



... MORE THAN TALK

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

A very warm, cordial greeting to all Pioneer People from Dr. Frank Klefner, President and CEO of the Institute. Dr. Frank and his righthand-man, Larry Hagerson, hosted a bi-yearly seminar at the end of February, in Wichita.

The sessions were attended by all District Logopedics Chairmen (several stand-ins), chaired by Reedie Wright, past International President and National Chairman of the Harmony Foundation. Pioneer's own Dr. Fran Durham was recently honored with a committeeman's appointment and attended in that new capacity, responsible for six districts. Fran's success and lengthy experience with the Institute will be most valuable in his new position.

Also <u>mighty</u> important is the 50th Anniversary of the Institute. Twenty of those fifty years have seen our Society supporting the Institute as our Unified Service Project. In case you've forgotten, we ended 1983 having donated the sum of \$5,252,208. With some measure of luck and some <u>heroic</u> effort, we will be knocking on that six-million dollar door at year's end.

This golden anniversary year is the perfect time to announce the Gold Award through the Harmony Foundation for S50 per man contributions in the calendar year. Newly created, this Award has <u>already been unoffi-Cially</u> achieved <u>last year</u> by sixteen chapters, ranging from \$50.53 to \$151.50 per man. Incidentally, 122 other chapters in our Society <u>did</u> reach the Silver Award, with a <u>total</u> of 138 Silver Award Chapters in '83.

Another news item of importance is Summer Program for handicapped a children who do not attend the Institute during the regular school year. This program grows each year as a number of parents regard summer months as a crucial time for their handicapped child. The Institute wants all Barbershoppers to know this special Summer Program is available. It offers classroom in-struction, speech therapy, health care and camping activities for individuals from 6 to 22 years of age. Deferred pryment plans are available so that more parents can take advantage of this opportunity for their children.

Friends, this is a real opportunity for the right family. Few comprehensive summer programs are a-

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



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2185 Princeton Berkley, MI 48072

vailable, especially for the multiply handicapped. Our Unified Service Project has a link to help others in this special area.

If you know a family with a child who would benefit from this unusual program, encourage them to give the Institute Admissions Office a call, toll-free, at 1-800-835-1043. They will be advised and sent proper information. You know, it's really a wonderful feeling to be connected with a group of such very <u>special</u> people!

Shhhh! If you promise not to tell certain inquisitive individuals how well Pioneer is going to



do this year, the five-digit number begins with a 2 ! Please don't wait any longer to get <u>really</u> started on your 1984 program. Set your chapter goals and push toward them early on. It certainly takes the pressure off November and December. We are the sum total of <u>each</u> of us.

TOGETHER......we are something!

Brain damage is not always visibly evident but when there is such damage, it may affect speech. Evaluation prior to training at the Institute of Logopedics clarifies what must be done.



It's Great to be A Barbershopper!



from

Here & There about This & That (or Something)

CLARENCE BURGESS, the author of our service song, "We Sing That They Shall Speak," recently celebrated his 80th birthday. Clarence, a 33year member of the Oshawa, Ontario, Chapter, was surprised with a large party hosted by the Backseat Drivers (the Chapter Ladies Auxilliary), and a quartet or two from the Chapter as well as many friends.

Word comes from the Louisville Chapter that the HARRINGTON BROTHERS are returning to competition this Spring in the Preliminaries.

WELCOME CHANGE, 1982 N.E. District Champs has disbanded!

SIDE STREET RAMBLERS, our current International Champions, are hosting an overseas trip to include Switzerland, Italy and the French Riviera, for 10 days, April 26 to May 5. When they get back, Tenor, Keith Houts, will be the new chorus director of the Longview/Tyler, TX Chapter.

Speaking of Directors, Eric Jackson, former director of the Chester County, PA chorus, is the new director of the PINE BARONS, of Cherry Hill, NJ. What's gonna happen back at Chester County? Ron Knickerbocker, former bari of the 1974 Champs, the REGENTS, steps into the spot.

The Fort Worth, TX Cowtown Chorus is a real 'family' affair. They have 3 father-and-son teams; 2 brothers (who form half of a quartet); 1 father-and-son-in-law combo, AND 1 grandfather with TWO grandsons!

SOUND SYNDICATE, 1979 JAD Champs (16th in '82 at International), are calling it quits after six years.

The Denison, IA Chapter recently found that their "telephone tree" needed a slight modification after it was used for the first time. It seems that the members of the HAPPI-NESS EXPRESS have made it a habit to stop off at Pucci's Pizza after their meetings each week. However, no one thought to include "Chuck" of Pucci's Pizza on the telephone list to inform him they had cancelled their meeting. No report on what they did with all that cold pizza!

The Barbershopping population is moving to the sun, it seems. The Southwestern District will send an extra quartet to International, this year (three), while the Northeastern District loses one (also three).

The ROARING 20's have evidently won enough medals for awhile and are taking "a breather from the fun of competition, concerned judges, demanding show directors, sleepless nights, pushy hosts, endless requests, screaming groupies, harmonious rehearsals, concerned VIP's, letters, bronze medals, and 'that crummy food you made us eat...'"

Hold the Phone! The HAPPINESS EM-PORIUM is back! Bob Dowma, Jim Foy and Rod Johnson have decided to continue and have selected Dick Treptow (former lead of Ring of Gold) to replace Bob Spong on baritone.

In Pioneer District, the following NEW QUARTETS have registered:

A	TOUCH OF	CLASH
	contact:	Joel G. Mills
		2972 Wausaukee NE
		Grand Rapids, MI 49505
		Ph (616) 363-3242

THE ENDANGERED SPECIES contact: Albert Fricker 30881 Nye Ct. Livonia, MI 48154 Ph (313) 421-0820 (res) (313) 278-5200 (bus)

The FOUR IN LEGION are now known as the CAPITOL CLASSICS contact: Brent G. Reed 1606 Stonehaven Holt, MI 48842 Ph (517) 694-5080 (res) (517) 487-0479 (bus)

Un-Renewed are the following 4-somes:

A POSITIVE ENDEAVOR BLACK VELVET NIGHT SHIFT

IVY LEAGUE has a NEW contact man.... contact: Scott Turnbull 308 Jarvis #10 Ypsilanti, MI 48197 Ph (313) 485-2616

HARMONY UNLIMITED has a NEW contact. contact: Jim Pollard 9620 Roseland Livonia. MI 48150

Livonia, MI 48150 Ph (313) 525-1239

Recently, THE VERY IDEA was mistaken for the BOSTON COMMON! Yes, it's true! The <u>Macomb Daily</u> reported that the headliners for the Great Lakes Chapter, SA Show would be the BOSTON COMMON. "Members of the quartet are tenor, Fred McFadyen; lead, Gene Harrington; bass, Dave Williams, and baritone, Rusty Ruegsegger." It probably should be pointed out thit THE VERY IDEA was also appearing on the show, and the mistaken identity was <u>before</u>, not after, they both sang!

And finally, the District Achievement Award winners have been announced for the Pioneer District:

PLATEAU	CHAPTER P	OINTS
6	None	
5	Wayne, MI	429
4	Huron Valley, MI	409
3	Benton Harbor, MI	247
2	Muskegon, MI	326
1	Milford, MI	255
0	None Congratulations	, A11!

... AH YES!

DAVE LaBAR IN HOLLAND on 3/12/84....

by Bill Tobias

If someone were to tell me that he had awakened in Philadelphia, PA, driven all day, and arrived in Holland, MI, just in time for supper, all in the dead of winter with not the best of road conditions, I'd think he was crazy. Well, we would know this to be quite factual, even in the heat of the summer if we were speaking of Dave LaBar, from International Headquarters, in Kenosha.

This evening of learning was hosted by the Holland Chapter. After all of us were properly welcomed by Bob Grant, the President of the Chapter, our voices were put through their paces by Dale Mattis, their Musical Director.

After a few songs, a group who came from afar arrived, bearing a "gift." A carload of Barbershoppers arrived from the Kalamazoo Chapter with the "Little Brown Jug." Just think, we thought LaBar was crazy! We were all thankful that they arrived at the very beginning and they did not miss a single thing.

Bob Grant took the stage and announced that the festivities of the evening were going to be put on film. Jim Essenberg, also of the host chapter, was to videotape the event for future reference. After the warning was given by Bob, the microphone was passed to Dave LaBar, and the festivities began.

During the first half of the evening, we all dove into a song that few of us had ever seen before. After first hearing the melody of the song sung by Dave, we were all encouraged to sing the lead. Then the tenors, the basses, and, lastly, the baritones each had their own opportunities to sing their respective parts with the others humming along. Before he was through, we were again pleasantly surprised that all of us felt confident to go "off the paper."

Other than showing us how easy it was to learn new material, Dave La-Bar also wowed us with some littleknown musical facts. None of us knew that we could reach the high notes of our registers if we "lifted our eyebrows," or "left our eyebrows alone and let the rest of our face drop." We were reminded that the main purpose of our wonderful hobby is to have fun. This was the most valuable lesson of all.

The second half of the evening was devoted to quartetting. During the break, Dave was introduced to four fine, young men from nearby Hope College. They call themselves THE OVERTONES, and they first sang together in madrigals, a totally dif-

(... continued on page 8)



NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

MUSKEGON CHAPTER news . . .

Ancient Egyptians believed that the Phoenix bird appeared at regular intervals, only to die and rise again, young and beautiful, a symbol of immortality.

When the Muskegon Chapter was chartered, it grew to a membership of several hundred men. But, after a time, membership dwindled, and there was deep concern. Then, the Port City Chorus began to win contests, and the Chapter rose from the ashes and became strong again. However, the continuous pressure of rehearsals, performances, contests. uniforms, and fund-raising eventually proved to be too difficult. Some members retired and some just got tired. Not enough new members could be recruited, and the chapter seemed doomed. To years ago, we counted eleven paid members, and there was a possibility that the charter would be revoked. Suddenly, the apparently dying body rose again from the ashes of despair. A show was presented. with the help of the Grand Rapids Chapter; some young men were recruited; a Chapter guartet was organized; some former members were urged to return - and the membership began to climb.... past twenty.... thirty.... and may soon pass forty! The re-named Shoreline Chorus has sung in two District Contests and continues to improve under the capable leadership of Del Doctor. The "fun" of Barbershopping has not been forgotten. Next time, I'll tell you how and why.

In the meantime, should the Muskegon Chapter change its name to Phoenix? I realize all its members are not young, and a few are not even beautiful, but evidently the Muskegon Chapter does show some signs of immortality.

The Shoreline Chorus recently sang for a very appreciative audience at the Grand Haven "Winterfest." We are busily preparing a new performance package with two new numbers for the Spring Convention in Ann Arbor and more for our Annual Show on June 2. Our guest quartets will be MUSIC MART, the FOUR FLUSHERS, from Terre Haute, and the DUTCH MASTERS.

Muskegon has re-instituted a tradition from the past. Every fourth Friday the Chapter moves to the Doo Drop Inn for "fun night." The first three, in October, January and February, were well attended by members and guests. The idea of "Fun Night" was to break away from the structure of regular meetings which included a rehearsal of material for upcoming performances. We work on Pole Cat numbers and tags. We encourage pickup quartets and we hold quartet contests and have guest quartets when-

(.....continued - right..)

HURON VALLEY Chapter News. . .

Our 6th Annual Show is now history and it was even more successful than the five which preceeded it. All the fellows have been working very hard for the past several months on a lot of new music for this show, but it was lots of fun. It always amazes me how everything can be in such a frenzy right up to show-time, and then it all comes together at precisely the right time.

On January 21, the chapter threw its annual Ladies Night and Officer Installation Dinner at McMullen's in the Briarwood Hilton. Our dear friend from Windsor, Doran McTaggart and his wife, Margaret, crossed the river to do yet another sparkling job of installing our officers. The Chapter really "put on the dog" this year. We hired a three-piece group from U. of M. to play chamber music during the "attitude adjustment" And, would you believe, we hour. were also honored with a performance by the FOR-TUNE TELLERS. Remember them? They are still a great entertaining act, and we really appreciate their talents. Now, you top this off with a few songs from our own IVY LEAGUE and SOUND AMBASSADORS and you have a very hefty night's worth of entertainment. Our PVP, Don Kondor, can be very proud of his total efforts for this night.

The Chapter Chorus was invited to sing at the Ypsilanti Eastern Star recently. We had a good time there and so, it seems, did all the Stars and Mason who attended.. We also made another appearance at the Ann Arbor Veteran's Hospital on Valentines Day to help them enjoy this special day. Again the SOUND AMBASSADORS and IVY LEAGUE helped as we put on a good show for a very large group of appreciate patients and friends. It sure makes a guy feel good after performances such as these. It adds another dimension to the enjoyment we get when practicing our "hobby."

The chapter's membership has increased again with the transfer of Marshall Bates, from the Peach Tree Chorus, of Atlanta, GA. The Bates family recently moved from Atlanta to Chelsea, and Marshall is in the banking business, in Ann Arbor. He sings a 'mean' bass, and we welcome him and his family to the chapter.

Our immediate Past President, "Doc" Dixon, likes to dabble at putting a (.....continued - right..)

ever possible. Our next "Fun Night" is scheduled for Thursday, March 2?, at 7:30 pm. All interested Barbershoppers and guests are welcome.

That's the news from Muskegon. We hope to see you at Convention in Ann Arbor, in April.

Webb Scrivnor and Alan Coombes

MONROE CHAPTER NEWS. . .

Our annual shows were just completed on February 11 and 23 and our very responsive audiences enjoyed the terrific singing of the FOUR HENCHMEN and INTERSTATE RIVALS guartets. They were 11th and 10th, respectively, in International Compe-tition and they showed why they did so well. Our own TWO PLUS TWO guartet also sang on the shows. They used to be called the TWILIGHTERS a few years ago and were Pioneer District Junior Quartet Champs in 1970-71. Don Schroeder and Gil Steinman were Show Co-Chairmen and did a fine job.

We had a slight problem getting the RIVALS here for the first show. Plane problems and fog caused them to be delayed but they made it just as the show started.

Doran McTaggart, one of the finest M.C.s in the Society, did a fine job. Doran and Thom Hine had a good time being together again on the same show and Thom enjoyed a brief homecoming in Detroit for a few days after the show.

Jim Stephens, Pioneer's Director of Music Education, handled the sound system for our shows and afterglow. He did a terrific job and we highly recommend him. When you put so much work into a show, you want your songs to be heard and Jim does an excellent job of getting that four-part harmony to the audience.

Ben Ayling, from Toledo, was our Director for the shows and he did a great job. We regret that he is now leaving us to direct the Motor City Chorus of Detroit #1 Chapter. Our new Director is Rick Roberts, a music student at Bowling Green University. We wish Ben the best of luck with Detroit and we welcome Rick to the Pioneer District.

Please make a correction to your 1984 Pioneer District Directory. The P.V.P. for the Monroe Chapter is Bob Thomson, 8300 Albain Rd., Ida, MI., 48140. Phone (313) 269-6333. Please contact him if we can get together with other chapters for visitations or any other activities in the area.

few words together to see if they will rhyme. Often, his thoughts about Barbershopping enter into the effort. After many attempts at persuading me to use one of his "gems," I have finally conceeded. So, here is a "Shot From Doc:"

A fellow's got no time for hate or thinkin' on how he's so great.

He isn't thinkin' 'bout himself

or all those things stacked on a shelf.

He's only got time to be himself.... when singing.

Roger Waltz

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT



Greetings from Battle Creek in 1984 -- The Year of the Cereal City Chorus -- could be!! We are alive and well and getting bigger and better and we have great expectations for this year.

After a busy holiday season, the chapter started the new year with our Installation of Officers Dinner. 78 members, wives and guests were there -- our largest turnout in many a year. After the fine meal, we enjoyed the entertainment of our HAR-MONY HOUNDS and RETREADS. The evening was highlighted by the presence of our new International President, John Gillespie, from Kalamazoo. By installing our new Officers, he performed his first official duty of his Presidential year. Best of Luck, John. And a special thanks to Chairman Roger Lewis for a great evening.

January 16 was the night of our Open House. 29 guests walked thru the door!! What a nite!! What a joy to hear nearly 70 men ringing chords and singing in harmony (most of the time). We sang the Barberpole Cat songs, did some tags, and even sang some of the songs from our upcoming show. We were also entertained by our chapter quartets. It was a great evening and a great big thanks go to our new MVP, Randy Campbell; PR man, Carl Proch; PVP, Bill Smith; Chorus Director, Giff Richards and 'Coffee Chairman,' Hugh White, for all their hard work.

In February, we held a Valentines-Orientation-Ladies Night Spaghetti Dinner. Included on the program was Ray Sikkenga's excellent Orientation Slide Program, the 1976 San Francisco Convention Film, and the latest Logopedics Film. We also got word that our Ladies Auxilliary was being organized. It was a fun night thanks to Leo Lang and his crew.

In the first two months, over 40 new faces have visited our chapter to see what we're all about. Now to find the secret solution to keeping all these good men with us in our great organization. It's sort of a nice problem to have.

Our Music Director, Giff Richards, is hoping to put 60+ men on stage at the spring contest and for our big show, May 12, at Kellogg Auditorium. The show will feature the music of Walt Disney, and will be headlined by the Interstate Rivals, from Louisville and Cincinnati, and our own Harmony Hounds. We also have great plans for the Fall Convention which, of course, will be held right here in our fair city, in October.

Our new Director joined us last fall after years as Director of the Battle Creek Central High School a cappella choir which has traveled throughout the country and Europe. (....continued - right..) PORT HURON happenings. . .

by Linda Harrington

We spent a very enjoyable evening in Port Huron, recently, attending their Annual Show at McMorran Auditorium.

The opening of "Sweet Adeline," sung by COMMON BOND, with the chorus in the background, really set the mood of the theme of the show, "Those Days Gone By."

The Huron Harmony Chorus, under the direction of Brian Kaufman, along with COMMON BOND, FRIENDS, and other chorus quartets, treated us to all the golden oldies. The chorus and Brian are doing great things in Port Huron. They will be a chorus to be reckoned with in April.

Ivy League gave us a great change of pace to the more modern form of Barbershopping. This past summer, spent working at Cedar Point, has made the quartet polished performers and they are so young!

The River District Sweet Adelines, under the direction of Bill Shier, entertained us with "New York, New York," "Somewhere Over The Rainbow," "Sandman," and "In The Mood," to name just a few, proving that the gals enjoy Barbershop Harmony just as much as the fellows do. The SOUND SYNDICATE, from Toledo, Ohio, gave a super rendition of "Rigalletto," and "Don't Put A Tax On The Beautiful Girle," along with "How Are Things In Glochamora," just as highlights. We are very sorry to hear that this fine quartet is breaking up. They certainly helped make the Port Huron Show a well-rounded, enjoyable evening of listening to songs from "Those Days Gone By." And, of And, of course, the whole program was kept in order and running smoothly by the incomparable M.C., Doran McTaggart.

Giff is so enthusiastic and hardworking that he is bringing the best out of us. His vast musical background and experience make him a joy to sing for. He has been the big spark that has helped our chorus to grow both musically and in numbers. All choruses in the Pioneer District better beware. The Cereal City Chorus will be seen and heard at the Spring and Fall Conventions, this year. If you listen closely, you, too, may hear us coming (and I don't mean the sounds of Snap, Crackle and Pop, either).

One of our goals this year is to maintain a good, positive attitude, and a spirit of togetherness on chorus night, at Show Time, and in Contest. We're looking forward to demonstrating that in April, in Ann Arbor. Onward and Upword in '84.



HELP WANTED

1310

by Bill Tobias

District P.R. Officer

The Pioneer District Public Relations Committee is in need of men of various skills, united by one thing: the love of Barbershopping and the desire to contribute to its growth. If you have particular skills, or a genuine willingness to work for the good of the District, please make your presence known.

To steal something from the Marines, "We are looking for a few good men" who would be willing to do something more than just go to a convention, sit in the audience, or perform on stage. Believe me, I am not suggesting that anyone abandon their quartet or chorus and follow us blindly. What I am saying is that there is a lot of work that goes into a major fund-raiser or convention and a lot of it can be done without interfering with the enjoyment of our hobby.

We would like to be able to form a committee composed of men who are not afraid to express their feelings or ideas. With some imaginative, eager Barbershoppers who would be willing to do a little more for the hobby they love, our District could very well be at the top of the Society's membership standings.

If you would like to volunteer your services, or would like to suggest ways in which your quartet/chorus and the District can benefit, please write:

BILL TOBIAS

10624 Fourteen Mile Rd. NE Rockford, MI 49341

If it would be more convenient, please feel free to pick up your District Directory and contact the closest committee representative. We hope to hear from men from every corner of the District.

LOGOPEDICS SPECTACULAR

President Jim Gougeon has shared a desire to have such an event to take place within the confines of our own District. This is surely a great undertaking, and will require a lot of work both in preparation and during the event itself. To put on such an event and dedicate it to the kids at the Institute of Logopedics in Wichita, Kansas, would be a worthwhile undertaking, indeed.

There have been some ideas to issue invitations to the International Representative and the District Champion Quartets and Choruses, or making an appearance at such an event part of the honor.

Another suggestion is to make such (...continued on page 7) 308 JARVIS, #10 YPSILANTI, MI 48197



HOB HARTLEY	BRIAN PHILBIN
SCOTT TURNBULL	DAVE DROUILLARD
(313) 485-2616	(313) 753-9326

Last October, four kids from Eastern Michigan University walked onto the contest stage for the first time as a competing quartet. It would prove to be a significant step for the IVY LEAGUE. Shortly thereafter, they couldn't believe their ears when they heard their name announced as "Pioneer District Novice Champs of 1983." Needless to say, the kids were on "cloud nine" for the rest of the weekend.

Bob Hartley is the 20-year-old tenor of the group; a junior at EMU, majoring in Vocal Music. He's a member of the Madrigal Singers and is Treasurer for Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, the men's music fraternity. Bob has been a Barbershopper for one year.

Scott Turnbull, lead, is the 22year-old "elder statesman" of the quartet. A Society member since 1978, Scott is a member of the Concert Wind Ensemble and is Assistant Director of the Huron Valley Chorus. He is a senior majoring in Instrumental Music Education. You may remember Scott as the lead of the youthful QUADRATS, of 1978, or as the bari of the not-so-youthful PIO-NEER SOUND, 7th place finishers in 1981. ter Arts. Also a member of the Madrigal Singers, Brian is a one-year Society veteran.

Dave Drouillard is the booming bass of the quartet and is both the newest and youngest member, having joined just about a month before contest last year. He is employed as a machine tool specialist in Ypsilanti. Dave brings a wealth of musical background and experience to the quartet. Hailing from a large, Barbershopping family (his father directs the River Raisin Chapter of Sweet Adelines in which his mother sings), Dave plays tuba, bass guitar and the jaw harp. He has been a member of the Huron Valley Chapter since 1979.

The first edition of THE IVY LEAGUE was orgainzed in January, 1983, for the purpose of auditioning for summer employment at Cedar Point Amusement Park. They were accepted and moved to Sandusky, Ohio. What followed was an exciting, fun-filled summer of singing Barbershop and getting paid for it, too!! The quartet was happy and thrilled that many fellow Barbershoppers stopped by to visit with them during the summer. After four long months and 435 shows the kids found themselves heading back to good ol' Mighigan, a bit older and, perhaps, a bit wiser.

When the quartet found itself a trio, due to unforseen circumstances, Dave was waiting and ready to step in as the newest "Ivy Leaguer." Almost immediately, the boys began to realize the potential of the quartet and decided that they would enter the Fall Contest. With only a



Brian Philbin is the ever-enthusiastic baritone of the group. As the quartet's choreographer, he is responsible for much of their zany stage presence. Brian recently celebrated his 22nd birthday while playing a leading role in EMU's production of Three Penny Opera. He is a junior, majoring in Drama and Thea-

month to prepare, they opted to entertain the audience rather than impress the judges. With the assistance of "Supercoach," Jim Stephens, the kids roared into Troy wich bright, smiling faces and colorful costumes. Their plan paid off as the audience received their comedy and dancing very well (even the judges noticed). They were chosen to appear on the Saturday night show.

On Saturday afternoon, the kids took their place alongside their fellow chorus members as Jim Stephens led the Huron Valley Chorus to a strong 5th place in a tough contest. After the evening guartet finals, the 4-some found themselves to be a bit exhausted from the day's busy events. Even though their performance gave them one of the top SP scores of the contest, they were the first to admit that they seemed to be lacking in energy. Standing backstage trying to think up some good excuses for the judges, the quartet didn't even hear the announcement proclaiming them the Novice Champs of 1983! No matter how long we are together, or how many awards we may win, the most important award to us is the happiness of singing Barbershop Harmony in a quartet with your friends!

We will do our very best to act as ambassadors of this great Society wherever we may be. Being the youngest quartet in Pioneer District (our average age is just 21), we hope to be singing for a long time. The continuing support of our families as well as the assistance of our fellow Huron Valley Chapter members has kept us going. We would like to give especial thanks to Jim Stephens and his fantastic wife, Judy. Without them, we would just be a bunch of rotton kids!

> Thank You Very Much "The Ivy League"

> > by Jack Stanley

Stanley's Believe-It-Or-Not

DID YOU KNOW.....

...THAT Irving Berlin had used the melody for "Easter Parade" 20 years earlier in a tune called "Smile and Show Your Dimples"? It was one of his biggest flops!

...that "It's a Long Way to Tipperary" owed its inception to a bet? The challenge issued to Jack Judge and Hi Williams in 1912 was that they could not write a song and perform it in public on the same day. They accepted the challenge, wrote and performed "Tipperary," and saw it become a hit, especially in World War I.

...that the tune "Tiger Rag" alluded not to a big cat but to the lowest possible poker hand? Jazz musicians called such an unfortunate hand of cards a "tiger." In a money game, it was exceedingly dangerous to bluff with a hand like that. So, "Hold that tiger" became a card-player's taunt. The expression also led to another popular phrase - "To have a tiger by the tail."

(seen in the Livingston Tune-Type)

DURHAM and FRICKER VISIT INSTITUTE.

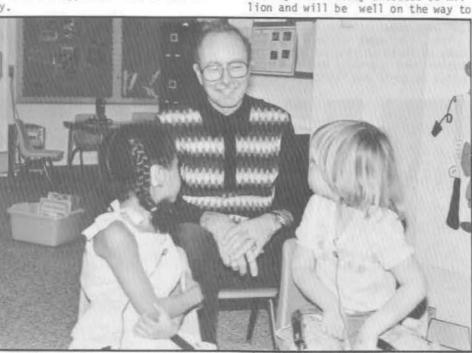
International Committeeman, Fran Durham, and Pioneer District Logopedics Chairman, Al Fricker, attended a seminar at the Institute of Logopedics, February 23-25, 1984. Al is one of 16 District Chairmen and Fran is one of four committeemen that direct the fund-raising efforts for our International Service Project. The seminar is held bi-annually and is designed as an update of ongoing and emerging programs at the Institute.

A recent development at the Institute, for example, is the Tactual Communications Program which attempts to provide an alternative to the normal hearing process. This program utilizes a device called a vocoder. Sound first is picked up by the vocoder microphone, and then is divided into 24 channels by frequency. Each of these channels, in turn, activates 1 of 24 small vibrators. These vibrators are arranged in 4 groups of 6 which are strapped on the arm of an adult, or on the legs of a child. A low-pitched sound such as the consonant "m" would activate the vibrators at one end of the array, while the high-pitched "s" sound would trigger the vibrators at the opposite end of the array.

nections. The first complete words Marquita distinguished were "hot" and "airplane". This was accomplished over a period of three or four days. These moments of discovery were exciting for Marquita and for the staff.

Clients at the Institute present a wide range of handicapping conditions and behavioral characteristics which include cerebral palsy, seizure disorders and other neurological impairments, autism, hearing loss, cleft palate, aphasia, stuttering, language disorders, behavior disorders, learning disabilities, mental retardation and multiple handicaps. Comprehensive full-time programs are provided for those individuals with multiple needs, and parttime services for those individuals with less complex needs. The majority of clients range from 3 to 18 years of age, although the Institute services clients from birth to the elderly.

The culmination of the Seminar was the projecting of the amount of money each District will raise in 1984 for the Institute. The total is a whopping \$686,000 - Pioneer's figure being \$22,000 of that amount. This represents a 10% increase over monies raised by Pioneer in 1983. The Society has already exceeded \$5 million and will be well on the way to



At the Institute, four-year-old Marquita (in left of picture along with Durham and another client) has already learned to discriminate among a dozen words and sounds. She has been learning to use this equipment since the beginning of the year. Progress was slow at first because Marquita did not know what use to make of the vibrated impulses she felt. When the research team began using the written symbols of "s" and "m", associating them with the vibrations, she began to make the con-

\$6 million of the \$686,000 figure is attained.

I highly recommend a visit to the Institute if you are ever anywhere near Wichita, Kansas. There are facilities on the campus to house Barbershoppers overnight. All it takes is a call to let them know you are coming. It will be an experience you will never forget. The toll free number is 1-800-835-1043.

Fran Durham Internat'l. Serv. Comm.



A TOUCH OF CLASH . . .

What a hobby; you can't live with it and you can't live without it. We tried, but we couldn't do it. Now four of us from the west side of the State have gotten together to have another go at it. Kerry Konig, Phil Wilder, Mart Lantinga and Joel Mills have teamed up to have another go at fun and fame. The songs are just a little different, with just a "Touch of Clash" added.

We thought of what we wanted from our hobby and what our hobby was all about, and we decided the answer to both was FUN! With that out of the way, we started to sing -- right after we drew lots for parts, that is! We started out with our top priority being <u>fun</u>, and that's just what we are having. The songs, too, kind of reflect that priority.

We have high hopes of singing some good, entertaining songs, with some good sounds to go with them.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you before, during, and after the convention. We hope to have some good fun with each and every one of you very soon.



HELP! continued from page 5 an event an "Invitational." In other words, if there is to be a Logopedics Spectacular on the east side of the state, then issue invitations to representative quartets and choruses who would be willing to donate their time and effort to put on such an event. To incorporate the other suggestion, then have the International Representative or District Champion quartets or choruses share the spotlight. To have the evening topped off by a mass chorus performance would be "spectacular."

Again, if you would like to contribute some of your time for such an undertaking, let's pull together and turn this dream into a reality. With two of these performances each year, one on each side of the state, this surely would be a boon for the Institute.

If you have some suggestions to share, as to what a "spectacular" would be to you, please write me and share your ideas.



A TRULY WONDERFUL WEEKEND

by Bill Tobias

It is not often that we are treated to a 'musical' weekend outside of the Spring and Fall Conventions and the International, but the first weekend in March surely turned out that way.

On Friday, March 2, 1984, in Ionia, the fun began. After months of preparation, Grand Rapids' own GOL-DEN OLDIES sang in "The Music Man" the songs made famous by the BUFFALO BILLS. They shared the stage with the Ionia Community Players and did a truly professional job.

The crowd out front was most attentive, and there was not an empty seat in the house. I am very proud to report that Barbershoppers, their wives and sweeties did not make up the entire audience, although they were there to provide their support for our hometown heroes.

Cliff Gritter, Gary Branch, Don Phillips and Jim Empie sang as though they had been on stage many a time in productions such as this. Barbershopping does prepare us for situations such as this. It probably seemed like it was second nature to them to be on stage with so many people. Truth be known, though, I've never shared the stage with Barbershoppers that looked as pretty as some of those performers!

CONGRATULATIONS, guys, for a job well done!

The second part of this wonderful musical weekend was truly an unexpected pleasure. In this case, the individuals who were actively involved were behind the scenes, with their handiwork seen by all on the stage. The Greenville Arts Council put on a production of "Tumbleweeds" and the talented people of whom I speak are Carol Hatch and Ruth Hansen, wives of two of the members of the Great Lakes Chorus/Grand Rapids Chapter.

The cast, in this case, was composed of school-age children from 5th to 12th grades, living in the Greenville area. Ruth Hansen was the Producer of this classic, with Carol Hatch serving as the Musical Director. The quality of the performance, as well as the talent of those on stage, made those sitting in the audience look forward to their next effort.

Ruth Hansen, by the way, is also the President of our Great Lakes Gals. Carol Hatch, on the other hand, has sung with the Sweet Adelines in Grand Rapids, and now in Comstock Park, as well as singing with and without her talented family in many area churches. CONGRATULA-TIONS are also in order for another job well done.

This just goes to show you that many of those of whom we look to for support and strength are quite talented in their own right. "AH YES" (continued from page 3)

ferent form of 'part' harmony, also sung without musical accompaniment. Little did they know that they were going to be involved in the lessons that were going to be learned by us all. They were very good sports. By the way, I did notice that two of them were wearing badges of the host chapter. It is great that such interaction is encouraged.

Those of us in the audience were plainly astounded in the changes that took place before our very eyes in the quality of their voices after just a little bit of coaching ala LaBar. In a way, many of us became envious of those who were to go to Ypsilanti the next weekend to learn more from him and the rest of the faculty at the Quartet Coaching Clinic that took place at EMU.

After the OVERTONES had their fill of knowledge, a call came out for the DUTCH MASTERS, from the Muskegon and Holland Chapters. Even this experienced four-some showed signs of improvement after only a few minutes with the genius from Kenosha.

For two-and-a-half hours, Barbershoppers from Kalamazoo, Holland, Muskegon and Grand Rapids were united in harmony, and the only complaint was that it all ended too soon. Just think, there isn't another hobby quite like ours...it sure is worth sharing!

To Dave LaBar and to the men of the Holland Chapter who worked to make all this possible, THANK YOU!



When Barbershoppers hit the five million dollar mark in donations to the Institute of Logopedics in November, 1983, many of the students and staff got together to show their appreciation to the members of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. whose support since 1964 has played such an important role in their lives.



The following is the next in a series prepared by District Historian, Arthur Schulze, pertaining to the Chartering of the Chapters of Pioneer District.

The BATTLE CREEK CHAPTER

by Ray Sikkenga

The Battle Creek Chapter was reorganized in 1945 after an unsuccessful attempt several years earlier. There was a "Parade of Quartets" program held in the spring of 1945 and another held in 1946. However, two years then passed without a "Parade." In 1983, we performed our 29th consecutive "Night of Harmony" in the Battle Creek area.

The Battle Creek Chapter can boast of having had some of America's best quartets as headliners over our illustrious history. Along with International medalist quartets, we can boast of several local quartets: WHAT NOTES, NOTATIONS, VILLAGE RAM-BLERS, RETREADS, FINAL EDITION, 4-D MINORS, UNIFIED SOUND ASSEMBLY, and the well-known HARMONY HOUNDS.

The HARMONY HOUNDS represented Battle Creek at International Competition in 1969 at St Louis. They have also represented our city on two overseas trips to England and Europe and to the Far East. In 1973, it was the 4-D MINORS who won the Pioneer District Quartet Championship in Windsor, Ont. This quartet consisted of three Burrill Brothers. Dean, Don and Dorn, and Dick Spear.

The Chapter has had a long list of directors over its nearly 40-year history. Keene Wolfe was the first, followed by Dick Pancost, Harlan Cleveland, William Crockett, Merle Clayton, Larry Swan, Ron Mell, Roger Lewis and, presently, Alfred "Giff" Richards.

The Cereal City Chorus has performed at numerous occasions around the greater Battle Creek area. The Kimball House Museum's Strawberry Festival, the World's Longest Breakfast Table during the Sesquicentennial of Battle Creek, and the Post Band Concerts during the summer, are just a few. We have participated in several Christmas programs throughout the years. The chorus has also sung for several churches during the holiday season.

For many years, the chapter has competed in the Pioneer District contests held in various cities throughout the state and the Battle Creek Chapter has also hosted the District Convention on several occasions.

The 1984 Edition of the Cereal City Chorus has set several goals. Formost among them is to expand to a

DO NOT read this! Do not READ this! Do not Read THIS! Do NOT read this! DO NOT READ THIS!



by Stan McMorris

Why are you reading this? Can't you take heed of the title that this is not intended for you to read? After all, there's a reason for you not to read this, yet you are foolishly following along, expecting to find something of interest, something to amuse you for the moment.

Well, there is nothing here to entertain you. As a matter of fact, the subject could possibly, and will probably, make you very uncomfortable. The subject is something that could cause you much pain and anguish if you take it seriously. It is about something, or someone, you have seriously neglected. You have not fultilled your obligation lately and it is starting to show. In a very self-centered way, you have been keeping something entirely to yourself, and not sharing it.

In spite of all this, you're still reading this, aren't you? Doesn't all this guilt make you want to run and hide? By now, you should've torn this page to shreads, gnashed your teeth, butted your head against the wall. Yet, you read on. If you're still reading this, yet

haven't figured out what it's all about, what have you neglected? And this should add to your guilt -- be-cause if I have to tell you, then it will make you feel even worse, lower than a snake's belly in a wagon rut. This is it, your last chance to simply put down this copy of the TROU-BADOUR, or turn the page before I tell you what it's all about, but you are probably still reading against my advice. You have been warned. I won't pay your psychiatrist's bills if you read this to the end.

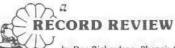
The subject isn't that important to you or you would've taken care of it long before now, but since you've fervently read this article against my admonishments, I might as well tell you.

You haven't invited a friend to share some Barbershop Harmony lately. You've been keeping it all to yourself. Now quit reading this and go call someone and invite him!



THE VITAL LINK

70-member chorus, and to secure another Pioneer District Championship. With hard work and dedication, these goals can become a reality.



by Don Richardson, Phoenix Chapter (DON RICHARDSON, a barbershopper since 1965 and a Society member since 1969, has been recording "Close Harmony," 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.)

Twenty-five years ago, Meredith Wilson's "The Music Man" brought the Buffalo Bills the kind of fame most Barbershop quartets dream of. Their roles seemed natural as they simply did what they did best - sang Barbershop. In addition to "Lida Rose", "Sincere" and "It's You" have assumed respected places in Barbershop repertoires. Now the 1978 International Champion BLUEGRASS STUDENT UNION Quartet has released a record that treats almost all of the music from "The Music Man" in four-part harmony.

This is a very sophisticated album, musically. No one who listens to the record to assess the singing of this quartet should have any complaint. The group acquits itself commendably, and the individual singers do, too. In addition, the studio recording and mixing is done so well that it's easy to forget that some of the performances would be impossible outside the studio. But then, why release a record if it is merely a transcription of what people get to hear the group do in person?

The spoken routines do not work as well as does the singing, however. Many of us have a favorite Harold Hill, whether Preston Foster, Forrest Tucker, or Robert Preston, and anybody who does the routines of Hill is bound to be compared, usu-ally unfavorably. That's a slight point.

Another negative aspect of this record is that much of the music simply does not work treated Barbershop. Over ten years ago, bass Mike Senter arranged a medley from this musical for his quartet, The Golden Staters, and it, too, was not as satisfying as it should have been. The fact is, according to Dave Stevens and others, Barbershop Harmony is quite simple and repetitious; it can be boring, and to the professional musician, it oftentimes is. Wilson knew the strong and weak points of Barbershop music - he included many types of music in the show - but he limited the songs for the quartet. Why? That's probably impossible to say, but it does seem obvious that had he wanted "Shipoopi" done for a quartet, he would have done it. Is that to say way should never experiment? No, for "Goodnight My Someone" seems to fit Barbershop without much strain. Even "Marian, The Librarian" -- because of the pleasing arrangement and masterful execution, no doubt -- is quite rewarding to listen to. But some of the songs just don't work. "Gary, Indiana"

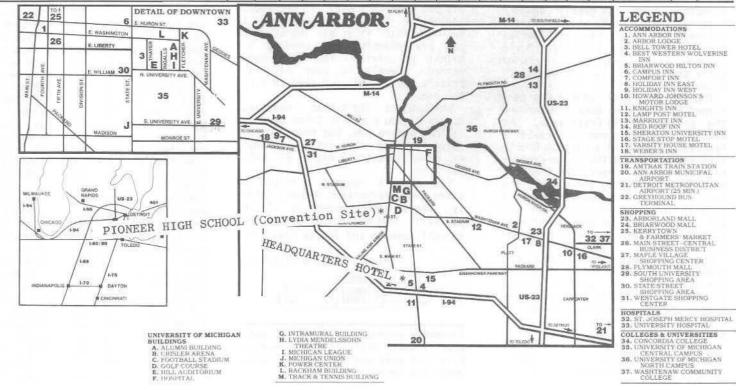
(...continued on page.11)

Accommodations

1984 SPRING CONVENTION

ANNARBOR,'s many motels and hotels accommodate families, visiting alumni and business travelers with ease. The meeting facilities in these fine establishments have helped make Ann Arbor a leading Midwestern conference center.

accommodate families, visiting alumni and business travelers with ease. The meeting facilities in these fine establishments have helped make Ann Arbor a leading Midwestern conference center	Vonn	Revenue Reentis	Contant 101 Prem	Company on Municipal	Horney -	Cine I John	Meriman Comment	Jacuss Contract	Indian - Suma	hudan Para	Recent	Radia Farma		Burner Parm Nor	and the company	Kitche Hallward	100-001	Centron Carlo T	Priles Price	Roundary Constraints
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CASEY'S LAST RUN....

Down through the years, many old stories and legends have been put to music that's been sung over and over by old and young alike. Few names in the American lexicon possess such power over the imagination as "Casey Jones." "Come all you rounders, I want you to hear, the story told of a brave engineer; Casey Jones was the rounder's name; on a high tenwheeler he rode to fame..."

Jonathan Luther Jones was born on March 14, 1864, in Missouri, and shortly thereafter, his family moved to Cayce, Kentucky, where he grew up. Because of that, he was nicknamed "Casey" and it stuck with him the rest of his life.

Like three of his brothers, he went into railroad service on the Illinois Central and in due time he was promoted to locomotive engineer. On April 30, 1900, with his negro fireman, Sim B. Webb, and the express passenger engine #382, he left Memphis, Tennessee, at about 1:00 a.m., pulling the southbound "New Orleans Special," known up and down the line as No. 1, the Cannonball. The train had arrived from Chicago 95 minutes late and the tall, handsome, 36-year-old Casey was determined to bring No. 1 into Canton, Mississippi, 190 miles away, on time.

"The switchmen knew by the whistle's moan, that the man at the throttle was Casey Jones."

The night was murky, and the fog and drizzle set in, but engine #382 was moving at high speed and steaming well. Seventy minutes of lost time had been made up when, at Vaughan, Mississippi, a warning torpedo on the rail alerted Casey to trouble ahead and he yelled to the fireman, Sim Webb, to jump. The Cannonball collided with the end of a freight train that had pulled into a siding, but had left four cars on the main track.

Casey died with the overturned engine, one hand on the throttle, the other on the air brake control. He was credited with having saved the lives of all passengers and the other crewmen.

Wallace Saunders, a black enginewiper for the Illinois Central, knew Casey and started the chant which later led to the ballad. The most popular version was published in 1903 with words by T. Lawrence Siebert and music by Eddie Newton. Their particular ballad was a natural for a Barbershop quartet and it was not long before every music hall foursome from New York to St. Louis was giving forth with their version of Casey's ballad.

Down through the years, our Society has preserved both the music and style of this turn-of-the-century ballad. I think it is only fair that we also remember the story, "Come all you rounders, I want you to hear...."

by Stan "Stasch" Sperl



"Well, Sonny....It's Like This ...

by Bud Thomas

First of all, I hate to hear that you are dropping the Comedy Shows -but if there is no time for it at conventions -- and it's too expensive...something should be done to show newly-formed guartets what can be done with any of the old wheezes we started with years ago. The new guys can't compete with the old organized quartets with great voices, but you can have a lot of FUN together entertaining the chapter as well as organizations outside the chapter. Each chapter MUST have a man who can teach kids how to UNDER-PLAY comedy instead of over-exaggerated moves.

When we meet a guy who "used to be a member" and we ask him how come he gave up such a great sport, his reply is mostly "too busy with business --" or some other such reason. After we have talked for a while, it finally comes out with the "NO FUN"-"TOO MUCH WORK" reason -- and those we can believe. They feel like they had been attending some kind of a musical night school where a director treated them like a college MU-SIC MAJOR.

Years ago, I learned that RETEN-TION meant getting the new guys in a quartet and get them to hit a chord and you had them hooked!

I realize that Choruses are the thing that brings in the money at conventions, and they are a very important way to learn songs, but consistant losers tend to lose interest unless we can develop a way to hold them.

Nothing brings the rich flow of perspiration to your body more than standing on the top row of the risers for fifteen minutes singing "may-mee-mye-mo-moo," to get tuned up for a three-hour trip through measures 51 and 52 of the tune that is gonna knock the judges ears off.

Where did it all go, Wendal? Where did singing for the hell of it go? Why can't we take a page from the past and start teaching the new members what it is like to do a little WODDSHEDDING, instead of cramming them full of two songs for two years. How about teaching those new and fresh, young quartets a little comedy, so that they are at least entertaining while they are learning?

Most Barbershoppers are like me -guys who like to sing but could never face an audience alone; therefore, a quartet or the chorus was made to order for them...and these are the guys who make our new pickup quartets who have all the fun at singouts, at old folks homes, and at service clubs...Any place they can sing where people are grateful and not too critical...and the singing they do in those kinds of places makes them sing better in the long run.

(Note: Bud Thomas, a 35-year member of the Society and an entertainer all of his life, was asked what an "old-timer" thought was the problem with "Retention" in our present Society where, if we had kept them all, we would have well over 40,000 by now.)

(from the PITCH-PIPER, L.O.L. Dist.)



probably is best left to a lisping Winthrop Paroo. The BLUEGRASS STU-DENT UNION is not to be faulted for being pioneers, however; they are to be praised. They've done what probably many other Barbershoppers have wanted to do for years, and they've done it well.

Those of us accustomed to paying \$6.00 for district albums may chafe at the \$9.00 plus handling and mailing charge for this record. But we must remember that the district albums require no studio time, there are no re-takes, and they probably require no consultants. This album took years of planning and arranging and hundreds of hours of recording time; it also required a substantial cash outlay before it could become a reality. And not only that, all of the singing here is prime; there are no second-place groups on this album.

To order "The Music Man" send \$9 (plus \$.95 for delivery in 3 to 4 weeks - \$1.95 for delivery in 7 to 10 days) to: BLUEGRASS RECORDS

10410 St. Rene Rd.

Louisville, KY 40299 Specify album, cassette, or 8-track.

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



APRIL

8 Pontiac Chapter Show 14 Grand Rapids Chapter Show 14 St. Joseph Chapter Show 14 Windsor Chapter Show 27-29 Spring Convention Wayne (in Ann Arbor)

MAY

5 Boyne City Chapter Show 5 Kalamazoo Chapter Show 12 Alpena Chapter Show 12 Battle Creek Chapter Show 18 Holland Chapter Show 19 Coldwater Chapter Show

JUNE

Muskegon Chapter Show 2

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DEPARTMENT NOTES

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JUNE

8 International Send-Off Show (in Windsor) 16 Traverse City Show

JULY

1-8 International Convention -St. Louis, MO.

AUGUST

5-12 Harmony College, St. Joseph, MO

SEPTEMBER

7-9 Fall Harmony Round-Up, Ypsilanti

OCTOBER

5.10

MEY

19-21 Fall Convention - Battle Creek

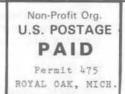
DECEMBER

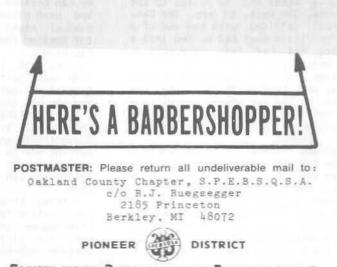
1-2 C.O.T. School - E.M.U. Ypsilanti NOTE:

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

Keep America Singing





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