



Pontiac/Waterford Chapter
Meetings on Tuesdays: 7:30 to 10 PM

Bulletin #20, December 19, 2002

Another Fine Christmas Season!

From the frigid stage of the Waterford Tree Lighting ceremony to the acoustic ambience of Canterbury on the Lake --- in two and a half weeks we had sixteen choral singouts. Great work by Bruce Brede, Roger Holm, and Walt DeNio for arranging the gigs. Thanks to Chris Miller, Dick Johnson, and Bruce Collins for directing, and it was exciting to have so many Christmas season singers join us: Jim Sanders, Chris Elmore, Bruce Collins, Dave Monroe, Dean Nelson, Don Place, Greg Moss, Bill Muller, Richard Mazurek, Bill Schoen, Gayle Mohler.

In addition, this season, Four Wheel Drive sang at Hope Senior Apartments Nov 19, for the Junior League of Birmingham, Nov 20, at Eileen Marshall's Amateur night, Nov 21, and for Hilton Mortgage Company on Dec 19. B Natural sang at the Clarkston State Bank. And these two quartets combined to stroll the streets of Ortonville during their tree-lighting ceremonies on Dec. 7.

For Ray Wysocki's photos, see our web site, www.pontiacchapter.com.

AROUND THE PATCH

MEMBERSHIP (Now at 59)

New Member: Dan Atkinson

Renewals: Ron Clarke (2), Mike Keith (22), Marv Wilson (46)

Birthdays:

Dec – Mike Frye 23rd, Zaven Melkonian 26th, John Smith, 26th,
Jim Owens 28th

Jan – Len Barnes 3rd, Bob Marshall 10th, Dennis Robinson 25th

Barbershopper of the Month – November – Ron Clarke

Illnesses: Jeff Spires had heart catheterization Nov. 19. And his sister-in-law passed away in Louisiana.

Gene Downie's outstanding four-year presidency, in which membership tripled, ends as **Pete Mazzara** takes over. In addition, **Doc Mann** is the new VP for Chapter Development, **Art Carinci**, the new Chorus Manager, and **Chuck Murray** and **Zaven Melkonian** are new Members at Large. Thanks to outgoing Walt DeNio, Jeff Spires, Wally Plosky, and Pete Mazzara.

Report on our Website, by Yong McDowell

Over the last 12 months, our website has had an average rate of 40 hits and 33 files requested per day, according to the Webalizer, a software stat tracking program that runs on the host server where our Pontiac Chapter website resides. We have been visited by other countries as well, the most hits coming from Canada, Australia, Netherlands, Japan and Spain, in that order. But also hits from Argentina, Austria, Belize, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, New Zealand, Poland, Singapore, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, and United Kingdom. We have more hits right after the bulletin board is posted to the web site than at any other time. Every effort has been made to maintain the website with the latest activities. Web sites should be full of color and pictures. It really brightens the screen, and will capture the eye. Check it out at www.pontiacchapter.com.

Linda Liddicoat writes: Hi. I am very sorry I missed your show!!! I haven't opened up the pics yet but will do so asap. Dates confirmed for chorus quartet coaching: 1/7 2/4 3/4 4/1 and 4/15. I plan to attend the mens' contest in Lansing. Will be there Saturday morning to be with you and your chorus if you wish. Have a happy holiday season. Linda

Higgins Lake Chapter Singing Retreat

For those who were not able to attend our Nov. 26 meeting, and a reminder for those who did. We are planning a Singing Retreat for March 21, 22, & 23. From dinner on Friday the 21st, to lunch on Sunday the 23rd. The retreat will be held at the Ralph MacMullan Center on the North shore of Higgins Lake (about 2.5 hrs. from Waterford). The cost is \$130/person; however BCC members will only pay half at \$65/person; for two breakfasts, two lunches, two dinners, and two nights lodging in a dorm style accommodations. In order to justify the expense and coaching, we need at least 30 members to attend. The first night, about 26 guys signed up. We also will be asking for payment when and if we get 30 guys.

FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

Brian Dunckel, Pioneer District Vice President -Member Services, writes: "we will be holding a **Membership Summit** meeting prior to our COTS weekend. We are encouraging all chapters to be represented at it."

From Dan Bezaire: **Harmony Round-Up** will be one of the best ever. We are planning now for this event to be the premiere educational event of the year. It will be held, as usual, at MSU, May 16-19, 2003. The guest quartet will be 1996 Champions, Nightlife.

A Capella Blast will be May 16,17,18 this year, at MSU in conjunction with Harmony Round Up, organized by your ACB team: Bob Wisdom, Vicki Gibson, Ken Gibson, Dunc Wallace, and Dave Anderson. Seventy five young men and six teachers attended last year and in 2003 the team wants to have 100 youngsters and ten teachers there. "The only way that this can happen is with you folks lining up the attendees starting right now."

From Russ Seeley: Scanning of the Society web page revealed that Pioneer qualified two (2) quartets for the **International Seniors' Contest** this winter. New Wrinkle, who placed third in Pioneer's District Quartet contest, accumulated a substantial amount of points as a Senior contestant to be invited to compete along with our current Senior Champs, Antique Roadshow to compete in Albuquerque. This is a "first" for our District.

Tom Taylor, Quartet Promotion Chair in Huron Valley Harmonizers, willisrose@ameritech.net, is hosting a **QUARTET CONNECTION** at their rehearsal place: Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek, Ypsilanti, MI. (1/2 mi. north of Willis Rd.),(south of

Ypsi.), on Friday, Jan. 31, 2003, at 8:00 pm. The idea is to assemble as many men as possible from different voice parts, (especially Tenors) from various chapters that are within a reasonable distance, and who wish to find partners for a new quartet. **Fermata Nowhere** and Director Lynne Peirce, will be there to help match voices. This is NOT for those that are already in a quartet and want to come for coaching!!!

Did you catch the email that **Power Play** is looking to practice in your living room for Sunday weekly rehearsals. What an opportunity if you live near their geographical center (Plymouth area).

SPEBSQSA's Harmony Travel is proud to announce its updated web site is now online at www.harmony-travel.com. At this web site you'll find a comprehensive listing of tours being offered by SPEBSQSA Travel Partners throughout 2003. Several Harmony Travel tours feature quartets or other notable barbershop personalities who will host the tour. Currently there are several exciting packages to the Caribbean, Ireland, England, Germany, Russia, China, Scotland, Austria, Italy, Hawaii, and more.

Jim Coates of Springboro, OH writes that he is republishing Fred Gielow's book, "**Laughter, Love and a Barbershop Song**." "Many of the stories chronicled in this book are legendary, it's a wonderful documentary of the formative days of our Society, when the greats such as Lou Perry, Earl Moon, Buzz Haeger, Freddy King and Forry Haynes, to name just a few, were creating memories. There are so many great stories about quartets from the Midstates Four to BGSU, from the Buffalo Bills to the Boston Common - in all, more than 100 quartets, 45 chapters, and 250 individual barbershoppers are mentioned by name." Price is \$14.95. Contact him at jcl1357@hotmail.com.

Have you tried your hand at arranging? **The LOU PERRY HARMONY COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION IS NOW OPEN.** The adjudication panel for the 2003 Lou Perry Harmony College scholarships is Dennis Driscoll (chair), Mel Knight, and Burt Szabo. Each participant will receive a detailed review of his arrangement by one of these three. Entries must be received by March 14, 2003.

OLD SONGS LIBRARY SHEET MUSIC AVAILABLE ON LINE Public domain sheet music is now available to members in the Members Only Section of the Society website (www.spebsqsa.org). You'll find the Old Songs Library Online "Society Info & Services" in the Members Only menu. The music is free for viewing, or printing.

Approximately five new titles will be added per week, or as time permits.

Calendar, 2003

Jan 4-5	COTS, Okemos, MI
Jan 7	Rehearsal, 7:30, quartets with Linda ...at 6:30 & 7:00
Jan 9	January Board Meeting
Jan 19-26	Midwinter Convention, AlbuquerqueNM
Feb 4	Rehearsal, 7:30, quartets with Linda
Feb 22	Chorus Coaching Clinic, Lansing
Mar 4	Rehearsal, 7:30, quartets with Linda
Mar 21-3	Singing Retreat, Higgins Lk
Mar 28	Woodshed contest
Apr 1	Rehearsal, 7:30, quartets with Linda
Apr 15	Rehearsal, family night
April 25-27	District Convention – Lansing
May 16-17	Harmony Round-up, Mich. St. Univ.
Jun 29 – July 6	International Convention, Montreal

Chapter Executive Board

Officers

Chorus Director: Chris Miller ((248-960-5101))
President: Pete Mazzara (313-563-4026)
VP, Chapter Development: Doc Mann
VP, Music and Performance: John Smith
Secretary: Jeff Doig
Treasurer: Dick Johnson
Members at Large: Chuck Murray, Zaven Melkonian

Chairmen

Quartet Activity: Len Barnes
Service (Charity): Bruce Brede
Singing Valentine: Bob Marshall
Chorus Manager: Art Carinci
Music Librarian: Bill Holmes
Uniform Manager: Bill Auquier
Sunshine (Chaplain): Bill Dabbs
Bulletin Editor: John Cowlshaw