



WESTUNES

Magazine

WESTUNES, established in 1951, is the official publication of the
Far Western District Association of Chapters in the
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of BarberShop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

Volume 53

September/October 2003

Number 5



2 GOTCHA!



3 Metropolis



11 Freestyle



13 Finale



26 Late Night Barbershop



28 Q



37 Sam's Club



38 Broadway



CBQC 8 Four Score

**8 FWD Regular and 1 College Quartets compete in International in Montreal
[presented in order of final ranking]**

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harborlites
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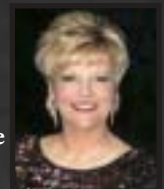


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Table of Contents

Montreal photographs:

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Features

- 3 Can't Stop Singing in Bakersfield
- 5 San Jose in Montreal Pictures
- 7 AHSOW in Bakersfield
- 9 HCDC Pictures and Article
- 11 FWD Quartet Champions - Sam's Club
- 13 FWD Chorus Champions - San Jose
- 16 Quartet Corner & Quarteting
- 26 2002 Int'l Champions Masters of Harmony
- 27 Around Montreal Pictures
- 36 Help Wanted
- Inside Back Cover - Montreal Quartet Pictures

Board of Directors

- 2 The President's Page
John Krizek
- 4 VP: Chorus Director Development
Jim Turnmire
- 6 VP: Chapter Support/Leadership Training
Bernard Priceman
- 7 VP: Events
Sam Barger
- 8 VP: Marketing & Public Relations
Clark Abrahamson
- 10 VP: Member Services
Peter Feeney
- 12 VP: Music & Performance
Jim Crowley
- 14 VP: Young Men In Harmony
Ed Bejarana
- 15 VP: Contest and Judging
Dick Girvin
- 22 Society Board Member
Bob House
- 28-36 Division Digests**
- District Notices**
- 12 Official Delegates Call
- 17-20 COTS Information
- 21 Youth Harmony Camp North
- 23 Whittier Quartet Workshop
- 24-25 2003 Fall Registration Forms - Bakersfield
- 26 Nominating Committee Report

District President

John Krizek



Montreal was Magnifique!

The Far Western District was very well represented at the Society International convention in Montreal. It was truly an international convention in a great city and 10,000 of our brethren weren't disappointed.

By now I'm sure everyone knows of the stellar performances of **Gotcha!**

and **Metropolis**, who garnered second and third place medals, respectively. What a thrill it was to go into the final set knowing two of our quartets were in the running for the gold. Two out of the top three ain't bad. They were certainly on their game!

One of the biggest ovations of the convention was when **Freestyle** was announced as finalist mic-testers—which meant the audience would get to hear (and see) them one more time. Of course they didn't disappoint. They even enlisted the help of past champs **Fred** and **Four Voices** in their zany last set, which had the audience howling.

All of our quartets did us proud. **Finale** (13th); **Late Night Barbershop** (26th); **Q** (28th); **Sam's Club** (37th); and **Broadway** (38th) were great. Everyone was heartbroken when **Hi Fidelity** had to scratch at the last minute due to **Tom Moore's** illness—they made a valiant effort and were back stage all made up to do their *Munsters* routine, but it just wasn't to be.

Our college quartet, **Four Score**, did extremely well in a competition where the bar keeps moving up every year. These young men started out as one of our high school quartet competitors from San Diego a couple years ago and have stuck together as they've moved on into college. It's been a joy to watch their progress.

The **San Jose Garden City Chorus** enjoyed their first appearance at international. I'm sure they'd like to have scored a little better, but I'm also sure it was quite an enriching experience just to be there with the best in the world at what we do. Those of us in the **Masters of Harmony** didn't get to cheer for them on stage—we could only cheer them onto their bus—as we had to go into preparations for the swan song set.

The performances of our outgoing international chorus champions, the **Masters of Harmony**, were truly unforgettable. First there was the World Harmony Jamboree, where the chorus per-

formed the "Dixie" set including last year's contest numbers—augmented by **Michigan Jake** during *Here Comes The Showboat*, and by renown trumpeter **Roger Blackburn** during *Dixie*. Then the **MOH** were joined on the risers by the 150 women of the Sweet Adeline champion **North Metro Chorus** from Toronto, and the two reigning champion barbershop choruses performed a stunning arrangement of *Before The Parade Passes By*—with choreography learned in less than half an hour at the only joint rehearsal the day before.

The **MOH** swan song set at the end of the chorus contest was one of the most challenging and exciting performances ever on the international stage. It concluded with *Stars & Stripes Forever*, with all the words, and flags flying, and wound up in a thunderous standing ovation that just wouldn't quit. And as if that wasn't enough, the **MOH** and the newly-crowned, 10-time interna-

tional champion **Vocal Majority** from Dallas joined forces for a "Midnight Madness" show where the two champion choruses performed jointly for the first time. When those 230-plus voices joined on *Let There Be Peace On Earth* and a medley of *God Bless America/America The Beautiful*, I'm sure the overtones (and undertones) could have set off earthquake alarms in California.

Those who stayed at home and followed the convention via the webcast got to appreciate the fine work once again by our own **Phil DeBar**.

Yes, the FWD presented its championship best on the world stage in Montreal, and you can be proud of all who participated.

Changes, Changes, Changes

Not all the action in Montreal was on the stage. As a result of actions by the Society Board, and all the other meetings that go on at conventions—and as a result of some independent action by your District Board—there are some significant changes in how we will be conducting our barbershop affairs.

- The Society Board approved a change in the Standard District Bylaws which provides districts with latitude in structuring their boards, thereby basically making legal the Far Western District structure for 2004 already approved by our HOD.

This and other changes are reflected in a revised Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) which is posted on the District web site, and which must be acted on by the House of Delegates in October. Highlights are included in the HOD brochure sent to all chapter delegates for review. This clears the way for the election of the new Board, including Division Vice Presidents. I ask that all chapter delegates study this material and come to Bakersfield prepared to deal with these important issues.

Motto:

"to reach the
unreachable
star"

- There are significant changes coming also to the Society Board, and a new planning system whereby districts develop their own work plans—all for the purpose of better responding to individual chapter needs—but more about that later. There are changes in the C & J rules and the Collegiate Quartet Contest which **Dick Girvin** and **Ed Bejarana** will explain elsewhere.
- The 2009 International convention has been awarded to **Anaheim**; the 2006 Midwinter will return to **Sacramento**. So the FWD will host two more Society conventions.
- Speaking of conventions, there will be a proposal before the HOD in Bakersfield to switch the 2005 Spring prelims from Reno to Burbank, in exchange for awarding the 2007 Spring prelims to Reno. This will break up the four-year deal with Reno with a SoCal site—remember henceforth the Spring prelims are combined with the host division contest—and keep our convention on its traditional third week-end in March. (See **Sam Barger's** column for preliminary details. At this writing Sam was waiting for the results of **Doug Maddox's** site inspection.)
- A motion to re-align the Southern California divisions, to achieve a more equitable balance between the two, will also be before the HOD. This will be the first significant re-alignment of our divisions since they were created almost 30 years ago.

Other ideas floating around with your District leadership involve a change in our plateau award system, and a plan to create a new Chapter of the Year award, based on membership growth and outreach criteria. **Peter Feeney** and **Lloyd Steinkamp**, respectively, are working on those issues. An interesting suggestion that came out of the District Presidents' Forum at Montreal was that it might be time to create a special organization just for our female directors. Any ideas you might have along these lines, feed them to our VP CDD, **Jim Turnmire**.

Another area where there are major changes coming has to do with **Harmony Foundation**. There will be a significant re-focusing of our charitable mission, geared to enlisting the world in our cause, and I can hardly wait to share this excitement with you as things develop. This is something extremely important to our future, and I will look forward to your support.

All in all, it's an exciting time. A new structure, a new slate, new ways of doing things. Do you think COTS will be important this fall? Whew! And to help put it all in perspective will be our special guest and keynote speaker at the Bakersfield convention, Society Treasurer **Bob Guiggey**. Bob was on one of our COTS faculties recently and those who were there know he's an enthusiastic and knowledgeable guy. Please join me in welcoming him to the FWD in October. I know he'd like to hear from as many of you as possible.

See you in Bakersfield!

Come for the Convention, Stay for the Contest

Keith Eckhardt

Chairman: Get Our Conventions Singing Again Task Force

Bakersfield is the Far Western District's place to be this October with so many singing choices and so few days. Besides the singing in the lobby, stairwells, elevators, and broom closets, there are classes, a Joe Barbershopper chorus for mic testing, buffet dinners with singing encouraged, and, oh yes, the contests too. If you like to sing with old friends and new ones too, don't miss this event.

The convening starts at 11:30 Friday at Pizzaville USA, 700 Oak Street, Bakersfield. Then at 2pm you can go to **Dan McQuigg's** class on *Tag Singing* and continue on with **Dr. Val Hicks' New Music Sing-through class, or at 2pm you can go to **Steve Shannon's** class on *How to build the chapter you really want*, or as a delegate you can attend *HOD*. Immediately after all that, the hotel has a full buffet planned for around \$12 each and it's another place to sing. And that leads right into the quartet semi-finals and then the AFWDC show.**

Saturday gets an early start with the *Manly Art of Woodshedding* by **Steve Shannon**, or you can join the *Mic Tester chorus*. Chorus contest follows, then the *Mass Sing* on the front steps with **Jim Turnmire** up front, another (and different) buffet, the quartet finals, the Show of Champions, and many options afterwards. We have hospitality rooms, a *Gnarly Tag Sing* with **Jim Crowley**, another *New Music Sing-through*, and of course the never ending quartetting going on everywhere.

If you want to get into a quartet, go to the registration area and visit the *Quartet Sign-up Table*. We'll do our best to match you with three others that are all within back-at-home driving distance of each other. Jump start your new quartet at the convention and rev it up when you get home.

Throughout the weekend a number of the competing quartets will be wandering and asking you to sing with them. You'll see some **AHSOW** quartets out too and they'll be inviting you to sing and woodshed with them.

When you read this you will only have a few days left to register at the early bird price. Go to the FWD Website at www.speb-sqsafwd.org and click on *Fall District Convention* at the top left, then choose *Forms*. You'll find an *Online Registration Assistant* to help you. Also, please send an email to webmaster@speb-sqsafwd.org with the number in your party for each of the *buffets*. We need to know you'll be there.

See you in Bakersfield for our **Can't Stop Singing** event.

VP: CDD

Jim Turnmire



FWD Directors Off to School

Several Far Western District choruses are now experiencing renewed enthusiasm, a zest for learning, fresh ideas, and an invigorated director bursting with newly acquired knowledge.

Why?

Because their directors just returned from a fabulous week at Directors' College in St. Joseph, Missouri!

Five of them were recipients of Society sponsored scholarships. One of them, **Kent Borrowdale**, director of the **Folsom Harmony Express Chorus** was the recipient of our District provided scholarship.

Actually, our District was eligible for eight Society scholarships, but we only had five applicants. It is really too bad that those three other scholarships went unused. There could be several reasons for this. One of them is that the pool of eligible directors

is getting smaller. Currently to be eligible for the scholarship, the applicant must be a frontline director who has never before attended Directors' College. That will change next year. The new criteria has yet to be fine tuned, but directors who have attended previously would be eligible to apply. However, those who have never attended would still receive priority.

It's not too early to begin planning on attending Directors' College next summer. There will be several scholarships offered again, and I'm hoping that we are able to use ALL of them.



New Email Address

[I have a new email address: jtmire43@netscape.net. If you've written me since the first of June at the old edress, I never received the message]


FWD Sunshine Chairman George McCay

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VP: CS/LT

Bernard Priceman



SELECT, ELECT AND TRAIN

By the time you read this article, your chapter should be close to announcing the slate of officers for 2004. If Society guidelines were followed, the process begun much earlier in the year, when your present board decided on the make up of next year's board and advised the nominating committee of

their decision. The Society mandates that five board members be appointed – president, secretary, treasurer, VP Chapter Development and VP Music & Performance – but offers no rules with regard to additional officers. It is up to each chapter to decide on the number of additional board members, including members at large, and their official titles. If new titles are being created, the chapter would do well to write out proper job descriptions.

Of course, certain titles are common. Most chapters select a program VP (even though, sadly, the Society does not mandate this position) and many will select a marketing and/or public relations VP. But there are others to consider, too. How about a VP for YMIH, a VP for chapter communications, a VP for operations, a VP for fundraising or perhaps an executive VP.

Towards the end of the Summer, the nominating committee should be meeting and discussing their selections. They would do well to talk to the current president and other officers, to get input regarding likely candidates and there's nothing wrong with having at least the current president attend their meetings ex-officio. The nominating committee's job should be taken very seriously. All too often officers are chosen because they've been around long enough or because they've never done that job before. Is that really the best way to make such important decisions? It certainly wouldn't work in a commercial environment. And I know we're just a hobby, but we want to succeed in our hobby and make our members happy, just like the officers of a corporation need to keep their shareholders happy.

So, who should the nominating committee choose? Does it need to be someone who's been a member of the Society for many years, or could a fairly new member do the job? (The most productive real estate company in the country was at one time made up of mostly new agents. Why did they do so well? Because they didn't know any of the old bad habits. They were told "this is how you get business" and just did it that way). Don't be afraid of how long a prospective board member has been a barbershopper. New blood often means new ideas, including maybe

some risky ones, but that could be just what your chapter needs. It would be more important to consider each prospect's commitment to the chapter and to the hobby, his availability, displayed initiative, leadership skills and public personality. And how about those members at large? That's for sure a great way to start a newer member on the path to leadership.

Ok, now we've selected the slate and we're ready for an election. This should take place by the end of September. My deadline for early bird registration at COTS is October 15th and your board should have been chosen well in advance of that. And that brings me to the final portion of my headline – "Select, Elect and TRAIN". We had a great turnout for COTS last year, even though many of the attendees felt they would learn nothing new. Wrong. Over and over again I heard that countless new ideas were discussed by excellent faculty members. Plus, the weekend is a great energy boosting, thought generating, bonding time with barbershop brothers. It is truly not to be missed. And there's no excuse this year. We're at the classiest of hotels (a Hilton), just off the 405 freeway, a few hundred yards from LAX and close to enough world famous tourist sights that officers should be bringing their entire families, especially with a specially negotiated \$79 per night room rate for additional days. How about every chapter sends every officer? Isn't that the way it should be? Right. So get those registrations in to me ASAP.

Thanks for listening, Gentlemen. We'll see you all in Bakersfield next month. It's going to be the best District Convention ever.

4 Old Times Sake



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VP: Events

Sam Barger



TWO IMPORTANT ITEMS FOR BAKERSFIELD

There are 2 subjects that are very important to all members attending the FWD Fall convention in Bakersfield (October 2-5 2003). The 1st will require a vote by the chapter delegate at the House of Delegate's meeting. The 2nd is a point that (hopefully) can speed up the eating process and

alleviate the "rush" for dinner before the evening contests.

Subject 1: Two years ago (at the HOD meeting) a bid was presented by the Reno Chapter to hold the FWD Spring International Preliminary Contest in Reno/Sparks for the years 2004, 2005 and 2006. The 2003 Spring contest had already been awarded to Reno at a previous HOD meeting. Since, at that time there were no opposing bids from other areas, all of the bids for the designated conventions were awarded to the Reno chapter. Our goal is to propose different sites for conventions so that travel is evened out between North and South members.

At this time we have a good bid from the Burbank Hilton and Convention Center to hold the 2005 FWD Spring Convention in Burbank. An arrangement has been worked out with the Reno Chapter and the Nugget Hotel Convention Center (contest site) to swap the 2005 convention (to Burbank) for the 2007 Spring convention (to Reno). Consequently, we will be able to change the venue for that year and will split up the travel between the North and South. The 2005 FWD Fall convention has already been awarded to Pasadena.

Since the HOD voted to award the bid for Spring 2005 to Reno the HOD has to approve the move to Burbank for this year. It also must approve the Reno bid to be accepted for 2007. Your chapter needs to be represented for this vital vote – be there to fulfill the count !!

Subject 2: Everyone who has attended the Fall conventions in Bakersfield over the last few years realizes what a problem it has been to get something to eat prior to the evening contests. The headquarters hotel has a nice restaurant but it is not large enough to accommodate our large group in a short period of time. The line at the restaurant has always been long.

We have made arrangements with the hotel to provide a great buffet in the ballroom and the restaurant. What we need to know is how many would support this effort? We could do this both

Friday and Saturday if we have good enough numbers. I'm hoping for AT LEAST 300. Tickets would be sold in the registration area starting Friday. The cost would be \$12.50. Please take the time NOW to give us an estimate by email to our Webmaster, **Keith Eckhardt**, at keith@eckhardts.com.

My personnel thanks to **Keith Eckhardt** for all he is doing to make this Fall convention like all the Fall conventions used to be. **SEE YOU THERE!!!**

AHSOW in Bakersfield

Casey Parker, Chief District Educator & Certifier, AHSOW

The *Ancient Harmonious Society of Woodshedders* will be in residence at the Far Western District Convention, Bakersfield, California October 2-5, 2003. Our regular *AHSOW* room will be available for members and others who wish to explore the art of improvised harmony. Those wishing to join will be asked to sing two harmony parts to unfamiliar songs in a quartet of members. This year's room will be outfitted with a Barber Chair and a Barber Pole courtesy of **Earle Holt**. Expect to see **Kent Shepherd's** quartet "Smile" singing and inviting visitors to our room. **Warren Grant**, President of the Host Chapter, **Palomar-Pacific** promises full support of *AHSOW* activities, with help from **Dick Dickey** of the **Dana Point Quartet Chapter**. **Rich Lewis**, founder of **Orange Quartet Chapter**, will be actively participating. **Charlie Bauder** will be flying in from Arizona and will be in strolling quartets singing songs on his list of favorites

The *AHSOW* national President **Toban Dvoretzky** has tasked **Steve Shannon**, Education VP to fly out from Texas to present "The Manly Art Of Woodshedding" and other classes. This is the second year that *AHSOW* national has supported FWD functions; last year Steve participated in Harmony College West.

All *AHSOW* members are reminded to wear their round badge or yellow T-Shirt for easy identification. The *AHSOW* room will be attended at all time except during actual contest sessions. Those wishing to be certified for membership may make an appointment at the *AHSOW* room sign in. Thanks to **Keith Eckhardt**, this will be a "Can't Stop Singing" convention especially helping Spectators to become Participators. Competing quartets are welcome to sing a song of their choice at the *AHSOW* room when making the "rounds" and stay for a little improvised harmony.



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VP: M&PR

Clark Abrahamson



Time Flies

...can't believe it – we have a scant four months to go in 2003. Didn't we just get through with COTS, installation dinners, planning sessions? Wha' happen to the year?

Truth is, we likely accomplished more than we think – now might be a good time to review our accomplishments – and likewise what we have left on our plate. A great way to do so might be to tap into the

wealth of help and info available on the Society Website (www.spebsqsa.org). You'll find literally hundreds of ideas, tips, and how-tos.

For instance:

- **Membership** – have we done all we can to grow our membership? Did we develop and implement a coherent plan to do so?

Website: *"Run Your Chapter/Membership"*

- **The musical experience** – are we comfortable with our musical performance level? Are our members embracing and enjoying our Chapter Chorus Rehearsals?

Website: *"Sing and Perform/Singing/Skills/Perform/Quarteting/Directing"*

- **The Chapter meeting** – are our meetings designed to provide our members social as well as musical fulfillment?

Website: *"Run Your Chapter/Chapter Leadership"*

- **Community involvement** – are we making an effort to let our community in on our great hobby?

Website: *"Who We Are/Press Kit", "Run Your Chapter/PR"*

- **Youth outreach** – do we have a plan to introduce our schools and youth organizations to the joy of vocal harmony – specifically Barbersop?

Website: *"Sing And Perform/Youth"*



And if you don't find what you're looking for on the Society Website (which would astound me), you'll likely find it on the FWD Website (www.spebsqsa.org). FWD Webmaster Keith Eckhardt is constantly on the lookout for new, useful, and exciting content specifically aimed at the FWD membership.

A few Calendar items to get your juices flowing and prompt your investigation and involvement:

- September 11 - A Barbershop Tribute (www.spebsqsa.org > Who We Are > 9-11 A Barbershop Tribute. www.unitedwesing.org)
- September 26-28 - NorCal Youth Harmony Camp www.spebsqsa.org/div3/YMIHFlyer
- October 2-5 - FWD Fall Convention www.spebsqsa.org/events

...to market, to market...



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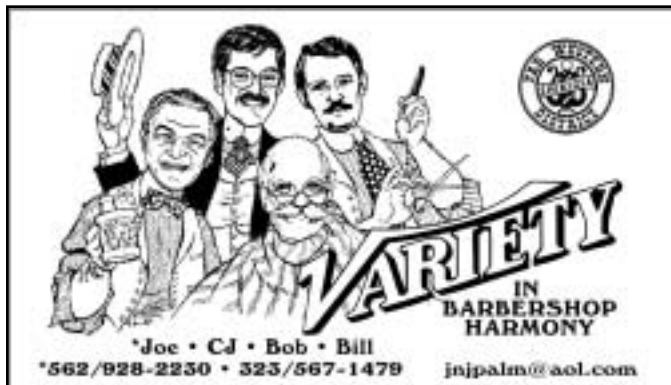
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Far Western District Harmony College/Director's College Class of 2003



Added Attraction- San Diego



Sweet Memories - Santa Rosa



Dick Lund FWD & Ron Chafetz SWD

FWD Invades Missouri Campus

by Dave Gunther

The **Whittier Chapter's** two **Earl Moon Scholars**, **Ron Chafetz**, from the **Arlington, Texas Chapter**, and **Dick Lund**, from the **Placerville, California Chapter**, really enjoyed their first experience at HC/DC and greatly appreciated the scholarships that enabled them to attend. Ron says, *"Harmony College was an absolute blast, and I am so grateful for the opportunity to attend. This was barber-shop heaven: over 700 barbershoppers to sing tags with, instruction from the masters, and a wonderful opportunity to sing in the Harmony College Chorus. The instruction in the classroom was the best I've ever received, and I'm now able to apply it to help myself become a better singer."* Dick wrote, *"My four short years in Barbershopping have given me more than anything else I have ever done; and HC is the topper. Being show chairman for a couple of years, writing the show program, doing the computer music for the chapter, taking on the directorship of NorCal Harmony Camp and even BOTY cannot compare with a week at HC."*

Several HC/DC staff also came from FWD. **Val Hicks** song writing, **Doug Maddox** taught show production, **Bill Meyers** coached quartets, **Nick Papageorge** worked with the Next

Generation Chorus, and **Warren Hettinga** and **Russ Young** taught vocal techniques.

The Friday night Parade of Quartets featured several FWD members. Emcees **Vern Hesterman** from the **Sun City Chapter** in Arizona **Bruce Smith** from the **Hemet Chapter** and **Bob Silverman** from the **San Diego Chapter** made quartet introductions.

Two FWD quartets participated in the quartet training. **Added Attraction** (**Don Salsa**-tenor, **Jim Langford**-lead, **Paul Girard**-bari, **Jim Watt**-bass) from the San Diego Chapter asked **Grayson Zeagler** from the Greater Monroe Chapter to fill in for Paul, who became ill and could not finish Harmony College with the quartet. With Grayson's help, they were able to complete their training and appear on the Friday night Parade of Quartets. **Sweet Memories** (**Jim DeChaine**-tenor, **Val Pizzini**-lead, **Valney Simpson**-bari, **Terry Johnson**-bass) from the **Santa Rosa Chapter** did a fun rendition of "Cool, Clear Water."

The Saturday night show, *"The Return of the Music Man,"* included **Wes Reed** of the **Whittier Chapter** and **Ron Chafetz** singing in the Harmony College Chorus. Each man also sang

cont'd on page 13

VP: MemDev

Peter Feeney



Convention Fun Encourages Membership

Fraternity

Have you made your plans to attend this year's fall convention? If you have not done so, please don't delay. For more information about the many events that will be taking place in Bakersfield during the first weekend in October you can visit the convention website at

<http://spebsqsafwd.org/events/index.htm> which is accessible through the FWD website at <http://spebsqsafwd.org/>.

Let's take a look at some of the activities planned for the convention. If you arrive on Friday morning you are just in time for the Harmony For Lunch Bunch. Starting right after lunch at 2 pm you can attend the House of Delegates meeting, or go the Tag Singing Class or the New Music Sing-Through Class, which starts right after the Tag Singing ends. Perhaps you'd like to visit the AHSOW room.

A buffet dinner will be served starting at 4 pm right at the hotel, which should be very convenient for everybody. At 6 pm the doors open for the quartet contest...and what a competitive contest it promises to be. The judges have to cut the very large field of 26 down to 10 for the finals on Saturday night. I don't envy them their job. By the way, joining the contest on Friday night will be a quartet from our brothers in our 50th state, Hawaii. They are the **Tropichords** and will sing first, so don't be late!

The day isn't over yet, however. Right after the contest get ready for the AFWDC Show, or join in some impromptu singing, and there is still time to visit with AHSOW. O.k., you can go to bed now, unless you want to join the group singing some tags in the lobby.

In the Heart of the Golden State

Bakersfield was named in 1869 after Col. Thomas Baker who had planted a 10-acre field of alfalfa. Travelers frequently stopped there to rest and refresh themselves and their animals on their journey. What an apt description of our convention; it may be better for most of us to leave the animals at home, however.

The chorus contest starts off Saturday with a mic tester chorus taking the stage at 10:45 am. Look for your opportunity to get in on the fun starting at the mic tester rehearsal at 9:45 am. The chorus contest should be a barnburner. There are 26 choruses in the contest this year! The **Westminster** chapter returns to compete this year after their excellent showing at last year's conven-

tion and **Pacific Coast Harmony** from La Jolla, CA competes for the first time. **Sounds of Aloha** from Hawaii will sing in the third position, and our current champions, the **Garden City Chorus** will sing last. Each chorus in the competition has its own story. For example, **Ken Potter** takes over from **Mike McGee** as director of the **Rincon Beach Pacific Sound**, and the **St. George Color Country Chorus** makes its second trip in as many years to the competition from Utah. This is a competition not to be missed.

There'll be a hot time in the old town tonight!

But first, let's eat! The buffet is served again at 4 pm, how convenient is that? There is a large mass sing planned for the steps of the convention center at 4:30 pm. Good stuff! On to the quartet finals. The doors open at 6 pm. Who will take the crown? Be there to find out, and then stay for the show of champions immediately following...there are always surprises during this show, a real highlight of the convention. Following the show there is still more fun to be had. There's tag singing, new music to be learned, hospitality rooms and don't forget AHSOW. Convention Manager **Dave Prigge**, his team and **Keith Eckhardt** have planned a humdinger of a convention for us.

What about Membership Development?

"That's very nice of you, Peter, to give us a rundown of the convention, but where are the recruiting ideas? Aren't you supposed to talk to us about member retention?"

Yes! That's what the convention is all about! Membership is fun, and nothing says fun like the Fall Convention. Whether you are competing in Bakersfield or not, the convention is a time for us to celebrate our hobby by participating in it, seeing old friends, meeting new ones, seeing some of the best in our District compete or share their musical gifts with us at the AFWDC show. It is a grand time for singing, and we are all invited to join in the fun. If you really want to help our first year members experience our hobby at another level, encourage them to attend the convention. That's one of the best ways I know to retain members.

Meetings, Meetings, Meetings

Your district board of directors will meet on Thursday night to handle many of the administrative details of your district. While we can't promise it will be entertaining, it should be interesting and you're invited to attend. On Friday afternoon the House of Delegates will convene. This is where all the important administrative decisions of the district are made. Each chapter should be represented with a voting delegate, but everyone is welcome. This year we have a number of important decisions to make. A new board will be elected, a realignment of the Southern California divisions is on the table, and there are some interesting items up for review. As I say, it may not compete with singing, but it will be interesting.

Convene

Let's try to make this the most well attended convention in years. Make your plans now to get to Bakersfield in plenty of time to

relax and enjoy your hobby with many of your barbershop brothers in harmony. The convention gives us the opportunity to recharge those batteries and renew ourselves in ways that our weekly chapter meetings just can't. I don't have to tell you how much fun the convention can be, but I hope you take another look at how important the convention can be in our efforts to reverse the declining membership trend we have been experiencing. Go, Sing, Have Fun!



2002-3 FWD Quartet Champions Sam's Club

Ken Potter

Sam's Club wishes to thank the Far Western District and the AFWDC for their financial contribution on our recent trek to Montreal. Although we wish we would have placed higher, we know that time together is what all quartets need in order to gel. And we intend to do even better next year. It was a great experience singing at the International. We were fortunate enough to be staying at the Hilton Bonaventure Hotel, with the **Masters of Harmony** and the AIC, and also within two blocks of the contest site. That made it very convenient to get ready on contest day. We would like to thank **Brett Littlefield** for waking through the contest pattern with us. He was invaluable for focus and motivation right before going on stage.

Being on stage at the International is a fantastic experience. It is hard to describe in words because the scope of the arena is so big. When you stand on the stage and look into the big black void, it's hard to imagine ten thousand people staring back at you because you can't see them. You can see the judges' tables, the judges, and the people in the first two rows, and then you start to see eyeglasses reflecting back at you. Then you see the red exit signs in the back of the arena. As you start to sing, the spotlights settle into your eyes and the world disappears. And you hope your face is on and smiling, and that you are singing in tune, and that it's going as well as you had hoped. Before you know it, it's over and the audience is either giving you polite applause or screaming their guts out and standing on their feet. I had hoped for the latter, but we got something in between. I felt happy and I was satisfied. I don't know at that moment if I could have done any better. Nevertheless, it really is an honor to be selected to go there and participate in that fabulous experience. What a wonderful part of the hobby of barbershop singing that everyone should have the opportunity to

be a part of if you are willing to work for it. Yes it does take work. And, maybe a little bit of skill and luck thrown in too.

Of course there are other parts of the convention that make it fun to be a part of. You meet fantastic people and quartets from all over the world. And seeing the other quartets and choruses in competition is, at times, electric. Case in point, the Finals on Saturday night. I thought it was the most electric finals set I have seen in a long time. Our own **Metropolis** and **Gotcha** taking third and second respectively (way to go **Jim Kline!!!**) was thrilling beyond words. But then the audience knew who had taken first and they were on their feet before they were announced. They absolutely poured out their love and admiration for our new International Quartet Champions "**Power Play**" from Michigan. They are truly deserving of the title of International Champions. If you have the opportunity to go see them on a show, don't hesitate for a moment. You will definitely enjoy them.

What's next for **Sam's Club**? We will be sharing the stage on September 6th at the Irvine Barclay Theatre with the popular doo-wop group "**The Alley Cats**." Please come out and support the Irvine chapter and us!! After that, **Sam's Club** will be singing our swan song at the District convention in Bakersfield in October. We look forward to seeing you all there. Please say hello when we see you. For those of you who are looking for our web site, it is almost finished. We will have it up and running soon. The site address will be www.samsclubquartet.com. See you in Bakersfield. Keep singing.....



Disneyland® Resort Line

Masters of Art

The barbershop quartet known as the **Dapper Dans** can usually be heard harmonizing on Main Street, U.S.A. in **Disneyland® Park**. However, during July and August, the group is also performing at the *Pageant of the Masters* in Laguna Beach. The pageant is an annual event at the Laguna Festival of Arts where paintings and sculptures are depicted in three-dimensional, living tableaux, set to full orchestral accompaniment and narration. The **Dapper Dans** sing five songs in a segment called *A Year of Souvenirs* while Americana-themed paintings are depicted. The pageant, which started its annual run July 6, will be performed through August 30.

VP: Mu&P

Jim Crowley



Helping Your Chorus And Quartet Experience

I hope your summer activities and vacations are going well. International was one of the best ever, and the web cast was almost like being in the front row! Thanks to **Phil DeBar** for making the web cast so interesting.

DISTRICT CONVENTION at BAKERSFIELD

We need your attendance in October to support our convention activities. Please make it a point to submit your registrations early. We have many singing activities for you non-competitors, so now you don't have a reason to stay home!

HARMONY COLLEGE WEST

at CSU Hayward August 22-24

As you know, HCW 2003 was sold out by June 28th. The Saturday night show "The Best of Barbershop" was a blockbuster, featuring "Nightlife" our 1996 International Champions and "Gotcha!" our brand new 2003 International Silver Medallists, not to mention the great performances of our twenty-five student quartets.

CHAPTER COACHING REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

Remember that if you want to do a Chapter (craft) coaching session, the FWD will reimburse the Chapter for 50% of the coach's EXPENSES (up to \$150 per session) with a Chapter cap of \$300 per year. Download and fill out the chorus coaching reimbursement form from the FWD web site at

<http://spebsqsafwd.org/programs/reimburse.html>.

STANDING OVATION PROGRAM (SOP)

If you have a Chapter show coming up or you want a quartet performance review, contact **Lloyd Steinkamp** at (858)268-4841 or <unkalloyd@juno.com>.

CHAMPS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CAP)

Need coaching assistance? Contact **Stan Sharpe** at <vocalteacher@earthlink.net>. Stan's address is 14814 E. Gale Ave. #B6 - Hacienda Heights, CA 91745-1301. Phone: (626)961-7280.

"What can we do for you?"

In harmony,

OFFICIAL DELEGATES CALL ANNUAL SPRING MEETING FWD HOUSE OF DELEGATES

BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA, OCTOBER 3, 2003

John Ford, FWD Secretary

TO: DISTRICT HOUSE OF DELEGATES consisting of chapter presidents or alternates, elected district officers and past district presidents who are living in the Far Western District and are currently paid up members, in good standing, of a Far Western Chapter.

WHERE, WHEN: Friday, October 3, 2003 Holiday Inn, Bakersfield, California.

ELIGIBILITY: One delegate or alternate from each chapter; elected district officers; and past district presidents who are living in the FWD and who are paid-up members of a FWD Chapter in good standing. Non-voting members of the HOD is one delegate from chapters on licensed status or newly formed groups on the date of the meeting, district coaches, and committee chairmen.

QUORUM: Thirty percent (30%) of the eligible House of Delegate members, (no proxies).

REGISTRATION: Chapter delegates are required to bring with them, to the meeting, the credentials card which accompanies the HOD report and to present this card to the appropriate credentials officer upon arrival at the meeting.

AGENDA: As set forth in the Far Western District Constitution and Bylaws. Agenda items must have the proposal ratified by a majority vote in the originating chapter. Such items should be submitted by the chapter delegate to the district secretary's office not less than sixty (60) days prior to the next meeting of the House of Delegates.

RECOGNITION: Only members of the House of Delegates will be recognized for floor privileges.

VISITORS: Visitors are cordially invited to attend but are requested to refrain from taking seats at the official tables.

**SHOW BY YOUR PROMPT ATTENDANCE AND
ATTENTION THAT YOU ARE SINCERELY
INTERESTED IN THE BUSINESS AND PROGRESS OF
THE FAR WESTERN DISTRICT.**



2002-3 FWD Chorus Champions SAN JOSE

Chuck Hunter, Sr.

Laying it on the line

On July 5th 80 members of the Garden City Chorus simultaneously expended nine months of concentrated effort, and in less than six minutes it was over. At the final tally the chorus was announced as having finished in the 18th position with scores averaging 79.0. What did it feel like? More important, how do the chapter members feel about their performance?

The privilege of representing the Far Western District on the International stage is something that no barbershopper could ever take lightly. Considering the fact that out of over 870 chapters in the Society comprised of 33,000 members only 20 Society choruses and one affiliate had earned the right to compete and it was obvious that we were in very select company. Joining the ranks of previous FWD chorus champions from Eden-Hayward, San Diego, Marin, Berkeley, Downey, Riverside, Phoenix, Peninsula, Fresno, San Fernando Valley, Foothill Cities and Bay Area Metro, each member of the San Jose Garden City Chorus came to appreciate the enormous amount of dedication and sacrifice that had gone into preparing to represent the FWD in each of the previous 51 International contests.

Friday evening the chorus had a celebratory dinner, during which we marked several firsts for San Jose. In addition to this being the first opportunity for the chorus to compete on the International stage it also marked the first time in chapter history that we were represented by two quartets; **Alan Gordon**, who has been competing with **GOTCHA!** for a number of years was joined by **Matt McKee** in **Late Night Barbershop**. For five new members it was the first time in any chorus competition. And, sadly, it marked the last performance for one member who is leaving the San Jose area. The evening's fellowship was capped off by remarks delivered by FWD President **John Krizek**, Chapter President **Randy Meyer**, Musical Director **Chris Hebert**, and Chapter Board Member **Chuck Hunter Sr.**, who spoke about tapping into unused potential.

Saturday morning began with a chapter breakfast, following which make-up was applied and the chorus prepared for the stage. San Jose was fortunate to share a rehearsal space and risers with the Southern Gateway Chorus, and members of each group had an opportunity to visit and wish the others well before the pre-contest chorus flow began. A visit by **Cindy Hanson** reminded each chorus member of his responsibility in delivering the package on stage.

When the curtain opened on the vast audience it was a thrill sensing that we were not just receiving polite applause as an unheralded chorus, but rather there was both enthusiasm and inspiration coming at us from audience members representing the entire barbershop family. From the opening pitch through the final tag this sense of bonding with the audience strengthened in spite of the cavernous arena into which we sang, and the fulfillment of this wonderful performance opportunity was over much too soon.

After leaving the stage the chorus gathered for a few moment and director **Chris Hebert** thanked each man for delivering his best effort. Following hugs and handshakes the members of the choruses seated themselves in the arena and proceeded to be dazzled by the chorus performances that followed.

Not a single member of the chorus had any pretensions of a medal, yet truthfully there were more than a few who were initially taken aback by the placement in 18th position. However upon careful reflection on our scores, averaging 79, consensus was reached that with a sprinkling of 80's in all three categories that our A-level performance was as good as we were able to give . . . at this point in our chapter's development! In the past ten years the San Jose Garden City Chorus has ranked in the top three at the Fall Contest six times, and it is our intent to continue to improve our scores and entertainment value each time we appear in the future.

We'll be seeing you!

See pages 17-20 for COTS information

from page 9

solos and Ron sang in a quartet on the show. **Sam Papageorge** was one of the young men who sang in the Next Generation Chorus. Those guys really tore the house down with their energy and enthusiasm.

While I hope to use many of the things I learned this week in my chapter in the coming year, I also hope that many other FWD chapters will take advantage of the marvelous educational opportunities at HC/DC and send more of their own chapter members next year.

VP: YMIH

Ed Bejarana



YMIH - Alive and Well

Over the past couple months the donations to the Youth Education Fund have increased. We have received several hundred dollar checks a couple of two hundred dollar checks and a big \$2000 check from the Orange Chapter in Southern California. Thank you all for the contributions.

2003 Will go down in the books as a banner year in disguise for YMIH in the Far Western District. In the first four months of the year YOU (the chapters of the Far Western District) reached 2,713 boys with our Barbershop message. The reported chapter level contributions to local school music programs over the last seven months equals almost \$20,000. Some of you out there have some excellent programs and I wish it was possible to tell every story here in the Westunes, but it just is not possible. But wait, there's more. Four chapters are planning Youth Harmony Day's for the second half of this year. If things go as planned, the Far Western District might reach 4000 children.

Max Maxwell along with Keith Eckart have done an amazing job building a web-site that YOU (the chapters and members of the Far Western District) can edit directly. We have restructured the page by division with a section for the District Activities and now updating the page is as simple as posting your article to the web-site. No longer will you be required to submit your work to a committee and wait, now your stories can get on-line in minutes.

Also on the YMIH web-site is a calendar feature. Please post your YMIH event date and information. Again this site is dynamic and can be edited by YOU (the chapters and members of the Far Western District). The site is brand new so there isn't much in the way on content yet, but soon a wealth of knowledge, your knowledge, will be available for all to learn by and from.

The Northern California Youth Harmony Camp is alive and well. We are estimating 70 boys will attend camp this September 26 at Sly Park in the hills above Sacramento. Now a chapter level event, the Youth Harmony Camp is going to be better than ever. For more information visit www.spebsqsafwd.org/ymih for more information. Remember, just because we are expecting 70 boys doesn't mean they'll show up, it will take work on your part to get the boys to attend.

Our district's College Quartet Representatives, **Four Score**, did an outstanding job this year in Montréal. Information on how to hire these young men to perform on your chapter show is avail-

able at the YMIH web-site. A couple of chapters have expressed an interest in bringing a college quartet to their area to help promote barbershop in their local high schools. If your chapter is interested in doing this, please call or eMail me and I'll be happy to help get the ball rolling.

The College Quartet Contest has changed a bit. Now all four members of the quartet may be members of SPEBSQSA. Before only two quartet members could belong to the Society, but now all four can join and enjoy the benefits of being a members of the greatest all male barbershop harmony society. For more information on the CBQC, visit www.spebsqsa.org and search for CBQC.

This October is going to witness a High School Quartet competing on stage at our District Quartet Contest. **Whirlwind** did an incredible job at the NorCAL West competition this past Spring and earned themselves a spot on the big show. Good luck guys.

See you all in Bakersfield.

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**26 Vie For FWD
Chorus Champs****26 Quartets
in the Fall Line
up****Bakersfield, here we
come!**

With the addition of the **Aloha** Chorus, that may compete anytime without pre-qualification, the total number of choruses that

will trod the boards in Bakersfield goes to 26! The current "Target Score" of 59% (of the total possible points) in the division contests brought a wide distribution of choruses from the district: SCW - 4, SCE - 8, NCE - 5, NCW - 3, ASNSU - 4, Small Chapter Chorus Contest - 2.

Mathematically minded folk will immediately agree that the sum is 26. But there is more. With sincere regrets we accepted the withdrawal of two chapters who qualified, however, decided not to compete this Fall, and, was pleased to accept the entry of the Aloha Chapter who "gets to the mainland" every decade or so. Of course, our 2003 International Representative is automatically seeded to the event—bringing the total to 26. This while providing a great opportunity for these contestants, it does present a problem. Society Rules require that more than 25 contestants will necessitate a second session. The Rules also point out that there can be an exception to the rules – which has been requested and approved.

An equal number of quartets have qualified for the Fall Contest. Using the "target score" of 64% for Regular Quartets, 60% for Seniors, plus the top 5 Seniors (who have never been FWD Senior Champ before) the divisional contests provided the following: SCW - 5, SCE - 5, NCE - 5, NCW - 6, ASNSU - 5.

The same mathematician that added the top column reports that this, too, totals 26. But, as it sometimes happens, there are those who withdraw for one reason or another. This year we had two such withdrawals. However, from across the blue Pacific, we had two entries from Aloha (permitted by SOP without pre-qualifying) which bring the total back to 26. The same problem exists regarding the second session but it is hoped that the triple panel assigned will agree to "just one more...." being added.

This "problem," is annually reviewed by the FWD BOD and each year they approve target scores that will bring as many contestants as possible to the Fall event without requiring the second session and the additional cost, effort (and approval) necessary. As a result, a proposal to raise these target scores slightly (1%)

to alleviate the near overload is anticipated at the Fall Board meeting.

The **Chorus** Order of Appearance for the Fall Contest is:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Palomar Pacific | 14. Westminster |
| 2. Reno | 15. Palo Alto-Mountain View |
| 3. Aloha | 16. Fullerton |
| 4. Riverside | 17. Santa Rosa |
| 5. Central California | 18. San Fernando Valley |
| 6. Fresno | 19. Whittier |
| 7. Sacramento | 20. Phoenix Saguaro |
| 8. St George, UT | 21. La Jolla |
| 9. Rincon Beach | 22. South Bay |
| 10. Conejo Valley | 23. Irvine |
| 11. Placerville | 24. North Valley |
| 12. San Diego | 25. Bay Area Metro |
| 13. Santa Monica | 26. San Jose |

From this line up will come :

FWD District Champion Chorus (to Intn.)
FWD Most Improved Chorus
Plateau A Champion (<40 as of 12/31/02)
Plateau AA Champion (41-75 as of 12/31/03)
Plateau AAA Champion (76 + as of 12/31/02)

The **Quartet** Order of Appearance for the Fall Contest is:

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Tropichords | 14. The Perfect Gentlemen |
| 2. Robinson Crusoe & the | Castaways, Wed, Thu, & Fri |
| 3. Older Than Dirt | 15. Stage Door Johnnys |
| 4. Eastsiders | 16. Heirloom |
| 5. Hi-Fidelity | 17. Preservation |
| 6. KaBLaM! | 18. Top Notch |
| 7. Broadway | 19. Somethin' Cool |
| 8. Fastrac | 20. Time Honored |
| 9. O.C. Times | 21. The OK Chorale |
| 10. Curtain Call | 22. Fascinatin' Rhythm |
| 11. Q | 23. Potluck |
| 12. Pacific Coast Quartet | 24. Dry Heat |
| 13. B.O.B. | 25. Late Night Barbershop |
| | 26. Whirlwind |

From this line up will come:

FWD Champion Quartet (Regular)
FWD Champion Senior Quartet
FWD Senior Quartet Representative to Intn.
FWD Novice Quartet

**Don't miss this great display of
GREAT BARBERSHOP**

See you there.



Quartet Corner

*Allen Fossenkemper - Editor
OK Chorale Quartet, Lead
Standing Ovation Team Member*

When the curtain came down on the College Quartet Competition in Montreal the Far Western District was the proud father of a top ten finalist.

Steadily moving their way up from last year's 15th place finish and 19th place showing at Nashville in 2001, **Four Score** delivered a very respectable 68.7% average in Montreal and jumped all the way to 8th. But there is a lot more to the story than that.



Recently, we have seen a lot of "long distance combinations" at the District and at the International level but one wouldn't expect to find that kind of dedication in a college quartet, with all the distractions that pull at the attention and time of a full time student. But **Four Score** is an exception to this conventional wisdom and proudly so.

With Lead **Matt Shoemaker** and Baritone **Matt Fellows** attending Berkeley, and Tenor **Andrew Bearden** and Bass **Jason James** at San Diego State and USD, respectively, there was a lot of traveling involved in this year's competition preparation. Utilizing school breaks and the help of coaches like **Ron Black**, **Four Score** decided they were "mature" enough to seriously consider a run at the Gold. "This society has created four members-for-life," exclaims Bari **Matt Fellows**. "We believe that expansion at the collegiate level holds the most promise for the preservation of the barbershop form."

Last year was a landmark in Society competition with the crowning of the first Champions (Four Voices) that got their start in the College Quartet program. If the dedication and attitude demonstrated by **Four Score** is a sample of the health of the College program then we are sure to see many more Gold Medals coming from this segment of the Society in the future.

Contact: Four Score at www.harmonize.com/fourscore or (619) 444.5888 and ask for Matt Fellows.

QUARTETTING – THE ULTIMATE EXPERIENCE

Glenn Van Tassell

The inimitable **DANNY KAYE** said, "Life is a great big canvas; throw all the paint on it you can". Barbershoppers who miss out on the quartet experience probably do so for many different reasons. Some are just too busy with career, family or other social commitments. Many, I think are led to believe that they are simply not good enough singers to be productive as part of a quartet. Some believe that they are, in fact enjoying the complete barbershop experience with singing in a chapter chorus or working through administrative chairs in the chapter, district and society. All of that is OK and certainly worthy, but there can be more, depending on just how much you would like to get out of the whole barbershop experience. The quartet experience is open to all ages, genders, colors and sizes. It does not limit participation to only the best singers. Quartets have been formed that never intended to perform for the public. Just hanging out with three others and singing some songs can be highly rewarding. I am not overstating the point when I say that a quartet offers the ultimate barbershop experience.

Observe perennial chorus bass singer **Wayne Brozovich** of Tampa Bay, Florida, a man who has held multiple offices in our organization. Chapter and district president and international board member, Wayne after twenty-seven years as a member of the society sang in his first-ever quartet contest in the first weekend of May in the Sunshine District and, with a little help from three other guys, in a quartet called **Fourth Quarter** won the senior's contest. Ask Wayne if previous barbershop experiences came even close to the quartet experience. Ask his quartet partners, **Dave Roberts**, **Kent Jenkins** and **Bob Lang** if they had any fun. Put yourself in the shoes of college and high school quartets, competing for the honor of representing their district at the International College Quartet Contest at Montreal this summer. Singing with obvious joy and enthusiasm, they receive standing ovations and, with their quickly acquired and very high level of skills, left little doubt as to the future of our hobby. Backstage, they mingled easily with administrators, senior's quartets, and mainstream competitors and with old timers like me. Their pleasure in making great music for an appreciative audience was obvious. We all love their amazing capacity for achievement in our style, but we need not be intimidated. Each of us can enjoy our hobby at some level. The greatest fun in our hobby comes from the process of learning to sing together with three other guys with similar capacities and goals.

In a career spanning some fifty three years, I have participated at the highest levels in our hobby, but some of my very best moments have occurred when I got to sing an "old chestnut" with three other guys at an afterglow or when I coached a quartet of old timers who simply loved to sing and, even more, loved being brought together by the shared quartet experience. Don't fail to investigate your potential for singing in a quartet.

C.O.T.S. 2003

will be held on

November 15th & 16th

at the

LAX HILTON

A top quality hotel in a great location.

**Bring the family, make a vacation of it and visit -
Disneyland, Malibu, Marina Del Rey, Manhattan and
Venice Beaches, Santa Monica, Universal Studios.**

Extra nights at a special rate of just \$79.00!

Attendee cost is \$125.00 (\$135.00 after October 15th)

Includes Saturday night stay, Saturday lunch and dinner, Sunday breakfast, all materials
Weekend begins 11:00 AM Saturday morning, ends 11:30 AM Sunday morning

(Registration Forms and Course Descriptions/Class Schedules in Westunes and on the FWD web site)

COTS Co-ordinator - BERNARD PRICEMAN

5150 Avenida Hacienda, TARZANA, CA 91356

Home: (818) 345-4125 E-mail: bernard@thepricemanteam.com

COTS 2003

Course Descriptions/Class Schedule (page 1 of 2)

<u>Class</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>	<u>Music & Performance</u> (Program VP included)
SATURDAY	<u>General Session A</u> (Sing - Logistics for the weekend - Lunch - Dean's keynote address - Sing)			
11:00-12:30pm				
Core #1	Basics of being chapter President (Part A)	Member Reporting, Application, Dues, Manual Chapter 2	Basics and Accounting Principals. Manual Chapters 1,2	Job Description, Music Leadership Team, Mission Statement
12:45-1:35pm				
Core #2	Basics of being chapter President (Part B)	Member Reporting, Easy dues, Chapter Roster, Manual Chapter 2	Chart of Accounts, Explanation of social, operating & income accounts, Manual Chapter 3	Planning weekly meeting, Consider the interests & desires of members
1:45-2:35pm				
Core #3	Basics of being chapter President (Part C)	Board meeting agenda, Minutes, Robert's Rules Of Order, Manual Chapter 3	Chart of Accounts, Expenses Account, Financial statements, Manual Chapter 3	Performing chorus standards, tools, orientation, & learning tapes
2:45-3:35pm				
Core #4	Basics of being chapter President (Part D)	Legal matters, insurance, copyright, Manual Chapter 4	Problem solving and Round Table Discussion	The Annual Program Plan for 2002
3:45-4:35pm				
4:45-5:45pm	<u>General Session B</u> (Learn a song - Harmony Foundation presentation - Live Youth Outreach presentation)			
5:45-6:30pm	<u>Free Time</u>			
6:30-7:20pm	Dinner			
Core #5	Joint with Secretaries and Treasurers	Joint with Presidents and Treasurers	Joint with Presidents and Secretaries	Joint with Marketing & PR - Singing Valentines
7:30-8:20pm				
8:30-9:30pm	<u>General Session C</u> (Learn a second song - Chapter Planning Headstart with Chapter Coaches)			
9:30pm	<u>Afterglow</u>			

<u>Class</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>	<u>Music & Performance</u> (Program VP included)
SUNDAY	Breakfast			
<u>7:00-7:50am</u>				
Core #6 8:00-8:50am	Developing effective Leadership skills	Contributions to Chapter Bulletin and information Brochure, WEB page, Manual Chapter 5.1	Using “Quicken” including starter file, Treasurer Forms 1-4, Treasurer Exhibits	Standing Ovation, Value/ Use and purpose
Core #7 9:00-9:50am	Conducting effective Board meetings/Roberts Rules of Order	Communications with District and Society, UPDATE, ASCAP, Manual Chapter 5.2	Budget & financial planning & reporting, how to avoid financial pitfalls, Manual Chapter 4.5	Quartet Support & Development = Quality Development
Core #8 10:00-10:50am	Conflict resolution, Problem solving	Round table discussion, Review of responsibilities, Questions answered	Round table discussion, experienced treasurers offer help and answers	Young Men in Harmony, Youth Outreach, How to get started and watch us GROW
<u>11:00-11:30am</u>	<i>General Session D</i> (Sing - COTS Wrap-up by Dean - Call to Action by District President)			

COTS 2003

Course Descriptions/Class Schedule (page 2 of 2)

<u>Class</u>	<u>Chorus Director</u>	<u>Marketing & PR</u>	<u>Chapter Development</u>	<u>Young Men in Harmony</u>
SATURDAY <u>11:00-12:30pm</u>	<u>General Session A (Sing - Logistics for the weekend - Lunch - Dean's keynote address - Sing)</u>			
Core #1 12:45-1:35pm	Member of Music Team, & Chapter Leader Qualifications	Introduction, Qualifications, review of responsibilities	"BIG chapter PICTURE", job description, fitting in to be effective	Philosophy of YMIH program. What it takes to be a YMIH VP/Chairman
Core #2 1:45-2:35pm	Development opportunities for developing and improving skills	How does the Marketing & PR team function	RECRUITMENT... Developing contacts, Getting help from members, "Action" items for you	Working effectively with Music Educators and Administrators
Core #3 2:45-3:35pm	Conducting skills, address improvement of conducting skills. In class practice	Internal public relations including starting or improving the chapter bulletin.	FOLLOW-UP, specific things to do. ORIENTATION...putting guests "at home"	Assessing chapter strengths. Working effectively with students.
Core #4 3:45-4:35pm	Conducting skills (cont)	Dealing with the news media. How to make contacts.	RETENTION...anticipating drop-outs. Helping with involvement, developing workers	YMIH performance opportunities: Contests, adjudications, camps, shows and festivals
<u>4:45-5:45pm</u>	<u>General Session B (Learn a song - Harmony Foundation presentation - Live Youth Outreach presentation)</u>			
<u>5:45-6:30pm</u>	Free Time			
<u>6:30-7:20pm</u>	Dinner			
Core #5 7:30-8:20pm	Running effective rehearsals, benefits, preparation, conducting, techniques, evaluation	Joint with Music & Performance – Singing Valentines	SOCIETY MATERIALS Specific examples, when/how to use them, how to order	YMIH resources. Published materials and how to use them
<u>8:30-9:30pm</u> <u>9:30pm</u>	<u>General Session C (Learn a second song - Chapter Planning Headstart with Chapter Coaches)</u> Afterglow			

<u>Class</u>	<u>Chorus Director</u>	<u>Marketing & PR</u>	<u>Chapter Development</u>	<u>Young Men in Harmony</u>
SUNDAY <u>7:00-7:50am</u>	Breakfast			
Core #6 8:00-8:50am	Selecting & teaching new Music. Interpretation. Need for sound management.	Creative marketing ideas. Annual Show. Singing Valentines. Successful examples	PLANNING SUCCESS-GUESTS NIGHTS.... schedule, check list, who helps, examples	YMIH Quartet development
Core #7 9:00-9:50am	Greg Lyne video. Ten steps to a better singing and performing chorus	Joint with Chapter Development , membership marketing ideas	Joint with Marketing/PR How/why you go together. What you do/don't do. Avoiding duplication.	YMIH role playing- Working with students.
Core #8 10:00-10:50am	Topics/activities determined by class. Round table discussion.	Reaching potential chapter members	GOAL SETTING/PLANNING/SCHEDULING. Ideas that work. Getting started now!!	YMIH role playing- Working with Music Educators. YMIH wrap-up.
<u>11:00-11:30am</u>	<u>General Session D (Sing - COTS Wrap-up by Dean - Call to Action by District President)</u>			

C.O.T.S. 2003

Registration Form

Registration fee: **\$125.00** postmarked by October 15th
\$135.00 postmarked after October 15th

Make check payable to **Far Western District**

Mail this form and applicable fees to: **Bernard Priceman**
5150 Avenida Hacienda
TARZANA, CA 91356

Class Name	Attendee Name(s)	Staying Overnight	Smoking Room	Extra Nites **
President		<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
Secretary		<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
Treasurer		<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
VP Mus & Perf / Progr.		<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
Chorus Director		<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
VP Marketing & P.R.		<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
VP Chapter Dev		<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
VP YMIH		<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
Grant Writing		<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
Web Design		<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
District Officer <input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
Chapter Counselor <input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO

Enclosed is a check from the _____ Chapter for \$ _____ for _____ registrations
Date: ____ / ____ Chapter contact: _____ Home: ____ / ____ - _____
Work: ____ / ____ - _____ E-Mail address: _____

** Extra nights. Number of rooms ____ Room type (circle one) - SNGL / DBL / DBL DBL ; SMOKING / NON-SMOKING
(\$79.00 per night, to be paid by chapter or attendee)

Payment enclosed ____ or charge to - Name: _____ CC #: _____ Exp: ____ / ____

(Registrations may be transferred at any time, but no refunds after **October 15th 2003**)



Young Men In Harmony Youth Camp 2003

Harmony Camp
2003 - Sly Park

**With Music Director Gary Bolles
and Metropolis**

Youth Harmony Camp
Friday—Sunday, September 26 - 28, 2003
Sly Park Educational Center
Pollock Pines, California

Pollock Pines is nestled in the pines of the Sierra Foothills just off Highway 50 approximately half way between Sacramento and South Lake Tahoe.

Harmony Camp is designed for high school aged young men.
The cost is \$60 for the camp. Scholarships are available.
No young man will be turned away for lack of financial resources.

Yes, I am interested. Send me more information.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State & Zip _____

Phone (optional) _____ Email _____

Experience (optional) HS Choir _____ Band _____ Other _____

Fill out this form and hand it to the nearest Barbershopper or Music Teacher.

This Camp fills up fast, so get your name in early.

Or, send the completed form to Richard Lund, Camp Director
6164 Windlestraw Road
Placerville, CA 95667

The Gold Rush Chorus and The Sacramento Capitolaire are sponsoring the camp under the auspices of the Far West District of The Society For The Preservation And Encouragement Of Barber Shop Quartet Singing In America, Inc. "SPEBSQSA". Website: www.spebsqsa.org

For More Information,
Contact Richard Lund
530-621-1904
Fax: 530-621-4438
Email: rlund@innercite.com

**"Teach The
Children To
Sing"**



**MONTREAL--A
GREAT CON-
VENTION CITY***Society Board Sets Record*

The Sixty-fifth International Convention was held in Montreal, Quebec, Canada and what a great convention it was. One could not have asked for more exciting contests. **Power Play** from the Pioneer District was a popular winner of the quartet contest, but **Gotcha!** and **Metropolis** were nipping at their heels as well

as at one another's, while placing second and third. And **Freestyle** set a level for comedy that will be hard to beat. They were Mic Testers for the quartet finals for the second year in a row, only this year they did it by placing eleventh.

There is always a memorable contest set for me at these conventions. This year it was the performance of the Greendale, WI **Midwest Vocal Express Chorus** who placed fifth. They were dressed as plastic toy soldiers who came to life when their little boy owner left the room a la the movie "*Toy Story*." They sang great, acted out their parts very well, and had some cute gimmicks including a melting soldier leaving behind only his combat boots. Very clever stuff!

Of course there were the usual meetings that are part of these conventions. Following two days of meetings by subgroups of the Society Board, the Board met on Tuesday for four and a half hours-- one of the longest running meetings in the history of the Society. There were a large number of issues handled, and I will describe those that are most important to the district and you the members.

A report was received from the Governance and Management Task Force (GMTF) which was established at the Midwinter Convention in January of this year. Among their initial recommendations adopted by the Board, districts will be allowed to create separate and distinct structures for governance and leadership (the district board) and management operations (the district operations team). Under these provisions the FWD will be able to implement the organizational structure it approved at the Spring HOD meeting.

Also, by 2005, each district will change from its current district organizational structure and shall have an appointed operations team whose responsibility will be to deliver services and resources to chapters. The operations team will also be responsible for completing the district's goals that contribute to the Society Board's strategic guidance.

Recommendation for changes in chapter management structure are to be provided by the GMTF for Board action at the next Board meeting to be held in November.

The current method of electing Society Board Members from paired districts will also be changing. I am currently serving my third year and last year as SBM for the Evergreen and Far Western Districts. Under the current rules, the Evergreen District would elect a SBM for a three year term beginning in 2004. The EVG/FWD election under the new system will probably take place in 2005. Under these new rules nominations will be made by the nominating committees of the EVG and FWD districts, as well as at-large nominees from the two districts by the Society Nominating Committee. The three nominating committees will then discuss the nominees and select a minimum of two names to be forwarded to the Society Board who will elect the SBM. This same operation will be taking place among all the paired sixteen districts. A district will not be guaranteed to have one of its members elected to a SBM position every three years as now occurs. It is important to remember that the SBMs are not elected to represent their district, but to vote according to what they feel is best for the Society as a whole.

The Board also voted to create a Hall of Fame Committee whose task will be to select past or present members for nomination to a Society Hall of Fame. There are probably hundreds of barber-shoppers who deserve to be considered for nomination for this honor starting with **O. C. Cash** and **Rupert Hall**.

The Society Contest and judging committee asked for a modification of the contest and judging rules as follows: "...brief comments made with supporting visual communications may be permitted to more clearly establish mood/theme, assist the transition of packaged songs, or to add to the effect of closure of mood/theme. Spoken words deemed to be excessive or detrimental to the performance shall be penalized by the presentation judge(s) up to and including forfeiture." This modification was approved by the Board and is effective with the fall 2003 contest cycle. It will be interesting to see what transpires on the contest stage with this rule modification.

Changes to the Official Rules of the MBNA America Collegiate Barbershop Quartet Contest (CBQC) were approved by the Board. The main change will allow members of the Society between the ages of 17 and 25 to sing in the CBQC. Previously no more than two members of a competing quartet could be Society members. Also, members of these quartets will not have to be enrolled in an educational institution in order to compete. The complete rules can be found on the Society Website if you wish to view them.

Approval was also given to a recommendation by the Society Membership Development Committee to provide dropped members an opportunity to reinstate as Frank Thorne International members by enrollment in the Easy Dues Program with no dis-

trict dues being charged. Deadline for this offer will be December 31, 2003.

The complete minutes of the meeting have been posted to the Society Website. There are many topics, which I have not referred to, including the sites selected for future Midwinter and International Conventions.

Now you have some idea why the meeting lasted so long. None of these actions were cut and dried or rubber stamped. There is a lot of give and take that goes on in the subgroup meetings as well as during the actual Board meeting. It is a real honor for me to be representing the FWD on the Society Board of Directors, serving with a group of dedicated barbershoppers,

'Til next time. . .

WHITTIER TO HOST 2ND ANNUAL AFWDC QUARTET WORKSHOP

*Stan Sharpe
FWD Quartet Promotion Chairman/Coordinator for AFWDC*

Following last years' successful Quartet Workshop, the **Whittier Chapter** will host an *AFWDC* sponsored *Quartet Workshop* on Saturday, November 8, 2003...Although this will be known as the SoCal East Quartet Workshop, quartets from other Divisions are invited to register and attend...

The Workshop will be for Registered Quartets only

The *AFWDC* (Association of Far Western District Champions) is also in the process of looking for Chapters to host a Quartet Workshop in their Division. I would like to set up at least one Workshop in each Division every year. If your Chapter is interested, please contact me for more information...

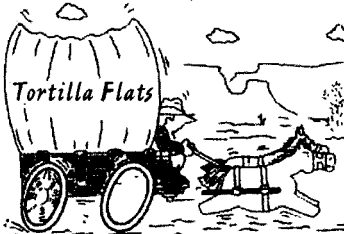
Featuring top Coaches from the FWD, the all day Workshop promises to exceed the number of Registered Quartets we had last year, as quarteting in the FWD continues to grow....

Congratulations to **Alan LeVezu**, **Eric Brickson** and the **Sacramento Chapter** for Hosting their 4th successful Quartet Workshop. Known as *SAQW* (Sacramento Area Quartet Workshop), this Workshop continues to grow and become more progressive each year...

For more information, or to register your Quartet for the Whittier, SoCal East Division Workshop in November, please contact me at: vocalteacher@earthlink.net Or, call me at (626) 961-7280.

In Quartet Heaven,

Comedy
Barbershop Style



Dick Williams, Tenor
Leon Higbee, Lead
Don Shelton, Baritone
Bob Patterson, Bari
(909) 987-2879
tortilaft@aol.com

Sacramento Area Quartet Workshop-4

Casey Parker, Quartet Encourager

The Sacramento Area Quartet Workshop was held Saturday July 19, 2003 for the fourth year. There were 15 quartets in attendance and six un-associated attendees who formed a group called "Spare Parts". Special thanks to the International 28th place Quartet "Q" for their participation in SAQW 2003.

After the day-long coaching sessions, quartets demonstrated their newly learned skills at an evening show. Relatives and friends joined the audience to give enthusiastic encouragement.

All participants and the FWD owe a big debt of gratitude to Alan LeVezu, Eric Brickson and the Sacramento Chapter for continuing to present this worthwhile & economical regional workshop.

John




Larry

Jest for phun?

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Jim

George Dallas
818-597-0820
* 1992 Senior Quartet Champs *



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Far Western District

SPEBSQSA, Inc

2003

FWD FALL CONVENTION & CONTESTS BAKERSFIELD OCTOBER 2-5

Contests and Shows

International Chorus Prelims
Overall and 4 Plateaus
Most Improved Chorus
FWD Quartet Championship
FWD Sr. Quartet Contest
Show Of Champions

THEATER

Bakersfield Convention Center
1001 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, California
Bakersfield, California

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL

Holiday Inn Select - Hotel & Conference Center
801 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, California

Meetings and Events

Board Of Directors
House Of Delegates
PROBE - AHSOW
Hall of Fame Luncheon
Chorus Directors Guild
YMIH

FWD Events Managed Assisting Chapter - Palomar Pacific

REGISTRATION FORM

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT SPEBSQSA 2003 FALL CONVENTION/CONTESTS

October 2-5, Bakersfield, California

Please type or print clearly.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone Res. (____) _____ Bus. (____) _____

Competition Status (check one)

☐ Chorus Contestant ☐ Quartet Contestant
☐ Non-Competitive Member ☐ Guest

VIP Status (check one)

☐ District Officer ☐ Delegate HOD
☐ AFWDC Member ☐ Past-FWD President
☐ Comm. Chairman ☐ Other

☐ { Check here if you have a disability and may require accommodation in order to fully participate in the convention You will be contacted to discuss your needs.



Quartet Name _____
Singing Part: ☐ Lead ☐ Tenor ☐ Bari ☐ Bass
Chapter / Chorus _____

FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE

Full Early Bird Registration Type (Check One)	Full Late/On Site Registration Type (Check One)	Single Events Registration Type (Check One)	Official Use Only
<input type="checkbox"/> Full.....\$30.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Child/Student.....\$15.00 EARLY BIRD CUT OFF Sept. 4, 2003	<input type="checkbox"/> Full.....\$40.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Child/Student.....\$20.00 All Competitors Must have FULL Reg.	<input type="checkbox"/> Fri Evening Qt. Semi Finals..\$20.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Sat Chorus Contests.....\$20.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Sat. Quartet Finals/Show.....\$20.00 (SOLD ON SITE ONLY)	Date Recd. _____ Check # _____ Seat # _____ Badge Code _____ Cash \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____ Please make check payable to FWD FALL CONVENTION 2003

Return completed forms

FWD FALL CONVENTION
2395 BELLA VISTA DRIVE



with payment to:

C/O BOB CATHAWAY.....
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93108

Questions? Call (805) 969-3696 - Email: rwathaway@COX.NET

2003

**FWD FALL CONVENTION & CONTESTS
BAKERSFIELD OCTOBER 2-5**

**HEADQUARTERS HOTEL
Holiday Inn Select - Hotel & Conference Center
801 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, California**

HOTEL REGISTRATION FORM

**FAR WESTERN DISTRICT SPEBSQSA 2003 FALL CONVENTION/CONTESTS
October 2-5, Bakersfield, California**

HOTEL	SINGLE	DOUBLE	DBL/DBL
Holiday Inn Select (Hdqs. Hotel)	\$78.00	\$78.00	\$78.00 Suites \$99.00
Best Western Crystal Palace	\$89.00	\$89.00	\$89.00
Best Western Hill House	\$84.00	\$84.00	\$84.00
Four Points Sheraton	\$94.00	\$94.00	\$94.00
Rio Bravo Resort	\$85.00	\$85.00	\$85.00
Doubletree	\$89.00	\$89.00	\$89.00
Hampton Inn	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00

RATES DO NOT INCLUDE 12% SALES TAX

**Please complete form and return to:
THE GREATER BAKERSFIELD CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU
P.O. BOX 192 BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA 93302-0192
Phone: 661-325-5051 Fax: 661-325-7074**

ONLY MAILED OR FAXED REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED

Name: _____ Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Fax: (____) _____ - _____ Email : _____

ARRIVAL DATE: _____ **DEPARTURE DATE:** _____

CHOICE OF HOTEL:

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

Type of Room: Single _____ Double _____ DbL/DbL _____ Other _____

Single: 1 bed 1 person

Double: 1 bed 2 persons

DbL/DbL: 2 beds 2 persons

CREDIT CARD (ONE NIGHTS DEPOSIT)

Type: _____ **#** _____ **Exp. Date** _____

Cancellations will not be accepted unless 48 hour notice is received.



2002 International Champions SANTA FE SPRINGS

Kirt Thiesmeyer

Since my editors required that I write last issue's entry in the past tense, and you received it before the Montreal Convention, I take comfort in my brilliant prognostications: The **Masters of Harmony** did have the most fun of anyone, watching **Gotcha!** and **Metropolis** capture their medals, cheering for San Jose's **Garden City Chorus** and our other brothers in the Far Western District, and performing with champions **The Vocal Majority** and Toronto **North Metro Chorus** for the finest audiences that the love for a cappella singing can assemble. We particularly enjoyed presenting "royal" proclamations of good wishes (and gifts) to each competing chorus.

By the time you see this issue, the FWD's Bakersfield Convention will likely not have been concluded, so watch for Rincon Beach's **Pacific Sound**, La Jolla's **Pacific Coast Harmony** and the new and divinely mellifluous kids from Westminster's **Harmony Showcase Chorus**, all of them with MOH alums. Quartets to follow are **O.C. Times**, **Fastrac**, **Hi-Fidelity**, **Pacific Coast Quartet**, **The Stage Door Johnnys**, and seniors **Top-Notch** and **Time Honored**. The District Champs, our own **Sam's Club**, will be singing away their trophy. MOH sure does churn them out!

A few of us attended **Pacific Sound's** recent show in Santa Barbara, to help raise money for their Russia trip and to check out the extra-curricular activities of MOH singers **Art Taylor** and **Ed Sweatt**, and co-directors **Mike McGee** and **Ken Potter**. It was a stunning Saturday spectacular and, predictably, we visitors sang too, in the foyer and the courtyard, in the restaurant after dinner, and in the parking lot. "Keep Can't Stop America Singing."

MOH is already embarked on the "next cycle" of performances. Evidently, there is someone in our music directorate who thinks we can be even better, and he will be urging us to push the envelope with three-dimensional sound. We aren't exactly sure what that means, either, but you can find out at our 2003 Annual Christmas Show entitled "Together at Christmas." The place is the Luckman Theatre at Cal State L.A. on Saturday, December 13, with the fabulous SAI chorus **Harborlites** as guest artists; performances at 2:00 and 8:00 p.m. to accommodate all agendas and time zones. See our ad on this issue's inside front cover!

A sad note: After coaching us through a marvelous Convention and pronouncing himself grunted with our adequacy, one of our last remaining active charter members, choreographer and five-time gold medal chorus champion baritone **Wayne Mendes** is following his fortunes to England next January, the scary weather reports and new language obstacles notwithstanding. Ave et vale! Wayne; we'll keep a candle burning in the window.

Nominating Committee Report

*Respectfully submitted,
Deane Scoville, Lloyd Steinkamp, Terry Aramian, Chairman*

The 2003 Nominating Committee has completed its assigned task of nominating a slate of candidates for service on the Far Western District Board of Directors for 2004. This slate is submitted for election by the FWD House of Delegates at its Fall meeting, October 3, 2003.

Each candidate has expressed his willingness to accept the responsibility of serving the Far Western District and the Society unselfishly and to the best of his ability. Therefore the following list includes the FWD Board Positions and the candidates:

(*) indicates new nominees to the board.

President	Peter Feeney
Immediate Past President	John Krizek
Executive Vice President	Bill Cale (*)
Secretary	Dick Girvin
Treasurer	Jim Sherman
Division Vice Presidents:	
AZ/So Nev/So Utah	Ivan Jensen (*)
So Cal East	Bernard Priceman
So Cal West	Bob Lally (*)
Nor Cal East	Clark Abrahamson
Nor Cal West	Dick Whitten

The slate is to be published in the September/October 2003 issue of WESTUNES and here in the Official Delegates' Brochure of the Fall HoD meeting. Nominations may be made from the floor as provided for in Section 5.05© of the Standard District Bylaws (Revised, January, 1998).

Executive Director S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. The search is on. Interested?

View Position Description and Performance Expectations at:
WWW.SPEBSQSA.ORG/XDSEARCH

Submit confidential resume to Executive Director Search Committee by email to: XDSearch@SPEBSQSA.ORG

DEADLINE: September 30, 2003



Division 1 SCal West

Editor Mike Martin



CONEJO VALLEY

RED EHRENBACH

The **Harmony Oaks Chorus** is preparing for their Barbershop Sundae's Show September 13th at the Camarillo Community Center. The Chorus will do their repertoire songs including patriotic songs. Quartets performing will be **Jest 4 Phun**, **Ripple Effect**, **Starstruck** and **Prestige**. The chorus is also preparing for the District Contest in Bakersfield, October 3rd & 4th. **Larry Nixon** has started the Personal Instruction Program (PVI) for those chapter members who are interested.

Bob Josephson, Treasurer, is pressing all the chapter members to get behind the chapter rummage sale in June. It raised big dollars last year and was one of the biggest moneymakers yet for the chapter. Special thanks to **Bob Homkes**, **Devon Hansen**, and **Red Ehrenbach** for helping hand out flyers. at the Camarillo outdoor concert.

RINCON BEACH

BOB LALLY

Pacific Sound hosted a very successful and exciting SoCalWest Division Contest in May and is still flying high from the results. The Chorus was crowned Division Chorus Champ as well as Most Improved Chorus, and our very own **Curtain Call** finished first in the Quartet Contest. This seasoned quartet composed of **Max Frickey**, **Don Kileen**, **Bob Cathaway** and **Jim Serdahely** also captured the Division's Senior Quartet Title. We'll be well represented at the District Convention in October.

In other important news, our founding Music Director **Mike McGee** is leaving us to start a new, exciting chapter in his life by getting married and moving to Florida. We wish him the best and will miss him greatly. However, I'm pleased to announce that we have selected the perfect person to lead us on the next legs of our musical journey with our new Music Director, **Ken Potter**. Ken brings a wealth of musical experience as a professional musician, chorus director and quartet singer with many performances on the International Stage. He is currently tenor of Far Western District Quartet Champions, **Sam's Club**. We welcome Ken and look forward to many years of making beautiful music together.

Both directors participated in three shows held in July to raise funds for our upcoming trip to St. Petersburg, Russia, to represent SPEBSQSA at the Fourth Russian Barbershop Music Festival. Mike made his farewell appearance with the chorus, and Ken made an auspicious debut. Joining with **Pacific Sound** for two shows in Santa Barbara was headliner **Dick Van Dyke** and his quartet the **Vantastix**. A third show was put on the next day in Moorpark substituting FWD Champs **Sam's Club** for the **Vantastix**.

The chorus departs August 16 for St. Petersburg where they will perform in several concerts and help conduct Master Classes and offer coaching for a group of Music Educators from all over Russia. Hopefully there will be time for some sightseeing, and several of the group will be traveling on to Moscow for a three day extension. Coordinating affairs for the trip are **Bob Cathaway**, **Brent Anderson**, **Bruce Hunter** and **Doug Kendrick** with **Ed and Valerie Sweatt** adding their experience from a previous Russian trip. Also representing the Society on this tour will be 1999 International Quartet Champs, **Revival**.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEYAIRES

JEFF BARSKY

With the **Valleyaires** going on tour in Ireland in early September, the pace is picking up. With extra rehearsals and new uniforms on the way, the Valleyaires plan to look sharp as they represent the barbershopping community. For more information about the tour visit their website at <http://www.valleyaires.net/>.

Special Thanks going to **Tim Singer** for an excellent "new member" night. It was an awesome night and Tim's hard work paid off well. With all this excitement, director **Tom Raffety**, president **Mike Cohen**, the music team and board have kicked off a new commitment to excellence for the chorus and are finding new and creative ways of motivating the membership. Also, the Valleyaires first CD "*Celebrate the Sound*" has been doing well. If you would like a copy, call (818) 994-SING. See you in Ireland...

SAN LUIS OBISPO

BRUCE MILLER

Chapter president **Rick Snody** announced that the SLO Chapter is taking steps to legally change the Chapter's name to the "Gold Coast Chorus" even though that name has been used unofficially for many years. It might be of general interest to readers to know that, according to member **John Staley**, there is an individual in San Jose that builds a very serviceable "riser chair" that is simple and elegant to use and clamps comfortably to the riser. Might be an answer for some of us who tire of the long stand on the risers during rehearsals. I am certain John would be pleased to provide a contact to anyone who may be interested. Price is about \$100.

Performance Chairman **Jim Hawkins** announced that the chapter currently has six active quartets. Membership Chairman **George Loose** noted that, while the chapter has had some losses in membership, he anticipates seeing some new faces on the risers as well as some returning faces. Returning is **Bill Winstanley** from the Frank Thorne Chapter and hopefully two new faces by the names of **Ron** and **Brandon Thrower** from the Cuyama area.

SANTA BARBARA

NATHAN STAPLES

The **Channel City Chorus** is alive and well, and the Santa Barbara Chapter is proudly back in the Westunes. They have enjoyed a very active and successful first half of 2003. New chapter President, **Ed Morin**, and Music VP and chapter Founder, **Bob Wilke**, have set in motion a very dynamic and diverse program for our weekly meetings that keeps things fun, interesting, and musically productive.

Wilke and chapter veteran **Bill Miller** have reestablished the Barbershop PoleCat program, encouraging (re)learning of these great standard songs in our musical genre. Members have jumped right on board and enjoy the extra quartetting time at meetings. Of course, Wilke leads the pack towards completing the Polecat program (and has passed each song in several voice parts!), closely followed by **Nathan Staples** and 2002 Barbershopper of the Year, **Michael Frazer**.

The Santa Barbara Chapter has welcomed two new members so far this year, **Craig Pierce** (former Big Apple Chorus member), and enthusiastic rookie, **Peter Drew**. Peter has jumped right into the Polecat program, and both new members have participated in quartet singing.

February Barbershopper of the Month, **Nick Pierce**, orchestrated a tremendously successful Singing Valentines program this year. We continue to keep our quality standards high on Valentines quartets, and business has increased significantly each of the past two years. Valentines and Christmas sing-outs have become major annual sources of income for the chapter. May BOM **Charles Hanson** and Director **Juleine Schmidt** lead us through a very successful Ice Cream Social Show on May 10. The Channel City Chorus and chapter quartets, **Vocal Maturity**, **Inimitable Fabulons**, and **Awesome Hearts Afire** put on a great show, much to the audience's and our own enjoyment!

July 19th the chapter enjoyed a very productive Retreat and Coaching Session by director and BOM for July, **Juleine Schmidt**. We're already on the cusp of performance-quality for all 11 songs for our Fall Show, Sat. November 1, at 2pm in the First Presbyterian Church on Constance & State Streets, Santa Barbara.

SANTA MARIA

LU HINTZ

The Third Annual Chordsmen Golf Tournament was held at Zaca Creek Golf Course with four teams competing for bragging rights. **Mary Hintz** led the winning team with **Larry Los**, **Charlie Los**, and **Ray Reynante** with a score of 55. Everyone attending were winners in the fun department. **Evy Dykema** announced some changes in the annual fall show from a "Circus" theme to what she refers to as "Hometown Harmony" theme. The **Silver Notes** Quartet consisting of **Otis Scott**, **Larry Los**, **Dean Ubben** and **Dan Daniels** sang to **Lou Foltzer** on Father's Day. Lou, is a 41 year member of the Society but has been singing barbershop for more than 70.

According to **Brad Bormann** and **Gene Kai**, an offer was made by the Santa Maria Chapter to the Lompoc Chapter to combine on some events through the year in order to present a larger chorus for each chapter's events and to help boost membership in the Lompoc Chapter area. There are no plans intended to consolidate the two chapters and this is only an interim program proposal. Past president **Larry Long** presented **Ed Gutierrez** with the Barbershopper of the Month Award for his efforts as chairman of the Sweets and Old Songs Show.

SANTA MONICA OCEANAIREs

TOM LASKEY

As this issue of Westunes is going to press, the **Oceanaires** will be presenting their 22nd Annual Ice Cream Social and Concert. It has been a popular, fun, fabulously successful fund raiser which has been a sold out event every year. The Concert is under the guidance of our Program VP, **Steve Demmer**, who sings lead/tenor, and works in the offices of the Santa Monica Blue Bus Co.

Our BOTM for June was **Bruce Schroffell**, who acquired a \$500 grant to purchase new sequined ties and suspenders (red, white, & blue) for the chorus.

Our BOTM for July is **Earl Gauger**, who is on the Music Committee, for acquiring publicity for the **Oceanaires** in local papers. Also, he has restarted and promoted a good quartetting program for the chapter. Every body gets help to better harmony. Past President **Bruce Schroffell** sent special thanks to **Mike Martin** on behalf of the chapter for his hosting of a recent chapter afterglow at his home. The **Oceanaires** are excited to be singing at District this year!

VENTURA

KEITH BOGOST

Thanks to the persistence of **Wayne Rear**, the **Channel Island Clippers** once again participated in the Ventura Street Fair held July 4. Chorus performed under the direction of **Duane Ashby**. In addition, chapter quartets also performed.

Division 2 SCal East

Editor Gene Hartzler

BREA

JOHN GASTON

The **GASLIGHT CHORUS** is closing in on its first year since chartering, and what a year it has been! The effort involved in starting a new chapter is a most demanding experience. The **Gaslight Chorus** will strive to add to the depth of talent.

Membership currently stands at 18 strong and it is hoped that once the public hears what harmonies these men are producing, more men will be encouraged to join the chapter. Music Director **Phil Ordaz** has lined up some challenging barbershop arrangements, many of which are Phil's own.

The chorus has had a busy year performing for audiences around town as well as several church services, patriotic celebrations and concerts in the park. Most rewarding was the appearance on the Sweet Adelines annual show. **Phil Ordaz** and **Bryan Forbes** are writing the script for their inaugural Christmas program entitled "It's A Christmas Carol."

EL CAJON

MIKE DORMAN

A rip-roaring good time was had by a full audience at the San Diego Fair when the **Music Masters Chorus** performed on the Pat O'Brien stage on June 22. Supported throughout the program was a trio of veteran quartets. **Harmonically Correct**, **The Rollin' Tones** and **City Limits** were supported by hearty applause as each group sang their repertoire songs.

Bruce Furchner was smiling all the while he was directing the men, and **Frank McLaughlin** kept the momentum going as he MC'd the show.

FULLERTON

DICK COTE

Editor **Dick Cote** is getting along well in his new "side line", that of advising us on the fine art of reconditioning of our trusty and long-lived Pitch Pipes. Even some neighboring chapters are reproducing Dick's instructions in their bulletins. (Ed. Note) Have you got a side line for a burned out chapter sec?)

President **Kent Fossum's** article on *Legal Music* was interesting but did evoke some sympathy for other chapters that may have had similar problems producing tapes and CD's. (The specter of our licensing agency the American Society of Composers and Publishers) that we know as ASCAP looms ever present in every chapter secretary's files.

Al Bell's article on *Fueling the Fire*, must have struck a note with several chapters who at one time, probably had reservations about the time and effort required to enter competition. Yes, it is fun to a point to prepare for and enter competition but the love of singing and camaraderie so generated is worth much more than the so-called "thrill of being judged by a panel of our peers."

Editor **DICK COTE's** revealing article on The Fullerton Academy of the Arts Jazz Choir points the way to new hope for the young generation as they become engrossed in doing good, clean music in lieu of what we see and hear on TV and from various arenas across the country.

My personal congratulations to Dick and Kay on their 50th Wedding Anniversary! (Ed.Note: Maxine and I celebrated our 65th on 17 June!)

Howard Jones's nice piece *Songs With A Meaningful Message* came at a critical time to sort of counter all the media bad news about tragedy and stress we all experience. The four songs he named are truly Americana.

HEMET

BRUCE SMITH

What a nice gesture of true community service was demonstrated when the Harmonizers gave \$1500 to the Mt. San Jacinto Jr. College at the conclusion of their June show. President **Lee Krauss** received a lovely note from the college in recognition of their generous donation. Show chairman **Jim Buntin** made sure that the show was well covered with lots of excellent photos for posterity.

Music Director **Howard Mesecher** has already instilled the Christmas spirit in the **Harmonizers** with his lay out of the holiday shows ; four of them starting in November, with two at the college, one at a church and one at the Highland Springs Country Club.

IRVINE

JOHN WILSON

The **California Promise Chorus** with 40 members on the roster is casting about for a music director to continue to help them

build their singing and performance skills. He must have the ability to address their current issues and skillfully motivate the men over the next set of hurdles. Contact: Pres. **Dane Hutchins** at: www.cpchorus.org.

ORANGE

RICHARD ACTON

Chapter quartet **Orange Town Four** in one of their versatile configurations and entertained the Orange County Planners Of The American Planners Association (OCPOTAPA). The event was an awards banquet at the Diamond Club held behind home plate at the Big A with a top award going to fellow barbershopper, **Al Bell**.

Another chapter quartet, **Balderdash** performed for the Acoustical Neuroma Association at the Anaheim Sheraton for their Annual National Symposium. They sang 31 songs, some twice, for the pleasure of over 200 guests.

LA JOLLA

JIM POWELL

The chorus is gearing up for their Fall Show, *Greetings From La Jolla* which will be held at the Mandeville Auditorium on the campus of UCSD in La Jolla. 6 September 2003 is the date and the guest quartet selected is the 1996 International Champions, **Nightlife** sure to be a favorite of local barbershoppers.

The chapter recently welcomed five local high school students to its inaugural class of Barbershop 101. The students came from: St. Augustine and Eastlake High Schools. During the 8 weekly sessions the students kept journals detailing what they had learned , wrote a short essay and performed two songs in their individual voice part to an audience of barbershoppers. The students were awarded fine arts credit from their respective high schools. Instructors were: **Kim Hulbert, Royce Ferguson** and **Tony Coe, Jr.**

PALOMAR-PACIFIC

KEITH MULFINGER

The **Premium Blend Quartet** was pictured in the July 6 issue of the North County Times as they performed at the San Marcos' annual Fourth of July celebration. Quartet members are: **Wayne Beighley, Woody Cady, Steve Butler** and **Don Dawson**.

The **Mavrix Quartet, Wayne Beighley, Tom Hogarty, Jim Tate** and **Mike Morrell**, had a busy month of May with four dates here in North County. With **Wayne Beighley, Woody Cady, Warren Grant** and **Marv Ewing** the men performed at Mr. Stox Restaurant in Anaheim where Marv has been part of a quartet that has entertained there for nearly 20 years!

Dale McDonald penned a nice article on *Song Books* which details the vital opportunity and privilege that the chapter has through the program Get America Singing Again. 80 Songbooks were presented in an outdoor assembly to the students of Alvin Dunn School in San Marcos in June.

The chapter also is sponsoring summer workshops for classroom teachers over a period of four Saturdays; 2 in July and 2 in August in the ARTS Building on the campus of UCSM.

RANCHO BERNARDO

LARRY TAYLOR

The **Troubadours Chapter** manned a booth for the Rancho Bernardo "*RB Alive*" Street Fair on 1 June which gave them the opportunity to publicize and advertise their Fall Show which is set for October 12 in the Poway Center for the Performing Arts..

SAN DIEGO

BOB SILVERMAN

The chapter performed in the Balboa Park Organ Pavilion recently as the **Sun Harbor Men** have done for many years to the joy and appreciation of all their followers. A rare afterglow was held afterwards at Walt Eggar's 35th floor downtown condo.

WESTMINSTER

PATRICK CLAYPOOL

The Westminster Chapter is back! Since the rebirth of the chapter's performing chorus last year, they are excited to have welcomed ten new members, all between the ages of 15 to 25 including a transfer from the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania Chapter. They were eager to get back on the contest stage in the SoCal East Divisionals in Anaheim, and at the end of the day with 18 men on stage, they not only qualified to compete in Bakersfield but also were feted as the Most Improved Chorus, and named Plateau A Chorus Champs, as well.

Director **Terry Ghiselli**, at the evening show thanked their special friends, coaches, and FWD notables for all their help, coaching and for allowing them to sing first so that three members could attend their college choir concert later that night.

The men were proud of their two chapter quartets, **Sam's Club** and **Q** for qualifying to compete in Montreal last July.

The chapter is currently preparing to participate in the Fullerton Chapter's Harmony Under the Stars concert later in August. Proceeds from the show will benefit the "Young Men In Harmony" program.

WHITTIER

DAVE GUNTHER

When **Russ Young** came from Phoenix recently to coach the chorus, his second session was identified as "*Riser Time*." This gave the better singers an outlet for making quality really count and to practice and refine performance skills. They feel that they are on a definite up-swing and the quality of the Whittier Chapter chorus is on the way back.

The **Earl Moon** Memorial Endowment Fund has named two recipients for the 2003 year from the largest group of applicants ever. **Ron Chafetz** from Arlington Texas and **Richard Lund** of the Placerville Chapter.

Frank Salazar did a nice piece on his impressions and deep personal feelings on his first chapter show performance in April. Frank has only been a member since March and will always remember the big event!

Don Dorsey's article "*I'll Never Forget that slap*" brought back many memories of the entertaining quartet with **Bob Allen**.

Division 3 NCal West

Editor Don Kingston



BAY AREA METRO

TOM ENNIS

June 4 found the **POT O' GOLD CHORUS** singing at Pleasanton downtown for their First Wednesday event. The chorus did three sets alternating with **Harmony Crossroads**, a Sweet Adeline chorus.

On June 21 the chorus entertained participants of the Relay for Life, a 24 hour charity walk for cancer at Livermore High School. Covering the complete border around the inside of the track were luminaries, each inscribed with the name of a cancer victim. After performing their set, **Pot O' Gold Chorus** members walked around the track and stopped to sing a tribute at the luminary carrying the name of **Dave Tibbetts**, Bay Area Metro Chapter's president who passed away a month earlier.

On July 26, the Chapter held its traditional, annual Fourth of July picnic at Rancho Laguna Park in Moraga. There was plenty of food, games for all (forget the water balloon toss), and, of course, lots of singing.

Between the performances and picnics, the Pot O' Gold Chorus has been hard at work putting the polish to its competition package for the Far Western District Convention. Guest clinicians and coaches have been dropping in to help with the details of the performance as energy and focus continue to ramp up toward Bakersfield.

EUREKA

AL STROM

We learn in the May edition of Redwood Resonance, the Chapter's bulletin, that the annual show, "*The Magic of Harmony*," was a great success.

It was followed by another success -- a guest night, organized by **Mac Gardner**, that brought in 12 (count 'em) guests!

FREMONT/HAYWARD

RAY SPINOSA

On June 20 the **New Dimension Chorus** gave a performance at a luncheon program recognizing Hayward Area Recreation District volunteers. The program was well received by the predominantly senior audience.

After more than 30 years of Society membership **Pete Sparaco** participated in his first ever International competition in Montreal as a member of the **San Jose Garden City Chorus**. Youngster **Matt Fellows** also competed at Montreal with his college quartet, which finished eighth. Congratulations to both!

A still unnamed quartet of chapter members **Lance Mangano**, **Jan Roston**, **Ed Ocampo** and **Ray Spinosa**, recently performed at a retirement party held at a downtown Hayward restaurant.

On July 10 members of the family of **Steve McManus** attended the chapter's regular meeting. Chapter President **Gordon Keeney** presented Mrs. McManus a check, representing members' contribution to a scholarship fund for their children. Steve, a founding member of the chorus, passed away February 19.

MARIN COUNTY

JERRY LLOYD

Print it (in your community education catalog) and they will come! Marin Chapter's recent membership effort is working like a charm, Jerry reports. For the past year and a half the Chapter has offered a four-session course in barbershop harmony for men through the community education program of the local high school district. The class starts 15 minutes before the regular chorus meeting, allowing the director to orient new students. Then it's like guest night -- the volunteer students harmonize with the Chorus until the break, after which they are free to stay or leave. The first class scheduled in the spring of 2002 brought in no students, but the catalog entry provided free publicity to 110,000 Marin County households. The second session in the fall of 2002 brought in two students, one of which joined and later brought his son, who also joined. This year's spring class brought in five students and signed up two members. The next class, which started in August, had brought in two students at this writing. Jerry says this is a durable recruitment device since it requires no effort on the chapter's part other than to renew the district catalog item.

MONTEREY PENINSULA

SAM KIER

The Chapter and its **Cypresses Chorus** have scheduled its annual show for Saturday, November 22. Afternoon and evening performances will be offered at the Ariel Theater in nearby Salinas. From the outline in the spring edition of The Bay Breeze it looks as if the show will be a Western "*dramie*."

PALO ALTO/MOUNTAIN VIEW CHAPTER

JOHN HEATHER

Congratulations to Peninsulare member **Robert Lenoil** for gaining the honor, privilege and thrill of competing on the International stage at Montreal in the quartet **Q**. Although his quartet didn't make it to the semis, the singers made a fine showing by finishing 28th out of 42 -- well ahead of the quartet's 34th-place seeding.

S.F. BAY CITIES QUARTET CHAPTER CASEY PARKER

At a Chapter meeting in June the member donated tuition for a student at Harmony Camp.

Casey's GOBAQ GAZETTE of 6/2002 lists "Singing Pappygrams" on Fathers Day, June 15. That's all we know.

SAN FRANCISCO

DMK

All the guys of the **Cable Car Chorus** and Director **Angela Suraci** are in high gear as they motor on toward the Chapter's annual show in October. "What annual show?" you say. "*Harmony 2003, a Barbershop Celebration*" is scheduled for Saturday evening, October 11, 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the

University of San Francisco's Presentation Theater. Featured quartets are **FINALE**, International finalists, Sweet Adeline quartet **TRUE COLORS** and the Chapter's own **TOP OF THE MARK**. The show is being dedicated to **Joe Pelayo**, who passed away April 2 this year. Joe discovered barbershop harmony with the Cable Car Chorus and later joined Walnut Creek Chapter as a dual member.

Tickets are \$20 for adults; \$15 for seniors (60 years or over); \$15 for students (with ID); and \$15 for children 12 and under. As a special incentive for neighboring barbershoppers to attend, the Chapter is offering SPEBSQSA members the opportunity to bring one guest for the price of a single \$20 ticket. Tickets can be ordered through the Chapter's website <http://www.sfcchorus.org/show03/> or by calling (415) 759-6493 or (415) 928-6623. The website also provides a map. See ya there!!

SAN MATEO COUNTY

DAVID JUNGROTH

The Chapter's Music Team, chaired by **Tom Addison**, has started the process of developing the script for the spring '04 show. **Josh Ryan** and **Dick Boyd** are coordinating and making major script contributions.

Another successful Quartet Night -- that is another 5th meeting in the month - so - it's Quartet Night with the **Golden Chordsmen**, organized by **Don Miller**. Although 30 percent of the membership was away at Harmony College the remaining members and guests had a rousing evening preserving quartet singing in America.

SANTA CRUZ

LAWRENCE STERN

Gold Standard's annual show on October 11 will be a fundraiser for Aptos High School. The Aptos chorus has been invited to sing in Carnegie Hall in 2004. It's hoped that a newly formed quartet from Aptos, **4 Good Measure**, will be ready to perform on the show.

On August 2, **Gold Standard** participated with the **Cypresses** of Monterey and **Surf City Chorus** (female) of Santa Cruz in the Monterey Bay Quartet Jamboree held at Vince DiMaggio Park in Marina. The event was organized by **Jack Bentle**, a long-time member of both Gold Standard and Cypresses. This school year the Chapter plans to send quartets into the five high schools visited last semester and reach out to all of the other high schools in Santa Cruz county as well as Cabrillo College and the University of California Santa Cruz.

SANTA ROSA

RAY CROSDER

During part of the summer months the Chapter, as a recruiting effort, set up a table at Santa Rosa's Wednesday night Downtown Market. The table was staffed by a Chapter rep from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., with promotional material available to the 5,000 to 8,000 people attending.

WALNUT CREEK

DICK JOHNSTON

The July edition of the Devil Mountain Despatch (not a typo)

carries a tribute to the late **Joe Pelayo** (see San Francisco paragraphs above). Joe will be missed by the members of the Devil Mountain Chorus as well as the Cable Car Chorus members.

Division 4 NCal East

Editor Roger Perkins



CARSON CITY

JOHN NICOSIA

Carson City seems to have everyone on vacation of some sort for July and August so things will be pretty low key for a bit.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

MILES SUTTER

June 10th was guest night and they welcomed back a lot of great barbershoppers as well as some new faces. **DERICK STURKE** was in charge of the festivities with the assistance of **HOWARD BARBER** and **DAIN GOAD**. Guest speaker for the evening was **BILL CALE**. **CHUCK JOSTAD** was in charge of the last half-hour and taught "Back In the Old Routine". They had a total of 15 guests.

FOLSOM

HERSH ROBY

The next Quartet Knights is scheduled for September 18 at the Redeemer Covenant Church in Orangevale.

It took us about twenty weeks to cycle through our repertoire of forty songs. We add or subtract songs as we go along so it doesn't get boring. We will suspend the rotation to shape up for the show.

We are having a "significant other" appreciation on July 24 to show that we really do value their support of our wonderful hobby. We will be taking them to a really nice restaurant.

Now and Then Quartet (Folsom, Davis-Vacaville) attended the recent Sacramento Area Quartet Workshop and received some outstanding coaching.

FRESNO

GORDON BERGTHOLD

First and foremost we want to congratulate **Late Night Barbershop** for their performance in Montreal. They went from seeded last to a 26th place finish, nearly "International Middleist". They were 37th last year and with **Rich Hasty**, our esteemed Director, singing lead they reached a new plateau in a very tough quartet contest. We will look for them in the top 20 next year in Louisville. Several Chapter members were in attendance at Montreal, including the **Sierra Chord Express** quartet, **Richard Nielsen**, **Jim Turnmire**, **Don Laursen**, **T.W. Scott**, **Pat Henley**, **Doyle Pope** and **Rich Hasty**.

Fresno continues to pursue new members and prepare for the fall convention in Bakersfield. We have had up to 13 guests recently and have added several new singers including past members **T.W. Scott** (Scotty), **Carl Campbell** and **Walt Besser**. **Dave**

Prigge has transferred to the Chapter from San Luis Obispo and brings with him experience as the General Chairman of the FWD Conference last year in Bakersfield. **Jim Turnmire's** retirement party is August 16th and the Chapter wishes him well in the future with all of his leisure time. **David Harrington** will coach the chorus August 25th and **Bobby Gray** will work the retreat September 7th prior to the FWD contest.

The annual picnic and quartet jamboree was held in Letterman Park in Clovis on July 19th. It was hot, but enjoyable as the many trees provided shade and a cool spot for much woodshedding and eating. Thanks to **Mac McIntosh** and his crew for organizing and creating yet another venue for us to enjoy time with our barber-shop families and an opportunity to express our singing abilities.

NEVADA PLACER

ROGER PERKINS

Our annual *Somewhat Serious Quartet Contest and Bean Feed* took place on June 3 and was a big success once again. There were about 120 in attendance from all over Northern California. The person who came the farthest was **BOB ANGEL** all the way from Tucson. The beans and hot dogs were served by **The GREAT PERKO** and his son, **MARK** and beverages once again supplied by **BILL BECK**. **ROGER FOX** was the honcho again this year and everything ran smoothly. Photos of all quartets were taken by **RAY RHYMER** and appeared in the July/August Westunes. The winning quartet, formed an hour earlier, consisted of **JACK MCPHILLIPS**, **BILL BECK**, **ELMER FAIRBANKS** and the other **KEN POTTER**.

NORTH VALLEY

PAT LYNCH

The North Valley Chapter has been busy this summer with digesting the new music and performance scheme for this year's Harmony Explosion Fall concert. Coaching sessions with **Gary Bolles** and **Mark Hale** are helping the chorus to focus on singing well consistently and improving performance overall. The November concert will feature **Revival!** and **A Tonic Explosion**, 200 high school singers and will debut in the new CSU Chico student union concert hall.

Chapter members **Denny Strub**, **Gene Warner** and **Pat Lynch** returned from the Montreal convention with great musical memories and stories to tell. What a quartet show by **Gotcha!** and **Metropolis**. The **Vocal Majority** is an amazing three decade story all its own.

The Board of Directors and Music Team have held lengthy combined planning meetings and have outlined a fun and exciting year ahead with social events, new performances, vocal music fundraising for schools, coaching and competing. A new quartet promotion program will launch this Fall, as well. We're looking forward to the Fall FWD Convention, a great slate of talent for our concert, and a ton of Christmas performing.

SACRAMENTO

FRANK KINNISON

One June 17 the **Capitolaire**s celebrated Founder's Day, with many "old timers" in attendance. They were chartered on June 14, 1946. They opened with *The Old Songs* and **Bill Borah** lead the

voice warmups. At break time members and guests celebrated with a birthday cake commemorating the founding of the chapter. They were then treated to songs by several quartets made up of the "old timers" as well as current members of the **Capitolaires**.

The **Capitolaires** performed once again in the 2003 Sacramento Jazz Jubilee over Memorial Day weekend.

The **Capitolaires** held their fourth annual Sacramento Area Quartet Workshop on July 19, 2003. A total of 15 quartets signed up for the all day coaching session. An all-star staff of coaches was on hand consisting of **ALAN LEVEZU, BILL BORAH, BRUCE SELLNOW, DAN WARSCHAUER, DON GUBBINS, DON KIDDER, ERIC BRICKSON** and **TANK WALDRUM**. Also on the coaching staff were the members of **Q** including **RAYMOND DAVIS, ROBERT LENOIL, MIKE STEWARD** and **CORY HUNT**. In the evening some of the quartets performed on a show with **Q** as headliners.

Division 5 AZ/SoVNV/SoUT

Editor Phil Smith

EAST VALLEY

ROD H. CARDON

Our chapter had a patriotic singout for the Fourth of July. The city of Mesa invited us to be part of the program presented at the Mesa Community College stadium. After a brief introduction we were the main part of the program. We sang mostly patriotic songs followed by family-related and popular fun songs. To our surprise, the audience voluntarily joined in by clapping hands and singing along. Our concluding number was The Star Spangled Banner. Just before we finished, the fireworks began, matching our words, "The rockets red glare, the bombs bursting in air." The whole audience was shouting, yelling and screaming. The sky was full of falling stars. What a blast!

Chandler-Gilbert Community College Performing Arts also invited our chapter's LOVE@HOME Quartet to play the part of the School Board its production of Meredith Willson's The Music Man. The chapter was also asked to help out as ushers. We are excited to be involved in community affairs such as those mentioned above and to see new people show up who want to join us in quartet and group singing. The result is our chapter membership is really improving.

GREATER PHOENIX

BILL KANE

About 15 or 20 of us were enviously watching the International Webcast on member **Bob Kerl's** big-screen TV while several of our members made it to Montreal for the "big dance": Music VP **Ray Estes** singing with **BROADWAY**; Co-Director **Gary Steinkamp** with **FINALE**; dual member **Brian Gordon** with **San Jose**; and Co-Director **Russ Young** on the judging panel. Our Webcast party had such a great time that (along with the **BEELINERS** quartet) we donated \$250.

The **Pride of Phoenix Chorus** lost one of our members to bone cancer in July: **Dar Jones**. Sixty-three men from the **Greater**

Phoenix, Phoenix Saguario and **Paradise Valley** chapters sang together at his services in a chorus directed by **Russ Young** and **Fraser Brown**, to show their love and respect for their friend Dar. His loving attitude and gentle spirit, his fine lead voice and leadership skills, graced the halls of barbershop chapters from St. Paul (where he started barbershopping in 1980 and served as president) to the **Big Apple Chorus** (where he performed seven times at Carnegie Hall and competed twice at International), to the **Phoenicians** (where he medaled in International competition), and most recently with POP. Dar's spirit will always be with the chorus, and vice versa, as Dar chose to rest in peace in his brand new POP tux. Dar's wife, Ruth, is founder and president of the very active POP support group, Pride and Joy.

A very successful Guest Night in June has turned up a lot of prospects for POP, which we are busy turning into members so they can join us on our Charter Show on Sept. 6. New tuxes have been ordered for 46 men, but we hope that several more can get the music and moves under their belt by then to join in the fun. We are working hard to make sure that the performance level of the chorus will match that of the International-level quartets joining us on the show: **BROADWAY** and **FINALE**.

LAS VEGAS METRO

JOHN KINDE

The **City of Lights Chorus** is excited about the Harmony University program now being presented by our music team and director **Jim Halvorson**. This innovative and comprehensive program is designed to take the chorus to new levels of excellence through focus on the critical building blocks of barbershop singing.

We're looking forward to our Dec. 14 Holiday Show, where we will be joined onstage by members of the local community. We recently had a singout at the Galleria Mall, and fun outings have included a chili cookout with the **GambleAires** Chorus and a trip to Tuacahn near St. George, Utah, to see The Wizard of Oz.

PARADISE VALLEY

PHIL SMITH

As this is being written, our musical director, **Dan Ryan**, is at Directors College at St. Joseph, Mo., adding more to his already considerable directorial talents. The **Cactus Chordsmen** are indeed fortunate to have such an outstanding musician at their helm.

Thanks to the efforts of Program VP **Alan Korwin**, the chorus and chapter quartets were invited to entertain at the Scottsdale Artsfest Ice Cream Social on July 10, one of the hottest evenings of a month that set a record for heat in the Valley. Despite temperatures hovering around 110, everybody had a grand time and really enjoyed the ice cream. Dan's quartet, **AFTER HOURS**, with new baritone **Joe Lupica**, was the headliner quartet and ended up with its photo prominently displayed in a local newspaper.

The chorus was scheduled to sing the national anthem at an Arizona Diamondbacks game sometime in August, but the date was not known at this writing. This is becoming an annual appearance for the chorus.

PHOENIX SAGUARO TED SAYLE

This chapter was sad to note the passing of **Dar Jones**, who was a longtime Phoenician, and a member of the **Greater Phoenix Chapter** at the time of his passing. A celebration of his life was honored in music by quartets and chorus members of both Phoenix chapters, upon the request of **Ruth Jones** (his wife).

A small contingent of **Phoenicians** sang patriotic music on July 4 at Rawhide (a Western-style village) and accorded themselves very well. Thank you, men! Meanwhile, interim co-directors **Fraser Brown** and **Scott Cinnamon** have been busy teaching us new music, and what excellent teachers they are! **Cindy Hansen** has provided another great coaching session, complete with some "en-Hansen-ments" to our contest SP (She won't let us call them "changes").

We welcome **Gene Baxter** (bass) and **Bryon Nelson** (lead) to the risers. Both have passed auditions and joined the chapter. Welcome, men! The **Phoenicians** are a better chapter with you as members!

Christmas music (is that possible?) is being organized with some exciting new music added to the traditional holiday repertoire. We are lucky to have someone like **Fraser Brown** in this respect, particularly. Fraser knows, or has arranged, more music than most people have even seen! Also, Fraser just completed his 24th consecutive year (at Montreal) as an International competition quartet singer. That record may stand for a while. Kudos, Fraser!!

PRESCOTT

SAM STIMPLE

The **High Mountain Chordsmen's** annual Family Summer Picnic was a fantastic success. The **Sun Cities Chapter** was invited to join us, and nearly 80 people were present. Food always tastes better at a picnic, and we had a wonderful variety of main dishes, salads, chips and desserts. Thanks to all who provided food and who worked at the food tables. Thanks also goes to Lloyd and Nancy Ewart for donating proceeds from the sale of their book of Arizona photography.

Dan Ryan has the right idea about barbershopping: "Every chapter meeting should be a party." The **Paradise Valley Chapter** director was a guest chorus coach in June, sharing his usual enthusiasm and humor to help us "lighten up" while we sing. Dan is scheduled for several visits in coming months.

Clint and Lynette Langston have sold their home in Dewey and have moved back to Phoenix. Clint will try to attend as many chapter meetings as possible and was scheduled to go to Harmony College with the **HIGH COUNTRY 4**.

ST. GEORGE

KEN SUNDWALL

St. George Chapter member **Merrill Hardy** has taken his musical experience and ability to a new and unusual level. He was asked to teach barbershop singing to inmates in the local regional prison. Merrill states that he has a group of about 20 men who take part weekly and gain a unit credit toward a high school

diploma for their efforts. He says that the inmates have all levels of ability, from one man who was a college music major to others who "can't even find the pitch." However, they are all very appreciative and receptive. The chorus performed at a prison high school graduation and has been asked to sing at future events within the walls. Merrill is teaching basic barbershop music as well as music crafts as part of the program. Before retiring to the St. George area, **Merrill Hardy** sang with the **Reseda Valleyaires**, the **Conejo Valley Chorus**, the **Masters of Harmony**, the **Denver Sound of the Rockies** and the **Phoenix Phoenicians**. He was also a member of a Super Seniors champion quartet. Merrill tells us that working with the prison chorus is a most rewarding experience.

SIERRA VISTA

ED RAYMOND

The **Cochise Chordsmen** are working through the summer on an intensive program for the coming months. Director **Linda Gilbert**, with the expert aid of **Paul Godwin**, has prepared the script for our spring show. While the names of the featured guests have not yet been disclosed, it is known that the theme of the production will be the Wild West. Incidentally, while Linda was away at Directors College, the chapter decided to "play hooky" by replacing the scheduled rehearsal with a pool party in a local gated community. There was no musical loss, since the evening was live with harmony.

The past few practice sessions have been rewarded with guests, at least four of whom intend to join the Society through our Chapter. We are steadily growing in both numbers and quality. President Bernie Martus is leaving no stone unturned (or is that no tune unstirred?) to ensure continued improvement of our group.

Some of us are looking forward to the Scottsdale "Bash", while others are getting ready for the next COTS session. In the meanwhile, we are planning for a special Christmas program, during which we will encourage men from the area to stroll with us in an evening of caroling. This is another step in our plans to make the name of the **Cochise Chordsmen** even more well known in Cochise County.

SUN CITIES

BOB MCGOWAN

Midway through the summer doldrums, our chorus has maintained a high attendance despite the heat. Our new members are enthusiastically supporting our Barberpole Cat program, and the woodshedding has produced some great harmony.

Our 2004 show music is progressing well, and we will have learning tapes for all of it by the time this article makes it to the printer. With so many of our group gone during the summer months, the learning tapes are essential to our being fully prepared for our annual show. The 2004 Show planning is well under way, and the theme of "Girls-Girls-Girls" will result in some great entertainment for Barbershop enthusiasts here in the Sun Cities area. We are looking forward to an outstanding script from **Bud Hesterman**, who went to Harmony College for the Script Writing class.

The series of biographical sketches on our members, which appears in our monthly newsletter the Pitch Pipe, have drawn praise. You can see the Pitch Pipe issues by visiting our Web site. Just log onto the internet and type in "DesertAires" in the Search box, and our web address should pop up as the number one choice in the site listings.

TUCSON

FRED KOCH

Barbershop lovers in the Tucson area are in for a treat on Sept. 12, when **REMIX**, the Sweet Adeline International fifth-place medal winner from Sweden, will perform in concert with the **Tucson Sunsine Chorus** and the **Tucson Goodtime Singers** at the Sahuarita High School auditorium. Also on the program will be two competition-bound quartets, our own **EASTSIDERS** and **SPARX**, the Sweet Adelines Region 21 champions. For more information, contact Jere Hill at (520) 760-0406.

Several school music programs got a shot in the arm in May when Society Music Specialist **Jim DeBusman** visited. He worked with young singers at Buena High in Sierra Vista, Bisbee High School, University High School, Doolan Middle School and Cholla High School. He also had a two-hour coaching session with the combined Tucson and Sierra Vista chapters.

Our recent Guest Nite was a big success, with 12 newcomers treated to a great evening showing how much fun barbershop-ping can be. Congratulations to **Jere Hill**, **Rich Kates**, **Hap Haggard** and **Charlie Bauder** for organizing a superb program.

WHITE MOUNTAINS ARIZONA CHAPTER

DOC DOCKENDORF

The chapter sang in the Show Low Fourth of July parade, singing non-stop the entire parade route and winning the best musical float award for the third straight year. We found that the kids and the adults liked to hear the Mickey Mouse tag, so we sang it between each song to the delight of the huge gathering.

The chapter held its third annual show (matinee and evening) "You Ain't Heard Nothin' Yet", the music of Al Jolson, on July 12. The show was a huge success. We sang before more than 700 people for the combined shows. Guest quartets were the **BEE-LINERS**, the **EASTSIDERS** and **AFTER HOURS**, who regrouped just for the show, singing with a brand new baritone, **Joe Lupica**. They all did an outstanding job. **Dan Ryan** not only led the pre-show sing-along and sang in **AFTER HOURS**, but played a very hilarious Toreador in "The Spaniard That Blighted My Life, to the shouts of "Ole" from the audience. MC and stage manager for the show was none other than **Allen Fossenkemper**, who also will provide the chapter feedback as a Standing Ovation Program evaluator.

In August we sang at the memorial service for one of our charter members, **Jack Hill**, who will be missed by all the guys in the **White Mountains** and **Tucson** chapters. On Aug. 9 we sang as the opening act for the Show Low Concert In the Park series.

YUMA

ROB BAILEY

The Yuma Chapter resumed activities after the summer break on Aug. 15 with a no-host "pizzas and pitch pipes" meeting at Village Inn Pizza for all members and interested guests. Regular Tuesday night meetings resumed at 7 p.m. Aug. 19 at Kofa High School's choir room.

Meanwhile, with Harmony College West scheduled for Aug. 22-24, Yuma's famous quartet **UNFOURGETTABLE ARIZONA SUN DRIED WATER COMPANY** was making preparations for the trip to Hayward and looking forward to a great learning and singing experience.

HELP WANTED

CHORUS DIRECTOR WANTED

If you are interested in being a part of a wonderful chapter and developing chorus, the San Diego Sun Harbor Chorus is looking for a qualified chorus director who is ready to take the chorus to the highest level of singing and performing possible. If you are interested, contact Lou Benedict by telephone at (760) 747-3736 or via e-mail at lbenedict@cox.net. We are hoping to fill this position as quickly as possible.

WESTUNES Electronic Distribution

You now have the option to suspend mailing of your copy of WESTUNES, and opt for electronic distribution only, via the Far West Website. The advantages of doing so:

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Just go to the FWD Webpage <http://spebsqsafwd.org>, click on the Westunes/Westags name in the left hand column, click on the issue in the new screen, and it downloads. The new issue is usually available by the 15th of the month preceding publication.



Far Western District Quartets perform in Montreal. Unfortunately, Hi-Fidelity did not perform due to illness at the last minute. Freestyle performed the mike testing duties for the Quartet Finals in a way never before attempted. They sing as a Quartet and had FRED [1999 Int'l Champs] and more join them on stage. The performance defied description. Those attending said: *"You hadda be there!"*

CONVENTIONS, SHOWS, EVENTS

2003

Sep 6 Irvine Show
6 Greater Phoenix Show (T)
13 Santa Maria Show
13 Sacramento Show
20 Truckee-Tahoe Show (T)

Oct 2-5 FWD Fall Convention Bakersfield [District Run]

11 Stockton Show
11 Apple Valley Show
11 Santa Cruz Show (T)
18 San Mateo Show
18 Sutter Creek Show (T)

Nov 1 Placerville Show
2 Marin Show
12-16 Harmony Inc Int'l
Convention, Nova Scotia
15-16 COTS, LAX Hilton
22 Monterrey Peninsula Show
(T)
30 Palamar Pacific Show (T))

Dec 7 Palamar Pacific Show (T)
13 Walnut Creek Show
19-20 Whittier Show

2004

Jan 25-Feb 1 INTERNATIONAL
MIDWINTER
Biloxi, MS
Feb 21-22 Rincon & Conejo Valley V.S.
Benefit (T)

Mar 18-21 FWD Spring Convention & NCE Division Contest Reno

Apr 10 Fullerton Show
17 Palamar Pacific Show
24 Placerville Show
24 Whittier

May 1 Santa Fe Springs Show
2 Palo Alto Show
8 Crescenta Valley Show (T)

Jun 27-Jul 4 INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION
Louisville

Sep 30-Oct 3

FWD Fall Convention
Bakersfield [District run]

2005

Mar 3-6 FWD Spring Convention & NCE Division Contest Reno

Jul 3-10 INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION Salt Lake City

Oct 13-16 FWD Fall Convention Pasadena

2006

Mar 16-19 FWD Spring Convention & NCE Division Contest Reno

Jul 2-9 INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION Indianapolis

Oct 12-15 FWD Fall Convention San Jose

2007

Jul 1-8 INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION Denver



18 San Jose Garden City Chorus - Chris Hebert Directing

WESTUNES

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