



pioneer TROUBADOUR

Volume XXII, Number 2
April - May, 1982



"It's Springtime, my dear. Come with me to the Pioneer District Convention in Lansing on April 23rd and 24th."

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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Dale Barber—member, Grosse Pointe Chapter

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WHERE DID WE COME FROM?

Since April is Harmony Month, I thought you might enjoy this short article seen in the SING-CHRONIZER from Green Bay, WI. It reports the birth of our Society as seen through the eyes of a reporter. So come with us now to those thrilling days of yesteryear.... why you can almost hear the B-flat being blown on the pitchpipe...

(from the Reader's Digest, Sept., 1939)

AMERICANS HAVE A CLUB FOR IT - S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.

The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc., started casually a little over a year ago by O.C. Cash in Tulsa, Oklahoma, now flourishes from New York to Hollywood, from Texas to Canada. As tax attorney for three oil companies, his life harried by government regulations at every turn, Cash felt he must find a hobby as an antidote. Remembering the unfettered days of his youth, he hit on the idea of old-fashioned close harmony and asked a dozen men to join him. Three times that number came, and, as the news of the society spread, requests for other chapters poured in from all over the country. Celebrities and unknowns, rich men and poor have been drawn together in one of the most democratic organizations America has ever had.

The original Tulsa Chapter has among its active members wealthy oil executives, plumbers, lawyers, clerks and bankers... in an Arkansas Chapter, two relievers were in the quartet a banker took in his limousine for a personal appearance still talked about in Fort Worth. Bing Crosby heads the Hollywood Chapter and serves on the Society's national advisory board, as does Dr. Sigmund Spaeth, Owen D. Young and Jim Farley. Senator Champ Clark and many other senators and governors are among the Society's list of notables. At the first national convention in June, Cash was elected to the Society's highest office: Permanent Assistant Third Vice President.

Anywhere from 150 to 300 men attend meetings of the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. They are divided into sections of leads, tenors, baritones and basses for a giant quartet. Later, there are regular and impromptu quartets in barber shop harmony.

The keynote of the whole movement is struck in the Society's theme song:

The old songs, the old songs,
The good old songs for me.
I love to hear those minor chords
In good close harmony.



LOOK AT IT THIS WAY...

To steal one author's work is plagiarism; to steal many authors' work is called research.

Grand Rapids Chapter

proudly presents its 39th annual Great Lakes Invitational

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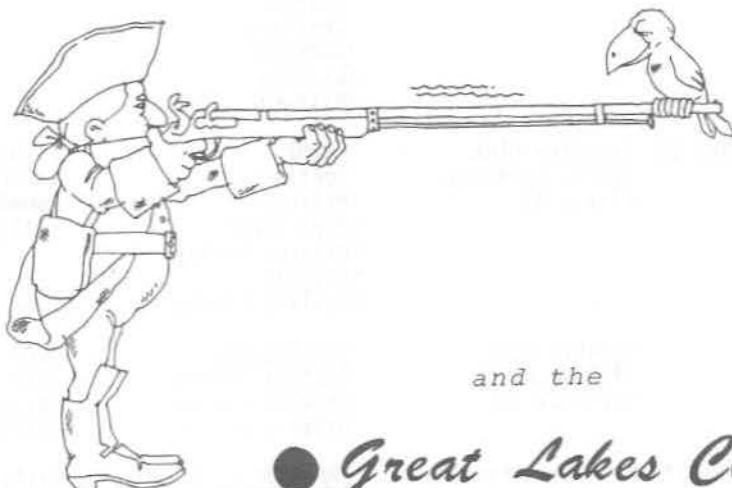
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Musical Notes from the Big Bear

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

The first big Music Ed. event of 1982 is now history. The Quartet and Coaching Clinic was held at Eastern Michigan University on March 19-20-21, and if you were not there, you missed out on a lot of fun and a real learning experience. We trust that every participating quartet and all of the coaching students benefitted. This also included chorus directors and other members who were interested in improving their Barbershop know-how and craft. It is regrettable that more members could not, or did not, take advantage of this opportunity.

The next, and very important, event is "Direct Blitz," coming May 10th thru 20th, 1982. This will be a two-week concentrated campaign (see attached schedule) with Joe Liles, Ass't Director of Music Education and Services, and Lyle Pettigrew, Music Services Ass't. Two extremely talented men, who will cover the entire District in that two-week period with a school in Lansing running from noon Saturday, May 15, through Noon Sunday, May 16th. The only cost to you is that of your motel room on Saturday night, whatever food you buy and your transportation. Lodging is at the Knight's Inn behind the Ramada Inn on Ramada Drive. Take the Cedar St. exit north off of I-96. Their rate is \$14.50 per man based on double occupancy - twin beds.

The BIG EVENT of the year, "Harmony Round-Up", August 27-29, is going to be the Greatest, Most Inspiring, Most Spectacular, FUN and LEARNING School in the History of Barbershopping. Mark down the dates and make plans to be there. There will be classes for every Barbershopper, brand new or veteran. When you receive your registration form, please fill it out and return it immediately, because we are expecting at least 300+ registrants and we don't want to have to turn away anyone. Take a look at this faculty: Brian Beck, Jay Giallombardo, Mac Huff, Fred King, Dave LaBar, Dr Greg Lyne, Doran McTaggart, Lou Perry, Lloyd Steinkamp and Dave Stevens, plus more who are not yet confirmed. Gentlemen, this is the CREAM! Anyone who misses this one is sure to regret it as long as he lives!

The difference between "Amnesia" and "Magnesia" is that the fellow with "Amnesia" has no idea where he is going.

PIONEER DISTRICT

"DIRECT BLITZ" SCHEDULE

DATE	SITE	HOST & GUESTS	CONTACT
May 10	Wesley Foundatn. Bldg. 824 Gilkison Kalamazoo, MI	KALAMAZOO Battle Creek St. Joseph Valley Benton Harbor/St. Joe Jackson Coldwater *Hudson	Wes Merriman 3614 Pontiac Ave. Kalamazoo, MI 49007 (616) 382-5696
	Masonic Temple 233 E. Fulton St. Grand Rapids, MI	GRAND RAPIDS Holland Muskegon Lansing	Mike O'Donnell 1612 Michigan NE Grand Rapids, MI 49503 (616) 454-2685
May 11	St. Mark's Church 14510 E. Seven Mile Detroit, MI	GROSSE POINTE Oakland County Windsor Pontiac Clinton Valley Port Huron	William Lane 1451 Oxford Rd. Gr. Pte. Wds., MI 48236 (313) 884-2333
	Newburgh Meth. Ch. 36500 Ann Arbor Trail Livonia, MI	WAYNE Livingston County Monroe Huron Valley Hudson Detroit Westland *Jackson *Lansing *Milford	Marv Skupski 34430 Spring Valley Dr. Westland, MI 48185 (313) 525-2968
May 12	Croatian Club 529 S. Dort Hwy. Flint, MI	FLINT Pontiac Milford *Port Huron *Clinton Valley *Detroit *Oakland County	Ed Wracan 12090 W. Bristol Rd. Lennon, MI 48449 (313) 621-3829
	Pulaski Hall 1491 Grant Bay City, MI	SAGINAW-BAY Grafton County Shields guests Gladwin guests	Carl Secor 3317 E. Shane Bay City, MI 48706 (517) 686-1150
May 13	Kalkaska High Sch. Birch St. Kalkaska, MI	TRAVERSE CITY Au Sable Valley Boyne City Alpena Sault Ste. Marie Mackinaw City guests Kalkaska guests	Marty Chirgwin 522 Ahgosa Trail Traverse City, MI 49684 (616) 947-4376
May 15 AND May 16	Miller Rd. Comm. Ctr. 5118 Curry Lansing, MI	LANSING All Chapters	Bill Butler 33748 Pawnee Dr. Westland, MI 48185 (313) 721-4747
May 17	Ypsilanti Comm. Ctr. 210 W. Cross Ypsilanti, MI	HURON VALLEY Detroit Livingston County Monroe Wayne Hudson Westland *Jackson	Jim Pollock 4596 Countryside Ct. Ann Arbor, MI 48105 (313) 665-8800
	U.A.W. Hall Local 417 1640 Stephenson Hwy. Troy, MI	OAKLAND COUNTY Grosse Pointe Windsor Pontiac *Port Huron *Clinton Valley *Detroit	Jim McCatty 2936 Brookline Berkley, MI 48072 (313) 545-3631

PIONEER DISTRICT

"DIRECT BLITZ" SCHEDULE

May 18	Masonic Temple 233 E. Fulton St. Grand Rapids, MI	GRAND RAPIDS Holland Muskegon *Lansing	Mike O'Donnell 1612 Michigan NE Grand Rapids, MI 49503
	Wesley Foundat'n Bldg. 824 Gilkison Kalamazoo, MI	KALAMAZOO Battle Creek St. Joseph Valley Jackson Coldwater Benton Harbor/St. Joe	Wes Merriman 3614 Pontiac Ave. Kalamazoo, MI 49007 (616) 382-5696
May 19	Audie's Restaurant Mackinac City, MI (last exit off I-75 before the bridge) (616) 536-5744	BOYNE CITY Sault Ste. Marie Traverse City Alpena Au Sable Valley Kalkaska guests	Harold Mason 5117 Lakegrove Dr. Petosky, MI 49770 (616) 347-2187
May 20	Alma Middle School Cnr. Pine & Hastings Alma, MI	GRATIOT COUNTY Saginaw-Bay Shields guests *Lansing Gladwin guests	Dick Vliet 110 W. Elizabeth Alma, MI 48801 (517) 463-5813
	Croatian Club 529 S. Dort Hwy. Flint, MI	FLINT Milford Port Huron *Lansing *Shields guests *Pontiac	Ed Wracan 12090 W. Bristol Rd. Lennon, MI 48449 (313) 621-3829

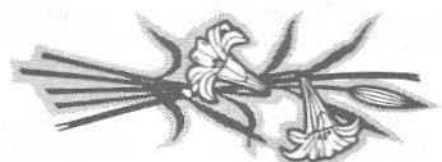
*=Alternate cities suggested for convenience only. Everyone is welcome at any of the sites, especially members who may be traveling, or those who couldn't attend the meeting scheduled closest to them.



Joe Liles
Assistant Director of Music



Lyle Pettigrew
Music Services Assistant



Edwin S. Smith passed away Sunday, March 7th, in his home town of Wayne, Michigan. He had just celebrated his 84th birthday on March 4th.

Ed was a builder, and retired as President of Smith and Weiler, Inc. He was a natural, self-taught musician who played Piano, Saxophone, Clarinet, and a number of other string instruments and horns. He had an unusual memory for songs, poetry and popular prose with which he entertained often. He had published a popular book, "Piano by Ear" which was widely circulated. While he had been in failing health for several years, he still found time to play piano for senior citizens and other local functions.

He was a key figure in the organization of the Wayne Chapter, S.P.E. B.S.Q.S.A., in 1944 and served as its first President. He was also the first President of the Metropolitan Association of Chapters, embracing the Detroit area, and also served as President of the Pioneer District, back when it was known as the Michigan District during 1948-49.

In 1952, he was elected to the high office of International President. Prior to this he had served as International Vice-President for two terms, and had been a member of the International Board for 3½ years. He was among the diligent workers in the early years of our Society.

He was honored by being elected to the Pioneer District Hall of Fame. As a quartet man, he sang with "The Barons of Wayne."

The Society, Pioneer District, the Wayne Chapter and all who knew him have lost a friend, indeed.

Our deepest sympathy to his wife and family. May he rest in peace.

Condolences may be sent to the Smith residence at 32223 Woodbrook, Wayne, Michigan, 48184.

Art Schulze
Historian

We hear about an interesting quartet that won the Rocky Mountain District Championship this year. Long on experience, the personnel is Jim Wheeler, tenor (Salt Flats); Milt Christensen, lead (Golden Staters - '72 Champs); Bob Evans, baritone (Evans Quartet -- '60 Champs); and Ron Rummel, bass (Tempo Squires). They are registered out of Salt Lake City and appropriately named "One More Time".

Meanwhile, in our neighboring Ontario District, Jim Turner, lead of the former Nighthawks, has disbanded the 4-Karat Gold (21st at 1981 Internationals) to form a new 4-some called 'Reunion'. I have no word on the identity of the other three but it'll be interesting to see what happens at International Preliminary time.

Meanwhile, on the Chorus scene, the Pine Barons (5th place in 1981) lost to the Alexandria, VA Harmonizers by THREE POINTS! It seems as though Alexandria is back with a vengeance after their short lay-off.

International has announced the following order for the Chorus Contest at Pittsburgh:

1. General Assembly Res. Tri. Pk, NC
2. Harmonizers Alexandria, VA
3. Commodores Minneapolis, MN
4. West Towns Lombard, IL
5. Entertainers Oakville, ONT
6. Beehive Statesmen St. Lk. Cty, UT
7. Gentlemen of Fortune Burnaby, BC
8. Motor City Chorus Detroit, MI
9. Narragansett Bay Providence, RI
10. Pride of Indy Indianapolis, IN
11. Heart of America Kansas City, MO
12. Orange Blossom Orlando, FL
13. Southern Gateway West Hills, OH
14. Peninsulaires Peninsula, CA
15. Vocal Majority Dallas, TX
16. Cho of the Genessee Rochester, NY

Looks like a close race for the **SILVER** medal, to me!

twenty years. It was lots of fun and good fellowship up until the last couple of years.

As I got older and some of the men around my age dropped out or died off, and the younger members came in, I could see a big change.

There was no "Hi, Joe," no handshake or "Let's sing a song." There was no time for the old fog!

So, I have dropped out myself now.

I have no hard feelings for the chapter and I wish them all the luck and success in the world.

Maybe, some day, I will be joining my old buddies in some good old Barbershop on Cloud Nine.

"Miss um"



PIONEER DISTRICT Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting Sunday, February 21, 1982

(These minutes will be presented for approval at the Board Meeting on April 22, 1982.)

The meeting, held at the office of Mr. Don Funk, 3204 East Pennsylvania, Lansing, Michigan, was called to order by President Fran Jones at 1:05 p.m.

PRESENT: All Directors were present. Also present were Don Funk, Don Lang, Art Schulze, and Gene Weston.

Director of Music Education Butler opened the meeting by leading the singing of "The Old Songs".

The Minutes of the meeting held on December 5, 1981, were accepted as written.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Schneider presented financial reports for the year of 1981 and for the month of January 1982, both showing a balance at the end of those periods of \$3,984.86.

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: In his report, Executive Vice President Gougeon again requested the Directors and committee chairmen to review the Convention Manual previously distributed and to give him their views and suggestions so that the manual can be distributed to all the chapters in the District for their guidance in hosting conventions. Mr. Gougeon also reminded the DVP's of their responsibility for submitting nominees for the District Hall of Fame and AIC scholarships.

INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEMBER McTaggart reported on the Society's Mid-Winter Convention, held at Tucson, Arizona, January 27-30, 1982. He stated that the site of the 50th Annual International Convention, for which the Pioneer District submitted a bid, will be decided at the International Convention in July; and that for the 1984 Mid-Winter Convention bids have been submitted by Hawaii, Long Beach, and Sacramento, California.

DIVISION VICE PRESIDENTS: All Division Vice Presidents reported on the status of chapters in their respective Divisions. Division III Vice President Horton announced that since the publication of the 1982 Directory, St. Joseph Valley Chapter has selected Charles Lutz as its President.

MUSIC EDUCATION: Director Butler reported on matters within his committee, touching particularly upon the Quartet and Coaching Clinic, scheduled for March 19-21; Harmony Round-Up, scheduled for August 27, 28, and 29; and the "Direct Blitz" program, scheduled for May 10 thru May 20. He stressed the importance of publicizing programs such as these throughout the District from the standpoints of musical education to the greatest number of members, as well as orderly financial arrangements. President Jones urged the DVP's and Area Counselors to promote these programs within their areas.

Director Butler reported that for the "Direct Blitz" session at Lansing on May 15/16, the rental fee of \$84.00 for the Miller Road Community Center would be met out of the Music Education Activities budget.

Mr. Butler emphasized the necessity for coordinating the activities of the District's chapters, which might be expected to have district-wide participation, with a view to eliminating as much as possible conflicting dates. The secretary undertook to ask the chapters for their cooperation to that end.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMUNICATIONS: Executive Vice President Gougeon, reporting for the Editor of the Troubadour who was not present, stated that the Troubadour is soliciting bids for printing the publication.

At the request of Editor Rueggesser, the following motion, duly made and seconded, was passed by majority vote: "That the Editor of the Troubadour, at his discretion, is authorized to print articles only if they are signed; with the proviso that the writer's name can be withheld upon the writer's request and with the bottom statement 'writer's name withheld at his request', if the writer so requests."

MEMBERSHIP & EXTENSION: Chairman Weston submitted a written report on the activities of his committee.

President Jones undertook to write a letter of congratulations to the Muskegon Chapter for its gain of 52 members during the year 1981.

CONTEST & JUDGING: Chairman Lang briefly discussed revisions to the Official Chorus and Quartet Contest Rules which were passed by the International Board of Directors on January 29, 1982. Copies of the revised rules will be distributed to every chapter in the District.

Mr. Lang relayed to the Board a suggestion that has been proposed to the International Contest & Judging Committee that some control be exercised over song selection for International contests, in order to encourage competitors to expand their contest repertoires.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

DISTRICT LOGO: Director McTaggart submitted samples, together with prices, of the District logo, both metal and peel-off, which was selected in the meeting held on October 16, 1981. With the guidance given him in the meeting, Mr. McTaggart will continue to develop this matter.

DISTRICT SPRING CONVENTION, APRIL 23-25, 1982: Vice President Gougeon and Mr. Don Funk reported on arrangements for the Pioneer District's Spring convention, scheduled for April 23-25, 1982, at Lansing.

Upon motion duly made and seconded and the unanimous vote of the Board, the Jim Miller Photographic Studio of Louisville, Kentucky, was appointed Official Convention Photographer for the two District conventions in 1982.

DISTRICT SPRING CONVENTION, APRIL 22-24, 1983: It was announced that Gene Weston has resigned as Chairman of the Spring 1983 District Convention, being hosted by the Saginaw-Bay Chapter at Midland, to give full time to his responsibilities as Chairman of the Membership & Extension Committee, and that the Board has approved the recommendation of the Saginaw-Bay Chapter that Jerry F. Smith be appointed Chairman to replace Mr. Weston.

The Committee is trying to relocate the convention to the Dow Center for the Performing Arts at Midland, instead of the Middle School there. Further information on this and an updated budget will be submitted for the consideration of the Board and House of Delegates at their meetings in Lansing in April.

AREA COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR: The Board elected the Area Counselor of the Year for 1981. The ballots were passed to the Secretary to be tallied. By motion duly made and seconded, the Board, with one dissension, voted that the President be privileged to check the votes with the Secretary. The award will be presented at the Spring House of Delegates meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JACK W. TEUBERT

Secretary, Pioneer District

We Get Letters

When I was a young man, I always liked to sing. I could sing the harmony part and I enjoyed hearing it. As I got older and in my thirtys, I read about Barbershop style singing. I found a local chapter and was welcomed cordially. The first thing I heard was "Let's sing a song," which was my first try at four-part Barbershop. As we sang, I found the ring of four parts was very different from straight harmony.

But I loved it and I joined the chapter and I was a member for over

It's my understanding that shortly after our new District Secretary took office, he received a government questionnaire relative to our status as a non-profit organization. One question asked was, "How many members do you have - broken down by sex." Jack wrote back that from what he could determine, liquor and late hours were more of a problem in the Pioneer District!

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT



OAKLAND COUNTY CHAPTER

Stuff we learned about Oakland County Chapter en route to looking up other stuff about Oakland County Chapter (with apologies to Sidney Harris and the Detroit Free Press).

That as of the end of last year, only 31 chapters, out of a total of 784 in the Society, had more members than Oakland County; and that in the Pioneer District, Oakland County was outnumbered only by Detroit #1 and Grand Rapids.

That the Chapter's membership is graced by a lot of kinfolk. Father-and-son combinations are Joseph and John Bober, Don and Chris Krako, Bob and Don Taylor. A brother team is Arden and Bob Barnhart. Curt Seely is Ray Seely's uncle. Pete Burns and Bruce LaMarte are brothers-in-law. And Bill Kellogg and Roy Simpson are in-laws of sorts.

That 15 members of the Chapter have belonged to the Society for 20 years or longer: Hal Bauer 42; Joseph Bober 37; Dr Jim Fryfogle 34; Bob Marshall 32; Al Davenport 32; Joe Kiley 28; Brad Laughlin 25; Dick Liddicoat, Tony Scooros, Marv Wilson, all 24; Dan Davey and Bob Fanger 23; Wayne Brumm and Jerry Clardy 21; and Bob McDermott 20.

That before it was the "Gentlemen's Songster," The Chapter bulletin was the "O.C.C. Spotlight." It changed mastheads with the August 1972 issue.

That Oakland County Chapter boasts that five members of the prestigious Pioneer District Hall of Fame are now, or were at one time, members of the Chapter: Carroll Adams, Hal Bauer, Duane Mosier, W. Carleton Scott and Glenn VanTassel.

That before it became the Wolverine Chorus, the Chapter's Chorus was named the "Barbary Hosts" --- in a farfetched effort, one supposes, somehow to conjure up a connection between Barbershopping and San Francisco's Barbary Coast. And you should have seen the pirate costumes!

That 16-year member George Ellis, who lives in Green Valley, Arizona, has to travel the farthest distance to get to the rehearsal hall - 2099½ miles; while, on the other hand, Pete Burns' home is in the backyard of the rehearsal hall ---- or vice versa, depending on your viewpoint.

That Ben Jones, living in Naubinway, Michigan, makes the Chapter a two-peninsula outfit.

That long-ago member Laurel Wilkinson (affectionately known as "Wilkie") is alive and well and living in Farmington Hills, Michigan.

That there are copies of 255 songs in the Chapter's Music Library, of which 54 (about 21%) are in the Wol-

HURON VALLEY CHAPTER

We did get our new chapter officers installed on January 23rd, in spite of the lousy winter weather. Our Div I V.P., Earl Berry, did the honors and I must say, he did an admirable job of "hitching" us to the chapter. The occasion was designated a ladies night, and the guys treated their ladies to a fantastic buffet style dinner at the Briarwood Hilton Mantel's Restaurant. Our PVP, Lyle Hanson, did an outstanding job of organizing and preparing this event.

We are proud to announce that the "no name" quartet, we mentioned in the last issue, now has a name. The "Pioneer Sound" will be representing the Huron Valley Chapter at Spring Convention. Good Luck, fellows! May you enjoy many successes.

One of the members of the Pioneer Sound quartet, baritone Scott Turnbull, is a music major at E.M.U. Because of his musical talents, Scott has been appointed our Ass't Director. We have also nominated Scott for the district AIC Music Scholarship. Good Luck, Scott. You certainly deserve the award. Our chapter is indeed fortunate to have such a fine institution of learning so close to us. It has become a very fertile source of chapter membership such as Scott, Joe Schacter, John Allesee and, hopefully, many more.

The chapter is still gearing up for our 4th annual show on March 20, at Pioneer High School in Ann Arbor. We are also preparing for a strong performance at Spring Convention in Lansing. We are currently in two-a-week rehearsals and, if hard work means anything, we should do a creditable job. We hope to see you at one or both of these events.

Roger Waltz

Is It Really Important To Sing?

A President says: "Music and singing make for better citizenship. They drive out envy and hate, they unify and inspire. Music is the common tie between races and nations."

WOODROW WILSON

verine Chorus' current repertoire.

That the Wolverine Chorus, fifty-or-more strong ("If The Lord Be Willing") will be on stage in Lansing, April 24, singing their tonsils out in the International Preliminaries. You will know the Wolverines by their new uniforms which, apparently, were inspired by a line of lyrics from Alexander's Ragtime Band - "Hear the syncopated toots, See those flashy red suits."



Are You A Man Of Note?

Membership figures as of December 31st show the Society with a new increase of 426 men in 1981. Since the Man-of-Note Award was originated, in 1965, over 16,000 have been awarded to current members who have introduced a new man into Barbershopping. These break down into the following categories:

661 men brought in	1 new member
3571 men brought in	2 new members
2135 men brought in	3 new members
1248 men brought in	4 new members
2194 men brought in	5-9 new members
422 men brought in	10-14 new members
115 men brought in	15-19 new members
78 men brought in	20-49 new members

AND 10 men have brought in FIFTY or more members! One of these ten men, Jerry Orloff, of the Peninsula Chapter in California, tops the list with a total of 92! What a wonderful man to share his hobby with so many others!

There is one sad note in the picture, however; there are 20,830 members who have yet to bring in their very first new man.



SONG TITLES . . .

Ever wonder how they get song titles? How they are chosen? Well, Bud Wunder, editor of "Bars & Swipes," relates this story which might clue us in...

It seems it was the Lord Abbot's custom, upon entering the Monastery dining hall, to chant, "Good Morning".

The monks would respond in the same manner.

This chant became a longstanding tradition until one morning the Lord Abbot chanted "Good Morning," and one of the monks replied "Good Evening."

The Lord Abbot drew himself up to his most regal bearing and sang, "SOMEONE CHANTED EVENING!"



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

WE DID IT! We exceeded the 1981 projection of giving to our international service project, the Institute of Logopedics. Pioneer contributed a total of \$15,529.21. Congratulations.

Chapter	Amt.	Mbrs.	Per Capita
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Alpena	\$220.00	28	\$7.85
AuSable Valley	190.00	19	*10.00
Battle Creek	479.49	37	*12.95
Benton Harbor	776.28	49	*15.84
Boyne City	250.00	36	6.94
Clinton Valley	170.00	17	*10.00
Coldwater	300.00	46	6.52
Detroit #1	1386.67	111	*12.49
Flint	280.21	48	5.83
Grand Rapids	1567.80	113	*13.87
Gratiot County	450.00	44	*10.22
Grosse Pointe	1202.51	94	*12.79
Holland	330.00	33	*10.00
Jackson	320.00	32	*10.00
Kalamazoo	421.24	42	*10.02
Lansing	611.67	57	*10.73
Livingston County	113.00	25	4.52
Milford	266.00	22	*12.09
Muskegon	200.00	17	*11.76
Oakland County	1572.56	89	*17.66
Pontiac	264.00	22	*12.00
Port Huron	405.00	37	*10.94
Saginaw Bay	275.00	26	*10.57
St. Ste. Marie	404.00	44	9.18
Traverse City	790.64	31	**25.50
Wayne	1169.14	109	*10.72
Windsor	390.00	39	*10.00

* Denotes Harmony Foundation Award Winner - Bronze Division.

** Denotes Harmony Foundation Award Winner - Silver Division.

Three very significant things about the 1981 contributions:

1. Traverse City is our first Silver Division winner with a per-capita contribution of \$25.50. Beautiful!

2. All but two of our chapters contributed to our international service project.

3. We have a significant increase in the number of Harmony Foundation Award winners -- 22 for 1981 as opposed to 16 in 1980. Despite economic hard times, we continue to support our kids at the Institute!

I am encouraged too, by increased quartet support of our service project. Congratulations to the Saturday Nite Feature who will be the re-

cipients of the Great Lakes Express Traveling Logopedics Trophy for their contribution of \$500.00. Congratulations to all 17 quartets. Total contributions for 1981 amounts to \$2076.00.

Accents	\$100.00
Blue Plate Special	211.00
Common Bond	400.00
Crosstown Exchange	50.00
Flint River Opera Gang	25.00
Golden Oldies	145.00
Grim Determination	185.00
Grin 'n Tonics	65.00
The Long and Short of It	50.00
Nitty Gritty Good Time Four	40.00
Sound Ambassadors	75.00
Sound Investment	20.00
Sounds Around	125.00
Those Other Guys	35.00
Tub 'n Shower Harmony Co.	35.00
With One A Chord	15.00

I have been District Logopedics Chairman for over 10 years. It gives me a great deal of satisfaction to turn this position over to Al Fricker of the Wayne Chapter. He has been totally supportive of the Institute of Logopedics ever since it was adopted as our international service project. Good Luck, Al, and thanks to all of you in Pioneer for your support of the Institute of Logopedics.



BENTON HARBOR - ST. JOSEPH

Snow and slippery roads in January resulted in low attendance and not nearly enough singing. February brought better weather and better attendance.

Roger Valentine, our Director, was elected Barbershopper--of--the--Year for 1981, and we couldn't have named a more deserving one. He always makes himself available to help old and new Barbershoppers alike.

On February 15, we held our first guest night of the year. Vern Tollas and his committee outdid themselves, and we had 17 guests show up. A number of them stayed to sing after the meeting so, hopefully, we will be adding to our numbers. We are starting to work in earnest on our competition package, and a number of singing jobs have been lined up for spring and summer.

We are pleased to hear that we won the District Achievement Award for our plateau again, and that our Logopedics contributions for 1981 averaged better than \$17 per man.

With the exception of poor weather attendance in January, we're off to a good start for 1982. See you all in Lansing in April.

Ray Neiman

CLINTON VALLEY

The 'Can Do' Chapter is off and running in 1982, beginning with a very successful show, "Star Spangled Ballads," on Jan. 30th. Show Chairman, L.T. Sherer, ran a tight ship; Miles Currie conceived the opening chorus package and, under the direction of Derrick Deakins, the group



sounded great. One of the highlights of the show was the fact that 87% of our total membership sang in a quartet or the octet. The Pointe Classics, The Harmony Hounds and the Saturday Nite Feature really rounded out the night.

On Feb. 10th we had an Open House, headed up by our new Membership V.P. Bob Kreger (dressed up as a referee with a whistle and all). Four new prospective members are preparing to join. On Feb. 19th, we hosted the annual quartet competition between Grosse Pointe and the Conglomerate (Clinton Valley, Pontiac & Port Huron). The overtones and the fellowship were overflowing for the 82 Barbershoppers present. Even though the Conglomerate won, this year, Grosse Pointe had a better average per quartet. The Clinton Valley Chorus also had two sing-outs in February.

Out of 180 chapters in Plateau I, the Clinton Valley Chapter ranks #1 in achievement as of 1/31/82. We aim to stay on top with activity and fun for all. We are now hard at work honing our two contest numbers for Spring Contest in Lansing, so look out Pioneer Barbershoppers, the Clinton Valley Chorus is coming on strong!

Dave Anderson



STAGE PRESENCE practice. . .

by Chuck Woodhead

EYEBROWS UP 1, 2, 3, 4
EYEBROWS DOWN 1, 2, 3, 4
SMILE, FROWN
LEFT EYEBROW UP 1, 2, 3, 4
RIGHT EYEBROW UP 1, 2, 3, 4
LOOK SURPRISED
SHOW FEAR
SHOW COMPASSION
Oh, oh, someone's coming...
LOOK EMBARRASSED!



INSTITUTE OF LOGOPEDICS

Dear Barbershoppers,

You've done it again! You've reached a new high! You've passed the FOUR MILLION MARK! Barbershoppers, we love you!

You, the members of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, have contributed over four million dollars to the Institute of Logopedics in Wichita, Kansas. Untold hours of sing-outs, bazaars, "passing the mug" and other fund raising events have earned over four million dollars since 1964. These dollars make Barbershoppers everywhere part of the common effort at the Institute, where communication is more than just talk.

At the Institute of Logopedics, over 50,000 children and adults have been helped to open a door to the outside world, to learn a way in which to share themselves with others, to communicate. These children and adults have many names and many faces; like little Jimmy who sits in a wheelchair with casts from the hips down, but reaches out to pat his troubled friend Barry and to say, with great effort, "OK, Barry, OK". And there is tiny Jennefer,

whose hearing impairment was diagnosed and treated early enough that she suffered no permanent damage. Then there's Dan, who came to the Institute as a graduate student to participate in the Barbershopper Music Fellow program, and stayed on to teach the severely multiply handicapped.

These are only three of the faces and names, but each of you is a special friend of theirs and all the others, because you cared ... because you have as your motto:

"WE SING...THAT THEY SHALL SPEAK"

Frank R. Kleffner, Ph.D.
Director

A LOOK BACKWARDS



Since nostalgia is what Barbershopping is all about, I get a real kick out of stories from the past with a little humor in them. I found this one in the Border-Re-Chorder:

Many years ago, there lived on a small farm in Mississippi, two boll weevils. After several seasons of doing nothing but munching cotton, they decided that there must be more to life than cotton fields, so they

both headed to the big city to begin a new and better life.

Each found a job and became quite successful in his new life. In due time, each of them joined the local Barbershop chapter and they began demonstrating their talents. In a short time, both were singing in quartets. The one sang tenor in a very successful quartet which, one year, won its division championship and went on to win the International title. This quartet became very famous nation-wide and was always a big hit on Barbershop shows.


The other boll weevil sang baritone in another quartet. This quartet was also very good, but chose not to enter any competition. They enjoyed their singing by entertaining locally.

After many years, the quartets broke up and both of our friends died, exchanging their pitch-pipes for harps. In spite of the great fame attained by our tenor friend and his quartet, they were soon forgotten.



But the bari, ah yes, the bari... his memory will live forever... as mention of him passes the lips of countless Americans every day! For he became known as:

THE LESSER OF TWO WEEVILS!



DECEMBER 1981



TO THE INSTITUTE OF LOGOPEDICS

\$4,000,000

1964 - 1982

WE SING THAT THEY SHALL SPEAK

Harmony Foundation

Communicatively handicapped youngsters from the institute of Logopedics in Wichita, Kansas, play peek-a-boo with a check representing the four million dollars raised for the Institute since 1964 by the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America.



HOW TO COMPETE in a DISTRICT QUARTET COMPETITION....

courtesy of the 4-Tune Seekers

The most important thing to remember, before entering a District Competition, is that no matter where you place, the following will always apply:

- the bass sang too loud/or soft.
- the tenor choked.
- the lead had to "come out more."
- and who sang baritone?

After coming to the realization that these curses will plague you forever, you are almost ready to step onto the competition stage. But first, you must go to the QUARTET BRIEFING. Here you will be given some very valuable information which will stand you in good stead as you compete. You must never cough, spit or relieve an itch while on stage! You will be given the chance to report any disabilities to the judges. Any, that is, other than pure animal terror. You must never, upon leaving the stage, commit any of the following mortal sins:

- steal the microphone.
- switch the microphone off.
- sprinkle dancing powder on the stage.
- remove the tape from the stage floor.



Any one of these offences could cause an NHL bench clearing.

While you are singing your songs, smile like an idiot, sing like the Regents, and remember to wink at the Chairman of Judges upon leaving the stage. Once the results have been announced, walk up to your lead, put your arm around his shoulder, and tell him that the Schneider Male Chorus are looking for good second tenors.

Lots of luck in your first competition.



"Quand on est trop occupé pour chanter, c'est qu'on est trop occupé."



*Barbershoppers believe:
"If you're too busy to sing you're too busy."*



The Michigan District and it's Men of Harmony

by Mark P. Fuberts

THE MIDDLE YEARS IN MICHIGAN

During the late forties, much thought and work was devoted to improving the Society structure and establishing the proper area of interest of the International, the Districts and Chapters. Our contest and judging rules and procedures were completely revised and quartet clinics, to evaluate the performance of quartets in contests, first came into use. Michigan men, led by Ed Smith and Carroll Adams, were deeply involved in all these programs and the Michigan District was still riding the crest. The 1949 Regional Contest was held in Detroit at Cass Technical High School and the District meeting at the Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel. New District Officers elected at this meeting were C.W. Coye of Grand Rapids, President; Frank Brown of Lansing and Mark Roberts of Grosse Pointe, Vice-Presidents; Lou Harrington, Secretary; and Horace Conklin of Battle Creek, Treasurer. The District imposed a per-capita dues for the first time when the House of Delegates voted an annual levy of fifty cents per member. It is interesting to note that the International per-capita dues at this time was only three dollars per year. Barbershopping, along with most other things, was less expensive.

The 1949 District Preliminary Contest was a dandy and emerging to represent Michigan at the International Contest were the Antlers, the Clef Dwellers, Gardenaires and the Songmasters, with the Detroiters as alternate. The International was held in Buffalo and Michigan stunned

the rest of the Society by gathering in three of the five medalist places. The Clef Dwellers finished second behind the Mid States Four, the Antlers were third and the Songmasters fourth. The Gardenaires were finalists and just barely off the medalist pace. The Ben Landino International Quartet Championship Trophy, donated by Ben and the Grosse Pointe Chapter, was awarded for the first time when Ben made the presentation to the Mid States. The interesting history of this beautiful trophy, entirely handcrafted by Ben Landino, will be given later along with that of the International Chorus Championship Trophy which was also the product of Ben's genius as a craftsman.

The 1949 District Quartet Contest was held at the Pease Auditorium in Ypsilanti and was sponsored by the Ypsilanti and Wayne Chapters. The Interludes of Midland, composed of Luman Bliss, tenor; Bill McIntire, lead; Ralph Hand, baritone; and Chet Payne, bass, won the District title. In second place was the Men of A-chord of Saginaw (Melcher, Keane, Franz and Kipfmiller) and third place went to the Songmasters (Hawkins, Bottom, Winegardner and McAttee). The Note Blenders of Oakland County (Swanson, Eby, Cannon and Du-bril) walked off with the Novice Crown. Among the other thirteen quartets that competed in this contest, we note the intriguing and impressive personnel listing of the Lansing Esquires which was Buffington, Buffington, Hintington and Huntington, and this should be worth some sort of prize in any Barbershop quartet contest. Perhaps we should award more prizes, particularly to quartets which overcome obstacles of various kinds to be able to compete. I recall one such effort by a talented group which not only had the tools to take top honors, but also had the temporary advantage of my genius as a coach. The five of us, with a coterie of rooters, boarded a bus in Detroit and headed for the District contest scheduled for that evening. One of the quartet sat in the rear of the bus with some jolly friends who produced a bottle of Old Uncle Jed's Cream of the South, or something, which was 100 proof on the label - but probably 120 proof inside. After a few belts from Old

continued next page...

TROUBADOR DEADLINES

Issue

Feb - Mar
Apr - May
Jun - Jul
Aug - Sep
Oct - Nov
Dec - Jan

Info to Editor by

Jan 1
Mar 1
May 1
Jul 1
Sep 1
Nov 1



...More of...

The Michigan District and it's Men of Harmony

Uncle Jed, our quartet boy was higher than John Glenn ever got and with prospects of staying in orbit much longer. At this point the other members of the quartet took him in hand for purposes of resuscitation. Their efforts were reasonable enough to start with but became more frantic as our destination and contest time drew closer. They opened the bus windows and let the cool breezes blow on him; at every stop they walked him around and around the bus; in town they plied him with coffee, gave emetics and would have used a stomach pump if one could have been found. Finally, a cold shower and more fresh air exercise were tried. By this time our friend, instead of being another victim of Old Uncle Jed's concoction, was coherent, reasonably steady on his feet and actually in better condition than the other members of the quartet who were exhausted by their labors. They made it on stage, however, and managed a third place finish which was very good under the circumstances. The 1950 District Spring meeting and Preliminary were held at Midland on May 5th. District Officers elected at this meeting were: President, Mark P. Roberts (Heck, it was easy. All I promised was no dues; a guaranteed membership increase formula; a tenor procurement program that would provide forever all the "high C" lyric tenors that we would ever need, and a District Championship for every quartet.) Vice Presidents, Lester Davis of Lansing and Bob Newman of Sturgis; Secretary, Lou Harrington -- There were a number of votes for Ellen Harrington by those who claimed that Ellen was the real secretary and did all the work while Lou took the bows -- and Treasurer, Clarence Jalving.



Entered for the 1950 International Preliminaries were the Antlers, Tune Vendors of Dowagiac, Gardenaires, Men of Achord, Collegians of Grosse Pointe, Interludes, Clef Dwellers and Noteblenders of Oakland County, Flexibles and Crow-Matix of Muskegon, Aetna Cementers of Bay City, Four Huron Hoarsemen of Ypsilanti and Four Keys from Three Rivers.

From this talented collection, the Antlers, Clef Dwellers, Crow-Matix (Warren, Dobb, Hollar and Lund) and Noteblenders were chosen to go to the International Contest held that year in Omaha, Nebraska. Michigan again dominated the big contest when the Clef Dwellers, Antlers and Noteblenders finished second, third and fifth respectively behind the champion Buffalo Bills. The Clef Dwellers and Noteblenders, being from Oakland County, that chapter shares with Springfield, Illinois, Chicago and Pittsburgh chapters the rare distinction of having two International Medalist quartets in the same year.

Pontiac was the scene of the 1950 District Contest and meeting, held on October 21st. Nothing of particular import came out of the business meeting except a decision to have a District Chorus Contest. Seventeen quartets competed in the contest and the Tune Vendors of Dowagiac (Jim McGlynn, tenor; Bert Hepps, lead; Tom Grove, baritone and Bob Mullen, bass) was picked as District Champion. The Noteblenders took second and third place went to the Crow-Matix. The Accidental Four of Oakland County (Beamer, Sherwood, Sherman



and Holmes) captured the Junior Championship and the Novice Crown went to the Harmony Prospectors of Sault Ste. Marie (Anderson, Laudenslager, Bast and Ward). Other quartets in this competition were the Chord Binders of Oscoda County, the Clippers of East Detroit, Four Huron Hoarsemen of Ypsilanti, Four Keys of Three Rivers, Four Shorties of Detroit, Harmo Knights of Redford, the Hudson Treble Makers, Melody Laners of Dearborn, Nite Owls of Northwest Detroit, Pitch Pipers of Grand Rapids, Three Pints and a Peck of Hudson and the Night Howls of Fenton.

For the first and only time in the District's history, a contest and convention was held in the Upper Peninsula when Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan hosted the 1951 International Preliminary and Spring Meeting. New District Officers elected at this meeting were Jack Dollenmayer of Bay City, President; Loton Willson of Boyne City and Harold Stark of Mio, Vice-Presidents; Harrington, Secretary and Jalving, Treasurer. In the quartet contest, the Clef Dwellers (with Ed Easley now singing baritone in place of Bill Johnston) the Noteblenders and the Tune Vendors were selected as



our representatives to the International Contest. Lansing's Merri-Men, (Hawkins, Bullock, Washburn and Stephens) making their first contest appearance, was named the alternate quartet. Other quartets in the contest were the Four Huron Hoarsemen, Ambassadors of Detroit, Crow-Matix, Harmony Prospectors and the Holly Hometowners. In the International Contest at Toledo, the Clef Dwellers took medalist honors for the fourth straight year. The Antlers, also a medalist at Toledo, had moved to Florida and represented the Dixie District in that contest.

(Series submitted by Art Schulze, Pioneer District Historian)

(to be continued...)

IT'S ALL IN HOW YOU LOOK AT IT...!

As contest approaches, my chorus tradition---ally buckles down to hone our performance package for the contest stage.

In trying to urge some of our "sometimes" members to be a bit more conscientious, one fellow protested to me that he was already "more or less regular" in attendance. It reminded me of an article I had seen in Ray Barrett's "Meanderings." He feels we should use the same standards we use in other areas of our lives. For instance:

-If your car starts one time out of three, do you feel it is performing adequately?

-If the paper boy skips Monday and Thursday's editions, would they be missed?

-If you fail to come to work two or three times a month, would your boss feel you were attending regularly?

-If your refrigerator quits now and then, would you still say, "Oh well, it works most of the time"?

-If your water heater greets you with cold water one morning a week, would its performance be regular enough?

-If you miss a couple of mortgage payments in a year, would your bank say, "Oh well, ten out of twelve isn't bad"?

Think about it....





QUARTET UPDATE



We welcome the following new quartets:

PIONEER SOUND

contact: John E. Peterson
318 E. Henry St.
Saline, MI 48176

SOUND INVESTMENT

contact: Dan Shelles
311 W. Front St.
Buchanan, MI 49107

SUITABLE UNION

contact: Don Piper
521 Liberty
Alma, MI 48801

.... and look who has RE-registered:

PROGRESSIVE 4

contact: Harold Seely
8291 Orchard Ave.
Warren, MI 48089

The following quartet registrations have lapsed:

HARBOR TONES - Alpena
ROVING KIND - Milford/Flint
SOUND AMBASSADORS - Detroit

AND..... the contact man for the SATURDAY NITE FEATURE has moved again. If you wish to contact our '81 District Champions, you can write: John Wearing
3060 S. Telegraph
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48013
or phone (313) 338-8548.

Keep America Singing

APRIL

3 Windsor Chapter Show
17 Grand Rapids Chapter Show
23-25 Spring Convention, Lansing

MAY

1 Boyne City Bush League Contest
1 Flint Chapter Show
8 Battle Creek Chapter Show
8 Kalamazoo Chapter Show
15 Coldwater Chapter Show
29 Pine Knob IV

JUNE

11 Send-Off Show, Windsor
28 International Convention,
Pittsburgh, PA.

JULY

10 Muskegon Chapter Show
24 Au Sable Valley Chapter Show

AUGUST

1-8 Harmony College, St. Joe, MO
27-29 Harmony Round-Up (Mini-Hep)
Eastern Michigan, Ypsilanti

SEPTEMBER

1-6 Harrisville Harmony Happening

OCTOBER

15-17 Fall Convention, Grand Rapids

DECEMBER

3-4 C.O.T. School

IT'S
GREAT!!
TO BE A
BARBERSHOPPER!



POSTMASTER: Please return all undeliverable mail to
17336 Harper, Detroit, Michigan 48224.

PIONEER



DISTRICT

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

STEPHEN SUTHERLAND 106811
697 ADAMS 141 DEC 82
PLYMOUTH MI 48170

Second Class Mail

HERE'S A BARBERSHOPPER!