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> March 25, 2012 RE: The PAN CANETTES

My dear Barbara,

It was indeed a pleasant surprise hearing from you and I am delighted that I did find a couple of pics in the files of long ago that you may have a choice..

In 1958, four young ladies and their families arrived in the country of Panama to start a new life "over-seas"! (Three husbands were doctors plus one sea captain to become a (ship) pilot.

Wanting to become part of the community, all four women had completed the application for membership in the NEWCOMERS CLUB, writing "music/singing" as a hobby! I had a few barbershop arrangements which I had 'borrowed' from the Seattle Chapter (I was the Asst Dir) and the Lakeside Chapter {I was the Director of that new Chapter!) just in case I found some singers!

The very first request of the Newcomer's Club President was:"Please plan to entertain.at the next meeting which will be a beach party theme." We quickly made old fashioned bathing suits, learned 'BY THE SEA' + 2 OTHERS. The quartet was formed! So much interest was received, the next thing was the gsathering and the forming of the CROSSROADS CHAPTER, the **first chorus outside continental USA and Canada**!

Re the <u>PAN CANETTES</u> pictures L-R: Bass Cecelia Gove, Tenor Judean Thompson,, Lead Wilma Moore, and Baritone Freda Stohrer. Songs sung at the competition were: HELLO MY BABY and THE LONESOMEST GIRL IN TOWN.

Sadly, we lost Judean three years ago. Wilma is retired and resides in Melbourne, FL; and Freda is retired and living in Rogers, AR;

FYI: I wear my 50 year pin with pride remembering all the wonderful years of great joy. I completed my years by directing SCOTTSDALE CHAPTER the 13 months as we did the director search after Bev Seller's tragic death. By that time it was time to RETIRE and care for my husband. Music certainly provided great happiness in my life for which I am most thankful!

I look forward to viewing <u>www.tophatclub.com</u>. I send my greetings to you and all of REGION 9!

Sincerely,

Cec Gove