



pioneer
TROUBADOUR



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

AUG/SEP '87

VOLUME 38 NUMBER 4

**HARTFORD-WE TRIED HARD AND
WE ARE STILL PROUD!**



WAYNE "RENAISSANCE CHORUS

PHOTOS COURTESY OF
DICK STUART, PROBE



THE RITZ

TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION



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

Wow, what an International Convention! The quartets and choruses were just great, with the RITZ finishing a fine 6th, and the WAYNE RENAISSANCE and the TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION deserving much better than where they placed.

Logopedics did real well. I haven't heard what the final tally is, but I know it will be good. A special thanks to Alex and the crew for helping us at the booth.

Our International President Darryl Flinn announced that 1988 will be our 50th Anniversary Year and would like to set a goal of \$1,000,000 for Logopedics. I know our district will be behind it 100%. At the Spring Convention it was discussed with the Chapter Logopedic's Chairmen and they all thought it was possible to do.

This year is going just great. As of June 30 we have \$9283.83 to our credit. July is starting out great, too, as we have over \$1400 so far this month. Four more chapters have reached the bronze during May and June. They are the Coldwater, Lansing, Huron Valley and Wayne Chapters. Thank you so much, because that brings us to a total of eight bronze and one silver so far this year. We also have heard from Sault Ste. Marie, Monroe, Grand Rapids, Boyne City, Grosse Pointe, Flint and Battle Creek so far for Logopedics.

The HARMONY HOUNDS quartet sent in a nice contribution, and it was sure nice to hear from them. It would be real nice to hear from some of the other big quartets in the district, as we need your help to be a success!

There will be new things happening at the Institute next year when we reach the \$1 million mark. I am willing to take bets that we will go over that mark! That's the kind of faith I have in barbershoppers.

GEORGE

the... **FURNITURE CITY CHORD COMPANY**
...barbershop quartet...with:

contact: ray grutter	ray grutter - bass
5407 claudia se	dave kutter - bari
kentwood, mi 49508	rom thomet - tenor
hm 534-4273 bus 451-6358	jim westveld - lead

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**

Well, they didn't think it could be done in Hartford -- but they did it! At last count the registrations passed the 10,200 mark. Who cares about numbers? We do, but the "talent" is what we're there for -- and what talent there was!

Let's take the chorus competition as an example. Remember when each chorus representative to the International was required to sing two songs complete with all the extras? Now, double that performance, and it will give you some idea of the work and dedication of each and every member, (including their wives and girl friends), and what he has to put forth to represent his chorus at International. There were no losers in Hartford -- each chorus gave it their best shot, and I was only one of many who were proud of the performance of the WAYNE RENAISSANCE CHORUS under the direction of Jim Pollard.

Our quartets were super also, and how about that sixth place finish for the RITZ! We were knocking at the door for a medal with their performance. Congratulations to all of our district competitors.

Consider this. If your chapter were holding an Open House and had a video cassette recording of the Hartford Competition to show, do you think it would give your guests a better idea of what barbershopping is all about?

Let me say a few words about membership. I am pleased to see that we have exceeded our membership goal of 1350 for 1987 by six members. As of June 30, we stood at 1356. I have a tremendous feeling that we will hit the 1400 mark by the end of the year. If we continue our present rate of growth, and keep our membership retention up, by the end of 1988 we could even end up with another quartet eligible to attend the International Contest. Wouldn't that be great?

HARMONY ROUND-UP '87

TO: All members of the Pioneer District
FROM: Pioneer DME ('Ole John Bauer)

Gentlemen:

On the form below you will find an opportunity to attend the Pioneer District "Harmony Round-Up" to be held at the Stouffer's Hotel in Battle Creek from Friday, Sep. 11, 8:00 p.m. through Sunday Noon, Sep. 13.

As a result of moving from the Eastern Michigan Campus (dormitory style), to a first class facility like Stouffers (high-life style), the tuition will be just a bit higher; however, still a wonderful deal for the barbershopper who wants to improve his overall knowledge.

The tuition for the entire weekend is \$75 per man, and includes the following: Two nights lodging (based on double occupancy), breakfast and Lunch Saturday, breakfast on Sunday. Note that the Saturday night dinner is "on your own!"

A General Session will be held on Friday, Sep. 11, at 8:00 p.m. Classes will commence following breakfast on Saturday at 8:30 a.m.

Mini-classes listed below will be offered once during the weekend. You may choose one class from each group of mini-classes, which means you select two (2). The title of each class indicates course of study.

Please detach the registration form below and mail with your deposit to:

John Bauer	(Alternate Address)
6700 Black Bass Bay Rd.	8227 Ford St.
Alpena, MI 49707	Warren, MI 48089
(517) 595-6550	(313) 479-5843
(Week-ends)	(Mon. thru Thursday)

Enclosed is my check or money order for \$30 deposit, or tuition in full \$75, payable to: PIONEER DISTRICT, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. I understand that any balance due will be paid at the time of registration, and that no refunds will be made after the September 1, 1987, deadline.

Please mark your class preference in each column (1), or alternate (A).

- | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| () Quartet Coaching | <u>MINI CLASS I</u> | <u>MINI CLASS II</u> |
| () Chorus Directing, Adv. | () Vocal Techniques | () Woodshedding-Tags |
| () Chorus Directing, Beg. | () Young Men in Harmony | () Sight Reading |
| () Arranging | () Judging Categories | () Creative Interp. |
| () Fundamentals of Music | () Song Leading | () Creative S.P. |

Total deposit/Quartet: \$120; Late Registrations: \$80

NAME _____ CHAPTER _____

ADDRESS _____ TELEPHONE _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____ SMOKER? () YES () NO

NAME OF PREFERRED ROOMMATE (If Desired) _____

QUARTET NAME IF APPLICABLE _____

In the event you have any questions, please call 'ole John!

Yours in better song,
JOHN BAUER

CAN-AM Wrap-Up

by EXECUTIVE VP CLAY JONES

Rather than try to summarize my own feelings regarding the recent first annual "CAN-AM JAMBOREE," I thought you might be interested in the reaction of one of our Ontario brethren. The following is excerpted from his article which Frank Sysel wrote for the Ontario District's bulletin, the TRILLIUM.

CAN-AM '87 -- June 6, 1987

What a day! Pioneer and Ontario District Barbershoppers are not likely to forget this June 6th for a long, long time. Over 1000 people showed up in Chatham on a cool, sunny day for almost ten hours of non-stop harmony, culminated by a reunion performance by the 1971 International Champions, the GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT!

On this Friday night, at an informal get together, I met people from everywhere in the two districts. Oh, yes, the GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT arrived from Michigan, Illinois, and Florida. The GA held the complete complex at the "Wheels Inn" complex in awe until about 1:30 a.m.

On Saturday, after the golf and ladies' show at the Wheels, at 2:00 p.m. a massed sing was held in the football stadium next to the auditorium, with 300-500 people filling the air with song. When we finally got everyone inside and seated, the Chatham chorus, the KENT KORDSMEN, started the marathon off about 2:35 p.m., and our guys have never been more excited singing in our town -- ever! We were followed in the afternoon segment by no less than nine quartets and three choruses. The finale came when the GA did a "warm-up" performance at about 5:30 p.m.

Supper was served buffet style to almost 700 people in less than an hour by a local caterer. The excellent meal was served, tables cleared, drinks re-stocked, short walks taken, a lot of woodshedding, all in record time.

By 7:30 p.m. we were ready to start again. In the evening five hour blockbuster show, the District Chorus Champions, along with the District Chorus International Reps from both districts sang their packages. The RENAISSANCE CHORUS and the DUKES OF HARMONY were outstanding. All in all, another 12 excellent quartets and two choruses appeared on stage. Special awards, in recognition of their contributions to the Society and to the districts were given to the NIGHTHAWKS, THE VAGABONDS, CENTER STAGE, and of course to the GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT. CENTER STAGE, perennial runners-up at International, just

(Continued Next Column)

happened to get together for a couple of numbers, as did that great Canadian group, CANADIAN HERITAGE. The GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT ended the program with another remarkable performance. By 12:30 a.m., everybody was finally satiated with the greatest assembly of singing talent outside of an International Convention.

A few thanks to the DUKES and Ted Devonshire for their great sound system, to the WAYNE CHORUS for their risers (customs notwithstanding), and once again the organizers, John Ford, John Case, Clay Jones, the talent coordinators Larry Dale and Bob Whitledge, the treasurers, Keith Morley and Mike Foley, who are still counting money, the many Chapter Presidents who pushed tickets, Chatham Chapter members who helped for the day, and all those talented men who helped on stage ... oh, yes, maybe God, for letting us all be there.

FRANK SYSEL, President, Chatham

Needless to say, this year's CAN-AM was an artistic triumph and everyone who was there said they can't wait until next year. And, speaking of next year, the only date available for such an event as this in the Kinsman Hall is June 18th. John Ford has placed a tentative hold on that place for that date and unless something changes, that will be it. We'll confirm it as we get closer to 1988.

The DUKES from Scarborough have already insisted that they be included on the program, and I'm sure that all Pioneer people that were there are chomping-at-the-bit to go again. Next year's CAN-AM '88 promises to be bigger and better than ever, although it's tough to see how we can beat 1987. Those of you that didn't go in '87 missed the event of the year, so don't get left out in '88!

(Editor's Note: This whole idea was presented to yours truly when I attended the Ontario District Convention as your District President back in April of 1986. John Ford was the man who talked to me about it. All I can say is, thanks guys, for making it happen!)



Gay 90's
Quartet

S.P.E.B.S.O.S.A.

Montevideo

DICK LARSON
127 SUMMIT AVENUE
MONTEVIDEO, MN 55905
PHONE (612) 266-7457

DISTRICT REVELATIONS

NOTICE OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND DISTRICT HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETINGS

Notice is hereby given of the following meetings to be held in conjunction with the Pioneer District Fall Convention and Contests to be held in Battle Creek, Michigan:

October 16, 1987, 1:00 p.m.
--Pioneer District Board of Director's Meeting -- Stouffer's Hotel, Battle Creek, Michigan.

October 17, 1987, 8:30 p.m.
--Pioneer District House of Delegate's Meeting to be held at the Stouffer's Hotel. Make sure all of your chapter delegates are in attendance. Gil Lefholz, our Immediate Past International President, will be our honored guest for the weekend, and will address the the meeting. Let us not embarrass him with our attendance! Let's give him a truly fantastic Pioneer welcome!

December 12, 1987, 1:00 p.m.
--District Board Meeting at the Stouffer Hotel, Battle Creek, in conjunction with our Chapter Officer's Training School

JACK SCHNEIDER -- DISTRICT SECRETARY

NOTICE TO CHAPTER PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES

This article will constitute notification that each chapter should schedule and hold its annual chapter election of officers on or before October 15, 1987.

As you are aware, a Music Vice President is to be elected this year in addition to the usual officers. Certain committee appointments are also required.

You should submit one copy of the list of officers and committee appointments to me as soon as possible after your elections to enable me to complete the updating of the district directory information. Any information received after November 15 may not be included in the 1988 directory.

Accuracy, completeness, and legibility of the information is absolutely essential. This will ensure that all information in the directory is correct, which is extremely necessary for all District and International mailings.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

JACK SCHNEIDER -- DISTRICT SECRETARY

Dr. Fran Durham on LOGOPEDICS



Our 49th International Convention is History, but something very significant happened there that bears on our support of our International Service Project. President Darryl Flinn proposed that \$1,000,000 be raised during our Fiftieth Anniversary Year, for Logopedics. The proposal was endorsed by the International Board of Directors. The suggestion had previously been referred to the International Logopedics and Service Committee, and we wholeheartedly endorsed the proposal. We have been generating about \$700,000 per year, so this will mean a 30% increase during our anniversary year.

We feel we can accomplish this if we have full support from the chapter level on up. There are many unexplored avenues where additional monies can be generated. Future articles will detail what can be done at the district, and international levels. For example, if every chapter either won the a Harmony Foundation plaque for the first time, or moved up one level, bronze to silver, silver to gold, the Society would exceed the additional \$300,000 to be raised! This is not too difficult a task to accomplish!

Better communication was a key point of discussion at a meeting of the International Service Committee and the District Logopedic's Chairmen. It is amazing how little some barbershoppers know about our service project! To that end, every district should have a class for Chapter Logopedics Chairman at COT School. If this is not feasible, the District Logopedics Chairman should give a presentation at COTS. He should either speak at each officer's training class, or be allowed to make a presentation at a general session. With enough advance notice, a staff member from the Institute of Logopedics can also be arranged to be present.

The Institute of Logopedics is currently operating at only a 30% occupancy rate. The population can be increased by 2/3 without a need for additional staff or facilities. Barbershoppers, themselves, are the best possible recruiters. Dr. Frank Kleffner, director of the Institute, stated that when referrals are traced back, the family either heard about the facilities at the Institute from

(Continued Next Column)

a barbershopper directly, or was told by someone else who got the information from a barbershopper. We need to increase our efforts in acting as a Clearing House, in telling the parents of special handicapped children about the Institute. Memorize the 800 number, and don't hesitate to give it out. The admissions office will handle the call and will either process the information or provide information to the parents about other agencies that might better serve their child's needs.

Moria Morgan, Director of Admissions, is prepared to come to the child's home, if need be, to evaluate the child rather than having the child brought to the Institute for evaluation. The phone number is 1-800-835-1043.

A seminar for District Logopedic's Chairman is held every other year. In an effort to better inform district level officers about the programs at the Institute, the International Service Committee recommended that District Presidents be invited to the next seminar. While the date is still to be worked out, it will probably be in early December or in January. Because it is the 50th Anniversary of the Society, the International President will also be invited to attend.

Incidentally, a new 16mm film "Sharing the Vision" has just been completed. The mother of a child at the Institute was responsible for its production. Everyone at the Hartford Logopedic's breakfast had a lump in their throat and tears in their eyes, after seeing it. It does a tremendous job of demonstrating what is being done for speech handicapped children at the Institute. It will be available in VHS as well as in 16mm. Every barbershopper who sees it will have a good feeling about our support of the kids at the Institute of Logopedics.



"Pipe down will ya? I work nights!"

BILL PASCHER FETED



by Larry Hornsby

At a joint "Pot Luck Dinner" between the Pontiac and Clinton Valley Chapters, the city of Pontiac honored Bill Pascher.

Mr. William Heaton from the mayor's office presented Bill with a resolution by the city in appreciation for all of the many things he has done for the community. Bill has been a Barbershopper for 44 years, staged over 40 barbershop shows, served as chorus director on and off for over 20 years, and has been a member of the Pioneer District "Hall of Fame" since 1974. He has been a member of the Boy Scouts for 59 years, an Eagle Scout, and received the "Silver Beaver" award in 1951. Bill competed in the Ben Pearson International Open Archery Tournament twice, was an early organizer of the Pontiac Area Community Arts Council, and is an Assistant Naturalist at the Seven Ponds Nature Center. In addition, he is also an avid outdoor photographer, a member of the Oakland Audubon Society, and has spent 39 years with GM as a Senior Project Engineer and Stylist. Bill retired from GM in 1979, but has not retired from his many other activities.

Mr. Heaton also presented Bill with a lapel pin from the city and the mayor. It was a great day for Bill, and the Pontiac Chapter is extremely proud of him.

Congratulations, Bill Pascher!

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

The 50th Anniversary Committee has planned a variety of activities for our anniversary year celebration. Publications will include "A Heritage of Harmony" book, a special HARMONIZER issue recognizing our musical champions and past leaders, plus a reprint of O.C. Cash's humorous writings. The archival display will be dedicated.

The song writing contest has been announced. There will be a folio of the top 50 barbershop harmony songs. The "Heritage of Harmony" show script has been distributed for presentation by your chapters. There will be promotions to reach the public. Our two conventions will stress family participation.

DISTRICT NEWS

Clinton Valley

On Friday night, June 26, the HEART OF THE HILLS CHORUS of the Clinton Valley Chapter, sang the National Anthem at Tiger Stadium in Detroit. The chorus of 20 men under the direction of Al Fisk, performed in front of 35,000 fans and countless thousands on WJR radio.

Maybe they'll be asked to come back again, since the Tigers crushed the Orioles!

AL FISK

Detroit-Oakland

June and July proved to be two really exciting months here at Detroit-Oakland.

Beginning on June 6, the GENTLEMEN SONGSTERS attended and sang at the CAN-AM in Chatham, Ontario. 56 men attended and, many of them with their wives and girlfriends, really enjoyed a good time. Watching so much talent was truly exhilarating. Can't wait until next year!

On June 12, we were delighted to host 76 barbershoppers to the "Return of the Jug" night, a night which featured not only our own GENTLEMEN SONGSTERS, but a contingent from the Milford Chapter chorus. The feature of the evening was THE RITZ, our own chapter quartet who didn't disappoint us at all. They were warming up to their sixth place finish at International, and it sounded like it. What a quartet! Unfortunately, the TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION couldn't make it.

July 2, 3, and 4, found a large contingent of DOC members at the International Convention in Hartford, and we're still all on "cloud nine".

July 10 was our 41st annual "Bob-Lo Cruise", and what a success it was. Seven quartets and two choruses sang to an audience of better than 900 on two decks of the ship. The weather treated us well during the cruise, although hours before, thunderstorms threatened. All in all, it was a fantastic evening, and I think the overtones are still ringing on the Detroit River.

Now it's hard work time as the GENTLEMEN SONGSTERS prepare for the fall competition. We already have started work on our two new songs, and knowing the competition we will face, hopefully, we will be there! Hope to see all of you in Battle Creek in October!

HERMAN SCHWARZENEGGAR

Holland

For those of you who haven't visited our Holland Chapter for a long time, you will find our activities centered around our "home" at 102 South River, just a few blocks from the main intersection in downtown Holland. Our regular meetings are on Tuesday nights, and our irregular meetings are almost anytime. Come by and knock on our door if you are in town.

On the first Monday in April, Webb Scrivnor, Mart Bomers, Mike Simpson, and Don Wood (Muskegon Chapter) visited Harmony Hall in Kenosha. They were given the "royal tour." That night, they were guests of Bob Squires and the Lombard Chapter; Tuesday night they were guests of John Lyness and the Porter-LaPorte Chapter. It was a great trip we have been told. We envy them their experience and hope we can do the same some day.

The world-famous Holland Chapter Tulip Time Show was held at the Christian High School auditorium on May 15. Two sold-out performances were given, and they featured Holland's own fabulous four -- the FOUR-TUNE HUNTERS -- with Jack Oonk (lead), Mike Oonk (tenor), John Ozinga (bass), and Darrell Vande Hoef (baritone). They were followed by the FAMILY FORUM, who need no introduction, but at least we can say the audience enjoyed the great sound produced by Big Mike, Little Mike, Don, and Jack. They were followed by the MUSIC MART from Terre-Haute, Indiana. The MART, in addition to numerous appearances in International Competition, were voted "Quartet of the Year" by the Cardinal District. They were certainly voted the "Quartet of the Evening" by our audiences. Of course, the HOLLAND WINDMILL CHORUS made its usual stunning performance dressed in traditional Dutch costumes, including the wooden shoes, and Mike Oonk had almost as much fun directing as the chorus did singing ... almost. All in all it was a great evening.

Bob Kruse, the Chapter President, resigned due to job conflicts that prevented him from full participation in the chapter activities. At a membership meeting, Darrell Vande Hoef was elected president to complete Bob's term. Glen Stanberry, Secretary, also found it necessary to step down, and Ernest Evangelista was duly elected in his place. Andries Steketee was then elected Board-Member-at-Large to replace Ernie.

On June 10, the WINDMILL CHORUS and the FOUR-TUNE HUNTERS presented a one hour show at the local fairground for

(Continued Next Column)

the Avion RV Travel Club. The club gathers here once a year and holds various activities during the week, ending with a church service on Sunday. And when it comes to barber-shop music, they were our kind of audience!

On June 23, Ken Cook hosted the Mostly Annual Hot-Dog-Sing-A-Long Party. We want to assure you that it wasn't the hot dogs that sang, and that everyone had a good time!

On July 7 we had our quarterly Logopedic's Tag Contest, and on July 14 we had our annual "summer guest" night. But, the really "big event" is the CHESTER P. OONK MEMORIAL TAG CONTEST to be held on Saturday, July 18, from noon until midnight. This year's event will be held at Teu-Sink's Pony Farm just south of Holland. Last year's contest drew contestants from several neighboring states, and we expect an even greater response this year. (We'll let you know!)

ERNEST EVANGELISTA & WEBB SCRIVNOR

Pontiac

The Pontiac Chapter has been very active this year so far. A trip to Windsor in January started the fun. There have been visits to other chapters, pot luck dinners with our wives, sing outs and contests. Twenty-five percent of our members went to the International in Hartford and we still haven't stopped.

Each month starts with a fun night planned by PVP Bill Pascher. We have had guests each month, including Jack Drennan, Doran McTaggart, Derrick Deakins, Bill Butler, just to name a few. Area Counselor Deon Moore and Division Five Vice President Paul Lehmkuhle have also visited our chapter.

An outstanding event, which we host each year, was our "Woodshed Contest". Seven chapters were represented and a total of ten impromptu quartets competed. Our guest judges was the YESTERDAY ONCE MORE quartet, with Dave Updegraff singing bass. The winning quartet, named THE TUGS, consisted of John Smith singing tenor, Hal Trombley, lead, Ron Gillies, baritone, and Dave Updegraff on bass. The occasion was also a fun night for all our Division Five members.

The chapter is working hard getting ready for our annual show. This year we are moving this event to September 27, 1987, at 2:00 p.m. We will be featuring the CHICAGO NATURAL GAS and the OAKLAND SHORES SWEET ADELINES. The show will be new and exciting. We hope a lot of barbershoppers will join us at the show.

LARRY HORNSBY

Sault Ste. Marie

The Sault Chapter has experienced a new dimension to this hobby we call barbershopping. It so happens that Gord Lind of the Lansing Chapter and Steve Lind of the Sault Chapter are father and son. Steve is a student at Lake State in Sault, Michigan, so he temporarily transferred his membership from Lansing to the Soo.

Between Gord and Steve a scheme for an interchapter visit was planned, and on May 23 twenty members of the Soo Chapter, some of us accompanied by our wives, drove to Lansing. We figured that with all the effort we were putting out we may as well put on a combined chapter show. Each chorus did its thing, two quartets, the HARMONY SEEKERS and the HARMONEERS contributed their talents, and then both choruses combined their voices for an old time medley which was very satisfying indeed.

Barbershoppers are a marvelous breed! Blow a "B Flat" and they'll follow you anywhere! Big Mike O'Donnell and John Tully, directors of the Lansing and Soo Chapter respectively, did a truly fine job. The two quartets acquitted themselves honourably as well.

The experience that will last longest in the memories of the Sault Chapter was the magnificent hospitality shown by the Lansing Barbershoppers and their wives. Truly outstanding! We are already talking about a return visit next May. Lansing will come north this time. We have discovered a new meaning for the "E" in S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. It is "enjoyment".

Thanks to Lansing we all got a handsome return for our dues, increase included.

DON BAZELY



TOM GENTRY TO VISIT PIONEER

One of our top International Music Men will be visiting the Pioneer District during the week of September 14 through the 17. His visitation schedule includes the following chapters:

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1987 -- Host Chapter will be the Detroit-Oakland Chapter starting at 8:00 p.m. Tom will be working primarily on coaching the chorus emphasizing all of the basic techniques of good singing.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1987 -- Host Chapter will be the Milford Chapter starting at 8:00 p.m. at the Muir Junior High School. Basic craft.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1987 -- Host chapter will be the Saginaw-Bay Chapter. Basic craft.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1987 -- Host chapter will be the Flint Chapter. Basic craft.

Knowing Tom Gentry, he has the ability to make any meeting he attends to be exciting, educational, and very, very interesting. If you're in the neighborhood of one of these sessions, plan on attending, as it will be very definitely worth your while. Plan on it now!

COME BY: or

Just be sure to attend.

♪♪ PONTIAC CHAPTER S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. ♪♪
PRESENTS

PLATES, PALATES, AND PITCH PIPES IV

Sept. 27, 1987 at 2:00 P.M.

C.A.I. Building
5640 Williams Lake Road
Drayton Plains, MI.

FEATURING

"CHICAGO NATURAL GAS"

"OAKLAND SHORES SWEET ADELINES"

AND MANY OTHERS

COST \$7.00 Reg. and \$6.00 for Senior Citizens

To order tickets send check or money order to: LARRY HORNSBY

1254 WHITTIER
PONTIAC, MI. 48054

GET OUT OF YOUR AND ORDER YOUR TICKETS NOW.

ZONE 4 OF THE PIONEER DISTRICT OF SPEBSQSA, INC.

PRESENTS IT'S

THIRD ANNUAL LOGOPEDICS BENEFIT BARBERSHOP SHOW

-WITH OUR QUARTETS-

THE HARMONEERS, FROM SAULT ST. MARIE, ONTARIO
(1987 Bush League Champions)

THE HARBOR TONES, FROM ALPENA

THE SPARE PARTS, FROM ALPENA

-PLUS-

THE COMBINED CHORUSES OF ZONE 4



FEATURE QUARTETS:

THE FAMILY FORUM, 1986 Bush League Champions

TOUCH OF CLASH, 1986 District Champions

SATURDAY SEPT. 26, 1987 AT THE CHEBOYGAN OPERA HOUSE IN CHEBOYGAN

1st SHOW AT 3:30 P.M. TICKETS \$7.00, SENIOR CITIZENS \$6.00

2nd SHOW AT 8:00 P.M. ALL SEATS \$8.00

To order tickets call the Cheboygan Opera House Box Office at 616-627-5841 or send your request along with payment to The Cheboygan Opera House, P.O. Box 95, Cheboygan, Michigan 49721. Be sure to state which show you want tickets for. Make checks payable to The Cheboygan Opera House. You may also charge your tickets to Visa or Mastercharge.

Afterglow tickets can be purchased from Dale Hanson at 616-238-7462 or by writing to P.O. Box 2027, Indian River, Michigan 49749.

Special price on overnight lodging at the CONTINENTAL QUALITY INN in Cheboygan. To make reservations call 616-627-7164

All Room Reservations and Ticket Sales must be confirmed by September 19, 1987.

DISTRICT NEWS

Grand Rapids

For those of you that didn't make it to Hartford, you sure missed one heck of a fantastic convention. The competition was as tough or tougher than at anytime I can remember. The level of singing was very, very high! I can tell you this, I wouldn't have wanted to be in the judges' places, but they handled it very well.

We send our congratulations to the TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION for the splendid job they did. They did the District proud! As for J.P., the big little guy with the smile, and his band of merry men, they, also represented the Pioneer District very well. Great job, guys! Of course, I'm talking about Jim Pollard and the RENAISSANCE CHORUS!

We always save the best till last. The awesome RITZ, sixth place, WOW! That says it all! I can tell you this, that after they sang, the whole auditorium was a-buzz with their name. Everyone who was aware of the RITZ, they knew they came to sing!

I should mention that the following Tuesday at rehearsal was really something. Capt'n Clay just kind of floated in and tried to be casual and nonchalant about the whole thing, and he might have pulled it off except for that "big, big smile." (Who's kidding who?), as all of us were just as excited as he was.

Actually, we had a pretty intense and fired up rehearsal. You try to follow a director who is three feet off the ground, and it makes for an interesting evening.

CONGRATULATIONS AGAIN, CAPTAIN CLAY SHUMARD and the rest of the RITZ!

Speaking of congratulations! It seems lately that BOB McDERMOTT is always in the news for winning something, and this month is no exception! Bob has taken 2nd place in the International Bulletin Editor's Contest with his bulletin, THE GENTLEMEN'S SONGSTER! Fantastic, Bob, you old rascal!

As for us here in Grand Rapids, it's work, work, work! We have another guest night coming up on July 21, and we hope to do well then. In August, we are having our annual Golf outing and our annual Corn Roast at Herm Baker's homestead. We have three performances in addition to a chorus retreat. We have our work cut out for us, but we are having fun, and are looking forward to singing under Captain Clay in Battle Creek this fall.

DICK WILLIAMS

Benton Harbor-St. Joe

Summer time and the livin' isn't always so easy if you're serious about barbershopping. Having just recovered from our annual show, we are in the midst of a membership drive which will culminate into a guest night of tremendous proportions (wouldn't that be nice?) on Monday, July 20.

Chorus Director Bob Bame has us on the risers again preparing for the fall contest, and we've arranged for some outside coaching in vocal and stage presence categories.

One of our newest members, tenor Ron Mason was named barbershopper of the month for April in recognition of his efforts toward obtaining our new chorus uniforms. The May award was given to Ray Leatz for his superb job of selling tickets, ads, and obtaining publicity for our annual show. Ray, together with the late Howard Cayo, co-founded this chapter on April 14, 1948. Ray has also been a District Vice President. How do you like that for loyalty and continuity of effort?

We're looking forward with eager anticipation to the afternoon of Saturday, August 15, the date of our annual Steak-Fry outing. This year I have the pleasure of hosting the event at my house. If any of my old Detroit area buddies happen to be passing this way, drop in for a bite, a song, and a cool one.

A whisper to the Troubadour: John Morris draws cartoons with stencils!

BRAD LAUGHLIN

Saginaw-Bay

1987 continues to be a very active year for the Saginaw Bay Chapter. We had the privilege of appearing with the newly formed LAKE HURON Sweet Adelines on their first show in Pigeon, Michigan, before a really super audience. The FAMILY FORUM and the SPECIAL REQUEST, a Sweet Adelines quartet, were also on the program.

Summer time gives us a chance to sing at a number of local churches. Our activity has been very ecumenical including St. Boniface Roman Catholic, Adoration and St. Paul Lutheran Churches, with the Methodists and Presbyterians yet to come.

A new quartet, REIGN BEAUS, has been formed by chapter members Dennis Keyes, Bob Winters, Jim Gross, and Dick Muetter.

(Continued Next Column)

(From Column 2)

The second quarter wound up with the chapter attending a tri-chapter get-together with Swan Valley and Flint at the Dead Creek Saloon in Frankenmuth. This popular and fun filled evening has become an annual affair for members and spouses. As usual, the "BRATS" were great (Bratwurst, that is)!

BOB DENNETT

Wayne

Sensational! Incredible! A feeling too complex to describe. Were all the sweats (literally), blood (figuratively), and tears (emotionally) worth all that effort? YOU BET! RENAISSANCE returned from Hartford with another six minute thrill, not discouraged but honored, and not awed but determined. It is really a learning experience to mix it up with the very best and be a part of it. From the first hello to the last goodbye, we were very proud, praised, and privileged.

CAN-AM, that super wonderful effort, really kicked it off for us. After waiting and enjoying all day long, we really were cranked that night. It was truly a great evening to sing for our friends. Then the final rehearsals and the trip itself. Thank you Pioneer friends for your unselfish support, both here and there, and for the thrill it always is. You made the opportunity great for us, and we really appreciate it. We hope for a huge turnout at the 50th Anniversary celebration in San Antonio, and RENAISSANCE intends to be there!

To every ear, the RITZ deserves their new success. When the medals start ringing, so do the chords, and the RITZ was right there. Talk about smoothness and presentation, they are professional! Talk about sound! Next year a medal for sure!

The TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION didn't find the key to the judges' hearts this outing, but the sound was right on target, as always, and they showed their great barbershop skills. These men ring chords with the very best of them. This was just a battle, gentlemen, not a war. We will all regroup to return again.

Upon our return, we jumped right into training to retain the benefits of our latest outing. That, along with performances, our golf outing, and the popular Harrisville weekend, will bring us together again in the fall on these very same pages. If you're down our way, drop in and ring a few. What weather! What a summer! What a hobby! What a way to live!

AL FRICKER

can-am snaps



GROSSE POINTE



GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT



BILL WICKSTROM



IVY LEAGUE



THE RITZ



WAYNE



TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION



GEORGE SHIELDS



SCARBOROUGH



WINDSOR



CLAY JONES



DETROIT-OAKLAND



SIGNATURE



4 PART FORMULA



BURLINGTON

can-am snaps



HIGH TECH MUSICAL CIRCUITRY



TOUCH OF CLASH



GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT



DORAN McTAGGART



THE VERY IDEA



TIME WILL TELL



STUDIO 4



HARMONY PURSUIT



CANADIAN CAPERS



CATCH 44



HERE COMES TREBLE



CONSTELLATION



RENAISSANCE



ELLUSION

ZONE 4 LOGOPEDIGS SHOW

The Zone Four Third Annual Logopedics Benefit Show is well underway. The date has been set for Saturday, September 26, 1987, with two shows at 3:30 and 8:00 p.m. Once again the show will take place in the elegant Cheboygan Opera House in Cheboygan, Michigan. The acoustics in this beautifully restored 19th Century auditorium are out of this world.

Local quartets participating include the HARBOR TONES and the SPARE PARTS from Alpena, and the HARMONEERS from Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, who are the 1987 Bush League Champions.

The Zone Four CHORUS OF THE NORTH will again perform. This chorus is composed of all the chorus members from the Alpena, Boyne City, Sault Ste. Marie, and Traverse City Chapters.

Two feature quartets have been signed up. The 1986 Bush League Champions, the FAMILY FORUM, and the 1986 Pioneer District Champions, the TOUCH OF CLASH.

Instructions to obtain tickets and lodging are included in our ad found elsewhere in the Troubadour.

For the ultimate barbershop sound experience, make plans to join us at the Cheboygan Opera House on September 26, 1987. By DALE HANSON

SMAC

At a meeting of Southeast Michigan Association of Chapter representatives on July 23, 1987, the following events were approved to be put on the SMAC calendar for the balance of this year. It is hoped everyone will participate to make these events successful.

September 11-13 - HARMONY ROUND-UP at Battle Creek -- See page 3.

September 14 -- Tom Gentry visits DOC at their Lathrup Village Hall on Southfield Road at 11½ Mile Road. See page 7.

September 15 -- Tom Gentry visits Milford at the Muir Jr. High School in Milford. See page 7.

September 27 -- Pontiac Chapter Cabaret show. See ad on page 7.

October 2 -- "Canadian Night" at DOC, at their Lathrup Village Hall on Southfield Road at 11½ Mile Road. Starts promptly at 8:30 p.m.

October 30 -- Grosse Pointe "Comedy Quartet" Night at the Neighborhood Club, 17150 Waterloo, Grosse Pointe.

November 6 -- Detroit/Oakland regular chapter meeting at Lathrup Village Hall.

November 7 -- Huron Valley Cabaret Show at Eastern Michigan University-Hoyt Conference Center. Details later.

November 12 -- S.M.A.C. Meeting at Bill Warner's House, 23531 Meadowlark, Oak Park, Mich. 8 p.m.

November 20 -- Milford Chapter "Mini-Chorus" Contest. Details later.


All S.M.A.C. chapters are asked to firm up their schedules for 1988 as soon as possible, so we can go over them at COT school in December. We don't need any more conflicts like we have had this year!!



CHICAGO NATURAL GAS

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KEN EIDSON
PHIL SCHWARZ
LYNN HAULDREN, 929 Central, Wilmette, IL 60091 (312) 251-6348

"The Barbershop Quartet with the Built-in Beat"



TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION
Pioneer District Quartet Champions

Rick Sims - Tenor
Mike Dixon - Lead (313) 292-2162
Mike Woodruff - Bari
Tom Conway - Bass

**1987 PIONEER DISTRICT FALL CONVENTION
OCTOBER 16, 17, 18, 1987**

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

REGISTRANTS NAME _____

WIFE/GUEST NAME(S) _____
(FOR ALL EVENTS REGISTRATION)

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE () _____

CHAPTER NAME _____

COMPETING QUARTET? YES _____ NO _____ QUARTET NAME _____

COMPETING CHORUS? YES _____ NO _____ CHORUS NAME _____

VOICE PART: TENOR _____ LEAD _____ BARI _____ BASS _____

EARLY REGISTRATION: \$12.00 PER PERSON
LATE REGISTRATION: \$15.00 PER PERSON

EARLY REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 2, 1987

FEE ENCLOSED FOR _____ PERSONS @ \$12.00/\$15.00 TOTAL \$ _____

MAKE CHECK(S) PAYABLE TO PIONEER DISTRICT S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.

MAIL CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM AND FEE TO:

BATTLE CREEK VISITOR AND CONVENTION BUREAU
172 WEST VAN BUREN STREET
BATTLE CREEK, MI 49017



Remember When

(A continuation of the series of articles on the history of the great Pioneer District, in recognition of next year's 50th Anniversary of the Society.)

Considerable publicity was given the group (Editor's Note: Referring to the formation of the first chapter in the area, Detroit #1, July, 1939) by the press throughout the state, and a membership drive was instituted. One of the first recruits was Carroll Adams, who was to become an important figure in the organization. Schwoppe, in the meantime, was promoting SPEBSQSA in various other sections of the state and organized the Lansing Chapter as the second. By spring of 1940, Flint and Grand Rapids boasted chapters and from Grand Rapids came the idea of a State-wide quartet contest. Invitations were sent to quartets whether their city had a chapter or not. Entries were received from Detroit, Grand Rapids, Flint, Jackson, Birmingham, Muskegon, Lansing and Saginaw.

FIRST STATE CONTEST

The event, which is now recognized as the first Michigan Quartet Contest, was held in the ballroom of the Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids, on March 9, 1940. Eighteen quartets competed. Winners were the SAWDUST FOUR of Muskegon. Raymond Johnson, Len Horton, Bill Griffith and George Hansen comprised the quartet. DETROIT ELKS FOUR was second; STATE HIGHWAY FOUR of Lansing was third; VARIETY FOUR of Birmingham was fourth. Vern Hale and Roscoe Bennett were co-chairmen of the contest which was sponsored by the Schubert Club of Grand Rapids.

In April, 1940, the fast-growing Detroit Chapter took the initiative and issued a call to the officers of Michigan's four chartered chapters to meet in Detroit on June 8th and organize a Michigan Association of Chapters. In connection therewith, the Detroit Chapter announced it was staging a "Parade of Quartets" at the Book-Cadillac Hotel, probably the first ever held.

FIRST STATE ASSOCIATION

Delegates from three of the four chapters were present at the Book-Cadillac for the June 8 meeting. Ed Schwoppe presided. A State Constitution was adopted and the Michigan Association of Chapters was born. Carroll Adams of Detroit was elected President; Ed Schwoppe of Lansing, Vice President; Guy Stoppert of

(Continued Next Column)

(From Column 1)

Flint, Secretary; and Roscoe Bennett of Grand Rapids, Treasurer. With the formation of the State Association and the untiring efforts of its officers, Michigan started moving fast to a place of leadership in SPEBSQSA.

(From the March, 1950, issue of the Harmonizer. More next month.)

INTERNATIONAL BOARD BRIEFS

by our International Board Member **JIM GOUGEON**

The International Board of Directors at the Sarasota Mid-winter meeting in January 1987 passed a chapter bylaw change pertaining to the creation of a music vice president for all chapters. Many chapters have already fulfilled this bylaw change. Please make sure this important office position is filled with the October elections.

International President Darryl Flinn presided at the Executive Committee and International Board meetings. The Board elected the officers for the 1988 term. Serving on the Executive Committee will be:

President: James Warner, (Memphis, Tennessee)

Immediate Past President: Darryl Flinn, (Canton, Ohio)

International Vice President: Dr. Jim Richards, (Minneapolis, Minnesota)

International Vice President/Treasurer: Morey Jennings (Marion, Indiana)

International Vice President: Charlie McCann (Nashville, Tennessee)

The International Board of Directors also announced a change of International Office Administration. Effective with the end of the Hartford Convention, Executive Director Hugh Ingraham will begin an extended medical leave. Director of Music Education and Services Joe Liles will assume duties as acting executive director while a search committee is formed to consider applicants for the executive director position. It is the Board's goal to have a nominee by the January 1988 Mid-Winter meeting.

In addition to several revisions of Article 6 and 20 in the Contest and Judging rules, changes were also approved concerning the Society's Statement of Policy with regard to games of chance. The wording of the rule is now as follows: (italicized words are new language):

4.) FINANCIAL MATTERS

(Continued Next Column)

(From Column 2)

a. It is expected that our musical talents are employed in presenting public performances as the primary method of raising funds. Our chapters should be self-supporting. The operation of games of chance, such as lotteries, bingo, etc., open to the public at large, are not considered as being within the purposes of our Society, and are prohibited. Door prize drawings in conjunction with shows, where no charge or fee (other than the regular ticket price) is imposed for the right to participate in the drawings, and raffles where the entire proceeds are distributed to a non-profit International, District or Chapter service project, are (unless otherwise illegal under applicable law) expressly exempt from the prohibition of this paragraph.

INTERNATIONAL CONTEST RESULTS

The '87 International Convention is now history. Tentative final attendance figures approached 10,200. The results of the contests are as follows:

QUARTETS

1. INTERSTATE RIVALS -- International Champions. (Louisville, KY)
2. SECOND EDITION (Louisville, KY)
3. CHIEFS OF STAFF (Arlington Hts., Oak Lawn, Lombard, IL)
4. 139th STREET QUARTET (Whittier, Indian Wells, CA)
5. CHICAGO CHORD OF TRADE (Northbrook IL)
6. THE RITZ (Grand Rapids, Detroit/Oakland, MI)
7. THE SIDEKICKS (Orlando, Tampa, FL)
8. REMEMBER WHEN (Phoenix, AZ)
9. CHORDIAC ARREST (Fox Valley, Northbrook, Chicago No. 1, IL)
10. BASIN STREET QUARTET (New Orleans, LA)

45. TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION (Wayne, MI)

CHORUSES

1. Lombard, IL WEST TOWNS CHORUS - International Champions
 2. Manhattan, NY BIG APPLE CHORUS
 3. Louisville, KY, THOROUGHBREDS
 4. Scarborough, ONT, DUKES OF HARMONY
 5. Cincinnati, OH "SOUTHERN GATEWAY CHORUS"
 6. Oklahoma City, OK, OK CHORALE
-
15. Wayne, MI RENAISSANCE CHORUS

Congratulations to our fine Pioneer competitors underlined above. All of them did a fine job in representing the Pioneer District at the International Contest. We are extremely proud of all of you!

Coming Events ...

AUGUST

22 ALPENA CHAPTER SHOW

SEPTEMBER

11-12 PIONEER DISTRICT HARMONY ROUND UP -- BATTLE CREEK (See Page 3)

14-17 TOM GENTRY VISITS PIONEER (See article on Page 7)

26 SWAN VALLEY CHAPTER SHOW

27 PONTIAC CHAPTER CABARET SHOW - (See Ad on Page 7)

OCTOBER

2 CANADIAN NIGHT @ Detroit/Oak-

land's Lathrup Meeting Hall

16-18 PIONEER DISTRICT FALL CONVEN-

TION - BATTLE CREEK (Grosse

Pointe Chapter will host!)

30 GROSSE POINTE CHAPTER- "Comedy

Quartet Night".

NOVEMBER

20 MILFORD CHAPTER "Mini-Chorus"
Contest

DECEMBER

12-13 PIONEER DISTRICT CHAPTER OFFI-
CER TRAINING SCHOOL --Stouffer
Hotel - Battle Creek (All 1988
incoming chapter officers are
expected to attend!)

JANUARY, 1988

15 WINDSOR CHAPTER'S "UNCLE SAM"
NIGHT

FEBRUARY, 1988

12-13 DETROIT/OAKLAND SHOW

27 KALAMAZOO SHOW

27-28 MONROE CHAPTER SHOW

APRIL, 1988

9 COLDWATER CHAPTER SHOW

NOTE: All Chapter Show activities must be cleared through the District Secretary and the appropriate ASCAP and BMI fees paid. Only shows that are cleared through the District Secretary will be listed above.

PLEASE NOTIFY: JACK SCHNEIDER

1311 Northlawn, N.E.

Grand Rapids, MI 49505

Res. (616) 361-6820

Bus. (616) 774-5225



OLD JOHN BAUER, OUR NEW D.M.E.

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Robert McDermott
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Society for the Preservation and Encouragement
of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.



International Bulletin Contest

Thirty-two bulletins were submitted to the PROBE bulletin judges, representing two bulletins from each district. Each of these bulletins were appraised by very competent judges to be the best of their districts. The judging system is very similar to the scoring system for our quartet and chorus contests, in that we have three categories, namely CONTENT, GRAMMAR STYLE, and LAYOUT and REPRODUCTION. It is a very competitive contest, and trophies are awarded at the International Conventions.

This year, the winner was Dick Teeters of the St. Paul, Minnesota, Chapter, who edited the "Overtones", a fine publication. Surprisingly, your editor of the TROUBADOUR, ended up in second place, as the editor of the "Gentlemen's Songster" of the Detroit Oakland Chapter. I had hoped that my bulletin would have ended up in the "top five", but to receive second was a complete surprise! Wade Dexter, the editor of the Kansas City Chapter's "Harmonotes" placed third, followed closely by Jerry Easter's "Pride Piper", both from the Central States District. So, for the record, in International Bulletin Competition, your editor has achieved one fourth, two third's, and one second, so far. Some day we may make it!

Congratulations have to go out to Webb Scrivnor for his fine finish of 30 in the total field of 32. Remember, of the possible number of bulletins that begin this contest (and that must number around 400), it is quite an accomplishment to even get this far! Congratulations, Webb, you deserve it!

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