



To: Illinois District Board/House of Delegates  
From: Bob Squires, Illinois District Historian  
Re: 2015 Fall Convention Report  
Date: September 25, 2015

Board Members and Chapter Delegates,

A year has passed since our last historical report and many exciting events have taken place over that time that are of particular historical interest.

Several large contributions of historical materials have been made. Of particular interest, through the efforts of district president, Rich Hansen and the generosity of recently passed Society icon, Gene Cokerof, a photo collection belonging to the daughter of Forrey Hanes and the history of the Mid-States Four has been donated to the Illinois District. This collection of over 300 photos and various historical materials now is part of our district archives.

Part of the Mid-States Four collection, along with a salute to the Four Renegades in tribute to their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of winning the gold in Boston in 1965, and to the Sundowners quartet on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their District championship, can be found in displays in the registration area at the Marriott Hotel.

Other donations have been received over the year, most noteworthy photographs and slides from the widow of Bob Mentor, baritone of the Chords Unlimited.

Recently your chairman had the honor of attending a celebration of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the chartering of the Decatur chapter where I was able to share mementos in an historical binder of the Decatur chapter through the years.

By the time this report is presented and at the invitation of committee member Jim Stahly, I will be taking part in an interview of Society and District legend, Jim Moses. Jim was the director of the Society's first three-time chorus champion, Pekin Chorus. The interview with Jim will become part of our district archives.

Because of the massive amount of historical materials and the need to have these materials displayed whenever possible, the historical committee now has purchased a fourth four-panel display board for display purposes.

I am also happy to announce that, as a result of the committee's recent search for volunteer help, we have added a new member to the committee. Rick Murahata, a member of the Lake County chapter, has joined the historical committee and will be in charge of transferring our old VHS video tapes to DVD format. Rick owns his own equipment and will be able to transfer the hundreds of video tapes from district contests, chapter shows and various other sources.

As always, I ask that our chapter delegates take my continued request for donations of historical materials back to their individual chapters. Those materials help preserve our Illinois District heritage for the enjoyment of future generations of barbershoppers.

Respectfully submitted,

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