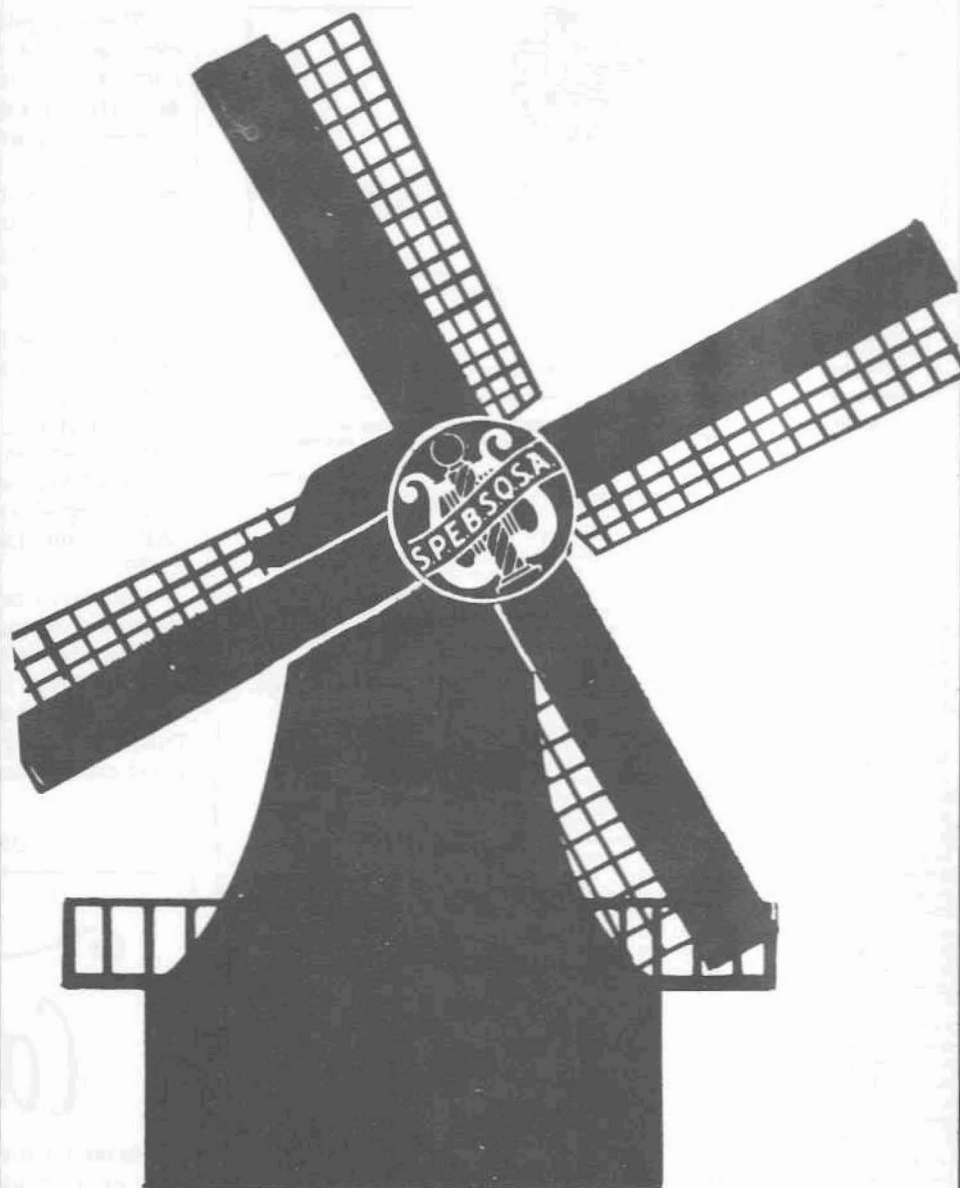


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## MICHIGAN DISTRICT CONTEST AND CONVENTION

SEPTEMBER 30,  
OCTOBER 1&2

.....

HOLLAND

*The Holland Windmili Chapter-Your Host*



# THE Michigan Troubadour

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

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SEPTEMBER VOLUME 16 NUMBER 8

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Michigan. SERVICE PROJECT: Lowell Wolfe, 88 Wendell, Battle Creek, Michigan  
49017. SONG OF THE YEAR: Roger Craig, 24369 Hanover, Dearborn, Michigan 48209.  
WAYS & MEANS: Robert Stone, 9905 Quandt, Allen Park, Michigan.

Utterings  
from  
Oonk



The 1966 Michigan Fall Convention will swing into full gear Friday evening, September 30, with a fun-filled, frolicsome pre-glo. Featured attraction for the event is the greatest Dixieland Band north of Florida. Main attraction will be the many quartets who have asked to perform. Entire chapters have agreed to add their membership to an ever increasing crowd for the Friday night blast-off.

The delegates meeting will begin at 8:00 p.m. Friday evening in the north wing of the Civic Center. Many important matters are to be discussed and a good crowd of delegates is expected.

Headquarters for the convention will be the Holland Civic Center. Registration and housing will also be handled from this point. Housing for this year's convention presents a small problem and early arrivals and reservations are requested. Tickets and housing can be obtained by writing Norm Bredeweg at 655 Hazelbank, Holland, Michigan or phone EX 6-8700. All contest events will be held at the Civic Center with the quartet preliminaries scheduled at 10:00 a.m. and the briefing at 9:15 a.m.

Holland will follow the ticket system employed at the last convention held at Dearborn. "All Contest Event Tickets" will be \$4.00.

All registered contestants are required to buy an "All Contest Event Ticket" at the bargain price of only \$2.50.

Chosen at this convention will be the new district quartet champions and the chorus that will represent our district at the 1967 International.

Bert Szabo has the judging all lined up with a smattering of talented men from hither and yon descending on Tulip Town to render their services to the cause of a great convention. See you in Tulip town.

\*\*\*\*\*

COPY DEADLINE OCTOBER 3

## 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

September 24, 1966  
September 24, 1966  
September 30-Oct. 2

October 22, 1966

October 28, 1966  
October 29, 1966  
November 5, 1966  
November 26, 1966  
February 4, 1967  
February 18, 1967  
February 18, 1967  
February 25, 1967  
April 1, 1967  
April 8, 1967

April 8, 1967  
April 14-16, 1967

April 29, 1967  
October 13-15, 1967

Gratiot County Parade  
Fruit Belt Parade  
District contest and convention, Holland  
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario Parade  
Saginaw Parade  
Lansing Parade  
Detroit, Parade  
Holly-Fenton Parade  
Monroe Parade  
Kalamazoo Parade  
Windsor Parade  
Dearborn Parade  
Muskegon Parade  
Great Lakes Invitational, Grand Rapids  
Flint Parade  
International Preliminaries (tentative)  
Battle Creek Parade  
District contest and convention (tentative)

# **MICHIGAN DISTRICT CONTEST AND CONVENTION**

**SEPTEMBER 30  
OCTOBER 1&2**

**FOR TICKETS & HOUSING**

**WRITE OR PHONE**

*Norm Bredeweg*

**655 HAZELBANK  
HOLLAND, MICHIGAN  
Phone EXport 6-8700**



## NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY LOUIS R. HARRINGTON

Attention now centers on the District contest and convention to held at Holland, Michigan, September 30, 1966. The House of Delegates meeting will be held on Friday evening, September 30 at 9:00 p.m. Registration will be at the Civic Auditorium. Don Lucas, 1439 Eastern Avenue S.E., Grand Rapids, is general chairman and announces that there will be a Gay 90's theme at the convention. For housing and ticket information, write Norman Bredeweg, 655 Hazelbank, Holland 49423.

The quartet and chorus contest will be held on Saturday, October 1 at the Civic Auditorium. Preliminaries are scheduled for 10:00 a.m., the chorus contest in the afternoon and the Finals at 8:00 p.m. At this time, the District champions will be chosen as well as winners in the junior and novice classifications, and the chorus will be chosen to represent our District in International competition at Los Angeles next summer.

Chorus entry blanks have been mailed to chapter secretaries and quartet entries to the respective contact men. Additional entries can be obtained from the District Secretary's office. Among the early entries are the Food City Harmony Hounds of Battle Creek, Motor City Slickers of Detroit, The Con-Chords of Oakland County, Notations of Battle Creek and the Arbor City Four of Ann Arbor and the Jackson and Oakland County choruses.

\* \* \* \* \*

Bob Johnson, the Society's musical director, will visit Michigan during October conducting clinics and a chorus director's school. This is a splendid opportunity for everyone to learn barbershop craft. The chorus director's school is primarily for directors and assistants and aspiring directors. Your chapter is invited.

Monday, October 24 - Niles-Buchanan chapter, barbershop craft clinic. Tuesday, October 25 - Muskegon chapter, 8:00 p.m. barbershop craft clinic. Wednesday, October 26 - Flint chapter, 8:00 p.m. barbershop craft clinic. Thursday, October 27 - Detroit area chapters at Detroit Yacht Club, Belle Isle 8:00 p.m. Friday, October 29 - continuation of chorus directors' school in Windsor, (morning session - 9:00 a.m.).

+++++

**DISTRICT CONVENTION HOUSING & TICKETS:** Write Norm Bredeweg, 655 Hazelbank Holland 49423 or phone him at EXport 68700

**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.



## Detroit Show Slated November 5

On Saturday, November 5, Detroit #1 will present their 27th annual parade of harmony at the beautiful Ford Auditorium in downtown Detroit.

This one promises to be another big event which will not be soon forgotten, as we are very fortunate to have our own International Champions, the Auto Towners... Glenn-Al-Clint and Carl.

They will display the championship style which enabled them to carry off the International Championship in Chicago. They are the first quartet from Michigan in many years to bring this coveted title back to Michigan. The Harmony Halls of Grand Rapids were the first in 1944.

Also appearing will be the Roaring Twenties of Ohio, who made the top 20 in Chicago. These fellows have a great act that everyone is sure to enjoy.

The Gala Lads were signed originally, but had to cancel out and the Buffalo Bills who had wowed our show before will insure us of a sell-out.

Hurry and get your tickets. All Detroit chapter members are now selling them...so to get the seat of your choice contact one of these fellows very soon.

reporter: john wearing

+++++

## 100 Barbershoppers Attend Pontiac Outing

Pontiac chapter held its annual Corn and Kilbasa Bash Friday, August 19 under the stars at President Norm Schram's spread on Galoway Lake. The affair was attended by nearly 100 barbershoppers and friends from this corner of the District and was a real delight to our chapter officers to have this participation on a still vacation time month.

Ten chapters were represented and heard the fine renditions of the Wonder-lads from Utica-Rochester chapter and the Con-Chords from O.C.C. and a new and as yet unnamed four from the Saginaw chapter.

Oakland County chapter along with their delegation brought the now famous Little Brown Jug and presented it to President Schram with the necessary instructions for passing it on, so take note all chapters...the chiefs of Pontiac are armed with the wampum jug and will be raiding your village before many moons have passes.

In all it was a great evening of feast and fellowship. Twenty-five dozen ears of corn and twenty-five pounds of kilbasa was consumed.

Pontiac chapter is now starting its program of chorus rehearsals and committees for our annual Holiday of Harmony next January. I will keep you posted on this in the coming months.

For our September meeting on the 16th we are planning to show the film and play the tape of our Chicago Convention...so fellows, don't miss this one. Remember September 16 at the Amvet's Hall in Pontiac on Oakland Avenue, across from Wizner Stadium.

reporter: ed lilly

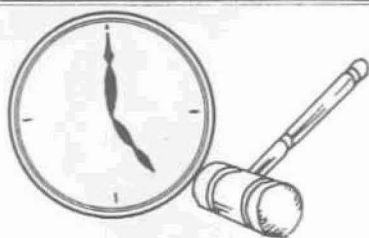
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COPY DEADLINE OCTOBER 3



## Minutes

### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING



A meeting of the Michigan District Board of Directors was held at the Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids on Sunday morning, July 31, 1966. President Eric Schultz called the meeting to order at 10:55 a.m. Present were Vice presidents Lucas and Ryan, Treasurer Schied, Secretary Harrington and Immediate Past President Burgess. Also present were Jack Oonk and Chet Oonk of the Holland chapter convention committee.

President Schultz announced that Floyd Steinkamp will be in the Michigan District from August 27 through September 9 and requested the vice-presidents to furnish him with the addresses of the persons to be contacted to work with him on extension or any other phase of promotion. A schedule was to be set up and sent to Steinkamp in advance of his arrival.

President Schultz also brought up the subject that area counselors are not submitting reports as required.

A discussion was had relative to the development of choruses in the Michigan District, and it was pointed out that there seems to be a shortage of competent directors and that many chapters have difficulty getting anyone to undertake this task.

Chet Oonk and Jack Oonk, along with Don Lucas, reported on the plans which have been made for the Fall convention to be held at Holland on September 30 through October 1, 1966. Don Lucas is to be general chairman. The headquarters will be in the Civic Auditorium due to the fact that the Warm Friend Hotel has been converted into an apartment hotel. Ample motel space has been reserved so that all visitors will be housed properly. It is planned that the general theme of the convention will be Gay 90's, and that the chapter is working with the local merchants to publicize the theme. An antique auto tour is being arranged to further promote the convention. It was also announced that Jim Steedman, International president-elect, will be the official International representative at the convention.

Advance plans were also announced for the chorus directors school to be conducted by Bob Johnson in the Michigan District. The Board voted to authorize Burt Szabo, District C and J Chairman, to purchase four stop watches to be the District's property.

Treasurer Schied gave his financial report, indicating that there was approximately \$6,850.00 in the District Treasury.

Vice President Ryan announced that the Zone I Association of Chapters had been organized and is now functioning as an entity to promote activity in that zone.

It was also announced that Big Rapids, our newest chapter, is now functioning.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

LOUIS R. HARRINGTON,  
District Secretary

## Steinkamp Expounds To Sault Chapter

We were very glad to see Lloyd on Monday, August 29. Lloyd brought Dick Lee from Mackinaw City with him and also the Smithtonians. We are always happy to see guests. Especially fine family quartets like Bernie, Peggy, Leslie and Barry. Come on up soon, your singing was enjoyed by all who attended. Another guest was Carl Murphy from Toledo, Ohio. We hope all our guests enjoyed the meeting.



Kenosha certainly should appreciate Lloyd Steinkamp. He made our evening quite entertaining, as he outlined problems that most chapters can run into. We have our problems, but Lloyd did give us many ideas as to how we can solve them. He remarked that the Sault's biggest problem is geographic. We are really a long way from the rest of the chapters but this can be corrected by more inter-chapter nights. He also told us that we have two big advantages over many other chapters: 1. We are enthusiastic. 2. We meet weekly.

Men, you are all responsible for bringing out members. You must be able to remember that it isn't just the job of the membership vice president. You must know of one fellow who would like to come out to sing rather than watch T.V. at home. Lloyd put this bug in our ear, and also explained why we have to have 25 members for a charter. We need 25 members to make the job easier for our chorus director and also for the fact that men transfer, have shift work and so forth to prevent them from getting out sometimes.

Thanks for coming Lloyd, and we certainly appreciated your helpful advice and encouraging thoughts. To you we extend our best wishes

To those who could not make it down to hear Lloyd and the Smithtonians we say you missed a grand evening.

Speaking of good times, the fellows enjoyed a family picnic down at Cliff McLean's in Cedarville, Michigan last Sunday. Many were unable to attend, but all who did go enjoyed the fun and the pleasant surroundings.

Don't forget our parade on October 22, 1966. It is on a Saturday. We have started ticket sales and things are moving right along. We hope Gene Gillem and his wife can get up for it as well as others. It's going to be a good show.

That's all the news from the outer fringe of Michigan. Remember...Keep America Singing.

reporter: franklin murphy

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## Yachtsmen Honor Champion Auto Towners

The Detroit Yachtsmen chapter honored the Auto Towners, our new International champions and their wives, with a dinner at the Yacht Club. Special guests included Mr. and Mrs. Robert Craig of New Jersey. Among those present were Messrs and Mesdames Ernest J. Dossin, John Baker, Jay Gonyeau, Doug Brown, Kenneth Palmer, Bill Montgomery, Peter Wayne, Doc Schnell, George Levette, Lisle Melvin, Charles Sharrer, Bob Young, Ed Hock, Yale McIntyre, Sherman Faunce, Ed Hebert and George Ryan.

louis harrington reporter

## Jackson Chapter Praises Chuck Sherwood

" Charles "Chuck" Sherwood will likely be transferring his membership soon from Jackson to Kalamazoo. His work with Upjohn Company is now in the Kalamazoo area.

Chuck has been a member of several chapters and I am confident he was a valuable asset with them as he has been at Jackson. His exuberant personality, aggressiveness and love of barbershopping inspired a new vitality into our chapter and we have grown and we have had fun during this growth.

Chuck is a past president of our chapter, has been an area counselor, a Michigan District Vice-president, and has been a master of ceremonies at SPEBSQSA functions all over the state. He loves to sing and will woodshed at the drop of a pitch pipe. He has sung in quartets, the most recent one being the Jacks'N'Kings. Chuck was always willing to fill in for an absent member of a quartet and he was practically a "fifth" for our For-Tune Tellers. Chuck would help anyone with any part and he did it well.

On behalf of the Jackson chapter, I say, "Thank you Chuck, for your untiring work for us and with us. Good luck and best wishes to you, your lovely wife, Rita, and your four fine children. Come sing with us whenever you are in town.

reporter: ed hilden

+ + + + +

## Dearborn Seeks New Chorus Director

It has been a warm, warm summer session for Dearborn members. We hate to give up basking in the sunlight of the International Champions, Auto Towners. Glenn, Carl, Al and Clint are still radiating the brilliance of that Chicago spotlight. The warmth one feels while harmonizing with these four fine gents is inspiration personified. One can't help setting out to hilltops to shout out loudly to friends to come, hear these masters at their trade.

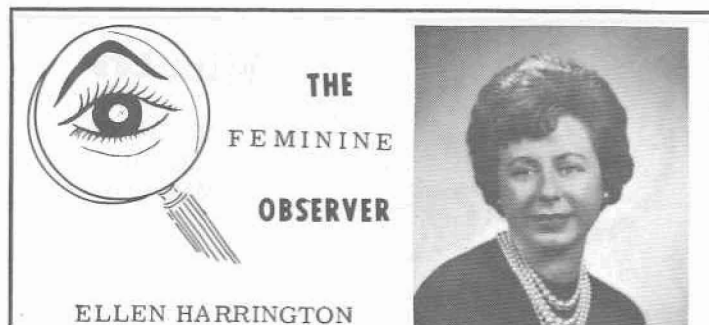
We had picnics, outdoor meetings, gang sings, lots of wood-shedding and even a cruise to Bob-Lo, sponsored by Detroit #1.

All of these affairs feted our wheels and every single chord was savored. As we all prepare to send our little "dis-chords" back to the classroom, Dearborn forges ahead with mighty plans.

Final auditions are under way to choose a new chorus director, who will begin refining our championship chorus. With a new second vice-president in charge of membership, we wish to make known that the program to increase our roles is under way. Look out...Dearborn is on the move again.

reporter: frank colosimo

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.



ELLEN HARRINGTON

Michigan rooters, wearing straw-type hats and carrying placards proclaiming their preference, proudly witnessed the Auto Towners winning the International championship in Chicago. Among the happy throng were Messrs. and Mesdames Tom Pollard, Otto Vogel, Carleton Scott, Al Eason, Bart Tillet, Bob Stone, Louis Seguin, Joseph Jones, George Dyar, Bill Warner, Matt Calderwood, George Acree, Lowell Wolfe, Roger Lewis, Howard Spear, William Pascher, Bert Escott, Ken Sandry, Bob Mulligan, William Hansen, C. D. Sanborn, Bob Jeltma, Ed Gaikema, Bob Walker, Webb Scrivnor, Clarence Jalving, Gil Bugh, Andy Van Donkelaar, Glenn Van Tassell, Clint Bostick, Carl Dahlke, Norman Thompson, Tony Scooros and Dr. Duplissis.

Other celebrants included Eric Schults, Ron DuMonthier, Gene Bulka, John Wearing, Ray McCalpin, Russ Seely, Marv Burke, Al Rehkop, Jerry Reid, Wally Joure, Al Burgess, Clarence Wenman, Warner Dyar, Gus Reeves, Bill Smith, Royal Zerbe, Del Doctor, Dave Hollar, Halley Dion, Don Howard, Pat Ryan, John Handrich, Bob Farrington, Bob Whitley, Ed Conn, John Seaman, Bert West, Len Johnson, Des Milligan, Bill Diekema, Dave Knapp, Dr. William Clark, Al Maier, John Klaiber, Lloyd Mitz, Terry Fraser, Bud Kepler, Art Depuis, Ed McCarthy, Bill Butler, Jay Richens, the Barretts and many more.

\* \* \* \* \*

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Pat Ryan of Detroit on the birth of their daughter and to Mr. and Mrs. John Wade of Grosse Pointe on the birth of their son.

\* \* \* \* \*

Congratulations and best wishes to Des Milligan and his lovely bride Jean. The newlyweds will reside in Charlevoix.

\* \* \* \* \*

Detroit chapter's annual moonlight excursion, one of the most popular events of the summer, attracted a large crowd and was of special interest because it was the first appearance of the Auto Towners since winning the championship. They were greeted with a special banner across the boat and hailed with special songs.

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DISTRICT CONTEST AND CONVENTION

SEPTEMBER 30 - OCTOBER 1 & 2

HOLLAND, MICHIGAN

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



## LETTER TO EDITOR

Dear Ed

To the members of the Michigan District:

As the shadows of the past close the windows of our memories, and the ship sinks slowly in the West..we notice the flag on the mast bears the colors of the Port City Chorus and the Michigan District. Post mortems are never pleasant, but they are revealing, sometimes, to those who care to hold them.

First, let us go back to the contest at Philadelphia. The chorus is second place was undoubtedly the best all-around musical group, but someone got 150 men on stage and who could deny this great achievement as a winner? Not the judges, certainly. Since then, size has been one of the principal ingredients for chorus competition at the International level. No Michigan District chorus had 55. The thirteenth place chorus had 35, the fourteenth place chorus had 38 and the fifteenth place chorus had 30. All other choruses put about 50 men on stage and one put 80. Also, in some of the large choruses, as many as 15 to 20 men appeared to be moving their lips without making a sound. I later confirmed this observation to be true. I will not debate the merits of the point raised here, but the fact remains that size has become an undeniable factor.

However, the chorus with 80 men did not win, so there must be another factor. As I see it, the second ingredient is stage presence, but this stage presence must be spectacular. I prefer to see stage presence that has something to do with the words of the song, but much of the movement now seems to be movement for the sake of movement. I will not stress this factor at length, for its implications are obvious.

A third factor is interesting, if discouraging. The lowest scoring category for ALL choruses was that of voice expression. Poor attacks and releases, sloppy word-linage and poor use of dynamics were common throughout the contest. Other musical shortcomings were there in abundance...loud, out-of-tune chords, chords with five part harmony, erratic breathing points within the phrases, etc. Enough said.

The Port City Chorus had hoped to put 45 men on stage. We lost 15 potential participants between January and May and competed with 30. The losses were mostly bonafide... job conflicts, moving, illness, etc...but the losses still hurt us. We did bolster our stage presence on one song but our other song did not lend itself to such treatment and we were severely penalized. It is interesting to note however, that had we scored the same points per judge at Chicago that we scored at Battle Creek, the Port City Chorus would have won the International contest.

Well, what conclusions can be drawn from all this? First, when a chorus wins our Fall Contest, neighboring chapters should put the best men from their chapters at the disposal of the winning chorus. Dual membership is a requirement, of course, but it is a technic used by many competing choruses and it seems essential to recognize the fact. Next, a chorus coach should be contacted, preferably a certified judge from an adjoining district, to come and analyze the choruses progress several times... in November, January and March perhaps. Certified judges from our own district should be invited to do the same at other intervals. In this way, the Michigan Dis-

trict may once more be able to make its presence felt in chorus competition.

In conclusion, I wish to thank those who supported us during the year and at Chicago. The Port City Chorus will not be competing in October because I had to leave for summer school on Monday after the contest and the Fall Contest at Holland is too soon after Labor Day to allow sufficient time for preparation. Good luck to all of you and I will see you in Holland.

"Webb" Scrivnor  
Director Port City Chorus  
Muskegon Chapter

++++++

## Flint Readies For Convention

The Flint chapter has had an active summer with regular meetings, three visitations, one joint meeting with Holly-Fenton at the lake. Several of their members attended our meetings and we returned the same. Our picnic was participation jointly with Holly-Fenton and Saginaw. We went to two fish fries at other chapters and the Utica Rochester show. We have had exceptionally good membership participation at meetings and other events, so all together we have had a very active summer.



This coming fall season is filled with many events that forecast a very active time.

Besides regular meetings in September we will be attending the fall convention at Holland.

October will be regular meetings. October 11 is the Flint showing of the Chicago Convention film. October 14 is a tri-chapter meeting at Saginaw. October 28 is the Saginaw chapter show.

November promises the Holly-Fenton show besides regular meetings and ladies nights.

It looks like Flint, under the very capable guidance of President Bill Shannon, will have a banner year.

reporter: les lang

++++++

## Champs To Headline Big Rapids Charter Night

The Big Rapids chapter is busily preparing for the big celebration for their charter night on October 21, at the Starr Auditorium. There will be a parade of quartets and headlining the show will be the Auto Towners. The curtain goes up at 8:00 p.m. We hope to receive some support from other chapters in the nearby area. General admission is \$2.00 and there is plenty of room in the auditorium for out-of-town guests.

Tickets may be purchased at the door or from any member of the chorus. We have a good show lined up and we know it will be a very enjoyable night for everyone who comes.

Someone from our chapter will be seeing you October 1, at the District Convention in Holland. Thanks for all your help.

reporter: bill donahue

++++++

COPY DEADLINE OCTOBER 3

**SAGINAW CHAPTER SPEBSQSA**

**IS BACK ON THE BARBERSHOPPING MAP**

*Presenting*

**Michigan's Greatest**

**Barbershop Show**

*Starring*

**The Sun Tones of Miami, Fla.**

**1961 INTERNATIONAL CHAMPS**

*And*

**The Four Rascals of Marblehead, Mass.**

**1966 2ND PLACE MEDALISTS**

*Plus*

**The Timberland Chordsmen Chorus**

**Friday, October 28th, 1966**

**SAGINAW HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**

**8:00 P.M.**

***Tickets \$2.50***

***All Saginaw Members Have Tickets —***

**OR CALL DAVE KNAPP 517-793-5614**

