

# newsboy



GUEST EDITOR  
Jack Bales  
440 Palace Street  
Aurora, Illinois 60506

Vol. 10, No. 10  
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Monthly Newsletter of  
the HORATIO ALGER  
SOCIETY. The World's  
Only Publication Devoted  
to That Wonderful  
World of Horatio Alger.



*Founded 1961 by Forrest Campbell & Kenneth Butler*

## THIS 1972 CONVENTION ISSUE IS DEDICATED TO FORREST CAMPBELL

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Forrest and Rachel Campbell  
in the Hartmann's home

## HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY

To further the philosophy of Horatio Alger Jr. and to encourage the spirit of Strive and Succeed that for half a century guided Alger's undaunted heroes — lads whose struggles epitomized the Great American Dream and flamed hero ideals in countless millions of young Americans.

OFFICERS

LEO (BOB) BENNETT	PRESIDENT
JACK BALES	V-PRESIDENT
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CARL T. HARTMANN	SECRETARY
KENNETH B. BUTLER	DIRECTOR
RALPH GARDNER	DIRECTOR
FORREST CAMPBELL	DIRECTOR
JUDSON S. BERRY	DIRECTOR

The NEWSBOY, the official organ of the Horatio Alger Society is published monthly except January and July and is distributed free to Society members. Membership fee for any twelve month period is \$5.00.

NEWSBOY recognizes Ralph D. Gardner's HORATIO ALGER, OR THE AMERICAN HERO ERA, published by Wayside Press, 1964, as the leading authority on the subject.

Please use membership roster for mailing addresses of our officers and members.

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## CHANGES OF ADDRESS

PF-156 Bette Robinson  
1322 W. State Street  
c/o C. Lund  
Milwaukee, Wis. 53233

PF-235 Dr. M. Russell Dock  
1911 Jefferson Davis Highway  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

PF-236 Mildred C. Chamberlin  
P. O. Box 159  
East Orleans, Mass. 02643

Please correct your 1972 membership roster accordingly.

## NEW MEMBERS REPORTED

PF-352 Alan F. Quick TR-069  
620 West Court  
Mt. Pleasant, Mich. 48858

Alan, a friend of Bob Bennett, attended the 1972 Convention in Mt. Pleasant, where he joined the Horatio Alger Society. He is a college professor at Central Michigan University and hopes to obtain a complete collection of Alger's works. Besides spending time hunting and fishing, he collects antique books by various authors, notably G. A. Henty and Oliver Optic.

PF-353 Arthur L. Hegarty TR-111  
Box 376  
Philmont, New York 12565

Arthur learned of the Society through a lecture that Ralph Gardner gave at the Hudson, N. Y. YMCA (see page 2 of May, 1972 issue of NEWSBOY). Besides owning an impressive number of Alger titles that he has acquired during the past ten years, Arthur also collects coins. This interest dates back to 1935, when he joined the American Numismatic Society, his number in that organization being 5317.

PF-354 Carl W. Miller, PhD. TR- ?  
8884 Brandt Pike Street  
Tipp City, Ohio 45321

Dr. Miller is one of the nation's top electrical engineers employed by the U. S. Government to study top secret electronic devices. He is a technical director of electronic warfare in the USAF and frequently travels throughout the country and the Far East.

PF-355 Mildred C. Miller TR-003  
8884 Brandt Pike Street  
Tipp City, Ohio 45321

Mildred is the wife of PF-354, Carl Miller, and besides reading Algers

for pleasure, she also finds them useful in her occupation as a speech and hearing therapist for the Dayton Public School District. Mildred, the daughter of George Clarke, PF-264, also likes swimming, water skiing, drama, and raising dogs.

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#### DEDICATION OF 1972 CONVENTION ISSUE OF NEWSBOY

This issue of NEWSBOY is dedicated to Forrest Campbell, for it was the opinion of the Board of Directors at Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, the 1972 Convention site, that Forrest, in his eleven years in the Society, has unselfishly dedicated himself in furthering the Horatio Alger Society and in preserving the memory of Alger himself. One of the co-founders of the Society, Forrest was editor of the NEWSBOY from 1962-1969, as well as author of two Alger-type works — a book, THE YOUNG POSTMASTER, serialized in NEWSBOY from 1963-1965, and a play, THE BOY FROM THE BOWERY, written and produced in 1967.

Those who know Forrest Campbell remember him for his warmth to all who profess an interest in Alger and respect him for his thorough knowledge of Horatio and his books. For these and other innumerable reasons, the 1972 Luck and Pluck award was given to him in absentia at Mt. Pleasant — in honor of his unswerving loyalty to Horatio Alger Jr. — and to the Society that bears his name.

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#### 1972 CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

34 people were the guests of Bob and Doris Bennett at the 1972 Convention of the Horatio Alger Society, held in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, from May 11-14. 19 members attended the event, and these included Jack Bales, Sharon Barnes, Bob Bennett, Judson Berry, Ken Butler, George Blackburn, Dan Fuller, Ralph Gardner, Evelyn rebel, Irene Gurman, Carl Hartmann, Les Langlois, Norman Peterson, Dr. Leslie Poste, Alan Quick, Jack Row,

Milton Salls, Carl Thieme, Dale Thomas. Others attending were Keith Barnes, Mary Ellen Blackburn, Doris Butler, Gleason Corning (Sioux Falls, S. D.), John and Audrey Cumming (Mt. Pleasant, Michigan), Paul Federoff (Fenton, Michigan), Jean Hartmann, Bertie Langlois, George and Maxine Martin (Mt. Pleasant, Michigan), Virginia Poste, Beth Row, Helen Thieme, Mary Ellen Thomas, Lyman VanWinkle.

Registration took place at Bob and Doris' home on Thursday, May 11. By early evening, the house was filled with happy and talkative Algerites, all either boasting of their recent finds or else reminiscing about "the ones that got away."

The next day, while everybody else was busy scouting all the old book stores and antique shops, Bob Bennett, Ralph Gardner, and myself drove to Lansing, Michigan, and with Carl Hartmann went to the television station located there so that Ralph could discuss Alger's life and his books for a few minutes over Michigan television.

The highlight of the day by far was the smorgasbord that Doris Bennett prepared for us that evening. With a wide variety of dishes and climaxed with two different kinds of cake, all there proclaimed it to be even better than excellent, and more than one person went back for 2nd, 3rd, and even 4th helpings of everything.

After dinner, we all gathered in the Bennett's living room to "talk about Alger," with Ralph Gardner acting as moderator. The subject of the discussion was in regards to the "title and price list" that the Society printed, and whether we should condone the practice of placing prices on Alger books. Ralph read an article that he wrote for the January, 1972 issue of THE DIME NOVEL ROUNDUP, and a number of arguments were raised, both (continued on page 6)

# Horatio Alger Society In Weekend Meet Here

Collectors and lovers of Horatio Alger books will gather in Mt. Pleasant this weekend for the eighth annual national convention of the Horatio Alger Society. Convention headquarters will be at the home of Robert Bennett, the Society's vice president, at 1220 N. Fairfield Drive.

Fans of Alger will come from all parts of the United States to

pay homage to the man who has been regarded as one of America's most popular authors of books for boys. It is estimated that upwards of 400-million copies of his works were sold in the late 19th and early 20th century.

While here, Society members will view the recently acquired Lucille Clarke Collection of children's literature at the Clarke Historical Library on the Central Michigan University Campus.

Also on display there will be some of the volumes of Bennett's fine Alger collection. All activities will be directed to the purpose of the Society's founding: to promote interest in and to increase the knowledge of Horatio Alger, Jr.

The convention banquet will be held Saturday evening at the Holiday Inn. On the agenda are election of officers for the coming year and the reading of a paper on the author by Ralph Gardner, lecturer and author, and regent of Alger. Two awards will also be presented: the "Luck and Pluck" award to the person who has served the society in the most outstanding manner, and the Pleasant's Holiday Inn.



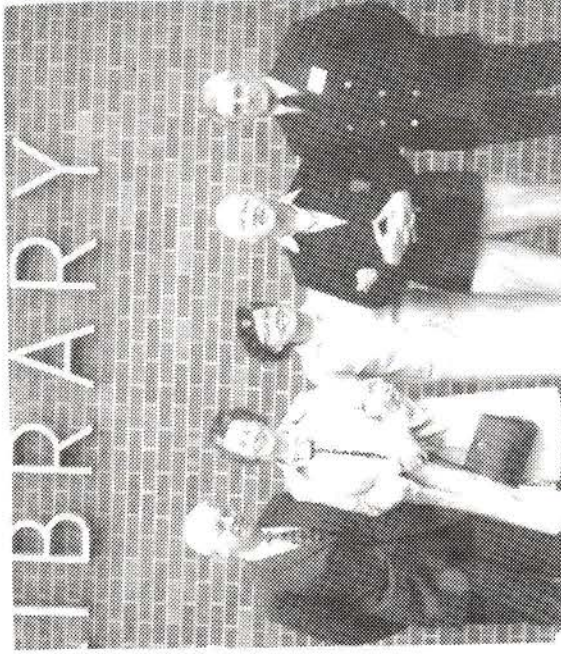
Sharon Barnes listens while Ralph Gardner points out a particular characteristic of an Alger book.

1972 HAS Convention  
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan  
May 11-12-13-14, 1972

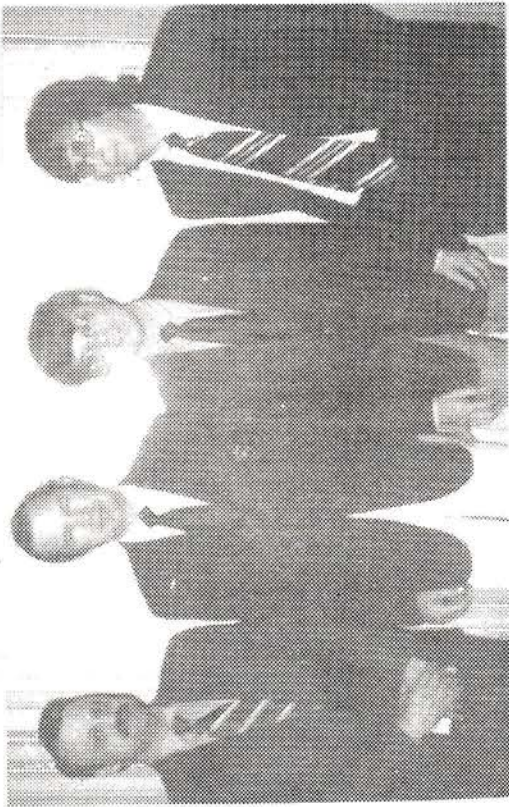
Pictures by Jack Row



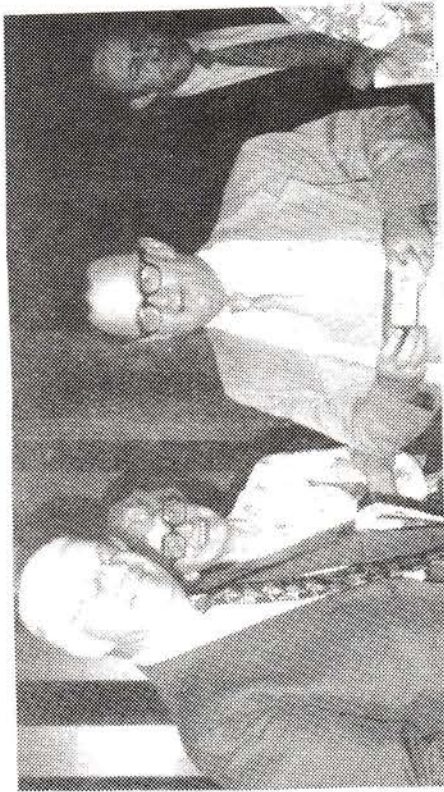
John Cumming addresses the HAS members at the Clarke Historical Library. Mrs. Doris Butler is in the foreground.



In front of the Clarke Historical Library in Mt. Pleasant are Dr. and Mrs. Leslie Poste, Irene Gurman, Ralph Gardner, and Jack Row.



The new HAS officers for 1972-73 include Carl Hartmann, Secretary; Bob Bennett, President; Jack Bales, Vice-President; and Dan Fuller, Treasurer.



Talking together during the banquet are Dr. Leslie Poste, Mary Ellen and Dale Thomas, and Keith Barnes.



Five of the many people who attended our HAS Convention banquet were Mrs. Helen Thieme, Mrs. Doris Bennett, Mrs. Doris Butler, and Mr. and Mrs. Les Langlois.



Past President Judson Berry looks on as Ralph Gardner autographs Miss Evelyn Grebel's book.

(continued from page 3) pro and con, and for over an hour a provocative discussion took place.

The Horatio Alger Society Scrapbook was on display at the Bennett's home, and all who paged through it remarked how interesting it was. I've now started on Volume II, with Volume I containing approximately 225 pages.

We were all at the Clarke Historical Library the next day, and John Cumming of Central Michigan University talked to us about the library and its rare book room. Also, Bob Bennett had on display a number of his first edition Algers, including RAGGED DICK, SEEKING HIS FORTUNE, and GRAND'THER BALDWIN'S THANKS-GIVING...

The annual banquet took place that evening at the Holiday Inn, and the winners of the LUCK & PLUCK and NEWSBOY awards were announced. Forrest Campbell was the recipient of the LUCK & PLUCK award in recognition of his steadfast devotion to Horatio Alger and the Society, and Ralph D. Gardner received the NEWSBOY award in honor of his latest book, ROAD TO SUCCESS, a bibliography of Alger's works, published by Wayside Press of Mendota, Illinois.

New officers of the Society were elected, and those chosen were Bob Bennett as President and Jack Bales as Vice President, with Carl Hartmann and Dan Fuller retaining their respective offices of Executive Secretary and Treasurer. A new policy was begun by the Board of Directors which states that after each President's term of office is over, he will then serve as Director. Therefore, we now have four Directors: Ken Butler, Ralph Gardner, Forrest Campbell, and Judson Berry.

Of course, an HAS Convention would not be complete without one of Ralph's contests, so after dinner Ralph distributed this year's test. In my opinion, it was his hardest

yet (write to me if you desire a copy of it), but one of our newer members, Evelyn Grebel, who wrote the excellent article, "Our Hero's Mother" for the last issue of NEWSBOY, received one of the highest scores.

We also had professional entertainment on the program with Dan Fuller, an English professor at Kent State University, performing some magic tricks for our benefit. Dan, who is affectionately known as "that Alger nut" by the students at Kent State, presented a program that was extremely enjoyable to everybody. Professor Henderson of BOUND TO RISE fame would have been proud of him!!!

After the banquet, the book selling session began in Bob's basement, with over twenty people happily comparing, bartering, bargaining, selling, and trading their respective books. Though I cannot recall all the different arrays that were present, I remember Sharon and Keith Barnes bringing many Algers to sell. Also, Judson Berry brought a few dozen books from the "Berry Antique Den" in Sioux Falls, S. D. Carl Thieme impressed everybody with the fine quality of all of the books that he had for sale and Milton Salls owned four copies of Mayes' biography that he wished to sell. Dale Thomas got a first of THE WESTERN BOY and a Munsey copy of A FANCY OF HERS, thus improving his already fine collection.

The 1972 Convention ended with the farewell breakfast the next day, where we all signed a Holiday Inn postcard, printed a big "HI" on it, and sent it off to Charles Bragin. Before departing, numerous promises of "See you next year," and "I wouldn't miss the next one for anything," were made by those in attendance. So . . . all I can do is echo the sentiments of Bob Bennett as expressed in this month's President's Column and urge everyone to get together in Indianapolis next

year with Paul House. After all, where except at an Alger convention can one see four first editions of RAGGED DICK, all during the same day?

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MINUTES OF THE 8th ANNUAL CONVENTION of the Horatio Alger Society, held in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, May 11-12-13-14.

After the minutes of the previous convention were read, the report of the Membership was given. As of May, 1972, we have 168 members and 9 Library members, a steady increase since last May when we had 153 members with 8 Libraries.

Dan Fuller read the Treasurer's report. In income we have a balance forwarded from May 11, 1971 of \$86.45. This plus cash from dues, donations, Dan the Newsboy pictures, Title and Price Lists, frames, patches, and other miscellaneous items amounted to \$1319.15. Subtract from this \$1125.92, which is the total amount of the expenditures that the Society incurs, including the cost of the NEWSBOY, Wayside Press, bank charges, and the State of Illinois. Therefore, we are in the black \$193.23, which is our balance as of May 10, 1972. (By the way, please remember that all donations to the Society are tax deductible).

A proposal by George Clarke was read concerning the Jr. Alger Club which now has 20 members. However, it was decided that the idea would not be feasible at this time and it was therefore defeated.

It was mentioned that new membership cards have been printed up, and that any member who does not have one may obtain a card by writing Carl Hartmann.

The next year's convention was brought up, and it was announced that Paul House will host the 1973 convention at Indianapolis, Indiana on May 11-12-13. Please remember,

however, that the Board of Directors welcomes any suggestions for the 1974 Convention site.

With that the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Bales  
Convention Secretary

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The below is a copy of a Michigan news release.

(HOLD FOR RELEASE UNTIL 10PM - SATURDAY - MAY 13, 1972).

(LOCAL NEWS/10PM/5-13-72/JH):--

THE HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY, HOLDING ITS ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING IN MOUNT PLEASANT THIS WEEKEND, HAS GIVEN TWO AWARDS.

THE "NEWSBOY" AWARD WAS GIVEN TO RALPH GARDNER, OF NEW YORK CITY, FOR HIS BOOK "ROAD TO SUCCESS." THE "NEWSBOY" AWARD IS GIVEN TO THE PERSON DOING THE MOST TO ENHANCE THE IMAGE OF HORATIO ALGER. THE BOOK "ROAD TO SUCCESS" IS A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE ALGER BOOKS. GARDNER WON THE SAME AWARD IN 1964 FOR HIS BOOK "HORATIO ALGER - OR THE AMERICAN HERO ERA" WHICH IS NOW OUT OF PRINT.

THE "LUCK AND PLUCK" AWARD WAS GIVEN TO FORREST CAMPBELL, OF FAIRHOPE, ALABAMA, WHO WAS ONE OF THE ORIGINAL FOUNDERS OF THE HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY ELEVEN YEARS AGO. THE "LUCK AND PLUCK" AWARD IS GIVEN TO THE PERSON OFFERING VALUED SERVICES TO THE SOCIETY.

THE HORATIO ALGER BOOKS WERE STORIES OF YOUNG MEN WHO ROSE TO WEALTH AND FAME THROUGH VIRTUE AND HARD WORK. ALGER WROTE 123 BOOKS. HIS MOST FAMOUS WRITING, "RAGGED DICK", WAS PUBLISHED IN 1868.

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(Ed. note: Notice the mistake in the first paragraph. It should read "eighth" instead of "eleventh").

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Bob Bennett

The 1972 Horatio Alger Society Convention is now history and once again I think about the tremendous group of people we have in our membership. Doris and I enjoyed hosting this year's event and were so pleased to have had the opportunity to not only renew old friendships but to make many new acquaintances.

To single out the highlights is a difficult task because so many activities were so thoroughly enjoyable. The smorgasbord Doris prepared was outstanding (if I may take the liberty to say so); the book swapping session was absolutely fantastic and books were changing hands so fast that one couldn't possibly have recorded the transactions; the round table discussion and Alger paper by Ralph Gardner was certainly exhilarating; Ralph's annual Alger contest was again first class; and Dan Fuller's magic act was highly entertaining.

Les Langlois (PF-093) and Carl Hartmann (PF-102) kept intact their unbroken string of having attended all eight HAS conventions. Congratulations and let's hope we see both of you make it nine straight next year.

## —AB Quote—

Horatio Alger was working as a stock boy at the local supermarket. It was Monday night, and he was getting ready to go home. Suddenly the boss told him he was fired.

"Fired?" exclaimed Horatio. "But why, Mr. Brown? I've worked like a slave all day long. I've swept the floor, arranged the stock, waited on the customers!"

"Maybe you did," conceded Mr. Brown, "but you didn't empty the garbage, clean the windows, or hose down the sidewalk."

"But, Mr. Brown," screamed Horatio, "this is supposed to be my day off!"

—ANTIQUARIAN BOOKMAN, 1/3-10/72

The 1973 Convention will be hosted by Paul House of Indianapolis, Indiana. The dates will be May 11-12-13, 1973, and I strongly urge all of you who missed this year's event to set aside that weekend and join in on the fun next year.

HORATIO ALGER SOCIETY  
440 PALACE STREET  
AURORA, ILLINOIS 60506

National Parks Centennial

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Milton R. Salls  
Herkimer Home RR #3  
Little Falls, N.Y. 13365