

Sweet Adelines introduce women to 4-part harmony



JACKI KAYE

The South Oakland County Chapter of Sweet Adelines is now open to auditions for membership in the chorus. Women who enjoy singing are invited to attend a special night of barbershop entertainment at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19, in Knight of Columbus Hall on 12 Mile Road in Berkley.

Jacki Kaye, a Farmington Hills resident and director of the chorus for three years, has programmed the evening as an introduction to women's four-part harmony.

There will be a short presentation of a regular chorus rehearsal, a "Nervous Novice" quartet contest and a performance by the 1979 Region 2 Championship Quartet, the Cross-Town Connections.

Members in the chorus come from all parts of Oakland, Wayne and Macomb Counties and give numerous performances each year.

In addition to singing for small audiences, the chapter gives an annual full-

scale stage production. Most recently, the show was "A Toast to Dolly," staged in Mercy Center last fall.

In keeping with the tradition of supporting worthy charities, a percentage of the proceeds from "A Toast To Dolly" was designated for the Michigan Cancer Foundation.

THE SOUTH OAKLAND County Chapter of Sweet Adelines was one of the first to promote women's voices singing barbershop harmony. It received its Sweet Adeline charter in 1954.

During the past 25 years, the chapter has won several regional championships and produced a number of regional and international championship quartets.

The item at hand for Ms. Kaye this spring is preparing the chorus to compete in the 1980 regional competitions, set to begin May 3 in London, Ont.



Props for 'Angel Street'

Rummaging in the Farmington Players storage room, Barbara Nixon, Elsie Jorgensen and Sharlan Douglas uncover what they're looking for on the prop list for "Angel Street." Mrs. Jorgensen directs the mid-Victorian thriller that opens Friday for a

run of three weekends in the Players Barn on 12 Mile Road, between Farmington and Orchard Lake roads. Tickets are on sale now and will be held by calling the box office telephone, 477-1066. (Photo by Pat Bordman)

Greenhouse

gardening

Cymbidiums respond to home care

Cymbidium orchids win my acclaim as the ideal orchids for the indoor gardener who doesn't have a greenhouse and would like to experiment with the most highly prized of all flowers.

Although the orchid literature continues to recommend the phalaenopsis (Moth Orchid) or the papilionidum (Lady Slipper Orchid), as the most likely to succeed in the average home, I have yet to see or even hear of anyone who has brought these species into bloom in their home. If you have grown them, please let me know.

On the other hand, I can congratulate three local people, Joyce Cohn, Lee Frank and Melba Winer. These fine indoor gardeners have had the thrill of raising cymbidium orchids in their home — no greenhouse, no lights. If they can do it, perhaps you can, too.

Many people find orchid plants unattractive and even if the plants did bloom in the house, they often are considered too ugly to warrant the extra cost, extra misting they require and the extra risk.

A large pot of cymbidiums on the other hand, with the long, slender, grassy foliage makes a stunning, year round, indoor specimen plant, even when not in bloom.

Cymbidiums grown in the house, as in the greenhouse, prefer a cool but sunny exposure during the winter months. During the summer they benefit from nearly full sun outdoors on the terrace. Then comes the tricky part of cymbidium culture.

MOST GROWERS AGREE that these orchids need a long period of very cool temperatures during the fall in order to initiate bloom. They can be left outside all fall when the days are still sunny and warm but the nights are cool. Some growers recommend a 45-day period of night temperatures between 45-50°F. I generally bring the plants inside during the first frosty nights but put them out again during the sunny days, and keep them well chilled until late October.

As for other cultural factors, both in the greenhouse and the house, treat cymbidiums like terrestrial plants. They aren't tropical or epiphytic like most orchids. Their roots grow in soil and therefore should never be allowed to dry out completely. Water them thoroughly and then let them become almost dry before watering again. They like a high humidity and frequent fertilizing. I suggest a schedule of high nitrogen in the spring to speed vegetative growth and a low nitrogen-high phosphorus fertilizer toward the end of summer to encourage flower spike formation.

Blooming generally during the drab late winter months when flowers are most welcome, cymbidiums come in a fascinating range of colors. Whether used individually or in a spray, the way delicately colored blooms make a stunning display.

THE KEEPING QUALITY of cymbidiums is unusual, even among orchids, and the flowers will last on the plants from six to 12 weeks. If cut and cared for regularly with warm water, they will easily last two weeks.

You don't have to order cymbidiums from orchid greenhouses as many of our local florists carry both the standard and the miniature form. The standards are quite large plants, and the more popular miniatures are being used increasingly as space savers in small home greenhouses.

Since cymbidiums are cool growing orchids and can bloom with a 55-degree night temperature in the greenhouse, they are highly desirable to the energy-conscious greenhouse owner.

Whether a greenhouse or an indoor gardener, I suggest you start — take the leap! Become an orchidist. Don't let those professionals scare you.

Genealogists meet

The Farmington Genealogical Society meets at 7:45 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19, in Farmington Community Library on Liberty Street for a program led by Joseph Oldenberg. He is archivist for the Burton Collection, Detroit Public Library.

Oldenberg's talk is called "Manuscripts at Burton Library and Their Value to the Researcher."

All meeting sponsored by the club are open to all persons interested in genealogy.

Tech Hifi's Biggest Sale. Monday.

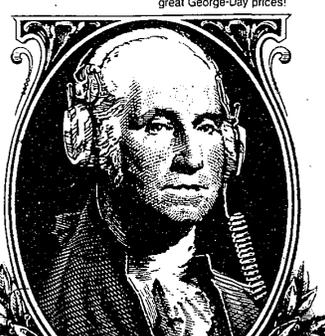
SALE INCLUDES OUR NEW STORE IN SOUTHFIELD

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This Monday, George Washington's Birthday, is the best day to buy stereo at Tech Hifi. Our prices are never lower all year. For this one day only, everything in the store goes on sale — including many brand-new,

brand-name components at dealer's cost! This Washington's Birthday, as always, Tech Hifi will not be undersold. Here are some examples of the kind of savings you can expect:

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