

pioneer
TROUBADOUR



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August - September, 1982



QUARTET UPDATE



NEW QUARTETS are:

SPICE OF LIFE

contact: T. Murray Smith
3201 Stonebridge #12
Portage, MI 49081

NIFTY 50's

contact: Mel Totzke
434 Holland St.
Marine City, MI 48039

TAKE NOTE

contact: Ken Gates
3085 Charing Cross
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION

contact: Michael Dixon
8267 Honey Lane
Canton, MI 48187

CHORD VENDORS

contact: Wes Merriman
3614 Pontiac
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

And, here's a familiar name:

DUTCH MASTERS

contact: Frank Lievense
1224 Marlene St.
Holland, MI 49423

There's a new contact man for:

BLACK VELVET

contact: Bob Goldschmedding
1039 Alger SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49507

Registrations have lapsed on:

FLINT'S TONES

FLINT RIVER OPERA GANG
TUNESTERS UNION



Pioneer TROUBADOUR

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



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FALL CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Please type or print

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Chapter _____ Voice Part _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ for _____ registrations
at \$10.00 each until October 1, 1982. After October 1, 1982 the
All Events registration will be \$13.00 each.

Please make your checks payable to S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. Fall Convention.

Please list additional names, addresses, chapter and voice part
on the reverse side of the form.

Mail to: Mr. Joe West
322 S. Pleasant Street
Belding, MI 48809

The TENOR sings high, don't you see
Much higher than you or than me.
With his shorts cinched up tight
He can hit his notes right.
But he'd prob'ly sing bass if set free.

The LEAD is a wonderful thing.
He rules the quartet like a king.
He's the expert of song
And he rarely proves wrong,
'Til he opens his mouth to sing.

In every quartet there's a BARI.
Who claims his part's extraordinary.
But when he's away
The other three say
"Is he necessary? Not very!"

The BASS is the quartet's foundation.
He's the subject of great veneration.
But when the BASS blows
the three notes he knows,
He causes us great consternation.
Herb Bayles



WHAT A WEEKEND

October 15-17, 1982 promises to be an exciting weekend when the Grand Rapids Chapter hosts the Pioneer District Fall Convention & Contest.

The beautifully remodeled Amway Grand Plaza Hotel (centrally located downtown) will be the headquarters hotel, providing 350 gorgeous rooms for our convention.

The contest site will be the DeVos Hall in the Grand Center, which is just a few hundred feet from the hotel and is accessible by an enclosed skyway from the hotel.

DeVos Hall has a 2,450 seating capacity and compares to such fine auditoriums as Miller, in Kalamazoo, and the Fine Arts Center in Midland. Moreover, DeVos Hall is considered one of the top-10 auditoriums in the country in terms of acoustic perfection.

All in all, the Fall Pioneer District Convention will feature great facilities, many fine choruses competing to represent the District at Seattle in the 1983 International, as well as some terrific quartets competing for the District Championship. It promises to be an exceptional weekend in Grand Rapids!

While you're visiting Grand Rapids, there are several attractions you may like to see in the downtown area:

1. The Gerald R. Ford Museum is within walking distance of the hotel.

2. The Roger B. Chaffee Planetarium at the Grand Rapids Public Museum.

3. The Grand Rapids Art Museum is just 2 blocks east of the hotel and features many beautiful exhibits.

4. The Monroe Avenue Mall, which is one block from the hotel, features many fine stores and restaurants.

5. The Grand Rapids Public Museum, located at 54 Jefferson Avenue S.E.

6. The Voight House, which is a Victorian Museum, located at 115 College S.E. (about 1 mile east of downtown).

The Grand Rapids Convention will again feature the convenience of parking your car at the parking ramp across from the Grand Plaza on Pearl Street and not having to move your car until you head home on Sunday. Parking tickets will be validated for hotel guests.

Another convenient feature is the Skywalk which extends from the parking ramp to the Grand Plaza and from the hotel to the auditorium complex to protect us from inclement weather.

Many restaurants are available in the hotel and the immediate downtown area. A list will be provided in

CONVENTION HOUSING PRESERVATION

AMWAY GRAND PLAZA HOTEL

OCTOBER 15, 16, & 17, 1982

The Amway Grand Plaza Hotel is holding 350 rooms for our Fall Convention. To reserve a room, the hotel reservation form must be completed and mailed along with your check or money order to:

Amway Grand Plaza Hotel
Attn: Reservations Department
Pearl at Monroe
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

If desired, you may use your American Express or Diners Club credit card in lieu of a check or money order.

All reservations must be received by September 15, 1982.

For information on hospitality rooms, please call Jack Scripsma at (616) 774-2000.

Circle preferred accommodations. If room type requested is not available, nearest room type will be confirmed. Rates are subject to 4% sales tax and 3% hotel tax.

ACCOMMODATIONS	SUPERIOR	DELUXE	FLAT
Double Bed (1 person)			\$54
Double Bed (2 persons)			\$54
King Bed (1 person)			\$54
King Bed (2 persons)			\$56
Double/Double (4 persons)	Triple		\$66
Double/Double (2 persons)	Quad		\$72
Double/Double (with wet bar, 1 person)			\$76
Double/Double (with wet bar, 2 persons)			\$88

Include first night's deposit in this envelope to confirm reservation... or use your American Express or Diner's Club credit card to guarantee your reservation.

Card #	
Expiration Date	Card
(Reservations must be canceled 72 hours prior to scheduled arrival to receive refund from hotel or to avoid a charge being placed on your credit card)	
Arrival Date	Departure Date
Group Code	SPEBSQSA
Reservations must be received by	9-15-82

Suite information: Contact our Reservations Department Dial toll-free 1-800-255-3590, Michigan residents dial 1-800-652-6120.

The Society for the Preservation & Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America
October 15-17, 1982

Please reserve the following accommodations at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel. Reminder — Please make check or money order payable to: Amway Grand Plaza Hotel (do not send currency). Please type or print.

Name	Sharing with
Company	
Address	City
State	Zip
Telephone Number	
Signature	
<input type="checkbox"/> Room will be shared by third and/or fourth person (over 12 years of age). An additional charge of \$ <u>above</u> per additional person will prevail.	
Third Person Name	
Fourth Person Name	

your convention packet. They include:

- "The 1913 Room" which features elegant, leisurely dining at its finest.

- "The Canal Street Lounge" offering a limited menu of steaks and sandwiches.

- "The Monroe Street Cafe" which is similar to Canal Street Lounge.

- "Tootsie Van Kelly's" which captures the flavor of the old back-room saloon, in the hotel, features sandwiches and singing by popular Tootsie Van Kelly and other popular balladeers. We're working on the possibility of having a few quartets appear at "Tootsies" after our contests each evening.

With all these things going for us, this has to be a "can't miss" Barbershop weekend! Be sure to mail your advance registrations to Joe West (c/o Grand Rapids Chapter) to

enable us to complete as much of the work in advance as possible and to save you a few dollars as well. Also be sure to mail your room reservations directly to the hotel indicating your charge card number or enclosing your check for the advance deposit.

Hospitality Room information is available by contacting Mr. Jack Scripsma at the hotel's toll-free number: 1-800-632-6120. If large amounts of alcoholic beverages are brought into the hotel, the hotel will assess a corkage charge of \$5 per bottle or per case of beer. Wine and champagne have a lesser charge.

Be sure to get your reservations in early.

A Whale Of An Idea





The Miriad Departments of Oakland County...

Entertainment Department

Oakland County Chapter has not been becalmed in the horse latitudes during the summer. Quite the contrary. The chapter's Wolverine Chorus was as busy filling singing engagements as the Norman Gooff Choir. Rather than tainting itself with crass commercialism, the chorus dedicated the summer to the advancement of Culture by singing for such audiences as the Boosters Club of Pontiac's St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, the Mature Minglers of Bloomfield Hills, and several convalescent homes.

Gracious Tribute Department

On the Saturday Night Show after the International Contests in Pittsburgh, Oakland County Chapter's own (at least one-fourth of them -- Lee Hanson) the CENTER STAGE quartet, who finished second in the quartet contest, paid a gracious and well-deserved tribute to long-time Barbershopper Hal Bauer by announcing that they were happy to share a second-place finish with such a distinguished, loyal Barbershopper. Hal Bauer, a 42-year member and Hall-of-Famer from Oakland County Chapter, finished second, you remember, with the Clef Dwellers, way back in 1949 and 1950.

Department of Utter Optimism

So confident are they that the Wolverine Chorus will represent the Pioneer District in the 1983 International Chorus Contest at Seattle next July that O.C.C. President Fran Durham and John McClinchey, with their wives, made a mid-summer trip to that city to check it out. While they were in the neighborhood, they decided they might as well combine a little pleasure with the chapter's business so they detoured to Vancouver Island to smell a few flowers along the way at famed Butchart Gardens.

Society Department

Through the sponsorship of Chapter Secretary, Bob Rehe, the Edison Boat Club was the scene on August 21 of the chapter's annual summer social event. On the beautiful Detroit River, across from Peche Island, it was like a scene out of The Great Gatsby, with the members in their white ducks and the PAL TAL's seductive in their big picture hats. It was the perfect setting for harmonizing "Cruising Down The River" and "River Of No Return" which the chorus does so well.

Travel Department

Ten-year chapter member, Bill Kellogg, and his wife, Barbara, hoisted anchor the first part of July for a

year's cruising, and maybe more, on their yacht, the good ship, "JULI." Prior to their leaving, the Kelloggs hosted three days of Bon Voyage parties aboard the boat and were satisfied that if the ship could stand that, it will weather anything they encounter on the high seas.

Austin Quinn, while visiting California, had the distinction of singing aboard the luxury liner, the QUEEN MARY, with the Long Beach chapter. Martha Quinn, Austin's wife, was so impressed with the Long Beacher's hospitality, that she is a candidate for Sweet Ad membership.

Advertising Department

Oakland County's 1983 Show is on for Saturday night, February 12, at the Athens High School, in Troy. Co-chairmen, Tom Smeltzer and G.B. Work promise that the stars will be the Note-Wits and the Roaring 20's quartets and, of course, the incomparable Wolverine Chorus. Your life will be blighted if you miss it.

HURON VALLEY CHAPTER

I Think I'll begin this report by welcoming back our two European travelers. Scott Turnbull, our Assistant Director and recent recipient of the Pioneer District AIC Scholarship, and Dave Conrad, one of our good basses, have just returned from a tour of the British Isles with the Eastern Michigan Madrigal Singers. They report that they had a very good time and had the opportunity to meet many new fine people. And they didn't just stick to the madrigal program, either. Scott and Dave picked up a tenor and a baritone from the madrigal group and prepared a Barbershop program for the Afterglows of the madrigal shows. They report that everyone really enjoyed their efforts and many in the audience had never heard Barbershop Harmony before. The boys came to chapter meeting the night before they left for England and previewed their act for us. They were First-class! It is obvious to us why our friends in England and the British Isles enjoyed them.

The chapter has completed the first of three monthly summer church performances at the Clinton United Methodist Church on June 20th. Wow, what a reaction! Nothing less than a standing ovation for the 26 guys who were there. This was during the regular church service, too. It was a super presentation and very much appreciated by the congregation. This is something we started doing this year in order to get some exposure and show people what Barbershopping is all about (as well as doing a little trolling for new members).

Also, of course, we are fulfilling a real need for the churches as most of their choirs are inactive during the summer. Anyway, it turned out well for everyone. We suggest all you chapters try it. It may do wonders for your chorus.

After the service, all the guys and their wives met at the home of Roger and Linda Waltz where they absolutely devoured a 150# pig that had been roasting on a spit. All the gals brought a dish to pass and Doc Dixon furnished some soothing liquid libations for the parched throats. It was a grand feast and, of course, there was plenty of singing going on all afternoon and a volleyball game that even a little rain couldn't stop. All in all, it was a great day for the entire Huron Valley gang. I, for one, am certainly looking forward to our next church sing-out in Milan, on July 18 (and the ensuing pot-luck dinner).

More good news for the Huron Valley Chapter! Our Director, Jim Stephens, is staying with us for at least one more year. We are very happy to have Jim. He has been a real spark-plug for our chapter, and is certainly responsible for the new positive attitude that prevails in Huron Valley. We all hope that this was but the first of many agreements with Jim.

Roger Waltz

WAYNE CHAPTER

At this writing (late June) my report of Wayne Chapter's activities has to be somewhat "assumptive" (did I just coin a word?).

The Wonderland Chorus, 1982 District Champions, performed on August 4 at Meadowbrook, along with the Detroit Motor City Chorus and the Center Stage Quartet. I really hope that this new association will be a great success. It will be great if something better can be worked out with the Meadowbrook people than we had with Pine Knob. As 'retired' president of SMAC, I want to express my sincere desire that all SMAC chapters continue to participate actively in SMAC. The organization was formed for the benefit of chapters in Southeast Michigan, and the old adage still applies: "You get out what you put in." The 1982 Board: Roger Morris, Mike Donahue, Bill Fanfalone, and Show Chairman, Darl Wiley, need your support.

The Wonderland Chorus demonstrated why they are current District Champions at a very successful 1982 International Send-Off Show where they joined the Motor City Chorus and the Pittsburgh-bound quartets in singing

...continued next page

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT



to a packed house.

This is my last report to the Troub as a member of Wayne chapter. On, or soon after, July 8, 1982, Peg and I are moving to Macon, GA. I'll be transferring to the Macon Chapter where Sonny Henderson directs the "Heart of Georgia" Chorus. Our new address will be 1608 Pelham Way, Macon, GA, 31210. We'll be about 8 miles from Charlie "Schlitz" Benter, who moved to Macon a year ago.

This is not news to Wayne members, and other area Barbershoppers I've had the pleasure of working with in SMAC and the International Convention Committee. This article is my only opportunity to say "so long" to all of you (y'all). If the Lord be willin', we'll see some of you again at some convention -- maybe Seattle.

I particularly want to tell everyone how much I am going to miss my chapter, of which I've been a member a few years, and into which I have brought 18 new members over the years. I believe it is the best chapter in the Pioneer District, and I hope everyone in it also believes that and keeps trying to improve it in every way, not just in the achievements of the chorus, but in the organization and development of quartets. That takes a lot of work and a commitment from every member. The administration of the chapter is also paramount. President Hal Thompson is doing a good job, but he cannot do it alone. It needs the active support of everyone to make it go. This sounds a little "preachy"... admittedly so, but let me give it a parting shot: The way to improve something you don't like is to work to improve it, not walk away from it.

There are several individuals, in and out of Wayne, that I am particularly going to miss. I won't name them here, but you know who you are. I will mention one person, however. He's a man whom I've learned to admire and respect since becoming involved with him on the 1981 International Convention Committee. I'm speaking of Bill Warner, a Barbershopper's Barbershopper. We will miss Bill and Nel a lot. Hopefully, our paths will cross again, soon.

I want to express my hope for a successful future of the new Westland Chapter, which I also joined last winter. The Westland Chapter is fighting odds that are unique in our Society and peculiar to Southeast Michigan...where there are so many chapters and harmony clubs having meetings and other activities on conflicting dates. They meet on the 2nd and 4th Fridays...call Bill Warner or Bill Butler for more info. Go and enjoy their meetings, too.

Y'all come on down to see us in

Macon. Drop us a line and we'll show you some new-fangled southern hospitality!

So long, Troub! So long, Pioneer District! So long, Wayne and Westland Chapters! So long, SMAC! Hello Macon, Heart of Georgia!

Bob Miquelon

MUSKEGON CHAPTER

We are indeed proud that our chapter show, "Southern Memories," held July 10 at the Frauenthal Center in Muskegon, was a great success. Under the capable direction of Del Doctor, the former Dutchmaster, our Shoreline Chorus, 27 strong, never sounded better. The guest quartets, Saturday Night Feature, Sounds Around, and the (new) Dutch Masters, all gave terrific performances for the 850 people who attended the show and the 170 people who attended the Afterglow.

Our thanks to the Show Committee consisting of Dan Doctor, Dave Abbey, Alan Coombs, Monte Rogers, Dennis Everhart and Mike Simpson. The success of the show makes us highly optimistic that our present membership of 28 can be increased substantially. Many activities are planned for the coming months and we intend to compete again at the Fall Convention in Grand Rapids.

Ray Crancer

We Get Letters



There comes a time when something has to be said, or, to put it another way, for the Detroit Chapter and Pioneer District, the judgement has arrived. The judgement of which I am speaking is in the way other people in our District and in the Society see us, and, more importantly, the way our wives see us. Our mates play a most important part in our Barbershop world. They accept our absence on chapter meeting night throughout the entire year. They support us in countless other ways with ticket sales, fund raisers, bake sales, and dinner dances. They prepare and repair our singing outfits, and everytime the curtain opens on the Motor City Chorus, they are there to cheer and applaud for the men they love and support. But when it comes time for a little recognition for the ladies in our lives, when we can say "Thanks for your help and support. We love you", Well, fellas, it seems we're out to lunch!

At the 1982 International Convention in Pittsburgh, Detroit Chapter

had rooms at the Marriot. Also staying at this same hotel were two other competing choruses, one from Johnny Appleseed and the other from Central States District. What I noticed was the way these Districts honored the wives on competition day. It was only a little sit-down breakfast consisting of coffee, tea and danish rolls - there were a few short speeches, a couple of awards to special ladies who did a little extra. I'm sure that a lot of other people from Pioneer noticed these "Thank-You" parties. I'm sure that a lot of Motor City wives also noticed but were too proud to say anything. Why couldn't we have something like this for the ladies from Pioneer District? Instead, we jam them into a room that is much too small - line them up against the wall like an Army chow line, keep them standing because there are no chairs, sing them four songs and then very politely excuse them! IS THIS RIGHT?

It seems to me that two things should have been done at the Convention; (1) Have a little recognition for the ladies in our lives. 2) Show a little hospitality to other Districts and their friends.

After the final quartet sang on Saturday night, I strolled in and out of various hospitality rooms. When I reached the Marriot, I realized that Pioneer District didn't have a hospitality room. I know we didn't win the Gold - when we left Detroit we were not expecting to win the Gold, but we were representing our District in the contest; we had worked hard on our music and we sang the best we were capable of singing on that Saturday afternoon. That's something to be proud of, and yet, I would have been embarrassed and ashamed if a fellow Barbershopper, seeing from my badge that I was from Detroit, had said, "Hey, Wally, Where is the Pioneer District Hospitality Room?" I probably would have felt like answering him, "Oh I think they have it filed under Sub. chapter 11." Why do we always go third class? This is something that happens only once a year, whether it be the Motor City Chorus or any other chorus in our District. Let's make the corrections now and be proud of who we are and who we represent at our conventions.

That's my opinion,
WALLY DOROSH
Detroit #1

"Music moves us and we know not why; we feel the tears, but cannot trace their source. Is it the language of some other state, born of its memory? For what can wake the soul's instinct of another world like music?"

L.E. Landon



The Michigan District and it's

Men of Harmony

by Mark P. Roberts

The 1951 District Quartet Contest was held in Saginaw on October 13th. Assembled for a run at the District Championship were the Town Criers of Kalamazoo, Hudson Treble Makers, Esquires of Lansing, Merri-Men of Lansing, Royal Oak Quartet, Crow-Matix, Night Howls of Fenton, Men of Achord of Saginaw, Overtones of Benton Harbor, Muskegon Four-Fathers, Rov-A-Notes of Three Rivers, Bel-Aires of Grosse Pointe and County Seaters of Dowagiac. The Merri-Men (Howard Hawkins, tenor; Dave Bullock, lead; Louis Bean, baritone; and Doug Stephens, bass) were named the new District Champions. In second place was the Bel-Aires of Grosse Pointe (Gordon Limburg, Robert Burrell, Richard Denbroeder and Ted Windship) and third place went to the Crow-Matix (Warren, Dobb, Holler and Lund). The Junior Champions were the Town Criers of Kalamazoo with Louis Johnson, tenor; John Baker, lead; Earl Cook, baritone; Ken Barrett, bass. The Four Fathers of Muskegon (Cliff Van Riper, Mel Westerlind, Tom Damm and Clarence Bristol) took Novice honors.

The International preliminary contest and Spring meeting for 1952 were held at Mt. Clemens and were sponsored by the East Detroit, Hamtramck, Grosse Pointe and Mt. Clemens Chapters. The general chairman was our old friend, Ed Schwoppe, Michigan's first SPEBSQSA member. It was time to elect new officers again and Howard Tubbs, charter member of our first chapter and one of Michigan's greatest Barbershoppers, was elected District President. Loton Willson of Boyne City and Rush Wyman of Lansing, were named Vice Presidents, and Lou Harrington and Clarence Jalving continued as Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Only eight quartets showed up for the contest that year and the judges selected the Crow-Matix of Muskegon and two new-comers, the Extension Chords of Grand Rapids (Helder, Lucas, Verduin and Hall) and the Wolverines of Dearborn (Rehkop, Joe Sipots, Ray Sipots and Bill Bond) as Michigan's three quartets to compete

at the International at Kansas City. That was the year the Four Teens won the International title and, for the first time in history, Michigan failed to place a quartet in the International Finals. We were not shut out, however, as our Edwin S. Smith of Wayne Chapter was elected International President. This was also the year in which the Clef Dwellers made a month-long tour of overseas Army bases to entertain our armed services personnel, in much the same fashion as the Harmony Halls did in 1950.

MICHIGAN'S FIRST CHORUS CONTEST

The first Michigan District Chorus Contest was held in Wright Park, Alma, Michigan, on Sunday, July 27, 1952, with Mark Roberts as General Chairman. The Gratiot County Chapter was host to this historic event and its committees provided everything necessary to make it a success, including perfect weather and a crowd of about 2,500 people. Prior to the contest, a committee composed of C. W. Coye, John Hill, Fran Hodgeboom, and Tom Needham had drafted the rules for the contest, there being no International rules covering chorus contests at that time. With picnic baskets, kids, six-packs and practicing groups everywhere, it added up to a great day. It was Summer; it was Michigan; it was Barber-shopping; it was Terrific! Howard Tubbs was emcee and the all-Michigan panel of Judges, consisting of Loton Willson, Rawley Hallman, Henry Schubert and Mark Roberts, Chairman, was in good ear. The Grand Rapids Chapter, with Fran Hodgeboom directing, came prepared to overcome, and they did with a fine performance. The Detroit chorus, Ed Easley directing, finished second and John Hill's Lansing group was a close third. Other choruses competing were Dowagiac, Tom Groves, director; Holly-Fenton, Andy Yalch, director; Ionia, Stanley Knoll, director; Gratiot County, Chester Robinson, director; and Manistee, Roger Campbell, director. As we said, it was a great day and, except for the second contest which was held in the same place the following year, we haven't had as much fun at a chorus contest since, thanks to all those wonderful people in and around Alma. As one non-member put it, "I don't know what's going on except some singing, but this is the friendliest, happiest group of people I've ever seen."

MORE CONTESTS AND CONVENTIONS

The Chippewa Hotel and the famous Ramsdell Theater will be remembered by those who attended the 1952 District Convention and Quartet Contest held at Manistee on October 11. The

quartets on hand were the Fun Addicts of Grand Rapids, Muskegon Four Fathers, Overtones of Fruit Belt, Harmo-Niters of Manistee, Extension Chords of Grand Rapids, For-Tune Tellers of Jackson, Town Criers of Kalamazoo, Wolverines of Dearborn, County Seaters of Dowagiac, Chordinators of Grosse Pointe, Sharplifters of Detroit, Chieftans of Traverse City and the Chordials of Lansing. The Extension Chords of Grand Rapids (Sid Helder, tenor; Don Lucas, lead; Cal Verduin, baritone; and Don Hall, bass) were in grand form and the choice of the judges as new District Champs. Second place was taken by the Wolverines of Dearborn (Rehkop, Sipots, Sipots and Bond) and third place went to the Town Criers of Kalamazoo (Louis Johnson, tenor; John Baker, lead; Earl Cook, baritone; and Ken Barrett, bass). The Junior Champ was the County Seaters of Dowagiac (John Hayden, tenor; Phil Beardsley, lead; Richard Brown, baritone; and Harold Cobb, bass). The Sharplifters of Detroit took Novice honors with the parts being handled by Max Wilworth, tenor; Ralph Schirmer, lead; Harry Shumann, baritone; and Jon Sinnikas, bass.

The 1952 May-June issue of the "Troubadour" came out with a new editor, Roscoe Bennett, who succeeded Lou Harrington. Lou originated the District publication back in 1948 when he issued the "Secretary's Bulletin", a brief and newsy bulletin which provided a much-needed media of communication with the District membership. The bulletin was continued for about 18 months until the publication of the first 'Troubadour' with Lou as the editor. Roscoe came out with a new newspaper-size format and the 'Troubadour' became the most extraordinary Barbershop publication ever issued. Roscoe, one of the organizers of the Grand Rapids Chapter and the Michigan District, was a much-respected and veteran newspaperman and Sports Editor of the "Grand Rapids Press". He applied all his experience and skill to make the 'Troubadour' the greatest source of Barbershop information ever issued as a regular publication. He covered everything from news of the International organization down to personal notes about Society members. His editorial comments covered the whole Barbershop spectrum with the effect, sometimes, of leaving some readers seeing only one color of the spectrum - red! Nothing fazed by those who might disagree with him on some controversial matter, Roscoe continued on as Editor of the 'Troubadour' until the 1961 Feb-Mar. issue, a nine year span, when ill health caused his resignation as editor. We will never now how this dedicated man found

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MUSIC EDUCATION

by Jim Stephens
Asst. Director

of

Music Education

Pioneer District



I got a call from the "Big Bear" the other day asking me to write an article for the "Troubadour." He said, "Write anything you want." which provided this opportunity to discuss something that has become a deep concern of mine.

That big "E" in S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. stands for the word "encouragement." Is "encouragement" simply a word in our logo, or is it a common practice at all of our chapter meetings and functions? Encouragement can, and should, take place in many ways. As a public school educator for almost 30 years, I can attest to the fact that "positive reinforcement produces the best and quickest results." A small word of approval, if sincere, is far more encouraging than any words of criticism, no matter how valid or true, can ever hope to be.

A quote from our Code of Ethics reads:

"Our Society aspires to preserve for its members and for all future generations of prospective members the sacred right of men to seek haven from the burden of their daily cares through indulgence in old-fashioned vocal quartet harmony and to that end we do hereby pledge ourselves to abide by the precepts..." and here are but two of the ten:

1. "We shall do everything in our power to perpetuate the Society."

and

6. "We shall exhibit a spirit of good fellowship toward all members."

If you were a guest last week at your chapter meeting, would you, or could you, get excited enough about what was happening to return again with the possible intent of "joining up"? Or, were you turned off by any of the following?

1. Callous banter or barbs in poor taste between members that disrupted the flow of the meeting.
2. Inattentive members who talked to each other while the director was teaching.
3. A know-it-all who had smart remarks for everything said by anyone up front.
4. Tardy members who either offered or received loud greetings and remarks, brazenly unconcerned

for the director and what he was doing.

Food for thought, right? These are happenings that do occur more in some chapters than in others, but I sincerely believe that they are an unwitting cause of losing members.

No matter how much we enjoy being cute with our friends, we must be careful to display, without a doubt, a "spirit of good fellowship" to the visitor that does not yet know which of us are the best of friends.

We need to show by our discipline that we are courteous to each other and that we respect our leaders.

When we can do these things, we will be adding a final dimension of friendliness that is "in our power to perpetuate the Society."



INSTITUTE OF LOGOPEDICS

Al Fricker

30881 Nye Ct. W. Bus (313) 278-5200
Livonia, MI 48154 Res " 421-0820

"Together...we are something!"

One of our recent International Presidents used this phrase as his creed for the year. But think of it, really think of it. The impact of these four words tell the entire story. Consider the soloist, the quartet, the chorus or the mighty Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Albeit, when numbers make the difference, numbers really do make the difference.

Pioneer, in 1982, put together the finest effort ever for the "kids" we fondly refer to at the Institute. We have chosen this means to express ourselves through our Unified Service Project, but it certainly did not jump off to a rousing start. In fact, it was well into the 70's before the Society was doing the job it had envisioned possible. And now, some four million dollars later and counting, we are rolling at a pace of over \$500,000 annually with the numbers getting larger all the time. You all know why this has been possible... People, lots 'n lots of people.

Twenty-two chapters received awards in Lansing this spring and seventeen Pioneer quartets contributed to the Logopedics campaign, with the Saturday Night Feature donating the highest amount and winning the beautiful Great Lakes Express Travelling Trophy. Let's mention again the Traverse City Chapter as our first Silver Division Winner. That's certainly participation!

Eleven chapters were represented at the Chapter Chairman's Saturday meeting and it was discussed that we can and should go outside the Chap-

ter area to gain visibility and support for our charity as others do. We are, after all, a non-profit organization strongly supporting a national effort and we can use the assistance of our friends, relatives, neighbors, co-workers, church brothers and sisters, and any interested people. Lots of folks know we are involved with Logopedics but they really don't know just what that means. We can tell them and ask them to give us a hand.

How exactly can they help? Well, two methods surface immediately. 1. The Campbell's "Labels for Education Program" is under way again with a truly great opportunity to realize sensational recreational and learning equipment available to the Institute through collecting various Campbell and other labels. 2. The potential of corporations who have programs of matching employee contributions to institutions and organizations which qualify. Two lists are available of corporations with published guidelines for matching funds. Your Chapter Logopedics Chairman will have this information in the near future and work with you to obtain the publicity it deserves. Once again, and with real feeling... "TOGETHER...we are something!"

ATTENTION!

The May printout shows Port Huron and Pontiac Chapters have already passed the Bronze level of contributions (\$10.00 per man) and are pressing on to the Silver goal. Hooray and hallelujah, along with a couple of huzzas. This achievement is all the more impressive in view of the May/June Harmonizer which notes the overall Society contributions are 19% behind last year's pace. This is also about where our Pioneer people are at May end, overall. Let us not "rest on the oars" now in view of a marvelous 1981 campaign.

As we mentioned, there are other companion means to generate Logopedics income. We will examine these ideas in the very near future and guess what...we'll do it "TOGETHER!"



Bill Butler sends along a big "Thank You" to all those who sent cards and flowers and those who called during his recent hospitalization. He's feeling much better and says he'll see you all at "Harmony Round-Up" - August 27-29.



ON
THE
MEND



Continued

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

PIONEER DISTRICT

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, April 23, 1982

These Minutes will be submitted to the Board of Directors (or the House of Delegates) at its next meeting.

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:
(continued)

Hall of Fame: Mr. Gougeon's request for Hall of Fame nominations led to a general discussion of the District's Hall of Fame, the qualifications for nominees thereto and the method of selection. The consensus was that it is not obligatory to name individuals to the Hall of Fame every year. Upon motion by Director Butler, seconded by Director McDermott, the Board voted unanimously that, effective immediately, no more than one man a year be named to the Pioneer District Hall of Fame.

Upon motion by Director LaBumbard, seconded by Director McDermott, the Board voted that the President appoint a committee to review the standards for the Hall of Fame, including nominating and election procedures, with the request that the committee report to the Board at its meeting scheduled for October 15, 1982. Included in the discussion was the suggestion that the committee be composed of three Directors and two Hall of Fame members. Accordingly, President Jones appointed the following committee: Jim Gougeon, Chairman; W. D. "Bill" Butler; Dan LaBumbard; Robert T. McDermott; William Pascher.

INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEMBER: As an update to the report he made at the Board meeting of February 21, 1982, and which he will make to the House of Delegates on April 24, 1982, Mr. McTaggart stated that Hawaii has been selected as the location for the 1984

Mid-Winter convention; that Pioneer District's is still among the bids being considered for hosting the Society's 50th anniversary convention in 1988; that the District's annual International Send-Off Show, scheduled for June 11, 1982, at the Caboto Club, Windsor, will have a ticket price of \$7.50 per person.

DIVISION VICE PRESIDENTS: All Division Vice Presidents reported on the status of chapters in their respective divisions.

MUSIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Director of Music Education Butler reported on Music Education Committee matters.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP & EXTENSION: As an update to his report of March 31, 1982, Chairman Weston stated that Swan Valley (centered at Shields, Michigan) with Saginaw-Bay Chapter as its sponsoring chapter, and Gladwin with AuSable Valley as its sponsoring chapter, are working toward becoming licensed.

Executive Vice President Gougeon indicated that it is his intention to ask Mr. Weston and the Pontiac Chapter to work together with a view to strengthening that chapter and perhaps extending its area.

LOGOPEDICS: Chairman Fricker's report, dated April 15, 1982, disclosed that Pioneer District exceeded its 1981 goal of contributions to the Society's International Service Project, the Institute of Logopedics. Special commendation was earned by the Traverse City Chapter for being the District's first Silver Division Winner with a per capita contribution of \$25.50.

DISTRICT HISTORIAN: District Historian, in a written report, asked those in attendance at this meeting to urge the chapters in their divisions to submit to him the charter information requested in a letter he mailed to all chapters.

CORRESPONDENCE

O. C. CASH MEMORIAL FUND: President Jones read a letter received from International appealing for 1982 contributions from the chapters to the

O. C. Cash Memorial Fund, which contributions are suggested as \$1.00 for each year of the Society's existence, or \$44.00 for 1982. Such contributions are credited to the chapters' Logopedics contributions but are designated as "O. C. Cash Memorial" contributions.

1982 C.O.T.S.: A letter, dated April 8, 1982, from D. William FitzGerald, Administrator, Field Services, to all district presidents, was read and discussed. With a view to pre-planning for the 1982 C.O.T.S. schools, the letter asked for the number of extra classes, aside from DO/AC classes, each district will offer this year. Director Butler suggested that each chorus director in the District be queried about this matter.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bylaws: President Jones stated that he intends to ask William J. Giovan, Chairman of the Laws & Regulations Committee, to give attention to possible revisions in the District's bylaws.

District Logo: Continuing its consideration of pins and appliques of the District Logo, the Board viewed catalog illustrations submitted by the Vernon Company of Newton, Iowa, through its representative Carl Secor. After discussion, upon motion by Director LaBumbard, seconded by Director McDermott, the Board authorized ordering 2,500 appliques to be distributed free and 1,000 pins to be sold for \$2.00 each.

NEW BUSINESS

GOLD & SILVER CHORUS DIVISIONS: Director LaBumbard stated that, in his opinion, the classifications for chapter choruses into Gold and Silver Divisions as compiled by the Secretary, did not follow Article XVI of the District bylaws. After discussion, upon motion by Director LaBumbard, seconded by Director McTaggart, a majority of the Board voted that the divisions be adjusted to conform with the bylaws. Secretary Teubert said he wanted to review this matter with his predecessor.

HARMONY COLLEGE '82, August 1-8, 1982: Upon motion by Vice President

Gougeon, seconded by Director Berry, the Board unanimously voted that transportation costs and the fee to enroll Director of Music Education Bill Butler in the Society's Harmony College '82, being held at Missouri Western State College, August 1 to 8, 1982, will be paid by the District.

LOGOPEDICS DRAWING, 1982 INTER-NATIONAL CONVENTION: As a suggested prize for the District's Logopedics drawing at the 1982 International Convention at Pittsburgh, Logopedics Chairman showed a small rug, made and donated by Mr. Robert Miller, into which had been woven the Society's emblem. The Board's reaction was favorable. Mr. Fricker was asked to continue to work on the matter.

1982 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION - HOSPITALITY: At the request of the Board, Earl Berry undertook to look into the matter of the District's providing hospitality arrangements at the International Convention in Pittsburgh. Upon motion by Director Gougeon, seconded by Director McTaggart, an allotment of \$300.00 for this purpose was voted by the Board.

CONVENTION PLANNING MANAGEMENT SCHOOL: Mr. D. William FitzGerald, Society's Administrator of Field Services, joined the meeting at 4:20 PM. He introduced a discussion of a Convention Planning Management School which, under co-sponsorship of the Society, is being held at the Holiday Inn, Memphis, Tennessee, on May 21, 22 and 23, 1982. The purpose of the school is to assist the districts in planning for district conventions. Mr. FitzGerald stated that the only expense to the districts will be for transportation, with all other expenses being borne by Holiday Inns. Upon motion by Director LaBumbard, seconded by Director Berry, the Board unanimously voted to send a representative to the school.

With the singing of "Keep the Whole World Singing," the meeting ADJOURNED at 4:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
JACK W. TEUBERT
Secretary, Pioneer District

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

PIONEER DISTRICT

Minutes of House of Delegates Meeting
Saturday, April 24, 1982

These Minutes will be submitted to the Board of Directors (or the House of Delegates) at its next meeting.

The meeting, held at the Midway Motor Lodge, Lansing, Michigan, was called to order by President Jones at 9:05 PM.

Sergeant at Arms Dyer declared a quorum present.

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

The MINUTES of the meeting held on October 17, 1981, were accepted as distributed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Schneider presented Treasurer's Reports for the year 1981 and for the period ending March 31, 1982, showing a balance of \$11,695.98. Treasurer Schneider also submitted a Proposed Pioneer District Budget for the year 1982, which, upon motion duly made and seconded, was approved by the House.

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Executive Vice President Gougeon reported to the meeting. He announced that the Battle Creek Chapter had entered a bid to host the 1984 Fall convention. Upon motion by Director LaBumbard, seconded by Director Berry, the House accepted Battle Creek Chapter's bid.

Mr. Gougeon announced the creation by the Board of Directors in its meeting of April 23, 1982, of a committee to review the standards for the District's Hall of Fame.

Mr. Gougeon announced the creation by the Board of Directors in its meeting of April 23, 1982, of a committee to review the standards for the District's Hall of Fame.

Mr. Gougeon asked for consideration of the Pioneer District's "Convention Manual," copies of which had previously been distributed to all chapters in the District. Upon motion by Director Horton, seconded by John

Gillespie, the House unanimously adopted the manual.

INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEMBER: International Board Member McTaggart reviewed his written report highlighting items acted upon at the Mid-Winter convention at Tucson and other matters of interest.

DIVISION VICE PRESIDENTS: Reports on the status of chapters in their respective divisions were received from all Division Vice Presidents.

MUSIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Director of Music Education Butler, in his report, made particular mention of the District's "Harmony Round-up" (Mini-HEP) school, being held August 27-29, 1982, at Eastern Michigan University; and also of the "Direct Blitz" program, scheduled to begin May 10, 1982. He emphasized that the "Direct Blitz" program is not limited to those Barbershoppers who want to direct.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP & EXTENSION: Chairman Weston urged all chapters to call on him and his committee whenever cooperation is needed in matters of establishing new chapters, attracting new members and retention.

LOGOPEDICS: Reporting for Chairman Fricker, 1981 Chairman Durham announced that in 1981 the Pioneer District exceeded its projected goal of support to the Society's International Service Project, the Institute of Logopedics. Special recognition was given to the Traverse City Chapter for being the District's first Silver Division Winner with a per capita contribution of \$25.50.

DISTRICT HISTORIAN: District Historian, in a written report, asked those in attendance at this meeting to urge the chapters in their divisions to submit to him the charter information requested in a letter he mailed to all chapters.

CORRESPONDENCE

POINTS FOR CHORUS COMPETITION: Read to the meeting was a letter dated April 2, 1982, from Howard L. Lehti,
...continued next page

MORE 'BORED' MINUTES.....

Secretary of the Clinton Valley Chapter, to the District Secretary, making the following proposal: "As it stands now, a chapter is given 25 points for competing in the Spring contest but if that same chapter also competes in the Fall contest no additional points are received. We strongly feel that 25 points should be given for each contest entered and also feel that this would be an added incentive for the chapter choruses to participate in both contests." In the discussion which followed, International Board Member McTaggart expressed the conviction that the proposal would not be favored by International as policy for the Society because of differences in procedures in the various districts. He expressed the opinion, however, that it would be in order for the Pioneer District to deal with the matter for itself. Accordingly, Mr. Dave Anderson, President of the Clinton Valley Chapter, moved that the Pioneer District account for achievement points twice a year, granting 100 points for each competition and allowing 100 points to choruses which, by rules, must sit out competition for two years. The motion was seconded by Mr. John Gillespie and passed by a voice vote of the House.

INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEMBER: International Board Member McTaggart, representing International President Merritt F. Auman, Addressed the meeting.

AWARDS: President Jones made award announcements as follows:

AREA COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR: The Board of Directors, in its meeting of February 21, 1982, selected Earl Berry as Area Counselor of the Year for 1981.

PIONEER DISTRICT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS FOR 1981: Gold Division - Grosse Pointe Chapter; Silver Division - Traverse City Chapter.

DISTRICT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS FOR 1981 AS COMPILED BY INTERNATIONAL: Plateau I - Muskegon; Plateau II - Traverse City; Plateau III - Benton Harbor-St. Joseph; Plateau IV - Lansing; Plateau V - Oakland County; Plateau VI - Grand Rapids.

With the singing of "Keep the Whole World Singing," the meeting **ADJOURNED** at 11:45 AM

Respectfully submitted,
JACK W. TEUBERT
Secretary, Pioneer District

THE SIMPLEST FORM OF STAGE PRESENCE

Think about the message each song is trying to convey, and show, by your actions and your face, that you enjoy what you are singing.



"CLOSE HARMONY" Now Available.....

by Mike Hatfield
FWD PR Committee Chairman

After ten years of producing the radio program "Close Harmony," Phoenix Chapter member, Nostalgian, DON RICHARDSON has agreed to make his weekly 30 minute barbershop musical program available to any radio station that will air it.

The program, drawn from records of barbershop "greats", is timed to twenty-nine minutes and thirty seconds with no more than three and one half minutes of continuity, resulting in twenty-six minutes of solid barbershop harmony.

The program is available to any public or commercial radio stations, however is not available to individuals. Chapter P.R. Officers should contact local radio stations advising them of this opportunity. The only cost is one 1200 reel-to-reel tape per program and \$1 handling and mailing charge per tape, (and the station gets their tape back with the program thus the only cost would be \$52 per year...a cost that the Chapter might well consider underwriting.

DON RICHARDSON, whose column 'Record Review' begins in this issue of the Troubadour, started his radio program "Close Harmony" in 1972, and since then has recorded more than 500 half-hour programs. His 500th anniversary program was scheduled for May 16, 1982.

Further information on how to get the program started in your own area contact DOUG MYRLAND, Radio Station KMCR-FM, 1435 South Dobson Road, Mesa, Arizona, 85202.

And, don't forget to share with me how well the program is working in your area. Public Relations is not a one man job, it is every man's job.

If you don't think it is important to express every vowel and consonant....just read these lines....in which only ONE LETTER has been changed:

"Please don't walk about me when I'm gone."
"I'm just mild about Harry."
"I think I'm failing in love."
"They call her frivolous Hal."
"Those wedding bills are breaking up that old gang of mine."
"The surry with the fridge on top."
"They call the wino Maria."



RECORD REVIEW

by Don Richardson, Phoenix Chapter

In the almost ten years that I've been producing "Close Harmony," a half-hour weekly radio program of barbershop music, I've heard many different barbershop albums. (The Phoenix Chapter buys them, and I use them on the program). Because I get to hear all of the records as they are released, I've grown somewhat immune to surprise; I know what to expect. If the album is by an up-and-coming group, I expect a healthy share of barbershop songs on the record. Usually, the record has twelve selections (or the equivalent) with only a couple of non-barbershop songs (gospel, spiritual, Broadway, or modern). However, after the group wins International, their records change. Now they no longer have to pay allegiance to their heritage; half or more of the songs are non-barbershop and, oftentimes, there are only ten selections. Only once in a while am I surprised. But with The Most Happy Fellows' second album, it's a pleasant surprise.

The record is called "We're Off To See...The Most Happy Fellows." The title is taken from Side One, a twenty-minute presentation based on "The Wizard of Oz," recorded live on stage at the Seattle Opera House (except for "Somewhere Over the Rainbow"). Side Two has eight selections ranging from solid barbershop---"Jeanine" and "Lulu's Back in Town"---to modern - "Route 66" and "It's Not That Easy Being Green."

In addition to getting your money's worth, you ought to be impressed by the beautiful and controlled singing on this record. As the 1977 International Champion Quartet of the Society, the quartet can be expected to start slipping musically one of these days. Maybe they already have. But if so, there is no evidence here. They sing just as well in 1982 as they did in 1977 (they were fifth in sound, but only one quartet that outscored them has gone on to win International; they won interpretation and stage presence). The attractive aspect of the sound of The Most Happy Fellows to me is that they sing like men. The bass is full and resonant, and the quartet sound is not thin; it's rich and fulfilling. If you prefer the extra precise, somewhat crisp sound

...continued next page...

...MORE "RECORD REVIEW".....

of the more recent, younger quartets, then this quartet may not be for you. But if barbershop quartet says "MEN" to you, then you should be satisfied.

Of course, the impressive package of Side One is nearly beyond words, conceived and arranged by coach LLOYD STEINKAMP, no doubt, it is faithful to the original, yet true to the presentation, too - it's barbershop enough to satisfy me that I can enjoy it in good conscience. If you hear it, you'll hear the spontaneous reactions of the audience and get the feeling of the live performance. I saw the quartet perform this package on the Scottsdale show in 1981, but I was too far from the stage to hear well and too far from the center to see very well either. I stood up when they finished, however, because I knew I had witnessed a great performance. Yet when I heard the record, I could hardly accept that it was the same presentation. How can I give a standing ovation to the record?

For information, or to order the record itself (\$7.00), write to Most Happy Fellows Records, Box 94004, Fort Steilacoom, WA 98494.

(from WESTUNES, R.A. Girvin, Editor)

The Michigan District and it's Men of Harmony

by Mark P. Roberts

CONTINUED

the time to carry this particular onerous burden for so long, but we do know that no Michigan man has contributed more of his time and talents for the good of his District and the Society. Roscoe Bennett was a truly great Barbershopper for whose services we shall be eternally grateful.

The Fruit Belt Chapter and Benton Harbor hosted the 1953 District Convention and International Preliminary Quartet Contest. New District Officers elected at this meeting were Clarence Jalving of Holland, President; Loton Willson of Boyne City and Don Wright of Hudson, Vice-Presidents; Lou Harrington, Secretary; and Tom Grove of Dowagiac, Treasurer. Qualifying to represent Michigan in the International Quartet Contest, held that year in Detroit, were the Onchords of Saginaw (Bill Ahrens, tenor; Earl Keith, lead; Ed Peitsch, baritone; and Dick Lee, bass) The Town Criers of Kalamazoo (Johnston, Baker, Cook and Barrett) and the Wolverines of Dearborn (Rehkop, Sipots, Sipots and Bond).

..to be concluded next issue...

OFFICIAL



NEWS RELEASE

FROM: HUGH A. INGRAHAM, CAE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: PITTSBURGH CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

July 9, 1982

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania - We weren't in Pittsburgh five minutes before we realized there really is a lot of construction underway in this city; significant renaissance is taking place, and people attending our 44th international convention soon found they were right in the middle of it. It didn't seem to bother anyone, though, as our people went about the business of the convention - having fun singing, conducting the Society's business and picking new quartet and chorus champions. Though the sun didn't shine everyday, for the most part we couldn't complain too much about the weather. From the packed boat cruise on Monday evening to the special activities on the following Sunday, nearly all the planned events were well attended and quite successful. Many took advantage of the long holiday weekend and took part in the special "Sunday in the Park" festivities along with the Pittsburgh area chapters.

CONTEST RESULTS

The Civic Arena literally buzzed with singing activities once the contest sessions got underway early Thursday afternoon. It was an exciting time for the first of 49 quartets gathered to sing their way to the international crown.

There was no chance to "second guess" the judges' decision this year. The Classic Collection (Rocky Mountain District) won the contest from start to finish and now proudly wear the gold medals. Fourth place medalists last year, Center Stage (Pioneer District) took home the second place silver medals. Repeating as third place bronze medal winners were the Side Street Ramblers (Southwestern District); the Grand Tradition (Far Western District) came in fourth place; and Vaudeville (MidAtlantic District) in fifth place.

Even the "roast" of retiring Bob Johnson, which took place between competing choruses on Saturday afternoon, did little to ease the tension in the packed auditorium. You could almost feel the electricity in the air as the choruses mounted the stage for their presentations. It was another display of superb singing coupled with artistic showmanship which challenged the judges. When all the votes were in, the Dallas (Metro), Tex. "Vocal Majority" had become 1982 chorus champions, outdistancing the rest of the field by 103 points. In second place was the "Southern Gateway Chorus" from Western Hills (Cincinnati), O. Third place went to the Alexandria, Va. "Harmonizers;" in fourth place the "West Towns Chorus" of Lombard, Ill.; and fifth place - the "Peninsulaires" of Peninsula, Cal.

INTERNATIONAL BOARD ACTION

Faced with a relatively light agenda, President Merritt Auman gavelled the board into session shortly after 9 a.m. on Wednesday. The board discussed each of the committee reports, acting on those necessary.

The board voted to increase the adult convention registration fee to \$40 starting with the St. Louis Convention in 1984. The increased fee will cover busing.

Membership Development Manager Tom Cogan's program using volunteer fieldmen was adopted as part of President Auman's five-year plan.

Bids for the 1986 International Convention were received from Hartford, Connecticut and Salt Lake City, Utah with the awarding of the convention to Salt Lake City.

The following resolution honoring retiring Int'l Staff Director Bob Johnson was unanimously adopted:

"WHEREAS, ROBERT D. JOHNSON is retiring as Director of Music Education and Services of SPEBSQSA, Inc. and

WHEREAS, he has been a member of the International Office Staff for twenty (20) years; and

WHEREAS, during that period he has served the Society with dignity, dedication, and honor; and

WHEREAS, through his efforts Barbershop Harmony has become a well respected and acknowledged form of music both here and abroad; and,

WHEREAS, his love of the Society and the form of music it perpetuates is without bounds;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: that the International Board of Directors, governing body of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc., hereby officially expresses its gratitude to Robert D. Johnson, musician, educator, administrator - and a magnificent Barbershopper.

Dated this 30th day of June, 1982 in Pittsburgh, Pa."

Needless to say, presentation of the resolution on a hand-somely framed scroll brought tears of joy to Bob Johnson.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The following members were elected to take office on January 1, 1983 and serve through the calendar year as international officers: President, Henry S. Vornacka (Sarasota, Fla. - Sarasota, Fla. Chapter); Immediate Past President, Merritt F. Auman (Lebanon, Pa.); International Vice President-Treasurer, John T. Gillespie (Kalamazoo, Mich.); International Vice President Gil Lefholz (Kansas City, Mo.); International Vice President, William K. Park (Wilmington, Dela.). Elected as Harmony Foundation Trustee was Reddie Wright (Altadena, Cal.).

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Proving the "once-a-champion, always-a-champion" adage, our past champion foursomes, from the 1951 Schmitt Brothers to our most recent champs, the Chicago News were kept busy all week long. Anytime a crowd gathered you'd hear the sounds of one of our past champion quartets.

The champs presented their own show on Wednesday evening, and it had to be one of the finest ever. Featuring the distinctive sounds of six champion quartets (Schmitt Brothers, Bluegrass Studeht Union, Grandma's Boys, Boston Common, Happiness Emporium and Chicago News), the show continued to build to the grand finale including champion quartet men dating back to the forties.

A standing ovation and an unforgettable moment came with the appearance of Vern Reed, tenor of the Buffalo Bills of "Music Man" fame. Unfortunately, Vern suffered torn ligaments as he was leaving the stage on Wednesday and was unable to appear as master of ceremonies for the "Saturday Night Show."

Random Productions of North Hollywood, Cal. covered much of the convention for possible sale to either commercial, public or cable TV. Their video tapes will become part of the Society's archives.

Though "Reaganomics" made PBS (Public Broadcast Services) coverage of this year's convention impossible, we were pleased to hear that PBS still has high hopes for coverage of next year's event in Seattle.

PM Magazine zeroed in on our Friday activities with the main focus on the Mass Sing. It is not known at this time when their coverage will be aired.

John Miller, former bass of the 1979 champion Grandma's Boys, came out of the Chorditorium audience to join the quartet for one song. The quartet did their famous toy soldier routine and Miller never missed a beat.

It was a memorable week for retiring Bob Johnson, who was the object of a lot of attention all week long. The large turn out for the Mass Sing was evidence of the respect and love shown for this man. There were many wet eyes as the crowd broke into "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow" as he finished directing the Mass Sing. In addition to being presented with a resolution by the international board on Wednesday and the subject of a "roast" on Saturday afternoon, Johnson received a special "Bub" Thomas caricature on Saturday evening.

Despite a depressed economy, support for the Society's SERVICE PROJECT, the Institute of Logopedics, was much in evidence all week long. The annual raffle of district gifts brought in nearly \$9,000; this amount, plus several other miscellaneous cash contributions, will make this year's total the largest ever. Special guests at the Logopedics Breakfast were Dan McGrove, an Institute teacher, along with Mark, a Canadian student who has made fine progress at the Institute. Dr. Frank Kleffner, Institute Director, was also present and gave a status report on Institute activities. He was especially pleased with the Society's support and expressed his grateful appreciation.

Both Friday's quartet finals and the "Saturday Night Show" moved along at a brisk pace much to the delight of the audiences. Though the "Saturday Night Show" was emotion-packed (the tributes to Bob Johnson continued), the top five quartets and the immediate past and newly crowned chorus champions presented an outstanding program. A much more relaxed audience showed its appreciation for the splendid performances they had seen all week long. The show was a fitting close to a fun-filled, emotion-packed week.

AWARD WINNERS

Winners of the 1982 public relations awards were as follows:

Boston Common quartet - for their trip to Germany, Spring, 1982.

Center Stage quartet - for their PM magazine feature in July, 1981.

Terry Jordan (Alexandria, Va.) - for arranging for publicity on TODAY SHOW, October, 1981.

Long Beach, Cal. Chapter - for their nationally televised appearance at Angels/Brewers baseball game, May 29, 1982.

Vocal Majority Chorus (Dallas Metro Chapter) - singing for President Reagan, Vice President Bush and their wives in Houston, July 15, 1982.

Top Five bulletins:

1st - OVERTONES (Editor Dick Teeters) St. Paul, Minn.;

2nd - PRIDE PIPER (Editor Jerry Silver) Waterloo, Ia.;

3rd - LIVINGSTON TUNE-TYPE (Editor Jim Cox) Livingston, N. J.;

4th - HAPPINESS EXPRESSIONS (Editor Jerry Peterman) Denison, Ia.;

5th - GAZEBO GAZETTE (Editor Lowell Shank) Bowling Green, Ky.

General Convention Chairman Jack Owens and his Greater Pittsburgh Area workers did a great job of presenting a smoothly run, successful convention. Pictures and more detailed information, including scores, will appear in the September-October HARMONIZER.



What's Next ?

AUGUST

1-8 Harmony College, St Joe, MO
4 Meadowbrook Spectacular
27-29 Harmony Round-Up (Mini-HEP)
Eastern Michigan, Ypsilanti

SEPTEMBER

1-6 Harrisville Harmony Happening

OCTOBER

15-17 Fall Convention - Grand Rapids
23 Sault Ste. Marie Chapter Show

NOVEMBER

6 Benton Harbor - St. Joe Chap Show
20 Detroit #1 Chapter Show

DECEMBER

3-4 C.O.T. School

JANUARY - 1983

27-29 Mid-Winter Conv. - Sarasota

FEBRUARY

12 Oakland County Chapter Show
26 Monroe Chapter Show

APRIL

9 Coldwater Chapter Show
9 Grand Rapids Chapter Show
16 Boyne City Bush League Contest
22-24 Spring Convention -
30 Battle Creek Chapter Show

MAY

8 Kalamazoo Chapter Show

JUNE-JULY

26-2 International Convention -
Seattle, Washington



CENTER STAGE - 2nd Place

SATURDAY NITE FEATURE - 42nd Place
(no picture available)

POINTE CLASSICS - 48th Place

Detroit MOTOR CITY CHORUS - 13th



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