

MARCH '69

michigan

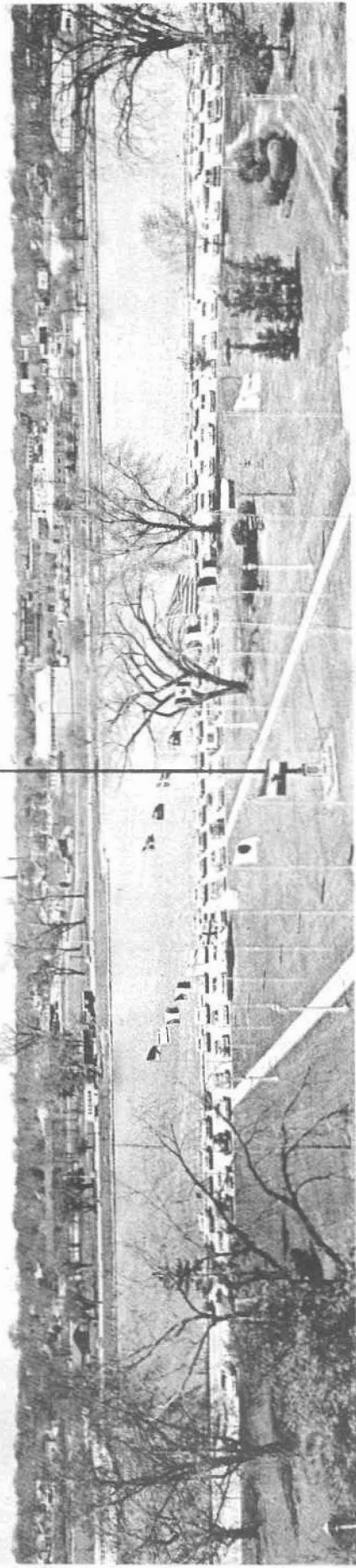
MARCH, 1969

troubadour



BAY COUNTY

MICHIGAN



PIONEER



DISTRICT

MARCH, 1969

THE MICHIGAN TROUBADOUR

VOL. 19—NO. 3

*Published by the Michigan District of the Society for the
Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop
Quartet Singing in America, Inc.*

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DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHER

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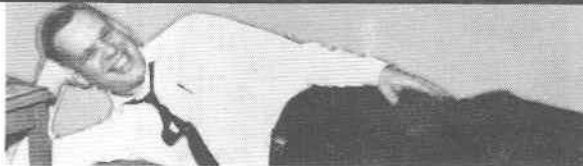
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Off The Davenport

Well, we aren't going to lose the Troubadour. We have had some wonderful offers to take over this job and your new editor will be formally announced at our upcoming District Convention in Bay City.

When, in 1961, we first took on this job as editor of this publication, we were appalled at the resentment of some of our membership toward our International organization's raising of our dues. Here we are in the same situation again. . . However, there should be no resentment this time around. Read how guest editor Doran McTaggart, Windsor Chapter, views our new increase in dues:

Our International Board has recently adopted:

1. A program of additional musical services to the membership to provide two additional Musical Education and Services Department Field Men and necessary support personnel and equipment for the expanded musical program.
2. A program to meet added administrative operating costs dues to inflation.

The two men joining the Musical Education and Services department under the direction of Robert D. Johnson will function in all facets of the Society's music program but will be assigned special areas of responsibility in the fields of arranging and quartet development respectively. Under the new program, each district will receive approximately six weeks of personal service from the Musical Education and Services Department each year (about two weeks a year from each member of the department).

These programmes are to be financed by an Interna-

tional Dues increase of \$3.75 annually, effective the membership year commencing April 1, 1969. Approximately two thirds of the dues increase will provide the expanded musical services with the remaining one third going to cover increased administrative expenses due to the constant inflation over the past seven years.

Any increase in dues is bound to create discussion among the general membership and this is a healthy sign. Let's take a look at what has happened in our own families during the last seven years. Prices for food, clothing, housing, utilities, services, etc. have increased and so (hopefully) has our earning power. Our International board too has had increases in operating costs, salaries to employees, etc.

Although we may not like it, I really do think that an increase in International dues is not out of line. I like to look at the expanded musical programme as being a plus quantity. If the Pioneer District can have the services of Bob Johnson and his two new musical assistants for two weeks each year, then I feel that the Society is trying to help me musically. To take in a work session with Bob Johnson is always an uplifting experience. I think any man who has wanted to better his quartet singing will find help with the new quartet promotion man to be hired. The third man will be an expert in arranging Barbershop music. With leadership and guidance in this area our society's budding arrangers will be helped and each one of us will benefit by an increase in arrangements for us to sing.

For a thrifty Scot to agree with a dues increase is not usually compatible, but since it has taken place already the only consolation I have is to be OPTIMISTIC.



Doran McTaggart

From the
Pen of the President



...GENE GILLEM



We are fast approaching the time for spring convention.

I would like to see every chapter in our District either represented by a chorus, quartet or a delegation (at least). We are finding some chapters do not have one member in attendance. Realizing we all cannot attend every Barbershop function that goes on, this should, nonetheless, be number one on our list.

Our quartet participation is deplorable. As I have previously stated, when we have no attendance at all from some chapters and so few quartets in competition there seems to be general apathy. It is your convention so please try to attend.

As to quartets, we, the District Board, feel we might have part of the problem solved. You individual members and/or quartets that have expounded the value of the double-panel judging will be happy to know we will be using just such a panel in the Spring and Fall Contest for 1969. We know that this is not the complete solution; and, not being able to please everyone, we hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity to register as a quartet and sing for two judges in each category. We also hope to have more than just five minutes at the critique for each quartet or chorus, as I know most quartets and chorus directors do not feel they get adequate time with each judge. Participation is the key to a successful convention.

By the time you have read this report, we will have held an area counselor and district officers training school in Lansing on March the 8th. We know that there is always something to learn and we hope to upgrade the quality of men that are in administrative positions in the district by conducting and attending these schools.

We hope this year to also have a chorus director's school, climaxed by a quartet instructional period that we feel will be conducive to better quartets and also to encourage those who are neophytes.

I know that all Chapter Presidents and Area Counselors are in receipt of the "Harmony Week Kit" with the fabulous Flintstone recording very popular at this time. We should be able to make some points on all local levels if these are utilized to the fullest extent. Please read the cover letter and take advantage of this opportunity that should help sell this great hobby of ours.

HELP HELP HELP

Four years ago or so, we took on the responsibility of helping to underwrite the cost of a child, or in our case Lee and Rich--the set of twins we are sponsoring at Wichita. The funds for this year have all but run out and if, and until, we have another Logopedics Spectacular, there is a chance they will have to be sent home due to lack of funds. I am in essence asking each Chapter to analyze their contributions to this cause and, well-----let your conscience be your guide.

AREA COUNSELOR REPORT

Area 9

Bud Carpenter

The Area 9 Chapters (Flint, Saginaw-Bay and Holly-Fenton) held their quarterly Quad-Chapter Meeting with Pontiac on February 18th. Holly-Fenton hosted the function. We had entertainment galore with the RESONAIRES and the CURBSTONE SERENADERS of Pontiac, the BEAN TOWN FOUR of Saginaw-Bay, and the VAGABONDS, one of the District's newest quartets. We were also treated with an informal quartet from the Lansing Chapter who came to promote their "wing-ding" in April.

A quick board meeting was held during intermission. It was decided that we would have a Memorial Day weekend "Campout" for the District somewhere in the Holly-Fenton and Pontiac area. We hope this will be the kick-off to a big summer of Barbershopping for the Pioneer District. Dick Guerin of Pontiac is now locating a campsite for the affair. Lyle Howard of Pontiac, John Wearing of Detroit and Bud Carpenter of Saginaw-Bay are planning an informal program. Keep watching for further information.

We also discussed organizing a bus trip to Sarnia's International Sing-in on May 23rd. We set our next Quad-Chapter meeting for May 13 in Saginaw.

The Saginaw-Bay Chapter is looking forward to its St. Paddy's Day Thaw held on March 16 in Bay City. They are also hard at work on the Spring Convention.

The Flint Chapter has great plans for their show coming up April 19.

The Holly-Fenton Chapter is preparing for the Spring Ladies Night to be held April 12.

Chapter News

OAKLAND COUNTY

Chapter Reporter:
Dick Van Dyke

Here is the last chance for your quartet to sing in a contest before the Bay City Spring Convention. O.C.C. is holding its annual PRE-BOYNE CONTEST on the 4th of April at the K. of C. Hall, 2299 West 12 Mile Road in Berkley. You still have time to pre-register by using the application blank in our ad which can be found elsewhere in this issue of the Troubadour. It's O.C.C.'s first ladies night of the year, and we're expecting the usual crowd of around 175 or so. Since Utica-Rochester started this contest in 1962, every quartet that has won it has gone on to win the Boyne City Bush League Contest. Our contest will feature Del Doctor of the KASUAL D's as emcee. We'll have qualified or certified judges; and, as an added attraction, we'll have the Utica-Rochester Sweet Adelines Quartet--the TANTALIZERS. Pre-registration is \$4.00 (or \$6.00 at the door) and the first prize is \$50. Your quartet need not be registered to enter. If you win, O.C.C. will register you. All of the rules of the Bush League Contest are applicable to ours. Entries should be in to me by not later than 9:30 of that night so we can have a drawing for positions. See you there.

SAGINAW-BAY

Chapter Reporter:
Dick Mueller

How time flies. Just 57 days left until we "Sing and Sway with Saginaw-Bay". Yes sir, that big Pioneer District Convention is just around the corner. The chairman of the housing committee, Moe Weaver, has asked me to inform all of you fellas who plan on staying Friday night, April 25, or Saturday night, April 26, or both, to please get your reservation to him as soon as possible, if you haven't already done so. Housing facilities are filling up fast due to another organization holding a meeting in Bay City on that weekend. We still have plenty of room available, but please get your reservation in now. See our convention ad elsewhere in this issue.

On February 15, the Saginaw-Bay Chapter put on a package show which was a benefit show for the Boys' Club of Bay City for the use of their facilities. It was held in the beautiful Auditorium of the John Glenn High School. Over 600 tickets were sold for this event. Once again the Timberland Chordsmen, the FORECASTERS (a new, but as yet unregistered, quartet), the BEAN TOWN FOUR (with their new tenor, Fred Kienitz), and the EVERSHARPS performed for a VERY pleased audience.

We were happy to hear that Bud Carpenter was appointed as the new Area Counselor for Area #9. Bud is a real hard worker and a good organizer, so I'm sure the other chapters in this area are equally as pleased.

PONTIAC

Chapter Reporter:
Bill Pascher

Pontiac's meeting on February 21 was given a terrific boost by the surprise appearance of the Maumee Valley, Ohio Chapter, who bussed the distance to add their voices to a great evening.

Pontiac President Lyle Howard and Maumee Valley President Dick Shock even joined in a quartet to prove that leadership is not all work and no play (pic. #1).



Twenty-five members of the "Maumee Valley Chorus" rang the walls with several well-rehearsed numbers (pic. #2). Not to be outdone, Pontiac's "Merry Motor Men" chorus countered with the show tunes from their very successful (sold out again) February 8 "Holiday of Harmony".



One of the oldest quartet names in the entire Society is the MARKSMEN (pic. #3), a Toledo quartet which has been singing all of 25 years. It would be interesting to know how many men have sung with them during that time.

JACKSON

Chapter Reporter:
Joe Hubbard

Well, here it is the end of the month, and we finished January with a big blast. There were about 40 men from the Saginaw-Bay Chapter, 4 from Holly-Fenton, the New Hounds from Battle Creek, Hudson, and I think Lansing was in on the fun.

Saginaw-Bay Chapter was trying to tell us something, I think, by the way they were passing out the little flags telling of the up-coming Spring Convention on April 25, 26, 27. If Jackson can make it, I think everybody can. Now look, if any of you Chapters don't feel that you can make it there, just let us know and we'll sing for you. Of course, you may not win; but what is there to lose?

We finished off February with a ladies night at the Holiday Inn. The first of March will see us in Hartland for a package show. This will be just the start of the things to come, as every Friday night in the month the Jackson Chapter will be very busy.

From: President, Saginaw-Bay Chapter

To: District Barbershoppers

Barbershoppers are a rare breed. Roughly 35,000 men out of some 60 million (18 years and over). This comes to 58 one thousandths of one percent of the adult male population.

1500 (plus or minus) of this rare breed belong to the Pioneer District. Now we are down to 25 ten thousandths of one percent.

In April, just maybe, some 40 or 50 percent of this 1500, or 675 (using 45%) will converge on the Saginaw-Bay area for the Spring Convention. (We keep dropping.) This is .122 one hundred thousandths of one percent.

Rare? "Oh, my yes." So you say, "What is the meaning of all this?"

"Nothin", I say, except. . . if carried a little further you would find that the quartet is 66 ten millionths of this over-all picture. (Boy, the old calculator is really smoking.)

Speaking of quartets, how many of you are competing? If not, why not? Singing is supposed to be good for the soul, competition is to stimulate the blood, and travel is educational. Therefore, by competing you can improve your health, satisfy your soul's image, and get a little education.

Sing & Sway with Saginaw Bay
at the

1969 SPRING CONVENTION

International Preliminary Contest

Bay City, Michigan

April 25, 26 & 27

DOUBLE PANEL JUDGING!!

Headquarters:

Newly Remodeled

Wenonah Park Hotel

NOTICE:

Those wishing accommodations for the 25th and 26th, please send for them as soon as possible. Due to another convention in this area at the same time, reservations received after March 15th will be on a "first come, first served" basis.

Mail Reservations and Advanced Ticket Requests to:

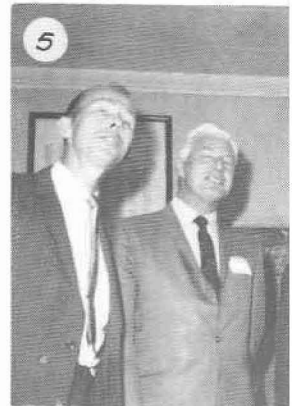
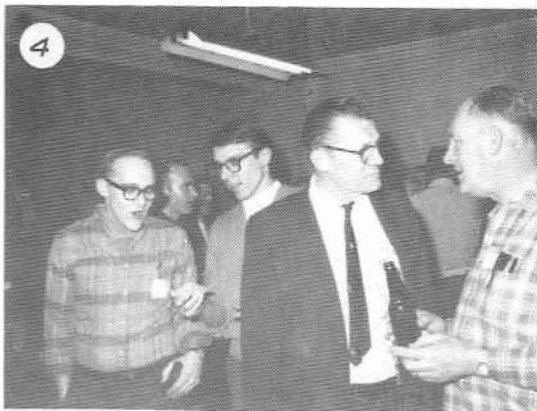
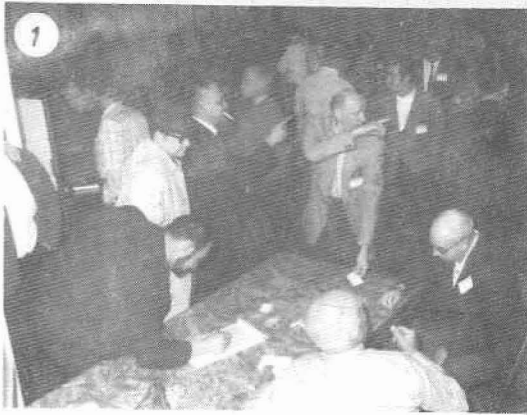
Moe Weaver
708 Marsac St.
Bay City, Michigan 48706

Checks and Money Orders payable to SPEBSQSA
Saginaw-Bay Chapter

Quartets	\$2.00
Chorus	\$2.00
Show	\$2.50
After-Glo	\$2.50
Total	\$9.00

All Events Package \$7.00

SAGINAW-BAY, FLINT AND PONTIAC JOIN FORCES FOR



The four chapters of Saginaw-Bay, Flint, Holly-Fenton, and Pontiac have formed a Quad-Chapter Association in which each chapter hosts the other three once a year. These meetings have been highly successful, attested to by the large participation at Fenton on February 18.

The walls of the meeting hall bulged with men who came to sing, and sing they did, as only "Barbershoppers" can.

Pic. #1 -- The crowd gathers as a group from Owosso registers, while Grant Wright makes out the name tags.

Pic. #2 -- Members from Flint and Saginaw Bay are caught in the coat room, and they don't seem to mind being seen with Ron Gillies, District Vice-President.

Pic. #3 -- Some guys from Holly-Fenton soon let it be known that this is going to be a rip-roaring singing meeting.

Pic. #4 -- A few of Pontiac's "Merry Motor Men" talk it over before joining in the corner singing. The chorus sang later in the program.

INT, HOLLY-FENTON

PONTIAC

BETTER PROGRAMS



Pic. #5 -- One of the many quartets -- the revitalized CURBSTONE SERENADERS", past District Champions, sweetens the evening with some of their goodies.

Pic. #6 -- The BEAN TOWN FOUR, with the ever-present hat, bust some "funnies" with their new anchor man, tenor Fred Kienitz.

Pic. #7 -- Pontiac's RESONAIRES get serious during a sweet stretch of "Barclay Square".

Pic. #8 -- The newly formed VAGABONDS give notice that they are soon to be reckoned with in the District Contests.

Pic. #9 -- Last, but never least, the "Kitchen Krew" fix the Flint-furnished food, led by Neil (you see him everywhere) Norman.

This Quad-Chapter meeting idea may not be original, but other neighborhood chapters might benefit from a similar agreement, because it makes for a well-packed, fast-moving program, enjoyed by all.

Keep singing, and keep smiling, for YOU may be next on camera-- Bill Pascher, District Photographer.



In addition to the SHARPLIFTERS, the Jackson Chapter is proud to have the MIDNIGHT OILERS to appear on our March 30th show. The MIDNIGHT OILERS were organized in 1964, and over the years have developed all their own vocal and instrumental arrangements themselves. The use of the guitar, banjo and bass fiddle, together with their choice of show material, has given them a flavor sometimes described as "barber-folk" -- a blend of barbershop harmony, comedy and folk music.

During the four years they have been singing together, the Oilers have traveled in excess of 50,000 miles, making appearances extensively throughout the Midwest, as well as before audiences from Massachusetts to Florida to California, in Canada, and overseas.

DETROIT

Chapter Reporter:
John Nieghorn

Somewhere along the way, I musta been loafin, so they gave me some kinda note and said try writin,,,,

The Motor City Chorus is settling down after trying several different rehearsal places in the past months and is now in the Danish Hall, 22711 Grand River. It is spacious and has a good parking area. Look us up any Monday night. Our chorus is also, with tender lovin care, and good assistance from Bob Winters and Mac Campbell, getting our illustrious leader Bill Butler, back in the groove after his serious illness over the Christmas Holidays. He gets extra milk breaks???

Some new members and new songs have created a lot of activities. We are sounding like the great champions again. We will prove it in Bay City.

We are very fortunate to have, in our chorus, District officers Pat Ryan and Bill Warner to keep us in touch with the latest news.

Did ya get to see our John Wearing and the 4-FITS on Channel 7 at 7 a.m.? Well, I did and they were superb as usual.

Next is our Pre-Dearborn Octet Contest night, for which John Wearing (our quartet promotion man) has lined up the whole chorus to sing in at least one octet, or more. Bert West and the WONDERLADS will also headline the meeting.

Then, come March 21st, the Detroit-Wayne Quartet Contest will be held, and should rival the Detroit-Grosse Pointe Quartet Contest. So. . . "Detroit is leading the way, who's to say, look us up anytime."

Now for our wives (Motor City Chorus Wives) who are buzzin like bees. They'll be showin us to a sleigh-hay ride in March, and some "heavy workin, not much talkin" Motor City rootin, goin to Bay City for contest winnin, and then funnin, and a real "cellibratin".

MUSKEGON

Chapter Reporter:
Jay Smith

Sweetheart month has come and gone and so has our 11th annual SPEB-SQUAW night. Our 1969 queen is Esther Damm, wife of District Executive V.P. Tom Damm. Esther was crowned by the past reigning queen Mary Jo Courtright and was presented a bouquet of roses by 1966 queen Fran Hart.

Some of Esther's achievements in Barbershopping, as well as being a busy mother and housekeeper, are founding and serving as the president of the Muskegon Chapter of Sweet Adelines and also of the Grand Haven Chapter. She also held a District office. Esther has been hostess for some 500 Barbershoppers when they

were in Muskegon. She was also co-chairman of the ladies' events at our Spring convention last year.

The evening was an outstanding meeting with 150 people attending. The KASUAL D's did an excellent job as emcees.

The Oakland County Chapter was well represented by two of their new quartets, the OAK-CHIPS and the VAGABONDS. The Mona Shores High School mixed group called the "Allegro's" under the direction of Larry Gray also were our guests. The "Allegro's" received a standing ovation which they really deserved.

It was nice to see our good friends Don and Mary-Jo Courtright back with us again for the evening.

The chorus is very busy practicing our musical as well as getting ready to perform at our annual parade of Quartets April 19. Our special guests this year will be the BEAN TOWN FOUR, along with a group from the University of Michigan, and, of course, our own quartets. Our parade will be held at the Steele Jr. High this year instead of the Michigan Theatre.

Webb Scrivnor, our previous chorus director and a teacher in the Grand Haven School system, is to be congratulated as well as his students for their outstanding showing they made in the Michigan High School Chorus District meeting. Barbara Pryor, one of Webb's students, received an I rating in the vocal solo section, and a II rating in a mixed quartet.

Several members of our chapter have the traveling fever again. Our president, Dr. Paul Borton, is in Jamaica. Our Program V.P., Jack Bennett, and wife Wilma are spending five weeks in Florida. Eddie Ralya also spent two weeks in the sunshine state.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you in Saginaw-Bay City in April. 'Till then, remember there are only 390 days left 'till the 1970 Spring Convention to be held in Muskegon.

WAYNE

Chapter Reporter:
Morrie Giles

Once again we are forced to prognosticate in order to say that our big show was a complete success in every respect. Actually, at the time of this writing, it hasn't even come off yet, but the copy deadline and the show fall concurrently on March 1, making it impossible to look back and say it was a hit. Two weeks prior to the show we were sold out. Does anyone know of a larger auditorium we could consider for future shows without going all the way downtown? Or perhaps we might better stay where we are and run the show for two nights. After all, it might be rather difficult to find a place where we would receive the co-operation we do from the staff of Henry Ford High School. Oh well, just letting my ridiculous mind wander around a bit.

I realize that the Troubadour carries almost everything except a lonely hearts column. But, I wonder if any of you readers would be interested in a column devoted to solving problems chronic in some chapters, yet practically non-existent in others. The president or secretary could write in their problem and other chapters could reply, via Troubadour or directly to the writer, telling how they mastered a similar situation.

It occurred to me at our last chapter meeting (while I was lousing up a quartet) that we belong to a very unique organization. In what other group could you sing off key, wrong words, or even wrong tune without

1:30 P.M. **JACKSON** MARCH 30, 1969
PRESENTS ITS
★ **PARADE OF STARS**



★ **MIDNIGHT
OILERS**

**SHARP-
LIFTERS**



Fortune Tellers ★
Notable Four ★
Alternators ★
Jacksonaire Chorus ★



PARKSIDE AUDITORIUM
2400 FOURTH, JACKSON

Tickets \$2.50

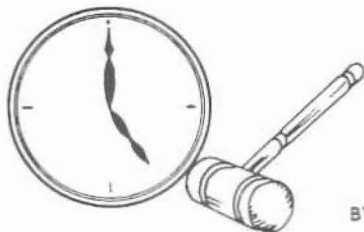
Contact George Tripp
4717 Pin Oak Trail,
Jackson • Ph. 783-2361

any real embarrassment and still get a round of applause for a job well done?

Don't ever discount the power of advertising in our S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. publications. We recently sold our clown outfits to a chapter in California.

Happy Springtime to all of you from all of us here at Wayne.

Don't forget Harrisville.



Minutes

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

BY LOUIS R. HARRINGTON

A meeting of the Pioneer District Board of Directors was held at the Capitol Motor Inn, Lansing, Michigan, on Friday, March 7, 1969.

The meeting was called to order by President Gene Gillem at 9:00 p.m. Present were Vice-President Tom Damm, Ron Gillies, William Warner and Don Funk; Secretary Louis Harrington; and Troubadour Editor Jim Davenport.

On behalf of Treasurer Ryan, Bill Warner reported that the balance in District's bank account as of March 1, 1969 was \$6,116.78.

Various correspondence received by the President and Secretary was reviewed.

Reports were made on the progress of the visitations of Chet Fox of International during the past week.

The Chair then called for a report on the response received to the search for a new editor of the Michigan Troubadour. Jim Davenport made a detailed report on persons he had discussed the situation with. Among the persons who had shown an interest were Roger Lewis of Battle Creek, Pat Ryan of Detroit, Tom Ferega on behalf of the Fruit Belt Chapter, Grant Wright of Fenton, and Dick Van Dyke of Oakland County.

After a discussion, it was voted to hold a meeting of the District Board on Sunday, March 23, 1969 at Lansing and to invite all those interested in the Editorship to said meeting. The Board will then choose an Editor in time to make the formal announcement at the Spring District convention in Bay City in April.

Various other matters were discussed including a review of correspondence from International regarding the Society's service project, Logopedics. It was also pointed out that the review of the District's financing will be again on the agenda at the House of Delegates meeting at Bay City. It was the unanimous sentiment of the Board that to maintain present service either the present system must remain in operation or if the sanction fee is abolished, it will be necessary to increase the District per capita dues by one (\$1.00) dollar.

The agenda for the following morning's meeting of the District officers and Area Counselors was set up.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Louis R. Harrington
Pioneer District Secretary



NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY

LOUIS R. HARRINGTON

Notice is hereby given that the annual Spring Meeting of the Pioneer District House of Delegates will be held at Bay City, Michigan, on Friday evening, April 25, 1969 at the Wenonah Hotel beginning at 9:00 p.m. Chapters wishing to present any matter to be placed on the agenda must forward same in advance to the District Secretary.

* * * * *

International Quartet Preliminaries, for the purpose of qualifying three quartets from the District for the International Quartet finals, and the District Chorus contest will be held on Saturday, April 26, 1969. The contests will be staged at the Bay City Central High School. The Quartet Preliminaries will be held at 9:30 a.m. with the finals at 8:15 p.m. The Chorus contest will be held at 1:30 p.m. Awards for choruses will be in three classes. Entries for the quartet contest must be filed with the International Office at Kenosha as this is an International Contest. Chorus entries are to be filed with the District Secretary's office. Entry blanks for both have been mailed to pro-

O.C.C. PRESENTS...

The
PRE-BOYNE CONTEST
1ST PRIZE **\$50**

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

spective entries. Interested groups not having an entry blank may write to the office receiving entries.

* * * * *

Due to unavoidable delays, the printing of the District Directory was held up, but we hope to have same in the mail to each member by the end of March.

SINGING OUT



Letters To The Editor

On March 1st, ten O.C.C. members went to Harrisville, and collected \$250.00 from the townspeople for the Institute of Logopedics. How's that for a town with a heart??? We contacted Leo Fobart at the home office in Kenosha and made arrangements for them to send us the Logopedics film, and Milt Friedrich of Friedrich's Bar in Harrisville made the space available for us to show the film in his bar. We had fully intended to try a and stimulate some interest in the Institute of Logopedics in Harrisville, but we didn't have any plans to take home any money for Logopedics. It just happened. After the showing of the film (and a banquet-sized layout of food the likes of which we have never seen) we conducted a question and answer period for the 70-or-so people who were gathered there; and before we knew it, they were passing a jug around for donations. They collected \$50.00 in the jug (to our astonishment) and our own member, Brad Laughlin, decided to match it. Fred Moebs, who owns the Standard Station in town also matched it. Now it's up to \$150.00, and we still can't believe our ears. Milt Friedrich donated another \$50.00 in the name of his Navy sons, Mike and Mark; Mr. Odette of the Alpena State Bank donated \$25.00; the Ladies Auxilliary of the V.F.W. donated \$25.00, and there you are, sir.. \$250.00 for the Institute of Logopedics, and we never had so much fun doing anything in our lives. Next year we'll plan the excursion a little better, and take our wives and a couple of quartets up there around the first of March.

We, in Oakland County, think that Harrisville should be made, by District Proclamation, the official Capital of Barbershopping in the Pioneer District, and we will introduce a motion to do so at the next House of Delegates meeting in Bay City. If it comes to pass, why not make Milt Friedrich our Honorary Governor? He's already an Honorary member of O.C.C., and for all he's done for Barbershopping and the Institute of Logopedics, I can't think of a more deserving man.

Dick Van Dyke
Oakland County Chapter

* * * * *

The Annual Spring Meeting of the Pioneer District House of Delegates will be held at the Wenonah Park Hotel in Bay City on Friday night, April 25th, at 9:00 p.m. All chapters are reminded to be sure their delegates are present.

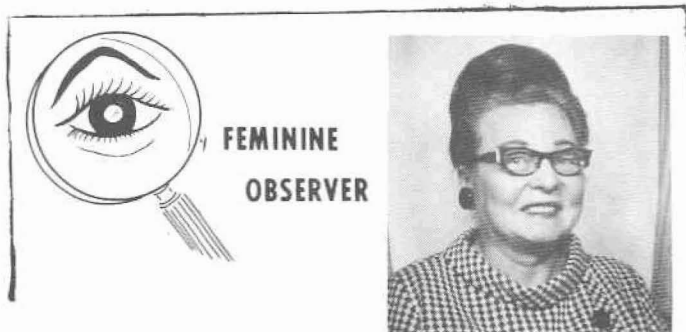
In Monroe, at the October meeting, there was some concern that the House of Delegates meeting was closed to everyone except official delegates. This

situation was simply the result of the unavailability of facilities that would accommodate more than 60 men (approx.). Your District Board regrets that this was construed by some to be an intentional exclusion of "Joe Barbershopper". This, of course, was not the case.

Fortunately, the fine facilities in Bay City make it possible for all interested members of the Pioneer District to attend the House of Delegates meeting. In fact, your District Board sincerely requests that every member attend. Obviously, the privilege of entering into floor discussion, etc., will be extended only to duly authorized delegates. However, it is hoped all of you will attend to witness your Delegates and District Officers in action.

See you at the Wenonah--Friday night, April 25.

Bari Sing-cerely,
Tom Damm
Executive V.P.
Pioneer District



FEMININE
OBSERVER

Congratulations to Don and Beth Gire, who are the proud parents of a baby girl.

* * * * *

Announcing the birth of a baby boy are Jim and Marlene Smith. The baby has been named Jeffrey.

* * * * *

Joe and Mary Anne Coburn have a new arrival at their home, a baby girl named Karen Susane.

* * * * *

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery go to Anita Conklin, who was recently hospitalized. Her husband is Warren, member of Detroit Chapter #1. Their 11-year old son, David, who was hit by a car recently, is also at home now recuperating.

* * * * *

Jim Sandry and his wife Clare are spending a month's vacation in Hawaii, visiting their daughter and her husband in Honolulu.

* * * * *

Our good wishes for a speedy recovery go to Elmer Koenig, who recently underwent surgery. He is a Dearborn Chapter member and his lovely wife is Arvilla.

* * * * *

News is out that the Detroit Yachtsmen Chapter have recently merged with Grosse Pointe Chapter.

* * * * *

Our heartfelt condolences go to Bob and Marsha Wisdom and family on the loss of their 5 year old son, Todd, who was struck down by a car.

* * * * *

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

quartet news

THE SHARPLIFTERS, 1967 District Champions, have appeared twice on national television--the Joey Bishop Show and an ABC network news special. Their singing skill has resulted in an invitation to go on an armed services USO tour. The trip, including concerts in Japan, Formosa, Okinawa and the Phillipines, will take place in 1969.

THE SHARPLIFTERS are still practicing three nights a week plus entertaining folks all over the country at Barbershop shows. They hope to finish in the top ten in the 1969 International Contest--maybe even as one of the five medalists. (The quartet finished in 11th place in July of 1968.)

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

APRIL 25 -- FRIDAY

- 3:00 - 10:00 p.m. REGISTRATION
Wenonah Park Hotel
- 8:00 p.m. HOUSE OF DELEGATES
MEETING
Wenonah Park Hotel
- 8:30 p.m. PRE-GLOW
Ball Room
Wenonah Park Hotel

APRIL 26 -- SATURDAY

- 7:00 - 12:00 a.m. REGISTRATION
Wenonah Park Hotel
- 9:30 a.m. QUARTET PRELIMINARIES
Bay City High School
Auditorium
- 1:30 p.m. CHORUS COMPETITION
Bay City High School
Auditorium
- 8:15 p.m. QUARTET FINALS AND SHOW
Bay City High School
Auditorium
- 11:00 p.m. AFTER-GLO
Ball Room
Wenonah Park Hotel

KEEP AMERICA SINGING

ROBERT MILLER
576 DE SOTO I 41
YPSILANTI MI 48197

HERE'S A BARBERSHOPPER

Coming Events

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| March 21, 1969 | Pontiac Woodshed Contest |
| March 22, 1969 | Battle Creek Parade |
| March 30, 1969 | Jackson Parade |
| April 12, 1969 | Great Lakes Invitational
Grand Rapids |
| April 18, 1969 | Pontiac Woodshed Contest |
| April 19, 1969 | Flint Parade |
| April 25-27, 1969 | International Preliminaries
and Spring Convention
Saginaw-Bay |
| May 3, 1969 | Bush League Contest
Boyne City |
| May 16, 1969 | Windsor Parade |
| July 18, 1969 | Detroit Moonlight |
| October 4, 1969 | Lansing Parade |
| October 10-12, 1969 | District Contest
Jackson, Michigan |

WES MEIER TO BE KEYNOTE SPEAKER



International Immediate Past President Wes Meier, from San Diego, California, will be giving the keynote address at the House of Delegates Meeting, Friday night, April 25 at our Spring Convention in Bay City.

A member of our Society for some 24 years who has served us at the International level for over 5 years, Wes (who is of the "singing" breed) will get our upcoming convention off to a real good start.