



pioneer TROUBADOUR



Official Publication of the Pioneer District,
SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF
BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA, INC.

VOLUME 47 - NUMBER 2



APRIL/MAY, 1966

New Pioneer chapter Gaylord licensed



The Pioneer District gained a chapter and 21 new members as President Larry Parker presented their SPEBSQSA license to Gaylord Chapter members in Traverse City, February 13. Pictured l to r: Dennis McNamara, Larry Cruze, Hank Hedges, Ken McAlpine, President Parker, Dick Beachnau, Pete Detrant and Joe Forest. *Photo by Bud Palin.*

Hank Hedges, director of the chapter's **Harmonie Meisters Chorus**, related the Gaylord men went to visit Traverse City Chapter for an evening of harmony and fellowship, and "The evening was enhanced by Larry Parker's surprise presentation." Hedges reports; "Last week we signed our 22nd member and have 12 more singing and considering joining." He said the chorus, named to fit the Alpine motif of the area, has sang seven performances since they began in October of 1995, and are "preparing for a feature appearance in Gaylord's famed 'Alpinefest', in early summer."

Hedges said the formation of the chapter was selfishness on his part. "I wanted to sing barbershop again, and didn't want to travel over an hour to do it." He was told the males in the community would

not support a barbershop group. "That was all that had to be said," he stated. "Gaylord Community Productions was doing 'Music Man', and I got the job to develop the quartet. After six weeks hard work, four great guys who never sang barbershop harmony before were the hit of the show. The iron was hot!"

"The editor of our local weekly ran a full page story and I got busy making 40, two color signs on shirt cardboards and hunks of 2x2's and put them in every place in town that would accept them, including ten better men's rooms."

Hedges story continues; "I called the Society and Ev Nau sent me VCR films, invitation cards and other material. I made presentations at two service clubs and buttonholed every male that would listen.

(Continued on page 5)



Pioneer Spring
Convention
April 26-28
LANSING

Hosted by Gratiot
County Chapter

See full schedule of
events on Back Page

Pioneer District
May 17-19, 1996
Harmony Round-Up

See Four Page
Center Insert for
all Details and
Enrollment Forms



Publication authorized by the Pioneer District, S P E B S Q S A, Inc.

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Presidents Position

by President Larry Parker

WELCOME

Gaylord, Michigan, Our new chapter

Let us all welcome Gaylord, our newly licensed chapter in the Pioneer District. These twenty-one new members to our hobby made it official, as on January 26, 1996, their license was



signed by the Society and given to me at the Mid-Winter convention in Jacksonville. It was then my distinct pleasure to present Gaylord with that license at an inter chapter meeting in Traverse City on Tuesday, February 13, 1996. We all wish you good luck and

good fortune.

The Mid-Winter also displayed the talents of many fine senior's quartets. The representative for the Evergreen District, **Fatherly Advice** walked away with the 1996 Senior's Crown. Pioneer District's, **The Very Idea** made a creditable performance and placed 14th. I salute you!

There is no such thing as talking too much or too loudly about "Operation Harold Hill." I want you to know that "OHH" is healthy and well under way in Pioneer. We are one of two Districts, who in January, broke membership recruiting records. Our previous January record was fourteen. The target number of ten new members, set by the Society, and our old recruiting record were both smashed when we signed twenty-nine new members. *Fantastic!* February's all time recruiting record is forty-four. We gained twenty-two members last month and exceeded our target number of nineteen by three members. Those chapters and individual sponsors who made this all happen are to be congratulated. For March, our recruiting record is thirty-one and our target number is eighteen. What do you say, let's go for the GOLD?

The reorganization of our management structure has begun. With all the information coming my way, I may need to buy a bigger mail box. In the weeks and months to come, the chapters will see more and more information come their way. Please call me if you have any questions. Communication is the key to our success.

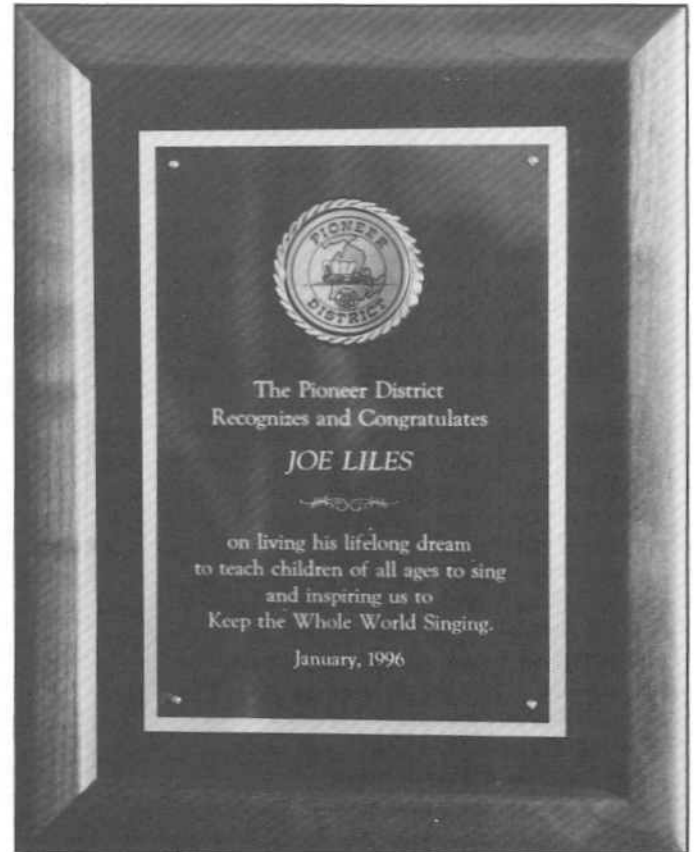


Society Synopsis

by SBM Russell Seely

I'm sure that by now we're all aware that our Executive Director, Joe Liles has retired and has been replaced by a long-time friend and well-known-JohnnyAppleseed'Mr."Everything", Darryl Flinn. Darryl will leave his Ohio home for his harmonious transition to a very challenging Job where he will, ironically, have the responsibility to lead us into the next century. Darryl's input on the Vision 2001 project was major.

Pioneer District was very much in-evidence at a surprise retirement party for Joe Liles held at the mid winter convention in Jacksonville. Along with a hilarious roast by Gary Stamm and Ev Nau, who were applicants for Joe's job, were several touching and memorable presentations by well-wishers of Mr. Liles.



I had the good luck to make Pioneer's presentation of a Ray Starrette original plaque with an inscription that co-incidentally touched on the gist of Joe's keynote, last address to the Society Board. That speech in itself was worth the trip to a very chilly Jacksonville.

A major change in the selection of quartets to the Society contests was passed by the board. Briefly, each district will be guaranteed just *one*
Continued - see Seely, page 4

The Executive Pitch

by David Cole, Executive V.P.

Pioneer pride and Operation Harold Hill

Those Chapters participating in Operation *Harold Hill* should be incredibly proud of the fact that through February the Pioneer District was tied for first in points earned for membership growth attained during those periods.



On a similar theme I have in my possession Certificates of Achievement which I will personally present to the following men at the Spring Convention: Paul Smith, Seth Britton, Martin Chirgwin, Al Fisk, Lamar Fowler, Francis Scott, Elton Vande Zande, and Clyde Whipple. These fine gentlemen were the

second and third place finishers within our Pioneer District in 1995 for membership growth. Wayne Kinde will receive a wonderful plaque from our Society for being the Pioneer Districts top recruiter. Last year the Society gained 2712 new members. Plaques and certificates are being awarded to 94 men across the United States. We should be very proud of those receiving these awards.

More wonderful news: Welcome to all of the 22 new members of the newly licensed Gaylord Chapter. I know that everyone will be giving their support to the newest members of the Pioneer family. Hats off to Hank Hedges of Gaylord who earns 18 Man of Note Awards for his work in establishing this chapter. A final hats off salute to those chapters which have recruited new members in both of the first two months. Those chapters are: Flint, Gaylord, Holland, Kalamazoo, Lansing, and Rochester Hills. It's very important to keep the Operation Harold Hill ball rolling. Thanks!

Attention all wives

At the last convention the Ladies Hospitality Room was relocated to a wonderful suite on the fifth floor. Unfortunately, the word didn't get out very well. Please make a reminder to yourselves to come visit this Hospitality Suite. It's a wonderful way to sit back and relax. You could also have a chance at a door prize.

Change is good - Really

Many wonderful things are happening within our Society. Not the least of which is the new structure of every level of our Society.

Without delving too deeply, please understand that the Transition and Planning Team comprised of myself, Russ Seely, Roger Lewis, Larry Parker and Marv Skupski are hard at work putting all of the newly created pieces together.

It's a wonderful concept which puts the chapter member and his chapter at the top of the list of important people. Everyone else within the bureaucracy of the Society will be devoted to specific tasks which will ultimately make everyone more efficient and more successful.

Keep your eyes and ears open, as we will be sharing more of this information with you in upcoming issues of the *Troubadour*, and at the spring convention in Lansing.

Seely, from page 3

quartet (even that could be voided if 1560 points, based on a double panel are not achieved.) A total of 40 quartets, plus affiliates, will complete the field, meaning that 24 will qualify by a score of 1824 or better, 16 from the districts, plus 24 by highest scores.

The Thursday quartet finals will now be held in two sessions, formerly three. This not only insures a higher quality contest but loosens up the time constrictions on the conventioneer who has had to "live" at the contest sessions on Thursdays.

Major restructuring changes will take place this year which will include your chapter and district. Throughout the year, your chapter will receive data suggesting how to go about the process without disturbing your chapters operation. We think you'll be pleased with the final result.

Although not the result of the "Harold Hill" program, Gaylord looks to be the next community to hang our sign.

If you haven't become involved with the Harold Hill program, ask you chapter membership team, "Why not?"

Registrations to the Salt Lake City convention are nearing 6000. Give some serious thought to attending this year. The programs, contests and special events look fabulous.



take note by Fred Kienitz, Director of Music Education

Gentlemen, I've sent the 1996 Harmony Round-Up bulletin and registration form to Editor Gunn for his perusal and printing. So by the time you read this article you may feel free to look at the goldenrod insert in the center of this issue and begin filling out your registration forms.

Keep in mind, especially you chapter officers, that the big emphasis at this year's Roundup will be a *Directors' Clinic* for any Pioneer director, assistant director, aspiring director, or "wannabe" director. You will all get a chance to learn, observe, and try your hand at directing. You will also be video taped and receive a critique on your performance.



Remember the key word for this class will be the same as the

third letter in our SPEBSQSA logo. One word of warning, however if you are told that you direct very much like our current D.M.E., I would suggest that you quit and never try it again.

Our Zone V.P.'s at the district level have been asked to contact all chapters in their respective areas and notify them of this fine opportunity to take out an insurance policy on their chapter chorus for a very low, one time premium. Your survival could very well depend on educating one or more of your chapter members in the art of directing a vocal ensemble.

We also have a fine staff of knowledgeable quartet coaches. So, district quartets are encouraged to enroll also.

The question of what you can get from this school will probably raise its ugly head while you are pondering registration. I have the answer which was passed on by Coach Lou Holtz of Notre Dame. "Ability is what you are capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Attitude determines how well you do it."

Those of us who can master all three can be responsible for creating a vocal ensemble equal to or superior to all other vocal ensembles in and around our area.

One final word, for those who want something other than these two afore-mentioned classes; we also have a selection of nine other classes listed in the insert. Remember that the classes that you choose will not be canceled this year. Your weekend will be filled with a musical education that you will never forget when you attend Harmony Roundup at Michigan State University.

Gaylord Chapter organizer has broad musical background

Henry (Hank) Hedges has a degree in music composition from Northwestern University. Retired, he moved to Gaylord four years ago.

He said his dad, "...helped form the Chicago Number One Chapter, right after Tulsa, and was the Elastic Four's first bari."

In the early 70's, Hank sang with the Alexandria Harmonizers, and was later assistant director of the Jubilaires. He also directed the Scituate, Massachusetts Chapter, and organized the Pittsfield, Massachusetts Chapter.

He sang with the South Shoremen quartet in International "around 1958," Hank said.

"After directing two good Sweet Ad choruses and coaching quartets, I burned out and for eight years pursued my second hobby, leading local big bands." A keyboard musician, he trained and led young men in the Southeast Michigan area, "...in the big band style, like Glenn Miller, Artie Shaw and bands of the era." "We had bands with 17-18 pieces, and played lots of club dates", he said.

Hank said he will attend the District Convention in Lansing this month, and will try to persuade other members of the Gaylord Chapter to attend also.

Gaylord licensed, *continued from page 1*

"On September 11, 1995, 35 local guys showed up. Traverse City sent 10 chapter members, including a quartet. Their director, Marty Chirgwin, brought Harlan Wilson, the Confederates' bari, along as a surprise. Ten members came from the Boyne City Chapter. Larry and Carole Parker rounded out the high powered folks. What a kick-off!"

"We have received great help from the district and the Society," Hank reported. "Ev Nau and Patrick Tucker-Kelly have been here. So have Larry and Carole Parker, Fred Kienitz, Jack Slamka and Gene Hanover. Alpena Chapter members and quartets have visited us, and that's a 90 mile trip. Fantastic support."

"We have already hosted the divisions Harold Hill meeting and a five chapter quartet coaching session led by Kienitz, Slamka and Hanover," Hank said.

The Gaylord Chapter officers are: President, Jack Tobin; Membership VP, Marlyn Bird; Program VP, Joe Forrest; Treasurer, Curt Rephune; Secretary, Al Glasby; and Music VP, Hank Hedges.

The Gaylord Chapter meets Mondays at 7 pm in the Community Room of the Old Kent Bank in downtown Gaylord. You may reach Hank Hedges, music director, at (517) 731-1169. His address is 1418 Circle Drive, Gaylord, MI 49735.

Ed Notes -

Wow! Thanks to Russell Seely, our immediate past president and current SBM, and his good wife, Shirley, the *Troub* now has a computer scanner. Russ and Shirley bought the device and donated it to the district. Some kind of barbershoppers huh?

On behalf of this editor and all who will follow in this post, thank you. The job will be easier and we believe, the product better.

This editor also bought a newer computer with more memory and speed, and a new printer. You should see finer, cleaner print as of now. We plan other improvements and greater variety as we go along and learn to use all the goodies.



Editor: Gordon Gunn

Herb also, long ago, earned our gratitude. In 1993, when your editor began this task, Herb sent a several page letter offering suggestions to improve the *Troub*. We used most of them, to your benefit. Thanks again Herb.

We also wish to congratulate and tip our hat to Hank Hedges, the driving force behind the new Gaylord Chapter. The story about the formation of that new chapter is the most exciting we've had the pleasure to write since beginning this job. Our welcome and best wishes are extended to all of the new members in Gaylord.

And also, thank you Hank, for your kind help and consideration. You were most generous with your time and most helpful in answering all my questions.

Thanks too, to my old stand-by, Tom Porritt, and to Chuck Kitckha, a more recent member of the Muskegon Chapter, for their technical advice and help with my new computer equipment.

And it can't be repeated too often, we also appreciate the fine, loyal contributors to these pages. Without you, there could be no *Troub*.

We would like to call your attention to a couple of important changes relevant to the famed Boyne City Bush League. The event has been moved from early spring to August 10, and from Boyne City to Petoskey. William Woodbeck's

THANKS!

article reporting the changes appears in this issue's Chapters in Action columns. We will have further details about tickets, quartet registration and room and camping accommodations in the Petoskey area in the June/July issue.

The Flint Chapter's recruiting successes are featured in the March/April *Harmonizer*. If you missed it, see page 11. Not only is the information valuable, but it is a nice tribute to a Pioneer chapter's members and their effective recruiting methods.

Ed Wracan, Flint membership VP will also instruct a class, with Joan Kienitz, entitled; "Your Chapter/Membership and Marketing," at the district Harmony Round-Up, May 17-19. Round-Up enrollment forms are on page four of the center, goldenrod insert, in this issue.



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Genuine Blend

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Directory Correction

Genuine Blend,
Page 50, has a new address.
Contact Kirk Wood at 36702 49th Ave.,
Paw Paw, MI 49079 - Phone (616) 657-7300

Notice of Board of Directors Meeting

Notice is hereby given of the Pioneer district Board of Directors Meeting to be held as follows:

April 26, 1996, 9 AM, Sheraton Hotel, Lansing, Michigan,
in conjunction with the district Convention.

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

Herb Bayles returns as editor; PROBEmoter is back in business

From PROBE

1995 was a rough year for PROBEmoter, the quarterly bulletin published by PROBE—the association for Public Relations Officers and Bulletin Editors. There was a change of editors after the January–March issue and the new editor ran into some serious problems after he published the ensuing April–June issue. A change of jobs required him to move hundreds of miles and the move, plus unforeseen new constraints on his time, prevented him from further work on PROBEmoter. So the publication went into hibernation for the last half of 1995.

Consequently, PROBE President Girvin turned, in early January, to PROBEmoter's previous editor, Herb Bayles, to see if he could resume the job. He could... and he did.

In a couple of weeks Herb put together a January–March, 1996 issue in order to get PROBEmoter back on its calendar–quarter publication schedule. It is an abbreviated issue because Herb burned a lot of bridges and severed many lines of communications when he resigned the editor's job in December of 1994.

"Now," Herb says, "it's time to rebuild; to restore those lines of communication, because PROBEmoter's content relies heavily upon them" He is asking for every chapter or district bulletin editor who maintains a bulletin mailing list to add his name and address to that list. It is:

PROBEmoter, c/o Herb Bayles
1119 Wren Glen
Escondido, CA 92026

Further, Herb pleads with every public relations officer (chapter or district) with a success story to send PROBEmoter a brief description of the triumph. PROBEmoter's expressed aim is to provide "how-to" and "handy hints" articles for its readers, and certainly the best sources for such articles are the guys who conceived an unique public relations plan or project and made it work.

Finally, Herb urges that every bulletin editor and PR officer polls his chapter to see if there's a member with a computer, access to the so-called information super highway—the internet—and is willing to serve as the chapter's internet communicator. If such a man is found, his c-mail address should be sent to Herb, to Kenosha (Brian Lynch) and be listed in the chapter's bulletin.

A footnote: Mindful that PROBE's members missed six months of PROBEmoter in 1995—the only tangible evidence of their \$5.00 annual dues payment—PROBE President Dick Girvin has extended all existing memberships for six additional months.

Society DME, Dan Naumann, in Pioneer May 13–19; will serve on Harmony Round-Up staff

Society news release, forwarded by Gene Hanover, Pioneer ADME

From Monday, May 13 through Sunday, May 19, the Pioneer District will be hosting our Societies Director of Music Education and Services, Dan Naumann. Naumann manages the operation of music education programs and activities relating to the preservation of barbershop harmony.

Naumann holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music Education from the University of Nebraska at Kearney, and earned a Masters degree in conducting and voice from the same institution. He taught vocal music in Kearney, Lexington, and Omaha schools for 16 years, and received several awards for excellence in teaching.



Dan Naumann

He has presented seminars at the Nebraska State Music Educators Conventions, and conducted a number of mixed choirs at various school conferences. He has also directed numerous church and community choirs.

A long-time Barbershopper, Naumann directed the Omaha, Nebraska, chapter and sang in a Central States District finalist quartet. He founded and directed the Lexington, Nebraska, chapter and the Kearney, Nebraska, chapter of Sweet Adelines International. In Naumann's last year at the helm, the Omaha chapter was among the Society's fastest-growing, registering an impressive 46% gain in just one year. He currently directs a Sweet Adelines chorus in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and sings lead in the Muckety-Mucks quartet.

While in the Pioneer District, Naumann will be spending his days talking to teachers in schools throughout Michigan. He will spend his evenings meeting with several district chapters in central locations.

To wind up his visit, Naumann will serve on the staff of the districts annual Harmony Round-Up. This year's school is being held from Friday evening, May 17 through Noon Sunday, May 19 on the campus of Michigan State University, in East Lansing, Michigan.

Pioneer District – Operation Harold Hill individual pledges as of March 8, 1996

As reported by John C. Case, Chairman, Society Membership Development Committee. Those in caps have fulfilled their pledge.

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Maurie Allen
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Bob Dennett
Tim Duman
BRIAN DUNCKEL
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Edward Wracan
Kim Yeomans
Milton Zoschke

District wide participation sought for coaching scholarship fund

Thanks to the Bill Butler Memorial Coaching Scholarship Fund, any registered Pioneer quartet or prospective coach may receive free coaching from some of the Society's finest coaches, May 17-19, at the district Harmony Round-Up. Now in it's seventh year, the fund has provided full registration costs for four quartets and five would be coaches to date.

Founded and managed by the Detroit-Oakland chapter, which has also supplied most of the money to date, the fund is designated to assist in providing much needed coaching within the Pioneer District. Because of the district-wide benefits afforded; *All chapters, quartets and individuals are being asked to help perpetuate the scholarships by contributing to the fund.*

Contributions should be designated for the fund and forwarded to Bill Wickstrom, 2533 Donna Street, Warren, MI 48091-3947. Phone (810) 756-4294.

Quartets or individual seeking a scholarship should apply in writing to Wickstrom.

FIREPOWER!

A BARBERSHOP EXPLOSION

Mark Wilson
Jeff Marks
Jamie Carey
James Hawkins
Contact: Jeff Marks (517) 663-8158
333 N. Waverly Road, Eaton Rapids, MI 48827

**THE HARMONY HOUNDS**

Pedigree: Barbershoppers

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1996
Pioneer District
HARMONY ROUND-UP

May 17 - 19, 1996
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

Growth Through Learning -
A Must for all Pioneer Barbershoppers

A weekend of fun and Barber Shop Educational Activities
Amid the Beautiful Surroundings of the M.S.U. Campus

Full details and enrollment forms on the following pages,
or you may telephone
District D.M.E. Fred Kienitz at (810) 750-8259.





1996 Pioneer District Harmony Round-Up



Regular Classes (All Day Saturday) 6 - 8 Hours

100 Chorus Directing Clinic -	D. Nauman	103 Apprentice Coaching -	Faculty
101 Fundamentals of Music -	Fisk	104 Quartet Workshop -	Faculty
102 It Ain't Magic -	Evans	105 Chorus Workshop -	Faculty

Mini Classes (Sunday Morning) 2 - 4 Hours

200 Tag Singing -	Fisk	204 Develop Sight Singing Skills -	Faculty
201 Gang Singing -	Fisk	205 Your Chapter/Membership & Marketing -	Ed Wracan & J. Kienitz
202 Section Leaders Workshop -	Faculty		
203 Hows and Whys of warm up -	Faculty		

Class Descriptions

100 Chorus Directors Clinic - Nauman. This course is designed to focus on the new, young and/or aspiring arm waver. It will also aid present directors but will concentrate on the basics of directing. All students will "direct" and be critiqued by the instructor and peers. Individual sessions will be video taped so you may see your own progress.

101 Fundamentals /of Music - Al Fisk. This course is designed to teach the student how to identify various notes and their value. It teaches key signatures and how to identify the key in which the song is written. It touches on intervals and generally makes those dots on the paper more user friendly.

102 It Ain't Magic - Bruce Evans. This class will be great for the barbershopper who wants to know more about the mysterious phenomenon called music. It will touch on melody, harmony, scales, pitch, meter, half-steps, whole-steps, harmonics, and musical instruments, including your own; your voice. It will give a laymen's view of all the dots, squiggles and flags we see on the paper.

103 Apprentice Coaching - Faculty. In this class you will be assigned to one of the quartet coaches while he is working with his assigned quartets. Thus, you will observe but not be involved in the coaching. Following the coaching session, the coach will advise the apprentice of the weakest parts of the groups performance and what he did to help the group improve. You may wish to take notes for comparison purposes. You may be assigned to alternate coaches for P.M. sessions.

104 Quartet Workshop - Faculty. This class is organized for quartets only; who want extensive coaching to help improve their performance package. Each coach will work on your problem areas first, moving toward your strengths as the session progresses. Please advise the coach of your areas of concern at the beginning of the session.

105 Chorus Workshop - Faculty. This class is for chapter choruses only. You must have a majority of your chorus in attendance and supply risers to accommodate all in attendance. You will be coached in all areas of your performance. Be prepared for a strenuous days work. See reduced price schedule for choruses on page four. You will be expected to perform on the afterglow.

200 Tag Singing - Al Fisk. Al has a compilation of about 180 tags from which to choose. The class is designed for full enjoyment in a very relaxed atmosphere for instant gratification.

201 Gang Singing - Al Fisk. You will relax and enjoy singing with members of other district chapters. This is a fun class.

202 Section Leader Workshops - Faculty. Learn the basics of teaching parts to chorus members to help you be a more effective section leader.

203 How's and Why's of Warm Up - Faculty. This class will help you get your whole body ready to sing. It will include posture, the "warm air" concept and breath management.

204 Develop Sight Singing Skills - Jim Stephens. This class will explain what all the black dots and all the rest of the marks on the sheet music means. You will learn basic skills to help you learn music faster. You will receive hand outs to refer to when back home.

205 Your Chapter/Membership and Marketing - Wracan & J. Kienitz. This class will provide you some sure-fire ways to recruit new members and to market your chapter in you area. Both instructors will give you step-by-step instructions as to how to be successful in executing these tried and proven methods. Both instructors worked their magic with Flint, the fastest growing chapter in our district.

Know Your Instructors

Tom Gentil - Internationally certified contest judge. Director of international chorus champs for both SPEBSQSA and Sweet Adelines. Coach of the 1991 Sweet Adeline quartet champions, **Swing Street**.

Doug Miller - Internationally certified judge and category specialist. Directed international chorus medalists and multi medalist in International chorus competitions.

Ken Buckner - Director of International conventions serving as the official liaison between Kenosha and host cities. A veteran of several quality quartets in and around Louisville. Excellent coach and certified judge.

Dan Nauman - International director of music education. Has done a remarkable job filling the shoes of retired Mel Knight. Dan holds degrees in music and comes to us from the midwest where he sang and directed his chapter chorus to district championship. Super guy.

Clay Shumard - International quartet medalist; Director of championship choruses; former bari of International champions, **The Ritz**.

Thom Hine - Former Pioneer District member, current Dixie District DME, championship chorus director, member of champion quartets, several districts, International Seniors Champ bass.

Jack Slamka - Top twenty International quartet bass. Super chorus director with blue ribbons to prove it and a talented coach.

Bruce Evans - Internationally certified judge. Arranger and all-around fine barbershopper.

Jim Stephens - Former DME. Holds degrees in music and vocal production. Super chorus director and coach. Has a unique ability to teach others.

Al Fisk - Chorus director, coach. Holds music degrees in vocal music. He is a dynamic teacher.

Registration - Friday, 4:00 PM

Friday Night Opening Session at 8:00 PM, will include a brief welcome, introduction of faculty and a keynote address by Dan Nauman. A parade of all quartets registered will complete the opening session. Then we will go right into the first round of quartet coaching and some of the mini-classes. The class schedules will be in your registration envelopes you will receive on arrival.

General Sessions will be limited to the disbursement of information and warm ups. The rest of the sessions will be devoted to break-away or small groups gathering for woodshedding, tag singing or R&R.

Non-Barbershop Activities will feature a Friday afternoon golf scramble at the course on campus. That will kick off around 2 P.M. and will include a round of golf, a cart and a prize for the winners. The fee will be around \$35.00. You will need to register for this event on your registration form. You will be notified of exact details prior to the weekend.

The Guest Quartet for the weekend will be **Genuine Blend**, Pioneer's premier quartet. Evidence of their desire to improve themselves as representatives came when they requested to be placed in quartet coaching.

Sunday A.M. Forum - All registered quartets will meet in a designated room after the general session on Sunday morning. The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss what you expected from this weekend and what you received. Also, we would like some suggestions from the groups as to how you could be better served at future "Round-Ups." Apprentice coaches will meet with Gene Hanover in the lounge. **All 200 level classes will be held after the general session.**

Afterglow - All choruses and quartets registered will appear on the Saturday night Afterglow, to be held in the basement of our dorm at McDonel Hall.

- * You are responsible for your own Friday evening meal.
- * Select one from each series (100 and 200 classes) and an alternative from each.
- * Chorus Workshop singers (quartets too) may elect to audit any of the classes offered for one to four hours at any time during the day to avoid fatigue.
- * Special rates for chapter choruses are listed below. If you have any questions, call me at 810-750-8259.
- * Sunday morning classes followed by a short farewell to the faculty and will be over by 11:30 A.M. giving you plenty of time to get home.

Here are some possible price combinations

Full registration \$90.00 - includes 4 meals, lodging, materials, all classes.

Commuter registration \$50.00 - includes 2 meals, materials, all classes (no breakfasts)

Chapter chorus member full registration \$70.00 - includes 4 meals, lodging, materials, all classes.

Chorus member commuter registration \$40.00* - includes 2 meals, materials, all classes (no breakfasts)

*Note: To qualify for chorus member prices, your chorus must attend for at least 4 hours of coaching.

Special notice for our Canadian Brothers paying by check or in Canadian currency;

Full Registration, add \$15.00 Full chorus registration, add \$10.00

Commuter registration, add \$10.00 Chorus commuters, add \$10.00

Late Registration

All prices listed will be honored through May 12, 1996. Registrations postmarked after this date will be subject to an additional \$10.00 late fee per registrant. Don't delay. Register promptly.

Notice: Chapter Boards - If members of your chapter bring back information from these classes, helpful to the growth of your chapter, you may wish to underwrite a part of their tuition cost for the program.

INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Chapter _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone() _____ Business Phone() _____

Note: Commuters may attend all sessions but lodging and breakfasts are not included. Chapter members attending with their chorus for chorus coaching should complete this form and give to chapter or chorus official for group processing.

List your class preferences below

1st choice regular class _____

2nd choice regular class _____

1st choice mini-class _____

2nd choice mini-class _____

Golf (18 Holes) ___ You will play on the MSU beautiful 18 hole course Friday afternoon.

QUARTET REGISTRATION FORM

Quartet name _____

Tenor _____ Chapter _____

Lead _____ Chapter _____

Bari _____ Chapter _____

Bass _____ Chapter _____

Contact Man _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone() _____ Business Phone() _____

Note: Commuters may attend all sessions but lodging and breakfast not included.

Full registration fee includes two nights lodging, fees, materials, all meals.
Smoker? Yes ___ No ___

Please check appropriate blank
 ___ Full Registration @ \$90
 ___ Commuter Registration @ \$50
 ___ Chorus Full Reg @ \$70
 ___ Chorus Commuter @ \$40

\$30 minimum deposit required

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Make check payable to Pioneer District and Mail to;

Fred Kienitz
2292 Golden Pond Court
Fenton, MI 48430

Full registration includes two nights lodging, fees, materials, all meals for one quartet member.

Please enter the appropriate no.

___ Full registrations @ \$90

___ Commuter Registrations @ \$50

Minimum Deposit \$120 required

Amount enclosed: _____

Make checks payable to Pioneer District and mail to;

Fred Kienitz
2292 Golden Pond Court
Fenton, MI 48430



PIONEER CHAPTERS IN ACTION



A TROUBADOUR SALUTE TO



Frank Mirasola

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

Rochester Chapter by Frank Mirasola, P. R. VP

As we move into 1996, **The Heart of the Hills Chorus** has a good feeling about who we are and what we're doing. Rehearsal attendance is up; membership continues to increase; enthusiasm is high; the chorus sounds great and the Herr Director is still lean and mean. We don't have any slick new programs, fancy formulas or cool slogans. We're doing it the old fashioned way a bunch of dedicated guys working hard to do the best we're able. We also remember most of all that "barbershoppers have fun".

As you might expect with Fred Kienitz as emcee for our February 2, Installation Dinner, the 42 people in attendance at the Rochester Elks Club had a terrific time. The newly elected officers include Dan Rajorok, President; Gary Washurn, Program VP; Kurt Kiesling, Show Chairman and Jim Trooger, Bulletin Editor. Continuing in office are Don Lewis, Secretary; Scott Young Treasurer; Dave Percy, Membership VP; Wes Tomlinson, Music VP; George Schmidt, Chorus Manager and Frank-Mirasola, Public Relations VP. Following an excellent buffet dinner, the guests were treated to the 'beautiful sounds off the, Sweet Adelines' "Affinity Fore". It goes without saying that several other quartets felt obligated to "bust a few chords" during the evening. A good time was had by all.

On Thursday, January 28, the Rochester Chapter hosted a meeting of Pioneer District Division VI Chapters conducted by Patrick Tucker-Kelly who handles COTS and Membership matters from the International Office in Kenosha. Larry King, Division VI VP, introduced Kelly who spoke principally about Operation Harold Hill and touched on several other subjects including COTS, Singing Valentines and chapter operations in general. It was an informative and worthwhile meeting.

Our first venture into Singing Valentines produced some amazing results. The initial goal of thirty-five valentines was quickly raised to fifty, then to seventy. We delivered a total of

ninety-four Singing Valentines after trying to cut off requests a week before Valentine's Day. At least twenty requests were turned away or referred to other chapters. Six quartets (all newly formed) were, involved over the two day period. Some quartets also had live performances on Channel 52 and radio station WNIC. In addition to Heartspring a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Rochester Leader Dogs for the Blind. Kudos to everyone who took part in this outstanding effort but especially to Chairman Don Lewis for his untiring work. Congratulations to the six quartets and the "Best Men" who made it happen.

Wes Tomlinson and the Music Committee have selected our songs for competition at the Spring Convention and rehearsals are well underway. There's a lot of hard work ahead and we are eagerly looking forward to the contest.

Membership VP Dave Percy has approached his job with the quiet tenacity and determination of a bulldog. His diligence has resulted in our chapter's continued growth. In the last year and a half we have added 10 new members with seven joining in the past nine months alone. The new members include Cal Bock, Ross Ensign, Dick Hartrick, Sal Licavoli, Lyle Howard, Tom Tailford and Graeme Dobbs. The Society may have "Operation Harold Hill"; We have "Operation Dave"!

I would like to close with a personal word of thanks to the Rochester Chapter for my selection as Barbershopper of the Year. Recognition is an unusual gift to receive. You can't taste it, smell it or spend it, nonetheless you hold it in high esteem. The Heart of the Hills Chorus has a whole lot of people who merit this honor; I am very proud to have been chosen.

Flint Chapter

by Ken Rice, Publicity Chairman

The emotions that accompany the completion of a three-day barbershop retreat run the gamut. *Amazement*: I've never sung so much and slept so little in any 42 hour period in my life! *Confidence*: I once thought we'd never learn eight new songs in time for the show, but now I know we can do it. *Excitement*: This show is really coming together - it's going to be one of our best. *Love*: There's a lot of closeness and camaraderie in this group, even though the terms of endearment chosen to express it are sometimes in questionable taste.

McMullen Conference Center on the north shore of Higgins Lake has become the traditional site of our last-week-in-February outing. Arriving on Friday afternoon, we start the gastronomic festivities with a trip to Fred's (Not *continued next page*)

Flint Chapter - continued

Kienitz) Bar and Bowling Alleys in Roscommon for all-you-can-eat fish. The rest of our meals were provided by the McMullen kitchen - good, solid meat 'n potatoes, eggs 'n bacon fare.

If we weren't eating, we were singing (though frequently we did both at the same time). Show songs, Pole Cat songs, tags ... chords rang from sun-up to the wee hours of the morning. Ron Gillies, Jack Stevens and Fred Kienitz fed the fires with a seemingly endless supply of old song titles and lyrics.

Since we had nearly all of our chapter present at the retreat, the Saturday night dinner assembly was deemed to be an appropriate venue to recognize the chapter barbershopper of the Year. Chapter president Paul Smith was the clear choice for 1995. His vision, his motivation, his persistence, his own hard work and dedication, have awakened the Flint Chapter, stimulating the growth of enthusiasm, pride ... and membership ... and steering us toward our goals of being entertaining and competitive, and having a lot of fun in the process. Congratulations, Paul!

We won't be able to measure the true success of our retreat until we come off the stage after the evening performance of our show on April 20th. Dave Lonsbury has written the show again this year, and John Noteware, of course, will direct. Music from the 30's and 40's support's the theme, "Jukebox Saturday Night." There will be guest appearances by **Sharpshooters**, a comedy quartet from Indianapolis, and **High Bid** from our own Pioneer District. Fred's (not Kienitz) **Old Timers Band** will add atmosphere, and there just might be spontaneous dancing in the aisles of the Grand Blanc High School Auditorium. Call our new 24-hour voice mail number, (810) 762-3578 for ticket information or reservations.

Obviously, the Flint Arrowhead Chorus has not used the military interpretation of the word "retreat." For us there's been no backpedalling. It's all forward motion. We're singing more. We're singing better. We're singing smarter. There are more of us singing. And there are more of us saying, with conviction, "It's great to be a barbershopper!"

Boyne City Chapter

by William Woodbeck, Music Director

Boyne City is doing some new things this year. Rehearsals have been moved to the Petoskey Middle School to be more centrally located for all the members. It also moves the chapter to a more populated area in hopes of drawing in more members. We do have four visitors who have attended regularly and will soon join the chapter.

The other big change is **Bush League!** It has

been moved to August 10, 1996. We hope to get a better turn out of quartets in the summer, and a bigger audience, with people up North on vacation. Bush League will also be held at the Petoskey Middle School Auditorium.

We would love to have many Pioneer District quartets participate in the contest Saturday afternoon. There are lots of motels and camping available in or close to town. Quartets from the district have supported this contest for 50 years! Let's have a good showing in August!

Battle Creek Chapter

by Frank Manwaring, President

Because Valentines Day fell on a Tuesday this year, our profits of \$570 were less than last year's \$1,300, but it all helps. All seven singers and eight helpers had a most satisfying and joyous time.

We are getting close to buying new uniforms for our performing chorus. The income from both 1995, and '96 Singing Valentines, profits from last years annual show, our Cabaret show, and a generous grant from the United Arts Council will all help to do this.

So, within two months the Cereal City Chorus will be once again a factor in PIO!

Who wants to be our lucky director? Step up, if you are qualified and ready.

Detroit-Oakland Chapter

by Tom Uicker, Bulletin Editor

The footlights have dimmed on another successful show for DOC. But then, we could hardly miss with two great headliners, like **Keepsake**, 1992 International champs, and **Yesteryear**, 1995 Silver Medalists. We can also take pride in the **Gentlemen Songsters Chorus** with our own registered quartets, **Crosstown Exchange**, **Four Note Trump**, and **Just In Time**. If you missed the show, then make a note. Next years show is February 14 & 15.

Right After the show, some of our hardworking members went searching for warmer climates and a well deserved rest. Others, who couldn't get away, started working on a much needed membership campaign. The first phase was a well-attended Guest Night in early March. It is too soon to claim either success or failure for that event, but some good projects have turned up. Assistant Membership VP Lou Maglione is feverishly working on follow-ups as well as other promotional ideas.

Neither has our chapter meeting night slowed down. With four performances, lined up-two in March- we have to keep our repertoire polished. Steve is also busy working us on a new contest package for spring convention. And we will shortly be starting on new material for next year's show.

Continued next page

Detroit-Oakland Chapter, continued

Our Thursday afternoon singers have felt a loss with the departure of the snow birds, but we still meet regularly from 1:00 to 3:30 pm, as we wait for warm weather to return. We were surprised one week by a visit from a group of Grosse Pointe Gospel Singers, and a great time was had learning both gospel music and barbershop.

On another topic, I understand the two traveling jugs have been making the rounds of district chapters. I'm not sure where either jug is currently, but both jugs have completed about half of their respective circuits. Please keep the jugs moving, so that they finish their routes before it is time to call them home.

"Return of the Jugs" night is Friday, June 7. Remember that Pioneer District representative quartets must be present to share in the proceeds of the jug. We haven't set the place yet, but we will get word to near-by chapters as the date draws near—hopefully by spring convention. We look forward to seeing you in Lansing.

<h3>Holland Chapter</h3>

<p>by Art Lane, BE and PR Officer</p>

Dale Bekker named Holland Barbershopper of the Year

Dale Bekker hard-working show chairman, historian and secretary, has been selected as 1995 Barbershopper of the Year of the Holland Windmill Chapter.

During the busy year of 1995, Dale served as chapter secretary and historian and was co-chair of the Holland Windmill Chorus Tulip Time show. He also was co-chair of the chapter's 50th Anniversary Whopper Weekend held in October. Along with co-chair Dick Plaisted and promoter Jack W. Oonk, Dale helped plan a weekend full of anniversary activities, guiding many volunteers to get the work done. As a chapter historian for many years Dale has filled the walls of Harmony Hall with pictures of choruses and quartets. He has gathered the songs arranged by Willis A. Diekema and put them on display at the hall, along with notebooks of Tulip Time programs, *Harmonizers* and *Troubadours* covering many years. For the 50th anniversary show Dale selected pictures and displayed them in the lobby of the Holland Civic Center. In addition to chapter history, Dale has collected Pioneer District memorabilia for the past several years as district historian. Dale has been in or around the Holland Chapter almost since it was started in 1945. In 1949, while a sophomore in high school, he worked nights at the Warm Friend Hotel in Holland. One of his jobs was to take sandwiches up to the barbershoppers in one of the hotel meeting rooms during their weekly practices. He enjoyed the singing so much that he joined the chapter

while a senior in high school. With time out for military service and other duties, he's been active as a barbershopper most of the time since then.

Third Term, Sort Of

Nobody hollered "No Third Term" when Dick Plaisted took office as president of the Holland Windmill Chapter, because it was his first term here, but as you may have inferred from his quiet, efficient manner, Dick has been there before when it comes to leading a bumptious band of barbershoppers.

He started his barbershop singing career in 1957 when he joined the Minneapolis Chapter. While there he served twice as chapter president and sang in several International chorus contests.

He also has been a barbershopper in Bloomington, Minnesota; Arcadia, California and Memphis, Tennessee, before moving to Holland in 1989. He says he started singing with the Windmill Chorus "the first Tuesday I was in town." Last year he was treasurer and co-chaired the Tulip Festival show and the chapter's 50th anniversary celebration. He's also the now vice president of Pioneer District Division III.

Chapter lists goals for 1996

After some hearty discussion the board of the Holland chapter agreed on four goals for 1996:

- *increase membership with focus on young men.
- *Improve the quality of our singing.
- *More quartet activity and tag singing.
- *Orderly, well planned chapter meetings.

Youth Outreach Planned

Work toward the chapter goals of reaching young men got started with a decision to sponsor four high school students and their music teacher this year at Harmony Music Camp in Muncie, Ind. It is hoped there will be enough interested young singers to call for a contest.

Now You See Three Choruses

The long-discussed plan to create three choruses where only one existed before has taken effect in Holland. The chapter now has a show chorus, a contest chorus and a religious performance chorus. The aim is to offer differing programs for men of differing skills and interest levels. Many members are in all three choruses but some quicker learners turn out for contest preparation while avoiding learning notes on risers in the show chorus. The religious performance chorus is open to non-member singers of the community. Each group currently has about 20 motivated singers.

O.C. Cash Visits Holland Chapter

The founder of the Barbershop Music Society, O. C. Cash, and his fellow founder Rupert Hall, dropped in on the Holland chapter recently, not once but twice.

In a skit celebrating the 50th anniversary of the drafting of the Holland charter in December, *Continued next page*

Holland Chapter, continued

and the presentation of the charter in January, Cash and Hall appeared clad in suits, boots and western hats.

They dropped in from Heaven, since both are long deceased. They explained that they were sent to Heaven because of their contribution to music. But since they were tax lawyers on earth they were not permitted to stay permanently in Heaven.

The heavenly authorities had planned on sending them back to an H & R Block office for the tax season. But Rupert worked out a compromise by which they return to earth each time a chapter celebrates its 50th anniversary.

Cash and Hall had to stay in Holland until the men of the chapter sang enough barbershop chords to send them back to Heaven. After about 10 minutes of singing Cash said, "Well Rupert, I'm beginning to feel pretty light. It looks like we're about ready to hit the trail to Heaven. Thank those boys, and tell 'em we'll be back in 50 years."

Performing in the skit were Bill McAndrew, Myke Lucas and Jack C. Oonk. The skit was written by Art Lane.

Gratiot County Chapter

by Joel Todd, President

Hello again!

Since the last time we talked the **Midstatesmen** have given the ladies in our lives a "Ladies Night." this was held at the Valley View Country Club, and all the ladies attending were given long stemmed roses. We all enjoyed entertainment provided by **Trillium**. Always included in our ladies nights festivities is the presentation of the Barbershopper of the Year. This year's recipient was Mr. Jeff Rayburn. It was a small token of appreciation for the countless deeds of service he has given the chapter. Congratulations, Jeff!

A surprise "Roast" to Jeff was included in the evening, as a thank you for his 12 years directing the chorus. We had several speakers from our chorus tell many tales and take us for a walk through memory lane. Jeff was presented with an appreciation plaque and a Society watch. Jeff's lady, Cathy, and our new director, Don Slamka's lady, Stacy, received a fresh flower arrangement from the chapter. The real highlight of the evening occurred when Jeff was "toasted." It was a sight to see 75 pieces of toast flying across the room. And Jeff ducking from it all.

Spring convention is just around the corner. We hope you all plan to attend and participate in the weekend. We have *big* surprises in store for you in the Barbershop Shop; plan on spending some time with us there. We are in a new room at the Sheraton this year. We will be the Four Season Shop, having memorabilia and gifts for all

seasons. There will be many home-made craft items made by members of the **Midstatesmen**. Hope to see you all there.

Lansing Chapter

by Brian Dunckel, Membership VP

The Lansing Chapter is off to a busy start in 1996, with a variety of activities.

The chapter members responded with open arms to Operation Harold Hill. Over 70% of our members have signed up, and six members are proudly wearing their "I Said I would and I Did" pins. We're knocking on the door to 100 members.

In February we traveled to Frankenmuth where we performed at the State of Michigan snow sculpting championships. Needless to say, the chickens were in trouble as we adjourned to Zhenders to eat afterwards. We also offered Singing Valentines to the Lansing area and sang over 50. Three quartets and a mini-chorus put in a long day delivering cupid's wishes, but were well rewarded by the many smiles, hugs and tears that were abundant. Many participants said it's an opportunity they won't miss in the future.

March meant our annual show, "You Gotta be a Football Hero," and a journey back to those old college days. Quartet performances by our own **Gallery** and the **High Fibre Octaves**, along with the **Patch Chords**, and the current Pioneer District Champions - **Firepower!**, and 1995 International semifinalist **Common Ground**, rounded out a full evening. Plans are underway for a very special Golden Anniversary show in 1997 with special guest, Fred.

During our local PBS station's pledge drive, we were asked to man the phones during a statewide red-green marathon. Despite noisy conditions, as the phones rang fast and furious, a great time was had by all. We're scheduled to work again at the auction next month. If your chapter hasn't performed service like this, you ought to consider it. You won't regret it.

Monroe North Chapter

by Dale E. Cousino, President

Wow! Monroe North has really had a busy February and March. Our annual show was both fun and successful with everyone working together, and the Broadway theme was both fun to sing and entertaining. Special thanks to Chuck Drouillard to making those many practice nights fun, as well as helping us to improve our voices and our showmanship.

Both the **Roaring 20's** and **Jokers Wild** quartets were delightful to have on our show. Their quality voices and super showmanship is great and everyone learned something from them. They also complimented us as a fun chorus
Continued next page

Monroe North Chapter, continued

that was sounding very good.

Also, it was wonderful singing for the first time with the advantage of a shell behind the risers. Even with the advantage of the sound system, the audience noticed the difference, using the shell. Thanks to Angelo Diaz for all the work involved on the shell.

Monroe North is offering free voice lessons to anyone interested in singing. It is our way of helping the arts within the community as well as possibly getting new members. Monroe North wishes everyone a great spring season with many good sing outs and much fun.

Grosse Pointe Chapter

by Mike Sullivan

Spring Convention 1996 finds the Grosse Pointe Chapter in between performances. At Christmas the chorus performed with the Eastpointe Chapter of Sweet Adelines and this May will find us at our Annual Show. I suppose we should have an idea what songs will be performed at competition by now but we'll just dig out some old chestnuts and dazzle the judges.

Speaking of Annual Shows, imagine, if you will, an entire stage full of knobby-kneed barbershoppers filling the Coliseum of Rome. Did I mention it was 300 B.C. and the well dressed barbershopper attending the Olympic Games would not be caught without his freshly starched toga and matching laurel head wreath. You'll have to be there on May 17th or 18th to relive the past: *Barbershop style*.

The woods of West Virginia will again ring with barbershop harmony and perhaps a few non-barbershop epitaphs as Grosse Pointe sets out on its Annual Golf Outing on May 2, 3, and 4. If other Chapters wish to challenge the Lakeshore boys, let us know, all are welcome.

Our membership is still hovering around 110 despite the recent loss of one of our senior members. A member of Barbershopping for twenty one years, Howard Lewis, native to our bass section, passed away after a brief illness. He will be missed by us and all barbershoppers.

With summer fast approaching, the Chapter is already preparing for its yachting poker run on Lake St. Clair.

Though not acting as an official chapter, one of our members and assistant music directors, Howard Richards, has been recruiting singers and performing in the upper thumb area. Several of our current members are contemplating moving into the thumb area, including Eric Ernst and yours truly, Mike Sullivan, so the potential is strong to maintain barbershop harmony in the remote corners of the Pioneer District.

Let's sing some of those "golden nuggets" at convention and truly convene. See you there in the hospitality rooms.

Grand Rapids Chapter

by Dick Williams

Things are looking good for SLC. Housing and registration are taken care of, although we expect a few last minute additions from our snow birds and new members who qualify to go with us.

February through May will find us working with Jay Giallombardo and Daryl Flynn. We've already had one exciting session with Giallombardo and are looking forward to more in the coming months. He's not too bad of a director either.

We have a retreat coming up in April at Camp Geneva in Holland, on the 19th through the 21st. We're told these are for the good of the chorus, you know, focus, bonding, and that sort of thing. That's fine, if you don't kill the coaches and director first.

If we survive all the "fun" we're having, we'll see you all in June at the Windsor send-off. And yes, please bring your check book. If not, well, have you ever seen a bunch of grown men cry?

Oops, almost forgot, sorry Pete. You see Peter Westers was awarded Barbershopper of the Year for 1995. Pete is our current MVP. And John Bloomquist, our immediate past president was inducted in the Grand Rapids Chapter Hall of Fame. A well deserved honor for both.

In February we held our annual pick-up quartet contest and a group called **Genuine Endeavor** won - ringers all, Dale Mattis, Steve Young, Mark Garlock, and Lynn Sommerfield - nice going guys.

Our singing valentine program was very rewarding and another success with over 125 jobs to keep all quartets very busy. You can't believe some of the stories told. Wow!

Well, that concludes all of the fun things we have done and our planning for the next few months. Yep, it's Great to be a Barbershopper.

Cadillac Chapter

by Dale Campbell, President

The **Intrlakes Chorus** enjoyed a trip to Grand Rapids Chapter as they delivered the "Little Brown Jug". They had a great evening of entertainment and singing.

The chorus is hard at work with plans for their annual show, which will be at May 11, at 7:30 pm, at the Cadillac Middle School auditorium. Guest performers will be the **Cherry Capital Chorus**, from Traverse City, **The Timbre Tones Sweet Adelines Chorus**, and **Firepower!** We hope many of you will come and visit.

The chorus has been coaching with Fred Kienitz and he is such a pleasure to work with - and fun too. We always appreciate his efforts in coming all the way to Cadillac to share his
Continued next page

Cadillac Chapter, continued knowledge.

March 12 the Traverse City Chorus joined with the Men of Note from the area schools, all teen age young men, to present a wonderful program of vocal music. I don't know when I've been so moved and impressed, to see so many wonderful young faces and hear the clear, pure voices of these "gents" raised in harmony. It was neat to hear the comments from the young men about the **Cherry Capital Chorus** too. They were quite in awe of the sound, and it was fantastic.

It also fostered ideas for something for our own chorus to work toward, in getting the school music programs involved in the community and hopefully, in barbershop. How much better to see these young men singing and making lasting friendships instead of getting into trouble in the streets.

Hope to see many of you at the convention in Lansing in April.

Macomb County Chapter

by Roy Gurney, Music VP

Our dinner show on March 9th was a resounding success. In fact, we're so excited about it that we are going to do it again next year, only in a much larger hall. We sold out. **Passport** and **Onyx** a fine job and joined our 25 man, **Harmony Heritage Chorus** for the finale. The chorus was so excited about our improvement and standing ovation that we unanimously agreed to enter the spring chorus contest. So - Pioneer, here we come.

In line with our commitment to the Harold Hill Program, we are having a guest night on April 16th and every man will bring someone. We're ready to grow in quality and quantity.

Another favorite activity of ours is the Quarter Quartet Quontest. Our next one is scheduled for May 10. This will be a Friday evening affair to start around 8. It will be held at the Neighborhood Club in Grosse Pointe, the meeting place of the Grosse Pointe Chapter. So get a quartet together and join us for a fun filled evening.

Traverse City Chapter

by Del Sparks

"Music is Key" is the way it's been up here in God's Country. It's been our "Key" for more community involvement using our great hobby to enrich the lives of some less fortunate folk.

Over the past several months we've committed ourselves to raising some serious dollars specifically to provide highly sophisticated computer equipment designed for "Heartspring Type Kids" who Happen to live among us. By partnering with Traverse Bay Intermediate

School District we've been able to impact a lot of young lives and lend a great local favor to our motto "We Sing That They Shall Speak." These good vibrations continued with a benefit concert for a gifted young lady afflicted with cerebral palsy resulting in our contribution of \$3,000.00 toward similarly designed computer hard and software. IT'S GREAT TO BE A BARBERSHOPPER! Not to rest on our laurels, we responded to another request for a young accident victim whose long road to rehabilitation his been shortened somewhat by an \$850 singout. It Is true, the cost of computers Is coming down! We can literally get them for a *song!*

Our leadership team has taken Sing America/Sing Canada very seriously and this past Tuesday three music educators and some great young singers, including a "hot" Junior High quartet were our guests for an Impromptu concert at our regular chapter meeting. What an exciting night!

Ten quartets delivered In excess of 150 singing valentines on February 14th to the most beautiful people in the world, including one "Sweetheart 106 years Young! She now qualifies as an "old fan!"

We hope to see you all at our now famous Hospitality Room at the Hampton at convention time, and we hope you'll plan a week-end in Beautiful Traverse City June 7th and June 8th. Why then, you ask? The 30th annual June Night of Harmony, featuring **Yesteryear** and a supporting cast of hundreds of young singers and a few old ones too, that's why!

For those of you in the neighborhood any Tuesday Night, please be advised we are now meeting at First Congregational Church, located at the base of Old Mission Peninsula. Last, but not least, we'd like to thank President Larry Parker and his charming wife for braving our "Northern Sunshine" to help us welcome our new Gaylord Chapter. (I think we got 8 inches of sunshine, Larry!

P.S. Tickets for June Night of Harmony at Interlochen are only 10 bucks! Make checks payable to: Traverse City Chapter, Send to: Maurie Allen, 610 E. State Street, Traverse City, MI 49686 (Please specify Friday or Saturday performance)

Huron Valley Chapter

by Jason Fox, Program VP

The Huron Valley Chapter presented it's annual show, "A Showboat Adventure", March 9 at the University of Michigan, s Power Center for the Performing Arts. The attendance was fantastic. Performing were the chapter chorus, the **Harmonizers**, chapter quartets, **Treble Shooters**, and **Chordiology**, **Music Box** from Ann Arbor, **Bob Milne**, a ragtime pianist from Flint, and our featured quartet. **Renaissance**, current

Continued next page

Huron Valley Chapter, continued

Illinois District champions. Paul Ellinger made his debut as the show's director. Jim Stephens and Kelly Brummett directed the chorus.

Membership VP John Peterson has been trying to recruit new members. In January his committee called former members and invited them to attend a chapter meeting. He also enlisted people to place flyers on windshields at a U of M basketball game, and an area high school play. Business cards with chapter information are being printed for distribution by chapter members. Huron Valley is serious about increasing membership in '96.

Program VP Jason Fox is trying to get performances scheduled for the chapter, as well as other activities. Among the goals are performances at the Ypsilanti Heritage Fest, Bellville Strawberry Festival, Ann Arbor's Top of the Park Series and Ypsilanti's New Years Eve Festival. A July picnic is scheduled for the chapter and the County Connection Chapter of the Sweet Adelines. He is also looking for quartets that would be interested in performing at any of our weekly meetings. Interested quartets may call (313) 697-2892. He is also looking into a murder mystery dinner as a fund raiser, but nothing is set as of yet.

The Huron Valley Harmonizers are looking for a new director. We are looking for someone who is a good motivator and is willing to help a small chapter grow. Inquiries may be directed to: John Peterson, 1193 Jeffery Lane, Saline, MI 48176.

We invite anyone to visit us any Tuesday at 7:30 pm at the American Legion Post on North Huron in Ypsilanti. We look forward to seeing all of you soon in Lansing at the Pioneer District spring convention.

Did'ja notice - Fifteen Chapters, truly *In Action*, reported in this issue. A new record. Things are happening in Pioneer; Action the chapters are eager to report. That is good news.

In reference to copy submitted, I would like to ask for your help. We certainly will continue to use hand lettered copy, but typed or printer produced copy is preferred. If you fax hand lettered copy, please be certain it is dark enough to reproduce well. I'm not so good at guessing games.

Meanwhile, thank you, each of you, for all the great copy. Certainly, without you, there could be no *Troubadour*.

Gordon

Wally Phil


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Contact: Marv Moran
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Plymouth, MI 48170
(313) 459-4218

Bob

Bruce Craig Mike Brian



Barbershop Quartet

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*An official Publication of the Pioneer District Association of
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*Everything's
Coming up
Barber Shop!!*

1996

Apr 13 Sault Ste. Marie Show
Apr 13 Windsor Show
Apr 20 Flint Show
Apr 26-28 Dist. Conv. Lansing
May 4 Holland Show in Allegan
May 10-11 Grosse Pointe Show
May 11 Battle Creek Show
May 11 Cadillac Show
May 17 Holland Show
May 17-19 Harmony Round-Up
Jun 7-8 Traverse City show
Jun 13 Windsor Send Off
**Jun 30/July 7, International
Convention, Salt Lake City**
Aug 10 Boyne City Bush League
Sep 14 Alpena Show
Oct 5 Pontiac Show
Oct 18-20 Dist. Conv. Lansing
Oct 26 Rochester Show
Nov 1-2 Grand Rapids Show

1997

Feb 14-15 Detroit-Oakland Show
Mar 1 Lansing Show
Mar 8 Huron Valley Show
Mar 8 Monroe North Show

NOTE: All chapter show activities must be
cleared through the District Secretary.
PLEASE NOTIFY:

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

Pioneer District 1996 Spring Convention April 26 – 28, Lansing, Michigan

Friday

- *Registration, 11 am, lobby, Sheraton Hotel, will move to Waverly H.S. box office one hour before each event.
- *District Board of Directors meeting, 9 a.m.-12 noon.
- *District House of Delegates meeting, 2 p.m.
- *Barbershop Shop – all hours except during contests.
- *Raffle, Associated Charities, lobby, Sheraton Hotel.
- *Concessions, lobby, Waverly High School, before and during contests.
- *Trolley Shuttle, Sheraton – Waverly H.S., \$2.00 all events or \$1.00 each event, at registration desk only.
- ***Quartet Contest Preliminary, Waverly H.S. 8:00 p.m.**

Saturday

- *Registration, 9 am, lobby, Sheraton Hotel, will move to Waverly H.S. box office one hour before each event.
- ***Joe Barbershopper Chorus** followed immediately by **District Chorus Contest, Waverly High, 12 noon.**
- ***Mass Sing, Sheraton Hotel, 4 PM.**
- ***Quartet Contest Finals, Waverly High, 8:00 p.m.,** followed by **District Quartet Champions Chorus.**
- ***Collegiate Quartet Contest** – Where and when to be determined by the number of quartets competing. Please see convention program.
- *Afterglow, Sheraton Pool-side, following contest.
- *Hospitality rooms for all hotels/motels will be posted in Sheraton lobby. Chapters – notify Roger Lewis.

Sunday

- ***Sunday morning worship service/gospelsing, 9:15-10:00**

This schedule is as correct and complete as may be determined on the date of publication. Please consult the convention program for possible revisions.