Pioneer District quartets really get behind and support the Institute of Logopedics

Pioneer is fortunate to have two quartets who not only sing well, and are very entertaining, but who have a deep commitment to our Unified Service Project, the Institute of Logopedics. The two quartets are pictured above.

The Furniture City Chord Company became a registered quartet in March of 1981, and, after two personnel changes and two part changes, have been together nine years. The quartet members are Ron Thomet, tenor; Jim Westveld, lead; Ray Gruter, bass, and Dave Kutter, baritone. All are members of the Grand Rapids Chapter and sing with the Great Lakes Chorus. Jim and Ray also sing in church choirs.

The quartet goals are to: support the chapter, support Logopedics, sing the best possible when called upon and, have fun doing it. Since registering as a quartet, the Furniture City Chord Company has pledged 10 per cent of their performance fees to Logopedics. The following is a year by year record of contributions to the Harmony Foundation:

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PIONEER TROUBADOUR

Official Publication of the PIONEER DISTRICT 
S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.

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ADVERTISING RATES

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS
DO NOT SEND CHANGE OF ADDRESSES TO YOUR EDITOR! The Troubadour is mailed with labels supplied by our International Headquarters. If you have moved, or plan to change your address, please notify your chapter secretary first, then notify International Headquarters, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc., 6315 3rd Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin, 53143-5199. Give them your name, member number, chapter number, your old address, and your new address. This will insure your continued receipt of the Troubadour. By doing this you will avoid unneeded delays in the delivery of your Troubadour and your Harmonizers. Failure to notify in this manner will result in your not receiving it at all, as we are no longer paying to forward mail.

ALEX WILLOX
District Logopedics Chairman

There is talk in the district that we are pulling away from the Institute of Logopedics. Nothing could be further from the truth. Yes, we are encouraging each chapter to give to local charities, but not at the expense of Logopedics. We would rather encourage all of you to expand your giving, by performances, using your chorus and quartets to raise funds for charity. Other local groups get plenty of attention because they are involved in the community.

I guess we have to change the way we do business if we want to expand in membership and gain notoriety in the community we live in. What better way than singing and maybe even helping in other ways, like special olympics. The Furniture City Chord Company raised over $3000 last year. Just think what your chorus could do if it got fired up in the same way.

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Good News/Bad News

No matter how I try to re-phrase this article, it seems to be "Good News/Bad News." Many things have happened in these last two months, and although some have been of great concern, the overall results are a renewed dedication to move forward.

Bob McDermott mentioned in the last issue the need to find a new Troubadour editor, due to health problems. I'm sure he'll comment on it elsewhere in this issue, but all of us, including Bob, are amazed at his improvements. Keep it up!

A pleasant surprise is the interest by FIVE MEN to take over the thankless and payless task of editing the Troub. By the time you read this, we may have selected a new editor.

Dick Spear, who sang in the Harmony Hounds, Four "D" Minors, Grand Prix and other quartets, passed away on February 2. Many of you knew and saw Dick over his many years of active quartetting. His son Mark is going to replace his dad in four litters of the Harmony Hounds on the Battle Creek Golden Year and Harmony Hounds Reunion Show.

Changing gears, Patrick Tucker-Kelly's program on "MEMBERSHIP BEGINS WITH ME" was Gr-r-r-reat! All but a few chapters were able to make it to one of his presentations, thanks to the extensive amount of geography he covered while in the district. Although only three new members per chapter will hit our goal of 100 new members in 1992, the past success and present excitement of this program makes you feel that 100 members is only a starting point. The most wonderful part of this program is that 82 per cent of THE CHAPTERS THAT DID THE ENTIRE PROGRAM HAD A MEMBERSHIP GAIN! Wow!

Did you have a FUN NIGHT during the first quarter in your chapter? In your division? I've attended a couple and they are WORKING! Don't miss it in your area. (Ask what you can do to help).

One final note. Convention is just around the corner, and has a number of "new looks". The BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING is at 9:00 a.m., and the HOUSE OF DELEGATES meeting is at 2:00 p.m., both on FRIDAY. This will leave you more time on Saturday for chorus rehearsals, woodshedding, seeing friends, or just being lazy. Also, as of this moment, we have two COLLEGE QUARTETS competing for the right to go to New Orleans. The current plan is to have them sing immediately following Saturday's Finals, and be judged by the regular judging panel. That's in addition to a quartet contest that's shaping up as fantastic, plus selecting a new district chorus champion. It'll be an exciting weekend. THAT'S A PROMISE! Hope to see all of you there, as this is one not to miss!

SPRING CONVENTION
by Jim Styer

Pioneer District's first college quartet contest will be featured at the spring convention in Battle Creek. The Grand Rapids chapter will host the convention from Friday-Sunday, April 24-26. Battle Creek Stouffer Hotel is headquarters. Competition is at W.K. Kellogg Auditorium.

At least two young quartets will compete—Silver Lining, sponsored by the Grosse Pointe Chapter, and a Cadillac quartet. Silver Lining is made up of four Macomb Community College students. The other quartet, not named at press time, consists of a Central Michigan University freshman and three Cadillac High School students.

The college contest will be held at the end of the regular district quartet finals, which start at 8 p.m. Saturday. Entrants will be judged by the regular panel and the winner will have the opportunity to represent the district at the first international college contest this summer in New Orleans.

Al Fisk, director of the Rochester chapter, is district chairman of the college quartet competition. The initial regular quartet competition will be at 8:30 p.m. Friday. Chorus competition will be at noon Saturday.

Other convention details:
✓ A Joe Barbershop Chorus will be mike-tester for the chorus
(Continued on Page 5)
Here's the Pitch!

Having spent all of my adult life as a barbershopper, I suppose that I've heard just about every compliment or complaint that has been aimed at our Society. Unfortunately, for some unknown reason, negative comments seem to surface more frequently than the positive things we do in preserving our heritage. Maybe complainers write more than the average-type bear. Anyway, over the months that I will be acting as "Roger's right-hand-man", I'd like to review some of the good and, hopefully, a little less of the not-so-good things that we do in pursuing the answer to the age old question of: "Just what are we trying to preserve?"

What I feel would really enhance the thoughts and opinions of this writer, would be your input towards what we should or should not do as a Society, district, chapter or individual to preserve our craft. I'm not necessarily soliciting "Letters to the Editor" but just your thoughts or reflections that you might share with us, whether by written or verbal communication. I hope that this concept has some interest to you, not like the talk-radio whose topic for the day was empathy...and nobody called in.

District Send-Off

At this deadline, our mid-state scheduled send-off fund raiser cabaret style show on June 20, 1992, remains "homeless". Jim Stephens is working to nail down a suitable Lansing location to properly stage the event. We'll get the info to the chapters as soon as it becomes available.

CAN AM -- 1993

With the foresight and cooperation of our brothers of the Pontiac Chapter, we have been presented with that city's Phoenix Center by the powers that be in that fine city, including a letter of welcome to us for the weekend of June 11, 1993. At this time, I am awaiting an affirmative answer from the Ontario District to join us for the combined effort. We'll know for sure by the time of our convention since the Ontario District meets prior to us and the venture is an item to be approved on their agenda. More on this later.

Hall of Fame

As chairman of the committee responsible for the election of nominees to this prestigious fraternity, I would like to urge the chapters to have their respective boards review, from time to time, current and past chapter rosters for possible nominees to the Pioneer District's Hall of Fame. At our last COT school the Presidents, who were in attendance, were given applications along with a brief history of the award. The general guidelines for the award are explained on page 9 of this issue. Generally speaking, a biographical sketch and the nominee's contribution to the international, district, and chapter are some of the considerations. If your chapter has a deserving candidate, please make the effort to formally submit a letter, accompanied by an application to a member of the committee (see the district directory under Hall of Fame Committee). That "great guy" can't do it himself even though HE'S THE GUY who probably would want a fellow member recognized. Show him you care.

Tag Line

Have you noticed the latest phenomenon at our conventions? Time was that only make-up quartets could be found in every nook and cranny trying out (notice I didn't say singing) the latest tag. Now, it seems, members of a given chorus gather in semi-circles to go over their chapter's favorite songs in the now crowded nooks and crannies. It almost sounds like a topic for future "what are we trying to preserve?" offerings. See you in Battle Creek when we convene (you'll notice I said convene, not compete!).
That's a cut from the 1991 budget, but it is more than 1991 actual expenses.

PROBE officers already this year are beginning to look at plans for the 1993 budget. We hope to find ways, without spending much more, to improve PROBE moter and other services even more. If you have any ideas of how international-level PR people can help you more, please let me know.

Also, watch for a survey in the April PROBE moter. It's a spinoff of the survey in my February Pioneer Report, with more prizes for replies. The district that sends in the most responses will win some notoriety. Go to it, Pioneer!

**Send In Your Survey**

We're trying to improve internal communications in the district. This includes a newsletter for chapter PR Officers, to supplement the Troubadour and share PR information.

The recent issue included a survey on district communications and on PROBE, the international PR affiliate. There was a March 15 deadline for responses. Disregard the deadline; the newsletter was mailed later than expected because of unrelated problems we didn't anticipate. Send in your answers anyway (stamp was included) and you'll still be in the drawing for prizes.

If any PRO didn't see the newsletter, check with your MVP (or with me). It was sent with membership materials from the district. I'll report the results as soon as all responses are received.

**PROBE Funded**

In December, we reported that the International Executive Committee was looking at ways to tighten the budget, including the possibility of cutting back the size of ProbeMoter, the quarterly for chapter PROs and BE.

Well, PROBE moter will not be cut, at least for the time being. At the mid-winter convention, a $4,000 budget for PROBE was approved.

**Tags**

Also don't forget the other district PR-related projects:

- If you get this is time, remember to promote and tune in to WJR (760 AM) from 9-11 a.m. Sunday, April 12, for two hours on Pioneer District barbershopping.
- Your chapter's participation in mini-HEP on June 20-21 and in the international convention has opportunities for local PR.
- Sign up any non-member singing friends to join us on the field at Tiger Stadium on Aug. 9. Singing baseball-enthusiasts are potential members.

**Spring Convention (from Page 3)**

competition. All barbershoppers not on stage with their own chorus may participate along with the Macomb and Grand Rapids choruses, which are not competing.

- Because of conflicting scheduling, a McCamly Place show on Saturday afternoon could not be conveniently arranged.

- The district hospitality room after Saturday-night quartet finals will feature competing and non-competing quartets. Pick-up quartetting and woodshedding are encouraged. And several chapters will have hospitality rooms.

- A Barbershop Shop will sell catalog items from Kenosha, plus Pioneer District's own sweatshirts and T-shirts.

- The District Board will meet Friday morning, and the House of Delegates at 1 p.m. Friday, leaving Saturday morning free for other activities and chorus preparation.

**New Orleans registrations growing**

Registrations for the New Orleans convention continue to pour in. The count is 7,000 as of the end of February. According to Convention Manager Ken Buckner, plenty of choice seats remain. Look for information in the Harmonizer.
Pioneer Quartets and Logopedics  
(From Page 1)

As Ray Grutter states, "In 1988 we became serious about supporting the kids at the Institute." You can see that the quartet has demonstrated that commitment. Ray continues, "If the quartet contributes even half of the amount given in 1991 for 1992, we will have contributed over $10,000. You can be sure that the quartet will try to equal or better their 1991 contributions. Congratulations, Furniture City Chord Company, you are one of the tops in quartet singing in the Society. The quartet is also the winner of the "Great Lakes Express Quartet Logopedics Traveling Trophy" for the year 1991.

The Last Goodbye quartet was formed in February of 1989 for the agreed purpose of individual fun and fellowship, audience enjoyment and the benefit of selected charities. The members are Paul Lehmkuhle, tenor; Len Barnes, lead; Mel Parrish, bass, and Bill Pascher, baritone. All are members of the Pontiac Chapter, although Paul, with dual membership, considers Flint as his home chapter. Their ages span from Paul's 66 years, Len's 67 years, Mel's 74 years to Bill's 77 years.

All members being retirees, the quartet is available day or night for entertainment. Audiences have varied widely in age from youngsters at area picnics through adults in service clubs and seniors in elder homes and medical care facilities.

The quartet performed 60 times in 1991 and contributed $1825 to the Harmony Foundation, $100 to the Society's Heritage Hall Fund, and $100 to the Grand Rapids Chapter Building Fund. The Last Goodbye's contribution of $1825 to the Harmony Foundation fund added to the Pontiac Chapter's contributions, and it brought the chapter per capita contribution to $117.74, tops in the Pioneer District and one of the top chapters in the Society. Congratulations to The Last Goodbye and to the Pontiac Chapter.

How about the other Pioneer District quartets? We have 56 registered quartets, plus many others not registered. A few of you contribute to our Unified Service Project, but most of you do not. Your contributions not only help the kids at the Institute, but you also help your chapter. Your contributions are counted twice, as a contribution from your quartet and from your chapter. Make a commitment to contribute at least 10 per cent of your fees or gratuities to the Harmony Foundation. Start giving The Furniture City Chord Company and The Last Goodbye some competition in trying to win the "Great Lakes Express Logopedics Traveling Quartet Trophy." You'll feel better for doing it.

Spring Convention - 1992

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[ ] The District Board will meet Friday morning, and the House of Delegates at 1 p.m. Friday, leaving Saturday morning free for other activities and chorus preparation.

[ ] The convention registration desk will open at noon Friday.

ENTERTAINMENT!

![Barbershop Quartet]

Dale Emke Tenor
Roger Nyberg Lead
Bill Brandon Baritone
Buzz Haeger Bass

Warren "Buzz" Haeger
50 Baybrook Lane
Oak Brook, Illinois 60521
312/789-1230
Pioneer District kicks off "Membership Begins With Me" Class of '92 Program

Photos at left portray the 27 attendees to the Division I "Membership Blitz" meeting held at the Clawson-Troy Elks Lodge in Troy on Saturday, February 29, 1992. The session was conducted by International Membership Coordinator Patrick-Tucker Kelly, District PR officers Jim Styer and Marv Burke, Division I Vice President Bill Wickstrom and Assistant Division I Vice President Marv Skupski. Representatives were present at this meeting from all Division I Chapters (Detroit-Oakland, Huron Valley, Milford, Monroe, Monroe North, Motor City Metro, Wayne and Windsor) plus the Rochester Chapter from Division V.

85 per cent of the Pioneer District Chapters were represented at the several sessions held throughout the district during the week of February 24-29. The only chapters not attending were Cadillac, Coldwater, Flint, Grosse Pointe and Pontiac.

Specific information concerning the membership drive is contained in the "CLASS OF '92" material and can be obtained by contacting Pioneer District Membership Coordinator Dick Campbell in Battle Creek. Pioneer District is the initial pilot district for this membership drive which has been only tried by a few individual chapters to date.

New Orleans Convention will highlight music

Those attending the New Orleans international convention will be in for a treat if they take in Tuesday night's showcase which will feature The King's Singers, six Englishmen who ring chords as well as barbershoppers do. One of the world's most highly acclaimed a cappella performing groups, their repertoire extends from Renaissance madrigals to popular songs of the 1990's. They have appeared on the "Tonight" show, and a number of PBS specials, including a performance "Live From Wolf Trap." They have made more than 50 recordings; Variety magazine has called them "The Rolls Royce of barbershop quartets--with six voices."

Jazzman Pete Fountain will be featured as part of the two-part Association of International Champion's show on Wednesday evening, July 1, with shows beginning at 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. Tickets are $50, $25, and $15. See the ticket order form and ad in the Harmonizer.
INTERNATIONAL BOARD BRIEFS

By Int'l Board Member MIKE O'BONNEll

Personal Update

I promised an article on the mid-winter convention, but frankly, I think you'll find mine a little redundant since one has already been published in the Harmonizer. Instead, let me give you some personal observations about the trip and meetings.

Whoever in their right minds would want to live in Los Angeles is beyond my comprehension. This is one big city where people drive like there's no tomorrow. Several of us took a shuttle from LAX (Los Angeles Airport) and I was sure I would die before we got anywhere near the hotel. The hotel in Long Beach was lovely. I arrived shortly after noon and went straight to my first meeting to learn more about the IBM's job. I was disappointed to find that this simply consisted of reading to us from all the materials we were sent and told to read before arriving so we would be ready to contribute. No doubt this will change for next year since this was a "first" attempt at this.

Several of us had dinner on a wharf which extended out into the bay and from which we could see the Queen Mary and the building where the famous Spruce Goose airplane is housed. By 9 p.m. I was in the sack and gone for the night.

The board meeting began the next morning at 8 a.m. with much ceremony, speech making, and recognition of dignitaries (such as our own Past International President John T. Gillespie from Kalamazoo). It was nice to be a part of a group that remembers it's past and the men who have directed it toward future glories. It was also pretty humbling to be part of the group which would lead the Society for the coming year and beyond. I believe this is an especially driven group of men who want what is best for the whole Society. At no time did I hear any provincialism creep into our discussions. Sure, all of us had come with directives from our respective districts on how to vote regarding certain issues but none of us let this get in the way of acting on behalf of all members. There were times, however, when I felt some of the board members tried to micro-manage the everyday duties and jobs of our international staff. For example, it took almost two hours to approve a budget. Many suggestions for changes were made and adopted. In the final analysis, however, only a little over $200 difference was made when all was said and done. Needless to say, some of the board members are going to have to trust the international staff a little more when it comes to these type of items.

On Friday and Saturday evenings there were two very good shows which featured the top five quartets from Louisville, the Long Beach Chapter Chorus, the 1991 and 1992 Seniors Quartet Champs, the San Diego Sun Harbor Chorus (5th place 1991) and the Masters of Harmony Chorus. Thank goodness they weren't all on the same evening. I don't think I would have survived.

In the final analysis, I'd say I was disappointed in a few ways and excited in others. No organization is perfect. We are trying to run a Society by meeting twice a year for what used to be one day each time but will now allow for two days if necessary. I think we need to stay focused on what our job is: to set policy for the future direction of our Society. Let's leave the detail work to the staff. As imperfect as the system is, it does work. I invite all of you to stop in at our meetings in New Orleans to be part of a system and see for yourself how it works.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at the spring convention where I will be the international representative for the Society. Please stop in at the FRIDAY afternoon House of Delegates meeting to see how your own board works and where I will be sharing some more topics which President Aramian has asked me to discuss. See you in April!

LOGOPEDICS (Continued from Page 2)

We can support Logopedics and local charities. I think we will benefit from this kind of activity as well as those we help. The Institute is worthy of all the attention we give it, and more. With younger management now in place, I think we are going to see a difference. I personally am more committed to this institute after my visit in January. So, don't draw back, expand your singing that they may speak.

Museum seeks district memorabilia

by Ray Heller
from March, 1992 UPDATE

Heritage Hall Museum of Barbershop Harmony is trying to build its collection of international and district convention memorabilia. According to Curator Ruth Blazina-Joyce, the museum is looking for convention programs, tickets, score sheets and other souvenirs, from any year.

These items will form part of the permanent archives at the museum and will help preserve the Society’s past. From time to time, they will be seen in exhibits, and they will be useful to those doing research about the hobby and ariform of barbershop.

Anyone with materials to contribute to the collection is asked to give Ruth a call at (800) 876-SING.
Call for "Hall of Fame" nominations

Notice is hereby given for submittal of Nominations to the Pioneer District Hall of Fame. Nominations may be submitted by any member of the district.

QUALIFICATIONS: Membership in the Hall of Fame is limited to persons whose continuing contributions to the Pioneer District have been worthy of note over a period of time. Their contributions may have been in various levels of organization: Musical or Administrative.

While it is intended that broad general participation be a criteria, the Committee feels strongly that these activities shall have been primarily for the benefit of the Pioneer District. Individuals who have contributed primarily to their chapters should be recognized by their chapters for their contributions.

The committee will consider those who have served in coaching, directing, judging, composing, arranging, publishing, writing, administration, teaching, promoting, philanthropy, etc., and preferably in some combination of these. The effect of this service will have been of benefit to the Society, his chapter, and to barbershopping in general.

Therefore, it should be remembered that the main purpose of the Hall of Fame is to honor and give recognition to those men who have made exceptional, longstanding, unselfish, dedicated, and devoted contributions to the Pioneer District. Therefore, it should be borne in mind that the selection committee will place primary emphasis on district contributions and activities, with lesser weight ascribed to other areas.

Forms for nomination and rules have been furnished the chapters, or they may be obtained from the Hall of Fame Committee Chairman Russell Seely. (His address and phone numbers are listed on Page 2.) Nomination forms must be accompanied by an endorsement of the nominee by the nominee’s chapter board of directors. Nominations must be submitted to the committee by April 24, 1992.

Pioneer/Ontario Districts Day at Tiger Stadium

August 9, 1992, is the date for the second annual Tiger ball game excursion. Each chapter president has received the information concerning the acquisition of tickets. In case you haven’t seen him lately, here’s the scoop!

Tickets are $9.00 per person, and available through your chapter contact person. Ticket requests and a chapter check, payable to the Pioneer District, must be mailed to Larry Parker by May 5, 1992.

Each barbershopper is requested to wear a casual chorus outfit and your individual name badge to the game. Begin practicing the two National Anthems. As for the other songs to be sung on the field, those titles will be announced at the April convention in Battle Creek.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me on my business phone (517) 377-5034 or at home on (517) 372-8389. My business number will be good only until April 23rd, after which time I shall RETIRE!

Remember, May 5, 1992 is the deadline for tickets.

Larry L. Parker
Tiger Day Coordinator

CHAPTER NEWS

GROSSE POINTE
by Jim Kinner

Last year, I completely forgot to submit an article for the Troubadour for April/May and wasn’t aware of it until my copy arrived in the mail. I was quite embarrassed at the time because my colleagues razzed me about my alzheimers, but as I sit to put this month’s article together, I find it is a time quite lacking of news.

Anyhow, we had our annual Ladies’ Night dance at the infamous Blossom Heath Ballroom on the shores of Lake St. Clair on March 14. It was a gala event to honor the ladies who contribute so much to make the Grosse Pointe Chapter possible. As usual, we chose this evening to announce the Grosse Pointe Barbershopper of the Year. This year the selection just couldn’t be narrowed down to one person from the large field of candidates and the award went to two members, Ed "Crash" McCarthy, who has just completed three years as President, and Ray Starrette, who is always into the thick of every chapter activity but is probably best known for sponsoring the North Carolina Golf Outing.

The annual show is just around the corner and it has the Lakeshore Chorus going to sea on the "Good Ship Lollipop". Shortly after, we will sing for Don Adam’s special kids bowling banquet. This is, no doubt, our favorite sing out of the year because the audience is the most appreciative. Then we have the "blue spot" until the Pioneer District Convention. Grosse Pointe will have a lot more practice than it did for the last contest so beware. See you all there. Have fun and good luck.
Battle Creek Chapter to celebrate 50th Anniversary—Will fete "Harmony Hounds"

A unique reunion of historic significance will be featured on a show of historic proportions — this year's Battle Creek chapter annual show, "Golden Chords."

Pioneer District’s premiere comedy quartet — the Harmony Hounds — will be reunited for the first time ever in its 34 years of existence. All 11 litters — the longest pedigree in the district — will be represented on stage.

It also will be a 50-year anniversary show. The chapter was originally chartered as the 10th in the district. Its first Parade of Quartets was in 1943 and first Cereal City Chorus show in 1959. For this show, WBCK "Morning Mayor" Dave Eddy will be emcee for the 25th consecutive year, reminiscing on chapter highlights.

The show will begin at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 16, at W.K. Kellogg Auditorium in Battle Creek, the same site as district competitions. (See ad below.)

The second half of the show will be devoted entirely to the Hounds, the oldest still-active quartet in the district. Twelve of the 13 Hounds are still living and at least 10 plan to be part of the show, coming from as far as Tucson. Dick Spear (Hounds 1968-72, '77-79), passed away this year. His son, Mark, will sub for him, and the show will include a memorial.

Current Hounds are Roger Lewis — who also is district president and show chairman — Dick Smith, Dean and Dorn Burrill. The first Hounds were Ron Atkins, Bill Clark, Lowell Wolfe and Henry Brown. Others were Dick Pancost, Larry Swan, Ron Mell and Bud Burrill.

About 20 Hounds numbers through the years will be showcased, including "Hello," "Ahab the Arab," "The Streak," "I Talk to the Trees" and "Poor Papa." Others will be featured at an Afterglow.

The Hounds have medaled in district competition, competed internationally in 1969, and have appeared throughout the United States and toured Europe and the Far East.

GOLDEN CHORDS
50th-ANNIVERSARY show
Battle Creek Chapter, SPEBSQSA
featuring
HARMONY HOUNDS
REUNION
(34 years of Dog-Gone good comedy on one stage)

8 p.m. Saturday, May 16, 1992
W.K. Kellogg Auditorium, 60 W. Van Buren, Battle Creek, Mich.
Tickets: $10 (first five rows) and $8

NAME: ___________________ PHONE: _______

ADRS: ___________________

Number: ___ Price each: $ ___ Total: $ ______

SEND SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE
(or tickets will be held until 7:50 p.m. at the box office)

MAIL CHECK TO: Cereal City Chorus, 4243 W. Dickman, Apt. 2A, Battle Creek MI 49015
OR CALL: Jack Shepard, 616-968-9591 (evenings) or 966-4640 (days)
Big Buckeye Invitational Weekend Planned for weekend of August 14-16

While the Buckeye Invitational is always a fun-packed weekend from the opening bell to the closing gavel, 1992 is particularly interesting year to be in Columbus. The six month Ameriflora Exposition is a world’s fair type event commemorating the 500th anniversary of Columbus’ discovery of America. It will feature exhibits from some 30 countries around the world, a number of major corporate pavilions, and fascinating displays from the Smithsonian Institute and Disney World. More than 20 million visitors from around the world are planning to make Ameriflora part of their vacation plans.

This year, on Friday, a Mass Sing is scheduled to take place at the Ameriflora Exposition at 4:00 p.m. It will occur in the Grand Mallway of the 90 acre entertainment complex. All participants in the Mass Sing will be entitled to a free admission to the park. Ameriflora is a Class A family entertainment, and like most others, will cost almost $20 for daily admission. In addition to the Mass Sing, there will be at least three formal barbershop shows on the Exposition grounds that day and throughout the park. The day will be capped off by the 7:30 World Harmony Show at the 4,000 seat amphitheater which will feature performances by the Gas House Gang, the Ritz, the Gem City Chorus (reigning Sweet Adeline International Champions), and best of all, the Singing Buckeyes.

The chorus competition on Saturday afternoon presently has commitments from twelve choruses, and should the Ontario, Seneca Land and Illinois Districts choose to participate, the contest would feature choruses from eleven different districts. Two choruses from Pioneer have opted to compete, those being the Macomb Harmony Heritage Chorus and the Holland Windmill Chorus.

The Buckeye Invitational has a reputation of being a melting pot for barbershop harmony from around the world. Great Britain’s best chorus and quartets from Holland and Sweden have competed at previous Buckeye Invitational. Incidentally, the Old Spice quartet from Stockholm Sweden, winner of the 1990 Buckeye entertainment trophy, will be competing on behalf of SNOBS at the New Orleans International. A quartet called the Sound Connection, a fine quartet from Christchurch, New Zealand, has already committed to be a competitor in the quartet contest at the 1992 Invitational.

This year’s line-up of some of the best quartets and choruses will make for an enjoyable weekend. Plan on it!

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For Saturday show tickets, make check payable to “Buckeye Invitational” and send with coupon and self-addressed envelope to:

Russ Young
162 Northridge Rd.
Columbus, OH 43214

For hotel information, call
Larry Nofziger 614/882-4048
GRATIOT COUNTY
by James R. Hall

The unpredictable spring weather has not dampened the spirit of the Midstatesmen, and we have found ourselves busy around the area spreading goodwill and barbershop harmony.

Our annual Ladies' Night was a success, with dinner and dancing, flowers, and of course, music. Those who stayed late were treated to some unique dancing styles, including the moves of one enthusiastic member who exited early to repair the seat of his trousers. To these special women in our lives, I hope it was a memorable (and enjoyable) experience.

The Cadillac Chapter visited us in mid-February, returning our "house call" to them last autumn. I think we all enjoyed the evening, as it provided a nice change of pace from our regular sing-outs and chorus meetings. We hope to make these exchange visitations a regular part of the yearly schedule.

The cooks in our chorus have been warming their griddles and practicing their pancake flipping in anticipation of our March 21 pancake dinner (a first time event for us). We look forward to delighting the ears and the taste buds of all who attend.

On another front, the quartets in our chapter have been quite active. The Blue Ribbon Coalition has been the featured entertainment at several events, and have been busy preparing for the district contest. In addition, the Suitable Union, Total Image, and the Heartbeats continue to keep the chorus and the community entertained. Also, several new quartets have been tuning up for upcoming performances, and we wish them well.

I would like to salute two of our members for their recent accomplishments. Dave Bish was recently named our 1991 Barbershopper-of-the-Year. A sixteen-year member, he has five man-of-note awards to his credit, and has contributed through the years through quartetting and as chapter secretary (four times). Most recently, he served as the 1991 president, keeping us organized and on our toes. Well done, Dave!

Congratulations also go to James K. Hall, who just recently earned his fifteenth (15) man-of-note award (nearly one member for each of his years in barbershopping). He also has held numerous past offices, is currently singing in three different quartets, and is known for his original (and often startling) costumes and off-stage pranks. Thanks again to two more guys who help make the Midstatesmen an exciting chapter to be a part.

Our preparations for the upcoming spring contest continue, as we put the final touches on our songs and add some crazy stage presence moves. We are looking forward to hearing some great quartets and choruses. Hope to see you there!

MUSKEGON CHAPTER
by Gordon Gunn

Muskegon's Four Score and More and Senior Class quartets were "up before breakfast" on Thursday, March 5. Cliff Martin's "Breakfast Club" featured their performances on Radio WQWQ providing additional promotion for the annual show presented on March 14. The quartets followed that outing by jointly singing the national anthem opening the International Hockey League contest between Muskegon and Milwaukee the following evening.

"I don't want this to go beyond this room...but judges are human beings," Webb Scrivnor confirmed while discussing the April '92 Pioneer District contest with members of Muskegon's Shoreline Chorus. Webb will direct the chorus in that contest, for the last time. He will retire from directing in May but emphasized that he will remain with the chapter and continue singing tenor with the Four Score and More.

While he refused to predict that the chorus will rise in the competitive rankings, Webb did share his belief that the chorus had improved in the last year. "I was encouraged by the members recognition of our need to improve. I will make every effort I can to prepare musically and in our performance," he promised. Chapter President Tom Porritt and P.V.P. Bob Weber support the decision to compete this year, for the first time in two years. "Contest is an important part of the total barbershop experience; a measure of success," Tom said. He cited the chapters growth in several areas "in the last couple of years" and specifically spoke of an improved "camaraderie" and "esprit de corps". "I think it's time to try again--no change that! It's time to compete again," he stated. Bob Weber feels that "We still need to learn to 'sell' a song," but added, "I do see a definite improvement in the choruses' performance and morale."
**CHAPTER NEWS**

**ROCHESTER CHAPTER**
by Bill Taggart

How do you spell excitement? R-o-c-h-e-s-t-e-r-Wow! Is life getting dull? We have a solution! Send your entire new board of directors to COTS. These fellows are tearing up the field. A new volunteer Music Committee is in motion, the Program V.P. is lining up performances galore, and Wednesday rehearsals are being spiced up with woodshedding sessions headed by Wes Tomlinson and quartet activities with George Schmidt.

New members seem to be especially enjoying this, as they start off on the same footing as the more experienced guys. It's wonderful and exciting to watch one of them take a deep breath and tag into a quartet in front of the whole chapter. Keep it up guys, it only gets better.

With contest only a few weeks away, Al Fisk is frantic (of course) to polish up our presentation, and by this publication, we will have enjoyed an evening of edification and amazement of the talent and critique of Everett Nau.

We continue to be hurt by losing our retirees. This month we bid farewell to one of the absolute stalwarts of the chapter over many, many years. Marilyn Byrd, enjoying his well deserved retirement from Gentle Motors, is relocating to Cadillac. He is already connected with the chapter there, (their gain!) and is even doing a little arm waving for them. We will miss him dearly, and he better stop by when in town! See you all in Battle Creek!

**IN MEMORY**

Glen Howard

It was reported in the *Voice of the Townsmen* bulletin, edited by Grady Kerr, that Glen Howard had passed away on February 9 at the age of 89. He sang in the first seven Society contests. In 1939, his quartet, *The Capitol City Four*, had a singoff with another quartet for who would win the contest. The *Bartlesville Barflies* barely won. Glen was best known as the only man to attend all 52 International Conventions.

**Benton Harbor - St. Joe Chapter**
by Kurt Amundson

I don't know how long it's been since the *Fruitbelt Chorus* was represented in the Troubadour, but it sure has been too long! I just recently became the bulletin editor for our chapter, and I feel that there's a lot that I can accomplish for our chapter. It all starts with getting everyone enthused about chapter activities and keeping present, past and future members informed to keep the interest high.

To start things off, I'd like to mention that the *Fruitbelt Chapter* now has 25 registered members. We have set a goal of having more than 30 members by October 1992. I believe that with hard work by all, we can attain or even surpass this goal. For a while, we were rather slow to grow, but recently there has been a positive trend in visitors. Since the first of the year we gained two new members. The most recent addition is the grandson of one of our members. His name is Shawn Sackett, and he is only 13 years old! Shawn is very musically inclined—he's been playing the piano for six years. His other interests include soccer and other types of outdoor activities. It's great to see young people showing such an interest in our hobby! It's also nice for me not to be the youngest member any more (I'm 26). We also have a potential new young lead--Matt Cole is 14, and is the son of our Chapter President David Cole.

Now for our chapter activities. In January, we had three barbershoppers from our chapter attend the first ever interdistrict Choral Director's Clinic in Fort Wayne, Indiana. They also happened to be three members in one of our very fine quartets—*Thursday Night Special*. The other quartets in our chapter are the *Class Reunion* and the *Officer's Club*. They all stay active with rehearsals and singouts. On February 15, almost our entire chapter gathered at a restaurant for a Valentine's dinner. Everyone had a great time, and all three of *Fruitbelt's* quartets plus our entire chorus performed for the rest of the people in the restaurant. There were several people that had questions, and I could tell that interest was very high. In March, *Class Reunion* performed in the Watervliet High School presentation of the "Music Man". They both acted and sang in the play.

In closing, let it be known that the *Fruitbelt Chorus* will be having our annual fall show on October 24 at the Lakeshore High School Auditorium in Stevensville. We are getting rolling now so that it'll be our best show ever.
IN MEMORIAM

HOWARD "DICK" SPEAR

"Dick" Spear, a 29 year member of the Battle Creek Chapter and Cereal City Chorus, passed away February 2, 1992, at the age of 62.

Dick was born in Frankenmuth, but lived in the Battle Creek area all his life. He was employed by Post Division of Kraft General Foods for 39 years before retiring on a medical disability in 1988. Dick’s greatest love, next to his wife Virginia, was singing. He was a well known soloist in the Battle Creek area as well as a church choir director and briefly directed the Coldwater Chapter.

Those who knew him well understood his love for barbershopping. He sang tenor or lead for several quartets including the Key Noters and the Unified Sound Assembly. For six years he sang with Battle Creek’s popular Harmony Hounds which included a trip in 1969 to the international contest in St. Louis and a tour of military hospitals in the Far East in 1970.

In 1974, Dick sang with the Four "D" Minors, the only Battle Creek quartet to win a district championship. His performance and interpretation of "Jimmy Brown" was well loved in the district. He served in just about every chapter office, was Barbershopper of the Year in 1965, and was assistant director of the chorus at the time of his death.

The past five years found Dick singing with the Gran Prix quartet including the last three years with his son Mark singing tenor. The quartet’s last performance was at Christmas time.

At the conclusion of a memorial service held in Battle Creek on February 5, the Cereal City Chorus sang "Savior Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise." Dick is survived by his wife Virginia and two children.

IN MEMORIAM

DELBERT E. BADGLEY

Del Badgley, a 30 year member of the Oakland County Chapter, passed away unexpectedly March 11 at the age of 61 in his home in Fenton. "Doo-Rite", as he was known to all his friends (he was a retired Madison Heights police lieutenant), served in almost all of the offices in the chapter culminating with his presidency in 1967.

Del sang lead and baritone over the many years, singing with the Spintones for a year or two and with the Innocent Bystanders for almost six years in the middle seventies. He sang with the Oakland County Wolverine Chorus for better than fifteen years. Always extremely active, Del shared his love of barbershopping and the outdoors with his primary activities in golf, boating and hunting.

Del is survived by his wife Gladys and four sons, Mark, Bruce, Steve, and Aaron and five grandchildren. He will be sorely missed by his family and friends. Sincere condolences go out to Gladys and the family.

SINCERE CONDOLENCES

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the family of Bob Whitledge, director of the Motor City City Lights Chorus on the death of their son John at the age of 26. He passed away from a quick form of cancer on March 6, 1992. He is survived by his parents and three sisters.
Mini-HEP Coaching Scholarships Sought
by Bill Wickstrom

How would you like to become a quartet coach? Is your quartet interested in free coaching by some of the Society’s best coaches? If the answer to either of these questions is yes, then have your chapter recommend you or your quartet for a scholarship to the Pioneer District Mini-HEP at Michigan State University, June 19-21. A special fund established by the Detroit-Oakland Chapter as a memorial to the late Bill Butler is available to individual members interested in acquiring or increasing coaching skills, and also to quartets wishing to improve their singing prowess.

Introduced in 1990 and endorsed by the Pioneer District, the Bill Butler Memorial Coaching Scholarship Fund has to date benefitted only two individual prospective coaches and one quartet since they were the only applications received. In light of the lack of coaches in this district, and the availability of topflight outside coaches at this year’s Mini-HEP, an increase in scholarship applications is expected before the May 15 deadline. (See application form at bottom of this page.)

Funding for these scholarships is dependent upon contributions, which to date have totaled $1180 and have come from four chapters, two individuals and the Bill Butler family. Since Bill was an active member in seven chapters and worked closely with several others over the years, donations to this worthy endeavor should be forthcoming from many additional chapters and other parties. Contributions and inquiries should be forwarded to Bill Wickstrom, Chairman, Bill Butler Memorial Scholarship Fund, 2533 Donna Avenue, Warren, Michigan, 48091, phone (313) 756-4294.

Pioneer District Fifty-One Year History will soon be available
by Bob McDermott

A history covering the first fifty-one years of the Pioneer District will soon be available. Your editor has spent over three years compiling the data, and it looks as if we will be able to go to press within the next three months. It will include a complete narrative history of the district, pictures of all of our quartet champions, pictures of all Hall of Fame members, a listing of all chapters as to their chartering and people involved in the formation of the chapter, and many other interesting facets of our Pioneer District. Estimated price approximately $20. Look for ads in the upcoming issues of the Troubadour.

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BILL BUTLER MEMORIAL QUARTET COACHING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Candidate Name __________________ Address __________________

City ___________________ ZIP ___________ Telephone (____) ___________

COACHING INTEREST CATEGORY:

MUSICAL EXPERIENCE/BACKGROUND:

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________

BARBERSHOPPING GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS:

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________

RECOMMENDING CHAPTER: ___________________ MUSIC DIRECTOR and/or MUSIC V.P. Signature ___________________

PHONE (____) ___________ DATE _______ 199__

FORWARD BY MAY 15 DEADLINE TO: Bill Wickstrom, 2533 Donna Avenue, Warren, MI 48091 Tel. (313) 756-4294
Since this is the end of my reign as the district editor of the Troubadour, I thought I would take this opportunity to thank everyone for the fine support I have received during my five years as your editor. I want to especially thank the district officers who were extremely supportive of my efforts during that period. Their contributions were immeasurably helpful and made my job much easier. In addition, the chapter reporters throughout the district have done a great job of reporting on important events in their chapters and I thank all of them for it. Finally, I want to thank Don Funk who furnished our equipment early on, and Dale Barber, our printer, who has done so much in printing and distributing the bulletin over the years. Mailing the bulletin itself is a chore, because they keep changing the postal rules all the time.

The first edition under my editorship was in February of 1987. In that five year time frame, we have seen many changes in our methods of producing the bulletin, from the old time paste-up and layout method to the present desk top publishing techniques which have made a laborious task much, much easier. It's been work, no doubt about it, but it has been fun as well. I have tried to keep our membership fully informed as to upcoming events as well as reporting on events as they happen. I hope I have succeeded in doing that. You yourself can only be the judge of that!

As I reported to you in the last edition about my health problems (the real reason why I am resigning), I would like you to know that I am progressing slowly, and at this point am really optimistic about putting this cancer into remission. I feel good and have had very little side effects from the chemo therapy, except for some tiredness and the loss of my hair (no big deal because it was getting thin anyway). I plan on serving on the judging panel as an assistant secretary for the spring contests, and I have made reservations for the New Orleans International Convention.

I will continue to do as much as I can to promote barbershopping in my chapter, the district and the Society as well. My first priority is to finish the fifty-one year history of the Pioneer District which is very near completion and have it published in the next few months. It has been three years in the making, and contains excellent information on the great history of our district.

Finally, I want to thank all of you for the many fine cards and well wishes that I have received over the past two months. It really perks a guy up to know he is a member of a barbershop family that really cares. You people are terrific! I look forward to seeing many of you at the spring convention, and that should be a good one.

"Okay Rambo, we'll sing 'Alley Cat' just one more time!"
A Few Things You Should Know About Copyright

(Burt Szabo, SPEBSQSA Music Specialist/Publishing, is currently working on an updated, comprehensive guide to copyright for quartets and choruses, scheduled for publication in 1992. The manual will deal with all facets of copyright law as it applies to arranging, recording, audio-visual production, broadcast and cable television.)

Every barbershopper needs to be aware of a few simple rules of copyright law. Most notably, you should know when you may or may not make a copy.

Always keep in mind that copyright laws exist to protect the intellectual property of the creator. He or she made it, owns it, and has a right to be compensated for that effort. The cost of obtaining legal arrangements is low (usually around 60 cents for printed music, and even less for unpublished material), so doing the right thing is inexpensive.

Printed material:

Any original work, be it a song, cartoon, arrangement, lyric or other creation, is considered copyrighted if it bears a copyright date and name. Simple rule: if you see a copyright notice, don't copy it without permission! The inverse is not necessarily true, however; you might occasionally obtain material that does not carry a copyright notice. That doesn't mean it's not copyrighted, or that it is legal to copy it. Always be sure—call the Old Songs Library about any music that does not carry a copyright notice.

The most reliable sources for legal arrangements are the SPEBSQSA catalog, the Old Songs Library, and reputable music stores and catalogs. Purchase one copy for every member of the quartet or chorus, plus a few extras for file. It's much easier to buy a few more than you need than go to the trouble of reordering or getting permission to copy.

There are a few occasions when it is OK to make copies of music. You are permitted to make an emergency copy to replace originals which you obtained legally, so long as replacement copies are on order. You must destroy the emergency copies after the replacements are obtained.

You may also copy short passages of up to about four measures for educational or study purposes. However, copying tags or making up "tag sheets" are not covered under this exception. (Besides, it's much more fun to know the parts and teach them by rote.)

Recorded material:

Unauthorized duplication of copyrighted recorded material is illegal, whether it is an LP, CD, cassette or video. The producers of these recordings (quartet, chorus, or SPEBSQSA, Inc.) must pay royalties to publishers for the right to produce and sell their albums.

There are situations when you may do some duplicating of your own, however. Many chapters purchase Barbershop Previews and learning tapes from the Society and find they only want to use one song from them. Rather than pay full price of 42 complete cassettes, you may, instead, reproduce one or two songs yourself. To do this, you must pay the statutory mechanical license rate of 6.25 cents per copy to the copyright holder, and 10.75 cents per song per copy to SPEBSQSA, which partially covers the cost of producing the original learning tapes. Please note that this method is intended for reproducing one or two songs from a Society-issued learning tape; for more than two songs, it's usually easier and cheaper to buy the tapes from the Society.

In most cases, the copyright holder's mechanical license fee may be paid through the Harry Fox Agency, 205 East 42nd Street, New York, NY 10017. Write to both Fox and SPEBSQSA, indicating the song titles, writer(s), copyright holder (publisher), and the number of copies to be made.

Another simple, legal way to create a part-tape is to have your section leader or other strong singer sing directly into your hand-held recorder during a chorus rehearsal. So long as it is clearly a part-predominant tape, not a balanced, full sounding recording, you need not pay a royalty. Please note that you cannot duplicate that tape, but several individuals may record simultaneously.

You will be pleased to know that it is OK to make a single audio or video recording of a rehearsal or show for archival, educational, or study purposes. However, if you want to distribute copies of your annual show to all the members or offer them for public sale, you must first obtain a mechanical license (audio) or synchronization license (video) for each copyrighted song used on the tape.

Until the forthcoming manual on copyright is published, consult the international office staff for more detailed information on producing recordings, appearances on radio, television and cable programs, and on obtaining performance licenses for shows.

**ATTENTION!**

**IT HAS JUST BEEN ANNOUNCED THAT THE SCHEDULED 47TH ANNUAL BOYNE CITY "BUSH LEAGUE" CONTEST AND SHOW HAS BEEN CANCELLED FOR 1992!**
Coming Events

APRIL, 1992
4    Milford Chapter Show
11   Windsor Chapter Show
24-26 Pioneer District Convention at Battle Creek

MAY, 1992
2    Boyne City BUSH LEAGUE Contest and Show
9    Swan Valley Chapter Show
9    Jackson Chapter Show
15   Pontiac Chapter Show
16   Holland Chapter Show
16   Battle Creek Chapter Show
16   Cadillac Chapter Show
16   Flint Chapter Show
23   Alpena Chapter Show

JUNE, 1992
19-21 HARMONY ROUND-UP at Michigan State U.
28-   INT'L CONVENTION - JUL. 5 New Orleans, LA

JULY, 1992
12-19 DIRECTOR'S COLLEGE Kenosha, WI

AUGUST, 1992
2-9   HARMONY COLLEGE St. Joseph, MO

OCTOBER, 1992
2-3   Grand Rapids Chapter Show
16-18 PIONEER DISTRICT Convention
24   Benton Harbor - St. Joseph Chapter Show

NOTE: All chapter show activities must be cleared through the District Secretary, and the appropriate ASCAP, BMI, and CAPAC (Canada only) fees paid. Only shows that are cleared through the District Secretary will be listed above.

PLEASE NOTIFY:
Jack Schneider
1311 Northlawn, N.E.
Grand Rapids, MI 49505
Res. (616) 361-6820 Bus. (616) 771-5225

DISTRICT DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS

✓ John Gillespie's new ZIP Code is now 49006. Listed under judges on Page 7, Auditing Committee & Contest & Judging on Page 8, Past District Presidents on Page 14, and on Kalamazoo Chapter on Page 30.

✓ Al Van Iwaarden's phone number is (616) 891-8460 as contact for the Galaxies on Page 53.

✓ Jim Martin's street number should be 5965 under Asst. Division V.P.'s on Page 6 and under Saginaw-Bay on Page 37.

✓ Add Bob Dininny, 412 E. Erie, Albion, MI 49224, as new bulletin editor for Battle Creek Chapter on Page 18.

✓ Herman Dykema's phone number is (616) 343-5176 under Lucky Chances quartet - P 54.

ADD THE FOLLOWING QUARTETS-PAGE 56.
✓ Gangbusters, Scott Turnbull, 12312 Risman Road #201, Plymouth, MI 48170.
✓ Model A Four, Bill Dabbs, 1373 Orchid, Waterford, MI 48328, (313) 673-8655.
✓ Signature, Dave Anderson, 39043 Cadborough Drive, Mt. Clemens, MI 48044, (313) 286-4860.

Notice of Spring 1992 House of Delegates Meeting

The spring meeting of the Pioneer District House of Delegates will be held at the Stouffer Hotel, 50 Capital Avenue, Battle Creek, MI, on Friday, April 24, 1992, at 2:00 p.m.

Chapters desiring to present any matters for consideration by the House of Delegates should notify the District Secretary Jack Schneider prior to April 8, 1992.

QUARTET & CHORUS CONTESTS ARE SCHEDULED AS FOLLOWS:
✓ Int'l Quartet Preliminary Contest Semi-Finals, 8:30 p.m., Friday, April 24 @ 8:30 p.m. - Finals will be held on Saturday evening, April 25, @ 8:00 p.m.
✓ District Chorus Contest will be held at 12:00 noon on Saturday, April 25, 1992.
ALL CONTESTS WILL TAKE PLACE AT W.K. KELLOGG AUDITORIUM, BATTLE CREEK.

Quartet and chorus entry forms must be received by DACJC John Bauer before April 11, 1992, to be included in the drawing. No late entries are permitted!