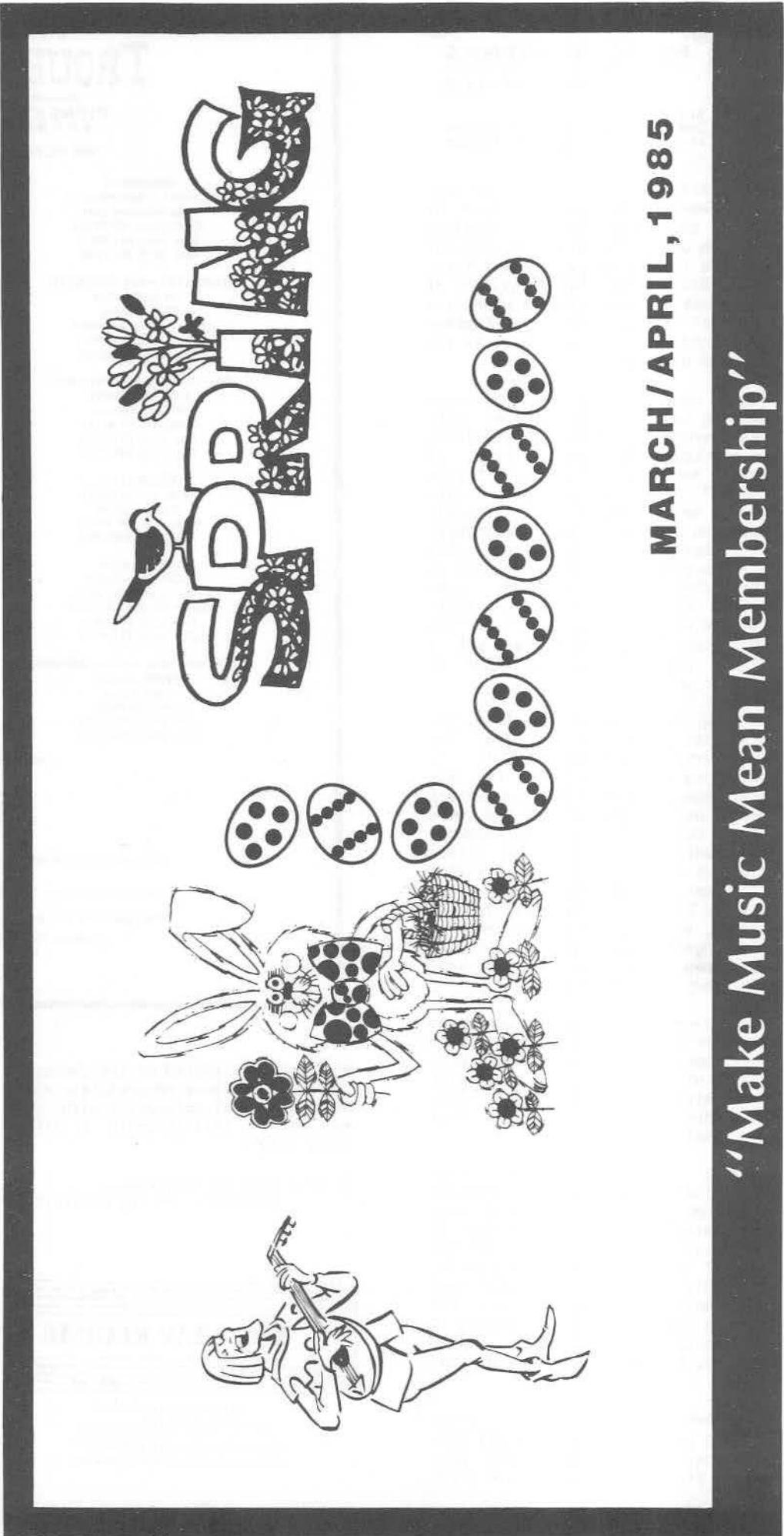




pioneer
TROUBADOUR



“Make Music Mean Membership”



INSTITUTE OF LOGOPEDICS

...MORE THAN TALK

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

Say! Did you folks read the January/February Harmonizer on page 31 where the Logopedics contributions through October totalled \$9,005.00? Did you look at the other districts, too? Did you feel a funny kind of "kerplunk" in your stomach when you read it? Well..., something happened, and it happened all over the Pioneer District.

People were reading, thinking, responding and caring as well as making a wreck out of the guy who looks after Logopedics around here. If anyone had predicted such a "barn-burner" of a finish could take place, no one would have listened! But, no one said anything anyway! But, what you guys DID! You just put the pedal down and flashed on to the HIGHEST TOTAL we have ever raised here in the Pioneer, a blazing \$18,887.90. Now, what do you think about that? Does that put a little nip in your nightcap? It should!

As you were barreling along, you also set a few new standards for our thirty-three chapters will be receiving awards for 1984 (a few years ago the Bronze and the Silver Awards were initiated, and now there is the Gold). That's right! Twenty-one Bronze Chapters and four Silver Chapters graced our Pioneer District last year. Better than that, every Chapter but one participated in the effort, and that's a new record and real togetherness. (Had that chapter known all this was going to happen, they would have too.)

Well friends and neighbors, where do we go from here? How do we maintain this momentum and enthusiasm? What keeps us continually involved with this natural (for us) Unified Service Project? Why... "We Sing That They Shall Speak!"

Answer: They keep coming! Those kids that have monumental problems that they didn't ask for, just keep on coming. Many can be helped in the areas that they live in with the medical expertise expanding daily. But sadly, many need top drawer help that only a facility like ours can give to them, and we are helping to provide that care and help. Consequently, we can NEVER rest on our oars!

Now, then elsewhere in this organ will be printed a resume of all contributing chapters and their per-capita figures. Chapters are list-

Pioneer TROUBADOUR

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



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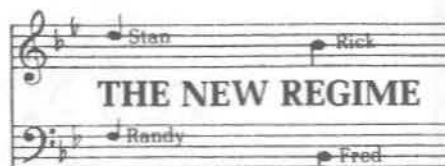
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Berkley, MI 48072

ed as they appeared on the computer print-out. Please congratulate each other on a real colossal finish and end result. This is truly a first class effort.

It only goes to show you...
together, we are something!



1982 Johnny Applesseed
District Quartet Champions
Contact: Fred Schaefer (419) 893-5377
418 Harris Court • Maumee, OH 43537

TROUBADOUR DEADLINES

Issue	Info to Editor by
Jan - Feb	Dec 15
Mar - Apr	Feb 15
May - Jun	Apr 15
Jul - Aug	Jun 15
Sep - Oct	Aug 15
Nov - Dec	Oct 15



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2/3 Page.... 50. 1/3 Page.... 35.
1/4 Page.... 30. 1/6 Page.... 25.
Quartet Card = \$10 @ - \$40 per year.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



WE'RE ON A ROLL IN PIONEER!!

It looks like 1985 is starting out to be a great year for Pioneer with a lot of events scheduled, and more to come.

On March 15 and 16 the Split Chorus and Quartet Coaching Sessions took place at Ypsilanti in the eastern part of the District and in Grand Rapids in the western part. This was a splendid opportunity for our choruses and quartets to take advantage of some fantastic coaching for the upcoming contests without having to drive such long distances. We will have more on this in our next issue.

Of course our International Quartet Preliminary Contest and District Chorus Contest will be held at Warren Fitzgerald High School in Warren April 26 and 27. This convention will be hosted by the Grosse Pointe Chapter. The District Board Meeting and the House of Delegates Meeting will be held at the Midway Motor Inn on Friday and Saturday respectively. I'm hoping that the representation from the chapters will be much better than we had at the Fall Convention. Chapter Presidents, let's make it a point now to have your chapter represented at the House of Delegates Meeting and your chorus to be in the District Chorus Competition.

July 27 is the date set for the Pioneer District "Spectacular", showcasing our three representative quartets and our top choruses. This event will take place at the Macomb College Center for the Performing Arts in Warren, Michigan. I would like to point out that this is not a Logopedics Event, but is an attempt to purchase needed new equipment for the District, WITHOUT HAVING TO RESORT TO RAISING THE DISTRICT DUES. At the present time, our Troubadour editor needs updated word processing equipment, our District Secretary needs a new typewriter, and we need to purchase audio-visual equipment and risers for the District quartet and chorus contests. Hopefully, the proceeds from this event will cover the necessary items. Your support of this District function is essential if we are to provide the support for the members of the District in the future.

I know the weather has been quite inclement the past month, but I see by the many activity reports I have been receiving that our District officers and Area Counselors have been quite busy visiting your chapters. This is needed, and if your chapter hasn't had a visitation as yet, I'm sure you will have in the near future. Our officers and Area Counselors are there to help you, and if you have any need, don't hesitate to ask.

It looks as if "yours truly" will be retiring from good old General Motors soon, and it is my intention to try to visit every chapter in the District this year. In this way I can discuss your problems with you on a one-to-one basis, and I can really get an overall personal opinion on what's going on, what the problems are, what are your future needs, etc. I'm really looking forward to it.

Sing-cereely,

Bob

BARBERSHOP HARMONY IS RATED



From the Editor



WHOOPEE!

Greetings! Here we are finally in Spring! Unfortunately, here in the North Country we still have plenty of Santa's dandruff on the ground. Very soon chapters here in our District will be visited by me and my camera. Hopefully we will have more visual art in your District publication. If you have a favorite photo of a District event, send it northward with a stamped self-addressed envelope to:

Bill Tobias
P.O. Box #969
Cadillac, MI 49601

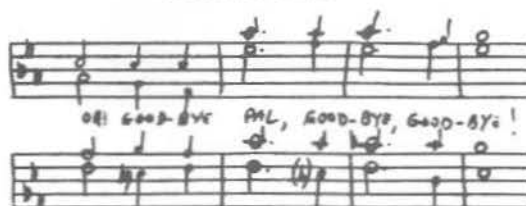
SHOULD I QUESTION ALL INFORMATION?

I received phone calls from all corners of the District about an article in my first issue of this publication. The acts presented came as a result of a conversation by phone with the closest friend of the man to whose memory the issue was dedicated. Having been involved in Bar-

bershopping for just over six years, I sometimes believe those who have been with our hobby longer. Especially when ample time has been given to verify information. My sincerest apologies if anyone was offended by the mis-information.

Gene Weston was a friend and also a dedicated Barbershopper, his loss is going to be felt for a long time to come. I strongly feel that an updated rewritten article would not be necessary as we should all be primarily concerned with moving forward.

GOODBYE PAL



PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS!

Since the January-February issue my family is now together in the north country. Mail sent to the Rockford mailing address took over two weeks to find its way to me and this issue. Please do not use any address other than what appears in the lead section of this article. Lord willing, there will not be any more delays in the issues to come. As always, your patience and understanding is greatly appreciated.

WHAT IS HAPPENING?

I've recently had the opportunity to talk with the President of the Port Huron Chapter only to find out that they will soon be without a director to lead the men in song. This fate is currently being shared by Detroit #1. In fact, there used to be a strong Barbershop chorus here in Cadillac until their director got a transfer and the chorus disbanded.

How wonderful it would be if every chorus took the lead from the Louisville Thoroughbreds. They were especially awesome in Detroit at Cobo Hall in 1981 when they used three or more assistant directors in one of the numbers that earned the gold. By sticking with just one director you are all asking for trouble. Where would our Tigers have been last year with only one pitcher?

I would like to petition our new administration to ask that each chapter in our District send a minimum of two members to be trained as assistant directors when the schools are again offered. With an obvious shortage of trained directors, our glorious hobby may be doomed to fail if this encouragement is not offered.

Bill Tobias

OUR 1985 DIST



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President



Jim Gougeon
Immediate Past
President



Earl Berry
Executive Vice-
President



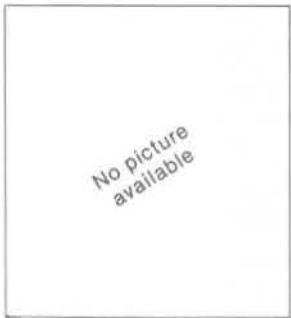
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Hall of Fame



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Hall of Fame

LOGOPEDICS HONOR ROLL

THE GOLDEN OLDIES "WIN!"

The Great Lakes Express Travelling Trophy, awarded each year for the top donation to Logopedics by Pioneer quartets, was claimed for 1984 by these gentlemen of song. In doing so, they've set a new level for contributions for their generous \$1,000 donation. These four members of the Great Lakes Chorus have been together without a change for the last four years. They will be accepting their trophy before an appreciative audience at the Spring Convention.

A total of twelve quartets responded to our yearly call to help those unfortunate children at the Institute. Each group deserves a separate and sincere thank you. Total quartet dollars for 1984 came to \$2,505.55. The quartets are listed alphabetically with their annual contribution.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| 1. CHORD VENDORS | \$50.00 |
| 2. CHORDWOOD RING | \$10.00 |
| 3. FURNITURE CITY CHORD CO. | \$190.00 |
| 4. GOLDEN OLDIES | \$1,000.00 |
| 5. LATTER DAY SAINTS | \$20.00 |
| 6. NIFTY 50'S | \$200.00 |
| 7. OAKLAND COUNTS | \$100.00 |
| 8. SATURDAY NIGHT FEATURE | \$150.00 |
| 9. SOUND AMBASSADORS | \$611.55 |
| 10. TODAY'S SPECIAL | \$25.00 |
| 11. TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION | \$100.00 |
| 12. VERY IDEA | \$50.00 |

Proudly submitted by,

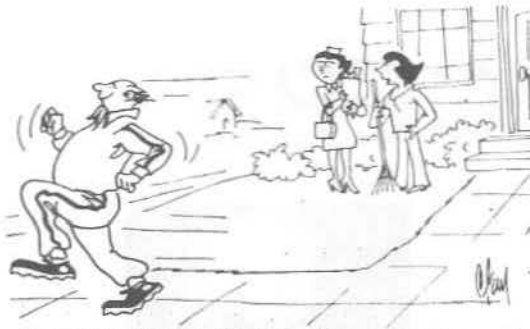
Al Fricker

**How to get rid of our Chapter President!
(In Five Easy Steps)**

There are five easy methods for disposing of the Chapter president. They are all related and so simple that you will wonder why you didn't think of them before. You may have tried one or two previously; however, it's much more effective if you try them all at once:

- 1) Look him in the eye when he opens a chapter meeting and remain attentive throughout. He'll surely have a stroke.
- 2) Pat him on the back and brag about his good points. He'll work himself to death.
- 3) Be prompt and regularly attend all Chapter functions. He'll worry himself into an ulcer.
- 4) Dedicate yourself to Chorus, Chapter and the society. Ask him to give you a job to do. This is a good one; the strain may be too much for him.
- 5) Plot to have all members use their talents. He'll be judged so effective that the District will take him off your hands!

(From the Harmonizer, 1962, Stu Vaughn)



"I can always tell when spring is here. My sap starts running..."

How about the Burmese gentleman who lost his false teeth on a rafting trip in the jungle? He spent the rest of his vacation hunting for his bridge on the River Kwai.

THE PIONEER DISTRICT
LOGOPEDICS
HONOR ROLL AND SCOREBOARD

CHAPTER	AWARD	MBRS	PER CAP
Westland	B	21	12.38
Swan Valley	B	30	11.50
Benton Harbor	B	39	14.12
Boyne City		30	6.66
Au Sable		18	0.55
Detroit		93	1.61
Coldwater	B	14	15.03
Port Huron	B	38	11.39
Grand Rapids	B	110	19.38
Gratiot County	B	42	12.92
Grosse Pointe	B	88	15.84
Alpena	B	21	10.71
Holland	B	29	11.89
Jackson		33	6.63
Kalamazoo	S	34	29.71
Lansing	B	55	12.53
Clinton Valley	B	28	18.40
Livingston Cty.		14	5.35
Milford	B	26	16.57
Muskegon	B	35	14.99
Oakland Cty.	B	87	14.91
Pontiac	S	16	25.00
Saginaw	B	28	11.24
St. Jos. Valley	B	16	19.49
Traverse City	S	25	25.40
Wayne	S	99	26.51
Battle Creek	B	43	15.38
Flint	B	48	11.05
Windsor	B	44	11.36
Sault Ste. Marie		41	3.65
Monroe		50	2.62
Huron Valley	B	55	11.30

The 1984 Pioneer District membership was recorded at 1,333. The average across the District was \$14.17/man, higher than any previous year. We should be proud of our growth and be eager to reach new heights. Thank you!

Al Fricker

LET'S ALL SING LIKE THE BIRDIES SING

by Bob Balderson

The singing voice can be thought of as made up of two groups of tones called "registers," which are an important part of the technical thinking process associated with singing. The lower (or chest) register (or voice) and the upper (or head) register are the two groups of tones that must be blended together as a single vocal unit for the most effective voice quality and versatility.

The chest register is more familiar to us because it is used for everyday speech and is more fully developed. Baritones and basses generally rely on this register exclusively, but with limited effectiveness. This register gives the voice its fullness, power and richness.

The upper register, or head tone, is often referred to as falsetto and usually lacks proper development in the average singer. True, this register is most important for the leads and tenors, but let not the baris forget the "G" in the tag of "Sally!" The head voice provides brilliance and ring associated with lyric singing. When properly developed, the head voice allows baris and leads to sing quality E's, F's and G's without straining and stridency - and the tenors to sing ALL their notes that way.

We must strive, then, to develop the neglected head voice and blend the two registers together, both in quality and action, to function as a single vocal unit throughout the complete vocal range. Developing strength in the upper register will make singing easier (especially the high ones) and more beautiful.

Why are we working on falsetto? Because it will improve our singing and help to make us International Champions.

(from THE ECHO, Wilbur Sparks, Ed.)

Why English is so hard

We'll begin with a box, and the plural is boxes;
But the plural of ox should be oxen, not oxes.
Then one fowl is goose, but two are called geese;
Yet the plural of moose should never be meese.
You may find a lone mouse or a whole lot of mice
But the plural of house is houses, not hicc.
If the plural of man is always called men,
Why shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen?
Then one may be that, and three may be those,
Yet the plural of hat would never be hose;
We speak of a brother, and also of brethren,
But though we say mother, we never say methren.
The masculine pronouns are he, his and him,
But imagine the feminine she, this, and shim!
So our English, I think you will all agree,
Is the trickiest language you ever did see.

—Snatched from the "Rebel Rouser"

SPRING CONVENTION -- APRIL 26-28
WARREN, MICHIGAN (Just north of Detroit)

Grosse Pointe Chapter's Convention Committee, headed by Harvey Burr, is busily working, at this writing (mid-January), on the final details for spring convention.

The place: Fitzgerald High School, 23200 Ryan Road (at 9 Mile Road).

Headquarters: Midway Motor Lodge, 31800 VanDyke (M-53), between 13 and 14 Mile Roads: Rooms also available at nearby Holiday Inn and Knights Inn.

For those who might like to explore the Warren Detroit scene, a list of area attractions will be available at the registration desk -- places like the General Motors Tech Center, Greenfield Village, Premier Center, Detroit Zoo, Tiger Stadium, and many others. Especially for the ladies, two outstanding shopping centers, Lakeside Mall and Oakland Mall, are both within ten minutes of our motels. Also available will be an extensive list of nearby restaurants, from fast-food to luxury, a supply of area maps, and a list of churches.

A convention registration and hotel reservation form is included in this issue of the Troubadour. Motel reservations must be made by March 25, after which the motel room commitments will expire.

Single-event tickets will be available for your non-barbershopper friends who might like to experience the thrill of a genuine SPEBSQSA contest. Information regarding them will be available at the registration desk.

CONTACT: Bill Lane
1451 Oxford Road
Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan 48236
(313) 884-2333



1985 SPRING CONVENTION -- PIONEER DISTRICT
WARREN, MICHIGAN
APRIL 26-28, 1985



HOSTED BY GROSSE POINTE CHAPTER
at
FITZGERALD HIGH SCHOOL, 23200 Ryan Road at 9 Mile Road

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Chapter Name: _____
Member Name: _____ Wife: _____
Address: _____
Zip: _____
Tenor _____ Lead _____ Baritone _____ Bass _____

Chorus and/or Quartet Name: _____
Fee Enclosed \$ _____ (\$10.00 per person). After April 12, fee is \$13.00 per person. Refunds ONLY by written request to Convention Chairman before noon, April 26.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.
MAIL TO: JOHN COLLINS, 26213 SAN ROSA DRIVE
ST. CLAIR SHORES, MICHIGAN 48081

HOTEL/MOTEL RESERVATION

MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 25, 1985, MAIL TO:
BOB RANCILIO, 18045 TOEPFER
EAST DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48021

INDICATE 1ST, 2ND AND 3RD CHOICES - CIRCLE ROOM PRICE:
HOTEL/MOTEL

___ *MIDWAY MOTOR LODGE (1 to 4 persons)			
	<u>POOLSIDE</u>	<u>WING SECTION</u>	
	\$65	\$60	
	(1 person)	(2 persons-1 bed)	(2 persons-2 beds)
___ HOLIDAY INN	\$50	\$57	\$57
___ KNIGHTS INN	\$27	\$32.50	\$33.50

NAMES OF OCCUPANTS: _____
ARRIVAL DATE AND TIME: _____ DEPARTURE DATE: _____
CREDIT CARD NO. AND TYPE: _____ PHONE NO.: _____
HOTEL SHOULD CONFIRM TO: _____

[ONE RESERVATION FORM PER ROOM]

*Headquarters Hotel
FOR HOSPITALITY ROOMS:
CONTACT MOTEL DIRECT.



(NAME) _____
(ADDRESS) _____
(ZIP) _____

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT



BATTLE CREEK

As I mail in this report to editor Bill, the snow is "5 feet high and rising." White is no longer my favorite color. Right now we're longing for the sound of the robin's "sweet pitch", the appearance of the first crocus and the blossoming of the lilacs: for the sign of Spring means it is showtime and contest time for the CEREAL CITY CHORUS.

The Battle Creek Chapter will be holding it's 30th Annual Nite of Harmony on May 4 at W.K. Kellogg Auditorium. They will be singing some past "hits" from previous shows in "Reflections of Yesteryear." Headline quartets will be International Silver Medalists, CENTER STAGE, and the fine singing comedy quartet, THE TOUCH OF CLASH.

Also the chorus has immediate plans to improve on last spring's seventh place finish at "Ypsi" when we invade the City of Warren for the 1985 Spring District Contest. The men are even confident that First Place might even be within their grasp. Last year we didn't realize that SP meant Stage Presence and not Scared Participants. But now that we have gotten back on the contest trail again we're going to smile, sell and charm those judges.

To make this goal attainable, the C. C. Chorus has been seeking the help of chorus experts for the past several months. Late last Fall we drove up to Lansing to listen to the instruction of International's Bob Mucha in the fine art of choral singing. In January we had Bert Szabo as our guest for a weekend giving us his expertise and suggestions for chorus improvement. In mid-March we plan to host Tom Gentry at our chapter meeting night; open to area chapters. With a hope of absorbing just a few of the great suggestions made to us by these men of music, the chorus now feels more confident and ready as we prepare for the challenges and performances that await us.

Despite Mother Nature's nastiness and the medical infirmities invading our membership of late, the chapter has gotten off to a busy start for 85. Immediate Past International President, John Gillespie, installed our officers for the new year at our Installation Dinner. Dean Burrill has been elected chapter President. Also in January, we held another excellent Guest Night (22 guests). Besides the Burt Szabo weekend previously mentioned, we held a Valentine Dinner for wives and guests. With the thought in mind that an active chapter is a happy chapter (or vice-versa), 1985's planned singing schedule so far should keep our members out of mischief.

A belated thanks to "retired" Troubadour editor, Rusty Ruegsegger for his efforts on our District newsletter. And a Cereal City welcome to Bill Tobias, new Troub. editor, who has done such a great job as editor for the Grand Rapids Chapter bulletin, the 4-CAST.

Until next time, hope to see all of you in Warren...come rain, sleet or snow!

Ben Jerzyk
Chapter Secretary

GRAND RAPIDS

Hello from the Furniture City, the Great Lakes Chorus and the Grand Rapids Chapter. It has been some time since you have heard from us due in part to our former bulletin editor deserting us because of his job, or so he said. I can take a certain amount of pride, however, in that he is now editor of the Troubadour and put out one fine issue the first time out. Keep up the good work Bill!

Most of you have heard by now that we have had a change of directors in Grand Rapids. We lost a capable and learned man in Bob Buffham to job pressures, but feel very fortunate to have acquired the services of Fran (IBM) Jones as our new Musical Director. Fran has stepped in and taken over where Bob left off and we hardly missed a beat. Excitement, fun, good singing, quartet activity, craft and variety are just some of the catchwords being used to describe a typical chapter meeting in Grand Rapids. We would like to invite any and all who may pass thru our fair city and be our guest (any Tuesday night at the Masonic Temple, Lafayette and Fulton near the heart of downtown Grand Rapids at 7:30pm).

As usual, February finds the chapter deep in preparation for the 42nd annual Great Lakes Invitational. Headlining will be the 139TH STREET QUARTET and the TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION. Our own TOUCH OF CLASH will be featured as well.

We were invited to be guests of the Grand Rapids Symphonic Band for their annual Valentines program. We were featured doing a number of popular Barbershop songs and then we later joined the band and performed a medley arranged for chorus and band put together by our International staff in Kenosha. We feel strongly that this type of program reaches many in our community who've had very little exposure to the Barbershop style of music.

We will not be competing this Spring as we are not eligible but we wish to extend our best wishes to all of those who are. Many of us will be at the convention and look forward to singing a tag or two with our friends from around the District.

Mike O'Donnell

LANSING CHAPTER NEWS

The Lansing Chapter opened the new year on a vigorous note by inducting new officers, led by President Mike Cirrito, and bowing under the direction of a new Music Director, Peter Brown, who has taken over for Ken Gibson. Lansing is sorry to lose the leadership of Ken Gibson, who is nonetheless remaining active in the chapter. We are also looking forward to learning with Peter Brown, who has his degree in Music from Albion College. Despite the change in directors, we expect to join in the District Convention in April.

We are presently in the throes of preparation for our annual show, on Saturday, March 23, at the Wharton Center on the Michigan State University campus. Our Music Committee has selected the theme, "What A Country," and the chorus will feature a variety of patriotic songs which, not coincidentally, match the colors of our new red, white and blue uniforms.

The show will also feature a parade of our chapter quartets--the PATCH CHORDS, COLLECTOR'S CHOICE, CAPITOL CLASSICS, HARMONY SEEKERS, and 'FA-THER'S FOUR'---plus special appearances by 1975 International Champions THE HAPPINESS EMPORIUM, and 1983 and 1984 International Finalists, the INTERSTATE RIVALS.

The Capitol City Chordsmen are hoping to see many familiar faces at their show. We'd also be happy to see visitors at any of our regular chapter meetings, Tuesday evenings from 7:45 to 10 pm at King Arthur's Court, corner of State and Wood Roads in Lansing.

Steve Tchudi



"My advice to you, Hassid, is to knock off the lullabies."

First, we of the Muskegon Chapter would like to congratulate Bob McDermott on his election to the Presidency of the Pioneer District. We hope he will find it rewarding, and we know he has a great many Barber-shopping friends to help him along the way. Second, we'd like to offer similar wishes of goodwill to Bill Tobias, who takes over as editor of the Troubadour...even though this is the first time I've been late with my report. (I blamed it on the snow which kept us hemmed in for three days!) Of course, Rusty Ruegsegger always did a superb job with our District publication, and I'm going to keep in touch with him just for sentimental reasons.

The Muskegon Chapter, since last we wrote, the chorus rehearsals have been moved temporarily from the community college to the Dr. Martin Luther Church, 1860 East Hile Road... still on Thursday night, but at 7:45 instead of 8:00 pm. If in doubt about location, and you are in town, phone Alan Coombs (744-3261) or Rick Baughman (788-2574).

Of course, the chapter has enjoyed its presentations of the usual Christmas caroling programs, and another Auditions for Admissions at the Muskegon Mall. We had planned to sing a "Valentine's Concert" for a store in the mall, but snow caved in the roof before we got there! We also elected new officers and a Board. Our new President, Herb Radala, is about as enthusiastic as a Barbershopper can get, and we are pleased that he has been able to accept this responsibility.

As are other choruses, the Shoreline Chorus is preparing to enter the April contest in Warren, and our committees are hard at work preparing our annual show on May 11th. We have also received the good news that our Muskegon Chapter has again placed first in the Achievement Award Competition. Our one-word slogan during 1984 was "PRIDE", and I think that we have every right to be proud of our achievements. Everyone has worked hard to make it happen, and with Herb Radala at our helm, our members will continue to move forward.

Finally, as is my custom, I try to include some educational material in my column...that is, I try. Well, as many of you know, March 23, 1985, was the birthdate of Johann Sebastian Bach---300th Anniversary. Now, Barbershoppers don't sing much Bach, and our arrangements are filled with parallel fifths, but we Barbershoppers owe J.S. a vote of thanks anyhow. He pulled together the systems of chord structures that made our modern system of harmonic theory possible.

In addition, Bach was a great humorist, and I can't begin to tell you about some of the pranks he played on his choir members and instrumentalists. While working at Mulhausen (Germany), he invited Maria Barbara Bach to sing for him; her posture was si perfect that he married her. ("That was no cousin," he said, "that was my wife!") To prove it, they had seven children. Part of his salary was 54 bushels of corn; they needed children to help eat it. Later, Bach married again and had 13 more children.

Finally, the corn ran out and Bach moved to Leipzig where he wrote the "Coffee Cantata." King Frederick tried to get the people to drink beer instead of coffee (he owned the brewery). He also said that coffee caused infertility in women, but Bach knew better! Today, we recall his famous words, "Coffee and music are very much alike; they can be enjoyed by either sex--instead of!"

Have a good 1985...and think about Bach.

Webb Scrivnor



EDITORIAL

Why Do We Do It?

What is the force that compels certain Barbershoppers to accept responsible duties in our society of fun-seeking singers? Why do many of these same men keep so deeply involved in the organization and operation of this activity that we call a hobby?

Why? Well, the answers can be varied as the jobs and duties, but I choose to think that it's LOVE--the affection based on admiration, benevolence and common interests.

Each of us has a little "ham" inside of us. We LIKE to see our shadow on the stage, we ENJOY the look of wonderment on the faces of our audience, and we LOVE the appreciative applause. We SHARE these joys with one another, whether it be quartet or chorus, for we KNOW that we all had a part in this accomplishment.

How BIG a part? Naturally, some have to be leaders, some have to keep records, and some contribute their talents in numerous other ways. No task is too small that it is unimportant, because each little effort accumulates in the pool of collective enjoyment.

But what are the rewards? If we're looking for profit in dollars and cents, we won't find it. More likely, we'll be out-of-pocket for an accrual of incidental expenses. Instead, our rewards are reflected in the eyes of our peers, in their expressions of appreciation, and in the feeling of pride in our common bond of brotherhood.

Sure we get medals and certificates and awards of all kinds. We get a pat on the back, a handshake, and a word of encouragement. But the greatest reward of all is the inner glow provided by the sense of accomplishment, as we do our very best to fulfill the expectations that others place on us.

If you've not yet experienced these feelings of involvement, the opportunity is yours! Step forward--volunteer your help--be part of the busy brotherhood of Barbershoppers, your rewards will come in many forms!

Wm. P. Pascher

NEW CHAPTER ABSENTEE POLICY



SICKNESS: No excuse. We will no longer accept your doctor's statement as proof, as we believe that if you are able to go to the doctor, you are able to come to rehearsal.



LEAVE OF ABSENCE (for an operation): We are no longer allowing this practice. We wish to discourage any thought you may have about needing an operation. We believe that, as long as you are a member of this chapter, you will need all of whatever you have and should not

consider having anything removed. We accepted your membership as you are, and to have anything removed would certainly make you less than we bargained for.



REST ROOM PRIVILEGES: Too much rehearsal time is being lost because of people going to the bathroom. In the future, we will follow the practice of going to the rest room in alphabetical order. For instance, those whose names begin with "A"

will go from 7:30 to 7:35. "B" will go from 7:35 to 7:40, and so on. If you are unable to go at your time, it will be necessary to wait until the following week when your turn comes again.



DEATH (your own): This will be accepted as an excuse, but we would like a two-week notice, as we feel it is your duty to get a new member and teach him your part before you die.

- the North Shore Chapter of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.

(from the Champaign-Urbana Chapter C.-U. ReCHORDer. APRIL FOOL!)

THE BARBER POLE-
-AN ENDANGERED SPECIES

by Lee Davis
Red Rose Rag

The familiar barber pole, centerpiece of our Society emblem, may be in danger of extinction as a tradesmen's sign of business. Although there appears to still be many barber poles in use throughout the countryside to offer immediate and positive identification of those who cut and coiffure, there are fewer barber poles in actual use each year as small barbershops discontinue their business and the poles are relegated to the junk pile or a collector's den.

William Marvy, the only barber pole manufacturer left in the United States, says he doesn't get too many orders for new poles today, either. The 73 year old sole survivor of the pole business states that most of his business today is in the restoration trade. In an interview Marvy gave to Collectibles Illustrated magazine, Marvy says he thinks he can claim some of the credit for keeping the tradition of the easily recognizable universal symbol of the barbers alive, since his shop, located in St. Paul, Minn., has produced 68,000 barber poles since its founding in 1950. But when William Marvy stops production, what will become of the future of the pole manufacturing business? Perhaps nobody will keep the trade alive, and the pole we all grew up with and have taken for granted will rapidly become a memory like most of the other mercantile signs.

Mr. Marvy pointed out that not too many years ago the optometrist was identifiable by the pair of eyeglasses that hung in front of his establishment; the druggist by a mortar and pestle; the blacksmith by an anvil or horseshoe; the watchmaker by a big clock; and the cobbler by a big boot. "The barber pole is the last universal symbol," stated Mr. Marvy.

The origins of barbers using poles to mark their place of business are not clear, but it is known that many poles date back to the early 18th century when barbers practiced minor surgery...particularly bloodletting and leeching. In fact, it is speculated that the red on the barber pole symbolizes blood, and the white stripe, clean bandages. The spiral pattern is supposed to be derived from the way blood-soaked bandages would twist around the pole when they were hung out to dry. Some theorize that American barbers added a blue stripe as a patriotic gesture, but a counter theory discounts that idea because English barbers used

blue stripe as a patriotic gesture, but a counter theory discounts that idea because English barbers used blue and white poles, so according to that school of thought the blue stripe was not an American addition/invention.

"The cup at the base of the pole is thought to represent either the basin used to catch the patients' blood or the bowl in which the barber kept his leeches." 1

If you look closely at our Society emblem, you will notice that the stripes are only in red and white, with no blue. This appears to be how many of the older barber poles were painted, although apparently the presence or absence of the blue stripe is not necessarily an indicator of age by itself.

You will further notice that the stripes on our Society emblem pole descend from right to left; i.e. the stripes are highest on the right side and cross the pole going down toward the left. However, not all poles share this trait. Many of the older poles had the pattern reversed so the stripes ran down the pole from left to right. Take notice the next time you visit your local barber and see which way the stripes on his pole run.

It is the opinion of this writer that we would all be a little poorer if still another part of our heritage was lost because Mr. Marvy may not have a successor to his business. If, when he discontinues his manufacturing of barber poles, there is no one willing to carry on the tradition, the available supply will then, of course, be finite, and their use as symbols of real barber shops will quickly disappear as collectors buy them up to "keep alive" a part of our heritage. Prices for old barber poles have already risen beyond the means of most of us for some of the more rare models (up to \$12,000) and it appears the demand for such things will increase as time goes by.

It might be a very important gesture if our Society would recognize Mr Marvy officially for keeping the barber pole business alive and would encourage him to do everything in his power to insure there is a successor to his business. For, once his business ceases. . .

What's your opinion?

(1. "Shave and a Haircut, Two Bits", p. 28, Collectibles Illustrated, Vol II, No. 2, March/April, 1983.)

Did you know that Marcus Welby (of TV fame) has teamed up with the Midas Muffler people? Midas will be producing and marketing the doctor's new shock-absorber system, due out by the middle of the year. It'll be known as the MIDAS-WELBY SPRING!



RECORD REVIEW

by Don Richardson, Phoenix Chapter

One of the benefits of writing this column is that I receive mail. I get to hear from people who accept my basic premises, and I am reminded that some disagree with what I say. In addition, I get to hear records that are not advertised in the Harmonizer or Westunes as certain groups mail me their albums. One that I just listened to is simply "Arcade."

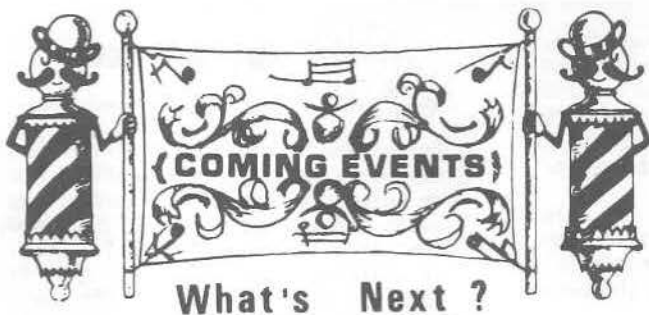
"Arcade" is the name of a Barbershop quartet and the name of the group's record. The personnel are quite experienced: George Wagner and Bob Disney sang with the B&O CONNECTION, International Medalist quartet; Rick Taylor sang in the PRESERVATION quartet; and Jim Grant sang with the 1970 International Champion ORIOLE FOUR (as lead). They've put together "Arcade" for the purpose of singing for Barbershoppers and audiences and not for competing seriously at the International level.

The album is a potpourri of musical expertise that deserves credit for taking chances. As the group won't be typecast, so is the album not standard. The songs include four originals by Bob Disney: "It's A Brand New Day," a very satisfying Barbershop song; "Mamie," another Barbershop composition; "The Sandbox of My Dreams," a nostalgic ballad; and "Take A Chance," another solid Barbershop tune. All four of these reveal Disney's talent as a songwriter and arranger. We'll be singing his songs before long. (I hope so, anyway.)

In listening to this record, I was struck by the satisfying approach to our way of music. These are men who sing well and enjoy what they do. The quartet sound is mature and pleasant. There are some nagging problems in interpretation, sound relationships, and vowel mismatching but these are essentially little points, I think. Still they provide evidence that the judging program does promote better singing--that means execution--of Barbershop music.

"Everything has the defects of its merits," the French say, and I am reminded of that in considering this quartet and record. The individual voices are very strong, but Bob Disney sometimes is too much the crooner; Jim Grant is quite passable as a bass, thank you, but he's overpowering in the upper register. Overall, however, I think the album is a favorable recommendation for the quartet.

To order "Arcade," send \$8.00/album-\$9.00/cassette-to Jim Grant; 740 New Cut Road; Kingsville, Maryland 21087.



ATTENTION ALL SHOW CHAIRMEN:

Broadcast Music Incorporated (BMI) has informed us that Society chapters and quartets are singing their songs on annual shows and we haven't paid for a license! Granted, chapters pay an ASCAP (CAPAC in Canada) license fee, but now the United States chapters must incorporate the BMI license fees. Here are the rates for a joint ASCAP/BMI license fee:

ASCAP/BMI Rate Per Concert
Highest Price of Admission
(Exclusive of Tax)

Seating Cap.	\$0-\$3	\$3.01-\$6	\$6.01-\$9	\$9.01-\$12
0-750	\$ 33	\$ 39	\$ 46	\$ 58
751-1500	38	45	55	67
1501-2500	55	65	75	90
2501-4000	85	95	105	122
4001-5000	95	105	118	135
5001-5500	113	123	136	153
5501-7500	123	136	153	221

APRIL

- 13 Kalamazoo Chapter Show
- 14 Pontiac Chapter Show
- 20 Grand Rapids Chapter Show
- 20 Coldwater Chapter Show
- 20 St. Joseph Valley Chapter Show
- 26-28 Spring Convention in Warren, MI
by the Grosse Pointe Chapter

MAY

- 4 Battle Creek Chapter Show
- 4 Boyne City Chapter Show
- 11 Muskegon Chapter Show
- 18 Benton Harbor-St. Joseph Chapter Show
- 18 Alpena Chapter Show

JUNE

- 15 Traverse City Chapter Show
- 30 International Convention begins
Minneapolis, Minnesota

JULY

- 7 International Convention ends

This new license fee was effective August 1, 1984.

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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