



Volume XXIV, Number 1
February - March, 1984

pioneer
TROUBADOUR



INSTITUTE OF LOGOPEDICS

...MORE THAN TALK

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

Nothing, but NOTHING, succeeds like success. Pioneer Pride developed a little further with the release of the 1983 Logopedics totals. Pioneer Barbershoppers contributed a total of \$17,572.86, another new high! Gee, it's fun saying "hi" to a new high. This is the kind of high that's good for you. Such great GOOD is accomplished by our connection with the Institute of Logopedics. Are YOU part of the "LOGOPEDICS CONNECTION?"

A full recap of our total income picture appears in this issue for all to review. The sources continue to shift around, as usual. Importantly, the final figure continues to grow. Our Pioneer quartets showed a strong response this year. Their thoughtfulness helped to shore up the District goal this year.

The declared target for 1984 is 100% Chapter participation! Along with that, perhaps we can double the number of registered AND unregistered quartets that will respond to the call for support. In the name of Logopedics, won't you seriously consider this? There is so much dollar power out there that can be channeled for GOOD, that it boggles the mind. Come on, Pioneer, let's hit it long and straight!

Don't even waste time on WHEN to get into gear. Do it NOW! Plan... then work the plan. Get on the roll early in the year. It's much more comfortable than playing "catch-up." If you put on a Chapter Show, designate 10% of the profit, for openers. Work within the Chapter developing creative ideas to enhance your own Logopedics program.

Make use of your Chapter Logopedics Chairman. This is a very important and prestigious position. He can use your input. If your Chapter doesn't have a man in this position, get one! You need this man. We need this man!

Friends, another year is history. Gosh, they really do fly by. Now, 1984 is picking up speed. Thank heavens, most of us are still here to enjoy it. Life is truly a gift, an opportunity to thank, to love and to share. Best wishes for your personal year!

TOGETHER.....we are something!



Pioneer TROUBADOUR

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



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1983 PIONEER QUARTET HONOR ROLL

Blow the pitch and bust a chord 'cause the results are in.. the winner of the Great Lakes Express Traveling Trophy is the GOOD NEWS QUARTET. A big tip of the skimmer to you men and to all the quartet personnel who gave a portion of their income to help those kids we have adopted. This 4* really an Honor Roll for we honor your thoughtfulness and your continuing participation. The \$601.00 first-place contribution is listed below with the others who are, really, winners all!

Accents	\$ 25.00
Center Stage	200.00
Chord Encounters - 7th Kind	25.00
Chord Vendors	50.00

50% Discount	40.00
Good News	601.00
Ivy League	60.00
Music Masters	58.52
Nifty 50's	150.00
Nitty Gritty Good Time Four	280.00
Patch Chords	70.00
Saturday Nite Feature	225.00
Smokey and the Bandits	80.00
Sound Ambassadors	175.00
Sounds Around	400.00
Tri-County Connection	25.00
The Very Idea!	30.00
TOTAL Q'TET CONTRIBUTION	\$2494.52

=====

This is a very respectable total and one that requires many thanks. Let all Pioneer People be aware of these men and their generosity.

Al Fricker

We Sing - That They Shall Speak

THE WAYNE CHAPTER
proudly presents



"For Me & My Gal"

Barbershop Style
(of course)

FEATURING:



The "NOTE-WITS"
(NEW JERSEY MADNESS)

"SOUND SYNDICATE"
(DISTRICT CHAMPIONS WITH A FLAIR)

TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION
Current District Champions

Plus Our Own Six (6) Times District Champions:

"THE WAYNE WONDERLAND CHORUS"

and Much, Much More

March 2nd and 3rd, 1984

FRIDAY & SATURDAY • 8:00 p.m.

MERCY HIGH SCHOOL

11 Mile Rd. and Middlebelt • Farmington Hills, Mich.



MAIL TICKET REQUESTS

To: TOM POLLARD
15019 Flamingo
Livonia, Mich. 48154

PLEASE RUSH _____ SHOW TICKETS at \$7.00 EACH
FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 2nd

PLEASE RUSH _____ SHOW TICKETS at \$7.00 EACH
FOR SATURDAY, MARCH 3rd

I ENCLOSE MY CHECK FOR _____
(Make checks payable to Wayne Chapter)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT



HURON VALLEY CHAPTER news....

The beginning of another year is once again upon us and we here at Huron Valley view the coming months with much anticipation and excitement. Our new group of officers are active and creative and will, I'm sure, keep things lively and interesting during the coming year.

Our Annual Show will be held on Saturday, March 10, at Pioneer High School, in Ann Arbor. Our feature quartet will be the Harrington Brothers. The chorus will be singing a few new numbers with a lot of surprises, so make sure you set aside March 10 on your calendar to come and enjoy a great show.

We would like to introduce a new member in our chapter. He is DAVE MacLEOD. Dave is married and he owns a truck-stop and filling station on US-23 and 12. He sings a fine lead and is a welcome addition to our chorus. Dave may also be able to help out with some of the directing chores as he is the director of his church choir.

Again this year, the chorus made some special Christmas appearances locally. A memorable one was at the annual Ann Arbor Veteran's Hospital Christmas Party. It snowed very hard that night which made it very difficult for many of the guys, but quite a few braved the elements and made a good show of it. If ever this area needs rain, sleet or snow, they only need to schedule the Huron Valley Chorus to sing at Veteran's Hospital. It happens every time!

I'm very proud of our new Chapter Officers for their 100% participation at COT School this year. WOW! And I must thank the organizers of this year's school for it was well-handled and efficient. The instruction is sure to improve a lot of chapter programs.

Roger Waltz

PONTIAC CHAPTER news....

Pontiac Parlays Palates & Pitchpipes

In a move to re-create the stimulating experience of "putting on" a quartet show, the Pontiac Chapter, after 40 years of successive annual parades, has turned away from the customary evening performance format, and plans to offer an afternoon Dinner Show.

This Spring Harmony Social is scheduled for Sunday, April 8, 1984, starting at 2:00 p.m. A two-hour array of quartets and choruses will be followed by a sumptuous buffet of delectable offerings that are sure to satisfy even the most discriminating of diners.

The setting for this affair will be the auditorium dining room of the

Waterford Community Activities, Inc., Clubhouse, which has been recently renovated from top to bottom.

A cash bar will be open at 1:00 p.m., offering beer and wine, and will remain open throughout the afternoon and early evening. Parties of 8, or more, may reserve tables together by making arrangements before April 1.

The Waterford C.A.I. Building, located at 5640 Williams Lake Rd., one mile West of Dixie Hwy., is the home of the Pontiac Chapter. We are diligently rebuilding our membership and hoping for your support on April 8.

More information may be obtained by calling Pres. Bill Pascher, at (313) 391-0572. Tickets may be ordered from P.V.P. Len Barnes, 4063 Edmore, Drayton Plains, MI 48020. The cost is \$14.00 per person for the Show AND Buffet (\$10.00 per for Senior Citizens - 62 and over).

Bill Pascher

WINDSOR CHAPTER news....

The Windsor Chapter is holding its Annual Show on April 14, 1984, at Centennial School. The show is entitled, "Singing Out, 40 Years of Barbershopping." For more information, contact: Alan Raikes

9099 Riverside E.
Apt. W-1107
Windsor, ONT N8S 4R1



1983 PIONEER LOGOPEDICS SCOREBOARD

- "Americans are the greatest givers in the world!" Did you ever hear that? Well, how about Pioneer People including our Canadian brothers and sisters! We have just set another record --- really three records...
- Greatest Dollar Total- \$17,572.86
 - Highest Number of Award Chapters, Twenty-One.
 - Highest Number of Participating Chapters - 30 (out of 33).

Now we are really getting into it! Eighteen of the twenty Bronze Award winners exceeded the \$10 level, and beautiful Saginaw-Bay exceeded the Silver Award Level. Wayne is OH SO CLOSE to the Silver and Pt. Huron to the Bronze. Both statisticians are doing a re-count. Look at the smaller chapters and their superior performance; St. Joseph Valley, Holland, Coldwater, Traverse City, Alpena, Boyne City and Westland. Our dear Windsor friends exceeded the

Bronze level. This is truly a vigorous effort!

We are obviously getting into the spirit of understanding the plight of the institute children and how much our help means to them. Our extended hands provide self-worth and achievement to little people with a bleak and unexciting future. We sing, and many of them cannot even make a sound. As we ring our musical chords, let us ring a chord of response like never before! We should register over \$20,000 this year with our accelerating performance. Get started early! As you confirm your intentions silently, please look below at your 1983 record-setting Logopedics contributions:

CHAPTER	MEMBERS	Per-Cap	AWARD
Alpena	22	\$10.00	Bronze
AuSable Valley	17	.91	-
Battle Creek	36	18.33	Bronze
Benton Harbor	40	13.70	Bronze
Boyne City	27	20.96	Bronze
Clinton Valley	30	3.28	-
Coldwater	21	11.96	Bronze
Detroit #1	111	14.26	Bronze
Flint	47	10.11	Bronze
Grand Rapids	112	12.74	Bronze
Gratiot County	40	11.38	Bronze
Grosse Pointe	82	12.45	Bronze
Holland	28	10.89	Bronze
Hudson	12	-	-
Huron Valley	54	15.30	Bronze
Jackson	30	3.33	-
Kalamazoo	40	10.36	Bronze
Lansing	53	5.94	-
Livingston County	19	3.47	-
Milford	25	-	-
Muskegon	39	15.65	Bronze
Oakland County	94	13.51	Bronze
Pontiac	24	5.43	-
Port Huron	36	9.91	-
Saginaw-Bay	31	26.11	Silver
St. Joseph Valley	9	12.33	Bronze
Sault Ste. Marie	45	-	-
Swan Valley	30	4.61	-
Monroe/Toledo	66	4.86	-
Traverse City	30	10.00	Bronze
Wayne	93	24.57	Bronze
Westland	30	19.60	Bronze
Windsor	47	10.63	Bronze
DISTRICT TOTAL			1,363 \$10.50



DER MISSING HARMONISHMEN

from The Coastmen Communicator

Es ist nicht gut für das singen harmonishmen to missen das chorus rehearsal for der outgeisingen performances und competition contests. Der absenters maken der membershipen to lagen und dragen, und uppen die bloodenpressure of das arm-waven feller. Ist better kommen alle harmonishmen to singen in Barbershopper club und KEEPER DER WHOLE WORLD GESINGEN!



TO: All Pioneer District Quartets
FROM: Jim Stephens, DME
RE: Quartet and Coaching Clinic March 16-18



Now that the holiday's are behind us, it's time to think ahead and plan to attend the clinic in Ypsilanti this March. How about it, guys? Let's make this the best one yet! Here are some of the coaches that Dan LaBumbard has lined up.

- Bill Butler - The "Big Bear" has been coaxed out of retirement for this one. You won't want to miss this rare opportunity to work with this man.
- Tom Hines - An ex-Pioneer District member, currently singing with The Four Henchmen, Tom is looking forward to seeing old friends.
- Dave LaBar - The robust kid from Kenosha will be touring our district the week prior to the clinic and will stay over to add his expertise to our school.

Russ Foris (arrangement), Jan Muddle (interpretation), and Eric Jackson (the category specialist in interpretation) have also been invited. These plus other well-known "biggies" if the enrollment grows.

TOTAL COST for the school is only \$65 per man. (The lowest in the society, by the way) *** Fill out the application below and send it with your deposit right away. Pass the extra application on to another quartet.

REMEMBER, even if all your quartet can't attend, you are welcome as a coaching student. This gives you the opportunity to observe these great society coaches in action. A real learning experience, too.

* Registration *

P I O N E E R

* Registration *

QUARTET and COACHES CLINIC March 16-18

Quartet Name

Coaching Student Name

* ADDRESS

(Contact Man)

Number

Street

City

Zip

()
Phone

if Quartet

TENOR

LEAD

BARI

BASS

Coaching Students * * * Circle One Choice * * * SMOKING * * * NON-SMOKING * * *

Make checks or money orders payable to: "Pioneer District, SPEBSQSA"

TOTAL FEE: \$65 per man enclosed ☐

Minimum DEPOSIT: \$30 per man enclosed ☐
(balance due at check in desk)

NO REFUNDS AFTER MARCH 1, 1984

MAIL TO: Dan LaBumbard
1113 Greenwood
Jackson, MI 49203

Phone (517)-787-2347

HERE IT IS!

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 PONTIAC CHAPTER - #17

Rapid growth throughout Michigan resulted in 16 chapters by late 1942 including the Oakland County Chapter, which then met in Pontiac, but elected to move to southern Oakland County, because of the travel difficulty imposed by gasoline rationing.

Several members, residing in Pontiac and feeling stranded, decided to organize a local chapter and soon 20 men were signed to apply for a charter. The first set of officers was installed in the fire escape of the Book Cadillac Hotel, during a meeting of the Detroit Chapter, by Carroll P. Adams, then Society Secretary-Treasurer, who was one of Pontiac's Charter Members.

The first Chapter meeting was held in the Hotel Roosevelt, in Pontiac, on March 23, 1943, at which time the charter was officially presented, and Pontiac became the 17th Chapter in what was then the Michigan District. The meeting place was soon switched to the Top-Hat Club Rooms, on Wayne Street, and membership soon sprang to over 120. Later, the Chapter moved to the Metropolitan Club, on Perry Street, and that became the monthly gathering place for well over 100 members, many of whom are presently active.

The Pontiac Chapter has presented annually a "Parade of Quartets" for public attendance. The quality of these performances, in both talent and staging, has been widely acknowledged. Besides these regular annual shows, the Pontiac Chapter was host to the District Convention in October, 1950.

Many widely famous groups have appeared on Pontiac Parades. Some of the early quartets included the DOCTORS of HARMONY, the CONFEDERATES, the SCHMIDT BROTHERS, the MID-STATES FOUR, the BUFFALO BILLS, and, from the distaff side, the CRACKER JILLS, and the YANKEE MISSES, both International Sweet Adeline Champions. The CHORDETTES, of Arthur Godfrey Show fame also appeared on our stage. The presentation of the finest talent continues uninterrupted as the Chapter has also hosted THE CINCINNATI KIDS and BLUEGRASS STUDENT UNION.

The Pontiac Chapter is steeped in a rich heritage of things well done, the annual Parades, the monthly member meetings, and such special events as "Alumni Quartet Nite," the annual "Woodshed Contest," with its trophies and medals, the Family Pic-

nic, the fun-filled Ladies Nights, and many other memorable events. Pontiac has carried a high standing in fulfilling its responsibilities to all Area 3, and Pioneer District activities, as well as contributory efforts toward International Society projects.

Memory's embers of these events shall ever glow in the minds of those who participated, but the real flame of satisfaction will always burn in the breasts of those officers and committeemen who made it all possible by ceaseless dreaming, intensive planning, and constant effort. Ours is truly a rewarding hobby. Nowhere else on earth, can the pure joy of song expression, the tingling sensation of a "ringing" Chord, be the thrilling experience that it is here.

(from an article written by Bill Pascher in 1961.)



WHERE DID YESTERDAY GO?

by Bud Harvey

As curators of the so-called "Barbershop" seventh chord, our bag is nostalgia. We're peddling the sounds of yesterday. It's a long way from 28th Street in New York City's Manhattan to Third Avenue in Kenosha, Wisconsin -- especially if you go by way of Tulsa, Oklahoma. But, some day, musical archaeologists will track Tin Pan Alley from New York to Hollywood to Tulsa to Kenosha.

Tin Pan Alley didn't really die. It just packed up and moved. When the movies learned to talk and sing in the 1930's, all the talent fled to California on the Santa Fe Chief. But movie studios could grind out only a handful of musicals in any given year, which meant only a fistful of songs could be processed in this musical cannery. It created a musical vacuum filled with noise.

During WWII, while we were otherwise preoccupied with blowing apart Germans and incinerating Japanese, the barbarians stormed the gates and took over the ghost town that was Tin Pan Alley. And out of the post-war wreckage emerged a generation of unattractive, undisciplined, unhappy, unsanitary - and untalented musicians.

They all appeared to be able to afford \$500 Fender guitars and \$1500 worth of accoustical bric-a-brac, but could not afford a clean pair of pants and lived in terror of meeting a barber in a dark alley.

This was a generation which discovered sex and the major seventh chord, since most of them never learned to read and write and, for them, the world began the day they were born -- and when any of them mastered four chords on their electric noise machines, they were immediately hailed by their peers as musical geniuses. Then they knew it was time for about four or five of them to get together and form a combination so they could blow all the transformers in the community.

Their four-chord fugues became known to all as rock-and-roll, a musical art form which can be encountered at its ear-splitting worst in smokey and evil-smelling grottos called discotheques - that usually feature stopped-up plumbing as a measure for reducing the fire hazard. I ventured into one in San Francisco once (purely in the interest of academic research, you understand), and observed an interesting phenomenon. During one blessed musical intermission, a waiter dropped a tray of dishes and everyone got up and danced!

I doubt very much that a temple, such as Harmony Hall, ever will be raised to preserve the Sounds of the Sixties. Tomorrow, when today will become yesterday, somewhere a trumpet will raise its muted voice to be joined by a couple of dulcet saxaphones, and a whole new generation will then re-discover the pure joy of melody and harmony....and maybe four guys will get together in the lobby of the Muehlbach Hotel in Kansas City on a Sunday afternoon.

All the world is waiting for the sunrise!

(as seen in the SUNBURST)

As composed and arranged by Bill Hansen and sung by the "Quartet Chords"

TRY THIS TAG





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.)

Most International Champion quartets are also District Champions. The Evans Quartet is the only exception I know of. They earned second place in 1959 in the Far Western District and then won International the next summer. But how many quartets win two different district contests? One is the CLASSIC COLLECTION. They won both the Central States and Rocky Mountain District contests before earning the International Championship. If you haven't already, you should consider buying their records.

The first is "The Classic Collection: A Barbershop Album." It features the smooth, polished singing of Curt Hutchison, Larry Wilson, George Davidson and Terry Heltné. The twelve selections are, without exception, Barbershop. They include ballads, "When You Look in the Heart of a Rose," "Lil from Daffodil Hill," "Little Silver Lady,"— and uptunes — "Keep Your Eye on the Girlie You Love," a medley based on "Someone is Losin' Susan," and "There'll Be Some Changes Made."

The second album, released after the quartet earned their gold medals, is called — "The Classic Collection: A Barbershop Album, Volume II." As you might expect from an International Champion, this record reveals more of the quartet's personality. There are several favorite songs on this record: "Nobody Knows What a Redhead Mama Can Do," "Sweetheart of Sigma Chi," "Oh, You Beautiful Doll," "Can't You Hear Me Callin' Caroline," "Paper Doll," and that paean to melodies of bygone days, "The Old Songs Medley."

"The Old Songs Medley" is worth the price of the album by itself. It includes portions of nine different songs in addition to the medley. The advantage of approaching the songs in this way is that some of them may not be strong enough to stand alone. Many are, but this way the quartet gets to sing a portion of all the songs. The disadvantage is that some of the segments are short, paying lip-service only, but that seems outweighed to me. I like the natural way that the songs fit together. That speaks for the arranger first and for the quartet's execution second. The medley is the product of a man who loves the music and of a quartet that loves singing. These men seem to reflect the adage, "The Lord respects me when I work, but He loves me when I sing." (Maybe all

Barbershoppers believe that.)

One of the most attractive points of this set of two records is something you won't hear when you listen; it's the album cover of the second record. Modeled after Norman Rockwell's Saturday Evening Post quartet cover, it's a classic in itself. It should be framed and hung in every Barbershopper's living room. Who says Barbershoppers sing only?

Being a bit skeptical, perhaps you are now asking, "What's the catch here?" Let me assure you, there is none! These two albums are among the best Barbershop products available as examples of our art. The singing is excellent, the execution is smooth and effortless, almost reverential at times. They are records that could serve as arguments for the true artistry possible in Barbershopping. You won't be disappointed.

To order Album I or Album II, send \$8 for either album (\$15 for any two) and \$2 postage (Canadians add \$2) to: CLASSIC COLLECTION

7322 S. Ivanhoe Court
Englewood, CO 80112

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



In the Spring a Barbershopper's fancy turns to Boyne Country and the Boyne City Bush League Show and Quartet Contest SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1984

OFFICIAL ENTRY BLANK
39th ANNUAL BUSH LEAGUE CONTEST

May 5, 1984

Boyne City, Michigan

Quartet Name _____

Contact Man _____

Tenor _____ Lead _____

Baritone _____ Bass _____

Chapter Name _____

New Quartets and those not registered with International are welcome.

NO ENTRY FEE REQUIRED

Registration time 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. May 5, 1984

Boyne City Lanes



Entry deadline May 5, 1984
Program deadline April 21, 1984

Return to: Harold G. Mason
5117 Lake Grove Dr.
Petoskey, MI 49770

Postmarked April 21

We Get Letters



Dear Old Pal,

Well, here it is, spring convention time, and I was thinking about good friends and good times had at conventions past. I thought I'd drop a line and indulge myself to the extent of getting a little sentimental.

A touch of winter is still in the air, but here in my den it's cozy and comfortable. I'm sitting before a small open fire with my typewriter, sort of half-listening to one of our old quartet tapes and slowly sipping a nice, very-dry double Martini. I only wish you were here, but since you're not, the least I can do

is to toast your health and happiness so time out, old pal, while I bend my elbow to you.

I just took time out to mix another Martini, and while I was out in the kitchen I thought of all the time I would waste this evening if I went out to mix another drink every once in a while so I just made up a big pitcher of MARR Martinis and brought it back in with me so I'd have it right here beddime and would 't have to waste time making more of them. So now I'm all set and here goes. Besides Martinis are a great drink. For some reason they never seem to affect me in the slightest. I can drink 'em all day long. So here goes.

The greatest thing in the world is friendship. A believe me pal, you

are the greatest pal anybody ever had. Do you remember all the swill times we had in the old quartet? I'll never forget the time you put the itching powder in my quartet uniform. Boy how we all alughed after we got off stage in we. Ndrver did get all the itchoot of it. Boy is was pretty funny anywah. I still still laught about it once in while.

No as much as I used to. But wuh the heck! After all you stilmy bes id oak, and if a guy can't have a lugh on a good trou friend once in a while awht the heck.

Dar pitcher was empty so I just went out and ma dea nothyer one and i sure wisch you weere here ol pal to help me drink these marotonei bee cause they are 3 simply deliucious. Pardon me while i lif my flass to you good health oncemore because you are the bests pall I got. Of cours why a pal woulda think lick putting a itch power in nother pals costume is, do, ifi know. That was a lousy think for any boddly todo in a loy a frist class hele would di it. Wasn a dar bit funnye. Itll itches. And if you tnik it0s funny your a dirty lous as far as i'm conderned you can go plum to he&& and stay there you dirty lous.

To heck wity ouy.

Senzy



7 UP

1. If all the sleeping members would wake up,
2. And all the lukewarm members would fire up,
3. And all the disgruntled members would sweeten up,
4. And all the depressed members would look up,
5. And all the estranged members would make up,
6. And if all the critical members would dry up,
7. And all the delinquent members would pay up.....

What an effervescent, sparkling, refreshing chapter we would be!

(as seen in SEA NOTES)



ROOM RESERVATION FORM

1984 Spring Convention - April 27-28

HOTEL	RATES	
	Single	Double
Briarwood Hilton (Headquarters Hotel) State Street & I-94 Ann Arbor, MI 48104 Ph. (313) 761-7800	\$51.00	\$61.00

Knight's Inn 3764 State St. Ann Arbor, MI 48104 Ph. (313) 665-9900	\$24.00	\$27.00
---	---------	---------

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE # () _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____

DEPARTURE DATE _____

Check ONE: 2:00 p.m. ARRIVAL _____

GUARANTEED LATE ARRIVAL _____

GUARANTEED TO CREDIT CARD # _____

EXPIRATION DATE _____

TYPE OF CARD _____

If there is no Credit Card, please include a check in the amount of \$ _____ as deposit on your Guaranteed Reservation which will be applied to your first nights lodging.

Mail To: HAL THOMPSON
15252 Farmbrook
Plymouth, MI 48170
(313) 420-0855

All other hotel reservations are to be made by each individual. Reservations will only be taken until April 1, 1984.



PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

1984 Spring Convention - April 27-28
Pioneer High School, Ann Arbor, MI

(PLEASE TYPE or PRINT)

CHAPTER NAME _____

MEMBER NAME _____

WIFE'S NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Competing? YES _____ NO _____

Chorus Name _____

Quartet Name _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ For reservations at \$10 each until April 15, 1984, after which all registrations will be \$13 each.

Make checks payable to "SPEBSQSA Spring Convention." Refunds by written request ONLY to the Convention Chairman. No refunds after 2:00 on the Friday of convention weekend.

Send check and form to:

Mr. Paul Millis
14441 Hix
Livonia, MI 48154
Ph. (313) 464-3392



NEWS ABOUT QUARTETS.....

There'll be an opening at or near the top of the quartet ladder this year in St. Louis. The GRAND TRADITION, '78 FWD Champions, have announced their retirement after 5½ years together. Citing "changes in jobs, new homes, and starting families, we found it impossible to continue at the pace we were accustomed to as International Medalists." They were 10th in their first International in 1979, and thereafter, a consistent 4th in 1980, '82 AND '83.

Also hanging up the pitch-pipe are WELCOME CHANGE, '82 NED Champs, who had also been International Representatives in '83 and '83.

Problems in the Illinois District where the BENCHMARKS (21st in '83) have lost the services of Dave Boo, their bass, who is moving to New Jersey.

And problems also in Johnny Appleseed District -- HARMONY PARTNERS, after 6 years and 8 part changes, finally got it right and won the District Championship. Leo Sisk, tenor, was presented with his FOURTH quartet championship pin. Shortly thereafter, he was stricken with a heart attack. We understand Leo is now at home recuperating and we wish him well.

How many of you remember the WESTINGHOUSE QUARTET? They later became the CIRCLE W FOUR and, until their retirement in May of 1981, had provided 50 years of continuous singing and performing. Well, the lead and bass found they couldn't stay away, so they found a new bari and tenor and are back at it again, in and around the Pittsburgh area.

When bass, Jon deNeui, of BANKERS BOYS, (Cedar Rapids, IA) was hospitalized recently, the quartet didn't want to lose valuable rehearsal time so they simply moved the rehearsal to his hospital room - not just once but on three separate occasions. Now that's a dedicated quartet.

We've previously reported the winners of the District Contests. Now, looking a little further down the sheets, we find the CYPRESS CHORD CLUB from Polk County Chapter in the Sunshine District, finished third. Singing tenor for the Club was TONY DeROSA - 10 years old!

The TIN PAN ALLIES, from Illinois District, who had moved from 19th in '81 to 12th in '83, have disbanded.

The PROS 'N' CONS (Freddie King, et al), current MAD Quartet Champions, are hosting a trip to England leaving July 14, 1984.

And on the home scene, only NON-

RENEWALS to report this month:

GOOD COMPANY
MUTUAL ACCORD
PREMIUM BLEND

and, the three-time International representative, SOUNDS AROUND.

NEWS ABOUT CHORUSES . . .

Of the 16 choruses headed for St Louis this summer, 9 are returning from last year, including 3 Medalists (Scarborough, Houston and Lombard). The Columbus Buckeye Chorus, representing JAD, was last seen at Salt Lake City (1980). The Dixie District Representative, Research Triangle Park, is returning to the competition stage after a voluntary hiatus of a year. The Louisville Thoroughbreds will be prospecting for their 7th Gold Medal, and, of course, our Wayne Wonderland bunch is back after representing the District in '79 and '80.

A STRONG NEW FORCE this year will be the MAD entry from Manhattan, NY - the Big Apple Chorus, who beat out two past medalists - Alexandria (2nd in '79 AND '80, 3rd in '82 and 6th in '83) and the Pine Barons (5th in '81).

The Heart of America Chorus, from Kansas City (CSD), won its 6th consecutive trip to International and promptly lost the Director, Jim Bagby, who had directed them for 10 years. They're fortunate to have had Steve Leone as Assistant Director and he stepped right in. Jim will now be able to devote more time to the Rural Route Four (bari) who have acquired a new tenor, Don Kahl. I don't know what this means so far as Harmony Spectrum goes (26th in '82). You may recall that two of the RR4 were singing in that quartet, also.

The Whittier, CAL Choralaires put up a heck of a battle last Fall, but lost by a few points to the Fresno Gold Note Chorus to represent FWD. If size means anything, Whittier is the odds-on favorite to win this Fall. They have just become the largest chapter in the Society with over 200 members.

Obviously, the crowning of a District Small Chorus Champion makes very few waves outside that district but here is one that might interest you from the Evergreen District. The Fort Vancouver Columbianaires, a small but dynamic chapter chorus, won the championship out of a group of 29 "possibles." Their director... Barrie Best.

FINE TRADITIONS MAINTAINED BY THE TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION - 1983 CHAMPS.

Our current District Quartet Champions, the Tri-County Connection, are not only carrying on some of the fine traditions established by past champions, they are establishing some of their own. They are trying very hard to visit as many Chapters

as they can as well as singing for as many shut-ins as possible. Their latest gift was to a Barbershopper of many years, RALPH SCHIRMER. He is a Past President of the Detroit #1 Chapter. In fact, for many years, he furnished the Chapter with a meeting place in his building on Fenkell, in Detroit. Ralph is now on the road to recovery from a very serious illness, and he was extremely happy and honored by a visit from our Champs. They are: Rick Sims, tenor; Mike Dixon, lead; Mike Woodruff, bari; and Tom Conway, bass.. He had his wife, son and daughter with him and the evening seemed to give him quite a lift, especially when he got to sing a song with the champs. At Ralph's insistence, they must have sung at least 20 songs.



I want to offer my thanks and take my hat off to a mighty-fine quartet, that gave up another evening in a very busy schedule, to make someone happy.

Keep an eye on this quartet of fine, young men. They have some fine pipes and great ears, and, if circumstances of education and employment go right, someday in the future they could be wearing the gold.

Bill Butler

Exercises in Futility?

Do you want to burn up some calories by engaging in a strenuous work-out that does not require physical exertion? Here's some calorie-burning activities and the number of calories per hour they consume:

Beating around the bush.....	75
Climbing the walls.....	150
Passing the buck.....	25
Dragging your heels.....	100
Pushing your luck.....	250
Hitting the nail on the head.....	50
Bending over backwards.....	75
Balancing the books.....	23
Eating crow.....	225
Climbing the ladder of success...	750
Adding fuel to the fire.....	150
Jumping to conclusions.....	100
Swallowing your pride.....	50
Throwing your weight around	50-300
(depending on your weight)	
Making mountains from molehills..	500
Wading through paperwork.....	300
Jumping on the bandwagon.....	200
Running around in circles.....	350
Tooting your own horn.....	25
Pulling out all the stops.....	75
Wrapping it up at day's end.....	12

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FEBRUARY, 1984

- 10-11 Oakland County Chapter Show
- 11-12 Monroe Chapter Show
- 18 Lansing Chapter Show
- 25 Clinton Valley Chapter Show

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

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

MAY

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

JUNE

- 16 Traverse City 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.

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