

**Grosse Pointe  
Lakeshore  
Chorus**

**The First Fifty Years**

**1945-1995**

**Compiled and Authored by  
Jim Kinner**

## Introduction

Sometime in Mid 1994, I happened to be attending a meeting of our Publicity Committee and we were discussing our upcoming 50th Chapter Anniversary. I said it would probably be nice to have a history book covering our first fifty years of existence. Jay Maire muttered something, not very clearly, about it's nice that you should volunteer. The other committee members agreed that it would be a nice thing to do. I agreed to give it a try.

Harry Truman once said "its the men that make history, history doesn't make the men." Well, this gave me the idea that a collection of biographies of all the men that ever belonged to our Chapter would certainly tell a great story. I also tried to, emphasize that our Chapter hasn't been to shoddy in the production of fine quartets. Although all of our members didn't belong to all Chapter member quartets there were a lot that belonged to quartets whether for fun or serious competition. You'll have to get stories like having no music sheets in the "old" days and quartet chapters (no choruses) and pitch 'em high and sing 'em loud from somewhere else, there's no special chapter on those stories.

The other part of the story is what we did to keep out of the pool rooms, so to speak, like contests and ladies nights etc.

Everything thing in this book was written by barbershoppers, the biographies, the Pitch Pipe, the Troubadour, the Harmonizer. McDermott's Fifty Year History. A lot of guys came up with some neat pictures. Art Shulz let me borrow his collection of Society publications and Russ Seely also lent me his collection of Society publications. Don Adams provided me with a big box of his collectibles.

I want to thank Don McCoy and his wife, Theresa, for perusing my pages, dotting i's, crossing t's, and underlining various areas, capitalizing and un-capitalizing. A novice like me really appreciated this help.

And very important is the Chapter on our Ladies Auxiliary written by Karen Schaefer.

I am thankful to all the guys that provided their biographies. These stories are fantastic.

I hope every one enjoys this "book"

Jim Kinner.

## Grosse Pointe Chapter - The First Fifty Years

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# Grosse Pointe Chapter - The First Fifty Years

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Pine Knob  
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## Chapter One - Mini History

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### HERITAGE

By John Wade, past President

It's good to recall the beginning of this Chapter back in 1945. Yes we'll be 50 years old next year. Only one of our members remains active from those years, our Charter member, Ray McCalpin who still attends a dozen or so meetings per year. Ray, along with Wally Joure, Lou Walley and then International Judge and International Board member, Mark Roberts and Ken Smith decided to leave the original Detroit #1 Chapter and form the Grosse Pointe Chapter with such stalwarts as Art Seely and the **Progressive Four Quartet**, Al Singer and Doc Sanders. As the Chapter grew, at least five Seely brothers and recruited new members Charley Geyer and Dick Lysy, Pau; Johnson, Herb Reed, Herb's Son Paul and eventually his other son, Larry.

About the same time, the East Detroit Chapter was in decline and could no longer maintain its International Charter and Grosse Pointe was fortunate to add to their rolls the likes of Frank Lozzi, Hank DeMars, and Hank Geyer. About this time, this writer joined the Grosse Pointe Chorus, then meeting at the Alger VFW Post on St. Paul and St. Clair in Grosse Pointe City.

Competition between representative choruses was just beginning on a national basis in the early 50's and in the early 60's Grosse Pointe participated with 20 singers directed by Hal Seely. The Chapter was fortunate to have the Metro Chords Quartet on hand as a strong support of those first sixteen brave gentlemen, and from there this Chapter has never looked back.

In the late 60's, the Detroit Yacht Club chartered a chapter. The Yachtmen were an entertaining, enthusiastic chapter but as club members dwindled, so did the Yachtmen Chapter. Many of those members lived on the East Side and since Grosse Pointe was close and welcoming, many Yachtmen joined our Chapter. As our ranks swelled, we needed to fund the expenses so a not-for-profit organization and the Detroit Yacht Club ballroom provided just the venue needed for a cabaret type show. For many years, our little show was held at the Club but we were soon receiving signs and appeals that the public wanted to see more of us.

On January 29, 1969, eight members of the Detroit Yachtsmen Chapter merged with the Grosse Pointe Chapter. The letter to the Executive Director of the Society so notifying him was co-signed by Don Adams, President.

Our Chapter Chorus was increasing, our competitions increased to two performances a year, and our name and reputation as a Chapter was being enhanced by the 1965 Pioneer District Champions, the **4-FITS**, a sustaining quartet from the Grosse Pointe Chapter, including a Charter member singing baritone, you guessed it, none other than Ray McCalpin! The lead of the quartet was the future Hall of Famer of the Pioneer District, an honor designated to perhaps only a dozen people in a 1700 member district, and the present director of the meatheads, Russ Seely, now our district president.

Many things have changed since those early days; the meeting halls, the membership rolls, the

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rules of competition even the way and times of meetings and how they were conducted. But the thing that hasn't changed is the feeling of camaraderie, fraternity and yes the love that we all have for each other. This is very unusual in an organization so large (now over 100 strong) and so diverse! Doctors, business owners, lawyers, professionals, blue collar workers, young, retired, all have blended together so that each man in his own way can hear his own voice in harmony with others to enjoy what we call barbershopping.

Chapter Meeting Minutes, Turner's Hall, June 6, 1945

The first meeting of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America (SPEBSQSA) to be known as the Grosse Pointe Chapter was held at Turner's Hall on June 6, 1945 at 8:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Mark Roberts and 16 prospective members attended for the purpose of organizing a new chapter of the SPEBSQSA to represent the East Side Section of Detroit and surrounding communities which includes Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Woods, Grosse Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe Shores and the City of Grosse Pointe.

It was decided by unanimous vote by those present to appoint Mark Roberts to petition the International Secretary for a Charter for the new Chapter which henceforth will be known as the Grosse Pointe Chapter.

Prospective Members Present:

Mark Roberts	Ronald Bud Peltier	Carl Weiderman	Edwin Schwoppe
Maurice LaGrou	George Holmes	Louis Walley	C. A. Woodus
Edward Marchener	Leroy McKinney	Walter Maischein	Jack LaDuke Sr.
Dallas Metcalf	Clarence Lang	Ted C. Fennel	Fred Lutzer

The following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year:

President - Mark Roberts	Vice-President - E. G. Schwoppe
Secretary - Lou Walley	Master of Ceremonies - Dal Metcalf
Treasurer - L. L. McKinney	Keeper of the Mugs - Fred Lutzer

It was unanimously agreed that the Chapter will meet the second Friday of each month.

After numerous quartet numbers, the meeting was adjourned. All those having attended proceeded to enjoy the rest of the evening with more singing and refreshments.  
Lou Walley, Secretary

Chapter Meeting Minutes, Turners Hall, June 22, 1945

A special meeting was held on June 22, 1945 at Turner's hall. The meeting was called to order by the President. President Roberts reported on the progress of securing the Charter for the

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Grosse Pointe Chapter which is now awaiting approval of the International President, Phil Embury, after which this Chapter will be officially known as Michigan Chapter #42.

The Secretary read a communication from Carroll P. Adams acknowledging the petition for a chapter of our own and we are certain to receive the approval of the National Board and he promised to give us all possible help and consideration.

On motion by McKinney, seconded by Peltier, it was decided to limit the Chapter membership to 75. Unanimously carried.

On motion by Schwoppe, seconded by McKinney, it was decided to hold the Chapter open until the regular meeting in September . All members joining up until then will be Charter Members. Moved by McKinney, seconded by Creed to have our charter presentation at the same time. Motion carried.

By unanimous vote, it was decided to continue to hold our meetings at Turners until suitable quarters can be found.

Four additional members were accepted, bringing the total of Chapter members to date to twenty. James Creed, Henry Harrison., Carl C. Trebesch and John White. The discussion on future members brought out the desires of all present that the Chapter will strive for the admission of such men only whose qualifications are approved by the officers of the Chapter as being men who possess the highest caliber of good fellowship and are worthy of membership in the manner described in their Barbershopper Rule of Ethics

There being no further business to come before the meeting, on motion of Walley and seconded by McKinney, the meeting adjourned to allow for some real Barbershop singing and refreshments.

Lou Walley, Secretary

Chapter Meeting Minutes, Turners Hall, July 13, 1945

The regular monthly meeting of the Grosse Pointe Chapter was called to order at 8:30 P.M. by the President, Mark Roberts. The meeting was well attended and from all indications, the Chapter is well on its way of being one of the finest in the organization. The Secretary read the minutes of the last two previous meetings and they were approved as read without corrections.

Under the heading of new business, the proposed Constitution for this Chapter was read and approved without corrections. The constitution will be forwarded to the International Board for approval.

The Secretary reported on the receipt of our new Charter which will be officially presented at our meeting on September 14th with appropriate ceremonies.

The matter of permanent quarters for the Chapter was further discussed and the officers will report on the progress at our next regular meeting. At this meeting, seven new member

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applications were approved and accepted making 27 to date.

President Roberts was elected as a delegate to the State Board Meeting to be held in Lansing , July 14, 1945. He and the Secretary will attend the meeting at the Olde Hotel, the results of which will be included in the report by the President, Mark Roberts.

The Barbershop type of group singing and the various improvised quartets have left the impression that with our continued efforts toward good fellowship and unselfish attitude by the individual members, it cannot help but make us all proud of our Chapter.

There being no further business to transact, the meeting was adjourned to permit the members to enjoy the rest of the evening in true Barber Shop Style. Refreshments were of the best and also plentiful, thanks to the cooperation of the management of the Turners.

Lou Walley, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes, Turners Hall, July 27, 1945

The first meeting of the executive committee of the Grosse Pointe Chapter was held at the Turners on July 27, 1945. All members except Dal Metcalf were present. Before the meeting, a very fine dinner was enjoyed by members present.

The executive committee then got down to the discussion of a number of important questions relative to the best interest and prosperity of our Chapter. It was agreed by all members present that the recommendations of the executive committee be submitted to the membership for approval before they are accepted as part of the governing rules of our Chapter.

It was also agreed that the Chapter open a checking account at the Industrial National Bank where all monies belonging to the Chapter shall be deposited and that all checks drawn against this account shall be signed by both the Secretary and Treasurer.

The coming presentation of our Charter Night at our September meeting to be held at the Turners was thoroughly discussed by the committee and the following resolutions were adopted:

1. The meeting is to be strictly a stag affair.
2. An early dinner at 6:30 P. M. (Open to all our chapter members only) shall precede the regular meeting which is scheduled to get underway at 9:00 P. M. to which a member may bring a friend.
3. It has also been recommended that the International Secretary and a National Board member, Marty Marsden shall be invited to the dinner along with the **Garden City Four** State Champions and one other quartet from this district to be decided upon later.
4. It has also been recommended that the cost of the dinner for these ten men is to be assumed by those Chapter members attending the dinner inasmuch as our Chapter's treasury is not yet able to finance such an undertaking. The cost of the dinner per plate will

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be very reasonable. The committee thought that this occasion should be a very notable event.

5. Invitations are being sent out to the District Chapters to attend our presentation meeting at which time a fee of \$1.00 will be charged for each person attending. To this part you may bring your friends. This charge is necessary to defray the expenses for refreshments. The committee is arranging all the details to make this a real barber shop affair.

6. In view of the fact that it is the desire of the committee to improve the financial standing of the Chapter, it was recommended that each member be required to pay a tax of \$.50 at each meeting he attends, all of which is to be deposited to our bank account to enable us to build up a reserve fund.

There being no further business to transact, the first meeting of the executive committee was adjourned to partake in a lot of good singing and refreshments.

Lou Walley, Secretary

Chapter Meeting Minutes, Turners Hall, August 10, 1945

The regular monthly meeting of the Grosse Pointe Chapter was held at Turners on Friday, August 10th. The meeting was called to order by the President, Mark Roberts, with the singing of America

It was moved and seconded that the previously accepted ruling of a 50 cent donation by each member attending a meeting is to take effect at once. A corrected resolution regarding a joint handling of our banking account was approved and put on record as accepted.

It was decided by those present to allow each member to bring as many guests as they wished to the dinner and festivities to be held following our Charter Presentation Meeting on Friday, September 14th. The committee in charge of this affair reported progress on arrangements and decided to notify individually each member regarding this event.

**It was also decided that on Charter Presentation Night we dispense with all business and devote the entire evening to the enjoyment of the occasion.** (No record of the Presentation Night has been found, at least not in the Chapter minutes.)

The **Four Shorties** of the Detroit Chapter paid us a visit and the several numbers they rendered were well received.

Several numbers by the **Balladiers** and group singing by the members amid plenty of refreshments brought the meeting to a successful conclusion.

Lou Walley, Secretary

May 5, 1950

The meeting was called to order at 9:11 by President Bob Nontgomery.

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Leroy McKinney led the group in singing 'America' and 'I Care Not For The Stars That Shine'.

At this point the **Collegians**, who were going home to rest up for the big contest, entertained us with three of their numbers. Two of the songs were to be used on the show.

Three new applications for membership were presented before the body. They were voted upon and approved. The new members are: Harvey Shanks, Ted Glen and Emil Hoffman.

After the introduction of guests a discussion of our proposed anniversary party ensued. Mark Roberts was appointed chairman of the party. He is to arrange a suitable program commemorating our fifth birthday.

The original **Four Hoarsemen**, who had to leave us to sing for money, favored us with two of their renditions.

The announcement of Windsor Night was made by Bob Montgomery with a plea for a good showing of our members to welcome our neighbors from across the border.

About this time, All American Tenor, Jim Creed made a motion that the Anniversary Party be a stag affair. A second to the motion was made by Leroy McKinney and the body voted in favor of the motion.

President Montgomery made a suggestion for a by-law committee to set up a plan whereby the annual dues would be raised to a suggested figure of \$8.00. However this suggestion was overruled by a motion from Carl Restivo that the dues be raised to \$10.00 per year. After a second by Don Kraft the body voted in favor of the new plan.

After much discussion regarding the customary door charge the members came to this conclusion:

Members will not pay any door charge and guests will be admitted free for the first two times . After that they will pay \$1.00 at the door. The motion was made by Creed and Lou Walley made the second.

After the announcement of the contest at Midland by Lou Walley, the business being over we adjourned to a more pleasant task, and that is to harmonize.

Ray McCalpin, Secretary

### JUNE 1950 ANNIVERSITY PARTY

Fifty Five members and guests were on hand to witness the induction of the new officers by the International Secretary, Carroll P. Adams, assisted by Ed Schwoppe, to listen to the beautiful Medalist Winners, the **Clef Dwellers** and the **Note-Blenders** and to help (with the aid of some good draft refreshments dispensed by Mike Telep) in the celebration of the Chapter's fifth

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birthday. Historian, Mark Roberts, gave a modest account of the Chapter's past endeavors, but Carroll Adams was under no such restraint. He lauded the Chapter on its accomplishments during the past five years. How we have one of the best Ladies Nights in the State; that we are the sponsors of two chapters - Grand Mere and East Detroit - and co-sponsor of Mt. Clemens, as well as being the grandfather of two other chapters, through the Grand Mere, Quebec Chapter; that we are known as one of the singiest chapters in the Society; the donor of the Ben Landino Trophy, and how proud all of the members are, and how unhesitatingly proclaim that they are from Grosse Pointe Chapter.....Dick Walsh recorded part of the program and played his recording of the CKLW broadcast of the finals from Omaha.....Even his Mandy Lee Restaurant could not keep Jim Jackson from the festivities. Jim said  I told my girl to leaving.  It was a lively and well attended meeting.

### REGULAR MEETING AT TURNER'S SEPTEMBER 16, 1955

This was Grosse Pointe Chapter's tenth anniversary of its Charter and for the occasion we invited all the members of the Dearborn Chapter. Several Charter members were present.  
Harold Seely, Secretary

### FROM YOUR BRAND NEW OLD HISTORIAN

Twenty years last September our Chapter received the Societies Charter. I personally feel guilty of forgetting about the occasion until Mark (Roberts) and I were on the way home from Battle Creek. A lot of fine chords have been heard since that memorable day and during this period we have had a lot of fine talent on our roster. We also had our ups and downs, several near fatal consequences but we can proudly claim we always got up from the floor and Thank Heavens, we are on our way to a GREAT year again.

A very few of us can recall when we had to close the membership list which at one time reached 117 members. There was the day when our Parades, Minstrel Shows and Ladies Nights 2 or 3 times a year were the talk of the Society. Who can forget the wonderful three day Labor Day week ends at Charlevoix. Our Bert Escott Costume Ball. The Hawaiian Night with our women in hula skirts and men in short pants - bare legged, bare chested and all dolled up in red leis. I could go on for hours just reminiscing of things - most enjoyable things - that our old members and wives enjoyed with such un-describable pleasure.

Sing-cerly, Lou Walley Pitch Pipe, November 1965

See Lou Walley's Biography for complete article.

Troubadour 1974 Sully Mazur

With all the activities going on at the Grosse Pointe Chapter, where do we begin? First of all, in a recent 7-week span, the Lakeshore Chorus sang at eight different engagements that included such far awayplaces as Mt. Clemens, Fair Haven and Richmond, Michigan. After singing at the

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Masonic Temple in Mt. Clemens, the chorus assembled at the Old Heidelberg Inn and exposed many to barbershop singing. The cake went to the lady that asked one of the fellows, "What bowling league is this? My husband would like to bowl with you guys because you have so much fun".

In January, a long time member, Buff Bouffard, died. We shared in the grief of his passing with his family. A proper testimonial of Buff's service was presented by a close friend and quartet member, Meinrad Braun, and it was read into the official record of this chapter

Grosse Pointe had seven octets compete at the Detroit Chapter Octet Contest. Grosse Pointe's 'Dixie Eight' took third place honors.

We had our yearly quartet contest with Oakland County for the Mark Roberts Trophy. This trophy is a giant size pitch pipe made by our own Paul Johnson. We won the hard way - not too many chords but a lot of sound. The best Grosse Pointe quartet of the night was **IF THE SHOE FITS** with Dennis Phelan, tenor; T.C. Conner, lead; Pat Yaques, bari and Kurt Kusch, bass.

Our annual Ladies Night was held at the Roostertail and it was a fantastic success. Everybody had a good time. It has been Grosse Pointe tradition to name the barbershopper of the year at this party and this year it was none other than Pat Yaques, editor of the Pitch Pipe Newsletter, Director of the Huron Harmony Chorus, and baritone supreme with the **BACK PORCH MAJORITY**. The ladies, on whose behalf this party was held, surprised us by presenting the chorus with a check for \$200. When they say they support the chorus, their actions speak louder than words. Our hats off to the ladies. Bless them all.

Late in March, Pontiac chapter had their yearly woodshedding contest and our guys came back with the Bennington Trophy. Not only did we pick up the trophy but Miles Currie was voted the best bass. Fred McFadyen was the best tenor, Hank DeVries was the best lead.

On April 5th we had a visit from Sam Kennedy, our International Representative. What a chapter meeting that was! Sam first talked to us about involvement and told us about the meteoric rise of the Phoenicians, that famous chorus from Phoenix. He also talked about the importance of singing in your proper voice range. We also had some other famous visitors. There was Doran MacTaggart, Zone 1 Vice-president and area counselors Russ Seely and Clay Jones. Our own Bob Agius was sworn in as member No. 114 and as the code of ethics was read during the initiation ceremony, I noticed Joe Wolff, who wrote the Code of Ethics for the Society was also with us. We were entertained by several good quartets including our latest one to come out of Grosse Pointe - **THE POINTE FOUR** which includes Dick Brouckaert, Gordie DuBrul, Jim Phelan and Hank DeMars.

On April 26th one of our most respected and popular members died. Dr. Charley Sharrer was 72 and only recently retired. I remember Doc very well from the time I first joined two years ago. He made me feel so welcome. He liked people and made them feel at ease. Doc was a member of the old Detroit Yacht Club Chapter. He sang with the  Yachtsmen  in 'Michigan Father of the Year'. We will miss Doc very much. Our sincere sympathy goes to his wife and children.

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Mark Roberts, our famous charter member, was back in town recently from his home in Florida. Mark, who wrote all those rules by which we run out inter-chapter contests was honored at our May 5th Little Show. Mark is also celebrating his 50th wedding anniversary this year. Our congratulations to him and his wife. Our hats are off to all those members who, did such a wonderful job in putting our annual Little Show together. It was a huge success. Besides our own Lakeshore Chorus we had the following quartets: The **4-FITS**, the **VAGABONDS** and the **RINGMASTERS**. They all did a terrific job putting us into seventh heaven.

Since we've become a Century Chapter, communications within the organization have become more important than ever. We have now established a chain telephone information distribution system. All the telephone numbers were published in our monthly newsletter showing who was responsible for calling who. Now the whole chapter can be reached and only several calls are required by each group leader. It is working.

We had our yearly quartet contest with the Wayne Chapter and our guys brought home the Seely Trophy. That marvelous new comedy quartet the **TUNE BY FOURS** with Dennis Phelan, tenor; Bruce Young, bari; Brian Kaufman, lead and Tom Lindsay, bass, was voted the best quartet for Grosse Pointe.

Early in June we hosted the Port Huron Chapter at Grosse Pointe. The Port Huron members were presented with their membership certificates amidst a beautiful ceremony. Grosse Pointe voted to give Port Huron our risers and they responded by donating \$50.00 to Logopedics in our name. The world can't be all bad.

Late in June, Grosse Pointe participated in the mini chorus contest at Pontiac and again Grosse Pointe came out on top. Now if we can only do it in the big show in Windsor. Seriously though, our chapter has grown so rapidly that if you're a member over two years, you are an old timer. When all those fresh new voices start to sing out, Grosse Pointe will be a contender at every convention.

This year our chapter will sponsor two men to HEP School. Every member who has attended in the past has come back raving about it. This is a school that really puts it all together for barbershoppers.

Now that the big contest is over, its back to planning for next year. The **TUNE-BY-FOURS**, our only entry in the quartet contest, did a nice job in their first try by making the cut at the preliminaries.

The summer was a bust one with outings and rehearsals at members' homes and cottages throughout the most of the summer. Harrisville saw thirty-two Grosse Pointe members and their families in attendance for the week of sunshine, moonshine and singing.

We are settled permanently at St. Mark's Church, 14510 E. Seven Mile and welcome guests to our chapter fun night on the first and third Friday of the month.

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Our new chapter officer installation dinner meeting was held in November and was a huge success with entertainment by the Lakeshore Chorus and three of our own quartets.

Grosse Pointe had six men in attendance at COTS school this year. Was your chapter represented? They all came back full of ambition and rarin' to lead us on to greater things.

Our shining hour this Christmas season was on December 15 when the chorus (49 of them) visited various nursing homes and even a convent to bring Christmas cheer to all. I'll say this, I'm sure most of the guys got a spiritual uplift from this experience. Our public thanks goes to Mr. Mike Gaskin of Taylor and Gaskin Inc., who donated the use of a 50 passenger bus to transport us to the various nursing homes

At our final meeting of the 1974 season we hosted the Detroit Chapter for our annual quartet contest for the Joseph P. Wolff trophy. This year our Chapter stressed quality. We got both quality and quantity as our boys came through to beat Detroit and regain the trophy we lost to them last year. It was the largest fun meeting of the year with 108 men competing. This year our winners were the **HOWLING POINTERS** with George VanDeVelde, tenor; Hank DeVries, lead; Hal Seely, bari and Bert West, bass. Second and third places went to the **GROSSE EXAGGERATIONS** and the **RED EYES**. A big thanks to the quartet from Wayne Chapter who served as judges - they were Clay Jones, bari; Dave Barke, tenor; Mike Bourgoin, lead and Gene Beaty, bass. Our thanks also to Lyle Lee, president of the Port Huron Chapter who served as secretary.

I would like to acknowledge our outgoing president, John Wearing, who did such a good job of putting it all together for a good year of singing.

A Happy New Year of barbershop singing to all

### 1979 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Here's a little summary of 1979, just to help you remember what a great year it was for our Chapter.

January: Sully Mazur spells out his objectives for the year. Nick Catelane wins "Barbershopper of the Month Award". A.F.A. night at Macomb Mall on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Chorus members and their wives enjoy the weekend at Sarnia.

February: Grosse Pointe wins President's Trophy from the combined Port Huron and Clinton Valley Chapters in a quartet contest on the 16<sup>th</sup> at Grosse Pointe. Grosse Pointe's **Harmony Forum** quartet scores 340 points for us. Wine and cheese party at St. Mark's on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

March: Chapter show on the 24<sup>th</sup> at Parcels Auditorium is a sell out! Chorus does "Summer Sounds" a la tableau; The **Sound Objective** was the featured quartet. The District Bulletin was once again put on bi-monthly publication with Rusty Ruegsegger as editor and Dick Barber as

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publisher.

April: Spring Convention hosted by the Saginaw-Bay City Chapter in Saginaw finds Wayne Wonderland Chorus winners and Grosse Pointe Lakeshore Chorus second. **Great Lakes Express** and **Motor City Music Company** score in the quartet competition.

May: Pine Knob Show sponsored by the Clarkston Rotary Club and featuring choruses of Southeastern Michigan (including Lakeshore) took place on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Quartets taking part **The Citations, Vagabonds, New Baltimore Exit**. Thom Hine from Detroit #1 directed the mass chorus. Carl Uridge serves as judge at Boyne City Bush League (Novice Quartet) contest. Also, on the 19<sup>th</sup> GP wins the first out of District quartet contest with Maumee Chapter. We had singing guest night on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and Ladies Night on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

June: International Send-off Show at Cabota Hall in Windsor on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Our 84 year young, George Knaut, starts his walking tour from Kansas City to the Institute of Logopedics at Wichita (can you top it?). Sher "DOC" Faunce retires and a party is held in his honor.

July: International Convention in Minneapolis 5<sup>th</sup> thru 7<sup>th</sup>. We sing at the Freedom Festival on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Thom Hine is transferred to Chicago area from the Detroit #1 Chapter. Ted Keller moves to California/ Moonlight Cruise on the 20<sup>th</sup> is lots of fun. Family picnic at Cass Lake.

August: Outdoor chorus meetings at Gene Honderick's and Don Adams' (mosquitoes)

September: Harrisville over Labor Day weekend. It was Harmony Roubd-Up over the weekend of the 14<sup>th</sup>. We lose the Seely Trophy to Wayne at their hall - they put up 16 quartets. We lost a great friend and long time singer with Grosse Pointe in the death of Meinrad Braun.

October: Election night produces a fine slate of officers, delegates etc. headed by Jim Rutt. . Fall Contest at Kalamazoo, chorus sings great and finished 3<sup>rd</sup> but is first in sound category. We're just so Proud! Proud! Proud!

November: Other than Coin Night, not one of our busy nights.

December: We sing at the Player's Club on the 1<sup>st</sup> (poor attendance). We beat Detroit #1 chapter in quartet contest on the 14<sup>th</sup>. The 16<sup>th</sup>, a snowy Sunday finds us on our annual bur tour oif nursing homes. A bus load and a few cars and we hit all eight homes with about 50 chorus members. Then the Chapter Christmas Party on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Great Year, eh what!

Art Bassett Pitch Pipe January 1980

### SECOND ANNUAL CHAPTER YEAR IN REVIEW - 1980 - By Art Bassett

January: Chorus sang at Macomb Mall on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Russ Seely emphasizes chorus work.

team concept

February: Grosse Pointe defeats the Port Huron - Clinton Valley chapters in a quartet contest for

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the president's trophy on the 23 rd. President, Jim Rutt urges extra work to learn the new songs and to 'keep smiling'.

March: Cobo Hall Builders Show and the Sweet Adeline's' Show provided the backdrops for the chorus' efforts, both on the same day, this was the 15th.

April: The Broadway Show was on the 11th at the Lakeview High School and 1300 fans whistled, stomped and applauded our efforts. In the District Championship in Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids took first place, Grosse Pointe was third. The two top quartets were the **Sounds Around** and **B & L Exchange**.

May The chorus joined the S.M.A.C. mass chorus at the Pine Knob Spectacular on May 24 th. On May 16 th a Mystery Trip via bus took us to the Maumee Valley Show near Toledo.

June: The Chorus had two signing engagements besides participating in the Send Off Show on the 13 th. We nearly lost to the Maumee Valley Chapter in a quartet contest on the 20th. The Annual ladies night was held on the 27th at the Polish Century Club. Dan Bulbuk received the Barbershopper of the Year Award.

July: What else, the International at Salt Lake City. The **Boston Common** quartet and the Scarborough chorus copped the big prizes. Our own chorus at home worked at the Freedom Festival and the Republican Convention at the Hart Plaza. The Moonlight Cruise was on Sunday this year, on the 20th (not as well attended).

August: A quiet month, by and large, The annual golf outing was held at Harsens Island on the 17th and the Harrisville camp-out got underway on the 25th, over the Labor Day week-end.

September: Harrisville, the "Hilton in the woods" was a big success as usual. Dave Stevens visited us on the 19th at which time we had scheduled a quartet contest with the Wayne Chapter and beat them this time, 2715 to 2288.

October: Art Jones was elected Chapter President for 1981, and new and old officers were honored at the installation. We didn't do so good at the District Convention in Jackson, but we made a good effort and enjoyed every minute of it.

November: We entertained at the Lutheran Church and the D.A.C. and then joined-in with Gardner Martin's choir at the German-American Club for a pleasant evening.

December: Traditional Stuff, but all of it fun and worthwhile, Nursing Home Tour, Chapter Party and singing at Geisz Hall were the highlights. We're resting and thinking about a busy 1981, with our up-coming show, Spring Convention and the big International Convention here in Detroit this year. :

## Chapter One - Mini History

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### A LOOK BACK AT 1985

The year 1985 has been a great and successful year for the Grosse Pointe Chapter. Once again the membership combined their efforts in each project for total success.

The year started with a great Ladies Night at the Lakeland Manor with attendance at over 190 people. Bill Lane and Harvey Burr were awarded "Barbershopper of the Year" for 1984. A good time was had by all.

Next came our annual show in February at the Grosse Pointe North High School Auditorium. The theme was VAUDEVILLE and once again Russ Seely, our fine music director, did an outstanding job. His talent for Musical Arranging, Producing, Scrip Writing, and Directing is a real plus for the Grosse Pointe Chapter. Both nights were a sell out. We have come a long way and congratulations are in order to all who were involved with the show.

In April, the Grosse Pointe Chapter was the Host for the spring Pioneer Convention. The Midway Motor Lodge in Warren was the Headquarters Hotel and the Fitzgerald High School was the site for competition. The winning chorus was the Wayne Chapter and Center Stage was the top quartet. The Saturday Night Show was one of the best with 1150 people attending. The After-Glow at the Midway Hotel with a turn out of over 300 participants closed a wonderful weekend. All Chapter members can be proud of our great accomplishment with a great assist from the Ladies Auxiliary.

During the course of the year our Program VP, John Wade, had many activities for the members. There were the Inter Chapter Quartet Contests, Chapter Quartet Contests, Mystery Bus Trips and visitations to other chapters were held and made a very enjoyable year for Chapter Members.

We also had many sing-outs in 1985. To highlight a few: Tank Arsenal Picnic, Pioneer District Show, two Lion's Club functions, Trinity Church Benefit for one of it's members and our Christmas Tour of Nursing Homes.

The Chapter also had several Spring and Summer social activities. There was a Golf Trip to the South and the Chapter's Annual Golf and Picnic at Don Adam's place on Harsens Island. Both of these outings were a success. The Annual Barbershop Weekend in Harrisville was also attended by twenty members and their wives. The Grosse Pointe Chapter won the Trophy for the best float in the Sunday Parade. Jim Rutt and his 40 flags was responsible for our success and deserves a big hand.

Now, it is September and we begin preparation for the Fall Pioneer District Contest in Kalamazoo. This year we came in third against some big guns. Only Wayne and Grand Rapids beat us and we were not that far behind. Third is not bad out of 16 choruses competing. Congratulations to Russ Seely and the Chorus. In addition, everyone had a good time this weekend which included a Chapter Dinner with attendance of 96 people.

December closes our year and is a very busy month. We have our Nursing Home Tour, the Chapter Christmas gift to the infirm. We also have our Chapter Christmas party and two sing-outs. We also have begun rehearsal for our next show.

## Chapter One - Mini History

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It takes a great deal of work to make a Chapter Year like 1985 a success. A great big thanks to our President, Nels Gregersen, and his officers and directors, and all those who assisted in any way. Good luck to our officers for 1986 and our new President, Len Schweitzer. (Pitch Pipe Dec 1985)  
Author Anon Slightly edited

Troubadour 1988 Jim Kinner

About 18 Grosse Pointers were present at the Doran MacTaggart/Uncle Sam Night hosted by the Windsor Chapter in January. We were pleased to see that Doran was, apparently, recovered from his recent illness and ready to EMCEE the program. If you weren't among the 230 barbershoppers in attendance, its unfortunate for you. Doran didn't get to M.C. the show but was placed in the seat of honor while his friends proceeded to roast him. It would seem that his old quartet and his chapter had full claim to Doran but we all claim him and wish him well.

We just finished our annual show,  
at Grosse Pointe North.

Grosse Pointe

Well, another Pioneer District Contest has come and gone --and it was great. Congratulations to all of the contestants and especially to the winners. Grosse Pointe topped off their activities with a family dinner in their hospitality room. Later we enjoyed the singing of a seemingly never ending parade of quartets. We're very grateful to those quartets who sang for us.

The Cabota Send-off was great as usual and I'm glad its back in the District program. Thanks for the well organized show. One of our guys found two specks of meat bin his third helping of spaghetti.

We've been trying for a long time to be the chorus to sing our Stadium prior to a Tiger baseball game, and we finally have succeeded. The chorus, 30 members strong, showed up at Tiger Stadium at 1:30 p.m., on Saturday, the 14th, to sing at 4:00 p.m. prior to the game. Chuck Gadica of channel 4 video taped the chorus from the dugout. He got the back of the chorus as they stood between home plate and the pitcher's mound--the sound was great! The telecast of the New York game ran over into the start of the Tiger game, so our singing was not televised nationally. The Tigers lost to the Twins, 7-0, with 39,000 fans in attendance. We're hoping for more success next time.

National Anthem

The second annual CAN-AM was attended by about twenty members who traveled there by land and sea. We had enough guys to sing on stage but even better we were entertained by another endless stream of great barbershop quartets and choruses. This event has to be second only to the International for excellence in barbershop singing.

On Memorial Day the Lakeshore Chorus performed at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. Over 35 members sang to a crowd of 1000 people. They gathered in the rear of the property right at the water of Lake St. Clair. The Marines sent a military honor guard. The chorus sang 'God Bless America', 'This is My Country' and 'Battle Hymn of the Republic'.

## Chapter One - Mini History

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The same guys then went over to Jacobson's Garage at St. Clair and Kercheval. They called it a 'Flea' market but Harvey Burr called it a "three floor garage sale ". They sang on all three floors and the acoustics were wonderful.

The **GOODWILL BLENDERS**, a quartet of retirees, Sully Mazur, Harvey Burr, Len Henk and Bud Maier sang at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club for their Mother and Daughter luncheon. They also sang at Rose Villa for the 100th birthday of six of the residents. They sang until they were hoarse and well after the oldsters had fallen asleep.

A very few Grosse Pointe members attended the 42nd annual DOC Boblo Moonlight Cruise. The rest of the members were in San Antonio.

On to the Warren Tank Arsenal performance on July 30. This is, the seventh year Grosse Pointe has sang for the TACOM community annual summer outing for the employees, families and friends. They had some military displays, games for the children and special events for everyone. The appearance of the Lakeshore Chorus is one of many different performances during the day.

Immediately after singing at the Tank Plant, 30 chorus members teed off for 18 holes of golf at the Gowanee Golf Club in Mt. Clemens. Each foursome consisted of three barbershoppers and one club member. We were forced off the course by severe thunder storms after roughly 15 holes, depending on the foursome. We showered and had a fine dinner at the club. After dinner, 45 members of the chorus sang for the club members and their families. Of course, they wanted us to sing longer. We did a little social singing after and I tried to find out what the occasion was for the party. The answer, "to host the Grosse Pointe Lakeshore Chorus". This was our third year to be invited to Gowanee and I can't wait until next year.

The very next day we sang at the Grosse Pointe Pier Park. This party was the biggest weekend in Grosse Pointe Farms. The weekend tops off the annual regatta weekend which is held over the July 4th weekend. We had about 36 guys there for the first time but they are already asking to have us back next year.

On August 7 we all went to Harsen's Island for golf and picnicking. We played nine holes of scramble (longest ball) and cooled off at the club. Then we went back to Don Adams' cottage for prime rib and sweet corn. Some of the lighter weights indulged in the ladies' home made cakes and pies. We had an afternoon of a bocce ball contest and a fishing contest. I almost forgot! We did some singing.

A small group of Grosse Pointers went to Harrisville for Labor Day Weekend. The majority of us rent a whole motel for the weekend. There was plenty of singing and socializing. The fishermen brought in salmon galore for our Friday evening dinner. Dinner is always followed by a campfire and sing-a-long. In addition, we played 27 holes of golf, had a volley ball game with ten men (most of whom were over 60) and a 16 person Euchre Tournament which the winners enjoyed but none as much as the booby prize winner.

For several years we have bar hopped in 18'-26' cruisers which was always an enjoyable affair.

## Chapter One - Mini History

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This year our members came up with a 53' Hatteras piloted by Dale Petrosky and a 42' Chris Craft piloted by Ed McCarthy. 25 guys enjoyed the outing on September 11 starting from Metropolitan Beach. We sang everywhere!

Then came the Fall District convention. Not placing well in the competition didn't dampen our extra convention activities and a good time was had by all. I got a big kick when the **4-FITS** (Grosse Pointe Chapter) won the first Senior Quartet Championship at the Pioneer Fall Convention. It's kind of nice to know there may still be a place for us oldsters.

Grosse Pointe hosted the annual Quartet Contest with DOC on October 7. Eight quartets competed for the Joe Wolfe trophy. Grosse Pointe won. We'll try again next year.

The annual SMAC "Komedie Kwartet Kontest" was hosted by Grosse Pointe on October 28. The contest was won by a quartet out of Dearborn and Detroit-Oakland composed of Bill Wickstrom, Bill Warner, Nick Pastor and Bob McDermott. At least we found someone to store that big ugly bust of W.C. Fields for another year.

Grosse Pointe Chapter Officers' Installation Night was held on Tuesday, November 1, at Thomas Crystal Gardens. It featured a fabulous dinner with dancing after. There were 89 members and wives present to induct the 1989 officers and board.

We sang for the Festival of Trees at Cobo Hall and at Trapper's Alley on the Thanksgiving weekend. It's still a great enjoyment to do these shows each year because it really gets you in the spirit and enough time has passed since last year to make the experience seem new.

We made our annual holiday bus tour visiting senior centers and half-way houses. As usual, we packed 50 guys in a rented bus and traveled from Warren, through Fraser, Roseville, St. Clair Shores and Detroit. We sang a pile of Christmas songs and a few just plain barbershop numbers. The turkey salad sandwiches (170) were excellent as usual

The Chapter Christmas party was kind of a repeat of last year's. A few choruses went caroling and brought in a tidy sum for Logopedics. This year, Jim Rutt served venison stew.

## Chapter Two - Membership Roll

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### Chapter Membership Roll 1945-1995

ADAMS	ASHLEY	47-48
ADAMS	CARROLL P.	53-54
ADAMS	DON	66-95
ADAMS	VERNON D	50-60
ADDY	ROBERT E	52-55
ALES	ANTHONY	94-95
ANDERSON	HERBERT O	46
AGIUS	ROBERT L	74-83
ANTUSHEVICH	WALT	73
ARCHER	ROBERT	53
ARFT	LEONARD	75-80
ARNONE	MICHAEL	48-66 XX
AVRAM	EUGENE	46-50 XX QUARTET
AXEL	ALBERT	47-48
BAILEY	WALTER BILL JR	59-62 64
BAKER	JOHN W	69
BALLARD	PERRY	94-95
BAMFORD	MIKE B	78-81
BARBER	DALE	81-95
BARBER	RICHARD	75-81 87 90-93 XX
BARSTOW	WILLIAM E	49-51
BASEL	FRED C JR	73-74
BASS	KEVIN	79-80 91
BASSETT	ARTHUR F JR	73-82 XX
BATTS	PETER M	74-82
BEACH	MONTE L	46-48
BEAUVAIS	JOSEPH	47-50
BECK	JAMES	77-80
BECK	WILLIAM	77-80
BELTAIRE	MARK	49-50
BENNETT	GLEN	48
BENZINGER	ROBRT P	69-70
BERAN	DAVID	89-95
BERGWALL	LAWRENCE	47-48
BERRY	STERLING P	73-95
BICHLER	JOSEPH S	77-95
BILAS	JOE	90-91
BILLINGS	WILLIAM	50-51
BIONDO	FRANK	89-95
BISSAILLON	B T	51-52
BITTNER	W F	51-57
BLANA	DAN	75-80
BLANEY	DAVID (TIM)	55
BLOOMFIELD	RICHARD	64-70
BOJANOWSKI	EARLE J	75 81-82 85
BOLAND	E HAROLD	47-49
BORNEMAN	JOSEPH E	72-76
BOUFFARD	IGNACE O	60-62 69-73

## Chapter Two - Membership Roll

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BOYCOTT	FREDERICK	51
BRAUN	MEINRAD	66-80
BREIDEN	BRYAN	91
BREILING	RUDY	90-95
BRETTELLE	HONY	55
BROUCKAERT	RICHARD	66-85
BROWER	ROBERT	72-74
BROWER	WILLIAM T	69-86
BROWN	ARTHUR	88
BROWN	JOHN	56
BROWN	STANLEY	48-51
BROWN	THOMAS	80-83
BUELL	HARRY	75-85
BUELL	RICHARD W	78-80
BUERGE	ELMER	55-56
BULBUK	DAN	72-95
BUNGE	DR. HARRY	49-53
BURCHENAL	SELDEN	88-95
BURKE	MARVIN	56-85 87 91-92
BURR	HARVEY	69-70 77-95
BURRELL	ROBERT J	46-55 QUARTET
BUTTERMORE	WILLIAM J	69-74
CAMPBELL	JOHN D	69-70
CANNON	RALPH G	46-55
CAREN	CHARLES F	77
CARGO	BILL	79
CATELLANE	JAMES NICK	73-81
CATELLANE	JAMES N JR	74-79
CECIL	CARL	59-60
CENTERS	CLYDE	47-59
CENTERS	PAUL	49-58
CHAMBERLIN	HENRY	49-50
CHARLES	EDWARD	66 67
CHERRY	FRANK	47-56
CLARK	CHARLES	66
CLAYTON	DAVID	85
CLIFTON	ALAN L	78-85
COATES	WALTER	47
COGLEY	ROBERT F	50-51
COLE	ALAN	83-95
COLE	CHRISTOPHER	85-88 91-94
COLE	KEVIN G	78-79
COLE	OREN "KING" S	46-50
COLLINS	ROBERT E	52-60
COLLINS	JOHN	77-95
CONGER	DOUG	93-95
CONNER	TOM	73-74 95
CONNORS	RICHARD	48
CONVERY	FLOYD	87-88 92-93
CONWAY	RICHARD	47-48
COOMBE	ROYAL	47-48
COTEY	JACK	73
COTTER	LARRY	90-95

## Chapter Two - Membership Roll

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COTTER	JUDGE WILLIAM	47-49	XX
COVEY	NELSON C	84	
COX	ROBERT	69	
CRAPO	WILLIAM	51-52	
CREED*	JAMES	45-53	XX
CULLEN	ALLEN F	66-76	
CURRIE	WALTER MILES	66-75	XX
CZUPINSKI	DAVID	94-95	
DASHIELL	CHARLES "BUD"	53-57	
DAUDLIN	WILLIAM	94-95	
DAVENPORT	ALLEN	51-66	
DAVENPORT	JAMES	48-57	83
DAVIDSON	FRED	46	
DAVIDSON	HARLEY	91	
DAVIDSON	MARK	86-95	
DAVIES	NEIL	84-87	
DAVIS	JACK	69-71	
DE MARS	HENRY J	66-95	
DEMCHAK	ROBERT	69-83	91-95
DENBRODER	PFC RICHARD	51-54	
DENNES	BILL	46-55	
DE POORTER	EDWARD	66-70	
DE POORTER	MARCEL E	74-76	
DE RIDDER	ROBERT	47	
DE VORE	IRVEN L JR	66	67
DE VRIES	HANK	71-74	
DIERS	RICHARD	47-48	
DILLON	JOSEPH L	84	
DOSSIN	ERNEST J	69-87	92-94
DOWNEY	JAMES	46	
DRENNAN	JACK	75-77	
DREW	GORDON	94-95	
DREW	JOE	94-95	
DRURY	WALLY B	74	
DUBRUL	GORDON	71-95	
DUFFY	EDWARD D	46	
DUPUIS	ARTHUR	66-69	
EDMONDS	CLYDE	74-76	
ELLIS	SAM	91-95	
ENZER	ANTHONY	48-49	
EPPINGA	JOHAN	74-77	85-87
EPPINGA	PETE	74-81	
ERNST	M ERIC	85-95	
ESCOTT	ALBERT E	48-73	XX DETROIT
EVANS	CHARLIE	76-87	
EWING	HAROLD L	48	DETROIT
EXEL	AL S	46	
FACIONE	ROBERT	93	
FARRINGTON	ROBERT	88-95	
FAUNCE	DR. SHERMAN P	69-81	XX
FEELY	J AMOS	47-57	
FEIERABEND	JOHN	73	

## Chapter Two - Membership Roll

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FELIX	DAN	94-95
FENNELL*	TED C	45-48
FICK	TIM	84-86
FIENDEL	ROBERT	
FILTER	RONALD P	69
FINKENHOEFER	AL	46-50
FISHER	PETER	47-62
FITZGERALD	JOHN	94-95
FLAGER	HARLEY	73-77
FOLEY	EDWARD J	58-60
FORD	FRED A	69-85 XX
FORD	GORDON	53-55
FORRESTER	EDWARD J	49-50 66-67
FORTIER	FRANK	87-95
FOURNIER	WALTER	75-77
FOX	DON	50-51
FOX	THOMAS R	74-81
FREALIG	N C	52-60
FRY	R P	52-53
GABRIEL	KEN	90-95
GAURKE	WARREN	79
GERMAINE	JOHN K	69-72
GEARY	GEORGE	57-59
GEORGE	EDDIE	50-51
GEYER	CHARLES E	54-70 QUARTET
GEYER	LAIRD W	69-70
GEYER	MICHAEL	60
GIBSON	CHARLES K "SKIP"	69-76
GILLINGS	ALDEN R	50-51
GILLIS	GEORGE M	69-71
GILSON	JIM	73
GIOVAN	JUDGE WILLIAM	78-82
GIVENS	JOHN R	81-83
GLEN	A EARLE	47-58
GLEN	TED	50-51
GLOBKE	HARVEY	74-76
GOHLKE	DON	48-50
GOLTZ	G	71-72
GONYEAU	JAY	69-70
GOODMAN	ROBERT	90-95
GOOLSBEE	ROLLAND G	73-79
GOSTKOWSKI	LEO	75-76
GOUGEON	GERRY	73
GOUGEON	JAMES	71-85
GOUGEON	JEFF	79-81
GOUGEON	RONALD	80-81 94
GOWARD	JOHN B JR	47-51
GRAY	JAMES	73-77
GREENIA	MAURICE	50-51
GREENIA	RALPH F	50-51
GREER	GEORGE	76-81
GREGERSON	NELS	79-95 XX
GROGAN	JAMES	94-95

## Chapter Two - Membership Roll

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GROSCHNER	PETER K	86-87
GRUNDNER	KEN	73-76
GULEVICH	JOHN	84-95
GUNN	RAYMOND	53-71
GUNTENAER	JACOBUS	69-70
GURNEY	ROY	86
HAAG	JAMES J	66 67
HAAS	EDWARD W JR	50-53
HADAD	RICHARD C	51
HAGEN	JOHN H	47-56
HAINES	FREDRIC R	62-63
HANNA	DAVID J	46-47
HAMPTON	NEAL	88
HARRINGTON	LOUIS	69-73
HARRISON*	HENRY	45
HARTLEY	BOB	45-52 XX
HARTLEY	T D	50 51
HAVENS	RICHARD S	78-80
HAWLT	ROBERT B	59
HEARN	JOHN	46
HEBERT	S EDWARD	69-77
HEIN	DONALD	76-95
HENK	LEN	85-95
HEINRICH	EDWARD	94-95
HENDERSTEIN	JACK	66-79
HENDRICKS	JOHN H	46 47 XX
HERAUF	JACK A	51-55
HERLING	ALFRED	50-58
HERMAN	CHARLES WILLIAM	72-79
HERMAN	LOUIS	66-76
HIGGINS	FRANCIS	53-55
HIGGINS	NOEL	75
HIGHSTREET	TOM	73-75
HILL	NELSON	
HIMMELMAN	FRED G	54-55
HOCK	EDMUND A	69
HODGE	WILLIAM B	83
HOEFLEIN	LARRY	86-91
HOFER	RICHARD	45-49
HOFER	RUSSELL	84-95 XX
HOFFMAN	EMIL	50-56
HOGAN	JOHN E	50-51
HOLMES*	GEORGE	45-46
HONDERICH	MERRILL E	77-91
HOPE	ARTHUR J	72-80
HOPE	MICHAEL J	47
HOPP	T H	72-73
HORN	ANTHONY	46-49
HOUGHTON	RONALD	81-92
HOUGHTON	SCOTT	81-95
HOWARD	F WARD	47-48 XX
HOWELL	CLIFFORD A	66

## Chapter Two - Membership Roll

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HUNTER	COVERT	47-57
HUNTER	FRED	79-81 XX
INZER	ANTHONY F	48
ISETTS	CORNELIUS	69
JACKSON	JAMES	46-70 79-82 XX
JANOWIAK	CHRIS	85
JANZITO	RICHARD	66 67
JOHNSON	ALFRED	51-53
JOHNSON	BUDD	61-62
JOHNSON	MAYNARD	66-71
JOHNSON	PAUL	60-83 XX
JOHNSTONE	IVOR J	69-74
JONES	ARTHUR R	75-95
JONES	FRED E	57-59
JONES	LARRY	75-77
JONES	ROBERT	60-72
JONKER	ROBERT	59-70
JORDAN	TERRENCE D	61-62
JOURE	WALLACE	62-77 XX
JOURE	WILLIAM	71-74 XX
KASELITZ	BRUCE	80-81
KAUFMAN	BRIAN R	74-75
KAY	FRANK	70-74
KELLY	WILLIAM	46
KELLER	TED	75-80
KERRIGAN	JAMES H	66-95
KINNER	JAMES L	77-95
KLAG	EMIL	48-51
KLERSEY	HERBERT	46-61 83
KLERSEY	LEO	46-53
KLICK	EUGENE	85
KNAUT	GEORGE	78-80 83 88
KNIFFIN	WAYNE	80-82 88-95
KNOPP	FRANK C	62
KOCH	JOHN	46
KOELZER	VINCENT	66-72 77
KOHLER	JERRY	74-82
KOSCIOLEK	EUGENE	73
KOSMOS	JOHN	86-95
KRAFT	ELDON P	48-54
KRAFT	M DONALD	48-55
KRAMB	ROBERT	91-95
KRASS	RICHARD P	73-80
KRAUSER	WALLY	93
KRETZSCHMAR	GEORGE	48-50
KROPP	FRANK O	47-62
KRUGER	ROBERT L	64-77
KUIPER	KENNETH E	83
KUNATH	RUSS	69-72
KUSCH	KURT	69-81
LA DUKE*	JACK SR	45 46
LA DUKE	JACK JR	46
LA GROU*	MAURICE	45-54

## Chapter Two - Membership Roll

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LANDINO	BENJAMIN	45-69	XX LIFE MEMBER
LANE	WILLIAM	79-95	
LANG*	CLARENCE	45-50	
LANG	DICK	73	
LANGLOIS	LES A	49-53	
LA PRISE	ARTHUR	60-62	
LA PRISE	NORMAN L	60-61	
LA PRISE	QUENTEN E	62	
LATHAM	CHARLES K III	86-91	93
LAWRENCE	JOHN D	69	
LAWRENCE	SEABORN F	62	
LEHTI	HOWARD	83-95	
LEMMER	HAROLD F	46-57	
LEMONDS	WAYNE L	86	
LENHARD	WILLIAM A	76-79	
LENHARDT	LEROY	90-95	
LEWIS	HOWARD A	74-95	XX
LIGGETT	HARVEY	50	56
LIMBURG	GORDON	46-56	QUARTET
LINSDAY	TOM	73-74	81
LIPPARD	PAUL	95	
LISK	MARLYN	54-55	
LISTERMAN	KARL J	81-82	
LITTLE	DENNIS	82	
LONG	JACK	62-64	
LOPEZ	FRANK	76-83	
LORDAN	VINCENT J	47-62	
LORENTZEN	LAWRENCE L	74-86	
LOVE	HAROLD	52-54	
LOZZI	FRANK	61-78	95 DUAL
LUCZYNSKI	HENRY	72-79	
LUTZER*	FRED	45-47	XX
LYSY	RICHARD	60-70	
MAGNUS	WILLIAM E	49	
MAIRE	JAY	88-95	
MAIRE	JULIAN "BUD"	87-95	
MAISCHEIM*	WALTER	45-56	
MARHOFF	LESLIE	75-95	
MARION	W J	79-80	
MARANZANO	FRANK	88-95	
MARSCHNER*	EDWARD P	45-48	
MARSHALL	JOHN		
MARSHALL	MORRISON	88	
MARTIN	HARRY	49	
MARTIN	J GARDNER	79-89	
MASTERS	HOWARD L	74-95	
MAZUR	SYLVESTER	72-89	
MC BRIDE	CLIFTON R	55-61	
MC CALPIN*	RAYMOND JR	45-95	
MC CALPIN*	RAYMOND SR	45-50	XX
MC CARTER	THOMAS E	82	
MC CARTHY	EDGAR W	67-77	88-95

## Chapter Two - Membership Roll

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MC CARTHY	MARK	91-93
MC CLARY	MARVIN	66-67 XX
MC CLARY	MICHAEL	81-85
MC CLELLAN	GARY E	66
MC CLEAR	GLEN F	75-76
MC CORMLEY	REGIS	49-50
MC COY	DONALD V	73-82 95
MC DONALD	HARRY SR	49-50
MC DONALD	HARRY JR	49-50
MC FADYEN	FRED	73-76
MC HALE	JOHN P	46
MC HENRY	VINCENT J	50-55
MC INTOSH	R T	73-74
MC KERRELL	LYLE	48-55
MC KINNEY*	LEROY	45-61
MC RANDELL	JOE	75
MEDEL	MILTON	72-80
MELVIN	D LISLE	69 70
MESSINA	JACK	82-95
METCALF*	DALLAS	45-61
MEIER	WESLEY R	51-53
MIEDEMA	LAWRENCE	89
MIKE	JERRY	75-77
MILLER	ANDREW J	49-50
MILLER	CHRIS	88-95
MILLER	ROY D	46
MILTON	MATT	75
MISSIG	FRANCIS H	83
MONTGOMERY	ROBERT J	46-62
MONTGOMERY	WILLIAM N	69
MORAN	FRANK	47
MORAN	SHERIDAN J	48-50
MOULTON	GEORGE	91-93
MUENZ	JACK	46-49
MULLENS	RICHARD A	78-81
MURPHY	J T	47-48
MULROONEY	LEE	55
MUNDERLOH	AL	46
NAROWSKI	STANLEY F	74-81
NELSON	HILL E	69-71
NICHOLS	PAUL	48-50
NIEGHORN	JOHN	72-77
NORTHAFT	CHARLES T	50-54
O'BRIEN	JOSEPH W	79-81
O'CONNER	THOMAS M	55
O'LAUGHLIN	W	71-76
O'ROURKE	THOMAS R	74-81
OLENJACK	STEVE	48-52
OLSON	ELMER L	51-60
ORVIS	WOODSON H	81-93
PAGE	DENNIS E	77-78
PALAZZOLO	JOE	72-74
PALMER	KENNETH E	69

## Chapter Two - Membership Roll

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PALMS	JOSEPH X	66-77	
PAQUIN	TOM	88-91	XX
PARKER	CHRISTOPHER "SKIP"	50	51
PATERSON	ANDREW	48-55	
PATRUS	REGINALD S	78-80	
PAULING	STEVE	94-95	
PELTIER*	RONALD "BUD"	45-55	
PENNIMAN	DAVE	56-58	
PETERS	EARLE	60-70	
PETROSKI	J DALE	62-72	88-95
PETTEY	DONALD L	55	
PFUNK	WALTER	66-80	XX
PHELAN	CHRISTOPHER S	77-80	
PHELAN	DENNIS J	71-80	
PHELAN	JAMES LEO	71-76	
PHELAN	JAMES WILSON	71-83	
PHELAN	MICHAEL JOHN	74-76	
PHELAN	JOHN	75-76	
PHILLIPS	JOSEPH D	86	
PHILLIPS	WALTER	73-74	
PICCIONE	NICK	90-95	
PIERCE	DAVE	48-49	DETROIT
PILON	MARK	69	
PIZZINO	NORMAN	50-56	
PODVIN	HAROLD	57-59	WINDSOR
POIRIER	GERALD	72-74	
POIRIER	RICHARD	80-82	XX
POLHAMUS	HAROLD	69-95	
POWELL	CHRISTOPHER A	78-79	82
PRIEBE	RAY A	47-48	
PRIEBES	AARON H	47-52	
PRIMEAU	RICHARD	52-54	
PROBST	DONALD J	73-75	
PROFFITT	MICHAEL	82-95	
PROKOPOW	JOHN	51-54	
PROST	JOHN C	60-61	
PURCELLS	CHARLES	46-50	
QUARNSTROM	I T	53-55	
QUILLETTE	LEON	47-49	
QUIRK	TOM	83-91	XX
QUIRK	TOM JR	86-91	
RAKOWSKI	MICHAEL J	81	
RAMGE	JOE	83-95	
RANCILIO	ROBERT	74-91	94-95
REEB	JAMES J	50-51	
REED	HERBERT	58-91	
REED	LAWRENCE	64-75	
REED	PAUL F	58-75	
REICHARD	DICK	75	
REIMAN	ARTHUR J	60-66	
REINHARDT	HAROLD	46-59	
REINHARDT	HAROLD	83	

## Chapter Two - Membership Roll

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RESTIVO	CARL	48-66	
RICHARDS	HOWARD C	82-95	
RICHENS	JAY	66-81	
RICHING	JAMES	48-50	
RICKEL	STEVEN L	51-57	
RIENHEART	RICHARD	76	
ROACH	ROBERT E	47-50	
ROBERTS*	MARK P	45-83	XX LIFE MEMBER
ROBERTS	TERRY	75	
ROCHAN	CARL	47-48	
ROCKENSUESS	DENNIS C	74-80	
ROCQUE	RENE	48-54	
ROESE	ART	91-95	
ROSE	GORDON P JR	54-57	
ROSS	PAUL R	69-72	
ROSS	ROBERT	48	
ROTTIERS	FRED	73-79	XX
RUELE	JAMES J	49-50	E DETROIT
RUSH	FRED R	55-57	
RUSSELL	RONALD	61	
RUSSELL	WILLIAM T	69-71	
RUTT	JAMES J	74-95	
RYSDORP	EUGENE J	66	
SALK	LYNN	47-52	
SALTON	FRED	46-55	
SALTON	ROBERT F	48-49	
SALTON	ROY	50	
SANDERS	EARL	57-73	78-81 XX
SANDERS	PHIL	59-60	
SANDERS	DR WILBUR S	49-70	
SANDUSKY	DAVID D	81-82	
SASSIN	ANTHONY J	73-76	
SAUERS	ROBERT L	78-85	91
SAUVE	J EDOARD	75-95	
SCHAEFER	RICK	90-95	
SCHAFFER	ED D	47-52	
SCHAITBERGER	DAN	74-81	
SCHARRER	DR. CHARLES H	69-74	XX
SCHELL	DON	90-95	
SCHENK	JACK J	74-80	
SCHEUER	FRANCIS	50-55	
SCHLICKTING	WALTER	85-87	
SCHLOTTMAN	DICK	72-73	
SCHNECH	AL JR	46-51	
SCHNEIDER	HENRY	75-76	
SCHNELL	CLARENCE T	69	
SCHOENHERR	ROBERT J	62	
SCHRAM	JOHN	90-95	
SCHROEDER	VICTOR C	78-80	
SCHULTZ	GERRY	72-74	XX
SCHUTTER	ROGER	91-93	
SCHWEDLER	WILLIAM	80-83	

## Chapter Two - Membership Roll

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SCHWEITZER	ALBERT E	50	
SCHWEITZER	LEN W	49-55	83-95
SCHWOPPE*	EDWIN G	45-48	69-71 XX
SEALLY	ANTHONY J	62	
SEELY*	ARTHUR	45-58	77-80 82
SEELY	CURT	94-95	
SEELY	HAROLD	54-83	QUARTET
SEELY	MATHEW J	78-95	
SEELY	RONALD H	54-66	QUARTET
SEELY	RUSSELL	54-95	QUARTET
SEELY	RUSSELL JR	74-76	
SEITZ	HENRY L	74-75	
SHAUGHNESSY	DONALD	48-50	DETROIT
SHAUGHNESSY	JOHN R	48-60	DETROIT
SHANKS	HARVEY	49-50	
SHAVER	CLAY	93	
SHAVER	TOBY	93	
SHIELDS	JACK	94-95	
SHIER	WILLIAM H	77-95	
SIEBERT	ROBERT G	82	
SINGER	ALEXANDER	60-76	XX
SLAMKA	JACK	72-85	
SLAMKA	MICHAEL	83-85	
SMITH	DAMON CLARE	84-95	
SMITH	EDWIN	46	
SMITH	GARNET	46-58	
SMITH	KENNETH	52-87	
SMITH	ROBERT	91-95	
SMUDSKI	PAUL J	78-79	
STANKO	EDWARD R	69-75	
STARRETTE	RAY	71-95	
STEENROD	DONALD C	61-62	
STEINER	ALVIN	46-57	
STRAKA	ED	66-67	
STROZE	GARY W	81-85	
STUTT	HARRY J	53	64-67
SUDDICK	KEVIN A	78-81	
SUDDICK	WILLIAM L	74-84	XX
SULLIVAN	DANIEL W	49-50	
SULLIVAN	MICHAEL	91-95	
SUNDAY	GEORGE	46-47	
SUNDAY	CLIFTON F	46-47	
SWANSON	CHRIS	93	
SWENSON	WILLARD E	85-91	
TELEP	MICHAEL	47-53	64
TELFORD	THOMAS	46-64	
TELMAN	STANLEY	60	
TEN EYCK	HERBERT	49-51	XX
THEUERKERN	JOHN A	69	
THOMAS	AL	71-72	83-84
THOMAS	STANLEY G	69-73	
TICE	CLIFFORD	47-50	
TICE	HILTON	47-49	

## Chapter Two - Membership Roll

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TOHLKE	DONALD	48/49
TREBESCH*	CARL	45-46
TROE	JULIUS	47-48
TROMBLEY	DARWIN	74-77 85
TROMBLEY	HARLEY J	74-91
TROMBLEY	MICHAEL C	74-87
URIDGE	CARL J	63-95
URIDGE	JAMES	86-88 94
VAN DE VELDE	GEORGE	61-87
VAN DE VELDE	JERRY	81-87
VEHAR	DANIEL T	79-80
VRBENSKY	H C	52-53
WADE	JOHN	61-95
WAGNER	CLIFF	47-48
WALCH	FRANK A	83
WALL	EARL	48-58
WALLACE	ROBERT J	77-81
WALLEY*	LOUIS	45-70 XX 73
WALLEY	LOUIS JR	46-48
WALSH	RICHARD P	50-57 XX
WARD	SHELL	57
WARREN	KEN	84-86
WASILINA	WILLIAM	93-95
WATSON	DAVID G	78-81 91-93
WAY	RAY C	53
WAYNE	CLIFFORD	47-48
WAYNE	PETE	69 XX 69
WEARING	JOHN	64-95
WEBBER	CARL	91-92
WEIDEMAN*	CARL	45-50
WEIDNER	R R	60-61
WEIGNER	CLINTON A	46-47
WEST	HERBERT	72-76 85-95
WENZEL	JOHN	73-79
WHEELER	EUGENE	48-49
WHITE*	JOHN	45-51
WILHELM	KENNETH J	66-67
WILLETTE	HOMER	46-49 XX
WILLIAMS	LARRY	47-50
WILLIAMS	RICHARD	86
WILLOUGHBY	DONALD	74-95
WILSON	HENRY A	60-62
WILSON	JOHN N	59-64
WINGARD	CHARLIE	94-95
WINSHIP	TED	46-55 QUARTET
WOOD	ROBERT N	73-95
WOODARD	W O	49-50
WOODUS*	C A	45-47
WORCESTER	HUGH	53
WREFORD	CHARLES R	74-82 86-87
WRIGHT	FRED	58
YAQUES	KEVIN	77

## Chapter Two - Membership Roll

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YACQUES	PAT	69-77
YACQUES	SCOTT	71-72
YAHRMATTER	RONALD J	80-82
YDERSTAD	ARNE	52-55
YOUNG	BRUCE	73-75
ZARENBA	FRANK	89-95
ZINSER	DAN	79

XX - RIP

QUARTET - JOINED WITH QUARTET

\* - CHARTER MEMBERS

**Chapter Three - Barbershopper of the Year  
District Hall of Fame**

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**GROSSE POINTE CHAPTER BARBERSHOPPER OF THE YEAR**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GROSSE POINTE CHAPTER, SPEBSQSA, HELD SEPTEMBER 15, 1969

A motion that the Chapter make an Annual award to a Chapter member as Barbershopper of the Year, or some such title, in recognition of a Grosse Pointe Chapter member who has continually devoted his time, service and talents for the good of the Chapter.

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>MEMBER</u>
1967	Mark Roberts	1991	Ed McCarthy
1968	John Wade		Ray Starrette
1969	Paul Johnson	1992	Frank Maranzano
1970	Don Adams	1993	Joe Bichler
1971	Hank DeMars	1994	Howard Masters
1972	Kurt Kusch	1995	Eric Ernst
1973	Pat Yacques		
1974	Bill Brower		
1975	Sterling Berry		
1976	Don Adams		
1977	Russ Seely		
1978	Bob Rancillio		
1979	Dan Bulbuk		
1980	Jim Rutt		
1981	Art Jones & George VanDeVelde		
1982	Don Willoughby		
1983	Ron Houghton		
1984	Harvey Burr & Bill Lane		
1985	Sully Mazur		
1986	Dick Barber		
1987	Len Schweitzer		
1988	Carl Uridge		
1989	Mike Proffitt		
1990	Don Hein		

## Chapter Three - Barbershopper of the Year District Hall of Fame

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### PIONEER DISTRICT HALL OF FAME

The Hall of Fame Award is the most prestigious award given by the Pioneer District. By means of the Hall of Fame, all Barbershoppers of the Pioneer District could give some recognition to those "Pioneers", (past and present) for the many contributions the recipient of such an award have given to their chapter, district and barbershopping in general. The first award was presented at the Spring Convention, 1974.

Ben Landino      Mark Roberts      Ed Schwoppe      Mike Arnone  
Wally Joure      Russ Seely      John Wearing

#### Edwin G. Schwoppe

a) Ed Schwoppe answered the call of O.C. Cash and attended the first meeting in Oklahoma. He returned to Michigan and was instrumental in establishing the first Barbershop Chapter in the "World", Detroit #1. He was an International Board Member in 1941 and 1942.

b) He was one of the founders and a charter member of Grosse Pointe Chapter and the second President of that Chapter.

c) After Grosse Pointe he started a Chapter in Mt. Clemens and was the first President of that Chapter. Even though the Mt. Clemens Chapter failed, Ed remained active in Barbershopping until his death in 1973.

#### Mark P. Roberts

a) Although Mark did not attend the initial O.C. Cash meeting he did the first meeting in Detroit and Joined Detroit #1 Chapter when it was founded.

b) He was one of the founders of the Grosse Pointe Chapter and was the Chapter's first President.

c) Mark sang baritone in a quartet which competed in the first contest ever held in the Society.

He was active in all Society administration. He was Michigan

## Chapter Three - Barbershopper of the Year District Hall of Fame

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District President in 1950 and 1951. Mark was a legal advisor to the International Society and was instrumental in having the Society declared a "Non-Profit Organization" after meeting with the I.R.S. in Washington, D.C.

e) Mark became one of the first certified judges in the Society and traveled near and far at his own expense judging the arrangement category.

f) Mark was among the first to recognize the potential of a chorus contest and campaigned among his fellow barbershoppers to promote and approve this activity.

g) After retiring from law practice and moving to Florida, Mark was not content to give up singing; consequently he organized a chapter Shangri-La and is currently an office- still encouraging and preserving our Society.

### Benjamin A. Landino

a) Benny Landino was just one of those fellows who loved to sing Barbershop and just seemed not to get enough of it. No matter where Ben traveled he touched the soul of anyone he contacted with the idea that being a barbershopper was the greatest thing that could happen to any man.

b) Ben was a qualified craftsman and spent most of his efforts in creating something that said "I am a barbershopper". It was Ben Landino who created and donated the International Quartet Trophy, which was first rejected by the International Board until they actually saw the beauty of Ben's craftsmanship.

When the Society elected to hold Chorus Contests, Benny promptly went to his work bench and created a trophy for chorus competition winners. Needless to say, Ben Landino's trophies have become one of the most coveted awards available to any barbershopper.

## Chapter Three - Barbershopper of the Year District Hall of Fame

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### Wally Joure & Mike Arnone

Wally and Mike were two of the four members inducted into the Hall of Fame at the Fall Convention in 1976.

### Russ Seely

Russ, a 36 year barbershopper, has sung with three District champion quartets and has competed on the International Stage eight times. He has directed the Lakeshore Chorus for 21 years. He has held most of the chapter offices from President to Bulletin Editor. He also has served as an Area Counselor, Hospitality Chairman and District vice-president, a position has held for the past several years. Russ is particularly proud of his part in developing the Mark Roberts Award, the International Senior Quartet Trophy and the Hugh Ingram International Quartet trophy.

October 21, 1990 District Convention

### John R. Wearing, 1995 Hall of Fame recipient by Russ Seely

Truly, the Hal Ripken of Barbershop, Johnnie Wearing was named to the Pioneer District Hall of Fame October 20, 1995.

He appeared in over 140 contests in his 35 plus years as a member. Some years John competed as many as eight times - two choruses in the Spring and Fall, one chorus at International, plus a quartet in each event.

He was a member of three District champion quartets as well as Bush League Champs and was also a member of our first Senior Quartet Champs, the **FOUR FITS**.

John served as Chapter President with the Grosse Pointe Chapter and was instrumental in chartering the Port Huron Chapter. He has served on chapter boards since beginning with Niles-Buchanan, serving also, Oakland County, Grosse Pointe, Detroit #1 and Motor City Chapters.

The consummate barbershop tenor, John has long donated his time and talent to preserving our heritage.

## Chapter Four - Chapter Officers

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### GROSSE POINTE CHAPTER OFFICERS

1945-1946

President.....	Mark Roberts	Exec Comm:	Murray LaGrou
Vice-Pres. ....	Ed Schwoppe		Bud Peltier
Secretary.....	Lou Walley		Ted C.Fennell
Treasurer.....	LeRoy McKinney		Art Seely
MC.....	Dal Metcalf		C A Woodus
Pitch Pipe Ed....	Mark Roberts	Delegate:	Mark Roberts
Historian.....	Mark Roberts	Alt Del:	Lou Walley
Keeper of Mugs...	Fred Lutzer		

1946-1947

President.....	Ed Schwoppe	Exec Comm:	Fred Salton
Vice-Pres. ....	Dal Metcalf		James Creed
Secretary.....	Lou Walley		Mark Roberts
Treasurer.....	Bob Montgomery		Bob Hartley
MC.....	Art Seely		Al Finkenhoefer
Pitch Pipe Ed....	Mark Roberts	Delegate:	Mark Roberts
Historian.....	Mark Roberts	Alt Del:	Lou Walley
Keeper of Mugs...	Fred Lutzer	Parade Chair...	Mark Roberts

1947-1948

President.....	Lou Walley	Exec Comm:	Al Steiner
Vice-Pres. ....	LeRoy McKinney		Mark Roberts
Secretary.....	Bob Montgomery		Garnet Smith
Treasurer.....	Fred Salton		Bill Dennes
MC.....	Art Seely		Jim Jackson
Pitch Pipe Ed....	Mark Roberts	Delegate:	Mark Roberts
Historian.....	Mark Roberts	Alt Del:	Lou Walley
Historian.....	Mark Roberts		
Keeper of Mugs...	Fred Lutzer	Parade Chair...	Mark Roberts
	Bob Hartley		

1948-1949

President.....	LeRoy McKinney	Exec Comm:	Bert Escott
Vice-Pres. ....	Bob Montgomery		Mark Roberts
Secretary.....	Harold Reinhardt		Bob Hartley
Treasurer.....	Al Steiner		Garnet Smith
MC.....	Art Seely		
Pitch Pipe Ed....	Mark Roberts	Delegate:	Mark Roberts
Historian.....	Mark Roberts		Lou Walley
Keeper of Mugs...	Jim Creed	Alt Del:	Bob Hartley
Parade Chair.....	Ray McCalpin		Hal Reinhardt
Community Ser....	Lou Walley		

## Chapter Four - Chapter Officers

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### 1949-1950

President.....	Bob Montgomery	Exec Comm:	LeRoy McKinney
Vice-Pres. ....	Harold Reinhardt		Al Steiner
Secretary.....	Ray McCalpin Jr		Garnet Smith
Treasurer.....	Garnet Smith		Bill Dennes
MC.....	Bob Hartley		Jim Jackson
Pitch Pipe Ed....	Hal Reinhart		Jim Creed
Historian.....	Mark Roberts	Delegate:	MarK Roberts
Keeper of Mugs...	Steve Olenjack		LeRoy McKinney
Lou Walley		Alt Del:	Hal Reinhardt
			Bill Dennes
			Bob Hartley

### 1950-1951

President.....	Harold Reinhardt	Exec Comm:	Bob Montgomery
Vice-Pres. ....	Ray McCalpin Jr		Al Steiner
Secretary.....	Covert Hunter		Pete Fisher
Treasurer.....	Garnet Smith		Ben Landino
MC.....	LeRoy McKinney		Steve Olenjack
Pitch Pipe Ed....	Mark Roberts		Jim Davenport
Historian.....	Mark Roberts	Delegate:	Bob Montgomery
Keeper of Mugs...	Herbert Ten Eyck		Mark Roberts
Parade Chair.....	Mark Roberts		Bert Escott
Lou Walley		Alt Del:	Garnet Smith
			Hal Reinhardt

### 1951-1952

President.....	Ray McCalpin Jr	Exec Comm:	Hal Reinhardt
Vice-Pres. ....	Peter Fisher		
Secretary.....	James L Davenport		
Treasurer.....	Harolf L Lemmer		
MC.....	Steven Olenjack	Delegate	Bert Escott
Pitch Pipe Ed....	Mark Roberts		Mark Roberts
Historian.....	Mark Roberts	Alt Del:	Harold Reinhardt
Keeper of Mugs...	M Donald Kraft		Louis Walley
Parade Chair.....			

### 1952-1953

President.....	Jim Jackson	Board Mem:	Ray McCalpin Jr
Vice-Pres. ....	Covert Hunter		Bert Escott
Secretary.....	Steven Rickel		Bob Montgomery
Treasurer.....	Alan Davenport		Carl Restivo
MC.....	Jim Creed		Herb Klersey
Pitch Pipe Ed....		egate:	Bert Escott
Historian.....	Lou Walley		Al Steiner
Keeper of Mugs...	Ben Landino	Alt Del:	Bob Montgomery
Parade Chair.....			Jim Davenport
Inter Chap Rel...	Ray McCalpin Jr		

## Chapter Four - Chapter Officers

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### 1953-1954

President.....Covert Hunter	Board Mem:	Jim Jackson
Vice-Pres. ....Bert Escott		Lou Walley
Secretary.. ....Wesley Meier		Bob Montgomery
Treasurer.....Francis Higgins		Steve Rickel
MC.....		Herb Klersey
Pitch Pipe Ed....Jim Davenport		Peter Fisher
Historian.....Mark Roberts		LeRoy McKinney
Keeper of Mugs...Ken Smith	Delegate:	Bert Escott
		Mark Roberts
	Alt Del:	Jim Davenport
		Lou Walley

### 1954-1955

President.....Bert Escott	Board Mem:	Covert Hunter
Vice-Pres. ....Jim Davenport		Steve Rickel
Secretary.....Francis Higgins		Bob Dashed
Treasurer.....Alan Davenport		
MC.....LeRoy McKinney	Delegate:	Bert Escott
Pitch Pipe Ed....Bert Escott		Lou Walley
Historian.....Mark Roberts	Alt Del:	Mark Roberts
Keeper of Mugs...Len Schweitzer		Bob Montgomery
Parade Chair.....		

### 1955-1956

President.....Jim Davenport	Board Mem:	Bert Escott
Vice-Pres. ....Francis Higgins		Lou Walley
Secretary.....Harold Seely		LeRoy McKinney
Treasurer.....Gordon Limburg		Herb Klersey
MC.....Ray McCalpin Jr		Alan Davenport
Pitch Pipe Ed....		
Historian.....Mark Roberts	Delegate:	Mark Roberts
Keeper of Mugs...Gordon Rose		Bert Escott
	Alt Del:	Jim Davenport
		Lou Walley

### 1956-1957

President.....Lou Walley	Board Mem:	Jim Davenport
Vice-Pres. ....Harold Seely		Bob Montgomery
Secretary.....Chuck Geyer		Marv Burke
Treasurer.....Gordon Rose		Bert Escott
MC.....		Gordon Rose
Pitch Pipe Ed....Alan Davenport	Delegate:	Peter Fisher
Historian.....Mark Roberts		Hal Reinhardt
Keeper of Mugs...Russ Seely	Alt Del:	Ray McCalpin Jr
		Jim Davenport

## Chapter Four - Chapter Officers

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1957-1958

President.....Herb Klersey	Board Mem:	Lou Walley
Vice-Pres. ....Harold Seely		Bob Montgomery
Secretary.....Earl Sanders		Marv Burke
Treasurer.....Frank Kropp		Bert Escott
MC.....Harold Seely		Gordon Rose
Pitch Pipe Ed....Hal Reinhart		
Historian.....Hal Reinhardt	Delegate:	Peter Fisher
Keeper of Mugs...Bob Collins		Hal Reinhardt
	Alt Del:	Ray McCalpin Jr
		Jim Davenport

1958-1959

President.....Bob Collins	Board Mem:	Herb Klersey
Vice-Pres. ....Bud Shaughnessy		Bob Montgomery
Secretary.....Earl Sanders		Hal Reinhardt
Treasurer.....Frank Kropp		Bert Escott
MC.....Earl Sanders		Loy Walley
Pitch Pipe Ed....Hal Reinhardt	Delegate:	Harold Podvin
Historian.....Mark Roberts		Chuck Geyer
Keeper of Mugs...Ron Seely	Alt Del:	Paul Reed
		Lou Walley

1959-1960

President.....Earl Sanders	Board Mem:	Bob Collins
Vice-Pres. ....Bob Havelt		
Secretary.....Ken Smith		
Treasurer.....Paul Reed		
MC.....		
Pitch Pipe Ed....Ken Smith		
Historian.....Mark Roberts	Delegate:	
Keeper of Mugs...		

1960-1961

President.....Chuck Geyer	Board Mem:	Earl Sanders
Membership V P...Bill Bailey		
Program V P.....Harold Seely		
Secretary.....Ken Smith		
Treasurer.....Paul Reed		
Pitch Pipe Ed....Mark Roberts	Delegate:	Mark Roberts
Historian.....Mark Roberts		Herb Reed
Keeper of Mugs...Ron Seely	Alt Del:	Lou Walley
		Ben Landino

## Chapter Four - Chapter Officers

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1961

President.....Chuck Geyer	Board Mem:
Membership V P...Bill Bailey	
Program V P.....Harold Seely	
Secretary.....Ken Smith	
Treasurer.....Paul Reed	
Pitch Pipe Ed....Mark Roberts	Delegate:
Historian.....Mark Roberts	
Keeper of Mugs...Ron Seely	Alt Del:

1962

President.....Ken Smith	Board Mem:	Chuck Geyer
Membership V P...Doc Sanders		Bill Bailey
Program V P.....Russ Seely		Herb Reed
Secretary.....Terry Jordan		Paul Johnson
Treasurer.....Paul Reed		Ron Seely
Chorus Dir.....Hal Seely		
Pitch Pipe Ed....Herb Reed	Delegate:	Lou Walley
Historian.....Mark Roberts		Ray McCalpin Jr
Keeper of Mugs...John Wade		
Pblic Rel.....Doc Sanders	Alt Del:	Chuck Geyer
		Ron Seely

1963

President.....Ken Smith	Board Mem:	Paul Johnson
Membership V P...Russ Seely		Paul Reed
Program V P.....Marv Burke		Earl Sanders
Secretary.. ..Ron Seely		Doc Sanders
Treasurer.....Chuck Geyer		Herb Reed
Pitch Pipe Ed....Russ Seely		
Historian.....Mark Roberts	Delegate:	Ray McCalpin
Keeper of Mugs...Fred Haines		Russ Seely
Librarian.....Carl Uridge		
Serg at Arms.....Alex Singer	Alt Del:	Ken Smith

1964

President.....Herb Reed	Board Mem:	Ken Smith
Membership V P...Bob Jones		
Program V P.....Frank Lozzi		
Secretary.....Larry Reed		
Treasurer.....John Wade		
Pitch Pipe Ed....Dale Petrosky		
Historian.....Mark Roberts	Delegate:	
Keeper of Mugs...Bob Jonker		
Chorus Dir.....Hal Seely	Alt Del:	
Librarian.....Carl Uridge		
Serg at arms.....Alex Singer		

## Chapter Four - Chapter Officers

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1965

President.....Hal Seely	Board Mem:	Herb Reed
Membership V P...Frank Lozzi		Bob Jones
Program V P.....John Wade		Art Reiman
Secretary.....Carl Uridge		Chuck Geyer
Treasurer.....Paul Johnson		Dale Petrosky
Pitch Pipe Ed....Jay Richens	Delegate:	Ray McCalpin Jr
Historian.....Mark Roberts		Hal Seely
Keeper of Mugs...George VanDeVelde	Alt Del:	Russ Seely
Serg at arms....Alex Singer		Lou Walley
Chorus Dir.....Hal Seely		

1966

President.....Paul Johnson	Board Mem:	Hal Seely
Membership V P...George VanDeVelde		Chuck Geyer
Program V P.....Jay Richens		Bob Jonker
Secretary.....Mark Roberts		Bob Kruger
Treasurer.....Bob Jones		Herb Reed
Pitch Pipe Ed....Jay Richens	Delegate:	Russ Seely
Historian.....Lou Walley		Ray McCalpin Jr
Keeper of Mugs...Larry Reed	Alt.Del.	Marv Burke
Serg at arms....Arthur Dupuis		John Wearing
Chorus Dir.....Hal Seely		

1967

President.....Jay Richens	Board Mem:	Paul Johnson
Membership V P...George VanDeVelde		Herb Reed
Program V P.....Bob Jones		Earl Sanders
Secretary.....Mark Roberts		Chuck Geyer
Treasurer.....Paul Johnson		John Wearing
Pitch Pipe Ed....Mark Roberts	Delegate:	Russ Seely
Historian.....Lou Walley		Ray McCalpin Jr
Keeper of Mugs...Lou Herman	Alt. Del.	John Wearing
Sgt at arms.....Don Adams		Marv Burke
Community Serv...Bob Krueger		

1968

President.....Larry Reed	Board Mem:	Jay Richens
Membership V P...Lou Herman		Don Adams
Program V P.....Hank DeMars		Al Cullen
Secretary.....Mark Roberts		Chuck Geyer
Treasurer.....Paul Johnson		Frank Lozzi
Pitch Pipe Ed....Mark Roberts	Delegate:	Ray McCalpin
Chorus Dir.....Russ Seely		Russ Seely
Historian.....Lou Walley	Alt Del	John Wearing
Keeper of Mugs...Irven Devore		Marve Burke
Sgt at arms.....Earl Sanders		

## Chapter Four - Chapter Officers

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1969

President.....Don Adams	Board Mem:	Larry Reed
Membership V P...Hank DeMars		Herb Reed
Program V P.....Dick Brouckaert		George VanDeVelde
Secretary.....Mark Roberts		Paul Johnson
Treasurer.....Al Cullen		Lou Hermann
Pitch Pipe Ed....Paul Johnson		
Pitch Pipe Ed....Larry Reed	Delegate:	John Wearing
Historian.....Jack Henderstein		Russ Seely
Keeper of Mugs...Jim Kerrigan	Alt Del:	Marv Burke
Sgt at arms.....Skip Gibson		Ray McCalpin Jr
Chorus Dir.....Russ Seely		
Chorus Mgr.....Bob Jones		

1970

President.....John Wade	Board Mem:	Don Adams
Membership V P...Hank DeMars		George VanDeVelde
Program V P.....Vince Koelzer		Bob Jones
Secretary.....Mark Roberts		George Gillis
Treasurer.....Hill Nelson		Kurt Kusch
Chorus Dir.....Russ Seely		
Pitch Pipe Ed....Paul Johnson	Delegate:	Ray McCalpin Jr
Larry Reed		Russ Seely
Keeper of Mugs...		
Public Rel.....Doc Sanders	Alt Del:	MarvE Burke
Historian.....Jack Henderstein		John Wearing
Sgt at arms.....Skip Gibson		

1971

President.....Dick Brouckaert	Board Mem:	John Wade
Membership V P...Don Adams		Earl Sanders
Program V P.....Kurt Kusch		George VanDeVelde
Asst. PVP.....Hank DeVries		Hank DeMars
Secretary.....Jack Germaine		Bob Demchak
Treasurer.....George Gillis		
Pith Pipe Ed....Paul Johnson		
Historian.....Paul Johnson	Delegate:	Ray McCalpin Jr
Keeper of Mugs...Frank Kay		Russ Seely
Chorus Dir.....Russ Seely		
Sgt at arms.....Vince Koelzer	Alt Del:	Marv Burke
		John Wearing

1972

## Chapter Four - Chapter Officers

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President.....Russ Seely Membership V P...Ray Starrette Program V P.....John Wearing Asst. PVP.....Hank DeVries Secretary.....Don Adams Treasurer.....Bill Brower Pitch Pipe Ed....Paul Johnson Historian.....Paul Johnson Keeper of Mugs...Wally Pfunk Chorus Dir.....Russ Seely Sgt at arms.....Bob Brower	Board Mem: Dick Brouckaert Doc Scharrer Fred Ford Pat Yacques Hal Polhamus  Delegate: John Wearing Russ Seely  Alt Del: Ray McCalpin Jr Marve Burke
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1973

President.....Ray Starrette Membership V P...John Wearing Program V P.....John Wade Asst. PVP.....Pat Yacques Secretary.....Hank DeMars Treasurer.....Bill Brower Pitch Pipe Ed....Pat Yacques Historian.....Sully Mazur Keeper of Mugs...Dan Bulbuk Sgt at arms.....Hank Lucyznski Chorus Dir.....Russ Seely Dick Brouckaert	Board Mem: Russ Seely Hal Polhamus Kurt Kusch Jerry Schultz Jim Gougeon  Delegate: Pat Yacques Kurt Kusch  Alt Del: John Neighorn Jim Gougeon
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1974

President.....John Wearing Membership V P...Kurt Kusch Program V P.....Hank DeMars Asst. PVP.....Dan Bulbuk Secretary.....Bill Brower Treasurer.....Ken Grunder Pitch Pipe Ed....Pat Yacques Don McCoy Historian.....Ray McCalpin Jr Keeper of Mugs...Jim Phelan Sgt at arms.....Don Adams Uniform Chr.....Don Willoughby	Board Mem: Ray Starrette Sully Mazur Russ Seely Jim Gougeon Paul Johnson  Delegate: John Neighorn Pat Yacques Alt Del Jim Goegeon Hal Polhamus Chorus Dir....Russ Deely Dick Brouckaert
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## Chapter Four - Chapter Officers

1975

President.....Kurt Kusch Membership V P...Cark Uridge Program V P.....Russ Seely Asst. PVP.....John Wade Secretary.....Sterling Berry Treasurer.....Bill Brower Asst. Treas.....Jim Gougeon Pitch Pipe Ed....Don McCoy Dick Barber Art Bassett Historian.....Ray McCalpin Jr Keeper of Mugs...Wally Pfunk Chorus Mgr.....Don Adams	Board Mem: John Wearing John Wenzel Bob Rancilio Dick Krass  Delegate: John Neighorn Sully Mazur  Alt Del: Paul Johnson Bob Kruger Chorus Dir..Kurr Kusch Uniform Chr..Don Willoughby
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1976

President.....Don Adams Membership V P...Bob Rancilio Program V P.....Ray McCalpin Asst. PVP.....Gordon DuBrul Secretary.....Sterling Berry Treasurer.....Nick Cattelane Pitch Pipe Ed....Dick Barber Art Bassett Historian.....Russ Seely Keeper of Mugs...Tom Fox Sgt at arms.....Wally Pfunk Chorus Manager...Larry Lorentzen Uniform Chr.....Larry Lorentzen	Board Mem: Kurt Kusch Bob Kruger Carl Uridge Bob Wood John Neighorn  Delegate: Dan Bulbuk Bill Brower Alt Del John Wenzel Hank DeMars Chorus Dir...Gordon Limburg Dir...Dick Brouckaert
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1977

President.....Bob Rancilio Membership V P...Sterling Berry Program V P.....Sully Mazur Asst. PVP.....Ted Keller Secretary.....Jerry Mike Treasurer.....Hill Nelson Asst. Treas.....Mike Trombley Chorus Dir.....Russ Seely Asst. Chor Dir...Sterling Berry Pitch Pipe Ed....Dick Barber Art Bassett Keeper of Mugs...Art Jones Public Rel.....Bill Lenhard Logopedics Chr Dan Bulbuk Chorus Mgr.....Don Adams	Board Mem: Don Adams Bud Goolsbee Larry Lorentzen Kurt Kusch James Kerrigan  Delegate: Tom Fox Jim Gougeon  Alt Del: Hank DeMars Don Willoughby  Uniform Chr.....Larry Lorentzen Historian.....John Wearing
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## Chapter Four - Chapter Officers

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1978

President.....Sterling Berry Membership V P...Sully Mazur Program V P.....Tom Fox Asst PVP.....John Wearing Secretary.....William Brower Treasurer.....Nick Cattelane Asst Treas.....George Greer Pitch Pipe Ed....Dick Barber Art Bassett Historian.....Art Bassett Keeper of Mugs...Les Suddick Chorus Dir.....Russ Seely Asst. Chor Dir...Sterling Berry Public Rel.....Bill Lenhard Uniform Chr.....Larry Lorentzen Chorus Mgr.....Bill Lenhard	Board Mem: Bob Rancilio Donald Hein Michael Trombley Dick Brouckaert James Kerrigan  Delegate: Gordon DuBrul Hank DeMars  Alt Del: Jim Gougeon Bob Wallace  Serg at arms..Dan Schaitberger Logopedic Chr..Howard Lewis Librarian....Gene Honderich Show Chairman..Bob Rancilio
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1979

President.....Sully Mazur Membership V P...Dan Bulbuk Program V P.....Russ Seely Asst. PVP.....Don Adams Secretary.....Bob Wood Treasurer.....Carl Uridge Asst. Treas.....George Greer Pitch Pipe Ed....Dick Barber Art Bassett Rich Buehl Historian.....Art Bassett Keeper of Mugs...Jim Kinner Ed Sauve Sgt at arms.....Charles Evans Georgw Knaut Logopedics Chr...George VanDeVelde Public Rel.....Bill Lenhard Uniform Chr.....Don Willoughby	Board Mem: Sterling Berry Bob Rancilio Jim Rutt Harvey Burr Jim Kerrigan  Delegate: Don Willoughby Tom Fox  Alt Del John Wade Sterling Berry  Chorus Dir...Russ Seely Asst. Chor Dir...Sterling Berry Show Chairman....Bob Rancilio Chorus Mgr....Jim Rutt Librarian...Gene Honderich
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## Chapter Four - Chapter Officers

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1980

President.....	Jim Rutt	Board Mem:	Sully Mazur
Membership V P...	Dan Bulbuk		Ed Sauve
Program V P.....	Hal Trombley		Jim Kinner
Secretary.....	Harvey Burr		Don Adams
Treasurer.....	Tom Fox		John Collins
Pitch Pipe Ed....	Dick Barber		
	Art Bassett	Delegate:	Bob Rancilio
Historian.....	Jim Kerrigan		Hal Polhamus
Keeper of Mugs...	Bill Lane		
	Al Clifton	Alt Del:	Don Hein
	Howard Masters		Bob Sauers
	Bill Shier		
Chorus Dir.....	Russ Seely	Sgt at arms:	Charles Evans
Asst. Chor Dir...	Jeff Gougeon		George Knaut
	Sterling Berry		
Uniform Chr.....	Don Willoughby		
Chorus Manager...	Gene Honderich		
Logopedics Chr...	George VanDeVelde		
Librarian.....	Fred Hunter		
Show Chr.....			

1981

President.....	Art Jones	Board Mem:	Jim Rutt
Membership V P...	Harvey Burr		Ed Sauve
Program V P.....	Jim Kinner		Joe Bichler
Asst. PVP.....	Hal Trombley		Scott Houghton
Secretary.....	Ron Houghton		Bill Lane
Treasurer.....	Tom Fox		
Chorus Dir.....	Russ Seely	Delegate:	Matt Seely
Asst. Chor Dir...	Sterling Berry		George VanDeVelde
	Jeff Gougeon		
Pitch Pipe Ed....	Dick Barber	Alt Del:	Gerry VanDeVelde
Pitch Pipe Ed....	Art Bassett		Don McCoy
Keeper of Mugs...	Gene Honderich		
	Fred Hunter	Sgt at arms:	Charles Evans
	Howard Masters		Bill Shier
Historian.....	Ray McCalpin		
Chorus Mgr.....	Nick Cattelane		
Uniform Chr.....	Don Willoughby		
Logopedics Chr...	George VanDeVelde		
Show Chr.....	Don Adams		
Show Chr.....	George VanDeVelde		
Librarian.....	Scott Houghton		

## Chapter Four - Chapter Officers

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1982

President.....	Bill Lane	Board Mem:	Art Jones
Membership V P...	Ron Houghton		Ed Sauve
Program V P.....	Harvey Burr		John Collins
Asst. PVP.....	Jim Kinner		Bob Rancilio
Secretary.....	Scott Houghton		Bill Shier
Treasurer.....	Bill Brower		
Chorus Mgr.....	Jim Kinner	Delegate:	Harold Polhamus
Pitch Pipe Ed....	Dick Barber		Sterling Berry
Pitch Pipe Ed....	Woody Orvis		
Historian.....	Mark Roberts	Alt Del:	Jerry VanDeVeldce
Keeper of Mugs...	Sully Mazur		
	Joe Bichler		
	Al Clifton		
	Woody Orvis		
Chorus Dir.....	Russ Seely	Sgt at arms:	Gar Martin
Asst. Chor Dir...	Sterling Berry		Charles Evans
	Carl Uridge		
Logopedic Chr....	George VanDeVelde		
Uniform Chr.....	Don Willoughby		
Librarian.....	Dan Bulbuk		
Show Chairman....	Bob Rancilio		
	Don Adams		

1983

President.....	Ron Houghton	Board Mem:	Bill Lane
Membership V P...	John Collins		Scott Houghton
Program V P.....	Mike McClary		Sully Mazur
Asst.PVP.....	Harvey Burr		Bob Rancilio
Secretary.....	Gene Honderich		Joe Bichler
Treasurer.....	Bill Brower		
Chorus Mgr.....	Jim Rutt	Delegate:	Harold Polhamus
Pitch Pipe Ed....	Dick Barber		Bill Lane
Pitch Pipe Ed....	Don Adams		
Keeper of Mugs...	Jack Messina	Alt Del:	Harry Buell
Keeper of Mugs...	Len Schwietzer		
Keeper of Mugs...	Bob Wood		
Keeper of Mugs...	Art Jones		
Chorus Dir.....	Russ Seely		
Asst. Chor Dir...	Sterling Berry		
Asst. Chor Dir...	Carl Uridge		
Librarian.....	Dan Bulbuk		
Show Chairman....	Bob Rancilio		
Logopedics Chr...	George VanDeVelde		
Uniform Chr.....	Don Willoughby		

## Chapter Four - Chapter Officers

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1984

President.....Harvey Burr	Board Mem: Ron Houghton
Membership V P...Len Schwietzer	Bill Lane
Program V P.....Nels Gregerson	Al Thomas
Secretary.....Howard Richards	Howard Lehti
Treasurer.....Bill Brower	Don Hein
Pitch Pipe Ed....Dick Barber	
Pitch Pipe Ed....Don Adams	Delegate: Harvey Burr
Chorus Mgr.....Howard Lewis	Bill Lane
Keeper of Mugs...Bill Lane	
Jack Messina	Alt Del: Sully Mazur
Jim Kinner	
Mike Proffitt	
Art Jones	
Chorus Dir.....Russ Seely	Sgt at arms: Hank DeMars
Asst. Chor Dir.....Carl Uridge	
Asst. Chor Dir...Sterling Berry	
Asst Chor Dir....Jack Slamka	
Uniform Chr.....Don Willoughby	
Logopedics Chr...George VanDeVelde	
Librarian.....Don Hein	
Show Chrairman...Bob Rancilio	

1985

President.....Nels Gregerson	Board Mem: Harvey Burr
Membership V P...Len Schweitzer	Ron Houghton
Program V P.....John Wade	Bill Lane
Secretary.....Howard Richards	Dale Barber
Treasurer.....Bill Brower	Howard Lehti
Chorus Mgr.....Jim Rutt	
Chorus Dir.....Russ Seely	Delegate: Nels Gregerson
Asst. Chor Dir...Sterling Berry	
Carl Uridge	Alt Del:
Pitch Pipe Ed....Dick Barber	
Keeper of Mugs...Dar Trombley	Sgt at arms: Hank DeMars
Bill Lane	
Ken Warren	
Ron Houghton	
Len henk	Uniform Chr...Don Willoughby
Logopedics Chr...George VanDeVelde	Show Chrairman...Bob Rancilio
Librarian.....Don Hein	

## Chapter Four - Chapter Officers

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1986

President.....Len Schweitzer	Board Mem: Nels Gregerson
Membership V P...Gene Honderich	Harvey Burr
Program V P.....Tim Fick	Bill Lane
Secretary.....Russell Hofer	Don Willoughby
Treasurer.....Leonard Henk	Howard Lewis
Chorus Mgr.....John Wade	
Pitch Pipe Ed....Dick Barber	Delegate: Sully Mazur
Keeper of Mugs...Mike Proffitt	Len Schweitzer
Chorus Dir.....Russ Seely	
Asst. Chor Dir...Sterling Berry	Alt Del: Don Willoughby
Carl Uridge	
John Wade	Sgt at arms: Howard Lewis
Logopedic Chr....John Collins	
Uniform Chr.....Don Willoughby	
Librarian.....Don Hein	
Show Chairman....Jim Rutt	

1987

President.....Al Cole	Board Mem: Len Schweitzer
Membership V P...Joe Bichler	Sully Mazur
Program V P.....Dale Barber	Don Adams
Secretary.....Russell Hofer	Bob Rancilio
Treasurer.....Leonard Henk	Les Marhoff
Chorus Mgr.....Harvey Burr	
Pitch Pipe Ed....Dick Barber	Delegate: Hank DeMars
Keeper of Mugs...Mike Proffitt	Woody Orvis
Logopedics Chr...Howard Lehti	
Historian.....Gene Honderich	
Chorus Dir.....Russ Seely	
Asst. Chor Dir...Scott Houghton	
Carl Uridge	
Librarian.....Don Hein	
Show Chairman....Jim Rutt	
Uniform Chr.....Don Willoughby	
Music VP.....Carl Uridge	

## Chapter Four - Chapter Officers

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1988

President.....	Jack Messina	Board Mem:	Al Cole
Membership V P...	Dale Barber		Harvey Burr
Program V P.....	John Wade		Eric Ernst
Secretary.....	Russell Hofer		Howard Lehti
Treasurer.....	Leonard Henk		
Pitch Pipe Ed....	Dick Barber		
	Joe Bichler	Delegate:	Len Schweitzer
Chorus Mgr.....	Don Adams		Nels Gregerson
Keeper of Mugs...	Mike Proffitt		
Chorus Dir.....	Russ Seely		
Asst. Chor Dir...	Scott Houghton		
Uniform Chr.....	Don Willoughby		
Logopedics Chr...	Howard Lehti		
Librarian.....	Don Hein		
Show Chairman...	James Rutt		
Music VP.....	Carl Uridge		
Historian.....	Gene Honderich		
Public Rel.....	Joe Bichler		
Troubadour.....	Jim Kinner		

1989

President.....	Ed McCarthy	Board Mem:	Jack Messina
Membership V P...	Dale Barber		Scott Houghton
Program V P.....	Len Schweitzer		John Wearing
Secretary.....	Woody Orvis		Ray Starrette
Treasurer.....	Neal Hampton		
Chorus Mgr.....	Don Adams		
Chorus Dir.....	Russ Seely	Delegate:	Sully Mazur
Asst. Chor Dir...	Scott Houghton		Russell Hofer
	Carl Uridge		
Pitch Pipe Ed....	Joe Bichler		
	Dick Barber	Alt Del:	Nels Gregerson
Keeper of Mugs...	Sel Burchenal		Len Schweitzer
Uniform Chr.....	Don Willoughby		
Logopedics Chr...	Howard Lehti		
Show Chairman...	Eric Ernst		
Librarian.....	Don Hein		
Public Rel.....	Joe Bichler		
Historian.....	Gene Honderich		
Troubadour.....	Jim Kinner		
Music VP.....	Mike Proffitt		

## Chapter Four - Chapter Officers

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1990

President.....Ed McCarthy	Board Mem: Jack Messina
Membership V P...Eric Ernst	Ray Starrette
Program V P.....John Wade	Scott Houghton
Secretary.....David Beran	Don Adams
Treasurer.....Neal Hampton	
Chorus Mgr.....Harvey Burr	
Pitch Pipe Ed....Joe Bichler	Delegate: Dale Barber
Keeper of Mugs...Sel Burchenal	Al Cole
Chorus Dir.....Russ Seely	
Asst Chor Dir....Howard Richards	
	Carl Uridge
	Scott Houghton
Logopedic Chr....	
Uniform Chr.....Don Willoughby	
Librarian.....Don Hein	
Show Chairman....Eric Ernst	
Music VP.....Mike Proffitt	
Historian.....Ray McCalpin	
Public Rel.....Joe Bichler	
Troubadour.....Jim Kinner	
Quartet Activ....Jack Messina	

1991

President.....Ed McCarthy	Board Mem: Jack Messina
Membership V P...Eric Ernst	Don Willoughby
Program V P.....Chris Miller	Don Adams
Secretary.....Len Schweitzer	Scott Houghton
Treasurer.....Nick Piccione	
Chorus Mgr.....Harvey Burr	
Pitch Pipe Ed....Joe Bichler	Delegate: Dale Barber
Keeper of Mugs...Sel Burchenal	Al Cole
Logopedics Chr...Mike Sullivan	
Historian.....Ray McCalpin	
Chorus Dir.....Russ Seely	
Asst. Chor Dir...Scott Houghton	
	Carl Uridge
	Howard Richards
Librarian.....Don Hein	
Show Chairman....Eric Ernst	
Uniform Chr.....Don Willoughby	
Music VP.....Mike Proffitt	
Public Rel.....Joe Bichler	
Troubadour.....Jim Kinner	
Quartet Activ....Jack Messina	

## Chapter Four - Chapter Officers

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1992

President.....Mike Proffitt  
Membership V P...Dale Barber  
Program V P.....Chriss Miller  
Secretary.....Rudy Breiling  
Treasurer.....Nick Piccione  
Pitch Pipe Ed....Damon Smith  
Chorus Mgr.....Don Adams  
Keeper of Mugs...Sel Burchenal  
Chorus Dir.....Russ Seely  
Asst. Chor Dir...Carl Uridge  
                  Howard Richards  
Uniform Chr.....Don Willoughby  
Logopedics Chr...Mike Sullivan  
Librarian.....Don Hein  
Show Chairman...Eric ernst  
Music VP.....Hank DeMars  
Historian.....Harvey Burr  
Public Rel.....Joe Bichler  
Troubadour.....Jim Kinner  
Quartet Activ....Jack Messina

Board Mem: Ed McCarthy  
            Jack Messina  
            Leroy Lenhardt  
            Rick Schaeffer  
  
Delegate: Len Schweitzer  
           Al Cole

1993

President.....Mike Proffitt  
Membership V P...Chris Miller  
Program V P.....Ray Starrette  
Secretary.....Rudy Breiling  
Treasurer.....Leroy Lenhardt  
Chorus Mgr.....Len Schweitzer  
Chorus Dir.....Russ Seely  
Asst. Chor Dir...Bob Demchak  
                  Carl Uridge  
                  Howard Richards  
Pitch Pipe Ed....Damon Smith  
Keeper of Mugs...Bob Farrington  
Uniform Chr.....Don Willoughby  
Logopedics Chr...Dale Barber  
Show Chairman...Eric Ernst  
Librarian.....Don Hein  
Public Rel.....Joe Bichler  
Historian.....Mark Favidson  
Troubadour.....Jim Kinner  
Music VP.....Hank DeMars  
Quartet Activ....Jack Messina

Board Mem: Ed McCarthy  
            Jack Messina  
            Mike Sullivan  
            Rick Schaeffer  
  
Delegate: Ed McCarthy

## Chapter Four - Chapter Officers

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1994

President.....Mike Proffitt	Board Mem: Ed McCarthy
Membership V P...Rick Schaeffer	Wayne Kniffen
Program V P.....Mike Sullivan	4-Tets Mssina
Secretary.....Robb Smith	Benefit Per Bichler
Treasurer.....Leroy Lenhardt	Public Rel Jay Maire
Chorus Mgr.....Jim Grogan	Charities Bob Rancilio
Pitch Pipe Ed....Damon Smith	
Keeper of Mugs...Bob Farrington	Delegate: Mike Sullivan
Chorus Dir.....Russ Seely	Mike Proffitt
Asst. Chor Dir...Howard Richards	
Carl Uridge	
Bob Demchak	
Uniform Chr.....Don Willoughby	
Librarian.....Don Hein	
Show Chairman....Eric Ernst	
Music VP.....Steve Pauling	
Historian.....Mark Davidson	
Troubadour.....Mike Sullivan	

1995

President.....Rick Schaeffer	Board Mem: Mike Proffitt
Membership V P...Mike Sullivan	4-TETS Jack Messina
Program V P.....Nick Piccione	Wayne Kniffen
Secretary.....Robb Smith	Tony Ales
Treasurer.....Leroy Lenhardt	Dan Felix
Chorus Mgr.....Jim Grogan	Benefit Per Joe Bichler
Pitch Pipe Ed....Rick Schafer	Public Rel Jay Maire
Keeper of Mugs...Frank Fortier	Charities Bob Kramb
Historian.....Mark Davidson	
Music Dir.....Russ Seely	
Asst. Dir.....Steve Pauling	Delegate: Mike Sullivan
Carl Uridge	Mike Proffitt
Howard Richards	
Librarian.....Don Schell	
Show Chairman....Eric Ernst	
Uniform Chr.....Don Willoughby	
Music VP.....Mike Proffitt	
Troubadour.....Mike Sullivan	

## **Member Biographies**

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies



CAROLL P. ADAMS

In August of 1939, when barbershopping first appeared in the Detroit area, Carroll P Adams got wind of it and attended the third meeting of that Michigan Chapter. He remained active, becoming the "hub" around which the Society, in it's formative years, revolved, until his retirement as executive secretary in 1953.

Adams first became known "Nationally" in 1941 at the St. Louis Convention, where he was elected president. Adams accepted the Society's mandate with the knowledge that he would be lucky if, during one short year, he could cover the approximate length and breadth of the Society. .. Five days after Adams became president, he told the Chicago Chapter: Up to now we have contented ourselves with good times - now the country looks to us to do things - we must have leadership, money and more chapters....He believed that by the end of his administration the Society's finances would allow it to launch a national quarterly publication and employ a full time secretary at a national headquarters. "We must catch the vision and go to work"...The vision included a revision of the constitution, written by him in January, to meet new

conditions... It encompassed magazine articles, song arrangements, a roster of chapters and the multiplication of activities through committees wrestling with development and organization.

The late Deac Martin wrote the following at the time of Carroll's retirement in 1953 from his position as Society Executive Secretary.

"It would be impossible to set down the Adams' visions that fused with others, then became concrete and are now built so solidly into the Society's structure that they have lost identity and are accepted as a natural part of the whole. Some of them were contributed when Carroll was working for the love of it.

Then he went on part-time, and later became full-time International Secretary in 1944. At first, headquarters was in the Adams' home. Records and materials overflowed the space assigned to them and splashed over the house. An infestation of harmony bugs, likely to break into harmony parts at any hour, was too apparent there too often.

"But in 1945, when the Society rented headquarters at 18720 Grand River Ave., Detroit, Sec Adams and wife, Frankie, were seldom home. Days, nights, holidays, Sundays were about the same in that ceaseless push toward improved organization and maintenance of higher standards. He was called a "slave-driver" often, invariably with the reservation that he drove no one on the Board, in the chapters, in the office or elsewhere in the Society as hard as himself."

In addition to talent for organization, Adams also had a sound musical background. His sixteen years as president and secretary of the Orpheus Club of Detroit and his Secretaryship of the Michigan Male Chorus

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Association section of the Associated Choruses of America, had brought him many contacts in the field of vocal music. He was already aware of how many other musical organizations functioned. More important, vocationally, he had been executive secretary of the University of Michigan Alumni Club, a full time job in Detroit which he held for four years. His background and experience in organizational work more than amply qualified him to become the Society's first full-time employee.

No other part of the Society received any more of the Adams "touch" than the HARMONIZER. Evolving from "Barbershop Re-Chordings", the Society's first official publication, the HARMONIZER, under his direction in 1943, became a quarterly, provided free to all members. Much of the credit for printing the magazine on a self sustaining basis is due to Adams, who not only took over the burdensome task of editing a magazine which provided district and chapter news but also developed a program of advertising which kept the magazine self sufficient. Among his many accomplishments during his active society career, Carroll will be remembered for his outstanding contributions to our fraternal publication, some of which appeared as recent as two years ago in a "Reminiscing" department. Though his Society activity diminished considerably after his retirement, Carroll's interest in civic and social affairs did not falter. After moving to Bennington VT, he was director of the Bennington Second Congregational Church, in the administrative department of the Bennington County Industrial Corp. He also served as executive secretary of the Vermont Republican State Committee for six years prior to 1965.

He then moved to Northampton, Mass. (Where he had spent much of his youth and graduated from high school in 1910) and two years later to Montpelier, VT, where he resided until the time of death, December 17, 1973.

During his business career he had been listed in "Who's Who in America"; "Who's Who in the Midwest"; "Who's Who in Music" and "Who's Who in the Northwest".

Harmonizer March-April 1974

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DON ADAMS (lead)  
30 YEAR MEMBER OF GROSSE POINTE  
BARBERSHOP SINGERS

Looking back over my life, I remember in Jackson Intermediate School, I was in the 7th grade. The year was 1936. A friend of mine, Bob Culliton, and I joined the Jackson Glee Club. I'll never forget the first concert we sang in on stage. One of the songs that night was "When the Rangers Come to Town". I don't know if that was the title but it's close. That song keeps going through my head. I think I can sing every word and every note to this day.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies



DON ADAMS (lead)

Over the years that followed I didn't sing with any group but would always sing around the piano whenever the folks had a party. I may not have been on pitch but I was very loud and had a great time.

In 1949, Bob and I owned a small restaurant on Woodward Avenue in Royal Oak. One night after we closed the restaurant we stopped at the local tavern, four guys came in and after a while they began to sing. It was my first exposure to Barbershop Harmony, needless to say, it was wonderful. I was sitting by the juke box that night and a young lady put a quarter in the machine. I reached around and pulled the plug, told her it was of order and refunded her quarter. We sat and enjoyed the singing the rest of the night.

In 1964, Lou Herman, a new barbershopper asked me to come to a meeting and we went to my first Barbershop get-together. One of the members, Mr. John Wade got two other members and asked me to join them. John taught us a tag (that's the last few bars of a

song arranged for Barbershop). Needless to say, they hooked me good and I joined the Chapter for low these 30 years. What a happy and wonderful experience it has been.

Since joining the Grosse Pointe Chapter I have been in four or five good quartets. One of the early groups was with Sterling Berry, Sully Mazur and Pete Batts (**GROSSE EXAGGERATION**) 1974. We bought black leisure suits and even had black shoes. The quartet would sing for anyone that asked and just had fun. We went up to Boyne City Bush League Competition one year. I'll never forget that weekend. I had a bad case of laryngitis and could hardly talk but we went on stage and finished in the top ten (there were only ten quartets entered that year).

Russ Seely would let us sing on the annual show and though we never sang at International, we sure had a good time.

Don has served in the following Chapter offices:

Sergeant-at-arms .....1967  
Board Member .....1968, 1980,  
..... 1987, 1990 & 1991  
President.....1969,1976  
Board Member (past pres) .....1977  
Administrative V P .....1971  
Secretary .....1972  
Chorus Manager.....1975, 1977,  
.....1988, 1989, 1992  
Assistant P V P.....1979  
Show Chairman..... 1981& 1982  
Pitch Pipe Editor ..... 1983 & 1984  
Intl. Convention Chairman.....1976

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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ANTHONY ALES (TENOR)

Born Detroit, MI; Raised St. Clair Shores, MI; Graduate of Lakeshore High School; College University of Michigan with Bachelor Degree in Music Education 1978 and Master Degree in Educational Psychology 1986. Taught 9 years in Detroit Public Schools and 5 years in San Diego City Schools. Currently employed as Private Music Instructor.

A musical "pro" just back from six years in California. Tony, single, will return to public school duty. We're glad he's here.

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ROLLIN ALLEN

Jim,

My earliest exposure to singing - My mother played the piano while I, at about the age of six, sang religious songs to the inmates at Decatur, Illinois jail. No wonder they were anxious to escape. One prisoner gave me a magnifying glass which I promptly used to set our garage on fire.

Prior to singing with the Lakeshore Chorus I sang in Junior High School, High School and the Detroit Bar Association Glee Club.

My wife is Claire Anne Allen, Psychologist.. We have four children.

I was born in Decatur, Illinois, 6/15/27 and moved to Michigan in 1950.

After 43 years of legal practice with my own law firm my daughter and I merged our practices with Sommers, Schwartz, Silver & Schwartz in Southfield, Michigan.

Professional and Social Memberships:

Michigan Bar Association

Detroit Bar Association

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Michigan State Bar Foundation Fellows  
Financial & Estate Planning Council for the  
city of Detroit.

National Association of Security Dealers  
Grosse Pointe Hunt Club

The Tennis House

Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War  
(actually had ancestors that fought on both  
sides in the Civil War.

Was in the U.S. Navy during WW II.

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MIKE ARNONE

Mike sang with two quartets, the **PROGRESSIVE FOUR** (Also called the **PROGRESSIVE INDUSTRIES FOUR**) and the **FRANKENMUTH FOUR**. The **PROGRESSIVE FOUR** were finalists in the 1945 International Competition and finished third in the District that year. Mike and his sidekick, Carl Restivo sang in both of these quartets.

Mike was one of the friendliest guys to walk this earth and will always be remembered by the song he and Carl used to sing "How'd You Like to be a Friend of Mine, and a Little bit more?"

According to Lou Walley, Mike, at one time wanted to become a Grand Opera Singer. Lou thinks he could have made it - one time Mike kept Lou awake until 6 AM in the

morning - in London, Ontario - singing Grand Opera in five languages.

Mike was inducted into the Pioneer District Hall of Fame in 1976.

Mike passed away on September, 1989 at the age of 82 leaving his wife, Marie and two children.

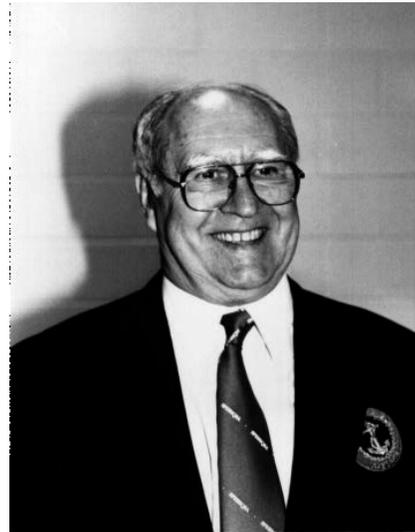
We'll all miss Mike but you can bet he's standing on his toes in that great chorus in the skies singing, "How'd You Like to be a Friend of Mine....?"

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### WILLIAM BAILEY

Bill served as 1st VP (membership) in 1960 and as Board Member in 1962.

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PERRY BALLARD, SR.

Perry began his barbershop career with the Clinton Valley Chapter about 1979. He served as Secretary and Treasurer and received the Barbershopper of the Year Award in 1984. When Clinton Valley moved its meeting place to Rochester, Perry moved to the Macomb Chapter. He stayed

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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at Macomb for about six years but when things slowed down at Macomb Perry moved to the Grosse Pointe Chapter (1994). He has been described as a “behind the scenes” worker.

When the **AFTERGLOW QUARTET**, Russ Hofer, Al Cole, Joe Bichler and Damon Smith lost Russ, Perry stepped in as their tenor. He loved singing with Grosse Pointe and the Good News Singers, Grosse Pointe’s own gospel group.

Perry was a life time member of the Masons. His hobby which he really enjoyed was messing with small gasoline engines.

Perry passed on in May 1997. He is survived by his wife Vina. He was the father of Perry Jr, Pamela Kurtz and the predeceased son, Paul. He left five grandchildren and three great grandchildren, his mother, Alga Ballard who will be 99 this August who lives with her brother who is 101.

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DALE BARBER ( Bari etc)

Joined Grosse Pointe Chapter April 14, 1981.

Dale served in the following Chapter offices:

Board Member .....1985  
Program V P.....1987  
Membership V P. .... 1988, 1989 & 1992  
Delegate ..... 1990 & 1991  
Logopedics Chairman .....1993

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RICHARD BARBER (Bari etc)

Joined Grosse Pointe Chapter April 1975.

Became Associate Editor of Pitch Pipe in July 1975 (his associate editor at this time was Art Bassett) and served continuously in that position through 1989. He was Chapter Historian in 1978.

The nominating committee really outdid themselves when they chose to give the **BARBERSHOPPER OF THE YEAR** award to Dick Barber. Can you think of a more deserving fellow? You have the

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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feeling that destiny had ordained it since the award already has his name on it.

Dick really earned it. For over ten years he has been our Chapter Bulletin (Pitch Pipe) Editor and in the process received accolades from the Society for being one of the very best.

His enthusiasm is something to be envied. His lovely wife, Bertha, is an avid Sweet Adeline as is his daughter, Claudia. His son, Dale, you all know as a loyal Grosse Pointer. At meetings, Dick is always one of the first to collar a visitor and get him in a corner with a few guys so he can get his feet wet.

He organizes those quartets for inter-chapter competitions without being asked. He always has a group of guys who get together day times to sing at convalescent homes in the area. He organizes games at our family picnics. When a tag quartet gets up in front you're sure to see Dick right up there. Dick participates in all Chapter activities, shows, competitions, sing outs etc.

Recent years have seen Dick and Bertha spend their years in Florida where the weather is easier for them, but his barbershopping doesn't stop. His many friends await his arrival with enthusiasm; they know he will form a quartet or an octet to do some harmonizing.

We are all witnesses to Dick's off-the-cuff remarks. Forthright, straight forward; what you see is what you get. Always willing to sing, even if he pitches down a half. Always willing to share some personal experience he's had during his travels around the country, encouraging someone to try and sing tenor, when he's unable to do it.

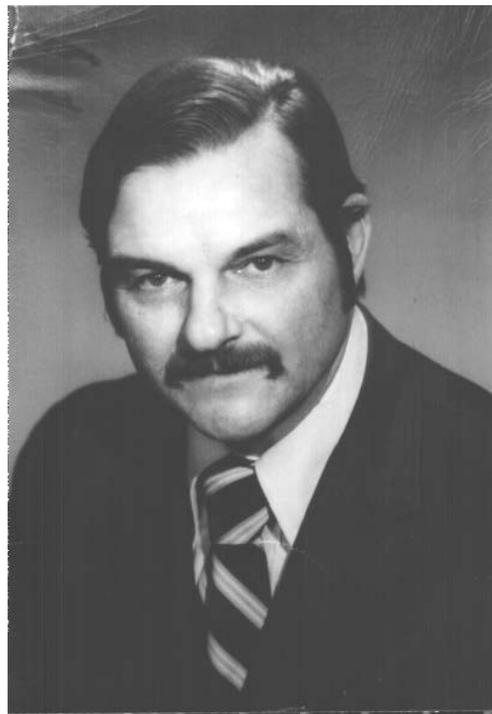
He goes about doing the job without being asked and does it all in the name of barbershop.

How fitting then, that he should be named **BARBERSHOPPER OF THE YEAR**. His name is a proud addition to the illustrious list on our plaque.

Our hats are off to you, Dick. You earned it by being Mr. Joe Barbershopper, himself.

Pitch Pipe March 1987

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ARTHUR F. BASSETT JR.

Art Joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter in November of 1973.

Art served as Co-editor and editor of Grosse Pointe's Pitch Pipe from 1975 through 1981. He was also the Historian in 1979.

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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STERLING BERRY (Bari)

Jim - These are just random reminiscences, using your list as a guide.

I joined Barbershopping in the Spring of 1973. One of our employees at the time was our plant nurse whose husband was an old barbershopper from the Wayne Chapter and who had been after me for several years to go to the Wayne show. Because it was held a million miles away over on the far northwest side I just hadn't got around to it. I finally broke down in '73 and went. The featured quartet was one I'd never heard of, the **GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT** and it seems this was their first local appearance after winning the big one. Needless to say, I was some bit impressed. Myrleen asked me Monday morning how I liked the show and I unfortunately said if there were a chapter somewhere near Grosse Pointe I'd join. Half an hour later I got a call at the office from a guy who said "My name is Russ Seely and Myrleen Smith tells me you are interested in singing "barbershop". Seems the Smiths and the Seelys are friends from way back. In fact, the four of them are the ones who started the Harrisville Labor Day Barbershop weekend several years earlier. I came down to one meeting and that was it. I was hooked.

First quartet was the **GROSSE EXAGGERATION**. Don Adams recruited three first year chapter members, Pete Batts, Sully Mazur and me, gave us copies of "My Gal Sal" from the Chapter files and told us to learn what we could of our parts and meet in his basement one night the next week. I made a tape recording of the first session and am now most unhappy that somewhere along the line I must have reused the tape. You have never heard such terrible singing!

We persevered, though, for a year or so, I guess, and the Chapter humored us by listening patiently and courteously to our efforts.

The following spring we entered the Boyne City Bush League Contest. We spent the weekend at Dan Schaitberger's mother's cottage in Charlevoix and had a wonderful time but for us the contest was a disaster. Not only were we green as new mown grass but Don came down with laryngitis and when we got to the hall to prepare for the contest Don told us we had to make a choice; His voice was about gone and we could either do our warm up and not sing on stage or we could go on cold. We chose to go for it (in football it's called a Hail Mary Pass!). I guess when we got out there, I don't know if it was the spotlights and judges or our unpreparedness or Don's ailment or what, but we must have panicked because we went through our songs at a breakneck pace, probably just to get out of that place as fast as we could. We were given a humorous time penalty, but even without it we were dead last in the scoring. Maybe you could have told how we did if you had heard the pause and then the quiet "oh" from one of the judges at the critique when we sat down at his station and told him which quartet we were.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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When I look back on that quartet I am amazed at how little any of the four of us knew about what we were doing but I also remember the encouragement we got from the Chapter in our efforts. I remember one of the Bush League judges, later a Pioneer District Hall of Famer, Merle Clayton, who invited us to his hotel room the evening after the contest and spent his time coaching us on some of the basics we had to learn to be able to sing better.

**Danny's Boys** (Danny Bulbuk, Bob Rancilio, Sully Mazur and I) came into being after we entered a Chapter Quartet of the Month contest and enjoyed the experience. We were active as a quartet for seven or eight years. One of our accomplishments was introducing "O Canada" to the Windsor Chapter. I learned the song at Harmony College and taught it to the quartet. That winter Grosse Pointe paid Windsor a visit on one of their chapter nights. Of course, each chapter chorus sang for the other chapter and the active quartets in each chapter were invited to sing a couple songs. As it's final number, **Danny's Boys** quietly sang "O Canada" and were a complete sensation. For several years thereafter our quartet was warmly invited to sing at the Windsor Chapter's Hospitality Room every District Convention.

Speaking of Harmony College, I came back from my first experience convinced that as many Grosse Pointe members as possible should be encouraged to attend. I encouraged the Chapter Board into scheduling a special additional Chapter benefit show just to raise money for scholarships to Harmony College, the total proceeds to be split evenly among all Chapter members who wanted to go. The Motor City Chorus from the Detroit Chapter, then the biggest and most successful chapter in the District, and

several leading District quartets were featured, without fee, in addition to the Lakeshore Chorus. We had so many Grosse Pointe members at Harmony College that year that Don borrowed a large motor home and we transported them there in bulk!

Actually, we almost had World War III over the whole affair. The Monday morning after our show I called Kenosha and told them I had whatever the number was of Grosse Pointe people who were going to St. Joe and they told me the place was full already. If your heart needs a morning jump start, just try hearing that kind of message. Of course, I explained to the people all the hype I had done to our guys and the major show we had just put on to raise the needed funds and what was going to happen to me if I took this kind of message back to the Chapter Tuesday night and we started to negotiate how many openings we would have to "find" to avoid being charged as accessories in a murder case. They did have a couple openings for quartets for their quartet coaching week. Luckily, all four of **Danny's Boys** had signed up to go as a quartet. I think we finally got everybody there who had signed up to go. I don't know if I ever related the full story until now but for a while I thought I was a dead man!

Let me tell you about the time I sang in a District quartet contest. This was back in 1985 in Jackson. Back then you could enter the contest almost up to just before the curtain went up. I think it was right after that contest that the rule changed to require that competing quartets had to enter like two weeks in advance (although somebody told me that rule was repealed not long ago). Anyhow, the conversation about competing came about at the Neighborhood Club the Tuesday night before convention. I think it was a two to two tie about whether to do it. Les Marhoff, who is always ready to try

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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some crazy thing and Sully Mazur were for it. Danny and I were not. So we left it that we would meet in Sully's room at the headquarters hotel at 5:30 the afternoon of the contest. The two yes votes managed to talk the others into this crazy idea and we picked two songs we could sing well together and then of course had to put together our "stage presence". Luckily, Sully's room had a wide mirror over the dresser. The chorus was performing in Tuxes the next afternoon, so that was our uniform for our performance. Thank goodness that was before Grosse Pointe started competing in sailor suits and bum costumes!

Well rehearsed and prepared for the contest(?) we headed backstage for the pre-contest meeting at 7:00. Of course, we weren't a registered quartet which you have to be to compete so Larry took my cash for the registration fee and got my solemn oath that I would register with Kenosha on Monday and then sent me back my money when he was notified that we were legal.

We didn't make the cut which would have required that we learn two more songs and prepare some innovative stage presence for the next day but we didn't come in last either. The audience applauded our performance just like we had known what we were doing. At the photo session afterward Jim Miller asked us how we did and when we said we didn't know he asked us if we had a good time. When we said we had a ball, he told us we had won. Of course, he was right. That was one of the contests they videotaped and so today I have a great video tape and cassette audio tape of the event and the picture on my study wall looks as if we had just won the Gold at International. I thank Les and Sully for talking me into the harebrained stunt!

Another kind of a fun experience occurred in 1980. The Republicans were thoughtless enough to schedule their nominating convention in Detroit for the same week as the Barbershop International and all the regular chorus directors were out of town. The convention organizers decided they wanted their welcoming festivities to include a mass barbershop chorus in the amphitheater in Hart Plaza and I got the call to do it. So I put together material I thought most of the chapters in the area might know and wrote to all the chapters in Southeast Michigan and told them we were going to sing and asked them to teach their people what they didn't already know and participate in what could be a really fun venture. Then I wrote a script for the program and called Ted Strasser, the disc jockey at WJR who was the leading supporter of barbershop on Detroit Radio back then and asked him if he would MC the program. He wouldn't even have to prepare a script!

Ted said yes. The rehearsal at St Marks, where Grosse Pointe met in those days, was well attended. The weather was great the night we performed, the crowd was large and enthusiastic. Ted did an excellent job as MC. I exercised director's prerogative and pulled the Lakeshore Chorus out of the mass chorus to do a couple numbers on their own (that was a gimmick to provide some good arrangements on the program when we didn't have time to teach the whole group) and we put on a show that I think was good advertising for barbershopping.

Unexpected bonus for me - one of the lab managers at our plant and a few of the other employees just happened to be in the audience that evening and next week at work I was quite a celebrity!

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

I think Grosse Pointe is a great chapter in a great organization. As many of you know, I have often despaired at the quality of musicianship we often have been prepared to present to our audiences but if the chips are down and I need encouragement and understanding and support from someone I'm not sure where I could go to get it in fuller measure than here. As far as I'm concerned, you guys are great.

The **BARBERSHOPPER OF THE YEAR PLAQUE** was awarded to none other than Sterling Berry who has certainly lived up to his name in the three years in the Society. He has not only been active in the Chorus sing-outs and contests but has been a member of two fine quartets. Furthermore, he has attended two COTS sessions and Harmony College last August. Besides all this he has been our Chapter Secretary for the past two years. An award well deserved, we would say.

Pitch Pipe April, 1976

Sterling served in the following Chapter offices:

Secretary ..... 1975 & 1976  
Membership Vice-president.....1977  
Asst Music Director ..... 1977-1986  
President.....1978  
Director .....1979  
(past Pres)  
Delegate .....1982

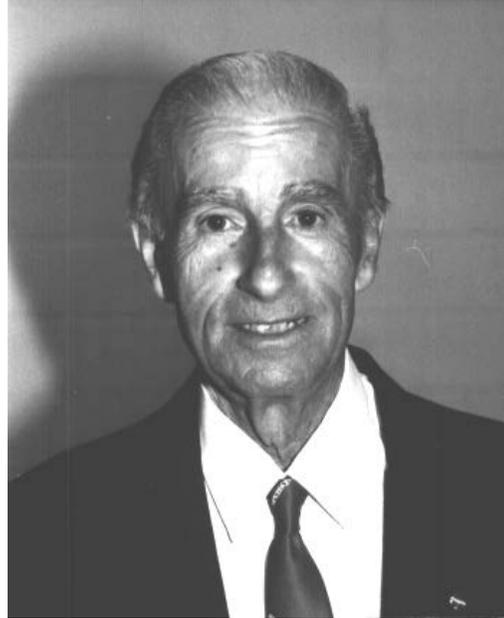
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JOSEPH S. BICHLER (bass, bari)

I served in the following Grosse Pointe Chapter offices:

Director ..... 1981, 1983 & 1994  
Keeper of the Mugs.....1982  
SMAC Delegate .....1982  
Membership Vice-president.....1987

Public Relations V P ..... 1988-1993  
Pitch Pipe Editor ..... 1988-1991  
Director, Benefits .....1994



JOSEPH S. BICHLER

I joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter in 1977.

Carl Uridge was my sponsor.

I received the **BARBERSHOPPER OF THE YEAR AWARD** in 1994.

I was a member of the **After Glow** quartet. We competed in the Senior's Contest at District Convention in 1993 and 1994 and came in last and second last.

I made it to both Pine Knob Performances. I also showed up for the Harsens Island Golf and Bocce Outings and Bill Lane's Mansion for the summer Chapter meetings. I made the Boblo Moonlight Cruises several times.

I sang on the Christmas Senior Citizen Tour every year but 1988 & 1989.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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I've been to our Ladies Nights, Coin Nights, Octoberfests and the Chapter Christmas Parties.

I served in Germany, France and Austria during World War II and was awarded a Bronze Star and Purple Heart.

Most Treasured Moment; Birth of my kids and grand kids. Singing in the Chorus that won the District Convention in 1984. Being awarded the Grosse Pointe Chapter BARBERSHOPPER OF THE YEAR. European War Armistice. Weddings, mine and my two daughters.

Most significant Highlight; Graduation with my MBA; Support of Ford Motor thereon; Support of the Chapter during Post Heart Surgery Recovery.

Funny happenings: Return from Cleveland business trip to attend MBA graduation ceremonies; Made reservations to return on commercial airline. Since VIPs were returning to Detroit on company plane, decided to come back with them. Departure of plane was delayed by storm and had to wait for Bill Clay Ford's wife who was returning from Akron visit. Late arrival required wife to meet me at U. of D. with Cap and Gown. Loss of suitcase returning from Buffalo on company plane when well meaning employee loaded John Buga's (same initials) on aircraft which returned it to Detroit. Went to Buffalo with VIPs on company plane to review new equipment at Bethlehem. Total review lasted 30 minutes. Upshot of trip was having lunch (and many drinks) in Buffalo.

Most embarrassing moment; Standing in downtown Detroit while meeting a real doll and having to beat a hasty retreat to remove pigeon droppings from head

If I could go back in time I would go back to Post War college days and "have a ball". (since I was so intent of graduating and getting under way I missed lots of good times). I also would go back to my married days.

Famous people I have met:

John DeLorean - Attended L.I.T. with him and he was my best man.

Father of Statistical Quality Control (Demming) who?

Marv Runyan, currently Post Master General for whom I worked several years

My three wishes would be; Return of Gloria, Health of kids and grand kids and starting career over.

Hobbies other than Barbershopping; Participating in Dog Shows;- Golf (I'd be the worst golfer at Gowanie but I ain't that good)

Half bad Bridge Player

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### IGNACE "BUFF" BOUFFARD

It is with regret that I must report the death of a long-time Grosse Pointe Chapter member, Buff Bouffard, who died in January. We share the grief of his passing with his family. A proper testimonial of Buff's service has been prepared by his close friend, and quartet member, Meinrad Braun, and has been read into the Official Record of this Chapter. (Pitch Pipe Feb '84)

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies



MEINRAD BRAUN (TENOR)

From the time he was 19 years old, Meinrad sang tenor in quartets (see **19th Century Quartet**). Singing was his life - he thrived on it.

Pitch Pipe October 1979

Dear Ed (Troubadour),

As the years fly by I find myself right in the middle of old age and I think of that Latin Phrase "Tempus Fugit and Semper Felix" (always fortunate to be alive) and so I figure now is the time to mark my calendar to celebrate our 50th anniversary (golden wedding), come September 16th, 1969.

One of the grandest things that could happen to us was when the Doctor said "keep him singing, he could live to be a hundred" and to the wife, " with your sharp ears you won't miss anything".

To some of the youngsters I might mention the **Metro 4** who sang over the Red Apple Club Radio program. The **Inter-City 4** (before barbershoppers were organized), who made trips to Royal Oak, Port Huron, Clawson, and Pontiac for one night stands.

I am proud to be in the Grosse Pointe "Lake Shore Chorus. Also with the **19th Century 4**. When you add our number of years of harmony you'll get very close to 285 years.

Oh, I forgot to mention that Loretta and I have 13 grandchildren and two great grandchildren. OOPS, I am getting old. We are the parents of 3 girls and a boy.

And so, I come to the end of my bragging with these words, "Sin-gu omnia vincit" which means "singing overcomes every difficulty".

Writing to you on the impulse of the moment I am sure, in your kindness, you will remember, Meinrad and Loretta Braun, Grosse Pointe Chapter and Auxiliary

Troubadour September 1969

At the time of his passing, Meinrad was a member of SPEBSQSA for 35 years and a member of good standing at Grosse Pointe

PP October 1979)

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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### RUDY BREILING

Rudy was Secretary for 1992 & 1993.

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RICHARD "DICK" BROUCKAERT  
(Bass etc)

Dick Brouckaert has been a Barber-shopper since 1958 and has a wealth of musical knowledge. He has shared his musical background with his fellow members by serving as Director and Co-director of two chapters of which he has been a member - the former East Detroit Chapter and currently Grosse Pointe.

Like most quartet men, Dick has worked his way up through the ranks by singing in many chapter-level groups.

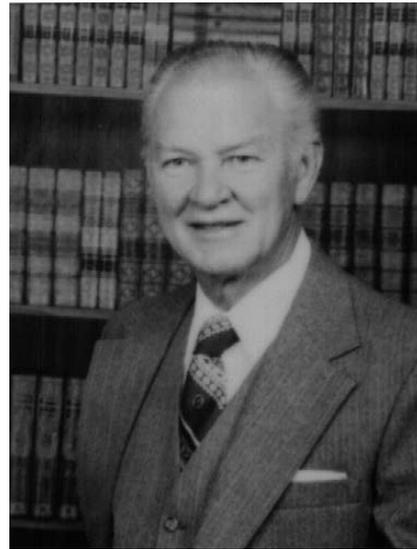
He was a member of the **Village Aires** prior to joining **Pointe 4**.

Troub 1975

Dick served in the following Grosse Pointe offices:

Program V P.....1969  
President.....1971  
Chorus Director..... 1973 & 1974  
Board Member .....1978

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WILLIAM BROWER (Bari)

Bill served in the following Chapter offices:

Treasurer ..... 1972-1975,1982-1985  
Secretary ..... 1974 & 1978  
Delegate .....1976

### BARBERSHOPPER OF THE YEAR

Quiet, ever present, one of the finest gentlemen in the Society, always doing his job and sometimes taking on added responsibilities, always willing to help others, that's our **BARBERSHOPPER OF THE YEAR**, Bill Brower.

No one is more deserving of this distinguished and cherished award given to one of our members once a year at our

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Ladies Night Banquet. Bill was a surprised and a most happy fellow and had many friends offer their congratulations.

Pitch Pipe April 1975

Bill passed on in October of 1997 at the age of 82, leaving Helen, his wife of 60 years, five children and eleven grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

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### DAN BULBUK (lead)

I entered barbershopping in 1957 as a member of the East Detroit Chapter until 1962. I was out of Barbershop for 10 years and got back in May 1972 when I joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter.



DAN BULBUK

Dan has served the Chapter in the following offices:

Keeper of the Mugs.....1973  
Asst. Program V P.....1974  
Sergeant-at-arms ..... 1974 & 1975  
Delegate .....1976  
Logopedics Chairman .....1977

Membership V P ..... 1979 & 1980  
Librarian..... 1982 & 1983  
Cheer Bringer..... 1984 & 1985

I was a member of **Danny's Boys** quartet from 1975 to 1981. We were real active singing together for 6 years doing about 76 jobs. Some paid in food, some in money. We sang for everything except divorces and hangings.

We competed in a District quartet competition in 1984 in Ypsilanti in April and came in second from the bottom. We decided to compete an hour before competition.

We competed in the Boyne City Bush League Competition in 1976 and came in 14th.

We went as a family to Harrisville for about ten years when our daughter was a youngster and we enjoyed the Harmony Week during labor day.

I attended Pine Knob a couple times and enjoyed the THOROUGHBREDS when they were the headliners of the show. They put 90 men on stage with a 45 minute show.

Our annual Poker Party on the water was very nice. We sing at different watering holes but we always kept the navigator sober.

Our annual Tuesdays in the summer at Bill Lane's home on the water is something to look forward to with hot dogs on the grill, beer, pop and good fellowship.

I attended Ladies Night when Ray Starrette and I set the tables with favors and special engraved Grosse Pointe champagne glasses for the membership and their wives. The Ladies Night that was the most thrilling was on June 27, 1980 at the Polish Century Club

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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on Outer Drive when they named me **BARBERSHOPPER OF THE YEAR** of the Greatest Chapter in the Society.

A big highlight of the Christmas Season was our Annual Party for the Membership. One year I picked Herb Reed's gift off the table and it was unique - "A Cartridge in a Bare Tree".

The highlight of my life was when I got my first car. A brand new 1953 Ford Victoria with a sticker price of \$2620. Then, a dollar was worth a dollar.

The most embarrassing was when the quartet had a job at a Masonic Lodge Meeting. The contact person gave us the wrong time to sing. They were done eating and waiting for us to sing. We did not do a very good performance. We went to a bar after and did a great job after a few beers.

A few years ago we went on a camping trip out east to Massachusetts and Vermont with a pop-up camper. We went to Burlington, Vermont shopping one day and while there we went to a leather boutique and met the baritone of the **Buffalo Bills** who owned the shop.

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SELDEN D. BURCHENAL (bass)

Joined Grosse Pointe Chapter December 1987.

Sept 27, 1994

Dear Jim,

Somebody mentioned your questionnaire tonight and it sent my aging memory (turned 69 last Sunday) into a frantic search for that piece of paper that I received some time ago. You have a bunch of questions there. I have answered the short ones and asterisked those that I hope to summarize in more detail below.

When did I get into barbershopping? Well it wasn't SPEBSQSA. As I mention in my prologue to the "Barbershop Poem" (written by my brother), it was my father that introduced us to vocal harmony. He was brought up in a singing family which he carried on as a family heritage to us boys with his guitar and a host of songs dating

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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from the Civil War through the early 1900's. He was a baritone and tried to teach us elementary harmony. Not an easy task for young kids but it persevered as a lifetime gift.

At Chrysler Corp. - as a young engineer - I sang with the chorus which varied from 150 mixed voices at Christmas time to maybe a male double octet in slack seasons. Four of us who persevered eventually got some polecat music and formed a very amateur quartet for a year or so. Our performances were usually for beer and sandwiches at some local pub but it was fun and made a continuity with my early years. I found out that I had a pretty fair singing voice and did the piano-bar thing for a lot of years thereafter.

Sometime in the early fall of '87, Martha and I bumped into **Just Friends** doing their thing at the Grand Hotel on Mackinaw Island and John Wade made sure that I would stop in at the next Chapter meeting. From there, it was all downhill into the Chapter. And I thank him. Martha, however, was a little ambivalent. She thought it was just a Tuesday-night sing-along.

Harsen's Island has always been my favorite outing and I am sure glad to see the growth and elegance of the Adam's Estate. But as Keeper of the Mugs it was a bit of an added chore in providing the beer and pop. I negotiated with the local party store for supplies rather than carry them from the mainland. Getting delivery of beer before noon on Sunday presented a problem. I got around that by paying them in advance and picking up the beer without an official 'sale' for the morning golf match, making sure that there were no police around to witness the transaction.

The southern golf outings have always been great - except for the time I threw my back out after the first 18 holes and could act only as cart chauffeur for the rest of the trip and this year we were bogged down in a continuing cold rain. The 19th hole activity usually makes up for any shortcomings and we got to sing a lot.

Boblo Moonlight - our Chrysler quartet visited a couple of these in the early days and got some idea of the impressive size of the local organization. It was quite a surprise and we were shamed into silence.

We went to a Detroit convention some time in the early 50's and really learned about things when the entire audience of the Masonic Temple divided into four parts and nearly blew the roof off.

The Christmas Sing out is truly in the spirit of our organization, sharing the festive spirit of the season with others - particularly with those whose life style is restricted. I have loved every moment of it. I miss it now, since my Holidays are spent mostly in the winter sanctuary of Florida.

In my 1944-45 Naval training a dozen of us moderately musical recruits used to gather in the bar of a local hotel on our free Saturday afternoons to sing. The management didn't complain since we entertained the customers - and it got us a lot of free beer.

My most treasured memory is that of my family. My parents were quietly and absolutely in love with one another and showed it with dignified affection and continuing care throughout their lives. After a dreadful childhood incident my brother and I became inseparable buddies and enjoyed a lot of life together. They are all gone now and the ongoing chaos of modern society makes me only more thankful to

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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have been brought up in such a loving atmosphere.

Significant highlight? - Landing that first real job - after two years of pursuit - that paid enough money to support marriage. The crush of GI-BILL graduates in '49 made engineering jobs pretty hard to find. I finally lucked-out with an entry-level research job at Chrysler and the marriage came a couple months later. Stayed with Chrysler for thirty years, mostly in the military rank business and was accorded one helluva retirement party.

A present highlight? - Having the **Just Friends** walking in on my 65th birthday party, unannounced and serenading the assembly - even inviting me to sing with them. What a delightful surprise, thanks to Martha's plotting.

Funniest thing? - Again, aboard ship ( I was an Ensign USNR from Sep 1945 to June 1946). I wanted to photograph a torpedo launch. The torpedo gang carefully positioned me, in my innocence, at what was assured the best place to do so. The torpedoes are heavily protected with grease and fired off the Destroyer with a stout black-powder charge. After snapping the picture at the moment of launch I found myself plastered with grease and soot - to the amusement of the entire crew, who had quietly gathered to watch this initiation.

Embarrassing moment? - As super-junior officer aboard ship, one of my "other duties" was laundry officer - much like Ensign Pulver in "Mr. Roberts" and like him I was afraid of my own shadow and the awesome presence of the Captain. On a certain sea voyage the washing machine conked out and while the mechanics strove mightily to repair it I had the Captains laundry done by hand - without advising him of the failure. This is not correct shipboard procedure.

When the Captain found out about it I was called into his presence to explain my actions in detail and then educated for a full hour in his interpretation of my duties and the proper performance thereof.

Back in time? - In fantasy I would join my distant ancestor who was a "mountain man" and guide to the Lewis and Clark expedition to Oregon in the early 1800's. I would like to experience his exploration of the Columbia River headwaters and the adjoining river system that still carries his name. But I would not like to experience his dreadful privations in doing so.

Three wishes?

1. To avoid significant disease - particularly Alzheimer
2. To see my grandson graduate from high school
3. To, leave the world a slightly better place for my having been there.

So, Jim, there you have it - and probably a lot more than you expected, or wanted. You, and the rest of the Grosse Pointe gang have made that portion of my life a pleasure and an adventure. I am a very private person and have few intimate friends but Seely's Songsters have more than made up for that situation. I would like to thank them all, personally but maybe they know that already?

I was keeper of the Mugs in 1988-1992.

I was a member of a seniors quartet that competed in convention in 1993 and 1994. The results were dismal.

I have enjoyed all the Harsens Island Picnics and our outdoor meeting at Lane's, Ladies Nights, Coin Nights and Octoberfests since 1988. I've been to Return of the Jug night

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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about three times and I've been to the Carolina Golf outing for the last four years. I've been to the Sendoff at Cabota twice.



MARVIN BURKE (bass)

Marv is a graduate of Southwestern High School and comes from a family of two sisters and one brother (some of us have had the pleasure of meeting the brother at GP).

Marv put some time in with the Navy and upon completion of his hitch, worked in the photographic department of Chrysler Corporation.

He met his charming wife, Joane, while both were teenagers at Grosse Pointe Park. They have been married nine years and have two children.

Marv is especially adept on water because of his experience in the Navy. While stationed in Florida, Marv was a water skiing instructor and ran a fishing tourist excursion boat. (Can't you see all our highly trained Navy brass skiing to Cuba?)

Marv was a trombonist in high school and played in the US Navy (Boy Marv, this sounds like a real tough tour of duty with the Navy).

He became active in the 4-Fits quartet and has done a simply marvelous job. In the process of hitting the top in the Michigan District Marv has learned to smile even through the disappointment of 1964. He rehearses at least once a week with the quartet and 3 to 4 nights a week prior to competition.

With the great support he lends to the 4-Fits, we expect to see Marv and Joane in Chicago the week of July 4th, 1966 representing our great District. Till then, we salute him as Mr. BABERSHOPPER OF THE MONTH for May.

Pitch Pipe May 1966

Marv has held the following offices in the Chapter:

Board Member ..... 1956 & 1957  
2nd VP ..... 1963  
Alt Delegate ..... 1966 - 1971



## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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### HARVEY BURR (LEAD)

Personal reflections of my experience with the Grosse Pointe Chapter

I have held the following offices in the Chapter:

Board Member ..... 1979, 1986 & 1988  
Secretary .....1980  
Membership V P .....1981  
Program V P.....1982  
Asst Program V P.....1983  
President.....1984  
Delegate .....19  
Chorus Manager..... 1987, 1990 & 1991  
Historian.....1992

I joined the Detroit Yacht Club Chapter in 1962. In 1969 the Detroit Yacht Club Chapter merged with Grosse Pointe. I remember our meetings were attended by approximately 30-35 members. I gave up my Grosse Pointe membership in 1971 and rejoined in 1976.

In 1984, Grosse Pointe won the Pioneer District Championship at a high school in Ypsilanti. Our first and only championship to date.

In 1986, Grosse Pointe hosted the Pioneer District Convention in Warren Michigan. I was the Convention Chairman. The contests were held at Fitzgerald High School, in Warren, and was a profitable success.

During my membership we have had several meeting places ie The VFW Hall in Grosse Pointe, St Mark's Church in Detroit and moved to The Neighborhood Club in Grosse Pointe in 1985.

Singing events that I remember:

- Channel 2 1978-80

- Pine Knob
- Meadow Brook
- Cobo Hall Builder's Show, 3 years
- Greek Town Christmas singing contest with other choruses and we tied for first place
- Christmas Bus Tour ever since I joined

I was Chairman of the Battle Creek Convention. First out state chapter, spring 1988.

Member of the **Goodwill Blenders** quartet from 1983 through 1993. We were a Chapter Quartet. We performed many charity jobs ( about 60+).

I chaired several COIN Night dinners. I have also chaired the Harvey's Convention Dinner since 1988.

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JAMES "NICK" CATELLANE (lead)

Nick was Treasurer for 1976-1978 and Chorus Manager in 1981.

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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ALAN CLIFTON (LEAD)

Al joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter 1978

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ALAN COLE, 15 YEAR MEMBER

In 1981, I went to the Eastern High School (Detroit) 25 year reunion. One of my classmates was a guy by the name of Russ Seely. His quartet, the **Pointe Classics** were part of

the entertainment. I told Russ how much I enjoyed the quartet and he suggested that I come to a meeting of the Grosse Pointe Chapter. At that time they were meeting at St. Marks Church in Detroit. Well, I did come to an open house and I was hooked.

The first 4 or 5 years I was working shift work so I missed some rehearsals but I did not miss any shows or competitions.

When I went on a permanent day shift I was approached to run for president of the Chapter and I accepted. I succeeded Len Schweitzer in 1987. I served as Chapter Delegate in 1990 - 1992. As past president I was a Board Member in 1988. I also served as Chorus Manager.

One of my big thrills in barbershopping was bringing my son, Chris, into the Chapter and then seeing him win with his quartet in the first College age competition. We went to see them compete in New Orleans and I will never forget it.

A few years ago a quartet was formed called **THE Fourgettables**, Russ Hofer, tenor; Damon Smith, bass; Joe Bichler, baritone and myself singing lead. As we improved (?) we changed our name to **The Afterglow**. We were honored as the first recipient of the **CHAPTER QUARTET OF THE YEAR** for 1994. Unfortunately, we lost Russ Hofer this year and we will miss him dearly. We will be a quartet again with the addition of Perry Ballard, an excellent tenor.

It is very hard to describe the enjoyment one gets from barbershopping. I enjoy singing in the chorus but the true feeling of being a barbershopper is in singing in a quartet .

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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O. M. "KING" COLE

One of the Society's early leaders, O. H. "KING" Cole passed away suddenly January 7, 1978 in Palm Springs, California. He was the Society's eighth International president and served two terms, 1948-49 and 1949-50. It was King who started the Society's first expansion fund and whose dream it was to have our own International Office; this was finally accomplished with the purchase of Harmony Hall in Kenosha, Wis. In 1957.

A former Wisconsinite, King was a charter member and first president of both the Sheboygan and Manitowoc Chapters and maintained membership in both chapters. King retired from Wisconsin to Palm Springs several years ago. He had been active in the formation of the new Coachella Valley at the time of his death. A successful business man, King was instrumental in bringing Fred Waring into the Society as a member of the Sheboygan Chapter where he has maintained his membership for the past 29 years.

King's interest in the success of the current expansion fund was well known. He frequently wrote asking how the drive was going and whether he could be of assistance.

He is survived by his wife, Mildred, daughter, Ginny (who sang with the "Chordettes") and two grandchildren.

Harmonizer March - April, 1978

Oren became a member of Grosse Pointe December 1946. He was also a member of Turners.

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JOHN COLLINS

John joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter in 1977.

John has served in the following Chapter offices:

Board Member	1980 & 1982
Membership V P	1983
Logopedics Chairman	1986

He was a member of the Army Signal Corp in WWII. He played in a sixteen piece dance band called the "Signalaires" at USO's and for different outfits. they played for General Mark Clark's social affairs. Used to broadcast twice a week from Rome. He Sang once with this band - one chorus of

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

"Pistol Packin' Mama". his nick name immediately became "Cowboy". It was at this time he met Humphrey Bogart, Brian Ahern and Jinx Falconberg. Madelon Carroll was a nurse at the Army Hospital in Naples.

He worked for Alcoa 11 years (1940) and then worked for Chrysler Missile for 30 years. While employed with Chrysler he was in Turkey where he had a 4 piece Combo and played 5 nights a week at the Officers Club.

He played in several small combos. In one of these, Don Michelle played accordion and John played guitar. He also taught guitar at Fitzgerald High School for Gus Zoppi.

When he got married in 1953 his new brother was Eric Schultz, president of the Pioneer District. First heard Barbershopping at parties at his house and went to some shows in Ford Auditorium.

The first time John got to sing barbershop was at a show at Regina High School. Russ Seely called everyone up on stage that wanted to sing (the chorus was sitting in the audience) and a lot of non members joined the chorus on stage.

John went to Harmony College in 1981 with Scott Houghton and his skate board. Scott would ride his skate board from class to class. The **Pointe Classics**, Fred Hunter, tenor; Russ Seely, lead; Jerry VanDeVelde, bari and Nels Gregerson, bass who attended as a quartet.

John sang at his own wedding reception at the Eagles Club when he married Kay in 1981. He also sang with the **Dapper Dans** at Disney World.

Quartets John Sang with:

When we started the Comedy Quartet contests John rebuilt the W. C. Fields Trophy because it was shy of certain appendages. Then he sang with the **Four Noses**, Russ Hofer, lead; John Collins, tenor; Len Schweitzer, bari; and Sully Mazur, bass. They took first place.

He sang with the original **St Clair Flats**, John Collins, tenor; Jim Kinner, lead; Ed Sauve, bari; and Bill Shier, bass.

He also sang with **DANNY'S OTHER BOYS**, Len Henk, tenor; Danny Bulbuk, lead; John Collins, bari; and Bill Lane, bass.

**Goodwill Blenders**, Len Henk, tenor; Dan Bulbuk, lead; John Collins, bari; and Len Schweitzer, bass.

Mike Proffitt, Gene Honderich, Howard Richards and Collins. They sang "Suzy Brown" at a Maumee Contest.

Competed in District Senior Quartet Contest with Dale Barber etal.

Currently singing with **Four Shores**, Don Schell, tenor; Neal Hampton, lead; John Collins, bari; and Frank Marazano, bass.

One of the highlights of his life was the ownership of a 1931 Chevrolet he bought for \$45. \$10 down and \$5 a week until it was paid for.

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### ROBERT COLLINS

Bob Collins....Our New President another Peabody on his banjo.

This should be a great year for the Irish with Collins, Shaughnessy and McCalpin as President, Vice-president and Secretary of Grosse Pointe! Ye editor shares a strong

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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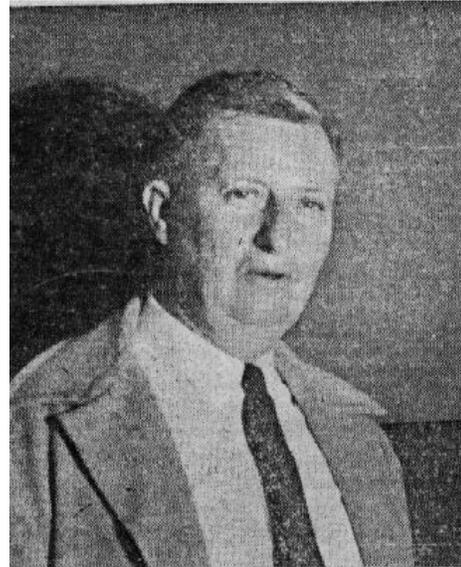
feeling with many others that one of the best selections of men are on active duty to guide our Chapter for the year.

Pitch Pipe May 1958

The following Chapter offices were held by Bob Collins:

Keeper of the Mugs.....1957  
President.....1958  
Board Member .....1959  
(past Pres)

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JIM CREED (tenor)

The elongated form of Jim Creed, his high speaking voice and his even higher tenor have always been a part of Michigan SPEBSQSA history, because he was in it at the very start and was active up to the time he was fatally stricken.

Creed was a member of that group that held that historic meeting at Bill Barney's cottage at Lake Orion the summer of 1939. He was there in company with Glen Shields, Monty Marsden, Howard Tubbs, Joe Wolff, Carroll Adams, Bill Barry, Louis Stiers and his **Variety Four Quartet**. He was one of the most enthusiastic joiners of Detroit #1 on that memorable occasion.

Most of Creed's singing associates were members of the Faust Post of the American Legion Glee Club. He sang tenor with **Turners** quartet, one of the first in the district. Members beside Creed were Mark Roberts, Wally Joure and Bill Pasik. It was this quartet that came to Grand Rapids in 1940 to take part in the first state championship ever held in Michigan. It was



DOUG CONGER

Doug joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter October 1993.

He is married to Linda and they have two adult children. He is a lifetime singer, soloist. Comerica stalwart.

He is member #100.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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this same quartet that went to St. Louis to share with the **Sawdust Four** the distinction of being the first Michigan quartet to sing in National Competition.

In 1942 the **Turners** tried again when the International was held in Grand Rapids and this time Creed and his mates made the 15 finalists group.

It wasn't always competition for Creed and his associates. The **Turners** traveled extensively all over the state at their own expense singing and helping to organize new chapters for many years.

In all the years, Creed did not have any difficulty finding a quartet with which to sing and he liked it so much that he would sing with any other three men - without a tenor - anywhere in the United States. He was an inveterate "woodshedder". He hooked up with the **Harmony Hounds**, the **Balladaires** and **Chordsmen** for many years and was an active member of the Grosse Pointe Chapter until the time of his death.

Shortly before his last illness, Jim's old quartet, the **Turners** got together to sing as the featured quartet at the Ontario District contest in Sarnia. He was in good voice and enjoyed himself immensely that evening.

In business life Creed was a plumbing contractor in Detroit and a World War I veteran serving with the Engineers in France and Germany.

He belonged to the American Legion, the Elks and many other fraternal and social organizations. He leaves his wife, Irene.

Jim died November 29, 1963 at the age of 59.

Michigan Troubadour, March, 1954

Jim served on the Executive Committee of the Grosse Pointe Chapter from 1946-1949.

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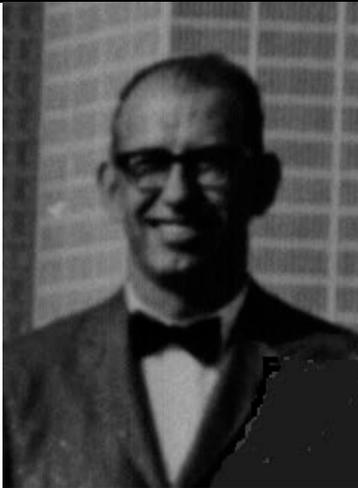


ALAN CULLEN

Al was a Board Member in 1968 and Treasurer in 1969.

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies



WALTER MILES CURRIE

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of Science degree from Eastern Michigan University. When not attending to regal duties he maintains his sanity through the manly sports of fishing and golf.

Though first exposed to Barbershopping in the realm of Macomb Chapter several years ago, his family duties prevented him from pursuing this grand pastime. It wasn't until his uncle, the Grand Duke of Walclif, Jack Shields, convinced him that the time to sing was at hand. Though having toyed with the idea of singing with his high school chorus as a young man, it was not until arriving at Grosse Pointe his true potential has been within his grasp.



DAVE CZUPINSKI (LEAD)

Dave indicates that he is a descendent from a long line of Polish and Belgian Royalty. After sweeping his lovely wife, Jane, off her feet he continues to prosper with four heirs to his empire, two boys: ages 10 and 12 and two girls: ages five and eight. He maintains his kingdom while establishing himself professionally as an Occupational Therapist and Hand Specialist for Bi-County Hospital. His scholarly endeavors include a Bachelor

Dave continues in his constant support of the Chapter and is anxiously awaiting the forming of his own quartet so that he, as that all important member, the lead, can echo through his domain the reverberations of his favorite barbershop song; "Shenandoah".

Pitch Pipe Apr, 1995 by Mike Sullivan

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WILLIAM DAUDLIN (lead)

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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For the History Section, I might mention that in 1979 I was invited by Harvey Burr to join the Grosse Pointe Chapter.

I attended three or four practice sessions during which time I recall working on the song "Hi-Lili - Hi-Lo". I bought a golf course in Muskegon in 1978 lived there for 12 years. While in Muskegon, I became acquainted with Ed and Audrey Garlock. On my sixtieth birthday, their son Mark who was singing lead in a Grand Rapids Quartet came to this party and sang for two or three hours - a memorable occasion for me. Mark Garlock and his present quartet from Holland, Michigan won the top honors in the District Competition in Lansing in 1994. Mark, his father, Ed and his son Trevor are all members of the Holland Chapter. In 1992, on returning back on the "right" lake shore, Len Henk, whom I attended High School with asked me to join the barbershoppers. This was the beginning of my delayed return to one of the pleasures of my life. I'm married with 5 offspring.

Pitch Pipe summer 1993

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### ALAN DAVENPORT

Al was Treasurer in 1954 and Pitch Pipe Editor in 1956.

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JAMES DAVENPORT 9/10/94

Jim Davenport (Alan Davenport's older brother)

I joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter in 1947.

I have held the following offices in the Grosse Pointe Chapter: Vice-president 1954, President 1955, ALT Delegate 1956 & 1957, Board Member 1956 (past president)

While at Grosse Pointe I sang with the **Chordinators** in the 40's or 50's. We never made it to District Convention.

We competed in the Boyne City Bush league but never won.

Charlevoix Jamboree? (see Boyne Bush League) Attended several times, personally, with my wife

Canadian Night? Yes

International convention in Detroit? Yes

Boblo Moonlight Cruise? Yes

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Have you attended Ladies Night? Yes, long ago at Detroit Yacht Club on Belle Isle.

Did you ever serve in a war? Yes, WWII. Skipper of a Destroyer Escort, Rank of Lt Commander, Atlantic Area.

What is your most treasured memory? The **Boston Commons** singing in my home here in Naples, Florida.

What was the most significant highlight in your life? Being Skipper of a brand new Destroyer Escort in WWII.

If you could go back in time, any time, when would it be? 1975, when we started the Naples Barbershop Chapter.

Have you ever met anyone famous? Pres. Johnson, Pres. Nixon, Pres. Ford, Danny Thomas, George Romney, and **Boston Common** Quartet.

After a few years at Grosse Pointe I moved and joined Oakland County Chapter. While at Oakland county I sang in two quartets: **Bell Tones** and **Country Squires**.

In 1973, I retired from Michigan Bell and moved to Naples Florida. Quartets here: **Sounds of Seagate**, **Chordials**.

Officer: Naples President, Chorus Director, Show Chairman, Florida Division VP.

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MARK DAVIDSON

Mark has been Chapter Historian for 1993-1995. Sings lead with **Kingfish and the Mystic Knights** quartet.



HANK DE MARS (Tenor)

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

He is a 37 year barber-shopper having joined the East Detroit Chapter in 1959.

He has served in many Chapter administrations and participated in many Chapter quartets. He sang with the **Village Aires** for six years.

His desire to sing in a competition quartet was largely responsible for his part in forming the **Pointe 4**.

Hank and Jane DeMars have two children .

Hank has served in the following Chapter offices:

Program VP..... 1968 & 1974  
Admin. VP ..... 1969 & 1970  
Board Member .....1971  
Secretary .....1973  
Delegate ..... 1976, 1978 & 1987  
Sergeant-at-arms ..... 1984-1985  
Music V P ..... 1992 & 1993

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### HENRY DE VRIES

Hank joined the Utica-Rochester Chapter in 1957. He sang tenor with the original **Chorduroys** in 1959 and tenor in the **Sonic Aires** in 1960-1961.

Hank was assistant Program V P for 1971 & 1972 at Grosse Pointe.

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ROBERT DEMCHAK (Lead etc)

Bob began his affiliation with Barbershopping in March 1969 with the Grosse Pointe Chapter where he maintains his membership.

Bob served the following offices in Grosse Pointe Chapter:

Board Member .....1971  
Asst Music Director ..... 1993 & 1994

Bob and his wife, Ginger (Moose), have two daughters, Molly and Heather

He has been associated with several quartets in the past including **Upper Crust**, the **C-Farers**, the **Car-Tunes** and the 1971 Pioneer District Champions, **Original Choice**. As of late he sang with the **Limerick Quartet**, Tony Ales, Mike McClary, Gary Fox (Windsor) District Convention October 1994 and placed 5<sup>th</sup>.

As with many barbershoppers, Bob's musical training is limited although from his exposure of simging the Barbershop Style he has found a penchant for arranging music in four part harmony.

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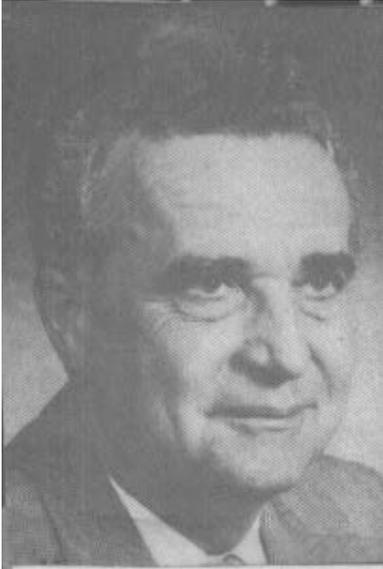
## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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### WILLIAM DENNES

Bill served on the Grosse Pointe Executive Committee 1947 and 1949.

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ERNEST T. J. DOSSIN

Ernie Dossin joined barbershopping with the Detroit Yachtsmen Chapter about 1968 where he once served as president. He transferred to Grosse Pointe Chapter in 1969, when Grosse Pointe and the Yachtsmen Chapters merged (the date of his first joining seems a little suspect, it was probably earlier). He has participated in barbershopping on the chapter, district and international level. He competed in the Pontiac Woodshedding contests and remembered Don Adam's Picnics at Harsens Island. He has attended Return of the Jug Night and many District Conventions. His favorites are the Christmas Sing Outs to the Senior Citizen's Homes and the Chapter Christmas parties. He also enjoyed Ladies Night. If he could go back in time he would like to go back to when able to sing with the group again. He would also like to he first joined barbershopping. He would also like

to see and visit with other older members. (There have been many comments that Ernie's dues were paid right up to and including 1996 but we haven't seen him at our meetings lately)

Ernie was born in Detroit and was Executive Vice President of Dossin's Food Products which was founded in 1898 and was originally a manufacturer of food products as well as a bottler of Pepsi Cola for Michigan and Ohio. He retired in 1960. He was also the family coordinator for the famous series of racing boats named "Miss Pepsi."

Upon his retirement, Ernie was a major supporter of the Dossin Great Lakes Museum.

In addition to his business activities, Ernie was an honorary alumnus of Valparaiso University and was awarded a Harris Fellowship by the Rotary Club. He was also past-president of the Algonac Rotary Club and the Detroit Yacht Club Barbershoppers. He was as a member of the Great Lakes Maritime Institute, the Detroit Historical Society, the Detroit Organ Society, the Detroit Yacht Club and St. James Lutheran Church in the Farms and the First Lutheran Church in Algonac.

Ernie, a former Grosse Pointe Woods resident died in his home in St. Clair Shores on Friday, August 16, 1996 at the age of 80. He is survived by his wife, Catherine, a daughter, Sidonie Brown; three sons, Ernest J Dossin III, Daniel A. Dossin and Douglas P. Dossin and five grandchildren.

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GORDON L. DUBRUL (tenor etc.)

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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1948 - While still attending high school, I was introduced to Barbershopping at the Oakland County Chapter. I submitted my request for membership at that first meeting and was installed as a member after the required waiting period of three months.

I transferred to Grosse Pointe in 1971 where I serves as Assistant Program V P in 1976 and Delegate in 1978.



GORDON L. DUBRUL

1950-1952 Sang bass with the **Occidental Four**.

1952-1956 While in the U. S. Navy sang bass in the **Sea Chords** with the ships doctor, an electronics tech, and Walt Martine of the Lansing Chapter. We entertained aboard several ships while in foreign ports and also in USO shows in Italy, North Africa, Greece and Turkey.

1958-1960 Sang with **Sonic Aires** with Ed Wier, tenor, Nick Paster, lead, John Lickert, bari and me singing bass. In 1959 we won the Pre-Boyne Novice Contest. Went to Boyne ...didn't win.

1960 was invited to fill a vacancy in the **Wonderlads** quartet of the then Utica-Rochester Chapter as a baritone. Tenor, Stan Salter, Lead, Hank DeVries, and Bass, Ray Strachan. Remained with this group until its demise in 1973. During this time we sang in many chapter shows in Southeast Michigan and a couple in Ontario.

1962 We entered the Boyne City Bush League Contest and were runners up to the new champs --- The **Four Fits** of Grosse Pointe. Come 1963 we, **Wonderlads**, were the winners.

1968 We took 2nd place at the District Contest.

Somewhere between the **Wonderlads** and **Pointe Four** we formed the **Car Tunes**. They were essentially the same guys from the **Wonderlads**.

1974 Formed a new quartet, **Pointe Four** consisting of all Grosse Pointe members, Hank DeMars, tenor, Jim Phelan, lead, Gordon (me) Dubrul, bari and Dick Brouckaert, bass. 1975 we won the Pre-Boyne Novice Contest. Later that year we won the Boyne City Bush League Contest. We performed at chapter meetings and shows in addition to non-barbershop functions.

1978 Reorganized under new name, **Harmony Forum** with Hank DeMars, tenor, Jim Gougeon, lead, Gordon Dubrul, bari and Nels Gregersen, bass.

1987 The **Lakeshore Clippers** formed to participate in GP functions. The members were Les Marhoff, tenor, Frank Fortier, lead, Gordon Dubrul, bari and Nels Gregersen, bass. The inevitable happened, we now do occasional non society singouts. Practicing

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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on Tuesday with the Lakeshore Chorus, Wednesday with the **Lakeshore Clippers** and participating in their engagements couldn't quite satisfy this old trouper, so to take up the slack, in January '94, I became a charter member of the GOOD NEWS CHORUS formed by Grosse Pointe Chapter members who, like myself, for the most part, are retirees. We meet on Monday afternoons and are concentrating on singing Religious Music in Barbershop style. The inevitable strikes again! From this group has sprung a quartet and a hint of another. This newest group is called the **Goodnews Singers** with Gordon Dubrul, tenor, Howard Masters, lead, Sterling Berry, bari and Len Schwietzer, bass. I have only four scheduled rehearsals a week. The highlight for this young quartet was this August when we sang four songs as an integral part of two services at the magnificent Historic Trinity Lutheran Church in Detroit.

We've been to the Harrisville Camp-out many times.

Attended Pontiac Woodshed Contest at least twice. Won the Best Bari Award in 1978.

Harsen's Island Golf, Bocce Ball, Jarts, Fishing, Beef and Corn Roast. Yes.

Went on the floating Poker Parties, won consolation prize once and attended Chapter meetings at Bill Lane's Waterfront Mansion.

Participated in Return the jug night a few times.

I've been to Cabota (meatless spaghetti) send-off, Uncle Sam Night and Canadian Night at Detroit Chapter.

Went on Boblo Moonlight Cruises. Was a guest performer with the various quartets of

which I was a member through the years in addition to the cruises made with the Lakeshore Chorus.

I have been on many Christmas sing-out to nursing homes with the chorus and also entertained in casual quartets.

My wife and I were happy to attend Ladies nights, COIN Nights and the Octoberfests.

I have been at the Chapter Christmas Parties many times.

During the Korean Conflict, 1952-1956, I served in the U.S. Navy in the Atlantic, Mediterranean and Caribbean Theaters.

My most treasured memory is when I first set eyes on our first born.... and the thrill was no less for our other child.

I'm not sure I would like to go back in time...currently I am having the time of my life.

I've met some famous people all-right. In 1948 I was a drummer in the Center Line (then Busch) High School Marching Band. We were part of the half time show at the Lions Vs LA Rams football game. Bob Waterfield was the LA Rams quarter back, his wife, Jane Russell, sat just across the aisle from me. I went to her and asked if I got a program would she autograph it. She said sure, you can have mine. That broke the ice and the rest of the band started scrambling for programs for her to sign. The next celebrity was Governor Williams at the Book Cadillac Hotel. I said hello Governor and he said hello. Not exactly a fireside chat eh?

Anecdotes;

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

In 1948 I was a member of the Michigan Allstate Chorus and was awarded a scholarship to Interlochen Music Camp. I didn't go. I was afraid other guys had their eyes on my girlfriend and I didn't want to be gone for most of the summer.

I believe I made a good decision, she married me in June of 1949 and our 50th Wedding Anniversary is drawing near.

I competed in eight District Tag Contests and was a member of the winning quartet six times.

In 1976 I had the privilege to sing with the PORT HURON CHAPTER at the dedication of Tiger Stadium as a State Historical Site. Many old time ball players were there as well as local and state dignitaries. I have little doubt the highlight of their day was hearing our National Anthem sang in barbershop harmony.

1991 - **Friends Indeed**, with Hank DeMars, tenor, Howard Masters, lead, Gordon Dubrul, bari and Nels Gregersen, bass competed in the Pioneer District Seniors Quartet Contest. The other members of our respective quartets, **Just Friends** and **Lakeshore Clippers** being too young to enter, I believe the minimum age is 55, at any rate, we formed, we entered, we won. That makes twice now that an all Grosse Pointe Member Quartet has won this contest. In 1988, our **FOUR FITS** won the Inaugural Seniors Contest.



ERIC ERNST (lead)

Eric served in the following offices of Grosse Pointe:

Board Member .....1988  
Show Chairman..... 1989-1994  
Membership VP ..... 1990 & 1991

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### BERT ESCOTT

#### PAST PRESIDENT OF GPC DIES

Bert joined our Chapter in 1947 and was the president in 1955. Bert was 68.

This was Bert's 26th year as a Grosse Pointe member. He was always active, serving in practically all the Chapter offices and although he was serious about Chapter business he was well known for his light hearted and often zany antics at conventions. He was a happy participant in all fun ventures and helped our Chapter to be named the "FUN CHAMPS".

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Pitch Pipe NOV, 1973

Bert served in the following Chapter offices:

President.....1954  
Pitch Pipe Editor .....1954  
Board Member ..... 1956-1958

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CHARLES EVANS (Lead)

Inducted in Grosse Pointe Chapter 1975

Charlie served as Sergeant-at arms for 1979-1992.

Charlie sang in the choir at Grace Church, 16 Mile and Gratiot, just past the Post Office. He also sang with the St. Phillips and St. Stephens choir.

His grandparents came from Little Bedwin, 35 miles south of Bristol England. He was born in London England.

He was fortunate in having a music teacher and sang in grade school. Charlie was the Scout Master of Troop 180. His son, Bill, was in his troop.

He worked at Packard Motors for about 20 years and lost that job when Packard Motors

closed in 1958. He once spent a month in Central Lake helping a friend fix his cottage. He worked at Salfrin Printing about 10 years (his son also worked there) and at 67 years he decided to retire. When his wife asked why, he simply explained that 67 years was enough.

Charlie remembers going to a convention and seeing a bathtub full of beer. He went to Harsen's Island with Howard Lewis and to Mini-Hep School with Bill Lane.

He remembers when Gordon Limburg directed the chorus in 1976. One of the songs at the time was "Goodbye My Lady Love".

Charlie sang with Les Suddick, Sterling Berry and Dick Barber.

When asked about his attendance at Ladies Nights, Charlie said, "Every Sunday is Ladies Night". Charlie is 92 years of age this year and is still living on his own with some periodical surveillance. He has a 58 year old lady friend.

Charlie has been in several of our Chapter shows. In his earlier days ( his 80's) he was quite a square dancer.

Charlie got to as many activities as possible, limited only by his ability to get a ride (the main reason we don't see him at Chapter meetings).

He sometimes sees Jack Slamka and Scott Houghton at the Ping-On Restaurant.

Interview with Charlie July 10, 1995

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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### BOB FARRINGTON

I joined the Oakland County Chapter July, 1946. I transferred to Grosse Pointe in 1988.

I have been Keeper of the Mugs at Grosse Pointe from June 1988 until January of 1994.

I've been in four or five quartets but I've forgotten the names.

Have you participated in any of the following?

Pontiac Woodshed? Many times with the defunct Redford Chapter.

Harsen's Island Golf Bocce Ball Jarts Fishing Beef and Corn Roast? I drove the golf cart carrying the refreshments.

I joined in the Floating Poker Party and Chapter meetings at Bill Lane's Waterfront Mansion both, at least four times.

I've participated in "Return of the Jug Night", Cabota (meatless spaghetti) send-off, Uncle Sam Night and Canadian Night.

I've attended the International Convention in Detroit. I have attended 18 International Conventions.

Boblo Moonlight Cruise? I went many times on the Boblo Cruise and sometimes on the Put-In Bay.

Have you been on Our Christmas Sing out to the senior citizen homes? Every one since 1988.

Have attended COIN night and Octoberfest since 1988.

Have you attended the chapter Christmas Party? Yes since 1988.

I was in the Army Air Force during WW II. I was an aviation cadet and was a radio mechanic on a B25. Also a bus driver in Louisville.

What is your most treasured memory?

Walking upstairs at Old Canadian Legion Hall and hearing the Clef Dwellers with their new tenor, Dick Wiseheart.

What was the most significant highlight in your life?

Becoming a Barbershopper in 1946.

What is the most embarrassing moment in your life?

When I screw up the baritone part in front of Grosse Pointe.

If you could go back in time, any time, when would it be?

I would like to do it all over again starting July 4, 1925 when I was born.

Have you ever met anyone famous? Bob Hope, Walter Sliezak, George Romney.

If you had three wishes, what would they be?

Be a member of Grosse Pointe from beginning.

A conversation with Mark Roberts:

I was a judge candidate in Harmony Accuracy and had quartets mad at me. Mark was a Harmony Accuracy Judge and he judged 17 quartets in a contest and 16 quartets hated his guts but when the winners came up he thought they would love him. Mark said " I placed you number one". They replied, " We knew we won all the time ".

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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I've followed the **4-FITS** for years. They were Michigan's best quartet for years.

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DR. SHERMAN P. FAUNCE

COTTAGE HOSPITAL ex-chief of staff

A funeral mass for Dr. Sherman P. Faunce of Warren was held today in St Martin de Porres Church, Warren, with burial in Maple Hill Cemetery, Cadillac.

Dr. Faunce, 79, died Monday in Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak. He was a 1936 graduate of the University of Minnesota Medical School and had received his fifty year certificate for A half-century in the medical field. Dr. Faunce was former chief of staff at Cottage Hospital and had been on the staffs of Ford and Macomb Center Hospitals.

He was a member of the Detroit Yacht Club and the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singers in America. As a member of the latter, Dr. Faunce traveled the State of

Michigan with the Grosse Pointe Chapter. Singing was one of his major hobbies. He also enjoyed swimming.

Although he was in general practice, much of it was concerned with delivering babies, many of whom are adults today in the Detroit area.

Surviving are his wife, Lydia, son Sherman P. Faunce who is 37th District Court Judge and four grandchildren.

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DANIEL M. FELIX 8/17/94

Jim - As far as the Grosse Pointe Chapter goes, I'm a new kid on the block; I joined this prestigious group 9/93 in time for the October District Convention. For (5) prior years I was a member of the Macomb Chapter and Membership VP for three of them. My highlight with Macomb was qualifying and singing at the Internationals in Louisville in 1991. I really was so new to barbershopping that I didn't realize what an

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

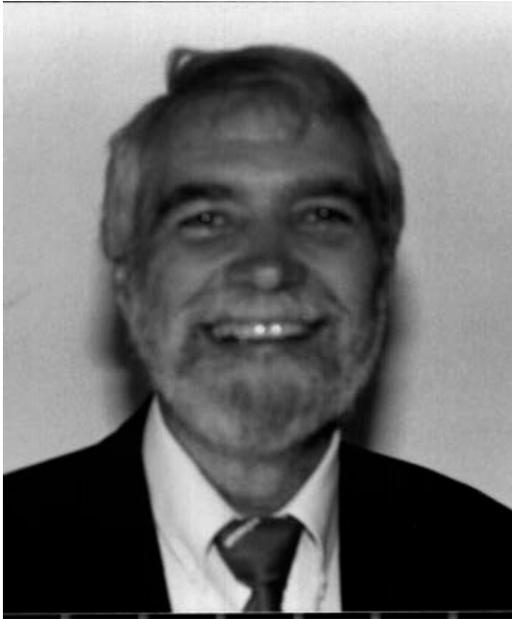
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honor it is to be part of this. Other than that moment of glory I'm pretty much the run-of-the-mill Bass singer. It's been different singing with Grosse Pointe and I've had to make adjustments but it's been a great experience.

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### AL FINKENHOEFER

Al was a Board Member in 1946, Very possibly a Charter Member of Grosse Pointe.



JOHN FITZGERALD (lead)

John joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter April 1993.

He loves to sail. He has been a high school counselor for 30 years.

He has a wife, Fay, and two seniors, Jennifer at Indiana U. and Kevin at Grosse Pointe South.

He sang with a church choir as a young man - other singing experience, soloist at Showers and around the piano at parties.

He was a member of the **FIRST TIME AROUND** quartet with Jim Grogan, Eric Ernst and Wayne Kniffen. They once sang at the Detroit Country Club and other free appearances.

He has made it to a couple Ladies Nights and COIN Nights and to 3 or 4 conventions at Lansing.

He has been serving on the Publicity Committee for 1994 & 1995.

He loves sailing and boating in general and Barbershop Singing. He is hoping to get over his back problems so he can get back to the Chapter activities.

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### FRED A FORD

Fred was a Board Member for 1972

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FRANK FORTIER (lead)

Frank Joined Grosse Pointe Chapter in 1987.

One of the happiest moments of my life, besides my wedding day and the births of

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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my children was the day I joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter. I've always enjoyed singing the old songs of days gone by beginning when I was a lad when my aunts would take me for an outing and we would sing the songs from their childhood. I studied piano all through grade school. When I entered High School I joined the all boys Glee Club and in later years I was a member of the church choir. I was a member of a religious order for a number of years and sang four part Gregorian Chant, my first exposure to real harmony. I always enjoyed listening to the music of the early 20th Century and wished I could learn more about it.

Later, I joined a folk singing group at church and it was there that I first met Jackie, the girl I would marry.

I met Mike Proffitt at a block party in my neighborhood and as we talked I expressed an interest in music and song. He told me about his group of men who also had the same interest. Mike is the man who initially inspired me to join the society. I used to see him entertaining on the street (Kercheval Avenue) during the Summer Old Time Days in the Village. Mike asked me to come to the Annual Show being presented at Grosse Pointe North High School. He said I'd really enjoy it.

I joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter shortly after seeing the Annual Springtime Show in April of 1987. I remember the energy and excitement that was displayed on stage. The songs and the Harmony of my younger days and the slap-stick comedy of the actors having fun before the audience. Jackie could see that I was enjoying the show and because of her encouragement, I joined the Chapter and, as they say, the rest is history.

Soon after attending my first chapter meeting I was asked to sing in a pick-up

quartet. Little did I realize I was being auditioned for a future quartet. Not long after that I was asked to join a quartet with Les Marhoff, Gordon Dubrul and Nels Gregerson. which became known as the **Lakeshore Clippers**. Our quartet entertained at many Chapter events; shows, singouts, private parties and other chapters on occasion. We were together for all of eight years and are presently on hiatus.

During the years that I have been a member of the chorus I have not been able to assume a regular chapter position of responsibility because of my work schedule, working nights at Chrysler as an electrician has not allowed the time to be actively involved. This fall of '94, I accepted the job of "Keeper of the Mugs", providing refreshment for all those "dry throats".

The Grosse Pointe Chapter is a very active chapter, offering many occasions for a man to enjoy his hobby. My favorite annual Sing out is the Christmas Tour of Nursing Homes. That is a wonderful way to start out my holiday; the spirit of Christmas truly comes alive for me.

Our annual Christmas Party is always a hoot. We start early in the evening caroling at the neighborhood pubs and collect contributions which we donate to local causes we feel are in need. We finish up the evening at our own party, exchanging gag gifts and stories.

I'll close this article now although I have much more to share because others have things to say as well.

I have two children and still sing in my church choir. Music will always have a special place in my heart and where better to sing the 'old songs' than with the Grosse Pointe Chapter.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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### WALTER FOUNIER

#### THE CHAPTER ETERNAL

On February 15th, Walter Fournier passed away. A sad loss for his family and all Grosse Pointe members. Wally was a lead and exemplified all that is good in Barbershopping. I will always remember how willing and ready he was to sing one of the old songs. Anytime he was singing you could just see his eyes light up. **Danny's Boys** visited and sang with Wally when he was at Bon Secours Hospital. It was then he expressed his regret at not having found Barbershopping earlier and how he missed all his friends at Grosse Pointe. Our sincerest condolences go to his family at the loss of this wonderful man.

Sully Mazur, Pitch Pipe March '77

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### THOMAS FOX (Bass)

Joined Grosse Pointe Chapter April 1974.  
Sponsored by Larry Lorentzen.

Tom Fox received a "Distinguished Achievement Award" from the Chapter for his yeoman's job as the Keeper of the Mugs last year (1976).

#### CONGRATULATIONS TOM

He is continuing to serve the Chapter as a convention delegate this year.

Pitch Pipe December, 1976

Tom has served the Chapter in the following offices:

Keeper of the Mugs.....1976

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Delegate ..... 1977 & 1979  
Program V P.....1978  
Treasurer ..... 1980 & 1981

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### CHUCK GEYER

Chuck is mentioned in the December 1954-January 1955 Pitch Pipe.

He was singing with the **Pace Makers** (Art Seely, Hal Seely and Ron Seely). They provided part of the entertainment at the Marine Hospital on November 1st (1954).

Chuck learned his singing with the Welsh Gleeman Chorus.

Chuck served in the following Chapter offices:

Secretary .....1956  
Delegate .....1958  
President..... 1960 & 1961  
Board Member .....1962  
(past pres)  
Treasurer .....1963  
Board Member ..... 1965-1968

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### LAIRD GEYER

Schools attended:

Casimir Pulaski Elementary, Detroit MI  
Laura F. Osborn High School, Detroit MI  
Eastern School of Musical Instrument  
Repair, Newark NJ  
The American College, Bryn Mawr PA

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies



LAIRD GEYER

Hobbies: Time with family, preaching and singing through our nursing home outreach at church, barbershopping, playing French horn in church orchestra, camping and sports.

I grew up in a musical family. Each member of my immediate family played an instrument. Except for my brother, we all enjoyed singing. One of my favorite memories of my growing up years is sitting around a bon fire by the lake and singing with relatives who had come to visit. On several occasions people would jump in their boats and come over to find out what station we had on the radio. I guess we sounded pretty good. In my early teens I drove my church director crazy. The youth choir was called the High School Choir. I wanted to join but he wouldn't let me until I was in High School. In the mean time I taught myself how to read music and sing tenor and bass by ear. The Sunday I graduated from eighth grade (1957) I

presented myself to the Choir director for membership in the High School Choir.

I became aware of Barbershop Harmony in late high school and fell in love with it. My father refused to allow me near a chapter meeting because of the beer being served. Somewhere in this time period Dad's youngest brother, Chuck, joined his voice with three other promising young barbershoppers named Seely in the Metrochords. Dad (Hank) joined the East Detroit Chapter. When East Detroit closed, Dad transferred to the Pontiac Chapter. Chorus directors I remember from Dad's days at Pontiac were Bill Pascher and Marty Zum.

My first active membership in the Society was in 1968 with the Lawton Chapter in Lawton, Oklahoma. I was assigned to the 97<sup>th</sup> Army Band at Fort Sill upon my return from Viet Nam. In the middle of the Post parking lot during a training exercise, I heard some barbershop chords. I followed my ear to the source. They were singing "The Old Songs" and the Bari just couldn't hear the part. I stepped up behind him to sing in his ear. When they realized I knew the part, they asked me to fill in until the other kid could learn it. The next thing I knew, our company clerk and Lawton Chapter Chorus Director, Jim Bagby, invited me to a chorus rehearsal. I joined and six weeks later sang in the District Competition in Ardmore, OK. We came in sixth out of thirteen choruses.

Then I got out of service. I transferred my membership to Grosse Pointe. I recall one Friday night we has a guest night with a pick up quartet contest. If memory serves me right, our quartet was Mike Guyer, Dad's brother (tenor), Chuck Guyer, Dad's brother (lead), me (bari) and Dad, Hank Guyer. We won all the marbles that night with "Girl of

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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my Dreams” (I think). The mug I won as a prize is still on my office desk. I use it as a pen holder. I enjoyed about two years with Grosse Pointe before the press of parenting and business forced me to set a priority I did not want to face. I had to drop out.

I joined Grosse Pointe a second time in 1997. I had reached a point that I missed singing so much, I had to join a chapter somewhere. Efforts to locate somebody to find about a chapter at first were fruitless. Then a business associate and friend of many years told me he went to a barbershop concert. Not only did he enjoy the music but a friend of his, Chuck Wingard, is a member of the chapter. As I browsed through the program, I spotted the name, Membership VP, Frank Lozzi. Frank sang in a quartet with my dad many (I mean Amy) years ago. Since the phone number was not listed in the program, I called Frank to find out where the chapter meets. I knew I had come home when Frank and Russ Seely (neither man had changed that much) recognized me when I walked in. I also enjoyed renewing acquaintances with John Wade and John Wearing and meeting Chuck Wingard and all the great guys at Grosse Pointe. Someday I would like to be a member of a quartet.

I've been married to the same wonderful woman for 34 years and have been blessed with three great children and their respective mates. Our oldest son, Dave, and our daughter-in-law, Amy, presented us with our first grandchild August 5, 1998. All three stayed in the area and are doing well.

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ROBERT GOODMAN (tenor)

Bob joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter in 1989.

He grew up woodshedding as a lad. He doesn't attend the Harsen's Island picnic because he spends 4 ½ months in the Upper Peninsula every summer. He has attended the "Return of the Jug Night", "Uncle Sam Night" and "Canadian Night".

Bob has been on our Christmas Bus Tour 4 times, so far. He has also been to our Ladies Night and Coin Nights five times.

He served in Washington D.C. and Europe during World War II and Hell, Yes he lived through the GREAT DEPRESSION, all through it.

During the depression he sang in five church choirs, three of which paid (not much) which helped to earn tuition for college. Worked for 5 cents per hour.

His most treasured moment was the V. E. celebration in the French Alps when He was present playing the role of a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army seated between a French General and a French departmental Governor.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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His most significant highlight was receiving the first (thus far only) award of Distinguished Scholar from the Michigan Academy of Science Arts and Letters.

His funniest experience was being prematurely gray and being mistaken for "keeping my age well" when I was 22 years old.

His most perplexing and irritating period was post WWII with the mix up of his records with another named Robert Goodman.

If he could go back he would repeat what has transpired; Good Health, teach at University level successfully and travel all over the world.

Would like to brag about his Fullbright Award and living in India.

P.S. He sang with a Barbershop Quartet 3rd year in a row where his 1929 Ford was exhibited in June. He also sang with the **Senior Songsters**. Dick Barber and Frank Zarembo sang with them.

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### JEFF GOUGEON (Lead etc)

Sang with **Broadcast** Quartet, Scott Houghton, Tom Conner, Len Johnson. Flint, GP, Macomb, Saginaw

District Convention 28 April, 1994 Placed #4

District Convention 20 October 1994 Placed #3

Jeff was Assistant Chorus Director in 1980.

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### JAMES GOUGEON

My barbershopping activities started before joining the Grosse Pointe Chapter in 1971. I heard a lot of barbershopping when I was young. I had uncles that used to sing barbershop in my kitchen when I was about 5 years old out in Anchorville. They used to send me up to bed but I managed to sneak down the stairwell and sit on the stairs and listen to them and a couple other guys sing. Anyway, on my mother's side, her brothers George



JAMES GOUGEON Lead/Bari

DeRosia and Mel DeRosia were both singers. Uncle Walt was also a singer but he lived way up around Minden City in the thumb and didn't get down here too often. There were a couple other guys, George Tierney and Buck Jacques in Anchorville area that got together and sang. Uncle Mel played the guitar and Buck Jacques played the banjo and they'd whip up on that once in a while. My mother's sister, Bertha, played the piano, so we usually had a lot of music in the house. The only other Gougeon that

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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had any musical ability back at that time was my mother and she had a lovely soprano voice. I thank her for passing on some of her musical genes to me. Dad was not a singer - dad was a whistler.

I graduated from high school in June of 1948 and went into the Navy in September. Two weeks into boot camp I went out and auditioned for the Great Lakes Catholic Church Choir - after singing in the Catholic Church in Anchorville for so many years I knew the latin masses like I knew the back of my hand - I didn't have any problems getting in.

After Great Lakes I went to school in Memphis Tennessee to be an airplane engine mechanic and I sang in the church choir there at the Naval Air Training Command.

I sang aboard the U.S.S. Tarawa, a carrier stationed in Italy and France. We hit ports like Naples and Cannes on the French Riviera and the Catholic Church Choir from the carrier was invited to sing in some of the big cathedrals which we did.

I got out of the service about 1951/1952 and came home where I met my lovely wife, Zoe. I was selling ice-cream for Seal Test, National Dairy Products here in Mt. Clemens. Zoe and her parents had a grocery store at Crocker and Jefferson. That was one of my accounts and that's where I met her. I got into the shoe business about 1961 when I went to work for Junior Boot Shop. I wound up buying the store at 14 Mile and Mound, in Warren and running it for 31 years before I retired from there in 1992.

Shortly after Zoe and I were married in 1956 I was invited to a party at Thompson-Phelan Construction Co. As many Grosse Pointe members know, Ray McCalpin worked for them for many years and retired from there.

There was a quartet invited to sing out there called the **4-Fits**. Jim Phelan at that time was singing in the church choir in Anchorville. The **4-Fits** sang and Russ Seely had Jim sing lead with the quartet to one of the old chestnuts so he had the opportunity to hear a lot of chords from the **4-Fits**.

At that time, Grosse Pointe was really struggling - not too many members or maybe not too many members showing up for practice. The first time I sang with them they had about 26 men in the chorus (back when they wore the Brocade jackets) at Traverse City. I remember that was the year the **Gentlemen's Agreement** won the District Championship and went on to win the International contest. They sang in the dome in front of the Park Place hotel. So that's when I first got into barbershopping - back in the days of Al Singer and Earl Sanders (Al Singer sang along side me on the risers and helped me out a lot).

In the 25 years I've been in Barbershopping all the men and their wives were "class acts". Some of the guys up north were a little strange. When I was Executive Vice-President of the District I had to meet Fran Jones at Traverse City. Fran was camping someplace up near the Straights and I drove from here and met him on a Sunday afternoon in Traverse City for a convention meeting we had with those people prior to their hosting the fall convention there. I was sitting there shooting the breeze with Marty Chirgwin. The current president of the chapter arrived and all the guys were there and finally Fran Jones showed up. The president stands up and says "Well, I'd like to call this meeting to order and get the business out of the way so we can go home." But first he says to me, "Who the hell are you and what do you want up here?" . I shot back, "Do you have a current District Directory?". He said "yes". And I said,

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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“Well get it out. Under the heading of District Officers you’ll see one there that says Executive Vice-president, and that’s me. And under committee assignments you’ll find a committee called District Conventions and under that committee you’ll find me there as chairman of the committee. That’s who the hell I am and that’s what the hell I’m doing up here.” Everybody just laughed, especially Marty Chirgwin who was part of that committee and director of Traverse City

One other instance comes to mind - the first time I walked into the Saginaw Bay Chapter on a visitation. Nels Gregerson did a lot of traveling with me back then. I was singing with Nels and we were pretty good friends and any time I went out of town, I’d drive up and Nels would drive back. We pulled in to Saginaw Bay and when we walked in I knew I was in for a bad time. Someone said, “Here comes the spy from International.”

Nels and I had a lot of fun together and of course, when you travel with a bass as good as Nels you never have trouble getting two other voices to sing a couple songs. Sometimes Hank DeMars and Gordie Dubrul would go along on a short run and then we had a quartet which was even more fun. Every chapter loved to see a quartet stop in that they didn’t know. I like to think that back in those times that the **Rumble Seat Ramblers** weren’t too bad a quartet. Then we sang as the **Forum** and that was a decent quartet. We never competed, we weren’t a competition quartet. We sang in a couple Grosse Pointe Shows and a Pontiac Show.

When the Port Huron Chapter formed, Pat Yaques left Grosse Pointe to be the director. He was short of baritones and convinced me to go up and sing some baritone with him. Port Huron Chapter took probably eight good voices out of Grosse Pointe Chapter -

that hurt. I was reluctant to make that move - In fact I held a dual membership for ten years. I didn’t give up my Grosse Pointe membership at all. I sang with Port Huron but that was a long drive from Mt. Clemens.

My boys, Jeff and Ron, were singing with Motor City. Just prior to the Pittsburgh Convention they convinced me to come down and sing with them. So, we sang in an International Convention together which was very gratifying. The convention was a lot of fun. That was the convention after Bob Whitledge left and Carl Dalke came in and directed that one time.

The next time we had a chance to sing at International was in Kentucky (1991) with the Harmony Heritage Chorus of Macomb County Chapter.

A lot of barbershop chords have rung in all those years. I think one of the highlights other than singing on the International Stage with my boys has to be the year 1984 when I presented the Senior Trophy at the midwinter convention in Tucson, AZ. I had an opportunity to give a little talk before the Senior Contest It was exciting to make that presentation in front of all those people.

I also enjoyed being a “Mike Tester” with the **Nifty-Fifties** (George VanDeVelde, Jim Phelan, Mel Totske and myself) in Ypsilanti in 1984, when the contest session got eased out of the Pioneer High School in Ann Arbor and had to go to Ypsilanti in an old theater. I remember, after singing I was quite sweaty and I sat in one of those old red chairs. When I got up the back of my shirt was all red. (This happened to be the contest Grosse Pointe won the District Championship)

Competition is a funny thing. I know Grosse Pointe’s philosophy is the fun chapter and

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

all this and I can respect that because they do have a helluva lot of fun there's no doubt about that - but those guys can sing and sing dam good when they want to. We have a couple young men down there that are working with them that have a super abundance of talent.

There are so many nice people in barbershop - what can I say - Russ and Shirley are two of the most wonderful people - are there any better in the Society? I've met so many of them. Especially after the District Board Meeting when the Board got together with the wives and went out to dinner. Roger Lewis and his wife and other just great people, and John Gillespi and his wife, Betty - Bill and Del Warner - Doran McTaggart and Magie. Never a dull moment. So these cocktail parties at the District after the meetings - everyone is relaxed - the work is done - now we have a chance to have a few drinks and some hors d'oeuvres and go and get changed for dinner before the Saturday Night Show. Of course, that's changed now because the Board Meeting is on Friday instead of tying things up on Saturday. That loosens up all of Saturday which is what we tried to do for a number of years.

Zoe and I have been married 40 years this Decoration Day. We love Michigan.

Here is a list of Jim Gougeon's Barbershopping Achievements:

### DISTRICT

1977 Area Counselor Division V  
1978, 79, 80 Vice-President Division V  
1981, 82 Executive Vice-President  
1983,84 President  
1985,86 Immediate Past President

### CHAPTER

Joined Grosse Pointe Chapter in 1971. Served as assistant Treasurer, Keeper of the Mugs, Nominating Committee.

Joined Port Huron Chapter in 1973. Administrative Vice-president, Board Member

Transferred to Detroit #1 Chapter. Board member at large.

Organized and Chartered Macomb County Chapter 1986. Served as General Agent, Board Member, Treasurer, Convention Co-ordinator, Section Leader, Music Team Member

1993 Transferred to Grosse Pointe Chapter. Inactive due to health

### INTERNATIONAL/SOCIETY

1985 & 1986 International Board Member

### MUSIC ACTIVITIES

QUARTETING Sang lead in **Rumble Seat Ramblers** and **Harmony Forum** and bari in the **Nifty Fifties**.

CHORUS Sang lead in Grosse Pointe's Lakeshore Chorus, bari in Port Huron's Harmony Chorus, lead and bari, section leader in Detroit #1 Motor City Chorus, lead singer in teaching octet, section leader and Music Team Member in Macomb County Harmony Heritage Chorus.

### SERVICE ACTIVITIES

DISTRICT Dynamo Co-ordinator, 1992; Barbershopper of the Year, 1989; Credentials, 1989, Nominating, 1989-

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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1991; District Convention Chairman,  
1981,1982;  
Hall of Fame, 1981 , 1982

CHAPTER Chorus Manager, Chorus  
Contact Man, Barbershopper of the month  
and year committee,  
Registered Agent and Officer, International  
Convention Travel Chairman. Received  
Macomb Chapter Barbershopper of the Year  
Award, 1991.

OTHER Presented the Senior Quartet  
Trophy to International from Grosse Pointe  
Chapter at the Mid-Winter Convention in  
Tucson, AZ 1990.

Member of Grosse Pointe, Detroit  
#1 and Macomb Chapters. Member of  
Pioneer District for 25 years.

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NELS GREGERSEN

Nels began his barbershopping with the  
Clinton Valley Chapter 21 years ago. After  
transferring to the Grosse Pointe Chapter he

hooked up with Russ Seely, Bob Demchak  
and Jerry VanDeVelde to form the **POINTE  
CLASSICS** quartet which went on to  
perform on International stage in Pittsburgh  
in 1981. Who of will ever forget that O.C.  
Cash bar they rolled on the stage and sang  
"Daddy Get Your Baby Out Of Jail" ( a  
really old Barberpole song). Their act  
probably set the tone for future quartets  
going to great lengths to improve their stage  
presence performance.

Quartet singing was Nels great love. He  
performed with the **Lakeshore Clippers**,  
Frank Fortier, Gordy Dubrul and Les  
Marhoff. His latest quartet was **The Old  
Gold** with Marv Skupski, Reuben Queen  
and Dick McHugh. In fact, their last job was  
at a church on the Sunday before Nel's  
passing. With Howard Masters, Hank  
DeMars and Gordy Dubrul he competed in  
and won the Senior Quartet Championship.  
He also competed at Trapper's Alley,  
winning first prize.

Nels was always available for subbing in  
quartets when they were in a pinch for a  
bass. The **4-Fits** and **Just Friends** utilized  
his talents many times.

Though he seldom, if ever, missed a bass  
note in his life, he was always willing to  
accept responsibility when it meant that  
someone in the bass section was about to be  
castigated by Russ for singing the wrong  
notes. We'll always remember Nel's "My  
Fault" when he took the blame for someone  
else's mistake.

Nels was a very private person. He never  
criticized, never interrupted and was always  
willing to help when called upon to do so.

Woodshedding was another of his favorite  
pastimes. At convention time, it would not  
be unusual for him to sing until daylight,

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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have breakfast, go to bed a few hours and do it all over again the next night!

Humor on stage was another of his great attributes. I think he dearly regretted that he never got hooked up a class comedy quartet.

Beside being an ardent barbershopper, he was also a volunteer firemen with the Centerline Fire Department, where he served as Captain. These two hobbies were the great loves of his life. He worked for Triangle Electric for most of his career as an electrician.

Nels died suddenly on May 8, 1995 while at work. He was 60 years old, married to Johanna (Jo), had four children, Karen, Erick, Kathy and David, two grandchildren and a ton of friends.

He will be missed, as he was and is -- irreplaceable.

Pitch Pipe Jul 1995 by Len Schweitzer

Nels served in the following Grosse Pointe offices:

Program V P.....1984  
President.....1985  
Board Member .....1986 (past Pres.)  
Delegate ..... 1985, 1988 & 1989

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JAMES GROGAN (TENOR)

Jim joined Grosse Pointe April 1993. He likes Golf and Tennis. Jim is a retired chef. Lives in Grosse Pointe Farms. He served the Chapter as Chorus Manager for 1994 & 1995.



## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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### NEAL HAMPTON (lead)

I joined the Grosse Pointe Lakeshore Chorus in 1986, the year I retired from Parke Davis. Like most Barbershoppers you talk to "I wish I had joined sooner". Well, I had that opportunity and I blew it. I had attended a meeting or two some ten years earlier as a guest of my life long friend and member, Jim Kinner. The chorus and its members were very impressive. However, due to family and work commitment, I felt that I did not have the time required to become an active member. Of course, I am occasionally reminded of the great Barbershop activities that I missed over the years. Since joining the chorus I have served as assistant to and Keeper of the Mugs, Treasurer and assistant to the Annual Show Ticket Chairman. I also served as Chapter Treasurer in 1989 and 1990.

My wife, Elaine, and I have only missed a couple of District Conventions and then only due to circumstances. We have greatly enjoyed many other Barbershop activities and "The Good Lord Willin'" hope to enjoy many more. I have especially enjoyed the quartet singing with fellow members, Don Schell, John Collins and Frank Maranzano. Most of our singing has been for our own personal pleasure, but hey, that's part of what Barbershopping is about, right!

I have memories of days back when I recall singing around the piano on Sunday afternoon. Ma played all of the oldies that are so prevalent in Barbershop. Oh yeah, and when the guys went out on the night, we always ended up with a song. I guess I loved music as my folks did. Dad sang in a quartet when he was young. I also sang in the Southeastern High School Glee Club way back when.

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### BOB HARTLEY

Grosse Pointe Man Passes During Quartet Song

Grosse Pointe - The local Chapter SPEBSQSA is mourning the unexpected passing of Thornton D. (Bob) Hartley, tenor of the **Four Hoarsemen**. Bob, always an active barber-shopper, was a Charter member of the Grosse Pointe Chapter. He sang with the **Hoarsemen** for four years. Other members of the quartet are Fred Bumber, president of the Mt. Clemens Chapter, Pete Fisher and Les Langlois of the Grosse Pointe Chapter.

Death came to Hartley as he was singing with the quartet at a performance at the Amvets in Mt. Clemens on October 4.

Born in Shelby, Ohio 56 years ago, Hartley came to Detroit 30 years ago. He was a member of the Loyalty Lodge, No 448, F & AM.

Surviving are his widow, Mary; one son, Robert; two sisters and a brother.

Michigan Troubadour, November, 1952

Bob served in the following Chapter Offices:

Board Member .....1946  
Master of Ceremonies .....1949

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies



DONALD HEIN (Lead)

Don has served in the following Chapter offices:

Delegate .....1980  
Librarian..... 1983-1995  
Board Member ..... 1978 & 1984

My 19 Years with Grosse Pointe Chapter  
29 Nov 1994

In June 1976 I was shopping at Eastland Mall with Leona and we ran across this group of guys singing in the mall. We listened for a while and heard their pitch to join them. Leona prodded me with "Why don't you look into this - I think you'd enjoy it" So I signed up and became a member in October 1976 and have been hooked ever since. Nick Catelane was my sponsor.

Gordie Limburg was the director but he didn't last long. Three months after I joined he resigned, about the time the Pioneer District Convention was coming up and we were the Host Chapter at the new Hyatt Regency Hotel in Dearborn chaired by Don Adams. Dick Brouckaert directed us in

chorus competition and I vividly remember one of the songs we sang was "Sweethearts No More". This was my first district competition and I was nervous. In the quartet competition, Russ Seely was competing with his quartet **Foreign Policy** with John Wearing, tenor, Russ, lead, Don Humphrey, bari and Thom Hine, bass. And I remember one of the songs they sang was "Old Routine" and Russ got down on one knee as part of the shtick for the song - he looked like Al Jolson. The judges loved it and they took first place. At the Hyatt Regency I also remember my first introduction to "afterglows" - sitting on a pile of beer cases with Paul Johnson and listening to quartets singing in the Grosse Pointe Hospitality Room in the wee hours of the morning.

Another happening that I have deep in my memory is the death of my mother - July 25th - she was 83.

After the Hyatt convention, Russ gave me a voice test and decided I was a baritone. We tried that for a while and I remember Russ asking some of the guys "What are we going to do with this guy?". Anyway, I wound up as a lead and still am today. And they decided I'd make a good Librarian too -- this was around 1983 and I've still got the job today - So that's about 12 years, at least.

We were meeting at St. Mark's Episcopal Church when I joined Grosse Pointe in 1976 and we moved to the Neighborhood Club. Don Adams was the man responsible for getting us in the Neighborhood Club; He negotiated the whole deal. And it's the best move we ever made. It saved our Chapter. We couldn't go on at St. Mark's anymore. The neighborhood got too bad. They were stealing cars from us like mad - one time they stole Don Humphrey's brand new Chrysler. We had to keep a guard on duty in

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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the parking lot. When we came in the door to St. Mark's for meetings they charged us \$.50 to pay for the guard.

During the days at St. Mark's, Mark Roberts visited us several times. He was living in Florida then. Mark Roberts was a charter member of Grosse Pointe and did much for the Chapter in its early days. Mark was a lawyer and negotiated with the IRS for some of the income tax deductions allowable for charity efforts. Mark is deceased now.

The first show I remember was at Regina High School auditorium on Kelly Road; This was 1977. We had no skit for the show - just singing. It wasn't much of a show by today's standards. From Regina High we went to Parsells School, then Lakeview High, South Lake High, Grosse Pointe North & Fitzgerald High for one year. We had a lot of fun. We learned a lot of songs and put on some good shows. Perhaps the highlight in my memory of past shows was my playing the Tin Man in Wizard of Oz in 1987. That aluminum paint all over my face was really something.

One of the nice memories I have is working out a deal with my employer, Channel 2 Television to get our chorus on the morning TV show. The show was on at 7 AM so it meant an early rising - but a lot of guys always showed up at that hour- guess it's because they're all a bunch of hams. These appearances on TV were always around show time so it gave a good chance to plug our upcoming show.

My first International Convention was in Cincinnati in 1978. I was really impressed. That year the Vagabonds - Denny Gore, lead, Ken Gibson, tenor, Clay Shumard, bari and Norm Thompson, bass - came in sixth place in the quartet competition.

In 1981 I attended the International Convention in Detroit at Cobo Hall. I remember gang singing on Jefferson avenue in front of the Westen Hotel - singing "Down Our Way" while a policeman directed us to cross the street and we sang "even policemen say how do you do". It was fun, fun, fun.

In 1982 we were in Pittsburgh for the International Convention; That year the **Pointe Classics** with Bob Demchak, tenor, Russ Seely, lead, Jerry Van De Velde, bari and Nels Gregerson, bass competed in quartet competition. That was the year of the famous "bar prop" which took so long to set up between songs that the judges changed the rules so it wouldn't happen again.

In 1983 I attended the International Convention in Seattle, Washington. After the convention we got aboard the Canadian National Railroad at Vancouver and took a trip to Lake Louise. The train traveled through the Canadian Rockies in a vista dome car and the scenery was gorgeous. In 1984 the SPEBSQSA International Convention was in St Louis and again we attended. Instead of housing at the downtown hotels with the convention we stayed in a college dorm at the Lutheran Seminary. The students were on summer break so there was plenty of room. That worked out very well and it was only a ten minute drive to convention headquarters downtown. One of the extra activities they offered at this convention was a boat ride on the Mississippi with dinner and dancing aboard; this was great. And of course, we went under the famous arch on the banks of the Mississippi. One of the highlights of the St. Louis International Convention was an award presentation to Fred Waring for his outstanding contributions to the musical arts. I remember Fred saying to the award presenter - "How come you waited so long

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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to give me this award?" for Fred was an old man in his 80's. He died several years later. A similar award was given to Mitch Miller several years later for his contributions. After the convention, Leona and I visited with some friends in Joplin, Missouri. We have a lot of remembrance of Joplin because our marriage started there while I was in the service for Uncle Sam in WWII. After Joplin we headed north to Independence, Missouri to see the Harry S. Truman museum and then to Abilene, Kansas to see the Eisenhower museum - then home.

In 1985 the International Convention was in Minneapolis and we were on a roll with these International Conventions, so we attended again.

In 1986 we skipped the International Convention and settled for Ray Starrette's North Carolina golf gathering.

In 1987 we went to Hartford, Connecticut for the International Convention. I remember we ran into Leslie Marhoff there. As part of this convention they offered a bus tour of New York City and we took in 42nd Street and Broadway, RCA Music Hall, Rockefeller Center and Harlem, as well as a boat trip around Manhattan - seeing Yankee Stadium, Wall Street, Empire State Building, Chrysler Building and the Statue of Liberty from the boat.

I have been in a few quartets through the years but prefer singing in the chorus. I have never competed in quartet district competition. I sang in the chorus at Pine Knob; it was a nice experience. The Harsens Island bocce ball, jarts, beef and corn are the greatest - wouldn't miss it. The Floating Poker Game is a day on the water and I love it. Chapter meetings at Bill Lane's mansion - another great experience. Hart Plaza Show - we sang our hearts out - great. Boblo

moonlight cruise - great - loved them. The nursing home tour is what Christmas is all about. Ladies Night - great night out with your best gal - great food - and dance until they kick us out. COIN night is another great time and an opportunity to welcome the new officers.

My most treasured memory - being given the **Barbershopper of the Year** Award in 1990. The most embarrassing moment in my life - singing in a shaggy dog contest on Tuesday, November 29, 1994. Our quartet had two tags to sing - I started singing tag #2 and the tenor, bari and bass started singing the #1 tag.

If I could go back in time - I would choose the time in my life when my kids were young - that was the happiest time in my life.

If I had three wishes they'd be - good health - good health and good health.

Have I ever met someone famous? yes they were: Ty Tyson, Harry Heilmann, Van Patrick, Al Nagler, Ernie Harwell, Paul Carey, Alan Trammell, Gordie Howe, Ted Lindsay, Sid Abel, Bud Lynch, Bruce Martin, Ray Lane, Joe Gentile, Ralph Binge, Jack the Bellboy, Sunny Elliot, Bill Bonds, Jack LeGoff, J. P. McCarthy, Fat Bob Taylor, Pat Waldmier, Eddie Bracken, Joel Grey, Don DeFore, Phyllis Diller, Imogene Coca, Alan Alda, Coleman Young, George Kell, Charles Kuralt, Jimmy Stewart, Lowell Thomas, James Roosevelt, Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon.

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies



ED HEINRICH (lead)

Ed joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter October 1993

Ed is a retired Ford millwright. A widower. 2 grown children. A lifetime Michigander. Member of Grosse Pointe Woods Boat Club.

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JOHN H. HENDRICKS

John Hendricks, well known and very popular member of Grosse Pointe Chapter, died on Sunday, 12 Oct, 1947, after an illness of several months. Jack was a real Barbershopper in every sense and he was never happier than when at our meetings or when singing with his quartet. His song, "A Barbershopper's Meeting", was published in Detroit Chapters Chips about a year ago and in it he expressed his great liking for the clean and simple joys of singing barber shop harmony. We will miss him. The Chapter extends to Mrs. Hendricks the heartfelt sympathy of the entire membership.

Pitch Pipe Nov, 1947

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JACK HENDERSTEIN "BLACKJACK"

Jack was sergeant-at-arms in 1979 & 1980.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies



LEONARD HENK (tenor)

I became a barbershopper in 1984, after retiring, by joining the Grosse Pointe Chapter. In 1985 I was Keeper of the Mugs. I was Treasurer three years, 1986-1988.

I sang tenor for about 4 years in a quartet called The **Goodwill Blenders** along with Harvey Burr, lead, Bud Maire, bari and Sully Mazur, bass until Sully moved to Arizona in 1990. We performed many times for picnics, anniversaries, birthday parties,, Christmas parties etc. at various parks, homes, back yards, halls and restaurants. We also sang for the Senior Men's Club and AARP Chapter at the Neighborhood Club and at the Grosse Pointe street and sidewalk sale each summer.

In addition we sang at numerous nursing homes any time the opportunity presented itself. One interesting session was when we sang at Harvey's grandson's school class for a "show and tell" type of thing. The kids got a big kick out of it. Probably the most interesting performance was when we sang at the GM Poletown Assembly plant for the

Open House Celebration of its Anniversary. Tours were conducted through the plant while it was in operation. We sang at various locations throughout the plant to both visitors and employees "on the line" who all expressed their enjoyment.

When Sully moved, Len Schwietzer joined the quartet and we continued to sing, for about two years, at various functions as stated above and Elk and Masonic Lodges, the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club etc. Included was a demonstration of Barbershopping at Grosse Pointe North High School for the music class of Sam Ellis' granddaughter. They had never experienced this type of music and the initial reaction was rather lukewarm but they eventually warmed up and did enjoy it. We understand that later it was the subject of an interesting class discussion. Various personal and health problems led to the breakup of the quartet.

For a couple of years I sang with Woody Orvis, lead, Bud Maire, bari and either Bill Lane or Sully Mazur, bass (one each year) at the Tank Automotive Command offices for their Christmas party.

With the parting of the **Goodwill Blenders** I have been singing with Dan Bulbul, lead, first Bud Maire then John Collins, bari, and Bill Lane, bass, again at various places and functions and under various names, primarily **Danny's Other Boys**. One such performance was at the Morley Candy Co. on the occasion of their 75th Anniversary Open House. We sang at St. Joseph Hospital in Mt. Clemens for the Women's Auxiliary using the name The **By-Pass Four**.

Shirley and I have enjoyed going to the Blue Haven Resort near Harrisville for "Harmony Weekend" since shortly after I joined the Chapter. We have had a lot of fun with our fellow members and friends singing and

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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playing. The first few years it was great fun watching guys like Jim Kinner and Harvey Burr play volley ball. We don't do that anymore but the "Euchre Tournament" gets pretty wild sometimes. Shirley and I have participated in the Harsens Island activities each year and so far have not won a trophy but we had a lot of fun trying.

Since joining I have participated in every show and (with Shirley) every convention. Shirley and I have attended all Ladies Nights and Coin Nights except one of each. We have participated in each and every Octoberfest both in the tent in Shier's backyard and at the Grosse Pointe Park facility.

I did join in on the Ray Starrette golf trip to Southern Pines, North Carolina for either 3 or 4 years. A couple of the years, in addition to golf, our group sang in the Spring Festival in Ray's Home Town of Statesville. Although my golf was just so, so, the enjoyment was great.

The Christmas Season "Bar Crawl and Carol Singing" and the party has been the source of much fun although it seems there is something missing since Jim Rutt and his "wild" gifts have been absent. These activities along with the bus tour of nursing homes have made each holiday season more enjoyable. I have participated in them every year.

I was drafted into the Army in World War II but never left the country. My time was spent in training with the 91st Divisions Ordnance Company in Camp White, Oregon; and later in Arkansas. Due to a gimp leg (caused by polio when a youngster) and a subsequent injury to my good leg, while in training, I was medically discharged in a little less than a year while attending the University of Arkansas in an Army engineering training program. Prior to

this army service I worked at the old Packard Motor Car Co., to where, upon discharge, I returned. There I worked in the Aircraft Engine Division on Rolls Royce engines. Our job in final inspection was to calculate each engine's performance based on dynamometer test data to determine if the engine was ok for shipping. If the engine met the standards then it was also our job to make certain that all the latest engineering changes and various equipment etc. were incorporated before the engine was "bagged" and crated for shipping. The most significant highlight in my life was the fact that I met Shirley while working at Packard in this phase of my life.

One question Jim asked was - "Have you ever met anyone famous"? Prior to the war I met Sammy Kaye and led his "Swing and Sway with Sammy Kaye Orchestra" on the stage of the old Fox Theater. I also met Frank Barbaro the owner of the old "Bowery" night Club, now that was really note-worthy, isn't it?

Well, one of the funniest things to happen to me should be one of the most embarrassing things also. It was in the 50's and was the first time I gave up bowling in the league at work (I was an auditor for the State of Michigan at the time). The reason for not rejoining the league being that Bob Kelly, who was legally blind, and used a white cane, had a higher average than I did. (Bob ran the cigarette and candy etc. counter in the office building). On the first ball he could see straight down well enough to line his feet according to the boards. On his second ball, if it was needed, we had to tell him which pins were still up to enable him to up his feet accordingly. So you can see I was not the world's greatest bowler. Subsequently, I started and gave up bowling several times in sheer frustration.

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If I could go back in time I would go back and get in Barbershopping about 30 some years earlier, namely in the 50's when I had a decent voice and singing was real easy. Then I could wish to be a part of a top quartet, a top chorus, all within the Grosse Pointe Chapter and then win the whole shooting match.

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LOUIS HERMAN

Lou was Keeper of the Mugs in 1967, Membership V P in 1968 and Board Member in 1969.

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RUSSELL HOFER (lead, tenor)

Biography as a member of the Grosse Pointe Chapter SPEBSQSA

I'm the other Russ at the Grosse Pointe Chapter. At times it's very confusing to me because fellow barbershoppers even refer to "Russ" when Russ Seely is not present but I am. However, it's really my parent's fault for naming me and not anticipating the first name conflict with Russ Seely who is Mr. Grosse Pointe Barbershopper.

My own barbershop experience started 11 years ago (summer '83) when I walked into a rehearsal in the basement of St. Mark's Episcopal Church on 7 Mile near Gratiot. (Russ joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter October 1983) I'm probably one of a kind (many friends will agree) because I called a number in the phone book to find out where rehearsals were held and I was not aware that I would know anyone at rehearsal. This indicates that no one had found me a singer worthy of recruitment.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

Barbershop singing was not my first singing experience. I had sung in a high school glee club, a Navy Choir in boot camp and as an adult in a church choir for about 15 years. I believe all of us quickly learn our limitations when we first experience cappella singing in a chorus but particularly in a quartet.

I found a home for about 6 years in the lead section of the Lakeshore Chorus and served 3 years as Chapter Secretary (86,87 & 88) and as delegate in '89. I attempted to sing lead in a quartet called with Len Henk, tenor, Bud Maire, bari and Damon Smith, bass. I soon found my limitations as a lead singer, not the least of which was lack of volume in that range, a poor memory for words, a saliva problem and a tremendous stage fright.

In 1986 the Chapter threw a comedy quartet contest and nobody attended. Well, almost nobody. A quartet called the **Four Noses** won but there was not much competition (maybe four other quartets and most of them "pick-ups"). The **Four Noses** did rehearse numerous times, dress and perform fairly well to win but gave no subsequent performances. Probably few remember the **Four Noses** were John Collins, tenor, Russ Hofer, lead, Len Schwietzer, bari and Sully Mazur, bass.

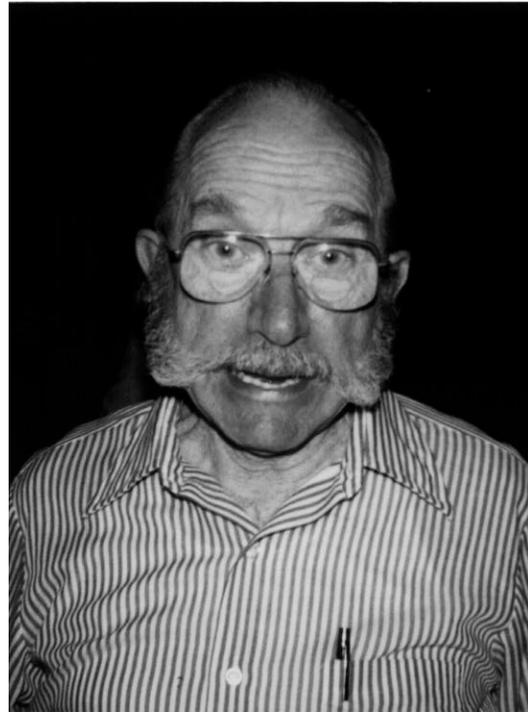
Six years ago I moved to the tenor section and have found it more suited to my voice and temperament. In about '92 Al Cole, Damman Smith, Joe Bichler and I formed the **Afterglow** quartet which performed for a while as the **Forgettables**.

Often, after joining an organization you find friends or associates that you didn't know were members. That happened to me. Jim Rutt (a long term member) was a classmate & good friend at high school. Dick Brouckaert (a member & director) had come

and gone before I arrived. Miles Curry, another school acquaintance had also come and gone as a GP member. However, the biggest surprise was having found that my uncle Clarence Lang was a old time member and was involved with a quartet called **Langs Lung Busters** many years ago.

What's next? I'll certainly continue working to improve my singing skills in chorus and quartet. I cannot, however, expect my voice not to deteriorate as I approach 70 years of age and body ailments take over. I'll continue as long as I can because I enjoy singing and the many good barbershop friends I sing with.

Russ served the Chapter as Secretary for 1986-1988 and as Delegate for 1989.



EUGENE HONDERICK (bass)

Gene served the Chapter in the following offices:

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

Librarian..... 1978 & 1979  
 Chorus Manager.....1980  
 Keeper of the Mugs.....1981  
 Secretary .....1983  
 Membership VP .....1986  
 Historian..... 1987-1989



RON HOUGHTON (Lead)

Joined Grosse Pointe Chapter January 1980.  
 Sponsored by Nick Catellane.

Ron served in the following Chapter offices:

Secretary .....1981  
 Membership V P .....1982  
 President.....1983  
 Board Member .....1984  
 (past Pres.)  
 Board Member .....1985  
 Keeper of the Mugs.....1985

To Ron Houghton, the highest honor we can bestow...**BARBERSHOPPER OF THE YEAR.** Grosse Pointe members unanimously approved this years selection and congratulate Ron. A hard working, dedicated and enthusiastic barbershopper.

The plaque was presented at our Annual Ladies Night Dinner Dance held at the

German American Club. Jim Rutt also mentioned others in our Chapter that have been dedicated and conscientious. Grosse Pointe is very fortunate to have so many hard working members. Every year it gets tougher to choose the recipient of this award.

Ron and his lovely wife, Sharon have always been active in the Chapter social events and we look forward to being with both of them. Son Scott, now away at college has been a real enthusiastic member of the Chapter and stops down at the meetings whenever he can.

pitch pipe Feb, 1984

### SCOTT HOUGHTON (Bari etc)

Joined Grosse Pointe Chapter January 1980.  
 Sponsored by Nick Catellane.

Sang with **Broadcast** quartet - Jeff Gougeon, Tom Conner, Len Johnson.

Competed at Pioneer District 28 April 1990, placed #4.

Competed at Pioneer District 20 October 1990, place #3.

Scott has served in the following Chapter offices:

Board Member .....1981,1983,  
 .....1989,1990,1991  
 Librarian.....1981  
 Secretary .....1982  
 Asst. Music Director ..... 1987-1991

### F. WARD HOWARD (bass)

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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F. Ward Howard, bass singer of the **Windjammers Quartet**, passed away 8 Aug 1948, after a short illness. Ward was only 21 years old and had been associated with singing groups for several years and spent all his leisure time with one or the other of these groups. Ward was a good singer, a real barbershopper, and in every way a fine young man who we will miss at our gatherings..

Pitch Pipe Sept 1948.

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### COVERT "DUCK" HUNTER

Covert became a member of Grosse Pointe Chapter February 1947. He possesses a very fine voice, developed with the Yale Glee Club.

He was our Secretary in 1950 and moved up to President in 1953. In 1954 he was a member of the Board (past Pres.).

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### FRED HUNTER

Fred was Librarian in 1980 and Keeper of the Mugs in 1981.

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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### JAMES F JACKSON

Jim joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter in December of 1946.

He is also a Turners member.

Jim served the Chapter in the following offices:

Executive Committee..... 1947 & 1949  
President.....1952

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### PAUL JOHNSON

Paul has served in the following Chapter offices:

Board Member ...1962, 1963, 1969, 1974  
Treasurer .....1965, 1967, 1968  
President.....1966  
Pitch Pipe Editor ..... 1969-1972  
Historian..... 1971 & 1972  
Delegate .....1975

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ARTHUR JONES (lead, tenor & bass)

Joined Grosse Pointe Chapter July 1975.  
Sponsored by Larry Jones.

During my presidency in 1981, the Chapter nearly went broke with the current recession. We had the Annual Ladies night all arranged. The band was hired. A moderate dinner was planned. We were to be at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club which didn't have an open bar, it was a cash bar, so the tickets turned out to be quite costly. We had an emergency Board Meeting the Tuesday before the party and found that the money was in for only about fifteen or twenty people. We had to cancel Ladies Night and give the people back their money.

I lost a chorus manager that year. Nick Catellane quit about three months into the year. Times were tough and no one was hiring the chorus for entertainment so there wasn't much money coming in.

The ALERT was enhanced by updating weekly.

I remember the week-end trip to Sarnia. We had a good time. I was thrown into the swimming pool along with Russ Seely with all our clothes on by Ed Sauve and Jim Kinner. And we all put our tuxedos to work by wearing them to the Saturday Evening Dinner at the motel.

Prior to one of the Bob-Lo Cruises, Nancy and I went to Mexico Town for burritos. Once on board I wasn't feeling good so I planned on not singing with the chorus (boy, is that sick?). We all went out to rehearse and I stayed in the back and did the best I could. I wasn't going to go on stage but we were right next to the stage and I did get on stage and sang. Then the chorus started up to the bar deck and this time I didn't go. Nancy found me and asked if I was all right. I told her I had chest pains like I was having a heart attack. So we sat around for the next two hours. We were one of the first ones off the boat. An ambulance was available but

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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they were going to Detroit Memorial. Nancy insisted they go to St. Johns where they confirmed that I was having a heart attack. I was put on a study they were doing on blood thinners and luckily I got the real stuff, not placebos, that cleared up the heart attack. I stayed over. My little Indian doctor said "Nancy, we fix him up with angioplasty but when he saw the results of the catherization he was very upset - I was plugged up and wound up with a by-pass. Needless to say, it was a success cause I'm still here.

I had a lot of fun times - going to conventions - staying up Saturday Night until sunrise - that was the criteria for the first years, I didn't go to bed until I could see the sun come up. The best motel for convention was the Holiday Inn at Midland. Every Chapter had huge hospitality rooms. They had a covered indoor swimming pool and you could really ring the chords there. The last time we were there, Woody tried to drink the bar dry and passed out in the bathroom with the door locked. At one of the conventions at Kalamazoo I had too much to drink Saturday afternoon and so Nancy went to the quartet session with Harry Buell. I was in my room when there was a knock at the door, presumably a "Lady of the Night" sent over from the headquarters hotel by Harry Buell. I couldn't prove it then but Nancy told me how Harry was stalling about getting back from the quartet contest. I remember the year we ran the Convention at the Hyatt Regency. Don Adams was the Chairman. We converted the main ballroom to an auditorium. We knew all the secret passageways in the hotel which expedited our delivery of beer to all the other chapters from a cooler truck we rented. Of course, I was in charge of the beer.

Our kids grew up going to Harrisville for nine or ten years. We made a lot of friends

up there and my kids made a lot of friends up there. We are still friends with a lot of these people like the Slamkas. We sat around the campfires and sang. I could navigate the entire park at night without a flash light regardless of my sobriety. The kids would fish for salmon down at the harbor. They would go down at night and we'd pick them up in the morning. P. J. fished there for about two years and finally, the third year he got a couple nice salmon. When Nancy went to pick him up he was all smiles. Then he picked up the salmon. Thanks to Nancy, the whole park knew about it.

I attended the First Annual Grosse Pointe Southern Pines Golf Tournament. The remaining players were Ray Starrette, Russ Seely and George VanDeVelde. We took off on a rainy Wednesday afternoon in George's pick-up camper and drove to Southern Pines, North Carolina. Two guys sat in the cab and the other two sat in the camper with four golf bags and other stuff. It wasn't the most comfortable ride I ever had. We played some nice golf clubs. We'd go out to dinner every evening and we'd quietly sing a few songs. I was singing a weak lead. The last night we went to an Italian restaurant and it was Prom Night. We were singing when the waitress came over and said this girl had a birthday. Would we sing happy birthday for her. We got up and stood by her table and sang "Happy Birthday". We got all this wonderful applause. From there we went into the kitchen to sing for the kitchen staff. By this time I'm starting to build a little confidence and singing a little better. From the kitchen they took us to the bar to sing another song and buy us a drink. We were singing when a Sergeant came in from Fort Bragg, North Carolina with a of couple gals. One of the girls turned out to be the Inn-keeper at the Holiday Inn at Southern Pines. We sang a half dozen songs including

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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“Dixie” which I never sang before with Russ giving hand directions for where my part was going. We managed to get through that and the woman invited to the Holiday Inn to sing on stage. Well, when we got there it reminded us of a “Blues Brothers” movie where they sang behind a chicken wire so the bottles and chairs couldn’t hit them. We didn’t kick the band off the stage which is what she wanted to do and sing barbershop for all those “red-necks”. It was definitely a memorable, enjoyable week. It started something which we are still doing today. Ray Starrette and I are the only ones who have not missed the Annual Golf Outing. In later years we started renting a home that belonged to a motel keeper friend of Ray Starrette. It had been built for his parents and this thing had five bedrooms with baths. It made a nice place where we could put up ten of our guys. We used this as our headquarters and did our cooking with Jim Rutt as our chief cook and I was his assistant. We made breakfast every morning and dinner at night. During the day you were on your own. We had enjoyable weeks down there. The last time Jim Rutt went on the trip somebody didn’t like his biscuits and made mention of it. That was the last time Jim Rutt cooked. He got a little temperamental.

I always did a lot with the lighting for our annual shows and it somehow turned into a permanent job. The dress rehearsals always looked like the show would be a disaster but somehow they always turned out great. Nancy appeared in two or three shows and the kids helped out on stage.

We had Christmas Parties at my house - Harry Buell would hold up cue cards for the “Twelve Days of Christmas”.

And there was the New Years party when several guys were going to drive Herb Reed home but he finally drove himself.

I remember one New Years Eve when we left the party at John Wearings and went over to Rutt’s cottage and woke them up. Jim cooked breakfast for everyone to sober them up.

I managed to attend a couple Mini-Hep schools and also learned a lot about music at the Chapter meetings.

I had sung in church and high school choirs. I sang in a church choir about five years after I got married - probably before my barbershop experience.

Art served in the following Grosse Pointe offices:

Keeper of the Mugs.. 1977, 1983 & 1984  
President.....1981  
Board Member .....1982  
(past President)

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### ROBERT JONES

Bob became a member of Grosse Pointe Chapter July 1960.

He served in the following Chapter offices:

Membership V P .....1964  
Board Member ..... 1965 & 1970  
Treasurer .....1966  
Program V P.....1967

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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ROBERT JONKER

Bob joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter January 1959. He served as a Board Member in 1966.

His Dad, N. Dewitt Jonker, sang with the Ionia Chapter in the '40's. His Dad sang better than Bob, according to his mother.

He plays guitar and does hill-billy sing-a-long songs.

The following are a few of things Bob could recall:

He remembers going out on a boat with Dale Petroski and Chapter meetings at The Turners and Blossom Heath. He remembers a meeting where both the **Seely Boy's Quartet** and the **4-Fits** were on hand to entertain. Bob was keeper of the mugs this night and Ron Seely was cooking beans and dogs. While the Seelys were singing, Ray McCalpin is reported to have poured a bottle of beer down Ron Seely's pants. When the **4-Fits** took over, Ron Seely reportedly urinated into Ray McCalpin's hat (a very expensive hat we think). (other members have reported this occurrence) (probably shrunk the hat).

Bob sang with the **4-Fits** one time when John Wearing couldn't make it.

At another meeting, the MC lined up the chorus in the four parts and made quartets of four tenors, four leads etc. Bob sang bass and his quartet did "Asleep In The Deep". It was pitched high enough that he could hit the low note - it broke the place up.

Bob never went to a convention that he didn't sing with the chorus. He much prefers quarteting to chorus but he sang with the Grosse Pointe Chorus in it's first chorus District competition under the direction of Hal Seely (1963).

At one sing-out/performance, the chorus sang on a TV show, Ed McKensy's late show in the '60's called "15 Minutes of Fame". They took a "still" picture of the chorus and Bob was chopped out.

Bob spent a two year vacation in Germany as a guest of Uncle Sam.

He has knocked around the job shops all his life as a machine designer.

He has been married 18 years to his wife, Karen.

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies



WALLY JOURE (bass)

### SEASON'S GREETINGS TO PIONEER DISTRICT AND TO BARBERSHOPPERS EVERYWHERE

In this, the most meaningful of holiday season's, Marion and I would like to take this opportunity to extend our best wishes to the host of friends who are members of the world's greatest fraternity.

In the more than 37 years we have been associated with the Society, we have enjoyed our association with the finest people to be found anywhere. We pause to give thanks for these friends, for the many blessings of life, and for the opportunity to have participated in this world of harmony.

God has blessed us with reasonably good health as we journey into our eighth decade on this earth, and for that we are thankful.

For the opportunity to harmonize in song, whether it be with quartet or chorus and for

the honors we have received during these years, we are deeply grateful.

From my early days as a member of the First Army Quartet during World War I in France, through my years with the Turners, the Police Quartet and my association with the Grosse Pointe and Port Huron Chapters and also with the Detroit Chapter in its embryo days, it has been a venture of great satisfaction to me. But, perhaps, the most memorable night in my lifetime came this fall in Dearborn when Pioneer District honored me as a member of the **Hall of Fame**.

I have seen many changes during these years, variations in style, of music, of techniques, but I have never lost my love for barbershop as it was sung in my youth. In our constant drive to keep it barbershop, I still long for the return of that pure, sweet, simple melodic style. It was great then, it is great now - and well worth encouraging and preserving.

May the Divine Creator be as kind to all of you as he has been to us, and may the holidays be everything that your hearts desire.

MERRY CHRISTMAS, from the Joures

Troubadour December 1976

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### TED KELLER (bari)

Ted joined the Chapter March 1975. He served as Asst. Program V P in 1977

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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JAMES KERRIGAN

Jim served in the following offices in the Chapter:

Keeper of the Mugs.....1969

Board Member ..... 1977-1979

Historian.....1980

I went to High School at Gate of Heaven in Boston. I also attended Boston University. I sang in a boys church choir in South Boston.

I have appeared for 3 years in the Metropolitan Opera in Detroit. Also had a principal acting part in the Michigan Opera Theater. The play was Der Flietermouse.

I joined Grosse Pointe in November, 1967 but had been visiting the Chapter for six months prior to joining. I have a roster dated 1968 which showed 52 members. Ten of those members are still shown as current members. We generally had 12-14 members at a meeting and the evening consisted of quartet singing and gang singing of old

songs such as, "Down By The Old Mill Stream".

We met four times a month on Tuesday Evenings and two evenings we had a late night supper. I had my first experience as a helper of Keeper of the Mugs who was a postman named Irv DeVore. Irv prepared a sumptuous feast each second Tuesday which were full blown meals and took several hours to prepare. I followed up as Keeper of the Mugs the following year and everyone got sandwiches. No more Hawaiian Pork and pineapple classics.

The Alger Post on St. Paul was a great place to meet, very old, quite small and had a terrific bar in the basement where many of our members spent the evening and then some. No singing there. We lost this very comfortable atmosphere when the Post died for lack of members and the building was torn down - sad day! Our Club then moved to the Allard House on the Ford Freeway service drive.

The first convention I attended was before I was a member. It was at Windsor. I never saw so much beer in a bath tub before.

During the period at the Alger Post we had a chorus of 22 members with Dick Brouckaert as our director. My first competition was in Muskegon and one of our songs was "Climb Every Mountain" which was and is tough to sing. That year we came in first in a junior division because of the size of the chorus. Our uniform at that time was an "After Dark" tuxedo jacket and black trousers. I have often wondered what happened to them.

I was fortunate to have joined the society in 1967 because there were many Charter members of the clubs in the metropolitan Detroit area who were great characters and

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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personalities. We used to have more club contests and that brought out some great talent and creativeness.

Under Brouckaert we started our first theme singouts. That is, we had an interlocutor who gave the theme before and during our songs. Our first attempt at this was at the Eagle Club at Eight Mile and Gratiot. The second show with Russ Seely directing was at the Player's Club on Jefferson. The Players were all dressed up in tuxedos and the meal consisted of hamburgers, the hardest and driest I ever ate in my life. That was a great night, for Howard Lewis was to recite the verse for, "We Sing That They Shall Speak". We had practiced our singing and the speaking was to be on cue. You know how that goes. Well, Howard decided to expand his part. So while Russ and the chorus hummed and hummed, Howard continued his pitch for silent children. We hummed and hummed. on and on while Howard's beautiful bass voice filled the hall. It was a great fun filled experience and we loved Howard for it.

We soon graduated to theme shows helped along by attendance at Harmony College in Missouri. A number of us studied all the facets of show production. Our next two shows were at Regina High school, the first being a theme based upon the "Lost Chorus". The star was Jim Kinner (this had something to do with attire and not talent). We soon learned that nuns were hard task masters for the three producers, Bob Rancilio, Bill Lenhard and myself. We had to strike the set after everyone left and we were there for a good hour or better, all alone. Our chorus director at that time was Kurt Kusch. We put on another show at Regina and another standard Barbershop Show at Lakeshore High School.

There was a time we did numerous singouts throughout the year and the most notable, in

my memory, was one at Carmel Hall on Woodward, formerly the old Wolverine Hotel. It was run by an order of nuns to serve senior citizens. After our stint, the nuns went behind the bar and served us beer. Valente's Tuxedo donated their bus for our use on this particular sing-out and when we left the building the bus wouldn't start, so we piled out in our after six evening jackets and pushed it down a side street until it started.

I take great pride in our club for it's devotion to the mentally retarded residents of the Barrett House. This stop got added to our Christmas Tour when the people at Barrett answered an ad for Christmas entertainment by our Chapter. It is at least twenty five years since our first visit and I hope they will continue for many years.



JAMES L KINNER (lead)

Jim has served in the following offices in the Chapter:

Keeper of the Mugs.....	1979
Board Member .....	1980
Program V P.....	1981
Asst. Program VP.....	1982
Chorus Manager.....	1982

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Keeper of the Mugs.....1984  
Troubadour Reporter..... 1988-1993

Back in 1977, I attended the Ladies Night Ball at Hillcrest Country Club as a guest of Ed Sauve before I was a member. It was a great party, I sang the fifth spot with a half a dozen quartets who didn't seem to mind. Ed Sauve and I joined Wally Joure and Earl Sanders in a song in the men's room at Wally's invitation. We tried "When You Were Sweet Sixteen". I started out "I love you as I never loved before, when first I ... Wally stopped here and said, "You have to wait until we answer you". I won't try to explain this.

When I attended my first Chapter meeting at St. Marks and heard the Lakeshore Chorus rehearsal, I immediately recognized that these guys were the greatest singing machine I had ever heard. I knew that evening that I had to be a member.

Many of the members helped and encouraged me. George Greer let me listen to his baritone at practice. At the Midland Convention, Don Adams told me to switch to lead, at least until I knew more of the chorus songs. Nick Catellane taught me how to store a bag full of wind in my diaphragm. Bob Rancilio pointed out that it was impolite to be the fifth wheel in a quartet. Les Suddick pointed out at the Midland Convention that I wasn't singing the proper tenor parts when I was singing "Silver Baritone" and Russ Seely who would kindly and patiently correct "someone in the lead section", I knew it was me.

I could go on for several pages naming guys who have helped me with constructive criticism, the same type of advice I've seen them profer to other members. I was sure the most important guy at Grosse Pointe.

Since I've been with Grosse Pointe I've made it to many District Competitions, many Ladies Nights, and Coin Nights, Every Harrisville Week End, all the Christmas Tours until the physical challenge was more than I could endure, etc. Harsen's Island was always a picnic. I don't golf well so I don't golf.

It's hard to figure why the **St. Clair Flats**, the worst quartet in the Pioneer District, maybe the world, get applause as if they were the **Vagabonds** but I know that each and every quartet gets the same encouragement because that's what it's all about. I have seen mutual respect, one man for another, and camaraderie in this Chapter that outdistances any organization of which I have been a member.

This Chapter is the greatest because of its leadership which as all other facets of our organization is improving every year. It's a Chapter where the old guys get the glad hand at every meeting. I'm proud of Grosse Pointe and I want to congratulate us on our Fiftieth Anniversary as a Chapter of SPEBSQSA.

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### HERBERT KLERSEY

Herb has served in the following Chapter offices:

President.....1957  
Board Member .....1958  
(past pres)

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies



WAYNE KNIFFEN (bass)

I came to Detroit in 1960 - I was a bachelor and I went to work for the Jam Handy Organization where I was a producer-director in the motion picture division. I had sung in the Laughton, Okalahoma high school Glee Club. I also sang some Barbershop college but mostly sang in the Glee Club at the University of Oklahoma. During the five years of college we were fortunate enough to be invited to sing on the Ed Sullivan show, twice. For a bunch of hillbilly kids down in Oklahoma that was really a thrill and quite a highlight.

In my last year of college of course, Oklahoma was the beginning of all this SPEBSQA thing and the Oklahoma Chapter was very active and of course the University of Oklahoma is in Norman which is just outside Oklahoma City where the whole thing started. So they got a bunch of us up and we sang some barbershop and had a barbershop quartet contest. This was actually at the University through the fraternity and that's where I got my first taste of singing barbershop quartet music.

Quartets previous to this were usually at the church. We had church quartets with the kids growing up. I sang in the church choir and quartets.

After I came to Detroit, I met a fellow named Bill Rowell at work at Jam Handy Organization and his wife was Judy Rowell who happened to sing baritone with probably one of the greatest women quartets ever. They were called **Crackerjills**. Bill got me to go down there and I joined the Detroit Chapter. We used to meet in the back of Ralph Schirmer's business. He had a tool & die shop. He has a big business so there was a lot of room. We kept the risers and everything there. That's where the Detroit Chorus rehearsed for the first ten or fifteen years I was in barbershop. It's been a marvelous time. Ralph was a great guy. Every year he had a big steak roast for us at his place in Lake Orion, it was a wonderful time.

That was the time when guys like Don Ferguson, he was a tremendous lead. When you went to chorus you didn't stand in a corner cause he'd come and get you and make you sing. And not only did you sing your part you had to learn one more part, either lead or bari, it was a wonderful time.

During that time I sang in a little chapter quartet called the **Motor City Fender Benders**. This was around '61 and '62. Trying to recall the other guys I come up with Ed McCarthy, Bob Winters, Art Lindy and Jack Rush. Winters wound up singing in a District Championship Quartet. Art Lindy sang in the quartet that won the Seniors Contest in Lansing last year. Jack Rush moved to Atlanta Georgia and took a building business down there and made an absolute fortune. He was a terrific baritone and I'm surprised he wasn't in a District championship quartet. We had a good time.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Then they had me start doing shows and basically the way they worked at Ford, I just develop the show and ran it all from a production point of view. The music, I didn't get involved with, other than to sing and have a good time. Bill Butler was the Director of the Chorus. We would normally open and close the show and sing an intermission part. All the shows down there were opened with an overture. That's where I had the quartets come out and sing a tag and then we introduced them, and the unique way we tried to introduce them was a lot of fun. We had a portable turn table which turned and as they appeared they sang their tag.

Another year I built towers 27 feet high, then split them in half and then we lit each one of them individually and as the quartet was announced and their cubicle lit up; bang! they sang their tag. One year we did baby pictures of all of them and painted them on screens? as they were introduced they, Wham!, broke through the paper and came out and sang their tag. We did a lot of innovative things. We just had a good time.

At that time I got a chance to know a lot of the Grosse Pointe Chapter members now; John Wearing, Bert West - Of course I met all of the **4-Fits**. They actually sang in the show once and always did a good job for us.

I married a Detroit girl. She was an east sider, a gal named Judy Cronn and we always lived on the east side but we still made that trek to the west side to sing with the Detroit Chorus, for all those years. That was Bert and Johnny and McCarthy and I. We would ride over on Monday night and sing all the way over then come back and close a bar over here after the chorus rehearsal. Those families have pretty much

stayed together after all these years from a social point of view as well as barbershop.

Then for a number of years I got sort of inactive. I went on the road and was traveling 4 and 5 days a week and it just made it extremely difficult too - I would rather not be a member at all than be a bad member. Having a trek through the chairs, trying to get people to do things and you'd appoint them to do something and they wouldn't do it so I just pretty much dropped out.

Then I started going over to Grosse Pointe - I wasn't even a member. I just went over with them. I would go over and sing and they very nicely allowed me to come in (VFW Alger Post) and then Russ asked me to do a couple shows for him which I gladly did, they were a lot of fun (full blown shows), not "little shows". I did that show where they had the cheer leaders and they had a women's chorus that worked well. Linda Liddicoat had the chorus.

I was a Grosse Pointe Chapter board member a couple times. I guess I burned out on the chairs, I didn't want to do that anymore. I did it all at the Detroit Chapter. I really got back into it just to sing. If I had any limited talent to do anything else I just tried to be of help whenever I could.

I never went to convention contests as a quartet, we were never good enough so I only sang in chapter quartets. I sang a couple years with Bob Wisdom and his wife and Judy. We were called the **Matrimonial** and we had a good time doing that. We had a really good sound because Judy is an alto and Marsha is a second soprano so we sang all of the songs in men's keys. Bob and I didn't have to go way up to sing with them and we had a bigger sound than some of the quartets that were competing.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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I participated in one of the Pine Knob shows. I was just really getting back into Barbershop, then, I went and sang with Grosse Pointe.

I won Best Bass at the Pontiac Woodshed a couple years ago. Mike Proffitt and I went out there at kind of the last minute and he won Best Bari. I don't even remember who the other guys were except they were from Pontiac. We've been to Don Adam's place on Harsen's Island five or six times. Had a very good time on the Floating Poker Party last year. Also have been to Bill Lane's Mansion and always had a good time.

Went to the Caroline Golf Outing in 1994 - had a very good time with the boys - won the trophy - I didn't play well but I had good partners. Always enjoyed the Cabota Hall send off.

We (Detroit) started Canadian Night. That's when Doran McTaggart was coming on the scene. We got together, Bert West and Billy Wickstrom and Bill Warner and said we ought to have a Canadian Night and bring them all over here. The first one was a tremendous success. We were having two monthly meetings a month and always had a nice meal. We didn't do this at Schirmer's, we just rehearsed there. We hired a hall somewhere where we could host people. Also, during that time for competition purposes, it was always the MOTOR CITY CHORUS, normally versus DEARBORN and that's when the **Auto Towners** were in Dearborn and we were just passing the trophy back and forth seeing who was going to go to International to the Chorus Contest.

We were looking for a way to get more men up singing. In the old Detroit Chorus it was kind of like Grosse Pointe now. You see a lot of guys breaking off and singing in

quartets and that was very common in the Detroit Chorus. We really pushed that. We wanted guys who weren't afraid to get up and sing and weren't leaners so much. So we said if we could do that, what else should we do - let's have the first Octet Contest - well we did and Detroit sponsored it. We wound up with 38 Octets from all over the State and let me tell you, guys had a ball. We sponsored the Octet Contest for 9 or 10 years that I was active over in Detroit. The people got experience getting up there with a buddy for confidence. I think DOC is sponsoring the Octet Contest now.

Most of the time I've just been a chorus singer and enjoyed that a great deal. I wasn't a quartet guy. Just now we have a little quartet going that's sounding pretty good. It's interesting, you can't lean on these boys, you've got to sing them all. Doc Petrosky, Eric Ernst and Jim Grogan. We're going to rehearse pretty hard now. They're good guys - I think we'll be pretty entertaining.

Through the years you look back at all the fun you've had. We went up to Wheels (Canada) with Bert West and Jane and that was fun.

I was a professional tap dancer and I studied under Jack Storie in Oklahoma and with Madame Champagne out of Dallas, Texas. I started when I was six years old and I really got interested in show business and things of that nature. Then I went to college. My degree was in Communications. In those days it was called Radio/TV Dramatics, so that naturally spurned the interest in being in shows and acting and things like that. After I came to Detroit I was president and resident director of the Jam Handy Players, which is an amateur theater. We did quite a few shows around - I did a very lovely show for the JUDELAIRES which is a singing group on the East Side. Barb Shahein had lost her

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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husband and was quite distraught and one of the florists I worked with asked me to come and do their show and it turned out rather well.

I've done a lot of little theater stuff. I staged a show for the Lansing Chapter and one for the Battle Creek Chapter. Then I got back acting with Grosse Pointe and after that I played a few parts in the shows. I've been sort of the unofficial no-name assistant director. When nobody else shows up I end up having to do it. It's fun and I enjoy it without being saddled with the real responsibility. When I go to a meeting and see it's dying I'll be stupid enough to get up and get things pumping and moving - and I enjoy that - I hope the guys appreciate it.

I've been on six or seven Christmas Bus Tours and got over to one Octoberfest.

In service I was between wars. I got my commission from R.O.T.C. in college - went in as a 2nd louie - completed my officer's basic and then I went to the Army Pictorial Center in Long Island, NY to make training films. Got transferred down to Fort Gordon, Georgia. Very luckily we had the first video tape machine in history. It was brought in and put in our TV unit - I ran the television studios there - so we got to make training films on video tape for the first time - before we'd be using the old kinescope and that was ugly at best, not very good quality. The tape machine was as big as this kitchen and what we were trying to do was, by microwaving back signals we were trying to photograph via television the battlefield and being able to send it back to the generals in the command so they can make decisions and know what they wanted to do. Well, it worked. the only problem was we couldn't keep it secret. While we were sending it back the enemy could detect it and get it on their TV and everybody knew what

everybody was doing. I think they scrapped it, but that was an exciting time.

Most treasured memory - I've had so many fun times. Highlight was standing on that stage in Boston for International. We were 15th out of 15th.

Embarrassing - When I was a kid I was a red headed tap dancer. I was honored to be on a show at Oklahoma University when they had Marie Tallchief, a prima ballerina. They thought it would be neat to get this little red head out there and let him emcee the show too - so I go out and get this tremendous laugh - unfortunately, I hadn't said anything to make anybody laugh and of course, I looked down and there it was, my fly was open. For a kid it was disheartening but I got over it and did my two numbers.

Judy and I were extremely active over at Dominican High School when the school was really in financial problems. The Grosse Pointe Chorus went over and sang one time to help us raise some money. Judy and I ran a couple fairs for them. We also ran casino nights. We ran the concession stands at all the athletic events trying to raise money for the kids. Then I got involved in helping to set up their endowment, trying to keep that school going. Judy graduated from Dominican way back in 1949. My girls attended Dominican.

I lived on Somerset for about 23 years and I had a quartet about every other year come over and sing at our annual block party where we just blocked off the street. We had **Danny's Boys** and John Wades Quartet and John Wearing brought in a group. He's been in so many quartets I can't remember them, but they were fun.

Our kids have always sang. Music has been a big part of our home life. I have a Baritone

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Uke down in the basement when I do a little pickin and grinnin and singin.

Someone famous - When we were at Jam Handy's I worked on a lot of Chevrolet announcement pictures so we got to meet Lorne Green and all the dudes from Bonanza. I met Dinah Shore who was of course big in that area and she was on the introduction with her monawaw (blowing the kiss) and see the USA in your Chevrolet. We did a lot of work with Chet Huntley. He did some stuff for National Geographic. We did the funniest, wildest one I ever worked on when American Airlines and Chevrolet got together and sponsored an ad thing and we had Louis Nye and Johnathon Winters on the same set and that thing was scheduled to be done in one day because these guys were costing us \$20,00 a day, that was their fee. Well things got going and Winters was doing Maude Fricker and Louis Nye was slapping meat and doing all those weird things and they kept breaking up the crew. They kept breaking up the director, they kept breaking up the Chevrolet People and it ended up taking two full days to shoot that thing, they were crazy. Then there was Sebastion Cabot. He was a very interesting guy to work with. He did some stuff for Fridgidaire with us. I was pretty new with the company at the time so I had to take him to dinner and of course he wanted to go to the London Chop House which was fine so we went. Now that was a true horror experience and a \$385 bill which I paid of course and turned it in. I knew I was fired. I knew I was history and out of that place - and I told the boss. He said "don't worry about it, we'll worry about it after the shooting is over". So I went to dinner with that guy two nights in a row - back to the Chop House -The third night I went over to the boss and I said "I'm not going to dinner with this man". You're not going to dinner with this man? "Sir, I'm not going to dinner

with this man - you can fire me but I'm not going to dinner with this man". It really made him mad and he took him to dinner. The next day he came over on the set and said "I'm not going to dinner with him either. I'll try to get the boss to take him to dinner". That absolved me of that sort of thing.

I did get to meet some of the people in the vicinity, townspeople. A lot of people who are big around here now. We used J.P. McCarthy a lot, not as screen talent but as voice over talent, he was incredible. He could come in, read a script 2 or 3 times and just do it. He really had a talent that way. What's the gal who's still on TV, her husband's name was John, Marilyn Turner. She was a very good talent and there wasn't many women with good talent. There was Jan Costi and Bruce Wise's wife.

I did a big show for the fork lift people, Clark Lift Company in Battle Creek. We hired a little gal out of New York - pretty as a picture but had a weak voice so we had to "mike" her just so we could hear her. Her name was Cathy Lee Crosby. It was kind of interesting to see her make it big. She ended up with a good career.

Three wishes - I would like good health till the day I croak, I haven't missed much in life. Continue to have my friends that stuck with me through the good, bad and indifferent. And wish my kids well - I hope they all aspire to live life everyday as it comes along.

When I went to work for Jam Handy there really was a Jam Handy. I had been working there about a year when He called me in and said "Wayne, you're doing a great job, do you like it here?". I said "I love it here". He said" good but you've got to slack off a little, you're too up tight - too business like -

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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you're running things too hard - you're making people nervous". I said "Well I thought you really wanted someone to do that". He said "Yeh, I do but I want you to remember one thing - you've got to have a little fun while you get it done", and you know, I thought about that and I just hope my kids take a little time to smell the roses.

I've had the privilege of knowing, being part of shows about every great singer that came out of Michigan, barbershoppers that is, through the years. Had a chance to listen to them sing and sometimes even get to sing with them. To me, that's what keeps my old clock wound.

I had a chance to get in front of a lot of audiences, not necessarily singing in quartets but doing other things like acting bits and things like this - had a wonderful time and hopefully have contributed to the success of barbershopping in Michigan - now that's kind of important to me. I've never aspired to International office - it's just not my sticht. Trophies and stuff are down in the basement in boxes. I don't display them much, they're not very important to me. Just entertaining audiences and giving them their money's worth and perpetuating the growth of the society have been kind of important to me. The friendship I just treasure - the government can take all my money but they sure can't take all the fun I've had in barbershopping.

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JOHN KOSMOS (bass)

John joined Grosse Pointe in 1986. Sings with **Kingfish and the Mystic Knights** quartet. His wife is a great cook.

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ROBERT KRAMB (lead)

I joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter May, 1993.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Early on, before being admitted to the Society, I was having a hard time with a part of a song and the director said it was terrible and I should be home playing with my grandchildren.

My job, counting your former money at Hudson-Eastland requires me to work many evenings and I'm not able to participate in all our Chapter events but I have been to the Pontiac Woodshed Contest, Return of the Jug Night, Cabota (meatless spaghetti) Sendoff, Uncle Sam Night, and Canadian Night. Among our Chapter activities I've attended our Christmas Bus Tour, Ladies Night, Coin Night and our Chapter Christmas Party.

I've served Uncle Sam during the Korean War. I was stationed in San Francisco, California.

My most treasured memory was my wedding to Charlotte. The significant highlights were the birth of our three children who are now adults.

My most embarrassing time in my life was tipping a canoe over at Belle Isle and walking home, dripping muddy water.

If I could go back in time I would go back to 1947-1950.

Among my celebrity experience I would have to mention a phone conversation with Steve O'Neil, Tiger Manager.

Bob is our Charities Chairman for 1995.

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ROBERT KRUGER

In answer to your letter....as best I recall

My organized singing began as a member of the boys Glee Club at Denby High School in Detroit. The music teacher chose four of us and we formed a quartet that sang at various school functions. I also was a member of the choir at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church.

I became a member of SPEBSQSA, the Grosse Pointe Chapter, Lakeshore Chorus on February 7, 1964 and remained a member until I moved to my present home in 1979. I missed my friends and the singing very much.

I never held an office in the Chapter but I was involved in other activities in which I served as an officer. I was president of the St. Clair Shores Goodfellows for many years in the 1960's and 1970's. As an amateur clown I was always a member of the St. Clair Shores parades as well as many other charitable and civic functions. Serving as treasurer and school board member at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Roseville, MI was another chance to be of service.

I was employed by Eaton Corporation, Spring Division at French Road and Gratiot

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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for thirty years. When the plant was closed, as acting plant superintendent, I was handed the flag that had flown over the building and closed the door for the last time. I had worked there with my father and made many friends. That was the day I will always remember.

The Spring and Fall District competitions were always fun...win, loose or draw. The excitement would build over the months of rehearsal (maybe this time!) and the whole thing would boil over starting with registration on Friday afternoon and end all too soon on Sunday morning when everyone loaded the cars for the long drive home. Great Friends! Exciting Competition! Hospitality Rooms! Make-up (don't get any on the collars)! Woodshedding! Bathtubs full of beer on ice!!! No one slept (well hardly) afraid we'd miss something...Great dinners in excellent restaurants. Thank goodness we were young or the fun may have killed us.

The visit to the Windsor Chapter was a great time. A very funny member of their chapter, Doran McTaggart, was MC and kept everyone in stitches with his humor. Singing at Cleary Auditorium was a great experience, cold Canadian beer at the House Of Lee and the Detroit Skyline from the Windsor side....all part of the wonderful experience. We went back to the Cleary on several occasions to see our chorus member, Les Suddick, who was also a member of the Windsor Light Opera Company perform to Camelot, the Red Mill and Oliver!

The Boblo cruise gave us another chance to show our stuff for our friends, wives and lovers...hopefully not all at the same time! We left the foot of Woodward Avenue and sailed up and down the river and didn't even mind the competition from the mighty

engines below. Say, did I mention the beer was good??

The Christmas Sing-out at the Presbyterian Home brought joy to folks that were away from friends and family and reminded us of the real importance of giving of ourselves to bring memories back to folks that had stored them away a long time ago.

The Detroit Yatch Club, The Little Show, what a night. Everyone dressed to the nines and seeing how the other half lives. The **4-Fits** singing "Yesterdays", the Lakeshore Chorus never sounding better...looking back at the pictures taken with friends...did we really look that good.....that young....WOW. For that night we were the other half...living it up!

Remember when we sang for Ed McKenzie, "Jack-The-Bell Boy", on Television (oh! how about those red loafers) in the early, early days, before the Eddie Fischer Payola Scandal ruined his career..It didn't take much in those days.

WW2....This is the army Mr. Kruger....1943-1945. Basic training - Camp McCoy Wisconsin - boy was it cold! Pot belly stove in the middle of each barrack. Boy was it cold! Camp Ellis, Illinois...Did a very short assignment as liaison and translator for Italian POW's...you've got to be kidding!! Remember, this is the Army. Chaplin's assistant and movie projectionist, Medic (I assisted in an autopsy...now that was a memorable experience) Drove an ambulance. Worked at the post office.

Got married, had a daughter and still managed to make corporal! Boy was I tired and glad to get out.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Married my wife, Carolyn, in 1978. She tells me I'm really, really happy. I believe her. I better, she's doing the typing!

If I had it to do over again, I would. No regrets, no three wishes.

Jim, thanks for the chance to be part of the Chapter again. Hope to see you in July. Give my regards to everyone. God bless your efforts.

Sincerely,  
Bob

Bob held the following Chapter offices:

Board Member ..... 1966 & 1976  
Community Serv. Chairman .....1967  
Delegate .....1975

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### KURT KUSCH (Bass etc)

Named Chorus Director September 1975.

Served in the following Chapter offices:

Board Member ..... 1970 & 1977  
Program V P.....1971  
Director .....1973  
Delegate .....1973  
Chorus Manager.....1973  
Membership V P .....1974  
President.....1975  
Board Member .....1976  
(past pres.)

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BENJAMIN LANDINO

Foreword: Benjamin A. Landino, a life member of the Grosse Pointe, Michigan Chapter, passed away at his Florida Home on December 13, 1969, leaving his wife Isabel, two sons and a daughter and several grand children. This account of Ben's Society activities and his making of the International Quartet Trophy and the International Chorus Trophy is by Mark Roberts, a fellow chapter member and close friend of Landino. Mark was very much involved with Ben in the making and donation of the trophies. (Harmonizer Nov-Dec 1970)

Shortly after our Grosse Pointe Chapter was organized (over twenty-five years ago), a rather short, rather chubby, effervescent individual attended a chapter meeting and announced in a very decisive manner his name was Ben Landino; that he was a bass singer; that he was ready to sing and wanted to become a member. We almost matched Ben's enthusiasm in getting his application signed and thus began an affiliation with our

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

Society by a member whose superb craftsmanship forged a unique place for him in its life and history. Ben designed and hand-crafted both the International Quartet Trophy and the International Chorus Trophy and, even down to the smallest detail, it was all done as love's labor simply because he so enjoyed his membership in our Society. Barbershoppers and barbershopping were absolute tops in Ben's evaluation of things. He never lost his zest for singing, nor was there ever any lessening in the spirit of good fellowship which he always exhibited toward his fellow Barbershoppers. He was a great one for putting together various artifacts which he gave to fellow chapter members. On special occasions he would really go all out, as when the chapter honored the **Progressives** Quartet with a "Grand Guys Night". Ben made up four special individual trophies for the boys. On another occasion he made finger rings for each of the **4 FITS** (his all time favorite quartet) with beautiful matching stones and at another time he created a quartet and a street scene with miniature figures and buildings that was a remarkable piece of work. This he gave to the Chapter for use as an annual prize to the chapter quartet doing the most community service work.

Ben did not join our Society to practice his gift of craftsmanship, however, but to sing, and sing he did. Although he was fifty years of age when he joined us, he had the energy and enthusiasm of a much younger man. He managed somehow to always have a quartet organized in which he sang bass. He kept a quartet, named the **VOCALAIRES** registered with International for about eight years with a complete change in quartet personnel each year - except the bass which, of course, was always Landino. His happiest and proudest moment was not when he was introduced at an International contest as the creator of the International contest trophies

but rather when his **19TH CENTURY FOUR** (Meinrad Braun, Art Dupuis, Joe Troe and Benny) won the Pioneer District Senior Quartet Championship in 1964.

Landino's first effort at trophy making was in 1948 when he put together a trophy for the Michigan (as it was then known) District Quartet Champions. This trophy is still being handed down from champion to champion, picking up tradition and a few nicks along the way. The basic design for this and the International trophies was taken from the Society emblem which was designed by another great Detroit Barbershopper, Joseph P. Wolff, bass singer extraordinary, past district president, past International vice-president, who was the first president of the first chartered chapter east of the Mississippi and the author of our code of ethics. Prior to the acceptance of Joe's design, our emblem was a barber pole which was very striking and cute as could be, but we spent half of our time explaining we weren't really barbers.

The use of a district quartet championship trophy seemed to please everyone. So, early in 1949, Ben Landino decided that the Society needed a trophy for its International contest. He didn't research the matter or bother to get approval of the International office which at the time was under the supervision of Carroll P. Adams. Neither did he get International Board approval for his project or seek a commission to do it. He just went ahead and made it - and then was mildly shocked to find that maybe International wouldn't want the trophy. It was pointed out to him that members of the championship quartet received individual medallions and once we start the presentation of trophies to our champions, who knows where it would end. Ben had no answer to this sort of logic but he had a beautiful trophy and once the folks at

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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International had a good look at it they decided that this was, indeed, a unique and strikingly handsome creation and quite worthy of the name, "International Quartet Trophy". The inscription on the trophy was by Al Steiner, also a Grosse Pointe Chapter member. By agreement between the donor, Grosse Pointe Chapter, and the International Office, arrangements were made for Ben Landino to be in Buffalo, N.Y. for the International Convention and Contest in 1949. Ben was there and personally made the first presentation of the trophy to the **Mid States**, the new champions. It was a great day for Ben and a memorable one for the Society.

Sometime prior to the 1953 Michigan District Chorus Contest which was held in Alma, Michigan and apart from the regular district meeting, the writer, who was general chairman of the contest, asked Ben Landino to make up a trophy for our chorus contest. I explained to him that we didn't need anything so elaborate as the International Quartet Trophy and he agreed and went to work. When Ben arrived at the contest with the trophy, the International office was among the first to see it and were so impressed they immediately asked Ben to give it to International for the "big" chorus contest. Ben, sidestepping this situation neatly, said he was willing but that Mark Roberts had commissioned him to build the trophy and it was up to the said Mark Roberts to make the decision. All this happened before I had seen the finished product which was being watched over by Bob Hafer, who had succeeded Carroll Adams as head of the International Office. Bob was being helped in his custodial duties by sundry district officials who thought that maybe the trophy should be kept for the district contest. My reaction on seeing this beautiful creation was that Landino had achieved the ultimate in hand crafting

excellence for an original article of this kind. While I examined and admired the trophy, Hafer and the boys from the district waited quietly for an answer - who was to get the trophy? There really was no hesitation, however. We could designate this as the International trophy and Benny could make another one for the district competition. Right? Wrong. While the decision was proper as to the use of the trophy, I could not bring myself to impose on Ben to make another one and to this day there is no permanent chorus trophy that passes from champion to champion in the Pioneer District.

Disposition of the trophy having been decided upon, Landino went to Grand Rapids and personally presented the trophy to the winner of the first International Chorus Contest, the GREAT LAKES CHORUS of the Grand Rapids Chapter. In appreciation of his unusual contribution to the Society, the Grosse Pointe Chapter made Benny a lifetime member, an honor which he appreciated greatly.

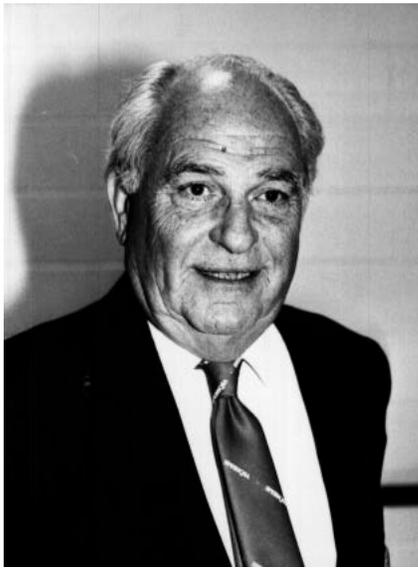
Less than a month following the tableau about the chorus trophy, our founder, Owen C. Cash passed away at the age of 61. While Mr. Cash, a truly modest man, had steadfastly refused the hero's role in which we were always trying to cast him, it was thought fitting that we honor his memory by naming the International Chorus Trophy as the OWEN C. CASH MEMORIAL TROPHY. The approval of Corrine Cash, Owen's widow, was obtained and the trophy was so inscribed. The Grosse Pointe Chapter was again the donor along with Ben Landino.

The last trophy of the contest variety that Ben made was a miniature replica of the Owen C. Cash Memorial Trophy which he presented to Mrs. Corrine Cash.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

Ben served the Chapter as a Board Director in the 1950/1951 term.

He was also Alternate Convention Delegate in 1960.



BILL LANE (bass)

Entered Barbershopping in 1978 when I joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter.

Offices held in the Grosse Pointe Chapter:

Keeper of the Mugs.. 1980, 1984 & 1985  
Board Member ..... 1981, 1984-1986  
President.....1982  
Board Member .....1983  
(past pres.)  
Delegate ..... 1983 & 1984  
Publicity Committee ..... 1983-1986

Sang with **St. Clair Flats** (Jim Kinner, Ed Sauve, Art Jones), **By-Pass Four** and **Lanes Lovers**.

Have participated in following out side Grosse Pointe activities:

Harrisville, Pine Knob, OC Return of the Jug night, Cabota (meatless spaghetti) Send Off, Uncle Sam Night, Canadian Night, Boblo Moonlight Cruises, and the International Convention in Detroit.

Among the Grosse Pointe Festivities I have enjoyed are:

Harsen's Island Golf, Bocce Ball, Jarts, Fishing, Beef, and Corn Roasts. Floating Poker Parties, Chapter meetings at Bill Lane's Waterfront Mansion, Hart Plaza Show, Our Christmas singouts to the senior citizen homes, Ladies Night, COIN Night  
Octoberfest, Chapter Christmas Party.

I served in World War II, South Pacific, 1943-1945.

My most treasured memory is my Wedding day 5 Sep, 1942 to my wife Marie. Also, return from WW II, 1 Oct, 1945.

The most significant highlight in my life was High School Graduation.

If I could go back in time, any time, it would be Graduation from University of Michigan Law School and after.

Famous people I have met:

Bob Hope, Ray Milland, Jack Benny, Carole Landis, Jerry Colona, Jack Kennedy.

If I had three wishes, they would be Good Health, Good Friends, Happy Family.

Anecdote:

Hope and Colona were on my P.T. boat (U.S.O. Tour) approaching Tulagi. Hope was dozing in a folding chair and almost fell off the boat as we made a sharp, high speed turn into a narrow channel to Tulagi

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Harbor. "Hey Skipper" Hope said "next time you turn, hold out your hand". Thirty years later I met him again at a Chrysler sponsored Brotherhood Dinner at Cobo Hall. He remembered the incident clearly.

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### ART LA PRISE

Art sang tenor in the **JUNE BUGS** quartet, a quartet of the month that stayed together for a good, fun loving time. The May 4-tet of the month that year was the **4-FITS** and it would be difficult to say which of these two quartets had more fun singing together.

Art passed on June 2nd. Pitch Pipe June, 1966

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HOWARD LEHTI (bass)

Howard joined Grosse Pointe March 1983. He is an Import from Clinton Valley which he joined in 1981.

Howard has served in the following Chapter offices:

Board Member ..... 1984, 1985 & 1988  
Logopedics Chairman ..... 1987-1989  
Keeper of the Mugs.....

He sang at Pine Knob. Attended the Harsen's Island Golf Outings, the Floating Poker Party and Chorus meetings at Bill Lane's.

He attended the International Convention in Detroit.

He goes on the Christmas Bus Tours to entertain the Senior Citizens and attends the Chapter Christmas Parties. He attends our Ladies Nights, Coin Nights and Oktoberfests.

He served Uncle Sam in Korea in 1950 & 1951.

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### WILLIAM LENHARD (Base)

Joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter April 1976.

Bill served as Public Relations Chairman for 1977-1979 and was Chorus Manager for 1978.

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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LE ROY LENHARDT (bass)

LeRoy heard the Chapter sing at the Macomb Mall and he spotted Don Willoughby who talked him into coming down and joining Grosse Pointe. He was inducted Mar 31, 1990. He was a Board Member in 1992 and the Chapter Treasurer for 1993 & 1994.

He was born on Dubois on the East Side of Detroit. When he was at Roseville High School his class put on "HMS Pinafore". He sang the lead whatever that was. He has sung with St. Mark's Lutheran Church (Roseville) since 1948. Got married to Geraldine in 1950. He sang in the Fraser Civic Chorus which was directed by Howard Richards for four years in the '70s.

LeRoy was always interested in Barbershop. His first acquaintance with Barbershop was an International Show at the Masonic Temple about 1949/1950. He then bought a album of Barbershop records, had 4 or 6 78's. He still has them. He plays an accordion, started when he was 11 years old. He also plays a harmonica. He took

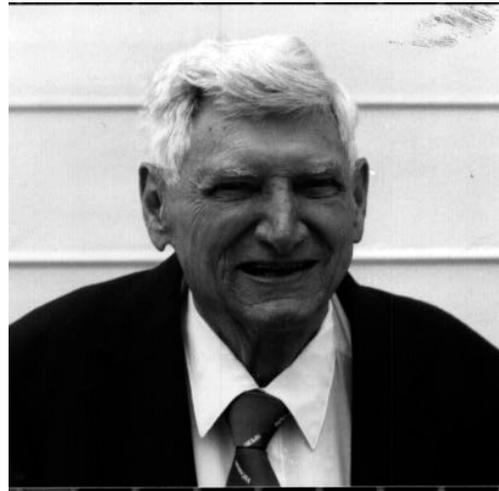
hawaiian guitar lessons form Roger Okirstum but didn't like it.

He has been to every district convention and every show since joining the Chapter and has been to all the Chapter activities for the last 4 years, even went to the Carolina Golf outing last year.

He is a Charter Member of the Grosse Pointe Goodnews Gospel Singers formed 11/93.

He was a member of the Roseville Kiwanis Club 25 years. Was president once and treasurer several years. Belonged to Shrine Club 8 years and served as treasurer. Also was in boy scouts.

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HOWARD A LEWIS (BASS)

Howard joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter January 1974. Was sponsored by Sterling Berry and John Wearing was President.

Howard has held the following offices in the Chapter:

Logopedics Chairman .....1978

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Chorus Manager.....1984  
Board Member .....1986  
Sergeant-at-arms .....1986

His first public appearance was in Kindergarten - A Mother's Day Program - they sang "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles". He loved to gather around the piano on Sundays while his Dad played by ear.

Howard joined the church choir at age 8. At 11, his voice cracked and he was exiled. The men's club at church put on Minstrel Shows. The next singing experience was in the Men's Glee Club at Barbour Intermediate. In his teens he was part of a young people's organization and they put on musical shows. In the late 40's he joined the church choir at Trinity Parish. About 1949/1950 he joined the Grosse Pointe Men's Chorus (now defunct). In 1951, joined the Windsor Light Opera for 3 shows (3 years). Brigadoon, Finian's Rainbow & Pajama Game.

In 1969 - Had a Drama Club at St. Philip's and St. Stephen's. Did a lot of solo work. Then changed from St. Philip's and St. Stephen's to Trinity where they also put on musicals. Somewhere along 1970 he joined the St. Clair Shores Civic Chorus and was still singing with them as of the date of this interview (7/10/95).

He didn't compete at Windsor that year but at the time the chorus was rehearsing "Rock-a-bye" and "When My Sugar Walks Down The Street".

Howard has participated in all the Chapter and Chapter supported District Activities. He remembers when the Annual Send-Off Show wasn't always in Canada. At one Pine Knob Show (2nd?) he had the first indication of a heart condition (Had an Angina attack on stage.

The biggest kick he had was the convention where we dressed up like bums. Mark Davidson was outside pandering and got picked up by the cops. We sang "Brother Can You Spare a Dime" and "All the World and It's Gold".

When we went to Windsor there was a crane on top of a building which Howard pointed out as a crazy TV Antenna to Kurt Kusch. Kurt, very seriously proceeded to explain that it was not a TV Antenna but a crane.

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GORDON LIMBURG

Gordon studied Music and Accounting at Wayne University and was an Accountant and Purchasing Agent for the City of Plymouth. He sang with the "Make Way For Youth" chorus at WJR and professionally with the Don Large chorus which appeared on the Wayne King Show.

Gordon first joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter when as a member of a quartet from Wayne University he was invited to sing at a Grosse Pointe Chapter meeting back in 1946. The membership asked him and the three others of his quartet to join up which they did. He continued his membership until 1955. That quartet, known as the **COLLEGIANS** represented the Chapter in District Competitions and although they did not win a contest they did

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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win a lot of friends. He later quarteted with the Michigan **BELLAIRES**, the **SHARPKEEPERS**, who won the District contest in 1957, the **NOTERIES**, District Champions in 1964. Briefly in the **REMINIS-SIRS** and the **INVOICES**, who managed second place in a District contest. He competed in five International Quartet Contests, finishing 11 with the **SHARPKEEPERS** in 1958.

Gordon's directing experience goes back to the early '60's. Nine years were spent at the Wayne Chapter whose Wonderland Chorus won District Honors in 1967 and 1971 and who represented the District at the International in 1975.

Gordon became the Director of the Lakeshore Chorus in 1976, succeeding Russ Seely and interim Director, Kurt Kusch. He was our Director at the District Contest in Lansing in the Spring of 1976, when Grosse Pointe placed second behind the Wayne Wonderland Chorus.

Gordon returned to the Wayne Chapter as an assistant director until 1983-84 when Steve Sutherland and he left and later became co-directors for the Detroit Chapter, and later, the merged Detroit - Oakland County Chapter.

Gordon retired from the City of Plymouth in August, 1983 and now spends most of the year in Arizona where he is directing two choruses, the new Mesa, AZ Lamplighters and the Liesure World Barbershoppers, on associate status with SPEBSQSA. In October 1994 Gordon became a member of the Phoenicians and sang with them in their annual show in February and in competition with them in April 1995.

Gordon is anxiously awaiting his 50 year membership pin which he should receive in 1997.

Other choruses which Gordon directed at one time or another include the Livonia Civic Chorus, the Canton Singers and now the HSC Singers at the Sportsman's Club where he and his wife, Judy, spend their summer in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. He also leads a church choir in church in a small town in the Upper Peninsula.

I always cherish my association with the Grosse Pointe Chapter because they were the first to accept me into the Wonderful World of Barbershop Harmony. I also remember so many Grosse Pointe members, living and dead, who supported me so very well in my years of membership in Michigan. I have recently met some Grosse Pointe members out here in the West and it's great to see them and reminisce with them.

I congratulate the Grosse Pointe Chapter on 50 Great Years as a chapter of SPEBSQSA - wish I could be there to celebrate with you.

Just a memo - sat here trying to remember some of the names of dear friends I met when I first was accepted for membership at Grosse Pointe: Mark Roberts, Ray McCalpin (Both Sr. and Jr.), Art Seely, Carl Restivo, Herb McKinney and Mike Arnone (the **PROGRESSIVES**), Jim Creed, a great tenor, Lou Walley and Ben Landino, the trophy designer and maker.

I bet Russ Seely is having a great time looking back over the years -  
MR. GROSSE POINTE CHAPTER!

Gordy's hobbies other than barbershopping (which really is a way of life) include golf and other sports. (Info - Gordon & Pitch Pipe)

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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### FRANK LOPEZ (Lead)

Joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter October 1976.

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### LARRY A LORENTZEN (Lead)

Joined Grosse Pointe January 1974.

Larry served in the following Chapter offices:

Uniform Chairman ..... 1974-1978  
Chorus Manager ..... 1976  
Board Member ..... 1977



FRANK LOZZI

I was introduced to “Barbershopping” in 1947 by three of the “Societies” finest members -- Mark Roberts, Lou Walley and Ray McCalpin. At the time they were initiating the Start-up of the East Detroit Chapter and I became a Charter Member. I remained a member of East Detroit until about 1960 and served as President, Vice-

President and Secretary more than once during those years. Funny, they would never let me be Treasurer. I also sang in a quartet with Hank DeMars, Dick Brouckaert and Vince Koelzer. Please, don't ask me the name.

Unfortunately, East Detroit could not maintain their International Charter and finally disbanded. It was then that I joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter and became active in it. I remained an active member until 1978, when new job responsibilities and a move to the suburbs caused me to cease to be active.

After having bumped into a couple of good old barbershop friends recently, (Dan Bulbuk and Don Adams) I've renewed my Chapter membership and have been enjoying myself ever since. Just imagine -- after all these years I can now call myself a novice.

Frank was Program VP in 1964, Membership VP in 1965 and Board Member in 1968.

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### FRED LUTZER

Fred was Keeper of the Mugs for 1946 & 1947.

Fred Lutzer, 53 years of age, Charter Member of Grosse Pointe Chapter and holder of the office of KEEPER OF the MUGS, died on Tuesday, December 30, 1947, after an illness of only a few days. Fred was one of our most efficient officers and he always discharged the simple duties of his office with a thoroughness and attention to detail that is rarely found in the rather loose administration of organizations of our kind. Twice he was made the hero of

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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our "Hats Off Department" for his extraordinary services, always done in the background while some of the rest of us took our bows up front. We will have great difficulty in replacing the accommodating and kind hearted FRED. To Mrs. Lutzer we extend our heartfelt sympathy in her great loss.

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JULIAN (BUD) MAIRE (BARI)  
Bud joined Grosse Pointe in 1987. Bud is Jay's father.

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JAY MAIRE (lead)

Jay joined Grosse Pointe in 1988.

Jay has been Director of Public Relations for 1994 & 1995.

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FRANK MARANZANO (bass)

At our Ladies Night Dinner Dance Celebration at Blossom Heath Frank was recognized as **Barbershopper of the Year, 1993.**

Frank Maranzano is not only the leader of our SHOW SET MAGIC but is the essence of a happy, generous Grosse Pointe Barbershopper.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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With equal parts imagination and lumber, Frank has created the staging and atmosphere for our spring shows. Show after Show! An ancient ship on the ocean? No problem! A ballpark? A piece of cake! And those are just the most recent exploits by our "Michelangelo" with carpenter's apron.

Pitch Pipe Mar 1993

It should be mentioned that while Sully Mazur was chief of show props, Frank was his right hand hammer.

How about Frank's succulent servings at our meetings.

Frank was born in Detroit on East Vernor near the creamery. He went to Smith Grade School, Barbour Intermediate and Eastern High School.

He sang a lot when he was a kid and played a harmonica. He sang in a mixed glee club in intermediate and high school.

He worked at Henry Ford Highland Park Tractor division and attended Henry Ford Community College studying Mechanical engineering. While at Ford he sang in the Ford Chorus which required practice 1 or 2 times a week after work. It was a male chorus and they traveled around the country. (Frank has an old Ford Employee newspaper with a picture of himself standing next to a guy named Bert Escott. Hmmm)

Frank was drafted into the Army in the 3rd Medical Depot in 1942. He was a company clerk for 3 years (This experience was very helpful later in civilian life). He served in Australia, Port Morsby, New Guinea and the Philippines. When he returned to the U.S. after the war he went back to Ford. He worked in billing and then got into engineering. Then Ford sent him to Cass

Tech to learn drafting which helped in his job.

Frank went to one of Grosse Pointe's Shows through Jack Messina who was his daughter's friend and joined immediately.

He has been to Ladies Night, Coin Night, Uncle Sam Night, Canadian Night and Return of the Jug Night. He is a member of Grosse Pointe's Good News Gospel Singers.

Frank is very active in his church. He's an Usher, and an Extraordinary Minister. He's on the Building Committee and counts the money after Mass every Sunday. He is always building something for the church, a very tall cross being one of his creations.

Frank's wife is deceased. Two boys and two girls survive.

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LESLIE MARHOFF (Tenor)

I joined the Detroit #1 Chapter in the Spring of 1969. There, I served as Chapter Secretary for two years. I competed in the International chorus competition three times, the last time we finished in 6th place. In 1971. I joined my first quartet, the **Voice Quad**, made up of Dick Barron, Dave

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

Carey, Bob Wisdom and myself. In the summer of 72 our bass, Bob Wisdom, was invited to sing baritone in **Northern Highlights** quartet and left us. I was crushed... but we found a great replacement in the person of Ed Conn and in 1973 we finished 2nd at the Boyne City Bush League Contest. The next year our quartet became the 1974 Bush League Champions winning the coveted Brass Spittoon. We had hoped to win the District competition in the fall but were unable to compete due to work by one of our members. For some reason that escapes me, this began the downfall of this quartet. I believe it was the Spring of 1975, I became a dual member with the Grosse Pointe Chapter. It was really interesting getting ready to compete in two different choruses!

Just before the Fall convention in Midland, I received a call from Ed Conn. He and two other guys were going to put together a quartet for a one shot weekend just so they could compete (in those days you could register your quartet five minutes five minutes before the contest and still compete), would I consider singing tenor. So the Wednesday before the contest, we got together at Jerry Reid's apartment and had a half of a rehearsal... sort of. Jerry said not to worry about uniforms, he would pick up something and bring it to Midland. That Friday, we got together in Dan LaBumbard's hotel room and switched tuxedo parts around until they almost fit. Everything but the hats and they just weren't going to make it. Thus was born my second quartet, the **Warren G. Harding Memorial Four!** This quartet never won any contests but we sure won a lot of audiences. We sang together until 1978 or 1979, as I recall, then we decided to hang it up.

My next attempt at a quartet was the **Trolleyville Tuners** made up of Bill

Schwedler, Mickey Trombley, Rusty Ruegsugger and myself. Somehow, this quartet never really worked. We had a bunch of material that we thought was funny as the dickens but audiences never quite figured out what we were doing. This quartet did manage to get thrown out of Canada, however, which may have been the highlight of our short career.

My next quartet was another one of those one shot, let's register and compete at the last minute quartets. **The Pointer of Note** was comprised of myself and three really great guys, Dan Bulbuk, Sterling Berry and Sully Mazur. The toughest part of being in this quartet was convincing the other three guys that it would be more fun to compete than to go out to dinner. I did and it was.

My most recent quartet was the **Lakeshore Clippers** made up of Frank Fortier, Gordy Dubrul, Nels Gregersen and myself. I think I enjoyed singing with this quartet more than any of the others because of the tremendous talents of the guys I sang with.

As far as my activities with the Chapter, I have served as Keeper of the Mugs and board member at large. I have been in shows, competitions, bus tours, Boblo Cruises and Christmas Pub Crawls. I've been to COIN night, Ladies Night, Canadian Night, Send-off Shows, inter-chapter contests, Jug Night and lots of other nights. One thing is a certainty, you never run out of things to do in this Chapter. I have not been active with the Chapter this past year due to a family commitment but that commitment is near an end and I am looking forward to becoming a regular once again. I have only one regret over all these years and that is not singing in the competition when Grosse Pointe scored its well deserved District Championship.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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### GARDNER J. MARTIN

John Gardner Martin, of St. Clair Shores, Born in Houghton County in 1904, died March 17, 1997. Gar was a Registered Professional Engineer. Mr. Martin attended the University of Detroit and Michigan State to achieve a Masters Degree in Civil Engineering. He also had extensive experience in testing, design and marketing in the structural design field. Mr. Martin had numerous appointments including “Who’s



### GARDNER J. MARTIN

Who” In Engineering”, “Legislative Highway Study Commission”, “Michigan Society of Professions”, and the “Silver Citation” awarded by the Governor and The Michigan Society of Professional Engineers.

Mr. Martin was a member of the Country Club of Lansing and the Recess Club among others. His hobbies include boating, he taught Piloting and Navigation and was a member of the United States Institute. He

enjoyed singing in the Grosse Pointe Lakeshore Chorus (1979-1989) and the Rheingold Chorus (a German-American Cultural Group). It was through Gard that the two choruses commuted back and forth for a couple social evenings and The Rheingolders even appeared in our ethnic show where the two choruses appeared together on stage and sang “This is my Country”. He was also a member of the 4th Degree Knights of Columbus (Lansing), DAC, Grosse Pointe Yacht Club and the Renaissance Club.

Gar was the Husband of the late Mary Loretta Haviland and is survived by his children, Dr. Joseph G., Lawrence W., Gerald H. And Anne Martin Brennan, 15 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren and a dear friend, Eleanor Irvine.

Gar was sergeant-at-arms for 1982.

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HOWARD MASTERS (Lead etc.)

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Howard served as Keeper of the Mugs 1980 & 1981.

I have been with the Grosse Pointe Chapter for 20 years. I joined in April 1974. Larry Lorentzen was my sponsor.

I've been to all but about 2 of Don Adams' Harsens Island Picnics. I never missed a Chapter meeting at Bill Lane's Mansion.

I attended and helped out at the International Convention in Detroit.

I sang with the Chapter at Hart Plaza 2 times. I sang with our Chapter and with quartets on the Boblo Boat. At the Pontiac Woodshed Contest I won Best Woodshed Lead of the Year in 1992.

I've never missed the Christmas Bus Trip at Christmas Time and also our Chapter Christmas Parties. I've attended Ladies Night, COIN Night and Oktoberfest as long as I can Remember.

I served in WWII for 3 years, 2 of which were in Hawaii in the Navy.

My most treasured memory was a singing job with **Just Friends** and our wives at the beautiful Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island for 3 days, all expenses paid.

The most significant highlight of my life was when I met my wife, Jean. The second was when I joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter and learned to sing Barbershop Four Part Harmony.

The only famous person I have met was Danny Thomas. **Just Friends** sang at his benefit party for St. Jude Hospital. (Jack Messina, tenor, Mike Proffitt, bari and Nels Gregerson, bass).

I've been to Harrisville a dozen or more times. I sang at Pine Knob both times, also Meadowbrook. I've been on every Floating Poker Party since it started.

My quartets:

1975-1977 The **Heirs of Harmony** - Jim Catellane, tenor, Howard Masters, lead, John Wenzel, Baritone and Dick Krass, bass. We went to the Boyne City bush League Contest and came in 5th place, 1976 or 1977.

1977-1978 The **Citizen Arrest** - Mike Trombley, tenor, Howard Masters, lead, John Wenzel, bari and Dick Krass, bass

1978-1979 The **Prima Chords** - Jack Messina, tenor, Howard Masters, lead, Scott Houghton, bari and Gene Honderich, bass

1979-1981 The **Music Maestros** - Bob Brown, tenor, Howard Masters, lead, Wes Tomlinson, bari and Dave Anderson, bass. We went to the Boyne City Bush League Contest and came in 5th place, 1979 or 1980

1981-1984 The **Sound Investment** - Gray Stroze, tenor, Howard Masters, lead, Scott Houghton, bari and Mike McClary, bass

1985-1995 **Just Friends** - Jack Messina (replaced by Hank DeMars), tenor, Howard Masters, lead, Mike Proffitt, bari and John Wade, bass

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies



SULLY MAZUR (bass)

24 Aug 1994

Hi Jim, here's my history

Joined my first b'shop chapter in 1972 and it was Grosse Pointe. Danny Bulbuk was my sponsor. Moved to Tucson Chapter in late 1989.

My first year (1973) I was elected Historian. Get that. I didn't even know the names of the Chapter members then.

Offices served other than Historian are as follows:

Board Member ..... 1974, 1983, & 1987  
Delegate ..... 1975, 1984, 1986 & 1989  
Program V P..... 1977 & 1989  
Membership V P .....1978  
President.....1979  
Board Member .....1980 (past Pres.)  
Keeper of the Mugs.....1982  
SMAC Delegate .....1982

74-74 My first Quartet: **Grosse Exaggeration** - Don Adams, Sterling Berry, Pete Batts

75-82 My second Quartet: **Danny's Boys** - Danny Bulbuk, Sterling Berry, Bob Rancilio. We competed at Boyne Bush League using John Wenzel as Bari. We were also rans but not last. No other competition outside the Chapter.

83 Third Quartet: can't remember name - John Wade, Fred Hunter, Charlie Wreford.

84-85 Fourth Quartet: **Photographs and Memories** - Eric Ernst, Mark Davidson, Lenny Schwietzer

86-89 Fifth Quartet: **Goodwill Blenders** - Harvey Burr, Bud Maire, Lenny Henk.

?? ? Other Quartet: **Pointer of Note** - Danny Bulbuk, Sterling Berry, Les Marhoff. We competed in District. We were also rans but not last.

I was at the Pine Knob Programs. Had a ball. Russ Seely sang a solo at one.

Harsens Island Picnics were all just fantastic. Won golf trophy twice because I picked good partners - Bob Rancilio and Gene Honderich.

My son (not a barbershopper) provided one of the boats on an early Floating Poker Run and won the big prize.

The 1976 District Convention was something else. We had a refrigerated Truck (probably obtained by Don Adams) with 50 cases of Red, White and Blue beer which was delivered to various hospitality rooms when they ran dry. I stored about 100 cases in my basement for a year (these were left over from the convention. I was bartender for 2 years.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Hart Plaza show was a ball. I directed a group of renegades after the show. This was one of my great thrills.

I was on the 1981 international convention committee - wasn't everybody?

Christmas singouts were a highlight in my mind. I went from 72 - 88. Don't ever stop this program. I remember a time in one nursing home when a bunch of us squeezed onto an elevator and because it was overloaded it got stuck for about 15 minutes (it was almost a panic).

Ladies Night has always been a class act. Keep it up.

The best COIN Night I remember was when McCalpin was the installer. Serious and funny and well prepared.

At one Christmas Party I got Pete Batt's Kidney stone - YUK. At another I got a live chicken from Jim Rutt - YUK YUK.

My most treasured Memory of the Chapter was on my first visit to the Chapter - The sound of the great barbershop harmony - it captivated me instantly.

You didn't think I'd tell you my most embarrassing moment, did you?

Jim, you're the most famous person I've met (and a Cass Tech Alumni too).

Three wishes:

1. Sing in international competition with a quartet.
2. Read and instantly remember a song.
3. To get the other two wishes.

I would not like to go back in time. I'm in love with the present.

Jim, if I think of more items, I'll write to you again. In the meantime, I want to extend the heartiest wishes to Grosse Pointe Chapter on the Occasion of its 50th Anniversary. It is doing the right thing in making barbershopping a joy to every member and especially to Russ Seely for his superb direction and guidance over the last 30 years (approx.)

Yours in Harmony,

Sully Mazur

P.S. - Notify me when you have the party.

### **BARBERSHOPPER OF the YEAR - MR. SULLY MAZUR**

This award was made at the annual Ladies Night Dinner Dance on February 1, 1986. The significance of the "Barbershopper of the Year Award is the recognition of a Grosse Pointe Member who has continuously devoted his time, service and talents for the good of the Chapter. Sully has done this for over 10 years very modestly and with little fan fair. He has served in various Chapter offices and is a past president.

Sully is a team player and is a dedicated Barbershop singer. If every member had the zeal for barbershopping that Sully has our Chapter would be one of the largest in the country.

**CONGRATULATIONS MR. SULLY MAZUR**

Pitch Pipe Mar-Apr, 1986

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies



RAY MC CALPIN JR. (bari)

Born in Minneapolis. Moved to Burlington IA. Came to Detroit in 1936. Left Detroit 1937 to Wisconsin for 2 years. Then returned to Detroit for remaining time.

Became a charter member of Grosse Pointe in June, 1945. Married Virginia in July of 1944. Nick Name: Methusala .

Ray held the following Chapter offices:

Secretary ..... 1949 - 1958  
Vice-president .....1950  
President.....1951  
Alt. Delegate .....1956, 1957, 1969, 1972  
Delegate .....1962, 1963, 1965,  
1968, 1970, 1971  
Historian.....1974, 1975, 1981,  
1990, 1991  
ProgramVP.....1976

Started Quartet of the Month in 1959

INTERVIEW WITH RAY MC CALPIN,  
AT HIS HOME JULY 27, 1994 BY Jim  
KINNER

Grosse Pointe was first chartered in June, 1945. They didn't have any party that I'm aware of, at least. The Chapter had been formed when I came in and since I got there within a month or two of when it was started, they said, you are a charter member.

My first experience as a barbershopper was going out to the Oakland County Chapter with Carroll Adams, the Old International Secretary at that time and the International Office was in Detroit, over on Fenkell. I had heard about barbershopping but I didn't do anything about it until I looked it up in the phone book and called Carroll. He says, "this Friday we are having a meeting out in Oakland County, I'd be glad to have you come out there as my guest and you can see what it's all about". Well, I met him at Royal Oak. They were meeting at some hall out there, UAW or Eagles or Lions or one of those kind of things. It was an enjoyable evening. Of course, I learned right away that I wasn't a baritone. I thought I was, just because of voice placement but I didn't know one end of baritone from the other. He said you're a lead, all you know is melody. At any rate, before the evening was over, he said "You should be going over to a new chapter that is formed on the east side of Detroit". He told me about the Grosse Pointe Chapter because I lived on the east side. He gave me Mark Roberts number to contact and I found out they were meeting at the old Turners. You don't know what Turners is, do you? The Turners, they shortened it to Turners. It was the Turn Varian. It was a German Society or German Athletic organization, I don't know if they called it a society or not. They had a building down on Jefferson across from the Whittier Hotel, down close to Indian Village. I think Mark belonged to the Turners, along with some of his associates and they arranged for us to meet at Turners. As I said, the Chapter was already formed when I got there but I joined

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so close to the beginning they made me a charter member along with my father. My dad was the one that really had me singing before barbershopping was around. When I told him I was getting into it, he was all for it. He was a singer too. He sang baritone. Anyway, that's where we would go and have our meetings. At that time we already had a forum. At any rate, we used to meet there, up on the second floor. They had a little bar set up there. At that time, the women used to come down to the meetings. My wife used to come down and Mark Roberts wife and Amy Montgomery, our Treasurer's wife. They'd go down and play cards in the tap room and when our meeting was over, we'd go and meet them down below. Have a few and sing a few songs and sayonara, go home. It was a great place to be but ultimately, we got moved out of there and I don't know why. I don't think they got tired of us, necessarily, or whether we didn't pay the rent but we had to move. I think they were getting rid of it. The UAW bought it. I think the UAW still owns it. It had gymnasiums and swimming pools. They had everything going at this place. The Turners used to go to athletic events all around the country.

From there we went across the street to the Whittier Hotel in the Crystal room or the Chandelier Room, I don't know what the devil it was. They charged us rent that we just couldn't afford. Our dues back then were \$5.00 or \$7.00 or something like that. We just couldn't afford to stay there so we went to a place on Mack and Nottingham. It was a Tavern called the Rathskeller. We met in a basement tap room for quite a while. I don't remember exactly how long but it was long enough.

Right in the beginning we said we weren't going to have more than 50 members in the chapter. The reason Grosse Pointe got

started was because Detroit got too big. This group of Mark Robert's friends joined barbershop so they could sing and when they went down to Detroit all they did was sit and listen because Detroit was famous for bringing other quartets in to sing, District Champions and from all over the country. You didn't sing, you just sat there and listened. And they said heck, I don't want to do that. Let's start our own chapter on the east side. Of course, they didn't want to call it East Detroit or East Side of Detroit so they called it "Grosse Pointe". They were getting close to that area. That's where the name came from. They never met in Grosse Pointe until... I'll take that back, when they were meeting in the old VFW Hall, that was in Grosse Pointe. We were meeting all around Grosse Pointe. At any rate, at one of the meetings, maybe at the Rathskeller, they decided they were going to up the membership to 75 or something like that. Because Detroit got so big nobody could do anything, they wanted to keep Grosse Pointe small so everybody could participate. That was one of their slogans, "Everybody sings at Grosse Pointe". And by God we did. You didn't go to a meeting but what you sang. I sang "Dear Old Girl" so many times. That was the only thing I knew because my dad taught it to me. Finally after I listened so long and participated, I started learning some other songs. That's the way it started.

After the Rathskeller we moved to St. Clair Shores, the old Blossom Heath which is now the St. Clair Shores Civic Center. We were there for quite a while. I don't know why we left there but we did. Sometimes our membership started going down. It got down to a point one time when we were still meeting at Turners, the only people that held us together was Russ Seely's quartet with his brothers and Charlie Guyer. Russ Seely's other brothers - Harold and Ron. Ray wasn't in barbershop). (I'm not sure where this

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belongs but Ray said they called themselves **The Metrochords**. I think Russ was the youngest brother. He may have had some sisters.

I think our next move was to the VFW hall on St. Paul behind Jacobsens. We met there a long time, had some great meetings there and by this time the chapter was back on its feet. The "Fits" had been formed by that time because they were at some of the meetings there. We tried several places for meetings. One was a bowling alley at Warren and Cadieux. It didn't work out.

We also met at a place right across the street which I believe was associated with Austin High School. We met at a K of C hall a couple times but it didn't work out. Of course we were at St. Mark's for a while.

We had some meetings over at the Yacht Club. We used to go over there and visit with their chapter a lot. They were nice guys. They started going down hill and they merged with Grosse Pointe. I don't think we had any other groups merge with us beside the Yacht Club. We sponsored other groups. We sponsored the East Detroit Chapter and the Mt. Clemens chapter and both of them went belly up. The first Port Huron Chapter, I believe, was sponsored by the Mt. Clemens Chapter. But then Port Huron went down again and it started up again. We were directly responsible for the second coming of Port Huron. That started because I had started working with Pat Yacques. He liked singing so I said come on down and sing. He said he didn't want to do that but he did and loved every minute of it. I said, I suppose the next thing you'll be doing is going off and starting your own chapter. He said no, he wouldn't do a thing like that. Which was a lie because it wasn't many weeks or months after he came in to Grosse Pointe that Port Huron started which was a result of

Grosse Pointe. Grosse Pointe is solid. We've always been solid except for that one little period. Other chapters I know, Oakland County for instance were 300 some odd members at one point and they went from that to selling razor blades to keep their treasury solvent. They were almost bankrupt and their membership was low. Detroit went through the same thing. They started losing all their members. That's why they merged. Fortunately, Grosse Pointe has been very active. I hate to say it but it was probably the chorus that kept it together. As you know I'm not a big chorus man. I love quartets but choruses don't do much for me. I like to hear them but I wasn't much of a participant. I think that's what saved Grosse Pointe. They do have a bunch of die-hards that love singing in the chorus for whatever reason.

We had our share of Quartets and we did a lot of promotional quartets. Back when the **4-Fits** got started, back in '59 or somewhere in there, it started out as a quartet of the month contest that Grosse Pointe at times sponsored. Sponsored by themselves not sponsoring other chapters. It was a quartet promotion gimmick they had going. Any four guys get together and sing at a meeting and you are the quartet of the month. Theoretically, at the end of the year you would have twelve quartets and you would have a contest. In theory it was ok but it didn't work out that way. I don't recall how many we had but they had a quartet of the month contest. They got a picnic grounds out on Utica Road near Metro Parkway out in that area somewhere. They had a house with some property in back and a stage built up. They had a contest and the **4-Fits** won. This was probably in 1961 or 1960. That's what we used to do. That's when the chorus took over and they don't have quartet of the month anymore. They don't do anything to promote quartets anymore that I'm aware of. They used to have rotating quartet where a

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quartet started out and every one had the opportunity to tap a member on the shoulder and sing his part. This started at Grosse Pointe.

Back in the beginning we didn't have a chorus but we did have a "gang sing". We always did that. If some time during the night someone would get up and say "let's have a gang sing" or someone would start directing. I think it was Mark Roberts started that but it's hard to believe because he was a quartet man. The choruses have taken over the Society, I think and it's costing more and more money to go to International. I really don't have much use for International, they should have left it here in Detroit. They had three bodies running it then. I realize that three couldn't do it now and reach the scope they have. They had Carroll Adams, Bob Hafer his assistant and they had some female, I don't remember her name but she did all the typing and was the secretary, the "gofer". The society was housed in a store building over on Fenkell and it ran just as nice as can be. Of course it was convenient for us here in Detroit too. Call over there, drive over there, sit down and chat with them or whatever. I've never been to Kenosha. I don't know if they'd let me in if I went over there. They should, I've paid for the thing often enough. They've got too many people over there, it's worse than Washington.

Finally, we moved over to St. Mark's Church until everybody started getting their hub caps and automobiles stolen. It was a good place to meet. We had all the facilities we needed there. I don't know how we got into the Neighborhood Club but this is an ideal place for us to meet. It's got everything we need there and the people kind of let us do what we want to do. Right now I think Grosse Pointe has everything going that they

will ever want other than we should have more quartets.

District Contests are a lot of fun but there are other things too that are a lot of fun. We sang in the "Bush League" contest at Boyne a couple times and finally wound up winning it. We sang the first year and didn't win. The second year (May 12, 1962) we won and the third year we had to attend to pass the trophy to the new winners. That was one of the greatest places to go and they came in from all over the state. Loton Willson, a barbershopper from Boyne, started the "Bush League" contest. It was for Novice Quartets I guess, quartets that hadn't been recognized officially or hadn't scored in other contests. That was a lot of fun. They had dancing and an orchestra and singing and chow. You name it, they had it there. Charlevoix was something else. Charlevoix was the forerunner of Harrisville. That thing went great guns for a while..

Harrisville got started by Russ Seely and John Smith. John was from the Wayne Chapter. He was a school teacher. He wasn't a great singer but he was a great barbershopper. He was more a musician than he was a singer. He didn't play any instruments but musically inclined with voice placement and one thing and another. He and Russ were campers and they just happened to be up at Harrisville, camping. John had a "s p e b" sticker on his trailer. Russ saw it and he stopped and they started yakkin. The two guys and their wives tried to make it a quartet but that didn't work. They said "why don't we get some barbershoppers to come up here" and they did. John Smith's brother-in law sang with the **Aire Males** so they said sure we'll come up and go camping and of course Russ got the "Fits" to come up and camp so we had a show. The back end of a flat bed trailer that they pulled down to the Marina was the

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stage. It was colder than a well digger, with the wind coming in off the lake. Tommy Pollard said "I'm glad I'm singing in this old fashioned World War One army uniform. That was one of the gimmicks they had in their quartet. He had a coat that went all the way down to the floor. That was the start of Harrisville. He was the lead with the **Aire-Males**. Tom is no longer with us and it's unfortunate. His kids are taking over for him and they're doing a great job. Of course that has grown and it is still going great. John Smith lives up there now. I don't know if he has retired. He's a Civil War buff, a muzzle loader and hatchet thrower, wears buckskins and all that crap. Being locals up there they got us involved with the businessmen. We were doing shows in all the saloons and raising money for logopedics and all that kind of stuff. It was good and it's still good. Then the women started taking over and now it's more Sweet Adelines than barbershoppers. I haven't been up there in years. One of these years I'll go back up. Our first year we slept in a tent and it rained for 10 of the 15 days we were there. We got so desperate we drove to Alpena just to get dry. We had to look at something besides wet tent. One year in a tent was enough and I started pulling a trailer. It was fun and Harrisville was one of Grosse Pointe's achievements.

I don't know of anything else we were directly responsible for in the way of chapters. I can't think of anything off the top of my head.

Quartets, through the years we had lots of them. I sang in several. Whenever I sang with Mark Roberts it was always **The Chordsmen**. Any Quartet Mark sang with was always **The Chordsmen**, no matter who else sang in it. The other guys were Jim Creed who sang tenor, Mark Roberts sang baritone, Bud Peltier sang Bass and I sang

lead. I was the youngest and they called me the "kid". I was about 25 or 26 years old. I sang with the **Short Horn Four**. I don't know where that name came from. It had Jim Reeb on Bass, Morrie LaGrue on Tenor, Clarence Lang on Baritone and I sang Lead. I didn't start singing baritone until I started singing with **4-Fits**. Russ Seely convinced me I should start singing baritone. I sang with another **Chordsmen** quartet. Mark Roberts singing baritone, Leroy McKinney singing bass, Wes Meier singing tenor. Wes was past International President. At that time he was Chief Meier here. He was a Chief Pharmacist with the navy and he was here recruiting for about two or three years. Then that group turned into the **Chordinators**. That was Chief Meier and myself and the Davenport brothers, Jim and Allan singing baritone and bass.

I can't think of any other organized groups. I guess the others were organized, they had names. I can't think of who else other than for the **4-Fits**, of course. That started during the quartet of the month thing. John Prost was singing tenor with us when we started that one. We had a commitment to do a show for the Niles Michigan Chapter down in South Bend. we had accepted their invitation and we were going to get paid for it and about the time we decided to go down there Prost told us he was quitting. Russ got a hold of John Wearing - can you fill in tenor for us? we've got a show today. Yes, he could do that. Johnnie at that time was singing with the **Chorduroys** (Bernie Smith - lead, Marv McClary - bass, John Wearing - tenor, and Mel Holderness - bari) or he wasn't singing at all. we were aware of Johnnie, was a good tenor. He said he would do it so we had a couple rehearsals and drove on down to South Bend to do our show. We did it and it came out great. We've been together ever since. It's about thirty five years we've been doing it and we still

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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do it once in a while and it's not too bad. I don't know if it's contest great but it could be, I suppose if we wanted to concentrate on it. That's how Prost got out of it and we didn't want to sing with him anymore anyway, John was doing a good job. John's first reaction was "I don't know if I can keep up with you guys, you sing too loud". But he did, anyway and he still does. You can't hold him back now, if he wants to really pour it on.

You said you were surprised at how well we sang at our meeting last night. The people I was singing with, although we are not a Quartet, they are all people I have sung with on occasion and that's what happens when you can boondoggle. People in our chapter don't believe in doing that, I don't think for some reason and I don't know why. That's the fun part of it really. You get off in a corner and see how you can do and if you miss it you say let's try it this way or that way. If you miss a chord, go back and do it over again until you find the right one. Woodshed, it's a good thing, I think. Back when we started it was all woodshed. Let's face it, I think when O. C. Cash started it was probably all woodshed back then. They sure as heck didn't have any organized quartets or anything. They did what they wanted. They just started singing and if they missed a chord they would try it this way or that way or bend it a little. That's what it's all about. That's what I like about quartet singing. You can't do that with a chorus. The chorus sings what's written down there and that's what you better sing or else.

We went to Hep School one year when we decided we were going to win a championship. We went to Hep School and came back and won our championship. They drilled vowel sounds into us. You don't say heart, you say haht. You must sing the same words. You never sing I, you sing ah. (These lessons went on and I left them out for

brevity) I don't know what else I can say about Grosse Pointe.

I'll digress and go back in history a little bit. One of the things that Grosse Pointe used to do was visit with the Amherstburg Chapter in Canada. There used to be a Belle Isle Ferry that went from Detroit to Belle Isle. That's why they called it the Belle Isle Ferry. We used to rent that thing, load it up with beer and take it down to Amherstburg. It got so that we had too many guys for the Ferry and the guy wouldn't leave the dock so we had to call upon guys like Carl Restivo who sang lead with the **Progressives** to bring his boat down so we could get the overflow on some other boats. I don't know if Hal Reinhardt had one at the time or not. He loaded that boat up until she was down to the gunnels in the water and took it all the way down to Amherstburg, singing all the way. When we got down to Amherstburg we were met at the dock by the Fire Department with a fire truck and we'd march down main street or whatever it was called behind the fire truck, with it's sirens going, leading us down to the meeting place and we had a big night with the Canadians. We were very well received, a lot of good Canadian beer and I don't remember if we had food or not. We'd sing until we couldn't sing anymore and go back and get in the boat and hopefully get back to Detroit at a reasonable hour. It was a lot faster going down stream than coming back because the Belle Isle Ferry did not move much faster than the current going down. There was a chapter in Amherstburg. I don't know if it's still there. We never got in any trouble. We'd leave there and go back to our boats and the guys weren't through singing yet so they were almost like the cartoon strips, barbershops hanging on a lamp post half drunk, singing. They weren't necessarily but they would stand on the street singing a few songs before they wanted to go home again. A couple guys from Amherstburg, a couple

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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guys from Grosse Pointe. The Provincial Police came along and said move it along guys, we don't want any racket down here so they got us to go back on the boats and go home. Like I said it took us forever to get home and by that time the barrel was empty and everybody was full. Those were good times. I guess Grosse Pointe does it now by having their own boats and they go out and play poker and one thing and the other. That's the kind of thing there was lots of in the past and it's a little different frame work than in the past.

Some of the other things we used to do is visit with the Hamtramck Chapter which we don't do anymore. I don't think there is a Hamtramck Chapter anymore. We used go there because they had the best sauerkraut and kielbasa there ever was. If Hamtramck still had a chapter we'd still be doing it but they don't.

One of the things that the Detroit Chapter got started was the Boblo Moonlight Cruise which everybody got involved with, ultimately. Originally, Grosse Pointe didn't even want to participate with that because they were mortal enemies with Detroit Chapter it seemed like. Detroit would come over and try to have us promote their functions and everything but we didn't really get invited, just sell tickets for them. Ultimately we got so we were friends with them. We did participate on their stuff but for a long time there was bitter feelings going on between Detroit and Grosse Pointe. I don't know if it was because Mark Roberts initiated the pull out from Detroit and started a new chapter or what it was. Maybe it was because Mark Roberts was pretty vocal and said "I don't like you guys because you don't let us sing". He usually called it just the way it was and that can get you in trouble. Even though he was an attorney, he still got a little bit vocal.

I go over to Redford. Redford was thrown out of the Society because they didn't have enough members for a charter. Redford used to be a great chapter. We had a good relationship with them. I still sing with them. Al Davenport is still there. His brother is down in Naples, Florida. It's more like barbershop used to be when I got started and that's why I enjoy going over there. The singing is not great but when a quartet drops in that's organized they do some good singing. The guys that go there enjoy it ,so what's the difference.

The first organized quartet I ever heard was the **Balladaires**. That was Mark Roberts, Leroy McKinney, Jim Creed and (I don't remember).I knew they were a quartet because they had matching suits. They were a good quartet. We also had the old **Turners Quartet** going down there but they disbanded and formed the **Old** (one version **Detroit Turners** - Creed, Pazik, Roberts and Joure) (at the same time, the **Harmony Hounds**, Creed, De Wolfe, Roberts and Wolff 1943) Eddie Pazik was the lead. Eddie was a barrel chested swimmer from the Turners. He was a breast stroker. He had a chest the size of this table. The **Old Turners** were a crazy quartet They used to sing songs like "Hold That Tiger".

We had a coach, Bert Szabo, just once. Wouldn't you know that one contest we were in we were going to sing one of his songs and he was supposed to be a judge. He had to disqualify himself and the funny thing was, we sang the song and when we went to the critique and one of the arrangement judges started knocking Bert's arrangement around. He took umbrage on that when Bert told him it was right. At one time Bert was a professor of music at Western Michigan University.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

Another one of our experiences I should have related to you. One time, Bob Mulligan, big tall tenor, was an undertaker who liked us. He wanted to go over to London, Ontario to a meeting and Szabo was in town (probably working with us at the time). We decided why don't we go to London. Bob said "I'll get a limousine". It was one of his own. We all drove over to London to a barbershop meeting. At that time we were wearing dark suits and our derbies. We looked like the Mafia climbing out of that big black limousine. We went to the meeting and had a heckava nice time. They didn't expect us to come. As I recall, the **Nighthawks** were there. They were out of that chapter. Great quartet. Later that night when we were coming home we had a flat on that big limo. You can't get the parts off, like the wheel shields, you know to make it look nice. Finally got it fixed and got home.

Russ got a call once from Battle Creek. He's our contact. They were having a recruitment program and they had contacted the "Extension Chords" or somebody like that to be their guest quartet. They couldn't make it and they called some one else and they finally called Russ. Any chance the "Fits" could come? I had no problem, John had no problem so we went over to Marv's house to wait till he got home. We told him we had a job on the West Side and we hit the road all the way to Battle Creek.



EDWARD MC CARTHY

Ed has served in the following Chapter offices:

President..... 1989-1991  
Board Member .... 1990-1992 (past Pres.)  
Delegate .....1993

REFLECTIONS..... by Ed McCarthy,  
Chapter President

As I reflect on my three years as president of Grosse Pointe, the World's greatest chapter, I find myself drifting back not three years but ten times three years to when I first joined the Society and when the chords I heard were so foreign to my ear but oh so much fun to sing. It seemed to me the most important thing to do was to sing in a barbershop quartet and maybe, just maybe, to win the International Trophy. I gave little or no thought to who ran the Chapter; I just assumed that some guy who couldn't sing ran it. After all, who would want to run a chapter when there was singing to be done? I kept that same attitude until some years later when I was asked to run for Chapter office. I must say, I never felt more flattered,

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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to think 90 members of Grosse Pointe Chapter wanted me to serve as their president. Those years must have been the most meaningful years of my barbershop career.

As my third year as president draws to a close, I reflect on the camaraderie of the members of Grosse Pointe Chapter. The Board of Directors who selfishly give of their time and talent. The shows so well written and directed by Russ Seely and performed by guys who gave with all their heart! The many, many singouts. The contests, some serious, some not so serious. The Christmas Bus trips to many Detroit area convalescent homes. The boat outings on Lake St. Clair. Picnicking at Don Adams' place on Harsen's Island. The golf trips to North Carolina. The fun of standing in front of the chorus on Tuesday night and the challenge of who could make the best wise cracks. I think the highlight of my term as president of Grosse Pointe Chapter was standing on the International stage and presenting the new International Trophy to the Society. I did get part of my early wish. I was on International Stage and I did have it for a fleeting moment, my hands on the big trophy. If that is not the highlight of my term of office then it must be every Tuesday night when I shake hands with my pals at Grosse Pointe. I wish to thank every member of Grosse Pointe for the unselfish ways you have given and given again to create the success of our Chapter and the Society.

1991 Show Program

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MIKE MC CLARY, Bass, MEMBER  
SINCE 1979

My interest in barbershopping came at a very early age, though I'm not sure at what

age. I can remember my sister and I sitting on our basement stairs in our PJ's, watching our father's quartet rehearsals. We would get ready for bed, sneak down the steps and peek through the hand railing supports at the "best quartet in the world". Our world, that is.

I really don't think I was more than 4 or 5 years old but my memories of those moments are vivid. Uncle John Wearing would sometimes come to rehearsal with a cigar and a derby hat (why? I don't know) and make funny faces at us kids.

We eventually moved to a new neighborhood and left behind old friends and what seemed to be our father's interest in quartet singing. After that, the only time we got to hear the **SONIC AIRES** or the **CHORDUROYS** sing was when we pulled out the old man's tape recorder. That tape recorder was another thing. You see, we thought, my sister Cathie and I, that this hobby of my father's must be some kind of secret club. I don't think that either of us ever knew of another family, in our schools, who's father or mother sang barbershop, let alone own a tape recorder!

Dad may have lost some interest but never really lost his love for the craft. He seemed to maintain his ties through his friends and their quartets. Every party ever held in the McClary household always had a quartet or two in attendance. Even if he tried, I don't think he could ever totally leave barbershopping because, through the magic of barbershopping, all of my father's friends were now relatives of our family...or were we now relatives of theirs??? There was Uncle Russ and Aunt Shirley, Uncle Johnny and Aunt Marge...etc. and my folks became Uncle Marv and Aunt Cathie to their kids.... hmmm.. how'd they do that?

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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When I was 11, Uncle Russ Seely invited our family up to White Lake where he and Shirley had a trailer for the summer. This may have been a bad move cause we never left. Dad bought a trailer and a boat and this became our new summer residence.

Once again, I could see my dad's interest sparked and it was great hearing him sing again. The **4-FITS** were regulars at the trailer park now that Uncle John and Aunt Marge had a summer trailer there. For the next three years our summers were enchanted. They were filled with skiing, golfing, barbershopping, swimming, boating, pig roasts and campfire ghost stories...and oh!, by the way...did I mention barbershopping? Even though I was not active, it was always a reassuring, warm, safe feeling to hear the sounds of barbershop harmony, lightly floating on an evening breeze. I knew that dad and his buddies were within earshot.

Dad died of lung cancer in the winter of 1970 and Mom kept taking us out to White Lake until she could see that my sister and I no longer desired to spend our whole summers there. She eventually sold the trailer and some how Cathie and I lost our link to barbershopping... Dad.

Eight and a half years I found myself married and playing in a rock and roll band. I had played a lot of schools and rock saloons and had been doing this for about four years previously. Evidently, I wasn't very good at this because I couldn't quit my day job. I guess I always knew I couldn't because all three of the Wearing boys have been doing this since the mid '60's and they had already told me the horrors of being a traveling, working band. At this time, Tom and Jon Wearing had already been successful as far as making records and

getting air play. Managers, agents, record deals were only a dream for me.

It all happened one winter night as I was "white knuckling" my way home from work in a snow storm. I was in Bumper to bumper traffic and was trying different short cuts, when through dense snowfall, I read a sign at the local shopping mall SPEBSQSA HERE TONIGHT!

WOW I thought, "I'll bet that I'm the only person on this road that knows what that stands for". As soon as I got home, I called Cathie and Mom to meet my wife and I there. I couldn't believe my eyes. There was a chorus there and Uncle Russ was directing it! Look! there's Uncle Johnny and that must be Matthew, and.. why are they making those faces and doing that GROUCHO thing with their eyebrows.

Anyway, that was how I first got interested in barbershopping. I joined the Grosse Pointe Lakeshore Chorus and brought some of my buddies down with me. These were my beer drinking buddies that used to enjoy going to bars and singing along with the juke box. We even sang some barbershop tune that we tried to lift off some of my Dad's rehearsal tapes and albums.

If I recall correctly, we even got to sing for the chorus one night. We tried some old **Buffalo Bills** and **Confederates** tunes. I was only able to get one of them to join, that was Gary Stroze. With a little coaxing from Matt Seely, Gary and I were singing in Chapter quartets on Friday night fun nights. We found ourselves in the **Sound Investment** quartet with Howard Masters and Scott Houghton. This quartet went to the Boyne City Bush League Contest and finished second...our first quartet...From this group we discovered the camaraderie and good fellowship that quarteting brings. Within a

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year, Gary and I were in a quartet together and surprisingly enough, won the District quartet contest in 1981-1982. That quartet was **Good News** and it stayed together for about 2 years.

**Good News** was a lot of fun and a great experience for both Gary and I. Gary used to play a guitar in a folk band and played some coffee houses but he never played in front of an audience that actually paid attention to him before. Singing with such seasoned quartet men like Brian Kaufman and Wally Dorosh was not something that happens every day to the average Joe Barbershopper. When Wally moved out of the area and **Good News** broke up, Saturday mornings just didn't seem right not seeing Gary pulling up with his quartet uniform, make-up and bottle of courage...(he never got used to people paying attention to him).

I should say that after **Good News** it was difficult for me to sing in the chorus again. I found myself trying to over correct the guy singing flat next to me by sharpening my notes and really fouling things up. Lucky for me (and this is a plus for any barbershopper) my wife, Claire, was bitten by the barbershop bug. She joined the Eastpointe Chorus and was an inspiration and major supporter for me during those low periods. That is, what I'm really trying to say is, I was turning blue from holding my breath, waiting for that phone to ring. Then it finally rang and upon invitation I tried out and won a spot with HARMONY UNLIMITED.

HARMONY UNLIMITED was 13 man ensemble, mainly quartet men that was considered to be a renegade group. Although it was a requirement to a society member, there must have been some whispering going on about the group because we always seemed to draw fire about the possibility of starting a new chorus and sapping away singers from other choruses. Such was not

the case, we never wanted to grow bigger than the original 13.

I stayed with HARMONY UNLIMITED until it's demise in 1987 or so..uh..I think. Uncle Johnny was in that group too. He got together with a fun quartet with Denny Gore, Dab Rafferty, and me. We never really picked a name for this group. We started getting work and had to come up with something so Johnny came up with some cards with the name **Entertainment Express** printed on it and it stuck. We did a lot of chapter shows and odd jobs but never registered or competed...What a shame! but then again, we never really broke up either! We still get together and do odd jobs. Kevin Hayes replaced Denny and we still know 20 or so songs well.

**Entertainment Express** kind of evolved into another quartet and it's name was **Legacy**. **Legacy** contained half of two medalist quartets, the **Vagabonds & Center Stage** and me. Now you're probably wondering how that could be, if I was never a medalist? Well, Denny sang in both quartets. Denny and I sang with Clay Shumard and Wendell Pryor for about four years. We went on to win the District Competition in 1988-1989 and performed on numerous chapter shows until Denny left us in 1990. But those were a great four years. Denny and I lived about five miles away from each other in Sterling Heights. Clay lived in Kalamazoo and Wendell lived 84 Pennsylvania. Rehearsals were every other week end, for the whole weekend. It was tough but you wouldn't believe the closeness we still share.

I got lucky again recently with the return of Bob Demchak, a talented singer/arranger that came back to barbershopping with a insatiable hunger for the hobby he left ten years ago. I am currently singing with him,

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Tony Ales and Gary Fox in the **Limerick** quartet (5th place in October 14-15, 1994 District Convention). Not much else to write about **Limerick** quartet, it's too new. But then again.. have you ever tried singing with a Canadian?

It really has been a long term interest for me, barbershopping that is and I have seen the pendulum swing back and forth a few times not only as far as barbershopping is concerned but as my role in life. It's been a long time since I've heard my father say "Michael! sit down, we're rehearsing!" but I have heard myself say the same thing to my son, Ross. Who knows, some day (I only hope) I'll hear myself telling him to " Get on the top side of that note and then just nail it in. You're on the third there".

And Cathie?...Oh! I almost forgot about her. She joined the SWEET ADELINES and her quartette **Grand Prix** has gone on to finish as high as seventh place internationally...but hers is another story altogether.

Mike was 1983 Program V P.

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DON MC COY (bass)

Joined Grosse Pointe Chapter 1972.

Became Pitch Pipe Editor July 1974 and served until July 1975.

Also served as Alternate Convention Delegate for 1981.

I sang at one of the Pine Knob shows. The one with the Louisville Thoroughbreds. It was a great experience that I'll never forget.

Have been to Don Adam's Harsen's Island Outings several times . I played golf and enjoyed the great food and company of fellow barbershoppers and their families.

Went on the Floating Poker Party for the first time in 1994. Breakfast at Jack's and a full day on the water - really, a fun day. I've attended the meeting at Bill Lane's Waterfront Mansion. Good time, good hot dogs and sang a lot of good songs.

Attended many District Conventions and especially enjoyed the convention we hosted in Dearborn at the Hyatt Regency - Fantastic.

The 1981 International Convention in Detroit is one I'll never forget. Everybody was singing in the street, the hotels, everywhere.

Went on the Boblo Cruises with my wife and her family and friends in the '50's. This is where I first heard barbershop harmony.

I look forward to the Christmas Bus Tours to sing at the nursing homes for the senior citizens every year. First went in the 1970's. I remember going to the home on Grand Boulevard, and seeing Paul there when he was a young man.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Have attended a lot of the Ladies Nights. Always remember the one we attended at The Grosse Pointe Memorial. My two, guests that night said it was fantastic. I also have attended several COIN Nights. I'll always remember the one at the Roostertail with flaming dessert brought out by a line of waiters.

I've always had a lot of laughs at our Chapter Christmas Party.

I was in the U.S. Army in 1945 & 1946. I served in Europe, Belgium, & Germany. Was in a M.P. battalion and guarded trains.

My most treasured memory was a ten day vacation to Hawaii to celebrate our 25th anniversary in 1978. My most significant highlight was my wedding to Therese in 1953. My most embarrassing moment was a whiff on the first tee at Hillcrest Country Club. If I could go back in time it would be to the '30's when I ran barefoot, skinny dipped and fished. My three wishes would be good health for the family, world peace and winning the lottery.

My anecdote. My wife and I were living with her parents shortly after we were married. One night I went out with two of my buddies to shoot some pool at a bar. After pool and a few beers my friends were dropping me off at my in-laws house. They got out of the car and started banging on the front porch steps like someone falling down and they hollered, "We'll take the girls home, Don". The family has laughed about that night quite a few times.

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LEROY MC KINNEY

Our new President, LeRoy McKinney, has been a member of SPEBSQSA since it's beginning which would seem to contradict his youthful appearance. "Mac" graduated from church choir work to radio and was very active in the early days of the Detroit Chapter as the lead for the "Big 4", a very good quartet. His first bass singing was done with the "Keynotes" and he perfected that smooth style of his with the "Balladares". The big fellow is a regular guy, will sing anywhere at any time and has the ideal temperament for quartet work, having gotten along just dandy with some of this area's most temperamental singers without once having his good nature disturbed. We know that he will get along quite well with this job of President, too, and that the Chapter will do well under his leadership.

Pitch Pipe July 1948

Prior to becoming President LeRoy was the Vice-president in 1947, treasurer in 1945 and the M C in 1954.

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WESLEY R MEIER

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Former Secretary, Wes Meier, active in San Diego, according to his letter to Bud and Ethel Shaughnessy.

Pitch Pipe January, 1958.

Wes was Grosse Pointe's Secretary for 1953-1954.

Wesley R. Meier of San Diego, California is Immediate Past President of SPEBSQSA. Meier is a long time Barbershopper, having joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter in Michigan in 1946. He has held almost all chapter and District offices and was a three-term President of the Far Western District Associations of Chapters. He has also been an International Board Member and for three years served on the Society's Executive Committee.

Despite his involvement in the administrative side of SPEBSQSA, Meier has never been too busy to sing. He is an active man, currently singing with the **Chordmakers**.

He is a certified judge in the Harmony Accuracy category and for some years has served as Chairman of the Society's Contest and Judging program.

In business life he is an office manager employed by the San Diego School System. He lists golf as his chief hobby outside of barbershopping. He is married and his wife Ellen is an ardent supporter of his barbershopping activities.

Troubadour April, 1969

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DAL METCALF

Dal's name appears in the Pitch Pipe as early as January 1946 when he was the Chapter Vice-president.

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JACK MESSINA (tenor)

Began my barbershop career at Denby High School where I sang as a teenager for two years in a Music Department organized barbershop quartet. We had no knowledge of the society. I also sang in the Denby Choir, men's glee clubs and a Rock and Roll group.

Joined the society as a teenager in 1961 where I sang with the Detroit Chapter for about a year but college and marriage took priority over singing.

After raising four children and 18 years later, I was re-introduced to barbershop while golfing in the Gulf & Western Golf League where my sponsor, Bill Lane, invited me to attend a Grosse Pointe Chapter Meeting. I have been hopelessly "hooked" since.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Sang in several quartets since joining Grosse Pointe Chapter. Below is a recap:

**Primachords,** Messina, Masters, Houghton, Honderick

**Just Friends,** Messina, Masters, Proffitt, Wade

**Pointe Classics II,** Messina, R. Seely, M. Seely, Gregersen

**Snobs,** Messina, R. Seely, M. Seely, Burke.

**Kingfish and the Mystic Knights**  
Messina, Davidson, Miller, Kosmas

Served in the following Chapter offices:

Keeper of the Mugs..... 1983 & 1984

President.....1988

Quartet Activities ..... 1991-1995

Board Member .....1989  
(past Pres.)

Board Member ..... 1991,1992-1994

Finance Committee Chairman (Budgets)

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CHRIS MILLER (bari)

My mother told me that I came by Barbershopping naturally. The doctor that

delivered me one cold December day in 1950 was Dr. Robert Harmon, one of six directors of the 72 member Singing Capital Chorus of Washington, D.C. the 1954 International Champs.

As a little boy my family and I would go to the Watergate and listen to concerts. At that time the Watergate was only known for being an outdoor band shell on a barge in the Potomac River. It is there that I would sit on the cold marble steps of the Lincoln Memorial and watch the Barbershoppers perform their music. It was wonderful and I had dreams of singing like them.

My first challenge at singing came in the 6th grade. Unfortunately, my voice had begun to change and the music teacher discouraged my participation. By 7th grade I learned to sing falsetto so as to blend with the rest of the sopranos. I guess, the summer between 7th and 8th grade is when your voice is really supposed to change because when I returned to school after summer vacation the 8th and 9th grade glee club had a bass section. I thought I was in heaven - four part harmony?, well sort of. High School had a boring teacher and only girls signed up.

It wasn't until 1969 that the Montgomery County, MD chapter sponsored a new chapter in my home town, the Frederick Catactones (named after the nearby Catactin Mountains. My father, although not a charter member joined shortly thereafter. I had recently graduated from college when I too signed up just in time for the big Bicentennial Extravaganza - 1976.

Since joining Barbershopping I have been a member of 5 chapters (Frederick Twice), 4 Districts (MAD & Illinois twice), have held the office of President, MVP and PVP five terms. I was also voted Barbershopper of the Year in 1981 by the Rockford, Illinois

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Chapter. Have competed in numerous competitions including quartet competitions twice and won the novice quartet trophy in 1981, Illinois District. I have always sung in a quartet wherever I have been. The doo - wop quartet of **King Fish and the Mystic Knights** is the most noteworthy. Winning a "singing in the shower" contest sent us singing in Universal City, CA. Two members even joined Wayne Newton's back up group for a brief tour.

I joined AHSOH in 1992 and enjoy woodshedding the most. I have stayed up 'till 5 in the morning singing in the halls of 8 International Conventions. I'll sing any part whether I know it or not.

Singing with many choruses has distinct advantages of making many barbershop friends, learning a lot of different songs and enjoying the variety each chapter has to offer.

I am proud to have spent my longest tenure with Grosse Pointe Chapter. The activity, friendship and camaraderie is second to none. "But then again, this is Grosse Pointe."

Chris has served in the Following Chapter offices:

Program V P..... 1991 & 1992  
Membership V P .....1993

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### MATT MILTON

Matt was announced as a member of the Chapter in the January 1975 Pitch Pipe. He sang in at least the previous quartet contest with the Detroit Chapter (December 1974). The July 1975 Pitch Pipe announced that Matt had moved to Tulsa and would work in

Texas. An open house was held in his honor on June 14, in Bloomfield Hills. Happy Barbershopping, Matt.

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### ROBERT MONTGOMERY

Bob Montgomery, our new President, is a native Detroiter and an accountant. He makes no claims to being a singer but on occasions we get him into a quartet and that's as far as his aspirations go in a singing way. Bob has worked through the Chapter offices from treasurer up and has proven to be capable, loyal and conscientious in all his undertakings. He is a shrewd businessman, a details man par excellence and does his own thinking. He speaks plainly and to the point and doesn't yes anyone. Under him we can expect a good sound business administration. Mrs. Montgomery, Amy to you, goes to all the parades and barbershop shindigs with Bob and takes a keen interest in the organization. Congratulations, Bob, on your election. We know you will do a good job and the Chapter membership is solidly behind you.

Pitch Pipe June, 1949 Mark Roberts, Editor

Bob has served in the following Chapter offices:

Treasurer .....1946  
Secretary .....1947  
Vice-president .....1948  
President.....1949  
Board Member ..... 1956-1958

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### JOHN NEIGHORN

John has served in the following Chapter offices:

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Alternate Delegate .....1973  
Delegate ..... 1974-1975  
Board Member .....1976

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### WOODSON ORVIS (lead)

Dear Jim,

Thanks for your letter. In response to your request for information to put in the 50th Anniversary Historical Book for the Grosse Pointe Chapter, I thought I would provide a few lines.

My musical experience really began when I was a small boy. I sang in the children's choir at Hitchcock Memorial Presbyterian Church in Scarsdale, New York. I always loved to perform and I enjoyed choir immensely. I took piano lessons from age 10-12 (not very successfully I might add) and I sang in the High School Glee Club and the choir at Kodaikanal School in South India from 1955-1957. I sang in the church choir at Mount Herman School ( a prep school in Massachusetts) from 1957 to 1959, and also played in a marching band.

I was a member of the Keesler Chorus at Keesler Air Force Base in 1959-1960. We met President Eisenhower as a result of a performance in New Orleans some time in late 1959. Unrelated to music, I met Jawaharial Nehru in India in 1952 and President Sukarno of Indonesia in 1955. I also waited on the table of the then Governor Nelson Rockefeller at the Concord Hotel in Kiamesha Lake, New York in 1965. I met his brother Winthrop in 1949 before he became Governor of Arkansas and I met his brother John D. Rockefeller III in 1958 on a plane flight from Asia back to the States. I met John D. and his daughter, Sally, again that Christmas when I delivered groceries

for the Gristede Bros. in a very swanky neighborhood in New York City during Christmas vacation.

When I arrived at Michigan State University in 1964 I became a member of the Singing Statesmen (the University Men's Glee Club) and we toured New York one Spring Break and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan the following year during the break. I attended several meetings of the Lansing Chapter of SPEBSQSA in the late '60's but did not join at that time.

I joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter in March of 1981 as a tenor. We were still rehearsing in the basement of St. Mark's Church on 7 Mile at the time. I got married late in that year and my wife and I came back to Detroit from our honeymoon to go to SPEBSQSA International Contest which was being held in Detroit.

I was a regular member for 10 years at Grosse Pointe and I participated in numerous chapter events. A short list is as follows: Downtown Pontiac during Super Bowl time, several appearances at Pine Knob, several Floating Poker Games, several Harsen's Island Picnics, Ramge's Golf Outing, twice, Boblo Moonlight Cruise, Caboto Club for meatless spaghetti both several times, Chatham, Ontario for the joint fund raiser with the Ontario District, Uncle Sam Night, Canadian Night, OCC Return of the Jug Night, 10 District Conventions, Chapter Shows (11 - including being the Energizer Bunny last year), Ladies Nights, Coin Nights, Christmas Bus Tours, International Convention (Detroit, 1981), District Chorus Champion 1984, Chapter Christmas Parties, Opening of the new Selfridge ANG Base Exchange and Contests vs Maumee Valley Chapter.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

I served in the United States Air Force from 1959-1963. I have been a member of the American Legion since 1974 and served as the Adjutancy for Chief Okemos Post #269 for 4 years and as Post Commander for one year. I am a member of the Free and accepted Masons of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, and served as the Worshipful Master of my lodge (Macomb Lodge #64) during 1994. In college I was the President of the MSU Veteran's Association, the Russian Language Club, and the singing Statesmen (Glee Club) during various years. In 1976 I was the parade chairman for the Meridian Township Bicentennial Committee (near Lansing, Michigan) and was responsible for getting President Ford to stop his train in our township to say a few words to the crowd from his rail car.

I work at the US Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command where I am a GS-12, and chief of the Customer Support Group for the Continental US. We are the "one face to the world" for our command, handling questions on every aspect of the mission performed by the almost 4000 people who work here.

Significant memories include (in order) returning to the USA in 1954 and seeing the Statue of Liberty from the deck of the Queen Mary, taking an oath of enlistment in the Air Force in 1959, being in Minneapolis to see MSU win the NCAA hockey title in 1966, and being present in Salt Lake City, Utah, in March of 1979 when MSU won the NCAA basketball title. Jud Heathcote was the coach and "Magic" Johnson and Greg Kelsner were the MSU stars. The opponent was Indiana State with Larry Bird. The best memory of all was my wedding day, June 26th, 1981.

Funny experiences include meeting Mr. John D. Rockefeller III in the Manikla Airport. He had been in Manila on

Rockefeller Foundation Business. I had become separated from the handbag which contained my passport and my money and I was very upset. Mr. Rockefeller noticed this and despite being in conversation with the President of the Phillipine Republic, he came to me to offer his help. We nearly turned over the whole airport looking for the darn thing. Finally, the Vice-President said that I could leave without that stuff if I wanted to do so. Mr. Rockefeller said that he would make sure I got to where I was going in the States if I wanted to leave on the same flight with him. My bag had been inadvertently sent to Australia on another flight but we didn't learn that until several weeks later. Anyway, I got back to the States and had trouble getting into the country because no one wanted to believe my story until Mr. Rockefeller came to my rescue again. Him they believed! He told them what had happened and they let me go on from there. I got my bag back several weeks later and every cent and every paper was in it. I was so pleased. It was nice to be able to thank Mr. Rockefeller again when I delivered his Christmas turkey during holiday from school. His maid wasn't going to let me out of the kitchen until he recognized me and invited me into the living room of his Sutton Place apartment. Nice place, as you might guess. He was a good tipper, too

As soon as I feel healthy again, I will be down to rejoin and see if I can learn enough of the music to participate in the show in September. If I can, I will. Otherwise I will be there as a spectator for sure. Good luck at the Convention in Lansing.

Woody has served in the following Chapter offices:

Keeper of the Mugs.....1982  
Pitch Pipe Editor .....1982

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Delegate .....1987  
Secretary .....1989

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STEVE PAULING (bass)

I was born in Wahiawa, Hawaii 9/11/63 but I guess it really started before that. Mom and Dad had met in Hawaii while he was in the Navy and she was teaching parochial school. They were engaged the day he finished his hitch and got out. The wedding was Thanksgiving day (which is when we celebrate their anniversary) You can see they didn't waste much time in making me! Dad promised Mom that some day they'd move back to her home state of Connecticut.

In 1972, when I was nine, they put a down payment on that promise by moving to Lompoc, California. My new fourth grade teacher told my parents that I could sing, and I should take private voice lessons. (guess I needed remedial work even then). While I was busy with that, Dad got into

barbershop, singing with the Lompoc Gents-in-a-Chord chorus, and being their treasurer. It wasn't long before he was also singing in a quartet, The Harmony Lane 4. After a few years, the HLF broke up and he became a member of a new quartet, the (deep breath) Surf City South Side Seed Sifters, Sorters, Sackers and Stackers Sing-posey -yum! We called them S10. I remember liking it when either quartet would rehearse at our house, because I could sit and listen. They sang mostly square barbershop, and I loved it (still do). The electric-blue leisure suits were pretty cool, too!

By seventh grade, I was tired of voice lessons and Dad suggested I sing with the chorus to see if I liked it. I, of course, already knew I did. Although the chapter was (and is) small, we had a lot of fun. We did a lot of things, like tag quarteting, and everybody participated. At the breaks, I always pestered someone to quartet with me, and there were usually other quartets going in other nooks and crannies of the building. The time after chapter meeting was another opportunity to sing. Because we were a small chapter in a small town, quite a few miles from any other chapter, we had to make our own fun.

When I started, my voice hadn't changed yet, so I sang tenor. As my voice changed, I just walked down the parts. That way I learned a few songs in each. By that time, of course, I'd already taken four years of private voice lessons, sung in a YMCA young men's chorus a couple years (directed by another barbershopper), sung in my church's youth choir and adult choir (directed by my Mom), and sung in talent shows at my school (3<sup>rd</sup> place and 2<sup>nd</sup> place) so I could usually hold my own part OK.

In high school, I sang in freshman choir, concert choir, Madrigals, and the folk

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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singers. My junior year we started a Young Men in Harmony “chorus” of eight to twelve guys. We called ourselves the Conqchordians because our school was the Conquistadors. It was pretty great fun because every time we walked out in front of the curtain during chorus concerts we got a big hand, complete with girls screaming! (I’m sure you remember that girls greatly motivate high school guys). I also started piano lessons that year. There were four guys in the school who sang in a quartet (The What Four). We competed in a Novice quartet contest, I think we place third. Although I’ve heard the “chorus” is no more, there is still a quartet at that school. They usually do well at Far Western District’s High School contests.

Every year we’d hold a Spring Broadway musical and I was in them all. We rehearsed for three months - five nights a week for four hours a night. Everybody did homework during rehearsal of the scenes they weren’t in. I got some fun roles, the best being King Arthur in Camelot.

My senior year I went back to voice lessons because I decided I wanted to major in Music. My plan was to be a church youth worker with a music major and a theology minor. I got a few scholarships but was proudest of the one from Far Western District. They awarded me two every year, and I guess most of them went to the most populous areas, where they sing better barbershop.

I got my music degree (and theology minor) from Valparaiso University in Indiana. Along the way I sang in: Chapel Choir (short for The Choir of the Chapel of the Resurrection), Kantorei (a 16 voice group), Concert Choir and Sweet Wine (a music ministry group). I did a couple of musicals and Boar’s head dinners. I joined Phi Mu

Alpha, a music fraternity and directed their chorus for a year. My senior year, I received a small stipend for directing a 12 voice Matins choir for one chapel service a week.

Along the way, I stopped out and traveled for a year with a music ministry team from an organization called Lutheran Youth Encounters (LYE). We covered the Great Lakes Area singing and doing skits at churches. We usually had performances four weekday evenings (Tuesdays were our day off), and then did Youth Retreats on the weekends. That was a great experience but after a year crammed into a van with five other people, I was happy to get back to Valparaiso.

Somewhere during this time, Dad made good on his promise and moved to Connecticut. Its funny how life works out: after a few years they both decided they liked it better in California and moved back to Lompoc.

Sue and I met in Sweet Wine. I was determined to keep her in my life, and after I got back from LYE we were engaged. When she graduated a year before me and got a teaching job in Michigan, it was clear that I’d be moving here, too, after graduation.

When I got up here, in 1989, I discovered that the “church youth worker” plan would need a little patience - nobody hired me. While I waited for a job in that area, I started working with computers. Data entry came first, followed by a whole career in information Technology. Although I did eventually get a part-time job working with youth, it felt really good to realize I was good at something as left handed as computer programming.

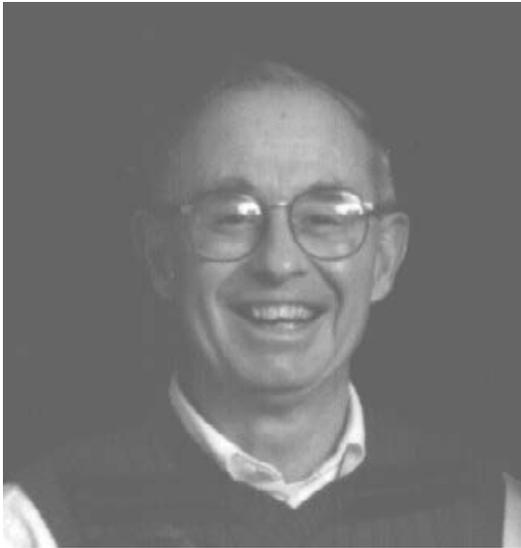
I directed a church choir for a few years and loved it. I also visited a (different)

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

barbershop chapter. I even filled out the paperwork to join but they weren't having the kind of fun I remember from Lompoc: everybody skedaddled after rehearsals, and I couldn't get anyone to stand around and sing! So I didn't return to barbershop for a few more years.

In the mean time, Sue and I started making babies! Sarah Elizabeth came first, followed 2 years later by Emily Rose, and three years later after that by Hannah Joy. Looking at them, I've gotta say we make good kids.

When I did visit Grosse Pointe, I knew right away that this was the place for me. Folks were friendly, and at the break I got to sing non-stop! I joined and I never regretted it. The rest of the story, I think you know!  
Steve



PETE PETERS

My introduction to Barbershopping took place when we were still meeting in the St. Clair Shores Civic Center. Doc Sanders' son Phil and I attended our first Friday night meeting there. I remember being taught

"BRIGHT WAS The NIGHT" that same evening and being reminded by Doc Sanders that 5th wheeling was not acceptable at Grosse Pointe.

I remember one summer when we were meeting at the Alger Post in Grosse Pointe that I was working midnights. This allowed me to stay up all Friday night with the guys without being tired. It was great. We would close the bar at the Alger Post then head down to Dick Lyse's bar around Joseph Campau. I am not sure how I made it home some of those nights. We had some great times. I always felt sorry for those who had to get up and go to work Saturday morning.

Although I have never sung in an organized quartet, I do remember my first "official" time in front of the Chapter. Phil Sanders and I graciously allowed two novices to join us for the quartet of the month contest. I sang bari, Phil sang lead with Marv Burke singing bass and Russ Seely singing tenor. We tried to help them out as much as we could but were forced to move them on to some others so that we could continue our careers in the chorus. Well, who knows what might have been.

There weren't many places that Grosse Pointe didn't try singing. One Friday night after our meeting, a bunch of us followed Chuck Guyer down to Kean's on the Detroit River. Chuck knew someone there with a 30 foot cruiser. It didn't seem to bother him that his friend was out of town that night. Anyway, we had another great night and early morning singing by the riverside.

So many great times with many super guys. That's what made and continues to make Grosse Pointe great. Congratulations on Fifty-Fun-Filled-Years. I am very pleased that I have been a part of some of your fun and look forward to much in the future.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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DR. J. DALE PETROSKY (bari)

Jim,

I first tried Barbershopping way back in the early 1960's. (Dale's membership in the Chapter was approved at the Board meeting held June 4, 1962). I was fortunate to be a member of Grosse Pointe's first chorus under the direction of Hal Seely. Our uniform consisted of matching polyester T shirts. I can't remember all of the songs we sang but "If You Can't Say Good Things About Your Neighbor, Don't Say Nothing At All" stands out in my memory as an early classic.

The necessity of earning a living (Dale is a Dentist) and the hazards of post barbershop meeting activities forced me to become inactive a few years later. Those meetings at Grosse Pointe Alger Post bring back fond memories.

About seven years ago, the bug came back and I rejoined our current Chapter. I still enjoy singing tremendously and currently baritone with the **Pointe Pipers** quartet with Eric Ernst, lead; Jim Grogan, tenor; and Wayne Kniffen, bass.

Dale was the Pitch Pipe Editor from 1964 through 1966. In 1964 his duties expanded

to being Probe Chairman. He also was a Board Member in 1965.

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### WALLY W PFUNK

John Nieghorn presented the "Meritorious Service Award" to Wally (pick up your cans and glasses ) Pfunk.

This newly established award will be given periodically to those who have extended themselves above the normal courtesies.

Congratulations Wally. (pitch pipe)

Chapter Eternal

A long time Chapter member passed on April 30 at the age of 65. He is survived by his wife, Madge, a daughter, two sons and three grandchildren.

Pitch Pipe May, 1980

Wally was Keeper of the Mugs for 1972 and 1975. he was also Sergeant-at arms in 1976.

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### JAMES W. PHELAN (lead)

Jim Kinner,

In response to your letter, here are a few things worthy of note:

I have sang lots and, lots of church choir. Sang with a band back in high school days. My singing partner was Tootsie Van Kelly who you may have heard in Grand Rapids (sounds like a relative).

I joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter in 1971. I served as Chorus Manager and Keeper of the Mugs.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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I sang with the **Pointe 4** with Gordon Dubrul, Hank DeMars and Dick Brouckaert. We won the Bonye City Bush League Competition one year.

Have been to Harrisville on various occasions. Have been a member of Port Huron and Macomb County Chapters. Was helpful in organizing the Port Huron Chapter.

Have sang at International in Louisville.

Have attended a few Harsens Island Outings and many Boblo Moonlight Cruises.

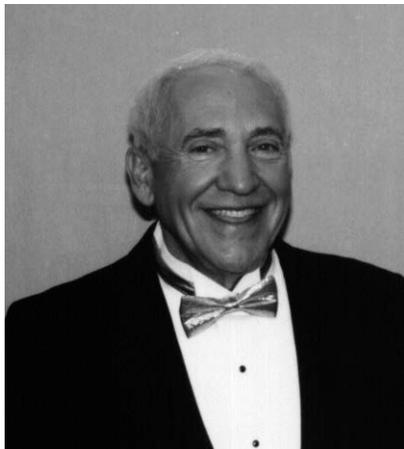
Treasured Memories;

Winning the Bush League Competition  
Having my 5 sons sing with Grosse Pointe in Competition  
Singing with son, Dennis, and Grandson, Patrick, at International

I wouldn't have any interest to go back in time, for me, the only and best time for me is the present.

Jim and his wife, Mary, live in Anchorville and have nine children. He is self employed.

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### NICK PICCIONE (lead)

Nick was born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri .. I sang in a grade school chorus and church choir in St. Louis. Graduate of Jesuit Schools (St. Louis University High School and St. Louis University). Received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Commerce and Commission in the Air Force in 1952. Served in Korea and was in the 49th Fighter-Bomber Wing there when the war ended in 1953. Then spent 1 month duty aboard the Aircraft Carrier, "Lake Champlain" in the China Sea and Hong Kong. Completed tour of duty with 4 months in Japan.

In 1954, entered family owned Macaroni Company in Sales and Management. In 1957, joined New York Life Insurance Company. In that year, also, married Joan Funch (well known Lakeshore Chorus Director). We have 5 children (3 in Grosse Pointe and 2 in the Washington D.C. area) and 3 grand children.

In 1981 I was transferred to Detroit as District Group Manager and promoted in 1985 to Field Vice-president in charge of 1/3rd of the United States. Retired in 1989.

In addition to Insurance sales I also owned and operated several motion picture theaters with other family members in St. Louis.

I became a member of the Grosse Pointe Chapter in 1990. Served as Treasurer in 1991 and 1992 and currently serving as Program Vice-president. He participates in all the Chapter Functions.

Other organizations and duties include: President of Detroit-East Council of the St. Vincent DePaul Society; tutor at the Dominican Literacy Center; Vice-President of the Grosse Pointe Rose Society, Grosse

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Pointe Sail Club, and Grosse Pointe Senior Men's Club.

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### HAROLD PODVIN

Harold joined Grosse Pointe Chapter July 1957.

He was the Chapter Treasurer and Delegate for 1958.

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### HAROLD POLHAMUS

Hal began his Barbershop Career when He joined the Detroit Yacht Club Chorus in 1968.

Hal served as a board member in 1972 and 1973. He was also our convention delegate in 1974, 1980, 1982 & 1984.

When queried about his quartet experience he replies, "Haven't you ever heard of the **Flickin' Bics**?" We appeared at the District Convention but they wouldn't let us compete because we were too loud. Needless to say, they didn't appear on the International Stage.

He has been at all our parties and picnics and other festivities and has been in all our Chapter Shows and Sing-outs.

Talk about the Detroit #1 Moonlight Cruise, he remembers some of the crazy things Russ would dream up for our part of the program, like the time we dressed one guy up in flesh colored swim trunks and at a given time in the song we stepped down and he jumped up - you should have heard the reaction that brought from the crowd.

Winning the District Chorus Championship in 1984 was his most treasured memory unless it was when his wife bore them three beautiful daughters. His most embarrassing moment was walking into the Ladies Room at Michigan State Union. He would like to go back to 1936 and know what he knows now.

Once he met Mary Martin. They had just won an all night sail-boat race from the Detroit Light to Put-in-bay, collected our case of wine and sampled it a few times. Went to the place called the Cove with our own band and danced the afternoon away with Mary Martin.

His three wishes would be Better Health, good heart and sing in a great quartet.

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies



**MICHAEL PROFFITT**

Mike joined The Grosse Pointe Chapter October 1981. This was his first barbershop experience.

Mike has served in the following Chapter Offices:

Keeper of the Mugs..... 1984, 1986-1989,  
Music V P ..... 1988-1991, 1995  
President..... 1992-1994  
Delegate .....1994  
Board Member ..... 1986 & 1987

Quartets:

**Primachords** 1982 & 1983 (Gene Honderick, Howard Masters, Jack Messina)

**Just Friends** 1984 (John Wade, Howard Masters, Hank DeMars)

He has participated in our Chapter activities as follows; COIN Night, Ladies Night, Harsens Island, Floating Poker Party since 1985.

He has participated in our Christmas Bus Tour, the summer meetings at Bill Lane's waterfront mansion, the Chapter Christmas Parties and the Ladies Oktoberfests as long as he was a member.

Mike made it to Harrisville once, 4 or 5 Boblo Moonlight Cruises and sang at the Mass Sing at Pine Knob.

At the Pontiac Woodshed Contests, Mike won Best Baritone Award twice in the 6 or 7 times he attended.

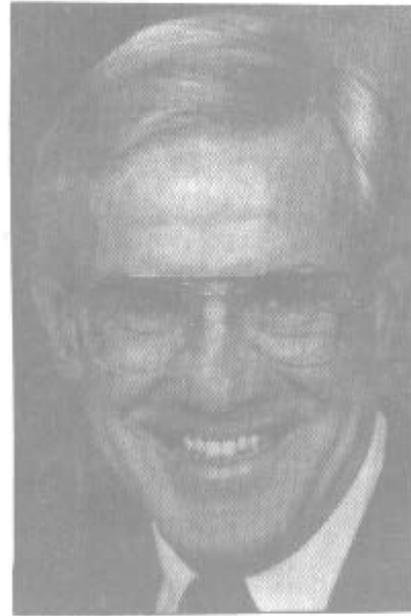
He served in Viet Nam (undeclared) in 1970.

Met anyone famous? General Westmoreland, Hank (the Deuce) Ford, Angie Dickinson, Monte Clark and Russ Seely.

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**THOMAS E QUIRK Jr. (lead)**

Tom joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter October 1983.



**THOMAS EDMUND QUIRK, D.D.S.**

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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of Grosse Pointe Park, died Thursday, April 27, 1995 while visiting relatives in Tucson, Arizona. He was 62.

Dr. Quirk received his undergraduate degree from the University of Detroit in 1955 and graduated from the University of Michigan Dental School in 1959.

He served as a captain in the U.S. Army from 1959-62.

Dr. Quirk had a private practice in Detroit and Harper Woods for 33 years. He was an active member of Delta Sigma Delta and several dental associations. He lectured with the Detroit District Dental Society's Clinic Club in Africa and Europe.

He also was an instructor at the University of Detroit Dental School.

Dr. Quirk was a lector and folk choir member at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church and a member of Gowanie Golf Club. He was a former member of the National Ski Patrol and the Lakeshore Chorus of the Grosse Pointe Chapter of SPEBSQSA.

He is survived by his wife, Madeline M. Quirk; a daughter, Kathleen M. Quirk; a son, Thomas E. Quirk, Jr.; and a sister, Barbara Trapp.

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### JOSEPH J. RAMGE (bass)

Joe joined Grosse Pointe Chapter March 1983.

I've attended the following outside of Chapter sponsored events:

Harrisville, Pontiac Woodshed, Return of the Jug Night, Cabotta (meatless spaghetti) send-off, Uncle Sam Night and Canadian Night.



JOSEPH J. RAMGE (bass)

Among the Chapter things I've joined in you should include:

Chapter meetings at Bill Lane's Waterfront Mansion, Carolina Golf Outing, several times, Ramge's Golf Outings, of course, and the Christmas singouts to the senior citizen homes.

I served in WW II in Italy.

The most significant highlight in my life was retirement. If I could go back in time, it would be the 30's and 40's. If I had three wishes I would wish for musical talent.

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies



ROBERT RANCILIO (bass)

Joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter about October, 1974.

Bob has served in the following Grosse Pointe Chapter offices:

Board Member .....1975, 1987, 1979,  
..... 1982 & 1983  
Board Member .....1978 (past Pres.)  
Membership V P .....1976  
President.....1977  
Asst. Treasurer .....1979  
Show Chairman..... 1979, 1982 - 1985  
Delegate .....1980  
Director of Charities .....1994

First quartet sung in: Interchapter Quartet Contest with Detroit Chapter, 1975, singing tenor part to "This is My Country". Other members of quartet: Dennis Rockenseus, lead, Art Bassett, Bass and Pete Eppinga, bari.

First quartet job: East Detroit School, 1975. Other members of quartet: Dan Bulbuk, lead; Sterling Berry, Bari; and Fred (?), bass.

First (and only) registered quartet: **Danny's Boys.** Sully Mazur, bass; Sterling Berry, bari; Dan Bulbuk, lead and I joined together for serious (pay jobs) quartet singing sometime in 1975. I believe we heard some good sounds during a quartet competition we sang in as a group. Our quartet stayed together for about five years and sang approximately 75 jobs, both pay and non-pay for a variety of audiences.

Show activities: Show Chairman for at least five shows and managed a number of others. First show chaired was the "Little Show" at Detroit Yacht Club on Belle Isle. Seating at this event was about 300 people and was a one night affair. I was the first chairman to a two night show (success) and a matinee (flop). I chaired a show at Regina High School for which we had no official director (Russ Seely took a sabbatical) and as a result we had Chapter members write, direct and star in the production. This show turned out to be a near disaster and created the awareness we needed more expertise to handle future events. Handled several afterglows and came up with the idea of a cast party for members only instead of afterglows which were generally open to the public.

Miscellaneous: Attended many Harrisville Harmony Weeks; Chapter Golf Outings; and other numerous chapter social events.

Attended Harmony College as part of a quartet one year and as an individual another year.

Personal Life: Married to Dorothy in 1957 and have three children. Dorothy is a past Ladies Auxiliary President. I am retired

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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from the IRS and currently reside in Clinton Twp., Michigan summer months and Naples, Florida during Winter.

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HERB REED (bass)

Joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter December 1957. He is in the printing equipment and sales business.

Herb is the Father of Paul and Larry Reed.

Herb has served the Chapter in the following offices:

Delegate .....1960  
Board Member .....1962,1963,  
..... 1966,1967 & 1969  
Pitch Pipe Editor .....1962  
President.....1964

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LARRY REED

Larry is the son of Herb Reed and the brother of Paul Reed.

Larry has served the following Chapter offices:

Secretary .....1964  
Keeper of the Mugs.....1966  
President.....1968  
Pitch Pipe Editor ..... 1969 & 1970

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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### PAUL REED

Paul Joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter November 1957. He is a son of Herb Reed and a brother of Larry Reed. At the time of joining he was an Engineer for Carter Engineering Sales.

Paul has served the following offices in the Chapter:

Alt. Delegate .....1958  
Treasurer ..... 1959, 1960 & 1962  
Board Member .....1963

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### RICHARD "DICK" REICHART

Joined Grosse Pointe Chapter April 1975.  
Sponsored by Dick Barber.

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### HAL REINHARDT

Our new president, Hal Reinhardt, baritone of the **Twilighters** joined the Chapter in 1946 and has served as Chapter Secretary and Vice-president. For the past year he has been Secretary of the Metropolitan Detroit Association of Chapters. A native Detroit, Hal is by profession, an artist, having studied in Europe and is now with Clark and Rickerd, Inc. He is very active in all barbershop doings.

Pitch Pipe June, 1950

Hal has served the Chapter in the following offices:

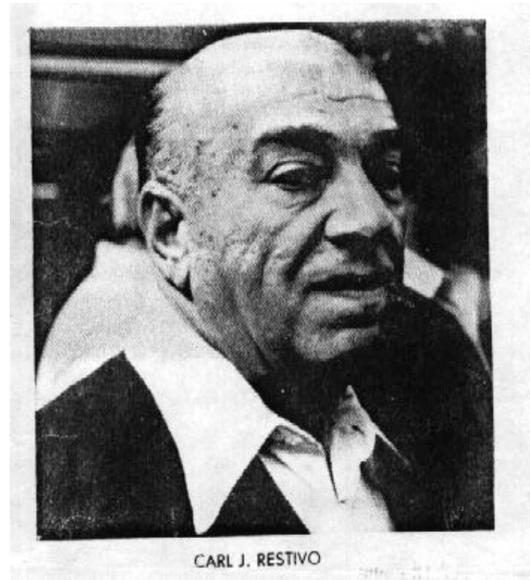
Secretary .....1948  
Vice-president .....1949  
President.....1950  
Pitch Pipe Editor ..... 1950, 1957 & 1958

Delegate ..... 1956 & 1957  
Historian.....1957  
Board Member .....1958

Hal Reinhardt of Grosse Pointe Chapter has been appointed Governor for Area No 1, succeeding Wesley R. Meier who is now serving in Uncle Sam's Navy.

Reinhardt is one of the district's most active workers. He has held all offices of his own Chapter, has been secretary of the Metropolitan Association of Chapters, district vice-president and is an accredited contest judge.

Michigan Troubadour March, 1954



CARL RESTIVO

All the members of our Chapter extend sympathy to the family of Carl Restivo, 30 Year member. Carl is best remembered for his lusty singing with the PROGRESSIVE FOUR and entertaining at many SPEBSQSA functions.

Pitch Pipe Oct '77

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Known to millions as the former “Singing Chef” on WXYZ-TV in Detroit, Carl was born in Maryland but had lived in Detroit for more than 30 years.

He was a noted vocalist in the area and a longtime member of The Detroit and Grosse Pointe Chapters of the Society. He was the lead singer for the **Frankenmuth Quartet** and the **Progressive Four**.

Carl was the owner of Timber Bowling Lanes in Detroit and operated a rubbish collection service until his retirement in 1973.

We have lost a brother and a friend, as well as one of the great voices of our fraternity. Carl was a member of Pioneer’s Hall of Fame. Troub December 1977

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HOWARD C RICHARDS

Howard has had a professional education career with the Fraser School District for 34 years and has been its superintendent for 26 years.

He was born in Ferndale, attended Ferndale Public School and graduated from Lincoln High in 1945. He served in the U.S. Army until 1947; then earned a bachelor of science degree from Michigan State University majoring in mathematics and education.

Howard taught mathematics. He also sponsored the choir as an extra-curricular activity.

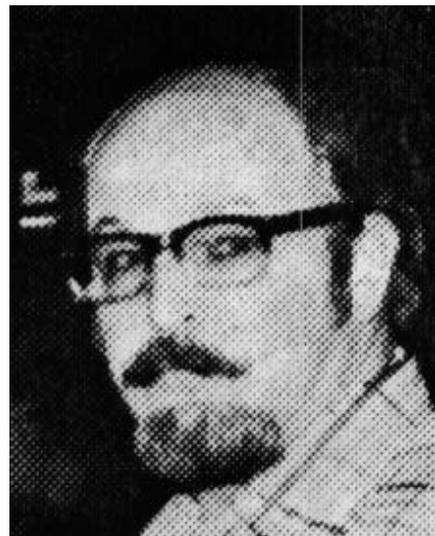
Howard joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter in 1985 and has served in the following Chapter offices:

Secretary ..... 1984 & 1985  
Asst. Music Director ..... 1990-1994

You may remember Howard Emceeding a few of our shows.

Howard and his wife, Verna, have raised three daughters, Mrs Susan Minke, Mrs. Karen Wright and Katherine.

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JAY RICHENS

Jay served as Pitch Pipe Editor in 1965, Program V P in 1966 and President in 1967.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies



THE HARMONIZER—SEPTEMBER, 1955

### MARK P ROBERTS (bari)

Mark is a Charter Member and the first President of Grosse Pointe Chapter and served in the following Chapter offices:

President.....1945  
Pitch Pipe Editor 1945-1949, 1967 & 1968  
Historian.. 1945-1950, 1954, 1956, 1958-1960, 1962-1965, 1982  
Board Member. ....1946  
Delegate .....1960  
Secretary ..... 1966-1970

Mark P. Roberts, one of the bulwarks of SPEBSQSA in the Michigan District since it's organization and a devotee of harmony singing years before the late O. C. Cash ever had his world famous idea, is persistent in two things; singing and organization.

His career in the Society and the Michigan District especially, has not only been long but fruitful. The honors that have come to him have been many and the posts he has filled equally numerous.

Roberts has served as District President, Area Counselor, Grosse Pointe Chapter President and Secretary, chairman of the District laws and regulations and District chorus contest committees and also on the International contest and judging committee and laws and regulations committee.

He is also one of a rather select group of about nineteen contest judges certified in all judging categories on the International Panel of Contest Judges and has helped judge all international contests starting with Milwaukee in 1947.

Mark's first barbershopping was done in France with three pals of the 13th Marines during World War I and they became a sort of official regimental quartet.

Returning to his native Indiana he organized and sang lead for the **Crescent Quartet** which became widely known around his locality and which, believe it or not, engaged in at least three quartet contests against older and more experienced quartets. This was 15 years BC (before Cash) and SPEBSQSA and there were never more than four quartets in a contest.

Mark's first visit to a SPEBSQSA meeting was almost his last. Dal Metcalf took him to a Detroit Chapter meeting early in 1940

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where he heard Joe Wolfe's **Big Four** (Wolff, McKinney, Ward and Weil), the **Four Foryies**

(Volts, DeWolfe, Koch and Karkowski), the **Variety Four** (Stiers, Livingston, Carruthers and Langlois) the **Elks** (Bill Barry, Fox, Ackerman and Bruce Logan), and the **Legion Four** (Marsden, Hawkins, Shields and Tubbs). They were devotees of "pitch 'em high and sing 'em loud" school and were singing very well indeed but at the same time in a rather small room and with different songs. The resulting cacophony was altogether too much for the tender ears of the uninitiated and Mark was walking out, making sign language about musical anarchy, when the meeting was called to order. The quartets took their turns singing and he joined up quick.

Mark sang Bari for the **Turners** (second place Michigan in 1941 and National Finalists in 1942 with Jim Creed, Eddie Pazek and Wally Joure. This foursome shared with Muskegon's **Sawdust Four** the honor of being Michigan's first entry in a National Contest when both went to St Louis in 1941.

Other quartets that Mark sang with were the **Dubious Four** (Joe Wolff, Tim Webber and Mort Gittleman), the **Harmony Hounds** (Jim Creed, Joe Wolff and George DeWolfe), the **Balladares** (Dal Metcalf, Jim Creed and LeRoy McKinney), and the **Chordsmen** (1ST edition) (Art Seely, Jim Creed and Bud Peltier) (2nd edition) (Wes Meier, Ray McCalpin and LeRoy McKinney).

There were other combinations that didn't quite reach the "appearance" stage and Mark has been a fifth wheel for the **Progressives** for many years by filling in to help Art Seely and Mike Arnone when Lyle McKerrell or Carl Restivo were absent.

Roberts appreciates greatly the high offices that he has held in Michigan Barbershopping but to him, one full evening of ringing a few chords with any of his old outfits is worth more than all the offices combined and such, no doubt, it is with all true barbershoppers. Mark's willingness to sing with anyone, anytime, anywhere has brought rule changes for contests.

The Ten Year History says the contest rule against a person singing in more than one competing quartet was made necessary by the scarcity of tenors. Mark says the rule was adopted at the Grand Rapids National Convention in 1942 and that in that contest he sang with both the **Turners** and the **Dubious Four** and quite a few people noticed it, didn't like it, and did something about it, and it's a good rule because some crazy baritones would just stay on stage and sing with every quartet that came out. The Michigan District rule was also changed in 1942 after Mark and Jim Creed sang with two quartets, the **Turners** and **Harmony Hounds** at the Saginaw contest and both quartets came up prize winners.

The biggest laugh provided a national quartet contest audience what according to Mark was the uproar that greeted the **Turners** at St. Louis in 1941 when being advised that it would be a stag gathering they outfitted Jim Creed in long drawers and marched him out before a crowd that included many dignified ladies. The rather serious atmosphere of a national contest provided just the right contrast to make Jim's entree, costumed as he was, quite sensational and it was a full eight minutes before the crowd could be quieted to permit the quartet to sing.

Roberts is still active in his chapter, Grosse Pointe which he organized and served as its

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first president. Summarizing his experience in the Society, Mark has this to say, "It has been a wonderful and satisfying experience. I consider myself to be an extremely fortunate man to have been privileged to meet and sing with and work with these people who call themselves barbershoppers".

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### GORDON ROSE

Gordon was a Board Member for 1956 & 1957 and Treasurer for 1956.

Rose was one of Grosse Pointe's most active members.

Gordon was the victim of a heart attack as he was alone in his hunting cabin near Lapeer. He was found by the sheriff's force after Mrs. Rose, alarmed at his long absence, asked for a search.

Two days before his death, Rose presided as master of ceremonies at a Grosse Pointe Chapter meeting. His son is also a member of the Chapter.

Troubadour APR-MAY, 1958

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### ART ROESE

Art first got involved in barbershopping when he joined Grosse Pointe in 1991.

He has joined in our Ladies Night, Coin Nights, Harsens Island Golf and Bocce Ball and Roast Beef, meetings at Bill Lane's Mansion. He has been with us at the Cabota Sendoff.

He served Uncle Sam in the U.S. Navy in WWII after the fighting stopped.

His most treasured memory was the birth of his two children. The most significant highlight in my life was my navy experience. His most embarrassing moment was when he tipped his canoe with his wife in it. If he could go back he would go back to his wedding day. He would also like to go fishing with his dad once more.

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JAMES J. RUTT (bass)

Jim joined Grosse Pointe April 1974. He was sponsored by Kurt Kusch.

Jim served the Chapter in the following offices:

President.....1980  
Director at Large.....1979  
Director .....1981  
(past pres.)  
Chorus Manager..... 1979, 1983 & 1985  
Show Chairman..... 1986-1988

Mary and I were shopping at Sears in the Macomb Mall and I happened to hear this singing so I left Mary to complete her shopping while I investigated. There was the Grosse Pointe Chapter singing. At that time I had to laugh - Seely was in his usual b-s talking mood and it sounded like he talked more than the chorus sang and I told Mary "I wish that guy would shut up and let the chorus sing - they're really great". He must have done a good job with his b-s cause when it was over I remember Johnny Wearing and Kurt Kusch were at a table signing guys up. I gave them my name and next day Kurt Kusch called me and reminded me when the meeting was and how to find the place. Then he called me the

day of the meeting to remind me again, so I went down to the meeting. Johnny Wearing (might have been president at the time) greeted me at the door and took me over and introduced me to Herb Reed and said "You sit next to this guy here and you'll learn all about the bass that you'll want". Herb and I became very good friends and up until the day he died I always sat next to Ol Herb. He sang his own style bass, he was a good man.

Quartets, bleep I was never one of those big time quarteters, I just enjoyed singing and had a lot of fun. I remember one time I got in a quartet with Les Suddick, Bob Wood and ole Frank Lopez. We used to practice at Frank's house cause he always had to baby sit. We practiced there and his GD (edited) dog would howl all the time we tried to sing. Frank would lock him in the basement and he would still howl (this may tell you something about the singing). I remember we went to the Mini-Hep school at Eastern Michigan College as a quartet because they said you could learn a lot more if you went as a quartet which was true but I think we barely sang three songs that we knew as a quartet. At the beginning of the session they had the quartets come up and sing a song. After the session they would sing a song to show whatever improvement was made. Frank was always downing his valiums, he was so nervous. He says "I got trouble with my throat so we didn't sing anyway. We went through the sessions and had a lot of fun and we did improve our singing. When it was time to come up and sing at the end Frank said he just got word a good friend of his died and he couldn't sing. He liked to sing. I was surprised he got together with Johnny Wearing and those guys and did so well. I wonder if he got over the shakes or not. Maybe he still has them.

We left Boblo one time with a quartet when the Barbershoppers went and Les Suddick's

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boy was a wheelman and we got up in the wheel house and we sang for the captain and the crew and I think he was probably glad to get us out of the wheel house after we sang them a few songs - we had a lot of fun.

I always remember Bob Wood when we were at HEP school. He has a tendency to stand with his feet together and lean forward and this one instructor asked him " by chance you're not a ski jumper, are you? You look like you're ready to go down a ski jump the way you stand". They had Les Suddick on the floor and they were jumping on him and everything else trying to get him to breathe. It was a lot of fun.

Harrisville, bleep yeh, that was a lot of fun. I remember the first time I went up there, with the gang, I had such a good time. Then I kinda pushed it the following years. Nick Catellane and I would try to get reservations for people and get them signed up. We had quite a group for a while there and we stayed right there in the park and had a lot of fun. Once Lopez came up with his kids and his wife and Frank went fishing and left his wife with the kids. He got a lot of Salmon but I think I can see why his wife divorced him. HA, HA, HA, he was something else. We used to sing at the hall. Russ directed. Once I was sitting in the crowd and Earl Sanders sat next to me and was saying, "Hi, buddy, I'm a member of Grosse Pointe". I didn't know him but he lived in Algonac. Russ directed and we sang he and he said "I sure appreciated standing next to you, I never would have gotten through it if it wasn't for you". He was something else.

Well, we'd always have a meeting at Don Adam's on Harsens Island on Tuesday - when the mosquitos got bad we went to the Sansuzi bar.

Getting back to Harrisville. We used to have these parades and I got the idea of putting us in the parade with a singing float. I got a hold of a friend of mine who's dead now, Harold Summers, who used to be a neighbor at our hunting camp. He used to drive the snow plow up there in Harrisville and Alcona County. He had a hay wagon with bales of hay on it and a few years in a row we decorated it up and entered the parade with the guys singing and we always won the medal for singing in the parade. It was funny because ole Seely was competing with the **4-Fits** and he used to sing there with Kurt Kusch's father-in-law (Dusty Rhodes?) who had a liquor store in town and they had a float they would put in themselves. They would do a lot of work on it and we'd come through and beat them on the singing entry. Then one year I ran all my flags (U.S. type) up. We had the women get on the float with us. I can remember Art Jones and his wife, Nancy, and the dog, Oliver, with a neckerchief. We were dressed up Western Style in cowboy outfits. It just so happened that the theme of the parade was supposed to be American so we won the Grand Prize in the whole darn (edited) parade and that was the last year we entered the contest. Anyways it was all fun. I enjoyed those years and it was all good memories to look back on.

I remember singing at Pine Knob. That was when Detroit was the big honey bun. They sang their competition songs and their tear jerkers which never were my favorites and the crowd applauded. You know they sang well but there were no judges. The other choruses and quartets sang. We were each supposed to sing three songs. Grosse Pointe got up and sang two real good up tunes. I think "Home Town" was one - we used to have the suit cases that said home town on them and the front row guys worked them around. We closed with "Battle Hymn of the

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Republic". We went to walk off the stage and the crowd booed and hollered "more, more", they wanted us to sing more.

And that was my contention, sing what the people like to hear not what the Barbershoppers want to hear - screw the Judges, they don't know what the bleep good music is. We got the recordings of that performance and you can hear a baby crying all through the GD (edited) thing.

Oh yeh, I've been to the Pontiac Woodshed. I didn't even win one of the pieces of wood out of the gaul darn shed.

You talk about your Harsen's Island Golf and Bocce thing. I think I only missed one of those in the whole time. I always got a kick out of Don Adams and the way he run the Bocce with his GD (edited) "touchy" ball. You get an extra point for a touchy (your ball touching the little ball) he'd touchy him right out the door. Him and I always argued about that. Don does a great job up there and Don had done so much for the Chapter, I think he's one great guy to have around.

I was on the first floating poker party. I even had my own boat at the time and I remember taking ole Woody Orvis with me. Woody was up to his usual big weight at the time. His back was bothering him and it was kinda rough and pounding. Woody was suffering and crying but somehow he survived.

Yeh, I've been to Chapter meetings at Bill Lane's - like I said before, we had a lot of those years ago at different people's houses instead of going down to, St. Marks. I remember going to Seely's back yard. There's a lot of stories about Jerry Kohler. He was out in Seely's back yard and he unscrewed the sprinkler heads and he told Russ "I found these things all over your

yard. I don't want you to hit them with your mower so I picked them up for you". I think that was a good deal. It was something different and we looked forward to outdoor summer meetings.

I was on this golf outing down in Carolina one time. We had this Carolina group visiting us and they came over and played golf and they were going to have dinner. We were having cocktails and singing. It was a beautiful day. Some of us were in the cabins. Some of us were outside and others were up on the balcony. There was this southern quartet singing and we were standing around listening.

Another time, we rented a house with a lot of beds. A motel down the road had a swimming pool and a group of the guys went up to the motel and were having a few drinks.

Hart Plaza - I was chorus manager and made arrangements for us to sing. That was a pretty good paying job then.

We sang at the convention in Windsor. Kohler didn't come over until Saturday. He stopped at a coffee shop on his way over and somebody swiped his striped coat. When ever I went downtown I was always on the lookout for a striped jacket but I never saw one.

I remember when we ran a convention in Dearborn and that was one of Don Adams' pipe dreams. I remember, we went down to the Hyatt (or some dam thing) in Dearborn and they were just building the facilities at the time the committee went down. We climbed over the partitions, there was nothing in the rooms - looking at what the hell we had to work with. That was some sort of a deal - planning a convention in a half finished building. The following year it

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all came into place and worked out great. We had groups going over to Greenfield Village and this sort of thing and I was on one of the committees (I don't remember which).

I remember the International at Detroit. I hosted one of the quartets. They were the **Regents**. I had a lot of fun with those guys. Thursday night I took them over to Joe Muir's for dinner and they thought that was great because they were from the East Coast and one fellow had his ole dad along with him who collected fish and he ordered mackerel. It happened to be a real hot summer - it was in July - I took them for a ride. I had my big van at the time - nine passenger - piled them all in and we drove over to Belle Isle and I was showing them different sights in Detroit. That night, Belle Isle was loaded with cars and they were bumper-to-bumper, stop-and-go around the Island and these guys said "aren't you scared over here with all these black people?" I said "naw, there's nothing to worry about". Anyways, I read the next day in the paper that they even closed the bridge because it got so crowded over there that night.

The following Sunday at Jim's Garage down town they used to have real good fish and chips. I asked these guys "did you ever eat perch?". Naw they never had perch that we can recall. So I said "you're in for a treat". So we went over to Jim's Garage and had the perch and the old man said it was the worst fish he ever had in his life - it didn't even taste like fish - you can't even tell what you're eating. That group had a lot of fun - they didn't make the final cut for Saturday. They were kind of disappointed. I had them out to the house for dinner. We had corn on the cob. I had the guys cleaning the corn out in the yard and the gals making salad etc. and we had steaks for dinner and in my condo we had the whole gang, the old papa

and a couple of kids. One of the kids, we extended the table so far he sat with his chair in the john. After dinner we went downstairs to my bar and started drinking and sampling all the liqueurs and we never made it back for the final performance and they really sang some sweet music. I wasn't smart enough to tape it at the time. They sang to Mary, sang to me and by the time they left I had to escort them to the I94 expressway. I don't know if they got home from there because they were in pretty good shape. Had a lot of fun. It was a good convention and it was really well worth while.

Here we talk about the Boblo Moonlight Cruise. I used to go on all of those. Used to have a lot of fun. I did relate to you the time we sang up in the wheel house. Seely always came up with some innovation to do on the cruise and the one thing I remember is when the streaking was the fad - at the football game someone would streak across the field or different things. We had Les Suddick dress up in flesh colored under shorts and while we were singing he was in the back row and next thing you know Les came out of the chorus and streaked across the Boblo boat so there was our special treat for that cruise. Another time we were on the Boblo boat

Seely couldn't get his car started and left it in front of the Detroit Athletic Club. We went out there and couldn't get the darn thing started. So I ended up driving him home. Seely was always one who parked his car anywhere. He had double parked his car and when we went back it was sitting in the middle of the street.

Christmas bus tours - yeh, I was in about all of them until I retired here. I can remember the first one we went on. A little old school bus that didn't have any heat and there wasn't any food. When we stopped at the

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nursing home and they offered us cookies, the guys devoured everything in sight. So I decided next year to make some sandwiches and I guess that was my job from then on. After a while we used to start the tour from my shop because it was more convenient for our route. We used to meet at St. Marks. I used to wear the Santa Claus outfit and I came down the steps and wished them Merry Christmas in my old proverbial way which I won't put on this tape but you ask Jack Messina, he'll always remember that.

Anyways, we used to meet over at my place and start with the nursing homes out there and circle back toward Detroit. It worked out pretty good. We used to make the sandwiches there at the shop and have donuts and coffee and that's where Pierre brought in all his croissants etc. They used to cook the turkey and help out and we got nice buses. I found out that you could order a 30 passenger bus but they didn't have 30 passenger busses so they sent 50 passenger busses. We'd tell them we needed the bus for 6 hours and then have it for 9 hours but they overlooked it because it was for a good cause. Those were good sing-outs, especially when we went there on the Boulevard at the Half-way house - they were out on the porch looking for Jimmy Kerrigan - where's Jimmy Kerrigan. Jimmy used to go over there and bring them stuff. I went there as Santa Claus so much they believed in Santa Claus. We'd bring them presents and we'd hand them out to them. This one resident there came up to me one time and says "say, don't you remember me? I saw you yesterday". I asked "where was that? "Oh where I work". They used to get these jobs hooking rugs or doing something. They used to pay them a little bit and they had a Santa Claus there and he had his picture taken with Santa Claus, so he went up to his room and came down. "here it is, don't you remember when you were with

me?' Its something when you have adults that still believe in Santa Claus. We saw how they appreciated the picture so after that we took a polaroid along with us and took pictures of them with Santa Claus. They thought that was the greatest thing in the world.

I've attended all the Ladies Nights. I thought they were all great parties. I can remember the first ones I went to. I believe they were in the old Rooster Tail over there on the river and we used to get quite a crowd to those, more outsiders at the time.

COIN nights were always a lot of fun. I remember when I first was involved they used to have the parties in hunting season and I was instrumental in getting them moved up the first part of November so that us deer hunters could attend. To pay back, I used to serve venison dinners there when ever I got a deer.

Yeh, I was at Octoberfest. I can remember in Bill Shier's back yard when it rained like a skunk there and we were glad we had the old tent up.

How could you belong to Grosse Pointe and not attend the Christmas Party. I can remember the fun we used to have there until they went and changed the rules when you couldn't have turkeys and chickens and pigeons. I remember the time I had the chicken all wrapped up in the box with holes in it and Sully Mazur got the chicken. The chicken jumped out of the box and ran all over the hall down there at St. Mark's. Sully took it to a friend who had a farm and it wound up being one of his best layers. Things got risqué and they outlawed dirty stuff. They just weren't fun anymore.

Significant highlights - everything. I'm one of those people who were never satisfied.

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I've been president of every GD (edited) organization I've belonged to - always moved to something else. The boy scout troop I started wound up with 60-70 boys and became one of the best troops in the Detroit Area Council. At one time I had nine boys coming up to Eagle status. We had a big party with the mayor, the priest and the nuns - wound up with me having a picture in the paper with me shaking hands with the mayor. We had our own hats. The thought that we had nine boys who became Eagle Scouts wasn't as significant as our appearance in the paper out of uniform and I got hell from down town. I told them to go screw themselves and it happened that in things I'd do I was always the rebel, which is now part of the regular routine in scouting. The things I did, the way I handled my junior leaders, the type of hat I wore is the regular boy scout issue today. It was really comical. I still run into those kids and their kids are in scouting and the former scouts are scout leaders.

Embarrassing Moments - One of the conventions I had a room by the swimming pool on the second floor. Art Jones, Les Suddick, Dick Krass and a couple other guys were in the pool late at night - they should be sleeping, they had to sing Saturday. I always sleep in the nude. I had the light out so I didn't figure anyone could see me, so I pulled the curtain back - there was a couple women sitting in the chairs across the pool and they just happened to look up and see me standing there and they must have seen me and they were waving and yelling "come on down". Could have been an embarrassing time. You always knew I was one to stick my neck out and sometimes they pulled the noose on me.

If I could go back in time - I'd like to see this country before they polluted the lakes and rivers. What a wonderful thing it would

be to float down the Detroit River as it was before the white man came and screwed it up and built the coal yards and factories. See what kind of fish you could catch. Just think, if you had a helicopter and could fly over the country and see how it was before they cut the good trees and the redwood and really see the country as it was. It must have been magnificent.

Hell yeh, I've met a lot of famous people. I've met Russ Seely and most of the guys in Barbershop are my famous people.

I think if I had three wishes my first wish would be for three more wishes. A lot of people like to sing like Carousel, I'd like to sing like Al Jolsen. There's my kind of singer. He always looked like he enjoyed himself - he jumped around - he sang - he made people happy.

Anecdotes - I have a lot of pictures of Seely's ass. Anywhere Russ was near a pool and I was taking pictures he would moon me. I remember when we went to this nice place over in Canada. This was when we first got our tuxedos and we decided we'd wear them to dinner and the girls brought real dress up dresses etc. We were going from room to room having cocktails and I can remember Seely all dressed up in his tuxedo wearing everything but his pants and walking around the hall with no pants on. Those were the days when Russ drank the strong stuff. Now he's nothing but a coke man. When we were at dinner they had a beautiful dance floor and an orchestra and a beautiful chandelier hanging over the ball room floor and while we're dancing there for some reason Russ decided to liven the party up so he jumps up and grabs a hold of the chandelier and was swinging on it like a monkey. Thank God it never pulled out of the ceiling. I don't know what that would have cost us to replace but those are a

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couple things I remember from those trips but those were a lot of fun, week end deals with no competition. We just went with our wives and had a ball. Had our hospitality rooms, just us. That's something it's too bad we can't get back into. Maybe the guys are getting too old for that now.

We used to have groups up to the cottage, when we had the cottage, we had husbands and wives over. I remember one particular New Years Eve where we went over to Johnnie Wearing - he had a cottage over there and the gang was there. About 2 o'clock Mary and I headed for home and we just got nicely to sleep and I hear these drunks on the front lawn, singing. What was this? Being the gentleman I that I am and never use any foul language, I very quietly invited them in for a drink. They didn't want a drink, they wanted coffee. Well, if they're going to have coffee, they may as well have something to eat too, so in about fifteen minutes I had pancakes and fried ham and coffee and what not. Seely always laughs about how he can't believe how I can do that in about 15 minutes, had it all on the table and was feeding them all. Seely, Shirley, Art Jones and Nancy - I can't remember who else was around at the time but they had fun. We were young and could do things like that. Used to have the Board of Directors meeting once a year up to the cottage in the summer. Old pot luck, like Don Adams does at Harsen's Island now. We used to have a lot of fun in those days. I remember Johnnie Wearing jumping off my porch at the end of a tag. He was going to make a climax to the tag and leaped off the porch and broke his leg.

The year I was president I think we had 108-110. I remember, Jimmie Kinner made a calling list where I would call six guys and they would call six guys and we'd get a message out in a hurry.

We came close to winning the big contest. Detroit beat us by not a hell of a lot. I think that's the closest we ever came to going to international.

If you're ever looking for pictures, I've got some old pictures they used to take at convention and score sheets of the particular conventions. I brought them down to the meeting once and someone stole a couple things out of there but most of them are there. It's interesting to see how we scored in those days. We used to be tops in stage presence. That's one thing Russ was expert at, getting you to show off on stage. We always were the best entertaining group up there. Remember Les Marhoff and his **Warren G. Harding Four**? I think they were the first to bring a comedy quartet to convention and would get disqualified for not singing barbershop chords all the time but they had more fun than all the other quartets put together, especially when they came around to the hospitality rooms on Saturday night. Everybody looked forward to the guys coming in - in their long underwear or whatever to hell they were wearing and their gloves strapped on. They really put on a show for ya.

The thing I miss about barbershopping is not the singing cause I'll always be singing around the piano but you've got the greatest bunch of guys down there at Grosse Pointe. A lot of them come and go and a lot of them are dead now. I come here when the weather turns cold. I've got to get mother down here where it's warm for her asthma and you've got to give a little and take a little. We're singing down here, it's a little different. We've got a lot of people around the piano singing. I always end up as the director of all the singouts and stuff in the club house and Christmas caroling, MCing this and that, so I don't get out of it. I'm still in the limelight

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down there. Rancilio is involved. He's down here with us. We do all the cooking for the month of January. Do a lot of fishing. Got my own boat down here. Fish the back waters and the everglades. Give me a holler, I'm in the Naples phone book. Sure would like to see ya.

One thing I didn't think about that used to be a lot of fun. We used to have those cocktail parties after we competed on Saturday, and I had the smiling faces I got from cool ade for cool ade for the boy scouts. We used to fill them with manhattans and martinis and whiskey sours. The gals used to make all kind of hoer' derves. We used to have quite a party there, then we used to go out to dinner. I can remember one time there, I think it was the first convention Orvis came to. He decided to stay there and have one more drink and we all went out to dinner. He said, aw, he wasn't going to go out. Art Jones and myself were running the hospitality room. We came back from dinner. We usually have some canned beer in the bath tub. We couldn't get in the bathroom, it was locked. We had to get the manager to open the door and there was Woodie. He had passed out. Try and get a guy like Woodie out of there was a chore in itself.

Another one of our fine episodes was the convention when we were in a hotel quite far from where they were singing and a couple choruses canceled out while we stayed in our hotel rehearsing. We had brought our own risers down there. When we get to the parking lot they're hollering, hurry up, you're supposed to be on stage and shit, we're all running and we run in the GD (edited) place and get on stage and we're all puffing. They were going to disqualify us for holding them up - but that was another experience.

Another one of the things that happened at convention one time where Nick Catellane's

son-in-law was dressed as a woman and he picks up ole Hal Trombley and carries him off stage (we were singing one of these skit songs). They disqualified us because someone left the stage. He didn't really leave the stage, he only walked behind. That was another big deal. This was Traverse City. Old Cherry Country.

There was a time in one of the golf outings down in Carolina. We were singing in this town of Statesville. They had the streets blocked off and they were paying us to sing down there which helped pay a little bit for the bus we rented down there. We started off on a stage on a side street and we're singing away and the first thing I knew some guy motioned. I was standing on the end - he says "who's the head man here". I said "the guy waving his hands in front there". He says "I'd like to talk to him". So after we finished the song, Seely talked to him. He says "I want you to come up to the main street, you're too good to be singing back here". So he tore up the check he had wrote and wrote a new one for more money. That put Seely on cloud nine and we sang right in the middle of main street and the traffic light was right over our heads but there was bleachers up each of the streets and Seely had the chorus rotating in a circle as we sang. You ever see a man fly, he put Michael Jordan to shame. That time he was so GD (edited) high and we sang the same way. You know he had us really flying that time. That was a lot of fun entertaining people down there in the Carolinas in Ray Starrette's home town. We sang at his dad and mother's church there and they put on a chicken dinner for us afterwards. I remember we were later than hell getting to the church because the bus got stuck in an army convoy and down there they have so many army camps and they were on maneuvers. We got to the church late and the people were patiently waiting for us to

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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sing for them but those are some of the fun things.

Well Jimmy, stay out of the dam cemeteries. They're going to get you soon enough. I don't want you tripping over a tombstone and staying there. So behave yourself and say hello to mama and God Bless ya.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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### FRED SALTON

Fred served the Chapter as Board Member in 1946 and as Treasurer in 1947.

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### “DOC” SANDERS

“Doc” was Membership VP and Public Relations Chairman in 1962 and Board Member in 1963.

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J EDOUARD SAUVE (Bari)

Joined Grosse Pointe Chapter March 1975.

Ed served the Chapter in the following offices:

Keeper of the Mugs.....1980  
Board Member ..... 1980-1982

He sang with the St. Margaret of Scotland Choir for 18 years before joining the Grosse Pointe Chapter.

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EARL SANDERS (BARI)

Earl served the Grosse Pointe Chapter in the following offices:

Secretary .....1957  
Program VP (MC).....1958  
President.....1959  
Board Member .....1960 (past Pres.)  
Board Member ..... 1963,1967, and 1971  
Sergeant-at-arms .....1971

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies



RICK SCHAEFER (lead)

I consider myself a new comer to barbershopping even though I've been at it for four years now. I joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter in February of 1991 after going to a Tuesday night rehearsal to see what Bill Shier had been talking to me about. As I walked in, someone asked if he could help me. I said "Yes. I'm here to listen to you guys sing." He said "Nobody comes here to listen, they come here to sing". With that I was seated next to a lead named Harvey Burr. The first song that was sung that night was Supercal. I was never subjected to that kind of singing before. From that night I knew I would be back.

I have never belonged to another chapter nor do I feel that I will ever need to. Everything I could ever ask for in a chapter I have with Grosse Pointe.

I have been on the Board of Directors for 3 three years. The first two as director at large. The third as Membership VP. I have been honored in 1995 by being elected President

of the Grosse Pointe Chapter.

I have been in two quartets since I joined. The first was **Time Travelers** with Bill Shier, bass, Carl Uridge, tenor and Dale Barber, bari. The second quartet is **Pipe Dreams** with Robb Smith, tenor, Steve Pauling, bass and Dale Barber, bari.

Outside activities include: Harrisville, Harsens Island Golf Outing, Floating Poker Party, Bill Lane's Waterfront Mansion Meeting, Return of the Jug Night, Ramge's Golf Outing, Cabota Send Off, Uncle Sam Night, Canadian Night, Christmas Sing - Out, Ladies Night, Coin Night, Octoberfest and Grosse Pointe's Christmas Party.

My most Treasured memory so far is being Host Chapter Coordinator of the Pioneer District Convention in October of 1994. I learned a lot about the people who make up the Grosse Pointe Chapter. The way they get involved with their work and each other is quite inspiring. They care about each other as if they were family. It was an unforgettable experience for me.

Embarrassing. Funny. Something I won't soon forget. Yes, it was a day like any other day. Picture it. Battle Creek. Stouffer Hotel. 1993. I felt compelled to close our hospitality room since everybody else was smart and went to bed early. It must have been about 3:00 A.M. Saturday morning. Chorus rehearsal was at 8:30 or 9:00 Saturday Morning. I was in no condition to do anything but sleep but my wife, Karen, being the trooper she is, got me up to go to breakfast at 7:30. After breakfast she decided to go shopping while I decided to go back to bed. I figured I knew the songs so the heck with rehearsal. Wrong decision! It must have been around 9:00 or 9:30 (it's hard to remember) when I heard this soft knock on the door. It was Karen wanting to

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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come into the room to get something. As I got out of bed with my flaming red underwear and black socks on, I heard voices outside the door. I figured it was the people across the hall. Wrong! I unlatched the door and climbed back into bed only to be given the greatest wake-up call I ever had. In came Russ Seely leading about 40 of the guys singing as loud as they possibly could while turning on all the lights and opening all the drapes. Off came the covers and all I heard was "If you won't come to rehearsal, then we'll bring the rehearsal to you". The worst part was my darling wife was filming all of this on video. Talk about memories. That's one for the books!

If I could go back in time, I would like to relive the '50's. Life seemed a little more relaxed than today. And you could even understand the words to songs.

I do wish I had joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter sooner. I had the opportunity but did not take advantage of it. Thanks to Bill Shier's persistence I finally joined. I hope to keep growing with the Chapter. I've learned a lot since day one. And with the support I've received so far from my family and the members of Grosse Pointe Chapter. I see no reason why I won't.

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DAN SCHAITBERGER (bass)

Dan joined Grosse Pointe July 1974. He was Sergeant-at-arms in 1977 & 1978.

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"DOC" SCHARRER

It seems that the better you know someone, the harder it is to speak of his death, and so

it is that I cannot come up with anything that will do the "right" job to mark his passing. (pitch pipe June 1974)

Doc was a Board Member in 1972.

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LEONARD SCHWIETZER

Len first joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter in 1949. He was keeper of the mugs in 1954. Some time later he left the Chapter until the 1980's.

Since re-upping he has served in the following offices:

Keeper of the Mugs.....1983  
Membership VP ..... 1984 & 1985  
President.....1986  
Delegate .....1986, 1988, 1989, 1992  
Board Member .....1987 (past Pres.)  
Secretary .....1991  
Chorus Manager.....1993

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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EDWIN SCHWOPPE

### Mount Clemens

Edwin Schwoppe Sr, 78, of 38545 Riverside Drive died at St. Joseph Hospital on Monday. A resident of Mt. Clemens since 1946, Mr. Schwoppe was born August 5, 1893 in Detroit.

He was a graduate from Eastern High School and after serving in the Navy in World War I, attended Washington and Jefferson University, Washington, PA where he was a member of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

A registered professional Engineer, Mr. Schwoppe worked for the City of Detroit, was district construction engineer for the Michigan State Highway Department and most recently retired from the Edward C. Levy company of Detroit.

Mr. Schwoppe was a member of the BPOE, Detroit Lodge, Antler Post 334 of the American Legion and the Harrison Township Lions Club.

He was a former International Vice-President and a 33-year member of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Singing in America.

Survivors are his wife, Mary (Crume) Schwoppe of Mt. Clemens, a son, Lt. Colonel E. G. Schwoppe Jr. of Alexandria, Va. and two grandchildren.

Newspaper clipping about 1971.

Ed served the Grosse Pointe Chapter as President (1946) and as Vice-president (1945).

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ARTHUR SEELY (tenor)

Art was MC for 1946-1948.

Art was born in Wellsboro, Pa.

When he was young, he lived near Forest and Van Dyke. Most of the Seely siblings attended Eastern High School. When Art was in high school, he sang with

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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the Glee Club and in a quartet. His wife was the accompanist. He got paid for singing during the depression. His teacher lined up solo singing jobs for him which paid \$10-\$15. He also sang in Old Christ Church Choir and so did his brothers

He joined the Detroit #1 Chapter about 1939 (very likely a charter member). Art sang with the **Banner Four** a few times before the war. He liked the song "I Care Not for the Stars That Shine" and made everyone sing it over and over because he liked it. When he returned from service, the Chapter sang it at the close of the meetings. Eventually it became the Chapter Theme Song. He went into the Navy in 1942. Sang in the Great Lakes Choir while in boot camp. He went on to be a Sonar Man on a Destroyer Escort for three years. Came out of service in October of 1945.

Detroit had been going 1 ½ - 2 years and Art was singing Barbershop with the **Big Four** and the **Turners** quartets with Mark Roberts and Wally Joure. He didn't hold an office in Detroit Chapter.

Art sang for the Ferris Brother's Line on WJLB. Also sang for the Frankenmuth Brewery for seven years.

Probably the first sponsored quartet on channel 4. We sang live at 5:45 every night on WJR (beat out the **Cleff Dwellers** for the job). This is how Art got into advertising records at Mort Neff's Studio. He recorded 5 top quartets in Kansas City when he worked at United Sound Studios.

He sang a lot in Canada and helped several chapters get started. Appeared on same shows with the **Buffalo Bills**, **Chordettes**, the **Chorders**, **Mid-States Four** out of Chicago, and **Harmony Halls** of Grand Rapids.

Never sang to note music. Art made up the notes as the quartet traveled from city to city. They were singing in the Masse Ferguson Hall in Toronto, Canada. Sang three or four chords and the plaster fell from the ceiling.

In their Heyday, the **Progressives** had Mark Roberts as the #1 substitute and LeRoy McKinney was the #2 sub. One year when they kept track they made more than 225 appearances. The **Progressives** competed at the District level three times. In 1945, as the **Progressive Industries**, they went on to become finalists (5th or 6th) in the International Competition in Detroit.

Art never sang with the chorus. He didn't think much of learning two songs all year when the dance steps and the stage presence counted more than the singing. He edited the Pitch Pipe for some years. He worked with Ron, Hal, Russ and Geyer. Then Russ went to college and McCalpin took over.

Art has been known to attend the Pontiac Woodshed contest and won best something once. He has been to Harrisville a couple times. His true love was camping and fishing in North Western Michigan above Traverse City by the Sand Dunes.

Art remembers the Parade of Quartets yearly and One Ladies Night a year.

The line up of Art's sisters and brothers goes like this: Art, Ray, Dolly (sang in Sweet Adelines), Harold, Ronald, Russell, Diane, Mary and Dennis. They are all alive today. His wife Mary was quite a musician, a high class musician.

A little more about the **Progressives**. When Lyle McKerrell retired, Harold Seely

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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stepped in. When Carl Restivo died, Raymond Seely stepped in. Ray never sang in a quartet before. When Michael Arnone died, it meant the end

of the **Progressives**. We continued singing with Ron, Hal, Art and Geyer for a while. Then we tried it with an all Seely quartet, Ron, tenor; Art, lead; Hal, bari; Ray, bass for about 1 1/2 - 2

years. We did a few sing outs and enjoyed the rehearsals (woodshed sessions with no paper) but called it quits about four years ago (this interview is February 1995).

The **Progressives** have been busy for thirty years. Art says "Other quartets tried to copy our stuff but they couldn't. We'd go into towns and the audience knew our whole repertoire. They'd be down in a big auditorium and they would yell "Carolina in the Morning", "Give My Regards to Broadway", "Whiffenpoof". They'd tell us what to sing and we'd sing 'em". That was great fun.

Art has been working in St. Clair for 23 years. He travels from the South end of St. Clair Shores to St. Clair. He figures he has amassed about 500,000 miles in the 23 years. Art has been lucky with his health. He's not taking any pills and doesn't have arthritis. He's on his feet all day on a cement floor. It's been a long, good time. He's done ten times more stuff than a lot of guys his age.

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CURT SEELY (lead)

I sang in my High School Choir. I can remember singing "O Holy Night" before my voice changed.

I joined the Navy and was sent to Great Lakes Training Center where I was selected to sing in the Great Lakes Naval Training Chorus. After being discharged I sang 25 years in my church choir.

I joined SPEBSQSA in 1962 at Utica-Rochester Chapter. Then the chapter joined Oakland County Chapter. I went five times to International Competition with the Wolverine Chorus under the direction of Carl Dalke.

In 1970 I sang lead in the winning Woodshedding Quartet in Pontiac.

I retired to Florida in 1985 where I joined the Polk County Chapter of SPEBSQSA. We went to International Competition two

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times under the direction of Joe DeRosa.

Two years ago I joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter and I am mighty proud to be singing with the gentlemen of the Lakeshore Chorus under the direction of Russ Seely who is my nephew.

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HAL SEELY

This little story is the result of a visit to Hal Seely's home for a meeting of Hal Seely, Ron Seely and myself, Jim Kinner. Hal brought out a small pile of photographs of the Grosse Pointe members, quartets and choruses and we discussed them as we viewed each one.

What I really want to know is what it was like when you guys joined which was probably around '55 (ans. 1954, swore in 1955). I have these stories from the Pitch

Pipe going back to January 1946 which indicated that Hal had 25 years in 1980 which means 40 years in 1995.



RON SEELY

I remember from high school - it was Aug. and all the guys sang in the Eastern High School Glee Club.

I remember how we used to get together and sing. We started quarteting with Russ and Charlie Geyer, you and I. I (Hal) was out of service. You came out in '53. We started as a quartet about Dec. of '53 when you got out of service. We were singing with the Welch Gleemen then. We might go to a beach before we were ever barbershop and have crowds around watching us sing - We were doing jobs. That was the fun part. We were doing pay jobs before we got into the Chapter. Sang for the Cub Scouts (I don't know why they're laughing). We sang for the League for the Handicapped. We were doing that before we got into the Society

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Is it true that you guys used to bum around down town (Detroit) and just wandered aboard the Bob-LO Boat just for kicks? It was kind of on a whim. We were hanging around and we had the quartet together and somebody said "The barbershop moonlight is tonight, let's see if we can get on". Then we bought tickets. It was a barbershop function and we knew it and we crashed it. We were singing on the boat (who are these guys?), But Mark Roberts knew us because our brother, Art, was already a member. Their quartet (Art's) started in the '40's. That's where we got signed up, on the Bob-Lo Boat. Mark Roberts and Lou Walley asked if we belonged to the Society yet. We asked "What Society?". Think back, Harold, we weren't interested in joining any Society. We just wanted to sing some more. Mark Roberts and Lou Walley said they'd kick in for the membership fee to get us to enlist.

Ten years ago we were at a meeting and we were discussing how long we were members and Russ comes up with one or two years longer than I and he had it on his card and I said "I know the four of us came in together". Ron was just saying, Mark Roberts and Lou Walley paid our membership to come in. (Hal, Ron and Russ, and Chuck Geyer, the **Pace Makers**) Before we joined barbershopping we sang as the **Pace Makers**.

When we got into the Society, Mark Roberts says "You guys are going to have to register your name. He said, I'll take care of it". He was a lawyer. He called me and said "Hal, I've got bad news for you, someone else has the **Pace Makers** name. We were crushed, remember, because we thought we had a good thing going. So we started scurrying for names - and I know in my junk, somewhere, I still have a card with **Metrochords** on it.

I don't think we missed the Moonlight many times. Later on, the entertainment got more organized.

We had our own jobs but we also sang jobs that the **Progressives** were too busy to do. We had good sound, never used a pitch pipe.

The low point at Grosse Pointe (Hal's showing us a picture) was a meeting where six guys showed up, Mark Roberts, Lou Walley and their quartet.

This meeting was at Turners in Detroit. Then we went to the Alger Post. We didn't go directly to the Alger Post did we, we went to Blossom Heath for a couple meetings because we didn't have a meeting place. We had good times at the Alger Post, I'll tell you.

This picture here we sang for Elmond G. Anderson - that was the year the Lions took the Championship, 1957. That was at the Goebel Circus Room. We had a special song for him. (I can't tell Geyer from the rest of you guys. Ron has a striking resemblance to Matthew. That has to be Geyer in the middle then. (Do you have that written down anywhere?) Hal - I was going through my stuff and I have more things down in the basement but I don't know where the H it is. I have an old pitch pipe (1956) about the Seely Trophy.

Chrysler ABD (Auto Body Division) Ron - Remember that, Hal, the Chrysler Show. Oh Yeh, that was dated 1955. That's before we joined the Chapter. These are all pictures of the Chrysler Show we sang in - that was the year we started singing the old barbershop stuff and wound up singing the **Four Freshmen** stuff. Yeh! That was a great show.

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That's the East Detroit Chapter.

Out came a **Progressive** picture. I don't see Art in here - should I see Art - that is Art?

I have Art as a charter member because he says so, but it makes me wonder why they always talk about McCalpin as the only living charter member? Art took over for Bennett, the cop from the arson squad.

This one is fairly recent - Charlie Evans, Doc Faunce, Herb Reed, Harvey Burr, Earl Sanders.

What year did we end up in the Bush League contest? 1956. The **Metrochords** got beat out by Boyne City's **Lost Chords**.

Hal is showing me a picture of myself in a swimming suit and someone had done some sidewalk art on my stomach with a marks-a-lot pen. (This refers to a weekend in Canada,

Sarnia, maybe.) Ed Sauve and I had just thrown Russ Seely and Art Jones into the swimming pool with their clothes on. That's the "lost weekend". We were so blasted. As we left the gorgeous dining room after dinner, your brother, Russ, was swinging on the chandelier. If it had come out of the ceiling, he would still be picking glass from his buttock.

Are you a member Hal? No. When the Chapter went to the chorus we lost all enthusiasm.

This is the first chorus that competed at the District Competition in 1963. We rehearsed in Ron's basement. He just had it finished off. We set aside a different day for our chorus rehearsal so it wouldn't interfere with our Chapter meeting - the meeting room wasn't open other nights - that's how

important our Chapter meeting was. (Had chorus going 7-8 years) We didn't have many men in the Chapter so we couldn't put twenty men on the stage. I'd have 15 guys show up one week. Next week, another completely different 15 guys would show, so I kept going through the motions over and over again. After a while I'd say "look, if you guys aren't going to be serious let me know and we won't compete. I'm not going to go through this". Everybody showed up when they wanted to. Russ will know about this as a director.

Going back to the first competing chorus of the Grosse Pointe Chapter in 1963. There were three Seelys in that chorus. The chorus was at the District Convention and lacked a man or two to compete when Frank Lozzi conscripted members of Russ's quartet, the **4-Fits**, to sing with the chorus.

Hal, I would like to know which District contests you directed. I would also like to know what songs the chorus sang. That's confusing, Jim, cause we were singing with the quartet too and I might tell you a chorus song that might have been a quartet song and vice-versa.

How many years did you direct Grosse Pointe? You'll have to check when Russ took over - as far as I'm concerned, Grosse Pointe has only had two directors. There was me and then there was Russ - I directed about ten years. During all this time Ron says he was singing in a quartet with few jobs but he was Keeper of the Mugs. Ron was leader of the tenor section of the chorus. At one time, I think there were two tenors. I used to go to the meeting because they'd burn me out. You remember a meeting for tag quartets. I was burned out after the meeting. Kenny Smith was tenor but he was never there. Hal - there's Jay Richens. Jack Long, Dick Lysy, customs man. Wally Joure

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sang

an octave below the bass. When Wally went to a meeting at VFW his wife would sit in the car the whole time (4-5 hours) with her little dog. Bert Escott, Past President, caught fire at a picnic at Clyde Centers Park in Farmington. He never really recovered from the accident, in spite of many skin grafts.

I enjoyed Chapter Night - that was by far the most enjoyable night of the week. That was the fun night for the guys. That was the first and third Friday. First Friday we had a short business meeting. We had tag quartets - we had gimmicks up the yin-yang - did you ever get a copy of the Pitch Pipe that Dale Petroski wrote? He wrote about the hat trick - that is a memorable thing - that's got to go down in history. We were singing pretty good as the **Metrochords** with Doc Sanders. Russell had got together the **4-Fits** and Ray McCalpin was one of them and John Prost and Marv Burke. Our quartet and the **4-Fits** were on at a meeting one night. We used to beer it up pretty good - had good singing meetings - and at the end they had all the organized quartets finish the evening off. So we were singing at the end of the show and Ray McCalpin comes up (while we're singing) and pours a bottle of beer down my pants (Ron) We never stop singing for nothing - everyone was laughing like hell - they're all cracking up

- and we're doing a performance. So we get done and everyone's laughing about it. I was keeper of the mugs then and behind the stage was the kitchen. And I had the hot dogs going. The **4-Fits** started singing their first song. They had the top hats (they sang a job with the top hats, I think they were derbies) they're doing their thing and I was back in the kitchen. They did their number and their hats were on the floor in front of them. I sneaked out of the kitchen and picked Ray's hat up and stood

out in front of everyone and peed in it - filled it - and anyway, Dale says Gordie Howe's not the only one that can do the hat trick, ask Ron Seely. I tell ya, everyone was on the floor. I didn't give a dam, I did it to get even - that was a gotcha.

Directing Grosse Pointe was frustrating but I also went through this for 30 years as the church choir director at St. Gabriel's in East Detroit. We started singing at the Christ Church Choir when I was 8 years old. I started in practice Wed-Fri., Sat & Sun. We had 36 boys and no women. I was a boy soprano.

We sang with the Detroit Welch Gleemen. They were all Welshmen. Boy what a chorus that was. There were 17 of the most thundering voices. They were real men. They had about six basses. The windows and walls would shake. It was the music we were singing too, a whole lot of heavy stuff - "The Italian Street Song" and "Battle Hymn of the Republic" like I've never heard it.

Then there was a lot of that Welch Music. Then Hal started some lala stuff that I can't describe on paper. The music was from the old coal mining days. We had to learn to sing it in Welch (here I was treated to some Welch words)

Good times. Art started first at Christ Church as a boy soprano in the early '30's. Then Ray went into the choir (he's four years younger than Art.). I went in I know in '36. Ron went in '38. Russ went in around 40. All five of us except Dennis sang soprano. (Dennis lives in Mazula, Montana). I never sang in the men's chorus there. Ron went to alto until he was 22.

Then we went to St. Mary's Choir on Van Dyke, in the old neighborhood and of

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course, after we got married we went to Epiphany at Kercheval and Cadillac. I sang at St. Gabriels's about a year, then to St. John's today. Recap: Christ Church, St. Mary's, Epiphany, St. Gabriel, St. John's (Woodward and 11 Mile). This is my 59th year of continuous church choir work, let someone else say that. Ron said he would say it but he would be lying.

We had two hobbies: Singing was #1 and fighting was the second. We'd go to bars like Conrad's on Gratiot and sing and insult somebody or someone would insult us - or didn't like our singing - well, we made them like it. I remember this guy at Conrad's, he kept needling us while we were singing. We had sung a job and were getting off kinda early, so we had our wives meet us at Conrad's bar. Conrad always welcomed us. Our singing there was good for the crowd. We got singing and there was some smart alec's at a table with all guys and they were making noise and I think it was my wife, Floreen, says calm it down, the guys are trying to sing. The guy's remarks were not nice and Harold said I looked like a mole. Tables were parting and when they pulled me off the guys I had someone's shirt in my teeth. Then there was the other bar on Kercheval - yeh, that was another night - we were singing as the **Metrochords** with Doc Sanders in place of Russ - we had sung a job, we stopped to have a drink - the gal that was playing the piano knew us and called us up to sing, so we went up and sang a couple songs. There were some guys sitting right in front of us and they started heckling "Aw come on, why don't you guys learn how to sing, that ain't no GD music or anything". Ron took off from the stage in mid air and landing right in front of their table and knocked the SOB half over - and I chased the guy outside and he tripped - the last thing I remember is he had a top coat on and I was chasing him and his coat

was so straight you could have shot craps on it.

That's where Russ met Shirley. She was a waitress at one of the bars.

We sang for a movie.

When asked if they had special ceremonies for installation of officers they said they acknowledged the new officers and got back into the singing. COIN was no big deal.

Hal served in the following Grosse Pointe Chapter offices:

Membership VP ..... 1956 & 1957  
Master of ceremonies .....1957  
Program VP.....1960  
Chorus Director..... 1962-1964  
President.....1965  
Alternate Delegate .....1965  
Board Member ..... 1966 (past pres.)

Ron served in the following Chapter offices:

Keeper of the Mugs..... 1958 & 1960  
Board Member .....1962  
Secretary .....1963

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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MATTHEW SEELY

Matt joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter in April, 1978. He is a son of Russ Seely Sr.

When the time came around for the annual bus trip to the nursing homes in 1989, Russ Seely was basking in a sailboat in tropical weather. How did we do without our director of bus tour singing of twenty years? We did fine. Russ's no. 2 son, Matthew, a barbershopper since a skinny age of 13, now a broad age of 25, filled in for his father as M.C. for the day and did a super job.

Pitch Pipe Winter, 1990 by Mike Proffitt

Since joining we have seen Matt working in the Chapter, transporting risers etc. He has been quite active in our shows in jobs like Stage Manager, Emceeing and coaching the cast and the singers.

Matt was Convention Delegate for 1981

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RUSS SEELY SR

Many items in this story were told by Russ, verbally. Others, he wrote in the Grosse Pointe Pitch Pipe and the Pioneer District Troubadour. Of course, there are a lot of stories told by other members of the Chapter.

Russ has told this story many times:

The first time I can remember hearing a barbershop chord was when I was a runny nosed kid hanging over the banister after having been sent to bed - sneaking that last look at

my red-faced (that's the way he looked when he sang) oldest brother, Art, when he had just become the tenor of the **Progressive Four** (with Carl Restivo, Lyle McKerrell and Mike Arnone). WOW! What a thrill! They were singing "The Curse of an Aching Heart". The words didn't make any sense to me at the time but the sound sure stuck in my memory.

Russ came from a talented family of nine children and established a sound musical background with early piano lessons and a

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firm push by his mother who had a great voice.

Musically, Russ began singing with the famous Christ Church Boys Choir and a sometimes soloist in school. At a Middle School Concert he was supposed to open the Christmas Show as a jester/soloist with the carol "Deck the Halls". Unfortunately, the intro, for some unknown reason, led Russ into the National Anthem which he sang, followed by "Deck the Halls". Naturally in the same key. From High School singing he graduated to the Welch Gleemen from whence he, his brothers Harold and Ron and a close friend named Chuck Geyer formed a quartet called the **Pacemakers**. (the name of a Hudson Car he drove.

Now, it seemed as though these boys heard about the Boblo Boat Cruise for Barbershoppers and decided to "crash" the affair. This is when they met Lou Walley and Mark Roberts. They weren't really strangers because they were known through their brother, Art Seely, who was a Charter member of Grosse Pointe.

Walley had the Chapter pay their membership dues and they joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter as a quartet (1953). When they registered their quartet they changed their name to the **Metro Chords** because another Society quartet already owned the name **Pacemakers**. Russ tells us that it was on this infamous Boblo Cruise he witnessed his first chorus appearance. He thought it was strange that they had to have numbers for the courage to sing.

Upon completing Eastern High School, Russ worked for a year or two, and married Shirley. About now, Russ decided to continue his education and attended Wayne State University full time. He dropped out of the **Metro Chords** (was replaced by Doc

Sanders) so he could give proper attention to his studies. With Shirley's help, he pushed himself through Wayne, became a brother of Alpha Kappa Psi and graduated with honors.

In 1960, Russ founded the Quality Bending and Threading Company and is presently the CEO.

### The 4-Fits

After he finished college Russ became more active in the Chapter. **4-Fits** began as a "Quartet of the Month" making their first appearance at a Chapter meeting in May 1961, with John Prost, tenor, Ray McCalpin, lead, Marve Burke, bass and Russ, bari. After learning their first three songs, Russ and Ray switched parts. John Prost was replaced by John Wearing in 1963. This was the beginning of 35 years of close harmony and ever enduring friendship.

During their first five years of existence the **4-Fits** made more than 200 performances not including conventions and Chapter meetings and sang in six different districts. They competed 10 times at the District level. Egad, what must their performance record look like today?

Their competition record highlights look like this:

#### Michigan District

1962 .....Boyne City Bush League  
Champs  
1963 .....District 2nd place - International  
Alternates 1964.....District 3rd place  
1965.....District Champs

#### International

1965.....San Antonio

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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1966.....Chicago

1975.....Indianapolis

Russ often tells his story of how he flew home after the competition in Chicago to be with Shirley when his daughter, Jill, was born. He

was on time for the birth (Shirley thought he was there all the time) and flew back to Chicago immediately after his fatherly chores were completed.

### Foreign Policy

Russ joined Thom Hine, Detroit Chapter, Don Humphries, Windsor Chapter and John Wearing to form the **Foreign Policy**. They competed at the Pioneer District in 1976, and qualified in 1977 and 1978. Then competed on the International Stage in 1977 at Philadelphia and in 1978 at Cincinnati. Seems that Russ always has a story. This time he tells how he was pulled over by a traffic cop in Detroit (probably on Jefferson Avenue where he liked to cruise). He got off by telling the officer he was a member of **Foreign Policy** and displaying the quartet's business card.

### Motor City Music Company

Russ replaced Galen Oliver in an established quartet called **Motor City Music Company** with Bob Demchak, Dave Caldwell (Doc) and Bob Wisdom. All these guys are well known around Grosse Pointe. They placed second in the Pioneer District Competition in April

of 1979 and went on to International at Minneapolis.

### Pointe Classics

Russ joined Fred Hunter, Gerry VanDeVelde and Nels Gregersen in forming the **Pointe Classics**. They competed at the

District level in 1981 & 1982. They appeared on the International Stage in Pittsburgh in 1982.

Here's another Russ story, don't look so surprised. I was nearly run out of town when my quartet, **Pointe Classics**, decided to drag a full sized bar across the International stage. Well, maybe we were just a little ahead of our time (and maybe we could have sung a whole lot better too). Non-the-less, after witnessing what happened this year, it appears that anything goes in competition. (One of their songs was "Daddy Get Your Baby Out of Jail" which was banned from the Pole Cat List years earlier because of its controversial words.

### RUSS DEVOTED CHAPTER MEMBER

Being a good Chapter member, Russ took his share of responsibility in support of the Chapter. He was Keeper of the Mugs in 1956, Program VP in 1962, 1975 & 1979, Membership VP in 1963, Convention Delegate 1963 & 1965-1972, Pitch Pipe Editor 1963, President 1972 and Historian in 1976. He started

as Chorus Director around 1966 and has held that job for 30 years. The job of Chorus Director implies a seat on the Board of Directors. Russ

always says "Its a lousy job but the pay is good".

### RUSS SEELY ELECTED TO HALL OF FAME

Our own personal "HALL OF FAMER" had it made official at the 1990 fall convention. Russ Seely was elected to the Pioneer District Hall of Fame in acknowledgment of his thirty-six years of dedicated service to barbershopping. His contributions embraced both the musical and organizational aspects of our craft. He has assisted in Charter

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Awards for two new chapters. Russ is particularly proud of his part in developing the Mark Roberts Award, the International Senior Quartet Trophy (which his quartet has won) and in the design and construction of the Hugh Ingram International Quartet Championship Trophy. Russ has 24 "Man of Note"

Awards. Being named to the Pioneer District Hall of Fame

is one of Russ's proudest Barbershop Achievements.

### RUSS, DEVOTED DISTRICT MEMBER

Russ served the District as Area Counselor, Hospitality Chairman, Young Men in Harmony Chairman and District Vice-President, a post he has held for the past several years. He served as the Executive Vice-

President in 1992 & 1993 and became President for 1994 & 1995. Among his innovations is the introduction of single-site conventions and the

creation of the position of District Convention Chairman which he was the first to fill. He is currently on the Society Board representing the Pioneer and the Land O'Lakes

Districts.

President of Pioneer District    Quality is  
Our Style

My first official function as District President (elect) was a Leadership Forum. It was held in Milwaukee, just a few weeks after our District Convention That Forum gave me the opportunity to meet and work with presidents from the other 15 districts in the Society - as well as Joe Liles our Executive Director, and our International President, Ernie Nickoson. All dedicated barbershoppers.

The Theme for President Ernie's extended

term? "Quality is our Style". That phrase conjures up all sorts of images. What is our hobby to us? Compared to the general public's limited perception of us? President Ernie has asked

us to identify "quality" chapters within our respective districts. Ultimately, to identify A "quality" chapter that may best represent each district. One that might best exemplify "Quality".

Unless I'm proved to be unjustifiably prejudiced, I'm submitting the name of my own chapter -- Grosse Pointe! If it comes to a check list of accomplishing goals, it seems

that Grosse Pointe is always on target. This doesn't mean just recruitment and renewals.

Certainly those two items are not the criteria for "Quality" but it may jog your interest to determine why we are the largest chapter in the district. When you weigh that statistic, you may find that our own personal pursuit and grasp of "quality" is the reason for our attraction.

### RUSS - SIGNING IN A QUARTET

Singing in a quartet is a great way to promote our Society. The flexibility and spontaneity of a quartet can reach every family room or phone booth for an impromptu performance. You can experience the greatest barbershop thrill of all singing with three other guys who love it as much as you. Chances are pretty darn good that your family or patrons at the local beanery or a gathering of Seniors will think you're the greatest.

### RUSS - CHRISTMAS TOUR OF NURSING HOMES

Whenever someone asks about my favorite accomplishment after twenty-five years of directing, I know I would have to say the

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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development of our Christmas Tour of the Nursing

Homes. Originally we car-pooled to a Senior Citizens apartment complex run by the Catholic Arch-Diocese at a Historic Detroit hotel (Carmel

Hall?). I still have a picture in my memory of the Nuns serving our chorus hot toddies in the hotel lounge after our concert. That kind of initiated the "Tour" as we know it today when we now travel in a fully equipped touring bus which accommodates 50 singers plus lunch and refreshments on a full day of programs for a dozen or so nursing homes of the like. Our gift of song adds but a small comfort to some of our senior fans, I'm sure, but to us who share our gift the reward is monumental for me. Christmas would not be the same without looking into, in some cases, 100 year old eyes that say "Thank You" for your music. Sharing is Caring.

### RUSS - ANNUAL SHOWS

I'm elated to say that practically all of our Pioneer chapters hold annual shows of one type or another. It's a healthy organizational sign, not to mention the fun it is to plan, rehearse and perform for our community. Which brings me to my point. Are we getting as involved as we ought to be in our local community? Since we are afforded so little, if any, free time on electronic media, the only way we can "preserve and encourage" is through live appearance at community or school functions.

This is a credo that Russ takes seriously. Grosse Pointe

has put on shows for fund raising every year and many times have either put on community shows or performed in community benefit shows ever since becoming a chapter. For about the last 20 or

so years Russ has done an outstanding job in our annual shows. Of course, Russ has directed all the shows and in addition, his talent for arranging the music, writing scripts and set designing is a real plus for the Grosse Pointe Chapter.

### RUSS SEELY PAST PRESIDENT

I must have had more than just fun these past two years being your President 'cause I just can't believe it's over already. The two years just rocketed by and I'm scratching my noggin trying to figure out how I can thank everyone who contributed so generously to the success of my term. But the answer is obvious, it's simply the members (which includes families, of course and special someones) who get involved. Sincere thanks to everyone who became more than a "card carrying" name on the roster.

Just some of the "warn fuzzies" that will remain in my fondest memories of serving as president have to include:

- The publication of Bob McDermott's "History of the Pioneer District"
- Official formation of the Association of District Quartet Champions which culminated in our first performance at the fall convention.
- Four well run, well-attended district conventions with tons of woodshedding.
- Establishing our Golden Anniversary Award to 50 year members. (Very classy Mr. Funk)
- Having Al Burgess, Bill Wickstrom and John Wearing enter the Hall of Fame.
- Getting to know Past Society President

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Ernie Nickoson, current President Dick Shaw as well as soon to be President Tim Hanrahan (and isn't Tim's wife, Pat, neat?)

- Finding through MSU, the Kellogg facility on Gull Lake for COTS and enlisting the tireless past everything, John Gillespie to Coordinate COTS. I'm really happy Gull Lake is near his home, but I suspect he would serve anywhere.

- Many great chapter shows - some celebrating 50 years, including my beloved, Grosse Pointe, plus the special events like Canada Nights and Uncle Sam Nights.

- The Troub, always on time, thanks to Gordon Gunn and Dobb's printing. Also, it's just nice knowing the Gunns.

- Windsor's meatless spaghetti dinner at send off, which is totally run by our Canadian neighbors, as well as DOC's Jug Night where all proceeds go to our deserving quartet and chorus reps to International.

- Watching Mr. Doran McTaggart work. So spontaneous but so organized.

- The always stimulating Board Meetings.

- The thoughtful letters and notes, handshakes and hugs the Seely's received - don't stop those.

- Sadly, the loss of Bob McDermott, Bill Warner and Harold McAttee, to mention a few, all Hall of Famers, affected me, as well as Nels Gregersen, Don Humphries and Fred Hunter, quartet buddies that are always part of the family. While you're "up there" you all seem to "Shine a little Light on Me."

Russ and his wife, Shirley were co-founders

of the Harrisville Labor Day Harmony Weekend.

They have been blessed with three children, Russ Jr., (once a member of Grosse Pointe), Matt (a Grosse Pointe member) and Jill.

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WILLIAM SHIER

Bill served in the following Chapter offices:

Keeper of the Mugs.....1980  
Sergeant at Arms.....1981  
Board Member .....1982

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### ALEXANDER "AL" SINGER

We lost one of our great barber-shoppers this past month with the death of Al Singer. Al was one of the charter members of Detroit #1 and a long time lead in Grosse Pointe Chorus. He was well known for his

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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safety lectures in the Detroit Public Schools

- a true gentleman. He was a retired police officer, spending the winter in Florida and the summer months here in Michigan with us. He received a "Distinguished Achievement Award" from the Chapter at the "LITTLE SHOW" in May 1975. We'll all miss Al.

(pitch pipe December 1976)

Al served as Sergeant-at-arms in 1964-1965

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DAMON C. SMITH (bass)

Damon joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter in August of 1984. He has taken part in all of the contests and annual shows, Dance Parties and Nursing Home Christmas Bus Tours. He takes part in some other sing-outs and events, attending most of them a few times.

He was Keeper of the Mugs in 1987 & 1988

and was Chapter Pitch Pipe Editor 1992-1994.

Served 4 years in the Air Force in Korea during part of 1953-54.

He sang in his high school chorus, church choirs and enjoyed taking part in the Messiah Chorus while in the Air Force.

He formed a quartet, singing bass with Al Cole, lead; Joe Bichler, bari; and the late Russ Hofer, tenor; We called ourselves the **Fourgettables** and later, **Afterglow**. We did some interesting quartet sing-outs from elementary school ice cream socials, Condo Block Parties and even a library (shhh). We contracted a traveling community flower club show. When the bus would stop at a home, we piled out of our car and rendered songs as requested by the master of ceremonies. That's show biz!

Perry Ballard has been generous in singing tenor in our quartet after the untimely death of Russell Hofer. Russ hit a high example for us all as a man as well as a fully contributing entertainer.

Men join us for different reasons, I guess, and in different ways. Marie, my wife, was attending a women's group meeting at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, when the Lakeshore Chorus came trooping in as entertainment. At the end of the performance, Marie approached the nearest smiling face - belonging to Dan Bukbuk - concerning "how can my husband join?" As you know, Dan seldom misses a sale.

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### GARNETT SMITH

Garnett served as a Board Member in 1947

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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& 1949 and as Treasurer in 1949 & 1950.

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### KENNETH SMITH

Ken served in the following Grosse Pointe Chapter offices:

Secretary ..... 1959 & 1960  
Pitch Pipe Editor .....1959  
President..... 1962 & 1963  
Alt Delegate .....1963

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ROBERT J. SMITH (tenor)

I joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter in September of 1991 and am an unhappy member of that group that says "I wish I had started a long time ago".

My singing career began in seventh grade singing soprano in music class but the next three years were a waste since my voice could not decide what part it wanted to sing (often singing them all at once). I spent three years in the high school choir and so ended the vocal experience until six years ago when my wife talked me into joining the church choir. Next came my father-in-law

(Leroy Lenhardt) who dragged me, kicking and complaining to the Boblo Moonlight Cruise and alas, I liked it, the hook was set.

It took John Wade about two meetings to convince me to join a quartet for the Christmas Bus Trip. Sorry John but it was not much fun, basically because I was unfamiliar with my instrument and my music reading skills were about 25 years old. A few weeks later I began to sing with **Car City Four** (Bob Demchak, lead; Dave Watson, bass; Chris Miller, baritone). We competed that Spring and missed the cut by five points, of course, one judge did want to DQ us for having a "Drunk".

In the Fall of 1992, I joined with Rick Schaeffer as lead, Lenny Schwietzer as bass and Dale Barber, baritone to become **Pipedream. Pipedream** still sings together whenever we can. The competition quartet is called **Passport** consisting of Tom Conner, lead; Steve Pauling, bass; and Jim Ryan, baritone. We have hopes.

I became a member of the Board of Directors in 1993 as Charities Chairman. Apparently, I did not perform as well as expected and have been demoted to the position of Secretary but as an accountant for twenty years, maybe I am better suited to that position, at least they have kept me there since 1994.

My wife Patti (Spring 1995 Chorus Director) and I were excited to be invited to the Harsen's Island Picnic. We were really surprised when we won the golf tournament with a 42. It was definitely a 50/50 ordeal. I hit a drive into the swamp. She hit hers down the middle. She hit her next shot in the swamp. I put mine on the green. She, of course, sank the putt.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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For those that know me, I hate learning tags; basically because I cannot remember the notes. Well, **Passport** recently attended a Mini-Hep School, a wonderful experience. At the end of the week end I wanted to speak with one of the coaches we had because I felt he had the wrong feeling about us (another story). Well, as we talked he looked around and noticed we had four parts in the group. "Lets sing a tag!" he said. In my mind, drat! What could I say as I stood with Jim Richards, bass for **Grammas Beaus**, international champs; Clay Shumard, baritone extraordinaire; and the infamous arranger Don Gray. What an experience! Patti and Rob have two children. Rob carries a "hefty" 185 bowling average.

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RAY STARRETTE (bass)

Ray has held the following offices in Grosse Pointe Chapter:

Membership VP .....1972  
President.....1973  
Board Member ..... 1974 (past pres.)  
Board Member ..... 1989 & 1990  
Program VP.....1993

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Ray is well known as a golfing tour director and a trophy designer and fabricator (of trophies, that is). Also enjoys singing in trios during snow storms.

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### AL STEINER

Al served as Board Member for 1947 & 1949 and as Treasurer for 1948. Probably a Charter Member.

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### GARY STROZE

Joined Grosse Pointe Chapter January 1981.

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### WILLIAM LES SUDDICK

1921 - 1984 Ten years a member of the Grosse Pointe Chapter

Les will always be remembered as our most staunch supporter; a happy, fun loving person who loved singing our songs as well as a church choir and the civic light opera organization over in Windsor, Canada.

He was under a doctor's care for a year or more and his health had been rapidly declining in the last few months. His passing will be felt by all of us.

Pitch Pipe July, 84

Les was Keeper of the Mugs for 1978.

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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MICHAEL SULLIVAN (lead)

Mike has served the Chapter in the following offices:

Logopedics Chairman ..... 1991 & 1992  
Board Member .....1993  
Program VP.....1994  
Delegate. ....1994  
Troubadour Reporter..... 1994 & 1995  
Membership VP .....1995

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### AL THOMAS

Al was a Board Member for 1984. He was also Show Chairman one year.

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### HARLEY TROMBLEY

Hal joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter April 1974. His sponsor was Dick Krass.

Hal served the Chapter as Program VP in 1980 and as Assistant Program VP in 1981.

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Hal Sang lead in the very funny "New Baltimore Exit" quartet.

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### DARWIN TROMBLEY

Dar joined Grosse Pointe April 1974. His sponsor was Hal Trombley.

Dar was Keeper of the Mugs in 1985.

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### MICHAEL TROMBLEY

Mickey joined Grosse Pointe April 1974. His sponsor was Dar Trombley.

Mickey served in the following Grosse Pointe offices:

Asst. Treasurer .....1977  
Board Member .....1978

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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CARL URIDGE (bari)

I entered Barbershopping in 1963 at Grosse Pointe. My sponsor was Jim Jackson because he was a personal friend of mine and knew of my musical background. I studied Music at Olivet College at Olivet, Michigan.

Carl has served in the following Grosse Pointe Chapter offices:

Librarian..... 1963 & 1964  
Membership VP .....1965  
Board Member .....1976  
Treasurer .....1979  
Asst. Chorus Director1981-1987 & 1990-1994  
Music VP ..... 1987 & 1988

The only quartet I was in was with Rick Schaefer, Dale Barber and Bill Shier.

I was a Boyne City Bush League Contest Arrangement Judge for two years.

Being assistant director, I have participated in most of the activities that the Chapter has been involved in: Harsens Island, Ladies Night, Bill Lane's Outdoor meetings, most sing outs, Cabota Hall, Floating Poker Party, Christmas Nursury Home Bus Tour and the Boblo Moon Light Cruises. Until recently, I have never missed a District convention.

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### GEORGE VAN DE VELDE

George has served in the following Grosse Pointe Chapter offices:

Keeper of the Mugs..... 1964 & 1965  
Membership VP ..... 1966 & 1967  
Board Member. .... 1969-1971  
Logopedics Chairman ..... 1979-1985  
Delegate .....1981  
Show Chairman.....1981

George was also Pioneer District Logopedics Chairman for several years. He was also the President of the Pontiac Chapter one year.

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### JERRY VAN DE VELDE

Jerry was Alternate Convention Delegate in 1981 and Delegate in 1982.

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## Chapter Five - Member Biographies



JOHN WADE (Bass etc.)

John has served in the following Chapter offices: President..1970, Program Vice-president..1965,1973,1985,1988 & 1990, Assistant PVP..1975, Keeper of the Mugs..1962, Treasurer.. 1964, Convention Delegate..1979, Chorus Manager ..1986 & Assistant Music Director..1986.

### MEMORIES

"Hey, where does the Grosse Pointe Chapter meet?"

"Is it at St. Mark's Church? No, maybe at the Harper Woods Community Center?  
...Yeah!"

"No, couldn't find it there."

"I heard they meet now at the Saber Lancer up on Warren."

"No, they did, but not anymore."

"Perhaps the Detroit Yacht Club?"

"No, they never met there although their first few yearly shows were there."

"Oh, I know--seems to me they meet at the Detroit Turners Club."

"Wow! That's before my time!"

"I remember now. They meet at the Alger Post VFW in Grosse Pointe between St. Clair and Neff on St. Paul Street."

Trying to find a home for this group was somewhat of a problem, but we've always managed. As a community organization, the VFW, located in the heart of Grosse Pointe City offered a nearly rent-free building where we could meet on the first and third Friday of every month! The meeting room on the first floor was a hall with kitchen attached. Meals of some kind were served each meeting and managed by the "Keeper of the Mugs"--not even a voting position on the Board of Directors at that time.

It didn't seem that tough of a job, so that's the first job I took after about a year and a half as a member of this organization. However, the beverages part of the job was made much easier because the source of the beer and pop was in the basement of the building--The Alger Post VFW Bar, the only liquor establishment licensed to serve "alcohol by the glass" within the city boundaries. The location of the "Post" was only two blocks east of where the present-day chapter is now celebrating fifty years of song, friends, and fellowship. The "Post" actually had three floors; on the top floor was a ballroom and a separate room for the VFW Board of Directors (a room we soon found convenient for our own Board meetings), the first floor meeting hall, and the basement barroom, the dispenser of spirits, beer, and pop. But wait, I'm getting ahead of myself.

In 1962, with free rent now being challenged by the VFW Board, we were forced to leave

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

the "Post" with really no place to go. We previously had met at Mark Robert's home on Chalmers in Detroit, but Mark was a prosperous attorney now running his practice out of his home; no room for us there! Our numbership had dropped to about twenty active members sustained by three Seely quartets; The **Progressive Four** with Art Seely, The **Metro Chords** with Ron and Hal Seely, and the **4-Fits** with Russ Seely, although Russ was in college at this time. Our musical director, Hal Seely convinced brother Ron and sister-in-law, Dori, to house our meetings each first and third Friday at Ron's home in his basement. As Keeper of the Mugs, it was my job to bring adequate seating for fifteen members that we could count on showing up, that is. . . beer cases full and empties.

We finally were able to grow our ranks by placing sixteen men on stage for competition and the assimilation of most members of the now defunct East Detroit Chapter. We were then able to pay for the rent of The Alger Post and moved back in. As further rent increases were demanded and our chapter grew, we were "in the driver's seat" in refusing rent increases due to the fact that we already generated more than \$3,000 annually through our libation receipts at the facilities downstairs. I remember we threatened to "move out" (with no place to go) and the VFW Board striking a quick compromise on guaranteed bar receipts as our rental fee.

I think because many chapters met on Friday night, there were many more visitations because most people did not work on Saturday morning. As a matter of fact, many barbershoppers in the greater Detroit area were eating early breakfast on Saturday. Meetings would conclude with some kind of lunch around midnight (because the Catholics still

couldn't eat meat on Friday at that time) and woodshedding, tag singing, and quartet *listening* would normally last 'till 1:30 to 2:00 A.M. At Grosse Pointe, we had to leave the "Post" by 2:00 A.M., a deadline that was missed three-quarters of the time. Well, a good cup of coffee and hey, maybe even some bacon and eggs or a coney dog or two would keep many of us out 'till 3:30 or 4:00 A.M.--not very smart now that I look back on it. When meeting halls closed, singing continued in the parking lots until local gendarmes put an end to it.

Some other-than-Friday events were held, particularly Ladies' Night and the Grosse Pointe Corn Roast at the Maple Grove on Utica Road and Sixteen Mile, way out there! The corn roast was also an open-to-the-district quartet contest and the only problem was that we had to leave by 1:00 A.M. Ladies' Nights were true ladies' nights with formal and semi-formal attire with flowers for each individual lady and prizes for a number of them. It also changed venue from the Hillcrest Country Club, Blossom Heath, the Roostertail, and the Detroit Yacht Club.

Musical arrangements were not as plentiful as now, so you had to depend on songs you had learned in grammar school and high school choral groups, plus songs that were sung at family get-togethers, picnics, birthdays, anniversaries, and other special family occasions. The advent of published arrangements, as much as anything else, helped stymie the growth of woodshedding and tag singing.

Competitive chorus singing also stunted the growth of these pleasant chapter going-ons because members of chapters started singing in chorus only, and if you didn't sing a number that another chapter chorus was

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singing, you didn't sing because most members didn't know how to sing with three other people!

Although many choruses sang great, too many men were losing interest because of lack of participation, and many chorus singers switched from chapter to chapter just to sing "on stage" in International Competition.

In the meantime, we were growing at a steady pace with the addition of many new members from northern Macomb county and St. Clair county, among them a group from Muddville who, after some personnel changes, became the New Baltimore Exit, a comedy group spearheaded by Pat Yacques from Algonac and Doc Tom from Muddville. Not only did they entertain us, but they went on to perform at many chapter shows in the district until Doc Tom moved to Venice, Italy. We were then such a large chapter, almost to 100, that with much prodding from International, broke up and chartered the Port Huron Chapter and lost some sixteen to twenty members. Later we chartered the Macomb Chapter and lost another six to ten members, but were happy to see barbershopping spread up the sunrise side of the lower thumb of Lake Huron and Lake St. Clair.

Competition then seemed to take hold and although we held our own competitively, we lost a lot of good singers and gained new singers, so all we did was hold our own in membership.

About the mid-eighties, when singing members had moved from chapter to chapter, and competitive singing was still at an apex, Grosse Pointe Chapter, always strong in leadership, developed a dedicated group of officers whose goals included

moving us from fifty-five to sixty-five active members up to eighty to ninety active members, with total membership to be well over one hundred, even though we would lose some members to Florida, Arizona, and to the Heavenly Chorus. Wow! To think that we were only sixteen to twenty strong in 1965 and well over one hundred strong in 1995. All along from the early days, we must have done a lot of things right. However, our hats are off to the officer core of the early eighties through the mid-nineties that have sustained and executed their plans for a healthy, wealthy fraternity of men who enjoy hearing their own voices sing in four-part harmony! Also, a salute to all who went before from 1945 to 1980, officers and leaders who helped build and preserve what we're all about. It seems we've come full circle.



LOUIS WALLEY

1895-1973

Lou was a Charter member, joining Grosse Pointe in June 1945.

He served Grosse Pointe in the following

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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offices:

Secretary ..... 1945 & 1946  
President..... 1947 & 1956  
Board Member .....1957 (past pres.)  
Board Member .....1958  
Alternate Delegate ... 1958, 1960 & 1965  
Delegate .....1962  
Historian..... 1966-1968

### OUR NEW PRESIDENT

Lou is a native of Pennsylvania and a barbershopper from away back. He sings a lusty baritone and knows more songs, words and all, than anyone we know. He is sincere, straightforward, and doesn't play the angles and a better guy never walked the face of the earth. We know he will do a bang up job as President.

(Pitch Pipe May 1947)

### FROM YOUR BRAND NEW OLD HISTORIAN

Twenty years last September our Chapter received the Societies Charter. I personally feel guilty of forgetting about the occasion until Mark (Roberts) and I were on the way home from Battle Creek. A lot of fine chords have been heard since that memorable day and during this period we have had a lot of fine talent on our roster. We also had our ups and downs, several near fatal consequences but we can proudly claim we always got up from the floor and Thank Heaven, we are on our way to a GREAT year again.

A very few of us can recall when we had to close the membership list which at one time reached 117 members. There was the day when our Parades, Minstrel Shows and Ladies Nights 2 or 3 times a year were the talk of the Society. Who can forget the wonderful three day Labor Day week ends

at Charlevoix. Our Bert Escott Costume Ball. The Hawaiian Night with our women in hula skirts and men in short pants - bare legged, bare chested and all dolled up in red leis. I could go on for hours just reminiscing of things - most enjoyable things - that our old members and wives enjoyed with such undescrivable pleasure.

In my own Memory Lane, THE FUN, and good friends, 4 part harmony and the wonderful people I met - can never be replaced with anything except my own family life, and my understanding MILLIE. God bless her. She deserves a seat in heaven.

NOW - after all this dreaming, I just wonder, what do we have to do to bring all those wonderful past 20 years to life again in our Chapter? We have a lot of fine talent in our group. A lot of fine voices and I am sure a desire

on the part of most of us to enjoy this wonderful hobby of ours. I believe that our newly elected officers have what it takes to light the spark of activity again. What a wonderful Chapter chorus we could have if everyone joined and supported the GLEEMEN. Hal Seely has done a wonderful job with not too much cooperation from some of our most prominent members. So fellows, lets get on the wagon and work hard for some of the most enjoyable things in life.

As Old Father Time is beginning to take his toll and the old voice box is beginning to get more rusty every day, I am going to keep dreaming about the grand old barbershop days when National Conventions, regardless of where they were held were only a hop-skip and a jump away. Driving 750 miles a day was child's play. It was worth it.

Now, before writers cramp takes complete

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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control, may I say that all this ranting about the good old days is the result of a request by our Pitch Pipe Editor who seems to think that I have a lot of funny things to tell about a lot of incidents concerning a lot of people and places and quartets and contests. So with a very optimistic wish for the future of our Chapter that asks only that LOVE ME & THE WORLD IS MINE!

Sing-cerly, Lou Walley

Pitch Pipe, November, 1965

Lou Walley, Clearwater, Florida, Chapter Sergeant-at-arms and a barber-shopper for 33 years, passed away May 13, 1973. We have lost a great Barber-shopper and he will not be forgotten. Lou leaves a widow, Mildred, a daughter, seven grandchildren. We share their grief.

pitch pipe June, 1973

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### RICHARD WALSH

We were all very sorry to hear of the passing of a good friend and an avid barbershopper, Dick Walsh, on January 20, 1959. Grosse Pointe Chapter will miss the smile which greeted everyone and his ringing bas when the **Improvisors** sang. Dick and I were indoctrinated at the same time to barbershopping at a Charlevoix Jamboree in an all night singing session in the Bittner-Rickle Room. Our deepest sympathies are with Adie, his wife..

Pitch Pipe Feb, 1959

### KEN WARREN (tenor)

Ken joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter in July, 1983. He was Keeper of the Mugs for 1985.

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WILLIAM WASILINA (lead)

I was born in Detroit in 1943. I lived near the State Fair grounds all my growing up years. As a boy, I joined the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. While a scout, I earned the God and Country and Eagle Scout Awards. As a scout, I had the opportunity to attend the National Boy Scout Jamboree at Valley Forge, PA. It was a great experience and a lot of fun.

At Greenfield Union Elementary School I began playing the Clarinet. This was my early music background. I also took a piano playing course in college. I graduated from Cass Tech High School. I began my college education at Macomb County Community College. Then I went to M.S.U. where I got my B.A. and E.M.U. where I earned my Masters Degree.

My wife is Sandy. We are both teachers. I teach 3rd grade and Sandy teaches Elementary Vocal Music. We both sing in a church choir. We have three children and three grand children. We recently moved to Chesterfield Township.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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I joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter April, 1993. I enjoy fishing and hunting.

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PETE WAYNE

IN MEMORIAM

Grosse Pointe Chapter has suffered the loss of one of its most stalwart members, Pete Wayne. Pete, as you know, recently joined Grosse Pointe in the merger with the Detroit Yachtsmen Chapter. After 60 full years, Pete succumbed to a coronary during his convalescence from a successful gall bladder operation. It is with utmost sincerity that we, as a chapter, extend our sympathy to the Wayne Family. Pete is survived by his wife, Evelyn, a daughter, Mrs. E. Brady and a son, Pete Jr., as well as one grandchild.

Pitch Pipe June, 1969

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JOHN WEARING (tenor)

Who's the guy with the biggest, brightest smile in the Chapter? When replying to that question there is only one answer, the sparkle tone tenor of the 4-Fits quartet, JOHN WEARING. John's smiles are so contagious he finally (after two years) got sober-sided Marve Burke to pass on the enthusiasm.

Many of us in the Greater Detroit Area have known John for a long time. He graduated from Eastern High School when his country was in dire distress. Answering his favorite uncle's call, John became a tail gunner in the U.S. Air Corps and saw action in the European Theater of War.

At the end of the war, John went to work in sales.

One day, on a 4th of July, John was mailing a letter and met a girl at the mail box. She was mailing a letter to her fiancée but this did not stop our heroic John Juan. Today

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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that girl is a beautiful redheaded wife named Margery Wearing, and these two have been blessed with three boys, Tom, Jon and Rich.

Originally John became active in Barbershopping in 1955 when he became a charter member of the Niles Buchanan Chapter. He sang with the **Sterios** here.

John and Marge then moved to Roseville and John became a dual member of East Detroit and Oakland County where he sang tenor with the **Chorduroys** who were International Reps(later disbanded). When the tenor slot opened in the **4-Fits**, John ably jumped in and we all know the rest of the story of that quartet.

John's biggest disappoint was followed by his greatest thrill in quarteting - the loss of the District Championship in 1965.

Marge sang with the Oakland County Sweet Adeline Champions of 1963 and her and John are passing their talents on to their youngsters. Tom and Jon are members of a group that just cut their first record. The two boys specialize in ballads and rock and roll. However, we expect to see more Wearings at Grosse Pointe in the not too distant future.

John Joined Detroit #1 and Grosse Pointe about 1962.

Sang with the number one and number two District Champion Chorus on the same day.

Favorite game is to play bewildered Tenor of Polish Descent.

John has served in the following Grosse Pointe Chapter offices:

Alt Delegate .... 1966-1968, 1970 & 1971  
Board Member ....., 1989  
Delegate .....1969, 1972  
Program VP.....1972  
Membership VP .....1973  
President.....1974  
Historian.....1977  
Assistant PVP.....1978

12-21-94

Well, Jim, you requested a history of my Barbershop Life so here goes.

1st quartet - the **Bucksters**

2nd quartet - **Sterios** 1955-1959. John Wearing, tenor Laverne Zelmer, lead, Vic Vigansky, bari and Jade Richter, bass.

Sang in many District Contests also Boyne City Bush League.

Niles-Buchanan Chapter were the Junior Champions in 1959.

Joined the Oakland County Chapter.

3rd quartet was formed, the **Chorduroys**. John Wearing, tenor, Bernie Smith, lead, Mel Holderness, bari, Marv McClary, bass. 1st International, represented Michigan District in 1961.

4th quartet. **Quarter Counts**. John Wearing, tenor, Lyle Howard, lead, Ray Guerin, bari, and John Caverly, bass in 1962.

5th quartet, **4-Fits**. John Wearing, tenor, Russ Seely, lead, Ray McCalpin, bari, and Marv Burke, bass. 1962-1975. District Champs in 1975. 1964, second international. In 1975, the **4-Fits** reorganized with Thom Hine as Baritone. Went to third

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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International.

6th quartet. Then Marve dropped out and Thom Hine moved from bari to bass and Don Humphrie, from Canada, took his place singing bari.

Enter **Foreign Policy**, Wearing, Seely, Humphrie and Hine. Then Thom Hine moved to Chicago.

7th quartet. **Saturday Night Feature.** John Wearing, tenor, Bruce LaMarte, lead, Don Humphrie, bari and Jack Slampka, bass. Won District - 3 visits to International

8th quartet. **Entertainment Express.** John Wearing, tenor, Denny Gore, lead, Dan Dafferly, bari and Mike McClary, bass.

9th quartet. **Harmony Road Show.** John Wearing, tenor, Frank Lopez, lead, Jerry Clarty, bari and Dave Anderson, bass.

10th quartet. **Great Escape.** John Wearing, tenor, Frank Lopez, lead, Don Humphrie, bari and Jame Masalskies, bass.

11th quartet. **Momentum.** John Wearing, tenor, Matt Tipton, lead, Doug Earley, bari and Len Johnson, bass.

12th quartet. **Time After Time.** John Wearing, tenor, Matt Tipton, lead, Doug Earley, bari and Seth Burns, bass.

John's a dual member with Motor City Metro and Grosse Pointe Chapters.

John and the Original **4-Fits** were the first Senior Quartet Champions of Pioneer District in 1990 (Wearing, Seely, McCalpin and Burke)

Chorus International Contests:

1994 - Pittsburgh, 1993 - Calgary, 1992 -

New Orleans,

1982 - Pittsburgh, 1978 - Cincinnati, 1977 - Philadelphia

1975 - San Francisco, 1974 - Kansas City, 1973 - Portland, Oregon

1965 - Boston

Quartet International Contests:

1984 - **Saturday Night Feature**, 1982 - **Saturday Night Feature**

1981 - **Saturday Night Feature**, 1978 - **Foreign Policy**

1977 - **Foreign Policy**,

1975 - **4-Fits**,

1966 - **4-Fits**

1964 - **4-Fits**,

1961 - **Chorduroys**

District Champions:

1981 - **Saturday Night Feature**

1976 - **Foreign Policy**

1965 - **4-Fits**

Sang with HARMONY UNLIMITED, a group of 12 Barbershop Harmony Junkies

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### JOHN WENZEL (Bari)

Joined Grosse Pointe Chapter April 1973.

John served as a Board Member in 1975 and Convention Delegate in 1976.

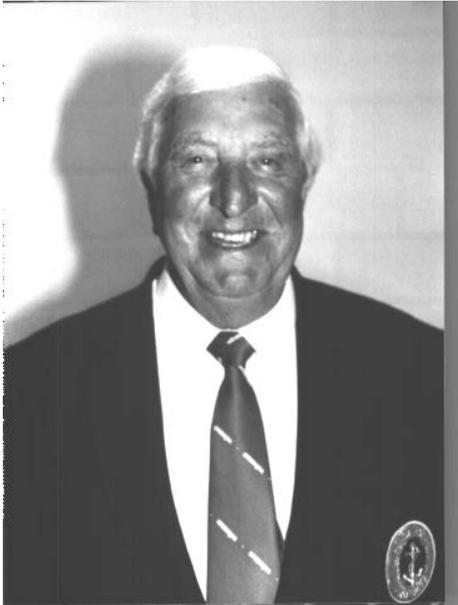
We are losing John Wenzel who will be transferring his membership to the Monroe Chapter. He has been an outstanding chorus and quartet man and a HEP school Attendee.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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pitch pipe September, 1976

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HERBERT (BERT) WEST

My first barbershop experience goes back to July 21st, 1949. I remember the date because it was the birthdate of my first child, Robert and when my dear wife, Jane, was in the hospital, having delivered the baby, some of my friends asked me to go on Detroit's Boblo moonlight cruise. So I went and had a great time. The only quartet I remember is the **Old Timers** and they were very entertaining. From this day on I was really stuck on barbershop.

I really joined the Detroit Chapter and I think it was probably 1953. Prior to that I went to many of Detroit Chapter's meetings which at that time was at the Book Cadillac Hotel in Downtown Detroit. I did have occasion

to go to Grosse Pointe Chapter meetings when they were meeting at the Turners and subsequently

they met at the Whittier Hotel. I remember going to the Whittier and seeing some of the old guys like Wally Joure, Ed Schwoppe and, of course, Mark Roberts. That was about the time I joined the Detroit Chapter. I joined Detroit because they seemed perhaps a little more organized. They entertained. I wasn't doing much singing in those days. I was doing more listening than anything else. They had guest quartets nearly every meeting. Also, I worked downtown and would stay downtown and attend the meetings right after work. That was in the early 50's.

I remember the first convention that I ever went to was up in Traverse City, Michigan at the Park Place Hotel. I happened to be the Chorus Manager. We had 20 men in the chorus, including the director - just enough to qualify for competition. I remember that time we wore shop coats for uniforms because we were the Motor City Chorus. I had a great room at the Park Place, having arranged all the housing for the convention. It was my first convention and I was ready to go to bed at 11:00. A couple guys were just setting up the hospitality room next to my room. They were the Meiers brothers, Al Meiers and

John Meiers. Needless to say, I stayed up most of the night listening to quartets coming in the room and drinking beer and having a good time - just a great experience.

I've had the opportunity through the years to attend many International Conventions, not every year but spaced. The earliest one I went to was Columbus, Ohio (I couldn't tell you what year). We took the train down from Detroit to Columbus and I remember going and Bob Luscombe was our director. Several other guys went to Columbus and

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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we had a great time. That was the first International Convention I went to. Some other conventions I went to were Chicago, Atlantic City, San Francisco, Nashville...

One convention highlight I remember (Russ Seely should remember better than anyone). It was Chicago and his quartet was competing. I didn't have a place to stay. I stayed at Bob Mulligan's one night. Russ's daughter was born at this time. Russ got word that Shirley was about to deliver and he flew home, so fortunately we had a room that night. However, he came back the next day.

The San Francisco Convention was in 1976. One of the highlights was going to convention with the Motor City Chorus under the direction of

Bob Whitledge. We had a real good chorus that year, I think we placed 7th, the best we Pioneer District ever did in chorus competition. We sang a couple **Gentlemen's Agreement** arrangements, "Ma She's Makin Eyes at Me" and "Make Believe", a love song. It was a great convention. It was also my wife and my 20th Wedding Anniversary, so we had a great time.

I think another great experience every barbershopper should have is singing in a quartet and I had the experience of singing in two. The **Wonderlads** consisting of Gordon Dubrul, bari; Hank DeVries, lead; Stanley Salter, tenor and myself singing bass. We sang together for about 8 years and we just had a wonderful experience. We never won any contest to speak of but just the experience of singing with three other guys was fantastic. We took second in the state, that was the best we ever did (I couldn't tell you what year that was). Some of the best things about singing in a quartet

were rehearsals. We had more fun in rehearsals than anything else.

Then, of course, Harrisville - can never say enough about Harrisville. We went, starting probably the second or third year after it was formed by Russ Seely and John Smith. My three boys were quite small at the time and we did a lot of camping in our great wall tent. We went to Harrisville 8 or 10 years straight when the kids were growing up. I'd take my family up and leave them there and go back to work and go back the following weekend (Labor Day). There was a great many experiences up there. Then we had a hiatus from Harrisville, probably ten years. Four or five years ago my wife and I got a pop-up camper and now we're going back up again which we enjoy very, very much.

The only experience I had at Boyne City was when I went up with Bob Whitledge's quartet the **Trebleshooters**, Bob Whitledge, bass; Bob Winters, lead; Cliff Jorgensen, baritone and Bob Mulligan, tenor. We rented a RV to go up there and I helped with the driving. Whitledge got mad at his quartet and I had the opportunity to sing bass with them all week end long.

One of my greatest experiences in barbershopping was when I had to attend a conference in Washington, D.C. and arrived there the night before the meeting and not having anything to do I looked in the phone book to see if there was a chapter around and sure enough the Arlington Chapter was listed so I made a phone call to the Arlington Chapter and they were meeting that night and it was just a taxi ride across the river to Arlington so I took a taxi over. They were getting ready for a show so I sat and listened to it and when they were through rehearsing I sang a song with a few guys. They said stick

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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around, we're going to a bar and have a couple drinks which we did. We were woodshedding and having a great time and it was getting late and they said don't worry, we'll get you back to the hotel and when they closed the bar about 12:00 they said we're not going home yet so they went and got a 6-pack of beer and we ended up in a Laundromat singing tags and more songs and they were gracious enough to drive me back to my hotel. Never met those guys before in my life and never seen them since - just shows you the spirit of barbershopping all over the world. They're just a congenial bunch of guys.

But the highlight in barbershop is to sing in a quartet. Choruses are fun but there's nothing like a quartet.

I sang with Detroit for 30 years and then I joined Grosse Pointe 13 years ago. In my mind there is no question about it, Grosse Pointe has more fun than any other chapter in the whole United States - the outlook they have - the camaraderie - the various functions - and it's a great Chapter, no question. I'm very happy to be a part of it.

I sang with the **Car Tunes**. Bob Demchak, Gordon Dubrul, Hank DeVries and I. Hank and I joined Grosse Pointe then so we could compete with the **Car Tunes**. We enjoyed singing with Bob. We had a great time. The **Wonderlads** sang longer and we had a lot of opportunities to go different places.

My only singing before barbershopping was restricted to the congregation at St. Michael Methodist Church on East Jefferson. My mother sang in the choir. She played the piano and sang in the choir - that was her life. I was very bashful. I never sang in high school glee clubs. I just confined my singing to church. I was also married at that

church, 49 years ago, July 6th. It's right at Jefferson and Garland.

I remember going to the Detroit Yacht Club Chapter which later merged with Grosse Pointe. The Yacht Club had some shows there. I remember our quartet sang there.

I remember the **4-Fits** real well. I'll never forget them accepting their last (I don't know whether it was the time they won the championship or the years after) the last song they sang (they all had shaving cream on plates) they were slapping each other with the "cream pies" at a District convention. You can go into that with John and Russ - they can tell you about that - but I'll never forget - they were something else - they were actually crazy - they really did a grand shop.

Russ can tell you this story better than I but I was there in 1964 in Boston. The Motor City Chorus chartered this bus to go to Boston cause we had won the District Championship. Our uniforms were cut out blue jeans, dyed T-shirts and rope belts and feet with pancake on them to depict the mud and we sang "It's Great to Beat Your Feet in The Mississippi Mud". We were under the direction of Bill Butler. We placed 15th out of 15. On that trip Ed McCarthy, Russ Seely, John Wearing and myself, of course we're all part of Grosse Pointe today, when the show was over we were roaming around the halls but we were tired of singing so we decided to talk tags. I don't know if you ever talked tags or not - we'd say you're going to talk tenor so you talk high and you talk baritone between the bass and the lead - we got hold of this guy from Toronto and we were really putting him on this talk-a-tagging - he was really into it - he thought we were really serious - we spent about a half hour teaching him to talk tags. He went to get his director to show him this new

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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thing in barbershopping - talking a tag. Russ can really tell you the whole thing - it was really unbelievable - we had more fun.

On the bus trip, McCarthy and Seely had water guns and they were driving everybody crazy with those water guns. That was another highlight. 1965

Boston Convention. I was President of the Detroit Chapter that year.

A lot of people ask why I don't get involved in politics in Grosse Pointe. I had all the politics I wanted at Detroit. I served all the chairs at Detroit; Sergeant-At-Arms - president - but it was fun and very worthwhile.

Another highlight - Detroit always used to compete with Grosse Pointe. Every Christmas we would have an inter-chapter quartet contest and Detroit would come over and win that thing so many years in a row and it used to drive them crazy because four of our quartets would sing the same song, "Yona From Arizona". I'll tell you, that was always a great contest. Usually, the third Friday of December was our Christmas Party at work and I arrived at barbershop in good spirits. We had a trophy, a big barber mug with a brush and all which was made by Jack Bader. It was specifically for the Detroit-Grosse Pointe contest. If Detroit won, they had custody for a year and vice-versa. The year I was President we won that contest. I went to take the trophy home and it was gone. What happened, and I didn't know for almost a year later when I went to Russ' house when he lived in Roseville and here's the trophy in his family room. The **4-Fits** had snuck it out of a window. That was when they were meeting at the Alger Post. They snuck that thing out and we thought it was stolen.

Then there was the McCalpin hat story. I

was at the meeting when McCalpin's hat was nearly destroyed. That was something strange, never to be repeated again in barbershopping. To the guys that were there and the guys that heard about it, that was something else.

Oh, golf outings, we've been on a lot of golf outings. Harsen's Island, that's great. You going to Eric's? We have friends living quite close to Eric's. We'll just pull in and plug in our pop-up camper.

Anyone famous? Yes, I've been fortunate. I was in California on a business trip and I met Jack Benny and George Burns as they were coming out of a restaurant and Groucho Marks at another restaurant in New York.

Redford Harmony Club, I still go over there.

Boblo Cruise. When the cruise started, people used to bring their own booze and people would set up their bar. They'd bring their cooler and beer and the quartets would go around to the various parties.

The people had personal guests of 10 or 20. Some of the old guys from Detroit had the best spots picked out and they had their little parties and the quartets sang on stage and would go and sing before the parties. The year I started I'll never forget cause it was the year they stopped allowing people to bring their own booze aboard. I remember them arguing with Red Browning - you can't do that - yes we can - we're not allowing any booze on board. Everybody who was bringing their cases had to leave them on the dock. The first cruise I went on was 1949 - they didn't stop, they just cruised. I remember one time, I think it was the year I was president. I was on the dock and they had tornado warnings - it was raining like hell - needless to say, the boat went out (I think we lost money that

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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year).

Another thing I remember about the Detroit Chapter - after the meetings at the Book Cadillac Hotel we used to go to this bar called August on East Jefferson and the quartets would go to this bar and sing till the wee hours of the morning. That was quite an experience.

I remember some of the old quartets. The **Cleff Dwellers** were utterly fantastic. They were a fine quartet. They placed second two years in a row at International. They were just outstanding and very entertaining. Pretty near every meeting of the chapter, unlike it is today, the third Friday of the month was the fun meeting. One night when I was there a guy named Marty Marsden died and they carried him out. He had a heart attack and that was it. Sure put a damper on the meeting. This all happened at the Book Cadillac.

Wayne Kniffin did the Detroit shows as far as staging for years, and he was very, very good. We had some great stages. At that time it was a parade of quartets. We had them in from all over the country. We had some great quartets. **Buffalo Bills** and the group we just got some literature on, a comedy quartet (they just busted up). Also, a famous ladies quartet, **The Cracker Jills**.

I've been to Salt Lake City a couple times on business trips. Its a real nice area. We went to Park City, an old silver mining town, which is now a great resort. It has a great history. You know how they discovered silver? Brigham Young settled in the valley and the Federal Government was watching him all the time. The Federal troops were in the mountains overlooking everything this guy did. They were bored so they wrote for permission to mine which was granted. They

found all kinds of silver. We went through a silver mine way into the mountains.

You know, there's so many guys in the chorus and you never know what they do for a living

- I never ask. That's a nice thing about barbershopping, you never ask.

I worked at Cadillac Towers - that's where I first got into the Mortgage Business. You wanna know how I got into the Mortgage Business? I could type. I took two courses in typing in high school. I went to interview for this job cause I didn't like the factory. I wanted an office job. They wanted a typist and I got the job, I struggled through it and got better all the time. I worked downtown for 40 years.

During the war I fought the battle of the Vanity Ballroom. I got a medal (a coat room check after the Vanity closed). A friend of mines' uncle got control of the Vanity and took all the coat room checks and made key chains. I met my wife, Jane, at the Vanity. I went there stag during the war.

I still play tennis with a kid I played tennis with when we were young. When we were 18 we went to volunteer for the army which at the time was the thing to do. He and I were rejected the same day for the same reason - a perforated ear drum. I don't have an ear drum cause something happened when I was a kid. That kept me out of service and I worked in the factory during the war. My brother was drafted while I was still in school. He went down and took his physical and went the same day. He was living at home and had a car. So he went in and I drove his car, you know. I went to school in his car with his suit on. I came home from school one day

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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and there's my brother, he was rejected. I had my job. Here I was an 18 year old and driving a car. Then my brother got married, moved out and took his suit back.

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DOUG WHEELER (bass)

A new face on the risers.

Doug has his own photo studio in Roseville. Married with three children. Doug's youngest is a high school senior. Doug has been known to warble in church and community choirs.

Pitch Pipe February, 1994

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### HOMER WILLETTE

The Chapter just lost one of it's old regulars and one of it's most enthusiastic members with the passing of Homer Willette. Homer was injured while at work and for five days put up a courageous fight to live before succumbing to his injuries. The game little guy had just gotten over an illness that kept him from attending meetings regularly and had licked that trouble when struck down. We'll always remember his eagerness to sing

and swap a few old time songs and his great enjoyment in either singing or listening. He was the kind of member that is hard to replace and we'll miss him.

Pitch Pipe March, 1949

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### DONALD WILLOUGHBY

Joined Grosse Pointe Chapter October 1974 when they were meeting at St. Marks.

Don was in the Navy CB's when he served Uncle Sam in the Korean Conflict, 1951-1955.

He remembers the Christmas Bus Tours when Larry Lorentzen used to borrow the bus from Holy Innocents. Everyone drove their cars before that.



DONALD WILLOUGHBY (bass)

Don sang in the Roseville High School Glee Club circa 1948-1949. He also sang in his church choir from age 15-19. He taught Sunday School classes at St. Marks Lutheran Church in Eastpointe.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Don was a member of the board in 1986 and again in 1991. He was a Convention Delegate in 1977 and 1979 and Uniform Chairman from 1979 through 1995 (present).

On Friday evening, February 4, 1983, at the Grosse Pointe Annual Ladies Night Dinner Dance, Don Willoughby was presented the Chapters highest honor, **THE BARBERSHOPPER OF THE YEAR AWARD**. This plaque is given to the member chosen by his peers for outstanding service to our organization, a member that has shown dedication above and beyond the call of duty. Don has been a good Lakeshore Chorus member. A fine quartet man, he has sung with the **Razors Edge, Adams Apples** and now with a new group consisting of Don, Dale Barber, Len Schwietzer and Carl Uridge.

He is a hard working Chapter member, always willing to do whatever is necessary for the betterment of the Grosse Pointe Chapter. We congratulate you Mr. Willoughby, long may you serve. The award was presented by last years award recipients, Mr. George VanDeVelde and Mr. Art Jones. Don Willoughby received the plaque and a standing ovation from his fellow Barbershoppers.

pitch pipe, Feb, 1983

This award was the most significant highlight in his life.

He sang with the Chapter at Pine Knob when the Thoroughbreds were there. He has been to the Pontiac Woodshed, all the Harsens Island Picnics. All the Floating Poker Parties, Bill Lane's Mansion outdoor meetings, Uncle Sam Nights, Cabota Send-

offs, Canadian Nights, the Boblo Moonlight Cruises. He attended the South Carolina Golf Outing once and sang at Joe Ramge's Golf and Dinners but didn't play golf.

Who hasn't seen Don at the Ladies Nights, our Coin Night and the Ladies Octoberfests.

He sings with the Gospel Singers Monday afternoons to keep himself busy since his retirement.

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CHARLES WINGARD (lead)

Joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter the Summer of 1993. Sponsored by Frank Zaremba.

We all saw Chuck at Don Adam's place on Harsen's Island. He also joined us for the Floating Poker Game. He was even at Bill Lane's Estate in 1993 & 1994. He has been at the Return of the Jug Night at least once.

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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He was over to Canada for the Cabota Sendoff Party in 1994.

He has joined the gang on the Christmas Bus Tour to the Nursing Homes. He has attended Ladies Night, Coin Night, and the Chapter Christmas Party.

He attended the Oktoberfest in Munich, Germany when he was there with the Peace Time Army.

His most significant highlight in his life was marrying his sweetie, Cherie.

The funniest thing he remembers is watching a hotel owner kicking in his friend's door.

His most embarrassing moment was going on stage with his fly open. Really!

He would like to go back to the 19th century.

The famous persons Chuck has met are Babe Ruth, Ginger Rogers, Mother Theresa and Al Bartman (invented preparation H).

If he had three wishes he would wish to sing like Howard Masters, to see World Peace and make a visit to Ireland.

Chuck is retired from the Detroit Board of Education. A 30 year resident of St. Clair Shores.

This is the guy who ran the picnic for the blind at Memorial (Masonic) Park in St. Clair Shores in case you all don't remember.

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ROBERT WOOD (bari)

Bob first joined barbershop with the Fenton Holly Chapter in 1953. He transferred to Grosse Pointe in 1973 and has been a staunch, baritone singing member ever since.

A great collection of Chapter photographs you see on display from time to time are Bob's work.

Bob has served the Chapter Board Member for 1976, Secretary for 1979 and Keeper of the Mugs for 1983.

Bob claims participation in all Chapter and District activities except non-convention activities north of Bay City.

Bob served Uncle Sam in WWII in Italy.

18 Sep. 1994

RE: 50th Anniversary Book Project

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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Dear Mark and Jim,

Congratulations on the successful launch of this worthwhile project. I am proud of my connection to the Chapter and happy to contribute this historical report, given from my perspective.

Name: Patrick J Yacques    Wife: Dawn  
Children: eight  
Joined: 1968    Sponsor: Ray Mc Calpin  
Man of Notes: 12  
Jobs held: Section Leader, Asst Director,  
Program VP, Director, Port Huron Chap

Quartets:

**Back Porch Majority** (McHugh, McFayden, Douglas) competed three times. District Novice Champs in 72

**New Baltimore Exit** (Hal Trombley, Tom Lindsay, Don Cline) Never competed (Judges didn't care for pig masks)

Related Activities:

Harrisville Addict, Pontiac Corn and Kielbasa Roast, Don Adams Harsens Island Party, Many Jug Returns, Many Canadian Nights. In fact, Dawn and I did just about everything the Chapter ever offered.

Present Affiliation:

Pasco County Chapter, Port Richey Florida. VP of Music. Quartet: **Impressions** (Ron Sousza, Bob Waller, Bob Youngberg)

Barbershop and the Grosse Pointe Chapter is such a big part of my family's life that word will not express the gratitude I feel to all the members. Lists are impossible but Ray McCalpin and Paul Ross gave me my early confidence to sing "bari";

Russ Seely showed us all how to enjoy the effort, and Don Adams taught me to respect and support the organization.

Some of my most fond memories are the St. Pail basement where I would wait until early morning for a chance to sing with parts of the **Fits, Progressives, Sharplifters, GA Car Tunes** or any of the many quartets that would drop by the Grosse Pointe Chapter after chorus rehearsal or on the monthly "FUN NIGHT". It was many a time that the clock would strike 2:00 A.M. before Earl Sanders, Wally Joure and Pat Yacques arrived back in St. Clair County.

Pat Yacques

Pat has served in the following Grosse Pointe Chapter offices:

Board Member .....1972  
Asst. PVP .....1973  
Delegate ..... 1973 & 1974  
Pitch Pipe Editor ..... 1973 & 1974

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Frank Zaremba (lead)

Frank joined the Grosse Pointe Chapter in 1989.

He sang bass for 3 years with the mixed choir at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church.

He sang 1 1/2 years with U.A.W. World Chorus (mixed).

For those who don't quite remember Frank, he passed out herbal medicines to his close friends. These herbs were meant to cure arthritis, prostrate problems and other problems of the aging. Frank was a fine

## Chapter Five - Member Biographies

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example of his treatments. On the dance floor he stepped along better than some of the younger men. Remember the guy that came to the parties and danced all night with two lady friends?

He has and still does sing solos in many bars. His favorite songs are "Galway Bay" and "Whiffenpoof".

## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors

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### QUARTETS

#### QUARTETS

#### QUARTETS



TURNERS, Detroit, L. to R.—Jim Creed, tenor; Eddie Pazik, lead; Mark Roberts, bari; Wally Joure, bass.

#### DETROIT TURNERS QUARTET

Tenor - Jim Creed    Lead - Bill Pasik  
Bari - Mark Roberts    Bass - Wally Joure  
Appeared District March '41, Feb '43

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#### PROGRESSIVE FOUR

Glenn Bennett (Art Seely), tenor;  
Carl Restivo, lead; Lyle McKerell, bari;  
Mike Arnone, bass.

They competed at the District level in 1945, 1946 and 1948. In 1945 they went on to the International Contest at Detroit and were finalists.

### STROLLING DOWN MEMORY LANE WITH THE OLD HISTORIAN...LOU WALLEY

The History of Barbershopping in our district is well known to most of our older members and to the dwindling number of such men it brings a recollection of a lot of pride in whatever they have contributed to its existence.

At the same time they recall the many fine years of Barbershop singing or hearing, the best of quartets. Our own Chapter can proudly point to some of the best anywhere in the society.

Among our quartets, none have been more popular chord busters than the **PROGRESSIVES** who sang as the **FRANKENMUTH** quartet on WJR for a long time. This is the only quartet who has made only three personnel changes in nearly a quarter of a century.



Art Seely, tenor    Ray Seely, lead  
Hal Deely, bari    Mike Arnone, bass

In each case it was the tenor they had to replace. It is my personal opinion that the Ontario, Canada District would not have survived the early days of Barbershopping

## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors

had it not been the generous effort on the part of these men--giving up much of their time and fine talent to insure the success of the Canadian Brothers in Harmony. They have made nearly every show in the early days of that district. They were the big attraction and certainly the most popular one and for nearly 25 years they kept going, the same robust chord ringing foursome--as good as any in the Society.

The unusual part of their history dates back to the depression days when they were all members of Father Coughlin's (Shrine of the Little Flower) church choir. About this time the first chapter in Michigan (Detroit) was organized and that was the time I met them for the first time. In fact, Mike Arnone and I were installed the same night and sang in the first pick up quartet together.

Bob McGrath was tenor, Mort Gittleman sang lead, Mike was bass and I sang baritone. Since that time the **PROGRESSIVES** have kept going like little Eva. The kid member of the quartet, Art Seely has only sung with them for twenty years.

I feel that I am partly responsible for Art becoming a Barbershopper. I remember the night before he left to join the Navy in 1942. How we kept a large crowd standing listening to us under the marquee of the Book Cadillac Hotel at 3 o'clock in the morning.

After the war, the whole quartet came over to the newly organized Grosse Pointe Chapter and they have been with us ever since. (Pitch Pipe March 1966)

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### FOUR HOARSEMEN QUARTET

Tenor - Bob Hartley Fred Bumber, MC  
Pete Fisher, GP Les Langlois, GP

1949



### HARMONY HOUNDS

Tenor, Jim Creed; Lead, DeWolfe;  
Bari, Mark Roberts; Bass, Joe Wolff  
Feb '43, Oct '66, Oct '67, Oct '68, Apr '69,  
Oct '69, Oct '70, Oct '71, Apr '72



### THE BEL-AIRES

Gordon Limburg, tenor; Robert Burrell,  
lead; Richard Denbroeder, bari;  
John Zinnikas, bass;  
(WHAT DISTRICT) won the International  
Contest at Washington D.C. in 1954. Dist  
Oct 51, 1954  
(Pitch Pipe Dec '47)

## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors

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### COLLEGIANS

Gordon Limburg, tenor, Robert Burrill, lead,  
Ron Winsip, bass, Eugene Avram, bari  
Dist Sec 48', May '50

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### METRO - CHORDS

(earlier known as the **PACE MAKERS**)  
composed of Ron Seely, tenor, Russ Seely,  
lead, Harold Seely, bari, and Chuck Geyer,  
bass; Competed at District level in 1955.

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### SHARP KEEPERS

Gordon Limburg, tenor, Al Rehop, lead,  
William Rowell, bari, Bob Craig, bass  
Dist Apr '58, Apr '59, Feb '60

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### CHORDUROYS

John Wearing, tenor, Bernie Smith, lead,  
Mel Holderness, bari, Marve McClary,  
bass  
Feb '60, Oct '60, Apr '61, Oct '61

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## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors



### QUARTER COUNTS

Tenor, John Wearing, Lead, Lyle Howard,  
Bari, Ray Guerin; Bass, Jack Caverly  
Oct '62



### NOTERIES

Gordon Limburg, tenor Al Rehop, lead,  
Bernie Smith, bari, John Zinnikas, bass  
Organized Spring of '62 "for the fun of it"  
#2 Oct '62 District Competition  
#1 Apr '63 International Reps  
#1 Oct '63 District Competition  
.Troub Jan 1964



### C FARERS QUARTET

The **C Farers**, Ed McCarthy, lead, Dick Brouckaert, bass, Al Cullen, bari, and Bob Demchak, tenor, have set a course for the Jackson fall contest, their first real attempt at competition. The hearts and hopes of every man in the Chapter will be with these men at this contest. We know that it will be a rewarding experience after many long hours of practice and progress. Anyone who knows these four guys can't help but feel a mixture of emotions; pride, hope and envy. We want to wish the group all of the best in this endeavor.  
(Pitch Pipe October 1969 Larry Reed?)

FALL 1969 PLACED 14 OF 17 DISTRICT  
Oct '69

## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors



### CHORD REPORTERS

Fred, tenor

Bill Shannon, lead (Ed McCarthy)

Bob, bari

Dick, bass

#6 May '69 Competition

#7 Oct '69 Competition

#4 Oct '70 Competition

#9 Apr '71 Competition

(Pitch Pipe May 1970) Paul Johnson

#10 Oct '71 Competition



### ORIGINAL CHOICE

Bob Demchak, tenor, Noel Carpenter, lead

Jim Gross, bari, Len Johnson, bass

#4 Apr '71, Competition

#1 Oct '71, Pioneer District Champs

#3 Apr '72 Competition

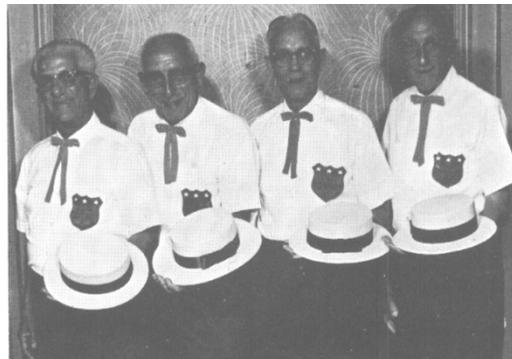


### CAR - TUNES

Bob Demchak, tenor Hank DeVries, lead

Gordon DuBrul, bari Bert West, bass

#5 Oct '70 Competition



### THE 19TH CENTURY QUARTET

#### GROSSE POINTE WINS SENIORS CONTEST

A gay foursome of "old-timers" from the Grosse Pointe Chapter gave the Friday night pre glow audience a treat as they walked off with the Senior's Quartet Contest Championship. Singing a couple peppy old time tunes with a lot of old time barbershop spirit they seemed to really enjoy their task.

## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors

Meet the new Michigan District Seniors Quartet Champions, the 19th Century Four, who line up with Meinrad Braun, tenor; Art Dupuis, lead; Joe Troe, baritone and Ben Landino, bass. (Michigan Troubadour, October (fall) 1964)

Jack Henderstein, a long time member of Grosse Pointe says this is what he remembers about that famous quartet (19th Century). Meinrad Braun sang tenor, Art Dupruis sang lead, Jack Henderstein sang bari and Ben Landino sang bass. They sang together for about 15 years from 1960 until 1975 for many senior citizen groups, church dinners, banquets, at the Yacht Club on Belle Isle plus at Harrisville and many nursing homes. Jack said "we just sang for the fun of it as we all loved to sing. We never kept any records". (Jack and Meinrad also sang with Walt Fournier and Al Singer). (Pitch Pipe October 1979)



FOUR FITS - REPRESENTATIVES

### THE 4 - FITS

**FOUR FITS FEELINGS !!!** Full of Fun!!! By Russ Seely

The **4 - FITS**, composed of John Prost tenor, (later John Wearing); Russ Seely, lead; Ray McCalpin, bari; Marvin Burke, bass; competed 10 times at the District level, winning the District Championship in 1965. They went on to the International Competition in 1964 at San Antonio, 1966 at Detroit and 1975 at Indianapolis.

If you're not having fun, forget it. The **FITS** have fun for over five years and can't forget it. Of course, it's a gas being called champs but really we've felt like champs for quite some time. At least it's the feeling we get when we have enthusiastic barbershoppers surrounding us.

As most of GP knows the **FITS** began as a "Quartet of the Month" making their first appearance at a Chapter meeting in May, 1961 with John Prost, tenor, Ray McCalpin, lead, Russ Seely, bari, and Marve Burke, bass. After learning the first three songs, Russ and Ray decided to switch parts which they did for their first District Competition held in Dearborn that year. As an added encouragement to new quartets, the **FITS** didn't even make the finals that year nor the next year in Jackson. Finally, in the Spring of 1962 things started to click. The competition looked like this:

1962	Bush League Champs
1963	District 2 <sup>nd</sup> place, Intl Alt
1964	International Quartet Finals District 3 <sup>rd</sup> place
1965	District Champs

Coimpeted - Oct '62, Apr '63, Oct '64  
Oct '65, Apr '66, May '68  
Oct '71, Apr '75, Oct '76

From this point, the **FITS** changed tenors

## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors

with John Wearing , who has sung hith the **Chorduroys** replacing John Prost who found it difficult to maintain his work schedule as an insurance salesman to fit in with the ever increasing performance load of the **FITS**.

During the five plus years of warbling the **FITS** have made over 200 performances not including conventions and Chapter meetings and have sung in six different districts. (Pitch Pipe Nov 1965)

This story is muchn expanded by reading the biographies of Russ Seely and John Wearing.



### POINTE FOUR

Hank DeMars, Tenor; Jim Phelan, Lead; Gordon DuBrul; bari Dick Brouckaert, Bass.

Won Pre-Boyne contest at Oakland County Chapter Contest held April 4, 1975.

In 1973 the Grosse Pointe Chapter initiated a "Chapter Quartet of the Month Contest" as a means of living up to Society goals, and perhaps as a method of developing a few more entries for those mini -competitions around the metropolitan area where the Chapter always seems to score so well.

Whatever the intent of the Chapter, one of the fine quartets to come out of this program is the **Pointe 4**, a group that was born with a modest goal of capturing this contest and perhaps a few others. It wasn't long until the foursome found itself being asked to sing at other chapters in the area - enter shirt and slacks. Soon they found themselves singing before a variety of community clubs and organizations - enter sport suits, ties socks and shoes etc.

Hams at heart (aren't they all in that Chapter?), and armed with twenty songs

### AIRES OF HARMONY

Jim Catellane, Tenor; Howard Masters, Lead; John Wenzel, Bari; Dick Krass, Bass. Went to Boyne 1975 Pitch Pipe



### VOICE QUAD

Les Marhoff, Dick Barron,  
Dave Carey, Ed Conn  
Oct'72, Apr '74

## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors

under their belts, the **Pointe 4** has been bitten by the bug. With the hopes of being recognized and accepted by their peers, they have decided to give the contest route a whirl. Boyne City, lookout! Win, lose or draw, the **Pointe 4** is looking forward to the battle and the enjoyment of many years with the greatest hobby in the world - the acts and antics of s Barbershop Quartet.

(Troub Apr 1975)



### GROSSE EXAGGERATION

Pete Batts, tenor; Don Adams, lead,  
Sterling Berry, bari; Sully Mazur, bass.

Sang at our "Little Show" at the Yacht Club  
May 10, 1975



### DANNY'S BOYS

Tenor, Bob Rancilio

Lead, Dan Bulbuk  
Bari, Sterling Berry  
Bass, Sully Mazur  
1976 Show Barbershop Harmony Concert



### RUMBLE - SEAT RAMBLERS

Tenor, Hank DeMars; Lead, Jim Gougeon;  
Bari, Gordy DuBrul;  
Bass, Nels Gregersen (Kurt Kusch)  
1976 Show Barbershop Harmony Concert



### WARREN G HARDING MEMORIAL 4

Tenor, E. Leslie Marhoff;  
Lead, Edward LaBumbard,  
Bari, J. Franklin Reid;  
Bass, J. Edward Conn  
1976 Show Barbershop Harmony Concert  
Apr '75, Oct '75, Oct '76, Apr '77

## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors



### POINTE CLASSICS

Fred Hunter (Bob Demchak), tenor  
Russ Seely, lead  
Jerry VanSeVelde, bari  
Nels Gregersen, bass

The **POINTE CLASSICS** were organized in the fall of 1980. In their very first contest they won the **Boyne Bush League Championship** (1981).

The following year they entered their first Pioneer District Competition and finished Third Place Medalists. The following contest qualified them for International Competition in which they placed as quarter finalists. They have made numerous society appearances in four districts as well as many non-barbershop and TV performances.

(Grosse Pointe's 1983 Annual Show )

Fall 1981 Placed #3  
Spring 1982 Placed # 3  
Pittsburgh International Quartet Finalists  
Appeared in 1983 Annual Show with tenor,  
Fred Hunter replaced by Bob Demchak

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### JUST FRIENDS

Formed some eight years ago this outstanding group has stunned the competitive arena for which we're sure you'll agree, they are eminently qualified. Instead they have opted to sing for their own and others enjoyment and have been a mainstay in supporting our Chapter shows and other appearances. Howard Masters, the lead and revered dean of the group is a veritable encyclopedia of words and music; he knows them all. Tenor, Hank DeMars is a precision-demanding taskmaster. Incidentally, despite his svelte physique, Hank is regarded as the Chapter gourmand. Whimsical Johnnie Wade, the bass singer just keeps getting better and better. John, because of his inherent grace (he even married Grace) does the choreography for the quartet. Mike Proffitt, provides the baritone note which fill the chord. Mike is the possessor of a fine voice and a great pair of ears. An avid boater and ex-flier. Mike is an inspiration to us all.

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## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors



### GOOD NEWS

The **GOOD NEWS** composed of Gary Stroze, tenor; Wally Dorosh, lead; Brian Kaufman, bari; Mike McClary, bass. When being together less than four months competed at District level. They won the District Championship in Grand Rapids in October 1982 and went on to International Competition in 1983 at Seattle.

Spring 1983 Placed #2 Intl Seattle? Fall 1982 #1

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### SIGNATURE

Dennis Phelan, tenor Tom Conner, lead  
Tim Ryan, bari Dave Andersen, bass  
Apr '92, Apr '93, Oct '93, Apr '94

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### MOMENTUM

John Wearing, tenor Matthew Tipton,  
lead  
Douglass Early, bari Len Johnson, bass  
Fall '93

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### WONDERLADS

Troubadour proudly presents a "profile" on the **Wonderlads**. A really sweet singing foursome, they have fought personnel changes like many quartets but have stuck at it and now own one of the finest sounds that our District possesses.

The **Wonderlads** were formed in 1959. Stan Salter is the only original member remaining. Gordy Dubrul took over baritone in 1960. Hank DeVries joined the group as lead in 1960 and in November of 1961 Ray Strachan took over the bass duties.

Since that time they have been a busy quartet performing on many parades, shows, churches, hospitals etc.

They have competed in quartet competition placing second in the "Boyne Bush League" in 1962 and came back to win it in 1963. Also in 1963 they placed third in the competition held in Holland. In May 1964 they the Windsor Convention and placed in the finals.

Tenor, Stan Salter,  
Baritone, Gordon Dubrul,  
Lead, Hank DeVries,  
Bass, Ray Strachan,

(Troubadour November 1964 Author anon)  
Dist Oct '63, Apr '66, Oct '67, Oct, '68

## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors

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### Wonderlads Entertain Oakland County ?

The Oakland County Chapter rang 'em again at our February 5 meeting. Our headliners were the Wonderlads who now stand with tenor and bass in the center and their new big sound is something to hear. We could just sit back and listen to those guys until they run out of songs. (Troubadour March 1965 by Bob Mueller, edited)

### GP membership

DuBrul 71-95, DeVries 71-74, West 72-76, 85-95

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### NORTHERN HIGHLITES

The **NORTHERN HI-LITES** composed of Bob Demchak, tenor; Dave Caldwell, lead; Clint Bostick/Bob Wisdom, bari; Lee Hanson, bass; competed at District level 5 times, 1972-1976. They won the District Championship in 1972 and went on to International Competition at San Francisco in 1975.

FALL 1972 PLACED #1 DISTRICT CHAMPIONS

SPRING 1975 PLACED #3

Spring 1976 PLACED #2 iNTNL San Fran  
Apr '73, Apr '74

Since the **Northern Hi-Lites** were formed

in 1972 they have earned themselves a spot of one of the top Barbershop quartets ever to come out of the State of Michigan.

They bare past Pioneer District Champions and three times heve distinguished themselves as the alternate quartet to represent the District at the annual International competition.

Pleasing audiences of young and old alike, they tastefully mix show tunes and ballads with comedy and contemporary selections. They are known as an extremely versatile entertainment group and are equally at home in front of thousands of people or just a few; in Detroit's Ford Auditorium of the local V.F.W. hall. They have performed for organizations large and small, for private parties and receptions, for church services and wedding ceremonies.

Each of the four members contributes to the arranging of their songs and two of them have sung in other district champion quartets in addition to the **Northern Hi-Lites**.

Troub Apr 1976

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### FOREIGN POLICY

The **FOREIGN POLICY** composed of John Wearing, tenor; Russ Seely, lead;

## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors

Don Humphries, bari; Thom Hine, bass; competed at District level in 1976, 1977 and 1978. In 1977 and 1978 they qualified and went to International in 1977 at Philadelphia and in 1978 at Cincinnati.

Spring 1977 placed #3 Philadelphia  
Fall 1976 placed #1 District Champs

Spring 1978 placed #3 Cincinnati



### SATURDAY NIGHT FEATURE

John Wearing, tenor; Bruce LaMarte, lead;  
Don Humphries, bari; Jack Slamka, bass.

Competed 7 times at the District level winning the District Championship in 1981 and going on to International Competition in 1981 at Detroit, 1982 at Pittsburgh and 1984 at St. Louis.

Fall 1980 placed #3 Apr '81, Oct '79, Apr '80

Fall 1981 placed #1

Spring 1982 placed #2 International Pittsburgh

Spring 1984 placed #3 International St Louis



### MOTOR CITY MUSIC COMPANY

The **MOTOR CITY MUSIC COMPANY** composed of Bob Demchak, tenor; Russ Seely (Galen Oliver), lead; Dave Caldwell, bari; Bob Wisdom, bass; competed at District level in 1977, 1978 and 1979. They won the District championship in 1977 and went to International Competition in 1978 at Cincinnati and 1979 at Minneapolis.

Fall 1977

Spring 1978 place #2 at Cincinnati

Fall 1978 placed #2 Spring '79

### CHEAP SUIT SERENADERS

Les Marhoff, McHugh,  
Franklin Reid, Ed Conn  
#12 Apr '81 Competition

## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors



### LEGACY

Wendell Pryor, Tenor,  
Dennis Gore, Lead,  
Clay Shumard, Bari and  
Mike McClary, Bass,  
Won the District Championship in 1988.

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### BROADCAST

Jeff Gougeon, tenor    Tom Conner, lead  
Scott Houghton, bari    Len Johnson, bass  
Spring '90, Fall '90

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### GREAT ESCAPE

John Wearing, Frank Lopez,  
Don Humphries, John Wasalskis  
Oct '89, Apr '90  
Oct '90, Apr '91,  
Oct '91

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### NEW BALTIMORE EXIT

Don Cline, tenor    Hal Trombley, lead  
Pat Yaques, bari    Tom Lindsay, bass  
The funniest guys in town

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## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors

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### TIME AFTER TIME

John Wearing, tenor   Matthew Tipton,  
lead

Douglas Early, bari   Peter Burns, bass  
Oct '94   Fall '94

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### LIMERICK

composed of Tony Ales, tenor; Gary Fox,  
lead; Bob Demchak, Bari; Mike McClary,  
bass. Competed at District level in Oct 1994.

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### KINGFISH & THE MYSTIC KNIGHTS

Jack Messina, tenor   Mark Davidson, lead  
Chris Miller, bari   John Kosmas, bass  
90'S SHOWS

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### PRIMA CHORDS

Let's give a big hand to the newest quartet  
to come out of the ranks of G. P. . It has  
Howard Masters, lead; Gene Honderick,  
bass; Scott Houghton, bari; Jack Messina,  
tenor.

### GOODWILL BLENDERS

Len Henk, tenor   Harvey Burr, lead  
Bud Maire, bari   Len Schweitzer, bass  
90's shows

A new quartet, made up of retirees within  
the Chapter, entertained a group of ladies  
downtown in the Pontchartrain Hotel in  
July, 1987.

These guys fill the needs for daytime  
engagements although they performed at a  
evening sing out at a nursing home and were  
well received.

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The **PRIMA CHORDS** have been very  
actively entertaining at numerous events,  
such as wedding receptions, senior citizen  
functions, school affairs, birthday parties,  
graduations and a special party down at  
Cobo Hall for the Governor. Withn Mike  
Slamka (12 years old) the quartet provided  
a number of spiritual selections at an inner  
city Black Gospel Church. (Pitch Pipe 6/83)

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### FIRST TIME AROUND

Jim Grogan, tenor   John Fitzgerald, lead  
Eric Ernst, bari   Wayne Kniffen, bass  
90's shows

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## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors



### PIPE DREAM

Robb Smith, tenor      Rich Schaefer, lead  
Dale Barber, bari  
Steve Pauling, bass (Len Schweitzer)

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### ADAM'S APPLES

Don Adams, lead      Hank DeMars, tenor  
Gordon DuBrul, bari      Herb Reed, bass

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### FOUR SHORES

Don Schell, tenor      Neal Hampton, lead  
Bud Collins, bari      Frank Maranzano, bass  
90's shows

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### PASSPORT

Rob Smith, tenor      Tom Conner, lead  
Jim Ryan, bari      Steve Pauling bass

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### POINTE PIPERS

Jim Grogan, tenor      Eric Ernst, lead  
Dale Petrosky, bari      Wayne Kniffin, bass

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### GOOD NEWS SINGERS

Gordon DuBrul., tenor      Howard Masters,  
lead      Sterling Berry, bari  
Frank Maranzano, bass  
90's shows

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## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors



### ST. CLAIR FLATS

Carl Ulridge, tenor (John Collins, orig)  
Jim Kinner, lead Ed Sauve, bari  
Bill Lane, bass (Bill Shier, orig)  
90's show

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### LAKESHORE CLIPPERS

Les Marhoff, tenor  
Frank Fortier, lead  
Gordon Dubrul, bari  
Nels Gregersen, bass

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### AFTER GLOW

Russ Hofer, tenor #1 Perry Ballard, tenor  
#2  
Al Cole, lead Joe Bichler, bari  
Damon Smith, bass  
90's shows

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### CAR CITY FOUR

Robb Smith, tenor Bob Denchak, lead  
Chriss Miller, bari Dave Watson, bass

Signed up for Apr and Oct '92 but no  
evidence of competing

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### EXTRA POINTES

Hank DeMars, tenor John Wade, lead  
Miles Curie, bari Dick Brouckaert, bass  
(Pitch Pipe 9/70)

## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors



Don Humpries, bari Dave Anderson, bass  
#9 Oct '87 Competition  
#8 Oct '88 Competition  
#15 Apr '89 Competition  
#19 Oct '89 Competition

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### BOONDOCKERS

Jerry Schultz, tenor Tom Conner, lead  
Bruce Young, bari Tom Lindsay, bass  
Sang 1973 Little Show  
Grosse Pointe Quartet of the Year

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### MUSIC MAESTROS

Bob Brown, tenor  
Howard Masters, lead  
Wes Tomlinson, bari  
Dave Anderson, bass  
1980

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### NIFTY FIFTIES

George VanDeVelde, tenor  
Jim Phelan, lead  
Jim Gougeon, bari  
Mel Tetzke, bass  
Scheduled to compete at convention Oct  
'83, but no show

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### HARMONY ROAD SHOW

John Wearing, tenor Frank Lopez, lead

## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors

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### FAMILY FORUM

Don Slamka, tenor   Mike Slamka, lead  
Big Mike Slamka, bari   Jack Slamka, bass

#5	Oct	'85	Competition
#4	Apr	'86	Competition
#2	Oct	'86	Competition
#7	Apr	'87	Competition
#3	Oct	'87	Competition
#6	Apr	'88	Competition
#5	Apr	'89	Competition

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If you were ever a member of Grosse Pointe Chapter and at some time in your barbershop career you were a member of a quartet, you may appear in this chapter.

## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors

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### SENIOR QUARTET CONTEST

The Senior Quartet Contest is a District Fall convention major event held at the headquarters hotel on Saturday afternoon.

The purpose of the contest is to provide an on stage quartet opportunity for the older segment of our membership who wish to sing for the convention audience in a somewhat more informal and less rigorous setting than in the regular District Quartet Contest.

Singers must be dues-paid members of the Pioneer District but the quartet need not be registered with the Society. Each participant must be minimally 55 years of age by contest date and the total age of the members of the quartet must be minimally 240 years. No more than two members of a competing quartet may have been members of the same District seniors championship quartet.

Each foursome will sing two songs (no talking, no religious, no patriotic songs) and will be scored according to the current official Society quartet contest rules by the best qualified judges available. Uniforms are optional and will not be judged.

Members of the winning quartet are presented with appropriate trophies as a memento of their accomplishment and will be invited to sing at the auditorium following the Saturday night District finals contest.

There is the possibility of the winning quartet representing our District at the International Mid-Winter Convention. Quartets competing at International Seniors Contest must be registered with the Society.

### Official Scoring Summary

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1988 #1 **4-FITS** Grosse Pointe  
John Wearing, tenor  
Russ Seely, lead  
Ray McCalpin, bari  
Marve Burke, bass

#2 **O. T. FOUR**  
Bryant, Bomers, Kendall,  
Scrivnor

First to compete in Pioneer District Seniors Quartet Contest

**4-Fits** to compete in the International Seniors Quartet Contest at the 1990 Mid-Winter Convention in Tucson, AZ

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1989 #1 **THE PRESIDENT'S MEN**  
Wayne, Huron Valley, DOC  
Bill Wickstrom, tenor  
Jim Stephens, lead  
Clay Jones, (president), bari  
Walt Quick, bass

#2 **MEN OF PAUSE**  
Grosse Pointe  
Hank DeMars, tenor  
Howard Masters, lead  
Gordon DuBrul, bari  
Russ Seely, Bass

#3 **FOUR OLDER FELLOWS**  
Grand Rapids  
Jim Empie, tenor  
Don Phillips, lead  
Bernie Poelman, bari  
Jack Sidor, bass

#4 **THE SUNSHINE BOYS**  
J. Catty, W. Brumm, R.

## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors

		Fangert, M. Skupski <b>#5 THE LAST GOODBYE</b> Paul Lehmkuhle, tenor Len Barnes, lead Bill Pascher, bari Mel Parrish, bari			<b>#3 FOUR OLD FRIENDS</b> Grand Rapids Jim Empie, tenor Don Phillips, lead Bernie Poelman, bari Jack Sidor, bass
	<b>#6</b>	<b>268 AND COUNTING</b> A. Galloway, F. Sanborn, B. Anderson, E. Berry		<b>#4</b>	<b>BARBER POLES</b> <u>Grosse Pointe</u> Carl Uridge, tenor Dick Barber, lead Dale Barber, bari Bill Shier, bass
	<b>#7</b>	<b>FUTILE FOURSOME</b> <u>Grosse Pointe</u> Carl Uridge, tenor Dick Barber, lead Dale Barber, bari Bill Shier, bass		<b>#5</b>	<b>THE LAST GOODBYE</b> Paul Lehmkuhle, tenor Len Barnes, lead Bill Pascher, bari Mel Parrish, bari
	<b>#8</b>	<b>LAST CHANCE</b> M. Bomers, J. Bryant, N. Rock, D. Warner		<b>#6</b>	<b>FOUR OLD PARTS</b> Holland Ken Helder, tenor Ken Cook, lead Les Swiernga, bari Cal Bes, bass

Word has just been received that beginning next year the Grosse Pointe Chapter, carrying on their trophy tradition, will present an aptly named “Traveling Trophy” for this contest.

The highlight of the event was the presentation by Grosse Pointe’s president, Ed McCarthy, of the new “Traveling Trophy” for the contest. The trophy was accepted from Grosse Pointe, the trophy makers of the Society, by Bob McDermott on behalf of the District. It had already been inscribed with the first two winners of the contest, the **4-FITS** and **THE PRESIDENT’S MEN**, was presented to our 1990 winners upon completion of the contest.

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1990	#1	<b>SENIOR CONNECTION</b> Bill Wickstrom, tenor Don Stewart, lead Jim Stephens, bari Lee Hanson, bass
	<b>#2</b>	<b>OLD NEIGHBORHOOD GUYS</b> <u>Grosse Pointe</u> John Wearing, tenor Russ Seely, lead Gordon DuBrul, bari Bert West, bass

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1991 #1 **FRIENDS INDEED**

## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors

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		<u>Grosse Pointe</u>		
		Hank DeMars, tenor	#5	<b>CLASS REUNION</b>
		Howard Masters, lead		
		Gordon DuBrul, bari	#6	<b>THE NAUTICALS</b>
		Nels Gregersen, bass		
			#7	<b>GRAND TRAVELERS</b>
#2		<b>THE RUSTY HINGES</b>		
			#8	<b>BAD BOYS OF BARBERSHOP</b>
#3		<b>CLASS REUNION</b>		
			#9	<b>A TOUCH OF CLASS</b>
#4		<b>GRAND TRAVELERS</b>		
			#10	<b>FOUR BUCKS A CHORD</b>
#5		<b>FOUR SCORE &amp; MORE</b>		
			#11	<b>AFTER GLOW</b> <u>Grosse Pointe</u>
#6		<b>THE LAST GOODBYE</b>		
		Paul Lehmkuhle, tenor		
		Len Barnes, lead		
		Bill Pascher, bari	#12	<b>FOUR GONE CONCLUSION</b>
		Mel Parrish, bari		
#7		<b>FOUR OLD PARTS</b>		
		Holland		
		Ken Helder, tenor	1994 #1	<b>THE LEFT OVERS</b>
		Ken Cook, lead		
		Les Swiernga, bari	#2	<b>OLD GOLD</b>
		Cal Bes, bass		
			#3	<b>T. C. POLECATS</b> Traverse City
			#4	<b>AFTER GLOW</b> Grosse Pointe
1993	#1	<b>OLD BONES</b>		
		DOC, Grosse Pointe, Huron Valley, Motor City Metro		
		Bill Wickstrom, tenor		
		Bob Demchak, lead		
		Jim Stephens, bari		
		Bob Wisdom, bass		
	#2	<b>THE VERY IDEA</b>		
		Wayne and Motor City Metro		
	#3	<b>THE LEFT OVERS</b>		
		Art Linde, Gene Johnson, Dick Liddicoat, Bob Fangert		
	#4	<b>HIGH FIBRE OCTAVES</b>		
		Lansing		

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## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors

### PIONEER DISTRICT JUNIOR QUARTET CONTEST RULES AND REGULATIONS

1.) All quartet entries must be sponsored by a chapter in the Pioneer District.

2.) Entry Requirements:

-Quartet members must be 23 years of age or under, and they may not be a member of the Society

-Entries must be received seven days prior to the contest

3.) Each participating quartet will sing two songs in the barbershop style

4.) There will be a four member panel of judges trained in the barbershop style of music to adjudicate the following categories : Sound, Interpretation, Stage Presence and Arrangement.

5.) Music sources:

-From the files of the sponsoring chapter

-Specific barbershop music the quartet or music teacher has heard

-From the recommended List of Arrangements for Young Men in Harmony

6.) The quartet with the highest net total score will be declared the winner

7.) Timers will not be used in the contest

8.) The sponsoring chapter will be responsible for transportation to the

contest site and any necessary housing or chaperoning required

9.) Trophies will be awarded for the first and second place quartets

10.) The winning quartet will receive a scholarship to the Pioneer Districts annual weekend barbershop school, HARMONY ROUND-UP for coaching in the quartet workshop. They must attend as a unit

11.) In case winning quartet cannot attend this scholarship will be offered to each of the quartets in the contest in descending order (order of finish) until it is taken or the list is exhausted

12.) If the first quartet cannot attend as a unit, those in the winning quartet who can attend may still do so (at district expense) but will be required to take one of the other classes being offered.

### 1992 JUNIOR QUARTET CONTEST



Three college quartets competed in the n Junior's Quartet Contest held at the Spring District Convention, **Silver Lining**, **Spectrum**, and **Seventh Heaven**. They finished in the same order as named with

## Chapter Six - Quartets, Seniors, Juniors

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**Silver Lining** winning the privilege of representing the District in July in New Orleans.

**Seventh Heaven**, comprised of Toby Shaver, Kevin Morley, Wally Krass and Bob Facione, all students of John Glenn High School was formed and coached by Bob Demchak of the Grosse Pointe Chapter.

**Spectrum** was sponsored by the Cadillac Chapter and are all members of the Cadillac Chapter.

**Silver Lining**, was also sponsored by the Grosse Pointe chapter and was coached by Sterling Berry.

In the intervening year they changed their name and personnel but when it was time to compete again in '93, tenor, Kevin Morey; bari, Bob Facione; bass, Wally Krause; and lead Toby Shaver, the original four, were back together again, and won it all! They are on their way to Calgary with an assist from the contest audience in the amount of \$1248.00.

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### 1993 JUNIOR QUARTET CONTEST



G. Q.

**G.Q.**, Pioneer's 1993 College Quartet Champions, organized in September 1991 as **Seventh Heaven**. They were all seniors at John Glenn High School in Westland, Mich and in the music program there. They were visitors to the Grosse Pointe Chapter and were sponsored by that chapter in the 1992 collegiate contest, where they didn't do so well as they would have liked.

## Good News Gospel Singers



Left to right, including windows

LeRoy Lenhardt, Hal Polhamus, Ed Sauve, John Collins, Don Willoughby, Don McCoy,

Bill Shier, Howard Masters, Howard Lehti, Sterling Berry, Dan Bulbuk, Chuck Wingard,

Gordon DuBrul, Len Henk, Perry Balard

Russ Hofer put out a few flyers inviting anyone interested to meet with him at St. Lucy's Church on Thursday, December 2, 1993 to organize/sing gospel. When six men showed up, it was the beginning of what proved to be an exciting year. At this writing there are fifteen active members who are now referred to as the **Good News Gospel Singers** (An interdenominational Barbershop Style Gospel Singing Group).

## Chapter Seven - Good News Gospel Singers

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The group now has a repertoire of ten song plus a few in the learning stage. Under the direction of Sterling Berry, the group has done about six performances. Some of these were for church service, some were for funerals, retreats, etc. Russ (Hofer) always felt that this was an area that could and should be served by men who enjoy singing. One of our more recent performances was at LeRoy Lenhardt's Church. By the time this article goes to print, we will have performed at the funeral mass for Russ Hofer.

All members are from the Grosse Pointe Chapter and as such conform to the standards and ethics of the Society. We don't pretend to be preachers or students of the scriptures but we do try to determine that the

"story of the song" be true to God's Word and that the message is uplifting both to him and to our fellow man. We try for songs of faith and encouragement which have stood the test of time . . . old hymns and spiritual songs which have become standards. Of course these are all done in the barbershop style. Like the Chapter, an off-shoot of this group has been the forming of a couple quartets that sort of specialize in doing gospel songs. Just can't shake off that good old barbershop.

We still ,meet at St. Lucy's Church, on Jefferson, south of Nine Mile every Monday at 1:00 P.M.

Pitch Pipe April 1995 by Len Schweitzer

## District Chorus Competitions

It took a little while for the incursion of choruses into the, thus far, quartet oriented society but the inevitable finally happened, the District sponsored chorus competitions.

The following is a capsule of the competition results with a tendency to highlight Grosse Pointe's performance.

The first contest was held at Alma on July 19, 1953. The results are below.

19 Jul 1953 Alma

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Windmill	Holland	Francis Hodgeboom
2	Precisionaires	Detroit	John Smith
3	Port City	Muskegon	Al Burgess
4	Mid-statesmen	Gratiot County	
		Ionia	
		Holly Fenton	
		Dowagiac	
		Lansing	

Several years passed before the Grosse Pointe Chapter produced a competition chorus. In the mean time the District held contests in the following cities: Muskegon 8 Oct.,1954; Jackson 21 Oct.,1955; Bay City 6 Oct.,1956; Traverse City 18 Oct.,1957; Kalamazoo 18 Oct.,1958; Holland 10 Oct.,1959; Dearborn 6 Oct.,1960; Jackson 6 Oct.,1961; Note that this is where the District started having two chorus contests each year. And continuing, Benton Harbor 29 Apr., 1962; Windsor 5 Oct., 1962;

Finally, a new chorus arrives upon the scene. Hal Seely and Ron Seely have worked with the **Grosse Pointe Gleemen Chorus** and Grosse Pointe competes.

As the time approached for the **Gleemen** to go on stage, Hal Seely came to realize that there weren't enough singers on board to qualify.

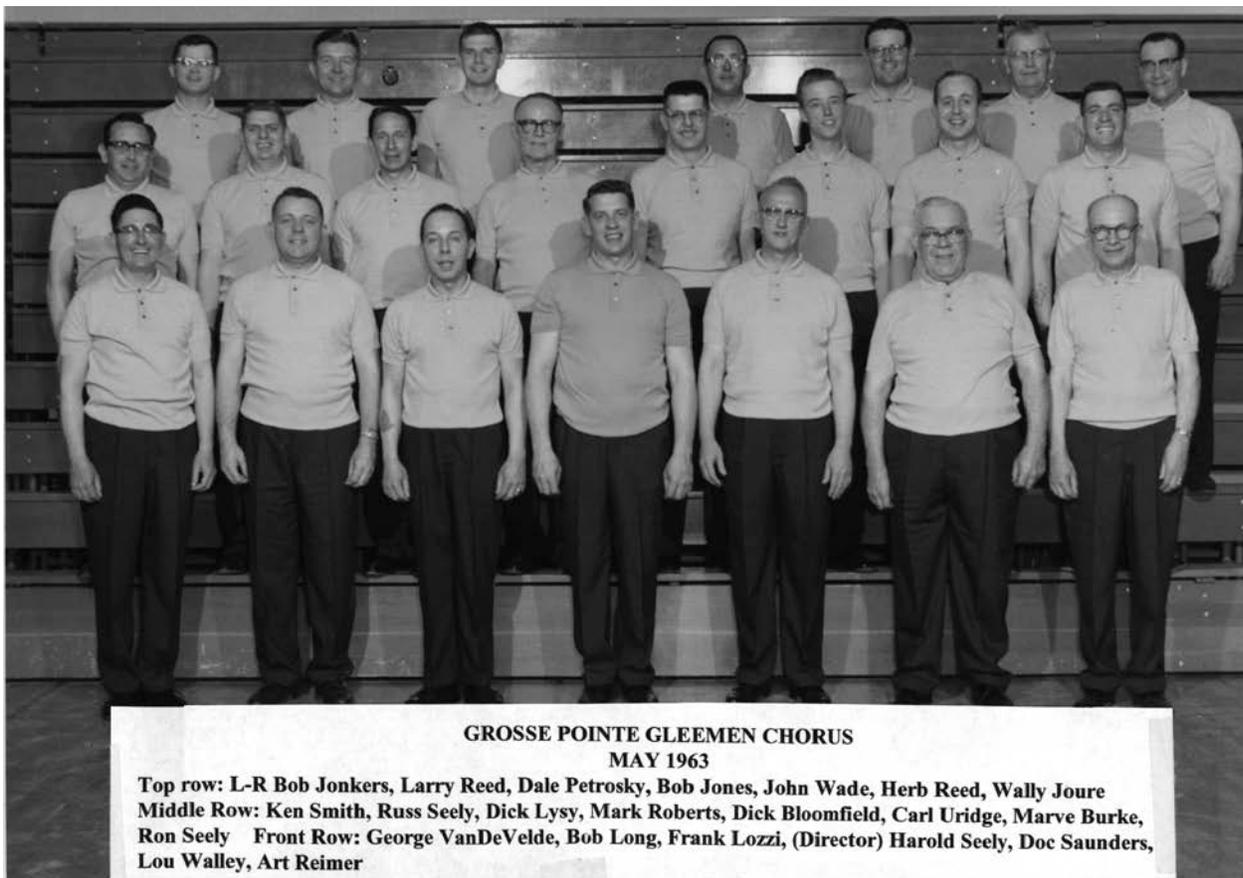
## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

The **4-Fits** happened to also be competing so Hal conscripted them to sing with his chorus. The uniform was tee-shirts and some extra shirts were available. They were sized to fit all so the new conscripted men had clothes pins in the back of their shirts and sang. (don't know how many regular men had the adaptations to their uniforms) And, following is the result:

3 May 1963    Lansing

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Windmill	Holland	Mike Lucas
2	Sun Parlour	Windsor	Gordon Lang
3	Barbery Host	Oakland	Duncan Hannah
4	<b>GLEEMEN</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>HAROLD SEELY</b>
Junior	Sun Parlour	Windsor	Gordon Laing
	Det Yachtmen	Detroit	Tom J Needham
	Jacksonaires	Jackson	Sam Cushman
	Wonderland	Wayne	Bill Butler
	Three Rivers	Three Rivers	Lloyd Carter

We sang "I Love the Way You Roll Your Eyes" and  
"I Love to Hear That Old Time Melody"



**GROSSE POINTE GLEEMEN CHORUS  
MAY 1963**

**Top row: L-R Bob Jonkers, Larry Reed, Dale Petrosky, Bob Jones, John Wade, Herb Reed, Wally Joure  
Middle Row: Ken Smith, Russ Seely, Dick Lysy, Mark Roberts, Dick Bloomfield, Carl Uridge, Marve Burke,  
Ron Seely    Front Row: George VanDeVelde, Bob Long, Frank Lozzi, (Director) Harold Seely, Doc Saunders,  
Lou Walley, Art Reimer**

## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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11 Oct., 1963 Holland Grosse Pointe did not compete.

9 May 1964 Windsor

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Wonderland	Wayne	Dale Clixby
2	Motor City	Detroit	
3	Sun Parlour	Windsor	Gordon Lang
4	Wolverine	Oakland County	
5	<b>GLEEMEN</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>HAROLD SEELY</b>
6		Greenville	
7 *	Clintronics	Utica-Rochester	
8 *	Mall City	Kalamazoo	

\* Disqualified for insufficient Contestants

Oct 1964 Grosse Pointe did not compete

Spring 1965 Grand Rapids Grosse Pointe did not compete

8 Oct 1965 Battle Creek Grosse Pointe did not compete

30 Apr 1966 Dearborn

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Motor City	Detroit	Bill Butler
2	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Burt Szabo
3	Barbery Host	Oakland County	Dick Liddicoate
4	Timberland	Saginaw	Earl Kieth
5	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Louis Mahacek
6	Windmill	Holland	Mike Lucas
7	<b>GLEEMEN</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>HAL SEELY</b>
8	Fruit Belt	Benton Harbor	Bill Hansen
9	Clintonics	Utica-Rochester	Marshall Hill
10	Holly-Fenton	Holly-Fenton	Gordy Robinson

23 GP Men on stage



## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

4	Windmill	Holland	Mike Lucas
5	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	
6	Gateway	Niles-Buchanan	
7	Capitolaire	Lansing	
8	Jacksonaires	Jackson	
9	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
10	Cereal City	Battle Creek	

### 24 Apr 1970 Muskegon

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Wolverine	Oakland County	Carl Dalke
2	Wonderland	Wayne	Gordon Limburg
3	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	
4	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	
5	Timberld Chords	Saginaw Bay	Bob Glover
6	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b> <b>DICK BROUCKAERT</b>
7	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Burt Szabo
8	Gateway	Niles-Buchanan	
9	Capitolaire	Lansing	
10	Windmill	Holland	Mike Lucas

We sang "Bring back those good old days"

"Give me that old time medley".

40 GP Men on stage

### 10 Oct 1970 Windsor

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Wolverine	Oakland County	Carl Dalke
2	Wonderland	Wayne	Gordon Limburg
3	Motor City	Detroit	Bill Butler
4	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
5	Floral City	Monroe	
6	Mall City	Kalamazoo	
7	Huron Valley	Milford	

### 24 Apr 1971 Traverse City

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Wonderland	Wayne	Gordon Limburg
2	Cherry capitol	Traverse City	
3	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
4	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	
5	Motormen	Pontiac	
6	Port city	Muskegon	
7	Capitolaire	Lansing	
8	Arrow Head	Flint	

## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

9 Boyne City  
 10 Makinaw Trail Cadillac

### 9 Oct 1971 Grand Rapids

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Wolverine	Oakland County	Carl Dalke
2	Motor City	Detroit	Bill Butler
3	Wonderland	Wayne	Gordon Limburg
4	Cereal City	Battle Creek	
5	Merry Motormen	Pontiac	
6	Mall City	Kalamazoo	
7	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	
8	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
9	Capitolaires	Lansing	
10	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	

### 29 Apr 1972 Midland

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Motor City	Detroit	Thom Hine
2	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
3	Capitolaires	Lansing	
4	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	Marty Chirgwin
5	Motormen	Pontiac	Dan Rafferty
6	Cereal City	Battle Creek	Larry Swan
7	Timbreland Ch'd'n	Saginaw Bay	Bob Glover
8	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Fran Jones
9	Sun Parlour	Windsor	Doran McTaggart
10	Fruit Belt	Benton Harbor	Roger Valentine

### 14 Oct 1972 Flint

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Motor City	Detroit	Thom Hine
2	Cap'l Cty Ch'd'n	Lansing	Ken Gibson
3	Wonderland	Wayne	Gordon Limburg
4	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
5	Cereal City	Battle Creek	Larry swan
6	Cherry capitol	Traverse City	
7	Motormen	Pontiac	Dan Rafferty
8	Timberld Ch'd'n	Saginaw Bay	Bob Glover
9	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	
10	Arrow Head	Flint	Fred Kienitz

### 27 Apr 1973 Lansing

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
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## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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1	Captl Cty Ch'd'n	Lansing	Ken Gibson
2	Cereal City	Battle Creek	Larry Swan
3	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>DICK BROUCKAERT</b>
4	Cherry capitol	Traverse City	
5	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Fran Jones
6	Gateway	Niles-Buchanan	
7	Arrow head	Flint	Fred Kienitz
8	Sun Parlour	Windsor	Doran McTaggart
9	Huron Valley	Milford	Marty Zurn
10	Makinaw Trail	Cadillac	

We sang "When My Sugar Walks Down the Street" and "Tomorrow"

13 Oct 1973 Battle Creek

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Motor City	Detroit	Thom Hine
2	Wonderland	Wayne	Bob Whitedge
3	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
4	Cereal City	Battle Creek	Larry Swan
5	Captl Cty Ch'd'n	Lansing	
6	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Dick Peterson
7	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Fran Jones
8	Timberld Ch'd'n	Saginaw Bay	Bob Glover
9	Gateway	Niles-Buchanan	
10	Makinaw Trail	Cadillac	

We sang "When My Sugar Walks Down the Street" and  
"The Way You Look Tonight"

27 Apr 1974 Traverse City

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Wolverine	Oakland County	Glenn VanTassle
2	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	Marty Chigwin
3	Cereal City	Battle Creek	Larry Swan
4	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Fran Jones
5	Gateway	Niles-Buchanan	
6	Timberld Ch'd'n	Saginaw Bay	Bob Glover
7	Makinaw Trail	Cadillac	
8	Sun Parlour	Windsor	Doran McTaggart
9	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
10	Huron Harmony	Port Huron	

We sang "When My Sugar Walks Down the Street" and  
"Mary - O - Mine"

Grosse Pointe gets a Stage Presence Penalty

12 Oct 1974 Windsor

## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Wonderland	Wayne	Gordon Limburg
2	Wolverine	Oakland County	Glenn VanTassle
3	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
4	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Chuck Buffman
5	Mall city	Kalamazoo	Craig Stacey
6	Gateway	Niles-Buchanan	Dan Shelles
7	Huron Valley	Milford	Marty Zurn
8	Huron Harmony	Port Huron	Pat Yacques
9	Fruit Belt	Benton Hbr-St Joe	Roger Valentine
10	Lumbermen	Alpena-Thun Bay	

We sang "Oh what a pal was Mary"  
"Rock a bye your baby".

### 26 Apr 1975 Midland

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Motor City	Detroit	Bob Whitledge
2	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
3	Cereal City	Battle Creek	Larry Swan
4	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Chuck Buffman
5	Gateway	Niles-Buchanan	
6	Huron Harmony	Port huron	
7	Fruit Belt	Benton Harbor	Roger Valentine
8	Motormen	Pontiac	Dan Rafferty
9	Sun Parlour	Windsor	Doran McTaggart
10	Mis-Statesmen	Gratiot County	

We sang "Jeannine" and "Rock a Bye Your Baby".

### 11 Oct 1975 Grand Rapids

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Motor City	Detroit	Bob Whitledge
2	Wolverine	Oakland County	Glenn VanTassle
3	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Chuck Buffman
4	Cereal City	Battle Creek	Larry Swan
5	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	Dean Fischer
6	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>KURT KUSCH</b>
7	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Craig Stacey
8	Gateway	Niles-Buchanan	Dan Shelles

## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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9	Huron Harmony	Port Huron	Pat Yacques
10	Fruit Belt	Benton Hbr-St Joe	

We sang "Rock a Bye Your Baby" and "Jeannine"

24 Apr 1976 Lansing

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Wonderland	Wayne	Steve Sutherland
2	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>GORDON LIMBURG</b>
3	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Robert Buffman
4	Floral City	Monroe	Glenn VanTassle
5	Timberman Ch'd'n	Saginaw Bay	James Gross
6	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	Dean Fischer
7	Captl Cty Ch'd'n	Lansing	Willis Wood
8	Clinton Valley	Clinton Valley	Stanley Salter
9	Huron Harmony	Port Huron	Pat Yacques
10	Fruit Belt	Benton Harbor	Roger Valentine

We sang "Old Pair of Shoes" and "You Only Want Me When...."

Michigan District name is Changed to Pioneer District

9 Oct 1976 Dearborn

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Motor City	Detroit	Bob Whitledge
2	Wonderland	Wayne	Steve Sutherland
3	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Robert Buffman
4	Floral City	Monroe	Glenn VanTassle
5	Wolverine	Oakland County	J. Donald Barrett
6	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>DICK BROUCKAERT</b>
7	Cereal City	Battle Creek	Larry Swan
8	Captl Ch'd'n	Lansing	Don Funk
9	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Bob Folk
10	Windmill	Holland	Del Doctor

We sang "Goodbye My Lady Love" and "Sweethearts no More"

23 Apr 1977 Midland

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Chuck Buffman
2	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
3	Wolverine	Oakland County	Glenn Van Tassle
4	Cherry capitl	Traverse City	
5	Timberld Ch'd'n	Saginaw Bay	

## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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6	Huron Valley	Benton Hbr-St Joe
7	Cptl Ch'd'n	Lansing
8	Clinton Valley	Clinton Valley
9	Huron Harmony	Port Huron
10	Windmill	Holland

We sang "Home Town" and "Sweethearts no More".

### 7 Oct 1977 Kalamazoo

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Motor City	Detroit	Thom Hine
2	Wonderland	Wayne	Steve Sutherland
3	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Chuch Buffman
4	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
5	Cherry capitol	Traverse City	Marty Chigwin
6	Cptl Cty Ch'd'n	Lansing	Bob Winters
7	Wolverine	Oakland County	Fred McFadyen
8	Floral City	Monroe	Chuck drouillard
9	Cereal City	Battle Creek	
10	Tiblnd Ch'd'n	Saginaw bay	Jim Gross

We sang "Home Town" and "Sweethearts No More"

### 22 Apr 1978 Lansing

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Motor City	Detroit	Thom Hine
2	Wolverine	Oakland County	Fred McFayden
3	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
4	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	Marty Chigwin
5	Cptl Cty Ch'd'n	Lansing	Robrt J. Winter
6	Timbrld Ch'd'n	Saginaw Bay	James Gross
7	Fruit Belt	Benton Hbr-St Joe	Roger Valentine
8	Motormen	Pontiac	Dick Liddecoate
9	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Robert V Folk
10	Clinton Valley	Clinton Valley	Stanley Salter

We sang "Showboat" and "Home Town"

### 14 Oct 1978 Grand Rapids

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
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## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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1	Wonderland	Wayne	Steve Sutherland
2	Motor City	Detroit	Thom Hine
3	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
4	Wolverine	Oakland County	Fred McFayden
5	Cptl Cty Ch'd'n	Lansing	Robert J. Winter
6	Cherry capitol	Traverse City	
7	Timblnd Ch'd'n	Saginaw Bay	
8	Fruit Belt	Benton Hbr-St Joe	
9	Floral City	Monroe	
10	Cereal City	Battle Creek	

We sang "Showboat" and "Sweethearts No More"

28 Apr 1979 Saginaw

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Wonderland	Wayne	Steve Sutherland
2	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
3	Wolverine	Oakland County	Fred McFayden
4	Capitol Ciy	Lansing	Dr. David Gillingham
5	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	Marty Chigwin
6	Fruit Belt	Benton Hbr-St Joe	Roger Valentine
7	Mid-Statesmen	Gratiot County	Mike Bowen
8	Cereal City	Battle Creek	
9	Arrow Head	Flint	
10	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Charles Moerdyk

We sang "Showboat" and "Summer Sounds"

Grosse Pointe 1979 Gold Division Chorus Champions

19 Oct 1979 Kalamazoo

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Wonderland	Wayne	Steve Sutherland
2	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Jerry Koning
3	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
4	Motor City	Detroit	Thom Hine
5	Wolverine	Oakland County	Fred McFayden
6	Huron Valley	Milford	Glenn Van Tasse
7	Floral City	Monroe	Chuck Drouillard
8	Capitol City	Lansing	Dr. David Gillingham
9	Arrow Head	Flint	Fred Kienitz
10	Fruit Belt	Benton Hbr-St Joe	Roger Valentine

We sang "Showboat" and "Sweethearts No More"

## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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26 Apr 1980 Ann Arbor

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Jerry Koning
2	Wolverine	Oakland County	Al Fisk
3	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
4	Huron Valley	Milford	Rick Dale
5	Capitol City	Lansing	Dr. David Gillingham
6	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	Marty Chirgwin
7	Mid-Statesmen	Gratiot County	
8	Windmill	Holland	
9	Sun Parlour	Windsor	Bill Roth
10	Fruit Belt	Benton Hbr-St Joe	Roger Valentine

We sang "Me and My Gal" and "Kathleen"

18 Oct 1980 Jackson

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Clay Shumard
2	Wonderland	Wayne	Steve Sutherland
3	Motor City	Detroit	Bob Whitledge
4	Wolverine	Oakland County	Al Fisk
5	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>STERLING BERRY</b>
		<b>JEFF GOUGEON</b>	
6	Wash Cnty Frnds	Huron Valley	Glenn Van Tassle
7	Floral city	Monroe	Roger Barnes
8	Capitol City	Lansing	Dr. David Gillingham
9	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Charles Moerdyk
10	Fruit Belt	Benton Hbr-St Joe	Roger valentine

We sang "Me and My Gal" and "When I Lost You"

## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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24 Apr 1981 Traverse City

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Motor City	Detroit	Bob Whitledge
2	Wolverine	Oakland County	Al Fisk
3	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
4	Capitol City	Lansing	Dr. David Gillingham
5	Mid-Statesmen	Gratiot County	Mike Mowen
6	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	Marty Chirgwin
7	Sun Parlour	Windsor	Bill Roth
8	Northland	Sault Ste Marie	Eugene Haines
9 *	Fruit Belt	Benton Hbr-St Joe	Roger Valentine
10 *	Clinton Valley	Clinton Valley	Derrick Deakins

\* Disqualified

We Sang "Me and My Gal" and "When I Lost You"  
57 GP Men on stage

17 Oct 1981 Kalamazoo

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Motor City	Detroit	Bob Whitledge
2	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Clay Shumard
3	Wonderland	Wayne	Steve Sutherland
4	Wolverine	Oakland County	AL Fisk
5	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
6	Fruit Belt	Benton Hbr-St Joe	Roger Valentine
7	Floral City	Monroe	Roger Barnes
8	Timberland	Saginaw Bay	Jim Gross
9	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	Marty Chirgwin
10	Arrow Head	Flint	Fred Kienitz

50 GP Men on stage

24 Apr 1982 Lansing

## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Wonderland	Wayne	Steve Sutherland
2	Wolverine	Oakland County	Al Fisk
3	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
4	Capitol City	Lansing	
5	Fruit Belt	Benton Hbr-St. Joe	
6	Mid-Statesmen	Gratiot County	
7	Wash Frnds Chrd	Huron Valley	
8	Clinton Valley	Clinton Valley	
9	Timberland	Saginaw Bay	
10	Sun Parlour	Windsor	

We sang "Me and My Gal" and "If I Had My Way"  
42 GP Men on stage

### 16 Oct 1982 Grand Rapids

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Clay Shumard
2	Wonderland	Wayne	Steve Sutherland
3	Motor City	Detroit	Bob Whitledge
4	Capitol City	Lansing	
5	Wolverine	Oakland County	Al Fisk
6	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
7	Huron Vally	Milford	
8	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	Marty Chirgwin
9	Clinton Valley	Clinton Valley	Derrick Deakins
10	Fruit Belt	Benton Hbr-St.Joe	

We sang "Girls Medley" and "If I Had My Way"  
46 GP Men on stage

### 22 Apr 1983 Midland

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Great Lakes	Grand rapids	Clay shumard

## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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2	Capitol City	Lansing	Ken Gibson
3	Wolverine	Oakland County	Fred McFayden
4	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
5	Huron Valley	Huron Valley	Jim Stephens
6	Timberland	Saginaw Bay	Herb Benjamin
7	Mid-Statesmen	Gratiot County	Mike Mowen
8	Arrow Head	Flint	Fred Kiemitz
9	Clinton Valley	Clinton Valley	Derrick Deakins
10	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	Marty Chirgwin

We sang "Girls Medley" and "I Found My Sweetheart, Sally"  
59 GP Men on stage

### 15 Oct 1983 Grand Rapids

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Wonderland	Wayne	Steve Sutherland
2	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Clay Shumard
3	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>JACK SLAMKA</b>
4	Capitol City	Lansing	Ken Gibson
5	Huron Valley	Huron Valley	James Stephens
6	Stateline	Monroe	Ben Ayling
7	Huron Harmony	Port Huron	Brian Kaufman
8	Clinton Valley	Clinton Valley	Derrick deakins
9	Sun Parlour	Windsor	Jeff Gougeon
10	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Ed Fritzen

We Sang "Girls Medley" and "I Found My Sweetheart, Sally"  
59 GP Men on stage

This is the Year of Grosse Pointe.  
We are now the Pioneer District Champions

We've been competing for around 20 years but have never taken first place. Well, as it turns out, this is our year.

As I recall, we were bumped from the swell high school we were to sing in and wound up in some old theater.

When Bob McDermott announced "Grosse Pointe is now the Pioneer District Champions" we were quite pleased.

## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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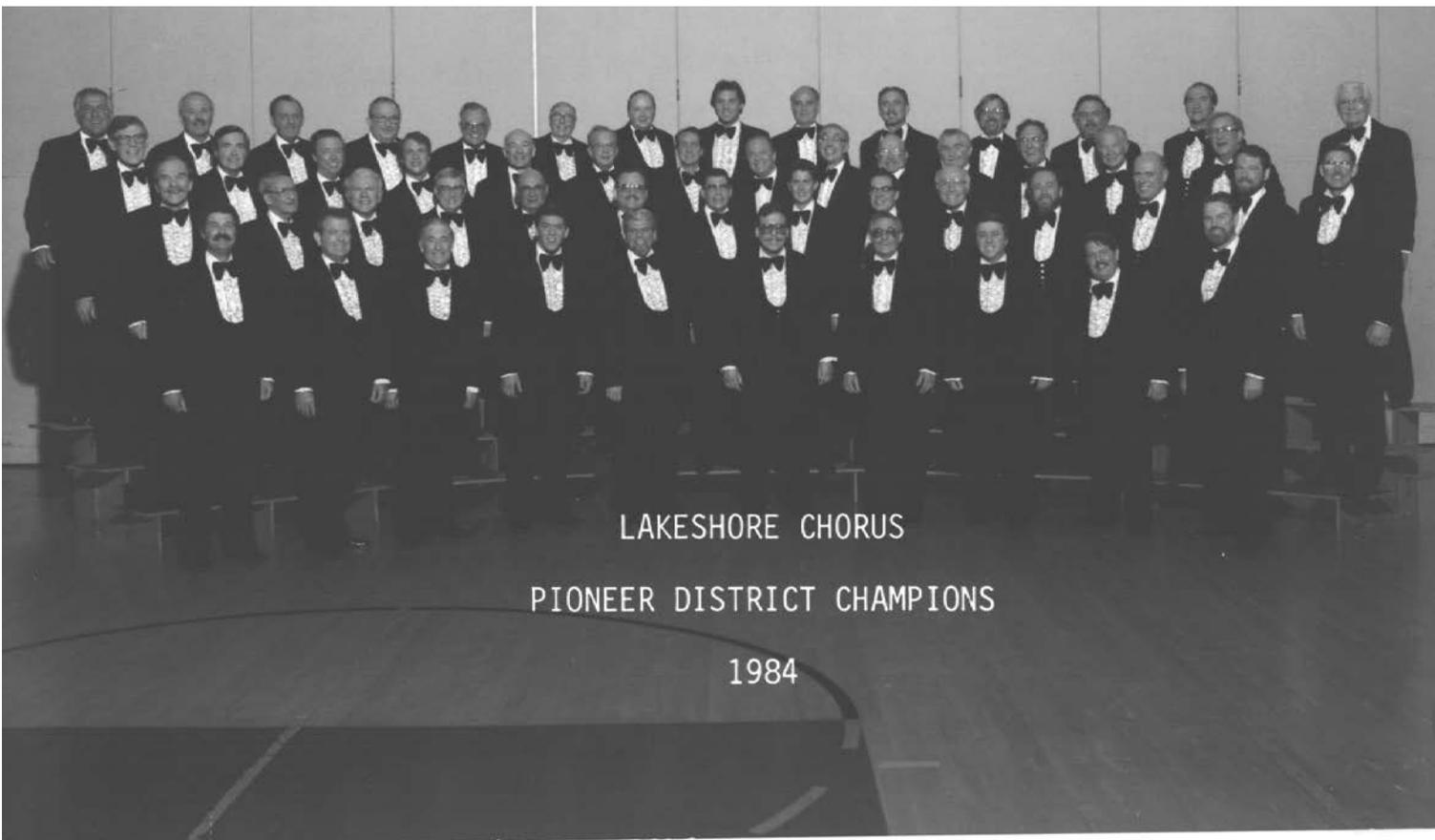
28 Apr 1984 Ann Arbor

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
2	Huron Valley	Huron Valley	James Stephens
3	Huron Harmony	Port Huron	Brian Kaufman
4	Motor City	Detroit	Rueben Queen
5	Mid-Statesmen	Gratiot County	Jeff Rayburn
6	Wolverine	Oakland County	Fred McFayden
7	Cereal City	Battle Creek	Alfred Richards
8	Sun Parlour	Windsor	Jeff Gougeon
9	Fruit Belt	Benton Hbr-St Joe	Roger Valentine
10	Shoreline	Muskegon	Del Doctor

## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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We sang "Girls Medley" and "I found my sweetheart, Sally".



**Top Row, L to Right: Howard Lehti, John Wade, John Collins, Jim Kinner, Harvey Burr, Charley Evans, Al Cole, Mike McCarty, Bill Lane, Nels Gregersen, Dan Bulbuk, Art Jones, Eric ernst, Herb Reed**  
**Third Row: Bob Wood, Bob Sauers, Carl Uridge, Mike Proffitt, Sully Mazur, Hal Polhamus, Russ Hofer, Ken Warren, Bob Rancillio, Gerne Honderick, Ron Houghton, Howard Richards, Bill Brower, Ed Sauve**  
**Second Row: Len Schweitzer, Richard Barber, Damon Smith, Don Adams, Dal Trombley, Woodson Orvis, Hank DeMars, Tim Fick, Dale Barber, Don Hein, Sterling Berry, Bill Shier, Neil Davies, Don Willoughby**  
**First Row: Al Clifton, Ray Starrette, Joe Bichler, Matt Seely, Russ Seely (Director), Gary Stroze, George VanDeVelde, Jack Messina, Hal Trombley, Howard Masters**

## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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20 Oct 1984 Grand Rapids

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Wonderland	Wayne	Steve Sutherland
2	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Robert Buffman
3	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
4	Cereal City	Battle Creek	Alfred Richards
5	Capitol City	Lansing	Ken Gibson
6	Wolverine	Oakland County	Jack Slamka
7	Motor City	Detroit	Ben Ayling
8	Huron Valley	Huron Valley	Jim Stephens
9	Huron Harmony	Port Huron	Brian Kaufman
10	Shoreline	Muskegon	Del Doctor

We sang "Girls Medley" and "I Found My Sweetheart, Sally"  
51 GP Men on stage

26 Apr 1985 Warren Grosse Pointe not eligible to compete \_

20 Oct 1985 Grand Rapids

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Fran Jones
2	Renaissance	Wayne	Jim Pollard
3	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
4	Capitol City	Lansing	Pete Brown
5	Huron Valley	Huron Valley	James Stephens
6	Cereal City	Battle Creek	Dorn Burrill
7	Timberland	Saginaw Bay	Jim Gross
8	Stateline	Monroe	Scott Turnbull
9	Sun Parlour	Windsor	Grant Wilson
10	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	Matt Coombs

We sang "Girls Medley" and "I Found My Sweetheart, Sally"  
59 GP Men on stage

26 Apr 1986 Saginaw Grosse Pointe not eligible to compete \_

18 Oct 1986 Battle Creek

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
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## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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1	Renaissance	Wayne	Jim Pollard
2	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Fran Jones
3	Gntlmn Songster	Detroit-Oakland	Steve Sutherland
4	Capitol City	Lansing	Mike O'Donnell
5	Mid-Statesmen	Gratiot County	Jeffry Rayburn
6	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
7	Cherry capitol	Traverse City	Matt Coombs
8	Huron Valley	Huron Valley	Jim Stephens
9	Arrow Head	Flint	John Noteware
10	Cereal City	Battle Creek	Dorn Burrill

54 GP Men on stage

10 Apr 1987 Battle Creek

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Gntlmn Songster	Detroit-Oakland	Steve Sutherland
2	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
3	Mid-Statesmen	Gratiot County	Jeffry Rayburn
4	Harmony Heritage	Macomb County	Jack Slamka
5	Arrow Head	Flint	John Noteware
6	Capitol City	Lansing	Mike O'Donnel
7	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	Matt Coombs
8	Timberland	Saginaw Bay	Robert Winters
9	Cereal City	Battle Creek	Don Burrill
10	Huron Valley	Huron Valley	Ken Winkelman

53 GP Men on stage

Grosse Pointe is Plateau V Champions

16 Oct 1987 Battle Creek

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Clay Shumard
2	Renaissance	Wayne	Jim Pollard
3	Gentlmn Songsters	Detroit-Oakland	Steve Sutherland
4	Harmony Heritage	Macomb County	Jack Slamka
5	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>SCOTT HOUGHTON</b>

## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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6	Arrow Head	Flint	John Noteware
7	Capitol City	Lansing	Michael O'Donnell
8	Timberland	Saginaw Bay	Robert Winters
9	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	Matt Coombs
10	Cereal City	Battle Creek	Alfred Richards

52 GP Men on stage

### 22 Apr 1988 Battle Creek

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Mid-Statesmen	Gratiot County	Jeffry Rayburn
2	Renaissance	Wayne	Jim Pollard
3	Harmony Heritage	Macomb	Jeff Gougeon
4	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
5	Arrow Head	Flint	John Noteware
6	Capitol City	Lansing	Michael O'Donnell

43 GP Men on stage

### 15 Oct 1988 Battle Creek

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Clay Shumard
2	Renaissance	Wayne	Matt Coombs
3	Mid-Statesmen	Gratiot County	Jeff Rayburn
4	Gentlmm Songsters	Detroit-Oakland	Steve Sutherland
5	Timberland	Saginaw Bay	James Gross
6	Harmony Heritage	Macomb County	Jeff Gougeon
7	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>SCOTT HOUGHTON</b>
8	Windmill	Holland	Myke Lucas
9	Arrow Head	Flint	Fred Kienitz
10	Capitol City	Lansing	Michael O'Donnell

## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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We sang "Sunnyside Up" and "Melancholy Baby".  
47 GP Men on stage

22 Apr 1989 Battle Creek

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Renaissance	Wayne	Matt Coombs
2	Harmony Heritage	Macomb County	Jack Slamka
3	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
4	Windmill	Holland	Myke Lucas
5	Arrow Head	Flint	John Noteware
6	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	Dean Fischer
7	Cereal City	Battle Creek	Dorn Burrill
8	Capitol City	Lansing	Mike O'Donnell
9	Timberland	Saginaw Bay	Jim Gross
10	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Ed Fritzen

57 GP Men on stage  
Grosse Pointe is Plateau V Champion

21 Oct 1989 Battle Creek

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Dale Mattis
2	Renaissance	Wayne	Matt coombs
3	Harmony Heritage	Macomb County	Jack Slamka
4	Arrow Head	Flint	John Noteware
5	Gentlmm Songsters	Detroit-Oakland	Steve Sutherland
6	Windmill	Holland	Myke Lucas
7	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
8	Capitol City	Lansing	Mike O'Donnell
9	Cereal City	Battle Creek	Dorn Burrill
10	Mill Valley	Milford	Darl Wiley

47 GP Men on stage

## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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27 Apr 1990 Battle Creek

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Harmony Heritage	Macomb County	Bob Hartly
2	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Dale Mattis
3	Gentlmm Songsters	Detroit-Oakland	Steve Sutherland
4	Windmill	Holland	Myke Lucas
5	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
6	Arrow Head	Flint	John Noteware
7	Capitol City	Lansing	Jim Johnson
8	Timberland	Saginaw Bay	Robert Winters
9	Hrt of the Hills	Clinton Valley	Al Fisk
10	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Ed Fritzen

47 GP Men on stage

21 Oct 1990 Battle Creek

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Harmony Heritage	Macomb County	Jack Slamka
2	Renaissance	Wayne	Jim Stephens
3	Windmill	Holland	Myke Lucas
4	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
5	Capitol City	Lansing	Jim Johnson
6	Gentlmm Songsters	Detroit-Oakland	Paul Bergman
7	Inter-Lakes	Cadillac	Jim Carey
8	Mill Valley	Milford	Darl Wiley
9	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Ed Fritzen
10	Fruit Belt	Benton Hbr-St Joe	Roger valentine

We sang "All the World and Its Gold" and "Side by Side"  
50 GP Men on stage

27 Apr 1991 Battle Creek

## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Jerry Koning
2	Windmill	Holland	Myke Lucas
3	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
4	Mid-Statesmen	Gratiot County	Jeff Rayburn
5	Capitol City	Lansing	Jim Johnson
6	Gentlmm Songsters	Detroit-Oakland	Paul Bergman
7	Hrt of the Hills	Rochester	Al Fisk
8	Huron Val Harms	Huron Valley	Edward Aluk
9	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Ed Fritzen
10	Cherry capitol	Travers3e City	Dean Fischer

59 GP Men on stage

Grosse Pointe is Plateau Champion

### 19 Oct 1991 Battle Creek

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	City Lights	Motor City Metro	Bob Whitledge
2	Harmony Heritage	Macomb County	Jack Slamka
3	Windmill	Holland	Myke Lucas
4	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Jerry Koning
5	Mid-Statesmen	Gratiot County	Jeff Rayburn
6	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
7	Capitol City	Lansing	Jim Johnson
8	Gentlmm Songster	Detroit-Oakland	Paul Bergman
9	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Ed Fritzen
10	Inter-Lakes	Cadillac	Jim Carey

42 GP Men on stage

### 25 Apr 1992 Battle Creek

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
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## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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1	City Lights	Motor City Metro	Bob Whitledge
2	Windmill	Holland	Myke Lucas
3	Mid-Statesmen	Gratiot County	Jeff Rayburn
4	Capitol City	Lansing	Jim Johnson
5	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
6	Renaissance	Wayne	Matt Coombs
7	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Eugene Hanover
8	Gentlmm Songster	Detroit-Oakland	Paul Bergman
9	Hrt of the Hills	Rochester	Al Fisk
10	Sun Parlour	Windsor	Doug Sly

We sang "Good Ship Lollipop" and "Codfish Ball"  
49 GP Men on stage

### 17 Oct 1992 Battle Creek

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	City Lights	Motor City Metro	Bob Whitledge
2	Windmill	Holland	Myke Lucas
3	Mid-Statesmen	Gratiot County	Jeff Rayburn
4	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Jerry Koning
5	Harmony Heritage	Macomb County	Jeff Gougeon
6	Gentlmm Songster	Detroit-Oakland	Paul Bergman
7	Capitol City	Lansing	Jim Johnson
8	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Eugene Hanover
9	Huron Val Harms	Huron Valley	Ken Winkleman
10	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>

**BOB DEMCHAK**

We sang "Good Ship Lollipop" and "Under Sea Medley"  
45 GP Men on stage

### 24 Apr 1993 Lansing

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Windmill	Holland	Myke Lucas
2	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
3	Gentlmm Songster	Detroit-Oakland	Paul Bergman

## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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4	Renaissance	Wayne	Matt Coombs
5	Harmony Heritage	Macomb County	Mark Slamka
6	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Eugene Hanover
7	Capitol City	Lansing	Jim Carey
8	Sun Parlour	Windsor	Doug Sly
9	Hrt of the Hill	Rochester	Al Fisk
10	Arrow Head	Flint	John Noteware

We sang "Summer Sounds" and "You Gotta Have Heart Medley"  
52 GP Men on stage

### 15 Oct 1993 Lansing

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	City Lights	Motor City Metro	Bob Whitlege
2	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Jim Johnson
3	Capitol City	Lansing	Jim Carey
4	Windmill	Holland	Myke Lucas
5	Mid-Statesmen	Gratiot County	Jeff Rayburn
6	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Eugene Hanover
7	Gentlmm Songster	Detroit-Oakland	Paul Bergman
8	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
9	Renaissance	Wayne	Matt Coombs
10	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	Marty Chirgwin

We sang "Summer Sounds" and "Moonlight Bay/Good Old Summertime"  
54 GP Men on stage

### 23 Apr 1994 Lansing

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Jim Pollard
2	Capitol City	Lansing	Jamie Carey
3	Mid-Statesmen	Gratiot County	Jeff Rayburn
4	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	Marty Chirgwin
5	Gentlmm Songster	Detroit-Oakland	Paul Bergman
6	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Gene Hanover
7	Renaissance	Wayne	Matt coombs
8	Hrt of the Hills	Rochester	Al Fisk
9	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b>
10	Harmony Heritage	Macomb County	Mark Slamka

We sang "All the World and its Gold" and "Cocktails for Two"

## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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56 GP Men on stage

14 Oct 1994 Lansing

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	City Lights	Motor City Metro	Matt Coombs
2	Great Lakes	Grand Rapids	Jim Pollard
3	Capitol City	Lansing	Jamie Carey
4	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Gene Hanover
5	Cherry Capitol	Traverse City	Marty Chirgwin
6	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b> <b>STEVE PAULING</b>
7	Windmill	Holland	Myke Lucas
8	Mid-Statesmen	Gratiot Country	Jeff Rayburn
9	Huron Shore	Alpena	Ted Johnson
10	Renaissance	Wayne	Fred Mc Fadyen

We sang "Moon Medley" directed by Russ Seely and "Ma, she's makin' eyes at me" directed by Steve Pauling.  
62 GP Men on stage

29 Apr 1995 Lansing

Place	Chorus	Chapter	Director
1	City Lights	Motor City Metro	Matt Coombs
2	Capitol City	Lansing	Jamie Carey
3	Mall City	Kalamazoo	Gene Hanover
4	Cherry capitol	Traverse City	Marty Chirgwin
5	Gentlmm Songster	Detroit-Oakland	Steve Sutherland
6	Mid-Statesmen	Gratiot County	Jeff Rayburn
7	Renaissance	Wayne	Fred McFadyen
8	<b>LAKESHORE</b>	<b>GROSSE POINTE</b>	<b>RUSS SEELY</b> <b>PATRICIA SMITH</b> <b>JOAN PICCIONE</b> <b>KAREN SCHAEFER</b>
9	Arrowhead	Flint	John Noteware
10	Sun Parlour	Windsor	Doug Sly

We sang "Moon Medley", directed by our ladies and "Destiny" directed by Russ Seely.  
52 GP Men on stage  
Grosse Pointe is Plateau VI Champion

## Chapter Eight - District Chorus Competitions

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Lakeshore Chorus with tongue-in-cheek district first  
by Jim Styer

Grosse Pointe's Lakeshore Chorus - known for it's parodies and fun numbers in contest - did a straight number in the spring contest.

But, that wasn't as historic as another aspect of the presentation - Pioneer District's first woman director in competition. In fact, three women directors.

Joan Piccione, Pat Smith, and Karen Schaefer were each out front for a portion of the first song "Moon Medley." At other times they remained in the front row of the chorus, but didn't sing.

Questioned later, Lakeshore Director and Pioneer District President, Russ Seely just smiled, but later claimed Grosse Pointe became the first, second, and third Pioneer chorus to have a female director.  
(Somehow, Mark Roberts must have been near, we could hear the laughing)

## Chapter Nine - Chapter Shows

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### GROSSE POINTE CHAPTER SHOWS

How come there are so many guys at practice these past weeks? There are definitely more guys than usual. You guessed it, we're getting ready for our annual show, "Grosse Pointe Goes Rag-Time". The guys like being part of the act and the practices are a lot of fun. Russ Seely has all the music selected and arranged, the special quartets and groups are selected and the props are nearly complete. The script is being edited each week and the guys have their music down pat.

When did the chorus put on their first shows? The guys were in shows before the Chapter was formed. So it was natural for the shows to continue after the Chapter was formed. The shows were called 'Jubilees' and 'Parades'. These terms came from the fact that the shows consisted of processions of quartets, one after the other. Each would sing their allotted number of songs or until they were forced off the stage. This hogging of the show was natural because these guys really liked to perform. Depending upon the location of the 'Parades' there may have been eating and drinking and smoking during the performance. There were also instrumental performances and gang singing (It was called gang singing because there were no choruses in the early days, strictly quartets).

In the beginning we participated in some other chapter parades or many times the Turners Sponsored shows and our Chapter was a significant part of the show. Turners allowed our ladies as guests at their shows thus providing two Ladies Nights each year.

In 1947, we started our own Chapter Parades with Marks Roberts pitching in as Chairman for several years. There is an information black out in the late 50's and early 60's but the old timers say there were always parades. A lot of the parades were held at the Pierce Junior High School and the afterglows at The Turners. Our Chapter quartets were not stingy with their talent.

Folks in the Barbershop World were praising the Cabaret Style Show for its economy and ease of producing it. The guests had their dinner, the guys put on the show and the afterglow was held on the spot. Don Adams chaired the first such show, in 1969, at the Detroit Yacht Club on Belle Isle. This was the First Annual 'Little Show'.

Russ Seely and his committee put on the next 'Little Show', again in the Main Ball Room of The Detroit Yacht Club, in 1970. The feature quartet was the **VAGABONDS**, 1969-1970 District Champions. Other entertainers were the **BEAN TOWN FOUR**, 1969 Bush League Champions, the **4-FITS**, 1965-1966 District Champions and International Quartet Finalists plus the Lakeshore Chorus.

The "Little Shows" were held every year through 1976 and always at the Detroit Yacht Club. In July of 1976 the Chapter presented the first H.E.P. Benefit Show to help defray the expenses for sending our members to H.E.P. School. This show was held at Grosse Pointe North High

School - Just about the best one we've ever put on. It featured **WARREN G. HARDING**,

## Chapter Nine - Chapter Shows

Banjoes East, **NORTHERN HIGHLIGHTS** with Bob Demchak, and the Detroit Motor City Chorus as well as our own quartets and chorus. The show was held at Regina High.

1977 was another great show year. In June, the Chapter put on another H.E.P. Benefit Show. This was the first show with a Theme and a Script. The script was written by Bill Lenhard and Jim Kerrigan. September came around and so did 'Sounds of Barbershop', also at Regina High. The afterglow was at Notre Dame.

14 May 1978                      Bach to Barbershop                      Orchestra Hall

24 Mar 1979                      Songs of Our Gals                      Parcels Middle School  
Chairman-Bob Rancilio

Songs:  
Cecelia                      Me and My Gal  
Mandy                      If I Had My Life To Live Over  
Lili Marlene                      Summer Sounds

After-Glow Harper Woods Civic Center Don Adams

11 Apr 1980                      A Barbershop Tour of Broadway                      Lakeview High                      PP May 80  
Chairman- Dan Schaitberger

New York, New York                      Amy - Wayne Kniffin Tap Dancing  
Moonbeams                      Lida Rose - Rachel O'Brien  
Hello Dolly                      Edelweiss  
Its You (Quartet)                      Over the Rainbow  
Old Man River

7 Mar 1981                      Barbershop Roundup                      Lakeview High                      PP Mar 81  
Chairmen- Don Adams and George VanDeVelde

Songs:  
Waiting for the Robert E Lee                      Lone Prairie  
You Call Everybody Darling                      Yona From Arizona  
Gold Mine in the Sky

19 & 20 Mar 1982                      College Daze                      Parcels Middle School                      PP Apr 82

Songs:  
Doing the Racoon                      Queen of the Senior Prom

## Chapter Nine - Chapter Shows

Halls of Ivy	Whiffenpoof Song
Sweetheart of Sigma Chi	All American Girl
Charleston (Pointe Classics)	

18 & 19 Mar 1983    Ethnic Festival    Parcels Middle School    PP Jun 83  
 Chairman-Bob Rancilio

Songs:

This is My Country	Edelweiss
A Foggy Day in London Town	My Melody of Love
Danny Boy - Ferd McFayden	Golden Ear Ring
Hey Cum Buddy	Chinese Honeymoon
China Town	
This is My Country- Rheingold Chorus and Lakeshore Chorus	

9 & 10 Mar 1984    Barbershop Goes Hollywood    Grosse Pointe North    PP Apr 84

Songs:

Moving Picture Ball	Moon River (Octet)
Lullabye of Broadway	You Light Up My Life
Somewhere Over The Rainbow	Dear Heart
White Christmas	Pass Me Bye (Quartet)
Supercal	Old Black Magic
Sheik of Araby and Rock-a-Bye My Baby (Kinner's Cavemen)	

Second Half:

Girls Medley  
 Sally

15 & 16 Feb 1985    Grosse Pointe Revives Vaudeville    Grosse Pointe North    PP Mar 85  
 Chairman- Bob Rancilio

Order of Songs:

First Act	Second Act
The Entertainer	The Old Routine
Soft Shoe Song	Sally
One of Those Songs	Here's to the Winners
Hello My Baby	Battle Hymn
Me and My Shadow	Girls Medley
Bring Back Those Vaudeville Days	

4 & 5 Apr 1986    Lakeshore Broadcasts Barbershop    Grosse Pointe North

## Chapter Nine - Chapter Shows

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1 & 2 May 1987      Grosse Pointe Presents the Best of the Best      Grosse Pointe North

Order of Songs

Reprize::

Home On The Range

Give Me a Girl

Lone Prairie

Battle Hymn

Wagon Wheels

Whiffenpoof Song

All American Girl

Supercal-Zippadee Doo Dah

Over The Rainbow

Old Black Magic (Just Friends)

Melody of Love - Ay Coom Bah Dee

Lullaby of Broadway

Lida Rose

Hello Dolly

Old Routine

Me and My Shadow

Turn Your Radio On - Daddy Sang Base

Mairzy Doats (Just Friends)

In The Mood

11 & 12 Mar 1988      Grosse Pointe Votes Straight Barbershop      Grosse Pointe North      PP Jun 88

Order of Songs:

Alabamy Bound

Give My Regards to Broadway

How Ya Gonna Keep Em Down On The Farm

Henry K Holiday

I'm Still Havin' Fun

My Melancholy Baby

Somebody Stole My Gal

Sunny Side Up

The Streets of New York

Thank You

We're Behind You All The Way

Where Have My Old Friends Gone

Any Little Girl Can Made A Bad Man

California Here I Come

Here's To The Winners

This Is My country

## Chapter Nine - Chapter Shows

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31Mar & 1 Apr 1989 Grosse Pointe Presents Planes, Trains and Automobiles PP Spring 89

Our Story begins at the Lewis and Clark High School in Eugene, Oregon in the mid 1920's. The hero of our story, a school teacher and an avid barbershopper is Justin Dreyfus. As the scene opens, he is instructing some students about the finer points of barbershopping when he receives the good news - if he can make his way across the country to New York City, the famous quartet, 'Gentlemen Disagreement' needs him to sing with them in Carnegie Hall but he must hurry. And so starts Justin's journey. Along the way he meets myriad of characters and finds just how long and difficult cross country travel could be in the '20s. Slowly and not so surely Justin makes his way toward New York City by planes, trains, autos even boats and a bicycle built for two. Will Justin Dreyfus fulfill the dream of a lifetime, will he arrive in time to sing on stage with the 'Gentlemen Disagreement'? It's show time and the Lakeshore Chorus is about to tell Justin's story about Trains, Planes and Automobiles.

20 & 21 Apr 1990 Grosse Pointe Goes Bankrupt Grosse Pointe North pp Sep 90

Songs:

I've got Money  
Sitting On Top of the World  
Money Makes the World Go Round (Quartet)  
If I Were a Rich Man  
I'm Always Chasing Rainbows  
Dream-That Old Quartet of Mine (4-Fits)  
Brother Can You Spare a Dime  
Side By Side  
I Wouldn't Trade the Silver (Quartet)  
It's Good to Know I'm Welcome

All The World and Its Gold  
If My Friends Could See Me Now (Quartet)  
Keep Your Sunny Side Up

Grosse Pointe Goes Bankrupt! The whole world is turned upside down. From the lavish Roaring Twenties to the depression of the Thirties and then the hometown atmosphere of the Forties, the Lakeshore chorus presents its 1990 show. Based on the beautiful inspiring music of the era we will take you on a short history lesson. Those of you who lived through it will enjoy the music we've revived. Those unfamiliar with the age will discover the wonderful music produced during the time.

5 & 6 Apr 1991 Grosse Pointe Goes Honky Tonk Grosse Pointe North

Songs:

## Chapter Nine - Chapter Shows

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Show Me Where The Good Times Are  
Sam, The Accordion Man  
You Can't Play Sweet Adeline On No Piano  
Amore (Quartet)  
There'll Be No New Tunes On This Old Piano  
McCarthy's Party (Ernst and Sullivan)  
Clacy Lowered The Boom  
Hard Hearted Hannah (Kinner's Kittens and HHH Alice Ernst)  
Charleston - Me and My Shadow (Shick and Orvis)  
WWI Medley (Just Friends)  
Sweet Adeline

McCarthy's Saloon is the scene of the  
Honky Tonk

91 Lakesho  
Chorus will surprise and excite the Lakes

you as we create the wonderful atmosphere of an Irish Pub in the year 1918. The characters will include Clancy, the bartender, Dan, the piano man, Sam, the accordion man, the Irish Cops, Kinner's Kittens, Hard Hearted Hannah and many others. As usual, all the characters and the dialog woven around the songs you'll love to hear the chorus perform.

29 Sep 1991                      Suntones and Blue Grass Student Union      Fitzgerald High

21 Mar 1992                      Grosse Pointe Goes to Sea                      Fitzgerald High                      PP May 92

Our story begins on March 17, 1492 when Captain  
Christopher Columbus' plans to head

Crash  Mo  
West  to

Queen Isabell's explorer by sailing directly to China and plant the Irish Flag in Mongolia.  
The setting is the Good Ship Lollipop where a crew of Irish Sailors, rogues, elves, and general Irish ne'er do wells are about to embark on the first trans-oceanic crossing. Sit back and enjoy the cruise.

Songs:

Good Ship Lollipop  
Please Mister Columbo, Turn the ship around

20 Nov 1992                      Grosse Pointe Goes to Sea                      GP War Memorial

16 & 17 Apr 1993                      Grosse Pointe Goes to Spring Training                      Grosse Pointe North

BASEBALL is a never ending story about older players being replaced by younger rookies. It's about destyted owners, weird managers, lovable sportscasters and its a story about money.  
Our saga begins with opening day in 1933 (60 years ago) in Upper Crust Park in Grosse Pointe where the hometown favorites, the Grosse Pointe Clippers are taking on the Brooklyn Dodgers.

## Chapter Nine - Chapter Shows

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Manager, Sparky Russell, has promised a new and exciting team. There is no way but up for the 'Clippers' who finished in the basement in last years pennant race.

A number of Chapter Quartets will be featured during the show. The '**Lakeshore Clippers**' will express the emotions and feelings oof a fading and aging star (quartet lead, Frank Fortier) '**Pipedream**' tells us Its a Beautiful Day For a Ball Game. **Just Friends** quartet sends us a message about the future in baseball, Money Makes The world Go Round!

We hope this funny cast of characters tickle your funny bone and caress your ear. Wayne Kniffen

Songs:

Take me out to the ball game

You gotta have heart

O'Brien to Ryan to Goldberg

17 Nov 1993

Bach to Barbershop

GP War Memorial PP Nov 93

Songs:

Show Me Where The Good Times Are

Lida Rose

Riding The Chariot

Moonlight Bay

Sweet Adeline

I'm a Yankee Doodle Boy

8 & 9 Apr 1994

Always Leave Them Laughing

Grosse Pointe North PP May 94

Chairman-Eric Ernst

Comedy ranks with penicillin and chicken soup for therapeutic value. It is probably no accident that the proliferation of aspiring young comics is a consequence of the explosion of COMEDY CLUBS. Tonight's story deals with such a club run by Wayne Phunn and the escapades of Chorus Director, Russ Seely and the Lakeshore Chorus on a snowy night in Detroit. A number of chapter quartets and the chorus weave the convoluted tale.

The '**Afterglow**' and '**First Time Around**' quartets and the chorus start the show lauding 'Show Business'. The '**Lakeshore Clippers**' musically challenge the veracity of the COMEDY CLUB management. '**Pipedream**' fill in for the absent regular comics and prove that if they can do anything, its got to be singing. Our resident Eytalian, Jack Messina, regales with 'Eh Compari'. The '**Four Fits**', our 1964 District Champs make a comedic guest appearance. After 'Cocktails for Two', '**Just Friends**' alcoholically render a chorus of 'Temptation'. And, finally, in response to a challenge by the club's banjo players, the chorus does a vocal presentation of 'Dueling Banjos'. We hope our show will provide an unforgettable musical experience and will 'Leave You Laughing'.

## Chapter Nine - Chapter Shows

5 Oct 1994	Shine on Harvest Moon	GP War Memorial
Sep 1995	Fifty Years of Harmony	Macomb Center for Performing Arts
Songs:		Finale:
The Old Songs		To Be Alone
Come on and Show me Where the Good Times Are		This is a Lovely Way
Honey (Quartet)		I Care Not For the Stars That Shine
I Love The Way You Roll Your Eyes		Battle Hymn
Chordbusters (Quartet)		
Girls Medley		Old Routine
I Found My Sweetheart, Sally		Turn Your Radio On
Mandy (Quartet)		Cocktails For Two
Lone Prairie		Chicago (Quartet)
Home on the Range		Dayton (Quartet)
Wagon Wheels		Do You Know What It Means
California Here I Come (Quartet)		San Francisco
All American Girl		Supercal
Whiffenpoof		Codfish Ball
Halls of Ivy (Quartet)		Money, Money, Money (Quartet)
Girl of My Dreams		Lida Rose
Moonlight Bay		Give My Regards to Broadway
Moon Medley		Harrigan
Blue Moon		Rose, Ring to the Name of (Quartet)
No Business Like Show Business		You're a Grand Old Flag
No New Tunes On The Old Piano		I'm a Yankee Doodle Dandy
Bye Bye Blues		God Bless America
Dueling Banjos		
1995	Christmas Show	GP War Memorial

## Chapter Nine - Chapter Shows

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### **Russ Seely on Annual Shows**

I'm elated to say that practically all of our Pioneer chapters hold annual shows of one type or another. It's a healthy organizational sign, not to mention the fun it is to plan , rehearse and perform for our community. Which brings me to my point. Are we getting as involved as we ought to be in our local community? Since we are afforded so little, if any, free time on electronic media, the only way we can "preserve and encourage" is through live appearances at community or school functions.

### **How We Feel About Russ Seely's Shows**

The above is a credo Russ takes seriously. Grosse Pointe has put on shows for fund raising every year and many times has put on community shows or performed in community shows ever since becoming a chapter of the Society. For about the last 29 or so years Russ has done an outstanding job in our annual shows. Of course, Russ has directed all the shows and in addition, his talent for arranging the music, writing scripts and set designing is a real plus for the Grosse Pointe Chapter.

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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### 25th Anniversary LAKESHORE LADIES AUXILIARY 1970-1995

This chapter was assembled and computerized by the 1995 President, Karen Schaefer. For this great service I will ever be grateful. (edit.)

On this day, November 10, 1970, the Lakeshore Chorus Ladies Auxiliary was formed the first meeting was attended by seventeen charter members namely:

Mrs. Ceil Adams, Mrs. Mary Ann Currie, Mrs. Ginger Demchak, Mrs. Lydia Faunce, Mrs. Melitta Ford, Mrs. Grace Germaine, Mrs. Joan Goltz, Mrs. Marian Joure, Mrs. Pat McCarthy, Mrs. Gladys Russell, Mrs. Marge Sanders, Mrs. Shirley Seely, Mrs. Ellen Sharrer, Mrs. Olga Stanko, Mrs. Mary Lou Uridge, Mrs. Dawn Yacques, and Mrs. Margery Wearing.

The following By-laws were set down on January 10, 1971.

1. Meetings will be held the 2nd Tuesday of each month unless a holiday occurs, then meetings will be held the 3rd Tuesday of the month.
2. Meetings will begin promptly at 8:30 P.M.
3. Payment of dues of \$1.00 per month. Payment shall be a moral obligation, in case of absence from a meeting, member is not required to pay unless she so desires.
4. Any and all expenditures shall be

voted upon by members of the auxiliary. If an emergency should arise whereas all members cannot be contacted for vote, the executive board will vote and present accounting to members.

5. Never infringe in any way with the workings of the "Lakeshore Chorus" members.

6. When organizing functions or money making projects always check with President and Chorus Director for approval of such matters.

7. Eligibility for membership in auxiliary: Husband must be a member in good standing with the "Lakeshore Chorus".

The auxiliary consists of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Telephone Committee, Helping Hand Committee, Program Committee, and Reporter.

The following are the first ladies to hold office:

President.....Marge Wearing  
Vice President.....Dawn Yacques  
Secretary.....Lucille Dubrul  
Treasurer.....Janie DeMars  
Reporter.....Shirley Seely

Our goals are to endeavor to make a closer association between the wives of members belonging to Lakeshore Chorus. To support our husbands in organizing functions, financially and otherwise. To make the Lakeshore

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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Chorus known throughout the society as a working organization combining efforts between both husband and wife.

Our first money making project was the sale of Christmas candles. Also, the first Children's Christmas party was held at the Alger Post. The children each brought an ornament to trim the tree. These ornaments were kept for future use.

The February 9 meeting was held at the home of Pat McCarthy. She delighted us all with a special Valentine dessert. A "White Elephant" auction was also held to build our kitty.

On March 19, we held a rummage sale at the Calcaterra Hall on Gratiot in Roseville. Due to bad weather, it was not a successful venture.

With the proceeds of the rummage and other sales held, the ladies happily surprised the chorus members with blue shirts. To go with the shirts was a shield designed by Shirley Seely. The men wore the shirts (off stage) at Traverse City.

Our last meeting for this year was held at the home of Marge Wearing. A "White Elephant" auction was held and the election of officers.

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### 1971-1972

September 24, 1971 a Box Social was held at the Calcaterra Hall. The ladies went all out with packing beautiful box lunches, decorating, baking, country store, penny candy, etc. Many of the gals wore old

fashioned long dresses, adding to the decor. This was a huge success with a net profit of \$281.06.

We had a Christmas tray sale and on December 5 we had a party for our children and grandchildren at the Allard House. The children played games, sang, and danced under the direction of Russ Seely. They also enjoyed a magician. Our annual Christmas party was held at the home of Pat McCarthy with a \$1.00 gift exchange. A Christmas gift was also sent to the East Macomb Day Training Center.

The January, 1972 meeting was held at the home of Olga Stanko. And in February, we enjoyed Ladies Night held at the Roostertail. The Ladies auxiliary presented the chorus with a check for \$300.16.

On March 14, the meeting was held at the home of Mary Lou Uridge. Action Line was present to show a film strip. New By-Laws were also added as follows:

Each officer will hold office for a period of two (2) years.

Exception to the rule is as follows:

1. Illness
2. Change of residence, or for any valid reason the officer may ask to resign of their own volition.
3. In the event the auxiliary body feels that an officer is unable to fulfill her obligations. The Board of Directors at such time may request her resignation.

Board Members will make final decisions, financial and otherwise, if

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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members of the Auxiliary are unable to reach an agreement on any issue that may arise.

Each Past President automatically becomes a member of the board.

### Board members

1. Attend all board meetings.
2. Advise or aid in any decisions that may arise.
3. May at such time vote on matters when requested by officers.

Spring Convention was held in Midland. Our chorus came in second.

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Installation of Officers was held on May 15, 1972 at the Surf Lounge. As each of us proudly wore our beautiful white carnation corsages, we enjoyed a delicious dinner and floor show and welcomed our new officers as follows:

President.....Lucille Dubrul  
Vice President.....Mary Lou Uridge  
Secretary.....Dawn Yacques  
Treasurer.....Jane DeMars  
Program Chairman &  
Reporter.....Marge Wearing  
Historian.....Marge Polhamus

On June 6, we met at Lucille Dubrul's to pick out outfits to wear to conventions and to set up workers for the up-coming Box Social. The outfits consist of blouses ordered and the making of long a-line red, white and blue skirts.

The first meeting of this year was on September 12, at the home of Ellen Scharrer.

On September 30, the Auxiliary held their second annual Box Social at the Pollard House. The country store was composed of beautiful needle work, candles, baked goods, jewelry, and hand-made items. The Lakeshore Chorus along with six quartets entertained the guests. Dick Brouckaert did a fantastic job of auctioning the beautiful box lunches. The profit from the evening was \$273.00.

In October, we went to Flint, Michigan for the Fall Competition. Results in: The Ladies were 1st place winners in costume of long skirts and uniform blouses...The Men were 4th place contenders in song.

On November 8, the Detroit Chapter wives hosted a "Get Acquainted Party" at the home of Inger Nieghorn for all the Lakeshore ladies. The evening consisted of fellowship, refreshments and card games.

Our 3rd annual Christmas party for the children was held at the Allard House. Mr. Braun played the part of Santa Claus. He gave the children treats and in turn the children donated gifts to poor children. Entertainment consisted of a magician, movies and games. The Ladies Christmas party was held at the home of Janie DeMars. The January 9, 1973 meeting brought a decision to drop the Box Lunch Social and replace it with a Pot-Luck Dinner.

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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Discussions at the February 6 meeting at Marge Wearing's involved the Box Social/Pot-Luck dinner, Donations, and Coffee Urns.

Ladies Night was held at the Roostertail on March 3. A check for \$200.00 was presented to the Chorus.

By-Laws were changed at the March 6 meeting to read as follows:

1. The meeting be held the 1st Tuesday of each month unless a Holiday occurs, then meet the 2nd.
2. That the membership of the Auxiliary will consist of the wife of any paid up member in good standing, belonging to the Grosse Pointe Chapter. (This, instead of member of the chorus)

The April 3 meeting was held at the home of Jane West. Women will buy doughnuts and cheese/crackers for Hospitality Room at convention. The Lakeshore Chorus came in 3rd place at the Spring Convention in Lansing on April 28. (Note: John & Marge Wearing occupied the Bridal Suite at the hotel)

Our Annual Installation Dinner was held on May 16 at the Port O' Call in Algonac. Twenty members were present as the officers were commended for a job well done. Present officers will serve another year with Mary Ann Currie as Secretary.

September 17, 1973 starts off this year of activities. Detailed plans were made for the September 28 Pot-Luck dinner at Putnam Hall. The Pot-Luck was a financial success to the tune of \$257.38. Everyone had a wonderful time.

On October 3, we met at Lucille Dubrul's. It was decided to pay for food used in the Convention Hospitality Room instead of giving the chorus a check, and in lieu of having the wives donate food all the time.

November 7th the meeting was at Marge Polhamus' house with 8 members present. Plans for the children and ladies Christmas parties were made. We also agreed to supply the hors d' oeuvre for COIN night on November 16.

The annual Christmas party for the children was held on December 2 at the Macomb Mall. Mr. Braum was Ol' Saint Nick. Another attraction was the Balloon man (Skip Gibson) who so cleverly molded individual animals for each child present. They also enjoyed our usual home-made cookies.

The ladies party was held on December 5 at the home of Ceil Adams. A \$1.00 gift exchange, playing games and telling jokes were the highlights of the evening. On January 9, 1974 we met at Dorothy Reed's. Six members discussed plans for finding a hall for the pot luck dinner and arranging a meeting with the Detroit Chapter wives at Mary Lou Uridge's home.

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1973-1974

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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We also donated a \$15.00 check to the Michigan Cancer Society in memory of Buff Bouffard. We also enjoyed our "White Elephant" sale which netted \$2.60.

Eleven members took part at the February 13 meeting at Jane eMars. Much discussion was held concerning new ideas for social activities. Some suggestions were: A record hop, Halloween party, Masquerade party, or a Hard Times party. A Sing-along party with a banjo group won out. We then proceeded to play bingo and have dessert after all that work.

The Chorus competed on April 27 in Traverse City. The gals decorated the Hospitality room in a "Pioneer Theme". Some of the ladies wore long old fashioned dresses. It was a great weekend.

Our annual installation dinner was held on May 9 at the Carousel Lounge. There were 25 ladies present. The new officers elected for the next 2 year term are:

President.....Kathy Krass  
Vice-Pres.....Claudie Rockensuess  
Secretary & Reporter-Mary Lou Uridge  
Treasurer.....Catherine Catellane  
Historian.....Jane West

A \$16.00 collection was also taken for the Lutheran School in memory of Dr. Charlie Sharrer who died on April 26, 1974.

Fopurteen New and old members joined in this year's first meeting on Sept. 4 at the home of Catherine Catellane, Treasurer. Plans for a sing-a-long party were cancelled due to the Tag Contest at Detroit Chapter. Plans for the Hospitality room in Windsor at the International Motor Lodge on Oct. 12 include the usual snacks.

Our October 8 meeting as held at Mary Lou Uridge's. Guest Speaker, Don Wenzel, introduced "Entertainment" books as a fund raiser. We could sell them for \$10.00 and a profit of \$1.25-\$1.50 each. The book idea was scraped in favor of a card party. Also, our meetings are changed from the 1st Tuesday to the 1st Wednesday of each month.

On November 14, Hypnotist, Jim Hoke gave a demonstration at Sharon Kohler's house.

The children's Christmas party was held on December 8 at the Macomb Mall. Gifts for the nursing home were donated. The men graciously sang through-out the mall during this time. Clowns and Santa surprised everyone.

The Christmas party for the ladies was held at Marge Wearing's home. Sixteen members were present at the January 9, 1975 meeting.

Flowers were sent to Dawn Yacque's daughter who was in the hospital.

A special meeting was called on January 22 to complete plans for the

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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Card Party. This was held at the home of Kathy Krass.

On February 5, we met at Rose Gooslebee's. Final plans for the card party were made. The Card party was held on February 19 at the K of C Hall on Little Mack & 10 Mile. Table and door prizes were given and coffee and cake was served. Bob Woods won the 50/50 raffle of \$352. 700 raffle tickets were sold. Sixty people attended this successful affair.

On March 5, the ladies decided to donate \$200.00 to the men. This meeting was held at the home of Lucille Dubrul. We also made attractive ashtrays out of tuna cans.

Then on March 8, the men honored us at the Roostertail with dining and dancing. Salt & Pepper shakers were the favors. Over 300 attended!

The April 2 meeting was held at Mary Lou Uridge's. Plans for the hospitality room at Midland were made. Rings were ordered to sell at \$3.00 each. Sandwiches were also sold for 50 cents each at noon before competition.

Our gift to the chapter this year helped the men to purchase much needed risers for the growing chorus.

Our final meeting was held at the Black Angus. 23 ladies attended. The gals sang and no business meeting was held.

This year starts us off at the home of Catherine Catellane on September 10, 1975. Twelve members were present. Plans for the September 27 Pot-luck supper at the Putnam Hall (Gratiot and 8-1/2 mile) are underway. \$2.00 for a pitcher of beer and 50 cents for a bottle of pop will be the drinks of the evening. Seating was arranged by song titles among 4 couples at each table.

Kathy Krass resigned as President. Claudia Rochensues took her place with Mary Lou Uridge moving up to Vice-President.

On October 1, 6 members met at Lucille Dubrul's. Plans were made for the hospitality room in Grand Rapids. Sandwiches and Red, White, and Blue flowerettes were sold for 50 cents each.

Ten members met on November 5. Meetings will now be on the 1st Thursday of each month. Plans for the Christmas parties were made.

A special meeting on November 17, was held. Committees were set up for the Hypnotist show. The by-laws were amended to read the term of office for the officers would be 1 year except for the Vice-President whose term is 2 years (2nd being President). A silent auction was held after this meeting.

The annual Christmas party was held at Mary Lou Uridge's. 16 members attended. A short meeting was held concerning the hypnotist show, and a \$2.00 gift exchange followed.

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1975-1976

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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On December 6, the children's Christmas party was held at St. Mark's from 2-4 P.M. The children received gifts from Santa and gifts were donated to the senior citizens. Clowns also entertained.

On January 8, 1976, 10 members were present at the home of Helen Brower. Hypnotist show plans are continued.

Finally on January 29, Jim Hoke, Hypnotist performed at Sacred Heart School to an audience of 167 people. The chorus also entertained.

On February 5, six members made plans to donate \$300.00 for an amplifier for the men. Also a new phone committee was set up.

The meeting on March 5 found us busy making Pom-Poms to sell at convention. And in the future, St. Basil school will be the new home for our meetings.

The first meeting at St. Basil's was April 1. We hoped that by changing to a public place, we would attract new members. 13 showed for this meeting. New officers for 1976-77 term were elected. They are as follows:

President.....Mary Lou Uridge  
Vice-President.....Charlene Wenzel  
Secretary.....Dorothy Rancillio  
Treasurer.....Helen Brower  
Historian.....Dorothy Reed

Fifteen members attended the meeting on May 6. The convention

flowers will be dressed up with 5" blue ribbons. Also next years plans were in the works.

Lucille Dubrul presided over the Installation dinner on June 3 at the Schmid Haus on 12 Mile Rd. She also provided lovely table prizes.

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### 1976-1977

The first meeting this season was on August 5 at Ceil Adam's home. Plans were made for the Pot-Luck Dinner and Fall Convention at the Hyatt Regency. Grosse Pointe hosted this one.

On September 18, we had our Pot-Luck dinner at Putnam Hall. We had a lot of fun. The food was delicious and plentiful. We also finished making pom-poms and will sell them at convention for .50 each.

Eleven ladies were present on October 14 for the Dry flower arranging lesson given by Janet Goodin. She showed several completed arrangements and answered questions.

On November 11, seven ladies came to plan the children's Christmas party. Meeting date was also changed to the 2nd Thursday of the month.

The ladies held a short meeting on December 9 prior to their Christmas party. Fifteen ladies enjoyed this seasonal event at Helen Browers home. A \$2.00 gift was exchanged.

On December 12, the children's

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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Christmas party was held at St. Mark's. We had entertainment and gifts for the children. We also collected gifts for needy children.

Weather conditions canceled the January 13 meeting so we re-scheduled for January 20, 1977. Five ladies were present.

Plans for the Hypnotist show were made by 9 ladies on February 10. They also discussed the plans for convention. They may sell luggage tags at convention.

On April 14, during the meeting, Gay Shields was our guest speaker from American Airlines. She demonstrated how to pack our luggage wrinkle-free and in a minimum space.

May 5 was another great show for Jim Hoke, Hypnotist. Our chorus and the East Pointe Sweet Adelines sang and helped make this venture a success. Nick Catellane won the 50/50 raffle.

The Installation dinner was held at the Stag & Hound. Excellent dinner as usual, and a nice turn out of 20 women. Mary Lou Uridge installed the new officers and Lucille Dubrul graciously provided corsages made with flowers from her garden.

The new officers for 1977-78 are as follows:

President.....Charlene Wenzel  
Vice-President.....Barbara Fox  
Secretary.....Mary Rutt  
Treasurer.....Helen Brower  
Historian.....Dorothy Reed

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1977-1978

September 12 starts this year off with plans for the upcoming social calendar. Women from Lauri & Co. gave a nice demonstration on macramé on October 10. We also sent out cards to new members to welcome them and ask them to join us.

The ladies presented the men with \$200.00 at C.O.I.N. night.

On November 14, plans for a Pot-Luck dinner and Wine Party were made. The auxiliary also sent a card and plant to Catherine Catellane who was in the hospital.

The Christmas party this year was on December 8 at Mary Rutt's. No party for the children this year as there were fewer children.

The Pot-Luck dinner and Auction was held on January 21 at St. Mark's. Jim Rutt was the auctioneer. Profit made from this event was \$193.

A Wine tasting party was held on April 7 at St. Mark's Hall. A \$60.00 profit was made. Barbara Fox did a great job with this event.

Nine members met on April 10. They planned to donate ham, cheese, pickles & bread for the convention in Lansing. Nominations for the 1978-1979 officers were made. Charlene had us all making butterflies-what fun!

The Installation dinner was held at

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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Pat O'Grady's.

The new officers are:

President.....Mary Rutt  
Vice-Pres. ....Dorothy Rancillio  
Treasurer.....Barbara Fox  
Secretary.....Betty Mazur  
Historian.....Dorothy Reed

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### 1978-1979

Mary Rutt, President, began this season on September 10 with plans for the Hypnotist show. Also it was decided to use the treasury money to purchase a Hudson \$5.00 gift certificate and card to give to any active member who is ill or hospitalized.

October 9 brought more planning for the hypnotist show like having the men sing only 3 songs. Convention plans were also brought up. Sandwiches are on order. The meeting ended with Jim Rutt's slide show presentation of the Harrisville campout.

The hypnotist show was canceled because Jim Hoke's replacement never showed. However Jim Hoke did apologize and another show is in the works.

Our ladies Christmas party was held on December 14 at Dorothy Rancillio's. Santa Claus appeared and a \$3.00 gift was exchanged.

January 18 began the 1978 meetings. Plans for a Wine tasting party were made. Also a trip to Sarnia was suggested. The Wine &

Cheese party was held on February 23 at St. Mark's Episcopal Church. Banjo players were the entertainment for the evening. We also donated \$100.00 to the chorus.

March 8 brought the Saginaw convention plans again and also Sandwiches!

The Installation dinner was held on May 24 at Perini's Restaurant on Whittier. The ladies donated \$200.00 to the men since their funds were low.

New officers are:

President.....Dorothy Rancillio  
Vice-Pres. ....Marge Burr  
Secretary.....Betty Mazur  
Treasurer.....Barbara Fox  
Historian.....Dorothy Reed

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### 1979-1980

Ten members met on September 20 for the start of this season at Dorothy Rancillio's home. Pot-Luck dinner and White Elephant Auction plans were made. Also, Kalamazoo convention plans were made including contacting new wives about joining in the fun.

The October 11 meeting was held at Betty Mazur's with nine members present. No response was received from prospective and past members on the invitations that were sent. Sandwiches this fall-Kalamazoo-Be there!

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On November 24, we had a Pot Luck dinner at St. Mark's Hall. A White Elephant auction was held with Jim Rutt as auctioneer.

Our annual Christmas party was held at Dorothy Rancillio's this year with a \$3.00 gift exchange and finger foods & cookies.

Five members came to discuss plans for convention in Ann Arbor on February 21. We were also concentrating on ways to attract new members to come to the meetings.

On March 21, recruiting was done for the men's April 11th show at Lakeview High School. Women are needed to be ticket takers, passing out programs, selling tickets, etc.

Sandwiches -\$.50 each. Get Yours At the Ann Arbor Convention!

April 17 brought elections and the end of the season decisions. We donated \$250 to the men to purchase 4 new microphones.

The Installation dinner was held at Sheppards Inn.

New officers for next year are:

President.....Barbara Fox  
Vice-Pres. ....Kay Sauve  
Treasurer.....Marge Burr  
Secretary.....Beverly Kinner  
Historian.....Dorothy Reed

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1980-1981

Grosse Pointe does have a social outing during the summer which is a

regular event by those who can attend. This event is the Labor Day weekend at Harrisville. Camping, cabin living, singing, arts & crafts are a part of this weekend. Many of our ladies have participated in this fun time.

Barbara Fox began the first meeting of this year with 8 members present on September 16. Plans for a wine party and t-shirts were on the agenda.

The October 14 meeting with ten members found them planning the fall convention at Detroit's Plaza Hotel.

We met on November 18, with 14 members and made plans for Christmas and next year.

December was a busy month. On the 5th, we had a Wine & Cheese party with entertainment from the "Pointe Classics". Then on December 16, we met at Marge Burr's Community House for our Christmas party. The ladies brought finger foods and a \$5.00 gift for exchanging.

Our January 17 meeting was held in Sarnia, Canada with 20 women present. The ladies had a great time visiting at Canterbury Inn.

On February 17, 9 ladies met to discuss disbursements from the treasury. Organization was also a must for the men's show. The women sold juice and worked at the afterglow at the Lutheran Fraternities Hall on March 7.

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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Eight ladies met on March 17. They decided to donate \$250 to the chorus. We received \$100 from the men for work done at the afterglow.

Convention time has arrived again. The ladies ordered t-shirts for the Traverse City convention. International convention was also to be held in July in Detroit and the ladies discussed what functions they would participate in. Yes--there also was sandwiches at Traverse City.

We were honored with pins from Ray Starette at the Ladies Night held at the Monte Carlo on March 21.

Our Installation dinner was held at Merriweather's Restaurant on Van Dyke on May 26.

The new officers were:

President.....Kay Sauve  
Vice-Pres.....Nancy Jones  
Treasurer.....Marge Burr  
Secretary.....Beverly Kinner  
Historian.....Dorothy Reed  
1981-1982

We began this season on September 15 with ten women present. Discussion of money making projects brought ideas such as a garage sale, Halloween dress-up, pot luck party & white elephant sale.

At the October 13 meeting of eleven ladies we said no to a Halloween party but thought of a New Years party. Convention plans were also finalized. (Sandwiches-maybe?) Ron Houghton sent us a thank you for our help at the convention.

Plans for the Christmas party and pot luck were made at this November 17 meeting.

Our Christmas party was on December 15 at Kay Sauve's home. Everyone attending brought a \$5.00 grab-bag gift and finger foods.

Final plans for the Pot luck dinner were made at the January 12 meeting. All was ready for this event. Future plans were also discussed.

In February we held the Pot Luck dinner and White Elephant auction. Our favorite auctioneer, Jim Rutt, presided over the evening's sales.

Ladies night was held on February 12 at the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club. The February 16 meeting brought plans for the men's show and afterglow. They needed 18 ushers each night. The ladies were to wear pom-poms.

On April 20, we had a pizza party at the meeting. Convention plans and sandwiches were discussed.

The Installation dinner was held on May 18 at the "More L-Bow Room".

The new board was as follows:

President.....Nancy Jones  
Vice-Pres.....Kay Sauve  
Treasurer.....Kay Collins  
Secretary.....Betty Mazur  
Historian.....Dorothy Reed

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1982-1983

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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Nancy Jones, President, opened the meeting on September 21 with seven members present. Plans to send out a letter to all wives asking for help at the convention and future projects were made.

On October 12, final plans for the Grand Rapids convention and the making of sandwiches were made. Future plans of a square dance were also made.

The Square dance plans were more detailed at the November 16 meeting.

Our annual Christmas party was held at Kay Sauve's home on December 21. A post card was sent to all the ladies for this event.

Final plans for the square dance were made when we met on January 11. On January 14, we had the Square dance at St. Mark's hall. The menu consisted of sloppy joes, cole slaw, potato chips, dessert, and drinks. Profit from this event was \$37.50.

At the meeting on February 15, plans were made for the men's show and what the women were needed to do. Russ Seely also asked for our assistance in critiquing the men's performance at rehearsals.

On March 15, the men's show and Midland convention plans were made. We furnished the sandwiches.

The Annual Installation dinner was on May 24 at the Blue Pointe Restaurant on Warren near Cadieux.

These members are the new board:

President.....Kay Collins  
Vice-Pres.....Beverly Kinner  
Secretary.....Verna Richards  
Treasurer.....Marge Burr

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1983-1984

We began on September 20 with convention plans and sandwiches. Discussion followed concerning other fund raisers but no new ideas were found.

On October 15, Ron Houghton, President of the men's group and the hospitality chairman came and talked to us about the hospitality room at the convention. Sandwiches were made at John Wade's warehouse.

We met on November 15 and made more plans for the White Elephant sale. Also we discussed donating the money for a copier to the men.

The Christmas party was held on December 13 at Kay Sauve's house. Everyone brought a snack and \$5.00 gift to exchange.

The ladies met on January 17 and found out that the men didn't want a copier and didn't need any money. That idea was scrapped. The 'round robin' phone system was used to solicit dishes for the Pot Luck Dinner.

On February 21, final plans were made for the Pot Luck dinner and the men's show was also beginning to get organized.

The Pot Luck dinner and White

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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Elephant sale was held on February 25 at St. Mark's hall. Jim Rutt again did a great job as auctioneer. Over 60 people enjoyed great fellowship and food.

At the April 17 meeting, sandwich fixins were planned for the convention. The Ann Arbor convention was held on April 27-28. Grosse Pointe came in 1st Place!

The Installation dinner was held on May 22 at the Sand Trap.

New officers for next year are:

President.....Beverly Kinner  
Vice-Pres.....Dorothy Rancillio  
Treasurer.....Marge Burr  
Secretary.....Verna Richards

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### 1984-1985

The 1st meeting this year on September 17 found the women donating \$400 to the men for a key cooler. Meetings were to also be changed to the Neighborhood Club in the library. Spring convention plans began early, requiring work from everyone.

The meeting on October 16, found the ladies looking into a Box Social as a possible activity. Also sandwich making was planned for the fall convention.

The Christmas party this year was at Mary Rutt's home on December 11. A \$5.00 gift was to be exchanged and a dish of goodies was passed.

The January 22 meeting added

finishing touches to the men's show & Box Social. The ladies would be ushering at the show. The men's show was February 15 & 16 at Grosse Pointe High School.

John Collins met with the ladies briefly on March 19 to discuss the need for typists at the spring convention. Also the color of outfits would be red, white, & blue with straw hats. We also had some new visitors at this special new members chapter meeting. The Box Lunch Social was also canceled for the year.

Twenty ladies met on April 16 to sign up for helping at convention. Everyone participated!

The Installation dinner was held at Puzzles Restaurant on VanDyke with these ladies taking office:

President.....Marge Burr  
Vice-Pres.....Verna Richards  
Treasurer.....Barbara Fox  
Secretary.....Helen Honderich

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### 1985-1986

The first meeting was on September 17 to discuss the October 5 Pot Luck and White Elephant sale. Good attendance and lively bidding with Jim Rutt as auctioneer made this night another success.

At the October 15 meeting we were the Pep Section at the men's rehearsal. We also made convention plans. Guess what? NO Sandwiches! - because there was no hospitality room and the men sang so early in the program.

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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A few members met on November 19 to plan the Christmas party and future fund raisers. We also sold some old Christmas decorations and banners for a profit of \$30.00.

The Christmas party was held at Beth Shier's home on December 17. There was a \$5.00 gift exchange and wine and hor 'douvers.

The February 18 meeting found us planning a Square dance next fall. We would also have a St. Patrick's party at the March meeting. Plans for the chapter show in April were made. We also discussed the matter of private make-up kits for the men rather than a common use one.

Wearing of the green was in order on March 18. We also made plans for our uniform at the show which would be straw hats and pom-pom ribbons.

On April 15, we discussed better ways to usher for the men's show after experiencing a little confusion with seating arrangements. We also hoped to contact some new wives to increase the auxiliary.

The Installation dinner was on May 20 at Herbert's on old 13 Mile Rd. New officers for next year are:

President.....Verna Richards  
Vice-Pres.....Beverly Shier  
Secretary.....Mary Lou Uridge  
Treasurer.....Barbara Fox

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1986-1987

Thirteen members met to start the year on September 16. Plans for the

Octoberfest were discussed. New ideas to bring in new ladies were also thought of such as a card party, wine & pizza night and craft night. The Octoberfest was held on October 4 at the Neighborhood Club. John Fitzgerald was the caller for Square dancing. Thirty-nine people attended this event and a profit of \$52.00 was made.

On October 14, we went over last minute plans for convention such as the making of sandwiches. The ladies also helped with the make-up for the men. We also decided to donate \$200 to the chorus for a portable sound system.

Find your most flattering colors was the order of the November 18 meeting. With 19 members in attendance, Mary Redoutey showed us how. With refreshments and great fellowship, it was a wonderful evening.

The annual Christmas party was held on December 16 at Marie Lane's home. Nineteen ladies exchanged \$5.00 gifts and enjoyed a delicious snack.

On January 20, the ladies started using flyers to advertise their meetings. This was the best way to let people know because the Pitch-Pipe wasn't always written. We then enjoyed wine and pizza. We also had a Silent Auction that netted around \$47.

Margaret Akers gave a Nail presentation at our February 17 meeting. Twelve ladies learned the secrets to perfect nails.

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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Verna Richards, President, reported at the March 21 meeting that several of our ladies went to the men's board concerning personal make-up kits for each men. The board reversed their previous decision and agreed. The ladies ordered the kits for the men. Again the ladies also made sandwiches for the convention. Leigh Lane concluded this meeting with a talk on make-up, color, etc. The April 21 meeting of 14 ladies found us making plans for our dinner and electing new officers. We were also busy with show plans . We also had a \$3.00 bottle auction.

The Installation dinner was held at Puzzles Restaurant. The New officers are:

Publicity.....Barbara Fox  
President.....Mary Lou Uridge  
Vice-Pres.....Lucille Dubrul  
Secretary.....Doris Maire  
Treasurer.....Betty Mazur  
Historian.....Dorothy Reed

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### 1987-1988

This year's 1st meeting was on September 15 with ten ladies present. Final plans for the Wine tasting party were made. Plans for competition were made especially concerning the dress code of red jackets, blue skirt and white blouse. It was also brought up that the ladies sew vests for the men in time for the April convention.

The wine tasting party was held on September 19. It was a huge success. The White Elephant

auction gave a profit of \$315 to the treasury.

During the October 13 meeting, it was decided -No sandwiches for convention. Everyone had different work schedules for this event.

Sixteen ladies attended the November 17 meeting. The big project of the year was discussed. Sewing of vests for the chorus would begin in January at Beverly Shier's house. These vests would be made out of satin and be reversible. The total outfit consisted of a vest (pastel color/red), with matching ties and arm bands. Harvey Burr convinced the board of directors to purchase the material. Bolts were bought totaling \$1240.00. Seventy two vests were made throughout this year. Since then a total of 107 outfits have been made to date.

The annual Christmas party was held at Marie Lane's home on December 15. All brought finger foods and a \$5.00 gift exchange.

On January 19, fifteen ladies attended the meeting. Madonna Villa thanked us for the bead ornaments we made for them at Christmas time. We discussed the jobs that need to be done at the men's show at Grosse Pointe North High School.

We met at Beverly Shier's home on February 16 to continue the sewing of vests. Eighteen ladies planned and sewed that evening. Another attempt at recruiting new members was made with personal phone calls as an invitation to the meetings.

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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On April 12, the vests were delivered to the chorus. A BIG THANK YOU was given to Beverly Shier for all her work and use of her home for this project.

At the April 19 meeting, 17 ladies planned a fashion show, convention (with sandwiches) and a banquet. Our Installation dinner this year was held at Chi Chi's on Hoover & 11 Mile Rd. on May 24. New Board members are:

President.....Mary Lou Uridge  
Vice-Pres. ....Lucille Dubrul  
Secretary.....Marian Proffitt  
Treasurer.....Betty Mazur  
Publicity.....Barbara Willoughby  
Membership.....Alice Ernst

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### 1988-1989

Eleven ladies met on September 20 to start this season. Craft projects were discussed for Christmas ideas to include Clothespin Barbershoppers to be passed out when the men go caroling. Rewriting the by-laws was also discussed but postponed.

The October meeting was held at Beverly Shier's home to work on more vests for some of the men who didn't receive them.

At the November 8 meeting, it was decided not to change the by-laws. Christmas party and wine tasting party plans were made.

The annual Christmas party was attended by 18 ladies at the home of

Beverly Shier on December 13. All brought food and a \$5.00 gift to exchange.

Seven members met on January 10. The by-laws and officers duties were re-written and approved. Also jobs were set up for the men's show and we decided to wear red sashes instead of hats.

We next met on February 14 with 11 ladies present. More discussion of the show jobs was had. Also a new project of carry-alls for the Madonna Villa was brought up.

Fourteen members met on March 14. Final show plans were made. Convention plans also were discussed. The menu for the convention would be doughnuts instead of sandwiches because of the early singing time.

April 11 and another year is almost over. 12 ladies attended this one. Lucille Dubrul made \$45 selling clothespin barbershop quartets. Real Unique item!

Our dinner was held at the Jefferson Colonade on May 9 with a record 27 ladies attending. The new officers are:

President.....Beverly Shier  
Vice-Pres.....Louise Hofer  
Secretary.....Marian Proffitt  
Treasurer.....Marge Burr  
Publicity.....Barbara Willoughby  
Sunshine Girl.....Alice Ernst

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### 1989-1990

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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We began on September 19 with plans for a new and different Octoberfest. On October 1, we partied at Bill and Beverly Shier's home. The menu was knockwursts, sauerkraut, German potato salad, and an apple dessert. We even had a tent for the backyard. It was enjoyed by everyone. Another one will be held same time next year.

Our next meeting was October 17 with 11 ladies present. It was suggested to sell the clothespin quartets at convention and donate the proceeds to Logopedics. We will supply snacks for the hospitality room but no sandwiches.

Game night was on November 21 with 12 ladies there to have fun. Barbara Willoughby shared her travelogue of a Northeastern trip to the tune of The Night Before Christmas.

The Christmas party was held on December 12 at the North Shore Community Center. We also made and donated arm-chair companions to the Madonna Villa.

On January 16, there were 11 members present. We planned our next few meetings and looked forward to Ladies Night at Blossom Heath.

Plans for the show were in the works on February 20. The ladies would decorate for the cast party on April 21.

March 20 found 15 ladies eagerly planning to be ushers, make-up artists, ticket sellers for the men's

show. Pom-poms and sashes were the uniform.

On April 17, seventeen of us met at Beverly Shier's home. We took in \$59 for the Silent Bottle Auction. Show plans were finalized. We had pizza & wine and participated in a "Color Me Beautiful" demonstration. We also had a Shaklee demonstration.

Our dinner was held at the Jefferson Colonade again this year. We elected the following to serve us next year:

President.....Marge Wearing  
Vice-Pres. ....Joanne Adams  
Treasurer.....Marge Burr  
Secretary.....Marie Lane  
Publicity.....Barbara Willoughby

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1990-1991

We met at Marge Wearing's home on September 18. Plans for the Octoberfest were made along with other activities for the year.

The Octoberfest was held on October 7 at Bill & Beverly Shier's home. The women brought apple desserts. We also had a White Elephant sale with a profit of \$106. It was a big success.

We then met on October 16 and made plans for Christmas. We also planned activities for the Fall Convention. No need to make sandwiches. Lucille Dubrul will now be the Historian for the group. The "Round Robin" phone system has been established. We also sent a

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\$35 donation to the Michigan Cancer Foundation in memory of Dorothy Reed. We also painted squares for a quilt to be raffled off in the near future.

The November 20 meeting was attended by 12 ladies and held at Beverly Shier's home. Plans for Christmas and next year were made. The Christmas party was held at Marie Smith's North Shore Apartments Club house on December 18. Ladies brought finger foods and a \$5 gift exchange and an optional cookie exchange. We also donated Christmas baskets to the St. Patrick's parish in Detroit.

On January 15, we met and made final plans for the Pot Luck dinner. We were also asked to decorate Blossom Heath for Ladies Night. Plans for convention included volunteers to do make-up. Lucille Dubrul presented the quilt which was raffled off at Ladies night. She was treated to dinner at the ladies annual dinner in May for all her hard work.

The Pot Luck dinner and Pig and Poke Auction was held on January 19 at the Neighborhood Club. A good turn out of 56 people attended. Mike Sullivan was the auctioneer. We made a profit of \$455.

At the February 19 meeting the ladies decided not to decorate for ladies night. We also discussed ideas for a garage sale.

On March 19, ushering schedules were made for the men's show on April 5 & 6. The uniform for these nights were red, white & blue. Plans

for a possible trip to Nashville in the fall was brought up by Barbara Willoughby. We also presented Mike Sullivan with a Barbershop sweatshirt designed by Lucille Dubrul for his great help as auctioneer at the Pig 'N Poke auction.

Convention plans were the concern on April 16. We planned our seating at competition to make a good size cheering squad. Sandwiches were also in order.

Our dinner this year was at the Olive Gardens Restaurant. The New officers are:

President.....Joanne Adams  
Vice-Pres. ....Shirley Henk  
Secretary.....Beverly Shier  
Treasurer.....Barbara Willoughby

We did have a garage sale at Marge Wearing's home on June 6th & 7th.

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1991-1992

The September meeting found us planning the show at Fitzgerald High School for September 28. Also plans for the October convention in Battle Creek were made. Some of the ladies also enjoyed a trip to Nashville September 19-22.

The Octoberfest was held on October 7 at Herr & Frau Shier's home. We lost money on it but it was enjoyed by all.

On November 19, twelve ladies attended the meeting. Janie DeMars will be the Sunshine Girl. Plans for a

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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Pot Luck auction are in the works.

The Christmas party was held at Barbara Willoughby's home on December 17. She greeted us with her arm in a cast. Seventeen ladies braved the winter snow to play games, eat finger foods and exchange gifts.

On January 25, we held the Pot Luck Dinner and Auction at the Neighborhood Club. It was attended by 53 people. Mike Sullivan was our wonderful auctioneer. A total of \$385 profit was made.

Fourteen ladies attended our pizza & wine meeting on February 18. Plans for the men's show were made. Mike Proffitt gave a talk on a possible cruise on the Princess line for March of 1993.

The purpose of the March 10th meeting was to organize the ushers for the men's show. No one wanted to volunteer to be in charge of any committee. As many as could were welcomed to work.

We met on April 21 with eleven ladies present to discuss convention plans. It was decided to let K-Mart make the sandwiches (Submarines) for the men. Make-up volunteers were also organized.

The Installation dinner was held at the Olive Garden Restaurant again this year. New officers are:

President.....Beverly Kinner  
Vice-Pres. ....Shirley Henk  
Treasurer..... Barbara Willoughby  
Secretary.....Mary Lou Uridge

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1992-1993

Ten ladies met on September 15 to make the final preparations for the Octoberfest.

The Octoberfest was held on October 4 at the Grosse Pointe Park. It was quite successful with 68 people in attendance. A profit of \$227 was made.

The October 12 meeting was held to make plans for the convention. K-mart will once again supply the sandwiches (Submarines) at our cost.

We also sponsored a party for \$300 (of which \$200 was returned) to aid the St. John Hospital on a pilot program for the deaf and hearing impaired center. The "Good Old Days Party" was held on November 7. We also made plans for the Pot Luck dinner.

On November 17, the travel agent came and explained about the Barbershop cruise. More plans for the Pot luck dinner were made. We also donated \$200 to the Goodfellows of Macomb.

The annual Christmas party was held on December 15 at Kay Sauve's home. A \$5 gift exchange and finger foods were enjoyed by all.

Eleven ladies start this new year on January 19 with some changes. Barbara Willoughby resigned as secretary and Kay Collins took her

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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place. Also there was talk about changing the purpose of the ladies auxiliary due to the fact that the men no longer need our financial support.

The Pot Luck dinner and auction was held on January 23 at the Neighborhood Club. Mike Sullivan again did a great job as auctioneer.

There was no meeting on February 16 due to a snowstorm.

Eleven ladies met on March 16. Plans for a fall party with "Fast Eddie" were made. Also show workers were set up for the men's show.

On April 20, twelve ladies made more plans for the "Fall Bash". We also supplied sandwiches for the chorus as convention. We voted to donate \$200 to the Ronald McDonald House.

The May 18 Installation dinner was held at the St. Clair Shores Country Club with 27 ladies attending. New officers for next year are:

President.....Marian Proffitt  
Vice-Pres. ....Karen Schaefer  
Secretary.....Mary Lou Uridge  
Treasurer.....Kay Collins

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1993-1994

A record attendance begins this year with 20 ladies attending the meeting. We planned the "Fast Eddie" party. We also welcomed 3 new ladies to the fold. Mary Lou Uridge resigned her duties as secretary. Gerry Lenhardt agreed to take the job.

The "Fall Bash" was held on September 18 and it was a success. The Kinner's celebrated their 45th Anniversary to the tune of "Fast Eddie".

On October 12, twelve ladies came. We discussed the auxiliary's purpose and agreed we still want to help the men and continue our own fellowship with the women of the auxiliary. Plans for the Pot Luck dinner were made.

The Christmas party was held at Marian Proffitt's home on December 12.

On January 11, final plans for the Pot Luck dinner were made. The dinner was held on January 22 at the Neighborhood Club. We also discussed plans for the purchasing and donating of banners to the chorus.

March 6-13 found 13 couples enjoying the Caribbean on a cruise with the Celebrity line. This was one vacation that definitely needs to be repeated !!

On March 15, thirteen ladies met. Duties for the barbershop show were discussed (make-up, ushering, ticket sales). Also Fall convention plans were brought up as Grosse Pointe will be hosting.

Fifteen ladies voted for officers on April 12. The board remained the same as last year. Convention plans were made-no sandwiches. More discussion followed about Fall convention.

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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The Installation dinner was held at Cienies Restaurant on Jefferson.

President.....Marian Proffitt  
Vice-Pres. ....Karen Schaefer  
Secretary.....Gerry Lenhardt  
Treasurer.....Kay Collins  
Sunshine Girl.....Janie DeMars  
Historian.....Lucille Dubrul

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### 1994-1995

This September a special meeting was held with both the men and the ladies to plan the final stages to what would become Pioneer District's greatest convention. We also planned a craft & bake sale at the convention that went over big. The ladies presented the chorus with a Grosse Pointe Lakeshore Chorus Banner and a special 50th banner that would be displayed at all conventions and anywhere else they may sing. We were complimented on such a smoothly run convention. Records were made in sales in the Barbershop shop. Over 100 members worked throughout the weekend and had a marvelous time. Grosse Pointe is the BEST!!

On October 18, thirteen ladies met. A 50th Anniversary party was planned.

Nineteen ladies met on November 15 to make more plans for the 50th party.

The annual Christmas party was on December 13 at the home of Janie DeMars. There were 22 ladies who shared a \$5-\$10 gift exchange and snacks.

The meeting on January 17 began with 18 ladies making final plans for the 50th party. Future plans were also made concerning the men's show in September.

The Grosse Pointe Lakeshore Chorus' 50th Anniversary Kick-Off party was held at the Thompkins Center in Grosse Pointe on Friday January 20. A disc jockey played 40/50's music and dress code was from that era. Contests and chorus singing were part of the celebration. The highlight was honoring Ray McCalpin as a 50 year member. Donna Sullivan made and decorated a beautiful 50 years cake. Great food and a make your own sundae dessert made this party-"Unforgettable"!

On February 21, we met to have some fun. We played a draw card game for a prize and had an ice cream social.

March 21 brought 15 ladies to this meeting. Plans for the May dinner was discussed along with a new slate of officers nominated. "Round Robin" needed to be re-instated, and a history of the ladies auxiliary discussed.

The last official meeting for this year was attended by 20 ladies on April 18. Plans for convention were made including sandwiches and make-up. The April convention brought a first for Grosse Pointe and the Pioneer District. Three of our ladies-Joan Piccione, Patti Smith, & Karen Schaefer-were on competition stage directing the men in song. (Do you

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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think they'll ever let us sing!?)

Our final get together was held at the More L-Bow Room on May 15. New officers for the 25th Anniversary year are:

President.....Karen Schaefer  
Vice-Pres. ....Donna Sullivan  
Secretary.....Barbara Grogan  
Treasurer.....Barbara Fox  
Historian.....Lucille Dubrul  
Sunshine Girl.....Janie DeMars  
Reporter.....Marian Proffitt

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the men in their singing and remain in fellowship and harmony with the members of the auxiliary.

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In the next 25 years the Ladies Auxiliary will grow stronger because the bond between friends have made this chapter a "FAMILY".We will continue to support and encourage

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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### OFFICERS OF THE LAKESHORE LADIES AUXILIARY

#### PRESIDENTS

Marge Wearing 1970-1972, 1990-1991  
Lucille Dubrul 1972-1973  
Kathy Krass 1974-1976  
Mary Lou Uridge 1976-1977, 1987-1989  
Charlene Wenzel 1977-1978  
Dorothy Rancillio 1979-1980  
Kay Sauve 1981-1982  
Nancy Jones 1982-1983  
Kay Collins 1983-1984  
Beverly Kinner 1984-1985, 1992-1993  
Marge Burr 1985-1986  
Verna Richards 1986-1987  
Beverly Shier 1989-1990  
Marian Proffitt 1993-1995  
Karen Schaefer 1995-

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#### VICE-PRESIDENTS

Dawn Yacques 1970-1972  
Mary Lou Uridge 1972-1974  
Claudie Rockensuess 1974-1976  
Charlene Wenzel 1976-1977  
Barbara Fox 1977-1978  
Dorothy Rancillio 1978-1979, 1984-1985  
Marge Burr 1979-1980  
Kay Sauve 1980-1981, 1982-1983  
Nancy Jones 1981-1982  
Beverly Kinner 1983-1984  
Verna Richards 1985-1986  
Beverly Shier 1986-1987  
Lucille Dubrul 1987-1989  
Louise Hofer 1989-1990  
Joanne Adams 1990-1991  
Shirley Henk 1991-1993  
Karen Schaefer 1993-1995  
Donna Sullivan 1995-

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### OFFICERS OF THE LAKESHORLADIES AUXILIARY

## Chapter Ten - Lakeshore Ladies Auxiliary

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### SECRETARIES

Lucille Dubrul 1970-1972	Barbara Fox 1978-1980, 1985-1987, 1995-
Dawn Yacques 1972-1975	Marge Burr 1980-1982, 1984-1985, 1989-1991
Mary Lou Uridge 1975-1976, 1986-1987, 1992-1993	Kay Collins 1982-1983, 1993-1995
Dorothy Rancillio 1976-1978	Betty Mazur 1987-1989
Mary Rutt 1978-1979	Barbara Willoughby 1991-1993
Betty Mazur 1979-1981, 1982-1983	
Beverly Kinner 1981-1982	
Verna Richards 1983-1985	
Helen Honderich 1985-1986	
Doris Maire 1987-1988	
Marian Proffitt 1988-1990	
Marie Lane 1990-1991	
Beverly Shier 1991-1992	
Gerry Lenhardt 1993-1995	
Barbara Grogan 1995-	

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### TREASURERS

Janie DeMars 1970-1974  
Catherine Catellane 1974-1976

Helen Brower 1976-1978

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### REPORTERS

Shirley Seely 1970-1972  
Marge Wearing 1972-1974  
Mary Lou Uridge 1974-?  
Marian Proffitt 1995-

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### HISTORIANS

Marge Polhamus 1972-1974  
Jane West 1974-1976  
Dorothy Reed 1976-?  
Lucille Dubrul 1994-

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### LADIES NIGHT

One year after the Grosse Pointe Chapter was founded, in 1945, the members decided to say thank you to their wives and lady friends by sponsoring a Ladies Night. The first two of these were subsidized in part by the Chapter treasury, that is, the men paid their way and the ladies were admitted free.

The first Ladies Night was held at Detroit Turners Main Dining Room. Following years saw this event take place at the Whittier Hotel (which was the finest in the city of Detroit), The Detroit Yacht Club on Belle Isle, The Roostertail, Hillcrest Country Club, St. Clair Shores Recreational Center (Blossom Heath), Gabriel Richard K of C, Athena Hall, Touch of Mink, Thomas Manor, Shores Banquet Club, American Legion Post - East Detroit, Grosse Pointe War Memorial and most recently, Lakeland Manor. These are not necessarily in sequence and there were many others but the point we want to make is, our founding fathers began a tradition that each succeeding president has continued to foster through the last 42 years. What foresight those men had and what a grand tradition.

This event has always been well attended, sometime with over 300. The spirit of the evening has been pervaded with the thought that our ladies were to be #1. One night of the year we try, in a small way, to say to our ladies "thank you". How many nights have they sat home while we were out enjoying our hobby? Too many to count.

This year, the 42nd, we will again hold a Ladies Night on January 10, 1987. The site will be the Historic Trinity Church located at 1345 Gratiot Ave., in Detroit. The church has excellent facilities for this type of event and they promised to leave all the Christmas decorations up for us to enjoy. In the past, they have had \$100 a plate Oktoberfests, weddings, business men's luncheons are held there regularly and various receptions both large and small. Two parking lots surround the church. Any excess must park in the street. For your peace of mind there will be security guards on duty.

Anyone who has attended a Ladies Night has said that they thoroughly enjoyed them self. We hope to continue that feeling and spirit of love and appreciation this year. All we need is your presence to make it a success.

By Len Schweitzer

### **C.O.I.N. (Chapter Officers Installation Night)**

November 1970 - Many chapters hold an annual Ladies Night at which they honor their ladies and also their newly elected officers. Up to the present, there is no written record of the Grosse Pointe holding a party in conjunction with the installation of their newly elected officers. There were a couple exceptions, like the fifth and tenth Chapter Anniversaries. As one member said, "Hell, we just elected the officers and got back to our singing, that's why we come down here". This year it was decided to hold an annual Chapter Officers Installation Night, "C.O.I.N." in November. The Little Ladies Night is

## Chapter Eleven - Chapter Events

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now C.O.I.N., without giving up the great parties of yore. Don Adams was the Chairman. The party was at The Carousel, Groesbeck just north of 15 Mile Road. It was a successful evening when more than one hundred gathered to enjoy the fellowship of members and their ladies. We witnessed an impressive officer's installation and were entertained by the **Chord Reporters**, the **Cartunes**, the **4-Fits**, and the Lakeshore Chorus.

1971 - The Pioneer District champion quarter **The Original Choice** with Bob Demchak did a marvelous job and it was great to hear the **4-Fits**. The Lakeshore Chorus did their bit with two numbers. Everyone was happy to see Dr. Sherm Faunce and Dr. Charlie back with us after their illness and it was a delight to see the Dossins and the Harringtons. The installation performed by Dick and Gordie was very impressive and overall planning of the party by Gordie was a huge success.

1973 - Grosse Pointe Chapter did it again. Doran McTaggart did a splendid job administering the oath of office to our new officers. We were entertained by **Backporch Majority**, and **4-FITS**.

1974 - C.O.I.N. Night was the biggest and best ever. 102 people attended. John Neighorn brought along some old movies. It was a real treat to see some of our good outings at Harrisville. Thanks John, it was well done. After the movies our new officers were installed in a ceremony that was written by our Historian, Ray McCalpin.

One of the highlights of the evening was honoring one of Grosse Pointe's greatest barbershoppers, Ben Landino, who has been named to The Pioneer District Hall of Fame. His award was presented to his lovely and gracious widow, Isabell.

We were then entertained by three of Grosse Pointe's very own quartets, the **4-Fits**, the **Pointe Four** and the **Grosse Exaggeration**.

1975 - At the Flamingo Hall on November 7th. Following dinner and the installation ceremony, the gathering was entertained by a bevy of fine quartets, the **Pointe Four**, the **4-Fits**, the **Heirs Of Harmony**, the **Sound Spectrum** and of course, the Lakeshore Chorus. Framed awards for Meritorious Service were presented to six chapter members. The deserving ones were: Jack Henderstein, Herb Reed, Al Singer, Meinrad Braun, Wally Joure and Paul Johnson.

1978 - November 3rd at the Harper Woods Community Center, Harper at Manchester. Jim Gougeon, Gene Honderich and George Van De Velde did the installing.

1979 - COIN Night Friday, November 2nd at St. Isaac Jogue's Church Hall (Harper, just a block north of 10 Mile)

1980 - The date is November 7<sup>th</sup>. The officers will be sworn in by Judge William Giovan.

## Chapter Eleven - Chapter Events

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1982 - In the last issue of the Pitch Pipe we said we were going to have a party, and a party we had. It all happened on Friday, November 5th at St. Marks Church. Approximately 100 were in attendance. Dinner and dance music was supplied by Mark Vervaeke (a one man band), it was great, Mark had the whole room dancing to every kind of music you would want, the Hokey Pokey, Chicken, Polka, and Fox Trot. Charlie Evans even taught us a new one, along with Bev Kinner (she wasn't too sure of old Charlie at first but finely got with it). When one sees these guys move their feet on the dance floor it makes one wonder why they have so much trouble with the contest moves.

Entertainment: **Dannies Boys**, Bulbuk, Berry, Mazur and Rancilio. **Three Kids And Dad**, Scott Houghton, McClary, Stroze and Masters. The **Old Timers**, Johnson, Lane, DeMars and Mike Arnone. The **Jones Boys**, Jones, McClary, Stroze and Scott. The **Real Flats**, Kinner, Sauve, Lane and Jones. The **Kokane Bills**, Kinner, Stroze, McClary and Scott. Special features - **The President's Men**, **Kinner's Kittens** (all of our ladies) and THE LAKESHORE CHORUS.

Special Guests: District President Elect, James Gougeon. Executive Vice President Elect, Bob McDermott. Area Counselor, Ron Breidinger. Area Counselor, Nels Gregersen. District Convention Chairman, Russ Seely.

Bob McDermott installed our Officers and thanked the outgoing administration for a job well done. President Elect, Ron Houghton, gave a short but eloquent acceptance speech, and we all went back to partying.

George VanDeVelde held a Logopedics drawing and raised approx. \$450 for our kids. THANK YOU GEORGE, ANOTHER JOB WELL DONE.

Paul Johnson could be seen in hallways and in corners singing most of the evening. This genteel man sure loves to sing. And if you think the new kids don't get a chance to sing, just ask Howard Richards. As for Kinner's Kittens, they were the stars of the evening. How about signing them up for our show sometime??

1983 - Our COIN Night on November 12th was a great success. We met at St. Marks to install our new officers. Hal Trombley installed the officers. Our thanks to Chairman Ed Sauve and his committee: Howard Lehti, Howard Richards, Len Schweitzer, Sully Mazur, and Art Jones.

1984 - Our annual installation/banquet was held Friday, November 2nd at the Neighborhood Club. Highlights of the evening included a brief installation ceremony conducted by Russ Seely. A past president's plaque was presented to Harvey Burr as outgoing president and a lapel pin was given to incoming president, Nels Gregersen.

1985 - Our Chapter officers were installed on Friday, November 1st, at a dinner dance at the Neighborhood Club.

## Chapter Eleven - Chapter Events

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1988 - The COIN Dinner Dance will be held on November 1 at the Thomas Crystal Banquet Center. Chairmen, Don Adams and Harvey Burr.

1990 - COIN NIGHT was held November 14th at the Imperial House. Seems like the swearing in was done in song by the **4-Fits**.

1991 - Tompkins Center, Grosse Pointe Park, was an ideal spot for the annual gathering. Kudos to Eric Ernst who arranged for the hall, dinner and entertainment. It was good to see Bob Rancilio, Jim and Mary Rutt, among others. Installation of the new officers was accomplished by Russ Seely and Ray McCalpin.

### LITTLE LADIES NIGHT

"Little" Ladies Night or "Ladies" Little Night - Anyway You Punctuate It - A Howling Success

Our membership, regardless of its numeric proportion never seems to run out of ideas or reasons when it comes to entertaining the gals of our quarters. When old man winter decided to give us a sneak preview of this season's offering at "Picnic Time" we decided to give the gals a sneak preview of next years Ladies Night. Ye olde Post (Alger VFW Post on St. Paul) took on a new look September 28, when the Grosse Pointe membership arrived in full ceremonial dress with their wives, sweethearts, etc. to just plain have a good time. As usual, our boys did it right, so the saying goes, whenever we include the female gender at any of our functions. Cocktails, shrimp and assorted goodies were provided to whet even the most jaded taste buds in preparation for a king-like beef dinner served Geyer Style. Entertainment was furnished by the GLEEMEN, the **4-Fits**, the reorganized **Metro Chords** (Frank Lozzi singing lead) and Grosse Pointe's answer to Peter, Paul and Mary, Robert Jonkers & Guitar (just no end to this Grosse Pointe talent). The pipe toots its first salute of the Fall to the boys who really did an outstanding job on a brand new idea.

(Pitch Pipe September 1963)

Special Party Honoring the **4-FITS** and Little Ladies Night Combined!

Co-chairmen, Bob Jones and Herb Reed arranged the special get together scheduled for Grosse Pointe Chapter members and their lovelies. This was a private affair held at the Alger Post on Friday, November 12th and gave each member an opportunity to express the esteem with which we regard our **Fits** and it also gave us a chance to let our women folk enjoy a most pleasant evening.

That brand new quartet the **Close Chorders** -- you know the ones that came in second in

## Chapter Eleven - Chapter Events

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Battle Creek, stopped by during **4-FITS NIGHT** and the tenor nearly broke up when your editor just succumbed to a huge case of goose bumps over that beautiful swipe in the intro to "Sincere". If you missed the **4-FITS NIGHT** you missed that warm wave of affection that poured forth when Hal Seely offered a toast to our all time champions and everyone raised their champagne glass on high. Glowing with about 10,000 watts worth of pride and not ashamed of a tear or two streaming down her face was the mother elect of all Grosse Pointers -- I mean of course, Mrs. Edith Seely. Pitch Pipe Nov/Dec 1965

Little Ladies Nights continued until 1970 when the name was changed to COIN Night, the Chapter Officers Installation Night.

### CHRISTMAS BUS TOUR

Chorus Directors Editorial by Russ Seely in a recent copy of the Pioneer Troubadour

Whenever someone asks me about my favorite accomplishment after twenty five years of directing, I know I would have to say the development of the Christmas Tour of the Nursing Homes. Originally we car-pooled to a Senior Citizen complex run by the Catholic Arch-diocese at a historic hotel. I still have a picture in my memory of the nuns serving our chorus hot toddies in the hotel lounge after our concert. That kind of initiated the "Tour" as we know it today when we now travel in a fully equipped touring bus which accommodates fifty singers plus lunch and refreshments on a full day of programs for a dozen or so nursing homes of the like. Our gift of song adds but a small comfort to some of our senior fans, I'm sure but to us who share our gift the reward is monumental for me. Christmas would not be the same without looking into, in some cases, 100 year old eyes that say "Thank You" for your music. Sharing is caring. Russ really has a talent for capturing the whole story in a concise manner. It can also be deduced from Russ' editorial that the Christmas Tour started in the early 1970's.

There is a little more to tell about this great tradition.

Great! That's what it was Sunday, Dec. 15 when we went to six different places to spread good cheer and good word of Barbershop. We had a fantastic turnout of 48 men who really did a job.

Our first stop was the Moroun Nursing Home where we went through all the floors singing and watching the faces light up and a tear shed now and then. Then we went to the Barrett House ( a half way house for retarded adults) where we were treated to some punch and goodies. Who could forget the happy faces there and singing "Happy Birthday" to Nancy (for several years, Nancy was going to leave and finally she did) and Paul (where's Jimmy Kerrigan and where's Russell Seely) helping the chorus out with the words to our songs and Skip Gibson, our clown. Our next stop was the Convent of St. Therese where we sang in the chapel for the nuns of the Carmelite Order, a cloistered order. This was a very special treat for all concerned as cloistered nuns usually aren't

permitted visitors other than their family. Needless to say we really rang some chords in that chapel of the likes the sisters had never heard before. When we finished we were given a Christmas card and a book of special blessings from the sisters. From there we went to St. Joseph's Home and the Belmont Nursing and Rose Villa Nursing Home where we went up and down the halls and the lunch rooms singing and wishing everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Then it was back to the VFW hall where we started . We were treated to some most welcome hot dogs, chips and coffee. Then we sang for the people at the hall. Our soloists, Nick Catellane, Tom O'Rourke and Chuck Wreford were really great as was Russ Seely. Many thanks to Mickey Trombley's employer the Taylor-Gaskin Company for donating the bus. And thanks to Wally Pfunk and his crew for keeping the refreshments coming. Pitch Pipe Jan 1975

### ANNUAL BOWLING BANQUET FOR DON ADAMS' "KIDS"

"The performance by our chorus on February 14, 1966 for the benefit of retarded children puts us on our way to our charity goal and to another goal - that of establishing the identity of our Society and the Grosse Pointe Chapter in the community." This story appeared in the Grosse Pointe Chapter Pitch Pipe in March '66.

In 1967 it became apparent that this performance was not a "benefit" show where money was raised to support the children. The chorus provided the entertainment at the Annual Bowling Banquet sponsored by the Macomb County Association for Retarded Children. The Banquets were held at the Carosel Club for about 8 years that we were involved. The first chorus director at these affairs was Dick Brouckaert. In 1968, the **4-Fits** joined the chorus for the party . Don Probst also directed the chorus at least once.

This is probably a good time to point out that these bowling banquets weren't much different than other bowling banquets. Everyone dresses up in their semi-formal attire, have a fine dinner and have entertainment (A lot of times this was our chorus). Then each bowler gets a winner's trophy and everyone is a winner (This may be different where you bowl). Then, of course, comes the dancing.

Around 1974/1975 the banquet moved to the Hillcrest Country Club and Russ Seely began directing the show. He kept on directing after we moved to Leo XIII, Knights of Columbus. This made a total of 20 years , in round figures, that Russ directed. The chorus "let their hair down" with songs like "Old MacDonald", "Row, Row Your Boat" and "Supercal". The "kids" clap, the "kids" sing and on occasion, the "kids" get up in front of the chorus and direct. If the chorus doesn't know their words, the "kids" take over. They know and sing every song the chorus sings. This event is the other side of the coin to our Annual Christmas Bus Tour cause we can laugh instead of cry.

### HARSEN'S ISLAND GOLF AND BOCCI BALL PICNICS

The first outing will be held on the 17th of August, Sunday, at the Middle Channel Golf and Country Club on Harsen's Island. Tee off time is 11:00 A.M.. Ladies invited. The price for nine holes of fun is \$7.75 per player with beautiful prizes and trophies to be awarded. A picnic lunch will be served after golfing . We have hot dogs and beans and corn. You bring your favorite salad. The beer and wine and soft drinks will be furnished all day, compliments of the Grosse Pointe Chapter.

This is a Chapter Outing so please plan on coming. If you don't play golf, enjoy the Bocci Ball, Horse Shoes, Jarts and Fishing or just be around in the sun (the Good Lord Willin') Yes, you may also sing a song or two if you like. Please bring your salad and other food you wish; chairs and table if you can; fishing poles, golf clubs. See you on the 17th of August.

Don Adams Pitch Pipe August 1980

This gracious invitation was extended by Don Adams (and both his wives) for fourteen years. People came by boat and by car. It wasn't unusual to have the neighbors walk over to get closer to the singing.

Both the guys and their gals take part in the golfing every year. The grand prizes went from silver spittoons to gold spittoons (sometimes referred to as "Gold Gaboons"). Bob Rancilio played a big part in organizing the golfers. Sully Mazur played treasurer as long as he was around. The golfers never went thirsty on the fairways. Someone with a golf cart loaded with cold ones sped from hole to hole providing refreshments. One year, Scott Houghton who was not even of age drove the roving refreshment cart around. Another time Bob Farrington did the honors. Our main entree went from Don Willoughby's burnt hot dogs and beans to Chef Eric Ernst's roast beef around 1987. It seems that Ed Sauve always brought the corn and cooked it. And the girls brought the salads and desserts and desserts and desserts. The games of Bocci and horseshoes and jarts drew a lot of competitors but everything stopped when Sauve had the gang skiing around the yard on barrel stave skis, three person teams to each pair of skis. This turned out to an endurance trial for the skis. After shucking the corn the girls kept busy with their Euchre games. The weather was comparatively cooperative, even the day we were all driven inside Don's new pole barn for a while. The singing and card playing went nonstop.

On top of all this there was plenty of singing. It wasn't unusual to be entertained by some great quartets and of course there was always the gang-singing.

As time went on, Don's Real Estate holdings grew from the mobile home and swimming pool to his large castle. The property belongs to someone else now.

Many thanks to Don and Ceil and Joann for the many years of having us to their "Venus of America", Harsen's Island.

## LIONS CLUB PICNIC

### St. Clair Shores Picnic

The Lions Club of St. Clair Shores is sponsoring its annual picnic for the blind, beginning at noon, Sunday, at the St. Clair Shores Memorial Park, Jefferson at Masonic. There is no charge, and all blind persons in the area, along with their immediate families, may attend. Food and beverages will be provided. Singing and braille cards will be featured and the Lakeshore Chorus will perform.

The Detroit News -Thursday, September 8, 1977

Our Numero Uno quartet, **Danny's Boys**, entertained at the annual St. Clair Shores Lions Club Picnic on September 10th. The chorus was supposed to be invited but something went wrong - maybe next year. Pitch Pipe Oct 1978

The sing-out for the Lions Club Picnic for the blind on Sunday was attended by approximately two hundred blind people and their escorts. The chorus was greatly appreciated by the audience. We always get to have a hot dog and beer while conversing with the guests. Grosse Pointe members are asked to be judges for a talent contest. The judges stand a good chance of missing out on the refreshments. One of the gentlemen in charge of the festivities happened to be none other than Charles Wingard. Pitch Pipe 1982/1983

## FLOATING POKER PARTY/BAR HOPPING BY BOAT

On Saturday, August 7th, seventeen of the modern Pied Pipers took to the waterways around Harsens Island and sang their little hearts out for the town folks that gathered in five of the local watering holes. It was the first FLOATING POKER GAME. Special thanks to Jim Rutt and Ed McCarthy for skippering two of the boats along with my son, Jim's craft. (he let the old man borrow it for the day). We took on the seventeen men that turned out for this venture and sang at every port. Cards, in sealed envelopes, were dealt at each stop and at the last of five establishments the hands were laid down. Rutt had: Ace, Queen, Nine, Seven and a six - Sorry Jim! Woody Orvis had a pair of Aces, Queen, Nine and a Two - not bad. Ron Houghton: Three Sevens, Jack, Three - good. It was a \$50 pot and everyone was after it. Bob Sauers then laid down and he had an Ace, Three and Three Kings, The Winner. A special prize went to Ron Houghton for turning up a Joker. Gentlemen, I thank you all. I had a super day and as I have said over and over again, Its good to be with nice people like you. Pitch Pipe Sep, 1982 (Probably Don Adams)

Other skippers showed up, from time to time, with their boats like Scott Houghton, Dick Brouckaert, Dale Petroskey and Mike Proffitt. It's hard to imagine boats like McCarthy's

## Chapter Eleven – Chapter Events

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42 foot Chris Craft and Petroskey's 53 foot, Hatteras, bar hopping with Adams and his forty thieves.

As the years pass, the points of visitation are further distant than the year before. The Detroit Yacht Club on Belle Isle has been one of the stops as of late. Maybe soon they may sail to Put-In-Bay or Indian River.

### NORTH CAROLINA GOLF AND CONCERT TOUR

The dogwoods will be blooming and the azaleas will be in full color when the Grosse Pointe Entourage of golfers makes its annual trek to Southern Pines, Pinehurst, North Carolina in May. This was the announcement made for the second annual Grosse Pointe Tour to North Carolina (the author was either Scarlet O'Hara or Colonel Starrette). The year before (1984) Art Jones, Russ Seely, Ray Starrette and George VanDeVelde drove to Statesville in a pick up truck. They were obviously impressed.

The trek to Carolina is made by air sometimes and by Van Pooling other times. The group leaves Detroit early Wednesday morning and arrive at Pinehurst early enough to get on the golf course. They play at several fine courses in the area on through Saturday. In 1985 the "Pinehurst Green Jacket" came into existence. This coveted green jacket was won by Russ Seely (1985), Len Schwietzer (1986), Tom Quirk (1987), Ray Starrette and Bert West (1988), Tom Pacquin (1989), Ed McCarthy and Damon Smith (1990), Jack Messina (1991), Art Jones (1992), Don Schell (1993), Wayne Kniffin (1994) and Bill Lane (1995).

On occasion, Grosse Pointe is joined by members of the Golf Capitol Chorus for golfing, dining and singing. It is also rumored that they showed our guys how to handle some of the tougher courses.

Sunday morning finds the boys in the city of Statesville where they sing at the local churches and then enjoy a fine southern cooked breakfast provided by the church ladies. Ray Starrette serves as interpreter for the boys and the local citizenry. Ray was born in Statesville you know. Later they drive to the business section of Statesville to perform at the week end village festival.

Bob Rancilio and Len Schwietzer are always on hand to assist Ray in arranging the handicaps and team assignments.

### CHARLEVOIX JAMBOREE

Another event in that section of Michigan had become a mecca for barbershoppers throughout the Midwest over the Labor Day Weekend each year. It was the Charlevoix Jamboree. It was started in 1943, when Charlevoix, of minimum membership, invited Grand Rapids and Muskegon chapters to weekend with them over Labor Day. There was little formal organization but one Charlevoix member, Dr. Doug Nettleton, had a large basement recreation room and he set this up as headquarters. Somehow, they chased out the last dinner guests for the summer at the Beach Hotel and took over their dining room for an impromptu and informal show headlined by the only two out-of-town quartets, the **UNHEARD OF FOUR** from Muskegon and the **HARMONY HALLS** from Grand Rapids. Local Charlevoix quartets filled out the program in great style.

The entire weekend was so genuinely appreciated by all visitors and local members it was decided to do it again the following year. Then followed the word-of-mouth praise for the great hospitality of Charlevoix which resulted in a larger number of western Michigan members plus a goodly number from the Detroit area converging on Charlevoix for the 1944 Jamboree. From this point on it was evident that the Jamboree was to become a fixture in the Society. Out-of-town members increased in numbers significantly.

Charlevoix gave its wholehearted support in making its guests feel at home in a true barbershop community, even to decorating all its light poles with barbershop striping. Complete homes and cabins were set aside for guests and one year the entire Beach Hotel was reserved for exclusive use of the barbershop visitors.

Year after year the top quartets of Michigan including the champion **HARMONY HALLS** came to Charlevoix. In the years 1948, 1949 and 1950, the champion **MID-STATES FOUR** cavorted on both stage and street to the enjoyment of hundreds of members and guests. It was a four day event starting on Friday and concluding on Labor Day Monday. Very few functions anywhere compared at the time with this event. Charlevoix County only has three towns, Charlevoix, East Jordan and Boyne City. Each had a chapter of SPEBSQSA. Under the direction of Loton Wilson of Boyne City, the Snow Belt Chorus was organized, including members of the three chapters. The three sister chapters had succeeded in placing their section among the leaders in Michigan. McDermott's 50 Year history

### Jamboree Continued After Charlevoix Disbanded

In spite of the fact that the Charlevoix Chapter was disbanded, the Famous Labor Day Jamboree founded by that group was continued over the holiday weekend through the enterprise of the Grosse Pointe Chapter. Not willing to give up this event as a SPEBSQSA gathering, a group of down staters got together and decided to carry on as usual. There was a bit of nostalgia about it all. When Bert Escott, after whom the annual ball was named, arranged for accommodations, he decided upon the Stroud cabin layout as the home of the visitors. It was here that barbershoppers first assembled 11 years before when a group of Grand Rapids Chapter members, headed by the **HARMONY**

## Chapter Twelve - District Events

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**HALLS**, began the tradition of the Charlevoix Jamboree. The Grosse Pointers carried out the work much as it had always been done. Of course, there was no public show but members of the old chapter plus some townspeople who liked the affair, gathered for a big sing and party Saturday night. On Sunday another tradition was preserved when the Grosse Pointers assembled in the park and sang. There was plenty of woodshedding everywhere.

The Grosse Pointe Chapter members, who with their wives, made the trip were Berst Escott, Ray Gunn, Steve Rickel, Ken Smith, Clyde Centers, Jim Adams, Bud Shaughnessy, Ole Olson, Bob Collins, Herb Klersey, Hal Reinhardt, Frank Kropp and Jim Davenport.

McDermott's 50 Year History

### **Charlevoix Jamboree Revived When Charlevoix Chapter Revived**

While most of the chapters were taking part in their usual summer activities, things were beginning to rev up in the northern part of the District when the Charlevoix Chapter was revived and especially the annual Charlevoix Jamboree which had lapsed several years before. September 5 was the date of the big affair and entertainment was provided by the Snow Belt Chorus, the **AGING FOUR** of Lansing, the **PHD'S** of Muskegon, the **MERRIMEN** of Lansing, the **STAFF SERGEANTS**, the District champions from Detroit, the **EXTENSION CHORDS** and the Great Lakes Chorus of Grand Rapids. District President, Cecil Fischer, emceed the gala affair which was highlighted by a gaily decorated high school gymnasium, a tradition with the former Charlevoix shows. The climax of the affair was the finale with all quartets on stage with their many different colored uniforms and the Great Lakes Chorus standing on risers in front of the stage dressed in their Indian uniforms. This group of performers presented a very colorful picture as they sang the Society Theme Song "Keep America Singing" directed by past District President, Loton Wilson. The afterglow was held in the basement of the Beach Hotel where about 350 guests were again entertained. The Charlevoix Chapter was re-chartered in December of 1959.

McDermott's 50 Year History

### **CHARLEVOIX THE BEAUTIFUL AND GAY**

Grosse Pointe activities have been extended to Charlevoix since the Escotts have been going there. So much color and elegance was added this year, the life magazine "stringer" or agent in Petoskey covered it for a possible feature in a coming issue. The Bert Escott Costume Ball culminates a 3-day Jamboree up there, including a parade Saturday Night, afterglow, Ladies Party Friday night, men's singfest. The ball is held at the Belvedere Casino and attended by over 400. Immense quantities of food and drink are served. The idea of the groups at the ball costuming according to a theme adds immeasurably to the color and cleverness. There is no limit to what your ingenuity can do for you at a party like this. Emceed by your President were the **MID-STATES FOUR** (1949 Intl Champs); the **VILLAGE AIRES** (Saw Mill song); **BARBER'Q-FOUR**; **HARMANIACS** and last but right up there, the **OLDIES** - that is, Roberts, Marsden, Creed and Howard Tubbs.

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International President, Jerry Beeler emceed the Saturday Night Parade. Outstanding at this was the stage setting - cave dwellers showing the crude beginning of barbershop harmony ... put on by the Boyne City quartet... the **BOYNAIRES** the “ug-igs.”

PP Sep 1950

### HARRISVILLE

Thirty four years ago (1962) John Kee and Myrleen Smith (old Redford Chapter) bumped into yours truly and my wife, Shirley, while camping with our sons at the Bay City State Park. After trying, unsuccessfully, to sing a tag, since in my judgment, Shirley was tone deaf, John, a lifelong SPEB/Sweet Ad director, insisted we follow his crew up to Harrisville where we would have several days in that quiet little State Park to tune up Shirley. No way.

So at the end of the week, the Smiths and the Seelys agreed that a barbershop camp out might be a blast and promised that next year we would bring at least one other couple that could sing. The following year there were nine of us and the Harrisville Harmony Weekend was born.

Troub October 11, 1995 by Russ Seely

Talk about your grass roots barbershop. It grew too tall to cut Labor Day weekend at Harrisville, Michigan. Barbershoppers and their families swarmed in on Friday and Saturday with a total of 45 families being registered, most of whom camped in the State Park and the remainder at local motels. In cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce and the local city officials a weekend of exciting things took place. On Saturday Night we put on an outdoor show for the entire community that featured the **AIRE MALES, 4-FITS** and **WONDERLADS**, and a combined chorus of thirty voices all tied up in a neat package and emceed by Tom Pollard.

Troub October 1964 by John Kee Smith

Soon the barbershoppers including the Grosse Pointers started their weekends on Wednesday. In fact several of our guys set the wives and kids up at the campsites on the weekend prior to Labor Day, returned to work for a week and rejoined their families on Labor Day weekend. Many of our members feel the kids grew up together at Harrisville. Some of these families are the Seelys, Wearings, Wests, Jones, DuBruls, Neighorns, Lorentzens, Berrys, and Slamkas.

The activities at Harrisville were not necessarily regimented and there was always something to do. Prior to the weekend there was always fishing, swimming, and golfing and kid's games and of course campfires and singing. Thursday evenings often found Grosse Pointe members joining in the fun and singing at the Alpena Chapter Meeting north of town. Friday evening meant bar-hopping to the various water holes in town where there were a lot of quartets entertaining. After the bars closed everyone headed for the campfires for more singing. Saturday organized golfing could be found at a couple

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courses in town and of course, golfing is an everyday pastime. We can't overlook the big draw on Saturday, the Arts and Craft show in town opened Saturday morning and continued on Sunday. It is quite popular with our ladies.

On Saturday there is a big quartet and chorus show including sweet ads at Maria Hall where every quartet and chorus that wants to can sing. This show was always emceed by Tom Pollard. Since Tom passed on, the emcee job has been assumed by his son, Jim.

Sunday morning finds barbershoppers singing in the local churches. Later, a grand parade around town with school bands and floats. The **4-FITS** are perennials in the parade. Grosse Pointe won several awards for their floats. Mostly for best singing. Our last float won the grand prize of the parade. This fete was made possible by Jim Rutt. He dug up a friend who supplied a pick up truck which pulled a hay wagon. We decorated the wagon with pom-poms and wreaths and twenty American flags supplied by Jim Rutt. Members and wives and kids from the park and motels dressed in western attire sat on bales of straw and sang the entire parade route. Then it was back to Maria Hall for an ox-roast which is a great meal for the price. Then, over to the Marina Park for the barbershop show for the locals and surrounding townspeople. Essentially the Saturday Night Show was repeated along with a Mass Chorus of all the barbershoppers in attendance. The band stand was designed by Ray McCalpin and built by the townspeople. The audience sat on chairs out of doors and the overflow sat on their car hoods. The show continued until everyone that wanted to sing, sang. Most of us head home after the show.

We look forward to the next annual meeting of the "Harrisville Chapter" with enthusiasm.

Other authors that contributed information to this article through their articles are Tom Pollard, Bill Pascher, John Neighorn and Dick Barber (and anon).

### **LOTON WILSON BOYNE CITY BUSH LEAGUE SHOW AND CONTEST**

Organized in 1945 by Loton Wilson to give inexperienced quartets a chance to compete in a regular contest under real-life competitive conditions. This contest presents a fine opportunity for quartets to get their feet wet and get some excellent coaching critiques as well. Many of our District Champions won their first contest at the Boyne City Bush League. Any quartet can enter provided it has never placed in the top three in District Competition and provided it has never competed at International. There is no entry fee.

No contest is ever the same year after year but the following schedule of events might be called typical:

Registration and Pre-Glow 9:00 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. Saturday morning at Boyne City Lanes.

Pre-Contest Briefing 1:30 P.M. Boyne City High School band room

Quartet Contest 2:00 P.M. High School Gymnasium

Quartet Clinic Immediately following contest in high school cafeteria

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Judges Dinner approx 5:00 P.M. The Country Star Restaurant  
Variety Show 8:00 P.M. High School Gymnasium (Featuring last year champs  
and others)  
Afterglow immediately following the show Boyne City Lanes

1946 First Annual Champions - **Saturday Nighters** from Charlevoix

Grosse Pointe Chapter Champions:

1962 **4-FITS** John Prost, tenor; Russ Seely, lead; Ray McCalpin, bari; Marve Burke,  
bass

3<sup>rd</sup> place winners 1961

1975 **POINTE 4** Hank DeMars, tenor; Jim Phelan, lead; Gordy DuBrul, bari; Dick  
Brouckaert, bass

1981 **POINTE CLASSICS** Fred Hunter, tenor; Russ Seely, lead; Jerry VanDeVelde,  
bari; Nels Gregersen, bass

Several other Grosse Pointe Quartets competed without placing first, even placing last  
but still claiming to be winners because the day was more than competing.

Our Chapter had a representative on the judging panel in 1981 in the person of Carl  
Yridge who has served on the panel a couple years.

Maybe you'll recognize these guys:

April 25, 1963 18th Annual Champions - **WONDERLADS** from Utica

1975 30<sup>th</sup> Annual 6th place - **HEIRS OF HARMONY** (first try at competition)

1992 47<sup>th</sup> Annual

The Bush League Contest was rescued by the Cadillac, Grand Rapids and Gratiot County  
Chapters this year because Boyne's membership was not adequate in numbers.

### INTER-CHAPTER QUARTET CONTESTS

GROSSE POINTE WINS AGAINST DETROIT IN YEARLY QUARTET CONTEST  
FOR JOSEPH P. WOLFF TROPHY

Let's Go: Back in 1959 we started a series of Inter-Chapter Quartet Contests with the  
Detroit Chapter which is still one of the high spots of our barbershop year. This is a real  
fun "happening" in which we organize as many quartets as possible and sing against the

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Detroit groups. Under the unique scoring system used, the quartet scoring is combined to make this a chapter versus chapter contest instead of the usual quartet versus quartet contest. One of the built in attractions of this contest is that any four chapter members can pick up points for their chapter merely by singing two songs even if their singing is well below standard (Four "crows" singing in unison). Its the kind of contest which a quartet can't lose... So get yourself down to the next chapter meeting and into a quartet for the contest....coming up at the Fort Shelby Hotel at about 8:00 P.M. on Friday, December 15th. .Pitch Pipe Nov 1967

I know that our chapter will field many good quartets. To this end we have listed below the names of our members under the part they can sing:

John Wearing	Russ Seely	Ray McCalpin	Marv Burke	Old Fits
Hank DeMars	Jim Phelan	Gordie DuBrul	Dick Brouckaert	Pointe 4
Meinrad Braun	Al Singer	Jack Henderstein	Fred Ford	19th Century4
Ken Smith	Jim Gougeon	John Wade	Ray Starrette	Minor Adjustments
Ken Grunder	Larry Lorentzen	Don Probst	Jack Schenk	The Dealers
Lou Herman	Hank Luczynski	Paul Johnson	Herb Reed	The Wheelers
Jim Gray	Fred Rottiers	Pat Yacques	Miles Currie	Showmen
Earl Bojanowski	Bud Goolsbee	Hal Polhamus	Howard Lewis	The Pickups
Mick Trombley	Ted Keller	Jack Drennan	Kurt Kusch	C Notes
Carl Uridge	Stan Narowski	Bill Brower	Harvey Globke	Misfortunes
Bob Rancilio	Dan Bulbuk	Sterling Berry	Sully Mazur	Danny's Boys
G. VanDeVelde	Don Adams	George Greer	Don Willoughby	Razor's Edge
Les Suddick	Frank Lopez	Bob Wood	Jim Rutt	Vegabums
Jim Beck	Dick Barber	Hal Polhamus	Gene Honderick	Flick'n Bics
Art Jones	Harry Buell	Dan Schaitberger	Ray Starrette	Key Jumpers
John Collins	Jim Kinner	Ed Sauve	Bill Shier	St. Clair Flats
Jim Catellane	Chuck Wreford	John Wenzel	Milt Medel	Grosse Exageration
Ken Smith	Howard Master	Leo Gutkowski	Leonard Arft	Heirs of Harmony
Lou Herman	Glenn McLearn	Hal Seely	Jack Slamka	Clef Hangers
Dan Blana	Fred Rottiers	Bill Brower	Art Bassett	Specs of sound
Tom O'Rourke	Wally Fournier	Bruce Young	Clyde Edmonds	River City 4
Dennis Phelan	Bob Kruger	Hal Trombley	Dick Krass	Chord Crackers
Les Marhoff	Joe Eppinga	Paul Johnson	Bob Wallace	Harding's Cabinet
Pete Batts	Nick Catellane	Pete Eppinga	C. Collins	Pointless 4
Bob Demchak	Hank DeVries	Bert West	Tom Fox	Southern Highlites
Ferd McFadyen	Jim Kerrigan	Jay Richens	Don McCoy	Sleepers
Hal Trombley	John Neighorn	Dar Trombley	Harley Flagler	Oh Yeh Four

Our judges were the Sound Advice from the Wayne Chapter, Clay Jones, Mike Bergoin, Gene Beaty and Dave Barker who did a fine job.

After the contest and before announcing the winners Clay Jones had a few remarks:

Old Fits	Old But Strong
Pointe 4	Accomplices of Sanford and Son
19th Century 4	Still Great
Minor Adjustments	Need a Little More Adjustment
The Dealers	They Should Win the Pot
The Wheelers	Togetherness Boys

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Showmen	One Did Look Like Ed Sullivan
The Pickups	Original
C Notes	Ted, We Missed You
Misfortunes	Moving Up
Danny's Boys	Who's Uncle Sam
Razor's Edge	They Should Go Far
Vegabums	Gutsy
Flick'n Bics	Light My Fire
Key Jumpers	Too Much New Key
St Clair Flats	Aptly Named
Grosse Exaggerations	Try Again, Bribing the Judges won't Work
Heirs of Harmony	They Inherited a Couple Sour Notes
Clef Hangers	More Balance, Less Beer
Specs of Sound	We'll Take All We Can Get
River City 4	Did You Hear the Undertow
Chord Crackers	Cracked
Harding's Cabinet	Lost the Election
Pointless 4	Now Pointed to the Top
Southern Highlites	Lites out
Sleepers	Our new foundations
Oh Yeh Four	Oh No

If you don't understand these comments you should have been there. On the other hand, how would you like to be the judges and come up with clever remarks for all these quartets? There were a lot of other comments but they weren't exactly barbershop

We can thank guys like Ted Keller, Sully Mazur, Dan Bulbuk, Paul Johnson, Frank Lozzi, Dick Krass, Dick Barber. Pat Yacques, Jack Messina etc for getting these quartets organized resulting a rousing win over Detroit #1. See you at the Wayne-Grosse Pointe contest.

Back in 1969 the Chapter announced plans to challenge each chapter in the area to a Detroit-Grosse Pointe type of quartet contest (chapter versus chapter). Plans were made for four contests this year. There is a need for trophy makers.

Our first contest with the Wayne Chapter was in 1971. The trophy was the Seely Trophy designed by Paul Johnson in 1970. We took on the Oakland County Chapter for the first time in March of 1973 at the OCC meeting place. The judges were the **GENTLEMENS AGREEMENT**. Grosse Pointe's chairman was Pat Yacques. We battled for the Mark Robert's Trophy which was previously used for contests with the Pontiac Chapter.

In 1976, Clinton Valley and Port Huron had been formed. Their memberships were small in number so they combined along with the Pontiac chapter to vie against Grosse Pointe. The President's Trophy is the prize for this contest. One of our foursomes stood out over all the others with ringers like Scott Houghton, Gene Honderich and Howard Richards but as is the case with many of our contests they needed a tenor. So, they called on little

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Mike Slamka, then nine years old. Remember not too long ago when Scott Houghton was the kid in the outfit.

Someone said that we were beating all the local chapters on a regular basis so we sought stiffer competition and challenged the Maumee, Ohio chapter. We met in Monroe, Michigan which was a half way point for traveling. The trophy was the McCalpin Trophy.

We shouldn't leave the discussion of quartet contests without mentioning the Grosse Pointe Komedie Kuartet Kontests. The trophy was an ugly bust of W.C. Fields which was restored by John Collins especially for this contest. There were some funny quartets.

### BOBLO MOONLITE CRUISE

Troub Nov 1969

Harold D. Wright's crowning achievement, perhaps, after the gavel of leadership was handed him by his fellow members of the Detroit Number 1 Chapter in 1945, was the chartering of a boat for a moonlight cruise on the Detroit River and Lake St. Clair. The idea struck him hard and he worked hard on the idea. The thought fathered the desire to fill one of the big steamers with barbershoppers from all over the state, with quartets giving vent to their harmony as long and as loud as they wished. It was not an easy job but he did it. Here is where Harold's work as a traffic manager was put to a new test. He knew the boat people well but it was not an easy sell. Their boats were in constant demand and doubt was raised as to the success of the venture. Would the people respond and would it pay off? Committees were set to work. From the papers found among Harold's effects there is convincing that the cruise was a decided success. The big three-deck steamer **PUT - IN - BAY** was chartered for the night of June 12, 1946. Finzel's fine band was engaged for dancing. The boat was filled with barbershoppers, their wives and guests and a great evening of fun and music enjoyed. And quartets ?? You count 'em.

Six quartets from Detroit No. 1 cut loose on their best brand of harmony. While names were not connected with the photos in the advertising, most of the quartet members can be identified:

**THE HARMONY SHAVERS** (Bill Favenger), **THE VELVETONES** (Bob McGrath)  
**THE DETROITERS** (All Eason, Joe Wolff, Rawley Hallman, Tim Weber)

Pontiac's **THREE CORNS AND A BUNION** (Eddie Bunyon, Bill Paschar, Bill Otto, Ralph Flickenger) Windsor's **CANADIANAIRES** (Harold Podvin, Tom Hart, Roy Clark, Earl Wood) **THE PROGRESSIVE FOUR** (Glenn Bennett, Lyell McKerrel, Carl Restivo, Mike Arnone) **THE TEPEE BROSDCASTERS** from Tecumseh Michigan Ann Arbor's **FOUR OF DIAMONDS** (Chuck Taylor, Bert Bertram, Frank Fletcher, Stu Gould) **MOTOR CITY FOUR** (Gene Jenkins, Bill Stinson, Phil Stinson, Harold Wright) **THE FOUR SHORTIES** (Al Johnson, Larry Chrisyian, A. F. Zelano, E. R. Corbin)

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Thus, on June 12, 1946 a chapter institution was born which has since become an annual event. Beginning in 1950 this cruise has been under the guiding hand of Arthur Schulze.

Troub May-Jun 1952

8TH ANNUAL MOONLIGHT CRUISE On beautiful Detroit River and Lake St. Clair. Friday Evening, July 18. \$1.50/person incl. Tax. 24 Top Notch Quartets, Group Singing, Dancing, refreshments. Among the many quartets who entertained were the **CLEF DWELLERS**, the **OLD TIMERS**, The **HOBBY CHORD FOUR**, the **DEARBORNAIRES**, the **PITCH BLENDERS** and the **SHARP LIFTERS**. Among the guest quartets acclaimed by the cruising crowd were the **DEBONAIRES** from Ann Arbor, the **INTERNATIONALAIRES** from Amhurstburg, Ontario and Redford, and the **BARBERETTES**, a well-known girls quartet.

Troub Sep 1968 MOONLIGHT CRUISE

Among the quartets entertaining: **SHARPLIFTERS**, **BEAN TOWN FOUR**, and **4-FITS**.

\*NOTE: New rules do not allow passengers to take food or refreshments aboard. They will be available on board the boat.

pp Aug/1973 MOONLIGHT ON THE DETROIT RIVER

The Bob-lo boat may not be a good place for a concert but its a fine place to have fun.

We had quartets! **INNOCENT BYSTANDERS**, **VOICE QUAD**, **4-FITS**, **VAGABONDS** and from the ladies we had the **MITTEN MUSIC CO.** and the present SA district champs, **THE FRONT OFFICE FOUR**. There were more quartets but these were the ones I heard. There were about 1600 singers on the boat which I think was fantastic when you consider that it was raining that night.

TV-4 gave us excellent cover with three minute spots on newscasts the following Sunday and Monday.

Thanks to the 30 men that were on hand to sing this job. Of course, I am prejudiced but didn't it sound like we sang as well as the **MOTOR CITY CHORUS**? And didn't we steal some thunder with the **RED POP** song?

Of the many glows around the city that evening, I was with the remnants of the Grosse Pointe Chorus at the **MERRY GO ROUND** where we were entertained by Fred Gandt (Piano player of some fame) who had GPC sing for his fans. The **4-FITS** dropped in just before closing to cap a wonderful evening with more music.

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Troub 1975

### DETROIT'S MOONLIGHT CRUISE ANOTHER BIG SUCCESS

The old Henry Clay never had it so good! It is doubtful that the Henry Clay ever carried so many passengers at one time, and almost certainly its decks never rang with so much good barbershop music as did the annual Moonlight Cruise on the BOB-LO this year.

The Detroit #1 Chapter hosted its 35th annual BOB-LO cruise July 18 on the Detroit River with 1702 harmony lovers on board to enjoy the music of nine quartets and three great choruses.

The quartets included the **4-FITS**, quarterfinalists from Pioneer District at this year's International and the **WARREN G HARDING MEMORIAL FOUR**. The Wayne Wonderland Chorus, also a Pioneer representative at Indianapolis, joined by the Grosse Pointe Lakeshore Chorus and the Motor City Chorus of the Host chapter to make it a great evening.

pp Aug 1975 MOONLIGHT BOAT CRUISE A "BIG SPLASH"

Approximately fifty Grosse Pointe Chapter members with their wives, children, dates etc. embarked on the BOB-LO boat for a moonlight cruise up the Detroit River and out onto Lake St. Clair. This annual event sponsored by Detroit #1 chapter attracted a near capacity crowd of 800. Our Lakeshore Chorus conducted by Kurt Kusch marched in while singing "Coney Island Baby" (our trademark, almost) and then rendered "Hello Dolly", "Cecelia" and "This is My Country", the former two songs with an original touch of humor. Among several quartets entertaining was our own **4-FITS** and the **HEIRS OF HARMONY**. An afterglow was held at the home of Bud Goolsby in Grosse Pointe Woods.

pp Jul 1977 LETTER OF THANKS

CONGRATULATIONS on Grosse Pointe's part in the ticket sales for this most successful barbershop area event, as well as your fine chorus participation. It is your kind cooperation that makes you guys the great bunch that you are -- and why we in Detroit #1 admire you guys at Lakeshore. We'll see you on the moonlight, Thanks again!

Sincerely, Rene Le Blanc - Tk-Chm

pp Aug 1977 MOONLIGHT CRUISE

The Annual Moonlight Cruise held on July 22nd was once again, just a great night, cruise-wise, weather-wise and music-wise. About 1700 people enjoyed the ride into Lake St. Clair and almost to Harsen's Island and return. The show talent sparkled as our chorus and Detroit's sang, together with the **FOREIGN POLICY, THE PROGRESSIVE FOUR** (with three Seely brothers, also two Sweet Adeline quartets).

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We opened with “Chord Busters” and closed with “Hometown” after which we did a few numbers up on the third deck with Kurt Kusch directing (we were, as the song says: hoarse tomorrow but forget your sorrow - we were and did!).

After about 45 years of the Moonlight Cruises the boats were too much in need of repair to continue cruises and this event went out of existence.

As an after thought it should be remembered that Art Schulz showed up each year at our meetings to sell Boblo Tickets. Time passed so fast that it seemed that Art was one of our members.

### THE OAKLAND COUNTY TRAVELING JUG

One of the great District traditions was instituted in 1965 and is still going strong, and that is the Oakland County “Traveling Brown Jug”. Originated by Dick Liddecoatt of the Oakland County Chapter. The idea was for one chapter to pass the jug on to another through inter-chapter visitations, with the chapter contributing money into the jug as it passed from chapter to chapter. The tradition is that whichever chapter holds the jug on the first Friday in June of each year, must return it at the annual JUG NIGHT held by Oakland County (Detroit-Oakland now). The money is divided up between the quartets that will represent the District at the International Competition that year, with an additional stipend added by Oakland County (DOC). It’s been a great fund raiser over the years, has inspired some tremendous inter-chapter visitations and provides for a great fun night when it is returned since both quartets must be present to except the funds. The JUG has traveled all over the District over the years and has probably raised some \$12,000 for our representative quartets from when it was inaugurated until the present. McDermott’s Pioneer District History.

### UNCLE SAM NIGHT

Although there have been many inter-chapter meetings between Windsor and Grosse Pointe, Detroit joined Grosse Pointe at Windsor in January of 1974. This may have been the beginning of Uncle Sam Night.

January 17, 1975 the Windsor Chapter was host for Uncle Sam Night at Fogalar Furlan Club in Windsor. Detroit, Wayne and Grosse Pointe chapters were in attendance. Grosse Pointe presented the LITTLE BROWN JUG to the Windsor chapter upon arriving with 55 men, how about that, more than 50 guys. Needless to say, the Windsor chapter had to donate. There were plenty of songs with four choruses and a number of quartets. Our **4-FITS** were the show stealers as usual.

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The annual trek to Windsor on January 16, 1976 was a much-enjoyed evening, as in any event that Doran McTaggart emcees. Bus driver, Milt Medel gave us a panoramic night view of the two cities over the bridge both ways. The quartets, **FOUR LYRES**, **PROGRESSIVE FOUR**, **MULLIGANS MORTICIANS**, and the **NIGHT CAPS** were great. The Motor City Chorus and our chorus also sang.

This was a stellar occasion for the Grosse Pointe Chapter when we used the opportunity to dedicate the Mark Roberts Trophy and present it to our Society. As noted previously, it is to be used as the winning award for the Senior Quartet Contest at the Mid-Winter Convention.

Our President, Len Schweitzer, made the presentation, following some opening remarks about Mark Roberts and Grosse Pointe, with a little background as to the idea of a trophy, dedicated to Mark's memory, was conceived. Ray Starrette talked about the design and building of the trophy and Ray McCalpin, our charter member reminisced about his long association with Mark and his family.

To add to the occasion, two of Mark's daughters were our guests for the evening and witnessed the dedication. Jim Gougeon, our International Representative, will present the trophy to the Society at the Mid-Winter Convention.

January, 1983, Grosse Pointe presented 20 singers on stage and we knocked them dead with our rendition of "Winter Wonderland" and "Ride the Chariot". The **POINTE CLASSICS** did one super job and everyone loved them. There were eight chapters represented at Uncle Sam Night.

January 15, 1987, Uncle Sam Night/Doran McTaggart Night at the Moose Lodge in Windsor. Doran, apparently recovered from his recent illness, opened the meeting as EMCEE. It became an evening in his honor. Doran was well roasted by old friends and joined by his old quartet. It was heart warming for all of us to share in the well-deserved tribute to Doran. The evening included chorus and quartet participation. Grosse Pointe, about 18 in number, sang well under the direction of Carl Uridge. **JUST FRIENDS** did their usual fine job. Of course, there was that famed Canadian Spaghetti! Another truly great barbershop evening.

Uncle Sam Night continues to be a great evening of barbershopping with larger crowds than ever. Its an evening of continuous entertainment with choruses from all over Michigan and Canada.

### INTERNATIONAL SEND-OFF SHOW

Every year each District in the Society send their top chorus and quartets to International Competition where they hope to be chosen International Champions. It was felt (as early

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as 1959) that our District should sponsor package shows involving top talent and held at sites around Michigan to help fund the travel expenses of our champions.

Not many shows were held soon after 1959 but there was an INTERNATIONAL SEND-OFF held at Battle Creek June 12 1971. The Master of Ceremonies was Tom Damm, Pioneer District President. The high lighters of the entertainment were the Wayne Wonderland Chorus directed by Gordon Limburg and the **SHARPLIFTERS**, 1967 District Champions. The District champions on their way to New Orleans, the **GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT**, the **VAGABONDS** and the Wolverine Chorus of Oakland County directed by Carl Dahlke.

In 1973, the show was held at the Henry and Edsel Ford Auditorium in Detroit. The entertainment high lighters were the Capitol City Chordsmen Chorus directed by Ken Gibson and the **NORTHERN HI-LITES**, alternate District representatives (Bob Demchak, Bob Wisdom, Dave Caldwell and Lee Hanson) and the **GENTLEMENS AGREEMENT**. The champions on there way to Portland, the **SHARPLIFTERS**, The **VAGABONDS** and the MOTOR CITY CHORUS directed by Thom Hine also performed on the show.

In May, 1976, the show was held at Fitzgerald High School. It was chaired by Fred MacFadyen of OCC, with one of the Ticket Chairmen our Own Sully Mazur, one of the Publicity Chairmen our own Art Bassett and the After Glow was chaired by our own, Don Adams, and members of the Grosse Pointe Chapter. As part of the entertainment the Division I Massed Chorus was directed by (in order of appearance) Steve Sutherland, Glenn Van Tassle, Doran McTaggart, Gordon Limburg (Grosse Pointe) Don Barrett and Bob Whitledge. Doran McTaggart, as always most witty, said "We in Windsor expect all of you Americans to come over to help us Canadians in our Bicentennial in the year 2067." "Furthermore," he said, "This is just the beginning of an annual event. Put that in your pipe and smoke it."

June 10 1977 This year's International Send-off Show is again being sponsored by the chapters in Division I. To minimize the effort required to stage a big show and to realize a maximum financial return from the show and afterglow, both affairs have been scheduled for Windsor's Cabota Club Ballroom. The Friday night affair will be a four hour show complete with spaghetti (rumored to be meatless) dinner served during a one hour intermission and all for a single admission price. Each chapter in Division I is invited to stage a 15 to 20 minute package consisting of whatever combination of chorus and/or quartet they care to present. The Motor City Chorus, as Pioneer's representative to Philadelphia, will be allotted more time for its presentation.

INTERNATIONAL SEND-OFF SHOW JUNE 13, 1980. Nearly 1,000 barbershoppers and friends gathered at Caboto Hall in Windsor, Ontario on June 13 for the Send-Off Show for the benefit of our District's representatives going to Salt Lake City in July. Featured, of course, were the two quartets **SOUNDS AROUND** and the **B & L EXCHANGE**.

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The Wayne Wonderland Chorus closed the show after some of the other choruses had performed, such as: The Wolverine Chorus, Sun Parlour, Motor City and our own Lakeshore Chorus. We did an abbreviated version of our Spring Show.

The S.M.A.C. Chorus also sang and will be at the Hart Plaza in Detroit's Civic Center on July 13th at 6:00 P.M. as a G.O.P. pre-convention festivity. Russ Seely will be the director for that one.

The **GREAT LAKES EXPRESS** and the new quarter, **HARMONY RENAISSANCE** with Glenn Van Tassel and Dennis Gore also performed at Caboto Hall. This quartet will bear watching -- maybe Glenn has another winner!

This evening in Windsor is always entertaining and all International Representatives will get some help with the money raised (won't have far to go next year, '81 in Detroit).

Friday, June 8, 1984 District Send-Off Show for the benefit of Pioneer's Representatives to the International Competition this year, July 1-8 in St. Louis.

As you know, the Lakeshore Chorus as Champion of the District is expected to be present and contribute to the show with good singing, the kind we won with but only with a full attendance can we do so. You as a member of Grosse Pointe are obligated to attend every singing occasion that the chorus is invited to perform at (especially as a Champion).

1987 Send-Off Show/Can-Am well attended. The Canadian and American Barbershop Send-Off Show, formerly held at Caboto Hall in Windsor, Ontario was held this time in Chatham, Ontario and proved to be a great success. It was attended by over 1500 people from both countries. A terrific concert and dinner was provided for all these show goers and it promises to be the way this event will be done in the next few years.

Besides all the choice quartets performing, the Champion Chorus from Scarborough, known as the "Dukes" did their thing - and what a thing it was! There was approximately 100 chorus members up on the risers and what a sound! We were almost knocked backward by a wall of sound (and what a sound). They were a slick group; the SP was effective, subtle enough not to detract from the sound; the guys were animated, everyone was doing their part and enjoying it; the "picture" they created was moving, making me realize why they were at the top!

Pioneer's reps, the Wayne Renaissance Chorus, the **TRI-COUNTY CONNECTION** and the **RITZ** quartets also performed with such degree of Showmanship and Sound, it's hard to imagine any of them returning without a high placement in the scoring.

## Chapter Twelve - District Events

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CABOTO HALL SEND-OFF SHOW JUNE 12, 1992

Windsor Chorus, Grosse Pointe and City Lights performed. Some great gang singing was led by Russ Seely and others.

**POWER PLAY** led the name quartets. Everyone enjoyed the college age quartets. This event continues to be the highlight in cross-district fun and camaraderie. To show the upbeat tone, the spaghetti dinner was even dubbed "modestly improved".

### HARMONY EDUCATION PROGRAM

One event that occurred which bears mentioning was the First Annual Harmony Education Program Summer School which was held at St. Mary's College in Winona, Minnesota, August 24-27, 1961. The first HEP school, attended by many Michigan members, was headed by Rudy Hart and included a faculty of such Society greats as Bob Johnson, Bill Dickema etc. The first one week school was held in 1970.

McDermott's 50 Year History

### HARMONY COLLEGE GRADUATES TWO GP CHAPTER MEMBERS

Don Schell and Len Schweitzer graduated from the Harmony College of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. On August 4TH, the one week program is sponsored by the Society and offers 57 courses ranging from woodshedding, tag singing, music theory to quartet coaching, arranging and everything in between including a course in history of quartet singing.

The program is held at the Western Missouri State College in St. Joseph, MO. and was attended by 650 barbershoppers from forty of the fifty states as well as students from England, New Zealand, Hawaii and Saudi Arabia. The classes offered were for members of the Society to improve their gifts and talents in singing, arranging, coaching and administrative skills as well.

In addition to the academic program a mid-week break was set aside for recreation including volley ball, tennis, swimming, horseshoes and other recreation events. One special occasion was the annual Mai Tai party sponsored by the Hawaiian chapter with proceeds going to the Logopedics Foundation. Included in the party was a very select number of quartets; highlighted by the 1986 International Champions, **THE RURAL ROUTE 4**.

On Saturday night there was a show put on by some 80 members of the class entitled "The Phantom of the Barbershop". The 1990 International Champion Quartet, **THE ACOUSTICS** from Dallas was featured on the final show.

The Chapter has sponsored four men to H.E.P. School thus far, and their experience was so enriching that they have prevailed on the Chapter board to try to sell as many members

## Chapter Twelve - District Events

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as we can on attending the 1976 school and to sponsor, with full cost, if we can, all who want to go. The Chapter will provide some of the money from the general fund, as it did when they sent the men, in addition, plans for a special performance of the chorus and quartets at the Detroit Yatch Club on Belle Isle to raise money for this educational project. Another show was held in June of 1977 for the same purpose. Pitch Pipe, Ted Keller; Troubadour, Jim Kerrigan

Some of the HEP College Alumni: Carl Uridge, John Wenzel, Sterling Berry, Ted Keller, Dab Bulbuk, Bob Rancilio, Bob Kruger, Sully Mazur, Dick Barber, Joe Dillon, Scott Houghton, Don Schell, Len Schweitzer, Tony Ales.

### MINIHEP / HARMONY ROUNDUP

A District HEP school was held in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, on November 24, 1962 and featured a talented faculty including Bob Johnson, Bob Tracy, Al Burgess, Roger Craig, Dick Peterson, Loton Wilson and Lou Harrington. The school listed three courses, those being Chapter Officer Training, Chorus Directors and Quartet Promotion and Coaching. This event signaled the introduction of our present day HEP Schools and Chapter Officer Training Schools. It was due to the hard work of Bob Tracy.

McDermott's 50 Year History

#### PP 4/77 MINI-HEP SCHOOL

The Battle Creek HEP School was attended by Pete Batts, tenor; Jim Gougeon, lead; Pete Eppinga, bari and Dick Brouckaert. Each quartet received over 15 hours of very valuable instruction from coaches from all around the country. Our own District Music Director, Bill Butler headed the program.

#### PP 8/77 QUARTET COACHING SESSION

Top professional instruction from Headquarters will be available to the Pioneer District quartets at a Coaching Session, August 19 to 21 at the MEA Conference Center near Battle Creek. The MEA Center borders St. Mary's Lake. It's on St. Mary's Road, just north of Battle Creek.

The session starts at 8:00 PM Friday and runs until Sunday Noon. The \$35.00 per man includes two nights' lodging and four meals.

#### PP 7/78 MINI-HEP SCHOOL

As your president, Sterling Berry, this is my sincere opinion!

The finest opportunity in many years-ever, probably - for Grosse Pointe members to improve their singing ability and knowledge of music will become available this fall

## Chapter Twelve - District Events

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when the entire music staff of the International Society will conduct a full weekend harmony school in the Detroit area.

Dean of the school will be Bob Johnson, International Music Education Director. His two chief assistants will be Joe Liles and Dave Stevens of the International Staff. These three men have to be the finest teachers of men's vocal singing and barbershop techniques to be found anywhere and they will be ably assisted by an entire stable of the most respected judges and coaches in the Society. The school will be held on the campus of Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, less than one hour's drive from Grosse Pointe.

The attendee will select one of twelve available courses which will provide a challenge and rewarding experience for every barbershopper, from a new member just getting his feet wet to the old pro who is ready to become a certified judge.

The school will begin at 8:00 P.M., Friday, September 15th and will run through noon Sunday, September 17th.. The facilities of the school are limited and this school will most assuredly be a sellout. If you are going, we urge that you send in your registration NOW.

Your Chapter Board has unanimously agreed that the Chapter will pay the balance of the \$30 registration fee for every Grosse Pointe member who attends the school and who represents the Grosse Pointe Chapter at the fall convention in Grand Rapids, either singing with the Lakeshore Chorus or competing in a quartet as a representative of Grosse Pointe. At the full \$30 for all fees, two nights lodging and four meals, this would be a rare bargain. With Chapter sponsorship, your total financial involvement of only \$10 represents an investment you cannot afford to miss.

### PP 9/79 HARMONY ROUND - UP / MINI - HEP SCHOOL

September 14 - 16 in the Hoyt Conference Center at Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Michigan.

Be sure to set this date aside NOW!. If you miss it - you are the loser! It is the best chance you have to learn more about ways of singing together. It will start at 8:00 PM, Friday and run to noon Sunday and will be headed by none other than Bob Johnson and Joe Liles with a well rounded crew of assistants.

The Chapter subsidizes the cost of the week end which consists of classes in various subjects from basic craft to a quartet clinic. It was very worth while as those 34 of us who attended last year can well attest.

The faculty members all from Kenosha HQ, which means they're the tops. Sterling Berry has the information for those who wish it and if sponsored by Grosse Pointe you must agree to sing in the Fall Chorus Competition with them.

## Chapter Twelve - District Events

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### PP 9/84 HARMONY ROUND - UP AT EMU

Fourteen guys from Grosse Pointe attended this week end enjoyed every minute of it. Registration Friday evening was handled by Tom Pollard of the Wayne Chapter. After we were assigned to our rooms, a general session was held at 8:00 P.M. in the Buchanan Dining Room where we were handed sheets of music to sing. The teaching was done by Bob Mucha and Bob Johnson of the Societies Music Department.

In addition to the above, there were five quartet coaches for one-on-one coaching sessions. Each quartet shared 1 1/2 hours with each coach, plus any other available time. To sum up, fair weather, good food, fine fellowship, excellent leadership and lots of ringing chords - don't miss next year!

### PP 7/92 HARMONY ROUND - UP AT EAST LANSING

Sixteen Grosse Pointe Stalwarts took advantage of a great Pioneer District sponsored learning experience on July 19, 20 & 21 at Michigan State.

The sessions beginning Friday evening featured quartets coaching by names like Shumard, Whitlege, Beck, Kienitz - and included classes in vocal techniques, sight reading, chorus directing and MCing conducted by Jim Stephens and International and District staffs. Warm up techniques were especially stressed.

Attending from Grosse Pointe were Dale Barber, Hank DeMars, Frank Maranzano, Mike Proffitt, Don Schell and Russ Seely. Attending quartets were the **LAKESHORE CLIPPERS** and the **FORGETTABLES**. The afterglow featured those quartets and a great visit by **STAY TUNED**.

It was a great week end. Where else can you get top level music instruction, great food and enjoy the company of other district members and SPEBSQSA staff!

### CHAPTER OFFICER'S TRAINING SCHOOL

The 1975 Chapter Officer's Training School (COTS) held in Lansing on November 16 and 17 set a new high in attendance and chapter participation. With 30 of the 32 chapters in the District represented in the session at Old's Plaza, and 139 chapter officers taking part in the administrative, musical and public relations classes, Tom Cogan, dean of the school,

Keith Axline keyed his class of presidents to the duties that await them in the coming year; John Gillespie, president elect of Pioneer, was on hand to explain the REX Committee, to be chaired by Bill Warner, to the new administrators. REX is the name for the committee on Retention and Extension.

Chorus Directors had Jim Miller, master director of the Thoroughbreds, who met one-on-one with the problems posed by class members often ignoring his lesson plans.

## Chapter Twelve - District Events

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Everyone was kept busy. A well organized time table kept everything on schedule the whole weekend.

McDermotts 50 Year History

### PINE KNOB

How did you like that? 250 voices rose together in song on the stage of the Pine Knob Recreation Area. A mighty song! An unforgettable song!

The evening highlights include barbershop polecat songs and other old songs by the mass chorus directed by Thom Hine, and three separate chorus performances by Detroit #1, Oakland County and Grosse Pointe. The huge crowd also enjoyed the antics of the **NEW BALTIMORE EXIT** quartet plus the prowess of the **CITATIONS** and the **VAGABONDS** who sang their new radio commercial for “Kowalski.” Our own Russ Seely sang a solo in America the Beautiful accompanied by the mass chorus and did a great job. All in all it was a huge success and promises to be an annual event.

Pitch Pipe May 1979, augmented.

The following year that terrific group known as the SMAC Chorus, 250 strong, thrilled a packed outdoor auditorium facility at Pine Knob again in 1980. Thom Hine directed and as always was super. Each man was dressed in his own chorus uniform and collectively presented quite a picture to the audience who loved everything they saw and heard. The Grosse Pointe Chorus performed separately as did as did the Oakland County and the District Representatives to the International Competition in Salt Lake City, the Wayne Chapter Chorus. The **GREAT LAKES EXPRESS** was the first quartet to sing followed by the **SCHIZOPHONICS** from the Illinois District (comic quartet) and the **CLASSIC COLLECTION** from Denver, 1977 sixth place International Finalists. Needless to say, the audience was well satisfied with the evening's entertainment for they were heard to say “More, More.” There will be more next year.

Pitch Pipe June 1980.

### MEADOWBROOK

The Meadowbrook Barbershop Extravaganza held August 4, 1982 was sponsored by the Waterford Rotary Club in association with the Southeast Michigan Association of Chapters of SPEBSQSA, Inc. (S.M.A.C.). The welcome and introductions were given by the Master of Ceremonies, Ted Strausser.

The show opened with a mass chorus composed of S.M.A.C. members under the direction of Carl Dahlke (of the Detroit Chapter). Approximately 214 men were on stage and the sound was thrilling.

The Wayne Chorus under the direction of Steve Sutherland and the Detroit Motor City

## Chapter Twelve - District Events

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Chorus directed by Carl Dahlke staged their always entertaining segments. Headlining the quartet portion of the show was the **MELLO MEN**, a comedy quartet and the 1978 Ontario District Champions. Their songs and antics pleased the crowd immensely. Our own District Champions and 1982 International Silver Medalists, **CENTER STAGE** was next on the show. Their presentation brought down the house and sent people away murmuring "what a show."

The weather was perfect. The singing was beautiful and the crowds enthusiastic for the first Barbershop Mass Chorus Show at this outdoor theater. Other S.M.A.C. events were put on at Pine Knob in 1979 and 1980.

Pitch Pipe September 1982, augmented

## Chapter Thirteen - Service and Charities

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### GROSSE POINTE'S SERVICE / CHARITIES

Our records of organized Chapter service projects go back as far as May of 1946. The Grosse Pointe guys were probably doing service/charity jobs when they were with the Detroit Chapter, prior to the existence of Grosse Pointe..

#### 1946 - Pitch Pipe

Communications from Dr. Kennebeck of Muskegon regarding conditions at Percy Jones Hospital were read and it was decided by motion to tax each member \$1.00 cash, same being used to purchase suitable articles for the disabled veterans at the hospital. It was also moved and seconded to have each member donate two decks of playing cards or equivalent in cash, at the next regular meeting and these also be sent to Percy Jones Hospital.

#### Percy Jones Hospital

Some time ago the State Association adopted a Soldiers and Veterans' Hospital program and asked the various chapters throughout the state to choose a Sunday to send its quartets to Percy Jones Hospital to entertain the patients. The program has been very effective and most chapters have sent at least three organized quartets. Some few chapters failed to produce and that brings to mind our probable predicament come next December 12th which is Grosse Pointe's day at Percy Jones. So, please, you singers, get a four together and work up a program for our day at the hospital. There is plenty of material in our Chapter and you will never regret expending a little effort for such a good cause. Remember, too, that only the quartets make the trip.

Our Chapter quartets and the impromptu Chapter chorus journeyed out to Dearborn's Hospital on Wednesday, September 18th to entertain the patients hospitalized there. Among the quartets were Lang's Lung Busters, Walley's Wailers, White's Whooper-Uppers, Peltier's Chord Pulverizers, Schwoppe's Schwooners and Sunday's Saturday Nighters. The feature of the evening's entertainment was the chorus. You didn't know we had one? Well, neither did we until the occasion arose, and presto, we had a chorus with gusto. Those unfortunate guys out there stayed right with us and seemed to like us. Besides Johnnie and Clare other Chapter members who showed up and did their bit were Walley, Creed, Woodus, Weigner, Bartley, Scwoppe, Peltier, Sunday, and Roberts.

Our trip to Percy Jones Hospital in Battle Creek has been postponed indefinitely. As a substitute therefore we have assumed primary responsibility for establishing a program of entertainment for the Veteran's Hospitals in the Detroit Area (The Veteran's Hospital in Dearborn and The Marine Hospital in Grosse Pointe, at the foot of Alter Road). Dr. J. B. Kennebeck, Chairman of the State Committee for such hospitals, has given his whole hearted approval of the program. We now have the ball, brothers, so lets go for a sustained and live program for the thousands of unfortunate veterans in our own community.

#### 1947 - Pitch Pipe

A letter from Dal Metcalf was read, asking the Chapter to consider buying a portable

## Chapter Thirteen - Service and Charities

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radio for a crippled veteran at Percy Jones Hospital. Pete Fischer moved for a satisfactory answer to this letter. Before action is to be taken it was decided that a check-up of the situation at Battle Creek be made on the matter. Pete Fischer brought up the fact that playing cards are needed by the boys at Battle Creek and suggested each member bring a deck to one of the meetings. No action was taken until it was ascertained whether there was a need for

them.

1948 - Pitch Pipe

Lou Walley reported on the charity affair sponsored by our Chapter at the Marine Hospital on December 17th. Three hundred flat 50s were distributed to the patients, the expense of \$123 being borne by the Chapter.

The secretary read a letter from William R. Bradley of Fort Custer Hospital, expressing gratitude for the self charging portable radio given him by the Chapter

Twenty-six members of the Chapter spent the early part of the evening entertaining the Veteran's at the Dearborn Hospital. A bus was chartered for the trip. Seven quartets participated with Mark Roberts as MC.

Lou Walley conveyed a request to entertain veterans from Percy Jones Hospital who will be brought to Sunday football games and given their dinner at the Red Cross building on E. Elizabeth St in the near future.

1948 - Pitch Pipe

We put on another show for Veterans at Marine Hospital, on Wednesday, August 25th. Four quartets, just about all that facility down there can accommodate, appeared on very short notice and although it was too hot to sing and too hot to listen, we did sing and they listened for the full time allotted. The progressives, as usual, a whole show in themselves, the Twilight Four, Four Hoarsemen and Chordsmen gave out with their best to a highly appreciative audience. The Four Hoarsemen also went in to the wards for a few songs for the bed- patients. Carl Restivo acted as MC and with the big fellow's genius for entertaining people, we did alright. President McKinney has appointed Lou Walley as chairman of the Community Service Committee.

1949 - Pitch Pipe

Nice little show we put on for the Vets at Marine Hospital on Monday, September 26th. The Frankenmuth, Hoarsemen, and Twilights quartets went all out to please the audience and then formed the nucleus for small but snappy chorus with the help of Dennes, Walley and Roberts, all under the direction of Carl Restivo who was in rare form indeed. The vets got a kick out of our demonstration of the 'Tag' quartet especially where some of the exaggerated 'tags' represented a shove that all but catapulted a guy out of the auditorium.

January 1950 - Pitch Pipe

## Chapter Thirteen - Service and Charities

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Our Chapter staged another show for Marine Hospital patients on Monday, January 9th. We had a swell turnout of four quartets and enough extras to make a whopping big chorus and extra quartets. The Frankenmuths with a solid week of booking ahead still found time to come across town to help out the Twilighters, Four Hoarsemen and Windjammers. The Twilighters made all the wards passing out cigarettes with a song thrown in, a little extra chore, and everybody worked hard to entertain those who could get to the auditorium. Gar Smith and Carl Restivo split the MC duties while Harold Lemmer, Jim Reeb, Bill, Dennes, Lou Walley, Ben Landino and Bud Peltier did plenty of singing in groups and foursomes. Best crack of the evening was heard by the Frankenmuth Quartet while singing in the tuberculosis ward. Said a bed-patient, "Hey, what do you know about that, those guys sound just like the Frankenmuth Quartet".

1956

Al Davenport suggested that a donation be made to the **March of Dimes**. Mark Roberts made a motion to give \$25 and the motion was carried.

1956 Community Service Chairman - LeRoy McKinney

1957 Community Service Chairman - Gordon Rose

In 1964, the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Singing in America named the Institute of Logopedics, in Wichita, Kansas its International Service Project, adopting their slogan 'We Sing That They Shall Speak' (Harmonizer March/April 1993)

'Speech Town' as it is often called, is dedicated to the problems of speech handicaps (cerebral palsy, aphasia, cleft palate, stuttering) and is unique in that it offers a total rehabilitation program which includes: (1) clinical work, (2) training teachers in Logopedics, and (3) research.

Barbershoppers support the program through (1) donations, (2) benefit shows, and (3) memorials.

March 1966 - Pitch Pipe

The chorus performance on February 14th for the benefit of retarded children puts us on our way to our charity goal and to another goal of establishing the identity of our Society and the Grosse Pointe Chapter in the community. (Expanded story on our singing for Don Adam's Kids appears in Grosse Pointe Events Chapter in this book)

February 1967 - Pitch Pipe

Bob Kruger has been named Community Service Chairman, so look out community, here comes Big Bob!

October 1971 - Pitch Pipe

Our Lakeshore Chorus has been busy in public service this month, having sung two Sunday evenings in succession at the East Detroit K of C hall for the opening of their new facility, a beautiful place. The chorus also gave a performance at the Twentieth Anniversary Celebration of the City of Harper Woods. This was an open air job, and although we were cool in our short sleeved shirts there was a warm reception from the

## Chapter Thirteen - Service and Charities

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audience and a few good comments from individuals. . Continued exposure to our communities will bring good results and more joy to all of us, because this is what we are organized for and what we love to do.

January 1978 - Pitch Pipe

Logopedics Chairman, Howard Lewis, reported that our \$10 contribution per man has been met and our Expansion Fund money is progressing well.

May 1978 - Pitch Pipe

Dan Bulbuk must be given a big Kudos for his effort in getting the G.P. Chapter a Harmony Service Foundation award (\$10 per man, \$100 per chapter donation to Logopedics) for 1977.

June 1979 - Pitch Pipe

Thanks, guys for all the tickets you sold and bought for the raffle of the wheel-barrow  of cheer . It was a huge suc

have sent \$975 to the Institute. A great job, fellows, keep it up. Don't forget the JUG as you sign in, any little change helps. George VanDeVelde, Chairman

December 1979 - Pitch Pipe

George VanDeVelde, Logopedics Chairman, reported recently that as of October 31, the Chapter had contributed \$1,200 for the year 1979. That tallies to \$11.42 per member, well over our goal of \$10.00 per man. The weekly raffles have really paid off. (He's sold a lot of barbershop records also) Some of the winners recently were : Ed Sauve, Dan Zinser, Nick Cattelane and Les Suddick.

October 1980 - Pitch Pipe

George VanDeVelde reported that our Logopedics for the year was apparently now ended and was a whopping success to the tune of \$1,315 or about \$14 per member, (not bad). We cleared \$335 on the raffle held on September 19th and our old friend, 'Old Faithful', George Knaut sent \$70 from his home in Utah.

February 1982 - Pitch Pipe

Logopedics -. In 1981, Grosse Pointe gave \$1202.51, for an average of \$12.79 per member.. George VanDeVelde should be commended for his fine work this past year.

December 1982 - Pitch Pipe

COIN Night - George VanDeVelde held a Logopedics drawing and raised approx. \$450 for our kids. Winners were; 1st prize, TV set, Mr. G. Binroth (seller was John Collins); 2nd prize, half gallon of booze, Mr. Richard Barber (that's the corney little gent that should be writing this bulletin); 3rd prize, another half gal of booze, Mr. Dale Barber (this was not a fix, honest).

Through your efforts and others in our Society, we have now contributed well over \$4 Million to the Institute.

## Chapter Thirteen - Service and Charities

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December 1984 - Pitch Pipe

Our Chairman of Logopedics says we have for the seventh straight year, made our quota, as we made \$576 on the recent raffle. Art Jones was the winner of the grand prize, a color TV. George has had his job as Logopedics Chairman for almost as long as Ye Ed ha shad his job, and has as much trouble dumping it (that's what happens when you do a good job).

May 1985 - Pitch Pipe

George VanDeVelde asks that all Campbell labels be saved and turned over to him to cash in for Logopedics. He also thanks the Chapter and District members for the support of the raffle at the District Convention. The raffle contributed \$252 toward Logopedics. Another great job by our Logopedics Chairman for a very worth while cause.

February/March 1988 - Pitch Pipe

Lyrics from Logopedics by Lehti, Logopedics Chairman

What a night! Tuesday, December 22, 1987 -- Four groups of devoted members singing their hearts out for 'our kids in Wichita' to the tune of \$413 in contributions. A couple groups were sent out in residential neighborhoods and sang on people's porches with a little success. The other guys got wise and hit the local bars. The bar singers brought in all the money. After the singing we went back to the club for hot ginger ale and donuts and some pleasant singing. A great job guys, and a big 'thanks, well done' to John Wade for putting the whole thing together. ( This had to be the first 'Pub Crawl' )

Special thanks to our newest quartet, **PHOTOGRAPHS & MEMORIES** for their generous contributions and also to Charlie Evans who came up with 265 Campbell Soup labels when we visited him at Madonna Villa on our Christmas Bus Tour (This is another topic under separate GP events) We enjoyed our visit with you, Charlie.

June 1988 - Pitch Pipe

Super-Raffle Recap. As you all know, the super-raffle is now history and the Institute of Logopedics will be receiving \$2,175 from us. This will place us in the Silver Award Division (based on \$25 per member with 87 members on our official roster). In other words, we will fulfill the request that each chapter upgrade their donations by one level in connection with our 50th Anniversary. Congratulations to the prize winners: Bob Rancilio (Toronto Trip) Donald Wallace (travel bags) Scott Houghton (travel bags). In appreciation for the support received from the Chapter, additional prizes were won by Bob Sauers, Nels Gregersen, Bill Shier, Tom Quirk, Len Schweitzer, Ed McCarthy and Bud Maire. And a special Congratulations and BIG THANK YOU to the top ticket sellers: Frank Fortier (100), John Kosmas (80), Mark Davidson (60) and Don Adams (50). All received handy travel items for their hard work and fine results.

Last but not least, I'd like to thank the Ladies Auxiliary for their wonderful assistance during intermission and for their words of encouragement Friday night when we ran out of tickets. "Howard, what are you going to do for Saturday night?" "Howard, you better go to Speedy Print in the morning". "Howard, you better get hold of a printer." Yes, it must have been those words that prompted me to get a hold of Bob Sauers (Skip Print) at midnight and request more tickets. (Bob knew I was crazy) You know the rest of the

## Chapter Thirteen - Service and Charities

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story - Bob came through with the tickets and the gals sold over 800 during the intermission on Saturday night. What a show! What a weekend! And what a fantastic gift for "our kids" at the Institute! Signed, Logopedics Lehti.

In Celebration of its 50th anniversary in 1988, the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America raised more than \$1 million for the Institute of Logopedics.

Spring 1989 - Pitch Pipe

Logopedics Wins at Annual Show - Howard Lehti did it again. The Logopedics Raffle was a resounding success with the sale of approximately 3200 tickets. Winner of the trip to Las Vegas was Mrs. Theresa Scott of Mt. Clemens. Other winners were our own John Wearing and Ed McCarthy's grandson (set of travel bags). Top ticket sellers were repeat winner, Frank Fortier, Mark Davidson, George VanDeVelde, John Kosmas, Bob Farrington, Don Adams and Ed Sauve.

Because of Howard's efforts and those of his able assistant, John Kosmas, we may once again enter the next year breathing a sigh of relief that our goal can be attained. Thanks Howard and John and all of you for another job well done. Joe Bichler, editor.

Winter 1989/1990 - Pitch Pipe

LYRICS FROM LOGOPEDICS LEHTI

We all know that cold weather is just around the corner - we all know that colder weather means SOUP - so stay healthy, eat plenty of soup but most importantly, SAVE THOSE CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS for our kids at the Institute of Logopedics.. Would you believe that last year barbershoppers all over the world collected 1,164,900 labels which were exchanged for about 40 different items for the Institute, including a large screen TV (190,000 labels), two computer printers (89,750 labels), 2 apple II computers (165,400 labels), 8 color TVS (200,000 labels), plus other computer equipment and educational games. Keep those labels coming.

Editor's note: Hats off to Howard on a super job as Logopedics Chairman. Welcome to our new Chairman, John Kosmas.

Winter 1991 - Pitch Pipe

A GIFT OF SOUND - Mike Sullivan and Len Schweitzer represented all of us as they presented a TDD (Telecommunication Device for the Deaf) to pleased recipients, Tommy Rutherford accepting it on behalf of the Associate Deaf Blind Club of Detroit, and Alice Raftary, Director of the Greater Detroit Society for the Blind. Sullivan, as chairman, made the presentation.

February/March 1991 - Pitch Pipe

Mike Sullivan, our Logopedics Chairman, tells me that one of the highlights of our Christmas Party, the caroling, also produced almost \$800 for our charities. We divided ourselves into three groups led by Chris

Miller, Harvey Burr and Bert West covered the Pointes and had a great time doing it.

## Chapter Thirteen - Service and Charities

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Our Christmas Bus Tour was particularly satisfying thanks to the efforts of Harvey and the Board and all of you we were able to add an extra sparkle to the Barrett House by providing them with a much needed replacement for their black and white TV, doesn't it feel good. (Expanded story in Grosse Pointe Events)

### May 1991 - Pitch Pipe

As Logopedics and Charity Chairman for 1991, I would like to extend a hearty "Thank You" to all those who helped support our Las Vegas raffle at McCarthy's Saloon. The winner of the Las Vegas trip was Wendy Rick of Roseville, a friend of member Leroy, the Accordion Man. A total of 1112 tickets were sold by the membership and the Ladies Auxiliary. The donation to the Chapter was \$567. Thank You, again.

The Grosse Pointe Chapter was awarded a plaque at the Spring Convention honoring us for 14 years of continued support to the Institute of Logopedics and to the Pioneer District's yearly donation commitment. An additional award was presented to the Chapter for reaching the 'Bronze' level for the Institute in 1990. Congratulations to my predecessor!

### October 28, 1991 Mike Sullivan Letter

As Logopedics and Charities Chairman for the Grosse Pointe Chapter I was approached by our Director, Russ Seely, concerning the concept of donations to others than to the Logopedics Institute. When I was elected Logopedics Chairman last year, the first thing I suggested was that we divide our efforts between the District commitment and local charities. A vote was taken and the title of Logopedics and Charity Chairman was adopted. In the Grosse Pointe Chapter this position is a voting member of the Board of Directors. This system has worked out very well for our Chapter in the area of soliciting donations for our charities. People, it seems, are more willing to contribute if the monies are going to be spent locally.

### November 7, 1992 Proposed Fund Raiser

Location: Harper Woods Community Center, 19748 Harper Avenue

Theme Good Old Days Local Charity: To be announced

Entertainment: Fast Eddie and Friends & Lakeshore Chorus

(Honky Tonk Piano/Sing-a-long and drummer)

Entertainment Cost: \$100.00 Normal Fee \$200.00

Hall Rental: No charge (Donated by John Pollard)

Beer: No Charge, donated by local businesses

50/50/Raffle - It's really great to have generous friends.

### September 1992 - Pitch Pipe

The Chapter has contributed \$600 to the Institute of Logopedics in 1992 which puts us about half way for our goal of \$1300 to qualify for the Bronze award. Don't forget the jar next time you're having a libation. I've never felt it was necessary to pass the hat in this chapter. There is still time to submit a local charity to the Board for consideration for a donation in 1992. Copies of the criteria are available from any board member. Charity does begin at home.

## Chapter Thirteen - Service and Charities

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Mike Sullivan, Logopedics and Charity.

March/April 1993 - Harmonizer

Heartspring - The Logopedics Institute Board of Trustees approved a new name for the Institute of Logopedics. The name, Heartspringhas been chosen to better reflect the atmosphere of care and hope we offer children with disabilities. Heartspring signifies the warmth and caring that are a central part of the programs for children with special needs. The 'Heart' is the center of life and love. Spring is a season of renewal and a time of joy. Heartspring services now include three major programs: These include the School, offered both as a residential and a day care program, serving children with multiple disabilities. The Hearing Center, providing hearing services for people of all ages, including indigent persons served by donor hearing aid programs; and the Assessment and Treatment Center, offering evaluation and therapy to children, from newborn to 21 years of age. The Center provides treatment in the area of communication, education, motor development and behavioral and psychological needs. In addition, outpatient speech as well as occupational and physical therapies are available through the center.

April/May 1993 - Pitch Pipe

Heartspring/Charities Report - Nearly 2700 tickets were sold during our annual raffle and I must mention the guys who were instrumental in the success of this project. First of all, Howard Lehti, his help and guidance was constant and very appreciated. Over 30 guys participated in the pre-show sale: Howard Lehti, Alan Cole, Dan Bulbuk, Don Adams and Rudy Breiling were top sellers. The intermission sales Friday and Saturday were outstanding, mainly due to the help of John Fitzgerald, Jim Grogan, Dan Bulbuk, Don Schell, Sam Ellis, and of course, Howard Lehti. The Ladies Auxiliary, again, were most helpful in our success. The winning ticket was sold by Eric Ernst to B. Katz of Milford. He has decided to take the trip. We should realize a profit of \$1700, after all expenses, so the Charities Fund is in good shape for Bob Smith who is assisting the post, replacing me. Thanks Bob and again special thanks to Howard. Dale Barber, Chairman

November/December 1998 - Harmonizer

In 1994, the Society adopted SingAmerica and SingCanada as its second Unified Service Project. Project Funds are used to support the Society's vision to encourage vocal music in our schools and communities. As a result, Harmony Foundation has provided grants to the University of Saskatchewan Children's Chorus, the Worlds Children's Choir, many Harmony Explosion camps and the Urban Harmony Movement. A special Services Review Committee appointed by President, Ernie Nickoson, advised that it was time for the Society to shift its charitable focus toward youth outreach and educational causes.

June 1994 - Pitch Pipe

Just before Christmas, we had our Annual Pub Crawl. Three groups of our singers fanned out over the East Side restaurants and bars. With the help of some cooperative owners and great patrons, we passed the hat (after some indiscriminate warbling) to the tune of \$1600. Really! That's \$1600 to aid and treat hearing impaired kids, as applied to St. John Hospital.

## Chapter Thirteen - Service and Charities

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Fast forward to May. We're invited to take part in entertainment for St. John volunteers at the Gourmet House. We accept. We end the singing by presenting the \$1600 check to St John at their banquet. To say they were appreciative boosters of Grosse Pointe Barbershop is to say the least.

What's the punch line, you say! It's contained within this little story:

Hearing impaired children gained.

St. John Hospital gained.

St. John Volunteers gained, and spread the word, these are active community leaders.

The image of Grosse Pointe Barbershoppers -as a constructive, active builder of the community took a large step forward.

But why are we growing? Because we take part in our own craft for the benefit of makes us feel warm, right there.

Helping lead the whole thing, from pub crawl to the check presentation at the sing-out is shared by many. To mention a few: Mike Sullivan, Jim Grogan, John Wade, Chris Miller and Tony Ales, who led the sing-out at the check presentation.

December 1993/January 1994 - Troubadour

The Society encourages chapters to support worthwhile local charities while continuing to support Heartspring. Any local charity we support should have communication disorder or impairment treatment as its mission. For a chapter to receive credit for such donations as a charitable contribution, the income and expenses must be run through the Chapter books, and a chapter check issued to the charity. A record of the transaction must be forwarded to Frank Santarelli in Kenosha for recording as a contribution to a local charity. Santarelli will issue a certificate to chapters contributing to local charities providing they have observed the above stated guidelines.

*Such contributions do not count towards the Harmony Foundation awards program*

December 1995 - Pitch Pipe

Part of the pleasure we can get from our Barbershop experience is helping others that are less fortunate than ourselves. Our charities are consistent with helping people with speech and hearing defects. Some of the ways the Grosse Pointe Chapter raises funds for our charities are: Holding a Raffle, Our Annual Pub crawl and the sale of Entertainment Books.

The 1994 Christmas Pub Crawl was a record breaker, allowing us to contribute \$1750 to the Holly Ear Institute of St Johns Hospital. The annual show raffle did not come up to expectations raising less than \$400 toward our Heartspring donation. The sale of entertainment books can be a winner for everyone. You can enjoy a good time and services for half the price and the charities fund will get larger! The price of the book is \$40. \$6 goes to the charities and \$2 goes to the social fund. And don't forget that Christmas is coming up. The entertainment book makes a great stocking stuffer!.  
Bob Kramb, Director of Charities.



*Petition for the Organization*

*of a*

*Chapter in* Grosse Pointe, Michigan  
(City) (State or Province)

*of the*

SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF  
BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA. INC.

19311 GRAND RIVER AVENUE  
DETROIT 23, MICHIGAN

Chapter Fourteen - Chapter Charter

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.  
19311 Grand River Ave.  
Detroit 23, Michigan

*Grosse Pointe, Mich.*  
(City and State, or Province)

(Date of Application)

Gentlemen:

Acting in the belief that a chapter of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. Inc. established in *Grosse Pointe* would be to the best interests of this community and

that it would bring to our citizens an opportunity to find new pleasure in reviving the old songs and to become identified with a movement for the preservation and encouragement of a traditional American form of folk music—the barber shop quartet;

that it would develop a spirit of fellowship, friendship and cooperation for the good of our members and for the community at large;

that it would provide an instrumentality by which its members might promote community service and contribute through singing to altruistic causes and to patriotic events;

that there are available enough men of high character and with an appreciation of good music to meet the charter membership requirement, carry on the activities of a local chapter and to fulfill all obligations to the International Society;

that if such a chapter is formed in this community it will become a worthy part of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. Inc.;

we, as representative citizens, give our unqualified endorsement to the movement and petition the International officers to charter a Chapter of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc. in *Grosse Pointe*, to which end we pledge our active support, and our firm determination to abide by all the tenets of the Society's Code of Ethics, its Constitution and By-Laws, and all rulings of the Board of Directors.

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS: Any white adult male resident of *Grosse Pointe* or the immediate vicinity, who is interested in the aims and purposes of the Society, is eligible to be considered for membership."

Name

Mail Address

Business or Profession

<i>Mark P. Roberts</i>	<i>1462 Fischer Ave. Detroit</i>	
<i>Jed C. Finnell</i>	<i>16454 Woodingham Dr. Detroit</i>	
<i>Ray McKinney</i>	<i>2127annon Dr. Grosse Pt Woods 32 Mich</i>	
<i>Dal Metcalfe</i>	<i>4164 Guilford Detroit (24)</i>	
<i>Maurice H. Lagron</i>	<i>11199 Gratiot Detroit 5</i>	
<i>Louis Halley</i>	<i>3529 Duperson Detroit 7</i>	
<i>D. H. Woodard</i>	<i>97 Louise Ave. Highland Park-3</i>	

Name	Mail Address	Business or Profession
Ronald D. Peltier	3520 Gray Av.	Detroit 15
Carl M. Weideman	10410 E. Jefferson	Detroit 14
E. G. Schweppe	5581 Kensington	Detroit
E. Lang	13541 Cedarwood Ave.	Detroit 5
Edw. P. Marschner	3445 Fischer Ave.	" 14
Fred E. Lutzer	7548 Algonquin	Detroit 14
Walter H. Maischein	591 Dupel	Detroit 16
Jack Laucke	578 Continental	15 Detroit
George P. Halvers	513 Dupel	

Dear Carroll;

You may be interested in the following matters; We are to meet on the second Friday and, until a suitable place is found in Grass Pointe, that is, a place providing the proper atmosphere and dignity as befits our organization, we will meet at the Detroit Turners. Our dues will be three dollars per year and the Constitution will be that recommended in the pamphlet on organizations.

We have had a meeting over

Chapter Fourteen - Chapter Charter

Name	Mail Address	Business or Profession
<i>and elected officers as follows,</i>		
<i>President</i>	<i>Mark P. Roberts</i>	
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Edwin L. Schweppe</i>	
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>L. LeRoy McKinney</i>	
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Louis Waller</i>	
<i>Master of Ceremonies</i>	<i>Walter Metcalf</i>	
<i>Keeper of the Mugs</i>	<i>Fred J. Lutzer</i>	
<i>The last named is the door keeper or sgt.-at-arms.</i>		
<i>We are ready for "Charter Night" any time you are.</i>		
Population of city or area to be covered by this chapter, if charter is granted. <i>45,000 Est.</i>		
What place or places are available for Chapter meetings and what auditorium is available for the chapter's functions which will, from time to time, be open to the public. <i>For chapter meetings we have in mind the Neighborhood Club and Home Points Yatch Club. The Pierce High School has a new and beautiful auditorium which would be available for large gatherings.</i>		
To whom should the reply to this petition be addressed <i>Mark P. Roberts, 1462 Fischer Ave., Detroit 14,</i>		
Approved on _____ (Date)		
Int'l. Pres.		Int'l. Exec. Sec.