

PEBS 69

FEBRUARY, 1969

Michigan

troubadour



"NOW LET'S TRY IT AGAIN
WITH A LITTLE
LESS BARI!"



TOM MORRIS
D.C.C.

PIONEER



DISTRICT

FEBRUARY, 1969

THE MICHIGAN TROUBADOUR

VOL. 49-NO. 2

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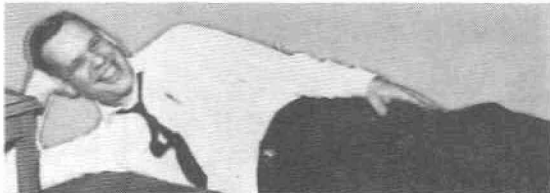
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Off The Davenport

Four more issues to go, then no more Troubadour-- unless we come up with a volunteer--and soon.

What do we expect of this volunteer? Let's look at the job for a minute and see just what is involved in being editor of the Troubadour.

Throughout the month, and especially toward the end of the month, you will receive mail and miscellaneous phone calls. Chapter reports will come in, maybe some ads, and, of course, copy from your "feature writers" Dora Vogel, District President, District Secretary, and from time to time a District V.P. or our International Representative.

On about the last day of the month, you will sit down for about 2 hours and "edit" all copy received to date. This simply means you will read all said copy with a view toward publishing it and make any necessary corrections such as punctuation, misspelled words, any phrasing that is unsatisfactory and the deletion of any copy you feel is in bad taste. In reality, we have found that an absolute minimum of editing is preferred in order to maintain the "personality" of the copy as submitted by each contributor.

As soon as this preliminary editing is complete, you can relax while this copy is being typed. This typing job (in my case, the good wife does it) will take from 6 to 8 hours to complete, depending upon the skills of your typist and the size of the issue.

The copy is typed on long strips of paper about 5 inches wide with an IBM electric typewriter using "carbon ribbon". (The typewriter is the property of the

Pioneer District and goes with the job.) The carbon ribbon gives a finished product that is clear and very sharply defined. It does have a disadvantage in that an error can be corrected only by retyping and pasting the correction over the error. This makes accurate typing essential if we are not to spend excessive amounts of time on this correction process.

On the 2nd of the month when all copy has been received, edited, and typed, you are ready to start the "layout". The printer will furnish you with 11 x 17 inch layout sheets upon which you now lay out all the typed copy you intend to put into this issue. Good luck.

Hopefully, you will have sufficient copy to complete (along with pictures, advertisements, and column heads) a multiple of 4 pages less a few inches that can be used for "fill" (Scoot your copy to Troub.--etc.) and some editorializing. What if your copy fills up 9 pages or 13 pages? You obviously can't come up with 3 more pages of fill, so you must "cut". Every editor hates this process. We have (in my case) established a "priority" that we always follow.

First comes our chapter reports. This is never cut-- after all, this publication belongs to our membership. Second comes any District Officer reports and letters to the editor that are "current" in content, followed by advertising, Feminine Observer, etc. until the editorial. With rare exception, anything of this nature can wait a month. (Besides, who reads editorials, anyway?)

Maybe you will be faced with the opposite situation-- that of having need for 1 or so pages of additional copy. (You can probably guess, by the size of this column, that we had a "fill" problem on this issue. We had 10 1/2 pages of copy--too much to chop to 8, so we work toward 12)

Some success can be attained by "stretching" the copy you have by cutting and spacing out between paragraphs, leaving more white space between chapter reports, and by the use of stars, etc.

Once you have solved this problem of spacing you are ready to paste your copy to the layout sheets in final form.

A final proofreading and you are ready to take the job to the printer. He will photograph, "cut-in" pictures, column heads, etc.; print, fold, staple, and mail out the copies.

You will have no financial investment whatsoever in this project. Your big problem will simply be time spent on the job.

You will receive no pay for your work, but you will receive a great amount of personal satisfaction, and the friendship and thanks of some of the greatest guys in the world, the PIONEER DISTRICT BARBERSHOPPERS.

THAT SHAVING MUG

by Joe Wolff

(Introduction by Duane Mosier)

Simulating the rivalry of Michigan and Minnesota in their annual football classic over possession of the little brown jug, Grosse Pointe and Detroit No. 1 Chapter have for ten years contested vocally for possession of a much sought after trophy--a wooden shaving mug. Of course, it's not the intrinsic value of the mug that is sought after, but the honor that goes in winning it. Over the years these friendly enemy Barbershoppers have had to pass the mug back and forth but it has made a mug of fun for the contesting quartets and a pleasant and harmonious feeling between the chapters. It is a contest that could well be followed between any two chapters. The results would be rewarding for both. Try it and see.

Trophies come about in diverse and sundry ways. They are usually awarded to persons who have achieved some outstanding honor or to one who has done some service to the public which is over and above the call of duty.

In this instance, the trophy originated in the mind and heart of a great Barbershopper, the late Howard Tubbs and a few of his friends in recognition of the many valuable contributions made by Joe Wolff to the Society. It came as a complete surprise to Joe. If it made his face red, then the color has not changed as he notes in the concluding sentence of his story which follows. It is a well-deserved honor which he earned over the many years of loyal devotion to the cause of barbershopping. Here he describes the meeting:

So you want to know what happened at the Grosse Pointe Chapter meeting held Friday, December 20th? Well, there could be as many answers to this query as there were Barbershoppers in attendance; their versions varying with the extent of individual involvement and personal viewpoints.

While this brief report is confined to generalities, it should be noted here that the usual common denominator prevailed, namely: The getting together (like birds of a feather) and giving vent to a hankering for listening to Barbershop harmony, and satisfying a penchant to share in the art of producing it.

That alone, proved itself as a testimonial to Barbershopping--the hallmark of colorful vocal harmony improvisation. Everybody at the soiree seemed

pleased and happy to identify himself with it. Some tried harder by disregarding tolerable sound levels, while others preferred to concentrate on projecting their tones into chords where they would best serve their purpose. However, on the whole, the affair was, as they say, "a ball".

It was an annual joint meeting of the Detroit and Grosse Pointe Chapters, alternating as hosts each year since 1959. There are, of course, many reasons for this arrangement, but the one that eclipses them all is the one which helps to promote Barbershopping with it concomitant fringe benefits.

A spirited quartet contest featured the occasion. Members of each unit were picked at random and each quartet was allowed to render two numbers in the presence of an imposing panel of judges. Armed with pencils and score sheets, the judges seemed to enjoy doing some parrying on their own. As exponents of Barbershop harmony, the quartets performed quite well in demonstrating what, in many instances, should be avoided. At the conclusion of the contest, four beautiful mugs were presented to a Detroit "pick-up" quartet for contributing their praiseworthy share to everybody's listening pleasure.

According to Mark Roberts, an added incentive was mutually agreed upon to boost the attendance at the annual joint meetings. Contest rules were promulgated to provide the chapters with an opportunity to vie with each other every year, for the honor of winning a much-coveted trophy. The rules provided for awarding it to the chapter accumulating the most credit points. The scores were without the aid of computers, but the result was not contested. The Grosse Pointe Chapter emerged as the victor to win the 1968 contest trophy.

Mark Roberts said the trophy was handmade by the late Howard Tubbs, the golden voiced bass (God bless his memory) for the purpose it now serves. When viewed from a distance, where it was displayed on the rostrum, it appeared to be what it was, namely, a giant-size shaving mug cut out of plywood with some miniature plaques attached. But a close examination of the top inscription revealed the following: "Joseph P. Wolff Trophy". At this point it should be made known that my face is still red.

Chapter News

LANSING

Chapter Reporter:
Gene Johnson

A banner year is in the planning for the Lansing Chapter; as our president's slogan indicates: "Rise and Shine in 69". Don Horton, our new Program Vice-President, is working hard on plans for well-organized chapter meetings throughout the year. So drop over and see us in Lansing--meetings are first and third Mondays at Celentino's, 1016 W. Saginaw St.

Here's wishing all "Pioneer District" Barbershoppers their singiest year yet in "69". See you all in Saginaw April 25-27.

FRUIT BELT

Chapter Reporter:
Tom Ferega

Well, it's been a while since you've heard from the Fruit Belt Chapter. But that's because there is no grass growing on our street. I think we left off somewhere back in June, 1968. Well, July last year saw us riding in the Blueberry Festival Parade in South Haven on a fire truck. Ron Leatz, our man of note, owns one. . . so we got together before the parade and decorated it. Took second place in the men's division and walked off with a trophy. Why, of course, we sang. . . all along the parade route. Can you imagine filing about 25 Barbershoppers on a fire truck . . . we did.

Our 20th Annual Parade of Harmony was held in October with much success. We're looking forward to number 21 late in September, 1969.

Got some new members since we last talked to all you Barbershoppers. A Lakeshore High School Senior joined the Fruit Belt Chapter last year about 3 weeks before our Parade of Harmony. Carl Kent is his name, and guess what he went and did. Sold over \$200 in program ads and tickets for the show. Beat us all. Carl also makes a fine addition to our chorus. Jerry Craner is another new true Barbershopper who joined us last year, and last but not least, joining us last week (by the time you read this we'll call it January) Archie Livengood. So, we picked up a baritone, a lead, and a tenor. Archie joined us at our installation night with our wives getting a night out at the Statler Hilton. Remaining on for a second year to lead the Fruit Belt Chapter is Pat Carnahan, President; Denny Ford, Secretary; Bob Duncan, Treasurer; Charlie Kesterke, Vice-President. . . and taking over for Dick Berry's Vice-Presidential post is Ron Leatz. The QUAD-RI-CHORDS quartet is still belting out good Barbershop harmony around town. There's Art Rutz, lead; Herb Marschke, tenor; Gus Reeves, baritone; and Bernie Sackett, bass.

During the holidays of last December, we made our annual trek to the hospitals around town. At Mercy Hospital in Benton Harbor we were limited to singing just in the lobby. Remember that Flu Bug that was going around? But, with a few open stairway doors and an open elevator door, we're quite sure everyone heard us sing.

We're looking forward to singing in quite a few southwestern Michigan Blossomtime Festival Activities this spring. We still meet every Wednesday evening at our Chord-i-torium building, and you're most welcome to drop in anytime.

Remember. . . keep in tune. It's better on the ears.

OAKLAND COUNTY

Chapter Reporter:
Dick Van Dyke

March 7, 1969. . . K. of C. Hall. . . 2229 West 12 Mile Road. . . GREENHORN QUARTET CONTEST. . . There, I've clarified it. Now there's absolutely no reason why your unregistered quartet doesn't compete. It costs you \$4.00 per quartet to enter, and you can sing in as many quartets as you like. The winning quartet will receive half of the total entry fee (\$20.00 guaranteed by O.C.C.) and the other half goes to the Institute of Logopedics. If your quartet wins, O.C.C. will register the name you pick and enter you in the spring contest in Bay City. If you win, you

must accept first place awards in total or not at all. Already we have received indications from quartets as far away as Grand Rapids, as well as Dearborn, Pontiac, Wayne, and several from O.C.C.

Our judges for the contest will be the CURBSTONE SERENADERS, 1962 Michigan District Champions (they sound as good as ever); and as an added inducement, we'll have the CHORDIALS from the Wayne Chapter just in case the program sags. Our emcees for the evening will be last year's contest winners--the CHORD REPORTERS from O.C.C. Our chapter meetings start at 8:00, and for the first hour we get one of our chorus directors to teach a song to the gathering, and our formal meeting starts at 9:00. The quartets that intend to compete should have their name and money turned in to me by 10:00 the night of the contest so we can draw positions.

FLINT

Chapter Reporter:
Les Lang

The winter looks like lots of activity so we should keep busy with: Saginaw Installation and Ladies Night on the 10th; Flint, same deal, on the 11th; and Holly-Fenton, same deal, on the 18th. Quad-Chapter meetings at Holly-Fenton on February 18th, Regular meetings and preparations for our show on April 19th round out the picture.

NEIL NORMAN, President of the Flint Chapter in 1969:

Neil has been a member of the Flint Chapter for 10 years. He is a very active one and has held nearly every office in the chapter. He was President in 1962 and 1963, Program Vice-President in 1967, Membership Vice-President in 1968 and he can whip up an interesting program at a moments notice. Sings a good lead and tenor and sings with anyone at the toot of a pitch pipe. He was Barbershopper of the Year in 1967, and has been on the Chapter Board most of his ten years. Also, he has been one of the spark plugs of the chapter and has assisted in setting up some very attractive stage scenes for our annual shows. The chapter sure could use a lot of Neil Normans.



BOYNE CITY

Chapter Reporter:
August Stolt

Greetings from the Ski Country. The Boyne City Chapter is preparing for the fast-approaching Bush League Contest on May 3rd. All you quartets that are long on enthusiasm but a little short on contest experience, enter the contest and help us celebrate our 25th Bush League.

Our show this year will feature THE LAST STRAWS from Mill Creek, Indiana. Also, back by popular demand, we have the Strand Trio for the variety portion of the show.

Look for our show ad in this issue.

The Boyne City Chapter would like to pay tribute to a long-time friend and a charter member of the chapter, Al Sarasin, who passed away recently. Al was a truly fine Barbershopper and will be greatly missed. I'm sure you Barbershoppers who knew Al will share this feeling of loss.

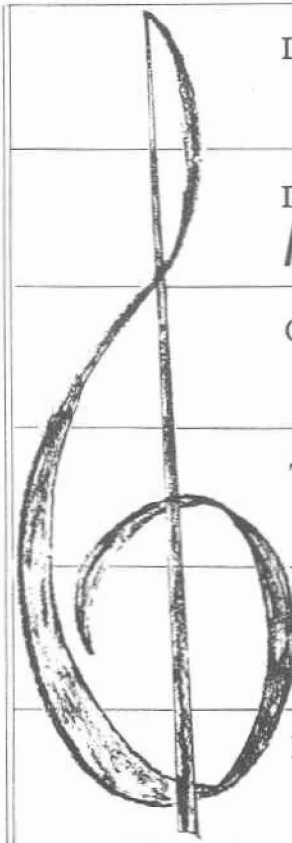
DEARBORN CHAPTER SPEBSQSA, INC.

PRESENTS

24TH ANNUAL HARMONY PARADE



BOB CRAIG, M. C.



INTERNATIONAL CHAMPS
AUTO-TOWNERS

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITORS
MEN ABOUT TOWN

COMEDY SPECIALISTS
FOR-TUNE TELLERS

TOP MICHIGAN TALENT
CHORDIALS

SWEETHEARTS
LEF-DOVERS

PAST DIST. CHORUS CHAMPS
CHORD-O-MATICS

Saturday, February 15 8:15 p.m.

EDSEL FORD HIGH
Rotunda Dr. & Pelham in Dearborn
\$3.00 Donation

CALL BOB STONE @ 928-3367 or WALLY DOROSH @ 721-5635 for TICKETS

THREE RIVERS

Chapter Reporter:
George Dieffenderfer

The reason Three Rivers hasn't been sending in any news is because we haven't been making any.

We lost two chorus directors last spring. Our two organized quartets became inactive and our attendance has been way down, which is unusual for us.

But now it looks like things are turning for the better. We have found a man who is interested in directing our chorus. Both quartets are beginning to stir and through it all we kept our membership up to the 30 mark.

Our new officers for the year are: Dan Luther, President; John Foerster, Exec. Vice-President; George Dieffenderfer, Program Vice-President; George Mooney, Secretary-Treasurer.

We sure hope by now you have found an editor for the "Troub". It's a fine magazine and we would really miss it.

TRAVERSE CITY

Chapter Reporter:
Max Carter

Greetings from the North Country. We are very much here and will be at Saginaw-Bay City for competition. Our chorus is working on some real fine numbers, so you may count us in when the curtain opens this spring.

The new officers and board members for Traverse City were properly indoctrinated into office last Tuesday evening at a formal installation. Our director, Al Hubschneider, did the fine job of installing them. They are: Pete Nelson, President; Mike Ouwerkerk, Exec. Vice-President; Mel Gee, Program Vice-President; Bob Werkema, Secretary; and Norm Reece (the only repeater) as Treasurer. The Board Members at large are Bill Jerome, Ward Kaler and Max Carter.

I am indeed proud of the fact that I have my third "Man of Note" award and have number four coming up soon. Dr. Don Fraser of our chapter has his fifth. We are all proud of Cadillac becoming a chartered chapter and if things move as they are appearing to, we will be appearing on their stage as a sort of sponsor, so to speak, for their Charter Night Show which will be March 1, 1969 at the Cadillac National Guard Armory at 8 p.m. The District Champions, THE EVERSHARPS will be the feature quartet and will be joined by three quartets out of Traverse City. Here they are--(Hey, look us over you Southern Michigan Chord Busters): the BAYTONES, the TIMBRE BARONS and the UNCALLED FOUR. Along with these quartets will of course be our Traverse City Chorus with some new rafter ringers, that should make for a fairly good Saturday night of Barbershopping.

Our chapter, in particular, wishes to take this occasion to let you know just how much we in the North Country appreciate the help we have had from our District President, Handsome "Gene"; the EVERSHARPS; the BEAN TOWN FOUR and all of the friendly people that have been so kind to us here in Traverse City since we have become a newer and more active chorus and chapter. I am doubly proud to inform you that one of our quartets is a registered quartet and yours truly is the instigator of this group, namely the BAYTONES. We are, I think, one of the few (and possibly only) Pioneer quartets that is made

up of men who are all past presidents: Max Carter, lead; Mel Gee, bari; Joe Williams, bass; and Al Galloway, tenor.

We are presently making plans for our annual "June Night of Harmony" and I believe the date this year will be Saturday, June 21. The Junior High School Auditorium is the place, and an afterglow will follow.

Our finest to everyone in the Pioneer District.

MUSKEGON

Chapter Reporter:
Jay Smith

Who will be the 1969 SPEB-SQUAW? That is the question plaguing Muskegon Chapter and their wives. The only ones who know are the KASUAL-D's who have the privilege of selecting this year's queen.

This past month, we held a membership drive in conjunction with our monthly meeting. We had a fine meeting and plenty of perch and the trimmings to fill the inner man.

The Mona Shore High School Boys Glee Club, under the direction of Larry Gray and accompanied by Miss Roberta (Bobby) Vanderven, were our guests. Miss Vanderven played a solo on the piano for us. The Glee Club selected some members and made up a woodshed octet with some of our members. Instead of giving the kids soft drinks to enjoy during the meeting, we made a donation to the school's A Capella Choir also directed by Mr. Gray to help defray traveling expenses this summer when they travel to Great Britain to compete in an international contest.

We are busy practicing our musical and also getting prepared for our annual parade of quartets to be held in April.

We have changed chorus directors, as of this month, due to Webb Scrivnor's school chorus and activities which keep him busy. We want to thank Tom Damm for taking over our chorus with his already many Barbershopping activities.

I was wondering how many of you had the chance to see the fine article written by Terry Sharpe in the United Airlines magazine, United Mainlines, issued in October? Mr. Sharpe, in his article, mentioned the Barber-Q Four and also our Past International Champs, Buffalo Bills, along with 4th place medalists, the Sundowners. He also mentioned our service project. If you get a chance to see this issue, you will sure enjoy the article.

Our good friend Bart Tillet paid us a farewell visit. It is with deep regret that the Pioneer District is losing a great Barbershopper and we all wish Bart and his family the best in their new home and work in Duluth, Minnesota.

We have been fortunate in having Jim Davenport and his lovely wife Dorothy as our editors the past two years and we are sorry that Jim will be leaving this post in June. We all look forward to receiving the Troubadour, and we owe Jim and Dorothy a big "thank you" for their help in putting out a fine magazine. I have enjoyed working with them the past two years.

Just a friendly reminder--there are only 418 days left until the 1970 Spring Convention in Muskegon. You don't have to wait 'till then to come and pay us a visit. We meet every Tuesday night. SPEB-SQUAW night is Friday, February 21st at our new meeting place, Mona-Lake Boating Club. This is a good time

to come and pay us a visit with your wife.

When I wrote the January issue copy, I mentioned about wives and etc.; Lois says what this wife and etc. bit? I explained that etc. meant girl friends or who ever you want to bring if not married.

Nuff for this time 'till March, we say B-Sharp.

JACKSON

Chapter Reporter:
Joe Hubbard

On January 10, Monroe, Tecumseh and Jackson hit the road and met in Hudson for a quad-chapter meet. We not only busted a chord or two, but we heard the TWI-LIGHTERS from Monroe, the STATIONAIRES from Hudson, and the FOR-TUNE TELLERS from Jackson. At every break you would find four fellows woodshedding a number. This reporter left at 11:30 p.m. and they were far from done. They are planning another one in March.

The Jackson Chapter is working on their show which will be coming up on March 30, 1969 at Park Side High School at 1:30 p.m. with an after-glow to follow. Heading up the show will be such quartets as the NOTE ABLE FOUR, FOR-TUNE TELLERS, and maybe one or two more. From Detroit we have the SHARP-LIFTERS, from Illinois we have the MIDNIGHT OILERS, and, of course, you will hear the great Jacksonaires who have been working hard. You may get your show tickets by sending \$2.50 (check or money order) to George Tripp, 4717 Oak Trail, Jackson, Mich. 49202.

The chapter had a slow month in January, but as February and March get closer the tempo picks up with appearances in Albion, Hartland, Manchester and Jackson High School. We also will be having a visitation here and there to fill out the month.

Friday night, January 24, the chapter travelled to Albion and met at the Leisure Hour Club with some old members of Chapter 39 which was active in Albion back in '56 or so. One of the quartets of that chapter, the Maple City Four, was there but was short a lead. Well, you can't keep Sam Cushman down so he sang lead for them after warming up on a number or two. (Well, they didn't really warm up) They woodshedded on The Model-T song????? Really, I don't know if a tune-up would have helped or not. I'll say this, you'll never hear it sung like that again. But a good time was had by all. So keep on singing, even if you are not in tune.

WAYNE

Chapter Reporter:
Morrie Giles

Hear ye. Hear ye. Hear ye.

The greatest show of the century is now ready for production. Wayne Chapter is proud to present "Westward Ho", on March 1, at Henry Ford High School in Detroit. Starring in the production will be THE GOLDEN STAIERS, THE SHARPLIFTERS, THE CHORDIALS, THE 4-FITS and the Wayne Wonderland Chorus under the direction of Gordon Limburg. Those of you who do not have tickets by now probably won't find many available, but try anyhow by contacting any Wayne member or call ticket chairman, Tom Pollard at GA 7-5527.

Besides working hard on show and contest numbers, the Wonderland Chorus has found time to also make a

few public appearances. Aside from winning a contest, this writer can think of nothing more thrilling for a chorus or quartet than to receive a standing ovation from an audience. We have experienced this a few times whether we deserved it or not. Gives you a real glow.

How about some of you nearby chapters dropping in on one of our meetings some first or third Friday. We meet at K of C Hall at the extreme west end of Annapolis Road in Wayne. We can promise you a very informal good time. Since all Wayne members are a little nuts, you can expect the unexpected.

How many choruses are we going to have at the Spring Contest? What do you mean you're not good enough? It might shock you no end to find out just how good you can really be with only a little more practice.

And what about you chapters who have no chorus at all? Why not? It's not too late to start one. You couldn't possibly place lower than last place, and that would give you something to strive to surpass next fall--or even next spring. After all, it took us eight years before we won our first contest.

You say you don't have anyone to direct you. Who waves his hands at your chapter meetings? Let him gain the experience right along with you.

Come on, Barbershoppers, let's go. A District the size of ours should be ashamed to have only 7 or 8 choruses entered in contest. And the same goes for quartets, too.

Well, enough of that jazz. How about Harrisville?

O.C.C. PRESENTS...

THE
PRE-BOYNE CONTEST
1ST PRIZE 

KASUAL D's WILL M.C.

FRI. APRIL 4TH.

MY QUARTET, THE _____
WILL COMPETE IN THE CONTEST.
ADVANCE REGISTRATION FEE OF \$4.00
IS ENCLOSED.

DICK VANDYKE
913 BERNIE LANE
MADISON HEIGHTS, MICH.
48071

23rd ANNUAL BUSHLEAGUE CONTEST

SPONSORED BY BOYNE CITY CHAPTER
S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.



Featuring

THE LAST STRAWS

1968 Cardinal District Champs
 Tenor Jerry Kissinger
 Lead Bill Andreae
 Baritone Harley Martin
 Bass Dick Ede



Also Featuring

THE STRAND BROTHERS HARMONICA TRIO

THE FABULOUS NEW
"ELECTRONIC" SOUND
ON HARMONICAS
Back in Boyne by Popular Request



SHOW WILL BE OPENED BY THE SNOW BELT CHORUS

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

23rd Annual Bush League Contest
May 3, 1969

Boyne City, Michigan

(Please Type or Print)

Quartet

Name

NAME.....ADDRESS.....CONTACT MAN
 TENOR.....
 LEAD.....
 BARITONE.....
 BASS.....

NO ENTRY FEE REQUIRED—New quartets and those not registered with International Welcome.
 Entry deadline April 28, 1969. Make room reservations with one of the following: Dilworth
 Hotel, Boyne City Motel, Fieldcrest Motel. Return entry forms to Wm. Roy Kindy, 108 Cherry
 Street, Boyne City, Michigan, 49712.

LES CHENEAUX

Chapter Reporter:
Tom Spencer

This Hong Kong flu has got to go. Anything that can keep Director Bob Tracy from his weekly duties at the Les Cheneaux Chapter is too tough to have around. Tracy is back now, but we're afraid a lesser Barbershopper wouldn't have a chance against the "bug".

Elections have been held at Les Cheneaux and new President, Lawrence Lofdahl is already hard at it. Larry has scheduled his first Board of Directors meeting where the goals for his year in office will be nailed down. One of the primary activities for 1969 will be the Les Cheneaux Chorus' first try at a District Contest this Spring.

For a change of scenery, the Chapter is traveling to Rudyard, Michigan, for its meeting on January 27. The Sault Ste. Marie Chapter plans to join us for a night of singing. Immediate Past President, Willard MacInnis, has offered to host the joint meeting at his building in Rudyard. "Mac" has promised to shovel a path and stock up on coal for the occasion.

So, despite the "bug" and the blizzards, the Les Cheneaux Chapter is off and singing in 1969. You other Barbershoppers, stop in and see us.

SAGINAW-BAY

Chapter Reporter:
Dick Mueller

Sorry we missed the "Troub" the last few months but due to unfortunate health reasons, our retired bulletin editor and chapter reporter, Bill Dolezel, had to spend many weeks in a hospital bed. But now, we are all happy to see Bill well again.

What's been happening around Saginaw-Bay?

PLENTY. Parties, singouts, chapter visitations and what have you. Parties: On New Year's Eve the guys and wives enjoyed a fine evening of singing and dancing at the home of Jim and Rose Mary Gross. A great time was had by all. Then, after the formalities were over, I'm sure you could call our installation a party. Once again it was held at the Carling Brewing Co. tap room in Frankenmuth. We were pleased to have many guests from several chapters throughout the District join in on the festivities. Entertainment was provided by the former BAY TONICS, BEAN TOWN FOUR, the "Auctioneer" Fred Kienitz and his Flint Sweet Ads, THE CHORDIALS, THE EVERSHARPS and, of course, the Timberland Chordsmen. A party did I say? More like a show. Oh yes, our newly formed ladies auxilliary provided the lunch. Thanks gals. Singouts: Our chorus has been doing a fine job singing for the public around Bay City and Saginaw. On December 3 we entertained a group of two hundred women in Bay City. On December 14 we sang for a full house at Saginaw Bancroft Hotel. January 28 found us in Bay City again singing for one hundred girl scouts and their dads. Chapter visitations: On January 13 about twenty of our members made a trip over to Alma for a visit with the guys from Gratiot County Chapter. Then at the time of this writing we have another chapter visitation to make. That is on January 31, but who knows where it is? Bud Carpenter's the only one. Good ole Bud planned another mystery bus trip. Guys, if you have never had one of these, try one. They are one heck of a lot of fun.

THE EVERSHARPS have been busy making appearances around the District and our own local area. One

of their highlights was at Milford where they sang for Milford's Ladies Night along with the CHORDIALS and the CHORD REPORTERS. Then one of their coming events will be February 8 on the Pontiac show.

Speaking of coming events: March 16 twill be a good day for the Irish whether you're Irish or not. Come on over to Bay City where we'll be wearin' of the green hosting our 6th annual St. Paddy's Day Thaw. Tickets are available now from any chapter member or at the door of the Village Hall, 1338 N. Johnson St. for a big chicken dinner and lots of green suds. Doors open at 3:30 p.m. with dinner at 5:30 p.m. The program in the evening along with plenty of Barbershop entertainment will also feature a harmonica group called the Strand Trio.

Plans for the Spring District Convention are moving along rapidly but rather than going into detail in this report, see our advertisement in this copy of the Troubadour.

Sing and Sway with Saginaw-Bay, April 25, 26, and 27.

DETROIT

Chapter Reporter:
John Wearing

We are happy to report that our Stout Hearted Leader, Bill Butler, is back with us after an illness which had him hospitalized all through the holiday season.

Due to the closing of Bonnybrook Country Club on Mondays for the next three months, we have moved to the Danish Hall located at 22711 Grand River between Lahser and Telegraph directly across the street from a Pontiac dealer whose name I could not find in the phone book--this is where I look for correct spelling--(Polish, you know.)

Our annual ladies night was a huge success with many of the gals receiving beautiful door prizes. We were entertained by Bob Wittledge's excellent group THE CHORDIALS; our very good friends from Windsor, the Fascinators -- a Sweet Ad group--; and a fabulous new sounding group, The Matrimonials from the Detroit Chapter: Judy Kniffen (lead), Marcia Wisdom (tenor), Bob Wisdom (bari) and Wayne Kniffen (bass). Thanks a heap. We were unable to hear the SHARPLIFTERS with new bass Lowell Thomas as Joe Coburn was ill with the flu. However, they all came to chorus rehearsal Monday and thrilled us all. Their great sound has not changed much with the change in personnel, but I got the feeling that Lowell will be able to add a little more thunder on those low ones. We wish to welcome Lowell and Elsa, his lovely wife, back into the fold. All four of the SHARPLIFTERS, Bill - Joe - John and Lowell are Detroit members and we are proud to have them with us.

On Saturday, February 1 we are chartering a bus to attend in mass the Monroe Show which features THE RENEGADES. We had a great time during the last contest with the guys from Monroe and we expect to renew old acquaintances. So till next time --- make a friend -- introduce him to Barbershopping.

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
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set-up or art work.



Swing & Sway with Saginaw Bay
at the
1969 SPRING CONVENTION

International Preliminary Contest

Bay City, Michigan

April 25, 26 & 27

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SINGLE	\$9.50	\$ 9.00	\$11.00
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Quartets	\$1.50
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Show	\$2.50
After-Glo	\$2.50
All Events	\$7.00



**NOTES FROM
THE SECRETARY
LOUIS R. HARRINGTON**

Indications are that the Pioneer District will be entitled to three quartets as its quota in the 1969 International Quartet Contest at St. Louis this summer. International Quartet Preliminaries for our region are scheduled for Bay City, April 25-27, 1969. With three quartets to be named as winners at Bay-City, this should attract a much larger entry list than usual. Entry blanks for the International Quartet Preliminaries are sent to all registered quartets directly from International headquarters and must be filed in Kenosha.

In connection with the Spring Convention, hosted by the Saginaw-Bay Chapter, to be held at Bay City, the District Chorus contest will also be held. Since awards in three classes will be made, this contest should also attract a large turnout. Entry blanks for the Chorus Contest are available from the District Secretary's office and are to be returned to me at Detroit.

By action of the Pioneer District Board of Directors, a double panel of judges will be used in both the Spring and Fall Quartet and Chorus contests in 1969. This action was taken upon the recommendation of the District Contest and Judging Committee. This is an experiment for this year. The Board of Directors will then study the effect and advantages, if any, at the end of the year.

Billings for the District per capita tax based upon each chapter's membership as of Dec. 31, 1968, have gone out. Your cooperation in this matter will be appreciated.



**FEMININE
OBSERVER**



Mr. and Mrs. Al Eason recently returned from a trip to Coral Gables, Florida. Al did some chapter visiting while there and really enjoyed it all.

Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Adams (Carroll a past International President), now residing in Montpelier, Vermont, had several Michigan visitors recently. Among them were Mr. and Mrs. Hal Bauer, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Fecteau, and Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Bird.

We all wish George Hoak a speedy recovery. George was hospitalized recently. He is a member of the Dearborn Chapter.

Sorry to hear Mr. and Mrs. Terry Grimme and family are leaving Detroit. Terry is taking a position in Pittsburgh, Pa. We wish them well in their new location and it probably won't be long before he locates a barbershop chapter in that area and becomes active.

The Past District Champion Quartet, the SHARP-LIFTERS, are working with a new bass, Lowell Thomas, and is now an ALL Detroit Chapter quartet. They have a real good sound. Mike Mudgett was formerly with the quartet and moved to St. Louis, Missouri recently.

Detroit Chapter recently held their Ladies Night Dance at Rosedale Park Community Center. Bill Amperse did a fine job as master of ceremonies for the evening. Nell Warner, wife of Bill, District Vice-Pres., was chosen the "Lady" for the evening and was presented with a beautiful orchid corsage. Needless to say, she was delighted. Other chapter members' wives were also presented with corsages for their husbands' outstanding work in the chapter; among those were Jackie Amperse, Judy Kniffen, Gladys Calderwood and Elsie Upton for all the work she has done for the chapter-- handling show tickets and getting extra messages in the mail to chapter members, etc.

A surprise quartet (husbands and wives) sang. Personnel were Wayne and Judy Kniffen, Bob and Marsha Wisdom. They had a fine sound. Bill Warner installed the new chapter officers. Larry King (President), Bill Amperse, Bob Winters, Jack Champine, Bob Knowles, and Dick Barron.

Motor City Chorus sang several numbers under the direction of Bob Winters and Malcom Campbell, while Motor City Chorus Director Bill Butler gave a listen. Bill had been ill recently and is back directing now.

Feminine quartet that sang was the Fascinators from Windsor, Canada. They looked lovely in their blue metallic and black lace dresses. Also entertaining were the CHORDIALS. All the ladies were beautifully attired for the occasion.

Many prizes were given to the ladies who were lucky number holders throughout the evening and each lady was escorted by none other than that jovial Bill Wickstrom to claim their prize. Bill's lovely wife, Maureen, also attended this event. A full evening of dancing was enjoyed with fine music rendered by the orchestra. The evening was topped off with a fine buffet lunch.

PLEASE SEND NEWS ARTICLES.

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

Ladies Take Note: If you've never attended a convention of the Pioneer District before, or if you have but didn't get the most out of it, try this: Get your "musical lover to take you to the Spring Convention in Bay City.

A Hospitality Room especially for the ladies is tentatively planned. We'll be there in full force, and we'll do all we can to assure a very fine weekend for you.-- The Ladies Auxilliary of Saginaw-Bay Chapter.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS



REPORT OF THE MID-WINTER INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEETING as reported by Eric Schultz, Pioneer District Board Member.

Bob Wallangk, the Society's new director of finance and administration gave his notice of resignation effective February 15. Reasons stated were: A better offer, a better chance of advancement and will answer to fewer people in his duties. Barrie Best is advertising for a new man.

Effective April 1, 1969, chapters will be billed monthly for members reported instead of the present system of billing each quarter. The \$5.00 dues increase which was tabled in Cincinnati was again proposed to all chapter presidents, district presidents and board members via letters from our International President, Wes Meier, during the closing months of 1968. However, at the board meeting a \$3.75 increase was proposed which would add two more music men in the field under the direction of Bob Johnson who would concentrate on a program to train chorus directors and coaches for quartets; a school for arrangements to be held in each district each year and quartet coaching will be held for two weeks in various chapters throughout each district each year. After much discussion, a vote was taken. The motion to increase dues carried. (15 yes and 8 no.) The cost for salaries, fringe benefits, travel, car depreciation, postage, additional secretarial services and additional equipment rental required for the two men would amount to approximately \$52,000 annually. The remaining \$45,000 this increase would cause would go to administrative salary adjustments and added miscellaneous costs due to inflation. The \$2.00 late renewal fee was part of the dues increase package and will be discontinued, effective date April 1, 1969.

Dissolvement of the Harmony Foundation was discussed both pro and con. A vote was finally taken. It will remain status quo. (12 for status quo and 11 against.)

Anyone wishing to transfer their membership from any chapter to the Frank Thorne Chapter must first received District approval before submission to International President.

Last, but not least, unless something changes in our membership status as reported December 31, 1968 by the end of January 31, 1969, when all chapters must have their monies to International to cover the last quarter renewals and new members' dues, we will have three quartets representing the Pioneer District in St. Louis instead of our usual two.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Schultz
Pioneer District International
Board Member

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HERE'S A BARBERSHOPPER

Coming Events

February 15, 1969	Dearborn Parade
March 8, 1969	Kalamazoo Parade
March 21, 1969	Pontiac Woodshed Contest
March 22, 1969	Battle Creek Parade
March 30, 1969	Jackson Parade 1:30 p.m.

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