

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 6th consecutive year.

1977- LO'L has 1 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 years. Dave Olson, Manitowoc, is Int'l Bulletin Editor of the Year. Minneapolis Commodores place 5 in Int'l Chorus contest at Cincinnati.

1979- Twin Cities chapters host 42 International Convention in Minneapolis. Minneapolis Commodores place 3 in chorus contest.

1980- Minneapolis Commodores place 4 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 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 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 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 International President, the 5 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 "Seniors Quartet Contest" and visit by Betty Cash, daughter of Society Cofounder 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 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.

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1992- Harold Ebel, 1988 District BOTY, dies in house fire on Feb 1 . Little Falls Chapter receives charter at Spring Convention in LaCrosse. GNU's Chorus places 4 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. Racine's Dairy Statesmen reach same milestone of 50 years. Prelims held in Winnipeg and Albert Lea places 1 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 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 largest of 16 Districts. Midwest Vocal Express sweeps Chorus competition at Buckeye Invitational. Top Gun program inaugurated, Hilltop 5 and Excalibur 10 at New Orleans. Oshkosh, Manitowoc, Madison and Kenosha Chapters observe 50. 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 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 at Indy. Lawrence University's Free Fall are College Quartet Champs. LO'Lers help Red River flood victims.

1998- Winnipeg celebrates 50 . Excalibur 6 in Atlanta, GNU 8 . 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 and 9 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 straight year both Greendale and Hilltop Choruses qualify for International chorus contest. Hilltop finishes 4 , Greendale 8 . Five LO'L quartets compete in Kansas City and Excalibur finalist for the 4 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 and Greendale just 20 points behind them in 7 . Quartets competing were Excalibur finishing 9 and Breakpoint finishing 28 . 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 place medalist honors at Portland. Hilltop Great Northern Union is right behind in 6 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 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 place medalist honors in Salt Lake. Greendale "Midwest Vocal Express" placed 10 . Quest made the semi-finals at 20 and "After Midnight" finished 37. 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 . 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 place. Counterpoint & Expedition compete in Collegiate and Expedition places 5 LO'L membership at 1,860 in 49 Chapters.

2011- Great Northern Union Chorus places 2 in International contest at Kansas City. 6 quartets represent LO'L at Kansas City including: Voce, GQ, Expedition, Main Street Station, Grand Design, Rooftop Rhythm. Perfect Timing Quartet in Seniors contest at Mid-Winter contest in Las Vegas. Leadership Academy (COTS) moves to UW-River Falls, WI.

2012- Fall Convention at Rochester hosts 1 LOL District Youth In Harmony Explosion Camp held as part of the convention with 46 boys participating. Hilltop and Greendale choruses compete at Intl in Portland, OR and Great Northern Union Chorus places 2 in contest. Vocality, Expedition and Grand Design Quartets compete at Intl Quartet contest held in Portland. Marty Monson from the Hilltop Chapter selected as the new Society Executive Director. Expedition Quartet retires. Red Carpet & Northwest Divisions combined into new Northern Plains Division. Membership at 1,813 in 49 Chapters.

2013- Highpoint and St Croix Crossing Quartets compete at Mid-Winter Seniors contest in Orlando, FL. Fargo-Moorhead chorus and Vocality, GQ, Kordal Kombat quartets represent LO'L at International contests at Toronto, ONT. Spring Convention schedule at Hilltop hosts 1st Saturday night show as part of the convention. Fall Convention at LaCrosse has 80 boys in the Youth In Harmony Chorus. Kordal Kombat quartet from Willmar wins both the Novice Quartet and District Quartet Championship trophies. Happiness Emporium Quartet hang up the pitch pipe after 41 years.

2014- St Croix Crossing capture Silver Medals at Mid-Winter Seniors contest. Kordal Kombat competes in Collegiate contest at Las Vegas. Great Northern Union Chorus places 3 in International Chorus contest at Las Vegas. GNU director Pete Benson resigns as director. Spring Convention at Stevens Point hosts six out of District Quartets in International Prelims contest. Midwest Vocal Express is new District Chorus

Champion. Midnight Croon captures District Quartet Championship. Cranial Cabbage is the District Seniors Champion, Swype is the District Novice Champion.

2015- Vocality and Midnight Croon represent LOL at International Contest in Pittsburgh. Kordal Kombat competed in Collegiate Contest and Midwest Vocal Express in Chorus Contest. Thunder Bay Chapter receives its Charter. Spring Convention held at Shooting Star Casino in Mahnomon MN. Fall Convention held at Oshkosh, WI. CHORD SMASH Quartet wins both Novice and District Quartet Champion awards. Midwest Vocal Express captures Chorus Championship. Membership at 1581 in 49 Chapters.

2016- Chord Smash Midnight Croon and The Underground represent LOL at International contest in Nashville and Midwest Vocal Express in the Chorus contest. Committee recommends smaller Board size starting 2017. Spring Convention at Mankato and Fall Convention at Appleton. Membership at 1574 in 49 Chapters. RUCKUS Quartet wins District Championship. Great Northern Union capture Chorus championship.

2017- Midnight Croon, CHORD SMASH, Kordal Kombat and The Underground represent LOL at International. Great Northern Union and Midwest Vocal Express in the chorus contest. Spring Convention was in Stevens Point and Fall Convention in Rochester. Membership at 1519 in 49 Chapters. The Border Project captures Quartet championship, Midwest Vocal Express captures District Chorus championship.

2018- St Croix Crossing Quartet captures Int'l Seniors Championship. Fargo-Moohead Chorus in Int'l Chorus contest. Midnight Croon, Vocality, Chord Smash and St Croix Crossing represent LO'L at Orlando. Spring Convention in Greendale and Fall Convention at Rochester. Leadership Academy/Chord College attendance reaches new high of 217. Hi-Mark Quartet captures both Novice and District Champion awards. Membership at 1458 in 47 chapters.

2019- Restructuring reduces District Board size to 8 members, establishes 3 Regions, and replaces 5 Division Directors with 3 new Regional Director positions. Midwest Vocal Express represents LO'L in the chorus contest and Hi-Mark in the quartet contest. Great Northern Union captures district chorus championship and First Ave is the quartet champion. Fall convention at Rochester adds a Saturday Showcase that includes two youth quartets, a mixed chorus and the All Chapter chorus has 72 singers on stage.

2020- The COVID 19 Virus hit the world and virtually brought Barbershop activities to a stand still. Both the Spring and Fall District Conventions were cancelled including all Chorus and Quartet contests. District Board and House of Delegates meetings were held via Zoom tele conferencing. All activities stopped & District membership dropped to 1,000.

2021- Leadership Academy was cancelled due to the COVID Virus and instead the Chapter Office classes were held virtual via Zoom. District Board meetings continue to be held virtual via Zoom throughout the year. Fall Convention held at the Hilton Hotel in Bloomington with 449 attending and the first time a Saturday night Showcase Dinner was held with 202 People attending. Great Plains Harmony Chorus captures District Championship, Coulee Classic are District Quartet Champion as well as District Men's Champion. Loose Change is District Novice Champions as well as District Seniors Champion. The

mixed quartet contest was held for the first time with Double Dutch from Fargo-Fergus Falls capturing the championship. District membership now at 1025.