

SEPT 69

michigan

SEPTEMBER

troubadour



Action In Jackson

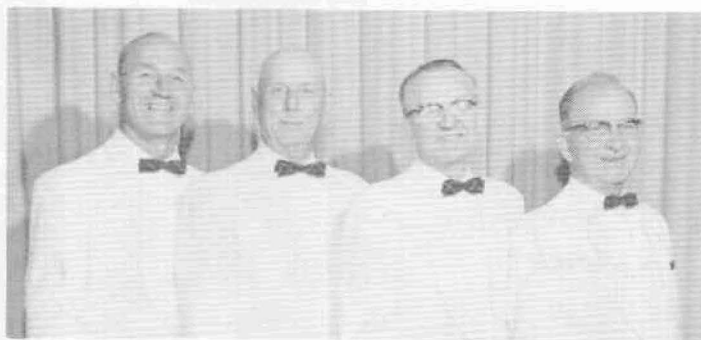
WILL REPLACE
THESE FOUR CHAMPIONS



THE NOTERIES
DISTRICT QUARTET CHAMPIONS



THE SPAR-TONE-AIRES
NEVER WON NOTHIN' CHAMPIONS



STILL TRYIN' FOUR
SENIOR QUARTET CHAMPIONS



PORT CITY CHORUS
REGIONAL CHORUS CHAMPIONS



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.

Second-class postage paid at Zeeland, Michigan

Published monthly except during July and August

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
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SHARE THE WEALTH

The "Harmonizer" carries a feature called, "Share The Wealth". It is edited by Elmer Vorisek. If you are an interested member of your chapter and our Society, you should make it a habit to read this feature carefully. If you are an officer or in any way connected with putting on chapter functions, you should memorize it. Some really great ideas can be had for the price of reading it.

I propose to begin publishing in the Troubadour a similar corner devoted to sharing our productive ideas with each other. I have jotted down my latest supposition, which I believe can be worked out and produced. I am more than willing to work on it. Read it over.....if you think it can be done and if you think it warrants some earnest consideration, drop me a line.

Dan Wasselchuk, out-going International President, has opened a door which could mean an entire new world in which barbershopping can grow. Six simple words.. "WE SING THAT THEY SHALL SPEAK". You have had the opportunity of reading about what those words mean, both in the "Michigan Troubadour" and in the "Harmonizer". If you have not bothered to delve into their meaning, they mean simply this: SERVICE....the opportunity for you as a barbershopper to give of your talent to help someone less fortunate. The Troubadour's next issue will try to bring you very close to this project via stories and pictures. The opportunity is here. We as Michigan District barbershoppers can do one of two things.....we can sit back in our easy chairs and hope that someone in the Society jumps up and makes this thing go....or we can take the initiative and get to work. I propose the latter and offer this suggestion:

September 1964

Vol. 14 - No. 7

Utterings
from
Oonk



Vacation time is over and with its ending comes the realization that in just two months your Troubadour editor will have to pick up the phone and call the quartets who have so graciously helped pay the way of this mouth-piece in 1964 and ask for their support again in 1965. As of right now I wonder how many chapters have taken seriously my pleas of hiring these quartets who helped me pay the way. My answer will undoubtedly be made clear and strong in these phone conversations. We are again entering our busy season, with shows and chapter parties, etc. The chapters in the district can make my calls much more enjoyable and much more successful if between now and the first of the year they will make an effort to hire a couple of these advertising quartets to work for them. The advertising of a quartet means that this foursome is eager to work for the district and for your chapter in whatever way they can. Your support in this matter will be greatly appreciated.



EYE POPPIN IDEAS CORNER

We, as a District, are blessed with a goodly amount of District champion quartets who are still actively producing great performances throughout our Society. Could we join all our champion quartets together for one great show a year with all proceeds, after expense, going for this prodigious cause? Impossible? I have had the privilege of singing in a District champion quartet, the Chord Counts, and speaking for this quartet, I would feel it an honor to sing on such a show. I know personally the members of all the other past District champions and a greater bunch of barbershoppers you will never meet. To a man they are interested in our District and our Society. It is very possible that this idea would catch on in other Districts and in a year or two we could have talent exchanges between the Districts. The publicity possibilities of putting on this "service show" are great. Is there a barbershopper in the Michigan District who would like a crack at producing this show? Is there a quartet who would undertake it, or a chapter? Sure it's a gigantic task, but the satisfaction of producing it would be gigantic also. Drop me a line if you want to "Do More In '64".

This corner is open to every barbershopper in the District. We all have ideas. We all have witnessed promotions that have helped our membership or chapter meetings. Like the "Harmonizer" says, "Share the wealth".

PER CAPITA DUES WORKING

Advance notice of the all important District C. O. T. (chapter officers training) School should give all in-coming chapter officers a chance to prepare to attend. The date is December 5. Mark it down on the calendar. It is imperative to the health of our District that every officer of every chapter attend. The chapter is expected to furnish transportation and the District picks up the rest of the tab. Information as to where it will be held and other pertinent facts will be found in the following issues of the Troubadour.

LAST MINUTE GOOD NEWS

Word has just been received that the District convention will feature another great act on the Friday night pre-glo. The Lansing chapter has graciously consented to pack up their Minstrel Show, black face and all, and present it complete with those sweet singing Merri-Men on Friday night, September 25. This fine act will join the Senior Quartet and the Never Won Nothin' contests already scheduled for Friday night. This should be a night to remember. Use the reservation card found in the Hotel Hayes full page advertisement and assure your wife and yourself one real fine evening's entertainment.

DELEGATES MEETING FRIDAY NIGHT

Take notice that the District House of Delegates meeting will be held September 25 at 8:00 p.m. Every chapter should be represented. The Windsor House of Delegates meeting was very well attended with only a couple of chapter delegates missing. Let's do even better and make it 100%. The meeting will be held in the Coral Room of the Hotel Hayes.

BIG RAPIDS DISTRICT'S NEWEST CHAPTER?

According to Bob Tracy, area counselor at large, Big Rapids could very well house our next chapter. Groundwork has been laid and the future looks promising. To give barbershopping a lift, a charity benefit show is being lined up. We, as a District, will provide the talent and work with the Big Rapids Optimist Club. The date for the show is Saturday, October 24 and the event will be held in the Big Rapids Auditorium. An after-glo will be held for the many barbershoppers who are expected to attend. Talent is needed. If your quartet is available for that night please contact Bob Tracy. Expenses will be paid. This is a big chance to "Do More In '64". How about it.....can you help? Tracy's address is: 502 W. Central, Mackinaw City. His phone is HE 6-8766.

WORKING MEMBERS NAMED

Michigan district "Men of Note" for the month of July are: Mel Evans, Ann Arbor; Les Lang, Flint; Jack Long and Mark Roberts, Grosse Pointe; R. H. Simpson, Jackson; Dr. James D. Sell, Kalamazoo; George Hennig, Monroe; Ken Sheridan, Utica-Rochester; Len Slater, Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

District members who signed up a new member during the month of August are: Lyle Gardner and Raymond Goodall, Flint; Jay Welch, Holly-Fenton; Tom McKinney, Lansing; Tom Shull, Milford; Carl Elwing, Oakland County; L. Roy Crites, Redford; Doug Beaver and Bob Deming, Saginaw.

Congratulations to all of you on doing a little more in '64.

SENIORS QUARTET CONTEST SEPTEMBER 25

NOMINATING COMMITTEE PRESENTS SLATE

The Michigan District nominating committee presents the following slate of officers for 1965. The committee is composed of Bob Walker chairman, Halley Dion and Clarence Jalving. The slate consists of: president, Al Burgess; vice president zone 1, Mike Mudgett; vice president zone 2, Chuck Sherwood; vice president zone 3, Bart Tillitt and vice president zone 4, Bob Tracy. Louis Harrington will continue as secretary, John Linehan will take the treasurers job, Bill Hanson will continue to serve as International board member and Jack Oonk as Troubadour editor.

SENIOR QUARTET CONTEST

The rules have been stated and the time has been set - now is the time for all quartets to come to the aid of their district.

The Senior Quartet Contest will be staged on Friday evening, September 25, 1964, in the ballroom of the Hayes Hotel, immediately following the meeting of the House of Delegates.

In order to facilitate planning, quartets are requested to submit their entries to Bill Hansen, chairman, 537 Cayuga Road, Benton Harbor, Michigan - the sooner the better.

This contest will prove to be one of the highlights of the convention - all we need now are contestants.

+ + + + +

WELCOME WELCOME WELCOME

The Troubadour is again proud and most happy to sing, "You're As Welcome As The Flowers In Spring", to the district's newest officially registered quartet. They hail from the Utica-Rochester chapter and are called the Esprit De Chords. Their contact man is Jack Swisher, who resides at 242 Cambridge, Mt. Clemens. A hearty welcome fellows.

+ + + + +



THIS LITTLE PIGGY GOES TO MARKET

March 28, 1964 saw the Holland and Dearborn chapters travel to Jackson to stage one of the most bitter battles ever fought between two Michigan chapters. When the smoke had cleared and the screams of pain had stopped and the flow of blood had finally soaked into the earth, the mighty Dearborn chapter was pronounced the victor of World War III by one half point. The gracious Dutch of Holland took this defeat like the true champions they are and presented to the winners a small token of

Continued on next page

their esteem. The small token has since grown into a pretty big token and is pictured here dodging those lovable, nutty Four Tune Tellers who have the table set and are demanding their choice of cut. Their demands will be met of course, as they ended up caring for lil "Porky".

Well, the time has come for "Porky" to prove his worth and a giant district wingding is being planned for the near future with guess who as the featured guest. Yep, you guessed it. The main course of the evening will be "Porky" and a couple of his friends. The reason for the addition of "friends" is that everyone knows that one lil ol pig isn't enough to feed even the Muskegon chapter, much less the entire district. Besides, the Windmill chapter became quite attached to "Porky" during the short while they had him and refuse to partake of him.

You dare ask how did they become attached to him? The story goes like this: As the Windmill chapter climbed into the bus for the trip to Jackson, "Porky" was stuffed into a crate and deposited in the baggage compartment on the side of the bus. (It was "Porky" or the beverage.) Upon arrival in Jackson the compartment was opened and revealed wee "Porky" with his head stuck between two slats in his crate. His eyes were bulged out as if he had been on a spit for four hours and his lily white skin was a deep purple. There was only one thing to do and a prominent member of the chapter quickly bent down and gave mouth to mouth resuscitation. The happy ending is that "Porky" was saved, but the prominent member became so emotionally involved that he had to be excommunicated from the chapter.

Anyway, to make a long story longer, watch the pages of the Troubadour for "Porky's" guest night. The very least we can do is attend. After all, when is the last time you gave your life for barbershopping?

In Appreciation

To all Joe Barbershoppers
in the Michigan District:

Thank you so very much for your wonderful financial support and heartwarming good wishes to our chorus and chapter on our recent trip to International competition in San Antonio, Texas.

Muskegon Chapter and
Port City Chorus
S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.

Following the Leader

AL BURGESS



If ever there was a time when you and I could really help this Great Michigan District in a very tangeable way, this is it.

Here are two major suggestions to make the Michigan District a real swingin' district:

1 - Let's all go to Jackson to help make the convention - whether we compete or not. Take the little "wifey" out for a day or two of great listnin' and singin'. You'll make her happy and she'll thank yuh fer it. Make a date with another couple RIGHT NOW. If for some reason the wife can't go, get up a car load of guys to share in the expenses. Do yourself, the Jackson boys and the entire District a favor - get there somehow. You can do it.....We need you there.

2 - Okay - so now I'm goin' to Jackson. What next big fat president? Here's what's next. Ever think seriously of signin' up a new man? I mean doin' it. Between now and the 30th of November I challenge you, Mr. Michigan Barbershopper, to sign up 1 (one, un, uno einz) new man. Give it the old college try. That buddy of yours may just be waitin' for your invitation. Never say die.....

- See yuh in Jackson -

+++++



Pictured here are six charter members of chapters throughout the society. Directing the group is Carroll P. Adams, a charter member of the Oakland County chapter. A past international president, Adams also belonged to Redford, Northwest Detroit, Dearborn, Windsor and other Michigan chapters. Carroll now makes his home in Montpelier, Vermont where he was a charter member of the Bennington, Vermont chapter. The picture shows left to right: Charles Parker, Donald Tetzlaff, Theron Morse, Donald Grenfell, Charles Tetzlaff and C.P.A.

It all came about when Donald Grenfell, charter member and past president of the San Francisco chapter, visited Adams. Of the other men in the picture, Charles Parker and Theron Morse were charter members of the Montpelier chapter; Charles Tetzlaff and his son Donald were charter members of the Burlington chapter.

Should I Go to the Convention?

"Our quartet is not good enough to compete in Jackson this fall. Our chorus doesn't stand a chance against those big chapter choruses. Why should I go? The same quartets and choruses win every year. What good can I get from the \$20.00 it'll cost me to go? They don't have anything for just an average guy like me who's not in a quartet or a chorus."

In my traveling about the Great Michigan District I hear these types of statements. How can they all be answered? How can any one chapter put on a convention that can satisfy everyone? Let's take a minute to think this problem out.

First, why do we have conventions? The answer is simple. The original reason was to have a place where quartets could get together to help each other improve and also a weekend of fun. When our Society was starting, the convention also gave men of the District a chance to meet each other and pass ideas along to make chapters function better. As our District grew in numbers of men and chapters, these once-or twice-a-year meetings needed organization.

The idea of setting some standards to judge quartets has always existed, but now these ideas have been written down and used. Men with good musical knowledge and experience lent their talent to actively helping quartets. Because of the complexity of barbershopping, different categories were established, such as stage presence, balance and blend, voice expression, harmony accuracy and arrangement.

Conventions became times of having quartets perform and then the judges taking them aside and offering suggestions. The musical and performance standards continued to improve. The men who were there to just exchange ideas started having meetings, so as to be able to hear what other chapters were doing. Time passed and to keep improving, more musical standards were adopted.

The convention today has exactly the same basic reason for being. Older members say that the conventions are not the same now. Well, the basic idea is the same, but times have changed in the last 20-25 years and so has the outward appearance of our conventions.

We now have choruses which also like to improve. The musical abilities and performances have improved. The musical education of our members has increased. Most men now know more songs and because of some training, sing better.

Being a nation that lives and thrives on competition, we now feel that our judges "helping sessions" are just competition to see who's the best. When any group of two or more quartets or choruses sing, someone is bound to be best and someone must be second. IF WE AS BARBERSHOPPERS FEEL THIS IS ALL THERE IS TO A CONVENTION, THEN WE MISS THE WHOLE IDEA. WE ALL WANT TO DO OUR BEST, BUT THE BIGGEST PART OF THIS HOBBY IS GIVING NOT RECEIVING.

The judges give of the time and talents. The hosting chapter does most of the work. The quartets and choruses give of their talents. It's the giving that counts.

We, in Jackson, are like all other chapters who have hosted past conventions. We want to give everyone a good time. This is why the following events are planned:

1. A Senior Quartet Contest.

Many of our founding members of this Society want to sing, but feel their age and voice elimi-

nates them. This event is designed so they may sing and feel at home.

2. Never Won Nothin' Contest.

The Great Michigan District is blessed with many quartets that sing just for fun and entertainment. These quartets should be judged on their specialty

3. House of Delegates Meeting.

All chapters should be heard from with their own ideas. Also to elect men willing to give of themselves to make barbershopping better and more fun for all chapters.

4. Quartet Contest.

A place where quartets may display their talents and receive constructive criticism and help from men trained to be objective.

5. Chorus Contest.

Choruses like help too.

6. After-glows.

This is where people gather to listen to and enjoy quartets, with refreshments available.

7. Mass Chorus Singing.

This is new. We are importing Don Webb from Independence, Missouri, to spend an hour or two teaching a new song, and polishing some old ones in a gigantic chorus. Most men in our District have never had the chance to sing in a 400 man chorus under a dynamic director. This is your chance. It is open to all who attend or sing in the afternoon contest.

8. Mass Chorus Performance.

The mass chorus will leave the high school and walk three blocks to the main corners of Jackson. There they will sing for 15-20 minutes for the public.

9. Training of Judge Candidates.

Training sessions will be held during competition and also off hours.

10. Listeners.

From Friday evening's performance of Lansing's chapter Minstrel Show, to the last chord sounded in the hotel lobby Sunday afternoon, listeners will be welcomed by all.

11. Singers.

This whole convention is based on singing and fun. If you do not get a chance to sing, you have not asked or tried.

12. Party Go-ers

This is where the fun begins.

If this article still doesn't answer your questions about coming to Jackson, write me.

"YOU'LL GET ACTION IN JACKSON"

Charles L. Sherwood

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.



Society Loses Roscoe Bennett

The Michigan District, along with the entire Society, was saddened to learn of the passing of Roscoe Bennett. He was one of the key men in bringing barbershop to Michigan. His vibrant personality was a leading factor in the rise to fame that the District experienced in its early years. He was also the man responsible for the 1941 birth of this publication and he penned the gigantic impact it had on our Society for some seventeen years. The March, 1962 issue of the Troubadour, edited at that time by Jim Davenport, was dedicated to Roscoe. Duane Mosier did the honors of writing the "profile". Now another man has been asked to write about Roscoe D. Bennett. A past president of our District and a long time close friend of Mr. Bennett, Mr. Robert Walker has this to say:

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Roscoe D. Bennett, organizer and former editor of the "Michigan Troubadour", died about 1:30 a.m. Wednesday, August 12, 1964 at his home in East Grand Rapids. He is survived by his wife, Harriet, three sons, Rev. R. Dudley Bennett, John H. Bennett and William D. Bennett, M.D.; two daughters, Mrs. Glenn Thompson and Barbara Bennett; two brothers, Paul and Cornelius.

Thirty-nine of his forty-eight newspaper years were spent as sports editor of the "Grand Rapids Press". During his colorful career he was the inspiration organizer and chronicler of many sport events which transformed the spectator into a spirited and enthusiastic participant. He is credited with being one of the organizers of the Golden Gloves and served as its president. He organized many tournaments and other competitive sports activities on the local level.

This idea of more and more participants in the various sporting events carried over into his barbershopping activities. As the guiding genius of the Great Lakes Invitational, he was insistent in presenting many quartets. One year there were fourteen foursomes appearing on the stage at the Civic Auditorium in Grand Rapids.

In 1946 and 1947 the Michigan District started the area system and divided up the work and responsibilities of chapter extension and inter-chapter relations. At that time a new system of awards was inaugurated for quartets participating in our District contest. This gave earned recognition to many quartets who otherwise would have returned empty handed. There were championships in many categories based on the previous contest experiences of its members. Our friend, Roscoe, was the inspiration for these changes and ideas.

Roscoe D. Bennett, the late Rodney Schapps and Vernon W. Hale are credited with having organized the Grand Rapids Chapter #4. The same three-some were largely responsible for bringing the International contest to Michigan the first time. It was held in Grand Rapids in 1942 and The Elastic Four were crowned the new champs. The Harmony Halls, the 1945 International champions, were heavy favorites of Roscoe's although he never neglected nor failed to encourage the newer and younger quartets.

He was an untiring worker for the need of taking barbershop quartet singing out of the back room and placing it on the concert stage - out of the vacant lot and into the empty heart.



It was my privilege to have known Roscoe since 1925. Through his brother, with whom I worked, he became my friend. Often the three of us would play golf together. During the game Cornelius, who possessed and excellent lead voice, would strike up an old favorite. Roscoe put a foundation under it and I tried a top. This, of course was real exciting and fun. We did not force our songs and talents on unsympathetic ears. One of our better songs and one we would attempt several time during the game was, "Swing Low Sweet Chariot".

There is no doubt that music had a very special spot in his interests. Glee clubs, church choirs, Grand Rapids Schubert Club and Grand Rapids Symphony all were beneficiaries of his talents and unlimited energy. Beside these and the obvious interest in family, friends and sports, Roscoe found time to read and study. He grew beautiful roses, several different varieties as a matter of fact, of which he was exceedingly proud.

So we doff our hats and bow our heads to the memory of a dedicated, devoted, barbershopper and friend, a memory that will always be an inspiration.

"Devotion borrows music's tone,
And music took devotion's wing,
And like the bird that hails the sun,
They soar to heaven and soaring sing,
(The Hermit of St. Clements Wall)

Swing low, sweet chariot,
Comin' for to carry me home,
Swing low, sweet chariot,
A' comin' for to carry me home

Bob Walker,
Chapter #4

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
Bill Crumley
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

Welcome

Michigan District

S P E B S Q S A



To Your District Convention

AND THE

HOTEL HAYES

"Jackson's Leading Downtown Motor Motel"

Enjoy our famous DRUM ROOM for the finest food, your favorite beverage, dancing and entertainment nightly except Sunday. Visit Jackson's finest Supper Club. Our PIXIE COFFEE HOUSE is ideal for your breakfast, lunch and dinner when you want fast courteous service. Try one of our delightful Fountain Fantasies.

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DATE _____

Attn.
Donna Buchanan

HOTEL HAYES
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ROOM RESERVATION CARD

Please reserve the accommodation I have checked below:

- ☐ Single Room \$7.25— 8.00
- ☐ Double Room 10.25—11.00
- ☐ Twin Bedroom 12.00—12.50

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NOTE: If room is not available at rate requested, reservation will be made at nearest available rate.

ARRIVAL DATE _____ TIME _____

NAME _____

STREET and NUMBER _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

REPRESENTING _____

— No reservation held after 6:00 P.M. unless payment is guaranteed —

FILL
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Phone STate 2-0551

John J. Sakmar, Gen. Mgr.

ACTION IN JACKSON

MICHIGAN DISTRICT CONTEST AND CONVENTION SEPTEMBER 25-26-27

Hotel Hayes Headquarters

Friday, 25th	8:00p.m.	District House of Delegates	Hotel Hayes
	9:30p.m.	Senior Quartet Contest	Hotel Hayes
		Never Won Nothin' Contest	Hotel Hayes
Saturday, 26th	10:00a.m.	Preliminary Quartet Contest	High School
	2:00p.m.	Chorus Contest	High School
	4:00p.m.	Mass Chorus Instruction	
		and singing	High School
	5:30p.m.	Mass Chorus Sing	Downtown Jackson
	8:00p.m.	Quartet Finals	High School
Sunday, 27th	11:00p.m.	After Glo	Hotel Hayes
	8:00a.m.	Aspirin Breakfast	Hotel Hayes
	9:00a.m.	Quartet Clinic	Hotel Hayes
	12:00 noon	Jackson chapter kisses everyone "good-by" who's leaving town and goes home to collapse.	

No charge for registration or convention badge.

Total events tickets purchased individually \$8.75

All Events ticket \$7.00

All Events ticket (registered competition only) \$6.00

Advance tickets: Mr. Bill Boyden

A.B.C. Reproduction Co.

104 Blackstone

Jackson, Michigan

Telephone: SState 4-2972





Meet THE HARMONY HOUNDS

The Harmony Hounds were originally formed in 1959 and consisted of Henry Brown, tenor; Lowell Wolfe, lead; Bill Clark, Baritone; and Ron Atkins, bass. The summer of 1962 necessitated a change, as Henry and Ron moved out of state. Roger Lewis stepped in on bass and Dick Pancost was summoned to fill (he really fills it) the tenor spot. Since that time, the Harmony Hounds have sung approximately 65 engagements, ten of which have been parades or shows.

Some of their most memorable occasions have been the time they were 50 minutes on stage at the Roscommon Sweet Adeline Show; their performance for the blind at the Battle Creek Lions Club Christmas Party, as well as singing for many "terrific" audiences throughout the Michigan District. They recently sang for a NATO conference, representing a purely "American" type of music.

Second to barbershopping; the Harmony Hounds enjoy eating. If you've ever seen them pack food away, you can easily understand why they weigh in at 6,730 pounds. (Incidentally, that includes the hearse.)

Their third choice for fun is golf. (The Hounds are well known for losing golf balls and barbershop contests.)

To transport their instruments, props, etc. the Hounds have a retired, re-tired slumberwagon (hearse). It's a 53 Cadillac with low mileage, owned by a man who only drove it to and from the church. (By golly that's what the used car salesman said.) Thanks to the artistic talent of Ken Yaw, a Battle Creek Chapter member, it doesn't look much like it did back when it belonged to a "Body Shop".

MEET THE HARMONY HOUNDS

Tenor, Dick Pancost, 39, is married (Marilyn sings bari in the Merri-Mrs., a Sweet Adeline quartet) and has a son, David. He's been a chapter member since

1957, has directed the Battle Creek Chorus and the Sweet Adeline Chorus, and sang in the Chord-Arrangers quartet. Dick owns and operates Pancost Press, a printing Shop.

Lead, Lowell Wolfe, 36, is married, (Betty sings bass in the Merri-Mrs.) and has two children. The Wolfe family is very musical, --Debby and Greg sing in a Hootenanny group, sing together as the "Wolfe Cubs" and Debby sings in a high school Sweet Adeline quartet. Lowell has been President of the Battle Creek Chapter twice, has served as show chairman and is presently an area counselor. He has previously sang in the "Modernites" quartet and is employed as Sales Manager at Pak-R-Board Company in Marshall, Michigan.

Baritone, Bill Clark, D.D.S., 41, is a dentist, married, and has two daughters, Kathy and Sue. Bill is a past chapter president and has served as secretary and publicity chairman for the chapter. Bill also sang in the "Modernites" and is the only Harmony Hound with enough "pull" to get a Clark Cortez to take on their recent trip to Boyne City. Bill is very active in the local dental society and is a past secretary-treasurer (yet the Hounds have never sung for the dental society---Whatsamatter Bill?)

Bass, Roger Lewis, 26, is married and has a daughter Penny and a son Chris. Roger works for Battle Creek Equipment Company (health and exercise equipment) and naturally boasts the slimmest, trimmest figure of the Hounds. He first became interested in barbershop back when Grand Rapids had their first high school quartet contest and competed as bass in the "Mello-Donians" under the tutorship of Byron Dodge (bet By doesn't remember that). Roger has been a Battle Creek Chapter member since 1961 and has served as show chairman.

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COPY DEADLINE OCTOBER 3



THE FEMININE OBSERVER

ELLEN HARRINGTON



Outdoor events and the international convention highlighted the summer months. Enjoying the charm of San Antonio were Messrs. and Mesdames George Acree, Matt Calderwood, Fred Maclean, William Hansen, W. Carleton, Scott, Otto Vogel, O. B. Falls, Royal Zerbe, C. D. Sanborn, Al Burgess, Jack Bennett, Robert Hart, Andy Van Donkelaar, Halley Dion, Clint Bostick as were W. A. Diekema, Clarence Jalving, Carl Dahlke, Glen Van Tassell, Dominic Palmieri, Cliff Jorgensen, Robert Whitledge, Robert Boint, Robert Winters, Al Eason, Ben Landino, William Van Bogelen, Al Martin, Russ Seely, Marvin Burke, Ray McCalpin, John Wearing, Lowell Wolfe, Roger Lewis, Merle Clayton, Jerry Reid, Bud Kepler, George Dyar, Clarence Wenman, Herman Diekema, Burt Szabo and Bob Mulligan.

Detroit chapter's annual moonlight attracted over 1600 barbershop enthusiasts including Messrs. and Mesdames Thomas Needham, Ralph Schirmer, Pat Ryan, Art Schuelze, Robert Wharton, William Pascher, C. D. Sanborn, John Thomas, John Zinnikas, Bernie Smith, Gordon Limburg, Clint Bostick, Dominic Palmieri, Carl Dahlke, Otto Vogel, William Favinger, E. McCarthy, Al Eason, Bill Strong, Robert Weaver, Matt Calderwood, Ted Robins and Norm Shamus. Others included Tim McQueen, Jerry Reid, Mike Mudgett, George Cox, Eric Schults, Charles Sherwood, Bob Farrington, Al Rehkop, Glen Van Tassell, Gary Wales, Gordon Meiselbach, Don Miller and Joseph Johnson.

Holland chapter and their ladies enjoyed a beach party. Among those present were Messrs. and Mesdames Eric Schultz, Bart Tillett, Jack Oonk, Chester Oonk, Mike Lucas, Marty Hardenberg, Si Krol, Bob Birce, George Moeke, Ken Helder, John Nuismer, Don Lucas, Norm Bredeweg, Brian Ward, Terry Greenwood, Vern Nienhuis, Ken Russell, Shirl Webbert and many others.

Muskegon Credits Michigan District

Well, here we are back in Michigan after our contest in San Antonio. We are very disappointed in our showing, but nevertheless we feel that we did the very best job that we could. The Michigan district was behind us 100% and we were very proud to carry the district banner to Texas. After all fellows, they are all champions down there and you have to realize this situation when you are in "big league competition". Somebody has to be fourteenth..... Everybody's got to be someplace.

Dell Doctor, our program director, was program director for our July 16 meeting at the hotel and a very fine meeting it was with the Miss Stereoes and Rafter Ringers from Grand Rapids, our own Fore Masters with a new lead, plus many woodshed quartets.

reporter: bill hislop

WE MOURN

The Michigan district lost a respected member in the passing of Dave Gaffney, Ann Arbor, on August 2, 1964. Dave became interested in barbershopping during 1959 and thereafter served as the first president of the Ann Arbor chapter when that group was re-activated during 1960. Not content with purely administrative duties, Dave joined with three others to form a popular quartet as the Four Scores and sang bass with this group for the next three years. As a gentleman and a barbershopper, Dave will be sorely missed. The sympathy of the entire Michigan District is extended to Dave's family.

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Dearborn Chorus Working for Regional

The motto of the Dearborn Chordomatic Chorus is, "Practice Makes Perfect", as we prepare for the up-coming Michigan District contest in Jackson September 25, 26 and 27. Besides some intensive rehearsing, we also managed to sandwich in a job on August 25 for the Dearborn Park and Recreation and another singing engagement for the Elks Club on August 29.

The chorus didn't lose any precious rehearsal time when our director, Gordy Limberg, left on a two week vacation as he was replaced by Roger Craig (the old master) one week and Carl Dahlke (of Auto Towner fame) the next week. Both men did a fine job of pinch-hitting and deserve the thanks of the entire chorus. I am sure Gordy welcomed the rest.

We hope to see everyone in Jackson.....

reporter: don sheridan

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Gratiot County Show October 3

The Gratiot County chapter will hold it's annual barbershop show October 3, at the Alma High School auditorium. The show will feature the ringing chords of the Curbstone Serenaders and the Noteries, our own Sweet Adelines quartet, the Kurt "N" Kalls, plus the hilarious comedy routine of the Harmony Hounds. Also, the Gratiot County chorus with local quartets will participate.

The parade will start at 8:15 p.m. at the Alma High School and following the parade, the after-glo will be held at the Alma Armory. Tickets for the show will be \$1.50 plus \$1.50 for the after-glo. They may be ordered from W. R. Tomlin, 304 E. Downie, Alma. Telephone number is 463-5829.

Let's hurry. Tickets are limited.

The Gratiot County chapter sent two of their members to Reading, Pennsylvania to attend the HEP school. They had a real good time and when they returned, we had our regular director more adept, plus we had an assistant director.

Doug Devine, our regular director, and Dale Hanson, learned quite a bit about barbershopping in a short time. Doug, primarily a band director, was really amazed at good barbershop harmony. They told of hearing a huge chorus and singing with them. They told what a thrill it was. I'll bet it really sounded wonderful, huh guys?

reporter: leon webb



Best to Attend "Best"

From Kenosha comes the good news that our Society Executive Director, Barrie Best, will attend our District convention in Jackson September 25, 26 and 27. I like many Michigan barbershoppers will be meeting Barrie for the first time. Following is a brief sketch of Mr. Best:

Barrie Best, 34, is Executive Director of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of BarberShop Quartet Singing in America. As such he is responsible for the day-to-day operation of both the headquarters office in Kenosha, Wisconsin and some 675 individual chapter units in the United States and Canada, with 30,000 individual members.

Barrie is relatively new to his position, having received the appointment July 3, 1963, but he's a long time barbershopper. A one time Canadian, he first became exposed to quartetting in Winnipeg, Manitoba and was a charter member of that chapter.

He has served on many international study groups, as was co-chairman of the expansion fund committee, and is a past president of the Far Western district.

Despite this heavy work load (and his job in the investment field) he still found time to sing. Many barbershoppers will remember him as the tenor in the West Coasters, second place medalists in 1957. Barrie has also directed the San Gabriel and South Bay choruses.

Fortunately his wife, Mary Anne, is also a true devotee of barbershop harmony (she is the daughter of a long time barbershopper). The Bests have two daughters, Leigh Anne and Karen Lyn.

Harmony ON THE Hustling

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1964
St. Joseph High School Aud.

8:15 P.M.

Fruit Belt Chorus

Tickets only \$2.00

Order this barbershop bargain now from

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WILLIS A. "BILL" DIEKEMA

Hollander Honored at Louisville

Willis A. (Bill) Diekema, Holland chapter member, has a way of speaking to millions of people across the lengths and breadth of the country, wherever there is an organized participation in barbershop singing. His off hour (usually a late hour) pleasure is the composing and arranging of barbershop songs. A skilled hobby which makes him a much sought after professional in this specialized field. Many barbershop quartets and choruses in the society draw upon the talent of Bill Diekema, and he gives of that talent freely.

Recognition has been given to Diekema on many occasions and in uniquely demonstrated measures of esteem by his widespread barbershop friends, but it was on the night of June 6th that he was quite overwhelmingly taken by surprise. It occurred before a packed audience in the Brown Theatre, Louisville, Kentucky, where the Louisville chapter presented a program entitled "Southland, U.S.A." dedicated to Willis A. "Bill" Diekema.

Purpose of the dedication was to express the appreciation of the Louisville chapter and its champion chorus, The Thoroughbreds, (international champions 1962) for the original songs and special arrangements which Bill had written. Along with The Thoroughbreds another international champion of 1956, The Confederates, sang several numbers composed or arranged by Diekema.

Midway in the program, with all quartets and choruses on stage, Diekema was escorted from the audience to stage center where he received two awards, the first being a commission as a Louisville "ambassador of good will" with its emblem, a key to the city, presented by a representative of the mayor. Second was a commission from the governor of Kentucky as a "Kentucky Colonel",

presented by the secretary of state of the commonwealth of Kentucky. It was truly an overwhelming surprise for Bill Diekema, but as a man of poise he was not too flabbergasted to make a brief and sincere acknowledgment of the honors, and following that he was asked to direct the chorus and quartets in singing the motto song of the society, "Keep America Singing", a Diekema composition written in 1947. As a finale, the Thoroughbreds sang "May The Good Lord Bless And Keep You", a Meridith Wilson composition arranged for barbershop by Diekema.

The Troubadour and the entire district congratulate Bill on this latest acknowledgment of some very outstanding work.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS



WILLIAM HANSEN

At one time or another, most of us hopefully look forward to participating in some event that will prove to be of great benefit to others.

My hopes in this regard were realized during the international convention at San Antonio. As a member of the international board, it was my distinct privilege to be a part of the unanimous vote which was cast in favor of adopting the Institute of Logopedics as the service project of our society. I am extremely proud of the fact that I had the opportunity of serving on the international board when such a worthwhile decision was reached. And, every barbershopper throughout the society should be proud of his membership in an organization which seeks to help others.

Complete details regarding this project have been spelled out in the July-August issue of "The Harmonizer", therefore, there is no further need for elaboration. Even though the membership of the society has been informed that support of the Institute of Logopedics is not mandatory, I sincerely hope all chapters of our district, as well as the society, will find a way to support this worthwhile project without discontinuing support to any of their local charities.

The convention at San Antonio was great. Those of us in attendance from Michigan had good reason to be proud of the performances of our quartets and chorus.

One disappointing personal aspect of the convention was the lack of barbershoppers from the Michigan district. This was forcefully brought to light during the chorus contest when the master of ceremonies introduced the various district presidents and asked them, along with their delegations, to stand up and be heard. The vocal responses were really something to hear. Those of us from Michigan tried hard to keep up but we "could not hold a candle" in terms of both numbers and noise. It was interesting to note that many of the larger delegations had to travel much farther than any of us from Michigan.

I don't know what is entailed in getting more Michigan barbershoppers to attend international conventions; however, I sincerely hope the picture will improve in the future.

Greenville "Parades" Its Wares

The Greenville chorus is all set for the Jackson contest September 26. We're planning to give the other competing choruses a little more competition than we did at Windsor. Our sixth place finish at Windsor wouldn't have looked so bad if all 39 chapters had competed.

We're pulling out all stops for Jackson. "New" uniforms and a brand spankin' new chorus director, in the person of Mr. Francis Jones. Some of you may remember that Fran was our assistant director and a few months ago the local Sweet Adelines stole him from us. The Adelines chorus improved so much that we lured him back to spread his charm on his own kind. You guessed it. The gals won't even speak to us.

Fran is shaped along the lines of Al Burgess, and you know the success story of Al's Port City Chorus over the years. Who knows, when the judges see Fran from the rear at Jackson, they might think it's Burgess. You can't blame us for trying, we're getting desperate. Our boys are anxious for a trip to Boston. If necessary, we'd settle for Chicago in '66.

As you know, the Greenville chapter meets 52 weeks a year and during the summer we seem to be stronger than ever. On July 14 the chorus entertained during the intermission of the local summer band concert. July 19 the Greenville chapter sponsored the second annual area eight and ten barbershop picnic at Townsend Park. Barbershoppers and their families from Greenville, Grand

Rapids, and Muskegon were in attendance. On July 30 the Greenville chorus, along with the Spartanaires from Grand Rapids, entertained at a district Rotary golf outing at the Greenville Country Club.

The local chapter has been represented in three area parades this summer. The Gibson Refrigerator Company



of Greenville sponsored a float with a "Gay Nineties" theme, and the chapter provided the quartet. In the picture appearing in the Montcalm County 4-H Fair parade are: Tom Venus, tenor; Fran Jones, lead; Jack Wood, baritone; and area counselor, Dr. Stu Anderson, bass. Appearing on the float in the Ionia Free Fair parade were: Dr. Al Ralph, tenor; Fran Jones, bass; Eldon Hansen, baritone; and Larry Brown, lead. Singing in the annual

Continued on next page

WANT TO SING IN A 400 VOICE BARBERSHOP
MASSED CHORUS? ATTEND THE CONVENTION
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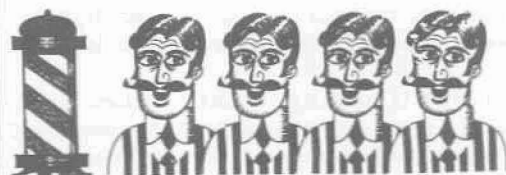
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Labor Day parade in Belding were our Spec-Tacul-Aires: Joe Wildner, tenor; Arnie Staffen, lead; Jack Wood, baritone; and Stu Anderson, bass.

Pete Elkins and his gang dropped in to see us one Monday evening. Besides Pete from Grand Rapids were Larry Humphrey, Bob Lovell, Jim Horton, and Jack Sidor Hope all of you will drop in sometime to bust a chord with us.



SMITHTONIANS ENTERTAIN AT CHAPTER NIGHT

The chapter had a pleasant surprise on August 24, when the fabulous Smithtonians paid us a visit. The Smithtonians from Detroit, are a mixed barbershop quartet, with one of the smoothest blends you've ever heard. The quartet consists of Bernie Smith, lead of the Noteries, singing bass; his wife Peg, baritone; daughter Leslie, lead; and son Barry, undoubtedly one of the greatest tenors in the district (and he's only 12).

It just so happened that the Smiths were vacationing on a lake near Greenville, and were kind enough to drop in on us. We made sure that they earned their lunch. They sang everything they knew at least twice, and especially popular were their renditions of "By the Sea", "Down by the Riverside" and "Roll on Mississippi". The Smithtonians are planning an appearance on the Wayne show this spring, providing Barry's voice doesn't change.

Give the Smiths a listen at your next chapter function. They gave us an evening to be long remembered. Thanks again, Bernie, Peg, Les and Barry.

President Chuck Vining has appointed Stu Anderson chairman of the nominating committee for our coming elections in October. Serving with Stu will be Fran Jones and Tom Venus.

Arnie Staffen and Tom Venus are busy lining up entertainment for the third annual parade to be held in Greenville on March 13, 1965. If you're available, drop a line to Tom Venus, 114 Coffern, Greenville. We'll soon have a new Armory in Greenville and we're hoping that it will be available for our next show.

Stop in and vocalize with us the next time you're in the Greenville area on a Monday night. Many barber-shoppers do, and they have a ball.

reporter: bob hansen

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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.



Flint Reviews Summer's Events

A hearty welcome back to all you little BROWN people....

A summer summary of the Flint chapter reads something like this:

Regular meeting plus visits to other chapters which includes: Mio, Saginaw, Holly-Fenton, Milford, Pontiac, Utica-Rochester and Detroit.

June 9 and 23, regular meeting nights, we experimented with a mystery song, round robin, and the quartet singing the right song won a prize. It turned out to be lots of fun with everyone singing.

June 19 we attended the San Antonio Bust in Detroit. There certainly was lots of talent on hand for that one.

July 14 and 28 were regular meeting at which two new members were signed. Clare Mertz, sponsored by Ray Goodall and Ray Porterfield by Lyle Gardner. A hearty welcome to the new members and congratulations to the sponsors. Keep 'em comin'.

July 19 we attended the Holly-Fenton One-Club golf stag. This was a ball. Norman, past president won with a 68. The rest of us just got hoarse and sunburned.

August 9 we held our annual picnic at Pine Ridge Amusement Park with guests from Holly-Fenton and Saginaw. Happily, the only casualties were a couple of bent ears, someone talked off an arm and several sang their heads off.

August 11 and 25 were regular meetings and were well attended considering vacations.

August 21 we went to Pontiac for their annual Korn and Keilbasa roast. This was a real blast with talent galore but the Delta-Aires were the only organized quartet to show.

In closing, a word of advise to "do it yourself" carpenters: If you find some nails with heads on the wrong end, save them for fixing the other side of the house..... and this condition helps editors too.

reporter: les lang

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Utica-Rochester Changes Schedule

Our chapter is changing its schedule around a bit. The second Friday of each month is to be the regular meeting night. The fourth Friday of each month will be devoted to chorus practice.

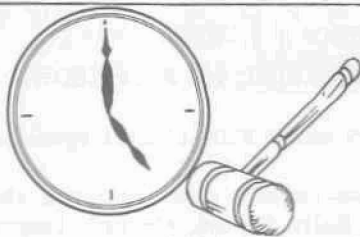
Utica-Rochester Chapter visited Pontiac's Chapter annual corn and kabaesa cookout. Despite the rainy night, many fun-games were played. Only the "brave" took on the egg throwing contest. Woodshedding was enjoyed by everyone. A good time was had by all.

reporter: "cy" pelican

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Judges Named for District Contest

Loton Willson	Boyne City	H.A.
Ed Gaikema	Grand Rapids	S.P.
Tom Grove	Dowagiac	V.E.
Bert Szabo	Kalamazoo	Arr.
Donald Bell	Youngstown, Ohio	B.&B.
Franck Vechiola	Chicago, Ill.	Sec.
O.B. Falls Jr.	Jackson	Chairman



Minutes

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

A meeting of the Michigan district Board of Directors was held at the Beacon Motel, Grand Haven, on July 24, 1964. President Burgess called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. Others present were vice presidents Schultz, Sherwood, Tillitt, secretary Harrington, treasurer Klaiber, international board member Hansen, and Troubadour editor Jack Conk.

Secretary Harrington reported that a check had been received from the Windsor chapter in the amount of \$556.00 representing the district's portion of the profits of the spring contest. Vice president Sherwood outlined plans for the contest at Jackson. The old timer's contest, to be held in connection therewith, was also discussed. A communication was then read from Chuck Snyder, inter-convention chairman, relative to the apportionment of certain dates to the Michigan district for its spring and fall contests. It was pointed out that some of the dates in the fall would interfere with such established events as the historic Sage Lake meeting, and also that the suggested 1965 fall date had already been set by the Battle Creek chapter. Harrington was instructed to contact Mr. Snyder. There was some discussion, initiated by William Hansen, relative to the possibility of having only one convention and contest each year in the district. This was considered impractical and not feasible.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding various aspects of the Michigan district pertaining to chapter activities, membership and finances. There was concern expressed for some of the chapters in smaller communities, such as Boyne City, who although active, is finding it difficult to maintain the twenty five minimum membership requirement. It was suggested and agreed that president Burgess and vice president Sherwood continue to study this matter and if necessary confer with international as to suggestions that could be made to remedy the situation.

The resignation of Homer Winegardner as area counselor was read and accepted with regret by the board.

The president also announced that the nominating committee, headed by past president Robert H. Walker, was anxious to receive recommendations for their consideration.

Treasurer Klaiber reported that there was a balance of \$5,718.30 in the district treasury.

It was suggested and agreed that the question of expenses incurred by the vice presidents be further studied. The meeting adjourned at 5:30.

Meet the

HAPPY HUMMDINGERS

contact

Bob Powell
35003 Chestnut St.
Wayne



FROM
SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT
OF BARBERSHOP QUARTETS SINGING IN AMERICA
INCORPORATED

To

ROBERT L. MILLER
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NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY LOUIS R. HARRINGTON

Entries for the forthcoming contest at Jackson have been received from the Delta Aires, Wonderlads, E'sprit de Chord, Staffmen, Bucksters and Occasional Four quartets and Holland Windmill, Great Lakes, Floral City, Motor City, Jackson, Wayne Wonderland and Grosse Pointe Gleemen choruses. Late entries will be accepted so that any quartet or chorus desiring to compete will be afforded an opportunity to do so. Competition will be in three classes--senior, junior and novice thereby making it possible for all to win honors. Choruses at the fall contest will compete for the right to represent the Michigan district at Boston next June. Entry blanks for both contest are available from the district secretary.

* * * * *

At the House of Delegates meeting to be held Friday evening, September 25, 1964, the annual election of officers of the Michigan district will be held. Every chapter should be represented at this session.

* * * * *

Chapter achievement awards for 1963 will be presented at the House of Delegates meeting at Jackson to winners in the gold division (chapters of fifty or more members) and silver division (forty-nine members or less).

* * * * *

Site of the spring 1965 convention and contest next April has not as yet been named. Chapters interested in hosting this event should contact the district secretary.

* * * * *

Paul Eberwein's fine radio program featuring barbershop quartets and choruses has now been extended to 30 minutes and is a 10:00 p.m. feature Saturday nights on radio station CBE-1550. Why not tune in and then drop a line of appreciation to station CBE, Windsor, Ontario.