



**BIG CHIEF CHORUS**  
**SMOKE**  
**SIGNALS**



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

**Vol. 5, No. 7, (#55)**

**November 1, 2005**

DOO WOP IS BACK! The Big Chief Chorus presents its 61<sup>st</sup> annual harmony show – JUKE BOX CLASSICS. Featured guest will be THREE MEN AND A TENOR, voted Michigan's highest-rated touring group. November 5, 2005. 7:30 PM, at the Clarkston High School Performing Arts Auditorium, 6093 Flemings Lake Rd.

It's crunch time now as we rehearse "Goodnight Sweetheart, Goodnight," "Hello Mary Lou," "In My Room," "In The Still Of The Night," "Something," and "Under The Boardwalk," as well as quartet and ensemble songs. Our Directorial staff is energized. Once again, Ron Clark has come through with costuming – great job on the Record Labels. And we're all waiting to get our first glimpse of Gene Downey's Juke Box.

**AROUND THE PATCH**

**Elections** for the 2006 Board were conducted Tuesday, October 18. Congratulations to the Board, elected by acclamation:

President	Zaven Melkonian
VP Chapter Development	Wayne Chene
VP Music & Performance	Roger Holm

VP Marketing & Public Relations	Jack Teuber
Secretary	Bill Holmes
Treasurer	Dick Johnson
Member at Large	Ron Clarke
Member at Large	Bruce Brede

Our heartfelt thanks to Pete Mazzara who leaves the Presidency after three successful years. And we welcome Zaven as our new President. May we all give him our full support. We also welcome Bruce to the Board who replaces Zaven as Member at Large.

**Freddie McFadyen** handed Dave Anderson a check for \$150 for the Pioneer Youth Fund to be used to help send more high-school-age young men to Harmony Happening '06. This money was from the golfers up at Harrisville that participated in the Thursday golf outing at Springport Golf Club. Fred is the driving force and organizer of this fun event.

Eileen Marshall is looking for **ushers** for the Sweet Adelines show on November 19 at 7 p.m. at the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center. Spirit of Detroit is providing eight ushers for our show, and they'd like the return of favor. The Alliance Men's Chorus is performing, as is Director LeAnn Hazlett's quartet, **Spotlight**, which won first place at International last month in Detroit. "So you'd get to see and hear them too, along with us; we're not chopped liver, either. Please check with your social secretary and get back with me. If your ladies would like to work with you, that would be great, too."

The **Big Chief Chicks** gathered for lunch at the Henry Ford Estate, October 20.

**Jim Troeger** has recently added numerous changes to our **website**. Check out the new selections added to the drop-down menu bar at the top of each page. These additions include changes in the menu for the "About Us" button, the "Our Annual Show" button and the "Smoke Signals" button. The addition of old copies of Smoke Signals to the website was the impetus for beginning a new game, called...

**...Big Chief Jeopardy**

Answer: He bought and managed a motel in Duluth after his career flying helicopters ended.

Answer: He became Director of the Enforcement Bureau of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights.

Answer: His record for consecutive shutouts led to his being drafted by the Blackhawks and Rangers.

(The questions can be found in back-issues #15, #22, and #31.)

**QUARTET/ENSEMBLE NEWS**

B Natural sang at the reception for the marriage of Cindy Shantz (Dave Shantz's youngest daughter) and Gregg Walker, on Friday evening, September 30. Dave arranged to sub for Dick Johnson on their rendition of "Let Me Call You Sweetheart."

On Sunday, October 9th, our Celebration Barbershop Quartet (Dabbs, Moss, Teuber, Brede) made a return visit to Betty in Troy. One of our Chapter quartets sang to her last Valentines Day and now Celebration returned for her 84th Birthday with her family and close friends. They sang a 20 minute set including, of course, "Happy Birthday Betty" and "Honey Lil' Betty." Her great grandson, about 3 years old, clutched a stuffed kitty toy while the guys sang (what else but) "Kitty, Kitty," the favorite of all. (Editor's note: Yah, right!?) After that, he and his stuffed Kitty joined the quartet in the "Irish Parting Prayer." How many in your quartet? We were invited back for Betty's 85<sup>th</sup> birthday in October 2006.

On Friday morning, October 28<sup>th</sup> a makeshift BCC quartet was called into service. Three Men and a Teuber delivered a surprise Birthday Greeting to Linda Sanchez at her workplace in Royal Oak. Her husband, a Church Street singer, remembered the BCC from last Valentine's Day. The world famous TM & T are comprised of Bass Bob Brain, Bari Bob Marshall, Lead Bruce Brede, and, of course, Jack Teuber on Tenor.

A septet composed of B Natural and a truncated Four Wheel Drive performed Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup> at Covert Center, with the Waterford New Horizons Concert Band.

## MEMBERSHIP (at 61)

**New Members:** Andrew Lesnew, Thomas Newman. Welcome, Andy and Tom!

**Renewals:** Jim Troeger (17 years), Bruce LaMarte (34 years).

**November Birthdays:** Dave Bartilson (4<sup>th</sup>), Ron Clarke (8<sup>th</sup>), Doc Mann (13<sup>th</sup>), Gil Schreiner (18<sup>th</sup>), Marv Wilson (19<sup>th</sup>), Graham Frye (20<sup>th</sup>), Jerry Howington (23<sup>rd</sup>), Fred McFadyen (24<sup>th</sup>), Lew Mahacek (25<sup>th</sup>)

**Barbershopper of the Month, October:** Walt DeNio, for his continued interest and dedication, as evidenced, once again, by his success at selling program ads.

**Ill:** Bob Legato's mom, who is 97, is under care of Hospice. John Northey's wife, Sandy, broke her arm.

**Missing:** Bert Cederleaf – we haven't seen you in a year.

## AROUND THE DISTRICT

**Canada Night** is Friday, November 4th, at St Aidan's in Livonia. Detroit-Oakland Chapter is the host. St. Aidan's parish hall is at 17500 Farmington Rd (between 6 & 7 Mile Roads) in Livonia. \$9 admittance includes food and soft drinks. There is a mini-chorus contest (10-16 people per mini-chorus). Doors open at 7:30, food served at 8:15, followed by singing. Stag.

**The four people you'll meet on the Mitch Albom show.**

As a consequence of the cooperative publicity and advertising campaign by several Detroit area chapters for the "U Can Sing Too" campaign, **Power Play, 2003 international quartet champions, will perform on the Mitch Albom**

**Show** on WJR, 760-AM, Friday, November 11, from 3-6pm. Albom is a sportswriter and author of *Tuesdays with Morrie* and *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*, and host of the radio show, broadcast across the country.

**Macomb's Fall show** is November 12. The show is called MEN AT WORK and will be loaded down with gold – performances by Power Play, The Buzz, and Vocal Spectrum, plus Novelty Shop. Macomb's two competing chapter quartets, Bush League champion Border Crossing and Singing With Dad will also have a chance to entertain. Tickets are \$20 for the evening show at 7:30 and \$17 for the afternoon matinee at 1:30. At the new Sterling Center for the Performing Arts located on 15 Mile Road between Schoenherr and Dodge Park.

**Carol Cook** has resigned as director of the **Huron Valley chorus**.

## AROUND THE WORLD

Ex-BCC-er **Wally Plosky** writes that his new chorus, the First Coast Metropolitans from Jacksonville in the Sunshine District won the right to represent the Sunshine District at international, ending the Tampa Heralds of Harmony consecutive string of many years. With only twenty-nine guys on stage, they scored 80.2%. Thus, Wally will be going to International in July with his third chorus from as many districts, (Big Chicken, and Macomb Harmony Heritage being the other two).

The Barbershop Harmony Society reports that we've had another successful month. The **September membership** was: 30,255. Considering July membership was 29,024 and August membership was 29,737, we have grown over 4% in the last two months!

## MEET IRWIN "DOC" MANN

Doc was born in Chicago in 1940 and grew up in Joliet, IL. He was a very active youth. He played in the Little League World Series in Williamsport, PA. He acted - his school competing and winning the state title for William Saroyan's "Subway Circus." He played baseball and edited the sports section of the school paper. But a serious toboggan accident in his senior year crushed his femur and hospitalized him for four months.

He graduated with his Doctorate in Podiatric Medicine in 1964, did a surgical residency in biomechanics and sports medicine, and returned to Joliet to establish his private practice. He became active in the community – doing monthly shows on Chicago-area talk radio and TV – and in professional podiatry – holding a number of offices. He loved to teach and was on the national lecture circuit.

In 1975 he moved to Michigan to become the residency director and clinical director of Kern Hospital in Warren. He became chairman of the Council of Teaching Hospitals, a member of the National Board of Podiatry Examiners, and a board member of the Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine. This led

to his appointment as Associate Professor and Clinical Instructor of Podiatric Medicine at the Osteopathic University in Des Moines, IA.

In 1984 he returned to private practice in Lake Orion, but in 1991 he became arthritic, leading to his retirement in 2000.

Doc and his wife raised three daughters, all of whom became teachers, and he has six grandchildren.



Doc at picnic, Aug. 19, Tom Ford's

Along the way, Doc has squeezed in many hobbies. In 1971 he became a pilot. He flew a Beech Musketeer 150, a Cessna 172, and his beloved M model Bonanza. When he moved to Michigan and bought a lakefront home, he exchanged his flying hobby for boating (a paddle boat, canoe, sail boat, pontoon boat, and ski boat). He became an avid power walker and loved racquetball and golf. He bought thoroughbred horses that the family rode.

Following a divorce in 1995 and his retirement, he was looking for a less physical hobby. One day, while showering, he heard the walls say, "Why don't you take that awful singing somewhere else?" A friend suggested barbershop. That brought back memories of his father who was a pianist with his own band. So he attended the Big Chief Chorus in 2000 and joined. Within a week, he was at Windsor Send-off night. Doc planned to become a tenor to increase his chances of quarteting, but after working with him for a whole morning in Florida, John "Smitty" Smith put his arm around Doc and said, "What's important in a quartet is a great lead. I suggest you work on that, 'cause you can't sing harmony worth squat." He has done just that, inspired by Smitty and Len Barnes, and

other good Leads. Two years ago, Doc formed his first quartet, Local Color (Fred DeVries, Walt DeNio, Tom Ford), which became the first quartet certified in all the polecats.

Doc has also served as Chapter Vice-president, and briefly as interim President.

### **Pioneer District Fall Convention - Macomb and Party of Four take Gold**

Ten choruses and nine quartets competed October 15 at Battle Creek.

Congratulations to the winning Macomb Country Harmony Heritage Chorus, and to our dual members – Mike Keith, Tom Ford, Freddie McFadyen, Chuck Murray, Dave Shantz, Jeff Spires, and Tom Blackstone. They scored 74.4%

D.O.C. finished 2<sup>nd</sup> with 68.5%. Congrats to Zaven Melkonian, Marv Wilson, and Jeff Spires. Zaven points out: "One of our members, Harold Pashby, who sang in the top-three-finishing choruses, has now finished 1,2,3 two years in a row. At our dinner Saturday evening he lamented the fact that since Macomb will be ineligible to compete for *District Competition* until 2007, he'll have to find another chorus to keep his record intact."

Paul Howe's October 25<sup>th</sup> **Woodshedder Weekly** e-bulletin included the following details:

"Macomb Chapter again won the right to represent Pioneer District at the 2006 International Convention with a solid performance and an overall score of 893 points. Meanwhile, Party of Four nosed out Fermata Nowhere by just 2 points, and a two-day total of 1758 points. Fermata Nowhere had led the quartet competition at the end of the first round, but had some problems with their second song during the finals competition to slip into second place."

And Tom Uicker's D.O.C. e-bulletin added:

"The new District Champion Quartet is **Party of Four** from Battle Creek, Motor City Metro, & Frank Thorne Chapters, with Toby Shaver (lead), Wally Krause Jr. (bass), Kevin Morey (tenor) and Mark Spear (baritone). **Fermata Nowhere** placed second, and **Antiques Roadshow** took third. **Antiques Roadshow** qualified as our Senior International Rep's next January. Next spring's contests will be at the Radisson in Kalamazoo on April 28-30. Note: If you do want to attend the spring convention, you should send in hotel reservations right away. College Graduation will be the same weekend, and hotel rooms will fill up fast. Forms can be printed from the district web site: <http://www.harmonize.com/pioneer/pio.htm>"

Can anyone doubt Party of Four's excitement and graciousness, in this week's Pionet entry?

"To all our friends in the Pioneer District:

"Wow!! What a weekend! We can't tell you what a thrill it was to hear our name called Saturday night as District Champions. It's almost a week later and we still haven't "landed."

“Party of Four would like to express our most sincere thanks to the awesome people of this district. The love and support that you have shown us over the years has been a constant motivation for us to continue to improve.

“We feel so honored to have the opportunity to represent Pioneer as your Champs in this coming year. We hope that we can do so with the same class and dedication as your 2004 Champs, Wildcard. We're looking forward to seeing you all at your chapter meetings, shows and district events.

“Toby Shaver (for Kevin, Wally and Mark), Party of Four, 2005 Pioneer District Quartet Champion (man, that sounds good!)”

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING October 12, 2005 Excerpts from Bill Holmes, Secretary**

Present: President, Pete Mazzara, Dick Johnson, Zaven Melkonian, Roger Holm, Wayne Cheyne, Jack Teuber, Ron Clark, Jeff Doig and Bill Holmes.

Dick Johnson's treasurer's report: current balance is \$20,433.63. At this time, Dick Johnson does not believe the chapter should secure its own credit card.

Dick Johnson has declined to accept the standard \$25 remuneration per rehearsal; therefore the Board awarded him two tickets to the Induction Dinner.

The treasurer will forward to Roger Holm the check for the Clarkston High School for use of its facility totaling \$2,942.50.

Wayne Cheyne reported the chapter's membership has reached 60 members. The Board approved Andy Lesnew's application for membership, and Thomas Newman's application is pending (Ed's note: and now completed, lifting us to 61) Wayne has routinely sent e-mail to our guests.

Questions arose regarding the “patch” on the class B uniform. Members may sew the patch on their blue blazer if desired, or secure double-stick tape from Ron Clark. In any event contact Ron to determine the positioning of the patch on the blazer.

Members desiring a new-style nametag should remit \$5 to Dick Johnson.

Jack Teuber (Public Relations) expressed great pleasure at our sing-out at Musicale. He distributed a “performance sheet” to the board that listed our performances for the year.

Jeff Doig discussed the fall show.

Website: Jeff submitted a written report to the board. Jeff and his son, Brian, will be in charge of the chapter's website. Those in leadership positions, chairmen, and board members must forward the proper information (in writing) in a timely fashion to Jeff and Brian as well as to John Cowlshaw when appropriate. These individuals should also proofread the website in their areas of responsibility.

Zaven Melkonian reported on Election of Officers.

OFFICER INDUCTION AND AWARDS DINNER: Nov. 18, 7:00pm at the Pontiac Country Club. Efforts are being made to secure Russ Seeley and his quartet for the evening. \$25/person, \$50/couple. Buffet with three entrees.

SINGING RETREAT: Pete received a letter from the facility noting that they will keep the date open if we return the signed contract, and we could send the deposit of \$500 when we receive it. This deposit is not refundable. The board agreed to hold the contract, visit the issue again in 2006, and inform the members of the facts of the case.

WOODSHED CONTEST: Efforts will be made to search for past award winners.

VALENTINE SINGOUTS: Pete requested Ross Ensign to chair this effort since he did such a terrific job last year. He and Wayne Cheyne made quite a team. Ross is considering it.

2005 GOALS AND MISSION: Pete reviewed the goals the chapter set for this year. The conclusion is that we have adhered to the vision and the mission.

1. We were to Improve Chorus Singing by:

Develop & Execute an Effective Music Team Plan (Roger Holm).

Roger had a very effective music team. This is an A+ effort.

Increase Quartet Development (Bruce Brede). Bruce did a fine job working under limitations not of his making. He was successful in getting many to sing in various tag-quartets, quartets and groups such as the ensemble. More time at rehearsals will be allotted for this activity in the future.

Increase Outside Coaching (Jim Troeger). We had some outside coaching.

Chorus singing was helped by some of the warm-up exercises such as bubbling.

2. Increase Community Relations & Awareness (Jack Teuber). This has been an A+ effort under Jack's leadership with the help of the members.

3. Increase membership to at least 60 (Wayne Cheyne). This has been an A+ effort under Wayne's leadership. We are currently at 60 members.

4. Have a Fall Show (Executive Board). Show is ready for 11-05-05.

5. Work with Youth in Schools (Ron Clark). We have not had a chance to develop this effort as we would like.

Pete believes the overall effort would receive a B.

BSOM: Walt DeNio has been selected as BSOM. His continued interest and support of the chapter. His having arranged for seventeen advertisements and still looking for others are just a few examples of his commitment and service to the chorus.

The retreat and the show venue will be reviewed at next year's board meetings.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Nov. 9, 2005. Roger Holm will choose a place for the meeting which will include the current board members, new board

members, John Cowlshaw (Smoke Signals), the music team, the assistant directors: Lyle Howard and Fred McFadyen.

NO DECEMBER BOARD MEETING.

### Singing Legal Music

#### **Get some insight into copyright procedures.**

Singing Legal Music

*By John Schneider, Society Legal Counsel & Joe Liles, Publications Editor*

For far too long, the Society has not enforced the requirement that choruses and quartets sing only legal music in our contests. Because of the potential liability for songs that we want to/have put on CDs and now DVDs, we can no longer put ourselves in an exposed position.

Therefore, effective immediately, we expect that all quartets and choruses will sing only cleared, legal music in all contests. We will expect that all choruses and quartets will completely fill out all the required contest entry forms in a timely manner and that they will have performed the required steps to make sure that all their songs are legal and that they have legal permission to sing every one of those songs.

Regarding enforcement- if it is determined prior to a contest that a song on their entry form is not legal and that they are planning on singing that song, they will not be allowed to perform. If it is determined after a contest that they have performed illegal music, they will be disqualified and will lose their placement and medal, where appropriate.

We ask that the CJ-20 form, paragraph 5, which says, "We certify that we have complied with the copyright law in the acquisition and learning of our contest songs/arrangements. We understand that ineligibility will be the consequence for violation of this statement" be bolded on the form for purposes of emphasis.

Making this announcement now will give choruses and quartets sufficient notice of the enforcement aspects of this policy. If a song has been purchased from the published or unpublished catalog of the Society, it is legal. If obtained from any other source, it is the responsibility of the chorus and/or quartet to contact the arranger to determine if clearance has been given for the use of that music. If there is still a question after contacting the arranger, the chorus or quartet should contact the Society office for further assistance.

We ask that you publish this information far and wide. We will do the same. It is important to note that this is not just another empty gesture (you know, another warning that is never enforced). All it takes is one lawsuit to cause the Society much grief. We cannot allow that to happen. Maybe we've been lucky so far but we cannot depend on that good fortune continuing.

### **A Few Facts Concerning Copyright Issues:**

- Songs and arrangements written before 1923 are in public domain (no longer protected by copyright). 1923 songs become public domain in 2018.
- Songs and arrangements written from 1923 thru 1978 are protected for 95 years from their year of creation. Arrangements of those songs are the property of the owner of the song, not the arranger.
- Songs and arrangements written since 1978 are protected for the lifetime of the composer(s) plus 50 years. Arrangements of those songs are the property of the owner of the song, not the arranger. However, an arrangement of a public domain song can be copyrighted by the arranger.
- To arrange a song, an arranger must be granted permission by the owner of the copyright of that song. **Until permission has been granted, it is in violation of copyright law for a copy of the "planned" arrangement to be rehearsed or performed.** The arranger(s) and performers would be exposed to litigation.
- The arranger of a protected song has no distribution rights to that song, other than that allowed in the agreement between the copyright owner and the arranger. Any distribution of subsequent copies is an exclusive right of the copyright owner, not the arranger, unless the arranger owns the copyright.
- Singing illegal music on shows and in contests is in violation of copyright law. For many years our competitors have vouched for their compliance by signing the contest registration form that includes this statement: #4. "Certifies that we have complied with the copyright law in the acquisition and learning of our contest songs/arrangements. We understand that ineligibility will be a consequence for violation of this statement."
- Consideration is being given to making this statement more predominant and clearer, since ineligibility can be declared before or after the contest.
- BHS is in full compliance with copyright law and expects all members to be the same. Copyright law as it pertains to our organization has been covered at COTS, Harmony College, publications, and in many district schools for years.

- Enforcement of copyright laws is our obligation and is meant to protect the Society and its units from litigation. It is not intended as a punitive action against any quartet or chorus but is necessary for legal protection.
- The Society has had the rules in place for many years that allows for disqualification and/or ineligibility in contest situations. We have now given notice of our intent to make our performing units comply with federal law as well as Society rules and regulations.

**Acquiring legal arrangements for shows and contests is easier than you might think.**

- All arrangements purchased from BHS, published or unpublished, have been legally cleared. For a complete list, updated daily, go to our website.
- Before you get an arrangement from outside the BHS catalog, and if you are concerned about the legality of the arrangement, you should ask for a copy of the signed form of approval between the publisher/owner and the arranger.
- If an arrangement needs clearance the Society provides this service. Just plan ahead. On the average it takes from 30 to 60 days to hear back from a publisher. Contact: [library@barbershop.org](mailto:library@barbershop.org) or call 1/800 876-7464 ext 8476.
- On the BHS website do a search for “copyright basics” and get a free document explaining many more details including recordings.
- Purchase “COPYRIGHT: The Complete Guide for Music Educators 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition” by Jay Althouse from Harmony Marketplace, stock # 6072. It is only \$13.95.

Note: All unattributed articles and photos are by John Cowlshaw

**CHAPTER LEADERSHIP**

Director: In-house Team, led by Dick Johnson  
 President: Pete Mazzara  
 (313-563-4026)  
 Past President: Gene Downie  
 VP: Chapter Dev: Wayne Chene  
 VP: Music and Performance: Roger Holm  
 VP: Marketing & PR: Jack Teuber  
 Secretary: Bill Holmes

Treasurer: Dick Johnson  
 Members at Large: Ron Clarke, Zaven Melkonian  
 Chorus Manager: Art Carinci  
 MusicTeam: Holm, Johnson, Doig, Ensign, Melkonian, Murray, Prueter, Troeger  
 Bulletin Editor: John Cowlshaw  
 Music Librarian: Ted Prueter  
 Singing Valentines: Ross Ensign  
 Polecats: Zaven Melkonian  
 Quartet Development: Bruce Brede  
 Sunshine (Chaplain): Walt DeNio/Bill Dabbs  
 Uniforms Manager: Ron Clarke  
 Tape/CD Librarian: Ross Ensign  
 YMIH: Ron Clarke

**Calendar**

Nov 1, T	BCC Rehearsal, Clarkston High School
Nov 3, Th	Possible BCC Rehearsal
Nov. 4, F, 7:30	Canada Night, DOC, St. Aidan’s Parish, 17500 Farmington Rd (between 6 & 7 Mile Roads, Livonia)
Nov 5, Sa, 7:30	Fall Show – Jukebox Classics – Clarkston High School
Nov 8, T	Christmas Chorus rehearsal beings
Nov 9, W	Exec. Bd. Meeting, El Patio Rest’nt, M-59 at Williams Lake Rd
Nov 12, Sa	Macomb Heritage Chorus Show
Nov 15, T	Christmas Chorus rehearsal
Nov 18, F, 7pm	Officer Induction & Awards Dinner, Pontiac Country Club
Nov 22, T	Christmas Chorus rehearsal
Nov 29, T	Christmas Chorus rehearsal
Dec 3, Sa	Christmas singouts 1:45 Sunrise Apartments of Clarkston 2:30 Bordine's of Clarkston 3:30 Tenuta's Grocery (Ensemble Plus) 4:45 Lake Orion Christmas Parade
Dec 8, Th 12:30	Oakland County Retirees, Waterford Oaks Activity Cntr
Dec. 17, Sa	Bus Trip & Holly Festival, Christmas Sing Out
Dec. 27, T	No rehearsal
Jan 7,8, Sa,Su	COTS @ Okemos