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The TROUB



Enriching lives through singing and serving local communities



PIONEER DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

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A Message from Chris Berry

Pioneer District President

Greetings Pioneer! I am looking forward to seeing you all at the 2022 Pioneer District Spring Convention, April 29-30, 2022. It's been way too long since we've been singing together. I was disappointed that the chorus contest was cancelled and agree that it was in the best interests of many of the chapters in the Pioneer District that have recently returned to weekly rehearsals. I am excited to see that the Events Committee made lemonade out of lemons by creating a special "Singfest" event of Friday evening that will allow everyone to participate in live performing again whether you sing in a chorus, VLQ, or quartet.



In addition there will be classes on Friday afternoon and several classes on Saturday morning in lieu of chorus contest that will be hosted by the contest judges. Additional events include a Quartet Contest, tag contest, and hospitality suites where singing will be had late into the night. I think it's setting up to be a "Great Reunion" of barbershoppers in Pioneer!

There have been several changes within the Pioneer District that you may or may not have made note of. In February, Paul Ellinger and Allan Holmes stepped down from their individual positions on the Pioneer District Board. The PIO Board has appointed me as the Interim President. This leaves the PIO Board short in both the Executive Vice President position and Treasurer position. Joe McDonald chaired a nominating committee to fill those two positions and this new slate of officers will be presented to the PIO House of Delegates at the Spring Convention. Look for more information on the people nominated in the next week or so.

I believe membership within the Pioneer District will need to be the focus for all of us moving forward. We need to reconnect with members that have stepped away during COVID, encourage each other in growing our current chapters, and work on creating new singing group opportunities so that everyone can enjoy this wonderful hobby of ours.

I am excited to be leading the PIO Board and would like to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Chris

Interim Pioneer District President

Berry

Read previous president updates by [CLICKING HERE](#)

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Monthly Member Spotlight: Eddie Tabb



All Eddie Tabb asked for from his chapter was \$150.

That's it.

\$150 was all he'd need to take his chapter, the HarmonyTown chorus in Wayne, from about 100 followers on social media to having eyeballs from all over on their Facebook page. This was going to be it, he thought. A simple sponsored post on the platform was the beginning of all the magical things that were going to happen.

And what came of it?

"It did nothing," Eddie said. "The post didn't engage anybody. It didn't prompt a response, it didn't suggest that we want your engagement. It was more of a 'look at us.'"

And while he'd love to have all that money back, he's learned more from spending that \$150 than any amount of success that he could have had.



Since that post, he's started and continued posting on Facebook, garnering nearly 1,500 combined on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram and TikTok. His best video on TikTok has garnered almost 20,000 views, and continues to grow every day.

To read more about his success, [check out my Q&A with Eddie](#) about how to solve the social media mystery, how to target engagement and how to get buy-in from your chapter.

[Have someone you want featured in the Troub? Click here!](#)

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Call for content: Pioneer In Memoriam

We would like to start featuring a memorial page on our website that highlights members of the

Pioneer District who have made significant contributions to their chapter, quartet or local singing ensemble each month. If you would like to submit someone for consideration, please [click this link](#) and follow the directions in the form.

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Media Moment: Joelle Laginess

Do you ever nostalgically rewatch an amazing performance, maybe by Boston Common or the Vagabonds, and think to yourself, this just screams BAR-BER-SHOP!? This video gives me that feeling. If you haven't seen this classic video, you must watch it. If you have seen it, you should watch it again! It never gets old. It's funny, educational, nostalgic... it screams barbershop.



And then tying it all back to Franz Liszt at the end - gold.

[Go watch the video now, and then see if you agree with what I've written below.](#)

To me, this video is the epitome of something all barbershoppers can enjoy. Don't get me wrong - I absolutely love hearing styles that branch out from the original barbershop formula: jazzy barbershop, folksy barbershop, classic rock barbershop, even a country barbershop song. But that sound of pure Barbershop... we can all be brought together by those beautiful chords and progressions we hear in those classic barbershop tunes.



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