

The Bulletune



Monthly Publication of The Mall City Barbershop Chorus
.. a chapter of SPEBSQSA

Keep the Whole World Singing!

Dan Crampton, Editor

The Mall City Chorus meets Tuesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m. at the Wesley Foundation on the WMU Campus

May 2000

AL'S It seems whenever there was a job to be
Q done, everybody was asked to do it. Everybody
U thought that somebody should do it. Anybody
I could have done it, but Nobody did it.
T Somebody got angry because it was
I Everybody's job. Everybody knew Anybody
I could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody
E wouldn't do it. So Everybody blamed
S Somebody when, actually, Nobody asked
Anybody.

This truism certainly can apply to all aspects of Barbershopping; from weekly chapter meetings, rehearsals, learning music, public relations, membership....

Ah yes! Membership! Its time we in the Mall City Chapter put the "Barbershop is the best kept secret in town" cliché to rest. BUT, that doesn't happen automatically. I need "Everybody's" help!

I truly believe that each of us can contribute to the beginning of a new era in the Kalamazoo Mall City Chorus, and through our individual efforts, we will realize a growth in membership and considerable improvement in our public image.

Your chapter officers, your board, and your chorus director can't do it all. Each of us must make a committed effort to bring in one quality singer and get your man-o-note. More on commitment next month.

Al Grieser, your chapter President

The Kalamazoo Experiment!

The following may be one of the most important announcements in the recent history of the Kalamazoo Chapter and is bound to cause considerable excitement for the year 2000!

For those of you who were not at the rehearsal the night after the contest, you missed the announcement about the Kalamazoo Experiment and Ev Nau coming to Kalamazoo.

As you know, **Ev Nau is the head of Member Services at International.** Ev was scheduled to come to the Pioneer District to try and establish new chapters in towns that currently do not have one. Roger Lewis, our next Society President who most of you know from Battle Creek, asked Ev to come to Pioneer and do the same thing he does for towns without a chapter, for a town with a chapter. Ev and I both refused that request, because we had done that for an ailing chapter and found it was a waste of time and effort. Roger came back and said how about doing it for a chapter that is healthy, active and has a good music program. Ev agreed to give it a try, but suggested that it not be Roger's chapter since it was his idea and he going to be the next Society President and all.

So it was up to me to select the chapter. Well, Kalamazoo fit all the criteria, so I first asked the Kalamazoo Board if they would fully support this

(cont. next page)

(Kalamazoo Experiment - cont. from page1)
 effort. They responded that they were for it. Then I asked all those present at rehearsal for their commitment and follow up. The response was 100% affirmative.

So, on June 15th and 16th, Ev Nau and Roger Lewis will be in Kalamazoo working to increase our membership. It will be the responsibility of the Kalamazoo Chapter to take what they come up with, and implement and follow-up on it to insure that the chapter grows significantly. As it turns out, **this is something that has not been done before and the whole society will be watching the Kalamazoo Experiment. The outcomes will be reported to all districts. If it is successful it will obviously be used elsewhere.**

We are fortunate to have this opportunity. Let's get behind it and really give it the effort that will not only makes us proud, but also put those fifty men on stage at fall contest.

Raleigh Bloch

Happy Birthday!

Stuart Benedict	5/4
Tom Whetter	5/4
Joseph Bower	5/7
Kathlene Hall	5/6
Michele Fritzen	5/16
Betty Gillespie	5/19
Denise Mollison	5/23

Happy Anniversary!

Doyle and Dorothy Lyles	5/24
Jon and Denise Mollison	5/30

From the Music VP...

Well, here are my congratulations and thanks to each and every one of you great guys who sang and otherwise contributed to the success we had at contest. I'm reminded of the Three Musketeers whose motto was "One for all, and all for one". That is the attitude we commit ourselves to having, whenever we sing as a chorus. There are no heroes but we all share in the success. And indeed we were a success. Did you hear that roar of applause?!

Your Music Team will meet on Saturday, May 13th at 9:00 AM at the Big Boy restaurant in Paw Paw. We will discuss the Buckeye Invitational to be held in Columbus, Ohio, August 17-20. It is very important that you sign up to go. We need you and the organizers are needing numbers. We will put on a performance of contest songs and more. In addition, we will discuss the 2001 show. Raleigh Bloch has agreed to Chair the show and will be organizing his team soon. Let's give him all the cooperation he needs and volunteer where needed.

That's all, except this church announcement "bloopers" I saw the other day. During the church's announcement time, pastor Hall challenged the congregation to increase their weekly pledge, saying, "I upped mine, up yours"

In that spirit of Harmony we all treasure, keep singing.

Brian Hall



HEARTSPRING

"We Sing That They Shall Speak" — Heartspring

April – We collected \$46.83 at our 4 April meetings

WORK, WORK, - Members, New Member Month, - WORK, WORK

It never stops and we take a lot for granted as Mall City Chorus members when it comes to membership. As one of the newer members, I have been doing a bit of thinking in regards to our membership and all that goes along with it. To be a member in our chorus, it takes commitment and WORK! Yes, I said work. Many of you have been here for many years and take many of things somewhat for granted much of the time when I must really watch them closely. Actually, many of us find that being a barbershopper is work. What does this have to do with new members?

May is membership month. We all know what that means. Invite friends, family, enemies, and anyone else who would enjoy the fellowship and singing. Simple enough . . . We wish. Sometimes the hardest part is to get them to our meeting. If our guests do not get too discouraged, our camaraderie, harmony, and the just plain good time we have will speak for us. So we have to **WORK AT GETTING THEM TO THE MEETING**. We tend to think that new members are just that, someone new, at least to our chorus. Actually, there is a second gold mine out there, the “used to be’s” that have simply disappeared into the woodwork. They have left for many reasons: family commitments, boredom, loss of interest, ready for a change and such. Some reasons are good, some are bad. No matter. Time changes things and many reasons no longer apply or are significant. So invite our “used to be’s”, too. In all cases, we may have to ask again and again and again until they get the message.

Okay. So we had to do a little work to get them to the meeting. The next thing we need to do is **WORK AT KEEPING THEM HERE**. We need to greet them, encourage them, adopt them and show them what barbershopping is all about. This isn’t just one week, one month or even one year. This has to be done until they hopelessly fall in love with our hobby and can’t live without it. Lots of tools are available, things such as the Old Songs, the Polecat Songs, fifthwheeling and many more. It is not up to the board and various committees to welcome new faces with programs. They are only facilitators. Each and every one of us has to welcome new guests and show them the way.

The work isn’t done yet! To continue to grow and keep our chorus vibrant and growing, we need to constantly **WORK AT KEEPING OUR SINGING IN TOP FORM**. Things like practice, learning tapes, diction, tuning, listening, watching (the director), and practicing more, these are all needed all the time, even in the shower. Without constant attention to these skills, the chorus will lose its vitality and excitement and member interest will naturally ebb away. This is particularly true for members in their first few years.

As a final thought, the ability to attract and retain members is affected by all phases of our program. This includes meetings, rehearsals, shows, singouts, music selection, our quartets and their success, developing new quartets, our community involvement, and each one of us. First impressions in any of these areas can and do affect our whole program. **THIS IS WORK!** Don’t let up. Let’s go for our goal of 25 new members this year and let’s keep them singing.

Just remember, we must **WORK** at finding new members, **WORK** at teaching and encouraging new members (forever), **WORK** at good singing techniques, **WORK** at making our chorus the best there is, and, lest we forget, have **FUN** while we **WORK!**

John Stiegemeier

Board Meeting Highlights – 4/19/2000

Present: Alex Boltenko, Al Grieser, Warren Royer, John vanWestrienen, Con VanTol, Brian Hall, and Ron Bower

The Treasurer reported receipts of \$6,251.32 and expenses of \$3,657.03 with a balance on hand of \$11,930.96 of which \$7,526.60 is unallocated.

Five additional tapes were retroactively approved which were sent out with the one CD and two tapes from the annual show drawing.

Alex Boltenko reported that a thank you letter was sent to all of the advertisers (94) in our show program for their support.

June 27th was set for a send-off date any quartet associated with the Kalamazoo Chapter who qualify for International Convention Competition.

The Music Committee reported that their next meeting is being planned for Saturday, June 13th at the Paw Paw Big boy. Suggestions for the 2001 Show were to use the sound shell and to promote more singing over dialog.

It was reported that Raleigh Bloch has agreed to be Show Chairman for next year's show and Ed Fritzen will chair the Singing Valentine Program.

Saturday, September 16th was set for our fall contest retreat with the location to be announced later.

A quarterly mailing to all our show patrons was discussed but vetoed due to excessive cost.

An opportunity to nominate one of our members to the District Hall Of Fame was received from Pioneer District but too late to take any action. This was tabled until next year.

YEAR 2000 GOALS

- 1. 24+ New Members**
- 2. 100 Singing Valentines**
- 3. 2 Grants**
- 4. 1 Annual Show**
- 5. 7 Various Retreats**
- 6. 1 Christmas Show**
- 7. 1 Very Best of the Fest**
- 8. Member Retention**

Chorus Size

It's often believed that the larger choruses score higher. That may be true in the long run and very generally. But in the Pioneer District this spring, for example, the top three choruses were smaller than the fourth- and seventh-place choruses. In fact, there appeared to be very little correlation between chorus size and place in the standings:

MEN	PLACE
52	4
42	7
39	1
37	11
34	12
33	3
32	2
30	14
27	8
25	13
24	6
20	10
20	5 (1st competition in 10 years!)
19	15
18	9

--Jim Styer, Convention PR--

Calendar

May	Membership month
5/19-5/21	H.E.P School; Round-Up MSU
6/1	Plainwell Sing Out
7/2-7/9	Kansas City Convention
7/30-8/6	Harmony Director's College
8/13	Bronson Park Band Shell Sing Out
8/15	Buckeye Send-Off
8/17-8/20	Buckeye Invitational
9/16	Fall Contest Retreat
9/22-9/24	Bush League
10/17	Fall Contest Send-Off
10/20-22	Fall Convention & Contest
10/27	Spaghetti Dinner

**OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY, Pioneer District Chorus Contest
SPEBSQSA, Inc., Battle Creek, Michigan, April 29, 2000**

FINALS	MUS	PRE	SNG	SCORE	OnStg
1 Grand Rapids, MI (Great Lakes Chorus)					
There's A Rainbow 'Round My Shoulder	138	147	145	869	39
May I Never Love Again	144	147	148		
2 Huron Valley, MI (Huron Valley Harmonizers)					
Rock-A-Bye Your Baby With A Dixie Melody	137	132	138	812	34
Sing Me That Song Again	138	130	137		
3 Kalamazoo, MI (Mall City Chorus)					
Girl Of My Dreams	127	142	133	802	33
Let's Get Away From It All	129	142	129		
4 Grosse Pointe, MI (Lakeshore Chorus)					
Georgia On My Mind	124	131	127	768	52
Little Girl	127	131	128		
5 Saginaw Bay, MI (Harbor Sounds)					
Listen To That Dixie Band	127	129	122	740	20
You Keep Coming Back Like A Song	117	124	121		
6 Holland, MI (Windmill Chorus)					
If The Rest Of The World Don't Want You	128	122	119	731	24
I Never Miss The Sunshine	120	126	116		
7 Detroit-Oakland, MI (Gentlemen Songsters)					
Kiss Me One More Time	123	125	116	721	42
Nobody's Sweetheart	120	126	111		
8 Traverse City, MI (Cherry Capital Chorus)					
Danny Boy	110	124	117	700	27
My Honey's Lovin' Arms	108	125	116		
9 Battle Creek, MI (Cereal City Chorus)					
Let The Rest Of The World Go By	113	120	116	681	19
You Must Have Been A Beautiful Baby	110	113	109		
10 Monroe North, MI (Floral City Harmonizers)					
Alexander's Ragtime Band	118	112	100	661	28
How Ya Gonna Keep 'Em Down on the Farm?	118	114	99		
11 Windsor, ONT (Sun Parlour Chorus)					
I'll Take You Home Again, Kathleen	104	116	111	659	37
By The Beautiful Sea	102	116	110		
12 Pontiac-Waterford, MI (Big Chief Chorus)					
Sing Me That Song Again	100	116	107	645	34
Let's Get Away From It All	97	118	107		
13 Rochester, MI (Heart of the Hills Chorus)					
If You Knew Susie	107	101	101	630	25
Carolina In The Morning	102	117	102		
14 Gratiot County, MI (Midstatesmen Chorus)					
The Moment I Saw Your Eyes	97	107	100	603	30
I'll Be Seeing You	99	103	97		
15 Muskegon, MI (Shoreline Chorus)					
Ro-Ro-Rollin' Along	90	108	97	589	18
Let The Rest Of The World Go By	86	109	99		

Saginaw Bay is the Plateau 2 Chorus Champion.
Huron Valley is the Plateau 3 Chorus Champion.
Kalamazoo is the Plateau 4 Chorus Champion.
Grosse Pointe is the Plateau 5 Chorus Champion.

PANEL:	ADMINISTRATOR	MUSIC	PRESENTATION	SINGING
	C. Damon-NED	D. Gray-JAD	R. Lewis-PIO	B. Barford-JAD
	D. Bowen-LOL	D. Wright-CSD	D. Miller-LOL	D. Stothard-SLD

SCORING SUMMARY**Pioneer District International Preliminary Quartet Contest
SPEBSQSA, Inc., Battle Creek, Michigan, April 29, 2000**

(OUT-OF-DISTRICT QUARTETS DELETED; NUMERICAL PLACEMENTS ADJUSTED)

FINALS AND SEMI-FINALS COMBINED

	MUS	PRE	SNG	SUB TOTAL	TOTAL SCORE
1 Power Play - Macomb, Hillsdale (Don Slamka, Michael Slamka, Mark Slamka, Jack Slamka)					
Way You Roll Your Eyes/How Many Hearts	169	171	173	1028	2046
Time After Time	166	176	173		
Get Me To The Church On Time	171	170	165	1018	
For Sale, One Broken Heart	167	176	169		
2 WJBC - Grand Rapids, Macomb, Frank Thorne (Bruce LaMarte, Craig Pollard, Brian Kaufman, Wayne Kinde)					
Why Doesn't Santa Clause Go Next Door?	139	154	154	884	1786
Let It Snow	132	156	149		
Jeepers Creepers	152	151	148	902	
An Apple For The Teacher	149	155	147		
3 Philatoga Township - Hillsdale, Kalamazoo, Frank Thorne (Tom McCoy, Larry Reinhart, Gary Nitz, Phil Haines)					
The Story Of The Rose	140	133	145	827	1677
Mammy Song Medley	136	133	140		
Old Songs Medley	145	140	138	850	
Sing Me That Song Again	149	137	141		
4 Upstage Sound - Kalamazoo (Raleigh Bloch, Gene Hanover, Ed Frizen, Kerry Foley)					
Don't Cry, Little Girl, Don't Cry	129	136	129	789	1621
Ten Feet Off The Ground	127	137	131		
IWanna BeAround ToPick Up The Pieces	138	147	130	832	
Let The Rest Of The World Go By	140	146	131		
5 Gallery - Lansing (Art Cardy, David Hundt, Larry Parker, Larry Wise)					
We Kinda Miss The Good Old Songs	146	131	134	812	1589
Sing Me That Song Again	140	131	130		
I'll Be Seeing You	123	137	129	777	
Jazz Came Up The River	122	136	130		
6 PriZm - Grand Rapids (Jay Smits, Curt Struyk, Dale Mattis, Tom Wheeler)					
The Moment I Saw Your Eyes	128	138	134	791	1562
Sing Me That Song Again	125	136	130		
Three Girl Medley	126	135	121	771	
Ain't Misbehavin'	129	138	122		
7 Four-Man Fishin' Tackle Choir - Petoskey, Traverse City (Tracy Ulrich, Kurtis Busman, Bill Woodbeck, Neil Nugent)					
Sweet Adeline Parody	118	125	134	761	1513
Sentimental Gentleman From Georgia Pdy	121	128	135		
Basin Street Blues	118	127	125	752	
Walkin' My Baby Back Home	120	133	129		
8 Grand Prix - Battle Creek (Ron Rachauskas, Mark Spear, Ben Jerzyk, Don Burrill)					
A Limburger Sandwich And You	122	123	130	731	1489
Hello, Mary Lou	119	107	130		
Hello! My Baby	127	127	127	758	
In The Little Red School House	126	126	125		
SEMI-FINALS	MUS	PRE	SNG	TOTAL	
<i>(Only Kalamazoo quartets recorded here)</i>					
11 4-Part Digital Surround Sound - Kalamazoo (Matt Root, David Dolph, Chris Penner, Jon Molison)					
As I Sail In Dreams To You	111	113	102	663	
I Wanna Be Around Parody	116	117	104		
15 Under New Management - Kalamazoo (Jerry Ditto, Kurt Amundson, Bob Shafer, John van Westrienen)					
Hello, Mary Lou	86	89	96	557	
Whispering	98	94	94		