



It has been my pleasure to serve as Pioneer District President for the last two years. There are many exciting things happening in our District, and in the Society, and I was glad to be involved first-hand. One of our biggest successes in Pioneer is THE VOICE; they did an outstanding job in New Orleans last January, and I know they will be wonderful in Reno next year.

I would like to thank you all for your cooperation and support; a President can do nothing by himself.

I would urge all chapters to keep involved in District programs and events. Maybe your chapter rarely attends Convention to compete, but there are lots of other things going on. There are opportunities for choruses and quartets to improve, by getting coaching, or attending Boot Camp, or competing at Bush League in Gaylord. These opportunities are fun, valuable, and mostly free!

I also would like to thank the Board for their continued support. These are the guys that do all the heavy lifting. Their contributions to the workings of the Pioneer District cannot be overstated.

Finally, I wish good luck to our new President-elect, **Mike Hansen**; and to our EVP, **Dave Montera**. Under their leadership, Pioneer will continue to be a place that “brings joy through singing.”

Dan Bezaire



TROUBADOUR

Official publication of the Pioneer District, Barbershop Harmony Society

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PIONEER DISTRICT INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONS



CHORUS CHAMPIONS
 1953 GREAT LAKES CHORUS (GRAND RAPIDS)



QUARTET CHAMPIONS
 1944 HARMONY HALLS: 1966 AUTO TOWNERS: 1971 GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT: 2003 POWER PLAY



SENIOR QUARTET CHAMPIONS
 2010 RESISTING-A-REST

TROUBADOUR PUBLISHING INFORMATION

The *Troubadour* is a quarterly publication by the authority of the Pioneer District Association of Chapters of the Barbershop Harmony Society. All articles and photos not by-lined are by the editor (or are unknown/anonymous) and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of 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.

In This Issue

	Page
Pioneer District Officer's Corner	
<u>Financial Development</u>	5
<u>Chorus Director Development</u>	5
<u>Events</u>	6
<u>Public Relations and Marketing</u>	7
Fall Convention	
<u>Quartet Contest</u>	7
<u>Chorus Contest</u>	8
<u>Tag! You're It</u>	9
<u>Classes</u>	10
<u>Checkmate Reunion</u>	11
<u>3rd Generation Quartet</u>	11
<u>Joe Barbershop Chorus</u>	12
<u>Upper Yoopers</u>	12
<u>More Highlights</u>	13
<u>House Of Delegates</u>	14
Reports—Chapters	
<u>Alpena</u>	15
<u>Detroit Oakland</u>	15
<u>Grand Rapids</u>	15
<u>Gratiot County</u>	16
<u>Grosse Point</u>	16
<u>Holland</u>	16
<u>Huron Valley</u>	17
<u>Kalamazoo</u>	17
<u>Lansing</u>	18
<u>Pontiac-Waterford</u>	19
<u>Rochester</u>	20
<u>Upper Yoopers</u>	21
Reports—Quartets	
<u>Bidin' Our Time</u>	21
<u>Detroit Sound Machine</u>	21
<u>Evenin' Gentlemen</u>	22
<u>4GVN</u>	22
<u>Knockin' On Heaven's Door</u>	23
<u>Limited Edition</u>	23
<u>Olde Thyme Harmony Quartet</u>	24
<u>Patch Chords</u>	24
<u>Take Note Quartet</u>	25
Reports—District Events	
<u>42nd GLC/Baker Family Corn Roast</u>	25
<u>69th Annual Bush League Competition</u>	25
<u>Barbershop Harmony 2015</u>	26

	Page
International	
<u>Two Top Quartets Make A Splash</u>	27
<u>Pole Cat II</u>	27
<u>Rule Changes For Young Quartets</u>	28
<u>Upcoming Conventions</u>	28
<u>Deke Sharon</u>	28
<u>Arena Renovation Affects Minneapolis in 2017</u>	28
<u>BQPA/Pioneers</u>	28
Interview	
<u>Doran McTaggart</u>	29
History	
<u>Evolution Of The Barbershop Style</u>	31
Transitions	
<u>Lonnie E. Galbraith</u>	32
<u>Paul "Butch" Kinch</u>	32
<u>Larry Wicker</u>	32
<u>Dexter E. Wyse</u>	33
Pioneer District	
<u>Harmony Mercenaries</u>	33
<u>The Voice</u>	34
<u>Troubadour Business</u>	34
<u>Corrections</u>	35
<u>Calendar</u>	35
<u>Promotional Flyer</u>	36

Pioneer District Officers' Corner

Doug Weaver

Pioneer District Director of Financial Development

As you may recall, last year the Pioneer District was an official sponsor of the Youth Chorus Festival, a financial commitment of \$10,000. We raised a large part of that money through the generous contributions of our chapters in a *Parade of Checks* at last year's Fall convention in Muskegon. Meanwhile, we were also able to raise enough money to completely support THE VOICE, enabling them to participate in the Youth Chorus Festival last January in New Orleans.

After much discussion, your Pioneer Board of Directors decided that this year we would focus on supporting THE VOICE, and not commit to being a sponsor of next year's Youth Chorus Festival in Reno, Nevada. This was a difficult decision, but we feel that it was the right one.

We still had a *Parade of Checks* at the Fall convention in Kalamazoo. This time those donations went directly to helping THE VOICE get to the convention in Reno.

We were very proud of our chorus in New Orleans, and look forward to cheering them on in Reno.

Please contact me directly if you have any questions.

Chris Berry

Pioneer District, VP – Chorus Director Development

If your chapter is in need of finding a director, assistant director, section leaders, or perhaps you are looking to build a more functional music team, sending prospects to an *Outstanding In Front* Workshop could help. *Outstanding In Front* is a one-day introductory class designed to cater to the various needs of your music program by providing an opportunity for individuals to gain an understanding of what it takes to be a leader in front of your chorus.

The Pioneer District is hosting an *Outstanding In Front* (OIF) Seminar on Saturday, November 21, 2015 at the Great Lakes Chorus rehearsal hall - 2nd Congregational Church, 525 Cheshire Dr. NE, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Whether you are a novice director and need to hone some basic skills or someone who has never been in front of a chorus and think directing just might be something you could do, but haven't a clue how to begin, this class is for you. *Outstanding In Front* also focuses on the leadership skills of section leaders and music team members who are interested in supporting the success of the music program during your weekly chapter meeting.

The goals of the *Outstanding In Front* program are:

- To provide an opportunity for individuals to gain an understanding of what it means to be a leader in front of an ensemble.

- To increase the directing, teaching, and musical skill of our non-directors in a positive environment.
- To inspire men to entertain the thought that they could become a musical leader.
- To provide capable individuals able to assist their front-line director.
- To decrease director burnout.
- To have a broader base of talent upon which to draw when there is a director vacancy.

Some of the topics covered are:

- Conducting patterns and their proper use.
- Elements of the warm-up
- Being a vocal coach
- Leadership qualities
- Proper posture
- Directing opportunities

The *Outstanding in Front* seminar will run from 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 21, 2015. The cost of the seminar is \$30.00 which includes lunch.

To register for the *Outstanding in Front* Seminar copy the following into your favorite browser:

<https://pioneerdistrict.wufoo.com/forms/2015-pioneer-district-cdwi-oif-seminar/>

The registration link can also be found on the Pioneer District website under Upcoming District Events.

If you have any questions please send me a separate email, techberry@charter.net.

I look forward to seeing you there!

Roger Lewis

Pioneer District VP - Events

Early in 2016, I'll be looking at convention sites for the fall of 2019 and for 2020 and 2021. Naturally, the cities we often visit are very interested, but you may know of interest in some other cities that we have never been to, or perhaps not in a long time. We need a ballroom or theater that will seat a minimum of 750 and a Headquarters hotel with around 200 rooms to commit to us. We expect a coordinated effort from the Hotels and Convention Bureau with attractions and entitlements that encourage barber-shoppers to attend, and encourage the district to choose that city.

You may contact me for more information, or have a Convention Bureau or Hotel contact me at rjlewicmc@aol.com.

James O'Dell

Pioneer District VP Public Relations & Marketing

A plethora of Pioneer District photos is available online on Facebook at <http://tinyurl.com/mwllg3r>.

Since we cannot attach files to the Pionet, a Facebook link is the easiest way to share photos. Don't worry this link should work for everyone even if you don't have a Facebook page.

Fall Convention

The 2015 Fall Convention of the Pioneer District was held at Kalamazoo's Radisson Plaza Hotel, October 16-18. Fifteen quartets (two for evaluations only) and fifteen choruses competed.

In the quartet contest, FRONTIER walked away with the victory, singing "Hello, My Baby," "Time after Time," "The Sunshine of Your Smile," and "Cecilia" for a score of 76.7. The quartet is composed of **Chris Cordle** (T), **Aaron Pollard** (L), **Brandon Smith** (Br), and **Cody Harrell** (Bs). After receiving their awards, Cody spoke warmly of the support and encouragement he and Brandon received when they joined the Flint chorus as novices in 2010. At the end of the evening, FRONTIER joined past members of the QCA (Quartet Champions Association) to sing "That Old Quartet of Mine" directed by **Carl Dahlke**, with Aaron standing next to his dad, Craig, tears streaming down his face.



FRONTIER receiving their trophies.



FRONTIER being accepted into the QCA.

ROLLS VOYCE was second in the quartet competition with a score of 70.3, and won the right to represent Pioneer District at the Mid-Winter Senior Quartet competition in Reno in January.

DETROIT SOUND MACHINE came in third with a score of 68.5.



ROLLS VOYCE L to R. David Gillingham (Br), Bruce LeMarte (T), TR Gerard (Bs), TC Connor (L)



DETROIT SOUND MACHINE L to R. George Jackson Jr. (Br), Jason Hall (Bs), Dave Ebersole (T), Nick Roe (L)

Close behind were WINDFALL (68.3), SHADES OF GREY (67.7), OLD RULES (66.3), CODA HONOR (65.6), and OLDE THYME HARMONY QUARTET (64.2 – this time with Jacob ending up, as choreographed, singing from a gurney).

QUATERNITY showed its potential by being judged the Pioneer District Novice Quartet Champion.

The Grand Rapids GREAT LAKES CHORUS brought the audience to their feet with their package from the Pittsburgh International of “So Long, Mother” and “Looking at the World through Rose-Colored Glasses.” Their hard work this past year improved their score from 74 at last fall’s contest to 79.3. The 43 men on stage were visually active, the singing was solid, and the package had a continuity and theme that is audience-appealing.



GREAT LAKES CHORUS directed by Jamie Carey.

For the first time in many years, a second chorus surmounted the 76 pt barrier with a score of 76.8. This was the Mt. Pleasant MOUNTAINTOWN SINGERS, who sang “Lonesome, That’s All” and “Come Fly With Me.” In recognition of that accomplishment, Director **Jamie Carey** invited the MOUNTAINTOWN SINGERS on stage post-contest to join in singing “Happy Together.” The chorus recently lost its director **Evan Boegehold** when he moved to Ohio. So the chorus hired its coach, **Ben Harding**, on an interim basis, who has managed the five-hour drive from Peoria, IL.



GREAT LAKES CHORUS and MOUNTAINTOWN SINGERS combine at the acceptance show.

Plateau winners were:

Plateau 1 – Grand Rapids – 79.3

Plateau 2 – Grosse Pointe – 67.5

Plateau 3 – Livingston – 61.5

Most Improved Chorus – Rochester – 66.3



Directors line up on stage after chorus contest.

The winners of the “Tag! You’re It” contest managed by **William Stutts, Jr.** got the opportunity to sing on the Saturday night show. They were:

1. CONGENIAL SPATULOUS
2. THE JAMES BROS (James O'Dell, James Masalskis, Jamie Carey, and, well, Cole Carey)

As loud as the applause was for the various performers ... the loudest cheering came when **Brian Dunckel** (a dyed in the wool MSU Spartan fan) stepped to the podium to announce the score of the MSU - U of M game.

Ed Bittle, Roger Lewis, and Doran McTaggart shared emcee duties.

The convention featured two classes:

- “How to Find and Develop Your Quartet’s Identity” - **Matt Gifford** (MUSICAL ISLAND BOYS)



- ⇒ The Entity – Ensemble character/personality
- ⇒ The Image – Visual Identity
- ⇒ The Sound – Musical Identity
- ⇒ The Brand – Commercial Identity

- “How to Improve Your Annual Show” - **Al Fisk** whose Standing Ovation evaluations include examination of:



- ⇒ Pre-Show
- ⇒ Tech
- ⇒ Show
- ⇒ Performers

Here are several other highlights from the convention:

- 1990 District Champion CHECKMATE reunited to sing at the convention



CHECKMATE: L to R. Bruce LeMarte (T), Craig Pollard (L), Scott McNutt (Bs), Brian Kaufman (Br)

- The 3RD GENERATION family quintet sang in the Afterglow rooms. Grandpa **Ken Gibson** sang with the silver-medalist VAGABONDS. His wife Vicki and daughter Kendra were Queens of Harmony 30 years apart. Now his grandsons, Luke and Aiden are singing as well – and are also part of THE VOICE youth chorus. As an additional note, two of their student teachers this year are Brandon Smith (Music) and Cody Harrell (English) of our new District Champions FRONTIER.



3RD GENERATION: Luke, Ken, Aiden, Vicki, Kendra.

- The JOE BARBERSHOP CHORUS sang “Wait til the Sun Shines Nellie” and “Sweet, Sweet Roses of Morn” under the direction of **Jim Bagby**, Director Emeritus of the HEART OF AMERICA chorus, and baritone of International Quartet Champions, RURAL ROUTE 4. (This was Jim's final judging assignment.)



JOE BARBERSHOP CHORUS under the direction of Jim Bagby.

- Three members of the UPPER YOOPERS' BARBERSHOP CHORUS, Pete Stephens-Brown (director), Mel Last, and Robert William Price drove eight hours from Marquette to attend.



UPPER YOOPERS' L to R. Mel Last, Robert William Price, and Pete Stephens-Brown.

- The tradition of massed chorus continued.



The massed chorus singing in the Radisson.

- Caricature artist **Gene Haulenbeek** drew.
- The Worship Service was led by the Hillsdale Chapter.
- Hospitality Rooms were hosted by Flint, Kalamazoo, Mt Pleasant, D.O.C., Hillsdale, Grosse Pointe, and TONAL ECLIPSE.

Thanks to convention chairmen Roger Lewis, **Bob Dininny**, and **Todd Hoath**.



Part of John Baker's Pioneer District history exhibit in the Harmony Marketplace.

The emcees seemed to have an unusually hard time keeping people quiet in the lobby.



Aiden LaPointe and Cole Carey, the two youngest members of THE VOICE. Yes, it was staged. Photo courtesy of Kendra

House of Delegates - Excerpts

Harmony Foundation representative **JJ Hawkins** spoke of the change in the perception of barbershop over the last 30 years.

- The current perspective among music educators has improved as demonstrated by our new and active collaboration with the American Choral Directors Association, (ACDA). That is especially important because of the shortage of qualified directors for BHS chapters.
- Music sales have increased 59% since beginning a collaboration with Hal Leonard, the biggest music publisher in the world.
- Attendance at Harmony University (HU) has increased to 730, a record, with 118 on scholarships, including many directors. A Harmony Foundation (HF) goal is to get every BHS director to HU once every four years.
- Support for the youth movement.
- On track to reach 100,000 people this year.



JJ Hawkins.



Ed Bittle

BHS Board representative **Ed Bittle** listed several aids for introducing barbershop into the schools.

Larry Parker (Treasurer) reported \$82K in current net assets.

Aaron Pollard (Youth in Harmony) sent an email to 253 high school music directors in Michigan including links to several 30-second music clips. Good response.

THE VOICE intends to send 27 young men to Reno this year compared to 23 to New Orleans last year. They will sing two contestable barbershop songs plus “Titanium” from *Pitch Perfect*. They have raised \$1700 and need \$7800 more.

Chris Berry (Chorus Director Development) has planned a mini HU course November 21 for potential directors and section leaders. The concurrent Chorus Director’s Workshop Intensive (CDWI) is completely enrolled.

Mike Ridenour (Chapter Support and Leadership Training) announced the annual Leadership Academy, Saturday, January 9, in Mt Pleasant.

Doug Weaver (Financial Development) conducted the Parade of Checks, and announced Pontiac-Waterford’s gift to THE VOICE of \$500 and afterglow tickets for their participation in their show.

The following officers were elected:

Executive Vice President – **Dave Montera** (**Mike Hansen** advances to President)

Secretary – **Jim McMahan**

Treasurer – **Robb Smith**

Reports—Chapters

Alpena

from Earl Elowsky, President

The HURON SHORE CHORUS of Alpena, Michigan, will be joining many choristers and instrumentalists at the Rogers City Theater on December 10, 2015 for the annual Christmas music fest. The chorus has been joining the community musicians for several years for this event. In two sessions the whole community joins in singing Christmas carols. The finale is the “Hallelujah Chorus” sung by whoever wants to join in. Many of the Huron Shore Chorus members participate, of course.

Detroit Oakland Chapter

from George Burkett, VP Programs

Detroit Oakland hosted Canada Night, in honor of our friends from Windsor, on November 6, at the Stitt American Legion Post in Dearborn Heights. There was a mini-chorus competition as well as some quartet singing.

Grand Rapids

from Tom Ennis, Secretary

The Great Lakes Chorus had and has a lot of irons in the fire this past quarter. Aside from putting forth a lot of energy focused toward the Fall contest, the chorus has been an active player in the Harmony Mercenaries. With their holiday show coming up on December 5, the chorus has also been feverishly learning Christmas music.

Gratiot County

from Ken Best

The Gratiot County Chapter had its 68th annual fall show on October 3 at the Alma High School auditorium. This year's theme was *Big Top Barbershop* and included real clowns from the Heart of Michigan Clowns Alley. It also featured a ballet performance to the song "Send in the Clowns." The featured quartet was CHORDIOLOGY.

Grosse Point

from Harold Keys

Carl Uridge was selected as 2015 Barbershopper of the Year. To know him you might think he is just a quiet agreeable guy who shies away from the limelight. But behind the scenes he is a tireless worker. To list some of his attributes: He is a 48 year member of the Barbershop Harmony Society. He has sung with the chorus, the gospel chorus, and a quartet. He has held many positions on the board, some at the same time. He is our current music VP and Program VP and assistant director, which fits him well since he has perfect pitch. He is the first one to arrive at rehearsals and the last to leave. It was my pleasure to present the 2015 Barbershopper of the year award to my friend, fellow quartet member and brother in barbershop.

Pete Burns, Roy Gurney, Kevin Hayes, and **Sally Burns** performed as the quartet in *Music Man*, for the Richmond Community Theatre, celebrating its 50th anniversary. The show was held in the First Congregational Church, which is on the National Register of Historic Places.



Pete Burns, Roy Gurney, Kevin Hayes, and Sally Burns performing in Music Man.

Holland

This fall, the Holland chapter organized a Harmony Foundation-funded program for 250 young men from area high school choir programs. The day-long event, "Adventures in Harmony," took place at Zeeland East High School on September 30. It was led by **Dr. Jonathan Reed**, music professor at Michigan State University, and used the Holland Chorale and Holland WINDMILL CHORUS as mentors. It concluded with a public performance in the evening.

Many years ago, the chapter received a generous grant to fund the rental of a rehearsal space that also functioned as a barbershop museum. That money has now been used up. The chapter found it necessary to move rehearsals to a nearby Presbyterian church and to liquidate the museum with a large "garage sale."

Huron Valley

from William Stutts Jr.

During the Olde Thyme Ice Cream Social in Saline August 23, a pickup quartet (Steven, Iain, Jim, & Tom) came by to sing at the historic one-room Blaess School.

We entertained lots of people as we strolled the Saline Fair on September 6.



Steven, Iain, Jim, and Tom singing at one room school.



HURON VALLEY HARMONIZERS singing at the Saline Fair.

Our chapter quartet, FULL VALUE, achieved 3rd place in the Bush League Novice Quartet Contest! Quartet members: **Zak Stratton, Jason AuBuchon, Jim Windak, George Jackson Jr.**

We would like to welcome **David Bell** on his newly minted membership!

Our baritone George Jackson Jr. sings in DETROIT SOUND MACHINE which garnered 3rd place at the Pioneer District 2015 Fall convention in Kalamazoo.

We hosted our annual wine tasting in a new venue, DeAngelis Cantina Del Vino. It was a packed house and the attendees were entertained by the HURON VALLEY HARMONIZERS, FULL VALUE, DETROIT SOUND MACHINE, and CHORDIOLOGY.



New member David Bell being presented membership certificate by Jim Windak.

Kalamazoo

from Mike Sobel, VP Marketing & Public Relations

Kalamazoo's MALL CITY HARMONIZERS held their Annual Show on September 12 at WMU's Dalton Recital Hall. The show, titled *B4 in B": Beatles...Beach Boys...Billy (Joel)...and Berlin (Irving)...in Barbershop*, was a tribute to four of the most iconic musical artists ever!!! Also on the program, as Guest Quartet, was the reigning championship quartet for the Pioneer District, TONAL ECLIPSE. A great crowd was there to enjoy some extremely familiar and recognizable tunes from four of the greatest, relatively contemporary artists of all time!

The Afterglow was held at the nearby Best Western Suites.

Then two weeks later, very early on a Saturday morning, the chorus had once again been invited by the Talons Out Honor Flight to the Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport to sing for WWII Veterans. The chorus sang for them prior to their boarding their 6:30 a.m. charter flight to Washington D.C. to visit the World War II Museum there. The Kalamazoo Chorus has been asked to do this for the past two years and we love it! What a rewarding experience this event continues to be for the chorus, singing for these true American Heroes! And they certainly appreciate the mostly patriotic package of songs we were serenading them with that morning. Singing at 5 a.m. is never easy but for these great men, many members of our chorus were very happy and gratified to be singing for them, even at such an early hour!



MALL CITY HARMONIZERS singing for a WWII veteran prior to his flight to Washington.

These Talon Out Flights are scheduled every six months. How much longer they'll be able to do it, with men and women in their late 80's and well into 90's...who knows? Hopefully a while longer.



At the WWII Memorial in Washington D.C. that day, of the Kalamazoo "contingent" along with a few more Talons Out flights from other cities.

Lansing

The Lansing chapter held their Grand Ledge Opera House performance Sunday, September 20.

Overall, a great job by everyone, and a HUGE "Thank You" to everyone who sang with

us. We had a very enthusiastic and appreciative audience of about 130 people - very near capacity. Thanks to everyone's cooperation and concentration, the show went off without a hitch, and got everyone headed home almost exactly on time.

Participating chorus quartets included:

OLDE THYME HARMONY QUARTET: **Jacob Welty, Don Horton, Kel Scott, Tim Oliver.**

PARTS UNLIMITED: **Kevin Lenneman, Al Blankenship, Charlie Martin, Bill Osterhouse**

THE PATCH CHORDS: **Larry Parker, Steve Warnaar, Rich Harlow, Don Terpe**

KNOCKIN' ON HEAVEN'S DOOR: **Gordon Lind, Rick Mills, Darrell Neves, Gary Langdon**

Pontiac-Waterford

BCC Picnic

The turnout was grand at the annual BCC picnic, Tuesday night, August 11. **Walt DeNio** and **Chuck Murray** did the grilling.



The annual BIG CHIEF CHORUS picnic.

Tuesday Musicale

The BIG CHIEF CHORUS presented a 45 minute program September 8 to a very appreciative audience of sixty, the Greater Pontiac Tuesday Musicale. They are in their ninety-second season and are affiliated with the National Federation of Music Clubs. **Fred McFadyen** led the 22-man Chorus in a fourteen-song set. When the Musicale joined in on a few numbers, their soprano voices were appreciated. A quartet, 4 UR PLEASURE also presented "It's a Good Day" and the classic "Down by the Old Mill Stream."

The chapter celebrated 'quartetting' at its September 22 rehearsal when seven quartets sang. Guest quartets included CODA HONOR and SHARP ATTACK as they prepared for competition at Bush League Sep 26, 27. Chapter quartets, 4GVN, 4URPLEASURE, LIMITED ZACH-DITION, THE TOM BLUE QUARTET, and BIDIN' OUR TIME, also contributed to what was probably a record quartet night.

Two Gold-Medalists appeared on *Pontiac-Waterford's 71st Annual Show* – "A Night of A Cappella Singing in the Barbershop Style" – November 7. Not only did INSTANT CLASSIC celebrate its return to Michigan with Gold Medals hanging around their necks but newly minted Pioneer District Quartet Champion FRONTIER stepped out from THE VOICE Youth Chorus to sing a few songs.

Long-time Pioneer member **Bill Dabbs** (45 years) has left the district to move to an



Bill Dabbs

Assisted Living facility in New Jersey, to be near his daughter.

From new member **Zach Schroeder**

“Joining a barbershop chorus was by far one of the best decisions I've made since I've been in Waterford. It has led to so much more opportunities in the barbershop society. In January, I will be going to Reno, NV to compete in the International Youth Chorus Festival. I could not be more excited for this adventure!”



Zack Schroeder

Chris Miller

The September issue of *Smoke Signals* (http://www.bigchiefchorus.org/smoke_signals/2015/Issue-173September2015.pdf) featured an article on Chris Miller, on the 12th anniversary of his death, September 19, 2003, at age 52 of a pulmonary embolism.

Chris was a member of the Grosse Pointe and Milford chapters, and director of the Pontiac-Waterford chapter for six years, and widely known throughout the Pioneer District.



KINGFISH AND THE KNIGHTS OF THE MYSTIC-C

He also sang in the comedy doo-wop quartet called KINGFISH AND THE KNIGHTS OF THE MYSTIC-C which placed 3rd in a national Lever Bros. contest at Universal Studios, teaching the foursome never to compete against acts with animals and small children.

Rochester

The Rochester GUARDIANS OF HARMONY held their 40th annual show Saturday, October 3 at the Rochester High School. *OMG! ... It's Show Time* imagined the confusion resulting from a change in show date. Guest quartet was MAJESTYX and emcee was, once again, **Doran McTaggart**. RIGHT ON Q, LIMITED EDITION and an a cappella ensemble from Rochester College also sang.

This season, the chapter is forming a Christmas chorus. Scheduled performances include:

- Rochester Big Bright Light Show
- Holiday Hope Celebration, American House, Rochester Hills
- Christmas Concert with North Oakland Concert Band, Lake Orion
- Caroling at American House Elmwood, Rochester Hills
- Caroling at American House Stone and Terrace, Rochester Hills

Upper Yoopers Barbershop+ Chorus (UYBC)

Three members of the chorus, director Pete Stephens-Brown, Robert William Price, and Mel Last made the substantial trip from Marquette to attend the Fall Convention in Kalamazoo.

Reports—Quartets

Bidin’ Our Time

On October 13, BIDIN’ OUR TIME was invited to sing during the funeral visitation for **Dexter Wyse**, a well-remembered member of the Pontiac Chapter in the late 70’s and 80’s. Dex loved to sing barbershop and was often seen accompanying the Big Chiefs during visits to Canterbury in the Woods.

Following that, Baritone **Ray Sturdy** joined the second of his three quartets, FORUM SHOPPERS, made up of three lawyers and a judge, at the investiture ceremony for the **Honorable Joseph Toia**, who was recently appointed by **Governor Rick Snyder** to the 16th Circuit Court bench in Macomb County.

In October, BIDIN’ OUR TIME sang at four high schools. It was both an opportunity to introduce barbershop to teenagers and to advertise the BIG CHIEF CHORUS show and the youth barbershop movement to them, distributing free show tickets to them in the process. A 30 minute clip of the performance is at:

<https://twitter.com/JeffFrankowiak>

Detroit Sound Machine



Gene Haulenbeek’s cartoon of the bronze medalists from Fall Convention.

DETROIT SOUND MACHINE was featured at the wine tasting hosted by the HURON VALLEY HARMONIZERS on October 23. Their set included the following songs: “Birth of the Blues,” “I am a fool and traveling stranger (Over Jordan),” and “Sentimental Gentleman from Georgia.” Viewable at

<https://youtu.be/aFKMKNZaMxQ>

Evenin' Gentlemen

from Roger Boyer

On Thursday, August 13th, the EVENIN' GENTLEMEN performed in the last of Royal Oak's Summer Concert Series for 2015. The open air event was well attended by a wide range of concert goers. "King of The Road" was punctuated by the nearby passing of a train! Presenting the only a cappella group of the season, EVENIN' GENTLEMEN put smiles on the faces of a very diverse audience. The success of the evening's performance was sealed when two "20-something" young ladies awaited the Gentlemen at the foot of the stage steps with comments like, "You guys are great," and "The sound and music is really good and interesting."

So there you have it! Barbershop is appreciated by all ages!



EVENIN' GENTLEMEN singing at Huron Woods.

On Saturday, August 29 the EVENIN' GENTLEMEN were on the road again! They started with a return noon-time performance at the Lake Huron Woods Senior Center north of Port Huron, entertaining the annual picnic for residents and their families. Even though the wonderful open air and sunshine posed the usual challenges to quartets, EVENIN' GENTLEMEN and their audience had another grand time.

Then it was on to South Lyons, northwest of Detroit! A family friend of Lead **Keith Opal** celebrated her 94th birthday at the South Lyon Senior and Rehab Center. She said she loved barbershop and our music brought tears to her eyes.....she didn't qualify her statement, however! Anyway, ain't it great when one or more of your audience know most of your songs? The smiles and hugs were the perfect wrap-up of a long afternoon.

4GVN

from Greg Moss

4GVN had a busy September. One gig, September 19, was for a wedding at Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad northeast of Flint. The groom is a barber in Brighton; so the bride had to have a barbershop quartet in front of the Village's barbershop as guests moved to the chapel and then back to the reception (they had to go right past us). It was great fun and provided entertainment during the photographer's time that followed the wedding. Our first post-wedding song was as the horse and carriage came up the street. We had started with "Ain't Misbehavin'" and then saw it was the bride and groom! The carriage stopped in front of us, and it ended up being a great song for the new couple. We ended with some food at Applebee's in Flint, and, of course, we had to sing – ending up with getting videoed and posted on Applebee's Twitter site.



4GVN singing in front of the barber-shop at Crossroads Village and Huckleberry Railroad.

Knockin' on Heaven's Door

from Gordon Lind

KNOCKIN' ON HEAVEN'S DOOR performed at Asbury United Methodist Church on Lake Lansing Road. Our quartet had a joyous experience Sunday. We sang two segments in the one-hour service. (They actually wanted us to do the whole hour!) We were greeted and given a tremendous welcome. After the service there was a social and a birthday party in the basement where we sang the traditional Barbershop songs. I'm sure we won't forget our Sunday sing and the wonderful people we met.

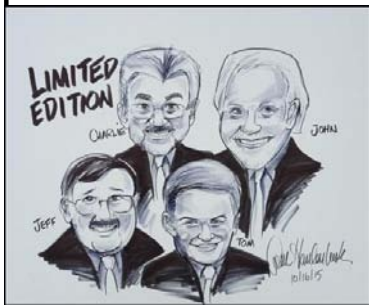


KNOCKIN' ON HEAVEN'S DOOR

Limited Edition

LIMITED EDITION presented two neighborhood musical soirees in the past quarter. The first one was in Tenor **Tom** (and **Janis**) **Blackstone's** backyard, Saturday, August 22, and 32 neighbors and friends responded to the invitation to hear an hour-long show, organized around a global tour. Their video is online at <http://tinyurl.com/oa4da2z>

The second was in **John Cowlshaw's** Commerce Twp backyard on Sunday afternoon, September 27, to John and Corinne's neighbors and friends, 47 in all. The weather was perfect, and the audience expressed their delight and appreciation to the quartet for this opportunity to hear a cappella music. Neighbor Kathy danced with her grandbaby thru much of the show.



Sketch by Gene Haulenbeek.



Tom Blackstone's backyard soiree.

Old Thyme Harmony Quartet

from Don Horton

Tom Smeltzer informed the quartet in early July that he intends to sell his home in Grosse Pointe and move to AZ. The timing was JUST RIGHT for OTHQ to invite **Kel Scott** to join the quartet. Tom indicated that he would wish to sing with the quartet through the Fall Contest and also some December gigs that Kel is not available for.



John Cowlshaw's backyard soiree.



The 'new' OTHQ with Kel Scott on bass.

OLDE THYME HARMONY QUARTET sang for **Arley Nelson's** 90th Birthday Party at the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Charlotte Monday night August 17. Arley was a member of the 1973 District Championship Chorus from Lansing under the Direction of **Ken Gibson**. Arley was able to sing BASS with OTHQ on "My Wild Irish Rose" to the Delight of about 40-50 family members and guests. What a FUN NIGHT with a very energetic audience who sang right along with us on several

songs, like "Java Jive," "Zippity Doo Dah," "You Are My Sunshine," "Piano Roll Blues," "Side by Side" and more.

Patch Chords

from Rich Harlow

THE PATCH CHORDS were pleased to support and sing for those walking around the State Capital during the Walk to End Alzheimers on Sunday, September 13, 2015. Some of the younger walkers particularly liked "The Lion Sleeps Tonight!"



OTHQ with Arley Nelson.



PATCH CHORDS at Walk to End Alzheimers.

Take Note Quartet

TAKE NOTE QUARTET performed as the opening act for THREE MEN AND A TENOR in Grand Ledge on Thursday, August 27. Al and Charlie are current members of the Lansing Chapter. Mike and Dan are former members. TAKE NOTE is “the Official Barbershop Quartet of Grand Ledge.”

Reports—District Events

42nd GLC/Baker Family Corn Roast - August 25

This year’s Corn Roast did not disappoint. Good food, fellowship, and fun were had by all. We had 30 quartets cross the yard lights - a special thanks to GENUINE BLEND, SIL-HOUETTE, MAJESTYX, SHADES OF GREY and three different versions of FOOLS’ GOLD, with all members, including the original four - Bill, Joel, Dan and Mark. Hats off to Mark who traveled from Tennessee and Dan with his CENTRAL STANDARD friend from Kansas City. Over all, about 65 guys showed up for this slightly cool evening of Awesome talent - which ended early Wednesday morning.



TAKE NOTE opening for THREE MEN AND A TENOR. L to R. Mike Barger (Br), Al Blankenship (Bs), Charlie Martin (L), Dan Templin

From the whole Baker family - thank you for attending and creating memories for years to come. - *John Baker*

“Fantastic event tonight John! Great to see so many faces from all over Pioneer!!” - *Jamie Carey*

69th Annual Bush League Competition - September 25, 26

The Gaylord Chapter hosted the 69th annual Bush League Competition at the E-Free Church in Gaylord, Michigan. Seven quartets from the Pioneer District competed for the coveted Gaboon Trophy. Judges for the event were **Ron Eubank, Al Fisk, Roger Lewis, and Matthew Tipton.**



First place finishers were REMIX, representing the Kalamazoo Chapter. Second place finishers were CODA HONOR, representing the Detroit-Oakland and Pontiac-Waterford Chapters. Third place finishers were FULL VALUE, representing the Huron Valley Chapter.

REMIX: L to R. Matt Root (T), Sam Patrie (L), Brendan Monroe (Bs), Jonathan Wolf (Br)

Barbershop Harmony 2015; Not Your Grandfather's Pastime -

September 28

from Paul Ellinger

This was a TED-type event that was held at the Performing Arts Center at Wayne County Community College, September 28, that was designed to inform people of barbershop music, who we are, what we are about, where we came from, and what we look like today.

Given that it was the first time that I know of anywhere in the Society that a venue has hired us to make a presentation to the general public about what it is we do. We had quartets dressed up showing that we don't do boaters and striped vests, some quartets dressed as everyday people, ladies quartets, families singing, youth, mixing and matching, and so much more. We really pulled back the curtains and even did some live woodshedding on the spot. I know that people really appreciated seeing how approachable we were and they clearly got the sense that although singing can be at a very high level, one doesn't have to be perfect to enjoy singing. Start somewhere. Start today and enrich your life and in turn take part in enriching the lives of others. The goal was to have the evening be enlighteningly and engagingly informative with just the right amount of singing interspersed throughout the night and avoiding it feeling like a show. People were engaged and were asking all kinds of fantastic questions. We answered questions. We took apart chords. We explained intricacies as they arose and at a comfortable pace. People raved. In fact, it was standing room only until they brought the maintenance crew back to set additional rows of seating --- multiple times! --- reaching a final number of about 140! It really was a great night. The venue couldn't believe how many people were in attendance and they stated numerous times how thrilled and impressed they were with the evening that everyone came together to create.

Speaking of only a few of those that came together to create the evening, and I will apologize now for anyone that I may miss, I want to thank FRONTIER (Pioneer's own college quartet reps), FULL CIRCLE (a wonderful Sweet Ads Quartet), Gloria King (esteemed Sweet Ads member), CHORDIOLOGY (three all around great guys and my best friends), **Pam Frucci** (her undying love of this great art form really got the ball rolling on this), and **Parker, Jackson, and Amy Ellinger** for all sharing their time and talents. Additionally, thank you to all of the barbershoppers who were in attendance showing their support with hoots and hollers to gently and when appropriate asking leading questions so that we could all more effectively share the love of this wonderful hobby with others. Thank you.

My takeaway is that, I think there was a palpable demand for an event like this event. So, if you think you'd like to host or run an event like this in your area, let me know, because, it's a fact --- the public LOVES barbershop! Now, it's just our job to let them know that we exist, tell them who we are and let them know how approachable this hobby and outreach really is.

You know. I gotta say it. Wow! Think about it. Getting hired by a non-barbershop audience to present a TED Talk version of Barbershop to the public at a performing arts center. Another Pioneer first. With outreaches like this, the world is our oyster.

Here is a link to Dr. Benjamin Zander's similar TED presentations on classical music. Give it a listen. It is two segments of ten minutes each and replace the words "classical music" with "barbershop music" and be amazed on two levels. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c9EUCkgJokw>

Pioneer, HO!

International

"We still watch the barbershop quartet finals..." - **Pentatonix**

Two Top Barbershop Quartets Make a Splash.

What high levels of entertainment!

MAIN STREET

MAIN STREET'S modern pop medley "These Will Be The Good Old Days Twenty Years From Now" is crushing on YouTube, with hundreds of thousands of views, and links from media outlets, social media, and blogs around the world. This is what happens when a quartet who has committed itself to the good old days realizes that, one day, the pop songs of today will be considered "good old songs". Hilarity ensues.

<http://tinyurl.com/neqbumb>

CROSSROADS

On October 25, 2015, NAFME (National Association for Music Education) held the opening night concert to their 2015 National In-Service Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. The 2009 International Barbershop Quartet Champions, CROSSROADS, were asked to perform in front the packed house of music educators. During their 25 minutes, they performed their "American Folk Song Medley" and it earned them a standing ovation... mid-set. In short, they blew about 1,000 non-barbershop minds that night with the little ditty you're seeing here.

<http://tinyurl.com/qgv5hzo>

Pole Cat II

The new Barberpole Cat Song Book II is \$16.00 per BHS member, but the cost drops to \$14.40 for 20 or more and \$12.80 for 50 or more.

<http://shop.barbershop.org/sheet-music/barberpole-cat-song-book-vol.-ii/>

The Songbook Contains:

1. After You've Gone
2. Bright Was The Night
3. Caroline
4. (When It's) Darkness On The Delta

5. Drivin' Me Crazy
6. From The First Hello To The Last Goodbye
7. Goodbye, My Coney Island Baby
8. Hello Mary Lou (Goodbye Heart)
9. I Don't Know Why (I Just Do)
10. I've Been Workin' On The Railroad
11. Lida Rose/Will I Ever Tell You
12. Over The Rainbow

Rule Changes For Young Quartets

What used to be called Collegiate Barbershop Quartets will now be called Youth Barbershop Quartets, to better indicate the inclusion of singers both younger and older, as well as those not in school. Therefore, the Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest is now called the Youth Barbershop Quartet Contest. Furthermore, there will be separate divisions for "junior varsity (all members under age 20) and "varsity" quartets (up to age 25).

Beginning in 2016, a quartet may not compete in both the international quartet contest and in the international Youth Barbershop Quartet Contest. A quartet may compete in qualifying contests for both, but if it qualifies for both contests, the quartet will have to choose one or the other.

Upcoming Conventions

MIDWINTER CONVENTION – RENO, NV. January 26 – 31, 2016

PIONEER DISTRICT SPRING CONVENTION - April 22-24 - Grand Rapids

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION – NASHVILLE, TN. July 3 – 10, 2016

Deke Sharon (of Pitch Perfect, The Sing-Off, and The Contemporary A Cappella Society)

He will not only be at Midwinter in Reno, NV, he will be directing the Youth Festival Chorus. He will also hold a special workshop for young singers.

Arena Renovation In Minneapolis Affects 2017 Convention Plan

The Minneapolis Convention and Visitors Bureau has informed BHS that the Target Center, a primary venue for our 2017 International Convention, will be undergoing a major renovation during July, 2017. This is breaking news that will potentially have an impact on our 2017 plans. We are in deep conversation with the City of Minneapolis and will keep you posted as our options and solutions reveal themselves. Due to the timing of this announcement, the probability that the 2017 International Convention will be moved to another city is fairly high at this point.

Barbershop Quartet Preservation Association (BQPA/Pioneers)

from Tom Noble—President, Barbershop Quartet Preservation Association (BQPA/Pioneers)

Well, another fine Festival of "do-it-yourself" quartetting in the old style has chordially come, and alas, gone. More than 60 singers and guests populated the BQPA/Pioneers' room at the Hillside Best Western, just outside of Chicago, for our traditional "pick-up" quartet contest Friday evening, the 11th of September, and close to 80 were on

hand for our Saturday evening parade of quartets. But we were ALL there, really, to SING! In QUARTETS! For HOURS!

The competition was fierce and well-fought, resulting in the presentation of medals to the champs, TOTALLY UNCALLED FOUR, who were very well-received.

The next BQPA/Pioneers Festival was announced for the Spring of 2016. It will be held at the Embassy Suites in Tempe, AZ, April 6th through the 9th. If you enjoy singing in QUARTETS, with no pressure or assigned music, please join us in Tempe . You can find details on the BQPA/Pioneers website, www.BQPA.com Come sing with us next April!

Interview: Doran McTaggart



Doran McTaggart has become a legend as an emcee in the Pioneer District. When he comes out on the stage, the audience start grinning before he even opens his mouth, and, once he does, the jokes come spewing out in a never-ending stream.

Troubadour editor John Cowlshaw asked Doran these questions.

Troub: When did you do your first emceeing? What was the occasion? Had you thought of becoming an emcee before then?

Doran: My first job was when Tom Pollard asked me to emcee the Wayne Chapter Show. That was decades ago, in the early 1970's. He was the Wayne show chairman for many years and also he was the District Zone 1 VP. I followed him in that position.

Troub: And then, the Pioneer District?

Doran: I have emceed the finals at the Pioneer District Convention twice a year since John Wearing was a young boy. I told Roger Lewis that I would prepare to do the Finals and when he didn't want me any more just give me a phone call. I haven't got a call yet.

Troub: Have you emceed in other districts?

Doran: I have had the pleasure to emcee in many other districts. When I started thinking about your question I was really surprised by the number of districts - Ontario, Central States, Mid-Atlantic, Sunshine, Southwestern, Johnny Appleseed, Far Western, Evergreen, Northeastern, Illinois and Dixie. Some of these were District

Conventions and others were individual chapter shows.

Troub: How did other districts know about your emceeing?

Doran: For 35 years I taught COTS *Program VP* classes, back when the COTS schools were run by the national Society, rather than the local districts. That led to emceeing in Indianapolis in 1975, which I did 15 years in a row.

Troub: I knew you have emceed at International, and you shared some stories with me about those experiences.

Doran: At both the District and International Conventions there are always many exciting experiences that aren't in the script. Some things I recall are fireworks exploding at the wrong time; Judges arriving forty-five minutes late; smoke from burning leaves entering the auditorium. All of these events and others are a real challenge as you are left out there dying on stage.

Troub: Talk about the fireworks example.

Doran: During the 2008 International in Nashville, the script for the chorus contest had been written to include a 30 minute recess, when the city's Fourth of July Fireworks was due to be fired off. I knew exactly when to pause, in order to switch to the big screen where the audience could watch the fireworks or go outside and see them live. Well, ACOUSTIX had a separate gig to sing the National Anthem at a nearby park, and when they sang "the rockets' red glare," the park's fireworks went off, "bombs bursting in air," floating loudly into the auditorium where Greg Lyne's chorus was doing its set. When the chorus finished, they were, of course, offered the opportunity to repeat their whole set ... but since they had done especially well on one of their songs, they declined the offer. (*Editor's Note: Voices In Harmony came in 3rd*)

Troub: Who were some of your heroes/role models for being an emcee? What about them attracted you?

Doran: My role models and International emcee heroes were **Dan Henry Bowser**, **Carl Hancuff**, **Lloyd Steincamp**, **Tim Stivers**, and **Hugh Ingraham**. Their timing and ability to control an audience were exceptional.

Troub: Now about the jokes. Where do you get them?

Doran: I get my jokes and stories wherever I can. I steal them, and people send them to me. I look for stories that I enjoy, mostly G-rated, and ones that have a definite punch line. In contests the length of the story is important.

Troub: Talk about how you organize them, and what your rules are for re-use?

Doran: I write the stories down in my own words and practice my delivery. In Pioneer I usually only tell the longer stories once. I do occasionally repeat a series of one-liners when the opportunity arises. I'm often asked, "When are you going to get a new story?" I reply, "When your quartet gets a new Song!"

Troub: I know that your wife was supportive, but did she usually travel with you? Was she your “best critic?”

Doran: Indeed, my wife, Margaret, was my best critic. She was always with me at the Pioneer Conventions and chapter shows.

Troub: Any stories about crossing the US-Canadian border? Or has it always gone smoothly?

Doran: Crossing the border normally causes few problems. The biggest problem is the time you spend in the tunnel. I always allow for one hour to cross the border.

Troub: What are your future plans for emceeing?

Doran: I have really enjoyed being an emcee at the Chapter, District, and International level. I used to 'throw up' every time I emceed, but when I finally got the butterflies flying in formation, it was an enjoyable experience. I'm still nervous but once you start you just must keep on going.

Troub: Have you emceed any other organizations?

Doran: Yes. I was the spokesman for the Music Express, a Windsor Community Concert Band for 25 years.

Troub: Anything else?

Doran: I was the second recipient of the *Dave LaBar Emcee Award* in 2008. That was a real surprise to me and I treasure it. That was my 'Gold Medal'. I feel very honored that you asked me about my emceeing. I hope you got what you are looking for.

Troub: We sure did!

[Editor’s note: The Dave LaBar Emcee award, named for one of our departed Society giants, honors an individual who embodies greatness in the “Art of the Emcee.” The Dave LaBar Emcee award is awarded to an individual who:

- *Has achieved outstanding success at the chapter, district, and international levels as an emcee.*
- *Understands how to communicate with the audience as both a presenter and an entertainer when appropriate.*
- *Has always used material that is suitable for barbershop audiences of all ages.*
- *Is always prepared and is very comfortable when addressing the audience by developing an excellent rapport.]*

History - Evolution of the Barbershop Style

The BARTLESVILLE BARFLIES were our very first quartet champions, but have you actually heard them sing? Barbershop historian **Neal Siegal** shared this early recording of the Barflies singing a medley of tunes. Notice how much the Barbershop style has evolved.

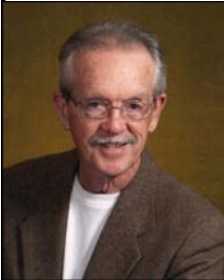
<https://soundcloud.com/Neal-Siegal/bartlesville-barflies-medley-love-me-world-is-mine-dream-of-you-harbor-lights>



BARTLESVILLE BARFLIES

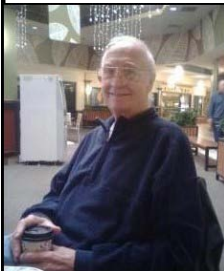
Transitions

Lonnie E. Galbraith



Lonnie Galbraith of the Detroit-Oakland Chapter joined the heavenly chorus at 1:00 a.m. this morning, Thursday, October 15, 2015. He lived in Westland, MI and was 81.
Earl Berry, D.O.C. Chapter

Paul “Butch” Kinch



Past Lansing member Paul Kinch passed away on August 7. A Celebration of Life for Paul took place at Jackson’s First Presbyterian Church on Saturday, September 19, 2015, where the Lansing CHORDSMEN sang “The Old Songs / Down Our Way,” “Shine On Me,” and “You Raise Me Up.”

Larry Wicker



Our chapter was saddened to hear of the recent death of Larry Wicker an active barbershopper in our Lansing chapter during the 1970s. Larry worked at Lansing's Motor Wheel, was born and raised in Lansing and passed away on August 27. He was preceded in death by his wife, Dawn, of 54 years. A memorial service was held in Camden SC on Sept. 26.

The photo with Larry Wicker's obit, taken in 1973, shows chapter members and Motor Wheel employees (standing, from left) Doug Pearson, Larry Wicker, Bill Hayner (retired in Florida) and kneeling, Irv Dedow (deceased).

Dexter E. Wyse



Dexter "Dex" Wyse of White Lake; died October 9, 2015; at the age of 93. He was a World War II veteran of the Army Air Force and Maintenance Manager at the Summit Place Mall. He resided at West Hickory Haven in Milford in recent years.

Dex was a member of the Pontiac Chapter back in the late 60' and 70's. He was very instrumental in promoting Barbershop Harmony through the Summit Place Mall and opened his home to many afterglow get togethers til the wee small hours of the morning.—*Mike Frye*

Pioneer District

Harmony Mercenaries



Harmony Mercenaries at rehearsal in Lansing.

Harmony Mercenaries is underway in the west region with Grand Rapids, Holland, Muskegon, Lansing, Kalamazoo, and Battle Creek, but it could also be relevant to other regions, such as southeast Michigan.

Harmony Mercenaries rehearsals have so far been held September 21 in Battle Creek and October 20 in Lansing.

Songs include: "Breaking up is Hard to Do," "When I'm Gone" (the CUPS song), "Hello Mary Lou," "Paper Moon," "Armed Forces Medley," "Come Go With Me," and "Can You Feel The Love Tonight."

Says Jamie Carey, director, "If you want the music and learning tracks for this music, you need to attend. Besides, You'll have a total blast!"

The Voice



THE VOICE in a more serious pose....not.

The 2015-2016 version of THE VOICE sang at the Fall Convention in Kalamazoo October 17, and on the Pontiac-Waterford Barbershop Show November 7.

The videos of their performance in New Orleans are finally available at:

<http://tinyurl.com/ow2jdgvy> I Want You, I Need You, I Love You

<http://tinyurl.com/nbdzhhf8> Blame it on My Youth

<http://tinyurl.com/nv2za5g> C'mon, Get Happy

Their pre-New Orleans promotional video is still available at:

<http://tinyurl.com/pgv3vzd>

THE VOICE Youth Chorus thanks all of you for helping them get to New Orleans last January to compete in the Barbershop Youth Chorus Festival, where we received an “outstanding” rating and silver pins.

This coming January, THE VOICE will be travelling to Reno, NV, to compete again in the festival, and we need your help. There are more young men in the chorus this year and plane fare is 25% higher than last year. The chorus would appreciate any donations from choruses, chapters, quartets, or individuals. ANY AMOUNT would be greatly appreciated! If you are able to contribute, please make out a check to: TCC/VOICES, and mail it to **Roger McCaskey**, 8220 Bird Lake Rd. S., Osseo, MI 49266-9788.

Thank you so much for your time and your wonderful support!! - Aaron Pollard

Troubadour Business

We are looking for articles, photos, performances, and ads for the February 15, 2016 issue of the *Troubadour*. Deadline for submission – February 1, 2016

Corrections

The August issue (page 15) says **Pete Peters** and George Bartlett managed the D.O.C. picnic. It should say Pete Peters and **George Burkett**.

Calendar

2015

- Nov 21 [CDWI and Outstanding In Front Training](#)
- Nov 21 Michiana-Metro Chapter Show
- Dec 12 Battle Creek Chapter Christmas Shows (2 shows)

2016

- Jan 9 [Leadership Academy](#)
- Jan 26-31 Midwinter Convention, Reno
- Apr 22–24 Spring District Convention GR Crowne Plaza, host: Grand Rapids
- Jun 10 Send Off Show - Windsor [map](#)
- Jul 3-10 International, Nashville
- Oct 14–16 Fall District Convention in Kalamazoo; host: The QCA

2017

- Apr 21-23 Spring Convention at Grand Traverse Resort, host: Mt. Pleasant
- Oct 20-22 Fall Convention in Battle Creek, host: open

2018

- Apr 20-22 Spring Convention Grand Rapids Crowne Plaza host: D.O.C.
- Oct 19-21 Fall Convention in Battle Creek, host: open

Upcoming International Conventions

Date	Location
July 3 - July 10, 2016	Nashville, TN
July 2 - July 9, 2017	Minneapolis, MN *
July 1 - July 8, 2018	Orlando, FL
June 30 - July 7, 2019	Salt Lake City, UT

*The 2017 International Convention has run into a glitch, in that the chosen performance center will be under re-construction.

Promotional Flyers

Music For The Holidays

December 5th 2015 - 2:00pm and 7:00pm

barbershop harmonies by
Grand Rapids Chorus of Sweet Adelines
the
Grand Rapids Men's Great Lakes Chorus
and friends



St. Cecilia Music Center, Royce Auditorium

24 Ransom NE Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Tickets \$15.00 or \$12.00 for seniors 60 and older and students

Preschool free. Group Rate for 10 or more call (616) 896-8669

GRSA.net and GreatLakesChorus.org

Advance orders call (616) 896-8669 or make check out and mail to...

Grand Rapids Sweet Adelines, PO Box 2984, Grand Rapids MI 49501-2984

Name: (pick up at door)

General Ticket# Senior/Student Ticket# Check\$