



pioneer TROUBADOUR



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



JUNE-JULY 90



VOLUME 41 NUMBER 3

IT WAS A GREAT 50TH

Power Play, Ivy League, Macomb Win

It was a great celebration, and we know our Pioneer District forebears would have been really pleased with the way we honored the beginnings of this great district.

The highlight of the 50th Anniversary celebration was the unveiling of the birthday cards from all over the Society. Better than 900 cards, which included cards from as far away as Germany and Sweden, were displayed on panels, and on hand to help open the display was none other than Betty Cash, the daughter of our founder, O. C. Cash. Betty added a lot of fun and enthusiasm to the festivities, and proved she could still sing a mean tenor as she often did with her father's quartet, the OKIE FOUR.

Our District Communication Officer and top PR guy Jim Styer from Battle Creek arranged the whole affair, which included TV coverage as well as radio coverage. In addition, your editor, as District Historian, put together a 50 year history display which proved very popular with district attendees. (Pictures of the card and historical display are shown in other parts of this issue.)

On the contest scene, twelve quartets vied for the right to represent the district at the International Contest in San Francisco in July. POWER PLAY and THE IVY LEAGUE qualified with fine scores of 1861 and 1858, respectively. No other quartet was able to attain the 1828 points needed to enable them to qualify for the International competition. (See scores sheets in this issue.)

To the surprise of hardly anybody, the Macomb County HARMONY HERITAGE Chorus took the top honors in the

district chorus contest. The chorus, under the able direction of Bob Hartley (who took over as director just three weeks prior to the contest), proved to the district that they are to be reckoned with in the fall preliminaries, as they presented a beautiful package. The Grand Rapids GREAT LAKES Chorus, our representatives to the international chorus contest in San Francisco, ended up in second place, with the Detroit-Oakland GENTLEMEN SONGSTERS coming in third. All in all, the chorus competition was quite competitive, with all of the 15 choruses singing well. The plateau chorus awards went to Jackson in Plateau 1, Saginaw/Bay in Plateau 2, Flint in Plateau 3, Lansing in Plateau 4, Detroit-Oakland in Plateau 5, and Grand Rapids in Plateau 6. (Plateaus are based on total membership as defined under the Achievement Award program.)

All in all, our Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration was a great success. Joe Wolfe, Ed Schwoppe, Carroll Adams, etc., would have been extremely proud of us, had they been here to help us celebrate what they began.

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PIONEER BARBERSHOPPERS ENJOY GREAT CONVENTION

by Jim Styer

A 65-foot wall of greeting cards from six countries helped celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the barbershop harmony society's Pioneer District. The display of 931 cards signed by 1,304 barbershoppers and fans was unveiled to kick off the district's spring convention in Battle Creek.

The convention also featured a district history exhibit and a free quartet and chorus show at the headquarters hotel's festival marketplace. After the convention, the history exhibit, prepared by district historian Bob McDermott, was displayed for a week at the Michigan Historical Museum in Lansing.

An opening ceremony, conducted by Mike Cirrito, featured THE LAST GOOD-BYE and the COLLECTOR'S CHOICE quartets and the presentation of a legislative resolution.

The district -- the Society's first -- consists of Michigan and western Ontario. It was formed June 8, 1940, two years after the founding of the parent Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America.

The card display -- reminiscent of the Pioneer District's "world's longest" 50-foot birthday cake for the society's anniversary two years ago -- was unveiled by Betty Ann Cash of Tulsa, Oklahoma, the daughter of the SPEBSQSA founder, the late Owen C. Cash.

Greetings were received from 37 states, Canada, England, West Germany and Sweden. They ranged in size from a 50-foot banner to a 2-inch card with the message "a little greeting from a great big fan."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)

LOGOPEDICS



PIONEER DISTRICT LOGOPEDICS CHAIRMAN

Alex Willox
38174 S. Rickham Ct.
Westland, MI 48185
Res: (313) 728-6865

What a weekend at Battle Creek, a wonderful celebration for our 50th Anniversary. Every chorus and quartet did us proud. I would say it's one of the best competitions we've had in our district. We all seem to be improving, congratulations Pioneer!

CHAPTER	AMOUNT CONTRIBUTED	PER CAPITA
ALPENA	\$ 775.00	\$25.00
BATTLE CREEK	31.50	.70
BEN HARBOR-S.J.	57.57	2.06
BOYNE CITY	525.00	16.41
CADILLAC		
CLINTON VALLEY		
COLDWATER	52.00	4.00
DEARBORN		
DET-OAKLAND	1642.40	16.76
FLINT	294.75	6.41
GRAND RAPIDS	1070.91	10.20
GRATIOT COUNTY		
GROSSE POINTE	487.00	5.80
HOLLAND	30.00	.44
HURON VALLEY	507.20	10.79
JACKSON	90.00	3.46
KALAMAZOO	25.00	.54
LANSING	996.88	14.09
MACOMB COUNTY	12.60	.20
MILFORD		
MONROE	25.00	.96
MONROE NORTH		
MUSKEGON		
PONTIAC	380.00	17.27
PORT HURON	35.00	.74
SAGINAW BAY	348.00	9.94
ST. JOE VALLEY		
SAULT STE. MARIE	150.00	3.66
SWAN VALLEY	5.60	.27
TRAVERSE CITY		
WAYNE	1573.70	16.92
WINDSOR		
PIONEER DISTRICT		

TOTAL \$9,115.11 \$6.61



"I don't care if you have to hit every Barbershop in town, find me a quartet!"

Pioneer TROUBADOUR

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

1990 PIONEER DISTRICT OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
MICHAEL J. O'DONNELL
1617 Fairlane
Grand Rapids, MI 49505
A/C 313 Res. 363-1368; Bus. 451-2857

INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEMBER
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
EARL W. BERRY
27130 Clairview
Dearborn Heights, MI 48127
A/C 313 Res. 277-7130; Bus. 237-7928

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
ROGER J. LEWIS
20115 12 Mile Road
Battle Creek, MI 49017
A/C 616 Res. 965-5714; Bus. 968-9391

SECRETARY
JACK F. SCHNEIDER
1311 Northlawn St. NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49505
A/C 616 Res. 361-6820; Bus. 771-5225

TREASURER
R. STAN WILLIAMS
421 Franklin Street
Leslie, MI 49251
A/C 517 Res. 589-5586; Bus. 322-5996

VICE PRESIDENT DIVISION I
MIKE BOURGOIN
29673 Chester
Garden City, MI 48135
A/C 313 Res. 261-6938

VICE PRESIDENT DIVISION II
LARRY L. PARKER
1416 New York Avenue
Lansing, MI 48906
A/C 517 Res. 372-8389

VICE PRESIDENT DIVISION III
RON THOMET
1970 Pettis Avenue
Ada, MI 49301
A/C 616 Res. 676-2017

VICE PRESIDENT
DIVISION IV
ROBERT TRACY
502 W. Central
Mackinaw City, MI 49701
A/C 616 Res. 436-8766

VICE PRESIDENT DIVISION V
DEON MOORE
3835 Fehn
Hemlock, MI 48626
A/C 517 Res. 642-8786

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC EDUCATION
JAMES H. STEPHENS
6335 Clarendon
Canton, MI 48187
A/C 313 Res. 459-4011

DIRECTOR OF CONVENTION PLANNING
AND SPECIAL EVENTS
MICHAEL A. CIRITO
1714 Vassar Drive
Lansing, MI 48912
A/C 517 Res. 485-0938;

CONTEST AND JUDGING (DACJC)
JOHN W. BAUER
6700 Black Bass Bay Road
Alpena, MI 49707
A/C 517 Res. 595-6550

TROUBADOUR EDITOR-DISTRICT HISTORIAN
ROBERT T. McDERMOTT
1859 Maryland Blvd.
Birmingham, MI 48009
A/C 313 Res. 647-4807

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CHANGES OF ADDRESSES

The TROUBADOUR is mailed with labels supplied by our International Headquarters. If you have moved, or plan to change your address, please notify your Chapter Secretary and International Hdqtrs., SPEBSQSA, 6315 3rd Ave., Kenosha, WI 53140-5199. Give them your name, Member Number, Chapter Number, your old address, and your new address. This will insure your continued receipt of the TROUBADOUR. DO NOT CONTACT your editor, as he cannot effect a change of address, and this will only cause unneeded delays in the delivery of your TROUBADOUR and your HARMONIZER. Failure to notify in this manner results in your district paying the U.S. Post Office forwarding and return postage fees!

THE PRESIDENT'S



**PIONEER DISTRICT PRESIDENT
MIKE O'DONNELL**

CORNER

It seems like everytime I write an article for the TROUB I end up touting about what a GREAT weekend we just had. Well, this is no exception. It was my first as your District President and I just had a ball, starting right from Thursday night when the Detroit-Oakland Chapter hosted the pre-convention get together through Sunday morning at the convention wrap-up meeting and the presidents farewell hospitality room. From start to finish (including that ugly drive home on only 11 hours sleep all weekend!), it was fantastic!

Needless to say, it wouldn't have worked without some terrific preparation and hard work by DOC, all the officers and committee members, the Battle Creek Convention Bureau, Betty Cash, the quartets and choruses, and most of all--all of YOU for being there.

Speaking of the quartets and choruses, I'd have to say we will be sending two worthy representatives to San Francisco in POWER PLAY and THE IVY LEAGUE! In addition, our new District Chorus Champs from Macomb County provided an inspiring performance and served notice to the rest of the district to be ready for a dog fight in the fall!

My hats off to all the competitors but a very special thank you to the members of the Lansing Chapter who put up with me as their director for the last three-and-a-half-years and then went out and "DANCED" their way into the hearts of the audience. We will never forget the way you responded to our last song and it is with a heavy heart I leave them.

As for the future, we plan to keep on doing the things you ask of us to make the conventions fun and enjoyable for all. Under Chairman Deon Moore we hope to have in place a "Joe Barbershopper Chorus" for the fall to act as a mike tester chorus and also to give those men whose choruses do not compete an opportunity to sing on stage. We are investigating changing the position of Area Counselor to one which would require musical skills necessary to help chapters who need and ask for it. DME Jim Stephens will be talking to his fellow DME's this summer at Harmony

College to see what other districts are doing.

The District Five Year Plan is being worked on with the help of eight past district presidents to guide us through the next five years and beyond. They may be contacting you for your input and I hope you will respond with enthusiasm if they do.

Next on the agenda is the International Convention and Contests to be held in San Francisco in July. We know the Grand Rapids GREAT LAKES Chorus and our two quartets will be doing their best to capture the "GOLD"! We wish them all well in this pursuit. From all I understand I will be busy the first three days in meetings galore. If there is anything you wish me to present to the International Board I hope you will drop me a line.

Thanks again for your support. It was terrific seeing so many of you at the last convention. We had a good turnout and I only hope we continue to increase attendance each year. As a certified judge in the Interpretation Category I've had the opportunity to travel to many conventions and I can tell you without reservation or casting dispersion on other districts that ours is one of the finest run and most fun I've had the pleasure of attending. If you've not been to one lately, plan on coming next fall!

The Executive Pitch



**by our Executive V.P.
ROGER LEWIS**

WHATTA CONTEST!

Saturday's CHORUS CONTEST and QUARTET FINALS served up everything you could ask for! Great singing, showmanship, and "down to the wire" excitement! The non-contest events such as the 50TH ANNIVERSARY CARD PARTY, the "sharing and caring" of BETTY ANN CASH, and the events in McCarty Place all worked together in harmony to make our PIONEER 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION one that will go down in history.

WERE YOU THERE?

Our pre-registration list showed that 597 Pioneer District Barbershoppers registered for the convention. We also had 111 on-site registrations, some of

which were wives, friends, etc. Using "typical" averages, it means that only about one-half of our membership of 1372 attended the contest.

WHY?

Conventions keep us "pumped up", excited about our hobby, and in touch with the great people who are a part of it. Look at the improved quality of singing in quartets and choruses in just the last few years. How else can we keep in tune with the changes (yes, there will always be changes) and the new quartets and the great chorus performances that just get better and better?

It's pretty easy to see that conventions offer me the things I like. But apparently there's a missing ONE-HALF OF OUR MEMBERSHIP that feels differently. Speaking on behalf of the Board and the Convention Committee, we'd love to know just how you feel -- what we could and should be offering that would put convention dates on your calendar twice a year (in ink) because you would feel cheated if you missed one.

Very soon, probably in the next issue, you'll get a membership survey that I urge all of you to fill out, especially if you miss conventions. But in the meantime, if I've struck a responsive chord, please drop me a note. It can be positive, negative, constructive, critical, or apathetic. Any and all are welcome. My address is on page 2 of this Troubadour.

In closing, let me share two opportunities for you. First, if your chorus hasn't competed, and you'd like to sing on the contest stage (without worrying about being judged!), we're planning a JOE BARBERSHOPPER MIKE TESTER CHORUS in the fall. You can sign up, learn your music, attend a rehearsal on convention weekend, and join with 700??? Pioneer Barbershoppers to kick off the chorus contest. Deon Moore is heading up this function, and you'll hear more about it.

Second, here are a few dates to write in your calendar, to eliminate the "Gee, is this the convention weekend?" syndrome.

FALL	SPRING
OCT. 19-21, 1990	APR. 19-21, 1991
OCT. 18-20, 1991	APR. 24-26, 1992
OCT. 16-18, 1992	APR. 23-25, 1993
OCT. 15-17, 1993	APR. 22-24, 1994
OCT. 14-16, 1994	

WILL I HEAR FROM YOU?



RAY HENDERS
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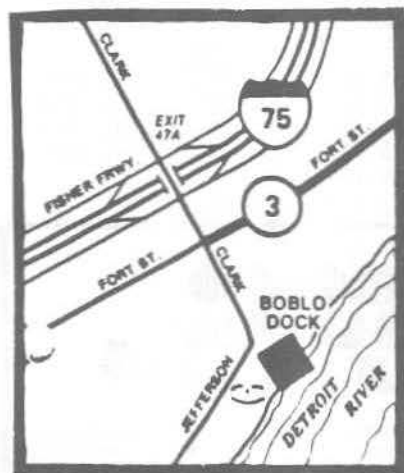
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I enclose my check for the amount of _____ for _____ tickets at \$12.00 each,
a self-addressed, stamped envelope and request that you forward my
tickets to me at:

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS & STREET _____

CITY & STATE _____

We Get Letters...



May 9, 1990

To the Editor:

I must take strong exception to "The President's Corner" article by District President Mike O'Donnell which appeared in the April/May '90 edition of the Troubadour.

Mike's basic premise is in the second paragraph of his article: "There's an attitude I'm going to ask all of us to change (if it applies) and it is an attitude that our audiences want nonbarbershop music sung in the barbershop style. My friends, there is nothing further from the truth!"

Mike, old friend, I'm afraid you're the one who's straying from the "truth." For the "truth" of the matter appears to be:

a. A vast majority of the barbershop audiences prefer -- and a majority of chapters will hire -- quartets who can entertain, in addition to sing well, even though some of the numbers that are sung may not be strictly barbershop in nature.

b. We live in a market-driven society where the size of the audience generally determines the financial success of the show. You can have a "strictly barbershop" show. But if only 20 people show up to hear it, can this be considered a success to all parties concerned?

c. Like it or not, our national Society membership has decreased, and the average age of our Society member would make retirement centers take heed. I have found that many times, it's the "non-barbershop" numbers that turn on today's younger generation -- these are the numbers that can serve as a hook to grab these potential members, members that our Society so desperately needs.

Incidentally, I helped organize the Pioneer District's PATCH CHORDS quartet in 1974. Since then, we have entertained at more than 420 functions in more than 70 Michigan towns and cities, plus five additional states and Canada. To date this year, we have been fortunate to be a part of the Grosse Pointe, Saginaw and Lansing Chapter shows -- great barbershop experiences.

During our existence, our quartet has prided itself on good barbershop singing. We've won the Bush League and finished as District Finalists several times.

And, throughout our engagements we have done so much to perpetuate our Barbershop Society. Believe me, people who leave our performances don't say, "They were good, but the third and fifth numbers they sang weren't exactly barbershop." Instead, we hear comments such as "We thought your BARBERSHOP performance was entertaining." "How long have you been in BARBERSHOPPING?" "How do I get in BARBERSHOPPING?"

In essence, Mike, this is the true criterion of "keeping it barbershop."

Don't take what I'm saying personally, Mike. I think you know me too well for that. I'm only picking on you at this time because you seem to be one of a growing number of Society leaders (including Burt Szabo) belaboring unbending purism at a time when our Society badly needs a breath of flexibility. As you know, Mike, I, too, love to wear my pure barbershop hat when the occasion warrants. No one loves a true barbershop chord or barbershop song better than I do. Good four-part harmony still gives me goose bumps. I've been known to sing barbershop chestnuts and tags into the wee hours of the morning.

The point worth making is that the broad aspect of barbershop simply does not lend itself to a clear-cut definition, nor can it be perpetuated successfully through pursuing the dogma of purism.

Instead, barbershopping can and should be an enticing mixture of many ele-

ments, including songs that can be sung in the true spirit of barbershopping without being technically barbershop on a note-to-note basis. In other words, there should be room in this great Society of ours for both purism and flexibility.

I'm proud of our Society. But I also want to see it grow and prosper without attaching any inhibiting restrictions. Rest assured, Mike, that as long as the PATCH CHORDS continue to perform, we will do everything in our power, by pursuing the widely accepted definition of audiences, to "Keep It Barbershop."

/SIGNED/ DOUG PEARSON

(JIM STYER - FROM PAGE 1)

At the card ceremony, Battle Creek's now-retired HARMONY HOUNDS quartet introduced "Our Golden Year," a song composed for the district by prolific songwriter Einar Pedersen of New Orleans. Copies were distributed at the Saturday night quartet finals, when it was sung by the 1200 barbershoppers in attendance, led by the Wayne RENAISSANCE CHORUS, outgoing district champs. The audience also serenaded Ms. Cash, who still calls her late father "Honey," with Honey, Li'l "Lize."

During the card ceremony, the HOUNDS surprised Ms. Cash by singing her dad's favorite gut-bustin' tag, "Johnny Doughboy," and then getting her to join in on tenor. Also, the OKIE FOUR'S "Bright Was the Night" was sung at the card ceremony by POWER PLAY, district quartet champion, and at the mass sing.

The card ceremony was covered by area newspapers and cablevision, a local CBS-TV affiliate and CBS Radio News. Videotape from the convention is being carried as a weekly show on local cable.

A one-hour interview with Ms. Cash was simulcast live on local radio and cable TV.

Sign Up Now For Harmony Round-Up

INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATIONS

Individual registration fee includes two nights lodging, coaching fees, materials, all meals Saturday and breakfast Sunday. Full Payment \$80.00 - Commuters pay only \$50.00 - Minimum deposit \$30.00

QUARTET REGISTRATIONS

Quartet registration fees includes the same as individuals. Full payment \$320 - Commuters pay only \$200 - Minimum deposit \$120 for all four members.

Fees not refundable after August 1, 1990

APPLICATION FOR PIONEER DISTRICT MINI-HEP "HARMONY ROUND-UP"

YES! I want to be included in Pioneer's weekend school "Harmony Round-Up" being held at MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, East Lansing, MI on August 24-26. Enclosed is my deposit/full payment of \$_____. Make checks payable to the Pioneer District.

NAME _____ Chapter _____

or QUARTET _____ Phone (____) _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____
Number Street City

Mail to: JIM STEPHENS, 6335 Clarendon, Canton, MI 48187 (PH 313-459-4011)

SPOTLIGHT on LOGOPEDICS



Dr. Fran Durham

In this article, I want to finish answering the questions barbershoppers most often ask about the Institute of Logopedics which I began in the April/May issue of the Troubadour.

1) How can I make a referral? Call the Institute's toll free number 1-800-835-1043 and let the staff at the Institute help you do it. The more information you have about the person being referred to the better. Ideally, the family should know you are contacting the Institute. (At some point, usually the sooner the better, the Institute staff will need to develop detailed and ongoing communication with the family involved, particularly if enrollment is to be considered.)

2) How are barbershopper referrals handled? This depends upon a number of factors, including the nature of the disability, the services currently being provided, the nature of the program, the advice etc., being sought, the appropriateness of the Institute's resources, other resources which might be considered, and the financial contingencies and capabilities. These considerations become the basis for choosing among several alternatives, including: further consideration of services at the Institute, referrals to other resources, suggestions, guidance, referrals to advocates, etc., which can bring about more appropriate programs right where they are.

3) How long do students stay at the Institute? The Institute's goal is to have the special impact each student needs and to get them back into their own homes and schools.

Length of enrollment varies according to many factors. Because local school districts are developing more programs the length of the stay at the Institute has become shorter.

For many, the length of stay seems to be between 18 months and 2 years, although some students come only for

the seven week summer program while others are there four, five or more years.

INTERESTING STATISTICS

The Institute receives an average of 50 calls a month from 15-20 states regarding residential programs. The Institute has also received inquiries from other countries as well.

NOTE: Don't be shy about making inquiries. There are many ways besides enrollment in which the Institute of Logopedics can be of help.

From the pen of Your Editor



A BIT OF POTPOURRI

-- Found the recent convention in Battle Creek one of the most interesting I've ever attended. We seem to be having more fun than ever, and the singing has improved, even the back room variety.

-- How about a big hats off to Jim Stephens and his wife Judy. They do a yeoman's job at every convention. Most people don't know how involved they are in setting up the auditorium for the contest, and in regulating the sound system. Most of the sound equipment we use belongs to them. Jim makes all of the flow charts for the choruses and quartets for the contest, assigns dressing rooms in the school, and when something needs to be done at the auditorium they do it. Thanks, you two, for all you've done!

-- Had a nice talk with Dale Mattis, the director of the Grand Rapids' GREAT LAKES Chorus. Dale was disappointed that his chorus didn't win, of course, but they knew they were taking a chance getting in. They had two new chorus songs and wanted their total package to be judged and critiqued at least once before international. I think it was a smart move, and I further think they will sing a lot better for it in San Francisco! Good luck, guys!

-- Have to compliment Jim Styer for all the work he put in on that card

display. It was nothing short of sensational!

-- It was a shame that we had to cancel the Junior Quartet Contest because we had no entries. We had three quartets lined up (we thought), but all cancelled during the final two weeks before the convention. This is something that we'll have to work harder on for next year. The House of Delegates seemed to favor giving it another try next spring, so that's what we'll do. Start working on it now with the high schools!

-- Had quite a few bids for the Chairman of Judges Roger Steffens' sport coat that he wore during the contest sessions, but he wouldn't sell it. Someone even offered him a pair of socks!

-- That Betty Cash is quite a bubbly person. I talked with her on quite a few occasions during the convention, and she really seemed to be enjoying herself. I think it was apropos that we had her at this convention.

-- Mike Cirrito and the Lansing gang have to be congratulated for the fine district display at the State Capitol Historical Museum the week after convention. The display caught the attention of a lot of people in this state. It's PR like this that will pay off for us in the future!

JIM STYER NAMED AREA COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR



by Larry Parker (DIV. II V.P.)

Jim Styer, 49, of Battle Creek, was presented the C. D. Sanborn Area Counselor of the Year Award for 1989 at the recently completed Pioneer District Convention.

Styer is a six-year member of the Battle Creek Chapter, and has been the Area Counselor to the Lansing, Jackson, and Coldwater Chapters for the past two years.

Styer is also the Director of Communications and Public Relations Officer for the Pioneer District, and was twice honored with the award for the International, as well as, the Pioneer District, for being the Public Relations Officer of the Year for consecutive years 1987-1988.

TONY SCOOROS (1929-1990)



THE VAGABONDS (AT A NOV. 1986 REUNION) L to R: Ken Gibson, Tony Scooros 1968-1974, Denny Gore, Clay Shumard 1974-1979, Norm Thompson.

by Ken Gibson (for the VAGABONDS)

On April 20, 1990, the Pioneer District lost a dear friend and vibrant lover of life. Tony Scooros passed away after a three year bout with cancer stemming from a brain tumor.

Tony had been a long time member of the Oakland County Chapter where he was well known for his fine baritone voice, quick wit and warm personality. For many years he was very much a part of their successful Wolverine Chorus, both as a chapter stalwart and performer with them in district and international competition.

The "Greek", as we loved to call him, was also quite a quartet man. He won his first Pioneer District Championship with the CLOSE CHORDERS back in 1966. Two years later, he and the bass Norm Thompson, put together a new foursome with Denny Gore on lead. They called themselves the VAGABONDS.

The next six years saw Tony reach great heights as a musician and performer. After winning the District contest in 1969, the quartet went on to place in the top ten at International for three consecutive years. Now Barbershoppers all over the country got to know and love Tony as Pioneer always had. Those many friendships continued long after he retired from the VAGABONDS following the 1974 contest in Kansas City.

In more recent years, Tony's desire to sing was rekindled when the VAGABONDS were asked to do a few shows in the fall of 1986. Shortly after, Tony formed a quartet at his church and continued to sing and fellowship with this foursome until his death.

As our dear Greek friend would have wanted, there was an abundance of music when we said farewell to him on April 24. Members of his quartet sang with beauty and inspiration as did twelve outstanding gentlemen from the former HARMONY UNLIMITED. Tears flowed freely as Mike McClary, John

Wearing, Bob Riddle, Lowell Thomas, John Seemann, Don Humphries, Craig Pollard, Bruce LaMarte, Bob Wisdom, Don Cline, Kevin Hayes and Pete Burns sang "Lost in the Stars" and "That Old Quartet of Mine." A very difficult task under the circumstances, but so very, very much appreciated by his family and friends.

Tony's strong faith coupled with love and support from his family helped to make the last few years much easier. Please consider sharing your thoughts and prayers with his dear wife Carolyn at: 5586 Fawn, Troy, MI 48098. In addition, you or your quartet/chapter might wish to send a donation in his name to the Harmony Foundation at Kenosha or the American Cancer Society.

the
**BEST
EVER!**

BARBERSHOPPING ON DISPLAY

by Mike Cirrito

A small but appreciative crowd gathered in the forum of the State Historical Museum on Monday, April 30, to dedicate the opening of the district's 50th Anniversary exhibit. Pioneer District President Mike O'Donnell was on hand to accept a joint Senate/House resolution commemorating the occasion.

The exhibit, much of which was on display at the convention in Battle Creek, also included a quartet comprised of four mannequins donated by the J. C. Penney and dressed in barbershop attire by members of the Lansing Chapter. A continuous loop video of 1981 Detroit International Convention illustrated what our hobby is all about.

THE LAST GOODBYE and COLLECTOR'S CHOICE quartets provided the entertainment which added the appropriate touch to the program. The sights and sounds of barbershop on display was a fitting culmination to a great 50th Anniversary convention weekend.



LOTON WILLSON PASSES

The "Father of the Bush League Quartet Contest," Loton Willson, of Boyne City passed away May 14, 1990, after suffering from cancer for the past year. Services were held at the Boyne City Presbyterian Church. Loton was born in Kalamazoo in 1907 and moved to Boyne City when he was three years old.

Loton was a long time member of the Pioneer District, and was one of the first Area Governors (now called Area Counselors) in our district when he was appointed to this position in 1949. He served in that capacity until 1951 when he assumed the duties of District Vice President, which he held until 1954. He was elected President of the District on May 16, 1954, and served for one year, declining a second term because of the cost and time involved. He did remain very active in barbershopping however, and was very active in the Charlevoix Jamborees as well as in the judging program.

He originated the first Novice Quartet Contest in the district and it was appropriately renamed the "Loton C. Willson 'Bush League' Quartet Contest" by his home city chapter, Boyne City, in 1989. He actually founded the Boyne City Chapter in February of 1944, along with Alfred Sarasin and Floyd Lucas.

He was honored by the district in 1974 when he was inducted into the Pioneer District Hall of Fame. All of us will miss Loton and will long remember the contributions that Loton brought to our District and to our Society. Our prayers are with him and we know he's already singing with that great quartet in the sky.

CHORUS TUXEDOS FOR SALE

Your club needs tuxedos...a first tux, a second tux...and you have only \$999 to outfit your entire group. Well, you're in luck. WE HAVE JUST WHAT YOU NEED! Our club bought new tuxedos and we would like to sell our "gently worn", yellow tuxedos. We have sixty-one Jacket and Pant sets --plus twenty six additional pairs of pants. We will sell everything at this one low price. Interested? Call: Joe Burns, Uniform Chairman, Wayne Chapter -- (313) 420-0978, or write in care of: 40865 Crabtree Lane, Plymouth, MI 48170.

CAN-AM Cancelled

(The following letter was written by Russ Seely to Mike O'Donnell in explanation of the cancellation of the CAN-AM JAMBOREE, which had been scheduled for June 16, 1990, between the Ontario and the Pioneer Districts. It is published here only as an explanation as to why the event was cancelled.)

Dear Mike:

As I told both you and Bob McDermott, in no way did I cancel this event. If for no other reason than the fact that I would have had no authority to do so in the first place, and, second, I had no contact with either the armory or caterer to initiate a cancellation. In fact, as I was led to believe, my role was to secure talent and bodies to attend the function from our district. That was confirmed in a conversation I had with John Case weeks ago in which he informed me that a Frank Morrison would be my Canadian counterpart, that is securing talent, etc. from the Ontario District.

On April 15 one John Ford called me to discuss CAN-AM. He stated that he was disappointed that we didn't have a "Headliner" type of quartet and that he didn't want to see both districts take a step backward by not having a "large" turnout for this event. He asked me to estimate the attendance by Pioneer and I responded that even without a big promotion, probably 300. However, I planned (as I told John) to contact every competing quartet and chorus at our District Convention, plus do the usual announcement and flyer routine. He told me that Ontario was having their convention one week before ours and that he could "poll" the Canadian brothers to find out what kind of attendance he might expect. He stated, "If it doesn't look good, I'm all for cancelling CAN-AM, but I'll call you Sunday night (April 22) to let you know." I received no further calls from John.

Imagine my surprise when Bob McDermott called me on Monday (April 23) to ask me why I had cancelled! Finally, according to John Case, the Armory had been cancelled before the Ontario Convention.

If I dropped the ball, I'm truly sorry but I'm afraid I don't know how, since my contribution was simply, as I perceived it, "Talent Coordinator" for the Pioneer District.

Unfortunately, the event is --again, as I understand it --irretrievable for this year, but, hopefully can be reinstated for future years.

Sincerely, Russ.

ADD-A-LINE

By Jim Styer

DISTRICT COMMUNICATION OFFICER

This is the first of what I hope can be a regular column on public relations and communications.

Maintaining and increasing membership is one of the greatest concerns we all have, and PR is one of the major tools we have to accomplish that goal. It's often said our hobby is a well-kept secret. The word isn't getting out like it could. PR can change that. These columns will be intended not only for PR people and bulletin editors, but also could help other officers and members. We're all PR people for barbershop.

Two timely developments:

PR SURVEY: All PR officers in the Society are being asked to complete a survey on PR at the local level, what help is needed, what can be done better. They also are asked to submit examples of what has worked well locally.

I've sent this material to PR chairmen in all 31 chapters in our district. I'd like other members to cooperate as necessary to help compile the information. It is to be returned by August to John Ward in Albuquerque, N.M., the Society's PROBE V.P. for PR. He'll then prepare a PR Survival Kit which will help all chapters improve their public relations.

We're picking the brains of more than 700 district and chapter PR officers. It's an exciting project, but its success depends on the number participating. It's up to you.

Four chapters don't have PR officers listed. Others in the position may not be active. Please correct this. Otherwise, you're missing out on a great benefit to your chapter.

PROTY AWARD: Because of the time the survey will take, and because all chapters that make significant contributions will be recognized, there won't be an International Public Relations Officer of the Year award, Ward said. Also, no entries were submitted for a district PROTY award. But our district board agreed to continue its award program for another year.

Begin now compiling all your clippings, letters, brochures, tapes, etc. At the end of the year, submit them with a short commentary on what you accomplished. It can be a single project or a program comprised of several different activities. The 1990 award will be presented next spring.

I'd like all DVP's, area counselors and chapter presidents to help identify

good PR and encourage PR chairmen to participate in this award program. The potential recognition might encourage them.

Any suggestions, please call me at home, (616) 965-6456, or work (616) 964-7161.

BOARD BRIEFS

SUMMARY OF MINUTES - PIONEER DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING -- 4/27/90

Moved, seconded and carried that the minutes and reports included in the consent calendar be accepted as presented.

Moved, seconded and carried that a chairman be appointed to initiate a mike tester chorus program for the fall convention.

Moved, seconded and carried that the board recommend to the House that Macomb County be awarded the hosting of the spring 1991 convention, Battle Creek hosting the fall 1991 convention and Grand Rapids be awarded the hosting of the spring 1992 convention.

Moved, seconded and carried that the board recommend to the House that Lansing be selected as the convention site, the Sheraton the headquarters hotel, and Waverly High School the auditorium for the years 1993-1995.

Moved, seconded and carried that the amended by-law amendment be presented to the House for approval.

Moved, seconded and carried that Lindsey Pollard and her mother be invited to our spring 1991 convention. (Re-Logopedic's Invitation).

SUMMARY OF MINUTES - PIONEER DISTRICT HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING -- 4/28/90

Moved, seconded and carried that the consent calendar reports be accepted as presented.

Moved, seconded and carried that the charge of \$.50 per member be initiated to help cover publication and mailing costs for the District Directory and that it be mailed to all members.

Moved, seconded and carried that the amended by-law amendment defining a novice quartet be accepted.

Moved, seconded and carried that the board recommendations regarding hosting of future district conventions listed above be approved.

Moved, seconded and carried that the board recommendation regarding selection of Lansing as the convention site (including hotel and school) for 1993-1995 listed above be approved.

Respectfully submitted,

JACK SCHNEIDER, District Secretary

Buckeye Invitational II

August 10-11-12, 1990
Palace Theater • Columbus, Ohio

The first annual Buckeye Invitational in 1989 was a rousing success. Buckeye Invitational II will be even better!

The Buckeye Invitational features the choruses and quartets from around the Society which fell just short of competing on the international stage. The weekend is more than just another competition, with the participants being judged in the ENTERTAINMENT category. Each competitor will sing for about 12 minutes, a "mini-show" with two of the numbers judged in the standard judging categories. This format received rave reviews last year for having turned barbershop competitions into entertaining shows.

The **LOUISVILLE THOROUGHBREDS** will play an exciting part of the Buckeye Invitational in 1990. On Friday evening, they will fill the air at the Ohio State Fair, one of the nation's largest state fairs. Shortly after that performance, other quartets and choruses will bring barbershop to the open-air amphitheater on the riverfront in downtown Columbus. The Thoroughbreds will be back Saturday evening to close the quartet competition at the Palace Theater.

Get your tickets, mark your calendars and come and be part of a fun, full, and exciting weekend of barbershop harmony at **Buckeye Invitational II!**

— HEADQUARTERS HOTELS —

(both about four blocks from the Palace Theatre)

Make reservations by July 20; mention *Buckeye Invitational*

Holiday Inn at Ohio Center Hyatt Regency Columbus

1-800-HOLIDAY

1-800-233-1234

\$67 single/dbl, \$77-triple/quad

\$68 single/double



Choruses expected to compete on Saturday afternoon are the General Assembly Chorus, from Research Triangle Park, North Carolina (DIX); the Mainliners, from Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania (MAD); the Coulee Chordsmen, from La Crosse, Wisconsin (LOL); and the Seaway Commanders, from Maumee, Ohio (JAD). Returning from Buckeye Invitational I to compete again are the Renaissance Chorus, from Wayne, Michigan, (PIO); the Markham Men of Harmony, from Markham, Ontario, Canada (ONT); and, back to defend their overall championship in last year's Buckeye Invitational, The Pride of Indy Chorus, from Indianapolis, Indiana (CARD).

Competing quartets will be determined once the line-up for international is set at the Spring International preliminaries. Expected to join their North American quartet counterparts, and adding international flavor to Buckeye Invitational II, is the *Gent's Quartet* from Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands. This is believed to be the first time a quartet from the Dutch Association of Barbershop Singers has competed against SPEBSQSA quartets.

New this year, we are coordinating Sunday performances by choruses at downtown Columbus churches, and at noon, the Buckeye-Columbus chapter will host a picnic for all Invitational participants to conclude the weekend festivities.

For more info, contact: Mike Renner • 100 South 3rd St. • Columbus, Ohio 43215 • W: 614/227-2349 • H: 614/864-3927

BUCKEYE INVITATIONAL TICKET ORDER FORM

August 11, 1990 • Palace Theatre • Columbus, Ohio

Quantity	EVENT	PRICE	TOTAL
_____	Chorus Performance (1 pm)	@ \$ 9.00	_____
_____	Quartet Performance (8 pm)	@ \$ 9.00	_____
_____	Both Performances	@ \$15.00	_____
TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED		(U.S. funds)	_____

— all seats reserved this year, so order tickets early —

Name _____

Address _____

City/State or Province _____

Zip or Postal Code _____

Please send self-addressed stamped envelope and make checks payable to "Buckeye Invitational", c/o Tony Pesa
P.O.Box 2816, Columbus, Ohio 43216

OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY QUARTET CONTEST
PIONEER DISTRICT, S.P.E.B.S.O.S.A., Inc.
Battle Creek, Michigan, April 28, 1990

The Panel Of Judges

Chairman	Roger K. Steffens	Vero Beach, FL	Sunshine
Sound	Ken W. Buckner	Kenosha, WI	Land O' Lakes
	Jim Richards	Roseville, MN	Land O' Lakes
Interpretation	Tom Schlinkert	Lilburn, GA	Dixie
	Frederick L. Street	Roseville, MN	Land O' Lakes
Stage Presence	Bob Mulligan	Garden City, MI	Pioneer
	Joe O'Brien	Whippany, NJ	Mid-Atlantic
Arrangement	Marty Isreal	Hazlet, NJ	Mid-Atlantic
	David Wright	St. Louis, MO	Central States
Secretary	Larry King	Farmington Hills, MI	Pioneer
Assistant Secretary	Ron Bashia	Crown Point, IN	Cardinal
Timekeepers	Richard Campbell	Battle Creek, MI	Pioneer
	Richard Smith	Battle Creek, MI	Pioneer
Practice Panel Chm	John W. Bauer	Alpena, MI	Pioneer

FINALS	SND	INT	SP	ARR	SUB	PREV	TOTAL	TOTAL	PTS.	SCORE	SECONDS
			NSS 1 2								
1 Power Play	153 160	159 156	41 130 130	5	1	935	926	1861	205	138	
2 The Ivy League	155 154	160 159	52 143 135	1	1	960	898	1858	136	128	
3 Checkmate	144 141	145 144	38 110 111	-7	2	828	843	1671	125	149	
4 Broadcast	139 139	138 142	37 100 101	-1	2	797	810	1607	116	156	
5 Great Escape	139 133	134 135	28 98 95	7	4	773	787	1560	144	134	
6 The Key-Note Address	129 127	130 133	29 102 100	1	6	757	771	1528	161	155	
7 Dutch Masters	130 131	134 131	29 95 92	3	4	749	774	1523	143	131	
8 The Sound Ambassadors	136 130	133 133	30 88 95	5	0	750	771	1521	143	143	

SEMI-FINALS

1 Power Play	160 159	155 156	46 125 122	0	3	926			100	131	
2 The Ivy League	150 158	147 148	50 127 125	-7	0	898			206	172	
3 Checkmate	149 148	154 150	39 102 93	2	6	843			109	136	
4 Broadcast	137 138	139 134	40 110 103	6	3	810			90	199	
5 Great Escape	137 141	126 130	40 106 102	-1	6	787			183	160	
6 Dutch Masters	139 142	136 133	39 91 95	-2	1	774			154	134	
7 The Key-Note Address	131 130	131 130	36 101 105	5	2	771*			142	165	
8 The Sound Ambassadors	126 130	134 130	35 107 98	8	3	771*			188	143	
9 Furniture City Chord Comp	123 123	128 126	32 90 83	-1	8	712			140	143	
10 Four Part Formula	110 116	133 130	27 88 79	-1	4	686			99	121	
11 Grand Prix	120 112	128 127	25 74 78	3	2	669			161	118	
12 Ulterior Motives	112 107	120 116	23 67 73	-1	6	623			129	100	

*Ranking tie broken by scores in Sound - Article 27 of Official Contest Rules

Power Play and Ivy League are the Pioneer District representatives to San Francisco, July, 1990.

Historically. Speaking

(This letter was passed to your editor by Jim Styer, who received it from R. E. Johnson of Oak Lawn, Illinois. It was sent as a birthday greeting to our district, but it has some interesting historical information about one of our former district stalwarts, B. F. "Monty" Marsden, a former member of the Detroit #1 Chapter.)

Dear Pioneer District:

This letter accompanies a birthday greeting, and is being written for the two-fold purpose of sharing with you a bit of biographical lore about someone who may have had a place in Pioneer District history, a fascinating background in part of the world of music away from barbershopping, and with the hope that someone either remembers the subject or can tell me of his part, if any, in district activity.

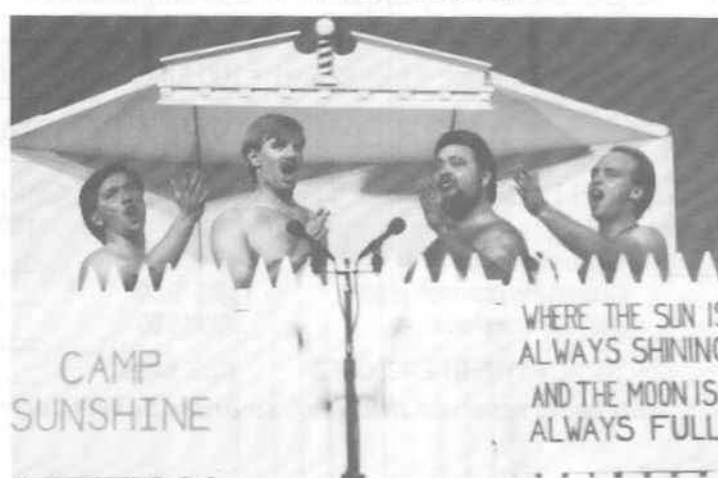
For the first several years of my lately-concluded employment, I worked with (or opposite) a man named Belmont F. "Monty" Marsden, a salesman based in Detroit, whose territory covered lower Michigan. Along the line I learned that Monty was a barbershopper and something of a power in his home chapter, somewhere in North Metro Detroit, if not in the district. When he was training the associate who ultimately shared the territory, he visited outlying chapters, taking the younger

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12)

POWER PLAY

Frisco Bound

IVY LEAGUE



BUSH LEAGUE

Muskegon

by Fred Kendall and Imre Bryant

LOTON C. WILLSON "BUSH LEAGUE" CONTEST HUGE SUCCESS!

The 45th Annual Loton C. Willson Boyne City "Bush League" Contest and Show was a big success again this year thanks to eleven fine quartets competing in the contest. In addition, the night show featured Gratiot County's BLUE RIBBON COALITION along with the Boyne City SNOW BELT Chorus.

The chorus, under the direction of Dale Hanson, had a lot of fun presenting their show skit, "The Saga of Nellie Dean," which they concocted as a two-act farce. (And it qualified!) The audience seemed to really enjoy all of that acting and singing talent in the group. Your editor had the distinct pleasure of acting as M.C. on the night show and as Secretary of the Judges at the afternoon contest. Dale Hanson has replaced Bob Tracy as the director of the chorus, who paid tribute

to Bob at the end of the show by presenting him with a trophy for the many years he dedicated himself to the chorus as their director.

In the afternoon contest, THE WHOLE SHE-BANG from Grand Rapids was proclaimed the winner followed by the TOP BRASS from Saginaw. (See photos and the score sheet in this issue.) Both of these quartets sang on the evening show. All in all, it was a great weekend for those who attended, and the quartets really enjoyed themselves singing for a great audience. This contest is strictly for novice quartets, but they all sounded awfully good for novices, some of whom had only been together for a few days. This contest presents a fine opportunity for quartets to get their feet wet, and get some excellent coaching critiques as well.

OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY

LOTON C. WILLSON "BUSH LEAGUE" QUARTET CONTEST
PIONEER DISTRICT, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.
Boyne City, Michigan, May 5, 1990

The Panel Of Judges

Chairman	Larry King	Farmington Hills, MI	Pioneer
Sound	Joel Mills	Grand Rapids, MI	Pioneer
Interpretation	James Johnson	Grand Rapids, MI	Pioneer
Stage Presence	Bob Mulligan	Garden City, MI	Pioneer
Arrangement	Jim Stephens	Canton, MI	Pioneer
Secretary	Bob McDermott	Birmingham, MI	Pioneer
Timekeepers	Charles Wagner	Cedarville, MI	Pioneer

	SND		INT		SP		ARR		TOTAL	
					NSS	1	2		SCORE	SECONDS
1 The Whole She-Bang	78	75	73	74	17	55	50	5	4	431 186 146
2 Top Brass	63	67	70	71	17	52	50	0	5	395 195 123
3 Your Favorite Quartet	62	63	65	60	13	41	46	2	1	353 205 165
4 Harbor Tones	55	52	59	63	13	47	50	0	-3	336 129 121
5 Parts Unknown	57	51	63	64	15	38	42	4	0	334 169 147
6 Lucky Chance	58	60	51	52	12	48	43	1	6	331 173 159
7 The Forfits	61	62	53	58	12	32	42	2	-2	320 123 124
8 Harmonic Progression	50	49	50	51	12	30	30	2	3	277 120 130
9 The 12th Edition	43	46	49	47	14	36	30	0	-1	264 143 148
10 Chord Wounds	45	44	50	49	9	35	35	-1	-3	263 155 154
11 Heart Beats	51	48	49	45	10	34	30	-3	-17	247 130 120



THE WHOLE SHE-BANG



TOP BRASS

The Muskegon Chapter's annual show, commemorating their 50th Anniversary, took place on March 31 at the Fruenthal Theater in Muskegon. It was very gratifying to the SHORELINE Chorus members that on this important anniversary we drew our largest, most enthusiastic crowd in recent years.

Much credit goes to show manager, Gordon Gunn, who was also our stage manager, but as Gordon says, "Our success was the result of the cooperation and hard work of the entire chorus."

Chorus director Webb Scrivnor was ably assisted by assistant director Mart Bomers, and Al Burgess, the former director of the PORT CITY Chorus, which was the predecessor of the SHORELINE Chorus. Mr. Burgess, a 40 year barbershopper, has served as Pioneer District President and on the International Board of Directors. He previously had directed the PORT CITY Chorus in four International Contests finishing fourth on two occasions (1959 and 1961). Al won the hearts of the SHORELINE Chorus during recent rehearsals, and it was a pleasure and an honor to have him direct a number on our 50th Anniversary Show.

Pioneer District President Mike O'Donnell was MC for our show in 1989 and also this year. Mike was presented with a personalized coffee cup commemorating the show at the Afterglow. Bob Webe, the chapter logopedic chairman, was in charge of the afterglow and arranged for it to be held on stage. Now all of our guests who attended the afterglow can say they have been on stage at the Fruenthal.

Two barbershoppers who date back to the PORT CITY Chorus days, Fred Kendall, presently chapter P.R. chairman, and Mart Bomers, presently assistant chorus director, were given appreciation awards for their many years of service to the chapter. Bari Ken Zeck, who was this year's champion show ticket seller, was given a personalized coffee cup, similar to the one given district president Mike O'Donnell, in appreciation of his efforts.

The FURNITURE CITY CHORD COMPANY, the SOUND AMBASSADORS, and the HARMONY EXCHANGE were our show quartets. They sparkled on stage and they sparkled at the afterglow. We sincerely thank them for their contribution to the cause of barbershopping. The LUMBERTOWN CHORDSMEN, a quartet made up of Muskegon Chapter members, also performed at the afterglow. Quartet members are tenor Alan Coombs, lead Gerry Kellar, bari Tim Koppe, and bass Jerry Billingsley.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13)

DISTRICT NEWS

Battle Creek

YOU WANT BIRTHDAY CARDS?

by D. L. Cohen

The Battle Creek Chapter, along with the rest of the district, helped celebrate our 50th Anniversary. It was a gala event, paying tribute to our beloved craft. Without the efforts of the many dedicated barbershoppers throughout the district, this grand enclave of "songsters" might well have rung a "dischordant chord"!

At least one man in our craft deserves more accolades and praise for his outstanding work and dedication. His name is Jim Styer.

We, in the Battle Creek Chapter, have come to appreciate this barbershopper for his great PR work, and the truly professional way he carries it through.

Recently I was privileged to assist Jim and his wife Peg for a few hours, putting together the display of birthday cards...which took nearly two days of arduous work. (Yours truly fizzled out after five hours.)

These birthday cards came from everywhere, numbering nearly 1000 cards in all. Upon completion, the display measured sixty-five feet in length, as the cards covered 13 four by five bulletin boards.

This very colorful display of birthday cards was viewed by all attendees at the convention as they were displayed in the lobby of the Stouffer Hotel. Jim had meticulously grouped all the brightly colored birthday cards (of every size and configuration), even one which was fifty feet long (printed on computer tape.) Each grouping of cards were listed by area alphabetically.

Thank you, Jim and Peg, for another memorable convention.

Detroit-Oakland

by Tom Uicker

Was the spring convention as enjoyable for you as it was for us? Hard work and the busy schedule connected with being host to the district was a catalyst that brought our members together as never before. And we topped it off with a solid performance on stage for our retiring director, Steve Sutherland, which merited the GENTLEMEN SONGSTERS third place in the chorus contest as well as champions in Plateau V.

But DOC is not a group to rest on its laurels. We held a performance the very

next day in support of National Music Week. And, we have since had a membership/guest night which introduced a dozen new guys to the joys of barbershop harmony.

Friday, June 8, has not only been proclaimed as "Barbershop Quartet Day" in Michigan, but it is also the night for the "Return of the Jug." This is always a big event at DOC as we feature the quartets that will represent our district in the next International competition. The "Jug" has been traveling from chapter to chapter throughout the district, and is supposed to be returned to us that night by whichever chapter has possession of it at the time. The money in the "Jug" plus an additional contribution from Detroit-Oakland will be divided this year between POWER PLAY and THE IVY LEAGUE for travel expenses as they "go for the gold" in San Francisco. This year we will hold the festivities at the Bonnie Brook Golf Club on Telegraph Road just south of Eight Mile Road in Detroit. Come out and join us for a festive evening starting about 8 p.m.

On Wednesday, June 13, the GENTLEMEN SONGSTERS will bring their show to the Bushnell Concert Series, at the Bushnell Congregational Church in Detroit. This engagement is still fairly new to us, having done it only once before. The SOUND AMBASSADORS have agreed to join us on stage for this two-and-a-half hour performance.

Mark Friday, July 27, on your calendars now! That is the date on which the Bob-Lo boat makes its annual Barbershop Moonlight Cruise (See ad on page 4). For just \$12 per person, you and your friends can join in the three hour trip along the Detroit River up to Lake St. Clair as we enjoy a parade of barbershop choruses and quartets that will both soothe and amuse.

Also, if you're in the neighborhood of Maple Road and Southfield Road in Birmingham on any Monday night, be sure to visit us at the First Methodist Church. That is the first church west of Southfield on Maple Road (15 Mile). You're as welcome as the flowers in May!

Grosse Pointe

by Jim Kinner

Grosse Pointe did our annual performance at the Retarded Children's Bowling Banquet on March 30. The turn out of singers was excellent, and mostly because the audience is so appreciative.

I think you're right about my memory, Bob, because I did get the convention and show dates mixed up. These things can happen! (Ed. Note: Amen!)

The show, "Grosse Pointe Goes Bankrupt" was a huge success as was the Logopedic's raffle we have every year in conjunction with our show. We were honored to have with us this year Laurie Ingraham, daughter of our late beloved Society Executive Director, Hugh Ingraham. Laurie came all the way from Kenosha, Wisconsin, to be with us. Hugh Ingraham, who was active in barbershopping for almost forty years, served the Society as Director of Public Relations, Director of Communications, and finally, the Executive Director from 1977 to 1987. Laurie joined us at our cast party where we sang happy birthday in her honor.

(GROSSE POINTE - CONT. ON PAGE 15)

(HISTORICALLY SPEAKING - FROM PAGE 11)

man with him; the latter developed a distaste for barbershop music (he was a wimp, anyway), but that's another story.

During the Kaiser Wilhelm stanza of this seemingly-endless war, Monty Marsden enlisted in the U. S. Navy. Being a bare-knuckles typist, he was rated a yeoman. (In those days yeomen were not three-dollar bills.) Marsden was assigned as secretary to John Phillips Sousa. He wrote no shorthand; men at that time didn't. His berth was no sinecure; to accommodate his mercurial boss' habits, he had to keep the requisite papers and carbons cranked into his typewriter at all times, because Sousa had the custom of bursting through his office door dictating at flank speed as he steamed in. Monty had to type as JPS spoke: that's the way it was done.

He survived the experience, and ultimately succumbed to a heart attack in or about 1954.

Here was an unexpected connection between a barbershopper I knew and a major figure in American music. I hope this finds its way into district, if not international, history.

(Ed.Note: In checking the historical record in our files, we discovered that Monty Marsden was one of the charter members of the Detroit #1 Chapter, and that he had sang earlier with the American Legion Club as early as 1936-39 along with Mark Roberts, Joe Wolfe, etc. He sang in our first district contest with THE LEGION FOUR, finishing third in 1941. He sang with that quartet until 1944, when he sang with the DETROIT AMBASSADORS along with Joe Wolfe. He was elected the President of the Detroit #1 Chapter in 1952-53. We have no record of his having served as a district officer during that period. Many thanks to Bob Johnson for the information.)

Grand Rapids

by Dick Williams

Isn't it great! What a pleasure it is for us to welcome the new kids on the block into the Pioneer Winner's Circle. We are sincerely happy for "Hoot" and his band for their fine performance in the chorus contest, and all of us here share in the excitement and happiness with this, their first District Championship. We are very proud and happy for them. We know the feeling of that first win. Again, congratulations Macomb, for a fine job.

Also, congratulations to POWER PLAY and THE IVY LEAGUE for their splendid performances. Now, these two are headed along with us to San Francisco as the Pioneer District's finest. It should be great fun.

Detroit-Oakland is to be complimented on a very well run convention and contest. They really did a great job.

To all the Plateau Chorus Champions, we congratulate you all on your outstanding performances. It was an excellent chorus contest.

As for us, well, now that the pressure is off for winning every contest, we can focus all of our energy on doing the very best possible job in San Francisco.

We understand that this was Steve Sutherland's last contest as director of Detroit-Oakland's GENTLEMEN SONGSTERS. We will miss Steve, for not only was he an outstanding director and competitor, but one heck of a nice guy. We salute Steve for all the fine work he did with Detroit-Oakland when they merged and also his fine work with Wayne. We had some mighty good contests going head to head, and it was great fun and a real challenge to see who'd come out on top. Thanks for all the great memories Steve, and best of luck and continued success in the future.

Our slate is full now until Frisco, filled with coaching, weekend retreats, the Send-Off Show in Big Rapids, three full blown performances for the Lowell Showboat, and a performance for Festival '90 to name a few of the high spots.

Just one more thing, and it's a little scary. We all feel it, for deep in the dark recesses of Grand Rapids' Harmony Hall comes a rumbling as the complacent and slumbering giant has been rudely awakened.

(MUSKEGON - CONT. FROM PAGE 11)

The FURNITURE CITY CHORD COMPANY, the SOUND AMBASSADORS, and the HARMONY EXCHANGE were our show quartets. They sparkled on stage and they sparkled at the afterglow. We sincerely thank them for their contribution to the cause of bar-

bershopping. The LUMBERTOWN CHORDSMEN, a quartet made up of Muskegon Chapter members, also performed at the afterglow. Quartet members are tenor Alan Coombs, lead Gerry Kellar, bari Tim Koppe, and bass Jerry Billingsley.

Macomb County

by Dave Pickett

On April 28, Macomb County reached its first goal, the "DISTRICT CHORUS CHAMPIONSHIP". We worked hard and sometimes long to see us peak on stage at Battle Creek. Now we must work even harder to represent the District as a championship chorus should. We want to thank all who played a part in helping us along the way including our directors and coaches, Mike T. Slamka for SP, Jeff Gougeon for vocal, Bob Hartley for directing after only three works of learning our contest set and us. We want to thank also Jim DeBussman who came in for our DYNAMO PROGRAM and for his additional coaching which sure helped us do

more with our God given talent, and our chorus members for their commitment these past three months of rehearsal.

Macomb County is proud to claim POWER PLAY and part of THE IVY LEAGUE as our own. We wish them the best of luck at the International in July. Let us all support them in their quest to be International Quartet Champs. Lest we forget, another quartet we have an interest in is BROADCAST, who finished fourth in the contest, which is not bad for first timers.

This was a great convention and birthday celebration for Pioneer. We must give our thanks to DOC for being great hosts.

Macomb is now preparing for a bake and garage sale by our women's auxiliary in July, Harrisville in September, plus the convention in October. Come over and sing with us any Tuesday at 8 p.m. at the Cross Lutheran Church, Utica at Moravian Roads, Fraser, Michigan.

OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY
DISTRICT CHORUS CONTEST
PIONEER DISTRICT, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.
Battle Creek, Michigan, April 28, 1990

	SND	INT	SP	ARR	TOTAL	SCORE	SECONDS	MEN
			NSS 1 2					
1 Macomb County Harmony Heritage Chorus	151 154	144 149	44 120 135	0 7	904	156 115	50	
2 Grand Rapids Great Lakes Chorus	149 148	148 142	42 114 125	6 3	877	151 123	51	
3 Detroit-Oakland Gentlemen Songsters	139 141	139 141	40 111 103	1 2	817	107 123	57	
4 Holland Windmill Chorus	131 135	132 139	45 111 109	5 3	810	135 146	37	
5 Grosse Pointe Lakeshore Chorus	144 141	134 128	45 106 104	2 2	806	123 151	47	
6 Flint Arrowhead Chorus	131 131	140 132	36 112 103	5 5	795	144 138	33	
7 Lansing Capital City Chordsmen	120 126	136 143	32 85 120	0 0	762	135 133	38	
8 Saginaw/Bay Timberland Chordsmen	132 128	124 131	35 95 98	3 3	749	134 131	26	
9 Clinton Valley Heart Of The Hills Chorus	126 135	132 128	36 83 75	4 7	726	146 132	30	
10 Kalamazoo The Mall City Chorus	127 128	133 122	29 87 81	2 3	712	110 110	30	
11 Windsor Sun Parlour Chorus	121 113	136 132	25 88 85	1 2	703	121 136	28	
12 Traverse City Cherry Capital Chorus	127 117	119 124	28 69 77	6 10	677	192 137	25	
13 Jackson Town and Country Chorus	100 96	111 99	22 79 70	2 7	586	115 186	19	
Ineligible Choruses - Article 9 of Official Chorus Contest Rules								
Huron Valley Harmonizers	113 105	117 121	20 78 80	1 1	636	137 157	24	
Sault Ste. Marie Northland Chorus	96 98	118 116	22 62 70	2 6	590	115 187	28	

Macomb County is the Champion.

Pioneer TROUBADOUR convention snaps

June/July

(PHOTOS BY GREG QUINN, JOHN NEIGHORN, BOB & DOT McDERMOTT)



BETTY CASH AT THE CARD CEREMONY!



ERNE NICKOSAN, EARL BERRY, BOB McDERMOTT
ERNE WAS OUR INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
TO THE CONVENTION!



A PICTURE OF THE DISTRICT'S
50TH ANNIVERSARY HISTORICAL
DISPLAY PUT TOGETHER BY DOC'S
BOB McDERMOTT.



(GROSSE POINTE - FROM PAGE 12)

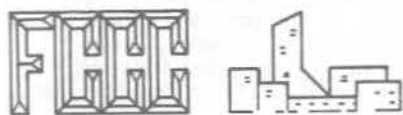
It's possible you may have missed our show, but we brought a small sample for you to the convention. If Russ Seely decides to spring out of a barrel again we'll have to find a bigger barrel. Of course, we all enjoyed the convention, as usual.

Sorry, but you'll have to hear all about the golf outing to North Carolina in the next issue. I can only tell you that this year they needed two championship jackets.

Have a lot of good ones until next time.



INT'L REP. ERNIE NICKOSAN, BETTY CASH, AND NORMA NICKOSAN



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	iim westveld	• lead

International Seniors Quartet Champions, 1988

Tenor:
Bob Reidenbach

Lead:
Bill Brooks

Bass:
Ralph Shonk

Baritone:
Sam Love



Contact:
Sam Love
(216) 477-7847
1718 Woodlawn
Ave. N.W.
Canton, Ohio 44708



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9 Filson Place
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MACOMB COUNTY HARMONY HERITAGE CHORUS



ATTENDEES VIEWING THE BIRTHDAY CARD DISPLAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, PIONEER

According to Jim Styer, the following is the final updated numbers of greeting cards mailed to the Pioneer District to help celebrate the District's 50th Anniversary. 931 birthday cards signed by 1,304 people were received. The following is a list of where they came from:

WHERE THEY CAME FROM:

Special Cards: 9	Society staff: 11
Institute of Logopedics: 12	SUBTOTAL: 32
MICHIGAN:	
Battle Creek: 159 (plus 36 elsewhere, total 195) (Incl. 90 S/View Tower)	Gratiot area: 13
Ka'zoo area: 38	Pont: 99 (4 in PA)
Coldwater: 27	Milford: 27
Jackson: 35	DOC, Wayne: 7 ea.
Other S. Mi.: 7	Macomb: 12
Monroe: 10	Grosse Pointe: 10
Bay City: 3	Dear., Huron: 1 ea.
Flint: 5	Others: 15
Saginaw: 14	DET METRO TOTAL: 179
	Grand Rapids: 42 (+3 in Hale, MI:)
	Holland: 5
	Traverse: 26
	Bozoyne: 10
	Others from north- ern Mich: 10

MICHIGAN TOTAL: 650

CANADA: 19

Rest of UNITED STATES: 185 from 36 states

MID STATES: 58	EAST: 34	ROOKIES: 64	SOUTH, WEST: 29
Ill: 21	Penn: 9	Colo: 53	Calif: 16
Minn: 8	Fla: 7	Utah: 5	Ariz: 4
Ind, Wis: 5 ea.	N.Y.: 4	N.M.: 4	Texas: 4
Oh, Ia, Mo: 3 ea.	N.J., GA: 2 ea.		La.: 1
Neb: 2	ME, NH, MA, CN, MD, VA, SC: 1 ea.		

EUROPE TOTAL: 45 England, Sweden: 1 ea
West Germany: 9 Holland: 35

GRAND TOTAL: 931
TOTAL NAMES: 1304

Coming Events ...

JUNE, 1990

2 WESTERN MICHIGAN SEND-OFF
Show, Big Rapids, MI

16 TRAVERSE CITY Chapter Show

23 MACOMB COUNTY SEND-OFF
SHOW - Redford, MI

JULY, 1990

1-8 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
AND CONTESTS - San Francisco,
CA

AUGUST, 1990

24-26 HARMONY ROUND-UP - Michigan
State University, Lansing,
MI

SEPTEMBER, 1990

29 NORPAC LOGOPEDICS SHOW -
Cheboygan, MI

OCTOBER, 1990

19-21 PIONEER DISTRICT CONVENTION
AND CONTESTS - Battle Creek,
MI

27 BENTON HARBOR-ST. JOE Chapter
Show

NOVEMBER, 1990

3 SAULT-STE. MARIE Chapter Show

DECEMBER, 1990

9 COTS, Lansing, MI

FEBRUARY, 1991

9 MACOMB COUNTY Chapter Show

15-16 DETROIT-OAKLAND Chapter Show

MARCH, 1991

9 KALAMAZOO Chapter Show

9 MONROE NORTH Chapter Show

16 HURON VALLEY Chapter Show

23 GRAND RAPIDS 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) 771-5225

Pioneer TROUBADOUR

June/July

Detroit Oakland Chapter, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.
Robert McDermott
1859 Maryland
Birmingham, MI 48009

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AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE PIONEER DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF
CHAPTERS OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF
BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA, INCORPORATED.

S.M.A.C. CALENDAR

JUNE, 1990

8 DETROIT-OAKLAND "Return of the
Jug" Night @ Bonnie Brook Golf
Club, Telegraph Road just south
of Eight Mile, Detroit. 8:00 p.m.

23 MACOMB COUNTY SEND-OFF
SHOW - Bishop Borgess High School,
Redford, MI - 8:00 p.m. - \$5 don-
ation.

JULY, 1990

22 SMAC Picnic - Camp Dearborn

27 BOB-LO MOONLIGHT CRUISE -
Sponsored by Detroit-Oakland -
Leaves Bob-Lo Dock at 8:30 p.m.

AUGUST, 1990

11 SMAC GOLF TOURNAMENT - Rammler
Golf Course, Sterling Heights, MI
Sponsored by Macomb County

SEPTEMBER, 1990

28 WAYNE CHAPTER Octet Contest - Site
to be announced.

NOTE: The above chapter dates have
been cleared by chapter SMAC repre-
sentatives. If you have any other
dates to be listed or added, please
contact Bill Warner @ 542-0581, Bill
Wickstrom @ 756-4294 or Earl Berry @
277-7130.

HELP OUR DISTRICT REPS

'GO FOR THE GOLD' SHOW

Featuring



»POWER PLAY

»IVY LEAGUE

»HARMONY HERITAGE
Chorus

plus Doran McTaggart

Pioneer's Premier Emcee

Saturday, June 23 8 p.m.

REDFORD'S BISHOP BORGESS HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

Ticket Information: Call Kim Turnbull 313 356-1536
or Kitty Slamka 313 293-9169

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