



THE

Michigan

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Louis R. Harrington, Editor

June, 1951

NEW DISTRICT OFFICERS: J. M. "Jack" Dollenmaier of Bay City was elected president of the Michigan District at the meeting at Sault Ste. Marie on May 5th. He has a long record of service in SPEBSQSA. Jack is also a member of the Charlevoix Chapter and last year was chairman of the Labor Day Jamboree. He is a past president of the Milwaukee, Wis. chapter and was general chairman of the 1947 International Convention held there. Jack was president of the Land O' Lakes District in 1946-47, and now becomes the first man to have held the presidency of the two Districts. Loton Willson and Harold Stark were elected vice-presidents while Clarence Jalving was re-elected secretary and your editor was chosen secretary again. The full list of officers, their chapter affiliations and addresses are as follows:

PRESIDENT - J. M. Dollenmaier (Bay City, Charlevoix Chapters) c/o Kuhlman Elec. Bay City
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT - Mark Roberts (Grosse Pointe) 1438 Fischer Ave., Detroit 14
VICE PRESIDENT - Loton Willson (Boyne City Chapter) Boyne City
VICE PRESIDENT - Harold V. Stark (Oscoda County Chapter) Mio, Michigan
TREASURER - Clarence Jalving (Holland) c/o Peoples State Bank, Holland
SECRETARY - Louis R. Harrington (Hamtramck) 2222 National Bank Bldg., Detroit 26

Your new officers are anxious to make this a banner year for our District and enlist the aid and cooperation of every member. We urge all chapters to send in their list of officers immediately to the District Secretary's office.

MESSAGE FROM NEW PRESIDENT: "Although I know many members from the Michigan Chapters with which I have been associated, obviously I personally am acquainted with only a small fraction of the more than two thousand Barbershoppers in the Michigan District.

During this coming year, I hope to get to know many more of the members while I am attending District parades and other Society-sponsored events.

Our District is a strong one and one of the leaders in the Society. It shall be the goal of your officers for the coming year to keep it in this forward position. We will attain this objective, but only with the full support and cooperation of the District Chapters and the officers and members of these Chapters.

Our Society is a democratic one devoted to Harmony and Good-Fellowship in their finest forms--sprinkled with generous portions of fun for all its members. It is too bad that we need rules, recommendations, procedures, reports, communications, and all the other red tape that goes along with administrative functions of any well-run organization, for it would be nice to forget the work part of our duty as a member.

I know all of us highly value our membership in this Society of ours and I know that we want it to be run in an efficient manner to keep it effective and strong. To this end I am sure that your Officers will have the finest help from all the members of the Michigan District."

RESULTS OF REGIONAL CONTEST: "Clef Dwellers" of Oakland County, "Note Blenders" of Oakland County and "Tune Vendors" of Dowagiac were the three quartets selected at the Regional Contest held May 6, 1951, at Sault Ste. Marie to represent the Michigan District in the International Finals to be held at Toledo on June 8-9th. The "Merri-Men" of Lansing were named as the alternate quartet. Former Michigan contenders, the "Antlers" qualified in the Dixie District Regionals. Many Michigan Barbershoppers who have been unable to travel to the more distant conventions will be anxious to attend this one at Toledo, so if you have not already done so, it is suggested that you contact the International Office, 20619 Fenkell Avenue, Detroit 23, Michigan for reservations.

HIGHLIGHTS OF DISTRICT MEETING: The proposal for staging an annual Michigan District chorus contest was approved. Rules were formulated by a committee composed of C. W. Coye, John Hill, Tom Needham and Francis Hodgeboom. The date of the first contest will be announced soon and all chapters interested in sponsoring same are requested to communicate with the District Secretary's office.

Dr. Kennebeck reported on the progress of the Veterans' Entertainment Committee and announced plans for an extensive program for the forthcoming year.

It was announced that the District Contest to be held October 13, 1951, was awarded to Saginaw.

CHAPTER CHATTER: Chapter reports for the past quarter indicate increased activity in entertaining hospitalized veterans and participating in other worthy causes, several chapters report parades and Ladies Nights increasingly successful.

DEARBORN is engaged in monthly entertainment programs for the Dearborn Veterans Hospital, and report a successful Variety Minstrel Show. GROSSE POINTE provided programs for the Marine Hospital, entertained their ladies at a dinner dance, and the general public at their Fifth Annual Parade. KALAMAZOO sent quartets to Percy Jones Hospital and various civic functions, staged a parade, and hopes to have a chorus under the direction of Don McDowell ready for public appearances soon. STURGIS' new chorus, under the direction of William Stewart, recently made its first appearance, and the chapter expects to have some new quartets. SAGINAW'S chorus is under the direction of Martin Johnstin. OWOSSO is looking for a new chorus director. GRAND RAPIDS' Great Lakes Chorus and quartets have donated their services to raise funds for several worthy causes, and under the able leadership of C. W. Coye are working on the re-organization of the Reed City Chapter into a three county combine; REED CITY, Baldwin and Big Rapids. MILFORD, GRATIOT COUNTY and OSCODA COUNTY have also been extremely active in staging programs for worthy causes. FENTON staged a show to raise funds for the Fenton band and have attended meetings at HOLLY and MILFORD. NORTHVILLE presented their Third Annual Parade and participated in community activities. MT. PLEASANT has established a minstrel chorus routine and their quartets have entertained at hospitals; they also treated their ladies to a Steak Supper and are trying to either re-activate or incorporate the group from Clare. LUDINGTON invited their ladies to a chicken dinner and their quartet has sung at several community and lodge activities. TRAVERSE CITY entertained their ladies at dinner and provided a program for the benefit of the high school music department, a joint meeting was held with BEULAH and plans laid for a program of barbershop melodies to be presented by the combined chapters of BEULAH, MANISTEE and TRAVERSE CITY at the Beulah Blue Water Festival. PONTIAC staged a Ladies Night and miniature parade. MARCELLUS presented a Minstrel Show. THREE RIVERS parade was well received but attendance was small due to inclement weather. EAST JORDAN reports a decline in attendance this quarter. HAMTRAMCK concentrated its efforts on its Ladies Night. MUSKEGON initiated its newest members at a special meeting. SOUTH HAVEN reports an interest in barbershopping in Bangor. John Hill and Ira Murray are starting a third term of their LANSING quartet school, which has been so successful in educating members with a limited musical background so as to participate more actively. LANSING staged its annual "Cornzapopin" show for the benefit of the Lansing Safety Patrols and is now presenting a junior version of the show in smaller communities. A large group from Lansing visited YPSILANTI and NORTHWEST DETROIT.

SPEBSQSA CELEBRATES DETROIT'S 250TH BIRTHDAY: July 17, 1951 has been set aside as Barbershop Day in connection with the City of Detroit's 250th Anniversary celebration. On that day several quartets and the Metropolitan Detroit Chorus will be featured in a program at Grand Circus Park, beginning at 8:30 p. m. Admission is free and everyone is invited.