

2004 2614 84

michigan

JUNE

# troubadour



Michigan Troubadour

## WE SING

## THAT THEY

## SHALL SPEAK





# THE Michigan Troubadour

Published by the Michigan District of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

Printed by The Zeeland Record Co. Inc., Zeeland, Michigan. Single copy price: 25 cents per copy. Subscription rates: Mail subscription, payable in advance: \$2.50 per year. Advertising Rates: available upon request. Copy Deadline: 3rd of each month. MAIL ADDRESS CHANGES, UNDELIVERABLE COPIES, SUBSCRIPTION ORDERS AND BUSINESS CORRESPONDENCE TO: JACK W. OONK, 525 E. LINCOLN, ZEELAND, MICHIGAN

Member of PROBE

### DISTRICT OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Al Burgess, 535 Robbin Rd., Grand Haven, Michigan  
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: William Hanson, 537 Cayuga Rd., Benton Harbor, Michigan  
VICE PRESIDENT, ZONE 1: Eric Scholtz, 4338 Country Club Dr., Utica, Michigan  
VICE PRESIDENT, ZONE 2: Charles L. Sherwood, 3541 Horton Rd., Jackson, Michigan  
VICE PRESIDENT, ZONE 3: Bart Thill, 2035 Lake Dr., S.E., Grand Rapids, Michigan  
VICE PRESIDENT, ZONE 4: Clifford MacLean, P.O. Box 371, Cedarville, Michigan  
TREASURER: John W. Klaiter, 4821 Division, N.W., Comstock Park (EM 1-6129)  
SECRETARY: Louis R. Harrington, 2361 First National Bldg., Detroit 48226, (WO 1-1621)  
INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE: William Hanson, 537 Cayuga Rd., Benton Harbor, Michigan

### AREA COUNSELORS

AREA 1: Ray McCaig, 21429 Mack Avenue, St. Clair Shores, (PR 2-6422) AREA 2: Michael Madgett, 8147 Ferris, Garden City, (GA 2-7764) AREA 3: Mel Holbertson, 14907 E. Eight Mile Road, Detroit 48205, (OL 1-8583) AREA 4: Herbert Benjamin, 2014 Hill, Saginaw, (PL 5-7942) AREA 5: Jerry Mast, Fairview, Michigan, AREA 6 & 7: Tim Bissington, 218 Cedar St., Boyne City, (JU 2-7913) AREA 8: Chester Oonk, 55 E. 17th St., Holland, (EX 6-7493) AREA 9: Homer Wiggandner, Elmwood Rd., Lansing, (IV 5-2315) AREA 10: Dr. Stuart Anderson, 820 Macomber, Greenville, (TSA-6539) AREA 11: Royal Zerbe, 204 Clinton, South Haven, (468-87) AREA 12: Lowell Wotte, 85 Wendell, Battle Creek 49517, (WO 2-5989) AREA 13: Ted Spry, 24 Princess Crescent, South Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada, (AL 3-5960) AT LARGE: Robert Tracy, 502 W. Central, Mackinaw City, (HE 6-0766)

### COMMITTEE HEADS

AWARDS: Louis R. Harrington, 2361 First National Bldg., Detroit 48226 AUDITING: Clarence Jalving, Peoples State Bank, Holland CONVENTION: Louis R. Harrington, 2361 First National Bldg., Detroit 48226 COSTUME & ELDINGS: O. E. Paik, 1830 Herkimer Dr., Jackson CREDENTIALS: Royal Zerbe, 204 Clinton, South Haven 49080 ETHICS: Robert Walker, 2123 Fruit Ridge Rd., Sparta FINANCE & BUDGET: John W. Klaiter, 4821 Division NW, Comstock Park LAWS & REGULATIONS: Mark Roberts, 14222 Jane, Detroit 48205 LONG RANGE PLANNING: Duane H. Mosier, 16139 Barkow, Detroit 48225 NOMINATING: Robert H. Walker, 3153 Fruit Ridge Rd., Sparta PUBLIC RELATIONS: John Conroy, 770 Woodlawn, Jackson QUARTET PROMOTION: Duncan Hanson, 16120 Kentfield, Detroit 48219 SONG OF THE YEAR: John Hill

June-July 1964

Vol. 14 - No. 6

Utterings  
from  
Oonk



Your favorite piece of mail arrives late. The reason? Your editor hopes you want a brief sketch of the International convention held last weekend in San Antonio.

+++++

### AUTO TOWNERS TAKE SIXTH

The Auto Towners were the Michigan district bright spot of the International. They sang their way to sixth place. This is as high as a Michigan district quartet has placed in many a year. I wonder how many of us realize how much time and determination was put into this sixth place achievement, not to mention the talent. I am sure the entire district joins with the Troubadour to say, "A job well done".

The Treble Shooters and the Four Fits sang well according to the information I have received. In an International convention there are no bad quartets. A quartet singing for the first time has a decided disadvantage and the awesome experience of competing in an International will make both of these foursomes better quartets

in the future. The Treble Shooters gained a 35th finish and the Four Fits were 41st out of a field of 45.

The Muskegon Port City Chorus ended up 14th in a field of 15. What happened? According to President Al, the Muskegon chorus never, and he means never, has sung a better job. Al states that the competition was just too tough. The Troubadour observes that we sent our very best and it was not good enough. Let's keep this in mind as we prepare for the September convention. We need larger choruses and more work.

+++++

### MICHIGAN JUDGES WORK

The Michigan district was represented at the International by O.B. Falls and Burt Szabo, who gave of their talents to help judge the contest. A tip of the Troubadour hat to these men for carrying the district banner into this most important field.

### OUR SOCIETY'S BEST

The International convention reveals the names of our ten best quartets and our five best choruses. The quartets are: The Sidewinders, Four Renegades, Night-hawks, Four Rascals, Impostors, Auto-Towners, Golden Staters, Journeymen, Four-Do-Matics and Bay Town Four.

The choruses are: The Border Chorders, Miamians, Chorus of the Dunes, Knoxville-Smokyland and Citrus Belters.

Congratulations to each of them.

### INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS NAMED

Al Smith, Fort Worth-president; Reddie Wright, Far Western-first vice president; James Steedman, Seneca Land and William Fitzgerald, Northeastern-vice presidents; Hugh Palmer, Ontario, Canada-treasurer.

+++++

### WHAT HAPPENED TO FOX?

A couple of months ago a fellow by the name of Chester Fox invaded our district. His official title is that of International Administrative Field Representative. He came with some simple, sound ideas that would help our district and our society leap to greater heights. His program was directed towards our district vice presidents and area counselors. His program was applauded by all who heard him. It would give this reporter great pleasure to write a page on the wonderful things that have happened since his visit, but it seems that, but for a few exceptions, when Mr. Fox departed from our district, his program left with him. Come on leaders..... lead and counselors.....counsel. Let's do more in '64.

+++++

### TROUBADOUR COPY DEADLINE AUGUST 29

Because we want to get the next issue of Troubadour to you before the district convention in Jackson, it is requested that chapter reporters get their copy in by August 29.

+++++

### BOARD MEETING JULY 25

The next district board meeting will be held July 25, in Grand Haven. Dinner is scheduled at one o'clock at Schuler's restaurant. Wives are invited and those who want to enjoy the hospitality of a Holland chapter beach party can do so that evening. The Board will finish their work Sunday morning.

## RAFTER RINGERS REGISTER

The Troubadour welcomes the district's newest quartet into the fold. They are the Rafter Ringers from the Grand Rapids chapter. Contact man is Robert M. Lovell. A hearty welcome fellows.

## JOHNSON BETTER THAN EVER

Reports from the areas worked by Bob Johnson during his recent tour through our district shout plaudits for the wonderful job he is doing as the society's director of musical activities. The district welcomed him with good turnouts at all of his stops. Chapter reports found in this issue provide proof that his program provides a lot of fun and are very educational to the singing membership.

## SENIOR QUARTET CONTEST

Featured again this year at the district convention will be the Senior Quartet Contest. This idea was first presented at the district convention in Holland last October. It met with mediocre success. This year, with Bill Hanson at the throttle, quartet entries are expected to triple. It is a serious contest which could easily have a quartet from every chapter competing. How about your chapter, are you going to be represented in this year's Senior Quartet Contest in Jackson? Here are the rules:

Bill Hansen, chairman, has announced that the following rules will apply to the second annual contest to be staged during the Fall convention in Jackson:

1. All contestants must be at least 45 years of age.
2. Each quartet will present two numbers of its own choosing.
3. Presentation of the two numbers must take at least four minutes and not over six minutes.
4. Quartets will be judged solely on the basis of Arrangement, Balance and Blend, Harmony Accuracy, and Voice Expression.
5. Uniforms, as such, will not be required; however, quartets will be expected to adopt a uniform mode of dress - comical dress acceptable.

+++++

## HARMONY HOUNDS -vs- TUNE TELLERS

Found in this issue is an opportunity for district barbershoppers to attend and participate in what shapes up to be one of the craziest outings ever to hit the great Michigan district. Two of the district's great quartets are to be pitted against each other in a duel of talents. The Troubadour received a challenge made by the Harmony Hounds to the Four Tune Tellers. It also received an acceptance. Read them. They are astute. Plan to show up at this frolicsome outing. It's the Hudson Golf Outing, September 12.

To give you some idea of how these quartets feel about this affair here is a part of the acceptance from the Tune Tellers:

"Whereas we the Four Tune Tellers have been challenged to a golf match. The date and place yet to be named (as long as it's on the Hudson Links on September 12) and whereas we take our golfing just as seriously as we do our singing, we do therefore take up the gauntlet and fling it right into their bowl of Kellogg's breakfast food and gladly accept said challenge knowing full well the consequence of exposing ourselves to the human fallout who call themselves the Food City Harmony Hounds."

## MEN OF NOTE AWARDS

The following men are taking seriously the plea made by president Burgess and are hard at work signing up new members. Congratulations go forth to these fellows from the Troubadour. Let's try for a full page of new names for the next issue.

Norman Touzeau and Frank Tritle from the Dearborn chapter; Maurice Davignon, Bill Butler, Joseph D. Wallace and Paul R. Lucht, Sr. from Detroit #1; James Hoglen from Battle Creek; Ronal Sawdon and Gerard Wrice from Flint; Maurice Humphrey from the Fruit Belt; Del Hathaway, Harold McFarland, Barton Tillit and Jack Sidor from Grand Rapids; Eldon Hansen and Larry Brown from Greenville; Ken Helder from Holland; Clarence Speckin from Ionia; C. Sherwood and C. Marx from Jackson; William Whippen and Daniel Kirk from Monroe; Bill Griffith and William Duplissis from Muskegon; Arthur Leaf from Oakland county; Dave Knapp, Eugene Gillem and Herb Benjamin from Saginaw; Lou Harrington from Suburban Detroit; Jim Harrison and Don Ware from Utica-Rochester; Jerry Reid from Wayne; Stan Dufour and Len Slater from Windsor.

+++++

# ON THE COVER

The cover of this issue of the Troubadour carries the words "We Sing That They Shall Speak". I share with you the limited information I have on these words. Months ago outgoing International President, Dan Waselchuk appointed a committee of four men to survey the opportunities our Society has for a combined effort of service. These men, Lou Laurel, O.H. King Cole, Rupert Hall and Al Smith worked diligently on their assignment and presented their findings at the International convention. Their program was warmly received and adopted. We now have as a Society, an international service project and our motto is, "We Sing That They Shall Speak". Our service is in the field of logopedics, which has to do with the correction of speech defects. The medical dictionary defines logopedia as, "A science dealing with speech defects and their correction".

The program is aimed at children. The clinic is located in Wichita, Kansas. Although national in scope, the project is in reality a community service also. Do you have a youngster living on your block that has a speech problem of one sort or another? Wouldn't it be great if your chapter would undertake the financial task of sending him or her to "our" clinic? The project of course is voluntary. If your chapter wishes to make a financial contribution, it should be sent to International and earmarked for the logopedics fund. We, as a Society, have sent an initial gift of approximately \$3000.00. I earnestly hope every chapter in the Michigan district, no matter how big or how small, how rich or how poor, will contribute regularly to this wonderful cause. For complete information on this undertaking, I suggest we look to the next edition of "The Harmonizer".

+++++

COPY DEADLINE AUGUST 29

# Following the Leader

AL BURGESS



No news is "BAD" news. Yup - when we fail to hear anything from yer chapter we just figure nothin's happenin'. Ninety nine per cent of the time we're right. It's been said that "silence is golden". Not so with barber-shopping. It just means yuh ain't done nuthin'.

I suggest we git busy doin' and then blab about what we're doin'. This great Michigan District needs to have every member of every chapter busy doin' somethin' to further the cause of SPEBSQSA, Inc. What have you done? What are you doin'? What can you do?

I challenge you - Mr. Barbershopper - to tell the "Barbershop Story" to one friend (or enemy) so that he becomes so well sold on your story that he too wants to be a part of this great society. No greater thrill can come to you as a barbershopper than that which comes when you can point with pride to a new member and say, "I was responsible for telling him about our society."

We'd have no membership problems anywhere if we'd all do this much. To how many have you told the story? Did ya quit after the first one or two? Keep tellin' it until you get yerself a new member. Don't give up the ship.

Let's not wait for the next couple of guys to start. Let's us (you and me) start it. Will yuh do this much please?

PLEASE just drop me a post card and say, "I've got one new man to join.

How 'bout that???

I'm goin' to look forward to havin' to get a bigger mail box.

I NEED TO GET 1500 POST CARDS FROM YOUSE GUYS -----LET'S BE HEARIN' FROM YUH.....

Early arrivals included John Zinnikas, Gordon Limburg, Al Rehkop, Bernie Smith, George Cox, Ted Robbins, Robert Miller, Dan McCarthy, Gordon Meiselbach, John Thomas, Duncan Hannah, Bob Burrell, Harold Sweeney, Al Maier, Robert Stone, Tom Rafferty, Bob Marshall, Cliff Douglas, Ed Lilly, William Van Bogelen, Stan Salter, Gordon Dubrul, Glenn Van Tassell, Dominic Palmieri, Bob Luscombe, Art Linde, Jack Rush, Ron DuMonthier, Lowell Thomas, Gene Schnieder, John Seemann, Ken Brown, James Hays, Al Martin, Lou Kapczi, Ralph Schirmer, Floyd Albert, John Hill, Tony Stornant, Loton Willson, Burt Szabo, Al Burgess, William Hansen, Charles Sherwood, Bart Tillitt, Clifford MacLean, John Klaiber, Gerrit Ver Veer, Emerson Sperling and Robert Weaver.

Enjoying the activities were Messres and Mesdames Frank Tritle, Bob Young, Jack Oonk, Chet Oonk, Eric Schultz, Mark Roberts, Halley Dion, C.D. Sanborn, Ray McCalpin, Russ Seely, John Wearing, Mel Holderness, Ernest Dossin, Ken Palmer, George Wilson, George Levette, Lisle Melvin, Dave Hoover, Ed Hock, Charles Sharrer, Fred Ford, Fred Granville, Cliff Jorgensen, William Favinger, Otto Vogel, George Acree, Matt Calderwood, Duane Mosier, Norm Shamus, Roger Craig, Cecil Craig, Robert Hart, William Hislop, Andy Donke-laar, Ed Wier, Don Handrich, Clint Bostick, Carl Dahlke, Ed McCarthy, Lyle Howard, Jack Caverly, Bill Wickstrom, Webb Scrivnor, Fred Kendall, Wally Joure, Wendell Derby, A.G. Ryden, Jerry Leroux, Bert Escott, and James Jackson.

It was especially nice to see Mr. and Mrs. James Davenport, Don Ware and his lovely bride, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Steel visiting from the east, and such long-time members as Messrs. and Mesdames Joseph Wolff, Al Eason, Tim Weber and W. Carleton Scott. Others in attendance were Mrs. Arthur Waite, Royal Zerbe, Herbert Benjamin, Bill Grumbly, Doug Beaver, Len Johnson, Dr. Stuart Anderson, Bob Hansen, Tom Venus, Lowell Wolfe, Dick Pancost, Dr. William Clark, Roger Lewis, William Whippen, Bert West, Bill Butler, Bob Whitledge, Bob Winter, Bob Boint, Roger Knapp, E.A. Vande Zande, Lloyd Unger, George Moeke, Marvin Burke, Michael Mudgett, Jerry Reid, Dale Clixby, John Linehan Tom Pollard, Al Fricker, Jay Gonyeau, Ray Meuer, Ed Hebert, George Ryan, Pat Ryan and many more.

+++++

## Lost 'Pole' Found By Greenville

Editor's note

Back in March of 1961, a barber pole was presented to the Grand Rapids chapter by the Kalamazoo chapter. This "visitor's trophy" was presented with the hope it would stimulate more inter-chapter relations. It was lost in the shuffle and in the March 1963 issue of the Troubadour an article was carried inquiring to its whereabouts. The lost is found and back at work. Bob Hanson, Greenville chapter reporter reports:

The district board and the Windsor chapter were kind enough to give the Greenville chapter a few minutes at the afterglo in which to sell some raffle tickets. After all it just wouldn't seem like a barbershop get-together if there wasn't some kind of raffle. Some time ago the Greenville chapter happened to come upon the long lost

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



THE  
FEMININE  
OBSERVER

ELLEN HARRINGTON



Windsor's famous hospitality attracted countless barbershoppers for the recent International preliminaries, and it was a pleasure to have International president Dan Waselchuk in attendance. Hosting were Messrs. and Mesdames Paul Eberwein, Joe Rouffer, Al Smith, Dick Ryan, Ken Bilton, John Ford, Bill Strong, Stan Du-four, Don Grandchamp, Gordon Lang, Doran McTaggart, William Jordan and George Spidy, Ted Verwey and Andy McCort.

"welcome guest" barber pole. A couple of years ago the Kalamazoo chapter made and presented this "pole" to the Grand Rapids chapter; and they were to present it to another chapter etc. Some where along the line it got lost and we just happened to stumble on to it. Our local board decided to get it back into circulation by raffling it at the Windsor after glo with the proceeds going to the Muskegon, San Antonio, travel fund. This we did, and the total proceeds, \$50.00, was presented to Al Burgess, director of the Muskegon Port City Chorus. The Boyne City chapter won the "pole" and now it is up to them to see that it keeps moving.

#### OUR CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations once again to the Windsor chapter for another excellent district contest and convention. Wish we had the facilities in Greenville to give it a try sometime. By the way, the Greenville chorus moved up from seventh place at Holland to sixth place in Windsor. At that rate we may just be able to make International in Chicago in 1966, if we work just a little harder.

#### CHORD COUNTS ENTERTAIN

The "wives night", held by the Greenville chapter, was a rousing success. On Saturday, May 23rd, we entertained the local barbershop "widows" to a small time meal and some big time barbershop entertainment at the Clifford Lake Hotel. The "big" entertainment was in the form of the fabulous Chord Counts from Holland, 1959 Michigan District Champs and 13th place International finalists. Wow--what a sound. In case you're not aware of it, the Counts are back in business again. Tenor, Marty Hardenberg, just couldn't stay away, fortunately for Mike Lucas, lead; Chet Oonk, baritone; and Jack Oonk, bass.

Escorting the Chord Counts to Greenville were Mrs. Hardenberg and Mrs. Chester Oonk, who incidently must be president of the Chord Count boosters club. I think she kinda likes that quartet almost as much as we in Greenville do.

#### JOHNSON IMPRESSES

We now have 12 qualified chorus directors in the Greenville chapter after our trip to Lansing on May 18 to hear and see Bob Johnson from International. I may be stretching it a bit, but at least I know that all 12 men who attended from Greenville will admit that they probably learned more in that three hours with Johnson than they have in the three years we've been chartered. We know for a fact that it has improved our chorus rehearsals 100% since singing under his hand on the 18th. If you're ever within driving distance of seeing this man work, don't miss it. Our only thought now, is when can we get some more coaching and instruction such as this, for both the chorus and quartets. The type of thing that Johnson is doing is what really promotes and perpetuates the society, from the chapter viewpoint. We thoroughly enjoyed it. Many thanks to the Lansing chapter for having us in.

#### AREA PICNIC JULY 19

The 2nd annual Area 8 and 10 family picnic sponsored by the Greenville chapter will be held on Sunday, July 19 at Townsend Park, near Grand Rapids. This is a family affair. Everybody is to bring their own picnic lunch and Greenville will furnish the liquid refreshments

and dessert...(soft drinks for the kids). We plan to get under way at 1:00 p.m. with the picnic. Of course, barbershop entertainment will follow. Townsend Park is four miles north of Grand Rapids on U.S.131 and then right (east) on Cannonsburg Road for six miles; then follow the signs to the Greenville Chapter Area. All barbershoppers are invited. We especially encourage attendance from the Grand Rapids, Holland, Muskegon, Ionia and Gratiot County chapters. Committee men working with the picnic chairman Arnie Staffen are: Norm Lantry, grounds; Dr. Stu Anderson, liquid refreshments; and Dr. Allan Ralph, refreshments.

#### JONES DIRECTS ADELINES

We have lost our assistant chorus director, Francis Jones, for at least a couple of Monday nights a month. He's consented to direct the local Sweet Adeline chorus. They're starting to gang up on us, here in Greenville.

The chapter chorus under the direction of Jerry Meade performed for the 75th annual Greenville alumni association banquet on Saturday, June 6.

Stop in and sing with us any Monday night at the Commercial bank in Greenville,

reporter: bob hansen



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS



WILLIAM HANSEN

As of this writing, there is very little in the way of International news to report; however, there will no doubt be an abundance to report upon my return from the International Convention in San Antonio. In the meantime, I would like to comment concerning the rules of the Senior Quartet Contest, as set out elsewhere in this issue of the Troubadour.

The rules concerning the categories to be judged and the mode of dress are not the whim of any one individual - they resulted from a discussion had with several individuals who competed in the first contest held last year in Holland.

It is honestly felt that stage presence should not be a determining factor because the primary purpose of the contest is to promote quartet singing among those who have had years of experience and who have not "kept their hand in" for one reason or another. Another determining factor regarding the absence of the stage presence category is that expense of a uniform could well prove to be a deterrent.

I sincerely hope the rules are acceptable to all concerned. Any suggestions will be gratefully accepted and given the utmost consideration with respect to future contests.

The successful promotion of the second annual Senior Quartet Contest will be of tremendous benefit to our great Michigan District. As far as I'm concerned, the "proof of the pudding" will be measured in terms of competing quartets - not by the number who talk a good contest but fail to enter.

# CHALLENGE



We the par-shootin' Harmony Hounds of Battle Creek, Michigan, consisting of "Jack N." Pancost, "Arnie P." Wolfe, "Julius B." Clark and "Gary P." Lewis do hereby challenge the Four Tune Tellers (better known as the Four Tune Duffers) quartet of Jackson, Michigan to a match of their skills?? in golf, eating, singing, or anything else they think they can do.

Whereas, the Four Tune Duffers are hereby requested to either go and hide or to accept above challenge. It shall be their privilege to name time, date and place, providing of course, they name the Hudson Golf Outing on September 12, 1964. Weapons will be golf clubs, barbershop harmony and any other equipment which may be helpful. No holds barred, with one exception - - limit of two "gotchas" per hole. The match shall be played for 18 holes and is to be played under certified Harmony Hound rules, recognized throughout the district as below par.

Should any other quartet or foursome have the intestinal fortitude to match their ball-dubbing efforts against the tremendous talents of the Harmony Hounds, let them appear at the Hudson Golf Outing on September 12, prepared for battle.

Prizes and trophies to be announced later. (We don't want any pigs fellas.)

Signed

Harmony Hounds



## WESTERN UNION

1201

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

### CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

### SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter  
 NL=Nite Letter  
 LT=Inc'l Letter Telegram  
 VLT=Inc'l Letter, Ltr.

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

To Harmony Hounds

Returning immediately from another triumphant parade circuit STOP  
 Imperative we rehearse golf game STOP Have been challenged by Huckle-  
 berry Harmony Hounds STOP Must have rocks in heads STOP Need more  
 than practice STOP Send top professionals Hudson Golf Course September  
 12 1964 STOP Anyone in district that can help please come STOP Same  
 for those who can't STOP Need new caddies STOP Suggest Lou Jack Chet  
 and Al STOP Make mine a Chevy STOP Need help on short gotchas STOP  
 Suggest suppositories STOP

From Four Tune Tellers

# The Voice Box



It is with regret that I feel compelled to write this letter after twelve years as an active barbershopper and a member of various quartets most of these years. Yes, I've had complaints before, but not to the extent of writing to some official of the organization or asking that a complaint be published so that something may be done about it.

I am co-chairman of our show committee for 1965. We got an early start, had a couple of meetings, established a budget and began seeking talent. This is where I blew my top.

Although the international powers have strived to put the society on a more professional plane (and rightly so) we are still amateurs. Top notch - but still amateurs. You wouldn't think so though when you begin getting "quotes" from the contact men of some of the quartets. And here I have to give the Buffalo Bills credit: they make no bones about it and pay an agent's fee. Some of the amateur quartets, although closer in proximity want as much or more proportionately than the Buffalo Bills.

I know that this is a free democracy, fees are based on supply and demand and what the traffic will bear. However, this shows no consideration for the smaller or beginning chapters whose treasury is small. And it certainly is far from the precepts on which this organization was founded.

Barbershopping is a hobby. But, if you're in a good quartet it can be a hobby that doesn't cost much except time. However, some of the quartets seem to think that they should be reimbursed for that too - and quite liberally.

I suppose this won't accomplish much constructively. However, if it will make quartet members take a second thought as to how much they may be helping a chapter and furthering the society rather than how much they are going to put in the pocket, I'll be happy.

Very truly yours,

*Paul E. Borton*

Paul E. Borton, O.D.

+++++

## Flint Wins Woodshedding Contest

Fourteen members of the Flint chapter converged on the area woodshedding contest at Pontiac Friday evening, May 15, and walked off with the much coveted Carroll P. Adams Bennington Trophy.

A well attended meeting was held on May 12 at which our newest member, Girard Wrice, signed up his first new member (Girard has been a member two months). A Golden Note to him with our congratulations.

## JOHNSON WORKS TO FULL HOUSE

"Bob Johnson Night" was attended by members from Pontiac, Utica-Rochester, Holly-Fenton, Milford, Saginaw and Flint chapters. This provided Bob with a full

house to whom to convey his enthusiastic message. The Delta-Aires, Cross-Towners and Suspend-a-Chords furnished the after-meeting entertainment to complete a wonderful evening.

## LANG SIGNS UP NUMBER TWO

May 26, a regular meeting, was a singing evening, at which this reporter signed member number two this spring. That's three. We are out to show Al that we can exceed our quota. How about the rest of you chapters?

June 6 Flint woodshedded in the woods of Mio. It turned out to be quite an evening of fun. Chords and chords of it.

The Flint chapter will continue to have regular meetings through the summer every second and fourth Tuesday, so come and join us in harmony anytime.

As for me, you will be hearing from me through the Troubadour next fall, so until then have an harmonious summer.

reporter: les lang

+++++

## Gillem Praises Boyne City Bush League

Another Bush League Contest is history. By now the Michigan district must know from the very good coverage by the Troubadour editor, Jack Oonk, our own Delta Aires from Saginaw won the Bush League Contest with a very astute job of bending chords, stage presence, harmony accuracy and all that goes with it. It was a close contest. (I would hate to be a judge.) The astonishing part of their winning was the actual time they had been together. (Approximately seven weeks at that time.)

I would like, on behalf of myself and the Saginaw chapter, to thank Loton Wilson and of course the whole Boyne City chapter for hosting this contest again this year. This has become a tradition with me. (Twelve years attending.) There's no place on earth I would rather be when this date rolls around each year; not even at the Sweet Adeline regional that seems to be held on the same week end every year. This might bear looking into next year and try to alternate so some of the Sweet Adeline husbands can attend instead of baby sitting on this week end.

Ten members of the Saginaw chapter attended the session with Bob Johnson at Flint May 19. Fellas, if you haven't attended one of these sessions, by all means do. You will never regret doing so.

Here's wishing you all a great summer of harmony. It is vacation time fellas, but please don't get lethargy and figure because it is hot and muggy, "I think I will stay home tonight because there probably won't be many there anyway." This kind of thinking is dangerous to morale and particularly discouraging to a program chairman trying to plan a program.

Sing up a storm fellas. We need the rain.

+++++  
COPY DEADLINE AUGUST 29

## 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 Initiates Seven

Highlighting our most recent chapter meeting was a bang up initiation conducted by the "best darn lead in western Michigan", Pete Elkins. If you have any doubt of Pete's abilities ask any one of the seven candidates, Larry Humphrey, Dan Hulmont, Maurie Potgetter, Jim Eton, Dell Hathaway, Jerry Telman, and Jim Horton. Y'see, Pete played truth or consequences with them and guess who lost?

Pete felt that new members being borne to the society should be properly attired and so each was provided with diapers. Following a brief trot around the Pant-lind messanine-to tone up- the guys were put on a diet of bubblegum, raw eggs, and singing--lots and lots of singing.

We're proud to say that everyone passed the initiation but woe unto them what didn't show up.

reporter: jack sidor

+++++

## Dearborn Toasts New Chorus Champions

It seems chorus rehearsals are getting better all the time. Especially when it includes a visit (surprise at that) to another chapter. This was the case on May 19 as the Dearborn chorus pulled up lock stock and barrel (or should we say cases?) and moved enmass to Wayne to congratulate the Regional Chorus Champions on a job really well done.

Some of the chorus members of Dearborn remember it was the same Wayne chapter that visited our hospital-ity room in Windsor, just after our being crowned Michigan District Champions a year or so back.

It was a toss of the coin as to who had more fun---the visitors or the hosts. Still it was a good chance to say "congratulations" in person from all the members of the Dearborn chapter.

The Dearborn chapter also gave their congratulations to their own "Auto Towners" for being number one again in regional competition. They have been number one as far as the Dearborn chapter is concerned for a long time and we are hoping they come back from San Antonio number one.

May was a month of visiting and being visited. The visit this time being in the person of one, Mr. Barry Hale, from the Mount Ascutney chapter, Springfield, Vermont. Barry dropped into rehearsal on May 26. Barry, he is and bari, he was and a good one too. It must be that good New England air. We hope he drops in again whenever he is within earshot of a barbershop chord.

reporter: don sheridan

## Holly-Fenton Golf Outing July 19

Our stag golf tournament is set for July 19, starting at noon sharp. The ladies will be on hand at 4 o'clock for a picnic lunch. Each contestant will be able to choose one club which he will use all through the tournament. It should be a lot of fun.

No date has been set for the annual Lake Fenton raft ride. It will probably be in August. We have been offered another place on the lake from which we will start. There is plenty of parking space just off Fenton Road.

Our annual picnic will be held on either September 13 or 20, at the Tyrone Sunken Gardens.

### JOHNSON WELL RECEIVED

About 50% of our membership attended the Bob Johnson night in Flint on May 19. After sitting through one of Bob's two and a half hour programs, it is plain to see why he was chosen to head our society's musical activities program. His demonstration is highly educational with just enough comedy thrown in to make you want more

reporter: art burnett

+++++

## Hollanders 'Buffalo' Their Sponsors

Holland's Tulip Time Parade is now past history, but the hall is still ringing from chords belted by the Four Fathers, Sweet Adelines Related Four (singing dolls), the Extension Chords, the Chord Counts and the Windmill chorus, and if this wasn't enough, the Banjo Tainers had the audience begging for more. All in all it was a very excellent program and was very well received. The show chairman for next year's parade has his work cut out for him trying to do better than this year.

Every year the sponsors on the program of the parade are treated to an outing or picnic. So far we have had a roast leg of beef, a barbecued pig and this year we had a buffalo roast. You could tell it was authentic buffalo because on the other side was an indian head. The meat was very good, partly due to the marinated sauce served before and after the main course. As usual, several marinated sponsors have already signed up for next year. We had a good crowd and we are beginning to suspect the sponsors buy space only to get to the party and not for the business they receive from advertising in our program.

The chorus has a show scheduled for the middle of July at one of the local resorts. We then have a couple of picnics before we down to the serious business of getting ready for chorus competition. We believe that a group that plays together stays together and the only workers are the committee members.

We have a couple of new quartets who are going to have their launching at our show in July. We're sure they are going to do a bang up job and you will be hearing more from them.

reporter: bob birce

+++++

COPY DEADLINE AUGUST 29

GOT A CHAPTER PROBLEM???  
CALL YOUR AREA COUNSELOR



# Have Tunes... Will Travel



Meet the  
**Spec-Tacul-Airs**

contact  
**Dr. Stuart Anderson**  
123 E. Cass St.  
Greenville



Meet the  
**WONDERLADS**

contact  
**Hank DeVries**  
1257 Potomac Drive  
Rochester

Meet the  
**SING SING FOUR**

contact  
**Ken Brown**  
2025 Mason St.  
Toledo 5, Ohio



Meet the  
**Spar-Tone-Airs**

contact  
**Stuart Palmer**  
1503 Plainfield N.E.  
Grand Rapids



Meet the  
**DELTA-AIRES**

Contact  
**Herb Benjamin**  
2314 Hill Street  
Saginaw



Meet the  
**MERRI-MEN**

contact  
**Doug Stephens**  
1403 Cooper Ave.  
Lansing

Meet the  
**FOREMASTERS**

We make other quartets  
look good

contact  
**Tom Damm**  
18148 Lovell Rd.  
Spring Lake



Meet the  
**HARMONY  
HOUNDS**

contact  
**Dr. Wm. Clark**  
421 E. Minges Rd.  
Battle Creek



Meet the  
**CHORD COUNTS**

Ladies & Chapter  
parties only

contact  
**Chester Oonk**  
55 E. 17th Street  
Holland



Meet the  
**EXTENSION  
CHORDS**

contact  
**Don Hall**  
2243 Cambridge  
Grand Rapids



# THE MICHIGAN DISTRICT AND ITS MEN OF HARMONY

By Mark P. Roberts

## THE MIDDLE YEARS IN MICHIGAN

During the late forties, much thought and work was devoted to improving the society structure and establishing the proper area of interest of the International, the Districts and Chapters. Our contest and judging rules and procedures were completely revised and quartet clinics, to evaluate the performance of quartets in contests, first came into use. Michigan men, led by Ed Smith and Carroll Adams, were deeply involved in all these programs and the Michigan District was still riding the crest. The 1949 Regional Contest was held in Detroit at Cass Technical High School and the District meeting at the Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel. New District officers elected at this meeting were C. W. Coye of Grand Rapids, President; Frank Brown of Lansing and Mark Roberts of Grosse Pointe, Vice-Presidents; Lou Harrington, Secretary, and Horance Conklin of Battle Creek, Treasurer. The District imposed a per capita dues for the first time when the House of Delegates voted an annual levy of fifty cents per member. It is interesting to note that the International per capita dues at this time was only three dollars per year. Barbershoping, along with most other things, was less expensive.

The 1949 District Preliminary Contest was a dandy and emerging to represent Michigan at the International Contest were the Antlers, Clef-Dwellers, Gardenaires and Songmasters with the Detroiters named as alternate. The International was held in Buffalo and Michigan stunned the rest of the Society by gathering in three of the five medalist places. The Clef-Dwellers finished second behind the MidStates, the Antlers were third and the Songmasters fourth. The Gardenaires were finalists and just barely off the medalist pace. The Ben Landino International Quartet Championship Trophy, donated by Ben and the Grosse Pointe Chapter, was awarded for the first time when Ben made the initial presentation to the Mid States. The interesting history of this beautiful trophy, entirely handcrafted by Ben Landino, will be given later along with that of the International Chorus Championship Trophy which was also the product of Ben's genius as a craftsman.

The 1949 District Quartet Contest was held at the Pease Auditorium in Ypsilanti and was sponsored by the Ypsilanti and Wayne Chapters. The Interludes of Midland, composed of Luman Bliss, tenor; Bill McIntire, lead; Ralph Hand, baritone; and Chet Payne, bass, won the District title. In second place was the Men of Achord of Saginaw (Melcher, Keane, Franz and Kipfmiller) and third place went to the Songmasters (Hawkins, Bottom, Winegardner and McAttee.) The Note Blenders of Oakland County (Swanson, Eby, Cannon and Dubrul) walked off with the Novice Crown. Among the other thirteen quartets that competed in this contest, we note the intriguing and impressive personnel listing of the Lansing Esquires which was Buffington, Buffington, Hintington and Huntington and this should be worth some sort of prize in any barbershop quartet contest. Perhaps we should award more prizes, particularly to quartets

which overcome obstacles of various kinds to be able to compete. I recall one such effort by a talented group which not only had the tools to take top honors but also had the temporary advantage of my genius as a coach. The five of us, with a coterie of rooters, boarded a bus in Detroit and headed for the District contest scheduled for that evening. One of the quartet sat in the rear of the bus with some jolly friends who produced a bottle of Old Uncle Jed's Cream of the South, or something, which was 100 proof on the label - but probably 120 proof inside. After a few belts from Old Uncle Jed, our quartet boy was higher than John Glenn ever got and with prospects of staying in orbit much longer. At this point the other members of the quartet took him in hand for purposes of resuscitation. Their efforts were reasonable enough to start with but became more frantic as our destination and contest time grew closer. They opened the bus windows and let the cool breezes blow on him; at every stop they walked him around and around the bus; in town they plied him with coffee, gave emetics and would have used a stomach pump if one could have been found. Finally, a cold shower and more fresh air exercise were tried. By this time our friend, instead of being another victim of Old Uncle Jed's concoction, was coherent, reasonably steady on his feet and actually in better condition than the other members of the quartet who were exhausted by their labors. They made it on stage, however, and managed a third place finish which was very good under the circumstances. The 1950 District Spring meeting and Preliminary Contest were held at Midland on May 5th. District officers elected at this meeting were: President, Mark P. Roberts (Heck--it was easy. All I promised was no dues; a guaranteed membership increase formula; a tenor procurement program that would provide forever all the "high C" lyric tenors that we would ever need, and a District championship for every quartet) Vice Presidents, Lester Davis of Lansing and Bob Newman of Sturgis; Secretary, Lou Harrington (there were a number of votes for Ellen Harrington by those who claimed that Ellen was the real secretary and did all the work while Lou took the bows) and Treasurer, Clarence Jalving.

Entered for the 1950 International Preliminaries were the Antlers, Tune Vendors of Dowagiac, Gardenaires, Men of Achord, Collegians of Grosse Pointe, Interludes, Clef Dwellers and Noteblenders of Oakland County, Flexibles and Crow-Matix of Muskegon, Aetna Cementers of Bay City, Four Huron Hoarsemen of Ypsilanti and Four Keys from Three Rivers. From this talented collection, the Antlers, Clef Dwellers, Crow Matix (Warren, Dobb, Hollar and Lund) and Noteblenders were chosen to go to the International contest held that year in Omaha, Nebraska. Michigan again dominated the big contest when the Clef Dwellers, Antlers and Noteblenders finished second, third and fifth respectively behind the champion Buffalo Bills. The Clef Dwellers and Noteblenders, being from Oakland County, that chapter shares with the Springfield, Illinois, Chicago and Pittsburgh chapters the rare distinction of having two International Medalist quartets in the same year.

Pontiac was the scene of the 1950 District Contest and meeting, held on October 21st. Nothing of particular import came out of the business meeting except a decision to have a District Chorus Contest. Seventeen quartets competed in the contest and the Tune Vendors of Do-

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

wagiac (Jim McGlynn, tenor; Bert Hepps, lead; Tom Grove, baritone and Bob Mullen, bass) was picked as District Champion. The Noteblenders took second and third place went to the Crow-Matix. The Accidental Four of Oakland County (Beamer, Sherwood, Sherman and Holmes) captured the Junior Championship and the Novice Crown went to the Harmony Prospectors of Sault Ste. Marie (Anderson, Laudenslager, Bast and Ward). Other quartets in this competition were the Chord Binders of Oscoda County, Clippers of East Detroit, Four Huron Hoarsemen of Ypsilanti, Four Keys of Three Rivers, Four Shorties of Detroit, Harmo Knights of Redford, Hudson Treble Makers, Melody Lanes of Dearborn, Nite Owls of Northwest Detroit, Pitch Pipers of Grand Rapids, Three Pints and a Peck of Hudson and the Night Howls of Fenton.

For the first and only time in the District's history, a contest and convention was held in the Upper Peninsula when Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan hosted the 1951 International Preliminary and Spring meeting. New District officers elected at this meeting were Jack Dollenmaier of Bay City, President; Loton Willson of Boyne City and Harold Stark of Mio, Vice-Presidents; Harrington, Secretary, and Jalving, Treasurer. In the quartet contest, the Clef Dwellers (with Ed Easley now singing baritone in place of Bill Johnston) the Noteblenders and Tune Vendors were selected as our representatives in the International Contest. Lansing's Merri-Men, (Hawkins, Bullock, Washburn and Stephens) making their first contest appearance, was named the alternate quartet. Other quartets in the contest were the Four Huron Hoarsemen, Ambassadors of Detroit, Crow-Matix, Harmony Prospectors and Holly Hometowners of Holly. In the International Contest at Toledo the Clef Dwellers took medalist honors for the fourth straight year and Michigan has not had a medalist quartet since this fine quartet decided to forego further competition. The Antlers, also a medalist at Toledo, had moved to Florida and represented the Dixie District in that contest.

The 1951 District Quartet Contest was held at Saginaw on October 13th. Assembled for a run at the District championship were the Town Criers of Kalamazoo, Hudson Treble Makers, Esquires of Lansing, Merri-Men of Lansing, Royal Oak Quartet, Crow-Matix, Night Howls of Fenton, Men of Achord of Saginaw, Overtones of Benton Harbor, Muskegon Four-Fathers, Bel-Aires of Grosse Pointe, Rov-A-Notes of Three Rivers and County Seaters of Dowagiac. The Merri-Men (Howard Hawkins, tenor; Dale Bullock, lead; Louis Bean, baritone; Douglas Stephens, bass) were named the new District Champions. In second place was the Bel-Aires of Grosse Pointe (Gordon Limburg, Robert Burrell, Richard Denbroeder and Ted Windship) and third place went to the Crow-Matix (Warren, Dobb, Hollar and Lund). The Junior Champs were the Town Criers of Kalamazoo with Louis Johnson, tenor; John Baker, lead; Earl Cook, baritone; Ken Barrett, bass. The Four Fathers of Muskegon (Cliff Van Riper, Mel Westerlind, Tom Damm and Clarence Bristol) took Novice honors.

- TO BE CONTINUED -

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



**NOTES FROM  
THE SECRETARY**  
LOUIS R. HARRINGTON

The District convention is set for Friday, September 25, 1964, with registration at the Hayes Hotel beginning at 3:30 p.m. Write the hotel direct for reservations. Co-chairmen are Charles L. Sherwood, 2511 Horton Road, Jackson, and Henry G. Moorehead, 7899 E. Michigan Avenue, Jackson. All-events tickets will be \$7.00 or \$6.00 for contestants. The annual House of Delegates meeting will be held at 8:00 p.m. Friday evening and includes the election of District officers for 1965. There will be a pre-glo, Friday evening, at 9:30. Contest events will be held at the Jackson High School, just a short distance from the hotel, on Saturday, September 26th, with quartet preliminaries scheduled at 10:00 a.m., the chorus contest to determine our representative in International competition in Boston at 2:00 p.m., finals at 8:00 p.m. and after-glo at the Hayes Hotel at 11:00 p.m. There will be a quartet and chorus clinic on Sunday morning, and coffee and doughnuts will be served from 8 to 11 a.m. Entry blanks will be mailed to all registered quartets and choruses. If you do not receive one, contact the District Secretary's office. Plan now to participate and attend.

\* \* \*

Past International Vice-president Ed Schwoppe states that the Mt. Clemens chapter does not intend to "hang up the pitchpipe", and now has servicemen from from Selfridge Field harmonizing with them.

\* \* \*

Chapters should also be giving consideration to the men who are to be elected to the various chapter offices this fall. Each chapter president should have named his nominating committee by now. Elections of officers for 1965 are mandatory in October under the Uniform Chapter By-Laws.

\* \* \*

The advent of the summer months focuses interest on the International convention and also provides a wonderful opportunity for chapters to arrange outdoor outings and interchapter events. Once again J. L. Hudson's department store has featured quartets prominently in their annual "Good Old Summer-time" extravaganza. Best wishes for a harmonious and fun-filled summer.

+++++

**Utica-Rochester Busy During June**

Utica-Rochester is on the go again. We held our very successful show on the 6th of June. The featured quartets, the Nighthawks, Imposters and the Fourmasters put on one of the best shows ever. Prospective barber-shoppers who attended the show were treated to an evening of song, food and drink. On the 19th of June we listened to a fine tape which was produced during National barbershop week by the Pontiac and Utica-Rochester choruses.

reporter: "cy" pelican

## Windsor Chapter Keeps Husling

The Windsor chapter would like to thank all the barbershoppers and their friends who helped to make the regional contest such a big success. They are really pleased by the support and encouragement given them by the Michigan district. They feel the smartest move the Windsor chapter ever made was when they decided to join the Michigan district.

Two important functions were performed by the Windsor chapter in June. First, they put on a show for the shut-ins of the Essex County Sanatorium. These people are mainly suffering from tuberculosis and so need all the cheering up they can get. The Windsor chapter has entertained there for the last two years and has been warmly received. This year's visit was the best ever.

Next, they put on a show in the town of Leamington. This town is about forty miles from Windsor and is the home of the H. J. Heinz Co. They are sponsoring the Windsor chapter.

A Windsor quartet, the Vocal-Chorders, have been kept busy this last month. Besides performing their all important function as official mike tester at the regional contest, they sang on two successive Thursdays at the C.H. Smith Co. anniversary sale. This is one of Windsor's largest department stores. The management of the store was thrilled by the quartet and by the overwhelming crowds who invaded the store to hear them. He mentioned a return visit in the fall.

The quartet also performed at a Mason's Father and Son banquet. Some top professional entertainers were also featured on the same program, but the quartet stole the show. What performers. Upon completion of these functions, the baritone, Bill Fleming, was replaced by Don Mc Taggart.

reporter: bill fleming

+++++

## Anderson Counsels Gratiot County

We had a visit this past month from our area counselor, Stu Anderson. It was the night of our board meeting, and Stu couldn't have timed it any better. He was there to talk about membership, and this was one of our prime reasons for the board meeting. Good timing Stu, and thank you very much for your needed assistance. We are planning on using your ideas for a big membership drive.

### JOHNSON IMPRESSES

About fifteen of the Gratiot County members took a trip to Lansing and visited their chapter meeting. We didn't realize it, but we were in for a lesson. Bob Johnson was there and let me tell you, that was a lesson that won't be forgotten for awhile. We learned about the overtones, which we didn't hear before, the men who thought they couldn't read music found out they could. When the meeting was over, many barbershoppers were amazed. They really could read music.

reporter: leon webb

## Adelines Visit Three Rivers Meeting

The Three Rivers chapter continues its practice of community service. The chorus recently sang for an all church picnic.

On Monday, May 18, a newly formed group of Sweet Adelines (about 20) called on our regular meeting to learn more about barbershopping. reporter: oscar brast

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

To



ROBERT L MILLER  
576 DE SOTO  
YPSILANTI MICH

156

## Coming Events

August 15, 1964	Oscoda County Parade
September 19, 1964	Blue Water Parade, South Haven
September 25-27, 1964	District Contest, Jackson
October 3, 1964	Gratiot County
October 3, 1964	Fruit Belt Parade
October 17, 1964	Lansing Parade
October 24, 1964	Oakland County Barbershop Hootenanny
November 7, 1964	Detroit Parade
November 28, 1964	Holly-Fenton Parade
January 23, 1965	Pontiac Parade
February 6, 1965	Monroe Parade
February 20, 1965	Niles-Buchanan Parade
March 6, 1965	Wayne Parade
March 13, 1965	Greenville Parade
March 27, 1965	Battle Creek Parade
June 5, 1965	Utica-Rochester Parade
October 9, 1965	District Contest, Battle Creek



**MICHIGAN DISTRICT CONTEST  
AND CONVENTION  
SEPTEMBER 25-26-27**