

APRIL 1963

michigan

troubadour



COME
ON OVER
TO
LANSING
MAY 3, 4, 5

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.

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PIONEER



DISTRICT

April, 1963

THE MICHIGAN TROUBADOUR

Vol. 13 No. 4

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Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop

Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

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"Each one teach one." Spoken by Dearborn Chapter's Roger Craig at the Wayne H.E.P. school, these words have really stuck with this editor. Though only four words, what a tremendous potential, what an encouraging feeling of hope they can hold for us all. "Each one teach one." In context they define H.E.P. (our Harmony Education Program) and how it is supposed to work. If the 10 to 20% of our membership who attend these sessions will "each one teach one" our H.E.P. program will be one of the greatest musical educational programs this nation has ever witnessed.



Hidden deep in the depths of this issue of the Troubadour you will find a boxed-in announcement requesting bids for our 1964 Spring and Fall Conventions. District Secretary Harrington has made this request in his regular column this month, as he has in several of his past columns. At the risk of boring everyone with even further repetition, we must stress the importance of getting bids in early. The Lansing convention (in only a couple more weeks) can hardly be anything but the best due to proper planning (and a whale of a convention chairman. . . Burt Szabo). Get your bid for a convention in to Lou. . . NOW.

Here comes an idea heard from our District President Bill Hansen: A District Quartet Contest for quartets made up of members OVER 50 years of age. This sounds like a lot of fun and we can think of a great many possible combinations. Rules would probably be the same as for all of our District competition and, most probably, judging would be by the same judges.

The Michigan District has a tremendous wealth of talent in the "over 50" age group. These men know barbershop--in fact, they have been, and in many cases are, the backbone of our Society. Arranged in conjunction with our District Quartet competition, we feel this could be an enjoyable, entertaining, and very profitable addition to our conventions. We hope that some of you in the "over 50" bracket will pass along your comments to Pres. Bill.

The Michigan District and the Society have suffered the loss of one of our most ardent barbershoppers with the death of Cliff Salton. Cliff became interested in his favorite hobby in the early days of our Society and joined the Oakland County Chapter soon after its organization and in 1943 became a charter member of the Pontiac Chapter. Never a member of a quartet or chorus, he contributed hundreds of hours of services to his chapter in other capacities. Cliff served as treasurer of the chapter for ten years in addition to many committee assignments. He was instrumental in bringing W. L. "Bill" Otto, of our International staff, into the Society while both were employed by the same firm. Few men in our Society have

attended more International Conventions or expended the time and efforts to this wonderful hobby. Cliff Salton will be sadly missed by his many friends.

As many by now know, the original bass of the "Buffalo Bills", our beloved Bill Spangenberg, passed away March 20th in Buffalo, New York. Bill suffered a relapse from the heart attack that took him from the "Bills" quartet last June. All of us in the Michigan District where the "Bills" have entertained so many times feel shocked and saddened by this event. Our sympathy goes out to his family and to his great many other close friends.

On March 23rd Past International President John Z. Means passed away from a respiratory infection. John was President of our Society in 1953-4 and was named Barbershopper of the Year by the Land O Lakes District in 1957. He coached the Schmitt Brothers when they became International Champions in 1951. John was a composer and arranger, and a certified judge in all categories. His death at only 51 years of age is a terrible loss. The Michigan District feels the deepest sympathy for his family at this difficult time.

RUDY HART will certainly be a busy man around the convention doings in Lansing. In addition to emceeing the Saturday night session at the Contest, Rudy will be the keynote speaker at the House of Delegates Meeting and will open the Seminar for Judge Candidates and Judges.

Rudy is from Michigan City, Indiana and is serving his third term as an International Vice-President of the Society. He is the director of the Michigan City Chorus, 1956 International Chorus Champions, and served as an International Board Member and International Treasurer prior to his election to his present position.

The Michigan District is happy to welcome Rudy to its convention--his next stop during his 17 years of association with Barbershopping.

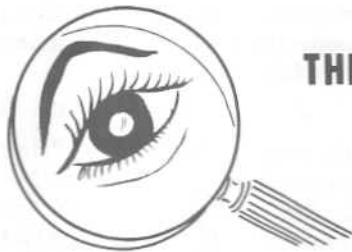


RUDY HART

ENTRIES POUR IN FOR DISTRICT CHORUS CONTEST

As of April 1st, nine choruses had submitted entry blanks for Michigan District Chorus Contest to be held on Saturday morning in Lansing, May 4. They are: Holland Windmill, Sun Parlour of Windsor, Great Lakes Chorus of Grand Rapids, Grosse Pointe Gleemen, Detroit Yachtsmen, Jacksonaires of Jackson, Wonderland Chorus of Wayne, Three Rivers, and Barbary Host Chorus of Oakland County. Several more chorus entries are anticipated and it appears that the contest audience will see and hear a real battle for the District Championship. Will you be in the audience? If you haven't yet made plans to attend this Regional Contest and Convention, now is the time to send for that reservation and assure yourself of a tremendous weekend of barbershopping in Lansing, May 3, 4, 5.





THE FEMININE OBSERVER

By Ellen Harrington

Wayne chapter's clever show was followed by a gay Afterglow enjoyed by an enthusiastic group including Mr. and Mrs. Richard Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. James O Davenport, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tritle, Mr. and Mrs. Jack O'Brien, Mr. and Mrs. Bernie Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Sperlin, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Craig, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Pollard, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Needham, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Mudgett, Mr. and Mrs. John Zinnikas, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Limburg, Mr. and Mrs. Bud Kepler, Mr. and Mrs. Barney Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Wilcox, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Butler, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Vogel, Mrs. Arthur Waite, Jerry Reed, Al Rehkop, Norm Shamus, Dale Clixby, William Wales, John Purcell, Jack Welsh, Mr. and Mrs. Timber Queen, Jim Alexander, and many others.



* * * * *
Mrs. Anthony Chiodo of Dearborn is enjoying a trip abroad.

LIGHT UNDER THE BASKET

Our Society today must win public approval. In order to do this, we must fulfill two basic essentials. First, we must serve our Society effectively and second, we must let the public know what we are doing so they will understand our role in the community.

The second step is primarily the role of public relations in our society today.

In order to handle this job with any degree of success, the public relations man must obviously first understand our Society, its goals and objectives. Understanding embraces more than just a sketchy knowledge of our Society and how it functions. Anyone who is responsible for interpreting our Society to the public must know our organization's history and traditions, its basic policies, its plans for the future and its weaknesses and strengths. He must be as informed about opinions of our critics as he is about the praises of our admirers.

As a member of the Society, he must share responsibility for directing public attention to our virtues as well as knowing where we are most vulnerable to criticism.

Remember, nothing destroys public confidence quicker than the attitude that we can do no wrong. People know instinctively that no person or group of persons is always right, they reject human infallibility. Whether it is a quartet loudly singing in some hotel bar late at night or one at a public gathering using shoddy jokes, we must recognize



that we are sometimes wrong. We must do everything we can to correct any poor image that might have been created.

These things do not only apply to the person in the chapter who is responsible for public relations, they apply to each and every member since everyone's actions affect the public one way or another and eventually influence the public's attitude toward our Society.

Some people have the idea that public relations can fabricate an image, any image that is desired. In other words, just pick out the mask and public relations will produce it out of nothing.

This is ridiculous. Let's take first things first. Public Relations can't "fabricate", it must mirror or reflect and you cannot mirror or reflect unless you first have something to reflect.

True, reflected images are sometimes distorted. But sooner or later, these distortions will be recognized and revealed for what they are. Usually when this happens, it's much too late to put the pieces back together. It is much easier to reflect an honest image of what we are then to reflect phoniness only too apparent to the public.

Our Society is many things to many people. It may also be many things to the same person -- a singing society -- a public service group -- a hobby -- a community neighbor -- or a noisy bunch of loud singing drunks. Each member must make a contribution to the Society's public relations. The member who thinks of a thousand reasons why he "can't" do something and gets mental cramps when he must come up with some "positive" program may not contribute too many mistakes, but accomplishes very little towards the chapter or the Society and nothing to increasing the public's understanding of what our Society is and what it is doing.

Get off dead center and "Toot Your Horn A' Plenty".

Any contributions or ideas for articles on Public Relations or Community Affairs that might be of interest to all chapters will be greatly appreciated.

Write William G. Smyth, 8124 Hartwell, Detroit 28, Michigan, or call 846-6215, Area Code 313.

SEMINAR TO STRESS "SHOW TECHNIQUES"

The Seminar - Show Techniques for Quartets, to be held at the Regional Contest in Lansing, will be moderated by none other than the For-Tune Tellers of Jackson. This very popular and polished quartet has performed before countless audiences throughout the Michigan District for many, many years and has earned the reputation as one of the Society's outstanding quartets.



Here is the opportunity for barbershoppers to benefit from the experience of one of our most successful quartets. The For-Tune Teller's will give tips on how to improve your visual appearance and entertainment value and how to best sell barbershopping in your community, not only via radio and TV, but through the public appearances made by your quartet. A question and answer session will follow the quartet's initial demonstration. The seminar is open to any barbershopper attending the contest. You need not be a member of any quartet to attend and participate. The For-Tune Tellers will no doubt cook up something extra special to make this an event you won't want to miss.

MICHIGAN SINGS

By Roger Craig

When barbershoppers talk about Michigan District quartets, one of the first names discussed is the Merri-Men from Lansing. Organized in 1950, this always popular, fun-loving group has entertained barbershoppers and the general public all over the United States and Canada.



Their distinctive "popular-barbershop" style of harmony has endeared themselves to harmony-loving audiences everywhere. However, don't ever make the mistake of calling the Merri-Men a "modern" quartet. Their very solid barbershop arrangements (many by Lansing's John Hill) and excellent singing won them the Michigan District Quartet Championship in 1951, and in 1956 they were International Finalists in Minneapolis.

Howard Hawkins sings their smooth tenor, Dale (Perry Como) Bullock croons the lead, Gordon Washburn (the poor man's Herb Shriner) sings bari, and Doug Stephens (the human string bass) sings bass. An example of the Merri-Men's popularity is their record of 1,583 consecutive performances at the Milford Chapter's Ladies Nights. (Actually they stopped counting after 100.)

"Get Me To The Church On Time" is their latest arrangement and Howard can be justly proud of it. Sing the first "church on time" fairly soft to avoid any muddiness from the close low harmony. You will probably find the last chord a little "different," but don't be afraid of it--that's the way it's sung.

This tag, like all the others we run, is "just for fun". Why not join the Merri-Men in some of that fun to show that MICHIGAN SINGS.



Minutes

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

MARCH 16, 1963, AT WAYNE, MICHIGAN

A meeting of the Michigan District Board of Directors was held on March 16, 1963, at Wayne, Michigan. President Hansen called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. All of the directors were present.

The budget for 1963 was approved as presented by the Budget Committee.

Secretary Harrington reported that a formal bid was received from the Windsor chapter to host the 1964 Fall convention. After some discussion, the Board instructed the secretary to notify all chapters, through the Troubadour, that bids for the 1964 and 1965 Spring and Fall conventions and contests must be on file with the District Secretary before May 1, 1963. The Board will consider

these at its next meeting.

The president read several communications including some questionnaires, which were of an advisory capacity, from International. These were considered and acted upon.

The next subject was the designation of Area Counselor of the Year. The Board voted to name Bill VanBogelen as Area Counselor of the Year for 1962, and also voted to present a certificate of merit to Ted Spry for his outstanding service.

The president then announced that the District would submit the name of Howard Tubbs for a posthumous International Public Relations award.

A discussion was then had relative to laying plans for a school for incoming chapter officers early in 1964.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Louis R. Harrington

District Secretary

Chapter News

NORTHWEST DETROIT Chapter Reporter:
Duane Mosier

Northwest Area (Detroit) chorus and quartet, The Scorekeepers, entertained Gov. George Romney and nearly four hundred citizens of the 17th Congressional district on February 27 at the New Roma Hall located on Schoolcraft Road in Livonia.

The occasion was a non-partisan address by the governor urging an affirmative vote on the proposed new constitution to be voted on April 1st.

The chorus, under the direction of Earl Strnad, engaged rapt attention of the crowd as shown by their applause with several old time crowd pleasers. The Scorekeepers with Larry Winchester, lead; Bill Winchester, tenor; Ross McClellan, bari; and Ted Robbins, bass (after apologies to "Rambler" George) scored a hit with "Cruisin' In My Model T" followed by some of the well-known beauties from The Music Man.



After singing our Society theme song, the governor shook hands with each chorus member and posed for a picture with the group (shown directly behind the mike).

Word came after the meeting that Gov. Romney remark-

ed "That was the finest choral singing I ever listened to." Northwest is happy to have been part of the program.

Coming appearances of the chorus and quartet are slated for March 28 when they will sing for the elderly citizens at Presbyterian Village and on April 5 entertaining a large membership group at Hope Lutheran Church.

OAKLAND COUNTY

Chapter Reporter:
Dick Liddicoatt

The April meeting at OCC featured an event all chapters like to have frequently: induction of new members. The new "ringers" are Joe Hoffman, Chuck Maly, and Kerry Keeley. These Fellows, combined with some new dual-members, keep pushing our membership up the ladder.

Your Troub reporter, along with other OCC members, had a wonderful evening at Pontiac's Woodshed Contest. I sincerely enjoyed singing a few tags with a couple of the champs, "Fergy" and Cliff Jorgensen; however, holding Bob Wharton somewhat sacred, I didn't feel I could impose on a champ of that stature.

Dunc Hannah is turning the Barbary Host into an efficient singing machine and we are looking forward to a wonderful time in Lansing with all the Michigan Barbershoppers. Being a former Lansing member (my alma mater), there seems to be a little added incentive, toward the competition, within my dischording bones. Be sure to stop in OCC's hospitality room at the Capitol Park Motor Hotel for some laughs, fellowship, etc., and lots of singing.

When in Lansing, to you our best,
Your chords to ring, O'er all the rest;
We'll be there, to give our most.
Good luck to all.

The Barbary Host.

Come to the 17th annual

BUSH LEAGUE QUARTET CONTEST

MAY 18th AT BOYNE CITY
MICHIGAN'S "FUN" WEEKEND

FEATURING

THE
BANJO-TAINERS
OF
MUSKEGON

Vic
Blakeman

Jim
Straub

Harve
Lederer



Returning by public demand

QUARTETS: Send your
entry to:
Arne Hegerberg
Boyne City

ALL HOUSING:
Don Sheets
Hotel Dilworth
Boyne City

DOWNRIVER

Chapter Reporter:
Bill Taylor

In the absence of our regular reporter, Jim Maxwell, who thought that skiing was a safe sport, I would like to report that the Downriver Boys are now meeting on a new date of the month, as well as at a new location.

Third Friday, Oak Club Annex, Oak St. and 17th, Wyandotte.

This change has brought about a better attendance of members and guests. Although it's a little early to say, I feel that we are going to start to grow.

I was so enthused with the last meeting (even had Bill Butler, our Area Counselor drop in on us) that I was inspired to jot down the following:

What a pleasure to recall

The last meeting at our hall

Music rang from every corner of the room

Quartets sang most everywhere

How their voices filled the air

Chords were ringing with a sonic Va Va Voom

Special guests arrived there late

But for guys like this, we'll wait

What an asset they would be on any scene

Our M.C. approached the stand

Got the program well in hand

To the tempo of an After Glow routine

Our guests had a chance to sing

They took part in everything

What an evening to remember with a smile

Time went fleeing much too fast

Soon our Pleasure came to pass

But the Good Lord willin', in a little while

The "Old Gang" will soon return

To the place for which they yearn

And blend again, the good old songs we know

I anticipate with glee

What this meeting holds for me

It's that date--that time--Goodbye, I gotta Go

GRAND RAPIDS

Chapter Reporter:
Roscoe Bennett

There were 400 devotees of song and harmony, men and women, jammed into the ballroom of the Pantlind Hotel, March 22, when Grand Rapids Chapter, No. 4, put on its fourth annual "Community Songfest" and over 200 of the crowd were active singing people.

The "Songfest" is a unique feature of the Grand Rapids Chapter's year's activities. All choruses, choirs, and singing groups of the city are invited to show their talents, participate in "gang" singing, and enjoy refreshments for a whole evening. Barbershop singing is relayed to the visitors by means of a couple of quartets, Sweet Adelines Choruses, and the Great Lakes Chorus.

This year's program, put together by the chapter's program chairman, Elwynn Mullett, was exceptional in that some of the visiting groups were outstanding. For example, the singing of the Chordaliers from the Lear Manufacturing Co. under the baton of Louis R. Mahacek was unusual in dynamics and blend in such numbers as "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes". They had 26 carefully selected male

and female voices. The Old Kent Bank of Grand Rapids displayed a nattily dressed group of 50 under well-known Grand Rapids musician Gordon Van Ry, with a fine display of musical cohesion in such numbers as "My Heart Stood Still".

Kalamazoo's Sweet Adeline chorus, 50 or more strong, gave barbershop addicts many thrills as they swung through a number of old favorites with Bob Weaver conducting. The Kalamazoo bunch, cleverly dressed in red vests and straw hats, also showed fine stagework precision.

The Grand Rapids Sweet Adelines, Robert W. Calkins directing, and the Great Lakes choruses also added to the long choral program.

The Stationaires from Hudson, Tom Damm's new Muskegon Four, and the Spartanaires of Grand Rapids filled in the gaps with barbershop quartet singing that was warmly received.

To open the show, Chairman Mullett presented a group of Indian dancers, complete with drums, spears and properly costumed in headdress, feathers, and loin cloths. The group of 15 came from Fremont and all were high school boys and girls directed by Mrs. Donald Williams. Music was furnished by Indian drums. The group is named the "A-SHA-LA-HO" Indian dancers.

"Entertaining Grand Rapids musical groups once every year is strictly a public relations and community activity effort on our part", explains Chapter President Kenneth Childs. "We feel that in staging this affair we can produce better musical feeling in the community. We have had many church choirs sing with us, and one choir, from Fountain Street Church, has been present every year except this one, when Lenten services prevented their

appearance." All of the choruses with us this year gave a very professional appearance. Costumes were proper, gay, and decorative. The singing of all the groups was precise and the various directors gave everything they had.

UTICA - ROCHESTER

Chapter Reporter:
Dan Davey

Two new men joined our growing group at the last meeting, and we seem to have a good flow of lively prospects. Utica-Rochester is ready to set sail for the half-century goal before the close of business in 1963. Our recent successes with the Distinguished Chapter Award and the Golden Note award have buoyed up our spirits.

We are now looking ahead to our all-important Fifth Annual Quartetarama on June 8th, featuring the Renegades, and the Cracker Jills. Committees are busily at work, and we will have later news of some really good publicity ideas which are currently in the cooking stage.

Then, our big fall undertaking will be the Crittenden Hospital Benefit Show, which is going to put the emphasis on fine choruses. Plans are formulating now, with the exact date a question.

Tell all your friends to come out to the Utica-Rochester Chapter doings--the Chapter with seven (temporary?) quartets, an octet, a chorus which is getting serious and will be competing in the near future, a fully active membership, one of the staunchest chapter presidents in the District, and a reputation as that lively, woodshedding group with the best food in the area.

Second and fourth Fridays at Rochester C. C. Something new. Chorus practice every Wednesday at 8 p.m. at Rochester C. C. I told you we're getting serious.



BARBERSHOPPING AT ITS BEST



Featuring



SCHMITT BROTHERS



CHORD COUNTS



WINDMILL CHORUS



EXTENSION CHORDS



KORD--E-NATORS



MID-STATES FOUR

HOLLAND CIVIC CENTER

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 1963 8:00 p.m.

Get your tickets at the Holland Civic Center or contact Bill Diekema

CANADA

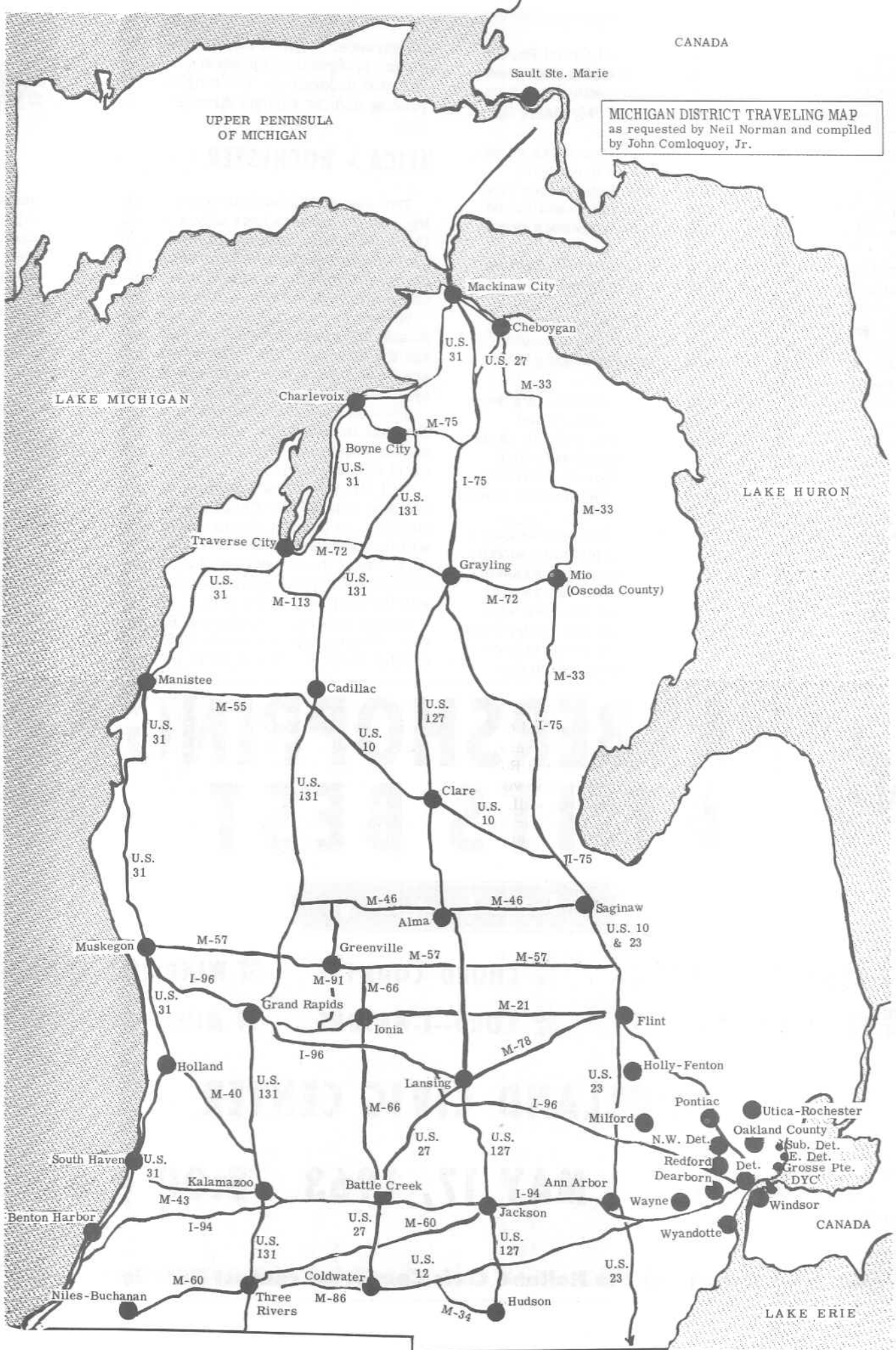
Sault Ste. Marie

UPPER PENINSULA
OF MICHIGAN

MICHIGAN DISTRICT TRAVELING MAP
as requested by Neil Norman and compiled
by John Comloquoy, Jr.

LAKE MICHIGAN

LAKE HURON





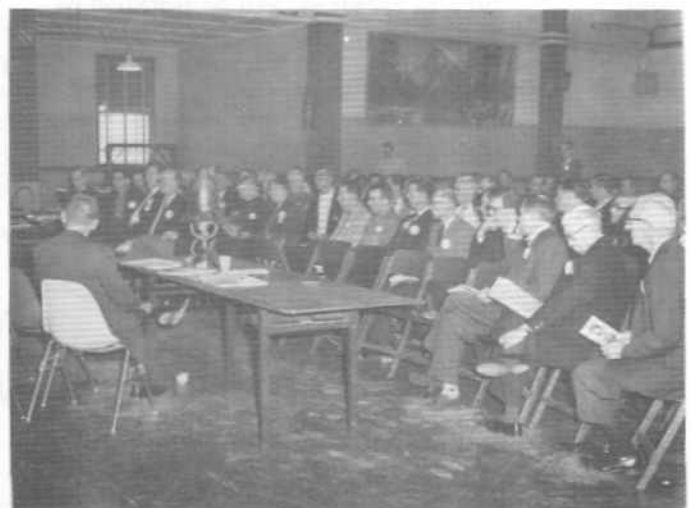
By Owen McGill

The third Michigan District H.E.P. School was held at the Wayne Recreation Building in Wayne, Michigan on March 16, 1963. Registrations started as soon as the doors were opened at 8:00 a.m. Coffee and donuts were served for the early arrivals.

The program got underway at 9:00 a.m. with each faculty member pouring forth all the knowledge that he could in the allotted time that he had for his subject. (Note: Comment would have it that more time should be given to the instructors for their pitch where possible.) Norm Shamus was there to lend his culinary art, although no one learned any secrets.

The second half got underway with Al Burgess at the helm and how the old chestnuts rang. The Aire-Males were next and they were never better. Winding up the show were Bob Tracy and Roger Craig endeavoring to put four voices together that would balance, blend, and be accurate harmony-wise as well.

The Wayne Chapter is sincerely grateful to all those who participated in this effort to make the members in the District a more educated group and better informed Barbershoppers.



ANN ARBOR

Chapter Reporter:
Bob Miller

Busy, busy is the word for Ann Arbor these days. We are planning a gala Ladies Nite April 20th. . . something like our Charter Nite. That was a very happy occasion for us and left a favorable impression on our local citizenry. We are tying in with the Society's 25th Anniversary and pushing the week of April 15th as Barbershop Week in Ann Arbor, culminating with our Ladies Nite. Jolly Old Dog (James O. Davenport) is busy setting up appearances for our quartets and getting as much publicity as possible.

The Four Scores and Huronaires quartets, plus two basses at large, went to Jackson for their Octet Contest. Those fellows sure get a turnout. We all had a swingin', singing time till the wee small hours. Harmony rained, and I do mean rained--all the way over and back.

I hope Chapter President "Al" will forgive me for this, but the Ann Arbor Chapter Executive Board has found a swell way to take advantage of a missed Board Meeting. The Board meets on the same nite as Wayne's regular meeting, so when our Pres got tied up and couldn't make it, we went to Wayne's meeting and enjoyed their hospitality.

We are trying to set up some visitations to other chapters in our area, but it seems that so many of our members are so coddin pickin busy it's hard to get a good turnout. The man to contact in Ann Arbor is Bob Miller, 576 DeSoto, Ypsilanti and we will see what we can do.

HOLLY - FENTON

Chapter Reporter:
Art Burnett

About half of the membership attended the Pontiac Woodshed Contest and one more member attending would have given us the trophy according to all reports. All report an enjoyable time, with a few reporting a "bang-up" evening.

Our Chapter President, John Hall, is back with us after his operation. How successful it will be will not be known for some time.

Milford, Saginaw and Flint Chapters have signified their intention of attending our Anniversary Party on April 16th. This should be a great party with them attending.

Only a few tickets remain unsold for our Ladies' Night and this is typical of our parties. Too bad the place isn't large enough to accommodate all who wish to attend.

Our Official Road Signs have been ordered from International and, as quick as received, will be installed on U.S.-23, M-87 and Fenton Road.

Our last regular meeting on April 2nd was attended by 26 members and 7 guests--among whom were three prospective members. Our average attendance at our regular meetings has been 21 out of our present membership--which isn't bad at all. This amounts to about 68% of membership present and we are very much encouraged by it.

HOSPITALITY ROOMS STILL AVAILABLE

Burt Szabo reports that there are still some hospitality rooms available in the Capitol Park Motel. Chapters desiring such rooms should write to Burt Szabo as soon as possible to reserve their HOSPITALITY ROOM.

5290 Park Lake Road, East Lansing, Michigan. All are suites and have complete motel facilities and sleeping accommodations.



HOLLAND

Chapter Reporter:
Norman Bredeweg

The Holland Windmill Chapter package barbershop show presented on Saturday, February 2 at the West Ottawa High School Auditorium proved a great success. The show was co-sponsored by the West Ottawa High School Choir.

The school choir was presented a check for \$150.00 as their share of the evening's profits. The Windmill Chorus also donated a share of the money to a local school for the mentally retarded.

The show featured the Extension Chords of Grand Rapids, Chord Counts of Holland, the Insomniacs of South Haven, the Kord-e-nators of Holland (newest quartet, composed of Shirl Webbert, tenor; Ted Elzinga, lead; Dale Bekker, bari; and Bob Von Ins, bass).

Also appearing were the Holland Sweet Adeline Chorus, the Gay Blades, who have since tried going back to singing; Holland's Bart Tillitt (who did a fine Swedish impression), and the Holland Windmill Chorus.

The large audience was thrilled with the show and it is planned to make this an annual affair.

On March 15, the chapter, in conjunction with the Arcadian Fraternity of Hope College, presented the package show again to a packed house. The program was very well received--many favorable comments were heard.

With May 17 rapidly approaching, the chapter has been busy lining up its 17th Annual Tulip Time Show. The show will be one of our best with such talent as the Schmitt Bros., Mid-States Four, etc.

"Have a Spree in '63 in Holland."

NILES - BUCHANAN

Chapter Reporter:
Vic Vigansky

"Brother, can you spare a bus?" We aren't singing this as The Nighthawks would probably do, but we are trying. It's not a dime we seek, but a bus. We would like a Greyhound Scenic Liner but would settle for something like a school bus. The Gateway Chorus is again solvent (thanks to a successful show) and will pay cash money for such a vehicle.

Why do we want a bus? Glad you asked. The chorus has decided to have a bus and travel and find out what goes on at other chapters in the District. This is a warning. If you see the wildest thing on wheels approaching your chapter's sacred doors--it's too late--we are there--so let's sing.

Niles-Buchanan has had a lot of fun this March. We had two singing jobs and two dinners and all on the same day. We performed for the Buchanan Farmers' Co-op, Lavonne Zelmer's kind of people, the afternoon of March 16th and performed again in the evening for the Niles Elks. It was their St. Patrick's party complete with dinner, dance, and the Gateway Chorus.

We had a "Guest Nite" on March 26th. Every member was required to bring one or more guests. This guest night was a slightly dressed up average meeting night. Bard Borst explained barbershopping to the guests, the chorus and Stateliners demonstrated, and then the guests joined the chorus in rehearsing a new song. The reason for the guest night? To get some people to fill up that damm bus.

One more time--"Brother Can You Spare A Bus?" If you can spare one, or know of anyone or any organization who can, please contact this reporter at: 409 Chippewa, Buchanan, Michigan. Over and out.



"Huronaires"--Ann Arbor. L. to R.: Don Backus, bari; Bob Graham, lead; Bob Miller, bass; and Dan McCarthy, tenor.



"Chord Counts"--Holland. L. to R.: Jack Oonk, bari; Mike Lucas, lead; Marty Hardenberg, tenor; and Chet Oonk, bass. Singing: "The Three Bells" (Little Jimmie Brown.)



"Bank Notes"--Greenville. L. to R.: Arnie Staffen, lead; Jack Wood, bari; Joe Wildner, tenor; Stu Anderson, bass. Singing: "In the Good Old Summertime." Note the Sponsor Calendar.



"Extension Chords"--Grand Rapids. At the After-Glo.

GREENVILLE

Chapter Reporter:
Bob Hansen

GREENVILLE SHOW--COMPLETE SELLOUT--HUGE SUCCESS. March 9th, 1963 will long be remembered by Barbershoppers in the Greenville area. This was the date of the first annual "Gay Nineties Barbershop Revue". Tickets were sold out one week prior to the show date and over 300 persons attended the After-Glo.

Headlining the entertainment were the Chord Counts from Holland and the Extension Chords from Grand Rapids. It's amazing how these two excellent foursomes can sell a Barbershop tune with such ease and professional showmanship.

We in Greenville are forever grateful for the performances given by the Huronaires from Ann Arbor and the Occasion Four from Muskegon. Both of these quartets donated their services and enabled us to present the most outstanding Barbershop show in western Michigan in many a year.

Entertainment from the local chapter included two newly formed quartets: the Bank Notes and the Coppertones, and, of course, the Greenville Barbershop Chorus (26 voices strong) directed by Jerry Meade.

Everyone of the 28 Greenville chapter members did more than their share in making our first show a howling success. Some of the committee members under show chairman Bob Powers were: Norm Lantry, assistant show chairman; Eldon Hansen, tickets; Cass Kemp, programs, Jack and Orrin Wood, stage scenery; Joe Wildner, publicity; Chuck Vining, Al Ralph and Francis Jones, after-glo; Arnie Staffen and Tom Venus, entertainment; Bob Hansen, budget; Al Vining and Bob Rice, ushers; Jerry Meade, musical director; Lewis Staffen and Larry Brown, photography; Chuck Gibson Jr., master of ceremonies, and the Commercial State Savings Bank of Greenville, chapter sponsor. Incidentally, our

president Stu Anderson sold 43 tickets; how about that. Maybe the Doc is in the wrong business.

Greenville will kickoff National Barbershop Harmony Week on April 15th with a "Ladies Night" to be held at the Greenville Country Club. Chairman for the event is Chuck Vining, assisted by Fran Jones, Al Ralph and Joe Wildner. We figure we owe the girls an "evening", especially after the help they gave us on the show. Fran Jones talked them into making over 600 sandwiches for the After-Glo. (They still had to have a ticket for the show, too.)

We're planning to publicize "Harmony Week" through newspaper and the local radio station, plus a downtown store window will be decorated plugging our own chapter and its activities.

On April 22 the chorus will be making its first appearance since the show for the Greenville Rotary Club's Ladies Night.

Four new sets of vocal chords have been added to our membership roster--mainly as a result of the March 9th show. Keith Neitzel and Bud Cornelisse, leads; and Lou Willertz and Roger Davenport, basses. "Men of Note" awards go out to the following men for signing them up: Orrin Wood, Bob Hansen, and Jerry Meade (2).

The two organized quartets, the Coppertones and the Bank Notes, are busy rehearsing and performing. The Bank Notes: Joe Wildner, tenor; Arnie Staffen, lead; Jack Wood, bari; and Stu Anderson, bass performed a 30-minute Barbershop show on radio station WPLB-FM on Sunday, March 24th.

Next time any of you are in the Greenville area on a Monday evening come visit us at the Commercial State Savings Bank Community Room. You'll enjoy singing with us. You'll enjoy Al Ralph's midnight lunch too--pickles and coffee--every Monday.

DETROIT YACHTSMEN Chapter Reporter: Lou Harrington

The Detroit Yachtsmen Chapter is now meeting weekly in preparation for the chorus competition in Lansing. Wayne chorus and chapter members organized a visitation this month, including a surprise visit from former International President Edwin S. Smith, who was back in town from Florida, on a visit.

DEARBORN Chapter Reporter: Ed Conn

The "CHAPTER OF CHAMPIONS" has been moving at a fast pace this year. We are all electric with excitement over the forthcoming International competition. Responsibilities have been delegated to set up our transportation, housing, expenses, etc. The chorus is thrilled with the privilege of representing the Michigan District in Toronto, and we are diligently rehearsing our show songs and stage presence. Roger keeps adding refinements and changes to keep us on our toes.

Our month meeting, March 8th, was a big success with over ninety men in attendance and Al Smith emceeing. Some of us were still singing at 3:00 a.m.

Detroit had its annual Comedy Quartet contest March 15th with the Dearborn Chapter as guests. Detroit presented a quartet calling themselves the "Chord-O-Mats" and they did two parodies on the Dearborn Chorus. It was witty and well done. Cliff Jorgenson's costume was outstanding.

The Dearborn Chapter was represented by a quartet called "The Mississippi Moonshiners". We did a parody on the Mississippi riots of last year and another on the "girls in Atlantic City". The Moonshiners were voted first place by the judges and won possession of the coveted porcelain pot.

The next day, Saturday March 16th, was Wayne H.E.P. School day. This was the serious side of Barbershopping and such valuable information was made available to all who attended. All District officers, as well as other prominent Michigan Barbershoppers, were in attendance to share their wealth of experience with us. The Aire Males demonstrated what can be done when four voices blend and practice together. I am sure everyone left the meeting with a fuller and richer knowledge of this wonderful pastime.

The April meeting of the Dearborn Chapter will be a week late due to Good Friday falling on the second Friday of the month. Barney Campbell will be the guest emcee.

HAS YOUR QUARTET ENTERED ?

Those quartets who have not yet submitted entry blanks for the Regional Contest have just a few days left to do so. Drawing for the order of appearance in the Contest will take place about April 25; any quartet entries received after the drawing will be placed first on the contest schedule of appearance.

As of April 1st, 8 quartet entries had been received at Convention Headquarters in Lansing and it is hoped that by Contest time this number will be at least doubled.

All quartets should plan to attend the Clinic immediately following the Contest and to attend the Seminar: Show Techniques for Quartets on Sunday morning.



WAYNE'S SHOWBOAT

WAYNE Chapter Reporter: Owen McGill

The month of March was certainly a harmonious one for the Wayne Chapter: Our Annual Parade was a sterling success, the Downriver Chapter invaded our hall and left chords ringing all over the place, and a small contingent trekked off to Pontiac to vie for honors in the Annual Woodshed Contest sponsored by the Pontiac Chapter. If you missed this event, you missed a real good evening of barbershopping.

On March 28, 1963 the Wayne Chapter and the Wonderland Chorus were guests of the Detroit Yacht Club Chapter and it's little wonder that the Yacht Club has any roof left at all. "WOW". What a meeting. Our hats are off to George Ryan, Ken Palmer, and all the rest of the members of this fine chapter for a night of Barbershopping not soon to be forgotten by any one of the Wayne members who were in attendance. Congratulations to the Detroit Yachtsmen.

LANSING Chapter Reporter: R. G. Wilkins

It is time for us to sit down and have a visit with other chapters in the Area. I just found out why Lansing hasn't been heard of in the Troub lately. I'm the reason--it's my job. Sorry.

We have been having very fine meetings with our program chairman Lefty Hamilton working overtime to do a great job. One of the meetings featured the Gay Nineties period--swinging doors and all. 5-cent drinks, cheese, and bologna. All members dressed for the period. This took some doing with all the decorations.

We all enjoyed the great quartets that have been to visit us. They are namely the For-Tune Tellers and the Extension Chords.

As a woodshedding chapter, we traveled by bus to Alma and Flint. Had a wonderful time each place and even though we lost the contest at Flint, we won't give up. We are still the darndest woodshedding chapter in Michigan--any challengers?

Burt Szabo is working his head off to get this Regional contest in shape; and with him doing the job, we know it will be in good shape. It would sure be a shame if you all didn't show up for this Burt Szabo extravaganza May 3-4-5. Come to Lansing and bring your whole crew.

At our last meeting, we had a distinguished guest, Jim Davenport, and some of his crew. We enjoyed this visit very much. We even found out they can sing. Come any time you can.

PONTIAC

Chapter Reporter:
Bill Pascher

Friday night, March 29, Pontiac witnessed another smashing response by men who believe as we do, that is: that this Society was founded for the "Preservation -- of Quartet SINGING," and that this Society was made great by men whose biggest thrill was the first sound of their own voices blended with others in "unrehearsed" harmony.

We also believe, as many others do, that too many men have become discouraged by the ever increasing emphasis on "Championship" perfection, and that too little recognition is given to the man with the ability to sing by "ear", unrehearsed, uncoached, and without arrangements.

In an effort to further the "Encouragement" of this grass-roots ability, the "Pontiac Annual Woodshed Contest" was born in 1957. Pioneered by John Beaudin, and nurtured by Bill Pascher (perennial chairman), this event, in seven years, has grown to exciting proportions in southeastern Michigan, each year drawing upwards of 140 men from 10 or more different chapters, with 20 to 25 quartets competing. This year, 22 quartets were formed "on the spot", with no more than two men from the same chapter, no more than one from an organized quartet, nor more than two from all organized quartets. Each quartet then registered, received a number, and claimed a song (words only) from a posted "Select Song List", of old timers not currently being arranged, rearranged, tagged, or swiped at neighboring chapter gatherings. From then until registration closed at 10:00, these foursomes collected in every corner of the meeting hall to prepare their one song for competition.

Competent judges select the best quartet, and each winner receives a handcrafted metal lapel award denoting "Best Tenor", "Best Lead", etc., with the event and date lettered thereon.



These awards for 1963 (March 29th) were won by Quartet #13, comprised of Cliff Jorgenson--Detroit, "Best Bari"; Steve Vickers--Redford, "Best Tenor" (also won the first contest in 1957); Don Ferguson--Detroit, "Best Lead; (also has won the last three consecutive years); and Bob Wharton--Redford, "Best Bass" (who is claiming a monopoly on this distinction and is now proudly displaying five "Best Bass" Trophies from years 1957, 1958, 1960, 1962, and 1963).

Trophies were presented by this year's judges, the "Aire Males", Past Michigan District Champions, who also provided the proof that while Woodshedding ability is all-important in our Society, that championship perfection is after all the crowning glory in our International game of "musical chairs".

As a further incentive, a beautiful revolving trophy is awarded to the chapter with the highest percentage points, based on attendance and participation. One-half point is

earned by each member signing the door registry, and an additional one-half point is earned by each one singing in the contest. This point total divided by the chapter's registration total (February 28th at Kenosha), determines the percentage total.

This large trophy is named the "Carroll P. Adams Bennington Trophy", in honor of the first secretary of our then National Society, and a charter member of the Pontiac Chapter, who moved to Bennington, Vermont upon retirement.

Proud winners have been Detroit and Flint, once each, and Redford, who has won four times. This year's winner can not yet be announced due to a challenge by Flint that their registration total from Kenosha contains an error. Holly-Fenton and Redford each recorded over 50 total percentage points.

The enjoyable evening was assisted by the efforts of Floyd Albert, Larry Robertson, Chase Sanborn, Wally Arsenault, and Elbert Baker, with Jerry Leroux on liquids and Whitey Ryden on solids (his famous Ranch Beans).

Pontiac is girding for a big "Harmony Week" celebration, with good press coverage on local and international news, and a full week of quartet and chorus appearances, climaxed by our April chapter meeting on Friday night, the 19th. On this night we will fete our sponsor's, who support our annual "Holiday of Harmony" parade with their program advertising. The meeting will also be our biggest "open to the public" event of the year, with invitations being offered by the press, and by the "Revelaires" chorus, which is appearing four times that week in community service performances. The "Resonaires" quartet, will also be observing Harmony Week with several appearances.

Saturday evening, April 27th, we will party our ladies at the Four Season's Inn, on Dixie Hwy., in celebration of our successful 20th annual parade.

A sad note hangs on our musical staff with the passing, March 26, of Cliff Salton, a Pontiac charter member who has been always dependable, always willing, always enthusiastic, in chapter affairs. We're sure Cliff will be with us in spirit--always.

Our March 15th meeting was enlivened by the appearance of the "Baritones" of Utica-Rochester and everyone in attendance was impressed. The best of luck to you boys.

The H.E.P. school at Wayne was attended by Pontiac members Robertson, Schram, Freet, Brazelle, Ryden, and Sanborn. All of them returned with enthusiastic reports and a desire for more.

We are looking forward to the Regional Convention, in Lansing, and urge all chapters to be represented at the District Delegates Meeting on Sunday A.M.

LANSING SUBWAYS NOT FOR SLEEPING

Have you made your reservation at Lansing's Capitol Park Motor Hotel for May 3, 4, 5? Motel Manager Al Keast reports reservations arriving in each day's mail and there is a chance that by May 4 there won't be an empty room in the Motel.

Lansing City Hall informs us that Lansing subways are extremely uncomfortable at this time of the year and advises barbershoppers to make their reservation NOW. Burt Szabo reports that there is a park adjacent to the Motel but the benches are not conducive to restful sleep.



IONIA

Chapter Reporter:

Ionia chapter entertained at the State Hospital Sunday, March 24th. Chorus and quartets gave a fine performance, not forgetting "gittar pickin" Pennington with his rendition of "Blubber Come Back to Me". Every person in the group contributed with the satisfaction of giving of their talents to a worthy cause.

Next month will be one of Ionia's busiest with several special events to take place, including the celebration of our International anniversary in an appropriate manner, and visitations to parades, invitations, and others.

Our last regular meeting was devoted to a game of "barbershop baffle" with prizes yet and starting a new number with our director Tom Dorey.

FLINT

Chapter Reporter:

Flint Chapter's Festival of Harmony was held on March 9. We had a good crowd for both the show and the After-glow. Putting on a show gives a great sense of satisfaction to a chapter of men who work together on it as ours did. Everyone got in and pitched. We initiated our new chorus uniforms and we hope our chorus director, Fred Kienitz, realizes how much we appreciate his hard work in getting us in shape for the show. We were pleased to see our International Board Member "Chase" Sanborn and our Area Counselor Gene Gillem at our show.

Flint Chapter is invited to meet with the Holly-Fenton Chapter during National Barbershop Harmony Week. This should be another good time.

Our Chapter is laying the ground work for a charity benefit show early in the fall.

We have several prospective members that we hope will join our chapter in the near future.

Flint Chapter again competed in the Pontiac Woodshed Contest. We sure get a bang out of trying to win that Bennington Trophy. We didn't win it but went down in defeat having a ball. What a good time the Pontiac Contest is each year. We need more activities like this.

We hope to see you in Lansing in the merry month of May. Come and see us.

KALAMAZOO

Chapter Reporter:
Dr. Jim Sell

Twenty-two Kalamazoo Chapter members, including four quartets, traveled to the Three Rivers Chapter on Monday night, March 4th. That wet, rainy, foggy night didn't dampen the spirits of either chapter as they joined together in some real barbershop harmony singing. Thanks to President Harry Kamp and Area Counselor Jerry Wright for organizing a fine program for this inter-chapter meeting. The Kalamazoo Chapter is looking forward to a return visit by the Three Rivers Chapter in the near future.

Each Kalamazoo Chapter member is sporting an attractive SPEBSQSA name badge on the front of his shirt at all of our chapter meetings. Guests and new members can tell at a glance to whom they are talking, and, what's just as important, what part that fella sings. If you're

**WHO IS YOUR
CHAPTER
DELEGATE ??**



in the Kalamazoo area on a Friday night, drop in and look us over. . .we have some of the wildest round robins . . .that's the Pine Room in the Harris Hotel.

Several Kalamazoo Chapter members attended the Battle Creek Parade on March 23rd, and all indicated that it was a show that you'll have to go a long way to beat. Congratulations to all the Battle Creek Chapter members on a tremendous show.

Our Chapter is planning to rent a bus and take a huge delegation from Kalamazoo down to the harmony wing-ding in Jackson on May 31st. It sounds like a great time in Jackson . . .as it always is when you go to barbershop doin's in Jackson. This will be a great opportunity for west side friends to meet their east side friends. . . see you in Jackson, Friday night, May 31st.

Plans are being completed for celebration of National Barbershop Harmony Week in Kalamazoo. A proclamation is to be signed by our mayor, two window displays are in the making for two downtown stores, along with radio, TV and press announcements. A special program is to be held at one of our April Chapter meetings.

The Kalamazoo Chapter is happy to accept the "Noteworthy Chapter" award for retaining 90% of its 1962 membership. The Kalamazoo Chapter would like to take this opportunity to extend its congratulations to the three chapters in the Michigan District who were above the 100% mark in retaining membership in 1962: To the Jackson Chapter - 132.5%; to the Niles-Buchanan Chapter - 110.2%; and to the Utica-Rochester - 109.6%. Nice going fellows. Hope our chapter will join you in 1963.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CHASING
AROUND
WITH

CHASE SANBORN



Many quartet members and chorus directors will be pleased to learn that an extensive study of our Contest and Judging system is being conducted by one of President Wayne Foor's International Study Groups. This committee is evaluating the many facets of our Judging rules and procedures in the hopes that some means of improvement and clarification will result.



The opinions and recommendations of some 200 or more men who have experience in this phase of our Society operations will have been obtained at the completion of the task assigned to this committee. Such matters as Methods of Obtaining Judge Candidates; Procedures of Certifying Candidates; Standardization of District Contest Operations; Training of Judge Candidates; Selection of Judging Panels; Judges Expenses and the Weighting, Composition and Responsibilities of the Judging Categories.

On the subject of Judge Candidates, many more men are needed to enter this phase of barbershopping. True, a great number of our members who possess the abilities required for this work are busy singing in quartets or directing a chorus but there are many others who are qualified who perhaps are not aware of the enjoyment that can

be derived from serving on the Judging Panel.

Considerable study is being given to the weighting of the scoring of the five categories, the overlapping of the categories and the responsibilities in scoring each individual category.

We have experienced considerable confusion, misunderstanding and disappointment in some of the Judging decisions in recent years, mainly at the District level where the single panel system is usually employed but it is the opinion of the writer that in most instances the decisions were based on the honest and sincere effort of the Judge. The study being transacted by this committee should provide a better understanding of our Contest and Judging system and assist greatly in promoting harmony.

* * * * *



NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY

by Sec. Lou Harrington

Interest now centers on the forthcoming contest to be held in Lansing on the weekend of May 3, 4, 5, 1963. Vying for the honor of representing Michigan in the International contest in Toronto in July will be such favorites as the Aire Males, Auto Towners, Noteries, Nu-Tones, Occasion Four, Acoustichords, Huronaires and Incidentals. Based upon membership, three quartets will be selected.



Competition in the contest to determine the District Chorus champions promises to be spirited. Among the early entries are those from Holland, Windsor, Grand Rapids, Grosse Pointe, Detroit Yachtsmen, Jackson, Wayne, Three Rivers, Oakland County and Greenville. The committee has made arrangements for choruses to have five minutes on stage prior to the contest to acquaint themselves with the auditorium and its acoustics.

Dearborn's Chord-O-Matic chorus, our representative in International competition in Toronto, will make a guest appearance.

* * * * *

Barbershoppers are saddened to learn of the deaths of John Z. Means of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, former International president; Bill Spangenberg of Buffalo, New York, original bass of the "Buffalo Bills"; and Mrs. Schmitt of Two Rivers, Wisconsin, mother of the famous Schmitt Brothers.

NOTICE TO ALL CHAPTERS

All invitations to host the 1964 and 1965 Spring and Fall District conventions and contests must be on file with the District Secretary before May 1, 1963. Contact the undersigned for full details.

Louis R. Harrington
District Secretary

Following the Leader

By President Bill Hansen

The third District HEP session was held on March 16th at Wayne, Michigan. As was the case with similar sessions held in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, and Grand Rapids, the attendance was disappointing; however, the enthusiasm displayed proved to be a compensating factor.



Many interesting and constructive criticisms have been received concerning the three sessions. All of these have been made a matter of record and will be carefully studied and evaluated with respect to the planning of the 1964 sessions.

I wish to take this opportunity to express my personal appreciation to all the Michigan Barbershoppers who worked so diligently in planning and staging the District HEP sessions.

* * * * *

For the past several years I have been receiving publications of many other Districts in the Society. Regardless of size, shape, or format, each publication is interesting and well worth reading. I have noted, with great interest, that several of the Districts carry on what seems to be a running, friendly feud on one issue or another, usually pertaining to membership. Since the beginning of the year, many of the District presidents have challenged each other to a membership duel. I certainly do not find fault with such procedures and I believe they serve a good purpose.

I have purposely refrained from issuing a challenge to any other District president regarding membership because I firmly believe the Michigan District, strictly on the basis of pride, can prove itself to be a leader in the acquisition of new members and retention of established members.

How about it, fella's - are you with me? Let's show the rest of the Society what kind of pride we have in our own District.

RUDY HART TO OPEN SEMINAR ON JUDGING

Whether you are a quartet man, arranger, old-timer or newcomer, crow, judge candidate or merely interested in learning more about judging, you won't want to miss the Seminar for Judging in Lansing's Regional Contest. RUDY HART will open the proceedings with a few well-chosen remarks concerning judging activities. The main part of the Seminar will give any barbershopper a chance to sit down with the Contest Judges and Judge Candidates to discuss the fine points of judging.



Coming Events

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

April 20, 1963	Great Lakes Invitational, Grand Rapids
May 3, 4, 5, 1963	REGIONAL CONTEST, Lansing
May 11, 1963	Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario Parade
May 11, 1963	Coldwater Parade
May 17, 1963	Holland Parade
May 18, 1963	Bush League Contest, Boyne City
June 8, 1963	Utica Parade
July 2-6, 1963	INTERNATIONAL CONTEST Toronto, Canada
August 17, 1963	Oscoda County Parade
September 21, 1963	Blue Water Parade, South Haven
September 28, 1963	Fruit Belt Parade
September 28, 1963	Gratiot County Parade
October 11, 12, 13,	DISTRICT CONTEST, Holland
October 19, 1963	Lansing Parade
October 26, 1963	Oakland County Show
November 2, 1963	Detroit Chapter Parade
December 7, 1963	Holly-Fenton Parade
February 15, 1964	Niles-Buchanan Parade
March 21, 1964	Battle Creek Parade
April 4, 1964	Great Lakes Invitational, Grand Rapids
June 6, 1964	Utica Parade

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