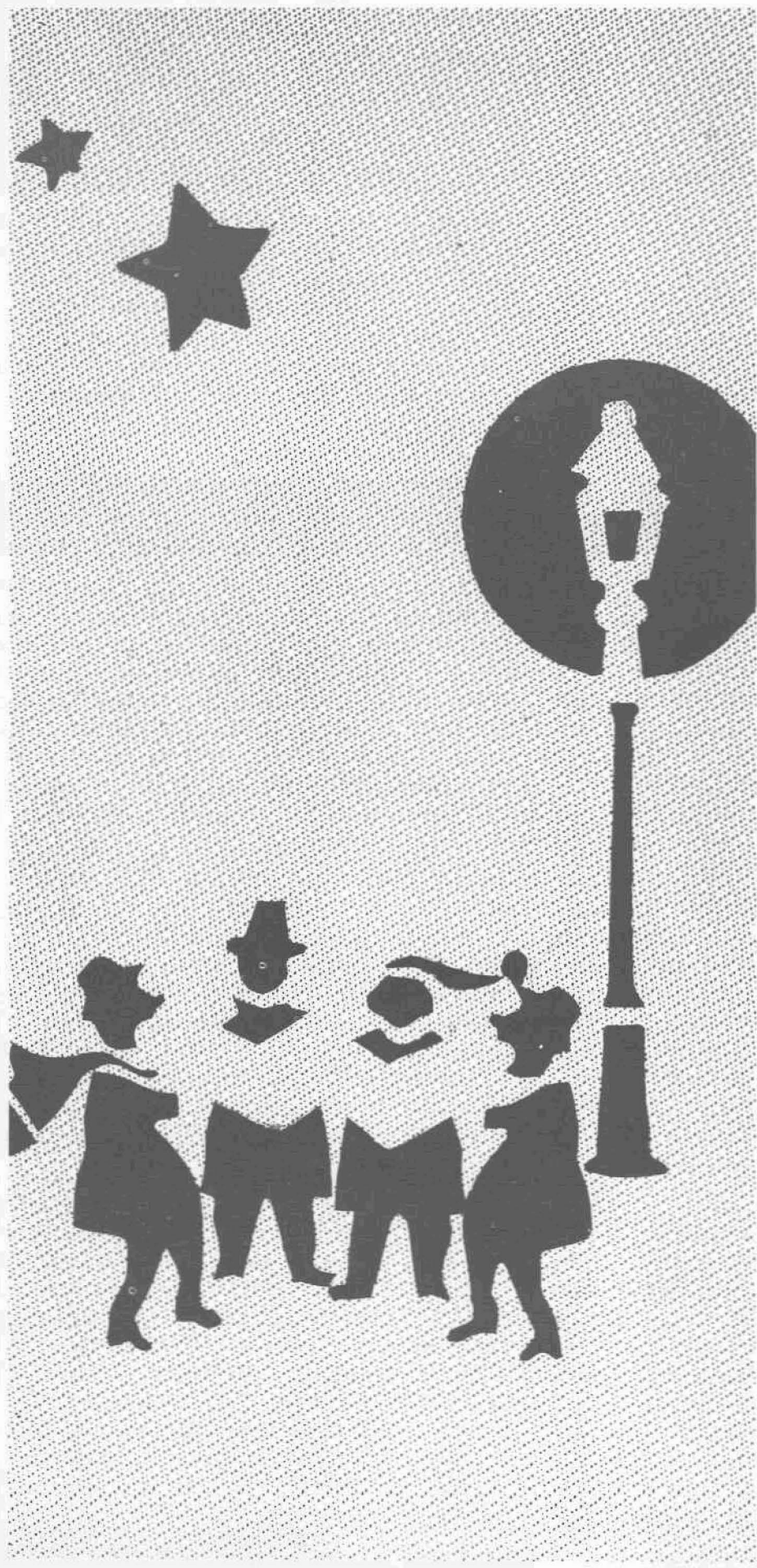


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DECEMBER 1962

troubadour



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DISTRICT

December, 1962

THE MICHIGAN TROUBADOUR

Vol. 12 No. 10

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Robbins Road, Grand Haven TROUBADOUR: James O. Davenport, 1951 Alhambra, Ann Arbor,
(NO 3-8106)



Our wonderful Society, like most other societies and organizations, exists for a specific purpose. Our purpose: To preserve and encourage barbershop quartet singing. It is to lead us toward the realization of our goal, or goals, that we elect our leader. As everyone in our District should know by now, we have re-elected President Bill Hansen to lead us through the year 1963.



Now that the problem of a good leader has been solved for another year, I suppose we can sit back on our you know whats and watch while Bill runs things. . . . or can we?

How can Bill solve problems, accomplish anything at all, if we force him to do everything himself? He can't. We must find some people to help him. Since none of these jobs (and they surely are jobs) pay any dough in return for efforts expended, it looks like we'll have to find some suckers--er, volunteers somewhere.

O.K., we find some such volunteers. We find some very good volunteers for positions like Secretary, Treasurer, and, naturally, some Vice-Presidents. Now we are getting somewhere. Pres. Bill now has a group of very dedicated, very fine and able men to help him. Now we can sit back, can't we? It is obvious that something is still missing when we see our President actually trying to lead our District.

Let's watch our leader as he wisely notes that the financial condition of our District is in jeopardy. After consulting with his Treasurer, Secretary, and Vice-Presidents, President Bill instructs Secretary Harrington to notify the District membership of the problem and present to this membership a recommended plan (per capita dues) that could solve our problem.

(A quick note here, if we may . . . the "problem" being discussed is not Bill Hansen's personal problem. It is a problem of ours. It is a problem that we would love to ignore as we dig into a ringing chord with three other guys.)

Secretary Lou sends a letter to each member. Let's see how Joe Barbershopper receives this news. Many ignore the problem, some think the District is trying to "push through" a solution the membership doesn't favor. Many become hostile toward our leaders. Leaders that are putting in their time to help us.

There can be two reasons for this, on the surface, illogical thinking. Both reasons hinge on communication. The first reason could be lack of communication to the member regarding the financial condition of our District and how and why the situation developed. Secondly, lack of communication from the member to the leader could cause disagreement as to just what actions our leader is expected to take.

This publication tries to close some of this gap in com-

munications. The gap remains much too large, however, and we must take advantage of one more tool at our disposal. . . the Area Counselor.

Area Counselors are appointed by our Vice-Presidents. As all our membership should know, though many do not, this District has four Vice-Presidents, each responsible to the chapters in his zone. In this issue of Troub, you will meet the Area Counselors working in Zone #1, appointed by Zone #1 Vice-President Eric Schultz. Each Area Counselor, you will note, works with a small group of chapters. You, Joe Barbershopper, should know your Area Counselor by name, by face, by voice, by heart. Tell him your gripes, your ideas, your desires. Honor him for the work that he puts in so that you might get more out of Barbershopping.

Know and honor all your officers; District, Zonal, Area, and Chapter. They give much of their time to help you.

Above all, remember that they need your help. . . when they call on you, please don't give them a hard time. Let's all help our leaders to help us.

To end our little story: Due to some fine discussion and some wonderful communication at our Delegates' Meetings, chapter delegates came to understand many more aspects of the financial condition of the Michigan District. The Delegates took this information back to the chapters and at our last District Convention, the per capita dues passed by an overwhelming vote. Among those that understood the problem, there was almost complete agreement. Those that lack information still bear resentment. Let's have more agreement, more intelligent discussion and less resentment.

The South Haven Chapter has very generously turned over to Troub the entire net profit from the Blue Water Summer Festival held in South Haven last July 28. A wonderful contribution of \$250.00. Many thanks to the men of the South Haven Chapter for their generosity.

Photos submitted to Troub for publication will be returned provided request is made by writing "return photo to:" on a gummed sticker and attaching same on the back of all such photos.

Best wishes for a merry, merry Christmas and a very happy, harmonious, and successful New Year to all. May the coming year be a year of growth and satisfaction to all in this wonderful District.



December 20 -- NBC-TV

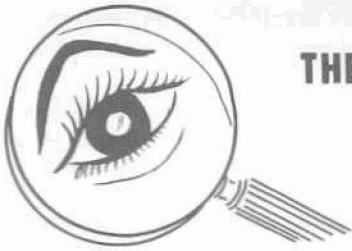
The Andy Williams Show will feature the Osmond Brothers Quartet.

December 23 -- NBC-TV

The Bell Telephone Hour will feature the Buffalo Bills.

December 31 -- ABC-TV

The Ernie Ford Show will feature the Gala Lads, 1962 International Champions.



THE FEMININE OBSERVER

By Ellen Harrington

The Detroit Yachtsman Chapter was chartered at the Detroit Yacht Club before an enthusiastic, standee crowd. The program featured the Wonderland Chorus from Wayne, Huronaires, Aire Males, Curbstone Serenaders, a Sweet Adeline quartet from Toledo and the Detroit Yachtsman Chorus under the direction of Tom Needham. The program was preceeded by a cocktail party and followed by a reception. The program was ably m.c.'d by William Wales.



Acting as hosts were Robert Young, George Ryan, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Dossin, Pat Norton, D. Lisle Melvin, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Schnell, Mr. and Mrs. Ken Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Jordan, Commodore Carl Schweikart, Commodore and Mrs. Joseph Belanger, Leo Ruff, Ray Vanderbush and many others.

Among the well wishers were James Sneed from California with his wife's parents, Dr. and Mrs. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Short, Mr. and Mrs. William Hansen, District President from Benton Harbor, Mr. and Mrs. James O. Davenport, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel McCarthy, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Graham and Don Backus from Ann Arbor; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tritle, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Craig, Mr. and Mrs. Eric Schultz, Mr. and Mrs. William Wilcox from Dearborn. Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Jorgenson and William Wales from Detroit; Alan Davenport, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Rafferty, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Lilly, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. Brad Laughlin from the Oakland City Chapter, C. D. Sanborn and Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Douglas from Pontiac, Mr. and Mrs. John Maier and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wharton from Redford, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Sheridan hosting a party from the Utica-Rochester chapter, and a large delegation from the sponsoring Wayne chapter including Mr. and Mrs. Al Fricker, Dale Clixby, Mr. and Mrs. Jack O'Brien, Tom Pollard, Jerry Reid, Mike Mudgett, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Butler, Mr. and Mrs. Bud Kepler and Timber Queen, and from Windsor Mr. and Mrs. Al Smith and Mr. and Mrs. Ken Bilton.

Darlene Schultz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eric Schultz of Dearborn, was married to Roger Stevens in a beautiful candlelit ceremony at which Mrs. Clinton Bostick was the soloist.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. John Purcell of Wayne on the birth of their son.

THE OCCASIONAL — FOUR STAR IN MUSIC MAN



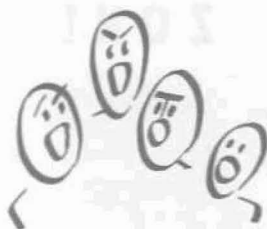
L to R: Bill Wickstrom, Fred Kendall, Web Scrivnor, and Al Martin.

The shouting and the tumult died. . . and the curtain had come down on the last performance of the Muskegon Civic Opera Company's production of "The Music Man." Enthusiastic audiences--a total of 4,201 persons--and an extremely complimentary press had combined to make this the finest effort by this company during its more than twelve year history.

No spur-of-the-moment production, the rehearsals covered a period of two months, the cast included 95 principals, dancers, and chorus members, plus a crew of over 50. Faithful Muskegon Chapter members, Jack Cooke, Eugene Butler, Marty Bomers, and Barckley Roach had speaking lines and occasional solo parts in the lavish production, while Halley Dion and family created a special front curtain that had the audience applauding before the show even started.

However, by common consent, the two scene stealers were a group of four young-timers and an "old" trouser seven years of age. Johnny O'Toole (youngest brother of Muskegon barbershopper, Jim O'Toole) played to perfection the part of the lisping Winthrop, and really "belted" out the notes in "Gary, Indiana." The quartet (tenor, Bill Wickstrom; lead, Fred Kendall; baritone, Webb Scrivnor; bass, Al Martin), carrying the Society's banner under the name of THE OCCASIONAL FOUR, not only sang the usual power house chords with gusto, but seemed to add something special to the Lida Rose number that had the audiences sitting on the edges of their seats and clamoring for more. With the winning of the Novice Quartet Award at Windsor and the reception shown in this show, the Muskegon Chapter is doubly proud of this fine, upcoming foursome.

SINGING OUT



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Jim,

Just received your latest issue of "Troub" a few days ago. I've been putting off this note for months now, and I feel quite ashamed, but I just walked by the desk and the copy sitting on it and thought "just take a minute to drop Jim a note", so here we are.

I merely wanted to tell you how much I enjoy reading your effort and to congratulate you on the excellent job you are doing in keeping Michigan up to date on things. I must also congratulate your printer, whomever he may be, for the excellent photo reproduction. This is where a lot of otherwise top-rate bulletins fall down....

We also enjoy going over the tags and would like to

say that this is a very interesting innovation, well worth the effort in comments alone, no doubt.

Keep up the superb work, Jim, and we'll look forward to many future issues of "Troub".

Singin' cheerily,

Harry B. Holle
Ontario District Association
of Chapters

Dear Jim:

At a bull session after a recent board meeting we were talking about visiting chapters and the convenience that a map of the district would be.

We were wondering if you could put a request for such a map in the Troubadour. Maybe someone in the district would have access to the latest routes between cities and have the time and talent to make a map showing the cities, the chapters in the District, and the best routes between them. It sure would be a good guide to the various shows, etc.

Neil Norman
Flint Chapter

ZONE 1

ZONAL NOTES ERIC SCHULTZ

Gentlemen:

Allow me to take this opportunity to thank each and every delegate of the Michigan District in electing me to the position of Zone #1 Vice-President.

As the new year approaches, we look forward and wonder what this New Year will hold in store for us--as a person, as a family, as a barbershopper. Is our house in order? Have you taken care of that insurance policy? Have you taken the time to open that savings account? Have you taken the time to sit down and write those letters so long overdue? . . . Or have you just been too busy? Have you just been saying to yourself, "Tomorrow"?

Now, gentlemen, is the time to put your house in order. Today will never come again. Tomorrow may be too late.

And so it is that many officers of the Society find it's too late to do the things they've promised the chapter and themselves they would do when they took office a year ago. Now is the time to put your house in order new officers. Now when all these promises are fresh in your mind. See to it that at least three officers of your chapter (including the chorus director) will attend the next H.E.P. School that will be held in your area very soon. This will be the best investment your chapter could make. It will pay back to the chapter ten fold its cost. Vote on this at your very next board meeting. Pick the men that are to go and then watch for the announcement in your Troubadour regarding time and place.

Make a promise to yourself (and do it) that you will get cellophane badges in which names can be inserted. When a visitor enters your chapter, his name can be inserted therein so everyone in your chapter will know he is a visitor, a potential member.



With the other officers of your chapter (especially the program chairman) set up a program for every meeting of the year (in advance)--one that will be entertaining to everyone in the chapter. Plan visitations to other chapters and you will have visitors to your chapter meetings.

Appoint a librarian who will see to it each member has a songbook with every song in it that your chorus or group is going to sing. Send to Kenosha for the free songs your chapter is entitled to and add them and others to your songbook.

Appoint someone to quartet promotion. Have him put together four men to sing as a quartet. The real thrill of this Society is felt while locking in a good chord or bending another.

Appoint men to committees: house, food and beverage, publicity and promotion, inter-chapter relations, community service, objective and planning, chapter bulletins, sick committee, membership and inductions, and chapter reporter.

Invite quartets from other chapters to visit your chapter and have visitors (potential members) attend. Make sure your chapter secretary makes a full report of all these happenings so that your chapter will receive full credit.

Remind every member of your chapter not to subject their songs on unwilling ears, or to practice quartet singing in public (at least not until your chorus director or the members of your chapter decide such quartet is ready for public appearances) lest you subject the Society to undue criticism.

Do these things religiously throughout this coming year, and I believe you and your chapter will be compensated by new interest, more members, a healthier treasury, more good fellowship, more recognition from other chapters, better-trained officers to assume the chapter's obligation next year, and a personal satisfaction that. . .

"Your house is in Order."

A Joyous Holiday Season to All. . .

AREA COUNSELORS — ZONE 1 AREAS



RAY L. McCALPIN

AREA #1 COUNSELORS FOR

- DETROIT #1
- EAST DETROIT
- GROSSE POINT
- MT. CLEMENS
- SUBURBAN DETROIT
- WINDSOR
- Detroit Yacht Club

More than thirteen years ago, the Grosse Pointe Chapter accepted as a new member a Mr. Ray L. McCalpin. This wise move has paved the way for a new Area 1 counselor. Ray has been a chapter board member off and on throughout these years--this includes serving as chapter secretary, vice-president, and president.

He was a member of the convention committee for our International convention held in Detroit in 1953 and served as the Historian for that convention. He is presently the Grosse Pointe Chapter delegate.

Ray has sung with four organized quartets and is currently singing baritone with the "4-Fits", the 1962 Bush League Champions, as well as the District Junior Champs.



BILL BUTLER

AREA #2 COUNSELORS FOR

- ANN ARBOR
- DEARBORN
- Northwest Detroit
- DOWN RIVER
- WAYNE

Mr. Bill Butler joined the Traverse City Chapter of our organization in September of 1948. Bill sang lead one year in the "Northmen" quartet and three years sang baritone with the "Chieftains". Bill also directed the Traverse City chorus for two years and the Traverse City Sweet Adeline chorus for two and one-half years.

After moving to the Cadillac area in 1954, Bill organized and directed the chapter chorus for one year and organized and directed the "Northland Chorus" for one year. The "Northland Chorus" was a combined chorus from the Traverse City, Manistee, and Cadillac Chapters.

Bill moved to Flint in September of 1956 where he helped reactivate the Flint Chapter which had been defunct since 1951. In the following two years, Bill served as chapter president, sang baritone with the "Flintones" quartet, and directed the Flint Sweet Adelines chorus.

Residing in Wayne since October of 1961, Bill is at this time director of the Wayne "Wonderland Chorus". He attended the HEP school in Winona in 1962 and has, we are proud to say, accepted the position of area counselor, Area 2, under Zone 1 Vice-President Eric Schultz.



JOHN M. MAIER

AREA #3 COUNSELORS FOR

- MILFORD
- OAKLAND COUNTY
- PONTIAC
- REDFORD
- UTICA

Mr. John Maier joined S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. in January of 1949. During the past 14 years he has held membership cards in three Michigan District chapters (sometimes concurrently). John's first and most enduring love is the Redford Area Chapter of which he is currently a member in good standing.

Not one to shirk responsibilities, John has been a "worker" as well as a singer. He has served as Redford Chapter secretary five years, chapter vice-president one year, chapter president two and one-half years, and has been delegate or alternate delegate three years. He is going into his second year as area counselor for Area 3.

We just said that John was a worker as well as a singer. An active singing member of the old Metropolitan Detroit Chorus until its dissolution, John has, for the last three years, been active singing with the Detroit Motor City Chorus. He has sung lead and baritone with three registered quartets and has participated in numerous novice quartet contests.

John has attended five International conventions and rarely misses any of our District conventions.

He will boondoggle anytime, any place, and considers participation in barbershop quartet singing as the greatest thing since the invention of the wheel.

Chapter News

NORTHWEST DETROIT

Chapter Reporter:
Duane Mosier

Amid beautiful Christmas decorations in Cregar's modern banquet room in Pickwick House, one of Detroit's top restaurants, Northwest Area Detroit Chapter held its Annual Ladies' Nite, Tuesday evening, December 4. A varied program emceed by Bob Griffin pleased members, their wives, and many guests. Eating time was enhanced by the brilliant work of one of the chapter's younger members, Alan Tedrick, on the Hammond organ. Al's wife, Janice, later sang some of the season's fitting songs which were heartily applauded.

Northwest's chorus director, Earl Strnad, made the piano come alive with some modern melodies played with ear-tingling originality. Always a crowd-pleasing favorite demanding more was the chapter quartet, "The Score-

keepers", personneled by Larry Winchester, lead; Bill Winchester, tenor; Bob Mueller, bari; and Dan Harris, bass (subbing for Ted Robbins who is in England on an engineering mission for his boss, Ford Motor Company). Dan can step into any foursome with his rich, melodious voice and, with his knowledge of barbershopping, ring the bell on every chord. The quartet was generous in singing many of the old time favorites that people like to hear.

Featured were four young girls who are on their way up to become Sweet Adelines--give them time. All being daughters of Barbershoppers or Barberettes, they come naturally into our favorite hobby. They call themselves "The Chord Chics", a fitting name for these young misses who are: Nancy Rafferty, lead; Kathy Rafferty, bari (daughters of Tom Rafferty of "Curbstone Serenaders" fame); Kathy Wigle, tenor; and Barbara White, bass. Coaching and leadership by dad Tom was evident as the girls took their pitch and went into their songs. They gave a pleasing performance indicated by the hearty applause crowd response accorded them.

After prizes were given to the women holders of lucky numbers, newly elected officers were installed by Marc Graber and Dan Harris who emphasized several points in the Code of Ethics to the new members of 1962. New officers are: President, Dr. George Swan to succeed himself; Program Vice-President, Larry Winchester; Membership Vice-President, Bob Griffin; Secretary, Bill Berger; Treasurer, Maurice Kitchen; and delegate, Duane Mosier.

The program concluded with three familiar Christmas carols by the chorus in which the crowd participated.

The chorus and quartet are preparing entertainment for the Catholic aged at the Little Sisters of the Poor and the elder citizens at the Kings Daughters and Sons on Sunday evening, December 16, starting at five p.m.

IONIA

Chapter Reporter:

Since our successful guest night, the following two meetings in the month of November were being devoted primarily to learning some new songs for the Grand Valley Chorus appearance at Lake Odessa in February. The meetings have not been taken up entirely with chorus practice as director Tom Dorey has been picking out 2 or 3 woodshedding quartets, giving them 15 minutes to practice one or two songs and then present their renditions to the rest of the group. Through this method, four high school age future barbershoppers from Saranac High School will probably be being heard from in the next junior quartet contest in the spring.

Ionias had one fellow, Ed Bennett, Jr., who drove up to the HEP school and came back with barbershop enthusiasm. His report to the chapter was delayed due to his having to leave the chapter meeting early, but from our brief conversation with him, I am sure that any future HEP schools in the District will be better attended by the members of the Ionia Chapter.

The Commonaires, Ionia Chapter's only organized quartet at the present time, made two public appearances in November. We understand that this will not be the only quartet in the chapter for long, as it has been whispered around that another one is forming. If this materializes, together with the Saranac boys, Ionia should soon have three quartets.

This reporter would like to make a comment regarding HEP schools. The spread on the recent HEP school in the Troubadour was great but we felt that it was a little late to be effective, as most of the fellows in the Ionia

Chapter received their copies just 2 or 3 days before. We think that probably there was good reason for this happening, but for what it is worth, in the future this spread with the registration blank should be in the issue of the month previous to the month in which the HEP school is being held.

(Ed. note. . . All info was published as soon as possible and we all hope that future HEP programs will be announced in sufficient time to properly cover in the Troubadour.)

SAGINAW

Chapter Reporter:

Gene Gillem

The Saginaw Chapter, one of the oldest and, I understand, one of the largest at one time, is still in the running. We want you all to take note.

For example, the Harmony Howls, very much looked-forward to (oh boy) by many Michigan Barbershoppers will be very much in evidence in the next years if this writer has anything to say about it.

We have a new chorus director in the person of Daryl Cornelius who is from St. Charles, Michigan. He is band and choral director at St. Charles High School.

Earl Keith, with whom a lot of you are familiar due to his association with the "On Chords" of Saginaw, was directing the chorus. At the same time he was doing a very commendable job directing the Midland Sweet Adeline chorus and singing baritone with the "Delta-Aires" from our chapter. He has now taken a new position with the Dow Chemical Company which will involve his being away for some time. (We'll miss you, Earl.)

We, of the Saginaw Chapter, firmly believe a chorus is the back-bone of any chapter that is successful now-a-days. Granted, the organization was founded for the encouragement of quartet singing, but what about the new fellows, thoroughly unfamiliar with our type of singing? I think it gives them a sense of belonging and, at the same time, they are learning the new songs right along with the rest. Let's face it, when they hear those chords lock in (with the able assistance of a chorus director) and they are a part of it, they are hooked.

In closing, a very important statement was made to me one evening at a sparsely attended meeting. I remarked about the attendance, stating: "How can you hold a meeting, let alone a program with such small attendance?" The answering statement: "Too much emphasis is placed on people who are missing. What are you doing for the people who are coming?"

I think we can all learn a lesson from this as I did. Come and see us sometime. 1st and 3rd Fridays.

UTICA - ROCHESTER

Chapter Reporter:

Dan Davey

Our November 9th Ladies Night was a big success with M.C. Jim Bennett at his jovial best and some great chorus singing. Featured quartets were the "Chord Winds", The "Wonderlads", and the "Four Fits" of Grosse Pointe fame.

The "Wonderlads" and "The Baritones" entertained at Milford's Ladies Night the following evening, and had a wonderful reception. The folks at Milford really know how to make a visiting quartet feel welcome. Also have a feller name of Ed Nealer who does a great job of quartet contact and follow-up--a very important (and often over-looked) duty.

New officers were elected on November 23, after which the members and their ladies attended the Redford Novice Quartet Contest. Utica-Rochester was supposed to be

(Chapter News continued on page 8.)

Well gentlemen, it is all over. We who were fortunate enough to be in attendance at the Sault St. Marie, Michigan District H.E.P. School have had the treatment. After a two-week cooling off period, this scribe is still excited about it, and I doubt very much if anyone who attended will ever be the same. It would be impossible for anyone, experienced in barbershopping or otherwise, to come away from a school under the direction of Bob Johnson without having a hat full of newfound knowledge, which when applied will make our hobby so much more enjoyable for us all as well as improve the caliber of our choruses, quartets and the general operation of our organization.

I wouldn't know where to start to describe the presentation by Bob because anything said here would be inadequate. Couldn't describe Bob either, other than he is a dynamic person with a personality about as common as a three-headed whooping crane, and most everyone knows that there are about half a dozen of these creatures left in North America and none have been found with more than one head. I am sure that all who came in contact with Bob over the weekend will agree that listening to his presentation produces some very peculiar reactions within one's soul. For those who were not fortunate enough to

H.I.I

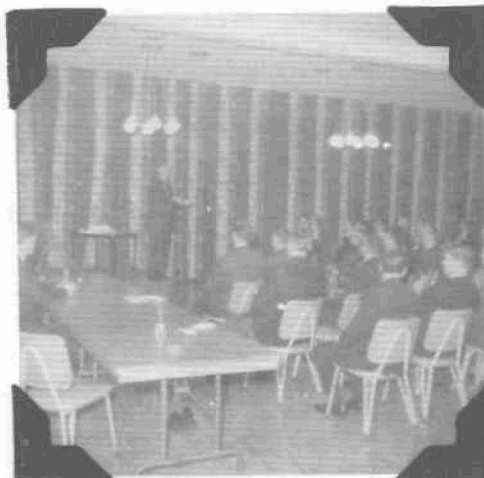
By C. E. '4

have experienced these reactions, let me assure you that they are real. First, you are struck (right between the eyes) with feelings of awe and dismay. These feelings are later replaced with anger. Anger possibly due to the fact that he has suggested you do things, which in many cases you already knew you should do, but on which you have not taken action for some unknown reason. The truth hurts. These feelings are soon gone however, and by the time the "treatment" is over you leave with a determination one seldom experiences. A determination to "get with it" and improve the quality of our chapters. T'was tremendous. Hope we will again have the opportunity to have Bob J. back in the Michigan District some time in the not too distant future.

Al Burgess, the man of many talents, filling in for Roger



BOARD
LUNCHEON



BOB
JOHNSON
IN

ACETION

PETER LESSARD
Pres. BILL HANSEN
BOB JOHNSON
ERIC SCHULTZ

???



AL BURGESS
ED CONNOR
TERRY WARD
DOUG OVERMAN
JOE FERGUSON
BERNIE MERTES
BILL VAN BOGELE
JIM MILLER



E.P.

"Ted" Spry

Craig on very short notice, did a terrific job on the quartet school. Our last meeting here in the Soo was evidence that his instruction will bear fruit. Woodshedding---some thing this chapter has not done to any extent, was everywhere. Can see a couple of quartets as a direct result. Working with Al, the Curbstone Serenaders proved themselves worthy holders of the title District Champs. After singing all afternoon at the quartet school, again at night prior to the chorus and directors school, they filled in for the Sault Border Chorders quartet which was unable to fill a television engagement--and all this with a lead singer who should have been in the local hospital. It is by association with men of this type that gives those who rub shoulders with them a lift and a realization of the type of men we have in our society. Many thanks fellows.

While this writer did not take in the chapter officers school, I understand that Lou Harrington, Loton Willson and Bob Tracy did a commendable job with this end of the program. We did have representation at this class and will undoubtedly be hearing what went on and what we can institute into our chapter operation for the betterment of our chapter. To these men, may I extend the thanks and appreciation of everyone in attendance at this school for the time and effort put into the presentation. It is to be hoped that the chapter executives will not fumble the ball now that it has been passed to them.

All in all, it was a wonderful weekend. We have about forty men who would be ready for another next week. For your information, there were twelve chapters represented at the school. While it would have been much better had all thirty-nine chapters in our district been represented, we in the Soo are thankful to those who did make the long hike up here and added so much to the weekend. There are too many to thank individually, however, we would like to thank Pres. Bill Hansen and members of the Board for holding the board meeting in conjunction with the school. Thanks to everyone who came to the Soo, and by so doing, helped to make this event a success.



*CURBSTONES
DURING
QUARTET
DEMONSTRATION*

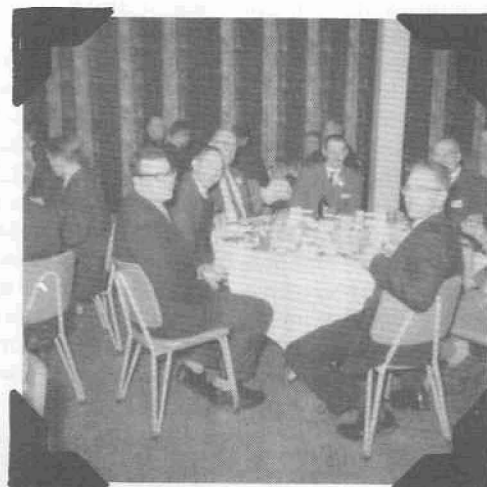


*BOARD
MEETING*

*LOTON WILSON
BOB TRACY
BOB WERKEMA
???
DAVE WALSH
AL ROSE
???*



*JOE ROGERS
DOUG ANDERSON
?
FRANK MURPHY
ROY CONLEY
BOB BODLEY*



represented by three quartets, but through strange circumstances not one could be there. The new officers for 1963 are: President, Ken Sheridan; Vice President, Jim Bennett; Treasurer, Jim Harrison; Secretary, Chuck Paine. The balance of our officers will be appointed by the elected officers, as a committee.

Our new chapter photographer, Cy Pelican, is working up a "rogue's gallery" of chapter member portraits for the bulletin board and hopes to have a photo for Troub of the installation of officers on December 14th.

Our Christmas activities include mixed carolling at old people's homes on December 20 and carolling by the members at hospitals and Selfridge Air Base on December 21st. We head into the new year with 38 active members. Happy Holidays.

GRAND RAPIDS

Chapter Reporter:
Ken Childs

What started as an idea to improve inter-chapter relations among the chapters in Area 8 has rapidly grown into one of the biggest and most entertaining barbershop shows in the District.

A little less than a year ago, the Holland Chapter found itself with a large supply of frozen chickens on hand and a little short on program ideas for the balance of the chapter year. Out of this odd combination of problems grew the idea for a chorus-quartet contest involving the Holland-Muskegon-Grand Rapids Chapters. The incentives to participate were the promise of an appropriate trophy for the chapter scoring the most combined points in the contest, an evening filled with barbershop harmony, and all the fried chicken one could eat. Needless to say, the evening was a huge success.

It was such a success that a second contest was quickly arranged and run off during June at the Muskegon Yacht Club. Although the menu changed slightly (from fried chicken to fried perch), the quality of the harmony and the spirit of friendly competition stayed at the same high level. In fact, the competition got a little keener because by now Greenville had joined the race for chapter honors.

The third running of the contest took place November 9th with no less than 150 barbershoppers and guests turning out for the event. As hosts, Grand Rapids selected neutral territory (Grandville's Legion Post) on the theory that this would help their chances of winning the coveted chapter trophy--Muskegon and Holland having won previously, in that order. The choice proved to have no bearing on the results; Holland again walked away with the honors. But between the start and the finish, the barbershoppers assembled were treated to some of the finest harmony and most hilarious hi-jinks ever displayed on this side of the District.

The evening had two high points. The first was the surprise appearance of the Mid-States Four who brought down the house. It was only by chance that the boys were in town for a convention engagement. When informed that a barbershop meeting was in progress, they took time out between appearances to make their surprise visit and to prove once again that they are true champions.

The second highlight of the evening was the very polished performance of the Extension Chords who are celebrating the 10th anniversary of their winning of the District championship. Repeated requests for encores served to show that this quartet still sings barbershop harmony the way barbershoppers like to hear it.

Jack Klaiber, Michigan District Treasurer, was the general chairman for the evening and was very ably as-

sisted by a large staff of Grand Rapids chapter members. Special credit is due Ed Reynolds who whomped-up the delicious clam chowder that sent the guests away with a warm glow in their hearts.

More such contests are certainly in store for the future. The menu may change, but no barbershopper in Area 8 will change in his opinion that this contest has become one of the most meaningful events in his chapter's schedule.

BATTLE CREEK

Chapter Reporter:

The Battle Creek Chapter is no more. Shocking news? Well, actually the same singing gang will still be around, it's just that we've adopted a chapter name. At the November 19th meeting, the membership, after considerable debate, decided on the "CEREAL CITY CHAPTER".

What's more, to go along with the new name, we have a top-notch slate of officers for the new year. They are: President, Lowell Wolfe; Vice-President of Membership, Ken Yaw; Vice-President of Program, Bill Young; Secretary, Aaron Heldt; and Treasurer, Hank Clay. The Chapter delegate for next year is Roger Knapp and chorus director will be Fran Gaffney. With an executive board like this, we're sure to have a great year.

The chorus is hard at work on some arrangements for the Yuletide season and trying to find just the right songs for our annual "Night of Harmony" to be held March 23, 1963. Talent lined up so far includes the "Mid-States", the "Town and Country Four" and locally the reorganized "Harmony Hounds" and the "Nu-Tones".

One last thought--MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY and HARMONIOUS NEW YEAR to each and everyone.

DEARBORN

Chapter Reporter:
Bob Weaver

The Dearborn Chapter held its installation of Officers Night on November 9th. Lou Harrington inducted the new officers for 1963. Lou's golden oratory was an inspiration to the incoming officers. We saw his beautiful wife Ellen there also. The Down River Chapter visited Dearborn. It's always a pleasure to have them visit us. The Curbstone Serenaders and the Noteries entertained the members and guests, singing in their usual tremendous way. Both quartets joined forces to sing in an octet and it stood our hair on ends. You have not heard an octet till you hear that one. Yours truly was m.c. and it sure was a ball. Thanks to all participating.

The chapter will hold its annual Ladies Christmas Party December 14th. The m.c. will be none other than that wizard of such affairs, Bob Craig. Just can't wait.

Dearborn's Annual Show comes off Saturday, February 2, 1963. Featuring the Nighthawks, Auto-Towners, Aire Males, Banjo-Tainers, Merri-Men, Chord-O-Matic Chorus and the S.O.C. Sweet Adelines. Tickets can be secured by calling Bill Smyth 846-6215.

On behalf of the Dearborn Chapter we wish to wish all the members of the Michigan District a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May the New Year be as harmonious as that good old 7th chord.

FLINT

Chapter Reporter:

We would like to start this report with an apology to Jim Davenport for not sending any material in last issue. We who send these articles in should especially appreciate what a task it is to put together an edition the size

and quality of the Troubadour.

The Flint Chapter set a goal of one visitation per quarter in 1962 and we reached our goal in visiting the Saginaw Chapter in October. We were entertained by the Quarter Counts and the Delta Aires. We participated in a woodshed contest and enjoyed another fine night of visiting. Ask the Quarter Counts about the new 300 mile route between Oakland County and Saginaw. By the way, we have set the same goal for 1963.

Our Chapter entertained the Kings Daughter and Sons Home early in November and was well received.

We re-elected our 1962 officers at our annual election. They are: President, Neil Norman; Vice-President of Program, Ron Sawdon; Vice-President of Membership, Art Winkles; Secretary, Ron Gillies; and Treasurer, Mike Schied; Past Pres., Fred Kienitz. New Board Members elected are: Lyle Gardner, Dwight Hammer, and Loyd Wallace.

We held our Annual Ladies Nite on Saturday, December 1st. We had a combination dance and singing program this year that was enjoyed by a full house. Bud Starwas of our chapter did a wonderful job at the turn table. We were entertained by the Quarter Counts of Pontiac-Oakland County and the Wonderlads of Utica-Rochester-Oakland County, plus a community sing led by our chorus director, Fred Kienitz. There was lots of woodshedding and every one had a ball.

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Fridays at the Croation Club Hall, 529 S. Dort Highway. Come and see us.

REDFORD

Chapter Reporter:
George Cox

At the "Redford Open" Contest, Friday, November 23, six quartets displayed their talents for the discernment of a highly qualified panel of judges and for the entertainment of those present, including an interested percentage of ladies. The winners in Class A were composed of Russ Seely, Ray McCalpin and Marv Burke of the "Four Fits", with substitute tenor John Wearing of the "Quarter Counts". This practically explains why they called themselves the "Counter Fits". Class B winners were the "For Mats", a hybrid outfit comprising Hank DeMars of East Detroit, Jack Morton of Dearborn, Tony Scooros and Robert Wharton of Redford. Also heard and enjoyed were the "Resonaires" from Pontiac, the "Exploring Four" from Detroit, the "Heterogeneous Four" from Dearborn, Pontiac, East Detroit and Redford. From Detroit Chapter came another group with the unusual but euphonious-sounding name of "We've-a-Chord".

Mark Roberts was chairman of the judging panel which included Roger Craig, Tom Needham, Bob Craig, and Tom Pollard. Chase Sanborn was secretary of the panel, while Cec Craig and Bob Stone acted as timers. We were indeed fortunate to obtain the services of such men who are short on time but long on ability.

As trophies, each member of the winning quartets received a mug (empty, of course) suitably inscribed before glazing. The making of these revealed a skill which most of us did not know was possessed by Barbara Waite.

NEW LOCATION - WITH INVITATION. Beginning with the children's Christmas party, December 11, Redford Chapter will be located in the UAW Hall, 22635 Plymouth Road (at Beaverland) and the December meeting will be held as usual on the fourth Friday, holidays notwithstanding. This hall is suited to a Barbershop chapter's needs, because of the number of "isolated areas" it contains. We hope to see a good turnout at our housewarming.

GREENVILLE

Chapter Reporter:
Bob Hansen

Thanks to the efforts of the Commercial State Savings Bank of Greenville and chapter members Al and Chuck Vining, the Greenville Barbershop Chorus will now be in uniform for future singing engagements. The complete uniform consists of a gold jacket with black trim, black pants, black bow tie, black shoes and white shirt.

A couple of foursomes who got together to sing at the Grand Rapids' "Inter-Chapter Get Together" on November 11th had such a good time that they are still rehearsing regularly. One quartet is made up of Francis Jones, lead; Jerry Mead, baritone; Tom Venus, tenor; and Norm Lantry, bass. The other quartet consists of Arnie Staffen, lead; Jack Wood, baritone; Stu Anderson, bass; and Joe Wildner, tenor.

The chorus received numerous compliments as a result of their appearance at the annual Greenville Chamber of Commerce Banquet. We can't help but feel that we are improving with every appearance. We will be initiating our new uniforms at the next chorus appearance on December 18th for the Hospital Guild.

Show chairman Bob Powers reports that plans are well underway for the first barbershop show in the Greenville area in over 15 years. The date is set for Saturday, March 16, 1963, at the Greenville High School Auditorium. Committee heads for the show include: Eldon Hansen, Tickets; Cass Kemp, Programs; Jack Wood, Stage Properties; Bob Hansen, Budget; Joe Wildner, Publicity; Chuck Vining, Afterglow; Jerry Mead, Musical Director. Arnie Staffen and Tom Venus are booking the entertainment for the show. If you are in a quartet that is interested in appearing on our show or know of one that is, please contact Arnie Staffen, Youngman Road, Greenville, Michigan. Plan to be with us on March 16th.

HOLLY - FENTON

Chapter Reporter:
Art Burnett

The Holly-Fenton 5th Annual Show on November 24th is now past history. From the many comments we have received, it was the best yet. Right from the welcoming address by President Jim Booth to the finale, the audience was with us every minute.

The curtain opened exposing the chapter members in various Stone-Age costumes, wandering about the stage doing Stone-Age chores. What a kick the audience got out of those costumes. The first half of the show was made up of chapter activities plus the first appearance of the DUNESMEN.

After intermission, Gordon Robinson lead the community sing and supervised the door prize drawing which was won by a boy about ten years old. Did your heart good to see the expression on his face as he came up to receive the prize which was a fine transistor radio.

The second half was made up entirely of quartet appearances. No one can say, and they didn't, that the DUNESMEN, QUARTER COUNTS, and the CRESENDOS didn't live up to their reputations.

The after-glow was typical Holly-Fenton and a howling success. We are very sorry that some people had to stand up and walk around to sit down. We just didn't have the room, but went out for more chairs and crowded them in.

Thurm Slack, General Chairman of the show, and his various committees worked long and hard to make this

show a success and they sure did. We didn't make much money, but had a ball doing it.

Our new officers have been elected but nothing has been done about their installation. Too much show biz.

1962 has been a good year for old Holly-Fenton and we will do our best to make 1963 a better one.

WAYNE

Chapter Reporter:

Al Fricker

Hi good buddies; we are talking to you with our vests popping with pride. We have much to be thankful for, not the least of which is the sponsoring of another new chapter.

The Detroit Yacht Club Chapter was properly inaugurated with a "really big" charter night celebration on Saturday, November 10th. Over four hundred grand people, mostly non-barbershoppers (good exposure), were present to hear the "Curbstone Serenaders", our District Champs, headline the fine show. Also on hand were those great "Aire Males", the "Huronaires", the gals of the Crystal Chords from Toledo, and the new Wayne "Wonderland Chorus". Speaking of choruses, the Yachtsmen Chorus of the new chapter did themselves proud. Under the direction of Tom Needham, these men displayed a knowledge of where they were going and how to get there. Mr. Bill Wales acted as m.c. and another capable performance on his part tied the package together beautifully. George Ryan, president of this new outpost of chord blending, stated that all were pleased and the chapter is roaring ahead full blast. Officers, along with George, are Vice Presidents Ken Palmer and Pat Norton, Secretary Clarence "Doc" Schnell, Treasurer Lisle Melyin, and Board Members Ernest Dossin, Bob Young, and Lou Harrington. Wayne is indeed proud. Good luck, men.

About two years ago, our fellas were helpful in reactivating and sponsoring the charter of Ann Arbor, who have

been off and running ever since. If you are in their real estate area, stop by and visit the grandest group of note nuts you have ever sung with. Oh yes. Word to youse guys in the District: Wayne has uncovered another area quite ripe for chapter activity. Preliminary studies are already underway to evaluate the potential, and we sincerely hope to report new progress in this sponsorship very soon.

Our Annual Christmas Party, Ladies Night, potluck dinner, installation of officers, and Christmas gifts for the Penrickton School for blind youngsters will be held on December 18 at the regular hall. Featured again this year will be our own John Titus and his band for fine dancing and entertainment. This really does it, and caps off another great year for Wayne Barbershopping. In addition, we have about six men ready to join us in 1963 and make our hobby a regular part of their lives.

Wayne Chapter is delighted to announce its new officers for the coming "ring-a-ding" year. Our new president is Mike Mudget; Program Vice-President, Bill Beattie; Administrative Vice-President, Owen McGill; Secretary, Clint Whitney; Treasurer, John Linehan; Sgts. at Arms, Don Welke and Arnold Pohto. There will be nothing ahead but good news with these fellas driving.

These men, together with our president Dale Clixby and all officers and members of Wayne, have something to say. To President and Mrs. Bill Hansen and to all District Officers, brother barbershoppers, and their families, we wish the warmest of yuletide greetings. May we all take the time to count our many blessings. Take advantage of every opportunity to help the other person over the rough spots. Make the new year a better one than ever before. Think of genuine fellowship and more barbershopping, by more people, in more places. And, as usual, notes to you from us.



THE YACHTSMEN CHORUS

KALAMAZOO

Chapter Reporter:
Dr. Jim Sell

The 1963 "Parade of Quartets" Co-Chairmen, Gilvie Bugh and Gil Shedore, report plans for the Kalamazoo Show are being completed. The show to be held on Saturday night, February 9, 1963, will headline the Colonials of East Liverpool, Ohio, 1961 International Medalists, and International Finalists in 1962, and the Auto Towners of Detroit and Dearborn, 1962 International Finalists. Rounding out the show will be the For-Tune Tellers of Jackson, the Incidentals of Kalamazoo, and the Mall City Chorus from the Kalamazoo Chapter. Ticket information will be supplied in the January Troubadour.

Kalamazoo President Gil Shedore has appointed a chorus committee composed of Don Barrett, Dick Maxson, Ed Tooley, and Paul Weeldreyer. The committee is to work in association with Chorus Director, Dick Peterson, and is to handle all phases of administration, policy and functions of the Mall City Chorus.

The Kalamazoo Chapter is holding a contest for the purpose of stimulating and increasing Chapter membership. The contest is to run until June, 1963 and will result in an award of \$100 to be provided to the chapter member who is responsible for signing up the most new members by that time. The award is to be used in the purchase of two tickets to the 1963 International Contest and to pay partial expense for same. A real incentive Joe Barbershopper--who's going to Toronto in '63.

Five men from the Kalamazoo Chapter have become members of registered quartets. Ed Hobbs, formerly of Battle Creek and now a Kalamazoo Chapter member, is tenor of the Nu Tones. Other members of this quartet from the Battle Creek Chapter include: lead, Bob Campbell; bari, Cecil Embury; and bass, Aaron Heldt. Kalamazoo's newest quartet is the Chordhawks, composed of tenor, Herm Dykema; lead, Dick Peterson; bari, Dr. Jim Sell; and bass, Ken Barrett.

The Kalamazoo Chapter is proud to announce its chapter officers of 1963. President, Gary Brown; Vice-President (Membership), Herm Dykema; Vice-President (Program), Don Barrett; Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Jim Sell; Board Members: Immediate Past President, Gil Shedore, Al Bos, Gilvie Bugh, and Irwin Urban.

LANSING

Chapter Reporter:
Roger Huntington

Lansing chapter Barbershoppers came out on top in their second woodshedding contest last December 3rd--nipping the Gratiot County crew on their home grounds at Alma. The panel of judges from the Flint chapter, headed by President Neil Norman, gave the three competing Lansing quartets a total of 1921 points--to 1656 for Gratiot County. Each of the six competing quartets sang two songs, drawn from a group of 20 or so pre-selected by the judges. More than 60 central Michigan Barbershoppers sat in on the proceedings at the K. of C. Hall in Alma.

The top individual quartet of the evening was from Lansing: Roy Swerdfeger, tenor; Burdette Bottom, lead; Homer Winegardner, bari; and Chuck Huntington, bass. They drew "Mandy Lee" and "Sweet Roses of Morn" . . . and won going away.

One of the better quartets of the evening was none other than the panel of judges: Ron Gillies, Ron Sawdon, Neil Norman, and Ray Goodall. They must've been prac-

ticing. More good entertainment was supplied by the "Impure Aires" from Alma and the "Acoustichords" and "Heart of Michigan Four" from Lansing. The latter bunch are the old "Octave Aires" with a new tenor, Roy Swerdfeger. They sound awfully good . . . and we all hope they keep going. Lansing's Bert Szabo led a number of gang-sings to complete the evening.

A big time was had by all. Let's have more of this inter-chapter woodshedding competition.

MUSKEGON

Chapter Reporter:
Gordon Gunn

Ken Barnhard, long-time member of the Muskegon Chapter and the Port City Chorus, past Treasurer and Manager of the chorus was unanimously elected President of the Muskegon Chapter for 1963 at the chapter's annual election meeting on November 29th. Ken's nomination was enthusiastically received by the membership, and the motion to close the nominations at this point was passed without dissent, (except for an objection by Ken himself). This edict speaks well for his past service to the chapter and his dedication to barbershopping.

Clare Bristol, our present very capable secretary, was elevated to the post of Vice-President. An appropriate comment on Clare's ability was overheard, "He'll make a good vice-president, but where in the world will we get another secretary to do the job that he has been doing?"

Elected to the Executive Board were Joe Cantwell, Don Courtright, Fred Kendall, Bill Duplissis, Miles Krolczyk, and Al Martin. Immediate Past President Andy VanDonkelaar, with holdover board members Chuck George, and Gordon Gunn will complete the make-up of the executive board.

The election was well handled by Chairman Doc Duplissis, Miles Krolczyk, and Jack Bennett, nominating committee. The evenings program chairman, Joe Cantwell, kept us well entertained between business proceedings. We were pleased to hear from District Novice Champs, the Occasional Four, and Mel Struthers with the help of Mrs. Struthers and Marcy VanDonkelaar did a really masterful job in the kitchen with the perch and attendant delicacies.

Thirty-six Muskegonites thoroughly enjoyed themselves at Holland Chapter's Las Vegas Nite on December 1. An invitation to a Holland Chapter function is almost tantamount to a guarantee of a real good time, and it is our observation that they certainly have an enthusiastic bunch of barbershoppers down there.

The chapter board has officially commended local barbershoppers who did a very creditable job in a local "Music Man" production. This reporter, unfortunately, was unable to attend this much praised effort, but would like to offer an account of this program as told by another who did attend. (See separate article elsewhere in this issue. Ed.)

NILES - BUCHANAN

Chapter Reporter:
Vic Vigansky

The Gateway Chorus extends congratulations to the Dearborn Chorus and Roger Craig for a job well done in Windsor. It was obvious by their enthusiasm that this group was not to be denied a trip to Toronto. They are due for a real thrill next July, if we may interject a personal note; we join the District in wishing them the best.

The next big event on our calendar will be the 6th Annual

Festival of Harmony on February 16th. This show will have an international flavor headlined by the Pitch Hikers and featuring The Rythm Counts.

Leading us through a year of fun, singing, and fellowship will be our '63 officers: President, Gene Baker; V. P. Membership, Joe Bachman; V. P. Activities, Bard Borst; Secretary, Phil Pierce; Treasurer, Dick Wurz; Sgt. of Arms, Vic Vigansky; Editor of Tune Topics, Bob Thomas.

We are anticipating a good year in '63 both in our chapter and in our District.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS



CHASING
AROUND
WITH CHASE SANBORN

The term of our fine International president, Mr. Lou Laurel is rapidly drawing to a close. Lou presented us with his "ACTION" program with the desire that numerous accomplishments in our Society would result. Many gains have been realized while some phases of the program are just beginning to jell and promise additional improvements.



From a musical standpoint there have been fine accomplishments. The HEP schools and the work of our Musical Activities Committee have improved our singing qualities and abilities. Lou's wish for a Society of men with the capabilities and desire to perform in public in a manner from which we can be justly proud is steadily being realized.

Membership gains have not measured up to expectations although indications are that we will close out 1962 at about the same level as a year ago with slightly under 30,000 members. Statistics show that we are enjoying one of our best years in retention of members but are falling down in the act of signing new members. It behooves us to follow on with Lou's "ACTION" program and express our gratitude for his great work and the dignity he has added to the Society.

A revised and expanded "Men of Note" achievement award program is being readied for immediate action and

we in the Michigan District should use the plan in an effort to increase our membership and improve the District. Many fine awards will be granted to individuals for sponsoring new members including a feature article in the Harmonizer for the men bringing in ten new members. It would be great to have some Michigan District men so honored. Awards will also be made to Chapters with outstanding records in retention and increase in membership.

One of the free song arrangements to be published and distributed by the Society in the near future will be "Apple Blossom Time" as done so beautifully by the Gala Lads in their competition at Kansas City. Members should ascertain that their chapter president order copies of these fine selections as released every two months. This will afford each of us the opportunity when visiting other chapters or attending conventions to grab three guys with whom we have never sung and buzz some chords with ease and add to the enjoyment derived from this wonderful hobby of ours.



NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY

by Sec. Lou Harrington

Chapters are responding very well on their newly elected officers' reports. As soon as all reports are received, we will be able to compile the District directory. The only chapters yet to be heard from are Boyne City, Grand Rapids, Gratiot County, Grosse Pointe, Hudson, Muskegon, Northwest Detroit, and Pontiac.



* * * * *

Congratulations are in order to the Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario chapter for the sponsorship of a very successful HEP School. The Chorus and Quartet schools and the Officers' seminars were all well attended. Men from fourteen chapters were present, including Sault Ste. Marie, Boyne City, Fruit Belt, Oscoda County, Saginaw, Dearborn, Detroit Yachtsmen, Suburban Detroit, Grand Rapids, Muskegon, Oakland County, Jackson, Pontiac and Lansing. Plans are underway to conduct another such school in the southern part of the District in the near future.

* * * * *

The District officially welcomed our newest chapter,



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the Detroit Yachtsmen. Their chorus, under the direction of Tom Needham, performed ably at its charter presentation party and plans to enter the District chorus contest at Lansing.

All chapters are again reminded that the annual Regional Quartet and Spring Chorus contest will be held at Lansing on May 4-5, 1963. The chorus competition will be for the District senior and junior championships. Every eligible chorus should plan to enter. Chorus entry blanks are available from your District Secretary.

Detroit Chapter #1 has been the first and only chapter to respond so far to the per-capita dues billing. Their payment has been received for the full amount of \$332.

With the advent of the Holiday season, we wish to extend to all of the membership a sincere wish for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of your officers.

Following the Leader

By President Bill Hansen

With the year 1962 about to pass into history, it is appropriate that we take time to reflect on happenings of the past year, and, to give some thought as to how we can improve our lot during the coming year.

In my opinion, the most significant happening has been the birth of an improved attitude within our District. This new attitude has been reflected in increased convention attendance,



increased participation in competition by quartets and choruses, and the acceptance of the per-capita assessment.

There has also been a noticeable increase of activities on the part of many chapters. It is also worthwhile to note that several chapters, of previous associate status, achieved full chapter status by virtue of their ability to "pull themselves up by their bootstraps."

Everything points to the fact that our membership intends to elevate this District to new levels of prominence within our Society.

Despite the fact that most of the happenings during 1962 have been on the favorable side of the ledger, it is disturbing to know that five chapters reluctantly "hung up the pitchpipe" and forfeited their charters. These regrettable incidents resulted from various situations peculiar to those particular areas. Needless to say, it is hoped that Barbershopping will again flourish in those areas.

We can improve our lot during the coming year by continuing to maintain a good attitude. Such an attitude will be reflected in increased attendance at conventions and increased participation in competition by quartets and choruses. We can also improve our lot by assuring, through attendance, the success of the District-sponsored HEP schools.

An increase in District membership is an objective of primary importance during the coming year. This objective can be realized only through the cooperation of every member. Imagine, if you will, the impact resulting from having every current member bring in one new member during the coming year. It is as simple and easy as it sounds. Personal pride in our District should be all that is necessary to increase our membership.

During the coming year the members of our District are going to get as much out of Barbershopping as they put into it. Judging from the attitude displayed thus far, I am sure everyone is going to derive a lot of benefit. If we all work together, the year 1963 can very well prove to be a banner year for our great District.

Season's greetings to all. May the holidays, and indeed the coming year, be joyous and harmonious for all.

BOB HAFFER RESIGNS



Executive Director
Bob Hafer

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. International President Lou Laurel and the Executive Committee have regretfully accepted a letter of resignation from Bob Hafer who has served, nay--devoted, his life to managing our Society since 1953. (On Headquarters Staff since 1949)

With a wonderful family of four boys (naturally) and three girls, Bob and wife Ellen have come face to face with that old law of economics that states "It costs dough to put your kids through college".

If devotion to duty could buy a can of beans, if loyalty could pay for a haircut, or if service could educate children, Bob Hafer would certainly entertain no thought of leaving his long-held job in Kenosha. As it is, Bob gave verbal notice of this resignation some four years ago and has consented to stay on through January of 1964 to see that his successor is properly briefed.

They say that "no man is indispensable". However, to find another man who will put forth the efforts, interest, and enthusiasm contributed so long by Bob will be a very difficult, if not impossible, task and all of us in "Barbershopdom" will miss the very familiar and friendly:--

CHORD-ially,

Bob

Coming Events

(Requests for parade dates and sanction fee payments should be sent to District Secretary, Louis R. Harrington, 2361 First National Bldg., Detroit 26, Michigan.)

January 26, 1963	Jackson Parade
February 2, 1963	Dearborn Parade
February 9, 1963	Kalamazoo Parade
February 16, 1963	Niles-Buchanan Parade
February 16, 1963	Pontiac Parade
March 2, 1963	Wayne Parade
March 9, 1963	Flint Parade
March 16, 1963	Greenville Parade
March 23, 1963	Battle Creek Parade
March 31, 1963	Hudson Parade (Sunday at 2:00 p.m.)
April 6, 1963	Muskegon Parade
April 20, 1963	Great Lakes Invitation, Grand Rapids
April 27, 1963	Down River Parade
May 3-4-5, 1963	REGIONAL CONTEST, Lansing
May 11, 1963	Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada Parade
May 18, 1963	Bush League Contest, Boyne City
June 8, 1963	Utica-Rochester Parade
September 21, 1963	Blue Water Parade at South Haven
September 28, 1963	Fruit Belt Parade
September 28, 1963	Gratiot County Parade
October 11-12-13	DISTRICT CONTEST, Holland
November 2, 1963	Detroit Parade
March 21, 1964	Battle Creek Parade
April 4, 1964	Great Lakes Invitational, Grand Rapids
June 6, 1964	Utica-Rochester Parade

KEEP AMERICA SINGING

FROM
SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT
OF BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA
INCORPORATED

To

ROBERT L MILLER
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