	+4		727	122	141
5.	Cadence Counts	115	113	128	132	225	+3	+3		719	143	173
6.	The Sound											
	Ambassadors	109	108	128	130	188	+2	-3		662	157	154
7.	Dutch Masters	138	134	108	104	178	-2	+4		650a	108	130
8.	The Tunester's											
	Union	116	108	128	122	158	0	-1		631	122	149
9.	A Positive											
	Endeavor	108	106	106	108	183	+5	+2		618	121	122
10.	The Very Idea!	105	102	104	106	155	+2	+6		580	123	137
11.	The Long and											
	Short of It	100	90	112	114	146	+1	0		563	128	168
12.	Blue Plate											
	Special	97	87	96	96	166	-2	-7		533	153	134
13.	Music Maestros	99	101	110	120	150	+4	+2		495b	103	124



a - Time penalty - 14 points (2 sec. @ 7 pts./sec.)

b - Time penalty - 91 points (13 sec. @ 7 pts./sec.)





**What's Next ?**

### December 1980

6 - Clinton Valley Chapter Show  
6-7 C.O.T. School, Ypsilanti

### February 1981

14 Pontiac Chapter Show  
21 Oakland County Chapter Show  
21 Lansing Chapter Show  
20-21 Monroe Chapter Show



### March 1981

6-7 Wayne Chapter Show  
14 Huron Valley Chapter Show  
28 Port Huron Chapter Show



### April 1981

4 - St. Joseph Valley Chapter Show  
26-26 Spring Convention - Traverse City

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PIONEER



DISTRICT

SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT  
OF BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA

### May 1981

1-2 Coldwater Chapter Show  
2 - Boyne City Chapter Show (Bush League)  
9 - Kalamazoo Chapter Show

T'was 30 shopping days before  
Christmas when all through the  
house  
Every creature was stirring--my  
daughter, my wife, even the  
stuffed Mickey Mouse;  
The stockings were donned as we  
began to prepare,  
To make haste for the department  
store, 'cuz Santa would be there.  
The kid was all nervous as she  
sprang out of bed,  
As visions of "Baby That-Away"  
dances in her head.  
Away to the car we flew like a  
flash,  
Cursed all the traffic that had  
broken out like rash,  
For everyone in town was gathered  
lively and quick  
For a chat with that jolly old  
elf--St. Nick.  
The crowd had all gathered in  
wild anticipation

To kick off the post-Thanksgiving  
celebration.  
When, suddenly, out in front of  
the store there arose such a  
clatter  
Santa's chopper was hovering and  
that was all that did matter.  
It landed on the store roof and  
after a pause,  
Came a smiling and waving fat  
Santa Claus.  
He was dressed all in fur, his  
head to his foot.  
The mayor gave him his hand, and  
the key to the city to boot.  
He spoke a few words, then went  
straight to his work,  
Saying he'd fill all their promises  
--then turned with a jerk,  
And laying his finger aside of his  
nose  
And giving a nod, up the staircase  
to "Santaland" he rose.  
I hate crowds.