

# Atlanta

34th International Convention

July 3-8, 1972 (see page 2)



*Cover Art Courtesy Delta Airlines*

THE  
**HARMONIZER**  
A PUBLICATION OF THE  
BARBERSHOP QUARTET HARMONY

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF  
BARBERSHOP QUARTET HARMONY

MARCH • APRIL 1972 • VOLUME XXXII • NUMBER 2

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 . . . Bob Johnson . . . Dean Snyder . . . Marshall Wells

## FUTURE CONVENTIONS

INTERNATIONAL		MID-WINTER	
1971	New Orleans, Louisiana	June 21-26	
1972	Atlanta, Georgia	July 3-8	1973 Houston, Texas Jan. 26-27
1973	Portland, Oregon	July 9-14	1974 Phoenix, Arizona Jan. 25-26
1974	Kansas City, Missouri	July 1-6	

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

# Atlanta

## Southern Hospitality's Hometown

You'd better believe it. Southern hospitality such as you've never experienced. That's what convention chairman Bill Schreiner and his committees are working on, and all indications are that the Society's 34th annual convention in Atlanta, July 3-8, is going to be the greatest ever.

What a lineup of things to do. On Monday there'll be tours to Stone Mountain where you see the magnificent carvings of civil war generals Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson along with Confederate President Jefferson Davis; ride to the top of the mountain for a breathtaking view; and see an authentic southern plantation. Tuesday is the Fourth of July – not a good time to be travelling around the city. But you can watch one of the great parades in the south from your hotel room, and then that evening take in the President's Ball. Wednesday is a family day and a visit to Six Flags Over Georgia is planned. Best way to sum this up: "If you liked Disneyland, you'll love Six Flags." It's just great.

By then it's contest time, time to hear the finest quartets and choruses in the country. Sessions will be held in the Municipal Auditorium, about a 15-minute walk from the headquarters Regency Hyatt House. But don't worry, we'll have bus service from all major hotels 'cause Atlanta can get a mite hot in July. Now once you get to the auditorium, we *do* have a bit of a problem. And *we do need your help*.

When you go from the lobby into the main part of the auditorium, you have just passed through the *only* set of doors which can be closed. There are no other doors from the hallway around the auditorium into the seating area – just open doorways reached by ramps in the upper levels. Those of you who have been to conventions before know what this means. In order to keep the noise level down we are going to have to keep people in the outer lobby between quartet performances. If you happen to be in the balcony it's going to take a long, long time for you to get from behind the closed doors in the lobby, up the ramp and to your seat. And it's all open area and noisy.

### "CLOSE THE DOORS, PLEASE"

So – we're going to have to limit people going in and out between quartet performances unless there's an emergency. Otherwise the contest sessions are going to take all day. As it is, the Thursday afternoon and Saturday afternoon sessions will start at *one o'clock* this year instead of 1:30. Even so, we're going to limit movement in and out of the auditorium. Doors from the lobby into the auditorium will be opened *only after every third quartet!* This means that if you're late arriving, for instance, that you won't get in until after the third quartet has sung. If we find that getting to seats is not the problem that we think it's going to be, we can possibly relax these rules a bit as the convention progresses, but as of now, that's the rule – in and out after every third quartet.

Now back to the good news. There's lots to see and do in Atlanta after the contest sessions. Atlanta's "Underground" is a miniature Bourbon Street. Located in the heart of the city (you can easily walk there from the auditorium), it was once an area of warehouses and stores that stood virtually dormant for years. Now you'll find lots of late night activity plus a multitude of fine restaurants with French, German, Spanish, Irish, Lebanese or American cuisines.

### HEADQUARTERS HOTEL UNIQUE

Mind you, many people will be living in one of Atlanta's most interesting sights: the Regency Hyatt House, headquarters hotel. Without a doubt it's the most talked about hotel in the United States and a gawkers' paradise. With its completely open lobby you can stand astride your room on the highest floor (number 22) and look down into the lobby; or watch the sleek, cone-shaped glass elevators whisk guests up through the center of the lobby to their floors; or have a drink in the Parasol Lounge, with its umbrella-like roof suspended from a giant cable from the ceiling 22 floors away. By all means don't miss the Friday massed sing which will take place at the Regency with Society Music Director Bob Johnson standing in the middle of the lobby and directing Barbershoppers ringing the balconies as far up as they want to go. What a sound that's going to be and what an experience!

Heard enough? O.K. See you in Atlanta – Southern Hospitality's Home Town.

### INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION ORDER BLANK

Date \_\_\_\_\_

International Office, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.  
Box 575, Kenosha, Wisconsin 53141

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for which please issue:  
\_\_\_\_ Adult Registration @ \$20.00 ea. \_\_\_\_ Junior Registration @ \$7.50 (18 and under) for myself and my party for the 34th Annual Convention and International Contests at Atlanta, Georgia on July 3-8, 1972. I understand that the registration fee includes admission to official events; a reserved seat at Quarter-Finals No. 1 and 2, the Semi-Finals, the Chorus Contest and the Finals Contest; a registration badge and a souvenir program. I clearly understand that registrations are transferable but not redeemable.

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Story and pictures by Marshall Wells,  
Member, Monroe, Mich. Chapter,  
555 Fairfax Rd., Birmingham, Mich. 48009

*Author's Note: This article is not intended to just sing the praises of the 1971 international champions, but rather it is a thumb-nail sketch of what takes place behind the scene when the stage has been cleared of talent, the lights turned off and the boys head for home or another performance.*

If you'd like to add a few superlatives to your vocabulary, mingle with the crowds after any of their appearances. Listen to the reaction of people to four super talents, men who get a tremendous amount of personal satisfaction and genuine pleasure from singing. What one sees or hears is just a small reflection of what it really takes to be the very best. For every minute they are on stage, they've spent at least two hours in preparation: sessions with their coach Lyle Pilcher; perfecting new arrangements; polishing up the old ones; deciding on new apparel; fitting travel and hotel accommodations into a heavy weekend schedule; etc. But the hours of devotion to their chosen avocation have brought them the public acclaim and acceptance that every barbershop quartet hopes to achieve — a trip to Vietnam, radio and TV appearances and press exposure

from coast to coast, border to border. They're literally the toast of the town wherever they appear.

I personally have never known four men whose abilities, temperaments and goals are so similar. Nor have I ever been acquainted with Barbershoppers with such understanding families. As of this printing, Al Rehkop probably doesn't exactly fit this family portrait. Being the bachelor of the group, Al doesn't have to explain why the afterglow didn't break up until after four AM; why another weekend will necessitate his quartetting a thousand miles away; why the two-week family vacation, or just a weekend in the country, has to be postponed. The foregoing, and probably another hundred and one different situations, are just some of the "behind-the-scene" demands that fail to get across the footlights. If you'll turn the page, we'll take a closer look "BACK-STAGE" at our champs.



# FIRST STOP VIETNAM

Just one short week after being crowned the Society's international champions, the "Gentlemen's Agreement" accepted an invitation to entertain on a 17-day USO tour of South Vietnam bases and hospitals. There's not enough space in this entire issue to report in any detail their reaction or experiences, but a few pictures they brought home with them gives some idea of what it was like. Sometime their voices and the applause of their audience was interspersed with enemy gunfire. On other occasions, as they neared an up-front assignment, the flag of the enemy was just a few hundred yards away from the Stars and Stripes. This South Vietnam trip was no picnic, but the boys tell us they wouldn't have missed the honor for anything.



An early morning performance on the rain-shrouded fantail of the only ship in the army, the Corpus Christi.

From the deck of a ship anchored in the harbor, to the frontline bunkers only yards from the enemy line, the "Gentlemen's Agreement" carried the handshakes from home and the songs that brought fond memories of Dubuque, New York, Cripple Creek, Chicago and South Bend. One unforgettable experience in a hospital ward bears repeating. One of the soldiers in a neuropsychiatric section hadn't uttered a single word since being admitted months before. After the boys had finished singing, and telling of the Society's devotion to the Institute of Logopedics, this young man talked freely with them and how appreciative he was for their visit. This alone, the boys agree, made their entire trip worth the effort.



They cannot tell a lie. The smiles on the faces of Bob and Glenn are as phoney as a crow's high "C." The pilot has just informed them that they'll probably encounter a great deal of enemy fire as they approach their "up-front" landing site.

They don't recommend it for a vacation; it's a long way from home; but don't try to be a spokesman for the servicemen they rubbed shoulders with on the South Vietnam trip unless you've been there yourselves. Unbelievable is the word that described what they saw and experienced.



Sorry! They're in a deep bunker just behind the stage awaiting the "ALL CLEAR" to sound.



These smiles are genuine. Just after a great reception in one of the hospital wards — their eighth performance that day, and it's only three o'clock in the afternoon.



Thousands of these "business cards" are tacked up on bunker, tent and barrack walls, reminders that our champs were there.

The amazing thing about their entire Vietnam trip was that no one became ill; their voices got stronger every day (maybe a little shaky at times when the gunfire was heavy). They sang 41 shows and, as far as they're concerned, every single one was a COMMAND PERFORMANCE.

# COME INTO OUR HOUSE



Glenn Van Tassel — baritone — is no stranger to barbershopping, having teamed up with Al Rehkop in the "Wolverines" and the 1966 international champion "Auto Towners." Glenn has sung with the Dearborn Chapter in international competition and has directed the chorus in district appearances. He is a candidate judge in the interpretation category. He resides in Allen Park, Mich. with wife Donna and children Doug, Dennis and Ann. Donna, a Sweet Adeline, handles the quartet's heavy correspondence. When not adding his special talents to the quartet, Glenn is a sales representative of American Express.

Drayton Justus, the lead and soloist with the quartet, is an 11-year member of the Society with a background that lends stature to any musical organization. He is a graduate of Duke University, where he majored in music. A year of graduate work at the U. of Michigan followed. And just to add to the family's musical talents, wife Judy holds two degrees in music education and is high school band director at Perrysburg, O. Drayton, by the way, has served as assistant director of the "Dapper Däns" (Livingston, N.J.). At home with the Justus' are Kathy and Jeff and twins, Keith and Karen. Drayton is a personnel manager at Toledo University.



Bob Whitledge, the tall, happy, loquacious bass, is a 13-year member of the Society. A member of the Monroe, Mich. Chapter, he exhibited his impartial attitude by being the recording secretary and promotional director of the Detroit No. 1 Chapter. He is currently director of the Monroe Floral City Chorus. Bob and wife Dorothy live in Monroe with their three "at homes," Lori, Vickie and John. Their other daughter, Valarie, is a student at Central Michigan College. Dorothy, a very talented Sweet Adeline, is the quartet's historian, while Bob, when not handling the quartet's low notes, is a veteran supervisor with Detroit Edison.



(Continued on next page)



Al Rehkop — tenor — is a 21-year veteran of the Society and, like Glenn, is a twice-honored member of an international champion quartet — the "Auto Towners" and now the "Gentlemen's Agreement." Al's talents for composing and arranging are some of the secrets of the quartet's success and fast rise in competition. Those who admire the sharp attire of the quartet can thank Al for his almost fanatical demand for perfection. Whether in concert, at an afterglow or on the road, they are pure "class" in toggery. While singing might be considered his life, his business association is with the National Steel Corp. as head of its auditing department.



# AROUND THE CIRCUIT



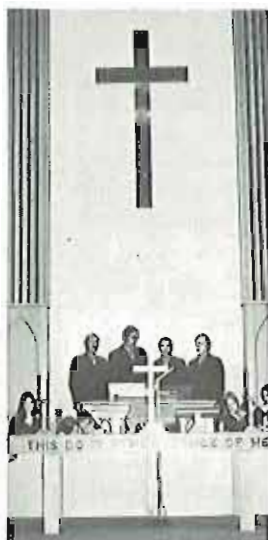
This is a picture of complete surprise. Little did the boys know that their scheduled appearance in Dearborn was NOT to be before a meeting of contractors. Instead the Detroit chapters chose this way of saying "Welcome Home" following their Vietnam tour. Over 500 loyal supporters waited patiently till the doors opened and then "Keep America Singing" ushered in four gentlemen who had just a bit of difficulty holding back tears.



Just to prove they hadn't lost their "magic," the Gentlemen's Agreement expressed their thanks exactly the way their friends hoped. The "Harmony Hounds," "Sharp Lifters," the chorus and the Oakland County Sweet Adelines were on hand to give the champs a couple of breathing spells in a party that lasted into the wee hours of the morning.



The first stop on an eastern trip was at Binghamton, N.Y., where it was "welcome home to our conquering hero." It was Glenn Van Tassell Day in Binghamton.



Their late concert the night before didn't keep the boys from adding a very special touch to Glenn's church the following morning.



Another "on-the-road" appearance — this time down in Jacksonville, Fla., where the audience put the quartet's almost unlimited repertoire to an audience-pleasing test.

One of the secrets as to how the boys manage to keep their grueling schedule is now obvious. What isn't known is that their pilot, Lawrny Steiner, is a pretty capable singer. While Al, Drayton, Bob or Glenn cat nap, Lawrny fills in on any part. He may be a little scratchy on the high notes, but at 15,000 feet — who cares.



Well, that's our report from "behind the scene" with four gentlemen whose constant desire to sing better TOMORROW than they did TODAY brought them the coveted title they so proudly claim — international champions. Because of their dedication and self-imposed demand for perfection, they'll continue to be international favorites for many years to come.



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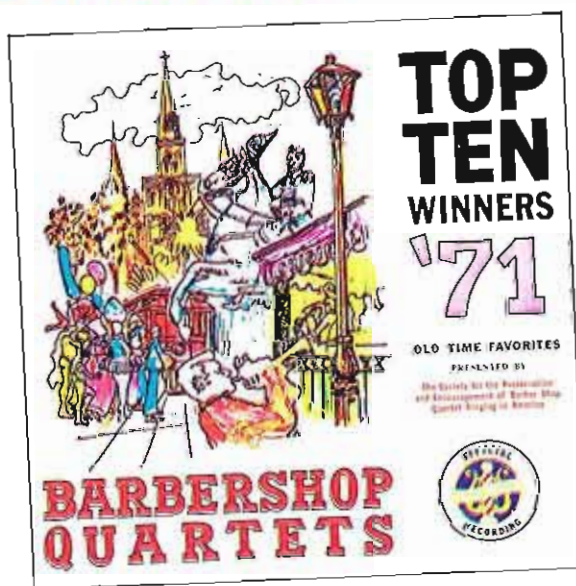
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## CHAPTER FINANCIAL SERVICES IN '73

The board of directors adopted, as a compulsory service for all chapters and districts, a Society-wide financial service as well as an optional ticket-patron-mailing-list service. In keeping with prior action with regard to tax reporting based on tax laws and the increasing surveillance of non-profit organizations, it is felt not only to be essential to the Society's best interests, but beneficial to each chapter, to strengthen our financial reporting so that the board of directors can be absolutely sure that the more than 1½ million estimated dollars received annually by the Society chapters for non-profit, educational and charitable purposes is expended as required by the Internal Revenue Service and taxation departments of both the United States and Canada.

The service will become effective January 1, 1973 and will consist of:

1. A quarterly financial statement based on information supplied by the chapters to the International Office on the prescribed form;
2. An annual information report containing all the necessary data for U.S. chapters and districts to complete and file IRS forms 1099, 1096 and 990 and districts to file form 990.

A nominal service charge based on chapter membership will be billed in advance on a quarterly basis for this service.

Additionally, the optional ticket-patron-mailing service will be made available on an annual basis to every chapter, thus enabling the chapter to keep its list up to date at a very modest cost. Full details will be sent to every chapter and district secretary.

## MISCELLANEOUS

The 1971 International Achievement Awards were presented to: First Place — Central States District, received by Board Member Merrill Aitchison; Second Place — Seneca Land District, received by Board Member Plummer Collins; Third Place — Evergreen District, received by Board Member Ken Fletcher.

As required by Society by-laws, the board approved, with the understanding that the executive committee will review the by-laws of each organization to determine whether or not it is fulfilling its avowed purpose, the continued recognition of the following official Society subsidiaries: AIC (Association of International Champions), AICC (Association of International Chorus Champions), Confederate Harmony Brigade, DECREPITS (Association of Discarded and Decrepit Past Members of SPEBSQSA Board of Directors Without Voice and Without Portfolio ADDPMSPEBSQSABDWVP), DELA-SUSQUEDHUDDMAC and PROBE (Public Relations Officers & Bulletin Editors).

President deMontmollin reported to the board on the progress and fine reception Music Education and Services Director Bob Johnson is receiving concerning the Young Men in Harmony program. He has received a number of invitations to present the program to State Music Educators National Conference meetings. A report will go out to all chapters with the latest information and advising how they can assist in this program.

The Board of Directors awarded the 1974 Mid-winter meeting to Phoenix, Ariz. and the 1976 meeting to the Riverside area (Washington, D.C.) of the Mid-Atlantic District. A special barbershop show commemorating the United States of America Bicentennial may be presented in the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts at that time.

## International Service Project (Institute of Logopedics)

District	November - December Contributions	Since July 1, 1964	Since July 1, 1964 Per Member*
CARDINAL .....	\$ 3,417	\$ 38,994	\$29.93
CENTRAL STATES .....	5,031	63,530	24.62
DIXIE .....	1,201	23,977	18.60
EVERGREEN .....	667	23,348	11.76
FAR WESTERN .....	7,583	89,123	28.03
ILLINOIS .....	3,587	67,526	32.76
JOHNNY APPLESEED ...	4,507	57,224	22.64
LAND O'LAKES .....	3,904	60,821	19.66
PIONEER .....	3,328	34,130	24.38
MID-ATLANTIC .....	5,171	99,613	19.06
NORTHEASTERN .....	1,180	48,911	16.47
ONTARIO .....	5,479	60,575	42.33
SENECA LAND .....	1,248	38,552	31.22
SOUTHWESTERN .....	1,051	27,998	18.78
SUNSHINE .....	1,462	28,208	30.73
HAR. FOUNDATION ....		9,938	
OTHER RECEIPTS .....	45	42,901	
TOTAL .....	48,861	815,368	

\*Based on Dec. 31, 1971 Membership

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- 6 IT'S MAGIC
- 7 THAT OLD GANG OF MINE
- 8 THIS IS MY LUCKY DAY
- 9 IF YOU LOVE ME, REALLY LOVE ME
- 10 I WANNA' BE AROUND
- 11 THAT LUCKY OLD SUN
- 12 THINK SUMMER
- 13 THE NEARNESS OF YOU
- 14 DADDY SANG BASS

**Swing  
Low**

- 15 SWING LOW, SWEET CHARIOT
- 16 CABARET
- 17 AMONG MY SOUVENIRS
- 18 A SMILE WILL GO A LONG, LONG WAY
- 19 THE OLD SPINNING WHEEL
- 20 IF THE LORD BE WILLING AND THE CREEK DON'T RISE
- 21 SOFTLY, AS I LEAVE YOU
- 22 ON A WONDERFUL DAY LIKE TODAY
- 23 RIVER STAY'WAY FROM MY DOOR
- 24 I'VE GOT A FORTUNE IN DREAMS
- 25 I'D GIVE A MILLION TOMORROWS FOR JUST ONE YESTERDAY
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- 27 YOU KEEP COMING BACK LIKE A SONG
- 28 THATS LIFE!

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San Diego Barbershoppers meet International President Dick deMontmollin and wife Elizabeth at airport.

"You think my bags may be in Mexico City ... ???"

Executive Director Barrie Best chats with incoming board members.

## Mid-Winter Convention Snaps

Patient wives wait for woodshedding husbands.

C&J Chairman Emmett Bossing tells it like it is to executive committee.

Convention Chairman Bob House waits for international board meeting to start. Seated next to him are Convention Secretary Gene Hartzler and San Diego President Lou Benedict.

President Dick opens the board meeting.

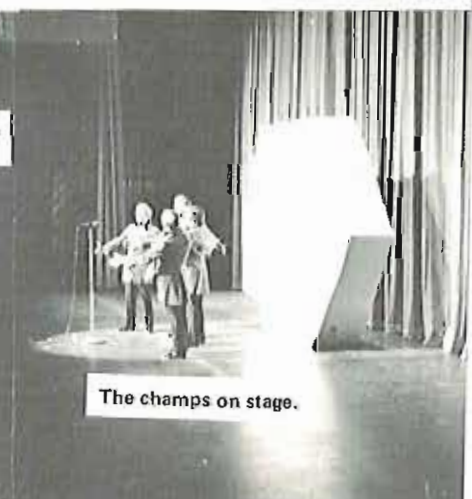
New board members get their pins.

Pretty good woodshedding company!

Another tall Texas tale from MC Ralph Ribble.

The Tijuana brass.

The champs on stage.





# Should You Attend Harmony College?

By Bob Johnson  
Society Director of Music Education and Services

If your answer is "no" to any of the following questions, then perhaps you shouldn't attend the 1972 Harmony College on the campus of Dominican College in Racine, Wis. from August 6 to 13. Give the following questions careful consideration to see whether or not you would be good "college material."

1. Would you enjoy the fellowship of three to four hundred of the greatest guys in the world — all of whom have one thing in common — the love of singing in the barbershop style?

2. Would you like to add your voice to the locked-in sound of those same three to four hundred men as they learn five or six exciting new barbershop arrangements?

3. Would you care to sing your favorite tag with three other men from places you've never heard of before; or learn a new tag from one of these other men who could care less about where you're from as long as you sing your part right?

4. Would you be interested in learning how you can derive more from your singing hobby as an improved singer, director, arranger, coach, show committeeman, etc., from men who are outstandingly successful in communicating their knowledge and skills to others?

5. Would you like to represent your chapter at such a school and bring back the necessary aids and knowledge to enable yours to be a better chapter?

6. Would you relish eating unbelievably delicious food in equally unbelievable quantities even though you know your enrollment fee doesn't begin to cover what you're eating?

7. If you're a quartet man (and your quartet can all attend) would you like being coached by, not one, but five or six of the top coaches in the Society for six hours every day?

8. If you're an advanced arranger (you've already tried a few arrangements) would you leap at the opportunity to discuss your creations with some of the top arrangers in the Society — and to learn a few of their "trade" secrets?

9. Would you consider it a privilege to spend a week on the shores of Lake Michigan, away from the drudgery of your daily job routine, where the constant cool breezes make you believe that Wisconsin's August weather must be heaven-sent?

10. Do you think you're man enough (be honest, now) to get up every morning at 6:30 a.m., attend classes for twelve hours (time off for three meals, of course), relax a bit before retiring (by midnight) and get up again the next morning and start a similar day?

If you've answered "yes" to most of the above questions, you should be planning your August escape from reality by sending in the registration blank shown on this page.

## CURRICULUM PROVIDES VARIETY

We think there's something for every Barbershopper at our school. You can choose three subjects and study each one for three hours each day for six days. You can select from directing (beginning or advanced), coaching, song selection (reading through new music), arranging (beginning, intermediate or advanced), show production and/or script-writing.

In addition to your choice of three major subjects, you are required to attend three one-hour courses a day (vocal technique, sight-reading and rehearsal).

If you're lucky you might get to perform in the hand-picked ("I raised my hand and got picked!") 36-man chorus and appear in the star-studded (quartets galore, champs and more) Saturday night show.

There's more, of course. Quartets which attend will receive vocal instructions and daily six-hour coaching sessions — more coaching than most quartets get in a year — from the best coaches in the Society. To make sure you retain some of this coaching help, you'll be provided with tapes of each session, at no extra charge. The only requirement is that the *entire* quartet must be present and be registered with the Society. (Quartets will also be a part of the show on Saturday night.)

You'll enjoy the beauty of Dominican campus. The place will be ours and you will become attached to the delightfully intimate environment. It's only a few minutes away from Interstate 94 (just North of Racine, Wis.). If you're flying in, it's readily available by bus from O'Hare in Chicago.

One note of caution: we have rooms for 400 students, so better get that registration sent in soon.

I'll bet you thought we'd forget to tell you what the cost of the school will be. Would you believe \$80 will cover everything for the entire week? (Now there's a question to which you might want to answer "no!")

I want to attend the 1972 HEP School at Dominican College, Racine, Wis. August 6-13, 1972.

Check one

☐ I enclose my check for \$80 in full payment.

☐ I enclose my check for \$10 (or more) as partial payment and agree to pay the balance on August 6 or before.

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Make check payable to S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. and mail to: HEP 1972, P.O. Box 575, Kenosha, Wisconsin 53141.

## For Burt Mustin,

## Life Begins at 87



Burt Mustin and Queenie Smith

**Editor's note:** The article below, written by LOS ANGELES TIMES Columnist Cecil Smith is reprinted courtesy the LOS ANGELES TIMES. Even though The Funny Side television show has been discontinued, we thought Smith's account of fellow-Barbershopper Burt Mustin's life worthy of sharing with HARMONIZER readers.

After 20 years of film acting, Burt Mustin is taking on a regular role in a television weekly series, dancing, singing and doing comedy on the new variety show Bill Persky and Sam Denoff have cooked up for NBC called The Funny Side. Which would not be in the least remarkable except that Burt is 87.

"I was on the first weekly variety show ever broadcast," said Burt, "on the first radio station of them all, KDKA in Pittsburgh, the pioneer station. It went on the air in 1920 and we went on in '21. Had a quartet, a banjo player, piano; I was billed as the 'World's Worst Announcer'. Called ourselves the Air Cooled Gang because we plugged Franklin Air Cooled cars, which I was selling at the time."

Burt became a car salesman in 1916 selling the Oakland Sensible Six first and then switching to the classier Franklin. He sold Franklins in Pittsburgh until the company went out of business in 1931 and then sold Lincolns and Mercurys until the war broke out in 1942 and the supply of cars was cut off.

"At the age of 60, I had to find new ways to make a living," said Burt. "I found five new careers, the last and the best of them acting and singing, what all my life I've loved to do..."

He has a sweet smile, this tall, straight-as-a-ramrod old man, hawk-nosed and flat-bellied, proud his weight is now within five pounds of what it was when he was graduated from Pennsylvania Military College with an engineering degree in 1903.

### WIPED OUT IN '03 CRASH

"Last thing anybody expected me to do was graduate," he said, "and the last thing I expected to be was an engineer. I fully expected to go into my father's brokerage office. As a graduation present, I got a trip to Europe and it was there I heard the panic of naught-three had wiped out my father. Tried engineering but couldn't tell one end of a blueprint from the other. Finally went to selling.

"But I was acting and singing and dancing anywhere and everywhere. Sang with a barbershop quartet and with a choir and with the Pittsburgh Savoyards and even the Pittsburgh Opera in boffo roles. I like to say I've been a professional since I was six and an inebriated gentleman heard me singing on the way home from kindergarten, took me into Morelein's saloon to

sing for the crowd and I went home after dark with my pockets full of money and got a licking for it..."

One usually uses the term professional for troupers like Burt's partner in the series, the great old vaudevillian Queenie Smith, who is edging into 80 herself. In the show the two arc, in Burt's words, "the senile citizens," the eldest of five couples who react in songs, dances and comedy sketches to the mores of modern living with Gene Kelly as the interlocutor.

"You must remember," said Burt, "that when I was growing up, the only show business was the road. If you were lucky, there was an occasional run in New York. But no chance for a home. I remember we had a great director named H. R. Burnside down from New York in 1910 to do one of our shows and I asked him how I'd do in the profession and he said, fine, but he said: 'You've got a home, a good job, you're having lots of fun, why leave?' I took his advice and stayed. When I got married, that settled it; that girl of mine wanted a home."

### ONLY ONE WORRY

It was not until he went into movies and could act and have a home, too, that Burt became a full-time actor with the enthusiastic support of "that girl of mine" when he was 67. Director Willy Wyler saw him in an amateur production of "Detective Story" and hired him for the movie. Burt has since appeared in 61 other movies and 316 television shows. He buried his wife two years ago and you can generally find him swapping stories with actors at the Masquers' Club.

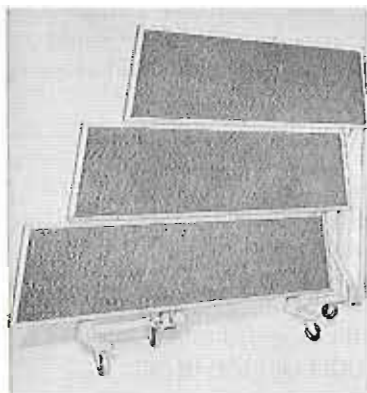
The only thing that worried him about the series was he might have to miss the SPEBSQSA (Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America) competition in New Orleans next month — "had my reservations for a year." But he can make it. Prospects of a weekly singing and dancing part do not dismay him.

"Don't drink, don't smoke, married to one girl for 54 years and never fooled around, watch my diet and exercise — 'I'm in good shape,' he said. He thought about it and laughed. "A few years ago I told all this to a friend of mine and told him I was about to celebrate my 80th birthday and he looked at me a long while and said one word: 'How?'"



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*Mid-Atlantic*
2. San Diego, California .....155  
*Far Western*
3. Oakland County, Michigan .121  
*Pioneer*
4. Minneapolis, Minnesota ...119  
*Land O'Lakes*
5. Alexandria, Virginia .....119  
*Mid-Atlantic*
6. Reseda Valley, California ...114  
*Far Western*
7. Detroit, Michigan .....114  
*Pioneer*
8. Livingston, New Jersey ...113  
*Mid-Atlantic*
9. Phoenix, Arizona .....109  
*Far Western*
10. Pensinsula, California .....109  
*Far Western*
11. Miami, Florida .....109  
*Sunshine*
12. Wilmington, Delaware ....108  
*Mid-Atlantic*
13. St. Petersburg, Florida ....107  
*Sunshine*
14. Gtr. Indianapolis, Indiana ..106  
*Cardinal*
15. Fairfax, Virginia .....105  
*Mid-Atlantic*
16. Westchester Co., New York .104  
*Mid-Atlantic*
17. Minnetonka, Minnesota ...102  
*Land O'Lakes*
18. Seattle, Washington .....101  
*Evergreen*
19. Riverside, California .....100  
*Far Western*
20. West Towns, Illinois .....100  
*Illinois*
21. Louisville, Kentucky .....100  
*Cardinal*
22. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania ...100  
*Johnny Appleseed*

## Bargain Basement

**WANTED:** 60 used jackets, or full uniforms, in excellent condition (with accessories if available). Please submit picture. Contact: Ken Larson, Box 296, Missoula, Mont. 59801

**WANTED:** Good used uniforms for 40-member chapter with a limited budget. Contact: CLIFF CARLEY, RR 2, SUMMERLAND, B.C.

**WANTED:** 40-50 used uniforms or coats in good condition, full range of sizes. Contact: Chris Dinkel, RR 3, Brookings, S.D. 57006

# Reminiscing

With Past International President and Secretary Carroll P. Adams  
Post Office Box 584, Montpelier, Vermont 05602



For many years it has been universally accepted that it was at the Society's fourth annual convention and contest at Grand Rapids, Mich., the first weekend in June, 1942, 30 years ago, where real progress was first made toward a carefully organized and planned Society. During the previous four years things had rolled along in a hit-or-miss pattern, lots of singing and fun, but very little over-all planning.

At Grand Rapids, category judging was first used. Up to that time only over-all evaluating had been the rule. Sixty quartets competed in four preliminaries with fifteen finalists emerging. The "Elastic Four" of Chicago were chosen National Champs. Hal Staab of Northampton, Mass. was elected president, and he served a two-year term. The HARMONIZER was started; the national per capita tax was increased from 50 cents to \$2; and plans were made for printing and distribution of authentic barbershop quartet arrangements. Definite plans evolved for an annual mid-winter convention in January. The first was held in Peoria, Ill. in 1943, and the June national convention that year was in Chicago.

How clearly this writer can remember Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wolff picking him up at 6 a.m. Thursday, together with *Detroit News* Columnist George W. Stark, for the drive to Grand Rapids. The convention schedule began at 11 a.m. We also recall with pleasure sitting up until 6 a.m. Sunday listening to the previous year's champs, the "Chord Busters" of Tulsa, Okla. The audience consisted of 28 dichards who just couldn't get enough.

## GREAT CONVENTION COVERAGE

In the Sunday, June 21st issue of *The Detroit News*, George Stark used his entire Town Talk column in summing up his reaction to the convention. Here are some excerpts:

"Town Talk can now report, with safety and dignity, that the fourth annual convention of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc., has concluded on a high note of harmony. A few meager matters are still to be accounted for, such as the minutes of the last session, the officers for the ensuing year and the place of the next Convention.

"But those are mere details of which the SPEBSQSA takes small concern, the delegates being more eugrossed by the spiritual values. Skeptics may demand to know why, with the whole world at war, a great body of our citizens from coast to coast takes time out to converge in a given point and dedicate a whole weekend to singing. If you had been here, you would have found the answer.

"This is it: This is America. This is what the totalitarian viewpoint would consider a curious manifestation of the American way of life. There is the Rotary Club, the Chamber of Commerce, Broadway and Main street, singing out of its heart. This is the industrialist, the banker, the baker, the factory worker, the soldier, and the sailor running the scale of human emotion for democracy. This is the token of the essence of our country, something that has been hard won and which will not

be easily surrendered.

"Consequently, when the Rev. Don Carey, of the Grace Episcopal Church, was asked to pronounce a blessing on the enterprise, he got right up and said, 'Boys, you can do this better than I. Just sing the Doxology.'

"And the boys did, about 5,000 of them. Sang it in good old barbershop harmony style and it was one of the most stirring things I've ever heard.

"This was the four corners of America worshipping God in its own way. That's another thing we fight for.

"People who don't know about barbershop harmony are prone to view it with suspicion. It's a very special technique and I wouldn't attempt to explain it. Phil Embury, of Warsaw, N.Y. (He's first vice-president), tried to explain it to me on paper. This consumed 28 Western Union Telegraph blanks and two pencils. The Western Union and I told him we'd had enough and for him just to sing it. The thing's too technical.

"I could take columns telling about the convention. I was asked to be master of ceremonies at one of the big song-fests. Like a bolt from the blue, I was scared to death, but very proud. Lots of audience, but all just plain home folks, who like to sing and to listen. Especially when it's so doggone American.

"It's the songs that get you. They're so thoroughly American. With the passing of the years, they've become the folk songs of our people, the song tradition of our land."

## ONE-ROOM OFFICE IN '43

Back in late 1943, when the Society had its first official "office" (one room, rent \$25 monthly), men who had heard about the Society and wanted more information about chapter operations would frequently find some excuse for routing themselves through Detroit on "business trips" so they could stop in at our office. The writer's diary reveals the following visitors, among others, during the first two months: Bob McFarren, of Buffalo; "Dutch" LeBaron, of Milan, Mich.; "Cy" Perkins of Chicago; Ed Smith of Wayne, Mich.; Hank Stanley of Chicago; Dick Sturges of Atlanta, Ga.; Bill Diekema of Holland, Mich.; O.H. "King" Cole of Manitowoc, Wis.; Joe Stern of Kansas City, Mo. and Sig Spaeth of N.Y. City. How precious are memories! Seven of those ten men are now singing in the celestial choir.

The "Mail Call" section of the Jan.-Feb. issue contained a very interesting letter from Ted Verwey of our Windsor, Ont., Chapter. How well this writer remembers the night that chapter, the first outside the United States, was chartered. The date was March 24, 1944. But, Ted, your chapter's charter was presented by National President Hal Staab of Northampton, Mass., not by National First Vice-President Phil Embury of Warsaw, N.Y. Phil was there, as was the beloved Molly Reagan of Pittsburgh. All three men came from their home cities, at their own expense, to attend the event. Phil became National President three months later at the annual international convention in Detroit. Windsor was sponsored by the Oakland County (Mich.) Chapter.



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# Chapter Changes Image; Reaps Rewards

By Hal Copeland, Society Public Relations Counsel,  
4228 North Central Expressway, Dallas, Tex. 75206

Can a chapter build a new public image, revitalize its present membership and, simultaneously, attract new members in substantial numbers?

Ask the Town North Chapter in Dallas. Their answer is a resounding "Yes!"

In rapid succession, Town North has moved to a new weekly meeting location (NorthPark Shopping Center), changed the name of its chorus to the NorthPark Barbershop Chorus, starred in two color TV commercials for the center and staged a public contest involving the "world's tallest barber pole."

And while all this was taking place, the chapter's "Stage Door Four" and "The Dandies" quartets conducted several singing tours in the "world's most portable barber shop" to promote "Auditions for Admissions."

Immediate results of the "new image" campaign, according to chapter president Bill Pedigo: "two dozen prospective new members; more meaningful sing-out invitations than ever; and a more prominent public identification for the chapter throughout the Dallas-North Texas area."

The entire campaign began with a meeting shortly before Christmas, 1971, with the chapter officers and Joe Barta, NorthPark's director of public relations.

Quickly accepted by the chapter's board and membership was Barta's offer of the NorthPark Community Hall every Monday evening for meetings and rehearsals, rent-free.

In addition to the chorus name-change, the NorthPark Barbershop Chorus agreed to sing two TV commercials for the center.

Ralph Ribble, past international president of the Society and director of the Town North Chapter, arranged and conducted the two 30-second commercials to the tune of "While Strolling Through the Park One Day." A third 30-second spot also features the chorus and invites prospective new members to audition "every Monday night this month."

Cost of the videotape session at WFAA-TV, approximately \$300, was picked up by NorthPark.

Something more than a poster was needed to create advance and sustained interest in the chapter's "Auditions for Admissions" night, Tuesday, January 18. That's when the idea for the "world's tallest barber pole" was born. Shoppers would try to guess the exact height of the red, white and blue revolving pole, which NorthPark had constructed and installed in its mall ten days before auditions night. First prize? A free, live performance by the NorthPark Barbershop Chorus at the time and place of the winner's choice.

## BARBER POLE AN ATTRACTION

From more than 600 entries deposited at the barber pole in the mall, John Childs, a Dallas electrical engineer, won the contest with an estimate of 31 feet 9 inches, just one sixteenth of an inch lower than the pole's exact height. Ironically, Childs, at press time, is an enthusiastic prospective member, having attended "Auditions for Admissions" and two more consecutive chapter meetings.

Aside from the spectacular barber pole and poster in the NorthPark Mall, a vehicle was needed to attract the attention of television news. "The center owns a ten by four foot flatbed electric cart," Barta volunteered. Appropriately decorated (including a prominently displayed "Auditions for Admissions" poster) by administrative vice president Howdy Merriell and his committee, the cart became "the world's most portable barber shop," and was used by the chapter's quartets as they toured the mall, entertaining shoppers with popular barbershop numbers. The serenade was covered by WBAP-TV, the NBC affiliate for Fort Worth-Dallas, and telecast on its 10 p.m. newscast the Saturday preceding the big "Auditions" night.

Under the direction of program vice president Jim Cullison, the chapter also prepared and placed display ads ("Wanted-Men Who Like to Sing") on the Sunday sports pages of the *Dallas Morning News* and the *Dallas Times Herald*, as well as in three suburban weekly newspapers.

To qualify for membership in the NorthPark Chapter, a guest must attend three consecutive meetings, present his application and check and also attend three musical indoctrination sessions. Of the 20 guests who auditioned on "Admissions" night, 18 returned for the following Monday meeting. Chapter president Pedigo feels that "the conversion rate of guests to members will be extremely high and the continued flow of new guests to our Monday meetings" he states, "is most exciting."

A constant flow of publicity for the chapter has resulted in some prestigious sing-out invitations which include a meeting of the Bank Marketing Association, the annual convention of the Exchange Club and the National Auctioneers Association, the chorus' second annual performance for the 4th of July Cotton Bowl Fireworks Show, and providing the largest potential live and TV audience of all, a halftime show for the world champion Dallas Cowboys in Texas Stadium next fall.

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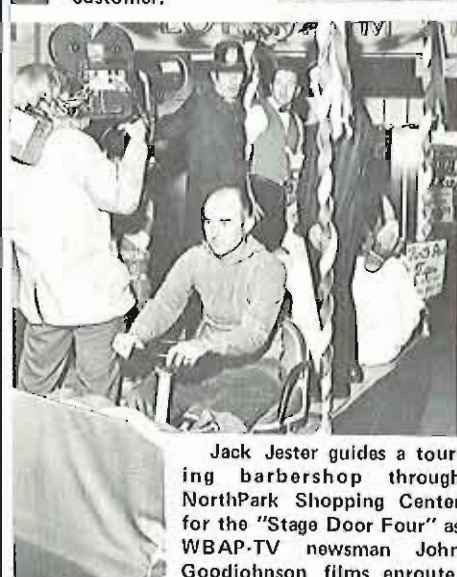
"Mass merchandising" builds Town North's auditions campaign, as the "Stage Door Four" tours Dallas' NorthPark in the "world's most portable barber shop." Standing are V. L. Hooper, Don Dochtormann and Keith Houts. Jim Law is the "customer."



Contest to "win your own barbershop harmony show" is entered by Mrs. Harold W. Tippie on the mall at NorthPark in Dallas, as the chorus presents a sing out for shoppers.



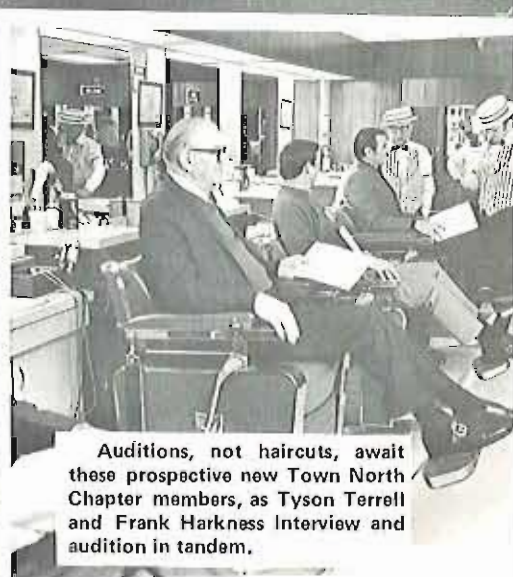
"World's tallest barber pole" is the background for chorus director and the Society's Immediate Past President Ralph Ribble, with his NorthPark "Tiger" Chorus.



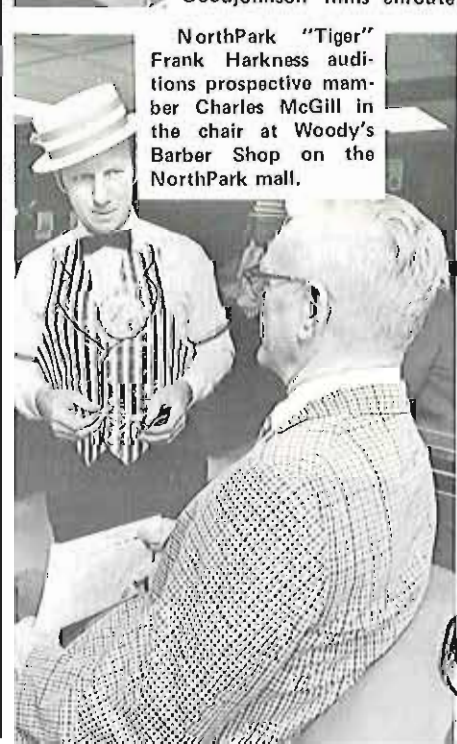
Jack Jester guides a touring barbershop through NorthPark Shopping Center for the "Stage Door Four" as WBAP-TV newsman John Goodjohnson films enroute.



Town North Auxillary members register guests at "Auditions for Admissions" night in NorthPark's Community Hall.



Auditions, not haircuts, await these prospective new Town North Chapter members, as Tyson Terrell and Frank Harkness interview and audition in tandem.



NorthPark "Tiger" Frank Harkness auditions prospective member Charles McGill in the chair at Woody's Barber Shop on the NorthPark mall.



Town North chapter president Bill Pedigo welcomes two dozen guests and over 50 members to the chapter's new home, Community Hall of NorthPark Shopping Center.



Chorus rehearsal with 20 guests in attendance is conducted by Bob Gilmore.



# "Music Man" Still Great PR Vehicle

By Warren Bowen  
Int'l Board Member, Dixie District  
261 Greengate Lane, Spartanburg, S.C. 29302

Having seen the "Music Man" play five times, and the movie three times, plus the TV run of the movie three times, you might say I am hung up on this Meredith Willson masterpiece, and you would be right. When one of the local quartets auditioned and was awarded the part in the play for the fall opener of the Spartanburg Little Theatre, I was happy for them, but admittedly, a little envious. This was a good quartet, the "Dixie Chords," and I had been coaching them for about six months and was pleased that SPEBSQSA would be providing the quartet to be sure that our kind of barbershopping would be represented on that stage.

The Little Theatre in Spartanburg is loaded with talent, in fact Spartanburg is an "arty" town, primarily because the local Converse College, which is like a finishing school for young southern ladies, has a strong music, drama and art program. Unlike many other cities comparable and larger in size, the entire cast was made up of local people.

When the rehearsal and play run schedule was sent out, it became apparent to the bass of the "Dixie Chords" that his business schedule would not permit him to remain in the play. With his blessing, the remainder of the quartet approached me to fill in as bass. To say that I jumped at the opportunity would be an understatement.

In July we started practicing the three major songs, *Sincere*, *It's You* and *Lida Rose*, to get this part out of the way before the dramatic rehearsals started. Play rehearsals started August 15th, and we soon learned just how much time the quartet was actually involved on stage, although thankfully our lines were minimal.

A minimum of from two to four nights a week was the routine for the next six weeks. Two of the quartet travel and some nights' rehearsals demanded driving back to Spartanburg from as far away as 175 miles. We worked out a schedule with the director so we would be free on Tuesday nights for chapter meetings. (The chapter was preparing for competition and I was chorus director, Bari Jim Strickler was assistant director and Lead Sanny Wolfe, a section leader.)

On opening night the quartet was "up tight," not so much because of the singing, but the added duties of acting, quick changes and other theatre-type activities. Our greatest concern each night was the ability of the bass to hold the "ice cream" note long enough for the rest of the quartet to come in on that first "gorgeous chord" (as Meredith Willson wrote in the score).

We managed to hit this "big one" every night of the eight-day run. Our second worry was holding pitch on *Lida Rose*, where the quartet turns it over to the orchestra. We made this seven out of eight nights, only missing on the night our wives and families were in the audience, much to our disgust.

The quartet drew "rave" notices from both the press and our friends. Though we did not steal the show, we certainly did carry our part successfully and made many favorable impressions on those in attendance. We felt good about our ability to represent the Society.

Although we realize the hard work involved in being in this show, we heartily recommend, in fact, encourage, each chapter



That's Prof. Harold Hill and the "Dixie Chords" during a performance of "Music Man."

in our Society to be sure that SPEBSQSA is represented when this musical is presented in your town. Through this vehicle we have made many friends in the theatre group who never before realized what SPEBSQSA was and what its product represented. We have exposed our artform to thousands of people; we have given our chapter a new image that couldn't be bought for any price. In addition, we have experienced the thrill of nightly performances; the polished stage presence that comes from constant work; the molding of a new quartet sound and the comradeship that comes from close association.

To borrow from Meredith Willson and give it a twist, "it is akin to the thrill I once felt when Bob Johnson, Dave Stevens, Mac Huff, Lloyd Steinkamp and Barrie Best all come to town on the very same day." To a Barbershopper, this could be the thrill of a lifetime.



THIS FINE FILM OF THE 1971 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION WILL PROVIDE EXCELLENT ENTERTAINMENT FOR YOUR NEXT LADIES NIGHT OR INTER-CHAPTER PARTY. GET YOUR BOOKING IN EARLY!

LIGHTS OUT!

Hugh Ingraham, SPEBSQSA  
P.O. Box 575  
Kenosha, Wisconsin 53141

# International Preliminary Schedule

CARDINAL .....	Cincinnati, Ohio .....	April 7-9
George Dreyer, 1588 St. Anthony Dr., Fort Wright, Kentucky 41011		
CENTRAL STATES .....	St. Joseph, Missouri .....	April 21-23
Vince Perry, 1205-1/2 Corby Street, St. Joseph, Missouri 64501		
DIXIE .....	Birmingham, Alabama .....	March 17-19
Neil R. Bruce, 116 Stoneview Road, Birmingham, Alabama 35210		
EVERGREEN .....	Ephrata, Washington .....	April 21-23
Thomas Pheasant, Rt. 1, Box 29, Soap Lake, Washington 98851		
FAR WESTERN .....	Riverside, California .....	March 17-19
Robert Brown, 6730 Catalina Drive, Riverside, California 92504		
ILLINOIS .....	Joliet, Illinois .....	April 14-16
Garner Wernitz, 203-5th Avenue, Downers Grove, Illinois 60515		
JOHNNY APPLESEED .....	Youngstown, Ohio .....	April 7-9
Wayne Williams, 70 Struthers-Coitsville Road, Lowellville, Ohio 44436		
LAND O'LAKES .....	LaCrosse, Wisconsin .....	May 5-7
"Chuck" Kowalke, 520 S. 16th Street, LaCrosse, Wisconsin 54601		
PIONEER .....	Midland, Michigan .....	April 28-30
Al Hulbert, 2719 Daurer Street, Midland, Michigan 48640		
MID-ATLANTIC .....	Richmond, Virginia .....	March 10-12
Charles Robertson, 5911 Shrubbery hill Road, Richmond, Virginia 23227		
NORTHEASTERN .....	Framingham, Massachusetts .....	May 5-7
Richard O'Connell, 14 Terri Road, Framingham, Massachusetts 01701		
ONTARIO .....	Hamilton, Ontario .....	April 14-16
Don Davey, 1928 Main Street W. Apt. 516, Hamilton, Ontario		
SENECA LAND .....	Rochester, New York .....	April 14-16
Keith Clark, 132-C Susan Lane, Rochester, New York 14616		
SOUTHWESTERN .....	Arlington, Texas .....	March 17-19
Jim Bayless, 2310 Gilbert Circle, Arlington, Texas 76010		
SUNSHINE .....	Jacksonville, Florida .....	May 5-7
George Allen, 2547 Hyde Park Road, Jacksonville, Florida 32210		

## PROBE-Men Are Like Baritones—Every Chapter Needs a Few

By Guy Christmas, PROBE President,  
3451 Oxford Circle S., Allentown, Pa. 18104

There are numerous ideas transmitted among members of PROBE (Public Relations Officers and Bulletin Editors) through their discussions, correspondence and publications. Complete chapter functioning is reflected. Therefore, these possible conceptions can easily be yours — and your chapter's — simply by utilizing PROBE as a serviceable instrument within the Society.

Having been essentially designed to augment the endeavors of both public relations men and bulletin editors, PROBE is loaded with potential. A project initiated by one chapter, or one man, is often later passed on to still another through PROBE. Officers, at various levels, can discover ideas, projects and the experiences of others through an exchange of bulletins or by direct communication with some other chapter or individual. The return value can run the gamut of board of directors' actions all the way to how to construct that float for the next parade.

As our Society's programs become more concentrated, and our techniques more sophisticated, somewhere in PROBE is where you can find another member who can pitch in with assistance; we call them "specialists" in PROBE, whether he's an advertising man, artist, quartet man, photographer, writer, television director or district vice-president. PROBE is a thoroughly talented fraternity composed of men who are deeply

interested in the Society and its future. It has "idea men" and men who know how and when to *look* for ideas, glean the best from them and then put them to work in their own backyards.

Through the use of the official PROBE roster you'll learn of other men with similar thinking, similar talents, similar experiences — and more. If, as a PR-man or BE, your work is specialized, you will receive an instructional handbook — one of the best you'll find in any organization. Again, this is an asset for the man *and* his chapter. Then, in addition to the PROBEMOTER and the official PROBE news releases, you have this automatic, direct line right into the PROBE-plateau of perceptive Barbershoppers.

PROBE is young, similar to a "child" of the Society. Its possibilities are relatively untapped. It is not an agency, stern, rigid, inflexible or confined. It is something pliable, yet to be built by imaginative, talented and concerned Barbershoppers just like you!

It's no great wonder, then, why a good many of our leading chapters have as many as 12 PROBE members. Therefore, this would indicate that there are others besides the public relations man and the bulletin editor. Certainly! There are administrators, musical directors, judges — and even baritones! PROBE is for all Society men and "PROBE's For You In '72!"

# THE HISTORIAN'S CHAIR



By  
Dean Snyder  
International Historian  
1808 Hunting Cove Place  
Alexandria, Virginia  
22307

## Little Acorns - Great Oaks

Listening once more to mid-winter international board discussions at San Diego in January, a quotation from Saint Exupery's well-thumbed book, "Wind, Sand, and Stars," came back to mind: *"Having planted an acorn in the morning, one cannot expect to sit in the shade of an oak tree that afternoon."*

The "acorn" in this instance is the record of our Society's early attempts at collaboration with the music educators dating back to the 1940s and pursued with much vigor in the 1950s. The "oak tree" is our program called "Young Men in Harmony," now beginning to take shape in the 1970s.

We describe this program as the "sound of the future" and truly it may be. The only purpose of this page is to trace some of the history of this idea from small beginnings many years ago. What follow are illustrations which do not tell the full story, since one's files are never complete in all details.

My bundle of historical papers covering the relationship of our Society with the Music Educators National Conference (MENC) and with barbershop quartet singing in the high schools is four inches thick. The first mention is in the February 1945 HARMONIZER which tells of a barbershop harmony contest in the high schools of Grand Rapids, Mich. I have reason, however, to believe that a Society quartet appeared on an MENC program in 1944, but precise documentation is lacking.

### SCHOOL CONTEST IN '47

Beginning in 1947 the Elyria, O. Chapter sponsored an annual high school contest as explained in correspondence in my file. Then comes Schenectady, N.Y. (February 1947) with its annual presentation of two music scholarships to high school senior students. Past President Arthur Merrill was active in this project.

In 1948 Omaha, Nebr. sponsored joint song sessions of chapter members and high school boys and the work of individual members in coaching high school quartets. Music folios were furnished by the Omaha Chapter for this purpose. Our June 1949 magazine reports barbershop quartet demonstrations by Past President Frank Thorne and the "Elastics" before an MENC gathering in Davenport, Ia., and by the "Treble Shooters" of Washington, D.C., before a similar group of music educators in Baltimore, Md. Cleveland, O. is also mentioned (March 1949) as having "a barbershop harmony class" at John Marshall High School.

The 1950s saw the Buckeye (Columbus), O. Chapter organize its annual high school quartet contest which continued for most of that decade. This contest enjoyed unusual success and the Buckeye plan was widely circulated in mimeographed form. Many other chapters accepted it as a model.

The Davenport, Ia. and Tulsa, Okla. Chapters first reported high school contests in 1951, and my files indicate that San Gabriel, Calif. began its high school promotion in 1953. Further

noted that year are Lansing, Mich.; Big Spring, Tex. and Oklahoma City, Okla. Connersville, Ind. is also mentioned.

In March 1954 Past International President John Means appeared at a session of the MENC national convention in Chicago and the 1951 international champion "Schmitt Brothers" sang. The music educators were tremendously impressed by this demonstration as revealed in their applause and by subsequent correspondence. This led to a series of state and regional MENC appearances which occupied the next several years — sparked by the Society's MENC Collaboration Committee headed by Means and including George Chamblin, Dean Snyder, Clare Wilson, Henry Foth and Harold (Bud) Arberg. The executive secretary of MENC served as a visiting observer at the Society's June 1954 convention in Washington, D.C. Also present on that occasion was Dr. Harry Wilson, a noted music educator from Columbia University in New York. A subsequent article from his pen appeared in the HARMONIZER for September 1954.

Among the growing list of chapters offering music scholarships to high school seniors during the 1950s is the announcement of April 15, 1955, from the Salt Lake, Utah Chapter signed by Val Hicks, addressed to all high school principals and music supervisors.

There were two great high spots in 1956. In April Past Presidents John Means and Berney Simmer, aided by the "Schmitt Brothers" and by a high school chorus from Rock Island, Ill., demonstrated barbershop quartet harmony to an audience of 3000 music educators at the St. Louis MENC convention. In December 1946 the Ohio Music Educators met



Dec. 1, 1954 — Demonstration of barbershop harmony at Ohio Music Educators Association meeting by Rock Island, Ill. high school boys chorus (including two quartets). That's George Chamblin (Columbus "Buckeye," Ohio Chapter) in foreground speaking to group on Society history and music style.

in Columbus. Again the Rock Island chorus, directed and coached by Bob Maurus, a teacher and tenor of the Society's 1953 international championship "Vikings," thrilled the large



# Barberpole Cat Program

## to Continue Through '72



Following are excerpts from a letter sent to all chapter presidents early in January from Society Music Services Assistant Mac Huff.

"Due to the tremendous response and great interest shown in the Barberpole Cat Program, it has been extended for at least another year.

"With this extension we have included six additional songs, bringing the grand total to fourteen songs.

"We encourage those chapters which have not started the program to give it a try. You will note the singing in your chapter will improve and attendance will increase sharply.

"In October, we mailed a number of other quartet activity ideas and suggested that these, along with the activity ideas in the program vice president's manual, are great for chapter programs throughout the year.

"The QUARTET ACTIVITY CHAIRMAN is responsible for implementing the above program . . ."

For those not familiar with the Barberpole Cat Program, it was started last year as a means of encouraging more quartet activity at the chapter level and to provide every member with a number of "like" arrangements so they can participate and enjoy more quartet fun at inter-chapter, area, district and international functions.

### LITTLE ACORNS — GREAT OAKS —

audience. Some said it was the best demonstration of the entire convention — certainly the most exciting, for I was there.

During the decade of the 1950s there was a wide distribution to local schools of the Society's brochure, "A Music Educators Introduction to Barbershop Harmony."

In 1962 the Society employed an experienced music educator (Bob Johnson) as its Director of Music Activities and more recently, as we all know, has added two additional music men to our headquarters staff. A Society member, Abe Gould of the San Gabriel Chapter and the Far Western District, must be given credit for reviving the high school barbershop quartet program in the late 1960s and for giving it a name which is now used Society-wide — "Young Men in Harmony." More recent events have been fully reported in the HARMONIZER and by bulletins to the chapters. The Society's executive director has supervised these developments with the skill of a diplomat.

Finally, let us be reminded of the saying: "There is nothing so powerful as an idea when its time has come." Let us also remind ourselves that many ideas in SPEBSQSA have had their roots planted many years ago. Our history is filled with the work of innovators and idea brokers and of those who have cultivated "little acorns" and watched them grow.

The complete Barberpole Cat repertoire consists of the following 14 songs:

1. *My Wild Irish Rose* (Just Plain Barbershop Song Book)
2. *Down Our Way* (Just Plain Barbershop Song Book)
3. *Shine On Me* (Just Plain Barbershop Song Book)
4. *We Sing That They Shall Speak* (J-9 New Member Kit)
5. *Wait 'Til the Sun Shines, Nellie* (HH-50 New Member Kit)
6. *I'll Take You Home Again, Kathleen* (HH-58 New Member Kit)
7. *Sweet and Lovely, (That's What You Are To Me)* (J-15 Insert in July/August 1971 Harmonizer)
8. *Rose of Tralee* (Just Plain Barbershop Song Book)
9. *Give Me That Barbershop Style* (No. 16 Insert in Sept./Oct. 1971 Harmonizer)
10. *In the Shade of the Old Apple Tree* (HH-42 Chorus & Tag only)
11. *Love Me and the World is Mine* (HH-47 Chorus & Tag only)
12. *I'd Give the World to be in My Home Town* (J-16 Insert in Nov./Dec. 1971 Harmonizer)
13. *On the Banks of the Wabash* (HH-62 Chorus & Tag only)
14. *Honey, Little 'Lize Medley* (Just Plain Barbershop Song Book)

The Barberpole Cat badge is presented to the member who has successfully sung his voice part on any one of the 14 songs in a quartet at a chapter meeting or function. A numbered sticker is placed on the member's badge for each song that he sings satisfactorily. Upon completion of the first six songs, the member receives a Barberpole Cat certificate of award signed by the president of the Society. The chapter secretary, or quartet activity chairman, will send the qualifying member's name to the International Office for this special award. The chapter president, or the quartet activity chairman, should make an appropriate presentation of the award during a chapter meeting. A Barberpole Cat lapel pin will be awarded to any member who successfully qualifies by singing his voice part on all 14 songs.

The chapter president, program vice president, director and quartet activity chairman may act as a committee to approve (or disapprove) each man as he attempts to qualify.

It is suggested that the 14 songs may be learned over a period of one year. In addition to the regular meetings, the songs can be learned prior to (early-bird chorus), or immediately following, the meeting.

In all probability, most of the Barberpole Cat songs are already a part of your chapter's repertoire. If not, your secretary can order them from the International Office. There will be a nominal charge for this music for other than new members, however.



## about QUARTETS

Fans of the 1964 international champion *Sidewinders* and the equally famous and funny *Salt Flats*, before both quartets retired a few years ago, are in for the thrill of a lifetime on April 21 or 22. On these dates, the two famous foursomes will come out of retirement to share the stage of Swing Auditorium on the grounds of the National Orange Show in San Bernardino, Calif. The two quartets, along with the current third place medalists *Golden Staters*, and the current fifth place medalists *Far Westerners*, will appear in an unprecedented production appropriately called "Show of Shows." As if that wouldn't be enough to thrill the eyes and ears of the most avid Barbershopper, all four quartets will be backed up by the fine Riverside, Calif. chorus and their own great quartet, the "R.S.V.P." If you are a little curious as to how this unique show bill was conceived, here's what happened. Former *Sidewinder* tenor Jerry Fairchild, who came up with the whole idea, currently carries that part with the "R.S.V.P."; Jay Wright, former *Sidewinder* bass, now sings that part with the *Far Westerners* and Milt Christenson, of the *Salt Flats*, now sings lead with the *Golden Staters*. To state the matter simply, since the personnel of all five quartets reside in the Far Western District, it seemed like an excellent idea to feature them on one "big show," especially when you could obtain the services of five great quartets for an unbelievably low price. Not only that, for just a bit extra, the "Citrus Belters" were able to obtain the services of one of the great MCs in the business. Carl Hancuff, who just happens to sing bass with the *Salt Flats*. You've got to admit a situation like this is just a little short of an impresario's dream!

\* \* \*

"Probably you have heard by now that the *Avant Garde* quartet intends to call it a day as of June 1 of this year.

"Our reasons are varied and many, but

A festive mood prevailed at Harmony Hall on January 23 during a reception honoring our current International champions, the "Gentlemen's Agreement." The quartet took time out for a refreshment break in the past presidents' room.



all stem from the fact that two of us must devote more attention to our jobs and our families. The 'Garde' has been at it for a little over five years now, with four international contests under our belt, and never out of the top ten. Even before that, we have all had several years with other quartets . . ."

Those two paragraphs, part of a letter from *Avant Garde* contact man Joe Warren, announce the retirement of another perennial top contender from the Illinois District. It's like Joe says, Doug Miller, Dave Brady, Dick Reed and Joe Warren "have all had several years with other quartets," and provided us with many singing thrills. You guys will be missed in the barbershop quartet world, no question about it.

\* \* \*

Many Chicagoland Barbershoppers called our attention to the article in the Thursday, December 16, 1971 *Chicago Daily News* concerning three quarters of the former *Sundowners* quartet. Excerpts from Columnist Sam Lesner's article, titled "Future Bright for Sundowns," follow:

"Make way for the Sundown Trio, a new singing group just starting a climb to certain fame with its current Friday-

Saturday night engagements in south suburban Crete. The group consists of Larry and Greg Wright, brothers from suburban Glenwood and two of the handsomest fellows in the whole flashy spectrum of today's high-styled vocal swingers, and soft-spoken Jack Hayes, a native of Connecticut . . .

"Greg, a physical education teacher in the Niles School system, and Larry, a former teacher who now devotes full time to writing and arranging the music for the trio, surrendered their amateur standing as international prize-winning barbershop quartet singers to turn professional as the Sundown Trio . . .

"The Sundowns already are being mentioned favorably, and not without a note of envy, by several major bookers on the Chicago-area cafe circuit . . .

"The excellence of their solo and ensemble singing and the clean rhythms and glowing harmonies of their tunes clearly indicates the technical niceties of barbershop singing at its best . . .

"This is one of the best male vocal trios I've heard this year. The sun is rising fast for the Sundowns . . ."

We're sure their many barbershop friends are watching anxiously the activities of the three former *Sundowners* as they launch their professional careers.

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"The distribution, sale or advertising of unofficial recordings is not a representation that the contents of such recordings are appropriate for contest use."

The *Boston Common*, current Northeastern District champs, announced that Larry Tully, former lead of the "Four Scores" (past Northeastern District Champs and international quartet finalists), has joined the quartet as baritone. He replaces Wally Cluett. By coincidence, Larry is a native of Altoona, Pa., hometown of bass Terry Clarke. Larry now lives in Holyoke, Mass. and is a member of both the Boston and Springfield chapters. He plans to enter graduate school next fall.

\* \* \*

A note from Tim Taggart, contact man for the Seneca Land District champion *Perfect Arrangement*, was literally brimming over with excitement after the quartet had the opportunity to appear along with the 1967 international champion "Four Statesmen," the Livingston, N.J. "Dapper Dans of Harmony" and the Saratoga Springs "Racing City Chorus" at Grossinger's Resort in the Fifth Annual Harmony Holiday early in January. What made the weekend even more worthwhile was learning that the Institute of Logopedics will receive a much larger contribution from the weekend activities than

ever before. Take it from the *Perfect Arrangement*, any Barbershopper in the northeastern quarter of the States, or in the southeastern quarter of Canada, should plan on taking in the thrills of a Grossinger weekend of harmony next year. It's truly a wonderful experience!

\* \* \*

When several Catonsville, Md. quartets broke up a short time ago, a new quartet, the *Mellow Dynamics*, was formed from some of the leftover personnel. "Cross Keys" tenor Bill Norris is now singing baritone; former "Encore" Ed Geisendaffer sings tenor; ex-"Revelaire" Bill Jacobs is singing bass and ex-"Goldigger" Don Childs is singing lead. Three members of the new foursome are Catonsville chorus section leaders and one is assistant director. Don Childs is contact man (3143 Bethany Lane, Ellicott City, Md.)

\* \* \*

Joe Lange, contact man for the *Sing-Chronizers* (Chicago, Ill.), was quick to challenge claim of the "Note-Wits" which boasted "the largest alumni in the Society, numbering 25." Joe claims their quartet was organized in June, 1944 and

boasts a total of 44 men who formerly sang with the foursome. Now are we going to let that claim rest, or do we have another challenge?

\* \* \*

The *Checkmates*, 1959 Mid-Atlantic District Champions, are out of retirement. Three of the original foursome are singing together again. Bass Don Woods, bari Don Intveld and tenor Roger Ruhren (now singing lead), original *Checkmates*, are in the new foursome. You may recall that Rog Ruhren sang lead more recently with the international finalist "Hallmarks." Another "Hallmark," Frank Tortorelli, is now singing tenor with the *Checkmates*. The quartet intends to compete in the forthcoming international preliminary contest and looks forward to singing for many of their old friends. *Checkmates* contact man is Don Woods, 1188 Ringwood Ave., Pompton Lakes, N.J. 07442, phone area code 201-835-9346.

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# Barbershop Harmony Week

April 9 - 15, 1972



In both Riverside and San Bernardino, Calif., the sound of good harmony echoed through council chambers as the mayors of both cities presented a signed and sealed proclamation declaring "Barbershop Harmony Week" . . . In Frederick, Md., Mayor E. Paul Magaha appeared along with Frederick chapter president Douglas Pyles in a full-page picture story in *The Post* outlining the many special events planned for Harmony Week . . . The Reading-Wakefield, Mass. Chapter climaxed a full week of singing activities on April 17, 1971 when they presented "An Evening of Harmony," a two-hour public service appearance before 900 guests.

These are excerpts of some of the special affairs that were a part of Barbershop Harmony Week last year. In addition to the 150 chapters which had special activities, thousands of words were printed and spoken, hundreds of songs sung and countless numbers of the American and Canadian public were given samples of our thrilling harmony.

What will "Barbershop Harmony Week" mean to us in our 34th year? What if we were to extend last year's activities to every chapter in the Society?

International President Dick deMontmollin has put his thoughts regarding this year's celebration in a letter to all members:

February, 1972

Dear Fellow Barbershopper:

In my initial article in the *HARMONIZER* (January-February edition) I stressed three things and their application to barbershopping: Reverence for the Past; Respect for the Present; and Responsibility for the Future. Each is a pretty big subject unto itself, but let's take a capsule glance at how each applies to Harmony Week of 1972.

**Reverence for the Past** - Society Fieldman Chet Fox has a favorite expression, "We stand upon the shoulders of those who have gone before." And it's so true. We're 34 years old this year, and we've reached this maturity because of much hard work and great dedication by the great pioneers of our Society: officers, arrangers, quartet men, writers, chorus directors, and educators. Do me a favor . . . do yourself a favor. During Harmony Week, beg, borrow, or buy a copy of "Melodies for Millions" (the

25-year History of the Society) and/or Deac Martin's 10-year history, "Keep America Singing," and read these books. I guarantee they'll give you a new insight into S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.

**Respect for the Present** - Sociologists tell us we are already into the second era of the 20th century. The first was the age of industrialization and mechanization; we're now in the age of communication. Respect this fact. Instant fame or instant infamy are equally easy to attain. Keep barbershopping on the highest possible level and always with a "G" rating.

**Responsibility for the Future** - What Barbershopping becomes tomorrow is shaped by you today. We perpetuate a great form of music. We preserve a glorious heritage. Be proud of these facts and share them, and a rich musical experience, with an ever-increasing part of the general public. Only when we share our music rather than hoard it do we accept our responsibility for the future.

CHORD-ially,  
Dick

There, gentlemen, is a reminder from our president concerning our responsibility to the Society during the week of April 9-15. How will we go about assuming this responsibility? By the time you read this your chapter president will have received a "Barbershop Harmony Week Kit" filled with sample news releases, a package show script, radio and television station breaks, a Society fact sheet, a sample proclamation, a disc containing recorded announcements for radio (three 30-second spots and one, one-minute spot, all recorded by the "Skyliners" from Racine, Wis., past Land O'Lakes Champs and international semi-finalists) . . . literally, all the equipment to do an enthusiastic job of celebrating the Society's birthday. Even though the material was sent to your president, responsibility for implementation of Harmony Week plans should rest with your public relations officer (surely PROBE members will want to "get into the act."). Ask him what you can do to help.

Yes, men, we're anxious for the big week to arrive. We feel certain our 34th birthday celebration is going to surpass all past efforts. We'll be watching for a report of your chapter's activity during the 1972 version of "Barbershop Harmony Week."

## Post-Convention Tour to MARTINIQUE July 9-16, 1972

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Write now for further information to: Post-Convention Tour, P.O. Box 575, Kenosha, Wis. 53141

In accordance with the by-laws of the Society, our accounts have been audited by Houston, Naegeli & Co., Certified Public Accountants, 2106 63rd Street, Kenosha, Wisconsin, for the year ended December 31, 1971.

The audit report has been presented to the Board of Directors and a copy is on file at the International Office. A condensation of the audit report is as follows:

**SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT  
OF BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA, INC.  
CONDENSED BALANCE SHEET  
DECEMBER 31, 1971**

**ASSETS**

**Current Assets:**

Cash on hand and in banks	\$ 55,006.76	
Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts	113,035.39	
Inventory of music and supplies, at cost	112,184.69	
Accrued interest receivable	1,861.53	
Total current assets		\$282,088.37
Fixed assets, at cost, less accumulated depreciation	67,087.11	
Prepaid expense and deferred charges	37,653.91	
Total assets		<u>\$386,829.39</u>

**LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INCOME AND MEMBERS' EQUITY**

Current liabilities including accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 43,895.82
Deferred income	153,298.95
Members' equity	189,634.62
Total liabilities, deferred income and members' equity	<u>\$386,829.39</u>

**SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT  
OF BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA, INC.  
CONDENSED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1971**

**Income:**

Finance and administrative department	\$442,328.11
Communications department	185,170.15
Music department	107,110.07
Total income	<u>\$734,608.33</u>

**Direct Cost of Income:**

Finance and administrative department	\$ 75,544.39
Communications department	103,131.22
Music department	68,792.84
Total direct cost of income	<u>247,468.45</u>
Sub-total	<u>\$487,139.88</u>

**Operating Expense:**

Finance and administrative department	\$338,532.51
Communications department	107,554.10
Music department	76,568.08
Total operating expense	<u>522,654.69</u>

Excess of expense over in-  
come for the year ended  
December 31, 1971 .... (\$ 35,514.81)

**HARMONY FOUNDATION, INC.  
CONDENSED BALANCE SHEET  
DECEMBER 31, 1971**

**ASSETS**

**Current Assets:**

Cash in banks	\$104,812.80	
Accounts receivable	15,037.55	
Securities at cost	7,728.00	
Accrued interest receivable	1,179.30	
Total current assets		\$128,757.65

Fixed assets, at cost, less  
accumulated depreciation ..... 81,878.80

Prepaid expense and deferred charges ..... 4,193.24

Total assets ..... \$214,929.69

**LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INCOME AND FUND BALANCES**

**Current Liabilities:**

Accounts payable . . . . .	\$ 1,114.03	
District and chapter contri- butions payable to the Institute of Logopedics . . . . .	54,149.76	
Real estate taxes payable . . . . .	<u>4,003.84</u>	
Total current liabilities . . . . .		\$ 59,267.63

Deferred income ..... 3,428.88

**Fund Balances:**

Unappropriated .....	\$114,873.11	
Appropriated .....	<u>37,360.07</u>	
Total fund balances .....		152,233.18

Total liabilities, deferred  
income and fund balances ..... \$214,929.69

**HARMONY FOUNDATION, INC.  
CONDENSED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1971**

**Income:**

Rent received .....	\$ 8,160.00	
Interest received .....	3,127.55	
Contributions received .....	<u>10,051.75</u>	
Total income .....		\$ 21,939.30

**Operating expense including real**

estate taxes, insurance,  
depreciation, etc. .... \$ 9,392.02

Grants, awards and contributions .... 1,972.00 11,364.02

Excess of income over ex-  
pense for the year ended  
December 31, 1971 .... \$ 10,575.28



AS REPORTED TO THE INTERNATIONAL  
OFFICE BY DISTRICT SECRETARIES  
THROUGH WHOM ALL DATES  
MUST BE CLEARED

(All events are concerts unless otherwise  
specified. Persons planning to attend these  
events should reconfirm dates with the spon-  
soring chapter or district. This list includes only  
those events reported by district secretaries as  
of February 1, 1972.)

Mar. 16 – May 15, 1972

### CARDINAL INDIANA

Mar. 18 – Michigan City  
25 – LaPorte

Apr. 7-9 – Cincinnati, O.  
(Int'l. Prelims.)

May 6 – Lafayette  
CENTRAL STATES  
COLORADO

Mar. 17-18 – Greeley-Fort Collins  
May 5 – Boulder

### IOWA

Mar. 25 – Algona  
Apr. 7 – Fort Dodge  
9 – Burlington  
15 – Cedar Rapids  
22 – Des Moines

May 6 – Davenport  
KANSAS

Apr. 29 – Salina  
MISSOURI

Mar. 17 – Bethany  
18 – Kansas City  
Apr. 1 – St. Joseph  
21-23 – St. Joseph  
(Int'l. Prelims.)

NEBRASKA  
Apr. 1 – Lincoln  
8 – Hastings

SOUTH DAKOTA  
May 13 – Rapid City

WYOMING  
May 6 – Cheyenne

DIXIE  
ALABAMA

Mar. 17-19 – Birmingham  
(Int'l. Prelims.)

Apr. 15 – Huntsville  
EVERGREEN  
ALBERTA

Mar. 25 – Edmonton  
Apr. 14 – Wetaskiwin  
14-15 – Calgary

### BRITISH COLUMBIA

Apr. 29 – Penticton  
MONTANA

Apr. 15 – Great Falls  
May 13 – Billings

### OREGON

Mar. 24-25 – Canby  
Apr. 7-8 – Mt. Hood

8 – Lebanon  
15 – Roseburg  
WASHINGTON

Apr. 7-8 – Spokane  
21-23 – Ephrata  
(Int'l. Prelims.)

29 – Yakima  
May 6 – Centralia  
12-13 – Seattle  
13 – North Vancouver

### FAR WESTERN CALIFORNIA

Mar. 17-19 – Riverside  
(Int'l. Prelims.)  
24-25 – San Diego  
24-25 – Ontario (Pomona Valley)  
25 – Merced  
25 – Chico

Apr. 7-8 – Anaheim (Fullerton)  
8 – El Cajon  
8 – Bakersfield  
8 – Fresno  
8 – Livermore  
21-22 – Riverside  
22 – Lompoc  
May 6 – Fairfield  
11-12 – Oxnard  
12-13 – Oakland (Berkeley)  
13 – Simi

### UTAH

Apr. 21-22 – Provo  
ILLINOIS  
Mar. 24-25 – West Towns  
25 – Sterling-Rock Falls  
25-26 – Peoria

Apr. 8 – Champaign-Urbana  
8 – Decatur  
14-16 – Joliet  
(Int'l. Prelims.)

15 – Springfield  
22 – Fox River Valley  
22 – Collinsville  
29 – Belleville  
29 – Coles County  
29 – Kewanee

May 6 – Herrin  
13 – Elgin  
JOHNNY APPLESEED

### OHIO

Mar. 18-19 – Defiance  
25 – Toronto  
Apr. 7-9 – Youngstown  
(Int'l. Prelims.)  
15 – Coshocton

15 – West Unity  
15 – Middletown  
22 – North Olmsted  
22 – Cambridge  
22 – Clermont County  
22 – Warren  
29 – Clyde  
29 – Tri-County

May 6 – Newark  
6 – Cincinnati  
6 – Chippewa Valley  
13 – Fostoria  
13 – Elyria  
13 – Ashtabula

### PENNSYLVANIA

Mar. 18 – East Hills  
Apr. 8 – Grove City  
15 – Greater Uniontown  
22 – South Hills  
29 – Pittsburgh No. 1

### WEST VIRGINIA

Apr. 29 – Huntington  
LAND O'LAKES  
MANITOBA

Mar. 25 – Neepawa  
Apr. 8 – Winnipeg  
29 – Brandon

### MICHIGAN

Apr. 22 – Ironwood  
MINNESOTA

Mar. 25 – Kittson County  
Apr. 7 – Little Falls  
8 – LeRoy  
8 – Silver Bay  
7-8 – Willmar  
15 – Fergus Falls  
15 – Faribault-Owatonna  
22 – Waseca  
22 – St. Cloud  
22 – Minnetonka

May 13 – Windom  
SASKATCHEWAN

Apr. 15 – Regina  
22 – Estevan

### WISCONSIN

Mar. 25 – Kenosha  
Apr. 8 – Appleton  
8 – Wauwatosa  
15 – Wausau  
22 – Manitowoc  
29 – Antigo  
29 – St. Croix Valley  
29 – Dunn County

May 5-7 – La Crosse  
(Int'l. Prelims.)  
13 – Port Washington

### PIONEER MICHIGAN

Mar. 18 – Kalamazoo  
Apr. 8 – Grand Rapids  
8 – Boyne City  
8 – Flint



## COMING EVENTS —

- 28-30 — Midland  
(Int'l. Prelims.)
- May 6 — Holly-Fenton  
MID-ATLANTIC  
DELAWARE
- Mar. 19-20 — Wilmington  
MARYLAND
- Mar. 17-18 — Montgomery County  
Apr. 8 — Anne Arundel  
8 — Prince George's County  
15 — Frederick  
22 — Bowie
- NEW JERSEY
- Mar. 17-18 — Montclair  
Apr. 15 — Wayne Valley  
15-16 — Cherry Hill  
22 — Highland Park (Brunswick)
- May 13 — Ocean County  
NEW YORK
- Apr. 8 — Brooklyn  
8 — Nassau-Mid Island
- May 6 — Rockland County  
PENNSYLVANIA
- Mar. 17-18 — Reading  
Apr. 7 — Lebanon  
14-15 — Altoona  
15 — Scranton  
29 — Hazelton  
29 — Lansdale
- May 5-6 — State College  
6 — West Chester  
6 — Philadelphia  
12-13 — Allentown-Bethlehem
- VIRGINIA
- Mar. 10-12 — Richmond  
(Int'l. Prelims.)
- 17-18 — Danville  
25-26 — Fairfax
- Apr. 8 — Fredericksburg  
8 — Arlington  
22 — Alexandria  
29 — Manassas
- NORTHEASTERN  
CONNECTICUT
- Mar. 18 — Danbury  
25 — New Haven
- Apr. 14-15 — New London  
29 — Bridgeport
- MAINE
- Apr. 22 — Presque Isle  
May 13 — Portland
- MASSACHUSETTS
- Apr. 7-8 — Framingham  
21-22 — Concord  
29 — Franklin  
29 — New Bedford
- May 5-7 — Framingham  
(Int'l. Prelims.)
- NEW HAMPSHIRE
- Apr. 29 — Keene

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United States

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DALHEIM & CO.

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- NEW YORK
- Apr. 7-8 — Saratoga Springs  
29 — Albany
- QUEBEC
- Apr. 21-22 — Montreal
- RHODE ISLAND
- Apr. 15 — Greenville
- VERMONT
- Apr. 22 — Burlington
- ONTARIO
- Mar. 18 — Chatham  
25 — Thornhill
- Apr. 8 — Mount Forest  
8 — St. Thomas  
14-16 — Hamilton  
(Int'l. Prelims.)
- 27-29 — Etobicoke  
28-29 — Woodstock  
29 — Grimsby
- May 6 — St. Catharines  
13 — Peterborough  
27 — Burlington
- SOUTHWESTERN  
LOUISIANA
- Apr. 15 — New Orleans  
22 — Shreveport
- TEXAS
- Mar. 17-19 — Arlington  
(Int'l. Prelims.)



**ROSEBURG, OREGON**... Evergreen District... Chartered December 13, 1971... Sponsored by Cascade, Oregon... 45 members... Jim Keil, 1724 N.W. Kline, Roseburg, Oregon 97470, Secretary... Lawrence Rand, 1576 N.W. Beaumont, Roseburg, Oregon 97470, President.

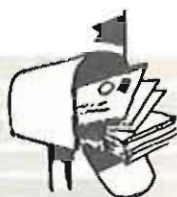
**STERLING, COLORADO**... Central States District... Chartered December 29, 1971... Sponsored by Boulder, Colorado... 35 members... Bob Stahl, 1305 So. 10 Avenue, Sterling, Colorado 80751, Secretary... Donald Carey, Rt. 2, Sterling, Colorado 80751, President.

**WATERTOWN, SOUTH DAKOTA**... Central States District... Chartered January 31, 1972... Sponsored by Brookings and Sioux Falls, South Dakota... 36 members... George Breidenbach, 210-10th Avenue N.W., Watertown, South Dakota 57201, Secretary... James Griffith, 119-9th Avenue N.W., Watertown, South Dakota 57201, President.

**CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FLORIDA**... Sunshine District... Chartered February 3, 1972... Sponsored by Fort Myers, Florida... 35 members... Albert Przyborski, 865 Beacon Drive, Port Charlotte, Florida 33950, Secretary... Richard Dreger, 183 South Lakeshore Circle, Port Charlotte, Florida 33950, President.

- 25 — Port Arthur
- Apr. 7-8 — Dallas  
15 — Austin  
22 — Arlington  
28-29 — Houston  
29 — Lubbock
- May 13 — Midland  
26-27 — El Paso
- SUNSHINE  
FLORIDA
- Mar. 18 — Clearwater  
16 — Orlando  
25 — St. Petersburg
- Apr. 8 — Pensacola
- May 5-7 — Jacksonville  
(Int'l. Prelims.)

# MAIL CALL



## from harmony hall

This department of the HARMONIZER is reserved for you, our readers. It contains written expressions regarding your magazine or any other segment of the Society.

As nearly as possible, letters should be limited to 250 words. The HARMONIZER reserves the right to edit all letters and will not publish unsigned letters or letters which may be in poor taste.

### BOYNE CITY'S IN MICHIGAN

Boyne City, Mich.

Jan. 29, 1972

In the first paragraph of "District Presidents Attend Three-Day Seminar" (Jan.-Feb. issue) you wrote "from as far off as West Vancouver, B.C. and Boyne City, Fla." I must take exception to this as I'm sure there's no Boyne City in Florida (at least, not in my Atlas). In fact, there's only one Boyne City in the U.S.A., and perhaps, the world.

Though we're small (pop. 3,000), we've had a chapter since 1944 and are proud that we started the now famous BUSH LEAGUE QUARTET CONTEST. Formed in 1946 to give inexperienced quartets a taste of competition, we feel this contest has been the instrument whereby many quartets have received the "encouragement" and experience to inspire them to take part in other contests. We're especially proud of the Past International Champion "Auto Towners" (1966), who won their first contest in our Bush League competition.

Like they say in the Pioneer District, "You haven't lived until you've taken part in a Boyne City Bush League Contest."

Loton V. Willson  
Past Pioneer District

President

**Editors note:** We're apparently too familiar with Boyne City, which caused us to put Sunshine District President Brett White in the wrong city. His information sheet clearly stated he resides in Boynton Beach, Fla. — not Boyne City. Sorry 'bout that'.

### FUND-RAISING IDEA

Orlando, Fla.

December 20, 1971

At the beginning of our 1971 barbershop year, the Orlando Chapter had set some major goals — one of which was to contribute more money toward "Logo-

pedics" (last year's total was \$48). Following a suggestion by one of our "old-time" Barbershoppers, Forry Haynes (of "Mid States" fame), we held a "Las Vegas Nite for Logopedics." I am happy to say that the affair netted \$906.35, all for Logopedics.

Added to other sources of income, mainly 10% from each chorus singout, our total contribution for the year was \$1,055.07. Not bad for a chapter whose goal was set at \$350. This, I believe, deserves a HARMONIZER mention — also a pat on the back for our Logopedics chairmen, Greg Cusanna and Forry Haynes.

Yours truly,

Joe Franus, chapter president

### ARTICLE DRAWS VARIED COMMENT

White Bear Lake, Minn.

October 20, 1971

Joe Wolff, in an excellent article in the September-October HARMONIZER, advocates a return to the old songs.

As much as I like to sing the old songs, and to hear them sung, I'd like to point out that there is another side to this controversy.

Audiences may "wait and listen for the soothing strains of barbershop harmony," as Mr. Wolff put it, but does this harmony always have to be applied to old songs?

Audiences wish to be entertained and to have their emotions stirred. So-called "modern" songs or show tunes can do this just as well as the old songs.

What is important is that we adhere as closely as possible to the "barbershop style" of singing so that our Society and our musical form remains unique.

The title of our Society urges us to "preserve" and "encourage" "Barber Shop Quartet Singing," but says nothing about the old songs.

A member of the "Suntones" quartet explained it like this at the New Orleans convention: "We're doing what the old-time quartets did, singing contemporary music in the barbershop style."

The Society itself recognizes this trend by publishing music which states "this is not intended to be used in competition."

In public appearances, many top quartets sing less than half of what could be considered "strictly Barbershop" or "the old songs."

The contest and judging programs are doing a good job of keeping barbershop "pure" for the Society.

Audiences, and more members, will continue to be attracted by a balanced musical program of barbershop harmony.

Chordially,

Charles H. Palmer

Alexandria, Va.

September 22, 1972

Joe Wolff's "The Way I See It" in the Sept.-Oct. HARMONIZER hits the nail right on the head "the way I see it."

Lest you think that I'm writing because I enjoy seeing agreement with my "Let's Sing Better" slogan, let me say that I put the magazine down about halfway through and called my wife into the living room to read a paragraph to her. That was *before* I saw the last paragraph with my slogan quoted.

I am convinced that we can sing better *and* have lots of fun. I am very doubtful that many of our members have fun struggling through poor arrangements featuring non-barbershop chords and progressions. The Society is publishing and distributing arrangements today that are "square," pure barbershop, one after another, of a type that Barbershoppers of early days would have enjoyed and do enjoy today. Why can't we all "preserve" barbershop harmony by singing, for ourselves and our audiences, solid barbershop arrangements, and by woodshedding honest-to-goodness ear harmony, the natural implied harmonization that so many of us can produce by instinct if we will just try?

Thanks for Joe's thoughts in the HARMONIZER. I just wish I'd have said it!

Wilbur D. Sparks





# THE 1971 INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONS



## TOP TEN WINNERS '71

OLD TIME FAVORITES  
PRESENTED BY  
The Society for the Preservation  
and Encouragement of Barbershop  
Quartet Singing in America



## BARBERSHOP QUARTETS

### THE TOP TEN BARBERSHOP QUARTETS

Gentlemen's Agreement (Champs):  
How's Ev'ry Little Thing in Dixie?  
Make Believe; Sundowners: At A  
Georgia Camp Meeting, That Tum-  
bledown Shack in Athlone; Golden  
Staters: It Must Be That Look in  
Her Eyes; Pacificaires: Alabamy

Bound, Alabama Jubilee (medley); Far Westerners: Sam The Accordion Man;  
Easternaires: Baby, Won't You Please Come Home; Avant Garde: The Pal That I  
Loved Stole The Gal That I Loved; Roaring 20's: Don't Bring Lulu; Fanfares:  
Something To Write the Folks About Now; Grandma's Boys; Taking My Gal Out  
Tonight

4868S	LP	\$4.00	4870S	Cartridge	\$4.95
4869S	Cassette	\$4.95	4871S	Reel	\$5.95

### "IT'S SHOWTIME" (1971 COMEDY CONCERT)

Free Lancers: Curse of an Aching Heart, M-O-T-H, She's More To Be Pitied Than  
Censured; Pittsburgh Four: Smile Medley, Oh, What A Pal Was Mary, When Your  
Old Wedding Ring Was New; Bunster Freely: Ten Little Miles From Town,  
Remember Dad On Mother's Day, Seeing Nellie Home, It's A Sin To Tell A Lie,  
After You've Gone; O.K. Four: Daddy Sang Bass, Sugar Blues, Second Hand  
Man

4966S	LP	\$4.00	4968S	Cartridge	\$4.95
4967S	Cassette	\$4.95			



## TOP FIVE WINNERS '71

OLD TIME FAVORITES  
PRESENTED BY  
The Society for the Preservation  
and Encouragement of Barbershop  
Quartet Singing in America



## BARBERSHOP CHORUSES

### THE TOP FIVE BARBERSHOP CHORUSES

Chorus of the Chesapeake (Dundalk, Md.)  
(Champs): When I'm Walking With My  
Sweetness Down Among the Sugar Cane,  
That's What I Call A Pal, The Way You  
Look Tonight; Sun Harbor Chorus (San  
Diego, Cal.): Alexander's Band Is Back In  
Dixie, Last Night Was The End Of The  
World, Do You Know What It Means To  
Miss New Orleans; Southern Gateway  
Chorus (Western Hills, Ohio): If I Had My  
Life To Live Over, Floating Down The  
River, All Aboard For Dixieland (med-  
ley); The Chordsmen (San Antonio,  
Tex.): Summer Sounds, I'm Making  
Believe That I Don't Care; Chorus of the  
Dunes (Hobart, Ind.): Mickey, Why Do  
They Always Say No, There's Yes, Yes In  
Your Eyes (medley)

4872S	LP	\$4.00
4873S	Cassette	\$4.95
4874S	Cartridge	\$4.95
4875S	Reel	\$5.95

These recordings available only from  
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**DON'T FORGET!** 1970 Recordings are still available (quartets, choruses and comedy show)  
on LP, cassette, cartridge and reel. All are \$4.00 each (\$4.50 each in Canada)



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- Chorus Directing (advanced)
- Barbershop Harmony Theory and Arranging (for beginners)
- Intermediate Arranging
- Advanced Arranging
- Quartet Workshop
- Quartet Coaching
- Script Writing and MC'ing
- Show Production
- Music Repertoire
- Vocal Techniques (required)
- Sight-Reading (required)

*All this, including  
room, board, tuition  
and materials,  
for just \$80!*

Cartoon courtesy of Cam Black  
Markham, Ontario Chapter

SEE PAGE 11 IN THIS ISSUE FOR COMPLETE DETAILS AND REGISTRATION FORM