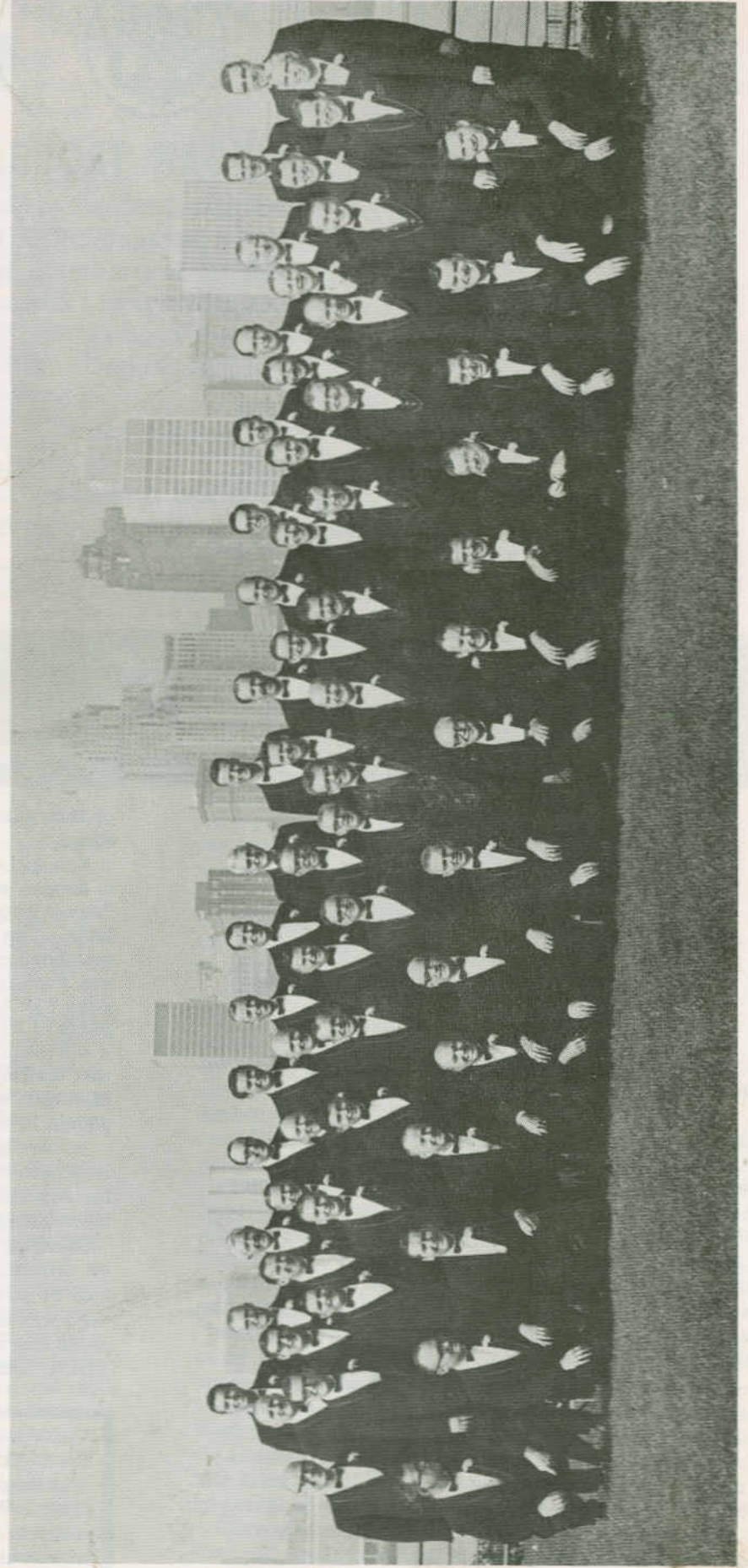


michigan

JANUARY 1968

# troubadour



# PIONEER



# DISTRICT

January, 1968

## THE MICHIGAN TROUBADOUR

Vol. 18 No. 1

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James O. Davenport, Editor  
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### Off The Davenport

Well, here we go again. We're on (off?) the Davenport again.

Kidding aside, we look forward with pleasure to two more years of giving birth each month to our little Troub. It is certain we couldn't and wouldn't tackle this project without the kind, generous, and reliable help being offered by such people as Roger Craig who is coming out of retirement to be "Musical Director" of the Troubadour and is again taking over the "Tag of the Month" feature for us. If you have any ideas or suggestions for Troub in the music category, drop him a line. PLEASE -- send him your favorite "Michigan" tag. If you don't have one, write one.

Edie Gaunt is again doing our "note writing" type art work and most all of the old standby contributors that have made Troub such interesting reading in the past have pledged their continued support -- this includes Mark Roberts, Duane Mosier, John Morris and his terrific cartoons, and others. Thanks to all of you.

Thanks also must be given to Jack Oonk who did such a terrific job putting out the Troubadour for such a long time. We all looked forward to receiving these copies and it hurt when Jack was forced to give

up this work for us. Thanks again Jack for a job well done.

You will notice a few changes again. This is bound to happen when you change editors -- we are quite "power happy" and rush forward with our own pet projects. The first thing you'll probably notice is the new masthead on the inside front cover. The directory that was formerly incorporated on the lower portions of that page was an expensive and redundant duplication of parts of our District Directory. We believe it was not a worthwhile feature and have dropped it. Please note that mailing and printing is being handled in Northville, Michigan while copy and subscription information should be sent to us here in Plymouth, Michigan.

We are going back to the old Chapter News layout as, it is believed, confusion sometimes ensued when chapter reporters' pictures were mistaken by readers for men named in the chapter news copy.

Speaking of chapter news -- at the risk of being a bit redundant, but certainly not trite; this magazine is only as good as YOU make it. We are speaking to chapter reporters, chapter photographers, chapter presidents and members who, we hope, will see to it that YOUR "chapter news" is included in every issue.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### 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.



# DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S CLOSING REPORT

by Eric Schultz

It is with somewhat mixed emotions that I step down as Michigan District President, in which capacity I have served for the past two years, and assume the responsibilities of a member on the International Board.

Why mixed emotions? First, there are many goals that I had set that haven't yet been accomplished--started yes, but not completed. We have started new chapters in Big Rapids, Traverse City, Owosso, Tecumseh, Grand Haven, Cedarville, Bay City and Cadillac. These chapters are all licensed, and Big Rapids and Traverse City are chartered. We are working on several other locations, hoping to license them soon.

Our membership picture has shown a considerable increase. We should close the year with a gain in membership of about 150 members over 1966, and there are five licensed chapters that will charter early in 1968 which should add 200 additional members to the Michigan District total. Very soon we should have three quartets representing the Michigan District at the International Convention instead of only two.

But numbers alone are not the total answer. We need enthusiastic participating members who will put their shoulders to the wheel at both the chapter and District level to assist their elected officers in the successful operation of their chapter, area, or District. In other words, the more participation we have the easier and more successful our aims become. Wouldn't it be wonderful if there were men in your chapter asking for certain assignments or men running for each office at election time? (They probably would if they were sure of participation and assistance from the membership)

Lack of participation becomes apparent at the District level when the District President has difficulty in finding enough willing and capable men to fill the various committee assignments. It is also very apparent when the District nominating committee has difficulty in finding men who will take on the duties of District Officers. Seldom is one man nominated from the floor at the House of Delegates Meeting.

Where should the men come from to fill these various District positions? From the chapter or area level where they have gained some knowledge during their tenure of office. Alas, even the stout hearted have sometimes become discouraged because of the lack of cooperation by some who expect overwhelming results without they themselves becoming involved. Let's become part of the activity. Let's participate in chapter, area, and district administration so that the work load assignments can be better distributed and executed for the benefit of all the membership of the Michigan District. Soon we'll find willing and capable men eager to assume these various duties so necessary to assure the continued growth and health of this or any District. Let's become part of the solution and not part of the problem. Participate.

Only by such active participation have we been able to move forward as we have during the past two years. Conventions, both Spring and Fall, have been assigned to host chapters well in advance of convention time.

Chairmen have been given able assistance, and a convention manual has been compiled that spells out what must be done to insure a successful convention. We have found each succeeding convention more successful than the preceding one. This shows what can be done in the Michigan District if we have your "active participation".

Contest and Judging, under the chairmanship of Burt Szabo, has also shown signs of becoming a real asset to the Michigan District. With more candidate judges than we have ever enjoyed before, we can soon hope for a double panel of judges which will give our quartets and choruses a greater assurance that they have had the best judging possible with two judges for each category instead of only one.

Our service project, the Institute of Logopedics, has been well supported by most chapters. We have contributed some \$10,500 to date for the support of our children. Couldn't we do even better? The opportunity to prove this will come in June of 1968 when, under the chairmanship of Lowell Wolfe, each quartet and chorus will be asked to bid for the right to appear in Battle Creek's Kellogg Auditorium. The highest bidders will be selected. This, together with a sold-out house, will raise a good sum of money for our service project. Is your quartet or chorus ready to bid? Mail your bid to Lowell Wolfe, 88 Wendell, Battle Creek, Michigan 49017. This is your opportunity to put your shoulder to the wheel.

As chairman of the ethics committee, I'm happy to report that no serious infractions have occurred during my tenure of office. This is heartwarming to say the least. Remember when you are performing you are a singer and this is what the audience came to hear. Don't try to be a comedian (unless you are one). Continue to keep it clean and wholesome. The Michigan District quartets, choruses, and emcees are to be complimented for their efforts along these lines.

The Michigan District is very fortunate in having capable and energetic 1968 District Officers. Gene Gillem, Pat Ryan, Ron Gillies, Tom Damm, Emerson Sperling, Louis Harrington and Mike Schied will do an outstanding job for the membership if you will continue to give them the assistance necessary to perform the duties of their respective offices. Do the job you have been assigned in the very best and efficient manner possible. Remember, it is the District Officers responsibility to direct, and it is your responsibility to execute under this direction. Success can only be gained by solid participation by those who success will most benefit. . . the members of the Michigan District. . . you.

In closing, I would like to thank each and every man in the Michigan District for their cooperation during my tenure. Regarding the District Officers with whom I worked so closely--all of the gains we have made in the last two years could not have been made without the able guidance, assistance, and cooperation of this talented and devoted group of men who have given so freely of their precious time.

There is much more to be done in the Michigan District. I am sure that it can, and will, be accomplished . . . with YOUR PARTICIPATION.

# MEET YOUR VICE PRESIDENTS



## ZONE 1

**Pat Ryan**

Pat Ryan starts his third term as V.P. of Zone I and brings with him sixteen years of barbershopping experience. Between his membership in the Toledo and Detroit Chapters, Pat has held every job at the chapter level. He was chairman of a Michigan District Spring Convention and sings lead (the world's greatest--according to him) in the Motor City Chorus.

Pat is employed as Central Processing Manager for Campbell Ewald Advertising Company. His wife Jeane (the real barbershopper -- according to him) helps keep him going and shepherds their nine children--five boys and four girls with the oldest son now serving in the Air Force.

As V.P. of Zone I, Pat plans to unite his Zone through adoption of a service project within the Zone (in addition to Logopedics Institute). He also plans to devote a lot of effort toward the "Zone I Association of Chapters".



## ZONE 2

**"Em"  
Sperling**

Twenty-seven years ago, a fellow by the name of Norm Wecker found a prospective member in Emerson "Em" Sperling and added a new name to the SPEBSQSA membership roll. Em has spent all of his 27 years in the Grand Rapids Chapter (can anyone beat that record?) and devotes many hours to barbershopping.

As Area Counselor of Area II last year, Em spent over 50 days, evenings, or nights "out of town" plus a like number at "home" in the service of our barbershopping District. In addition to this, he has sung tenor with the still active Pitch Pipers for the last 24 years.

Emerson and his wife, Rosalie, have one daughter and two grandchildren. He is a construction electrician and works all around the state.

As V.P. of Zone 2, Em expects to travel well over 6,000 miles in 1968. He plans to keep each of "his" chapters on their toes by visiting them all at least once each quarter.



## ZONE 3

**Tom Damm**

Tom Damm joined SPEBSQSA in September of 1948. Since that time, he has performed the duties of chapter secretary, bulletin editor, board member and show chairman (four times) and is currently serving his second term as president of the Muskegon Chapter. He was chairman of the Michigan District Convention in 1954 and has directed both the Muskegon and the Grand Haven Sweet Adeline Choruses for four years each.

If all the above sounds impressive, wait till you find out that he has arranged most of the material for and has sung baritone in six (count them--six) organized quartets: The Note-Orioles, The Chordials, The Fore Fathers, The Aire-Tonics (1956 Michigan District Champs), The Phd's and the Foremasters---and still has time and energy to sing bass in his church choir.

Tom has been married 18 years to Esther and has five children--four girls and one boy ranging in age from 5 to 17 years of age.



## ZONE 4

**Ron Gillies**

Although Ron joined the Flint Chapter of SPEBSQSA in 1959, he has been actively engaged in barbershopping since 1952 when he sang baritone with the "Quicknotes" while in the U.S. Air Force. The quartet was active for three years.

During his eight years of membership, Ron has been chapter secretary for two years, chapter president for one year and a member of the Flint Chapter Board of Directors for six years. He sang with the "Suspend-A-Chords" in 1961-1962.

Ron served as Area Counselor for two years, receiving the Flint Chapter Barbershopper of the Year and the Michigan District Area Counselor of the Year awards in 1966. In 1965 Ron was approved for membership in the Sage Lake Round-Up.

When not barbershopping, Ron works as a Senior Programmer for Buick Motor Division. He and his wife, Norma, have four children -- 3 boys and a girl,

all of whom are looking forward to warmer days when they can get their travel trailer into action again.

Ron says, "Barbershopping has given me a tremendous amount of enjoyment over the years. By giving of your time each week you too will notice the increase in your own enjoyment as well as the satisfaction of having contributed to the strength of your chapter. Why don't we all try harder in 1968?"

It was men like Ron who made this the "Pioneer District", and it is men like Ron who keep our District rolling. Give these men YOUR support.

## MEET YOUR NEW DISTRICT PRESIDENT



Gene  
Gillem

Gene joined the Kalamazoo Chapter way back in 1941. A job transfer to Chicago took him away from active participation, but a further job transfer found him in Toledo and in the Toledo Chapter. Battle Creek was the next chapter to have Gene as a member and while there he served as chapter president and also put in three years as Area Counselor. Saginaw is the chapter presently claiming Gene. In 1963, he served as chapter president and also as Area Counselor of Area IV. Gene was V.P. of Zone 4 in 1966 and 1967 and he is also a member of the Sage Lake Association.

Gene's quartet work includes singing with the Chord-A-Rangers of Battle Creek and the Cross Towners of Saginaw. He has sung the tenor part but now prefers to sing baritone.

Gene is employed by the B. F. Goodrich Co., in their Footwear Division. He and his wife, Doris, have three children and became grandparents for the first time this past fall. Gene was active in barbershop long before he met Doris, but she has shared in his enthusiasm and has been a mainstay for him.

Gene feels the Presidents' Forum held in Kenosha is a valuable and necessary ingredient for a successful tenure as District President in 1968. His success also depends upon cooperation from everyone in the District. "The first two organizational meetings for the 1968 District Officers were very gratifying", says Gene. "Full attendance of the new Board of Directors allowed much to be accomplished at these meetings." Gene feels that, with such participation, the District will show substantial gains.

Gene Gillem wishes everyone a happy and harmonious New Year. We can all look forward to his monthly "From the Pen of the President" column starting in the February issue of the Troubadour.

\* \* \* \* \*

# Chapter News

## JACKSON

Chapter Reporter:  
Joe Hubbard

Here we go again and may I say before we go too far, WELCOME BACK Jim Davenport. With you at the helm I know we'll have good sailing ahead.

The Jackson Chapter had their last meeting of the year tonight. Boy, what a meeting. Now we will settle down with our new officers for 1968 and show you another good year. The new officers are: President, Art Sweeney; Membership V.P., Ed Hilden; Program V.P., Ivan Bruder; Secretary, George Tripp; and Treasurer, Leo Rudloff. We wish them luck as the Chapter is right behind them (way behind them?) Get in there team and fight.

We finished the year off by going Christmas Caroling and we had a very big Ladies' Night. The ladies really had a night as their men sat them at a table and served them. The ladies sure can't say they weren't fed well.

Dutch Marx received a very nice engraved plaque from the Chapter for his many years of service. It was also noted that Dutch has not missed a meeting since 1948. (How's that for a record?)

In January, the Jackson Chapter will be putting on another program at Foot Hospital.

Emerson Sperling, District V.P. from Grand Rapids, has been a visitor and he brought Jim Horton and Russ Vanderberg with him. We welcome all guests and Chapters that want to drop in any 2nd or 4th Friday for a lot of fun and SINGING. We start at 8:00 p.m. and end at (would you believe 1 a.m.? 12 midnight?). You all come and we'll make that last one for the road coffee.

I have been told that I will get all the help that I want in writing this from one (where's that card? Gosh, I can't find it, but I know I couldn't have lost it, 'cause it was a 5 x 8 card -- Oh, here is is . . .) Bubby Breitmayer.

## SAGINAW BAY

Chapter Reporter:  
Wm. Dolezel

The Saginaw-Bay Chapter will install its 1968 officers on January 12 at the Carling Brewing Company Taproom in Frankenmuth. We look forward to continued success with President Dick Mueller, Administrative V.P. Gene Jensen, Program V.P. Bud Carpenter, Secretary Gary Meldrum, Treasurer Rick Meldrum and Directors Don Ferguson and Dave Knapp.

This is a fine group of men of which we are justly proud.

We are also proud to count as a chapter member

### HELP WANTED

Troub is looking for a "Feminine Observer". An active barbershopper's wife who is able to attend shows and conventions and would enjoy spreading a bit of gossip and feminine news to the barbershop wives around Michigan.

our new District President, Gene Gillem. Our chapter, along with the entire District, congratulates Gene and wishes him good fortune and pledges loyal support.

The Gay Notes from Tulsa, Oklahoma were great on our show and were also the best of the frontrunners leading the ensuing fun. We still have about 80 of their records, "Strictly Swinging and Strictly Square". If anyone is interested in a bargain for some great music, please contact any of our members.

On December 9th we chartered enough dog sleds to accommodate the Bean Town Four, The Eversharps, District President Elect Gene Gillem and Barbershopper Emeritus Don Ferguson and made the long, cold trip to Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario where we were treated to the best darned program, food and hospitality since the zenith of the Roman Empire. These folks at Sault Ste. Marie are among the finest on the face of the earth and we wish that it were possible to visit them more frequently.

## MUSKEGON

Chapter Reporter:  
Jay Smith

Last year was a busy year for Muskegon and the outlook for this year will be even busier.

Looking back over the program notes for the past two months; in November we had a Membership Night under the expert guidance of Fred Kendall, Membership V.P. Each member had to bring a guest or pay \$2.00 at the door. We had approximately 20 guests plus the guest quartets and several members from the Grand Rapids Chapter.

Tom Damm and Joe Cantwell were elected to be members of the Muskegon Chapter Hall of Fame. Each year two members are elected to this high honor.

In December, the chorus held regular practice besides going to three rest homes to sing carols. The Past Presidents were in charge of the monthly chapter program.

February will be upon us soon and the "SPEB-SQUAW" of the year will be chosen at the first ladies' night of the year. This is a yearly event when a wife is chosen Outstanding Barbershop Wife of the Year.

All of Muskegon is looking forward to May 3rd, 4th, and 5th when we will be hosting the biggest and best Michigan District Convention.

The chapter officers were re-elected for another year after doing an excellent job their first term: President, Tom Damm; Program V.P., Dr. Paul Borton; Membership V.P., Fred Kendall; Treasurer, Donald Courtright; and Secretary, Wayne Hamilton.

## OAKLAND COUNTY

Chapter Reporter:  
Dick Van Dyke

The Oakland County Chapter proudly announces the merger of two of the area's great chapters: Oakland County and Utica-Rochester. The emerging chapter will be known as the OAKLAND COUNTY CHAPTER, and now boasts a membership of 114. There were 19 transferring from U-R to O.C.C., and we are now the largest chapter in the District and somewhere in the top ten in the Society. We feel pretty good about this 'cause we started the year at 67 members, gained 19 through merger, and gained 30 (that's . . . 30) new members through recruiting in the area, and only lost two members for the entire year. We are some-

## Where's Your Chapter News

where near the top in the Protention contest. This means that somewhere along the line, someone did some work. It would take several pages to name the people who worked, so we won't name any of them. Suffice it to say thanks O.C.C. MEMBERS, for a year of interest in barbershopping beyond the call of normal duty.

The Utica-Rochester Chapter has had a very successful contest for the past several years known as the "Pre-Boyne Contest". Since they have merged with Oakland County, the contest will be continued by O.C.C., and the only thing to be changed will be the hall in which it is held. We have selected the 5TH OF APRIL as the night of the contest, and as usual, it's a ladies' night. The first prize is \$50.00 and any quartet can compete that hasn't finished third or better in a Michigan District Contest. Our emcees for the affair will be the Sharplifters, and you can always count on them for a fine evening of entertainment. If you have a quartet that would like to enter this contest, contact Dick Van Dyke, 913 Bernie Lane, Madison Heights, 48071 for entry blanks.

The Oakland County Chapter is proud to announce that the 1966-67 Michigan District Champion Quartet, THE CLOSE CHORDERS, have all decided to join our chapter. Gene Bulka has been a member all of his barbershopping life, and the quartet was looking for a chapter to belong to together. O.C.C. seemed to be the most centrally located, so here they are. They're as "Welcome As the Flowers in May". Now, if the SHARPLIFTERS and the AUTO TOWNERS are looking for chapters to belong to, . . . . .

The Oakland County Chapter has borrowed from another chapter a great idea -- a "Woman of the Year".

Muskegon has their "SPEB-SQUAW of the Year", and we have borrowed the idea from them and called ours the "P.A.L. T.A.L. of the Year". O.C.C.'s Ladies Auxillary is called the Pal Tals, and the initials stand for the Pick-a-Little, Talk-a-Little Set. The first winner of the award was chosen at our December Ladies' Night, and it went to Carol Fangert, the groups' first president and wife of one of our chorus' real fine basses -- Bob Fangert (1965's Charlie DeLong Award winner). This family is a real asset to our hobby and to O.C.C.

## FLINT

Chapter Reporter:  
Les Lang

The Flint Chapter takes pleasure in announcing and introducing to you our Chapter President for 1968 . . . . Gerard Wrice.

Gerard joined the Flint Chapter in 1964. He became Chapter secretary in 1964 and was re-elected in both 1966 and 1967. He has worked hard to retain members and has been one of the best secretaries in the District.

He is active in barbershopping and he attends most of the chapter and area events.



Gerard Wrice



**NOTES FROM  
THE SECRETARY**

LOUIS R. HARRINGTON

Welcome to our new chapters - Cadillac, Cedarville and Grand Haven.

\* \* \* \* \*

Congratulations to the new chapter officers and our appreciation to the outgoing chapter officers for their cooperation during the past year. Any chapters who have not reported their new officers should do so at once so that information will be available for the District directory and so that proper notices of training programs, etc. may be sent to the incoming officers, and in fairness to the incoming officers all outstanding obligations should be taken care of, such as per capita payments, sanction fees, etc.

Chapters are reminded that requests for parade clearance and payment of the 5% sanction fee on shows are to be sent to my office so as to avoid conflict with other chapter events and to assure proper listing in the Troubadour and Harmonizer.

Per capita tax payments (\$4.00 per member per year as of December 31st membership) which also includes Troubadour subscription are to be sent to my office for recording and then forwarded to the District Treasurer. These can be paid in quarterly installments or lump sums.

Copies of chapter bulletins and quarterly reports should also be sent to my office for proper credit in compiling the Achievement Award.

\* \* \* \* \*

The 1968 Chapter Officers Training School will be held at the Capital Park Motor Hotel, Lansing on Saturday, January 27, 1968, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The school will conclude in the afternoon. There will be no fee or registration charge. Separate classes for presidents, vice-presidents, secretaries and treasurers will be held. Each chapter should send their new officers to assure a successful term.



Enjoy Barbershop Harmony with Paul Eberwein on CBE radio (1550 kc) each and every Friday from 7:30 to 8:00 p.m. If you haven't tuned in on this fine Canadian radio station for Paul's weekly show, then we're sure you won't be able to properly enthuse your neighbors and friends and they will be likely to miss it too. Don't you make this mistake. Turn that old radio dial to 1550 kc Friday evening, keep the wife,

dog, and kids quiet and you'll hear what we mean.

\* \* \* \* \*



Dick Pettibone, secretary of the Redford Chapter, is being confined to the house under doctor's orders after having been released from Botsford General Hospital where he spent three weeks under intensive care for a heart attack. Joc says it will be at least two more months before he will be released for work, then only a half-day each day. We all wish Dick the very best luck for a speedy and successful recovery.

\* \* \* \* \*

Dick writes that he has learned that a former member who previously moved to California is seriously ill. Anyone who has participated in Michigan barber-shopping activities will have a warm spot in their heart for William (Bill) Wales and his wonderful wife, Goldie. Always an enthusiastic and dedicated barber-shopper, Bill has entertained thousands in the role of emcee at chapter and District functions throughout Michigan. There was little that went on in the Michigan District or International Conventions that Bill Wales did not attend. A member of the Redford Chapter, there were few chapters in Michigan that Bill didn't visit. A visit from Bill was a guarantee of a memorable chapter meeting.

Bill, who lives at 19109 Calvert Street, Reseda, California 91335, is seriously ill with T.B. and is in Olive View Hospital, Ward #24, Olive View, California 91330.

A copy of Troub is being sent to Bill, so--"We're thinking of you, Bill; hurry up and get well please," is a message to you from all of us.

\* \* \* \* \*

Leo Stiers of Birmingham is dead. Leo was a former "cop" in that city, and many years ago was a baseball manager in the non-professional leagues in Birmingham. Twenty-seven years ago, Leo took up a new hobby--Barbershopping. In an historic meeting in Royal Oak in the hall over the Avon Restaurant on the 7th of November, 1941, the 27 charter members who were present elected Leo as their first president. The Oakland County Chapter was born. Some notable Society members present at that first meeting were Carroll P. Adams, then president of the Society, and Carleton Scott, who was later president of O.C.C. and is now a certified judge in Voice Expression. Leo, a World War I veteran, charter president of O.C.C., and charter president of the Birmingham Senior Men's Club died quietly in St. Joseph's Hospital in Pontiac and was laid to rest in White Chapel on the 23rd of December at the age of 72. His only survivor is his wife Audrey. He joins five other past presidents of O.C.C. who have passed on. The Oakland County Chapter and the Michigan District mourns his passing.

# Coming Events

(Requests for parade dates and sanction fee payments should be sent to: District Secretary Louis R. Harrington, 2361 First National Bldg., Detroit 26, Mich. 48226.)

January 20, 1968	Pontiac Parade
February 24, 1968	Dearborn Parade
March 2, 1968	Kalamazoo Parade
March 9, 1968	Detroit Yachtsmen's Ladies' Night
March 16, 1968	Monroe Parade
March 23, 1968	Battle Creek Parade
March 29, 1968	Grand Haven Charter Party (tentative)
April 6, 1968	Bush League Contest Boyne City
April 19, 1968	Oakland County Fund- Raising Show
April 20, 1968	Great Lakes Invitational Grand Rapids
MAY 3-4-5, 1968	INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARIES, Muskegon
JUNE 8, 1968	LOGOPEDICS BENEFIT SHOW, Battle Creek
June 15, 1968	Traverse City Show
OCTOBER 18-20, 1968	DISTRICT CONTEST AND CONVENTION, Monroe
October 26, 1968	Oakland County Parade
March 1, 1969	Kalamazoo Parade
March 15, 1969	Monroe Parade
April 12, 1969	Great Lakes Invitational, Grand Rapids
APRIL 25-27, 1969	INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARIES, Saginaw
October 10-12, 1969	District Contest (tentative)
April 18, 1970	Great Lakes Invitational, Grand Rapids
April 24-26, 1970	International Preliminaries (tentative)
October 9-11, 1970	District Contest (tentative)

For A Successful Show . . . . . PLAN AHEAD

## ON THE COVER

Congratulations to Oakland County's "Barbary Host" who will represent the Michigan District in International competition in July at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

Directed by Carl Dahlke and Dick Liddicoat, this chorus from the 114-member Oakland County Chapter took first place in competition at Windsor, Ontario and all in this District are proud of them. We wish them the best of luck in International competition.

## KEEP AMERICA SINGING

JAMES DUGAN  
20736 MARY 108  
TAYLOR MI 48180

## HERE'S A BARBERSHOPPER

# MICHIGAN SINGS

By Roger Craig

I think it was Gene Autrey who used to sing "I'm Back In The Saddle Again, out where a friend is a friend." Anyway, that is exactly the way I feel as "Michigan Sings" returns to the Troubadour. Since this column, with the accompanying Tag Of The Month insert, stopped I have encountered many, many barbershoppers, in and out of Michigan, who have lamented the loss of the little musical goodies each month. In fact, there is a whole pack of taggers who show up at every International Convention with hat brims full of old Michigan Tags of the Month ready to sing them at the drop of a pitchpipe. So when Jim Davenport called the other night to say he was back in business as Troubadour Editor and wanted the old column, I was most pleased (and hope you taggers are too). And, by the way Jim, welcome back. We have all missed you.

As usual, this month's Tag features a group from the Michigan District - and this time from every other District in the Society as well: namely our boys in the service of their country. There can't be a soul in the free world who does not hope and pray for a speedy solution to the Vietnam conflict so that "Johnny Comes Marching Home Again."

Don't let all those flats scare you (Bb minor). The leads start the melody until "Johnny". At that point the tenors take over until the end and the leads have some fun with the harmony for a change. The real kicker is the last chord as the leads sing a D natural changing the key to Bb Major and thus ending the Tag on the bright, happy note that matches the message in the words.

Now that I have contributed the first Tag of the Month how about your's, Michigan Barbershoppers? The Tag must be Michigan born and bred and hopefully one that "belongs" to one of our many fine quartets or choruses. Let me hear from you. Write me at 24369 Hanover, Dearborn Heights, Michigan, 48125 or call 313-565-6456 and your favorite gem is as good as in print.

Hey out here --- does MICHIGAN SING?