

House of Delegates Minutes



**Far Western District
House of Delegates Meeting
Las Vegas, NV
2:00 PM Friday March 18, 2016**

EVP Craig Hughes called the Spring House of Delegates meeting to order at 2:06 PM. FWD President Gordon Bergthold was unable to attend due to recuperating from back surgery.

John Bloomquist led "The Pledge of Allegiance"

Allen Webb led "The Star Spangled Banner"

Ron Black led "The Old Songs"

Richard Lund gave the Invocation

EVP Craig Hughes gave his opening remarks and introduced the Past Presidents that were in attendance.

Chuck Hunter	1988 – 1999
Peter Feeney	2004 – 2005
Bill Cale	2006 – 2007
Russ Young	2012 - 2013
Allen Webb	2014 – 2015

Craig also introduced John Donehower, member of the Barbershop Harmony Society Board.

Secretary Bob Gray did the roll call for Board Members. All are in attendance except Gordon Bergthold.

Secretary Bob Gray conducted a roll call of Chapter Delegates in attendance:

D-002	Greater Phoenix	D-005	Bakersfield
D-008	Santa Rosa	D-013	Long Beach
D-018	Pasadena	D-019	Inland Empire
D-021	Sacramento	D-023	San Diego
D-028	Santa Maria	D-040	Nevada-Placer
D-042	Stockton	D-046	Santa Fe Springs
D-055	Orange Quartet	D-056	Fullerton
D-057	Central California	D-058	Santa Monica
D-066	San Fernando Val.	D-069	Mesa
D-074	Westminster	D-075	Las Vegas
D-086	El Cajon	D-101	Sun Cities
D-111	St. George	D-116	Brea
D-117	La Jolla	D-123	California Delta

Five Past Presidents, Eleven Board Members, and Twenty-Six Chapter Delegates were in attendance. Quorum requirements for the meeting were satisfied.

EVP Craig Hughes read a letter to the Delegates from President Gordon Bergthold.

Although recent back surgery prohibits my attendance at this Spring Convention, I want to welcome all of you delegates and guests to this House of Delegates meeting. For those of you attending the House of Delegates Meeting for the first time, welcome and don't make it your last. This meeting is your opportunity to learn what is going on in your Far Western District and to participate in relevant discussions as they come forth in the agenda.

I'd like to express my appreciation to all of the FWD leaders who are taking an active role in chapter activities and guiding your organization forward. Please take advantage of the opportunity to talk with the district and society leaders present and don't hesitate to visit among yourselves and learn what your neighboring chapters are doing to propel themselves forward in the world of harmony.

I'll be back in October at the next HOD meeting in Riverside but in the meantime if you have questions or suggestions for the FWD leadership please don't hesitate to let us know. We're here to serve you, the members of the Far Western District.

Thank you for attending this meeting, we'll see you again at the Fall District Convention.

*In Harmony
Gordon "Mongo" Bergthold
FWD President*

EVP Craig Hughes presented the Agenda.

2016 Spring House of Delegates Agenda was received

EVP Craig Hughes asked for the approval of the Minutes from the Fall House of Delegates meeting in Mesa, AZ.

Motion & Second to approve the minutes from the October 16, 2015 HOD Meeting in Mesa, AZ. **Approved**

EVP Craig Hughes presented the HOD Reports.

HOD Reports received as presented.

EVP Craig Hughes discussed an additional report from Jerry McElfresh, Marketing & Public Relations about “Press Release” Templates which he developed for use by the chapters in the District. They are available on the web site.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

EVP Craig Hughes presented the highlights from the Board of Directors Meeting:

- Welcomed new FWD Historian Joe Samora
- Two new chapters hope to compete at Contest. San Francisco’s Fog City Singers, and Salt River Valley Chapter A Capello Syndicate from Phoenix.
- The District will return to three Leadership Academy sessions
- Discussion of the Enhanced Auditory requirements for Conventions
- Director College Scholarship of \$750 awarded to Austin Snow from Chico, with travel expenses not to exceed \$700. Travel expenses not to exceed \$700 also awarded to Carl Buntin from Inland Empire.
- 2017 Youth Festival will be made up of 10 Boys Choruses, 5 Mixed Choruses, and 5 Girls Choruses.
- Richard Lund discussed the Youth Harmony Camp and the Lloyd Steinkamp fund. Richard has a donor who will double match small donations up to \$300, with a cap of \$25,000.

Society Board Member John Donehower: Presented the Society Board Update. Society will be electing two new board members this summer. John also talked about the Youth Chorus Festival, Grants, a rule change to start introducing women in the Judging program. Also discussed, “Healthy Chapter Initiative”, and a Seniors Chorus Contest. It is a test with four districts. FWD is opting out for the first year.

EVP Craig Hughes read a letter to the District from Clarke Caldwell:

March 1, 2016

*Far Western District
c/o Max Bates*

Dear Max,

I am honored to write to say Thank You for your generosity. Your recent commitment to sponsor the Youth Chorus Festival in 2017 means so much to not only us here at Harmony Hall, but to the youth who hope to make the trip to San Antonio.

At the 2016 Midwinter Convention, a chorus from Illinois called “Some Assembly Required” graced us with a spectacular performance that brought smiles to our faces and, purely stated, awe at their talent. Shortly after our return to Nashville, we received a thank you letter from these young men and their director. Their final sentence captures perfectly the sentiment that we would like to pass along to you:

“....it would not have been possible without friends like you.”

Exactly. If you were not able to see their performance, or missed any of the others in Reno, I invite you to watch the Videos at the Barbershop Harmony Society’s YouTube Channel. Just visit www.youtube.com and search for Barbershop Harmony Society.

We are so grateful for your partnership, and we look forward to see you in San Antonio in January, and hopefully before.

Sincerely,

Clarke

*Clarke Caldwell
President & CEO*

Jim Clark, Harmony Foundation: Jim attended via SKYPE due to illness. He gave an update on the Harmony Foundation, and also discussed Mid-Winter and the Youth Festival and the Seniors Chorus Contest.

Bill Cale, Awards Chairman: Bill Introduced Steve Sammonds as this year’s convention honoree. Bill reported that Bob Lally had stepped down from the selection committee and that Nick Papageorge and Russ Young had joined the Committee. Bill announced that Bill Rosica will be the Honoree at the Fall Convention.

Allen Webb, Immediate Past President Presented the “Chapter of the Year” award to Westminster Chorus. James Halvorson accepted the award.

EVP Craig Hughes presented the “President’s Award to Bryan Forbes.

CSLT Steve Salmon: discussed the 2017 International Contest in Las Vegas, and the need for 250 volunteers to help.

Events Chairman Bryan Forbes presented a report on “Future Convention Updates”, and the changes in the Convention books.

Allen Webb, Immediate Past President discussed the IRS 990 form, and what you Actually Do appears in Guidestar, which provides information about Non-profits.

The next House of Delegates meeting will be 2:00 PM on October 14, 2016 in Riverside California.

Allen Webb, Immediate Past President led those in attendance with the closing song, “Keep the Whole World Singing”.

EVP Craig Hughes adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted

Bob Gray
FWD Secretary