McLean County Museum of History

Barbershoppers Collection

Processed by Torii Moré
Summer 2010

Collection Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VOLUME OF COLLECTION:</td>
<td>1 Box</td>
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<tr>
<td>COLLECTION DATES:</td>
<td>1949-2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>RESTRICTIONS:</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:</td>
<td>Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History</td>
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<tr>
<td>ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>OTHER FINDING AIDS:</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOCATION:</td>
<td>Archives</td>
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<td>NOTES:</td>
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Brief History

The Bloomington Chapter of the SPEBSQSA was originally named the Bloomington Harmony Club. The Bloomington Chapter held its first meeting April 27, 1942. Founding members of the Bloomington Chapter are as follows: B. Paul Jefferson (first president), L. Earl Bach, John Hanson, K.R. Ward, Joe Bunting, Otto G. Beich, Dave Ward, Hugh A. Henry, Floyd Dana, Art Kane, John Hanson (first director), and Dan Carmody. They held their meetings and rehearsals at Illinois Hotel. The Bloomington Chapter was a large chapter from the beginning, with around 55 founders, according to The Birth of SPEBSQSA by Joe Bunting.

Since 1942 the Bloomington Chapter has had annual shows. The shows are held the last weekend of February each year and usually feature a guest quartet. They have sung the National Anthem at Wrigley Field twice, and perform regularly in Bloomington’s Concert under the Stars and Sounds of Christmas programs.

Scope Note

This collection contains programs, historical information, booklets, newspaper articles, and a newsletter. The collection spans the years from 1949-2010.
Box and Folder Inventory

Folder 1: Programs- 1940s-1950s
1.1 Annual Parade of Quartets and the Corn Belt Chorus program (1949)
1.2 16th Annual Parade of Quartets and Show program (1958)

Folder 2: Programs- 1960s
2.1 20th Annual Barbershop Show program (1962)
2.2 21st Annual Barbershop Show program (1963)
2.3 22nd Annual Barbershop Show program (1964)

Folder 3: Programs- 1990s
3.1 48th Annual Barbershop Show program (1990)
3.2 49th Annual Barbershop Show program (1991)
3.3 50th Annual Barbershop Show program (1992)
3.4 CD of 50th program (1992)
3.5 56th Annual Barbershop Show program (1998)

Folder 4: Programs- 2000s
4.1 63rd Annual Show program (2005)
4.2 65th Annual Show program (2007)
4.3 66th Annual Show program (2008)
4.4 67th Annual Show program (2009)

Folder 5: Programs- 2010-14
5.1 68th Annual Show program (2010)
5.2 69th Annual Show program (2011)
5.3 70th Annual Show program (2012)
5.4 71st Annual Show program (2013)
5.5 72nd Annual Show program (2014)

Folder 6: Programs- 2015-
6.1 73rd Annual Show program (2015)
6.2 73rd Annual Show ticket information card (2015)
6.3 74th Annual Show program (2016)
6.4 75th Annual Show ticket brochure (2017) 2 copies.
6.5 75th Annual Show program (2017)
6.6 76th Annual Show program (2018) 2 copies.

Folder 7: Celebration Booklets
7.1 25 year history of barbershop singing in Illinois
7.2 District Champions booklet (1976) 2 copies.
7.3 50 year anniversary booklet
Folder 8: Newspaper Clippings (*Pantagraph*, unless noted)
8.1 “Mr. Plumm Reminisces. New Recalls Singers of Bygone Era,” May 3, 1942
8.2 “Bloomington chorus named best in state” Monday September 27, 1976
8.3 “Barbershop delights crowd” February 27, 1977
8.4 “Barbershoppers in circus theme” February 1980
8.5 “A half-century of harmony” February 28, 1992

Folder 9: Newsletter
9.1 Megaphone newsletter, Bloomington Chapter No. 1 of SPEBSQSA September 2, 1958

Folder 10: Script
10.1 Script for 2-man Route 55 program, Dec 16, 2015.