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THE Michigan Troubadour

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November 1964

Vol. 14 - No. 9

Utterings
from
Oonk



Periodically the mail slot of the Troubadour receives a letter which contains legitimate gripes from barber-shoppers in our District. These letters are generally bitter letters from a barbershopper who usually has reason to complain. The latest of these letters came from a gentleman from a chapter that isn't a chapter. I quote a couple of his thoughts:

".....After seven years of faithful and enjoyable membership I just watched my FAVORITE chapter die. It was born in 1939 by some fellows who like to sing, have a good time and liked each other's company. They and those who came after became pretty hard and loyal workers or we wouldn't have lasted this long. The chapter did well for many years but the last seven or eight years things got tough. It went a little downhill, couldn't quite make that twenty-five man charter deal..... Got reams and reams of useless mail from Headquarters, filled a waste basket each week, BUT NO HELP, not from KENOSHA, not from the DISTRICT. Oops, sorry we had

a few well-meaning people come and talk at our meetings, but THOSE PRESENT DIDN'T NEED THE TALK. WE WERE THERE BECAUSE WE WERE ALREADY SOLD ON BARBERSHOPPING.....In this writer's humble opinion we need to get back to the O.C. Cash type of BARBERSHOPPING and away from the halls of Ivy in Kenosha. WE need to back off from big business tactics and from making a pro out of John BLOW.....Check your statistics and see if we're not losing members every month."

This last sentence carries distasteful truth. We are losing members and not just one at a time. We are losing them by the chapter. In Les Lang's chapter bulletin he mentioned the folding of the Boyne City Chapter. The above excerpts come from a member of the now defunct East Detroit Chapter. In a letter received from International to the District Area Counselors it was stated that as of October 22 we as a Society were 1,485 members behind last year. It also stated that 47% of the third quarter renewals had not renewed. Renewals for the third quarter, Society wise, number 1352. Of this number I am sure that our District had its share. It's not as bad as all that? It was only a few issues of Troubadour ago that your new and eager editor spouted out things like 2000 members in the Michigan District by 1965. This month his mailing list from International lists 1399.

Let's mull it over. First, who and what is to blame? We must face the fact that we are what we are. We cannot go back to the old days and ways even if we wanted to. We have, since our birth, had many goals to aim for. Some of these goals were accomplished. Some are still being sought. Through the years one could watch the changes. We cleaned up our reputation as a saloon organization. Our caliber of singing was vastly improved. We began to get a little recognition for doing community service. With all of our improvements came the inevitable problems. Some of our improvements of yesterday are some of our problems today. A forinstance would be the upgrading of our caliber of singing. Some of our quartets became so versatile that other quartets were discouraged from serious work. We as a Society lean more each year to the chorus. Already the size of some choruses discourages some of the smaller groups from serious competition.

These are just a few of many problems that are facing our Society and these, like most of our other problems, have come about because of the fact that our Society is growing. We are growing in many directions at the same time and right now our growing is costing us some members. Yes, it's costing us some of our small chapters. Losing the smaller chapter is a serious problem, one that will require some hard and fast thinking by the officers of our District and International. The Troubadour can't help but think that all of our growing pains combined have brought SPEBSQSA to another threshold. Thinking members have provided us with a solution. A bright horizon lies ahead. All we must do is walk into it. The bright light is community service. The bright light is Logopedics. The bright light is "Speechtown". The bright light is your giving of your God given talent to help someone less fortunate.

Found elsewhere in this issue of Troubadour is a feature on "Speechtown, U.S.A." I ask you to read it. Judge it for yourself and see if you do not get a feeling of wanting TO SING.....THAT THEY SHALL SPEAK.

ON THE COVER

How can a quartet man who has experienced the thrill of locking chords in close harmony and felt the responsive rapport of an applauding audience ever relinquish his membership in the Society--and on the other hand, how can some members devote so much time, effort and expense to the organization with little or no recognition.

Such a dedicated and devoted member, John W. Klaiber, has served the chapters faithfully and well for 10 years as treasurer of the Michigan District with an enviable record of integrity and accomplishment and has now requested that someone else assume the office he has held with such distinction.

During his tenure, a sound financial structure has been established for the District, thereby offering many services to the chapters.

An astute businessman, he is sales representative of Klaiber Manufacturing Company and spends a great deal of his time traveling on business during the week. Then, in addition to the time spent diligently looking after the financial affairs of the District, he is frequently required to travel considerable distances to Board meetings to confer with the other officers on District business and has missed few, if any, meetings over the years. Few realize the time this requires.

Although he watches District finances closely, he is personally a most genial and hospitable host, which is typical of the Klaiber clan--including his beautiful and charming wife, Bea, their two daughters and son. Their married daughter now lives in Franklin and Jack and Bea are proud grandparents.

Jack is a man of many interests and enjoys a variety of sports in the leisure time he has. He pilots his own plane and enjoys swimming, sailing and golfing.

A bass of some renown, he has sung with the International and District championship Great Lakes chorus since its inception, and is also currently singing with a quartet known as The Presidents, composed of Ed Gaikema, Bob Walker and Peter Pell--all past presidents of the Grand Rapids chapter. In addition to serving as chapter president, he and his brother, Bud, have organized chapter trips to various International conventions and taken an active part in Grand Rapids' Great Lake Invitational weekends--which is one of the most outstanding events in the Society.

When the program was initiated, he ably filled the position of area governor, now known as area counselors.

For a number of years, he was business manager and photographer of the Troubadour and worked closely with his friend, the late Roscoe Bennett. Anyone who has had the privilege of associating with able and personable Jack Klaiber will attest to the fact that he is wonderful to work with and great fun to know.

GOT A CHAPTER PROBLEM???
CALL YOUR AREA COUNSELOR



Meet The Wonderlads

Troubadour proudly presents a "profile" on the Wonderlads. A really sweet singing foursome, they have fought personnel changes like many quartets but have stuck at it and now own one of the finest sounds that our District possesses.

The Wonderlads were formed in 1959. Stan Salter is the only original member remaining. Gordy Dubrul took over baritone in 1960. Hank De Vries joined the group as lead in 1960 and in November of 1961 Ray Strachan took over the bass duties.

Since that time they have been a busy quartet performing on many parades and shows, singing in churches, hospitals and many other worthwhile performances.

They have competed in quartet competition placing second in the Boyne "Bush League" in 1962 and came back to win it in 1963. Also, in 1963 they placed third in the competition held in Holland. In May of 1964 they sang the Windsor convention and placed in the finals.

The quartet is composed of: Tenor, Stan Salter, age 36, member of Utica-Rochester Chapter, married and has two children. He has been in the Society since 1950. Stan is past director of the Utica-Rochester chorus and is currently head of the vocal music department at Utica High School.

Baritone, Gordon Dubrul, age 34, is a member of Oakland County Chapter, is married and has two children. He has been in the Society since 1949. Gordon sang in a quartet while in the navy, making appearances in France, Italy and Turkey. He also sang with the Sonic Aires in 1958-59. He is manager of a salvage lumber business.

Lead, Hank De Vries, age 45, is a member of the Utica-Rochester Chapter, is married and has two children. He has been in the Society since 1957. Hank sang tenor in the original Chorduroys in 1959 and tenor in the Sonic Aires in 1960-61. He is employed by the Ethyl Corporation.

Bass, Ray Strachan, age 32, is a member of Oakland County Chapter, is married and has two children. He has been in the Society since 1956 and sang baritone in the Tune Twisters in 1959. Ray is employed at General Motors Corporation.

A real District workhorse since 1961, the Troubadour tips its hat to the Wonderlads, a really great bunch of fellows, for a job well done. Our District can be very proud to be represented by this fine foursome.



WE SING THAT THEY SHALL SPEAK

The Institute of Logopedics is located in Wichita, Kansas and is sometimes called "Speech Town, U.S.A."

Its purpose is to deal with the afflictions that inhibit normal speech in adults and children; to provide trained people to carry on this work throughout the world and to assemble research material and facilities which will lead to new techniques and breakthroughs in the field of speech defects.

The word, logopedics, is derived from the Greek: logos...the word -- pais...the child. Bring the child to the word...the word to the child.

The Institute was founded in 1934 by Dr. Martin F. Palmer, Doctor of Science. Since then over 30,000 people from every state of the Union and 14 other countries have attended the Institute.

The physical structure of the Institute is a complex of 51 buildings, including the main building which houses the administrative offices and most classrooms and a church where these children often are exposed to religion for the first time. The other buildings are four-plex apartment units where the children live a normal family life under the care of a house mother--one mother per family unit.

"Speech Town" is the only institute in this field which provides a three-fold program: clinical, professional and research...and all under one roof. The only one which provides residential care which closely approximates normal family living, this making transition to the outside a more natural environmental change. It is the only one which accepts multi-handicapped children. (eg. There are many speech clinics, but none will accept the child with a speech defect if he is also blind.....or deaf.)

It is estimated that one in twenty children is affected with a speech or hearing defect. For some, the defect will be minor. For others, it will shape their lives.

These are the afflictions that inhibit normal speech: cerebral palsy, aphasia, cleft palate, stuttering, deaf and hard of hearing, dysphonia and other speech handicaps ranging from complete loss of language to lack of intelligibility.

The philosophy of TOTAL REHABILITATION guides the three phases of the Institute's program: 1. The Clinical Program 2. The Professional Program 3. The Research Program. All three are part of the story of "Speech Town"

THE CLINICAL PROGRAM

The clinical program at the Institute of Logopedics

blends habilitation through language with training for effective social participation. The Institute offers:

1. AN INCLUSIVE TESTING PROGRAM.

Upon the recommendation of a physician, the handicapped person undergoes extensive tests to determine the problem, the specific techniques to be tried and the possibilities for improvement.

2. A MEDICAL PROGRAM TO PROTECT THE HEALTH OF THE CHILDREN.

Particular and general health problems are supervised by the Institute's medical staff in cooperation with the case's own physician, parents and house-mothers.



3. SPECIAL CLASSROOMS FOR THE CHILD TOO BADLY HANDICAPPED TO ATTEND PUBLIC SCHOOL.

A hunger to learn, and the courage to learn are strong in children with severe speech defects. The Institute provides them with adequate special school facilities.

4. PHYSICAL THERAPY TO HELP THE CEREBRAL PALSY CHILD LEARN TO WALK.

Cerebral palsy children require special training in locomotion. If they are to achieve the pride of freedom, they must learn to control muscles accustomed to physical anarchy. Special laboratories, recreational rooms, and home-built equipment help them to do this.

5. OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY TO HELP THE HANDICAPPED EARN AN INDEPENDENT LIVING.

Teaching ten rebel fingers to obey the command of mind is no easy task. Victories in this "war" are measured in slow, painstaking gains. Lacing a shoe, buttoning a shirt, learning to dress, learning to feed

8. AN ATMOSPHERE OF FAMILY LIVING.

The Institute consciously avoids becoming an "institution" through its family living plan. Life at the Institute is meant to approximate the normal environment of home and family, this making the transition to the outside a more natural environmental change, and not a trauma.

9. INDIVIDUAL SPEECH AND LANGUAGE HABILITATION.

Each individual at the Institute receives daily habilitation with highly skilled professionals. Progress is the keyword, but progress cannot be hurried or pressured. Parents and housemothers continue the program in the evenings.

THE PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM

It is estimated that 30,000 logopedists are needed to cope with the number of speech handicaps in the United States. Yet there are only 3,000 qualified persons in the country. The Institute of Logopedics maintains an active



oneself—these are major triumphs on the road to freedom from dependence.

True independence requires vocational skill. The Institute's occupational therapy resources teach skills that will allow the handicapped to function with maximum ability, and become productive and self-supporting.

6. A RELIGIOUS PROGRAM TO DEVELOP SPIRITUAL RESOURCES.

A non-creed religious program is maintained to develop needed spiritual strength.

7. VARIED RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

All forms of recreational activity are encouraged. Special "play" equipment, developed at the Institute, is in use throughout the world.

Professional Training program as one of its most important functions. Since 1945, over 300 students have received their Bachelor's or Master's Degrees and are located at Universities in 27 states and four foreign countries. Carrying academic achievement to its highest, a full program leading to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy is offered.

In a forty-year career span, each of these logopedists will work with up to 1600 children and adults, in addition to teaching young professionals the rudiments of logopedics.

It costs \$7,500 and five years of intensive research to train a logopedics student. An approximate budget of \$75,000 yearly is needed to maintain the Department Of

continued on next page

Logopedics through Wichita State University. Support for the Professional Training program must come mainly from charitable sources.

If these missionaries of speech are to continue to help the handicapped to a new life, the funds must be provided.

THE RESEARCH PROGRAM

In the past three decades, approximately 30,000 case histories of communicative disorders have been assembled at the Institute. This wealth of research material is being expanded day-by-day, and offers positive hope to those seeking new techniques for improvement, or cure, of speech defect.

Other research facilities, including The William Jardine Memorial Research Laboratory, the audiological laboratory and the audio-visual recording studio are equipped with the finest books and equipment available anywhere.

Many of the techniques developed by Institute researchers are now standard practice throughout the profession.

All of these research funds must come from friends of the Institute. The research program desperately needs expansion to an expenditure of at least \$200,000.00 per year.

The Institute operates on a budget of about \$1,600,000 per year. Of this, two-thirds comes from clinical fees. These fees are paid as much as possible by the child's parents, but 80% must come from fund raising or gifts. Support for the Institute's professional training program and research program must come entirely from charitable sources.

The average cost to maintain a child in need of total financial assistance at the Institute is \$446 per month, or \$14.88 per day. Also, certain portions only may be financed.

Since 1934 more than 10,000 persons have been discharged from the Institute to play a useful role in society. Today, more than three children per day are released to society with adequate communication where previously there was none.

On June 24, 1964 our International Board of Directors unanimously adopted the Institute of Logopedics as our unified, Society-wide SERVICE project.

We have "adopted" the Institute in the parliamentary sense of the word; now let us "adopt" the Institute in the sense of "taking as one's own".

As our Society's charitable trust, the Harmony Foundation stands ready to accept contributions from individuals, chapters, areas and Districts. These funds may be earmarked for the General Fund or to create "suspense accounts" in the name of your chapter, area or District to give financial aid to children in your community referred to Harmony Foundation by the Institute.

Further monies will be raised through Barbershop Telethons for the General Fund and through benefit shows by Society units to implement and sustain their own "suspense accounts".

Truly, our Society has been given a magnificent opportunity to use the vast talent in which we so abound and the beautiful harmony which is uniquely ours..... Let each and everyone of us SING...THAT THEY SHALL SPEAK.

COPY DEADLINE DECEMBER 3



Shown is SPEBSQSA President elect, Al Smith of Fort Worth, Texas, with three young boys from the Institute of Logopedics. Smith was chairman of the service committee which investigated hundreds of organizations and finally recommended that the Institute be adopted as the Society's unified service project. This recommendation was ratified by SPEBSQSA's Board of Directors in June, 1964.

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The Institute of Logopedics is the dream of one man, a dream that became a reality. The man is Dr. Martin F. Palmer, Sc.D.

In 1934, in a single room at the University of Wichita and with a budget of \$1,600.00, Dr. Palmer set about developing a program of research, clinical habilitation and student training dedicated to bring speech to the silent. Today the Institute numbers over 50 modern buildings, housing over 500 people who are learning to master their handicaps.

A graduate of Olivet College and the University of Michigan, Dr. Palmer commenced his academic career in Port Huron, Michigan as teacher of speech in the public school system. In 1931 he became chairman of the department of speech at Kansas Wesleyan University, and in 1933 moved to Marymount College in Salina, Kansas, as Professor of speech pathology. In 1934 he became head of the department of logopedics at Wichita State University, a position he has held to this day.

A member of many professional and learned societies in the field of speech, Dr. Palmer also has found time to act as a VRA consultant in India and as consultant to the Government of Japan for the World Health Organization to survey needs for speech and hearing rehabilitation.

Dr. Palmer is also a member of Kiwanis International and the Pi Kappa Delta fraternity.

THE MICHIGAN DISTRICT AND ITS MEN OF HARMONY

By Mark P. Roberts

The second Michigan District Chorus Contest was held at Wright Park in Alma on July 19, 1953. Choruses were entered from Ionia, Holly-Fenton, Dowagiac, Lansing, Holland, Muskegon, Gratiot County and Detroit. Fran Hodgeboom, who had directed the Grand Rapids chorus to the District championship the previous year, was now directing the Holland Windmill Chorus and he brought the Dutchmen through in first place. Detroit, with Ed Easley still at the helm, was second and Muskegon (I believe Jim O'Toole was director) was third. The rules at the time permitted both our first and second place choruses to compete in the International and both Holland and Detroit appeared at Washington, D.C. in the 1954 International.

THE INTERNATIONAL CHORUS TROPHY

Sometime prior to the second Michigan District chorus contest, I had asked Ben Landino, creator of the International Quartet Trophy, and a member of my chapter, if he would make up a trophy for our Michigan chorus champions. I explained to Ben that we didn't need anything so elaborate as the International Quartet Trophy and he agreed and went to work. The trouble with Ben is that he doesn't understand mediocrity in handcrafting. What he brought to Alma indicated that he was only doodling and practicing when he made the quartet trophy. When the boys from the International office got a look at this beautiful creation, they insisted that it be donated to International for the International Chorus Trophy. This was done and it is presently inscribed as the O.C. Cash Memorial Trophy. Later that year, Ben went to Grand Rapids and personally presented the trophy to the Grand Rapids Chorus, the first winner - a sort of all Michigan affair. In appreciation of what he had done, Ben's chapter, Grosse Pointe, made him a life member of the chapter. International, principal beneficiary of Ben's genius, continues, however, to collect his dues from the chapter thereby demonstrating both a critical need for money and a lack of appreciation of extraordinary services.

With the 1953 International Preliminary, the International and the chorus contests behind us, we still had the 1953 District meeting and Quartet Contest ahead of us, so away we went to Lansing on October 17th where John Hill and friends were well prepared as hosts. Thirteen quartets showed for the contest and after hearing the best offerings of the Town Criers, Pitch Blendaires of Detroit, Four Stars of Holland, For-Tune Tellers,

Onchords, Wolverines, Aire Tonics of Muskegon, Tonsil Benders of Jackson, Chordial Four of Lansing, Debonnaires of Ann Arbor, Key Wanderers of Hudson, Starliners of Muskegon, and the Makeshift Four of Gratiot County, the judges gave the nod to the Wolverines (Rehkop, Sipots, Sipots and Bond). Second place was taken by the Onchords (Ahrens, Keith, Peitsch and Lee) and thirteenth place went to a new quartet, the Aire-Tonics from Muskegon, (Bill Wickstrom, tenor; Jerry Guimond, lead; Tom Damm, baritone and Clare Bristol, bass). The For-Tune Tellers of Jackson (Cushman, Cushman, Queens and Knorpp) won the Junior title and the Pitch Blendaires of Detroit (Golding, Pollard, Clixby and Golding) were Novice Champs.

- to be continued -

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Greenville Open House Rousing Success

Our second annual "open house" to attract new members was a rousing success. We've acquired at least a dozen "hot" prospects because of it. Headlining the entertainment for the "open house" were the one and only Spar-Tone-Aires from Grand Rapids; undoubtedly the funniest troopers in the District. One of the "younger" quartets from Grand Rapids, the Old Timers paid us a visit on the same night. Old Timers' personnel include Bob Walker, tenor; Ed Gaikema, tenor; Pete Pell, tenor and Jack Klaiber, low tenor. Rounding out the evening's entertainment were our own Spec-Tacul-Aires, the Flat River Four, local women's quartet and several woodshed groups.

Greenville Chapter officers elected to take over January 1, 1965 are: Bob Hansen president; Larry Brown, membership vice president; Jack Wood, program vice president, Bob Early; secretary, Elmer Katterjohn, treasurer. New board members are: Orrin Wood, Keith Neitzel and Al Reinhardt, plus immediate past president, Chuck Vining.

Men of note awards go out to Francis Jones for signing on tenor Phil Sirrine and Stu Anderson for bringing in a new bass, Dick Weimer.

Guests at recent chapter meetings have included two District vice presidents, Bob Tracy and Bart Tillitt. These two men have more "tag talent" than the rest of the District members put together.

Our chorus had a ball at Big Rapids. The show was a howling barbershop success. What else could it be with the Spar-Tone-Aires, the Chord Counts and the Extension Chords. Let's hope that enough enthusiasm was generated to help establish a new chapter in that area. It sure would be great to hold a District contest in Starr Auditorium on the Ferris campus.

Congratulations to the Ionia Chapter for another excellent Hobo Wing-Ding. Once again they came up with the best of everything in the way of entertainment, food and hospitality.

Come sing with us on a Monday night sometime.
reporter: bob hansen

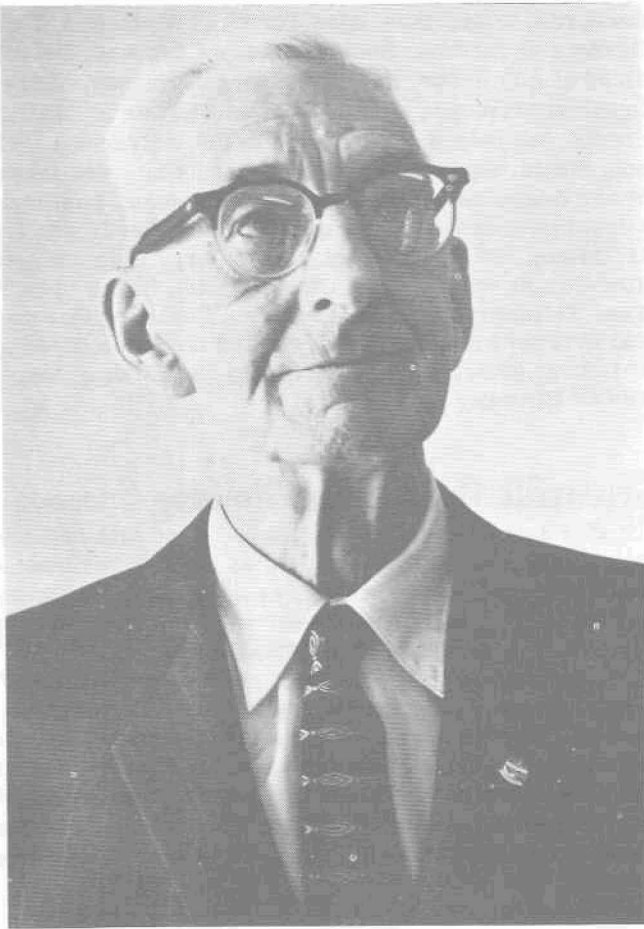
IMPORTANT: All address changes should be given to your chapter secretary. Make sure your chapter secretary forwards this info to International (source of our mailing labels). THEN you can be sure the Troubadour will be mailed to the correct address.



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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.





DUANE H. MOSIER

(Editor's note) The following article was researched and written by Duane H. Mosier, to whom the Troubadour is deeply grateful and recommends it to your reading. This article and future ones will bring you close to the man who founded our Society. Troubadour's bet is that he will not be at all as you might have pictured him to be.

Note: The author is indebted to Mrs. O. C. Cash (Corinne) and the staff members of International for furnishing much of the material in this and following articles.

This is the story of a common man who had uncommon ideas.

Stories are usually written about uncommon men; stories of rags to riches men, born in lowly estate who suffered early hardships, overcame them, and rose to lofty positions in the world. Owen C. Cash would protest any claim to greatness were he living today. In the words of the one who knew him best, his wife Corinne, "Owen was a very simple man and I am sure you will understand when I say he was just an ordinary person with ordinary abilities, not unlike scores of other fine, upstanding Christian men." This is a fine summary of a man thousands of good barbershoppers all over the country have come to revere for the heritage of his one great hobby.

This, then, is no attempt to place a halo about his head, but to set down in simple language something about the founder of our great Society. To the thousands of our membership who have become barbershoppers since 1953 when he died, and even before then, the name

of O. C. Cash is more legendary than real. They know him simply as the founder of SPEBSQSA. Quite naturally, he had certain characteristics which set him apart from other men. The sequence of events from the date of his birth, February 13, 1892, to that fortunate night in April, 1938, when the "World's Greatest Barbershop Baritone" assembled a small group of harmony Joes to break out in melody, may be of interest to our members.

Countless numbers of men who have gained distinction were born of farms and O. C. was no exception. That event took place near Keytesville, Missouri, the son of a "Hardshell" Baptist minister, where he lived the first five years of his youthful life. His dad, like other ministers, always on the move, had migratory plans, however, and bundled his youngson and daughter with their mother into a covered wagon and headed south into Oklahoma, then the Indian Territory, settling on a farm near Vinita (sounds kind of musical) where he helped with the farm chores until he was thirteen. Migrating again, the family moved to nearby Bluejacket and, after a few years' stay, back to Vinita. Young Cash finished school at Bacone, a junior college in Muskogee, Oklahoma, and later studied law in summer schools together with correspondence courses, and was admitted to the Oklahoma bar in 1917. Having specialized in taxation law, he became associated with the Sinclair Oil and Gas Company as assistant to the tax attorney for a period of nine years, but in 1931 he became tax attorney for the Stanolind Oil and Gas Company (now known as Pan American) in Tulsa, where he served until his untimely death on August 15, 1953, at the age of sixty-one years.

His professional career provided abundantly for his family but, in addition to his legal attainments at which he was a devoted hard worker, Cash was possessed of a very keen sense of humor, AND HE LOVED TO SING; two virtues that should help any man up when things are down. These virtues came to the surface during the many years of his connection with the Society. His love for the old harmony-filled songs ran deep. The idea popped in his head to invite a group of his friends for a songfest. An invitation signed "Third Assistant Temporary Vice Chairman", a distinction carried by him the remainder of his life, read as follows:

"In this age of dictators and government control of everything, about the only privilege guaranteed by the Bill of Rights, not in some way supervised or directed, is the art of barbershop quartet singing. Without doubt we still have the right of peaceable assembly which, I am advised by competent legal authority, includes quartet singing. Some of us have thought for a long time that something should be done to encourage the enjoyment of this last remaining vestige of human liberty. Therefore we have decided to hold a songfest."

A second floor room in a downtown hotel was the meeting place. It went over so big, a second meeting much larger than the first was held a short time later that actually stopped the traffic on the streets. Some way the meeting got onto the news wires. It was a small notice but carried a big message to men all over who were hungry for the same thing. The letters, wires and personal interviews he received were convincing proof that an organization was in the making. Started all in fun with no idea that it would grow and spread across the nation, O. C. chose the longest name he could think of as a back-

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This picture taken at the Great Lakes National Championships, shows O.C. Cash, center flanked by Michiganders the late Roscoe Bennett, left and the late Ray Hall of Harmony Halls fame, right.

handed slap at the hundreds of government alphabetical agencies and commissions springing up every day.

The spirit of the times is neatly summed up by Mrs. Cash when she says, "the country was just coming out of the depression and the regimentation that it had brought. It was ready for an outburst and SPEBSQSA was an escape valve. It spread like fire in a wind, as you know." Owen couldn't find a longer name or he would have added to it.

District Historian Mark Roberts pointed out in a recent issue of the Troubadour that Ed Schwoppe of Mt. Clemens saw the news item and post haste caught a train to Tulsa where he brought back the seeds which rapidly grew into the Michigan District, the first district east of the Mississippi.

From the time when the Society was organized to the date of his death, O. D. Cash contributed an article in every issue of the Harmonizer under the heading "Founder's Column". His keen sense of humor punctuates the factional background of every article, extracts of which will appear in succeeding issues.

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Northwest Detroit Plans Ladies Night

Plans were announced for the coming Ladies Night to be held on Monday, December 14, at Pickwick House. Committee members, Jim Sandry, Bill Winchester and John Johnson are extending themselves to make this the big night of the year. It was also announced that at the chapter's work-shop on November 9 it would be honored by the presence of Carroll P. Adams, second International President (1941-42) and long time Executive Secretary (1942-53) and founder of Northwest Chapter (1946). "Mr.

Barbershopper" and his wife, Frankie, are spending a few days in Detroit renewing old friendships and viewing the city changes since their departure several years ago.

FOUR FITS ENTERTAIN

Also in the making are plans to host the Grosse Pointe Chapter on Monday evening, November 23. The Pointes' fine singing chorus and famous quartet, the Four Fits, will be on hand to join with Northwest in song and fellowship. Members should plan on making this a new member's night by bringing guests to show them what barbershopping is like. You may convince them.

OAKLAND COUNTY SURPRISES

"Old Timers", guests and a surprise visit by the Oakland County Chapter touched off an evening of fun and harmony at Northwest's meeting on Monday, October 26. Oakland Chapter brought along its fine chorus under the direction of Dunc Hannah. They made the rafters of Pickwick House ring with many of their contest numbers. Northwest's chorus directed by Earl Strnad, together with its six year old quartet, the Scorekeepers, (Larry and Bill Winchester, Bob Mueller and Ted Robbins), plus seven pickup quartets and plenty of gang singing, added up to an evening chuck full of good old fashioned barbershop pleasure.

L. PAT DICKENSON NEW PRESIDENT

Election of officers for 1965 resulted in the selection of L. Pat Dickinson, president; Marc Garber, vice president of membership; John Johnson, vice president of programs; William H. Berger, secretary-treasurer and Ted Robbins, convention delegate.

reporter: duane mosier

Ionia Hosts 2nd Successful Hobo Wing Ding

To the 126 barbershoppers and their guests, who vibrated the rafters on the Youth Building at the Ionia Fairgrounds on October 30, the 2nd annual Hobo Wing-Ding is history.

Started last year with the idea of having a get-together where everyone could come in their old clothes and relax in an air of casualness and harmony after the District contest, there is every evidence that this yearly event is gaining in popularity.

A few last year showed up dressed as the title of this wing-ding suggests, but this year so many really outdid themselves and looked the part of real "rod riders". It has prompted the Ionia Chapter to hold a hobo costume contest next year as part of the evening's activities. It is felt that the ingenuity put forth in some of the get-ups should be rewarded.

If you didn't get a laugh out of some of these barber-shop nuts' costumes, it's because you weren't there. Noticeably missing from this year's fun-fest was Alma, Muskegon, Holland and Jackson. At the suggestions of some of those present, notices were not sent out quite as early as they should have been. This may be the reason for the missing ones and you can bet that next year we won't let this happen. We are real sorry fellows.

The Lansing and Grand Rapids chapters came by chartered bus for lack of a freight between their towns and Ionia. Later, those missing the bus and hobos from Battle Creek and Greenville, arrived in caravans by the conventional mode of transportation.

Lefty Hamilton, from Lansing, discovered four fellows from Fowler who had been singing together, sold them on the Society, signed them up lock, stock and barrel and we have another good quartet in the District. When was the last time we had a quartet signed up in this District? One of the purposes for the Hobo Wing-Ding is to give newly organized quartets a chance to get their feet wet.....these fellows waded right in.

A pleasant surprise, during the evening, was the arrival of the Merri-Men who added a bit of spit and polish to the evening's festivities. What more does one or can one say about any appearance that these dispensers of harmony make?

Singing their "Swan Song" were the Spec-Tacul-Aires from the Greenville chapter. This was the only sad note of the whole evening, but they bowed out in glory as they performed their entertaining routines for the "late-stayers".

Other quartets appearing during the evening were the Key-Noters from Battle Creek, the Presidents, the Scally-Wags and Rafter-Ringers from Grand Rapids and the Commonaires from Ionia. The Great Lakes Chorus and the Lansing Chorus provided a change of pace during the evening.

With Pete Pell, Howard Hawkins and Ron Mell as contestants, a group song leader contest was held. Judges Bob Tasker, Glen Ackerson and Maynard Gierman, in a very close contest, awarded the baton to Ron Mell on the grounds that someone from the Battle Creek Chapter yelled louder than anybody else.

Door prizes were won by three fellows from someplace, whose names we neglected to get. Maynard Gierman, chairman of the door prize committee, outside of

this one little slip, did a good job. He is Ionia's president elect for 1965.

Credits should also go to President John McDowell and his door committee, to Ford McDowell and his liquid refreshment committee, to J. C. Funk and his wife Effie (bless their hearts) for setting up the auditorium and to Bob Tasker and Cy Speckin for their work on contacts and promotion.

Our food committee chairman, Larry Reister, and his committee vowed that there would be enough food this year and this they did. With literally tons of food (half of which was beans). If anyone went away hungry it certainly wasn't Larry's fault.

As general chairman, I want to thank my hard working committees for jobs well done, to the visiting barbershoppers and their guests for making this another of my memorable evenings of barbershopping.

For you far sighted fellows, the next Hobo Wing-Ding will be October 29, 1965. That's three weeks after the District contest in Battle Creek.

reporter: ron curtis



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

Now that chapter elections for 1965 have been held, it is important that the Official Reports of New Chapter Officers be submitted so that the newly elected officers can be notified of the Chapter Officers Training School to be held in Jackson, December 5. Upon receipt of this information, the 1965 District Directory can also be compiled.

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It is suggested that current chapter officers examine their records to be sure that everything has been properly taken care of, particularly chapter financial matters. It is unfair to burden incoming officers with outstanding obligations.

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Chapters intending to bid on conventions and/or stage parades are advised to make plans early and consult the Coming Events in the Troubadour to avoid conflicts and then to write my office for official clearance.

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In printing the last issue of the Troubadour, the election of District officers was inadvertently omitted. The officers for 1965 are as follows: President, Al Burgess; Vice President Zone I, Michael Mudgett; Vice President Zone II, Charles L. Sherwood; Vice President Zone III Bart Tillitt; Vice President Zone IV, Robert Tracy; Secretary, Louis R. Harrington and Treasurer, R. J. "Mike" Schied.

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



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 **HAPPY HUMMDINGERS**

contact
Bob Powell
35003 Chestnut St.
Wayne



Meet the **Spar-Tone-Airs**

contact
Stuart Palmer
1503 Plainfield N.E.
Grand Rapids



Meet the **DELTA-AIRES**

contact
Bill Grumbley
4545 Two Mile Road
Bay City



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



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

WILLIAM HANSEN



In the October issue of the Troubadour (best district publication in the entire Society, that is) I informed you of the membership problem which continues to plague our Society. According to latest figures sent to me by the International office, the situation has not changed measurably; and, the Michigan District is among those districts experiencing a decline.

It is well to remind the entire membership of our great Michigan District that December 31, 1964 is the deadline date for computing the number of quartets which each district will be allowed to send to the International quartet competition at Boston, Massachusetts in 1965. In accordance with the usual practice, the quota of quartets per district will be based strictly on district membership comparisons as of the deadline date.

On the basis of what I have personally heard during the year, I firmly believe we are in a position to have some excellent talent represent us at the next International competition. It certainly behooves us all to make sure our District membership is sufficient so as to be eligible to send at least three quartets. Let us not eliminate the possibility that an increase in District membership by the deadline date could very well result in an allowance of four quartets.

Come on Michigan - let's give our talent every opportunity to represent us.

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The Troubadour is proud to list the names of our ten new Men of Note. A hearty "nice going" to all of you for doing your part in bettering our great Michigan District. Gene Oliver, Ann Arbor; Ralph Ryan and Arthur Schulze, Detroit #1; Ben Landino, Grosse Pointe; George Moeke and Gerald Stielstra, Holland; Delmer Doctor and Ken Barnhard, Muskegon; Norman Swanson, Oakland County and Al Fricker, Wayne.

WE MOURN



The entire District was saddened to learn of the passing of Francis Hodgeboom. One of the great chorus directors that the District has produced. He directed, among others, the Great Lakes and the Windmill choruses. He also sang tenor in the 1946 District champions, the Accoustical Persecutin' Four. A singing barber-shopper is gone but his memories will linger on in the hearts of the many barbershoppers to whom he gave a little extra something.

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CHAPTER OFFICER'S TRAINING SCHOOL
IN JACKSON DECEMBER 5

Bob Glover To Head Saginaw Chapter

We just held our election of officers for the coming year. President, Robert (Bob) Glover; Administrative Vice President, Earl Keith; Program Vice President, Bob Demming and Secretary-Treasurer, Bill Doelzel. They are already making great plans for 1965. Watch out for our chorus (no name yet) in Battle Creek come next October.

DELTA AIRES PRAISED

At last writing, I informed you that our own Delta-Aires from Saginaw-Bay City won the Bush League Contest. Now here we go again. They won second place in Jackson and I understand are shooting (and why not) for the championship entitling them to represent this great Michigan District of our at the International in the spring.

CHORUS KEEPS GROWING

I must say we have had interest shown this year in chorus that has been a god-send to holding our chapter together. Yes, we have all of the same troubles every-other chapter encounters. Dave Knapp, our outgoing President, has been very active this year. He has stressed chorus almost constantly; in fact, to the extent he finally convinced some of the guys to get there if they wanted a chapter at all. Now you can't keep them away. Thanks to all of the outgoing officers - this has been a very successful year.

Saginaw and Flint lost a contest last spring to Holly-Fenton for greatest turn-out in membership over a specified time. We owe them a party. The date is to be cleared very shortly.

BIG RAPIDS SHOW A SMASHER

On Saturday, October 24, I saw what some chapters can and are doing for our District. Call it extension work, just plain civic entertainment or what-ever..... it was great. The Extension Chords, Chord Counts, Spar-



Tone-Aires, Greenville's quartet and terrific chorus, plus the Delta-Aires took over Big Rapids and a few hundred of it's population and held them alternately spell-bound with songs from the Chord Counts and Extension Chords and in stitches by antics of the Spar-Tone-Aires. All in all - it was a very successful evening. I had occasion to be in Big Rapids the following Wednesday and the town was still talking about it. This is the kind of missionary work we can all do, either singly or collectively, as members, quartets, choruses or chapters.

reporter: gene gillem

Mr. Chapter President For 1965

It is your obligation to appoint a chapter reporter to serve you, your chapter and the District. His job is a thankless one and a very important one. Choose him well. If your present chapter reporter has served your chapter well, make an effort to keep him. The District is blessed with some fine, conscientious reporters. The District also has chapters that either do not have a reporter or they have one that they can do without.

After his appointment please inform him that:

CHAPTER REPORTERS

ARE

REQUESTED

TO

ATTEND

THE

CHAPTER OFFICER'S

TRAINING

SCHOOL

IN JACKSON ON

DECEMBER 5

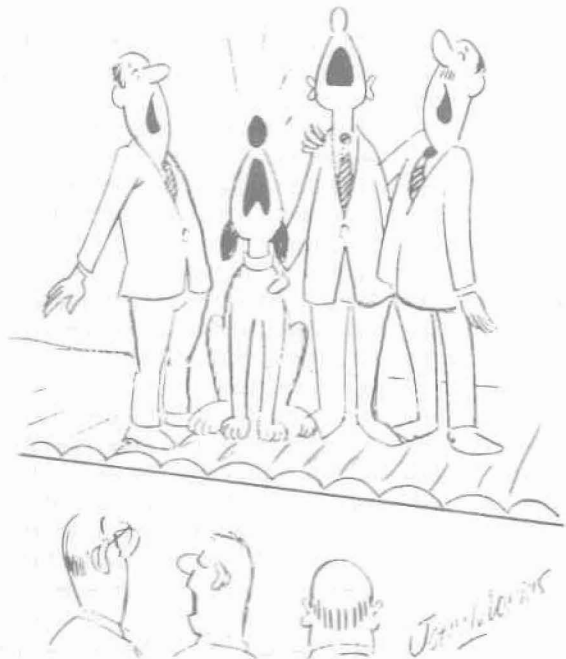
Leo Fobart, editor of the "Harmonizer" will be on hand as well as the Troubadour editor to explain what is wanted and needed from chapter reporters. For the sake of your District, please make it a point to have a reporter present from EVERY CHAPTER in the Michigan District.



"NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL A TRUE BARBERSHOPPER!"



"I'D WALK A MILLION MILES FOR ONE OF YOUR SMILES, MY MAMMY!"



"THEY WERE DESPERATE FOR A TENOR."

Following the Leader

AL BURGESS



"Who's A V.I.P.?"

The most important and number one man in all of SPEBSQSA is you. That's right Mr. "JOE" BARBERSHOPPER. I would hasten to add that many might have thought it to be the International President, the voice expression judge, the chapter president or chapter secretary, or even the editor of the "Michigan Troubadour," but it's just not so.

Without you, "JOE", this Society would no longer exist. You are the most important man in the Michigan District and you are the most important man in the _____ Chapter. (Insert the name of your chapter from here on.) The _____ Chapter, your chapter, can have the best officers in the entire Society, the finest chorus director, or the best of show talent on its annual parade of quartets, but without you it has nothing.

Who makes the coffee, brings the sandwiches, works on the chapter committee, stumbles through his part in quartet or chorus rehearsal, but loves it, brings the guest out to the chapter meeting, gets the job for the chorus to sing, calls "Joe Doaks" to find out why he's missed the last two chapter meetings, volunteers for most any job that has to be done, helps to get the guys enthused about competing in the next convention, or gladly takes on any responsibility that's assigned him? You're right.....it's you Mr. "JOE" BARBERSHOPPER.

Your chapter show chairman and his committee can "knock themselves out" to line up a great show, but without you to help sell tickets, build scenery, gather in program ads, help with publicity, etc., etc.,.....they're done. The _____ Chapter show is your show.

The _____ Chapter chorus director can be there at every rehearsal, and on time, beg, borrow or steal some great arrangements, have a million new ideas, study by going to a chorus director's school, etc., but without you he's nothing and so's your _____ Chapter chorus. You have to be there to do your part.

Without you at every rehearsal, and on time, the _____ Chapter chorus just isn't a unit. The _____ Chapter needs you at every meeting.

Let's put it this way.....NO CHAPTER can exist just for the convenience of its members (you again) to attend and take part only when they feel so inclined. Either one has to belong and contribute positively to the chapter, the District and the Society or "YOU KNOW WHAT". Tough talk? Who Sez? You may say, "but Mr. President, I thought we were a fun-loving or hobby type organization, a sort of leisure time group." In a way you're right.....but only partly so. Yuh can only go so far with that fun and leisure time "JAZZ". Again, if our chapters are to have and maintain a good, respectable barbershop image in the community in which the chapter exists, we must, by necessity, contribute positively to and foster this image in the life of that community. (Read

that last one again please.) Every time your quartet or chorus sings, even if it's only on the P.T.A. circuit, your

Chapter is, "On Parade". Your

Chapter is on exhibit every time a few barbershoppers get together, whether it be a singing session or otherwise. I suggest that before you "sing it" or "say it" you ask yourself these two questions. "Is it good enough for public consumption? Could anyone be offended?" It's obvious that the answers should dictate your actions. So much for ethics.

In conclusion let's just say that when you stay home from a chorus rehearsal or a chapter meeting because of "tired blood" or anything less, or if you are asked to be a part of a woodshed quartet and you turn the other guys down, or you don't have the necessary time required to sell a few show tickets or program ads for the annual parade of quartets, then the _____ Chapter will have failed to a degree.....because you have failed.

It's because you are the _____ Chapter, you are the Michigan District and most important of all, you are the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. WITH YOU the _____ Chapter, the Michigan District, and the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. CAN NOT fail.

Yes Sir.....YOU, MR. "JOE" BARBERSHOPPER are the V.I.P. Only you "JOE" can "Keep America Singing".

Got a B flat anyone? Let's try, "I Wanna Gail".

Yours in a-chord,

Al

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Flint Elects 1965 Officers

At our regular meeting on October 13, election of officers for the year of 1965 was held with the following being elected: Raymond Goodall, President; Roy De Shano, Program Vice President; William Shannon, Membership Vice President; Girard Wrice, Secretary; Lyle Gardner, Director; Fred Kienitz, Director and Chorus Director; Les Lang, Director and Bulletin Editor.

Installation of these officers and directors will be held January 12, 1965. Our new president is not new to barbershopping. He is an original member of the Flint Chapter, has sung in several quartets and most recently sang lead in the Suspend-A-Chords of Flint.

Ray is widely known in barbershop circles and an active worker. We are looking forward to a very active year under his guidance. We have had an active month in October. Several guests from G.M. Tech have attended good meetings. Looks like some future barbershoppers. We have some good programs lined up for November and are looking for an active fall.

reporter: les lang

TAKE NOTICE....Paul Eberwein's barbershop radio show, Harmony Lane, can now be heard at this new time for the winter season. Every Friday evening from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. over C.B.E., Windsor. That is 1550 KC on the dial.

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C O T

The Michigan District is having a Chapter Officer's Training School for the newly elected officers of all chapters. This training session is held to give each chapter officer the background and the help that will be needed to serve his own chapter for the coming year.

The traveling expenses (gas and oil) must be reimbursed by the chapter. The expense of the instructors, rooms, lunches, etc. are paid by the District.

Every officer is expected to attend. One day devoted to your hobby will give great benefits to your chapter for the whole year.

In the event that you find it impossible to attend this school, please send a qualified representative from your chapter to take your place.

The Michigan District is spending approximately \$500.00 of your money to have this school. It will cheat your chapter if the officers do not attend.

AGENDA

1. General meeting starts 9:30 a.m.
 - A. Introduction of Michigan District Board and C.O.T. School instructors. C. Sherwood 15 minutes.
 - B. President's message of District goals. A. Burgess 10 minutes.
2. Adjourn to individual officer class rooms.
3. General meeting for lunch at 12:30.
4. Group singing for 15 minutes at 1:30.
5. Adjourn to individual officer class rooms at 1:45.
6. General meeting 3:00.
 - A. Summary of responsibilities.
 - B. Question and answer session.
7. KEEP AMERICA SINGING, approximately 3:30.

Any chapter officer seeking help will be welcome to stay and discuss his problem.

The lunch will be furnished by the Michigan District.

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THE FEMININE OBSERVER



ELLEN HARRINGTON

The Detroit Yachtsmen, attired in nautical outfits with yachtsman caps, were a terrific hit entertaining at the Detroit Yacht Club's Dixieland Ball. The club was festively decorated with cotton bales, balloons and lanterns, and the capacity crowd--most of whom were hearing barbershop singing for the first time--spontaneously joined in singing. Orchestra leader Phil Girard, playing his banjo, joined the aggregation as they marched off singing.

Enjoying the festivities were Messrs. and Mesdames Paul Ross, D. Lisle Melvin, Edward A. Hock, Ernest J. Dossin, Charles H. Sharrer, Ray Venderbush, William Russell, Ron Filter, Jay Gonyeau, Ernest Jennings, Fred Ford, John Baker, George Levette, C.T. Schnell, Jerry Jordan, Bob St. Amour, William Montgomery, Thomas J. McAllen, Sherman Faunce, Gordon Lang and many others.

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Glad to hear Charles L. Sherwood and Robert Breitmayer of Jackson and Jerry Reid of Wayne are home from the hospital.

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Of interest to barbershoppers in the Detroit area is the news that the Buffalo Bills are booked to appear at the Rooster Tail sometime in December.

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Holly-Fenton Show November 28

Our annual "Harmony Highlights" show on November 28 promises to be better than in the past. Scheduled to appear are the Banjotainers, Smithtonians, Aire-Males, Delta Aires and the Wonderlads. Of course, our own chorus under the direction of Gordon Robinson will also appear.

Holly-Fenton is enjoying a very good year. Our membership stands at about the same level as in the past three years with a good chance of an increase before the end of the year. Most, if not all, of the memberships expiring on December 31 have been paid in or are in the process of being paid. This is in itself a record for this chapter.

Since the month of August, we have been making one appearance a month for some organization. In August we entertained the Tyronne Republican Club at an outing in Sunken Gardens; in September the chorus sang for the Kiwanis Club for their annual schoolteacher's dinner in Fenton; in October we entertained at the Masonic Lodge Old-timer's Night up in Flushing and on the 11th of November we entertained the American Legion in Grand Blanc. We have received many compliments on our appearances and hope it continues to keep up.

reporter: art burnett

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

To



ROBERT L. MILLER
576 DE SOTO
YPSILANTI MICH

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Coming Events

Requests for parade date clearance and sanction fee payments should be sent to District secretary, Louis R. Harrington, 2361 First National Building, Detroit 26.

October 24, 1964

November 7, 1964

November 28, 1964

January 23, 1965

February 6, 1965

February 13, 1965

February 20, 1965

March 6, 1965

March 13, 1965

March 27, 1965

April 3, 1965

April 24, 1965

April 30, 1965

May 8, 1965

May 14, 1965

June 5, 1965

September 25, 1965

October 9, 1965

April 23, 1966

April 1, 1967

Oakland County Barbershop
Hootenanny

Detroit Parade

Holly-Fenton Parade

Pontiac Parade

Monroe Parade

Dearborn Parade

Niles-Buchanan Parade

Wayne Parade

Greenville Parade

Battle Creek Parade

Flint Parade

Great Lakes Invitational

Grand Rapids

Pontiac Woodshed Contest

Muskegon Parade

Tulip Time Show, Holland

Utica-Rochester Parade

Fruit Belt Parade

District Contest, Battle Creek

Great Lakes Invitational

Grand Rapids

Great Lakes Invitational

Grand Rapids