

MAY '62

MAY 1962

Michigan

troubadour



THE AIRE-MALES

Dale Clixby Roger Craig Tom Pollard Bill Wilcox



THE AUTO TOWNERS

Clint Bostick Carl Dahlke Glenn VanTassell Dominic Palmieri



THE CURBSTONE SERENADERS

Tom Rafferty Cliff Douglas Ed Lilly Bob Marshall

PIONEER



DISTRICT

May, 1962

THE MICHIGAN TROUBADOUR

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OFF THE DAVENPORT

Two very important words have been added to the mast-head this month. They will continue to appear there because, without any argument, the Michigan District was the "PIONEER DISTRICT". Let us, all of us, see that we continue to be the "Pioneer District". Let us pioneer for the whole Society those things we believe in.



Why couldn't this District "Pioneer" the way by forming a club called the "Pioneers"? We sure have members who deserve this title. Do I hear any nominations?

* * * * *

Throughout this issue you will be reading about Benton Harbor. It was a grand convention. The host chapter did a beautiful job and those that attended were not disappointed. The Delegates meeting, held there, was a complete success. All Fricker (past president of the Wayne Chapter) in Wayne Chapter News concluded:

"One of the best District House of Delegate meetings ever attended by this reporter has just concluded, and we all await the results of the good sound thinking and concrete suggestions that accompanied this meeting. You fellas in the chapters really should know just how much the District right from President Bill on down through the entire staff, cares about that District, and every man in it. It's a doggone shame that every "Joe Barber-shopper" in the Michigan District cannot attend these meetings and come face to face with the monumental task of running it in such a manner that we can again become one of the greatest and most respected districts in the Society. It will take every man to get this goal accomplished, and if every man were aware, it would be accomplished. If no one know, no one cares. If everyone knows, everyone cares.

"Didn't mean to editorialize fellas, but its true; every word of it."

* * * * *

Troub takes pleasure in introducing a guest editor this month. Bob Whedon (Jackson Chapter) has set down a beautiful editorial. . . one this editor will not attempt to surpass. Bob says:

"We, as Barbershoppers, members of the singingest organization in America (and possibly the world) are just not what we crack ourselves up to be." How's that for an opening statement? I can see the hackles rising already. Before you drum me out in disgrace, stop listening to the beautiful chords for a moment and look around for, and at, our new members. It will be quite obvious that this is one place in which some of us are failing. I am sure every chapter has had the following experience:

A guest is introduced to the Society. Although he is unable to read music, and may not be particularly gifted in the vocal department, nevertheless he enjoys singing. He applies for membership, is accepted, and he becomes

one of the boys----or does he? Does he attend four or five meetings and then disappear? Why doesn't he attend our meetings?

If he wasn't the victim of an unsuccessful moon shot, and he hasn't stepped into an open manhole, it's a pretty safe bet he gave up in despair. We lost this very valuable member because he lacked the ability to learn a part on his own and we weren't interested enough to help him. Let's face it fellers, if we couldn't participate, we too would fold our tents and steal away quietly.

Some of you are thinking that if he had an ear at all he could at least learn the lead part. This is probably true "if" he happens to be a lead singer, but what if his range is such that he can't make it and must learn one of the more difficult parts?

Chorus participation is helpful, but is in itself insufficient. It is our obligation to see that this man is given every opportunity to learn. Learning new songs note by note, word by word, part by part. It often is boring to the veteran barbershopper and the guy who reads music, but to the newcomer who may be completely unfamiliar with this type of harmony, this experience is invaluable.

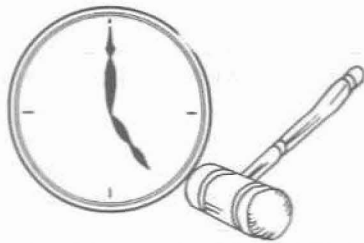
We want to keep this man in the Society because this man last year, ten years ago, or maybe twenty years ago was us. Think back. What was it that kept you coming back time after time in the beginning? (BEFORE you became the Caruso of the tonsorial parlor?) I'll bet it was hitting that first real "bell ringer" when your toes curled, your ears rang, and you got "goose pimples" all over.

Hitting that first chord has been compared with the thrill of that first kiss. (I like this comparison. . . . Remember that squeaky old porch swing and how her father, alarm clock in hand, told you to scram. Those weren't exactly song titles he was shouting as you passed the street light on the corner at a full gallop)

Let's all keep this in mind when the new member ventures on the scene. Chances are he's had that first kiss but we can still give him the thrill of that first chord. Get him in on the woodshedding. So what if he does croak a little at first, he's just a bit nervous. Let's sit through those note by note, word by word, part by part, sessions without griping, and let's try not to pick the guys with whom we sing the best to woodshed with every time. Let's give the new guy a break. Then, some fine evening you may notice a "goofy" expression on his kisser, and, sure enough, he'll be hooked just like the rest of us. Most important of all, he will KNOW he belongs.

ON THE COVER

The Michigan District, the Pioneer District, will be represented in Kansas City this June (20th-24th) by some of the greatest quartets heard around here in a long time. We all wish them lots of luck and wish to express our pride in sending the Aire-Males, The Auto Towners, and the Curbstone Serenaders as our representatives to K.C.



Minutes

HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING

HELD AT BENTON HARBOR, APRIL 29, 1962

The Spring meeting of the House of Delegates was held at the Fruit Belt Chapter's Chorditorium, Benton Harbor, on Sunday, April 29, 1962. Prior to the meeting a formal dedication of the Chorditorium was held. Richard Barrie presided and turned the key over to Robert Biasi, Chapter President, who then recognized William Hansen, a member of the Chapter and District President. All three addressed the audience which included many wives and friends of the members.

The meeting was called to order by President Hansen at 11:15 a.m. Other officers present were Vice Presidents Burgess and Vande Zande, Treasurer Klaiber, Secretary Harrington, Troubadour Editor Davenport and International Board Member Sanborn. Roger Craig led the assembly in singing "The Old Songs". Ray Leatz of the host chapter then gave the invocation.

The minutes of the Fall, 1961, House of Delegates Meeting were then read by the Secretary and approved. At this point, the Chair introduced International Treasurer Tom Watts, who gave the Keynote Address.

The Chair called upon Vice Presidents Burgess and Vande Zande to make their reports. Burgess reported on the increased activity at Ionia and Saginaw and that both of these chapters were now in good standing. Vande Zande reported that the chapters in his zone are concentrating on inter-chapter relations.

Treasurer Klaiber then reported that there was on hand in the General Fund the sum of \$7,436.48, plus \$271.21 in the Travel Fund. His report was approved.

Ted Verwey then gave the report of the Achievement Award Committee, naming Muskegon and Dearborn as co-winners in the Gold Division and Ann Arbor in the Silver Division (chapters with less than 50 members). He emphasized the necessity of all chapters filing Quarterly Reports with the District Secretary as this forms the basis of the compilation.

The Chair then announced that the Board of Directors has accepted the Convention Committee's recommendation and awarded the April 1963 Convention and Quartet and Chorus Contests to Lansing. Willis Wood of Lansing was then introduced, and he personally invited the group to attend. The Chair also recognized the Windsor delegation and complimented them upon the exhibit promoting the forthcoming Fall convention at Windsor.

Roger Craig, on behalf of the Show Committee, turned over a check in the amount of \$1,028.44 from the proceeds of the 1961 Michigan State Fair. Since these proceeds were previously earmarked for the Quartet and Chorus Travel Fund, the amount in the District Fund was thus increased to \$1,299.65.

A motion was then made, duly seconded and unanimously passed that \$300.35 be added to the Travel Fund from the District General Fund, thereby creating a fund with a total of \$1,600 and that this money be divided as follows: \$200 to each of the three quartets traveling to Kansas City for the 1962 International Contest, and \$1,000 to the chorus representing Michigan therein.

Craig then stated that as of this date no invitation has been received from the State Fair officials for the 1962 Fair. He further reported that the Governor had appointed a new general manager and that efforts to contact him have been futile. In answer to questions from the floor, Craig indicated that it was doubtful whether the new administration would extend such an invitation. After considerable discussion on this point, a motion was made, duly seconded and unanimously passed to instruct the District Secretary to write a letter to the Governor strongly protesting against the inaction of his newly appointed general manager and further to call to the governor's attention the fine reception given to all quartets and choruses who performed at the Fair last year. It was also suggested that chapters write to the governor and to other State public officials.

Reporting on behalf of the Public Relations Committee, Bill Rowell announced that the committee's first mailing had gone out. He urged chapters to report activities to the committee and offered to assist them in any way possible. Rowell was complimented upon his splendid efforts in connection with the weekly T-V program on Channel 4. He, in turn, complimented Howard Tubbs, the "Barbershop Disk Jockey," on his regular Friday evening radio program on Station WJR. Muskegon also reported that they have a radio program on a network of three western Michigan stations regularly.

Inquiry was made as to the action of the Board on the proposed brochure submitted to promote the Show Committee's activities. The Chair then reported that the Board had discussed the matter and the cost of this particular brochure, which was estimated at \$500, and that it would consider this further at its next meeting, along with another suggested presentation in the form of colored photos--the cost of which would be considerably less.

The subject of District finances was then brought up. The Chair called on Board Member Sanborn, Treasurer Klaiber, Secretary Harrington to outline the District financial position, citing facts and figures in the operation of the District, increasing costs of the Troubadour, etc. Due to the fact that the District will no longer be receiving a per capita rebate on each member from the International, it was pointed out that additional revenue would be needed if the chapters desire added service and especially if they wished the Troubadour to continue publication on its present basis. Editor Davenport reported in detail on the costs of the publication, which averages \$362 per issue, or in excess of \$3600 per year for the 10 issues now scheduled.

The Chair called on delegates of each chapter for comments. Sentiment was practically unanimous that the Troubadour should continue its present publication, and that the District officers prepare and project an anticipated budget based upon this fact. It was also suggested that the cost of organizing and promoting education programs throughout the District be analyzed by the officers. Consideration was also to be given to future support of the quartet and chorus Travel Fund.

The delegates from the Windsor chapter, Don Bennett and Ted Verwey, presented a resolution from their chapter suggesting a strict enforcement of the Michigan Troubadour subscription fee, and also of the 5% Sanction Fee, especially in view of the fact that Editor Davenport's report revealed that only about 65% of the chapters were contributing to the Troubadour. After a discussion of these points, Gilbert Shedore of Kalamazoo moved as

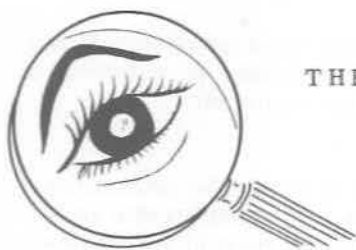
follows:

"I move that the House of Delegates authorize and empower the District Secretary to refuse clearance of parade and show dates to any chapter which is delinquent in the payment of its sanction fee for more than one year; further that the District officers take appropriate action in such cases to request any and all Society quartets and choruses to refrain from appearing on such chapter's parades or shows until the delinquency is cleared up."

This motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

LOUIS R. HARRINGTON,
District Secretary



THE FEMININE

OBSERVER

By Ellen Harrington

Barbershoppers attending the Regional Contest, sponsored by the Fruit Belt Chapter, were treated to a preview glimpse of the forthcoming International competition in the polished performances of the Aire Males, Auto Towners, Curbstone Serenaders and the Niles-Buchanan Gateway Chorus. Another highlight of the Convention was Fruit Belt Chapter's own chorus winning the District Chorus competition, and the dedication of their beautiful new quarters--the Chorditorium, designed and built by their members.

Enjoying the weekend were Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Vande Zande, Mr. and Mrs. James O. Davenport, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Jalving, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Gillem, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Gaikema, Mr. and Mrs. Royal Zerbe, Mr. and Mrs. Duane Mosier, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Meiselbach, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Shedore, Mr. and Mrs. John Wearing, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Weaver, Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Duke, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Guerin, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Oonk, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Elderkin, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Limburg, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Blanchard, Mr. and Mrs. Mel Holderness, Mr. and Mrs. Andy Van Donkelaar, Mr. and Mrs. Ken Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Mace, Mr. and Mrs. Ed James, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Seals, Mr. and Mrs. Al Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Bonnett, Mr. and Mrs. Ken Bilton, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Caverly and Mr. and Mrs. Arne Olkkonen.

Genial hosts Mr. and Mrs. William Hansen, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Leatz, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Biasi, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Reeves, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Humphrey, Joe Bully, Allan Tincher, Jerry Vail, Richard Barrie, Art Rutz, Herb Marschke and other chapter members were busy

welcoming the guests. Capt. Cliff MacLean of the Sault Ste Marie Chapter took the honors for traveling the greatest distance to the Convention.

Also enjoying the events were Al Burgess, John W. Klaiber, C. D. Sanborn, Howard Tubbs, Eric Schultz, John Maier, Al Maier, Ted Verwey, Roger Craig, Dale Clixby, Tom Pollard, Bill Wilcox, William Rowell, Henry Brown, Frank Tritle, Harold Sepull, Lou Kapczi, Claude Farrell, Sam Vasiu, Ralph Schirmer, Lou Walley, Ray McCaLpin, Ed Slagh, Andrew Stekette, Mike Lucas, Martin Hardenberg, Willis Wood, Lloyd Henderson, John Hill, Joe Cantwell, Tom Steel, Ed Nealer, Al Fricker, Mike Mudgett, Paul Eberwein, Gordon Laing, Ed Lilly, Bob Marshall, Tom Rafferty, Cliff Douglas, Dick Kelly, Dick Burrows, Harlan Quinn, Roger Valentine, Howard Henry, George Bingham, John Hoppe, Dick Petersen, Louis Johnson, Bill Price, Ray Curran, James Keen, Dominic Palmieri, Clint Bostick, Glenn Van Tassell, Carl Dahlke, Charles Goll, Barden Borst, Don Bennett, and Andy McCort bemoaning the fact that his wife was home painting shelves.

* * * * *

Grand Rapids' Great Lakes Invitational was outstanding as usual, and it was a pleasure to see so many barber-shoppers attending with their families. Seen were Mr. and Mrs. Tom Elderkin, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tiggelman, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gahan, Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Konkle, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Klaiber, Mr. and Mrs. W. Stahr, Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Pell, Mr. and Mrs. Lou Mahacek, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Childs, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Mitz, Mr. and Mrs. Elwin Mullett, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Elkins, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Gaikema, Mr. and Mrs. Don Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Don Lucas, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Lucas, Mr. and Mrs. Cal Verduin, Mr. and Mrs. Byron Dodge, Mr. and Mrs. William Wild, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Dake, Mr. and Mrs. Gerrit Ver Veer, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Noordewier, Mr. and Mrs. Dale Bullock, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Washburn, Mr. and Mrs. Doug Stephens, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Weaver, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Sorensen, Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. Bud Knorpp, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cushman, Mr. and Mrs. Red Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. John Buitendorp, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Cushman, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Klaiber and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Jalving.

Other out-of-towners attending were Mr. and Mrs. Gil Shedore, Mr. and Mrs. Red Boyd, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Olson, Mr. and Mrs. James O. Davenport, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Sanborn, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Damm, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cantwell, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Stark, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kernen, Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Derby, Mr. and Mrs. Royal Zerbe, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Laux, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Oonk, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Hardenburg, Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Sherwood, Mr. and Mrs. W. Otto, Mr. and Mrs. Cy Perkins, William Hansen, Al Burgess, Bill VanBogelen, Frank Brown, Jack Oonk, John Hill, Richard Barrie and Mel Gee.

Mrs. Harold Gibbs made a surprise appearance before moving to California. Also adding to the nostalgia was the fact that Frank Tiggelman and Jerry Drooger were leaving the next day for Florida to establish their business and Dick Palmer was leaving for Detroit.

Where Are We Headed?

By Chase Sanborn

Long gone are the days when our District was the leader of our Society. Many of you will recall the 1940's and early 1950's when we represented the core of the organization. Other Districts utilized our initiatives and experiences in scheduling Chapter Parades, Afterglows, Ladies Nights, Aspirin Breakfasts and other original special functions. We were also a leader in the formation of top ranking quartets with such fine aggregations as Harmony Halls, Clef Dwellers, Songmasters, Antlers and Note Blenders bringing home honors. The Great Lakes Chorus also brought us fame in winning the first International Championship.

These were the days of glory, but let's face it, where are we headed? We are all too rapidly being pushed into the background by other Districts in nearly every phase of operations. We rank eighth in membership. There were days when we were number one. True, we are small in area, but represent an area containing around six million population. Our quartets who have represented the District in the last decade have worked diligently toward International success, but it has been long since we have had a medalist. The Port City Chorus under the very capable Al Burgess has done well in competition, but how many of our Choruses could really stand up with those in the top ten in our Society.

There are several phases of Barbershopping in which we are somewhat lacking, namely; the quantity of competing quartets, number of members attending District Conventions, administrative action on the part of some Area Counselors and Chapter Officers and our general musical abilities. Gentlemen, we are in need of an education plan. Our International office mails endless correspondence, provides manuals and are in the process of improving our music education system. However, this is not doing the job and mainly for the reason that we need the work of talented District personnel to direct the activities. Sure, we are having fun, and are enjoying Barbershop, but not nearly to the extent which is possible. We should be better at woodshedding, some Chapters are in need of assistance in planning better membership meetings and programs. Many of our men, especially among the newer members, need more attention and indoctrination.

I, for one, would be very happy to find the working means for the establishment of several teaching committees to carry out our requirements and feel that it can only become a reality by reimbursement of all out-of-pocket expenses through District funds. Many will argue that we should be able to accomplish this with the men who are devoted Barbershoppers at no cost. This is the system under which we have been operating, and our progress is proving its inadequacy. We have a substantial District bank balance presently, but due to our loss of the fifty-cent rebate from the International per capita, low profits of District Conventions and general reasons, we are now



in the process of spending slightly beyond our income. Plans for replenishing our District funds are something that will have to be enacted within the next year.

Following are some suggestions for an education plan:

1. An Administrative Staff to:
 - a. Hold Area sessions to advise and assist Chapter Officers and Area Counselors of efficient operating methods.
 - b. Assist in promoting better Chapter Meetings, Parades, Ladies Nights, etc.
 - c. Work on improvement of our Community Service activities, Society Publicity, our conduct before the public and the quality of our talent when appearing in public.
2. A Music Education Staff to:
 - a. Hold sessions for newer men and men in need of help from the woodshedding, ear singing, and note reading phases.
 - b. Hold sessions to aid organized quartets and chorus directors regarding coaching, procurement of more and better arrangements, etc.
3. A Troubadour Staff to:
 - a. Assist the Editor.
 - b. Determine methods of financing the publication.
 - c. Determine the desires of the membership as to what they wish to read, intervals of publication, etc.
4. A Convention Committee to:
 - a. Assist the sponsoring Chapter in the many phases of conducting a well-organized, well-attended, and profitable convention.

These are in general some of the requisites for a bigger and better Michigan District and it is my sincere desire that at least a portion of them can be initiated.

THROUGH CRIPPLED, BILLS SLAY 'EM IN GRAND RAPIDS

By Roscoe Bennett

More than 10,000 ears were attuned to barbershop harmony in its finest during the seven-session four-day Great Lakes Invitational staged as a Kickoff for Barber-shop Harmony Week in Michigan. It was one of the largest attended Invitationals in its 19-year history.

Through crippled in personnel and shortened in repertoire, the fabulous Buffalo Bills, carrying out the old philosophy, "the show must go on", did an outstanding performance that caused the more than 4,000 paying customers in the Civic auditorium to demand more--even when the Bills had no more to give.

During the following Harmony Encore, they explained it all. Five days before the visit to Grand Rapids, Bill Spangenberg, bass of the Bills for many years, was taken sick and sent to a hospital in New York for an indefinite stay. The Bills, not to be daunted, turned to, found another bass, Jim Jones, and then rushed him to hotel rooms, rehearsal halls, private homes, and anywhere else they could find to teach him a little of what the retired Bill knew. The Bills trooped into Grand Rapids, being met at the airport by a city welcoming committee headed by Mayor Stan Davis, a horde of local chapter members and other city dignitaries who presented them with a key to the city. The Bills, after the cavalcade to the Pantlind, retired and rehearsed again to make it certain that they knew 11 numbers. They knew them and how, as the crowd attested.

ACTION

Public Relations
Clinic

Bill Rowell, Director

When most of us think about public relations, we usually think about how we can spread the word of our wonderful organization via newspapers, radio or TV. However, there are many other effective ways to tell our story to the public. Pontiac Chapter presents a good example of what we mean.

Since one of the main employers in Pontiac is the GMC Truck and Coach Division, it's only natural that many of the Pontiac Chapter members work at GMC. Pontiac took advantage of the possibilities and offered a story about their barbershopping activities (complete with pictures) to the GMC News. This outstanding house organ was quick to capitalize on an interesting story by giving the chapter the entire back cover.

Pontiac members who work at GMC include "Chase" Sanborn, International Board member, Bill Pascher, Dick Blanchard, Larry Robertson, Len Barnes, Hank Landry, "Whitey" Ryden, Jack Shields, Merle Brazelle, Bob Bossard and Ron Long.

According to a letter from Dick Blanchard, Pontiac President, the GMC News has a circulation of 9,000 to 10,000. It is distributed to all employees, including those at branches in several states, and to retired former employees.

This truly is a "captive" audience. Employees reading a company magazine or newspaper are apt to read every article in the publication. Why? Well, for a very good reason: they're reading about people they know personally.

In Pontiac's case, they made sure their story was an interesting one by including three pictures. They also got the story into the April issue so they could tie-in with National Barbershop Harmony Week.

In addition to telling about Pontiac Chapter (and inviting prospective members to attend their meetings), the story spotlights our International organization.

Pontiac's contributions to the community are spelled out, too, with chorus visitations to the Oakland County Infirmary, the T.B. Sanitarium, the Children's Home and the Little League Banquet. Pontiac makes a cash contribution to a "pet" charity each year. Leukemia and other blood disease sufferers will be aided through appropriate organizations in 1962.

Pontiac Chapter is also receiving one more evidence of public relations, as this article appears in the Troubadour, to actually let their light shine before other Michigan District chapters. This is happening because Pontiac heeded our call and sent us a copy of the magazine so we could pass the story on to you.

We've also had assurances that we will hear about the public relations activities of Grand Rapids, Muskegon, and Flint.

How about your chapter? What are you doing in the way of good public relations? Tell us--and we'll pass this valuable information on to other Michigan District chapters. Do it today. The address of the Public Relations Committee is listed on the inside cover of the Troubadour.

P.R.O.B.E. - WHAT IS IT ??

By Arthur T. Burnett, Holly-Fenton Chapter
Charter Member of P.R.O.B.E.

At Minneapolis in 1956, an organization was formed to be known as ABE or Association of Bulletin Editors and the program of Bulletin Exchanges between chapters started. The thought in mind was that through these exchanges of bulletins there would be an exchange of ideas on chapter meeting programs, annual shows, membership campaigns, public activities, etc. This proved to be one of the best ideas to be brought out up until that time. Incidentally, being a bulletin editor at that time, when the call rang out for members in this organization, I became a charter member.

Sometime later, someone realized the value of these chapter bulletins as a potential for spreading Harmony in and among the chapters and also between the chapters and the general public. So the ABE was merged with Public Relations and became known as "PROBE" or the "Association of Public Relations Officers and Bulletin Editors".

There are many benefits to be derived from being a member of PROBE. Here are a few:

1. Being a member of PROBE gives one the inside information about what's going on in the Society in general. You get ideas on chapter activities, membership campaigns, how to make and handle contacts with the public along with how to promote Harmony in your own chapter. I consider myself better informed than the average member who just attends the meetings for the fun he gets out of them, due to the many tips I receive from PROBE.

2. Unless you are a bulletin editor and exchange your bulletin with other editors, you are missing one of the most enjoyable parts of the program. It is truly interesting to read what the other chapters are doing and how they accomplish it.

3. When the conversation turns to Barbershopping (and it will if you're a real live Barbershopper), you'll be in a better position to elaborate on your points if you have been receiving those tips from PROBE.

4. If you want to get the most out of your membership, just become a member of PROBE. See the extra pleasure that will be yours.

We all know that no one man can carry the full load of any office alone. It takes the help of all the officers and members in the chapter. This also applies to the Public Relations Office as well. Every member in the chapter should realize this and the fact that he should act as a "Good-will Ambassador of Harmony". Your Public Relations Officer acts as the head of a committee of which each and ever chapter member is a part.

If you are like me, you are proud to be a member of a Society that promotes Harmony between all people, members and non-members alike. I sincerely feel that PROBE has made me a better member.

I am sure that the rest of you members will agree with me, that our Society needs all the advertising it can get, and that everyone should consider himself a Public Relations Officer by telling others how much fun and satisfaction they receive from Barbershop Harmony and from associating with some of the world's best. . . Barbershoppers.



THE BARBERSHOP WIDOWS

Sp



Ticket Counting at the AFTERGLOW: Dick Barrie, General Show Chairman, and Ed Kesterke, Afterglow Chairman



"THE STATELINERS" (NILES- BUCHANAN) AI J



JUDGING DISCUSSION: Chase Sanborn, Ed Gaikema, Tom Watts, Carl Brock, Bill Hansen.



DEDICATION OF FRUIT

ring ONVENTION 1962



WOODSHEDDING: Robert Birce, Ivan Hartgerink, Ed Slagh, Jerry Stierlstra.



TERNATE INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES
ERRY MACE, GENE SEALS, ED JAMES, KEN MURPHY



MORE WOODSHEDDING



ELT CHORDITORIUM



WOODSHEDDING: Bill Rowell, Detroit #1, Ed Brink, Fruit Belt, John Hill, Lansing, Jack Klaiber, Grand Rapids.

Chapter News

GREENVILLE

Chapter Reporter:
Bob Hansen

The Greenville Chapter's Ladies Night and First Anniversary Celebration, combined, is set for Friday, May 25th at the Greenville Country Club. Casa Kemp is chairman of this event. At the present time, all indications point to a highly successful barbershop evening.

Invitations to attend have been sent to Grand Rapids, Holland, Ionia, Muskegon and Gratiot County chapters. It is hoped that members from these chapters will not only bring their wives along, but that they will also bring some non-barbershop members. Who knows, maybe something like this is all they need to get the bug. Entertainment will center around a good old-fashion barbershop song fest and social get together.

This is to be an open house affair with no charge being made to visitors. Coffee and refreshments are being served by the Greenville chapter--free. Through the efforts of Jack Wood, LuVan Inc. of Belding has donated a hi fi record cabinet to be raffled off during the evening, which will help defray expenses. We certainly hope that some of you die-hard barbershoppers, throughout the state will stop by and visit us on the evening of May 25th.

The "Bel-dingers", a high school quartet from Belding, entered the Grand Rapids Junior quartet contest. Although they didn't walk off with top honors, we're proud of their spirit and enthusiasm. Members Bob Mattison and Jerry Mead are to be recognized and praised for the time they spent coaching these boys. By the time next year's junior quartet contest comes around, we hope to have a top-notch foursome ready to compete.

Greenville Chapter members are forever grateful to the Commercial State Savings Bank of Greenville for its decision to help support our local chapter, both financially and morally. Many thanks are in store to chapter member, A. D. Vining and the Bank's Board of Directors for their desire to help encourage barbershop harmony in the Greenville area.

HUDSON

Chapter Reporter:
E. A. Vande Zande

Hudson's Harmony Station was the sight of a real Sing-Ding on Monday night, April 16th, as both Lansing and Jackson Chapter members flowed in to exchange tonsil glances with their southern neighbors in Area 9. Ray Curran, Hudson's V.P., kept things moving along in smooth fashion while performing his task as M.C.

Harmony Week received special attention in Hudson again this year. The Chapter Chorus and quartets started things off by appearing at the Hillsdale Home and Sport Show and a radio broadcast on Saturday night, April 7th. Railroad Street markers in Hudson were changed to Harmony Lane and the mayor publicly acknowledged his proclamation to make the week officially Barbershop Harmony Week in Hudson, Michigan.

The Hudson Chapter would like to extend its thanks to the Fruit Belt Chapter in Benton Harbor for their fine hospitality. It was Hudson's first experience in competition and with the knowledge gained from this experience, we'll be better prepared in the future.

DEARBORN

Chapter Reporter:
Bob Weaver

Another great day for the Chapter of Champions was April 28, 1962. The place, Benton Harbor. Our Auto Towners (Dearborn) and Aire-Males (Dearborn-Wayne) continued their winning ways and are headed for Kansas City. Two great quartets and we sure are proud of them. Accompanying our vest busters to Kansas City will be the Curbstone Serenaders. Four great guys from the Oakland County Chapter. Let's all wish them tons of luck in K. C.

A big celebration will be held for the quartets at the Dearborn Inn. This is a joint venture by the Dearborn, Oakland County and Wayne Chapters and is called the Kansas City KITTY Jamboree. The purpose is to raise funds for the trip to the International Contest. All three top quartets will be there to entertain. The date is June 8th. Don't forget it. The time is 8:30 p.m. and don't you dare miss it. You'll have the time of your life. Bring your gal too. There will be tickets (\$2.00) at the door (if any are left). To be sure, call Bill Smyth at 846-6215.

On April the 13th, we held "Officers Nite" for the Metropolitan Area brass hats. Bill Juchartz was the M.C. and we had a ball. Thanks to the many Metropolitan Chapter wheels that came and to the many guests.

On May 11, 1962, our regular meeting night, Steels Sterling Smiling Singing Song Sheet Swipers from Redford Chapter invade Dearborn Chapter for "This Is Your Life Nite". I wonder who it can be. Maybe it's you--maybe it's me. The curiosity is killing me. To find the answer to this great mystery, attend this meeting and sing up a

storm. Soooo come one come all to that ringing hall at the Chapter of Champions.

Our hospitality roon at the Hotel Vincent sure was a jumping place and we enjoyed seeing many old pals and gals. A special thanks to the Fruit Belt Chapter for their fine convention.

PONTIAC

Chapter Reporter:
Jerry Leroux

Pontiac's Chorus is beginning to roll again. New voices, new songs, chorus visitations, and appearances at various hospitals, all add up to a chorus that will be performing in a truly S.O.S. fashion. With continued cooperation from all our members, our chorus will be competing in Windsor this Fall.

Our chapter meeting in April was emceed by Ray Guiren, bari, of the Quarter Counts, who sang up a storm after winning the Utica Novice Contest. The Rythm Rogues once again were in grand voice, and had the timbers trembling with "Barkley Square".

A lack of talent we have not was proven again when Ray called upon make up quartets from the audience. All of them are great singers and barbershoppers. This is surely a fine way to expose some of the boys to the rigors of the spotlight and to test their ability to woodshed.

Our program V.P., Floyd Albert has planned many activities for us in the months to come. One of these doings occurs soon when we will have a sneaky visit to another chapter by chartered bus. Holy Mackerel, dere Andy, Ah kin hardly wait.

FLINTChapter Reporter:
Bud Starwas.

The Solitaires, barbershop quartet from Saginaw Chapter, entertained the Flint Chapter on their special guest night. The Solitaires are: Douglas Beaver, Bill Grumbley, Frank Beatty and Bob Deming.

Our most worth president, Neil Norman, and his wife attended the spring Barbershop Convention at Benton Harbor. Neil mentioned that he especially liked the new barbershop building and thought that the Benton Harbor Chapter should be congratulated.

THE FLINT CHAPTER HAS CHANGED ITS MEETING NIGHT TO THE 2ND AND 4TH FRIDAYS OF THE MONTH EFFECTIVE IN MAY.

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Jewish War Veterans held a drive for the Lapeer State Home and the Flint Chapter donated.

Two scholarships will be given to male singers to attend the Music Camp at Interlochen. Audition dates have not been set as yet. Our Barbershop Quartet Contest that we are sponsoring will be held shortly. Beatrice Schied, who handles many of the telephone calls for our chapter had a birthday on May 3. Belated birthday greetings, Bea.

Our fine president, Neil Norman, is to be congratulated on the many changes that are being made for the improvement of the Flint Chapter. Many of the changes are already in effect and the results are amazing. Keep up the good work, Neil.

HOLLY-FENTON Chapter Reporter:
Art Burnett

Holly-Fenton is still on the upward swing with its membership drive. Added another member last meeting and two more fellows are asking questions. It seems that every meeting we have five or six visitors.

Our next Ladies Night is all set for Friday, May 18th. Too bad it has to be on a Friday night, but Saturday night the hall is in use. So far, the entertainment line-up will include the Rythm Rogues, a Saginaw quartet, the Suspend A Chords from Flint, our own Country Aires and Lakesiders, and—for the ladies--we will have a Sweet Adeline quartet from Flint. It should make for a great evening of Harmony. Holly-Fenton is known for their fun and good fellowship and this will be no exception. The only trouble is that our room is limited and tickets will be on a first come--first served basis.

At our April 3rd meeting, we had as our guests a troop of Boy Scouts, together with their Scout Masters and parents. They were from Linden and Argentine and in the near future we will entertain those from Fenton. The boys seemed to have a good time and we enjoyed having them. They were served a lunch and you know how a group of healthy boys will eat.

Our new bulletin will be a little late in coming out. We are waiting on the printer right now, but he promises our material soon. If any chapter doesn't receive one of our bulletins and will contact the editor, he'll put them on the mailing list. Also, if your chapter has a bulletin, see that your editor exchanges with us. We'll exchange with any chapter in the Society.

GROSSE POINTE Chapter Reporter:

The Grosse Pointe Chapter has a beautiful new bulletin, "THE PITCH-PIPE". Edited by Herb Reed, "The Pitch-Pipe" is a bulletin of which the Grosse Pointe chapter can be proud. Herb, by the way, is a member of P.R.O.B.E. Is your chapter bulletin editor a member also?

NILES-BUCHANAN Chapter Reporter:
Vic Vigansky

The Gateway Chorus extends its congratulations to Bill Hansen and the fine Fruit Belt Chorus for winning the District Championship. This took some doing considering all the work they have been doing such as erecting the Chorditorium and staging the Convention.

We congratulate the Mall City Chorus for winning the Junior Championship. To have all the Chorus Champions in this southwest corner of the District makes us very proud and causes this writer, at least, to do some bragging.

The Gateway Chorus received a check for \$1000 on May 1. This was from the District Travel Fund. We are very grateful and promise to do a job for the District next month.

In preparation for this undertaking, rehearsals have been increased by our director, Barden Borst, to two per week from here on in. These rehearsals, plus nine singing engagements in May, should put the chorus in good shape.

WAYNE Chapter Reporter:
Al Fricker

Our first April meeting was devoted to a "Wayne In Review" night and we, some 125 of us, looked back to October 3, 1944 when the first chapter organizational meeting was held. On hand to assist us and make the evening a truly memorable one were six of the original charter members and one of the three men mainly responsible for starting Wayne #31 down the happy road of barber-shop harmony.

The organizer attending was permanent secretary of Dearborn Chapter, Frank Tritle. Absent, but remembered, were Merrill Bird and Ed Smith. The charter members were Dr. Robert Bird, Kenneth McKay, Joe Woolf, Lloyd LeBaron, Milton Arthur, and Robert Little. Many of us met these gentlemen for the first time, but we all are grateful for their activities and efforts of eighteen years ago.

Quartets? You bet. From way back when to our newest group--nearly all were there. Remember the Barons, Questionaires, Pitchmen, Versichords, and the Pitch-Blendaires? Then you'll know the Fore Bearers of Harmony, Dynamics, Staff Sargents, Wayne Drops, Pounds of Sound, Aire Males, and our fine new Pops-O-Chords. All or part of these fine quartets have been Wayne men. With many familiar faces of old member friends, local press, and guests, a special fine feed, and ringing chords, the chapter door did not close until well into the following day.

We were elated with this program and you can imagine the benefits to all concerned. Just a couple would be: the contact and association with men of days gone by, reuniting old singing chums, re-exposure to our beloved harmony hobby, and local notice through the press to non-barbershoppers of our existence. That's it. We did it and we're glad.

Now, on to current matters. The Vicennial Trinomial Contest at Benton Harbor ended hours ago with great results. The ever lovin' Aire Males are off to battle for us at Kansas City, and every sincere good wish for success and enjoyment go with each of them from all of us. Golly, how those guys can sing. WOW.

That about cuts it--more from Wayne next month. Till then, notes to you from me.

MILFORD

Chapter Reporter:

Harold L. Sweeney

Happy to report that the Milford Chapter is, as usual, busy. The Chorus looked real good in green derbys with the director wearing the green master's hat and leading with a monster of a green shelliah. McNamera's band never sounded so good. As the chorus filed on stage, they were greeted with a tremendous burst of applause from the audience for the snappy appearance presented with the hats and green shamrocks in the lapel of their coats.

The chorus is working hard for their next appearance at the Highland Park Masonic Lodge on May 5, 1962.

Contest winner, RAINER BROCKE, is entitled to free refreshments and a lot of praise for naming the chorus "The Mil-Chords".

The Tune Testers gave their time and talent to a PTA meeting at the Brooks School, the chorus sang for the Milford Rotary Club and put forth one hour of singing at the Oakland County TB Sanitarium on April 17th--a wonderful job well done and very much appreciated by the patients and staff.

Our new members are jumping right in and working hard. They are even getting newer members for us. Besides hard drilling in the chorus, there is lots of woodshedding at the meetings--this is a good healthy situation in any chapter. Look out for future quartets.

Great news for the coming year from Milford--Along with the thinking of the "Higher-ups" in S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. Inc., the Milford Board of Directors elected to donate all proceeds of their fifth show of 1963 to a musical scholarship for a worthy student at the Milford High School. This is planned to be an annual event. Along with four more ladies nights planned from September through April, Milford is looking forward to bringing (and ringing) many happy chords to this area in the months ahead.



BLUE WATER

Chapter Reporter:

Bob Van Zandt

Three cheers and our heartiest congratulations to the victors in the Regional Contest at Benton Harbor. Our best wishes ride with each of you in the International competitions.

Dick Kelly and his committee are hard at work on the plans for our July 28th Troub benefit. To date we have the "Station Aires" from Hudson Chapter, plus the whole Muskegon Chapter and the whole Benton Harbor Chapter and expect more offers to come rolling in soon. This could be a wonderful district "reunion". Why don't YOU join in too. Blue Water Chapter extends a personal invitation to all barbershoppers and their families to come to South Haven on July 28th for an afternoon and evening of top-notch fun and entertainment.

Attendance at chapter meetings has been improving each week and it's beginning to look like Blue Water is really in for a year of action in 1962.

NORTHWEST DETROIT Chapter Reporter:

Duane Musier

Reciprocating in exchange visits, Northwest Area Detroit Chapter was royally entertained by Oakland County Chapter on April 6. Northwest's Chorus, directed by Jack Round, sang two numbers and the Scorekeepers, personelled by Larry Winchester, lead; Bill Winchester, tenor; Bob Mueller, bari; and Ted Robbins, bass; pleased the crowd with several old favorites. Fulfilling a Society principle of good public relations, the Scorekeepers have been busy letting people know what good barbershopping is really like. During April, they entertained many groups of delegates at the Open Hearth Steel convention and the Awrey Bakeries baking contest-- both functions held at the Sheridan-Cadillac Hotel--in addition to performing before the Men's Club of the Michigan Christian Junior College at Utica. Appearances for the next thirty days are before the King's Daughters and Sons, with the Chapter chorus; the Down River Chapter; the convention of Foundrymen, Grosse Pointe War Memorial; and the Men's Club of the Hope Lutheran Church.

Northwest will hold its annual ladies pot luck supper on May 28 when wives will furnish the bill of fare. An interesting program is in the making.

In preparation for the October contest at Windsor, the chorus-- under the direction of Earl Strand--is hard at work on new numbers.

It's a fine day when the sun is shining
It's a fine day when skies are blue,
It's a fine day when birds are singing
Makes your life seem brighter too.
It's a fine day when four pals gather
To blend their voices rich and true,
To sing the old songs, sweet and tender
As in the past they used to do:
To fraternize, to harmonize, to sing the hours away.
So, come on pals, sound your chord, it's a
WONDERFUL DAY.

UTICA - ROCHESTER Chapter Reporter:

Dan Davey

The high spot of the April schedule was the revival of the Area #3 Novice Quartet Contest held at Rochester Country Club on April 13th. The order of finish was: 1) Quarter Counts from Pontiac; 2) Chord Chords (ringers) from Utica; 3) Resonaires from Pontiac; 4) Out-of-Tuners from Utica. Three other quartets either had personnel problems or else could not get to the Club in time and therefore missed out on the fun. The Quarter Counts did a great job and are now \$50 richer for their efforts. The dough should help them out at Boyne City.

Utica-Rochester will be represented at Bush League by the Esprit-de-Chords and the Wonderlads. Also hope to have a few fellow travelers.

The Clintonics Chorus made their first public appearance under the directorship of Don Ware on April 24th for the Brooklands Exchange Club. With the Wonderlads adding their bit, a very entertaining session was enjoyed by all. The chorus is currently on an every-Friday-practice routine, from April 4 through the June 9 Show.

Incidentally, our June 9 show promises a full schedule with Chapter Chorus, Octet and Quartets; the Auto Towners; the Utica Sweet Adelines Chorus; the Michi-Gals; the MSUO Octet; and, finally, the Nighthawkes. Should be a real gasser.

O.C.C. will visit Utica on May 11, with a full evening

planned. We herewith extend an invitation to all barber-shoppers to attend our meetings at Rochester Country Club every Friday until June 9, and second and fourth Fridays after that.

JACKSON

Chapter Reporter:
Bob Whedon

NEWS FLASH-- For-Tune Tellers to be dissected in the interest of modern science.

Not exactly modern medical science--though, we must admit, Ben Casey and Dr. Kildare could stage a real spectaculr with these jokers, although this isn't quite what we have in mind. What we do have in mind is dissecting them as a quartet (temporarily) in the interest of the modern science of barbershop craft.

This was decided at the last board meeting during the discussion of the coming "Music Man Contest" in which the winning quartet will represent the Jackson chapter at the premiere of the Music Man (movie version) when it opens at the Michigan Theatre in Jackson. At the suggestion of Chuck Sherwood (our pill peddling prexy) it was decided that their talents(?) could be best utilized as counselors for the competing quartets. It was also brought out that this arrangement would eliminate the necessity of answering any embarrassing questions in the event they didn't win. This has all the ingredients of a good shindig and who knows, we may wind up with some more "organized" quartets.

At the regular meeting, March 13th, we were very fortunate to be visited by the "Detroit Taggers". For the benefit of those of you who have not yet lived--and, believe me, if you haven't witnessed the shenanigans of these characters, you haven't lived--I have only this to say: "If the Detroit Tigers could end every game in the same manner in which these guys end a song, the pennant would be cinched before the opener". Nuf sed?

The Jackson chorus is progressing nicely. We have several new songs under our belts and are steadily gaining more confidence. We have high hopes for more talent in the near future.

With a "thinking man" like Zeb Wenman in the organization, we feel we have aroused some new interest. He volunteered to be program chairman of our April 13th meeting when the chapter hosted his co-workers from Consumers Power Co. They displayed considerable interest in the Society and we have reason to expect several new members in the near future. Though it was Friday, the thirteenth, it was our lucky night as we had the Merri-Men with us. There is really very little left to be said about these fellows that hasn't already been said. They sound better every time they sing and are a definite credit to the Society. We also heard from the old(but not forgotten) "Rose City Four"--Dutch Marx, Red Shaw, John Comloquoy, and Leo Rudloff. Their rendition of "Ole Aunt Dina" was reminiscent of an earlier era when it must have been truly a pleasure to be the fifth man waiting in the barbershop. This meeting could also be referred to as "kinfolks night" because we admitted George Dyer, the father of Warner Dyer, (Lansing Chapter) and Lee Houser, Zeb Wenman's son-in-law. Welcome aboard fellers--always glad to have new members. We heard a rendition of "Bye Bye Blues" presented by Zeb Wenman, his "Uke" and "kazoo" and Samuel Watkins Cushman Jr. (not to be confused with anyone of importance with the same name) and his guitar. While this performance didn't exactly bring down the house, it may have cracked the foundation.

EAST DETROIT

Chapter Reporter:

Maynard Johnson

On April 24th, East Detroit played host and a great bunch of guys from Redford, led by Tom Steele and the Maier brothers, showed up and took over the festivities for the evening. Before the night was over, the entire East Detroit membership sounded like a bunch of junior grade Detroit Taggers.

The big event coming up for June will be a repeat of last year's highly successful Novice Quartet Contest to be held at the Chapter's first regular meeting of the month--Tuesday, June 12th--at Putnam Hall. Rules are as simple as can be. Judging will be on harmony and blend only, Quartets may register the night of the contest. No entry fee (except the regular meeting door charge). Mark Roberts and Hal Seely of the Grosse Pointe Chapter and Don Anderson of East Detroit will judge, and trophies will go to each member of the winning quartet. Complete informality will be the keynote.

ANN ARBOR

Chapter Reporter:

Dan McCarthy

Although Ann Arbor Chapter has been busy preparing for its 2nd Annual Harmony Holiday, May 19th, civic responsibilities and program nights are, of course, on as usual.

The Arbor Barbers Chorus has performed for PTO groups in both Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti. Chorus director, Ernie Therkelsen got ringing chords and smiles from us and the audience loved it.

Through the efforts of President Jim Davenport, area radio stations WHRV, WPAG, AND WOIA helped us celebrate Barbershop Harmony Week. Spot announcements were given throughout the day. Our chapter opened meeting night to the public and we had many interested listeners. We were pleasantly surprised to have as our guest for the evening District President, Bill Hansen.

Sam Sturgis, Michigan's smoothest baritone, has taken over as Program Chairman for our chapter. His enthusiasm and ingenuity has made our chapter meetings a delight for barber-shoppers. Recent programs have featured new songs presented by randomly selected quartets. The chapter then approves or rejects the songs for addition to our chapter song books. Another innovation that drew roars from the audience was the "Falsetto Four" a chapter quartet that took deep draughts from helium-filled balloons and sang like "birds".

Come on down to Ann Arbor for our chapter meetings and don't forget May 19th--our Show.

Saturday **MAY 19th** Saturday

ANN ARBOR'S

2nd ANNUAL

HARMONY HOLIDAY

TIME 8:03 P.M.

Ann Arbor High School

An unusual stage setting, a fast-moving tempo, and some glib announcing by Frank Tiggelman, general chairman combined to make the main event one of the best in GLI history.

Others adding to the warm glow of the production were the Banjo-Tainers of Muskegon; the pretty and petite Sweet Adelines four, the Tri-State Misses of Coldwater; the Spartanaires of Grand Rapids; the For-Tune Tellers of Jackson; the Merri-Men of Lansing; and the Great Lakes chorus. The Merri-Men were especially effective while the Tri-State Misses added a bright dash of glamor to the production.

During the brief intermission of singing, District President William Hansen presented a plaque to Roscoe D. Bennett of Grand Rapids, former Troubadour editor, for long service in the Society. The plaque was presented by the Executive Board of the District.

Another dash of glitter was added when Robert H. Walker called up the new Michigan High School or Junior Champions--the Rambeaux of Rockford High School. The Rockford boys received trophies and a costume award. They won the title Thursday night before a good-sized audience. Unity Four from Unity Christian High of Hudsonville was second while the Indescribables of Creston High finished third. This was the opening event of the Invitational program.

The Buffalo Bills, accomplished singers of all kinds of male singing music, discarded guitars and other assistance to present a formidable program of strict barbershop singing. It was an exceptional performance. Included in the numbers that produced roars of applause was the now famous "Lida Rose". Its harmonies were produced strictly barbershop.

The Harmony Encore, one of two "afterglows", was presided over by Jack Klaiber. It was a two-hour session of nothing but quartet singing and it was packed to the doors. At the same time, the Harmony Ball was taking place in another big ballroom and Gerry VerVeer was running things. A dance band, refreshments, quartets and gang singing kept the place merry and noisy until time ran out.

D.A. (Bud) Konkle, past chapter president, was the master of ceremonies at the annual breakfast on Sunday morning. More than 200 attended this feature and listened to quartets and "stunts" that pleased. The Saturday afternoon show, an event designed for families and kiddies was handled by the Spartanaires with Norm Duke as chairman. This also drew a crowd of ballroom capacity.

quartet news

CHORD SHARKS (Detroit #1)

No more shall we hear the strains of "Where the River Shannon Flows"--verses one or two. Due to the departure for a new frontier by Pat Carnahan, the Chord Sharks are no more.

MUSKEGON, DEARBORN and ANN ARBOR TAKE HONORS

REPORT OF ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE

Bert West Ted Verwey Lou Harrington

During 1961, two chapters in the Michigan District stood out in the field of achievement based on their activities as reported to the District Secretary in quarterly reports, bulletins and statistics.

These two were Muskegon and Dearborn. They were the only chapters to earn over 1,000 points. In fact, both topped 1,500. As a result, your committee is naming these two chapters as co-winners in Class A (chapters with 50 or more members.) Muskegon scored heavily as a result of their sponsorship of the Spring District convention, sponsoring a new chapter (Greenville) and the activities of their chorus and quartets, the chorus having won 4th place in the 1961 International contest. And of course, their reports were submitted.

Dearborn again scored heavily because of the splendid reporting of all their activities by their secretary, Frank Tritle. The chapter's activities in the field of Community Service, including regular appearances of its quartets and chorus at the Veterans Hospital, also the service to the District and to the Society in general scored heavily.

Following these two chapters came Wayne with 988, Detroit with 940 in Class A with Grand Rapids in 5th place, Kalamazoo in 6th and Oakland County in 7th.

In Class B (chapters with less than 50 members) Ann Arbor with a well-rounded program reported in detail, earned 805 points and first place. Niles-Buchanan Chapter was runner-up with 755 and Windsor 3rd with 625. Following these came Pontiac in 4th, Three Rivers 5th, Boyne City 6th, Blue Water of South Haven 7th and Hudson 8th.

Plaques will be presented to these chapters shortly.

TAIL-GATERS (Detroit #1)

The Tail-Gaters have succumbed to the same problem that kills so many fine and promising quartets: move-away-itis. With so much talent, however, odds are we'll again have a "Tail-Gaters" before too long.

METRO CHORDS (Grosse Pointe)

Believe it or not, the Metro Chords sang for a group of the Lutheran Institute for the Deaf last Sunday afternoon. They were part of a program sponsored by the Grosse Pointe Lions Club. I'll bet there are some hearing aid batteries in need of a charging.

WEAK SPOTS (Grosse Pointe)

The Weak Spots, consisting of Sebe Lawrence, tenor; Paul Reed, lead; Jack Wilson, bari; and Bill Bailey, bass; are getting stronger every week. They have made appearances at numerous functions during the past month. Their latest was a spot on the program of the Grosse Pointe Community Chorus' Spring Festival of American Music last Sunday at the Parcels School Auditorium. They sang two numbers and rafter-shaking applause brought them back for a third--the last one they knew.

Following the Leader

Another Michigan District contest and convention (Vicennial Trinomial, if you please) has been recorded on the books. While attendance at Benton Harbor was not up to expectations, I am quite sure those in attendance enjoyed themselves.

To those nine quartets and five choruses which competed for honors, I wish to express my personal appreciation for a job well done. In terms of

quantity, this small number of entries is surely not to the credit of our District. As a matter of fact, I think it is shameful.

I am aware that several quartets were forced to withdraw from competition for various legitimate reasons. I am also at a loss to understand why other competent and qualified quartets and choruses failed to compete.

It is interesting to note that there are thirty registered quartets in the Michigan District at the present time. It is my opinion that any quartet which considers itself good enough to register with the International should consider itself good enough to compete in a District contest unless some legitimate reason dictates otherwise.

Gentlemen, the Michigan District needs your support. Let us start now to prepare for competition at Windsor in October. The District has every reason to expect at least twenty quartets to enter the Fall contest.

* * * * *

As of March 31, 1962, there were 1476 paid-up members in the Michigan District. According to additional figures furnished by the International Office, our District had 1694 members as of December 31, 1962. In my opinion, we are doing well relative to membership renewals, however, there is room for a lot of improvement.

Membership in our District will show a substantial gain when all chapters face the fact that Barbershopping is in direct competition with hundreds of other organizations. Many of these organizations continually promote and expound their respective programs in order to entice new members and hold the interest of their current membership.

I personally believe the day is approaching when many men, including Barbershoppers, will awaken to the fact that they have spread themselves too thin among too many organizations. Consequently, these men will begin dropping out of those groups which have the least to offer them. I firmly believe many organizations are aware of what the future possibly holds regarding membership problems and are doing something about it.

The very nature of our Society gives us an advantage over many other organizations in that our basic activity excites an inner urge to sing. This serves as a good

By President Bill Hansen



introduction but does not necessarily mean that the interest will remain.

If we are to maintain the inroads thus far accomplished, we, too, must start planning for the future. The only way our chapters can compete with other successful organizations is through careful, long-range planning of chapter activities. We must keep foremost in our minds the fact that chapter activities must be diversified so as to appeal to all members.



NOTES FROM

THE SECRETARY

by Sec. Lou Harrington

District Show Chairman Roger Craig reported to the delegates at the Spring meeting that no invitation had been received from the newly appointed general manager of the Michigan State Fair for the appearances of our quartets and choruses this year, and that it appeared unlikely that one would be forthcoming. Chairman Craig, his committee, and the appearing quartets and choruses did an outstanding job and the show was very well received. It was hoped that this would develop into an annual event and the revenue therefrom would provide funds for the Travel Fund to help finance our quartets and choruses in International competition.



At the meeting, the District Secretary was instructed to write a letter to Governor John B. Swainson requesting that he give this matter his attention and consideration, and such a letter has been sent accordingly. It was also suggested that individual members also write the governor and or Fair Officials residing in their respective communities expressing disappointment that our Society has not been invited and requesting them to consider the fine, popular, and wholesome entertainment we offer and to use their influence to see that we are represented. For this purpose, we are listing below the names and addresses of the Michigan State Fair Board of Commissioners:

Chairman Joseph H. Kurka, Route # 2, Ovid, Michigan
 Robert Noon, 6920 Napoleon, Jackson, Michigan
 Frank Kinsora, 19920 Eleven Mile Road, St. Clair Shores
 Erwin L. Feller, Route # 1, Coldwater, Michigan
 Gladys J. Ormsby, 7620 Sheridan Road, Birch Run, Mich.
 Antoni Misuraca, Paw Paw, Michigan
 Jack W. O'Connor, Route # 3, Hastings, Michigan
 Edwin J. Smith, 16594 Huntington, Detroit 19, Michigan
 Mildred Stark, 16176 Chesterfield, East Detroit, Michigan
 Peter L. Buback, 19632 Goulburn, Detroit, Michigan
 Archibald McIntyre, Bad Axe, Michigan
 Harold Zorlen, Route # 2, Capac, Michigan
 Tom Baker, Cheboygan, Michigan
 Mrs. Doris Flint, Box 596, Perry, Michigan
 Harry Garling, 2920 Clarkston Road, Route #2, Lake Orion
 Stanley M. Powell, Route # 1, Box 238, Ionia, Michigan
 Eldon Rosegart, 2983 Shawnee, Drayton Plains, Michigan
 Leo Seide, 2112 Davison, Flint, Michigan

WHAT THEY SANG

Choruses

Holland Windmill Chorus

"Tell Me, Dear, Are You Lonesome Tonight"
"Lida Rose"

Fruit Belt Chorus

"When You and I Were Young, Maggie"
"In the Good, Old Summertime"

Kalamazoo Mall City Chorus

"New Ashmolian, Marching Society. . ."
"Smile When You Roll Out of Bed"

Windsor Sun Parlour Chorus

"March Along, Together"
"End of a Perfect Day"

Hudson Chorus

"Forgive Me For Loving You"
"Walking in the Rain, Rain, Rain"

Quartets

Curbstone Serenaders (Oakland County-Pontiac)

"I Love Her In the Morning, and I Love Her at Night"
"Now I Can Cry Since You're Gone"
"When You and I Were Young, Maggie"
"End of a Perfect Day"

Stateliners (Niles-Buchanan)

"For Me and My Gal" "Sun Bonnet Sue"
"Back to the Shack Where the Black-Eyed Susans
Grow" "When I Leave the World Behind"

Quarter Counts (Oakland County-Pontiac)

"Time After Time" "Dear Old Girl"
"Bring Back the Days Gone By"
"Did Your Mother Come From Ireland"

Station-Aires (Hudson)

"Make Up Your Mind"
"I'm Lonesome, I Guess That's All"
"Shamrocks Were Growing on Broadway"
"Roll Out of Bed in the Morning"

Aire-Males (Dearborn-Wayne)

"Knee-Deep in Daisies"
"When I Leave the World Behind"
"Have you Ever Been Lonely"
"Smile, Darn You, Smile"

Insomniacs (Blue Water)

"Sailing for Dixie Today"
"End of a Perfect Day"
"Annabelle Lee"
"A Wonderful Pay to Me"

Auto Towners (Dearborn)

"I Wouldn't Trade the Silver in My Mother's Hair"
"Loribelle Lee" "Margie" "Sonny Boy"

Quadri Chords (Fruit Belt)

"When I Wore My Daddy's Brown Derby"
"Baby Your Mother" "Smile, Darn You Smile"
"When I Leave the World Behind"

Aire Knights (Windsor)

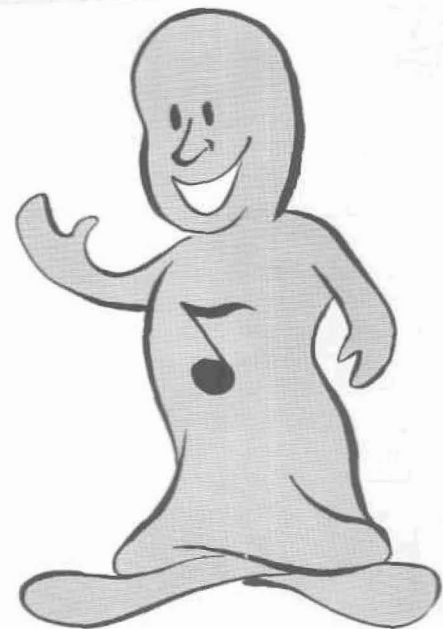
"Nobody's Sweetheart Now"
"Your Eyes Have Told Me So"
"When You and I Were Young Maggie"
"End of a Perfect Day"

KEEP AMERICA SINGING

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

To

ROBERT L MILLER I56
576 DE SOTO
YPSILANTI MICH



CONVENTION

HI-LITES

New Michigan District Chorus Champs
The Fruit Belt Chorus (Benton Harbor)
Directed by Bill Hansen

Michigan District Junior Chorus Champs
The Mall City Chorus (Kalamazoo)
Directed by Richard Peterson

Michigan District 3rd Place Chorus
The Windmill Chorus (Holland)
Directed by Mike Lucas

Quartets to represent this District at International
(Alphabetical)

AIRE-MALES (Wayne and Dearborn)
AUTO TOWNERS (Dearborn and Detroit)
CURBSTONE SERENADERS (Oakland County and
Pontiac)
(Alternate) STATELINERS (Niles-Buchanan)