

WE WISH YOU A MERRY
CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY
NEXT YEAR! 



pioneer
TROUBADOUR

Volume XXIII, Number 6
December, 1983 - January, 1984



INSTITUTE OF LOGOPEDICS

...MORE THAN TALK

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

Hallelujah! Praise our Barbershop-
pers everywhere! Praise our Pioneer
People who have discovered the great
joy of giving.

The Harmony Foundation report at
October's end tells us of that magi-
cal five million. Friends, that is
\$5,008,251.76! We have talked to-
gether about this moment earlier
this year and again at Harrisville.
NOW, it's reality! The momentum
continues, and builds and grows. We
shall see, dear friends, the six
million figure by this time in 1985.
Like the "Schnozz" used to say,
"Everybuddy's tryin' ta get inta da
act."

Here in Pioneer, we are showing
the results of real efforts; truly
hard work, coupled with an economic
resurgence. The membership is an-
swering the needy call of these sad-
ly afflicted youngsters, unable to
turn things around by themselves.

Only five of our thirty-three
chapters have not been heard from
this year. We have until December
30th so there is still time enough
to participate. Remember, it's not
how much you can give that is impor-
tant; it's the fact that we are all
pulling together, working together,
trying for the best possible re-
sults.

Please understand -- I'm writing
this article in early November and
it will be in your hands in early
December. The Logopedics Christmas
Cards will be purchased and the fi-
nal efforts (always the largest)
will come during these last two
months. Chapter size doesn't always
dictate the ability to get the big
job done, either. Just listen to
this: Saginaw (31 members), Silver
Award, \$26.11 per man, so far; Boyne
City (27 members), \$20.96 and ris-
ing; Alpena (just 22 men), Bronze A-
ward at \$10 per man. We can't list
everyone now, but we will soon.
Eight chapters have already reached
the Bronze level and one Silver, and
the best is yet to come. There is
still ample time for you Pioneer
People to display your Pioneer Pride
in December. Make a donation in mem-
ory of a dear friend or loved one.
Remember, a suitable response will
be sent to the people you designate.
All Logopedics gifts are deductible.
If you are looking for additional
"write offs" in your '83 return, do
not overlook this one. You'll get a
marvelous feeling from helping those
kids so desperately in need.

Pioneer quartets -- thanks heaps
for your continuing support. May
the performances during the closing
days of the year stimulate sharing

Pioneer TROUBADOUR

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



1983 PIONEER DISTRICT OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

JIM GOUGEON
38421 Harper
Mt. Clemens, MI 48043
Res (313) 465-2794
Bus (313) 264-5700

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

FRAN JONES
4419 Cedarwood
Rockford, MI 49341
Res (616) 866-2951
Bus (616) 754-7131

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

ROBERT McDERMOTT
1859 Maryland
Birmingham, MI 48009
Res (313) 647-4807
Bus (313) 554-7408

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3818 Dukeshire
Royal Oak, MI 48072
Res (313) 548-4280

TREASURER

JACK SCHNEIDER
1311 Northlawn, NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49505
Res (616) 361-6820
Bus (616) 774-5225

INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEMBER

DORAN McTAGGART
890 Buckingham
Windsor, Ont., Canada N8S 2C8
Res (519) 948-0637
Bus (519) 252-5789

EDITOR

R.J. RUEGSEGER
2185 Princeton
Berkley, MI 48072
Res (313) 542-3371
Bus (313) 956-4206

VICE PRESIDENT - DIVISION I

EARL BERRY
27130 Clairview
Dearborn, MI 48127
Res (313) 277-7130
Bus (313) 237-7928

VICE PRESIDENT - DIVISION II

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Bus (616) 946-1306

VICE PRESIDENT - DIVISION V

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Bay City, MI 48706
Res (517) 684-4893
Bus (517) 892-1200

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

JAMES STEPHENS
6335 Clarendon Dr.
Canton, MI 48187
Res (313) 459-4011

ADVERTISING RATES & INFORMATION

JOHN GILLESPIE
712 Newgate Rd.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
Res (616) 343-4188
Bus (616) 344-3424

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with those less fortunate. Your name
will be published on the Pioneer
District Quartet Honor Roll in the
February TROUBADOUR.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New
Year, Rusty; you've earned it! To
all of you beautiful Pioneer People
out there, keep lots of those greet-
ings for yourselves. By now you MUST
realize.....

TOGETHER.....we ARE something!



TROUBADOR DEADLINES

Issue

Info to Editor by

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



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

Annual Mid Winter Convention

Society for the Preservation and
Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet
Singing in America



Princess Kaiulani Hotel
Honolulu, Hawaii
January 22-29, 1984



extra! extra!

PRELIMS PROPAGATIONS

The results are in from all the districts, and the "draw" has been made for singing position at St. Louis. Here is the information I have: Singing 1st, representing the Mid-Atlantic District, for the first time, will be the BIG APPLE CHORUS, from Manhattan, NY. This chorus, under the direction of 'super coach' Don Clause, is reportedly a 'picked chorus' and, with 100 men on the risers, swept away such past representatives as the Alexandria Harmonizers (6th in Seattle), and the Pine Barons. Winning the District Quartet Championship was PROS 'N' CONS, with Freddie King and Harry Williamson. In second place, incidentally, was FOUR UNDER PAR.

Singing 2nd and from the Evergreen District, will be the CASCADE CHORDSMEN, from Eugene, OR. Fielding 108 men, they swept past 15 other choruses to win their second-in-a-row try at International (8th in '83). An interesting sidelight - in second place was the Lake Washington Skippers, who recently lost their director. They brought in Milt Christiansen, lead of the Salt Flats and director of the Salt Lake City Beehive Statesmen Chorus, to direct them. It very nearly worked for them, and we understand that if proper employment opportunities can be found, Milt would like to move to the Seattle area. (Who wouldn't!) As for the Quartet Contest, it was won by PACIFIC PRIDE. A new name but lots of experience here, with two men from the Four Cheers and two from the Lion's Share.

Singing 3rd, will be the Louisville THOROUGHbred CHORUS (95 men). This fabulous group has been eligible to compete in 14 International Preliminaries in the past 25 years. They have won EVERY ONE! They are working on Gold Medal #7, having won in '62, '66, '69, '74, '78 and '81. Winning the District Crown was KENTUCKY TRANSFER, who have to win the perseverance award. In past contests, the quartet has placed 4th, 3rd, and twice has been 2nd. Now, at last, they've won.

Singing 4th, from the Illinois District, will be WEST TOWNS CHORUS, from Lombard. This group (128 men) was first in everything but Stage Presence in Seattle. Having put to-

gether a new package, they're determined to try again in St. Louis. Taking the Quartet Crown was AT EASE who bested such other better-known 4-somes as the Four Henchmen, who were fielding a new baritone, and the Schizo-Phonics, who dropped from 2nd in the semis, to 6th overall with a set that included a casket that wouldn't stay closed. Everyone loved it but the judges!

Singing 5th, from the Northeastern District, will be the NARRAGANSETT BAY CHORUS, from Providence, RI. The Quartet Medal was claimed by ANYTHING GOES.

Appearing in the 6th spot, from the Sunshine District, will be the ORANGE BLOSSOM CHORUS, from Orlando, FL. This chorus, you may remember, just lost their director, Dr. Burt Szabo, to the International Staff. The 52 men who competed this fall, hung on for a 3-point win. St. Louis will seem like "next door" compared to Seattle, Washington! The quartet contest was won by a 4-some from Ocala by the name of TENTH PRECINCT.

Next to appear - 7th - from the Southwestern District, the HOUSTON TIDELANDERS. In their 2nd-in-a-row at International, these 88 men will be seeking to better their 4th place finish in Seattle, when they appear in St. Louis. As predicted, the quartet contest was won by GATSBY, the 4-some that includes Bill Thornton and Gary Parker of DEALER'S CHOICE fame. They beat both of last year's International Representatives from that district. Standing Room Only was 2nd, and Basin Street Quartet was 3rd. In interesting event took place in Dallas, after the International this year. At a victory party, and on his birthday, Brian Beck, lead of the Champion SIDE STREET RAMBLERS, was presented with a gold-plated pitch-pipe. Some of his performing accomplishments were listed, and they are impressive! He has won 2 International Quartet Gold Medals, in two different voices. (DEALER'S CHOICE - '73 - as a bari.) He has won 3 International Chorus Gold Medals (Vocal Majority '75, '79 and '82); 2 District Quartet Championships; 5 District Chorus Championships; He has competed in 3 different Districts and been in the top 10 in all three. With three different quartets, he has been in the top 7 at International, singing 3 different voice parts!

Singing 8th, from Central States District will again be the HEART OF AMERICA CHORUS, from Kansas City. They were 10th in Seattle. Taking the District Quartet honors was the NEW ST. LOUIS VOCAL BAND, who were 18th in Seattle.



Appearing in the 9th position, representing the Rocky Mountain District, will be the DENVER MILE-HI CHORUS. With 75 men on stage, they served notice that they are determined to improve on their 11th place showing in Seattle. The DUKE CITY QUARTET won the District Championship. They've been to International before, but not last year -- they were beaten by the Knudsen Brothers Quartet, but that quartet is now in the Far Western District after having moved to Phoenix, AZ.

Slated to sing in the 10th position is the DUKES OF HARMONY CHORUS, from Scarborough, Ontario. This chorus of 125 competitors was more than twice as large as its nearest competitor. They will be trying to improve on their Silver Medalist finish in Seattle. The Ontario District Quartet Champ is NORTHERN UNION, from St. Catherines.

In perhaps the upset of the International Preliminaries, the SINGING BUCKEYES, of Columbus, Ohio outsang the Southern Gateway Chorus of Cincinnati. The Big Green Singing Machine thus loses only their third contest in the last 19. The BUCKEYES will be singing 11th. The Quartet Crown was claimed by HARMONY PARTNERS, with Leo Sisk, who has performed on the International Stage as a competitor more than most men have gone to International.



Singing 12th in St. Louis, and representing the Pioneer District, will be the WONDERLAND CHORUS from Wayne, MI. (see Score Sheets) The Quartet Contest was swept by the TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION, last year's Novice Champions (see story). Also, while bulletin browsing, I came across this piece which relates to Pioneer -- "From Washington (D.C. in '54) to Washington (Seattle in '83), the saga continues. In Washington, D.C. in 1954, a very young WOLVERINES quartet (Dearborn and Detroit, Michigan) made its first International appearance, placing 19th. Singing baritone was GLENN VAN TASSELL. His International appearances were just beginning, as he went on to sing with the 1966 Champion AUTOTOWNERS and later the 1971 GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT. In Seattle, 1983, he sang with the Second Place CENTER STAGE and set a record. It was his 17th appearance on the International Stage in quartet competition. (If CENTER STAGE had won, he would have become a three-time Gold Medal winner - another record.)"

Hoping that #13 is not unlucky will be the Fresno GOLD NOTE CHORUS, representing the Far Western Dis-

continued on next page

WAYNE WONDERLAND CHORUS -- A WINNER!

by Chuck Dixon

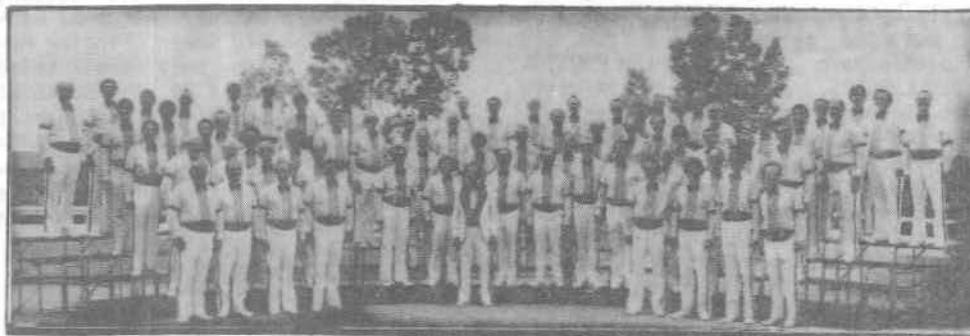
The Wayne Wonderland Chorus will never forget the 1983 Fall Convention in Troy. The chorus proved that dedication and desire are a tough combination to beat. There was 'Joy in Troy' for the Wonderland Chorus.

We hope our fellow members of the Pioneer District will forgive us for the epidemic of proud smiles that has infected all members of the chorus, because there is a good reason for our pride. The chorus has never worked harder, as a group or individually, to get ready for a contest. When those curtains opened on the Troy Athens High School stage, we were ready. Every man on those risers was prepared and did a marvelous job. We proved that a lot of hard work, along with that dedication and desire, mentioned earlier, will always produce a winner. We have never done a better job and we

are proud!

We want to thank all of you for your words of encouragement and congratulations before and after the contest. Many members of the other choruses went out of your way to congratulate us and your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated. We also want to thank the other choruses for pushing us to our present level of accomplishment. We found out (the hard way) that no chorus can "goof off" and expect to win the competition in the Pioneer District. That competition is getting tougher every year and we are proud to have earned the right to represent all of you in St. Louis.

And now the hard work really begins. The Wonderland Chorus has many goals to achieve before heading for St. Louis. But the most important goal of all is to continue to improve our contest package and to fine-tune our sound so that we will be a worthy representative of the Pioneer District.



Bulletin Editor Of The Year

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS CONTEST

ATTENTION, PIONEER BULLETIN EDITORS.

Again this year, we are searching for the Editor who has earned this award. So, if you are proud of your bulletin, would like to see how it compares with others in the District and the Society, then you might be the man. The contest is designed to reward the editor who regularly publishes a newsy, easy-to-read, chapter-oriented bulletin. Each issue will be critiqued by three judges in each of three categories -- 1) Content..2)Layout and Reproduction, and 3) Grammar and Style. After the contest, these issues will be returned to you, with the judges comments and suggestions, which are given only to help you improve your bulletin. The top TWO bulletins from Pioneer District are automatically entered in the International Bulletin Contest. There is no cost to you for entering this contest, and you have a chance at winning the Bulletin Editor of the Year Award for Pioneer District as well as representing the District in the International Bulletin Contest. The top prize in that contest

is a beautiful trophy.

HERE ARE THE ELIGIBILITY RULES:

1. All bulletins must be from ONE Editor.
2. Only bulletins from 1983 are eligible.
3. Entrants must have published at least TEN monthly issues in 1983.
4. Three consecutive monthly issues must be submitted.
5. Eight copies of each of the selected bulletins are required. (Two must be of the original production copy -- the balance may be photo-copies.

AWARDS:

A framed certificate will be awarded to the winner of the District Contest.

INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN CONTEST:

The top two judged entries from Pioneer District will automatically be entered in the International Bulletin Contest for 1983. Winners will be announced at the PROBE meeting in St. Louis.

more....

PRELIMS PROPAGATIONS

trict. They triumphed with a slim 2-point victory over Whittier in a 19-chorus shoot-out. Showing tremendous improvement, SPECIAL REQUEST has won the District Crown. They were formed in early '83, won the right to represent the District in Seattle, where they took 22nd place, and in less than a year - District Champs!

Singing 14th will be the CHORUS OF THE GENESSEE, of Rochester, NY. The 78 men who competed will be out to improve on their 16th place finish in Seattle. A quartet called the ESQUIRES has won the District Quartet Championship.

To no one's surprise, the Minneapolis COMMODORES have won the right to represent the Land O' Lakes District and will be singing in 15th position. They captured 7th place in Seattle. The Quartet Crown was captured by CLASS REUNION, who took 28th in Seattle. I don't know when this quartet has had time to practice. Eric Strand and Rick Anderson got married late this fall, and the bass, Mike Faris, is still in school. In fact, Mike had a school problem during contest weekend. He was supposed to take a test at 7:30 a.m., Saturday morning back in the Twin Cities, so, after competing with the quartet on Friday evening in Madison, WI, he drove home (arriving around 3:30 a.m., Saturday), took his test, and, with his girlfriend and his sister sharing the driving duties, returned to Madison in time to compete with the quartet, and WIN, on Saturday evening. This news was filed under the heading "Dedication or Insanity?" Also, while in L.O.L., THE HAPPINESS EMPORIUM, '75 Champs, have announced that they will close up shop after a November 5th show in Winona, MN, where they appeared on their very first show. Their 4th record album is due to be released any day now. They were a very entertaining group.

And, in 16th position, hoping that not everyone has gone home, will be the GENERAL ASSEMBLY CHORUS, from Research Triangle Park, representing the Dixie District. The District Quartet Crown is being worn by the BLUE RIBBON EDITION, who took 32nd place in Seattle.

And that's it -- I done tol' you everthin' I know!

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES:

The deadline for entries is December 31, 1983. Late entries will not be accepted.

Send your entries to:

R.J. Ruegsegger
2185 Princeton
Berkley, MI 48072

HERE IT IS!

THE JACKSON CHAPTER

Board Report

S.P.E.S.S.C.S.A., Inc.
PIONEER DISTRICT
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, October 14, 1983

The Jackson Chapter, sponsored by Detroit #1, was chartered in 1941. It is officially listed as the 7th Chapter to charter in what was then known as the Michigan District. Two of the charter members are still living, LEN FIELD and TED KING. Ted organized the Jackson Chapter, was its first President, and is still a member. In those early days of Barbershopping in Michigan, Ted commuted to Detroit to sing with Detroit #1 Chapter. He spoke of those days and said that if he had acted a few days sooner, Jackson would have been the 2nd chapter to be chartered as things were happening so rapidly then.

Our chorus, The Jacksonaires, has had many outstanding directors, including Fren Hodgeboom, Fred Foster, Sam Cushman, Red Shaw and Jim Stephens. We are currently under the directorship of Harold Miller.

The Jackson Chapter was the home of the 1946 District Quartet Champs, THE ACCOUSTICAL PERSECUTIN' FOUR. It featured Fred Foster, Fran Hodgeboom with Forest Comstock and Bob Breitmeyer. All are now deceased.

Two other chapter quartets that were well known for many years were The ROSE CITY FOUR and The NOTE-ABLE FOUR. Perhaps the oldest registered quartet in the Pioneer District, if not the entire Society, is Jackson's FORTUNE TELLERS. They were registered in 1949 when they joined the chapter. The quartet members are: Bud Knorpp, bass; Tom Cushman, bari; Sam Cushman, tenor; and Red Shaw, lead. Although not as active as they used to be, they still have an excellent sound, are able to keep an audience spellbound when doing serious numbers, and rolling in the aisles at their comedy routines. They have been singing together now for 34 years! Two other quartets presently call the Jackson Chapter their home. They are HARMONY REFLECTION and WIND RIVER MUSIC COMPANY.

Chris Davis, Sec'ty.

At sixty-five, I'm sorely vexed
With what scant wisdom I've annexed;
At fifty, faintly I discerned
That there was much I hadn't learned.
At thirty-five, not quite serene,
I glimpsed new vistas unforeseen.
At blithe, perennial twenty-nine,
I trusted triumph would be mine;
At twenty, confident, assured,
I vowed I'd soon have life's ills cured.
And how it cheers me to recall:
At sixteen years, I KNEW IT ALL!

(by D.W. Stull in the Tropic Notes)

The meeting, held at the Troy Hilton Inn, Troy, Michigan, was called to order by President Gougeon at 1:15 PM.

PRESENT: All Directors were present. Also present were: George Dyer, Al Fricker, Don Lang (entered meeting at 2:20 PM), James G. McCatty (left meeting at 1:55 PM), Roger Morris, William Pascher and Art Schulze.

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

The MINUTES of the meeting held on April 22, 1983, were accepted as distributed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Schneider submitted the Treasurer's Report, dated September 30, 1983, showing a balance of \$7,826.24 as of that date.

OFFICERS' REPORTS: Upon motion by Director Weston, seconded by Director Berry, and the unanimous vote of the Board, the Officers' Reports as previously distributed to the Directors were accepted in accordance with the "Consent Calendar" concept adopted by the Board of Directors in its meeting of April 22, 1983.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Written reports were received from the chairmen of the following committees: Contest & Judging, Historian, Hospitality-Seattle Convention, Logopedics, Music and Public Relations (including SMAC). Verbal reports were made for the following committees: District Convention, Laws & Regulations and Hall of Fame.

District Conventions

Chairman McDermott, commenting on the bid, listed in his written report of October 6, 1983, from the Flint Chapter to host the 1986 Fall convention, stated that there is some question about the suitability of the auditorium, which question must be resolved before the convention is awarded.

There followed a discussion of the subject of the selection of sites for Pioneer District conventions. The Division Vice Presidents and Area Counselors were asked to remind chapters which consider sponsoring conventions that the District has a District Convention Planning Manager and to emphasize to those chapters the necessity of consulting with him before convention bids are submitted. It was recognized that this will probably require revisions of language in the convention bid procedure, which EVP McDermott undertook to make.

Upon motion by Director Dixon, seconded by Director Berry, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of an ad hoc committee whose responsibility it shall be to inspect all proposed convention sites and report its appraisal to the Board of Directors before a convention site is approved. The committee shall be composed of the chairmen of the C & J and Music committees, the District EVP and the District Convention Planning Manager.

Hall of Fame

Chairman Pascher displayed the medal and certificate, with the awardee's name concealed, which will be presented to the 1983 Hall of Fame honoree at this 1983 Fall convention. (Mr. Doran McTaggart had been selected by the Hall of Fame Committee as honoree of 1983.) He stated that the cost of the medals and certificates for Hall of Fame members turned out to be less than the amount approved in Board of Directors meeting of April 22, 1983.

Laws & Regulations

Reporting for the Laws & Regulations Committee, President Gougeon stated that the revisions in the Pioneer District's bylaws are ready for distribution when they have been approved by the International Laws & Regulations Committee.

Membership & Extension

Mr. Gene Weston announced his resignation, for health reasons, as Chairman of the Membership & Extension Committee and as District Mem-



bership Development Coordinator. Mr. Robert Dixon, appointed by President Gougeon to fill those offices in Mr. Weston's absence, then briefly outlined his views of the future of those offices. He stated that for the Society's "Five Year Plan" the emphasis will be on membership retention.

Music

No objection was voiced about the recommendation, made in the Chairman's written report, that for the "Direct Hit" program, three sites instead of five be scheduled for 1984.

Public Relations (including SMAC)

In response to a question from President Gougeon about the status of S M A C (Southeastern Michigan Area Chapters), the Public Relations Committee Chairman stated that that organization is "almost dead."

OLD BUSINESS

VIDEO TAPING (AUDIO-VISUAL RECORDINGS) OF CONTESTS: As an aid to the committee appointed in the Board meeting of April 22, 1983, to explore the use of video (VHS) taping of contest performances, Don Lang reported on what other districts are doing in this area. The committee will continue with its assignment and, at the same time, President Gougeon asked Director of Music Education Stephens to explore the matter with a view possibly to using video taping of the 1984 contests.

NEW BUSINESS

OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER 1984: Upon motion duly made and seconded and the unanimous vote of the Board, the Jim Miller Photographic Studio of Louisville, Kentucky, was selected official photographer for the two Pioneer District conventions in 1984.

CONVENTION PLANNING MANAGEMENT SCHOOL: President Gougeon announced that another Convention Planning Management School, such as the one held at the Holiday Inn, Memphis, Tennessee, in May 1982, is tentatively planned for sometime in 1984. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board, without dissent, voted to send, on the same basis as the 1982 school, Pioneer District's Convention Planning Manager to the school.

REQUEST OF HOST CHAPTER 1983 FALL CONVENTION: On behalf of Oakland County Chapter, its President James G. McCatty appeared before the Board to ask that the District split the cost of the Chordatorium for the 1983 Fall convention of which that chapter is host. The request was necessary, Mr. McCatty said, because attendance, registrations and headquarters hotel reservations are under expectations, thus considerably reducing revenues.

After discussion, decision on the request was deferred until the next meeting of the Board when it is expected that the financial results of the convention will be known.

C O T S SCHOOL 1983: President Gougeon briefly reviewed arrangements for the District's C O T S school, scheduled for December 3-4, 1983, at Eastern Michigan University. It was the desire of the Board that Mr. Jerry Coltharp of the Johnny Applesed District be invited to teach the Public Relations class.

INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEMBER: Closing his terms as International Board Member and a Director of the Pioneer District, Mr. Doran McTaggart addressed the meeting.

With the singing of "Keep the Whole World Singing," the meeting ADJOURNED at 3:45 PM.



Respectfully submitted,

Jack W. Leubert
 JACK W. LEUBERT
 Secretary, Pioneer District

ABOUT THE COVER.....

Those of you who regularly receive the TROUBADOUR will recall that the covers, of late, have all been drawings of Barbershop quartets. These all come from a collection of mine and I thought they would be ideal to show, right on the cover, what kind of publication this was. Well, I didn't have an unused illustration to use for the "Holiday Issue," so I asked my ol' buddy, JOHN MORRIS, ace cartoonist from the Oakland County Chapter, to come up with something suitable. As always, he graciously complied, and this cover is the result. Thank you, John, for all the help you've provided over the years.

While I'm in the thanks-giving mood, I must publicly acknowledge the invaluable assistance given me by DICK BARBER and his family. Back many years ago, when Doran McTaggart and John Gillespie ~~traded me into~~ persuaded me to take this job, I agreed, on the condition that someone else would handle the publication chores. DICK BARBER stepped up and did that job. He took my master copy and turned it into the finished magazine and then mailed it. Without him, there would have been no TROUBADOUR. Dick has now retired, and he and his lovely wife are enjoying a well-deserved winter in Florida, and the TROUB has moved on to another Barbershopper who has taken over the publication chores. GENE WESTON has been handling those duties for the past year. Gene, his lovely wife, Kathy, and their charming daughters, are now my 'right arm'. I want to take this opportunity to thank each one of these people for their kindness and generosity in my - in OUR - behalf. Their efforts have resulted in your TROUBADOUR. Merry Christmas to you all, and the happiest of New Years!

Rusty



HERE'S ONE FOR ALL YOU NUTS. . . .

A chess club held their convention at an elegant and somewhat se-date hotel. Following the tournament, which was part of the convention program, a few of the contestants continued to "re-hash" the tournament, citing good moves they had made, etc. in the hotel's lobby.

Finally, their comments became so loud that the manager was forced to check-mate their noise by ordering them to their rooms.

When questioned as to why he had done this, he replied that he could no longer stand to hear Chess-nuts boasting by an open foyer.

(from ON AN OFF CHORD)

The Panel of Judges

		District
Chairman.....	Larry G. King, Farmington Hills, MI	Pioneer
Sound.....	Ken Buckner, Louisville, KY	Cardinal
	Dave Carr, Brockville, ONT	Ontario
Interpretation.....	Ed Berry, Cincinnati, OH	Johnny Appleseed
	Lance Heilman, Nashville, TN	Dixie
Stage Presence.....	Bill Dorow, Franklin, MI	Land O'Lakes
	Don Harbin, Indianapolis, IN	Cardinal
Arrangement.....	Russ Poris, Elmhurst, IL	Illinois
	Jim Stahly, Bloomington, IL	Illinois
Secretary.....	John T. Gillespie, Kalamazoo, MI	Pioneer
Assistant Secretary.....	Fran Jones, Rockford, MI	Pioneer
Timers.....	Earl Berry, Dearborn, MI	Pioneer
	Jeff Gougeon, Mt. Clemens, MI	Pioneer

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

FINAL

1.	Tri-County Conn.	147	145	150	150	265	+2	+9	1716	142	142
2.	The Dutch Masters	149	144	147	145	256	-4	0	1610	134	139
3.	Harmony Roadshow	124	124	136	142	265	+13	+2	1553	123	170
4.	Heirloom	127	130	133	141	258	+3	+8	1539	118	151
5.	Patch Chords	136	130	135	132	208	+10	+9	1485	126	126
6.	The Sound Amb'rs	118	119	127	118	219	+2	+5	1428	146	152
7.	The Ivy League	104	94	119	109	255	+3	+15	1363	149	120
8.	Furn. City Ch.Co.	116	121	116	129	179	0	+11	1361	119	146

TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION IS THE PIONEER DISTRICT QUARTET CHAMPION.
 HEIRLOOM IS THE PIONEER DISTRICT JUNIOR QUARTET CHAMPION.
 THE IVY LEAGUE IS THE PIONEER DISTRICT NOVICE QUARTET CHAMPION.

SEMI-FINALS

9.	Collector's Choice	100	100	114	117	200	+1	+8	640	156	110
10.	Stock Arrangement	114	113	109	113	153	+9	+7	618	155	108
11.	Mutual Accord	98	111	93	100	180	+5	-1	536	140	141
12.	The First Endeavor	97	97	104	100	177	+3	+7	595	142	121
13.	Ol' Time Harmony	103	83	112	101	170	+7	+4	580	141	108
14.	Today's Special	104	93	100	106	168	+1	-2	570	124	140

Our 1983 Pioneer District Quartet Champs, The TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION.

Congratulations are in order to our new District Quartet Champs, the TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION. Tenor, Rick Sims; lead, Mike Dixon; bari, Mike Woodruff; and bass, Tom Conway received their award just hours after they helped their chorus, Wayne Wonderland, win the District Preliminaries. Needless to say, it was a very exciting weekend for all concerned. Let's introduce you to the kids:

Rick Sims lives in Southfield with his wife, Janice, and their two children, Eric and Heather. He is a sales engineer for the H.V. Burton Co. His music background includes quartet and chorus singing in high school and college as well as directing songs for his church. Rick's father, an active member of the Wayne Chapter, introduced him to Barbershop and Rick joined the Society in July, 1981.

Mike Dixon lives in Canton with his parents and attends college at Eastern Michigan. Besides singing in high school, college and communi-

ty choirs, Mike has sung professionally with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and the Kenneth Jewell Chorale as well as spending the past three years, during the fall, touring the country with the Norman Luboff Choir. He is studying arts management at EMU and hopes to pursue a career as an arts administrator. Mike also joined the Society in 1981.



Mike Woodruff lives in Redford and is a sales manager at Arden's Catalogue Showroom. He recently received his associates degree from Henry Ford Community College and is planning a career in automotive technology. Mike joined the Wayne Chapter in 1979 and sang bass for the first year. He switched to baritone so that he and Tom could sing together in a quartet.

Tom Conway lives with his parents in Redford and works at J.C. Penny's as a suit salesman. Tom began singing in high school in concert choir and madrigal singers. In 1980, he toured Spain and Morocco with Musical Youth International. Tom then moved to Kalamazoo to become a vocal music major at Western Michigan University. While there, he sang in the WMU Chorale, and had a leading role in the University's production of The Pirates of Penzance. Tom moved back to the area in August of this year in order to work with the quartet. Tom also joined the Wayne Chapter in 1979.

The quartet met for the first time in July of 1981 at a Wayne Chapter meeting. To avoid disrupting the meeting, the kids went into the men's room to work up a song to sing for the chapter. The positive response the kids received lead to another trip to the restroom to work up another song. At midnight, though the chapter meeting was over, the kids were far from finished, and continued to sing for another two hours out in the parking lot.

After only a month of working together, however, one member went off to New York and another to Kalamazoo to attend college. It wasn't until the spring of 1982 that the kids got a chance to work together again and they made their debut on the Wayne Chapter Show. It was at this show that they received encouragement from their 'idols' the Bluegrass Student Union.

Though Tom was still in Kalamazoo (while the other three were in the metro-Detroit area), the quartet decided to compete in the 1982 Fall Contest. They squeezed in 2-4 rehearsals a month trying to get ready and, despite a lack of coaching, the kids still came away with the Novice Award and a 4th-place finish.

As time went by, it became increasingly difficult to rehearse and the kids had to pass up the 1983 Spring Competition. They knew that if they wanted to improve, they had to find some coaching and more rehearsal time. Finally, in August of 1983, Tom got a chance to move back to the Detroit area for good. This time out, the kids practiced once and sometimes twice a week to get ready and received invaluable coaching from Fred Keinitz and Tom Pollard. All the time and effort finally paid off.

continued on next page

Harmony Express Hijack Attempt Fails

by HERB BAYLES, passenger.

In the waning hours of Tuesday, July 5th, James Raszier (a non-Barbershopper, it is assumed) attempted to hijack the "Harmony Express" train en route from San Diego to Seattle. The "Harmony Express," actually AMTRAK's Coast Starlight passenger train, contained, among other passengers, more than 40 southern California Barbershoppers and their families - most of whom were unaware of the hijack attempt.

Raszier, 32, wielding an unlikely combination of weapons - a fishing knife and a pair of pliers - threatened attendants on the train and demanded to be taken to Miami! He was eventually persuaded to surrender peacefully to police officers who boarded the train during an unscheduled stop near Sacramento.

Opinions vary as to the reason for the hijacker's irrational behavior. Some (Barbershoppers, no doubt) thought he might be an avid rock-fan reacting violently to his first taste of Barbershop Harmony, since there had been a significant amount of singing heard on that train. Others guessed that he might be a tenor who'd finally cracked from the strain of singing too many notes above his natural range. Still others observed that he was probably just a baritone behaving normally. (No leads were available for comment as they always retire by 10 p.m. Bases too, were unavailable for comment as they were all in the club car thru-out the entire incident..(lamenting, perhaps, on the shortage of leads.)

Would-be hijacker, Raszier, was safely removed from the train, which resumed its journey to Seattle without further incident. To AMTRAK's credit, the 45 minute delay was made up, and the Harmony Express arrived in Seattle (not Miami) right on time.

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

CONTACT: MIKE DIXON
(313) 459-6863

THE TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION

A Barbershop Quartet

Rick Sims-Tenor
Tom Conway-Bass

Mike Dixon-Lead
Mike Woodruff-Bar

The TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION hope to live up to the fine reputation of past Pioneer District Champions and would like to thank everyone who has helped them to this point. They offer special thanks to the Wayne Chapter for their encouragement and support and to their two coaches, Fred and Tom.

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.
PIONEER DISTRICT CHORUS CONTEST
HELD AT TROY, MICHIGAN - OCTOBER 15, 1983

OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY

CATEGORY: SONG NO.	SOUND		INT		STAGE PRDS.	ARR		TOTAL	SINGING SECONDS
	1	2	1	2		1	2		
RANK CONTESTANT									
1. Wonderland Wayne	151	146	158	164	310	+11	+14	954	134 164
2. Great Lakes Grand Rapids	144	148	151	155	313	+10	+10	931	131 153
3. Lakeshore Grosse Pointe	136	141	134	140	254	+11	+11	827	128 147
4. Capitol City Chordsmen Lansing	127	132	143	140	237	+2	+6	787	176 115
5. Huron Valley Huron Valley	131	136	128	129	225	+10	+8	767	131 151
6. Stateline Monroe	115	113	116	117	241	+15	+5	722	170 105
7. Huron Harmony Port Huron	106	107	111	108	210	+3	+7	652	152 158
8. Clinton Valley Clinton Valley	105	100	117	104	186	+7	+11	630	148 107
9. Sun Parlour Windsor	98	101	111	113	173	+5	+6	607	107 135
10. Mall City Kalamazoo	85	82	98	97	153	+7	+4	526	130 146

Wonderland Chorus will represent Pioneer District at the International Chorus Contest in 1984.

Great Lakes Chorus is the Alternate.



GOOFY GEOGRAPHY...

as seen in SUNBURST

Geography embraces some of the goofiest place names this side of outer space. Probably the world's longest name for a geographic location is in the heart of New Zealand's sheep-raising country. This place has 57 letters and reads Taumatawhakatangihangakoauauotamateapokaiwhehuakitanatahu. In the original Maori language it means "The place where Tomatea, known as Land Eater, played on his flute to his loved one." The United States, too, has a real lulu for the name of a lake in Massachusetts. It's 45 letters long and reads Chaggogaggoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg. It is of Indian origin and means "You fish on your side, we fish on our side, nobody fish in middle." Local residents refer to it simply as Webster Lake.

One of the wackiest things about geographical names is the fact that many are misnomers. Coney Island is not an island and there are no rapids in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and no ferry at Harper's Ferry, West Virginia. Whoever named Thousand I-

lands in the St. Lawrence River made a gross understatement --- there are 1,500 of them. New York's East River is not a river but an ocean strait. East Chicago isn't in Illinois; East St. Louis isn't in Missouri; West New York isn't in New York, and East London isn't in England but in South America. Furthermore, Iceland is mostly green and Greenland is mostly ice!

Three out of four Canadians actually live farther south than many people in the United States. One out of four Canadians lives south of Minneapolis, Minnesota. The extreme southern point of Canada is south of Boston. And the northernmost part of Mexico is farther north than Savannah, Georgia.

Most of us think of Michigan as being midwestern and Florida as being on the eastern seaboard. But if a Detroiter took the most direct route to Pensacola, Florida, he'd have to travel slightly west. Detroit is in the eastern time zone, whereas Pensacola is in the central. Likewise, Los Angeles is on the west coast and Reno, Nevada is several hundred miles inland from the Pacific Ocean. Yet, Reno is about 80 miles west of Los Angeles.

Make sure you check your map before setting out for the next convention.

The days have turned shorter, the nights cooler, the leaves to color and the Barbershoppers have turned back to attending their chapter meetings. And just in the nick of time, too, I might add, because with the coming of fall also comes the fall convention and chorus contest for which much work must be invested in order to pursue that elusive first place finish. Once again the men of the Huron Valley Chapter manned the guns, stormed the beach-heads, fought from the trenches and blazed away at the "big boys." But, alas, we went down once again in a blaze of glory to a fifth-place finish in the never-ending battle for "Harmony Hill." This fall's battle took place at Troy's Athens High School. Fifth place again but we do improve each and every time we go. Someday maybe we will fight the winning fight and take it all. This was the first contest for several of our guys and for sure they got 'the bug' and can't wait for next time.

The fall competition this year in Troy attracted the attention and competitive spirit of three of our chapter quartets as well. The Sound Ambassadors, Mutual Accord and Ivy League all had a good go at the judges and I would have to say that the Huron Valley Chapter can take great pride in these three quartets. The Mutual Accord, unfortunately, didn't make the cut but gave a very good showing anyway. The Sound Ambassadors gave a superb 6th-place performance and the Ivy League, in their first contest, finished in 7th place and, in so doing, walked away with the novice championship for the District. Dave Drouillard, their new bass, had been singing with the group for only a month. Great Job, Guys! Keep up the good work.

We all know that Barbershoppers are famous for their songs about the girls and I'm here to tell you that not only can we sing about them, we can also win them as well. This is evidenced by the recent summer activities of three of our chapter members. I am pleased to announce that Denny Mull, Andy Ford and Jim Pollock all have taken the plunge into the sea of matrimony. Congratulations, guys! We wish you all the very best.

September comes, and with it another membership renewal period. I am sorry to report that we had three members decide not to renew this past quarter; but I am very pleased to announce that we have accepted the membership of four new men - a bass and three leads. They are Charley Blatchford, Ray Drouillard, John Davidson and David Curtis. These four gentlemen will surely be great assets to our Chorus and the Chapter.

The fall season also dictates elections for the changing of the

(continued on page)

The meeting, held at the Troy Hilton Inn, Troy, Michigan, was called to order by President Gougeon at 8:45 AM.

Sergeat at Arms Dyer declared a quorum present.

Director of Music Education Stephens opened the meeting by leading the singing of "The Old Songs." Past President Warner gave the invocation.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the MINUTES of the meeting held on April 23, 1983, were accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Schneider submitted the Treasurer's Report, dated September 30, 1983, showing a balance of \$7,826.24 as of that date.

VICE PRESIDENTS' REPORTS: EVP McDermott reported to the House; and reports on the status of chapters in their respective divisions were received from all Division Vice Presidents and the Director of Music Education.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Reports from the District's committees were summarized by President Gougeon.

Membership & Extension

It was announced that Mr. Gene Weston had resigned, for health reasons, as Chairman of the Membership & Extension Committee and as District Membership Development Coordinator, and that Mr. Robert Dixon had been appointed to fill those offices.

Laws & Regulations

Chairman Donahue reported that revisions in the District's bylaws will be distributed to chapters when they have been approved by the Society's Laws & Regulations Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

President Gougeon reported on matters dealt with by the Board of Directors in its meeting of October 14, 1983.

District Convention Planning Manager

Emphasized was the necessity for chapters which consider sponsoring conventions to consult the District Convention Planning Manager before submitted convention bids. A committee was appointed by the Board whose responsibility it is to inspect all proposed convention sites before a convention is awarded.

Achievement Reports

Emphasized was the necessity for chapters to submit by due dates the green Achievement Activity Reporting cards and Chapter Quarterly Activity Reports.

NEW BUSINESS

ELECTION OF 1984 DISTRICT OFFICERS: A slate of nominees for officers of the Pioneer District for 1984 as proposed by the Nominating Committee and previously distributed to all officers and delegates was formally presented to the House of Delegates. Upon motion duly made and seconded that the nominations be closed, the officers listed herewith were declared elected.

District President	Jim Gougeon
Executive Vice President	Robert T. McDermott
Secretary	Jack W. Teubert
Treasurer	Jack Schneider
Vice President, Division I	Earl Berry
Vice President, Division II	Robert Huntley
Vice President, Division III	Robert P. Goldschmeding
Vice President, Division IV	Marty Chirgwin
Vice President, Division V	Gene Weston
International Board Member	Fran Jones
Director of Music Education	James Stephens

"CONSENT CALENDAR": The following motion, made by Robert T. McDermott, seconded by James Duffin, was adopted without dissent by the House: "Moved that the House of Delegates, beginning with the Spring convention in 1984, adopt the usage of the Consent Calendar format in conducting our business, in an attempt to reduce the length of our meetings."

INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEMBER: Representing International President Henry S. Vomacks, International Board Member Doran McTaggart addressed the House.

INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT-ELECT: International President-elect John T. Gillespie addressed the House.

With the singing of "Keep the Whole World Singing," the meeting ADJOURNED at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack W. Teubert
 JACK W. TEUBERT
 Secretary, Pioneer District

Anybody Know The Key For "On A Chinese Honeymoon"?



She frowned and called him Mr!
 Because in sport he kr.
 And so, in spite
 That very night
 This Mr. kr. sr.

Mary had a pair of skates
 Upon the ice to frisk.
 Now wasn't she a silly girl
 Her little *.

OAKLAND COUNTY CHAPTER
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the
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featuring the
WOLVERINE CHORUS



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- ★ THE NOTE WITS ★ TODAY'S SPECIAL

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C'mon out and enjoy a great SHOW!

QUARTET UPDATE



I have the following NEW QUARTETS to report:

FATHERS FOUR

contact: Gordon K. Lind
2027 NE Delhi
Holt, MI 48842
(517) 694-9514

SILVER CLASSICS

contact: Marlyn E. Byrd
657 Spartan
Rochester, MI 48063
(313) 651-9340

ENDANGERED SPECIES (THE)

contact: Albert Fricker
30881 Nye Ct.
Livonia, MI 48154
(313) 421-0820

HEIRLOOM

contact: G.R. VanDeVelde
3779 Chevron Dr.
Highland, MI 48031
(313) 887-7919

Un-Renewed:

ACCENTS
POINTE CLASSICS

And, under the heading of, "Can Anyone Explain This To Me..." is:

GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT

contact: Drayton R. Justus
P.O. Box 1716
Hollywood, FL 33022
(305) 472-1329

... AH YES!

A famous chef went to see his dentist, complaining that his dentures were falling apart. The dentist examined them and confirmed that they were rotten.

"Do you eat a lot of Hollandaise sauce?" asked the Dentist.

"Yes," said the chef, "I love it and I eat a lot of it."

"That's the trouble," said the dentist, "the Hollandaise sauce is murder on dentures. Tell you

what, I'll make you a special pair of dentures out of chrome -- that should solve the problem."

"Dentures of chrome!" said the chef. "What's the point of that?"

"Well," said the dentist, "you know what they say -- There's no plates like chrome for the Hollandaise!"



RECORD REVIEW

by Don Richardson, Phoenix Chapter

(DON RICHARDSON, a barbershopper since 1965 and a Society member since 1969, has been recording "Close Harmony," a weekly half-hour of barbershop music in stereo since 1972. He alone is responsible for choosing the records to be reviewed in this column, and the opinions expressed are solely his.)

"San Antonio Rose" is the name of an album featuring the Chordsmen with the Sound Association and Texas Gentlemen quartets. The Chordsmen chorus was International Champion in 1960, and seven of the chapter quartets have won the Southwestern District Championship with the Mark IV becoming International Champion in 1969. The chapter is lucky to have talented MAC HUFF - late of International fame - directing the chorus and singing bass with the Sound Association.

Of the ten songs on the album, eight are sung by the chorus, but one is an Appalachian carol - "Black Is the Color of My True Love's Hair" and three are modern songs - "San Antonio Rose," "You Make Me Feel So Young," and "You Walk By," which leaves three certified barbershop songs and a medley. Add the two quartet songs, and there are still only five barbershop vehicles here. Surely barbershop means more than fifty per cent.

Both the Sound Association and the Texas Gentlemen acquit themselves satisfactorily. The chorus sings quite well, too. Mac Huff's talents are very much in evidence here, as seven of the ten songs are his arrangements. All of this considered, then, the album is a relatively standard performance by a good chorus and good quartets.

However, there is one major difference: the medley of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" and "If You Believe." It's worth the price of the album alone (\$6.00). The medley features soloist B.D. HARRINGTON with a quartet and the Chordsmen supporting them. The performance is awe-inspiring. I've listened to it many times, yet each time it excites me anew. MAC HUFF has really outdone himself on this arrangement; it is not standard barbershop, but it certainly is impressive. Order the record by sending \$6.00 to:

Jim Gilliland
109 Country Club
San Antonio, TX 78216

"JUST FOR FUN?"

by Win Proctor

Quite often when discussing with one of my friends the different ways to improve the quality of what we are doing musically, he will respond with "But, I'm in this for FUN." So, I said to myself, "Self, maybe you should define the word FUN."

Well, learning is fun. The Society provides ways, like Harmony College,

Mini-Hep, and the green Craft Manual. And there are our Chapter Craft Sessions. Yes, learning is fun.

Participation is fun. Whether it is a tag quartet or any other activity being conducted at our chapter meetings, the more you participate, the more fun it is.

Involvement is fun. That means being on committees, accepting positions on the board, conducting rummage sales, producing a bulletin, etc. Some of these involve hard work. So yes, even work can be fun in Barbershopping.

Accomplishment is fun. When you can stand up in the chorus or in a pick-up quartet and sing your part knowing they are the right notes and words, that is fun.

Performing is fun. That comes when you have had enough of the learning fun and the accomplishment fun to be entertaining. Not only to other Barbershoppers but to any audience you might appear before.

Now when you find three other guys that feel the same way about fun as you do, you call it a quartet and that is SUPER FUN. I highly recommend it!

(The SILVER DOLLAR SONANT)

HURON VALLEY CHAPTER.....(continued)

guard in all Barbershop chapters. 1984 will see Lyle Hanson move from his two-year reign as PVP to President. Our new PVP will be Don Kondor; our MVP will be Pete Theisen, and member-at-large will be Denny Mull. Mike McCann, Roger Waltz and Andy Ford will repeat as Treasurer, Secretary and Logopedics Chairman, respectively. Looks like another good, hard-working slate coming up. Many thanks are due and a "job well done" for "Doc" Dixon, this year's outgoing President.

October 25th was another big night for us when we held another open house. Talk about a program - WOW! First of all, we did some gang singing. Then we witnessed a great performance by the Sound Ambassadors and the Ivy League. Next we had a special treat, because Scott Turnbull used his "tremendously large" (sorry, Scott) influence and persuaded the new Pioneer District Quartet Champs, the Tri-County Connection, to perform for us. Doran McTaggart, International District Representative, was on hand to give us many inspiring words and all this was topped off with a showing of the Salt Lake City Convention movie. Later, George Keelenn and his committee had refreshments for us. Now that is one heck of a program. We certainly ought to entice some new members with a show like that.

Our director, Jim Stephens, is now introducing some new show music. Ah, but that is another story.

Roger Waltz



MARCH

- 2-3 Wayne Chapter Show
- 9-10 Grosse Pointe Chapter Show
- 10 Huron Valley Chapter Show
- 16-18 Quartet & Coaching Clinic,
E.M.U., Ypsilanti
- 24 Port Huron Chapter Show

APRIL

- 14 Grand Rapids Chapter Show
- 14 St. Joseph Valley Chapter Show
- 27-29 Spring Convention - Wayne

MAY

- 5 Battle Creek Chapter Show
- 5 Kalamazoo Chapter Show
- 12 Alpena Chapter Show
- 19 Coldwater Chapter Show

SEPTEMBER

- 7-9 Fall Harmony Round-Up

NOTE:

Dates shown on this page are for activities which have been cleared through the District Secretary and for which ASCAP fees have been paid. Please DO NOT send show date reservation notices to me.

Please notify:

JACK TEUBERT
3818 Dukeshire
Royal Oak, MI 48072

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DECEMBER

- 3-4 C.O.T. School, E.M.U., Ypsilanti

FEBRUARY, 1984

- 10-11 Oakland County Chapter Show
- 11-12 Monroe Chapter Show
- 18 Lansing Chapter Show



To All Pioneer Barbershoppers:

The Contest & Judging Handbook has been completely re-written and is available for purchase from Kenosha. Anyone involved with or interested in contests and/or judging (including contestants) should have a copy.

I am completing my term as District Contest & Judging Chairman effective the end of this year. I very much appreciate all the help and cooperation I have received from the District Board, contestants, others in the C & J Program, and the Barbershop community as a whole. Thank you all very much!

Larry King will be taking over as Pioneer District Contest & Judging Chairman in 1984. He has been a great help to me and is very well-qualified for the job. I wish him the best of success in his term of office.

Sincerely,
Don Lang

PIONEER  DISTRICT

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