

# Pioneer Troubadour

Official Publication of the Pioneer District March/April 2006 Volume 57, Number 2

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



## QCA Profile: Antiques Roadshow

By Al Fisk

In September 2002 while at a weekend barbershop retreat in northern Michigan, four friends decided to learn a couple of songs to sing for fun. That meeting led to a District Seniors Quartet Championship just 30 days later.

Since then, the quartet has

competed in the International Seniors Quartet Contest at the Mid-Winter SPEBSQSA Convention, and, in their first International Seniors contest, placed a respectable 11<sup>th</sup> out of 26 quartets.

That following January, in Biloxi, Miss, they became third place Medallists.

In 2005, the quartet became Medallists again, placing Third in International Senior's competition among the best field of competing  
**Please see QCA, page 10.**

## Society leaving Kenosha, heading to Nashville, "Music City" in 2007

The Society Board at its 2006 Midwinter Convention in Sacramento, Calif. has adopted a motion instructing the Headquarters Relocation Committee to find an appropriate site for Society Headquarters in the Nashville, Tenn. area.

"The Board feels that Nashville will prove the greatest location in which we can achieve our vision of the Society's future," said Society President **Drayton Justus**. "Nashville's international reputation as 'Music City USA' connects our musical art form with many other resources to advance our mission and vision."

Strong possibilities for tourism, an excellent business and employment climate, and a transportation-friendly central location were also cited as reasons for the choice.

The action comes

after four years of national search by a Harmony Hall Task Force and its successor Headquarters Relocation Committee, both charged with evaluating and identifying locations for the Society Board to consider.

Nashville, Dallas-Fort Worth, and the Milwaukee-Chicago corridor had been considered finalist locations from an initial list of more than 15 cities.

Although several Nashville-area facilities have been reviewed, no specific site has been selected. "The Board's action Friday directs the committee to bring back a list of options, and a business plan for relocation, including the actual site in Nashville, the headquarters total operational needs, and the staffing to support it,"



Justus said.

An initial timeframe for moving in Spring 2007 is contemplated, although this will depend in part on the progress of a new IT infrastructure installation, and the timeliness of the recommendations and negotiations in securing the best site within the Nashville market.

"Our dedicated Harmony Hall staff has been extremely patient through this entire search," said Executive Director **Ed Watson**. "Some families may choose to not relocate, yet their professionalism continues to drive them to serve our members every day."

## Macomb now 'Guardians of Harmony'

By Roy Gurney

The **Macomb County Chapter** has decided to "Kick It Up A Notch – BAM!"

After lengthy research and discussion, and a final vote by the membership, instead of the **Harmony Heritage Chorus**, we will now be known as the **Guardians of Harmony**.

Two new songs have been chosen for the international contest in Indianapolis. The chorus was given the new music in January and no singer is allowed to bring the paper on the risers. This new paradigm seems to be working because nearly every member is on the risers on both songs.

Two retreats are planned this spring at a private camp. The first is in March with **Donny** and **Michael Slamka** coaching.

We also have both singing and presentation coaches scheduled for some of our regular rehearsals.

Along with that, we have changed our meeting place. After a short stay at a church in Royal Oak, we will be meeting in the Zion United Church of Christ in Mount Clemens, starting in March.

This is just a few short blocks from where we have been for the last seven or so years.

We also look forward to hosting the spring convention in Kalamazoo, including an exciting Sunday morning church service. There will be more information on this coming and you will see us sporting some new threads to this weekend gathering. We hope to see you all there.



### March/April 2006 Pioneer Troubadour

Official publication of the Pioneer District,  
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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.

# Learning how things came to be

By Joe Serwach

When I was in college, I spent part of a summer in London and picked up a book by a British writer written for British readers offering a big picture explanation of American



culture as well as everything from politics to economics to religion.

I loved that book because it offered an outsider's "big picture" look at things we often know without explanation, things we grow up with and never stop to ask "how or why did so-and-so get to be that way."

I had a similar feeling when I started reading one of my favorite birthday presents

this year, a book called "Four Parts, No Waiting: A Social History of American Barbershop Harmony" by **Gage Averill**.

Most work written about barbershopping is written by fellow barbershoppers. We're part of the movement we write about and thus are biased. Averill is a music ethnologist who was studying Caribbean music when he got some new recording equipment he wanted to test, looked in a newspaper calendar and happened to stumble upon a barbershop meeting.

We barbershoppers talk about our movement the way converts talk about a religion they've joined. Or we think of it as a new drug. We talk of getting "hooked."

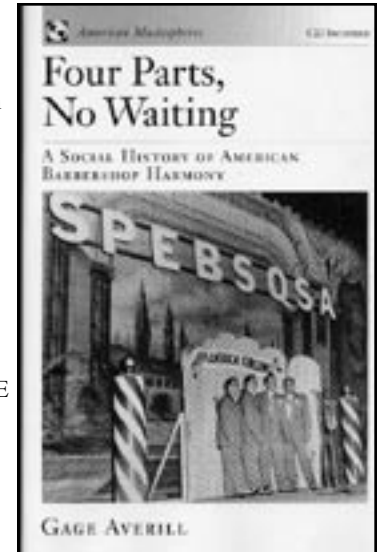
Averill instead approaches

barbershopping as a researcher trying to study, understand and explain a foreign culture. And he chronicles the history and culture of barbershopping from the early 1800s into the modern era.

I found myself saying "oh, THAT's how that got to be that way" more than once. Like those **Paul Harvey** "now you know the REST of the story" moments. I highly recommend the book.

Why learn such things when we already know why WE love barbershop?

I recall my first full-time newspaper job many years ago in Myrtle Beach, S.C. The paper had just been purchased by Knight Ridder and one of the first changes the workers hated



## Pioneer growing

By Brian Dunckel

*Pioneer Director of Membership Development*

**Central States District**, with their fine showing in **YouCanSing2** continues to lead the Society in membership growth for the past year, as they are up 83 men from last February.

**Ontario District** is second with a gain of 16 men. Third place belongs to Pioneer with a gain of eight men in the past 12 months! NO other districts showed growth for the period.

In looking at the numbers from the last three months there are five districts (Southwestern, Rocky Mountain, Ontario, Pioneer and Dixie) that show growth.

Ontario and Pioneer are the **ONLY TWO** districts to show growth for BOTH the three and 12 month periods!

Keep up the GREAT work you are doing guys! Of special note, **Traverse City** already has SIX new and re-instated members for 2006, **Pontiac-Waterford** has FIVE and **Sault Ste. Marie** has THREE!!!

If you have not submitted your membership plans for your chapter for 2006, please do so as soon as you can. Soon I will have to complete my Director report, and I would like to have as many of those chapter plans in my hands when I do. If it is still sketchy in parts, that's OK. Remember, If we fail to plan, we plan to fail!

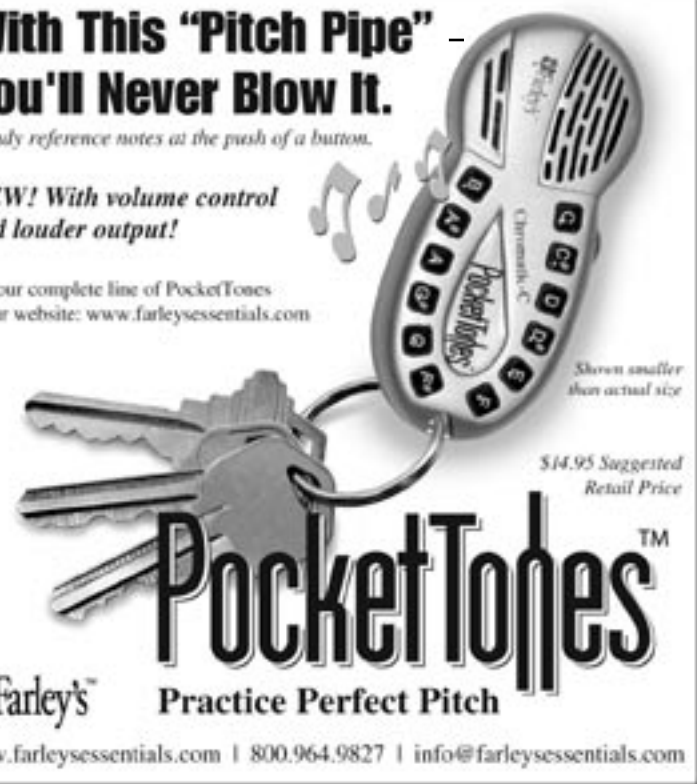
Have you promoted the 100 Percent Club in your chapter meetings yet? All the details are at the Society website- make sure you are aware of this opportunity for **FREE DUES!!!**

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# So much to do in Kalamazoo

By **Raleigh Bloch**

*Pioneer District President*

Well, the **Pioneer District** Survey has been taken, and the results are being tabulated as we speak...err write.

We had excellent participation. So, thank you for



caring and for your input.

Anyway, the team will have the tabulations for their next meeting, which is March 1.

The team will then analyze and determine some solutions for increasing the attendance at **Bush League, Top Gun and Harmony Round Up**. So stay tuned (Hey

that's a good name for a quartet. Yes I know it's been used before, but I'm sure it's available again).

In the mean time, let's get together and have some fun by supporting our individual chapters and being at our Spring Convention in Kalamazoo.

Speaking of Kalamazoo, you really should take time before, during or after the Spring Convention to visit some of the wonderful attractions in Kalamazoo.

The Kalamazoo Air Zoo not only has a display of antique, World War II and modern day aircraft, but also has a whole separate building devoted to spacecraft.

You will also be in the world's largest mural. In addition they have interactive videos and rides for kids and adults. You can take a 3D ride (simulator) on the Space Shuttle to the International Space Station, or ride on the last flight of the Kalamazoo Gal (B-17 simulator) as it flies on its last mission over Germany.

These are fun and informative rides without getting sick. However, if you are more courageous, you can fly your own Corsair simulator or jet fighter simulator and do loops, barrel rolls, stalls, etc. All this is included in your admission ticket.

Wait, you say old cars are more your bag. The Gilmore Car

Museum is one of the top 10 car museums in the United States.

What about art? The Kalamazoo Art Institute is within walking distance from our headquarters hotel. They have marvelous displays of Chihuly, Monet, Etc.

Hum, need more? Well, the Kalamazoo County Museum has wonderful interactive displays of art, science and artifacts, like the Kalamazoo built Checker Cab and it's so close to the hotel, if you fell down twice you'd already be there.

WOW! All that and barbershop fun too? You bet. See you there.

## Bob Franke sang with Muskegon since '50s

By **Web Scrivnor**

**Bob Franke**, a long-time barbershopper, passed away in Muskegon February 11, at the age of 70.

For many years, he had been a member of the **Port City Chorus** and then the succeeding **Shoreline Chorus**, and still came around in recent years to sing in a Valentine Quartet.

For several years, he had been attending the **Old Timers Barbershop Quartet Club** in Muskegon.

In the late 1950s, Bob sang in the **Para-Duets** quartet when

they earned the title of Michigan Junior Champions, which was a notch above Novice.

On Saturday, May 10, 1958, they were asked to perform on the Muskegon annual show, along with the **Beacon-Aires, Aire-Tonics, Cracker-Jills, Mid-States Four**, and, of course, the **Port City Chorus**.

Bob and his fine tenor voice will be missed.

Bob retired from GTE and worked part-time for Grand Haven's Robbins Road Hardware. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and was a member of the American Legion

in Grand Haven.

He was also an active member in the choir at the Grand Haven United Methodist Church of the Dunes.

Here are some recollections from those who know him well..  
**From Allan Baughman:**

Around 1956 ,the ParaDuets (Jim O'Toole, Bob Franke and possibly Don Stafford or was it Jack Sorenson? & I ) entered the **Bush League Contest** held in Cadillac .....

No, we didn't win, place or show as I recall. However we apparently were considered good entertainment as we were

called on to sing a few numbers while the judges were doing their calculating!

Two additional fond memories (non-ParaDuet) concern the fact that Jim was the "founder" of the **Port City Chorus**...mainly hoping to develop more quartets, yet he later lamented that the chapter seemed to be mainly chorus-oriented with too few quartets.

Jim was instrumental in the creation of arguably the finest quartet ever, the **Schmitt Brothers** (Int'l Champs in 1951). Anyhoo, had my one-  
**Please see FRANKE, page 7.**

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# Chapters converge Up North

By Al Bonney

*Troubadour Staff Writer*

GAYLORD -- I did not get to go to this wonderful event this year -- but our up-north go-to-guys, the **Gaylord Harmonic Meisters**, led by their President **Erv Erickson**, really stepped forward and made our fifth year of this activity another great success.

Due to a series of unforeseeable circumstances only four choruses, Gaylord, **Alpena**, **Sault Ste. Marie** and **Gratiot County** participated, but the critiques they filled out at the end of the day certainly indicated that the smaller numbers had no effect on the enthusiasm of the participants, the quality of the coaches' contribution or the value of the day's outcome.

Our coaches this year were **Al Fisk**, music judge, district champion quartet singer and perennial coaching favorite in Pioneer, and **Gene Hanover**, director of **Michiana Metro**, district champion quartet lead singer and professional voice coach, each turned in yeoman's work, moving from chorus to chorus throughout the day.

The morning choruses,

Alpena and Gaylord, took to the risers at 9 a.m. and worked until noon -- each getting a full hour of coaching from Gene and Al. The boys came ready to sing,

I will tell you! Each chorus came equipped with two or three songs from their repertoire especially selected by their director for coaching.

Both choruses started singing well right from the start of the day and the coaches coaxed them higher and higher; amazing several of the guys on the risers who never expected they could sing at such a level.

The youth clubs from the Evangelical Free Church (our hosts for the Spring Contest last year) provided lunch right on the premises and each director took

turns leading one song or another until every pole cat we knew had been thoroughly rung . . . and it was time to go back to work.

Scheduled for the afternoon,

rang, everyone was wishing the district contest would have been right then.

By the time the coaches headed home at the end of the



the guys from the Sault and from Gratiot County had come in time for lunch and now it was their turn.

Pumped from the morning reports, they were loaded for bear and ready to get everything the coaches had available. By 5 p.m., when the final chord

day they were two whipped puppies. The boys from northern Michigan had gotten their money's worth! We did not get any calls from the State Police about accidents so we presume everyone made it

**Please see UP NORTH page 15**

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# Start compiling our history

## The Historian's Corner

By Mike Drouillard

*Pioneer District Historian*

Communication is necessary for the furtherance of ideas.

I am beginning work on the 2005 Annual for my chapter. The first annual in 2001 took shape when I wanted to gather together a report on the more important activities and other information about the chapter.

Not wanting to feel overwhelmed, I decided to start small, six pages of pictures and

text proved to be manageable.

Listing the executive and committees, along with a chronological listing of chapter events gave cohesion to the annual. Pictures and highlights from the annual show, and the guest quartets rounded out the annual.

The 2004 annual was a 36-page short history of our chapter and a report on the year's activities. This was a major undertaking which I do not want to repeat for a while.

I was leafing through the

Pioneer District history looking for an item of information. The thought occurred to me that it is time to take a look at bringing the district's history up to date.

The last year is 1990. We are now in 2006. Wouldn't it be marvelous if the history could be updated to 2005? There are more competent chapter historians than I who helped with the past effort and would be knowledgeable in carrying out the update.

Is it time? Let's get some ideas together and approach the District Board for support.

I am looking for a chapter historian to write a guest column for the Historian's Corner for the August issue.

The column could reflect on your chapter's history, either an important event or person contributing to your chapter. Please contact me if you are interested.

Mike Drouillard

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## FOUR: "Four Parts, No Waiting" explores the way our movement came to be

Continued from Page 3.

was that the company declared there would be no more Christmas bonuses, that everyone would get a slight raise so they'd still take home the same money but no Christmas bonus.

Everyone wanted to know why Knight Ridder didn't give Christmas bonuses and was simply told "we don't do that." No one really knew why. It was just that way, one of those unsolved riddles. I found out the answer months later when I read a biography of company founder **Jack Knight**.

It turned out that in Miami in the 1940s, a group of pressmen had come in to collect their Christmas bonuses and then immediately went on strike. Knight at that moment put an end

to Christmas bonuses and decades after his death, the tradition remained in force because "that's how we've always done it."

Phrases like "that's how we've always done it" and "that's not barbershop" or "now THAT's barbershop," can become common phrases in barbershopping. Often with no further explanation or details.

So it's refreshing to read Averill's look at why we as barbershoppers have always done things the way we've always done them, how and when certain traditions came into being. How and why and when barbershop music peaked, ebbed and went through periods of revival. It's fascinating for anyone who is interested in the big picture.

He explains how first sound

recording devices had limited range and how a master recording could only make a handful of cylinders (the precursor to records) and how a four-part male quartet recorded better on that crude technology than other forms of music, making the popularity of the barbershop sound soar in the late 1800s. He explains how new technology, the invention of the microphone, made it possible for a new form of singing, the first crooners, to eclipse barbershopping.

He explains how the nostalgic nature of barbershop songs harking back to a simpler time and in the minds of many a better time, fueled a mass barbershop revival movement to take off in New York in the mid-1930s and how the Society followed in 1938.

He explains what a marketing genius SPEBSQSA founder **O.C. Cash** was, showing how he former partnerships with local Masons, Elks and other fraternal organizations, housing fledgling chapters within those other male fraternal groups so the two could help each other. He also explains how Cash helped name Sweet Adelines.

Averill also analyzes the most popular songs sung by Society members and lists the terms that most commonly repeat themselves from song to song and in our values. They are (in order):

1. Old/en.
2. Song/s, singing/s/ing.
3. Love/es, loving.
4. Little.
5. Home.

Bruce Scott Mike Craig

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# FRANKE: Sang with the Para-Duets

**Continued from page 4.**

time biggest harmony thrill one evening when the Schmitts, with tenor **Joe Schmitt** holding our toddler daughter Kathy on his lap as they sang several songs in our small but very resonant living room. Kathy is now 53-years-old!

**From Bill Rood:**

As I recall, the Para-Duets, Michigan Junior Champs 1957-1958, had won in the Michigan District, a notch above Novice category. That happened before I joined the group, while Al Baughman was singing Bari and

Jim O'Toole sang Bass.

My reference is the program (where the picture came from) for the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Parade of Quartets by the Muskegon Chapter, at the Michigan Theatre on Saturday, May 10, 1958. Also on that show were the **Kord-Adix** of Muskegon, 1957-1958 Novice Champions. Also the Beacon-Aires, Aire-Tonics, Cracker-Jills, Mid-States Four, and the Port City Chorus.



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**Then and Now...**

**Above: Bob (left) in the 1950s**

**Below: Bob (left, front) singing with chorus members in January 2005.**

## After Intermission: New Pioneer quartet

**By Gene Hanover**

A new quartet here in Pioneer is making a name in the Chicagoland area.

**After Intermission** began singing in September 2005 and has had 10 performances to date.

We recently opened the show at the Arcada Theater in St Charles, Illinois for comedian Judy Tanuta of Comedy Central fame. The performance was received very well to an audience that was new to Barbershop and we had a great time singing for them.

After Intermission will also be singing on, Barbershop Live - A Quartet Extravaganza,

presented by the Chicagoland North Chapter in Evanston, Ill. April 1.

We will be one of 12 quartets performing on the show which, I understand, will also include **Wild Card**, 2004 Pioneer District Quartet Champion from Grand Rapids.

The show is a fund-raiser for the Chicago Metro Division Youth In Harmony festivals and for the quartets to support their contest endeavors.

Singing bass is **Doug McKnight**. Doug is from Lombard, Ill and has been a member of the Society for 35 years although he has not been in a quartet for the past 15 years. Doug is also a magician

and will be adding his magical touch to the act.

Baritone is **Dale Jergensen** from Stickney, Ill., another suburb of Chicago.

Dale has been a chorus director for more than 15 years most recently for the **Arlington Heights Chapter's Arlingtones**.

Dale has also served as the Illinois Districts VP Chorus Director Development.

**Dan Knuth** of the **Michiana Metro Chapter** in Niles is singing tenor. Dan is the newest member to barbershop being only three years in the Society.

Dan is also a parent with four daughters and he has 13 grand children and number 14

is on the way. Dan lives in St Joseph, Mich.

The lead is sung by me, Gene Hanover lead singer of **Upstage Sound**, 1998 Pioneer District Quartet Champion.

I have been a member of the Society since 1974 and one of the founding members of the **Michiana Metro Chapter**.

I also teach applied voice at Southwest Michigan College and in my private studio.

The quartet is anticipating a performance on Chicago's WGN TV in late March to promote the April 1 show.

## Nearly 400 complete district surveys

**By Matthew Tipton**

On behalf of the Pioneer District Board of Directors – Thank You!

As you may be aware, a task force commissioned by the board surveyed the district membership in February of this year.

This task force is studying declining participation in district events such as **Bush League** and **Harmony Round-Up**.

The members are: Chairman **Al Bonney**, District President **Raleigh Bloch**, District

Executive Vice President **Jim Kunz**, District Director of Music and Performance **Matthew Tipton**, District Director of Public Relations **Ralph LeRoy**, **Erv Erickson** and **Roger Lewis**.

Surveys were collected at **COTS**, chapter meetings and through an online form on the district website.

Almost 400 surveys were completed and submitted. That's one out of every three men in the district!

With that kind of participation you can be assured that your collective voice will be heard.

The data is still being analyzed at this date but stay tuned for information on what was learned from this study.

And once again, thank you for helping us to help serve you better!



**Antiques Roadshow**

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Bass: Gene Beaty Baritone: Marv Skupski

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



## Singing Valentines

Lakeside Serenade, Tim Johnston, Jeff Alden, Dan Bajorek and Jim Ryan, offering a Valentines Day surprise at the University of Michigan Feb. 14.



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Wally

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Matt  
 Rob  
 Roy  
 Dan



# QCA Profile: Antiques Roadshow

**Continued from Page 1.** senior quartets yet assembled. In 2006, they placed 10<sup>th</sup>, just 53 points behind first place finishers **Antique Gold**.

The quartet is an unusual combination of International quartet medalists; district quartet champions; and district and international board members. Their common bond is harmony.

The name **Antiques Roadshow** seemed to fit both their senior status and the fact that they hailed from Port Huron, Kalamazoo, Detroit and Battle Creek.

The quartet is made up of Tenor **Raleigh Bloch**, Lead **Dennis Gore**, Baritone **Roger Lewis**, and Bass **Lee Hanson**.

**Tenor, Raleigh Bloch** lives in Kalamazoo with his wife **Jean**. Raleigh owns his own consulting business, Bloch Consulting Group and has a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He has been a member of the Society for 37 years and is currently Pioneer District President.

Past chapter offices held: VP Membership in Appleton, WI. Scranton, PA. and in Kalamazoo. President for multiple terms in Scranton and in Kalamazoo. Barbershopper of the Year at Kalamazoo, Chapter and Mr. Barbershopper at Danbury, Conn. Chapter, 13 Man Of Note Awards. Raleigh is also in the Pioneer District Hall of Fame.

Raleigh is a member of 1998 District Quartet Champion **Upstage Sound**. He has been a member of the LOL,

NED, MAD, CST and PIO districts.

**Lead Dennis Gore** lives in Washington Township with his wife **Jan**. He is retired from

**Marquis** when Randy passed away suddenly. After singing with Marquis for three and one half years, Denny was voted in as a permanent

the **Harmony Hounds** quartet semi-continuously since 1962. They were an International Quartet Finalist in St. Louis in 1969; did a USO tour

in high school and college musicals.

Lee was elected president of the Michigan State University Men's Glee Club in his

sophomore year.

While at Michigan State, he directed his group of 15 fraternity singers to three consecutive victories in the annual inter-fraternity singing competition. Lee became a member of SPEBSQSA, Inc in 1962 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Even though he has lived in various parts of the United States from East Coast to West, Lee has kept up that membership in a total of nine different chapters in five of the 16 districts. In 1970, he began competing in both district and



Chrysler after 32 years and now works for Expo Design Center in Shelby Township. Denny has been a member of the Society for 34 years and served on the Society Membership Development Committee for a short time.

Denny has been a member of four Pioneer District Champion quartets (**The Vagabonds**, **Center Stage**, **Legacy** and **Stay Tuned**). Of those quartets, Vagabonds and Center Stage went on to success on the International stage. From those two quartets Denny has three bronze medals and four silver medals. In 1996, Denny was asked to fill in for **Randy Chisholm**, lead of 1995 International Champion quartet

associate member of the Association of International Champions in 2000.

Denny has competed with the Macomb County Chorus. He also coaches quartets, maintains the Pioneer District Champions website and is contact man for Antiques Roadshow.

**Baritone Roger Lewis** lives in Battle Creek with his wife **Sue**. Roger was the 2002-2003 International Society President and served as interim CEO in 2005. He is a past Pioneer District President, a member of the Pioneer District Hall of Fame, and past chairman of the district and Society Events committees. Roger is also a Presentation Judge, and coaches as requested.

Roger has sung in

to Japan, Philippines, and Guam in 1970; and a BABS tour and convention to England and Europe in 1974; and have appeared on many shows for many years. He began his quarteting in High School, joined the Society in 1961, and is so dedicated to quarteting that he has sung in a barbershop quartet for more years than he has been a Society member.

**Bass Lee Hanson** from Port Huron, is a retired radio and television broadcasting executive. Lee has been involved with music for many years beginning with playing in a piano trio in Milwaukee, Wisconsin at the age of four with his two older sisters. He has sung in many church and school choirs and also appeared

International barbershop singing contests. His quartets and choruses have won nine district contests and competed in 11 International contests - winning five medals.

Although each of his barbershop quartets and choruses has performed for many different audiences, it is notable that **Center Stage** performed in many of the 50 United States and literally from Hawaii to Great Britain. **Stay Tuned** starred in all 13 performances of "The Music Man" as produced with a professional cast by the Michigan Opera Theater on the stage of the Detroit Fisher Theater.



# 2006 PIONEER DISTRICT SPRING CONVENTION

**April 28-30th**

**Kalamazoo Radisson 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 APRIL 14, 2006**

**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 registrations and single event passes may be purchased at the convention registration desk located in the Kalamazoo Radisson Hotel, the Headquarters. 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**



# Thank your lady for letting you sing

Thank your wife or girlfriend for all those nights you go to sing with the guys with a barbershop-sponsored event designed to make her feel like a princess.

**Ladies Night**, sponsored by **Grosse Pointe Chapter**, offers a black tie evening with a sit-down dinner, open bar, a special gift for her, and dancing to a five piece orchestra singing standards.

All for the less than what you would pay to buy dinner, a drink and tickets to a barbershop show.

This year's event will be held Sunday,

May 21 at the recently renovated Ukranian Cultural Center off I-696 and Ryan Road in Warren, close to most metro Detroit area barbershoppers.

The cost is just \$75 per couple for Grosse Pointe members and \$80 per couple for all other barbershoppers and friends of barber-

Ladies  
Night  
May 21, 2006

shoppers..

For a live, five piece band singing Sinatra songs and other standards, a larges sit-down meal with dessert and a fully stocked open bar.

The event runs from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. with dinner at 5 and dancing from 6 to 9.

To make reservations, call or write Joe Serwach at (734) 647-1844 or email jserwach@umich.edu or send a checks made out to Grosse Pointe Chapter to Ladies Night c/o 7511 Hamburg Road, Brighton, MI 48116.

## Big Chief sang 122 gigs for 7,189

By John Cowlsh

The Big Chief Chorus concluded its year with a robust Christmas season of 20 singouts in 20 days. The final count for the year indicated that the chorus and its quartets sang 122 gigs to

7,189 people.

The chorus hasn't missed a beat as 2006 begins under our new President, **Zaven Melkonian**, and our new Director, **Dick Johnson**.

On January 24, we performed

a reprise of our Fall show, *Jukebox Classics*, at Holly High School to a small but wildly enthusiastic crowd.

We sang and gyrated in our black outfits and cardboard platters, **Four Wheel Drive**, sang "Zip-a-dee-doo-dah" and "Silhouette," and **B Natural** sang "If I Could Write a Song," "San Francisco Bay Blues," and "Breaking Up is Hard to Do."

The highlight was the interaction with Holly's Varsity Choir and their Sherman Middle School Concert Choir, both of whom also sang on the show and who hung around afterward to learn tags under **Freddie McFadyen's** leadership.

Five Valentine's quartets hit the road this year. Thanks once again to the **Big Chief Chicks** for producing the Valentines cards that accompanied the roses to the recipients. Among the 49 gigs were several remarkable events.

**Four Wheel Drive** sang to a rock band, inside their tour bus. **Celebration** arrived at a small engineering firm to sing to a husband, who met them to inquire if they were about to sing to his wife. Turns out hubby and spouse had ordered gigs for each other. And six of the gigs were at local schools.

The chorus will be at McMullan Center on Higgins Lake March 24-26 for its Spring Singing Retreat. **Gene Hanover** has agreed to coach us.

Nineteen Michigan barbershoppers have responded so far to our special invitation to all past badge winners to be honored at our 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Woodshed Contest.

If you, or someone you know, hasn't already responded, could you please reply to our V.P. of Marketing and Public Relations, **Jack Teuber**, at JackTeuber@aol.com or 248-334-3686. The date is April 7th at the Pontiac Country Club.

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## REQUEST FOR HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Pioneer District Association of Chapters

Radisson Plaza Hotel & Suites

KALAMAZOO, MI

April, 27-30 2006

Please fill out this form and mail to the Kalamazoo County Convention & Visitors Bureau at 346 W. Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49007-3737 or fax to (269) 343-0430.

One form for EACH room must be submitted.

Please indicate your preference:

<u>Hotel</u>	<u>Single</u>	<u>Double</u>	<u>Suites</u>	<u>Please indicate your first &amp; second choice</u>
Radisson Plaza Hotel & Suites (HQ)	\$89.00	\$89.00	\$130-145*	_____
(Would you like to be placed near the chapter hospitality room? Yes _____ No _____)				
Holiday Inn Express	\$79.95	\$79.95	NA	_____
Lees Inn	\$72.00	\$72.00	NA	_____
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\*Call Radisson directly (269) 343-3333 for a full description of suite configurations.

\*\*Room Rates do not reflect 11% state and local taxes.

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Arrival: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Departure: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Number of people in room: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Name of other guest(s) in room: \_\_\_\_\_

1-Bed \_\_\_\_\_ 2-Beds \_\_\_\_\_

Preference for Smoking \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Smoking \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if you are physically challenged or need special requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

You will receive an acknowledgement from the Kalamazoo County Convention & Visitors Bureau within two weeks. If you do not hear from us within two weeks please contact the housing department at (800) 530-9192 (USA Only) or (269) 381-4003. You may also e-mail us at [hotels@kazoochamber.com](mailto:hotels@kazoochamber.com).

I would like to receive my acknowledgment via \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_ fax \_\_\_\_\_ mail

Please list the fax or e-mail you would like your acknowledgment sent to: \_\_\_\_\_

**Rates will be guaranteed until April 6, 2006**



# Update from Windsor

## Windsor Report

By **Bill Strong**

As spring approaches contest time and spring show time can't be far off. So it is with a lot of chapters. A lot of time is spent on the risers. This is what it's all about.

It seems we are always preparing for something and it's that activity that keeps a chapter vibrant. It's necessary to have goals and events to keep the chapter growing.

A while back **Raleigh Bloch** asked the membership to complete a survey concerning various aspects of our Society.

I trust that all of us participated. One thing that came to mind while filling my survey out was that we are much more than a singing organization.

Although that aspect is primary we are



also a social organization as well and we do so much good when it comes to supporting our fellow members.

Sure we sing together and that's good, but we also laugh together and cry together and that's good too.

This was brought into focus this week when **Ron Riberdy** lost his beautiful wife **Elaine** after a very brief illness. Elaine could always be seen at convention with two or three of her sisters in tow.

The outpouring of support for Ron was

tremendous. I'm sure that after a brief period of mourning Ron will be back on the risers doing what he does and this will be such a great benefit to him.

Windsor Chapter had another successful "Singing Valentine" campaign and it was so much fun, and yes, we even made some money for our chapter. I know that the quartets have much more fun than the recipients when participating in this program.

Congratulations go out to His honour Judge **Saul Nosanchuk** who will retire after a very successful career as an Ontario Judge. Saul's big day is April 1. Now that you will be retired Saul it should leave a lot more time for singing.

See ya'll in Kalamazoo

## Looking For A Director

A small Sweet Adeline chorus in Windsor , Ontario is looking for a Director.

Chartered in 2002 We love to sing ,perform and want to grow.

Anyone interested please contact Sandra Pollard  
E-mail [wspollard@sympatico.ca](mailto:wspollard@sympatico.ca) or 519-733-5965

# UP NORTH: Gaylord gathering

**Continued from Page 5**  
home safely!

I have to put in a plug in here for the Gaylord Harmonie Meisters.

Every time we up-north guys need to do something together, the Gaylord guys always step forward and take care of it. No muss and no fuss, just takin' care of business.

Well, you know. . . You saw what they did for our Spring Convention two years ago. So, once again, we send our heartfelt thanks to the Gaylord Harmonie Meisters. We couldn't do it without you, boys!

This year was our fifth year for this annual event and judging from the critiques we will have a full house again on February 24, 2007 when six choruses will make the frozen trek to Gaylord for another wonderful barbershop day. Mark your calendars, boys.

Year six will be the best ever!



**Above: Alpena  
Left: Gratiot  
County.  
Below left:  
Sault Ste. Marie  
Below:  
Men from Gay-  
lord.**



## 2006 CALENDAR: Upcoming events

### March 11

Lansing Chapter Show

### March 18

Kalamazoo Chapter Show

### April 7

50th Annual Woodshed Contest, Pontiac Country Club

### April 22

Windsor Chapter Show

### April 28-30

District Convention, Kalamazoo

### May 6

Wayne Chapter Show

Monroe North Chapter Show

### May 19-20

Harmony Roundup

### May 20

Grand Rapids Chapter Show

### May 21

Hillsdale Chapter Show

Ladies Night, hosted by Grosse Pointe Chapter

### July 2-9

International Convention, Indianapolis

### July 14

Detroit-Oakland Riverboat cruise

### October 13-15

District Convention, Kalamazoo

### October 28

Rochester Chapter Show

### November 4

Pontiac-Waterford Chapter Show

### November 11

Macomb Annual Show

