

## Historical Highlights

- 1943 We start with Racine (Chapter # 1)
- 1945 Wisconsin Association of Chapters formed at Milwaukee following meeting at Appleton. First District Quartet contest held at Milwaukee.
- 1946 First District Chorus contest of entire Society held at Oshkosh, WI
- 1947 Name of District changed to Land O'Lakes District Assn of Chapters and later enlarged to include MN and Upper Peninsula of MI. Int'l Convention held at Milwaukee. Milwaukee Chorus introduces Willis Diekema's "Keep America Singing".
- 1948 O.H.King Cole of Manitowoc and Sheboygan chapters elected International President. International Home Building Fund started with contribution by Sheboygan chapter. Manitoba added to LO'L Assn.
- 1949 Achievement Awards to chapters inaugurated. O.H.King Cole reelected Int'l President. First District Directory published.
- 1950 *Harmony News*, first district monthly publication of entire Society published with Hans Beyer as editor. North Dakota, Saskatchewan and counties of Kenora, Thunder Bay and Rainy River in Ontario added to L O'L.
- 1951 Schmitt Brothers crowned International Champs at Toledo. LO'L Incorporated.
- 1952 Four Teens, members of Eau Claire chapter, while in military service crowned International Champs at Kansas City.
- 1953 John Z Means of Manitowoc chapter elected International President.
- 1954 Int'l Mid-Winter convention held in Minneapolis. LO'L largest district with 2669.
- 1955 Janesville, WI chorus crowned International Champs. LOL BOTY award inaugurated.
- 1956 International Convention held in Minneapolis.
- 1957 International Headquarters moves to Kenosha, WI.
- 1958 District reorganized into 5 regions, each supervised by a Vice President.
- 1959 Hans Beyer retires as Editor of *Harmony News* after 10 years. Floyd Olson takes over.
- 1960 Harmony train to Winnipeg for convention and contest. *Pitch Piper* new name for the District publication.
- 1961 District President Leo Fobart appointed associate editor of *Harmonizer*. Int'l Mid-winter Convention held in Milwaukee.
- 1962 Dan Waselchuk, Green Bay, elected First Vice President of Society and Calmer Browy of Madison is historian. Minneapolis Commodores Chorus wins fifth at Kansas City.
- 1963 Dan Waselchuk, Green Bay, elected International President. Hugh Ingraham, Winnipeg, appointed Society Public Relations Director.
- 1964 LO'L second in Society membership. Floyd Olson retires as editor of *Pitch Piper*. Les Gurr, Winnipeg, takes over as editor.
- 1965 New Int'l Champs, the Four Renegades, head Faculty at LOL Quartet Workshop at Stevens Point. Winnipeg logs 54,000 man-miles to attend Appleton Convention.
- 1966 Les Gurr, Winnipeg, retires as editor of *Pitch Piper*, Doug Huntington, Stevens Point takes over. First LO'L COTS held at Eau Claire. Harmony train to Grand Forks Convention.
- 1967 Fred Seegert, First Vice President Int'l Board. Frank Hermsen and Jay Austin elected Int'l Board members.
- 1968 Doug Huntington retires editor of *Pitch Piper*, Roger Sorenson, Grand Forks takes over.
- 1969 District reorganized into six Divisions, each supervised by a Vice President. Gay Nineties Quartet on U.S.O. tour.
- 1970 Hut-Four on second Far East U.S.O. Tour.
- 1971 Night Howls, Gemini Crickets & Gay 90's on Far East U.S.O. tour.

- 1972 LO'L membership reaches high of 3,223.
- 1973 Twin Cities area hosts first LO'L Logopedics Spectacular. (Minneapolis, St Paul, Bloomington, Minnetonka, St Croix Valley and Chisago Lakes involved).
- 1974 District Small Chapter Chorus added. Divisions receive names. Schmitt Brothers honored for 25 years of quarteting.
- 1975 Happiness Emporium Crowned International Champs at Indianapolis. Division numbers changed to names: Division One, Packerland, Southwest, 10,000 Lakes, Red Carpet and Northwest. 21 Area Counselors named.
- 1976 Sibley High School (W. St Paul) Young Men in Harmony cuts learning tapes for International. Minneapolis chapter represented in District Champion Quartet for 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive year.
- 1977 LO'L has 1<sup>st</sup> Mini-Harmony College at Bemidji. Jim Bennett, Madison, retires as editor of *Pitch Piper*. Dave Olson, Manitowoc, takes over as editor.
- 1978 Oshkosh, WI chapter wins Logopedics Award for 2<sup>nd</sup> year. Dave Olson, Manitowoc, is Int'l Bulletin Editor of the Year. Minneapolis Commodores place 5<sup>th</sup> in Int'l Chorus contest at Cincinnati.
- 1979 Twin Cities chapters host 42<sup>nd</sup> International Convention in Minneapolis. Minneapolis Commodores place 3<sup>rd</sup> in chorus contest.
- 1980 Minneapolis Commodores place 4<sup>th</sup> in Int'l Chorus contest in Salt Lake City.
- 1981 Seven new Chapters licensed and 5 Chapters chartered. Over 200 Quartets compete in Wisconsin Young Men in Harmony program. LO'L membership at 3,365.
- 1982 Dick Teeters, St Paul, is Int'l Bulletin Editor of the Year. Three new Chapters chartered. LO'L host to Societies largest COTS with 383 men. LO'L in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Society with 3,458 members in 81 Chapters.
- 1983 Four Chapters chartered. Minneapolis Commodores represent LO'L in Chorus contest in Seattle, WA. LO'L membership reaches 3,511.
- 1984 First Comedy Quartet contest introduced at Appleton in May. Young Men in Harmony and COTS projects continue to be largest in the Society.
- 1985 Death of Joe Schmitt ends 35 years of the Schmitt Brothers Quartet. Minneapolis area chapters hosted 48<sup>th</sup> International Convention. Logopedics contributions reach \$47,221 or \$14.18 per man in District. LO'L now has 84 Chapters with 3,238 members.
- 1986 The Windom Chorus sang in 29 Churches on only 3 Sundays in June-July. Racine's Church Singers capped 17 years singing under Bob Gall's direction with 29 appearances in churches of 5 different denominations.
- 1987 Carmen Lane concludes a record 29 years as chorus director at Stevens Point. LO'L COTS outgrows its quarters and moves to Bloomington. Dick Teeters, St Paul, is Int'l Bulletin Editor of the Year.
- 1988 Twenty year Historian Harry Purinton finishes and publishes LO'L - "The Early Years" 1943-1980. LO'L Assn of Quartet Champions christened in Racine in October. LO'L Hall of Fame becomes reality at Fall Convention.
- 1989 Dick Teeters, St Paul, becomes 8<sup>th</sup> Editor of the *Pitch Piper*. Three new Plateaus used in Fall District scoring for chorus competition in St Paul. Jim Richards, Minneapolis elected as 46<sup>th</sup> International President, the 5<sup>th</sup> from LO'L to be so distinguished.
- 1990 Grandma's Beaus (Miller, Stump, Griffith & Richards) win Senior Int'l Quartet "Gold" at Mid-winter in Tucson. No LO'L BOTY named this year. Green Bay Fall Convention features 1<sup>st</sup> "Seniors Quartet Contest" and visit by Betty Cash, daughter of Society Co-founder O C Cash. Rock Valley Chapter formed. First Russian Quartet, The Silent Don, appears on "On To Fame" Show in June.
- 1991 Great Northern Union Chorus scores 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish in Louisville. Three LO'L Quartets

finish in top 20. Twelve dollar Int'l dues increase somewhat controversial. ADC (Assn of District Quartet Champions) recognized as affiliate of the LO'L District at Fall Convention held in LaCrosse.

- 1992 Harold Ebel, 1988 District BOTY, dies in tragic house fire on Feb 1<sup>st</sup>. Little Falls Chapter receives charter at Spring Convention in LaCrosse. GNU's Chorus places 4<sup>th</sup> in New Orleans & LO'L's 4 Quartets collectively finish highest ever. LO'L membership declines to 2,471.
- 1993 LO'L is 50 years young and celebrates "Golden Anniversary" in Rochester in October with gala ADC Show & introduction of revitalized contest scoring system. Racines Dairy Statesmen reach same milestone of 50 years. Prelims held in Winnipeg and Albert Lea places 1<sup>st</sup> in Int'l Achievement Program out of 187 Chapters in Plateau 3. Popular Show Quartets Night Howls, Roadrunners and Happiness Emporium hang up the pitchpipe.
- 1994 Appleton, Green Bay, Milwaukee and Minneapolis Chapters observe 50<sup>th</sup> anniversaries. First "John Foster Friendship Award" presented to Dave Nyberg. District Achievement winners include: AAA Minneapolis, AA Rochester, A Thunder Bay.
- 1995 LO'L membership now at 2,422 but still 5<sup>th</sup> largest of 16 Districts. Midwest Vocal Express sweeps Chorus competition at 7<sup>th</sup> Buckeye Invitational. Top Gun program inaugurated, Hilltop 5<sup>th</sup> and Excalibur 10<sup>th</sup> at New Orleans. Oshkosh, Manitowoc, Madison and Kenosha Chapters observe 50<sup>th</sup>. Hancock, MI and Belle Plain, MN are newest licensed Chapters.
- 1996 Society reorganizes. Russ Seeley, Pioneer District, represents LO'L on Society Board. Are Counselor program replaced with Chapter Coaches. Chapter Officers revised. Wausau, Wisconsin Rapids celebrate 50 yrs. GNU 6<sup>th</sup> at Salt Lake City. Email net grows.
- 1997 Midwest Vocal Express again sweeps chorus honors at Buckeye Invitational. Four Clips, 1960 Champs, retire after 42 years. LaCrosse celebrates 50 yrs. GNU and Excalibur both place 7<sup>th</sup> at Indy. Lawrence University's *Free Fall* are College Quartet Champs. LO'Lers help Red River flood victims.
- 1998 Winnipeg celebrates 50<sup>th</sup>. Excalibur 6<sup>th</sup> in Atlanta, GNU 8<sup>th</sup>. ADC produces cassette recording of past LO'L quartet champions. Fall quartet finals contest in Fargo experiments with 14 minute "show package" format. Midwest Vocal Express Chorus secures "wild card" spot for International contest in Anaheim.
- 1999 Hilltop and Greendale Choruses finish 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> respectively at Anaheim. Both also qualify for 2000 International contest. Fall Quartet Finals again experiment with "show package" format. Dick Teeters elected to Society Probe Hall of Fame Honor. Society establishes goal of 100 chapters by year end of 2000.
- 2000 For the 2<sup>nd</sup> straight year both Greendale and Hilltop Choruses qualify for International chorus contest. Hilltop finishes 4<sup>th</sup>, Greendale 8<sup>th</sup>. Five LO'L quartets compete in Kansas City and Excalibur finalist for the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. Gay Nineties quartet celebrates fifty years as a registered quartet.
- 2001 Hilltop and Greendale both finish in the top 10 at Nashville chorus contest. Hilltop was 6<sup>th</sup> and Greendale just 20 points behind them in 7<sup>th</sup>. Quartets competing were Excalibur finishing 9<sup>th</sup> and Breakpoint finishing 28<sup>th</sup>. A record 41 Quartets and 22 Choruses qualified to compete at the Fall District contest in Rochester.
- 2002 The Greendale Midwest Vocal Express Chorus takes 5<sup>th</sup> place medalist honors at Portland. Hilltop Great Northern Union is right behind in 6<sup>th</sup> place. Excalibur tops the LO'L quartets in Portland followed by Breakpoint and Innovation. Downstate Express, 1982 District Champs retire after 25 years.
- 2003 The Greendale Midwest Vocal Express Chorus "Green Army" routine takes 5<sup>th</sup> place

- medalist honors in Montreal. Hilltop is again in the top 10. Quartets Excalibur and Breakpoint sing their swan song in Rochester. Stevens Point celebrates 50 years.
- 2004 Downstate Express comes out of retirement to win the Senior Quartet Contest in Biloxi. Bravo finishes as a Quarter finalist in Louisville. Hilltop tops Greendale, both are in the top 10 again in the Int'l contest. Dick Teeters retires after 15 years as *Pitch Piper* editor.
- 2005 Hilltop "Great Northern Union" chorus won 5<sup>th</sup> place medalist honors in Salt Lake. The Greendale "Midwest Vocal Express" placed 10<sup>th</sup>. Quest made the semi-finals at 20<sup>th</sup> and "After Midnight" finished 37<sup>th</sup>. Bob and Bill Fricke become the first LO'L father-son *Pitch Piper* co-editors.
- 2006 Greendale Midwest Vocal Express chorus medals in Indy. Minneapolis and Mason City combine to put 150 on stage in Rochester. Quest reaches the top 20 in the Indy quartet competition.
- 2007 Greendale and Minneapolis represent District at Denver. Hilltop qualifies but declined. Voices Only reach top 20 in Quartet contest. Jim Lee elected Society Treasurer effective Jan 2008. Perfect Timing and Aarps-a-Chord represent District at Mid Winter.
- 2008 Greendale represents the District at Nashville. Vocality reaches top 20 in Quartet contest. Perfect Timing and Easy Days represent District at Mid-Winter.
- 2009 Three Choruses, Hilltop, Greendale and Minneapolis represent District at Anaheim with Hilltop placing 3<sup>rd</sup>. Vocality and Voce reach top 20 with Voce the Saturday night mic tester. Perfect Timing was our representative at Mid-Winter. Downstate Express Quartet inducted into LO'L Hall of Fame. Membership at 1,854 in 51 Chapters.
- 2010 Cross Canada Chorus competed at Mid-Winter Youth Harmony Festival in Tampa and Perfect Timing Quartet represents LO'L at Mid-Winter Seniors contest. Greendale MVE Chorus represents District at Philadelphia and places 8th. Expedition, Main Street Station, Voce and Vocality Quarters represent District and Voce reaches 9<sup>th</sup> place. Counterpoint & Expedition compete in the Collegiate contest and Expedition places 5<sup>th</sup>. LO'L membership at 1,860 in 49 Chapters.