

BIG CHIEF CHORUS
SMOKE
SIGNALS



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

Vol. 7, No. 4, (#76)

August 1, 2007

2007 Summer Tour!

From the Detroit River to Goodrich, from White Lake to Clarkston, the Big Chief Chorus went on summer tour.

On Sunday, July 8, the Big Chief Chorus and FOUR WHEEL DRIVE entertained several hundred passengers on the **Detroit Princess**. Prez Zaven deserves kudos for being the point man in a difficult situation – in between the D.O.C. leadership who received the summer-long contract to provide barbershop entertainment on the cruises and who chose the choruses and quartets, and the Detroit Princess Cruise management – which was not very visible. What was visible was home-land security, or its representative who needed entertainers' names in advance, and then checked each guest onto the boat, making for a long waiting line in the 90° heat.

But inside it was cool. We had the 2nd deck (Greater Grace Temple had the 3rd deck), and the food was good, and the bar open, and the acoustics so poor that each of the three quartets (IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, ZANADU, and FOUR WHEEL DRIVE) could sing without interfering with the others.

The thirty members of the chorus sang a repertoire of fifteen songs under Tom's and Bill Holmes' direction. Although the sound didn't carry well to the back of the ballroom, those in the front half seemed to enjoy the music immensely.

Thanks also to Roger Holm and Bob Butcher for getting the risers back and forth.

On Tuesday, July 17, the weather cleared in time for a delightful outdoor chorus sing-out at the **White Lake Township Library**. With risers and amplification and a three-piece directorship, we fairly dazzled the audience of several hundred. The chorus sang fifteen songs, interspersed with six songs by FOUR WHEEL DRIVE. A little patter between the songs was appreciated too, as Blue, McFadyen, and Teuber spoke with grace and wit. Afterward, ice cream was provided by the Huron Valley Optimist Club.

David Allen lost his "choral virginity," (and Dan Burleigh at the next stop) as he sang publicly for the first time. ("... excellent!! Now I feel like I am part of our Barbershop group. I love performing and I had family members in the audience.")

On Friday, July 20, the chorus mounted the steps of the gazebo at **Clarkston's Depot Park** to perform to a crowd of seven hundred and seventy-five in the Clarkston Summer Concerts in the Park. Director Tom led the chorus thru a half hour program, and Freddie McFadyen arrived in time to join "THREE WHEEL DRIVE" in singing about their two favorite women, *Mary Lou* and *Nellie*.

To get some "northern exposure," the BCC traveled to **Goodrich** July 28 to sing for F.A.M.E's summer music in the village park, a gig that resulted from our Detroit Tiger performance last year. The chorus sang a package of fifteen songs, and another six were sung by **Three Wheel Drive** plus Freddie. Once again Jeff Doig set up the amplification system, (after a sunny location for the risers was finally chosen).

These four July audiences on our Summer Tour totaled 1362 with one still to go. (The Aug. 7 Michigan Senior Olympics gig has been replaced by a quartet gig.)

From Director Tom:

Men,

Thank you again for your commitment to the BCC. I appreciate all of your hard work, dedication and effort to continue to strive for excellent performances. You are getting so much more consistent with each performance. It is certainly my pleasure to conduct you and to work with quality people. I appreciate your

continual support and patience with me as I get "off the paper." I enjoy every minute of my time with you. I just want to lead you the best I can.

Many thanks to all of you for your willingness to just step in and help make the performances easier for all of us, from hauling risers, printing out song lists, carrying stands, organizing our events, checking on sound, director reminders, giving us pitches, greeting the audience, warm-ups, conducting and the overall "what can I do to help?" attitude. Thanks a bunch.

It is so comforting to know that I can focus on leading you through songs and finding ways to continue toward our goal of "unit sound" and good choral tone and intonation.

I have been so encouraged with the turnouts this summer and look forward to regular attendance this fall. It is nice to see new fellas at rehearsal. Continue to encourage and bring guys you know that might be interested (even to performances just to listen) as we really could have the potential to reach a lot of guys. Your singing, commitment, energy and enthusiasm for barbershop is contagious!

From the Prez:

Men & Your Chicks,

Mark your calendars!! Eileen Marshall has confirmed that she and Bob will gladly host our annual picnic at their lovely Sylvan Lake waterfront home on Friday, August 24th. This is always a great way for the BCC guys and BCChicks to enjoy time together and just have food, fun and fellowship. It'll be great!!

On another note, the Detroit Princess Company reported 190 tickets were sold for our performance. If we receive the promised \$6.00 per ticket, our treasury will grow by \$1140.00. Not bad for a Sunday afternoon's work. Once again, my heartfelt thanks to you all for making it happen.

The Senior Olympics singout has been cancelled as a chorus activity due to time constraints; we were only going to be allowed fifteen minutes by the scheduling party. Tom Blue and Jack Teuber felt that the chorus would be better served by holding a regular rehearsal that night. Since this was a payback event for Oakland County Parks and Rec., FOUR WHEEL DRIVE will provide the fifteen minute performance.

Zaven

AROUND THE PATCH

We are hard at work on our Fall Show – "Country Roads ... Take Me Home," one night only, November 3, 7:00 pm, at Waterford Mott High School. Following Dick Johnson's fine tradition, Ross Ensign has prepared ad packets and will prepare the show program. Tickets have been printed and distributed - \$15 (\$12 for children) – one-time price. Chorus is hard at work memorizing. Jeff Doig and Pete Mazzara are fine-tuning the script.

D.O.C. has invited BCC to a Fun Night August 21, at Jack Day's home, 1825 Vinton Rd, Royal Oak. The D.O.C. guys write: "D.O.C. will provide the beans and brats, as well as the beer and soda (pop for you Michigan people!!!) Pontiac-Waterford is responsible for bringing a good crowd of their members! We will have a 50/50 raffle. This is not a formal singing event, so we will have some gang singing, some quartet singing and some general fun."

Joe Poole visited us this month from the Harmony Exporters chorus in Beaumont, TX.

Jeff Doig is circulating a good quality \$50 digital recorder for members to try out before placing a group order.

Bruce Brede has been a very active section leader, having put out four electronic Lead sectionals in the last month. Frankly, I don't know how he has been able to be aware and then remember the nuances of the section's performance in each of our gigs. Good work, Bruce.

Jim Troeger, ex-BCC Director, ex-FOUR WHEEL DRIVE Lead, and present BCC member, is leaving the area for a job in the greater Orlando area. "It is a great opportunity for me to experience a different industry as I will be leaving the automotive industry and transitioning over to the Military & Space industry. Likewise, it is an opportunity to experience living in another part of the country and not have to worry about shoveling snow in the winter months. Thanks to all of you for your friendships and camaraderie during my time spent with the BCC and since."

Most recently Jim sang with FULL THROTTLE, who announced they are looking for a replacement.

Email address changes:

Bill Dabbs address to billdbari@att.net

Jim Troeger is troegerj@sbcglobal.net only. Delete his old work address.

QUARTET NEWS

FOUR WHEEL DRIVE had three singouts this past month. On Saturday, July 14, the quartet sang at the Troy Museum & Historic Village's fund-raiser **Motoring Memories**. "We were joined by Rocking Eddy's band, who generously shared their wonderful sound system. Rain threatened, but we were able to complete an hour from the gazebo."

The following Monday, the quartet sang at the prestigious **Pine Lake Country Club**. "The Maitre D' placed us around the periphery of the dining room to entertain the guests who were on an all-day golf-oriented fund-raiser for

the Wilson Cancer wing of Beaumont Hospital. We served well as entertaining wallpaper that was occasionally applauded or complimented.”

That evening, given Al Monroe’s overnight stay at Zaven’s in anticipation of the chorus’s Tuesday night gig, the quartet showed up at **D.O.C.’s weekly rehearsal**, at Starr Presbyterian Church in Clawson, where it sang a two-song set to delightful appreciation. “Zip-Ah-Dee-Doo-Dah” brought grins, since it is the next song to be learned by that chorus.

MEMBERSHIP (at 56)

August Birthdays: Mike Keith (5th), Jeff Doig (29th), and Terry Jamison (30th).

Kenosha is “down” so I can’t learn of new August birthdays or renewals this month.

Barbershopper of the Month – July – Jeff Doig, for his quartetting and quality work as our “techie.”

Medical: Lyle Howard will undergo carotid testing due to a recurrence of dizziness. Al Monroe’s son-in-law, Chris Phillips, suffered a serious injury to his eye last month from an accident with a potato gun. Hopes are guarded as to recovery of sight. Surgery is scheduled for September 12.

AROUND THE DISTRICT

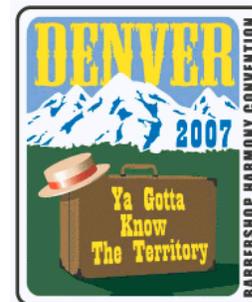
Erv Erickson reminds quartets that **Bush League** is August 24-26 this year (in Gaylord). Present to judge and coach will be Al Fisk, Mike O’Donnell and Fermata Nowhere. **FOUR WHEEL DRIVE** has decided **NOT** to compete this year, after having competed for four years, and finishing 3rd last year. It’s a great venue for new quartets though, such as the quartet with Terry Jamison (Tenor) and Chuck Murray (Bass) which has registered to go.

If you intend to purchase an **Entertainment book** this year, buy it from John Northey for \$20, as part of D.O.C.’s program.

The **Great Lakes Chorus** of Sweet Adelines International is holding a fundraiser with a performance at 2 p.m. Aug 5 at Fairlane Bowling, 29600 Stephenson Hwy. The goal is to replace \$12,000 in items stolen from the singers.

The new August/September issue of the Troubadour is online (and in color!). http://www.pioneerdistrict.org/troubadour/Master_Menu.htm
It includes Art Lane’s story on Pontiac winning both PROBE contests.

AROUND THE WORLD



WESTMINSTER TAKES THE GOLD IN THE INTERNATIONAL CHORUS COMPETITION

DENVER (July 6, from the news wire)...It went down to the wire, but the young **Westminster Chorus** out of Southern California squeaked by the more experienced Ambassadors of Harmony out of St. Charles, Mo., to break a tie for first place and win the international barbershop chorus competition tonight.

“Both choruses scored 2849 points out of a possible 3000, but according to contest rules, the group with the highest score in the singing category takes the gold—Westminster won by earning 11 points more than the Ambassadors in that category.

“Westminster, whose 63 members’ average age is 22, electrified the audience with precise singing and masterful choreography. It is believed that the chorus is the youngest in recent history to win the gold.”

A score of 2849 points is a very high 95.0%! Both choruses were far above the 3rd place chorus. Westminster almost beat out Vocal Majority last year. (Winners aren’t eligible for the next two years, so Vocal Majority was sitting it out this year.) They were also the group competing on “America’s Got Talent” this summer. (See story below.)

Macomb County’s Guardians of Harmony placed 28th with 78.4. Talking to our co-members, McFadyen, Murray, and Spires, they were pleased to have raised their score once again. Fred McFadyen reported on the International very enthusiastically at our next meeting.

The chorus competition results from Denver yesterday are available at: http://www.barbershop.org/web/groups/public/documents/graphics/pub_chorus_scoringsummary.pdf

In the quartet competition, Max Q won. (See story below.)

FERMATA NOWHERE was eliminated in the quarter-finals, with a score of 74.8, on their two songs – “I’ll Be Seeing You” and “Five Minutes More.” Frankly, your editor thought they sounded solid, maybe a little bit low-energy, and that they would be higher in the standings. It took an 80.0 to make the Semi-finals. Last year they scored 76.7. Tough competition out there!

WEBCAST

A dozen of us gathered at Cory Flatoff’s house for the Webcasted Quartet Finals, Saturday night, July 7. What a great time. Cory had set up two screens to maximize good viewing for us. Doc Mann brought six pizzas, all different types, chosen according to the thirteen separate and distinct requests made by the gatherers (“Pepperoni and pineapple for sure!!; anything but pepperoni or pineapple!! Etc.) – what a guy! Cory’s black lab, Jadey, tried to figure out what all the commotion was about. When the 500K feed locked up, Cory knew to switch to the 200K feed, with little loss of fidelity.

The contest to count Joe Connelly’s “awesomes” became a little tiring (the winning number was 48). But we heard some great singing. Specifically

- The winning College quartet. They were very good, up and coming if they stay together, but they all seem to be in more senior quartets too.
- The mega-chorus of competing college quartets.
- The audience of 9000 singing the national anthems of Canada and the USA.
- Winning chorus Westminster, singing their victory set. How can they sound so good while dazzling us with their choreography?
- Last year’s quartet winner, VOCAL SPECTRUM.
- The audience reaction to Jeff Oxley as Elvis.
- The ten quartet finalists. They were all so close that it was hard to sequence them, but there could be no complaints about the choice of MAX Q as winner – they were excellent, and funny too as their first song used Sinatra’s Here’s to the Losers to complain about their three Silvers in a row. They finally got their gold. I must confess to a past bias against them since they are largely a re-shuffling of past gold-medalists. But I’ve changed my tune. Many of the top quartets include past medalists from other quartets; that’s good enough to get them into the 80’s, but it takes something special to reach 93, and MAX Q had it.
- And from Iraq: “I thought I would give a “SHOUT OUT” and let everyone know that I’m REALLY enjoying the Webcast from my little trailer (“chu”) in Iraq (about 15 miles north of Baghdad). Needless to say, with us being 10 hrs ahead of Denver time, I’ve been up most of the night but what the heck; I don’t get much sleep over here anyway.

Obviously, I would rather be watching it in person with all of my BHS friends/family in Denver but this is almost like being there in person. A special thanks to Joe Connelly, Mike Maino & Rick Taylor for providing the contestants to introduce themselves and give us their perspectives from their side of the stage. I’m trying to figure out a way of setting up a big screen in my office at the Mayor Cell to invite all of the “troops” in to see what REAL entertainment is all about. Fraternally, Ken Custer, AFCAP Program Manager – Iraq”

Westminster Chorus won gold at Denver, but not on NBC’s “America’s Got Talent”

“When we saw how short our segment was that aired on our first appearance, we were certainly disappointed. We all wanted to see barbershop showcased on primetime TV. The second episode was taped in Las Vegas and was a five-day shoot. Just as the first time, we had no knowledge of how much or little we would appear on the show. Although we knew that we did not advance, our hopes were high that the producers would put the two songs we learned and choreographed on the show. To the 30+ members of the chorus who took time off of work and away from home to go represent us there (only to be left on the cutting room floor) a big thanks for representing us well the whole week. Here’s hoping we can keep exposing the masses to barbershop and letting the world know that barbershop is alive and well!”

The Westminster Chorus
2007 International Chorus Champions

MEET OUR NEW INTERNATIONAL QUARTET CHAMPS

“After placing second three years in a row, MAX Q (Greg Clancy, Tony De Rosa, Gary Lewis and Jeff Oxley) finally reached the end of the journey and were crowned 2007 International Quartet Champs. The boys won the championship with the second highest score and by the second highest margin of victory ever.

“MAX Q first sang together in 2002 during the Portland Int’l convention. Tony, Jeff, and Greg had toyed with the idea of singing together, and Tony suggested Gary as a potential bari. After matching socks, they needed a name and offered a prize to anyone on the Harmonet who could find the best one.

“They were hindered by distances (two in Dallas, one in Florida and one in Ohio) but they managed to learn their music via weekends together and learning CDs, and rehearsed as often as possible. Their first full shows were for the Tampa Heralds of Harmony in June of 2003, the Harmony Foundation Show in Montreal, Canada, and the Buckeye Invitational in August of 2003.

“They now own 29 medals.

Greg Clancy (son of VM director Jim Clancy): 11 chorus gold with VM (1975 - 2006) - One Quartet Gold - MAX Q (2007).
Tony De Rosa: - Three Quartet Gold - MAX Q (2007), PLATINUM (2000), KEEPSAKE (1992).
Gary Lewis - THE REAL DEAL - College Quartet Champion (tenor) 1994 - Two Quartet Gold - MAX Q (2007), PLATINUM (2000).
Jeff Oxley - Director Masters of Harmony 1999 - Seven Chorus Gold with VM - Three Quartet Gold - MAX Q (2007), ACOUSTIX (1990), RAPSCALLIONS (1984).”

From: www.aicgold.com Association of International Champions

Our new silver medalists **OC TIMES** (and gold-medal members of Westminster Chorus) were featured in an article in the **Los Angeles Times**, July 12, as having flouted tradition by choosing for their two-song finale “Surfer Girl” and “Fun, Fun, Fun” by the Beach Boys.

“But the funny thing is, (Lead Sean) Devine says, the quartet reveres the history of barbershop singing and knows all the “polecats,” the name given to vintage barbershop stuff. The only revolution the group wants to lead is one that will keep barbershop singing alive. So, they figure, why not a couple Beach Boys tunes for the finals? Last year, they chose songs by the Drifters and Paul Anka. The year before that, they sang two Elvis Presley songs for their final round. ‘This is unheard of, at this point, for barbershop singers,’ Devine says. ‘It continues a trend of the last five to ten years,’ he says, where instead of songs from 1930 and before dominating any quartet’s playlist, ‘songs are now being taken from anywhere.’

“Devine, who’s 31, thinks the barbershop world will go with the flow. If only for actuarial reasons. ‘The Society has, literally, been dying,’ he says, ‘with members getting older and passing away.’ A spokeswoman for the Barbershop Harmony Society says that 29% of its members are 65 or older. ‘Only 13% are younger than 34,’ says spokeswoman Julie Siepler.

“Far from pariahs,’ she says, ‘groups like OC TIMES are celebrated as the future of barbershop.’ Some Society members, she concedes, probably worry that it, much like other organizations formed decades ago and replete with older members, might slowly fade from view.

“But the art form itself? ‘I don’t think it’ll ever disappear,’ Siepler says. ‘It truly is a part of the continuum of American music history. It precedes jazz. It shares the same roots in the African American communities with jazz and gospel.’

“Exactly,’ Devine says. ‘I’m a barbershopper first,’ he says. He loves the close harmonies of barbershop singing and what’s known as ‘the ringing of the chords’ when a quartet is cooking. ‘Complete agreement and locking in,’ he says.

Not surprisingly, not everyone in the 30,000-member society appreciates movement away from standard barbershop singing. But Devine says many older singers appreciate that a youth movement is emerging.

“We are very respectful,’ Devine says. ‘We are not trying to mess with the history. We know all the old songs. We’re grounded. We know our roots, we know the music, the chords. We’re not trying to take it somewhere else. All we’re trying to do is appeal to a wider audience.’

Writer Dana Parsons concludes: “It’s nice to know four guys in their 20s and 30s living in Southern California in 2007 can connect the dots between themselves and black America and small-town America from 75 years ago, when people did congregate at the barbershop and sing. It makes our world of disharmony seem a little less so.

MEET FRED DEVRIES



Fred was born in 1942 in part of Royal Oak Township that later became Madison Heights. His dad worked in grounds maintenance at the G.M. Tech Center. Fred was the 2nd of four children. He attended Madison Heights High School where he played football for three years as offensive right tackle. He avoided the choir because it was so bad, but he did agree to sing in the *Wizard of Oz* as the Scarecrow, singing, “I could while away the hours, Conferrin’ with the flowers, Consultin’ with the rain... If I only had a brain.” He received a music medal at graduation.

He entered Oakland University in its 2nd year of existence, but only remained for two years. After doing construction work for awhile, he was drafted into the army, but after a few months the Army agreed that softball injuries to his knees

made him unfit for soldiering. He remembers that he got out on Kentucky Derby weekend, 1964.

He began working at Chrysler, and soon entered apprenticeship as a tool maker, which was his trade until he retired in 2002.

As a child Fred attended Clawson Church of Christ, where he developed his love of singing. In the congregation were many southerners who loved to sing, and singing at Family Fun Nights was a big part of the church's life. This included a cappella singing, gospel quartets, pickup vocal groups, and the use of shaped notes in the music (in which each note is given a shape instead of a number; for example, the root of a key, doh, is represented by a triangle rather than by the number one.) For his folks' 50th wedding anniversary Fred and three other members organized a quartet. Interestingly, three of the four are now in the Barbershop Harmony Society, including one in Macomb's chorus and one in Tennessee, as recently pictured in the Harmonizer. At this church he met Ben Jamison before Terry was even born. Ben and Fred's father started a new congregation in Warren, Parkview Church of Christ, where he met and married Jeannette.

Fred saw a Big Chief show some years ago. Jeannette was working as an Executive Assistant with one of our ex-members, Chris Elmore, who invited Fred to come sing with us four years ago.

During a visit to Missouri three years ago, Fred suffered a stroke that left him with some void spots in his visual field, and when he is tired, it is hard to maintain pitch. He learned that this was a consequence of diabetes which he is now controlling.

Underneath Fred's quiet demeanor is a bashfulness, and he felt quite anxious during his first chorus performance. Now, singing in the chorus is comfortable, but quartetting is still a bit tough, despite the favorable response he has received from chorus members when he has sung in Local Color. He was in the original LOCAL COLOR I, (w. Doc Mann, Walt DeNio, Tom Ford) three years ago, and sang Valentines outings this past February with the latest incarnation of LOCAL COLOR.

Fred and Jeannette now attend the Royal Oak Church of Christ, where he still sings gospel songs in pickup quartets, and where he re-met Terry Jamison and invited him to our chorus.

Fred and Jeannette have four children – Carol, Shirley, Gerald, and Charles.

In 1999, Gerald married Valerie, a Malaysian woman, in a Chinese ceremony in Kuala Lumpur. This gave Fred and Jeannette the opportunity to travel extensively in Malaysia and Singapore.

Fred and Jeannette moved to Lake Orion eleven years ago, where Fred cares for the lawn and flowers, but hasn't gotten into scroll sawing like he had imagined he would. Instead, nowadays, the two spend much time babysitting with their 3- and 5-year old grandchildren, Joshua and Jenna. (They also have a 22-yr-old grandson, Ryan.)

Jeannette is a William Beaumont Hospice volunteer where she creates the design and layout of their quarterly newsletter and for which she won Administrative Assistant Volunteer of the year.

VOCAL TECHNIQUES

Selected Vocal Warm-up Exercises, Continued

1. **Belt breathing.** With feet planted, and knees soft, breathe “out” against your belt. (Of course, the breath is “inward,” but the intentionality is to move the belt out, so that the breath comes in automatically, without having to think about puffing up your chest.) After a few outs and ins, try to keep the belt out, as if to keep your pants from falling down, as you press with your upper abdomen to force the air out with a gentle “shush.” This leads nicely into Zhoom-bubble.
2. **Jay Giallombardo's vocal warmup exercise** (Lyrics by Cowlshaw).

Intro

Tenor Lead

Bari Bass

Woo each girl with grace - ful love.

Past Vocal Warm-up Exercises:

In Jan, #69

3. **Four-square Breathing**
4. **Zhoom-bubble**

In Feb, #70

5. **Yah-tongue**
6. **Ornery ogre**

Sound and Music (the 16th in a series by Bruce Brede)

Why Not Eat Before A Gig?

The answer is that your food causes your body to reduce the production of orexins, a class of proteins that are believed to keep us alert.

Since 2003, orexin-producing nerve cells have been known to be affected by glucose levels but it wasn't known to what extent those levels, and the subsequent suppression of orexins, interfere with alertness. Researchers at the University of Manchester in England reported that even a small increase in blood glucose level significantly lowers the orexin-mediated nerve cell activity in the brain, causing sleepiness. Just think of what ice cream, cake and a candy bar might do...remember how we used to take these things for a shot of energy?

That explains why I can't remember the new ending to "In the Still of the Night!"

The Masters of Harmony have posted a multi-part Vocal Education series on their web site at:

http://www.mastersofharmony.org/vocal_education_series/?PHPSESSID=dec1baafd8 Masters of Harmony was the 2005 International Chorus Champion, under the direction of Mark Hale.

Tom Blue arrived at rehearsal July 24 from a state choral directors' convention, full of enthusiasm about Timothy Seelig, Director emeritus of the Turtle Creek Chorale in Texas, who led the training. This organization is very impressive, as can be seen at its website, <http://www.turtlecreek.org/> It just concluded its 27th season, performing annually to live audiences in excess of 50,000. All members of the Chorale (over 200) are dues paying volunteers who donate over 100,000 hours to rehearsals, service projects and as many as 50 benefit performances annually.

Tom would like to connect the Big Chief Chorus to the state choral directors next summer along the lines of: "What a choir director has learned from BBS, and What a BBSer can learn from choir directors."

Editor's trivial note: There is a homestead on Cooley Lake Road near Lochaven named Turtle Creek Ranch.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: Excerpts from Bill Holmes' minutes, July 11, 2007

Zaven led the meeting at Dar Johnson's. Also present: Dave Myre, Jack Teuber, Wayne Cheyne and Bill Holmes.

Previous minutes approved as distributed. The secretary reported that "Aura Lee" is contestable. Roger Holm is exploring whether an contestable arrangement of "Home on the Range" can be found.

The treasurer's report prepared by Dick Johnson showed a current balance of \$16,989.

Wayne noted recent rehearsal attendances of 37 and 34. Guest Night will be September 18, 2007. Wayne will talk to Doc Mann regarding a recruitment plan.

Jack submitted a list of singing events, noting when risers are needed and whether a sound system is needed. It was remarked that Jack does an outstanding job securing sing-outs and the men do an outstanding job making every effort to attend the sing-outs.

Policy approved that any member who has secured a digital recorder which cost \$49 or more will receive the same \$20 rebate offered to the members who sign up to receive one through Jeff Doig's program.

Discussion of summer picnic.

BSOM: Jeff Doig was selected for his significant contribution to the chorus: setting up sound systems, singing in Four Wheel Drive adding much to our sing-outs. He is also our electronics specialist.

Correction:

"The past international champion quartet from your interview with Jeff Spires is "Yesteryear" no "s" on the end of the name." Jim Troeger

All articles and photos are by the editor unless indicated otherwise.

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

Director: Thomas Blue (248-814-9627)

Assistant Directors: Dick Johnson, Fred McFadyen, Lyle Howard, & Bill Holmes

President: Zaven Melkonian (248-698-1144)

Past President: Pete Mazzara

VP: Chapter Dev: Wayne Cheyne

VP: Music and Performance: Roger Holm

VP: Marketing & PR: Jack Teuber

Secretary: Bill Holmes

Treasurer: Dick Johnson

Members at Large – Ron Clarke, Dar Johnson, Dave Myre, Gil Schreiner

Chorus Manager: Dave Myre

Music Team: Holm, Johnson, Doig, Ensign, McFadyen, Melkonian, Murray, Prueter

CALENDAR Times are performance times; Class C=Yellow Shirt+Black pants

Jul 31, T, 7pm	Chorus rehearsal @ Waterford Oaks 'Lookout Lodge'
Aug 4, Sa	Tony DeRosa coaches Spirit of Detroit
Aug 7, T, 7pm	Chorus rehearsal @ Waterford Oaks 'Lookout Lodge' (Snr Olympics singout cancelled)
Aug 8, W	Exec. Bd Mtg, 7pm @ Ron Clarke's home
Aug 9, Th, 7pm	Oxford Centennial Park (with Sweet Ads Chorus), Class C
Aug 14, T, 7pm	Chorus rehearsal @ Waterford Oaks 'Lookout Lodge'
Aug 21, T	DOC hosts BCC at Fun Night @ Jack Day's home in R.O.
Aug 24, F, 6pm	Picnic Bob and Eileen Marshalls, on Sylvan Lake
Aug 28, T, 7pm	Chorus rehearsal @ Waterford Oaks 'Lookout Lodge'
Sep 4, T, 7pm	Chorus rehearsal. Return to Crary.
Sep 11, T, 7pm	Chorus rehearsal, Crary
Sep 12, W	Exec. Bd Mtg, 7pm @ Wayne Cheyne's home
Sep 18, T, 7pm	Guest Night, Chorus rehearsal, Crary
Oct 9, T, 1pm	Greater PTK Tues. Musicale, Central Methodist Church
Oct 14, 2pm	Orion Township Library
Oct 26-28	District Convention, Kalamazoo
Nov 3, Sa, 7pm	BCC 63 rd Annual Show