



# pioneer TROUBADOUR



Official Publication of the Pioneer District,  
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of  
Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

VOLUME 44

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 1993

NUMBER 5

## *Immediate Past International President, Society Representative to Pioneer Convention, Lansing, October 15 - 17*

### *Gratiot County Chapter, convention host bids you welcome*

by James R. Hall, Chapter President

Host of the '93 fall convention, the Gratiot County Chapter welcomes you back to Lansing! A barbershop filled weekend has been planned by Mike Cirritto, the convention committee and many workers from the Gratiot County and Lansing Chapters. And thanks to Jeff Rayburn, Host Chapter Coordinator and his committee for much of the leg work.

Be sure to check the Convention Update beginning in the next column of this page. The many details listed contain information to make your attendance more convenient and enjoyable.

Our conventions are highlighted by competition, but they are much more! Don't stay away because your group isn't competing. Maybe your people felt your chorus is too small or not good enough. A little different perspective and one word may provide good reason to attend. The word is **Lifeblood!** To be more specific:

- \* There are lots of opportunities to sing throughout the weekend other than on the contest stage.

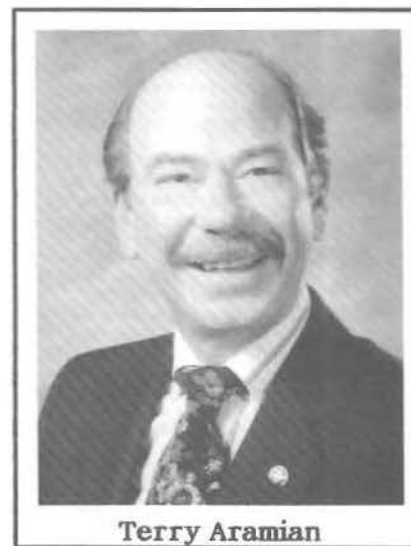
- \* Or-- The Joe Barbershopper Chorus has a spot just for you.

- \* You will certainly enjoy great chorus and quartet performances as an audience member.

- \* And remember; Success on stage may be measured many ways including improvement over previous contests or simply how much fun you have. Certainly, all who sing are winners. There are no losers at a Pioneer District Convention.

Mr. Terry Aramian, International Society President in 1992, will represent the international at our convention this month. A 31 year member, Aramian has sang in several quartets and has served in each chapter office except secretary.

He was president of the Far Western District in 1986 and 1987. First elected to the international board of directors in 1988, he has also served as international V. P. and treasurer of the Society.



Terry Aramian

### *Convention Update*

by Mike Cirritto, Director of Convention Planning

Friday evening parking at the Waverly High School contest site will be at a premium due to a home football game. We will offer a Friday only Trolley Sticker for a \$1 round trip between the Sheraton Hotel and the high school. Trolley stickers may only be purchased at the registration desk. Those not staying at the Sheraton may use any of the 3 Sheraton parking lots. The trolley may be boarded at the front entrance of the hotel.

*Continued on page 3, column 2.*

pioneer  
**TROUBADOUR**

Official Publication of the Pioneer District  
S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A. Inc.

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**HISTORIAN WANTED!**

PLEASE CALL

ROGER LEWIS

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## THE PRESIDENT'S



PIONEER DISTRICT PRESIDENT  
ROGER LEWIS

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The convention will be here before we know it, and from all of the rumors we hear, it will be a great one. Watch for a number of new quartets with old and new faces (I use the term "old" as being known in the district, not as age, Wally). It promises to keep you filled

with excitement and suspense right up to the very last note!

Speaking of "old", there will be a Seniors Quartet Contest and the winner will represent us in Sarasota at the Midwinter Convention in January. Last year Pioneer's *Vocal Gentry* senior quartet earned a very respectable 5th place in Corpus Christi.

The Chorus Contest!! We'll choose our representative to the International Convention in Pittsburgh next July. Certainly we all have our favorites and it's guaranteed to be great!!

It is extremely important that every chapter be represented at the House of Delegates meeting at 2:00 PM on Friday. Due primarily to the high costs of Calgary, the district finances require some adjustments for 1994. The district board met in August to get a head start on the new budget. We need your support.

Sue and I had the opportunity to attend the Buckeye Invitational this year. What a weekend! We were very well represented by the *Holland Windmill Chorus*, *Gratiot County Midstatesmen Chorus*, *The Blue Ribbon Coalition*, and the *Gibson Family Quartet* even had the opportunity to serve as mike testers.

Quartets and choruses each presented up to 12 minute entertainment packages, complete with MC's, an act, or whatever they wanted. Then two of their songs were judged by regular society judges while the entire package was judged by the audience "entertainment" judges. What creativity!! What great shows!!

In addition, *Keepsake*, *The Interstate Rivals*, and *Swing Street* (Sweet Adeline Int. Champs) were all there as guest performers. You'd be well advised to put it on your barbershop calendar (August 12-14) for next year. We are!

Now is the time your chapter nominating committee ought to be selecting your slate of officers for next year. Make sure they attend COTS this year at a new facility on Gull Lake. See COTS article this issue, by John Gillespie.

Convention Update - continued from page 1.

A weekend, all event trolley sticker will yet be available for \$2. Friday only stickers will not be honored on Saturday. Again, neither the hotel nor trolley conductor sells stickers. They may only be purchased at the convention registration desk.

For ladies only! Pioneer Districts first ever breakfast and fashion show will be Saturday, 9 to 10 AM in a hotel ballroom, to be announced. Tickets are \$5.00 and may be purchased at the registration desk or at the door. The Lansing Mall is sponsoring this event.

Hospitality/Afterglow room available. The Chord room, off the lobby of the Sheraton Hotel, which also serves as the ladies hospitality room, will be available after 5 PM to any interested chapter(s). For details contact Robin Goodenough or Andi Miller at the hotel, phone (517) 323-7100. Be sure to identify yourself as a barbershopper.

The Senior Quartet Contest will be held at the Sheraton on Saturday afternoon following the chorus contest. To avoid conflict with this popular event, there will be no Lansing Mall Show. For those wishing to shop or dine however, there will be trolley service between the Sheraton and the mall from approximately 4 to 7 PM.

A mass sing is tentatively planned prior to or immediately following the Senior Quartet Contest, in the atrium (lobby) of the Sheraton. We will gather to sing from all five levels of the atrium and the sight and sound should be awesome.

The Joe Barbershopper Chorus, under the direction of John Noteworthy of the Flint Chapter, plans to open the chorus competition at noon on Saturday. If you are not otherwise competing you will enjoy singing with this group.

Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" will be performed at the convention. The City Lights Chorus, directed by the departing Bob Whitledge, will present this for the first time in our district. It was a great hit at Calgary! Don't miss it!

Concessions. Once again the Waverly Band Boosters will operate the concessions at the contest site, as a fund raiser. Various improvements will be implemented as a result of last springs experience. Barbershoppers helped the boosters raise \$1,000 in the spring and the boosters make it possible for us to use the High School Auditorium rent free!

Attention late arrivals/registrants! Please note that the registration desk at the Sheraton will close at 8 PM and will be moved to the high school auditorium box office.

Wanted - Site bids for District Convention, Spring '96 - Fall '98. Bids due at COTS December 4th or mail to Mike Cirritto. Minimum requirements: 300-350 hotel rooms and 1200-1500 auditorium seating!

**THE EXECUTIVE PITCH**

by our Executive V.P.  
RUSSELL SEELY

**Here's the Pitch!**

I guess one of the fantasies I had when I first heard of Lifeblood, you know, each man, in his own way, etc; was that maybe we could actually convene and just maybe a score sheet would *not* be the principle focus of a district convention. It triggered memories of a time when we all seemed to "pull" for each and every quartet that performed at our convention. Probably because we were more interested in preserving our craft, our style, our music and more important, our heritage.

I looked forward to conventions primarily for the opportunity to rub elbows and maybe woodshed a tune or two with some fabulous guys that made us a great district. I was fortunate enough to have greats like Mark Roberts and Benny Landino in my own chapter. But where else could I go to renew friendships with Loton Wilson from way up north, touting his Bush League get together, admire the enormous smile and class of Eddie Gaikema, or sing one of John Hill's way out arrangements until sunrise. How 'bout the envy of all basses listening to Wally Joure singing an octave under everyone else and Louie Sequin dang near matching him?

Or even being chastised by the imposing Howard Tubbs for singing non-barbershop songs. That was OK too. These great guys weren't out to beat some other quartet or chorus. Don't you get just a little annoyed when some looney tune tells you "his" chorus "beat" this group or that?

How sad! Let's hope we haven't reverted to a philosophy that there is only one winner. Don't you agree we need a little more pulling for each other rather than in opposition? When the purpose of our conventions/contests becomes that of "beating" other quartets or choruses, we may very well be distancing ourselves from our primary encouragement - from our fellow

barbershoppers!!

The boss, Rog' Lewis and I will have attended the Central States District Convention by the time you read this. They were selected as the first district to implement the concepts of Lifeblood. We'll take heed of what they are doing and report to you at convention. We may be next in line to experiment with some new twists, but I have a hunch that a lot of the concepts will be developed on a basis of what best suits each district.

May we recommend that all chapters hold their annual election of officers by convention time? We would like to urge each chapter to elect their president for a two year term. Beginning in '94, COTS will alternate, utilizing a district faculty on the even year and the international faculty on odd years.

See you in Lansing at our fall convention where we can all *Preserve and Encourage* our heritage.

**WANTED**

**District Historian**

**Call or write Roger Lewis**

**ALSO WANTED**

**Site Bids for District Convention  
Spring 1996 - Fall 1998**

**Minimum Requirements:**

**300-350 Hotel Rooms**

**1200-1500 Auditorium Seating**

**Due at COTS December 4th/5th  
or Mail to Mike Cirritto**



*President Wayne Brozovich of the Sunshine District compared the close scores between Tampa's Heralds of Harmony chorus and Pioneer's City Lights chorus, in the compilation by Jim Styer in the April/May Troubadour.*

*At right - President Brozovich (left) and President Roger Lewis share a toast at Calgary.*



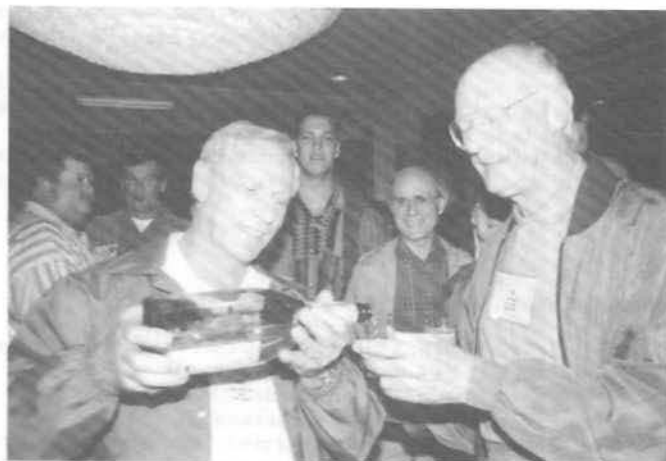
*Wayne wrote to Pioneer President Roger Lewis with a challenge. He offered to wager a case of champagne the Heralds of Harmony would out-score City Lights in Calgary. Roger accepted and proclaimed, "The North will again prevail!!!"*

*At Left - Joe Derosa, Director of Heralds of Harmony, pours for Bob Whitley, the victorious Director of City Lights.*



*City Lights ranked 17th at Calgary, while the Heralds of Harmony scored number 18. "Both choruses sang much better than their finishes might indicate," Roger said. "City Lights certainly gave their best performance ever, on stage in Calgary," he wrote in the August/September Troub.*

*At Right - Smiling Ed Conn, (right) President of the Motor City Metro Chapter, Home of the City Lights Chorus, accepts his pay-off from Earl Newton, President of the Heralds of Harmony.*



**Ed notes** — Beginning with our first issues of the *Troub* last February, we used Roman 10 point type (as on this page) for nearly all copy. (An exception is the legal notices such as the minutes of Board and Delegate meetings. Those are set in Roman 8 point.) We felt and still believe the ten point one of the most legible type sizes and styles in use. But it does use a lot of room on a page.

Some of the issues since have grown almost unwieldy in size in reference to the number of pages. Accordingly, beginning with the August /September issue, we began using

Sans Serif 20 cpi type for the "Chapters in Action" section. That type size uses about one-third less space on a page and we felt the change worthwhile.

However, we are interested in knowing how you feel about that change. Do you find the Sans Serif legible?

Thus far we have received some nice compliments about the *Troub* in general, some very helpful and well thought out critique as well as rebuke when we have erred.

If you have any thoughts on style or content, we would like to hear from you too!

Pioneer District  
S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.  
Summary of Minutes  
April 23, 1993 Meetings

Board Actions:

Moved, seconded and carried that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as presented.

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

Moved, seconded and carried that we accumulate a disaster reserve consisting of a three year average of one years expenses over the next three years.

Moved, seconded and carried that the Coldwater Chapter have until 1993 COTS to attain the minimum size for a chapter or otherwise relinquish their charter.

Moved, seconded and carried that up to \$1,500.00 of district golf shirts be purchased for resale.

Moved, seconded and carried that we establish a revolving petty cash fund of \$100.00 for the Troubadour Editor.

Moved, seconded and carried that we reduce our district dues for the period April 15 - May 15, 1993, for new members.

Moved, seconded and carried that the Chairmen of the Boards quartet be allowed to compete in our contest for score only, in order to qualify for the Calgary Convention.

A motion was made and tabled to accept the name change of the Swan Valley Chapter to the Saginaw Valley Chapter.

House of Delegates Actions:

Moved, seconded and carried that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as presented.

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

Moved, seconded and carried that we reduce our district dues to \$5.00 for the period April 15 - May 15, 1993, for new members.

Moved, seconded and carried that we purchase up to \$1500.00 of district golf shirts for resale at a profit.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jack Schneider, District Secretary

Notice of House of Delegates Meeting

Notice is hereby given of the Pioneer District House of Delegates Meeting to be held as follows:

Friday, October 15, 2 P.M.  
Reo Theater, Sheraton Hotel,  
Lansing, Michigan, in conjunction  
with the District Convention.

This notice is given as provided by Article 7.03 of the Pioneer District by-laws. All district meetings are open to all district members.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jack Schneider, District Secretary

Notice of Board of Directors Meeting

Notice is hereby give of the Pioneer District Board of Directors meeting to be held as follows:

December 4, 1993, 9:00 AM,  
Kellog Center, Gull Lake, Michigan  
in conjunction with the  
Chapter Officer Training School

This notice is given as required by Article 7.03 of the Pioneer District By Laws. All District Board of Directors meetings are open to all district members.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jack Schneider, Secretary

## Mike Slamka directing *City Lights* - Bob Whitledge leaving district!!!

From the *City Lights Lantern* -

### Who is this guy Anyway?

by Mike Slupinski

Michael T. Slamka... I guess the real question should be, who doesn't know this guy? If you have been in barbershopping very long, chances are pretty good that you know about Mike. He started singing at the age of two or three up in Harrisville, and has the pictures to prove it. He wrote his first tag when he was 12. That was about 10 years ago and you still hear people sing it at Harrisville.

For those who may not know, Mike sings lead with the quartet *Power Play*. Formed in 1989, the quartet with Mike, his brother Mark, his Father Jack and cousin Donny have been to four international competitions. Not too bad for a couple of punk kids and an old man. If that hasn't impressed you, two years ago when Mike was about 20, he was asked if he would like to start the process of becoming a certified judge in stage Presence.

The thing I really notice is what really shapes Mike now is his wife, Traci, and daughter, Michaela. They have added a new dimension to his life that shows in his talent. Maybe Traci is the smart one and she's feeding him all those great and innovative ideas. We will probably never know. Welcome to your new home, Mike.

---

### To the Barbershoppers of the Pioneer District,

We wish to thank all the people who supported "G.Q." in the efforts to raise money for the trip to Calgary. We all had a great time and made some memories that will last a lifetime. We sincerely thank you, for without the support of the chapters, quartets and individuals in this district, none of this would have been possible.

Thanks again and we hope to see you all in Lansing.

In Harmony,  
G. Q.

1993 Pioneer District  
College Quartet Champions

---

### Bob and Sally Whitledge moving in October

"We are seeking warmer weather", Bob Whitledge advised in reference to moving to Burlington, Kentucky. "But it's only about a four hour drive", he said. "We expect to be back in Pioneer for each convention."

Bob founded the Motor City Metro Chapter when, as he reported, "I called a dozen guys a couple of years ago. I called some guys who had dropped out of barbershopping... that was in March of '91. My goal was to get people back into barbershopping," he said. He denied the *City Lights Chorus* pirated members from other choruses or chapters. "But we do have several dual members", he offered.

The International Gold Medalist to be, first joined the Detroit No. 1 Chapter in 1958. "They had a new director," he explained, "who was outstanding in music, but needed help with the barbershop style. So a member of my first wife's Sweet Adeline Chapter went to their meetings to play the piano for them and I rode along with her."

Bob moved to Monroe, Michigan in 1966. He became a dual member of the Monroe Chapter and directed their *Floral City Chorus*.

"Bob Whitledge, the tall, happy, loquacious bass is a 13 year member of the Society", it was reported in a 1971 edition of the *Harmonizer*, in an article by Marshall Wells of the Monroe Chapter. Marshall was reporting the "Backstage" activities of the 1971 international champion quartet, the *Gentlemen's Agreement*.

Bob sang with Glenn Van Tassel, bari; Drayton Justus, lead and Al Rehkop, tenor, in the quartet. Bari Van Tassel and tenor Rehkop also sang in the international champion *Auto Towners* quartet, in 1966.

The interesting *Harmonizer* article goes on to report, "Just one week after being crowned the Society's international champions, the *Gentlemen's Agreement*" accepted an invitation to entertain on a 17-day USO tour of South Vietnam bases and hospitals."

Wells also wrote, "I personally have never known four men whose abilities, temperaments and goals are so similar. Nor have I ever been acquainted with barbershoppers with such understanding families."

Bob said he will remain an active barbershopper and verbally listed a number of chapters near his new Kentucky home. He is not certain if he will again accept a chorus directors role. Bob's chapter honored him with a send-off dinner and show on September 17.

## Convention will host sixth annual Seniors Quartet Contest

by William Wickstrom

The Seniors Quartet Contest will be held in the Royale Ballroom of the Sheraton Hotel, Saturday, October 16, at 4:00 PM. The official entry form for competitors is on this page and we urge those interested to file early.

### PURPOSE:

The purpose of the contest is to provide an on stage quartet opportunity for the older segment of our membership who wish to sing for the convention audience but do not wish to compete in the district quartet contest.

### PHILOSOPHY:

Though the best qualified judges available will score the performances, the emphasis is on participation and encouragement as opposed to competition.

### ELIGIBILITY:

Singers must be dues-paid members of the Pioneer District and the International SPEBSQSA, but the quartet need not be registered with the Society. Each man must be minimally 55 years of age on the date of the contest and the totaled age of the members of the quartet must be at least 240 years. No more than two members of a competing quartet may have been members of a previous, particular championship quartet.

### PERFORMANCE:

Each quartet will sing two songs according to the official Society quartet contest rules. (No talking, no religious or patriotic songs, etc.) Uniforms are optional and will not be judged. Official scoring summaries will be published but there will be no A & R sessions. The members of the winning quartet will be presented with appropriate trophies as a memento of their accomplishment.

## OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

### SIXTH ANNUAL PIONEER DISTRICT SENIORS QUARTET CONTEST

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1993, 4:00 PM - ROYALE BALLROOM, SHERATON HOTEL, LANSING

We attest the following men are paid-up members of the Pioneer District and the International S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. Inc., and are eligible to sing in this contest. The quartet is not required to be registered with the International Society.

NAME OF QUARTET: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME TELEPHONE: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

NAME

CHAPTER

BIRTH DATE

AGE ON 10/16/93

TENOR \_\_\_\_\_

LEAD \_\_\_\_\_

BARI \_\_\_\_\_

BASS \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL QUARTET YEARS \_\_\_\_\_

Submit this form as soon as possible, but not later than October 13, to John Bauer, 6700 Black Bass Bay Road, Alpena, MI 49707. **Note:** Late entries will be accepted until 9:00 AM on October 16, 1993, at the convention registration desk at the Sheraton Hotel.



## Kirk Wood new Cereal City Chorus Director

By Jim Styer, Battle Creek PRO and BE

After a nine-month search, the Cereal City Chorus has a new director.

He's Kirk Wood, 33, baritone in Classic Ring, which competed internationally three times after becoming Illinois District champion.

Wood recently moved to Kalamazoo from South Bend, Ind., where he was assistant chorus director and a coach in song interpretation and staging for the Valleyaires Chorus, which placed third in state competition. He previously was with various chapters in Illinois, including two top international chorus competitors from the Chicago area, Northbrook and Westowns.

He said he'd like to see more Battle Creek men on stage next year, but not necessarily 100. "I like small groups; I'm never gonna' be in another large group.

His goals in Battle Creek are more and better singing, learning 12 new songs a year, more quartetting, more family activities and "even more fun. We want to become one of the most entertaining choruses in the district. We want to be loose on stage . . . wild and loose."

"I'd like to keep doing parodies," he said, recalling the Cereal City Chorus' "No One's Perfect" package in spring competition, which scored third in stage presence.

Wood has access to several barbershop parodies. He said his home chapter of Champaign-Urbana, Ill., did a doctors' routine before it was used on the international stage by Chordiac Arrest.

He'd like to see some friendly rivalries — maybe the Kalamazoo chapter in softball, or taking on Grosse Pointe to see who can do the most entertaining package on stage.

After his first few rehearsals with the chorus, Wood said: "You guys have got some talent there. I like what I heard."

Wood, who studied voice at the University of Illinois, said, "I learned a lot of technique I hope I can pass on."

Wood succeeds former director Dorn Burrill, who said, "He seems to have a good feel for music and is very personable."

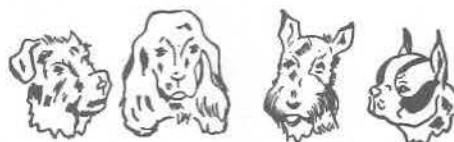
"While he's teaching a new song," said Ben Jerzyk, chapter music vice president, "he's also teaching the craft of how to sing better. He's stimulating and challenging. It might be fun surprising a few people by how well we do come next spring's competition."

Added Roger Lewis, chapter board member: "He wants to have us sing musically and sing emotionally. His plan is that we do that with a song from the minute we first lay our eyes on it. Barbershop is sung from the heart, with good quality and good ringing chords. He enjoys doing it and that comes across, and we

enjoy it, too."

Wood also is experienced in barbershop chapter administration, having held virtually all chapter officers during his 13 years with the organization.

He is a pipefitter and plumber with Allied Mechanical in Kalamazoo. He and his wife, Sandy, have two daughters.



### THE HARMONY HOUNDS

Pedigree: Barbershoppers

CONTACT: ROGER LEWIS

Bus. (616) 979-4343 — Res. (616) 965-5714



Contact: Dave Anderson (313) 286-4860



## Accolade

1993 REGION 2 QUARTET CHAMPIONS  
SWEET ADELINES INTERNATIONAL

Tenor - Jeanne Lundberg  
Lead - Susan Gleason

Bari - Dodie LaMarte  
Bass - Lynne Erskine

Contact:  
Jeanne Lundberg  
11937 Glenview Drive  
Plymouth, Michigan 48170  
(313) 459-5638

## take note

by Fred Kienitz,  
District Director of Music Education

Kudos to my DME staff. They have met every challenge and have filled every request from chapters, quartets, choruses and



Fred Kienitz

individual members. Yet, we still have time. If you have need of assistance in coaching, membership retreats, guest chorus directors, show review reports, chapter meeting activities or whatever, give us a call. We're listed on page 2 of the *Troub.*

I attended my second Harmony College in August, where Pioneer had 27 representatives, including 3 quartets. I highly recommend attendance, but if you plan to vacation, this is not for you! The day starts at 7:00 AM and finishes by 10:00 PM every night.

I attended a forum of all the DMEs within the international at Harmony College. I learned that 5 of our 16 districts have an active Chorus Directors Guild. Their purpose is to upgrade the music of the individual choruses and assist chapters in need of musical leadership. They help to find directors for choruses and provide leadership until a director is in place. I will be contacting chapters within our district in an effort to establish such a guild. I sincerely hope you will give the proposal serious consideration when contacted.

We hope to see all of you at the fall convention. If you are not competing, you may sing with the Joe Barbershop Chorus under the direction of John Noteware. We would like 150 members in this chorus. Bring your "Just Plain Barbershop" book and be prepared to attend a 10:00 AM rehearsal. Like the competing choruses, the Joe Barbershop Chorus will have pictures taken before the performance. If you wish to purchase a photo, they are \$10.00. Someone will be designated to take your order and money.

A final thought: When I first joined a barbershop chapter, I found an established program which allowed me to enjoy barbershopping to its fullest. Someone had performed all of the preliminary work of organization, planning, and all of the details to

(continued - see Take Note, next column)

## Four new category judges in Pioneer, Three in Grand Rapids

Mel Knight, International Director of Music Education, attended the corn roast sponsored by the Grand Rapids Chapter, August 10. He was there to pay tribute to 3 new category judges, members of that chapter.

Bruce Evans is certified in Music, Joel Mills, Singing and Mike O'Donnell, Presentation. Mel said three judges from one chapter is quite unique, but that there are others in the society. Dr. David Gillingham of the Gratiot County Chapter and a member of the *Full Chord Press* quartet, the fourth Pioneer Judge, is certified in the Music category.

Mel wrote in follow-up, " 'Twas a long haul, believe me!", in reference to the exhaustive preparation of the newly qualified judges. He advised, "All certified judges will have to return to school every two years for re-certification. New candidates will be required to attend Harmony College next year to qualify to attend the Category School in 1995", he added.

"Each category has 35-40 judges, which were selected from applications by nearly twice that many. In the new Presentation category, judges from the old Stage Presence and Interpretation categories numbered well over 100... so many former judges had to be left out," Mel concluded.

### Take Note - from Column one

make a chapter function. But I did not then, give that a thought. I never considered the time and effort expended by "them" to take care of all the details and make me a happy and fulfilled new barbershopper.

Which leads to the question of what we are doing to ensure an established program for today's new members? I challenge you, brother in song, to be part of putting things in place for our future generations.

This is a piece of history we are preserving and I guarantee your efforts will not go unrewarded. You may even renew the old zest and drive you experienced way back when we were just barbershop kids.

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## Chapter Officer Training School, (COTS) moving to Gull Lake site

by John T. Gillespie  
Pioneer District COTS Coordinator

Pioneer's 1993 COTS will be held in the Education Center of the Michigan State University's W. K. Kellogg Biological Station, on beautiful Gull Lake, on December 4 and 5. It is located about half-way between Kalamazoo and Battle Creek, (see map below). Dormitory rooms will be provided.

This will be the last International COTS for Pioneer until 1995. The 1994 school will be district sponsored.

Our international office has provided an excellent faculty for the weekend, all veteran COTS instructors:

Dean	Patrick Tucker-Kelly
President	Bob Swenson
Membership	VP Dave Dicken
Program VP	Burt Huish
Music VP	Bob Coant
Secretary	Jim Eldridge
Treasurer	Clyde Tabor
Public Relations	Terry Jordan

The school will kick-off at 11:00 am on Saturday, December 4 and conclude Sunday, December 5 approximately at noon.

Registration packages will be mailed. Chapter Secretaries are requested to respond promptly. Let's send as many new and veteran officers to COTS as we can. COTS training will go a long way toward assisting your chapter to have a more successful 1994.

## Thirty-Four Pioneer's attend soggy Harmony College

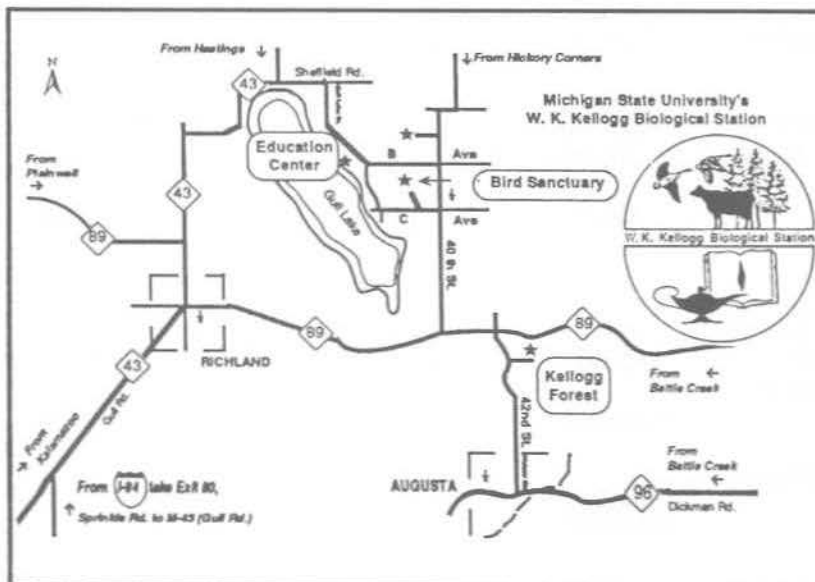
by Larry Parker

The great flood of 1993 had a gigantic impact on the August 1-8 edition of Harmony College. Missouri Western State College, home of the annual harmony school, lost it's fresh water system to the flood. After we moved some 40 miles to an alternate site, the water supply was restored and we moved back, a big job, but without major problems.

Although total registration was down by about 100, thirty-four Pioneer's from twelve chapters were in attendance. They were; Dave Mohr, St. Joe/Benton Harbor; Paul Bergman, Earl Berry, Bill Essman, David Moyer, Nick Pastor, Fred Peedle, Austin Quinn, Don Stewart, Tom Uicker and Daryl Wiley, Detroit-Oakland; Fred Kienitz, Flint; Fritz Juhnke, Grand Rapids; Dr. David Gillingham, Gratiot County; Herm Dykema, Gene Hanover, Kalamazoo; Jamie Carey, Simeon Esper, Bob Fox, Larry Parker, Scott Whipple, Lansing; Dave Anderson, Tom Conner, Dennis Phelan, Jim Ryan, McComb County; Daryl Wiley, Milford; Al Fisk, Rochester; Wayne Campbell, Dean Fischer, Ken Forbeck, Quentin Huebner, Dick Marzolf, Pete Nelson, and Howard Seaver, Traverse City. From Motor City Metro and now a Hawaiian Chapter, our long time friend and "Ivy League-r", Scott Turnbull.

Our district also had the largest contingent of quartets (3), at this years school. They were *Full Chord Press*, from Lansing and Gratiot County, *Signature* from McComb County and *Forever Yours* from Traverse City and Grand Rapids.

This years theme was "RADIO DAYS" with the Saturday Night Live cast putting on a hilarious show about the golden days of radio.



If you haven't yet experienced the knowledge available or fun to be had at Harmony College, mark your calendar and plan to attend July 31 through August 7, 1994. You'll have the time of your life and be a more knowledgeable barbershopper.



**Attention all Troubadour contributors:*****15th of month deadline prior to publication month, mandatory and necessary!***

Some contributing members still believe our deadline for copy is flexible. It is not! We do not enjoy that luxury. To get this issue to you around the first of the month it will be necessary to send it to the printer on the 16th! And that means an all night stint at the computer keyboard for me.

One who phoned felt I ought to be able to have a couple of weeks of grace or leeway until around October 1, for this issue. But if this vital convention issue went to the printer on October 1, you would not receive it at your home until after the convention!!

And it wouldn't have much value then, would it?

The printing and preparation for mailing time period varies somewhat and the time in the mail varies a great deal.

As we've been best able to record, there is minimal two week plus and sometimes considerably longer period from the time the pages are sent to the printer and the printed, finished *Troub* is received at my home. And according to reports, many receive their *Troub* after I receive mine.

We firmly believe timely delivery is critical. Now that you completely understand the schedule and the reason for the deadline, we think you will agree!

Anyway, copy that arrives a day late, after the issue has been mailed to the printer, cannot be published.



**Heartspring Summary**  
by Alex Willox, Chairman  
Pioneer District Heartspring

September 2, 1993

CHAPTER	AMOUNT	MBRS	PER CAP	AWARD
ALPENA	\$850.00	34	\$25.00	SILVER
BATTLE CREEK				
BEN.HARBOR-ST.JOE	323.00	29	11.14	BRONZE
BOYNE CITY	517.00	28	18.46	BRONZE
CADILLAC				
COLDWATER				
DETROIT-OAKLAND	2,175.00	84	25.89	SILVER
FLINT				
GRAND RAPIDS	812.00	89	09.12	
GRATIOT COUNTY				
GROSSE POINT				
HOLLAND				
HURON VALLEY	413.00	44	09.39	
JACKSON	580.00	33	17.58	BRONZE
KALAMAZOO	252.00	53	4.75	
LANSING	1,388.00	70	19.84	BRONZE
MACOMB COUNTY	24.00	68	00.35	
MILFORD				
MONROE				
MONROE NORTH	228.00	35	6.51	
MOTOR CITY METRO	50.00	90	.56	
MUSKEGON		18		
PONTIAC	350.00	23	15.22	BRONZE
PORT HURON				
ROCHESTER				
SAGINAW BAY				
SAULT STE. MARIE				
SWAN VALLEY	453.65	19	23.88	BRONZE
TRAVERSE CITY				
WAYNE	1,384.00	56	24.71	BRONZE
WINDSOR				
PIONEER DISTRICT				
TOTAL	9,805.18			



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Seniors 60 yrs &amp; over \$5.00 # of seats \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5.00

All other adults \$7.00 # of seats \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$7.00

EVENING - 8:00 P.M.

All seats \$10.00 # of seats \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10.00

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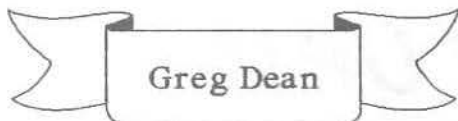




## PIONEER CHAPTERS IN ACTION



### A TROUBADOUR SALUTE TO



His was the first chapter copy received for this edition. *Early copy helps, a lot!* Greg writes for the Kalamazoo Chapter. Thanks too, to all contributors. There could be no *TROUB* without you! The next copy, photo, and advertising deadline is November 15!

### *Kalamazoo had busy summer*

by Greg Dean, Public Relations Officer

This has been a busy summer for the Mall City Chorus. With about a half dozen sing-outs and learning new music for the fall contest, we've been ringing a lot of great chords! A handful of our members represented the Kalamazoo Chapter at both the International Convention in Calgary and at Harmony College. We should have a good number of singers at Lansing - not to mention the cheering section. I think I can speak for the entire chapter to say we are really looking forward to the fall convention and contest.

But the summer was not all good notes. Fellow Barbershopper Steve Minarik passed away earlier this year. Steve was an active, dedicated member for a number of years.

We have a number of activities for the fall/winter season, the biggest single endeavor is preparing for our show in March. The theme will be "Barbershop Down on the Farm" and it promises to be a real "barn burner". (Ed note - groan) We are also looking at a different approach to our Christmas show... more on that later.

Exceptional efforts by our ladies auxiliary have been a big help this year. Their successful garage sale raised money for chapter functions. All the items sold were donated by chapter members and other good hearted fans.

We were honored to be invited to the Grand Rapids Corn Roast in August.

(Ed note - The following was received in July after the August/September issue had already gone to press. We believe the article is yet of interest.)

### **Monroe North Chapter growing**

by Dale Cousino, Program V. P.

Every Tuesday evening the members of the Floral City Harmonizers meet with enthusiasm to practice our repertoire and improve our skill at singing barbershop. All of us have come to enjoy Hugo

DeWinter, our Director. Our chorus has become more aware of proper techniques of singing under his direction. Also, his sense of humor is absolutely great!

"Watch your vowels", and "Don't be stomping through the tulips", are Hugo's quotes we each know and understand well. Hats off to Hugo!! Our chorus really appreciates your efforts.

We are well on our way to reaching our goal of about fifty members this year. Our chorus welcomes three new members; Jack Flood, Bob Gerson and Jim Sheets. We hope they find many years of singing and fellowship. Also, welcome back to Sam, Jerry and Larry, three experienced and talented singers.

This year, between members and guest, we had over 50 people in attendance at Tiger Day. Baseball and barbershop is a natural duo.

Since last report, our quartet, *The Chordial Four* has had many sing outs and performances. They most recently sang for the wedding of a young couple in a lovely garden setting. They sang before the ceremony, while the wedding party came down the aisle, during the ceremony and for the reception. The quartet was also invited to tape a 30 minute show for the Monroe Cable Vision Station entitled "Notes from Far and Near." The show has been frequently aired.

*The Deck of Chords* quartet is anxiously awaiting the return of baritone Dick Ender who has been working out of town for most of the year.

### *Holland Windmill Chorus "Learned a lot at Buckeye"*

by Art Lane

The chorus placed a disappointing seventh.. and deserved it.. at the Buckeye Invitational August 21 in Columbus, Ohio.

But despite the uncharacteristic showing, the chorus members learned a lot about the future of barbershop competition and heard good music from some of the best in the Society.

The competitions were judged under the new categories, which took effect after the international competition in Calgary. And the Buckeye is distinguished from other contests by having a panel of 100 volunteers from the audience who judge the entertainment value of the performance. Each competing chorus and quartet has 11 minutes on stage.

Like the top choruses, many of the quartets used their time to tell a story with song, comedy and as the judges said, "frequent believability."

Two of our chorus members did a lot of preparation for the Invitational. Al Plantegna oversaw the construction of 45 quick release Dutch costumes at his sewing shop in Spring Lake. And Jim Wojahn built a seven-foot, portable and collapsible Dutch windmill for the *Windmill Chorus* that had been without a windmill. His model runs on applause.

About 100 dined on the chili and roast pig prepared by Don Lucas for the Eight Annual Chester P. Oonk Memorial Tag Contest this summer. Eleven quartets took crack at "I Love You Just the Same, Sweet

Adeline." Each quartet also sang a tag of it's choice.

Hats off to a new Holland Chapter quartet, which first performed at the tag contest and had it's very first job the next day at a church in Hamilton. *More Bills Than Money* is: Bill McAndrew, Bill Mousel, Dale Van Langevald and Tim Shinsky.

Baritone Bruce Ming is a champion-- in the Senior Olympics. Bruce ran the torch into Holland Municipal Stadium to open the Michigan Senior Olympics and then won seven medals; a gold, four silver and two bronze, while running in the 60-64 age group. That makes 14 medals in two years of competition.

Attending the International Convention from Holland were Paul Becker, Dale Van Langevald, Carl Bos, Bill McAndrew, Bob Kruse and Chuck Wilson.

### ***Battle Creek Chapter supports youth musical effort***

by Jim Styer, PRO & BE

The Battle Creek chapter traveled in spirit to Japan with the Battle Creek Boychoir.

The chapter donated \$200 to help the Boychoir cover the

cost of a week-long trip in August to Takasaki, Japan, as part of an ongoing cultural exchange with Battle Creek's sister city. The \$200 is nearly 10 percent of the amount the Boychoir needed to raise at the last minute because of devaluation of the dollar against the Japanese yen.

"The Boychoir sings classical music and we sing traditional American songs. But we both help preserve and encourage the joy of a capella music as a hobby and avocation," said Jack Eagles, Battle Creek chapter president. "We're pleased to have the chance to help support one of our fellow vocal music groups," he said.

Both are affiliated with the 100-member local United Arts Council.

In a thank-you note, Marjorie H. Weil, Boychoir business manager, wrote in part: "We will be so proud and pleased to represent just one of Battle Creek's many cultural assets to our sister city overseas. And we are truly appreciative to all the barbershoppers for making it possible for these young men to do just that."

The chapter will offer the Boychoir an opportunity to sing on its annual show next spring. The show will have a youth theme and will feature Power Play, the Pioneer District's youthful international competitor.

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2296 Pillon Road  
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**Next Copy Deadline - Nov. 15.**



**Everything's  
Coming Up  
Barbershop**

#### 1993

Oct. 1-2 Grand Rapids Show  
Oct. 2 Gratiot County Show  
Oct. 15-17 District Con.

#### Lansing

Oct. 23 Benton Harbor-St.  
Joseph Show  
Nov. 6 Rochester Show  
Dec. 4 Motor City Metro Show  
Dec. 4-5 COTS, Gull Lake Mich.

#### 1994

Feb. 18-19 Detroit-Oakland  
Show  
Mar. 4-5 Wayne Show  
Mar. 5 Lansing Show  
Mar. 12 Monroe North Show  
Mar. 19 Kalamazoo Show  
Mar. 26 Macomb County Show  
Apr. 9 Muskegon Show  
May 20-22 Harmony Round Up  
June 10 Windsor Send-Off  
Sep. 30-Oct. 1 Grand Rapids  
Show

**NOTE:** All chapter show activities  
must be cleared through the District  
Secretary and ASCAP, BMI and  
Canadian Chapter CAPAC fees paid.  
Only those thus cleared will be listed  
herein. **PLEASE NOTIFY:**

Jack Schneider, District Secretary  
1311 Northlawn, N.E.  
Grand Rapids, MI 49505  
(616) R 361-6820 B 771-5225



**Thirty-Four Pioneer's from Twelve Chapters  
at Harmony College, 1993.**

*See Article and identification on page 11.*