



*Fifty Golden Years
Of Harmony*



50th Anniversary logo design by:
Sig Potembski, East Aurora Chapter

Contributing writers from each chapter
and other members of the Seneca Land District

compiled, edited, and *layout by:
Bob Coant
SLD 50th Anniversary Chairman

It has indeed been a pleasure and an honor to have worked on this project along with former district historian, Carl Fallman and district historian, Carl Smith. I cannot begin to tell you how many man (and women - thanks girls!) hours went into this book. We dedicate this book to you, the members of the Seneca Land District, the people whom this book is all about, so you can all enjoy the fruits of our labor. All of my life I have always wondered if anyone would remember me when I was gone. This book is about our brother barbershoppers, many who have left us. This book is also dedicated to those people, the ones who are responsible for giving us our beginning. Thank you for fifty wonderful years of love, friendship and memories. Here's to the next fifty!

*A very special THANK YOU to my dear friend Chris Scappatura of the Ontario District who allowed us to virtually copy his work. His work on the Ontario District 50th Anniversary book was the inspiration and blueprint for this book.

Bob Coant, SLD 50th Anniversary Chmn.



Foreword

Mike Morgan, SLD Barbershopping pioneer



The subtitle of H. G. Wells' *The Outline Of History* is "The Whole Story of Man," a phrase that might be considered a bit presumptuous, or even cheeky...for who could ever claim that he has put the whole story of *anything* in a few hundred pages of text? Most historians, however, are like that. They universally wish to assure their readers that nothing has been left out of their works.

Not so Bob Coant. When Bob took on the daunting task of reducing the fifty year history of Seneca Land District to a few dozen pages of photos and type, he realized that reviewing and recounting the minutes of every board of directors meeting would have been, if at all possible, time consuming to say the least. Thus the dialogue of every debate, the name of every quartet and chorus, the complete scoring summary of every contest and the rest of the minutiae that have brought the district to this date have not been included.

When I asked Bob what guided his effort, he put it plainly and simply: He wanted to produce a "coffee table book," one that barbershop lovers in the district would enjoy keeping at hand for moments of reflection. In this, he has succeeded.

For several years, Bob has begged, entreated and cajoled the "old timers" of the district for their input and lore. He has dutifully asked the right questions and listened carefully to the responses, but has recorded only that which in his best judgment would interest the reader. Yet, it is more complete than I would have predicted. When I viewed the first draft, I found myself wondering from whence had come photos of such quartets as the Compressaires, the O-At-Kans and the Note Crackers.

This history is sensibly arranged, as all histories should be, chronologically. From the earliest moments of the district's affiliation with the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America, its most significant events have been recorded.

At this publication, there are members of the Seneca Land District who were there at or near the beginning, and who knew the people and remember the names, places and events first-hand. For them, this book will provide many pleasant moments of nostalgia. For those who have more recently joined the district ranks, it will provide knowledge and an important reference resource.

For those who are yet to come, and they will be countless, let us hope that the pages of this publication will provide an appreciation of the past, and an inspiration for the future.



About the author...

Bob Coant, SLD 50th Anniversary Chairman



Bob Coant was born June 29, 1958 in Oswego, NY. He attended the Fulton school systems and graduated in June, 1976. He considers himself one of the "lucky ones" to have found barbershop-ping as a teenager. When he was 18 years old, he joined the Oswego Valley Snowbelters chorus in Oswego and that was in November of 1977.

On April 24, 1979, he met Lynne, who was asked by her friend to help out with the make-up for the Oswego chapter show. Bob just happened to be the show chairman for the show that year. The two started dating and in just 5 weeks, they were engaged. They married on October 20, 1979 with George and Daisy Hort, their best friends who literally put them together, standing up for them.

They made their home in Fulton where Bob opened his own medical billing business and Lynne continued on as a Licensed Practical Nurse. Christopher Robert was born on August 24, 1981 with brother, Brandon Joseph following on March 20, 1985. A very interesting fact is that Bob and Lynne lived less than one-half a mile from each other their whole lives and never knew each other until they were introduced at a barbershop show!

He became an Eagle Scout at the age of 15 in 1974 and received the "Meritorious Award" for saving a life. He was a volunteer firefighter/EMT for ten years and was named "Firefighter of the Year" in 1994. He received the "Distinguished Citizen of the Year" award by the Mayor of Fulton that same year for his work with children and senior citizens for his work in the Fire Prevention program. An entire family was actually saved because of his efforts in this program.

Bob has held every chapter office except treasurer, served as show chairman 12 times, singing Valentines chairman, and has twice been named B.O.T.Y. On the district level, he held the positions of Area Counselor, Division VP, District Music Educator, YMIH VP (Young Men In Harmony), Executive VP, District President and SLD 50th Anniversary Chairman. He was named District B.O.T.Y. in 1989 and was elected to the Seneca Land District Hall of Fame in 2001 along with Cornerstone. He won the District Quartet Championship in 1997 and the 1995 Buckeye Invitational Quartet Championship with Cornerstone. He currently serves as Society Board Member for SLD and M-AD and is a Presentation Candidate Judge.



50th Anniversary District President's Message

Jim Putman



Welcome to the history of the Seneca Land District. It is a great pleasure to have the opportunity to serve as President of Seneca Land during this anniversary year. I think of the many good men who have had the honor to serve this District. On behalf of all the members, I would like to thank Bob Coant and the many who have contributed and helped in the development of this book. There were many hours and a few years of dedication that went into making this publication a success. A 50th Anniversary is a milestone in any type of organization. The growth that started in 1952 must be continued through increased participation, so others can enjoy our hobby.

Take a trip through the years of the chapters that have made up the Seneca Land District through this 50 years. Many are still active, others are no longer chartered, a few have merged to make a bigger and better chapter, and yet others were dissolved, with a few of them starting again with a new charter. Reminisce through the history of our chapters, who were our District Quartet and Chorus champions, and our quartet and chorus representatives to International, as well as the men who have presided over the Seneca Land District and possibly went on to Society offices. As you read through this book, think of all the fond memories you may have. I think of all the conventions I have attended or participated in and the many great friends I have made. A simple "Thank You" would not be appropriate. "Thanks a Million" to Seneca Land and may we keep the District singing for another 50 years.



50th Anniversary Chairman's Message

Bob Coant



In late summer of 1996, I mentioned to then, District President, Andy Nazzaro that many of the other districts were planning their 50th anniversary celebrations. It became apparent to us that there was no way we could whip 50 years of history up in just a few months. So, Andy and I arbitrarily decided that since we did not officially become *Seneca Land* until 1952, this would "buy" us the time necessary to do the job properly. We may be the only district in the Society that will actually be covering 56 years (1946-2002) in our 50th anniversary celebration?

What you are now reading is almost 5 years of research and countless hours of sleepless nights. I can only tell you all that it may have been the most rewarding and FUN five years I have spent in my 25 years of this wonderful hobby. I hope all who read this book enjoy the fruits of our collective labors. I thank all of our SLD forefathers who allowed those of us who followed them, the opportunity to enjoy what we have become today. They started it all and now it is OUR responsibility to preserve this hobby for future generations to come!

A very special thank you to my family, Lynne, Christopher and Brandon for allowing me to work on this project many nights when I should have been a husband and a father. I love you all!



The History



of the

Seneca Land District

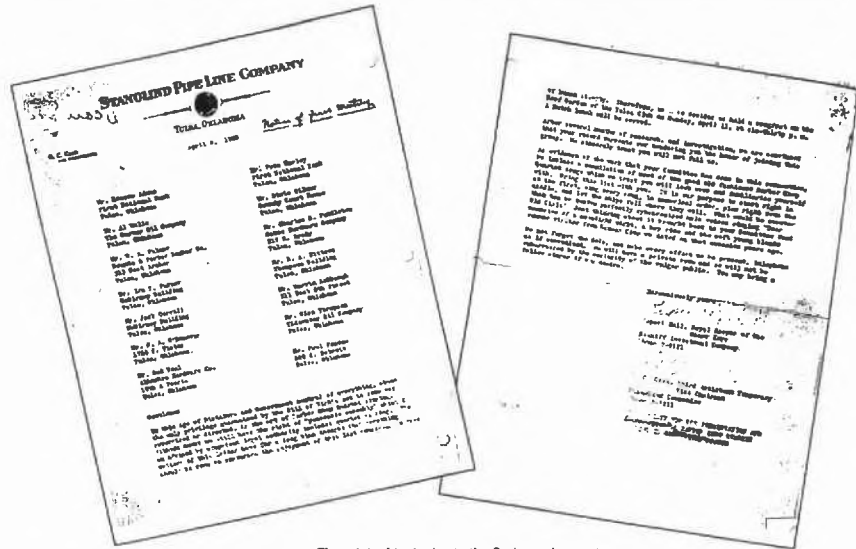




In the very beginning...



Owen Clifton Cash
Feb. 13, 1892-Aug. 15, 1953



*The original invitation to the first meeting
sent by O.C. Cash.*

(ORIGINAL INVITATION)

April 8, 1938

In this age of Dictators and Government control of everything, about the only privilege guaranteed by the Bill of Rights not in some way supervised or directed, is the art of Barber Shop Quartet singing. Without doubt we still have the right of "peaceable assembly" which I am advised by competent legal authority includes quartet singing. The writers of this letter have for a long time thought that something should be done to encourage the enjoyment of this last remaining vestige of human liberty. Therefore, we have decided to hold a songfest on the Roof Garden of the Tulsa Club on Monday, April 11, at six-thirty p.m. A Dutch lunch will be served.

After several months of research, and investigation, we are convinced that your record warrants our tendering you the honor of joining this group. We sincerely trust you will not fail us.

As evidence of the work that your Committee has done in this connection, we enclose a compilation of most of the good old fashioned Barber Shop Quartet songs which we trust you will look over and familiarize yourself with. Bring this list with you. It is our purpose to start right in at the first, sing every song, in numerical order, plow right down the middle, and let the chips fall where they will. What could be sweeter than ten or twelve perfectly synchronized male voices singing "Dear Old Girt?" Just thinking about it brought back to your Committee fond memories of a moonlight night, a hay ride and the soft young blonde summer visitor from Kansas City we dated on that occasion years ago.

Do not forget the date, and make every effort to be present, telephone us if convenient. We will have a private room and so will not be embarrassed by the curiosity of the vulgar public. You may bring a fellow singer if you desire.

Harmoniously yours,

RUPERT HALL. Royal Keeper of the Minor Keys—Braniff Investment Company Phone 2-9121
O. C. CASH. Third Asst. Temporary Vice Chairman—Stanolind Companies Phone 2-3211

The Society for the Preservation and Propagation of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in the United States



The dawn of a new district.

(The Central-Western New York District is born.)

The *Central-Western New York District Association of Chapters of SPEBSQSA, Inc.* was chartered in early 1946. The very first letter of invitation went out on October 31, 1945 and was written by **Phil Embury** of the Warsaw, NY chapter. This letter was addressed to all chapter presidents and secretaries of the proposed Central-Western New York District. The organizational meeting was held on Saturday, November 10, 1945 in the Iroquois Room at the Statler Hotel in Buffalo, NY at 2:00 p.m.

Attending that first meeting from the Society office were International Secretary, **Carroll P. Adams** and Immediate Past International President, **Hal Staab**. Attending from the 'proposed' district were **Edward Vincent**, Binghamton, **Robert McFerron** and **Merrill Pollard** of Buffalo, **Kenneth Marks**, Elmira, **William Coddington** and **Raymond Moore** of East Aurora, **Karl Smith**, **Marshall Brooks**, and **Fred Crossett** of Endicott, **David Maloney**, **Mac O'Brien**, and **Stan Stever**, Honeys Falls, **Preston Hoskin** and **Al Read** from Jamestown, **H.P. Kornet**, **S. Clark Seelye**, **Al Smith** of Rochester and **A.G. Litteer**, **Robert Arnold**, and **Phil Embury** of Warsaw. There were three guests, **Bob Montgomery**, **Frank Kartan**, and **Alfred Neale** from Toronto.

Immediate Past International President, **Hal Staab** was elected Temporary Chairman and International Secretary, **Carroll Adams** was elected Temporary Secretary. Chairman Staab called on Carroll Adams to outline the experiences of other districts in the Society, including Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, and Mid-Atlantic. Staab added some timely remarks and predicted there would be a Northeastern District in the very near future which would include the New England States and Eastern New York.

Those present voted unanimously to apply for a charter for the District and to proceed to adopt a constitution and to elect officers. A sample pattern of constitution was read and was adopted with a few minor changes. The following nominating committee was then appointed: Robert McFarren, Chairman, Ken Marks and Sam Seelye. While the nominating committee was deliberating the group sang several songs, including "America", "God Save the King", and "The Old Songs." The report of the nominating committee was adopted and the following officers were unanimously elected: President, Bill Coddington, Vice-President, Merrill Pollard, Vice-President, Nick Kornet, Secretary, Ray Moore, and Treasurer, Karl Smith.

President Coddington then took the chair and general plans of procedure were discussed. At the close of the meeting President Coddington announced that the officers would meet with Messrs. Staab and Adams the following morning at 9:30 a.m. Adjournment was taken at 5:15 p.m.

(The above information was transcribed by **Bob Coant** directly from a copy of the actual minutes taken of the first organizational meeting held November 10, 1945. The official charter does not come until September 10, 1946).

1946

- Our young district crowns its first champions, The Melo-Tones from the Buffalo, NY Chapter.



President: William Coddington
East Aurora, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: n/a

Number of members: n/a

Spring Convention: n/a

Fall Convention: n/a

International Convention:
Cleveland, OH (JAD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Melo-Tones
Buffalo, NY

Chorus: 1st championship
awarded in 1953

International Reps:
Quartet: no qt. reps until 1948
Chorus: no chorus reps until 1954



District Quartet Champion

Melo-Tones
Buffalo, NY (L-R)

Tenor: Jim Jeffries
Lead: Marv Adams
Bass: Hank Lewis
Bari: Don Van Stone

International Quartet Reps

**no Seneca Land District
reps until 1948**



District Executive:
President: William Coddington
Vice-Pres.: Merrill Pollard/Nick Kornet
Treasurer: Karl Smith
Secretary: Roy Moore/Phil Embury
International Board Member: n/a



- *Keep America Singing*, words music and arrangement by Willis Diekema, was first sung at the Milwaukee Convention. It received instant acclaim and was later adopted as Society's motto song.

1947

District Quartet Champion

Velvatoness

Binghamton &
Johnson City, NY (L-R)

Tenor: Robert Barnes
Lead: Gene Farrell
Bass: Bert Tinney
Bari: Francis McDonald



International Quartet Reps

no Seneca Land District
reps until 1948

President: Homer Scott
Geneva, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: n/a

Number of members: n/a

Spring Convention: n/a

Fall Convention: Oct. 25-27
Eastman Theater
Rochester, NY

International Convention:
Milwaukee, WI (LOL)

District Champions:
Quartet: Velvatoness
Bing./Johnson City, NY

Chorus: 1st championship
awarded in 1953

International Reps:
Quartet: no qt. reps until 1948
Chorus: no chorus reps until 1954



District Executive:
President: Homer Scott
Vice-Pres.: n/a
Treasurer: n/a
Secretary: Charles Glover
International Board Member: William Coddington

1948

- The Buffalo Bills win the district quartet championship in Hornell, NY.
- 1945 International Champions, The Misfits attend our Fall convention.



President: Charles Glover
Jamestown, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: n/a

Number of members: n/a

Spring Convention: May 1-3
Geneva, NY

Fall Convention: Oct. 16
Hornell, NY

International Convention:
Oklahoma City, OK (CSD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Buffalo Bills
Buffalo, NY

Chorus: 1st championship
awarded in 1953

International Reps:
Quartet: Buffalo Bills (9th)
Notecrackers (n/a)

Chorus: no chorus reps until 1954



District Quartet Champion

Buffalo Bills
Buffalo, NY

Tenor: Vern Reed
Lead: Al Shea
Bass: Bill Spangenberg
Bari: Hershel Smith



International Quartet Reps

Buffalo Bills
Buffalo, NY (see above)

Velvatones
Bing./Johnson City, NY
Tenor: Robert Barnes
Lead: Gene Farrell
Bass: Bert Tinney
Bari: Francis McDonald



District Executive:

President: Charles Glover

V-Pres.: Sherman Slocum, Frank Burke, Alex Grabhorn,
Al M. Learned

Treasurer: William H. Hotchkiss

Secretary: Carl K. Sidle/Charles Glover

International Board Member: Homer Scott/Wm. Coddington



- Our Society starts "certification" of contest judges.

1949



District Quartet Champion

Notecrackers
Roch./Genesee, NY

Tr: Clayton DeLong (M)
Lead: Wayne Foor (L)
Bass: Earl Parr (F)
Bari: Bob Gale (R)

International Quartet Reps

Buffalo Bills
Buffalo, NY

Tenor: Vern Reed
Lead: Al Shea
Bass: Bill Spangenberg
Bari: Dick Grapes



Velvatones
Binghamton, NY

Tenor: Robert Barnes
Lead: Gene Farrell
Bass: Bert Tinney
Bari: Francis McDonald



President: Alex Grabhorn
Buffalo, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: n/a

Number of members: n/a

Spring Convention: Apr. 30
Syracuse, NY (Onondaga)

Fall Convention: n/a

International Convention:
Kleinhans Hall
Buffalo, NY

District Champions:
Quartet: Notecrackers
Roch./Genesee, NY

Chorus: 1st championship
awarded in 1953

International Reps: (40 quartets)
Quartet: Buffalo Bills (6th)
Velvatones (31st)

Chorus: no chorus reps until 1954



District Executive:
President: Alex Grabhorn
V-Pres.: Sherman Slocum/Frank Burke
Treasurer: William Hotchkiss
Secretary: Dr. Howard Foote
International Board Member: Homer Scott

1950

- The Buffalo Bills brings home our first (and only to date) International Quartet Championship in Omaha, NE in 1950.



President: Garry Cornick
Binghamton, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: n/a

Number of members: n/a

Spring Convention: May 6-8
Olean, NY

Fall Convention: Oct. 28-30
Ithaca, NY

International Convention:
Omaha, NE (CSD)

District Champions:

Quartet: O-At-Kans

Chorus: 1st championship
awarded in 1953

International Reps: (40 quartets)

Quartet: Buffalo Bills (1st)
Clark Angles (28th)
O-At-Kans (30th)

Chorus: no chorus reps until 1954

Buffalo Bills*
1950 International Quartet
Champions



District Quartet Champion

O-At-Kans
Warsaw, NY

Tenor: Francis Fitch
Lead: Bob Arnold
Bass: Dave Grove
Bari: John Hooker

International Quartet Reps

Buffalo Bills*

Buffalo, NY
Tenor: Vern Reed
Lead: Al Shea
Bass: Bill Spangenberg
Bari: Dick Grapes



O-At-Kans (above)
Warsaw, NY

Clark Angles

Olean, NY
Tenor: Joe Lee
Lead: Charles Keller
Bass: Hugh Lafferty
Bari: James Thompson



Picture not
available

District Executive:

President: Garry Cornick

V-Pres.: Pat McPhillips/Alan S. Brown

Treasurer: Jack Nelson

Secretary: Jack Harby

International Board Member: Alex Grabhorn



- The Notecrackers become International Finalists in 1951 and 1952.

1951



District Quartet Champion

Compress-Aires
Painted Post, NY

Tenor: Hank Whitter
Lead: Bob Hughes
Bass: Hugh Olmstead
Bari: Jerry McIlwain

International Quartet Reps

O-At-Kans
Warsaw, NY

Tenor: Francis Fitch
Lead: Bob Arnold
Bass: Dave Grove
Bari: John Hooker

Notecrackers
Rochester/Genesee, NY

Tenor: Clayton Delong (M)
Lead: Wayne Foor (L)
Bass: Earl Parr (F)
Bari: Bob Gale (R)



President: Pat McPhillips
Rochester, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: n/a

Number of members: n/a

Spring Convention: Apr. 29-30
Hornell, NY

Fall Convention: Oct. 27-29
Bradford, PA

International Convention:
Toledo, OH (JAD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Compress-Aires
Chorus: 1st championship
awarded in 1953

International Reps: (40 quartets)
Quartet: Notecrackers (11th)
O-At-Kans (26th)

Chorus: no chorus reps until 1954



District Executive:
President: Pat McPhillips
V-Pres.: Alan S. Brown/William Hotchkiss
Treasurer: Jack Nelson
Secretary: Warner Bullock
International Board Member: Alex Grabhorn

1952

- Concept of "barbershop craft" originated by Dr. Harold Arberg and was first tried out in the Alexandria, VA. Chapter.



President: Kenneth Phinney
Kenmore, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: n/a

Number of members: n/a

Spring Convention: May 3-5
Painted Post, NY

Fall Convention: Oct. 25-26
Franklin-Oil City, PA

International Convention:
Kansas City, MO (CSD)

District Champions:

Quartet: Geneseans

Chorus: 1st championship
awarded in 1953

International Reps: (40 quartets)

Quartet: Notecrackers (11th)
O-At-Kans (25th)

Chorus: no chorus reps until 1954



District Quartet Champion

Geneseans

Roch./Genesee, NY

Tenor: Tom O'Rourke

Lead: Paul Sweetland

Bass: Burt Kirby

Bari: George Aklin

International Quartet Reps

O-At-Kans

Warsaw, NY

Tenor: Francis Fitch

Lead: Bob Arnold

Bass: Dave Grove

Bari: John Hooker

Notecrackers

Rochester/Genesee, NY

Tenor: Clayton Delong (M)

Lead: Wayne Foor (L)

Bass: Earl Parr (F)

Bari: Bob Gale (R)



Picture not
available

District Executive:

President: Kenneth Phinney

V-Pres.: Pete DePaolis/Jerid Stine

Treasurer: Bill Bower

Secretary: Warner Bullock

International Board Member: Paul F. DePaolis



Choruses



Debut



in 1953





President: Jerid Stine
Painted Post, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: n/a

Number of members: n/a

Spring Convention: May 2-4
Binghamton, NY

Fall Convention: n/a

International Convention:
Detroit, MI (PIO)

District Champions:

Quartet: Chord Cadets

Chorus: 1st championship
awarded in 1953

International Reps: (n/a)

Quartet: O-At-Kans (n/a)
Notecrackers (n/a)

Chorus: no chorus reps until 1954



District Quartet Champion

Chord Cadets
Warren, PA

Tenor: Boyd Sanden
Lead: Bob Dietsch
Bass: Jim Cruickshank
Bari: Earl Erickson

International Quartet Reps

O-At-Kans
Warsaw, NY

Tenor: Francis Fitch
Lead: Bob Arnold
Bass: Dave Grove
Bari: John Hooker

Notecrackers
Rochester/Genesee, NY

Tenor: Clayton Delong (M)
Lead: Wayne Foor (L)
Bass: Earl Parr (F)
Bari: Bob Gale (R)



District Executive:

President: Jerid Stine

V-Pres.: S. Wayne Foor/Sidney Violet

Treasurer: George Morlock

Secretary: Harold Whitten

International Board Member: Paul F. DePaolis

- First contest for choruses was at the 1953, Detroit, MI International Convention. Some contestants were selected by their district president since district chorus contests did not yet exist in all districts.

1953

District Chorus Champions



Genesee Chapter

Rochester, NY

Director: Louie Ugino

International Chorus Reps

no International chorus reps until 1954



President: Jerid Stine
Painted Post, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: n/a

Number of members: n/a

Spring Convention: May 8-10
Buffalo, NY (Kleinhan's Hall)

Fall Convention: Oct 30-Nov 1
Canandaigua, NY

International Convention:
Washington, DC (MAD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Chordmasters
Chorus: Gowanda, NY

International Reps: (40 quartets)
Quartet: Notecrackers (9th)
Compress-Aires (12th)

Chorus: The Plaster Busters
Olean, NY
(21st of 21)



District Quartet Champion

Chordmasters
Binghamton, NY

Tenor: Bill Monroe
Lead: Jack Kanick
Bass: Bill Burch
Bari: Jack Mungle

International Quartet Reps

Compress-Aires
Painted Post, NY

Tenor: Hank Whitter
Lead: Bob Hughes
Bass: Hugh Olmstead
Bari: Jerry McIlwain

Notecrackers
Rochester/Genesee, NY

Tenor: Clayton Delong (M)
Lead: Wayne Foor (L)
Bass: Earl Parr (F)
Bari: Bob Gale (R)



District Executive:
President: Jerid Stine
V-Pres.: S. Wayne Foor, Sidney Violet
Treasurer: George Morlock
Secretary: Harold E. Whitten
International Board Member: Paul F. DePaolis

- Our Society's first International Chorus Champions are crowned.
- The 8th Annual Sweet Adelines Inc. International Convention is held in Buffalo, NY at Kleinhan's Hall on October 23, 1954.

1954

District Chorus Champions



Kings of Persia

Gowanda, NY

Director: Robert Palcic

International Chorus Reps



The Plaster Busters (21st place)

Olean, NY

Director: n/a



President: S. Wayne Foor
Rochester, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: n/a

Number of members: n/a

Spring Convention: n/a

Fall Convention: Nov. 5
Corning, NY

International Convention:
Miami, FL (SUN)

District Champions:

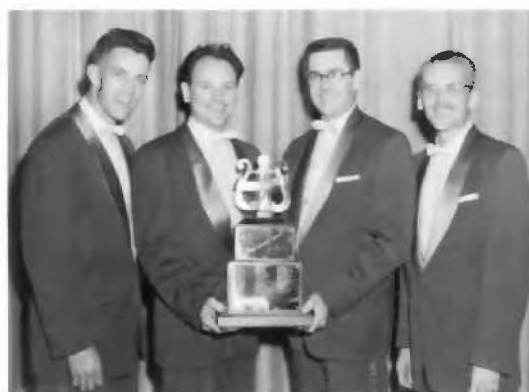
Quartet: Flower City Four
Roch./Genesee, NY

Chorus: The Plaster Busters
Olean, NY

International Reps: (40 quartets)

Quartet: Compress-Aires (8th)
Chordmasters (34th)

Chorus: The Plaster Busters
Olean, NY
(10th of 10)



District Quartet Champion

Flower City Four
Roch./Genesee, NY

Tenor: Rudy Reger
Lead: Frank Gallegher
Bass: Howard Burke
Bari: Paul Sweetland

International Quartet Reps

Compress-Aires
Painted Post, NY

Tenor: Hank Whitter
Lead: Bob Hughes
Bass: Hugh Olmstead
Bari: Jerry McIlwain

Chordmasters
Bing./Johnson City, NY

Tenor: Bill Monroe
Lead: Jack Kanick
Bass: Bill Burch
Bari: Jack Mungle



District Executive:

President: S. Wayne Foor

V-Pres.: Harold Whitten/Howard Thompson

Treasurer: George Morlock

Secretary: George Acklin

International Board Member: Paul F. DePaolis

- "President's Workshop" is first district training session for chapter presidents, staged by Harold Schultz. This was the what would become known as COTS (Chapter Officer Training Seminar).

1955

District Chorus Champions



The Plaster Busters

Olean, NY

Director: n/a

International Chorus Reps



The Plaster Busters (10th place)

Olean, NY

Director: n/a



President: S. Wayne Foor
Rochester, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: 33

Number of members: 1222

Spring Convention: May 4-6
Warren, PA

Fall Convention: Nov. 3
Auburn, NY

International Convention:
Minneapolis, MN (LOL)

District Champions:

Quartet: Quantitones
Buffalo, NY

Chorus: Conewango Clippers
Warren, PA

International Reps: (32 quartets)

Quartet: Quantitones (26th)
Chordmasters (28th)

Chorus: Genesee Golden Notes
Rochester, NY
(11th of 14)



District Quartet Champion

Quantitones
Buffalo, NY

Tenor: Art Farrell
Lead: Joe Durso
Bass: Jim Ackerman
Bari: Tony Brandt

International Quartet Reps

Quantitones
Buffalo, NY

Tenor: Art Farrell
Lead: Joe Durso
Bass: Jim Ackerman
Bari: Tony Brandt

Chordmasters
Bing./Johnson City, NY

Tenor: Bill Monroe
Lead: Jack Kanick
Bass: Bill Burch
Bari: Jack Mungle



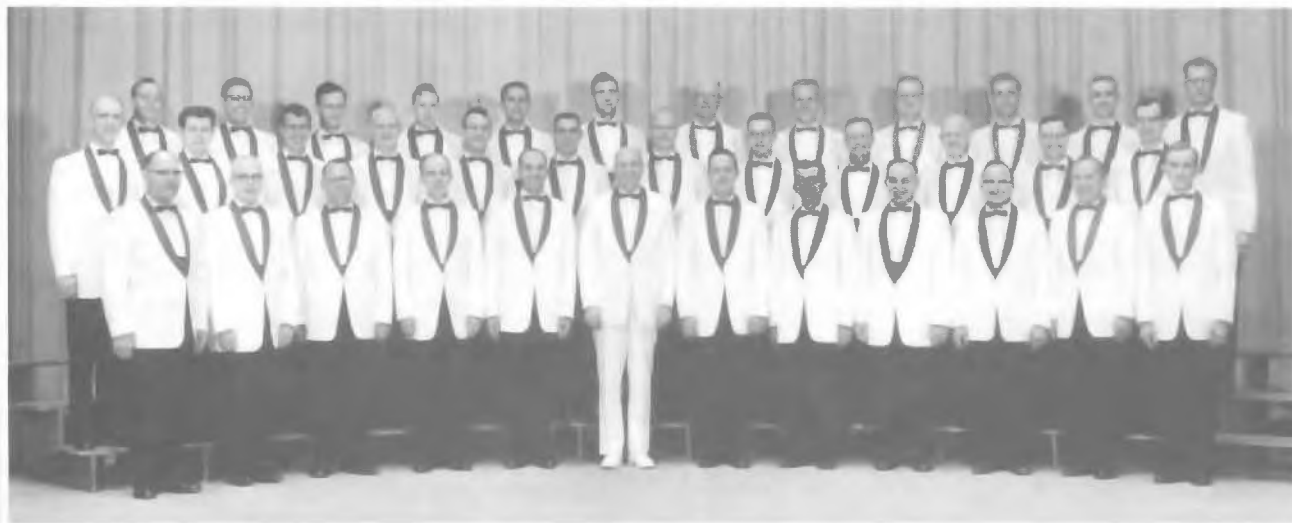
District Executive:

President: S. Wayne Foor
V-Pres.: (1st VP) Gordon Clark, (2nd VP) Kendrick King
Treasurer: George Morlock
Secretary: George Acklin
Chief Area Counselor: James Steedman
International Board Member: Kenneth Phinney

- 6 choruses and 11 quartets compete in Auburn, NY for the Fall contest.
- PROBE (Public Relations and Bulletin Editor) is born at Denver, CO Mid-Winter meeting.

1956

District Chorus Champions



Conewango Clippers

Warren, PA

Director: Earl Erickson

International Chorus Reps



Genesee Golden Notes (11th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Louie Ugino



President: James Steedman
Kenmore, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: 33

Number of members: 1245

Spring Convention: May 4-6
Olean, NY

Fall Convention: Nov. 1-3
Canandaigua, NY

International Convention:
Minneapolis, MN (LOL)

District Champions:
Quartet: Rollingtones
Jamestown, NY

Chorus: Kings of Persia
Gowanda, NY

International Reps: (41 quartets)
Quartet: Flower City Four (37th)
O-At-Kans (38th)

Chorus: Conewango Clippers
Warren, PA
(9th of 11)



District Quartet Champion

Rollingtones
Jamestown, NY

Tenor: Wally Carlson
Lead: John Berenguer, Sr
Bass: Bob Hitchcock
Bari: Dave Finnemore

International Quartet Reps

O-At-Kans
Warsaw, NY

Tenor: Francis Fitch
Lead: Bob Arnold
Bass: Dave Grove
Bari: John Hooker

Flower City Four
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Rudy Reger
Lead: Frank Gallegher
Bass: Howard Burke
Bari: Paul Sweetland



District Executive:
President: James Steedman
Vice-Pres.: George Acklin/Kenneth Brownell
Treasurer: Kenneth Burge
Secretary: Art Farrell
I.P.P.: S. Wayne Foor
International Board Member: Kenneth Phinney

- Buffalo Bills open *The Music Man* on Broadway performing more than 1500 shows.
- Society purchases the Alford Mansion and moves headquarters to Kenosha, WI.

1957

District Chorus Champions



Canandaigua

Canandaigua, NY

Director: Howard Tappan

International Chorus Reps



Conewango Clippers (9th place)

Warren, PA

Director: Earl Erickson



- The Society's first chorus director's school is held on August 1-3, 1958 at Harmony Hall in Kenosha, WI.

President: James Steedman
Kenmore, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: 34

Number of members: 1231

Spring Convention: n/a

Fall Convention: Oct. 31-Nov. 2
Geneva, NY

International Convention:
Columbus, OH (JAD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Dominotes
Warren, PA

Chorus: Genesee
Rochester, NY

International Reps: (40 quartets)
Quartet: Quantitones (29th)
Dominotes (37th)

Chorus: Conewango Clippers
Warren, PA
(12th of 13)



District Quartet Champion

Dominotes
Warren, PA

Tenor: Howard Johnson
Lead: Bob Dietch
Bass: Jim Cruickshank
Bari: Carl Johnson

International Quartet Reps

Dominotes
Warren, PA

Tenor: Bob Dietsch
Lead: Jim Cruickshank
Bass: Howard Johnson
Bari: Carl Johnson

Quantitones
Buffalo, NY

Tenor: Art Farrell
Lead: Joe Durso
Bass: Jim Ackerman
Bari: Tony Brandt



District Executive:
President: James Steedman
Exec. VP: George Acklin
Treasurer: Kenneth Burge
Secretary: Art Farrell
I.P.P.: S. Wayne Foor
International Board Member: S. Wayne Foor

- The Society uses the quarter-final, semi-final, and finalist format at International for the first time in Columbus, OH.

1958

District Chorus Champions

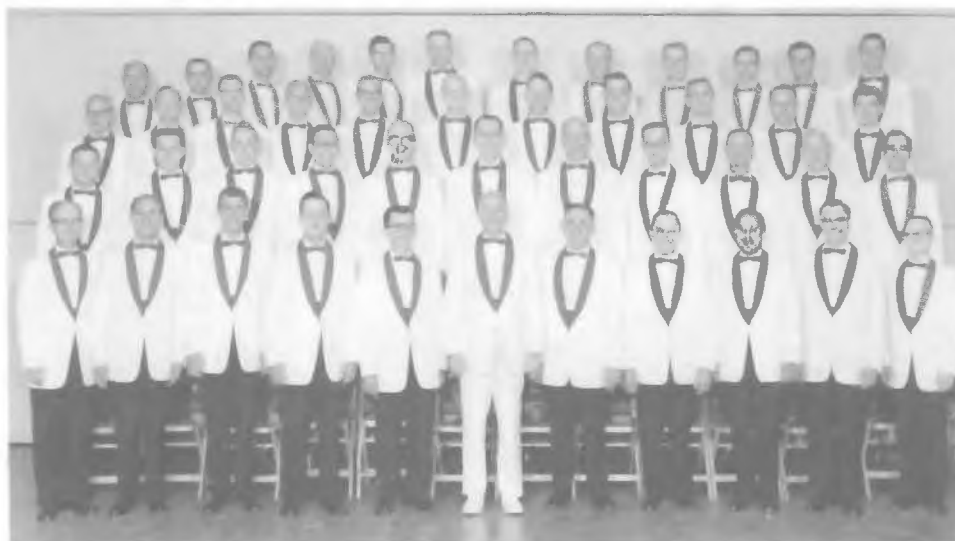


Genesee Golden Notes

Rochester, NY

Director: Louie Ugino

International Chorus Reps



Conewango Clippers (12th place)

Warren, PA

Director: Earl Erickson



President: James Steedman
Kenmore, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: 33

Number of members: 1154

Spring Convention: n/a

Fall Convention: n/a

International Convention:
Chicago, IL (ILL)

District Champions:
Quartet: Akoosti-Katz
Olean, NY

Chorus: Seneca Braves
Warren, PA

International Reps: (40 quartets)
Quartet: Rollingtones (38th)
Brad-Four-Tones (40th)

Chorus: Conewango Clippers
Warren, PA
(12th of 14)



District Quartet Champion

Akoosti-Katz
Olean, NY

Tenor: Billie Lucas
Lead: Doug Warren
Bass: John Brook
Bari: Larry Swift

International Quartet Reps

Rollingtones
Jamestown, NY

Tenor: Wally Carlson
Lead: Bob Hitchcock
Bass: John Berenguer, Sr.
Bari: Dave Finnemore

Brad-Four-Tones
Bradford, PA

Tenor: Howard Yingst (L)
Lead: Bill Monroe (2-L)
Bass: Bill McCord (R)
Bari: Larry Brown (3-L)



District Executive:
President: James Steedman
V-Pres.: George Acklin
Treasurer: Kenneth Burge
Secretary: Art Farrell
I.P.P.: S. Wayne Foor
International Board Member: S. Wayne Foor

- Geneva, NY becomes the first Seneca Land District
"back-to-back" chorus champions in 1959 and 1960.

1959

District Chorus Champions



Finger Lakes Chorus

Geneva, NY

Director: Bill White

International Chorus Reps



Conewango Clippers (12th place)

Warren, PA

Director:



President: George Acklin
Rochester, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: 29

Number of members: 1066

Spring Convention: Apr30-May1
Warren, PA

Fall Convention: Sept. 28-30
Massena, NY

International Convention:
Dallas, TX (SWD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Toppers
Roch./Genesee, NY

Chorus: Finger Lakes Chorus
Geneva, NY

International Reps: (40 quartets)
Quartet: Dominotes 37th)
Toppers (38th)

Chorus: Finger Lakes Chorus
Geneva, NY
(15th of 15)



District Quartet Champion

Toppers
Roch./Genesee, NY

Tenor: Rudy Reger
Lead: Dave Priddle
Bass: Charlie Liosa
Bari: Dick Harmon

International Quartet Reps

Dominotes
Warren, PA

Tenor: Howard Johnson
Lead: Bob Dietch
Bass: Jim Cruickshank
Bari: Carl Johnson

Toppers
Roch./Genesee, NY

Tenor: Rudy Reger
Lead: Dave Priddle
Bass: Charlie Liosa
Bari: Dick Harmon



District Executive:

President: George Acklin

V-Pres.: Cam Benedict

Treasurer: Ken Burge

Secretary: Vince Trinker

I.P.P.: James Steedman

International Board Member: Pat McPhillips

- Harmony Education Program (HEP) weekend schools started at instigation of Rudy Hart; later developed into week-long Harmony College by Dr. Bob Johnson.

1960

District Chorus Champions



Finger Lakes Chorus

Geneva, NY

Director: William E. White

International Chorus Reps



Finger Lakes Chorus (15th place)

Geneva, NY

Director: William E. White



President: George Acklin
Rochester, NY

President's slogan:
"More Fun in '61"

Number of chapters: 29

Number of members: 1131

Spring Convention: May 5-7
Olean, NY

Fall Convention: Nov. 3-5
Utica, NY

International Convention:
Philadelphia, PA (MAD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Chordables
Chorus: Southerntiersmen

International Reps: (45 quartets)
Quartet: Toppers (39th)
Four Travelers (38th)

Chorus: Golden Notes
Rochester, NY
(13th of 15)



District Quartet Champion

Chordables

Syr./Onondaga, NY

Tenor: Phil Lambrinos
Lead: Dick Harris
Bass: Dugal Peck
Bari: Sam Strobert

International Quartet Reps

Toppers

Roch./Genesee, NY

Tenor: Rudy Reger
Lead: Dave Priddle
Bass: Charlie Laiosa
Bari: Dick Harmon

Four Travelers

Erie, PA

Tenor: Wally Carlson
Lead: John Berenguer, Sr.
Bass: Sam Love
Bari: "Doc" Kent



President: George Acklin
Exec. VP: Cameron Benedict
Treasurer: Kenneth Burge
Secretary: Vincent Trinker
Ontario Section: Art Farrell
Allegheny Section: Harold "Bud" Carlson
Appalachian Section: Claud Vosburg
International Board Member: James Steedman

- The Suntones from Miami, FL win the International Quartet Championship in Philadelphia, PA and give barbershop harmony a whole "new" sound.

1961

District Chorus Champions



Southerntiersmen

Binghamton, NY

Director: Rush Wyman

International Chorus Reps



Golden Notes (13th place)

Rochester/Genesee, NY

Director: Louie Ugino



President: Rush Wyman
Binghamton, NY

President's slogan:
"More Too in '62"

Number of chapters: 30

Number of members: 1118

Spring Convention: May 4-6
Syracuse, NY

Fall Convention: Nov. 9-11
Buffalo, NY

International Convention:
Kansas City, MO (CSD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Allegheny Clippers
Chorus: Olean

International Reps: (45 quartets)
Quartet: Chordables (42nd)
Semachords (45th)

Chorus: Southerntiersmen
Binghamton, NY
(14th of 14)



District Quartet Champion

Allegheny Clippers
Warren, PA

Tenor: Paul Mahan
Lead: Dave Reynolds
Bass: Gene Schwanke
Bari: John Swick

International Quartet Reps

Chordables
Syr./Onondaga, NY

Tenor: Phil Lambrinos
Lead: Dick Harris
Bass: Dugal Peck
Bari: Sam Strobert

Semachords
Binghamton, NY

Tenor: Paul Figura
Lead: Jack Kanick
Bass: Bill Birch
Bari: Evan "Bud" Maddy



President: Rush Wyman
Exec. VP: Harold "Bud" Carlson
Treasurer: Cameron Benedict
Secretary: Evan "Bud" Maddy
Ontario Section: Ed Stilwell
Allegheny Section: Leon Hines
Appalachian Section: Richard Jones
International Board Member: James Steedman

- Paul Mahan wins the first of his 5 district quartet championships (more than any other man) with the Allegheny Clippers.

1962

District Chorus Champions



Enchanted Mountain Chorus

Olean, NY

Director: Bob Morris

International Chorus Reps



Southerntiersmen (14th place)

Binghamton, NY

Director: Bill Monroe



President: Art Farrell
Buffalo, NY

President's slogan:
"Each One Sign One"

Number of chapters: 30

Number of members: 1074

Spring Convention: May 10-12
Olean, NY

Fall Convention: Oct. 24-26
Elmira, NY

International Convention:
Toronto, ON (ONT)

District Champions:
Quartet: Four Closures
Chorus: Rochester #1

International Reps:
Quartet: Four Closures (39th)
Allegheny Clippers (44th)

Chorus: Seneca Braves
Warren, PA
(15th of 15)



District Quartet Champion

Four Closures
Onondaga/Syr., NY

Tenor: Phil Lambrinos
Lead: Joe Durso
Bass: Larry Devault
Bari: Bill Billingham

International Quartet Reps

Allegheny Clippers
Warren, PA

Tenor: Paul Mahan
Lead: Dave Reynolds
Bass: Gene Schwanke
Bari: John Swick

Four Closures
Onondaga/Syracuse, NY

Tenor: Phil Lambrinos
Lead: Joe Durso
Bass: Larry Devault
Bari: Bill Billingham



President: Art Farrell
Exec. VP: Harold "Bud" Carlson
Treasurer: Cameron Benedict
Secretary: Charles Lesswing
Ontario Section: Richard Pierpoint
Allegheny Section: Leon Hines
Appalachian Section: Harley Dingman
International Board Member: James Steedman

S. Wayne Foor becomes Seneca Land's second International President in 1963.

1963

District Chorus Champions

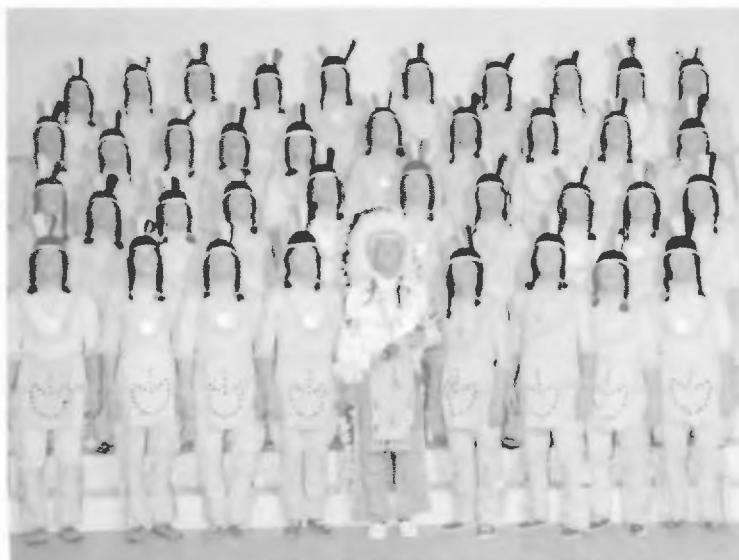


Rochester #1 Fundamentals

Rochester, NY

Director: Bud Roth

International Chorus Reps



Seneca Braves (15th place)

Warren, PA

Director: Earl Erickson



- Seneca Land adds the Catskill Section in 1964. Up until 1964, the "Southerntier" was a part of the Appalachian Section.

President: Harold Carlson
Warren, PA

President's slogan:
"Lets Expand Seneca Land"

Number of chapters: 29

Number of members: 1063

Spring Convention:

Fall Convention:

International Convention:
San Antonio, TX (SWD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Presque Isle Four
Erie, PA
Chorus: Erie Commodores
Erie, PA

International Reps: (45 quartets)
Quartet: Presque Isle Four (38th)
Midnighters (42nd)

Chorus: Fundamentals
Rochester, NY
(15th of 15)



District Quartet Champion

Presque Isle Four
Erie, NY

Tenor: Walt Holt
Lead: Ron Pomeroy
Bass: Jim Steinbaugh
Bari: Tom Glossick

International Quartet Reps

Presque Isle Four
Erie, PA

Tenor: Walt Holt
Lead: Ron Pomeroy
Bass: Jim Steinbaugh
Bari: Tom Glossick

Midnighters
Olean, NY

Tenor: Bob Morris
Lead: Gene Newburg
Bass: Bill McCord
Bari: John Brook



President: Harold "Bud" Carlson
Exec. VP: Richard Pierpont
Treasurer: Phil Will
Secretary: Plummer Collins
Ontario Section: Charles Lesswing
Allegheny Section: Robert Hitchcock
Appalachian Section: Harley Dingman
Catskill Section: Clyde Bower
International Board Members: James Steedman/Art Farrell

- The Society adopts the Institute of Logopedics in Wichita, KS as its unified, Society-wide service project.

1964

District Chorus Champions



Erie Commodores

Erie, PA

Director: Jim Steinbaugh

International Chorus Reps



Fundamentals (15th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Bud Roth



- Vince Caselli, Binghamton, NY wins 1965 Bulletin Editor of the Year award for "The Bingham-tone."

President: Harold Carlson
Warren, PA

President's slogan:
"Let's Expand Seneca Land"

Number of chapters: 28

Number of members: 1104

Spring Convention: May 14-16
Corning, NY

Fall Convention: Nov. 12-14
Buffalo, NY

International Convention:
Boston, MA (NED)

District Champions:
Quartet: Mischief Makers
Chorus: Enchanted Mt. Chorus
Olean, NY

International Reps: (45 quartets)
Quartet: Presque Isle Four (32nd)
Midnighters (42nd)

Chorus: Fundamentals
Rochester, NY
(14th of 15)



District Quartet Champion

Mischief Makers
Warren, PA

Tenor: Steve Cruickshank
Lead: Dave Reynolds
Bass: Marvin Billow
Bari: Myron Nelson

International Quartet Reps

Presque Isle Four
Erie, PA

Tenor: Walt Holt
Lead: Ron Pomeroy
Bass: Jim Steinbaugh
Bari: Tom Glossick

Midnighters
Olean, NY

Tenor: Bob Morris
Lead: Gene Newburg
Bass: Bill McCord
Bari: John Brook



President: Harold "Bud" Carlson
Exec. VP: Vince Caselli
Treasurer: Charles Lesswing
Secretary: Plummer Collins
Allegheny Section: Robert Hitchcock
Appalachian Section: Paul Dubois
Catskill Section: Floyd "Jim" Cole
Ontario Section: Earl Parr
International Board Member: Art Farrell

- U.S. Internal Revenue Service classifies Society and its U.S. districts and chapters as "educational" and declared them exempt from Federal income tax.

1965

District Chorus Champions



Enchanted Mountain Chorus

Olean, NY

Director: Bob Morris

International Chorus Reps



Fundamentals (14th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Bud Roth



- Area Sections are renamed "divisions" in 1966. The original four divisions (Allegheny, Appalachian, Catskill and Ontario) remain to this day.

President: Vincent Caselli
Endicott, NY

President's slogan:
"Let's Expand Seneca Land"

Number of chapters: 28

Number of members: 1050

Spring Convention: May 14-16
Painted Post, NY

Fall Convention: Oct. 8-10
Utica, NY

International Convention:
Chicago, IL (ILL)

District Champions:
Quartet: Instigators
Warren, PA
Chorus: Onondaga
Syracuse, NY

International Reps: (45 quartets)
Quartet: Four Closures (40th)
Midtown-Aires (43rd)

Chorus: Fundamentals
Rochester, NY
(13th of 15)



District Quartet Champion

Instigators
Warren, PA

Tenor: Paul Mahan
Lead: Dave Reynolds
Bass: Bill Crozier
Bari: Steve Cruickshank

International Quartet Reps

Four Closures
Syracuse/Onondaga, NY

Tenor: Phil Lambrinos
Lead: Lee McKusick
Bass: Tim Taggart
Bari: Bill Billingham

Midtown-Aires
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Keith Clark
Lead: Don Damaschke
Bass: Dick Whitehouse
Bari: Ray Grape



President: Vince Caselli
Exec. VP: Earl Parr
Treasurer: Plummer Collins
Secretary: Donald Lane
Allegheny Division: Gerry Fox
Appalachian Division: Guy Citrinite
Catskill Division: Floyd "Jim" Cole
Ontario Division: Clem Cochran
International Board Member: Harold "Bud" Carlson

1966

District Chorus Champions



Chorus of the Onondaga

Syracuse, NY

Director: Bob McDaniel

International Chorus Reps



Fundamentals (13th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Bud Roth



- James Steedman from Kenmore, NY becomes Seneca Land's third International President in 1967.

President: Earl Parr
Pittsford, NY

President's slogan:
"PRIDE"

Number of chapters: 27

Number of members: 1161

Spring Convention: Apr. 14-16
Syracuse, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 22-24
Warren, PA

International Convention:
Los Angeles, CA (FWD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Good Neighbors
Buffalo, NY

Chorus: Knights of the Mohawk
Rome, NY

International Reps: (45 quartets)
Quartet: Instigators (14th)
Good Neighbors (23rd)

Chorus: Fundamentals
Rochester, NY
(10th of 15)



District Quartet Champion

Good Neighbors
Buffalo, NY

Tenor: Jim Barlow
Lead: Jim McDonnell
Bass: Kenny Eagan
Bari: Denny Johnson

International Quartet Reps

Instigators
Warren, PA

Tenor: Paul Mahan
Lead: Dave Reynolds
Bass: Bill Crozier
Bari: Steve Cruickshank

Good Neighbors
Buffalo, NY

Tenor: Jim Barlow
Lead: Jim McDonnell
Bass: Kenny Eagan
Bari: Denny Johnson



President: Earl Parr
Exec. VP: Plummer Collins
Treasurer: Donald Lane
Secretary: William Callahan
Allegheny Division: Gerry Fox
Appalachian Division: Robert Craner
Catskill Division: Albert Clark
Ontario Division: Robert Borsch
International Board Member: Harold "Bud" Carlson



- The Society celebrates its 30th anniversary.

President: Plummer Collins
Warren, PA

President's slogan:
"PROTECTION"

Number of chapters: 28

Number of members: 1168

Spring Convention: Apr. 19-21
Binghamton, NY

Fall Convention: Oct. 12-13
Painted Post, NY

International Convention:
Cincinnati, OH (JAD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Gentlemen Songsters
Onondaga/Syracuse, NY

Chorus: Southerntiersmen
Binghamton, NY

International Reps: (45 quartets)
Quartet: Instigators (17th)
Good Neighbors (26th)

Chorus: Fundamentals
Rochester, NY
(13th of 15)



District Quartet Champion

Gentlemen Songsters
Onondaga/Syracuse, NY

Tenor: Bob Benson
Lead: Phil Carter
Bass: Dick Jones
Bari: Dick Harris

International Quartet Reps

Instigators
Warren, PA

Tenor: Paul Mahan
Lead: Dave Reynolds
Bass: Bill Crozier
Bari: Steve Cruickshank

Good Neighbors
Buffalo, NY

Tenor: Jim Barlow
Lead: Jim McDonnell
Bass: Kenny Eagan
Bari: Denny Johnson



President: Plummer Collins
Exec. VP: Albert Clark
Treasurer: Ralph Duschuden
Secretary: Albert Lauffenberger
Ontario Division: Robert Borsch
Allegheny Division: Gerry Fox
Appalachian Division: Dr. Robert Craner
Catskill Division: Robert Hughes
International Board Member: Pat McPhillips

- The first known "costume change" on a contest stage took place in Warren, PA. It was a Mike Morgan contest package.

1967

District Chorus Champions



Knights of the Mohawk

Rome, NY

Director:

International Chorus Reps



Fundamentals (10th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Bud Roth



President: Plummer Collins
Warren, PA

President's slogan:
"PROTECTION"

Number of chapters: 28

Number of members: 1188

Spring Convention: Apr. 18-20
Buffalo, NY

Fall Convention: Oct. 3-5
Watertown, NY

International Convention:
St. Louis, MO (CSD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Empire Statesmen
Onondaga/Syracuse, NY

Chorus: Conewango Clippers
Warren, PA

International Reps: (45 quartets)
Quartet: Instigators (22nd)
Empire Statesmen (24th)

Chorus: Fundamentals
Rochester, NY
(14th of 15)



District Quartet Champion

Empire Statesmen
Onondaga/Syracuse, NY

Tenor: Phil Lambrinos
Lead: Jack Nester
Bass: Grove Murray
Bari: Tim Taggart

International Quartet Reps

Instigators
Warren, PA

Tenor: Paul Mahan
Lead: Dave Reynolds
Bass: Bill Crozier
Bari: Denny Johnson

Empire Statesmen
Onondaga/Syracuse, NY

Tenor: Phil Lambrinos
Lead: Jack Nester
Bass: Grove Murray
Bari: Tim Taggart



President: Plummer Collins
Exec. VP: Arthur Winslow
Treasurer: Robert Borsch
Secretary: Albert Lauffenberger
Ontario Division: Robert Lafferty
Allegheny Division: Elliot Smith
Appalachian Division: Dr. Robert Craner
Catskill Division: J. Bedford Wooley
International Board Member: Pat McPhillips

- The International Board of Directors is forced to change the site and date of the 1968 International Convention from Pittsburgh, PA to Cincinnati, OH just six months prior to the convention due to the headquarters hotel being on strike.

1968

District Chorus Champions



Southerntiersmen

Binghamton, NY

Director: Bill Monroe

International Chorus Reps



Fundamentals (13th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Don Morgan

- COTS is a pilot program in 1965 and becomes a full-blown program in 1969. Seneca Land is one of ten districts to host a COTS weekend.

1969

District Chorus Champions



Conewango Clippers

Warren, PA

Director: Steve Cruickshank

International Chorus Reps



Fundamentals (14th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Bud Roth



President: Robert Borsch
Hamburg, NY

President's slogan:
"PROTECTION"

Number of chapters: 28

Number of members: 1067

Spring Convention: Apr. 17-19
Erie, PA

Fall Convention: Oct. 2-4
Niagara Falls, NY

International Convention:
Atlantic City, NJ (MAD)

District Champions:
Quartet: All Stars
Chorus: Fundamentals

International Reps: (45 quartets)
Quartet: Empire Statesmen (32nd)
Grenadiers (43rd)

Chorus: Conewango Clippers
Warren, PA
(14th of 15)



District Quartet Champion

All Stars
Buffalo, NY

Tenor: Pat Campbell
Lead: Jim McDonnell
Bass: Bob Brandel
Bari: Jerry Tonell

International Quartet Reps

Empire Statesmen
Onondaga/Syracuse, NY

Tenor: Phil Lambrinos
Lead: Jack Nester
Bass: Grove Murray
Bari: Tim Taggart

Grenadiers
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Keith Clark
Lead: Rudy Reger
Bass: Mike Morgan
Bari: Ray Grape



President: Robert Borsch
Exec. VP: Robert Craner
Treasurer: Elliot Smith
Secretary: Sam Lux
Ontario Division: Chet Biehls
Allegheny Division: Carl Granato
Appalachian Division: Phil Will
Catskill Division: Jack Wooley
International Board Member: Pat McPhillips

- First "Auditions for Admissions" session held as Society-sponsored program following adoption at Seattle Mid-Winter meeting.

1970

District Chorus Champions



Fundamentals

Rochester, NY

Director: Bud Roth

International Chorus Reps



Conewango Clippers (14th place)

Warren, PA

Director: Steve Cruickshank



President: Robert Borsch
Hamburg, NY

President's slogan:
"PROTECTION"

Number of chapters: 26

Number of members: 1235

Spring Convention: Apr. 16-18
Syracuse, NY
Hosts: Syracuse

Fall Convention: Oct. 8-10
Elmira, NY
Hosts: Onondaga

International Convention:
New Orleans, LA (SWD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Perfect Arrangement
Chorus: Southerntiersmen

International Reps: (45 quartets)
Quartet: All Stars (33rd)
Instigators (37th)

Chorus: Fundamentals
Rochester, NY
(14th of 15)



District Quartet Champion

Perfect Arrangement
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Keith Clark
Lead: Bill Swift
Bass: Mike Morgan
Bari: Tim Taggart

International Quartet Reps

All Stars
Buffalo, NY

Tenor: Pat Campbell
Lead: Jim McDonnell
Bass: Bob Brandel
Bari: Jerry Tonnell

Instigators
Warren, PA

Tenor: Paul Mahan
Lead: Dave Reynolds
Bass: Bill Crozier
Bari: Steve Cruickshank



President: Robert Borsch
Exec. VP: Robert Craner
Treasurer: Elliot Smith
Secretary: Sam Lux
Ontario Division: Chet Biehls
Allegheny Division: Carl Granato
Appalachian Division: Phil Will
Catskill Division: Jack Wooley
International Board Member: Pat McPhillips

- Society for high school youth, "Young Men In Harmony," started after vote of Music Educators National Conference (MENC) to accept our style of singing as distinctive.

1971

District Chorus Champions



Southerntiersmen

Binghamton, NY

Director: Bill Monroe

International Chorus Reps



Fundamentals (14th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Bud Roth



President: Robert Craner
Syracuse, NY

President's slogan:
"PROTECTION"

Number of chapters: 27

Number of members: 1268

Spring Convention: Apr. 14-16
Rochester, NY

Fall Convention: Oct. 6-8
Warren, PA

International Convention:
Atlanta, GA (DIX)

District Champions:
Quartet: Cats Meow
Chorus: Conewango Clippers
Warren, PA

International Reps: (45 quartets)
Quartet: Perfect Arrangement
(21st)
Instigators (24th)

Chorus: Fundamentals
Rochester, NY
(13th of 15)



District Quartet Champion

Cats Meow
Buffalo, NY

Tenor: Angelo Cervi
Lead: Rudy Reger
Bass: Al Baker
Bari: Denny Johnson

International Quartet Reps

Instigators
Warren, PA

Tenor: Paul Mahan
Lead: Dave Reynolds
Bass: Bill Crozier
Bari: Steve Cruickshank

Perfect Arrangement
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Keith Clark
Lead: Bill Swift
Bass: Mike Morgan
Bari: Tim Taggart



President: Robert Craner
Exec. VP: Chet Biehls
Treasurer: Elliot Smith
Secretary: Sam Lux
Ontario Division:
Allegheny Division: Carl Granato
Appalachian Division: Phil Will
Catskill Division: Jack Wooley
International Board Member: Pat McPhillips

- Society trained and financed Chapter Officer Training School (COTS) made first presentations at all district COTS.

1972

District Chorus Champions



Conewango Clippers

Warren, PA

Director: Steve Cruickshank

International Chorus Reps



Fundamentals (13th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Don Morgan



- The Keynoters lose quartet championship on a tabulation error in 1972 but come back to win the following year. They sing: *"It's Better The Second Time Around"* as acceptance song.

President: Chet Biehls
East Aurora, NY

President's slogan:
"INVOLVEMENT"

Number of chapters: 28

Number of members: 1195

Spring Convention: Apr. 13-15
Buffalo, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 28-30
Binghamton, NY

International Convention:
Portland, OR (EVG)

District Champions:
Quartet: Keynoters
Watertown/Oswego, NY

Chorus: Fundamentals
Rochester, NY

International Reps: 45 quartets)
Quartet: Perfect Arrangement
(22nd)
All Stars (29th)

Chorus: Southerntiersmen
Binghamton, NY
(13th of 15)



District Quartet Champion

Keynoters
Watertown/Oswego, NY

Tenor: Ed Petrillose
Lead: Tracy Robertson
Bass: Ted Prescott
Bari: Bill Hoag

International Quartet Reps

All Stars
Buffalo, NY

Tenor: Pat Campbell
Lead: Jim McDonnell
Bass: Bob Brandel
Bari: Jerry Thompson

Perfect Arrangement
Rochester, NY

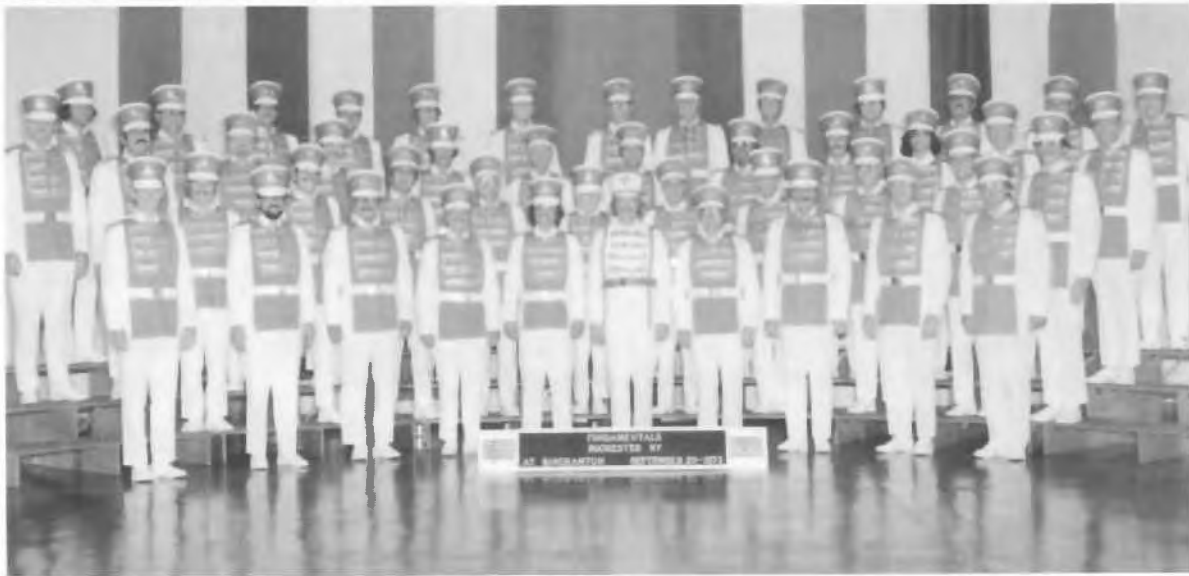
Tenor: Keith Clark
Lead: Bill Swift
Bass: Mike Morgan
Bari: Tim Taggart



President: Chet Biehls
Exec. VP: Jack Wooley
Treasurer: Kenneth Wright
Secretary: Elliot Smith
Ontario Division: Russell Bushart
Allegheny Division: William Morey
Appalachian Division: John Ahlheim
Catskill Division: Nich Shibylo
International Board Member: Pat McPhillips

1973

District Chorus Champions



Fundamentals

Rochester, NY

Director: Mike Morgan

International Chorus Reps



Southerntiersmen (13th place)

Binghamton, NY

Director: Bill Monroe



- Empire Express begin a quartet dynasty in Seneca Land that will last for more than 14 years.

President: Chet Biehls
East Aurora, NY

President's slogan:
"INVOLVEMENT"

Number of chapters: 28

Number of members: 1356

Spring Convention: Apr. 5-7
Erie, PA

Fall Convention: Sept. 27-29
Watertown, NY

International Convention:
Kansas City, MO (CSD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Empire Express
Buffalo/East Aurora, NY

Chorus: Maple City Chorus
Hornell, NY

International Reps: (45 quartets)

Quartet: Perfect Arrangement
(24th)
Instigators (30th)

Chorus: Southerntiersmen
Binghamton, NY
(8th of 15)



District Quartet Champion

Empire Express
Amherst/East Aurora, NY

Tenor: Angelo Cervi
Lead: Peter McDonnell
Bass: Al Baker
Bari: Ron Mason

International Quartet Reps

Instigators
Warren, PA

Tenor: Paul Mahan
Lead: Dave Reynolds
Bass: Bill Crozier
Bari: Steve Cruickshank

Perfect Arrangement
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Keith Clark
Lead: Jim Turner
Bass: Mike Morgan
Bari: Tim Taggart



President: Chet Biehls
Exec. VP: Jack B. Wooley
Treasurer: Kenneth Wright
Secretary: Billy Lucas
Ontario Division: Keith Clark
Allegheny Division: Elliot Smith
Appalachian Division: Phil Will
Catskill Division: Nick Shibylo
International Board Member: Jim Steedman

- Society staff makes first trip to Great Britain and BABS
(British Association of Barbershop Singers) is established.

1974

District Chorus Champions



Maple City Chorus

Hornell, NY

Director: Gary Fisk

International Chorus Reps



Southerntiersmen (8th place)

Binghamton, NY

Director: Bill Monroe



President: Jack Wooley
Binghamton, NY

President's slogan:
"ENRICHMENT"

Number of chapters: 30

Number of members: 1441

Guests:
Mac Huff, Dave Stevens and
Sam Kennedy

Spring Convention: Apr. 11-13
Rochester, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 24-26
Watertown, NY

International Convention:
Indianapolis, IN (CAR)

District Champions:
Quartet: Sunnysiders
Rochester, NY

Chorus: Southerntiersmen
Binghamton, NY

International Reps: (45 quartets)
Quartet: Empire Express (18th)
Consolidated Chord Co.
(37th)

Chorus: Southerntiersmen
Binghamton, NY
(9th of 15)



District Quartet Champion

Sunnysiders
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Fritz Fouquet
Lead: Jack Maracle
Bass: Ron Brown
Bari: Bud Bulling

International Quartet Reps

Consolidated Chord Co.
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Keith Clark
Lead: Bill Swift
Bass: Mike Morgan
Bari: Don Stothard

Empire Express
Amherst/East Aurora, NY

Tenor: Angelo Cervi
Lead: Peter McDonnell
Bass: Al Baker
Bari: Ron Mason

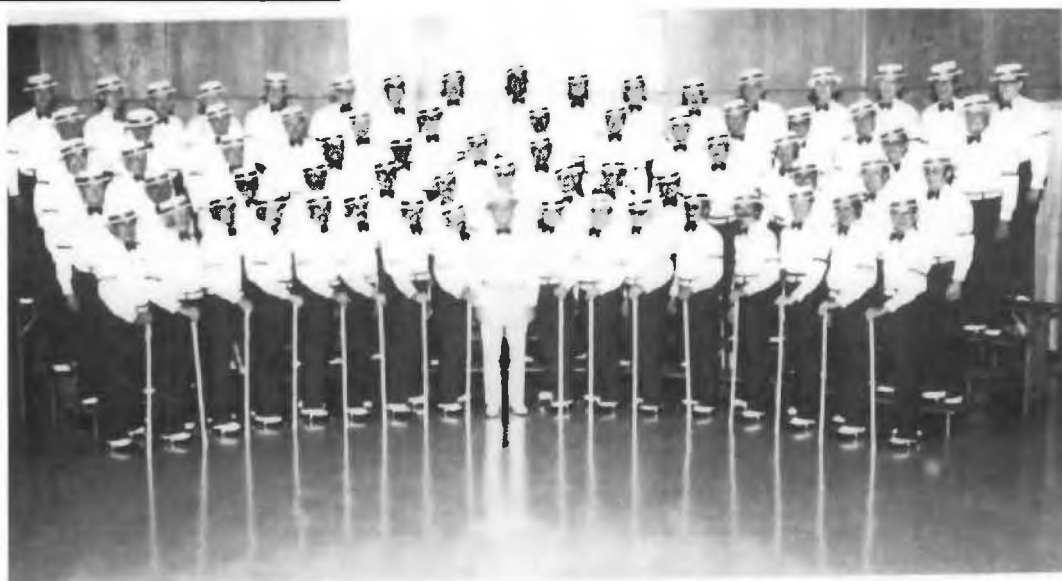


President: Jack Wooley
Exec. VP: Keith Clark
Treasurer: Kenneth Wright
Secretary: Karl Brigham
Ontario Division: Clem Cochran
Allegheny Division: Burton Burr
Appalachian Division: Phil Will
Catskill Division: Nick Shiblyo
International Board Member: Jim Steedman

- First meeting of District Directors of Music Education at Society's staff invitation in Kenosha, WI. Society purchases Harmony Hall West, providing much needed working space for staff.

1975

District Chorus Champions



Southerntiersmen

Binghamton, NY

Director: Bill Monroe

International Chorus Reps



Southerntiersmen (9th place)

Binghamton, NY

Director: Bill Monroe



- Plummer Collins from Warren, PA becomes Seneca Land's 4th International President in 1976.

President: Jack Wooley
Vestal, NY

President's slogan:
"Barbershop Harmony, an
American Heritage"

Number of chapters: 31

Number of members: 1426

Spring Convention: Apr. 4-6
Olean, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 24-26
Syracuse, NY

International Convention:
San Francisco, CA (FWD)

District Champions:

Quartet: Personal Touch
Rochester, NY

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY

International Reps: (48 quartets)

Quartet: Entertainment Comm.
(22nd)
Sunnysiders (40th)

Chorus: Southerntiersmen
Binghamton, NY
(12th of 15)



District Quartet Champion

Personal Touch
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Bob Young
Lead: Del Zerkel
Bass: Tim Taggart
Bari: Don Stothard

International Quartet Reps

Empire Express
East Aurora/Roch., NY

Tenor: Angelo Cervi
Lead: Bill Swift
Bass: Al Baker
Bari: Ron Mason

Sunnysiders
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Fritz Fouquet
Lead: Jack Maracle
Bass: Ron Brown
Bari: Bud Bulling



President: Jack Wooley
Exec. VP: Keith Clark
Treasurer: Kenneth Wright
Secretary: Karl Brigham
Ontario Division: Clem Cochran
Allegheny Division: Burton Burr
Appalachian Division: Phil Will
Catskill Division: Nick Shibylo
International Board Member: Jim Steedman

- Society's largest Mid-Winter Convention staged in Washington, DC featuring performance of "Salute to America" celebrating U.S. Bicentennial, by a 220-man chorus in Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

1976

District Chorus Champions



Chorus of the Genesee

Rochester, NY

Director: Mike Morgan

International Chorus Reps



Southerntiersmen (12th place)

Binghamton, NY

Director: Bill Monroe



- Membership in Seneca Land is at its highest at 1459 under District President, Keith Clark.

President: Keith Clark
Rochester, NY

President's slogan:
"Together We Are Something!"

Number of chapters: 32

Number of members: 1459

Spring Convention: Mar. 25-27
Buffalo, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 23-25
Elmira, NY

International Convention:
Philadelphia, PA (MAD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Entertainment Comm.
East Aurora/Roch., NY

Chorus: Friends of Harmony
East Aurora, NY

International Reps: (49 quartets)
Quartet: Entertainment Comm.
(35th)
Sunnysiders (47th)

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY
(14th of 15)



District Quartet Champion

Entertainment Committee
East Aurora/Roch., NY

Tenor: Angelo Cervi
Lead: Bill Swift
Bass: Mike Morgan
Bari: Ron Mason

International Quartet Reps

Entertainment Committee
East Aurora/Rochester, NY

Tenor: Angelo Cervi
Lead: Bill Swift
Bass: Mike Morgan
Bari: Ron Mason

Sunnysiders
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Fritz Fouquet
Lead: Jack Maracle
Bass: Ron Brown
Bari: Bud Bulling



President: Keith Clark
Exec. VP: Karl Brigham
Treasurer: Kenneth Wright
Secretary: Ed Bartusek
Ontario Division: Bill Davidson
Allegheny Division: Burton Burr
Appalachian Division: Dick Harris
Catskill Division: George Major
International Board Member: Chet Biehls

- The Scarborough, ONT *Dukes of Harmony* become the first non-U.S. chorus to win the International Chorus Contest in Philadelphia, PA.

1977

District Chorus Champions



Friends of Harmony

Amherst, NY

Director: Jim McDonnell

International Chorus Reps



Chorus of the Genesee (14th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Mike Morgan



- Binghamton takes Seneca Land quartet and chorus championships in 1978.

President: Keith Clark
Rochester, NY

President's slogan:
"Commit/Attain!"

Number of chapters: 32

Number of members: 1374

Spring Convention: Apr. 7-9
Binghamton, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 29-Oct. 1
Syracuse, NY

International Convention:
Cincinnati, OH (JAD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Local Chord Co.
Binghamton, NY

Chorus: Southerntiersmen
Binghamton, NY

International Reps: (48 quartets)
Quartet: Personal Touch (35th)
Entertainment Comm.
(38th)

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY
(16th of 16)



District Quartet Champion

Local Chord Co.
Binghamton, NY

Tenor: Paul Figura
Lead: Gary Becraft
Bass: Gerry O'Neil
Bari: Jerry Schmidt

International Quartet Reps

Personal Touch
Rochester/Bing./Elmira, NY

Tenor: Bob Young
Lead: Dave Brown
Bass: Tim Taggart
Bari: Don Stothard

Entertainment Comm.
East Aurora/Roch., NY

Tenor: Angelo Cervi
Lead: Bill Swift
Bass: Mike Morgan
Bari: Ron Mason



President: Keith Clark
Exec. VP: Karl Brigham
Treasurer: Kenneth Wright
Secretary: William Grason, Jr.
Ontario Division: George Stothard
Allegheny Division: Robert Culbertson
Appalachian Division: Wayne Fuller
Catskill Division: George Major
International Board Member: Jack Wooley

- The Rocky Mountain District came into existence, the first new district since the 1950s.

1978

District Chorus Champions



Southerntiersmen

Binghamton, NY

Director: Bob Young

International Chorus Reps



Chorus of the Genesee (16th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Mike Morgan



President: Karl Brigham*
Bob Culbertson
Franklin, PA

President's slogan:
"Let's Do It"

Number of chapters: 29

Number of members: 1296

Spring Conven.: Mar. 30-Apr. 1
Rochester, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 28-30
Olean, NY

International Convention:
Minneapolis, MN (LOL)

District Champions:
Quartet: Four For The Show
Venango Co., PA

Chorus: Erie Commodores
Erie, PA

International Reps: (48 quartets)
Quartet: Empire Express (33rd)
Personal Touch (36th)

Chorus: Southerntiersmen
Binghamton, NY
(16th of 16)



* Karl Brigham
relocates and serves
only a month as
District President.



District Quartet Champion

Four For The Show
Venango Co., PA

Tenor: Dan Wrhen
Lead: Chuck Chittester
Bass: Bill McCord
Bari: Jim Sines

International Quartet Reps

Empire Express
Amherst/East Aurora, NY

Tenor: Angelo Cervi
Lead: Jim McDonnell
Bass: Al Baker
Bari: Ron Mason



Personal Touch
Roch./Bing./Elmira, NY

Tenor: Bob Young
Lead: Dave Brown
Bass: Tim Taggart
Bari: Don Stothard



President: Robert "Cubby" Culbertson
Exec. VP: George Stothard
Treasurer: Kenneth Wright
Secretary: Daniel Barton
Ontario Division: William Graso, Jr.
Allegheny Division: Ed Piper
Appalachian Division: Wayne Fuller
Catskill Division: Nick Shiblyo
International Board Member: Jack Wooley

- The Society uses giant screens and closed-circuit TV coverage for the first time at the Minneapolis, MN International Convention because of a complete sell out in mid-December.

1979

District Chorus Champions



Erie Commodores

Erie, PA

Director: Walt Holt

International Chorus Reps



Southerntiersmen (16th place)

Binghamton, NY

Director: Bob Young



President: Robert Culbertson
Franklin, PA

President's slogan:
"Let's Program for Fun and Growth"

Number of chapters: 30

Number of members: 1283

Special guest(s):
Joe Jenkins, Dave Labar, Joe Liles

Spring Convention: Apr. 11-13
Elmira, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 26-28
Rochester, NY

International Convention:
Salt Lake City, UT (RMD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Music Time
Roch./Elmira, NY

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY

International Reps: (48 quartets)
Quartet: Empire Express (14th)
Music Time (32nd)

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY
(15th of 16)



District Quartet Champion

Music Time
Rochester/Elmira, NY

Tenor: Keith Clark
Lead: Dave Brown
Bass: Jan Muddle
Bari: Don Stothard

International Quartet Reps

Empire Express
Amherst/East Aurora, NY

Tenor: Angelo Cervia
Lead: Jim McDonnell
Bass: Al Baker
Bari: Ron Mason

Music Time
Rochester/Elmira, NY

Tenor: Keith Clark
Lead: Dave Brown
Bass: Jan Muddle
Bari: Don Stothard



President: Robert "Cubby" Culbertson
Exec. VP: George Stothard
Treasurer: Kenneth Wright
Secretary: Daniel Barton
Ontario Division: William Graso, Jr.
Allegheny Division: Ed Piper
Appalachian Division: Wayne Fuller
Catskill Division: Nick Shibylo
International Board Member: Jack Wooley

- Empire Express nearly breaks the top 10, placing 11th at International Convention in Salt Lake City. The last time a Seneca Land District quartet was in the top 10 was in the 1950s.

1980

District Chorus Champions



Chorus of the Genesee

Rochester, NY

Director: Joe DeRosa

International Chorus Reps



Chorus of the Genesee (15th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Joe DeRosa



President: George Stothard
Rochester, NY

President's slogan:
"The Year To Re-Member"

Number of chapters: 31

Number of members: 1284

Special guest(s):
Joe Liles, Dave Labar, Burt Huish,
Ron Rockwell, Lyle Pettigrew

Spring Convention: Mar. 27-29
Elmira, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 25-27
Warren, PA

International Convention:
Detroit, MI (PIO)

District Champions:
Quartet: Nickel City Harmony
Amherst/East Aurora, NY

Chorus: Conewango Clippers
Warren, PA

International Reps: (48 quartets)
Quartet: Empire Express (11th)
Solid Gold (40th)

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY
(15th of 16)



District Quartet Champion

Nickel City Harmony
Amherst/East Aurora, NY

Tenor: Pat Campbell
Lead: Jerry Thompson
Bass: Jack Trenchard
Bari: Denny Johnson

International Quartet Reps

Empire Express
Amherst/East Aurora, NY

Tenor: Angelo Cervi
Lead: Jim McDonnell
Bass: Al Baker
Bari: Ron Mason

Solid Gold
Warren, PA

Tenor: Paul Mahan
Lead: Dan Seaman
Bass: Bill Crozier
Bari: Steve Cruickshank



President: George Stothard
Exec. VP: Jim Eldridge
Treasurer: Brian Moore
Secretary: Elliot Smith
Ontario Division: Keith Moon
Allegheny Division: Samuel Williamson
Appalachian Division: Donald Evans
Catskill Division: Jim Putman
International Board Member: Keith Clark

- Ten year-old Dougie Harrington and the Harrington Brothers edge out our own Empire Express in Detroit. Al Baker is heard saying: "I cannot wait for that kid's voice to change!" (8 years later, Dougie gets a gold medal!)

1981

District Chorus Champions



Conewango Clippers

Warren, PA

Director: Jerry Knickerbocker

International Chorus Reps



Chorus of the Genesee (15th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Jan Muddle



President: George Stothard
Rochester, NY

President's slogan:
"Planning Encourages Progress"

Number of chapters: 30

Number of members: 1273

Spring Convention: Mar. 26-28
Rochester, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 24-26
Syracuse, NY

International Convention:
Pittsburgh, PA (JAD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Monroe Doctrine
Rochester, NY

Chorus: Chorus of the Erie Canal
Monroe Co. West, NY

International Reps: (49 quartets)
Quartet: Empire Express (19th)
Nickel City Harmony
(40th)

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY
(14th of 16)



District Quartet Champion

Monroe Doctrine
Rochester/MCW, NY

Tenor: Keith Clark
Lead: Tom Nasman
Bass: Tim Drake
Bari: Don Stothard

International Quartet Reps

Empire Express
Amherst/East Aurora, NY

Tenor: Angelo Cervi
Lead: Jim McDonnell
Bass: Al Baker
Bari: Ron Mason

Nickel City Harmony
Amherst/East Aurora, NY

Tenor: Pat Campbell
Lead: Jerry Thompson
Bass: Jack Trenchard
Bari: Denny Johnson



President: George Stothard
Exec. VP: Jim Eldridge
Treasurer: Brian Moore
Secretary: Elliot Smith
Ontario Division: Ray Ferrigno
Allegheny Division: Jim Hassel
Appalachian Division: Donald Evans
Catskill Division: Jim Putman
International Board Member: Robert "Cubby" Culbertson

- The Chorus of the "Eerie" Canal wins the district chorus championship with their infamous "ghoul package." Songs were "Trick or Treat" and "Who'll Take My Place, When I'm Gone?"

1982

District Chorus Champions



Chorus of the Erie Canal

Monroe Co. West, NY

Director: Rudy Reger

International Chorus Reps



Chorus of the Genesee (14th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Jan Muddle



President: Jim Eldridge
Warren, PA

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: 28

Number of members: 1263

Spring Convention: Apr. 8-10
Utica, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 23-25
Niagara Falls, Ont. Canada

International Convention:
Seattle, WA (EVG)

District Champions:
Quartet: The Esquires
Warren, PA

Chorus: Friends of Harmony
East Aurora, NY

International Reps: (49 quartets)
Quartet: Empire Express (15th)
Sunnysiders (45th)

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY
(16th of 16)



District Quartet Champion

The Esquires
Warren, PA

Tenor: Paul Mahan
Lead: Dan Seaman
Bass: Bill Crozier
Bari: John Berenguer, Jr.

International Quartet Reps

Empire Express
Amherst/East Aurora, NY

Tenor: Angelo Cervi
Lead: Jim McDonnell
Bass: Al Baker
Bari: Ron Mason



Sunnysiders
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Fritz Fouquet
Lead: Jack Maracle
Bass: Ron Brown
Bari: Bud Bulling



President: Jim Eldridge
Exec. VP: Ray Ferrigno
Treasurer: Brian Moore
Secretary: Elliot Smith
Ontario Division: Richard Deichman
Allegheny Division: Jim Hassel
Appalachian Division: Donald Evans
Catskill Division: Richard Davies
International Board Member: Robert "Cubby" Culbertson

- Venango Co. chapter hosts one of Seneca Land's most successful conventions in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada in the Spring of 1983 under the guidance of Jim Hassel.

1983

District Chorus Champions



Friends of Harmony

East Aurora, NY

Director: Jerry Thompson

International Chorus Reps



Chorus of the Genesee (16th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Jan Muddle



- The positions of D.M.E. (District Music Educator), DMDC (District Membership Development Coordinator), DCO (District Communication Officer) and DACJC (District Associate Contest & Judging Chairman) are added to the district board in 1984.

President: Ray Ferrigno
Rochester, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: 28

Number of members: 1224

Spring Convention: Apr. 12-14
Erie, PA

Fall Convention: Sept. 28-30
Watertown, NY

International Convention:
St. Louis, MO (CSD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Shenanigans
Rochester, NY

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY

International Reps: (47 quartets)
Quartet: Empire Express (19th)
The Esquires (38th)

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY
(15th of 16)



District Quartet Champion

Shenanigans
Rochester, NY

Tenor: John Casey
Lead: Ken Bissinger
Bass: Paul Sanderson
Bari: Gary Pixley

International Quartet Reps

Empire Express
Amherst/East Aurora, NY

Tenor: Angelo Cervi
Lead: Jim McDonnell
Bass: Al Baker
Bari: Ron Mason

The Esquires
Warren, PA

Tenor: Paul Mahan
Lead: Dan Seaman
Bass: Bill Crozier
Bari: John Berenguer, Jr.



President: Ray Ferrigno
Exec. VP: Jim Hassel
Treasurer: Brian Moore
Secretary: John Berenguer, Sr.
Ontario Division: Dick Benner
Allegheny Division: Jim Hassel
Appalachian Division: George Cook
Catskill Division: Jim Putman
International Board Member: Jim Eldridge

DME: Phil Lambrinos
DMDC: Rudy Reger
DCO: Burt Louk
DACJC: Joe Bradbury

- Young Men In Harmony is introduced in Seneca Land for the first time and *Jerry Knickerbocker* (Warren) is its first chairman.

1984

District Chorus Champions



Chorus of the Genesee

Rochester, NY

Director: Don Morgan

International Chorus Reps



Chorus of the Genesee (15th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Jan Muddle



President: Ray Ferrigno
Rochester, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: 29

Number of members: 1246

Spring Convention: Apr. 12-14
Erie, PA

Fall Convention: Sept. 27-29
Rochester, NY

International Convention:
Minneapolis, MN (LOL)

District Champions:
Quartet: BC Connection
Binghamton, NY

Chorus: Southerntiersmen
Binghamton, NY

International Reps: (49 quartets)
Quartet: Auld Lang Syne (36th)
The Esquires (43rd)

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY
(16th of 16)



District Quartet Champion

BC Connection
Binghamton, NY

Tenor: Charlie Hahn
Lead: Gary Becraft
Bass: Mike Esposito
Bari: Jerry Schmidt

International Quartet Reps

Auld Lang Syne
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Andy Nazzaro
Lead: Ron Borges
Bass: Jan Muddle
Bari: Glenn Jewell

The Esquires
Warren, PA

Tenor: Paul Mahan
Lead: Dan Seaman
Bass: Bill Crozier
Bari: John Berenguer, Jr.



President: Ray Ferrigno
Exec. VP: Jim Hassel
Treasurer: Paul Wind
Secretary: Brian Moore

Ontario Division: Dick Benner

Allegheny Division: Dave Finnemore

Appalachian Division: George Cook

Catskill Division: Richard Davies

International Board Member: Jim Eldridge

DME: Phil Lambrinos
DMDC: Rudy Reger
DCO: Burt Louk
DACJC: Joe Bradbury

- Monroe Co. West chapter hosts the fall convention in Rochester, NY in the brand-new Riverside Convention Center.
This is the first major event hosted in this facility.

1985

District Chorus Champions



Southerntiersmen

Binghamton, NY

Director: Jerry Schmidt

International Chorus Reps



Chorus of the Genesee (16th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Don Morgan



Seneca Land's 40th Anniversary 1946-1986

President: Ray Ferrigno
Rochester, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: 31

Number of members: 1342

Spring Convention: Apr. 11-13
Binghamton, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 26-28
Olean, NY

International Convention:
Salt Lake City, UT (RMD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Sound Advice
Syracuse/Watertown, NY

Chorus: Friends of Harmony
East Aurora, NY

International Reps: (50 quartets)
Quartet: Nickel City Harmony
(43rd)
The Esquires (46th)

Chorus: Friends of Harmony
East Aurora, NY
(10th of 16)



District Quartet Champion

Sound Advice
Syracuse/Watertown, NY

Tenor: Don Evans
Lead: Tracy Robertson
Bass: Jim Arkerson
Bari: Glenn Siebert

International Quartet Reps

The Esquires
Warren, PA

Tenor: Paul Mahan
Lead: Dan Seaman
Bass: Jeff Mahan
Bari: John Berenguer, Jr.



Nickel City Harmony
East Aurora, NY

Tenor: Pat Campbell
Lead: Jerry Thompson
Bass: Jack Trenchard
Bari: Ron Mason



President: Ray Ferrigno
Exec. VP: Jim Hassel
Treasurer: Paul Wind
Secretary: Brian Moore

Ontario Division: Dick Benner

Allegheny Division: Dave Finnemore

Appalachian Division: George Cook

Catskill Division: Richard Davies

International Board Member: Jim Eldridge

DME: Phil Lambrinos
DMDC: Rudy Reger
DCO: Burt Louk
DACJC: Joe Bradbury

- Under the guidance of District President, *Ray Ferrigno*, Seneca Land wins the Society's Achievement Award as the Society's number district for 1986. We also enjoy the largest one-year growth in membership.

1986

District Chorus Champions



Friends of Harmony

East Aurora, NY

Director: Ron Mason

International Chorus Reps



Friends of Harmony (10th place)

East Aurora, NY

Director: Ron Mason



- The position of District Public Relations Officer is added to the district team in 1987.

President: Jim Hassel
Grove City, PA

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: 31

Number of members: 1285

Spring Convention: Apr. 4-6
Elmira, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 25-27
Jamestown, NY

International Convention:
Hartford, CT (NED)

District Champions:
Quartet: Front Row Center
East Aurora, NY

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY

International Reps: (49 quartets)
Quartet: Auld Lang Syne (30th)
BC Connection (46th)

Chorus: Friends of Harmony
East Aurora, NY
(16th of 16)



District Quartet Champion

Front Row Center
East Aurora, NY

Tenor: David Mason
Lead: Jim McDonnell
Bass: Jack Trenchard
Bari: Ron Mason

International Quartet Reps

BC Connection
Binghamton, NY

Tenor: Charlie Hahn
Lead: Gary Becraft
Bass: Mike Esposito
Bari: Jerry Schmidt

Auld Lang Syne
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Andy Nazzaro
Lead: Ron Borges
Bass: Jan Muddle
Bari: Glenn Jewell



President: Jim Hassel
Exec. VP: George Cook
Treasurer: Paul Wind
Secretary: Claire Bayne
Ontario Division: Brian Moore
Allegheny Division: George Jarrell
Appalachian Division: Bob Coant
Catskill Division: Jim Palmer
International Board Member: Jim Eldridge

DME: Phil Lambrinos
DMDC: Rudy Reger
DCO: Burt Louk
DACJC: Joe Bradbury
PR Off.: Bill Villepigue

- The Society uses a two-round chorus contest for the first, (and last) time at the 1987 International Convention held in Hartford, CT.

1987

District Chorus Champions



Chorus of the Genesee

Rochester, NY

Director: Jan Muddle

International Chorus Reps



Friends of Harmony (16th place)

East Aurora, NY

Director: Ron Mason



- The very popular, very funny *Auld Lang Syne* wins the district championship in Syracuse, NY. They represent Seneca Land a total of four times in International competition.

President: Jim Hassel
Grove City, PA

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: 30

Number of members: 1243

Spring Convention: Apr. 8-10
Hamburg, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 23-25
Syracuse, NY

International Convention:
San Antonio, TX (SWD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Auld Lang Syne
Rochester, NY

Chorus: Commodore Perry
Erie, PA

International Reps: (51 quartets)
Quartet: Front Row Center (34th)
En Rapport (42nd)

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY
(12th of 16)



District Quartet Champion

Auld Lang Syne
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Andy Nazzaro
Lead: Ron Borges
Bass: Jan Muddle
Bari: Glenn Jewell

International Quartet Reps

Front Row Center
East Aurora, NY

Tenor: David Mason
Lead: Jim McDonnell
Bass: Jack Trenchard
Bari: Ron Mason

En Rapport
Warren, PA

Tenor: Paul Mahan
Lead: John Berenguer, Jr.
Bass: Jeff Mahan
Bari: Steve Cruickshank



President: Jim Hassel
Exec. VP: George Cook
Treasurer: Paul Wind
Secretary: Claire Bayne
Ontario Division: Jack Fritsch
Allegheny Division: George Jarrell
Appalachian Division: Bob Coant
Catskill Division: Jim Putman
International Board Member: Ray Ferrigno

DME: Phil Lambrinos
DMDC: Rudy Reger
DCO: Burt Louk
DACJC: D. Woodworth
P.R. Off.: Bill Villepigue

- East Aurora hosts the most financially successful convention
in Hamburg, NY the Spring of 1988

1988

District Chorus Champions



Commodore Perry Chorus

Erie, PA

Director: Walt Holt

International Chorus Reps



Chorus of the Genesee (12th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Jan Muddle



President: George Cook
Syracuse, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: 30

Number of members: 1268

Spring Convention: Apr. 8-10
Rochester, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 29 - Oct. 1
Watertown, NY

International Convention:
Kansas City, MO (CSD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Trademark
Binghamton, NY

Chorus: Friends of Harmony
East Aurora, NY

International Reps: (51 quartets)
Quartet: Auld Lang Syne (24th)
Front Row Center (26th)

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY
(16th of 16)



District Quartet Champion

Trademark
Binghamton, NY

Tenor: Ken Thomas
Lead: Tom Glossick
Bass: Mike Esposito
Bari: Dave Scott

International Quartet Reps

Front Row Center
East Aurora, NY

Tenor: David Mason
Lead: Jim McDonnell
Bass: Jack Trenchard
Bari: Ron Mason

Auld Lang Syne
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Andy Nazzaro
Lead: Ron Borges
Bass: Jan Muddle
Bari: Glenn Jewell



President: George Cook	DME: Bob Coant
Exec. VP: Dick Benner	DMDC: Rudy Reger
Treasurer: Jim Eldridge	DCO: Burt Louk
Secretary: Claire Bayne	DACJC: D. Woodworth
Ontario Division: Jack Fritsch	P.R. Off.:
Allegheny Division: George Jarrell	
Appalachian Division: Norm Manor, Jr.	
Catskill Division: Jim Putman	
International Board Member: Ray Ferrigno	

- *Trademark* becomes the first of only two SLD quartets to win the Novice quartet championship and then go on to win the district quartet championship.

1989

District Chorus Champions



Friends of Harmony

East Aurora, NY

Director: Ron Mason

International Chorus Reps



Chorus of the Genesee (16th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Jan Muddle



President: George Cook
Syracuse, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: 30

Number of members: 1261

Special guest(s): Jim DeBusman,
Jim Casey, Ev Nau, Ron Rockwell

Spring Convention: Apr. 20-22
Buffalo, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 28-30
Binghamton, NY

International Convention:
San Francisco, CA (FWD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Lake Effect Harmony
Geneva, NY

Chorus: Southerntiersmen
Binghamton, NY

International Reps: (51 quartets)
Quartet: Auld Lang Syne (34th)
Front Row Center (36th)

Chorus: Friends of Harmony
Binghamton, NY
(16th of 17)



District Quartet Champion

**Lake Effect
Harmony**
Geneva, NY

Tenor: Art Maeske
Lead: Pete Covert
Bass: Ron Butler
Bari: Keith Langdon

International Quartet Reps

Front Row Center
Amherst/East Aurora, NY

Tenor: David Mason
Lead: Jim McDonnell
Bass: Jack Trenchard
Bari: Ron Mason

Auld Lang Syne
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Andy Nazzaro
Lead: Ron Borges
Bass: Jan Muddle
Bari: Glenn Jewell



President: George Cook
Exec. VP: Dick Benner
Treasurer: Jim Eldridge
Secretary: Claire Bayne

Ontario Division: Jack Fritsch
Allegheny Division: George Jarrell

Appalachian Division: Norm Manor, Jr.

Catskill Division: Jim Putman

International Board Member: Ray Ferrigno

DME: Bob Coant
DMDC: Rudy Reger
DCO: Burt Louk
DACJC: D. Woodworth
P.R. Off.:

- 101 year old Irving Berlin and Past International President, Ralph Ribble, the instigator of the Barberpole Cat program pass away.

1990

District Chorus Champions



Southerntiersmen

Binghamton, NY

Director: Jerry Schmidt

International Chorus Reps



Friends of Harmony (16th place)

East Aurora, NY

Director: Ron Mason



President: Richard Benner
Rochester, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: 30

Number of members: 1217

Spring Convention: Apr. 12-14
Elmira, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 27-29
Syracuse, NY

International Convention:
Louisville, KY (CAR)

District Champions:
Quartet: The Lighter Side
Rochester, NY

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY

International Reps: (65 quartets)
Quartet: Front Row Center (45th)
Trademark (47th)
Bayside Boys (62nd)

Chorus: Friends of Harmony
East Aurora, NY
(17th of 17)



Pres.: Dick Benner
EVP: John Walker
Treas.: Jim Eldridge
Sec.: John Shuron
IBM: Jim Hassel
DME: Bob Coant
DACJC: D. Woodworth



District Quartet Champion

The Lighter Side
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Fritz Fouquet
Lead: Don Stothard
Bass: Mike Morgan
Bari: Gary Pixley

International Quartet Reps

Front Row Center
East Aurora/Watertown, NY

Tenor: David Mason
Lead: Tracy Robertson
Bass: Jack Trenchard
Bari: Ron Mason



Trademark
Binghamton, NY

Tenor: Ken Thomas
Lead: Tom Glossick
Bass: Mike Esposito
Bari: Dave Scott



Bayside Boys
Erie, PA

Tenor: Daron Praetzel
Lead: Jon Zimmerman
Bass: Brian Praetzel
Bari: Aaron Praetzel



Allegheny Division: Charles Payne
Appalachian Division: Paul Bravo

Catskill Division: Bruce Williams
Ontario Division: Pete Ceruti

- Seneca Land qualifies three quartets to the International Convention in Louisville in 1991. A total of 66 competing quartets prompt the International C&J Committee to raise the qualifying score to the present 1824 points.

1991

District Chorus Champions



Chorus of the Genesee

Rochester, NY

Director: Mike Morgan

International Chorus Reps



Friends of Harmony (17th place)

East Aurora, NY

Director: Ron Mason



President: Richard Benner
Rochester, NY

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: 30

Number of members: 1203

Spring Convention: Apr. 3-5
Binghamton, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 25-27
Syracuse, NY

International Convention:
New Orleans, LA (SWD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Gold Rush
Warren, PA

Chorus: Friends of Harmony
East Aurora, NY

International Reps: (55 quartets)
Quartet: Gold Rush (45th)
The Lighter Side (54th)

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY
(20th of 20)



District Quartet Champion

Gold Rush
Warren, PA

Tenor: Jerry Pask
Lead: John Berenguer, Jr
Bass: Jeff Mahan
Bari: Paul Mahan

International Quartet Reps

Gold Rush
Warren, PA

Tenor: Jerry Pask
Lead: John Berenguer, Jr
Bass: Jeff Mahan
Bari: Paul Mahan

The Lighter Side
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Fritz Fouquet
Lead: Don Stothard
Bass: Mike Morgan
Bari: Gary Pixley



President: Dick Benner
Exec. VP: John Walker
Treasurer: Jim Eldridge
Secretary: John Shuron

Ontario Division: Pete Ceruti

Allegheny Division: Charles Payne

Appalachian Division: Charles Howlett

Catskill Division: Jim Putman

International Board Member: George Cook

DME: Bob Coant

DACJC: Don Stothard

Mem. VP: George Jarrell

- Membership becomes a priority and *George Jarrell* is named Seneca Land's first Membership Vice-President in 1991.

1992

District Chorus Champions



Friends of Harmony

East Aurora, NY

Director: Ron Mason

International Chorus Reps



Chorus of the Genesee (20th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Mike Morgan



President: John Walker
Cambridge Springs, PA

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: 32

Number of members: 1198

Spring Convention: Apr. 16-18
Hamburg, NY

Fall Convention: Oct. 1-3
Erie, PA

International Convention:
Calgary, AL (EVG)

District Champions:
Quartet: Bayside Boys
Erie, PA

Chorus: Commodore Perry
Erie, PA

International Reps: (53 quartets)
Quartet: Bayside Boys (38th)
Local Edition (51st)

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY
(21st of 21)

District Quartet Champion



Bayside Boys
Erie, PA

Tenor: Daron Praetzel
Lead: Jon Zimmerman
Bass: Brian Praetzel
Bari: Aaron Praetzel

International Quartet Reps

Bayside Boys
Erie, PA

Tenor: Daron Praetzel
Lead: Jon Zimmerman
Bass: Brian Praetzel
Bari: Aaron Praetzel

Local Edition
Geneva, NY

Tenor: Art Maeske
Lead: Pete Covert
Bass: Ernie Carlson
Bari: Keith Langdon



President: John Walker
Exec. VP: Andy Nazzaro
Treasurer: Jim Eldridge
Secretary: John Shuron

Ontario Division: Pete Ceruti

Allegheny Division: Charles Payne

Appalachian Division: Charles Howlett

Catskill Division: Jim Putman

International Board Member: George Cook

DME: Bob Coant

DACJC: Don Stothard

Mem. VP: George Jarrell

- The International Convention is held in beautiful Calgary, Alberta, Canada. The temperatures are in the high 60s instead of the usual high 90s.

1993

District Chorus Champions



Commodore Perry Chorus

Erie, PA

Director: Daron Praetzel

International Chorus Reps



Chorus of the Genesee (21st of 21)

Rochester, NY

Director: Mike Morgan



President: John Walker
Cambridge Springs, PA

President's slogan: n/a

Number of chapters: 31

Number of members: 1166

Spring Convention: Apr. 8-10
Elmira, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 23-25
Elmira, NY

International Convention:
Pittsburgh, PA (JAD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Ready or Not
Erie, PA

Chorus: New Horizons Chorus
Mohawk Valley, NY

International Reps: (53 quartets)
Quartet: Gold Rush (50th)
The Praetzel Brothers (53rd)

Chorus: Commodore Perry
Erie, PA
(19th of 20)



District Quartet Champion

Ready or Not
Erie/Warren, PA

Tenor: Rich Bresenhan
Lead: Jon Zimmerman
Bass: Jeff Mahan
Bari: Drew Tepe

International Quartet Reps

Gold Rush
Warren, PA/Jamestown, NY

Tenor: Jerry Pask
Lead: Brett Heintzman
Bass: Jeff Mahan
Bari: Paul Mahan

The Praetzel Brothers
Erie, PA

Tenor: Daron Praetzel
Lead: Aaron Praetzel
Bass: Brian Praetzel
Bari: Sean Praetzel



President: John Walker
Exec. VP: Andy Nazzaro
Treasurer: Jim Eldridge
Secretary: Carl Fallman

Allegheny Division: Charles Payne
Appalachian Division: Charles Howlett
Catskill Division: Jim Putman
Ontario Division: William Ornt
International Board Member: Dick Benner

DME: Bob Coant
DACJC: Don Stothard
Mem. VP: Bill Ryan
DCO: Fred Burne

- *Lifeblood* mission becomes the focus based on the Society's Future II Committee resolution adopted in 1992 based on the Bryn Mawr, PA experiment.

1994

District Chorus Champions



New Horizons Chorus

Mohawk Valley, NY

Director: Rob Hopkins

International Chorus Reps



Commodore Perry Chorus (19th place)

Erie, PA

Director: Daron Praetzel



President: Andy Nazzaro
Brockport, NY

President's slogan:
"Find More Reasons To Sing"

Number of chapters: 30

Number of members: 1114

Spring Convention: Mar 31-Apr. 2
Syracuse, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 29-Oct. 1
Rochester, NY

International Convention:
Miami Beach, FL (SUN)

District Champions:
Quartet: Phoenix
Syracuse/Oswego, NY

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY

International Reps: (56 quartets)
Quartet: Ready or Not (47th)
Phoenix (52nd)

Chorus: Commodore Perry
Erie, PA
(22nd of 22)



District Quartet Champion

Phoenix
Syracuse/Oswego, NY

Tenor: Dean Smith
Lead: Mac Sabol
Bass: Steve Fanning
Bari: Gordon Wendell

International Quartet Reps

Ready or Not
Erie/Warren PA

Tenor: Rich Bresenhan
Lead: Jon Zimmerman
Bass: Jeff Mahan
Bari: Drew Tepe

Phoenix
Syracuse/Oswego, NY

Tenor: Dean Smith
Lead: Mac Sabol
Bass: Steve Fanning
Bari: Gordon Wendell



President: Andy Nazzaro
Exec. VP: Bob Coant
Treasurer: Jim Eldridge
Secretary: Carl Fallman

Allegheny Division: Les Ericksen
Appalachian Division: Chuck Wert
Catskill Division: Wayne Nowlan
Ontario Division: Larry Robinson
International Board Member: Dick Benner

DME: Pete Carentz
DACJC: Don Stothard
Mem. VP: Bill Ryan
DCO: Fred Burne

- *Cornerstone* wins the Buckeye Invitational Qt. Championship in both Entertainment and Overall categories, winning by more than 400 points.

1995

District Chorus Champions



Chorus of the Genesee

Rochester, NY

Director: Mike Morgan

International Chorus Reps



Commodore Perry Chorus (22nd place)

Erie, PA

Director: Jerry Knickerbocker



President: Andy Nazzaro
Brockport, NY

President's slogan:
"Find More Reasons To Sing"

Number of chapters: 30

Number of members: 1160

Spring Convention: Mar. 29-31
Rochester, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 27-29
Rochester, NY

International Convention:
Salt Lake City, UT (RMD)

District Champions:
Quartet: New York News
Batavia/Onondaga Co./
Binghamton/Geneva, NY

Chorus: Holland Land
Harmonizers
Batavia, NY

International Reps: (48 quartets)

Quartet: Ready or Not (42nd)
Erie, PA

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY
(21st of 22)



District Quartet Champion

New York News
Batavia/Onondaga Co./
Binghamton/Geneva, NY

Tenor: Eric Saile
Lead: Peter Carentz
Bass: Gerry O'Neil
Bari: Keith Langdon



International Quartet Reps

Ready or Not
Erie/Warren, PA

Tenor: Rich Bresenhan
Lead: Jon Zimmerman
Bass: Jeff Mahan
Bari: Drew Tepe



President: Andy Nazzaro
Exec. VP: Bob Coant
Treasurer: Jim Eldridge
Secretary: Carl Fallman

DME: Pete Carentz
DACJC: Don Stothard
Mem. VP: Art Zelesnikar
DCO: Albert Clark

Allegheny Division: Les Ericksen
Appalachian Division: Chuck Wert
Catskill Division: Wayne Nowlan
Ontario Division: Bob Kallstrand
International Board Member: John Walker

- The Society goes through a complete restructuring and organizational change in 1996.

1996

District Chorus Champions



Holland Land Harmonizers

Batavia, NY

Director: Ron Mason

International Chorus Reps



Chorus of the Genesee (21st place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Don Morgan



- Cornerstone wins the district quartet championship after thirteen years and is a popular champion with the audience.

President: Bob Coant
Fulton, NY

President's slogan:
"Make A Difference"

Number of chapters: 32

Number of members: 1153

Spring Convention: Apr. 4-6
Greece, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 26-28
Jamestown, NY

International Convention:
Indianapolis, IN (CAR)

District Champions:
Quartet: Cornerstone
Watertown/Oswego/
Rochester, NY

Chorus: New Horizons Chorus
Mohawk Valley, NY

International Reps: (43 quartets)

Quartet: New York News (41st)
Batavia/Onondaga Co./
Binghamton/Geneva, NY

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY
(20th of 21)



District Quartet Champion

Cornerstone
Watertown/Oswego/
Rochester, NY

Tenor: Stuart Pease
Lead: Barney Johnson
Bass: Chuck Wert
Bari: Bob Coant



International Quartet Reps

New York News
Batavia/Onondaga Co./
Binghamton/Geneva, NY

Tenor: Eric Saile
Lead: Peter Carentz
Bass: Gerry O'Neil
Bari: Keith Langdon



President: Bob Coant
Secretary: Jim McElravy
Treasurer: Jim Eldridge
VP Chapter Supp.: Andy Nazzaro
VP Chorus Dir. Dev.: Keith Langdon
VP Contest & Judging: Don Stothard
VP Events: Don Stothard
VP Mark./PR: Rick Reynolds
VP Member Serv.: Art Zelesnikar
VP Music/Perf.: Pete Carentz

SBM: John Walker

1997

District Chorus Champions



New Horizons Chorus

Mohawk Valley, NY

Director: Rob Hopkins

International Chorus Reps



Chorus of the Genesee (20th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Maggie Swift



President: Bob Coant
Fulton, NY

President's slogan:
"Make A Difference"

Number of chapters: 31

Number of members: 1168

Spring Convention: Apr. 3-5
Rochester, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 25-27
Batavia, NY

International Convention:
Atlanta, GA (DIX)

District Champions:
Quartet: Pierce-Arrow
East Aurora, NY

Chorus: Southerntiersmen
Binghamton, NY

International Reps: (49 quartets)
Quartet: New York News (49th)
Batavia/Onondaga Co./
Binghamton/Geneva, NY

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY
(19th of 20)



District Quartet Champion

Pierce-Arrow
East Aurora, NY

Tenor: Jim McDonnell, Jr.
Lead: Jim McDonnell, Sr.
Bass: Bob Brandel
Bari: Brett Heintzman



International Quartet Reps

New York News
Batavia/Onondaga Co./
Binghamton/Geneva, NY

Tenor: Eric Saile
Lead: Peter Carentz
Bass: Gerry O'Neil
Bari: Keith Langdon



President: Bob Coant
Secretary: Jim McElravy
Treasurer: Jim Eldridge
VP Chapter Supp.: Andy Nazzaro
VP Chorus Dir. Dev.: Keith Langdon
VP Contest & Judging: Don Stothard
VP Events: Don Stothard
VP Mark./PR: Rick Reynolds
VP Member Serv.: Art Zelesnikar
VP Music/Perf.: Pete Carentz

SBM: John Walker

- Society President, Ed Waesche's slogan is *"Let's Grow Young Together"* which focuses on the Society's new mission statement of *"leading the cause of encouraging vocal music in schools and our communities."*

1998

District Chorus Champions



Southerntiersmen

Binghamton, NY

Director: Jerry Schmidt

International Chorus Reps



Chorus of the Genesee (19th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Maggie Swift



President: Fred Burne
Emporium, PA

President's slogan:
"Fun In More Places"

Number of chapters: 31

Number of members: 1198

Spring Convention: Apr. 3-5
Rochester, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 25-27
Rochester, NY

International Convention:
Anaheim, CA (FMD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Liberty Street
Batavia/Salamanca/
Warsaw, NY

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY

International Reps: (43 quartets)
Quartet: Ready or Not (42nd)
Erie, PA

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY
(20th of 23)



District Quartet Champion

Liberty Street
Geneva/Salamanca/
Warsaw, NY

Tenor: Bruce Crane
Lead: Bob Fuest
Bass: Pete Avery
Bari: Keith Langdon



International Quartet Reps

Ready or Not
Erie/Warren, PA

Tenor: Rich Bresenhan
Lead: Jon Zimmerman
Bass: Jeff Mahan
Bari: Drew Tepe



President: Fred Burne
Exec. VP: John Fopeano
Secretary: Jim Barickman
Treasurer: Jim Eldridge
VP Chap. Supp: Andy Nazzaro
VP CDD: Dave Lewis
VP C&J: Don Stothard
VP Events: Mike Morgan

VP Mem. Serv.: Jim Putman
VP Mark./PR: Tom Jones
VP Music/Perf.: Pete Carentz
SBM: Art Maynard (M-AD)

- The Society does away with the Executive VP position with the restructuring in 1996 but Seneca Land re-implements it in 1999.

1999

District Chorus Champions



Chorus of the Genesee

Rochester, NY

Director: Maggie Swift

International Chorus Reps



Chorus of the Genesee (20th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Maggie Swift



President: Fred Burne
Emporium, PA

President's slogan:
"More Fun In More Places"

Number of chapters: 34

Number of members: 1138

Spring Convention: Apr. 7-9
Rochester, NY

Fall Convention: Oct. 6-8
Rochester, NY

International Convention:
Kansas City, MO (CSD)

District Champions:
Quartet: Guided Edge
Chautauqua, NY/
Warren, PA

Chorus: Men of Accord
Chautauqua Co., NY

International Reps: (44 quartets)

Quartet: Liberty Street (42nd)
Geneva/Salamanca/
Warsaw, NY

Chorus: Men of Accord
Chautauqua Co., NY
(20th of 23)



District Quartet Champion

Guided Edge
Chautauqua Co, NY/
Warren, PA

Tenor: Pete Frank
Lead: Jon Zimmerman
Bass: Jeff Mahan
Bari: Paul Mahan



International Quartet Reps

Liberty Street
Geneva/Salamanca/
Warsaw, NY

Tenor: Bruce Crane
Lead: Bob Fuest
Bass: Pete Avery
Bari: Keith Langdon



President: Fred Burne
Exec. VP: Jim Putman
Secretary: Jim Barickman
Treasurer: Jim Eldridge
VP Chap. Supp: Jim Cole
VP CDD: Keith Langdon
VP C&J: Don Stothard
VP Events: Mike Morgan

VP Mem. Serv.: Jim Putman
VP Mark./PR: Tom Jones
VP Music/Perf.: Pete Carentz
VP YMIH: Bob Coant
SBM: Art Maynard (M-AD)

- The 50th anniversary of the Buffalo Bills gold medal win sees Dick Grapes being invited to the International Convention in Kansas City, MO. He emcees the chorus contest and gives the history of The Bills.

2000

District Chorus Champions



Men of Accord

Chautauqua Co., NY

Director: Rich Bresenhan

International Chorus Reps



Men of Accord (20th place)

Chautauqua Co., NY

Director: Rich Bresenhan



President: Jim Putman
Johnson City, NY

President's slogan:
"Make A Difference"

Number of chapters: 34

Number of members: 1119

Spring Convention: Mar31-Apr2
Rochester, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 28-30
Rochester, NY

International Convention:
Nashville, TN (DIX)

District Champions:
Quartet: Destiny
Batavia/Warsaw, NY

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY

International Reps: (50 quartets)
Quartet: Destiny (48th)
Batavia/Warsaw, NY

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY
(20th of 21)



District Quartet Champion

Destiny
Batavia/Warsaw, NY

Tenor: Brian Haught
Lead: Bob Fuest
Bass: Nick Daley
Bari: Ron Mason



International Quartet Reps

Destiny
Batavia/Warsaw, NY

Tenor: Bruce Crane
Lead: Bob Fuest
Bass: Nick Daley
Bari: Ron Mason



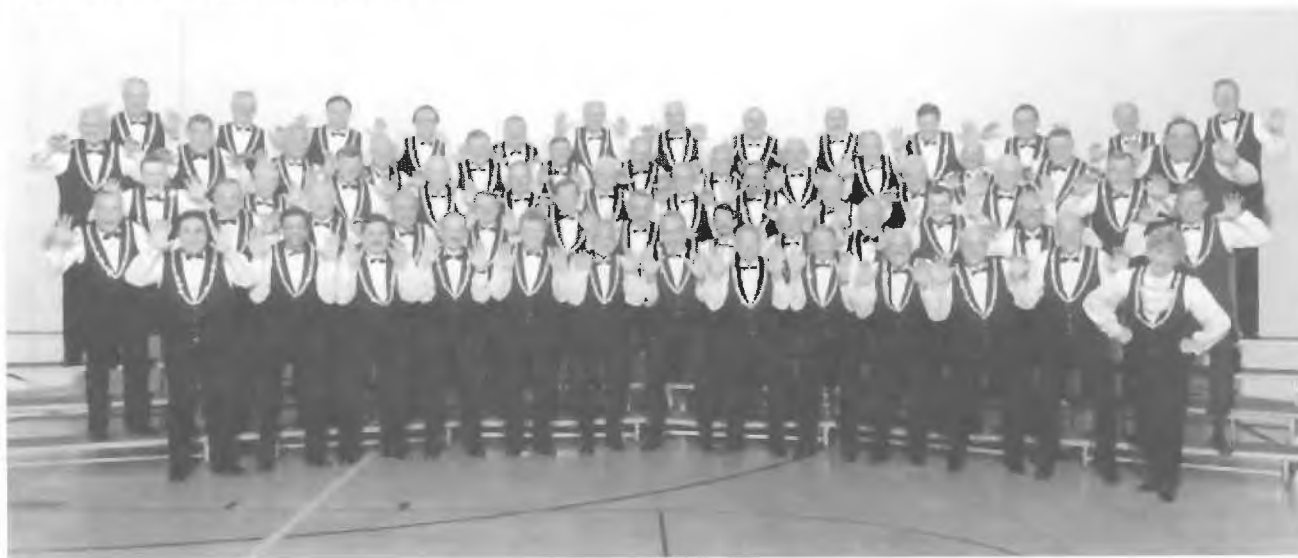
President: Jim Putman
Exec. VP: George Jarrell
Secretary: Jim Barickman
Treasurer: Jim Eldridge
VP Chap. Supp: Jim Cole
VP CDD: Dave Lewis
VP C&J: Don Stothard
VP Events: Mike Morgan

VP Mem. Serv.: Butch Talada
VP Mark./PR: Tom Jones
VP Music/Perf.: Rick Collins
VP YMIH: Bob Coant
SBM: Art Maynard (M-AD)

- Rochester's *Chorus of the Genesee* represents Seneca Land for the 28th time in International competition, this year in Nashville, TN.

2001

District Chorus Champions



Chorus of the Genesee

Rochester, NY

Director: Maggie Swift

International Chorus Reps



Chorus of the Genesee (20th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Maggie Swift



President: Jim Putman
Johnson City, NY

President's slogan:
"Make A Difference"

Number of chapters: 35

Number of members: 1054

Spring Convention: Apr. 5-7
Rochester, NY

Fall Convention: Sept. 27-29
Rochester, NY

International Convention:
Portland, OR (EVG)

District Champions:
Quartet: Harmonix
Mohawk Valley, NY/
Warren, PA

Chorus: Holland Land
Harmonizers
Batavia, NY

International Reps: (43 quartets)

Quartet: Destiny (42nd)
Batavia/Warsaw, NY

Chorus: Chorus of the Genesee
Rochester, NY
(20th of 21)



District Quartet Champion

Harmonix
Mohawk Valley, NY
Warren, PA

Tenor: Chaz Zellos
Lead: Don Drake
Bass: Jeff Mahan
Bari: Rob Hopkins



International Qt. Reps

Destiny
Batavia/Warsaw, NY

Tenor: Brian Haught
Lead: Bob Fuest
Bass: Nick Daley
Bari: Ron Mason



President: Jim Putman
Exec. VP: George Jarrell
Secretary: Jim Barickman
Treasurer: Jim Eldridge
VP Chap. Supp: Tom Vizzi
VP CDD: Dave Lewis
VP C&J: Don Stothard
VP Events: Joe Bradbury

VP Mem. Serv.: Butch Talada
VP Mark./PR: Brian Moore
VP Music/Perf.: Rick Collins
VP YMIH: Don Drake
SBM: Bob Coant (SLD)

- Seneca Land district celebrates its 50th anniversary at its fall convention in The Roberts Wesleyan college auditorium in Rochester, NY. Dr. Rob Hopkins writes "Celebrate!" to commemorate the event.

2002

District Chorus Champions



Holland Land Harmonizers

Batavia, NY

Director: Ron Mason

International Chorus Reps



Chorus of the Genesee (20th place)

Rochester, NY

Director: Maggie Swift



Seneca Land District

Novice, Senior



and College



Quartet Champions



Seneca Land District Novice and College Quartet Champions



Seneca Land District Novice Quartet Champions (photos on next page)

*deceased

(voice parts are left to right: tenor, lead, bari, bass)

1970	Kinzua Chords—Warren	Wayne Campbell, Ted Heckathorne, Craig Campbell, Jon Bullock
1971	Firesiders—	quartet personnel & chapter unknown
1972	Gaslight Four—Oswego	Chuck Eaker, Bart Natoli, Kent Roseberry, Art Greer*
1973	Jeff-4-Sons—Watertown	John Eastman, Gary Tyner*, Jay Young, Jim Ryder
1974	Finally Four—Venango Co.	Chuck Chittester, Dan Wrhen, Dennie Fye, Tom Curtis
1975	Finally Four—Venango Co.	Dan Wrhen, Chuck Chittester, Jim Sines, Bill Swarthout
1976	8 Feet of Harmony—Rochester	Ken Simmons, Andy Wolf, Steve Roberts, Tim Drake
1977	Patent Pending—Monroe Co. West	Andy Nazzaro, Rudy Reger, Bob Weisenreder, Mark Block
1978	Genesee Showboat—Rochester	Lee Shawcross, Ken Bissinger, Joe Bradbury, Tim Drake
1979	Chord Benders—Oswego	Joe Story, Al Wygant, Kent Roseberry, Art Greer*
1980	Razzberries—Crawford Co.	Lawson Smart, Ron Shilling, Bill Jouver, Dick Beers
1981	Greeting Chords—Buffalo/Roch.	Earl Dietz, Al Leuthe, Chuck Hixon, Don Ruff
1982	Erie Canal Connection—Monroe Co. West	Dan Gnagy, Ron Miller, Jim Savard, Lanny Northrup
1983	Penn-NY Collection—Warren/Jamestown	Jerry Pask, J. Berenguer, Sr., George Jarrell, Rick Collins
1984	Four Town Four—Rochester	Marshall Oakes, Jon Gudmonson, Bruce Barmore, Bill Rohlin
1985	Cornerstone—Oswego/Watertown	Dick Stephens, Brad Lundquist, Bob Coant, Chuck Wert
1986	Special Delivery—Monroe Co. West	Dave Preston, Ray Ferrigno, Bob Thomas, George Bauman
1987	4 Chords from the Woodshed—Binghamton	Bruce Williams, Greg Gnat, Adrian Butter, Neil Isham
1988	Trademark—Binghamton	Ken Thomas, Tom Glosick, Dave Scott, Dean Seeley
1989	Classic Touch—Oswego	Dean Smith, Bob Coad, Roger Wells, George Hort
1990	The Sandpipers—Mohawk Valley	Paul Bravo, Keith Rounds, Phil Marmelstein, Oakie Worzel
1991	Salt City Four—Syracuse	Mike Irwin, Frank Lanzipone, Gordon Wendell, Steve Fanning
1992	City Limits—Erie	Dave Sowry, Rich Bresenhan, Drew Tepe, Allen Smith
1993	Sound Selection—Jamestown	Rick Eddington, Dan McLaughlin, Jim Kenney, Dennis Cimo
1994	New City Sound—St. Marys	Fred Burne, Ray Alexander, Thom Hoffman, Burt Crowell
1995	Route 26—Binghamton	Lee Dupew, Tom Volk, Mike Lurenz, John Rice
1996	Lasting Impressions—Canton	Ron Prutzman, Mark Darou, Mike Legacy, Steve McMillan
1997	Genesee Express—Batavia	Art Davia, Larry Hall, Dan Norton, Pete Avery
1998	Hoopla—Warren	Jerry Lundeen, Brett Scarem, Paul Mahan, Jeff Mahan
1999	New Generation—Binghamton	Dave Scott, Sr., Dan Scott, Dave Scott, Jr., John Rice
2000	Northern Exposure—Watertown	Stuart Pease, Dick Stephens, Gary McCulloch, John Reynolds
2001	The New Testament—Monroe Co. West/Warsaw	Joe Howlett, Tom Nasman, Matt Stephens, Dan Grillo
2002	Three Great Guys—Batavia/Roch./Geneva	Todd Horton, Tom Nasman, Dan Norton, Gary Mosher

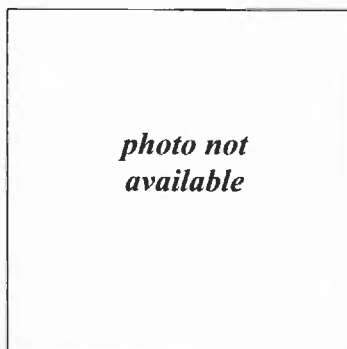
Seneca Land District College Quartet Champions

1993	The Touch Tones—University of Roch.	Amin Azzam, D.J. Segler, George Azzam, Derek Peterson
1994	The Touch Tones—University of Roch.	Amin Azzam, Scott Ventura, George Azzam, Pete Sierk
1995	The Touch Tones—University of Roch.	Tony Maroldo, Rick Mook, Scott Ventura, Pete Sierk
1996	The Touch Tones—University of Roch.	Tony Maroldo, Scott Ventura, Matt Lowe, Rick Mook
1997	The Touch Tones—University of Roch.	Tony Maroldo, Scott Ventura, Matt Lowe, Rick Mook
1998	TESTAMENT—Roberts Wesleyan College	Joe Howlett, Burke Lindquist, Matt Stephens, Dan Grillo
1999	Bound Four—Hamilton College	Jeffrey Kolb, David Kolb, Josh Rubinger, Tony Kastsetos
2000	The Richtones—Hamilton College	David Steadman, David Kolb, Tyler Hirshey, Richard Landrigan
2001	Syncopations—Buffalo State College	Michael Holmes, John Kromer, Ifach Pearlman, Vincent Girardi
2002	The Richtones—Hamilton College	David Steadman, David Kolb, Tyler Hirshey, Richard Landrigan

Seneca Land District Novice Qt. Champions



1970
Kinzua Chords
Warren, PA



1971
Firesiders
(chapter unknown)



1972
Gaslight Four
Oswego, NY



1973
Jeff-4-Sons
Watertown, NY



1974
Finally Four
Venango Co., PA



1975
Finally Four
Venango Co., PA



1976
8 Feet of Harmony
Rochester, NY



1977
Patent Pending
Monroe Co. West, NY



1978
Genesee Showboat
Rochester, NY

Seneca Land District Novice Qt. Champions



1979
Chord Benders
Oswego, NY



1980
Razzberries
Crawford Co., PA



1981
Greeting Chords
Buffalo, NY



1982
Erie Canal Collection
Monroe Co. West, NY



1983
Penn-NY Collection
Warren/Jamestown



1984
Four Town Four
Rochester, NY



1985
Cornerstone
Watertown/Oswego, NY



1986
Special Delivery
Monroe Co. West, NY



1987
4 Chords from the Woodshed
Binghamton, NY

Seneca Land District Novice Qt. Champions



1988
Trademark
Binghamton, NY



1989
Classic Touch
Oswego, NY



1990
The Sandpipers
Mohawk Valley, NY



1991
Salt City Four
Syracuse, NY



1992
City Limits
Erie, PA



1993
Sound Selection
Jamestown, NY



1994
New City Sound
St. Marys, PA



1995
Route 26
Binghamton, NY



1996
Lasting Impressions
Canton, NY

Seneca Land District Novice Qt. Champions



1997
Genesee Express
Batavia, NY



1998
Hoopla
Warren, PA



1999
New Generation
Binghamton, NY



2000
Northern Exposure
Watertown, NY



2001
The New Testament
Monroe Co. West/Warsaw, NY



2002
Three Great Guys
Batavia/Geneva/Roch., NY

Seneca Land District Senior Qt. Champions



1990 - Yesterday's Happiness

Mohawk Valley, NY

Paul Bravo, Bruce Ketcham, George Harris, John Deasy



1992 - Old Time Pals

Rochester, NY

Jack Simpson, Andy Wolf, Burt Louk, Jerry Dunn



1993 - Used and Abused

Rochester/Batavia, NY

Jack Simpson, Ron Borges, Phil McCabe, Glenn Jewell



1994 - The Snowbelters

East Aurora, NY

Bruce Tarquino, Norb Schneider, Don Ruff, Bill Ryan



1995 - Aarp Angels

East Aurora/Warren/Rochester, NY

Pat Campbell, Paul Mahan, Mike Morgan, Ron Mason



1996 - La Chordsa Nostra

Geneva/Batavia/Monroe Co. West, NY

Art Davia, Ray Ferrigno, Bob Thomas, Glenn Jewell

Seneca Land District Senior Qt. Champions



1997 - Older Lang Syne
Rochester/Batavia, NY
Andy Nazzaro, Ron Borges, Jan Muddle, Glenn Jewell



1998 - Show Biz
Rochester, NY
Keith Clark, Chuck Martello, Tom Nasman, Bill Evans



1999 - The Elderly Bros.
Rochester/Batavia/Geneva, NY
Art Davia, Ron Borges, Don Morgan, Glenn Jewell



2000 - Den of Antiquity
Chautauqua Co./Erie/Warren, PA
Ken Winkelman, Paul Mahan, Jack Ressler, Joe Tepe



2001 - Den of Antiquity
Chautauqua Co./Erie/Warren, PA
Ron Pistner, Paul Mahan, Jack Ressler, Ken Winkelman



2002 - Still Standin'
Batavia/Buffalo/E. Aurora/Frank Thorne
Bill Siddall, Jerry Thompson, Ron Mason, Denny Johnson

Seneca Land District College Qt. Champions



1993
The Touch Tones
University of Rochester



1994
The Touch Tones
University of Rochester



1995
The Touch Tones
University of Rochester



1996
The Touch Tones
University of Rochester

Seneca Land District College Qt. Champions



1997
The Touch Tones
University of Rochester



1998
TESTAMENT
Robert Wesleyan College



1999
Bound Four
Hamilton College



2000
The Richtones
Hamilton College



2001
Syncopations
Buffalo State College



2002
The Richtones
Hamilton College



Seneca Land



District



Awards





SLD Barbershoppers of the Year

est. 1988

1988	Rudy Reger, Canandaigua	1996	not awarded
1989	Bob Coant, Oswego Valley	1997	Keith Clark, Rochester
1990	Jerry Knickerbocker, Warren	1998	Dr. Jim McDonnell, East Aurora
1991	George Jarrell, Jamestown	1999	Andy Nazzaro, Rochester
1992	Lee Myers, Greater Dubois	2000	Richard Grapes, East Aurora
1993	Jim Eldridge, Warren	2001	Mike Morgan, Rochester
1994	not awarded	2002	Keith Clark
1995	Don Stothard, Rochester		



SLD Hall of Fame

est. 1998

1998	The Buffalo Bills	Vern Reed*, Al Shea*, Bill Spangenberg*, Dick Grapes Clem Cochran*, East Aurora
1999	Ray Ferrigno, Batavia Walt Holt, Erie	
2000	Plummer Collins, Warren S. Wayne Foor*, Rochester	
2001	Jim Steedman*, Buffalo Don Stothard, Rochester Cornerstone Quartet, Watertown, Rochester, Oswego Valley (Andy Nazzaro, Stuart Pease, Barney Johnson, Chuck Wert, Bob Coant)	
2002	Pat McPhillips*, Rochester H. Philip Lambrinos, Syracuse Rudolph "Rudy" Reger, Rochester	

* denotes deceased



Past International Presidents from SLD

1944-45	Phil Embury*, Warsaw, NY
1963	S. Wayne Foor*, Rochester, NY
1967	James Steedman*, Buffalo, NY
1976	Plummer Collins, Warren, PA

* denotes deceased



Distinctive Society Achievement

Phil Embury*, Warsaw, NY—International President
S. Wayne Foor*, Rochester, NY—International President
James Steedman*, Buffalo, NY—International President
Plummer Collins, Warren, PA—International President
James Eldridge, Warren, PA—International Harmony Foundation Committee
Jan Muddle, Rochester, NY—International Contest Judge
Don Stothard, Rochester, NY—International Contest Judge
Mike Morgan, Rochester, NY—International Contest Judge, International Contest Emcee
Phil Lambrinos, Syracuse, NY—International Contest Emcee
The Buffalo Bills, Buffalo, NY—1950 International Quartet Champions
Richard Grapes, Buffalo, NY—International Contest Emcee (2000 Kansas City, The Bills 50th Ann.)
Dr. Rob Hopkins, Clinton, NY—International Contest Judge, Arranger, Society Executive VP

*denotes deceased



International Bulletin Editor of the Year

1965—The Binghamtone - Vince Caselli
1969—The Binghamtone - Joe Hart
1973—The Fundamentalist - Burt Louk



International Public Relations Officer of the Year

1978—First Place, International Convention Booth - Burt Louk
1985—Frederick “Fritz” Schneider, Auburn, NY
1995—Frederick “Fritz” Schneider, Auburn, NY



Fifty Builders of the Half Century

Phil Embury*	S. Wayne Foor*	Jim Steedman*	Pat McPhillips*	Plummer Collins
Garry Cornick*	Andy Nazzaro	Norman Manor, Jr.*	Don Vetter*	Burton Burr
Earl Parr*	Clem Cochran*	Chet Biehls*	George Acklin*	Jack Wooley
James Hassel*	Homer Scott*	Alex Grabhorn*	Jerid Stine*	Keith Clark
Wm. Coddington*	Art Farrell*	Kenneth Burge*	Harold Carlson*	Phil Lambrinos
Vincent Caselli	Robert Borsch	Elliot Smith*	Phil Will	Rudy Reger
Ray Ferrigno	George Stothard	Robert Culbertson*	Wayne Fuller	Brian Moore
James Eldridge	Mike Morgan	James Palmer	Paul Wind	Burt Louk
George Jarrell	James McDonnell	Jack Fritsch	George Cook	Bob Coant
John Walker	Pete Carentz	Don Stothard	Fred Burne	Floyd "Jim" Cole

*denotes deceased



Fifty Quartetters of the Half Century

Vern Reed*	Bill Spangenberg*	Al Shea*	Richard Grapes	Bill Swift
Dave Grove*	Francis Fitch*	Bob Arnold*	Bob Fuest	Bill Crozier
Clayton DeLong*	Jim Cruickshank*	Bill Monroe	Rudy Reger	Tom Glossick
Paul Mahan	John Berenguer, Sr.*	Billie Lucas	Dave Reynolds	Walt Holt
Steve Cruickshank	Jim McDonnell	Dick Harris	Denny Johnson	Grove Murray
Tim Taggart	Mike Morgan	Keith Clark	Jan Muddle	Pat Campbell
Angelo Cervi	Don Stothard	Ron Mason	Keith Langdon	F. "Jim" Cole
Glenn Jewell	Jack Trenchard	Fritz Fouquet	Jerry Schmidt	Gerry O'Neil
Pete Carentz	Don Morgan	Jon Zimmerman	Al Baker	Gary Pixley
John Berenguer, Jr.	Jerry Thompson	Jeff Mahan	Mike Esposito	Tracy Robertson

*denotes deceased



50 Quartetters of the Half Century—honorable mention

Andy Nazzaro	Chuck Wert	Barney Johnson	Stuart Pease	Bob Coant
George Jarrell	Marty Huegel	Peter Covert	Tom Nasman	Jerry Pask
Ken Bissinger	Don Morgan	George Hugel	Erwin Ray	David Scott, Sr.
Sid Smith	Ron Pistner	Bob Denison	Brett Heintzman	Zeke Burr
David Lewis	Don Drake	Rob Hopkins	Ted Norton	Dan Norton
Don Evans	Lee Myers	Rick Collins	Joe Bradbury	Gary McBride
Aaron Praetzel	Darron Praetzel	Carl Granato	Brian Praetzel	Sean Praetzel
Art Davia	Ray Ferrigno	Ron Borges	Jim Terrien	Bill Rohlin
Dean Smith	Jim Palmer	Bill Ryan	Howdy Davis	Gary McBride
Ron Butler	Eric Saile	Jack Zonneville	Phil McCabe	Jack Simpson



Seneca Land District



Firsts

and Others





Seneca Land District Firsts, in chronological order

- 1944 Phil Embury becomes our first International President from 1944-45.
- 1945 The first official letter is sent out to chapter presidents and secretaries to form a district on 10/31/45. The first organization meeting is held on November 10, 1945 at the Statler Hotel, Buffalo, NY.
- 1946 We officially become the *Central-Western New York District Association of Chapters of SPEBSQSA, Inc.* on September 10, 1946.
- 1947 Boundary defined as Binghamton, NY and west thereof, and "several northwest Pennsylvania counties."
- 1949 The new district officially charts on June 9, 1949 and hosts the International Convention at Kleinhans Music Hall in Kenmore, NY.
- 1950 The Central-Western New York District certificate of incorporation is sent in on 10/28/50. It is signed by Gary H. Cornick, Pat McPhillips, Jack D. Harby, Albert P. Dexheimer, and Miles J. Holcomb. The *Buffalo Bills* win the International Gold Medal.
- 1952 International Board approves name change to Seneca Land District, it is finalized and filed in the office of New York Secretary of State on 12/29/52.
- 1963 S. Wayne Foor becomes Seneca Land's second International President.
- 1964 Seneca Land adds the Catskill Section. Until 1964, the southerntier was part of the Appalachian Section. Society adopts the Institute of Logopedics as its International Service project.
- 1965 Binghamton's Vince Caselli wins the International Bulletin Editor of the Year Award.
- 1966 Sections are renamed "Divisions."
- 1967 James Steedman becomes Seneca Land's third International President.
- 1970 The first novice quartet champions, *The Kinzua Chords* from Warren, PA are crowned.
- 1973 Syracuse Chorus of the Onondaga becomes the first District Small Chorus Champion.
- 1976 Plummer Collins becomes Seneca Land's fourth International President in our Nation's Bi-centennial year.
- 1981 Empire Express almost breaks top ten by placing 11th. Highest SLD quartet finish since the 1950s.
- 1982 The Seneca Land District Camper's Weekend is born from the idea of *Don Vetter** (Canandaigua) which honors him by bearing his name.



Seneca Land District Firsts, in chronological order

- 1983 Venango Co. Chapter hosts first SLD convention outside of the district in Niagara Falls, Ont. It proves to be one of the most successful conventions ever.
- 1984 The Young Men In Harmony (YMIH) program begins in SLD with Jerry Knickerbocker serving as the first chairman. It does not become a district board position until 1999.
- 1986 Seneca Land wins the Society's Achievement Award as number one district in the Society under the guidance of District President, Ray Ferrigno.
- 1987 **SLAQC** (Seneca Land Association of Quartet Champions) is formed at COTS inspired by the idea of then D.M.E., Bob Coant. A similar organization was launched in 1977 but never got started.
- 1988 *Barbershop on the Beach*, a free of charge, all-day non-stop singing event, the brainstorm of Keith Clark debuts at Charlotte Beach (pronounced "Char-lot") in Rochester, NY and is still running.
- 1989 Mini-Hep is moved to Alfred University, Alfred, NY and is renamed "Pow-Wow."
- 1990 The current chorus award plateau system is adopted replacing the small chorus system. *Yesterday's Happiness* from Mohawk Valley, NY become Seneca Land's first Seniors Quartet Champions.
- 1991 Sometime in 1991 the Pennsylvania counties of Clearfield and Jefferson are added.
- 1992 The "*Joe Barbershopper Chorus*" is first used at the fall convention in Syracuse, NY. Convention chairman, Bob Coant reported that nearly 200 barbershoppers participated!
- 1993 The current formula for awarding **FAME** funds to International competitors is adopted. *The Touch Tones* of the University of Rochester becomes Seneca Land's first College Qt. champs.
- 1995 SLAQC officially becomes an affiliate of the SLD for an annual fee of \$1.00. *Cornerstone* brings home Seneca Land's first-ever Buckeye Invitational Championship. The first convention run by the district convention team is on April 2, 1995 in Rochester, NY.
- 1997 The Batavia, NY chapter is designated an official International co-host of Can-An night.
- 1998 The *Seneca Land Hall of Fame* is launched and The Buffalo Bills and Clem Cochran are its first inductees.
District President, Fred Burne creates the Seneca Land District Endowment Fund.

**** Interesting fact:** *Trademark* and *Cornerstone* are the only two quartets to win the Novice Quartet Championship and then go on to win the District Quartet Championship.



The

Buffalo Bills



Quartet





Seneca Land's Brightest Star(s)...*The Buffalo Bills*

The next few pages are dedicated to Seneca Land's most prestigious claim to fame..... ***The Buffalo Bills***. The information and photos found on these pages are compliments of **Mr. Richard Grapes**, the only surviving member of The Bills. Dick won the gold medal in Omaha, NE in 1950 with The Bills and sang baritone. Dick still resides in N. Tonawanda, NY and has been very active in the district since being "rediscovered" in 1997. He has been asked to emcee countless chapter shows, district conventions and the International Chorus Contest in Kansas City in 2000, where The Bills were honored for their 50th anniversary since winning the gold. The Seneca Land District, and before that, the Central-Western, New York District thank Dick and The Bills for everything they have done for us and the Society as a whole.



Mr. Richard Grapes

The Story of The Buffalo Bills

The Buffalo Bills, as a quartet, were born on September 20, 1947. Al Shea, a Buffalo Policeman, got the idea and broached it to Hershel Smith, a salesman. They recruited William Spangenberg, a truck driver for the Ryerson Steel Company. Now they had three, Al the lead, Hersh, the bari, Bill the bass, but no tenor. It was with great celebrating that the Bills heard about Vern Reed, a radio station WBEN *Voice of Tomorrow* winner. Vern was the director of the Kenmore, NY Town Boy's Club, and he agreed to join the other three.

They learned three songs and made their debut before a ladies night audience at an American Legion Post in the area, on September 20, 1947. They decided then, that they had a good combination but needed lots of work. They were invited to sing at a series of meetings held by the Monday Morning Quarterback Club, a group of boosters of the All-American Conference football team, the Buffalo Bills. At this point, they had



The Buffalo Bills

1948 Central-Western, NY Dist. Champs

Al Shea

Bill Spangenberg

Vern Reed

Hershel Smith

not selected a name for themselves. When the master of ceremonies introduced them, he announced that they didn't have a name, so he suggested for the time being, "Let's call you The Buffalo Bills Quartet." They liked it, the name stuck, and the rest is history, as far as the name is concerned. (At this point it should be noted, that the football team was eventually dissolved, when the National Football League absorbed four of the teams into the N.F.L. When the American Football League was formed, a new Buffalo Bills team was a part of it, and as it is said, the new football team had to seek permission from the quartet to use the name.)

The quartet passed up the district contest in 1947, and put in their time preparing for the regional elimination contest to be held in Geneva, NY, the following May. In that contest they were selected to represent the Central-Western New York District (now known as, *Seneca Land*) at the International Contest to be held in June, 1948, at Oklahoma City, OK, where they were eliminated in the Semi-finals. They attracted wide attention among the barbershoppers, who recognized them as "comers." That fall, in October, they won the Central-Western New York District title, at Hornell, NY.



The Buffalo Bills....cont'd.

The following spring, in May, 1949, at Syracuse, NY, the Bills won another crack at an International Contest, this one to be held in their hometown. At Kleinhans Music Hall, in June, 1949, the Bills finished in sixth place, just outside the charmed circle of medalists.

With a good repertoire by now, they were riding high, and became a very popular quartet with their audiences, and one devoted to the best traditions and ideals of SPEBSQSA. They went to work on a new group of songs for the 1950 International Contest. Just a few weeks before the regional eliminations, Hershel Smith was promoted by his company and transferred to Madison, Wisconsin. The quartet was broken up. The remaining three members tried everywhere to find a baritone. About this time, the Buffalo, NY Chapter, SPEBSQSA, Inc., sponsored a new chapter in the Tonawandas, NY. Dick Grapes was a charter member of this new chapter, and soon became involved with a group that frequented Meyer's Restaurant in Buffalo, the unofficial "headquarters" for most barbershoppers in the area. Art Meyers, the owner, was a great fan of the Buffalo Bills, and when he heard of their dilemma, suggested they listen to this "new guy from Tonawanda, NY." They auditioned Dick and excitingly enough they decided he was the one they wanted. Their first major parade was in March, 1950, in Pittsburgh, PA, which was to be headlined by the Pittsburghers. The quartet's work was cut out for them, helping their new recruit to learn their extensive repertoire, for that and other shows, but most of all the International Contest to be held in Omaha, NE, in June of that year. Quoting from the cover of the Bills' first Decca records album: "In less than two months, by dint of hard work and unflagging effort, they perfected 13 of the Bills' complicated arrangements. The Bills then went to Olean, NY in May 1950 and in the regional eliminations, won their third trip to the International Contest in Omaha, NE, where right from the start, the Bills caught fire, and on the final night, they were in first place, and were crowned the International Champions for 1950.



The Bills in their authentic buckskin outfits they wore in the 1950 International Contest.

At this point, it is interesting to note, that all members of the quartet were employed in various parts of the community, and were concerned about their ability to get the free time to fulfill the commitments of a Champion Quartet. But just a few words by key barbershoppers, to the key people in the community, and the quartet members, to a man, were granted almost complete freedom to come and go as they pleased. In 1951, the quartet spent the month of July in Europe, at the behest of the Armed Services Special Services Division, teaching barbershopping to the Armed Forces there, as well as entertaining. At the same time, the 1949 Champions, The Midstates Four were touring Japan and Korea on a similar mission. In 1952, the Bills were invited to go to Japan and Korea. In the meantime, the quartet sang on parades all over the country, traveling on as many as 40 weekends out of the 52, each year. The quartet was a heavy-volume group, and required them to keep their voices in shape at all times. A good cold quickly passed throughout the group, just as it would in a closely-knit family. That is just what the quartet was, closer than brothers, each others troubles being shared by the others, with little in their personal lives, not being shared by the others.



The Buffalo Bills - page 3



The Bills touring Japan and Korea in 1952
(V. Reed, A. Shea, D. Grapes, B. Spangenberg)

During the quartet's existence, they recorded four albums with Decca Records, a relationship that was responsible for Decca Records becoming the company that handled the recordings of many medalists quartets in the years to follow. In February of 1954, the quartet appeared on the *Arthur Godfrey Talent Scouts Television Show* in Lake Placid, NY with the great **Phil Em-bury** as their 'talent scout.' They won the evenings' contest, and appeared on the *Godfrey Morning Show* for one week, and through this, Godfrey claimed that it was he that had discovered the quartet. Not long after, **Meredith Wilson** started playing the Bills' records on his daily N.B.C. Radio Show, "*Music Today*".

The Bills were doing a weekly radio show on the N.B.C. outlet in Buffalo, the quartet was invited to participate on a radio luncheon program, and it was there that **Meredith Wilson** indicated that he had written a show for Broadway, with a quartet in it, and wanted the Bills to do the quartet part. Shortly thereafter, the quartet was contacted by the show's producer, **Mr.**

Kermit Bloomgarden. It was a big thrill for the four Buffalonians, and a big decision. Uppermost in the minds of the men and their wives was the necessity of leaving their homes in Buffalo, and moving to some place near New York City, if they were selected for the role. Quoting from news articles at the time, Al Shea said, "The audition was held in the Imperial Theater, all four of us were a bundle of nerves. The only light was a work light that made the shadows out front all the darker. The producer yelled out, 'Sing something, anything you like'." Vern Reed told about it later; "We cracked that awful silence with 'Alexander's Ragtime Band'. As soon as we started to sing, the nervousness was gone, and before the first song was finished, stagehands and clerks in the office and the cleaning women had all stopped work to listen. The applause was something special." The news article goes on to say, "When it was finished, the music director asked for a soft, typical barbershop ballad, and the boys responded with 'Love Me And The World Is Mine'. More people came in, more lights went on, and **Meredith Wilson** asked the men to read some lines. They were now actors.



*The Bills on a later Arthur Godfrey Show
with Scotty Ward*

Back home, the problem of what to do had reached the critical stage. Everyone knew that taking the job with "*Music Man*" meant breaking up homes in Upstate New York, and meant singing as a full-time job. Dick Grapes decided to stay behind, and Wayne "Scotty" Ward of Salem, OH stepped into Dick's place.



The Buffalo Bills - page 4

The musical was a success, as everyone knows, and the Buffalo Bills were a hit from the first. They went on, eventually to play the same roles in the movie of the same name. They continued to sing their own kind of songs in the night clubs, at banquets, at county fairs. When the curtain rang down on their career, they left behind a record that may never be topped in the quartet world. There were 728 concerts, 216 television shows, 1510 performances on the legitimate stage, 626 conventions, 675 radio shows, 672 night club and hotel appearances, 137 state fairs, and a major motion picture.

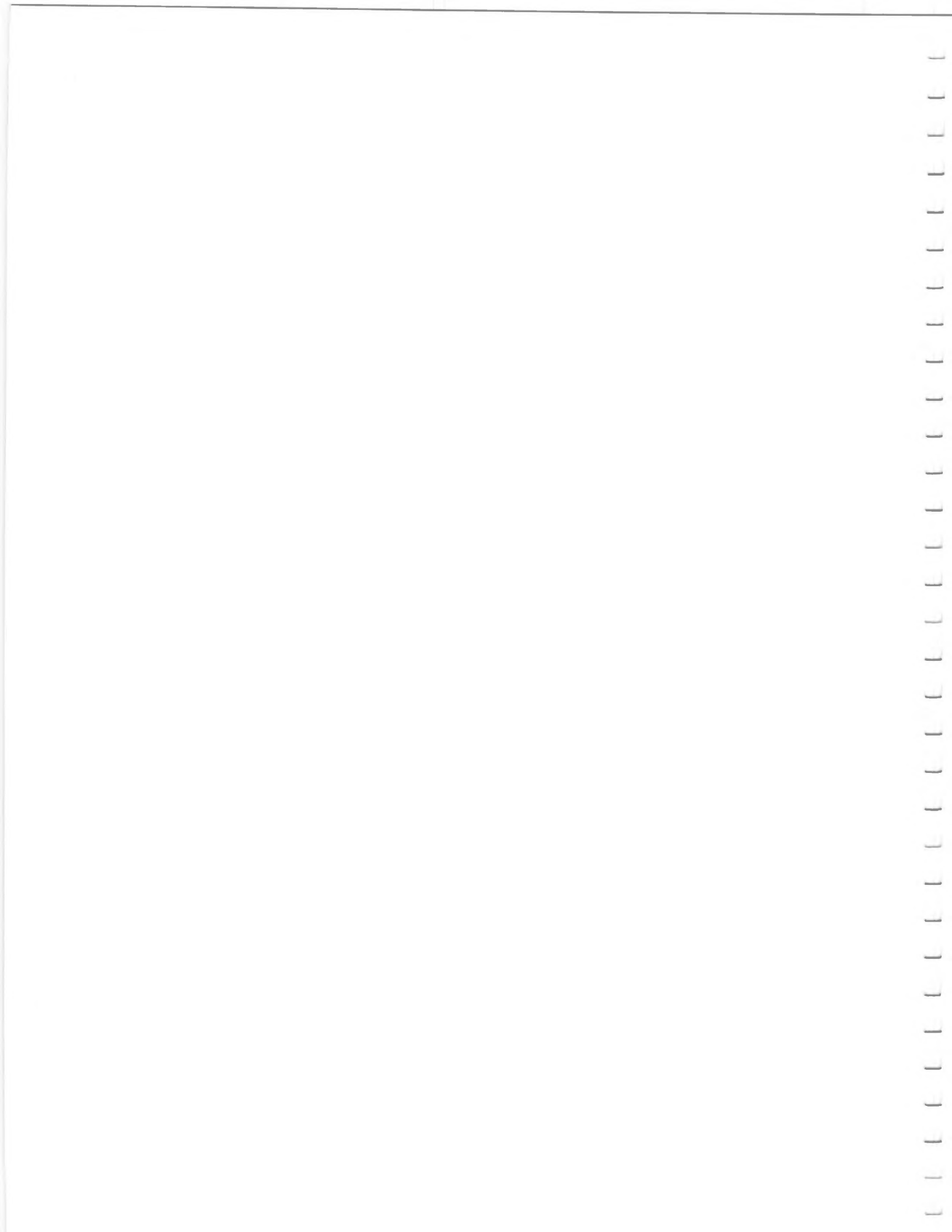
Where are they now?

Bill Spangenberg died in 1963, and was replaced for a short time by Jim Jones of Ashtabula, OH. Al Shea died in 1968, and Scotty Ward died in 1989. Vern Reed succumbed to Alzheimer's Disease in early 1990. Hershel Smith was seen at an International Convention a few years ago but his whereabouts are unknown at the time of the publishing of this book.

Dick Grapes, the only living member of the original four, still resides in the Buffalo area with his wife of more than 50 years, Doris. Ironically, up until 2001, Dick Grapes, a retired certified football official, was still a member of the Buffalo Bills. Yes, he was a member of the chain crew of the four-time Super Bowl participants, and could be seen on television at all Buffalo Bills home games. He is a member of the East Aurora Chapter, *Friends of Harmony*.



*The Bills after making the motion picture in Hollywood
(Al Shea, Vern Reed, Wayne Scotty Ward, Jim Jones)*





*The Chapters
of the
Seneca Land District
Association of
Chapters of
SPEBSQSA, Inc.*



**Auburn, NY Chapter
Lakelanders Chorus**
Chartered: April 8, 1947

Membership in 2002: 20
District Champions: n/a
Int'l Reps: n/a
Convention Host: 56

Barbershopping came to Auburn, NY as a part of the Adult Education Program under the guidance of the local school system.

The chapter was sponsored by the Syracuse and Newark, NY Chapters. The main promoter was Dick Chaffee, a businessman from Newark, NY. He had a business acquaintance in Auburn by the name of Albert Knight who was a prominent Auburn businessman and was influential in getting barbershopping as part of the adult education program. The Lakelanders Chorus is very active in the Society's Youth Outreach Program. They have



had a strong working relationship for many years with the Skaneateles High School and music teacher, Mickey Kringer. Mr. Kringer has a small choir and some women and men's quartets. Each year, the Auburn chapter invites these groups to sing on their annual show.

Auburn chapter member, Frederick "Fritz" Schneider won the International PROBE award in 1985.



**Batavia, NY Chapter
Holland Land Harmonizers**
Chartered: April 17, 1993

Membership in 2002: 47
District Champions: 96, 2000
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host: 98

In the ten years since its first meeting in October 1992, the Batavia chapter has become a home for champions in Seneca Land. They have produced three district quartet champions, three senior quartet champions, two novice quartet champions, and five International representative quartets. The Holland Land Harmonizers chorus has won its plateau championship five times and have been crowned district chorus champions twice!



The chapter draws its members from 10 counties across Western New York. More than half of them are dual members, representing 11 other chapters. The Holland Land Harmonizers have appeared at prestigious Western New York venues including Kleinhans Music Hall, the historic Riviera theater and the Chautauqua Institute. They have also appeared on annual shows hosted by other chapters in each of the four major international *a cappella* organizations; SPEBESQSA, Inc., Harmony Inc., Sweet Adelines International, and the Association of Male Choruses of America (AMCA). In 1997, they were designated an official international co-host of Can-Am night, the oldest, continuous, non-competitive, truly-international annual event in barbershopping.



Binghamton, NY Chapter
Southerntiersmen
Chartered: April 9, 1943

Membership in 2002: 66
District Champions: 61, 68, 71, 75, 78, 85, 90, 98
Int'l Reps: 62, 73, 74, 75, 76, 79
Convention Host: 53, 68, 73, 78, 80, 86, 89, 90, 92

The Binghamton Chapter was chartered on April 9, 1943. It was the third chapter chartered in Seneca Land and the 29th chapter in the Society. The chapter's founding father and first president was Ed Vincent who was still a member into the 1970's. The chorus was formed in the spring of 1948 with Albert Nemath serving as its first chorus director. They adopted the name "Southerntiersmen in 1964.



The Southerntiersmen have won eight Seneca Land District chorus championships and have represented SLD in six International chorus contests. Their finest finish (and to this day, Seneca Land's best finish) was 8th place in 1974 in Kansas City, MO. The following year (1975) in Indianapolis, IN, they finished 9th. The chorus has had only eight directors since 1948. Current director, Jerry Schmidt has held the position the longest at 22 years.

Five chapter quartets have become Seneca Land district champions and two others had members from the Binghamton chapter. This chapter has represented this district twelve times in quartets on the International stage. The Velvatones represented SLD three times (1947-1949) on the "big stage."



Bradford, PA Chapter
Mountain Laurel Harmonizers
Chartered: May 16, 1949 (Orig)

Membership in 2002: 18
District Champions:
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host: 51

The Bradford, PA chapter has been formed on three different occasions which included March of 1949 which lasted until June of 1967. A second chapter was formed in December of 1974 and ended in November of 1996.

The current chapter was reformed in August of 2000 by Harry Malone. The chapter received their license in February of 2001 and chartered in December of the same year. The Jamestown, NY chapter sponsored the chapter and helped them by putting on a district show in May of 2001 to get them some working capital.



Their official charter was held in April of 2002 with the Jamestown Harmony Express doing a 20-minute segment and was deemed a huge success. Competing twice even before they were chartered, almost all of the members are first-time barbershoppers making for a very exciting new beginning!



**Buffalo, NY Chapter
Queen City Chordsmen**
Chartered: November 1, 1943

Membership in 2002: 49
District Champions:
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host: 54, 62, 65, 69, 73, 77, 90

The Buffalo, NY chapter was formed in 1943 and chartered on May 1, 1943. None of the charter members are around to tell the story but according to the legends passed down, Phil Embury of Warsaw, NY was one of the founding fathers. He became International President the following year.

The original chapter was a "quartet" chapter. You had to find a place in a quartet to stay on board. On the other hand, when they had over 160 members, including the mayor, the chapter included a lot of socially prominent members who simply wanted that crazy-named organization on their resume.



The high point for the chapter came when their quartet, *The Buffalo Bills*, achieved international fame and recognition as Gold Medalists in 1950, and as performers on Broadway and TV, and in the movie, *The Music Man*. The chorus name, The Queen City Chordsmen was added in 1954.



**Canandaigua, NY Chapter
Heart of New York Chorus**
Chartered: June 7, 1952 (Orig)

Membership in 2002: 17
District Champions:
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host: 54, 57

The Canandaigua, NY, *Heart of New York* chapter was first chartered in 1957, sponsored by the Monroe County West chapter. This chapter had an immediate impact on the Seneca Land District by winning the district chorus championship in their first year of existence.

The chapter had its ups and downs and in 1985, Rudy Reger, a long-time Seneca Land District "quartet man" was asked to direct the Heart of New York chorus. Rudy brought his very infectious style of getting the job done. They hosted a one-time show in 1989 at the CCFL amphitheater where several Seneca Land District quartet and chorus champions performed.



In 1999, the Heart of New York chorus did an outstanding job at the district contest by earning the most improved chorus. Another event that was born in Canandaigua was the Seneca Land District Camper's Weekend. The first one was held at Potter's Campground and was the brainstorm of Don Vetter. This is an annual event and is a memorial to Don which now bears his name.



Canton, NY Chapter Goldenaires

Chartered: November 30, 1961

Membership in 2002: 29
District Champions:
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host:

The Canton, NY chapter was licensed and chartered on November 30, 1961 and were sponsored by the now defunct Massena, NY chapter. The first membership was 27 and it went as high as more than 50 members in 1975. Donald Blount was one of the founding fathers of the chapter and he is still an active charter member in 2002.

The first chapter president was Henry Knowles. Mr. Knowles died in office and was replaced by Everett Howard. The first musical director of the chapter was J. Richard Gilbert. Lancing Laraway directed the chorus the longest at 18 years.



The name "*Goldenaires*" was established in the mid-1960's when the chorus took on gold jackets and pants. Today, these uniforms have been replaced by red vests and black pants. Canton has always been very committed to the Society's support for *Heartspring*. Geographically, Canton is at the extreme northern boundaries of Seneca Land and although they do not participate in every SLD convention, they have always provided the "north country" with good, solid barbershop harmony in their community.



Chautauqua Co., PA Chapter Men of Accord

Chartered: December 12, 1969 (Orig)

Membership in 2002: 9
District Champions: 2001
Int'l Reps: 2000
Convention Host:

The Chautauqua Co., PA chapter originally chartered on December 12, 1969 and has remained a small, but active chapter since that date.

In early 1998, several men from many neighboring chapters, interested in competing at a higher

level got together and decided to join Chautauqua Co. to reach their goal. It didn't take long for in September of 1999, this chapter of young, energetic men earned the right to represent the Seneca Land District to the 62nd International Contest in Kansas City, MO. The twenty-four men pictured above, under the direction of Rich Bresenhan did a fine job, placing 22nd of 23 of the finest choruses from our Society and our affiliates. Shortly after the Kansas City convention, the chapter decided to take a hiatus and to date, have not resumed meeting. The Chautauqua Co. group does still remain a chapter but not as the highly competitive chorus they were earlier.





Crawford Co., PA Chapter
Yesterdays Sound
Chartered: December 31, 1975

Membership in 2002: 33
District Champions:
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host:

Barbershopping became "official" in Crawford County in 1950, when the French Creek Valley chapter was formed in Saegertown, PA. The charter was signed by O.C. Cash, himself.

Former Director of Music Education of SPEBSQSA, Inc., Bob Johnson, a graduate of Allegheny College, was associated with the French Creek chapter in their early years.



The chapter eventually moved to Meadville, PA, hoping to enlist from among the larger population, but declining membership and apparent lack of interest led to the demise of the French Creek group in 1968. In 1975, several formal members of the now defunct French Valley chapter received phone calls from Kenosha indicating that Gene Butterfield had moved to the area. Gene was a former assistant director of The Vocal Majority of Dallas, Texas. The chapter soon after adopted the name "Yesterday's Sound" and held their charter show on March 1, 1976.



Del-Otsego, NY Chapter
The Catskill Chordsmen
Chartered: August 6, 1999

Membership in 2002: 15
District Champions:
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host:

The Del-Otsego *Catskill Chordsmen* is one of the newest chapters in the Seneca Land District. A group of men who wanted to offer quality barbershop singing in the Delaware and Otsego areas got together in early of 1999.

They licensed on June 20, 1999 and chartered on August 6, 1999. The chorus' first experience on stage on October 2, 1999, when they served as mike testers for the Seneca Land District chorus contest at the Fall convention. The chapter officially received their charter on the district stage by District President, Fred Burne.



The Del-Otsego chapter meets each Monday evening at 7:30 p.m. at the Elks Club in Oneonta, NY and participates in sing outs and community events in the Delaware and Otsego county area.



**East Aurora, NY Chapter
Friends of Harmony**
Chartered: December 27, 1944

Membership in 2002: 94
District Champions: 77, 83, 86, 89, 92
Int'l Reps: 86, 87, 90, 91
Convention Host: 88, 93

The East Aurora, NY "South Suburbanaires" chapter was chartered in 1944. The Amherst, NY "Friends of Harmony" chapter chartered on September 16, 1972. In 1983 the two chapters merged. They kept the East Aurora



charter since it was the oldest charter and retained the Amherst chorus name, *The Friends of Harmony*. This cooperative effort was the basis for creating a true merger.

They new chapter soon became a powerhouse in Seneca Land representing the district in 4 International Chorus contests in the late 1980's and early 1990's. In addition, they captured 5 Seneca Land District chorus championships. Their best finish was 10th place in Hartford, CT in 1987. Their quartets have represented Seneca Land in International competition 15 times as well as capturing 5 Seneca Land District Quartet championships. The East Aurora chapter has brought great administrative talents to the Seneca Land District, as well. Our first district president, William Coddington was from the East Aurora chapter.



**Elmira, NY Chapter
Mark Twain Chorus**
Chartered: March 30, 1954

Membership in 2002: 39
District Champions:
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host: 63, 71, 77, 80, 81, 83, 87, 88, 91, 94

The Painted Post, NY chapter sponsored the original Horseheads/Elmira chapter on March 13, 1954. Cameron Benedict, who later went on to serve the district as Executive VP in 1961 and treasurer in 1962 and 63 was the person responsible for forming the chapter in the Horseheads/Elmira area. They met in the old Horseheads Fire Dept. hall and it took about two years before the original 20 men agreed to form the new chapter.



The chapter's name was later changed to the *Mark Twain* chapter to conform to local history. Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens) lived in Elmira, NY and wrote many of his most famous books like "*Tom Sawyer*" and "*Huckleberry Finn*" and others while in the area. There was a chapter in Elmira in the 1940's but it served as a "social club" club rather than an actual performing chorus and it soon dissolved into obscurity. Al Dalrymple is the only active charter member.



Erie, PA Chapter
Commodore Perry Chorus
 Chartered: 1957

Membership in 2002: 43
 District Champions: 64, 79, 88, 93
 Int'l Reps: 94, 95
 Convention Host: 70, 74, 84, 85, 93

The Erie, PA Chapter of SPEBSQSA was organized in the summer of 1957 by Steven Finnegan, who worked with the Warren, PA Chapter as sponsors. Steve found 29 other men who loved to harmonize and together signed the charter request.



They held their charter show on December 7, 1957 at the Erie Memorial School. The show featured their sponsor chapter, the Conewango Clippers from Warren along with the quartets, The Rollingtones, 1957 SLD Champions, The Chord Cadets, 1953 SLD Champs, and two quartets from the Johnny Appleseed District, The Parakeets, Akron, OH and the Sta-Laters, Conneaut, OH.

The highlight of the Erie Chapter has to be in 1964 when they not only won their first District Chorus Championship, but when their quartet, The Presque Isle Four won the District Quartet Championship the same year. Erie also represented Seneca Land to two consecutive International Chorus competition in Pittsburgh, PA in 1994 and 1995 in Miami, FL.



Geneva, NY Chapter
Finger Lakes Chorus
 Chartered:

Membership in 2002: 33
 District Champions: 59, 60
 Int'l Reps: 60
 Convention Host: 48, 58

The Geneva chapter is one of the oldest chapters in the Society and has grown steadily over the years from its original 12 members who signed the charter, to the 35 men who were inducted at the charter night on July 15, 1945. *O.C. Cash* himself installed the 12 charter members and signed the barber pole which is now on display at the Geneva Historical Museum.



In 1959, Geneva captured the District and Regional titles. In 1960, they won the honor to represent the Seneca Land District in International competition in Dallas, Texas. This was a memorable experience for the 35 men competing in more ways than one. Not only was it rewarding to compete in Dallas, but the roller-coaster chartered flight that flew the chorus through Hurricane Hazel with its 500 foot drops in the mountainous country provided a truly, hair-raising experience. Two of the members who made that trip, Jim Perry and Pat Caito still remain active in the chorus. Pat will be celebrating his 50th year of continuous service to the Geneva chapter in 2003. This incredible singing chorus has won the small chorus and plateau A championship numerous times and has continued to prosper for 56 consecutive years.



Gowanda, NY Chapter
Kings of Persia
Chartered: January 14, 1947 (Orig)

Membership in 2002: 6
District Champions: 1954
Int'l Reps: 1953
Convention Host:

The first organizational meeting of the Gowanda chapter was in October of 1945. They had much success in the early days in Seneca Land earning the right to represent Seneca Land at the first International Chorus contest in Detroit, IL on June 13, 1953 and also by becoming district chorus champions in 1954.



The Gowanda Chorus, Robert Falcie, fourth from the left is their director.

The Gowanda chapter co-sponsored chapters in Salamanca, Randolph, and Dunkirk, NY. In fact, here's a little known fact. The idea for the Miami, FL chapter was conceived in Gowanda, NY and therefore, the Gowanda, NY chapter co-sponsored the Miami, FL chapter! By the mid-1960's, interest and membership dwindled and the chapter was disbanded in 1969. In 1994, a few members from the East Aurora chapter decided to reorganize the Gowanda chapter. Although they have not been very large, they have been active in the community by giving numerous performances including the Gowanda Sesquicentennial celebration in July, 1998.



Headwaters, PA Chapter
Allegheny Goodtime Singers
Chartered: March 9, 1994

Membership in 2002: 16
District Champions:
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host:

The Headwaters "Allegheny Goodtime Singers" were licensed on October 28, 1993 with 12 members. They chartered with 23 members on March 9, 1994.

The chorus was directed by Rick Lytle from 1993-2002 until his transfer to the Harrisburg, PA area late this year. There is currently a director search underway for this chapter. There are 14 members and 3 non-members singing.

They have hosted an annual show each year with top-notch quartets such as the 1990 International Quartet Champions, Acoustix and the 1993 International Quartet Champions, The Gas House Gang as featured quartets. Next year's show is set for November 8, 2003 and promises to be another great show.



The chapter meets on Monday nights from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church in Coudersport, PA.



Hornell, NY Chapter
Maple City Chorus
 Chartered: Feb. 15, 1946 (Orig)

Membership in 2002: 11
 District Champions: 74
 Int'l Reps:
 Convention Host: 48, 51

The current Hornell, NY Chapter was chartered in 1968. They quickly rose to the top of the Seneca Land District by capturing the district chorus championship in Erie, PA in 1974 under the direction of Gary Fisk.



The Hornell Chapter is one of few chapters in our Society that have their own building. They worked very hard to obtain and maintain "*Harmony Hall*" in their hometown of Hornell.

Heartspring, and before that, *The Institute of Logopedics* has been a huge part of the Hornell Chapter. They sponsored a local boy (Michael Holbrook) for about 10 years at the institute. Michael and the Hornell Chapter were the subject of a special issue of *The Harmonizer*. Mike was photographed with our 1977 International Quartet Champions, The Most Happy Fellows on a visit they made to the institute. To this day, Michael Holbrook attends the Hornell Chapter show each year.



Ithaca, NY Chapter
The Ithachords
 Chartered: June 11, 1947 (Orig)

Membership in 2002: 13
 District Champions:
 Int'l Reps:
 Convention Host: 50

Founding member, **Fred Asay** recalls that a 40-man chapter met in the old Masonic Temple on Cayuga Street, near the library. The first annual show, or "Parade of Quartets", as they were called at that time, played to an overflow crowd in Bailey Hall at Cornell University on May 8, 1948.

The show featured the Notewasters (Ithaca), the Hilly City Four (Ithaca), Waltones (Walton), Syra-Chords (Syracuse), the Add-O-Chords (Addison), the Melody Mutilators (Rochester), the Melody Men (Buffalo), the Velvatones (Binghamton), the Westinghouse Four (Pittsburgh, PA), the Withered Four (Patterson, NJ), the Balladires (Jersey City, NJ), and the Harmony Flat Feet (NYC Police—Bronx, NY).



The chapter enjoyed tremendous popularity and was very active in the Seneca Land District. Since the original charter in 1947, the chapter re-chartered as the "Itha-Chords in 1967, and again as the "Itha-Chords" in 1999. (** there is some question whether the spelling should be "*Itha-Kords?*")



**Jamestown, NY Chapter
Harmony Express**
Chartered: October 2, 1945 (Orig)

Membership in 2002: 50
District Champions:
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host: 87, 97



The first chapter in Jamestown, NY was chartered on October, 1945 and they were sponsored by the Warren, PA chapter. They were a very active chapter in their community until about 1960. Rehearsals were cancelled during the months of July and August, membership dropped off and the charter was revoked. They re-chartered in January of 1963 and

once again, the charter was revoked due to lack of membership.

The Jamestown Chapter chartered for the third time on September 3, 1986 and this time, membership was no problem. They chartered with 71 members and have maintained close to 50 active members ever since. Jamestown has produced 4 Seneca Land District Quartet Champions and have represented the district in International Quartet competition three times. They have strong leadership and are a very "family" oriented chapter. In addition, they host the Chautauqua Serenade the third Sunday of August each year at the institute under the watchful guidance of George Jarrell and his committee.



**Mohawk Valley, NY Chapter
New Horizons Chorus**
Chartered: January 29, 1949 (Orig)

Membership in 2002: 51
District Champions: 94, 97
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host: 61, 66, 83

The Mohawk Valley chapter was born when 65 members of the Utica, NY Crimson Chords and the Rome, NY Knights of the Mohawk merged in January of 1985. The new chorus named themselves the "New Horizons Chorus" and from the very beginning, they decided they would be an entertaining one using very funny comedic routines.



They attained the Seneca Land District Chorus Championship in 1994 and 1997 and recently tied with the Rochester chapter for the right to represent Seneca Land in International competition. Prior to the Mohawk Valley chapter forming, the Utica, NY chapter was very instrumental in the origination, development and continuation of the annual Harmony Holiday at Grossingers, in the Catskills. Many top-notch quartets have come from the three chapters (Utica, Rome and Mohawk Valley) including Seneca Land District Quartet Champions: The Empire Statesmen, New York News and our current quartet champions, Harmonix. In addition, The Empire Statesmen (1969 and 1970) and New York News (1998 and 1999) won the right to represent the Seneca Land District in International competition.



**Monroe Co. West, NY Chapter
Chorus of the Erie Canal**
Chartered: March 13, 1977

Membership in 2002: 24
District Champions: 82
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host: 82, 85



Sometime in 1976, two friends (Stan Fox & Rudy Reger) met by chance talking about how nice it would be if there were a barbershop chapter in the western Monroe County of New York. This became a reality when they chartered the chapter on March 4, 1977. Their first meeting place was near the Erie Canal so the chorus was named, The Chorus of the Erie Canal.



The most notable accomplishment of this chapter came in the fall of 1982 when they performed their infamous "Ghoul" package as *The Chorus of the Eerie Canal* (pictured above), becoming the Seneca Land District chorus champions for 1982. 1982 seemed to be "their year" because their chapter quartet, The Monroe Doctrine also became the 1982 Seneca Land District quartet champions.



**New Bethlehem, PA Chapter
NBC Chorus**
Chartered: March 15, 1957

Membership in 2002: 45
District Champions:
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host:

The chapter name, "NBC" chorus originally was from the initials of the three towns the members came from to form the chapter: New Bethlehem, Brookville and Clarion, PA. Soon, men were coming from many neighboring towns in the county so the name stuck.

The chapter was licensed in 1956 and chartered in 1957. Founding fathers of the chapter were Ken Woodall, William Seelbach, and Leroy Geer. Ken Woodall is the only remaining active charter

member. The first chorus director was William Andrews and he directed for two years. Dickson Tattersall assumed the directorship in 1959 and continues to serve as chorus director to this day for more than 44 consecutive years!



New Bethlehem is as far South in Seneca Land as one could possibly be. If you cross the bridge in New Bethlehem, you've just crossed into the Johnny Appleseed District!



Olean, NY Chapter
Enchanted Mountain Chorus
Chartered: November 7, 1946

Membership in 2002: 19
District Champions: 55, 62, 65,
Int'l Reps: 55, 64, 65
Convention Host: 50, 57, 61, 63, 76, 79, 86

Phil Embury came to Olean in 1945 after forming the Warsaw, NY chapter and helping in the formation of the Buffalo and Batavia, NY chapters. In early 1946, Phil Embury put an ad in the local Olean newspaper announcing a barbershop chorus would be forming. On that first night, over a hundred men showed up.

In those early years, Olean was one of the prominent chapters in the Seneca Land District. They won the right to represent Seneca Land in three International chorus competitions and also became three-time Seneca Land District chorus champions. In addition, two Olean quartets, The Clark Angles and The Midnighters represented Seneca Land in International competition. For many years, under the auspices of Paul Wind, Olean led the Seneca Land District in donations to Heartspring. One of the least known pieces of barbershop trivia is that Olean was the beginning of Jeff Baker's (baritone of the 1996 International Qt. Champions, Nightlife) barbershopping career. A 12-year old Jeff Baker can be seen in the above photo. Jeff is in the first row, 5th from the left.



Oneonta, NY Chapter
Midstatesmen
Chartered: May 27, 1975

Membership in 2002: 19
District Champions:
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host:

The Oneonta, NY chapter was licensed in 1974 and chartered on May 27, 1975, under the sponsorship of the then, Utica, NY chapter. Of the 22 charter members, the first chapter president, Bill Osterhaut, Eugene "Gene" Daly, Ken Truhn, and Alan "Doc" Goss remain active. The chorus is known as the "Midstatesmen" Chorus.

Registered quartets from the chapter included Three City Four, Harmony Junction,, and Step-in' Out. Membership reached its high at 30 but has maintained about 20 since 1974. Regular competitors at district contest, The Midstatesmen produce an annual show and perform in many venues throughout the year, including Christmas caroling at several nursing homes.





Onondaga Co., NY Chapter
The Music Masters
Chartered: August 7, 1997

Membership in 2002: 31
District Champions:
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host:

The Music Masters were formed in late 1996, and chartered on August 7, 1997. The original organizers were Norman Manor, Jr. and Pete Carentz..

Pete was the first director and it was his vision that drove the chorus to high levels of excellence. The mission of the chapter was, and is, to be a competitive chorus, striving for the highest levels of the craft.

The Plateau A (small chorus) Championship was won by the Music Masters at the Spring, 2001 Seneca Land District convention. Twenty-four active and enthusiastic people were on the stage. Mike Nichols, who replaced Pete Carentz just before the competition, directed. Steve Fanning, of the 1995 award winning quartet, Phoenix, is the present director. The chapter and chorus continue to strive for the highest levels of performance, goals that were set by the founding fathers. We accomplished much in just over five years of existence and we look forward to the future with great optimism.



Oswego Valley, NY Chapter
The Snowbelters
Chartered: September 24, 1962

Membership in 2002: 34
District Champions:
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host: 92, 99



The Oswego Valley, NY chapter received their charter in September of 1962 and were sponsored by the Rochester, NY Chorus of the Genesee. Their charter show was held on Saturday, October 27, 1962 at the Oswego Country Club, Oswego, NY. Earlier that day, the Seneca Land District held their fall board of directors meeting in Oswego and the entire board attended the show in the evening. The charter was presented at the show by International President, S.Wayne Foor and District President, Art Farrell. Oswego Valley chartered with 27 men. Elmer Hadlow is the only remaining active charter member.



Over the years, they have been extremely active in the community, singing each and every month at the area nursing homes and hospital facilities. They have produced four Seneca Land District Novice Quartet Champions and three Seneca Land District Quartet Champions. They chose and adopted the name the "Snowbelters" in 1974 and many people wonder why they chose such a name. If you've ever been to Oswego during the winter time, you will soon realize the name was not chosen because it's a really nifty name. The average annual snowfall for the Oswego area is around 210 inches!



Painted Post, NY Chapter
The Arrowhead Chorus
Chartered: August 2, 1948

Membership in 2002: 16
District Champions:
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host: 52, 55, 65, 66, 68

The Painted Post, NY Chapter was sponsored by the Bath, NY Chapter and was chartered in 1948. Of the 5 chapters in Stueben County, Painted Post and Hornell are the only two that remain. The Bath, Addison, and Corning, NY Chapters have all dissolved.

Their chapter quartet, The Compress-Aires became Seneca Land District Quartet Champions in 1951. They went on to represent Seneca Land and the Painted Post Chapter in 1954 at the International Quartet Contest held in Washington, DC. Jerid Stine served as Seneca Land District President from 1953-1955.



In 2000, the Seneca Land District held their first-ever Harmony Explosion Summer Camp for youth in conjunction with Pow-Wow. The Painted Post Chapter sent 25% of all the students that attended that year by sending 11 students and one music teacher, Don Many. Thanks to the outstanding efforts of Bob L'amoreaux, these 11 students and their teacher attended the summer camp on full scholarships. This chapter's support of YMIH in Seneca Land has been monumental.

Rochester, NY Chapter
The Chorus of the Genesee
Chartered: Jan. 1, 1940 (Orig)

Membership in 2002: 90
District Champions: 53, 58, 63, 70, 73, 76, 80, 84, 87, 91, 95, 99, 01
Int'l Reps: 54, 56, 57, 61, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 71, 72, 77, 78, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 88, 89, 92, 93, 96, 97, 98, 99, 01, 02



The first chapter in the Rochester, NY area was the Rochester #1 (Fundamentals) Chapter in 1941. Five years later, the Genesee Chapter (Golden Notes) was chartered. In 1973, these two chapters de-



ecided to join forces as one to become the Chorus of the Genesee. Since 1953, when choruses first entered International competition, a Rochester chorus has represented the Seneca Land District an amazing 30 times. In addition, they have won 13 Seneca Land District Chorus championships.

On the quartet side, 15 quartets have brought home the Seneca Land District Quartet championship and 26 quartets have represented Seneca Land in International Quartet competition. They have won three Seneca Land Novice Qt. championships and six of the eleven SLD Senior Qt. championships. In 1951 and 1953, the Notecrackers were International medalists. Administratively, they have produced 11 district presidents and 1 International president.



**Salamanca, NY Chapter
Seneca Junction Chorus**
Chartered: Dec. 31, 1949 (Orig)

Membership in 2002: 22
District Champions:
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host:

There was once a chapter in Salamanca in 1949 but it never really got off the ground. The first organizational meeting of the "new" Salamanca chapter was held on November 3, 1998. Seneca Land District President, Bob Coant along with president-elect, Fred Burne attended to help kick off the launching of the new chapter.

They were licensed on November 16, 1998 and received their charter on August 17, 1999 which is signed by Darryl Flynn. The sponsoring chapter was the St. Marys, PA chapter.



First officers included: Bruce Crane, president, Jim Terrien, VP Chapter Development, Skip Berenguer, VP Music & Performance, Michael Hunt, Secretary, and Lowell Wilcox, Treasurer. The musical director is Skip Berenguer. In just five years, the chorus has won the Plateau A championship three times.

The Salamanca chapter is the only Seneca Land District chapter that meets on Seneca nation "land!"



**St. Marys, PA Chapter
Spirit of the Alleghenies**
Chartered: September 29, 1993

Membership in 2002: 16
District Champions:
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host:

In 1992, the Harmony Fare quartet (Fred Burne, Thom Hoffman, Dave Fitzgerald, and Frank Sherman), all Pennsylvania residents and members of the Olean, NY chapter, decided to reduce their long commute to Olean by starting a new chapter in St. Marys, PA. They held their first meeting in early October, 1992, received their license in April, 1993, and chartered the following September.

The first quartet from the *Spirit of the Alleghenies* chorus was *New City Sound* and they won the SLD Novice Qt. Championship in 1994.

The chorus placed 10th of 16 in their very first contest. In 1997, they moved up to 9th place. In 1999 and 2000, charter member, Fred Burne became Seneca Land District president. The chapter supported his effort to establish the Seneca Land District Endowment Fund with a \$1000.00 kick-off contribution presented to the district by then chapter president, Jim Hall in 1999. The St. Marys chapter sponsored the Salamanca chapter in 1998.





Syracuse, NY Chapter
New Spirit of Harmony
Chartered: October 22, 1948 (Orig)

Membership in 2002: 24
District Champions: 1966
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host: 49, 62, 67, 71, 76, 78, 82, 88, 91, 95

First chartered the "Central City" chorus in 1949, the Syracuse area has seen many changes over the past 50 years, including two mergers. On May 7, 1963, a new chapter in North Syracuse was formed and became the Onondaga chapter. They were Seneca Land District Chorus Champions in 1966.



There have been 6 district quartet champions produced by the Syracuse chapter and there have also been representatives to the International Quartet contest on 6 occasions. They won the first Seneca Land District Small Chorus Championship awarded in 1973 and subsequently added many more small chorus championships over the years.

The chapter went through another merger in 1995 when the Manlius and Syracuse chapters joined forces. They kept the old Syracuse charter alive and the Manlius charter was dissolved. A brand-new chapter was formed in 1998 in the North Syracuse area and later relocated to the south side of Syracuse. This chapter is called the Onondaga County chapter "Music Masters."



Venango Co., PA Chapter
Venango Barbertones
Chartered: July 30, 1973

Membership in 2002: 27
District Champions:
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host: 1983

The Venango County "Barbertones" were chartered in 1973 and were sponsored by the Erie, PA chapter. Their charter show was on December 1, 1973 in Franklin, PA. Featured quartets were The Instigators, Warren, PA and The Seventh Ring, from Erie, PA. Also performing was The Sunshine Express Qt. from Erie and The Primetimers from Sharon, PA as well as their sponsors, The Erie Commodores chorus.



The Venango County chapter, while only 6 years old, produced the 1979 Seneca Land District Quartet Champions, Four For The Show. In addition to this, they have had two district presidents, Robert "Cubby" Culbertson (1979-80) and Jim Hassel (1987-88). Both men went on to become International Board Members for Seneca Land in 1982-83 and 1990-91, respectively. They hosted one of Seneca Land's most successful district conventions in 1983. What made this feat so special was the fact that they hosted it in Niagara Falls, Ont., Canada which is several hundred miles from their home in Franklin, PA!



**Warren, PA Chapter
Conewango Clippers**
Chartered: June 24, 1947

Membership in 2002: 25
District Champions: 56, 69, 72, 81
Int'l Reps: 57, 58, 59, 63, 70
Convention Host: 56, 60, 67, 72, 81



The Warren, PA chapter was sponsored by the Jamestown, NY chapter and was chartered on June 24, 1947. They have a long and illustrious history in the Seneca Land District.

They adopted the name "*Conewango Clippers*" in 1968. The Warren chapter has produced 9 District Quartet Champions, 4 District Chorus Championships, 5 International



Chorus appearances and have represented Seneca Land in quartets in 21 International competitions.

On the administrative side, Warren's Plummer Collins became the Society's International President in 1976, the year of our Nation's bi-centennial. He also served as district president from 1967-1969 and International Board Member in 1972. From 1983-84, the Warren Chapter again provided a district president, Jim Eldridge. Jim also served as International Board Member from 1984-1987.



**Warsaw, NY Chapter
Warsaw Chordbusters**
Chartered: January 1, 1941

Membership in 2002: 28
District Champions:
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host:

The Warsaw, NY chapter was the first chapter chartered in the Central-Western, NY District, now known as Seneca Land. Phil Embury, of the Embury Lantern Factory traveled to Tulsa, OK in 1940 on a business trip and happened to meet a group of men (including our Society's founder, Owen C. Cash) who were starting a society to preserve barber shop quartet singing. Upon his return trip home, he made his hometown of Warsaw, NY the first chapter east of the Mississippi.



Phil Embury went on to become the Society's International President from 1944-1945 in addition to being one of the Society's first and most prolific music arrangers and judges. The Warsaw chapter can be considered "the builders" of Seneca Land because they sponsored most of the older chapters.



Watertown, NY Chapter
The Islanders
Chartered: December 22, 1966

Membership in 2002: 22
District Champions:
Int'l Reps:
Convention Host: 69, 74, 75, 84, 89

The Islanders Chorus was formed in 1966 and sponsored by the Oswego Valley chapter. The chorus quickly grew to 58 members and held their first annual show on April 1, 1967.

The first director was Gardner Vincent, a music educator from the Adams School District. Other directors included William Hoag, Dave Stanley, Ed Ruble, Tracy Robertson, Brad Lundquist, Chuck Wert, and Dick Stephens.

In 1996, the Islanders chorus earned the Plateau A championship in Seneca Land and was named "Most Improved Chorus" the same year. The Watertown chapter has hosted two very successful district conventions and have produced two district quartet champions: The Keynoters in 1973 and Cornerstone in 1997 and three SLD Novice champs: Jeff-4-Sons, Cornerstone, and Northern Exposure.





Defunct & Active

*Chapters
of the*



Seneca Land District





Seneca Land District Chapters

Now and then...

Seneca Land District Chapters: Active

Note on charter dates: (P) = date Society President signed charter petition

(H'zer = charter date given in Harmonizer

(F) = charter date given in computer file

NEW YORK

Auburn Apr. 21, 1971 (P)

Batavia II Apr. 17, 1993 (P)

Binghamton Apr. 5, 1943 (P)

Buffalo Nov. 1, 1943 (F)

Canandaigua Sept. 23, 1986 (P)

Canton Dec. 1, 1961 (P)

Chautauqua Co. II Jan. 17, 1985 (H) (in Dunkirk/Fredonia)

(originally wanted to call this "*North Chautauqua County*", but when found out that the state incorporation files still listed the old "Chautauqua County" name from the earlier chapter in Dunkirk, decided to use that name and save the costs of incorporating a new name. This caused some confusion in early 1985, but was squared away by July, 1985.)

East Aurora Dec. 27, 1944 (F)

(subsumed Hamburg II in 1968; subsumed Amherst in 1983)

Geneva July 23, 1946 (P)

Hornell May 25, 1968 (P)

Jamestown Sept. 12, 1986 (P)

Mark Twain Mar. 30, 1954 (P) (in Elmira)

(originally called *Horseheads* in Horseheads, NY; changed name around 1959 or 1960)

Mohawk Valley II Jan. 29, 1949 (P)

(this is actually the date for the Utica chapter; Rome and Utica merged in 1985 to form Mohawk Valley under Utica's charter.)

Monroe County West Mar. 13, 1977 (P)

Olean Nov. 7, 1946 (P)

Oneonta May 27, 1975 (P)

Oswego Valley Sept. 24, 1962 (P)

Painted Post Aug. 2, 1948 (P)

Rochester Jan. 1, 1940 (F)

Syracuse II Oct. 22, 1948 (P)

(originally "*Syracuse-Central City*" to distinguish itself from the other Syracuse chapter that existed at the time. Dropped the "*Central City*" about 1958, as the other chapter had folded about 1950.) Subsumed Manlius in 1995



Seneca Land District Chapters

Now and then...

(continued from preceding page)

[Utica] [Jan. 29, 1949)] (P)
(merged with Rome on Sept. 16, 1985; the two chapters decided to change their name to Mohawk Valley and continued under Utica's original charter)

Warsaw	Jan. 1, 1941	(F)
Watertown	Dec. 22, 1966	(P)



Seneca Land District Chapters

Now and then...

Seneca Land District Chapters: Defunct

Note on charter dates: (P) = date Society President signed charter petition
 (H'zer = charter date given in Harmonizer
 (F) = charter date given in computer file

Note on defunct dates: plain date = listed date of revocation in file
 date with (OR) = date of last officer report
 (keep in mind a chapter may be non-functional for months before the charter or license is officially revoked)

NEW YORK

Addison	May 20, 1947 (P)	1952 (OR)	
Amherst	Feb. 9, 1973	(merged into East Aurora in 1985)	
Apalachin [license only]	Dec. 15, 1965	July 13, 1967	
Auburn	Apr. 8, 1949	1959 (OR)	
Batavia	Sept. 21, 1946 (Ch)	Dec. 1, 1949	
Bath	Nov. 25, 1946 (Ch)	1964 (OR)	
Brockport	?	Nov. 3, 1975	
Canandaigua	June 7, 1952 (Ch)	1960 (OR)	
Chautauqua County "I"	Dec. 12, 1969 (H'zer)	Apr. 12, 1978	(in Dunkirk)
Clifton Springs	Feb. 4, 1949 (Ch)	1954 (OR)	
Corning	June 5, 1948 (Ch)	1948 (OR)	
Cortland	Sept/Oct 1943 (H'zer)	1952 (OR)	
Dansville	Aug. 7, 1948 (P)	1952 (OR)	
Dunkirk/Fredonia	Jan. 28, 1948 (P)	1952 (OR)	
Elmira	Dec. 9, 1944 (P)	1946 (OR)	
Endicott	abt. Sept. 1943 (H'zer)	1953 (OR)	
Fillmore	Apr. 3, 1952 (P)	1952 (OR)	
Fulton	Feb. 4, 1948 (P)	1951 (OR)	
Genesee	Apr. 5, 1946 (P)	May 9, 1974	
Gowanda	Jan. 14, 1947 (Ch)	Feb. 13, 1967	
Grape Belt	June 18, 1949 (P)	1951 (OR)	(in Westfield)
Hamburg I	Dec. 26, 1946 (P)	1952 (OR)	
Hamburg II	Oct. 13, 1958 (P)	(merged into East Aurora in 1968)	
Hammondsport	May 8, 1950 (Ch)	1951 (OR)	
Honeoye Falls	Dec. 11, 1944 (P)	1946 (OR)	
Hornell	Feb. 15, 1946 (Ch)	1957 (OR)	(aka "Maple City")
Ithaca I	June 11, 1947 (P)	1963 (OR)	
Ithaca II	Feb. 20, 1967 (P)	Dec. 13, 1993	
Jamestown I	Oct. 2, 1945 (P)	1960 (OR)	
Jamestown II	Feb. 9, 1963 (P)	Jan. 29, 1969	



Seneca Land District Chapters

Now and then...

Kenmore	Nov. 18, 1946 (P)	1962 (OR)	
Lockport	Aug. 14, 1947 (P)	1959 (OR)	
Little Falls	May 11, 1949 (P)	1951 (OR)	
Malone	Sept. 11, 1962 (Ch)	1964 (OR)	(aka "Frigidare")
Manlius	Aug. 26, 1985 (P)	(merged into Syracuse in 1995)	
Mohawk Valley I	Jan. 4, 1956 (P)	1962 (OR)	(in Herkimer)
Newark	Jan. 23, 1947 (P)	1950 (OR)	
Niagara Falls	Apr. 1, 1946 (Ch)	Dec. 1, 1982	
Niagara-Orleans	Mar. 21, 1972 (P)	Aug. 28, 1988	
Ogdensburg [license only]	July 19, 1967	1968	
Oneonta I	Feb. 15, 1952	1962 (OR)	
Oneonta II [license only]	1974	1974	
Onondaga I	Sept. 4, 1948 (P)	July 28, 1950	(in Syracuse)
Onondaga II	May 13, 1963 (P)	Apr. 18, 1974	(aka "N. Syracuse")
Penn Yan	Dec. 10, 1946 (P)	1956 (OR)	
Randolph	Sept. 4, 1948 (Ch)	1949 (OR)	
Rome I	May 2, 1951 (Ch)	Aug. 12, 1970	
Rome II	July 4, 1975 (P)	March, 1979	
Rome III	June 5, 1981 (P)	(merged with Utica to form Mohawk Valley in 1995)	
Salamanca [trial charter]	Dec. 31, 1949	1950	
Seaway	Sept. 4, 1958 (P)	Feb. 3, 1971	
Seneca Falls	Apr. 4, 1947 (P)	Jan. 2, 1950	
Susquehanna Valley	Apr. 9, 1949 (P)	1956 (OR)	(in Sidney)
Springville	Feb. 3, 1947 (P)	1954 (OR)	
Syracuse I	May 15, 1947 (CH)	Nov. 1, 1948	
Sullivan County	Jan. 30, 1969 (P)	June 15, 1983	(in Liberty)
Tonawandas	Apr. 29, 1949 (P)	1952 (OR)	
Walton-Downsville	June 5, 1946	1954 (OR)	
Wellsville	July 19, 1976 (P)	1959 (OR)	
West Seneca	Oct. 19, 1949 (P)	1959 (OR)	

PENNSYLVANIA

Albion	Dec. 20, 1951 (P)	1954 (OR)	
Bradford I	Mar. 16, 1949 (P)	June 20, 1967	
Bradford II	Dec. 13, 1974 (P)	Nov. 30, 1996	
Brookville	Oct. 1, 1952 (Ex Dir)	1958 (OR)	
Corry	Feb. 10, 1947 (P)	1951 (OR)	
Franklin-Oil City	Apr. 25, 1951 (P)	1957 (OR)	
French Creek Valley	Aug. 9, 1950 (P)	Jan. 29, 1969	(in Sagertown)
Greater Dubois Area	Oct. 7, 1980 (P)	Dec. 12, 1994	
Punxsutawney	Aug. 30, 1965 (P)	1969 (OR)	
Ridgway	Apr. 19, 1948 (P)	1948 (OR)	

CELEBRATE!

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the
Seneca Land District, SPEBSQSA, Inc.

Music and lyrics by ROB HOPKINS



About the author...

Rob Hopkins, born in 1953, has been a Barbershopper since 1976. He, wife Kris, and children Emily, Danny, and Laura live in Clinton, NY where Rob works as Associate Professor of Music at Hamilton College. He earned his Ph.D. in music history and theory from the University of Pennsylvania in 1983. A judge since 1980, he is currently a certified Music judge and the Society's Executive Vice President. He became the musical director of the Mohawk Valley chapter shortly after moving to New York in 1983, and he has been active in various district quartets for many years. The Society has published 17 of Rob's arrangements.

CELEBRATE!

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Seneca Land District,
SPEBSQSA, Inc.

Music and lyrics by ROB HOPKINS
Arranged by ROB HOPKINS

Intro *freely*

Tenor Lead

1 2 3 4 (b) 5.

Sen - e - ca Sen - e - ca Land, ain't it grand?

Bari Bass

Sen - e - ca

Chorus *in tempo*

5 6 7 8

Cel - e - brate, — cel - e - brate — fif - ty years of song. —

9 10 11 12 8

Cel - e - brate, — cel - e - brate, — We're a thou - sand strong! —

13 14 15 16 8

All those years of friend - ships, — all those years of thrills, —

Celebrate!

17 and peak 18 and the peak of all those years: the 19 fab-u-lous 20 Buf-fa-lo Bills! I want

and peak

21 ice cream! 22 ice cream! 23 They were a 24 mus-ic man's dream.

ice cream! ice cream!

25 Cel - e, cel - e-brate, 26 Cel - e-brate, 27 fif - ty years of song. 28 of song!

Cel - e-brate, cel - e-brate, Cel - e, cel - e-brate, Cel - e, cel - e-brate,

29 Cel - e-brate, 30 cel - e-brate, 31 yes we're still 32 go, go - in'

Cel - e-brate, cel - e-brate, we're still yes we're still go - in'

Cel - e, cel - e-brate, Cel - e, cel - e-brate we're, yes we're still go, go - in'

Celebrate!

3

Musical score for measures 33-36. The treble staff contains the melody with lyrics: 33 go - in' 34 strong! 35 36. The bass staff provides accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 8/8. Measure 33 has a half note G4. Measure 34 has a half note A4. Measure 35 has a half note B-flat4. Measure 36 has a half note C5. The word "strong!" is written above the treble staff in measures 34 and 35, and below the treble staff in measure 34.

Musical score for measures 37-42. The treble staff contains the melody with lyrics: 37 Fif - ty 38 years of 39 song! 40 41 42. The bass staff provides accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 8/8. Measure 37 has a half note G4. Measure 38 has a half note A4. Measure 39 has a half note B-flat4. Measure 40 has a half note C5. Measure 41 has a half note D5. Measure 42 has a half note E5. The word "Fif - ty" is written above the treble staff in measure 37, "years of" in measure 38, and "song!" in measure 39. The word "our" is written below the bass staff in measure 39.

