GLHB, May 29-31
Blackstone, Cowlishaw, Doig, Murray, Perry, and Sturdy at Brigade, this weekend. Full story next issue.

GLHB Show. Saturday, May 30. 7 p.m.
If you’ve been thinking of trying eXtreme quartetting, or would just like to hear a great chorus sing 11 wild arrangements, Okemos is less than an hour drive away. Take Exit 110 off I-96, and the Okemos Conference Center is right there.

Videos from Battle Creek Convention
Big Chief Chorus: [http://tinyurl.com/nlc835m](http://tinyurl.com/nlc835m)

BCC Sing-outs
Twenty-one Chiefs sang for a hundred residents of Elmhaven Manor and Lockwood of Waterford in two separate sing-outs, Friday, May 8. John introduced the songs, and Freddie directed them. Four quartets sang:

Bidin’ Our Time, 2GVN (half of 4GVN), A Cappella Fellas (Frye, Downey, DeNio, Melkonian) and The Ringers (Frye, Greenwood, Northey, and Wallace). There was also a special song to a retiring member of the Lockwood staff. And Ted Prueter was there.

From Director Tom:
Thanks, Men of the BCC for reaching out to the Milford Guys. It was wonderful to see the positive interaction between all of us last evening. Thanks for singing so well! Hopefully, we made a positive impact upon the young men!

From Prez Jack
It’s always great singing in Frankenmuth. Thanks to the Flint Chapter for the Brats and the Beans. Bus departs from WOAC, 5:30, returns 11:00. Bus fare of $10 includes tip.

Jack Teuber
(Several photos from the Jack and Mary Teubers’ Viking trip are available on Facebook at: [http://tinyurl.com/ow9snes](http://tinyurl.com/ow9snes))

AROUND THE PATCH

David Stone got into quartetting, and Gene Downey and Art Carinci got back into it, at May 5 rehearsal.
Mike Frye led the rehearsal May 12 in Tom and Freddie’s absence. He did a fine job leading a (small) group thru polecats, rep numbers, and then followed Dar Johnson’s suggestion to line up in four intersecting voice-part lines and do tag polecatting. Tom Blackstone was present, giving LIMITED EDITION the chance to sing “When I’m 64” and “Lullabye.”

Maryann Lambrecht brought 13 young men from the Milford High School Vocal Programs to the May 19 rehearsal. An octet sang two songs including “Prayer of the Children.”* It was a special treat to hear Zach Dahlman thank the chapter for its support in sending students to the Harmony Explosion workshops; he emphasized what a positive effect that had had on them. About 25 Chiefs heard.

*The composer is Kurt Bestor. It was written in 1994, during the tragedies of the Serbian-Bosnian-Croatian war, but has been used in remembrance of other children lost.

Mary Ann Butcher died May 2. She was the wife of Bob Butcher, who sang Baritone in the chorus and quartets from 2006 until his death in 2009.

Walt DeNio has been caring for his wife Jan, following her surgery.

Quartets

Limited Edition

LIMITED EDITION performed for Furat George’s 40th birthday party, Friday night, May 15, at the Mother of God Chaldean Catholic Church in Southfield. We had been hired through GigSalad by his enthusiastic wife, Mayce, the director of the church choir. Blackstone led us thru a set of seven songs, plus Happy Birthday and Irish Blessing, and we were invited to partake of the buffet afterward with the twenty people. Furat George is a Clinical Assistant Professor of prosthodontics at U of M, Ann Arbor. He’s also a pianist and the church organist and user of a garage band software called LogicPro.

Can’t resist quoting Mayce George on the GigSalad site: “We had an amazing night last night, all thanks to LIMITED EDITION Quartet! Not only are they great singers, but they are all kind hearted and wonderful people. We enjoyed their company just as much as we enjoyed the singing. The song selections were beautiful and their arrangements were perfect. Grown-ups and children enjoyed their performance equally. I would highly recommend them. You can truly tell, that they love what they do.”

LIMITED EDITION also sang to the residents of Lockwood of Waterford on Friday, May 22.

There was some uncertainty at our arrival, and a plan to stage it in the small entry way, given the residents’ reactions to the departure of Beth as Activities Director. But 60 residents showed their loyalty by attending the hour-long performance with LE performing its “Global Tour” program, consisting of 17 songs arranged by geographical location. The residents encouraged new director Amber to rehire barbersoppers.
On Thursday, May 14, CODA HONOR entertained guests at the City of Farmington’s first Turn-of-the-Century Porch Party Picnic at the historic Governor Warner Mansion on Grand River Avenue. The event was part of a twice-a-month summer-long festival sponsored by the City and featured hot dogs, snacks and a number of old-fashioned lawn games for kids and adults.

Ray

4GVN is participating in the Hamburg Family Fun Fest on June 20. We competed in the preliminary round in April, and the top performers advanced to the finals in June. The event starts on Wednesday afternoon and concludes on Saturday. (Geography lesson: Hamburg is south of Brighten, near Pinckney.)

Greg

Chapter 2015 Performances: 62 gigs to 802,867 people

MEMBERSHIP: (at 51)

- Returning member: Art Carinci. Welcome back, Art! (12 yrs)
- Renewals: Jack Teuber (15), Pete Mazzara (15), John Northey (26)
- Due in June: Braun, Dabbs, Jackson, Mann, McFadyen, Perry.
- Overdue: Mike Doyle, Ted Prueter, Bob Stephenson
- June Birthdays: Bob Legato (13th), Fred Pioch (18th), Bruce Brede (22nd)
- In Memoriam:
  May 18, 2002, Don DeNoyer
  May 18, 2014, Lew Mahacek

District

Windsor Send-Off, June 12

The Pioneer District Send-Off Show will take place again at the Macedonian Centre, 5225 Howard Avenue, LaSalle, Ontario (Windsor) on Friday June 12, 2015. The Send-Off format is: The cash bar opens at 6:30 pm: Pasta dinner at 7:15 pm: and the Show will follow including choruses present (usually 5 or 6): a 200 man chorus of all Barbershoppers present and our chorus and quartet representatives to the International.

Come hear and support our International rep MAJESTYX, our College rep FRONTIER, our Senior rep ROLLS VOYCE, and our Chorus rep THE GREAT LAKES CHORUS from Grand Rapids. Another first this year is that D.O.C. will be present to distribute the funds from the "Return of the Jug" to the quartet Reps.

A million dollars worth of talent and a pasta dinner all for $21.00. All Chapter Ticket Chairmen must let me know how many are coming from your chapter by June 6th. Any others who still need tickets can contact me right away. I need to know the numbers coming so we can provide for table set-up and food preparation.

Doran McTaggart
(519) 948-0637
doranmct@aol.com

Quartet Boot Camp, July 18

- Quartets!
- Would you like to sing better?
- As a quartet and personally?
- Improve your show package?
- Improve your sound?
- Learn how to score better?

All of this and more is possible at the Quartet Boot Camp on July 18 in Okemos, sponsored by the QCA and the Pioneer District!

You'll get three sessions of almost 2 hours each with top coaches, plus craft sessions that will help you and your quartet be better singers and performers.

The cost? Just $50 per quartet!

Better yet, if you compete in Bush League in September, we will refund your $50! What a deal!!

We are limited to 15 quartets due to available space.

To reserve your spot, email Roger Lewis at rjlewiscmc@aol.com

International

ACCOUSTIX is closing in on 1000 appearances in 46 states of the USA and 10 other countries around the world.
PITCH PERFECT 2 is now out and it includes a brief performance by PENTATONIX. (Play the incorporated video with Deke Sharon; love his pronunciation of “homage”)

“Let There be Peace on Earth”
Jay Giallombardo’s arrangement is sung by the Westminster Chorus, and two Gold Medal quartets – Ringmasters and Musical Island Boys.  http://tinyurl.com/pdhn8lj

VOCAL TECHNIQUE

What’s Going On Inside Your Head When You Sing

Play this remarkable video, at:
http://tinyurl.com/o5u9bla

The most notable moving parts are:
   The tongue
   The Teeth
   The Soft Palate

An Alternative Belly-Breathing Test
We’ve all heard that belly-breathing is encouraged (and tested) by lying down on your back and breathing – that you can’t do chest breathing in that position.

Alternatively, if you stand with your back against a wall and take big inhalations and exhalations, you will unavoidably do “belly breathing.” By forcing yourself to stand erect, you can’t exhale by caving in at the chest. Try it!

   But start slowly. In this position you might hyperventilate and end up on the floor ... in a face-down position!
I quickly feel fatigue in my abdominal muscles, proving that they are the muscles being used for the exhalation.

Metro Detroit
Upcoming Musical Events in Metro Detroit:
Bette Midler, June 10, The Palace
Jimmy Buffett, June 25, West Riverfront Park
Brian Wilson and Rodriguez, July 5, Fox Theater
Neil Young, July 14, DTE
Rod Stewart, July 18, Huntington Center
The Eagles, July 24, Joe Louis
Graham Nash (Crosby, Stills, and Nash), July 29, Michigan Theater

What’s Up, Bob Legato?

Bob at the 2013 Chorus picnic
Bob still lives in White Lake with Barb Workman ... and her animals – six horses, 20 goats, rabbits, and four sheep, which get sheared each spring to provide wool for Barb’s yarn.

Bob has had assorted cardiac issues, requiring stents, a new aortic valve, and pacemakers.  Re-opening a stent last month has increased his O₂ supply, which had been inhibiting his singing and also blowing his horn.  He is still having some trouble from his diabetes that can lead to sudden sugar lows, and weakness in his legs until he takes some orange juice and peanut butter.

On a happier note, he maintains his annual family-Santa-Claus role, last year providing 75 gifts to his ten children, ten spouses, 20 grandchildren 23 great grandchildren and a few friends.  He rented a small hall in Milford where his family dined and received gifts.
As his wind and strength returns, he hopes to return to the chorus. In the meantime he is resting, doing a lot of reading, especially nonfiction. He just finished *American Sniper*.

**Executive Board Meeting, April 16, 2015**

Excerpts from Charlie Perry’s minutes

Members present were Pioch, Holm, Doig, DeNio, Perry, Domke, Mann, Domke, Owens and Teuber.

Treasurer’s Report: Available funds $13,236. Balance netted from show was $7,206. Balance netted from Valentines was $1366.

Moved to file 1099 for Tom Blue

VP Growth and Development: New member committee to be created to coordinate efforts to recruit new members. Clarkston News runs advertisements for free in Around Town section.

VP Music and Performance: Convention.

Guest quartets for Fall show to include INSTANT CLASSIC and Pioneer Youth Chorus(*The Voice*). Music Committee will decide on show music.

Old Business: Show ticket prices will remain the same as last year.

$16 General
$12 Group of 10 or more
$5 Children under 12

New Business: Jack will investigate details concerning joining North Oakland Chamber of Commerce.

Moved to consider changing chorus and chapter name.

Gene Downie appointed Chorus Manager.

Moved to reserve bus for Dead Creek Picnic.

**Executive Board Meeting, May 26, 2015.**

Excerpts from Charlie Perry’s minutes

Members present were Holm, Doig, Perry, Domke, Mann, Sturdy, Owens and Teuber.

 Moved to give $100 to Great Lakes Chorus, and $100 to Majestyx to help cover expenses for International.

Moved to give $100 per Milford High School student to register for Harmony Explosion.

**Thoughts**

There's a reason we were given two ears and one mouth, and they should be used in that proportion—listen louder than we sing.

John Elving

"When you want to build a ship, do not begin by gathering wood, cutting boards, and distributing work, but rather awaken within men the desire for the vast and endless sea."

Antoine de Saint Exupéry

**Letters**

Here's what can happen if you can "think big", and do a little pre-planning for the Jug Night! Host an inter-chapter Jug Night at Pontiac! Other chapters can include Grosse Pointe, Flint, Livingston Lamplighters, Motor City Metro, Monroe North, etc.

The Oakland County Parks & Rec hall (Activities Building) at 2800 Watkins Lake Road is large enough to seat them ALL!

CHUCKLES

Hi BCC and friends -

I’ve created a new video on the Jackson Chorale Facebook page: [http://tinyurl.com/odj53ka](http://tinyurl.com/odj53ka)

... our Chorale’s May 9 performance of the Battle Hymn of the Republic with a snippet of God Bless the U.S.A. as an intro.

Please forward this message to others as we honor those who died in the service of our country.

Greg

**CALENDAR.** (With Performance Times; Warm-ups 30’-45’ earlier)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 30, Sa</td>
<td>Great Lakes Harmony Brigade show, Okemos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 2, T</td>
<td>BCC Practice, WOAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 9, T</td>
<td>BCC Practice, WOAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 12, F</td>
<td>Windsor Send-Off</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 16, T</td>
<td>BCC Practice, WOAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 23, T</td>
<td>Flint’s Dead Creek Picnic (Bus at 5:30)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 27, Sa</td>
<td>Log Cabin Days, Waterford</td>
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CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

Director: Thomas Blue (248-814-9627)
Assistant Directors: Fred McFadyen, Mike Frye, & Bill Holmes
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: Charlie Perry
Treasurer: Jim Owens
Members at Large - Fred Pioch, Ray Sturdy, Jeff Doig, Walt DeNio
Chorus Manager: Gene Downie
Captain Sunshine: Bill Maxfield
Section Leaders: McFadyen, Stephenson, Cowlishaw, Moss
Music Team: Holm, Blue, Cowlishaw, Doig, Frye, McFadyen, Moss,
Murray, Prueter, Stephenson, Mazzara
Bulletin Editor: John Cowlishaw, (248-891-4498)