

PIONEER DISTRICT TROUBADOUR

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

APRIL - MAY '91

VOLUME 42 NUMBER 2

Plans finalized for spring district convention

by Jim Styer, DCO

Even though this spring's district convention on April 26-28, 1991, will be our 9th consecutive one in Battle Creek, it's still a little bit different. The highlights include:

✓ Kalamazoo's WWMT-TV will air its 6 p.m. Friday newscast live from McCamly Place. We've asked to be on. Be there, just in case. Even if we aren't on, you can see how a live TV show is done.

✓ *Power Play*, the youthful 1989 district quartet champ, is scheduled to compete for the last time. Lead *Mike Slamka* will enter the army in July. Quartets will face off to represent us at the international convention at 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday at W.K. Kellogg Auditorium, 2 blocks from the headquarters Stouffer Hotel.

✓ A 13-year-old student from the Institute of Logopedics, *Lindsay Pollard*--born with severe physical and communications handicaps--will sing several songs at the end of the chorus competition, and will be a district guest for the full weekend. (See Fran Durham's article on page 11 of this issue.)

✓ The student barbershop chorus from Central Michigan University will open the chorus competition, which starts at noon Saturday.

✓ The CMU chorus also will lead off the McCamly place show at 5 p.m. Saturday, followed by the district champion *Macomb Harmony Heritage Chorus*--a full half-hour of chorus entertainment.

✓ The McCamly Place show will conclude with a full hour of comedy quartetting starting at 5:45 p.m., including Battle Creek's revived *Harmony Hounds* and Lansing's *Patch Chords*. After the show, the *Phoenix Big Band* will play for listening and dancing at the chorditorium.

✓ *Classic Ring*, the Illinois District quartet champs, is to be at the convention, and could be mike-testers before the McCamly show starts and sing at the chorditorium.

✓ A junior quartet contest is scheduled for 4 p.m. Saturday in the hotel's Branson Ballroom.

✓ For only the second time, a *Joe Barbershop Chorus* will again be a mike-tester for the chorus competition. See *Deon Moore's* article on the chorus in this issue on page 3.

In more traditional activities:

✓ A district chorditorium after the Saturday night finals will feature quartet, woodshedding, and conviviality.

✓ The district will provide a ladies' hospitality room at the Stouffer Hotel.

✓ The district board meets at 1 p.m. Friday, the House of Delegates at 8 a.m. Saturday. You're all invited. Awards will be presented, and there may be an announcement of plans for a major TV show involving all district barbershoppers.

✓ Pioneer District T-shirts will be sold at the Barbershopper's Shop, manned by the Macomb County Chapter.

✓ All-events registration is \$15 if received before April 12 by the Battle Creek Visitor and Convention Bureau. After that, \$20. Late registration will be taken after noon Friday in the Stouffer Hotel lobby.

Bring the family. There's no admission charge for children 12 and under with adults.

The Boyne City "Bush League" quartet contest is alive and well - offers great opportunities for novice quartets

The 46th annual "Bush League" will be held on May 4, 1991, in Boyne City. This annual event is an absolute must for novice quartets who are looking to get their feet wet in a contest situation. It gives them a golden opportunity to get valuable experience under real-life competitive conditions. Quartets are judged by qualified judges who hold a clinic immediately after the contest to evaluate your performance and to tell you how you might improve. This can be a big help to the novice quartet.

Any quartet can enter provided it has never placed in the top three (3) in district competition and has never competed at International. The rules are the same as for regular international competition, with one exception--there is no penalty for not being in costume.

There is no entry fee. To enter, simply send the name of your quartet, the names of your members and their parts, the name and address of your contact man, and your chapter affiliation(s) to *Robert Tollas*, 203 E. Dixon, Charlevoix, MI 49720. Deadline for entry is the morning of May 4, the day of the contest. To appear in the show program, you should enter by April 15. Registration (9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on May 4) is at the Dilworth Inn in Boyne City.

Last year's champs *The Whole Shebang* from Grand Rapids will appear in the Saturday night show as will the new 1991 Bush League Champs and the Runner-ups. This year's feature quartet is the *Sound Ambassadors*, a group of stars who have finished among the district finalists on more than one occasion.

Great barbershopping! See you there!

PIONEER TROUBADOUR

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

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TROUBADOUR PUBLISHING INFORMATION

Published bi-monthly in February, April, June, August, October, and December. DEADLINE FOR ALL COPY IS THE 15TH OF THE MONTH PRIOR TO PUBLICATION. The *Troubadour* is the official publication of the Pioneer District of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Singing in America, Inc. All articles not accompanied by a by-line have been written by the editor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the members and officers of the Pioneer District. Space in the *Troubadour* will be made available for opposing points of view.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$4.00 per year, Single copy price - 80 cents

ADVERTISING RATES

Full Page...	\$80.00
Two Thirds...	\$60.00
Half Page...	\$50.00
One Third...	\$40.00
One Sixth...	\$30.00
Quartet Card (per issue)	\$13.00
Quartet Card (per year)	\$50.00

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LOGOPEDICS



PIONEER
LOGOPEDICS
CHAIRMAN

Alex Willox

It's spring again, and we are off to a new start in our quest for excellence in song. It seems like we get better all the time. It also gladdens my heart to see our donations to Logopedics go up. Last year was a banner year for us, and I hope this trend will continue. Set a goal for your chapter and try to top it. I am sure every chapter should be able to get a bronze award without much trouble. It is my wish that every Pioneer District Chapter will participate and get an award this year.

Four chapters have already won awards so far this year, with the Alpena Chapter qualifying for a Silver Award with a per capita total of \$31.03. Three other chapters, Battle Creek, Boyne City, and Sault Ste. Marie have qualified for Bronze Awards.

We sing, don't we? If we sing that they shall speak, and if we really mean it as I know we do, then I'm sure all of our chapters will increase their contributions this year. Lets all put our shoulder to the wheel!

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THE PRESIDENT'S

CORNER



PIONEER DISTRICT PRESIDENT
MIKE O'DONNELL

Our president is recovering from "Foot in Mouth" disease--Wife will now censor copy, she says!

First, an apology, to *Bert West* and all the other fine men who took part in the Senior Quartet Contest. It was never my intention to slight any of you for the fine performances you gave all of us last October. Obviously I did, and for this I am truly sorry. I only hope I can someday do as well as those fine quartets did that afternoon.

I promised last time to report on the mid-winter convention. The district president's meeting was on Thursday, January 31, 1991. We discussed a full range of topics which we felt would impact both on our districts as well as the future of the Society. At times the discussions were heated and filled with emotions yet through it all, our love for each other as barbershoppers allowed us to see through the differences which separated us and come to a consensus which was for the good of us all. Each of the topics were then prepared for presentation to the international board by our Senior Moderator from the Cardinal District, *Jay Butler*.

So that I don't mislead you into thinking we were setting policy, it needs to be stated that the district presidents only make recommendations on the topics which we felt would most affect the men in our districts and possibly the future course of the Society. The biggest benefit of these meetings in my opinion is the sharing of ideas and the encouragement we all get from each other when we find we're all in the same boat. It is very similar to a COTS setting when you're an officer of your chapter. Whether large or small, we all have the

same problems and talking about them and sharing ideas with the other presidents often leads to things we can try in our own district.

On Friday, February 1, 1991, I attended the meeting of the international board. I'm sure *Earl Berry* will have a report about those meetings. I simply wish to thank all the IBM's for the work they and the executive board do in leading the Society. The need to address some very serious issues (including a dues increase) was so pressing that the meeting was not finished until late Saturday morning. This was preceded by a lot of late night work on a revised budget by *Frank Santarelli*, *Ernie Nickosan*, and others. In the end, they had the courage to vote with an eye toward the future of the Society.

Now the four days we were there weren't all work. There were some great tours, beaches, bathing suits, sights to see and singing. Saturday afternoon was the Senior Quartet Contest. When the dust had settled, the *Old kids on the Block* with *Ray Henders*, *Ken Jordahl*, *Thom Hine* and *Jim Foley*, were declared the winners. Many of the Society's best quartets were also in attendance and thrilled us all with their fine musical talents at the many show offerings.

Needless to say, another convention will soon be upon us. I know many of the chapters are planning to be there as well as our fine quartets. I hope all of you are planning to attend to cheer on your favorites as well as all of the other competitors. Come to Battle Creek and be a part of the fun and excitement.

When last I wrote, I started by talking about the war in the gulf. Today, peace and freedom has once again been restored to the region. As I read some of the other district bulletins I could see this war was on the minds of others throughout the Society. One common thread was woven throughout which we need to remember.

There are few things which we do in life which provide us with a haven from our daily cares and worries--our families, our church and barbershopping. All of us can relate stories of how singing barbershop has helped us and our friends through some tough times. If this is true, as we know it is, then become a messenger and spread the word. Ask a friend, ask the guy you buy gas from, the fellow who cuts your hair or any man you happen to meet to join you for an evening of barbershop singing. Even if he doesn't join, he will thank you. If he does join, he will never stop thanking you! Thank God the war is over and thank God for the Society. It's great to be a barbershopper!

Convention will feature "Joe Barbershopper" chorus at Battle Creek

by Division Five V.P. *Deon Moore*

We hope all registered quartets and all 30 choruses (Wayne and Macomb ineligible) will compete in the upcoming chorus contest in Battle Creek on April 27th. However, past years have shown that about 2/3 of the Pioneer District membership choose not to sing at the conventions.

At the 1990 fall convention we tried the "Joe Barbershopper" chorus mike tester concept. This proved to be a huge success with about 30 men on stage.

This spring we will be doing it again. The only thing different is we will NOT be using music. Our director, Assistant DME *Don Bazely*, has picked two songs from the Just Plain Barbershop book. These songs are "Carry Me Back to Old Virginny" and "Sweet, Sweet, Roses of Morn."

Again the only rules are: You cannot be singing on stage with your chorus or quartet. So if your chorus is performing and for some reason you were unable to join them for the last few months of practice (or whatever), come and sing with us and then cheer for your chorus when they come on stage.

We will have a short practice on Friday evening and at about 10:30 a.m. on Saturday morning. Watch the bulletin board in the hotel lobby for more information.

Bring your uniform and have a good time singing with some guys you've never had the privilege of performing with on stage. It sure would be nice to have 50 smiling faces for the audience to see when the curtain opens.

Earl Berry will be our int'l representative to the spring convention

Conventions and Meetings Manager *Ken Buckner* has announced that our own district International Board Member *Earl Berry* will represent International President *Bob Cearnal* at our spring convention. Earl is in his second year as IBM.

He and his wife *Mimi* have just returned from a long extended vacation in Florida and Texas following the mid-winter convention. Be sure to greet them at the convention. It's good to have them back!

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CHAPTER NEWS

Detroit-Oakland

by Tom Uicker

They say that time goes faster if you are busy, and that has certainly been the case here at Detroit-Oakland. The hectic pace set before Christmas, when we managed to fit four caroling performances in with our regular schedule, changed with the new year to a more organized but no less busy push towards our annual show in mid-February. And time just flew by.

I hope that you all were able to see our show this year; as every one I've talked to thoroughly enjoyed it. Of course, when you feature the *Blue Grass Student Union* and *Power Play*, you can hardly go wrong. And the *Gentlemen Songsters Chorus* strutted their stuff before a near capacity crowd on Friday night and a sell-out on Saturday night.

After the show, things eased up slightly. Some members took off on trips to warmer climates, while others succumbed to the many bugs that accompany our changing weather. (Before the show, we didn't have time to get sick.) Still, we managed to gather enough of the group to do a couple of benefit performances.

Our BOTY, *Nick Pastor*, pulled off another great guest night in early March. The *Sound Ambassadors* and Milford's *Blend Vendors* entertained before a crowd of nineteen potential members and three lady friends. DME *Jim Stephens* was on hand to explain what barbershop harmony is all about, and we again sampled the varieties of a meatless diet. Two of the nineteen have already decided to join us, and we hope that more will see the light in the near future.

Meanwhile, we are gathering the crew together again and working up a new contest package for Battle Creek this spring. It looks to be a very exciting contest and we hope to see you there. It's great to be a barbershopper!

In Memory of Charles "Bud" Knorpp

by Cris Davis



FOR-TUNE TELLERS

Standing, l to r: *Bud Knorpp*, bass; *Sam Cushman*, tenor; *Tom Cushman*, baritone and *Red Shaw*, lead.

Many friends and acquaintances were saddened by the death of *Bud Knorpp*, age 69, on January 20, 1991. Bud and his friends organized the *For-tune Tellers* Quartet in 1949 and joined the Jackson Chapter that year. Their original lead singer moved to Arizona in the early 50's. *Red Shaw* joined the quartet then and they have been together since that time.

The For-tune Tellers entertained thousands of people and sang on the same shows with many well known quartets, including the *Buffalo Bills*, *Gentlemen's Agreement*, *Vagabonds*, and the *Happiness Emporium*.

When they appeared on stage, it seemed to create a certain air of electricity to members of the audience. Others in the audience who hadn't heard them before, would wonder why everyone was getting excited and sitting on the edge of their seats. It was a common occurrence to see many in the crowd wiping away tears as the quartet sang some of their old favorites. Among these were, "The Deerhunter," "I used to Call Her Baby," and "The Baby Song." Bud will long be remembered for his antics on stage and the climactic ending to the "Baby Song" when he made the gurgling sound and pointed down to the drain.

Bud Knorpp may have left to join the "Silent Choir," but he remains a fond memory to all who knew him, especially barbershoppers and their fans.

Bud is survived by his wife *Marie*, a daughter and two sons. Anyone wishing to may send condolences to Marie at 630 W. Main Street, Manchester, Michigan 48158.

Tom Rouse
7013 Summit Ave.
Cincinnati, Oh. 45243

ADD-A-LINE

by Jim Styer

DISTRICT COMMUNICATION OFFICER

Let's salute the troops!

Many communities throughout the district already are planning welcoming ceremonies and special programs honoring the soldiers returning from the Persian Gulf. Others will be getting on the bandwagon soon. And, July 4 activities will take on a special meaning this year.

It's a unique opportunity for us--patriotism rings strong this year and we all do great renditions of the best patriotic songs: "God Bless America," "America the Beautiful," "This Is My Country"...the list goes on.

All it takes is a call to someone in the know: your community leaders,

American Legion, the military armory. They'll probably jump at the chance to have you on their program.

When you do sing, invite the crowd to join in on a repeat of the first verse of one, maybe several songs. They know the melody and words. They'll love it!

If no program is planned yet, offer to help get the ball rolling. There'll be many willing volunteers outside your chapter. It's not really much work--a few community groups, welcoming comments, and an invitation to the public, which already will be excited about participating, especially family and friends of the troops.

National pride, Americana, barbershop--they're part of our heritage. It's a perfect fit for us. And it's great PR!

...Another brainstorm: Invite returning troops to your chapter meeting. Maybe you'll even get some new members.

In other areas...

✓ District-wide participation in the Detroit Tigers game Sunday, August 18, is a great PR activity. Promote it locally. Get an item in the local papers. Many of you have non-barbershop friends who'd love to attend, too. Maybe they'll join as a result.

This is an example of multi-chapter

activities that can make barbershopping even more fun, improve internal communications--and increase PR opportunities. A Salute to the Troops could involve more than one chapter. So can the Detroit Thanksgiving parade. Start brainstorming...the ideas will come.

✓ PR officers and bulletin editors, plan on participating in the mini-HEP August 28-30 at MSU. I want to meet all of you there for an open forum, pending final coordination with DME *Jim Stephens*. It'll be a chance for problem-solving, brainstorming, idea sharing. Also, if arrangements can be made, I'd like to meet with you during upcoming divisional meetings of your chapter officers.

✓ "Our convention will be back this spring," I told a merchant. "Oh," she said, "the bartenders." Others call us barbers. It's easy for people, even when they know about us, to get confused. When you're talking or writing about us, don't say just "barbershop." Say "barbershop harmony" or "barbershop singers."

✓ A PBS special, "Wolf Trap 20th Anniversary Celebration," will feature the Alexandria *Harmonizers*, *Second Edition*, and *Bank Street*. It will be taped June 8 and aired later.

✓ I'm open to suggestions for this column. It's a two-way street!

SAGINAW RIVER BASIN LOGOPEDICS EXTRAVAGANZA

*Featuring Five Pioneer District Chapter
Choruses and Their Quartets*

Saturday, June 1, 1991 - 8:00 p.m.

Arthur Hill High School Auditorium, Saginaw, Michigan (Lots of Parking)

All tickets - \$6 in advance or at door

For tickets in advance, call (517) 792-7024

Participating Chapters include Flint, Gratiot County, Pontiac, Saginaw Bay and Swan Valley. We hope you will join us and help us in this great cause. It will be an evening to remember...

INTERNATIONAL BOARD BRIEFS



By International Board Member
EARL BERRY

Mid-Winter convention

Most of you have already read the doings of the international board at the mid-winter convention in Tampa in late January which was published in the March/April issue of the *Harmonizer*. If you have any questions concerning the actions taken during the board meeting at the convention, feel free to contact me for additional details.

The major issue addressed at this meeting, of course, was the very sticky issue of the dues increase. No doubt you have read Bobby Woolridge's explanation and need for the increase which was widely publicized. I can only say that after two days of serious discussion on a projected budget deficit, the finance committee recommended this dues increase. It was moved and passed, during an extra session on Saturday morning, that effective March 31, 1991, your international dues would be increased by \$12 from \$38 to \$50 per year. This increase was a must to maintain the increased work load and productivity in Kenosha, plus a graduated conversion of overloaded computer equipment.

The registrations at the Tampa mid-winter were well over 1,000. It looks like we will do very well in Louisville this year, because as of February 15 there were already 7,114 registrations. Incidentally, be sure you pronounce the name of the city correctly, which is "Loo-Uh-Vul." See you all in April.

"For It's One, Two, Three Strikes You're Out, at the Old Ball Game."

by Mike O'Donnell

OK, everyone, mark your calendar for August 18, 1:30 p.m., at venerable old Tiger Stadium in Detroit. On that day we hope to have 500+ barbershoppers on the field to sing both the Canadian and American National Anthems just prior to the start of the ballgame between the Toronto Blue Jays and the Detroit Tigers. We will also be entertaining from centerfield for several minutes just prior to the singing of both anthems. Final plans on the exact songs to be sung have yet to be firmed up, but I guess it would be songs everyone knows from the "Just Plain Barbershop" book or Polecat numbers.

The Tiger organization will be promoting this day for us as "Barbershop Day" (or something appropriate). We will be able to videotape the event for our future use in promoting barbershop in our district.

In order to bring this event to our district it was necessary to receive a verbal commitment of 1,000 or more people who would attend and purchase a ticket at the cost of \$8.50 each. I asked all of the District VP's and the Assistant Divisional VP's to contact their respective chapters and get me a head count by March 2, 1991. As of March 5, here were the results: Division I - 500+; Division II - 200; Division III - 134; Division IV - 17; and Division V - 188, for a total of 1,039.

Needless to say, this is cutting it a little close but the numbers may have been a little lower than I'd hoped simply because we were asking everyone to make a commitment so far in advance of the actual event. I expect this figure to go up as we get a little closer to the actual date. Remember, **EVERYONE** is invited--family members, friends, neighbors, etc. We will all get in for the same low price of \$8.50 per person.

To help make this a "special" event, I've contacted *John Case*, past president of the Ontario District to see if the Ontario chapters which are close by would be interested in joining us and making this an "International" happening. He was very excited about the possibility and promised to get right on the phone and start promoting the idea. Wouldn't it be great to have another 200 or so barbershoppers join us on the field?

You will be hearing from your district VP's and assistant VP's soon regarding the details about collecting money, etc. Frankly, we haven't quite figured out yet how we will handle this but I suspect each chapter will be responsible for collecting and turning in the money for each man who has said he will go. We need to send the Tiger organization \$8,500 by May 15, 1991 in order to guarantee our arrangement. After that we can order tickets as we need them. See you all on the 18th of August at the old ball park!



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CHAPTER NEWS

FLINT

by *Ken Rice*

Spring is a fine time for singing, and the Flint *Arrowhead Chorus* is responding in a number of ways. Objective number one, so far, has been to "sing for the service clubs." Show you what we mean:

⇒ On Thursday, February 21 we had the honor of providing the entertainment portion of the program for the 50th Anniversary celebration of the Quota Club of Flint. These business and professional women seemed to truly enjoy the four-part harmonies, and even laughed politely at MC *Fred Kienitz'* jokes.

⇒ On Saturday, May 18 at 9:00 p.m. we will convene in full formal regalia to put some barbershop fun and frivolity into the Rotary International District 633 conference in Flint. Over 400 Rotarians and their spouses from 56 Rotary clubs in Ontario and Eastern Michigan will start their day on a lively, sing-a-long note.

The second objective is to get ready for the spring's serious singing, and that means intensive rehearsals with some first-class coaching. For example:

⇒ A weekend retreat March 1 and 2 at McMullen Conference Center on Higgins Lake gave *Ken Buckner*, from Kenosha, and *John Noteware* an opportunity to put us through our paces. And they did!

⇒ *Scott Turnbull*, of *Ivy League* renown, will drop by several of our regular Tuesday evening workouts to share a tip or two on stage presence. Scott, have you ever coached 24 guys with 48 left feet?

All this frantic preparation leads to...what else?...the Pioneer District Spring competition in April, and the Flint *Arrowhead Chorus* spring show. We invite you to come along on a "Sentimental Journey" on Saturday evening, May 18 at 8 p.m. Traveling with the chorus to Grand Blanc High School's Howard Pepper Auditorium in Grand Blanc, Michigan, will be two outstanding quartets--*Bustin' Loose* and *Great Escape*. Join us for a great evening of barbershop because, yes indeed, spring is a fine time for singing.

MUSKEGON CHAPTER

by *Fred Kendall*

This is a busy time of the year for the Muskegon Chapter. We are putting the final touches on our 51st annual show at the Frauenthal Theatre in downtown Muskegon. The show date is April 13. Our show this year will feature "Grandpa's Attic" featuring two guest quartets and two chapter quartets.

According to *Bob Weber*, Program V.P. and Afterglow Chairman, our afterglow will be an added attraction. He guarantees our show patrons the finest "glow" of all times.

Our show's printed program is a 16 page newspaper. The chapter members will distribute 8,000 of these programs in the area surrounding Muskegon three weeks prior to the show.

March is also the time for one of our chapter fund raisers. We have been taking orders for our famous "Submarine Sandwiches"--on the evening of March 20 the chapter members will convene to assemble 1500 sandwiches. We deliver them on the 21.

The *Shoreline Chorus* will be a participant in the spring contest in Battle Creek. We are also working towards that goal.

On Saturday, May 18, the chorus will be featured on the annual Mayfest program at Muskegon Community College.

Oh, *Ken Zeck*, our Membership V.P., informed us that May is the month we will be running the "Membership is Me" program. It's getting kind of hard to find a few dull moments.

ROCHESTER CHAPTER

by *Bill Taggart*

Born of the appreciation and support for the splendid performance of our troops in the Gulf conflict, the incredible surge of patriotism that is presently sweeping the country did not miss **Rochester**, Michigan. A crowd estimated by local police to be in excess of four thousand people not only out-sang, but were absolutely overwhelmed by the *Heart of the Hills Chorus* rendition of "God Bless America" at the finale of the "Rally America" program. The event was held in the Winchester Mall parking lot

on Sunday, February 10. Ever try to "match a vowel" or "lock a chord" when (a) you can't hear it, and (b), you have a lump in your throat.

Otherwise, February 23 saw a very pleasant evening with our officer installation dinner, with our spouses. We are now starting serious rehearsals in preparation for the district contest in Battle Creek. Lots of work to do here to bring our many new members up to speed.

TRAVERSE CITY

by *Elbert Ford*

It's been a while since we've sent anything to the *Troubadour*. In recapping, let's look at what "we've done lately" and "hope to do in the near future".

I'll begin with our November 11 joint program with the Traverse Symphony Orchestra. We had the extreme pleasure of singing some of our show songs alone as well as a "Sweetheart Medley" with the orchestra. Our able director *Dean Fischer* and the Symphony's *Robert Hansen* in the finale, "A Tribute to George M. Cohan." There were people in the sell-out audience that had never experienced live barbershop before that evening.

On a suggestion by *Ken Forbeck*, we organized a Valentine's Day **SWEETHEART SING**. It was organized by *Maurie Allen*, our new president. Five quartets did a total of 88 paid singing Valentines from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., followed by a group tribute to the wives and sweethearts of the troops of "Operation Desert Storm" on a local TV station. A full and enjoyable day for all.

We're now preparing for the spring convention and also our June show. We are staging, among other things, a **SILVER ANNIVERSARY CHORUS**. We chartered in 1966 and have invited all of the men who have sung with us the past 25 years to share their talents at our show at Corsan Auditorium in Interlochen. Looks as if we'll have around 60 on stage. Sure hope some of them stick around.

Bye for now...See ya in Battle Creek.



Plans underway for Buckeye Invitational III for August 9, 10, and 11, 1991

The third annual Buckeye Invitational is a gathering of the barbershop world's best choruses and quartets for a competition and barbershop music festival. The worldwide impact of the Invitational has already positioned Columbus as a focal point of harmony music. In the two previous Internationals, choruses and quartets from Great Britain, Sweden, and Denmark have competed with American and Canadian barbershop singers, making the Buckeye Invitational one of the few truly international festivals of barbershop music.

The 1991 Buckeye Invitational chorus show and competition will start at 1:00 p.m. Saturday afternoon at the Palace Theatre, and the quartet show begins at 7:30 p.m. Saturday evening at the Palace Theatre. The weekend will again feature a barbershoppers outdoor tailgate party on Friday evening hosted by the *Fox Valleyaires*, a chorus from Appleton, Wisconsin. As the sun sets Friday night, barbershop chords will fill the air at Bicentennial Park as quartets from around the globe put on a free to the public barbershop show. This popular event attracted nearly 2,000 spectators last year even though it went head-to-head with the Ohio State Fair and John Denver's appearance in Grove City. This year's Friday night concert will feature the *Bluegrass Student Union*, former International champion quartet from Louisville, Kentucky.

The chorus competition will bring together choruses from around the country, several of which will be in excess of eighty men. The *Big Apple Chorus* from Manhattan has, on several occasions, ranked among the world's top five choruses. The *West Towns Chorus* from Chicago is the 1987 champion barbershop chorus. The Pioneer District will be represented by the *Wayne Renaissance Chorus* who finished second to the *Macomb chorus* last fall.

The lineup of quartets for the evening competition will not be established until April and May. However, already committed to compete is the quartet, *By Appointment*, from Dorset County, England.

A novel approach to judging the chorus and quartet contests is being tried this year. For many years members of barbershop audiences have unofficially picked their choice of champions whether in contest or on a show. This time 100 members of the audience are being chosen on a first come-first serve basis to be the **Entertainment Judges** for the 1991 Chorus and Quartet shows. No more than four persons from any chapter area (which can include women!) will be chosen. Information to those selected will be sent in advance.

These "judges" will have some of the best seats in the house and will be listed in the program by name and location so that all in attendance will be informed

who is judging. If you desire to be part of this select group for either or both shows, just send in the form below with your ticket order. Send in a separate check for \$10.00 along with your regular ticket order form and check. (Note: The \$10.00 is in addition to your ticket purchase. If you are selected we will inform you when you register, and send you specific information along with telephone

numbers to call when more information is needed.) When tickets are issued and sent, yours will be in the "Judging Pit" along with the other judges. Spouses are encouraged to participate.

Hotel reservations can be made through *Larry Nofziger*, 9278 Sunbury Road, Westerville, Ohio 43081, (B)614-882-5312.



Columbus, OH • Aug. 9,10,11 • 1991

Buckeye Invitational III...

Where district second place choruses and quartets from around the world meet in an extravagant harmony festival and competition.

► The best barbershop music this side of International!

Entertainment Gets a Score!

- Outdoor World Harmony Show
- Sunday Barbershop Church Service
- Chorus Show
- Quartet Show
- International Picnic
- Bratwurst Tailgate Bash

Competitors from more than 9 districts

- "By Appointment" Runner-up, *BABS quartet*
- "Bluegrass Student Union"

You Be the Judge

This year, entertainment to be judged by 100-seat section of the audience. No more than four from any single chapter. Best seats. To qualify, first come – first served, fill in ticket order, include additional \$10.00 administrative charge (for advance mailing and judging information) and designate JUDGE. – You've always complained about the judges, do something about it!

Tickets for Saturday events

- ___ tickets for 1:00 chorus show @ \$10.00
 - ___ tickets for 7:30 quartet show @ \$10.00
 - ___ tickets for both shows @ \$18.00
 - ___ Entertainment judge @ \$10.00 additional
- Include name, address, (and chapter, if judge applicant) and self-addressed stamped envelope with check to:

Buckeye Invitational
c/o Tony Pesa • P.O. Box 2816
Columbus, Ohio 43216

Hotels: Hyatt on Capital Square
(800) 223-1234
Holiday Inn at the Ohio Center
(614) 461-4100

Results of our recent convention survey

By *Mike Cirrito*

Although the response to the District Convention Survey was rather disappointing (63 total response out of about 1350). I want to thank those of you who did take the time to share your comments and suggestions with us.

The following profiles evolved as the responses were tabulated:

1.) The respondents averaged 15 years as a barbershopper and have attended more than 50% of the conventions in the past five years.

2.) Singing (competing) in a chorus was by far the most important reason for attending the convention.

3.) Staying in a convention location for up to three years (not more than that) was okay, but the sites should be more centrally located.

4.) They definitely indicated they wanted the Saturday night show to start at 8:00 p.m. and not 9:00 p.m.

5.) There was noticeable disappointment in the lack of more chapter hospitality rooms with mixed comments regarding the Chorditorium.

6.) However, there was clear support for continuing with the "Joe Barbershop" chorus for those members whose chorus is not competing.

This profile may well reflect the feeling of those who did not respond to the survey. The convention committee has already begun to take action on some of these suggestions, and members will again have an opportunity for input at the spring convention.

By the way, I would like to announce the winner of the drawing for two nights free lodging at the Stouffer's Hotel in Battle Creek on convention weekend. He is *Gordon Rood*, a baritone from the Lansing Chapter. Congratulations, Gordon, and thanks for your input.

CORRECTIONS TO 1991 PIONEER DISTRICT DIRECTORY

Please make the following changes to your 1991 Directory which you received in late January. Additional corrections will be published as they become known.

Bill Pascher replaces *Milford Parrish* as PR officer for the Pontiac Chapter. (p 37)

Vince Spence has resigned as Program VP for the Pontiac Chapter. No replacement has been named. (p 36)

Doug Drouillard's address as PR officer for Macomb County should be 30307 Sutherland, Warren, MI 48091. (p 34)

Earl Gronda has moved from the President's position to the Treasurer's position for the Swan Valley Chapter replacing *Raymond Hanley*. *James Steiner*, 6486 Garfield Road, Freeland, MI 48623, phone (517) 695-2031, has returned to the President's position. (p 40)

Darold Woodward, 139 Grand Street, Springport, MI, has replaced *C. Dale Barrett* as president of the Jackson Chapter. (p 31)

Doran McTaggart, 890 Buckingham Dr., Windsor, ONT. N8S 2C8, has replaced *Alan Raikes* as President of the Windsor Chapter. (p42)

The *Brighter Side* Quartet should be added to the list of quartets beginning on page 52. The contact man is *Bob Riedel*, 112 Emmons Blvd., Wyandotte, MI 48192, phone (313) 282-6779.

Cliff Gritter's ZIP code on page 26 under PR officer should be 49507.

Gordon Lind, 2027 N.E. Delhi Drive, Holt, MI 48842, phone (517) 694-9514, should be added as Quartet Activity Chairman for Lansing. (p 33)

John Wearing's address as contact man for the *Great Escape* quartet should be 5734 Farmbrook, Detroit, MI 48224, phone (313) 882-5793. (p 52)

Roger Morris' area phone code listed on page 34 should be (313) instead of (517). His ZIP code has been changed to 48356.

Larry King's ZIP code listed on pages 7 and 8 should be 48336, not 48018.

John Nolte, 5540 Bostall Woods Drive, Rochester, MI 48306, phone (313) 652-3018, replaces *Robert Wenz* as P.V.P. for the Detroit-Oakland Chapter. (p 24)

The *Harmony Hounds* will be "Howling" again at the spring convention on Saturday afternoon. Don't miss this entertaining quartet!





SPOTLIGHT
on
LOGOPEDICS



Dr. Fran Durham

The Pollards are coming...

In the February/March issue of the Troubadour I announced that *Lindsay Pollard*, a 13 year old student at the Institute of Logopedics, and her mother *Judy* would be attending our spring convention and would be performing for us after the completion of the chorus contest Saturday afternoon. I discussed Lindsay's handicaps and her early years at the Institute. Lindsay is in her 11th year as a student at the Institute of Logopedics. Judy Pollard has provided me with a written picture of her daughter Lindsay as she is today.

Indeed, the progress that Lindsay has made at the Institute of Logopedics is almost miraculous. It sometimes seems impossible that she can actually do the many things that she has learned to do...Lindsay has come so far. Today, at the age of 13, Lindsay reads, spells and has general knowledge skills at the same level as her 7th grade normal age-group peers. However, the Institute has not "cured" Lindsay. She is still multiply-handicapped, and needs special help to learn to meaningfully use her skills in the real world. Transferring skills to new situations and tasks is not automatic for children like Lindsay, and intensive, innovative training is required to give her the chance to really benefit in adulthood from the amazing progress she has made as a child. For a parent, finding a program that offers that kind of expertise is very, very difficult.

As always, the Institute of Logopedics in Wichita, Kansas has been there to develop

special programs to meet Lindsay's unique needs. When Lindsay was only twelve years old, the Institute began to train her through their exceptional community-based instruction curriculum. She is not only learning to transfer skills into real-world environments and activities, she is being trained for a potential career! Working three afternoons weekly at a branch of the Wichita Public Library, Lindsay is learning a very functional application of her academic skills. Since she is paid for her work, she also has the opportunity to learn the concepts behind the value of money, what it will buy, and saving for things she wants or needs.

Her program at the Institute doesn't stop there...Since the goal for Lindsay is independence at the highest level she can achieve, her curriculum strives to make her a safe participant in the busy world around us. Her staff takes her on weekly outings to parking lots and intersections so that she can develop an understanding of danger and can learn safety skills. She also makes out a weekly shopping list and is accompanied by Institute staff to the grocery store. Through this type of programming, Lindsay is not only learning to locate grocery items and push the cart, she is also being taught the "survival" skills of a penny-pincher! Armed with a calculator, Lindsay is being taught to stay within budget, and is becoming quite frugal and bargain-conscious.

The International Barbershop Society has even played an important role in the innovative, exceptional opportunities offered to Lindsay through the Institute of Logopedics. While the generosity and dedication of SPEB-SQSA has provided crucial support that touches each and every child at the Institute, Lindsay has had the special chance to benefit in a very delightful way. As barbershop districts and chapters across the country have hosted Lindsay's visits to their competitions and shows, they have done so much more than just giving Lindsay the opportunity to perform and share her story of hope and success. They have expanded the learning horizons of the Institute to airports, hotels, restaurants and cities. These wonderful travels have given Lindsay the chance to learn skills that will benefit her throughout her life.

To give an example of this, when Lindsay first performed out-of-state at a barbershop event in 1987, she frequently became confused and emotionally-upset on airplanes and in the crowded airports. She was very hyperactive, distracted, and had to be physically restrained or kept on a harness to keep her from darting away and getting lost. Lindsay displayed the typical behavior of a multiply-handicapped child in such a circumstance. Today, however, Lindsay does not require a harness. In fact, she helps me carry our baggage through airport terminals, and is responsible for locating the appropriate concourse for our next flight. Instead of rocking and biting her hand during air travel, she now



LINDSAY AND JUDY POLLARD

quietly reads magazines or works crossword puzzles. She even watches the meter in the taxi to make sure the driver asks us for the appropriate fare.

Certainly, Lindsay Pollard's story is a testimonial to the exceptional excellence in special education provided to multiply-handicapped, communication-impaired children at the Institute of Logopedics. As a result of her experiences through Institute programming, Lindsay, as a toddler, a pre-schooler, elementary-age student, and adolescent...has had the opportunity to develop her optimum potential.

The tomorrow of adulthood is dreaded by many families of multiply-handicapped children. The unknown of the future cannot be counted on for success. However, for Lindsay's family, tomorrow is a day of goals met, dreams achieved and battles won. We've learned that through the past 10 years at the Institute of Logopedics. We look forward to the "tomorrow" of knowing and enjoying Lindsay as a young woman.

As I said in my earlier article, this is a performance not to be missed. While final details are to be worked out at the pre-convention planning meeting, the probable time for the Pollards to perform will be at the completion of the Saturday afternoon chorus contest, while the judges are tabulating contest results. The Pollards may also make other appearances at the convention, possibly at the Logopedics Raffle booth, for example. There will be flyers at the registration table that will provide as much information as we are able to garner about their schedule. You're in for a real treat!

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QUARTET NEWS



Front-Terry Huyge, tenor; Rear L to R- Bernie Poelman lead; Al Van Iwaarden, bari; Jack Sidor, bass.

Galaxies Quartet Back Together

The *Galaxies* quartet sang their first chords on February 12, 1971 (Lincoln's birthday). While Lincoln symbolized liberation of mankind, the quartet also felt a sense of liberation in departing from hardline barbershop style by including non-barbershop songs and comedy in their repertoire, also a bit of instrumental background.

The group won the Pioneer District Championship in 1973. Just prior to this achievement, Jack had left the group to form another. There followed other changes in personnel until 1976, when the *Galaxies* disbanded. Bernie, Al, and Jack stayed active in other groups until recently, in 1990, when each was no longer engaged in a quartet, yet hungry for harmony. A chance call located Terry and Presto!, the *Galaxies* were once again shining brightly, singing many of their former requested songs, and adding new repertoire, including barbershop, "mod," and of course comedy.

Coming Events

APRIL, 1991

- 5-6 Grosse Pointe Chapter Show
- 13 Jackson Chapter Show
- 13 Macomb County Chapter Show
- 13 Milford Chapter Show
- 13 Muskegon Chapter Show
- 13 Swan Valley Chapter Show
- 14 Pontiac Chapter Show
- 26-28 PIONEER DISTRICT CONVENTION-Battle Creek

MAY, 1991

- 4 Boyne City BUSH LEAGUE Contest & Show
- 4 Windsor Chapter Show
- 17 Holland Chapter Show
- 18 Battle Creek Chapter Show
- 18 Cadillac Chapter Show
- 18 Flint Chapter Show
- 25 Alpena Chapter Show

JUNE, 1991

- 1 Saginaw River Basin Chapter's Logopedics Show
- 15 Traverse City Chapter Show

JULY, 1991

- 1-7 SPEBSQSA International Convention, Louisville, KY
- 14-21 DIRECTOR'S COLLEGE, Carthage College, Kenosha, Wisc.
- 28- Aug 4 HARMONY COLLEGE - St.Joseph, Missouri

SEPTEMBER, 1991

- 28 Grand Rapids Chapter Show
- 28 NORPAC Logopedics Show Cheboygan, Michigan

OCTOBER, 1991

- 18-20 PIONEER DISTRICT CONVENTION

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