

*REPORTS OF THE  
FAR WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICERS  
DISTRICT MANAGEMENT TEAM &  
OTHER COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN*

*POSTED      FEBRUARY 6, 2017  
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MARCH 10, 2017

MCCLELLAN CONFERENCE CENTER

5411 LUCE AVE.

MCCLELLAN PARK, CA 95652

SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF  
BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA, INC.

*D/B/A*

BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY



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### Gordon Bergthold, FWD President

#### FWD President's House of Delegates Report – Spring 2017

The year 2017 is upon us and we are charging into another round of district conventions and contests that bring us together for administrative and musical events that are shared by many members of the Far Western District and beyond. The House of Delegates (HOD) meeting is another of the events that we use as a means of communicating with the district chapters that business of the FWD leadership since the last meeting, which was in October of 2016 in Riverside.

Much of the business of the district is outlined in the Minutes of the Board and HOD meetings held last fall as found in the FWD website. Please take time to read these minutes; it will enlighten you and give you more information pertaining to the latest communication from the Barbershop Harmony Society in Nashville and your district leadership; and it will better prepare you in leading your own chapters.

As of this writing, only one of the three planned Leadership Academies and Harmony College West events took place. Two were cancelled due to lack of registrations; or lack of interest by the members of the district. There may be a more efficient way of offering leadership training and the district leaders are exploring those options. One of the more obvious methods of teaching various classes is the society website where instructional offerings are available by clicking on your choice at no charge to the user.

At the risk of being repetitive, communication is vital to the success of the society, district and chapters and we all have the ability to improve on that aspect of leadership. We have many forms of instructional material available either in person or by digital means available to each and every member of the society. Take advantage of the administrative and musical tools that are available and we'll all be better prepared to lead or follow as the case may be.

As stated by Will Rogers, ***“An ignorant person is one who doesn't know what you have just found out”.***



Craig Hughes, FWD EVP

## Executive Vice President's House of Delegates Report Spring 2017

It's been a busy time closing out 2016 and moving into the new year. I am honored to serve as your District Executive Vice President for a second year and to work with the men of the Far Western District. We have the best team and the best singers in the Society. Competition aside, the respect and appreciation our District gets from the rest of the Barbershop World is a direct reflection on our members, Chapters, and District Management and for the outstanding standards they have set over the years. This respect was evident at our recent Midwinter Convention in San Antonio. I attended the District Presidents Council and stayed for the main event. It is truly remarkable and something that everyone should experience. International is a mega-sensation - the greatest show on earth! Midwinter is a family reunion with extraordinary performances.

Speaking of performances: **The Velvet Frogs** were outstanding and gave the tremendous performance we all expect at the Senior Quartet Contest. They always entertain and perform with a style and wit that never disappoints.

Midwinter is the venue for the International Youth Chorus Festival. 20 Choruses and 599 singers performed in three plateaus.

The Far Western District was represented by:

Plateau A (Average age < 17): **Chandler High School Men's Choir & Chandler High School Treblemakers** (Chandler, Arizona)

Plateau AA (Average age 17 < 20): **Sounds of the Mouth Women's Ensemble** (Mesa, Arizona)

Plateau AAA (Average age 20 < 25): **Boomtown Chorus** (Sponsored by the Santa Fe Springs & Westminster Chapters) & **Carol and the Belles** (University of La Verne, CA)

All five were wonderful. This was the first year to include men's, women's and mixed ensembles. The performances were paired with a Seniors Chorus Contest. The Treblemakers won the Plateau A award and were the audience favorites.

The Boomtown Chorus won the Plateau AAA award. You can see their performances at: <http://www.barbershop.org/sanantonio/youth-chorus-festival/>

Our fall 2012 House of Delegates approved 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.*** This year's 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*".

The 2018 Youth Festival / Midwinter is in Costa Mesa, CA and promises to be even better than this year. Please start "passing the hat" at your chapter meetings so we can meet and exceed our commitment. Let's shoot for a larger number of participating chapters. Dropping your spare change in a bucket every week adds up. Note: It is very important that the individual and family donations continue as well.

We have a very talented and hardworking District Management Team. **David Melville**, Public Relations Chairman, continues to improve and enhance our District Website: [farwesterndistrict.org](http://farwesterndistrict.org). One very important task is to facilitate events. **Bryan Forbes**, Events Chairman, and David have been working hard over the past year to keep the long-term calendar updated and accurate. We now have most events scheduled for the next three years and listed on our on-line [calendar](#). Here are some important dates.

- March 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>: [FWD Spring Convention & NE/NW Division Contest](#)
- April 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>: [AZ Division Contest](#)
- May 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>: [SE/SW Division Contest](#)
- July 2<sup>nd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>: [BHS International Convention – Las Vegas](#)
- July 23<sup>rd</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>: [Harmony University - Nashville](#)
- October 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>: [FWD Fall Convention & Contest](#)
- January 16<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>: [Midwinter – Orange County, CA](#)
- March 15<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>: [FWD Spring Convention -SE/SW Division & International Prelims](#)

President Bergthold discusses the status of our Leadership Academies so far this year in his HOD report. We are aware of our mission to help train your chapter leaders and will continue to find the best way to work with you. Don't hesitate reaching out to your Division Vice-President or any of the other District Officers. We are here to help.

The District Board and Management Team are here to serve and support the Chapters. Please keep the lines of communication open and use them often. We have resources to share and stand by to help in any way possible. One example is the support our Marketing and Public Relations Team (**David Melville** and **Ray Rhymer**) provides by publishing and maintaining a timely source of information and entertainment via the internet.

- FWD Website: [Farwesterndistrict.org/](http://Farwesterndistrict.org/)
- FWD Facebook: [Facebook.com/farwesterndistrict/](https://Facebook.com/farwesterndistrict/)
- Westunes (Official eMagazine): [westunes.farwesterndistrict.org/](http://westunes.farwesterndistrict.org/)
- Westags (Monthly Email update): Delivered directly to your email inbox monthly

Contact information for the District Team can be found on the Website. Just click our names on the “about” tab under District Officers and we will get right back to you.

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

In Harmony,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Craig B Hughes". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "C" and "H".

Craig Hughes, EVP  
Chughes2@cox.net

## Convention Schedule

# FAR WESTERN DISTRICT Draft 1-30-17b

## 2017 SPRING CONVENTION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT	START	END	LOCATION	ROOM
<b><u>Thursday, March 9, 2017</u></b>				
FWD Board Meeting	2:00 pm	6:00 pm	Lions Gate Hotel	Lions Den
Registration Open	6:00 pm	8:00 pm	McClellan Conf. Center	Second Floor
Harmony Platoon	6:30 pm	9:30 pm	McClellan Conf. Center	Second Floor
<b><u>Friday, March 10, 2017</u></b>				
Registration	8:00 am	8:00 pm	McClellan Conf. Center	Lobby
FWD Past District President's Breakfast	9:00 am		Lions Gate Hotel	Lions Den
Harmony Platoon	9:00 am	11:30 am	McClellan Conf. Center	Second Floor
Harmony Platoon	1:00 pm	3:30 pm	McClellan Conf. Center	Second Floor
House of Delegates Meeting	1:30 pm	3:30 pm	McClellan Conf. Center	
Judges Meeting	4:00 pm	5:00 pm	McClellan Conf. Center	Judges Room
Doors Open	5:00 pm		McClellan Conf. Center	Auditorium
Quartet Contest & Prelim Semi-Finals	5:30 pm	9:30 pm	McClellan Conf. Center	Auditorium
Evaluation (Quartets not advancing)	10:30 pm	11:30 pm	Lions Gate Hotel	Judges Suites
<b><u>Saturday, March 11, 2017</u></b>				
Registration	8:00 am	6:30 pm	McClellan Conf. Center	Lobby
Doors Open	8:45 am		McClellan Conf. Center	Auditorium
Chorus Contest	9:15 am	12:30 pm	McClellan Conf. Center	Auditorium
HS Quartet Briefing	11:00 am	12:00 noon	McClellan Conf. Center	
HS Quartet Contest	12:30 pm	1:30 pm	McClellan Conf. Center	Auditorium
Chorus Evaluations	2:30 pm	4:30 pm	McClellan Conf. Center	
Harmonize by ear with AHSOW	2:00 pm	6:00 pm	McClellan Conf. Center	
Light Buffet	4:00 pm	5:30 pm	McClellan Conf. Center	Auditorium
Doors Open	6:00 pm		McClellan Conf. Center	Auditorium
Quartet Prelim Finals	6:30 pm	8:15 pm	McClellan Conf. Center	Auditorium
Show of Champions	8:30 pm	9:45 pm	McClellan Conf. Center	Auditorium
Afterglow (tentative)	10:00 pm		McClellan Conf. Center	Second Floor 2F
HS Afterglow	10:00 pm		McClellan Conf. Center	Second Floor 2B
Evaluations (Finalist Quartets)	10:30 pm		McClellan Conf. Center	



**Far Western District  
Fall House of Delegates  
October 14, 2016  
Riverside, CA**

The meeting was called to order by Executive Vice President Craig Hughes at 1:37PM.

**Richard Lund, Division 4 VP** led the delegates in the Pledge of Allegiance

**Nick Papageorge Division 2 VP** led the singing of the “Star Spangled Banner”

**Ron Black, Contest & Judging VP** led the singing of “The Old Songs”

**Bill Rosica, Membership Chairman,** gave the Invocation.

**EVP Craig Hughes** welcomed the delegates to the 2016 Fall House of Delegates meeting and gave everyone an update on President Gordon Bergthold’s medical condition.

**EVP Craig Hughes** introduced the FWD Past Presidents in attendance. In attendance and Voting:

- |                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| • Allan Webb       | 2014 - 2015 |
| • Russ Young       | 2012 - 2013 |
| • Bernard Priceman | 2010 – 2011 |
| • Bob Lally        | 2008 – 2009 |
| • Bill Cale        | 2006 – 2007 |
| • John Krizek      | 2002 – 2003 |
| • Chuck Hunter     | 1988 – 1989 |
| • Terry Aramian    | 1986 – 1987 |
| • Sam Barger       | 1984 – 1985 |



**Bill Rosica, Membership Chairman** read a Memorial to Past President Lynn “Britt” Brittan who passed away in early September, 2016. Lynn was President in 1970 & 1971. He was very active in the Far Western District.

**EVP Craig Hughes** introduced the District officers in attendance. He also introduced dignitaries attending the House of Delegates Meeting. John Donehower Society Board Member at Large, John Miller, this year’s National Hall of Fame inductee, Sharon Miller, Interim President and CEO of Harmony Foundation International, Robert Rund, Harmony Foundation Regional Director, and Bill Rosica, Fall Convention honoree.

**Secretary Bob Gray** did the roll call for District Board Members In attendance:

- |                   |                                    |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Craig Hughes    | Executive Vice President           |
| • Allan Webb      | Immediate Past President           |
| • Bob Gray        | Secretary                          |
| • Max Bates       | Treasurer                          |
| • Brent Anderson  | Division 1 Vice President          |
| • Nick Papageorge | Division 2 Vice President          |
| • Richard Lund    | Division 4 Vice President          |
| • Ron Black       | Contest & Judging Vice President   |
| • Craig Ewing     | Music & Performance Vice President |

Absent: Gordon Bergthold, Charles Feltman, and John Bloomquist.

Non-Voting District Management Team Members in attendance:

- |                   |                              |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| • Bryan Forbes    | Events Chairman              |
| • Jerry McElfresh | Marketing & Public Relations |
| • Bill Rosica     | Membership Chairman          |

**Secretary Bob Gray** Completed the Roll Call for Chapters in attendance. Thirty Two Chapters presented their voting Credentials. Chapters in attendance and voting were:

D-002	Greater Phoenix	D-005	Bakersfield
D-006	Walnut Creek	D-008	Santa Rosa
D-014	Conejo Valley	D-021	Sacramento
D-022	Palo Alto - Mountain View	D-023	San Diego
D-026	Bay Area	D-028	Santa Maria
D-031	Aloha	D-039	Marin
D-040	Nevada – Placer	D-042	Stockton
D-044	Prescott	D-046	Santa Fe Springs
D-051	Reno	D-056	Fullerton
D-057	Central California	D-058	Santa Monica
D-066	San Fernando Valley	D-069	Mesa
D-072	Central Arizona	D-075	Las Vegas
D-101	Sun Cities	D-103	Rincon Beach
D-111	St. George	D-113	Sedona
D-116	Brea	D-117	La Jolla
D-123	California Delta	D-125	Salt River Valley

Two Chapters, D-009 Placerville and D-098 Folsom answered roll call, but no Delegate Credentials were presented.

**Secretary Bob Gray and “Flight Line Quartet 2015 District Champions** presented Far Western District Members who passed away during the past year. Those entering the “Chorus Eternal” were:

Name	Deceased	City	State
Donald Verhoef	10/13/15	Reno	NV
Gerald Stone	10/18/15	Scotts Valley	CA
Phil Crawford	11/6/15	Phelan	CA
Harry Metz	11/12/15	Irvine	CA
Len Steck	11/16/15	Banning	CA
Campbell Titchener	12/1/15	Sun City West	AZ
Bill Jackson	12/14/15	Sebastopol	CA
Clarence Stover	1/20/16	San Diego	CA
James Holder	1/28/16	Covina	CA
Emmett Bossing	2/4/16	Sun City	CA
Barrie Best	2/11/16	Longview	WA
William (Bill) Williams	2/15/16	Avondale	AZ
Bob Patterson	3/5/16	Alta Loma	CA
Ricardo Walker	3/27/16	Eu Claire	WI
Gary Moulin	4/4/16	San Mateo	CA
Frank Wilken	4/12/16	Canoga Park	CA
Marlin Niesley	4/13/16	Rancho Cucamonga	CA
John Johansen	5/19/16	Santa Monica	CA
Edward Graff	5/24/16	Fairfield	CA
Robert Clark	6/17/16	Hughson	CA
David Lyman	6/18/16	Phoenix	AZ
Russell Le Blanc	6/21/16	Minden	NV
Bill Henderson	7/4/16	San Antonio	TX
Gary Washburn	8/14/16	Shingle Springs	CA
Lynn “Britt” Brittan	9/3/16	Sebastopol	CA

**EVP Craig Hughes** Gave his opening remarks recognizing that Chapters were in attendance from all five states in the District. He also recognized two new chapters, Salt River Valley Chapter in Arizona, and Barbary Coast Chapter in California.

**EVP Craig Hughes** also thanked Ray Rhymer, Jerry McElfresh, and David Melville for the District electronic media. West Tunes, West Tags, Website, and e-publishing.

**EVP Craig Hughes** addressed changes in the Agenda and requested a Motion to Approve the Agenda. Motion & Second. MOTION APPROVED.

**EVP Craig Hughes** Requested a motion to Approve the minutes from the Spring House of Delegates meeting. Motion & Second. MOTION APPROVED.

**EVP Craig Hughes** Advised the delegates in attendance that the Officer Reports were in the Hod Brochure. He requested a motion to Accept the Officer Reports. Motion & Second. MOTION APPROVED.

**Awards Chairman, Bill Cale** reported to the Delegates that he has served as Awards Chairman for the past seven years, and that he is stepping down. Chuck Hunter will take over as Chairman. Bill announced that this year's honoree is Bill Rosica. Ray Rhymer will be the honoree at the Spring Convention.

**Events Chairman Bryan Forbes** presented the Convention Updates. Future convention dates are on the FWD Calendar Harmony College West/Leadership Academy dates are also set.

**EVP Craig Hughes** presented the 2017 Slate of Officers for the Far Western District.

The 2017 Slate of Officers are:

- |                    |                                    |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Gordon Bergthold | President                          |
| • Craig Hughes     | Executive Vice President           |
| • Bob Gray         | Secretary                          |
| • Rich Owen        | Treasurer                          |
| • Brent Anderson   | Division 1 Vice President          |
| • Nick Papageorge  | Division 2 Vice President          |
| • Bill Rosica      | Division 3 Vice President          |
| • Richard Lund     | Division 4 Vice President          |
| • John Bloomquist  | Division 5 Vice President          |
| • Ron Black        | Contest & Judging Vice President   |
| • Craig Ewing      | Music & Performance Vice President |
| • Allan Webb       | Immediate Past President           |

**EVP Craig Hughes** requested a motion to accept the Slate of Officers. Motion and Second. MOTION APPROVED.

**EVP Craig Hughes** requested a vote to approve the 2017 Slate of Officers. Motion & Second. MOTION APPROVED by Acclamation.

**Society Board Member at Large John Donehower** conducted the Installation of Officers for 2017.

**EVP Craig Hughes** thanked Treasurer Max Bates for his years of dedicated service as Treasurer. He also thanked Charles Feltman for his service as Division 3 Vice President.

**Treasurer Max Bates** explained the 2017 Budget.

**EVP Craig Hughes** requested a motion to approve the 2017 Budget. Motion & Second. MOTION APPROVED.

**HARMONY FOUNDATION REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT RUND** gave an update on the status of Harmony Foundation. He advised everyone that he would be passing out 41 "Donors Choice" checks to the Chapters following the HOD Meeting.

**Harmony Foundation CEO & Interim President Sharon Miller** spoke about Harmony Foundation and the Youth Festival.

**Society Board Member at Large John Donehower** gave an update on the Society. He also told everyone the 2015 annual report is in the Harmonizer. Also that the Society HOD Report was in the HOD Brochure, and on line in Live-Wire.

**Brett Littlefield** led everyone in singing "Down Our Way".

**Society Board Member at Large John Donehower** conducted a "Listening" session with the delegates in attendance. He talked about the two surveys that were taken this summer. Need for more youth in leadership. John asked three questions to those in attendance, followed by discussion.

**EVP Craig Hughes** Announced that the next meeting would be in Sacramento CA on March 10, 2017.

**Immediate Past President Allan Webb** led everyone in "Keep The Whole World Singing"

**EVP Craig Hughes** adjourned the meeting at 3:45PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Gray  
Secretary FWD

## Minutes of Fall Board of Directors Meeting:



**Far Western District  
Board of Directors  
October 13, 2016  
Riverside, CA**

The meeting was called to order by Executive Vice President Craig Hughes at 2:03PM.

**Immediate Past President Allan Webb** led “The Old Songs”.

**Division 4 VP Richard Lund** presented the Invocation.

**Secretary Bob Gray** conducted the Roll Call. In attendance: Craig Hughes, Allan Webb, Bob Gray, Max Bates, Brent Anderson, Nick Papageorge, Richard Lund, Ron Black, and Craig Ewing. Absent: Gordon Bergthold, Charles Feltman, and John Bloomquist.

**EVP Craig Hughes** Introduced distinguished guests John Donehower from the Society Board, Sharon Miller CEO of Harmony Foundation, and Robert Rund from Harmony Foundation. He also acknowledged Past Presidents Bob Lally, and Russ Young.

**EVP Craig Hughes** gave his opening remarks, and gave an update on President Gordon Bergthold’s Medical Conditions. He also advised of changes in the Agenda, adding a report from Awards Committee Chairman Bill Cale. Also moving up the Events report, and moving the Harmony Foundation report and Society report to the end of the meeting.

**EVP Craig Hughes** requested a Motion to Approve the Agenda. Motion & Second.  
MOTION APPROVED.

**EVP Craig Hughes** requested a Motion to Approve the Minutes from the June 7, 2016 Summer Board Meeting. Motion & Second. APPROVED by Acclamation.

**EVP Craig Hughes** advised that the Vice President's reports were in the HOD Brochure. Each Division Vice President discussed Chapter related items in their Division.

**EVP Craig Hughes & Division 1 VP Brent Anderson** presented a request from Richard Little, Secretary of Conejo Valley Chapter for the FWD Board to approve the proposed merger of D-014 Conejo Valley with D-036 Ventura. Membership of both Chapters have voted to approve the merger. The new Chapter will operate as Conejo Valley and the Ventura Charter will be returned to BHS.

Motion and Second to Approve the Merger of Conejo Valley and Ventura contingent on all State, Federal, and Society requirements being completed. MOTION APPROVED.

**EVP Craig Hughes** discussed the District Management Team for 2017. Steve Salmon will continue as CSLT, Bill Rosica Membership Chairman, Bryan Forbes as Event Chairman, Ryan Collins Youth in Harmony, Royce Ferguson Director Development. David Melville will be the new Marketing & PR Chairman.

Bill Rosica said the ***"Each One Bring One"*** buttons will be available at Leadership Academy.

Bryan Forbes reported the Venues are done, on line seat selection is established, the contract for 2018 is signed, and he is working on 2017. Randy Bingel, Arizona Events chairman submitted the Mesa Chapter bid for the 2017 Arizona Division Contest.

**EVP Craig Hughes** called for a fifteen-minute break at 3:16PM.

**EVP Craig Hughes** called the meeting back to order at 3:30PM and introduced Society President Don Fuson.

**EVP Craig Hughes** Read the Slate of Officers for 2017. The slate will be presented to the House of Delegates on October 14, 2016. The Slate of Officers are:

- President: Gordon Bergthold
- Executive Vice-President: Craig Hughes
- Secretary: Bob Gray
- Treasurer: Rich Owen
- Division 1 Southwest: Brent Anderson
- Division 2 Southeast: Nick Papageorge
- Division 3 Northwest: Bill Rosica
- Division 4 Northeast: Richard Lund

- Division 5 Arizona: John Bloomquist
- Contest & Judging: Ron Black
- Music & Performance: Craig Ewing
- Immediate Past President: Allan Webb

**EVP Craig Hughes** read a letter from Peter Feeney regarding the Financial Review.

**On Oct 3, 2016, at 1:41 PM, Peter Feeney <[peterfeeney@embarqmail.com](mailto:peterfeeney@embarqmail.com)> wrote:**

***Mr. President,***

***I have completed the review of the financial records of the Far Western District for the period ending December 31, 2015 as maintained by treasurer Max L. Bates. The review revealed no irregularities in using generally accepted accounting principles as we understand them. Income, disbursements, checking account reconciliations, among other records, were each examined and no irregularities were discovered. The notes accompanying the financial statements provided by Mr. Bates were very helpful.***

***Notable this year was the completion and filing of the expanded Form 990 to the IRS. The amount of detail required by the IRS far exceeds the requirements of Form 990 EZ. Mr. Bates did a very competent job in completing the form and my review of the document revealed it to be consistent with the books and records of the District. I only mention this increased level of detail required by the IRS to alert you to the increased workload that Max has faced and future treasurers will as well.***

***Please let me know if you have questions, or if you believe I can be of more assistance. I will have the records with me in Riverside and will transfer them to the FWD Treasurer at that time.***

***Peter Feeney***

***Past Far Western District President***

***FWD Hall of Fame***

***Past Society Board Member***

***Past Chairman, Harmony Foundation International***

***Las Vegas, NV***

***[peterfeeney@embarqmail.com](mailto:peterfeeney@embarqmail.com)***

***702 971-0241***



**EVP Craig Hughes** reported that Leadership Academy/Harmony College West dates and times are set. Craig Ewing and Steve Salmon are heading up the project. Registration will be completed on line. SE/SW will be November 5, 2016 in Anaheim CA. Nick Papageorge will be the Dean. NE/NW Division is November 19, 2016 in Sacramento with Richard Lund as Dean. The Arizona Division will be Leadership Academy only because of venue size. It will be held in Mesa on January 14. Bob Shaffer will serve as Dean.

**Bill Cale, Awards Chairman** reported that he is stepping down from that position after seven years. Chuck Hunter will be taking over the job. Bill reported that the fall 2016 convention is dedicated to Bill Rosica. He requested approval from the Board that the 2017 Spring Convention Honoree should be Ray Rhymer. Motion & Second.  
MOTION APPROVED

**EVP Craig Hughes** introduced John Donehower, Society Board Member. Also introduced were Sharon Miller, Interim President & CEO of Harmony Foundation International, and Robert Rund from Harmony Foundation.

**EVP Craig Hughes** advised that the Board would be going into Executive Session and asked that all non-board members leave the room.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION SUMMARY**

The Board met in Executive Session October 13, 2016 at 4:15 PM and took the following actions:

Discussion about changing the requirements or allowing exceptions to the District Contest Cycle Policy.

Motion and Second. "Motion that no exceptions be granted to the Contest Cycle Policy"

MOTION APPROVED.

Executive Session Adjourned and ten-minute break called.

**EVP Craig Hughes** called the meeting back to order at 4:45PM.

**Treasurer Max Bates** and board members discussed the 2017 Budget.

Max Bates advised that a board resolution was needed by Bank of America to add 2017 Treasurer Richard Owen as a signer on the checking account.

Motion and Second to Add Richard Owen to checking account. MOTION APPROVED.

**EVP Craig Hughes** opened the meeting to general discussion. Many topics were discussed. John Donehower stressed again the need to find young guys with potential to start succession planning, and getting them involved in District Activities.

**EVP Craig Hughes** thanked everyone and thanked Gordon for his help and work behind the scenes while recovering from surgery.

**Russ Young** led “Keep the Whole World Singing”

Next Meeting will be in Sacramento, CA on March 9, 2017.

Meeting adjourned at 6:03PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Gray  
Secretary

## Minutes of Electronic Vote

### **Minutes of Electronic Vote Youth Contribution from FWD 12/28/16**

FWD President Gordon Bergthold reported to the Board of Directors that the District was \$463 short of making \$9,000.00 contribution to the Youth Festival goal of \$10,000. The Millers will contribute the last \$1,000 if the District will provide the last \$463.

Motion and Second to approve the \$463 expenditure for the Youth Festival.

President Bergthold called for an "Electronic Vote."

Board Members Voting: Gordon Bergthold, Allan Webb, Nick Papageorge, Richard Lund, Bob Gray, John Bloomquist, and Craig Hughes.

Motion Approved. No opposing votes.

Respectfully Submitted

Bob Gray  
FWD Secretary

**FAR WESTERN DISTRICT  
HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING AGENDA**

McClellan Conference Center

**5411 Luce Avenue • McClellan Park, CA 95652**

**1:30 PM Friday ---March 10, 2017**

**1. Call to Order**

- Pledge of Allegiance
- The Star-Spangled Banner
- The Old Songs
- Invocation
- Welcome
- Introductions
  - 1. Past Presidents
  - 2. Other Dignitaries
  - 3. District Officers

Gordon Bergthold

Craig Hughes

Ron Black

Nick Papageorge

Bill Rosica

Gordon Bergthold

Gordon Bergthold

- Roll Call
- District President's Remarks
- Approval of the Agenda
- Approval of Previous Minutes
- Receipt of HOD Reports
- Additional Officer/Committee Reports

Allan Webb

Gordon Bergthold

Gordon Bergthold

Gordon Bergthold

Gordon Bergthold

Gordon Bergthold

**2. Old Business**

**3. New Business**

- SOP Update
- BOD Highlights
- Harmony Foundation Update
- Nashville Update
- Awards
- Future Convention Update
- Next Meeting **Thursday, October 19, 2017 - Sunday, October 22, 2017**  
**FWD Fall Convention & Contest :: Convention :: Bakersfield, CA**
- Keep the Whole World Singing
- Adjourn

Allan Webb

Gordon Bergthold

Robert Rund

Antonio Lombardi

Chuck Hunter

Bryan Forbes

Allan Webb

Gordon Bergthold

# Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

## FAR WESTERN DISTRICT

### Board Meeting Agenda

5411 Luce Avenue • McClellan Park, CA 95652

March 9, 2017

- |  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| 1. Call to Order                                       | Gordon Bergthold |
| 2. The Old Songs                                       | Ron Black        |
| 3. Invocation  | Richard Lund     |
| 4. Roll Call   | Allan Webb       |
| Introduction of Special Guests                         | Gordon Bergthold |
| 5. Opening Remarks                                     | Gordon Bergthold |
| 6. Approval of Agenda                                  | Gordon Bergthold |
| 7. Approval of Minutes October 13, 2016 (Fall)         | Gordon Bergthold |
| 8. District Vice President's and other Reports         |                  |
| a. Division 1 Southwest                                | Brent Anderson   |
| b. Division 2 Southeast                                | Nick Papageorge  |
| c. Division 3 Northwest                                | Bill Rosica      |
| d. Division 4 Northeast                                | Richard Lund     |
| e. Division 5 Arizona                                  | John Bloomquist  |
| f. Contest & Judging                                   | Ron Black        |
| g. Music & Performance                                 | Craig Ewing      |
| 9. District Management Team (Items not covered in HOD) | Craig Hughes     |
| a. Chapter Support & Leadership                        | Steve Salmon     |
| b. Chorus Director Development                         | Royce Ferguson   |
| c. Events  | Bryan Forbes     |
| d. Marketing & Public Relations                        | David Melville   |
| e. Membership  | Bill Rosica      |
| f. Youth in Harmony                                    | TBD              |
| 1. High school contest girls & boys?                   | Craig Hughes     |
| 10. New Business                                       |                  |
| a. Financial Review & Budget                           | Rich Owen        |
| b. LA/HCW Discussion                                   | Steve Salmon     |
| c. Five-year plan                                      | Steve Salmon     |
| d. Senior Chorus                                       | Craig Hughes     |
| e. Succession planning                                 | Gordon Bergthold |
| f. Chapter Compliance and Status Reports               | Gordon Bergthold |
| g. SOP review and edit                                 | Allan Webb       |
| h. Awards  | Chuck Hunter     |
| 11. For the Good of the Order                          | Board Members    |
| 12. Keep the Whole World Singing                       | Allan Webb       |
| 13. Adjourn  | Gordon Bergthold |

## Board of Directors Reports



### Bob Gray, Secretary

It's time for the Far Western District Spring Convention highlighting the NE/NW Chorus & Quartet Contest and the International Prelims.

I am sorry I have to miss this great event this weekend, but I would like to thank Immediate Past President Allan Webb for filling in.

This is the time of year to remind our Chapter Leaders about some very important tasks. Mr. President, have you established your Financial Review and Nominating Committees? These are items that need to be established early in the year.

Chapter Secretaries need to make sure that all officers have been updated in Ebiz. You also need to look at your State incorporation filings. Treasurers, your 990 N IRS Filing deadline will be here before you know it. When you have completed the filing with the IRS & State, part of your job is to update in information on Ebiz for your Chapter.

This past year the Society has been working to make all of our jobs better, however there are legal requirements that must be completed. All Chapters are required to file their ASCAP report every year, regardless whether you did any shows. The process for ASCAP has changed, and you now mail the completed form to:

**Barbershop Harmony Society  
c/o ASCAP Reporting Forms  
110 7th Avenue N  
Nashville, TN 37203**

**or by email to [chapters@barbershop.org](mailto:chapters@barbershop.org)**

*Please only email if no payment is applicable. Payment and Form should be post mailed together.*

We all enjoy performing for friends in our community. Part of that process is submitting your BMI Show Clearance Form. If you are producing a show, then it needs to be cleared and your BMI Fee needs to be paid before the show. You mail the completed form and Check to the District Secretary. My address is on the bottom of the page on the FWD Website. As soon as your show is approved, it is posted on the FWD Calendar with a link to your website. More free advertising!

Antonio Lombardi, Manager of Chapter Leadership and Education has been working with the Staff in Nashville to improve the educational opportunities for everyone. Roberts Rules of Order for Small Boards, will

Help you conduct your meetings. New Training Videos have been developed for Secretary & Treasurer, and a new one for President will be available soon.

The Society is involved in the “Healthy Chapter Initiative”. This will help our Chapters grow stronger. Many changes have already been accomplished and there will be more this year.

For the Secretary and Treasurer training videos go to [www.barbershop.org](http://www.barbershop.org)  
Click on Education, and follow the drop-down box to “Healthy Chapter Initiative”

If you are looking for Documents, such as BMI Show Clearance Forms, Youth Participation Forms, ASCAP or many more, just go to [www.barbershop.org](http://www.barbershop.org) and click on “Resources” and then “Document Center”

Bob Gray  
Secretary



Rich Owen, Treasurer





March 4, 2017

Board of Directors  
Far Western District

Re: Treasurer's Report, March 9, 2017 Meeting

Gentlemen:

Attached are my reports for the end of the 2016. The results speak for themselves and certainly indicate that we need to do a better job financially in 2017. The primary reason for the loss for 2016 was the terrible results financially we had with the Spring convention in Las Vegas. One note to the financials, the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter dues payment from BHS was not received until January 2017. I have posted it into the 2016 financials as of the last day of the year. A second note is that there will be an adjustment to the NorCal Youth Camp account reflecting the net cost of the program in 2016 of \$1,075.69; the adjustment will reduce the NorCal Camp account to \$12,924.23 and increase our Retained Earning account by the same amount.

I'm still learning the job and processes, so I have been fairly strict on what I need before I write a check: Invoice from vendor, statement of need/purpose, and approval by a superior or Mongo. With our finances being challenged again, I would like to see an additional step: the expenditure was budgeted for 2017; if not budgeted, the item should get the approval of the Board before any payment is made.

As for check writing, I prefer to write and print checks on my computer. I prefer not to hand-write checks, primarily because I then have to re-enter the same information again into QuickBooks. So, while I will bring some blank checks with me to the convention, I will prefer to not write handwritten check but process any needed check when I return home where I can print them and mail them. If you have documented expenses that will need a check at the convention, send me the proper documentation and approval by Wednesday noon and I will bring the check with me.

Looking forward to a successful year in 2017!

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Richard D. Owen".

Richard D. Owen  
FWD Treasurer

**FWD**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**As of December 31, 2016**

	Dec 31, 16
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
FWD-CHECKING	72,207.01
Total Checking/Savings	72,207.01
Total Current Assets	72,207.01
Other Assets	
111.10 - Prepaid	8,951.44
Total Other Assets	8,951.44
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>81,158.45</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
449.00 - Quartet travel	1,524.90
450.00 - Chorus travel	3,519.00
453.00 - HCW/LA Advanced Reg	
453.01 AZ / LA Future Year	240.00
453.00 - HCW/LA Advanced Reg - Other	1,118.47
Total 453.00 - HCW/LA Advanced Reg	1,358.47
453.10 - DS15 Advanced Reg	1,500.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	7,902.37
Total Current Liabilities	7,902.37
Total Liabilities	7,902.37
Equity	
446.00 - Youth Ed	2,471.25
447.00 - NOR CAL YOUTH CAMP	13,999.92
451.00 - Surplus 12/31/2010	66,518.88
Retained Earnings	24,375.27
Net Income	-34,109.24
Total Equity	73,256.08
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>81,158.45</b>

**FWD**  
**Profit & Loss**  
**January through December 2016**

	Jan - Dec 16
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
500.00 - DUES	45,339.74
501.00 - SRING PRELIMS REV	25,867.50
502.00 - FALL CONVENTION REV	52,365.00
503.00 - DIVISIONAL CONV	
503.10 - AZ	11,132.50
503.40 - NOR CAL WEST	21,289.25
Total 503.00 - DIVISIONAL CONV	32,421.75
504.00 - WESTUNES	
504.01 - ADS	150.00
Total 504.00 - WESTUNES	150.00
506.02 - INTEREST	6.49
506.03 - WEBCAST	1,900.00
510 - Donations	
510.01 - Donations Awards	40.00
510.03 - Donations NorCal Camp	12,057.00
510.04 - Donors Choice HF	6,858.10
510 - Donations - Other	2,000.00
Total 510 - Donations	20,955.10
520.00 - Fees	
520.01 - NorCal Youth Camp	6,065.00
520.04 - Leadership Academy	
520.041 - Fees Ldr Acad - AZ	80.00
520.042 - Fees Ldr Acad - SoCal	-320.00
520.043 - Fees Ldr Acad - NorCa	1,041.53
520.04 - Leadership Academy - Other	320.00
Total 520.04 - Leadership Academy	1,121.53
Total 520.00 - Fees	7,186.53
520.02 - HCW / LA	
520.022 - HCW SoCal	-80.00
520.02 - HCW / LA - Other	6,965.00
Total 520.02 - HCW / LA	6,885.00
Total Income	193,077.11
Expense	
601.00 - HCW/LA Expense	
607.117 - HARMONY COLLEGE WEST	3,915.74
709.10 - Leadership Academy	
709.13 - LA - NorCal	841.53
709.10 - Leadership Academy - Other	2,835.67
Total 709.10 - Leadership Academy	3,677.20
601.00 - HCW/LA Expense - Other	6,935.10
Total 601.00 - HCW/LA Expense	14,528.04
601.10 - DS15 - District Spring	53,302.86
601.20 - AZ15 - AZ Div Exp	10,301.88
601.30 - SC15 - SoCal Div Exp	0.00
601.50 - NC15 - NoCal Div Exp	17,989.96
602.00 - Fall Convention Exp	
601.40 - DF15 - District Fall	0.00

**FWD**  
**Profit & Loss**  
**January through December 2016**

	Jan - Dec 16
602.00 - Fall Convention Exp - Other	44,435.00
Total 602.00 - Fall Convention Exp	44,435.00
603.00 - Webcast	906.00
604.00 - BD MEETING	
604.01 - TRAVEL	6,807.25
604.02 - MEALS	2,361.20
604.03 - LODGING	10,149.49
604.00 - BD MEETING - Other	1,370.85
Total 604.00 - BD MEETING	20,688.79
607.01 - DIR DEVELOP	1,145.20
607.08 - C&J	
607.084 - TRAVEL	2,154.36
607.085 - C&J CAT SCH	6,930.00
Total 607.08 - C&J	9,084.36
607.09 - YMIH	
607.095 - AWARDS	1,329.96
607.096 - NoCal Youth Camp	19,197.69
607.097 Youth Festival Grants	500.00
607.09 - YMIH - Other	405.00
Total 607.09 - YMIH	21,432.65
607.10 - EVENTS	
607.101 - SUPPLIES	537.26
607.10 - EVENTS - Other	1,809.01
Total 607.10 - EVENTS	2,346.27
607.11 - MUSIC & PERF	
607.110 - CHAPT COACHING	525.10
Total 607.11 - MUSIC & PERF	525.10
607.12 - MKTG & PR	
607.124 - WEB EXPENSES	3,423.85
607.127 - Travel	484.96
708.00 - WESTUNES	
708.01 - DSL - Inet Access	656.76
708.03 - TRAVEL	924.00
708.05 - SUPPLIES	373.00
708.00 - WESTUNES - Other	96.20
Total 708.00 - WESTUNES	2,049.96
Total 607.12 - MKTG & PR	5,958.77
607.20 - LEADERSHIP FORUM	1,978.42
609.01 - Dues Collection Fees	1,811.59
609.02 - Merchant Acct Fees	3,890.55
610.00 - INTERN. QT TRAVEL	2,462.85
611.00 - INTERN CH TRAVEL	5,683.50
622.00 - GOV'T FEES	60.00
700.00 - PRESIDENT	
600.00 - AWARDS	
607.02 - COMMITTEE	507.23
600.00 - AWARDS - Other	492.57
Total 600.00 - AWARDS	999.80
607.16 - HALL OF FAME	411.09
607.17 - President Exp Other	729.97
700.04 - INTERNATIONAL EXP	2,145.59

**FWD**  
**Profit & Loss**  
 January through December 2016

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	Jan - Dec 16
Total 700.00 - PRESIDENT	4,286.45
703.00 - EVP	
703.03 - TRVL & MEALS	339.96
703.05 - EVP International Exp	2,010.06
703.06 - EVP Mid Winter Exp	1,162.05
Total 703.00 - EVP	3,512.07
704.00 - DVP	
704.50-DVP NOR CAL EAST	
704.53-TRAVEL	343.02
Total 704.50-DVP NOR CAL EAST	343.02
Total 704.00 - DVP	343.02
705.00 - SECRETARY	
705.02 - POSTAGE	46.75
705.03 - SUPPLIES	74.40
Total 705.00 - SECRETARY	121.15
706.00 - TREASURER	
706.02 - POSTAGE	64.34
706.03 - SUPPLIES	252.53
Total 706.00 - TREASURER	316.87
709.00 - CHAPTER SUPPORT	
606.00 - Leadership Academy	0.00
707.00 - COACH EXP	75.00
Total 709.00 - CHAPTER SUPPORT	75.00
Void	0.00
Total Expense	227,186.35
Net Ordinary Income	-34,109.24
Net Income	<b>-34,109.24</b>

**FWD**  
**Balance Sheet**  
 As of February 28, 2017

	<u>Feb 28, 17</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
FWD-CHECKING	64,538.01
Total Checking/Savings	64,538.01
Total Current Assets	64,538.01
Other Assets	
111.10 - Prepaid	8,951.44
Total Other Assets	8,951.44
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>73,489.45</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
449.00 - Quartet travel	1,524.90
450.00 - Chorus travel	3,519.00
453.10 - DS15 Advanced Reg	1,500.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	6,543.90
Total Current Liabilities	6,543.90
Total Liabilities	6,543.90
Equity	
446.00 - Youth Ed	2,471.25
447.00 - NOR CAL YOUTH CAMP	12,924.23
451.00 - Surplus 12/31/2010	66,518.88
Retained Earnings	-8,658.28
Net Income	-6,310.53
Total Equity	66,945.55
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b><u>73,489.45</u></b>

**FWD**  
**Profit & Loss**  
 January through February 2017

	Jan - Feb 17
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
501.00 - SRING PRELIMS REV	
501.00 - SRING PRELIMS REV - Other	18,160.00
Total 501.00 - SRING PRELIMS REV	18,160.00
520.00 - Fees	
520.04 - Leadership Academy	
520.041 - Fees Ldr Acad - AZ	-80.00
520.043 - Fees Ldr Acad - NorCa	600.00
Total 520.04 - Leadership Academy	520.00
Total 520.00 - Fees	520.00
520.02 - HCW / LA	318.81
Total Income	18,998.81
Expense	
601.00 - HCW/LA Expense	
709.10 - Leadership Academy	
709.13 - LA - NorCal	364.75
Total 709.10 - Leadership Academy	364.75
Total 601.00 - HCW/LA Expense	364.75
601.10 - DS15 - District Spring	
Judges-Meals	208.00
Judges-Misc	250.00
Judges Travel	2,708.86
601.10 - DS15 - District Spring - Other	13,056.90
Total 601.10 - DS15 - District Spring	16,223.76
601.20 - AZ15 - AZ Div Exp	
Judges-Meals	410.40
Judges-Misc	100.00
Judges Travel	775.40
601.20 - AZ15 - AZ Div Exp - Other	3,746.00
Total 601.20 - AZ15 - AZ Div Exp	5,031.80
601.30 - SC15 - SoCal Div Exp	516.70
601.50 - NC15 - NoCal Div Exp	516.70
607.09 - YMIH	
607.095 - AWARDS	295.40
Total 607.09 - YMIH	295.40
609.02 - Merchant Acct Fees	603.80
703.00 - EVP	
703.06 - EVP Mid Winter Exp	1,483.58
Total 703.00 - EVP	1,483.58
704.00 - DVP	
704.20-DVP So Cal East	
704.23-TRAVEL	171.60
Total 704.20-DVP So Cal East	171.60
Total 704.00 - DVP	171.60
706.00 - TREASURER	
706.02 - POSTAGE	101.25
Total 706.00 - TREASURER	101.25

12:21 PM

03/05/17

Accrual Basis

**FWD**  
**Profit & Loss**  
January through February 2017

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	Jan - Feb 17
Total Expense	25,309.34
Net Ordinary Income	-6,310.53
Net Income	<b>-6,310.53</b>





### Brent Anderson, Division 1 Vice President (Southwest)

My emphasis in this report begins with the chapters that are struggling... It was mentioned that **Lompoc, Los Angeles, Crescenta Valley** and the **Long Beach** chapters all received a letter from the BHS saying their chapters were suspended for primarily, membership falling below 8 and possibly for failing to file important forms...

I spoke to important members of each chapter and discussed whether they thought there was any possibility of resurrecting the chapters, or if they would consider a merger. All the chapters were proud of their heritage, wish they could be viable again, but all pretty much understood that resurrection would be a difficult task. All agreed that without a charismatic chorus director, most likely any effort in that direction would not work.

If we had a supply of charismatic directors, each of these chapters would prefer to stay alive, but even with that director, the age and energy of the remaining folk, especially in **Los Angeles, Crescenta Valley** and **Long Beach**, would probably create an obstacle that would not be easy to overcome.

I spoke to **Tom Raffety**, the director of **San Fernando Valley** and he and his music team were going to reach out to the above mentioned chapters, and also to **Santa Clarita** chapter (down to 12 members) to discuss the possibility of mergers. **SF Valley** has about 18 members who attend regularly.

The exception to that story is **Lompoc** chapter, which has only one active member and he just paid up his dues to Dec. 2017!

**Lynn Clock** is the sole remaining member, and he just returned from San Antonio...his first Mid-Winter Convention. He was thrilled at the Youth Festival, a little put-off by all the mixed groups and not just "men or boys of good character..." and wondered who this "Deke" guy was and why he was the keynote speaker...? Lynn's been a little out of it for a couple years. But he was excited to discuss searching for new Lompoc area members and a new director by appealing to the scientists in his community... He remembers in the "good ol' days" that the core of members was many times, the engineers and others who liked math, and therefore, music. He's one of them.

He's near Vandenberg AFB, and he remembers all the engineers and service personnel who used to be members...he noted that AF officers (men with extensive training) would join but not airmen in general. And they'd only stay 3 years and then move on to the next assignment.

He might have the energy to try to find a new director and some new people to sing...so we should consider marshalling some resources to help him.

And, he was not opposed to the idea of merging with **Santa Maria. Lompoc** chapter has the number of 001 and he'd hate to see that history just vanish...

There is a plan for the two chapters of **San Luis Obispo** and **Santa Maria** to combine and compete in May. They are not considering a merger but just a combination of voices to provide a better singing experience at contest. Each chapter is struggling with membership and aging but still having fun...

**Santa Barbara** chapter is still in trouble. **Mike McGee** has returned to the Santa Barbara area from Florida and he had a couple of exploratory chorus meetings in November, but they were poorly attended and i don't think the number or caliber of singers that attended, were very exciting to him. I don't think he has the desire to be the musical director. Right now, even though several members are still on the active membership list, they are not meeting at all.

**Ventura Clippers Chorus** and **Conejo Valley Oaks Chorus** have officially merged and I was privileged to be their installing officer in January. They are still a "mature" group but the combined 25-30 of them sang well and were enthusiastic about the merger and singing under **Jim Browne**. Jim is assistant director of **Rincon Beach**, and a couple of the Conejo members are also auditioning with Rincon to be dual members. Several Rincon members are dual with Conejo/Ventura already. The increased vocal work will be a help to both chapters.

**Rincon Beach (Pacific Sound Chorus)** continues to do well. Their chapter show last September featured 2012 BHS quartet champion, **Ringmasters**, all the way from Sweden. They were joined by a Santa Barbara-based Sweet Adeline Chorus called **Carpe Diem** who recently won the SAI Classic Division Chorus Championship of the world, and also a Phoenix-based SAI champion quartet, **C'est la Vie**. The show was a tremendous artistic success, but fell a little short in ticket sales and so was only marginally financially profitable.

Luckily, they finished a successful holiday season with 7 paid performances.

**Rincon** installed a new slate of officers in January and **Jim Kline** was the guest Installing Officer. Rincon has decided to introduce their chapter members to barbershop Legends instead of Politicos, and three years ago, invited **Dave Briner**, last year was **Alan Gordon**, and this year **Jim Kline**. These Legends share their history and love of the hobby and the members and spouses all enjoy and benefit from the experience.

**Bakersfield** is losing their chorus director (moving away) in February and the search is on for a new director (unsuccessful as of the writing of this report). However, they have an enthusiastic new slate of officers. they are planning a combined show with **Visalia** chapter...one show there and one show in Bakersfield...and I remain optimistic they will not only survive, but thrive.

**Hawaii** greatly enjoyed their visit to the mainland in October and they competed, scored well, hosted a great Mai Tai party and returned home happy. Their membership has a core of Hawaiian residents, and they also benefit from a military presence that moves every three years. Under the very capable direction of **Mark Conching**, they are doing well.

The incredible **Masters of Harmony**, with already eight gold medals, are working extra hard preparing for the International Chorus competition in Las Vegas this July. The lure of a gold medal is attracting many top FWD singers to join the chapter and sing their best under the direction of **Justin Miller**.

**South Bay** continues to meet and have fun. They have another full production show upcoming in February, with a cast of characters, the **Rockin' Moroccan** band and silliness abounding. They are a healthy, fun chapter, but still don't have a lot of desire to compete. You'll remember they traveled all the way to Las Vegas and qualified last year for District and then decided not to compete in October.

**Pasadena** struggles with membership. **John Minsker** is enthusiastic capable and fun as a director, but they are aging and don't seem to have the horses to conduct a solid membership campaign. They had a successful holiday show. I don't know if they will compete in May.

**Santa Monica** is healthy and growing. Their membership is now 56 and the director, **Ben Lowe**, is taking a short leave for some education, and **Laura Pallus** is directing and having a good time. We will see them at contest, if we ever decide where that will be.

I'm convinced we need to over-emphasis the joy of singing and the friendship of convention, rather than just contest, in order to get more people to attend. Very few choruses have a chance of "winning anything" so their members are not anxious to give up a Saturday or a weekend to finish near the bottom and hear the same old stuff from the judges.

Maybe we have some kind of all-chorus "gang" singing, with a "famous" chorus director, where the entire audience gets to sing more. While the votes are being tallied, rather than a pitch from HF or "talk among yourselves," get someone to direct the assembled multitudes on well-known songs so, in addition to the contest, guys and gals will say, *"It was fun to sing with all those voices...what a sound, what a thrill...!"*

I hope the efforts springing from the BHS suspension letters will prompt quick action with the affected chapters.

Harmoniously submitted, **Brent Anderson**



Nick Papageorge, Division 2 Vice President (Southeast)

Happy New Year to you all! I am very excited to continue as Division Vice President in 2017. Over the past year I have had the pleasure to visit many Southeast Chapters and their members. I also had the honor of installing the 2017 officers for 6 of our Chapters. In each instance, I have seen striving Chapters with programs and projects that keep them growing and moving forward to fulfill their barbershop dreams. Remember that growth and excitement does not just take the motivation and hard work of the Chapter Board. *Every* member must participate in more than just the singing; each member must participate on a committee or program that helps foster the ideals of the chapter! When **every** member is engaged in **ALL** aspects of the Chapter, there is nothing that can get in the way of the musical and fraternal growth of each Chapter.

Congratulations to the **Inland Empire Chapter** for landing a TV gig! As it turns out, Mary Parks, the Producer/Host of a PBS weekly TV Series entitled “Exploring the American Spirit,” saw them singing at a mall during Christmas. The chorus was singing a Christmas Program at the Canyon Crest Towne Center and she was eating in one of the restaurants. She was mesmerized by the 4-part harmony and barbershop sound. She asked if they would be interested in being in one of her Shows. The show will air in the first week of April on PBS! See what can happen by singing out in your community? You never know who will be in the audience. Great job to the Inland Sound Chorus for accepting the “sing-out.” Check out: <https://www.American-Spirit.org>

Just a few months ago, I had to make the hard decision to cancel our SE/SW Leadership Academy. However, I have since reached out to the Presidents of the Southeast Chapters and have offered my services to bring a mini-leadership academy to them. Already, I have more than half of our chapters taking me up on my offer. So to those chapters that have not contacted me, please do so. It's never too late to have a little schooling on what is expected of those of us in a leadership capacity. You owe it to your chapter!

Also, this is the time that each chapter board needs to RE-VISIT your Chapter's Mission Statement. At your next Board meeting, bring it out and discuss whether your "Mission" still describes who you are and what you do as a Chapter. Then bring it to the membership to see what they think. If it needs to be changed because you have grown as a chapter, then change it. Once you have a Mission Statement for 2017, please send it to me! (If your Chorus does not have a Mission Statement, contact me so that you and I can get the process started)

Our SE/SW Division contest will take place on May 13, 2017. I really want every one of our choruses to attend. Attending the division conventions is not just a time for competition, but also a time to renew old acquaintances, and acquire new ones. It is a fun time when you get to see other chapters perform for you, and you get to perform for them! Plus, it's fun to woodshed with, or just hangout with other barbershoppers. Mark your calendar now – May 13, 2017.

I would like to take this opportunity in our HOD Brochure to publicly recognize and thank the **Brea Chapter** for hosting one of the finest District Contest/Conventions ever! Their imaginative thinking, diligent work, and new technologies made for a smooth, fun and exciting weekend. Some of those "new" technologies included online audience seating and payment, competitor contest videos available for play on phones/computers immediately after the placements were announced, and less expensive, competitor-owned photos. A big thanks goes out to all chapter members, as well as their wives/significant others, who all "worked the convention." Your efforts in all aspects of the convention and contest were very appreciated by all attendees!

And, of course, the Brea Chapter's choice of the **Riverside Fox Theatre** provided everyone with a beautiful backdrop to our musical hobby. Quartets, Choruses and audience members were provided a very musical venue that enhanced contestant performances and audience enjoyment!

So, **THANK YOU** and **CONGRATULATIONS** go to **John Gaston**, Convention Chairman and **Bryan Forbes**, FWD Events Coordinator for giving all of us the best convention yet! Oh yes, and a big thank you go to my friend **Russ Young**, who accompanies me on the Contest Management Team, and **Ron Black**, our hard-working District Contest and Judging Chairman, for making the inner-workings of the contest come across the footlights as a large, seamless performance!

Lastly, mark your calendar for the District Convention/Contests in Bakersfield during the weekend of October 19-22, 2017. It is always a great event full of fun, listening, and singing!

Nick Papageorge  
District VP, Southeast Division





### Bill Rosica, Division 3 Vice President (Northwest) & FWD Membership Chairman

Well here I am in Bakersfield (Southwest Division) holding the office of Vice President of the Northwest Division. As I look forward to a great 2017, how about I tell you a little bit about me and what I see as some of our challenges.

I began my Barbershop experience way back in 1960 when I accompanied my dad Joe to his chorus rehearsals. I didn't really join the Society until 1983 when a member of the Bakersfield Chapter, Dave Fletcher called and asked, "Why haven't you join us?" My answer was simple. "No one has ever asked me." Well the rest is history, as they say and I hit the ground running with the Golden Empire Chorus.

Since those early days I learned quite a bit. I guess one thing I didn't learn was to say no. That's probably why I took this office of NW Division VP. I have been Show Producer, Convention Chairman, and have held every office in the chapter. Early in 1998, fellow Bakersfield Chapter Member and I decided to check out a chorus in southern California by the name of Masters of Harmony under the direction of Jeff Oxley. We both joined and are celebrating the beginning of our 20<sup>th</sup> year with 5 Gold a silver and a bronze medal for our efforts. Again, I jumped in with both feet to help where I could. For my interest, I was elected VP of Chapter Development, Administrative Section Leader, president for three years and International Convention Chairman for 2009 in Anaheim. I have also served in the District as Division VP and currently hold the office of Membership Manager.

Jumping into a Division that I don't know very well will give me the opportunity to introduce myself to a lot of new folks. My main goal for the chapters in the northwest is to increase membership with my simple program. Although it is simple, it will only work if you get involved. And as the great Jim Clancy said, "I'm not talking to the chorus, I'm talking to you". Each of us has a job to do to keep this so-called hobby up and running. We must not only recruit men who like to sing, but give them something each week that will keep them coming back. My motto of **"Each One Bring One – We Won"** will ask each member to bring in one new member during 2017, not a guest or an observer, but a member. If we can each do that, we all will win.

As I close, I'll ask each chapter to figure out what type of a chapter you want to be. On one end would be a competitive chapter like the Masters. On the other is a social chapter who meets for an hour or so and then hits the local pizza place. I have to think that most chapters are somewhere in the middle. Let me know where you want to be and need to be and I'll do what I can to help you get there.



Richard Lund, Division 4 Vice President (Northeast)

#### Northeast Division Report January, 2017, Richard Lund, DVP

Leadership Academy /Harmony College West was held in Sacramento for both NE and NW Divisions in two sessions (November 19, 2016 and February 4, 2017). Prior to this an email was sent to all NW/NE chapters members asking for their suggestions on classes that would meet their needs, emphasizing that President, Secretary and Treasurer classes were paramount. We did receive suggestions and were able to incorporate some into our planning.

The reason for breaking the LA/HCW into separate dates was an unfortunate clash of show dates and conflicts with key personnel. It is, however, working out well with November behind us and February coming up as of this writing.

We do not have a lot of large choruses in the NE/NW and our goal was to tailor the classes to what members perceived would meet their needs and interests. Our instructors for the most part were new to teaching and we were not disappointed in the content and enthusiasm they put into preparing for the class. Incorporating “new blood” and identifying new leaders was one of our goals and I believe this goal was realized in a big way. One of the comments we heard during and following the training was the value in networking with members of other chapters in the area.

At the November session we offered a class on small chapter leadership which was well attended. The other classes, presidents, secretaries and marketing /membership were also enthusiastically attended.

A session on board member at large is being offered in February and we have received good signup response to this offering. A class on show production is also being offered in February – an expansion of the class offered in 2015.



In November 2017 we will work to incorporate new classes (in addition to president, secretary and treasurer) as a way to encourage additional attendance by rotating the classes offered each year. One such class (at the suggestion of one of our new instructors in November) is a “practice planning session” that attendees could model and take back to their chapters. This is still in the development process but I believe has great potential and will be well received.

Harmony Camp 2017 will be held September 8 – 10 in Pollock Pines with Instant Classic AND Newfangled Four as our teaching quartets. We were disappointed to learn this past December that our successful camp would not receive funding from Harmony Foundation. And following the procedures of the BHS grant system, we will be reapplying for a grant from Harmony Foundation in February understanding that any amount would be helpful. However, this seems to be consistent with the BHS /HF new philosophy to only fund “new” and fast growing camps and “force” successful camps to find their own funding. This has spurred our resolve to kick start our ongoing campaign to fully fund the Lloyd Steinkamp Endowment Fund more quickly.

We are starting to see Harmony Camp alumni from 10 years ago (and some more recent) renew their interest in Barbershop and bring friends with them. Singing with a relatively high level chorus is important to these young people and so there are only a few choruses that are currently benefiting from this activity. We do have a quartet formed at Harmony Camp 2016 competing in the Youth Quartet contest at Prelims.

Following Prelims 2017, I will be meeting with many of the NE chapter boards to have a status check on where they are now given their goals from 2016. It is interesting that through the gradual incorporation of Northern CA members as instructors and leaders in such activities as Leadership Academy and co-hosting Prelims 2017 we are making progress in engaging more members in District activities.

Northern California Novice is being hosted by the Walnut Creek Chapter on February 28<sup>th</sup> this year. As of this writing, interest appears to be high.

Northeast Division has mostly small chapters some of whom are struggling. Carson City is a chorus that had only been meeting for breakfast and singing once a week. They are now meeting regularly in the evening and working hard to move forward. I expect to see them at Division Next year, 2018!

After a successful show with Ringmasters last fall, Fresno has been in the throes of reorganizing with a few very dedicated members. They are looking for a director at this time.

Davis Vacaville lost their director at the end of 2016. They are seeking a new director but in the meantime one of their members has assumed the interim director role.

Placerville seems to be on the mend with one chorus member stepping forward to assume the director role. A recent survey by their M&P chairman received responses by 100% of the members and in his words “some excellent” suggestions. They have an outreach (PR) member who is doing an outstanding job.

Although dealing with challenges this past year, Reno is moving forward. They had a very successful show in September and a well-attended holiday show. Bill Stephens has been hired as their director and is incorporating new ideas into their rehearsals. On an annual basis Reno surveys their members and this practice has proved critical to their future planning.

Stockton continues to be a force in the Stockton community. Their board and their members are committed to BHS and the Far Western District. They are big supporters of Leadership Academy and Harmony Camp. As a mixed chorus, they have incorporated all into the group as leaders. Their fall show was well done and the singing quite good. Stockton also has a well-deserved reputation for being a chorus that does a Lot of sing outs in the community.

Sacramento is in a rebuilding stage. They have long-term barbershoppers and are moving forward. Again, they are participating in District activities and it is my belief they will once again thrive.

Folsom has a committed group of members, many of whom are dual members with either Nevada Placer or VoCal. Nevada Placer is experiencing age related issues in their membership (but what chapter isn't?). An infusion of new blood is needed as evidenced by the chorus director assuming the role of president for 2017.

Chico is a group of young guys, currently meeting at the college. This is a chapter in the rebuilding stage and may soon be adding some seasoned barbershoppers. This would be very helpful (however they do have Mongo who has been a boon to the group). Their president (21 years old and a Harmony Camp attendee) is also a member of VoCal. The secretary treasurer is again a long term barbershopper and provides incredible support for the chapter.

GVC continues to sing well, have fun, and participate in District activities. They are well organized and are one of the few chapters that hold an annual planning retreat with the chapter leaders. They are also struggling with attracting new members.

Visalia seems to be moving forward with a new director and renewed enthusiasm. They have seasoned leaders and seem to be attracting new members.

VoCal continues to attract new members, especially young people. They now have built a group of younger members which in my opinion has reached a critical mass and is helping to raise the level of singing and performing to a higher level. Nearly all of these young men are Harmony Camp alumni which represents the first wave of these young men “coming back” to Barbershop!

In meeting with and talking to chapters in the NE division, it is important to convey the message that each chapter is pretty much autonomous in their day to day operations. This creates the widespread recognition that each chapter also has its own personality. The individual personality is very important to understand and provides an attraction for your visitors and newer members. It is the personality of the chapter that they find attractive.

We have many small chapters within commuting distance of Sacramento and there is the tendency to believe that large chapters like VoCal impact attendance at the smaller chapters. However, a large chapter like VoCal is a highly competitive chorus and requires tremendous hard work and time commitment. This kind of thing is not for everyone; and the smaller chapters with each of their individual personalities provide a haven for a great many singers that prefer that more casual lifestyle. Defining who you are, what your personality is, and what your goals are is the first step in recruiting and retaining members.

All in all, the NE Division is thriving by confronting its individual challenges and is moving forward with vigor!

Richard Lund, DVP



### John Bloomquist, Division 5 Vice President (Arizona)

This year the Arizona Division was again represented well at the BHD Mid Winter Convention and Contest. In the Youth Chorus Festival, which featured female ensembles for the first time in competition, four choruses did VERY well.

Chandler High School Treblemakers Plateau A/ Audience Favorite / Superior

Chandler High School Men's Chorus Plateau A Outstanding

Sounds Of The Mouth Women's Chorus Mesa CC Plateau AA Superior

Members of the Sounds Of The Mouth Men's Chorus sang with Georgia Spirit Plateau AA Superior

All of these groups have ties to Chandler High School and Lori Lyford's vocal program. Barbershop is doing very well there.

In addition to the YCF, our own outgoing Senior Champions High Priority was masterful in their swan song.

I am sad to report that due to lack of attendance registrations, the AZ Div Leadership Academy was cancelled. I am sure that the BOD will be discussing alternatives to satisfy the need to ensure our Chapter leadership is well trained.

This year the Holiday Season was very busy in Arizona. All Chapters performed one or more times and spread the joy of singing to many.

April brings the AZ Div Convention and Contest. The Mesa Chapter will host the event and Convention Chairman Bill Johnson is hard at work alongside Division Events Chairman Randy Bingel to have everything ready. Stay tuned for registration and hotel information.

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 I said before, it is GREAT to be part of this awesome Division!!!

John Bloomquist  
AZ Div. VP



## Ron Black, VP Contest & Judging

Far Western District  
Director of Contest and Judging  
Report to 2017 Spring FWD Board-HOD  
March 10, 2017 – Sacramento, CA

### ***1. Participation in FWD contests 2010 - 2016.***

Below are the total contest statistics since 2010. Contest participation in the Spring dropped a bit, but the average score continues to go up. For the Fall convention, participation was again less, primarily due to travel costs for some choruses.

	Total Choruses	Total Ch Men	Avg Pts	Total Qt Men	Total Quartets	Avg Pts	Intl. Qualifiers (Fall Sr.)	Senior	Super Senior	College
SPRING TOTALS										
2016	28	670	67.5	184	46	68.3	3	7	2	1
2015	32	866	67.3	212	53	67.2	7	12	3	3
2014	33	896	65.1	228	57	66.7	7	10	2	2
2013	31	931	65.1	224	56	67.3	4	12	1	5
2012	35	985	63.9	256	64	64.1	6	19	4	4
2011	30	705	64.7	248	62	63.9	4	22	6	1
2010	29	897	66.6	240	60	66.0	4	14	4	2
FALL TOTALS										
2016	18	553	72.9	108	27	68.3	1	5	n/ap	n/ap
2015	16	548	72.2	92	23	68.7	3	6	n/ap	n/ap
2014	20	597	69.9	96	24	67.9	2	7	n/ap	n/ap
2013	24	804	67.8	84	21	64.8	1	7	n/ap	n/ap
2012	20	659	69.1	72	18	70.6	2	1	n/ap	n/ap
2011	19	632	68.3	80	20	67.1	2	6	n/ap	n/ap
2010	20	739	68.0	80	20	68.2	3	6	n/ap	n/ap

## ***2. FWD/BHS Number of Judges (as of January 2017)***

Certified

	ADM	MUS	PRS	SNG	Total
FWD	4	6	5	7	22
BHS	38	41	40	39	158
We have five applicants, who will be studying and testing to try to become invited to the Candidate Training School this summer. They are:					
Rafael Pazo		MUS			
Jamie Bedford		PER			
Steve Katz		PER			
Danny Ryan		SNG			
Ryan Wisniewski		SNG			

## ***3. Other information***

We are again having 3 conventions this Spring, of course! They are as follows  
**(including the deadlines for contest entry):**

March 10-11 will combine the Northwest and Northeast Divisions with the International Quartet Preliminaries. The venue is the McClellan Conference Center, Sacramento, CA. **Deadline for contest entry is February 10.**

April 21-22 will be the Arizona Division in Mesa, AZ. The venue is Mesa High School. **Deadline for contest entry is March 25.**

May 12-13 will combine the Southwest and Southeast Divisions, location is still TBD. **Deadline for contest entry is April 15.**

We are working with the Events Team to book contest dates AND locations at least 3 years in advance. We're also trying to keep the locations the same in SW/SE and NW/NE contests, one each for when Prelims is combined, and one each when not.

Respectfully submitted – Ron Black, DRCJ



Craig Ewing, VP Music & Performance

**(No Report Received)**



Bryan Forbes, Events Chairman

### FWD Calendar of Events

Based on information recently received concerning the FWD Calendar, in regards to convention schedules, I have completed a review of planned events from 2017 through 2022. In conducting this review I examined the reports from BHS that show the long range planning for SAI. Additionally, I reviewed information on international calendars for holidays and other events so as to identify conflicts, missing events and any other anomaly concerning the FWD Calendar. The results of this review are identified in the tables below:



FWD Division SAI Region	2017	
	As Scheduled	On FWD Cal.
NE/NW 11	03/09 - 03/12	Same
	03/30 - 04/02	05/18 - 05/21
AZ 21	04/21 - 04/22	Same
	04/20 - 04/23	Not Shown
SE/SW 12	05/12 - 05/13	Same
	05/04 - 05/07	Not Shown

FWD Division SAI Region	2018	
	As Scheduled	On FWD Cal.
SE/SW 11	03/15 - 03/18	Same
	03/22 - 03/25	05/17 - 05/20
AZ 21	04/20 - 04/21	Same
	04/19 - 04/22	Not Shown
NE/NW 12	05/18 - 05/19	?
	05/03 - 05/06	Not Shown

FWD Division SAI Region	2019	
	As Scheduled	On FWD Cal.
NE/NW 11	03/21 - 03/24	Same
	05/02 - 05/05	Same
AZ 21	04/26 - 04/27	Same
	04/04 - 04/07	Not Shown
SE/SW 12	05/10 - 05/11	Same
	05/02 - 05/05	Not Shown

FWD Division SAI Region	2020	
	As Scheduled	On FWD Cal.
SE/SW 11	03/19 - 03/22	Same
	03/26 - 03/29	Not Shown
AZ 21	04/17 - 04/20	Same
	04/02 - 04/05	Not Shown
NE/NW 12	05/15 - 05/16	Same
	04/30 - 05/03	Not Shown

FWD Division SAI Region	2021	
	As Scheduled	On FWD Cal.
NE/NW 11	03/11 - 03/14	Not Shown
	04/08 - 04/11	Not Shown
AZ 21	04/23 - 04/24	Not Shown
	04/15 - 04/18	Not Shown
SE/SW 12	04/30 - 05/01	Not Shown
	04/22 - 04/25	Not Shown

FWD Division SAI Region	2022	
	As Scheduled	On FWD Cal.
SE/SW 21	03/10 - 03/13	Not Shown
	03/24 - 03/27	Not Shown
AZ 12	04/08 - 04/09	Not Shown
	03/31 - 04/03	Not Shown
NE/NW 11	05/13 - 05/14	Not Shown
	04/07 - 04/10	Not Shown

Schedule Conflict between SAI Region 21 and AZ Division contest.

Current Division convention date but conflicts with VoCal show date.

Recommended Division Contest dates.

Needs correction, wrong date entered on the FWD Calendar.

Conflicts with Passover

The above information needs to be reviewed by the FWD Board of Directors so the FWD Calendar can be updated and corrected.

### Long Term Planning – District Conventions

In keeping with the long-term rotation schedule for District Conventions, contracts have been reviewed for the 2018 and 2022 District Conventions to be held in Fresno. The terms of these contracts are consistent with past arrangements made by the Fresno Chapter. I am currently reviewing contract information for the 2017 District Convention in Bakersfield and, once completed, will turn my attention to the venues scheduled for 2019 through 2021. We have reservations in place for each of those years but cannot secure contracts until we are within the timeframe allowed for their respective contracting process.

### Long Term Planning – Division Contests/Conventions

During the last several months I have located several venues in the Southern California region that are capable of handling the requirements of the Division Contests. This process involves locating a smaller venue for the combined Division Contest (about 600 seats) and a larger venue for the Spring Prelims (about 850 seats). I have several places identified and will begin efforts to secure contracts for 2018 and beyond, which will involve alternating back and forth between the two venues year to year. The same situation exists in the NE/NW and Richard Lund is assisting with the search for venues. Randy Bingel has things well under control in Arizona for their annual convention, which typically occurs in the month of April.

### Convention Processes & Procedures

The Convention budgeting template has been updated to include some minor improvements in the way the information is stored and tracked. Once updated, it is sent to David Melville for uploading to the FWD website. To assist with the change in processes regarding management of both revenue and payment of convention expenses, I have developed an expense voucher for use by host chapters so that bills can be properly submitted to Richard Lund, Randy Bingel and me for review and approval so they may be submitted to the FWD Treasurer for payment. There is still much to be done in this area but I am confident that we will be able to prepare an efficient process so that the District has full control of all financial aspects of its convention processes.

### Leadership Academy

The 2016 Leadership Academy was canceled due to lack of registrations. The planned location (Connelly H.S. in Anaheim) is secure for 2017 and 2018 if the District intends to continue with this event. I do recommend, however, that the District review its calendar and consider moving this event to January to avoid the many events that occur as we approach the end of the year.

### June Board Meeting

At Gordon's request, I have reached out to the Holiday Inn in Fullerton for the location of the summer Board meeting. Gordon has asked for this meeting to take place on June 16 & 17. Based on current communications with the Holiday Inn I don't believe we will have any problem securing these dates.



### David Melville, Marketing & Public Relations

First of all, I'd like to thank my predecessor, Jerry McElfresh, for his years of dedicated service to the district. His efforts have not only revitalized Marketing and Public Relations for the district, but have also laid a solid foundation, making it a smooth transition for me to take over this important job, and allowing me to move forward with all of the great things he has started, looking for ways to continually expand and improve.

Jerry and I are great friends, and have worked together for many years at both the district and chapter levels, and I am happy to report that he has agreed to remain on the team, serving as Advisor.

I am also happy to report that Joe Samora will continue the wonderful job he has been doing to chronicle the history of this great district. Joe has taken on the arduous task of revitalizing the job of District Historian, which had fallen into relative dormancy since El Wirt retired close to 20 years ago, and we have already enjoyed the fruits of his labor with wonderful historical articles in all four issues of *Westunes* in 2016. Joe was also responsible for the certificate from the Society that officially recognizes our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Besides that, he completed interviews with past Hall of Fame inductees Joe Salz and Lynn Brittan and hopes to interview four or six more in 2017. These are all part of his plan to create an Oral History Program to record the thoughts of past HF recipients, and maintain these for future generations.

With regard to *Westunes*, I am pleased to report that Ray Rhymer will continue as Editor in Chief. Established in 1951, *Westunes* is the official publication of the Far Western District, and through the years has become our source of record, reporting on all of the events in the district and our chapters each quarter. While the current issue is an important resource to keep, our members informed of what is going on in the district in the present, the vast library of back issues continue to remain important as an invaluable record of our history.

Ours is a long and proud tradition here in The Far Western District, not only with an amazing roster of talented men, but also with an abundance of groups and individuals who have contributed to making this one of the leading districts in the Society.

It is extremely important that we chronicle all of the great individuals, groups, and events that make the FWD what it is so that future generations will be fully aware of what it takes, and are able to carry on the tradition. And for that reason, I pledge to give both Ray Rhymer and Joe Samora my full support to carry on these important jobs.

Another member of the Marketing team includes Paul Girard, who manages the web content for our Youth In Harmony (YIH) programs, including information for students, educators, and chapter members to get them on board with YIH, as well as Harmony Youth Camp, Youth Chorus Festival, Young Men's Harmony Festival, and the High School Quartet Contest. This is how our future gets started, and Paul's efforts help to make it possible.

We also have four dedicated men serving under Ray Rhymer as Division Editors for the *Westunes* team: Bob Shaffer (Arizona), Roger Perkins (Northeast), Greg Price (Southeast), and Justin McQueen (Southwest). Every quarter these men reach out to all of the chapters in their respective division to gather information that then gets compiled into their Division Digest. Let's all help these men do a successful job by getting chapter reports to them on a regular basis!

We are still looking for someone to take on the job of Division Editor for Northwest; if you are interested, or know someone who may be, please contact Ray Rhymer or me as soon as possible, as there are a lot of great things going in Northwest that need to be reported.

Also under Marketing & PR is the District Website, [farwesterndistrict.org](http://farwesterndistrict.org). The website has undergone significant changes in the past year, many of them being technical, but also changes to make them more manageable and easier to navigate. Invisibly it has been moved to a state of the art hosting platform, and upgraded to the latest and fully supported version of the back-end software. Outwardly there has also been significant change, most notably the migration to a new, "responsive" platform, which means that it now works well on phones and tablets as well as computers. This new technology also allowed the consolidation of what had once been 25 separate websites. The main FWD site now includes all five division sites, *Westunes*, and YIH as a public site; Events continues to be separate as a public, secured site for events registration; the other sites are all in the process of being consolidated into a new "members only" secured site that is still under construction and will be implemented some time this year.

I will continue to serve as the District Webmaster, with the full understanding that wearing two hats can be a huge undertaking. To that end, I am calling out to individuals who have an interest in honing their artistic and technical skills to serve as Assistant or Associate Webmasters, authors, editors, or graphic designers. I know there are men in this district who would be a great benefit to the team, and I encourage you to contact me if you have an interest to serve or learn more.

In years past, nearly every convention had a distinctive logo that captured the essence of the event and the host city, often with pins, patches, and attire to celebrate the event. Bryan Forbes and I are trying to revive this, and started with the 2016 FWD Fall Convention in Riverside to celebrate the District's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, carrying the theme forward to the Spring and Divisional events in 2017. It would be great to revive this tradition for all of our future district events, so I'm calling out to graphic artists from around the district to submit ideas for a logo for the 2017 FWD Fall Convention in Bakersfield.

Finally, my vision for the FWD Marketing & Public Relations team going forward really questions the validity of the title given to what we do. I have served as VP of Marketing & PR at the chapter level on numerous occasions, and that job is all about public outreach; however, at the district level, while there certainly is a public presence, the vast majority of our effort is reaching inward to our members through COMMUNICATION. So call it what you will, I really see the primary responsibility of this job being to facilitate strong and effective communication between the district, chapters, and members to keep everyone well informed, share ideas, express concerns, and work together to make the FWD better and stronger than ever.



## Steve Salmon CSLT

Welcome to the new year! As you prepare and lead your chapter, I hope you will find much joy and satisfaction in your service. We have chapters of every kind in our District and there is much to be done.

Regardless of the type of chapter you have these 3 leadership focuses will never change.

1. Lead from your purpose. What is your “Y”? Every chapter is unique; what makes yours special? Why are you successful? Why are you important? Why do you do what you do?
2. Look at your past. Identify your challenges. Council together about solutions. What is keeping you from your goal? What is working vs What is not.
3. Look to your future. What are your dreams? What systems can you put in place to create the chapter that you envision? Knowing what you know now, what would you do differently if you could start over with a clean slate? Would you do anything different? What is your “Moon Shot”?

As you consider these three questions, be very creative. Find lots of answers, allow yourself to be a little sloppy at first. There are no wrong answers. As you process all the possibilities, the alignment will come through. Narrow your focus onto a few things that can make the most difference.

Now the most important part...What part of this discussion will you own? What will you, or each member of the board, team, or committee do to help clean up the past and move into the future? Every person should have one actionable item to improve from the past and set up the future.

Consider this analogy. Your Purpose, or your “Y”, is the heart of your organization, your engine we might say. From your past, you have built your car. All the parts; tires, windows, windshield, doors, seats, color, brand, make and model are all a part of your past. How are they running? Anything need a tune up or replacing? The future is your road, or your destination. Where are, you going? Do you have the right vehicle? Is everything functioning properly? What do you need to take with you on your journey?

I hope that you will have fun along your journey. Often the anticipation of preparing and planning for the trip creates as much excitement as the trip itself. I hope as you travel you will see many beautiful things and when you arrive at your destinations, celebrate with those who are with you and decide where you will go next.

Steve Salmon FWD CSLT





Chuck Hunter, Awards Chairman

**(No Report Required)**



Royce Ferguson, Director Development

**(No Report Required)**



### Joe Samora, Historian

My plans for this year include to continue writing historical articles for Westunes. I will write at least four a year.

I completed two interviews of past Hall of Fame (HF) recipients last year and hope to complete four to six interviews in 2017. I review the recipients Hall of Fame background reports to develop the questionnaires. All interview transcriptions will be retained until I have completed the interviews.

This past year, I drafted a letter for President Gordon “Mongo” Bergthold to send to BHS President Don Fuson requesting a certificate recognizing Far Western District 70 year anniversary.

My 2016 goals and budget were submitted on February 25, 2016. Since the HF recipients reside throughout the district, there are no travel costs if I interview on the phone. The cost incurred will likely relate to cost of computer ink and paper.

I was appointed last year by President Bergthold to record district history. I have written my own guidelines and goals. I am a former California State Archivist which relates to record creation and keeping.

My plan is to create an Oral History Program to record the thoughts of past HF recipients including what they like about singing barbershop and what needs to be changed.

## House of Delegates Bulletin – Spring 2017

Posted on [February 27, 2017](#) by [Barbershop Harmony Society](#)

**Our Society grows when chapters grow, so we are investing today for your success.**

Our growth investments in programs, volunteer leadership, personnel and strategic planning over the past year have been unprecedented.

- We have added dedicated resources to **support the life of our chapters** through the **Healthy Chapter Initiative**.
- We've completed a sweeping effort to understand our past and present barbershop world, as lived by you, and told in your words, through the **Chapter "Gut Check" Survey, Member Survey, and Associates Survey**.
- We're synthesizing your needs and dreams into a **comprehensive Strategic Plan** — a decades-long view of a future world of singers preserving the joy of ringing chords together.
- We've reached more people with the sound of barbershop and the rewards of the barbershop experience: the joy of singing, the joy of friendship, the joy of joining together, and the joy of making a difference in people's lives.

*And we're just getting started!*

**If you want to grow—as an individual, quartet, or chorus singer — then your Society is ready to help you.**

You can augment your weekly chapter experience by becoming a better educated singer, more engaged with the life of the global barbershop movement, and have more fun in more settings!

- **Our Harmony University team** continues to deliver **more content online** (more than **50 new videos** released in the past year) and more class options at our **weeklong school at Belmont University** in Nashville.
- **Harmony University offerings at Midwinter and International Conventions** mean more ways for you to learn from worldwide-recognized experts — *free with your registration!*
- **Our music publications team** has dramatically increased the number of titles published, and introduced more voicings for the education market (SSAA) and the growing fans of mixed harmony (SATB).
- The **All-Chapter Chorus and the pilot Seniors Chorus Festival** at Midwinter were huge successes. Both are permeating into the District conventions, encouraging more singing time for our attendees and attracting those who might not normally attend a

District convention because they aren't interested in competition, just the joy of singing with their barbershop brothers.

## Our direct support for chapter success has expanded

- We have created a **dedicated full-time staff member** who services and fields calls and correspondence for ALL chapter and district leaders about best-practice, including what resources are available.
- Working through the **Leadership Operations Project Team**, we have deployed new BHS Leadership Curriculum Topics for chapters and districts.
- We have published and commissioned the “THINK” program that has already been introduced and impacted close to 100 chapters this past year.
- We've commissioned **15 Certified Leadership Facilitators** who have made an impact at 7 districts this Leadership Academy cycle and have already packed in more than 200 hours of engagement with chapters.

*For many years I have sought ways to make a difference for chapters. At the district and society level, I have never seen a more impactful effort than what is being done through the Healthy Chapter Initiative and Leadership Facilitators. As a Facilitator, I am able to spark vision and forward thinking in chapters that have been stagnant. I have been able to bring real, practical solutions to chapters that have lost their way or lost hope. I have stoked the fires of passion, enthusiasm, and hope in chapter leaders that have been longing for inspiration. As a Leadership Facilitator I can think of no better way to make a difference in the success of chapters, in the barbershop lives of our members, and in the communities that these chapters touch.*



**Christian Hunter**  
BHS Leadership Facilitator

*Being part of a program that is so intentional about helping chapters, regardless of their size or goals, is a powerful thing to witness. There are some incredible strides being made to make our chapters stronger, and by doing so, making the Society more influential and sustainable. The success of our chapters is the foundation of our hobby, and being part of a process to make them stronger has been incredibly rewarding.*



**Craig Johnson**  
BHS Leadership Facilitator

- We have published online many more baseline tools and resources that chapters need to do their valuable work — training videos, updated manuals, tutorials, easier accessible document center, and more.

## **We are accomplishing this all while maintaining financial stability**

- Even with flat/declining membership revenues, we will see **no Society dues increases for the fourth straight year.**
- Meanwhile, the Society has been able to **grow our programs and budget by nearly 21%.** How? One reason is we are seeing increased interest by non-members in our services and programs.
- **Our Midwinter Convention in San Antonio was a virtual sell-out,** reflecting the variety and strength of the show, contest and education offerings.
- **Las Vegas 2017** will continue to expand the range of entertainment, and with our least expensive **rooms starting at \$104** per night, it might be the **best-value convention** you'll ever attend.
- **Philanthropy within our membership continues to grow,** with donations through Harmony Foundation International fueling programs in outreach, chapter support, and continuing education through Harmony University. Your contributions have reached over 100,000 people, which is significant growth, considering that four years ago the Outreach department didn't even exist. Thank you!

## **A Better World. Singing.**

You are building it. We are building it. We are making a difference in people's lives with every chord.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marty', with a stylized, flowing script.

Marty Monson  
CEO/Executive Director

# Chapter Delegate's Credential Form

*(Please Remove and Present to your Division Vice President)*

## Chapter Delegate's Credential Form



**House of Delegate  
Far Western District  
Spring 2017 Meeting 3/10/17**

**This will Certify that the Delegate of the:**

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*(chapter Name)*

**Chapter # D-\_\_\_\_\_ is**

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*(Delegate Name)*

**Signatures:**

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**Delegate**  
*(Signature)*

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**Chapter President**  
*(Signature)*