



pioneer TROUBADOUR



Robert T. McDermott
at the Helm for Another Year



January/February, 1986

Proud of our past...excited about our future



INSTITUTE OF LOGOPEDICS

...MORE THAN TALK

A big hello to all you Barbershoppers and a belated Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

All I have on my mind as of this writing is that we need over \$8,000.00 just to equal last year's (1984) contributions. It's disappointing and frustrating wondering what has to be done to get this kind of money before the end of the year. We are all going to have to start our contributing in January so there is less of a problem in December. Does that interest in your accounts amount to that much? No I can't believe it does, so please let's send in the donations sooner.


In the few short months I've had this job, I see that you have to ask for the donations, they just don't happen, as Reddie Wright (International Chairman for Logopedics) said in a past letter entitled "Ask For the Order." I know that some chapters are in a little trouble financially, but most of our chapters put on an annual show and give paid performances. The donations for Logopedics would start rolling in if 10% of the show profits and paid performances would be sent in.

At this writing, we have twelve chapters receiving the Bronze Award and two of which are close to the Silver Award. Congratulations go out to Swan Valley with \$23.74 per man and Port Huron with \$22.08 per man. Nice job guys! Especially Don Slamka of the Port Huron Chapter, who at the age of fifteen is doing a fantastic job.

I would like to write in the next issue that 31 chapters are in line for the Bronze Award, this is really a great goal for 1986! When you stop and think of it, it IS possible. Ten dollars per man isn't very much to give, even if it comes out of your own pocket (spread over a year's time, it is only pennies per week). All chapter and quartet contributions for Logopedics will appear in the next issue of the Troubadour along with the amounts.

I'll be visiting the Institute of Logopedics January 16th through the 19th. I am really looking forward to seeing the great job that they are doing with the kids.

The new year will be here when you read this column, hopefully every chapter will have a Logopedics Chairman. At this writing, there are six (6) who do not. Presidents, please fill these positions to make



Pioneer TROUBADOUR

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

1985 PIONEER DISTRICT OFFICERS

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>PRESIDENT ROBERT T. McDERMOTT 1859 Maryland Blvd. Birmingham, MI 48009 Res. (313) 647-4807 Bus. (313) 554-7259</p> <p>IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT JIM GOUGEON 38421 Harper Mt. Clemens, MI 48043 Res. (313) 465-2794 Bus. (313) 264-5700</p> <p>EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT EARL W. BERRY 27130 Clairview Dearborn, MI 48127 Res. (313) 277-7130 Bus. (313) 237-7928</p> <p>SECRETARY JACK SCHNEIDER 1311 Northlawn, N.E. Grand Rapids, MI 49505 Res. (616) 361-8820 Bus. (616) 774-5225</p> <p>TREASURER FRAN JONES 1490 Sibley Lowell, MI 49331 Res. (616) 897-6369 Bus. (616) 754-7131</p> <p>INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEMBER JIM GOUGEON 38421 Harper Mt. Clemens, MI 48043 Res. (313) 465-2794 Bus. (313) 264-5700</p> | <p>VICE PRESIDENT, DIVISION I CLAYTON L. JONES 1868 Rush Lake Road Pinckney, MI 48169 Res. (313) 878-3662 Bus. (313) 961-1643</p> <p>VICE PRESIDENT, DIVISION II BOB HUNTLEY 344 Hull Street Coldwater, MI 49036 Res. (517) 279-9038</p> <p>VICE PRESIDENT, DIVISION III MIKE O'DONNELL 1612 Michigan N.E. Grand Rapids, MI 49503</p> <p>VICE PRESIDENT, DIVISION IV DON BAZELY 52 The Drive Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario P6B 1B7 Res. (705) 253-9462 Bus. (705) 256-8407</p> <p>VICE PRESIDENT, DIVISION V RONALD J. YAHRMATTER 38819 Union Lake Road Mt. Clemens, MI 48043 Res. (313) 463-6996 Bus. (313) 362-6042</p> <p>DIRECTOR OF MUSIC EDUCATION JAMES STEPHENS 6335 Clarendon Drive Canton, MI 48187 Res. (313) 459-4011 Bus. (313) 285-6470</p> |
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TROUBADOUR EDITOR
BILL TOBIAS
P.O. Box #969
Cadillac, MI 49601
Res. (616) 775-1422

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Robert McDermott
1859 Maryland
Birmingham, MI 48009

us 100%. As a team we can make it happen!

A touching piece of information is the number of members and friends who have been memorialized in 1985. The list includes Arnie Staffen, Gloria Bichler, and R. Ronald Breidinger.

Does anyone have any connections for a gift "donated" from the District to the International Convention Logopedics' Raffle in Salt Lake City? The next few months will go by fast, that's why I am asking now.

Again, I would like to thank all of those who contributed to Logopedics in 1985. Let's make 1986 a lot better. TOGETHER IT WILL HAPPEN!

George VanDeVelde

TROUBADOR 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 |



TROUBADOUR Advertising Rates - 1985.

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Full Page...\$60. | Half Page...\$40. |
| 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



You know, I have been a member of the Society for almost 26 years, and when I think back as to what was the most enjoyable part of my Barbershop experience, I can only say that it was the "fellowship" that I encountered over all those years.

It made me really the true Barbershopper I am today! Sure, singing was the catalyst that brought it all together, but, I have found that the majority of Barbershoppers are outgoing people who enjoy not only a good time with comradeship and singing, but also are the greatest in engaging in conversations, jokes, etc. (and trivial!). It's truly an experience you won't soon forget. Yet, this is the type of scenario that lends itself to a great District!

I think this was very well demonstrated dramatically at our December C.O.T.S. school. We had it all, and more! For the 103 members of our District who attended the school, I'm sure they came away with the feeling of exultation and "pride". We're proud of the Pioneer District, and well we should be! It has the greatest fellowship going, and a history that accentuates our name!

1986 bodes to be a challenging year for us! We've got a big job to do in rebuilding the District, but judging from our reaction at C.O.T.S., we are going to do it! Our goals are going to be met, especially in the area of membership, Logopedics, and competitive (yet friendly) competition, as well as better programming and planning at the Chapter level. Singing for enjoyment, for all of our members, is the goal! I know you will make it happen, because that's the kind of guys you are!

I feel that our District officers this year are the strongest we've had in a long time. They are not only leaders, but they have expressed an extreme desire to help all of our Chapters wherever they are needed! Please don't hesitate

to call on them if you need any help. That's what they are there for!

Our District is going to the top! I can feel it! I'm asking you as a Chapter member to become as involved in your Chapter activities as much as you can, because in the long run, it's "you", the Chapter member, who will ultimately make our District grow, or die. Are you willing to help? I'm sure you will.

Sing-cerely,

Bob

From the Editor



Here we are in a new year, and your editor feels obligated to start it with an apology. I knew that I was in for it when I paid a wrecker driver \$200.00 to take me back home from C.O.T.S. Would you believe that your's truly lost reverse gear in his transmission going forward a little north of Fenton on the freeway? 'Tis sad, but very true.

It is so difficult to be creative, or to be able to put information on the screen via the keyboard when you are suffering with strep throat, flu, and other maladies associated with winter. I am asking all the faithful to trust that the next edition will be going out on time, so please get your copy in on time. I would definitely like to make an effort in doing what I had originally set out to do.

AN OVERSIGHT?

I was a little distressed to find out that Arnie Staffen had died after a long association with the Society. It was an honor to sing with him, share rides to sing-outs and rehearsals with him, etc., while being a part of the Great Lakes Chorus in Grand Rapids. The first I heard was reading over the copy submitted by our new Logopedics Chairman. This man contributed quite a lot over the years to the good of our hobby. I will mourn his passing even though I know not when he died!

At C.O.T.S. in December I was informed that another avid Barbershopper by the name of Bob Rehe had died a few weeks previously. For those of you who did not have the pleasure, this man was a true spark plug. He served on the District Public Relations Committee and also

as his Chapter's P.R. man (Oakland County). When I had the honor of being chairman of the District committee, I had often found it necessary to try to slow the man down a little. This editor, along with many, has lost another friend.

Whether it be an oversight, or evidence of the ever-present lack of communication that exists throughout our Society and our District, please submit names and narratives to your District editor for publication when you and your Chapter experience a loss. Let us rejoice when we are able to bring in a new member into the happy throng, but let us not forget those who gave so much of themselves so we have something to preserve.

SOMETHING NEW

Starting with this issue, Glenn Van Tassell of CENTER STAGE, will be a regular contributor to our District publication. His column, entitled "QUARTET PERSPECTIVE", will be a welcome addition. It sure is encouraging when active Barbershoppers express a desire to share their knowledge for the good of the District.



Also appearing in this edition will be the second article by Larry King. This will be his last contribution, as he will be stepping down from his post as DACJC. As Chairman of the Judges, he was able to provide some explanation as to what the contest judges are looking for when they sit in front of competing choruses and quartets.

As this area always raises many a question, and has a genuine mystique, it would be appreciated if someone knowledgeable could pick up the torch and carry on. Information as to what the Stage Presence, Arrangement Judges, etc. are looking for would be a help for every single quartet and chorus member competing on that stage. We can only hope that someone within our District would be willing to help.

Bass-ically,
Bill T.



THE BEST IN YOU

Give to the world-each day you live
One treasure only you can give!
In everything you say or do,
Give to the world the best of you.
The greatest treasure that you own
Is valueless to you alone.
Yet - freely given - you will find
That it enriches all mankind.
Scatter-each day you live-the seeds
Of love and service the world needs,
And in the measure that you sow -
In just that measure you will grow.
There is no greater gift you can
Bestow upon your fellow man
Than this; In all you say or do
You give to him the best in YOU.

Anonymous

(I would like to offer this to the living in loving memory of our friends who died during 1985. Let it provide us all with the direction we often seek in our daily lives.)



LISTEN!

**COMPETITION
ALL IN HOW YOU LOOK AT IT**

by Larry King

A comment that I have heard often over the years is that our Society is "too competition oriented" or "puts too much emphasis on competition." The inference is that we should somehow reduce the number of contests, but I believe for two reasons that the vast majority of our members want competition.

First, one objective of the Society is to help its members to become better singers. It does this in two principal ways, through Harmony College, HEP schools, seminars, etc. and through competition and the analysis and recommendation sessions. Although the schools are open to all members, only a few take advantage of these opportunities. The majority of the members improve through competition.

Oh yes, I can hear the doubters saying, "the fact that so few attend the schools is proof that the majority are just interested in singing and having fun." I do not buy that either. No one joins a camera club to improve techniques or to learn new ones, to become familiar with new equipment, to become a better photographer. No one joins

Toastmasters International just to speak publicly. One can do that on a soapbox in the village square. One joins Toastmasters International to become a better speaker.

Anyone who has been in our Society for any time knows that four guys in the corner or thirty-four guys in the center or the room do not necessarily make the sound they wish to make, the real ringing chords that we love to hear, without working at it. Competition, and the rehearsing for it, coupled with the A & R sessions (sessions given by contest judges following competitions so that participants are able to know their strong and weak points and why they received the scores they did...Ed.), makes us better singers, not just for competition, but for our shows and, most important, for our own personal satisfaction.

Second, we were raised and live in a competitive environment. Whether it is a hot pants contest, a school spelling bee or a pickled beet contest at the State Fair, we thrive on competition. In school, business or hobbies, competition is always with us. If the International and District Boards decreed that on and after January 1, 1986 there would be no contests of any type permitted, what would happen? After a couple of years (if that long), somebody at Grosse Pointe would say, "Why don't we invite some Oakland County members to our next meeting and have an informal quartet contest?" Soon another chapter would want to get involved and soon contests would again become commonplace.

Once we were back in the competition mood we would strive for uniformity in format and in judging. To do otherwise in respect to judging would reduce judging and the authenticity of competition to the ludicrous level of "Dance Fever".

The problem is not the emphasis on competition, but rather the overemphasis that some people put on winning and viewing winning as the only reason to compete. In the twenty years that I have been in the Society I have competed in a great number of contests. In some, my chorus was the winner and it was a terrific feeling. In most instances, we did not win. But, I enjoyed competing just as much, and we came away from the competition as better singers, as a group and as individuals. That's what it is all about!



**YOUR BEST BET YET
IS TO SING IN A
QUARTET**



A WORD ABOUT THE SPRING CONVENTION APRIL 25 - 27

THE PLACE: Saginaw Civic Center,
Heritage Theater, across
from the Florentine Inn.

HEADQUARTERS: Florentine Inn,
400 Johnson St.
Downtown Saginaw
(just off I-675)

Your chorus or quartet never sounded or looked so good as they will at the Spring Convention. The City of Saginaw just spent \$50,000.00 installing a complete new "State of the Arts" lighting and sound system in the Heritage Theater. Give your chorus or quartet the pleasure of singing on a stage used by many top name performers.

The hotels used for headquarters and housing are of the finest quality. The Florentine Inn (headquarters) is just across the street from the theater. The Sheraton Hotel and the Knight's Inn are within ten minutes of the theater. Plenty of good off-street parking is available. A shopping tour of Saginaw is being planned for the ladies on Friday afternoon.

The Swan Valley Chapter is incorporating an advertising section in the printed program and several chapters have shown an interest in placing an ad with us. The rates for ads are \$75.00 for a full page, \$40.00 half page, \$20.00 quarter page, and \$2.00 for one line name as a patron. Anyone interested, just send a layout of the ad you would like, the size you have selected (the pages are 5 1/2" x 8 1/2"), along with a check to Swan Valley Chapter (in care of Earl E. Gronda; 2929 Hemmeter Rd.; Saginaw, MI 48603). **DEADLINE FOR ADS IS MARCH 15, 1986.**

They hope to add a special attraction on Thursday evening (April 24th) for all who want to attend. We are planning a progressive dinner in "OLD SAGINAW TOWN". This will give those who have to travel some distance a chance to arrive the night before the convention, and be able to take their time on Friday morning and still make the Board meeting without the usual rush and confusion.

Fast food and luxury dining is nearby. A supply of area maps and a list of churches will be available at the registration desk.

A convention registration and hotel registration form is included in this issue of the TROUBADOUR. Hotel reservations must be made by the 25th of March. After that, reservations will be held on a first come, first served basis.

PIONEER DISTRICT
S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., INC.
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1985

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting, held at the Sheraton Inn Hotel, Kalamazoo, Michigan was called to order by President McDermott at 1:16 p.m. with the singing of "The Old Songs" directed by Jim Stephens.

ATTENDANCE:

All Board members were present with the following guests in attendance: Byron Davis, Robert Dixon, George Dyer, Emil Franz, John Gillespie, Dave Knapp, Dean Moore, Bill Pascher, Russ Seely, Art Schulze, Bill Tobias, George VanDeVelde, and Bill Warner.

MINUTES:

The motion was made by Past-President Gougeon and seconded by DVP Jones to accept the minutes as published in the TROUBADOUR as amended in the Consent Calendar packet. The motion was approved unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Schneider submitted his report dated September 30, 1985 showing a balance in the General Fund of \$11,641.51 and a balance in the Travel Fund of \$4,421.84.

It was requested that the properties listed on the Treasurer's Report should continue to be listed but with no value. A memo indicating the location of the asset should be added.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

A motion was made by IBM Jones and seconded by DVP Yahrmatter to accept the Consent Calendar as presented with the exception of EVP Berry's report. The motion was unanimously approved.

CORRESPONDENCE:

LOGOPEDICS SHOW - Logopedics Show President McDermott indicated that he had received a letter from DVP Bazely indicating that the Logopedics Show at Cheboygan was a success and is being scheduled for next year (1986).

INTERNATIONAL FIELD REPRESENTATIVE-A letter was received indicating Tom Gentry has a trip planned to Pioneer scheduled for November 11 at Oakland County, November 12 at Holland, November 13 at Swan Valley, November 14 at Alpena and November 16 at

Sault Ste. Marie for the school.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATE CONTEST AND JUDGING CHAIRMAN-The letter was received from Ken Buckner, indicating that we must appoint a District Associate Contest and Judging Chairman for a two year term beginning with January 1, 1986. John Gillespie will accept that position.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

PERMANENT CONVENTION SITE COMMITTEE-Russ Seely reported on convention sites indicating a total of five proposals have been received with the Battle Creek and Saginaw proposals receiving the most serious considerations at this time. Proposals were also received from Grand Rapids, Lansing and Novi. The Midland site had been reviewed even though it was not submitted and was deemed impractical.

The committee will have final approval of any site selected and will meet immediately following this meeting to enable them to present the cutoff date for acceptance of new bids at the House of Delegates meeting in the morning.

SENIOR QUARTET CONTEST TROPHY - Russ Seely announced that the Grosse Pointe Chapter will be providing the traveling trophy to be used in the Senior Quartet Contest at the Mid-Winter Convention and is doing so as a memorial for Mark Roberts.

CHAPTER ACHIEVEMENT AND MISCELLANEOUS President McDermott requested that all Chapters strive to file their activity reports, that all Chapters start issuing a bulletin to their members and attempt to get the membership up in each Chapter. Bob Dixon will distribute copies of the new membership program to all Board members and AC's promptly so that the subject can be discussed at the District Board Meeting at C.O.T.S. President McDermott requested that all District Officers submit reports for each TROUBADOUR published.

FUND RAISER SHOW - Past President Bill Warner presented his special show report on the fund raiser for District capital expenditures. Despite the small attendance, the program was profitable and it was agreed we should proceed with another program during 1986 providing we can come up with a different date.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY TREASURY FUNDS - A motion was made indicating that the funds received from the Livingston County Treasury be deposited in the General Fund to defray the cost of Capital expenditures for the Word Processing Equipment by Past President Gougeon seconded by DVP Huntley and was approved unanimously by the Board.

NEW BUSINESS:

C.O.T.S. - We have an excellent staff instructing C.O.T.S. and we want to encourage participation. Special efforts should be made to have all area counselors attend C.O.T.S. as we do plan on concentrating on counseling chapters.

D.M.E. Stephens will conduct Music Team Class as opposed to a Directors' Class. It has been determined that an article should be written by D.M.E. Stephens publicizing this fact in the TROUBADOUR. Mention should also be made of the Public Relations Class to be taught by John Mulkin, in the TROUBADOUR.

INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE - A letter was received from the International Music Department indicating that Mel Knight was hired to replace Bob Mucha on the International Music Team.

A letter was received from Frank Santarelli at International indicating that the new lapel pin could be made available at International for \$3.70. At this point, we are not interested in acquiring a supply of the pins.

SHOW CLEARANCE - A request was received from Battle Creek who would like to stage a show March 21, 1987 which has been established tentatively as a date for the District Quartet and Coaching Clinic. After considerable discussion, it was determined that authorization to Battle Creek should be granted and our school moved to the month of February to enable quartets attending the school more time to apply the information received prior to the International Preliminary Quartet Contest.

SENIOR MEMBER RECOGNITION - Bill Pascher presented a proposal that a Study Committee be appointed by the District President and charged with the responsibility of establishing a criteria for the formation of a system to manage a special Pioneer District recognition to those members who have achieved the upper level of years of membership.

The Committee would establish guidelines for such items as: 1) the exact number of years of registration required for qualification; 2) the design of the award including name and procurement costs; 3) the manner in which awards would be given and the frequency thereof; 4) the system and management required to effectuate this award.

The Committee is required to submit a final report at least ten days prior to the next District Board meeting for approval.

(continued next page)

Board of Directors Minutes-continued

The call for making the initial awards presentation shall be no longer than 12 months from this date.

A motion by DVP Yahrmatter, supported by Past President Gougeon to have a study committee make a recommendation on the proposal submitted by Wm Pascher. The motion was approved unanimously.

LOGOPEDICS SHOW - DVP Bazely indicated that the Cheboygan Logopedics Show was again scheduled and will be held September 27, 1986. The proceeds of the 1985 show of approximately \$270.00 will be distributed to the individual sponsoring chapters and donated in their name to the Institute of Logopedics.

ADJOURNMENT - Past President Gougeon made a motion that we adjourn supported by DVP Yahrmatter at 2:56. DME Stephens directed the Board in singing "Keep the Whole World Singing" to close the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jack Schneider
Jack Schneider
Acting Secretary
Pioneer District

HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING
MINUTES
10/19/85

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting, held at the Sheraton Inn, Kalamazoo, Michigan, was called to order by President McDermott at 9:07 a.m. with the singing of "The Old Songs" directed by DME Stephens.

The invocation was given by Bill Warner.

ATTENDANCE

There were 57 District officers, area counselors and chapter delegates in attendance representing 76% of the eligible delegates.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Nick Catalane, seconded by Jem Duffin recommending approval of the minutes as presented for the last House of Delegates meeting held April 27, 1985 which were distributed with the Consent Calendar materials. The motion was unanimously approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report was presenting indicating a balance as of September 30, 1985 in the General Fund of \$11,641.51 and \$4,421.84 in the International Convention Travel Fund.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion was made by Past President Warner, seconded by Nels Gregerson recommending approval of the Consent Calendar with the exception of EVP Berry's report on the permanent convention site which was to be presented separately. The motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

LAPEL PIN - A letter was received from Frank Santarelli at International indicating that a new District lapel pin may be available at International for \$3.70 each.

INTERNATIONAL FIELD REPRESENTATIVE - A letter was received indicating that Tom Gentry will visit the District appearing at Oakland County on November 11, Holland on November 12, Swan Valley on November 13 and Alpena on November 14. On November 16 he will appear at a school at Sault Ste. Marie.

RESIGNATION - Jack Teubert's letter of resignation was read and President McDermott indicated that Jack Schneider was appointed Acting District Secretary for the balance of 1985.

NEW FIELD REPRESENTATIVE - A letter from Joe Liles at International indicates that Mel Knight will be filling the position of Bob Mucha who resigned.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Bill Warner presented a report on the District show that was held at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts which realized a profit of \$1,056.

Bill indicated that the timing was bad for the show as it was held in July. It was determined that we should continue to hold it, preferably at another time, in the Detroit area as approximately 50% of the District members are from that area. Previous attempts to hold this type of event outside of the Detroit area have failed.

DISTRICT ACHIEVEMENT - President McDermott asked that each Chapter prepare bulletins on a monthly basis and that each one be submitted to each of the District officers. He also indicated that membership, which has a large effect on District achievement, should be increased.

PERMANENT CONVENTION SITE - Russ Seely reported that bids had been received from Battle Creek, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Novi and Saginaw and the committee also investigated Midland. It appears at this time, Battle Creek and Saginaw are the prime candidates with further study to be done.

The committee will make a physical check of the Saginaw site as they already know the Battle Creek site.

A deadline of November 30th has been established for receipt of any additional proposals with Muskegon expected to submit a proposal in the near future.

The convention committee has been granted the power to make the 3 to 5 year commitment.

NEW BUSINESS:

COTS SCHOOL - Participation was encouraged for C.O.T.S. as an excellent faculty has been acquired.

Special mention was made of the Music Team Class to be held at C.O.T.S. It will not be a director's class.

President McDermott indicated that he wanted to be certain that all Public Relations Officers be in attendance at C.O.T.S. He also asked for nominations of any worthy individual in the District who should be recommended for the Public Relations Officer of the Year Award. Bob indicated that he asked John Mulkin to teach the Public Relations Officers Class at C.O.T.S. and wanted a team established to publicize all District events to enable us to have better attendance.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Nick Catalane made a motion that the nominations be accepted as presented as no additional nominations were received and that the nominees be voted in by acclamation. Nels Gregerson seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

The new officers are President Robert T. McDermott, Executive Vice-President Earl Berry, Secretary Jack Schneider, Treasurer Fran Jones, Vice-President Division I Clay Jones, Vice-President Division II Bob Huntley, Vice-President Division III Mike O'Donnell, Vice-President Division IV Don Bazely, Vice-President Division V Ron Yahrmatter, Director of Music Education Jim Stephens and International Board Member Jim Gougeon.

AWARDS

Bulletin Editor Awards from International were presented to Bill Pascher and Bob Biallis.

INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEMBER - Jim Warner, International Vice-President/Treasurer, addressed the meeting as a representative of International President Gilbert L. Lefholz.

(continued next page)

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES (continued)

Vice-President Warner discussed the financial position of the International, expressed concern over the membership decline and indicated that they were going to establish a zero-based budget with the first program to be C.O.T.S. It will be expanded to other areas in the future.

He indicated that attendance was down at the presentations prepared by the International Field Representatives which is a concern.

He also encouraged improved meetings with planning to retain and expand membership and attendance at C.O.T.S.

OTHER MATTERS:

FIELD REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT - Port Huron Chapter expressed concern over the report filed by Burt Szabo regarding the Port Huron meeting location and meeting format. It was suggested that Port Huron write Hugh Ingraham and Joe Liles.

RECOGNITION AND ENCOURAGEMENT - DVP Yahrmatter mentioned the Grosse Pointe donation of the Traveling Trophy for the Senior Quartet Contest for the Mid-Winter Convention and the proposed award for 30 or more years of service as proposed by Bill Pascher as items of encouragement.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and supported to adjourn the meeting at 10:57 a.m.

The meeting was closed with the singing of "Keep The Whole World Singing".

Respectfully submitted,



Jack Schneider
Secretary Pioneer District

THE SOCIETY SUFFERS A GREAT LOSS

International Executive Director Hugh A. Ingraham has notified us that International President Bill Park passed away on Wednesday, January 22nd, 1986. He had brain surgery last October and was in recuperative therapy.

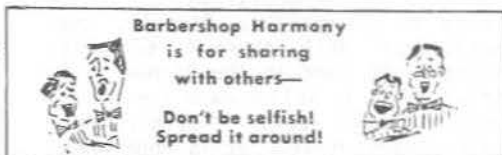
To quote directly from his correspondence, dated January 23, 1986:

"In accordance with section 6.05(a) of the International By-Laws, the Executive Committee has appointed Immediate Past President Gil Lefholz to serve as International President for the remainder of 1986."

"John T. Gillespie, who served as International President in 1984, was appointed to serve as Immediate Past-President for the remainder of the year.

"Memorial services were held at Aldersgate Methodist Church in Wilmington, Delaware at 11:00 a.m. on February 1. Memorial contributions may be made to the Institute of Logopedics, c/o Harmony Foundation, 6315 - 3rd Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140-5199.

"Expressions of sympathy may be mailed to Joan Park, P.O. Box #621, Mendenhall, PA 19357."



DISTRICT QUARTET NEWS

According to International, the Pioneer District is extremely proud to have the following new quartets:

| NAME | CONTACT MAN |
|---------------|---|
| TOP BILLING | James R. Lake 659 Joining Rd St. Joseph, MI 49085 (616) 429-8996 |
| BROOKLYN SIDE | William C. Edmunds 2472 Oakview SW Wyoming, MI 49509 |

ENTERTAINMENT EXPRESS

John R. Wearing
3060 S. Telegraph
Bloomfield Hills,
MI 48013

POINTERS OF NOTE Sterling Berry
898 Lakeland Ct.
Grosse Pte., MI 48230

THE SONGSPINNERS Malcolm Graham
2690 W. Michigan
Battle Creek, MI 49017
Home: 616-964-4741
Bus.: 616-968-2271

CROSSTOWNERS Willard L. Stuber
4975 Locust
Saginaw, MI 48604
Home: 517-799-4374
Bus.: 517 752-4181

MUSIC COMMITTEE Dale A. Leighty
1069 Thomas
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

THE FAMILY FORUM John E. Slamka
23103 Socia
St. Clair Shores,
MI 48082

GO 4 IT

Joel G. Mills'
2972 Wausaukee NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49505
Home: 616-363-3242

THE LUMBERTOWN CHORDSMEN

Herbert R. Radala
757 22 Mile Road
Grant, MI 49327
Home: 616-834-7543

GENTLEMEN'S QUARTERLY

Ken Rysenga
3920 Winding Way
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
Home: 616-382-3482

Please update your District directories to reflect the following changes of contact people:

THE IVY LEAGUE Brian G. Philbin
109 Elm St.
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Home: 313-483-2990

HARMONY RENDEZVOUS

Jeffrey L. Gougeon
3841 Harper
Mt. Clemens, MI 48043

The following quartets are unrenewed:

TAKE NOTE

OL' TIME HARMONY

HARMONY ROADSHOW

PENSION-AIRES

THE QUARTET PERSPECTIVE

by Glenn E. VanTassel
5876 Mohawk
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

By the time we go to press, the Christmas and the New Years' Holidays will be behind us and the attention of our quartets will be directed toward the up-coming Chapter shows and contest preparation for those who wish to take a run at qualifying for the "BIG ONE" at Salt Lake City in July. It is a busy and challenging time and yet a cloud of concern hangs over our hobby. Our number of declared, active members is declining. Something needs to be done!

There are several plans for membership expansion and retention ---- Good Ones! "Auditions For Admissions" and "Young Men In Harmony" are great for certain situations and effective when enthusiastically applied. What follows is

(continued next page)

THE QUARTET PERSPECTIVE (continued)

an alternative plan outline designed to approach the problem in another way. It could be very effective, I think, for those chapters properly situated to make full use of it.

A chapter or group of chapters in Detroit or Ann Arbor, or Kalamazoo or Grand Rapids, might make contact with the mens' glee clubs of nearby colleges and universities, offering to co-produce an annual show with them. Our chapters have developed some skills in show production and could offer exposure to an expanded audience for the glee clubs. But, guess what? Their families and friends just might give our chapters a new audience, just as our typical audience would offer new exposure for them.

It could be that the various glee clubs have a need for funds for travel and for support of their activities. Such funds would be generated and could be shared equally with sponsoring chapters. Occasional joint rehearsals and sharing of philosophies would result in new friendships and a new understanding of what we are about. For the long run, think of all of those potential converts to Barbershop music who might otherwise never have known about us.

One more thought: Wouldn't you just bet that such coordination with the educational community would merit considerable coverage in the media if we just make good use of the opportunity through our own Public Relations efforts. And, think of this, I've not checked with any other quartet people on this, but I'll bet that most quartets would be happy to pitch in and take part in such a program. TRY IT!

(Any comments, pro or con, would be welcome. Please forward them to Glenn at the address listed at the beginning of his column...Ed.)



NEWS FROM AROUND

THE DISTRICT

BOYNE CITY CHAPTER

ATTENTION:
ALL NOVICE QUARTETS
COME ON UP FOR BUSH LEAGUE!

Do you belong to a new quartet which shows lots of promise but is short on experience? Would you like to get a taste of real competition but aren't ready to plunge into District competitions? Well, there is an annual event right here in the Pioneer District which is tailor-made for novice quartets like yours. You have probably heard of it. It is none other than the Boyne City Bush League Contest and Show.

The Boyne City Chapter of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. proudly announces its 41st Annual Bush League Contest and Show at the Boyne City High School on Saturday, May 3rd, 1986. The Quartet Contest will start at 2:00 p.m. and the big variety show will start at 8:00 p.m.

This contest was started 41 years ago to give Novice Quartets a chance to compete in a regular contest, with experienced judges, against other quartets of like caliber. Any quartet is eligible to enter provided it has never placed in the top three in District competition and provided it has never been in International competition. The rules for the contest are the same as the rules for regular International competition, with one exception - - there is no penalty for not being in costume, so that no quartet is penalized for lack of time or money to obtain costumes.

Bush League gives new quartets a golden opportunity to get valuable experience under competitive conditions. Qualified judges hold a clinic immediately after the contest to give the novice quartets an evaluation of their performances and to tell them how to improve. This could be a valuable experience to the Novice Quartets. Many of our past District District Champions won their first contest in the Boyne City Bush League. One Bush League Champion Quartet went on to become International Champions.

There is no entry fee for quartets. Deadline for entry is May 3rd, the day of the contest. All you have to do is to send the name of your quartet, the names of your members, the name and address of the contact man, to this year's Bush League Chairman, J.O. Crawford; Meanderline Rd.;

Charlevoix, MI 49720. If you want your quartet to appear in the printed show program, then you should enter by April 15th.

The new 1986 Bush League Champs and the Runner-Ups will appear on the Saturday night show. This year the featured quartet at our show will be those four youthful Barbershoppers from the Pioneer, THE IVY LEAGUE. This talented group won the Bush League in 1984, and we invited them to be our featured quartet last year and invited them again because they were such a big hit!

Whether or not you compete in the Quartet Contest, come on up to Boyne City on May 3rd. It is a fun-filled weekend of Barbershopping, and it is a lovely time of the year here in the North Country.

Edgar H. Lotspeich, President

* * * * *

MUSKEGON CHAPTER

The Muskegon Chapter had a fun night recently that included 11 guests. Our Chapter quartets--THE LUMBERTOWN CHORDSMEN and THE TRI-CITIES FOUR--entertained us, as did the WESTSIDE STORY quartet (Grand Rapids and Muskegon). We were particularly delighted by the visit of THE MUSIC COMMITTEE who came all the way from Benton Harbor to share their special harmonies with us. Then, came the Christmas programs--a benefit performance for the Elks and a program at the Muskegon Mall. In between, somewhere, six of our members attended C.O.T.S.

Our installation of officers was held during our Annual Christmas Season Party. DAVE ABBGY replaced RICK BAUGHMAN on our new Board, and other officers were announced in the last TROUBADOUR (I'm sure you memorized them!). The dinner was followed by quartet, chorus and audience singing and woodshedding.

There has been an ongoing discussion during the past year that woodshedding, in its original form, is no longer part of our Barbershop craft. The important words are 'in its original form.' I know Barbershoppers who think teaching three other guys the tag to 'My Dream is O'er' is woodshedding.

In the beginning of our Society, a quartet would take a melody, there were no written arrangements, and experiment with harmonies that could be used. That was woodshedding in its original form. We've seen and heard this done at Harmony Education Programs, C.O.T.S., Chapter visitations, and the Muskegon Chapter has done this at Fun Nites.
(continued next page)

There do not appear to be too many foursomes standing around trying to "harmonize" to a given melody. Most random quartet singing revolves around how many Barber Polecat or standard Society arrangements one knows. As editor of our Chapter's Port City Beacon, many opinions on this subject have crossed my desk, and I mention it here because it's an intriguing development. Nostalgia prompts us to defend the woodshedding tradition, but the truth is--well, judge for yourself.

Meanwhile, the Muskegon Chapter wishes all of you in the Pioneer District a most terrific 1986!

"Webb" Scrivnor

Oakland County had a great Ladies' Night on December 5th, with the HEIRLOOMS, THE MEL-O-MACS, and the FOUR WHEEL DRIVE providing us with some superlative entertainment. The winner of the prestigious CHARLEY DELONG award (our version of the Barbershopper of the Year Award) was none other than our retiring President G.B. WORK, and it was well deserved.

A new award this year was the HAL BAUER award, given to members with 10 or more years of service and who have contributed in an outstanding manner to the Chapter, the District, and to the Society as a whole. The first winner was FRAN DURHAM, a truly deserving member who is presently our International Logopedics Chairman. Congratulations, Fran!

OCC still does not have a director, but DON MCDANIEL, MARV WILSON, and G.B. WORK have been doing a good job of keeping the chorus going. We had four Christmas sing-outs during December at the Arnold Home, the Providence Hospital, and the two Beaumont Hospitals. We had twenty-five to forty members singing on each occasion.

We are working hard on our impending February 14-15, 1986 show, entitled "There's Magic in Roses and Music." It should be a great show with the IVY LEAGUE, the ENTERTAINMENT EXPRESS, and the HAM & WRY from Oshkosh, Wisconsin, as our quartets.

We're still hanging in there. See you at Saginaw in the Spring.

Bob McDermott

In the Spring a Barbershopper's fancy
turns to Boyne Country
and the

Boyne City Bush League Show and Quartet Contest

Saturday, May 3, 1986

OFFICIAL ENTRY BLANK
41st Annual Bush League Contest

May 3, 1986 Boyne City, Michigan

Quartet Name _____ Entry deadline May 3, 1986

Contact Man _____ Program deadline

Tenor _____ Bass _____ April 15, 1986

Baritone _____ Lead _____

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 3, 1986
Boyne City Lanes

Return to:
J.O. Crawford
Meanderline Rd.
Charlevoix, MI 49720



1986 SPRING CONVENTION -- PIONEER DISTRICT
SAGINAW, MICHIGAN
APRIL 25-27, 1986

HOSTED BY SWAN VALLEY CHAPTER
at
SAGINAW CIVIC CENTER HERITAGE THEATER

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Chapter Name: _____

Member Name: _____ Wife: _____

Address: _____

_____ Zip: _____

Tenor _____ Lead _____ Baritone _____ Bass _____

Chorus and/or Quartet Name: _____

Fee enclosed \$ _____ (\$11.00 per person). After April 10,
fee is \$14.00 per person. Refund ONLY by written request to
Convention Chairman before noon, April 25.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.

MAIL TO DOUG. BUTLER, 11700 FROST RD.

FREELAND, MICHIGAN 48623

The
Benton Harbor-St. Joe
Chapter
PRESENTS

Bluegrass Student Union

LIVE IN CONCERT



Saturday, April 5, 1986

St. Joseph High School

7:30 P.M.

**The most exciting sound
in Barbershop**

To hear them is to love them – to **see** them is to
truly love them all the more.

Mail this Coupon with your Check

to Steve Lake — 659 Joining Road St. Joseph, Mi. 49085

I am enclosing payment for _____ tickets at \$6.00 each.

Make Checks payable to: S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.

Name _____

Street _____

City/State _____ Zip _____



COTS FOR 1986





What's Next ?

MARCH

- 1 Wayne Chapter
- 8 Huron Valley Chapter
- 15 Battle Creek Chapter
- 21-23 QUARTET COACHING CLINIC
E.M.U. YPSILANTI
- 22 Gratiot County Chapter

APRIL

- 4 Grosse Pointe Chapter
- 5 Grosse Pointe Chapter
- 5 Port Huron Chapter
- 5 Benton Harbor-St. Joseph Chapter
- 12 Kalamazoo Chapter
- 12 Windsor Chapter
- 12 Coldwater Chapter
- 13 Pontiac
- 19 Grand Rapids Chapter
- 25-27 SPRING CONVENTION- SAGINAW

MAY

- 3 Boyne City Chapter
(Bush League)
- 24 Alpena Chapter
- 31 Muskegon Chapter

JUNE

- 14 Traverse City Chapter

OCTOBER

- 17-19 FALL CONVENTION-FLINT

NOVEMBER

- 22 Detroit #1 Chapter

WE SING
THAT THEY
SHALL SPEAK

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 |

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.

Please notify:

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



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CANTON MI 48187

106811
DEC 86

HERE'S A BARBERSHOPPER!

POSTMASTER: Please return all undeliverable mail to:
Oakland County Chapter, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.
Robert McDermott
1859 Maryland
Birmingham, MI 48009

PIONEER  DISTRICT

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