

Pioneer District
Paul Ellinger - Director of Membership
April 2016

I will continue to assist Chapters in any way possible to help make membership JOB ONE in Pioneer District. I will continue to direct and encourage a District backed dialogue with Chapter Development Officers. I will provide guidance and suggestions to strengthen Chapter Development activities when required. I will continue to learn from the successes of others and look to share those successes with others and improve upon them where possible.

DISTRICT OBJECTIVES

1. I will continue to work closely with the newly formed Marquette Chapter.

Peter Stevens-Brown and I stay in pretty close contact. I will be going up to their inaugural show to emcee the event and do some training on chapter culture while up there. Additionally, I will be spending extra time with Peter not only in classes at Harmony University, but also we will be have time together outside of class to develop a fleshed out approach for the fledgling chapter. It would be great if this chapter could quickly become an example chapter for our District.

2. I will continue to work the other District Officers to put on events that bring our music to the public and garner new members for us.

Singing in public with the “up close magic” approach, singing songs that are familiar to people, having an Altruistic Purpose and allowing people the opportunity to meet the director, will garner us new members.

3. Continue to make effective growth strategies available to chapters and asking for help from other board members to contact their chapters to let them know what is available so we can develop a plan of success for any chapter that would like to embark up on a journey of success.

Last year I spent two additional weekends training members of Pioneer to support chapters after they have been trained in how to grow or to take on more of a training role when I am not available to do so personally. I do not want and have never wanted Supercharging Your Chapter to be the only way that chapters grow. Over the last several years I have had many others across the Society share their successes with me as well, many of which have asked to be a part of the Supercharging movement and now have their approaches offered as modules of Supercharging. This is being done so that we can continue to learn from one another and for those that have good ideas, it gets it out in the public much more quickly. To that end, I also have the Ready, Set, Sing approach and others available. CORT (Chapter Orientation and Retention Team) and the new version of CACM (Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meetings) known as Supercharged CACM. The co-creator of CACM who also holds a master’s degree in corporate culture, does training and workshops to assist companies and non-profits alike to grow and find higher levels of success by helping them discover a culture in which they can thrive. These and many more options are available to our chapters right now. However, we just don’t have chapters interested (or they are unaware). I will need help from the board at large in communicating with our chapters on this topic. Chapters simply need to choose an approach and to make their own futures with the support of District Leadership members.

5. Training District Leadership on Growth Concepts

I freely offer up a plan of training the District Leadership on the concepts of growth for our District and the offer is still open. This is the same training that I did for the SWD Leadership and now they are the only District in the Society that is growing. Even SWD chapters that are not knowingly following the concepts and precepts are growing by applying the concepts we covered that day. I don't say this for my benefit at all, though 100% of chapters around the Society that have followed the plans have grown. It's available to us, but we have to be willing to see the World in a different way, update a few things and build off from the things that we are already doing amazingly well which in most cases we take for granted. If we all have an understanding of not only where we need to go, but also options that will help get us there, it will likely change current approaches across each board members' purview. If this would be of benefit and the District would like to embark upon this journey, I would be happy to serve and share. I will need the help of the DP or EVP in pulling this together.

6. I am happy to help with redesigning Leadership Academy

I was asked by BHS HQ to come in for a weekend last year to help develop the pillars of the Leadership College at Harmony University which is now being offered at HU this year for the first time. Additionally, several Districts have asked for me to help in the redesign process of their Leadership Academies and we are having successes. I worked closely with Mike Ridenour on creating a new "open forum" approach to Leadership Academy and we were ready to roll that out with all new concepts, classes and follow-ups in place. Unfortunately, LA did not happen this year so no one has been able yet to experience the fact that they were the ones creating the day. I truly believe that the new "All hands on Deck Day" approach would begin to establish the foundations for future successes and if it would be of help, I would be happy to assist in the creation of a new and updated Leadership Academy, whether it included me as a participant or not.

Here to serve,

**PAUL G. L. ELLINGER, Director of Outreach
Pioneer District, Barbershop Harmony Society**