

A PETITION OF NOMINATION FOR
"BARBERSHOPPER OF RENOWN"

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Submitted to the
SELECTION COMMITTEE
S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A., INC. - International
Messrs. Chairman Griffith, Rathert,
Taylor, Leabo, Foor, Shields.

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by
CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT
Robert D. Gall, President
December, 1964

Our Society, as we know it today, did not just happen. It is not a coincidence. It is not luck nor a better mouse trap. It is the result of the thought, activity, and ideals of dedicated and knowledgeable persons.

We thus enjoy a unique heritage purchased with the treasure, talent, and toil of Barbershoppers - De Luxe, like -

JOSEPH E. STERN



BIOGRAPHY

NAME Joseph E. Stern

BIRTH New York, New York; June 1, 1896

EDUCATION Graduated from Public Schools Sedalia, Missouri, One year University of Missouri (Kansas City School of Law).

MILITARY Overseas veteran World War I.

FRATERNAL Mason, 32° Scottish Rite, member Ararat Shrine.

BUSINESS President, Joseph E. Stern & Company, Realtors. Director Kansas City Real Estate Board. Past-President Kansas City Chapter, American Institute of Real Estate Appraisers. Past-President, American Society of Appraisers. Publishes 'Kansas City Real Estate Market Letter', a quarterly market bulletin to lawyers, judges, and interested professional subscribers; reprinted in part in the leading local newspaper, The Kansas City Star.

CIVIC Past Chairman, and nine (9) year member Board of Directors, Kansas City Tuberculosis and Health Association (Christmas Seal Campaign). Member Steering Committee, Key Men's Council of Kansas City, Mo.

JOSEPH E. STERN has served in many capacities during his twenty-seven (27) years in Barbershopping. But at Kansas City, Heart of America Chapter, we feel very specially about him. The eternal charm of this modest man with his culture, his wit and wisdom, his abundant and continuing capacity for service is perhaps the best living symbol today of a life fully packed with purposeful Barbershopping.

- I. The Barbershopping life of JOSEPH E. STERN begins in early 1938 shortly after his personal friend O. C. Cash, organized a unique singing club at Tulsa, Oklahoma. After learning about the Tulsa club, and with Cash-Hall cooperation, he organized a similar Kansas City group in which he was active, into the second recognized unit in Society history, - Heart of America Chapter. From June, 1938 to January, 1946 he served four (4) terms as Chapter President.
- II. He is credited with originating the organized chorus system as generally practiced throughout the Society today. He directed Heart of America Chorus from 1938 to 1949, the first organized chorus in the Society.
- III. He composed the words and music for many widely sung Barbershop favorites, among which are "Daddy Get Your Baby Out Of Jail", "Let's Get Together Again", "Kansas City My Home Town" (official song of Kansas City, Mo.). The first Barbershop arrangement of "Silent Night", and still widely used, was made by JOSEPH E. STERN.

IV. In 1940, the first official national executive body was created, with Carroll Adams President and JOSEPH E. STERN Secretary-Treasurer. These national officers performed their respective duties during a period when an International headquarters with a full-time professional staff was little more than a dream. One year later, 1941, the Secretary-Treasurer office was divided, and he was elected national Treasurer, with cash on hand, (according to old records) of \$106.55. He served seven (7) succeeding years in the same capacity.

V. At one period, JOSEPH E. STERN was a Certified Judge in all Society categories. He judged at eight (8) International Contests and countless District and preliminary events.

It is admirably stated that JOSEPH E. STERN together with Frank Thorne, Maurice "Molly" Reagan, and Phil Embury initiated the pattern and direction for our present day judging system.

In earlier days, these four (4) comprised the entire national roster of Certified Judges. They were certified in all categories, judged all Society contests, and by mutual agreement shifted from one category to another to vary their effectiveness. It was their custom to travel to four (4) different geographical areas to judge preliminary events, and finally the same four (4) comprised the panel at the International contest.

These erudite Barbershoppers, with uncanny foresight, wrote many articles and offered many formal recommendations to the

