



Detroit-Oakland Chapter

Pioneer District – Barbershop Harmony Society

August 2008 Chapter Board Meeting – Aug 18, 2008

Attendees

Dave Montera – President
David Beamer – Secretary
Tom Uicker – Treasurer
Jim Kunz – VP Music
John Blanchard – VP Programs
Jack Day – VP Membership
John Balint – VP Marketing
Lou Stark – At large
Herb Hebner – Immed. Past President

Guests

Steve Sutherland

Meeting called to order at 6:36.

Minutes for July 2008 meeting were read and approved. MSC

The July Treasurer's report showed a month-end balance of \$3,645. Contributions given to defray the cost of purchasing music for the chorus were noted. Thanks, guys. Other items:

- ASCAP fees have been paid thru the end of 2007.
- John Schneider of Society HQ suggests that chapters pay the minimum for 2008 – for the time being, at least. A payment of \$210 to cover the ASCAP minimum for 2008 was approved. The payment is to be sent to the district secretary, who will forward it to Society HQ, who in turn will send it to ASCAP.

Jim Kunz distributed a written report of the August Music Team meeting.

- Having a second headliner quartet for the show (or other alternatives, such as additional numbers from the chapter quartets) is something we need to decide on soon.
- We need to make a decision on the venue for the February show. Waiting on a fee structure from Redford Thurston, as well as an updated number from Clarenceville.
- Choice of contest ballad discussed – the current plan is to change to “Sing Me That Song Again”
- The content of the November performance at Henry Ford is not yet decided

John Balint said that he is still waiting for a final accounting from the Princess Cruise people. The chapter's continued interest in this endeavor (for next year) is uncertain.

John Blanchard did not have a report, but Dave M. mentioned in the context of Programming that past surveys of the membership have provided some guidelines on tailoring our Monday meetings to the needs and desires of the men.

Jack Day on Membership:

- There are two more possible recruits for the chapter to be added in time for contest

- Retention of members has been decent in the past, but there has been a fall-off in attendance in the past couple of months, possibly attributable to some discontent
- Recommended having a Fall “kick-off” night focusing on things like the “what and why” of contests, the holiday schedule, and the February show. Scheduled for Sept. 8

A wide-ranging discussion ensued regarding retention and membership: the importance of person-to-person contacts, the importance of the board members leading the way in enthusiasm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:29.

Respectfully submitted,
David A. Beamer, Secretary