

Howard Donley – 2023 FWD Fall Convention Honoree



During his 55 years of membership in the Barbershop Harmony Society Howard Donley has travelled from coast to coast earning two medals in the International Chorus Contest and serving in many capacities at the chapter, district and Society levels. Starting in Atlanta, Georgia, his journey took him to the FWD where he sang with the Peninsulaires, where he won 3rd and 5th place international medals. He then proceeded to perform with San Mateo, San Jose, Sacramento, Davis, Davis/Vacaville, and Bay Area Metro before moving to the Rocky Mountain District where he directed the Yellowstone SA chorus. From there he moved on to Arizona where he has sung with the Desert Aires, Phoenicians and Central Arizona Quartet Chapter. In every chapter he was a chapter officer, and has held every chapter office at least twice with the exception of Secretary. He also managed to serve as Show Chairman for several of his chapters. Howard served as the FWD Chairman of the Harmony for Lunch Bunch for three years. He was a founder of the Sacramento HFLB, one of the few in the Society which remains active to this day. Howard also was a Certified Chapter Coach and

was active in that role in Northern California. In addition to singing with a number of chapter quartets he worked very closely with Jerry and Kim Orloff in establishing the Mixed Harmony Barbershop Quartet Association in which he served as Treasurer for three years. The MHBQA was the original mixed quartet organization in the Society. Because of its' size and success, it gave birth to the Society's Mixed Barbershop Harmony Association. From coast to coast, Howard has proved himself to be a mover and shaker in our barbershop world, and richly deserves our thanks for his many years of giving.