On Tuesday, Jan 4, the first chorus chapter meeting of the year. Director Tom ran us thru nearly our whole repertoire in the first hour. Then Paul Ellinger, Pioneer District VP MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS, arrived (albeit via a GPS maze) to install our 2011 officers. Paul had a novel way of doing it, “marrying” the Board members to the chorus, as we each took our vows. Paul went on to speak of what a talent-filled chapter we are, and how we can do even more to bring new members into the chapter.

Two special awards were given. Tom Blue was given a special recognition plaque by Bill Holmes. Ross Ensign presented the Barbershopper of the Year award to Freddie McFadyen, as he acknowledged his work as assistant director, especially conducting daytime gigs. Although he has won three BSOY awards in three other chapters, he was clearly choked up upon receiving this one.

On Saturday, Jan 8, nine of us drove to Okemos for the 2011 Pioneer District Leadership Academy.

On Sunday, Jan 9, the chorus sang at Orion Township Library in their Sunday concert series. It was here that Tom Blue and the Chorus met, four and a half years ago. The performance was videotaped for broadcast by the local television channel. Three quartets also sang, 4GVN, (“Heart of my Heart,” with Freddie McFadyen on Tenor, serenading the Teubers), LIMITED EDITION (“Come Fly with Me”) and NATURAL E (“Anything Goes”).

On Tuesday, Jan 11, sixteen men braved the snowy roads for a meta-chapter meeting at Grand Blanc to provide an audience for CARTE BLANCHE to practice its Las Vegas Set.

On Wednesday, Jan 12, a daytime gig at West Hickory Haven. Freddie McFadyen led the men through a program. Noteworthy was the presence of Dexter Wyse. “Dex was in charge of Pontiac Mall maintenance during the 50's and 60's. His efforts provided our chapter with meeting space at the Mall. Dex also sang lead in the chorus from 1985 thru 1989 and arranged stage lighting for the annual shows in those years.” (Details provided by Dick Johnson)
On Sunday, Jan 16, the chorus participated in the **Dr. Martin Luther King Community Celebration** at Waterford Kettering High School. About 300 people shared the experience.

**From our Director, Tom Blue:**

Men and Friends of the BCC,

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Bill Nevaux and his family.  
As we meet Tuesday evenings, I would like to continue our work on our “Heart of a Clown”/“Midnight Rose” contest set. I remind you of our usual vocal stuff…

- breathing (feel the expansion of the rib cage) (feel cool air coming in through the vowel an “oo” vowel will lift the soft palate)
- sing on the breath (a cushion of air for each note)
- tall, round and spacious vowel sounds
- use of "fricatives" to articulate and start the phonation process
- think about the story (what does it mean … to you, to us)
- sing with a sense of ease and relaxation (be aware of your body's need to relax and NOT tense up)
- target vowels (we have identified all of them in “Heart of A Clown”)

Just some other thoughts quickly…I may be out of touch.  
I think it is possible to improve, and get regular feedback from competing in contests and also from not competing in contests.

I think it is possible to have fun and to care very much how we sound even when we go to contest or at those times during the year when we do not.

A contest should not be the motivator to improve or not improve. 
A contest result can be a tool for measurement but not the only tool. The motivation needs to be intrinsic, needs to be a personal desire to sing the music with the best integrity that we can as a response to our craft, love of the art form and a desire to project ourselves in the best manner that we can to our audiences whoever they may be. I know and have recordings of outstanding choirs that do not compete on any level. Their motivation is the music itself and their own desire to sing better as a singer and musician. It is a continual process of singing the very best we can at the time (present skill level) and then improve upon that level the next time whether that be the next rehearsal or the next performance. It is a process. Are there other outside variables? Yes, because we are dealing with a "human instrument." Is that an excuse? No.

Because we will again attend contest, we should look at it as a tool for our chorus improvement and use it as an opportunity to share in the art form and to see where (musically) we are doing well and where (musically) we need to make some more progress, (keeping in mind music's subjectivity and adjudicator's objectivity).

**Quartets**

4GVN is holding regular practices and blossoming as our newest chapter quartet.

**AROUND THE PATCH**

**Bill Nevaux’s wife, Candy, passed away** Jan 22. She had been in a coma since taking a fall. Bill met Candy in post-war Japan. Their love story was made possible by a Truman-signed special act of Congress, allowing her entry into the United States. We have met their children at some of our singouts – Michael, Kevin, and Leslie. Candy was a member of the Church Street Singers and the Sweet Adelines. The service was at Sparks-Griffin Funeral Home in Lake Orion, where Fred McFadyen led the chorus through “Precious Lord,” “It is Well With My Soul,” and “The Irish Blessing.” When Bill Holmes presented the plaque **honoring Tom Blue**, he said:

“He has been teaching music to students for well over twenty years. By example, he reflects compassion and discipline as he aims for excellence. His approach is: ‘If it is worth doing, do it right.’ He does not expect the impossible, but expects every ounce of the possible. Those who know him are not surprised by the successes he has earned for himself and his students.

“He brings his friendly disposition, superior talent, and witty responses to the Big Chief Chorus. His treasury of techniques, to achieve the proper vocal intonation and resonance, is extensive. Some members view his coming to us as providential, others as good luck, but all view it as an extraordinary windfall, gain, and advantage. The Big Chief Chorus is proud to call him our director, and friend. We are delighted he includes us in his illustrious and flourishing career!”
Thirty-seven Chieftains have signed up on the members-only section of our website [http://www.bighiefchorus.org/](http://www.bighiefchorus.org/) Seventeen more could. Learning tracks are there. Each Chieftain can only access his own part track, for financial reasons. You can either listen to them there, or download them.

Zaven Melkonian is focusing on the February D.O.C. show and won’t be very visible around our chapter for a while. Be sure your email address list contains Zaven’s as: zmkelkon@gmail.com

Austin Quinn’s wife, Martha, was hospitalized Jan 10 – 13 for an apparent TIA (transient ischemic attack, or mini-stroke). Ironically Austin had to go in for a few days right afterward (an eye infection).

Fred Pioch has been dislodged from the Guinness Book of records. As reported in the April, 2008 *Smoke Signals*, Fred was one voice in a singing marathon that sang “Danny Boy” at A.J.’s Music Cafe in Ferndale 50 continuous hours, Alas, a record-breaking 343-hour concert was held in Atlanta in July by the Children’s Restoration Network. A. J. O’Neil said this past week that he plans to start Assembly Line – 3rd Shift on March 19 and he aims for 360 hours in what’s to be the café’s third, nonstop concert, in honor of metro Detroit’s autoworkers and locally built vehicles.

Although Bob Wallace was welcomed as a new BCC member in the January *Smoke Signals*, he is not new to barbershop; he has thirty-four years under his belt.

The ensemble Christmas Sing for your Supper at Hillers Grocery had a financial benefit also, but it comes as a surprise that it was as large as $225. The treasury also profited from our singouts at the Orion Township Library and Martin Luther King Celebration.

Michael Oberstadt’s email address was erroneously reported to have changed. It has not. It is still mwober531@comcast.net

**VALENTINE QUARTETS**

Duane Roy is this year’s Valentines chairman. Let Duane know if you will have a quartet available on the Feb 12, 13, or 14. (248) 698-2981. Let’s get out there and hawk those Valentines gigs!

Terry Jamison reports that NORTHBOUND SOUND will be performing that weekend, Saturday night, at MacPhee’s Restaurant and Pub in Ortonville.

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**Fall Show**

The Music Committee has tentatively chosen *Phantom of the Barbershop* as the theme for our 67th show. The script of this show was apparently written for production during a Harmony College week, and it is available from BHS marketplace. We will modify it extensively to our own purposes. Ross Ensign’s chorus used this script when Ross sang in New Jersey. We are contracting, as our guest quartet, Forefront, the 2010 Cardinal district champions. If you’d like an advance peek, go to their home page, [http://forefrontquartet.weebly.com](http://forefrontquartet.weebly.com) or their facebook page.

**BCC 2011 Performance Total:** 6 gigs to 548 auditors

**MEMBERSHIP (at 67)**

**Renewals:** Bob Stephenson (3), Ron Clarke (10), John Cowlishaw (12), Bill Holmes (13), Jim Claflin (18), Dan Valko (22), Marv Wilson (55)

**Pending:** Robert Kleeman, Lew Mahacek

**February Birthdays:** Ross Ensign (7th), John Northey (22nd), Pete Mazzara (23rd)

**Medical:** The Quinns

**BSOM, November:** Bob Greenwood

**AROUND THE DISTRICT**

When Gene Gillem passed away, recently, at the age of 86, the Pioneer District lost a “Golden Oldie”. Gene had been singing barbershop for over 70 years.

Chuck Murray represented the BCC at the Saginaw Bay Chapter’s “Celebration of Life” for him, Jan 8.

“It was clear that the family was deeply appreciative of the singing, and that they understood the importance of four-part harmony in Gene’s life. It was wonderful to hear all the remembrances of Gene from his family and friends. He was known for his love of barbershop, his ability to teach four-parts to any tag he ever heard, his great sense of humor, and his ability to tell hours of jokes and stories.”

As a child, he and his two brothers formed a Trio that sang on the "Kiddies Carnival" for WXYZ. Gene joined the Kalamazoo Chapter in 1941 at the age of sixteen. Later, he joined the Battle Creek Chapter and sang for six years in a quartet called CHORD ARRANGERS. He also served as Chapter President. Still later, he joined the Saginaw chapter and sang in THE CROSS TOWNERS. He also served as President of the Saginaw Chapter.

At one point he was “The Bush League King,” in honor of his involvement in Bush League. This was when Bush League was in Boyne City. Gene Gillem was President of Pioneer District (1968-1969), International Board Member (1970-1971), and inducted into the
MICHIGAN HALL OF FAME (1980). Gene was also a “timer” on the panel of judges at many Pioneer District Convention Contests.

“Gene was small in stature, but a giant in Pioneer District history.” - Bob Winters - Saginaw Bay Chapter.

ELMO THUMM has disbanded due to disagreement over whether to accept an offer to compete on a national talent show.

“He was the Lead section boss for many, many years. He also sang lead with the Ala Mode quartet, alongside Ed Compton, Hal Reid and Bob Wolf.”

AROUND THE WORLD

2011 Kansas City International Convention

Early Bird Rates Extended!
Register by February 1 & Save $26

There are lots of great reasons to come to Kansas City this July!
Father/Son/Grandson chorus back by popular demand!
Hot competition in every category!
The all-new Sprint Center-Arena, the second most attended arena in the US and 13th in the world according to Pollstar Magazine, was designed from the bottom up to be a world-class entertainment venue - no columns to obstruct your view!
Most hotels within easy walking distance of the contest venue
All-new $5 billion Power and Light District located next to the arena - half a-million square feet and over 50 unique restaurants & shops - no cabs or long walks to restaurants!

Register

The new Premiere 2011A is out. It contains arrangements of:
- I Believe in Music
- Harmony Rag
- It’s Only a Paper Moon
- This is All I Ask
- You’re Sixteen, You’re Beautiful, and You’re Mine
- Yes Indeed

YouBarbershop launches its first issue!
(from Mike McGee, Editor-in-Chief)

It’s an exciting day for YouBarbershop as we launch our first issue of the YouBarbershop Magazine. Our January publication includes news on the barbershop organizations, including fun, satirical features like Barbershop Doppelganger and My Favorite Things. There is also an entertaining interview with the legendary Carl Hancuff who shares stories that will make you laugh and even bring a tear to your eye.

Please feel free to share the magazine with your barbershop friends who may not be subscribers. Encourage them to visit http://www.youbarbershop.com/ and sign up for the publication.

Thank you for subscribing to our magazine. We hope you’ll enjoy this new form of barbershop media as we promote the barbershop art form to people around the world.

PRESERVATION

Grady Kerr, the BHS Historian, has just published his 7th issue in eight months of PRESERVATION, the Society’s historical journal. “This issue covers stories on William Frawley (Fred Mertz on “I Love Lucy”), The Real Story Behind the song, “Sweet Adeline,” The Society’s FIRST Songbook (1940), The art director for Bambi’s Barbershop Quartet, A vintage contest technique handbook, Barber Shop and the 1940 World’s Fair, The Original Fab Four and all the celebrities who sang Barbershop from Bing Crosby to Burl Ives to Burt Mustin to Trent Lott. Check it out at: http://www.barbershop.org/preservation-publication.html

Behind the Scenes

Many of us arrive, rather breathless and just in time for a performance, and climb up those risers sitting there and forget that Bob Greenwood hauls them around for us.

Doug Metzger prints our monthly Smoke Signals free of charge. That’s a gift to the chapter with a value of about $600. Our annual bulletin publication cost is thus limited to postage, about $160.
By the way, hard copies are distributed to Chieftains present at the first Tuesday night rehearsal of the month, and mailed to those who are absent. A half-dozen Friends of the Chorus also get paper copies, and another forty Friends, fellow editors, and District officers get emailed copies. It is, of course, available to anyone on the web, www.bigchiefchorus.org.

Harmony Brigade
At a recent rehearsal, Ray Sturdy reported on the North Carolina Harmony Brigade that he and Tom Blackstone attended. It’s the 19th year for North Carolina.

Here is Tom Blackstone’s written report:
“On Jan 14-16, Tom Blackstone and Ray Sturdy attended the North Carolina Harmony Brigade Rally at the Little River Golf Resort in Pinehurst, North Carolina (an hour south of Raleigh). This is the where Brigading all started 19 years ago. There were 160 men from across the US and Canada along with attendees coming from as far as Belgium, Germany and Sweden. It was a great time with a wonderful Show Performance held at the Sand Hills Community College in Pine Hurst on Saturday evening. Many of the songs introduced at this year’s NCHB will be included in the lineup of songs for our own Great Lakes Harmony Brigade Rally scheduled for the weekend of June 3-4 in Okemos, MI.”

ASK THE DIRECTOR
A gentleman from Commerce Township asks, “I heard that Rochester Adams is putting on Wizard of Oz this year. How about some details? When is it? How does one get tickets? How much?”

John,
There are four performances of our spring musical, The Wizard of Oz, March 24 thru March 27. Tickets can be obtained by accessing the Adams theatre website, http://www.adamstheatre.com/Home_Page.html or contacting the Theatre Director, JoAnna Pillsbury, at 248-726-5384, jpillsbury@rochester.k12.mi.us
Ticket prices are from $8 to $12.

Reports from the 2011 Leadership Academy
Auquier, Bill, Chapter Secretary
Every year, I learn something new. This year it was about digging up information to make the chapter as legal as possible. For example, our original charter is in Dick Johnson’s possession. Other documents are buried in our storage bin. We need to organize them.

Cowlishaw, John, Chapter arranger ☺
I went primarily to take Dave Gillingham’s classes on barbershop arranging. There were about fourteen of us; any who hadn’t taken his last year’s class on harmonic theory were out of luck. Much was learned. What was most helpful was watching him go at a couple of tunes to convert them into barbershop songs. He honors the original melody! Then he establishes the “macro-harmonic sequence,” which is often quite constant, boringly so for barbershoppers. So then he proceeds melodic note by note, to figure out an appropriate “micro-harmonic sequences.”

In the morning, I attended Caetano’s class on vocal production. So much was helpful, here is one example: the concept that the singing rides on top of the breath, so the breathing starts before the singing, then the sung line is added, then the singing ends, and then the breath continues for a short while, softening the termination.

Domke, Eric, Chapter Development and Management
The Leadership training provided by the Pioneer District Jan 8 was very good. The forums were divided into sessions.
One of the sessions talked of CACM, which is an acronym for Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meetings. Well, the Big Chief Chorus is already doing many of the things mentioned here. It is as if the designers of this program know our chapter and are benchmarking the BCC for other chapters to follow. ☻

In another session, Paul Ellinger said that after the curtain closes, the show is not over. We must talk with the people in the audience. The idea is to recruit new members and connect with the audience. Make the conversation about them. Possible dialogue: “Thanks so much for coming tonight…. Do you like to sing?… Are you busy Tuesday nights?…. It may not be for you, but why not just come and check it out…. There is a wide range of talent, from people who struggle to very good singers, but all get better…. Would you like me to pick you up?”

We need to continue the enjoyment we portray on stage.
Do we show the fun through our singing while on stage? The better we have our music memorized, the more enjoyment and feeling we can project through our faces while performing. Singing is what emotions sound like. Isn’t it a pleasure to hear from a listener “You guys sure enjoy yourselves”. If we don’t portray this joy, at the end all the audience will have to focus on is the music quality.

I will close for now and follow up in Feb. with more tidbits of insight from the weekend.
Knowledge is power. Hope this empowers you onward and upward,

Jamison, Terry, Member at Large
First of all, this was my first Leadership Academy, so everything was new for me. Not only was it very informative, but now I know where to go to contact people who can be resources for me. For example, in the seminar
on Youth Policy, I was surprised that it was not about recruiting, but rather about legal issues that arise with minors in the chorus, such as border-crossing into Canada, or overnight conventions. Not only did I learn, but I was able to co-instruct in John Baker’s workshop for Historians, since I have been the Macomb Chapter Historian, and I brought a display which John set up along with his display, in the hallway.

Johnson, Dick, Chapter Treasurer
Our session director Richard Morrison (who has served as Treasurer of Vocal Majority) conducted a very comprehensive session. I learned that our chapter is in step with ASCAP and BMI requirements. Morrison stated that if there are finance issues, "Heather" at BHS Headquarters is most helpful. The latest Treasurer’s Manual (2009 issue) was passed out. A discussion about maintaining records of funds that are approved to spend for members and funds that are only approved for Chapter operations was informative. It was good to know we are doing it right.

Women as directors? The only issue is that they can only be Associate Members of the Barbershop Society. If our members keep accurate mileage records to chapter meeting and performances, since we are a non-profit society, 14.5 cents per mile is deductible from IRS taxes. I asked about getting detailed directions regarding fulfilling chapter legal requirements for music. The answer was that it’s a somewhat cloudy subject, not easily defined. (Thank goodness we have Roger handling it).

Stephenson, Bob, Lead Section Leader
I had the great privilege on January 8 of attending the Leadership Academy in Okemos for the first time. Besides the fellowship, which is a key reason for me belonging to our Big Chief Chorus, the instructor was actually able to put some pretty good stuff into my thick skull. I took three Joe Barbershop sessions. The sessions covered the basics of vocal care and breathing. Our instructor divided the principles into negative and positive. The negatives (those flaws which crop up to make us sound less than good) include singing out of your natural range, pushing your volume to keep up with the guy next to you, or singing the songs recklessly to make up for not being ready to sing. The positive aspects include breathing from the belly, not the chest, relaxed correct posture (shoulders back, gut out), arriving at rehearsal or performances ready to sing, and adequate hydration (lack of which will lead to pitch problems and irritation).

Other tips I picked up:
- Listen to those around you for a composite sound; sectional unity
- Lift your cheeks, put a little more sparkle in your eyes
- Lastly, have fun and tell the story.

You may feel as though you know all of these things already, but even if you’ve been a long-time barbershopper, it can be good to review the basics of breathing and vocal care. Thanks for the chance to go to Okemos.

Teuber, Jack, Chapter President
It was great to see the Big Chief Chorus well represented by seven members and to see Fred McFadyen and Ray Sturdy in attendance as well. My primary focus was to meet with fifteen other Pioneer District Presidents led by Barry George. Barry is an attorney who has been president of two chapters and is currently the Chorus Manager for the Mountaintop Singers.

The group shared many concerns and solutions for chapter organization. Barry contributed several tools to make the president’s job go a little smoother. The District has become involved with a program called CACM (Compellingly Attractive Chapters Meetings). As we addressed the approaches in this program, it became quite clear that the BCC has been on the right track for several years. My thanks and appreciation are extended to the past Presidents and Executive Board Members who have made the BCC such a successful chapter.

OUR HISTORICAL LEGACY – “SWEET ADELINE”
(The 5th in an ongoing series on the history of barbershop and of our chapter)
(Excerpted from Grady Kerr’s story in Preservation, II,1)

“Sweet Adeline” was written by Henry W. “Harry” Armstrong (1879-1951), and it is clearly his best known, best loved, and most often performed song. The proper title is “You’re The Flower of My Heart, Sweet Adeline”.

In 1896, at the age of 18, Armstrong composed the melody and titled it “My Old New England Home.” He shopped it around to publishers in Boston without success.

Harry Armstrong (at the piano) sings his song with Ray Granger, John Hanson and Society Co-Founder Rupert Hall
Armstrong (later, an enthusiastic member of the Society) earned his living in several ways throughout his life. He was torn between the desires to be a professional boxer and a song writer, but music won out, and he moved to New York to play the piano in Tin Pan Alley.

There he met lyricist Richard H. Gerard and song-writer Jimmie Walker, who later became mayor of New York City.

Gerard composed a set of lyrics and the song became “You're The Flower of My Heart, Sweet Rosalie.”

This song went from NYC publisher to publisher without finding a taker. For two years they tried to dispose of “Sweet Rosalie.” Finally, they were told: “Get a new title and I'll publish it.”

Armstrong recalls, “Gerard had a new line in the chorus, “At Night Dear Heart for You I Pine,” but could not find a title to rhyme with it.

One day they were walking along Broadway and, passing one of the theatres, noticed a poster announcing the farewell appearance of Adelina Patti, the famous Italian coloratura soprano opera singer and prima donna.

Stopping in front of the poster, Gerard said, “Adelina ... Adelina ... Adelene ... Adeline, at night dear heart for you I pine.” And so “My Old New England Home” became “Sweet Rosalie,” and then became “Sweet Adeline.”

In 1903, M. Witmark & Sons accepted and published the song.

Additional Note #1. At the 1950 International Convention in Omaha, Nebraska, “Sweet Adeline” was banned from the contest due to its “alcoholic background”.

Additional Note #2. It’s no accident that the largest woman’s barbershop organization, Sweet Adelines International, is named for this song.

**Theta Music**

Here is a link to free computer games that can help train your ear and help the novice learn about and apply music theory. [http://trainer.thetamusic.com/en](http://trainer.thetamusic.com/en)

The games are geared as an aid for music teachers and students of all kinds.

- **Paddle Pitch** trains the ear to recognize scale tones
- **Melodic Drops** trains the ear to recognize intervals
- **Parrot Phrases** trains the ear to play back what you hear
- **In Harmonic Balloons** one must identify harmonic intervals before the water balloons hit the ground.
- **Chord Locks** teach the recognition of the various chord types, including inversions
- **Tone Trees** ask one to identify the root of a chord
- **Phrase Fitter** teaches elementary arranging skills
- **Speaker Chords** aids the identifying of common chord patterns
- **Rhythm Puzzles** trains one in recognizing rhythmic patterns
- **Channel Match** teaches sound mixing.

**Love music? Thank a substance in your brain**

By MALCOLM RITTER - AP Science Writer

NEW YORK -- Whether it’s the Beatles or Beethoven, people like music for the same reason they like eating or having sex: It makes the brain release a chemical that gives pleasure, a new study says.

Previous work had already suggested a role for dopamine, a substance brain cells release to communicate with each other. But the new work, which scanned people's brains as they listened to music, shows it happening directly.

While dopamine normally helps us feel the pleasure of eating or having sex, it also helps produce euphoria from illegal drugs. It’s active in particular circuits of the brain.

The tie to dopamine helps explain why music is so widely popular across cultures, Robert Zatorre and Valorie Salimpoor of McGill University in Montreal write in an article posted online Sunday by the journal Nature Neuroscience. While experts had indirect indications that music taps into the dopamine system, he said, the new work "really nails it."

Additional Note: [http://www.nature.com/neuro/journal/vaop/ncurrent/abs/nn.2726.html](http://www.nature.com/neuro/journal/vaop/ncurrent/abs/nn.2726.html)

**From the Concho Capers bulletin:**

Remember those four important words -- **Approach, Invite, Bring, and Delight!**

- **Approach** them with a smile and enthusiasm of our great hobby.
- **Invite** them to a rehearsal and let them know we are a great group of guys and they will be made to feel comfortable immediately.
- **Bring** them yourself. Pick them up. Nine times out of 10 a guy will cancel or make an excuse not to attend at the last minute if he has to come by himself.
- And finally **Delight** him with warmth, quality singing, fellowship, and a welcoming attitude! Now what guy could go home after a wonderful night like that and not have had a great time?

**Editorial**

The Dr. Martin Luther King Celebration had its high points and low points. Congressman Gary Peters was articulate in his linkage to King. Rev. Connie Jackson had some personal Montgomery family history to share, which made the first half of her talk interesting, (but it should have stopped there; a little bit of “encouraging kids to dream” goes a long way.) The Oakland University African Drum Ensemble had MY heart beating faster. The kids were cute; the handicapped/challenged adults were touching. MEN OF GRACE have that soul in their souls, and their saxophonist was outstanding. But, please, two hours long?? Thirty three of us spent three hours in warm-up, waiting, sitting, and finally singing our two songs (“America, the Beautiful” and “It is Well with My Soul.”) Shouldn’t we reconsider whether to participate next year? It’s really more of a program for kids and others to perform in front of their families.
MINUTES of the Executive Board, November 17, 2010 (excerpted from Bill Auquier’s)

Present: Teuber, Holm, Dick Johnson, Domke, Teuber, Metzger, Bachmann, Jamison, Clarke, Pioch, and Auquier

The treasury stands at $10,267.
The Music Committee named Bob Stephenson as the new Lead section leader.
Committee chairperson Roger Holm is continuing his research into copyright compliance

Terry Jamison gave a verbal report on the Pioneer District meeting emphasizing member recruitment. Terry’s report was followed by discussion on how the chapter might fund the Harmony Heritage and Youth programs. This item was tabled for later consideration.

Decision to have the chapter officers for 2011 installed January 4, 2011

B.S.O.M. (November) Bob Greenwood

Letters:
From Carol Egbo, chair of the MLK program, to Jack Teuber:
Thanks to you and the rest of the Big Chiefs!!!! You are such a pleasure to work with. I wanted to show you in a small way how much I appreciate your being part of our event.

Carol

From Lyle Howard:
John,
Sorry I don't feel I can participate at this time, but I do love reading the Smoke Signals so's I can keep up with what's going on.

I think there might be one small, but really insignificant error in the last issue. As I remember the story, Randy Chisholm did catch staph in a hospital, but not while singing a gig. He represented a company that sold equipment to hospitals, I believe kitchen equipment. He was on a sales/service call at a hospital and cut himself in their kitchen, thereby catching staph and subsequently dying.

As I said, insignificant, but just trying to keep the record straight. Keep up the great work.

Lyle

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP
Director: Thomas Blue (248-814-9627)
Assistant Directors: F. McFadyen, D. Johnson, B. Holmes, & M. Frye
President: Jack Teuber (248-334-3686)
Past President: Doc Mann (248-628-0189)
VP: Chapter Dev: Eric Domke
VP: Music and Performance: Roger Holm
VP: Marketing & PR: Open
Secretary: Bill Auquier
Treasurer: Dick Johnson
Members at Large - Doug Metzger, Fred Pioch, Walt Bachmann
Chorus Manager: Open
Music Team: Holm, Blue, Johnson, Doig, Ensign, McFadyen, Murray, Prueter, Moss, Cowlishaw, and Stephenson
Bulletin Editor: John Cowlishaw, (248-891-4498)

CALENDAR (Times are Performance Times, Warmups 45’ earlier, LSYSBPS = Long-sleeved Yellow Shirts and Black Pants and Sox)
Feb 1, T, 7pm Chorus rehearsal, Waterford Oaks
Feb 8, T, 7pm Chorus rehearsal, Waterford Oaks
Feb 12-14 Singing Valentines delivery
Feb 15, T, 7pm Chorus rehearsal, Waterford Oaks
Feb 16, W Autumn Ridge, Dixie Hwy, Clarkston
Feb 22, T, 7pm Chorus rehearsal, Waterford Oaks
Mar 1, T, 7pm Chorus rehearsal, Waterford Oaks
Mar 8, T, 7pm Chorus rehearsal, Waterford Oaks
Mar 15, T, 7pm Chorus rehearsal, Waterford Oaks
Mar 17, Th, 6:30 St Patrick’s Day at Canterbury
Mar 22, T, 7pm Chorus rehearsal, Waterford Oaks
Mar 24-27 Wizard of Oz, Roch. Adams H.S.
Mar 29, T, 5pm Extended BCC practice & pizza, 5-9:30
Apr 15-17 Spring Pioneer Dist. Convention
Jun 3,4 2nd Annual Great Lakes Harmony Brigade
Jun 4, Sa,7pm Brigade concert, Okemos
Jun 25, Sa, 2pm Log Cabin Days, Waterford
Jul 3-10 BHS International, Kansas City
Nov 5 67th BCC Show

"Oh, nothing much... I just kept talking while the Director was trying to teach!" — John Morris