



INTRODUCING INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT ROBERT D. GALL

(See Story
Page 2)



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JANUARY • FEBRUARY 1969 • VOLUME XXIX • NUMBER 1

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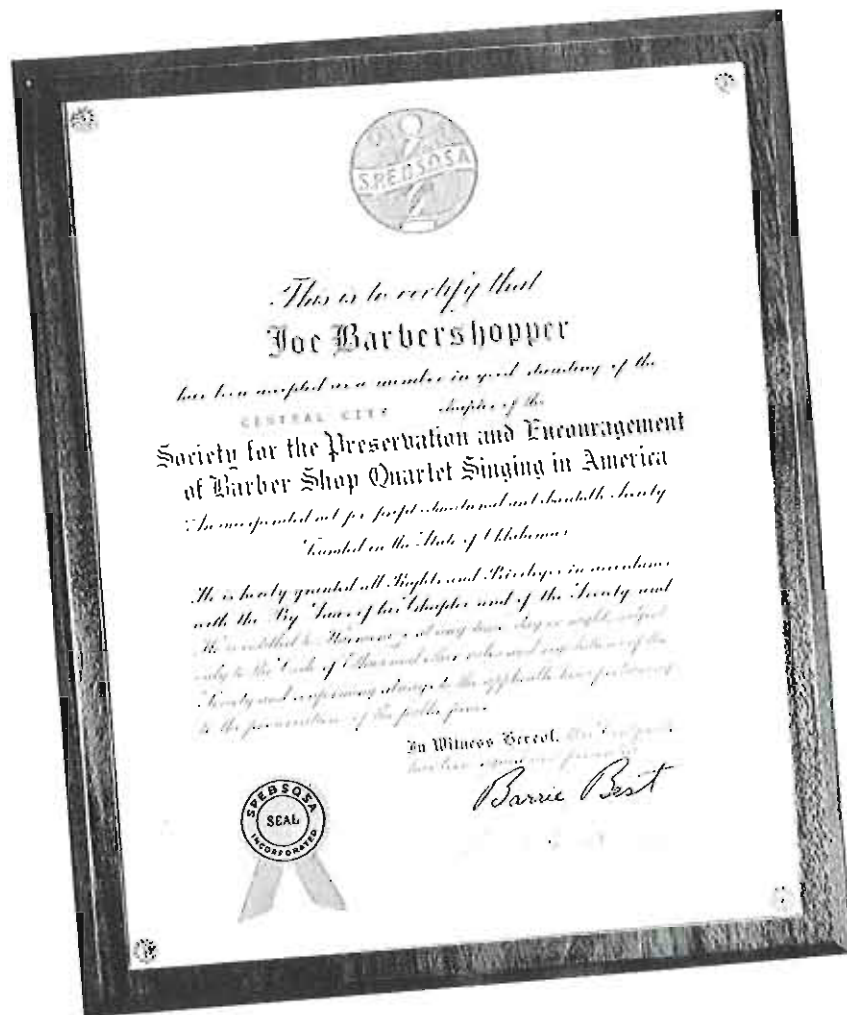
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January - February

VOL. XXIX

1969

No. 1

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'69 International President Sports Enthusiast

It would be over simplification indeed to say that our new International President is sports-minded. As a matter of fact, one wonders how Robert D. (Bob) Gall ever found time for another "hobby" when you consider that he is not only an active participant in a wide field of sports activities, but has actually made a successful career from one of those interests. Yet, as this biographical story unfolds, you'll soon see that the man who will be directing our activities through many administrative "key changes" during 1969, nor only found time for barbershopping, but has given many, many hours to our favorite singing pastime.

Born in Kansas City on November 20, 1925, Bob was raised on a Clinton County, Mo. farm (his folks have lived on the same farm for 49 years) along with an older sister and one younger brother.

School started for Bob in Turney, Mo. where, as a small boy, he frequently sang on local programs accompanied by his Mother on the piano—mostly "country" or "folk" songs. He attended high school in Lathrop, Mo., where his interest in sports came to the fore (lettered four years in football, three years in basketball and participated in Golden Gloves boxing). When Bob wasn't playing American Legion baseball or involved in some other sports activity, he was trying to con three other guys into singing with him. He recalls that many hours were spent sitting in someone's car until the wee small hours "woodshedding," even though they didn't even know the proper meaning of the word at the time.

After graduating from high school in 1943, Bob enlisted in the Army and while in the service attended Kansas University for nine months as part of a "specialized" training program. Here he met Mike Michel, Immediate Past President, Central

States District, and joined him in a barbershop quartet along with two fellows from St. Paul. This first exposure to singing was short-lived, however, as he was shipped to Okinawa with a signal corps unit a short time later. He remained there until his discharge in 1946.

It was back to school in the Fall of 1946, this time to the University of Missouri along with his brother. Majoring in Marketing, Business and Public Administration, Bob attended both summer and winter sessions and received his degree in January of 1949. All through this heavy school schedule he found time to sing—this time with his brother in a quartet (Hugh Welch, a St. Joseph, Mo. charter member, was in this foursome) which managed to attend some meetings at Columbia, Mo. even before the chapter was chartered. Sports still continued to play a prominent part in Bob's life as he went out for football while attending the University and played semi-pro baseball as a catcher (brother Bill pitched). Both Galls, from the time they were just kids, wanted to become professional ball players, and practiced together constantly. Bob suffered a back injury while playing baseball which ended his athletic career. His brother did eventually sign a contract with Cleveland.

Another interest developed while he was "studying" during those college days: Miss Harriett Gibson, who was majoring in music at Stephens College in Columbia and became Mrs. Gall in 1950.

Bob worked as a salesman for a plumbing and heating wholesale firm from graduation until July, 1957, when he built the Strike 'N Spare Bowl in Independence, Mo. in partnership with Dennis Taylor, a fellow-Barbershopper and original *Merry Mugs* tenor. Since that time he has been strictly in the bowling business as manager and part-owner. He has served as Secretary, Treasurer and President of the Kansas City Bowling Proprietors' Association and has been Vice President of the State Association. He also was a National Director before becoming so deeply involved in Society administration. In 1968 he was elected to the Kansas City Bowling Association "Hall of Fame" (the second proprietor to be so honored in the Men's ABC Bowling Association).

Bob joined the Society as a Kansas City member in 1949 and served on the chapter Board in 1952 and 1953; Chapter Secretary, 1954 and 1955; Chapter President, 1956; District Secretary, 1962 and 1963; District President, 1964 and 1965; International Board, 1966; International Vice President, 1967 and International First Vice President, 1968. He received the Central States District Sam Cohen

From the left, the Bob Gall Family: Jeff, Harriett, Bob, Joe, and Jim (with "Panda").



Award (Barbershopper of the Year) in 1966 and was elected "Man of the Year" in the Kansas City Chapter in 1955.

When did this man find time for singing? We don't know but there's ample evidence that he did. He's been a part of the *Cross Towners*, *K. C. Mo-Ners*, *Rudy Fick Royalties*, *Crackerjacks* and *Merry Mugs*. The *Royalties* competed in Detroit in 1953 and were Second in Central States in 1953 (just behind the *Four Orphans* who became International Champions the following year). The *Merry Mugs* placed second in 1958 and are readily recognized as one of the finest show quartets in the business today. They had the distinction of being the first quartet to make the USO Tour of the Pacific (Jan.-Feb. 1968 HARMONIZER) and were among the first group of quartets to sing for the Navy at Guantanamo Bay (Nov.-Dec., 1965 HARMONIZER). While all this singing activity took place, Bob found time to attend 35 District Conventions and 15 International Conventions. He competed in 22 quartet contests and 15 chorus contests.

The Galls have three "potential" Barbershoppers: Joe, 17; Jeff, 14; and Jim, 11, all of whom have attended several International Conventions. The boys are quite athletic, playing baseball in the summer and Joe and Jeff both playing high school football.

Bob still finds time for sports endeavors. He hunts (quail and duck), does some trap shooting and bowls, naturally (190-average—two leagues per week). A sponsor for three boys' baseball teams and a women's softball team, he has also helped coach and sponsor a Little League Football team.

Wife Harrier, an active Sweet Adeline, is chorus director of the Jackson County, Mo. Chapter, Region Seven Regent and International Judging Coordination Chairman.

The honor of becoming International President is just one of many thrilling experiences Gall recalls as a Barbershopper. "I don't believe I could begin to repay the Society for what it has given me," Gall remarked. He continued, "I suppose being International President will give me an opportunity to attempt to provide for others some of the memorable experiences the Society has provided me."

Combine such sincerity of purpose with known administrative and managerial ability and you can understand why the Society is looking forward to a banner year in 1969 under the leadership of Bob Gall.



The smoke-filled pool hall was never quite like this.



Like their father, the Gall boys enjoy hunting and trap shooting.



Dad works at his "part-time job," barbershopping.



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Phil and Vance Foote

A Word From the Wives is Sufficient!

A Story About Our 1968

Champions:

the Western Continentals

(Editor's Note: It was during those first exciting moments of their championship reign that we conceived the idea of asking the "Western Continental" wives to do the story on their men. We hope you'll enjoy the story that follows as written by those closest to our new champions. We thank them for taking on this assignment; we appreciate their story and know you will too.)

Vance Foote—My dissertation on Phil Foote, bass of the "Western Continentals," will be that of a still "wet-behind-the-ears" barbershop wife.

It was while working at the Valley National Bank in Phoenix that I was introduced to Phil by Ted Bradshaw, a fellow employee. As Phil (then a "Continental" of five months) worked right next door, he visited Ted frequently. Naturally it wasn't long after meeting Phil that I was first exposed to barbershop harmony.

On May 1, 1968, I became Mrs. Philip D. Foote (which you have to admit is easier to spell and pronounce than Pfefferkorn). Then followed a rather unusual honeymoon, which consisted of a party of Phil, myself, and all the "W. C.'s" and their wives. The quartet was performing along with Fred Waring and his Pennsylvanians on a charity show in San Francisco benefiting the Institute of Logopedics. It was in these pleasant, harmonious surroundings that our married life began.



Backing up just a bit, and getting to my talented husband, Phil's musical career began in his home city, Detroit, where he sang with the Westminster Jr. & Sr. Choir and Don Large's "Make Way For Youth Chorus." At 28 Phil can boast 12 years association with the Society, having joined the Detroit Chapter at age 16. While in the Air Force Phil was stationed in El Paso, Texas, where he sang with the International Champion "Border Chords" Chorus and also the "Chapparals" quartet.

During off-barbershop hours Phil is a Special Agent for the Hartford Insurance Group and serves as the Hartford Club President.

I can only say that it was a tremendously exciting experience seeing the "Continental" receive the trophy this year, my very first convention, and I wonder who can top that!

Alice Mau—By way of introduction, I'm Alice Mau, wife of the top 25% of the "W.C.'s." I will attempt to give you some of the background story leading up to that thrilling moment in Cincinnati when my "one and only" received his trophy.

Al was exposed to barbershop harmony in 1945 when he and three other sophomores formed a quartet for a Marinette, Wis. High School class show. After high school, although Al's barbershop singing remained dormant for many years, music continued to play an important part in his life. From 1935 through the present, Al has not missed a season with his church choir.

The Al Mau Family



He received his BS in Business at the University of Wisconsin (where we first met). While in the Army, he was a special investigator for the C.I.C. and it was while he was in the service (July, 1953) that we were married.

Barbershopping came back into Al's life in 1963 at Pittsfield, Mass. when three ardent Barbershoppers caught him in a "hook session." (A "hook session" is when three men, i.e. bass, bari, lead get together with an unsuspecting fourth person. After a little fellowship, and perhaps listening to a couple of well chosen records, one of the three suggests singing a song. Once the babe-in-the-woods has heard those ringing chords with his voice contributing one of the parts, he's hooked!) Al was in a quartet after that first night in Pittsfield and has been in one ever since.

General Electric Co. (Al's employer for 15 years) gave him a promotion which moved us to the Valley of the Sun. In less time than it takes to write about it, the Phoenix Chapter had a new quartet, the "Desert Rogues," with Al singing lead.

When Dr. Curt Kimball, original "W.C." tenor, got his greetings from Uncle Sam, a thorough search of the Phoenix area for his replacement took place. When they had all but given up hope of finding a tenor (like "good men," good tenors "are hard to find"), Curt remembered there was a lead in the Phoenix Chapter who could sing a pretty fair country tenor. An "audition" ensued (in a hotel men's room, no less) and the second version of "Continental" was on the way.

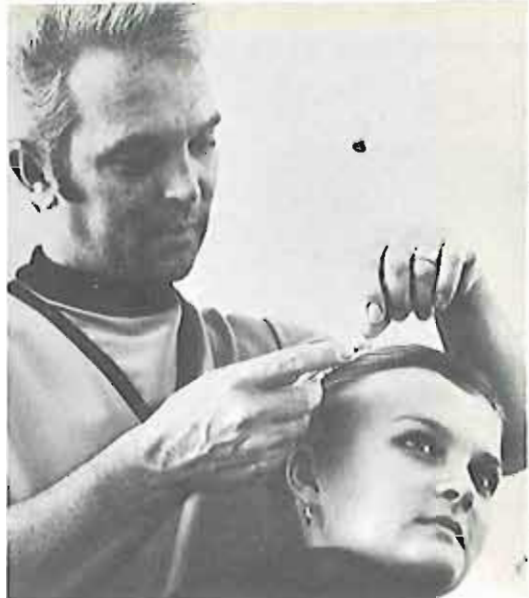
Al and I and our four children, Melanie, Valerie, Gregory and Gary, live in Glendale, Ariz. and truly enjoy the family swimming sessions in our backyard pool.

In spite of the many hours Al devotes to barbershopping, he still finds time to serve his church as Treasurer and to be a member of the church Council.

My feelings toward SPEBSQSA can only be expressed in one word—THANKS. We have met so many fine friends, and have enjoyed so many fun-filled weekends that would never have been possible without our barbershop association.

Doris Graham—Being married to the baritone of the "Western Continentals" is both exciting and exhausting. Fortunately, we share common business and social interests, so it's not a case of being a barbershop widow. The exciting part is going to the many shows all over the country and meeting so many wonderful people. I am especially excited about the trips this year to Alaska, Chicago, San Antonio and many other places including the 1969 International Convention in St. Louis. I'm sure going to miss the excitement of the contest (without our boys), but I think I can get along without that kind of excitement.

The Ted Bradshaw Family



Paul Graham and daughter Debbie



Doris Graham



The exhausting part is trying to keep up with Paul in our joint business (a beauty salon) and his own insurance agency. No wonder I'm exhausted, between working, rehearsals, chapter meetings, insurance shows, recording sessions and trips . . . and a 17-year old daughter Debi and an 11-year old son Jeff . . . obviously, I don't have time to get bored. Hectic as it might seem, I

wouldn't trade the last four years as a "Continental" wife for anything.

Paul's barbershopping doesn't stop with quartet activity either. During the past four years he has been show chairman, chapter president, asst. chorus director, and because of all this activity, I suppose, he is the current Barbershopper of the Year in the Phoenix Chapter.

Shirley Bradshaw—As long as I have known Ted, he has been wrapped up in music of one kind or another. He started as a member of the Columbus (Ohio) Boy-choir when he was in the 5th grade. He was a music major at Arizona State University, tenor soloist (for 7 years) at the Episcopal Cathedral in Phoenix and has sung in many light opera and opera productions in the Valley of the Sun. In 1960 he sang Don Jose in *Carmen*, and in 1963 he reached the regional finals in the Metropolitan Opera Auditions.

Ted works as a computer programmer with Arcoa, Inc., a management consulting firm in Phoenix. So as you can see, singing became his hobby instead of his profession.

My chief "Continental" interest has been a Society member for six years, five of them as a "Western Continental." As I sit here and reminisce, I wonder where the time has gone. I think of the many conventions, the fun we've had; and the many friends we've made over the years. True, there have been many sacrifices—I wonder sometimes if our children know they have a father—but somehow, that night of July 6th, when our guys became the International Champs, it all became worthwhile. It's difficult to put into words the pride and the love I have for the four greatest guys on earth.

Besides barbershopping we do take time to enjoy our children Scott (10), Randy (8) and baby Vicki (1½); our home and our pool. We are both active in our church (Ted is on the Vestry and I hold an office in the women's organization), the Cub Scouts (committee man & Den Mother), and the American Cancer Society. You know the adage—"busy people are happy people"—well, I guess that best describes us.





LAST STRAWS (Gary, Indiana—Cardinal District) Bill Andrae, Lead; Harley Martin, Baritone; Dick Ede, Bass; Jerry Klissinger, Tenor.
Contact man: Jerry Klissinger, Mill Creek, Indiana 46365.



HI-LANDERS (Denver, Colorado—Central States District) Hugh Hohnsteln, Baritone; Wayne Hood, Lead; Karl Penner, Tenor; Russ Thompson, Bass (seated).
Contact man: Karl Penner, 6128 Nelson Street, Arvada, Colorado 80002.



KING'S MEN (Atlanta, Georgia—Dixie District) Bud McLaughlin, Baritone; Shelley Deering, Tenor; Steve Keiss, Lead; Ron Glover, Bass.
Contact man: Ron Glover, 362 Fond du Lac Drive, Stone Mountain, Georgia 30083

1968 DISTRICT



HOWE SOUNDS (Vancouver, British Columbia—Evergreen District) Don West, Bass; Al Hayward, Baritone; Maurice Jones, Lead; Barry Shields, Tenor.
Contact man: Maurice W. Jones, 3476 Quesnel Drive, Vancouver, British Columbia.



GAS LIGHT HARMONY FOUR (Arcadia, California—Far Western District) Norman Bone, Bass; Ernest Johnson, Tenor; Robert Summers, Lead; Gerry Reimer, Baritone.
Contact man: Robert Summers, 1452 Berkley #3, Santa Monica, California 90404.

QUARTET CHAMPS



POINT FOUR (Pittsburgh East Hills, Pennsylvania—Johnny Appleseed District) Larry Brown, Bass; Art Lazar, Lead; Pete Boyle, Baritone; and Leo Sisk, Tenor.
Contact man: Leo Sisk, 590 Dorseyville Rd., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15238.



DAIRYLAND DELEGATES (Racine, Wisconsin—Land O'Lakes District) Lon Hoover, Tenor; Dick Warner, Lead; Jerry Nelson, Bass; Ike Schoening, Baritone.
Contact man: Dick Warner, 216 Indiana Street, Racine, Wis. 53405.

(Editor's Note: A picture of "Grandina's Boys," Illinois District Champions, was not available at this time.)

(Continued on next page)



CLASSICS (Abington, Lancaster and York, Pennsylvania—Mid-Atlantic District) Phil Steel, Tenor; Carl Snyder, Lead; Jack Malone, Baritone; Paul Kline, Bass.
Contact man: Phil Steel, 7601 West Avenue, Melrose Park, Pennsylvania 19117.



SPOTLIGHTERS (Nashua, New Hampshire—Northeastern District) "Bege" Martin, Tenor; Ken Carter, Lead; George Roberts, Baritone; Bill Frost, Bass.
Contact man: Ken Carter, 39 Ballard Street, Tewkesbury, Massachusetts 01876.



CHORD JAMMERS (Etobicoke, Ontario—Ontario District) Dick Fincham, Lead; Wally Coe, Tenor; Bill Ellis, Baritone; Bob Davis, Baritone.
Contact man: Bill Ellis, 24 Lynnford Drive, Islington, Ont.



1968 DISTRICT CHAMPS

(Continued from page 7)

EVERSHARPS (Saginaw-Bay City, Michigan—Pioneer District) Robert Glover, Lead; Leonard Johnson, Bass; Jim Gross, Baritone; Frank Bateson, Tenor.
Contact man: Frank Bateson, 5405 Meadowbrook Drive, Bay City, Michigan 48706.



GENTLEMEN SONGSTERS (Onondaga—Seneca Land District) Dick Jones, Bass; Dick Harris, Baritone; Phil Carter, Lead; Bob Beuson, Tenor.
Contact man: Phil Carter, 101 Kles Drive, Liverpool, New York 13088.



SMILIN' IRISH (San Antonio and Austin, Texas—Southwestern District) B. D. Harrington, Lead; John McCord, Baritone; Mike McCord, Bass; Don Haragan, Tenor.
Contact man: John R. McCord, 11302 Dreamland Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78230.



SUNLINERS (Miami, Florida—Sunshine District) Mike Prouty, Bass; Dale Strang, Baritone; Edward McAvoy, Lead; Bob Robar, Tenor.
Contact man: Dale A. Strang, 7043 S.W. 87th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33143.



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CHARLES W. WURTH
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

September 5, 1968

Harmony Foundation, Inc.
c/o Barrie Best, Manager
6315 Third Ave.
Kenosha, Wisconsin 53141

Dear Men of Song and Service:

June marked the fourth anniversary of our great alliance. What a truly great experience it has been, not only for the children, but for members of the staff who have had the privilege of working with you; getting to know you well enough to really appreciate the greatness of members of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America. Each individual, each chapter, each district has built for us a store of memories which reinforces our faith in the innate goodness of man.

As I sit at my desk this morning looking at a page filled with columns and columns of figures, glance at the column headed "Grand Total since July, 1964," and see the total figure of \$348,667.28, I see not columns of figures, but columns of children marching into the future with renewed hope for that future because you are giving them the opportunity to reach their goal of becoming communicative individuals. I see the many parents who have sat across the desk in the last four years, desperate when they entered my office, many times almost beaten, and I remember the looks of deep gratitude, relief and renewed determination displayed on their faces as they left the office after hearing that there were men standing ready to help them. I remember the little boy who looked up at me and said, "Don't worry, the Barbershoppers can fix it". I remember the moment when I was privileged to be present when a child first said his first understandable word. I am sure the feeling he experienced at that time was the same feeling of accomplishment which you men experience when you hit a real "ringer".

Figures on a piece of paper can never describe the hundreds and hundreds of friends you men have gained for the Institute and its work for the children. Through your shows you have certainly been good messengers in carrying the word to thousands and thousands of individuals across our land of the need for help for these children and adults denied what, to most, is considered an inalienable right.

In the past four years you have lifted the burden from hearts of parents and put a song in the hearts of children. There is no way the children and the staff can thank you enough for the memories of the past four years or for the hope which you give children for a communicative future.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Wurth
Director of Program Planning and Development

CWW/Ws

cc: Ken Haack, Service Chairman
Wesley R. Meier, President Executive Committee
D. William FitzGerald, Communications Assistant

Canadians Invade Northern Ohio

By Maynard Graft, 887 Stuart Dr.,
Cleveland, Ohio 44121

International harmony became even more solidly locked-in than ever when the Canadian minesweeper, RHEA, steamed into the Grand River, near Fairport Harbor, Ohio on September 7th with about 50 Canadian Barbershoppers from six chapters singing their enthusiastic greetings. This happy occasion came about when Jim Turner, Chorus Director of the new St. Thomas, Ont. Chapter and lead of the "Nighthawks," called the writer about visiting Euclid. The idea sounded just great to us, and with the unique added glamour of minesweeper transportation, it looked like it could be a Society "first." Not wanting anyone to miss out on this history-making affair, we decided to invite all neighboring Ohio chapters to be with us for this great International songfest.

"The Beachcomber," a restaurant located on the Grand River and with a large party room upstairs (with a supposedly good docking spot for the 135' ship), was selected as the meeting place. Fine advance publicity by the Painesville, Ohio *Tele-graph* and radio stations WPVL (Painesville) and WELW (Willoughby) brought out a crowd of interested spectators, plus a goodly number of our own people. When the RHEA steamed majestically toward the dock that Saturday afternoon, much waving, shouting and singing was heard from both ship and shore, plus some loudly effective pistol and cannon salutes as the ship moved toward the dock. The merriment came to an abrupt halt, however, and a new excitement ran through the crowd as it became evident that the good ship RHEA had just plain run aground. The Captain was quite concerned and there were some anxious moments until they decided to unload their singing passengers and move to another anchoring location.

Euclid, Southeast and Tri-County, Ohio members greet Canadians as they approach the dock at Grand River. Director is Lou Yane of Euclid.



Minesweeper approaches dock at Grand River, Ohio with 50 Canadians aboard.

From then on it was a typical barbershopping wing-ding, with the exception, of course, of the unusual added excitement and flavor created by the presence of our Canadian neighbors. Individual performances by Canadian and American choruses, pickup and organized quartets and lots of just plain gang singing saw the afternoon pass by quickly. After the dinner hour, during which both light liquid and heavy food refreshment were served in abundance, an informal program was presented which didn't end until the wee hours of the morning.

Our guests seemed pleased with the two large American flags (for St. Thomas and London Chapters), special individual Proclamations, and beautifully lettered large signs of welcome presented to them as souvenirs. The 120 "stateside" members (including 3 from Erie, Pa.) seemed to enjoy hosting the International party and came in for their share of the fun. Enthusiastic comments from guests Sam Gray, Ontario District President; Clair Taylor, St. Thomas President; Clare MacLachlan, Stratford President; and Jim Turner, indicate the success of this first-time affair.

American hospitality didn't end with the party, however, as most of the Canadian guests were invited into private homes for the night. As the tired harmonizers began their homeward trip back across Lake Erie Sunday afternoon, they were assured that they would be seeing their new friends again. It was the consensus of opinion of those attending the farewell that there would definitely be an "American Invasion" of Canada next summer, perhaps by plane.





If life begins at 40, Executive Director Barrie Best is sure going to be busy for the next 40 years. Certainly the first 40 have been frantic and fun-filled—but then that's what it's like when you're a Barbershopper. And Barrie's all of that.

A Canadian by birth, Barrie was first exposed to singing when he became active in Gilbert and Sullivan operettas in his native city, Winnipeg, Manitoba. (Matter of fact he was once offered a professional contract by a Hollywood company to sing Gilbert and Sullivan.) He was also active in the city's Metropolitan Choir, did church solo work and took private singing lessons for a year and a half.

No wonder he was interested when his mother spotted an ad in the Winnipeg paper back in 1948 which stated that a group of men were going to form a chapter of S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. in the city. Barrie went, was hooked, and became a charter member.

Active in the chorus, he also sang tenor with a quartet (would you believe this name?): The Spare Ribs, Sweet and Sour. A woodshed buff even in those days, he was off and running (three in a small English car at 24 below zero) when he found out about the 1954 Mid-Winter Convention in Minneapolis, a mere 450 miles away.

While singing around the convention Barrie happened to meet a half-frozen gentleman by the name of Reddie Wright (our 1966 International President) who, amid much chattering of teeth, extolled the virtues of sunny California.

He was a good salesman. Barrie left Winnipeg that summer and soon was barbershopping in the Pasadena, Calif. Chapter. Three months later he was asked to sing tenor in a San Gabriel quartet called the "West Coasters." Another four weeks later they won the Far Western District Championship! In 1956 they

finished 6th in International competition; in 1957, 2nd; and in 1958, 4th.

Due to business pressures the quartet broke up in 1959 and Barrie, never one to be idle, began to get interested in the administrative side of the Society (this despite the fact that he was already directing the San Gabriel Chorus). He was soon chapter president, then district vice president and then in 1962 and 1963 he served as Far Western District President. It was during his second term that he was called to Kenosha to become the Society's Executive Director.

Barrie's the first one to tell you that he owes more to the Society than he could ever repay. First, of course, there's his present job. But even more than that, he met his wife, Mary Anne, through barbershopping. Her folks were Mr. and Mrs. Dick Schenck; Dick is still very active in FWD affairs and is a past president and secretary of the district.

The "West Coasters," with Best (far left) singing tenor, were 1957 Second Place Medalists. Others in the foursome were Bill Cockrell, bass; Jim Powell, lead; and Jim Potter, baritone.



It was also while barbershopping (the quartet was doing a show in Salt Lake City in 1956) that Barrie became interested in the Church of Jesus-Christ of Latter-Day Saints. He became a Mormon in 1958 and today serves as Bishop in the church. As such he is the church's highest officer in the Racine-Kenosha area and is responsible for a "ward" which includes over 300 members.

What with barbershopping, his home and family—two daughters—and his church it's no wonder that Barrie has little time for hobbies. But ask him for a game of golf, and if he can possibly get away, he'll be there. He loves the sport and just wishes he had more time to keep his game in shape.

What's his philosophy about barbershopping and the Society? Just this: "No matter what your talent, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. has an outlet. With so much to offer, we have unlimited potential. Our biggest problem is that we are hiding our light under a bushel."

Well, with Barrie at the helm, the light is getting brighter every day.

If You Can't Join 'Em—LICK 'Em

Project LICK (L-Logopedics I-Institute C-Classroom K-Kampaign), stemming from an idea presented by Mid-Atlantic District International Board Member Leon Avakian, will give Barbershoppers, wives of Barbershoppers and Ladies Auxiliary units an opportunity to put S&H green stamps to good use in support of a special project to furnish classrooms at the Institute of Logopedics, our SERVICE PROJECT in Wichita, Kansas.

International Service Committee Chairman Ken Haack announced that effective January 1, 1969, a Group Savings Plan has been arranged with Sperry and Hutchinson, the S&H Green Stamp firm, whereby S&H Green Stamps will be redeemed with

cash to be used specifically to purchase equipment and furnish Institute classrooms. The goal of the project is to fill 32,000 Green Stamp books which, when redeemed, will provide enough cash to equip 58 new classrooms.

Haack has enlisted the services of Les Peterson, former Illinois District Secretary, to act as the accountant for Project LICK. All filled green stamp books should be mailed to Project LICK, Post Office Box 309, West Chicago, Illinois 60185. Further information concerning Project LICK will be mailed to Chapter SERVICE PROJECT representatives in the near future.

25th Year Eventful for Binghamton — Johnson City, N.Y.

By Carl L. Smith, Immediate Past President,
Binghamton-Johnson City, N.Y. Chapter

It was truly fitting that many of the goals reached by the Binghamton-Johnson City Chapter were attained during the chapter's 25th Anniversary year. The chapter celebration on May 25, 1968 was indeed a happy occasion, as the membership proudly boasted three major accomplishments: winning the Seneca Land District chorus competition; the Bulletin Editor of the Year award (Editor Bob Poliachick); and joining the Society's exclusive Century Club after reaching the long-sought after goal of 100 members.

It all started back in March of '43 when barbershop harmony first came to the Southern tier of New York. The sparkplug in the organization of the chapter was Ed Vincent, who was charter president and proudly carries a 26-year sticker on his membership card. He was assisted and encouraged by Past International President Phil Embury. One month later, on April 9, 1943, Phil presented Ed with a charter, making Binghamton-Johnson City the 29th chapter of our Society and the third in the Seneca Land District.

Through the years the chapter has made several significant "notches in their belt" of noteworthy accomplishments. Three district quarter champions, the "Velvatoners" (1948-49), "Chord-masters" (1954-'55) and "Semachords" (1962-'63), call B.J.C. home, and the "Southerntiersmen" won district chorus top honors in 1962. There were proud notes in 1965 when the chapter bulletin, "The Bingham-Tone," won the highest award

in the Society's first annual Bulletin Editor of the Year contest. Vince Caselli, Past Seneca Land District President, was editor at the time.

This past year, in conjunction with the chapter's silver anniversary, the chapter hosted both the Catskill Divisional Contest and Seneca Land District Convention, and as mentioned previously, kept some of the top awards as mementos of these activities.

With these achievements behind them, in addition to numerous community services and appearances, the time was ripe for the Silver Anniversary Party. The chapter took a few moments off on May 25th for the great social affair of the quarter century. Honored guests included Past District President Vince Caselli, who journeyed in from the Mid-Atlantic District; District Editor Bill Davidson; Catskill Division Vice President Art Winslow and the Honorable James J. McCabe, Mayor of Johnson City. The evening included a fine dinner, brief speeches, some sentimental awards and dancing. During the dance breaks barbershop harmony seemed to be coming from every corner. The "Velvatoners," re-united for the occasion, provided a glimpse of yesteryear.

The Binghamton-Johnson City Chapter has had a colorful and eventful 25 years and looks forward to even bigger and better things in the next quarter century.

1969 District Presidents-Elect Tour Harmony Hall



Adm. Field Rep. Chet Fox (left) points out areas of heavy barbershop population to (from the left) District Presidents-elect Gene Gillem (Pioneer), Rolfe Myers (Illinois), Lou Benedict (Johnny Appleseed) and, partially hidden by Myers, Merle Aitchison (Central States).

John Parkinson, Ontario District President-elect, presented a flag to Lou Benedict and the Johnny Appleseed District in behalf of the Canadian government.



Communications Assistant Bill FitzGerald (left) explained operations of the Membership Records Department to District Presidents-elect John Parkinson, John Anderson (Southwestern), Charlie Linker (Sunshine) and Julian Domack (Lanc O'Lakes).



From the left, Adm. Field Rep. Lloyd Steinkamp, District Presidents-elect Warren Bowen (Dixie) and Dick Meinsen (Northeastern) examine the mug collection in the Founder's Room.



The O. C. Cash portrait was the focal point of interest for (l. to r.) District Presidents-elect Plummer Collins (Seneca Land), Ken Fletcher (Evergreen) and Sam Aramian (Far Western).

The future of the Old Songs Library was discussed by (from the left) International President Wesley Meier, Harmony Foundation Trustee Dan Waselchuk, Executive Director Barrie Best, International President-elect Bob Gall, Musical Activities Director Bob Johnson and Communications Director Hugh Ingraham (back to camera).



“MEET ME IN ST. LOUIE, . . .”

**31st International Convention
and Contests
June 23-28, 1969, St. Louis, Missouri**

It's the first thing you see, no matter how you come to town. The Gateway Arch, 630 glistening feet, visible from as far away as 20 miles. Yes, 630 feet high and 630 feet across the base, wide enough and high enough you could probably fly right through it on your jet approach to St. Louis' Lambert Field. (And the

answer is "Yes, it has been done, but not by jetliner.") A magnificent arch framing an exciting city which from June 23 - June 28, 1969 plays host to the 31st annual Convention of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America.

(Continued on next page)

St. Louis, "Gateway to the West," was carved out of the wilderness just a few miles south of the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers in 1864 by a tiny band of French pioneers. Led by Pierre Laclède, the founding party had fought its way up the Mississippi from New Orleans. The new settlement, under the dominance of France, then Spain, served as a fur trade center with the Indians of the west. Finally, in 1804, under terms of the Louisiana Purchase, St. Louis became part of the United States. The city soon became the jumping off point for thousands travelling to the far west and northwest to found new settlements. With the turn of the century, the composition of population changed when settlers from the east arrived. Later, heavy German immigration in the 1840's proved a boom to industry in the city and helped shape and color St. Louis' character.

It was around this time that St. Louis also became the water-rail terminus of mid-America. It remains one of the most important transportation hubs in the country, as well as being the nation's 8th largest city.

There are many reminders today of the fact that through the years St. Louis has played a vital part in the growth and expansion of the U.S.A. Foremost, of course, is the river itself and, on its bank, the magnificent Gateway Arch and Jefferson National Expansion Memorial Park which surrounds it. The park, located on the original townsite of the Village of St. Louis, was created by the U.S. National Park Service to commemorate the Louisiana Purchase. The arch itself was designed by the late world-renowned Eero Saarinen and is the nation's tallest national monument. The arch's stainless steel "skin" weighs 886 tons and was the largest order ever placed for stainless steel.

You can ride to the top of the arch in eight barrel-shaped capsules joined together to form a train-like vehicle. Each capsule holds five passengers. The ride to the top takes four minutes, while the return trip takes only three. (For athletes and alpinists there are 1,076 steps if you'd like to climb.) With the Arch Transportation System capable of carrying only



Kiel Auditorium, site of contest sessions.

320 persons per hour, it's usually pretty crowded if you want to go to the top, but it's certainly worth the wait.

Near the Arch and along the riverfront levee are tied the many riverboats. Arrangements are being made for a big "Sing-n-sail" on the "Huck Finn" for Monday night of the Convention, and the teens will board "The Admiral" for their cruise on Thursday. The latter, by the way, is the nation's largest inland waterways excursion vessel. The ship is a block long, has five decks, and holds no less than 4,000 people (complete with rock-'n-roll band for the teens.)

Another interesting riverboat is "The Goldenrod Showboat" where in the theatre the evening fare is traditional "melodrammer" by the Goldenrod Players. The villain is black (no shades of grey), the heroine is pure, and the audience may hiss or cheer according to its delights. While in the bar there's authentic foot-stomping ragtime and riverboat music by the St. Louis Ragtimers.

FUN IN THE SUN . . . WITH BARBERSHOPPERS

Wind up the after-after-after-glow in St. Louis and head for the airport and jet to San Juan, Puerto Rico. Here's the lineup for this year's Post-Convention Tour. The complete package includes:

- ★ Eight days and seven nights (June 29th-July 6th) at the luxurious Americana Hotel;
- ★ Round-trip jet flight, St. Louis-San Juan;
- ★ All transfers in San Juan, including tips for baggage to and from your hotel room;
- ★ A city tour of old and new San Juan;
- ★ Complimentary rum party on arrival.

ALL THIS FOR ONLY \$299, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

To: Post-Convention Tour,
P.O. Box 575, Kenosha, Wis. 53141

I'm very much interested in the Post-Convention Tour to San Juan, Puerto Rico. Please send me further information.

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ PROV. _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION ORDER BLANK

Date _____

International Headquarters, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., Inc.
Box 575, Kenosha, Wisconsin 53141

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is check for \$_____ for which please issue:

_____ Adult Registration @ \$15.00 ea. _____ Junior Registration @ \$5.00 (18 and under) for myself and my party for the 31st Annual Convention and International Contests at St. Louis, Missouri on June 23-28, 1969. I understand that the registration fee includes admission to official events; a reserved seat at Quarter-Finals No. 1 and 2, the Semi-Finals, the Chorus Contest and the Finals Contest; a registration badge and a souvenir program. I clearly understand that registrations are transferable but not redeemable.

NAME _____ PLEASE PRINT
DISTINCTLY

ADDRESS _____

(City) (State or Province) (Zip Code)

CHAPTER _____

Registrations for children 18 and under cover:

_____ girls, ages _____ boys, ages _____

Make check payable to "SPEBSQSA"

Just a short distance from the levee and the riverboats is another link with the past: The Melody Museum. No Barber-shopper will want to miss this, and plans are being made to include a visit on one of the city tours during the Convention. The Melody Museum is one of the world's greatest collections of coin machines and musical automations: nickelodeons, band organs, calliopes, automated pianos, coinolas and some musical machines that have to be seen and heard to be believed.

Right across the street more memories can be relived, these in the world of sport. For in the magnificent new Busch Stadium (home of the baseball and football Cardinals) is the St. Louis Sports Hall of Fame: the sights and sounds of exciting sports events from the early 1800s till the present.

Farther from the downtown area are many other interesting sites: Forest Park, home of the municipal opera, the city art museum, the Jewel Box (one of the finest glass and steel greenhouses in the world), the magnificent planetarium, and the zoo (rated with any on the continent); the Climatron, world's first geodesic greenhouse; and the National Museum of Transport, the largest collection of railroad and city transit equipment in the Western Hemisphere. (Incidentally, railroad buffs should also pay a visit to Union Station, 42 tracks on one level and the largest passenger train station anywhere.)

Another special treat for those who "meet in St. Looie" come June will be a tour of Grant's Farm. Would you believe 281 acres, all owned by one man and with its own private zoo? The man is August Busch, whose name has been associated over the years not only with baseball teams but with a liquid refreshment popular from coast to coast. Guests touring the Busch estate are met at the entrance by miniature rubber-tired sight-seeing trains that carry 54 passengers each. The trains transport the visitors on a tour of the grounds, moving along through terrain which is populated by deer, elk, antelope, long-horn steers, buffalo and many other animals. A stop is made at the zoo to watch an interesting bird show (parrots, cockatoos and other exotic birds) or performing elephants, plus the Bauern-



"The Admiral," the nation's largest inland excursion vessel.

hof, modeled after the central building of European estates, a combination of stable, garage and barn. Here are housed the outstanding thoroughbred hunting, jumping and coach horses which have brought Busch hundreds of ribbons and trophies over the years.

Headquarters hotel for the Convention will be the Sheraton-Jefferson, the most compact convention facility in the city. It's also the largest hotel in St. Louis. Even so it won't hold all the Barber-shoppers converging on the Gateway City in June, and we'll be using a number of other hotels and motels. Most are within close proximity of one another and the auditorium, although the Convention committee is going to set up a shuttle bus schedule anyway. (See map on this page and housing form on page 16.) The Sheraton-Jefferson is an easy walk from the Keil Auditorium, site of the contest sessions. (It takes less than 10 minutes.)

Keil Auditorium is actually two auditoriums, back-to-back. The one seats 3,557 and the other, 10,500. We'll be using the larger one, of course, since St. Louis will probably be one of the largest Conventions we've ever had. (How can it miss, being so centrally located and with so much to offer.) A huge door separates the two auditoriums, and believe me, it's sound-proof. When a Logopedics Spectacular was put on in the smaller auditorium a couple of years ago there was a wrestling match on the other side (world's noisiest fans) and not a sound was heard while the quartets and choruses were singing.

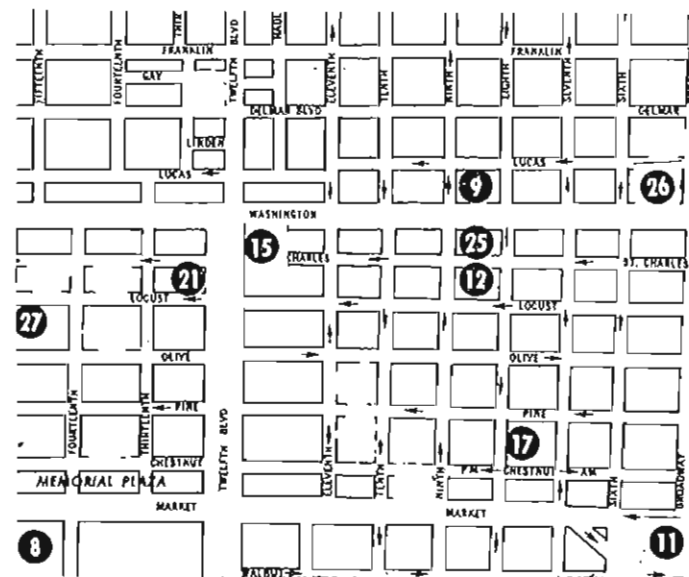
The large auditorium has about 1,800 seats on the flat floor; the rest are elevated (CARPENTERS' STRIKE OR NOT!) The stage is excellent, and this year there is no worry about building a stage and putting in our own lighting system, etc.

With the auditorium being the size it is, seats for Barber-shoppers will be no problem. But, let's face it, the problem of best seats is perpetual. The earlier the registration, the better the seat. So, if you haven't sent in your registration as yet, better do so right now. You'll find a registration form on page 13.

All committees have already been appointed for the Convention and are working right now to make 1969 the best ever. A great and exciting city waits to offer you its hospitality. The invitation has already been extended . . . "Meet Me In St. Louis . . . in 1969."

ST. LOUIS MAP

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 26. Bel Air East Motor Hotel | 21. Sheraton-Jefferson |
| 9. Ben Franklin Motor Hotel | (headquarters) |
| 15. Downtowner Motor Inn | 25. St. Louis Gateway Hotel |
| 8. Keil Auditorium | 11. Stouffer's Riverfront Inn |
| 17. Mark Twain Hotel | 27. Warwick Hotel |
| 12. Mayfair Hotel | |



MAIL THIS FORM TO:
 SPEBSQSA HOUSING BUREAU
 St. Louis Convention Tourist Board
 Room 406, 911 Locust Street
 St. Louis, Missouri 63101

APPLICATION FOR HOUSING

31st ANNUAL CONVENTION AND CONTESTS S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., INC.
 ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI — JUNE 23-28, 1969

From:

Hotel:

NAME

1st Choice

3rd Choice

ADDRESS

2nd Choice

4th Choice

CITY, STATE OR PROVINCE, ZIP CODE

PLEASE RESERVE THE FOLLOWING ACCOMMODATIONS

Single Bedroom\$

Twin Bedroom\$

Double Bedroom\$

Suite\$

NAME OF OCCUPANTS

(Fill in accurately, listing all occupants, or form will be returned for completion.)

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE OR PROVINCE

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE OR PROVINCE

Date of Arrival

Date of Departure

Time of Arrival

Time of Departure

ROOM RATES (All rooms air-conditioned)

HOTEL	SINGLE BEDROOMS	DOUBLE BEDROOMS	TWIN BEDROOMS	SUITES	ROLLAWAY CHARGES
Sheraton-Jefferson (headquarters)	\$10.50-\$15.50	\$14.50-\$19.50	\$14.50-\$22.00	\$25-\$60	\$3.00
Gateway	\$10.00-\$15.00	\$14.00-\$19.00	\$14.00-\$19.00	\$45-\$60	\$3.00
Ben Franklin (P)	\$10.00-\$12.00	\$14.00-\$16.00	\$16.00-\$18.00	\$25-\$40	\$2.00
Mark Twain	\$ 9.00-\$11.00	\$13.00-\$14.00	\$14.00-\$15.00		\$3.00
Mayfair (P)	\$10.00-\$15.00	\$12.00-\$15.50	\$15.00-\$17.00	\$27-\$50	\$3.00
Warwick (P)	\$ 7.50-\$10.00	\$10.00-\$14.00	\$14.00-\$16.00		\$3.00
Strouffers (P)	\$14.00-\$25.00	\$18.00-\$29.00	\$18.00-\$29.00	\$45-\$110	\$2.00

Parking Information: Free parking at all hotels except the Ben Franklin (\$1.75, 24-hour period).

Rates for children under 12: free in same room with parents except the Sheraton-Jefferson (all ages free in same room with parents).

(P): Pool available. Sample rooms available at Gateway—from 4 to 6 persons—\$3.50 per person.

MOTEL	SINGLE BEDROOMS	DOUBLE BEDROOMS	TWIN BEDROOMS	SUITES	ROLLAWAY CHARGES
Bel Air East (2)	\$16.00	\$19.00-\$21.00	\$19.00-\$21.00		\$5.00
Bel Air West (3)	\$15.00-\$17.00	\$19.50-\$21.00	\$19.50-\$21.00		\$5.00
Downtowner (1)	\$11.50	\$14.50	\$17.00	\$35	\$3.00
Holiday Inn (Downtown) (1)	\$13.00	\$16.00	\$17.50		\$3.00
Holiday Inn (Midtown) (3)	\$12.50	\$15.50	\$17.00		\$2.00
Sr. Louis Travelodge (2)	\$10.60	\$13.78	\$15.90		\$2.00

(1) 5-Minute drive to auditorium; (2) 10-Minute drive to auditorium; (3) 15-20-Minute drive to auditorium. Free guest parking and pools at all motels. Children under 12 free at all motels.

Accommodations at next highest available rate will be reserved for you if rooms at requested rate have been previously committed.

All rates subject to 6% sales tax.

GUESTS PLEASE NOTE: Mail reservations will not be accepted after June 10th.
 Advance deposits on room reservations not required.

SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA

ASSOCIATION LIFE INSURANCE . . . FOR MEMBERS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

	1 Unit	2 Units
Members	\$4,000	\$8,000
Spouse	\$1,000	\$2,000
Children	\$ 500	\$1,000

Semi-Annual Premium Per Unit Premium Based on Age at Entry and At Attained Age

Age Last Birthday	Member Only	Member and Spouse	Member, Spouse and Children
Under 30	\$ 6.05	\$ 7.00	\$ 8.39
30 to 34	7.00	8.25	9.54
35 to 39	9.15	10.00	12.07
40 to 44	13.00	16.00	17.19
45 to 49	19.50	23.00	25.66
50 to 54	30.00	37.00	38.98
55 to 60	47.00	58.00	59.95
*60 to 64	72.00	88.00	89.40
*65 to 70	112.00	133.00	135.30

Number of Units Desired

☐ One ☐ Two

I Desire to Pay My Premium

Annually ☐

Semi-Annually ☐

*These age brackets are included only to inform members what their future premiums will be. Only members to age 59 are eligible to apply. Coverage, however, is continued to age 70.

APPLICATION FOR ASSOCIATION LIFE INSURANCE

SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA

Member's Age _____ Date of Birth Mo. _____ Day _____ Yr. _____ Height Ft. _____ In. _____ Weight Lbs. _____

1. Print Full Name First _____ Middle _____ Last _____

2. Home Address Street _____ City _____ State _____

3. Full Name of Beneficiary First _____ Middle _____ Last _____ Relationship _____

4. Check only one of the following plans. Please insure me for:

☐ Member Only ☐ Member and Spouse ☐ Member, Spouse and Children ☐ Member and Children Only

5. If applying for dependents coverage: Spouse height _____ weight _____

The beneficiary for spouse and dependents shall be the Insured Member in all cases.

6. Have you (or your dependents, if applying for dependents coverage) consulted a physician, undergone surgery, or been advised to undergo surgery within the last three years? Yes No

☐ ☐

7. Have you (or your dependents, if applying for dependents coverage) ever had, or been told you had, heart trouble, high blood pressure, albumin or sugar in your urine, Tuberculosis, cancer or ulcers? Yes No

☐ ☐

8. Are you now performing the full-time duties of your occupation? Yes No

☐ ☐

9. If you answered "Yes" to question 6 and question 7 or "No" to question 8, indicate below the nature of the illness or injury, duration, severity, with dates and details.

I represent that each of the above statements and answers is complete and true and correctly recorded and I agree that they shall be the basis of the issuance of insurance by the North American Life and Casualty Company and that said Company shall not be liable for any claim on account of my disability arising or commencing or death occurring prior to any approval of my request for insurance.

Date _____

Signature _____

DO NOT SEND MONEY—A STATEMENT OF PREMIUM WILL BE MAILED TO YOU WITH CERTIFICATE

Mail Completed Enrollment Application to:

Group Insurance Administration Office—Joseph K. Dennis Company, Incorporated
Suite 1027—Insurance Exchange Bldg., 175 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Ill. 60604



SHARE the Wealth

By Charlie Wilcox
Send your ideas and pictures to:
1050 West Galena Ave., Apt. 801,
Freeport, Illinois 61032

WE ASKED FOR LETTERS, IDEAS, PICTURES and we are getting them along with some questions. Questions that reveal we are a Society with an ever-changing membership . . . in need of information. It is also proof that many chapter officers do not convey to chapter membership the information that comes from Society headquarters. This laxity reduces their efficiency as officers and leaves the members in the dark on matters of policy and general interest. Members are entitled to and should have this information. New officers should keep this in mind all through 1969. Let's communicate.

We have been a little shocked to note that there are members who do not know much about our Code of Ethics. Some seem to think it is a law that tells us we cannot do anything . . . that a chapter must conform to certain rules. The fact is: The Code of Ethics is a personal thing for every member and every member should be acquainted with it. It might be a very good thing if every chapter had the Code on a large poster, to be displayed in the chapter's meeting place. Editors who leave much "white space" in their bulletins could do a real service by printing (as several do) at least portions of the Code. When problems arise for the individual or the chapter . . . read the Code of Ethics.

THIS CAME IN OUR MAIL: "Will you please write something that will slow up or stop this mad rush by our choruses to become musical comedy companies with flashy costumes, routines, hats, gadgets, special songs, etc. The whole thing becomes a traveling nuisance; the time taken in preparation is tremendous and before we get back home it is a nightmare."

That is a challenge we positively refuse to accept. Why? Because Barbershoppers are much like young folks and women: they do not like to be told what they *may or may not do*. We doubt we could, or should, write anything that would please everyone or change many ideas others already have. Nor do we find anything in the Contest and Judging Manual that says you have to go into production numbers nor that you have to avoid them.

It seems that Jim Moses, Director of the current International Chorus Champions from Pekin, Ill., showed some (Moses-ic) wisdom when he told a convention audience: "We sing better than we dance." And sing they did.

That was *their* decision. Every chorus has a right to make its own decisions. Pekin has sung its way to three championships. But no one can deny the work of the Miamians, Chorus of the Dunes, Thoroughbreds, Dapper Dans and many others. All of them have added the little extras and performed them so well they did *not lose points*.

Thus, the answer to what you are *going to try to do* is in your hands. You determine what you will try and a panel of judges decides how well you did it. There is plenty of evidence that if your chapter decides not to "put on a show" it has just as much chance as any other. And right there we shall leave the door wide open for an article from the Stage Presence

Category Specialist.

How come Pekin made it for the third time? This question was raised in the mind of "Stasch" Sperl, editor of ACCORD, bulletin of Waukesha County Chapter (Wisconsin), and he wrote to Pekin Secretary Louie Zickar: "What sort of magic are you brewing down there to be a three-time winner?" Louis told him and "Stasch" wrote about it in a three-page article: "You might say that, considering how many times this chapter has prepared to perform at an International, they should know all of the wrinkles by now, and you would have a point. However, you can also approach this from another side by taking into consideration the amount of pride and dedication these members must have in their chorus to inspire the veterans of the group to go to work time after time, and still have enough left to have this same enthusiasm rub off on the new members and turn them into champions too."

"Stasch" gives much credit to Jim Moses and tells how Pekin has just as heavy a turnover of members as other chapters. He adds: "While their stage-presence is adequate, it is not necessarily their stock in trade. However, if you were to take the four musical categories and top them with whipped cream you would have a pretty fair description of a Pekin performance. They do indeed make 'sweet music' . . . and *they realize the work and dedication required to successfully sing and travel the competition trail.*" (Italics ours.) Those who came close to the crown show the same dedicated qualities. The score sheets prove it. So, the decision is entirely yours . . . as to what *you* attempt.

Getting back to that part about travel and all of the gear, etc. Let us ask you a question.

How would you like to handle a 200-mile (one way) trip with 150 kids in a high school band just to perform for 15 minutes during the half-time of a football game? This would include musicians with several huge helicon tubas, a couple of dozen trombones, scores of clarinets and trumpets, baritones, euphoniums, french horns, flutes, a smear of drums and tympani, etc., along with the mini-skirted majorettes, a dozen chaperones, a ton of music, pom-pom gals, cameramen and a few stow-aways? And maybe repeat it next week-end?

Let's see: YOU have built-in instruments; you memorize your music; you are on stage for about 10 minutes, the kids for about 15 and perhaps in the rain. So, you see, we're really not that bad off.

Oh, yes! "Stasch" Sperl! That was a fine way to *share wealth* with your chapter. The wealth of understanding. Thanks, "Stasch."

WHEN WE READ THE LAST HARMONIZER we had the feeling that every contributor had taken over our column. That issue was "loaded" with information enough to educate every member. Those pages by "Molly" Reagan had enough in them to make you a prodigious "arguer" for our hobby. "Molly" takes us out of the "alley cat" category and you can really take

on any musical snob who tells you "you don't belong in music."

That listing of the Songs for Men books is loaded with real barbershop gold. If you have been ignoring them of late it is time to get re-acquainted.

IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED, KEEP ON ASKING.

Al Poole, over in Saugus, Mass., asked for a "memory song." Nothing happened and Al just kept on asking and then it happened. Alec Finkler of LaSalle, Illinois never lets a cry of distress go unanswered. He and the Dean of Arrangers, Bill Diekema, put their hearts, heads and ideas together, and now Al has a song which should soon be available for all of us. Like Al, we think it would be nice to know that some day we will be remembered . . . in song.

FOLLOWING OUR MENTION OF "BEING PREPARED"

to meet emergencies in community service along came the suggestion that we should have a sort of Emergency Song Book. A splendid idea and it would be well for every chapter to develop its own book. After a few years' experience we would probably have the right songs, the best arrangements and the most used songs all ready for a Society approved book. We might even keep on wishing for more arrangements of songs for little shavers. (Oops, no joke intended.) We mean the little ones . . . from 3 to 9. It is never too soon to learn the thrill of the barbershop sound.

LETTERS INDICATE THAT MANY ARE CONFUSED as to the meaning of the term "Public Relations," with some believing that it is advertising. It's an old story but every year someone asks: "How can we force our local paper to give us write ups for our show both before and after a performance?"

Trying to force a newspaper to run *its* business as *you* would like it is just about the worst bit of public relations you can adopt. Our own idea of public relations has always been that it is the active program you follow to make it easy for the public to believe your advertising and accept your invitation to buy tickets, or cooperate in your community functions . . . plus *your* desires to preserve and encourage our hobby. "By your acts they shall know you," and that's about what your chapter will have to do to get the interest and gain the confidence of a newspaper.

If you wish to learn more about the "spirit" of Public Relations we suggest you purchase the Manual on Public Relations from headquarters (\$1.50) and read it carefully. (Show committees take special heed.) Dee Paris wrote it for PROBE and it covers the field completely from the Society's point of view.

But . . . never try to force attention. Earn it. The glory never comes quite as fast but it stays longer and is more satisfying. **WE DON'T KNOW WHO THE NEW POSTMASTER GENERAL WILL BE** but we hope he is a Barbershopper. We want to ask him to insist that all post offices use sufficient ink on the post marks so that we can read them. And . . . while his department yelps about our not using the zip codes maybe he can

THE GOLD DIGGERS QUARTET



Ye editors: 'Twould be right nice
Were you to follow PROBE's advice
And add your name and street address
On all your works that go to press
The Zip Codes, too, will be of help
And save a postal workers' yelp.
We'll give credit where it's due
But first must know: "Just where are you?"

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have that code added to *all* postmarks. In the meantime will you fellows just help out the Post Office Department by putting ALL information on your return address.

THERE ARE TIMES WHEN OUR BOILING POINT IS QUITE LOW.

Two questions have the ability to make us sizzle quickly. One of them goes: "Now, Charlie, you know all about music and I want to ask you . . ." and that is as far as they get. No one can know all there is to know about music. That's that.

The other query: "Charlie, I can't understand how, with all of your training and experience in music, you have become so interested in this barbershop singin'?" This question assures me that the speaker doesn't have the slightest idea of what he (or she) is talking about and is probably that curse of all forms of music, a musical snob. But I must also admit that, if the questioner lives where a chapter is located, he may be speaking from what he has seen or heard.

This is a day when preserving and encouraging means education must be a part of the enthusiasm, the fun, the service. There are just as many, and *many more*, amateurs in the line of any other type of music as we have in our Society. It would be just as easy to say to my friend: "Understanding the classics as you do how can you tolerate all of the impossible upstarts who try to sing top grade music?"

No . . . if we are enthusiastic about anything we must be able to explain that enthusiasm by saying more than "I like it." You just cannot pass up a little scholarly advice on our hobby. You'll be the richer for accepting it. We intend to keep right on telling you about Chapter Officer Training Schools and our Harmony Education Program with its schools for quartets, directors and arrangers. And . . . I'll keep right on giving a salute to "Molly" Reagan and his perseverance, and to many of the others who are diagnosticians of our harmony. Taking time for a little more education doesn't take away any fun. It just gives you more appreciation.



THE WAY I SEE IT

By Deac Martin
1985-B Wooster Rd.,
Rocky River, Ohio 44116

"I disagree with what you say,
but I shall defend to the
death your right to say it"
Attributed to Voltaire, 1694-1778

Edith Hamilton's "The Greek Way" is one of the great books of my acquaintance. (It's now available—Morton Library, N230, 95¢—on paperback racks.) She opens the chapter on arts of the East and West: "The way a nation goes . . . is decisive in its effect upon art."

Ponder that briefly in terms of the art of writing "the old songs" that usually mirrored those more placid, horse-and-buggy and Model T days. Compare those times with the way the nation has gone, faster after World War One, then accelerating furiously after the second one into turmoils that have succeeded it. The way the nation has gone is reflected in changes of melodies, harmonies and particularly of lyrics and instrumentation exemplified by rock 'n roll. A disturbed nation, "whether that of the mind or that of the spirit," Miss Hamilton wrote, inevitably disturbs a nation's music. That's an axiom. We can hope that we can prevent those influences from becoming so "decisive" that they'll erode deeply the art of singing barbershop harmony.

The Greek artist-sculptors had no desire to mark the images of their gods with "strange unearthly attributes to lift them away from earth." In India, the eastern sculptors designed and refined theirs "away from the human," often with extra arms and hands, and surrounded by symbolic objects such as a cobra or a skull. "A Hindu temple," she wrote, "is a conglomeration of adornment. . . . It is decoration not architecture." What about over-arranging a song with too much "adornment?"

The Greek, western artist "felt the real world completely sufficient for the demands of his spirit." He shaped his marble gods such as Hermes or Venus as beautiful humans. He added walked the streets. As to Greek architecture, Miss Hamilton calls "... the Greek temple the perfect expression of the pure intellect illuminated by the spirit." Athens' Parthenon, its columns undecorated by comparison with others in the East and West, stands "alone in majesty of beauty among all the temples and cathedrals and palaces of the world." Of course, that's the way she sees it.

We have parallel eye-to-eye views in our Society, not of all but many, about the beauty of undiluted, unaccompanied barbershop harmony. In fact some believe that an organization committed to this type of harmony can continue to "stand alone," individualistically and firmly, only as long as it adheres to solid barbershop not watered-down by outside musical patterns. Most of those influences differ from the Americana that the Society is pledged to preserve, as widely as Hindu differed from Greek.

This is not to take sides to identify "the strange unearthly attributes" of the one as more beautiful than the other. It merely stresses the fact of differences in harmonies under rock 'n roll and more modern influences and those produced by those who adhere to our declared preservation. Each has its own worth musically. But, as Kipling wrote, "East is east and West is west." To cross barbershop with more recent musical trends produces a hybrid which, like Mark Twain's mule, has neither

pride of parentage nor hope of posterity. (Clear, if you city slickers know mules, as we farm-reared boys did.)

The quartet which sings little in a public performance billed as "barbershop harmony" but presents a low-comedy vaudeville act, including off-color gestures and too often nationality or religious jokes at which a keyed-up audience titters, many in embarrassment, presents burlesque entertainment not preservation of barbershop singing. Repeatedly, we hear comment, from members and faithful attendees of our concerts, that "they didn't sing barbershop." Of course, that last is exaggeration. All of our quartets sing barbershop at least part of the time in every song. But too often, some quartets use hybrid mixtures.

The reason is obvious to one who joined before the Tulsans had time to print our first membership cards in '39. Early members joined for the joy of self-expression in singing well known songs in harmony. They didn't need words, music or want an audience. (Well, they would tolerate one.) Of our first eight international champs, five sang by ear. It may seem incredible to some that at St. Louis in '41 several ultra-conservatives complained about the champion "Chordbusters." Why? They'd used written arrangements, and "It aint barbershop when it's written down." Incidentally, in "Bye Bye Blues" the "Chordbusters" introduced the Society to bell chords that lifted the fans out of their seats.

No one will question that the responsibility for crossing barbershop with "modern," resulting in hybrids, lies in the laps of those who arrange our written harmonies, whether within a quartet or as an outsider. Some who do that are like a young Seattle quartet. I had asked the four "What's barbershop harmony?" After a long pause, one replied "I guess it's four guys singing together." Like many others, he didn't know or think about the *kind* of harmony in their arrangements. (There's where we oldsters have fallen down.) They were thinking about the impact of their song on an audience, in or out of chapter meetings. That's not blaming them, except for lack of curiosity about the *kind* of music they sing.

But, if a quartet of the New Left recognizes differences and brazenly uses "modern," its members are as faithless to the Society's purpose as is the arranger who writes non-barbershop into a harmonization because he likes the sounds. Many of us like them but not in a presentation billed as barbershop harmony. That's cheating. Our trademark is the "barbershop 7th" chord. See Maurice Reagan's comment in the Nov. '68 issue as to the most common reason for non-barbershop sounds that often bring criticism from members and audiences.

Before anyone can say "The foregoing is what you'd expect from a carry-over from the 1930s," the essence of what has been written has been expressed countless times in varied ways by juniors who see danger to their good times if we allow their Society to go the "way the nation goes" (has gone) musically.

THE HISTORIAN'S CHAIR



By

Dean Snyder

International Historian
1808 Hunting Cove Place
Alexandria, Virginia
22307

The tape recorder has become one of the indispensable tools of the craft of historian. Armed with it, and using the approach of conversational question-and-answer dialogue, it is possible to create a library of the voices and views of our past leaders—with a minimum of time and expense. The general membership of the Society may not be sufficiently aware of our own oral history project which began in August, 1967. Hence this report.

Our 30th Convention in Cincinnati last summer was an opportunity to continue with this work—both to record and to play back. For example, the Decrepits (past International Board Members) heard a 15-minute composite tape of recollections of O. C. Cash by Rupe Hall, Phil Embury, Deac Martin and Norm Ratherr, all of whom were among the Founder's early associates in the Society. The first annual meeting of the Past International Presidents' Association was recorded—this designed as an informal, annual dinner to be held each year during Convention week.

A TYPICAL EXAMPLE

The Historian set up shop in his hotel room and numerous "men of the past" were invited to contribute their reminiscences. One of the most delightful of these sessions brought together Glenn Howard, of Cisco, Illinois, and Maurice E. (Molly) Reagan, now living in retirement in Elgin, Illinois. Glenn attended the first convention in Tulsa in 1939, singing with the *Capitol City Four* which took second place that year. Thereafter he sang with competing quartets in the following five International contests—never winning a first place medallion, but always being near the top. Then for the next 24 years Glenn Howard has been a member-in-attendance—not having missed a single convention. If he isn't the Society's greatest listener, he is surely its most faithful one. Molly Reagan was absent at Tulsa in 1939, but never again; his record is 29 years of unbroken attendance.

So here were these two men in the same room, recollecting and reminiscing through the years. It was July 4th—Glenn's 66th birthday. He went back 48 years to talk of his first quartet, the *Oriole Four* of Decatur, Illinois.

Antedating the Society, he told how there grew up, about 1937, the "Illinois Harmony Association," of which Glenn Howard was the first President. Monthly meetings were held in various central Illinois towns with 60 to 100 present, usually in connection with a fish fry, picnic or county fair. There was both woodshedding and organized quartet singing. On one occasion

a busload of barbershop addicts drove down to Peoria from Chicago. Molly and Glenn thought that was probably how and when the men of the later Champion *Misfits* first became acquainted.

After that first Society Tulsa convention Brother Howard recalls that the Victor Talking Machine Company paid the expenses of his quartet (Capitol City Four) to come to Chicago to cut the first barbershop record album commercially sold.

The next summer at the New York World's Fair Howard sang with the *Plough City Four*. Judging was informal. Glenn remembers overhearing Governor Al Smith leaning over to Park Commissioner Bob Moses at the side of the stage: "Which one should I vote for? They all sound good to me." Glenn's quartet took 13th place that year.

I asked Glenn Howard, out of his 30 years of singing and listening, to comment on the pitfalls a quartet should avoid. He said in substance: "Work for good solid sound—a good ring; work for more individuality and not so much sameness. Quartets are copying each other's arrangements and stage presence; even the gestures are the same. We should strive for variation—within the established judging rules, of course. If every quartet is a copy of every other one, we will have lost our audience appeal."

RECORDING ON THE RUN

Another episode at Cincinnati: I collared Huck Sinclair off-stage at a contest intermission.

Snyder: Huck, we know you as an original member in Topeka and later in Chicago as the baritone of the 1943 champions, *The Four Harmonizers*. Did you attend that first convention?

Sinclair: Well, I was in Tulsa, but I got to woodshedding in the hotel and never did get to any of the contests.

Snyder: I believe you knew Joe Stern of Kansas City and sang "Daddy Get Your Baby Out of Jail" with him way back when.

Sinclair: Yes, and I dug up the tag to that song.

Snyder: Have you any suggestions for the future of the Society?

Sinclair: No, I just get more enthusiastic about it every year. Listen to that crowd. There's 6,000 of them in this auditorium (voices fade up to community singing and cut).

A final word: If any of our members are using tape recorders to collect historical information and comment at the chapter or district level, please share your experiences with the writer, or contribute a story of your own to Editor Leo Fobart.



about QUARTETS

It will be some time before Jim Grant, lead of the Sixth Place *Oriole Four*, will ever forget the quarter's appearance on the Mike Douglas Show on November 19th. It isn't often that one of our quartets gets an opportunity to make an appearance on a nation-wide television show—but Grant did everything he could to add to the excitement of the big day. When Jim didn't show up for a 9:30 rehearsal on the day of the show, Tenor Bob Welzenbach casually ex-



plained that Jim had taken his expectant wife, Jackie, to the hospital at 8:30 that morning. You can imagine the frustration among the other members of the quartet who could not even rehearse their portion of the show as long as Jim didn't show up. But lo and behold, when they had all but given up hopes of ever making an appearance, in walked Jim, but without the good word that everyone was awaiting. Mike Douglas explained to the audience that Jim was singing under unusual circumstances and then the quartet proceeded to do an outstanding job of singing "Yes Sir, That's My Baby." Before the show had concluded, Jim's mother called from Sinai Hospital and informed Douglas a baby boy had just been delivered to Mrs. Grant. The excited father got the first news while on stage. A short time later a local appliance firm phoned the show to announce that they were presenting the new parents with a washer and dryer. Incidentally,

because this program is telecast in many areas as much as eight weeks after the live performance, it is possible that some of you may still be able to catch the show. It will be shown on January 7th in the following cities: Aberdeen, S.D.; Great Falls, Butte and Billings, Mont.; Chatanooga, Tenn.; Dickerson, Bismark, Fargo and Minot, N.D.; Hartford, Conn.; Hays, Kans.; Huntsville, Ala.; and Weslaco, Tex. Barbershoppers in Cadillac County, Mich. and Corpus Christie, Tex. will have an opportunity to see the show on January 14th.

* * *

We wish it were nothing but a bad rumor, but we've seen the announcement of the *Nighthawks'* retirement as of the end of 1968 in so many prominent publications that we now must believe that this fine Canadian foursome is officially disbanding. The following poem, written by St. Thomas, Ont. Barbershopper Paul J. Leonard, expresses what we think will be the feeling of many Barbershoppers throughout the Society.

"To the Nighthawks"

"I know we will dream in years to come,
When our work is finished,
And the last chord is sung;
Our minds will drift back to those delightful nights
When we sang with the chorus behind the bright lights.
We will still remember that thunderous roar
At the end of the song,
By a wonderful four.
There was Jim, and Bert, and John, and Greg,
And their beautiful chords still ring in our heads.
We are sure they are loved from East to West,
And in most of the contests we felt they were best.
We know that the judges had a different view
And, of course, their decision will have to do,
But to many of us they will always be

The uncrowned kings of harmony.
Their songs were so loved as each sang his part,
We are sure they will live in each barbershop heart.
It is truly a shame when a great quartet ends,
So the best to each 'Nighthawk' from your barbershop friends."

* * *

Did you ever plan a surprise party for 200 people? Minneapolis, Minn. Barbershopper Dick Plaisted, "with a little help from his friends," staged a surprise night in honor of the *Hut Four* on November 15th, a short time after the popular quartet returned from their USO hospital tour of the Far East. Part of the story about the party, as it appeared in the Minneapolis "Chordinator," follows: "... the 'Huts' thought they were doing a routine show when they walked out on the stage. The only unusual aspect of this performance was that everyone in the audience was wearing a mask. Even this had been explained beforehand, however, in such a way that the quartet had no inkling of what was in store. The first real indication that something unusual was going on was the failure of the quar-

It was great news to get the picture below from Bob Roberts, "Westones" Editor, and to know Dale Taylor, "Salt Flats" bar, is able to perform again (with some help from Milt Christensen, who has taken over on banjo since Dale's guitar arm is broken). Dale was seriously injured in an auto accident while returning from a singing engagement late in October.





The **FREE LANCERS** (Dundalk, Md.) sang a request from a wounded serviceman in Guam during their recent USO Hospital Tour. From the left are Nels Lawhon, bari; Gene O'Dell, tenor; Vernon Leonard, bass; and Bob Seay, lead. (See "Lancer" letter, page 32.)

ret to elicit so much as one sound of applause after they sang their first song. The boys took their bows in the midst of an eerie silence. Bass John Hanson then took the mike to 'warm up' the crowd and got nothing but boos and hisses for his efforts.

"Just as the quartet started their second song, the lights went out leaving the room in complete darkness. When the lights came on again there sat over 200 unmasked friends! At this point four shocked quartet members were not sure they could trust their eyes.

"The rest of the evening was packed with a variety of surprises. Bob Moksnes traced the early history of the quartet when he sang in the baritone slor. He also showed a kinescope of the quartet's appearance on the nationally telecast Talent Patrol Show. Don Sundt related some of his recollections from the many years during which he sang baritone. Then the honored quartet sang a number with each of their two ex-baritones.

"One of the evening's highlights was an appearance by the 'Mel -O- Dons,' who had prepared some special new songs strictly for the occasion. Jean Spong had brought along some of Bob's slides of the 'Hut Four's' tour of the Far East and the slide presentation, along with John Hanson's impromptu narration, provided another entertaining half hour.

"It was nearly midnight when the 'Huts' were asked to sing. Fortunately, however, this time the crowd responded to their efforts with applause.

"Each of the members was presented with a plaque expressing the appreciation of the Minneapolis Chapter to this fine quartet for its years of service." (Editor's note: We're sorry it was impossible to reproduce the color pictures of this grand night honoring a great foursome.)

* * *

The *Freeloaders* (San Antonio, Tex.) have joined the parade of quartets mak-

ing the Far East USO hospital tour and have just returned from entertaining wounded servicemen with their humorous singing antics. They were followed in December by the *Four Renegades*, 1965 International Champions. The *Merry Mugs* started the long "parade" about a year ago. Since then the *Pittsburgh Four*, *Four Nubbins*, *Salt Flats*, *Chordsmen*, *Hut Four* and *Free Lancers* (see letter, page 32), all chosen by USO officials, have completed the singing tour.

* * *

If the Society ever develops a medal for bravery, we believe one of the first quartets to receive this award should be the Philadelphia *Odds and Ends*, who boldly sang several numbers in Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia's mecca for hippies, in order to test their reaction. The entire venture was part of the publicity in connection with the Mid-Atlantic District Convention held in Philadelphia last Fall. The proceedings were filmed for a local television show and presented on October 9th. Typical of the reaction to our favorite kind of music was "We'll

be back, baby, when these cats have split." Members of the "test" quartet were Ralph Childs, tenor; Don Flom, lead; Bob Siegal, baritone and Lin Smith, bass.

* * *

A unique quartet story comes from the Evergreen District Champion *Howe Sounds* from Vancouver, B.C. This quartet did not gain recognition initially by following the usual pattern of quartet progression, of advancing through district and International preliminary quartet competitions, from the "also ran" categories to the charmed circle of finalist quartets, but through an entirely different set of circumstances. From the time they were formed in late October, 1964, the quartet has had an unusual history. They first gained prominence when they were invited by Canadian Pacific Airlines to make a tour of northern Europe as part of the Canadian entertainment group to promote the inauguration of CPA's regular service to Amsterdam (see May-June, 1966 *HARMONIZER*). The success of the European tour led to a second invitation in October, 1966 toward Japan and Hong Kong from Canadian Pacific Airlines and the Canadian government, this time primarily to promote the Canadian tourist industry with particular emphasis on Expo '67 in Montreal, the World's Fair and main attraction of Canada's Centennial Year. They managed a creditable sixth place in their first district competition in October of 1965 and rose to third in their 1966 competition in Vancouver. After Don West replaced Robin Buchan at bass, serious preparation for the 1968 International preliminary contest began, and things finally began to jell for the quartet this past Fall when they literally backed into the winners' circle as 1968 District Champions.

The weather outside was cold, but the December 15th reception held at Harmony Hall honoring the champion "Western Continentals" was very warm. The "Continental" and wives shivered through one last pose before departing for Arizona's warmer climes.





from the PODIUM

OR

It's What's Up Front That Counts

The Nov.-Dec. issue of the **HARMONIZER**, which was devoted to music, has apparently been very helpful to a lot of members. We've been deluged with orders for music, indicating our members were really happy to see a complete listing of our four-part arrangements. The new book we wrote about in that issue is "in the works" and will be called "Happiness Is—A Barbershop Quartet." Published by Edw. Morris Co. (price \$1.95), all 13 songs in the book are top-quality arrangements every chapter will want in its repertoire. You could make a selection from this book with your eyes closed and be assured the song you chose would not only be fun to sing but entertaining for your audiences as well. Bear in mind, however, that this material is not suitable for contest. It is show material, very good show material, as a matter of fact. We have attempted with these songs, like others in the Show Tune Series, to provide other-than-contest arrangements in good barbershop style, to help avoid the tendency to use modern arrangements. We also feel the book can be helpful to those persons involved in selecting songs for shows and sing-outs, etc.



Many of you will be happy to learn that Paul Barnhart, composer of "Dear Old Days" and "Down On The Corner," two recent free songs, recently joined the East Livertpool, Ohio Chapter. As a result of the Society publishing his two songs, and especially after he heard them sung,

he couldn't resist the urge to become a member. Both songs are outstanding examples of the kind of music that is easily adapted to the barbershop style. If you have sung either of these songs and want to drop Paul Barnhart a note and welcome him to the Society, and at the same time thank him for giving us these songs, his address is 123 Carolina Ave., Chester, W. Va. 26034.

HARMONY EDUCATION PROGRAM

The dates and sites for two International Harmony Education Program (HEP) schools during 1969 have already been firmed.

On July 18-19-20 a school will be held at Stamford University in Birmingham, Ala. The Dixie District is presently working on a project to guarantee 150 men for this school.

On July 25-26-27 the faculty will be at Western Washington College of Education in Bellingham, Wash. It is hoped this school will attract many Evergreen Barbershoppers and perhaps some men from the northern part of the Far Western District. Everyone, however, is welcome.

The HEP program this year is a repeat of the '68 program. The success of the schools in '68 dictated the repeat. Howard Mesecher, Voice Expression; Oz Newgard, Balance and Blend; Charles Abernethy, Stage Presence; Emmett Bosing, Harmony Accuracy; Burr Szabo, Arrangement; Fred King, Quartet Promotion and Jim Richards, Physics of Barbershop Sound, will be on hand as the faculty.

We are also trying to schedule a school in the Ontario District to serve the Ontario, Seneca and Pioneer Districts. Additional information and final details will be published in the March-April **HARMONIZER**.

DISTRICT VISITS

My 1969 district visitation schedule is completed (but subject to change) and I'm looking forward to meeting many of you on these occasions. The schedule is as follows:

Jan. 13-19, Ontario; Feb. 17-23; Mid-

Atlantic; Feb. 24-Mar. 2, Illinois; Mar. 24-30, Dixie; Apr. 14-18, Southwest; Apr. 26-May 2, Far Western; May 12-18, Johnny Appleseed; May 19-25; Northeastern; June 2-8, Central States; Aug. 18-24, Seneca Land; Sept. 8-14, Evergreen; Sept. 29-Oct. 5, Land O'Lakes; Oct. 13-19, Pioneer; Oct. 20-26, Cardinal; and Nov. or Dec., Sunshine.

TWO NEW FREE SONGS

The latest free songs which your chapter received are "The Band Played On" and "Annie Rooney," both of which came from the Kenosha Arrangers' Seminar held this past summer. Bob Meyer, Society Manager of Membership Records, arranged "Band" and Society Administrative Field Representative Lloyd Steinkamp, "Annie." While both songs are "chestnuts" I'm sure you'll enjoy these new arrangements. The verse of "Annie Rooney," probably new to most of you, is especially interesting. Be sure you give both songs a good try before setting them aside. There's really more to them than meets the "ear."

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I see from the bulletins...

By Leo Fobart, Editor

We found an unusual article in a bulletin of the Greater Atlantic City, N. J. Chapter. When Chapter Historian Charlie Cook had to have his left leg removed, he wrote the following which we think exemplifies the kind of spirit found in Barbershoppers. Titled "To My Left Leg," it appeared as follows:

"Good bye old pal of the port side.
You have served me well.
Your buddy on the starboard side will miss you.
You took me from the cradle to my knees, where Mother taught me my first prayer—to school—to church—to my paper route as a newsboy—on the athletic field—the wrestling mat—to the boards on-stage behind the footlights in my happy minstrel days—to the sawdust ring of the circus where we, with our clowning, made little children laugh.
You also helped me serve my country in time of war.
We've gone to funerals, weddings and christenings together.
Yes, you have served me well.
So, to my right leg: Now you will have to take over until God sees fit to bring us together again.
God must really like me; He wants part of me now. And if He thinks I can get to heaven on one leg, who am I to doubt?
So, farewell, old pal.
God's will be done."

Two Oshkosh, Wis. members, Steve Young, Sr. and Les Schmoll, arrived early for a holiday sing-out at a local state hospital. After volunteering to stay by the door to direct others, they began to worry when no one else appeared. They finally found the chorus only to learn the

performance had already begun and that 25 other members had entered the building through another door. "Barbershop Clips" co-editors "Doc" O'Connor and George Brown have singled the men out for the "flat pitch award" for their "distinguished service."

Not only is International President Bob Gall a member of the famed "Merry Mugs" quartet, but Bob Gall also sings in the Racine, Wis. "Dairy Statesmen" (finished ninth in Cincinnati International competition) and in a mixed trio called the Merry Mugs! Yes, there are two Bob Galls. And it seems more than coincidence that these men with identical names are singing in groups with the same name.

Twenty-six years ago Arthur Laprade took over the director's chores of the Northampton, Mass. Chapter until a permanent director could be found. Obviously the search for a director was not taken too seriously. We understand the 81-year old Laprade just resigned as director after 26 years. Art is still a very active man who raises beautiful flowers as a second hobby. He now wishes to spend more time with his family but does not plan on getting too far away from the chapter. We believe this may be a record for longevity as a chorus director. Our congratulations to Arthur Laprade, and let's hope he has a successful and long retirement.

"If you're in Chicago on a Friday night, you'll always find Barbershoppers at the Normandy House" was a statement that kept Barbershoppers together in the Chicago area, especially on Friday nights. Unofficially the headquarters for the Chi-



Prudential Insurance Public Relations Director Daniel F. Becker (left) presented Northeastern District President Richard Ellenberger with a generous Logopedics contribution in appreciation of singing performances this past summer at the outdoor concerts held on the Prudential Mall. Choruses from Beverly, Framingham, Waltham, Reading, Marblehead and Haverhill, Mass., along with several prominent Northeastern District quartets, took part in the weekly sing-outs.

cago #1 Chapter, the Normandy House became known throughout the Society as the converging point for Chicagoland and visiting Barbershoppers. Unfortunately, the Normandy House, faced with financial disaster, finally closed its doors about six months ago. It didn't take long for Chicagoans to locate a new home, however. The Germainia Club, located on Chicago's near north side (a block south of North Ave.), new headquarters for Chicago #1 Chapter, may be the finest quarters the chapter has ever known. Two hundred members and Barbershoppers throughout the area were on hand to formally initiate the Germainia Club on November 1st. We promised to pass the



The Stark County, Ohio Hall of Fame Chorus sang along the parade route as they once again played an important role in the annual Hall of Fame Enshrinement Ceremonies in Canton, Ohio, the home of Pro Football's Hall of Fame. Sponsored by the E. W. Bliss Co., the float shown left, designed by member Dick Dudash, featured a 16-foot circular grandstand packed with singing Barbershoppers. A chorus appearance at the Enshrinement Ceremonies received nationwide television coverage.

word along to Barbershoppers who might want to do a bit of woodshedding that they'll almost always find their singing brothers at Chicago #1's new stand, "The Germania Club."

* * *

Cincinnati Barbershopper Gerry Keefe has asked us to let HARMONIZER readers know that plans for a Special Steamboat from Cincinnati to St. Louis for our 1969 Convention have been cancelled. Gerry, who has not given up on the idea of having a boatload of Barbershoppers attend some future Convention, said that he simply could not generate sufficient interest in the project, especially when the commitment date was such a long time from the actual Convention date.

* * *

Anyone know where Harrisville, Mich. is? Pioneer District Barbershoppers, over 800 of them (including families), converged on Harrisville State Park for a Labor Day week-end and their 7th annual "campout." At one big musical show during the week-end eleven quartets, six choruses and a mass chorus of well over 100 voices (representing 20 chapters) appeared in a performance. The people of Harrisville, a non-barbershop city, very graciously hosted Barbershoppers who made up "tent city." Those who could not find their way into public facilities were

Adm. Field Rep. Chet Fox (front row, left) receives a \$500 check for the Institute from Chapter President Jim Crawford as Chorus Director Herb Juneau and other New Lisbon, Wis. Barbershoppers look on.



invited to use backyards and empty lots provided by Harrisville citizens. We're amazed we don't receive more information on an affair this size from our good friends in the Pioneer District. However, we can be thankful to Detroit #1 "Chapter Chips" for providing the information in their bulletin.

* * *

The Society's Logopedics Service Film, "We Sing . . . That They Shall Speak," has been awarded second place in the first annual film festival of the American Society of Association Executives. The award was made some time ago at a meeting of Association Executives and we had hoped to have a picture of the

presentation. However, the picture went astray. The film was produced in the latter part of 1964 and much of the credit for its success should go to Producer Lou Sisk, member of the Pittsburgh, Pa. Chapter; Photographer Jim Williams (Institute staff); Society Communications Director Hugh Ingraham, who wrote the script; and the late Art Baker, who provided the narration.

* * *

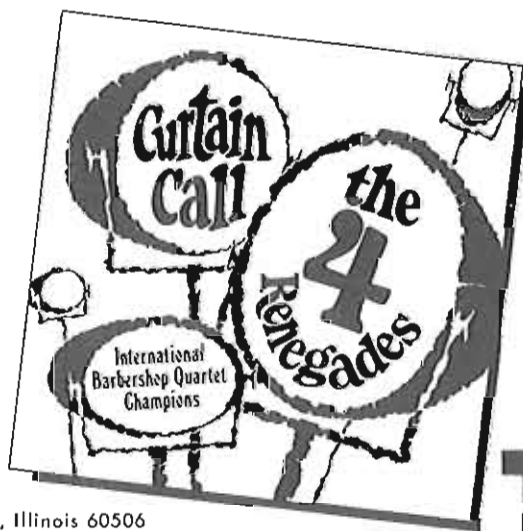
As more and more of our men are going into military service, we receive many requests asking if there is any special treatment regarding payment of dues for servicemen. Our answer is, at (Continued on next page)

count me in!

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The St. Petersburg, Fla. Chapter proudly boasts three generations of Billings on its membership roster. From the left, Wm. H. Billings, Wm. I. Billings, Jr. and William I. Billings, Sr. are shown above. The latter two have held continuous membership since 1955.

I SEE FROM THE BULLETINS—

(Continued from page 27)

least on International and district levels, that there is no special status for service-men members, but that the chapter may, if it wishes, waive the chapter portion of the annual dues. The Society will waive the late fee and reinstatement fee if the member re-enrolls within 90 days after his discharge date from the service. Many times we suggest that if the member going into the service wants to save money, he should either transfer to the Frank H. Thorne Chapter on a temporary basis or just subscribe to the HARMONIZER while he is gone. Better yet, it would be just great if the chapter he leaves could offer him a complimentary subscription while he is performing duties in the service of his country.

Dr. Matt Warpick, the first man to win the Society's highest award for membership recruitment (a golden note award and a diamond stick pin), has taken on a rather large challenge. In addition to his duties as editor of the Manhattan,

PLEIKU—Believed to be the first barbershop chorus in Vietnam, the "Hi-Lander's Chorus," under the direction of Major Robert J. Wachter, former Middletown, Ohio Barbershopper, is shown below as they rehearsed in their base chapel. The 40-man chorus recently performed at the Officers' Club at Pleiku Air Base and at the Vietnamese Regional Forces Mid-Autumn Children's Festival in Pleiku City. The Society has supplied the men with music kits containing several songs and barbershop craft material.



N. Y. "Skyliner," he is now researching a story which he hopes will be appearing in "Medical Economics," a medical publication. In an effort to assist Warpick in his work, the Society has circulated each chapter to find out how many professional men we do have on our rolls. We've already heard from the Carlisle, Pa. Chapter where the Carlindian Chorus boasts seven medical men in their chapter, including one pathologist, two radiologists, a general practitioner, pediatrician, ear, nose, throat specialist and a podiatrist. Their current director, Immediate Past President and 1969 President-Elect are all from the medical profession. Incidentally, Dr. Warpick has now recruited a total of 36 members. Other men to accomplish outstanding achievement in the field of membership recruitment are John Beckwith (Huntington, W. Virginia) with 26 members; Roy Fenn (Tell City, Ind.), 23; and Wally Martin (Elgin, Ill.), 21.

In the "It's-A-Small-World" department we found an interesting item in the Raleigh, N. C. "Capital Chords." When "Chords" Editor Ralph Delano received the Kennebunk, Maine "Yankee Doodler," he was not only surprised to find that Dick Place, a friend he had not seen in 30 years, was a Barbershopper but was also bulletin editor. Yes, it truly is a small world.

We found some interesting information in the Pekin, Ill. "Barber Pole" concerning members of our current International Champion Chorus Chapter. The average member age is 37 plus, with the youngest man being 23 years old and the oldest, 59. It also contained biographical information about director Jim Moses, who has directed the Pekin Chorus to



The rivalry between the Waukesha County and Racine, Wis. (Land O'Lakes District) Chapters flared anew when Racine Chorus Director Don Brink walked in on Keith Merrifield, Waukesha County Director (on ladder), as he was attempting a raid on the Old Songs Library.

three International Championships. Jim and wife Dorothy, have three children, a daughter and two sons. He works in the Foreign Trade Office in the Caterpillar Administration Building and has directed the First Methodist Church Choir for seven years and has also coached several quartets. He formerly directed the Sweet Adeline Chorus in Canton known as "Moses Roses" and the LaSalle Barbershop Chorus for three years. He sang lead in the "Kord Kutters," 1954 Illinois District Champions, joined the Pekin Chorus in 1953 and, since he became director in 1954, has led Pekin to District Championships six times and has never finished below fourth place at International level.

Century Club

(As of October 31, 1968)

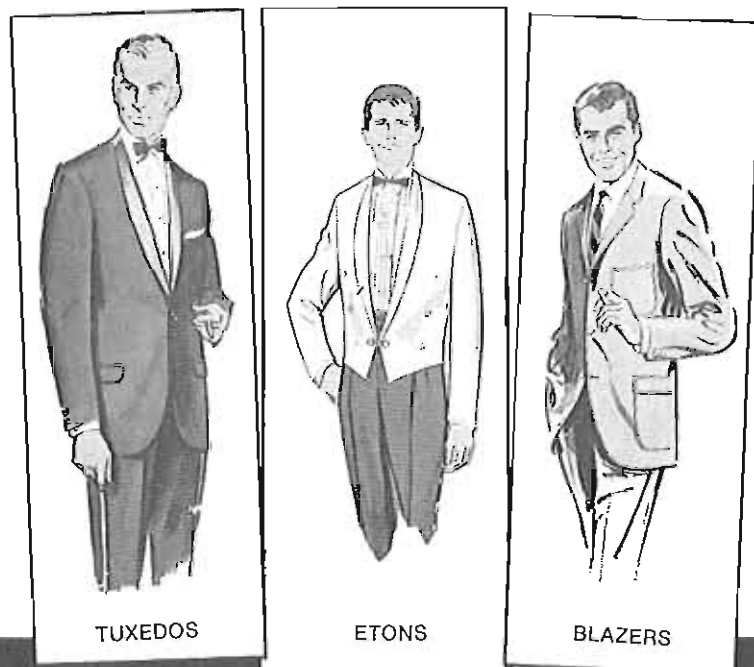
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2. secure approval of your chapter board;
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WHAT ABOUT CHAPTER AND DISTRICT DUES? . . . Your chapter membership dues will still have to be paid to your chapter and district annually.

WHAT IF YOU MOVE OR TRANSFER? . . . Your Life Membership goes wherever you go, and if transfer is not possible, or if there is no chapter nearby, your membership will automatically be transferred to the Chapter-at-Large (requiring no payment of chapter or district dues).

WHEN AND HOW CAN YOU ENROLL? . . . Even if you are only remotely interested in becoming a Life Member, let's hear from you immediately by filling out and mailing the coupon below. Promptness is important because unless 50 members enroll for Life Membership by December 31, 1968 the program will not be started.

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P.O. Box 575, Kenosha, Wis. 53141

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AS REPORTED TO THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE BY DISTRICT SECRETARIES THROUGH WHOM ALL DATES MUST BE CLEARED

(All events are concerts unless otherwise specified. Persons planning to attend these events should reconfirm dates with the sponsoring chapter or district. This list includes only those events reported by District Secretaries as of December 1st, 1968.)

JANUARY 16-MARCH 15, 1969 CENTRAL STATES

March 15—Fort Collins, Colorado
(Poudre Valley Chapter)

15—Hastings, Nebraska EVERGREEN

January 25—Canby, Oregon
February 22—Victoria, British Columbia

March 8—Vancouver, British Columbia
8—Salem, Oregon

14—Edmonton, Alberta FAR WESTERN

January 25—Monterey Peninsula, California

February 7—San Luis Obispo, California

7—Vacaville, California
8—La Crescenta, California
14—Tempe, Arizona
(Phoenix Chapter)

15—Santa Barbara, California
21-22—Ontario, California

22—Napa, California
28-3/1—Riverside, California
March 1—Modesto, California
7-8—Vallejo, California
7-8—Carmel, California (Monterey Peninsula Chapter)
8—Simi, California
8—Bakersfield, California
14-15—Berkeley, California
14-15—Long Beach, California
14-15—Utah Valley, Utah

ILLINOIS

February 15—Ottawa, Illinois
22-23—Bloomington, Illinois

March 8—Lena, Illinois

JOHNNY APPLESEED

February 8—Lima, Ohio (Lima Beane Chapter)

15—Middletown, Ohio
15—Akron, Ohio

March 1—Columbus, Ohio (Buckeye Chapter)

8—Toledo, Ohio
14—Massillon, Ohio (Stark Co. Chapter)

15—Canton, Ohio (Stark Co. Chapter)

15—Euclid, Ohio
15—Toronto, Ohio (Gem City Chapter)

15—Bellefontaine, Ohio
(Logansport Chapter)

LAND O' LAKES

January 17—Willmar, Minnesota
25—Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

February 1—Montevideo, Minnesota
(Fiesta City Chapter)

1—Green Bay, Wisconsin
15—Minneapolis, Minnesota
22—Greater Grand Forks, Minnesota

March 1—Oshkosh, Wisconsin
1—Racine, Wisconsin

15—Kenosha, Wisconsin
15—Greater St. Paul, Minnesota

MID-ATLANTIC

January 18—Parsippany-Troy Hills, New Jersey

25—Carlisle, Pennsylvania

February 22—Summit, New Jersey

March 1—Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania

1—Plainview, New York

14-15—Reading, Pennsylvania

15-16—Wilmington, Delaware

NORTHEASTERN

February 15—Pittsfield, Massachusetts

March 8—Meriden, Connecticut

ONTARIO

March 1—Ottawa

15—Chatham

PIONEER

February 1—Monroe, Michigan

March 1—Kalamazoo, Michigan

SENECA LAND

January 18—Warren, Pennsylvania

SOUTHWESTERN

February 1—Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

15—Enid, Oklahoma

15—Lubbock, Texas

22—Jennings, Louisiana

March 8—Lawton, Oklahoma

SUNSHINE

(Florida)

February 2—Park City

15—Key West

15—Fr. Lauderdale

28—Sarasota

March 1—Sarasota

1—Fr. Meyer

7—Tallahassee

7-8—Miami

8—Pensacola

15—Orlando

15—Daytona Beach



MEDFORD, OREGON . . . Evergreen District . . . Chartered September 30, 1968 . . . Sponsored by Klamath Falls, Oregon . . . 37 members . . . Robert E. Klusman, 203 No. Columbus Avenue, Medford, Oregon, 97501, Secretary . . . Rich Moore, 437 No. Ross Lane, Medford, Oregon 97501, President.

MACOMB, ILLINOIS . . . Illinois District . . . Chartered October 1, 1968 . . . Sponsored by Quincy, Illinois . . . 36 members . . . Allen Munneke, 369-9

Eggers Drive, Macomb, Illinois 61455, Secretary . . . Dr. Donald Dexter, Tower Road, Macomb, Illinois 61455, President.

LA PORTE, INDIANA . . . Cardinal District . . . Chartered October 4, 1968 . . . Sponsored by Michigan City, Indiana . . . 46 members . . . William Carbon, 253 Evergreen Lane, LaPorte, Indiana 46350, Secretary . . . Michael Eberly, Rr. #3, Box 509, LaPorte, Indiana 46350, President.

PLAINVIEW, NEW YORK . . . Mid-Atlantic District . . . Chartered October 11, 1968 . . . Sponsored by North Brookhaven, New York . . . 41 members . . . John W. Bellis, Jr., 22 Schuyler Drive, Commack, New York 11725, Secretary . . . Stuart Barretr, 12 Family Lane, Levittown, New York 11756, President.

SPRINGHILL, NOVA SCOTIA . . . Northeastern District . . . Chartered October 18, 1968 . . . Sponsored by Kentville, Nova Scotia . . . 35 members . . . Doug Marshall, 26 Junction Road, Springhill, Nova Scotia, Secretary . . .

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Contact: Hugh Ingraham,

Director of
Communications,
SPEBSQSA, Inc., Box 575,
Kenosha, Wisconsin 53141

Robert Pulsifer, 76 Elm Street, Springhill, Nova Scotia, President.

COLUMBUS, GEORGIA . . . Dixie District . . . Chartered November 4, 1968 . . . Sponsored by Macon, Georgia . . . 36 members . . . Andrew J. Baldwin, 3935 Savannah Drive, Columbus, Georgia 31907, Secretary . . . Walrer S. Eason, Jr., 2702 Meadowview Drive, Columbus, Georgia 31906, President.

MAIL CALL



from harmony hall

This department of the HARMONIZER is reserved for you, our readers. It contains written expressions regarding your magazine or any other segment of the Society.

As nearly as possible, letters should be limited to 250 words. The HARMONIZER reserves the right to edit all letters and will not publish unsigned letters or letters which may be in poor taste.

RE: SOUTHERNMOST U. S. CITY?

98-1225 Neki Sreer
Aiea, Hawaii 96701

Bud Harvey's story, "Sunshine's Spring Sing Swings!" in the July-August issue boasts repeatedly that "Key West is the Southernmost city in these here United States—" and it makes no bones about it. The Southernmost and Westernmost chapter in these here United States would like to pick some of those bones!

The Aloha Chapter, Honolulu, Hawaii (some 200 miles farther south than Key West), has been a chartered chapter for 23 years and Hawaii has been a state for nine proud years. Mainlanders who use the term "Stateside" in the Islands are quickly but politely reminded by local folks that Hawaii is a state.

The Southernmost-Westernmost U. S. chapter (Aloha) wishes continued success to the Southernmost Continental U. S. chapter (Key West).

Mahalo and aloha,
Bill Joor

WANTS STEREO TAPES

October 4, 1968
Portland, Oregon

In reply to your question regarding stereo tapes (in the Sept.-Oct. HARMONIZER), bring on the tapes.

I think it is a great idea. I use tapes in my car and at home; they are better than records, for sound and storage, and don't break as easily as records. My only question is, what has taken us so long? Both four-and eight-track would be great.

FREE LANCERS REPORT ON U.S.O. TOUR

3103 Dunran Road
Baltimore, Md. 21222
November 21, 1968

The high point in the barbershopping career of the "Free Lancers" (now in its 10th year) has been, and always will be, our tour of the Far East Military Hos-

pitals for the U.S.O. Far more important than the heady wine of touring the "far away places" was the intense satisfaction of being able to participate personally and directly in doing something for the most important people in the world—the men who have been called upon to lay their lives on the line in the defense of our freedom. That may sound like flag-waving (and it's about time), but regardless of where he stands on the war, each American shares the responsibility for each soldier's being there, and is therefore duty-bound to support him until he gets back.

Beyond that, we have to report for the benefit of other interested quartets that the fringe benefits themselves make the trip worthwhile. First, there were the twenty-five days of steady singing, which alone should be enough to induce any quarter man to quit his job if he can't arrange the time off.

Of course, you do need money. Things are so inexpensive, particularly through the Post Exchanges, that the norm is to go broke saving dough. Side trips are well organized and some interesting tours can be arranged on days off that will fit anyone's budget.

The U.S.O., Red Cross, Special Service and Protocol units achieve a marvelous degree of cooperation, and we gathered from them that they have a genuine appreciation of the barbershop quartet as a desirable entertainment group. They like the fact that it travels light, is flexible and adaptable, all-male (easier to billet), relates readily with servicemen, likes to entertain, and displays little of the temperament often encountered in professional types.

One of the more pleasant fringe-benefits of our tour was that at each of our main stops, we encountered residents who were either Barbershoppers or interested in Barbershoppers, and who were, as is characteristic with Barbershoppers, enthusiastic about hosting us around the area, and really helped us make the most out of the few leisure hours we had each day. These people have been very kind to several quarters and deserve special mention. They are:

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Wall in Tokyo,
Kansas City, Mo. Chapter;

Maj. and Mrs. Robert McMahon,
Okidawa;

Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Schuldaski, Clark
A.F.B., Philippine Islands;

Lt. Cmdr. and Mrs. Dan Hellman,
Subic Bay, Philippine Islands (St.
Petersburg, Fla. Chapter) and

Mr. and Mrs. Terrell Perkins, Guam
(Vallejo, Calif. Chapter).

Probably the most attractive aspect of this tour for a quarter, though, is the warmth and appreciation of the audiences. Of course, many entertainers have reported that G.I.s overseas are the world's best audiences, but their response is something that must be experienced to be appreciated. What a wonderful group! Their fortitude seemed unlimited, and their smiles in the face of adversity reassured us as to the strength of the oncoming generation.

They know their jobs, are conscientiously committed to their purpose, and are confident of success. They have one concern—does the average American citizen really care?

The unfortunate tendency of our news media to provide headline and lead story space for the radical fringe results in impressing the G.I. overseas that few back home are in favor of his efforts, or are concerned about his sacrifices. It is very important for us, the over-whelming majority, to do something positive to let our servicemen know that they are appreciated. Write those that you know, directly, and others that you don't know through the Red Cross, and stress the fact that we understand and appreciate and support our military.

Sorry about that 'soap box,' chief, but it needs to be said, and by a lot of people.

One other thing that we must express is that more than ever, we really appreciate S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., because of which we not only encountered the opportunity, but were prepared to take advantage of it. This is an extreme example of a major benefit of belonging to a healthy, going organization. The lives of quarter and chorus members are enhanced in this way continually. We ought to consider it more often.

Humm-bly,
Bob Seay
for the "Free Lancers"

International Service Project (Institute of Logopedics)

District	Sept.-Oct. Contributions	Since July 1, 1964
CARDINAL	\$ 85.00	\$ 13,364.23
CENTRAL STATES	1,490.00	22,818.77
DIXIE	75.00	8,471.65
EVERGREEN	333.60	11,095.26
FAR WESTERN	470.96	35,081.53
ILLINOIS	1,253.48	30,424.12
JOHNNY APPLESEED	278.50	24,627.02
LAND O' LAKES	550.00	25,456.31
PIONEER	790.00	14,893.41
MID-ATLANTIC	3,349.54	41,948.55
NORTHEASTERN	997.65	20,593.37
ONTARIO	1,025.06	16,678.30
SENECA LAND	232.15	20,032.60
SOUTHWESTERN	30.00	15,110.51
SUNSHINE	25.00	12,983.83
HARMONY FOUNDATION	—	10,938.41
OTHER RECEIPTS	399.68	22,993.47
D. C. CASH MEMORIAL	300.00	18,160.18
TOTAL	\$11,685.62	\$365,671.52



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- Were You There (When They Crucified My Lord)
- Abide With Me

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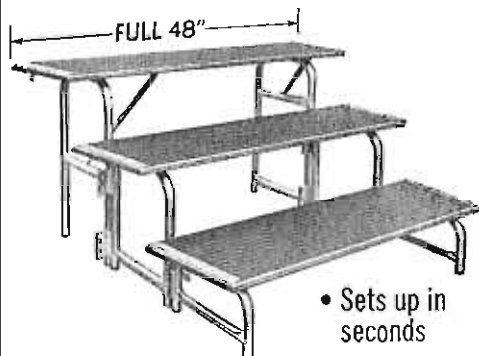
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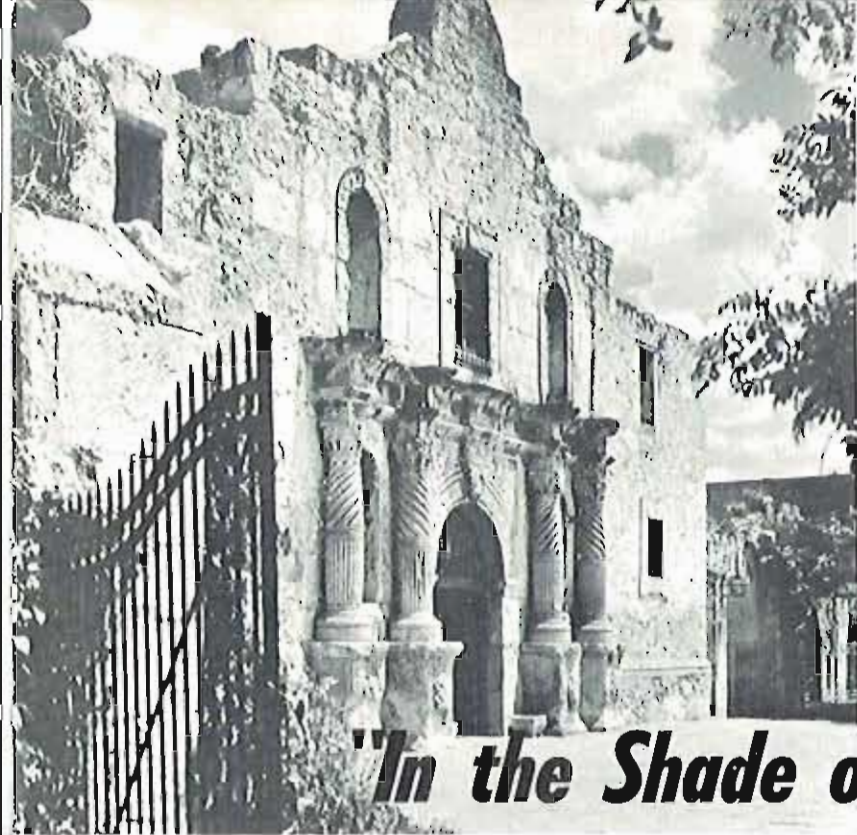


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31st International Convention & Contests—June 23-28, 1969 (See pages 13 thru 16 for complete details)