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troubadour



PIONEER



DISTRICT

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THE MICHIGAN TROUBADOUR

VOL. 18—NO. 10

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POSTMAN:

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Back in September, 1964, four members--Gerard Wrice and Bill Shannon of Flint, and Bill Dolezel and Bob Glover of Saginaw--were discussing how much fun they had singing with various other fellows from different chapters and how they were enthused about Barbershopping and what a difference it could make if more members would attend such affairs and become involved with members from other chapters.

The idea was discussed about having some joint area affairs where larger meetings could result in some stimulation of better attendance and add some enthusiasm for members who never got a chance to meet and sing and talk with other members from other chapters. These four members decided to bring up the subject at their respective board meetings and see how much support they could get for setting up some joint affairs.

The two boards authorized the Program V.P.'s to have a meeting and invite Holly-Fenton to send a representative, which took place during the winter of 1965. Holly-Fenton bid to host the first meeting on April 13, 1965. It was decided that the host chapter would furnish the hall and the other two chapters would

furnish the food and refreshments. The first meeting was such a success that Saginaw was selected for the second meeting and Flint the third. Ron Gillies, the Area Counselor, attended the meeting and set the dates for the year at each chapter, which was published in each chapter bulletin so all members would know in advance and prepare to attend. The success of the joint meetings was evident from the start. Members started to bring guests to show them what Barbershopping really is. And when Bay City started a chapter, they asked to be included and make it a Quad-Chapter event. Then they merged with Saginaw--so it went back to a Tri-Chapter affair.

In the meantime, Pontiac became interested in getting in all the fun so they sent some scouts to Saginaw to invite the three chapters to Pontiac for a Quad-Chapter meeting. Their offer was accepted and the date was set for November 5. This was later changed to November 22 as some difficulty arose about the meeting place. November 22 saw a goodly crowd assemble at the K. P. Hall in Pontiac and harmony started to ring from the rafters early in the evening.

by Les Lang



WE MOURN

"WALT" WALTER O. TEDRICK

by Duane H. Mosier



Southeastern District Barbershoppers were shocked to learn of the sudden death of Walter O. Tedrick who succumbed to a heart attack in New Grace Hospital on November 12. He was 58.

Walt., as he was affectionately known, was a member of the old Northwest Detroit Chapter for many years having served as its President. When Northwest merged with Oakland County Chapter, he transferred membership to Oakland County.

Surviving are his wife Beulah, a married daughter, and Alan who is also an Oakland Chapter member, and his father and mother and five brothers who reside in Ohio.

He owned and operated a kodak and camera shop on Grand River Avenue where he had a prosperous business which included developing and printing, specializing in high grade color work. There was never a function of any importance that he did not have his camera there snapping quartets, choruses and anything or anyone that would make a good picture. They were always distributed without charge. This demonstrates the bigness of his heart for he loved people and would do anything for a friend if he thought it would bring the other person happiness. That was his trademark throughout life. Never a thought of aggrandizement to himself but joy and service to others. What a philosophy of life to live.

It can be summed up in the words of an agnostic who orated nearly a hundred years ago at the funeral of his brother, when he said: "He added to the sum of human joy, and were everyone for whom he did some loving service to bring a blossom to his grave he would sleep tonight beneath a wilderness of flowers."

And such was Walter Tedrick.

Chapter News

JACKSON

Chapter Reporter:
Joe Hubbard

Well, here we go. I think that I told you that I would give you the names of the officers for the coming year. President, Danny LaBumbard; V.P. Program, Phil O'Neil; V.P. Membership, Jim Brake; Secretary, George Tripp; Treasurer, Dan Fitzgerald. The chapter is right behind them all the way. We want to give Leo Rudloff our heartfelt thanks as he did a wonderful job when he had the job for so many years. He had to be good in order to buy a new car every three years.

That new quartet we mentioned in the last Troubadour is still looking for a new name. I think they have been given something like 21 including some that I can't put in the Troubadour as I consider this a family publication. Singing tenor is Dan Labumbard; lead, Robert Sullivan; bari, Phil O'Neil; and bass, Ivan Bruder. The first three men can change around and sing different parts (all but bass). And while the bass

can only sing bass, my bass in resident, Bob Breitmayer, says it's the best bass he has heard in a long time.

December will start with the chapter singing at the Memorial Services at the Elks Temple. We don't see much of a let-up either, until after our show in March. (More on that as the months go by.) Dan Labumbard is show chairman and, knowing Dan, he has a big show lined up.

As this will be in your hands before Christmas, the Jackson Chapter would like to take this time to wish all members and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May the year be filled with song and laughter and a light heart (even if you are a democrat).

WAYNE

Chapter Reporter:
Morrie Giles

Wayne Wonderland Chorus has failed again. Twice, now, we have appeared on the half-time show for the Detroit Lions Games, but neither time could we inspire them to win. Oh well, at least we did get a chance to show off our new gold jackets coast-to-coast in color.

We have several appearances scheduled for December including one at Washtenaw Country Club in Ypsilanti and our annual show for the patients at Maybury Sanatorium in Northville. Those fellows at Maybury thoroughly enjoy everything we have to offer. Perhaps I am repeating myself from an earlier issue, but if

you have any shut-ins in your area, just a little bit of your time can mean so very much to them.

December is also the month for our annual-semi-annual Ladies Nite with dancing on tap.

The two-day rummage sale held by our auxilliary was an unqualified success. Seems like no matter how obsolete an item may appear to you, there's always somebody who needs it. You gals did a wonderful job. Thank you so much--you sweet, lovely, lovers of Barbershoppers.

Along with most other chapters in the District, Wayne visited Detroit's Canadian Nite for a bang-up time. Keep it up, Detroit.

The only trouble with being a chapter reporter is that you must sometime project into the past tense something that hasn't even taken place as yet. I refer primarily to Wayne's "Old Timers" nite. It comes off December 6, but by the time you get this, I suppose it will be safe to say that everyone had a swinging time. Old Timers does not necessarily denote age, but, for the most part, past members who have fallen by the wayside over the years. They are all given personal invitations for this affair. This also includes quartets which have been scattered to the winds.

Once again, I wish to remind you of our annual Pitch-Pipe Parade, held March 1, at Henry Ford High School in Detroit. Featured Stars will be the GOLDEN-STATERS and our own SHARPLIFTERS, along with the Wonderland Chorus and several other quartets. As you know, our show is not just a parade of talent, but a well-planned theme drawn up by our impressario, Tom Pollard.

We learned recently that our Marv Skupski (he arranged our "Step To The Rear") has agreed to direct the Pontiac Chapter Chorus. Good luck, Marv--darn it. We'll miss you.

Best wishes for the holidays to all of you from all of us.

FLINT

Chapter Reporter:
Les Lang

Flint has had an active Fall and many area shows and affairs have been well attended by our members.

We had a nice turnout for the Quad-Chapter meeting in Pontiac and those who did not go sure missed a lot of fun and harmony.

We are now in the process of preparing for our Ladies Night and installation of officers on January 11, which promises to be another gala event with dancing and the works. We are looking forward to an active winter with another Quad-Chapter meeting at Holly-Fenton on February 18. Regular meetings and preparation for our show on April 19, featuring the TRAVELERS, SHARPLIFTERS, EVERSHARPS, and other attractions.

The 1969 officers and directors have promised some interesting programs and it looks like Flint is in for an active season.

We meet at the Croation Hall, 529 S. Dort Hwy, on the second and fourth Tuesdays so come and join us anytime.

GRAND RAPIDS

Chapter Reporter:
Jim Horton

YOU'VE MISSED US?

We've been busy and a wee bit lax on deadlines. We hope this reaches the old Troub editor in time for

the December issue.

ABOUT THE QUARTETS.

Our quartets have been very active. The SAFE COMBINATION are doing a lot of work locally and are making chapter visitations. We have a fresh new quartet called the ROYAL COACHMEN, with Tom Venus on tenor, Daryl Roche leading, Al Van Iwaarden blending the bari, and Jack Sidor singing the bottom. These fellows have been singing for our chapter meetings and have sung on a couple of our package shows. We're proud to have a new and up-coming quartet and hope they will soon be singing for your chapter meetings.

CHORUS ACTIVITIES.

The chorus has performed two package shows recently with the assistance of the SAFE COMBINATION, the UKE-LO-FI of Muskegon, the JOURNEYMEN and the RAFTER RINGERS with Bob Hill singing tenor.

We have changed chorus directors, and are happy to announce that we now have Fran Jones from Greenville, leading our troops and doing a terrific job. With sorrow, we accepted the resignation of Lou Mahacek who was our fine director for several years. His work was demanding too much time to enable him to do with the chorus what he would like to do.

CHAPTER #4 IS ON THE GO.

We have received the go ahead on redecorating our new meeting place, the Lexicon Club. We are in the process of making a real fine place to meet, including new lighting, repainting, window treatment, and general overall cleanup. Come and look us over any second or fourth Friday.

We've had several events since our last report, including a golf outing, family picnic, family campout, spaghetti dinner, Gay Nineties Box Social Ladies Nite, "a real gasser", visitations to Muskegon and Holland, Ho-Bo Nite, and elections. As you can see, we've been busy and we've been having lots of fun. Our activities have been keeping our members and their wives very much interested in chapter affairs.

Our elections resulted in the following chapter officers: President, Jim Horton; 1st Vice Pres., Bud Zudma; 2nd Vice Pres., Larry Humphrey; Secretary, Bob Lovell; Treasurer, Jack Schneider; Board Members Ed Berry, Bob Gerdes, Walter Grahm, Tom Venus, Bill Wild; and Delegates, Bob Lovell and Jim Horton. As you may have noticed, we presently are in need of a chapter reporter and also a chapter bulletin editor. That's all from Grand Rapids. Your Very Temporary Chapter Reporter: "Windy" Jim Horton.

DETROIT

Chapter Reporter:
John Wearing

Another Canadian Night has come and gone--each year more of our fellow Barbershoppers join us on this auspicious occasion to honor our friends from Canada. They came from miles around: Jackson, Toledo, Saginaw, Flint, Monroe and from all directions of Canada.

The finest quartets and choruses in the Pioneer District came for all to enjoy. Past Michigan District Champions, the SHARPLIFTERS; the current District Champs, the EVERSHARPS; the WONDERLADS; CHORDIALS; BEAN TOWN FOUR; the Wayne Wonderland Chorus; the Motor City Chorus with 45 strong, opened the festivities.

Our Canadian friends were not to be outdone as they

brought their choruses and quartets. The Sun Parlour Chorus from Windsor; Chatham Chorus; and from Sarnia, The Blue Water Chordsmen; McTaggart's Merry Matics were inspirational; and from Chatham the Canadian Southern Aires; and from Sarnia, the Happy Tones.

This great evening of harmony was put together through the efforts of Bill Wickstrom and Bob Winters. A tip of the old derby to these two great guys -- you did an excellent job.

Detroit #1 would like to thank all our fellow Barber-shoppers and wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to ALL. It has been a great year, so let's make that resolution right NOW to support our chapter and the new officers and let's all bring in one new member in "69".

We belong to a GREAT SOCIETY--let's share it with a friend.

MUSKEGON

Chapter Reporter:
Jay Smith

The elections of 1968 are now over, Thanksgiving has passed and that little fat jolly man will soon be arriving.

In November, the Muskegon Chapter held their annual "Hall of Fame" night. On this annual program, we select a Barbershopper who has done an outstanding job over the years. This year Andy Van Donkelaar was selected to join the "Hall of Fame" ranks.

Andy has been a member of our chapter for twenty years and well deserves this honor. He has held many chapter offices and is one person you can ask to do something and know it will be done. Congratulations Andy.

Our chorus has been busy practicing Christmas carols as we will be entertaining the Hackley Union Bank Employees Christmas Party on December 7.

We are also in the midst of putting a musical together under the direction of Dick Hester. We will have more on this later, and when it is ready to be presented, we will let all chapters know.

At our "Hall of Fame" night we also passed out Certificates of Membership to the following new members who have joined our ranks since June:

Dr. Colonel Winnick	Bob Berntsen
Elmer Crow	Larry Price
Robert O'Brien	Carl Gilbert
Tom O'Brien	Howard Foelker
John Carey	Dick Hester
Mike Holmes	Ron Trapp
Bob Lund	Gordon Gunn

We want to welcome these new men to our ranks and also Ted Griffin who signed up this night. Welcome aboard gentlemen.

Our chapter meetings for the next three months look something like this:

December--Past President and Installation Night.
January--Membership Night.
February--Our annual SPEB-SQUAW Night.

Our Lame-Duck President, Tom Damm, has just returned from a trip abroad. He visited Africa and Spain, just to mention a couple of countries. Welcome back, Tom.

Since our last report, I traveled to the State of Iowa again and was surprised to find that my home town



Scoot Your Copy to "Troub" by the First of the Month

(Ottumwa, Iowa) was starting a chapter. I was having supper with my cousin (the city fire chief) and another couple, when this friend spotted my membership pin and invited me to their meeting on November 5.

It was truly an exciting experience sitting in on a newly formed chapter which was just four weeks old. The members let me rattle on for some thirty minutes on Barbershopping and also my experience as a Barber-shopper. My good friend, Garvin Soots is the president of this new chapter.

Back to the Port City: The KASUAL D's report a busy month as they have the following jobs:

Nov. 16--Muskegon General Hospital--Employees
Nov. 23--Niles "Sweet Ads" show
Nov. 30--Battle Creek "Sweet Ads" show
Dec. 5 --Rycenga Lbr Co. Employees Party
Dec. 7 --Boy Scout Councilors and
Trail Dusters Campers Club.

The DUNE TONES report that on December 15 they will be at Trinity Reform Church, Grand Haven.

We extend our hands to all of you to visit us at Muskegon. U-all are welcomed.

This being our last report for 1968, we all wish you and yours Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY LOUIS R. HARRINGTON

Congratulations to the Oakland County and Wayne Chapters which were awarded plaques at the annual convention held at Monroe as winners in the District Achievement awards for their performances last year.

Oakland County, the winner in the Gold Division for chapters with 50 members or more as of the beginning of the year, were followed in the standings by Detroit, Jackson, Grand Rapids, Dearborn, Kalamazoo, Grosse Pointe and Muskegon in that order.

In the Silver Division, Wayne was followed by Saginaw, Windsor, Pontiac, Gratiot County, Lansing, Three Rivers, Battle Creek, Detroit Yachtsmen, Milford, Holly-Fenton, and Monroe.

Again, many outstanding chapters were handicapped by the fact that their Secretaries failed to file Quarterly Reports.

* * * * *

With the year coming to a close, we need the list of Chapter Officers elected to serve in 1969. As soon as we receive these we will be able to prepare the

District Directory. These reports were due not later than December 1, 1968. A majority of the chapters cooperated splendidly, but five chapters are delinquent. They are: Detroit, Flint, Grand Haven, Niles-Buchanan, and Traverse City. Please ask your outgoing secretary to file these reports at once.

* * * * *

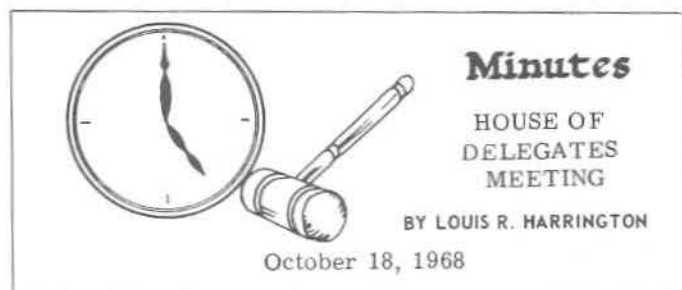
It is not too early to start planning for entry of your chapter chorus in the annual District contest to be held at Saginaw, April 26, 1969. Awards will be made to choruses in the Senior, Junior and Novice Divisions. Here is a chance for the groups from the smaller chapters to compete and win awards. Entry blanks will be available from the District Secretary's office. At the same convention, the International Quartet Preliminaries will be held to determine the Pioneer District's two representatives in the International Quartet Contest at St. Louis, Mo., in June.

* * * * *

On November 23, 1968, our Les Cheneaux Chapter was formally chartered. They meet on Mondays at Cedarville (Mich.) High School. Captain Cliff MacLean, (U.S. Coast Guard., Ret.) is their president. Here is a chance to put your new Snowmobile to good use this winter and visit our U.P. chapter. Sault Ste. Marie (Ont.) was the sponsoring chapter. We wish to officially welcome them into our ranks.

* * * * *

On behalf of the officers of the District, we extend to all of our members and their families our wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Harmonious and Prosperous New Year.



A meeting of the Pioneer District House of Delegates was held at Howard Johnsons Motor Inn, Monroe, Michigan on Friday, October 18, 1968. All of the officers were present and the quorum of delegates was ascertained.

President Gillem called the meeting to order at 9:30 P.M. Vice-President Tom Damm gave the invocation while Bill Pascher led the assemblage in the singing of "Keep America Singing". Minutes of the previous meetings were approved. The Chair called on the four Vice-Presidents, Pat Ryan, Ron Gillies, Emerson Sperling and Tom Damm, to report on the condition of their Zones. Captain MacLain of the newly chartered Les Cheneaux Chapter was recognized.

The Chair also announced that the chartering of the new Tecumseh Chapter would be held next month. Jack Klaiber, Chairman of the Project and Finance Committee, was then called upon to give his report. His committee consisting of Messrs. Harrington, Warner, West and himself had made a detailed study. They reported that if present services were to be continued the budget should be maintained on the present level. They

pointed out that the elimination of the present sanction fee on Parades would necessitate finding other sources of revenue. They also reported that a change to double panel of Judges at contests would materially reduce the income therefrom. Comments from various delegates supported the committee's views on the double panel phase.

The Treasurer's report showed a balance on hand in the District treasury of \$7,394.73.

Jim Davenport, editor of the Troubadour, reported that the average cost of the publication had been \$357.00, per issue, during the year. He announced that he is leaving the editorship in June 1969. He congratulated Bill Pascher for his work as a photographer for the publication.

Ralph Schirmer, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, reported on the progress of the study his committee is making of the possible change in financing the District. He reported that the committee would continue its study and report at the next meeting of the House of Delegates. Ted Verway, then announced the standing of the chapters in the achievement contest and the awards were made to Oakland County Chapter in the Gold Division and Wayne Chapter in the Silver Division. The Muskegon Chapter then presented a bid for the 1970 Spring Convention.

Del Doctor and Dr. Borton, presented the bid forcefully and the House of Delegates voted unanimously to accept the bid for the contest to be held April 24-26, 1970. The Boyne City Chapter announced that the Bush League will be held next spring on May 3, 1969, at Boyne City. The House of Delegates next considered a resolution presented to amend the name of the District to read "Michigan-Pioneer". This resolution was defeated and as a result the name of the District will remain officially as "Pioneer District".

The Chair announced that the COTS school will be held shortly and that announcements would be forwarded to all chapters. He urged full participation.

The nominating committee through Eric Schultz presented its slate and the nominees were unanimously elected. They are as follows:

President	Gene Gillem
First Vice-President	Tom Damm
Vice-President-Zone 1	William Warner
Vice-President-Zone 2	Emerson Sperling
Vice-President-Zone 3	Don Funk
Vice-President-Zone 4	Ron Gillies
Treasurer	E. E. (Pat) Ryan
Secretary	Louis R. Harrington

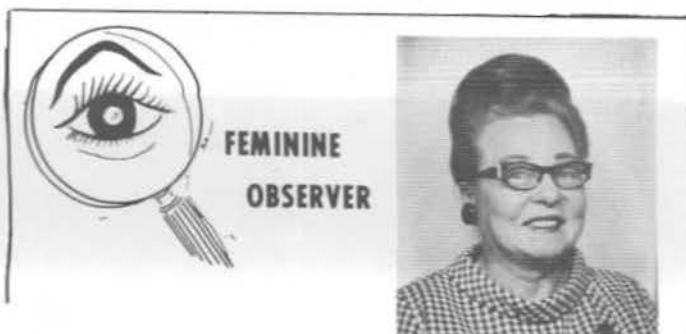
The meeting adjourned at 11:30 P.M.

In the contests held on Saturday, the Wolverine Chorus from Oakland County Chapter, won top honors and will represent the Pioneer District in the International Contest at St. Louis, Mo., next year. The Motor City Chorus of Detroit were runners-up.

In the quartet contests the Eversharps won first place with the Wonderlads second, and the Kasual-D's were third. The Beantown-Four, were crowned Junior Champs, while the reorganized Harmony Hounds were awarded the Novice Trophies.

Louis R. Harrington

Pioneer District Secretary



The Detroit Chapter held their 29th Annual Parade of Harmony Show at Henry and Edsel Ford Auditorium recently. A social hour and dinner was enjoyed in the afternoon on the day of the show in the Terrace Room at the Fort Shelby Hotel for chorus members and their wives and also the quartets that were the evening's show entertainment. Among those were the HARMONY HOUNDS, FOUR STATESMEN, SHARPLIFTERS, VILLAGE IDIOTS and a Sweet Adeline Quartet--the CRACKER JILLS.

Tom O'Malley of Pittsburgh Pa. was to be emcee for the evening show but was hospitalized and unable to fill the engagement, so the talented and very capable Bill Warner took over as emcee and did a terrific job. Larry King (chapter president) welcomed all. The show was enjoyed by all. The quartets were nattily dressed and the CRACKER JILLS were charming on stage in their pink sequined dresses and pink shoes. Credit goes to Wayne Kniffen and Bob Knowles for the fine psychodelic colored Barbershop stage setting. An after glo was held in the Terrace Room at the Fort Shelby Hotel, where quartets on the show entertained and a buffet lunch was served. Emcee for the after glo was chapter president, Larry King. Gene Gillem, District President, and his lovely wife Doris attended this event.

Have you noticed the trim figure Mike Mudgett has now? Mike is the bass singer in the past District Champion quartet, the SHARPLIFTERS.

Betty and Lowell Wolf of Battle Creek were honored guests at a combined Barbershop Chapter and Sweet Adeline going away party recently. They are moving to Palmento, Florida soon. Both were presented with gifts; Betty a lovely pin and a planter, Lowell got his chapter dues paid up for 5 years and a \$25 gift certificate PLUS a life term paid International membership. The Wolf's are expecting to spend their summers in Michigan, so we are sure to see them again come summer. Dr. Wm. "Bill" Clark is also leaving the quartet. The new replacements for the HARMONY HOUNDS quartet are Ron Mell and Larry Swan. They have joined the other two members of the quartet, Dick Spear and Roger Lewis. The new quartet is doing a tremendous job carrying on with their well-known antics and entertainment. The original HARMONY HOUNDS filled their last engagement together on the Detroit Chapter show.

News is out that your Troubadour editor, Jim Davenport is Ann Arbor's new chapter president. "Congratulations" Jim.

Wives of the Wayne Chapter Chorus members have

formed an auxillary, have elected officers and recently held a successful rummage sale. Saginaw Chapter chorus wives are well on their way planning on doing the same. "Good Luck" girls. I'm sure you will find work on your various projects will also be fun.

Ed Pazik was recently laid up with a bad ankle. 'Tis good to hear he is much improved. Ed was lead singer in the Old Timers quartet.

I'm sure many of you remember Clarence "Punk" and Ruby Edoff. Ruby recently had surgery and is at home recuperating now. "Punk" is a member of Detroit Chapter and was the baritone singer in the HI-TONES quartet. A few years ago, by the way, (one of the best baris there is), he sang with Bill Wales, Ray Girens and Don Golkie. Bill Wales and Ray Girens now reside in California.

Sorry to say "Punk" just hasn't been too well and here are a few things he tells me about himself: Here are the good things that have happened--

1. I got out of Beaumont Hospital 8 times.
2. Out of Metropolitan Hospital 1 time.
3. Out of Henry Ford Hospital 4 times.
4. I can't drive my car.
5. I can't smoke.
6. I can't drink.

Here are the bad things that have happened--

1. I missed 2 Detroit shows.
2. I missed 2 Moonlites.
3. I haven't been able to sing a note for over 2 years.
4. I have to use a cane.

I'm sure the Edoffs would be most happy to hear from some of their friends that remember them. Drop them a card if you find time. Their address is: Clarence and Ruby Edoff
1613 Seward
Detroit, Michigan 48206

Condolences go to Carlton Scott and family on the recent death of his wife, Norrie. Carlton is a member of Pontiac Chapter.

Norbert and Mildred Shamus had a nice vacation this past summer: a trip to Jamaica. Norbert is a member of Dearborn Chapter.

Virgil Duke is a very proud grandfather. His second grandchild: a boy. The parents are the Frank Callahons from Westland, Michigan.

Our heartfelt sympathy go Mildred Brown and family on the death of her husband, George. He was a member of Motor City Chorus (Detroit Chapter). George at one time was a professional singer via radio on the "Happy Hour" program and sang in a quartet with the well-known T.V. personality, Danny Thomas.

George Adams is recuperating at his home after recent surgery. Hope you are coming along fine. George is a Dearborn Chapter member.

Try to make a "New Year's resolution" to send news articles or phone me for the Troubadour. Look for my next article in the "New Year". Sing-Cheerily, Dora Vogel, 309 Belanger Rd., Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan, 48236 Phone TU 5-2094.

On the Cover—Meet Your New Pioneer District Champions THE EVERSHARPS

by Don Ferguson

Going around the horn - Frank Bateson, Jim Gross, Bob Glover, and Len Johnson.

These four fine Barbershoppers from the Saginaw-Bay Chapter just became your new District Champs. The Monroe District Convention provided one of the most stirring competitions held in many years and also introduced the new sound of the EVERSHARPS. Let me tell you about them.

The EVERSHARPS quartet was formed two weeks prior to the 1967 Bush League Contest in Boyne City, and at that time it was composed of Bateson (tenor), Glover (lead), Dolezel (baritone), and Johnson (bass). They surprised the entire state by winning this contest, and in July, 1968, they were selected with the fabulous SHARPLIFTERS to represent our District at the Cincinnati International.

All during this period these four men were in continual demand and Barbershoppers everywhere in the state were talking about the tremendous sound that these four fellows could produce. Wherever Barber-shopping was held, these fellows contributed heavily with their presence and inimitable style.

During the year, Bill Dolezel, their baritone and Spark Plug, repeatedly had recurring health problems, and it was only through maximum intestinal fortitude that he was able to compete in the International.

While practicing hard for the Saginaw-Bay show and Monroe District Convention, Bill had a recurrence of his health problem and has been hospitalized since that time.

It was a desperate decision to make, but it was resolved that the EVERSHARPS would sing in Monroe. Jim Gross, the tenor of the BAY TONICS, who were not singing at this time, was recruited. A voicing session was held, and it was decided the Glover would switch to baritone and Jim would sing lead.

This switch created an entirely new sound, and you have never seen four more enthused, hard-working fellows than they were. With only one week before the Saginaw show and three weeks before the Monroe Contest, this group worked at least five times a week and even on Sunday afternoons to prepare. You know the rest - the fine performances they presented made Michigan Barbershopping history by winning the Pioneer District Contest. They did a tremendous job, and we should be proud of them.

Let me present them to you:

Frank Bateson (tenor) is married and has three fine children. He is a salesman for Bowman Products and is the quartet-contact man. His address is 5405 Meadowbrook Drive, Bay City. Frank thinks there is no other voice but tenor and is dedicated to the part. He previously sang with the KEY RINGS before the EVERSHARPS were organized.

Bob Glover is the new baritone after singing that big lead for a year. Bob has five (count them - five)

KEEP AMERICA SINGING

ROBERT MILLER
576 DE SOTO 141
YPSILANTI MI 48197

HERE'S A BARBERSHOPPER

Coming Events

January 17, 1969	Detroit Chapter's Ladies Night
February 1, 1969	Monroe Chapter Parade
February 8, 1969	Pontiac Chapter Parade
February 15, 1969	Dearborn Chapter Parade

children, and it was an experience to see them all at Harrisville during the Labor Day week. Bob is a pharmacist and is credited with drugging the quartet to sing so well at Monroe. He directs the Saginaw-Bay Chorus in his spare time and has enjoyed prior quartet experience with the KEY RINGS and the CROSS TOWNERS.

Len Johnson is the man who produces that rich, mellow sound. He is the bass and girls, in case you don't know--Len is married and has six (yes, I said six) children so you can look, but don't touch. Len lives in Hemlock with his lovely wife and is constantly on the go helping with Chapter activities. Oh, yes, he is an "Old Salt" and works at the Bay City DeFoe Shipbuilding Company as an auditor. His biggest claim to fame other than singing with the KEY RINGS, DELTA AIRES, and CROSS TOWNERS is that I let him sing a tag with me now and then.

Jim Gross, the new lead, produces a beautiful, refreshing sound. All of the ooh-ing and ah-ing that we heard during the Monroe convention was well earned, and you can bet that he will continue to improve. He reminds me of that old slogan, "Oh, that my life should come over again." Jim gives all of the credit to his lovely wife (a beauty operator) for making him sing so nice and look so handsome on stage. Jim works for the Music Center in Bay City, and will sell you a new horn at the drop of a pitch pipe.

Well, there you have it - a young, new, refreshing group who will work hard and make the Pioneer District proud of them.