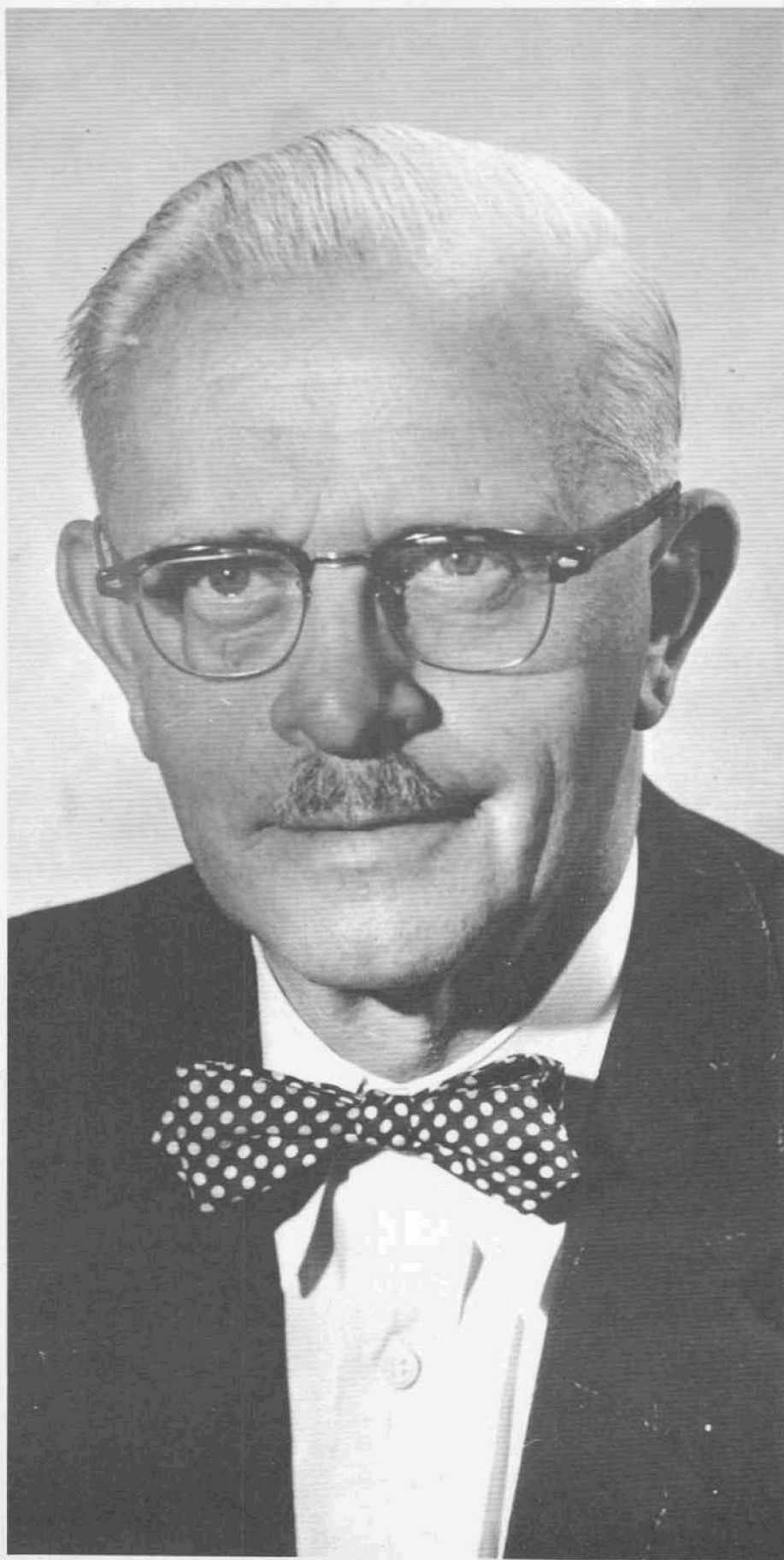


MARCH '62

MARCH 1962

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troubadour





March, 1962

THE MICHIGAN TROUBADOUR

Vol. 12, No. 3

Published by the Michigan District of the Society for the
Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop

Printed by

Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

The Manchester Enterprise

James O. Davenport, Editor

Art by Toni Perfect

Second-class postage paid at Ann Arbor, Michigan

Published monthly except during July and August

Subscription rates: Mail subscription, payable in advance:

Members: \$1.00 per year

Advertising Rates: available upon request

Single copy price: 25 cents per copy

Non-members \$2.00 per year

Copy Deadline: 3rd of each month

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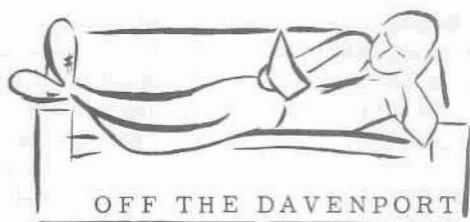
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IT'S COMING NEXT MONTH...--Our Spring Convention, here in the Michigan District, is an outstanding highlight to all of us. It is a time for serious debate when our delegates gather to chart our course. It is a time for fellowship of the finest sort.

Starting with the pre-glo, continuing throughout day and night until long after the last after-after-glo, men will be woodshedding the old songs that we in this Society love so well. With the ultimate in co-operation, understanding, and forgiveness, four men (please don't be a fifth) in rooms and in the men's johns, will be inventing new tags, picking cherries, and stealing swipes with a gay abandon that becomes an integral part of our District and International Conventions.

Meet with fellows who, like you, thrill to the sound of a ringing chord. Sing with these fellows. ATTEND OUR SPRING CONVENTION, April 27-29.



Through wonderful co-operation of the U.S. Post Office, Troub is being permitted to once again resume publication of our "Tag of the Month". Troub hopes the membership will enjoy and use these pocket or wallet cards. The tags (2 published previous to this issue) have created much comment from OUTSIDE our District, while from within our District, the response has been rather limited. This editor wonders whether perhaps we lack enthusiasm for OUR tags and might rather publish tags originating in other Districts. Troub first intended the tag card as an opportunity to "tell the world" of the terrific amount of arranging talent that we have here in the Michigan District. This talent exists, but do we appreciate it? Shouldn't we make an effort to learn and be proud to sing such music? Troub says YES. What do you say?

April 7-14 is International Barbershop Harmony Week. Why don't we work together and as individuals to make this week of the greatest benefit to our District and our Society.

To make this task an easier one, our International Officers have provided each chapter with "Local Project Kits". (Just one more answer to the fellow who says "what does International do for us?") These kits are very complete and a chapter that fails to get the maximum use out of them deserves to fall by the wayside.

To you newer members, or you who perhaps feel this job should be done by the Chapter President, Secretary, Publicity, or Public Relations man, Troub says: "See your Chapter President, see if he won't let YOU help out in this project".

There are copies of back issues of the new Troub available and these can be obtained at the regular price by requesting same.

TOM WATTS TO BE PRESENT

International representative to our coming Spring Convention will be Tom Watts, International Treasurer. This announcement was made in a letter from International Executive Director, Robert G. Hafer. Many of us look forward to meeting Tom for the first time. The District should be pleased with President Lou Laurel's choice in sending Tom as his representative.

MICHIGAN AGAIN WILL SEND THREE QUARTETS TO INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION IN JUNE

Based on the Society's membership as of 5:00 p.m. central standard time, February 28, 1962, the quota of quartets for the 1962 International competition has been determined and is listed below. *

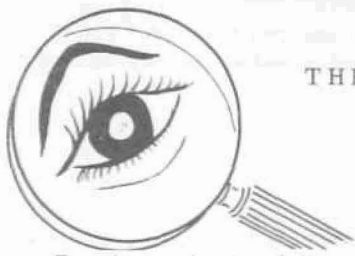
Mid-Atlantic	6
Land O'Lakes	4
Far Western	4
Northeastern	4
MICHIGAN	3
Central States	3
Evergreen	3
Illinois	3
Johnny Appleseed	3
Cardinal	2
Dixie	2
Ontario	2
Seneca Land	2
Southwestern	2
Sunshine	2

* Taken from a letter from Robert G. Hafer, Executive Director, International, dated March 7, 1962. Bob also notes: "If it should become necessary to re-determine the quartet quotas because of possible failure of some chapters to pay per capita dues billings by May 1, 1962, a bulletin giving revised quota figures will be issued as soon as possible following that date." Be prompt on payments to International.

ON THE COVER

It is a dangerous thing to "dedicate" an issue of a publication like this to one man. Who is to say one man ranks above others in this District? Would not other men deserve also to have such an honor?

With no idea of starting any kind of a precedent, and with complete confidence that no one will dispute the issue, Troub takes great pride in dedicating this, our only dedication issue, to the man who has worked so hard for so many years so that we might have this publication....our past Troubadour Editor, Roscoe Bennett. Troub says "Thanks Roscoe for all you have done to make this, the Michigan Troubadour, the respected medium it is." May it long retain such respect.



THE FEMININE

OBSERVER

By Ellen Harrington

Dearborn chapter followed it's excellent show with a well arranged After Glow at Dearborn Inn. Enjoying the event were Mr. and Mrs. Sam Vasiu, Mr. and Mrs. Mel Holderness, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Pollard, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Craig, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Tampa, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Steele, Mr. and Mrs. Al Maier, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tritle, Mr. and Mrs. Tony Chiodo, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Stone, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Craig, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Craig, Mr. and Mrs. Clint Bostick, Mr. and Mrs. Dominic Palmieri, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Van Tassell, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Dahlke, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Tubbs, Mr. and Mrs. William Favinger, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Coughenour, Jerry Reid, Dale Clixby, Bill Wilcox, Eric Schultz, Bill Rowell, Bob Weaver, Larry Altwies, Ed Luttermoser, Lou Kapczi, Elmer Koenig, Vic Favier, and many others.



Best wishes to Jim Thaden of Three Rivers who was married recently in Chicago.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. William Rowell of Detroit on the birth of their daughter, Martha Jill.

Mr. and Mrs. William Bond of Detroit joined the ranks of proud grandparents since their daughter, Barbara Yogas, presented them with a granddaughter named Paige.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Ewing of Suburban Detroit recently moved back to Michigan from Phoenix, Arizona, and one of the first events they attended was a barbershop one.

It was nice to see former Detroiter, Gil Stammer, appearing on the Wayne show as a member of the current Illinois District championship quartet, "The Escapades."

Enjoying the show were Mr. and Mrs. Bill Wales, Mr. and Mrs. John Wear, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin McClary, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Sanborn, Mr. and Mrs. James O. Davenport, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Meiselbach, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Golding, Mr. and Mrs. Don Golding, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cushman, Mr. and Mrs. Bud Knorpp, Sam Cushman, Red Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Milliman, Mr. and Mrs. Al Fricker, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Needham, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Pollard, Bill Wilcox, Dale Clixby, Roger Craig, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Tubbs, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Mudgett, John Purcell, Bill Bailey, Jim Alexander, Bill Beattie, Jack Welsh, Marty Schlenker, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Steele, Barney Campbell, Timber Queen, Mr. and Mrs. Jack O'Brien, Milton Arthur, Mr. and Mrs. Al Maier, Mr. and Mrs. John Smith, Donald Backus, Ernest Therkelsen, Cecil Craig, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stone, Jerry Reid, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Vogel, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Butler, and many more.

Patrick Smith, former president of the Suburban Detroit chapter and father of Patrick A. Smith, who is the current president of the chapter, passed away suddenly at his home in Birmingham. Surviving are his son, his widow, Margaret, daughter Marilyn, twin grandchildren, his mother in Scotland, and sisters and brothers residing in Michigan, New Jersey, Scotland, and England. Mr. Smith was the founder and president of the Commando Tool Company.



WHERE IS IT???????????

Back on March 10, 1961, the Grand Rapids Chapter was the guest of the Kalamazoo Chapter, in Kalamazoo, at an inter-chapter meeting. At this meeting, a barber-pole lamp, or as we will call it, a visitor trophy, was presented to the Grand Rapids Chapter. It was presented by Allen Mitchell, Kalamazoo Chapter President, to Tom Elderkin, Grand Rapids Chapter President, in the presence of Bill Hansen, then Zone 2 Vice President. (See photo). The Visitor Trophy was constructed by Richard "Dick" Peterson, chorus director of the Mall City (Kalamazoo) Chorus.

The purpose of the Visitor Trophy is to stimulate inter-chapter relations. It was hoped that within a 60-day period the Grand Rapids Chapter would invite some Michigan District Chapter to be its guest, and the Visitor Trophy would be presented to the guest chapter in a manner similar to the original presentation at Kalamazoo. It was desired that this policy be continued until every Michigan District Chapter had been the recipient of the Visitor Trophy, at which time the current Michigan District President would present the Trophy to the International Office as a permanent gift from the Michigan District.

A small folder was to accompany the Trophy wherever it went so that a record could be kept of its whereabouts, etc. The data to be recorded in this folder was: the name of the Chapter presenting the Trophy, the name of the Chapter receiving the Trophy, and the date of the inter-chapter meeting at which the presentation was made.

Because the Troubadour was not in print when the initial presentation was made, our District Chapters probably are not aware of the Trophy or its purpose. In fact, we have had no word of its present location. Of course, we would like to know where it has been and where it is now. We want to make sure it is moving around from chapter to chapter.....BUT WHERE IS IT?

SPRING CONVENTION

The annual event that all Michigan barbershoppers eagerly anticipate, the Chorus and Quartet Contest, is fast approaching, and the 1962 host chapter, Fruit Belt, by means of Troub's widely read pages, is throwing out a gigantic word of welcome to every last Society member in the District. Now, the fellows down in the State's Blossomland, can't guarantee the biggest auditorium, the swankiest hotel, or the biggest restaurants in the State, but one thing they do offer (and it's free)--the hope that all who attend this year's convention will feel at home and contribute a walloping share of conviviality to the event.

As promised in last month's Troub, we are herewith presenting the program, plus a recap of the event prices as previously announced. Registration will commence Friday, April 27, at 6 p.m. in the Vincent Hotel in Benton Harbor. Official events in the order of their occurrence will be:

April 28--	
Quartet Preliminaries	10:00 a.m. Benton Harbor H.S.
Chorus Contest	2:00 p.m. Benton Harbor H.S.
Ladies Luncheon	12:00 noon (Place to be announced.)
Quartet Finals	8:00 p.m. Benton Harbor H.S.
Contest Critique	10:30 p.m. Benton Harbor H.S.
Afterglows (2)	11:00 p.m. Vincent Hotel

April 29--	
Aspirin Breakfast	8:00 a.m. Benton Harbor Elks Club
Fruit Belt Chorditorium Dedication and Michigan Delegate's Meeting	11:00 a.m. Fruit Belt Chorditorium

The following prices have been established for the various events:

Quartet Preliminaries	\$1.50
Chorus Contest	\$2.00
Saturday Evening Quartet Finals	\$2.00
After-Glow	\$1.50
Total	\$7.00

All events tickets covering the above: \$4.50 (save \$2.50)

Quartet contestants \$3.50

A chorus contestant rebate system has also been arranged, and qualified contestants will receive a \$1 return, if an all events ticket has been purchased. Each chorus will have to file a list of members who appeared on stage in the contest at convention headquarters before April 29.

Hard at work on convention plans are the following Fruit Belt members: Chairman, Richard V. Barrie; Hotel and Reservations, Bill Hansen; Auditorium, Maurice Humphrey; Publicity, Gus Reeves; Tickets, Al Tincher; Program, Bill Saenger, and Dedication, Howard Schaus.

For those who wish to make hotel or motel reservations in advance, write to Bill Hansen, 537 Cayuga, Benton Harbor. Incidentally, there are a number of really fine new motels in the area, and rates will be announced by mail to chapter secretaries. The Vincent Hotel will be convention headquarters and has many fine rooms.

We're sure everyone knows where Benton Harbor is located, but as a reminder, it is three hours from Detroit on I-94, an hour and a half from Muskegon or Grand Rapids via US-31, forty-five minutes from Kalamazoo.

One last request--to enable the printers to complete the program in time, the convention committee is urging all quartets and choruses that will compete to submit their entries as early as possible. March 26th is the deadline for chorus entries to be submitted to District Secretary Lou Harrington.

16th ANNUAL BUSH LEAGUE QUARTET CONTEST

MAY 12, 1962 at 8 p.m.



Featuring the Cracker Jills

Quartet Entries should be sent to L. V. Willson as soon as possible.

For Housing arrangements, contact Mrs. Neil Dorgan, Boyne City, Michigan

Chapter News

BLUE WATER (South Haven) Chapter Reporter:
Bob Van Zandt

Here's a cheery thought to brighten up a cold, dreary winter's day. Preliminary plans are being worked on for Blue Waters' summer show which will take place on Saturday, July 28th. Present plans call for a prize to the chapter with the largest percentage attending and we are also considering a prize for the member who travels the greatest distance to attend. A buffet type meal will be served to all barbershoppers and their families. Also keep in mind that South Haven has two of the finest beaches on Lake Michigan and this outing should be a real treat for the wives and youngsters. As more information becomes available, we will keep you posted, but keep July 28th and the Blue Water Chapter in mind until then.

We are glad to welcome Harlan Quinn, of the Insomniacs back into action after a very serious bout with pneumonia.

HOLLY-FENTON

Chapter Reporter:
Lee Thomas

Holly-Fenton members and their friends enjoyed a fine evening of Barbershopping at our Ladies Nite on February 10. We were blessed with a wealth of talent, which included the "Suspend-A-Chords" from Flint, the "Crescendos" of the Flint Sweet Adelines, the "Esprit de Chords" from the Utica-Rochester Chapter, and the "Tune Testers" and "Suburban Aires" from Milford. Together with our two recently organized chapter quartets, the "Country Aires" and "Lakesiders", they combined to give us a night of quarteting long to be remembered. Also, backing up the two quartets from Milford was their twenty-man chorus, resplendent in their new uniforms, and from the chorus they also managed to produce a very fine octet. Then, to top it all off, when Grant Wright, our Chorus Director, called for the Holly-Fenton Chorus to sing a number, we were joined by practically all the singers in the place, and with a chorus like that in front of him, Grant would be standing there yet, calling for still more numbers, if someone had not hollered "Chow".

At our regular meeting on February 20, we were very pleasantly surprised by a visit from the "Rythm Rogues" of the Pontiac Chapter. We just about sung them to death, but of course Rawley Hallman, being a pharmacist, had some "Cough Medicine" along so that he was able to save Tenor John Smith from collapsing. Why don't more of you quartets do this? (Visit our chapter meeting, I mean, not the cough medicine bit.) 1st and 3rd Tuesday, in case you don't know.



13 PAST PRESIDENTS OF LANSING CHAPTER
LANSING

Chapter Reporter:
Rober Huntington

On February 19, the Lansing Chapter held the first Past Presidents' night in several years. All the past presidents were contacted and urged to be present. We were gratified to have 13 in attendance, with three missing, one being deceased, and the other two living over 500 miles away. Ed Schwoppe, our first president in the '40 - '42 period, came from Mt. Clemens and others came from 50-70 miles away on a bad, snowy night. We all felt wonderful about it.

Old presidents sang in pickup quartets. 80-year old Loren Colton (pres. in '43) recalled putting on the early chapter parades in an old warehouse. Ira Murray (pres. in '51) did a comedy routine from the "Music Man" at the piano and was the hit of the evening. A guest quartet, The Incidentals from Kalamazoo, did a swell job.

Also, the old "Songmasters", medalists in 1949, were on hand to try to remember some of the old arrangements of John Hill. Then the "Chord Bandits", popular in Michigan a couple of years ago, got together all in one place for the first time since....and brought the house down with some of Bill James' complex arrangements. Finally, current prexy Warner Dyer presented the past presidents with beautiful lettered pocket note pads, and closed by presenting immediate past president Lefty Hamilton with his pin.



LEFTY HAMILTON RECEIVES HIS PAST PRESIDENT'S
PIN FROM LANSING CHAPTER PRESIDENT, WARNER
DYER.

It was a fabulous evening. More chapters should do it now and then.

On March 5, we held our first chapter talent show. When we first got the idea, we thought it might very well be a flop. We knew there was at least some talent in the chapter; but the guys were reluctant to get up in front and go to it--or at least say they would try on a certain date. But we twisted a few arms, and finally came up with six "acts".

Let me tell you now that the joint was jumpin'. The fellows ate it up. We had a bigger attendance (54) than we've had in some time, and the various acts--whether they meant to or not--had 'em rolling in the aisles. It was great. We had the Jubilee Four from St. Johns, singing Bill James' arrangements of gospel songs and spirituals. Tony Stornant told a story. Monte Bates gave out with several Irish folk songs, with guitar. The Huntington brothers, Charlie and Roger, sang three cornball hillbilly songs with guitar--hammered up as much as two city slickers could manage.

We also had two pretty decent instrumental combos. Wally Clark, Dick Jameson and Jack Hurley swung it with accordion, clarinet and guitar respectively, (very good, too) and the program closed on a sour note from the trio of Tony Stornant, Willis Wood and Bert Szabo on banjo, violin, and string bass. The last group spiced their playing with some crazy vocal interludes. Perhaps the hit of the evening was Wood struggling through the Lost Chord, on his violin, with Szabo pounding out the riff on the piano. He had to stop twice to tune up.

It really went over. We've got a lot more talent in the chapter than we thought....and the whole idea gives an interesting change of pace from the usual Barber-shop evening. I have a feeling that a future chapter talent show would lure several more acts out of the woodwork.

KALAMAZOO

Chapter Reporter:
Jim Sell

The Kalamazoo Mall City Barbershop Chorus had a fine member turnout for their appearance before the Consumers Credit Union at the County Center Bldg. in Kalamazoo on January 25. The Credit Union folks indicated that they truly enjoyed the chorus and the fine performance by the Incidentals. George Brooks performed the M.C. duties. The chorus, under the direction of Richard "Dick" Peterson, plans in the near future to make appearances at the V.A. Hospital at Fort Custer and at the Milwood Methodist Church Banquet in Kalamazoo.

Chapter memberships were renewed at a record rate at the close of 1961. Our present chapter membership stands at 49 with the recent addition of our newest member, Irwin Urban of Kalamazoo. Guests present at recent meetings include Ron Maxson, Clarence Fountain, Bill Beaver, Stu Benedict. Paperwork is being completed for the transfer of Kent Wood to the Kalamazoo Chapter, from the North Shore Chapter in Evanston, Illinois.

Dick Peterson, chorus director, was presented the Kalamazoo Chapter Barbershopper of the Year award for 1961. The presentation was made at the Kalamazoo Parade of Quartets on February 10 by Chapter President Gil Shedore. The award was based on musical ability, willingness to give time and talent, and desire to improve himself and his chapter in the realm of barbershopping. The selection was determined by each chapter member submitting his written nomination to the chapter president.

The chapter is to entertain the Grand Rapids Chapter at an inter-chapter meeting on May 25 in Kalamazoo. Grand Rapids was host to the Kalamazoo Chapter on Friday evening, March 9.

The chorus voted to compete in the District Chorus Contest to be held April 28 in Benton Harbor. Also, the chorus was advised of an invitation to sing at the TB Sanitarium in Kalamazoo on one of its meeting nights.

Reports indicate that our 1962 show was a tremendous success. General Chairman, Howard Henry, and his many committee chairmen and their workers are to be congratulated on a well-planned show. Such a fine job was done by Howard Henry that he was asked to be the General Chairman of the 1963 show.

GRATIOT COUNTY Chapter Reporter:
Dale Hanson

At the annual installation of officers in January, the Gratiot County Chapter installed the following officers for 1962: President, Doub Webb; First Vice President, Jesse Thrush, Jr.; Second Vice President, Bill Derby; Secretary, Bud Fitzgerald; Treasurer, Ivan Palmer; Past President, Carew LeBlanc; Director, Phil Daab, and Executive Board members Lou Willart and Dale Hanson.

The Merri-Men from Lansing were the featured quartet at the annual Ladies night February 12. The ladies were presented with a corsage and a delicious dinner was served by the Ithaca Presbyterian Church. Dale Munson served as Master of Ceremonies and presented the local quartets and the chorus. Three local quartets are now singing. They are: "The Country Gentlemen" made up of Lowell Boyer, Bass; Phil Daab, Bari; Harry Burnham, Lead; and Leroy Lake, Tenor. "The Impure Airs" composed of Lowell Boyer, Bass; Leroy Lake, Tenor; Bill Derby, Lead; and Wendall Derby, Bari. The newest quartet is made up of Carew LeBlanc, Bass; Doug Webb,

Bari; Dale Munson, Lead; and Lindy Wright, Tenor; and they call themselves ????????? (no name as yet)

The entire chapter is hard at work preparing a Minstrel Show which is being written by Wendall Derby and the Mr. Interlocutor is Ray Tomlin. No date has been set for its presentation.

FLINT

Chapter Reporter:
Bud Starwas

The Flint Chapter will hold its annual barbershop program Saturday, March 27th at the IMA Annex at 8 p.m. Public invited. Quartets performing will be Auto-Towners from Detroit, District Champs; Aire-Males from Detroit; Sweet Siouxs from Detroit; For-Tune Tellers from Jackson; and the Merri-Men from Lansing.

Our chorus director, Fred Kienitz, Jr., heard wedding bells--our congratulations. Ray Goodall just had an operation and is coming along nicely. Cliff Winkles is off the sick list, too.

WAYNE

Chapter Reporter:
Al Fricker

Well, it's over. The 1962 Wayne Pitch Pipe Parade concluded amidst ringing chords and resounding applause. Many folks said it was the finest show Wayne has ever produced. A sell-out house heard the Night Hawks at their very best, and Bobby Bostick never sang sweeter. It was great to have Gil Stammer and his Escapades back from Chicago, and what a marvelous sound with a new lead of two months. Just everyone did a great job, and smiles of pride from all Wayne lads for our fledgling chapter chorus and its new director, Tom Steel. All in all, a glorious evening of song, and wonderfully supported by area barbershoppers.

We will need several chapter meetings to settle down a little, but many plans are in the mill under the guiding hand of President Dale Clixby. Not the least of these is exploiting Barbershop Harmony Week, April 7-14. Being a chapter with members in several communities, we plan to reach each one with local news releases, pictures of local mayors, etc. This is an opportunity for the asking, and we intend to take advantage of it.

Other up-coming matters of note are a big Ladies Night and another hush-hush "mystery trip". These are always well received and end up as more "nights to remember". Professor Mudgett and his program crew are doing a great job in keeping our activities blasting along, and we appreciate it.

One last remark to all you fine District members: Give a great big cheer and all the support you can muster for Jim Davenport and his masterful job with our Troubadour. I have seen many of the other district publications and we can really swell up with pride when we compare them with good old Troub. We don't follow along; WE LEAD.

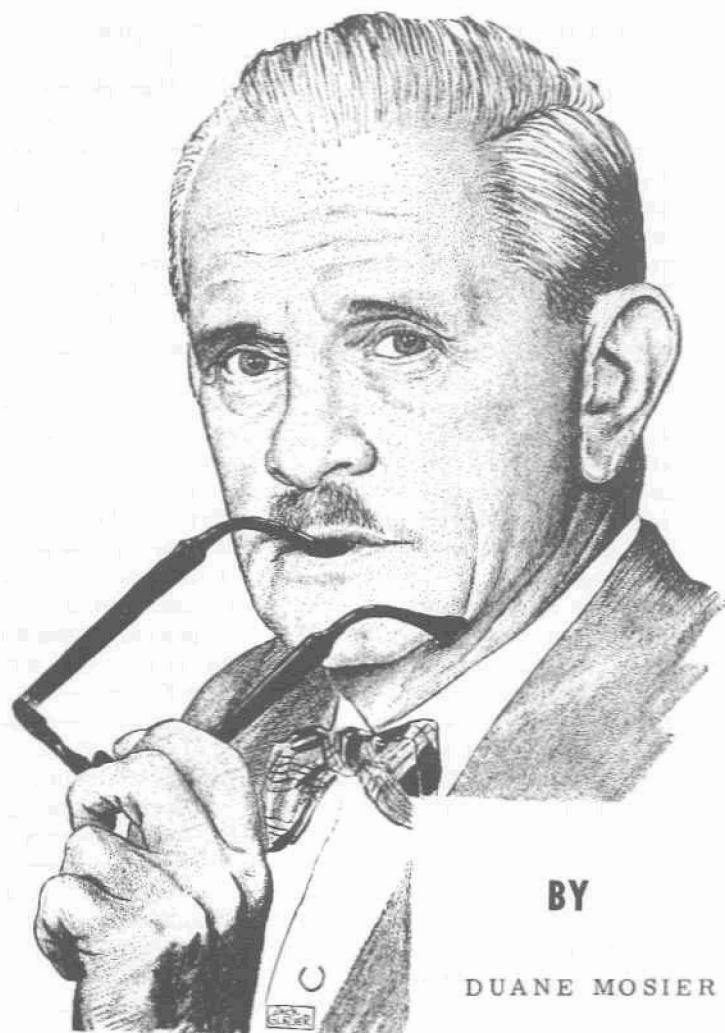
Wayne boys will sing with you at Benton Harbor. See you there.

DEARBORN

Chapter Reporter:

The "Chapter of Champions" did it again--on February 17th by staging a top-notch show and a well conducted after-glow. People were turned away at both places. Chairman Robert Craig, Eric Schultz, Bob Weaver, Sam Vasu, and Bill Smyth are just a few who deserve a big hand for the work they did in making everything such a success.

Troub Presents **A** **Profile On** **ROSCOE D.** **BENNETT**



BY

DUANE MOSIER

If it is more blessed to give than to receive, then Roscoe D. Bennett deserves a gold plated medallion.

This is a profile of a man who gave all and asked little in return. If everything that could be said about him were here recorded, these pages would not hold it all. His whole dynamic life exemplifies the saying that it takes a busy man to get things done.

Forty-eight of Bennett's sixty-seven years were jam-packed years. Starting as a cub sports reporter, later joining the Grand Rapids Press and being promoted to editor of the Sports Department of that prominent Michigan newspaper was his bread and butter, but his work there was only a fraction of his activities. His newspaper work supplemented his great interest in the civic and cultural aspects of his city. Promotion was the keystone to his success, all the way from marbles to golf and Golden Gloves tournaments, and many other major events. Not only was he wrapped up in sports, but his musical talents, inherited from a father who was a thorough musician directing choirs, choruses, and bands, led Roscoe into musical circles with which he became prominently identified, and on into barbershopping where he has spent 22 heart-warming years.

Before migrating to Michigan in 1912, Roscoe and his three brothers lived in Maryland where, under dad's tutelage, they formed a quartet. "It really was a quintet," explains Roscoe, "because dad couldn't resist the temptation to sing baritone. It resulted in brother Paul being fired and dad taking his place." With this early start in barbershopping, straight chords, augmented and

diminished sevenths became well ingrained.

Later, after going to Grand Rapids, Roscoe studied long and hard under a leading voice teacher and became soloist in one of the churches. He soon became a member and later an officer in the Schubert Club, assistant manager of the Symphonic Society, and president of its chorus. It was from the Schubert Club--which could boast a dozen quartets--that a local contest was staged when Bennett heard of O.C. Cash in Tulsa. Through correspondence Roscoe learned the story. He holds a 1939 membership certificate in the Tulsa Chapter. From that point things moved fast. Local chapters and the Michigan District had been organized when the 1942 International Convention was approaching. Roscoe tells what happened:

"Carroll P. Adams, an old glee clubber associated with the Orpheus Club of Detroit, who was becoming a national figure, went for us along with such stalwarts as Joe Wolff, Ed Schwoppe and such. By exercising a flock of proxies, including such as Al Smith, governor of New York; Bing Crosby; George Kerr of Colorado; and others who lent their names for window dressing, Michigan outvoted Chicago, Jacksonville, Florida, and one or two others and we got it."

Bennett was National contest chairman. Pushing with all the zeal at his command and pulling every string, the convention was a huge success. Over 5000 people attended the finals. He conceived the idea of hanging gold medallions around the necks of the winning quartets, a custom which has since been followed in the International contests.

PONTIAC

Chapter Reporter:
Jerry Leroux

The month of March will be a busy one for the members of the Pontiac Chapter. Besides regular chorus rehearsals every Monday night and a third Friday Chapter meeting, our chorus will visit the Utica-Rochester Chapter and fill two commitments to sing at the Oakland County T.B. Sanitarium and the Oakland County Medical Care Facility.

One of the real big events of the year will take place on the 31st of March. Of course, it's our annual Woodshed Contest. It's the 6th of a series of many more. Every year this event gets a little more popular. The competition is very keen for the Carroll P. Adams Bennington Trophy, and also the individual lapel pins that are rewarded to the best voices in the winning quartet. (Judged by competent judges, naturally) The Bennington Trophy is awarded to the chapter having the highest percentage of registered members participating.

Last year there were over 150 in attendance, and the trophy was won by the Flint Chapter, with 18 quartets competing. The rules are very simple to be able to compete, and every one has a real good time, and I might add, plenty to eat afterwards. The rules are:
1. No more than any two men from one chapter competing.
2. No more than one man from the same organized quartet.
3. No more than two men from any two organized quartets. If any of you think you are a pretty good man when it comes to finding your way around and really like to sing and have fun, come on out to the K.P. Hall in Pontiac on the fifth Friday about 8:30 p.m. and try your luck. I can guarantee you will all have fun and enjoy yourself.

MILFORD

Chapter Reporter:
Harold L. Sweeney

The Milford Chapter Chorus had a nice visitation to Holly-Fenton "Ladies Night" and entertained for an hour or so along with "The Tune Twisters" and "Suburbanaires". Then, the two quartets formed an octet and did two numbers very well indeed.

Needless to say--the February 3, 1962 "Ladies Night" was a sell-out with a wonderful list of talent.

The "wearing" of the green prevails March 17--the next "Ladies Night". The Merri-Men, Four-Tune Tellers, Curbstone Serenaders, Milford Chorus, Suspend-a-Chords, and others will make this another big night.

Ed Nealer accepted the job of chorus manager and also takes over duties of delegate and publicity manager for the chapter.

Pat Krietzer accepted an important job of Chapter Historian and will be ably assisted by Ed Nealer, Bill Nealer and all other members when necessary to complete this important task.

New members every week it seems. Woodshedding all over the place and in members' homes. New members put to work and started singing in possible new quartets. Things are "Hummin' in Milford."

DETROIT

Chapter Reporter:
Philip F. Savage

"Takes more than singing to make a good chapter", says Jack Bader of Detroit Chapter--and Jack is living proof of this tenet. Recently appointed as chapter Special Projects Chairman, Jack is one of the best boondogling tenors in the gang. But his real talent shows in the rehearsal hall used for weekly chorus sessions.

Before Jack began to shape up the place, the hall resounded each chord like a chinese gong getting full treatment from a J. Arthur Rank muscleman. Now brightly decorated trophy cases, wall plaques, acoustical curtains and the chapter bulletin board hang strategically on wall areas and muffle the more blatant chords.

Jack can cobble up a creative decorators dream from the darndest ingredients imaginable. Witness his highly reliable chapter electric clock. The chassis is blacksmithed from an old coffee can, resplendent with the Society crest and dominates the west wall like an architects prize sunburst.

When he's not whipping up new barbershop-type decorations for the chapter room, he holds down a steady job in the tenor section of the Michigan District Championship Chorus. And for the past two years, Jack has been House Chairman, Chief Cook and Bottle-Washer for all chapter monthly meetings. Barbershopping can use all the Jack Baders we can get our hands on. Detroit Chapter is lucky to have him.

Old Timers' Night, Detroit Chapter's regular February meeting, was a star-studded affair this year. The Aire Males, Wonderlads, Esprit de Chords, Progressive Four and many others joined in the fun to honor Clarence "Punk" Edoff, Detroit Chapter's "Old Timer of the Year".

Punk, well known for his rich sense of humor as well as his long years promoting harmony in the Michigan District, received the coveted "Old Timers" Award, as well as a transistor radio from the Chapter. The Aire Males honored Punk with a well-chosen gift of their own.

Detroit, the ACTION Chapter, whipped all comers for the third straight year in February at the Dearborn Octet Contest. Dearborn has again sworn revenge--but, like old soldiers, Detroit Octets never die.

It's a wee redtopped lassie for Judy and Bill Rowell. Martha Jill, (known by some wags as "Cracker Jill") was born February 9, and tipped the scales at 6 lbs., 12½ ozs.

Roger Craig of Dearborn Chapter, has by now received Detroit Chapter's challenge to the second annual "Comedy Quartet Contest" to be held in Detroit Chapter's regular meeting spot, UAW Local #771 on John R. St. just south of Eight Mile Road on Friday evening, March 17. The "Thunder Mug" trophy is up for grabs for the funniest quartets from either Detroit or Dearborn. The contest is judged strictly on stage presence. Come and watch the fun.

BATTLE CREEK

Chapter Reporter:
Francis Gaffney

The Battle Creek chapter of the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. is working feverishly to make its coming 7th annual Night of Harmony the best ever. In addition to our own chorus and Sweet Adelines, we have four local quartets, The Derbytowners from Louisville, Kentucky, The Hut-Four from Minneapolis, Minnesota, The Auto-Towners from Detroit, and our own Harmony Hounds. This, we are sure, will make a very good variety of barbershop sounds, so don't miss it.

Saturday evening, March 17, 8 p.m., W. K. Kellogg Auditorium. We'll be looking for you.

BOYNE CITY

Chapter Reporter:

L. V. Willson

Boyne City, host for the famous annual "Bush League Contest" has been warming up to their job since the middle of February by staging monthly quartet contests within their chapter. The judges? Why, the whole chapter, of course; and the quartets?--assigned by bulletin so everyone gets to sing with three different combinations. Sounds like fun. But, for a real contest, with loads of fun--the Bush League May 12, at Boyne City.

MUSKEGON

Chapter Reporter:

Gordon W. Gunn

Mrs. R. Jack (Wilna) Bennett was named Muskegon Chapter's Spebsquaw of the year at the chapter's annual Ladies Night meeting, on February 23. The requirements for this unique honor were told by spokesman Al Martin, for the W.A.R.B.elairst Quartet, who selected Mrs. Bennett. The Spebsquaw must be constantly sympathetic to barbershopping in general. She must promote, encourage, and/or assist her husband's participation in barbershop activities, and herself be active, directly or indirectly, in some phase of barbershopping.

Wilson Hislop named Mrs. Bennett, for the quartet, after which she was crowned by last year's Spebsquaw, Mrs. Bill VanBogelen. The W.A.R.B.elairst presented Wilna with red roses, and serenaded her.

The Insomniacs of South Haven entertained on this evening, as did the old Clefto-Maniacs, (tenor Keith Clark returned from out of state to appear with them), The old PhD's (lead Gerry Guimond was in town from Lansing to appear with this quartet), the old Aire Tonics, as well as two new Muskegon quartets, who made their first appearance in Holland on February 8, the Occasional Four, and the Quarter Quarters, along with a quartet of youngsters the Key Notes.

The entire evening was much fun, filled with barber-shop harmony, an event where old quartets got together again, of gang singing led by Gerry Guimond of Lansing and Roger Valentine of South Haven, and after lunch, dancing to the music of Socks Sabin and his Sockaroos.

The Muskegon Chapter accepted a challenge issued to them and the Grand Rapids Chapter to a quartet and chorus contest by the Holland Chapter in Holland on February 8. The Muskegon Chapter is proud to announce that they won the plaque awarded to the chapter accruing the most points in this "Symposium in Song". We very much enjoyed the entertainment provided by some



MRS. JACK BENNETT--MUSKEGON'S SPEBSQUAW



ROBERT
HART

WILSON
HISLOP

WEB
SCRIVNOR

AL
MARTIN

funtastic quartets down there. We were also very impressed by the wonderful barbershop sound made by the Holland Windmill Chorus, and the Great Lakes Chorus of Grand Rapids. The chicken was delicious.

Greenville will be hosted by Muskegon for a St. Patrick's day party on March 15. Can you think of a more appropriate way to celebrate the occasion? The Greenville Chapter was sponsored by Muskegon just about one year ago and we still remember a fine time over there on their Charter Night.

Co-chairmen Joe Cantwell and Tom Damm have announced that the quartet line-up is complete for the Muskegon Parade to be presented in the Michigan Theatre on May 4. The headliners will be the Four Renegades of Skokie, Illinois. Buz Haeger of the Renegades flies his own airplane and the quartet will fly into Muskegon for their Friday night appearance. Also on the show will be the FunTastic Four of Evansville, Indiana, the Merri-Men of Lansing, the Insomniacs of South Haven, as well as Muskegon's own Port City Chorus. Don Melvoin of Grand Rapids WOOD-TV, will be guest Master of Ceremonies, and the stage setting will be a gigantic, to scale, TV screen.

The program committee includes Chuck George, Andy VanDonkelaar, Fred Kendall, and Jerry Billingsley. Clare Bristol will be in charge of the After-Glow.

NILES-BUCHANAN

Chapter Reporter:

Vic Vigansky

The Fifth Annual Festival of Harmony was held at the Niles High School Auditorium Saturday, February 17. The Mid-States Four and the Merri-Men had the packed house in the palms of their hands. The State-liners, the Four Bards, the Buchaneers, the Sub-Mariners, and the Sweet Adelines filled out the bill and all scored highly with the audience. Lee Kidder kidded the crowd and did a fine job as M.C. To keep a show moving with all the aforementioned groups plus the Gateway Chorus took some doing.

The Niles-Buchanan Chapter wishes to thank the many Michigan District and Indiana-Kentucky District fans who attended this show.

It's too early to see a clear financial picture of the show, but the Gateway Chorus should be a little closer to K.C. as a result. Meanwhile, it's back to the package show circuit again with the next one on February 22 in Tippecanoe, Indiana.

DOWNRIVER

Chapter Reporter:
Mel Laginess

Downriver Chapter has been awarded by International as the "INTERNATIONAL HONOR CHAPTER OF THE MICHIGAN DISTRICT FOR 1961" for showing a chapter membership increase of 125%.

Downriver Chapter is justifiably proud of their recent award. We hope we can do as well this year.

Downriver's two active quartets, the Aire-Raiders and the Chordials have been hard at work learning new numbers and taking as many engagements as their schedules will handle. Downriver's Troubadour Reporter was extremely pleased with the performance of the Aire-Raiders on T.V., February 24th (his opinion is somewhat biased, however).

Many people have wondered why we are not planning a show for this year, particularly after our successful venture of last year. All I can say at this time is "WAIT 'TILL 1963".

All of us in the Downriver Chapter wish to congratulate Jim Davenport, our Troubadour Editor, for the wonderful job he has done so far and express our hope that a means will be found to retain and sustain him in his position for many more years.



KEN SMITH MRS. ROBERTS MARK ROBERTS

A PRESENTATION TO MARK ROBERTS

On Saturday, March 3, at its annual Ladies Night, an over-capacity, sell-out crowd of close to 350 turned out to pay tribute as the Grosse Pointe Chapter honored Mark Roberts, a barbershopper well known to all of us. He was presented with a Certificate and Medal proclaiming him a life member in Grosse Pointe Chapter. Mark was Grosse Pointe Chapter's first president, is a past District President, and is an International Charter Member.

Mark has served as International Treasurer, is the author and head trustee of the Harmony Foundation, wrote the International By-Laws, drew up the rules for both the quartet and chorus competition. He has been an International Judge for 18 years and was Chairman of the Judges Committee for the most part of those years. He has been the Society's General Council and Attorney since its inception. He made all arrangements with the Bureau of Internal Revenue to have our Society proclaimed a non-profit organization, thus eliminating Federal Income Tax.

Mark has coached some of the best-known quartets in the country, and has sung in a number of them in all types of competition. Also, he will sing a might good bari with any three guys at the drop of a hat.

ZONAL NOTES

E. A. VANDE ZANDE Vice President Zone 2



I've stated before that I'm no music technician, but it doesn't take a great musician to look through our last few "Songs For Men" and notice a conspicuous absence of the good old songs that inspired our being. The songs in books 11 and 12 are good ones and I personally am having fun singing some of them, but I do feel quite strongly that "Wait Till the Sun Shines Nellie", "When You Wore a Tulip", "In The Evening by the Moonlight", and many others are being used far too little.

Some fella comes out and says "Sing Along with Me" and makes a fortune on the very thing that we as Barbershoppers can do in better fashion. Mr. and Mrs. John Q. Public like to hear these old songs, they must or they wouldn't buy the "Sing Along" records by the millions. These same people would also like to hear our quartets do the old timers. They're interested in how we treat the song and how we express it.

Quartets, how about trying a little experiment? Select one of the old standbys, go to work on it just as hard as you do one of those swell original tunes and when you've got it polished and dressed for presentation, sing it at your next public appearance. Then take note of the enthusiastic applause you receive for your efforts.

Fellas, what I'm trying to say is something like this: It is a lot easier to sell a man something if he has some basic acquaintance with the product.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS



CHASING
AROUND
WITH CHASE SANBORN

Before passing along any International news, I would like to comment on the matter of replenishing our Michigan District treasury funds. With the knowledge that expenses are exceeding our income, some plan for supplementing our income must be established.



Very few of our District Conventions result in any substantial profit, with the Windsor and Dearborn events being about the only exceptions in recent years. True, the fine show staged at the State Fair last Fall was a financial success but it would require three or four of such events each year to accomplish the needs.

Several Districts in our Society have adopted District per-capita dues to provide sufficient operating monies.

The Far Western District has used this plan for several years and is one of the most successful and efficiently operated organizations in the Society. The manner in which they transact the travel and per diem requirements for their quartets and chorus at International Contests is a fine example.

I believe that some form of District dues should be given serious consideration at our spring convention as assurance of a progressive future for the Michigan District.

Some of the important decisions at the International Executive Board meeting in February are as follows:

That all District and International Preliminary (formerly Regionals) Contests shall be chairmanned by a qualified judge who will act solely as chairman of the panel effective with the 1962 fall contests.

The recommendation that mandatory requirements for a ten-man judging panel for these contests was referred back to committee.

The 1964 International convention was withdrawn from Memphis and awarded to San Antonio. The decision was based on a serious decline in Chapter membership. Memphis is the home chapter of the Confederates.

A new ruling that in the event of the dissolution of a Chapter, those in custody of Chapter funds, property, and assets will assign all of same over to the parent District Association.

That the HEP school will be conducted in four regional locations with the same faculty at each school. Winona, Minn. will again be the site for this region.



NOTES FROM

THE SECRETARY

by Sec. Lou Harrington

Attention is now centered on the forthcoming Regional Quartet Contest and Chorus Contest sponsored by the Fruit Belt chapter to be held on April 28, 1962, at Benton Harbor. Registered quartets will be receiving entry blanks from the International Office for this contest, and chorus entry blanks will be sent from our District office. If your group is newly organized, or for some reason did not receive an entry, contact my office, 2361 First National Building, Detroit 26, Michigan, and request an entry.



R. J. Schuur of Kalamazoo raises a good point. He would like to attend more chapter shows but would like to know what talent is featured and more details as to time and place. This is true of many barbershoppers. It would seem very advantageous for a chapter planning a show and wishing to stimulate interest and attendance to run an ad in the Troubadour. Rates may be obtained from Editor Jim Davenport.

The 1962 District directories are now in the mail. Once again, for a tenth year, this is being printed in

sufficient number to be distributed to every member in Michigan without any cost whatsoever to the District, other than the postage to mail them out, through the co-operation and generosity of a loyal barbershopper to whom we are all indebted. Please report any changes or corrections to my office.

Following the Leader

by President Bill Hansen

During the 1961 Fall convention at Jackson, I informed the assembled delegates that my "pet project" for 1962 would be entailed with requesting each chapter in our District to select and sponsor a worthwhile charitable project, whether it be of a small or large amount. Further, that such a charity could very well be something other than a monetary contribution.



I have purposely refrained from any promotion of this "pet project" because I did not want anyone to feel that such a program is mandatory or is the basis for competition among chapters.

I am aware that some of our chapters are currently sponsoring charitable projects through monetary contributions which have been made possible by extra effort on the part of the chapter members. These chapters are to be commended for their efforts. I might add that these chapters are among the more successful within the District and morale of their respective members ships is excellent.

All of us are no doubt aware of deserving individuals, both young and old, who need help in the acquisition of devices or appliances designed for physical rehabilitation. When I originally made my suggestion to the delegates, I had in mind that each chapter, if not already committed to a charitable project, should select a worthy recipient, determine the rehabilitation needs of this individual, and then make the necessary plans to follow through on the purchase of same.

As Barbershoppers, we enjoy the enviable position of being able to indulge in our favorite past-time for the enjoyment and entertainment of others. In most instances, such activity is the sole source of revenue which is needed to finance the normal operations of a chapter. I do not believe there is a Barbershopper in the District who would object to participating in those few extra performances which would provide the funds to assist someone less fortunate.

I urge all chapters, not currently engaged in any sort of charitable work, to give this matter serious consideration and pick a project for the year. Keep in mind that it is not the amount, but the thought behind it that counts.

Let us give a bit more of ourselves for the benefit of someone who needs help. The satisfaction derived from helping will more than compensate for the extra effort.

Coming Events

Requests for parade dates and sanction fee payments should be sent to: District Secretary Louis R. Harrington, 23161, First National Bldg., Detroit 26, Michigan.

March 17, 1962	Battle Creek Parade
March 24, 1962	Flint Parade
April 1, at 2:30 p.m.	Hudson Parade
April 7, 1962	Great Lakes Invitational Grand Rapids
April 27, 28, 29	Regional Contest Fruit Belt
May 4, 1962	Muskegon Parade
May 5, 1962	Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario Charter-Parade
May 12, 1962	Bush League Contest Boyne City
May 18, 1962	Holland Parade
May 19, 1962	Ann Arbor Parade
May 26, 1962	Three Rivers Parade
June 9, 1962	Utica Parade
June 20-24, 1962	INTERNATIONAL CON- TEST, Kansas City
August 18, 1962	Oscoda County Parade
September 15, 1962	Blue Water Parade, South Haven
October 5, 6, 7, 1962	District Contest, Windsor
November 3, 1962	Detroit Parade
March 23, 1963	Battle Creek Parade
April 20, 1963	Great Lakes Invitational Grand Rapids
September 21, 1963	Blue Water Parade South Haven

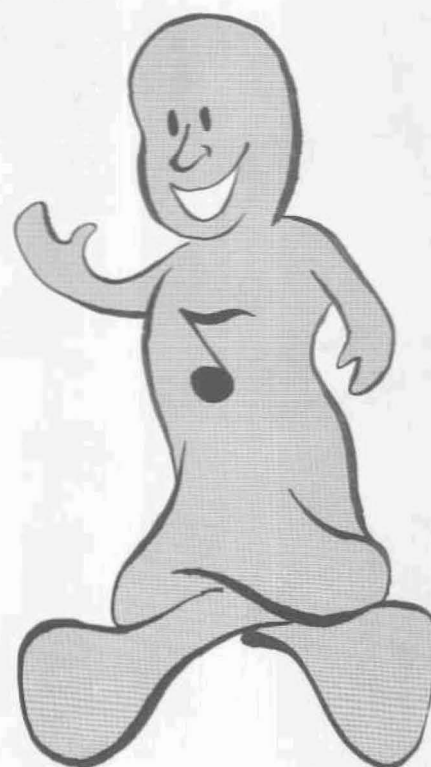
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TROUB SALUTES ROSCOE BENNETT

Flint Chapter presents
FESTIVAL OF HARMONY
Saturday, March 24 at 8 p.m.

Featuring:

AUTO TOWNERS

AIRE-MALES

MERRI-MEN

FOR-TUNE TELLERS

SUSPEND-A-CHORDS

SWEET SIOUXS

IMA Annex, East Second Avenue, two blocks east of
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