



To: Illinois District Board/House of Delegates  
From: Bob Squires, Illinois District Historian  
Re: 2016 Spring HOD Report  
Date: April 15, 2016

Board Members and Chapter Delegates,

First things first. As you will note at the end of my report, our district historical committee continues to grow. Over the last six months we are happy to have added two new volunteers. Jim Fourmont, a member of the (at last count) Aurora, CWS and DuPage Valley chapters, and Dick Lain, a member of the DuPage Valley and Will Cook chapters, are hard at work donating their time to preserving many items in our district historical archives.

Jim is helping out with the transfer of old VHS video tapes to DVD format and Dick is currently transferring old reel-to-reel audio tapes on to a CD format. The efforts of Jim and Dick will help preserve many of our old early contest, chapter show and performance tapes and recordings. Their efforts have helped ease the work load of our other volunteers, Frank Fabian and Rick Murahata. If you or someone you know would like to contribute their time, energy and the use of their personal equipment to our preservation recovery efforts, please contact me. We would be very happy to have you join our team.

In my last report I mentioned the acquisition of historical materials of the Mid-States Four through the generous donation of Gene and Iris Cokeroft. Since Gene's passing, Iris has uncovered more Mid-States materials and is in the process of making another donation to the Illinois District. You may recall the Mid-States display during our Fall, 2015 convention.

At the request of president Hansen, we will be attempting to put together historical chapter anniversary displays at our future conventions. If your chapter will be celebrating its charter anniversary soon and have materials that are suitable for display, please contact me and together we can combine our efforts and prepare a display for our convention attendees. Both the Peoria and the Danville chapters will be recognized during the Jamboree weekend.

Lastly I would again make my appeal to our district membership to be on the lookout for any historical materials related to our barbershop hobby. These materials may come from numerous sources...the recent passing of current or former members, local historical societies, flea markets, garage sales or grandma and grandpa's attic. You never know!

Recently I received a note from a member of the Belleville chapter who was traveling the state working on his family genealogy and he came upon a picture and short history of a pre-Society quartet called the "Pawnee Four" from Pawnee, Illinois. The existence of this quartet was not known prior to its discovery by this member, so we can now follow up and add this important information to our growing district history.



If you have any questions about historical materials or how to make donations of those materials, I can be reached through the information listed below. And please don't forget.....like Uncle Sam.....the district historical committee is always looking for a few more good men to help with our preservation projects. Many hands make for light work!

Respectfully submitted,

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