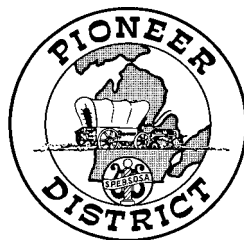


Pioneer Troubadour

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

Volume 54, Issue 1



Jan/Feb 2003

| | |
|--|----|
| Meet Steve Foster | 4 |
| New Harmony Travel Web site | 8 |
| Power Play to host cruise following Montreal convention | 11 |
| Chorus Director Workshop Intensive From director's side of the arms | 12 |
| Grant-writing workshops scheduled for Pioneer District | 15 |

Harmony Hall for sale

By Society President Roger Lewis

The Society's vision statement:

"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."

The Society Board's dedication to our vision is one of the key reasons we commissioned a study of Harmony Hall, east and west, by a task force. We are not a "Historic Building" restoration society, nor a preserver of old buildings. Our focus is preserving a style of music for ourselves and future generations, and sharing our art form with our communities.

But that was not our only concern. Our wonderful old mansion is badly in need of repair. Just to repair the moisture-related and mechanical problems would cost us more than a million dollars. Another six hundred thousand is needed to restore it to its former splendor. That doesn't include some needed future expenditures, such as a total rewiring of the mansion to accommodate new technology.

Even if we moved toward restoration, the house is very inefficient as an office. Only 40 percent of the building's square footage can be

used for office space. The kitchens, pantry, hallways, beautiful stairways, bathrooms with showers, and even the living room take lots of space that cannot be used.

Simply put, it's a house, not an office.



Harmony Hall in Kenosha, Wisconsin

As we've grown, we've had to house our staff in separate locations — and therefore purchased our Sheridan Road property. Having staff in two locations creates management and communication problems that we would like to eliminate. Often, [Executive Director] Darryl Flinn must feel like he manages two separate "businesses," and each has its unique culture.

Managing the day-to-day problems of the building is a diversion from our core business. Yes, one or two people take care of this. But a leak in the roof over the Old

Songs Library would immediately call every staff member into service. If a water pipe would burst, as one did across the street in July, we would lose priceless, irreplaceable property.

The blue-ribbon task force that we commissioned early this year (Ed Waesche, Chair; Alan Lamson; Paul Cohen; Dan Waselchuk; Jim Warner, and John Schneider, staff liaison) presented the Board with a number of options. Included were opportunities to trade both Harmony Hall and Sheridan Road properties for vacant land in the Racine, Wisconsin, area on which we could

build. The Board chose to list Harmony Hall (east) for sale as a first step.

Following this first giant step, a number of options will open. We can make arrangements to house the entire staff at Sheridan Road. We currently rent out a large portion of the building to other tenants. Building added office space there is also a consideration. At that point, we can decide to continue the process; use Sheridan Road as our permanent home, or continue to search for suitable of-

(Continued on page 11)



Pioneer Troubadour

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



Editor-at-Fault: Gary Simon, 6530 Paul Revere Lane, Canton, MI 48187-3054
734-981-6342 (R) — E-mail: Baritone@comcast.net

PRESIDENT

Al Bonney
12660 Sundown Lane
Traverse City, MI 49686
231-223-4064 (R)
AlBonney@pentel.net

EXECUTIVE VP

Bruce Smith
208 Beech St.
Charlotte, MI 48813-1004
517-541-1104 (R) 517-541-1091 (B)
BASmith@ia4u.net

SOCIETY BOARD MEMBER

Raleigh Bloch
2033 Wild Cherry Lane
Kalamazoo, MI 49009
616-375-6849 (R) 616-375-6849 (B)
RBloch@compuserve.com

CONTEST & JUDGING VP

Edward Fritzen, Jr.
4075 Prestwick Drive
Portage, MI 49024
616-323-8127 (R) 616-833-8729 (B)
ELFritze@net-link.net

CHORUS DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT VP

Steve Foster
7162 Springtree Ln SW
Grand Rapids, MI 49548-7941
269-281-9389 (R)
SFoster@perrigo.com

MARKETING/PUBLIC RELATIONS VP

Gregory Humbel
2011 Frieze
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
734-494-3691 (R) 313-790-4598 (B)
Greg@Simon-Leeman.com

SECRETARY

Marvin Skupski
34430 Spring Valley
Westland, MI 48185
734-525-2968 (R)
MarvinSkup@wwnet.net

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Donald Bazely
52 The Drive
Sault Ste Marie, ON P6B 1B7 Canada
705-759-8958 (R)
DonBaz@sympatico.ca

MEMBER SERVICES VP

Brian Duncel
5872 Green Road
Haslett, MI 48840-9783
517-339-3422 (R) 517-625-3143 (B)
MSUDunk@aol.com

EVENTS VP

Larry L. Parker
1416 New York Avenue
Lansing, MI 48906-4538
517-372-8389 (R)
LParker437@aol.com

CHAPTER SUPPORT/LEADERSHIP VP

Doran McTaggart
890 Buckingham
Windsor, ON N8S 2C8
519-948-0637 (R)
DoranMcT@aol.com

MUSIC & PERFORMANCE VP

Dan Bezaire
354 East Puce Road, RR #1
Belle River, ON N0R 1A0
519-727-5842 (R) 519-728-1212 (B)
DBezaire@wincom.net

TREASURER

R. Stanley Williams
421 Franklin St.
Leslie, MI 49251
517-589-5586 (R) 517-322-5996 (B)
RWilliams@voyager.net

YOUNG MEN IN HARMONY VP

David Anderson
39043 Cadborough Dr.
Clinton Twp., MI 48038
810-286-4860 (R)
PDSing@peoplepc.com

Next Copy Deadline February 5, 2003

There are three methods of submitting information to the *Troubadour*:

1. Submit article and photos/artwork via e-mail. **(Preferred)**
2. Mail file(s) on floppy disk.
3. Mail typed article and scanner-ready artwork.

Troubadour Advertising Copy Size ■ Rates

Rates quoted are for scanner-ready copy or properly formatted electronic files. Please send check with copy, payable to "Pioneer District."

Ad sizes available:

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Full page | \$100 |
| 2/3 page | \$75 |
| 1/2 page | \$65 |
| 1/3 page | \$50 |
| Quartet-size card | \$13 |
| Quartet-size card (annual) | \$55 |

TROUBADOUR PUBLISHING INFORMATION

Published in January, March, May, August, and November. Copy deadline: 5th of the month prior to the month of publication. The *Troubadour* is published by the authority of the Pioneer District Association of Chapters of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. All articles not by-lined are by the editor and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the members or officers of the district. Space will be made available for opposing views relevant to any issue. Nothing will be published that is in violation of the Society's Code of Ethics.

Subscription rate for non-members: \$6.00 annually, \$1.50 for single copy. Remit check, payable to "Pioneer District," to editor.

PioNet subscriptions

To subscribe to the PioNet at no cost, e-mail your name and chapter name to JimStyer@comcast.net.

Visit Pioneer District Web site:
www.harmonize.com/Pioneer/pio.htm

Pioneer District members: **DO NOT SEND CHANGE OF ADDRESS TO EDITOR.** Mailing data are furnished by SPEBSQSA, Inc., 6315 Harmony Lane, Kenosha, WI 53143-5199. Please furnish change of address to your chapter secretary and SPEBSQSA with your name, chapter name, chapter and member number, and your old and new addresses. Copies not deliverable at the time of mailing will not be forwarded.

A View from the Top

Al Bonney, President

District report card

As I head into my second year as your president, I can't help but reflect on what has been and what might yet be. Let me share some of these thoughts with you.



Al Bonney

What has been?

- We established the first comprehensive long-range plan and work plan for the district in 2002, and tracked our progress throughout the year. While the results were mixed, the report card falls in the plus column.
- We raised the music scores marginally (Choruses up 1.5 points per song per judge and quartets up about 0.8 points per song per judge). The goal was two points per song per judge.
- We wanted to increase our district membership by 26 to 1288. We have lost 32 members as of the end of November.
- We wanted to increase the awareness of Barbershopping in our district and our communities. We have some anecdotal evidence of wonderful programs from the chapters that brought significant publicity to the attention of the public. We have no hard evidence that Barbershop-

ping is more well-known than a year ago.

- We needed to bring the district from being in debt to having \$7,000 in a contingency fund. We achieved this goal a year ago and are now expecting to finish the year 2002 with \$14,000 in the bank.
- We wanted to develop some continuing avenues for member feedback and communications with the board. We created and used extensively the CPRES site where every chapter has an e-mail contact. We also conducted two round-table discussions at each of our House of Delegates meetings. I guess we would have to ask the chapters if they think these vehicles are improving the quantity and quality of communications between the chapters and the district.
- We wanted to help chapters with more and better training and recruitment of directors. We conducted three director training sessions in 2002, training 14 of our 28 directors. We also sent 10 of our directors to Directors College during the summer.
- We wanted to provide the tools and training to help every chapter have vibrant and "fun" chapter meetings each week. Certainly the director's training (above) would address this — and one hopes all of the coaching going

on in the district would have some effect on this as well. I guess, once again, we would need to ask the chapters if we moved the needle.

- We secured the first grant from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs to support a comprehensive coaching program throughout the district, targeting choruses (12 participated in two clinics in February and March), quartets (25 participated in three clinics in May, July and September), directors (14 participated in three clinics in August, and November), and contests to measure our progress (55 quartets competed in 2002 — up from 44 in 2001, and 30 choruses competed — down from 31 in 2001). Other than the contests, these events would not have been possible without the generous support of the MCACA.

Several important other activities:

- We changed the directory to a 100-percent on-line publication, saving the district over \$1,000.
- We expanded and improved the capacity and value of our district web site (with constant thanks to Steve Sutherland for his good work there).
- We conducted a bigger and better A Cappella Blast for over 75 high school boys during Harmony Round-Up in May — With Herculean service from Ken and Vicki Gibson, Bob Wisdom, and, of course, Dave Anderson.

Well, that WAS a busy year — as I said, some good and some not-so-good results.

Planning for 2003 began in August. As I write, they are just be-

(Continued on page 10)

Here's the Society Pitch

Raleigh Bloch, Society Board Member

You guys are great!

As I write this article, the year is drawing to a close and I was thinking about what a great year it's been. I have had the opportunity to attend our International Contest and Convention,



Raleigh Bloch

Midwinter Contest and Convention, LOL District Contest and Convention, Pioneer District Contest and Convention, Harmony College, Barbershop workshops, Society and chapter board meetings, Forum, chapter meetings, Mini-HEP schools, chapter shows, coaching sessions, and other Barbershop events and they all were great.

Then I thought, "What has made these events so great?" The answer is the people. All of these

events are spearheaded by volunteers. They plan, they work hard, they have fun as well, and they do all of this so someone else can enjoy and benefit from their effort. What a great bunch of men.

In all of my Barbershop travels, meetings, coaching sessions, schools, and contests, I've never met a guy I didn't like. That doesn't mean I agreed with them all, but they all meant well and I enjoyed meeting them.

Think of the choruses and quartets that compete against each other and yet the guys are willing to help each other get better. We provide tips to each other, coach each other, and are excited when we all improve.

It sure is neat to be part of a great bunch of guys like you. If some one hasn't said thank you for all you do or just for singing with us, let me say THANK YOU for being one of the great guys in this Society.

later on we'll try that again.

I'd like to remind you all that in April I would like to have your favourite recipes with hand-out copies if possible. This should be fun, but please don't ask me — or any one else — to judge the recipes.

See you all in April 2003.

Meet Steve Foster

By Pioneer District President
Al Bonney

Following Gene Hanover's resignation from the DVP for Chorus Director Development position in October, we initiated a search for the best candidate we could find to fill this important position on the District Board for 2003. Boy, did we find a winner!

They say, "If you want a job done right, call a busy man." We did that and Steve Foster from the Holland Chapter really fills the bill!

Steve has held several chapter officer positions with the Holland Chapter over the 30-plus years he has been associated with Barbershopping. He has held positions such as chapter president, VP chapter development, immediate past president, program chairman, house committee, treasurer, and secretary.

He was instrumental in their complex and successful acquisition and management of the theater in Holland that the chapter purchased several years ago. He is currently the chapter president.

Additionally Steve served on the Ways and Means Committee for their highly successful chapter's Netherlands trip several years ago. Steve has been serving as the district laws and regulations chairman for the past year and is taking chapter counselor training at COTS this year.

If all that were not enough, Steve is currently serving as this year's Tulip Time Show chairman, Singing Valentines chairman, and attending Cornerstone University seeking a Masters in

Thank you, ladies

By Mary Bazely

Ladies (Barbershoppers, please draw your wife's attention to this notice), thank you for your participation at our Ladies Hospitality Room in Battle Creek — I'm referring to the grandchildren's pictures. It was not quite the success I had hoped for, but

(Continued on page 6)

Here's the District Pitch

Brian Dunckel, Member Services VP

A new year — Let's have new results

As we start the new year, I am personally more excited about the prospects for membership growth than I was when I first stepped into this office as a wide-eyed, rookie vice-president two years ago. You might ask how can I be so optimistic when we closed two chapters last year, or when we experienced a membership loss, as did the Society, for a sixth straight year?



Brian Dunckel

The answer to that starts with the fact that I am excited by the commitment to growth that I see by my fellow district officers, and the support they have pledged to make that happen. I see a dedicated Member Services Team ready and willing to assist our chapters, and a team of chapter counselors who, under the leadership of Doran McTaggart, are ready to proactively lead our chapters as well.

Furthermore, I saw over 40 men gather in Okemos for our Membership Summit prior to attending COTS and learn of the new tools available to assist us in our battle to increase membership numbers.

The "Singing is Life" video made its premiere at the HOD

meeting in October. Many copies exist in our district already. Make sure your chapters and members are armed with this powerful tool — then make sure they are used! No matter how effective the video may be, if it isn't used properly, it doesn't have a chance to do its job.

Another useful tool is the new Power Point presentation, "Unlocking the Future of Your Chapter." I am hopeful that every chapter in Pioneer will utilize this Society recruiting and orientation tool to increase the motivation and skill of all of us as recruiters.

I am optimistic, too, because of the great men of Pioneer District, who have supported my past ideas. I've been met with very little cynicism over the years and have been fortunate to have had my work praised by district presidents, the Society staff, and even the Society president.

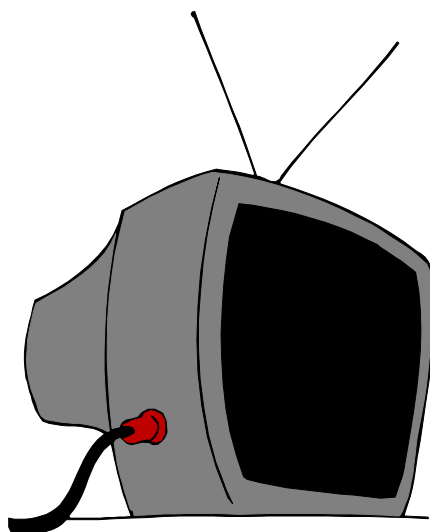
But the real pride I will have is when you, Joe Barbershopper, get your "Man of Note" award and say "It wasn't THAT hard to do, and was SOOOOO rewarding." Then I will watch you go out and get the next one!

So, you ask, am I optimistic? You bet I am, and my motto for the year should let you know that as well: **"Reaching New Heights in Membership Growth."**

I believe we can do GREAT things here in Pioneer. Won't you commit to it too?

"Voices of Vision" series features Barbershop harmony

The "Voices of Vision" series produced for PBS by the Teaching Learning Network will feature Barbershop harmony. The



show is titled "Harmonizing the World: An American Art" and features both the Barbershop Harmony Society and Sweet Adelines International. The series is hosted by Scott Simon. The program was funded by grants from Harmony Foundation and Sweet Adelines International.

Programs have been distributed to PBS stations for broadcast. Check local listings for broadcast dates as local stations choose their own dates to air the show.

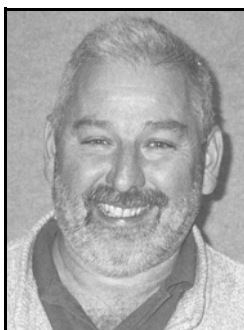
Sing Every Day!

Public Relating

Greg Humbel, *Marketing & Public Relations VP*

Marketing & public relations key to growth

Marketing and public relations will always be a key component in the growth of our hobby.



Greg Humbel

On the Society, district, or chapter level, we struggle with good ways to promote our love for music and to share our infatuation with this art form with everyone we meet. We need to continually develop new and exciting ways to promote our choruses, quartets, shows, guest nights and charitable mission.

Each of us needs to do our part to get guests to a chapter meeting or guest night. Each chapter must stay focused on providing an exciting chapter meeting with something available for each member to enjoy.

I continue to be convinced that we do a pretty good job of retention of our membership once we get an interested man in the door.

Your job, if you choose to accept it, will be to receive a Man of Note award at least once a year because you shared your excitement of your hobby.

I will guarantee you that if you ask someone in your chapter with several man of notes on their lapel how they were able to do it, they would tell you that they bring up their hobby in their everyday conversations and think nothing of it!

Try this: Make 10 personal contacts in a day, week, or month. Share your hobby with five of them and you will have two people minimum to bring to your next guest night. It's marketing!! It's a numbers game. Share your hobby today!

Further, and very simply, display something "Barbershoppy" as you meet other people: Use your MBNA Barbershop credit card. Wear Barbershop stuff, like your "Singing is life ... the rest is just details" button from Society President Roger Lewis. Eventually, someone will comment on it, or it will give you an excuse to bring up the subject. And you can take it from there whenever you find a man who likes to sing ... or his wife!

As you move forward to your next function or event, ask yourself if the membership component has been addressed. Ask what do I do here?

Grow membership!

Meet Steve Foster

(Continued from page 4)

Business Management.

Steve fills the CDD role not because he is a skilled director, but because he is a skilled organizer and planner. He knows how to coordinate with people around the district to make things happen. Steve is a proven results-getter and I know you will welcome him to this position and give him all your support and encouragement as he goes through his learning curve quickly and begins his work.

Actually Steve has some results already with only a week (as I write this) on the job. He has completed a work plan and has scheduled three more Chorus Director Workshop Intensive seminars for the first half of 2003. Details to follow shortly.

Thanks, Steve, for agreeing to take on this important job. We all look forward to working with you and send you our best wishes for every success in 2003.

**Sing from the heart ...
or don't bother!**



**65th Annual Convention &
Contest, June 29-July 6, 2003,
at Montreal, Canada**

Chapter Counseling

Doran McTaggart, Chapter Support/Leadership VP

Are you having fun yet?

You better be having FUN! If you're not, then let your chapter administration know about it. No, I don't mean FUN, Ha! Ha!

If your chapter meeting isn't an enjoyable music experience, then it won't be long before members will be looking for other things to do.



Doran McTaggart

Of the 840 chapters in our Society, probably 15 percent are highly-competitive, chorus-centered chapters. They are true to their mission statements and enjoy several hours on the risers working on contest material. These chapters practise hard and consider their efforts and

the rewards they bring to be FUN.

The other 700 chapters probably use the "8 Points To Fun," or some adaptation of it for their weekly chapter format.

In all COTS sessions last year, the chorus directors, music and performance VPs, and program VPs had combined classes where the "8 Points" was again stressed as a way to provide a VARIETY of activities at our chapter meetings. The chorus directors plan VARIETY within the chorus rehearsal part of the meetings, too.

All of these people are on the same wave length. They are all trying to provide interesting chapter meetings where men can grow musically, enjoy a variety of activities, and are having FUN participating in them. We have stressed the "8-Point Program" for many years at COTS and have found it very worthwhile.

What are the "8 Points"? They are: warm-up, craft, gang singing, woodshedding, business, break, quartet activity, and chorus rehearsal. Even guests can participate in the first six points.

There is no exam, no test, no report card. All you do is join in, take part, and try to do your best. The bulk of the chapter meeting involves the chorus rehearsal, which can include learning new music, polishing up old songs, and keeping the repertoire alive so we are always ready to perform in the community.

A Barbershopper who looks forward to his next chapter meeting because he finds it an enjoyable musical experience will not be a retention problem. He will hand you his renewal check eagerly with a smile on his face.

Your chapter counselor can assist your chapter leadership team in providing good chapter programming not only on a weekly basis, but also throughout the entire year. He has a treasure-house of FUN ideas that he is willing to share with you. He wants your chapter to be the best it can be.

Make sure he is involved with your chapter. You'll be glad you did.

Classes to be offered at Midwinter Convention

Two classes are scheduled to be offered at the 2003 Midwinter Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The first is "How To Be a Great (tenor, lead, bari or bass)," which will be taught by quartet UPTOWN SOUND and hosted by Jim DeBusman.

It will be held in the Hyatt Regency Hotel at 10:00 o'clock Saturday morning, January 25, and will last 50 minutes.

It will be followed at 11:00 a.m., in the same room, by a "Vocal Technique/Tag Singing" class led by Music Specialist Rick Spencer. That class will also last

50 minutes.

This is obviously a first for Midwinter and we hope that these offerings will be enthusiastically received by convention attendees.

It is not necessary to sign up or enroll in these classes. Just show up at the appointed hour for either or both classes.

Yours 4 A Song

Dan Bezaire, Music & Performance VP

Getting more out of Barbershop

I'm sure you've heard and said many times, "What could be more fun than singing?" There is one thing: singing better or, more properly, performing better.

Our Society provides many resources to allow us to sing and perform at a much higher level than we do right now. For example, check out the new, improved Society

Web page at www.spebsqsa.org. There you will find many links that will help you find just the right tools you need.

Harmony College/Director's College is the most intensive week of Barbershop singing you will ever have. Chances are, somebody in your chapter has gone recently, and they will tell you that the experience is indescribable. If you can manage to get away for a week in late July/early August, St. Joseph, Missouri, is the place to go.

At the district level, we have our annual Chorus Coaching Clinics coming up very soon. This event provides coaching for 12 of our choruses in either a morning or an afternoon session, with three of four top Society coaches providing the expertise.

The last two years have been

very well received; I hope your chorus is taking advantage of this year's clinic.

Maybe you just want to bring in a coach from our own district. A list is on the district Web page at www.harmonize.com/Pioneer/pio.htm.

Standing Ovation is a Society program that we have been trying to get going a little better in Pioneer. This is where a chorus or quartet invites a Standing Ovation reviewer to a performance.

The reviewer, using established guidelines, provides feedback on the entertainment value of the performance, along with suggestions how to improve the overall package. Not better singing, but a better performance is the primary goal.

Harmony Round-Up, May 16-19 at MSU, is the best Barbershop weekend of the year. Classes in vocal techniques, music fundamentals, and other classes will enhance your Barbershop experience.

We have an impressive faculty this year, including Harlan Wilson of the SUNTONES, and our featured quartet, NIGHTLIFE. Bring your quartet or just yourself. You won't regret it.

For more information on Harmony Round-Up, Standing Ovation, or Chorus Coaching Clinics, e-mail me at dbezaire@wincom.net.

New Harmony Travel web site on-line

SPEBSQSA's Harmony Travel is proud to announce its updated web site is now on-line at www.harmony-travel.com. At this web site you'll find a comprehensive listing of tours being offered by SPEBSQSA Travel Partners throughout 2003.

Several tours feature quartets or other notable Barbershop personalities who will host the tour. When you book a tour through a Harmony Travel partner, you are also supporting SPEBSQSA. Harmony Travel Partners include TravelEx International, Global Music Exchange, and The Larivee Company Tours.

Currently there are several exciting packages to the Caribbean, Ireland, England, Germany, Russia, China, Scotland, Austria, Hawaii, and more.

In addition, you can also find out about Harmony Travel's Pre-Montreal Tour and Post-Montreal Convention Cruise. Details for each tour are provided including dates, itineraries and prices, and the names of hosts on selected tours.

When you go to the new site, sign up for Harmony Travel's periodic e-mail newsletter. You'll receive announcements for new tours in 2004, the addition of quartets or hosts to our tours, and other Harmony Travel news.

Please take a moment now to see the all-new Harmony Travel web site at www.harmony-travel.com, and thank you for supporting Harmony Travel!



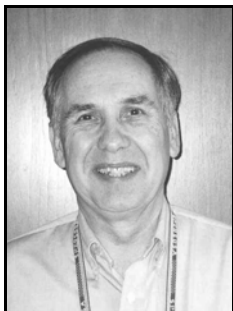
Dan Bezaire

Young Men in Harmony

Dave Anderson, District VP

It's our future

The big push everywhere in our Society is to stop the decline in membership and start increasing the numbers in our hobby. I am wondering if 20 years ago had we had the emphasis on youth that we now have, would we still be fighting this decline?



Dave Anderson

I am hoping and praying that in the next 20 years we will be increasing in membership. Our YMIH Program is a long-term project and we need to keep working diligently at it to make it pay off.

Although you have completed your chapter elections of officers, I can only count eight chapters that have listed their Youth Outreach person on the Members Only web site. I need to know who the YO (YMIH) contact is for every chapter, as this is the only way that I have of setting up a contact list.

Whether you are an elected VP, an appointed chairman, or have just decided to do this service on your own, please get your name and contact information on the web site.

By the time you receive this issue, we will be busy running a booth at the State of Michigan Music Educators National Convention

(MENC) held in Ann Arbor on January 16-18. As a member of the MSVMA (Michigan Schools Vocal Music Association), your Pioneer YMIH Team will be spreading the word about using Barbershop harmony as a teaching aid in the classroom.

At this same convention, Bill Rashleigh from our HQ office will be putting on a workshop for teachers, demonstrating the use of Barbershop with a choir put together and directed by Wendee Wolf-Schlarf of Traverse City. This came about due to the great relationship that Al Bonney has with the Traverse City schools and their vocal music teachers.

We are also busy preparing for our third annual A Cappella Blast! This is a great experience for high school-age young men (14-18) to become immersed in Barbershop harmony for a weekend. It will be held in conjunction with Pioneer's Harmony Round-Up at Michigan State University in East Lansing on May 16-18.

We need you to help identify the quality singers in the schools and then get them to the ACB for the weekend.

We also want you to encourage their vocal music teachers to attend. We have applied for another grant from Harmony Foundation to help subsidize the cost of this, but we won't know how much money

we are getting until late January.

Our budget shows that we will need to charge a fee of \$40 per person to attend, so please plan for a few scholarships in your chapter budget.

It is also that time of the year to visit your local college music department and encourage them to get a quartet going to compete in the Spring Collegiate Quartet Contest. Jim DeBusman from Kenosha has mailed out the information on this to all college music departments, so you do need to ask if they got the poster and the info. Please let me know if you find any college quartets working, as I would like to stay in contact with them.

Grosse Pointe's Gordon Dubrul deserves a big thank you, along with his quartet, the GOOD NEWS SINGERS, for a fine job of spreading the good news of Barbershop harmony to the schools in his area. On November 6, the quartet sang for — and with — the music classes at St. Thecla School in Clinton Township. The music teacher was so impressed she had them sing out in the main hallway at class change time.

They were a big hit and these four make good use of the sing-along. All of the students were singing with them. Beyond this fine work, the GOOD NEWS SINGERS quartet is also donating some funds from their performances to the YMIH fund for scholarships to the A Cappella Blast! Anyone else want to take up this challenge?

There are many things that you can be doing to spread the good news of Barbershop harmony to our youth, so let's get busy and ensure the future of this great hobby of ours.

A View from the Top

(Continued from page 3)

coming finalized. I will post the final work plan on the web site and send it to the CPRES site as soon as it is done.

In the meantime, there are certainly some things to imagine what might yet be ...

- MCACA granted us another \$22,400 for 2003 and, if there are no cuts by the Governor or the legislature in arts funding (still a possibility as I write this), the coaching program will continue very much like last year — with some additions and improvements.
- The Association of Quartet Champions for the Pioneer District will begin to play a major role in leading the cause of musical growth in the district by leading the quartet coaching function at Bush League in September.
- We will have a new *Troubadour* editor (his name is still under discussion as I write this) who will take the reins from Gary Simon and lead the continued improvement of this great

publication.

- Steve Foster of the Holland Chapter will be our new vice-president of chorus Director development in 2003. This job will be a very important one as we take large and positive steps to support our director corps doing their jobs each week. These guys deserve all the support you and we can give them. We intend to take a big role this year towards helping them make your chapter meetings all you want them to be in 2003.
- Finally, my major objective personally is to be sure that, as I end my stint as your president, I leave the board and the district in a position to move forward into 2004 confidently and without a hitch. We will have achieved several things in our two years together, it will be important that the organization can move forward even more surely and that transition will be my job to make happen.

Sooooooooo ... off we go. I hope you enjoyed my thoughts. Some neat stuff is happening because **It Truly Is Great To Be A Barbershopper ... in Pioneer!**

Register for the International Convention in Montreal

To register for the 2003 International Convention June 29-July 6, 2003, Montreal, Quebec,

call 1-800-876-7464 x-8462 or go on-line at <http://www.spebsqsa.org/montreal/>.

He sang Barbershop — really!

During a recent research visit to the Library of Congress, SPEBSQSA Historian Dr. Val Hicks discovered about 20 more Barbershop-related quartet names, radio stations, dates, and sponsors.



While listening to a taped transcription of the September 8, 1935, Major Bowes Amateur Hour, Val discovered something most interesting. The next to last contestant was the HOBOKEN FOUR, and one of the singers was none other than a very young Frank Sinatra. The quartet performed "Shine."

Yes, that's correct. "Old Blue Eyes" sang Barbershop harmony in his early years.

Barbershopping
The world's happiest hobby!

Harmony Hall for sale

(Continued from page 1)

fice space.

Concurrent with the listing of Harmony Hall, we will have an architectural study done on Sheridan Road to determine the cost and space needs if we move staff there. At the same time, the Task Force will investigate other opportunities in the Wisconsin/Texas corridor (Ed Waesche's term) that might include Dallas, Houston, St. Louis, Atlanta, Kansas City, etc.

There may be an "angel" Barbershopper or a benefactor somewhere who might offer property at a low cost to purchase or lease on a long-term basis, much the way we acquired Harmony Hall in 1957. It is simply good business on the part of the Board to investigate any such opportunities.

My thanks to the Harmony Hall Study Task Force, who presented us with a study far beyond expectations. I'm continually amazed at the depth and breadth of talent we have in the Society. A huge thanks, too, to our Society Board, who has the intestinal fortitude to make tough decisions.

As I write this, we have had three private parties very interested in the building. We expect an offer from one of them soon, and preliminary indications are that it is one we could readily accept. If we do not have a bona fide offer in hand in early January, we will list the building with a commercial realtor.

Thanks to you, our members and supporters. We're beginning a new journey, aren't we?

SINGING IS LIFE ...

the rest is just details.

**"Quartet singers
make better chorus
singers."**

Dr. Greg Lyne

Power Play to host cruise following Montreal convention

From Update, edited by Reed Sampson

Harmony Travel is proud to announce that **POWER PLAY**, the 2002 third-place international quartet medalist, will host our post-Montreal convention cruise next July.

The post-convention cruise leaves Montreal at noon Sunday, July 6, and ends in Boston Saturday, July 12. The cruise is on a 5-Star ship from Holland America Lines and features tours of Quebec City and a cruise of the scenic Saguanay Fjord; Prince Edward Island; Sydney and Halifax, Nova Scotia; and Bar Harbor, Maine.



Cruise prices start from \$1,595. Airfare, port charges, government fees, and security charges of \$260 are additional.

POWER PLAY — "the quartet with the same last name" — consists of a father, his two sons, and his nephew. Jack Slamka, the father, sings bass and is a 30-year member of SPEBSQSA; Michael, his son, sings lead and is a 20-year member; nephew Don sings tenor and is a 17-year member; and Mark, the other son, sings baritone and is a 15-year member of the Society, proving that the family that plays together stays together.

Gather your friends and join **POWER PLAY** on this unforgettable post-Montreal convention cruise!

For the detailed itinerary, go to www.harmony-travel.com, or, call TravelEx International, a Harmony Travel Partner, toll-free at 1-866-QUARTET (1-866-782-7838).

Chorus Director Workshop Intensive — From the director's side of the arms

By Lynne Peirce,
Musical Director of the
Huron Valley Harmonizers

Ever had one of those days when you were all thumbs? Or one of those days when you felt like you had two left feet? Or a day where you couldn't walk and chew gum at the same time? Or a day where you had to try new techniques to improve your conducting and teaching methods in front of trained faculty, four other directors, and representatives from their choruses?

Well, that happened to me. All on the same day.

Strangely enough, it was one of the most valuable experiences I have encountered as a director.

On November 23, Huron Valley hosted our first CDWI, an intense (it's called "intensive" for a reason!) day of soul-searching, sharing, coaching, and skill application with two superb instructors, Jim Turnmire and Barry Towner.

What made the day especially valuable was sharing the experience with my long-time friend, Nan Wardin, as well as newer but also good friends Jeff Woodruff, Chris Berry, and Scott Casey.

For those unfamiliar with a CDWI, for the first three hours in the morning, the directors take turns responding to several questions posed by the faculty members ... things like "Why are you directing?" and "What is your mission for your chorus?"

These may seem like quick,

easy questions. They are about as easy as "Who am I?" or "Why was I born?" Through the sharing and debriefing of the responses, the faculty hones in on improvement opportunities, and each director selects two areas he will focus on for that afternoon.

In the afternoon, the directors "go live" and face the volunteers from the five choruses (Yikes!).

I'm not sure what is the most potentially intimidating ... messing up in front of your singers, in front of those other singers, the other directors, or the faculty?

Interestingly, in this very vulnerable position, with arms flailing everywhere except where you want them to go and doing everything differently than you planned, the patience, acceptance, understanding, and support was overwhelming.

It felt safe. It was an environment I was able to learn in.

And did I learn ... about conducting, certainly ... and about myself. But I also learned about my colleagues and the joys and challenges they face. I learned that, while our choruses may be different, we share more than we could have imagined.

That is a very, very nice feeling. I learned how very special these directors are and how lucky their chorus singers are.

Good work, Nan, Jeff, Chris, and Scott. I would sing for any of you. I'm proud to be your colleague and a director in Pioneer.

Arrangements continue to be added to Society web site

Looking for that special arrangement for your quartet or chorus? You'll find new listings on the Society web site: www.spebsqsa.org: Sing and Perform > Get Music > New unpublished arrangements for 2001-02.



The Old Songs Library continues to grow. These titles have been added to the Unpublished Arrangements collection since last publication of the printed directory.

For up-to-the-minute additions, call Harmony Marketplace at 1-800-876-7464 x-8410.

*"Without music
to decorate it,
time is just a
bunch of boring
dates by which
bills must be
paid."*

Frank Zappa

The Detroit-Oakland Chapter, SPEBSQSA, Inc.
and THE GENTLEMEN SONGSTERS CHORUS
present their 64th Parade of Harmony

Valentine Memories

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2003, at 7:59 p.m.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2003, at 7:29 p.m.
SCHMIDT AUDITORIUM — CLARENCEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL, LIVONIA, MI

Featuring



POWER PLAY

2002 - 3rd Place International



FOUR MAN FISHIN' TACKLE CHOIR

CUSTOMER TICKET ORDER FORM

ALL SEATS RESERVED!

T

Fill out coupon and mail along with check and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the address at the bottom.
(PLEASE PRINT or TYPE!)

NAME _____

QUANTITY TOTAL \$ Amount

ADDRESS _____

____ Fri, Feb 14 @ \$16.00 _____

CITY _____ STATE/PROV _____ ZIP _____

____ Sat, Feb 15 @ \$17.00 _____

TELEPHONE HOME (____) _____ BUS.(____) _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

☐ ADDRESS CORRECTION

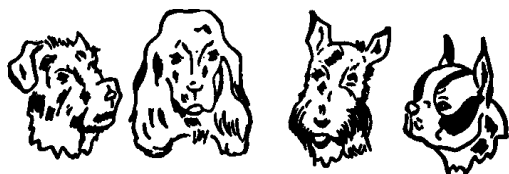
■ Make check payable to Detroit-Oakland Chapter, SPEBSQSA Inc.

☐ ADD TO MAILING LIST

■ Include **stamped**, self addressed envelope and mail to:

FOR FURTHER INFO, CALL: (248) 559-7082

THOMAS UICKER, 29257 SOUTHGATE DR, SOUTHFIELD, MI 48076



THE HARMONY HOUNDS

Pedigree: Barbershoppers

CONTACT: ROGER LEWIS
Bus. (616) 979-4343 — Res. (616) 965-5714

Doug
(517) 351-9587

Rich
(517) 482-0365



The Patch Chords

Music and Mirth

(517) 521-3218
Roger

(517) 321-3941
Larry

Ed

Gene



PO Box 322
Bridgman MI 49106
616-465-4428
upstagesound@iname.com
1998 Pioneer District Quartet Champions

Raleigh

A Registered Barbershop Quartet

Kerry



Night Shift

A BARBERSHOP QUARTET

Jim Jay Steve Herb

J.KUNZ@kunzleigh.com

(248) 626-1679

DON MICHAEL

MARK JACK



A Sound Advantage

Contact: Michael Slamka
(810) 326-0620
E-Mail: LIVE4SHOP@AOL.COM

FOUR-MAN FISHIN' TACKLE CHOIR



Hooked on Harmony



Cast for:
Neil 231-882-4835 or
Tracy 231-348-1178

Quartets

Your business card
could be published in
the *Troubadour*,
reaching over 1,300 Bar-
bershoppers and their
families in the Pioneer
District

Only \$55.00/year

Contact Greg Humbel at
734-494-3691 (R)
or e-mail: Greg@Simon-
Leeman.com

Ever growing ... Or nothing else matters!

Grant-writing workshops scheduled for Pioneer District

By Mike Moyer,
Pioneer District Grant Director
Phone: 989-631-4994
e-mail: mmoyerpp@aol.com

Could your chapter's budget use a financial boost? What could your chapter do with some extra money? Buy risers and new uniforms? Hire a voice teacher to give private voice lessons to every member of your chorus? Purchase music for your local school music programs?

There are organizations in your area that have money to give to organizations like yours! All you need to do is ask.

To learn who to ask, how to ask, and what to ask for, we have set up three grant-writing workshops for early 2003. Other chapters are starting to reap the benefits

of this "training," so isn't it time your chapter at least started learning about it? Or perhaps you attended an earlier workshop and are now thinking about taking the next step. These workshops include new information and new, helpful hints. You will not only be talking about theory, but will be working through real grant requests based on grant fund programs available in your communities.

Dates and times

Saturday, January 11 - 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. in Kalamazoo; Saturday, February 8 - 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. in Detroit; Saturday, March 22 - 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. in Gaylord. Specific locations and directions will be given to you when you register. Most chapters who participate send several men (2-5 men is typi-

cal from a chapter).

Instructors: Al Bonney and Raleigh Bloch — it doesn't get any better than this! These men both have successful experience in writing grants and they will give you practical hands-on help.

Advance Registration is required. Cost is \$30 per person and includes lunch, snacks, and materials. The singing is free!

Please let me know your intentions and send me a check in advance (payable to "Pioneer District").

I know time is short, but if you could make the decision to attend and send me your registrations soon, I would greatly appreciate it.

This is a great way to learn something new and to help your chapter!

Great Lakes Chorus of Sweet Adelines International "BACK IN BUSINESS" ... (and ain't it grand?!)

featuring *Power Play*
3rd place international champs

3 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. March 29, 2003

Macomb Center for the Performing Arts
Garfield & M-59/Hall Road
Clinton Township



Tickets (586)790-0008

Chapters in Action

Pontiac-Waterford

By John Cowlshaw

In our 58th annual show, the BIG CHIEF BARBERSHOP CHORUS presented "Dorothy returns to Oz" on November 9, 2002, in the Clarkston High School Auditorium. The show was a huge success.

Our switch to a technologically modern facility allowed wonderful acoustics and an attendance of 700. The audience loved the silly plot, the bright colors, and the singing.

The next generation of Barbershoppers was represented by the CLARKSTON HIGH SCHOOL BARBERSHOP CHORUS, under the direction of Michael Peterson. THE MEN OF GRACE sang inspiring Gospel songs. And CHORDIAC ARREST had the audience howling with laughter. After the final set, the audience gave the groups a standing ovation.

The chapter's participation in the fall convention was described in the November *Smoke Signals* by Roger Holm, bass in B-NATURAL. He pointed out that it made chapter history to have two chapter quartets in district competition. (Perhaps we can combine our scores?)

Barbershoppers of the Month have been Roger Holm (October) and Ron Clarke (November).

The Rochester Chapter surprised us with a visit on October 1 to pass the Jug to us in the annual fund-raising effort.

Gene Downie's outstanding four-year presidency, in which membership tripled, ends as Pete Mazzara takes over. In addition, Doc Mann is the new VP for chapter development; Art Carinci, the new chorus manager; and Chuck Murray and Zaven Melkonian are new members at large.

Saginaw Bay

By Ralph Brown

Thanksgiving and Christmas are behind us with "Food for the Body" and "Food for the Soul." As the balloon descended on Time Square, for one brief shining moment, we reflected back and relived some of the Barbershop fun we had in 2002.

Now we are going headlong into "Food for the Heart" Valentines Day. As Jackie Gleason would say; "How sweet it is."

We are also deep in preparation for our spring show, "St. Patrick's Day Thaw," and then spring competition.

Our old (newly elected) President Frank Bateson has reinvented and created new ideas which have given our chapter a new "SPARK." Thank you, Frank, for all the hours you have been putting into, as you would say, "making things happen."

Since I last mentioned membership, a few new voices have joined or rejoined us: Dan Bukowski, Steve Czarnecki, Bob Dennett, Bob Glover, Jack Gut-towsky, Jim Hollerbach, Mike Mahony, Dick Marquardt, Russ Rose, and Bob Beauchamp. Welcome one and all!

Although I have personally thanked him many times, WE as a chapter extend our sincerest thanks to Gary Simon for all his good works and tenuous hours to get this publication out to us. It is not only an excellent publication, but, since not everyone has a computer, it is an integral part of our life line in the Pioneer District. We send our "Best, our very best" to you, Gary.

Gaylord

By Hank Hedges

The annual Christmas Carolthon of the HARMONIE MEISTERS, Gaylord's Barbershop chorus, will ring in Christmas music in Gaylord, starting with strolling concerts through Otsego Memorial Hospital wards on December 16, and McReynolds Hall, December 19, and traveling to SunnyBank and Bortz assisted-living homes in Petoskey.

Later that evening, the chorus will present an hour concert at Independence Village.

"Christmas time gives the HARMONIE MEISTERS an opportunity to spread the Christmas spirit in song back into the communities that have supported us all year long," said President Jim Quin. He also related that a chapter quartet from the chorus will carol at Saturn Book Sellers on December 15 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. "That will be a holiday thing to do on a Sunday afternoon," he said, looking like the Christmas spirit elf himself.

A new addition to this annual CarolFest will be a nightly carol sing on December 20th through December 23rd dinner hours at Treetop Resort Hunter's Grill

Dining Room. *PIECES OF EIGHT*, the chorus's octet, will sing and stroll tableside with diners joining the festive holiday program.

Earlier in December, the chorus sang a special Christmas show at Roscommon High School and were featured as a strolling carol group in the annual Christmas in the Village in downtown Roscommon.

Detroit-Oakland

By Tom Uicker

The first Friday of November was "Canada Night" at Detroit-Oakland. We had 109 people attending from 10 chapters. Eight mini-choruses competed for the "Old Oakland Bucket," including two from Detroit-Oakland, three from Macomb, and one each from Huron Valley, Pontiac/Waterford, and Windsor. Huron Valley won the coveted prize this year.

The mini-chorus competition was interspersed with singing from four quartets including our judges, *FERMATA NOWHERE*.

As we close in on Christmas, the *GENTLEMEN SONGSTERS* will do our annual caroling at Providence and Beaumont (Royal Oak) Hospitals and the Arnold Home in Detroit.

Also we are busy preparing for our annual show on Valentines Day and the day after. This year, we chose to feature some local talent including *POWER PLAY* and *FOUR MAN FISHIN' TACKLE CHOIR*. You can find an ad for our show elsewhere in this issue.

Finally, I want to report our officers for 2003. Leading off with President Herb Hebner, we also have Membership VP Don Jones, Music VP Jim Kunz, Program VP Jim Eads, Secretary Don Block, Treasurer Tom Uicker, and members-at-large John Balint, Paul Millis, and Pete Peters. They will be installed at a party in early January.

Flint

By Guy Hissong

Well, after being paid a visit by the Detroit-Oakland Chapter, who dropped off the Jug in great traveling song and spirit, we returned the favor by carrying it ourselves to Rochester Hills. What a wonderful way of saying hello to Barbershop friends.

We are currently up to our ears with the *CHRISTMAS CHORUS* schedule. Several days a week, three locations a night keeps us busy spreading holiday cheer in four-part harmony.

We had occasion to sing with another bunch of carolers. At one of the elderly care facilities, we noticed a group of 4-H kids and families singing at one end of a hall. Our director, John Noteware, disappeared and came back with them. We all shared several Christmas carols together. Comcast cable videotaped us and we appeared a couple of different times on local TV.

COTS is just around the corner, along with our annual retreat at beautiful snow-covered Higgins Lake, where we kick off our annual show music and plans. What a way to spend time together.

Barbershop singing — does it get any better than this?

Windsor

By Bill Strong

Belated holiday greetings to one and all from the Windsor Chapter. The new year is upon us and we congratulate our new Chapter President Bob Bell as well as new and returning Board members. Now the hard work begins.

A number of Board members did attend COTS and this will be a big help in keeping our chapter focused in the new year.

Recently on the district's Pionet, there were some (tons) of suggestions as to how the format of chapter meetings should be changed and, while a lot of the e-mails dealt with nostalgia, there were a lot of valid points offered. Whether we as a chapter will embrace any of them remains to be seen.

With that in mind, there is always an open invitation to any member to visit us on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. at Roseland Golf and Curling Club. Call any Windsor member for directions. You'll be welcome "as the flowers in May."

In the meantime, other more-pressing issues must be addressed, not the least of which is our annual spring show. Show tunes have been distributed and rehearsals are in full swing and then, of course, there's the spring convention.

Long-time member Earl Dykman has been under the weather of late and his presence at chapter meetings has been greatly missed. Get well soon, Earl. We miss your great bass voice.

(Continued on page 18)

Chapters in Action

(Continued from page 17)

Monroe North

By Chris Berry

Seasons greetings from the Monroe North Chapter! This year is closing with a very busy schedule for us with four performances in December. We are very pleased that we have had the opportunity to perform 16 times over the course of this year, which surpassed our goal of 12 for the year.

Our membership has continued to grow with several past members returning to sing (glad to have Dave, Gary, and Gene back) and four new members joining in (welcome to Gerry, Dave, Jim, and Dustin).

My hat's off to the rest of the gentlemen in the chorus that have made each Tuesday night throughout the year — at least for me — “great to be a Barber-shopper!”

We have a fabulous outlook for 2003 with the return of our annual show on March 29, Harmony Round-Up in May, Harmony College in August, an additional 12 performances for the public, and we can't forget singing each Tuesday night at our chapter meetings.

We are gearing up for yet another year of singing, learning, growing, and fellowship that should not be missed. Stop on down sometime and bust a chord or two with us. See you there.

Macomb County

By Roy Gurney

At this time, the HARMONY HERITAGE CHORUS is busy with community events for Christmas, such as the Mt. Clemens Tree Lighting and the Christmas Walk for the Bath City Association. And, of course, we are all busy with our own season's activities.

This also an exciting time because we have a new board of directors who are enthusiastic about this coming year.

And our newly formed music team is working on the best chorus music for shows and competition.

New faces are appearing at our rehearsals and new members are joining. We're also seeing inactive members and former members returning to the fold.

Director Carl Dahlke, is pushing for 100-percent attendance and we will need everybody's consistent help as we prepare for Singing Valentines, the spring convention, our annual show, and the big performance in Montreal.

For our annual show, we'll be returning to the beautiful auditorium at Macomb Center for the Performing Arts on May 10 with headliner METROPOLIS as well as comedy quartet NIGHTWATCH together with some of our chapter quartets, including BORDER CROSSING. Hope to see you there.

Huron Valley

By Greg Humbel

The Harmonizers experimented with a different type of venue for its fall show. Normally held in a school, this year we chose a church. The price was right, almost half the rent, and with little advertising, it was a good deal.

As busy as we were, the fall convention and contest came upon us quickly. Fear not, the HARMONIZERS rise to the occasion once again. Fresh off the music, we placed third overall and #1 in sound. Our quartets PARTY OF FOUR and CHORDIOLOGY placed fourth and fifth respectively.

The was a best score in international prelims in our history ... good stuff.

Back from Battle Creek, we are preparing for our joint show with the COUNTY CONNECTION CHORUS (Sweet Adeline) on December 7.

We finish a very busy year with a nursing home caroling marathon on December 15, and a downtown Christmas stroll in Ann Arbor.

Whew! Christmas ... Rest and Relaxation..

Grand Rapids

By John H. Trestrail, III

After leading our chorus to district championships and international competitions for several years, our director, Jamie Carey, reluctantly had to say “good bye” to the GREAT LAKES CHORUS, and we wish him well in his future endeavors.

Now we would like to introduce to you our new chorus director, Tom Wheeler.

Tom has both bachelors and masters degrees in

music education, and has taught at all levels of public school education — from first grade through college. He has sung with the GREAT LAKES CHORUS for many years, and has directed Barbershop choruses for over ten years in Connecticut and New York.

Tom was the bass of the 1996 Pioneer District quartet champion, FERMATA. Tom is also an accomplished arranger, with arrangements for men's and women's choruses, men's and women's quartets, and double mixed choruses.

An accomplished entertainer with over 140 musical productions to his credit, Tom brings a sense of "theatre" to Barbershop. His belief is that singing is "story telling" — and that story telling should involve and ultimately transport the listener to the place and time of the story, that singing should aid the listener in identifying with the mood and the emotion of the story as it unfolds. Everyone can identify and empathize with the emotions that we try to convey in a song.

In Barbershop, Tom is an admitted taskmaster. He constantly challenges our chorus with the basics of craft: vowel formation, diphthongs, singing correct notes *on pitch*, with good tone quality, unit sound, etc.

In his 9-to-5 world, Tom is a product manager for Music In Education™ (MIE), a classroom-based music program for Yamaha Corporation of America.

In his (albeit limited) personal life, Tom loves to cook, and jokingly says, "Someday I'll make someone a wonderful wife!"

Our GREAT LAKES CHORUS is currently preparing for its annual Christmas show in conjunction with the local Sweet Adelines group. This show has proven to be a popular favorite with the followers of Barbershop harmony.

After the holidays, the push will be on to prepare for the 2003 "Great Lakes Invitational" show in the spring, as well as district competition.

Plans are also underway for our annual Singing Valentines, an ever-popular activity for the chapter.

Hillsdale

By Roger McCaskey

Have you heard the old saying "You can't teach old dogs new tricks"? Our chapter is testing that theory on a weekly basis.

A challenge to the other chapters: "We will be back for the spring competition and we will be hungry to move up in the standings."

We have been hard at work on a Christmas package that we will be presenting in Jonesville for a charity event, in Adrian for a nursing home, and in Hillsdale for two nursing homes. Our spring show script is in place and we are already working on the music.

We are very thankful to the district for changing the date for COTs. Other performance obligations have kept us from attending in recent years. This year we will be well represented with some 10 members attending.



Robb
Brian
Rich
Scott

A Barbershop Quartet

GET CAUGHT IN THE SIGHTS OF THIS SOUND!

Philatoga Township



Award-Winning
Barbershop Quartet




Contact: Gary Nitz
7498 Dunross Dr.
Portage, MI 49002
Tel: 616-324-0521
E-mail: gaconitz@netzero.net

*"Spreading Harmony
and Brotherhood"*

Brian Kaufman Bruce LaMarte

Craig Pollard
248-474-1485
caponyx@entropytech.com

ACAPPELLA
QUARTET

Doug Morgan

... New edit #10

What color do the Yellow Pages turn when they get old?

Alcohol and calculus don't mix. Never drink and derive.

Birthdays are good for you: the more you have, the longer you live!

Why don't you ever see the headline "Psychic Wins Lottery"?

Why is it called lipstick if you can still move your lips?

Wayne Chapter, SPEBSQSA, Inc.
36500 Ann Arbor Trail
Livonia MI 48150

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE

PAID

LIVONIA, MI
PERMIT NO. 1034

Postmaster: Dated material — Please RUSH!

An official publication of the Pioneer District Association of Chapters of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

Upcoming Events

2003

Jan. 3-5 - Pioneer District Chapter Operations and Training Seminar (COTS).

Jan. 11 - Grant-writing seminar - Kalamazoo. Contact Mike Moyer: 989-631-4994 or MMoyerpp@aol.com.

Jan. 19-26 - SPEBSQSA Mid-Winter Convention, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Call 800-876-7464 x-8462, or go on-line at www.spebsqsa.org/midwinter/

Feb. 8 - Grant-writing seminar - Detroit. Contact Mike Moyer: 989-631-4994 or MMoyerpp@aol.com.

Feb. 14-16 - Detroit-Oakland County Show.

March 1 - Wayne Show. Contact Mike Green: 248-427-1255.

March 8 - Lansing Show.

March 15 - Kalamazoo Show.

March 16 - Saginaw Bay Show.


March 22 - Grand Rapids Show.

March 22 - Grant-writing seminar - Gaylord. Contact Mike Moyer: 989-631-4994 or MMoyerpp@aol.com.

March 29 - Monroe North Show.

April 25-27 - Pioneer District Spring Convention & Competition, Lansing, Michigan.

Note: All chapter show activities must be cleared through Pioneer District Secretary Marvin Skupski (contact information on page 2).



BILL DAN

A BARBERSHOP QUARTET

Contact: Dan Casamatta
6705 Adaridge Dr. SE
Ada, Michigan 49301
(616) 676-8814
E-Mail: porgyt@aol.com

JOEL MARK



michigan council for
arts and cultural affairs