

PIONEER DISTRICT, BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY
MINUTES
POST-CONVENTION MEETING
Kalamazoo Radisson, Kalamazoo, Michigan
10:00 am, Sunday October 18, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: Convention Committee Chairman Jerry Ditto called the meeting to order at the Kalamazoo Radisson at 10:02 am.

INTRODUCTIONS: The hotel itself looks great. Jerry Ditto gave profuse thank-yous to the Kalamazoo host chapter, Don Kill, Paul and Chuck and all the crew, and to the Kalamazoo Convention Committee members present for their excellent work in making the convention run smoothly. QCA will be the host chapter for spring 2010 when we return. Grand Rapids reps were also present since we will be there in fall 2010.

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL: Again, kudos to the hotel staff. All staff members at all levels were helpful and courteous and responded quickly to meet our needs when requested. Loved the \$11 meal the hotel made available. About 100 people showed up for that, which was what we hoped for. Any security problems because of multiple groups? Not really, just a minor one. A neighbor on the sixth floor didn't want to move but did wind up moving. Pleased there was plenty of water everywhere. Jerry: probably need to think a little more about signage. Thought didn't need that because we'd been here before but there are people who haven't been here before. Burdick's went from kind of two restaurants to one. Had talked about when rushes would be. Didn't follow as well. Made it really busy at times.

REGISTRATIONS: District Treasurer Robb Smith informed us that we had 525 pre-registrations and 81 on-site registrations for a total of 606 full-paid registrations, down about 150 from an average convention. Robb reported 28 partial registrations for Friday night, 57 partials for the Saturday chorus contest and 55 for the finals for a total of 139 partial registrations, pretty average. We had 99 complementary registrations and Kalamazoo used 61 complimentary registrations.

AUDITORIUM: Marv Burke said the stage is too ``blah,`` even a couple fake trees would improve that. Roger Lewis suggested barbershop-oriented décor. Several suggested more pipe and drape to give more intimacy. Continue to get questions about getting a curtain. Tried one Macomb had. Cheapest one would be \$2,000 and cheaper ones have more mechanical issues. Most districts are moving to flat floor non-auditorium events. Big screen is in the black, doing well. Made some adjustments at judges request to make sure there was enough sound in the back.

JUDGE'S SERVICES: Nothing but kudos. Roger Lewis: Don't think we can praise Ron Eubank highly enough. Judges write down first choices and we wind up first choice repeatedly because of that.

HARMONY FOUNDATION RAFFLE: Had 1,266 tickets, \$1018. Would have sold more if had more on the floor. Need more aprons. Bill Mason won the Wii. All 1,900 raffle tickets were sold out with \$1,588 being raised Betsey Allen won the TV with second and third prizes going to Carl Jones and Ron Gillian. George Bartlett second and Bruce Murton was second

BARBERSHOPPERS SHOP: Total sales for the week-end: \$5,120 in sales. Sent us the most stuff they ever sent us which helped sales. New Society policies and Jerilyn Evans in Nashville really helped with that.

MISCELLANEOUS

Joe Barbershopper Chorus wasn't well-attended. Only 20 men on stage. Didn't have a well-known ``name`` director but in spring QCA will be the nucleus of that and will promote ``singing with the champions.`` May have a ``uniform`` where you pay \$10 for a singing with the champs T-shirt and

directing will be done by QCA.

The worship service was not well-attended. Not much for signage or promotion on Pionet. Did get \$120 for the Youth in Harmony Fund.

Hospitality suites were well-attended.

Future conventions:

2010

Kalamazoo, spring

Grand Rapids, fall

2011

Mount Pleasant, fall

Kalamazoo, spring

2012

Battle Creek, spring

Battle Creek, fall

2013

Traverse City, spring

Kalamazoo, fall

ADJOURNMENT: After thank-yous to the hotel and to the Traverse City Chapter Members, and the singing of “Keep the Whole World Singing,” the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Serwach

Pioneer District Secretary
