

# Minutes of the Fall HOD Meeting



Far Western District  
Fall House of Delegates Meeting  
Fresno, Ca.  
1:30 PM Friday October 10, 2014

**President Allan Webb** called the Spring House of Delegates meeting to order at 1:32PM.

**Gordon Bergthold** led the delegates in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Russ Young** led the singing of the Star Spangled Banner.

**Ron Black** led the singing of "The Old Songs".

**Richard Lund** gave the Invocation.

**President Allan Webb** welcomed all of the delegates to the meeting and recognized past District Presidents, Board Members, and distinguished guests, Dick Powell, Member of the Society Board, and Jim Clark from Harmony Foundation. Jim was not in attendance due to illness.

**Secretary Bob Gray** completed the Roll Call for Board Members and Chapter Delegates.

The following officers, directors, guests and delegates were present:

## **Past Presidents (7 Voting)**

Lyn Brittan	1970-1971
Sam Barger	1984-1985
Terry Aramian	1986-1987 (Absent)
Chuck Hunter	1988-1989
John Krizek	2002-2003
Bill Cale	2006-2007
Bob Lally	2008-2009 (non-voting)
Bernard Priceman	2010-2011
Russ Young	2012-2013 (non-voting)

## **Board Members (9 Voting)**

Allan Webb  
Russ Young  
Gordon Bergthold  
Bob Gray  
Max Bates  
Bob Lally  
Craig Hughes  
Chuck Leavitt  
Richard Lund  
John Bloomquist

## **Chapter Delegates (29 Voting)**

1. D-002 Greater Phoenix
2. D-003 Tucson
3. D-008 Santa Rosa
4. D-009 Placerville
5. D-014 Conejo Valley
6. D-018 Pasadena
7. D-022 Palo Alto – Mountain View
8. D-023 San Diego
9. D-026 Bay Area
10. D-028 Santa Maria
11. D-029 Visalia
12. D-037 South Orange County
13. D-040 Nevada-Placer
14. D-041 Palomar Pacific
15. D-042 Stockton
16. D-046 Santa Fe Springs
17. D-051 Reno
18. D-056 Fullerton
19. D-057 Central California
20. D-058 Santa Monica
21. D-066 San Fernando Valley
22. D-075 Las Vegas
23. D-085 San Luis Obispo

**Distinguished Guests (non-voting)**

Dick Powell Society Board Member  
 Jim Clark Harmony Foundation (Absent)

24. D-98 Folsom
25. D-101 Sun Cities
26. D-103 Rincon Beach
27. D-114 Riverside
28. D-116 Brea
29. D-123 California Delta

**President Webb's** opening remarks were short. He advised that the information that he wanted to cover was all published in the HOD Brochure.

**President Webb** introduced the current District Quartet Champions "New Fangled Four" who accompanied Bob Gray's reading the Memorial to Departed Members. Those departed members are:

Elton Carey	9/13/13	Fullerton	CA
Robert Koons	9/16/13	Tempe	AZ
Robert Sypowicz	10/9/13	Honolulu	HI
Jerry Orloff	10/25/13	Aptos	CA
Robert Short	10/27/13	Henderson	NV
John McCabe	11/1/13	Tipton	IA
Bill Pearlman	11/18/13	Mission Viejo	CA
Ronald Chick	12/1/13	Las Vegas	NV
Efraim Soto	12/2/13	Banning	CA
Allen Coe	12/16/13	El Cerrito	CA
Alex Kozloff	12/16/13	Santa Paula	CA
Gordon Welsh	12/19/13	Baldwin Park	CA
Lowell Brown	1/8/14	Sun City West	AZ
Robert Harshberger	1/10/14	Coronado	CA
Floyd Thaller	1/14/14	Duarte	CA
Ralph Denny	2/14/14	Dayton	NV
Bob Calderwood	3/18/14	Santa Ana	CA
Dave Samuels	3/31/14	Prescott	AZ
Joseph McGuire	4/2/14	Chino Valley	AZ
Rodney Cardon	4/22/14	Mesa	AZ
David Bowman	6/1/14	Yountville	CA
Rich Cordeiro	6/21/14	Honolulu	HI
Gordy Wolter	7/9/14	Reedley	CA
Doug Maddox	7/19/14	Mission Viejo	CA

Arthur McMahon	8/10/14	Hemet	CA
Thomas Dickerman	8/24/14	Daly City	CA
Paul Silva	8/27/14	Pismo Beach	CA
Ben Hastie	9/3/14	Phoenix	AZ
Matt Garner	9/4/14	Phoenix	AZ
Leo Winer	9/6/14	Las Vegas	NV
Ted Meyer	10/2/14	Hughson	CA

**President Webb** introduced the Barbershop Harmony Society Board Member, Mr. Dick Powell. Mr. Powell addressed the Board and Delegates in attendance about where the Society is headed.

**President Webb** entertained a motion to approve the Agenda with the correct date. Moved & Second **Motion Approved.**

**President Webb** entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the Spring HOD Meeting. Moved and Second **Motion Approved.**

**President Webb** entertained a motion to accept the receipt of the HOD Reports. Moved & Second **Motion Approved.**

**President Webb** discussed the Chapter Coaching Program as outlined in the HOD Brochure. He also discussed Convention Funding changes, registration price restructuring, and he presented information on proposed changes to the SOP regarding the District Youth Education Fund. The Fund will no longer be only Youth in Harmony, but will become available to all Chapters for Grants.

***New Wording 13.2 "13.2 DISTRICT OUTREACH ENDOWMENT FUND***

***The Far Western District Outreach Endowment Fund is established for the purpose of supporting outreach and educational activities in the Far Western District.***

***The Fund is derived from voluntary contributions by members, chapters and friends of the district, as well as by initial seed money from the Far Western District treasury. The Fund is maintained by Harmony Foundation on behalf of the Far Western District, with proceeds from the Fund's income used to fund outreach and educational activities.***

***Monies from the Fund are to be spent on projects as recommended by the District Board. These projects may include, but are not limited to: youth camps, scholarships, seminars for music educators, audio-visual materials, manuals and educational materials, augmentation of district outreach budget items such as high school quartet scholarship awards and Collegiate Barbershop Quartet travel, new chapter startup activities, adult outreach programs to potential members by existing chapters, and other projects as may be appropriate.***

***Where these projects are offered to minors, such as youths attending FWD youth camps, an appropriate release form will be provided to and executed by the parent or guardian providing for appropriate release for medical and/or accident circumstances and will also contain a "hold harmless" clause against the sponsors, FWD and SPEBSQSA, Inc.***

***Applications for project funding for outreach activities should be made through the appropriate committee chairmen: YIH Chair for youth activities, Membership Chair for new chapter startups, CDD Chair for Chorus Director Development, etc. For any requests which don't appear to fit under an existing committee chair, contact the Executive Vice President.***

***The annual budget of the Far Western District may include projected grant distributions from the fund, provided that such distributions do not exceed the expected income (donations/interest/capital gains), or 5% of the Fund, whichever is the lesser amount. To the extent that those numbers change during the budget year,***

*expanded mid or late year grants may be accommodated if the financial state of the Fund allows for it.*

*The intention behind this funding/spending model is to allow for the Outreach Endowment Fund to always be in a state of growth, and eventually be large enough to fund substantial outreach programs entirely from the interest/capital gains of the Fund's investments."*

*For the purposes of establishing the initial balance of the fund, the phrase "initial seed money from the Far Western District treasury" above is defined as the amount necessary to bring the balance of the fund to \$30k as of Jan. 1, 2015, after rolling over the current Youth Outreach Fund balance (~\$4k) and adding in the 2014 donation total (estimated ~\$6k), which would require an estimated ~\$20k from our bank account to accomplish. The first year (2015) we would therefore begin with a total grant limit of 5% (\$1500, approximately what our District grant activity was in 2014), but could adjust upwards during the course of the year if the financial state of the fund grows enough. Given that we usually show about \$6k worth of donation income per year (which we hope to increase), the fund should grow relatively quickly over the next several years and allow us to budget for increasing amounts of grants for various outreach activities.*

Based on the recommendation of the Far Western District Board to the Far Western District House of Delegates, the motion to change the wording of the SOP to allow the establishment of the "Outreach Endowment Fund" was presented: **Motion Approved.**

**Treasurer Max Bates and President Allan Webb** presented the 2015 Budget for Approval. Motion and Second to approve the budget as presented. **Motion Approved**

General discussion and points of Interest which were covered:

- Chapters delinquent with required filings in the District.
- Consolidating the Convention Manuals from three to one. Jim Turnmire will work on the consolidation.
- Harmony College West and Leadership Academy on Jan. 23 to 25 2014 in Las Vegas.
- Dick Powell, member of the Society Board addressed the Delegates. He stressed Hope and Optimism stating "The Future is Bright"

**Chairman Bernard Priceman** of the 2015 Nominating Committee presented the Slate of Officers:

President:	Allan Webb
Immediate Past President:	Russ Young
Executive Vice President;	Gordon Bergthold
Secretary:	Bob Gray
Treasurer:	Max Bates
VP Music & Performance:	Nick Papageorge
VP Contest & Judging:	Ron Black
VP Division #1 Southwest:	Brent Anderson
VP Division #2 Southeast:	Craig Hughes
VP Division #3 Northwest:	Charles Feltman
VP Division #4 Northeast:	Richard Lund
VP Division #5 Arizona	John Bloomquist

There was a motion and second to approve the Slate of Officers. **Motion Approved.**  
Society Board member Dick Powell Installed the 2015 Slate of Officers.

**Awards Chairman Bill Cale** advised that John Jones is honored at the Fall Convention in Fresno, and that Bill Kane will be honored at the Spring Convention.

**Ted Sayle, Events Chairman,** introduced incoming Chairman Bryan Forbes. They presented for approval the locations for future Conventions.

Larry Womac from California Delta agreed to host the **Spring NW/NE convention and Prelims** on March 19 to 21, 2015 in Sacramento. Motion and Second. **Motion Approved.**

**Arizona Division** hosted by Tucson at Skyline High School in Mesa April 25, 2015. Motion and Second. **Motion Approved.**

**Fall 2015 District Contest** October 16 to 18, 2015 hosted by Phoenix was approved last year.

**SW/SE Division** hosted by Santa Fe Springs May 9, 2015 in Santa Monica. Motion & Second. **Motion Approved.**

**President Allan Webb** thanked Ted Sayle for putting his retirement on hold and for chairing the Events Committee for the past two years.

**President Allan Webb** opened the meeting for a prepared comment from the floor by Rich Jensen from the South Orange County Chapter:

*“Thank you for the opportunity to address this House of Delegates and the Far Western Districts Board of Directors.*

*I am the delegate from South County Sound, a product of a successful merging of two dying chapters in South Orange County, California.*

*We have been fortunate to grow slightly over our 3 years with some advertising and member referrals, but certainly meager to our true potential.*

*Overall however, the Districts membership continues to free fall.*

*We believe this decline is caused by the lack of knowledge of our hobby and what we do, from the general public.*

*We’ve noticed that the 2015 FWD budget for Membership is \$800. The budget for Marketing in 2015 was cut by \$1500 to \$5,500. The FWD overall budget is proposed to increase by 58% in 2015, yet none of that money is earmarked toward increasing membership, as we see it; Yet all 5 of these DVP reports include continued dismay of our declining membership numbers.*

*We’re asking the Board to do something District wide in helping it’s 75 chapters (1) Expose and Quell the myths and misconceptions of Barbershop Harmony and (2) build up our brand to the general public.*

*Most everyone can sing. We know it’s healthy to sing. We know it’s fun to sing with others. We also know that a huge percentage of the many, many millions in and around us, have no idea where or how to find this joy.*

*Each Chapter is a small island and can’t do much by themselves, but with the power of the District, we can all succeed and start to see the upturn and excitement of more new singers finding us.*

*AS one idea; With a healthy budget for Membership and Marketing, a professional marketer could step outside of our box and get to work fixing, by lifting our brand and inviting others to join us throughout our 4 states of influence.*

*We trust our other chapters will support this plea.*

*Thank you very much for your time.”*

**President Allan Webb, and Immediate Past President Russ Young** presented a rebuttal discussing recruiting and member retention.

The next House of Delegates Meeting will be March 19, 2015 in Sacramento California.

**President Allan Webb** led the delegates in “Keep the Whole World Singing.”

**President Allan Webb** entertained a motion to adjourn. Moved and Second. **Motion Approved.**

**Meeting Adjourned at 4:12 PM**

Respectfully Submitted

Bob Gray  
FWD Secretary