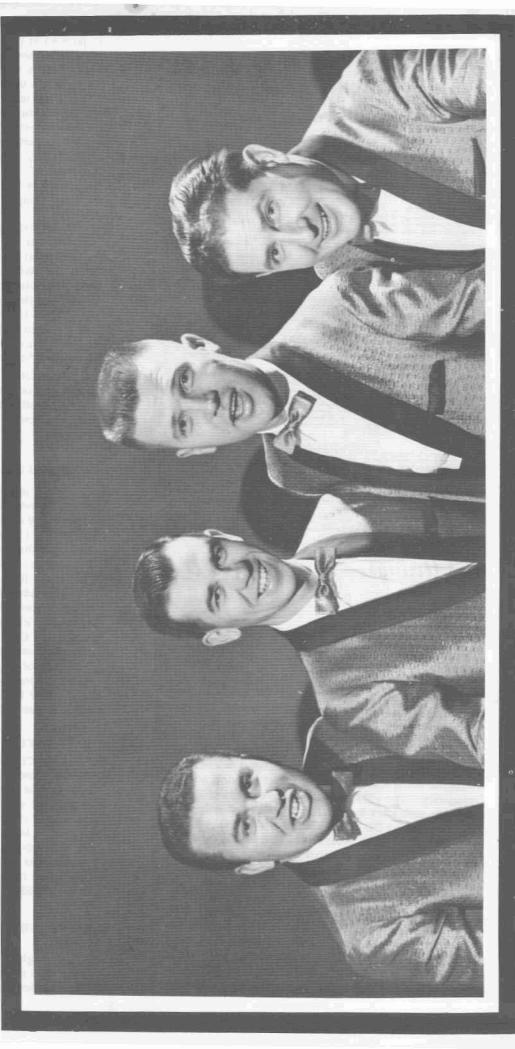
FEBRUARY michigan





VOL. 14 No. 2



Michigan Troubadour

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MAIL ADDRESS CHANGES, UNDELIVERABLE COPIES, SUBSCRIPTION ORDERS AND BUSINESS JACK W. OONE, 528 E. LINCOLN, ZEELAND, MICHICA CORRESPONDENCE TO:

Mamber of PROBE

DISTRICT OFFICERS
PRESIDENT: AI Burgess, 525 Robbins Rd., Grand Haven, Michiga PRESIDENT: AI Burgess, 958 Robbins Rd., Grand Haven, Michigan IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: William Hansen, 357 Cayaga Rd., Bemon Harbar, Michigan VICE PRESIDENT, ZONE I: Eric Schultz, 4388 Country Club Dr., Utics, Michigan VICE PRESIDENT, ZONE 2: Charjes L. Shevwood, 2581 Horton Rd., Jackson, Michigan VICE PRESIDENT, ZONE 3: Bart Tillitt, 2035 Lake Dr., 8.E., Grand Rapids, Michigan VICE PRESIDENT, ZONE 4: Clifford MacLean, P. O. Son 271, Cedarville, Michigan VICE PRESIDENT, ZONE 4: Clifford MacLean, P. O. Son 271, Cedarville, Michigan TREASUREE: John W. Klaiber, 4821 Division, N.W., Commotock Park (EM 1-4128)
SECRETARY: Louis R. Harrington, 2361 First National Bidg., Deirout 48226, (WO 1-1621) INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE: William Hauses, 537 Cayaga Rd., Beston, Harbor, Michigan

AREA I: Bay McCalpin, 71439 Mack Arenue, St. Clair Shores, [PR 8-8822] AREA 2: Michael Mudgett, 8147 Perrin, Garden City, [GA 2-7764] AREA 3: Mel Holdercess, 14900° E. Eight Mile Road, Detroit 48205, (OL. 1-8383) AREA 3: Herbert Benjamin, 3314 Hill, Saginaw, [PL 5-7844] AREA 5: Erry Mast, Pairwiow, Michigan, AREA 6: Are The Hossington, 238 Codar St., Beyon City, [JU 2-7033] AREA 8: Chester Conk, 5: E. 17th St., Holland, [EX 6-7492] AREA 9: Homer Winegardner, Elmwood Rd., Lansing, [IV 2-2375] AREA 10: Dr. Stuart Anderson, 820 Masomber, Greenville, 754-6359 AREA 11: Boyal Earbe, 636 Clinion, South Haven, (666-W) AREA 12: Lowell Wolfe, 58 Wendell, Buttle Crock 40017, [WO 2-3089] AREA 13: Ted Spry, 39 Princess Crescent, Souls St., Marie, Ontario, Canada, [AL 3-5960] AT LARGE: Robert Tracy, 503 W. Central, Mackinaw City, (HE 6-8766)

COMMITTEE HEADS

AWARDS: Louis R. Harrington, 2561 First National Edge, Detroit 48228 AUDITING: Charence Jaiving,
Peoples State Bank, Holland CONVENTION: Louis R. Harrington, 2561 First National Edge, Detroit 48228
CONTEST & TUDGING: O. B. Falls, 1930 Herkinser Dr., Backson CHEDENTIALS: Royal Zerbe, 204 Clinton,
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LONG RANGE PLANNING: Duane H. Mosier, 16156 Harlow, Detroit 48235 NOMINATING: Babert H. Walker,
9139 Fruit Ridge Rd., Sparts PUBLIC RELATIONS: John Cominquory, 770 Woodinen, Jackson QUARTET
PROMOTION: Duncan Hambah, 16120 Kentileid, Detroit 48219 SONG OF THE YEAR: John Hill



The Troubadour woke up one morning last month, looked long and hard into the mirror and decided the district to which it belonged was sick. Not a fatal type sickness but the puffed eyes, drippy nose, run down feeling kind of sickness. After careful deliberation it became convinced that our district has drifted into complacency. The evidence is all around and one does not have to look very far to find it. We need only to admit it, face it and DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT. After more deliberation it was determined that a "check up" was in order. With this in mind a call was sent out to the "doctors" of the district asking for their diagnosis. The symtom chart read something like this: 1. What do you feel to be the pertinent factors in our district's decline from the position of strength it once possessed in international circles? 2. What do you prescribe to improve our condition this year and on a long range rebuilding program? 3. How will you "operate" as a member of the district staff? The overall picture painted here is not pointed at our present or past directors. It

is pointed at you, Joe Barbershopper, and at me.

Let's take just one of many "for instances". You belong to the world's greatest society, made up of the finest bunch of fellows one could ever hope to meet but when is the last time you EARNESTLY TRIED to share this wonderful organization with another. Think what a terrific effect it would have on our district if we each signed up just one member this year. A membership of 3000, fifty more quartets and choruses of 100 voices. Impossible? No, actually easy. Just one member signed up by you is all it would take. Dreaming? Maybe, but I am going to sign up my member in '64. How about vou?

If the "doctors" reports on pages 12 & 13 stimulate in just a few of us, an earnest desire to improve ourselves as individual members of the world's greatest society, if we ask "What can I do to help?", if new quartets are formed to sing "just for the fun of it", if our area "doctors" heed their own observations and work to improve them, if we listen to the "hollers" of our president, we will be in for a great year of harmony and fellowship. Let every member of the Michigan district pledge to himself to "do a little more in '64".

Your editor realizes that the type of reasoning contained in this editorial will raise some bushy eyebrows around the district and so reminds the membership that the pages of the Troubadour are open to anyone and everyone.

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QUARTETS HELP "PAY THE WAY"

Found in this issue of the Troubadour is a full page advertisement featuring some the society's finest quartets. In my efforts to make the Troubadour more self supporting I wrote the district quartets asking them to "help pay the way". The response was gratifying considering the short notice given for acceptance and copy. I hopefully look for more response for the next issue.

This advertisement, which will run monthly, is costing these quartets money. I promised them that extra jobs gleaned from this page would cover their investment. Only the chapters in the district can make me out wrong. I earnestly ask the program and parade chairmen of each chapter to hire these quartets for parades, ladies nights, chapter programs, etc. Let's not think about it Let's do it. These quartets are interested in our district, let us show them we appreciate it.

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WAYNE SEEKS NEW DIRECTOR

Dale Clixby, director of the Wayne Wonderland chorus, announced last week that pressing commitments have forced him to give up the leadership of the chapter chorus. It was under the able guidance of Clixby, that the Wayne chorus earned a fourth place finish in last October's tough district competition. The Wayne chapter sends out an urgent call through the wires of the Troubadour, asking any capable barbershopper who is interested in directing the chorus to call John Linehan at PA 2-0620.

WHAT "THREE'S" IT GONNA BE?

Straight from the lips of Barrie Best comes the wonderful news that the Michigan district will again be represented in international competition by three quar-

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tets. Our international executive director, in a phone conversation, stated that our district gained the needed membership to entitle us to the threesome instead of last year's twosome. This should make this year's regional a wing dinger as there are at least ten quartets who could walk off with the honors. Would be great also to hear the champion Merri Men and Extension Chords in competition again. The regional dates are May 8,9, and 10, plenty of time to put the finishing touches on a few songs.

INTERNATIONAL WANTS CHAPTER BULLETINS

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In a letter received from the "Share the Wealth" editor of the "Harmonizer", Elmer Vorisek asks the chapters of the Michigan district to send him their chapter bulletins. He states that he has received no correspondence from our chapters since October 1963. The Troubadour also would like to receive chapter bulletins. Put us both down on your mailing list, okay? The Troubadour address is listed on page two and Elmer's address is Elmer J. Vorisek, 13614 Maplerow Ave., Cleveland 5, Ohio.

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JOHNSON TO VISIT SIX CHAPTERS

President Burgess announces that Bob Johnson will work the following chapters when he visits the Michigan district in May. The 15th will find him at the Ann Arbor chapter. The 18th at Lansing, the 19th at Flint, the 20th at Mio, the 21st at Battle Creek and the 22nd at Benton Harbor. The chapters in the vicinity are asked to plan to attend these sessions in mass. Mr. Johnson's programs come highly recommended by those who have had the priviledge of attending one.

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AREA FOUR HAS MEMBERSHIP RACE

Herb Benjamin, counselor in area four has a membership race going on between the chapters in his area, Holly-Fenton, Flint and Saginaw. Here is how it works. The chapter that has signed up the greatest number of new members and has the highest percentage of attendance at meetings by the end of March, 1964, is declared winner. The losing two chapters will have to throw a "blast" for the winner. Benjamin will keep the district informed as to progress made in the race and to the over-all effect it has on increasing membership.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Due to change in Editor of this magazine: All news (chapter news - columns - pictures - etc.) and business correspondence should be sent to:

> JACK W. OONK 526 E. LINCOLN AVE. ZEELAND, MICHIGAN

COPY DEADLINE THE 3rd OF THE MONTH

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'Bush League' Offers More In '64

The Boyne City chapter, a workhorse in the north country since 1944 and host of the "Bush League Contest" for the past 17 years, has changed the format of the contest this year. Dwindling drowds have forced the change. A town of only 3000 and a chapter of 26, Boyne City has fought the elements, the huge separation from brother chapters and the minimum membership law which harrasses the smaller chapters.

The change in the styling of the weekend has the quartets competing in the afternoon at 2:00 p.m. and a show in the evening which will feature the first and second place contest winners. They will be featured with a couple of name quartets and of course, last year's Bush League winner. The rest of the weekend will remain the same with the pre-glo, the after-glo with food, refreshments, orchestra, etc., the morning breakfast and the clinic.

This year, as in the past, the Boyne City chapter will use the proceeds of the weekend to send a music student to Interlochen.

The Troubadour suggests that we as a district give our little brother in the north country a helping hand this year by attending and participating in their big weekend. This is a fun weekend, the kind we need most. It is a wonderful chance for the membership to meet and get to know the quartets that will be the "workhorses" of the district in the future. It is a great chance to show the wife a fine relaxing barbershopping weekend. Potential members will really get a peek at the "complete barbershop program" which we must start selling. Program vice presidents, the date is April 25, the place is Boyne City. Can you fill a bus with barbershoppers, wives and guests for one of the Michigan district's old time fun weekends? Let's give it a try. Housing reservations can be sent to the Hotel Dilworth or to Loten Wilson, Boyne City, Michigan. Look to the Troubadour for the show "line up" next issue. Get your reservations now.

Monroe Chapter Gains Momentum

With 30 members signed, the Michigan district's newest chapter is well on its way to success. President William Whippen announces the official title as the "Floral City Chapter". With four experienced barbershoppers leading the way they have formed a quartet known as the "Floral City Four", who are appearing around the city selling barbershop and of course, the chapter.

Mike Mudgett, Area 2 counselor, is currently assisting this chapter in every way possible to overcome any problems.

The officers for this chapter have been installed and they are certainly on the move to make this one of the better Michigan district chapters.

Plans are now being formed and if everything goes as planned, they will be presented with a charter on April 11th.

We certainly hope that every man in the district will keep this night open and attend this gala occassion when a new chapter will be added to the Michigan district. Let's make this night a night when we personally extend our hand in warm acceptance.

Following the Leader



WHO HAS THE KEY TO THE WOODSHED?

The "ART" of woodshedding is only possible when the song is sung "by ear". The tenor, bari, and bass parts are fit, by ear, to the lead or melody. Gang-sing-in' in every chapter meeting is a must....and let's have more in '64. Let's broaden out our singin' menu (yuh knew I'd talk about food somehow) and offer more tunes for our gang-singin' sessions in the chapter meeting. Don't forget such great musical "gems" as , "Love's Old Sweet Song", "My Wild Irish Rose" and "I Had A Dream Dear".

Yuh can talk all you want to.....but yuh only get action by doin'. Let's do. Woodshed, that is.

Next time we get together you can bet yer everlovin' pitchpipe that I'll be ready to woodshed one...... HOW 'BOUT YOU?

> By the way.....who's your chapter's "Keeper of the keys"?

IS YOUR CHAPTER MENTIONED IN THIS
ISSUE OF THE TROUBADOUR?
IF NOT....WHY NOT?



Flint Starts '64 With Travel Galore

The Flint chapter has been a group of tourists during January. They started the month by a visit to the Holly-Fenton chapter on the 7th to help Herb Benjamin install the new officers and directors and welcome Dick Bailey to the president's throne.

On the 14th they held a wive's night to celebrate the installation of the new officers of the Flint chapter and crown Ron Gillies as the new president. Entertainment was graciously furnished by the Cross-Towners quartet from Saginaw. Again Herb Benjamin conducted the installation and he sure does a nice job. Guests were from Flint, Saginaw, Bay City and Holly-Fenton. A good time was had by all.

On the 17th they paid a visit to the Pontiac chapter meeting and on the 18th, in goodly numbers, enjoyed the Pontiac show. On the 21st Flint attended a joint meeting of the Holly-Fenton and Milford chapters and had a real ball. The Flint chapter had a well attended meeting on the 28th, at which time two new members were signed. It looks like 1964 will be a great year for barbershopping and the Flint chapter fully intends to have some fun with a singing chapter this year.

SHANNON WINS FLINT AWARD

A hard working chapter member walked off with the Flint chapter "Neil Norman Barbershopper of the Year" award. He is Bill Shannon and a justly deserved award it is. Congratulations to Bill from the Flint chapter and from the Michigan district.

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reporter: les lang

Wayne Pitch Pipe Parade March 7

The Wayne chapter proudly presents their 1964 Pitch Pipe Parade, March 7, at the Henry Ford high school auditorium. Headlining the show will be the fabulous Night Hawks. Also featured on the show are the Varieties, current Illinois district champions, the Four Tune Tellers from Jackson, the Aire Males and the ever popular Wayne Drops. The parade will be topped off with the wonderful sound of the Wayne Wonderland chorus. Tickets may be obtained from any chapter member or by writing to Tom Pollard, 15019 Flamingo, Linonia, Michigan.

reporter: owen mc gill

San Antonio Anyone ? ?!!

The Muskegon Chapter is contemplating the charter of a commercial airplane to take their chorus to the International in San Antonio. The capacity of the plane is 85 which will leave 40 seats for District passengers who may wish to take advantage of this opportunity and save an approximate \$40.00 in fare. The flight will leave on Wednesday and return on Sunday. If you are interested write to Don Courtright, 2474 Pinegrove, Muskegon, Michigan. He will be most happy to give details about the proposed trip. This bargain was offered in the January issue of the Troubadour and at the request of the Muskegon chapter we are publishing it again. There are still a few seats available so act now. Don't be sorry later.















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Meet the

CHORD COUNTS

Ladies & Chapter parties only

contact

Chester Oonk 55 E. 17th Street Holland







NOTES FROM

THE SECRETARY

LOUIS R. HARRINGTON

District directories have now been printed in sufficient number for distribution to each member of our district and have been forwarded to international for mailing. Please notify my office of any additions or corrections.

Upon receipt from international of the membership figures which form the basis of the per capita dues to the district, statements have now been mailed out to each chapter secretary and treasurer. This includes the subscription fee for the Troubadour and can be paid in one lump sum or in quarterly installments on January 15th, April 15th, July 15th and October 15th. All checks should be made payable to the "Michigan District, SPEBSQSA," and sent to my office, 2361 First National Building, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

Attention is now centered on the forthcoming regional preliminary contest at Windsor on May 8-9-10 to determine which quartets will represent our district in international competition in San Antonio in June. The district chorus championship will also be decided in Windsor, and chorus entry blanks have been mailed out from international. The House of Delegates meeting and preglo is scheduled for Friday, May 8th, all contest sessions will be held on Saturday, and the clinic on Sunday. Anyone who has attended a convention in Windsor knows what a wonderful weekend this will be so start planning now.

* * * * *

Barbershoppers in the Detroit area are reminded of Paul Eberwein's radio program featuring barbershop recording and announcements of coming events, heard on CBE Fridays at 7:00 p.m. Let's show our support by writing CBE, Windsor, Ontario, Canada, expressing our appreciation and enjoyment.

Hanson Heads Gratiot County

The Gratiot County chapter held its annual installation of officers with Ray Tomlin installing the officers. The installation was held at the Saginaw Savings and Loan building in Alma on January 6, 1964.

The officers installed for the ensuing year were as follows: President, Dale Hanson, who succeeded Doug Webb of Alma; Lowell Boyer of Alma, administrative vice president; Garold Fitzgerald, program vice president, Alma; Gerald Jenkins of Breckenridge, secretary; Tad Robins of St. Louis, treasurer; with board members also to include Leon Webb of Alma, chorus director Doug Devine of St. Louis and past president Doug Webb.

reporter: leon webb

Award Winning Chapters Named

Past president Bill Hansen has announced that the following chapters are to receive Recognition of Merit certificates for their efforts to promote service and charitable activities during 1963; Ann Arbor, Battle Creek, Boyne City, Dearborn, Detroit, Downriver, East Detroit, Fruit Belt, Grand Rapids, Gratiot County, Greenville, Holland, Holly-Fenton, Hudson, Ionia, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Muskegon, Niles-Buchanan, Northwest Detroit, Oakland County, Oscoda County, Pontiac, Three Rivers, Utica-Rochester, Wayne and Windsor.

The selections noted above are based solely on a review of 1963 quarterly activities reports submitted to the district secretary.

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Saginaw Named Chapter Of The Month

Winning chapter for the Area 4 "Chapter of the Month Award" is the Saginaw chapter according to area counselor Herb Benjamin. Saginaw won the award on the strength of a group of really excited officers who found out that enthusiasm is contagious. The whole chapter according to Benjamin, is working together as a group. The chapter chorus, under the experienced arm of Earl Keith, has worked hard on a couple of new numbers and have them ready for the public. The chapter meets the first and third Fridays at the Elks at 9:00 P.M.

reporter: herb benjamin



Here are the men who will lead the Three Rivers' chapter during 1964. Installed last month by area 12 counselor, Lowell Wolfe, the chapter board wants to let the district know that the Three Rivers chapter is really prepared to "do more in '64" for SPEBSQSA.

Above are (front row from left) Lloyd Carter, chorus director and board member; George Dieffenderfer, vice president and program chairman; Harry Kampe, past president; John Foerster, board member; (back row) Wolfe; Cal Richmond, treasurer; Richard Earl, secretary; Dan Luther, president, and Jerry Wright, executive vice president. The installation meeting was held at Union Hall.

reporter: oscar brast

The Voice Box



Letter to the editor

Dear Sir:

"Where have all the quartets gone?" If this sounds like new words to an old song, you're right. But allow me to elaborate.

Here it is January 19th, 1964 and I have contacted the leading Michigan district quartets for a special chapter affair in April 1964, approximately three months in advance.

Now you would think that there wouldn't or shouldn't be any problems for anyone to obtain a couple or three quartets. Especially for a special chapter affair, where a real good society impression should be created. An affair where probably the top men of the district will be present. But, believe it or not, there is hardly a quartet available. They are either booked for a parade in some far off town or they have something personal to do and can't participate as a quartet that evening, or they aren't sure yet just what they are going to do that night.

Now far be it for me to try to tell anyone what or when to do anything, but it seems to me that our Michigan district quartets should mix in some chapter nights with their paid nights, and especially in these chapters where there is a membership problem. This is the best way I know of to promote barbershopping and more especially quartet singing, something the Michigan district needs very badly.

We have 45 registered quartets in the Michigan district and many of these are no longer active or have disbanded, but what has happened to those who are supposed to be active? Where are those quartets who have recently organized? And if they haven't organized a new quartet, why haven't they? Is it because they are not getting the proper assistance, or is it because almost every chapter is trying to put together a top notch chorus? And those of course capable of teaching have got their hands full teaching this chorus and haven't any time to coach a new formed quartet struggling to put together a couple of numbers to they will sound like something they and the chapter could be proud of?

What can we here in the Michigan district do to reactivate some of the "old time spirit", when at the drop of a hat you had more quartets at any kind of an affair that were willing and able to sing than you could shake a stick at. In fact if you didn't ask them they were hurt, and they would tell you so. They just wanted to sing.

Men, just because you can't beat the Autotowners or the Air Males, or the Noteries, or some other top notch quartet today, don't give up. Don't forget they started just like you're starting, and by constant practice and coaching they have obtained the perfection they

So don't say you can't do it, you aren't good enough to sing in a quartet. Get three other fellows from your chapter or your chorus and grab the chorus director or someone who can put you straight when you run into trouble on some number, and go over in the

corner and try out a couple of numbers, or better still if possible, meet at someone's house with your coach, and give it an honest try. Not just once, but several times. The first thing you know, by golly those chords will be ringing and the guy who will be most surprised, and needless to say most pleased, will be you.

Every quartet has to start someplace and the best place to start is at your chapter. Here you can gain experience and confidence, and everytime you practice with your quartet you'll get better, and soon you'll be going to other chapters and singing as a quartet. Then one day will come the big thrill .. You'll compete at a district or regional convention. Now you have become an active member of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of BarberShop Quartet singing in America.

Now you are deriving from the society exactly what you joined it for QUARTET SINGING, and rest assured you'll be proud. You'll want to sing for others to show them what you have created and convince them too, that it isn't impossible to form a quartet with just three other fellows and vourself.

Let us strive this year to gain at least one new quartet in each chapter. I make this appeal not only to the rank and file, but to those men who have it in their power to put together four men and start them on the road to becoming a registered Michigan quartet and so that we will have quartets in numbers at all the society affairs. Whereby, we will be better able to retain membership and in doing so the Michigan district will once again attain the position it once so proudly held.

> Eric Schultz ++++++++++++

Three Rivers Show Oceans Of Fun

"Barbershoppers have not only an acute feeling for tone, harmony and rhythm but also a keen sense of humor", so states the "Three Rivers' Commercial". The newspaper goes on to say, "About 350 persons February 1st, enjoyed all these qualities demonstrated at the Saturday night Three Rivers SPEBSQSA barbershop invitational ladies and guest night in Armstrong Hall.

The parade of quartets included the For-Tune Tellers of Jackson, The Bucksters of Niles, Harmony Hounds of Battle Creek. The Duranaires of Ann Arbor and the River City Four and Tonsil Poppers of Three Rivers, beside the singing by the white-coated Tune Trappers Chorus of Three Rivers.

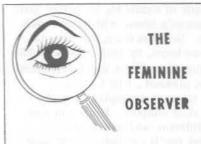
President J.D. Luther opened the evening festivities with a welcome. George Wright was master of ceremo-

Lloyd Carter, chorus director, explained the four sections - tenor, lead, baritone and bass - of all barbershop choruses.

By hearing each section separately and then in combination with the others, the audience was able to appreciate the pleasing harmony of the chorus.

The enthusiastic audience cheered each quartet to encores. Recovering the greatest applause was the one from Jackson, the For-Tune Tellers, who had been seen here at the water carnival in August. Their fancy costumes included white shirts with red jumpers. They wore top hats and black moustaches."

reporter: oscar brast





ELLEN HARRINGTON

Detroit chapter's Ladies Night was a gala event with Mrs. Bernie Smith of Wayne chosen Queen of the Evening and presented with a beautiful orchid which showed off to great advantage when she sang with her family group--husband, daughter and son, known as the Smithtonians.

It was nice to see Grosse Pointe represented by a goodly group including Mr. and Mrs. Albert Escott, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Centers, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Klersey and several other couples.

Enjoying the terrific entertainment, buffet and danceable music of Ed Weir and his orchestra were Mr. and Mrs. John Zinnikas, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Limburg Al Rehkop, John Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Butler, Mr. and Mrs. William Favinger, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Vogel, Mr. and Mrs. George Acree, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Jorgensen, Wayne Kniffen, Bob Luscombe, Mr. and Mrs. Pat Ryan, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Schirmer, Mr. and Mrs. Art Schulze, Mr. and Mrs. Bert West, Mr. and Mrs. John Wearing, Robert Whitledge, Dominic Palmieri, Clint Bostick, Glenn Van Tassell, Carl Dahlke, Bob Young, Ed McCarthy, twisters Mr. and Mrs. Matt Calderwood and many more.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Mrs. Clint Bostick of Dearborn and Mrs. Tom Needham of Wayne, hospitalized recently.

Barbershoppers Gene Oliver, Lou Harrington and Jack Stevens are currently presidents of their respective Kiwanis clubs.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Robinson of Holly-Fenton on the birth of their third daughter, and to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ford of the Detroit Yachtsmen chapter on the birth of their granddaughter.

Congratulations and best wishes to Joseph Runyon of Battle Creek and his bride, the former Nancy Hopson

Society members and friends were saddened to learn of the death of Sterling Wilson in Florida of cancer.

Lansing On Woodshedding Kick

Lansing chapter is learning new woodshedding songs, through the Bob Johnson method of chorus woodshedding. This will be a great help to our newer members as it helps them to get the feel of woodshedding. I'm glad to see Kenosha coming out with its new series of woodshedding tunes; hope they really catch on in the Michigan district. We barbershoppers are often criti-

cized for singing the same songs and tags over and over again. Well, we dearly love these old songs and I suppose the tags have some musical value too. However, I think we need some new woodshed songs so that the older members of our organization can show us young folks how they used to do it before anyone bothered to write down the notes. As for tags, this reporter is danged tired of hearing nothing but tags around the hotel lobbies and corridors at our conventions and contests. Let's bring back those good old SONGS.

HONOR LOREN COLTON

With new President Monty Bates at the controls, Lansing has taken off for another year of frenzied barbershopping activity. We wound up 1963 by going into orbit with a giant Loren Colton night to honor one of Lansing chapter's charter members and greatest supporters. Loren started barbershopping way back when most of us didn't know a quartet called the Liberty Four, so called because they took part in many of the drives to sell Liberty Bonds during World War I. Lansing chapter has taken steps to assure Loren a life membership in the chapter and in the society. Our hats are off to a great guy and 100 per cent barbershopper.

CHAPTER FOURSOME SINGS MUSIC MAN

By the time you have read this, the Lansing Civic Players production of "Music Man" will be a historical fact. A quartet consisting of Wally Clark, Gene Johnson, Dick Frank and Burt Szabo won out over all the other contestants and will play the quartet role in the show. Needless to say, all are members of Lansing chapter.

MEMBERSHIP SWELLS FOR ROAD SHOW

The latest addition to our chapter roster is Richard Dunlap. We also have applications pending from several other prospective members who are attending meetings and rehearsals faithfully. This helps to swell our numbers as we polish the presentation of our package show. We plan to use several formats for the miniature show, featuring our own quartets and specialty numbers. We'll be taking this show on the road this spring as we visit chapters in central Michigan. BUGS BELT LEFTY HAMILTON

The only discouraging note in this report is short and has a favorable ending. Our ebullient and effervescnet past president, afterglo chairman, emcee and bass, Lefty Hamilton, was felled recently when a bunch of ornery bugs ganged up on him all at once. I think it's really an old war wound left over from his days with Teddy an San Juan Hill, but Lefty won't admit it. Anyhow Lefty is deccelerating somewhat from his normal hectic routine and is now taking things a little more slowly. We've missed him at recent meetings but are anticipating hearing his golden bass tones again soon.

reporter: burt szabo

ADVERTISING RATES FOR
THE MICHIGAN TROUBADOUR
Full page: \$40, 1/2 page: \$30, 1/4 page: \$20, 1/8 page: \$15. However, unless copy is ready for photographing, a minimum of \$5.00 will be added for set-up or art work.

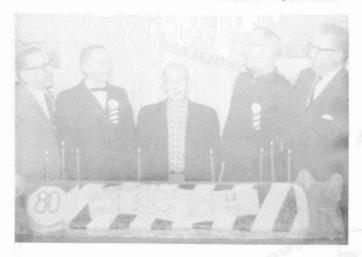
Great Lakes Books 'Bills' And 'Nubbens'

Past president Ken Childs is now general chairman of the up and coming Great Lakes Invitational. He has an energetic crew assembled for this "really big show", featuring the Buffalo Bills. Also starring will by another tremendous vocal and comedy group, the Nubbens. For those mad mad music lovers we're also having the Banjo Tainers. It promises to be a parade to remember - - - so don't forget April 4th at the Grand Rapids Civic. A woodshed - - and - - (ladies take note) a dance to follow.

Chapter 4 is undergoing a big job of reorganizing at the direction of our new president, Gerry Ver Veer. The entire board of directors is armed to the teeth with assignments designed to enlarge and revitalize the membership.

Vice president Bill Alexander's first program of entertainment was a good indication of things to come. On hand, the Nu Tones, of the Grand Rapids Sweet Adelines, the Extension Chords, and district president Al Burgess, who assisted by Bart Tillit, judged a woodshed contest. These quartets were formed by blowing whistles of different tones in a darkened room.

reporter: jack sidor



Area 11 Honors Ted Shrock

The Blue Water chapter and area 11 recently honored one of barbershop's favorite "old timers", Ted Shrock, at an area wing ding. Vocal bouquets were heaped on the honored guest by district personel and by the president of the company that Ted worked for since 1910. Shrock is a charter member of the Blue Water chapter and is awaiting his 80th birthday. Ray Leatz emceed the evening and read a letter from president Al Burgess, congratulating Teddy from the entire district. On hand for the program part of the evening were the Bucksters of Niles, the Quadri Chords and the Kester Keys from Benton Harbor and the Insomniacs from South Haven.

The honored guest received an appropriately inscribed plaque, a life membership to his chapter and a beautiful brief case. A five foot birthday cake was presented to Mr. Shrock and later consumed as part of a fine lunch. Shown in the picture are Dick Barrie, John Warsco, "Teddy", Phil Pierce and Ray Leatz, singing a lusty "Happy Birthday To You".

Pontiac 'Parade' Huge Success

The Pontiac chapter staged their 21st annual Holiday of Harmony parade of quartets January 18, before a packed house in Northern High School auditorium. Headlining the fine array of talent were the 2nd place medalists, the Nighthawks of London, Ontario; 1963 international semi-finalists, the Sta-Laters, from the Warren, Ohio chapter; Michigan district champions, the Noteries, 2nd place winners, the Four-Fits and the For-tune Tellers of Jackson.

The emcee duties were handled in fine style by Burdette Bottom of the Lansing Chapter. Bill Pascher again won many plaudits for designing and staging his usual beautiful scenery. Other committee chairmen who handled their assignments in an efficient manner and deserve a pat are; program advertising, Bob Mc-Hale; after-glo, "Whity" Ryden; stage construction, Jerry Leroux and ushers, Norm Schram. The Revelaires, chapter chorus, under the capable direction of our new director, Bart Conners, brought the first smiles to his face since taking over this new assignment.

Plans are in motion to stage a barbershop packshow in the lobby of the new Pontiac Mall Shopping Inter during our International Harmony Week in April. Jerry Leroux is working diligently on this program.

reporter: chase sanborn

Jackson Benefit Big Success

The Jackson Chapter SPEBSQSA combining with the Jackson Rotary Club staged a bang up barbershop show to a packed house January 25. The proceeds of the show will be used for crippled children's activities and equipment. Five talented quartets and two choruses supplied ample laughs and real barbershop sound to the crowd to prompt them into many encore ovations. Working the show were the Extension Chords, the Merri Men, the Aire-Males, the Four Tune Tellers, the Note-Able Four, the Jackson Chapter Chorus and the Sweet Adelines Chorus. The after-glo was a terrific affair with the quartets really tearing down the house.

With the show behind us, the chapter is now busy preparing for "World War III" which will be staged here March 28 between the Holland and Dearborn chapters. We in Jackson don't really know what to expect with such talent as these two chapters command. The Dearborn chapter with the Noteries, the Auto Towners, the Aire-Males, the Sing Sing Four and the Chord-o-matic Chorus and the Windmill chapter with the Chord Counts, The Extension Chords, The Gay Blades and the Windmill Chorus. Wow, what a night this is going to be. We in Jackson are preparing to host the entire district membership.

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BUD STARWAS - Phone CE 5-9081 1120 No. Grand Traverse in Flint

DANCE - VOICE - TUTORING - SHOWS

Cereal City Chapter No. 10 PRESENTS ITS 9th ANNUAL

NIGHT of SATURDAY MARCH 21, 1964

W. K. KELLOGG AUDITORIUM

THE POP-U-LAIRS

THE WONDERLADS

NIGHTHAWKS

THE HARMONY HOUNDS

THE FOR-TUNE TELLERS



For tickets write Dr. William Clark,

421 Minges Rd., Battle Creek.

Northwest Detroit In New Home

A new high in fellowship, harmony and fun was scored be Northwest Detroit chapter at it's January 27th meeting held in it's new meeting place in Cregar's lavish Pick Wick Restaurant gold room at Grand River and Outer Drive. The setting was right for the occasion and thoroughly enjoyed by about fifty members and guests. From eight thirty to eleven the air was filled with ear-tingling harmony that barbershoppers love so well

For the benefit of the many guest-prospects present, group singing was stressed under the able leadership of Earl Strnad, Roger Craig, Tom Pollard and Dale Clixby. Among them, they pulled out all the stops.

Marc Graber, the man of many talents, emceed the program prepared by his committee of which John Forsyth and Henry Fegley were members. To say they did a fine job is an understatement.

The Aire-Males with Craig, Pollard, Clixby and Bill Wilcox, Michigan district champs were song generous in the personalized manner which has made this sterling quartet one of the much-in-demand quartets throughout the district. They never fail to please.

Graber, police officer who teaches school kids traffic safety with crayon and on TV brought out ha-has and applause with his black on white caricatures of unsuspecting chapter members. Some years back Marc was a cartoonist on a Boston newspaper.

The Scorekeepers, Northwests' much loved quartet now in their sixth year as a unit with Bill and Larry Winchester, Bob Mueller and Ted Robbins pleased, as they always do with many of the old favorites. As they concluded with "Cruisin Along In My Old Model T", Marc brought to life the old tin Lizzy with a portly dame taking the bumps. WOW.

The program wound up with brightly uniformed Northwest chorus led by their director, Strnad in a few of their numbers.

Guests were present from the Wayne, Grand Rapids, and Arlington Heights, Illinois chapters. Northwest urges barbershoppers from all chapters to drop in at Cregars on any second and fourth Mondays at eight P.M.

reporter: duane mosier

Four Fits Install East Detroit Board

East Detroit's annual installation of officer's party was held January 10th with members and their wives present and Ray McCalpin, counselor for area one scheduled to preside at the festivities. Turned out that Ray had three friends, namely Russ Seely, Marv Burke and John Wearing, otherwise known as the Four Fits, and these fellows presented one of the most original and entertaining inaugural ceremonies we have had the privelege to witness. East Detroit feels obliged to publish its appreciation to these four guys, one of the most active and most accommodating groups in the Michigan district. We hear they made more than fifty public appearances in 1963.

KOELZER'S LIVE IT UP

Celebrating the same night, their 36th wedding anniversary, were past president Vince Koelzer and lovely wife Norma. And celebrating also, was their son Don, whose wife Mary presented, on January 5th, to the proud father and grandparents, daughter Kristine, their eighth child. Congratulation to everybody.

BOUFFARD SURPRISED ON BIRTHDAY

President Bouffard was surprised at the last meeting when the members ganged up on "Happy Birthday" and presented him with a special cake. We note that Buff, for once, was speechless and professed to being "39 ??" The cake was later consumed, and we mean ATE UP at refreshment time.

reporter: maynard johnson



INTERNATIONAL NEWS WILLIAM HANSEN

The International Board of Directors held its midwinter meeting at Harmony Hall, Kenosha, beginning January 23rd. To say the least, this was a rewarding experience for me; I am looking forward to the next session at San Antonio.

The board of directors unanimously approved a proposal to offer life insurance coverage to all society members who desire to participate in such a program. This program is to be handled entirely outside of the society and does not entail the use of society funds. All society members will be furnished pertinent details in the near future. Any society member who contemplates additional insurance, or intends to start an insurance program, will do well to give serious consideration to the plan which will be offered.

Results of a survey conducted by the headquarters' staff of the society reveal that 506 out of 662 society chapters had less than 50 members as of September30, 1963. Further, that the average chapter attendance is only 55 to 60%. These latter figures make it obvious that chapters with less than 50 members, particularly those with only 25 to 35 members (meaning an average attendance of only 15 to 21 men) experience difficulty in chorus work, programming and quartet promotion, not to mention an undesirable "atmosphere" for attracting new members.

On the basis of survey results, the society is proposing a membership drive and contest under the appropriate label of "50 or More in 64". A tabulation has been prepared to show how each district compares with the others in membership. The figures indicate that 33 of 37 chapters in the Michigan district had less than 50 members.

Publicity will be forthcoming regarding this new membership promotion. I sincerely urge all chapters to give this matter serious consideration and resolve to do something about increasing membership. This is one of many ways that can help to put Michigan back on top.

MEET YOUR AREA COUNSELORS

The following reports are meant to acquaint you with our area counselors and their ideas on how we can better out district.

After careful digestion of each letter I have tried to sort out the feelings of the writers to publish in this condensed form.. These letters come from men who have earned a very important position of leadership in our district. Some of our counselors have many years of barbershop behind them. Others look at us through the eyes of comparative newcomers to our society. These letters are meant to help us in our efforts to improve our society. Read them and digest what they have to offer. The reports from the counselors of odd numbered areas and those of our four zone vice presidents will be published in the march issue.

AREA COUNSELOR AT LARGE

ROBERT T. TRACY

A well schooled barbershopper is our area counselor at large. Bob is a supervisor of a marine bulk terminal for the Marathon oil company in Mackinaw City. He and wife Florence have a family of three, Sharon 17, Michael 16 and Farrell age 11. Tracy has been a busy barbershopper since 1945, serving as a member of such chapters as Bay City, Saginaw, Gratiot County, Boyne City, Sault Ste. Marie, Cheboygan County and is presently a vice president of the Boyne City chapter. A hard working barbershopper, he can boast the following accomplishments:

He has held all the officer's positions chapterwise. Also, he has been a chorus director of both SPEBSQSA and Sweet Adelines. He was a judge candidate for the last five years and has served on numerous panels for clinics, schools, etc. Tracy has set up and conducted training schools for chapter personnel, was an area counselor for three years, served as district vice president three years and on various committees for the district. This year he has been appointed area counselor at large for the district. He has sung with nine or ten quartets. The best known of which was probably the the Solitaires, who won the Bush League Contest in 1954 and the Junior State Championship in 1955-56.

Bob suggests, "After 18 years of barbershopping, it is difficult to point out any one factor and say that it contributed to the decline of our district. I think it is a large combination of small factors and the most pertinent thing in conjunction with these factors, to cause the decline, has been attitude. Everything that has happened can be traced back to the attitude that was prominent at that time. We seem to have lost the original idea of what this organization was for. Not just to sing, or form quartets, but to do these things with the meaning of the word together. The together is fellowship in song, work and play. To stick strictly to the Code of Ethics, and get back to the idea of the code, would help tremendously."

HAS YOUR CHAPTER DONE ANYTHING TO HELP THE MUSKEGON CHAPTERS TRAVEL FUND TO GROW??? IF NOT...WHY NOT? AREA 2

MICHAEL MUDGETT, Counselor

"I think the Michigan district is just great", says Mike. "We can be proud of our quartet and chorus entries in the last few internationals but I sometimes wonder if the members of the Michigan district are doing all that they can do to help their district. How many of our organized quartets fail to compete in our district convention because they take the attitude of, "Why compete? We know darn well that we can't beat the Auto-Towners, the Aire-Males or the Noteries." Why not take a different view of things? Here are two reasons why every quartet should compete in the district contest. First, your quartet will be backing up the Michigan district. Second, why not enter the contest JUST FOR THE GOOD OLD FASHIONED, "BARBERSHOP FUN OF IT." Have we of the M chigan district straved so far away from the original concept of Owen Cash that we can't enter our own convention "Just for the fun of it"?

I believe we must all start thinking that the Michigan district belongs to us. It is not an organization seperate from your local chapter, but it is a part of your local chapter. It is the mother house for all our chord busting chapters. With this thought in mind, it needs the support of all its members. It needs the support of all of its quartets.

I hope that the innovations that were started at the Holland convention will be continued. The Old Timers contest and the Never Won Nothing contest would enable more of our quartets to compete.

Maybe we're taking ourselves too seriously. This is still just a fun organization, so once again, let's do things in our district JUST FOR THE FUN OF IT."

Mudgett is sales manager in the Detroit area for Detroit Quik Chek Inc., which has to do with the selling and servicing of Do-It-Yourself T.V. tube testers. He and wife Dorothy have four children. Ruth 6, Mike Jr. 5, Sharon 4, and Rachael $1\frac{1}{2}$. Mike comes from a singing family with three brothers active in barbershopping in Ohio. He is the immediate past president of the Wayne chapter.

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AREA 4

HERB BENJAMIN, Counselor

Only one year old, barbershop wise, is Herb. His membership accepted in February of 1963, he has earned the right to counsel an entire area in a short year's span. An eager barbershopper who is singing tenor in one of the district's coming quartets the Crosstowners, Herb believes that the chapters bring on many hardships to themselves. Poorly planned chapter programs, board meeting and chapter meetings prove carelessly run election of officers. He feels that our society is made at chapter level and that the selection of chapter officers is of utmost importance. Herb also thinks that we should try to recruit the young man (high school age) into our Society. As area counselor, he will build up inter-chapter programs, visitations, area wing dings and inter-area get togethers. Benjamin has already held a meeting with the chapter officers in his area and promises big things from area four in '64. His

suggestion, "I would like to see each chapter do something for charity at least every other month. This is only six times a year. I don't think that is too many, probably not enough, but we have to start somewhere."

Herb is a salesman. He sang in a high school quartet called the Lost Chords in 1955-57. He also sang in Asbury College 28 member glee club for two years and has directed a Methodist church choir prior to gaining his membership into barbershop.

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AREA 8

CHESTER OONK, Counselor

A sales representative for the Sinclair Refining Co. will sell barbershop this 1964 in area 8 as its counselor. A barbershopper for 18 years and a quartet singer for 15 of them, Oonk is well known as a hard working chapter member and as the baritone of the Chord Counts. He has served the Holland chapter in all phases of government including the presidency. Chet and lovely wife Betty have three children. Mike 16, and a member of the Windmill Chapter, Mary 12, and Jack 6.

Chet blames a lack of barbershop enthusiasm in the district as a fundamental factor to our present situation and he suggests that a lack of top flight, mediocre and even lousy quartets is a major issue in this lack of enthusiasm. He states, "We have some quartets in each catagory, but not nearly enough".

Oonk will lend his talents to quartet promotion, proper programming and plans on making area 8 the workingest area in the society in 1964.

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AREA 10

STUART ANDERSON, O.D.

Past president of the Lions club, past president of the West Michigan Optrometric Association, past board member of the Chamber of Commerce and current area 10 barbershop counselor and bass of the Spectacul-Aires is Stuart Leslie Anderson. With no previous barbershop connections, he joined the Greenville chapter as a charter member and ruled as its president in 1963. Stu, an optometrist, and wife Dorothy have a daughter Sharon of high school age. Anderson looks at us through the eyes of a hard working and comparatively new member to our society. These are his observations:

"I cannot say what factors determine why the Michigan district has declined in esteem. My personal observations at the international conventions at Kansas City and Toronto are that the representation by members is very poor compared to other districts. At Toronto, we should have had a great many more fellows attending because of the nearness of the convention. The definite lack of enthusiasm shown by Michigan members was apparent to me. For example, whenever another district name or chorus was presented from the stage the fellows from that district made out with a lot of noise and cheering. Also, many districts were represented by the wearing of certain hats or other gimmicks that designated to me that they were proud of where they came from. It seemed to me that I was not really part of the Michigan district but only belonged

to the Greenville, Michigan chapter, plus a few Holland, Grand Rapids, and Muskegon friends. I think there should be a Michigan district hospitality room where all Michigan district men could meet, talk and get acquainted. I would like to meet the Auto-Towners, the Notaries, etc. and have them know me because I belong to the Michigan district and want them to know that I am behind them."

How can we improve the district?

"I can only feel from my own experience that there is a very definite lack of quartet coaches available to instruct and coach quartets that desire to go all the way.

We need more and better interchanges between quartets of different chapters to help chapters keep up interesting and varied programs. If every chapter would hold at least one guest night a month to invite prospective members and have an outside quartet to

help entertain it would be a tremendous boost to the small chapters.

Make sure that when chourses and quartets perform at a contest that the president and his officers make them know that they are indeed happy to have them there. For example, when Greenville participated for the first time at Holland, the only congratulations we received from district officers was from Van Bogelin and Al Burgess. We thought we did very well for being a chapter new to this sort of thing but not very many told us so.

How do I plan to improve our district? First of all, by trying to make our local chapter the most enthusiastic, fun-lovin' bunch of small-town barbershoppers you ever saw. Second, by generating as much public relations on radio, newspaper and public speaking as I can possibly do. Third, by helping other chapters in my area do the same thing. Fourth, by singing with the Spec-Tacul-Aires as often as possible before other chapters that will invite us."

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AREA 12

LOWELL E. WOLFE, Counselor

Battle Creek, Kalamazoo and Three Rivers have for their area counselor a well known barbershopper, in the person of Lowell Wolfe. Even the far corners of our district have chuckled to the antics of the ever popular Harmony Hounds in which Wolfe has sung lead since 1959.

Lowell and wife Betty have two children. Debby 17, and Greg 16. He is employed by the General Foods Corporation as sales coordinator. He is a charter member of the Battle Creek chapter and has served in many capacities, including the presidency in '60 and '63.

Wolfe state that our district offices could stand major revision. He feels that new officers should be trained and that the length of service for officers should be specified. He also feels that competing quartet members should be given a better understanding of our judging system. Holland's "Never Won Nothin" contest he states, was billed in one light and carried out in an entirely different one. This lack of understanding is one major reason that we have this decided decline in quartet competition. Mr. Wolfe will do his utmost in his area to help the district regain the leadership position in the society.

Greenville Revue Scheduled March 14

Three top-notch quartets from the Michigan district have been signed to headline our second annual "Gay Nineties Barbershop Revue" on Saturday, March 14. The Noteries, current district champs; the Curbstone Serenaders, 1963 district champs; and the Spartanaires, novelty quartet champs from Grand Rapids. Also included on the entertainment bill is the Greenville chorus and two chapter quartets; the Spectaculaires and the Coppertones. This line up should give us one of the better shows in the district this year.

Show chairman, Bob Powers has announced the following committee head appointments: musical director, Jerry Meade; talent, Tom Venus and Arnie Staffen; master of ceremonies, Chuck Gibson; stage and properties, Jack and Orrin Wood; wardrobe, Keith Neitzel; publicity, Joe Wildner; tickets, Eldon Hansen; budget, Bob Hansen; afterglo, Stu Anderson; programs, Larry Brown; hospitality, Al Vining and Bob Rice.

ENTERTAIN ROTARY

The Greenville Rotary and their wives were treated to a preview of the forthcoming "Gay Nineties Barbershop Revue" on Tuesday, January 28th. Entertainment by the chapter chorus and the Spartanaires was highly received.

SIGN SIX

Six new members have signed on with us since the first of the year. How about that----Bob Foote, bass; Pat Lause, bari; Arlan Perry, lead; C.J. Nye, bass; Elmer Katterjohn, bass; and Don Hatch, lead. Men of Note awards go to the following for bringing them in: Stu Anderson, Roger Jensen, Joe Wildner, and Tom Venus. By the way Dr. Stu Anderson gets credit for three of the six. That membership guest night we held in December is begining to pay off.

reporter: bob hansen

Dearborn Show At Fordson High

The Dearborn parade is scheduled for George Birthington's Washday, February 22. The show has been a sell-out for many years. If you plan on coming this year, get your tickets early.

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To entertain you at the show we have imported the Mid-States Four to compliment Dearborn's own Auto-Towners, Aire-Males, Noteries, Sing-Sing Four and Chord-O-Matic Chorus.

This year we have moved the parade to Fordson High School on Ford Rd., just west of Scheafer to accommodate more people.

Get your tickets early and see an outstanding barbershop show. All seats \$2.00. Call Ed Conn at 427-5141 for tickets.

The "Chapter of Champions" has started the new year off with a bang. Our January meeting was a huge success. It was the annual quartet invitational with many organized and unorganized quartets in evidence. Over 100 men were in attendance and Bob Stone was emcee. The meeting was well run and everyone had a good time. The evening was topped off with the famous Shamus food.

reporter; ed conn

Windmill Prepares For Benefit

The Windmill chapter is hard at work preparing a show for one of their annual benefit shows. This one is put on with the West Ottawa High School music department. It is always a lot of fun to present and is very well received. The show will be held February 29 at the school and will feature the Windmill chorus and many fine area quartets.

Plans are shaping up for this year's gigantic Tulip Time show. We are keeping our talent line-up a secret so that the district membership will not neglect seeing other shows just to save up money to see ours.

The month of January ended with a well attended party. The new officers were installed and several of the past chapter presidents were honored as well. The balance of the program was ably taken care of by the Spartanaires and the Extension Chords. The wives then insisted on dancing, and the whole affair was climaxed by the well received efforts of the refreshment committee headed by Mrs. Chet Oonk and Mrs. Andries Steketee.

reporter: bob birce

Prevue Of Regional Contest

Michigan's forthcoming regional preliminary contest, May 8-9-10th, to determine which quartets will represent the Michigan district in international competition in San Antonio, Texas, in June; and to determine the District chorus championship will once again be sponsored by the Windsor chapter. Paul Eberwein is the chairman of the event. The Prince Edward Hotel, conveniently located in downtown Windsor opposite the tunnel exit, will be the headquarters hotel and reservations should be made directly through the hotel, 384 Cuellette Avenue, Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

The House of Delegates meeting will be held on Friday, followed by a pre-glo. The contest sessions will all be held on Saturday at the Cleary Auditorium on Riverside Drive (four short blocks from Hotel Headquarters). The For-More quartet from Madison, Wisconsin will be the guest quartet for the eveing show and after-glo. A clinic will be held Sunday morning. Allevents package tickets are priced at \$6.00 and can be obtained from Don Bennett, 3340 Dominion Blvd., Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

The schedule of events is as follows:

Friday, May 8, at 8:00 p.m. House of Delegates meeting (Prince Edward Hotel)

Friday, May 8 at 10:00 p.m. Pre-glo (Prince Edward Hotel)

Saturday, May 9 at 10:00 a.m. Quartet Preliminary (Cleary Auditorium)

Saturday May 9 at 2:00 p.m. Chorus Contest (Cleary Auditorium)

Saturday, May 9 at 8:00 p.m. Quartet Finals (Cleary Auditorium)

Saturday, May 9 at 11:00 p.m. After-glo (Prince Edward Hotel)

Sunday, May 10 at 9:00 a.m. Quartet Clinic (Prince Edward Hotel)

Chorus entry blanks have been mailed from the district secretary's office and quartets will be receiving entry blanks from the international office.

ACCEPT

the Misguided Challenge of HOLLAND'S Windyhill Chapter, the District's "Prisonality Chapter." (They're in Dutch for sure this time.)

We regret their infantile attempt to besmirch our "Characters" and detect a substantial tinge of green in their disparagements. However, we realize the rest of the world is unpleasantly dim from down where they are and the only way they can look is up.

We rejoice in the opportunity to demonstrate our known talents in the Good Cause, with only slight misgivings in consideration of the Windyhiller's already psychotic afflictions.

BUT - - - whereas DEARBORN is the Insultee and HOLLAND has given umbrage and is the Insultor, the Rules of Dueling specify that We Choose Seconds and Designate The Time, The Date, The Place, and The Weapons.

We presume the Windyhiller's will act as gentlemen despite their natural tendencies, and will abide by The Rules.

Whereas and Therefore:

We Choose The Wayne and Grosse Pointe Chapters as our Seconds

We Name The Time as "8 PM".

We Name The Date as "March 28".

We Name The Place as "Hotel Hayes in Jackson".

We Name The Weapons as "Any Number of Four-Barrelled Quartets at 20 Paces plus One Chorus of Any Caliber".

We Select Jackson Chapter as Host/Umpire and the Entire Michigan District as Witness.

Dearborn Chapter's Most Modest Men S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.

Confidentially,

"MEET THE MERRI-MEN"

The Michigan District's Oldest Champions-Still Active Written by Pat and Ed Nealer, Milford chapter

The Merri-Men were organized in January 1951. In the spring of 1951 at the regionals they were area alternates and in the fall of 1951 they were named Michigan district champions.

In 1956 in Minneapolis they placed in the top fifteen at the international contest. Since that time they have traveled far and wide singing for thousands of people. From Minneapolis to St. Louis, from Cleveland to Mack inac Island, the Grand Hotel, and the oddest place they have sung was in a coal mine in Ishpeming. Altogether these boys have traveled many thousands of miles and sung upwards of 600 jobs and made many people happy in the process.

They are probably one of the most versatile quartets in Michigan. They can and do all types of shows, and appropriate songs for any occasion. They can make you tap your toe to "Mississippi Mud", or shake you out of your seat with "Orange Colored Sky", remind you of the old college Alma Mater with "The Wiffenpoof Song", put you in a sentimental mood with "Dream", arouse your patriotic pride with "Your Land And My Land", or you can laugh and sing along with their rendition of "The Rich Maharaja". And you ain't heard nothing till you've heard Dale's solo on "Dance Me Loose", or Doug's one man bass rhythm section on "Umbrella Man", or Howard be the sweet kid Bruce in the "Sewer Song", or Gordy's quick and witty ad libs about the audience, like after the 5th or 6th encore, "Ain't you people got no homes?" And I'll bet you have never heard "Happy Birthday" in calypso as they do it.

They will do ten minutes or two hours, and they are always ready, willing, and harmoniously able. They can turn on the volume that will blow the first four rows back, or in the next breath sing so soft you could hear a flea sneeze. If you like this type of versatile entertainment, you can have it on record (they have cut two) or see them in person anywhere around the state of Michigan, as well as many other barbershopping dis-

The Merri-Men sang for the first time in Milford on October 24, 1953, and since that time have appeared there some 30 or 40 times, and in 1964 are still as popular as they were in 1953 -- because they sing the songs folks like to hear. They win new friends each time with their smiles and sincere, "Hello's".

Meet the Merri-Men: Doug Stephens and Howard Hawkins who carry the mail for Uncle Sam, Gordy Washburn, a time study man for Oldsmobile and Dale Bullock, who is a commercial photographer.

Meet the Merri-Men, Michigan district's oldest active champions and four fine guys who are a credit to our society.

FROM

Society for the preservation and encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America

To

ROBERT L MILLER 576 DE SOTO YPSILANTI MICH

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ming 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.

1.1	1111111
February 22, 1964	Dearborn Par
February 29, 1964	Detroit Yachts
March 7, 1964	Wayne Parade

Ma March 14, 1964 March 21, 1964 March 22, 1964 April 4, 1964

April 4, 1964 April 11, 1964 April 18, 1964 April 25, 1964

May 2, 1964 May 8-10, 1964 May 15, 1964 May 16, 1964

May 23, 1964

June 6, 1964 August 15, 1964 September 19, 1964

September 25-27 October 17, 1964 November 7, 1964 March 27, 1965 October 9, 1965

smen Ladies Night at DYC

Greenville Parade Battle Creek Parade Hudson Parade at 2:30 Great Lakes Invitational. Grand Rapids

Flint Parade Monroe Charter Party Muskegon Parade Bush League Contest, Boyne City

Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario Parade REGIONAL CONTEST, Windsor Holland Parade Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario,

Canada Parade Downriver Supper-Glo Dinner,

Wyandotte Utica-Rochester Parade Oscoda County Parade

Blue Water Parade, South Haven DISTRICT CONTEST, Jackson

Lansing Parade Detroit Parade Battle Creek Parade DISTRICT CONTEST, Battle Creek