

# Pioneer Troubadour

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



DECEMBER/JANUARY

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## Macomb to represent Pioneer in Anaheim

*Jim Styer*  
PioNet Administrator

The Macomb County chorus will represent Pioneer District at the international convention next summer in Anaheim, Calif.

Jack Slamka, the dad of the Power Play quartet, directed Macomb's Harmony Heritage Chorus with 52 men to a 5-point victory at the district's fall convention in Lansing, Mich.

Macomb scored 912 points with a double panel of judges and led in the music and presentation categories with "Just a Bundle of Old Love Letters" and "Darkness on the Delta."

Compared with all other choruses who already have become Society chorus representatives in their districts or possible "wild card" selections, Macomb ranks 13th. Among all Society choruses which competed at the district level, Macomb's score would put it in 26th place.

Placing second in the Pioneer District this fall was Lansing's Capital City Chordsmen, directed by Jamie Carey of the Firepower quartet. Lansing, with an elaborate set and production of "Mississippi Medley" and "Swanee," outpointed Macomb in the singing category. In the district prelims last fall, Lansing placed second to Grand Rapids by just 4 points.

The Macomb chorus began its renaissance last spring when it won as district champion, garnering first place with 47 men and a 131-point lead over Kalamazoo's Mall City Chorus, the Gratiot County Midstatesmen and Detroit-Oakland's Gentlemen Songsters. Grand Rapids and Lansing did not com-



HAUNTED HOSTS: Members of host chapter Lansing dressed for the event. GRAND SLAMKA: Power Play performs at the QCA show.



## FALL CONVENTION STANDINGS

### QUARTET

- 1 Upstage Sound
- 2 Resolution
- 3 Gallery (Lansing)
- 4 Grand Prix (Battle Creek)
- 5 Bayshore IV (Traverse City)
- 6 Chordiology (Huron Valley, Jack Thorne)
- 7 FourManFishin' TackleChoir (Petoskey, Traverse)
- 8 Northern Edition (Saginaw Bay)
- 9 Chord Order (Alpena)
- 10 Sump'N'Dfrnt (Kalamazoo)
- 11 Fortune Smiles

### CHORUS

- 1 Macomb County
- 2 Lansing
- 3 Grand Rapids
- 4 Traverse City
- 5 Detroit-Oakland
- 6 Kalamazoo
- 7 Grosse Pointe
- 8 Holland
- 9 Gratiot County
- 10 Huron Valley
- 11 Flint
- 12 Muskegon
- 13 Windsor
- 14 Monroe North
- 15 Battle Creek

pete in that contest.

The Macomb chorus last went to international in 1991 in Louisville, then also directed by Slamka.

This fall, Grand Rapids scored 866 to place third among 15 choruses, followed by Traverse City, Detroit-Oakland and Kalamazoo. The Huron Valley Harmonizers, directed in competition for the first time by Sweet Adeline Lynn Pierce, placed 10th with 22 on stage. Peirce suc-

ceeds longtime director Jim Stephens.

### QUARTET CHAMPION

New district chorus champion, with a 57-point lead at 1,722, is Upstage Sound from the Kalamazoo and Benton Harbor/St. Joe chapters. Members are tenor Raleigh Bloch of Kalamazoo, district VP of member services; lead Gene Hanover, director of the Kalamazoo chorus. **SEE CONVENTION,**

# Pioneer Troubadour

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## A View From The Top

### David Cole, President

## Stories of hobby collect with time



Similar to a child's sponge-like thirst for knowledge and information, so are the needs of our new members. This became very evident to me when my chapter visited the Netherlands. While we had many fond experiences, the one thing that continues to stand out in my memories is the quest for knowledge which all of the barbershoppers that we ran into needed to quench their thirsts. It wasn't a technical knowledge that they were looking for, but rather the experiences which we've enjoyed over the

years of barbershopping.

While performing on three shows for two different chapters, we were amazed in the similarities of personalities of barbershoppers who were 4,000 miles apart. While one chapter was more experienced in singing barbershop than the other, both were constantly looking for stories of what barbershopping was like in America. Of course we shared a few, as did they, and we even created a few together - how about a three hour and twenty minute show, not counting the afterglow!

Bringing our experiences closer to home, however, reminds me, and I hope you, that we need to share our experiences with the new guys. It gives them something to grab onto, knowing that

see **COLE**, page 10

## Youth Outreach provides outlet, raises awareness

Al Bonney  
Chairman,

District Youth Outreach Committee

Just as there isn't a Barbershop Chorus in the Society that wouldn't sell its soul for more/better singers, I'll bet there isn't a chorus director in any high school in Michigan who wouldn't like to have more boys singing in their chorus than they have today. Am I right?

One of the universal problems every music educator faces is tighter budgets putting increasing pressures on choral programs, frequently in the lower grades thereby reducing the number of students with choral skills as they approach the upper grades. Add to that pressures from macho dads and athletic peers who advocate more aggressive boys' activities than singing and you find daunting challenge facing music teachers trying to fill

their vocal ensembles with enough boys.

Our Society mission statement says that "The Society is to be an ever-growing fraternity of barbershop-style singers, leading the cause of encouraging vocal music in our schools and communities." Sounds like the problem and the vision are made for each other!

So why don't music educators rush out and embrace us when we present ourselves as willing saviors of the music programs in our school systems?

Maybe they don't see us that way!

Amidst the time constraints of rehearsals, performances, fund-raisers, and classes, music teachers are not looking for more work or alternatives.

Many are not aware of the strong educational focus available to them through the Society.

They are charged with educating stu-  
see **OUTREACH**, page 26

## Number One with a Bulletin

Chad Sanders  
Troubadour editor

In case you haven't heard, convention's back in Battle Creek next year. But you knew that. The BC crew has made *sure* we know that, even going so far as to haul Tony the Tiger away from his Frosted Flakes long enough to show up at October's Saturday night contest.

You'd think they were excited.

The convention preview (pg. 8) tells us that they're setting up trips to Cereal City and that Tony will be at convention. They also are working on putting a gigantic chorus onstage... anyone who wants to compete with them need only become a dual member.

Cool.

I'm worried, though. Three years in Battle Creek means at least six issues where I'll feel obligated to employ clever headline and cutline wordplay using a cereal device. How many times can I say "G-R-R-R-R-REAT!" (pg. 8) before it gets old? It is already? Dang

"Flakes" is probably out, due to the possible senility connotation. I could talk about a group's (lucky) Charms, but I don't think that's Kellogg's. Maybe the winner could "bowl" over the judges. Or maybe a quartet "milks" a tag. Or perhaps a neophyte group would be "bran" new? I probably shouldn't call anyone a "tart," Pop or otherwise, but the audience could Crackle with enthusiasm. Actually, maybe coming up with these isn't so hard after all... a Snap, even.

Over the next few years, though, feel free to email me if you've got some awful puns you'd like to share (I'm bracing for Doug's). I'd hate to be stuck up Battle Creek without a paddle.

-Chad

# Here's the Pitch

**Raleigh Bloch, Executive & Member Services VP**

## A little investment can reap huge membership dividends



And Pontiac wins! No, it's not a NASCAR race, but it was a race and the Pontiac Chapter won. They did? It wasn't the District Contest, but it was a District

Contest and the Pontiac Chapter won. They did? Well, what the heck are you talking about?

I'm talking about the race for new members. I'm talking about the District Con-

test that matched up all the chapters, big and small for the largest percent growth in membership since Dec. 31.

Yes, the Pontiac Chapter went head to head with Lansing, Macomb, Grand Rapids, Benton Harbor, etc. and won. Congratulations, Pontiac Chapter! Well what did they win? First and foremost they won more members. They were down to 22 members in December and are now up to 31 members. That's a 40.9% increase in nine months. Macomb was second with a 32.6% increase, followed by Rochester at 18.9% increase and then Benton Harbor with 15.8% increase. Again this is all within nine months. The

Pontiac Chapter also won our newly crowned District Quartet Champion, Upstage Sound, for their next show.

Wow! How did they do it? I'm glad you asked. According to Bill Dabs, the Pontiac Chapter President, they purchased signs that they posted by the roadside. These signs said, Male Singers forming new Chorus and give a phone number to call. They didn't emphasize barbershop, but when they had their open house, they were straightfor-

### Pontiac showcases recruitment success

ward and said, "hey, we're barbershoppers, give us a try. They had 50 signs and they cost them \$200.00. That effort brought down 18 men.

Then they did the same thing with signs, only this time it was for a Christmas Chorus. They sang out a lot and had a Christmas Party. Their new Director Chris Miller is a constant source of new ideas and doesn't let up on them. Bill said they are constantly on the lookout for new members.

So you see, it is possible to increase your chapter membership, but it doesn't happen by itself. It takes some effort. So why not join in on the fun, by having more members.



**Mailbag.**

## Audience acted thoughtlessly

It is a marvelous feeling to compete with such fine and dedicated singers in an atmosphere of fraternity and goodwill. It is also a joy to be a part of a well-organized and competent society. My congratulations to all who organized this Fall convention.

There is much that is out of your control, most of which can be easily dismissed and forgotten. There was, however, one incident I cannot forget. Saturday afternoon, when my chorus was singing, an infant cried (as infants are prone to do). I was not aware and am sure our performance was not affected by the "disturbance." And I will be so confident as to claim the same for the judges. After our two numbers, MC Don Challman made a general appeal that infants be quieted or removed from the auditorium, at which time followed applause.

It should be clear to any decent person that there is a vast chasm between disapproval, gently suggesting to someone that they might reconsider bringing a hungry or bored infant into the auditorium, and using public humiliation to punish the offender. I do not know who the mother/guardian is, and I do not pretend to speak on her behalf. But I am disappointed and angry with those who thoughtlessly applauded, when this should have been quickly dismissed and forgotten.

Your ever faithful barbershopper,  
Brian Hale, Kalamazoo



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# Public Relating

**Doug Pearson**, Marketing & Public Relations VP

## Opportunities to sell hobby available year-round



As you know, we don't need anyone to tell us about the joys of singing. In fact, Barbershoppers should be constant salesmen of the positive effect it has on

us every day of our lives.

Let's sell the joys of singing everywhere we go. Our Patch Chords quartet did this in 1998 through more than 40 performances around the state. The fact of the matter is that absolutely every Joe Barbershopper in our District can sell these joys. Remember, we're a PERFORMING Society, and that creates a whole bundle of PR opportunities. But fellas, it takes Planning with a capital P. Without planning these opportunities will slip away, seldom or never to appear again.

That said, let's all of us take a good, hard look at the Calendar Year 1999 and see what events may be translated into good public relations. Not all of these may be appropriate to your Chapter, but I have a hunch a good share of them are. Also, there will be many other PR opportunities for your Chapter not listed on this Calendar.

**JANUARY** — New Officer Announcements

**FEBRUARY** — Singing Valentines

**MARCH** — Show season

**APRIL** — District Convention, Harmony Month

**MAY** — Mothers Day (repeat singing valentines). School ends, Memorial Day

**JUNE** — Baseball, Flag Day (14th)

**JULY** — International Convention, July Fourth Celebrations, Canada Day, State Fair, Sports.

**AUGUST** — Music School, County Fairs, Harmony College in St. Joe, MO

**SEPTEMBER** — Labor Day, School Starts, Softball

**OCTOBER** — District Conventions

**NOVEMBER** — COTS, Thanksgiving

**DECEMBER** — Mall Singing, Holiday Chorus, Chapter Banquets, BOTY.

Now let's take a more specific look at a couple of these Calendar items to see where you and your chapter fit in.

It won't be too long before Valentines Day is upon us, and you know what that means. Most of our chapters have participated productively in the Singing Valentines program. Every song you sing to someone represents a golden PR opportunity, from the gal in the office to Governor Engler (yes, one of our district quartets was photographed with Engler during last February's Singing Valentines Day activities). And don't forget those photos! Send a copy to the person you've serenaded, and send 'em to your local media, the Troubadour and the Harmonizer.

Chapter shows also provide an excellent vehicle for solid media treatment. The Patch Chords headlined the Hillsdale Chapter show in October, and we were greeted at the door with a photo and article heralding the show on the FRONT PAGE of the local paper. If Hillsdale can do it, so can you.

And still another calendar day to remember is Flag Day. SPEBSQSA and the National Flag Day Foundation have made commitments to develop a long-term co-see **PEARSON**, page 11

## Kalamazoo Honors Gillespies

Raleigh Bloch  
Executive & Member Services VP

Back in 1986 John Gillespie voiced his opinion that Kalamazoo Chapter needed to do a better job of communicating to its members. Tom McCoy, who was then the chapter president, said: "if you're so concerned, would you be interested in publishing the monthly newsletter?" John said he would do it temporarily. So John and Betty began their temporary job of publishing the *Bulletune*.

On Tuesday, Oct 27, with wives and members present, John and Betty Gillespie were recognized and honored, by the Kalamazoo Chapter, for 12+ years of 'temporarily' publishing the *Bulletune*, our Chapter monthly publication. During that period of time the *Bulletune* was published each month without fail. The festivities were highlighted with the presentation of an engraved plaque that thanked them for their effort. John and Betty presented the Chapter a three ring binder, which included a copy of each *Bulletune* published.

President Raleigh Bloch mentioned that John and Betty often received no help with articles, but tirelessly ensured that our members and friends were informed of what was happening with the Kalamazoo Chapter. This binder provides us with a wonderful written history of our chapter and will be cherished by all the chapter members for years to come.

The evening was capped off with pizza, a decorated cake, which also thanked John and Betty for their effort, apple cider and coffee.

Incidentally, the night was also a guest night, which the guests said they thoroughly enjoyed and plan to be back. Which helps to prove that there is never a bad time to have a guest night, if you plan it right.

# Chapter Coaching

## Doran McTaggart, DVP-CSLT

### Teamwork, variety key to lively meetings



Happy New Year 1999!

The Leadership Training part of CSLT is completed. Your newly elected chapter officers have been trained at

COTS and are wound up like a two dollar watch. They are charged with a fresh spurt of energy, filled with excitement and are planning for a tremendous year of barbershopping.

They know how important it is to work together for the good of the chapter. They will start by taking another look

at your chapter's unique Mission Statement. Does it need any revisions or updating? Are we really who we say we are? Is our chapter really what it says it is? Your chapter coach can keep you true to your Mission Statement. He is the conduit, the resource person who can help you reach your potential. This is the CS, Chapter Support of CSLT.

All sorts of exciting activities are being included in your yearly programming: conventions, competitions, annual show, inter-chapter visitations, performances in the community, barbecues, fish fries, corn roasts, ladies' nights, Singing Valentines, Barberpole Cats, novice quartet contests and other special nights.

Every chapter meeting must be well

planned to provide a variety of activities that your chapter members will enjoy. A chapter meeting must be "FUN" or a member will soon be looking for the exit door.

Last year, one third of our Pioneer chapters had a change in their chorus directors. Many were just plainly burned out. Rather than having just one person up front during the meeting, plan to have many people involved. The music leadership team can be utilized each meeting night. The chorus director, assistant director, section leaders, teaching quartets, librarian and others can contribute to the evening. The president, charities chairman and membership team are also scheduled into the meeting each week.

see **McTAGGART**, page 13

## Take Note

### Fred Kienitz, CDD VP



Dear Arm Wavers,

In the past two issues of our *Troub.* I outlined my future plans and some of the GOOD things we will be doing in the

very near future and on a long range basis.

Please be assured that we will indeed have a "Directors' Class" at the MSU Harmony Roundup May 14-16, 1999. Plans are under way for serving the needs of both the new and seasoned directors in Pioneer. Bill Rashleigh, director extraordinaire from our Society's Headquarters will be the guest faculty

for this two-day session. So be sure to mark your calendars for this power-packed weekend. Bill is one of the best chorus staff members at the International Office.

Just hot off the presses, I have been able to set up my northernmost Workshop Intensive for Gaylord, Traverse City, Sault Ste. Marie, Boyne City (Petosky), Gratiot County, and Alpena. Hopefully, our Gaylord brothers will be able to host this event on June 26, 1999. I'll let you know later.

All directors involved should set this day aside and avoid vacations or other family responsibilities for this date. I will be contacting all directors involved and furnish all pertinent information needed for your training session.

This is an awesome day and you will enjoy and learn a great deal from the ex-

## Take time to see what your membership has to offer

perience.

Now, I need to insert a confession into this minor epistle.

I spent about 25 years directing both the guys and gals and swore I would never do it again. Well, I lied. A month before contest I offered my services to the Flint chapter if John Noteware, also a retired keeper of the Chords, would agree to join me in a co-director endeavor. To make a long story short, he did, I did, and we did go to contest and found out we only have 10 choruses to beat to win both the District Championship and the honor of representing the district at International.

I mentioned in the last *Troubadour* that I would be compiling a questionnaire or check list so you could respond to what may be of special interest to you.

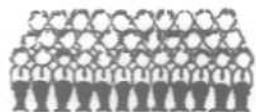
see **KIENITZ**, page 10

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# Spring Convention preview: It's G-r-r-r-eat!

*Jim Styer*  
**Battle Creek PR**  
*Roger Lewis*  
**Convention Chair**

As Pioneer District conventions return next spring to Battle Creek, a healthy and hearty meal of cereal will be topped with mounds of barbershop. And some new premiums will be in the cereal box.

The Battle Creek Chapter will host the convention and hopes to hit the stage with the largest competition chorus the district has ever heard. The chapter is inviting *all barbershoppers* in the district to become *dual members* of the Battle Creek Chapter.

Well over 150 barbershoppers could compete together in the Cereal City Chorus by paying a dual-member fee of \$9 and an additional amount, maybe around \$10, for a special Cereal City Chorus uniform with a cereal theme.

The huge chorus will be led in one of its songs by Darryl Flinn, the Society's executive director. Flinn will be the Society's representative to the convention. The other song will be directed by Ed Fritzen, and perhaps additional guest directors who sign up with the chorus.

Minimal rehearsal will be required because the two competition songs to be selected will be ones that most barbershoppers already know. Details on signing up will be announced later.

The same idea was used in the Dixie District this fall and the resulting chorus placed fourth in competition.

Because Battle Creek will be the host

chapter, its Cereal City Chorus will choose to sing last, so dual members can compete with both their home chorus and the Cereal City hosts.

In addition, members also can participate as mike-testers with the Joe Barbershop Chorus. That will be directed by Jack Slamka, director of the Macomb Chapter's Harmony Heritage Chorus, which will represent the district at the International convention next summer in Anaheim, Calif.

So — for the first time ever — Pioneer District barbershoppers who can make arrangements will be able to sing with three separate choruses in one afternoon.

Kellogg's Tony the Tiger, who appeared at the fall convention in Lansing, also is expected to play a prominent role in the spring convention.

The spring convention will be Friday-Sunday, April 23-25, and will be headquartered at the renovated McCamly Plaza Hotel, formerly called Stouffer's Battle Creek Hotel. The district chorus competition will be at noon Saturday and the international preliminary quartet competitions will be Friday and Saturday evenings, all at the nearby W.K. Kellogg Auditorium.

After the contest Friday night, Macomb County will stage a show at McCamly Plaza Hotel — only \$5 for a ticket, and it's a great way to support our chorus rep to Anaheim.

Another added feature — and possible site for the mass sing — will be the new Kellogg Cereal City USA, which opened last summer. It features a simulated ce-

real assembly line and several interactive cereal exhibits. Barbershoppers will even have a chance to get their pictures on a box of Kellogg's Corn Flakes.

Also, on Saturday morning, a special ladies' and guests' tour of the cereal facility will include a continental breakfast — with cereal, of course.

The Battle Creek Chapter and District Convention Committee are working on further details, which will be announced later. Dick Campbell is convention chairman for the host chapter and Roger Lewis, also of Battle Creek, is district convention chairman.

District conventions will remain in Battle Creek for three years, after a five-year stint in Lansing. They previously were in Battle Creek for six years.

Convention and hotel reservation forms are in the current issue of the *Troubadour* and also will be available on the district's Web site and the PioNet email list.

Begin now making your plans to sing in the Pioneer District's largest-ever competition chorus and fill your cereal bowl next spring with a heaping mound of barbershop.

Doug (517) 351-9587	Rich (517) 482-0365
	
(517) 521-3218 Roger	(517) 321-3941 Larry

<b>Unlawful</b> <b>ASSEMBLY</b>  YOU WILL LIKE OUR SINGING	
Raleigh	Gene
<b>To put out a contract... contact</b> Gene Hanover PO Box 259 - Bridgman, MI 49106 616 - 465 - 6223	
Gary	Ed

# YOUR AD HERE.

(really! See page two for details)



# Holland chapter purchases local theater for rehearsals, community performance hall

*Art Lane*  
Bulletin Editor, Holland

The Holland Windmill Chapter of barbershop music singers is purchasing the long-closed Park Theater in Holland as a rehearsal space and as a future performing space for community groups.

The theater, on River avenue across from Centennial Park stopped showing movies in 1984 and has been vacant since, except for several months as a teen center in 1989.

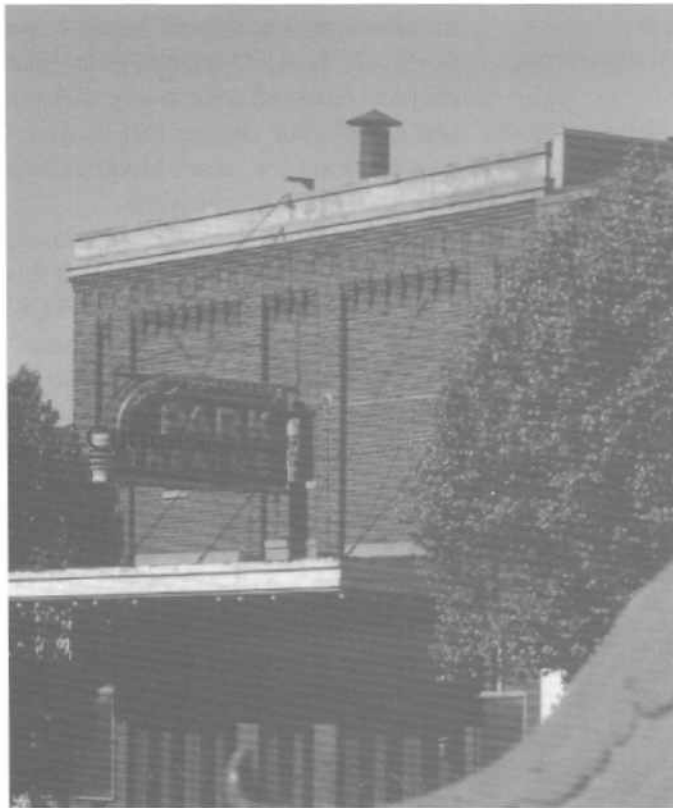
The Holland barbershoppers plan to repair the roof and heating systems and use the theater as their weekly rehearsal space. Over the next few years they plan to turn the theater into a first-class performing hall for themselves and other community organizations, according to Steve Foster, president.

The long-term plan contemplates a fully refurbished theater of 300 to 400 seats, suitable for music, dance, theater, and cultural productions. Improvements will include an enlarged stage, an addition behind the stage for dressing rooms, rest rooms and stage entrances, and curtains and lighting for performances. The barbershop singers will use it for shows and rent it to other groups.

"The Park Theater is a key part of Holland," president Foster said. "It is near the Holland Museum, the City Hall, the Herrick Library, several churches and a thriving business district."

The chapter plans to seek the assistance of major contributors in the community to help fund the renovation of the theater.

The Park Theater started as a feed mill over 80 years ago and became a movie theater about 1920. It was owned by two insurance men, Raven and Kramer, whose office was just south of the theater. Later it was operated by Carley Theaters and then by Butterfield Theaters. It briefly had an orchestra to play along with silent movies but the orches-



A view of Holland's historic Park theater, recently purchased by the Holland Chapter for meetings and performances.

tra moved to the Knickerbocker Theater and was replaced by a big Wurlitzer organ. The organ burned in 1936.

The theater originally was named the Colonial but became the Park in the 1940s. It made the change to wide-screen Cinemascope but bowed to television, videotapes, and multiple screen theaters. When it closed the building was purchased by the owners of the Phoenix Building just north of the theater.

Since the Park will again be a performance place, the Holland Chapter of the barbershoppers would like information and memories of when it was a movie theater, according to chapter historian Dal Bekker. Persons with memories to share may call him at 392-7735.

The Holland Chapter of SPEBSQSA was formed in 1945 by Willis A. Diekema, president of DePree Chemical Co. of Holland and other prominent members of the community. Diekema

went on to help set barbershop music standards and wrote arrangements for more than 200 songs. He wrote the words and music to the Society's first theme song, "Keep America Singing." Another Holland barbershopper, banker Clarence Jalving, was elected the Society's president for 1960.

The chapter's Holland Windmill Chorus, in 1954 under the direction of Francis Hodgeboom, sang in the International competition in Washington, D.C. The chorus won district honors in 1963 and 1993 led by

Myke Lucas, the present director. The chorus has had several district champion quartets.

The Holland Chapter first met in the Warm Friend Hotel, then in a number of second and third floor locations in the downtown area of Holland. In the 1980s, the chapter bought a former pizza parlor on North River Avenue and converted it into a pine-paneled Harmony Hall. This building was sold in 1997. The chapter and chorus now meet at 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Evergreen Commons.

Several years ago, chorus members brought their flashlights and took a look at the cold and silent Park Theater. They climbed onto the stage and sang a few songs. Thus was born the desire to restore the old theater as a center of music and entertainment for the Holland community.

Take Note...

# Directors: get back to basics

**KIENITZ**, from page 6

This will be coming to you soon through the mail.

Now I would like to share some of my own ideas with you on how we might all approach the most important job in your chapter, namely that of chorus director.

I'll begin by making a few statements that members may make that would apply to about 95% of all chapter choruses.

1. These singers are not being stimulated in rehearsals.
2. They are not being challenged to learn the notes and words to new songs.
3. The singers are not being asked to commit themselves NOW to be the very best members they can be, like being number 1.
4. The singers are never asked what their goals might be because only the goals of the director and music committee as important.
5. These singers are seldom, if ever, asked what skills they possess that could and would be beneficial to the chapter chorus - i.e.

- A. Arranging
- B. Set building
- C. Section leading
- D. Directing
- E. Script writing
- F. Acting talent
- G. Organizing: activities, social events, mini-directors contest, mini quartet contest, or theater technique
- H. Choreography or movement techniques

6. These singers truly believe they have nothing to offer because they are never asked what they could offer our chapter. Case in point: Three people in my chapter sell about \$5000 worth of advertising for our show program. With the additional input from over 90% of the remaining membership we never reach \$6,000.

We have no idea what many of our

members are capable of because we never ask them. Directors, go to your chapter board and collectively sit down and assess your chapter and its members and look for "new" blood to help kick-start the "old" members.

Now, the general membership should stop reading here because the rest of this article is for directors only, unless YOU want to help your director and chorus.

As mentioned earlier, I returned to the podium after a hiatus of about ten years. And, needless to say I picked right up at the same spot I left. It only took two rehearsals to discover what I had been doing wrong before, and what I needed answers to, in order to do a different and, more important, better job than before. I came up with some ideas that I feel will make mine a better chorus and would like to share them with you. Before you get the idea that I'm truly a genius, however, I would like to let you in on a little secret.

I've had the opportunity within the past few months to attend some great educational classes with outstanding directors as the faculty in both our Society and the Sweet Adeline's International Organization.

Without exception, they have already gone through the various number of internal problems facing our groups and have set up a highly organized plan to look at problems, take them apart, see what needs to be done to fix them, and put them all back together again as a guide to their ultimate goal, namely, to be "sitting on top of the world."

Now a few ideas from me to you and perhaps together we can begin the arduous task of putting Pioneer back "On top of the World".

1. We all begin with warm-up exercises, if you are similar to mine, its gagsville, USA. If you do not do so already, use some good vocal production techniques that will carry over into your other music.

## Thanks to all for 'Fat Fingers' roast

I'm sure that most of you knew about the "Follow the Fat Fingers" Roast held in my honor the week after contest on October 23. I have spent hours and hours writing "thank you" notes to people who attended my "Get Fred" night and I want to make sure I reach everyone. So to those of you whom I missed, I send the following:

Probably one of the most humbling experiences I've ever had in my life is to face an entire throng of people and come to realize that every single one of those present are there because at one time or another our lives have crossed and we have had one of the most meaningful experiences ever, namely, when that special bond is created between two people and we realize that our lives are now just a little fuller because we have a new friend.

Thank you "friend" for sharing your time with me on this special occasion. Your presence, cards, notes, comments, or your thoughts makes me one of the wealthiest men I know.

As a point of information, there was enough money left over to send a donation to Harmony Foundation for Sing America/Sing Canada and also a scholarship for someone to attend next summer's Harmony College.

Get them to view singing as very slow talking. This makes turning of diphthongs an important item. It gets the singer to realize that we can only sing vowel and singable consonant sounds to deliver our message. The song "Down Our Way" is filled with tons of the examples we try to perfect in good vocal production. Sing it extremely slowly  
see **KIENITZ**,

## Hobby makes for some harmonious memories

COLE, from page 3

in time they too will have their own stories to tell. Often, it doesn't take very long before that story develops. What's your story - have you shared it with anyone lately? The PioNet is always looking for information - what a great vehicle to broadcast *your* story.

Here's a recent story of mine: not knowing what to expect, nor having any preconceptions we boarded a KLM-747 bound for the Netherlands. We spent ten days total in the motherland, having performed on three shows, and in a church built in the 1400's - WOW! But this memory didn't happen until the last moments of the trip. Traveling back home, at about 36,000 feet, not having slept too much, and feeling a little home sick, one of the guys tapped me on the shoulder and said let's sing a couple. It was noisy, cramped and my ears were plugged, but we sang a couple anyway. It just so happened that we were singing next to the airline attendant's relaxation area. Once we started singing, they drew open their privacy curtains and instantly we had an audience of three, which quickly grew to five, six and more. We sang a few more, sat down with smiles on our faces, as did they, and arrived shortly thereafter. Gentlemen, to me, that's what barbershopping is all about.

As the Holiday Season quickly approaches, I wish you many fond memories of this past year which you can share with everyone whom you call a brother of barbershopping. Happy Holidays everyone!

## Tony the Tiger closes contest, ushers in spring convention

Jim Styer  
Battle Creek PR

Tony the Tiger, Kellogg's world-renowned spokesanimal, made a surprise visit to the Pioneer District fall convention.

It was the last of five years of district conventions in Lansing, Michigan's capital city, and the smiling six foot tall tiger came to welcome conventioners back to Battle Creek for the next three years of conventions.

Conventions previously had been in the Cereal City for six years. After Saturday evening's quartet finals, The Detroit Sound Company hit the stage to do its swan songs as district champion, excited and then immediately returned with the Cereal City Chorus of Battle Creek to perform Kellogg's "Snap, Crackle, Pop" in barbershop-harmony style.

Toward the end of the jingle, the furry Tony slowly walked on stage from the wings ... to a roar from the audience ... but with his head bowed in dejection. He was accompanied by Sue Lewis (wife of convention chairman Roger Lewis), sporting a "Tony Loves Barbershop" T-shirt.

"What about me?" Tony mimed, thinking Snap, Crackle and Pop were stealing his thunder.

"Oh, no, Tony, we haven't forgotten you," responded MC extraordinaire Doran McTaggart of Windsor. "We



HEP CAT? Next year, convention moves to Battle Creek for a three-year stay. To welcome the move, Kellogg's own Tony the Tiger made an appearance at Saturday night's show. Tony was greeted with laughter and applause.

know that Tony loves barbershop." Tony perked up, applauded the singers and raised his paws in a salute to the audience.

Doran reminded all that in the early 1900s, Battle Creek had more than 100 cereal companies, and now it's still got Ralston and Post (with Sugar Bear) and is world headquarters of Kellogg, with all its breakfast-food characters. It also has the new interactive Kellogg Cereal City USA, with a cereal assembly line and a chance for visitors to get their faces on cereal boxes ... and will "bring together two GR-R-R-R-R-R-

REAT American traditions -- cereal and barbershop harmony."

Well, that set it all right again with Tony, who engulfed Doran in a huge furry hug and exited through the audience, cheerily waving welcomes to 1,000 barbershoppers and families. In the lobby, Tony bent down to greet several small children, including one young boy who rushed up, hugged Tony and said, "I love corn flakes!"



# Convention notebook

The Slamka family's Power Play quartet introduced its just-completed second CD, "A Musical Scrapbook," including "The Little Boy." According to some reports, a third CD is being considered.

• Longtime director, MC and district official Fred Kienitz of Flint was inducted into the Hall of Fame, the district's highest honor. He currently is board vice president of chorus director development. It was a rare occasion when big, friendly Fred was caught speechless.

## The District Board:

- Recommended that the Society end the new procedure in which a Society committee reviews and approves nominees to district boards.
- Recommended name changes from the Pontiac Chapter and Merry Motor Men Chorus to the Pontiac-Waterford Chapter and Big Chief Chorus. This will need Society approval.
- Recommended a new position: board vice president for youth outreach, which will have to voted on next

year by the House of Delegates.

- Supported a proposal to pursue chorus and quartet competition entries on-line.
  - Approved an increase in district mileage reimbursement from 15 cents to 20 cents per mile.
- Society Board Member Don Challman reported:
- The Society is asking district boards to develop five-year measurable goals and objectives.
  - A Society dues increase proposed for 2000 might be moved ahead to 1999.

## The House of Delegates:

- Approved a 1999 budget which will require no district dues increase.
- Elected all of the 1998 officers to the same positions for 1999. In addition, Joel Mills of Grand Rapids, vice president for contest and judging, also will hold the position of executive vice president.

compiled by Jim Styer

## Thanks given to all Joe Barbershop members for 'huge success'

Thanks to the 70 singers who helped make the Joe Barbershop Chorus a huge success! Special kudos to the 40 Grand Rapids guys who chose to support Pioneer by joining us and competing with their own chapter chorus. Thanks, also, to the 10 - 15 dudes from the Wayne chapter. If I remember correctly, we had JBC members from the following chapters: Grand Rapids, Wayne, Rochester, Muskegon, Battle Creek, Huron Valley, Windsor, Milford, Pontiac, DOC, Flint, Hillsdale, Gratiot County, and Kalamazoo.

Yeah, I know, I fretted more than necessary, but I am very impressed with our wonderful performance and personally gratified with another barbershop "high."

Al Fisk, Director  
1998 Fall Joe Barbershop Chorus

## Public Relating...

# Need publicity? Check the calendar for ideas

**PEARSON**, from page 5

operative effort to promote Flag Day in June which they hope will be highlighted by a National Pause for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chapters will be encouraged to make initial contact concerning the National Pause through their mayor's office. Chapters are also advised to find other organizations with which to cosponsor a Flag Day event, such as VFW, American Legion, DAR, League of Women Voters, Scouts, etc.

Society headquarters has an ambitious publicity campaign planned to promote

participation among our chapters, plus a campaign to heighten public awareness of the National Pause and SPEBSQSA involvement. If you're interested in more information at this time, direct any questions to Public Relations Specialist Reed Sampson at Harmony Hall, 800-876-7464, ext. 8592, or email to [rsampson@spebsqsa.org](mailto:rsampson@spebsqsa.org).

Finally, during the entire year, don't forget your allied groups for networking and linkages. Here are just a few to get your thinking started:

High Schools, Junior High Schools, Colleges, Libraries, Museums, Historical

Societies, Radio/TV/PBS, Youth Groups, Men's Clubs, Arts Councils, Performing Arts Groups, School Drama Clubs, Nursing Homes, Hotels, Convention and Visitors Bureaus, Other Singing Groups, Sports, Sweet Adelines, Harmony Inc., Hospitals and Churches.

So there you are. A pretty full calendar for 1999 — a chance to plan a bang-up public relations program for the many activities and programs that lie ahead. It should be an exciting year, so let's all of us make sure these upcoming PR opportunities don't slip between the cracks.

You've just finished the  
**best show** you can  
remember.

You're **excited.**

The **WHOLE CHORUS**  
is excited.

Now that it's over, you can  
relax, reminisce, and...

**Not yet** you can't.

Before the moment's gone,  
put it down in words.

Then **send it** to  
the *Troubadour*.

email it.

snail mail it.

fax it.

FedEx it.

Western Union it.

However you get it there,

**You Must  
Submit!**

Because,  
**face it...**

if you want your horn  
tooted, you better  
be the one  
**blowin'.**

Pioneer  
**Troubadour**  
Official Publication of the Pioneer District,  
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of  
Barbershop Singing in America, Inc.

## Get everyone involved, offer mix of activities every week

McTAGGART, from page 6

What teamwork! Let's have many people up front, taking part, sharing their talents instead of burning out your chorus director night after night.

Every chapter meeting must include a variety of activities. The chapter meeting is more than a chorus rehearsal. The Eight Points To Fun program includes the following: warm-ups, woodshedding, craft, break, business, gang singing, quartet activity and chorus rehearsal.

Is your chapter as healthy as it could be? Have you experienced a loss in membership? Are there fewer members attending your chapter meetings? Are there no guests to introduce and welcome?

Does your chapter have any of the following areas of concern: only three parts present, no community performances scheduled, no annual show, no guest nights planned, no participation at conventions, and the list goes on? Is your chapter the best kept secret in your community?

Your chapter coach is well-trained, eager to help and has access to all of the resources to enable you to put your chapter back on the road to success. One phone call can start this winning process. What are you waiting for? Make that call NOW! Communication is a two-way street. Your members will thank you because you took the initiative to put your chapter on the right road to success.

## Singing Valentines (and great PR chances) coming soon

*Doug Pearson*

**Marketing & Public Relations VP**

The Pioneer District received excellent play in the "Singing Valentines 1998" section of the Society's recent "Harmonizer" magazine.

The 4 County Connection quartet from Lansing was pictured with Governor John Engler. The quartet traveled 100 miles in delivering 50 Singing Valentines. Quartet member Don Horton capitalized on the fact that Engler was in Owosso at the time, and Don set up the photo with Engler and sent it to the Harmonizer.

In addition, the Grand Rapids chapter received the following publicity in the Valentines section: "Tom

Rademacher, a writer for the Grand Rapids Press newspaper, devoted a full column to Singing Valentines in the Sunday edition following Valentine's Day. Rademacher spent all Friday accompanying one of the chapter quartets as it made its rounds, and his firsthand account of the effect of this form of gift-giving on recipients was described as 'musical magic.'"

The 1999 Singing Valentines activity will soon be upon us. When you croon your love messages, don't forget a photo and write-up for the *Harmonizer*, the local media, the *Troubadour* and your chapter bulletin.

Doug Pearson  
dpearson8@juno.com

### 1999 TROUB DEADLINES

Jan. 15

March 15

May 15

July 15

Sept. 15

Nov. 15

# A Matter of Convention

rus; bari Ed Fritzen, director of the Battle Creek chorus and former Kalamazoo director; and bass Kerry Foley.

Upstage Sound previously had performed and competed as Unlawful Assembly, a foursome of convicts doing comedy routines.

The quartet succeeds Detroit Sound Company as district champs. A Detroit Sound Company member, J. Kelley Brummett, competed as tenor this fall in Chordiology from Huron Valley and Frank Thorne, which placed sixth.

Placing second was Resolution from Grosse Pointe, Macomb and Motor City Metro. It was followed closely by Gallery from Lansing and Grand Prix from Battle Creek. Placing fifth among the 16 quartets was Bayshore IV from

Traverse City.

With more than a dozen years performing and competing, this was the first time Grand Prix made the cut into the finals. One of the members is bass Don Burill, who sang with district champs Four D Minors in 1974.

All of the top quartets this fall finished in the same positions in both the semifinals and the finals.

No quartets which have sung on the international stage competed in this fall's district championship contest.

Interesting names abounded among the competing quartets: Sounds Like Fun (Grand Rapids), One Brick Short (Holland, Kalamazoo and Macomb), Sump-n-dfrnt (Kalamazoo), Acapella Four Piece Band (Traverse City) and Four Man Fishin' Tackle

Choir (Petoskey and Traverse City), which was named the novice champion.

## SENIOR CONTEST

Winning the senior quartet contest was Class Reunion from Holland. Members are tenor Al Walters, lead Myke Lucas, bass Del Doctor and bari Bernie Poelman. Walters and Poelman were members of Flipside, Pioneer senior quartet champs last year. Lucas was a member of district champion Chord Counts in 1959. Poleman was a member of district champ the Galaxies of Grand Rapids in 1973. Doctor, in the late 1960s with the Kasual D's, placed second in the district twice and second in international prelims twice. Lucas and Doctor both have directed the Holland chorus.



**BOO WHO?** Tony the Tiger wasn't the only costumed gent convention weekend. The looming Halloween holiday brought out the latent kid in a few folks.

**BROOM SERVICE:** Papa's got a brand-new hag, as Alpena's Gene Johnson (left) spends some quality time with a roving witch. **PUMPKIN HEAD:** Some barbershoppers found the information scarecrow to be a bit of a stuffed shirt. **RABBIT RUN:** As raffle ticket chairman, Don Horton energized the conference by beating the drum for a good cause.



**HONORED:** Latest H congratulated by Distri



**FIRED UP:** The Quartet Only crowd. One of the quartet FIREPOWER!



**MINOR CHORDS:** QC Quartet Champions Sho

# Convention

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HONORED: Latest Hall of Fame inductee Fred Kienitz (left) is congratulated by District President David Cole.



FIRED UP: The Quartet Champions Show played to a Standing Room Only crowd. One of the show's features was a performance by QCA quartet FIREPOWER!



MINOR CHORDS: QCA quartet Four D Minors performs at the Quartet Champions Show.



WHO? Tony the Tiger wasn't the only costumed gentleman on weekend. The looming Halloween holiday brought out a talent kid in a few folks.

BARBERSHOP SERVICE: Papa's got a brand-new hag, as Alpena's Johnson (left) spends some quality time with a roving barbershopper.

PUMPKIN HEAD: Some barbershoppers found the tradition scarecrow to be a bit of a stuffed shirt. RABBIT: Raffle ticket chairman, Don Horton energized the crowd by beating the drum for a good cause.





...all of Fame inductee Fred Kienitz (left) is  
...ct President David Cole.



**DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE:** Assuring a smooth  
conference flow is Lansing Chapter member Marv  
Rhynard (right). **SENIOR 'CLASS':** Holding their  
trophies and being congratulated by fellow  
barbershoppers are Holland's Al Walters, Myke Lucas,  
Del Doctor and Bernie Poelman, members of Senior  
Quartet Champion Class Reunion. **FRIENDLY HOSTS:**  
Busy at the registration desk are Lansing's Frank  
Richards and his wife.



Champions Show played to a Standing Room  
...e show's features was a performance by QCA



**WARM WELCOME:**  
Society Board  
Member and  
special  
convention guest  
Don Challman  
(far left) is  
welcomed by  
incoming  
Lansing Chapter  
President Brian  
Dunckel.



A quartet Four D Minors performs at the  
...w.



**HARMONY HOUSE:**  
The Barbershop  
Shop was again a  
popular stop for  
convention  
goers.

**NO REST FOR  
THE WICKED  
(OK, MAYBE A  
LITTLE):**  
A trio of  
conventioners  
takes a short  
break before  
returning to the  
fray.

photos by  
Doug Pearson



The Detroit-Oakland Chapter, SPEBSQSA, Inc.  
and THE GENTLEMEN SONGSTERS CHORUS  
present their 60th Parade of Harmony



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THOMAS UICKER, 29257 SOUTHGATE DR, SOUTHFIELD, MI 48076

# Chapters in Action

## Holland

by Art Lane

### Chorus Joins in Three Shows During Netherlands Tour

The Holland Windmill Chorus has returned from its first European singing tour, performing in three barbershop shows and a church service during a 10-day visit to the Netherlands.

The singers' first, informal, performance was in the airport near Amsterdam, where members of a host chapter, Whale City Sound, met us and joined in some songs and tags.

The chorus sang in two shows in Purmerend, near Amsterdam, with Whale City Sound, a barbershop chorus from nearby Zaandam, and West Side Sound, a women's barbershop chorus. The shows had American music as their theme and included a Dixieland combo.

Each of the choruses sang American songs, with the Dutch singers performing mostly in English. The singers from Zaandam are part of the Dutch Association of Barbershop Singers, a group affiliated with barbershopping in America.

The Holland Windmill Chorus, clad in tuxedos and black wooden shoes, finished its part of the show with its trademark song, the high-kicking "Barbershop Strut." Director of the chorus is Myke Lucas of Spring Lake.

The singers from Michigan found that Dutch barbershop audiences are accustomed to shows lasting more than three hours, with leisurely intermissions. After each show, the Dixieland combo



**DUTCH TREAT:** As the Statue of Liberty shimmers in the background the Holland Windmill Chorus completes its "Showtime USA" performance during the Whale City Sound show in Purmerend, the Netherlands.



**LILTING AT WINDMILLS:** Myke Lucas leads Holland Windmill Chorus members and their guests in singing during a cruise past windmills at Kinderdijk on the chorus's trip to the Netherlands.

moved to the lobby and continued playing, and members of all three choruses joined to sing informally, while members of the audience stayed for refreshments and to appreciate the singing. Many barbershop music arrangements are known by singers around the world and are readily performed by singers who have never met before.

The Michigan singers performed four stirring religious songs in barbershop style at a Sunday morning service in Grote Kerk of Westzaan. This tall church of stone and brick, some 400 years old, magnified those barbershop chords. The singers, seated on a stone floor, looked

down to find their chairs placed on the graves of people buried there in the 1600s and 1700s. Singing in the church was so fulfilling that president Steve Foster said, "If we left today, I would feel like this was a great trip."

Members of Whale City Sound presented each member of the Holland Windmill Chorus with an audio tape of the chorus' singing at the church and in the show.

The Dutch quartet Spice of Life visited the travelers at their hotel in Arnhem for an evening of singing.

The chorus' third show was with the  
see **HOLLAND**, pg. 18

A mixed  
a cappella  
sextet

# Kindred Spirits

Contact:  
Ken Gibson  
(517) 351-8056  
Kennysing@aol.com

Bruce      Craig      Mike      Brian

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# Chapters in Action

**HOLLAND**, from pg. 17

Frisian Harmonizers of Leeuwarden. The show was held at a former church which now serves as a community performing arts center in the rural village of Wergea, near Leeuwarden. Though the Harmonizers perform mostly in English, they have a great rendition of "Bill Grogan's Goat" sung in Frisian, a language only somewhat related to Dutch.

The next evening, the Holland Windmill Chorus said farewell to the Netherlands at a singing get together held by the Frisian Harmonizers. The Harmonizers gave packets of tulip bulbs and bread to the visiting Americans.

The Windmill Chorus presented both of its host choruses with plaques in memory of the occasion, seals of the City of Holland sent by Mayor Al McGeenhan, and booklets telling about the founding of the Holland colony in Michigan. In addition, Jack C. Oonk made sure that each chapter received copies of our tag book.

While in Europe, the Holland Chapter put out its first overseas edition of the chapter bulletin *The Windmill Blade*. Editor Art Lane finished up the September issue of the *Blade* on a Whale City member's computer in Zaandam and printed it on a supermarket copier in Amsterdam for distribution to members and hosts in Zaandam and Leeuwarden.

Between singing engagements, the 51-member group, which included 29 singers and 22 wives and barbershop fans, toured the Netherlands by bus. They visited Amsterdam, Delft, the Hague, the windmills and canals of Kinderdijk, the site of a World War II battle for a bridge in Arnhem, the Netherlands Open Air Museum near Arnhem, a mechanical music machine museum in Utrecht, a windmill museum and group of working windmills at Zaanse Schans (as guests of Whale City Sound), the old towns of Enkhuizen and Elburg,

the former royal hunting palace of Het Loo, the canals of Giethoorn, and the port towns of Sneek and Hindeloopen in Friesland.

Several group members visited with relatives and friends from the Netherlands during the trip. Four hardy barbershoppers rented a car one day and toured the only Trappist monastery in the Netherlands where monks brew beer. Ten of the travelers stayed in Europe for another week and cruised up the Rhine to Switzerland and several couples stayed on for other adventures.

Among the group were Dick Plaisted, now of Minneapolis, who was president of the Holland Chapter when it first made contact with Whale City Sound, and ardent barbershoppers Russ and Shirley Seely of the Grosse Pointe chapter.

Now back home, the travelers have scheduled a reunion dinner at which everybody's photos, videos, and memories can be shared. And there is talk of another trip, somewhere, sometime.

## Sing it Again

Hats off to Holland's new champions, Class Reunion, winners of the 1998 Pioneer District senior quartet contest. They are tenor Al Walters, lead Myke Lucas, bass Del Doctor, and baritone Bernie Poelman. Here's an especially big cheer for Del Doctor, who returned to singing this spring after having both hips replaced. Del is a former director of both the Holland and Muskegon choruses and a longtime quarteter who never won a contest. Al and Bernie are repeaters, having competed in Tampa with Flipside, and Bernie won the district contest in 1973 with Galaxies. Myke, director of the Holland Windmill Chorus, won the Pioneer quartet championship in 1958 with the Chord Counts. Myke told the chorus members about the senior championship, "It shows you there's an awful lot of singing ahead of you."

And here's a cheer for Holland member Dave Cole and his quartet One Brick Short, which placed last in the district quartet contest, but delivered two great parodies.

## Officers Named

Steve Foster has been reelected president of the Holland Windmill Chapter. Other 1999 officers include Mark Andrew, secretary; Paul Bekker, treasurer; Dave Cole, music vice president; and Jack C. Oonk, vice president of chapter development. A new position, chorus manager, will be filled by Dale Bekker. The director in Myke Lucas, with Mike Oonk as assistant director. Board members include Claude Barney, Ken Cook, Jim Wojahn, Don Gutheil, Bill McAndrew, and James Hall.

## Detroit-Oakland

by Tom Uiker

The big news for this article is a report on Detroit-Oakland's "Canada Night," held (as usual) on the first Friday of November. We had 90 people in attendance from 11 chapters. Six mini-choruses competed for the "Old Oakland Bucket," including two from Detroit-Oakland, one each from Windsor and Wayne, a combined group from Macomb and Motor City Metro, and one more called "Those Other Guys." Wayne's mini-chorus took third place. Windsor, the defending champs, came in second. And, for the first time in the history of the "Old Oakland Bucket," the host chapter won first place with DOC's "Mini-Songsters." Thanks to our judges: Al Fisk (Rochester), Jim Ryan (Frank Thorne), Steve Sutherland (DOC), and Contest Administrator Marv Skupski (Wayne).

Four quartets helped to entertain the crowd — DOC's Crosstown Exchange, the Mix Masters from Windsor, the Ambassadors from Macomb and Windsor, and Uncle Sam 4 representing four different chapters. Song leaders included Marv Skupski, Darl Wiley, Ruben Queen, John Wade, and Al Fisk. Master of ceremonies Bill Wickstrom kept things moving while taking time for gang singing, socializing, and (of course) beer breaks.

I understand there has been quite a bit of discussion on the PioNet regarding see **DETROIT-OAKLAND**, pg. 19

# Chapters in Action

**DETROIT-OAKLAND**, from pg. 18

our decision to hold a "stag" night. Unfortunately, this reporter is not "on-line" and cannot report on that side of things.

Right now, Detroit-Oakland is getting ready for our 60th annual show, on February 19 & 20, 1999, at Clarenceville High School in Livonia. Our guests are the Gas House Gang (1993 International champs) and Uptown Sound (1998 8th place finalists), along with the Gentlemen Songsters Chorus and our own chapter quartets. Please note the date and check out our flyer elsewhere in this issue.

Congratulations to our newly elected chapter executive board: Herb Hebner, President; Jim Kunz, VP-Music and Performance; Dave Montera, VP-Chapter Development; Doug Joppie, Secretary; Tom Uicker, Treasurer; and Joe DeSantis, Harry Jessop, Ed Snell, and Russ Makowski, members-at-large.

## Bay City

by Ralph Brown

While many of the Pioneer Chapters were off for the summer, the Bay City Chapter was quite busy. On May 31 we performed for the 125th Anniversary of The Bay City Times Newspaper Open House. What a great opportunity for exposure of our hobby craft to the public. We were invited to a business after-hours event at GM Powertrain Saginaw Malleable Iron Facility June 1; Several Congressmen, the Mayor and many local businessmen were present. We sang at Wenona Park in Downtown Bay City June 12 for the Bay Arts Festival. We shared a show with the Sweet Adelines at Radke Park, in Shields (near Saginaw) June 25. Sunday, August 30 we were at Trinity Episcopal Church in Bay City and Wednesday, September 2 we were performing at the Bavarian Inn Fisher Platz in Frankenmuth.

We sang out at the Harrisville annual Barbershop Harmony Weekend and for the fourth successive year we brought home the trophy for the highest percentage of chapter members in attendance. Each year, the show seems to get bigger and better. Jim Gross' wife Judy held her annual Golf Scramble and the funds raised were donated to Heart Spring. All in all, it was a great time for everyone, especially the local citizens who enjoyed a free show.

We are currently in the throes of a Membership drive and things are looking good. We have added at least two new members so far.

At this writing, we are about to go to Lansing for the Districts and we have a super sounding quartet competing by the name of Northern Edition; featuring Len Johnson (Bass), Jerry Mac Laren (Bari-tone), Tom Peil (Tenor) and Mike Revard (Lead). We hope that by the time you read this they will be tagged to represent our district at the Internationals.

I am making my first visit to Districts this year and hope to be part of the chorus from Bay City, The Harbor Sounds, when we compete next Spring.

There is an open invitation for anyone and everyone to visit us at Bangor Elementary School on Wilder Road between Euclid Avenue and 2-mile road any Wednesday evening from 7:00 until 10:00.

## Flint

by Chuck Murray

Flint Chapter mourns the passing of two of our members. Ray Hazel, former secretary for the Chapter, passed away earlier this year, and Ken Rice, PR man and publisher of the *Troubadour* articles, died recently. They were memorialized at Fall Contest when Flint wore those little green lapel ribbons. Flint dearly misses these men and their contributions to barbershop.

While speaking of Contest, Flint significantly improved this Fall, and has already established an aggressive goal for Spring Contest. Much credit can be given to our guys who committed to

singing the best they possibly could. Great coaching was available, and had a marked impact. Great work, guys!

By now, the dust has cleared at Flint's Holiday Inn Gateway Center from the Fred Kienitz party celebrating Fred's 50 years in barbershopping. The Pioneer District was well-represented at this combination celebration and roast. Chris Noteware emceed the event in her lively style. As was put by one roaster, he could envision Fred impaled on the drive shaft of a 55 Chevy, slowly turning over the embers. Many others had a chance to "turn the spit," including Fred's own son, "Dammit Danny." Quartets and choruses, including Sweet Adelines, who had been coached by Fred, performed for their mentor. We still are not sure who brought the croaking frog in the box with the bottle of Bud, or what it meant. We can't wait for another 50 years!

Our Annual Chicken Dinner fundraiser was a great success, insuring our good relationship with the Flint Masonic Temple. Man, what a dinner! Homemade chicken gravy, dressing, pies and desserts out of this world. Our members waited tables, served, and sang the Old Songs for over 400 guests. Look out, Frankenmuth!

Plans have been firmed up for the Annual Christmas Dinner Party. It's All-U-Can-Eat (Sing) at a popular buffet restaurant in Flint.

Flint elected new Chapter officers for next year in early October, and some are already chomping at the bit. Plans are already underway to beef up quartets for the Singing Valentines in February.

Flint has been doing many singouts locally, including Hamilton House, Durand Convalescent Center, and for the Otisville Senior Citizens. These singouts offer great recruiting opportunities, but we have to remember to ask, "Do you sing?"

There are other opportunities to ask that question, too. I was working the booth at a trade show in Cobo Hall when Past President Paul Smith strolled by.

see **FLINT**, page 27

# Chapters in Action

**FLINT**, from pg. 19

Paul asked, "Have you had lunch, yet?" I jumped at the chance of sitting down for 5 minutes, and joined him for a Polish hot dog. Shortly after we were seated, another man asked if he could sit at our table, as table seating was limited. We said, "Sure!" Paul immediately asked him, "Do you sing?" The man replied with an assertive "yes." To make a long story short, the man was from the Grand Rapids area, and we informed him of the super barbershop choruses in western Michigan. He said he would look them up, and I'll bet Ann's got another member.

The Show Committee is busy with Spring Show plans, booking guest quartets, etc. Some members have plans to sing in Holiday Quartets and Holiday Choruses. Ken Rice would finish by challenging us to "Keep the whole world singing!" Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for the New Year from Flint Chapter!

## Macomb County

by Roy Gurney

I want to start off by commending every competitor in the Pioneer District contests for a lot of hard work and a job well done. That helped to make it a truly great convention. Lansing's Capital City Chordsmen put on a performance that is definitely worthy of the International stage and ran a great convention. Keep up the good work, fellas. And Upstage Sound, our new District Champs. Way to go, guys!

Needless to say, we are very excited about the opportunity to represent the District in Anaheim. The wheels are already in motion toward fund-raising to get us there. The Harmony Heritage Chorus has always had the ability to "rise to the occasion" and we intend to do our very best in representing our great

District.

We are also very proud of the quartets that represented our chapter: Pro-tege, on their first time in contest; One Brick Short, another first timer with some great schtick; and Resolution with a very entertaining set of songs and a strong second place finish. (I thought they had it!)

Earlier this fall, the Motor City Metro chapter resurrected the annual Octet Contest. The St. Thomas, Ontario trophy was located and the date was set for September 18 at the Elks Club in Dearborn. A wonderful buffet dinner was provided and nine octets competed. In the end, one of the groups from Macomb County came out the winner with two of our favorite songs, "Shenandoah" and "Only You." The contest was ably judged by Harmonix, a very fine quartet from Sweet Adelines International, who also entertained the group. Now we have the obligation to host the next Octet Contest so stay tuned and we'll let you know when and where.

Now we are hard at work on new music for our annual show on March 27, 1999. It will be held at Mt. Clemens High School and will be a joint show with the East Point Sweet Adelines. There will probably be two shows and will include many quartets from both chapters, including Power Play, so it will be one you will want to put on your calendars.

We already have a couple Christmas performances lined up and that's always a potential recruiter. So here's wishing everyone a wonderful musical holiday season!

## Pontiac-Waterford

by Bob Woodward

The past few months have been the most successful in recent memory. For our last membership drive, we used street signs (similar to the garage sale signs) in addition to the more traditional means of publicity. This has produced much better results than anything we have tried before. As a result, we are

using the same approach to advertising our annual Christmas Chorus.

Our annual show, held in October, was a huge artistic and financial success. After several years of renting larger auditoriums in adjoining towns, we went back to our local "roots" and held the show in Waterford in a church auditorium. The success of this has us thinking about presenting two shows next year.

The annual Christmas Chorus began rehearsals on November 3. We are going to present the second annual Christmas Tour on December 12. We rent the Pontiac "trolley bus" and travel as a group to present a short Christmas show to any business establishment, group, or individual willing to pay \$100. It's a great money maker as well as a "fun" time for the chorus. In addition, it lets the Christmas Chorus members experience what our hobby is all about and provides another tool to sell any of the non-barbershoppers in the chorus on chapter membership.

The "Last Goodby" quartet sings its last good-bye, with the passing of our tenor Paul Lehmkuhle on November 13, 1998. The quartet sang together for over nine years and was the oldest (313 total years of age) as well as most active (in some years over 60 performances) quartet in the Pioneer District. Their total contributions to the Institute of Logopedics and Heart Spring exceeded \$7,500.00 during the nine years, plus contributions to local charities and civic events. The quartet was also awarded the "Great Lakes Logopedics" trophy for the highest contribution of any quartet in our Pioneer District for the years of 1990 and 1997.

Paul will not only be missed dearly by his wife and family, but also by his "Last Goodby" quartet and all area barbershoppers. He was very musically active with the Flint, Pontiac, Saginaw Bay, and Swan Valley chapters.

I am sure he will keep the Whole World Singing with his new chorus of barbershoppers passed.

# Chapters in Action

## Sault Saint Marie

by Loyal Beggs

As we approach the Christmas Season, The Sault Ste. Marie Chapter finds themselves with a number of opportunities to perform: opportunities that we always look forward to.

Among the many performances between now and Christmas will be our annual Carol Sing at the Sault Area Hospitals; a visit which brightens the day and brings joy to staff and patients. Also, a trip to Thessalon, Ontario where the chorus will once again join the local Lions Club for their annual Community Christmas Concert planned for December 13. All proceeds from this popular evening are used by the Lions Club to provide food baskets and toys for area residents who require assistance at this time of year. The Sault Chapter always looks forward to their participation in this event.

Members of the Sault Chapter and indeed members across the district were saddened by news of the death of Bob Tracy in October. Being relatively new to the organization, I asked Don Bazely to share some recollections of Bob with us, and he made the contribution at right.

## Traverse City

by Elbert Ford

Greetings once again from the Cherry Capital of the World. As you probably know we competed at the fall convention and finished in fourth place with a score of 811! What pleased us the most is the progress we've made this year. Each man gave his best effort, we had excellent coaching with Barry Towner, and our Director Marty Chirgwin developed us to a fever pitch to accomplish this.

We are also very proud of the Bayshore IV who won the Bush League contest. The Four Man Fishing Tackle

## In Memoriam - Bob Tracy

Bob Tracy passed away on October 15, 1998. He was a well-known and well-loved Barbershopper, especially in Northern Michigan and in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. He will be sorely missed by all his friends, both personal and those he met through barbershop harmony.

Bob was instrumental in helping the Sault Chapter to get on its feet in 1961, just as he played a vital role in getting other chapters started in what was then the Michigan District.

Bob was a tireless disciple in the spreading of the gospel according to O.C. Cash and was known to sing a tag or two (or two hundred), if you had the time.

One of Bob's well-loved traits was his diplomacy. Many a harmony singer (and some leads, too) have been advised by Bob that . . . "You're singing flat, damn it!"

Bob leaves behind him his wife Flo, son Mike and two daughters, Sharon and Farrell; all of them very nice people and all of them resigned to the fact that

Bob was a Barbershop junkie!

Bob served as an area counselor for a number of years and covered many miles of territory at his own expense. He also served on the district Board as a Zone V.P. Very few people worked harder than he did. Bob received the highest honour (Canadian spelling) that the district can bestow on a barbershopper - he was elected to the Hall of Fame.

He joined the Society in 1947 ( Bill Grumbley of Saginaw takes the credit ) and when the opportunity presented itself, he became a life member of the Society. That was a gift from Flo to him; ( there are not too many wives like Flo Tracy ).

Bob had been ailing for a couple of years and that kept him from taking his usually active part in chapter life and district events. In the last six months he went through an extraordinarily tough time and although his friends all miss him, we know that his passing was a merciful event.

- Don Bazely, friend and colleague

Choir with three guys from the Petoskey chapter and one of our basses won Nov-ice Champs at the fall contest. We are busy now learning all new music for our show next year at Interlochen. We are using the quartet teaching method and giving each member a part predominate learning tape purchased from Harmony Marketplace. It's working out beyond our wildest expectations. I predict we'll have the music actually learned before doing the show this time! We are also looking forward to some Christmas sing-outs as well as getting a head start on organizing Valentine's Day quartets.

We had our annual election of the Board and reelected everyone except the treasurer and secretary. Some might think we're giving them another chance to get it right, but we're saying they did such a great job and enjoyed it so much, they get to do it again! We're planning a great year in 1999, with much more

coaching for the guys, and lots of fun activities to balance out the hard work. Have a great year barbershopping and we'll see you in the spring.

Once again, if you get up this way on a Tuesday night, please come sing with us. We meet at the Presbyterian Church on Airport Access Road near Munson Avenue. You may call our President, Al Bonney, at 616-223-4064 or me at 616-947-8714.

## Grosse Pointe

by Nick Piccione

On election night each year the Grosse Pointe Chapter meets to have COIN Night. The installation dinner has become one of our most popular events with some 80-plus revelers and guests. Entertained by the big band sounds of a 12 piece orchestra and a steak dinner see **GROSSE POINTE**, pg. 22

# Chapters in Action

GROSSE POINTE, from pg. 21

prepared and served by fellow members and wives, the inimitable Master of Ceremonies Doran McTaggart inducted the following officers: President Jim Grogan; Membership V.P. Joe Serwach; Program V.P. Wayne Kniffin; Music V.P. Mike Proffitt; Secretary Dave Czupinski; Treasurer Bob Kramb; Chorus Director Steve Pauling; Keeper of the Mug Chuck Wingard; Past President and Member-at-large Mike Sullivan; Show Director and Member-at-large Russ Seely; Show Chairman and Member-at-large Dale Barber; Chorus Manager and Member-at-large Don Adams.

This slate will lead us into another busy year. Just look at December alone:

-Our annual Christmas show with the Eastpointe Sweet Adelines takes place at the War Memorial Theatre on December 10... always a sellout!

-Annual Apollo Hall Lions Club Christmas Party for seriously handicapped adults on December 7th... a warm holiday feeling for both the audience and singers.

-Annual Christmas bus tour of nursing homes on December 13th. A long day of very appreciative residents and plenty of singing on the bus as well as off.

-Annual Christmas caroling pub-crawl on December 15th, followed by our own afterglow. All money collected on the pub-crawl goes to the Holly Ear Institute at St. John's Hospital.

-St. John's Hospital's "Tree of Hope" lighting on December 17th.

Looking at this schedule I can't help but think:

'Twas the month before Christmas and carols are in season

Our calendar's busy in hopes our songs will be pleasin'

There are so many events planned just to bring Christmas glee.

But I can tell you that no one gets more pleasure than we.

# Kalamazoo's Upstage Sound wins district quartet contest

Raleigh Bloch  
VP for Member Services

For the first time in its 57 years, the Kalamazoo Chapter has a District Champion Quartet. Upstage Sound was formed just nine short months ago and, in its second contest, won the District Quartet Championship. The quartet is made up three Kalamazoo Chapter members and one from Benton Harbor. From Kalamazoo the quartet members are Raleigh Bloch singing tenor, Gene Hanover singing lead, Ed Fritzen singing baritone and, from Benton Harbor, Kerry Foley singing bass.

The quartet sang a solid set Friday night consisting of "Just a Song at Twilight" and "If I Had My Way." Although the scores were not published until Saturday night, they were in a solid first place Friday night. On the Saturday night contest they again sang a solid set and in fact pulled away with "My Gal Sal" and "Don't Tell Me The Same Thing Over Again."

The chapter members were excited to say the least. Right after the announcement many came back stage to congratulate

late the quartet. The quartet was in the warm-up room trying to settle down so they could go back out on stage and sing their acceptance songs. What a wonderful out pouring of friendship and warmth flowed between all that were there. What a difficult time to sing, but sing they did and we were all proud.

On Tuesday night Oct. 20 the chapter and chorus honored the quartet with a cake and cider at it's rehearsal. Upstage Sound displayed the District trophy, the individual quartet member trophies and pins they received from the District. They also showed off the championship watches they received from the outgoing champions, Detroit Sound Company. The tradition of the outgoing champions purchasing watches for the new champions was started some years ago and now will be the responsibility of Upstage Sound to continue, when the next year's champions are crowned.

The new champs will be featured on our three performances at the New Year's Fest, along with the chorus in their brand new tuxedos. If you haven't seen them, there is one word that sums it all up: "SHARP!"

**Fanfare**  
an a cappella ensemble

Mary Moran (313) 459-4218      Bob Wisdom (810) 879-7083

Ed      Gene

**Upstage Sound**

PO Box 322  
Bridgman, MI 49106  
616-465-8223  
upstagesound@iname.com

1998 Pioneer District Quartet Champions

Raleigh      Kerry

A Registered Barbershop Quartet

**The Detroit Sound Co.**

Barbershop Harmony

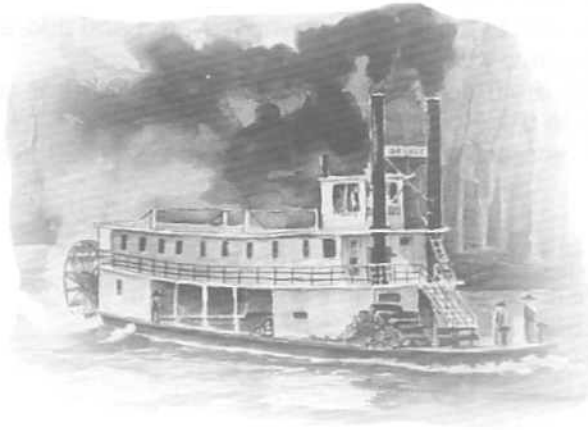
(248) 651-3796

Bruce      Craig      Mike      Brian

**ONYX**  
Barbershop Quartet

(810) 878-1455

The Lansing Chapter, SPEBSQSA, Inc. and  
the Capitol City Chordsmen present  
their 52nd annual show. . .



# Roll On, Mississippi, Roll On!

Saturday, March 13, 1999 7:30 p.m.  
Wharton Center for Performing Arts  
Michigan State University

### Starring

## JURASSIC LARKS

1998 International Senior's Quartet Champions

### Also Starring

## FIREPOWER!

1995 Pioneer District Quartet Champions

### Also Featuring

Lansing Chapter Quartets

---

## TICKET ORDER FORM

## ALL SEATS RESERVED!

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Totals

Quantity

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Tickets @ \$15.00 \$

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Tickets @ \$12.00 \$

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



1999 PIONEER DISTRICT SPRING CONVENTION  
APRIL 23 - 25, 1999

**HOTEL RESERVATION**

- All spaces must be filled out completely - type or print. clearly.
- Hotels require a credit card guarantee.
- All acknowledgments will be sent to the individual whose name and address appear below.
- Confirmation will be sent directly to you by your assigned hotel.
- Any changes in reservations must be made directly to the hotel after confirmation is received. **Do not send any room deposits to the Housing Bureau.**
- Reservation requests must be received no later than March 22, 1999. Room requests will not be accepted after this date.

**PLEASE MAIL FORM DIRECTLY TO:**  
Battle Creek Visitor & Convention Bureau  
SPEBSQSA Housing  
34 W. Jackson St., Suite 5A  
Battle Creek, MI 49017

Hotel should confirm this reservation to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Days) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Area Code)

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_

Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Room:

1 bed (1-2 persons) \_\_\_\_\_

2 beds (3-4 persons) \_\_\_\_\_

**HOTEL/RATES (not including tax)**  
Number in order of preference.

1. **McCamly Plaza Hotel** - \$80.00 Flat Rate  
(Headquarters Hotel) \_\_\_\_\_
2. AmeriHost Inn Battle Creek \_\_\_\_\_  
\$64.00 Flat Rate
3. Battle Creek Inn \_\_\_\_\_  
\$72.00 Flat Rate
4. Budgetel Inns \_\_\_\_\_  
\$52.95 Flat Rate
5. Days Inn Battle Creek \_\_\_\_\_  
\$60.00 Flat Rate
6. Econo Lodge - \$46.95 Flat Rate \_\_\_\_\_
7. Super 8 Motel - \$50.00 Flat Rate \_\_\_\_\_

**NAMES OF ADDITIONAL PEOPLE  
OCCUPYING ROOM.**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The Convention/Visitors Bureau is not responsible for room rates.

- Request Non-Smoking Room
- Request Handicap Room

**GUARANTEED RESERVATIONS:**

Credit Card: AE \_\_\_\_\_ MC \_\_\_\_\_ VS \_\_\_\_\_ DISC \_\_\_\_\_

Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL REQUESTS:** \_\_\_\_\_

1998 PIONEER DISTRICT SPRING CONVENTION  
APRIL 23-25, 1999  
BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN

**CONVENTION REGISTRATION**

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

REGISTRANT NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE/GUEST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

COMPETING CHORUS? YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ CHORUS NAME \_\_\_\_\_

COMPETING QUARTET? YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ QUARTET NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CHAPTER NAME \_\_\_\_\_

VOICE PART: TENOR \_\_\_ LEAD \_\_\_ BARITONE \_\_\_ BASS \_\_\_

EARLY REGISTRATION: \$16.00 PER PERSON

LATE REGISTRATION: \$20.00 PER PERSON

**EARLY REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN APRIL 9, 1999**

FEE FOR \_\_\_\_\_ PERSONS @ \$16.00/\$20.00

Total Registration Fee: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: PIONEER DISTRICT, SPEBSQSA, INC.**

or MASTERCARD or VISA Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM AND FEE TO:

**Stan Williams, Treasurer**

**421 Franklin Street**

**Leslie, MI 49251**

**NOTE:** All event passes will be at the registration desk in the McCamly Plaza (Headquarters). Single-event tickets can be purchased at the convention desk or W. K. Kellogg Auditorium: Friday \$10.00; Saturday Noon \$10.00; Saturday Evening \$10.00. Children 12 and under are Free.

EACH MEMBER OF A COMPETING QUARTET OR CHORUS MUST REGISTER FOR AN ALL EVENTS PASS. FAILURE TO DO SO COULD DISQUALIFY THE QUARTET OR CHORUS FROM THE CONTEST.

**REFUND POLICY:** REGISTRATION FEES WILL BE REFUNDED TO PERSONS CANCELING **IN WRITING** PRIOR TO THE 12:00 P.M. OPENING ON FRIDAY

District convention facilities are handicap accessible. Please indicate any special requirements you need to fully participate.

## Youth Outreach brings community, schools together with local chapters

**OUTREACH**, from page 3  
 dents with music literature covering centuries and they already have a vast amount of choices of what they will cover - why add another?

They are working from course material planned months in advance.

Some may not have a positive view of our style based on past experiences with low quality performances, some have little or no interest in our style of music, And some may not understand what we do.

The fact is that we do have tools and resources to overcome these formidable objections and further the educational process, give the boys a fun musical experience, and send out the word to the community that the barbershop style is mainstream music capable of supporting any educational plan.

In the face of shrinking budgets and fewer boy participants, teachers are interested in whatever support the community can provide to their programs

Barbershopping has proven itself, through the Music Educators National Conference (MENC) and in communities all across the country to be a very effective tool to get young men interested in vocal music activities.

Whether a teacher "likes" barbershop or not, if approached with sensitivity to their needs, most will be receptive to your contact and suggestions.

The goals of our Society-wide YO program are to:

Encourage and support vocal music education of all types in our schools and colleges.

Provide a performance outlet (including competition) for these singers and to develop a sense of singing as a life-long recreational activity.

Raise the awareness among teachers that barbershop harmony is a viable musical art form that can help them to expand and improve their vocal music curriculum.

Serve and be recognized as a valuable

resource in support of goals we share with the National Coalition for Music Educators.

Foster the establishment of groups of barbershop harmony singers at local schools as an integral part of the school music curriculum, and to provide the environment in which young singers can develop greater self-confidence and sense of teamwork.

But look what our Youth Outreach program is NOT:

The program is not a membership recruitment vehicle for students or their teachers. We must promote the importance of finishing their education, with singing as an important activity. We must not compete for student's time to the detriment of the school program. Establishing a positive and supportive relationship with the teacher, we can become partners in music education. If we do our jobs properly, many of the students today will become the barbershoppers of tomorrow. More importantly, more young men will consider singing an important tool in their lives.

Our society and our district want to make the vision a reality in the coming years. While many important and significant youth outreach activities have taken place across the Society and in the District over the past 10 - 15 years, the opportunity for growth into many more schools is so great that enabling Youth Outreach programs looms larger on everyone's priority list.

Many Districts will upgrade the YO chairman's position to that of a full board member (Pioneer included), providing not only greater visibility, but a higher level of accountability and more funding resources as well.

The Society has budgeted significant portions of staff time and funds to travel and work in the field in support of chapter and district Youth Outreach activities.

We have a Society-wide committee of

District Chairs communicating on ideas, resources, and methods that will enhance individual District results.

COTS schools, Harmony College, and Mini HEPs will each have new classes in Youth Outreach for chapter level officers and chairmen to help us better understand our roles and opportunities in this arena, and to enhance our skills as partners with the music teachers.

As Pioneer District Chairman for Youth Outreach, my job is to support improvement of the quality and quantity of Youth Outreach activities throughout the District by:

Helping make Society resources and ideas for Chapter level YO programs available to those who want/need them.

Supporting those chapters already involved in operating YO programs.

Coordinating and initiating District wide YO activities that compliment ongoing chapter programs.

Communicating ideas, suggestions, opportunities and resources, and coordinating Society offerings to my two main customer bases: the Chapters and the music educators in the Pioneer District.

As communications to the widest possible barbershop audience is the first order of business, I will use future issues of this column as an ongoing forum for Youth Outreach education topics hoping that you will enjoy the subject and that Presidents, Music and Performance VPs, and Youth Outreach Chairmen will each be served in their pursuit of your own chapter priorities in 1999. Please call on me at any time if you think I can fill any of the above roles with your chapter.

For more information contact:

Al Bonney

223.4064

FAX (616) 223.4063

albonney@aliens.com

# Fall convention: The complete scores

OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY, Pioneer District Quartet Contest SPEBSQSA Inc.,

FINALS	SONGS	MUS	PRE	SNG	TOT PTS.	TOT.
1 Upstage Sound	<i>My Gal Sal</i>	149	147	143	868	854 1722
Bent Harb/Kzoo/BC	<i>Don't Tell Me Same Things</i>	144	144	141		
2 Resolution	<i>Ro-Ro-Rollin' Along</i>	134	148	131	817	848 1665
GP/Macomb/MtrCty	<i>Little Girl</i>	131	145	128		
3 Gallery	<i>I'll Take You Home Again</i>	142	142	141	843	802 1645
Lansing	<i>I'll Be Seeing You</i>	139	139	140		
4 Grand Prix	<i>If You Were Only Girl In World</i>	136	140	144	832	798 1630
Battle Creek	<i>In Little Red School House</i>	133	144	135		
5 Bayshore IV	<i>Bright Was The Night</i>	135	132	135	799	796 1595
Traverse City	<i>Too-Rah-Loo-Rah-Loo-Rah</i>	135	129	133		
6 Chordiology	<i>My Melancholy Baby</i>	125	130	129	794	795 1589
Huron Valley/Thrne	<i>Yes Sir, That's My Baby</i>	141	133	136		
7 FourManFishin'						
TackleChoir	<i>Aura Lee/Love Me Tender</i>	128	130	134	799	769 1568
Petoskey/Traverse	<i>Walkin' My Baby Back</i>	129	139	139		
8 Northern Edition	<i>You Made Me Love You</i>	133	131	137	778	700 1478
Saginaw Bay	<i>Peg O' My Heart</i>	122	126	129		

## SEMI-FINALS

1 Upstage Sound	<i>Just A Song At Twilight</i>	141	148	145	854	0 854
	<i>If I Had My Way</i>	136	143	141		
2 Resolution	<i>I Double Dare You</i>	139	142	141	848	0 848
	<i>I Tried To Forget You In Vain</i>	139	148	139		
3 Gallery	<i>Strollin' Down Harmony Ln</i>	130	143	130	802	0 802
	<i>I'd Give The World</i>	133	142	124		
4 Grand Prix	<i>Hello My Baby</i>	138	137	128	798	0 798
	<i>From The First Hello</i>	135	137	123		
5 Bayshore IV	<i>Love/Eyes Medley</i>	139	138	123	796	0 796
	<i>May I Never Love Again</i>	135	142	119		
6 Chordiology	<i>Lulu's Back In Town</i>	139	125	133	795	0 795
	<i>Alabama Bound</i>	136	135	127		
7 FourManFishin'						
Tackle Choir	<i>My Wild Irish Rose</i>	123	132	132	769	0 769
	<i>Oh, You Beautiful Doll</i>	121	135	126		
8 Northern Edition	<i>I Love You Truly</i>	116	125	111	700	0 700
	<i>Bright Was The Night</i>	112	121	115		
9 Chord Order	<i>Piano Roll Blues</i>	111	122	112	681	
Alpena	<i>Too-Rah-Loo-Rah-Loo-Rah</i>	111	118	107		
10 Sump'N'Dfnt	<i>Beer Barrel Polka</i>	113	116	109	661	
Kalamazoo	<i>Was Is Los Mit Der Musik</i>	110	109	104		
11 Fortune Smiles	<i>As Time Goes By</i>	97	120	97	603	
Det-Oak, Thorne	<i>Who's Sorry Now</i>	90	111	88		
12 Under New Mgt.	<i>I Want A Girl</i>	97	96	86	552	
Kalamazoo	<i>Bright Was The Night</i>	95	92	86		
13 Protege	<i>Rain</i>	96	111	84	535	
Grosse Pte/Macomb	<i>Mistakes</i>	78	98	68		
14 One Brick Short	<i>Rush Hour On 94 Parody</i>	81	94	90	506	
Holland/Kzoo/Mac.	<i>Forever...Bubbles Parody</i>	81	75	85		

Four Man Fishin' Tackle Choir is the  
1998 Pioneer District Fall Novice Quartet Champion.

PANEL: ADMINISTRATOR MUSIC PRESENTATION SINGING  
F. Rice-LOL J. Giallombardo-ILL M. Schlinkert-DIX C. Lower-MAD  
D. Kannberg-SUN N. Papageorge-FWD B. Walker-INT R. Young-FWD

OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY, Pioneer District International Preliminary Chorus Contest  
SPEBSQSA, Inc., Lansing, Michigan, October 17, 1998

FINALS	SONGS	MUS	PRE	SNG	TOT	OnStg
1 Macomb County	<i>Bundle Of Old Love Letters</i>	149	155	146	912	52
Harmony Heritage	<i>Darkness On The Delta</i>	150	162	150		
2 Lansing	<i>Mississippi Medley</i>	145	156	154	907	63
Capital City Chrdsnm	<i>Swanee</i>	140	157	155		
3 Grand Rapids	<i>Keep Coming Back...Song</i>	142	143	142	866	40
Great Lakes Chorus	<i>Rose Colored Glasses</i>	147	151	141		
4 Traverse City	<i>My Honey's Lovin' Arms</i>	140	138	132	811	47
Cherry Capital	<i>Old Songs...Old Friends</i>	139	135	127		
5 Detroit-Oakland	<i>Lulu's Back In Town</i>	128	132	131	786	42
Gentlemen Songsters	<i>Who'll Dry Your Tears...?</i>	123	140	132		
6 Kalamazoo	<i>All That I Ask Is Love</i>	130	130	128	766	39
Mall City Chorus	<i>Swanee</i>	124	129	125		
7 Grosse Pointe	<i>Baby Face</i>	118	130	133	762	52
Lakeshore Chorus	<i>Pretty Baby</i>	120	132	129		
8 Holland	<i>Mistakes</i>	129	122	128	730	23
Windmill Chorus	<i>Barbershop Strut...Medley</i>	113	121	117		
9 Gratiot County,	<i>That Tumble Down Shack...</i>	126	124	114	726	25
Midstatesmen	<i>Irish Medley</i>	125	125	112		
10 Huron Valley, MI	<i>My Buddy</i>	121	120	112	694	22
Harmonizers	<i>Sweet Georgia Brown</i>	110	123	108		
11 Flint	<i>Too-Rah-Loo-Rah-Loo-Rah</i>	115	115	108	671	30
Arrowhead Chorus	<i>MacNamara's/Great Day...</i>	113	114	106		
12 Muskegon	<i>Who Told You?</i>	113	117	106	657	24
Shoreline Chorus	<i>From The First Hello...</i>	109	110	102		
12 Windsor, ONT	<i>I Love You Truly</i>	110	113	98	657	26
Sun Parlour Chorus	<i>(Hooray) It's Raining</i>	108	124	104		
14 Monroe North	<i>California, Here I Come</i>	108	117	100	645	30
Floral City Hrmnzers	<i>Beer Barrel Polka Medley</i>	105	116	99		
15 Battle Creek	<i>Old Songs...Old Friends</i>	94	102	87	575	14
Cereal City Choru	<i>Alexander's Ragtime Band</i>	95	107	90		

Macomb County is the Pioneer District International Chorus Representative for the July, 1999, International Chorus Contest in Anaheim, California.  
Traverse City is the Most Improved Chorus.

PANEL:  
ADMINISTRATOR MUSIC PRESENTATION SINGING  
F. Rice-LOL J. Giallombardo-ILL M. Schlinkert-DIX C. Lower-MAD  
D. Kannberg-SUN N. Papageorge-FWD B. Walker-INT R. Young-FWD

## Take Note, continued...

KIENITZ, from page 10  
and see how much your articulators really work.

2. When warming up, 90% of us sing. How about using good rhythmic music to get your singers to sing and move at the same time. Learning power steps, visible tempo patterns along with arm and body involvement. It may cut your

choreography time in half or better, a good dance teacher could do this for you.

3. Have your choreographer develop exercises that emote emotional situations such as happy, sad, melancholy, excited, etc, etc.

4. Riser time and riser discipline are also very essential and learned responses to help build the visual part of your

performance.

Just a few ideas to consider, but they will help us to put this art form where it belongs in our communities and help us grow into a much stronger district.

If you have ideas or plans in place that are presently being used in your rehearsals, write me and I'll include them in my next issue.

Pioneer District  
SPEBSQSA, Inc.  
1616 W. Rundle Ave.  
Lansing, MI 48910

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Chad Sanders  
1616 West Rundle Avenue  
Lansing, MI 48910

## Upcoming Events

### 1999

February 19-20	Detroit-Oakland Show
March 6	Huron Valley Show
March 13	Lansing Show
March 20	Monroe North Show
March 27	Macomb Show
April 10	Sault Ste. Marie Show
May 8	Wayne County Show
May 14	Holland Show
May 15	Grand Rapids Show
June 4-5	Traverse City Show
June 11	Windsor Send-Off

### 2000

February 18-19	Detroit-Oakland Show
March 3-4	Wayne Show
March 4	Lansing Show
March 11	Monroe North Show
March 25	Grand Rapids Show
June 2-3	Traverse City Show
June 9	Windsor Send-Off
November 3-4	Grand Rapids Show

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

**Please notify:**

Jack Schneider, District Secretary  
1311 Northlawn, NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49505  
R (616) 361-6820

## New at [www.spebsqsa.org](http://www.spebsqsa.org)

from the *Update*

Keep current. For the latest additions to the Society website, point your browser to:

<http://www.spebsqsa.org/whatsnew>

### Barbershop history lesson

The immortal Dave Stevens discusses "What Are We Are Trying To Preserve?" in a RealVideo lecture. A true legend in the annals of SPEBSQSA, Dave Stevens was a Society staffer, arranger, and leading proponent for the barbershop style. This lecture, taped at Harmony College in 1983, is a brilliant discussion of the style, where it comes from and what makes it so spine-tinglingly fun to sing, all delivered with Stevens' inimitable style, humor and good grace. Required viewing for every Barbershopper.

<http://www.spebsqsa.org/Historydavestevens.htm>

### Tour Harmony Hall

Take "A Walk Through Harmony Hall" in RealVideo, or download the tour guide, the next best thing to being there! Explore the architecture of SPEBSQSA's home in Kenosha in this 17-minute tour video delivered direct to your computer in RealVideo. [Requires RealPlayer version 5.0 or higher.]

<http://www.spebsqsa.org/Operations/Headquarters/hhmap.htm>

### Job opportunities

Chorus director job openings bulletin board now available. Is your chorus looking for a new director? Post the vacancy here! Are you a director in search of a new challenge? Tell the world you're available, here! Want to get started in directing, and looking for a chance to become an assistant director? Post it here!

<http://www.spebsqsa.org/directorjobs/>

