

Pioneer Troubadour

Official Publication of the Pioneer District September/October 2005 Volume 56, Number 4

The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

Grow now -or Die!

By **Doran McTaggart**,
Pioneer Director of CSLT

Can you hear the clock ticking? It's getting louder and louder as the Society nears the start of its biggest recruiting plan ever and every chapter can be involved.

The March/April 2005



Harmonizer devoted five pages (16-20) to UCANSING2. Re-read this article and see how you can be part of this membership campaign.

Since 1996, our Society membership has continually fallen from 34,225 to under 30,000 in 2005. Because of your personal commitment to make a difference, we can and will stop this trend and increase the number

of men enjoying a musical experience on a weekly basis.

There are big monetary awards and other perks for both individuals and chapters. These incentives have been offered to get you involved with the program.

The campaign kicks off on August 1 and continues until October 31. In the next few weeks every chapter will

receive professionally produced radio and TV spots, and other helpful resources from headquarters. Everyone can download a host of materials from the Society website at www.youcansingtoo.com

All of this planning is for one reason. It will ensure that the Society-wide Recruiting Week of September 12-16, 2005 will be a **Please see GROW, page 3**

Pioneer's own making a difference beyond our borders

Raleigh Bloch elected as new executive VP of AHSOW

By Earle Holt

Raleigh Bloch of **Kalamazoo** was installed as executive vice president at the **Ancient Harmonious Society Woodshedders** General Membership Meeting in Salt Lake City.

Raleigh, a former Society Board Member, has been actively involved in numerous key major leadership roles since joining the Society in 1967. He has held district offices, including, Executive, Membership Committee, and vice president of Membership Services.

His Chapter offices held include, multiple terms as president, membership vice president, board member, Chapter Music Committee, plus tenor section leader. He is also a member of The Harmony Foundation Grant Writing Committee.

An active quartet man. Raleigh sang with **Upstage Sound**, 1998 District Quartet

champions and with **Antiques Roadshow**, the 2002 District Senior

Champions. Antiques Roadshow also won 2004 and 2005 International Senior Medalist status.

Other Society accomplishments include, Quartet Coach at Harmony College North, and Quartet Coach at Pioneer HarMoFame.

AHSOW is fortunate to have Raleigh to take over the office of executive vice president of the organization.

AHSOW's mission is to preserve, promote and perpetuate the pleasure of creating harmonies by ear, in a quartet to a compatible barbershop melody, without reference to written or familiar arrangements.

See <http://www.ahsow.org> for information about AHSOW and authentic woodshedding.



Summer brings big scores for Pioneer outside Michigan
(Top left) Insignia won 820 points (68 percent) to win 11th place in the International Collegiate Quartet Contest in Salt Lake City, Utah.
(Middle left) Infinity won 2,261 points (75.4 percent) to win 44th in the International Quartet Contest.
(Bottom left) Macomb won 2,241 points (74.1 percent) to capture 23rd in the International Chorus Contest.
(Bottom right) Sidekicks won 1st place in the mixed quartet contest at the Buckeye Invitational.



**September/October 2005 Pioneer Troubadour**

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Address changes

Pioneer District members: **DO NOT SEND
CHANGE OF ADDRESS TO EDITOR.**

Mailing data are furnished by the Barbershop Harmony Society, 7930 Sheridan Road, Kenosha, WI. Please furnish change of address to your Chapter secretary and the Society 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.

Love is for everyone, love isn't just for the young

By Joe Serwach

This boyish grin fills my face as I remember **Gene Bulka** telling me what it's like to fall in love again 17 years after losing a mate... after believing you can't fall in love again, only to be proven wrong.

What it's like to give up, think it will never come again.. And then it does..

One Tuesday he told me about finding this wonderful woman and the next he told me about the wedding plans. and the wedding came just a few weeks later It happened that fast.

When you find the one and only answer, doubts disappear and only certainty remains.

So I attended two Barber-



shop weddings this summer and that certainty and rapid decision process was the common theme at both.

We sing optimistic songs of hope and family, getting the love of your life and making dreams come true. And eventually the messages of those songs click in our heads and hearts.

That's what Barbershop-ping is all about. Not what we call our Society or what our logo looks like. And yet, we often see the debate between what I call the Preservers (those most concerned with our many traditions) and the Encouragers (those willing to try just about ANYTHING new to get new singers into the organization).

It's the exact debate families have when a member of the brood decides to marry.

Children or parents of the

bride and groom (or both depending on the age of those getting married) often take on the roles of Preservers worried more than anything about preserving what they have while the Encouragers love to see the new love grow, are happy to see the family expand, to see love grow through the new marriage.

The debate goes back and forth until finally both sides realize they have something to gain from the changes.

We look at the deaths and illnesses and aging of our fellow Barbershoppers and sometimes it's easy to get gloomy about where we will be five years from now.

However, we live in an era where the average new marriage lasts just four years, where movie attendance is down 11 percent from last summer,



where it's hard to even get two friends or two couples together to socialize.

Yet we are part of a singing family where chapters like Grosse Pointe and Holland are turning 60, where other chapters are older, where it's easy to find members who have belonged for one, two, three, four or even five decades.

And when you find such love and devotion, anything is possible.

Totus tutus.

Grow now -- or Die

Continued for Page 1.

smashing success.

Do follow the chapter readiness checklist that will take you right from your chapter's early planning right through to the night of the event. WOW! I can hardly wait!

Your Chapter Counselor will be your closest resource. He is eager to assist and help you to have a successful program.

Keep in touch with each other and your Chapter. The District and our Society will all be the beneficiaries of our combined efforts. As new information comes to me, I will E-mail it quickly to each Chapter and the Chapter Counselors. I am not ready to DIE, but I am prepared to GROW!

Lansing Chapter's 65th anniversary

All members of the Pioneer District are invited to mark their calendars for Sunday September 11 to join the **Lansing Chapter** as it celebrates 65 years of society membership.

The celebration and remembrance will be held at the Holiday Inn South in Lansing. Festivities begin at 4 p.m. with a social hour, singing, and displays recalling historical highlights.

Join us for a Mass sing lead by former directors, chorus and quartet numbers and our special guests the **Four Man Fishing Tackle Choir**.

Dinner ticket are \$35 each and may be ordered by contacting the Lansing Chapter at (517) 372-SING (7464).

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Our location improves opportunity

By Bruce Smith

Pioneer District President

The Pioneer District is uniquely located geographically to take advantage of two fantastic barbershop experiences. These are **Harmony/Directors College** and



the **International Convention**.

Many Barbershoppers have never experienced either of these events.

Now fate has moved them to our backyard and made attendance more convenient. For those who don't know, Harmony College has moved to Columbus, Ohio. Its new home is the campus of The Ohio State University, and for many Pioneer Barbershoppers that is a four to six hour drive as opposed to the 14 hour trek to St. Joseph, Mo,

Close is not the reason to go, it just makes going easier.

The reason to attend is because Harmony College gives every barbershopper the opportunity to improve his ability and grow in his understanding of the Barbershop style. As a consequence, I suggest that you will get even more fun out of this hobby, and return home with a new enthusiasm and skills you are dying to use.

If you are thinking you aren't skilled enough to take advantage of this event, or concerned about how others will perceive your abilities then Harmony College/Directors College is definitely something you should attend. It is the least judgmental most welcoming environment you can imagine. It was not created for the elite singer; but for every singer. For six days, you are surrounded by an experience designed to help

you grow.

If you were learning a foreign language, it would be called immersion. In Barbershop, I would call it fellowship and encouragement.

The 2006 International Convention is being held in Indianapolis, Indiana. From Lansing, it is a four hour drive, so for the majority of Pioneer Barbershoppers it is four to six hours away. Folks, it doesn't get any closer and to take the guess work out of seat location you can, for the first time, purchase tickets on line and select the best available seats.

I know that many Pioneer Barbershoppers have never experienced an International Convention and may be comparing it to a district convention.

There are similarities no doubt, but the level of

performance is vastly different. Most of us have experienced a **Power Play** performance and are enthralled by the sound and presentation.

How about watching 10 or more quartets that are working hard to reach or exceed that level of presentation. On the chorus side of the contest, consider that the **Vocal Majority** will be seeking their 11th gold medal and showing us all why Barbershop choruses hold a back seat to no group of singers. In addition to the contests, you can attend classes, mass sings, chorditoriums, open chorus rehearsals, and afterglows.

Pioneer Barbershoppers have two premier events taking place on their doorstep in 2006. Don't let this opportunity slip away. Plan now to take advantage of one or both of these opportunities.

Power Play wows young Saginaw crowd

By Bob Winter

For a number of years, **Saginaw/Bay's Harbor Sounds Chorus** and the **Tri-Cities Sweet Adelines Chorus** have joined forces to produce a show in the park by the Saginaw River in Bay City for the Bay Arts Council.

On a night in June we would do our routines in the Shell in the park and if we had local quartets, they would also perform. It was a decent show, but we were attracting just about the same family members, friends and neighbors each year. The show was getting stale as it was basically the same every year with some new songs added. The chorus members were getting bored with it.

Please see **SAGINAW**, Page 9

New director wanted in Flint

By Doug Lynn

The **Flint Arrowhead** Barbershop Chorus is currently looking for a new director.

John Noteware, our current director, has decided to give up the baton.

John has been a real inspiration to the chorus and has become a personal friend of mine.

His enthusiasm, talent and skill will be greatly missed. John will be staying with the chorus and, don't worry, as president I have lots of plans

for him.

He will continue to be a great asset to the chorus and to whoever takes on the responsibility of musical leadership for the group in the future.

We are currently accepting applications for his replacement and will make the change over as soon as we find someone who is compatible with the chorus and has the desire and skill to lead us and help us grow both musically and personally.

Our membership is

currently at 40 and we rehearse every Tuesday night at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, 9020 S. Saginaw St., and Grand Blanc. (Right across from Warrick Hills Country Club, the site of the Buick Open)

It is a beautiful location and we have just begun to tap the possibilities of growth in this area. If you are interested, please email me at dlynn@yahoo.com or call me at (810) 695-4861.

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Tom Smeltzer (Bass)

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Holland marks 60th with District-wide event

Quartets of the **Pioneer District**: The **Holland Chapter** is celebrating the 60th anniversary of its organization in September and you are invited to participate.

On Friday, Sept. 16 we will hold a gathering of Barbershoppers from Holland, the Pioneer District, and afar. Your quartet is invited to attend, and spouses are welcome.

Events will start at 5:30 p.m. with a complimentary pig roast at our new Harmony Hall, followed by a program about 6:30 p.m. The program will include a contest of "The Old Songs" by quartets and choruses that attend. Each is invited to sing two old songs, giving the date they were written if possible. There will be prizes and more singing afterwards.

On Saturday the Holland Chapter will hold a free show outdoors for barbershoppers and the general public at 2:30 p.m. overlooking a small lake near Harmony Hall. Our headline quartet will be **Genuine Blend**, Holland's 1994 district champion and an International contestant in 1995 and 1996.

If you would like to participate, we would be pleased to have you. After the show there will be complimentary hamburgers and hot dogs for the performers and their friends, and more singing.

Persons with RVs may stay in our spacious mall parking lot, courtesy of Holland Town Center. The chapter has arranged for a special rate for

Barbershoppers at a nearby hotel for those who wish to stay both Friday and Saturday nights.

The Country Inn, 12260 James St., is within walking distance of Harmony Hall. It has a large indoor pool and connecting sundeck and offers a deluxe continental breakfast. The rate for the weekend, including both Friday and Saturday nights, is \$125 plus tax. Phone the inn, 616-396-6677 or visit its web site: www.countryinns.com/hollandmi or email at cx_hold@countryinn.com

In addition to having Harmony Hall, the hotel, and the show site all within walking distance, there are many shops and stores, restaurants, and the Dutch Village theme park (especially inviting to children) to walk to, and dozens more stores and restaurants a short drive away.

Our new Harmony Hall is located at C40 Holland Town Center, 12330 James St., Holland Township. It is just east of U.S. 31 and south of James Street, across the parking lot from Holland's Star Theater and the Country Inn.

If you'd like to help celebrate a chapter's anniversary that will be short on speeches and long on singing, we'd like to see you. If you'd like to sing in the Friday night Old Songs Contest we'd love to have you. For further information, on the Holland Chapter's 60th Anniversary Celebration, Sept. 16 and 17, please contact:

Art Lane, Holland Chapter Anniversary Co-Chair:
artlane@wmol.com; (269-857-2781);
Box 1403 Holland MI 49423

Muskegon and Milwaukee meet again

By Webb Scrivnor

The air at the dock of the Lake Express echoed with "You're as welcome as the flowers in May". At 4 p.m., this old Barbershop quartet tune welcomed six fellow Barbershoppers from Milwaukee to the second annual Milwaukee-Muskegon Mingle.

The visitors were driven, then, to the Harbour Towne Yacht Club, where they were ultimately to join 21 others from Holland and Chicago.

This year's meeting was sponsored by the **Muskegon Barbershop Quartet Club**, the **Milwaukee Quartet Club**, and supported by the **Muskegon Chapter**.

Ray Scroggins, leader of the Milwaukee contingent, said, "An event like this presents an opportunity for fellow Barbershoppers to meet and sing without the pressure of performance of commitments; just sing for the fun of it." And sing they did, for the next six hours!

There was more than one opinion on why this was a great gathering. Muskegon's **Bill Duplissis** said, "This is great fun, but for me, it's a greater pleasure to have a chance to hear some really great voices."

For **Jim Jarosz**, from the Chicago area, it was the chance it gives younger men to hear and sing the old songs—the "really old songs" other Barbershoppers have been singing for a long time.

Ken Cook, from Holland, who sings in the **Generation Gap** quartet, said, "I'm glad we will be able to woodshed with all these guys, but equally pleased to be asked to sing as an organized quartet."

One of two women present, **Marie VanWyck**, the yacht club's accountant, decided to extend her work day to listen to the music.

"I enjoy Barbershop," she remarked, "and I go to the shows or meetings where quartets sing. It's just wonderful music."

Kim Prow, the yacht club's manager, explained that she volunteered to work that evening just so she could get to hear all that marvelous music. At the end of the evening, near 10 p.m., she was rewarded when the entire group, under Ray Scroggins leadership, sang to her, "Heart of My Heart".

As some left in cars and others boarded the Express, shouts could be heard shouting, "See you next year!"

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Detroit-Oakland returns to city in a big way



Detroit-Oakland Chapter, DOC, aka the old "Detroit No. 1 Chapter" returned to the city attracting more than 850 people by reviving the old "Boblo cruises" with a Saturday night cruise on the new Detroit Princess cruiseline up and down the Detroit River. Singing was going on from deck to deck, eating, drinking, having fun... Now THAT's Barbershop!



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QCA Profile: Al Fisk profiles.... Al Fisk

Greetings from the Quartet Champions Association <http://www.pioneerqca.org/> With not much going on and having no QCA quartet/member bio submissions, we're stuck with ... err ... my bio ... ;)

I started out as a child...(sorry, old Bill Cosby line). I grew up in Rochester, Mich. While at Rochester High School ('74), I sang in all the choirs (including Madrigals and Show Choir) and played trombone in all the bands (including jazz and marching band - drum major my senior year).

While at Michigan State University ('78 & '85), I majored in Choral Education, reformed/directed the MSU Handbell Choir, arranged and published handbell music, and marched in the band (as I still do every year with the alumni).

I have been teaching secondary vocal music in Hazel Park since 1979 with occasional superior performances at choral/vocal jazz festivals. I also ran a show choir at Oakland University, directed several church/handbell choirs in Lake Orion, sang



solos with churches and the Rochester Symphony Orchestra, sang with the John Smith Vocal Jazz Singers (Detroit), sang with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Chorale, and directed the Rochester Community Chorus.

Hobbies include sci-fi (Star Trek conventions), long distance cycling (either century day rides or several hundred mile-long trips), computers, and vocal jazz. I currently sing with PRIME <http://prime-vocal-jazz.com/>. Bonnie (my beautiful physical therapist wife - Beaumont, Royal Oak), Bob, the "Wonder Cat," and I live in beautiful Rochester. Drop by some time to enjoy the view and feed the wildlife.

My first real Barbershop exposure was hearing the **Patch Chords** during intermission at a cabaret concert I was doing with the MSU Chorale and Lansing Symphony.

I followed those guys (**Gene Johnson, Don Horton, Doug Pearson, and Rich Harlow**) around the rest of the day and joined the **Lansing Chapter (Bob Winters** directing) in '76.

I joined a quartet within the month - the **Subtle Impressions** (with **Art Cardy, Jim Shewell,**

and another **Jim Miller**) - and promptly finished 16th of 17 quartets at the "new" Dearborn Hyatt Regency (**Grosse Pointe** hosted).

After graduation in '78, I returned to Rochester and joined the **Oakland County Chapter (Fred McFayden** directing).

He groomed me, stepped aside, and let me direct for a few years.

When the **Utica Chapter** moved to Rochester, I joined them to direct for almost 15 years (with several plateau awards and one bulletin editor award!).

I also joined **City Lights** as assistant director under **Mike Slamka** for a year to experience International - Pittsburgh in '94.

In fact, during that Civil War scene, **Doc Gillingham** arrangement, Mike turned to act out a scene and allowed me to direct for about 10 seconds. Thus, I can claim having directed on the Inter. stage...

My **Rochester Chapter** quartet, the **Chordmasters**, with **Bob McCaffrey, Dan Bajorek, and Kurt Kiesling** enjoyed many years together and achieved mike tester status once. I've also served Pioneer as the head of **Young Men in Harmony**, Assistant Director of Music Ed., and part of the Chorus Director Development team.

In '97, **Rudi Krampf, Kelly Brummett, Jim Ryan** and I rehearsed eight times in two months and won the district as **The Detroit Sound Co.**

Jeff Gougeon joined us shortly thereafter. Thanks, guys, I love you.

God Bless you, Kelly. We sang for the Detroit Tigers, the Detroit Pistons, the Detroit Shock - WNBA basketball, the Detroit Vipers - minor league hockey, the Mitch Albom Show (WJR - twice), Michigan International Speedway, Fox 2 Television, most Pioneer chapters, etc.

I am a Certified Director, a district arranger, serve on the Mini-HEP faculty (tags, coach, music fundamentals, judge class, bottle washer), serve on the Harmony College North faculty (Ontario), a coach (many quartets, guys and girls, and choruses in and out of the district, officially and unofficially), secretary of the **Quartet Champions Association**, a Standing Ovation (show) reviewer, a **Bush League** judge/coach, Director of Contest and Judging (Pioneer), and a Certified Music Judge.

I currently sing with **Macomb** (going on three Internationals and get to direct from time to time (thanks, **Jack Slamka**) and enjoy every minute of it.

Although my voice has been stilled to some degree (spasmodic dysphonia <http://www.dysphonia.org/>), I enjoy my "hobby" (read obsession!).

I continue to experience Barbershop "highs," cherish my time with Bonnie (read angel), teach the leaders of tomorrow (umm...junior high kids...), and bless/thank God for everything in my life. Peace.



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What the Plateaus mean to your chorus

By Al Fisk

Greetings:

Congrats to three gentlemen who have survived applicant school and are now Candidates in the judging program. For the next two years, they'll be on practice panels (including Pioneer) as they hone their skills toward Category School which takes place in August 2007: **Dorn Burrill** - Singing, **Ron Eubank** - Contest Administrator, and **Don Reddy** - Contest Administrator.

FYI: Some folks have asked me how the chorus plateau levels work. **Steve Sutherland** has the explanation on the Pioneer web site, but I'll point them out here, too.

Plateau levels are designed to give choruses something to shoot for when they are not likely to win the championship. Instead of basing plateaus on the size of the chapter roster, we go by scores. This way, choruses that are singing at or near the same level are competing against others of their league. Here is a more detailed explanation off the web site:

Plateau awards will be given in the Spring and Fall contests. However, trophies will only be handed out in the Spring. A chorus is placed in a plateau based on its previous score whether it was in the previous fall International Prelims, in the previous year's

District Championship, or in either contest from the past three years. Average scores on multiple contests are not used.

Any chorus that has not competed in more than three years automatically gets placed in plateau 4. I have the scores on file, and they are on the Pioneer site.

Plateau 4 - scores at 600 or less (or not competing for over three years)

Plateau 3 - scores at 601 - 700

Plateau 2 - scores at 701 - 800

Plateau 1 - scores at 801 and above.

The District Championship Chorus or the International Reps can be the plateau winner, as well.

Chapter	Plateau	Spr 05	Fall 04	Spr 04	Fall 03	Spr 03	Fall 02
Detroit-Oakland	1		847	807	823		789
Huron Valley	1				821	848	796
Macomb County	1	882	882		900		860
Mount Pleasant	1	842					
Motor City Metro	1	828	771	788	753		
Battle Creek	2		726	734	714		691
Grand Rapids	2		702	732		774	
Grosse Pointe	2	763	682	710	687	765	730
Hillsdale	2	763	750	685	627	615	575
Kalamazoo	2	770	733	746	705	803	842
Lansing	2	764	750	725	749	757	705
Michiana Metro	2	736	762	757	778	696	723
Sault Ste Marie	2			725			
Traverse City	2	703	750	686	776	734	755
Windsor	2	703	691	668	634	652	552
Alpena	3			629			573
Gratiot County	3	631		643		709	

Antiques Roadshow

INTERNATIONAL SENIOR
BARBERSHOP QUARTET MEDALISTS

Pioneer District Senior Barbershop Quartet Champions

CONTACT - DENNIS GORE
7028 E. Charleston 596 / 336-7840
Washington Twp, Mi. 48095 dgore132@comcast.net



CarTune Characters
A Barbershop Quartet

Lead: Steve Ray Tenor: Ruben Queen
Bass: Gene Beaty Baritone: Marv Skupski

Contact: Gene at 734-522-7040
HTTP://WWW.Harmonize.com/CTC/

SAGINAW: Slamkas volunteer to interest young crowd

Continued from page 4
n spring 2004, I talked to **Jack Slamka** about our dilemma. We had a beautiful setting and a great stage and sound system, but we needed a big boost. The Arts Council gave each chorus \$200 to put on the show each year.

We had no budget and the Council seemed satisfied with the show, but offered no funds to bring in talent. Their funds went to bring in name bands and groups during the summer. Jack was sympathetic to our plight, but that June **Power Play** was getting ready for their performances at International and I knew they didn't need more on their schedule, especially when they weren't getting paid for it.

He did, however, go to Don, Mark, and Mike and they talked about it. They said they'd do the show if there were a good reason to do it. They agreed that if we

would make a concerted effort to get young singers from the high schools and colleges in the area to come to the concert and experience Barbershop they'd do it.

We made the effort. We visited every high school in Saginaw and Bay Counties and talked to teachers in Midland. We played the Society's video and featured Power Play in vocal music classes. We talked the Arts Council into not charging students for entry into the concert and we asked them to charge \$5 for adults – a raise from previous years.

With Power Play already on the show, I called **Craig Pollard** to see if **Insignia** might be available even though June is a very busy time for high schoolers. (In June 2004 they were high schoolers.) I thought they might enjoy being on the same show as Power Play and would like the

opportunity to perform. They did and the audience loved them. **Motor City Mix**, our director Nan Wardin's S.A. Regional runner-up quartet, also gave a great performance.

It was a great show. Power Play wowed the crowd. We had more young people in the audience than ever before even though we had to compete with end-of-season sports tournaments, band festivals, music department shows, preparation for finals, and everything else kids have to do in early June. We got our foot in the door of the vocal music departments and were well received. We think it will pay off in the future. We had a much larger adult crowd than usual at \$5 a head.

We view bringing in the young people a limited success, but charging \$5 for adults and the show we put on convinced

the Arts Council to give us a budget for 2005. We are happy to announce that at our June 22 show this summer we featured our district champs, **Wildcard**, and the Sweet Adeline Regional Champs, **4 Shore**. It was another great evening of Barbershop with an even larger crowd and we believe we're firmly established now to present great entertainment year after year.

None of this would have happened without four amazing guys volunteering their time and talent to reach young singers and support their barbershop friends. Our story is just another example of how Power Play has become a legend in the Society (they already were a legend in Pioneer) for their talent and generosity. Jack, Mike, Mark and Don are loved more than they know.



THE HARMONY HOUNDS

Pedigree: Barbershoppers

CONTACT: ROGER LEWIS
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Doug
(517) 351-9587

Rich
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Just think what might happen if you hired
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dberaire@wincom.net

Rob

Matt

BUSH LEAGUE 2005

QUARTET REGISTRATION FORM

Gaylord Chapter – Pioneer District SPEBSQSA – Combined Bush League Contest
& Quartet Coaching Weekend – September 30 – October 2, 2005 – Gaylord, MI

Quartet Name _____ Today's Date _____
 Contact _____
 Address _____
 _____ Street _____ City _____ ZIP _____
 Phone _____ e-mail _____
 Tenor _____ Lead _____
 Bari _____ Bass _____

WE PLAN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

Fri Master Class ____ Contest ____ Coaching ____ Sat Afterglow ____

Cost and Instructions:

1. Cost Per Quartet - \$50.00 - Checks & Credit Cards Payable to Pioneer Dist.
2. Master's Class and Coaching limited to 16 Quartets.
3. Coaching will be at E-Free Church following lunch break
4. Hotel Reservations – Use separate Hotel Registration Form.
(Quartets are responsible for Hotel charges)
5. Meals – Quartet members responsible for all meal costs.
6. Evening "Show of Champions" – Quartet members **performing** on the Show do not pay. All others pay the Adult fee of \$12.00 Advance or \$15.00 at the door.
7. Afterglow – There will be no charge to Quartet members **performing** at the Afterglow. The fee for all others is \$7.00 per person.

Visa __ Master Card __ Card # _____ Exp. Date ____

Name on Card _____ Signature _____

Cardholder ZIP Code _____ Note: Card covers Quartet
Registration ONLY.

TO REGISTER: Complete this form, attach your check and
send to: Bob Dittman – 571 E Mitchell Gaylord, MI 49735



"This program was made possible in part with the support of the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts."





**2005 PIONEER DISTRICT
FALL CONVENTION
October 21-23
Battle Creek, McCamly Hotel
CONVENTION REGISTRATION**



This program was made possible in part with the support of the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural arts.

*****PLEASE FILL IN NAMES AS YOU WOULD LIKE THEM TO APPEAR ON YOUR BADGE(S)*****

****REGISTRANT NAME** _____

****SPOUSE/GUEST NAME** _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____ **PHONE** _____
(Area Code)

****COMPETING QUARTET?** ☐ YES ☐ NO **QUARTET NAME** _____

****COMPETING CHORUS?** ☐ YES ☐ NO **CHORUS NAME** _____

****CHAPTER NAME** _____

****VOICE PART:** ☐ TENOR ☐ LEAD ☐ BARITONE ☐ BASS

EARLY REGISTRATION: \$25.00 PER PERSON LATE REGISTRATION: \$30.00 PER PERSON

EARLY REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 7, 2005

FEE FOR _____ **PERSONS @ \$25.00/\$30.00** **TOTAL REGISTRATION FEE:** _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: PIONEER DISTRICT SPEBSQSA, INC.

OR: MASTER CARD OR VISA NUMBER _____ **EXPIRATION DATE** _____

**MAIL CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM
AND FEE TO:**

**Robert Smith Jr.
46210 Copper Lock Lane
Macomb, MI 48044-6202**

All event passes may be purchased at the convention registration desk located in the McCamly Hotel Battle Creek (Headquarters). Also, single event registrations can be purchased at the convention registration desk located in the Headquarters Hotel. Single events tickets are \$15 each. Children 12 and under are admitted FREE! Each member of a competing quartet or chorus MUST be registered for an all-events pass. Failure to do so will disqualify the quartet or chorus from the contest.

REFUND POLICY: REGISTRATION FEES WILL BE REFUNDED TO PERSONS CANCELING
IN WRITING PRIOR TO THE 11:00am OPENING ON FRIDAY.

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

Windsor Chapter wraps up another busy summer

Windsor Report

By Bill Strong

Summertime was indeed a busy time for the **Windsor Chapter**.

Our Chorus and our Chapter Quartets sang at many events in the Windsor area and did a fine job of spreading the sound of Barbershop Harmony.

Windsor Chorus and **Border Crossing** sang at the Windsor Rotary's Annual **Art in the Park** event.

The Slo-Pitch Four

entertained a group of Students on a field trip and **Desperate Measures** sang at the Relay for Life, a Cancer Society fundraiser.

Just to mention a few.

We are planning roving rehearsals in the near future which we feel will help our upcoming membership drive.

Getting out in the community and allowing men to come and see what we're all about is just

another way of getting the word out.

This will be advertised in the various communities and hopefully will bring some positive results.

Congratulations go out to Windsor member **Mike Drouillard** on his recent "election" as District Historian.

Mike will do a fine job. It needs to be mentioned that the Windsor Chapter now has three men in prominent positions

within the District.

Doran McTaggart heading up Chapter Support and Leadership Training and Music and Performance VP **Dan Bezaire**.

WindNot bad eh. We are so proud of your contributions to our District.

Congratulations to all our participants who competed in Salt Lake City. You made us real proud. We look forward to seeing all of you in the Fall in Battle Creek.

Seven chapters compete in 49th annual Woodshed contest

Pontiac-Waterford

By John Cowlshaw

The **Pontiac-Waterford Big Chief Chorus** held its third annual spring singing retreat at the magnificent Lafayette Grande in downtown Pontiac, in the old Pontiac Masonic Temple ballroom.

Gene Hanover was our coach and introduced *Speech Level Singing* to us, the program developed by **Seth**

Riggs (See *Singing for the Stars*.)

The event was covered in a prominent story in the March 31st Oakland Press – "Barbershop chorus to celebrate 62 years."

Seven chapters participated in this (49th) Annual Woodshed Contest April 8. Master of Ceremonies **Len Barnes** introduced **Moxxy (Jeff Woodruff, Dave Mattson, Dave Ebbesaw, and Mike Foner)**, the judging

quartet.

Of the 16 competing quartets, **Last Chance**, (**Fred McFadyen, Mike Green, Mike Proffit and Bob Wisdom**) was awarded the 2005 winning Woodshed Badges for their (show-stopping) delivery of "If You Were the Only Girl in the World."

This year's honoree Big Chief was **Jeff Woodruff** for his many contributions to the Pioneer District.

The Bennington Trophy for best chapter participation was awarded to the **Flint Chapter**.

Bill Pascher closed the evening by directing "Keep America Singing."

Next year's 50th Woodshed contest will be Friday, April 7, 2006. Past Woodshed badge winners are invited to attend so they can be recognized.

As **Jim Troeger** began his second year as

director, the Big Chief Chorus has been busy. We have had three singouts in May and three in June.

We have also been visiting other choruses. On May 12, the chorus visited the **Rochester** chapter. A number of BCC'ers visited the **Macomb Chorus** rehearsal May 26 in order to experience Michigan's own **Cindy Hansen**. And on June 21, we sang at the **Frankenmuth Brat Fest**.

The chorus is now practicing for our November 5 fall show, entitled "Jukebox Classic," and featuring as guest quartet, **Three Men and a Tenor**.

The Big Chief Chorus now has a women's auxiliary, formed by wives and significant others, named the **Big Chief Chicks**, and appropriately featuring yellow accoutrements.

Barbershoppers of the month in 2005 have been: **Ross Ensign** (January), **Ted Prueter** (February), **Gene Downey** (March), **Art Ripley** (April), **Bill Pascher** (May), and **Fred McFadyen** (June).

McCamly Plaza Hotel

WELCOMES

Pioneer District Barbershoppers

October 20 –October 22, 2005

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW

Group reservations are being held in the above name. If you call in your reservations, you must mention group name to get group rate. Please note a credit card is required to make a reservation. Check-in is 3:00 P.M. and Check-out is Noon. Diners Club, American Express, Discover, Master Card and Visa are accepted. The sleeping room rate is \$95.00 for single and double occupancy, plus 11% tax. Please note that cash paying guests will be required to deposit \$25.00 per night at check-in to cover phone calls and additional charges such as in-room movies and room service.

GROUP NAME: Barbershop Harmony SocietyDATES: October 20 through October 22, 2005CREDIT CARD INFORMATION

Please circle one:

Last Name	First	Middle	Mastercard / Visa / American Express / Discover / Diners	
Street Address			Cardholder Name	
City	State	Zip	Card Number	Exp. Date
Work Phone	Home Phone	Cardholder Signature		

ARRIVAL DATE: _____ DEPARTURE DATE: _____

SHARING ROOM WITH: _____

Please indicate the number of rooms needed for each room type: _____ Two Queen Beds _____ One King Bed
_____ Handicap Accessible (one king bed only)

Please indicate preferences for these rooms: _____ Non-smoking _____ Smoking

Indicate the number of rollaway beds needed: _____ Rollaways (available @ \$10.00 additional cost per night)

NOTE: ROOM TYPE AND PREFERENCE BASED UPON AVAILABILITY. THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS A REQUEST ONLY AND NOT A GUARANTEE.

Reservations can be made by calling our toll free reservation number (888-622-2659) or mail this form to:

Attention: Reservations Dept.
McCAMLY PLAZA HOTEL
50 Capital Ave., S.W.
Battle Creek, MI 49017

Reservations must be received no later than September 22, 2005.



The Patch Chords, Larry Parker, Doug Pearson, Rich Harlow and Roger Caheny sing at the centennial celebration of the Ingham County Courthouse, an event that included opening the building's original time capsule.

Historians Corner:

Windsor in the early years

This month featuring:
Mike Drouillard, Windsor Chapter historian and Pioneer District historian.

This is the first of series of articles from our district's past and sometimes from elsewhere. I thought I would start this off by referring to something I have been working on. Last year, Windsor Chapter celebrated 60 years as the first Canadian chapter and the first to make the SPEBSQSA an international organization.

Windsor Chapter was

chartered on March 24, 1944, and presented by National President **Hal Staab** of Northampton, Mass. Present for the presentation were National First Vice-President **Phil Embury** of Warsaw, N.Y. and **Molly Reagan** of Pittsburg. All three came at their own expense. **Carroll P. Adams**, past president and later executive director of the Society, wrote in The Harmonizer, March-April, 1972, that Windsor was sponsored by the Oakland County Mich. Chapter.

Duane Mosier, district

historian, wrote in the January 1970 Pioneer Troubadour, that after the Windsor Chapter was chartered, "Canada added chapters in Fredericton and Harvey Station, N. B., (in Ontario); Amherstburg, Brantford, Chatham, Guelph, Hamilton, Kitchener, London, Paris, Sarnia, Stratford, Sudbury, Toronto, Wallaceburg and a second Windsor chapter at Assumption College".

The first charter of the SPEBSQSA to be given to a college group (in 1946), was Please see History, Page 16

AMBASSADORS

OF Song

HARMONY FOUNDATION PRESENTS A NEW GIVING PROGRAM FOR EVERYONE

JOIN US IN SHARING

HARMONY CAMPS

Our youth camps create a new generation of a cappella harmony singers and fans. Students find greater strength for their voices, their friendships and their souls. Many of them carry their fervor into the school year, singing in their school chorus, or creating their own quartets!

YOUTH FESTIVALS

An all-day immersion in singing, our festivals tap the hunger of the young to be good at a "good" thing. Once introduced, they can't get enough. Our festivals and clinics turn this healthy interest into a lifetime of enrichment.

DIRECTORS COLLEGE

Every year our intensive 7-day training creates newly skilled chorus directors with the power to lead their schools or choruses to greater and more singing! Our extensive scholarship program opens the college to directors of all backgrounds.

DONOR CHOICE

Donor Choice provides a convenient way to make a combined gift to Harmony Foundation and direct up to 30% to a specified barbershop chorus or District. Personal Donor Choice designations may be given each time a combined gift is made or it may be set up once to apply to all Harmony Foundation gifts.

MARKETING

The best choruses and quartets in the world perform on our stages. Opportunities for leadership training and lifetime friendships are the best kept secret in town. We simply must advertise the Barbershop Harmony Society more widely, generating new members and fans for this most life-enriching cause.

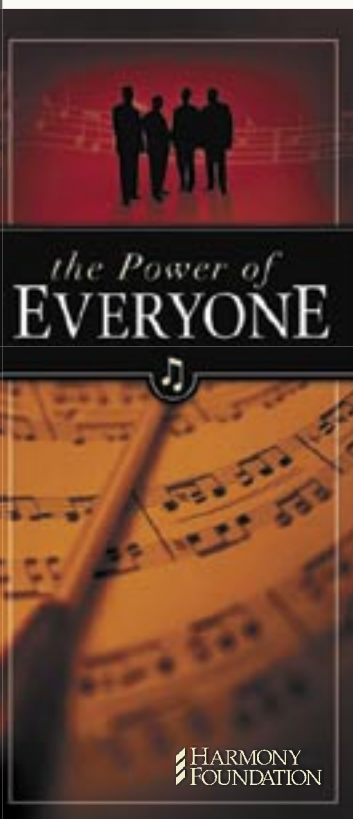
Join the Ambassadors of Song today!

TOUCH A HEART

As an Ambassador of Song, you help spread the joy of close harmony to new singers and listeners. Your donation to Harmony Foundation International expands the community impact of Barbershop Harmony Society programs: youth camps and festivals, director and quartet scholarships, chorus development and marketing. Bottom line, you help grow and prosper the art and inspiration of a cappella singing in your community right now.

You do a whole lot of good for only a few dollars a month.

The Barbershop Harmony Society partners with schools, colleges and community music organizations to ensure the enrichment of singing continues forever. Through fun and educational events, young and old alike learn and perform the extremely rewarding close harmonies of singing with an a cappella group. Without this kind of investment from the private sector, the simple fun and enrichment of singing may well disappear from the fabric of our personal and community life.



YES! I WANT TO HELP MAKE MORE VOICES HEARD!

- ☐ I am a Monthly Sponsor
- ☐ \$5 per month
 - ☐ \$15 per month
 - ☐ \$25 per month
 - ☐ \$35 per month
 - ☐ \$_____ per month
- ☐ I am an Annual Donor with a gift \$_____.

It's easy to be come an Ambassador of Song. Call (312) 701-1001 or visit www.harmonyfoundation.org/donate to learn about our monthly donation program.

Bush League 2005

Arrival: Friday, September 30, 2005

Departure: Sunday, October 2, 2005

Return this form to:
Reservations Department
TREETOPS RESORT
3962 WILKINSON ROAD
GAYLORD, MI 49735



CHECK-IN TIME:
After 4:00 PM
CHECK- OUT TIME:
12:00 Noon

(Group # 779428)

NAME(S) 1. _____ 2. _____

ADDRESS _____ Home Phone () _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ Business Phone () _____

You are welcome to arrive early or extend your stay following this scheduled event. Every effort will be made to reserve the room type requested as well as any special requests such as connecting rooms, non-smoking, location, etc. Should we not be able to do so, we reserve the right to assign the next available room type and rate. Children 17 years and under sleep free when in the room with parents.

ARRIVAL DATE: _____ DEPARTURE DATE: _____

PLEASE RESERVE THE FOLLOWING ACCOMMODATIONS: (per room per night)

Standard Inn Rooms \$69 single or double occupancy _____

Deluxe Lodge Rooms \$129 single or double occupancy _____

Hotel lodging is quoted per room per night and is subject to 6% state tax and 2% local assessment.

Rooms are assigned on a first come first serve basis and will be reserved in priority order according to the date the reservation form is received based on Standard room type.

DEPOSIT POLICY: You may guarantee your room reservation with a major credit card or a deposit of one nights lodging, no later than August 30, 2005. Refund of your deposit will be made if cancellation occurs at least 14 days prior to arrival. Treetops will be sending you a confirmation of this reservation request. Upon receipt, please review all information. You should receive your confirmation with 3 to 5 working days.

Do you require any special lodging requirements? _____ Barrier Free _____ Main Floor _____ Non-Smoking

PHONE RESERVATIONS ARE ACCEPTED! (989)732-6711 (Be sure to advise operator that you are with the "Bush League" event)
FAX NUMBER 989-732-8459

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Number: _____ Exp. Date _____

e-mail address: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

(Not valid without signature)



This quartet from the Windsor Chapter competed in the 6th Annual International Quartet Contest in Detroit, June 15-17, 1944, at the Book Cadillac Hotel. I think they were the Legionnaires. From left: Bob Jones, Dick Tuttle, George Stevens and Harold Deadman. Two other quartets from Windsor Chapter competed: 4 Canucks and Maple Leaf Four.

HISTORY:

Windsor quartets in Society's 6th International Convention

Continued from Page 16.

presented at Assumption College by the international secretary of the Society, Carroll P. Adams to Ed Meade, president of the Assumption chapter. The chapter functioned for six years. The Windsor Chapter did not take long to get into the swing of things as it was represented at the 6th Annual International Quartet Contest at the Book Cadillac

Hotel in Detroit, Mich., June 15 – 18, 1944, by the **4 Canucks**, the **Maple Leaf 4** and the **Legionnaires (Kof C 4)**.

This quartet from the Windsor Chapter competed in the 6th Annual International Quartet Contest in Detroit, June 15-17, 1944, at the Book Cadillac Hotel. I think they were the Legionnaires. Two other quartets from Windsor Chapter competed:

4 Canucks, Maple Leaf Four

Phil Embury was elected president (June 16, 1944) of the society. He appointed Lt. Col. G. W. Wilkinson, honorary president of Windsor Chapter, as an international officer, responsible for extension (formation of new chapters).

Windsor Chapter started out as a member of the Ontario Association of Chapters which

later became the Ontario District. Given the distance between the Ontario chapters, frequent interaction was not possible.

Being closer to many Michigan chapters, Windsor transferred to the Michigan District in 1959, and a long and creditable relationship continues to this day within the Pioneer District.

2005 CALENDAR: Upcoming events

September 10

Grosse Pointe's 60th Anniversary Show

September 24

Michiana Metro Chapter Show

September 30-October 2

Bush League

September 10

Grosse Pointe's 60th Anniversary Show

Gratiot County Show

October 21-23

District Convention, Battle Creek

October 29

Rochester Chapter Show

November 5

Pontiac-Waterford Chapter Show

November 12

Macomb Chapter Show

2006

January 7-8

COTS

February 24-25

Detroit-Oakland Show

