



pioneer

MAY/JUNE 1986

TROUBADOUR



"THE RITZ"
1986 INTERNATIONAL QUARTET
REPRESENTATIVES



"IVY LEAGUE"
1985 PIONEER DISTRICT QUARTET
CHAMPIONS
1986 INTERNATIONAL QUARTET
REPRESENTATIVES



"GREAT LAKES CHORUS"
1986 PIONEER DISTRICT CHAMPIONS
AND INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES



"ARE YOU LISTENING?"



INSTITUTE OF LOGOPEDICS

...MORE THAN TALK



George Van DeVelde
6155 Maybee Rd.
Clarkston, MI 48016
(313) 625 - 5167

A big HI to all you great Barber-shoppers in the Pioneer District, and others too.

I can't believe it's time to write another column, it's Sunday, April 13th, and it's due on the 15th. When you read this it will be old news, but good news.

I'd like to thank all of you who contributed to a great start in 1986, especially the following chapters and quartets:

Huron Valley
Lansing
Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., Can.
Swan Valley
Oakland County
Wayne
Grosse Pointe
Benton Harbor-St. Joseph
TODAY'S SPECIAL

Keep up the good work and here's hoping other chapters will be in this column for the months of April and May.

I've set a goal of \$20,000 for 1986, and I would like it known to all chapters and registered quartets, and to others who contribute.

I'd really like to see more quartets contributing. Out of 54 registered quartets last year, only ten (10) donated, COME ON GUYS! We need your help to make our goal and I'm sure you'll feel much better by contributing to the Institute of Logopedics.

We really have a good start for the first quarter ending 3/31/86. For the first three months last year we contributed \$773.15, and, for the same period this year (1986), you've donated \$2,220.54 resulting in a net gain of \$1,447.39. CONGRATULATIONS! Our momentum is great, shows are almost over, so please don't sit on

your contributions until December, the Institute can use it now.

I guess you've heard me do enough begging for now. Remember, it can really happen if we do our share, TOGETHER IT REALLY WORKS.

If I can be any service, please call or write.

Chordially,
George

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S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.



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THE PRESIDENT'S

CORNER



Seems like things have been building up on me lately. So much so, that I am late getting my message to the Troubadour. I am writing this from Tarpon Springs, Florida, with a temperature of approximately 80 degrees. But, I'm enjoying it thoroughly, and despite the great living, I still have my concerns with the Pioneer District and how we are doing.

What could a District President be concerned about when he is basking in Florida, you may ask? Well, I'm concerned about our membership drives, for one. Are we doing it? Are we getting the younger members of our generation involved? **IN ORDER TO SURVIVE, WE NEED THEM!** Are we doing all the things we can?

The convention at Saginaw was one fine convention. I have to really lay accolades at the door of the Swan Valley Chapter, and Jim Steiner (Convention Chairman) as well as Deon Moore (Chapter President). Of the many conventions I've attended, certainly this one can be laid down as one of the finest.

The competitions were sharp, and congratulations to "THE RITZ" and the "IVY LEAGUE" for qualifying to represent the Pioneer District at the Salt Lake City Convention. We know that you will do the District proud!

The same can be said for the Grand Rapids "Great Lakes Chorus", who have become our District Champions again. We wish them great success at the International Contest in Salt Lake City in July.

I was especially proud that the attendance at this convention was really up from previous conventions. When you think that we had SEVENTEEN choruses and SIXTEEN quartets competing, that tells you something. Our District is starting to come into its prime! The big thing that struck me during the whole competition was the quality of the singing. There really wasn't a bad

quartet or chorus in the contests. Our coaching and HEP schools are really beginning to pay off in this regard.

Aside from the convention, there is one thing that I hope we can accomplish this year, and that is to send one or two of our young people to Harmony College on an A.I.C. Scholarship. Last year we did not have one applicant and I'm hoping that this year we will have several. Details are in the current issue of the Harmonizer.

Also, don't forget the "Windsor Send-Off" Show on Friday, June 13th and the Pioneer District's 1st Annual Men's Logopedics Golf Open on June 21st.

Sing-cerely,
Bob

Unless carrying a by-line, all articles herein are by the editor, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the District. Some articles carrying a by-line are also by the editor and do not reflect the views of the credited author, either! Some non-credited articles have been stolen by the editor and reflect the views of the anonymous donor. Many articles reflect nothing at all. Take your pick.



From the Editor



ANOTHER GREAT CONVENTION!

I feel as though I should join President Bob in forwarding my heartfelt gratitude and admiration to the men of the Swan Valley Chapter for a job well done! I would like to pass on my thanks as well to the people behind the scenes who let this crazy photographer break into the convention arena. The Ladies of Harmony Inc. also deserve appreciation, for serving as usherettes (after all, they are cuter than the men of Swan Valley!).

Jim Steiner (no relation to one half of the Steiner Bros. of Great Lakes Chorus fame) and his crew put in some long hours in preparation and execution of the convention. They also elected to furnish the manpower (actually, their wives) for the Barbershopper Shop, which was a first for the Pioneer District (I hope that

the final results will be shared after they are tabulated as, I hope, an incentive for other chapters to follow their lead).

The Chapter members who were unable to take in the accommodations of the Florentine really did miss an enjoyable experience. With as many Barbershoppers in that hotel, I really did feel obligated to "sneak" out of the facility around 7:00 am Sunday morning (is there any way they could have at least one more elevator?). It seemed as though there were mighty few non-Barbershoppers as there were chords ringing until the wee hours (Some people, like Dan Doctor of the Muskegon Chapter and a few crazies from Harmony Unlimited, actually sang until sunrise..."You should have seen their eyes!...").

It really is most enjoyable that the majority of the District and I have not been properly introduced (i.e. my picture is not at the head of my column). It sometimes is nice to be able to blend in a crowd, especially when you are carrying all that equipment around.

YIPPEE!

It is hard not to cheer for a chorus, after you have sung with it for almost five years, even though you've joined another. I found myself on "cloud ten" because of the successes of the Great Lakes Chorus and my new "home" chapter, the "Cherry Capitol Chorus". I am proud to have been a past member of our reigning District champions, but I found myself hoarse from yelling and screaming when it was announced that the guys from T.C., under the very capable direction of Matt Coombs, were Silver Division Champions and second place overall in the Chorus Competition (a member of the aforementioned Swan Valley Chapter told me that an earth tremor was reported in the area, and that spectators beneath the balcony fled in terror. Will the Flint Chapter be putting me up in the balcony this fall?---STAY TUNED!)

THIS ISSUE IS LOADED!

I sincerely hope that you all find something of interest in this issue of the TROUBADOUR, as it is shaping up to be one to tax the budget. There is a lot of information to relay and, thank you, quite a few of our regular contributors came through with items for publication. I am proud to be editor of your bulletin!

LOST IS FOUND!

A few days before the convention, I received a most welcome phone call from Pat and Sue Riley, their son Nick was found. A little bit worn from the experience, but in one piece (the word was that he was kidnapped).

IN MEMORIUM

Fred Steinkamp, bari of the GEORGE BAGGISH MEMORIAL QUARTET, collapsed backstage after performing an accordion solo during the Westchester Chapter Annual Show on March 13, 1986.

Attempts to revive him by a physician chapter member were futile.

A long time professional musician and arranger in the New York City area, Fred got the Barbershop "bug" about 20 years ago and was considered "Mr. Barbershopper" of the Westchester area. He had held every position in the chapter, including President, and at the time of his death was Bulletin Editor and Co-Director.

Late in November, 1985, when it was determined that Frank Lanza, "Doc" Sause, and Ed Keller were planning to be at the Tucson Mid-Winter Convention, the foursome decided to enter the first Seniors Quartet Contest just for fun.

Because of Fred's striving for excellence in everything he did, and because of his outstanding creative showmanship ability, the new quartet, after five intensive rehearsals in White Plains, N.Y., entered the competition, and to everyone's surprise except Fred's, they won!

The quartet had several engagements booked, but their only public performance after Tucson was a "guest night" for the Westchester Chapter.

Fred, who was 65 at the time of his death, leaves his immediate family including his wife, and his brother, Lloyd Steinkamp of Phoenix, current Arrangement Category Specialist.

F. Lanza



Jim Gougeon proudly displays the MARK ROBERTS AWARD to the first Seniors Quartet Champions - THE GEORGE BAGGISH MEMORIAL QUARTET (Photo taken by Jim Miller, courtesy of the HARMONIZER).

(The above article was taken from "The Scuttlebutt", written voice of the Providence Chapter, Editor Joe Cosgrove, April-May issue.)

THERE'S ROOM
ON THE OLD HANGING TREE
FOR ONE MORE

In the last issue of the Troubadour we printed an article that came directly from the pages of the Gentlemen's Songster, the written voice of the Oakland County Chapter edited by our illustrious District President Bob McDermott. One would like to think that our reigning champion bulletin editor and "HONCHO" is one who makes few mistakes.

Here is a picture that was included in the article on the First Annual Seniors Quartet Contest that took place in Tucson at the Mid-Winter Convention this year:



Pictured above: "Four Past International Presidents banded together to sing in the contest as the MOUNT RUSHMORE FOUR. Pictured, l to r, Gil Lefholz, (UNIDENTIFIED), Dick Ellender, and Wilbur Sparks. They finished 7th."

After the last issue went to press and was sent out by our fine U.S. Post Office, I received a letter from a gentleman who had the following on official S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. stationery:

Hank Vomacka
Past International President
1881 Rose Street
Sarasota, FL 33579
(813) 955-2753

The letter read as follows:

April 27, 1986

Dear Bill,

I always enjoy reading the Troubadour but this issue I would like to make a small correction. In the pictures of the Senior's Quartet Contest the proper spelling is "Ellenberger", not Ellender as you have it.

Sincerely,
Unidentified

This just shows you that even when someone else is the author of an article, it is the editor of the publication who is often judged responsible.

=====

WANTED
CHORUS DIRECTOR
FOR
LANSING CHAPTER

Seventy-three (73) Member Chapter on the move and growing.

CONTACT: Mike Cirrito
1714 Vassar Dr.
Lansing, MI 48912

PHONE: 1-517-485-0938

=====

WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A NEW CHAPTER



Bob Dixon (center), our Pioneer District chairman in charge of Membership and Extension, is shown here presenting President Bob McDermott (right) with the application to operate as a Chapter for the infant(?) Macomb County Chapter. Our Immediate Past President, and International Representative to our Spring Convention, Jim Gougeon, made the announcement and handed the paper over to Bob Dixon. Oh yes, the man at the left of Bob Dixon is our Executive Vice-President Earl Berry.

Just before this issue went to press, International had informed Jim Gougeon that the license application had been approved. This is definitely some good news.



Welcome
New Members

S.P.E.B.Q.S.A. Inc. Convention
 Hosted By: Flint Arrowhead Chorus
 October 17-18, 1986

Reservation requests MUST BE RECEIVED BY the Flint Convention & Visitors Bureau no later than September 20, 1986. Any change in arrival or departure dates, name changes, cancellations, or deposits to guarantee reservations for later arrival, must be made directly with the hotel/motel after confirmation is received. RESERVATIONS must be ACCOMPANIED BY DEPOSIT OR AN ACCEPTED CREDIT CARD AND SIGNATURE. Rooms have been blocked at the following hotel/motel facilities. Please check 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice.

Sheraton Inn - Headquarters Hotel (I-75 & Pierson Rd.)

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| ___ Package # 1 | 2 persons/2 nights/2 breakfasts | \$110.00 + tax |
| ___ Package # 2 | 2 persons/2 nights | \$48.00 + tax per night |
| ___ Package # 3 | 2 persons/1 night | \$50.00 + tax per night |

| | 1 person -1 bed | 2 person -1 beds | 2 persons -2 beds |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Walli's West ___ (Pierson Road) | \$27.00 | \$34.00 | \$36.00 |
| Walli's East ___ (Center Road) | \$27.00 | \$34.00 | \$36.00 |
| Best Western-Flint ___ (Pierson Road) | | \$37.00 | \$39.00 |
| Hyatt Regency ___ (Downtown) | \$52.00 | \$52.00 | |
| Hampton Inn ___ | \$35-39.00 | \$38-42.00 | \$39-43.00 Kingsize |

To reserve hotel/motel accommodations, please return your form to:

FOR GUARANTEED RESERVATIONS:

___ CREDIT CARD (AE CB DC MC V)

FLINT CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU
 S.P.E.B.Q.S.A. Inc. Housing Bureau
 400 N. Saginaw St.
 Flint, MI 48502

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

(NO PHONE REQUESTS WILL BE ACCEPTED)

Name(s) of Occupants(s) PLEASE PRINT

I understand that I am liable for 1 night room and tax to be deducted from my deposit or billed to my credit card in the event that I do not arrive and fail to cancel on the arrival date indicated. Reservations are guaranteed for the first night only.

Signed _____
 Arrival Date: _____
 Time of Arrival: _____
 Departure Date: _____
 How Many Persons: _____
 Single: 1 Person, 1 Bed _____
 2 Persons, 1 Bed _____
 2 Persons, 2 Beds _____
 Quad: 4 Persons, 2 Beds _____
 Twins: 2 Persons, 2 Beds _____
 Kingsize _____
 Roll-A-Way _____
 Handicapped Room _____

Confirm to:

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 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone Number _____

CHAPTER NAME: _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

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WHY IS THIS MAN SMILING?



Battle Creek Chapter's own Bill Lang has accepted an appointment by President Bob McDermott as the Public Relations Officer for the Pioneer District. The announcement was made at the House of Delegates meeting at the Spring Convention in Saginaw.

Congratulations on the appointment, the rest is up to the rest of us in the District. Let us all furnish him with the help he will need to succeed. STAY TUNED for his words of wisdom as he will be using this publication to get his word across.



MIKE O'DONNELL
1985
AREA COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR



Top: Exec. V.P. Earl Berry presents Mike O'Donnell with the plaque. Bottom: A proud Mike O'Donnell with the A.C. of the Year Award.

ONTARIO DISTRICT
SENDS TWO OF ITS BEST

The Pioneer District was honored to have the President of the Ontario District, Grant Goodfellow, along with the Ontario District's Director of Music Education, Peter Hughes, at our Spring Convention in Saginaw.

President Goodfellow addressed those representing the District's chapters at the House of Delegates meeting the Saturday of convention weekend. He welcomed future cooperation between the two Districts, and invited Pioneer Barbershoppers to Ontario District happenings.

Peter Hughes closed out the meeting by directing the attendees in "Keep The Whole World Singing". This closing capped a highly successful meeting in which much was accomplished. The minutes of both the Board of Governors and the House of Delegates will be published in the next issue of the Troubadour.

We once again proved to our Society and to ourselves that Barbershopping knows no boundaries.



Grant Goodfellow, Ontario District President, addressing the House of Delegates at Spring Convention.

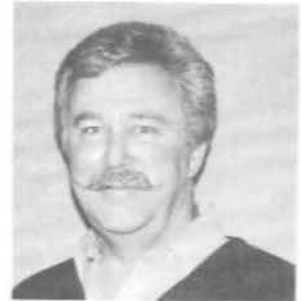


Peter Hughes, Ontario District Director of Music Education

HARMONY OUTREACH IS BORN

Jim Stephens, District Director of Music Education, made a statement before the Board of Directors and the House of Delegates that Society-wide interest in the "Young Men in Harmony" is, and has been decreasing. Very few chapters in the Pioneer, in fact, have not made any effort in this direction. According to monthly figures put out by Internation, the Pioneer District is constantly losing its membership.

At the Board of Directors meeting, Jim read some very impressive credentials belonging to Gil Anders who had talked to him earlier of making an effort to reach more of the general public.



Pioneer International medalist Glenn VanTassell, made a formal presentation to both the Board of Governors and the House of Delegates on the subject of one of his past articles, that of encouraging chapters to take advantage of colleges and universities that might be close by District chapters.

President McDermott mentioned to those assembled that the messages of Gil Anders and Glenn VanTassell were much the same and asked that the two join forces with Clay Jones to launch "Harmony Outreach" (a suggestion of VanTassell's). The committee was given encouragement by the District Board and will be wasting no time in giving the District its recommendations to make our membership grow.

Bob McDermott has reason to be quite pleased, as much of what he has written in his articles and in his presentations before the District as to his hopes and aspirations for the Pioneer were brought to light.

It is one thing to be pleased with these signs of things to come, and another to do whatever is necessary to see these turn in to reality. Bob McDermott, Glenn VanTassell and his committee, Bill Lang our new District P.R. Officer and many other dedicated Barbershoppers are going to call on you to do your part, the future of the Pioneer will soon be in your hands.

NO MORE LATE ENTRIES!

The Board of Directors and those who attended the House of Delegates meeting at the Spring Convention voted to carry the new policies and procedures voted on by International at the Mid-Winter one step further. Past International President John Gillespie mentioned to those assembled that the "No Late Entry" policy only applied to International quartet preliminaries. District President McDermott and others made the recommendation that the rule also be applied to International chorus preliminaries as well.

Beginning with the January 1, 1986 for all registered quartets, and effective immediately for District choruses, all those competing in International preliminaries will be notified by the District within forty-five days of the contest. All contestants **MUST** have their entry blanks postmarked fourteen (14) days prior to the preliminaries. **NO MORE LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ALLOWED!**

Please consider this your first official notification of the changes in International and District policy and procedures regarding International preliminary quartet and chorus contests. The minutes of both the Board of Directors and House of Delegates will be printed in the next edition of the Troubadour.

WANTED



Somewhere Out There, Three Lonely Singers Are Looking For YOU!

CHAPTERS WIN ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The Grand Rapids Chapter won the Gold Achievement Award and the Kalamazoo Chapter won the Silver Achievement Award for their respective divisions. Congratulations goes out to the men of these fine chapters. May they both continue to grow and prosper.

WE HAVE A NEW MESSAGE!

Our Immediate Past District President and official International representative to our Spring Convention Jim Gougeon brought to us our Society President's message. Society President Gil Lefholz, at the Mid-Winter Convention in Tucson, used "Are We Listening" as his theme for his year in office.

It seems as though the District leaders are in tune with the message, will you be able to hear their message?

QUARTET PERSPECTIVE



By
Glenn VanTassell
5876 Mohawk
Ypsilanti, MI
48197
(313) 484-3038

So you've formed that new quartet you've always dreamed of and you recognize that it is time to make some decisions. How good a quartet do you want to be? How good a quartet do you expect to be? Does each member have the same range of expectations for this combination and is he willing and able to commit the time and effort to accomplish your mutual goals? Without having discussed these other areas, there really isn't much point in going further.

Assuming that you have determined your goals and priorities, it is time to discuss schedules and methods of getting the greatest use out of your available rehearsal time. It is wise to map-out a tentative rehearsal rehearsal schedule covering the next three to six months. Identify specific target dates, chapter shows, sing-outs, contests, schools, coaching sessions, etc. Recognize that you need to work toward a certain state of readiness for each different event.

Be willing to study your music in your own time and in your own way, but come to each rehearsal as well prepared as you possibly can. Don't waste time together in learning notes. Make use of recordings to learn new music by reading through new songs together, getting the basic notes and tempos on tape. Bear in mind that in this process, you are simply getting the notes and the form of the song. You will polish and enhance the song later as you become more comfortable with it. Individually, as you rehearse at home or in your car, think about the song. What does it say to you. What insights can you take to the next rehearsal that will make it easier for all of you to feel more "into" the song?

Divide the organizational work among the four of you. Include your wives if they would care to get involved. Someone needs to handle bookings/scheduling, finances, costumes, music selection, publicity, quartet history and many other details. Share the work of the quartet and, without fail, share the decision-making pro-

cess. Don't set goals that are not mutual goals and don't accept commitments which have not been discussed. A time for business matters to be discussed, perhaps midway through each rehearsal while you take a coffee break. And take time to communicate. Use that same time segment to air any differences or problem areas before they develop into larger difficulties.

As much as possible, include your families in the activities of your quartet. Plan non-quartet outings together and get to know each other better. Ask the advice of families on the non-technical aspects of your quartet performance, but guard against the confusing effects of their possibly non-expert personal preferences. People close to you can unwittingly undermine the quartet with well meant, but ill-timed, comments. This is especially true at contest time.

Musically, you will want to stretch yourselves constantly. You can learn to sing longer phrases, sing more softly with quality, sing more loudly with quality, move comfortably and effectively while maintaining your music and on and on. None of this will happen, though if you don't challenge yourselves to be better.

Get out and perform for your chapter and for other chapters as soon as you can. Don't worry about a few possible mistakes. These folks will be incredibly supportive and the experiences will make you grow. You learn very quickly where your performance weaknesses are when you sing for people. You then can go to work on these problems and expect to be better next time.

Most Barbershoppers, I think, would love to sing in a quartet. You have reached out and have done it. That makes you special. You are a living example of what our Society is all about.

benchmarks barbershop quartet

JOHN ERICKSON TENOR
BEN WILLIAMS LEAD
JIM FOLEY BARI
DAVE BOO BASS

bench'mark' Noun. Something that serves as a standard by which others may be measured.

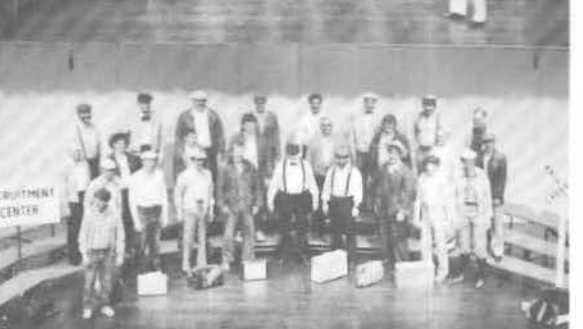
JOHN ERICKSON
1270 EXETER COURT
WHEATON, IL 60187 312/853-4111

THE GOLDEN OLDIES DISBAND

In the most recent 4-CAST, bulletin for the Great Lakes Chorus, a farewell was printed from Jim Empie, Don Phillips, Cliff Gritter, and Gary Branch. Having gotten to know these four through the many activities of related to the Grand Rapids Chapter, this news was taken with a degree of sadness. "Thanks for the memories."



SPRING CONVENTION '86 MEMORIES





1986 FALL CONVENTION - PIONEER DISTRICT
 FLINT, MICHIGAN
 OCTOBER 17-18, 1986

HOSTED BY FLINT CHAPTER
 AT
 FLINT'S WHITING AUDITORIUM
 1241 EAST KEARSLEY STREET

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

CHAPTER NAME: _____

MEMBER NAME: _____ (WIFE) _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____ ZIP _____

TENOR _____ LEAD _____ BARITONE _____ BASS _____

CHORUS AND/OR QUARTET NAME: _____

FEE ENCLOSED \$ _____ (\$12.00 PER PERSON). AFTER OCTOBER 3RD., FEE IS \$15.00 PER PERSON. SINGLE EVENT \$6.00 PER PERSON. REFUND ONLY BY WRITTEN REQUEST TO CONVENTION CHAIRMAN BEFORE NOON, OCTOBER 17, 1986.

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

MAIL TO: KEN SEDLOW
 7228 ANNA STREET
 GRAND BLANC, MICHIGAN 48439



MUSKEGON CHAPTER

I have a suggestion for those who compile the District Directory--list the name of the chorus of each chapter along with that of the director. Sometimes, in a program or convention announcement, we simply read, "Hi-Ho Valley Warble-Aires." I'd like to know from where. Even the chapter names mystify me at times. For a while, I didn't relate the Au Sable Valley Chapter with the Grayling area, nor Swan Valley with Saginaw. I'd like to know these things so I can answer those who come and ask me.

We were saddened during the month of April by the passing of LEE SELLS, one of Muskegon Chapter's staunchest supporters and a 1005 Barbershopper. He helped in many capacities since entering Barbershopping in the 1940's as a member of THE PARAGONS. Lee was an active member of the chapter board until his sudden death.

He wrote recently in our "Port City Beacon" that one of his greatest thrills was to see his son, ADAM, develop a love for Barbershop and sing in a quartet and chorus. (Adam is now directing a chorus out in California!) We will miss Lee, but we know that when he joined that great Barbershop chorus in the sky, the first thing he did was to make sure they had a good place to rehearse and then he offered to help set up the chairs.

The Muskegon Chapter is happy to have placed first in the Achievement Award again--in the division for chapters our size. We are a busy chapter, and our members do participate in District activities. We now have three quartets in the chapter: the TRI-CITIES FOUR, the LUMBERTOWN CHORDSMEN, and, more recently, the SHORELINE FOUR.

Our main weakness, like other chapters, is our membership. We gain a new member and one moves away. We hold our own, but we have a tough time gaining an actual increase.

We attract men to the AFA and guest nights, but very few are interested in membership. Often, the same men come again to other guest nights and enjoy themselves. Some even just drop in because they are in the neighborhood, but they don't seem to want to take the time that a membership implies. However, we haven't given up. We're still trying to reach the fifty mark, and we have hopes that we will make it this year.

We enjoyed the District Convention at Saginaw this time, and we had a great time with our new sea-motif uniforms. Although we would like to have placed higher (and who wouldn't), we felt good about our performance, and the judges had many helpful suggestions whole complimenting us on our steady progress.

Our annual show is scheduled for Saturday, May 31st at the Muskegon Frauenthal Theater. In addition to our Shoreline Chorus and chapter quartets, we are delighted to have the TOUCH OF CLASH and THE INTERSTATE RIVALS on the show.

I HAVE A REQUEST: Will any chapter that has EVER held a Young Men In Harmony Program, Competition, or Clinic please write to me and give me the details? We are trying to work with the Michigan School Vocal Association on a program that would incorporate the materials, just published in January (YMYH), with the regularly-scheduled Solo-Ensemble sequence music teachers face each school year. I know Lansing has something planned in May, but I would like to hear from ANY chapter that has ever worked with youth quartets in this---or a similar---program. Thanks.

"Webb" Scrivnor
14706 Ammeraal St.
Grand Haven, MI 49417

* * * * *

OAKLAND COUNTY NEWS

Competing for the first time in over a year at Saginaw marked the turning point for the Oakland County Chapter. Two additional performances at local malls added to the excitement of the chorus.

The proposed merger of the Oakland County Chapter and the Detroit #1 Chapter appears to be gaining ground, and a vote will be taken separately on June 2nd to accept or reject the merger. This could be the salvation of both of the chapters, since they were on a down hill slide the past few years. Hopefully, the historic tradition of the chapters will be maintained, and strong music and administrative teams will be the result. More next issue.

Bob McDermott

Be A Real Friend!
Bring Your Buddy to
Your Chapter Meeting
This Week!

ST. JOE VALLEY

Our chapter had a great month in April and I want to share one experience with the Pioneer District.

The Three Rivers Philharmonic Society put on a show Sunday, April 20, 1986 and asked our chapter chorus to be on the show.

The show was loaded with two professional soloists, a 46-voice community choir and a top flight organist. They had never asked us before and some of them told us they didn't like Barbershop.

We followed the 46 voice choir and did a super job. We filed out to the front of the church and all 13 of us plus our director. We hit our first chord and it sounded like a 40 voice chorus.

We sang four songs and rang every chord. When we finished the applause started and we stood there acknowledging it. Finally we filed out and into a room beside the church, and heard the applause through the door.

After the show many people came up and said they didn't know Barbershop singing could be that good. One man said you know who got the most applause---"You darn Barbershoppers!"

Numbers help but if you hit the chords, sing good songs and put on a little showmanship in it, we can compete with anybody.

George Dieffenderfer

* * * * *

SCENES OF A CONVENTION:
FROM SWAN VALLEY

It was quite an experience for me. I am a novice Barbershopper (less than three years). I was attending my second convention and serving as auditorium chairman as well. In looking back, here are some of my impressions of Spring Convention 1986--good, bad, and otherwise.

I remember the hard work of all of my chapter members to make a successful convention, reworking all of the careful plans for quartet and chorus movement one day after I typed them because the District Officers found some rooms inadequate (during competition I realized that they had been correct). We had a great time at the Thursday progressive dinner kickoff, particularly enjoying conversation with District President McDermott. I discovered during the evening that the best man at my
(continued next page)

wedding (24 years ago) was the former tenor in Clay Jones' quartet.

I listened to our Registration Chairman complain that forms were not filled out according to directions (I know many Barbershoppers don't read music, some must not read words either!).

I remember having a noon beer, Friday, with Bill Tobias and having some frank conversation regarding the hosting of a convention.

There was some frustration in having a change in set-up chairmen at the Florentine Inn just three days before the convention which caused several misunderstandings.

ELATION was felt by many of us because we moved choruses and quartets with such precision that we had finished earlier than anyone expected. The same feeling applied to having a super theater facility with great acoustics and a great theater staff with whom to work.

There was some irritation with some choruses that sent group registrations that arrived AFTER the early registration deadline, but paid only the early cheaper rate.

When the quartet prelims moved so fast that we thought THE IVY LEAGUE (warming up at the Sheraton thinking that they had plenty of time) was going to miss their call to the stage there was PANIC, and RELIEF when they showed up in the nick of time.

There was LAUGHTER when the GOLDEN OLDIES closed the outer door of the final warm-up area and it locked so we could not get to them to bring them on stage.

I remember ignoring my wife, Judy, for three days even though she was busy helping run the Barbershopper's Shop (we're still happily married, she's very understanding).

There was a SECOND PANIC when we had to reassign quartet rooms for Saturday night at 4:30 p.m. when we discovered that the Mall was no longer available (Editor's Note: the owners of the Mall and the Florentine discovered that their insurance offered no liability protection for the use of the empty shops in the adjacent mall area). We had nine gracious quartets, none of whom complained about the last minute room changes, particularly THE RITZ who warmed up in the pool area and the FAMILY FORUM who got a hall anyway.

Finally, there was great singing and lots of good people...IT'S GREAT TO BE A BARBERSHOPPER!

Les Miller
PVP, Swan Valley Chapter

(Editor's Note: I personally want to thank Les and his crew for making arrangements for me ahead of the convention weekend so that all I had to do was carry the camera equipment and have no worries whatever. The entire weekend was a joy, as they, the men of the Swan Valley Chapter, had thought of almost everything. You men, along with the management of the Florentine Inn have presented the Pioneer District with a model to follow. Thank you all!)

* * * * *

BENTON HARBOR-ST. JOE

HELLO PIONEER!

The Fruit Belt Chorus is still alive and kicking! We've been at a low tide the past year or so, but we're hoping to start rebuilding real soon.

Since our former director, Roger Valentine, retired from that position, Bob Bame, past contest judge from our chapter, has graciously accepted the job. Roger, however, will continue to sing with the chorus as his business permits.

Bob has just relinquished his duties as musical director at our local Lutheran High School, which frees him up for our meeting nights. As a chapter, we have pledged him full support.

MORE GOOD NEWS! TOP BILLING, our chapter quartet of young men, in whom we wax proud, won a contest! (Unfortunately, it wasn't the District championship.) It was a county-wide, all high school talent night sponsored by Lake Michigan College here in Benton Harbor. The show as divided into areas of talent in dance, drama, instrumental, and vocal. TOP BILLING walked away with the honors in vocal. The quartet received a trophy, and each member was awarded a certificate of superiority as well as a three-credit scholarship to the college.

A mention of college, and it brings out a sad note: after this summer, TOP BILLING will no longer be "registered" as a quartet. By the time you read this, these four very talented young men will have graduated from high school (Bob Bame has been their music director), and will be attending four different colleges in the fall. You know a split has to happen sometime, but with a quartet like this, you wish they could stay together forever.

TOP BILLING has made their parents, their school, and their chapter proud of them. They have represented our hobby in two contests and a great number of local performances. Scott, Paul, Jim and Bryan we're all proud of you and we'll miss you!

To close, we would like to encourage members of other chapters to plan a chapter trip to visit us, or just stop in if you are in town (or nearby) on business. It would be a big boost to US to see YOU! So far this year we've had Society visitors from Tulsa and Minneapolis who have moved to the area, not to mention visits by Mike O'Donnell (this year's Pioneer District Area Counselor), Division III Vice-President and Joel Mills, Division III Assistant Director of Music Education (A.D.M.E.)

Have a good Barbershop summer!

Steve Lake, P.V.P.

QUARTET



IVY LEAGUE

As most of you know by now, we're going to Salt Lake City to represent the Pioneer District. WOW! What an honor! Our thanks go out to all who helped in singing the national anthem. You really helped inspire us as we walked out on that huge stage. Not only were you kind there, but to all the people who gave us their comments of good luck and congratulations, our thanks to you.

The weekend was truly special for us in that our parents and family were there cheering us on. And a special thank you to Brian Philben, a friend, coach, and a true inspiration. I must admit, he does look better in tights.

I don't know how all you feel, but we believe the caliber of quartets are getting better in this district.

Our best goes to the Great Lakes Chorus for winning the District Championship. What a performance! We'll be there cheering you on in Salt Lake, so go get 'em guys!

THE RITZ, what can you say? Y'ou guys keep getting better and better all the time. The "Top 10" is waiting for you gentlemen. Good Luck! Let's just hope we don't have to follow you in International. Once is enough.

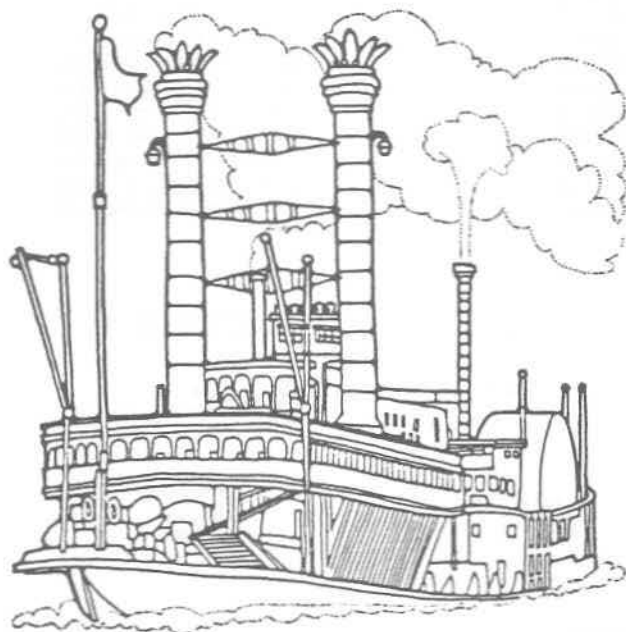
Hope to see all of you in June at the "Send-Off." Again Pioneer, thank you all very much. We are going to give it our best in Salt Lake.

Jim Pollard

Detroit No. 1 Chapter S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.

BOB-LO MOONLIGHT CRUISE

Friday, July 11, 1986



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775-6575

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M U S I C G R A M

EVER HEAR OF A GUEST NIGHT CHORUS REHEARSAL? by Bill Myers.

Burt Szabo recently told us about attending a guest night at the Orange Park, Florida (1986 International contender) chapter, where the chapter went through their usual chorus rehearsal on the risers and invited guests to sing along, also on the risers. They never changed a thing from the usual routine of preparation for their next big event. Music was well-known to the guests.

Each guest was picked up at his home by a chapter member and escorted to the meeting, encouraged to participate in everything the chorus did throughout the meeting, taken to the pizza parlour afterward for some woodshedding and elbow-bending, and then driven home. There was never a doubt in any guest's mind as to the direction, motivation and commitment the chapter was making to their Barbershop singing hobby. Of the 27 guests that night, over half signed up. This type of guest night may not be your cup of tea, but it drives home a point. Let's be up-front and honest with a guest as to our chapter's goals, the dedication and time commitment needed, and what will be expected of him once a member. But, most of all, let's invite singers to join our organization. It should be the challenge of the chapter musical leadership to mold the average singer into the chorus man they want him to be.

WHERE DO WE GET NEW CHORUS DIRECTORS? or "WHO'LL TAKE HIS PLACE WHEN HE'S GONE...GONE...GONE" by Mel Knight

Probably the single most serious problem we have in the Society today is locating and developing new Chorus Directors. When a chapter is in difficulty either musically or membership-wise, the lack of a qualified director is usually the key. How can we improve this situation? Where do we find qualified men to lead our choruses? Are our directors concerned enough about who will take their place if, for some reason, they leave the chapter or are unable to direct?

Potential directors can be found in a number of places. Many of our musical leaders come from the public school music area. Elementary, junior and high school vocal music instructors are a steady source of recruitment. We even have a handful of University professors in our midst. Instrumental music teachers at all levels are also good possibilities. Private vocal teachers, music store operators and salesmen, ex-music teachers and amateur theater participants may be potential Barbershop music directors. Church choir directors often are capable of leading a Barbershop chorus as well. How about the college ranks? Senior music majors and graduate students could do the job, and often need a job. All these sources are well and good, but how do we educate these excellent possibilities once we've signed them up? Very often even the

most talented professionally trained musician knows little about the Barbershop idiom. We know that Barbershop is different from Bach or Sousa or Mozart in many ways, but they might not. How often do we hear a chorus performing to perfection, with not a semblance of Barbershop style apparent? It could be a "professional" musician at the helm who hasn't yet completed his Barbershop education.

Experienced Barbershoppers, judges, board members and quartet men within each chapter must take it upon themselves to help this type of man "find" himself in the Barbershop world. When hiring a new director, develop a contract which insists he attend Division, District or International Chorus Director's schools. Supply him with all the Society publications that might be helpful. Get him to every chapter show and competition in the area. Visit other chapters with successful, helpful directors. Submerge him in 4-part harmony. Drown him in expanded sound. If he doesn't respond, begin looking elsewhere.

Potential directors need to be men who have a desire to direct and a commitment to the time and effort to accumulate knowledge and experience in Barbershopping. Then someone needs to recognize their talent and encourage it. And most of all, potential directors need to be given the opportunity to practice directing and coaching skills as they gain them. They must be given a chance to try.

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This 30-minute tape features one song from each of the top five choruses and quartets.

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West Town Chorus - Lombard
Big Apple Chorus - New York
Southern Gateway Chorus - Western Hills
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if Quartet

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OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY
 DISTRICT CHORUS CONTEST
 PIONEER DISTRICT, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.
 Saginaw, Michigan, April 26, 1986

THE PANEL OF JUDGES

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| CHAIRMAN | Fred Beattie | Willowdale, Ont. | Ontario |
| SOUND | John W. Bauer | Alpena, Mich. | Pioneer |
| | Donald G. Flor | Scotia, N.Y. | Northeastern |
| INTERPRETATION | John Austin | Burlington, Vt. | Northeastern |
| | Dr. Saul H. Schneider | New Orleans, La. | Southwestern |
| STAGE PRESENCE | Merrill Callum | Sharon, Mass. | Northeastern |
| | Roger Lewis | Battle Creek, Mich. | Pioneer |
| ARRANGEMENT | Tom A. Gentil | Cincinnati, Oh. | Johnny Appleseed |
| | J. Edward Waesche | Melville, N.Y. | Mid-Atlantic |
| SECRETARY | Larry King | Farmington Hills, Mich. | Pioneer |
| ASST. SECRETARY | Roger Meyer | Eden Prairie, Minn. | Land O' Lakes |
| TIMEKEEPERS | Emil Franz | Saginaw, Mich. | Pioneer |
| | Richard Marquardt | Saginaw, Mich. | Pioneer |

| | SND | | INT | | SP | | ARR | | NET | SECONDS | | MEN | DIV | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-------|---------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | TOTAL | 1 | 2 | | | |
| 1 Grand Rapids Great Lakes Chorus | 147 | 151 | 147 | 147 | 40 | 127 | 135 | 12 | 9 | 915 | 186 | 128 | 57 | G |
| 2 Traverse City Cherry Capitol Chorus | 125 | 128 | 123 | 125 | 27 | 105 | 114 | 12 | 2 | 761 | 192 | 152 | 26 | S |
| 3 Gratiot County Midstatesmen Chorus | 115 | 123 | 127 | 131 | 29 | 106 | 109 | -1 | 3 | 742 | 164 | 125 | 26 | S |
| 4 Lansing Capitol City Chordsmen | 127 | 129 | 111 | 118 | 23 | 107 | 113 | 4 | 4 | 736 | 142 | 183 | 52 | G |
| 5 Saginaw-Bay Timberland Chorus | 124 | 130 | 118 | 127 | 25 | 102 | 105 | 4 | 0 | 735 | 121 | 169 | 23 | S |
| 6 Oakland County Wolverine Chorus | 122 | 117 | 124 | 116 | 29 | 103 | 108 | 4 | 6 | 729 | 160 | 141 | 27 | G |
| 7 Huron Valley Huron Valley Chorus | 113 | 110 | 131 | 133 | 28 | 99 | 104 | 4 | 5 | 727 | 122 | 160 | 24 | S |
| 8 Monroe Stateline Chorus | 114 | 119 | 128 | 132 | 34 | 101 | 106 | -11 | 2 | 725 | 135 | 140 | 34 | S |
| 9 Flint Arrowhead Chorus | 125 | 127 | 123 | 121 | 23 | 87 | 96 | 1 | 0 | 703 | 120 | 118 | 26 | S |
| 10 Battle Creek Cereal City Chorus | 114 | 116 | 115 | 115 | 22 | 104 | 99 | 4 | 6 | 695 | 142 | 154 | 29 | G |
| 11 Windsor Sun Parlour Chorus | 109 | 105 | 128 | 123 | 21 | 98 | 94 | 7 | -4 | 681 | 122 | 120 | 32 | G |
| 12 Swan Valley Swan Valley Soundmen | 110 | 110 | 111 | 102 | 21 | 94 | 89 | 1 | 0 | 638 | 162 | 137 | 27 | S |
| 13 Milford Mill Valley Chorus | 119 | 115 | 112 | 109 | 16 | 81 | 72 | 3 | 8 | 635 | 133 | 167 | 24 | S |
| 14 Muskegon Shoreline Chorus | 95 | 102 | 98 | 101 | 29 | 82 | 80 | -8 | 0 | 579 | 175 | 150 | 25 | S |
| 15 Sault Ste. Marie Northland Chorus | 100 | 100 | 97 | 97 | 18 | 78 | 79 | 7 | 1 | 577 | 139 | 76 | 28 | G |
| Ineligible Chorus(es) - Article 6d of Official Chorus Contest Rules | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Kalamazoo | 105 | 103 | 111 | 110 | 21 | 82 | 90 | 2 | 6 | 630 | 122 | 120 | 18 | S |
| Mall City Chorus | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Alpena Lumbermen's Chorus | 104 | 101 | 117 | 103 | 18 | 75 | 74 | 5 | -3 | 594 | 112 | 134 | 19 | S |

1986 Pioneer District Chorus Champion is the Great Lakes Chorus

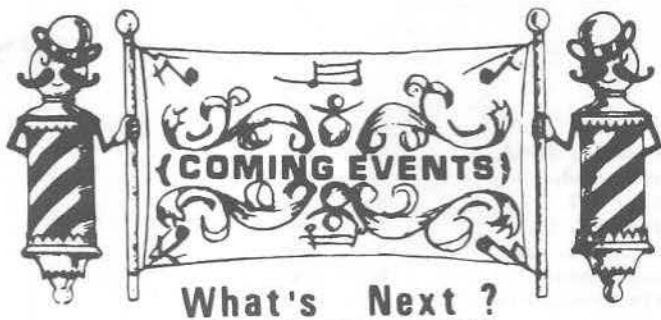
Gold Division Champions are the Capitol City Chordsmen

Silver Division Champion is the Cherry Capitol Chorus

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY QUARTET CONTEST

| FINALS | SND | | INT | | SP | | ARR | | SUB TOTAL | PREV PTS. | TOTAL SCORE | SECONDS | | |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------|-----|-----|
| | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | | | 1 | 2 | |
| 1 The Ritz | 151 | 161 | 157 | 161 | 45 | 141 | 139 | 8 | 5 | 968 | 940 | 1908 | 135 | 167 |
| 2 "The Ivy League" | 130 | 128 | 148 | 146 | 49 | 136 | 140 | 0 | 3 | 880 | 872 | 1752 | 146 | 157 |
| 3 Tri-County Connection | 130 | 140 | 144 | 140 | 37 | 124 | 125 | 3 | 1 | 844 | 884 | 1728 | 129 | 151 |
| 4 Family Forum | 128 | 121 | 134 | 137 | 39 | 124 | 122 | -2 | -5 | 798 | 836 | 1634 | 147 | 156 |
| 5 Harmony Rendezvous | 121 | 121 | 138 | 139 | 25 | 115 | 120 | 4 | 12 | 795 | 790 | 1585 | 170 | 113 |
| 6 Heirloom | 125 | 121 | 128 | 129 | 35 | 120 | 125 | 10 | 8 | 801 | 779 | 1580 | 139 | 145 |
| 7 The Sound Ambassadors | 124 | 123 | 134 | 133 | 33 | 116 | 115 | 4 | 1 | 783 | 736 | 1519 | 123 | 132 |
| 8 Mutual-A-Chord | 125 | 122 | 129 | 128 | 23 | 105 | 106 | -10 | -4 | 724 | 698 | 1422 | 137 | 133 |
| SEMI-FINALS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 The Ritz | 152 | 153 | 154 | 156 | 43 | 134 | 139 | 4 | 5 | 940 | | | 151 | 106 |
| 2 Tri-County Connection | 142 | 143 | 146 | 148 | 36 | 132 | 124 | 8 | 5 | 884 | | | 141 | 194 |
| 3 "The Ivy League" | 129 | 124 | 156 | 147 | 45 | 140 | 139 | 4 | -12 | 872 | | | 147 | 170 |
| 4 Family Forum | 128 | 136 | 143 | 147 | 37 | 117 | 123 | 4 | 1 | 836 | | | 119 | 177 |
| 5 Harmony Rendezvous | 125 | 131 | 126 | 131 | 26 | 118 | 123 | 4 | 6 | 790 | | | 79 | 176 |
| 6 Heirloom | 114 | 112 | 130 | 129 | 34 | 115 | 123 | 11 | 11 | 779 | | | 169 | 118 |
| 7 The Sound Ambassadors | 126 | 127 | 112 | 119 | 23 | 105 | 112 | 5 | 7 | 736 | | | 153 | 130 |
| 8 Mutual-A-Chord | 119 | 124 | 113 | 121 | 20 | 95 | 93 | 5 | 8 | 698 | | | 135 | 174 |

The first two highest scoring quartets represent the Pioneer District at the 1986 International Quartet Contest. The third place quartet is the Alternate.



JUNE

- 14 Traverse City Chapter
- 29 International Convention
Salt Lake City, Utah

JULY

- 6 International Convention ends

AUGUST

- 4-8 HARMONY COLLEGE
St. Joseph, Missouri

SEPTEMBER

- 5-7 HARMONY ROUND-UP & COACHING
CLINIC - E.M.U.
- 27 Gratiot County Chapter Show

OCTOBER

- 11 Jackson Chapter Show
- 17-19 FALL CONVENTION-FLINT

NOVEMBER

- 22 Detroit #1 Chapter

DECEMBER

- 6-7 Chapter Officer Training School
Eastern Michigan University



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:



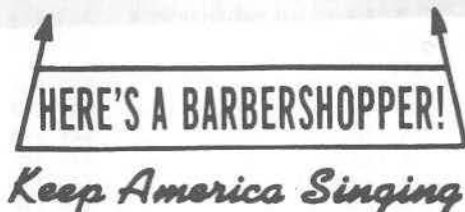
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