



pioneer TROUBADOUR



S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A.

APR/MAY '87

VOLUME 38 NUMBER 2

CAN-AM JAMBOREE SET FOR JUNE 6TH

by our Executive V.P.
Clay Jones

It seems there was this salesman traveling around his territory trying to sell his product according to the salesman's old adage "Sell the sizzle and not the steak." He spent so much time glorifying the attributes of the "sizzle" that he almost forgot to mention there was a steak involved.

Previous articles, letters, and updates have gone to some length to describe all the activities taking place during the weekend of the CAN-AM Jamboree on June 5th and June 6th; sporting events such as golf, tennis, softball, horseshoe pitching, ale-quaffing (that's a sport in Canada); family activities such as swimming, camping, hiking, fishing; woodshedding; ladies fashion show; arts & crafts; and recording yourself singing with a championship quartet. . . All of these are being offered as extra inducement for those barbershoppers wishing to come early (Friday) and stay late (Sunday).

Apparently with so much emphasis on the "sizzle", some of our people lost track of the primary reason for having this Jamboree in the first place ... the bottom line ... the "steak". It was our intention to have every chapter that wanted to, put on a 15 minute show package to entertain and be entertained by our brethren to the north, barbershoppers of the Ontario District. They want to see our talent and we want to see theirs. We don't want to leave the impression, however, that in order to attend this glorious bash every barbershopper has to bring his family and drop \$200 or so over an extended weekend. All that's really intended is for all barbershoppers to show off their talent, promote their chapter, rub elbows with friends of another district and have a heck of a good time, while at the same time raising funds to help send our representative quartets and chorus to International.

(Continued Next Column)



For ten lousy bucks you can see one, two or three shows featuring some of the finest barbershop talent in North America. If your time/and or finances are limited, just car-pool it over to Chatham via Windsor or Sarnia on Saturday, June 6th. Even if your chorus decides not to put on a show package in one of the show-cases, for \$10 you can see a superb show (or two or three) and go home the same night.

For those of us who can't get enough of this sort of thing, there's all those frills available.

For those wishing to stay overnight there is a housing form elsewhere in this "Troubadour." Clip it out, fill it out and mail it to:

Best Western Wheels Inn
P.O. Box 637

Chatham, Ontario N7M 5K8
or call Jack Authier of the Chatham Chapter at (519) 351-1464 and he can tell you all about motel rates, other motels plus camping facilities.

If your chapter chorus is planning on performing, don't forget to put together a "PR" booth, a table of pictures, trophies, banners, news articles or any publicity you care to display to show off your chorus and quartets. Each chapter's display will be set up around the inside perimeter of the Kinsman Hall for the audience to view during breaks in the show. Everyone gets an opportunity to blow his own horn. But above all, COME TO CAN-AM June 6th for the time of your life!

THE FOLLOWING QUARTETS AND CHORUSES HAVE INDICATED THEY INTEND TO

PARTICIPATE IN THE CAN-AM

FROM THE PIONEER DISTRICT

QUARTETS

GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT
RITZ
IVY LEAGUE
TOUCH OF CLASH
THE VERY IDEA
FAMILY FORUM
VAGABONDS (Maybe)

CHORUSES

Wayne RENAISSANCE
Detroit-Oakland GENTLEMEN
SONGSTERS
Grosse Pointe LAKESHORE
Windsor SUN PARLOUR
Swan Valley SOUNDMEN
Macomb County HARMONY HERITAGE

FROM THE ONTARIO DISTRICT

NIGHTHAWKS
HERE COMES TREBLE
CANADIAN HERITAGE
CATCH 44
RUMORS

MELLO-MEN
OPUS 4
DE-JA-VU
NORTHLAND

Scarborough DUKES OF HARMONY
Burlington BARBERSHOPPERS
Chatham KENT CHORDSMEN
Ottawa CAPITAL CITY (maybe)

LOGOPEDICS



George Van DeVelde
995 N. Cass Lake
Road #202
Pontiac, MI 48054
(313) 682-5057

Boy, this year is off to a good start, and the momentum is just great. Keep up the good work! January and February produced \$4356.31 compared to 1986 for the same period \$1714.54.

The following chapters donated in January and February; Grand Rapids, Alpena (which has already reached the Bronze Award - thank you Bernard Martin, the chapter's Logopedic's Chairman), Swan Valley, Grosse Pointe, Traverse City, and last but not least, the great Wayne Chapter and its Logopedic's Chairman Alex Wilcox. They did an outstanding job in '86 and off to a good start in '87. Thank you Alex.

Periodically I receive a "parent update" from the Institute. It tells of all its happenings.

The parents raise money much as we do, with bake sales, woodshop sales, etc., all striving to help the Institute. One important thing I read was the accomplishments in seizure control. In 1985 they had 388 seizures and during 1986 they had only 190, a 49% reduction. So you see they really do a fine job for the kids.

If any of you wish to visit the Institute, just call and let them know. You will be housed and fed and it won't cost you a dime. The phone number there is 1-800-835-1043.

Guys, the International Convention is coming soon, and the Pioneer District needs a gift donated for the big Logopedics raffle. Last year I asked and received no replies. Please help me as there must be someone out there who can help us.

The new directory you received has my phone number as (313) 625-5057, and it should be (313) 682-5057.

George

"a smile increases
your face value"

Pioneer TROUBADOUR

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



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CHANGE OF ADDRESSES

The TROUBADOUR is mailed with labels supplied by our International Headquarters. If you have moved, notify International Headquarters, SPEBSQSA, Inc., 6315-3rd Avenue, Kenosha, WI 53140-5199. Give them your name, member number, your old address, and your new address. This will insure your continued receipt of the TROUBADOUR. Do not contact your editor, as this will only cause unneeded delay in the delivery of your TROUBADOUR.

THE PRESIDENT'S

CORNER



**PIONEER DISTRICT PRESIDENT
EARL W. BERRY**

It's interesting to note that in the first quarter of 1987 many of our district officers and area counselors have been making calls to their assigned chapters. Please keep up the good work. For those of you who have not had the opportunity, let's get with it! These reports do more than fill a filing cabinet. They can report good news and bad news. These reports act as a barometer in letting us know how well the chapters are doing.

First, let's discuss the bad news-- if your report indicates that a particular chapter is experiencing difficulties, whether it be in administration or musically, etc., help can be provided from either the district or international level. But if you keep it a secret, and don't send in your reports, that chapter is a loser.

(Continued Next Column)

(From Column 1)

Now the good news. Reports will provide us with the information that a particular chapter is alive and well, and many of their "ideas" can be shared with "troubled" chapters.

But again, we need those reports. Please take the time to make your visitations and write up a report on it.

Last, but not least---chapter presidents, if your chapter has not had a visit from an area counselor or division vice president, don't wait for him to show up. Call him, and invite him to your next meeting.



"Allright you guys, PIPE DOWN!"

**INTERNATIONAL BOARD
REPORT**

by I.B.M. Jim Gougeon

The following are some of the highlights of the International Board meeting in sunny Sarasota at the Mid-Winter meeting.

- 1.) Beginning with the 2nd quarter billings, international dues will be increased \$5.00.
- 2.) All chapters will elect a Music Vice President starting with the Fall '87 elections.
- 3.) The international board strongly disapproves of the practice of 'picked choruses.' Choruses, however, are permitted to have requirements permitting the disqualification of a chorus member for not knowing his part or for lack of attendance.
- 4.) The site for the 1991 International Convention is Louisville, KY.
- 5.) By special invitation, the FOUR UNDER PAR quartet will sing their swan song at the Hartford convention.
- 6.) DYNAMO is off and running in all districts.



BATTLE CREEK EVENTS

TIME

EVENT

LOCATION

FRIDAY - April 10

1:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	Registration in Lobby at poolside.	
1:00 p.m. -	District Board Meeting	Branson 4
2:00 p.m. - ON	Barbershopper's Shop	Custer
8:30 p.m.	Quartet Contest	Kellogg Auditorium

SATURDAY - APRIL 11

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Chapter President's breakfast	Horizon
8:30 a.m. -	House of Delegates Meeting	Branson 4
9:00 a.m. - ON	Barbershopper's Shop	Custer
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	A & R Sessions-Eliminated Quartets	Montgomery
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Logopedic's Meeting	Branson 3
12:30 p.m.	Pioneer District Chorus Contest (Chorus A & R Sessions immediately following the contest)	Kellogg Auditorium

(A half hour after the end of the Chorus contest, there will be a mass sing in McCamly Place Center Court - followed by the Great Lakes Chorus and the new District Champion Chorus.)

8:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.	Quartet Finals	Kellogg Auditorium
11:00 p.m.	Chorditorium	McCamly Place

SUNDAY - APRIL 12

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Quartet A & R Sessions	Montgomery
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District Historian Need Artifacts

by District Historian Art Schulze

Your District Historian is in DIRE NEED of arti-facts, pictures, book-lets and articles from our early past, particularly from the early 40's and 50's. We would appreciate whatever you might have or are able to find of an historical nature (even good copies will do) for the Pioneer District Exhibit for the 50th Anniversary of our great Society. The idea is that your material would have to do with our District's origins and/or important events.

These items will be assembled on a pair of exhibit boards 32" x 40" or the equivalent for the Kenosha Heritage Hall display panels. A set of the same panels displayed at our District Conventions would be very appropriate.

As your District Historian, I must have articles and items from each chapter in the Pioneer District to be displayed on these boards. Your District urgently needs your support in this endeavor!

My address is 21201 Stanley, St. Claire Shores, MI 48081.

1987 DISTRICT DIRECTORY CHANGES

Please make the following changes and/or corrections in your 1987 Pioneer District Directory.

Page 8, Director of Convention Planning and Special Events - Roger Lewis' address should be changed to 20125. This also should be changed on Page 15, Judges, Page 17 in two places under District Convention and Page 40 under HARMONY HOUNDS.

Page 13, Dick Campbell's zip code should be listed as 49017.

Page 13, Dale Mattis' phone number should be (616) 399-0530.

Page 18, George Van De Velde's phone number under Logopedics should be (313) 682-5057.

Page 30, under Lansing - Mike O'Donnell's home telephone should be (616) 363-1368.

Page 32, under Muskegon, Robert L. Wingett's telephone number should be (616) 733-2811 as well as being changed on Page 42 under THE 4 SHOREMAN.

Page 32, under Muskegon, the P.V.P. should be changed to Imre Bryant, 8360 Pontaluna, Nunica, MI 49448 - (616) 853-6384.

Society Dues Increased

(The following is a letter received from International President Darryl Flinn)

Dear Brother Barbershopper,

The Barbershop Quartet Society continues to move forward in 1987. During the year we will implement the DYNAMO program, add a staff member to the music department, provide initial funding for our 50th anniversary celebration, help chapters initiate a new chapter music vice president, and maintain other vital Society programs.

At the same time, the International board of directors feel a responsibility to keep the Society on a sound fiscal basis. For the past several years, the Society has enjoyed financial success. Through careful budgeting, cost control and profitable investments, we have been able to fund programs and operating costs from available income. Income that is generated, for the most part, by your membership dues.

Unfortunately during this period, we have also found that membership increases did not happen as planned. Because of this situation, income from membership has not kept pace with the Society's financial needs. In fact, the membership has decreased, placing further strains on other income sources to make up the difference to pay for expenses.

Thus the Finance Committee was faced with a possible \$65,000 deficit in the 1987 budget. The committee felt strongly that this would not be sound financial planning and therefore recommended to the International Board a \$5 dues increase effective with March, 1987 renewals. This recommendation was unanimously approved by the board at the mid-winter convention.

Decisions to increase dues are always difficult. They are not made lightly and only approved when it is evident that financial problems exist in spite of extreme fiscal and budgetary restraint on the part of Society staff members. Rest assured that the Finance Committee, Executive Committee and international board of directors felt that such a decision was essential in order to maintain the financial stability of your Society.

DYNAMICALLY,

Darryl Flinn

In Memoriam RAWLEY G. HALLMAN



CELESTIAL CHORUS GAINS NEW MEMBER

By Bill Pascher

Rawley G. Hallman, Pioneer District Hall of Famer 1975, died in his sleep January 27, 1987, at the age of 90. He had been living in Sebring, Florida, for the past several years, but had maintained his continuous membership in the Pontiac Chapter since 1944. He is survived by his wife Donna, daughters Karol and Marilyn, son Keith, 18 grandchildren, 19 great grandchildren, and his brother Harold.

Rawley was a dedicated quartet man, always building and repairing one foursome or another. Besides the DROP CHORDS and many other quartets around Pontiac, he sang baritone with such notables as Joe Wolff, Tim Weber, Al Eason, Monty Marsden, Joe Jones, Carlton Scott, John Smith, Dick Johnson, and Chase Sanborn.

He quartetted in his college days as a pharmacy student and during the years preceding "Barbershop". His insistence on harmony accuracy will long be remembered by his many friends and by all those he touched during 43 years with our Barbershop Society.

The Pontiac Chapter and the Pioneer District mourn his passing!

EUGENE HAINES

Eugene Haines, a Division Four Area Counselor for the Boyne City and Sault Ste. Marie chapters, died suddenly at his home of a heart attack on March 17 while washing his car. Gene, a longtime member of the Sault chapter, will be sorely missed by all his compatriots in the north country. He was very active with his chapter, as well as with the other northern chapters. We know he's singing up there, because he loved it so. God rest his soul.

QUARTET NEWS

HARMONY HOUNDS

After 29 years of "dog-gone good entertainment", the HARMONY HOUNDS of Battle Creek, Michigan have decided to hang up their hats, canes, and instruments singing their "swan song" (or is it an "old dog" song?) on their own chapter show March 21, 1987.

To the many thousands of friends we've met, sung for, and sung with over the years, we howl a "thank you" for your appreciation of our "dog-gone" harmony.

The years have certainly provided all eleven litters of the HOUNDS with excitement and enjoyment: a USO tour of Japan, Phillipines and Guam in 1970; a trip to England for the first BABS Barbershop Convention in 1974; plus hundreds of performances from coast-to-coast.

Thanks also to the alumni (old dogs) who have kept the tradition going since 1958. Henry Brown, Lowell Wolfe, Bill Clark and Ron Atkins, the original four and Dick Pancost, Dick Spear, Ron Mell, Larry Swan and Bud Burril, the "ins-and-outs" from 1962 to 1982. They've all earned a "pedigree."

But most of all, thanks to you who have listened to us and laughed at us. You have warmed our hearts, given us fond memories, and left us with "wagging tails!"

IN DOG-GONE HARMONY...

DEAN ---- ROGER ---- DORN ---- DICK

HARMONY RENDEZVOUS

HARMONY RENDEZVOUS announces that bass Dave Ives has left the quartet because of changing job schedules and a desire to return to college to complete his degree. We wish him all the best.

Replacing Dave in the quartet is Pete Burns of the Wayne Chapter. Pete has sung with the HARMONY UNLIMITED, the SATURDAY NIGHT FEATURE, and RELATIVELY SPEAKING.

We hope to compete in the Spring Contest.

Jerry Clardy

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 312/653-4111

TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION

While we are in the process of preparing for the Spring Convention, we would like to "fill in the blanks", you might say, on our activities over the past few months.

Our bari, Mike Woodruff, and our lead, Mike Dixon, both survived the first year of married bliss (with their wives, not each other). Our tenor, Rick Sims, has been struggling with the thought that in less than a year his son will be a teenager. That leaves Tom Conway, our basso profundo, still shuffling through life, single, foot-loose and fancy free.

We are truly looking forward to singing in the Spring Contest. Most of our singing has been done in rehearsal and we're getting basement-phobia. We were fortunate enough, however, to have the opportunity to spend some time with a very special friend of ours, Mike Arnone. Those of you who are familiar with Mike know he has had some health problems recently. We sang a few songs for him while he "visited" Mt. Sinai Hospital and hope to see him again soon at his home. Mike is a great guy and a true-blue barbershopper. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Singing for Mike helped all of us remember why we do what we do. The joy that singing can bring to the heart and soul is limitless. We are extremely thankful to have voices to sing and such good friends to share our music with. God Bless.

NEW QUARTETS

CURTAINS 4 CERTAIN
Contact: Robert J. Fox
4400 Devonshire
Lansing, MI 48910

HARMONY HEY-DEY
Contact: Tom E. Taylor
10353 Judd Road
Willis, MI 48191

MID-MICHIGAN COACHMAN
Contact: Delos Mac Laren
105 E. Barber Street
Ithaca, MI 48847

UNRENEWED QUARTETS (As of 2/13/87)

THE FIRST ENDEAVOR
GENTLEMEN'S QUARTERLY
HEIRLOOM
MUTUAL-A-CHORD
POINTERS OF NOTE
THE SONGSPINNERS
THE VERY IDEA

Rick Sims - Tenor

Mike Dixon - Lead
(313) 292-2162



TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION

Pioneer District Quartet Champions

Mike Woodruff - Bari

Tom Conway - Bass

See you in the spring!

OLD PIONEER QUARTET MEN DON'T FADE AWAY,

THEY JUST LEARN NEW ARRANGEMENTS IN FLORIDA



Old Pioneer quartet men refuse to give up when it comes to singing good Barbershop songs, even when they are in Florida. In photo, L to R, include Howard Hawkins, (MERRIMEN), Sam Cushman (FORTUNE TELLERS), Cliff Douglas, (CURBSTONE SERENADERS), Bill Wilcox, (ATR-MALES).

This was an informal get together for Sam, who was only visiting the west coast of Florida. Thank you Tom Pollard for the photo and the info. Ed.

DISTRICT NEWS

Benton Harbor-St. Joe

Contest LOOMS from horizon to foreground in every direction - extra rehearsals unending. Why won't the other parts stay off that lead solo? When will we know about those uniforms? You must practice the choreography at home. Tenors, you're doubling the basses again. Stage pre- or no, you still have to sing. And smile! That scooping will cost us points! Do it properly here or you'll never do it right on stage! And so on and so on until April. Thank God for the baritone section!

This is a small chapter but we have something going that seems unusual: over 87% of our chapter members attend chorus rehearsals regularly. We wonder whether any other chapter in the district is doing better, or as well!

Our annual show is on Friday, May 29th, at 8 p.m. in St. Joseph High School. Headliners will be the nationally renowned 139TH STREET QUARTET from the Los Angeles area, the RITZ quartet of Pioneer District acclaim, and our chapter premier performers, the MUSIC COMMITTEE Quartet, and the FRUIT BELT CHORUS. Ticket information appears elsewhere in this issue of the "Troubadour".

Two lead-type members of our enthusiastic 87% have been honored with Barbershopper of the Month Awards for January and February. They are, respectively, George Dioguard and Bill Riekels. Congratulations, fellows!

A whisper to the Alpena Chapter: Art Linde's arrows have rubber suction cups!!!!

BRAD LAUGHLIN

Boyne City

This may shock everyone to hear from the Boyne City Chapter, but we are still very much alive. In fact, the SNOW BELT Chorus has been in much more demand this past year and have appeared in cities all over the north. Next week (Feb. 28) we sing at the famous Boyne Mountain Ski Resort, for the Bendix Corp. branch located in Boyne City.

You might remember our chapter has organized the "Logopedic's Special" with the cooperation of the other chapters in Division Four. Our chorus director, Bob Tracy, of Mackinaw City, was the father of this project and put in a great deal of time and

(Continued Next Column)

(From Column 1)

effort to organize it. He was instrumental in obtaining the beautiful opera house in Cheboygan, which was renovated and is a perfect place for this event. Both years we have had four quartets, one of which is featured. Last year we featured the MUSIC MART Quartet, in addition to the 85 man joint chorus. This activity was partly responsible for us to win a Silver Award in the District.

We are proud that the Boyne City Chapter is the only chapter north of Saginaw that has survived since 1944. We have members from Mackinaw, Indian River, Petoskey, Charlevoix as well as Boyne City. We have hosted the "Bush League" Quartet Contest since 1946 with great success. Little did I think when I had the idea that started it, that it would be this long running. The idea was to encourage new quartets, and we know it has helped many new ones. We are proud that the 1966 International Champs, THE AUTO TOWNERS won their first contest in the Bush League. The contest this year is May 2nd. We invite all of you to join us for a week end full of fun,

LOTON WILSON

Battle Creek

Here we are again with all the news that's fit to sing from the Cereal City Chorus. At this writing, your's truly, is not sure if our news is good or bad. As I mentioned in the last B.C. news, and I'm sure you've noticed by now from your 1987 directory, Battle Creek is going to be a busy city this year barbershop-wise. The challenge and the big test is now before our chapter and city and right now our grade is incomplete.

March 13-15 was the scheduled week-end for the quartet coaching clinic. March 21st was the night of our 32nd annual Night of Harmony with the BLUEGRASS STUDENT UNION being our headliner quartet, and April 10-12 the Pioneer District Spring Convention and Contests. I do hope everyone had an opportunity to visit our fine city and facilities for one or all of these events.

In January we held our annual Installation of Officers Banquet with past International President John Gillespie as the installer and had as special guests, our Pioneer District champs, the TOUCH OF CLASH! Our own Roger Lewis, the new District Chairman for Planning and Special Events, presented a general outline of what was to be expected from our chapter and

(Continued Next Column)

Battle Creek News (Cont)

our city for the Spring Convention. The real big news of the night was the announcement by our own HARMONY HOUNDS that they would be disbanding after 28 years. They were to make their farewell performance on our spring show. It just won't be quite the same without the HOUNDS on stage each spring for our show, as they have become an institution with our chapter.

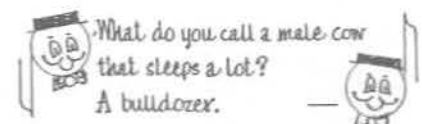
The end of January brought a visit from our special guest coach, our former director, Giff Richards, who helped us with our voice placement. It is surprising what a little thing like voice placement plus some extra attention to vowels and target sounds can do to improve the overall sound.

In early February, we had another special guest, Mr. Ron Rockwell, field representative from international. He gave us some pointers and suggestions in regards to programs and membership retention, but he was there to especially emphasize the new DYNAMO program music concept from international that he hopes will improve the overall music programs of the chapters.

Our chapter has been quite busy in recent months preparing for our show and the spring contest, and everyone will be glad to relax just a little after these events. However, M.V.P. Gregory Loser does have a guest night planned a couple of weeks after contest. Also, the board has been busy reviewing and revising our somewhat outdated chapter by-laws. It is hoped that when these are completed we can appoint a Music Vice President and an official music team. No rest for the weary, but hopefully all of these efforts will go a long way to improving our chapter both musically and administratively. Even though this is our hobby, and we all enjoy four part harmony, it also has come to pass that chapters have to be somewhat business oriented also.

In closing, we'd like to give a special Cereal City welcome to our new "Troubadour" editor, Bob McDermott, no stranger to most of us. "We're in good hands" with Bob! And, a reminder to SMILE- it's the Barbershop style, 'cause it's GREAT TO BE A BARBERSHOPPER!

BEN JERZYK



DISTRICT NEWS

Detroit-Oakland

(From Column 1)

Things are really beginning to happen with our chapter now that we have settled down from our merger year. We are never going to mention that word again, because we are one chapter now and will be that way from now on!

Steve Sutherland, our director, along with Gordie Limburg and Don McDaniel comprise our music team along with G.B. Work, our Music V.P. We have all the section leaders in place and we are moving in the right direction. We are working on our contest set for the Battle Creek Pioneer District Chorus Contest, in addition to singing at the Detroit Cobo Hall "Flower Show". (Don't get any wrong ideas about this chorus!)

Our membership night on Feb. 28th proved successful, and it looks like we may have picked up seven new members. The nice thing is that they are enthusiastic, energetic, and singers.

One of our Public Relations Men reports that he is successfully beginning to distribute the 30 second and 60 second radio spots to local radio stations. That man is Austin Quinn, and if you hear these spots, remember they have been professionally dubbed and should help our membership growth.

Detroit-Oakland is also sponsoring a "LOGOPEDIC'S GOLF TOURNAMENT". This event will take place in mid-June or July, depending upon availability of Golf Courses, and will be announced shortly. Bob Drabik, our Chairman, will announce details later. Look for a flyer from the District to each chapter. This tournament last year provided \$150 to Logopedics, and we should double that this year. Hey, fellows, let's get with it!

HERMAN SCHWARTZENEGGAR

Grand Rapids

The TIDE has been so darn busy since the first of the year trying to learn all the new music for our annual show April 4th, that time has really been of the essence, and because of that I wouldn't say things here have been a piece of cake for us or that Captain Clay has been a slave driver or anything like that. But when I get home after practice the lash marks on my 'ole back really like to smart...Just kidding, Captain, honest. You've been very understanding.

(Continued Next Column)

27 new songs seems like a lot to learn, don't you think? Actually, the chorus has to learn only 10 new tunes. It just seems like 27.

Moving right along, we really do have a super show coming up. It features the ALIENS, the SIDEKICKS, the TOUCH OF CLASH, the CHAPTER OCTET, the FURNITURE CITY CHORD COMPANY, and of course the GREAT LAKES CHORUS.

Now during all this confusion we did manage a few activities. How, I'm not sure, but we had them anyway.

Our mini-chorus sang for the Porter Hills Presbyterian Village, a home for the elderly. On February 14th we had our annual Valentine dance. On the 17th we had our annual "Inter-Chapter Pickup Quartet Contest." 13 quartets competed and a quartet by the name of B FOUR came out on top, with Mark Savage on bari, Gary Vandenberg on tenor, Ray Grutter on bass and Bill Edmunds on lead. Congratulations, guys, on a great job.

On the 28th of February we had a chorus family potluck get together for all the new members and guests, highlighted by the showing of the 1986 International film. We had a great turnout and everyone got to know each other just a little bit better.

As you can imagine, the hive here in Grand Rapids is humming and alive with plenty of fun, enthusiasm, excitement, and hard work as our show rapidly approaches along with the Battle Creek Convention following only a week later. We look forward to seeing you either at our show or in Battle Creek. Till then, it's GREAT TO BE A BARBERSHOPPER!

By Dick Williams

Macomb County

International Board Member Jim Gougeon returned from Sarasota, Florida and the Winter Convention not only without a tan, but also without a chance to appear in his own chapter's charter show. Talk about devotion to duty! Due to the Macomb County Chapter's Charter Show being on January 31, Jim had an unavoidable conflict and could not sing with us. Sometimes being an IBM isn't all fun and travel...But we did miss him and hopefully our next show won't be the same date as the Mid-Winter Convention.

(Continued Next Column)

(From Column 2)

Meanwhile, our chapter President, Ken Slamka, received our charter on-stage and astounded everyone with his eloquent speech, consisting of those infamous two words... "Thank You".

Tom Gentry, one of our Society's Music Specialists, visited our chapter on March 24th, and spoke on Chorus Development. He was extremely interesting and if anyone ever has a chance to hear him perform and do his spiel, we would heartily recommend it to everyone!

Our membership vice president and longtime Society member Vince Koelzer, has scheduled a guest night for April 28, 1987, at 8:00 p.m. at the Pampas Lanes, 31925 Van Dyke, in Warren, MI, between 13 and 14 Mile Roads. Come on down and join us!

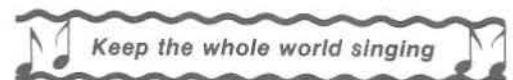
Our Quartet Activities Chairman, Derrick Deakins, is enthusiastically leading the HARMONY HERITAGE CHORUS in the Polecat Program and is using his tremendous talents to help develop even more registered quartets out of our chorus. The two quartets we do have registered out of our chorus are two of the finest in our district. Both YESTERDAY ONCE MORE and THE FAMILY FORUM are so busy that they see more of each other than they do their wives and girlfriends.

We would like to thank the Grosse Pointe Chapter for making a surprise visit in March and bringing the Detroit-Oakland "Traveling Jug" with them. As usual, the LAKESHORE CHORUS was in great voice and the fellowship was tremendous. Beware Grosse Pointe! You never know when we will return the favor! As a matter of fact, neither do we, but be on watch!

Chorus director Jack Slamka and Music Vice President Jeff Gougeon are hard at work preparing the chorus for our first-ever Pioneer District Convention. We are looking forward to being in Battle Creek and meeting all who attend.

Last, I would like to thank Ernie Evangelista, editor of the "Windmill Blade" for allowing me to steal some of his ideas, and thank Derrick Deakins and Neil Davies for all their suggestions. The biggest "Thanks" goes to John Morris and Pat Riley for all their help in putting out the "Heritage Herald". Thanks, guys!

ROBERT ARTHUR





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girl is
like a
melody*

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DARL WILEY, DIRECTOR

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DISTRICT NEWS

SWAN VALLEY

The Swan Valley Chapter is embarking on an ambitious year. We have already committed to a chorus membership increase of 20% with our new MVP Jim Stewart, having a solid plan of action for accomplishing this task. PVP Rudy Emerick, in concert with the Music Leadership Chairman Will Stuber, has planned some real Training, Learning sessions for competition songs. Thus our talented director Herb Benjamin, should have more singers and more capable singers to mold into some great sound.

We are proud to hold the #1 point ranking in our plateau in the Pioneer District and also proud to be in the top ten in International. It says a lot for the activity of our chapter in performances, quartet activity, and this especially shows the diligent work of our secretary, Jim Martin, and treasurer Earl Gronda, in taking care of all the proper paperwork. By the way, the only way we plan to relinquish our 1st place standing is when our membership drive moves us into another plateau.

Our installation of Officers Banquet was a roaring success. Nearly 50 barbershoppers and ladies were in attendance along with Division Five Vice President Paul Lehmkuhle, and Area Counselor Carl Secor to see Pioneer District President Earl Berry install our new officers. Our 1985 Barbershopper of the Year, Herb Benjamin, presented the 1986 award to Les Miller. The evening was topped off when a pick-up group from the chorus sang "What Ever Happened to Mary" to one of our evening's waitresses (Mary, of course). After the song Mary asked how her father could get into our group as "he loves to sing". New members are everywhere!

Planning for our September show, "America's Spirit in Music", is well under way and promises to be an exciting event.

All in all, the SOUNDMEN are on the move and the Pioneer District can look forward to lots of good "Sounds from the Valley."

LES MILLER

Wayne

At the time of this writing, the Wayne Chapter has just completed our 23rd annual spring show, "A Salute to Hollywood," and everyone is calling it our 'best show ever'! The chorus played to two sell-out crowds on Friday and Saturday for a total of 2600

(Continued Next Column)

(From Column 1)

people. It was a great pleasure for Wayne to be able to spotlight five, count 'em, five, chapter quartets: District Novice Champs the CHORDINARY GUYS, the FOUR PART FORMULA, the VERY IDEA, and our past District Champion Quartets, the TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION and the IVY LEAGUE.

Additionally featured was Chapter President/Soloist Ken Casey, and the HAPPINESS EMPORIUM, our 1975 International Champions. Bob Whitledge did his usual fabulous job as our Master of Ceremonies.

We'd like to take this opportunity to publically thank Debbie Pollard and Beth Thompson for developing and patiently teaching us their choreography and their dance preparation in the show.

One of the best crowd reactions came when more than 75 chorus members came streaming in through all of the auditorium entrances attired in various costumes representing characters from the 100 years of Hollywood filmmaking. These ranged from Frankenstein to Superman, from Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck to the Blues Brothers and Keystone Kops.

The feeling of satisfaction and the THRILL of having been involved in such a production was evident in every man as the Saturday show came to a close amidst a standing ovation.

As many have heard by now, Jon Reed, our Music Educator and formerly from the VOCAL MAJORITY, has recently been relocated by the powers that be at EDS, to Denver, Colorado. This was a very emotional parting and we wish Jon all the best and hope he is right

(Continued Next Column)

(From Column 2)

when he expects this to be just a temporary relocation away from the Detroit area.

Late in 1986, newly transferred Freddie MacFadyen was added to the music staff and joined Rod Ames as an assistant director.

Another personnel move made by the chapter was the position of Music Vice President to the executive board. With this change Rusty Ruegsegger was nominated and subsequently elected to this most important and responsible position in the Music Leadership Team.

With the show behind us now, we can look to a lot of hard work preparing for Hartford. In order to best represent the Pioneer District, arrangements have been made with the vowel "guru" himself, Gary Parker!

This brings us to another happy commentary. Our Alex Willox, the pride of the Scotch and our own Logopedics Chairman, did an unprecedented job in 1986. He exhorted and sweet talked our membership and board into making Wayne the first Gold Award chapter winner in the district. All this while planning the Hartford journey, also. We are proud of the accomplishment and more than proud of Alex. He's a very dedicated and emphatic fella'. Hats off to Alex!

That's it! We'll see you all in Battle Creek to cheer on the Wayne Chapter quartets and all our competing chorus colleagues. Then more fun and fellowship on June 6th, at the CAN-AM in Chatham. This will be a dynamite-first time jamboree we all won't want to miss. Then the BIG one, Hartford. We really enjoy your enthusiastic support. Thank you all!!!

Scott Casey/Al Fricker

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**A PROFILE OF OUR NEW
DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF
'CONVENTION PLANNING
AND SPECIAL EVENTS'**



ROGER LEWIS

Roger was born in Kent County, Michigan and lived in Alaska (Michigan, that is!) where he attended the Caledonia School. While a junior in high school, he entered a quartet contest sponsored by the Grand Rapids chapter with a quartet called the MELLO-DONIANS, who were defeated by a quartet from the Creston High School. That quartet had a set of twins, Ed and Fred Farran -- they now sing with the ARBORS?

But he was bitten by the barbershop bug. He has never missed a Great Lakes Invitational and has seen the BUFFALO BILLS, the CONFEDERATES, the CRACKER JILLS, the CHORDETTES, and many, many more.

He moved to Battle Creek in 1961, and it was then that he joined the Society. He joined the HARMONY HOUNDS in April of 1962 as their bass. Over the years with that group he has sung bass, baritone and lead, and occasionally has sung tenor (as he states, "whatever part the rest of the guys were having trouble with -- they will kill me for that comment.").

Other than a "sabbatical" from 1976 to 1979, he's sung all 26 years with the HOUNDS. He has sung on hundreds of shows, has sung in Japan, the Phillipines, Guam, England, and Europe (7 countries in 14 days--"If this is Tuesday, it must be Brussels.") and has had many rewarding experiences. He has met many great barbershoppers (has been in 8 of the 11 litters of HOUNDS).

Over the years he has served in every chapter office (with the exception of secretary) in addition to being show chairman, convention chairman, "Troubadour" editor, district vice president, and recently as a certified judge in the stage presence category.

(Continued Next Column)

Pioneer TROUBADOUR

(From Column 1)

His wife Sue has been a Sweet Adeline since 1973 and she competed internationally with the Coldwater chorus in 1975 in Seattle. Sue is an elementary teacher in the Battle Creek school system.

They have 3 children and 2 grandchildren. Daughter Penny is oldest and a working mother. Son Chris is a band director at Tawas Area High School, and Tim is a supervisor for West Shore Services in Allendale, Michigan.

Rog and Sue have been active in the Balloon Championships in Battle Creek, having served on the executive committees of that event since 1980. He also enjoys golf, but secondary to barbershop he seems to enjoy remodeling their 130 year old, 2 story, stone octagon home. (He states that if he gets another 130 years of life, he might get it finished.)

(Continued Next Column)

(From Column 2)

Somehow, amongst and between all of this, he fits in some fairly long weeks as President/Owner of Staffing Services, Inc., a temporary and contract employment firm in the clerical/technical/administrative fields, plus President of Staff Leasing, Inc., an employee leasing company.

After reading his bio, is it any wonder he has anytime left for such things as woodworking (another hobby), coaching, vacations in his motor home, and writing articles for the TROUBADOUR!

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The District should be ecstatic about welcoming this super guy to the board again. With talent like Roger, PIONEER DISTRICT is the real winner. Thanks, Rog, for being you, and for writing this article. Before I forget, we should have an article about the October convention pretty soon! Just a reminder!)

GOOD NEWS

AT LAST some really great gospel songs on a training tape!

ARRANGED, recorded, and produced by four Christian gold medal winners: Mo Rector, '58 Gay Notes & '69 Mark IV; Jerry Fairchild, '64 Sidewinders; Dale Deiser, '69 Mark IV; Joe Mazzone, '74 Regents.

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NOT ONLY THAT, but all the arrangements are included. Do send for them now, because we will have a gospel

chorus concert where you can sing these inspirational songs at International in Hartford this summer.

NOTE!! PLEASE do not keep these tapes or arrangements to yourself. Share them with as many singers, both barbershoppers and non-barbershoppers as you can.

THESE ARRANGEMENTS are great for your quartet and chorus to use in church appearance. They are excellent for church choirs themselves.

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CHORUS CONTEST COGITATIONS

By Rusty Ruegseggar

(From Column 1)

Many of you have seen the "draw" for singing position in the chorus contest in Hartford this July. I've tried to gather a little background information to make it a little more interesting and personal.

First to appear will be the O.K. CHORALE from Oklahoma City, OK, representing the Southwest District. This will be their 2nd consecutive International appearance having placed 6th in Salt Lake City. They put 74 men on the risers and beat the Houston TIDELANDERS by 10 points. The San Antonio CHORDSMEN, Mac Huff's chorus, was 3rd with 76 men singing.

The 2nd chorus scheduled is the GREAT NORTHERN UNION, from Hilltop, MN, representing the Land O' Lakes District. This is their 1st appearance anywhere, being a new group with very high entrance standards. They are, reportedly, heavily staffed with experienced quartet men and they beat the Minneapolis COMMODORES, perennial International rep's, by 60 points, with 35 fewer men. In fact, their 42 men would have ranked them size-wise no better than 10th in the Land O' Lakes contest, with Minneapolis being the largest with 77 of the sixteen choruses competing. It would seem they represent a growing trend towards the formation of Barbershop choruses with singing excellence and the Gold Medal in mind. Good or bad, this is the result, I believe, of our increasing emphasis on the importance of chorus competition.

Next to sing and representing the Evergreen District will be the NORTH-WEST SOUND, from Bellevue, WA. They represent another example of the same trend mentioned earlier. In their first appearance, with only 34 men on the risers, they beat 6 larger choruses, including 3 former International representatives by at least 51 points. Some of their competition put nearly twice as many men on stage. They are directed by Bob Brock, former director of WEST TOWNS and the Salt Lake City Chorus.

Fourth to appear will be the BIG APPLE CHORUS from Manhattan, NY, representing the Mid-Atlantic District. No surprises here, as the BIG APPLE, under Don Clause, came storming back after last year's loss to the Alexandria HARMONIZERS, who became our '86 Chorus Champions. BIG APPLE, down a bit from their 143-man appearance in Minneapolis, was still the largest chorus in M.A.D. with 112, and they won decisively over Dundalk who had 97.

Another newcomer to the International stage will be the VALLEY-AIRES from San Fernando, CA, representing the Far Western District. In what they like to call their 'Mini-Inter-

(Continued Next Column)

national,' their 73 man chorus out-pointed the 105 man Whittier CHORALAIRES to win their first representative birth. Perhaps the most startling piece of news from F.W.D. is that the Phabulous PHOENICIANS did not compete.

Singing 6th will be the HEART OF AMERICA CHORUS from Kansas City, MO, representing the Central States District. This chorus has been the International Representative from C.S.D. for as far back as I can remember until last year when they decided to lay out for a year to catch their breath (and their expenses!) That year is over now and this 90 man aggregation proved that they are anxious to take another shot at that elusive Gold Medal.

Next on the schedule will be our own RENAISSANCE Chorus from the Wayne Chapter. Fielding the largest chorus this district has seen for some time, this 70 man organization swept to victory and will return to the International stage after an absence of 1 year.

Singing 8th on the program and representing the Dixie District will be the CAROLINA CHORD COMPANY from Charlotte, NC. This will be, I believe, their first appearance at an International. This 60 man group went up against Dixie's perennial champions THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY of Research Park, NC., and used an 8 man advantage to win by 6 points. The G.A. has been a fixture at International having been the Dixie District rep for six of the last seven years and having obtained a 5th place medal last year despite being the smallest chorus competing. To judge from the district scores, the CHORD COMPANY must be quite a chorus indeed.

The 9th chorus to be featured will be WEST TOWNS from Lombard representing the Illinois District. This chorus needs no introduction to barbershop aficionados having won the Silver Medal for the last three years running! This 137 man chorus is down a bit from 152 last year, but is still the largest of any of the preliminary winners this year. Their goal, to break the 2nd place jinx and win the International Gold Medal, was very nearly missed at the preliminary level as the 68 man NEW TRADITION CHORUS, under the direction of Jay Giallombardo, came within 4 points of beating them!

Singing in the 10th position will be the SOUTHERN GATEWAY Chorus of Western Hills, OH, representing the Johnny Appleseed District. Perennial J.A.D. representatives, this 88 man chorus left no doubt that they

(Continued Next Column)

(From Column 2)

intended to make this International, their 6th in the last 7 years, a very special one. They had, after all, hired the famous Jim Miller, formerly of the THOROUGHBREDS, to direct them. Perhaps some of his magic would rub off on them. Well, they had no trouble at the district level, winning by 85 points, but the interesting story here is that Jim Miller had been spotted 2 weeks earlier singing with Louisville! Sure enough, shortly after the prelims, the announcement was made that Jim would be leaving and their new director would be former Society staffer, Bob Mucha.

Next to sing in the Chorus Contest will be the Sunshine District entry from Orange Park, FL., the BIG ORANGE CHORUS. No real surprises here as this 89 man group returns for their 3rd consecutive International appearance. They were 8th in Salt Lake City.

Singing 12th and representing the Cardinal District will be the Louisville, KY., THOROUGHBREDS. This 90 man chorus won their 7th Gold Medal in 1984 and will undoubtedly be favored to win their 8th in Hartford. What a record - 7 Golds, 4 Silvers, and 1 Bronze!

There was a surprise winner in the Rocky Mountain District Chorus Contest as the NEW MEXI-CHORDS, from Albuquerque, NM, beat the MILE HIGH CHORUS from Denver who had represented R.M.D. for 7 of the last 8 years. Unless I'm mistaken, this will be Albuquerque's first International appearance.

The 14th chorus of the afternoon will be the Scarborough DUKES OF HARMONY representing the Ontario District. This 109 man chorus, nearly twice as large as the second place finisher, is always the representative when they decide to compete. They're back again after one year of self-imposed layoff.

Next on the program will be the Northeastern District representative NARRAGANSETT BAY CHORUS, from Providence, RI. This 95 man crew will be returning for their 4th consecutive appearance. They took no prisoners in the 22 chorus battle, standing 35 more men than their nearest rival and thundering to a 109 point win. This chorus boasts 8 father/son combinations. Interestingly enough, only 3 men in the Providence Chapter actually live in Providence. Most live in nearby suburbs (and states). In fact, the Providence Chapter meets in Warwick!

And finally, the chorus you've all been waiting for (the last one), from East Aurora, NY, the FRIENDS OF HAR-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



WHAT'S NEXT?

APRIL

- 4 GRAND RAPIDS CHAPTER SHOW
- 11-12 SPRING CONVENTION BATTLE CREEK
- 25 ST. JOSEPH VALLEY CHAPTER SHOW

MAY

- 1 & 2 GROSSE POINTE CHAPTER SHOW
- 2 CLINTON VALLEY CHAPTER SHOW
- 2 BOYNE CITY CHAPTER SHOW (BUSH LEAGUE CONTEST)
- 9 COLDWATER CHAPTER SHOW
- 9 MILFORD CHAPTER SHOW
- 15 HOLLAND CHAPTER SHOW
- 23 ALPENA CHAPTER SHOW
- 29 BENTON HARBOR/ST. JOSEPH CHAPTER SHOW
- 30 MUSKEGON CHAPTER SHOW

JUNE

- 5-6 PIONEER-ONTARIO "CAN-AM" JAMBOREE - CHATHAM, ONTARIO
- 12 DETROIT/OAKLAND "RETURN OF THE JUG NIGHT"
- 13 TRAVERSE CITY CHAPTER SHOW

SEPTEMBER

- 11-12 PIONEER DISTRICT MINI-HEP SCHOOL - BATTLE CREEK

OCTOBER

- 16-18 PIONEER DISTRICT FALL CONVENTION-BATTLE CREEK

FEBRUARY, 1988

- 27 KALAMAZOO CHAPTER SHOW



CONTEST COGITATIONS—From page 11

MONY, representing the Seneca Land District. This 85 man chorus will be returning for their second International, having placed 10th last year in Salt Lake City.

That's a little background on the qualifiers for the International Chorus Contest, in Hartford. In the next issue I will try to update you on some of the quartets qualifying for the International Quartet Contest.

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)

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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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