



LASTING FRIENDSHIPS – ENDURING MUSIC

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

August 2018

July has come and gone, and once more we had an event packed month. International Convention in Orlando started off the month. The Varsity Youth Barbershop Contest saw Pioneer's very own Frontier Quartet bring home the Gold! Congratulations to those four young men who have been making Pioneer proud for so many years already. Your hard work and efforts have paid off for you with the ultimate prize, and Pioneer is very proud of you!

The Quartet contest brought even more excitement to Pioneer. Frontier place in the top 20, finishing in 18th place (82.1%). They brought the house down with their rendition of Do You Know The Muffin Man! Also making Pioneer proud were Upper Deck, finishing in 36th Place (78.9%) and The Hemidemisemiquaver 4 finishing in 38th place (78.5%).

In the Chorus Contest, the Great Lakes Chorus, with 51 men on stage scored an impressive 82.4% (with an 86% Performance Category score for one of their songs!). The Chorus placed 17th in the contest, but again were the talk of the convention floor for their moving performance of Tell My Father. Job well done to the Grand Rapids Chapter!

One other bit of congratulations is in order. Pioneer's own Ron Eubank was a part of the judging panel for International this year. Congratulations to Ron for being selected to be one of the C.A.'s for the International Contests this year. A great honor for Ron, and for Pioneer.

The Leadership Summit took place in Nashville the weekend before Harmony University. At those meetings current and future leaders from across the Society came to discuss many important aspects of the role of leaders in our organization.

Harmony University was once again held at Belmont University in Nashville at the end of the month. This week of intensive fun, learning (and ice cream!) is always a worthwhile endeavor. Each Chapter should consider how they want to support themselves, and the District, by sending music leaders, and future leaders to this great week of Barbershop emersion. Everyone that attends comes back refreshed and energized, filled with new and exciting ideas to bring back to their respective chapters.

As we move into the fall and winter of 2018 I know the District Board will be looking at ways that we can help each Chapter as we move forward with the Society's goal of Everyone In Harmony. We are looking to Nashville for additional guidance on this program, but your District Executive

Vice president, Joe McDonald and I have already begun working with facilitators and trainers to bring you a new Leadership Summit for the District which will focus on what Everyone In Harmony can mean to you, to your Chapter and your District. As I have noted before, we are in uncharted waters here, but we are looking forward to seeing what the future will bring.

As we work into August, September and October I know many are already working hard to hone their singing skills for our Convention in Battle Creek in October. Hotel registration is already available online through our District website (www.pioneerdistrict.org) and registration for the convention itself will be active soon. I know I am looking forward to lots of great singing, fellowship, and did I mention singing!!!! I look forward to see you there.

If, at any time, you have anything you want to ask me, or have the Board review or address, feel free to contact me by email at pio.district.pres@gmail.com. I will do my best to get back to you in an appropriate amount of time, or put you in contact with the appropriate member of the District Board.

Dave Montera
2018 President – Pioneer District