

June '68

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JUNE, 1968

troubadour



PIONEER



DISTRICT

June, 1968

THE MICHIGAN TROUBADOUR

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JAMES O. DAVENPORT, EDITOR
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Off The Davenport

Vacation time. As soon as this issue of the Troubadour is off to the printer, the desk gets cleaned up and shut, and will not be opened until approximately September 1. Except for paying a few bills, etc., Troub goes out of business each July and August. These two months are spent lazing around, traveling, and of course singing--who wants a vacation from singing? We hope to sing on the Bob-Lo Steamer Moonlight Cruise, Harrisville, at picnics, etc. We hope to be able to sing with some barbershoppers up New England way, too. How about Cincinnati?

We wish everyone a harmonious and very pleasant summer.

* * * * *

Loads of luck to our competing chorus and quartets at Cincinnati. We should have a fine turnout of Pioneer District cheerleaders present at this International competition. Anyone who has been reading their Harmonizer can't help but get enthusiastic over the offerings of Cincinnati.

Speaking of Cincinnati--congratulations to the Oakland County chapter and their fund-raising project. (See elsewhere in this Troub.)

* * * * *

Ten Barbershop quartets and the "Pioneer District Volunteer Chorus", which numbered close to 300 men, may throw their shoulders back with PRIDE.

These men have given of their talent, their time, and their money, and they considered it an honor.

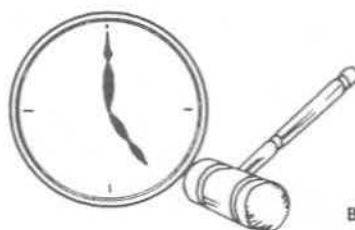
Why did these men leave their homes to spend a very hot June 8th in Battle Creek, Michigan? Why would

men travel as far as 300 miles (one way), for this one day? Why would Barbershop quartets contribute (one as high as \$300) of their own money?

Why? Because these men were given an OPPORTUNITY to contribute something of what they have, to those who have not.

These men gave the Battle Creek, Michigan Logopedics Benefit Show close to three and one-half hours of harmony. A harmony of song and spirit.

These men, a cross section of the total membership of the Pioneer District, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., have nobly demonstrated our motto: WE SING THAT THEY SHALL SPEAK.



Minutes

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

BY LOUIS R. HARRINGTON

A meeting of the Michigan District Board of Directors was held at the Century Club, Muskegon on May 3, 1968. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Gene Gillem. Also present were vice-presidents Damm, Gillies, Ryan and Sperling, Secretary Harrington and International Board Member Schultz.

The discussion centered around the agenda for the House of Delegates meeting to be held that evening and also the final details for the contest events of the following day.

Also discussed was the forthcoming visit of Chet Fox to the Michigan District and the areas to which he will be invited.

The Board voted unanimously to appoint William Warner of Detroit as District treasurer to replace R. J. Schied, deceased.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

"WE SING THAT THEY SHALL SPEAK"

With this theme a contingent of barbershop singers gathered in Battle Creek June 8 to raise money for the fight against children's speech impediments. The show was held inside Battle Creek's air-conditioned W. K. Kellogg Auditorium.

Benefitting from the special program will be the Institute of Logopedics in Wichita, Kansas, which is noted for its fine work in research and treatment of speech defects.

The institute is commonly known as Speechnown, U.S.A. "Speechnown" is the only organization of its kind that will accept handicapped children, that helps children with speech problems, even though they are deaf or blind, for instance.

Ten fine barbershop quartets were present at the Battle Creek event. In addition, a male chorus, some 300 strong, were on hand. Each quartet had to donate at least \$40 to be allowed to sing on the show, with some donations running close to \$300. Each member of the chorus donated at least \$5. In addition, tickets for the public cost \$2.50. All proceeds from donations and ticket sales will go toward furthering the work of "Speechnown, U.S.A."

The Battle Creek program was put on in conjunction with the International Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America.

In a special ceremony at the State Capitol, Governor Romney signed the following letter congratulating the Michigan District organizers of the event and offering

his endorsement of the show:

May 22, 1968

Mr. Lowell E. Wolfe
88 Wendell Street
Battle Creek, Michigan

Dear Mr. Wolfe:

I have learned of the June 8 Barbershop Quartet Show in Battle Creek to aid those individuals afflicted with Speech impediments.

I congratulate the members of the Battle Creek Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America for sponsoring a show which will benefit those persons receiving treatment at the Institute of Logopedics in Wichita, Kansas. And this is a wonderful service project that the International Society has adopted, with the motto "We Sing That They Shall Speak".

Helping others less fortunate than us is one of the greatest rewards of a meaningful life.

Best wishes for a successful show.

Sincerely,

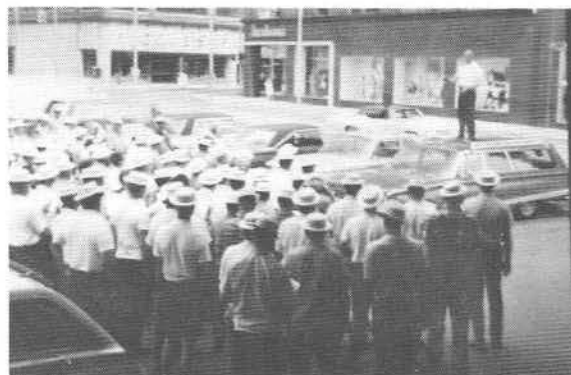
George Romney



Bob Johnson, International Music Director, rehearses the Pioneer Volunteer Chorus. Talk about a thrill.



The Harmony Hounds on stage



Singing in the parking lot outside of the Post Tavern Motor Inn in Battle Creek.



MUSKEGON CONVENTION



l to r: Tom Damm, Ron Gillies,
Gene Gillem, "Em" Sperling



The Safe Combination



Keynote Speaker, Ralph Ribble



l to r: Tom Damm, Gene Gillem,
Ralph Ribble

MINUTES OF HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING, HELD AT MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN, MAY 3, 1968

The Spring meeting of the Michigan District House of Delegates was held on Friday evening, May 3, 1968 at the Elks Building, Muskegon. President Gillem called the meeting to order at 9:15. All District officers were present and a quorum of delegates. Don Funk led the assemblage in singing "The Old Songs." A welcome was extended by Tom Damm, Co-chairman of the convention, to all delegates present. The reading of the minutes of the last meeting of the House of Delegates was waived in view of the fact that they had been published in the Troubadour.

It was announced that William Warner of Detroit had been appointed District Treasurer to fulfill the unexpired term of the late R. J. Schied. The chair then called for the assembly to rise for a moment of silence in respect to Mr. Schied.

Vice-president Damm, Gillies, Ryan and Sperling then gave reports on the condition of their zones. All were enthused about the prospects for a successful year. Secretary Harrington then gave his report.

President Gillem, in his remarks, pointed out that the District was gaining in membership and predicted that a banner year was in store.

Ralph Ribble, International Treasurer, then gave the Keynote address. He spoke on finances, the "Men of Note" program and protention. His talk was enthusiastically received by the delegates.

Lowell Wolfe, Chairman of the Logopedic Benefit program to be held in Battle Creek on June 8th was called upon for his report. He indicated that the enrollment for the Fabulous 400 Chorus was disappointing in view of the fact that only 200 had signed

up to the present date.

The Chair then presented the International Awards won by the chapters in Michigan for their performance in 1967; Pontiac was awarded the banner award while Wayne was presented with a gavel and Three Rivers with a plaque.

There being no old business, the delegates then proceeded to consider several matters under new business. First, was the proposition of abolishing the 5% sanction fee and adopting some other means of financing the District. This resolution was presented by the Dearborn Chapter. Considerable discussion ensued. An amendment to the effect that any change take effect on January 1, 1969 passed. After further discussion and debate, a motion was made and passed that the question be referred to a special committee for further study and that the committee report at the Fall convention on whether or not the sanction fee should be abolished, and if so to consider other means of financing the District. The Chair announced that he would appoint such a committee to report in Monroe at the Fall convention.

The next question was the resolution, proposed by the Windsor Chapter, that the name of the Michigan District be changed to the Pioneer District. The motion passed by a vote of 25 to 18.

The Chair then announced that the Nominating Committee requested that the election of an executive vice-president, which was to take place at this meeting, be deferred to the Fall convention. A motion was made and passed to this effect.

A resolution was then passed recognizing Secretary Lou Harrington for his 20 years of service as a District officer.

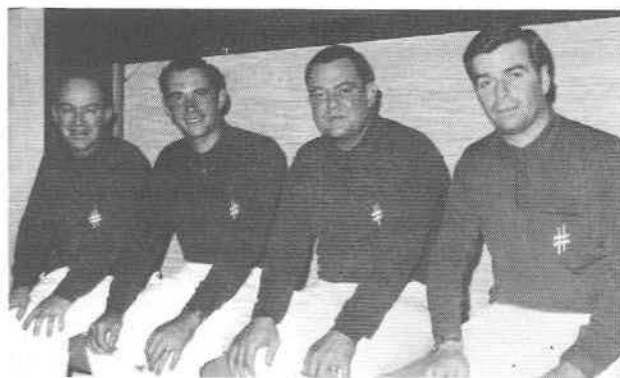
The meeting adjourned at 11:45 p.m.

Traveling Jug and the Cleff Dwellers Return to OCC

O.C.C.'s traveling jug returned to O.C.C. after making 12 stops at chapters from one side of the district to the other. The Oakland County Chapter started it on its way on the 29th of September at a surprise visitation to the Wayne Chapter, and it was returned right on schedule by Hudson Chapter's VandeZande and Scotty (pictured with the jug and president Bob Mc Dermott of O.C.C.) after having amassed \$120.



O.C.C. added \$50 to the contents and divided it equally between the EVERSHARPS and the SHARPLIFTERS who will represent us in Cincinnati. Both quartets, seen here in informal settings sang for the 150 or so who graced the hall on a hot, hot night. (The EVERSHARPS are demonstrating their blend to the critical ear of Glen Van Tassell of the Auto Towners.)



Also in attendance were the CHORDIALS from Toledo, the CLOSE CHORDERS (in what was probably their last public appearance), and the CHORD REPORTERS of O.C.C.; but perhaps the high light of the evening was the return of the CLEFF DWELLERS to the



chapter that they played such a big part in building. Most of us have no way of comparing them to their original sound because it was 15 years ago when they called it quits, but no one can question how they became 4-time International medalists after seeing the enthusiasm with which they perform. We are thankful that they took time out to honor us with just one more night.

One other important note--The Pioneer District, through Lou Harrington, presented the Wolverine Chorus with a check for \$1500.00 to help defray the cost of going to Cincinnati. We promise to pull out all of the stops and represent the District to the best of our capabilities.

Chapter News

BOYNE CITY

Chapter Reporter:
Dick Wheeler

Forgotten in the rush of getting out last month's news was the fact that the Traverse City Chapter won the title of "Bush League King, 1968" by having the greatest percentage of members in attendance. Congratulations to a great chapter.

The highlight of the month of May was the District Convention at Muskegon. Those of us from Boyne City who were fortunate enough to attend were treated to the best barbershoppin' any district could have. The Muskegon Chapter did a first-rate job of hosting the event. Thanks fellows.

At our weekly meetings we have been having two pick-up quartets sing every week. Personnel is rotated each week, thereby giving each member a chance to sing in a quartet. The program has been under the direction of Arne Hegerberg and has been well received.

Sad news is the death of chapter member Bob Lee. Bob was a new member who was so enthusiastic about barbershopping that he once drove to Traverse City to attend one of their meetings just to hear a little more harmony. One meeting a week wasn't enough for Bob. A sad farewell to a fine member.

Lansing Chapter
Presents

A NEW and DIFFERENT

BARBERSHOP SPECIAL

FRIDAY OCT. 4, 1968

at 9:00 p.m.

Featuring the **FANTABULOUS
SIDEWINDERS**

*AT THE NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY
2500 S. WASHINGTON AVE.*

NOTE: YOU MUST BE A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING
OF SPERSQSA INC. TO ENTER WITH YOUR WIFE OR DATE

TICKETS \$2.00 PER PERSON-CONTACT DON FUNK
1451 HARVARD RD., E. LANSING, 48823, OR CALL
517-332-2160

BARBERSHOP SHOW

Featuring

The **SIDEWINDERS, FOR-MOR
(and MORE)**

Lansing Oct. 5, 1968-8-15 p.m. Tickets \$2.50

Eastern High Auditorium

GRATIOT COUNTY

Chapter Reporter:
Lowell Boyer

The Gratiot County Chapter held their second Annual Old Timers' Night on Monday, May 13. Not as many old and former members as we had hoped for were present, but everyone there enjoyed a lot of good singing and fellowship. A former director, Walt Myhrum, led the chorus in his favorite number. The BEAN TOWN FOUR from Saginaw was our guest quartet and gave out with a lot of good harmony.

Our own quartets, THE PAST PRESIDENTS FOUR and THE IMPURALES, were also present for several numbers.

Louis Tripp, our newest member was presented his pin, card, and folio. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of a plaque to Ray Tomlin for 22 years of faithful and active membership. Ray is a charter member, past president, and our official installation officer. He also is our oldest member of 78 years young. We hope to continue honoring a member each year for faithful attendance and service to the chapter.

SAULT STE MARIE

Chapter Reporter:
C. Bax

Greetings from the North. Our annual parade is history now, but the chords are still ringing. Under the capable chairmanship of Gord Saxby, our "Hi-Lites" in Harmony was very successful. The EVERSHARPS and the BEAN TOWN FOUR wowed the audience with their songs. Adding a bit of comedy to our songs was very well appreciated. Emcee for the show was Gene Gillem.

At the afterglow, both quartets plus Gene Gillem and Don Ferguson under the direction of Bob Glover sang "I'll Walk With God". It is hard to describe the reaction of the audience. All I can say is, when the song was ended, they received a standing ovation.

On June 17 the Les Cheneaux Chapter will be joining us at our Monday Night meeting. They advised us that they'll have two quartets which will challenge any made-up quartets from our chapter. Not only will we have three quartets, but we'll also provide unbiased judges from our chapter.

During July and August we do not hold Monday night meetings. We usually have a get together each month. Our best wishes to everybody for a fine summer.

DEARBORN

Chapter Reporter:
Cecil Craig

Our regular meeting May 10 was a good one. We were few in number but had a real ball. Pat Ryan M.C. was great, and the CHORDIALS from Johnny Appleseed sang up a storm. Also our chef, Mr. Norm Shamus, did himself proud; fried chicken no less.

Dave Young is in Botsford Hospital. We're glad to hear he is improving and hope he will be with us again soon.

The Chordomatic Chorus sang for 400 teachers at Dearborn High School, and at the "Downriver Sweet Adelines" officer installation.

On May 14, the Dearborn Chapter entertained at Veterans' Hospital. It was our 250th CONSECUTIVE MONTH, a record we are very proud of. (Wow. Ed.)

Don't forget on the 2nd Friday in June, the Dearborn Chapter presents a fund-raising nite for our International competitors, The Wolverine Chorus of Oakland County Chapter, the SHARPLIFTERS of Detroit and Wayne Chapters and the EVERSHARPS of the Saginaw-Bay Chapter. Gene Gillem, our District President will emcee.

MUSKEGON

Chapter Reporter:
Jay Smith

Another Spring Convention is over and now we are all looking forward to the Fall Convention.

This summer we will be active with several well-planned meetings. To start off with, we are having a fish fry at Mona Lake Boat Club June 18th. Then to Lansing on the 21st of June for their annual fish fry.

For the month of July, we go out to Jack Bennett's hacienda in North Muskegon for a steak supper.

In August we will have our annual picnic with our wives and get ready for the winter and fall sessions.

The hotel is still on strike and trying to find a suitable meeting place is as hard as the proverbial phrase "trying to find a needle in the haystack".

We wish the O.C.C. Chorus and our 2 quartet representatives, the SHARPLIFTERS and the EVERSHARPS all of the best at Cincinnati.

So till September, we wish you all a happy summer as yours truly is getting ready to head West for our annual sojourn.

LANSING

Chapter Reporter:
Reese E. Olger

FISH ARE SWIMMIN', but we're going to be eatin' em, come Friday, June 21. This is the night of our annual FISH FRY at the Ingham County Conservation Club, west of Lansing. We are expecting many barbershoppers for this fine evening of woodshedding, contestants, and choruses topped off by the Oakland County Chorus. You can find the directions to the Club in your April Troubadour or from your chapter president.

Hats off to Muskegon on a well-run District Convention. We sure had a great time. Thanks.

We have been adding many new members to our chapter--the latest are Jim Crowley, Larry Wicker, Sedric Lewis, Marty Chirgwine, and a new quartet from Owosso, THE CHORDER MASTERS, with Don Horton, Larry Horton, Bill Reid, and the little man Jack Tipton. Also from Owosso, Jim Damm. We are welcoming back John Noland, Fred Farley, Roger Huntington, and Burdette Bottom.

Plans are moving along for Friday night, October 4, with THE SIDEWINDERS. We also hear that the KASUAL D's will be with us plus some more quartets.

WAYNE

Chapter Reporter:
Morrie Giles

Wayne recently acquired the Mini-Chorus Trophy for its collection and it is without a doubt the tallest one this reporter has ever seen-- nearly four feet high. Imagine--a super-size trophy for the Mini-Chorus Champions and a small size one for the District Champs. While we're on the subject of trophies, it's not too early to be thinking about the Harrisville Trophy. We hope to keep it in Wayne another year, so look out for the crowd. I am repeat-

ing my offer of the last two years--to furnish lollipops to the chapter which beats us out in attendance. Now ain't that a challenge?

We have had no regular chapter meetings during May because of the Mini-Chorus Contest at Milford and a visitation to Pontiac which came on our meeting nights.

The Wonderland Chorus has been real busy with several engagements and regular rehearsals. We're getting ready for the big Fall Contest in Monroe.

By the time this is printed it won't be news any more (except to those who didn't go) but Wayne's Annual Golf Outing will take place at Warren Valley Country Club, the last Friday in May. Golfing, singing, smorgasbord, suds, etc; it's open to all chapters in the area.

Al Fricker who had a heart attack on March 23 is back at chorus rehearsals again. Understand he was too sick to attend his great-grandmother's wedding, but not too sick to sing. That's the way with Barbershoppers.

Wayne joins the entire District in wishing the very best to the Oakland County Chorus and our two wonderful quartets in Cincinnati this July. Win or not, you're still tops with us.

Remember: Boast about your own chapter--but live up to it.

SAGINAW-BAY

Chapter Reporter:
Wm. Dolezel

The Saginaw-Bay Chapter chorus and three quartets have again presented their package show with most gratifying results. This event was at the Consistory Cathedral in Bay City where the audience responded with long and enthusiastic applause.

We were pleased to note that our chapter was represented in Muskegon by three quartets and a chorus and that each gave a good performance. the EVERSHARPS wish to thank all of the fine folks around the District who have given them support and encouragement making it possible for them to represent the Pioneer District in the International Contest. This is a great thrill and an honor for any quartet.

The Saginaw-Bay Chapter extends congratulations to the champion SHARPLIFTERS. The District can be proud of these four fine gents who represented us so well last year and are sure to make it big again this year.

Our program night May 10 was something else. Featured were the last three Bush League Contest Champs and a quartet that had tied for first. The RAFTER RINGERS, HARMONY KNIGHTS, BEAN TOWN FOUR and the EVERSHARPS along with other groups from Flint, Gratiot County and Pontiac made the evening a barbershopper's delight. Master of Ceremony Don Ferguson had his hands full just getting all the acts on stage.

Our area party on May 21 was another grand success with Holly-Fenton, Flint and Gratiot County chapters represented. When these groups sing together in chorus, the tingles and good bumps quickly take over.

The BEAN TOWN FOUR and the EVERSHARPS along with Don Ferguson and Gene Gillem had a great time on May 25 when they appeared on the Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario Chapter show. The folks

at the Sault are past masters in the art of hospitality and they really make the jaunt to their area worthwhile. Zone Vice President Ron Gillies and Ron Sawden of Flint were there demonstrating the most effective methods of gaining full enjoyment from barbershopping. See you in Cincinnati.

FLINT

Chapter Reporter:
Les Lang



The Flint Chapter Board of Directors appointed Raymond Goodall to fill the unexpired term for 1968 of Chapter Treasurer.

Ray has been a member of the Flint Chapter since 1957, sings in the chorus and has sung in three quartets--the Cavaliers, the Flint-Tones and the Suspend-A-Chords. He was chapter president in 1965 and has served on

many committees and is an ardent Barbershopper.

Ray lives at 220 Sawyer Place, Grand Blanc, is married to Nola. They have three children and he works for the U. S. Postal Service as a rural carrier.

We are very fortunate to have Ray handling the funds of the chapter and very fortunate to have him as a member as he is one of the chapter's most dependable leaders and always good for a good salad when on the food committee. He is also very capable in handling any part of putting on our annual show.

The Flint Chapter chorus had their first sing-out in some time on May 16 and we have another on June 8. Maybe this is the start of an active chorus in the Flint Chapter again.

June promises lots of activities and we will be meeting regularly during the summer, so come fall we should be raring to go again.

SINGING OUT

Letters To The Editor

So, now we're known as the Pioneer District. I couldn't but agree that we are, indeed, the pioneer district of the Society, but what saddens me just a little is that we are no longer to enjoy the distinction that is left only for the Illinois District. Until the May convention in Muskegon, anyone from anywhere in the country could ask "What District are you from?" and if you were from either Illinois or Michigan, people immediately knew where you were from. But now you have to explain what the pioneer district encompasses. I say, congratulations to the Illinois District, the only district in the Society proud enough of its state to use its name.

By the way, the voting on the name change was

illegal as it was conducted, and could be reversed if someone were so inclined.

What our meetings need is a parliamentarian.

Thank you,

Dick Van Dyke
Oakland County Chapter
Michigan District

P.S. What's wrong with - Michigan, the Pioneer District - as a title.

* * * * *

Dear Jim: I wish to thank the Michigan (Pioneer District) for the privilege of the Traverse City appearance in the District Chorus and Competition at Muskegon Michigan May 3, 4, and 5th. As you know this is the second time that we have put in an appearance at competition and we are proud of the fact that we have been able to grow, compete with the many many wonderful chorus groups that contend each spring and fall. We do not place high on the ladder but you may rest assured that every man that went down there had a completely wonderful time and thoroughly did enjoy every minute that we spent in Muskegon regardless of the adverse conditions.

We are indeed humble and in the same breath proud of the fact that we all belong to the most peaceful, clean and grand group of guys that just enjoy fellowship, good relations with all of our fellow men as well as

the blending of harmony, which God's world sure needs more of at these times. As President of our local Chapter and spokesman for our group I wish to wish our District Chorus all of the luck in the World as well as that same expression for our quartets when they compete at Cinn. in the very near future. We only wish that each and every one of our members could be there to help cheer them on. We in the Pioneer District should and I am sure are very very proud of our Representatives in both categories for we do not have to take a back seat for anyone that is in competition. The Sharplifters, Eversharps, part of the Oakland County Chapter as well as many other quartets paid a visit to our Hospitality room in Muskegon and believe you me this brought the hair on the back of every neck out when they performed for us after the afterglow Saturday Night. Our Chapter had a complete review on Tuesday Night after competition and each and every member said "My God Man What An Experience We All Had". Would never miss it again for ALL OF THE WORLD. Thanks Jim for being a good listener and at least put a proud notice in the Troubadour from our little Northern Michigan Group that loves the Keep America Singing habit like mad. I personally would like to have our chapter known as "The Travelers" (or TravelAirs) for it sure fits us. Thanks again Jim.

Max A. Carter Pres.
Traverse City Chapter
"Pioneer Dist"

quartet news

The BEAN TOWN FOUR was organized in September, 1966, and has been singing all over the state since then. They have performed for SPEBSQSA Chapters, civic organizations and shows in Michigan and Canada. They appeared on the "Gay Nineties Show" on Channel 5 Television out of Bay City for two months and have performed in various night clubs in Flint.

The quartet is composed of Jack Stephen, tenor; Bud Carpenter, lead; Doug Beaver, baritone; and Bob Deming, bass. Jack Stephen lives with his wife Judy and their 3 children in Flint. He hails from the Land 'O Lakes District where he sang in his first quartet, THE MISTERSIPPI'S in 1963. Bud Carpenter with wife Janet and their 2 children live in Caro. Bud started singing in 1962 with his dad in Union City, Indiana. He also sang in Lafayette, Indiana, where he sang in the quartet, SY'S FOUR and in the Greater Indianapolis Chapter before moving to Michigan.

Doug Beaver lives with his wife Carlene and their 2 children in Bay City. He first joined the Saginaw-Bay City Chapter in 1950. He has sung in the PINE TONES, THE FOUR ECHOS, THE DELTA AIRES and the KEY RINGS. Bob Deming, wife Pat and their 5 children also live in Bay City. He joined the Saginaw-Bay City Chapter fifteen years ago and has sung in the SOLITAIRES and DELTA AIRES quartets.



THE BEAN TOWN FOUR
l to r: Bob Deming, Doug Beaver,
Bud Carpenter, Jack Stephan



FEMININE OBSERVER



Oakland County Chapter recently held a fine fund-raising show, proceeds to go to their treasury to help finance the Wolverine Chorus, who are representing the Michigan District in Cincinnati, Ohio in July. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Gene Gillem and E.E. Pat Ryan.

Congratulations go to Jim Dugan and Marge Merhar who are to be married in June. To acquaint you more, Jim is a member of the Motor City Chorus and Marge sings tenor with a past Regional Sweet Adeline quartet called the Tantilizers from the Utica-Rochester Chapter.

Did you know Mark and Isabell Roberts are the proud grandparents of eight grandchildren? I was told, after a visit from all of them that it "takes a little work to get the house in order again", but they love every minute of it.

Bill and Jean Butler are most happy to have their son Larry back home, after having served duty in Vietnam.

Glad to hear Evelyn Sherwood is doing well after recent surgery.

All of us hope William (Bill) Amperse is improving after surgery.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Tompas on their third anniversary, which they celebrated at the Muskegon District Convention. Can you think of a better place to celebrate?

Do you know that Tom and Esther Damm are the proud parents of five lovely children? Tom was one of the convention chairmen for the recently held Michigan District Convention in Muskegon.

Speaking of Muskegon and the convention; I noticed a picture hanging on the wall in the Ladies Hospitality Room of Buster Keaton (of movie fame). I found out he had a summer home in Muskegon for many years and did much of his practicing there. Just thought you might like to know that.

Bob and Peggy Knowles have been busy with a Melodrama with about 50 children performing from Nankin Mills Elementary School in Westland, Mich. Peggy is director and producer; husband Bob is their choral director. We understand he and Nelson Gotshall coached a boy Barbershop quartet for the play and they gave a FINE performance. One of their songs was "Wait Till The Sun Shines, Nellie."

Here's my first fish story for the season. My husband, Otto, went fishing off the Grosse Pointe Farms pier. It was cold out, and I thought anyone crazy enough to weather that must really like fishing. I told him he had "better bring home some fish". To my and his surprise he caught a ten pounder.

Many of you surely remember Gerry and Dean Drooger (formerly from Grand Rapids, Michigan) who moved to St. Petersburg, Florida. Gerry, in business there, is doing fine. They and their two boys love it down there. Gerry is active in their barbershop chapter, but I'm sure they miss many of their Michigan friends.

The Michigan District Convention, held in Muskegon, was well attended. Hospitality was great and the Ladies Hospitality Room was enjoyed by many. Esther Damm was chairman and coffee and goodies were served.

Several of the Muskegon Chapter members' wives did a fine job working at the registration desk; and get this: the Muskegon Chamber of Commerce furnished two electric typewriters for our use, plus a charming and very capable typist. A very fine gesture indeed.

The contests for quartets and choruses sure were exciting, each one gave a fine performance. The wives of the Traverse City chorus members cheered them on, wearing white straw-type sailor hats and waving blue and white pom poms.

Oakland County Chapter wives waved live red roses which were appropriate to go along with one of their competition songs, where they also came up with red roses. A "Champion" chorus they proved to be and I'm sure Carolyn Dahlke and Rosemary Liddicoat were most proud of their husbands as directors.

There always has to be a little extra excitement that goes along with contest performances, and the Motor City Chorus, directed by Bill Butler, experienced one: The chorus almost went on stage pale faced. Seems Peggy Knowles took off in the family car with the make-up kit in it. Johnny Wearing came to their rescue with his kit and Peggy was located in time.

Motor City Chorus wives wore white all-alike dresses with red and white Motor City Chorus ribbon banners across the front of them and all waved large blue and green poppies to correspond with the chorus coat colors. Thanks to Marion Schmidt for making all those lovely flowers. Later the banners and flowers were used to decorate the chapter hospitality room at the Downtowner Motel.

After the contest performance Saturday evening, a lovely buffet lunch was served. Much more singing and a wonderful time was had by all who attended.

I think Dorothy (wife of Troubadour Editor) deserves a great deal of credit for helping with the last issue of the Troubadour. Seems she did a great deal of work for him, as he works for the Telephone Company and they were on strike. As a faithful worker, he stayed on the job so we could

get our telephone calls through. Some nights he didn't get home at all, so a big bouquet to you, Dorothy, for a fine job helping.

* * * * *

Don't forget to get your news items to me, card--letter--phone.

Sing-Cheerily, Dora Vogel, 309 Belanger Rd. Grosse Pointe Farms, 48236, Michigan. Phone TU 5-2094

MICHIGAN SINGS

Well, they did it again. The SHARPLIFTERS are off to their second International Contest. That's not a bad average considering they were organized only 16 months ago and have competed in only two Michigan Regional Contests. Oh yes, they did stop off in Windsor last Fall to claim the Michigan District Championship. They sound like winners don't they? And that is exactly what they will be trying to do in Cincinnati in July.



Last year in Los Angeles they made many of the "pros" sit up and take notice as they captured 27th place beating many experienced foursomes and scaring many others. The SHARPLIFTERS were only serving notice that Michigan still has a lot to say about International competition. Joining the SHARPLIFTERS in this year's International contest are the EVERSHARPS. This will be their first competition outside of the Michigan District, but everyone who heard their excellent performance at Muskegon is convinced that these men from Saginaw-Bay Chapter are ready for the "big time".

Now, in any other year of International competition these two fine quartets would be enough for any District to send--that is, any District other than the Michigan "Pioneer" District. Because on Saturday, our District will unveil what could be our most powerful entry in chorus competition in a good many years--the WOLVERINE CHORUS from Oakland County. These men are ready, willing and able to take all the marbles. Under the expert and experienced guidance of co-directors Carl Dahlke and Dick Liddicoatt, the WOLVERINE CHORUS has been molded into championship form. In Muskegon they showed our District that they have even improved over last fall's performance when they won the right to represent us in Cincinnati.

So look out all you other competitors because Michigan is sending its best. Our "best" need only one thing from other Pioneer Barbershoppers: your support. That means your presence at fund-raising parties, your encouragement in the form of a good word and applause and MOST of all your presence at Cincinnati.

Let's PACK that auditorium in Cincinnati with Michigan boosters to let everyone know we are behind our representatives 100%. Cincinnati isn't that far away and our men deserve your support. Nothing can match the roar of friendly approval a contestant hears as their name is announced and they start that long walk to the microphone.

While you are in Cincinnati you might like to take along a little bit of Michigan in the form of a real ringing tag by the SHARPLIFTERS. "Ghost Riders In The Sky" is typical of that quartet that arranged it; interesting, surprising, ringing, and enjoyable.

See you in Cincinnati where we will ALL let them know that MICHIGAN SINGS.



NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY

LOUIS R. HARRINGTON

Application of the District for the change officially of the name of the District from "Michigan" to "Pioneer" will be on the agenda for consideration by the International Board of Directors at their meeting next month. Should approval be granted, it would be put into effect with the start of the next year.

* * * * *

William Warner, past president of the Detroit Chapter was named by the District Board to take over the office of District Treasurer to succeed R. J. "Mike" Schied who passed away recently. Schied was the first man to pass away while in office in our District's history.

* * * * *

Congratulations to the EVERSHARPS of Saginaw-Bay Chapter and the SHARPLIFTERS of Detroit and Wayne who qualified to represent our District in International competition this summer. The caliber of contestants was very high and competition was keen. Over 1650 attended the evening session.

Oakland County chapter's Wolverine Chorus, under the able direction of Carl Dahlke, won the District chorus championship. They have previously qualified to represent the District in International competition. A record number of 14 choruses competed in Muskegon including the nattily attired group from our new Traverse City Chapter.

* * * * *

Co-chairmen Tom Damm and Don Courtright and the Muskegon chapter deserve special commendation for the splendid job they did in hosting the recent convention. Despite the fact that there was a strike at the hotel, they managed to arrange facilities at the Elks Club for meeting sessions and the Afterglow, and a grand time was had by all.

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Emerson Sperling of the Grand Rapids Chapter was presented with an award as Area Counselor of the Year at the Afterglow.

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ON THE COVER

BARBERSHOPPERS IN HARMONY WITH GOVERNOR

Governor George Romney recently gave his congratulations and endorsement to organizers of the June 8 charity show held at Battle Creek's W. K. Kellogg Auditorium. The meeting with the Governor was arranged by Battle Creek Republican Representatives Gus J. Groat and James H. Heinze. Shown with the Governor in his Capitol office are (l. to r.) Gene Gillem of Saginaw, Michigan District President; Rep. Groat; Lowell Wolfe of Battle Creek, Michigan District Service Project Chairman; Robert Dixon of Bellevue, President of the Battle Creek Chapter; and Rep. Heinze. Proceeds of the June 8 show are earmarked for helping correct children's speech impediments. Theme for the show was "We Sing That They Shall Speak."

See more about this show inside this issue.

ZONE ONE ASSOCIATION OF CHAPTERS MICHIGAN DISTRICT S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.

Post Office Box 1021
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106

April 25, 1968--Board Meeting Minutes:

Present: Ann Arbor, Detroit, Milford, Oakland County, Redford, and Windsor.

Absent: Dearborn, Detroit Yachtsmen, Grosse Pointe, Monroe, Pontiac, and Wayne.

Larry King (Detroit) moved to change paragraph five of the by-laws to read: Zone officers will be elected at the last quarter business meeting, to take office the following January. Second by Bilton (Windsor).

Larry King moved to change paragraph 10 of the by-laws to read: Hold the annual meeting with the regular last quarter business meeting. Second by Bilton.

Both motions carried. They will be published and voted on the next regular meeting.

E. E. Ryan, District Vice-President, will inform Zone One Chapter Presidents regarding service projects, and ask for their recommendations.

Larry King moved that we present a convention bid for 1973, at next year's convention in Saint Louis, Missouri. Second by Bilton. Carried.

Eric Schultz was suggested as committee chairman for 1973 convention bid, with E. E. Ryan as committee member.

Next regular meeting will be Thursday, September 5, 1968, at 8:00 p.m. at Superior Detroit Company, 14830 Fenkell Avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

Bilton moved for adjournment. Carried.

John Hancock, Secretary.

KEEP AMERICA SINGING

ROBERT MILLER
576 DE SOTO 141
YPSILANTI MI 48197

HERE'S A BARBERSHOPPER

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, Michigan 48226.)

July 19, 1968	Detroit Moonlight
September 28, 1968	Gratiot County Parade
October 5, 1968	Fruit Belt Chapter
October 5, 1968	Lansing Chapter
October 12, 1968	Saginaw Parade
October 12, 1968	Tecumseh Chapter Parade
October 18-20, 1968	DISTRICT CONVENTION AND CONTEST, MONROE
October 26, 1968	Oakland County Parade
November 2, 1968	Detroit Parade
November 30, 1968	Holly-Fenton Parade

MEN OF NOTE

for May, 1968

Walter Doush	Merle Clayton
Bob Gerdes	Robert Dixon
Lew Mahacek	James Hoglen
Ralph Popma	George Hurt
Reese Olger	Ron Mell
Merle Grazelle	Glenn Parrish
W. C. Scott	Lowell Wolfe
Ron Thompson	