

Oct '63

OCTOBER 1963

michigan

# troubadour



*JOHN MORRIS*

"NOW SINCE WE LOST THE CONTEST IN  
HOLLAND I SUPPOSE YOU ALL EXPECT  
A GOOD CHEWING OUT."

# PIONEER



# DISTRICT

October, 1963

## THE MICHIGAN TROUBADOUR

Vol. 13 No. 7

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Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop

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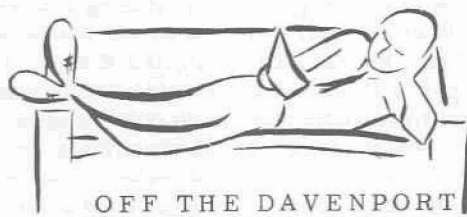
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This issue is somewhat smaller than the last issue, and we're of the opinion that next month's issue will probably be a whopper. We anticipate no news shortage in November as chapters submit their views of the wonderful Holland convention and we salute the new Michigan District Quartet Champions and our chorus picked to represent this District in International competition.



We, as a District, as a Society, are saddened by the loss of Ray Hall of Harmony Halls of Grand Rapids fame. Ray suffered a fatal heart attack September 20.

We are continuing the series by Mark Roberts on the history of our District and while it is excellent reading, we feel that it would also be interesting to see pictures of such quartets as the "Saw Dust Four", the "State Highway Four", the "Sing Sing Singers", etc. Also, many would like to see pics of such men as Carroll Adams, Ed Schwoppe, Joe Wolff, Gordon Grant, and others who contributed so much to our organization. Mark Roberts is doing a marvelous job, but we can help a bit too. . . loan some pic (we'll return them) to YOUR Troubadour.

Our thanks to Oakland County Chapter member and top-top notch cartoonist John Morris for his very enjoyable ORIGINAL Barbershop cartoons. You can look forward to more of John's cartoons in the upcoming issues.

Taken from Jackson "Barbershop Notes" bulletin as submitted by Clarence Wenman

### JACKSON CHORUS SINGS FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN

"I felt sorry for myself, because I had no shoes  
Until I met a man who had no feet."

"There but for the grace of God, go I or mine."

These are but two of the many thoughts that went through the minds of those who had the privilege of singing for the crippled children at the camp (for Crippled and Handicapped Children) last Monday night. I say privileged, because we who are Barbershoppers are surely privileged to be able to give of our talents as we did on this night. Our Chorus is not the best in the District but no chorus ever sounded better than ours did. You had only to see the face of just one of those kids light up while we sang to know that we were the best ever. At least for that one evening we couldn't be beat. If ever a reason for being a Barbershopper was needed, we had it then. And I truly believe that everyone who sang in the longest program we ever put on (two hours at least) got more of a lift out of it than the kids did. To those that went, a large WELL DONE; and for those that did not make it, our condolences.

Co-Editors Sam Cushman and Bill Boyden

# MICHIGAN SINGS

By Roger Craig

Early in 1960 a quartet was organized that promised to be THE Michigan District quartet to contend with in future years. Many promising groups are organized each year but this one fulfilled its promise. . . and then some. The Auto-Towners traveled to Boyne City only one month after its first rehearsal and walked off with the 1960 Bush League Spit-Tune. In October of the same year they were second to the Aire-Males in the District Contest and that was the only Michigan contest, Regional or District, in which they have not finished first.



The Auto-Towners were named Michigan Champs in 1961 and they have represented our District in International Contests at Philadelphia, Kansas City and Toronto finishing 16th, 9th and 8th respectively. Finishing in the top ten has placed them on the last two Decca recordings of the Society's Finalists and their own Chord album "Let's Hear it From the Auto-Towners" is a top barbershop seller. The quartet's popularity has taken them literally all over the Society.

As if these accomplishments were not enough, they are also loyal and active members of the Dearborn "Chord-O-matics" Chorus and have performed numerous times with the chorus on package shows and at the Dearborn Veteran's Hospital. Dominic Palmieri sings tenor (a real barber), Glenn Van Tassell sings lead (an old pro from the Wolverines and Treble Makers quartets), Clint Bostick sings bari (a real pro from the Spell-Binders vocal group that backed up Patti Page and Vic Damone), and Carl Dahlke sings bass (the musical "brains" of the group).

The October tag of the month is "Cuddle Up a Little Closer" and Carl's unique treatment of this little gem helped them gain honors in International Competition. This one is a little high for you tenors and leads so tighten your belt and pull out the stops. You will find it is worth the effort. The Michigan District is justly proud of the Auto-Towners for they have shown the whole Society that MICHIGAN SINGS.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

A reminder that the International Quartet Contest Quota Deadline has been changed from 5:00 p.m. February 28th, to 5:00 p.m. December 31st of each year.

Official membership reporting cards must arrive in International Headquarters no later than 5:00 p.m. of the last business day of December 1963.

These quartet quotas will be subject to review pending receipt of payment of per capita billings for the 4th quarter of 1963.





# THE MICHIGAN DISTRICT AND ITS MEN OF HARMONY



By Mark P. Roberts

## THE FIRST DISTRICT SPONSORED CONTEST

On March 9, 1941, the first State or District Quartet Contest ever held under S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. auspices was hosted by the Grand Rapids Chapter. Again the Ballroom of the Pantlind Hotel was the scene and some 28 quartets went through their paces for a distinguished and talented panel of judges composed of Cy Perkins, Phil Embury, Frank Thorne, Maurice Reagan and Robert Hamp. The judges at that time had no written rules or guide lines, so they had to figure out a system of grading and categories before the contest. Some of their findings went into the rules later adopted and are still a part of our judging rules. The Master of Ceremonies for the contest was our Founder, O. C. Cash, who came up from Oklahoma for the occasion and he enjoyed every minute of it. The contest winners down to five places were:

- 1st. The Saw Dust Four of Muskegon (Len Horton, Ray Johnson, Bill Griffith and George Hansen)
- 2nd. Detroit Turners (Jim Creed, Ed Pazik, Mark Roberts and Wally Joure)
- 3rd. Legion Four of Detroit (Monty Marsden, Al Frank, Glenn Shields and Howard Tubbs)
- 4th. Big Four of Detroit (Hugh Ward, LeRoy Mc Kinney, Bob Weil and Joe Wolff)
- 5th. The Songmasters of Lansing (Harold McAttee is the only one of the original Songmasters remembered by the scribe)

This contest was well handled by the Grand Rapids crew and was an unqualified success which helped to assure the continuation of the District Contest as an annual fixture. While the singing at that time did not measure up to today's standards because no one would have thought of practicing and working at it the way today's quartets do, the singing was more interesting in many ways and particularly as to musical arrangements. There were no published arrangements in those days and practically all quartets used their own arrangements. Thus we did not have a note for note rendition of the same songs by different quartets such as we quite frequently have in today's contests. We also heard more lyric tenor voices and big booming basses which, again, is another story. The 1941 Contest was a stag affair, the last, by the way, and we were still carrying on in the grand tradition of Barbershop singing. It was a man's world - we said, but our ladies were becoming inquisitive about our activities and why shouldn't they when some of them had been led to believe that our meetings lasted from Friday evening until Saturday at noon. We know, of course, that Barbershoppers have the most tolerant women in the world and we were not the least bit apprehensive as to their acceptance of our music. We were not sure at all of women generally but, as might have been expected, we found some who had a genuine liking for our music, some who just liked to be around men, the singing kind or otherwise, and some who despised it but gritted their teeth and bore with it in a brave attempt to be agreeable. Some gals decided that

they too wanted to participate in our singing and we even had attempts to enter their quartets in our contests and, in one case, four gals seriously threatened to get a Court order to compel us to accept their entry in our competition. We stood bravely by our "male only" eligibility rules because, otherwise, we could visualize a far more sinister situation that would develop. That would be when we went home some evening to inform the little woman that the new tenor in the quartet was really a shapely blond soprano, and the lead was a gorgeous red head whose chest expansion, when she took a big breath for that "Sweet Sixteen" swipe, was both amazing and delightful. This kind of hanky-panky could have led to arsenic in the breakfast coffee as one of the more gentle forms of exterminating Barbershoppers. Eventually--and fortunately--The Sweet Adelines was organized and the frustrated femmes found an organized outlet for their singing and, outwardly at least, a happy harmony coexistence was established between our Society and the Adelines which continues to the present.

## MICHIGAN GAINS STATURE

Michigan had no quartets in the National Contests of 1939 and 1940 but in St. Louis in 1941 Michigan's two top rated quartets, the District Champion Saw Dust Four and the runner-up Detroit Turners com-

STATEMENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, JULY 2, 1946 AND JUNE 11, 1960 (74 STAT. 208) SHOWING THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION OF THE MICHIGAN TROUBADOUR.

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peted. While our two quartets did not come back bemedalled, they were finalists and we garnered both the National Presidency and the National Convention and Contest for 1942. Carroll Adams of the Detroit Chapter was our man who took over the top S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. job and Grand Rapids was awarded the convention and contest. We also placed three men on the National Board of Directors when Roscoe Bennett, Ed Schwoppe and Joe Wolff were elected to this high office.

Grand Rapids staged the biggest and best convention yet held and filled their Civic Auditorium with listeners for the big show. Our District also advanced musically when we placed five quartets in the finals. These were the Detroit Turners, Hall Brothers of Grand Rapids, Accoustical Persecuting Four of Jack-

son, Port City Four of Muskegon and the Gay Nineties of Kalamazoo. Other Michigan Quartets in this contest were the Pleasure Four, Strollers, American Legion Four, Banner Four (later to become the Progressives and Frankenmuth Quartet) and Dubious Four, all of Detroit, and the Old Timers, Muskie Musikords and Saw Dust Four of Muskegon; the Roundhouse Four and Dreamers of Grand Rapids, the State Highway Four of Lansing, the Ballad Benders of Charlevoix, the Variety Four of Birmingham, the Four Jewells of Flint, the Owosso Elks and the Four Oaks of Royal Oak. The reader may wonder how we got so many District quartets into the National contest. In those days there were no elimination contests and any quartet was eligible to compete. While this system, quite obviously, did not upgrade the standard of contest singing, it was more fun for everyone and particularly for the many quartets which entered merely for the fun of competing and not with the idea of taking honors. In some ways this system served the purpose of "preserving and encouraging" our kind of singing much better than the present arrangement because it provided fun, fulfillment and fellowship for a greater number of society members.

The Ten Year History of the Society states that the dearth of top tenors made it necessary that we have a rule barring anyone from singing in more than one competing quartet, but this rule was not adopted until after the National Contest at Grand Rapids where the writer sang with two competing quartets, the Dubious Four with Tim Weber, Mort Gittleman and Joe Wolff, and the finalist Detroit Turners. Maybe the officials decided that I was singing tenor but I thought it was baritone. In any event, being the only Society member to sing with two quartets in the same International contest has not brought me a Nobel Prize, either for promoting harmony or interfering with it, and I mention it here merely because it is necessary nowadays to cling to whatever small distinctions that are left. Another incident at Grand Rapids that year was that Jim Creed, well remembered for his high lyric tenor voice, sang in the prelims and finals without a tooth in his head. Jim's new dentures were not ready but he was, so he became the only "toothless tenor" on record in an International contest. I never did find out how the Stage Presence Judges scored this lack of uniformity - three guys with teeth and one without but an obvious correction under these circumstances would be for the other three members of the quartet to have all their teeth yanked out.

One of the best decisions ever made by S.P.E.B.S. Q.S.A. was to appoint Carroll Adams as International Secretary following his term as International President in 1942. While most of us were too busy singing and enjoying ourselves to pay much attention to the administrative problems created by the rapid growth of the Society, Carroll was well aware of them and he proceeded to bring some order out of chaos by organizing an efficient International office. In the process, Carroll moved the Society, lock, stock and barrel to Detroit and established headquarters there and made Michigan the center of Barbershopping. While Adams was surrounded here and assisted by a group of Barbershoppers who were second to none in numbers, enthusiasm and dedication, it still was because of his vision, enterprise and hard work that Michigan became

the leader in all things Barbershop. While we have every reason to be proud of the history of the Michigan District and the many great Barbershoppers who have contributed to this history, let us reserve a special niche for Carroll Adams, a truly great one.

At one time, Michigan was the leader in membership, in number of chapters, in number of quartets and in just about every facet of Barbershopping that could be counted, weighed or measured. We have hosted four International Contests and Conventions, ours was the first District and we had the first District contest; our Detroit Chapter held the first Parade of Quartets and we were the first to have a local association of chapters (now called areas.) We have produced more than our share of International Officers and Board members and Committee heads. Even today the Michigan District rates high when the ratio of Barbershoppers to the general population of the District is considered. A District with a population of twenty million should have more Barbershoppers than one with eight million.

#### EARLY CONTESTS AND CONVENTIONS

During the early years, the District Contests and District Conventions and Meetings were held separately, the contests in mid-winter and the meetings in the summer. There were no International Preliminaries until 1945 when sectional preliminaries were held and these were repeated in 1946 and 1947. The first District Preliminaries were held in 1948, following which the Districts two business meetings were held in conjunction with the spring (International Preliminaries) and the fall (District Quartet Contest).

Following the 1940 and 1941 contests, the District did not hold a contest in 1942 but concentrated on the National Contest at Grand Rapids. A District meeting was held in 1942, however, and Joseph P. Wolff of Detroit, the first President of our first Chapter, was elected District President and Johnny Buitendorp of Muskegon was made Secretary. Joe Wolff made a strong talk at this meeting against commercializing



Barbershop singing and this wise counsel should be heeded today when the product, all too often, is commercialized all out of proportion to our needs to preserve and encourage our kind of singing.

The 1943 District Contest was held in Saginaw on February 23rd. The Saginaw officers were Carl Wood, J. George O'Brien, Gordon Grant and Ray Campau, all well known and to become even better known in District affairs. Twenty-three quartets responded to the call despite a blizzard and sub-zero temperature and the added impediment of wartime travel restrictions. The Unheard of Four, with Len Horton and Bill Griffith of the old champion Saw Dust Four plus Henry Klooster and Johnny Buitendorp, took top honors. Thus, Horton and Griffith were on the championship team three years running which is "unheard" of even if the quartet wasn't. 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th place winners respectively were the Accoustical Persecutin' Four of Jackson (Hodgeboom, Breitmeyer, Farrand and Colestock,) the Variety Four of Birmingham (Carruthers, Stiers, Livingston and Langlois,) the Detroit Turners (Creed, Pazik, Roberts and Joure,) the Harmony Hounds of Detroit (Creed, DeWolfe, Roberts and Wolff). Again rule changes were necessary because Roberts, along with Jim Creed, sang with the last two named quartets and the District Contest Rules were made to conform to the International rules prohibiting a contestant from singing in more than one competing quartet. Maybe Roberts wasn't singing very good but he was sure singing a lot and causing rule changes as a result. A couple of days after this contest it was discovered that a miscalculation had been made in the scoring and that the Legion Four of Detroit (Wrobbel, Marsden, Shields and Tubbs) should have been placed somewhere in the first five, but by then everyone had sobered up and had lost interest. The Saginaw Chapter and the Bancroft Hotel teamed up to make this a memorable affair.

The 1944 District Contest was held in February in Muskegon, the home town of Frank Morse who had succeeded Joe Wolff as District President. Other officers for 1943-44 were Carleton Scott, Gordon Grant, and Walter Bradley. The contest belonged to the Harmony Halls of Grand Rapids with Ed Gaikema, Bob Hazenburg, Ray Hall and Gordon Hall and which had attained medalist status at the 1943 International Contest in Chicago a few months earlier. In second place was the Vets Four of Kalamazoo (Herrington, Vaughn, Spicketts and Johnson) and in third the Ambassadors of Detroit (Scott, Marsden, Jones and Wolff). The Gay Nineties of Kalamazoo (Rushmore, Leonard, Floyd Deem and Donald Deem) took fourth place and in fifth place was the Continentals of Muskegon (Freye, Bishop, Rex Weaver and Peterson).

The Society became International in name and in fact in March of 1944 when the Windsor, Ontario, Chapter was organized. The Canadians took to Barbershopping with great enthusiasm and immediately started organizing other chapters in the area. When the Ontario District was organized, Windsor became a part of that District but their inter-society activities remained tied more to Michigan than Ontario and, on their own petition, Windsor became a part of the Michigan District in 1959. This arrangement apparently is working out well with this Chapter and the District has benefited by having this fine group of Barbershoppers associated with it. (to be continued)

## The Craftsman



by  
SAM STAHL  
Director, Atlanta Chorus


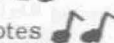
Re-printed from Dixie "Rebel Rouser".



One of the most important things any Barbershopper needs to know is the time signature -- the two figures written like a fraction which appear right after the key signature at the beginning of an arrangement.

The top figure tells how many beats there are to a measure. The bottom figure tells the value of the note that gets one beat. Thus:  $\frac{4}{4}$  is four quarter notes to a measure;  $\frac{2}{4}$  is two quarter notes to a measure;  $\frac{6}{8}$  is six eighth notes to a measure. Here's a table of note values:







Whole note  equals two half notes 

Half note  equals two quarter notes 

Quarter note  equals two eighth notes 

Eighth note  equals two sixteenths 









A dot behind a note adds half the value of the note it follows. Thus:

 equals   
 equals   
 equals 








A triplet means that three notes are sung with the time value of the one note of the next larger value.

Thus:  equals   
 equals 

Knowing rhythm (beat and time values) theoretically is not enough. You've got to learn to feel it. And the best way to do that is to tap the steady meter with your hand or foot and sing the note values on a syllable like "Ta ta ta." For example:

	TA	TA	TA	TA	TA	TA	TA		
Sing									
Beat	$\frac{3}{4}$								
	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3

	TA	TA	TA	TA	TA	TA			
Sing									
Beat									
	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3

Do you know what song this rhythmic pattern represents? Try to figure it out before you look at the answer at the bottom of this article. Practice this tap and sing method (on one pitch, not the melody or your voice part) on each new song that the chorus is learning.

Of course, you'll soon find that the chorus director is messing up the whole pattern by "interpretation". But the important thing is that you've got to know the strict meter before you start to interpret. Otherwise, you'll fail to project the rhythmic feeling of the song (and Arrangement Judges don't like that).

Ans.: "Oh, How I Miss You Tonight."



# LIGHT UNDER THE BASKET

By Bill Smyth

I had the extreme pleasure of being invited to the Illinois District Convention at the Edgewater Beach Hotel in Chicago, the weekend of September 20th. It was my privilege to address the P.R.O.B.E. meeting the morning of the 21st. I was impressed by the fine attendance and the surprising amount of enthusiastic support for the P.R.O.B.E. organization in Illinois.

I would like to devote my column this month to the wonderful article entitled "Good Publicity or File 13", by Ron Parsons, editor of the Sterling-Rock Falls, Illinois Chapter Bulletin. Ron is on the executive staff of the Sterling Gazette.

## GOOD PUBLICITY. . . .OR FILE 13

By Ronald E. Parsons,  
Illinois

The assignment of securing publicity for your Barbershop Chapter is perhaps one of the most important appointments your officers will make. Lack of publicity or the means of securing same, can have a definite affect on the future of your chapter.

The why and wherefor of obtaining good publicity can be answered in this simple manner; a sufficient amount of well-planned publicity is an excellent means to tell thousands of people the many advantages and fine programs of fun, fellowship, musical education and enjoyment that is shared by your chapter and other members of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc. In addition to reaching a vast audience, publicity is a highly desirable factor in the recruiting of new members to your chapter.

There are numerous ways and means for a chapter to obtain or purchase publicity through such mediums as: newspapers, radio, television, highway signs, place mats, posters, match book covers, billboards, etc.

This article deals with the "free" publicity that may be obtained from your local newspaper. Today, statistics show and prove that the best mediums of communication are the newspaper, radio and television sources. The before mentioned mediums are the leaders in their field, this due directly to their enormous coverage and the vast audience they serve daily.

In order to enjoy continued growth, we believe the Barbershop organization must regularly and constantly secure wholesome and an abundant supply of publicity. This publicity is necessary to enable us to present to the public and future Barbershop members, a most favorable and lasting impression hoping to create the desire to become an active part of this growing and educational singing organization.

While the field of publicity covers a vast and perhaps

somewhat complicated area, we would like to dwell on the newspaper variety and the proper means and approach for securing these necessary inches of valuable space for our chapter events and promotions. In the advertising world the saying is: "Advertise. . . or be forgotten," and this same saying holds true concerning publicity. We venture to say that very few organizations can attain any degree of success without the help of continuous publicity.

We start with the fact that your chapter must have an able and active public relations officer who will assume the duties of publicity procurement. A trained man is your best bet here (if you are fortunate enough to have one in your chapter), however, this is not a necessary requirement. Any man in your chapter that has the interest, can and will make a first class publicity man with a little help and know-how.

The goal for any public relations man is merely the establishment of regularly scheduled, good and practical publicity that will tell your chapter's Barbershop story and program in a pleasing manner. This can be best accomplished by news stories, pictures, and advertising in your local newspaper.

Every public relations or publicity man should definitely be aware of the DO'S and DON'TS in obtaining news coverage. Therefore, from our past newspaper experience we will list some of the cardinal rules hoping they will benefit you and your chapter.

DO. . . Telephone the editor of your local newspaper and make an appointment for a short meeting. In this way, you will be sure of meeting him on time allotted solely for this purpose. This first SHORT meeting is most important as you inform the editor of your purpose and the fact you represent a local Barbershop chapter as public relations man.

DON'T . . . Enter the newspaper office to see an editor without a pre-arranged appointment. A newspaper editor is a busy man working on a time schedule that does not permit too many time consuming visits. Remember, all newspapers have exacting time deadlines to be met.

DO. . . Inform the editor who you are in a brief social visit and you wish to make his acquaintance. Make this first meeting courteous and to the point. The impression you leave at this meeting can determine and affect your future news coverage for your chapter.

DON'T. . . Tell an editor what you want in the line of publicity nor commit the sin of criticising the quality or quantity of past publicity received from the newspaper. Remember, you are dealing with a professional

## THE REBEL ROUSER COLORING BOOK



This is a director. He has just looked over the chorus before a show. He has one tenor, three leads, eleven baris and sixteen bases. Color him dejected and frantic. If you come to practice regularly and always show up for every performance because you know how important you are, you may turn the corners of his mouth up and color him smiling.



When he hits a high note, he rears back and cuts loose. Unless the director is hanging from the ceiling, he can't see him. Color him independent.



This is a judge. He has just heard two leads and two baris in one quartet. Color him shook up.

**Saturday, Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**at 8:15 P.M.**

**MICHIGAN'S GREATEST  
ALL-STAR MUSICALE**

**A Solid Evening of Solid Singing**

**FEATURING TOPNOTCH  
BARBERSHOP QUARTETS**

24th Annual Concert and Parade of Barbershop Quartets  
presented by Detroit Chapter of The Society  
for the Preservation and Encouragement  
of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

at the

**Henry and Edsel Ford Auditorium**

Woodward at Jefferson

★

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and expert in his field and he knows exactly how many inches of space a story is worth and will require.

DO. . . Tell the editor that as public relations man for your chapter you will be most happy to send him timely, important and interesting Barbershop news items as they occur. Assure him a release date will be observed by all media.

DON'T. . . Attempt to tell an editor how you want your items written or compare what some other newspaper has done for you. The editor isn't interested and you are wasting his valuable time.

DO. . . Ask the editor what he considers important and newsworthy items for your chapter publicity. Your local newspaper editor is a specialist along this line and he may be able to give you a number of important and worthwhile tips and facts for your future use. This information is "free" for the asking.

DON'T. . . Ever ask an editor to place your news item in a certain position or on a certain page in the newspaper.

DO. . . Advise the editor that he may change your copy at any time for reasons of grammar, brevity, etc. The newspaper has skilled composition men to make decisions on style and makeup. Your story will be given the same consideration as other news material for publication. Don't overuse capital letters to stress importance in your items as they will be changed by the editor.

DON'T. . . Tell an editor to print your news story as you have written it remembering that the editor is a professional writer and he will give you the best possible writing depending on your story's length, context and importance.

DO. . . Inform the editor in advance that you will try to send him only the more newsworthy items that will arrive typewritten, double-spaced and using only one side of the paper. Observe the following rules to write your own news story: who, what, when, where and why. Any person can jot down a story using the above rules. From your news item the editor will enlarge and color your story to its best advantage.

DON'T. . . Run into the newspaper office every week just to report a regular meeting or some other minor event for the sake of seeing your chapter's name in print. This is not welcome news, soon becomes monotonous and you will wear out your welcome. . . and fast.

DO. . . See or call the local editor when your chapter has something exceptional to offer. You will receive a much better story and perhaps even a picture, depending on the item itself. Items such as contributions, annual shows, installation of officers, special awards and contests are always good for publication.

DON'T. . . Call the newspaper editor and request a picture taken in the next half hour or so. . . because you won't get it. And never call an editor at his home. No news item you have is that important that it can't wait until working hours the next day.

DO. . . When requesting a picture, call the editor a week or at least three days in advance. The editor will then make the proper arrangements with his photo department and it's strictly his decision on whether the event is worth a picture. If you have your own pictures for newspaper, don't take in an 8 x 10 for a



one column picture.

DO. . . Either by special note or personal call, let the editor know that you and your chapter appreciate the publicity given by the newspaper. This is just common courtesy and it will help you in your future dealings with the newspaper. Complimentary show tickets are always a good investment for newspaper editors or reporters.

DON'T. . . Take the newspaper and its editor for granted. The editor wants news and is more than willing to cooperate to get it, but he is NOT obligated to your organization. To be sure, it's an editor's job to write and edit news, however, your courtesy and understanding of the rules will eventually reap rich rewards for your chapter in the securing of necessary inches of newspaper space.

We realize that this is a rather lengthy article and would be difficult for any person to remember. However, we do offer this material with the hope that some of this information will help to attain the valuable and free inches of newspaper publicity that is so necessary as to promote better Barbershop relations.

# Chapter News

## LANSING

Chapter Reporter:  
R. G. Wilkins

It is getting Fall and that indicates more than just football in Lansing. It means that it is show time again. This year we are going to take a good section of our own show with our own package minstrel show. It is coming fine. Maybe after the show we could put it on for some Area chapters.

Our meetings are gaining in numbers present; it seems good. We are also getting some new members on our rolls. Maybe everyone wants to get a tie tac. Let's keep working on new men.

I'll report in the next issue on our show. Hope it's good.

## NILES - BUCHANAN

Chapter Reporter:  
Vic Vigansky

The Gateway Chorus is preparing for the big contest in Holland and how this chorus fared should be known when this goes to press. It was quite a struggle to round up the chorus which seemed very intent on building houses, farming, working late at the office, and breeding flatteraps, and blasted flatteraps at that. It appears at the time of writing this that the chapter will field a solid chorus in Holland.

The Bucksters will be facing the moment of truth in the quartet division at Holland. They are getting their kicks preparing for this moment.

Another quartet has been formed and may be registered as this goes to press. Up to this time they still lack a name.

It is a good sign to see two new quartets spring up within the chapter. At the same time, it's unfortunate to see those troupers, the Stateliners, hang up their pitchpipe.

Fall and winter activities are being planned with two

events planned for the latter part of October. An Area Whing Ding with Fruit Belt and Blue Water Chapters and a visit to the Constantine Chapter are already on the calendar. So. . . in the big white bus. . . away we go.

## WINDSOR

Chapter Reporter:  
Dick Ryan

September meetings in Windsor were two of the best meetings we have had for sometime (our meetings are always good), but these were something special. September 14th was a visitation from the Pontiac Chapter and several quartets were in attendance including the 4-Fits.

Our September 24th meeting was a "Guest Night". Every member that brought a guest was admitted free and, I must say, our door fees that night were very small. We had twenty-seven guests (this is no reflection on the financial position of our membership).

A special vote of thanks is in order for the following quartets who also attended the Tom Steel night in Redford: The Curbstone Serenaders, the 4-Fits, the Wonderlads, the Spartans, and our own Aire Knights. All showed our guests what Barbershopping is-- tremendous support, eh?

I am sure I speak for all Windsor members when I say we are proud and happy to belong to the Michigan (Pioneer) District.

## JACKSON

Chapter Reporter:  
Ed Hilden

By this publication, the Holland Contest will be over, but Barbershoppers will be still acclaiming the terrific talent and entertainment enjoyed there, I'm certain.

Members visited Clayton Martin at his home on two occasions. Clay had an operation on his baby toe and he has to keep his foot up most of the time. In such a position he has trouble with the high notes.

J. D. Honeywell is ill at home in Albion. The gang sends best wishes for a quick recovery, J. D.

Clarence Melchert is back from his check-up (A-OK) at Mayo. He was in rare form at the last meeting, September 27th.

Jackson and Hudson Chapters enjoyed golfing at Hudson September 21 and had much fun at a potluck later in the evening at the "Station". Bill Boyden won a beautiful set of fur-lined snuggles for his woods.

Received an invitation from Ron Curtis for our chapter to visit Ionia on Friday November 1st. We'll be there, Ron, so alert the local constabulary.

And we're going to Windsor by bus on November 8th, so get your reservation made now.

Don't forget: Jackson Show, January 25, 1964.

## DEARBORN

Chapter Reporter:  
Ed Conn

September, and the "Chapter of Champions" is back at full strength. We had a full house September 13 for our regular meeting, about 80 men. Bob Rock was master of ceremonies. This was Friday the 13th and Bob used this theme for the meeting. Make-up quartets were given names such as the Black Cat Four, Talismen, Cauldron Stirrers, and Hearse Chasers. The 13th man to register for the evening, Clyde Lewis, was designated as judge. His astute ear for fine music

gave the nod to an outstanding quartet, the Hearse Chasers. A lucky rabbit's foot was given each Hearse Chaser as their prize. This was indeed an outstanding meeting, enjoyed by all.

September 27th Dearborn visited Redford. This was Tom Steel's last night as their leader. He starts a new position in New York on October 1st. Many glowing tributes were given Tom from individuals, quartets, and directors. Everyone who has been associated with Tom in Barbershop has benefited by his knowledge and unwavering devotion to teaching. His precise knowledge was tempered by tolerance for other people's mistakes. He has done as much if not more for Barbershop in the Detroit area than any other man. It is like the passing of an era. He will be sorely missed by all and especially by the Detroit Taggers. A sincere Best Wishes to Tom in his new position in New York.

The Dearborn Chorus performs September 30th at the Detroit Yacht Club for the National Restaurant Owners Ass'n. entertaining 150 guests from Europe. October the 19th we perform for the Industrial Management Clubs of Detroit at Ford Motor Co. Central Staff Building.

Our next regular meeting is delayed one week by the Regional Contest in Holland. It will be held on October 18th at our meeting hall, 4211 Maple, Dearborn. The Transitoes M.C. Hope to see you there and "watch the chords go by."

## FLINT

Chapter Reporter:  
Les. Lang

The Flint Chapter enjoyed an active month of September which included visitations to Saginaw to hear the wonderful chords of the Chord Counts, Extension Chords, Delta Aires, and Cross Towners plus a preview of the Little International Convention at Holland October 11, 12, 13. Lots of woodshedding and good food and refreshments.

A visit to the Holly-Fenton Picnic turned out to be a real whing-ding with everyone having a ball.

A Ladies Night at our regular meeting place, Croation Hall, with guest quartet, the Resonaires of Pontiac, plus a surprise quartet from our own chapter was FUN, FUN, FUN. We had such a good time at this affair that we are having another ladies night November 2nd, same place. Some guest quartets. Who? Why not pay us a visit on that night and see.

Our chapter has been kicking around the idea of having food on our "HARMONY NIGHTS" (regular meeting nights to the layman), but so far we have not kicked the lid off any food. So, for the month of November, this reporter is going to carry his lunch; and with the size of his lunch bucket, there should be enough for all. So, if you like to eat, after a couple of hours of harmony and refreshments, join us. You can do no worse than develop ptomaine.

Our regular "Harmony Nights" are the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 8:00 p.m. at the Croation Hall, 529 S. Dort Hwy., Flint. (Ideally located half way between the fishing to the north and the beautiful gals to the south.

## GREENVILLE

Chapter Reporter:  
Bob Hansen

Chapter activities during September have centered around preparing the chorus for the District Contest at Holland. Along with the two and three hour chorus rehearsals every Monday night, we have managed to

entertain and be entertained by several guests.

The "Occasional Four" dropped in for a visit while we were entertaining the newly organized Greenville Sweet Adelines. Needless to say, the foursome from Muskegon was a welcome addition to the evening's entertainment.

On September 23rd the Greenville Chapter witnessed a "sneak preview" of one of the District's newest quartets--the Four Masters from the Muskegon Chapter. Tom Dann and company had the Greenville members rolling on the floor with their rendition of "Young Mac Donald Had a Farm". They also broke up the show in Alma for the Gratiot County Chapter. Without a doubt, they are one of the most entertaining quartets ever seen or heard in this area.

Visitors during the month included Ed Gaikema from the Grand Rapids Chapter.

Congratulations go out to the Gratiot County Chapter for an excellent show and afterglow on September 28th. With the For-Tune Tellers, Four Masters, and Banjo-tainers, who could ask for anything more.

The nominating committee, consisting of Orrin Wood, Chairman; Larry Brown and Chuck Vining, have submitted their nominations and the election of officers will be held on Monday, October 28th.

Bob Early, lead, is the newest chapter member. A Men of Note award goes out to Orrin Wood for signing Bob up.

The chorus has four singing engagements during October, plus, of course, the chorus contest in Holland on October 12th.

We sang on October 2nd and 3rd for a Gibson Dealers' meeting held by Vining Sales of Greenville; on October 8th for a Farm Bureau banquet; and on October 26th for a Federal Mogul open house. All Greenville Barbershop Chorus engagements are sponsored by the Commercial State Savings Bank of Greenville.

Stop in and see us. We meet every Monday at 8 p.m. at the bank.

## GROSSE POINTE

Chapter Reporter:  
Herbert Reed

Grosse Pointe starts the fall season with a friendly wave of the hand to an enjoyable summer of bus trip visits to other chapters and a very successful and entertaining picnic and novice contest. This contest is gaining more entries each year and for the first time was won by one of our own entries composed of George Van DeVelde, tenor; Dick Lysy, lead; Ray McCalpin, bari; and Marv Burke, bass.

Our chorus, The Gleemen, have made a number of worthwhile and enjoyable appearances and our 4-Fits have been in constant demand. In the last three months they have visited 8 chapters and averaged 2 1/2 engagements a week in addition to regular chapter meetings. They are scheduled for the upcoming Detroit and Pontiac parades.

One of our most pleasant functions of the year resulted from a sudden decision to plan a party for members' wives, mothers or sweethearts only. In less than a month our Little Ladies Night was whipped into shape by chapter members. It was one of the nicest parties we've ever had and was held on Saturday evening, September 28th. Starting with cocktails at seven, the party was enjoyed until the wee small hours by 25 couples. The cocktails were served from a bowl carved

# Following the Leader

By President Bill Hansen

During the twenty-two months that I have enjoyed the privilege of serving as president of the Michigan District, I have become increasingly aware of the important part played by each chapter in the successful promotion and operation of the District. Moreover, I have concluded that chapter officers, primarily those having direct contact with District or International headquarters, are the most important segments in our administrative organization. Unless these officers work together and do the various jobs assigned to them, a chapter can not function successfully. By the same token, the District can not function successfully unless all chapters cooperate.



While I have no intention of being partial or of heaping undue credit or criticism, I firmly believe the chapter secretary and the treasurer, from the standpoint of operations as constituted today, are the most important officers in our Society. Naturally, it is incumbent upon the chapter president to assure that these officers perform their jobs. Unless the secretary and the treasurer perform their tasks promptly and completely, the results can prove detrimental to the success of the District. For example, our District suffered the loss of one quartet in the recent International competition because several chapter trea-

surers, or possibly secretaries, failed to remit International dues before the deadline date.

Failure to remit International dues promptly has also been responsible for needless District expense. During the month of August, 1963, six chapters failed to remit dues. As such, it was necessary to spend District funds in order to remind these chapters of their delinquencies. Despite this, one chapter was still delinquent a month later and expenditure of District funds was again necessary.

All chapter secretaries are aware that the submission of Quarterly Activities Reports to the International headquarters is mandatory. Yet, as of August, 1963, twenty-two of the thirty-six District chapters had failed to submit their reports for the second quarter. These particular delinquencies reflect adversely on our District, especially, when I am notified by the International headquarters that the Michigan District has submitted the lowest percentage of Quarterly Activities Reports in the entire Society. Such delinquencies have also caused needless time and effort on the part of District officers in having to remind chapter secretaries of their required duties.

It has often been said, and I definitely agree, that Barbershopping is a hobby and should remain as such. However, those who agree to assume responsibilities of office must discipline themselves to carry out their assigned tasks. If unable to continue the job these officers, out of consideration for their fellow chapter members, should resign rather than cause embarrassment to their chapter.

In recent months I have detected an attitude of impatience within the District in that many of our members want to see our District enjoy the position of high regard it once held. This is a healthy attitude and I hope it continues. In my opinion that day will come. However, it will be delayed until such time as every chapter officer, particularly those described above, realize that their contribution to the District and the Society is of the utmost importance.

many enthusiastic prospects were contacted. Our group is back up to 38, and we seem to be ready to go over that magic number this year.

2. The chapter chorus has been working hard under the direction of Don Ware, and appears to be ready to handle all challengers at Holland.

3. After a very successful year under the leadership of Ken Sheridan, we are busy figuring out a way to convince him and his fellow officers to do it again in 1964.

The Utica-Rochester Chapter has just decided, by unanimous vote, to embark on a program to send two deserving young high school male vocalists--one each from Utica and Rochester--to the Fred Waring Music School next summer. These scholarships will be awarded as part of the commencement exercises at the high schools, and we feel that much awareness of barbershopping will be garnered by these selfless gestures.

Our plans were all finalized for a gala benefit show on November 30 for the Crittenton Hospital in Rochester, when we found to our dismay that another group had planned their annual benefit dance on the same night. So we are looking for another date, and will keep you informed.

Come out to the Rochester Country Club on the second and fourth Fridays for the best woodshedding and the best food in the District.

Chapter Reporter:  
Dan Davey

The Utica-Rochester Chapter wishes to announce to the District, at this time, the stupendous news concerning the Sixth Annual Quartetarama to be held on June 16, 1964 in Utica. We have just finalized our plans, and we have come up with the following tremendous bill of fare: The Nighthawks - Second place Int'l. Finalists; The Impostors - Sixth place Int'l. Finalists; The Foremasters - Some of the old Ph.D's in new form.

Add to that four (no less) chapter quartets, plus an octet and the renowned Clintonics Chorus and you have the prime reason for all the flares you see in the sky over our area. This show should rival the Holland District Convention for sheer magnitude of talent.

There are a few other items which are keeping the U-R Chapter buzzing these days--among them:

1. A very successful annual membership meeting on September 13, ably emceed by Jim Bennett. The membership applications are pouring in, and many,

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# 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.)

October 19, 1963	Lansing Parade
October 20, 1963	Branch County Parade Coldwater
November 2, 1963	Detroit Chapter Parade
December 7, 1963	Holly-Fenton Parade
January 18, 1964	Pontiac Parade
January 25, 1964	Jackson Parade
February 8, 1964	Kalamazoo Parade
February 15, 1964	Niles-Buchanan Parade
February 22, 1964	Dearborn Parade
March 7, 1964	Wayne Parade
March 21, 1964	Battle Creek Parade
April 4, 1964	Great Lakes Invitational Grand Rapids
April 18, 1964	Muskegon Parade
May 8-9-10, 1964	REGIONAL CONTEST, Windsor
June 6, 1964	Utica-Rochester Parade

**IMPORTANT:** All address changes should be given to your chapter secretary. Make sure your chapter secretary forwards this info to International (source of our mailing labels). THEN you can be sure Troub will be mailed to the correct address.



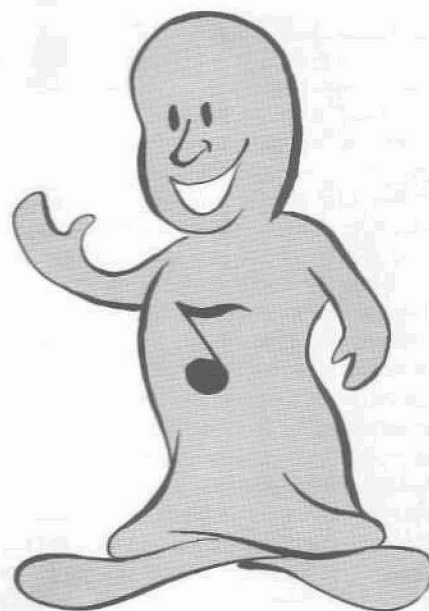
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