

JAN '65

JANUARY

michigan

troubadour



NOVEMBER

OAKLAND COUNTY CHAPTER

The Windmill Blade

Holland, Michigan Chapter-SPEBSOSA

Holly - Fenton

HARMONY TIME  
Member of PROBE

Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday in the American Legion Home, Fenton, the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays 8 p. m. OCT. 1954

FLINT

CHAPTER

"Keep America Singing"

Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday - CROATION HALL - 529 South Dort Highway, FLINT - 8:30 p. m.

Published by Chapter Seven of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Jackson, Michigan

MEMBER OF PROBE

Saginaw

Chimes

Published by the Saginaw, Michigan Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

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Vol. No. Editor

PONTIAC POW WOW

CHAPTER - S-P-E-B-S-Q-S-A



## THE Michigan Troubadour

Published by the Michigan District of the Society for the  
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Quartet Singing in America, Inc.  
Jack W. Oonk, Editor

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VOL. 15 No. 1

JANUARY, 1965

Utterings  
from  
Oonk



Last issue of Troubadour promised some earth shaking news concerning the gigantic Logopedics show scheduled for May 22 of this year. Offered also in the last issue of Troubadour was a line up of the greatest array of talent that our Great Michigan District has ever produced. The evening of May 22 will find the Merri Men, Extension Chords, Chord Counts, Air Males, Auto Towners, Curbstone Serenaders, Noteries and Trebleshooters and the fabulous Detroit Motor City Chorus singing their hearts out for you and this wonderful cause.

What could possibly be added to make this barbershop day of days even better? The Boyne City Chapter has given to the cause of Logopedics the one thing we felt could add appeal. Yes, 1965 will find the wonderful fun filled Bush League contest held May 22 in Battle Creek.

Let's take a look at how this barbershop day of days stack up. Saturday afternoon, May 22 will find the proven, greatest fun event our District possesses taking place, the Boyne City Chapter's Bush League. This will

provide you a chance to take a listen to our future quartet champions. Boyne City has not only given their show to Logopedics but are also lending their talent to the operation of it. To this chapter goes the heartfelt thanks of the entire District. Following the afternoon show will be a tasty dinner of the greatest golden barbequed chicken you have ever had the pleasure of biting into...put on by another working Michigan District chapter the Hudson Chapter, who are known far and wide for their knack of preparing the best chicken anywhere. The evening show speaks for itself. You could travel a million miles and not find a better one. Joining the great District champions singing this show will be the new Bush League winner. The show will be emceed by our president, Al Burgess. The Society Logopedics film will be shown in an effort to better acquaint you with our new, wonderful cause.

There will be two afterglows as mentioned in last issue of Troubadour. One will be tuned to the sound of a name band who will devote the evening playing your favorite dance tunes. Let's face it, After an afternoon of Bush League contest and the champions show at night some of our wives will be getting itchy feet. Their heads will be about full of barbershop chords and they will be tired of sitting. To these persons we offer a relaxing dance time. To those of us that want more barbershop is afterglow number two. Just imagine, an afterglow featuring all of our great champions, all of our future champions and yes, our District's top comedy quartets all singing one gigantic afterglow. As previously mentioned, a schedule of who will sing when, will be posted so as to enable you to devulge in both afterglows and not miss your favorite quartet.

As mentioned the show will be held in Battle Creek. This is because a couple of earnest barbershoppers from this chapter believed that this benefit was a worthwhile event. As one of the promoters of this show I want every Michigan District barbershopper to realize that for the Battle Creek Chapter to undertake this show took a lot of intestinal fortitude. The city of Battle Creek will be blessed during 1965 with four barbershop shows...yes...four. This, without a doubt leaves a problem with selling the townspeople tickets. This makes it imperative that the barbershoppers of our District back this show to the fullest. We can plan on some sales in Battle Creek but the major bulk of our ticket sales must come from our membership.

Housing can be arranged by writing direct to the Post Tavern Motor Inn, 67 W. Michigan Ave. in Battle Creek. This hotel will be our headquarters hotel. Prices range from \$7.50 to \$15.00. Ticket prices have been arranged with you in mind. A five dollar bill will guide you through this greatest day of barbershopping. Yes, that's all. An all-event ticket will cost you \$5.00. This entitles you to the Bush League contest, the barbeque "all you can eat" chicken supper, the gigantic "champion's" evening show, the singing afterglow and the dance. Broken down by events the ticket prices are as follows: Bush League \$1.50 - chicken supper \$1.50 - champion show \$2.00 - afterglows \$1.50. Add them all up and you get a \$6.50 bargain for \$5.00 when you purchase an all-events ticket, plus your evening meal. When you add to this bargain the ever present fact that all the proceeds go to our greatest cause you can't possibly help but feel that your place and that of your wife is in Battle Creek May 22, 1965. Tickets can be had by writing to Lowell Wolfe, 88 Wendell St. Battle Creek, Michigan.

# ON THE COVER

What chapter in the Great Michigan District produces the best chapter bulletin? During the next three months a contest will be held to determine this unknown fact. Every chapter is asked to compete. Judging will be done by a trio of qualified District barbershoppers. The winning editor will receive all events tickets for himself and his wife to the next District convention, where he will be honored for his outstanding work. The two best entries from the District will be entered by this committee of three into Society competition. This competition will be judged May 1 of this year. The winning entries of this competition will be exhibited at the International in Boston. How do you get into this competition? Just send a copy of each bulletin to the Michigan Troubadour, 526 E. Lincoln Ave., Zeeland, Michigan, 49464. I will take it from there.

What constitutes a good chapter bulletin? As I sit at the typewriter and ponder, I would guess that it would consist of some of the following suggestions:

1. **CONTENT**...a good chapter bulletin can be very instrumental in keeping a healthy attendance at meetings. It could also be helpful in cutting down our tremendous turnover in membership. Keeping the membership posted as to coming events, etc., is of utmost importance. Keeping pace with the members family happenings makes for very interesting reading. A write-up of an outstanding member keeps the membership looking to see if this issue it's he. Guest editorials and mystery editorials keep the sheet interesting. There are many, many ways to compose a bulletin that the membership will read from cover to cover.
2. **NEATNESS**...a neat production would be a must. Check with your local printing concerns. It will amaze you how cheaply you can have your bulletin printed if you type the copy on certain kinds of stencils, etc.
3. **APPEARANCE**...a clever and attractive mast head for your bulletin. I have produced a display of some of the mast heads that some of the District chapters are already using, in the hope that it will give ideas to chapters that are going to produce a head of their own. There are many more constructive ideas to producing a good chapter bulletin and if chapter bulletin editors are interested they should join PROBE, an informative source on our Society happenings. By joining PROBE, you are entitled to the Society's "Bulletin Editor's Manual", which could be a big help in producing the kind of bulletin that will win all the marbles in Boston. To become a member of PROBE, send a check of \$2.50 to Charlie Wilcox, P.O. 312, Freeport, Illinois. It's a worthwhile investment.

After reading this copy over it dawns on your editor that the question will be raised that all this costs money. Yes, it's true...everything that is really worthwhile costs something. Your editor also observes that you as a bul-

letin editor have gained the respect of your chapter or you would not have been given this most important function. You would not have been entrusted with this job if you were not capable and if you are capable of producing a chapter bulletin you are capable of putting on some kind of chapter drive to raise the money to permit you to publish the kind of bulletin that you and your chapter and your District will be proud of. Get together with your program vice president and dream up a scheme that will raise the necessary funds to get your chapter bulletin to Boston. Your Troubadour editor would be the proudest fellow in the world if a Michigan District entry would win the big prize in Boston. Let's give it an earnest try.

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## Preview Of "Regional"

Grand Rapids will host the 1965 Spring Convention and International Quartet Preliminaries and the District Chorus Contest in conjunction with the annual Great Lakes Invitational, April 23-24-25. The winning quartets will represent the Michigan District in the International contest at Boston in June. The chorus contest will determine District champions in the senior and junior divisions for 1965-66.

According to the schedule, quartet preliminaries will be held Saturday morning, April 24 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Civic Auditorium where all singing sessions will be staged. The chorus contest is set for 1:30 p.m. with the quartet finals following at 3:30 p.m. The Great Lakes Invitational will be held at 8:00 p.m. with the usual after glows at the Pantlind Hotel at 10:30 p.m.

Sunday morning will be devoted to a clinic for contestants starting at 9:00 a.m. and the House of Delegates meeting at 10:30 a.m. Both of these events will be held at the Pantlind, the headquarters hotel.

Gerrit Ver Veer, president of the Grand Rapids chapter, will act as chairman of the convention and will work in cooperation with Ken Childs, who is general chairman of the Great Lakes Invitational. It was announced that all events registrations for the week end will be available with more details forthcoming regarding this phase.

All requests for reservations for rooms should be forwarded directly to the Pantlind Hotel. Entry blanks for quartets desiring to compete will be available from the International Office at Kenosha where they must be returned. Entry blanks for the chorus competition may be obtained from District Secretary Lou Harrington.

Advance indications are that this will be one of the best attended District meetings in many years.

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## District "Song of the Year" Presented

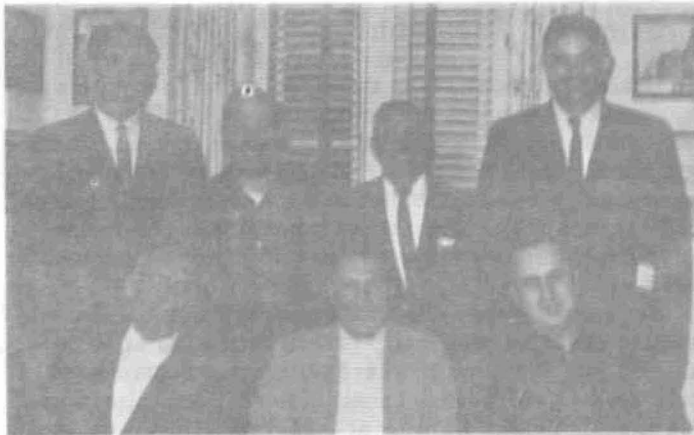
The Michigan District "song of the year" is a favorite of all. At the request of President Burgess, our International Representative, Bill Hansen, accepted the challenge of producing it. One of Bill's favorite "old time greats" was "Long Long Ago". Bill spent some fun filled hours at the piano and came up with the fine, solid arrangement found in this issue of Troubadour. Although the arrangement is done in the key of G (for ease of learning) Bill suggests that after the basics have been mastered you try singing it a half step lower. This key enhances the richness of sound to a great degree. A special thanks to Bill for undertaking this most important task and for coming up with another "job well done".

CHECK YOUR AREA COUNSELOR'S LISTING  
PAGE 2 FOR YOUR NEW AREA NUMBER.



## Two New District Board Members Named

Troubadour presents the two new members of the Michigan District Board of Directors to you. The new vice president for Zone III is Don Lucas. He replaces Bart Tillitt, who, because of health reasons, was forced to resign at the end of his 1964 term. Don is a member of the Holland Windmill Chapter. The District's new treasurer is Rayland (Mike) Schied. Mike takes over for Jack Klaiber, who retired after many years of service. Mike hails from the Flint Chapter. I asked both men to jot down a few details about themselves that might be of interest to the District membership. I have rewritten Mike's notes into a brief resume as follows:

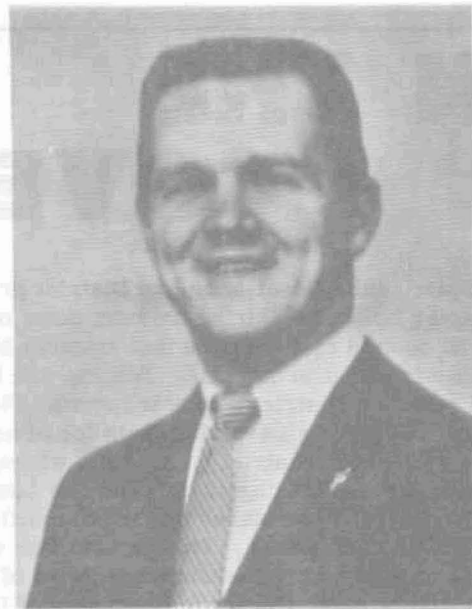


Rayland J. (Mike) Schied began his duties as treasurer of the Michigan District on January 1, 1965. He is well qualified for the position as he has been chapter treasurer since 1951 and a member of SPEBSQSA for 14 years. Mike has been employed by Chevrolet for the past 31 years in their financial department. He and wife Beatrice have no children. A member of the Elks, Masons, Sage Lake barbershop chapter, two bowling teams and the Spring Meadow Golf Club, it is a busy man who accepted the responsibility of this high position of District treasurer. Despite a busy schedule Mike has found the time to sing in a couple of barbershop quartets, namely the Ad Libs and the Tom Cats from the Flint chapter. You can find him smiling at you from the front row, left. Next to him is Ron Gillies and Bill Shannon. The back row left to right are Dwight Hammer, Lyle Gardner, Roy De Shano and Tex Wallace. This casual picture shows most of the officers of the Flint chapter.

Don called me one night complaining that he was having a hard time writing his copy. I told him to jot down whatever went through his mind. After receiving his copy I feel compelled to let you read it as I received it. A sense of humor is a wonderful thing to own and Don has more than his share. It reads like this:

Dere eDitor?

Don Lucas is short, fat, 33, is married to Sue, has one daughter Betsy, has three sons Barry, Martin and Mike, sells cars at Performance Cars Inc., is underpaid, under sexed, overfed, is an accomplished singer, is ever ready to give advice which is seldom taken, is responsible for the success of many of his friends who will never admit it, is responsible for the failure of a few who make it sound like it's a lot worse than it is, belongs to SPEBSQSA Inc. since 1948, used to live back of Zeeland but now lives at 321 Rosewood Ave in Grand Rapids, was



Don Lucas Vice President Zone III

born in Lucas mich but natives refuse to admit it, has had many girl friends but thinks he better not go into that now, sings in the Extension Chords Quartet on occasion since 1950, has guided this same quartet to the didstret championship many times-officially in 1952, was cheated out of the international in 52 55 56 57 58 by other members of quartet who were not up to it, sang in quartet in Korea which he organized coached MC'd got jobs for, arranged for them to win the all-army and all-ser-vise contests in 1953, has never been appreciated enough for all the years of service he has dedicated his time to forand etc., has been president of holland chapter, has been on the board of directors for lows of years, got kicked out of the Mich. Dist once and will never let responsible persons forget it, worked on 4 holland parades as chariman and sang a lot of them for free yoy, was responsible for losing his chapters shirt tail two didstret conventions 59 and 63, never could spell worth a toot, has no nick name, loves his wife, enjoys his work if he gets enough sleep, doesn't know where to put periods, hasn't got much time to spend on this thing, had a hernia when he was 15 and recovered nicely, directed the holland windmill chorus for a horrible two years, his wieght problem makes him quite nervous and consequently he consumes quite a goodly amount of li-quids which he doesn't enjoy, became a SFC in the short-length of seven months in the army and it wasn't be-cause of his typingability, doesn't really care about barbershopping so much as a hobby bit it gives him a chance to stand up in front of a lot of men and talk and where else can a fella get to be such a big shot with practically nothing on the ball, he has been accused of having a big head and doesn't deny it because with a few nice write ups in the district paper his head might equal the didstret presidents tummy, there is a lot more what could be writted about this fella but he knows that there is only just so much space that can be devoted - even to a very important person so this is about all there is, ps if i was the editor of the troobator i would read this over before it goes to the prinner cause i might have forgot a puntuation thing or too,



## Zones To Compete In Fun Contests

Found somewhere in this issue of Troubadour is a full page challenge from area 8 counselor, Mike Lucas, to Grant Wright, area counselor for area 4. It is a challenge that I am sure will be answered in next issue of Troubadour. This challenge is the first of many that will take place throughout our District during the next few months. Every area is asked to compete.

Zone Vice Presidents, Schultz, Tracy, Sherwood and Lucas will set up competition between the areas in their respective zones. The best talent from each zone will then be chosen to compete in zonal warfare, which will take place in late summer. The winning zone will be presented with a huge trophy. The winning vice president will be crowned "king" by the losing three vice presidents, who will spend the rest of the evening catering to the "king's" every wish and I would bet that the wishes of our new "king" would be many in number and very demanding in nature. As the full page challenge shows clearly, competition in Zone III is off and running.

Each zone can make up their own rules of competition. Zone III will use the following format:

Every person competing must be a paid up member of his chapter and be in good standing. No more than two members of a registered quartet may compete in the same act. No person may compete in more than one act. (chorus excluded) Competition will be held in the following categories. Youngest quartet and oldest quartet. Judging will be done in legitimate singing standards with combined total of years playing an important part. Best barbershop singing quartet and best entertaining quartet. Best chorus (not more than 20 men from the same chapter) and best "you name it" act.

What is behind all of this? There are a couple of reasons. First, for the first time our District has set up a budget that spends more money than we take in. President Al has formed a committee to come up with the needed money to keep our District in the black. I was fortunate to be named chairman of this committee, which is composed of the following: Chairman Jack Oonk-Zeeland, Douglas Beaver-Bay City, Clint Bostick-Livonia, Don Lucas-Grand Rapids, Robert Mulligan-Highland Park, Tom Pollard-Livonia, Bernie Smith-Detroit, Cal Ver Duin-Grand Rapids, Gordon Washburn-Lansing and Bert West-Detroit.

The money raised by this committee entitles our membership to added benefits such as a District quartet school, chorus director's school and other worthwhile promotions that can do nothing but help our District move ahead at the speed that we must attain, if we are to surpass the other Districts in the Society. Any monies gained from putting on these "competitions" will be deposited in the "ways and means fund", which will be turned over to the District.

### OUR FACE IS RED

Apologies go forth from the Troubadour to Les Lang, chapter bulletin editor and reporter of the Flint chapter. It seems that after all my sobbing for chapter copy, Les had sent his in and I, like all good editors, lost it in the mad shuffle that goes on at the Oonk household monthly at Troubadour time. To Les, who has been Troubadour's most faithful reporter during 1964 and to the Flint chapter, goes out my sincere apologies.

Secondly, and just as important is that by competing in or witnessing these competitions our membership will be given the opportunity of meeting and getting to know barbershoppers from all corners of our District.

Always foremost of our District problems was the idea of getting the east and west portions of our District to enjoy the talents of the other instead of fearing and finding fault with them. Any of you that had the privilege of witnessing the "battle" between the Dearborn and Holland chapters at Jackson last year had to come away from this event all the more proud to be a barber-shopper of the Michigan District. It was a fine night. This type of event will now be staged with the far corners, east, west, north and south competing in these fun events that will help provide the monies needed to enable our District to compete on a level with the other Districts in our Society.

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## Keynoters Districts Newest Quartet

The Troubadour sings out a hearty welcome to the District's newest officially registered quartet. They belong to the Battle Creek Chapter and are called the Keynoters. Contact man for this foursome is Robert Campbell, Route 1, Box 298, Richland, Michigan. It is with a note of regret that we must announce that during the past quarter three of the District's fine quartets have pitched away the pitchpipe. They are the Hironaires from Ann Arbor, the Aire Knights from Windsor and the Bari Tones from Utica-Rochester. The Holland Chapter is blessed with have their fine quartet, the Chord-i-nators, back in action again after a four month layoff. Quartets are the backbone of our Society. Let's get a few new active ones belting out some chords in our District during 1965.

MICHIGAN DISTRICT	
1965 Budget	
Estimated Receipts	
Parade Sanction fees	\$1,800.00
Regional & District contests	1,000.00
Per Capita Dues (1400)	2,100.00
Troubadour Subscription Fees (1400)	3,500.00
Extra Income	520.00
	<b>\$8,920.00</b>
Estimated Expense	
Michigan Troubadour	\$3,500.00
International contest travel:	
3 quartets at \$160.00	480.00
chorus	1,200.00
Presidential expenses:	
Int. convention travel \$150.00	
Office expense 75.00	225.00
Int. Board member Int. Convention	100.00
Other officers' travel (4 Vp., Sec., Treas.)	
\$100.00 per man	600.00
Area Counselor travel:	
Maximum \$50.00	
Northern section \$100.00	600.00
Officers' phone expense	100.00
Committee expense	100.00
Board of dir. meetings & C.O.T. school	400.00
Directory, printing & mailing	300.00
Supplies	150.00
Awards & Plaques	75.00
Secretary's office:	
Postage, phone, supplies, office exp., etc.	640.00
Miscellaneous	50.00
Quartet school	150.00
Chorus school	100.00
C. & J. school	150.00
	<b>\$8,920.00</b>
Respectfully,	
JOHN W. KLAIBER,	
Michigan District Treasurer	

## Flint Installs Officers January 12

Saturday, December 5, Girard Wrice-secretary, Bill Shannon-membership vice president, Mike Schied-treasurer and Les Lang-bulletin editor, attend the C.O.T. school in Jackson. This event was very good and should be continued and improved.

We have two well attended meetings in December and chapter affairs are coming along fine.

January 12 the 1965 officers and directors were installed at a regular meeting which was attended by Holly-Fenton and Saginaw. Mystery entertainment was revealed.

We meet the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at Croation Hall, 529 S. Dort Highway, Flint, Michigan. Stop by and sing with us when ever you can.

reporter: les lang

### MICHIGAN DISTRICT SPEBSQSA

#### Statement of Income and Expense and Capital Expenditures For period Jan. 1, 1964 to Dec. 31, 1964

Cash on hand beginning of period			\$5423.58
<b>INCOME</b>			
District Per Capita Fee	\$601.00		
Sanction Fee (Parades)	1528.81	7929.83	
Contests			
District (Holland)	500.00		
Regional (Windsor)	556.65		
District (Jackson)	228.60	1957.33	
Show Committee Refund	160.00	100.00	10,097.16
<b>EXPENSE</b>			
Michigan Troopmaster			
(Including mailing)	3500.00		
District Directory			
(Including mailing)	204.51		
Printing (other)	63.00	3847.55	
Meetings			
Executive Board	256.06		
C.O.T.S.	202.81	558.09	
Travel			
Mr. Hansen (Int'l Delegate)	100.00		
Presidential allowance	100.00		
Auto Tonnage (Int'l Contest)	200.00		
Four-Pile	200.00		
Tumble Shooters	200.00		
Port City Chorus	1500.00	2350.00	
Officers Expense (phone, postage, supplies, etc.)			
Secretarial	643.63		
Presidential	141.21		
V. Pres. & A/C	360.81		
A/C at Large	231.90	1370.55	
Miscellaneous			
C & J Committee	14.70		
Ch. Judges (Fee)	103.50		
Plaques & Prizes	70.09		
Nominating committee (phone)	47.60		
Dist. Officer Badges	14.50		
International (supplies)	21.80		
Gift (Int'l Pres.)	13.60		
Flowers (Bennett Funeral)	26.35		
Bank Charges	18.44		
Mich. Corp. & Sec. Com.	20.00	310.58	8,484.77
Net Income		1,612.30	1644.30
Cash on hand after income and expense			7030.97
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>			
Equipment (Thermo-Fax Duplicator)		351.62	351.62
Cash in Old Kent Bank (Grand Rapids, Mich.) Dec. 31, 1964			6684.30
<b>MICHIGAN DISTRICT BALANCE SHEET</b>			
Dec. 31, 1964			
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash in Old Kent Bank (Grand Rapids, Mich.)			\$6,684.30
District Properties			
Thermo-Fax Machine (In Dist. Sec'y's office)		351.62	
Total Assets			7,035.97
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Net Worth			7,035.97

Respectfully,

*W. W. Klaber*  
District Treasurer

## Following the Leader

AL BURGESS



As a music teacher I've often been asked the question, "How come you like to sing with those barbershoppers?"

I suppose there are really many reasons. Here are but a few reasons why I chose to become a barbershopper.

1. Barbershoppers are creative. Our type of harmony (especially the woodshedding) give me the opportunity to be creative through the medium of music. As barbershoppers we can and do entertain ourselves. The TV (idiot box) isn't needed for us. We make our own fun. America needs more of this. Our nation is rapidly becoming a nation of spectators...not doers. Barbershoppers are creative doers and I'm proud of it. What's it take? Four guys and a pitch pipe.

2. Barbershoppers are sensitive guys. The saying goes that, "All barbershoppers are sentimental slob." I feel that there's quite a bit of truth here. Ever watch a barbershopper react to a "top-notch" quartet singing a real tear jerker? Know what I mean? Yes sir. We like to get the feel of the song with every bit of its meaning. We'll spend hours and hours rehearsing to be able to tell the complete story of the song. This, in turn, causes us to be sensitive to the needs of others...hence...Logopedics and all the other charities to which our various chapters lend their support.

3. There is absolutely nothing on the face of the earth that can equal the thrill you get in being a part of a four-part chord. NOTHING. You and those three other guys have just gone into orbit as you feel the "goose bumps"; the result of the "ring" in that barbershop seventh chord. No other music produces this effect. True, all types of music have some assets. It's just that barbershop music gives the singer and the listener the tingle that is lacking in the other types of music.

4. As a Society, our championship quartets and choruses need to take a musical "back seat" to no one. The music educators of America have often been astounded by the musical excellence exhibited by our Society's top groups. As barbershoppers, we should always strive to sing our very best. As singers, the public compares us to all the other groups they hear. How do you think we compare... in the public eye? Good? Bad?

These are but a few reasons as to why I'm a barbershopper. To me, they're very important reasons so I'll continue to "toot" my horn and "blow my pitchpipe" for SPEBSQSA as long as these reasons exist realistically for Al Burgess. They're my best (and only) sales pitch when I'm approaching prospective members.

What are your reasons for joining the Society? Ever tell a prospective member why you belong to the GREAT-EST SINGING OUTFIT IN THE WORLD? Take PRIDE boy. This ain't no second-rate outfit. Let's you and me "git with it". Let's make 1965 the "PRIDE" year in the Michigan District.

# Public Notice

OF GIGANTIC BARBERSHOP

## CHALLENGE

AREA 13 IS GREAT



Mike Lucas

This battlecry of truth rings out once more. One more epistle of area13 talent, integrity and barbershop supremacy is on its way. Using as our next step on the ladder to barbershop immortality we challenge the weak, undeveloped section of Zone III, known as area 15. This may not seem fair to those who are familiar with the bastions of singing greats who are the challengers. But, do to lack of competition from other regions, we are forced to whet our appetite on this untasty morsel. Therefore, I, Mike Lucas, counselor and handler for the buldging mass of barbershop muscle of area 13 do hereby sing out this challenge to area15 and Grant Wright, its "puppet." Theirs it is to name the time and place of this encounter and the buriel ground for their harmony remains. Anyone with courage enough to spectate at this affair is welcome. Area15 will probably need your help to clear the field of battle, casualties being expected.



## Octet Contest Grows & Grows & Grows

On Friday, February 12, 1965 the Dearborn chapter will host the 9th annual International Octet Contest and Convention at the American Legion hall at 4211 Maple Street in East Dearborn. Over the years this annual event has attracted hundreds (no fooling) of ardent barbershoppers to vie for the beautifully engraved plaque symbolic of octet supremacy. Any and all chapters are invited to send their best eight-some (or as many octets as they organize) to compete for the prize.

This event has been a stepping stone for many organized quartets and has proven to be of special interest to newer members. A lot of our new barbershoppers are hesitant to sing alone in a quartet, but give him some help with a more experienced man on his part to support him and watch him rush up to the stage like an old pro. Even though the laughs are many and loud at some of the clowning that always takes place, the contest is very much "for real" and many octets rehearse long and hard to prepare for the big event.

Naturally when you get around 96 guys in 12 octets plus 50 more men who just came for laughs under the same roof you are bound to find half a dozen organized quartets who help entertain. Chef Shamus always cooks his most special menus for the octet contest and the refreshment booth has many cups that "runneth over".

So pack your bags and seven others guy's and run, don't walk, to Dearborn on February 12 for the singingest session of the year.

The contest rules are easy:

1. Two songs must be sung in honest-to-goodness barbershop style and judging will be based on all categories but stage presence. (Eventhough some groups always show up in some sort of ridiculous get-up and do a dance.)
2. All members of an octet must be members of the same chapter.
3. No more than two men from the same registered quartet may compete in the same octet.
4. No more than two members shall have sung in another competing octet. (Meaning 14 men could form two octets.)
5. Chapters may enter as many octets as they wish.
6. All octets must be capable of beating Detroit.

In the nine year history of the contest, the following groups were crowned as champions:

- 1957 - Oakland County - Wayne - Dearborn (This combination octet won before rule #2 went into effect.)
- 1958 - Oakland County "Oakies"
- 1959 - Redford "De-ve-eights"
- 1960 - Detroit "Octopusses"
- 1961 - Detroit "Octopusses"
- 1962 - Detroit "Octopusses"
- 1963 - Detroit "Octopusses"
- 1964 - Detroit "Octopusses"

Now you can see why we added rule #6 this year. Incidentally, why not stay over-night and attend Dearborn's annual parade the next night.

*Roger Craig*



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

WILLIAM HANSEN



According to publications and chapter bulletins of other Districts, more chapters throughout our Society are becoming increasingly critical of the use of "blue" or off-color stories at chapter functions. This is a healthy sign and is something that every chapter should consider, particularly, with respect to attendance of the public or guests at any chapter activity or function.

There are those who see no harm in telling or listening to an off-color story; others are very definitely opposed to such participation in any form. Regardless of personal opinions, there is a time and place for everything. I'm sure most of us will agree that such activity has no rightful place in barbershopping. There are many reasons why we lose members or fail to sign up a good prospect. I would certainly hate to think that smutty stories are ever responsible; however, the possibility does exist.

Barbershopping can be and is a symbol for clean, wholesome and good activity. When engaging in our favorite past-time, each of us must constantly strive to preserve that image.

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## Holly Fenton Hits Membership Quota

Our chapter has really moved along during 1964. We have attained the membership quota of 35 members as requested by District President Al Burgess last January. Our chorus under the direction of Gordie Robinson is steadily improving and is becoming very active. Starting with a request appearance in August, it has made one each in September, October and December, while it made two in November. We already have accepted an invitation to sing on April 21 at a dinner for Meredith and Reni Wilson in the Hotel Fenton. The Wilsons will present an "Evening with Meredith and Reni Wilson" on the LIVING THEATRE SERIES sponsored by the Fenton JCs.

The chapter started meeting every week on September 1 and the attendance rose from about 66% to about 86%.

Our 7th annual show was the best yet. A lot of credit should go to Jay Welch and Ryan Strom, co-chairmen, for the success of the show. Appearing on the first half of the show were the Holly-Fenton Chorus, Smithtonians and Delta-Aires. While the Banjotainers, Wonderlads and Aire Males took over the last half. Genial Gordie Robinson was the emcee and kept everything moving right along. The afterglow was handled by Al Burdick and a large committee. This proved, as always, to be a sell-out and a howling good time.

With everyone working together as they have during the past year, 1965 should prove to be a bigger and better year than was 1964.

reporter: art burnett

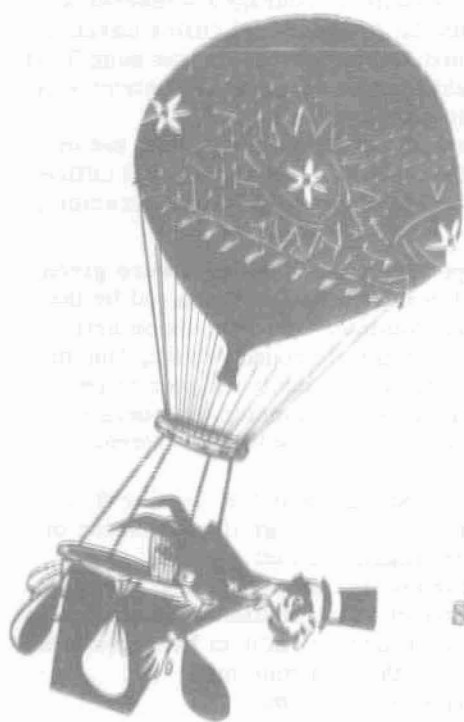
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COPY DEADLINE FEB. 3

### 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.





# HERE'S THE BIG LIFT

YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!

A Solid Evening of Solid Singing

FEATURING TOPNOTCH  
BARBERSHOP QUARTETS

DEARBORN CHAPTER S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A.

Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of  
Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America

*Presents Its 20th Annual*

PARADE OF QUARTETS



## "HARMONY HOME COMING"

FEATURING AND WELCOMING BACK HOME TO MICHIGAN

*The* "CRACKER JILLS"

SWEET ADELINE  
INTERNATIONAL CHAMPS

THE SWEETHEARTS OF HARMONY

*Starring*

★ THE "AUTO - TOWNERS"

1964 6th PLACE INTERNATIONALISTS

★ THE CHORD-O-MATIC CHORUS

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITORS 1963

★ THE "AIRE - MALES"

PLUS BY INTERNATIONAL SEMI-FINALISTS

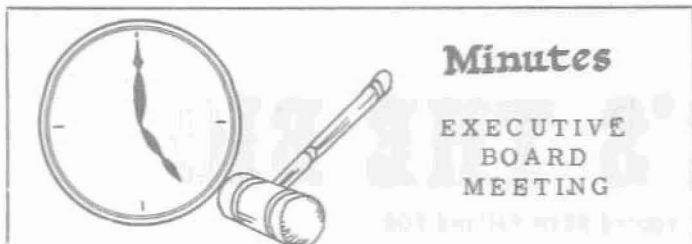
POPULAR

★ DEMAND THE BANJO-TAINERS

DEARBORN'S FAVORITE MUSICAL GROUP



Call LO. 5-4884 For Tickets Now



## Minutes

### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

A meeting of the Michigan District Board of Directors was held at the Capitol Park Motel, Lansing, Michigan, on Saturday, January 9, 1965. The meeting was called to order by President Al Burgess at 10:00 a.m. Others present were William Hansen, immediate past president; Charles Sherwood, Robert Tracy, Don Lucas and Eric Schultz, vice-presidents; Secretary Harrington, Treasurer Schied and retiring treasurer John W. Klaiber. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Secretary Harrington then reported to the Board on the meeting held at Grand Rapids the previous evening with the Grand Rapids chapter's convention committee, which was also attended by Vice-president Lucas. The Board voted unanimously to award the 1965 Spring convention and International Preliminary Contest to the Grand Rapids chapter to be held on Saturday, April 25, 1965. The Board then approved the format as outlined, which will provide for all contest sessions to be held on Saturday and the House of Delegates meeting to be held on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. at the Pantlind Hotel.

Vice-president Tracy then reported that arrangements had been made to transfer the Bush League contest from Boyne City and to stage it on May 22, 1965 at Battle Creek in connection with the Logopedics show being arranged for that day.

President Burgess announced that the logopedics film is now in his possession and that he would handle the booking arrangements. It was agreed that the costs of returning the film to whatever city and chapter was designated would be borne by the chapter returning the film.

Jack Oonk reported on the Troubadour and again stressed the need for full cooperation from all officers, area counselors and chapters.

Jack Klaiber then presented a final financial statement to the Board covering the period through December 31, 1964. The balance on hand, which he turned over to the incoming treasurer, was \$6,684.30. The Board expressed appreciation to Mr. Klaiber for his faithful and efficient service as treasurer of the District for many years.

The subject of a few chapter being delinquent in the payment of sanction fees was discussed, and it was resolved that the matter be referred to the Laws and Regulations Committee to propose effective legislation to cover such cases.

Recent loss of chapters was then discussed. In reviewing the situation, the reasons for disbanding of East Detroit and Wyandotte Down River chapters were analyzed. A recent letter from past International treasurer and past District president Mark Roberts was read. The entire board was in accord that the International requirement of 25 members to retain a chapter in good standing was the principal reason for the loss of small chapters. It was further brought out that because of this, the situation is now serious in Boyne City, South Haven, Oscoda County and Coldwater. It is also one of the contributing factors in the problems of the Niles-Buchanan chapter.

It was also pointed out at the meeting that several

chapter officers have become discouraged whenever a letter is received from the International Office advising them of their threatened loss of status. It was suggested that such letters should first be directed to District vice-presidents and area counselors.

President Burgess then outlined the schedule set up for the visitation by Chet Fox of the International Office and also a schedule for Bob Johnson's chorus director's school at Lansing.

Reports of the respective vice presidents were given, and each emphasized the difficulties encountered by the chapters in the smaller communities. Extension activities have recently been centered around Adrian, Big Rapids, Port Huron and a Macomb County chapter to be built around a possible nucleus of former members of the East Detroit, Mt. Clemens and Suburban Detroit chapters.

There was sentiment expressed at the meeting that a vigorous effort be made to encourage the formation of more quartets in the Michigan District.

Comment was also made that promoting and advertising the Michigan District at International convention in the form of some visible badge or emblem be considered. Ideas will be presented at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

LOUIS R. HARRINGTON,  
Michigan District Secretary

+ + + + +

## Overtone Tenor Dies In Japan

Word has been received of the death of Career War-rant Officer Larry R. Bohm, former Benton Harbor Navy recruiter and barbershop quartet singer. Mr. Bohm died in Japan, where he was stationed with the U.S. Navy. Death was due to an apparent heart attack.

He was a Navy recruiter in Muskegon for a short time then being transferred to Benton Harbor for about two and one-half years. While in Muskegon he joined the Muskegon Chapter, which we believe could have been around 1949 or 1950. Coming to Benton Harbor, he immediately joined the Fruit Belt Chapter, then became a member of the Overtones as a tenor. We were fortunate to have had such a fine fellow as a tenor for approximately two and one-half years.

He was a great barbershopper and hard worker for barbershopping, and to show his interest, immediately after leaving Benton Harbor he was stationed on the USS Phillipine Sea and organized a barbershop chorus and quartet, of which he was a member.

Mr. Bohm was well-known in barbershop circles as the tenor in the Overtones quartet in the early 1950's. Other members of the quartet at that time were Maurice Humphrey, Karl Kerlikowske and Joseph Bulley.

He served as the Navy recruiter at the Benton Harbor recruiting station in 1951.

He was a member of the Benton Harbor Elks Lodge No. 544 and St. Paul's Episcopal church in St. Joseph while he resided here.

The only known survivor is his widow, Alyce, who resides at 15301 Kennedy road, Los Gatos, California.

He was buried from his ship, the USS Bennington, as he had requested.

reporter: joseph bulley





KALAMAZOO



# 23<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL QUARTET SERENADE



FEBRUARY 13, 1965

*Kalamazoo*  
CENTRAL

## HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM



8:00 p.m.



**Nighthawks**

— London, Ontario

**Trebleshooters**

— Detroit



**Note-Cracker-Sweets**

— Minneapolis

**Chord Counts**

— Holland




**Mall City Chorus**

— Kalamazoo

**All reserved**

**\$2.00, 1.50, 1.00**



**Contact: George Brooks**  
**1907 Park Ave.**  
**Kalamazoo, Mich. 49006**  
**Phone 344-4917**

## Profile Of A Working President

reported  
by

Les Lang



Ron Gillies

Ron joined the Flint chapter of SPEBSQSA in 1959 and was elected to the board of directors in 1960-61. He was elected secretary in 1962-63. In 1963 he took over as acting president and chorus director, when Neil Norman was transferred to the night shift and Fred Kienitz was attending evening classes. He was elected to the office of president in 1964. Ron sings baritone and has sung in two barbershop quartets. The Quicknotes for three years while in the U.S. Air Force and since joining the Flint chapter, the Suspend-A-Chords. Ron is an avid barber-shopper and is very adept in encouraging new members and guests to join in the activities. He has worked very hard to keep the chapter together and active, as attested to by the following highlights of his 1964 presidential reign: January 14, installation of officers was a wife's night with guest quartet. April 4, Flint parade was one of the most successful shows ever produced by the chapter. May 15, a goodly number from the chapter participated in Pontiac's Olde Tyme Woodshed contest and walked off with the Carroll P. Adams Bennington Trophy. May 19, Flint was host to a joint meeting of the chapters in southeast Michigan for an evening of activities directed by Bob Johnson from Kenosha, International music director. August 9, the Flint picnic at Pine Ridge Park was well attended by members and families from Flint, Saginaw and Holly-Fenton. September 25, 26, and 27, nice turnout to the District convention at Jackson, which saw a Flint officer, Mike Schied, elected District Treasurer. November 7, Flint ladies night at the Flint Elks Club at which the Gala-Vamps of Flint and the Delta Aires of Saginaw entertained a full house. Twenty-four regular meetings, several board and special meetings, visitations to all the area chapters, Mio wing-ding, Detroit San Antonio Bust, five area shows, four ladies nights, Bay City St. Patrick's parade, Holly-Fenton picnic, Holly-Fenton raft ride and several others.

The Flint chapter and barbershopping in general, certainly can be thankful for an enthusiastic leader such as Ron.

\*\*\*\*\*

COPY DEADLINE FEBRUARY 3

**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.



# Stampede

at Wayne Chapters

## Pitch Pipe Parade

Come join the

roundup of

# BUFFALO BILLS

OF MUSIC MAN FAME

**The AIRE-MALES**  
INT. SEMI-FINALISTS

**The NOTERIES**  
PAST MICH. DIST. CHAMPS

**The SMITHTONIANS**  
HARMONIOUS FAMILY FOURSOME

**The WAYNE DROPS**  
FOUR RINGING VARMINTS

**The HAPPY HUMMDINGERS**  
FOUR HUMOROUS HOMBRES

**The WAYNE WONDERLAND CHORUS**  
MICH. DIST. CHORUS CHAMPS

## SATURDAY, MARCH 6

at Henry Ford High School

20000 Evergreen, Detroit

8:15 p.m.

ALL  
TICKETS

\$2.50

Contact:

**TOM POLLARD**  
15019 FLAMINGO  
LIVONIA, MICH.

*Bring your own horse and lasso*

# 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 Petamarc Drive  
Rochester

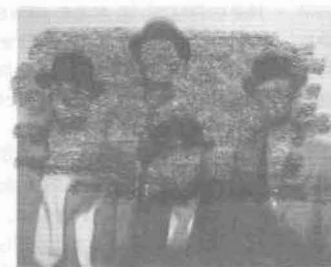
## Meet the **HAPPY HUMMDINGERS**

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



## Two New Quartets In Lansing Fold

In need of an excuse, rebuttal, or confession, the Lansing Chapter hereby addresses the Michigan District with a new year's resolution to communicate monthly with the editor of the Troubadour in hopes that our activities of the year will be of use, benefit, and or aid in passing information as it happens, will happen, or we hope will happen. Whew, that's about as "windy" as one sentence can be.

**HISTORY:** Show October 17, 1964 - - Rated a tremendous success, the Buffalo Bills, Aire Males and Merri-Men, with the Lansing Chapter performed to a full house of wonderful listeners. December 7, 1964 - - Real "sing-in' meeting" - Dinner and all the works. Harmony Hounds, Fourmasters and visit from the Ionia Chapter, sort of celebrating the show success. (Had to wait until hunting season was over.)

**PRESENT:** January 4, 1965 Installation of new officers. Don Funk - president, Reese Olger - executive vice president, Gerry Guimond - program vice president, John Hamilton - membership vice president, Don Snitgen - secretary and Gene Johnson - treasurer. Gerry Guimond, program vice president has established program committees and promises the most in programs (including woodshedding).

**PROJECTS:** February 20, 1965 - Ladies Night. July 19, 1965 - everybody mark this down - everybody invited to one of those famous fish fries. Remember the one a few years ago...well, here goes for another, hoping to make it an area wing-ding type of evening. October 23, 1965 - Lansing show.

We all hope the momentum which has been generated over the past year will continue.

Lefty Hamilton and Bernie Ulrich brought in the Fowler Four, made up of Schmitt, Schmitt, Schmitt and Thelen. 1965 started off with membership applications from the Lansing Lads, so quartets are coming again from Lansing.

New members this last quarter: Fred Farley, Stewart Sigourney, Don Schmitt, Hileary Schmitt, Herman Schmitt, Al Thelen, Bob Wisdon, Vic Bordes and I guess that about runs me out of wind until next month when we'll grind out more.

reporter: don funk

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## Ann Arbor Loses Two Quartets

The low point of the year was the passing of Dave Gaffney, bass of the Fourscores, and the loss of that quartet to us. Danny McCarthy, tenor of the Huronaires, got himself transferred to Ireland and there went that quartet. The remaining fellows of each quartet have been doing some practicing and singing...they made Merry Christmas around town with their carols. As you can imagine, the chapter feels very keenly the loss of both its working quartets. We are hoping for the formation of a couple more soon.

1964, in retrospect, has been a quiet year in Ann Arbor. We have made considerable sound among ourselves, but the sound hasn't spread far. The high point of the past year was Bob Johnson's visit. Many area barbershoppers joined in the fun. And, I think, MANY is the key to FUN.

We are looking forward to a new year of harmony and growth. We hope to see many of the fellows around, both at home and away. Our New Year's resolutions are to try to visit and to sing more.

reporter: sumner w. maule



## NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY

LOUIS R. HARRINGTON

As 1964 has drawn to an end, we wish to express appreciation to all the outgoing officers whose endeavors have been of such benefit and to welcome the new officers who will have a real opportunity to promote our organization through our very worthwhile Society-wide project.

\* \* \* \* \*

As a result of the resignations of vice-presidents elect Bart Tillitt, Zone III and Michael Mudgett, Zone I, the District Board chose Done Lucas in Zone III and Eric Schultz consented to continue serving in Zone I.

\* \* \* \* \*

Vice President Charles L. Sherwood and his committee are to be commended for the arrangements made for the Chapter Officers Training School at Jackson. It was one of the best planned sessions of its kind ever held in the Michigan District and very well attended.

\* \* \* \* \*

Grand Rapids will host the Regional contest on April 24, 1965 in conjunction with the Great Lakes Invitational.

\* \* \* \* \*

We regret the loss of Wyandotte-Down River, East Detroit and Mt. Clemens chapters. The District now numbers 37 chapters which is the lowest in several years. The membership as of November 30, 1964 is 1,447.

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## Dearborn Parade and Contest Announced

Dearborn chapter is currently looking forward to two big events in February, our annual 'octet contest on Friday, February 12, and our annual parade on Saturday, February 13. The latter to be held at Fordson High School. To both events Dearborn says, "Ya'll come."

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the George Meinschein family on the recent passing of their daughter, and to the Ed Luttermoser family on the loss of his wife, and the Bill Smyth family on the passing of his mother.

reporter: don sheridan

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## Kalamazoo "Serenade" February 13

We welcome into our fold Lovell Van Fleet of Otsego, Michigan, transferring to the Kalamazoo chapter. We also welcome Burt Szabo from the Lansing chapter and Rey Peterson from the Green Bay chapter.

Plans are being completed for our 23rd annual parade, February 13. Chorus director, Jerry Smith, plans to have the Mall City Chorus in fine shape with a few new numbers for this year's parade. Be sure and contact George Brooks immediately (see show ad) for tickets to our show, as they're going fast. Remember that the Kalamazoo chapter has changed its meeting night to the 1st and 3rd Fridays at 8:15 p.m.

reporter: jim sell

## Wayne Chapter Names 1965 Officers

Welcome. Warmest wishes welling wildly from Wonderland Chorus and Wayne warblers. We wish all members and friends in this great District the best year they ever had in every measure. Just think: the joy of great friends at chapter meetings that were crammed with chords, the thrill of competition and the elation of winning the District Chorus Contest with our good friend and director, Dale Clixby, up front smiling sweetly at us, the joy, humility and real pleasure of winning another District Achievement Award and the promise of yet another year to meet new friends, sing more songs and grow a little taller in every way.

We would also make special mention of the new member friends who joined our ranks this year past. We appreciate their interest, value their friendship, encourage their efforts and hope we can together find the satisfaction that makes "barbershopping" such a treat.

Now then; we have great new chapter officers for this new year. We would like to introduce them to you, especially for those who would like to contact them regarding activities. Our new president, Owen McGill, program vice president Don Welke, administrative vice president Morrie Giles, corresponding secretary Andy Alfien, recording secretary Bernie Sanders, treasurer John Linehan, sergeants at arms Bob Powell and Mike Bourgoin, and our chorus director Dale Clixby.

Our last chapter outside activity was in early December when we had the opportunity to visit the Maybury Sanitarium for T.B. patients in Northville and put on an all chapter Christmas show. We presented our Wonderland Chorus, the Noteries, the Wayne Drops and the Happy Hummdingers. John Titus and his "sing along" slides gave everyone an opportunity to carol together. The enthusiastic response from the patients was great reward for visiting with them again this year.

Though they certainly know it, we would like to publicly welcome the immediate past District championship quartet, the Noteries, to our chapter. Their fine songs and grand friendship are another wonderful addition to our chapter family.

Our annual Pitch Pipe Parade is coming up rapidly and we are busy, under the guidance of general chairman, Bernie Sanders, putting together a show starring the inimitable Buffalo Bills. You will hear more of this event as we complete plans for one of this District's finest shows.

To close, let us all keep in mind the greatest project our Society has ever uncovered, the Institute of Logopedics. Ask about it, learn all about it, and talk about it. Our Al Burgess will further your knowledge at every opportunity. We are all aware that the greatest satisfaction possible comes when we reach out and do something for others. So, keep in mind...We Sing That They Shall Speak.

Now from your Wayne buddies, good chords, good fellowship and Godspeed during this new year.

reporter: al fricker

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COPY DEADLINE FEB. 3

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



## Monroe Parade Scheduled February 6

Preparations for the first annual Monroe Chapter parade are in full swing. The scheduled date is February 6, at 8:00 p.m., at St. Mary's Academy Auditorium in Monroe. We wish to take this opportunity to invite all of you fellow barbershoppers to a really fine evening of entertainment. For tickets, contact Chuck Mumby, 150 Cranbrook Blvd., Monroe, Michigan or Don Poirier, 155 Richards Dr., Monroe, Michigan.

Featured in our show will be the fabulous Mid States Four quartet of Chicago, Illinois, also the Varieties, past Illinois District champions, will lend their wonderful harmony to help make the show a great success. The Toledo Chorus and the Monroe Chorus, plus quartets from these chapters will round out the show.

We are pleased to announce that our new chapter officers have been elected and will be installed this month. Continuing will be Bill Whippen, president; Bob Vensel, program vice president; George Hennig is our new secretary and Dale Schroeder, treasurer, is still in charge of the money bags. Of course Arnie Hojbach will continue as our wonderful hard working chorus director.

reporter: john falconer

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## Windmill Blades Turn Into Busy 1965

Holland's Windmill Chapter swung into the new year with the installation of new officers in an impressive ceremony conducted by Bart Tillett, chapter member. Officers for the coming year are: George Moeke, president; Bob Birce, secretary; Si Krol, treasurer; Brian Ward, membership vice president; Ken Helder, program vice president and board members are Jack Oonk, Jack Essenberg, Dale Bekker and Chet Oonk. Norm Bredeweg is public relations and chapter reporter.

A busy schedule is planned for the Windmill Chorus under the direction of Mike Lucas. On January 21 the chorus will sing at the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Grand Rapids. January 28 finds the chorus performing in Zeeland with its own package show for the Zeeland Hospital Guild #15. February 23 will find the package show given for the Arcadian fraternity of Hope College and on March 27 the annual West Ottawa show will be given in conjunction with the West Ottawa high school vocal music department.

On the social side of the ledger a children's Christmas party was held at the chapter club rooms Saturday December 19, complete with Santa in the person of Ken Russell. The chapter members and wives also went caroling to the homes of shut-in and elder barbershoppers.

The chapter welcomed the new year in with a gala new year's party at the club rooms. This reporter wishes to commend Mr. and Mrs. Ken Helder, Mr. and Mrs. John Nuismer, Mr. and Mrs. Vern Neinhuis and Mr. and Mrs. Mike Lucas for the fine job done in decorating and hosting the evening's entertainment. The event was well attended with guests from Grand Rapids and Muskegon present.

The Holland Windmill Chapter wishes the Michigan District and all Michigan barbershoppers the happiest of new years with an abundance of chord busting for '65.

reporter: norm bredeweg

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LOGOPEDICS SHOW-BATTLE CREEK-MAY 22



## THE FEMININE OBSERVER

ELLEN HARRINGTON



Dearborn chapter's annual Ladies Night Christmas party was a gala occasion with corsages for the ladies, carols, delicious buffet and of course outstanding entertainment. Proud father Thurman Slack was passing out cigars. Among those in attendance were Virgil Duke, Nick Kipytk, Messrs. and Mesdames Robert Stone, Cecil Craig, Roger Craig, Frank Tritle, Sam Vaslu, William Wilcox, Clint Bostick, William Wickstrom Norman Thompson, Carl Dahlke, Anthony Choido, Victor Favier, Louis Kapczi, Eric Schultz, Leonard Tampa, Glenn Van Tassell, Robert Weaver, Norm Shamus, Aarne Olkkonen and many more.

Barbershoppers were saddened to learn of the death of Horace Conklin of Battle Creek, former District Treasurer, and of Mrs. Edwin Luttermoser, Mrs. Harold Coughenour and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Meinschein of Dearborn.

## Great Lakes To Host Regional

As Chapter 4's new bulletin editor and chapter reporter it is my pleasure to announce that Grand Rapids has been selected for the privilege and responsibility of hosting the Regional District contest to coincide with our spring Great Lakes Invitational.

This is a privilege and challenge that our chapter and its members have been entrusted with and I am sure I can say without too much contradiction that we will do our very best as a chapter and as barbershoppers in hosting a successful contest during the Great Lakes Invitational.

The Grand Rapids chapter under the heads up leadership of our two-year president Jerry Ver Veer and a great team working board have accomplished many things in the past two years that add up to the better preservation and increased encouragement of keeping our chapter and America singing. We as member thank Jerry and the board for landing the job of hosts in the spring. So better watch our stride in '65.

## GREAT LAKES FEATURES EASTERNAIRES

The Great Lakes Invitational this year will proudly present some of the finest quartets in the country. Starting with our own great Spar Tone Aires who will customarily lead off the show. They will no doubt loosen up the sides of a capacity crowd with their great songs, clowning and timely jokes.

Following them and by popular demand we have brought back that par-excellence quartet from the Spencer, Iowa chapter, those magical songsters the Four Nubbins, who have pleased crowds all over the country with their close harmony and show stopping act.

Our feature quartet the Easternaires from Jersey City,

New Jersey was organized in 1954 to meet an emergency. A television network had asked the Jersey City Chapter to provide a quartet for a show only eight days away. The chapters member quartets had already appeared on television. Bob Bahn an unattached baritone volunteered to recruit a new group in that short space of time. Since then, the Easternaires have been among the top ten in international competition of the Society. Their engagements each year range from New York to Los Angeles and from Florida to Canada at least forty week-ends a year in addition to their regular jobs. So if you like your barbershopping lusty or tender and sentimental don't miss the best in the Midwest THE GREAT LAKES INVITATIONAL. With a bill like this we expect and will have a great show and contest. See you all April 23 and 24.

reporter: del hathaway

## Detroit Pledges Support To May 22 Benefit

On Friday, December 18, Detroit and Grosse Pointe met once again in their annual chapter quartet competition. Each chapter mustered every man possible to sing in a quartet. Detroit Chapter came up with seven great foursomes, while Grosse Pointe had six rafter ringing groups. After listening to these fabulous groups, all scores were tallied and the judges came up with the winner. Hal Seely, Grosse Pointe's new president had to once again hand over the trophy, a huge shaving mug to Detroit president elect, Bert West. Once again Detroit continued its winning streak.

Hal Seely gave a most inspiring speech which gave us the impression Grosse Pointe will not take this defeat laying down.

After our weekly rehearsal on Monday, December 21, the chorus, 45 men strong plus our Trebleshooters, attended Northwest Detroit Chapter's combined Christmas and Ladies Night Party. We heard the now famous Smithtonians, Michigan's popular family barbershop group, the Score Keepers and those Happy Hummdingers, who had us holding our sides with laughter. The Detroit Chorus then raised the roof with Bill Butler's "Mississippi Mud". To top thing off the Trebleshooters, who attend every chorus rehearsal when not singing a quartet job, gave us some real championship style barbershop. We all went home with those beautiful chords ringing in our ears.

We are now making plans for our annual Ladies Night to be held January 15 at the Wolverine Hotel. This one is always sold out.

Detroit had five men at the C.O.T. school in Jackson and hopes another of the same will be held in the future, as every chapter officer should have an opportunity to take this one in.

Detroit Chapter #1 pledges our full support to Roger Lewis and Lowell Wolfe with their Logopedics Show to be held in Battle Creek on May 22, and we thank these fellows for starting the ball rolling.

reporter: John wearing

The Detroit Yachtsmen plan a Ladies Night program on March 20, 1965 at the Detroit Yacht Club featuring quartets, the Yachtsmen chorus, a reception and dancing. Barbershoppers and their friends are welcome.

COPY DEADLINE FEB. 3



# Long Long Ago

Arr! Bill Hansen 1964

Tell me the tales that to me were so dear — long, long a — go —

long, long a — go — Sing me the songs I de-light-ed to hear —

long, long a — go, long a — go Now! you are come, all my

(Key Change)

grief is re-moved. Let me for-get that so long you have roved. Oh,

(Key of A♭)

let me be-lieve that you love as you loved, Long, long a — go, long a —

— go, So long a — go

## Ron Mell New Cereal City Director

The Battle Creek Chapter has "gone for broke". That is, we fully expect to be listed among the finest, most active chapters in the Great Michigan District, and we may even wind up the "brokest". We have more of everything planned. More chapter visitations, more quartet visitations and a membership goal which may sound like we're shooting for the moon. "We'll Come Alive in '65 with 65".

We were all stunned recently to hear that our director, Merle Clayton, was forced to give up all activities temporarily, for health reasons. We are all indebted to Merle for the many hours of toil he so willingly gave us, for his patience, understanding and broad shoulders, which are so requisite in directing a group such as ours who are at times even seemingly unappreciative. Tain't so tho' Merle, ...many thanks for your unrelenting efforts.

A new chorus director, Ron Mell, ... sure takes a lot of fortitude to accept such a thankless job...for the second time too.

If your chapter has not arranged an inter-chapter affair with the Cereal City Chapter, please contact E. A. Vande Zande, 116 Morningside Dr., Battle Creek, Michigan, 49015.

Editor's Note: The following item was found in the Battle Creek Chapter bulletin. I hope Roger will not mind my sharing it with the entire District. I quote:

"A "last minute" editorial - Barbershopping creates a multitude of goose-bumps, the greatest of which comes not in just listening to a fine quartet like the Nighthawks sing "When Your Old Wedding Ring Was New" as they did last year on our show - no, this is selfish enjoyment. The truly great pleasures come from seeing others choked with emotions and covered with bumps when the overtones shake the rafters. A seat will be empty this year - and many hearts - when the Renegades sing "Last Night Was The End Of The World" - and it was for Horace Conklin. "Conk" always made the shows, and wanted badly to be more active in the chapter, but as president of Security National Bank, he was just too busy. He served the Society as Michigan District Treasurer in the early 50's and also sang bass in the Accidental Four. In listening once more to the Nighthawks recording of "Wedding Ring", the writer discovered that immediately following they sing "Auld Lang Syne"...So we'll save a seat for "Conk", fully satisfied that the Good Lord has a place for him in "That Great Quartet".

reporter: roger knapp

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## Saginaw Sports Chorus Of Chords Men

Since our last insertion of news, we have been busier than ever.

We now have a name for our chorus, which is Timberland Chordsmen, under the very able direction of Earl Keith from Midland. This chorus, almost intact, went to Detroit for International Border night and are finding out you can really have a ball hitting the road once in a while and see how the rest of the chapters do things. I think a lot of chapters are so wrapped up in their own little worlds that they get stale and eventually get bored. When you go on visitations to other chapters, you get to meet other guys that love this ole harmony just as much as you do, and when you come away from that visit with a new

tag some three other guys drummed into your head, you feel it was all worth it after all.

The chorus has also sung for Saginaw County United Fund Kick-off dinner, the County Home, County Hospital and the latest for the Vet's hospital in Saginaw. This is the kind of thing our organization has built its foundation on and if we are to continue our growth, what better way than by community service. Support your community... they will support you.

The Delta Aires have been very busy right along with the chorus and I ask you, "With that kind of teamwork, how can you go wrong?"

We will be holding our installation of officers on January 8 at the Elk's Temple in Saginaw and it should prove to be quite a gala event, with possible the Spartone Aires entertaining us, plus our chorus and the Delta Aires.

Last March one of our members, namely Pete Norling from Bay City, kept bugging the chapter to do something for the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Bay City. (The largest parade, I understand, in the country other than New York) He didn't give up and our chapter ended up with runner-up trophy for best out-of-town float. We had a party after the parade which attracted about 300 - 400 people, including barbershoppers from Flint, Holly-Fenton, Pontiac etc. This year even promises to be bigger. On March 21, 1965 we will be represented in the parade again. We will have, at the Village House in Bay City, what has come to be known as the St. Patrick's Day Thaw, right after the parade. Public invited. We hope to have out-of-town quartets, plus our own chapter talent. More information on this later.

Whether you have a complete new state of officers or just a complete re-election of the old officers get behind them all the way and we will be able to be proud of our Michigan District again.

reporter: gene gillem

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## Greenville Parade To Feature For Mor

The Greenville Chorus went caroling this Christmas season, singing for the patients at the United Memorial Hospital and several convalescent homes in the Greenville area.

With holiday season behind us, director Fran Jones is readying the chorus for our third annual Gay Nineties Barbershop Revue. The date is set for Saturday, March 13, at the Greenville High School. Entertainment chairman, Arnie Staffen, already has two great foursomes scheduled; the For Mor, comedy quartet from Wisconsin and the Smithtonians, mixed family quartet from Detroit. Dr. Stu Anderson is show chairman.

Tom Venus will handle publicity for the chapter during 1965, which includes reporting to the Troubadour, starting with the February issue.

Greenville chapter members would like to once again remind all barbershoppers to stop in and see up when you're in our area. We meet every Monday night at 8:00 p.m. in the Commercial State Savings Bank Community Room. The fourth Monday of the month we always have a special program. Board meetings are held the first Thursday of the month.

Some sing with us sometime.

reporter: bob hansen

Watch the next issue for  
Duane Mosier's profile on O.C.Cash



## Minutes

### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

A regular meeting of the Michigan District Board of Directors was held at the Hayes Hotel, Jackson, on December 4, 1964. The meeting was called to order by President Al Burgess at 9:30 p.m. Other board members present were Vice presidents Eric Schultz and Charles Sherwood, Secretary Louis R. Harrington and Treasurer John W. Klaiber. This constituted a majority of the Board and a quorum was therefore ascertained. Also present were Robert Tracy, 1965 Vice president elect; Mike Schied, 1965 Treasurer elect; Troubadour editor Jack Oonk and Don Lucas. The reading of the minutes of the last board meeting was waived as they were published in the Troubadour.

Treasurer Klaiber reported on the financial standing of the District and announced that his report for the year would be available within the next three or four weeks. At present, the District has on hand in excess of \$7,000.00.

It was then announced by President Burgess that Bart Tillitt, vice president, had resigned from both his present and 1965 terms. After a discussion, a motion was made, duly seconded and unanimously adopted that Don Lucas be chosen by the Board to replace Tillitt. Mr. Lucas accepted and immediately took his place as a board member. The Chair also announced that 1965 Vice-president elect of Zone I, Michael Mudgett, had submitted his written resignation due to personal reasons. A lengthy discussion was then had relative to the post and all aspect of the situation were considered. In view of the fact that area counselors had to be chosen for the coming year and plans made, the incumbent vice president, Eric Schultz agreed to continue serving until further notice.

The Chair then called upon the Budget Committee, consisting of Jack Klaiber, Mike Schied and Louis Harrington, to make their report. Various items were thoroughly discussed and the budget was finally approved by the Board in the amount of \$8,920.00. It was felt that this would enable the District to provide more services to the membership. The budget will be printed in the "Michigan Troubadour".

Roger Lewis of Battle Creek then appeared before the Board and announced plans for a huge inter-chapter show to be held in Battle Creek on May 22, 1965 for the benefit of the Institute of Logopedics. He expressed the hope that the entire District would support this project and thereby add impetus to the Society-wide project.

At this point, Bob Tracy in his capacity as Area Counselor-at-large reported on extension and reviewed activities in this connection at Big Rapids where he reported prospects were encouraging.

President Burgess then outlined his program for 1965 and emphasized that Area Counselors and Vice presidents will be requested to accelerate and intensify their support of weak chapters in the District. He urged the vice presidents to select their Area Counselors at once so that the District Secretary can proceed with the compilation of the District directory for 1965. President

Burgess also announced that Chet Fox of the International office would visit the District early in February and that a meeting is planned with the District Board for February 6 and zonal meetings at several points throughout the District during the following week. Burgess also announced that Bob Johnson would conduct a chorus directors' school in Michigan on October 22-23, 1965, and that he also plans to visit Boyne City, Windsor and Pontiac during the last week in October.

As the meeting came to an end, the Board of Directors gave Jack Klaiber, retiring District Treasurer, a standing vote of appreciation for his outstanding service during the several years he occupied the office of District Treasurer. The meeting was then adjourned.

Louis R. Harrington,

District Secretary

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## 100 Attend NW Detroit Ladies Night

When commenting on ladies' nights, sometimes you have to use superlatives. Some occasions are good, some are better, and some are best. Northwest Detroit's held on Monday evening, December 14, in the beautifully decorated banquet room at Pickwick House was the best by common consent. Nearly a hundred members, wives and guests enjoyed a top rating evening of fellowship and excellent music. A program of gang singing, choruses, quartets, folk songs and good comedy satisfied every musical appetite, all handled under the smooth direction of Jim Sandry in a highly professional manner.

The Hummdingers were all their name implied. An orchestral background of tenor sax, banjo, violin and improvised bull fiddle with a galvanized wastub for a sounding board furnished the accompaniment for the hilarious songs this foursome from the Wayne Chapter used. In costumes to fit their act, this talented group are Andy Griffin tenor, lead Bob Powell, baritone Jerry Reid and bass Mike Mudgett. The audience was sprayed with a disinfectant just in case.

Folk songs with a taste of old Spain mixed in were used by Don Cowles of the Oakland County Chapter to his own guitar accompaniment. Don has a beautiful voice supremely fitted for such songs. His talented wife assisted in one of the numbers. The crowd thoroughly enjoyed the performance.

Crowd pleasers always were the northwesterners' Scorekeepers with the Winchesters, Larry and Bill, Bob Mueller and Ted Robbins, who sang many of the old time favorites. Northwest Chorus added to the program a few carols under the direction of Earl Strnad.

The program was climaxed by the surprise number that emcee Sandry had so well concealed. Not a single chapter member knew what it was. At a given signal, in marched the entire Detroit #1 Chorus of 40 District champs with their director, Bill Butler and their top-notch quartet, the Trebleshooters, with Bob Mulligan, Bob Winters, Cliff Jorgensen and Bob Whitledge. To an amazed and delighted crowd, Butler showed why his chorus will represent the District in June at the International convention. The quartet, likewise District champs, will be there rarin' to beat out 44 other quartets.

Fruit cakes donated by Awrey Bakery Company were handed to the women holding the lucky numbers.

We are still thinking in superlatives.

reporter: mark roberts



## Jackson Sings Television Appearance

December in Jackson was a month to remember... December 11 was our annual Ladies Night which was held in the old fashioned tradition of home cooked chicken and golumpi served family style with all the trimmings, including tale decorations of miniature lanterns which were given as door prizes to many lovely ladies. Dancing was to the music of Gerald Straw's orchestra, along with gang sing Christmas carols, and harmony by the Four Tune Tellers and Noteable Four...our foremost quartets in Jackson. During the evenings festivities our new officers were installed. Clarence Wenman as president, Harold Anthony as program vice president, Art Sweeney as membership vice president, Richard Simpson as secretary and Leo Rudloff as treasurer. Many thanks to the officers for 1964 and a wish for much success for 1965.

On December 14 we sang as a chorus for the senior citizens Christmas party at the First Presbyterian Church here in Jackson. It's a pleasure to bring song and laughter and the spirit of Christmas into their hearts with harmony.

The 17th and 22nd of December were devoted to caroling for six locations: homes for the aged and shut-ins and a boys' home. It a pleasure for the Jackson chapter to be able to bring some smiles and cheer to the hearts of these deserving folks at Christmas.

To top the month off our chapter was invited to appear on the local WILX TV station on December 21...a thrill to each and every member who appeared...26 in number...with our director Sam Cushman and District vice president Charles Sherwood who ably represented us during their interviews with the show's hostess. The Four Tune Tellers and Noteable Four were featured and our oldest member, "Judge" Carl Hart, 76 years young, and our youngest member, John Wright, 19, were given mention.

Jackson extends greeting for '65 to all Troubadour readers...along with an invitation to come join us in harmony any Friday evening at the Hotel Hayes.

reporter: floyd osterhout

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## Richmond Honored By Pontiac Chapter

Homer Richmond, one of our newer members, was honored with a special award in appreciation for outstanding serviced rendered during 1964. Homer, in addition to his fine work as chorus manager and show program advertising chairman is always busy performing chapter chores.

Our annual Christmas Party-Ladies Night, held December 18, again proved to be one of the highlights of the year for the Pontiac Chapter. "Whity" Ryden, emcee for the evening, performed his duties in his usual fine style. A program of caroling, dancing and barbershoping prevailed. Bill Pascher and Rawley Hallman served as song leaders. Chapter quartets lending their talents to the program were the Resonaires and Wreck-Chords.

The 1965 officers were installed by Area Counselor, Mel Holderness. Mel conducts this ceremony in the finest manner this reporter has observed. One will be proud to hold an office even more when installed by this gentleman.

Our new president, Larry Robertson has warned us that he will be constantly pushing us from now until May 22 to make our plans to attend the District Logopedics Show in Battle Creek.

reporter: "chase" sanborn

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

To



ROBERT L MILLER  
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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.

January 23, 1965  
January 30, 1965  
February 6, 1965  
February 13, 1965  
February 13, 1965  
February 20, 1965  
March 6, 1965  
March 13, 1965  
March 20, 1965

March 27, 1965  
April 3, 1965  
April 10, 1965  
April 24, 1965

April 30, 1965  
May 8, 1965  
May 14, 1965  
May 22, 1965

June 5, 1965  
June 12, 1965  
June 23-26, 1965

July 15, 1965

October 2, 1965  
October 2, 1965  
October 9, 1965  
October 23, 1965  
October 22-23, 1965

Pontiac Parade  
Jackson Parade  
Monroe Parade  
Dearborn Parade  
Kalamazoo Parade  
Niles-Buchanan Parade  
Wayne Parade  
Greenville Parade  
Detroit Yachtsmen Ladies Night,  
Detroit Yacht Club  
Battle Creek Parade  
Flint Parade  
Zonal meeting, Boyne City  
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARIES and Great Lakes Invitational, Grand Rapids  
Pontiac Woodshed Contest  
Muskegon Parade  
Holland Parade  
Battle Creek Logopedics Benefit  
Show and Bush League Contest  
Utica-Rochester Parade  
Quartet School  
International Contest, Boston, Massachusetts  
Detroit Chapter Moonlight Boat Ride  
Boyne City Chapter Parade  
Fruit Belt Chapter Parade  
DISTRICT CONTEST, Battle Creek  
Lansing Chapter Parade  
District Chorus Director's School