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Louis R. Harrington, Editor

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DISTRICT MEETING AND REGIONAL PRELIMINARY CONTEST AT MT. CLEMENS, APRIL 26, 1952

The annual meeting of the Michigan District, under the joint sponsorship of the East Detroit, Grosse Pointe, Hamtramck and Mt. Clemens Chapters, will be held on Saturday afternoon, April 26 at 2:00 p. m. at the Hillcrest Country Club in Mt. Clemens. A program for the visiting ladies is also being planned by the committee. Every chapter should be represented by its delegates because many important matters will be taken up, including the election of District Officers. The headquarters hotel will be the Colonial Hotel in Mt. Clemens. Write Chairman Ed Schwoppe, 38545 Riverside Drive, Mt. Clemens regarding accommodations.

The Regional Preliminaries, to select the quartets to represent the Michigan District in the International contest to be held at Kansas City in June, will be held Saturday evening, April 26th at 8:00 p. m. at the Mt. Clemens High School Auditorium. Tickets are priced at \$1.50. An Afterglow will be held at the beautiful Hillcrest Country Club at 11:00 p. m.

NOTICE TO QUARTETS: If you have not already filed your entries for the Regional Quartet Contest to be held at Mt. Clemens on April 26th, you are urged to do so at once. Entries should be sent to the International Secretary's Office.

INTERNATIONAL MID WINTER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: At the International Mid-Winter meeting held in Toronto, Canada, in January, an important revision was made in the uniform Constitution affecting all chapters, which provides for the installation of newly-elected chapter officers on May 1st instead of July 1st. This will enable the new officers to start the new fiscal year beginning on July 1st with a complete knowledge of past policies and with a complete new program prepared.

Three new International Board members were also named at the Mid-Winter meeting. We are happy to report that Gordon Grant of our Saginaw Chapter, one of our Society's most active barbershoppers who has done a great deal for our District and is currently Counsellor of Area 4, has been added to the Board along with William P. Hinckley of Reading, Massachusetts and Richard N. Schenck of San Gabriel, California. The January 1953 Mid-Winter meeting was awarded to Boston. The United States Army has again requested four quartets to entertain troops overseas.

ANNUAL CHAPTER ELECTIONS: In conformance with the newly-revised, uniform District Constitution, the new chapter officers will officially take office on May 1st following chapter elections in April. The success of the chapter depends upon the officers heading it, therefore, careful consideration should be given to the qualifications, ability, time and facilities of those elected. Immediately after the elections, names and addresses of your new officers are to be sent to the International Office and to your District Secretary.

NOMINATIONS FOR AREA COUNSELLORS: The District would appreciate suggestions from members of the various chapters as to men qualified to be named as Area Counsellors. Please send these to the District Secretary.

IMPORTANCE OF EXTENSION: Two chapters have been suspended from our District recently; Flint and Bay City. Our membership has declined during the past year. Our District's goal for 1952-53 will be to increase our membership and reactivate our dormant chapters. Chapters are urged to increase their membership because the number of quartets allowed to compete in the International Contest and our representation on the International Board is based upon the membership in our District as compared with other Districts. All members are urged to support events of other Chapters, particularly the newer and smaller ones. A fine example of this is the Holly-Fenton Chapter. Since these two chapters combined and alternate meetings, they have been very active. During the past quarter, their chorus and quartets entertained hospitalized veterans at Fort Custer, helped raise funds for band uniforms, visited the Huron Valley Chapter and played host to 300 barbershoppers from Pontiac, Detroit, Flint, Lansing, Milford, Owosso, Saginaw, Bay City and Lapeer at a picnic.

TUNE VENDOR'S SWAN SONG: We regret to announce that the popular Tune Vendors, who have given us all so much enjoyment, have found it necessary to discontinue as an organized quartet due to the fact that they find it difficult to apply the time necessary for rehearsing and travelling to fill engagements. Contact man, Bob Mullen, writes: "We feel indebted to the many friends and acquaintances we have throughout the District for making possible the three and a half years of pure, unadulterated fun we've had as the Tune Vendors. Barbershoppers are really genuine people and we love 'em. We definitely intend to keep on with barbershopping individually, for it's too fine a thing to be without. Perhaps it will be our first opportunity to go to a parade and really sit back and enjoy the show. At any rate, that's just what I plan to do". We sincerely hope that this is just a temporary move and that it will be possible for them to get together again soon.

SPEBSQSA ON THE AIR: Due to a change of time, the Barbershop Ballads on WSGW, Saginaw, is now broadcast at 6:45 p. m. every Tuesday. Frank Wells of Station WSGW 4th Floor, Mason Building, Saginaw, Michigan, welcomes news of barbershop activities. Material for Tuesday night use, must be received by Tuesday morning. The listening area extends to the Soo.

Since WJR is again broadcasting a barbershop program daily at 5:30 p. m. (Monday through Friday) it has been suggested that barbershoppers who enjoy this program, write WJR in appreciation of the favorable publicity they give our Society and complimenting them on their fine program.

SPEBSQSA ON FILM: Films of the tour of Korea and Japan by the Mid-States Four last summer are now available. The film runs about 35 to 40 minutes and the rental fee is \$25.00. Equipment required is a 16 mm. sound projector and a suitable screen, both of which may be rented from most camera shops at a nominal rental. The film has tremendous public information value, and would be of interest to other groups in the community as well as for chapter meetings and barbershop events. Chapters desiring to show the film, should send their first, second and third choice of dates to the International Office as the film must be returned to the International Office after each showing for inspection and cleaning, which makes it impossible to schedule the showings too close together.

QUARTERLY REPORTS: The following chapters sent their reports in promptly; Sturgis, Niles, Holly-Fenton, Mt. Pleasant, Huron Valley, Fruit Belt, Grosse Pointe, Lansing, Three Rivers, Gratiot County, Kalamazoo, Traverse City, Northville, Dearborn, South Haven, Pontiac, Mt. Clemens, Detroit, Ionia, Marcellus and Hamtramck, but unfortunately space does not permit us to report in detail on them this time.

COMING EVENTS:

March 8, 1952	Grosse Pointe Parade, Pierce Junior High School, Grosse Pointe
March 14	Holland Parade
March 15	Muskegon Parade
March 29	Bush League Contest, Boyne City
April 19	Great Lakes Invitational, Grand Rapids
April 26	Regional Preliminaries, Mt. Clemens High School Auditorium, 8:00 p. m.
	Annual District Meeting, Hillcrest Country Club, Mt. Clemens, 2:00 p. m.