



pioneer TROUBADOUR

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



OCT/NOV '87

VOLUME 38 NUMBER 5



Gil Lefholz

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.
International Representative
To Fall Convention

Our Immediate Past International President, Mr. Gil Lefholz, will be our honored guest at the Pioneer District Convention to be held October 17-19 in Battle Creek. We will be doubly honored to have him address our District House of Delegates meeting on Saturday morning.

Gil will be accompanied at the convention by his lovely wife Donna, and possibly his daughter Kim, who presently works in the Detroit area. Gil has been barbershopping over 32 years and has had vast experience in all facets of barbershopping. We look forward to having Gil and Donna as our weekend guests. Please say hello to them when you meet them at the convention.



JIM GOUGEON

Jim Gougeon, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, has announced the Officer Candidates of the Pioneer District for 1988. They are as follows:

PRESIDENT	<u>Earl W. Berry</u>
EXEC. VICE PRES.	<u>Clayton Jones</u>
SECRETARY	<u>Jack Schneider</u>
TREASURER	<u>Fran Jones</u>
VICE PRES. DIV I	<u>Russ Seely</u>
VICE PRES. DIV II	<u>William Lang</u>
VICE PRES. DIV III	<u>Michael O'Donnell</u>
VICE PRES. DIV IV	<u>Robert Tracy</u>
VICE PRES. DIV V	<u>Paul Lehmkuhle</u>
DIR. MUSIC EDUC.	<u>John W. Bauer</u>
DIR. CONV. PLANNING & SPECIAL EVENTS	<u>Roger Lewis</u>
INT. BOARD MBR.	<u>Robert McDermott</u>

Paragraph 9.01 of Article IX of the District By-Laws provide that further nominations may be made from the floor and a motion to close nominations shall not be made until full opportunity has been provided to nominate from the floor for each office to be filled.

The elections will take place at the District House of Delegates meeting on Saturday morning, October 17, 1987, at 8:30 a.m. All chapters should insure that their representatives are present!

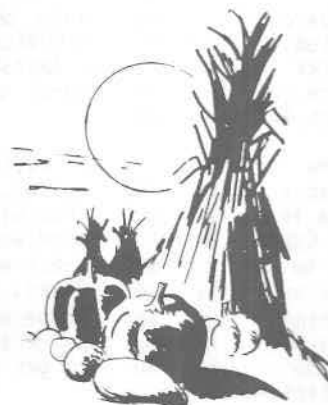
Chapter Presidents to Meet

Mike Cirrito, the President of the Lansing Chapter, sends along the following item of information concerning the Chapter President's breakfast to be held at the convention.

The inaugural Chapter President's breakfast at the Spring convention was, by all indications, a success. The beautiful setting for this informal get together (the Horizon Room at the top of the Stouffer Hotel) was rivaled only by the enthusiasm of the eleven chapter presidents and five guests (which included two lovely wives) who attended.

Since there was overwhelming consensus to continue the breakfast meetings, the next one is scheduled for Saturday, October 17th from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. (not 7:00 a.m. as before!) in the Horizon Room. Remember, wives are cordially invited!

More than one third of the Chapter Presidents were at the inaugural breakfast last April. Let's try to increase our numbers next month. We have some mutually interesting topics to discuss. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



LOGOPEDICS



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

Hi Fellow Barbershoppers! This summer really flew by, and wasn't it a hot one. I know we all had cool places to hide and relax, but one thing that didn't relax was your donations to Logopedics. As of August 31 you donated \$12,112.72, which compared to the same time last year, is better by \$4000.

We have just four months left in the year to hit our goal of \$21,000+, so these are the months that really count, so come on you quartets and chapters, we can use your help. Just think how fortunate you are in comparison to the kids at the Institute.

Next year we're expected to raise \$1,000,000 for Logopedics for our "50th Anniversary." It means we will all have to contribute one third more than now. Think about it, that's not much at all.

The Christmas season is getting very close, and the Christmas cards from the Institute are on sale now in boxes of 25 each for \$8.95. When buying these you will be helping the kids, and also your chapter will get credit, too. To order, call toll free 1-800-835-1043.

We have eight bronze and two silver medals so far, and the Swan Valley and the Huron Valley Chapters are just a few dollars from reaching the silver. I'm sure they'll make it.

For the July and August period, the following chapters donated to Logopedics: Swan Valley, Grand Rapids, Grosse Pointe, Lansing, Saginaw, Wayne, Huron Valley, Benton Harbor, Milford, St. Joe Valley, and Monroe. Thank you all.

Quartets donating during the same period included HI-TECH MUSICAL CIRCUIRY and THE SOUND AMBASSADORS. We're hearing from more quartets which is just great.

The Logopedics golf outing was great except for the weather. It was held in Windsor at the Fox Glen Golf and Country Club. The food was great and so were the prizes, but we could have used a few more golfers. Keep it in mind for next year. Maybe we could find places in our homes for the guys not in the Metro area to get them to participate.

A reminder -- FOUR MONTHS TO TARGET DATE! See you at the convention.

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**

Another big convention is upon us, and this one bodes to be one of our biggest ever. The Grosse Pointe Chapter will be hosting this convention, and knowing them they will do a super job.

It's also the time for the election of our 1988 Chapter officers, and I hope all of our chapters are way ahead of me on this. The next step then is to be making plans for all of them to be attending Chapter Officer Training School in Battle Creek on December 12-13. A chapter officer who does not attend this school is not being fair to his chapter, no matter how many times he has been a chapter officer before. Every year there is something new and important developing, and unless he attends, the chapter is the loser. Hopefully all of our incoming officers will be there, so that we can begin now to develop our plans and programs to make our fiftieth anniversary year the best ever. Remember, attendance at the school is a legitimate chapter expense, so all that is required is the officer's time at the school. That's not too much to ask, is it?

On another note, I highly recommend that some of our chapters really get involved with the DYNAMO program in 1988. If you don't know what this program is all about, refer to the Feb/Mar '87 issue of the Troubadour. It's a program of proven worth, and we're only fooling ourselves if we don't take advantage of it.

While we're holding our own pretty much membership-wise, we still aren't making any significant gains. I think it would be great if we really charged ahead in 1988, our 50th Anniversary Year. After all, Pioneer was the first District organized, and we ourselves will be celebrating 50 years as a state association in 1989. What better way to show the Society that we are still ahead of the pack in membership. It's going to take extra effort on all of our parts to make this happen, but, we did it before and we can do it again!

(Continued Next Column)

(From Column 1)

Good luck to all of our competitors at the fall convention. I know the competition will be keen, but that always makes for a great convention, doesn't it? See you all in Battle Creek in October!

EARL BERRY

QUARTET NEWS

NEW AND RE-RENEWED QUARTETS

AS OF 4/22/87

HI TECH MUSICAL CIRCUITRY

Contact - Bob Wisdom
6767 Limerick Lane
Troy, MI 48098

BLUE PLATE SPECIAL

Contact - Wesley Merriman
3614 Pontiac Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

THE GOLDEN CADILLACS

Contact - James S. Carey
P. O. Box 44
Cadillac, MI 49601

SONGSPINNERS

Contact - Malcolm Graham
2690 W Michigan
Battle Creek, MI
49017

UNRENEWED QUARTETS - As of 4/22/87

VAGABONDS

COBBLESTONE FOUR

NEW AND RE-RENEWED QUARTETS

AS OF 7/20/87

PAST TENSE

Contact - Jean C. Curtiss
14791 24th Ave.
Marne, MI 49435
H (616) 677-5554
W (800) 228-3296

THE VERY IDEA

Contact - Roland Ruegsegger
2185 Princeton Ave
Berkley, MI 48072

UNRENEWED QUARTETS - As of 7/20/87

SUITABLE UNION

CENTER STAGE

HAND-ME-DOWNS

TRI-CITIES FOUR

WEST SIDE STORY

THE SONGS WE SING

THE STORY BEHIND THE SONG

"SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI"

(The following article appeared in the February, 1947, issue of the Harmonizer.)

Recently, Carroll P. Adams had a visit with F. Dudleigh Vernor, the composer, in his studio at the Metropolitan Methodist Church in Detroit. Carroll has set down for us some notes concerning the song as told to him by Vernor.

Dudleigh was born in Detroit and lived there until he entered Albion College at Albion, Michigan, in 1910. Soon after, he joined Sigma Chi Fraternity and there met a fraternity brother, Byron D. Stokes, who was two years ahead of him in school. "By" Stokes had a flare for writing lyrics and was continually turning out poems and jingles. One day at the fraternity house he handed Vernor the words of "Sweetheart of Sigma Chi" and asked him to see what he could do about writing a tune for it. Sometime later, Dudleigh, who was enrolled in the Music Conservatory at Albion, was going through his daily practice on the Chapel organ and he pulled out of his pocket the words of the poem that Stokes had given him. He read them over several times and then started to finger the keyboard of the organ. He finally came up with the melody which then and there became the now-famous "Sweetheart of Sigma Chi." He went back to the fraternity house, played it several times for Stokes and some of the other members. Everyone seemed to like it so well that Vernor put it down on paper, filled in the chords and taught the song to all the men in the house.

A little later, he appealed to his brother, Richard, to help him finance the private publishing of 500 copies of the song, which they did under the name of the Richard E. Vernor Publishing Company, and mailed a free copy to each chapter of Sigma Chi. Immediately orders began to come in and a reprinting was ordered. Dudleigh and Richard continued to handle the song up to 1927, during which time they put out somewhere between 27 and 30 editions. In 1927 it was sold to the Melrose Music Corporation (now Edwin H. Morris & Co., Inc.) with the understanding that the song, which had been written as a fraternity number, would not be "plugged" to become a hit-of-the-week, and consequently soon forgotten.

Vernor stayed in college for two years, and after that went to New York to study two years at Damrosch

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12)

The Executive Pitch



by our Executive V.P.
Clay Jones

I want to remind everyone that chapter officer elections should take place by early October, and that the new officer reports need to be submitted to the International Office and to District Secretary Jack Schneider immediately after elections. Chapter secretaries should report the new officers complete with all additional details for the non-elected offices to Jack by convention time so he can start putting together the '88 District Directory. It would be great (a miracle, even), if he got this information in time for C.O.T.S. on December 12-13, 1987.

"And what is COTS?" you may ask. Oh boy, if you have to ask, then we're all in trouble! Chapter Officers Training School is the opportunity to learn how to make your chapter more successful by doing things in a manner consistent with tried, proven and successful methods.*

Gentlemen, if you are elected to a chapter office for 1988, or if you have volunteered for one of the non-elected offices (Bulletin Editor, Public Relations), or if you are to repeat as an officer next year, it is important (nay, mandatory) that you know what your job consists of and how to do it. You owe it to those who entrust the job to you to do it properly. A chapter office is not some duty for on-the-job training. To ensure the positive progress of your chapter, you must know how to do the job before you take it on. COTS is the place to learn your job. If you can't attend COTS, don't take on the responsibility of a chapter office.

This year's COTS will have the following faculty:

DEAN	<u>Ron Rockwell</u>
DO/AC	<u>E. Berry, C. Jones</u>
PRESIDENTS	<u>Chuck Hunter, Sr.</u>
MEMBERSHIP V.P.	<u>Jack Smith</u>
PROGRAM V.P.	<u>Joe Jenkins</u>

(Continued Next Column)

(From Column 1)

MUSIC V.P.	<u>Pete Hughes</u>
SECRETARY	<u>Lowell Shank</u>
TREASURER	<u>J. P. La Montagne</u>
BULL. EDITORS	<u>Bob McDermott</u>
PUB. RELATIONS	<u>John Ford</u>
CONV. PLANNING	<u>Roger Lewis</u>
LOGOPEDICS	<u>Dave Draper</u>

It will be held at Stouffer's Hotel in Battle Creek beginning on Saturday December 12, at 12 o'clock noon, and running until 12 o'clock noon on Sunday, December 13. All classes are important, but the PROGRAM V.P. class is extremely important, and any V.P. that can't attend COTS for some reason should send an assistant to take his place. (Editor's Note: As President of SMAC, I'm requesting that all SMAC chapter PVP's to bring their tentative schedules for 1988 so we can coordinate schedules. Please?)

The Bulletin Editors and Public Relations classes will be held only if at least five people sign up for them. Any less than that and we would be wasting the faculty member's time and the Chapter and District's money.

The school costs are a legitimate chapter expense and so can be underwritten in part or wholly by the chapter. And, on top of everything else, COTS is fun, fun, fun! If your chapter officers miss it, the whole chapter will suffer, so let's get our officers out there and make '88 the best year in Pioneer District history. After all, '88 is our 50th Anniversary, and we have much to be proud of, because Pioneer always was the leader!

*Purloined and paraphrased liberally from the NOR'EASTER; Editor, Norm Mendenhall

We Get Letters...



Hi Bob,

We thought that you would be interested to know how we made out at the Second Annual Pioneer District Logopedics' Golf Tournament, which was held August 1 at the Fox Glen Golf Club in Windsor. Having been there yourself, you know that the turnout was only fair, but much fun was had by all who participated despite the weather.

We were very fortunate that all of the prizes were donated by local businesses, and as a result we have just forwarded a check for \$179.92 to George Van DeVelde, proceeds from the draws and from the tournament.

I hope you can find your way to include this information in the next edition of the Troubadour. As of right now, this is the most newsworthy event concerning the Windsor Chapter, except that we lost our director for the week at Harmony College as Dave Duncan was teaching a course in stage presence. See you at the convention.

/s/Al Raikes

NOTICE TO ALL NEWS CONTRIBUTORS OF

THE TROUBADOUR:

Your editor really wants to thank the many contributors of news items to the Troubadour in the past year. It truly makes my job much easier. My only concern, however, is that I am receiving many items after the deadline, which is the 15th of every other month. I would appreciate it if all items were to be in my hands by the 15th, so I can publish on schedule. We have advertisers who want their ads out as soon as possible because of time constraints, so it is necessary that deadlines be observed. Thank you.

"THE SIDEWINDERS"

AVAILABLE AGAIN... NOW ON CASSETTE



Also Available
Sidewinders' Album #1 ...
"Here's Barbershop and Then Some"
Cassette only ... \$8.95

AMONG THE FAVORITES INCLUDED ARE...

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Sailin' Down the Cheapeake Bay
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671 W. Cypress
Redlands, CA 92373

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SAFETY FIRST!

PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE ON ACCIDENTS

We've all watched insurance rates soar to unbelievable levels. In order to help chapters keep costs down, the International Office offers this "quick check" of possible hazards. We hope all chapters will take a few moments to make sure these hazards are fixed - after all, it takes a few moments for safety, but many weeks to recover from a nasty fall.


AT THE MEETING PLACE:

- ☐ A crew to set up risers and chairs, not allowing one person to do it all
- ☐ Risers are up and ready, complete with rear and side guards
- ☐ Seats are sturdy, taking out those that are bent or broken
- ☐ Exit doors are clearly marked, doors operating properly
- ☐ Stairs are clearly lighted, hand rails secure
- ☐ Parking lot is well lighted with no "trip holes."
- ☐ Raining? Keep water mopped up or rubber mats nearby
- ☐ Spills near the coffee pot need immediate cleanup

AT THE SINGOUT, ANNUAL SHOW OR CONVENTION STAGE:

- ☐ Appropriate number of men for risers, and equipment
- ☐ Risers set up and sturdy, complete with guard rails
- ☐ Sound equipment is set up, sturdy with cords taped down
- ☐ Lighting equipment is up, sturdy with wires taped down
- ☐ Walkways to and from stage are lighted
- ☐ Stairs to stage are well lighted and clear
- ☐ Carpeting near doorways or on stage is taped
- ☐ Handrails on all stairs are secure
- ☐ Exits are clearly accessible and marked
- ☐ Scaffolding, ladders and catwalks are clear of children
- ☐ Glass doors are marked for being open or closed
- ☐ Front of the stage is marked with red tape

It's better to fix these items as you see them than to have the emergency service carry away a man you prefer to have singing with you!



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DISTRICT NEWS

(From Column 2)

Clinton Valley

Effective in August, 1987, the Clinton Valley Chapter will change its rehearsal nights from Monday to Wednesday nights. We will still meet at the American Legion Hall in Rochester, Michigan. Thanks,

MARLYN BIRD President

Benton Harbor-St. Joe

Where did it go, the summer I mean? Seems just yesterday that a chorus member beefed "But this is only July" when told that we'd be practicing on risers for the fall contest. "Only July" had suddenly become count-down time. Hey, Huron Valley and Battle Creek choruses, we're out to beat you!

A vigorous handshake to our newest member, tenor Tom Thorson. A native of Minnesota, Tom found his way to this fair city via matrimony and to our chorus under the sponsorship of tenor John Strunk. Congratulations, guys!

Ah, what pleasant memories linger from the month of August: A very successful chorus and quartet performance at the Berrien County Fair; another great one as guest performers in a St. Joseph Municipal Band Concert in the gem-like band shell atop the bluff overlooking Lake Michigan; and our annual steak fry and corn roast. Fifty-five assorted bon vivants and boondogglers, including the ladies, attended the cook-out. The air was filled with mouth-watering aromas and mellifluous (Ed. Note: Where'd he find that word?) chords. Our FRUIT BELT CHORUS along with the MUSIC COMMITTEE and TOP BILLING quartets also performed, and woodshedding went on into the night. But where, oh where, did Steve Lake's work gloves go?

Once upon a time when Chapter Prez Charlie Shine was a young blade, Lovely Lucille, a neighborhood girl, would walk by his house on the way to the store. And Charlie would think wistfully, "I'd like to date that girl." But he discovered that she was married and had two small children. Well, Charlie, as we know, married another comely lass and lived happily almost ever after, about half a century, that is. Then it came to pass that Charlie and Lucille had both lost their mates. Now this long story has a short and poignant ending: Charlie and Lucille were married August 15th. Congratulations, Charlie! (Deja Vu, Kathy?)

A whisper to Benton Harbor-St. Joe chapter: Cyclist Roger Valentine uses training wheels.

BRAD LAUGHLIN

Detroit-Oakland

Amazing, isn't it, how time flies? Seems like just a year ago we were going through almost this same regimen, preparing for the contest! But, a lot of things have transpired since that time. We have a chorus that will have to be reckoned with in this contest! We're no longer a newly merged chapter, and we're working harder than ever to prove just that.

By the time you read this, the chorus will have spent a weekend at Camp Oyihsa, working with our coaches and directors to perfect our performance. A retreat like this can only unify a chorus such as ours, and build up our confidence. We will be there, you'd better believe it!

We were fortunate to have Tom Gentry and Bill Rashleigh in for a coaching session on September 14. They worked with the chorus for two-and-a-half hours, and the results were tremendous. International has to be proud to have these two guys on their staff, because they know their business.

Our chapter meeting on September 11 proved to be a great success. Approximately 40 fellows made up about 11 quartets for our annual interchapter quartet contest. What a blast! Our winners were never announced, but, in our opinion, everyone was a champ! Come on Grosse Pointe, this year you're going to get a run for your money!

Our picnic and corn roast turned out 67 people, including some from the Macomb County Chapter. The Troy-Clawson Elk's Club proved to be a superior site to hold this event on August 16, and with all of the facilities at this site, we had a great time. The weather treated us well.

We are looking forward to Battle Creek. Join us in our hospitality room!

HERMAN SHWARTZENEGGAR

Grand Rapids

Since we last talked, the chapter and the chorus have been extremely busy.

July and August saw us with five performances, a guest night, our retreat, and Herm Baker's annual Corn Roast.

The Guest Night proved very successful with half a dozen new men who liked what they saw and heard, and have continued to come to rehearsals. Of course, Herm's (infamous) Corn Roast was a smash, in more ways than

(Continued Next Column)

one, I might add. (Little corn humor there, partner!)

80 plus members and guests turned out for this fun filled evening, and their hunger, thirst and singing ability seemed to know no end. Munchies, hotdogs, fresh sweet corn, and plenty of refreshments were on hand. What a pleasant change from the raw meat Captain Clay throws to us every Tuesday when we do well. Just kidding, Clay, just kidding!

I can say things like this, see, and get away with it, because Captain Clay needs and loves his lead section. I mean he is always telling us what to do and where to go...I'm switching to the bass section.

Our chorus Retreat and Workshop, our WIT weekend as we called it, was, simply put, FANTASTIC! 73 "Men of the Tide" attended with 12 more who could not make it. It was inspiring to actually see, hear, and feel the difference this fun but intense weekend had on each of us. Sure, the work was tough and demanding, but worth it. It created even more excitement, enthusiasm and camaraderie. It gave us a real feeling of closeness, of team work, a sense of purpose. Add to that a real feeling of strength, accomplishment and love for each other, and for this special kind of music we call Barbershop.

Our goals and focus are set, and our course is plotted. Our hearts and bodies are refreshed, in-tune and eager for whatever lies ahead.

A quick note on HARMONY ROUNDUP this past weekend in Battle Creek. It was a lot of fun and very informative. Everyone there had a great time. The accommodations and food were great, and the classes and instructors were excellent.

We had 12 men there, including two quartets, the FURNITURE CITY CHORD COMPANY, and the MYCRO QUARTET, a newly formed quartet from the chapter.

Gathering first place over two other fine quartets, the FOUR PART FORMULA and the WRECKING CREW (most improved quartet of the weekend), was none other than our own FURNITURE CITY CHORD COMPANY. Nice job, guys, we were all proud of you. In fact, all of the quartets were great.

Everyone should go to one of these sessions. It is time and money well spent. Sure is a great way to learn our hobby and meet some great people! Try it, you'll like it! See all of you in Battle Creek October 17!

DICK WILLIAMS

Saginaw-Bay

Many friends in the District will be glad to hear that Jim Gross is recovering well from Coronary Bypass Surgery performed on September tenth. By the time you read this, I'm sure Jim will be up and around and planning to be in Battle Creek.

The Saginaw-Bay Chapter had a very active summer with a record number of church performances. Our activity was not only ecumenical but geographically diverse. We worshipped with congregations in Saginaw, Bay City, and Sanford reflecting the fact that our membership is drawn from the entire tri-city area.

With the coming of fall, the chapter TIMBERLAND CHORDSMEN Chorus has been working hard preparing for competition in Battle Creek. Bob Winters will be directing the chorus for this contest.

The chorus is also preparing for upcoming performances for the Order of the Eastern Star in Bay City and for the Muscular Dystrophy Benefit at the Pit and Balcony Theater in Saginaw.

Several guests and spouses joined a nearly 100% chapter turnout on September 16 for an exciting craft session with Tom Gentry and Bill Rashleigh from Kenosha. The knowledge and enthusiasm that these two gentlemen left with us will be apparent in all of our activities.

BOB DENNETT

Had a communication from Max Minor, who is the editor of the "Ah=Sow What?" bulletin of the Ancient and Harmonious Society of Woodshedders, Ltd. A lot of our members may not know what the "Ah=Sows" do, but basically it is an organization within our Society who do nothing but "woodshed." Your editor intends to qualify very shortly, and the intent of Max's letter was to encourage exactly that at the next convention in San Antonio, Texas. Their President is John Miller, and he stated that they qualified close to a 100 new members at Hartford.

Concerning the above, Bud Hillier, the immediate past-president of Ah=Sow, wrote the following in the bulletin:

"There was much discussion about barbershopper's abilities to woodshed. Some believe you must be born with the ability, and say, 'those that aren't born with it can't be taught how to woodshed.' Each person has the right to his own opinion, but I would hate to believe that any barbershopper has so little interest in his hobby that he could not improve his woodshedding ability if he had the opportunity to do so!"

Interesting, isn't it?

Incidentally, for those of you who might be in the Baltimore, Md., area around February 11, you might be interested in attending the First An-

(Continued Next Column)

Here & About ----

nual East Coast Woodshed Weekend, which will be held in Baltimore at the Inner Harbor Fantastic Suites of the Tremont Plaza. It's a full week-end of singing, and is patterned after the very successful "Pioneer's Convention" in the mid-west (not our district). You can pre-register now by sending \$2 to Max Minor, Quartet Workshop, 157 Washington Avenue, Chatham, NJ 07928. Phone (201) 635-8913. Shake the rust off your pitchpipe! This is not an Aw=Sow function.

HARMONY RENDEZVOUS

a barbershop quartet.

On August 30 the HARMONY RENDEZVOUS quartet sang at the Detroit Institute of Art's "Brunch with Bach" series. They sang two performances, one at 10:00 a.m. and another at 11:00 p.m. As Jerry Clardy, their baritone, relates it:

"Kresge Court is a great place to sing. We loved it from the very first chord of our on-stage warm-up. We received an encore for each performance. The Staff Coordinator for the series told us we were the first group to receive an encore in over a year."

"Our warm-up room was a large conference room with paintings on the walls, pieces of museum furniture to sit on, a gilt edged mirror with which we used to tie our ties on, and a 20 foot marble table at which we were served a light breakfast. School classrooms and dressing rooms will never be the same."

"Former bass Dave Ives attended the second show and afterward both the old and new versions of HARMONY RENDEZVOUS sang for our own enjoyment back in the warm-up room. We were having such a good time that they actually had to ask us to leave."

JERRY CLARDY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Executive Director.

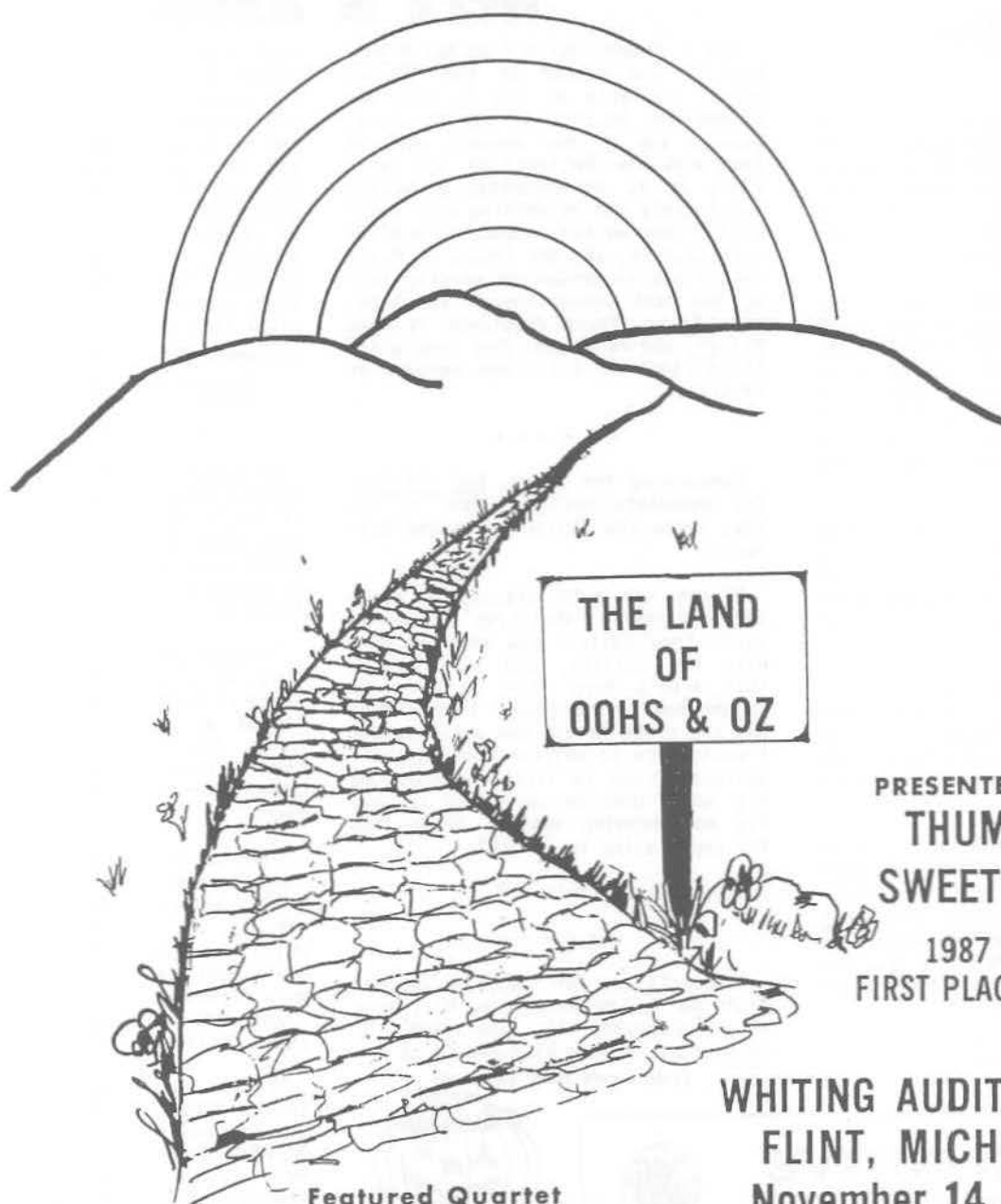
Advanced management skills are required for the supervision and direction of all phases and programs of this 37,000 member non-profit association, including a \$2.5 million budget and 38 employees. The Society's office is located in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

Salary and benefits will be commensurate with experience. Send qualifications and resume to:

Wilbur Sparks
Chairman, Search Committee
6724 North 26th Street
Arlington, Virginia 22213.

Please respond by November 15, 1987. Responses will be kept confidential upon request.





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CHICAGO NATURAL GAS

PRESENTED BY
**THUMB AREA
SWEET ADELINES**

1987 REGION 2
FIRST PLACE CHAMPIONS

**WHITING AUDITORIUM
FLINT, MICHIGAN
November 14, 1987
8:00 P.M.**



Please send me _____ tickets at \$7.00 each - \$6.00 for Seniors and Students (\$8.00 and \$7.00 after Nov. 1) for **THE LAND OF OOHS AND OZ**. I understand that you will mail my tickets to me. I'll allow 1-2 weeks for delivery and I'll make my check payable to **Thumb Area Sweet Adelines, Inc.**

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Mary Nellenbach, 4292 Slattery Rd., North Branch, MI 48461
(Phone: 313-688-3248)

HARTFORD HARMONY HAPPENINGS

By Rusty Rueggseggar

While the memories are still fresh, here are a few thoughts about the 1987 International, in Hartford. The INTERSTATE RIVALS left no doubt that this was their year. Competing this year with a new baritone, they came out and posted a 103-point lead in the quarter finals and then proceeded to let the other quartets chip away at it. They finished with a lead of 114 points and are truly deserving of the title of 1987 International Quartet Champions.

And the Harrington's are back! At least, two of them are back. Lead, David and bari, Doug Harrington teamed up with tenor Fred Farrell and bass Jamie Meyer, to form the SECOND EDITION and sang their way to a second place Silver Medal in their very first International.

The CHIEFS OF STAFF, from the Chicago area, are stronger than ever, and have moved up from fifth to third this year. They certainly seem destined for the Gold. But, then again, what do I know? Eleven years ago, when the 139TH STREET QUARTET burst upon the scene, I said they were "destined for the Gold." That year, 1976, they were tenth. The next year, they were second, and I was smiling smugly. The next year, they did not compete, and, in intervening years, they have taken two tenths, a ninth, an eighth, two sevenths, two sixths, and a fifth. This year they came in fourth. Other than the Gold Medal, the only spot they haven't won is third! They have always been in the Top Ten and I still say they are destined to win the Gold.

Another quartet from the Chicago area rounded out the top five. The CHICAGO CHORD OF TRADE captured a bronze in their first International appearance. This fine sounding foursome features Jay Giallombardo, bari of GRANDMA'S BOYS ('79 Champs) singing bass!

All three of the Illinois District quartets finished in the "Top Ten." The third one, CHORDIAC ARREST, had beaten BENCHMARKS (12th in '86), so we knew they must be good -- and they were. Through the three contest sessions, they progressed from one of the quartet having a heart attack on stage, through surgery in the operating room, to convalescence in a wheel chair. A hilarious group who can generate great sound scores.

Our own RITZ came out swinging, and, after the first session, were in the top five! They fell back a bit in the semi's, and after the final scores were totaled, found themselves sixth -- up considerably from 13 last year. They did a terrific job and Pioneer is justifiably proud of them.

(Continued Next Column)

(From Column 1)

The "Guts Award" of 1987 surely must go to Randy Loos, bass of the SIDEKICKS quartet from Florida. Normally a big, booming bass, he didn't seem to have the "profundo" that I remembered. 'Twas no wonder -- I'm told that he rushed his departure from the hospital with a collapsed lung to appear on stage. And what an appearance they made! Even with diminished capabilities, they still moved up two places to seventh this year. In fact, they changed places with REMEMBER WHEN, who dropped from seventh last year to ninth. We're happy to report Randy is doing well now.

Rounding out the "Top Ten" was the BASIN STREET QUARTET, up from 11 last year.

VAUDEVILLE, who had been in the "Top Five" for the last five years, had announced their retirement effective with the Mid-Winter Convention. They picked up a new tenor, Ed Cazen-sas, reportedly only a month before the Mid-Atlantic District Convention and won it! I was looking forward to hearing them, but they scratched. As I heard it later, they didn't feel they were far enough along with their new tenor to compete and maintain their level at International. Next year, look out!

The ALLIED FOUR, that popular comedy quartet with the big bass fiddle, has decided to call it quits after 16 years. Also, the INNSIDERS ('76 Champs, and often reorganized since) announced their final retirement last fall. Already through, bari Guy Mc-Shan and bass, Tom Pearson, had been singing in a new group INN'S-N-OUT'S, which had competed at Salt Lake City (17th). They moved up this year to 16th.

We recognized another group at Hartford. Larry Tully and Terry Clarke, bari and bass of the BOSTON COMMON ('80 Champs) have been singing with Tom Spirito ever since Rich Knapp's accident. The three of them have a new tenor, Francis Page, and are called the BOSTON CONSORT. They competed this spring in NED, and would have won by a large margin, except they ran over the six minute limit. Even with a 112 point penalty, they were still second in the district prelims. They were 26th at Hartford.

Our own TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION did not show the judges what a really fine quartet they are. Somehow, they just didn't have that spark in the quarter finals, and, at International you just don't get a second chance.

Speaking of young quartets, the Santa Clara (CA) Chapter recently featured the OSMONDS BOYS QUARTET on their show in their West Coast debut! This perky Four-Some was first seen by many of us at the Osmond Patriotic Show in Salt Lake City, in 1976.

Remember When!

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

(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.)

Notwithstanding the fact that World War II came upon the country, the Society continued its growth in Michigan during the year 1941-42, and Jackson, Caro, Oakland County, Battle Creek, Traverse City, Midland, Kalamazoo and Owosso were in the fold by the time of the 1942 National Convention at Grand Rapids.

The story of that convention is fully reported in the Society book, "Keep America Singing." Grand Rapids Chapter did itself proud in the way the event was handled. Roscoe Bennett, the chairman, issued the first Society publication, "The Swipe", publicizing the Convention.

The Michigan quartet contest was skipped in 1942 because of the forthcoming National Contest. The State delegates did, however, hold a meeting at Grand Rapids, and Joe Wolff was elected State President, with John R. Buitendorp, of Muskegon, as Secretary.

By the time of the annual meeting at Kalamazoo, May 8, 1943, Michigan boasted nineteen chapters. Frank Morse, of Muskegon, was elected President for the following year with Gordon Grant, Saginaw, as Secretary. The International (should have been National) had in the meantime elected Carroll Adams as Secretary and set up its headquarters in Detroit. Michigan was indeed the hub of the barbershop world! (Emphasis by your editor)

It was on November 6, 1943, that the Oakland County Chapter staged a Parade of Quartets in Detroit's Masonic Temple. This event was well patronized and laid the foundation for future events in this mammoth auditorium.

Detroit was awarded the 1944 Mid-winter meeting of the International Board, and the Michigan chapters also voted to invite the Society to hold its International Convention in Detroit in June, 1944. (Editor's Note: It appears that there is a discrepancy here. The Society only became International when the Windsor, Ontario, Chapter, which was sponsored by the Oakland County Chapter, became a chapter later in 1944. Apparently, Windsor received their charter before the June, 1944 Convention. Your editor will pursue this farther.)

Holland

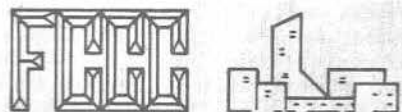
Not to be outdone by the "Hot-Dog-Sing-Along", given by Ken Cook, there was an annual Kick-Off Extravaganza held on August 25. Bing Miller hosted the event at his voluptuous villa on lustrous Lake Michigan. The highlight of the evening was the showing of the chapter's video from the Tulip Time Show. Since then, of course, official rehearsals for the WINDMILL chorus have begun. Our chapter meetings are still held on Tuesday nights, in our home at 102 South River.

Our present activities center around our annual Logopedic's Show, which will be presented on Saturday, November 7, at Sandy Point Restaurant and Entertainment Center. Among the entertainers will be a Sweet Adeline Quartet whose name I did not know, but they are changing the name, so now I don't know their name. Understand? And, of course, the fabulous FOUR TUNE HUNTERS will be forging their special brand of solid harmony and humor. And, that's not all! Coaxed out of retirement will be the terrific TRI-CITIES FOUR, who will be singing their "third final show." (Nobody really believes that!) However, we must thank Art Phillipus and Bill Langejans, co-chairman for the show, for their fine jobs in getting all this fine talent and making the arrangements.

We have also elected our officers for the 1988 Anniversary Year, and we know you are all anxiously awaiting the results. Well, all right! Here they are: Darrell Vande Hoef, President, Andreis Steketee, Membership Vice President, Jack Onk, Program Vice President, Webb Scrivnor, Music Vice President, Ernesto Evangelista, Secretary and Bulletin Editor, Paul Bekker, Treasurer, Art Phillipus, Board-Member-At-Large, Mike Onk, Chorus Director. Bill Langejans is the appointed Logopedics Chairman. Our immediate past president is Bob Kruse.

And so, as Johann said to his wife as he left with his son C.P.E., "Though we must leave for now, rest assured we will be 'BACH' again!"

ERNESTO EVANGELISTA-WEBB SCRIVNOR



the... FURNITURE CITY CHORD COMPANY

...barbershop quartet...with:

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



A full house at Harmony College! Joe Liles and the talented faculty brought another capacity crowd (726!) to St. Joseph, Missouri. Some special surprises were the OK-4, a comedy quartet from Oklahoma City, and the 1986 International Champion Quartet RURAL ROUTE 4 were featured during the week. The Saturday night show, featuring a Christmas theme, will be available to chapters (complete with learning cassettes) in the fall. (Editor's Note: According to the Land O' Lakes PITCH PIPER edited by Dave Olsen, there were 16 men from Michigan.)

A video tape was made at Harmony College in August of a presentation by Bill Myers to the entire student body at a general session. It will be made available later in the year. With regard to the pictures of the twelve vowel targets in the April Quartet Newsletter, it was not intended that the words "lips protruded tensely" be construed as meaning to create tension in the jaw and throat area. These areas must be kept free from tension or strain. The goal is to maximize each singer's ability to form the proper vowel by utilizing the bell formation of the lips, while keeping all other facial areas, jaw and neck relaxed and free of tension.

The third annual Seniors Quartet Contest will be held at the Mid-Winter convention in Washington, DC, next January. Any Society member who is 55 years of age at the time of the contest is eligible (cumulative age of the quartet must be at least 240 years). Quartets must be registered with the Society and registered for the Mid-Winter convention. Encourage seniors quartets in your area to participate. (This includes members of the Frank Thorne chapter-at-large.) It's great fun! Entry forms and information may be obtained by contacting Quartet Registry at the International Office. Entries are accepted no earlier than November 1, 1987 and no later than December 31, 1987.

We have International Office Staff Changes. Music Specialist Mel Knight was promoted to Assistant Director of Music Education and Services. Also, starting September 1, the Manager of Special Events position will be filled by Ken Buckner (former Director of the Louisville THOROUGHBREDS). At the same time, a newly formed position of Public Relations/Magazine Editor will be filled by Ray Heller (former PROBE President, PROBEMOTER Editor and Evergreen District Officer). We welcome them to Kenosha.

update

Canadian chapters are reminded that donations to Harmony Foundation and the Institute of Logopedics can be made in Canadian dollars. These are the only payments to the International Office allowed in Canadian dollars...all others are in U.S. funds.

San Antonio convention registrations have already passed the 4,000 mark -- our usual October statistic! Also, many Barbershoppers have started contacting the hotels for rooms -- but BEWARE! The Housing Bureau is handling all hotel reservations for the Society. In addition, convention rates are under negotiation. Any "outside" contacting may jeopardize our negotiations with area hotels. The Housing Form will be in the January-February HARMONIZER, and there are plenty of rooms for all interested in attending the convention. Thank you for your patience.

A slight change from the advertised advanced Hartford record special. After reviewing the recorded tapes of the Show of Champions, it became obvious that the visual effects were very effective...but the vocal alone made little sense. A joint decision between the music department and the Association of International Champions determined the recording of the Wednesday night show would not be released. Adjustments and refunds from the advanced orders will be mailed soon.

We have prepared a three poster set of four vowel targets to illustrate the proper mouth shapes as shown in the April, 1987 Quartet Newsletter. They are large enough to be seen from the risers at a chorus rehearsal. They are available from the Order Dept. in Kenosha at \$15 (includes mailing) and may be ordered as Stock No. 5907. We hope this will be a helpful training tool for quartet rehearsals as well as chapter meetings in achieving uniform mouth shapes.



RAY HENDERS

KEN EIDSON

PHIL SCHWARZ

LYNN HAULDREN, 929 Central, Wilmette, IL 60091 (312) 251-6348

"The Barbershop Quartet
with the Built-in Beat"

Report on Harmony Round-Up



by 'Ole JOHN BAUER

Although poorly attended, Harmony Round-Up was completed at noon on September 13 with a rousing response from those present, indicating their overall and enthusiastic approval.

In addition to five quartets in coaching sessions, 17 individual students were involved in Beginning Directing, Music Fundamentals, Sight Reading, Vocal Techniques, and Arranging. One quartet scratched at the last minute due to illness.

Following the coaching sessions on Saturday morning, the FOUR PART FORMULA quartet was used by the coaches to demonstrate the finer points of Creative Interpretation and Creative Stage Presence.

Following the quartet showcase, the FURNITURE CITY CHORD COMPANY from Grand Rapids proved to be the most improved quartet over the weekend, as determined by votes cast by the student body and faculty. As such, they qualify for a \$300 scholarship at the next Pioneer District Quartet Clinic. Congratulations, guys, well done!

Due to the poor attendance, your DME made use of evaluation forms to determine the merits of this particular school, and to guide him in setting up future sessions. The student body was requested to rate six areas Excellent, Good or Fair, and the results were as follows:

	E	G	F	No Vote
HOTEL FACILITIES	88%	12%	-	-
CLASS ROOMS	48%	52%	-	-
FACULTY	91%	9%	-	-
SUBJECTS COVERED	64%	36%	-	-
MUSIC USED	33%	45%	12%	10%
COST	39%	55%	3%	3%

One comment made on this evaluation, and also verbally expressed by many others, was: "I can't help but feel sorry for those not taking advantage of this great educational experience." Several others commented

(Continued Next Column)

(From Column 1)

on the fact that their chapter boards did not take action on the school in terms of support until a week before it started.

'Ole John will be reporting to the District Board at the fall convention in October, and making recommendations on future schools, in an attempt to increase attendance in the future.

JOHN BAUER, D.M.E.

OFF THE BOARD!



by YOUR ED

In my 27 years as a barbershopper, I've seen an awful lot of changes in the Society. In almost every facet of our hobby we have countless improvements which make our hobby even more enjoyable. Some people may disagree with me, saying we're too chorus oriented, or that we should go back to the way O.C. Cash envisioned our Society. But one thing I don't think anyone will disagree with me on is the fact that today's average barbershopper is singing much better than ever. This is due to the fact that our judging system, our training systems, our coaching systems, and yes, even our administrative systems are much better than they used to be.

One needed change that I see being addressed very strongly at the Society level is the need for more youth in our ranks. The Young Men in Harmony Program has tremendous merit, and it has to be an ongoing program if it is to be successful. I think it is the one necessary program which has to be emphasized at the district and chapter level.

But, we still have to recognize our membership totally, and it for this reason I think the following suggestion's time has come.

I think it is time for the Pioneer District to begin having a Senior Quartet Contest at our Fall District Convention along with our regular District Quartet Contest. While our emphasis should still be on good, strong, young quartets, this contest

(Continued Next Column)

(From Column 2)

would enable the Seniors to be able to participate on their own level. The rules should be the same as set down for the Senior Quartet Contest at the Mid-Winter Conventions. They are rather simple; each member of the quartet must be at least 55 years old and the total of the four members must be at least 240.

I believe this idea would create a lot of enthusiasm among our older members, and would invite additional quartet participation. The contest could be run in conjunction with our regular quartet contest, with the seniors being scored in exactly the same manner as the regular quartets. I don't see that this would cause too much of a problem! What do you think? Let me know, as I would like to hear more from you readers as to your thoughts.

TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION

The dust has settled from another International Contest and we've all gotten back to our old routine. We have all had time to reflect on our past and ponder our future.

It was back in 1981 when Rick, Mike, Tom, and Mike met at a chapter meeting. A good friend of ours suggested we get matching underwear and form a quartet. SO WE DID! Little did we know that something so enjoyable could be so rewarding. None of us ever imagined that we would become District Champions and compete in three International contests.

Like most quartets we have experienced many highs and faced a few lows. We have seen educations completed, career changes, and the marriage of two of our members. We have, in a manner of speaking, grown up together.

This makes it all the more difficult the decision that must be made. Due to family commitments, and the inability to find adequate rehearsal time, we feel it is time to retire. We have chosen this route rather than continuing on with little or no hope of progressing as we would like. This is not goodbye, it is merely the end of the TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION. We will continue singing, but as each individual's time allows.

We would like to thank all of our friends in the Pioneer District for their continued support throughout the past six years. It was a pleasure and an honor to be able to sing for (and sing with) you. We'll never forget the joy we felt singing together as a quartet. Thanks again for all your support and for letting us share some of our joy with you.

Sincerely, Rick Sims, Mike Woodruff,
Mike Dixon, Tom Conway

Coming Events...

OCTOBER, 1987

- 3 GRATIOT COUNTY Chapter Show
16-18 PIONEER DISTRICT FALL CONVENTION - BATTLE CREEK (Grosse Pointe Chapter will host!)
30 GROSSE POINTE CHAPTER- "Comedy Quartet Night".

NOVEMBER, 1987

- 6 CANADIAN NIGHT @ Detroit/Oakland's Lathrup Village Meeting Hall. (Postponed from October)
7 SAULT STE. MARIE Chapter Show

DECEMBER, 1987

- 12-13 PIONEER DISTRICT CHAPTER OFFICER 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

- 5-6 MACOMB COUNTY Chapter Show
12-13 DETROIT/OAKLAND Chapter Show
27 KALAMAZOO Chapter Show
27-28 MONROE Chapter Show

MARCH, 1988

- 4-5 GROSSE POINTE Chapter Show
26 FLINT Chapter Show

APRIL, 1988

- 9 COLDWATER Chapter Show

MAY, 1988

- 7 BOYNE CITY Chapter Show

NOTE: All Chapter Show activities must be cleared through the District Secretary, and the appropriate ASCAP, BMI and CAPAC (Canada Only) 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

Not to pick on Canadian chapters but there's another note. CAPAC (Canadian Association of Publishers, Authors and Composers) has raised their license rates by \$3 effective July 15. This means a license for shows costs \$28.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

Institute of Musical Art, which is now the Juilliard School of Music. He then went into vaudeville for a year on the Keith circuit as an accompanist for a headline act called "Rogers and Allen," but returned to Albion College to teach for two more years. From there he went to Jackson, Michigan, put in a year as theatre organist and twelve years as a church organist and choir director. In 1933, he came to Detroit and became Choir Master and Organist at the Metropolitan Methodist Church.

It was our 35th wedding anniversary. As we unpacked our luggage at a beautiful resort, I took out my battered, ancient shaving-gear bag.

"Why are you still using that when our daughter gave you a new one for Christmas two years ago?" my wife asked in surprise.

"Well, I just feel more comfortable with familiar things that are still usable," I explained.

With a smile on her face, she asked, "Is that why we're still married after thirty-five years?"

—JESS J. NOBLE (Littleton, Colo.)

THE COUNTDOWN IS ON!



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