



Westunes Vol. 67 No. 4

Winter 2017



WESTUNES

WESTUNES, established in 1951, is the official publication of the
Far Western District Association of Chapters in the Barbershop Harmony Society

SuitUp!

2017 FWD Champions

Brent Graham, Bari
Rodney Armstrong, Bass
R.J. Esquivias, Lead
Justin Klembella, Tenor

(L to R)



Westminster

2017 FWD Champions

Justin Miller, Director



INSIDE: Q & C Pix • Youth Camp • \$ Makers • MoH • Dbl Match • HF Ltr • Nostalgia



WESTUNES



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WESTUNES

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2017 Far Western District Fall Finals Contest Quartet Competitors



2 Fortunate Sons



3 Capitol Ring



4 Hot Spot



5 Current Chord



6 Dynamix



7 Velvet Frogs



8 Heatwave



9 Scoop 'Em Up

2017 Far Western District Fall Finals Contest Quartet Competitors



2017 Far Western District Fall Finals Contest Quartet Competitors



2017 Far Western District Fall Chorus Competitors



2 Barbary Coast Chris Lewis, Director



3 Salt River Valley Brent Graham & Gary Steinkamp, Co-Directors



4 California Delta Gabe Caretto, Director



5 Brea Phis Ordaz, Director

2017 Far Western District Fall Chorus Competitors



2017 Far Western District Fall Chorus Competitors



2017 Far Western District Fall Chorus Competitors



2017 Far Western District Fall Chorus Competitors



18 Santa Maria - Robert McGee, Director



MT Chorus - Brett Littlefield, Director

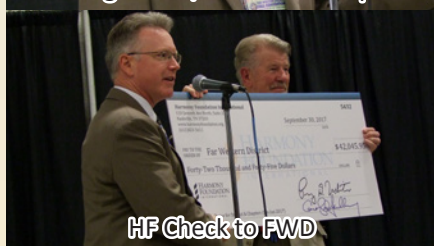
FWD Donors listing from Harmony Foundation letter on page 11



P & CEO Perry White



Reading list of \$ returns to chapters



HF Check to FWD

Amin, Shreyas - 260545
 Andersen, Rog and Linda - 147777
 Apple, Bob and Bobbi - 274458
 Bates, Max - 178523
 Bedford, Jamie - 280962
 Bennett, Pete and Shirley - 247418
 Bergthold, Gordon and Betty - 193565
 Briner, Dave - 102157
 Burch, Richard - 220783
 Buss, Joey - 313306
 DeChaine, Jim and Delain - 153135
 Feenstra, Norma - 20142
 Finetti, Dominick - 519039
 Fors, Marlin and Nancy - 224346
 Frickey, Max and Judy - 169648
 Hughes, Craig and Barbara - 299109
 Hughes, Grace - 509016
 Hunt, Steve - 167122
 Johnson, Cliff - 315865
 Johnson, Ray - 318116
 Klein, Ken - 237218
 Leavitt, Chuck and Lynn - 211917
 Leutbecher, Ron - 230680
 Mees, Wally - 510311
 Mertens, John and Kim - 264698

Miller, Donald - 235308
 Moore, Terry and Edith - 298383
 Nelson, James - 528846
 Newlove, Jim and Janice - 117714
 Newman, Joanne - 20173
 Onufrieff, Victor - 526579
 Palmer, Kevin - 523736
 Plum, David and Barbara - 113658
 Rhoads, Doug - 266627
 Rhymer, Ray and Sandy - 118104
 Salz, Joe - 102009
 Smith, Kevin and Karen - 288249
 Snow, Austen - 527157
 Spence, G and Diane - 314674
 Starceвич, David and Christine - 515275
 Stimple, Sam and Carol Ann - 116889
 Stoddard, Roger - 269003
 Summer, Dale - 512144
 Tautkus, Dave and Cathy - 218881
 Travis, Mark - 251341
 Wallis, Tom - 221522
 Warner, Edward - 253558
 Weatherford, David - 310089

September 15, 2017

Rich Owen
D000 - Far Western District
2209 Terrace Way
Bakersfield, CA 93304

Dear Rich,

Since its inception in 1959, Harmony Foundation has believed that singing improves lives. Research tells us that those who experience the joy of singing tend to do better in school, in their jobs, in family relationships and in social settings. Singing has also been linked to various physical, mental, and emotional benefits. Along with the simple joy it brings to people, these are just some of the reasons the Harmony Foundation International exists and why our goal is to become the largest financial supporter of singing in the world.

As part of the volunteer leadership of the Barbershop Harmony Society, I'm sure you are familiar with programs such as the Youth Barbershop Quartet Contest (YBQC), Youth Chorus Festival at Midwinter Convention and the Healthy Chapter Initiative. In addition, Harmony Foundation provides funding for Harmony University and scholarships for many attendees, including active music educators who are looking for a greater understanding of valuable barbershop concepts that may be applied to enhance their own teaching. Each of these programs seeks to promote a deeper connection between barbershop harmony and the broader music community.

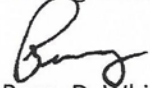
However, are you aware that the largest program funded by Harmony Foundation is the Donor Choice program? In fact, \$424,000 was distributed in 2016 alone!

This partnership program provides financial support to districts and chapters at the local level **and** the Barbershop Harmony Society global level that benefits a better world through singing. It connects the donor, the Foundation, the district or chapter, and BHS without the burden of seeking individual philanthropic financial support on your own. This allows you to focus on singing, fellowship, and embracing all the benefits of singing that are at the core of our mission while maximizing Harmony Foundation's fundraising expertise to *work for you!*

I am pleased to enclose Far Western District's Donor Choice funding for gifts received January 1 – June 30, 2017 along with a list of contributing donors and distribution guidelines. We strongly encourage you to recognize these donors, remembering **this is a choice**. Acknowledge your appreciation for their financial support that is launching Far Western District and the Barbershop Harmony Society into the future: truly a partnership program. Additionally, we would love to hear how you are using your Donor Choice dollars! Are you funding community events, camps and workshops for local youth, or singing in hospitals or retirement communities? Please send your stories to communications@harmonyfoundation.org.

Will you partner with us by encouraging your members to give to Harmony Foundation? Your gifts will support both the international impact of BHS as well as your district and chapter efforts when gifts are designated through Donor Choice.

With gratitude,



Perry D. White, DMA
President and CEO



2017 International Champion Chorus

Santa Fe Springs Chapter The Masters of Harmony

by Ron Larson

Santa Fe Springs Chapter Winter 2017 Westunes *by Ron Larson*

The first performances for the **Masters of Harmony** after winning their first gold medal in San Francisco in 1990 and their ninth in Las Vegas in 2017 were for faith-based audiences. In 1990, the Masters performed a show titled "It's a Grand Night for Singing" for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange. In 2017, the Masters provided the entertainment for a unique program called "Music and Meals" at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Newport Beach. After attending a late-afternoon Saturday service, congregants mingled in an outdoor patio outside the sanctuary, selected from a variety of delicious dishes served cafeteria style, then joined their friends at one of the circular tables to enjoy first-class food and world-class music by the newly crowned International chorus champions. With the sun shining in chorus members' eyes, Director **Justin Miller** allowed those who wished to wear sunglasses, adding even more of a laid-back look to the already-relaxed appearance of singers in their Class B jeans and chorus shirts. Fortunately, the sun went down just before the Masters sang the contest set that won them gold in Las Vegas five weeks earlier. The outdoor setting in a patio between two sets of buildings provided surprisingly good acoustics that allowed Justin to shape the chorus sound to great effect while amplifying the

long, loud audience applause that engulfed the chorus throughout the concert. St. Andrews Minister **Rachel Stone**, one of the event organizers, said the audience was the largest since the beginning of the program.

On October 7, the Masters took part in a unique fundraising event at Santa Anita Park in Arcadia by singing the National Anthem before the first race. The place from which they sang was, appropriately, the Winner's Circle, a world-famed site once graced by equine champions such as Seabiscuit, Swaps, Affirmed, Zenyatta, and California Chrome. After the performance, some stayed to enjoy the ambiance of a private picnic area.

Not long after the hurricane season left enormous devastation in parts of our country, Masters members had a "Pass-the-Hat" solicitation where they opened their hearts and wallets to the tune of over \$1200 to be sent to hurricane relief organizations.

On October 11, the following members were elected to the Masters of Harmony 2018 Board of Directors: President **Jackson Niebrugge**; Secretary **Maurice Freleaux**; Treasurer **Skip Farrar**; VP-Chapter Development **Cody Littlefield**; VP-Music & Performance **Patrick Haedtler**; VP-Operations **Foster Howlett**; VP-Public Relations **Michael Van Schoonhoven**; Board Members-at-Large **Charles Carothers**, **Lucas Purcell**,

Ed Schackman, Brent Schultz, Robert Shelton, and Walter Tang. These newly elected chapter leaders will be installed at the Annual Awards and Installation of Officers Banquet set for Saturday, January 6, 2018, at the Yorba Linda Country Club.

On October 21, the Masters traveled to Bakersfield's Rabobank Convention Center to take part in the 2017 Far Western District Fall Convention. Performing as the outgoing 2016 Far Western District Chorus Champion



and current International Chorus Champion, the MOH reprised the contest set that won gold in Las Vegas. The hometown audience responded to the set with the same sort of sustained thunderous applause that greeted the Masters in Las Vegas ten weeks ago. Then the Masters introduced the audience to a powerful,

emotionally stirring paean to the power of faith and hope, "Simple Gifts," a Shaker song written and composed in 1847 by Elder Joseph Brackett. The musical DNA of the arrangement sung by the Masters in Bakersfield was pure gold. **Gary Lewis** (tenor of 2000 International Quartet Champion **Platinum** and baritone of 2007 International Quartet Champion **Max Q**) arranged the song for the 2017 AIC Champions Chorus, which performed it at the 2017 Las Vegas AIC Show. While the full chorus sang much of the song, **The Newfangled Four** and an out-front VLQ sang several sections that added dramatic effect and produced another standing ovation from the appreciative audience.

Congratulations to our brothers in **The Westminster Chorus**, winners of the chorus competition with a score of 92.9% and to **Suit Up!**, who captured the Far Western District quartet title.



2017 Fall Convention Honorees

John & Larry Gassman (pix)



44 years of FWD membership with an incredible record of achievement and dedication at the chapter, district and societal levels.

Congratulations to John & Larry Gassman.



2017 Youth Harmony Camp

Harmony Camp 2017 is a memory now. But what a memory!!

Harmony Camp 2017 had just about everything you could want. 92 boys came to Camp. Instant Classic and The Newfangled Four showed exactly what truly great quartets are all about. Our four clinicians, Gabe Caretto, Ron Black, Doug Carnes and Chris Lewis were simply stellar in their teaching, directing and mentoring the boys.

The show on Sunday morning was spectacular; but I'm getting ahead of myself.

We usually have one clinician turn over each year as our "fourth" clinician. That was originally going to be Theo Hicks, lead of Instant Classic. However he was just accepted into a master's program and had a mandatory performance the weekend of camp. Well, Jackson Niebrugge, lead of The Newfangled Four stepped into the Instant Classic lead role.

That still left me with the "fourth" clinician vacancy. So I called my "go to" guy, Dr. Chris Peterson, professor of music at Cal State Fullerton. Chris immediately said that he himself could not take on the task, but that he would highly recommend Doug Carnes, the new direc-

tor of Great Northern Union Chorus out of Minneapolis. My email to Doug was returned quickly with a resounding YES, I'm happy to join your Camp as a clinician.

Then long time clinician Jim Halvorson called and let me know that he has taken on a high office in the Nevada ACDA and simply could not afford the time commitment for Harmony Camp this year.

We looked around northern California at all the regional directors and Fog City literally jumped out as the place to check out. Chris Lewis, the Director of Fog City had previously been to camp as the bass of Brannigan and was thrilled and excited to be asked to serve as our fourth clinician.

Ok, we're finally set. Now we can focus on attracting boys to come to Camp.

With our continuing emphasis on contacting choral directors and previous campers we ended up with an astounding 92 boys almost equaling the highest number we've ever had. And what quality!!! The sound quality and their attentiveness and ability to learn the songs quickly were clearly the best ever!

Equally exciting was the fact that we welcomed boys

from 7 high schools that had not previously participated in Harmony Camp. Furthermore, of the 43 members of our entire staff, 7 were young men who were alumni of Harmony Camp

A little about our activities at camp. Most of the boys come to camp with at least some familiarity with the four songs we learn. As the boys register we forward them the link to the charts and learning tracks and suggest they spend some time becoming familiar with the songs. By the way, our volunteers also learn the songs. We have five general sessions where the boys work on the songs, one song with each of the clinicians.

On Saturday the boys participate in classes on the Fundamentals of Vocal Production, How to Harmonize Using Tags and Bow Tie (singing posture). Following our early afternoon general session we provide optional afternoon classes including quartet coaching, woodshedding, MC basics (one of the boys in this class was the MC for our Sunday morning show) and how to be a great Bass, Lead, Tenor and Baritone.

A highlight of the weekend is the Saturday night Talent Show. It is amazing to see what the boys put together for this show. And yes, every night we enjoy ice cream in the cafeteria. The boys can then go sing tags with staff until midnight. It's a Full couple of Days

We do not assign cabins thereby encouraging new friendships; it works. Individuals arrive at camp, friends leave.

A highlight of Saturday morning is "Getting to Know Instant Classic". The quartet talks of the journey to their Gold Medal, and there are lots of questions from the boys.

All meals are in the cafeteria, with the boys, volunteers, music staff and visiting quartets eating together. The discussions I have heard here are priceless and not always about music. What a wonderful way to get to know others and mix generations.

Saturday afternoon a couple of the clinicians and I meet with the music educators who have joined us for the weekend. This is an interactive meeting that we will be expanding next year at the suggestion of the music educators.

A highlight for me this year was having seven former high school campers join us as volunteers. We are indeed developing leaders and responsible young men in our society and in the barbershop world. As one boy told me last year, spending the weekend with others

who enjoy singing as much as I do is a dream.

Back to some of our marketing efforts. In addition to reaching out to music educators, this year we began reaching out to community organizations (Boys and Girls Clubs, Teen Centers, YMCA, Big Brothers) who may come in contact with boys whose schools do not have choral programs or those boys who may not participate in their school choral program. We believe this is one way to expand our outreach and we invite you to participate with us in this endeavor.

We also began contacting community businesses, telling them about Harmony Camp and asking for their financial or in-kind support. We actually received some in-kind support from Raley's this year and used it to purchase most of our bottled water for the boys.

We also received a grant from the Dennis Mangers Fund for Young Performing Artists of the Sacramento Region Community Foundation to provide scholarships for boys in Sacramento, Yolo, Placer and El Dorado Counties. This grant enabled us to substantially increase our scholarship offerings this year.

At the end of camp we ask the boys to complete an evaluation of camp which we use in planning camp the following years. One boy, a first time attendee, came up to me and offered to design a Harmony Camp Facebook page. I will be working with him to get this up and running.

Getting back to my earlier sentence, the show on Sunday was beyond spectacular. To have more than a hundred men on the risers singing the four Camp songs incredibly well; and Instant Classic and Newfangled Four as our headliner quartets, you just couldn't ask for a better lineup for a show. And the show wow'd our audience of Friends and Family. I think the folks were simply awestruck with the quality of the performance and that hundred man sound.

In past years following the Show, we have always had parents ask more about how camp started, etc. This year, our "first ever" show program was designed to give some history of Harmony Camp since the first year in 1996 at Camp Wrightwood in San Bernardino. In addition, Jo Black prepared a display board of Harmony Camp Through The Years which was a popular attraction.

We get many comments from parents and boys, and I want to share a couple with you. In my brief introduc-

tion of camp before the Show I commented that you (the audience) are seeing a number of “older” men on the risers along with the boys; and I explained that we consider the intergenerational mixing of our older volunteers singing on the risers with the boys to be a very important aspect of camp. Well, after the show I had one lady come up to me with tears in her eyes thanking me for recognizing and integrating the intergenerational mixing of the older men with the boys. It was one of “those moments”.

Second, I include an email message I received from a parent *“Please excuse the lateness of this note. I need to thank everyone who made Harmony Camp possible, and provided a scholarship for my son. He attended and was very challenged, but the experience renewed his desire to sing. As he put it, “Even though I was*

standing on risers till my feet hurt, I was singing my heart out. It made me realize that’s what I really want - to reach people with the music”. It is so hard for young people to hold onto hope in this current world. Thank you for restoring my son’s hope and giving him a vision for the future. We appreciate the opportunity and will not waste it! “

You, our wonderful supporters and volunteers deserve all of the credit for the incredible success of the Camp this year. Thank you!

Richard Lund

PS: yes, that photo is from 2016.

Please consider the Lloyd Steinkamp Endowment Fund in your will and estate plan.

A SOLID GOLD MOMENT



2017 International Champions

Masters of Harmony

performing during the Show of Champions at the Fall Convention in Bakersfield

Justin Miller, Director

Lloyd Steinkamp Endowment Fund for FWD Harmony Camps Double Match Challenge



The primary purpose of weekend long Harmony Camps is to introduce a cappella barbershop harmony singing to high school age boys. The Lloyd Steinkamp Endowment Fund for FWD Harmony Camps will provide supplemental financial support, in perpetuity, for FWD Harmony Camps.

Lloyd Steinkamp was a true giant in the Far Western District and it was Lloyd who created the concept of Harmony Camp. The first camp was in 1996 in Southern California at Camp Wrightwood near San Bernardino. It is my understanding that this was the first Harmony Camp not only in the FWD but in the nation.

Initially all funds donated to the Endowment Fund will be used to build the capital of the fund toward an initial goal of \$200,000. Once the Fund balance achieves this initial goal, withdrawals may commence consistent with the policies of the Sacramento Region Community Foundation. Currently these policies allow a withdrawal of no more than 4% per year. As the Fund continues to grow, the prime recipient of withdrawals from the Fund is the FWD Youth Harmony Camp in Northern California. The overall goal for the Fund is \$400,000, at which point the FWD Board will become the executors of the available withdrawals from the Fund and the purpose of the Fund will expand to incorporate the entire FWD Youth Movement.

A major donor has stepped up to “double” match contributions of \$400 or less through November 2017. Sometimes we have a cause we believe in but feel that our small contribution will not make much of a difference. With this “double” match challenge your donation will really make a difference. For example you donation of \$100 will be matched with \$200 so that you are “causing” \$300 to be donated to the Fund.

Our choice to create an Endowment Fund with the Sacramento Region Community Foundation, a large Northern California Community Foundation means that all contributed funds are off limits for spending, and only earnings are available for spending to support operations of the camp. This old barbershopper will certainly be around for a few more years; but the goal is to provide financial support for Far Western District Camps for as long as there are young boys who benefit from them! For additional information on Harmony Camp please see Youth Harmony Camp.

Donations may be sent to Sacramento Region Community Foundation, 955 University Ave. Suite A, Sacramento, CA 95825 noting Steinkamp Fund in the memo portion of your check. You may also make arrangements to donate an amount each month.

If you prefer, you can make your donation online — a one-time donation or a monthly, quarterly, or annually recurring donation — and charge it conveniently to your credit card.

1. Click on **GIVE NOW** below. This will connect you with the Sacramento Region Community Foundation website’s online donations form.
2. At the “**Please use my donation for**” drop down list, select “**Lloyd Steinkamp Endowment**”.

Please contact Richard Lund if you have questions or would like additional information.

Here's a New Money-Making Idea

By Brent Anderson
SW Division VP

In September, Rincon Beach...Pacific Sound Chorus... had a very successful show. The headliner was the newly-crowned International Quartet Champs, Main Street, and as most of you know, Mike McGee, bari of Main Street, is the new director of Pacific Sound Chorus. Compared to the 2016 show, which had Ringmasters as the headliner, this show was even more successful in several important categories. Artistically, as many of you who were there know, each year's show was fantastic entertainment. Total attendance this year was 1000 compared to 800 last year. Net revenue was \$7000 compared to \$1000.

What made the difference? Sponsorship/Advertising. For several years now, the chapter has created a yearbook each Sept. which is given out at all shows for a 12 month period. Like most chapters who do a yearbook or show program we solicit advertising. Last year we sold \$3,400 of "ads" and this year we sold \$12,000 of "sponsorships." We changed one word... instead of selling advertising we solicited "sponsors." This seems small but it was so much easier for our guys to ask friends, family and business connections to be "sponsors" of our non-profit community chorus, rather than asking them for an "ad."

But wait...there's more to this idea! Let me tell you about the "free tickets!"

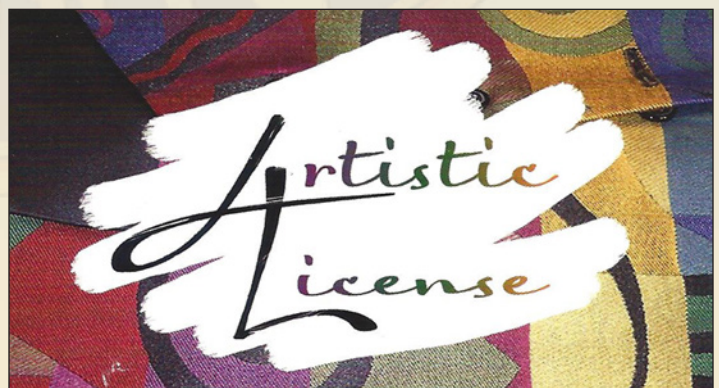
Mike McGee brought back this idea when Main Street did a show in tiny Hays, Kansas. Hays has a population of 20,000 but last year made \$30,000 from their show program, and it was 44 pages long, and full of "sponsorships." Their idea, which we modified to fit our demographic, was to give away "free" tickets to every sponsor...lots of "free tickets." We basically gave each sponsor an equal value in tickets. Our tickets were \$25 each (and it says that on the printed ticket... very important) and for example, if they gave us a \$250 sponsorship, we gave them 10 tickets to the show. So now the sponsor is helping us by distributing the tickets to their employees, family and friends, and we found that although all the "free" ticketholders did not attend, we had many first-timers coming to our show and we captured their emails and will be in touch.

A couple of those newbies may be interested in singing, and, giving away free tickets did not significantly diminish the number of tickets we sold through normal channels.

I wrote a little paper on this idea and gave it to the SE and SW Division Leadership Academy attendees. If anyone out there would like the info, just email me brent@andersonfs.com and I'll send you the packet of info.

I'm sure every chapter can benefit from more people coming to shows and more net revenue, so try this idea and report back to Westunes how it goes.

2018 FWD Board of Directors



An Abridged History of Nostalgia

By Don Richardson

The quartet Nostalgia was founded by lead Joe Salz and tenor Bill Adank in March, 1975. It was Joe's idea to use the name—to take advantage of the popular use of the word. Both Joe and Bill were members of the 1972 FWD Champion quartet, Stage Four. Other members of the original quartet were bass Gordon Berghold and baritone Don Richardson (me).



Nostalgia

FWD Sacramento, October 11, 1975

Bill Adank, tenor, Joe Salz, lead, Don Richardson, baritone, Gordon Berghold, bass

The original foursome placed eighth at Internal Pre-Lims and at the FWD fall contest. This led to us proclaiming that we were “middlists” rather than medalists. Joe's philosophy was never to win as winning quartets broke up.

Early in the quartet history there were road trips. One notable trip was to San Jose in 1976 to help Elwood and Ginger Berghold celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary. Another came in 1991 when we drove to Denver for my niece's wedding. Ask Dick Gray or Greg Lewis about the “trip from hell.”

We were devastated when Joe announced in 1976 he was moving to Sacramento to manage a credit union there. However, we recruited Bob Kafer (formerly of

the Vigilaires) to sing baritone, and I switched to lead. One notable aspect of the quartet history was the Nostalgia Newsletter which all members were invited to contribute to, but which was written primarily by me. At first I sent it to show chairmen as listed in the FWD annual directory, hoping to generate bids for show appearance. I did 75 issues before I lost the impetus. In the early years of the quartet, we competed in every contest: international pre-lims, FWD fall contest, and division, usually coming in somewhere in the middle. We tried to challenge ourselves and reward our audiences by being creative. For example, we were the first quartet to present the Marx Brothers. After that we did the monsters (Frankenstein's monster, the mummy, Dracula, and the wolfman), and then Sesame Street. Once we were a family (I was the mother). I don't know whether this approach garnered any points from the judges, but the audience seemed to appreciate us.



The Monsters

Over time we were invited to sing on various chapter shows and, of course, made many new friends. These included barbershoppers and fans in Arizona, California, New Mexico, Nevada, Colorado, Texas, Montana, Missouri, Arkansas, New Hampshire, Wisconsin, and Nebraska. We even had to turn down a bid from the

Dallas Metro Chapter as we were already booked for their weekend. We didn't sing in as many states as did the Sun Tones, but we enjoyed ourselves.

With the aid of Lloyd and Judy Steinkamp and Sam Aramian as coaches, we qualified for the 1978 International Quartet Contest. Predicting 25th before the contest, we came in 24th out of 48 (one quartet canceled). In Cincinnati we were privileged to sing the National Anthem at Riverfront Stadium for a baseball game.

The shows all run together now, but there were highlights, naturally. Las Vegas barbershoppers were our special friends as were those in Tucson and Scottsdale. Billings, San Jose, Houston, Durango, Fort Collins, Carson City, St. Joseph, Nashua, El Paso, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Hot Springs, and Whittier all were highlights of our career. We met and enjoyed singing with Earl Moon, Jim Kline, and all the 139th Street Quartet, Bub Thomas, Dave Briner: you name the barbershoppers from the 70s and 80s, and we probably sang with them.

And the quartets: we were proud to share the stage with the 139th Street Quartet, R.S.V.P., the Inn-Siders, the Side Street Ramblers, the Most Happy Fellows, the Occidentals, and many, many local groups.

During the spring of 1979 we sang 17 out of 21 weekends; this was hard on our wives—we were all still married, but what fun we had. At the time I knew that such popularity was short-lived, so I and the others resolved to enjoy it while we could.

Twice in our history we've sung and acted as the school board members in *The Music Man*: 1986 with the Musical Theatre of Arizona, and in 2014 for North Scottsdale UMC.

Nostalgia continues today, but much of our focus now is on gospel songs. During the summer when most church choirs are on hiatus, we sign at various churches to substitute for the choir: First United Methodist in Phoenix (where we all sing in the choir), North Scottsdale UMC, Paradise Valley UMC, Velda Rose UMC in Mesa, and the Justa Center. We have also done churches in Sun City and another in Paradise Valley.

The members of the quartet include nearly every barbershopper from the Phoenix area that you've heard of. Here is the alphabetical list.

Adank, Bill, tenor and bass Deceased
Bergthold, Gordon, bass
Clift, Alan, tenor Deceased
Culp, Lonnie, tenor
Brown, Fraser, lead replacement
De Fir, Charlie, bass Deceased
Fliszar, Frank, bass
Fynmore, John, tenor
Gray, Dick, tenor (current member)
Harrison, Randy, lead
Holcomb, Robert, bari (current member)
Holcomb, Scott, bass (current member)
Kafer, Bob, bari Deceased
Klein, B. J., bass
Kline, Ken, bass Deceased
Lewis, Greg, bari
Magata, Bruce, bass
McNaught, Bruce, bari
McColl, Bob, bass
Money, Mike, bari (current member)
Newmark, Steve, lead
Peters, Andy, tenor
Quinn, Tim, bari
Richardson, Don, bari and lead (current member)
Salz, Joe, lead
Taylor, Art (bari and tenor
Vorris, Bruce, bass
Young, Russ, bari
Zorn, Dave, bass

Yes, I know this reflects five current members, but we have two baris; once we had seven members, and on one occasion there was a second quartet: both quartets sang on the Sierra Vista, Arizona show.

How long will Nostalgia last? Who knows? I don't imagine I'll ever do the newsletter again, but I continue to write, and Nostalgia continues to sing. We try to rehearse once a week, and we enjoy each other. You probably know the most common question asked of a quartet: "How many you got in our group?" Right now, we have five, but we're always open to adding anyone else who wants to sing with us.

The President's Page



Gordon Bergthold

Far Western District President

president@farwesterndistrict.org



Many of you reading this article were in attendance in Bakersfield during October 19-22 at the FWD Fall Convention, and you heard me give my last talk before an audience on Saturday night. I'm happy that you were there but for those who weren't I will reiterate, in a brief overview, my talk on Saturday night. Being President of the FWD has been such an honor but before I say adios from this position, I'd like to express my appreciation to all of you for the support you've offered during my term.

As most of you know I entered my tenure as president in January of 2016, the same month that I had my first back surgery. By telephone and email Craig Hughes and I were able to communicate often with the planned meetings in mind along with the day-to-day challenges presented by simply being an officer and leader of the FWD. Craig, who was the EVP at the time, stepped up and handled the Spring Convention Board and HOD meetings. I was physically able to return to duty for the June Board planning meeting in June. Then in September I had another back surgery and Craig once again stepped up and handled the Board and HOD meeting at the Fall Convention. During 2017 I've managed to step up myself and handle the necessary meetings of the FWD. It is obvious that Craig has been adequately trained and indoctrinated to handle the president's position to which he has just been elected. There are not many incoming presidents who can say they will have spent three years doing the presidential chores, but Craig can certainly boast of that achievement.

Several men will be leaving the board this year including Bob Gray, Secretary, Richard Lund, DVP NorCal East Division and John Bloomquist, DVP Arizona Division. Allan Webb will vacate the Past President's board

position and will be replaced by me. Ron Black will leave the Contest and Judging VP position after eight years of service. There are qualified replacements for these positions and they were elected and installed at the HOD meeting on October 20.

Something amazing happens when we begin to recognize that we are surrounded by people who have been given great gifts. Something even more amazing happens when we realize that every single person has been given great gifts by God. Humility is not denying your gifts. Humility is having the ability to see the gifts that are in others, and celebrating them just as much as your own. I do celebrate what gifts have been given our leaders and I look forward to working as a board member for the next two years with these men.

I can't leave without thanking my mentors and consultants, (known as the Kitchen Cabinet), who have been so helpful during my tenure as president. They have helped keep me on track and humble with sage advice when requested. I've even had some unrequested advice from time to time, but then I deserved it. We are so fortunate in the FWD to have so many talented people who have helped to make our district one of the top organizations in The Society. I'd be remiss not to mention our Westunes Editor, Ray Rhymer. Ray does a wonderful job in not only editing our quarterly newsletter, he is the man who reminds all of us leaders to get our articles in for publication. Thank you Ray Rhymer for your dedication and devotion to the communication vehicle that keeps us apprised of the district happenings.

Although my wife, Elizabeth, told me she'd support my decision to step up and start the process to the presidency; she also told me she thought that I was

Board of Directors Reports

crazy to do so. At times she was so right, but I've learned a lot about myself during my time on the board and hopefully I've been able to help others during the past couple of years. As I've mentioned, I will remain on the Board as past president and I'll do my very best to support and assist our incoming president Craig Hughes. Our team is special and ranks among the very best in the Barbershop Harmony Society and they deserve all the gratitude that can be offered.

Lastly, I'd like to remind you that the FWD leadership group acts as a team and they work for, and are responsible to, the chapters and their members. Call on them often and communicate. Remember, **communication is 95% listening and we are listening!** Also, do some focused thinking because if you don't know where you're going, any road will get you there. And, as Albert Schweitzer stated, **"Do something wonderful, people may imitate it"**. I am very grateful for the opportunity to have served the FWD.



What a great Fall Convention!

If you were in Bakersfield, thank you! If you weren't you missed a humdinger.

Thank you to all who made this one of our best ever. The behind the scenes work is truly a labor of love. Our District Events team sets the example for the entire Society. We should also thank the Host Chapter: **Bakersfield** and the Convention Chairman: **Bill Rosica** for making us feel at home.

CEOs Marty Monson (BHS) and Dr. Perry White (Harmony Foundation) attended the Convention and spent many hours with our members. Two great guys that really have our best interests at heart.

On Thursday the District Board met while the

Harmony Platoon singers started their awesome event. Harmony Platoon should be on your Barbershop Bucket List. It is a lot of fun and gives you a chance to sing in quartets with old and new friends. (Note: Next Platoon is at Midwinter Orange County in Costa Mesa - January 17 and 18)

Delegates from 26 of our 69 Chapters attended the House of Delegates Meeting on Friday. This is the opportunity for the men of the District to discuss and vote on critical issues. Please make every effort to have Chapter representation at the next HOD meeting at our Spring Prelims and SE/SW Division Contest on March 16 in SoCal.

One item at this HOD was the approval of your 2018 Far Western District Officers:

• Craig Hughes	President
• Bill Rosica	Executive Vice President
• Gordon Berghthold	Imm Past President
• Jim Maass	Secretary
• Rich Owen	Treasurer
• Brent Anderson	Division 1 Southwest VP
• Nick Papageorge	Division 2 Southeast VP
• Dick Whitten	Division 3 Northwest VP
• Ron Black	Division 4 Northeast VP
• Adam Kaufman	Division 5 Arizona VP
• Brett Littlefield	Contest & Judging VP
• Craig Ewing	Music & Performance VP

It will be a great honor to work with this talented and generous team in 2018 as we strive to meet the needs and help advance the success of the District and our Chapters.

The level of quality singing in the FWD is unparalleled in the Society.

Every quartet in our Contest scored high enough to make the top ten in other Districts and *our* top ten was incredible.

Congratulations to our 2017 District Champions:

• Suit Up!

Justin Klembella – Tenor
R.J. Esquivias – Lead
Brent Graham – Baritone
Rodney Armstrong - Bass

The Chorus Contest was just as amazing and our 2017 Chorus Champions put on a show!

Board of Directors Reports

• The Westminster Chorus

Justin Miller – Director

The Show of Champions featured all of our winners and the 2017 International Chorus Champions – **The Masters of Harmony**. Saturday night flowed “seamlessly” into Sunday morning with multiple afterglows and tag sessions. Harmonic overload in a great way.

Be sure to mark your calendars for our Spring Convention and International Prelims in Southern California – March 15-18. It is sure to be another Barber-palooza.

I encourage your attendance at one of the International Conventions.

The Midwinter Convention is coming to the Far West. Mark your calendars for Midwinter Orange County - January 16-21. This fun event is at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Costa Mesa, California.

Great News! The Far West has been selected to sing in the **2018 Midwinter Senior Chorus Festival** and we are Qualified. A representative group scored 70% in Bakersfield. **Craig Ewing**, VP for Music & Performance, is coordinating the FWD Senior Chorus. It will be an awesome opportunity to show off the “timeless talent” of the Far West. If you are over 55 (on January 16) and want to sing on an International Stage, dust off your vocal chords and get ready for a fun experience with your District friends.

Midwinter is the venue for the International Youth Chorus Festival. This year there were 20 Choruses (five from FWD) and 599 singers. Our District recognized the magic by approving a ***motion to sponsor (\$10,000) Youth Chorus Festival through donations by the Chapters or by the District through an amended budget should chapter donations fall short*** at our fall 2012 House of Delegates. The 2017 commitment was filled by generous donations from 24 Chapters, 1 Quartet, and 3 individuals with the support of our own John and Sharon Miller. The generosity of the men and women of the District was recognized by the young singers. There were more than a few tears as the almost 600 young performers joined in song to “make the music that makes a difference”. Please start “passing the hat” at your chapter meetings so we can

meet and exceed our commitment for 2018. Let’s shoot for a larger number of participating chapters. Note: It is very important that the individual and family donations continue. Dropping your spare change in a bucket every week adds up as well.

The next three July Conventions are coming to:

- 2018 - Orlando, FL
- 2019 - Salt Lake City, UT
- 2020 - Los Angeles, CA

Thank you for everything you do for your Chapter and the District.

In Harmony,

Craig Hughes,
EVP & President Elect
chughes2@cox.net



**BHS President & CEO Marty Monson
Addresses House of Delegates**



Board of Directors Reports



It's been a great quarter for the Southwestern Division of the FWD. Our chapters were active in the FWD Contest and Convention recently held in Bakersfield, CA. Representative choruses from **Rincon Beach**, **Santa Monica**, **South Bay**, **Pasadena** and **Santa Maria/San Luis Obispo** all competed and did well. Special recognition to **Santa Maria/San Luis Obispo**. Neither chorus had competed at Division in quite a few years, so they decided to join forces and compete...for the fun and experience of it all. Numerous SLO guys paid the \$10 to be a dual member and they competed under the Santa Maria chapter name. Their presence helped create a bigger sound, they gained confidence, qualified and competed and all had a good time.

Westminster won the Chorus Contest with a score of 92.9, which will make them one of the favorites next July in Ontario. The **Masters of Harmony**, our 2017 International Chorus Champs entertained at the Show of Champions and they were awesome. They performed their winning contest set which was exciting and electrifying. We're so blessed with great choruses in the FWD.

My old Santa Barbara singing buddy **Brent Graham**, and his quartet, **Suit Up**, won the Quartet Contest. The **Velvet Frogs** were awarded the coveted Lloyd Steinkamp Award as the most entertaining quartet of the Contest, and they also will represent the FWD at the upcoming Seniors Quartet Contest at Midwinter this January in nearby Costa Mesa.

There are quite a number of great Holiday shows coming up and I hope to see you at some, or all of them.

Dec. 1 and 2, **Fullerton** has their **Christmas Cabaret**... food and music and a tremendous success... You should go and not only have fun, but see how they do

it and consider doing it at your own Chapter.

Other upcoming shows in Southern:

- Dec. 2 is **South Orange County**, with **Carpe Diem** SAI chorus.
- Dec. 2 is **Pasadena**.
- Dec 2 is **Aloha** chapter. Are you spontaneous? Buy a ticket to Honolulu as a surprise.
- Dec. 3 is **Bakersfield**.
- Dec. 6 is **Rincon Beach** in Santa Barbara, with **Carpe Diem** SAI chorus.
- Dec. 10 is **Rincon Beach** in Ventura, with **Channelaire** SAI chorus and the newly-merged Ventura and Conejo men's Chapter, now calling themselves **Channel Islands Harmony Chorus**.
- Dec. 16 is **Masters of Harmony** in Long Beach.
- Dec. 17 is **Masters of Harmony** in Ontario.

For details on all these shows, go to the FWD website and under Events, you'll find the FWD Calendar and in the calendar, each event is a hot link to details. Go... participate...!

Our next FWD Convention and Contest to determine choruses and quartets for next October comes early for the combined SW/SE Division. This is also the International Quartet Prelims competition where we select the quartets who qualify to represent us at the next International Convention which is next summer in Orlando, FL. At press-time the location was not set but the dates are firm...March 15-18 somewhere in Southern CA. Mark the dates, make a commitment to attend and to perform and let the location be a pleasant surprise.

We had good participation this year at the SW/SE Division Leadership Academy with many of our chapters, such as **Rincon Beach**, and **South Bay** sending the bulk of their entire board of directors to become knowledgeable and re-energized for the coming year. Most boards are now having planning and goal-setting meetings and I am available to help any of my chapters who wish some support.

I'm happy to report the **Crescenta Valley Chapter** has been revived and is actively singing again. I spoke to President **Mike McKenna**, and he, assisted by Asst. Director and Music VP **Dave Kilpatrick**, and Sec/Treas **Dick Clark** are happily singing every Monday night.

Board of Directors Reports

Why don't some of you LA area Barbershoppers go visit them some evening and help everyone have fun?

I urge you to go to the **International Midwinter Convention in Costa Mesa, January 16-21**. What a great time that will be. You'll have entertainment from the top quartets in the Society including newly-crowned quartet champs, **Main Street**, which I assure you, puts on a heck-of-a-great show. The **Harmony Foundation Youth Festival** will blow you away in a cascade of smiles, tears and optimism for our Barbershop future. And there's the **Senior Quartet Contest**. When I was young, I thought, "Who wants to hear a bunch of old guys sing?" Fact: Many of those Senior Quartets are scoring right up there with the top 20 at International. It's very high quality singing and excellent entertainment. And there's a **Senior Chorus Contest** this year. All the districts auditioned a Senior Chorus and as expected, FWD qualified and is a favorite to win. Come cheer us on. As a senior, I'll be up there relishing the chance to perform on the International stage and represent my great district.

Yes, it will cost a little money for the tickets and the rooms but "you can't take it with you." Experiences are better than "things" so let's get out there and experience this convention.

While we're on the subject of "experiences" we had a little more than 900 people who attended the FWD Convention in Bakersfield in October. Everyone had a good time but most of them were competitors! Whaaaaat? Seems the families of the competitors and most of the general FWD membership, decided to stay home! The FWD leadership is very aware of this decline and exploring ideas to reverse the trend. At the House of Delegates meeting, which had only 30% of our chapters represented, it was pointed out that in 2002 we had the convention in Bakersfield and there were 2000 people in attendance.

I remember those days. Do you? It was a blast! Full auditoriums of people welcoming and acknowledging the performers, everybody smiling, laughing and enjoying relationships. People singing in the stairwells and all throughout the lobby. You'd go to a restaurant in town somewhere, and a Quartet would break into song, surprising and delighting the casual diner. Many Chapters would have hospitality suites, where they'd

have food and drink and a place to gather, while the top Quartets paraded through and sang a few songs. (*BTW, South Bay and Salt River Valley both had hospitality suites and they were awesome!*) Back in those days, the participation of so many made it so much fun.

I read this quote once, and remember it well... ***"I don't want to get to the end of my life and find that I lived just the length of it. I want to have lived the width of it as well."***

(*Spoiler: Soapbox*) I'm concerned that folks are getting seduced by the ease of staying home...by such things as the Internet, Netflix, Facebook. There is actual evidence coming forth that social media, and Facebook in particular, was *designed* to be addictive, and it's happening to our Barbershoppers as well as to our children. Is it happening to you? I'm sure we can all agree there are *some* positives to Facebook, and about the "quality" of the shows on Netflix and the fascinating facts one can now find on the Internet, but we must also realize it sucks up our precious time and takes us away from actually "experiencing something" and interacting with other human beings.

I really urge all of you to become more active in Barbershop. Let's turn this trend around and participate more. Clear your calendars for these upcoming shows and conventions and make your plans to attend. Attend your Chapter rehearsals every week, and hug your brothers as you sing "Keep the Whole World Singing." Create opportunities for your Chapter or Quartet to sing for the public. Put on shows, take your family and go to other Chapter shows and attend the public events put on by the Division, the FWD and BHS in general. Not everyone is as fortunate as you. YOU are special and should take advantage of the opportunity to have these life experiences.

Expand the *width* of your life, and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Board of Directors Reports



Congratulations to the **Westminster Chapter** for their fantastic win at this year's fall Chorus Contest. If you were so lucky to be in the auditorium during their contest set, or their performance on the Show of Champions, you know how exciting and entertaining they were and are. Our Division, as well as our District, is certainly proud to have them representing us at next year's International Contest! Again, Congratulations!

Also, congratulations go to the **Brea Chapter**, the **Las Vegas Chapter**, the **San Diego Chapter**, the **Fullerton Chapter**, the **Temecula Chapter**, and the **Inland Empire Chapter** for representing the Southeast Division in the Chorus Contest. You were all fabulous!

Congratulations to the following quartets: **Fortunate Sons (2nd Place!!!)**, **184**, **Four Fifteen**, and **Behind the Barn**, for representing our Division. I could not be more proud!

Once again I must remind all Chapter Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers that they should have made sure that their Chapters have filed all forms for the IRS and State Tax Agencies. Please take care of all Chapter business-related paperwork, so that your Chapter remains in good status, and is not in jeopardy of losing its Charter! Call me if you need help, or go to the new **"Member Center"** and watch the videos that show you the forms, how to find them, and how to fill them out! If you have any questions, have your President call me and I'll get the correct person in touch with you!

Speaking of being in good status, a big "congratulations" goes to the Apple Valley Chapter for getting together as a "Chapter" and saving their charter. We had a great meeting together to decide their fate and get on the road towards being a Chapter in good status again! From that meeting, almost all members took some responsibility as Chapter Leaders. And I am proud to

say that they have just received notice that they are again a Chapter in Good Status! Great Job!

Please remember that the District has a program to *help* Chapters pay for coaching. It is called the Chapter Reimbursement Program! Music and Performance VP, Craig Ewing, is in charge of that program and is eager to help you get reimbursed half of what you spend on coaching up to \$150 per session, up to \$300 a year. Please find the information and paperwork in the "Media" section of the District website! It is the last document under the "Media" drop-down menu, and is titled "Coaching Reimbursement Forms."

We are also very proud to let the District know that we had two pairs of chapters producing shows at the end of August. The **Inland Empire** and **Apple Valley Chapters** combined in producing a show in **Apple Valley**, and the **Las Vegas** and **St. George Chapters** got together for a show in **St. George, Utah**! The combined efforts provided an entertaining, fun and musical performance. And it was a lot of fun!

Now that the Contest Cycle has ended, I am sure all Chapters are heavily into the Holiday Season. Many of our Chapters will be producing a Holiday Show, or booking caroling outings at many public places. I encourage all individual members to help their Chapter Directors in the next few months by learning their notes and words! May I say it again? **LEARN YOUR MUSIC!!** As a Director myself, nothing makes me happier than my Chapter learning their music quickly. This always allows us to get on to the most important part of the music; the fine-tuning, interpretation, and performance. What we sing doesn't become music until we interpret it and make it sound great. And while you're at it, sign up for a committee to help produce the show! Oh yea, and **SELL TICKETS!** I hope to get to a few of those performances!

Have a great Holiday Season!

Board of Directors Reports



Bill Rosica

VP Northwest Division

vpdiv3@farwesterndistrict.org

What a fast year this has been. It seems like yesterday your nominating committee was calling me to represent the Northwest Division, to which I said, WHAT? I live in Bakersfield. It seems that there just wasn't anyone available to fill in, so I said yes. I did manage to attend Britt's Celebration of Life and last month made a trip to Santa Rosa for a Chapter Visit. Little did any of us know that the peaceful little town would appear on the National news with the firestorm which took place there. Some of our members were affected in a large way in the loss of their homes and my thoughts and prayers go out to them.

Your new DVP, Dick Whitten, lives in the Division; be sure to call on him for any help with your Chapter. I will be moving on to the Executive Vice-President role with Craig Hughes moving to the President's spot. As EVP, I will be Craig's right hand man and will be working closely with the District Management Team. My position as Membership Manager is open and in need of filling. If you would like to try your hand at helping your District, here's an opportunity.

As your new EVP, I'd like to hear from you with stories of challenges as well as your success stories. We, the Board, are listening and want to help strengthen our District, but can't do it unless you speak up. If there is something on your mind and you'd like to vent, let it fly. Call me or write me. If you see something you like that your District is doing let's talk about it. Maybe getting things out in the open will help another Chapter who is struggling in that area.

Finally, if you did not attend our Fall Convention, you missed a great weekend. I found guys singing in the hallway and in the foyer of the hotel until 4:00 am. The Harmony Platoon started the weekend by kicking off on Thursday. Your Board of Directors met that same

day followed by the House of Delegates Meeting on Friday. The Quartet Semis were amazing with close to 30 Quartets competing to sing the next night. Saturday found 18 choruses vying for the District title and a trip to Orlando. The Quartet Finals followed that night. We had special guests Marty Monson and Perry White from the Barbershop Harmony Society and Harmony Foundation, International, respectively on hand to see how the Far Western District does things. All in all, it was a very inspiring weekend. Next year, please plan to attend in Fresno. They always do a bang-up job.

Remember, I'm just a phone call away. (661) 703-9000.



Richard Lund

VP Northeast Division

vpdiv4@farwesterndistrict.org

Well, this is my last message to all of you as I'm going off the District Board as of January 1, 2018.

I want to Thank all of you, each and every one of you for helping me be a better DVP for you. I always viewed this job as me working for you. You, as members, are the very reason for the existence of a District Vice President; and so it was always my job to look out for you and your interests and issues.

The job carried me to a great many faraway places that I never would have visited on my own.

The first trip Patsy and I took, even before I was elected was to Eureka and Redding. It was fun and enlightening to see the joy experienced by guys who live far removed from the more geographically active Sacramento area and Bay Area of California. I got to know some of those guys down through the years and value their friendships greatly.

Then there was Elko and all of the difficulties with chartering a brand new Chapter in a brand new area

Board of Directors Reports

of the country. Elko never did get off the ground as a thriving Barbershop Chapter; but I will never forget our first visit out there and witnessing the sheer joy of twelve guys singing Polecats from the book and then having the Director ask for four guys to step out and sing the song again as a Quartet – Two More Times – and having the guys literally jump at the chance. It was a breathtaking moment of pure joy in singing the most basic of our Barbershop songs and witnessing guys who don't know what it means to be nervous or stage frightened.

From Visalia to Redding and Vacaville to Elko, Patsy and I traveled and traveled. What a joy to spend all that time with her in the car; and what a joy to spend all that time with You, my friends of the Northeast Division – the BEST Division in the Far Western District.

I treasure the friends I've met and sung with! I treasure the many, many Barbershop shows that Patsy and I have seen down through the years; and I treasure the moments I've watched you all singing on stage at Division Contests and District Contests cheering all of you on as you charged down the journey of your own Barbershop experiences. It is truly an honor to have been your representative to the Far Western District; and I will always treasure the memories. THANK YOU!!!

But I am not going away!!! There is always Harmony Camp!!!

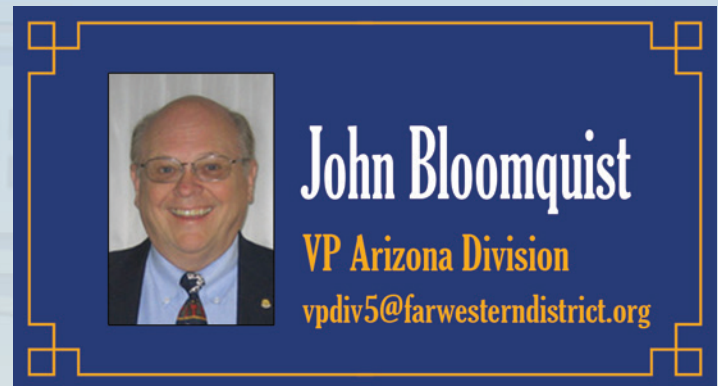
Harmony Camp needs my support. And it needs Your support. We will be working hard to raise money to fully fund the Lloyd Steinkamp Endowment Fund for Harmony Camp. We will still be coming to your shows and supporting you and your Chapters; and we will still be working to help the young men who already are becoming Barbershoppers and Barbershop leaders in the FWD; and we will continue to run that very special weekend we call Harmony Camp here in the Far Western District.

THANK YOU all for your support in all the ways that you have helped me and what I have worked to do for you and the District!!! It's been a Blast!!!

We, the District, leave you in the best of hands to follow. Ron Black will be your next District Vice President representing the Northeast Division!! He is obviously most highly qualified, and will do a spectacular job

for you continuing onward on this journey we call Barbershop.

Richard Lund



Congratulations to my good friends in SUIT UP! for their District Quartet Championship, and to HOT SPOT for their awesome showing as well! Additionally, Congrats to The Westminster Chorus on your Championship and International Contest qualification!

The season for Chapter elections of officers is over. Now is the time to get your new officers committed to attend our Leadership Academy on Jan 12 in Mesa, more info to follow. Please get all of your officers to attend this important learning event, as there is always something new to learn.

As always, membership is consistently on the front burner. How many **Man of Note** awards will YOU get for the year? Do it because you love singing and really just want to share the joy with as many men as possible! Simply ask, "where do you do your singing"? You will be surprised.

As of this October's FWD BOD meeting, I will be ending my term as AZ Div VP. It has been a pleasure to work with all of the wonderful Chapters and I wish the best of success to you all. Please give your support to our newly elected DVP, Adam Kaufman. I know he has already reached out to many of you. I want to thank the FWD Presidents that I have had the honor to serve under. Thanks to Bernard Priceman, Russ Young, Allan Webb and of course Gordon "Mongo" Bergthold. You have all shown me great leadership but most of all, your friendship. Carry on.

As I said before, it has been GREAT to be part of this awesome Division!!!

Board of Directors Reports



Ron Black

VP Contests & Judging

candj@farwesterndistrict.org

This is my “last” Westunes submission as the District Contest and Judging VP. It’s been a great eight years to serve the FWD in this role, and thanks to all of you for your kind words of support for me through these years. And I get to jump to a new role as the DVP for the Northeast Division.

Congrats to the Santa Fe Springs and Bakersfield Chapters for putting on a **great** convention, ably chaired by Bill Rosica (FWD NW Division VP). We returned to the Rabobank Convention Center, always a great venue, with 25 quartets and 18 choruses participating.

Our new District Champion Quartet, **Suit Up!** has been aiming for this for many years, and the audience definitely agreed with the results! They were followed by 2nd place **Fortunate Sons** and 3rd place **Capitol Ring**.

Renaissance won the District Senior Quartet award, and **Velvet Frogs** will again represent the FWD at the International Senior Quartet Contest in January. **Renaissance** and **Great Western Timbre Co.** qualified as wildcards.

The Super Senior Champ from the Spring Contests is **Above The Lawn**, and the Novice Champ is **Scoop ‘Em Up**. Winner of the audience-selected Lloyd Steinkamp Most Entertaining Award is **The Velvet Frogs**.

Our District Champion Chorus and representative to the 2018 International Chorus Contest in Orlando in July is our **Westminster Chorus**, with an average score of 92.9, with which they are seeded as a 2nd place (bested by Dallas Metro, The Vocal Majority). Joining them as a wildcard invitation to the 2018 International is Barbary Coast **Fog City Singers**.

Sun Harbor is the Far Western District Most Improved Chorus.

The 2018 Spring Conventions are (watch Westunes and the FWD website for more information):

International Quartet Prelims plus SW/SE Quartet and Chorus Divisions is March 16-18 in Southern California, venue to be announced soon. **Deadline for contest entry is February 16.**

The Arizona Quartet and Chorus Division is April 14, again in Mesa AZ. **Deadline for contest entry is March 17.**

The NW/NE Quartet and Chorus Divisions is April 14, location in is Lodi, Hutchins Conference Center. **Deadline for contest entry is March 17.**



Craig Ewing

VP Music & Performance

musicandperf@farwesterndistrict.org

As I have written before, The BHS Midwinter Convention is coming to the FWD. It will be held in 2018 at the beautiful Segerstrom Hall in Costa Mesa, California from Tuesday Jan. 16 thru Sunday Jan. 21. Full sets from our current medalist quartets and invited superstars will headline two evening shows. The youth festival gets bigger every year, (thanks to your support of Harmony Foundation), and has participants from around the world. The youth festival is a big draw, and the International Senior Quartet Contest will feature the best of our seasoned performers.

Last year a Senior Chorus Festival was added to the Convention. Districts may create a Chorus with current (dues paid) members with a minimum age of 55. I am happy to announce that our FWD Qualification Chorus (or FWeD-QuaCk) easily scored enough points and the FWD will have a representative Chorus.

Due to our geographic size and limited time, participation in this Chorus will be similar to Platoon Qualification. Members are expected to have notes and words Quartet-ready when they arrive in Costa Mesa. Email Craig Ewing at cesing10r@gmail.com if you

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wish to participate. Include your name, voice part(s), and the name and email of your Chorus Director as a referral. If an FWD Quartet Champ knows your voice and work ethic, they can also be used as a reference.

In addition to the age requirement, you must be current in your dues and have a registration to the Convention. When approved, you will be asked to provide a payment of \$20 to cover costs (music, learning tracks, etc.). You will then receive the two songs and tracks with your voice part.

Our performance at the Festival will be on Friday the 19th, but plan on rehearsals on Wednesday and Thursday (working around the major Convention events) to create a unit.

The men of FWeD-QuaCk raved about how fun it was to qualify. For many guys, Costa Mesa will be a unique opportunity to perform on an International Stage. Also, having the youth in the audience brings an energy that performers seldom get to experience!

Please contact me at CEsing10r@gmail.com if you have any questions. I can also be reached on my cell 714-356-8501, but prefer e-mail so I can better track and share ideas.

Thanks – Craig



Hello, FWD!

Earlier this year, I shared a few ideas that Directors and Music Team members could utilize for establishing core principles for singing success. Briefly, these principles included:

Educate – yourself, your team, and spread the wealth to your membership.

Embrace – rehearsal elements that are designed to continually innovate and inspire singers with fun, achievable, principle-based singing and performance goals.

Eliminate – distractions. Remove aspects of rehearsal that don't directly support the best possible Chapter vision.

Encourage – your singers. Let them know they are capable and that the journey for improvement is worth the team effort.

Execute – Be creative. Don't settle. Get to the heart of what is real and deliver.

Of course, these ideas are simply departure points for discovering what works best for your leadership team and Chapter. Let's expand a bit further upon some of these principles, beginning with **education and development**.

A cornerstone principle of success is certainly continual improvement and renewal of skills through educational resources. Sure, there are offerings online, but we have incredible educational programs in the FWD and we want to offer more. Do what it takes to invest in yourself and your team by attending our scheduled educational events. We need you!

As a Music Director (as well as music team leader), it is vital to be constantly self-aware of verbal teaching skills and gestures that compel the very best singing from your ensemble. When identifying elements to

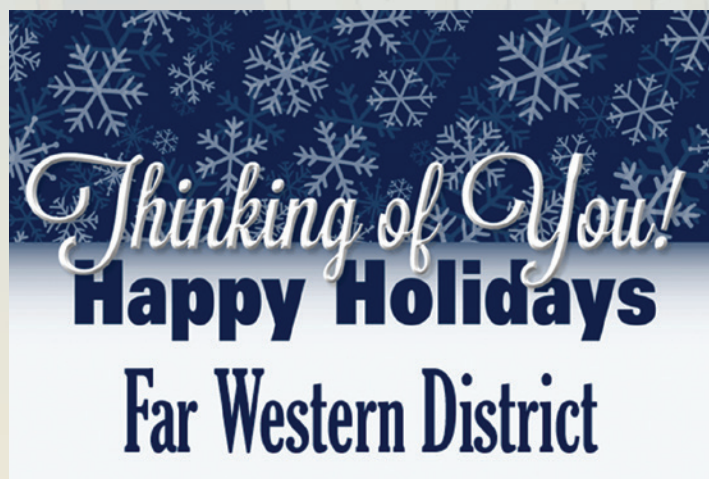
District Management Team Reports

embrace and what to *eliminate*, the best question to always ask yourself is: “Did it work?” In other words, “was it *effective*?” If so, keep doing it. Otherwise, try something else.

Strive to be as *confident*, *clear*, and *concise* as possible with specific instructions that support *consistent* goals. These very same principles also apply to non-verbal hand-gestures (conducting) and body-language communication. As **Dr. Greg Lyne** might say, “Stay centered, simplifying your delivery, and look like the music”.

Encourage *equal-contribution* from your singers. This starts by fostering trust between the leadership and the Chapter membership. Section leaders must *empower* every singer to bring their most enlivened and authentic self to the party of making great music. To both trust and to also be trustworthy with expressed music / administrative goals. It is so very important that everyone is on the same page and accountable for your Chapter success. Now is the perfect time of year for your team to reflect upon Chapter successes and to also discover opportunities for a fantastic 2018!

Wishing you all the very best for the Holidays! Cheers!



We’ve come to the end of another competition cycle with the conclusion of the Fall Convention & Contest in Bakersfield this past October. Since we’re months away from the start of the 2018 Division Contests, this is a great time to highlight some of the process changes that have occurred since 2015, the year I began this journey as your FWD Events Chair. With assistance from many others on the FWD Management Team, we set out on a mission to examine how the District manages and implements the convention cycle, which, at that time, required a herculean effort by Host Chapters. After our initial review, the Board authorized a couple of significant changes. The first involved moving the long-term planning and contracting process for venues and headquarters hotels from Host Chapters to the FWD Events team. The second involved developing and implementing an online registration process. We believed that these two processes were the most cumbersome and time-consuming for Host Chapters and may have been preventing smaller Chapters from volunteering.

As we moved through the 2016 and 2017 Contest Cycles, further process changes were implemented with the goal of simplifying the interface between the District and Host Chapters and reducing costs. Some of these changes are highlighted below:

1. All accounting functions (revenue collection and bill paying) is now accomplished by the Events Team and District Treasurer. Host Chapters are now out of the accounting business and do not have to worry about collecting money for registrations, photographs, program advertisements, hotel rebates, among other things. Further, all Convention costs are paid by the District Treasurer, eliminating the need for Host Chapters to set up

District Management Team Reports

special accounts and pay bills.

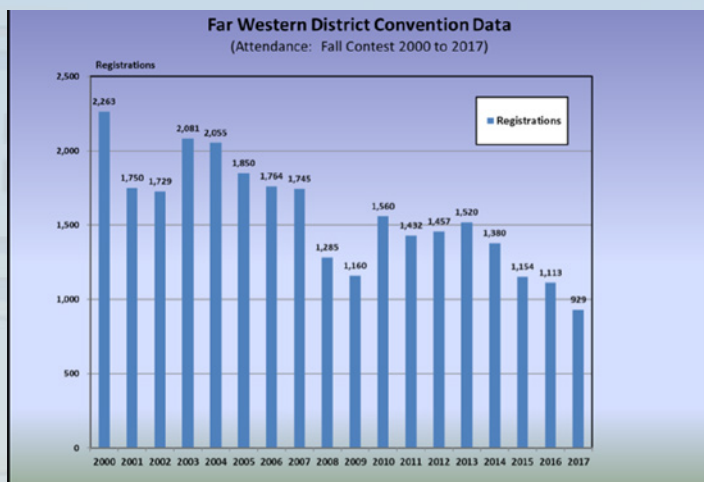
2. Audio/Visual recordings are now delivered digitally to Contest representatives immediately after the conclusion of each Contest. YouTube-quality mp4 files are sent during the Contest and once the entire Convention/Contest is over a high-definition file is sent.
3. Photographers are now contracted by the District for just their time and no longer own the photographs. This change in contracting process now requires the photographer to release ALL digital photographs to the District after the Contest. Based on the number of groups (Quartets and Choruses) a break-even price is established and then offered for purchase, which includes all photos taken for each group. This change in process has allowed the District to substantially reduce the cost of the entire digital set of photographs for each competitor from about \$125 to \$40.

There are numerous other smaller details that have been modified because of other changes. Consequently, we are in the process of updating the Convention Manuals to reflect these changes. Once completed, the Manual will segregate and detail the responsibilities between the District and Host Chapters for each convention type (Division, Division with International Quartet Preliminaries and the Fall Convention). I am expecting that this Manual will be completed, reviewed by other members of the Events Team and ready for presentation to the Board by no later than the March Convention.

If you did not attend the 2017 Fall Convention and Contest you missed a great one. I believe, and I have heard this from many others, that it was the best Fall Contest in many years. The Quartet competition was more than impressive with such a high level of singing and entertainment. The race to the top of the Chorus competition at every plateau is also getting very exciting. Finally, the Show of Champions had to be the best I've seen in the 21 years I've been attending Fall Conventions.

Based on the final registration count there are many of you that missed this Convention. Our Bakersfield location, (on our calendar now every three years), brings with it a very interesting distinction: The highest attended Convention of our Fall rotation schedule. The

last time we were in Bakersfield (2013) we enjoyed a registration count of 1,593. This year it dropped to 929. This prompts me to deliver the chart below, which shows our registration count from 2000 through 2017.



I thought our attendance at the Fall Convention had stabilized between 2010 and 2014. The last three years proves that false. Let's be clear: it is a false notion that the District can continue to deliver these Conventions at the venues and hotels you have become accustomed to with such drastic drops in attendance. Given this attendance trend, at the Fall Board meeting I requested that a committee be formed to examine other options available to the District that will reduce the cost of these conventions while improving attendance and participation. That committee is formed and we look forward to discussing new ideas that will tackle this issue. Please don't be silent as others work towards the goal of maintaining and improving our Conventions & Contests. Feel free to drop me a note with your comments at my District email address (events@farwesterndistrict.org). I only ask that you refrain from making these communications a dump for complaints and negativity without a suggestion for a better way to conduct business. We are looking for ideas and process improvements to increase attendance and involvement at the District Conventions. I welcome all suggestions that might accomplish that goal.

District Management Team Reports



I want to express my sincere gratitude to the Bakersfield Chapter for the outstanding job they did at hosting the Fall Convention. Thanks to an abundance of volunteers, all of the major events as well as registration ran smoothly and efficiently. But beyond that, there were so many extra little touches, from having designated "singing floors" to the canteen for those needing to grab a late-night bite, making it a very pleasant experience for those who attended.

And speaking of that, if you did not attend the Fall Convention this year, you missed a great one. The level of competition this year was truly incredible and very entertaining, and the Show of Champions was the best ever. Marty Monson was just glowing, and I'm sure things were buzzing at Harmony Hall when he returned from his trip.

I have to confess that I was more than disappointed at the low attendance at this year's event. The FWD puts on one of the best conventions in the Society, but we can't continue to do that if it means operating at a loss. I know that Bryan Forbes and everyone on the Board are concerned about this, and we will be taking a hard look at what we can do to continue to offer best-in-class and still make ends meet.

But all of that depends on YOU making the effort to come to these events. As Marty stated so eloquently at the HOD meeting, these are more than just contests, they are times when we all come together to join our friends and celebrate our love for singing.

So next time, besides the outstanding music and entertainment, think about how great it is to get together with old friends from all over the district, to sing tags, share stories, laugh and enjoy the camaraderie that makes being a barbershopper so

special. It doesn't matter whether you're competing or not; in fact, I've found that conventions are actually more fun when I'm NOT competing because there's so much to do besides spend all my time in rehearsal.

So I challenge you to think about all that you are missing when you don't come to the conventions. I'll be in Fresno next Fall, and I hope to see you there, too!

Now on to Marketing ...

Chapter Marketing VPs: What are your plans for promoting your annual shows next year? If you don't have a website, you need to get one now! Are you taking advantage of Social Media by setting up a Facebook page? Are you using Twitter? Instagram? Pinterest? YouTube? If these sound like Greek, then you're missing out. This is the 21st Century and there are a plethora of ways to get free publicity that are surprisingly easy to do once you learn how. And what about an email list for your fan base? If you don't have one yet, take a look at MailChip to see what you can do to get started for free. You'll find this and more in the marketing training materials we have at farwesterndistrict.org. Contact me if you would like more details on how to jump on the bandwagon.



I handed out **"Each One-Bring One-We Won"** badges to each Division Vice President to hand out. My intentions were to get each Chapter to simplify their recruiting methods by challenging each member to bring in one new member during 2017. It didn't take hold as I thought it would. Again, if you think you have something to build our membership, I'm all ears. More members will allow the District to be able to provide better services to Chapters as well as individuals.

District Management Team Reports



Who Had the Most Fun in Bakersfield?

Once again, Quartet singers who did Harmony Platoon at the FWD Convention had a whole EXTRA DAY of fun before the rest of us even got to town.

From 14 different Chapters, nearly 30 guys sang original 139th Street songs in three fun contests . . . leading to the eventual champ:

HAMBURGER



Winning with the 139th Street favorite "Sing an Old Barbershop Song" were Tenor **Barry Waite** from South Bay, Lead **Joe Payton** from Las Vegas, Bass **Allen Smith** from Inland Empire and Bari **Pete Hensley** from La Jolla.

In the foreground of the picture are the judges, who were three of the BHS Hall of Fame quartet 139th Street. Left to right: John Sherburn, Jimmy Kline and Pete Neushul. Judging two earlier Contests were former FWD District Champs and Senior Champs Ray Estes (Hot Spot and High Priority), Will Winn (Thermalaires) and Don Kileen (Curtain Call).

Entertaining the Friday night Convention first night Quartet Competition was a 22-man Platoon Chorus, directed by South Bay's Scott Suwabe, representing these chapters: Rincon Beach, Ventura, Bay Area, Frank Thorne, South Bay, Fullerton, AZ Quartet Chapter, Sun Cities, Phoenix, Inland Empire, Santa Fe Springs, California Delta, Las Vegas, San Diego, La Jolla, Palo Alto-Mountain View, Orange Quartet Chapter, Sedona.

Typical of the comments from guys attending Platoons were these from former FWD Events Chair John Jones: "I thoroughly enjoyed it . . . it was an extreme lot of fun." Because of past FWD Board administrative duties, John was attending his first Platoon. He has already signed up for the next one, which will be January at the Midwinter Convention in Southern California.

Over two dozen FWD guys have already signed up for the Midwinter Platoon, with over 50 guys from all over the country currently planning to attend. It would be wise to get signed-up soon while there are still openings. Those registered are already learning the five great songs they'll be singing. You'll find the registration flyer at the HarmonyPlatoon.org website, or the BHS website.

I would like to publicly thank Don Salz for stepping in at the last minute to run this Platoon when health issues kept me from attending. Thanks Don for all you do.

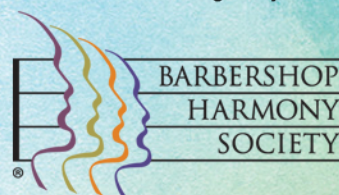
SINGING CHANGES LIVES

The demand to participate in Barbershop Harmony Society singing programs for all ages is great, yet some do not have the means to join us. Through your generous support, we can provide the funding needed to enrich more lives today while ensuring longevity for this cherished art form.

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Arizona Division

Bob Shaffer • Division Editor

Central Arizona Chapter by Bill Kane

AZ Quartet Chapter took the summer off, but resumed with fall meetings, both to prepare guys for the Platoon in Bakersfield at the FWD fall convention and to “sing back” some of the favorites of the 74 songs done at prior Platoons. Since some members will be going to Platoon at the Midwinter Convention in Southern California in January, fall meetings will include preparation for the fun Platoon contests that will take place there.

Greater Phoenix Chapter by Jerry McElfresh

The Phoenix chapter has been working recently on preparation for its Christmas shows and planning its 75th Anniversary Reunion show coming up on March 10, 2018. Part of the planning for the anniversary show involves inviting as many former members as we can find to join us either in the audience or on stage for the show finale in singing two famous Phoenician songs. Anyone in that category who has not been contacted can call 480-947-7464 and leave his name and email address so that we can send him information about participating in the show.

Mesa Chapter by Bob Shaffer

The Chorus continues to grow rapidly, and welcomes new member **John Stewart**, transfer members **Ben Fye** and **Jake Jacobsen**, and dual-members **Bob Gray**, **Darrel Hill**, and **Rob Menaker**.

The chapter is honored to have the following men serve as members of its Board of Directors for 2018: **John Johnson** (President), **John Soper** (Secretary), **Bernie Esberner** (Treasurer), **Greg Grace** (Music VP), **Thom Olmstead** (Membership VP), **Roy Murray** (Marketing VP), **Randy Bingel** (Chorus Manager), **Adam Kaufman** (Program VP), **Vic Bowen** (BMAL), **Ken Brannon** (BMAL), and **Bob Shaffer** (IPP).

Congratulations to **Adam Kaufman** for being elected to the FWD District Board as the DVP for the Arizona Division. Our thanks go out to **John Bloomquist** who retired from the DVP position after serving 6 terms, as well as **Bob Gray** who is stepping off the board after serving many years as FWD Secretary.

As always, if you find yourself in the metro Phoenix area on a Thursday evening, please drop in

and ring some chords with us. We are having a blast with **Russ**, and we always include some quartet time at the end of every meeting before heading off to a well-attended afterglow.

PRESCOTT CHAPTER by Sam Stimple

The summer months provide time for members to relax between contests and the annual show. The High Mountain Chordsmen’s guest list typically grows because Prescott and surrounding communities are taking care of tourists and visitors. We gained three excellent new singers during the summer: **Rob Anderson** (Lead), **Larry Bennett** (Bass), and **David Blasco** (Bass). We will pay special recognition to them in our upcoming printed show program.

Several chapter singers participated in a 100-voice chorus for a community patriotic music festival on Independence Day weekend at the country courthouse square.

In July the Chapter Chorus was awarded a \$2,500 grant from the Acker Community Foundation to assist with expenses for our annual Youth in Harmony workshop in November. **The NEWFANGLED**

FOUR will serve as clinicians for this event.

HFLB (Harmony for Lunch Bunch) will not meet in November and December, and will resume at 11 am on January 26 (fourth Friday) at Golden Corral Buffet, 1901 Highway 69, Prescott. All visitors & guests are 'chord-ially' invited. Call Ed at 928-273-1397 for questions.

Salt River Chapter by Eric Bjornsen

A Cappella Syndicate continued to pursue musical excellence this summer, and had a bit of fun along the way.

July brought one of our favorite coaches to town for a vocal workshop. Director Mark Hale shared his gold medal talents with the Chorus, and continued to focus the group toward a consistent, unified sound with optimal vocal placement and resonance. Mark made a follow-up visit in September to reinforce and strengthen the techniques learned in July. The Syndicate was fortunate to receive continuing guidance from Performance Coach (and now BHS Performance Judge Candidate) Theresa Weatherbee, who provided her expertise in various rehearsal sessions. We are grateful to these excellent coaches, whose efforts have led to real results, and better prepared us for shows and the October District Convention.

The Syndicate is making a CD! On two Saturdays in August, the **Syndicate** had recording workshops, laying down several

tracks in preparation for its first album, entitled *Syndicate Comes a Caroling*.

The **Syndicate** gave a public performance at the foothills community of Arcosanti, an experimental town in Yavapai County, 70 miles north of Phoenix. The town attempts to demonstrate how urban conditions can be improved while minimizing negative impacts on the environment. For attendees and Syndicate members, the event included a tour, a wine and cheese reception, followed by a lovely dinner. The Chorus then took the stage and wowed the crowd.

Sedona Chapter By Michael McCaffrey

"There's the North Pole, and the South Pole but the manly explorer seeks always the Barber pole- for a REALLY close shave" CMK

The **Harmony on the Rocks** Barbershop Chorus this summer was polishing our repertoire for our annual show "The Amazing History and Absolute Significance of the Barber pole", a wonderful assortment of Barber pole stories and great numbers done in the Barbershop style. We also featured **Renaissance**, first place Senior Division finisher, as well as two of our own quartets, **Surround Sound** and **The Temps**.

Quintessential Quartet performed at Summer Soiree #4. Members **Jim Fisher, Ron Burkey, Diane Nadeau and Michael McCaffrey** treated a rapt audience to an excellent selection of Barbershop tunes.

White Mountains Chapter by "Doc" Dockendorf

We held our Annual Show called *The Greatest Generation* which was a tribute to all Veterans, but especially to our surviving WW II vets. We recognized 12 WW II veterans by name from the stage and gave a brief biography of where they served and what they did in service to our country. A month later, the local American Legion Commander presented the Chapter with a plaque which read:

"American Legion, White Mountain William House Post 76 Presents this Award of Recognition to the High Country Barbershop Chorus, and Sponsors for the 2017 Concert 'The Greatest Generation, a Tribute to Our Armed Forces'".

A picture of this presentation was published in our local newspaper, the White Mountain Independent.

The Chapter performed its semi-annual road cleanup of its adopted mile and a quarter of the city bypass. That was followed by a chapter party at the Dockendorf's house. The Chapter has performed this Community Service twice a year for the 17 years of the Chapter's existence. We had a performance at the Navopache Electric Co-Op annual meeting, where we repeated our Greatest Generation show. The Chorus also appeared on the Blue Ridge Junior High School Fall Talent show.



Northeast Division

Roger Perkins • Division Editor



California Delta Chapter by Jim DeChaine

The **Delta Chapter** placed 4th out of 18 competing chapter choruses at the 2017 Far Western District Convention this October in Bakersfield.

We had 15 members from **VoCal** competing among the 25 participating quartets at district, and **Capital Ring [Dallas Halvorson, Larry Halvorson, Brent Freitas, Michael Stewart]** placed 3rd. **Dynamix (Robert Lenoil, James Morgan, Bruce Morgan)**, placed 6th. Other participating quartet members included **Backroads (Steve Taylor & Richard Lund); Four Fifteen (Larry Gassman & John Gassman); Belle Voci (Rich Hartmann);** and **What Four (Tim Martin, Corley Phillips, Winston Char, Richard Lund).**

VoCal Director **Gabe Carretto** founded an event patterned after the traditional **"Go for the Gold"** event in Southern California. Northern California quartets which to qualified to sing in Bakersfield were offered the opportunity sing in a "Go for the Gold in Bakersfield" style event in Natomas. Ten Quartets participated.

In August six of our members participated in the **High Sierra Harmony Brigade: Derick Sturke, Larry Womac, Rich Hartmann, Richard Kaiser, Robert Lenoil and Raphael Pazo.**

Chapter Officers for **2018** are Pres **Larry Womac**, Sec **Tim Jackson**, Treas **Scott West**, returning VP Music/Performance **Larry Halvorson**, VP Membership **Rich Hartmann**, returning VP Marketing **Rich Brunner**, Members at Large – **Richard Kaiser, Derick Sturke**, and IPP **Jim Maass.**

VoCal welcomes into the fold three additional new members this quarter:

- **James Morgan** recently transferred from the **Redwood Chordsmen.** He graduated Summa Cum Laude with his Bachelor of Music degree in Film Scoring and Electronic Production & Design from Berklee College of Music in Boston. He is an active vocal arranger, Baritone, coach and performer.
- **Vincent Dinh**, born in Vietnam, escaped with his family to Minnesota. He sings Lead with the chapter and also enjoys writing, art/design, and cooking. He admits to being primarily right-brained.
- **Kevin Wood**, originally from

Alhambra, lived in Australia, then Pasadena. He and his wife **Oksana** live in Oakdale. Kevin is one of the 12 original charter members of the Masters of Harmony.

Our third annual Family Picnic was hosted by **Jim & Lorna Ingram.**

VoCal was privileged to sing the National Anthem at the FBI Citizens Academy Leadership Conference.

Central California Chapter by Miles Sutter

The GVC performed for the S.A. River Lights Chorus at Davis Park Church of Christ in Modesto. We joined them in singing two 8-part songs, and then the Chorus sang six songs for their audience. 24 hours later sang at the Ripon Senior Center. We sang six songs, and our GVC quartet entertained.

The GVC again had the privilege and honor of singing our National Anthem at the Modesto Nuts baseball game, in 109° weather. With "bombs bursting in the air" going off behind us, and under the direction of **Bruce Sellnow**, we raised our voices and sang with conviction! The sound system at the stadium had a resounding effect in our singing, and you could hear it all over the stadium.

Folsom Chapter by Dennis Stohl

Joe Teresi, a Baritone, joined our chorus recently and is already a helper with the harmony in our chorus. Prior to Joe joining the chapter our only Baritone was **Ken Potter**.

The Chorus honored our wives and significant others with our annual "Wive's Appreciation Night" at the local Spaghetti Factory. .

We participated in the "Big Sing" with other choruses in the area, namely the **Sacramento Capitolaire's**, the **Placerville Golf Rush Chorus**, and the **Nevada Placer Sierranaders**. A majority of our members attended the fantastic event along with sixty other Barbershoppers.

We sang for the Sierra Point rest home. Many in the audience sang along with the Chorus. **Les Cudworth** entertained with some amazing magic tricks. **Roger Perkins** sang the solo on "Ghost Riders in the Sky" backed by the Chorus.

We held our annual "Recital" at the Church of the Redeemer in Orangevale. It was entitled "Songs of the Campfire" with the Chorus singing around a campfire. Featured were the **Camptown Singers (FHX Chorus)**, **Linda Vincent** singing "Lida Rose" & "Pick A Little" with the **Atria Quartet**, **Denny's Quartet**, & **Steve Allison** playing guitar and singing.

Nevada Placer Chapter by Roger Perkins

We lost longtime Barbershop friend **Bob Dayton**, who was a prior member of the **Sacramento Capitolaire's** for many years. He had been living in Auburn for several years and sang with the **Sierranaders** occasionally. He was 90 years old and will be missed.

The **Sierranaders** had their annual show "Singing in the Saddle" which had all western songs. On the first half of the show the Chorus sang songs such as "Back In the Saddle", "Wild and Woolly Sons of the West", "Home On the Range". The **Sagebrush Four (Tom Klasey, Roger Perkins, Ken Potter, Les Cudworth)** and the **Great Perkors (Tyler, Sean, Mark, Roger Perkins)**

performed. An octet from the **Folsom Harmony Express** sang "Ghost Riders in the Sky". **H.I.C.K.S. (Dave Wallace, Steve Leipelt, Bruce Sellnow, Richard Lund)** closed the first half of the show with a comedy routine that was highly enjoyed. Our

headliners, **The Stardust Cowboys** from Foresthill were featured in the 2nd half. They are not a Barbershop Quartet and play country/western music in the style of Spade Cooley and his Western Swing band as well as harmonizing with cowboy songs such as "I Got Spurs That Jingle, Jangle, Jingle". The show concluded with all the performers on stage to sing "Happy Trails to You". The audience loved it.

Visalia Chapter by Bud Case

The **Mighty Oak Chorus** held its 2nd annual Western Round-Up at Ritchie Barn just outside of Visalia. The tri-tip meal was tremendous and all the entertainment was fun in spite of the triple digit heat! As part of the Western Round-Up we held our silent auction that netted us just under \$2,000 this year. This event is second only to our annual show. We are looking forward to next year already!





Northwest Division

Don Shively • Division Editor



San Francisco Bay Cities Quartets Chapter

The 1st Wednesday of each month, SFBCQ hosts “The Harmony for Lunch Bunch” at **Harry’s Hofbrau in San Jose**. This is when we ‘open our doors’ to all quartets who want to practice their repertoire before our group. Our small group regularly sings songs from the *Barber Pole Cat Books*, Volumes 1 and 2, and doesn’t perform as a group for paid events. So it was a surprise to see over 25 people lunching with us and listening at the door in Harry’s Hofbrau this month. Harry’s is usually busy the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays when we meet, but this time we were placed in a front room, and we must have sounded pretty good. In August, **Paul Freudenthal** celebrated his 11th year in BHS. He selected **Bob Morrison**, **Mike Irvin**, and **Steve Gummersall** to form an impromptu quartet to sing two favorites. **Randy Preston**, and his wife **Avona**, joined us once again, bringing a few friends, along with **Sieg** and **Ruth Yoder**, with **Linda**, a relative from Austin, Texas. **Randy** has an extensive collection of Barbershop songs and can sing every one of them, in at least two different parts!

The **NEVER TOO OLD FOUR** [Bruce Bunting, Chuck Mollett, John

Jones, Ric King] sang *Sentimental Journey*, *Take Me Home*, *Country Roads*, and *P.S. I Love You*. **FOUR GENTS IN ACCORD** [Steve Gummersall, Randy Preston (substituting for David Laubscher), Marv Bertelson, Mike Irvin] sang *Her Bathing Suit*, *Never Got Wet* and *Home On The Range*. The groups merged with our members to sing *Sweet & Lovely*, and a few selections from The Barber Pole Cat Handbook. We also meet on the 3rd Wednesdays for lunch. All are welcome to any meeting to sing or listen. See sfbayquartets.org for more information.

Palo Alto / Mountain View Chapter

Greetings from **The Peninsulaires Chorus**, under the direction of **Sean Abel**. My return to **The Peninsulaires** after a 35 year hiatus (it’s a long story) has been a blast and I look forward to sharing news from our chapter with our **Westunes** readers. I must give thanks to all of the guys that have welcomed me back and a special thanks to my sponsor, chapter President, **Jim Sherman**. We welcomed many new members in 2017 including **Scott Anderson**, **Michael Gordon**, **Jack Hale**, **Randy Preston**, **Eliot Rubinov**, **Arthur Ryan**, and oh yeah, me... **Larry Valencia** (dedicated to my

Dad, Jerry Valencia, 50+ years in The Society, who we lost last November).

We enjoyed working with and learned a lot from the Special Coaching Sessions that were arranged for our chorus. An evening with **Debra Lynn** who taught us all about the “Bel Canto” method, an all-day Saturday session to work on Performance with **Julie Starr**, Director of The Sweet Adelines Chorus Bay Area Showcase, and **Jackie Bishop** came to work with us on Performance and Interpretations at a few Thursday rehearsals. Longtime member and Coach Extraordinaire, **Paul Eastman**, helped us with all aspects of our District package. Our heartfelt thanks to these wonderfully dedicated people who helped us to raise the bar and improve our scores.

The Peninsulaires welcomed our guests to The Annual Ice Cream Social and Cabaret Dinner Shows on November 11. This Veteran’s Day performance, “A Celebration of Americana” included Chorus performances of favorite American Classics. Audiences were delighted with performances by chapter quartets **Never Too Old 4**, **Metrognomes**, **Bascom Avenue**,

NORTHWEST - continued on Page 35



Southeast Division

Greg Price • Division Editor



Inland Empire Chapter by Gaylord Spence

The Inland Empire Chapter, along with 17 other Choruses, competed in the FWD Fall Finals Chorus Contest in Bakersfield. We know that we still have work to do to get to where we feel we could be, but are heartened by increasing our average scores by nearly 5 percentage points since the Spring Division Contest. We must say that the contest was truly one of the best in recent memory. Bakersfield is an outstanding venue for us and it is hoped that we will be back there in our contest cycle very soon.

One of the members of our great Bass section, **Allen Smith**, took the 1st place honors for BASS in the Fall Harmony Platoon, also in Bakersfield.

We welcome a new member **Edgar Moreno-Andrade** to our Lead section. We are hoping that his work schedule will allow him more time to expand his singing abilities with us.

San Diego Chapter by Greg Price

The Sun Harbor Chorus had a great time competing at the district contest in Bakersfield, achieving our

goal of winning the Most Improved Chorus Award.

For the past several years, **David Garstang**, Tenor of the district champion and three-time International medalist quartet **The Grand Tradition** and all-around good guy, served on the chapter board as VP Music and Performance and led our steadily growing Baritone section. Now comes the news that Dave accepted the position of Chorus Director of the **Music Man Chorus** of the Palomar Pacific chapter. We congratulate our brothers at Pal Pac on their great selection, but we will sorely miss Dave's presence.

We are busy preparing for our 40th successive Christmas show in Balboa Park, this year entitled "Welcome to Toyland", in the course of which representatives of a mega-marketing online sales giant learn some invaluable lessons about the spirit of Christmas from the elves in Santa's workshop.

As usual, the elf chorus will be helping Santa to light the Christmas tree at Spreckels Organ and joining hizzonor the Mayor one week later in kicking off the December Nights celebration which every year draws tens of thousands of visitors to our city.

Las Vegas Chapter by Peter Feeney

The Silver Statesmen Chorus traveled to St. George, Utah, to join the Color Country Chorus in performing at that city's Electric Theatre on Saturday September 23. The choruses warmed up under the watchful eye of Barbershop coach **Eddie Martinez** who worked with both choruses during the weekend.

The Silver Statesmen performed the National Anthem for the third time this season for Las Vegas 51s. The Chorus is also scheduled to perform on the "Real Men Sing" program. "Real Men Sing" is a choral showcase for young men featuring the Silver Statesmen, the Las Vegas Men's Chorus and hundreds of middle school and high school students from Clark County Nevada.

Congratulations to the Las Vegas Chapter new president **Kenny Rios**, and the new board. The board will be installed in January 2018.



Southwest Division

Justin McQueen • Division Editor



Channel Islands and Conejo Chapters

Channel Island Harmony Chorus by Juan Bowen

Conejo Valley and Channel Islands Clippers are awaiting the state of CA last official stamp of approval to finalize their merger into the Channel Islands Harmony Chorus. Under the stellar direction of Jim Browne, the Chorus continues to improve and has had several successful shows, including an appearance at the Ventura County Fair. On Nov. 2 we had sing-outs at various malls in our area to promote our Guest Night on Nov. 7 (hoping to pick up some new members). We are also looking forward to joining our brothers from up the road at Pacific Sound Rincon Beach and women's Channelaire Chorus for a holiday show in Ventura on Sunday Dec 10 at 2 PM.

Keep Ventura County and the whole world singing.

Rincon Beach Chapter by Justin McQueen

Pacific Sound Chorus has been very busy the last few months following International in Vegas. We said goodbye to **Kelly Shepard** and wished him the best. We said hello

to new Director **Mike McGee** fresh off of his Gold Medal win with the quartet **Main Street**. Pacific sound held two shows at the Marjorie Luke theatre in Santa Barbara, headlined by **Main Street**, with fantastic performances by special guests **Carpe Diem Women's Chorus** and the **Dos Pueblos High School Jazz Choir**.

Pacific Sound then went into full contest mode preparing for District competition in Bakersfield. Opting to go with two solid ballads, we rolled into the Mariott in Bakersfield looking to build upon the solid changes to our approach we have been diligently working on from our director and fearless leader Mike McGee. Prior to the competition on Saturday, several members of the chapter participated in the Harmony Platoon with **Ed Fuller** taking a win on day one on his first quartet competition ever. The Chorus contest took place and Pacific Sound made a good showing and snagged 7th place with hopes of moving up for next year and continuing the progress we have made.

We welcomed a new Lead and member in the fold **Arvid Russell**.

San Fernando Valley Chapter by Ben Marder

It is with deep sorrow that I must inform you of the passing of two of our members. One of our founding members, **Jim Summers** passed away September 4, 2017 just shy of his 90th Birthday.

In 1959 Jim and friends formed the Reseda Valleyaires Barbershop Chorus. In 1977 they moved to Van Nuys, and changed their name to the **San Fernando Valley Valleyaires**.

Jim loved ringing chords with the guys. He sang in several quartets. Jim was also active in Encore, (Entertainment Community Outreach Ensemble). Jim and wife Betty were Square Dancers, and active in the Chatsworth Historical Society.

The second member **J.R. Rodriquez**, life-long partner of **Tom Raffety**; passed away October 5, 2017. J.R. was a member of Frank Thorne, and the Valleyaires Chorus for 29 years.

The Valleyaires competed in International in Hartford, Conn in 1987 and placed 9th. Both Jim Summers and J.R., along with Tom Raffety were on that stage.

Both of our beloved members will be dearly missed by family, friends, and their fellow Barbershoppers.

Santa Monica Chapter by Marty Mitnick

A warm sunny day, the birds are singing, and the ice cream is being dished up with all the trimmings. What a day for an Ice Cream Social. **The Oceanaires** presented its annual special program with a terrific script written by **Tim Singer**. One of the highlights of the afternoon was the performance of **The Great Outdoors** [T Andrew Lehto, L Alonso Pirio, Br Kevin Needham, Bs Jasper Burik].

Preparing for competition is always hard work and takes lots of energy. But when you step onto those risers and the curtain opens, you know that all the preparation was worth it. At the FWD Chorus Finals Competition in Bakersfield, under the direction of **Laura Pallas Singer** and **Ben Lowe**, **The Oceanaires** achieved an average score of 70.7 with 30 singers on stage. Yes, all that rehearsing was worth every minute. This was our best achievement ever.

It is with regret that we announce that **Ben Lowe**, our esteemed director for several years, announced his resignation as co-director of **The Oceanaires** to pursue his professional career in Opera. He recently spent several weeks in New York appearing in the world premiere of a new opera at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. **Ben** is rehearsing as a featured soloist with the Verdi Chorus which will perform in November. The **Oceanaires** wish **Ben** every success

in his opera career. The **Oceanaires** are fortunate to have **Laura Pallas Singer** take the director position for the Chorus.

We warmly welcome our newest members: **Jackson Guze**, **Alesio Renda**, and **Christopher Truman**.

NORTHWEST

Continued from Page 33

and 2016 Far Western District Senior Champ **Spellbound**. Our Special Guest Quartet from Bay Area Showcase, **Turbulence**, brought its beautiful voices to round out our shows. Special thanks to narrator **Joe Sparaco**.

FWD Head Table during House of Delegates Meeting



FWD House of Delegates in Session



The FWD Scorpions



OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY, BHS, International Chorus Preliminaries and District Quartet Convention
Far Western District, Quartet Semi-Finals, Bakersfield, California, October 20, 2017

Contest Legend: 1=Far Western District Quartet (2 Rounds), 2=Far Western District International Preliminary Seniors Qt (DR/Score), 3=Far Western District Seniors Quartet, 4=Far Western District Novice Quartet

Semi-Finals	Song	MUS	PER	SNG	Subt	Prev	Total	Avg
11 Some Friends Of Mine	<i>Dream A Little Dream Of Me</i>	222	216	221			1303	72.4
(1)	<i>Come Fly With Me</i>	214	216	214				
12 Intonation	<i>What'll I Do?</i>	223	215	216			1302	72.3
(1,4)	<i>A Sunday Kind Of Love</i>	218	216	214				
13 The Front Line	<i>Chattanooga Choo Choo</i>	213	210	221			1299	72.2
(1)	<i>Orange Colored Sky</i>	216	214	225				
14 Friday Matinee	<i>When There's Love At Home</i>	219	212	219			1283	71.3
(1)	<i>I've Been Working On The Railroad</i>	209	209	215				
15 184	<i>Mountain Dew</i>	210	211	214			1269	70.5
(1)	<i>White Lightning</i>	215	207	212				
16 Four Fifteen	<i>You Make Me Feel So Young</i>	207	209	207			1251	69.5
(1)	<i>Bright Was The Night</i>	212	209	207				
17 Apex	<i>Come Fly With Me</i>	200	208	213			1249	69.4
(1,2,3)	<i>All The Way</i>	205	208	215				
18 Behind the Barn	<i>A Sunday Kind Of Love</i>	205	200	217			1245	69.2
(1)	<i>Hey, Good Lookin'</i>	206	205	212				
19 Belle Voci	<i>Firefly</i>	202	200	209			1220	67.8
(1,4)	<i>Over The Rainbow</i>	200	200	209				
20 Just4Kix	<i>At The End Of The Day With You</i>	206	200	204			1216	67.6
(1)	<i>I Can't Give You Anything But Love, Baby</i>	207	200	199				
21 The Good Guys	<i>Wait Till The Sun Shines, Nellie</i>	203	199	203			1209	67.2
(1,2,3)	<i>Frog Kissin'</i>	198	204	202				
22 Spellbound	<i>What'll I Do?</i>	201	191	188			1172	65.1
(2)	<i>That Old Quartet Of Mine</i>	206	194	192				
23 Backroads	<i>When You And I Were Young, Maggie</i>	196	189	200			1152	64.0
(1,2,3)	<i>Down By The Old Mill Stream</i>	190	184	193				
24 What Four	<i>From The First Hello To The Last Goodbye</i>	193	187	190			1148	63.8
(1,2,3,4)	<i>Wait Till The Sun Shines, Nellie</i>	194	187	197				

Panel: Administrator(s)

Randy Meyer - FWD
 Peter Maddeaux - LOL

Music

Anthony Bartholomew - SWD
 Adam Scott - RMD
 Tony Sparks - RMD

Performance

Bob Hodges - SWD
 Steve Janes - SUN
 Gary Plaag - MAD

Singing

Jim DeBusman - CAR
 Harry Hafflett - JAD
 Tim Marron - EVG

Draw

1. Capitol Ring
 2. Renaissance
 3. Current Chord

4. Fourtunate Sons
 5. Velvet Frogs
 6. Hot Spot

7. Dynamix
 8. Suit Up!
 9. Scoop 'Em Up

10. Heatwave
 MT Some Friends Of Mine

OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY, BHS, International Chorus Preliminaries and District Quartet Convention

Far Western District, Quartet Finals, Bakersfield, California, October 21, 2017

Contest Legend: 1=Far Western District Quartet (2 Rounds), 2=Far Western District International Preliminary Seniors Qt (DR/Score), 3=Far Western District District Seniors Quartet, 4=Far Western District Novice Quartet

Finals	Song	MUS	PER	SNG	Subt	Prev	Total	Avg
1 Suit Up!	Tomorrow Is Promised To No One	245	247	240	1458	1429	2887	80.2
(1)	The Way You Look Tonight	243	243	240				
2 Fountaine Sons	I'll Forget You	234	225	230	1380	1387	2767	76.9
(1)	Everyone's Wrong But Me	233	228	230				
3 Capitol Ring	Are You Lonesome Tonight?	231	234	228	1382	1384	2766	76.8
(1)	Hello My Baby	230	232	227				
4 Hot Spot	You Don't Know Me	226	229	229	1368	1351	2719	75.5
(1)	I Love Being Here With You	227	232	225				
5 Current Chord	Over The Rainbow	223	228	225	1368	1319	2687	74.6
(1)	That's An Irish Lullaby	227	239	226				
6 Dynamix	A Fool Such As I	223	229	230	1350	1324	2674	74.3
(1)	What Kind Of Fool Am I?	217	227	224				
7 Velvet Frogs	It's A Good Day	222	223	223	1331	1327	2658	73.8
(1)	Fit As A Fiddle	219	221	223				
8 Heatwave	If You Were The Only Girl In The World	223	218	223	1316	1320	2636	73.2
(1)	Little Patch Of Heaven	214	219	219				
9 Scoop 'Em Up	Drivin' Me Crazy	210	216	214	1281	1304	2585	71.8
(1)	So Long, Farewell, Goodbye	210	218	213				
10 Renaissance	Gang That Sang Heart Of My Heart	214	220	212	1186	1315	2501	69.5
(1)	This Little Light of Mine	203	154	183				
Semi-Finals	Song	MUS	PER	SNG	Subt	Prev	Total	Avg
1 Suit Up!	It's You	243	240	231			1429	79.4
(1)	The More I See You	239	242	234				
2 Fountaine Sons	Smile	242	225	231			1387	77.1
(1)	Oh! Look At Me Now	235	225	229				
3 Capitol Ring	My Ideal	232	234	226			1384	76.9
(1)	Summer Wind	230	236	226				
4 Hot Spot	You Took Advantage Of Me	223	228	225			1351	75.1
(1)	Surfer Girl	222	226	227				
5 Velvet Frogs	There'll Be No New Tunes On This Old Piano	220	221	224			1327	73.7
(1,2,2)	Sam, The Old Accordion Man	219	221	222				
6 Dynamix	A Sunday Kind Of Love	217	226	220			1324	73.6
(1)	I Can't Give You Anything But Love, Baby	214	227	220				
7 Heatwave	Little Pal	219	219	224			1320	73.3
(1)	That's Life	215	220	223				
8 Current Chord	Midnight Rose	221	218	217			1319	73.3
(1)	Love Me, And The World Is Mine	222	219	222				
9 Renaissance	That Certain Party/That's My Weakness Now	218	223	223			1315	73.1
(1,2,3,2,3)	'Deed I Do Medley	217	216	218				
10 Scoop 'Em Up	There Used To Be A Ballpark Right Here	214	221	216			1304	72.4
(1,4,4)	Scotch And Soda	212	222	219				

- Penalties of 5 points or greater by one or more judges were applied for violations of Contest Rules.

Suit Up! is the District Quartet Champion.

Scoop 'Em Up is the Far Western District Novice Quartet Champion.

Renaissance is the District Seniors Quartet Champion.

Velvet Frogs qualifies to represent the Far Western District at the International Seniors Quartet Contest next January.

Panel: Administrator(s)

Randy Meyer - FWD

Peter Maddeaux - LOL

Music

Anthony Bartholomew - SWD

Adam Scott - RMD

Tony Sparks - RMD

Performance

Bob Hodges - SWD

Steve Janes - SUN

Gary Plagg - MAD

Singing

Jim DeBusman - CAR

Harry Haffett - JAD

Tim Marron - EVG

OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY, BHS, International Chorus Preliminaries and District Quartet Convention

Far Western District, Chorus Finals, Bakersfield, California, October 21, 2017

Contest Legend: 1=Far Western District International Preliminary Chorus, 2=Far Western District Chorus, 3=Far Western District Plateau AA Chorus, 4=Far Western District Plateau AAA Chorus, 5=Far Western District Most Improved Chorus

Chapter / Nickname	Song	MUS	PER	SNG	Total	Avg	Cnt
1 The Westminster Chorus	<i>With You (from Pippin)</i>	275	273	277	1672	92.9	48
Westminster, CA (1,2,4)	<i>Thriller</i>	286	282	279			
2 Fog City Singers	<i>Who's Lovin' You</i>	263	268	260	1593	88.5	30
Barbary Coast, CA (1,2,4,5)	<i>'Til I Hear You Sing</i>	265	273	264			
3 A Cappella Syndicate	<i>My Foolish Heart</i>	237	247	237	1444	80.2	18
Salt River Valley, AZ (1,2,4,5)	<i>This Can't Be Love</i>	237	250	236			
4 Voices of California	<i>You Can Fly</i>	232	238	244	1426	79.2	51
California Delta (1,2,4,5)	<i>Cruella De Vil</i>	230	239	243			
5 Gaslight Chorus	<i>Love Walked In</i>	231	227	232	1380	76.7	26
Brea, CA (1,2,4)	<i>You Took Advantage Of Me</i>	226	231	233			
6 Voices In Harmony	<i>You Took Advantage Of Me</i>	223	230	221	1342	74.6	23
Bay Area, CA (1,2,4,5)	<i>The Way You Look Tonight</i>	223	228	217			
7 Pacific Sound	<i>A Son Of The Sea</i>	213	217	222	1305	72.5	24
Rincon Beach, CA (1,2,4,5)	<i>I Left My Heart In San Francisco</i>	216	215	222			
8 Silver Statesmen	<i>I Told Them All About You/You Dear</i>	215	211	220	1278	71.0	41
Las Vegas, NV (1,2,3,5)	<i>From The First Hello To The Last Goodbye</i>	210	208	214			
9 The Oceanaires	<i>On A Slow Boat To China</i>	211	210	213	1272	70.7	30
Santa Monica, CA (1,2,3,5)	<i>How Deep Is The Ocean?</i>	212	210	216			
10 Sun Harbor	<i>A Little Kiss Each Morning</i>	200	200	213	1231	68.4	21
San Diego, CA (1,2,3,5)	<i>Sweet Georgia Brown</i>	202	202	214			
11 Temecula Wine Valley Harmonizers	<i>Let A Smile Be Your Umbrella</i>	202	196	204	1213	67.4	17
Temecula, CA (1,2,3)	<i>Smile</i>	208	198	205			
12 Coastliners	<i>Legionnaire/French Foreign Legion</i>	206	202	194	1210	67.2	22
South Bay, CA (1,2,3)	<i>Road To Morocco</i>	205	212	191			
13 Inland Sound	<i>A Shine On Your Shoes</i>	205	196	205	1208	67.1	23
Inland Empire, CA (1,2,3,5)	<i>When I Leave The World Behind</i>	199	195	208			
14 Peninsulaires	<i>On A Wonderful Day Like Today</i>	203	197	202	1200	66.7	25
Palo Alto - Mountain View, CA (1,2,3,5)	<i>Little Pal</i>	199	194	205			
15 Pasadena Crown City Chorus	<i>Back In The Old Routine</i>	190	194	192	1158	64.3	14
Pasadena, CA (1,2,3)	<i>It Had To Be You</i>	193	195	194			
16 Golden Valley Chorus	<i>I'll Be Seeing You</i>	196	186	190	1156	64.2	22
Central California (1,2,3,5)	<i>It's Only A Paper Moon</i>	197	191	196			
17 Orange Empire Chorus	<i>Stouthearted Men</i>	190	179	193	1118	62.1	23
Fullerton, CA (1,2,3,5)	<i>San Francisco Bay Blues</i>	186	177	193			
18 Central Coast Chordsmen	<i>From The First Hello To The Last Goodbye</i>	186	183	189	1107	61.5	19
Santa Maria, CA (1,2,3)	<i>After You've Gone</i>	185	178	186			

The Westminster Chorus qualifies to represent the Far Western District at the International Chorus Contest next July.

The Westminster Chorus is the District Chorus Champion.

Silver Statesmen is the Far Western District Plateau AA Champion.

The Westminster Chorus is the Far Western District Plateau AAA Champion.

Sun Harbor is the Far Western District Most Improved Chorus.

Panel: Administrator(s)

Randy Meyer - FWD
Peter Maddeaux - LOL

Music

Anthony Bartholomew - SWD
Adam Scott - RMD
Tony Sparks - RMD

Performance

Bob Hodges - SWD
Steve Janes - SUN
Gary Plaag - MAD

Singing

Jim DeBusman - CAR
Harry Haflett - JAD
Tim Marron - EVG



**Far Western District
Board of Directors & Management Team Minutes
October 19, 2017
Bakersfield, CA**

President Gordon Bergthold called the 2017 Fall Board Meeting to order at 2:00PM.

Immediate Past President Allan Webb led the group in singing "*The Old Songs*"

Division 4 VP Richard Lund did the Invocation.

Secretary Bob Gray did the roll call. In attendance: Gordon Bergthold, Craig Hughes, Allan Webb, Bob Gray, Rich Owen, Brent Anderson, Nick Papageorge, Bill Rosica, Richard Lund, John Bloomquist, Ron Black, and Craig Ewing. District Management Team members in attendance were: Royce Ferguson, Bill Rosica, Bryan Forbes, and David Melville.

President Gordon Bergthold requested a motion to approve the meeting agenda.

Motion and Second to approve the BOD Meeting Agenda. **Motion Approved**

President Gordon Bergthold requested a motion to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2017 Board of Directors meeting in Fullerton, CA.

Motion and Second to approve the June 17, 2017 BOD meeting minutes. **Motion Approved.**

President Gordon Bergthold recognized the Past Presidents in attendance: Bernard Priceman, Russ Young, Sam Barger, Bob Lally, and Chuck Hunter. Also introduced were Marty Monson CEO/Executive Directory of Barbershop Harmony Society, and Perry White from Harmony Foundation. Three of the nominees for the 2018 Board of Directors were introduced, Jim Maass, Adam Kaufman, and Dick Whitten.

President Gordon Bergthold advised that the Division Vice President reports were in the HOD Brochure. Each VP then discussed updates to Chapter activities in their Division.

Executive Vice-President Craig Hughes Opened the discussion about funding the District Outreach Programs. Following discussion a Committee was established for further review. Committee members are Allan Webb, Rich Owen, Richard Lund, and Craig Hughes.

Executive Vice-President Craig Hughes advised the Mark Freedkin would be a consultant for Youth in Harmony, and that there is a need for a Membership Chairman for 2018 since Bill Rosica is moving to Executive Vice President.

Director Development Chairman Royce Ferguson discussed working with individual directors and reaching out to more directors.

Events Chairman Bryan Forbes thanked Bill Rosica and his team for the great job with the Bakersfield Fall Convention. He discussed upcoming events, declining attendance at Contests, and Chapters that qualify for Contests, and then pull out and don't attend. A Committee was appointed to study the problems and recommend pricing solutions. Committee Members are:

Bryan Forbes, Bill Rosica, David Melville, Ron Black, Nick Papageorge, and Rich Owen.
Bryan pointed out that all dates are on the FWD Calendar through 2022.

Communications & Marketing David Melville discussed mailing systems, and Westunes. Looking at rates for advertising in Westunes.

President Gordon Bergthold Called for a break at 3:35 PM

President Gordon Bergthold reconvened the meeting at 4:03PM.

Executive Director/CEO Marty Monson spoke to the group saying this was his fourth District Convention recently, and also touched on the new "Member Services Center".

Harmony Foundation President Dr. Perry White spoke about "Members Choice" checks would be distributed to Chapters at the HOD meeting.

President Gordon Bergthold: Thanked members for attendance and improved communication. He urged everyone to continue with "Communication" under the 2018 Leadership of Craig Hughes. Many topics discussed including ideas for show ticket sales, Videos of Contestants ready after contest, and Raffle at Convention for Harmony Foundation.

Division 2 VP Nick Papageorge led the group singing "Keep the Whole World Singing"

President Gordon Bergthold adjourned the meeting at 4:52PM.

The next FWD Board of Directors Meeting will be March 15, 2018. Location to be determined.

Respectfully Submitted

Bob Gray
FWD Secretary



**Far Western District
House of Delegates
October 20, 2017
Bakersfield, CA**

President Gordon Bergthold called the 2017 Fall House of Delegates Meeting to order at 1:42PM.

Executive Vice President Craig Hughes led the *"Pledge of Allegiance"*.

Contest & Judging VP Ron Black directed everyone singing *"The Star-Spangled Banner"*

Division 2 SE VP Nick Papageorge directed *"The Old Songs"*.

Division 4 NW VP Bill Rosica gave the Invocation.

President Gordon Bergthold welcomed everyone to the Fall House of Delegates Meeting. He introduced the Past Presidents in attendance.

Past Presidents:

<input type="checkbox"/> Sam Barger	1984-1985
<input type="checkbox"/> Chuck Hunter	1988-1989
<input type="checkbox"/> Peter Feeney	2004-2005
<input type="checkbox"/> Bill Cale	2006-2007
<input type="checkbox"/> Bob Lally	2008-2009
<input type="checkbox"/> Bernard Priceman	2011-2012
<input type="checkbox"/> Russ Young	2012-2013
<input type="checkbox"/> Allan Webb	2014-2015

President Gordon Bergthold Introduced visiting dignitaries and the Board of Directors.

Other Dignitaries:

<input type="checkbox"/> Marty Monson	CEO/Executive Director Barbershop Harmony Society
<input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Perry White	Harmony Foundation

Secretary Bob Gray did the Board of Directors Roll Call:

President	Gordon Bergthold	X
Executive Vice President	Craig Hughes	X
Secretary	Bob Gray	X
Treasurer	Rich Owen	X
VP Division 1 Southwest	Brent Anderson	X
VP Division 2 Southeast	Nick Papageorge	X
VP Division 3 Northwest	Bill Rosica	X
VP Division 4 Northeast	Richard Lund	X
VP Division 5 Arizona	John Bloomquist	X

VP Contest & Judging	Ron Black	X
VP Music & Performance	Craig Ewing	X
Immediate Past President	Allan Webb	X

Secretary Bob Gray then did the Roll Call of Chapters in Attendance:

D-005	Bakersfield	X
D-008	Santa Rosa	X
D-009	Placerville	X
D-014	Conejo Valley	X
D-021	Sacramento	X
D-022	Palo Alto – Mountain View	X
D-023	San Diego	X
D-026	Bay Area	X
D-028	Santa Mariz	X
D-029	Visalia	X
D-037	South Orange County	X
D-040	Marin	X
D-042	Stockton	X
D-043	Santa Clarita	X
D-046	Santa Fe Springs	X
D-056	Fullerton	X
D-057	Central California	X
D-066	San Fernando Valley	X
D-069	Mesa	X
D-074	Westminster	X
D-085	San Luis Obispo	X
D-101	Sun Cities	X
D-103	Rincon Beach	X
D-113	Sedona	X
D-116	Brea	X
D-117	La Jolla	X
D-123	California Delta	X

President Gordon Bergthold called for a motion to approve the Agenda. Motion and Second. **Motion Approved.**

President Gordon Bergthold called for a motion to approve the Minutes from the March 10, 2017 House of Delegates Meeting in Sacramento. Motion and Second. **Motion Approved.**

President Gordon Bergthold introduced Bernard Priceman from the Nominating Committee to read the Slate of Officers for 2018

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Craig Hughes | President |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Rosica | Executive Vice President |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gordon Bergthold | Immediate Past President |

<input type="checkbox"/> Jim Maass	Secretary
<input type="checkbox"/> Rich Owen	Treasurer
<input type="checkbox"/> Brent Anderson	Division 1 Southwest VP
<input type="checkbox"/> Nick Papageorge	Division 2 Southeast VP
<input type="checkbox"/> Dick Whitten	Division 3 Northwest VP
<input type="checkbox"/> Ron Black	Division 4 Northeast VP
<input type="checkbox"/> Adam Kaufman	Division 5 Arizona VP
<input type="checkbox"/> Brett Littlefield	Contest & Judging VP
<input type="checkbox"/> Craig Ewing	Music & Performance VP

President Gordon Bergthold called for a motion to approve 2018 Slate of Officers.

Motion & Second. **Motion Approved.**

President Gordon Bergthold introduced Society CEO Marty Monson to Install the 2018 Far Western District Officers.

Secretary Bob Gray read the list of District Members who passed away during the past year. FWD Champion Quartet "Don't Tell Mom" accompanied the presentation. Those added:

"2017 Chapter Eternal"

Name	Chapters
Frank Tillou	Fullerton
Bob Bauer	Eureka
Jeffery Baker	Santa Fe Springs
William Johnson	Mesa & Central Arizona
Lelan Stahl	Bakersfield
Robert Durbin	Frank Thorne
Dale Adams	Davis-Vacaville, Sacramento & Folsom
Donald Hickinbotham	Stockton
Conrad Keil	Tucson
Donald Gubbins	Frank Thorne
Ken Nelson	Aloha & Fresno
Dean Scoville	Fullerton
Dean Hunt	Las Vegas
Marvin Peterson	Greater Phoenix
Robert Caraway	Frank Thorne
Bill Legg	Stockton

President Gordon Bergthold announced that the Officer Reports were posted in the HOD Brochure. He then requested a Motion to Receive the Officer Reports. Motion and Second.

Motion Approved.

President Gordon Bergthold introduced Immediate Past President Allan Webb to review the changes for the FWD "Statement of Policy". Mr. Webb reviewed all of the changes which were posted in the HOD Brochure.

President Bergthold then called for a motion to approve the changes. Motion & Second. **Motion Approved.**

President Gordon Bergthold introduced **FWD Treasurer Rich Owen** to review the 2018 District Budget which had been approved the Board of Directors. **President Bergthold** called for a motion to approve the 2018 Far

Western District Budget. Motion & Second. **Motion Approved.**

Society Executive Director / CEO Marty Monson addressed the Delegates and Guests in attendance. He spoke about the Vision for the Society, and the new “Member Center”

Harmony Foundation President Dr. Perry White addressed the group. He spoke about “Donor’s Choice” and the challenge to fund programs. Dr. White then read a list of District Chapters that he would be presenting Donor’s Choice Checks to at the Convention. Those Chapters participating in Donor’s Choice were: Greater Phoenix, Tucson, Bakersfield, Walnut Creek, Santa Rosa, Conejo Valley, Inland Empire, Davis-Vacaville, Sacramento, Palo Alto-Mountain View, San Diego, Bay Area, Santa Maria, Visalia, Barbary Coast, Aloha, Marin, Nevada-Placer, Palomar Pacific, Stockton, Santa Fe Springs, Reno, Fullerton, Central California, Santa Monica, Fresno, San Fernando Valley, Mesa, Westminster, Las Vegas, Napa Valley, San Luis Obispo, Fullerton, Sun Cities, Rincon Beach, Sedona, Brea, La Jolla, Temecula, California Delta, and Salt River Valley. The aggregate sum of Donor’s Choice funds back to the Chapter and the District for this half year was \$42,045.95.

President Gordon Bergthold introduced Awards Chairman Chuck Hunter. Mr. Hunter reminded the audience that this year’s Fall Convention was dedicated to John and Larry Gassman. He announced that in an effort to recognize younger barbershoppers, the Spring dedicatee would be Justin Miller.

President Gordon Bergthold thanked Bill Rosica, Rich Owen, and Bryan Forbes and their team for the great work on the Fall FWD Convention.

Events Chairman Bryan Forbes addressed the delegates and talked about upcoming dates, all registrations on line, contest photos digitally sent to contestants within five minutes of contest. He also advised everyone to look at the FWD Calendar and the events tab for the latest information on Conventions.

Membership Chairman Bill Rosica spoke about raising funds for Harmony Foundation, and that members didn’t always like to keep being up by “passing the hat”. He advised everyone that he had two bowls made, which would be given away at a raffle, and the proceeds would go to Harmony Foundation. He also said that he made three knives, two with walnut handles, and the third was a “Jeff Baker Memorial Knife”. The handle was made from a piece of Jeff’s Desk at Warner Brothers. The proceeds also will be donated to Harmony Foundation.

President Gordon Bergthold advised that the next House of Delegates meeting will be at the SE/SW Division Contest and International prelims on March 16, 2018. Location to be determined.

Arizona Division VP John Bloomquist thanked Gordon Bergthold for his years of service to the District, and the completion of his two-year term as Far Western District President.

Immediate Past President Allan Webb directed “*Keep the Whole World Singing*”.

President Gordon Bergthold adjourned the 2017 Fall House of Delegates meeting at 3:16 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Bob Gray
FWD Secretary



January 16-21, 2018
Barbershop.org/OrangeCounty



All events held at the stunning Segerstrom Center for the Arts
in Costa Mesa in beautiful sunny southern California!

Events

DISTRICT CALENDAR

View the official Far Western District Calendar at
<https://farwesterndistrict.org/events/calendar>

UPCOMING CONVENTIONS

- **January 16-21, 2018** BHS International MidWinter Convention, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, Costa Mesa, Orange County, CA
- **March 15-18, 2018** FWD Spring Convention, SE/SW Division and International Prelim Contests
- **July 1-8, 2018** BHS International Convention, Orlando, FL

For an extended list of conventions, visit
<https://farwesterndistrict.org/events/conventions>

EVENTS REGISTRATION

Register for FWD Conventions at
<https://events.farwesterndistrict.org/>

Register for BHS Conventions at
<http://www.barbershop.org/>

Sunshine

To report important life events that occur with our members, please contact your Division Vice President

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