

Pioneer District
Contest & Judging
Ron Eubank, Director
March 2011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the past two years I have grown in knowledge and experience, managing Pioneer District contests. I have not participated as I should in Society and District programs for various reasons. I believe concentrated effort in such participation will benefit the District through a greater knowledge as well as incorporation of ideas used in other districts.

DISTRICT OBJECTIVES

1. Initiate at least one new idea/process that improves the conduct/execution in each contest, spring and fall.
RP1. No activity
2. Coach and counsel judging program applicants, resulting in all Pioneer applicants invited to Candidate School.
RP1. Answered all questions from Kevin Dunckel, currently in the “applicant” phase of the three-year program
3. Develop a method to measure participant experiences at all district quartet and chorus contests.
RP1. No activity
4. Make regular contact with assigned chapters as part of the (Board) Chapter Contact Program.
RP1. No activity

Pioneer District

**George Doyle - Director of Membership
2011 RP-1 UPDATE**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

I will continue to assist Chapters in any way possible to ensure that MEMBERSHIP IS JOB ONE in Pioneer District. I will be in contact with and maintain a dialogue with Chapter Development Officers. I will provide guidance and suggestions to strengthen Chapter Development activities

when required. As a member of the Society Membership Committee, I will ensure the Pioneer District is aware of and participates in Society membership initiatives for 2011.

DISTRICT OBJECTIVES

1. Finish 2011 with a positive trend in membership. This will be measured by an increase in overall members or a marked decline in membership loss.

RP-1. The most recent membership figures released by Society reflect about a 3% decline in Pioneer District membership compared to about a 2% decline Society-wide. With all the emphasis on retention, it was interesting to note that for 2009, Pioneer District was 3rd highest in retention percentages. 2010 figures are not available yet.

2. I will communicate with each Chapter at least monthly to ensure everyone is aware of new information, programs and guidance that pertains to Chapter Development.

RP-1. Monthly emails continue. Besides current emphasis on recruitment and retention of members, I am reiterating a couple of CACM principles in each email as a self-inspection exercise.

3. I will be 100% effective in responding to requests for staff assistance from VPs of Chapter Development, or any other chapter officer/member.

RP-1. Very little communication received from any chapters. Hunkered down for the winter, I guess.

4. I will actively participate as a member of Society's Membership Committee and represent Pioneer District with timely input and response to Society initiatives.

RP-1. Andrew Shackleton of Ontario District replaced Byron Myers, CSD, as Chair of the Membership Committee. His thrust so far has been to address the poor retention rates of members in their first 1 to 3 years of membership. I participated in a webinar on Sunday, March 6, with about 15 other committee members. We discussed how to identify new members and make an initial "welcome" contact with them. DPs are being asked to visit every district chapter location in 2011. Brian, Joe and Doug are planning on doing this. Proper orientation in the BHS seems to be gaining in popularity as essential to retention. These webinars will continue.

5. I will keep the Chapter Development webpage of the District website current and a viable resource for Chapter Development Officers.

RP-1. I updated the Chapter Development web page twice this quarter.

6. I will strive to identify at least one new potential chapter location within Pioneer District, identify a possible leader and assist in the establishment process.

RP-1. I received a negative reply from Eastern Michigan University. I explored Ferris State University and found they have no formal vocal music activity, club or group. Two other

prospective locations turned out to be outside Pioneer District (duh!). I was notified that a Mr. Gary Prevo had expressed a desire to start a chapter in the Farmington/Livonia suburbs of Detroit. He will receive a licensing kit from Society. I contacted him both telephonically and via email offering my assistance.

**GEORGE M. DOYLE, Director of Membership
Pioneer District, Barbershop Harmony Society**

**Brian Dunckel
Director of Financial Development
Pioneer District
RP1- March 2011**

It has been years since the Pioneer District has had someone in this position. I will be working to develop a stronger impact on Pioneer members and their contributions to the Harmony Foundation. I will also work to promote the “donor’s choice” option among our members, allowing them to return a portion of their contribution to either the district or their own chapter.

1. Improve the participation of Pioneer members in donations to the Harmony Foundation. In 2010, about 3% (42 men) of Pioneer members contributed to the HF.
RP1- the current percentage of donors is just under 3 % (37 men)
2. Increase the amount of giving (in dollars) by Pioneer members to the Harmony Foundation. In 2010, Pioneer members contributed \$28,236 to the HF.
RP1- the current total donated by Pioneer District members to the Harmony Foundation is \$8,123.81
3. Work with the Harmony Foundation to ensure that there is a HF display at both Pioneer conventions, and as many other district events as possible.
RP1- A HF representative was unable to attend our convention, but Roger Lewis, a HF Trustee, will make the presentation to the HOD and the Saturday attendees. We will have plenty of materials on hand. Ryan Killeen will be in the district the week following our convention.
4. Regularly inform our Pioneer members of current or upcoming HF events.

RP1- Doug Weaver, Roger Lewis and I will be training with Ryan while he is here for presentations to be made at Pioneer District events and chapter meetings.

Nels Carlson
Director of Youth in Harmony

Updates of what is happening:

- The Mountain Town Singers have set the date of July 28th thru July 30 for their youth camp this year. We need to help them advertise and push this event through out all the Pioneer Chapters
- Grand Rapids, Holland and Muskegon Chapters are in the process of starting a youth chorus within that geographic area.
- I have made contact with the Michigan Vocal Music Teacher Association and working on being prepared to be involved in the 2012 conference. I have also asked that National put together a display booth that can be shipped to various districts so that we can look more professional and present the same image throughout the society.
- The Huron Chapter is considering supporting a youth chorus in their area.

Proposal:

- All youth choirs perform on stage at the fall convention.
- That each youth camp attempts to form at least one youth Quartet (male or female or mixed) and they be allow to perform on stage at the spring convention following their camp.

Music and Performance – Toby Shaver

RP1

Mini Hep

We've decided on the weekend of July 23 for Mini HEP, pending availability of hotel. My two options are the facility we've been using in Okemos, or possibly CMU.

I have begun contacting faculty and I've also been in touch with Jim Kline regarding and AIC Quartet (who will be provided for travel and expenses only). I'm also in contact with a couple of my counterparts from other districts who have successful schools, regarding curriculum and recommended faculty.

I will have a preliminary budget to submit when we meet in Mt. Pleasant.

Top Gun

After a couple unsuccessful attempts to schedule this event, we're going to combine it with the Mini-Hep. The plan is to invite the top 4 or 5 actively competing quartets. I'd like to also have times of the weekend where quartets will have "down time" where they can participate in some of the Mini-Hep classes, if they would like to.

Standing Ovation Program

Also, as part of Mini-Hep, we will hold an SOP Certification class. We would like to have a 2-3 members certified for each area of the district, before this Fall's show season starts.

Pioneer District

Marketing VP

March 2011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

We need to grow. Plain and simple.

DISTRICT OBJECTIVES

1. Grow the Pionet by at least 25 members

I spent some time on my vacation copying and pasting every email address and name for the Pioneer District into an Excel spreadsheet. I now have an email into Matt Tipton, one of the administrators for the Pionet, asking if there is a way to parse out those that are already members. My plan is then to personally invite each District member to join the Pionet. We have to be careful how we invite people as only so many members can be added in any given day so I would need to invite people in very small waves (ripples). I think this will work better than having sign up sheets at convention. In fact, half the time you can't read people's writing well enough to tell what their email address is. This should alleviate this problem.

2. Promotion

I have had many conversations with Joe McDonald about the upcoming convention and how to make it the most attractive for the largest number of people. I think this is going to be a GREAT convention!

Also, Joe and I have worked together in developing a banner for this and upcoming convention sites as recommended.

3. Chapter Contacts

a. I have made numerous contacts with Alpena this quarter. As things stood earlier this year, there were no plans for them to have any Chapter shows now or in the future. Like many chapters they are struggling with membership; however I used my influence as President of the Motor City Singers to encourage Alpena to look at having a joint show with the Motor City Singers and Alpena singing together!

Alpena has spoken with the Rochester Chapter (as we did a joint show with them as well to help get them energized and re-engaged) and now Alpena is very excited about having a show this year, especially since they haven't had one in quite a while. There are still a goodly number of items to work out as far as logistics, but things are looking very good.

As you know Jackson is defunct so there has been no contact with them during this quarter.

I have also made numerous contacts with many other chapters as well.

The most notable contacts are as follows:

I was invited to come up and coach the MountainTown Singers, which went exceptionally well. In fact, they have asked that I look at my calendar to see if there are times that I could come up several times this year. We talked about more than just singing and how to make a difference in their community, in people's lives when they sing and how to grow. I expect great things from them and several other Chapters as well.

The Wayne chapter is scheduled for a show this month. They have also requested that I come out and do some coaching for the chapter for their show. I'm currently looking through my schedule to find a suitable date.

I have also been in conversation with the Hillsdale Chapter. They would like me or the quartet to come out and give my presentation on how to grow your chapter that I did at Leadership Academy. At the same time they would like a coaching session. This would be the another weekend session, but it looks like it's going to have to happen after convention as I don't have any more weekends available.

Huron Valley Chapter is getting ready for a cabaret and is also getting ready for convention. I and the rest of Chordiology went out and coached about 3 weeks ago and it went really well. I think the gentlemen at Huron Valley are excited and they should be as they are really making huge strides.

Chordiology has been asked to be the coaching quartet at bush league this year. To that and I will be contacting every eligible quartet in the District. I will probably enlist the assistance of the other members in quartet to help me this year. :-)

4. The Pioneer Peer Awards

I worked diligently to get this all prepared with input from Brian and Roger which created several rewrites. I then got really busy at work and went to send it out only to find out that BHS had sent out something that really isn't similar at all, but could appear similar to people so I waited to post so it didn't come on the heels of the BHS request. I am ready to hit the "go" button whenever we think it may be timely.

Pioneer District
Chorus Director Development
Don Slamka Director
March 2011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For several years, Pioneer District has suffered in the position of CDD, and as a result, directors have not felt as supported as we would like. Last year, we made steps in a direction that demonstrated District support of frontline directors through the CACM seminar and 2011 will build on this foundation with more director specific programs.

DISTRICT OBJECTIVES

1. Have regular communications with Chorus Directors through use of an email group as well as round table discussions at district events.

RP1—Had a small but successful round table discussion at Leadership Academy in January. Have started an email list of directors, this will be completed prior to the Mt. Pleasant convention in order to organize an informal gathering at Convention.

2. Have at least one CDWI program in 2011, more to be added as needed.

RP1—Plans for a CDWI program in mid-Michigan are underway. A chapter has been approached regarding hosting. June, July or August is the time period we are looking at currently. Upon confirmation of a host chapter and date, recruitment of 4 additional directors will begin while lining up faculty for the event.

3. Bring the Outstanding in Front program to Pioneer to help aspiring directors and section leaders gain skills.

RP1—Based on comments from the 1st quarter CDDC conference call, the Outstanding in Front program (OIF) works well in conjunction with another district event such as HEP school, Leadership Academy, or even CDWI. I will not be combining OIF with CDWI until I have more experience and confidence. OIF offered as an all day session at a District HEP would be a great scenario, I will need to coordinate to make this a possibility, if we are indeed planning on holding a HEP school. If not, I will try to hold OIF in conjunction with LA in January 2012.