



THE

Michigan

TROUBADOUR

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION FOR THE MICHIGAN DISTRICT OF S P E B S Q S A

Vol. 3, No. 4

Louis R. Harrington, Editor

December, 1951

RESULTS OF DISTRICT CONTEST: Congratulations are in order for the following quartets who scored at the Michigan District Contest held at Saginaw against spirited competition:

- FIRST Merri-Men of Lansing
- SECOND Bel-Aires of Grosse Pointe
- THIRD Crow Matix of Muskegon
- Junior Champs Town Criers of Kalamazoo
- Novice Champs Four Fathers of Muskegon

Our new champions are a comparatively new quartet under the direction of John Hill and are very active. The Tune Vendors of Dowagiac were on hand to crown their successors. Special credit should go to the Saginaw Chapter for the splendid job of hosting the District Contest and Meeting.

DISTRICT MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: Many important matters were discussed at the meeting, including collaboration with the Armed Forces. It was announced that the next Regional Preliminary Contest will be sponsored jointly by the East Detroit, Grosse Pointe, Hamtramck and Mt. Clemens Chapters the last weekend in April, 1952. The next District contest was awarded to the Manistee Chapter and will be held the second weekend in October, 1952. The subject of ailing chapters was discussed and the following recommendations offered:

1. Encourage greater Chapter Chorus activity.
2. Do not suspend Chapter activities during the summer months; promote Area Chorus Contests and family picnics.
3. Chapters should start now to consider strong, capable leaders for next Spring's Chapter and District election of officers, concentrating on qualifications, ability, time and facilities rather than just popularity.
4. In May and June, the new officers should be trained and working jointly with the old officers in all Chapter activities and the dues for the following year should be collected.
5. Chapter meetings should be made interesting by intelligent planning and programming, delegating a job and responsibility to each member.
6. Chapters should hold executive meetings at least once a month and inject business management and planning into Chapter administration.
7. Chapters should consider recommendations for potential International Board Members to be nominated from the Michigan District.

NEW DIRECTORIES: A copy of the new District Directory has been mailed to each Chapter president and secretary. Additional copies may be secured by writing District Secretary Louis R. Harrington, 2222 National Bank Building, Detroit 26, Michigan.

NOVICE CONTEST: The Grosse Pointe Chapter is sponsoring a contest for quartets in the Metropolitan Detroit Association who have never competed in any Barbershop contest before. It will be held at the Detroit Turners, 8731 East Jefferson Avenue on Friday, November 30, 1951. Prizes will be awarded to the winners. It should be a great incentive to new quartets to gain experience in actual competition.

OAKLAND COUNTY CHAPTER TO CELEBRATE 10TH ANNIVERSARY: Barbershoppers and their friends are invited to join this celebration on Friday, December 7, 1951, at SPEBSQSA Hall, 500 South Main Street, Royal Oak. Guests of honor include 18 of the charter members, 8 of the chapter's former presidents, International President Jim Knipe and District President Jack Dollenmaier. Our new District Champions, the "Merri-Men" and the "Marksmen" of Toledo will be among the featured quartets.

METROPOLITAN DETROIT ASSOCIATION CHORUS JUBILEE: Saturday, January 12, 1952, the Metropolitan Detroit Association Chorus will present its annual Jubilee at the Harmonie Club, 267 East Grand River Avenue in downtown Detroit. This will be a cabaret party and the Commonwealth Bank Chorus and quartets will also entertain.

CHAPTER CHATTER: The BLUE WATER Chapter alternates meetings at Bangor to encourage interest. CADILLAC, our newest chapter, recently received its charter and already boasts two organized quartets. CHARLEVOIX reports a record crowd at their Jamboree this year with 8 states and Canada represented. DEARBORN continues to entertain an average of 200 wounded veterans every month. The FRUIT BELT Chapter reports added interest since moving to their new quarters and following their recent parade. GRATIOT COUNTY attended a Lansing meeting and took part in an outdoor show at MT. PLEASANT, and staged a successful parade. GROSSE POINTE actively engaged in inter-chapter relations by supporting events of other chapters and also hosted the East Detroit and Mt. Clemens chapters. HAMTRAMCK'S installation of officers officiated by Area Counsellor Seaborn Lawrence and International Secretary Carroll Adams. HOLLAND is conducting formal meetings again after a pleasant summer of inter-chapter outings. the HOLLY and FENTON Chapters have combined and been very active. HURON VALLEY held a Ladies Night and a picnic and donated a scholarship to the Interlochen Music Camp for a talented high school student. IONIA is now meeting at the American Legion Hall on the first and third Fridays. LANSING concentrating on annual Cavalcade. LUDINGTON conducted summer meetings outdoors, stressing inter-chapter relations and are now trying to reinterest the group at Hart. MARCELLUS enjoyed a bus trip to Chicago for the W. L. S. Barn Dance and the Tiger-White Sox game. MT. CLEMENS reports a record attendance at their second annual Ladies Night Picnic at Nicholson's Melody Ranch. MT. PLEASANT was active in civic and veteran entertainment programs and presented a Minstrel show to raise funds for the Airport Community Recreation Center. MUSKEGON sponsored a pro baseball game and turned over the proceeds to the Percy Jones Hospital and also engaged in inter-chapter outdoor activities as well as hosting a group from the Milwaukee and Wauwatosa, Wisconsin Chapters who journeyed to Muskegon on the steamer for an evening of harmony. NORTHVILLE reports an encouraging turnout for its first fall meeting. TRAVERSE CITY now meets at Michigan Mutual Auto Insurance Company Building Recreation Room on Tuesdays; their chorus appeared before an appreciative audience of 5,000 at the coronation of the National Cherry Queen. SAGINAW did an outstanding job of presenting the District Contest and Meeting and reports that one of their members, Frank Wells, presents barbershop harmonies on radio station WSGW every Tuesday at 7:15 p.m. In the Detroit area, WJR is again broadcasting a program of quartets on Mondays through Fridays at 5:30 p.m.

SEASONS GREETINGS: Your District officers wish to take this opportunity to wish all the members and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Harmonious New Year.

COMING EVENTS:

November 17, 1951	Niles Parade
November 30, 1951	Metro. Detroit Ass'n. Novice Contest, Turners, 8731 E. Jefferson
December 1, 1951	Pontiac Parade
December 3, 1951	Oakland Co. 10th Ann'y. and Ladies Night, 500 S. Main, Royal Oak
January 5, 1952	Jackson Parade
January 12, 1952	Metro. Det. Ass'n. Chorus Jubilee, Harmonie Club, 267 E. Gd. River