

2023 Spring Brochure

Board of Directors, March 24 at 12:00 PM House of Delegates, March 24 at 3:00 PM

Marriott Burbank Airport Burbank, California



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President's Message

Kenny Rios Far Western District President president@farwesterndistrict.org

Greetings Brothers and Sisters!

Welcome to the Spring Convention. We are so pleased to facilitate the SE/SW Divisional Contest and International Quartet Qualifications in Burbank. Hats off to the MANY people that have made our gathering possible!

First, let me say how humbled and proud am to be your President. I am really excited and am looking forward to a productive year!

As I have said in most of my articles, "We are family." We are fortunate to share the unique gift of A Capella harmony that stirs the very souls of our existence. It's the music that moves us and with any other "hobby," the joy of "ringing a chord" or hearing an overtone doesn't exist. It's the music that makes this more than JUST a hobby...and it's the camaraderie that we share that makes us different. Sure, you can go bowling and experience camaraderie. You can play on a football team and experience camaraderie. You can even go to your employment and experience camaraderie...but you never have any of those activities change your outlook of yourself AND the way you treat others the way music can. It's the music. Barbershop music creates a pure emotion filled with energy that does nothing but grow inside you. Am I right?? It's the feeling you get when you create a perfect chord. It's the feeling you get when you find three other voices that blend with yours without really trying. It's the feeling you get when the crowd cheers even though you know your performance wasn't perfect...It's the music!

In past articles I've shared with you how barbershop has changed my life, made me a kinder person and has allowed me to enjoy what life has given me. I've shared with you how the "barbershop mentality" unknowingly seeps into our lives to the point we call each other Brother and Sister. We find that we even begin to treat other people outside of our barbershop world differently the minute someone brings up "barbershop quartet." Why? Because of the way of life that barbershop creates...the love of music...the way we feel for each other because of the music we share.

So where does that leave us for the upcoming year? Well, hang onto to you red striped jacket and skimmer because we are planning some exciting stuff.

My vision this year will be to have our next convention exactly that...a Convention. Not just a "District Contest", but a District Convention. We need to get back to the idea that a District Convention should be fun for EVERYONE. We already know how much fun the competitors have...just ask any of them! We need to be able to offer more to our membership. Keep in mind that this won't happen overnight but you will see some slight changes starting at the Fall Convention. It might be something that we have done in the past that we are going resurrect or might even be an idea that YOU have suggested. What?!? You haven't shared your idea with me or any other District Leader yet? Well, come on! Get on the ball! I want to know what you think!

Now that BHS and HFI have come to an accord, it's time that the rest of us get on the stick and get back to enjoying what we enjoy best...the barbershop way of life.

I truly believe that it's the music that changes us, allowing barbershop to be a way of life. I am proud to be your president and even more proud to call you Brother and Sister, my family. After all...

"Barbershop Music is not a hobby...It is a way of life!"

In Harmony,



Kenny Rios, Far Western District President

Far Western District Board of Directors Meeting Agenda March 24, 2023 12:00 pm Marriott Burbank Airport, Burbank, CA Vine A & B Rooms

1.	Call to order with singing of "The Old Songs"	Adam Kaufman
2.	Invocation	Chuck Roots
3.	Roll call	Greg Dreyer
4.	Opening remarks, welcome new members of BOD and guests	Adam Kaufman
	a. Greg Dreyer, Secretary	
	b. Aaron Burleson, VP Div 5 AZ	
	c. Jeremy Loper, VP Div 2 SE	
	d. Cody Littlefield, Member Recruitment/Education Manager	
	e. Comments from Blair Brown, BHS , if present	
5.	Accepting the Agenda	Adam Kaufman
6.	Approval of Minutes from Fall Convention Meeting, October 13, 2022 and Special Meeting, January 22, 2023	Greg Dreyer
7.	Treasurer's Report	Rich Owen
8.	BHS BOD Nomination Discussion	Adam Kaufman
9.	Westunes Articles	Adam Kaufman
10.	Fall Convention update	Bill Rosica/Adam Kaufman
11.	Vicew President Reports:	
	a. Division 1 Southwest	Kathy Kileen
	b. Division 2 Southeast	Jeremy Loper
	c. Division 3 Northwest	Rich Postal
	d. Division 4 Northeast	Chuck Roots
	e. Division 5 Arizona	Aaron Burleson
	f. Contest and Judging	Randy Meyer/Ben Porter
	g. Music and Performance	Chris Hebert
	h. Executive VP	Adam Kaufman
12.	District Management Team	
	a. Member Recruitment/Education Manager	Cody Littlefield
	b. Chorus Director Development/Directors Guild	Scott Suwabe
	c. Events/Venues	Bill Rosica
	d. Marketing and Public Relations	David Melville
13.	Old Business:	
	BMI Show Clearance updates	Greg Dreyer
14.	New Business:	
	a. Mileage and meals reimbursement rates	Rich Owen
	b. Summer Meeting July 22, 2023 at 10:00 am ZOOM	Adam Kaufman
	c. Changes to SOP:	Ben Porter
	1) allow quartets to replace a member between fall and spring	
	2) allow leeway in choruses serving as mic-testers	
	clarify the process for quartets to qualify for the fall contest	

- 4) clarify the process for seniors quartets to qualify for the fall contest at the BOD (and, if they find approval, at the subsequent HOD meeting) next week?
- 15. Adjournment with singing of Keep the Whole World Singing

Far Western District House of Delegates Meeting Agenda March 24, 2023 3:00 pm Marriott Burbank Airport, Burbank, CA Vine A & B Rooms

1.	Call to order with singing of "The Old Songs"	Adam Kaufman
2.	Invocation	Chuck Roots
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	b. Aaron Burleson, VP Div 5 AZ	
	c. Jeremy Loper, VP Div 2 SE	
	d. Cody Littlefield, Member Recruitment/Education Manager	
	e. Comments from Blair Brown, BHS , if present	
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	c. Events/Venues	Bill Rosica
	d. Marketing and Public Relations	David Melville
13.	Old Business:	
	BMI Show Clearance updates	Greg Dreyer
14.	New Business:	
	a. Mileage and meals reimbursement rates	Rich Owen
	b. Changes to SOP:	Ben Porter
	 allow quartets to replace a member between fall and spring 	
	2) allow leeway in choruses serving as mic-testers	
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- 15. Adjournment with singing of Keep the Whole World Singing

Adam Kaufman



Adam Kaufman Executive Vice President evp@farwesterndistrict.org

Spring is the season of new beginnings, where the seeds that have lain dormant in the soil return to life. Where the dark grey days of winter fade into the past and we look forward to those beautiful days ahead...hope does indeed spring eternal!

For me this also brings the beginning stages of a new position in the Far Western District. As Executive Vice President, I take a broader view than just the Arizona Division. Don't get me wrong, I am still there for all my Arizona people...it is just that you have to share me with the whole district now.

My first official duty as the EVP was to represent the FWD in the District Presidents Council. Our new President, Kenny Rios, had to cancel his plans to attend for medical reasons...so it all fell to me. To say I was a bit nervous is probably an understatement. However, I am always up for a challenge. In addition to the regular meeting of the DPC, we had an historic workshop that included the staff from Harmony Hall, and the Society BOD. This workshop was extremely intense, but the main thing I took away from it was that they are truly ready to listen to us. Below is the statement that was crafted by Erin Harris, Chief Program Officer from Harmony Hall.

As you may know, many members of the District Presidents Council, Harmony Hall Staff and the Society Board of Directors spent 4 hours together in a workshop while at the Midwinter convention. The purpose of the workshop was to leverage the experience, knowledge and wisdom of all those participants, working together, to help shape the future of the Barbershop Harmony Society. As you can imagine, this is a significant effort and there is much more to do. We made significant progress identifying many of our key challenges, interdependencies and prioritization of key issues to address going forward. After reviewing the large amount of input and material we generated during the workshop, we are getting together again via Zoom in mid-March to review and gain consensus on the summary of that work. It is also a goal to identify key projects that smaller teams can work on together. Later this year we will reconvene the large group to review our progress and identify the work needed for the rest of 2023 and beyond. We are all excited to build on the momentum we created to develop a more unified and effective barbershop experience for everyone that can be sustained for many, many years to come.

I agree with Erin's assessment of the meeting, and I am cautiously optimistic that this will be a distinct turning point in the relationship and communication between "us and them".

I am very appreciative of the opportunity that I have been give to serve as your EVP, and over the next couple of years, I look forward to being integral in keeping the Far Western District the leading district in the Barbershop Harmony Society.

My personal focus and mission is to bring the "fun" back to Barbershop. It is my opinion that the only way we continue to thrive is by making sure that we are enjoying our "hobby". Each of you have your own definition of what is "fun" for you. For some it may be excelling in a chorus or quartet contest. For others, it may be singing tags in the lobby, or perhaps you like the idea of extreme quarteting in Platoons or Brigades...or doing shows...or afterglows...or going to chapter rehearsals. As I said, whatever is fun for you, and if it is fun for you, there is a good chance it will be fun for others.

If you see me there is a good chance that I have some "Barbershop is Fun" stickers in my pocket, don't hesitate to ask me for one. For that matter, if you want some for you chapter, send me an email or give me a call.

Thank you all again for this opportunity to serve, hope springs eternal!

#BarbershopIsFun



Greg Dreyer District Secretary secretary@farwesterndistrict.org

A reminder to all chapter secretaries on the procedure for filing for show clearance.

BMI/SESAC LICENSE and Show Clearance

File these for EACH performance:

- 1. Go to the FWD Website (farwesterndistrict.org).
- 2. Navigate to Media > Show Clearance Forms.
- 3. Download the file "*** IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS for PREPARATION & MAILING***"
- 4. READ the detailed instructions in that file.
- 5. Download the latest Application for Show Clearance BMI & SESAC LICENSE Form (New Form).
- 6. Complete the form per the instructions (you can fill out and the print the form using your computer).
- 7. Have your Treasurer issue a check, payable to either "BHS" or "SPEBSQSA" for the amount due (usually \$50.00 per performance).
- 8. IMPORTANT: DO NOT MAIL THE FORM AND CHECK TO BHS! This will only slow down the process. Instead, mail the check and form to your District Secretary, whose address you will find in the instructions downloaded in Step 3.

Following these procedures will get your show cleared and added to the district calendar in short order.

ASCAP Reporting Forms

File Annually

- 1. Go to the FWD Website (farwesterndistrict.org).
- 2. Navigate to Media > Show Clearance Forms.
- 3. Download the file "*** IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS for PREPARATION & MAILING***"
- 4. READ the detailed instructions in that file.
- 5. Download the latest ASCAP Reporting Form.
- 6. Have your treasurer cut a check payable to "Barbershop Harmony Society".
- 7. Mail the form and check to BHS per the instructions.



Rich Owen District Treasurer treasurer@farwesterndistrict.org

Report of Rich Owen, Treasurer March 1, 2023

I hereby submit my Treasurer's report as follows:

- 1. At the fall 2022 BOD-DMT meeting last October, a Committee was formed to review per diem and mileage rate reimbursements for District officers and others on official District business. That committee consisted of Richard Postal (VP, NorCal West), Chuck Roots (VP, NorCal East) and Rich Owen. Attached is our report. It is respectfully requested that the matter of increasing the meals allowance from the current rate of \$50 to \$64 per day so that the Board can vote on that recommendation and make it effective with its approval at the HOD meeting following ours. I will have a formal motion prepared for our meeting.
- 2. Due to an error on my part, I timely filed our 2021 tax return with the IRS on paper. I was not aware that the rules had changed and that we were required to e-file the return using an e-filing approved vendor. The IRS didn't notify me of that fact until the first week of January 2023. I am in the process of re-preparing the tax return onto the e-filing application so it can be e-filed; this process is similar to completely redoing the return so it is taking some time to get finished. I hope to have the return e-filed on or before the Board meeting.
- 3. On the Fremont-Hayward chapter shell that we have been maintaining for several years, we now have a group wanting to re-activate the chapter, rename it, and move it to Lake Forest, CA in SoCal. It will be known as the Lake Forest Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, Inc., and its chorus will be called "SoCal Mix". Obviously, it will be a mixed chorus. They have gotten special permission to compete in Burbank to see if they can qualify for the District contest this fall. Our very own Jeremy Loper (Manager, Membership Recruitment & Education) is spearheading the efforts to bring the chapter back to life in Lake Forest. Former FWD Secretary and I are working with the group to get them processed into the Chapter as dual members and assisting them in taking the steps necessary to make the change as easy as possible. This will be a move similar to the old Whittier chapter becoming Fog City Chapter.
- 4. Lastly, a group of barbershoppers from the Clovis area are working on bringing back to life the Fresno Chapter. I am working with them to get them into the Fresno Chapter as dual members and taking the steps to make any organization changes needed.
- 5. The 2022 tax return is not due until May 15th and I have some end-of-year adjustments to make before I can file the return, so I don't have a final 2022 P & L report to present. I also ran a trial P&L statement and there are several entries that don't look correct so I need to go back to those transactions to make sure they were posted correctly. I hope to have a least a trial P&L statement to present at the Board meeting later this month.

Respectfully submitted, Rich Owen, Treasurer

Report to the Board by Travel Expense Reimbursement Committee

Richard Owen, Treasurer Richard Postal, VP NorCal West Chuck Roots, VP NorCal East

At the fall 2022 BOD meeting, the above committee was formed and charged with looking into whether or not changes in certain travel expense reimbursements for District officials for official travel in the conduct of their responsibilities were in order (generally, SOP, Sections 10.4-10.6). The committee exchanged ideas via e-mail and met via a Zoom conference call. AS a result of these discussions, the committee proposes:

- Mileage rate (SOP, Section 10.4(a): The current mileage rate is \$0.30/mile. Mileage rate reimbursements for non-profits generally represent reimbursement of the cost of fuel for the miles driven on District business. Using a hypothetical example of a vehicle averaging 20 mpg with the price of gasoline at \$5.00/gal, it would cost \$5.00 to drive 20 miles. Reimbursement at the current rate (\$0.30/mile) would yield a reimbursement of \$6.00 for the 20 miles driven. It was therefore concluded that the current reimbursement rate was adequate even considering the recent increases in the price of gasoline.
- 2. Meal expenses (SOP, Section 10.4(c): The current reimbursement rate for meals is \$50/day with receipts required. The SOP doesn't reflect when that rate was established, but it hasn't been modified since I have been Treasurer (1/1/2017). We looked at the current per diem rates for California State employees and federal employees through GSA and found that our rate was considerable lower than current meal allowances. We took an average of the daily rates in California (per diem in CA is calculated by county) resulting in a rate for meals of \$64.00 per day. On resuming FWD travel in 2022, most travelers are exceeding the current maximum. It is therefore recommended that the meal rate for reimbursement for daily meals be increased to \$64.00 per day.

The Committee also requests that this matter be placed on the agendas of both the Board of Directors' March meeting and the House of Delegates' March meeting so the meal reimbursement rate can be made effective for all travel commencing March 1, 2023, to include travel to the BOD meeting and the Spring Convention in Burbank.

Respectfully submitted this 28th day of February, 2023:

<u>Richard D. Owen</u> Richard Owen, Treasurer

<u>Charles Roots</u> Chuck Roots, DVP NorCal East



Aaron Burleson Arizona Division Vice President dvp-arizona@farwesterndistrict.org

Arizona Is Alive And Kicking!

Adam Kaufman wrote as a mantra in his last report as outgoing AZ DVP, "Barbershop is fun". I do not know any barbershopper that would disagree! However for the past couple of years, because of the shut downs caused by the COVID pandemic, many have wondered how to get the fun back.

Several Arizona choruses and their quartets have been quite busy this year working at "having fun" with shows entertaining capacity audiences for several public and private events.

The following Arizona barbershop shows are scheduled soon:

- April 1 the "A Cappella Syndicate", Phoenix (area)
- March 11 East Valley Harmonizers, Mesa

A couple of years ago a member of the Desert Aires asked in a rehearsal as to why all the practicing if the chorus didn't have performances with audiences (other than the annual show). This past year he probably wishes he hadn't said that because this past year the chorus sang numerous holiday shows, then performed their annual show package for two private events before the actual show venue. Add to this the full day for several quartets with "Singing Valentines". Seriously, it was all "fun".

The Phoenicians are working hard to stimulate a "comeback". They began live rehearsals on February 21, with new Director Cary Burns and Assistant Director John Burri. Cary Burns is a longtime Barbershop director and former Phoenician. John Burri recently moved to Arizona from Portland, Ore., where he directed a men's chorus that qualified for international competition in 2020. Both men are Barbershop contest judges. Cary also is the director for the Desert Aires and will continue with them.

Aaron Burleson AZ DVP



Chuck Roots Northeast Division Vice President dvp-northeast@farwesterndistrict.org

I'm glad to report that our chapters are emerging from our Pandemic a bit bruised and ruffled, but are none the less, back to singing with gusto and a renewed desire to enjoy the fellowship and harmony that our hobby affords us all.

- 1. Currently, there is action being taken to start a new chorus in the Clovis/Fresno area. There has been extensive discussion as to what sort of chorus this should be, and how does it fit with the now-defunct Fresno Gold Note Chorus. Several of the prior leaders of the Fresno GNC have been interested in the new chorus opportunity. By the time you all read this report the first meeting/rehearsal will have taken place. A board has been established and is fully functional. All known barbershoppers in the Greater Clovis/Fresno area have been personally contacted inviting them to come on board for an exciting new chorus. I have made several trips to meet with the leaders of this movement over the past number of months. It is looking very promising. A name for the chorus has not been made official yet, but the one most bandied about if the Sierra Gateway Chorus.
- 2. VoCal (Voices of California) is rebounding from the Pandemic and is enthused with their, interim director, Elizabeth Dyer. Gabe Caretto is taking a leave-ofabsence till the June/July time period. Having Elizabeth as the interim director is certainly in keeping with the current philosophy of the BHS, Everyone in Harmony. Elizabeth is the wife of Jason Dyer who also sings with VoCal and with Artistic License quartet.
- 3. The Stockton Portsmen are cruising along seemingly none the worse for wear after Covid. They have actually increased the size of their chorus. Bill Litz is ever the innovator, bringing out the best in his singers, and having fun do so. Their Spring Show is scheduled for Saturday, May 6.
- 4. The Mighty Oaks Chorus from Visalia is also experiencing something of a rebirth, with an infectious enthusiasm, so get ready to hear some great sounds coming from this chapter.

There is more to report but you get the idea. Sorry I can't be with you all, but I've been called back to pastor my previous church in Ripon while they search for a new pastor.

Blessings! Chuck Roots



Rich Postal Northwest Division Vice President dvp-northwest@farwesterndistrict.org

Barbershop has returned to the Northwest Division. All Chapters are meeting in person with attendancesomewhatlowerthanbeforethepandemic. Ihavemade-5chaptervisitationsthis pastquarterandperformed1 ChapterInstallationofofficers. Desiretoparticipatein contests/conventions is low at this time. Three Chapters have issues. One has some members going to a splinter group (non-Barbershop Chorus) that has formed and are trying to produce a higher level of singing, Another group has temporarily lost their director due to an accident and are using a music team member as the conductor. A third group has a director thatnolongerdrivesandmusttakepublictransportationtogettoandfrommeetings. This limits the number of hours that a rehearsal can take place and the chapter is in an existence mode, therefore, not learning new music and not performing or planning singing events. I believe that it is now more important than ever to cultivate a new crop of musical directors for the survival of these ailing groups. When some of these smaller groups have a few men out for illness, they cancel the regular rehearsal. This disruption of a normal rehearsal schedule is almost encouraging members to find alternate activities for their enjoyment.

On the good news side, Chapters are putting on shows and are planning for future events. Later this year the Peninsulaires are planning a 75th anniversary show/event featuring inpersonappearances by former musical directors over the past 20+years. More news to follow,

Rich Postal DVP - Northwest Division



Kathy Kileen Southwest Division Vice President dvp-southwest@farwesterndistrict.org

I must begin by extending my heartfelt thanks to Mark Conching for his participation in the SW Division All Star Chorus in Fresno at the 2022 Fall District Convention and Contest. He graciously agreed to step in as director for a gathering of Southwest Division singers who were without a competing chorus.

This All Star Chorus represented singers from more than ten different choruses who came together at the last minute, learned a couple of songs, took the stage and had an absolute blast!! And who could have imagined that we would attract the attention of Jim Clark, Alan Gordon and Joe Cerutti, all of whom joined us on stage?

And I am happy to report that we earned a very commendable score. All with a minimal amount of rehearsal time. Kudos for Mark for pulling this performance out of thin air. I thoroughly enjoyed the experience of singing for Mark. He's amazing!!

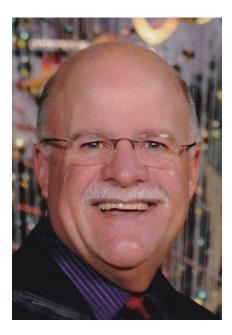
I'm hoping we can repeat this going forward. I'd like to encourage those smaller choruses who feel they don't have enough members to participate to come on board. It's worth the effort and your chorus members will thank you for this experience.

I must admit this was one of the highlights of my weekend. Right up there with tag singing into the early morning. By early morning, I mean 5am, and some were still singing when I gave up and went to my room.

It felt like old times. It was familiar, welcoming, inclusive and heartwarming. I've missed this and all of you immensely. It was great to see you all and to be together again.

Speaking of which, there are other opportunities to do this same thing. Let's make a date to do it all again in Burbank. I know I'll be there. My heart needs warming again.

Kathy Kileen Div VP SW



Chris Hebert Vice President Music & Performance music@farwesterndistrict.org

1.	Current	Programs
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- i. Chapter Chorus Coaching Reimbursement program
 - 1. Up to \$500 per group per year
 - 2. No one has used this program so far in 2023
- 2. Directors Guild at the Fall Convention
 - a. Thanks to Kenny and Adam for setting this in motion
 - b. Need to determine the content to be taught, what levels, open to directors, or section leaders, etc.
 - c. Needs to be promoted, so details need to be finalized
- 3. Misc Programs/Ideas for 2023
 - a. Educational Classes at the Fall convention?
 - i. Directors Guild already in motion, but others?
 - ii. Have the judges come in a day early and teach curriculum of their choice?
 - iii. Impact to budget:
 - 1. Judges will need an extra night's stay
 - 2. Need class rooms at the convention site
 - iv. Friday schedule of events needs to accommodate classes
 - b. Poll Chorus Directors and MusVPs
 - i. What do they need? What could they use? How can we make the better/help their chorus/etc.?
 - ii. Need email list of all these people
 - iii. Where can I get a list of emails?
 - c. Poll Quartets
 - i. See above what can the FWD do for them?
 - d. Society Visitations
 - i. Have they started doing this again post-COVID?
 - ii. CH to research
 - e. Harmony College West?
 - i. Any interest?
 - ii. Do we leverage BHS Harmony College videos?
 - 1. Great content here
 - iii. Location? Budget? Possible?
 - f. Local outreach
 - i. Music Educators
 - ii. High school and College programs
 - iii. Build the next generation
 - iv. Next Steps?
 - g. Performance evaluation programs
 - i. Were available in the past, are they still in play?



Randy Meyer Vice President Contests & Judging drcj@farwesterndistrict.org

Editor's note: Randy sends his brief report from aboard ship somewhere in the Pacific. Meanwhile, Ben Porter is stepping in to server as acting DRCJ. DRCJ Report:

- Reviewing housekeeping changes to SOP to align with Intl rules (Ben P)
- Category school after Intl this summer. Expect around 15 FWD judges to be invited. Exact number confirmed this summer.

Ben, feel free to add if I missed something.

Randy Meyer, VP C&J



Board Member Reports

Ben Porter Assistant DRCJ ben@fogcitysingers.com

To expand that out a bit:

Wow, are we excited to be having a spring contest in the Far Western District again after four long years! As of this writing (March 10 at 2:30pm), we have a whopping 43 quartets and 20 choruses registered to compete in one of the three divisional contests: Southeast/Southwest in Burbank, Northeast/Northwest in Davis, and Arizona in Chandler. Because it has been a while since we have held a regular slate of divisional contests, here is a refresher on the awards and qualifications:

In Burbank, we are holding a preliminary contest for quartets to qualify for the International Quartet Contest in Louisville this summer. Groups scoring 77+
 over two rounds of performances will qualify.
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- Each of the Divisions will crown a quartet champion, a senior quartet champion, and a novice quartet champion. These contests are one-round only, so here in Burbank only the scores from the Friday night semi-final round will count for these awards. Senior quartets are those with members aged 55+ and a total at least 240 years. Novice quartets are those with at least two members who have not appeared in a Fall District Quartet Contest (or equivalent level of competition in other organizations). -Super-senior and youth quartets can compete in any of the divisional contests. The highest-scoring groups across all three conventions will be the super-senior and youth quartet champions. Super-senior quartets have members aged 65+ and a total of at least 280 years. Youth quartets have members aged 25 and below.
- Quartets who score 68+ this spring will qualify for the Fall District Quartet Contest
- At least five senior quartet will qualify for the Fall Seniors Quartet Contest
- Two quartets from the Aloha chapter can enter the Fall Contests without needing to qualify in the spring
- If fewer than 25 quartets score 68+ this spring, we will invite the next-highest-scoring quartets from this spring to the Fall District Quartet Contest to fill the slate to 25 groups -Each of the Divisions will crown a chorus champion, as well as champions of the A, AA, and AAA plateaus. Plateau placement is based on the scores each group has received at the last three Fall District Chorus Contest.
- Choruses that score 62+ will qualify for the Fall District Chorus Contest.
- If fewer than 25 choruses score 62+, we will invite the next-highest-scoring choruses that scored at least 55+ this spring to the Fall District Chorus Contest to fill the slate to 25
- In other years, we have awarded Most Improved Chorus as well. However, this awardcompares the scores from the previous spring's contest to the current one, and since we have not held spring contests since 2019, we have decided to forego these awards this year. We look forward to bringing these recognitions back next year.

There are discussions ongoing regarding some slight changes to the FWD SOP (read: our rules) to bring them closer into alignment with the practices and policies followed successfully elsewhere. Once these are discussed by the FWD Board, we will be bringing them to the House of Delegates, so be on the lookout. If you have thoughts or input on ways we can better serve our community of competitors, please reach out.

This summer, all the judges in the Society will join together in New Orleans for Category School to discuss our craft, hash out differences, and certify as judges for another three years. The FWD will be well-represented by approximately 15 of our members, including two of the four Category Specialists, being invited to be BHS certified judges for the next three years.

The application window for new applications for the Contest and Judging program opens this summer. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a judge in any of the four categories: Music, Performance, Singing, or Administration please reach out and let us know. Complete applications, with letters of recommendation, are accepted through December, but it is never too early to get started!

Ben Porter, Asst. DRCJ



Board Member Reports

Bill Rosica Immediate Past President pastpresident@farwesterndistrict.org

With only 2 months as IPP, I really don't have anything to report. I certainly will for the Fall Convention and Contest.



Management Team Reports

David Melville Marketing & Public Relations marketing@farwesterndistrict.org

On-Line Store

The FWD Online Store went "LIVE" on October 3, 2022, and while it was never intended to be a "profit center" in the financial sense, it has done much to elevate district pride and a feeling of community. So far we have sold \$412.77 in FWD merchandise, earning \$49.50 which will help seed future merchandise projects.

Email List

Slowly getting though the re-write of the process to use the new BHS Member Center district report spreadsheet data as input. Data quality is still a challenge, and chapter/chorus information is missing the most basic information

Website update

Joomla 4 is out. This is a major release and will require a massive conversion. I plan to start working on this after the spring conventions are over as it will require some downtime to implement.

I will be migrating to a new calendar application that offers some very attractive features that are entirely lacking in our current software. There is also a major update to the bulk mail application with sone great new features; I will hold off on updating that until I can get the email list extract working again.

Conventions

Logos for all 2023 conventions have been designed.

Registrations are down from pre-COVID, and I feel it will be a while before we get a feel for the "new normal".

Bill and I discussed, and until things pick up we are moving to a "bulletin" format (single 8.5"x11" sheet, double sided) for our convention programs for the Spring events, but will keep the "fancy" format for the Fall event.

Westunes

I'm happy to report that Larry Womac and Fred Green have joined the Westunes staff as editors for the Northeast and Southeast division, respectively. This fills those two positions that have been vacant for several years.

Organizational Changes

March 13, 2023

It is with great pleasure that I am able to announce that Jeremy Loper will now take on the duties of SE Divisional Vice President and Cody Littlefield will take on the duties of Membership Retention and Education Manager. Both have vast experience and have served our Diatrict well in the past. Please take a minute to welcome them into their new positions as we get together for our Spring meetings in Burbank!

In Harmony, Kenny Rios, Far Western District President



NEW!

Jeremy Loper Southeast Division Vice President dvp-southeast@farwesterndistrict.org



NEW!

Cody Littlefield Membership Recruitment & Education membership@farwesterndistrict.org

Members in District	2022
District Status	(Multiple Items)

Row Labels	Count of Member Number
Female	98
N/A	84
Senior	13
Youth	1
Male	1212
50+ Member	125
N/A	633
Senior	425
Youth	29
(blank)	2
Senior	1
Youth	1
Grand Total	1312

Members in Divisions	2022
Chapter Status	(Multiple Items)

Row Labels	Count of Member Number
Arizona Division	246
No Division	48
Northeast Division	257
Northwest Division	211
Southeast Division	345
Southwest Division	367
Grand Total	1474

Quartets in District	2022	
Status	(Multiple Items)	

Row Labels	Count of Quartet Name
Arizona Division	22
No Division	11
Northeast Division	13
Northwest Division	8
Southeast Division	14
Southwest Division	16
(blank)	8
Grand Total	92

Members in District	2023
District Status	(Multiple Items)

Row Labels	Count of Member Number	
Female	182	85.71%
N/A	144	
Senior	31	
Youth	7	
Male	1222	0.83%
50+ Member	123	
N/A	662	
Senior	397	
Youth	40	
Non-Binary	2	
N/A	2	
Prefer Not To Say	2	
N/A	2	
(blank)	2	
N/A	1	
Senior	1	
Grand Total	1410	7.47%

Members in Divisions	2023
Chapter Status	(Multiple Items)

Row Labels	Count of Member Number	
Arizona Division	246	0.00%
No Division	43	-10.42%
Northeast Division	279	8.56%
Northwest Division	232	9.95%
Southeast Division	360	4.35%
Southwest Division	361	-1.63%
(blank)	35	
Grand Total	1556	5.56%

Quartets in District	2023	
Status	(Multiple Items)	

Row Labels	Count of Quartet Name	
Arizona Division	21	-4.55%
No Division	11	0.00%
Northeast Division	20	53.85%
Northwest Division	19	137.50%
Southeast Division	22	57.14%
Southwest Division	19	18.75%
(blank)	1	-87.50%
Grand Total	113	22.83%

Summary		
Members in District	98	7.47%
Members in Divisions	82	5.56%
Quartets in District	21	22.83%

Far Western District House of Delegates Meeting

October 14, 2022 Time of Meeting 11:00 AM DoubleTree Hotel Sequoia Room

Minutes

1. Call to Order The meeting was called to order by President Bill Rosica at 11:13 AM

- 2. Singing The Old Songs was led by Cody Littlefield
- 3. The Star Spangled Banner was led by Joe Cerutti, BHS Representative
- 4. Roll Call

Jim Maass

The following Board members were present: Bill Rosica, Kenny Rios, Jim Maass, Rich Owen, Craig Hughes, Kathleen Kileen, Cody Littlefield, Rich Postal, Chuck Roots, Adam Kaufman and Randy Meyer. The Music Performance position is vacant.

The following Management Team members were present: Bill Rosica, Kenny Rios, Steve Suwabe, David Melville.

The following Past District Presidents were present: Craig Hughes, John Krizek, Chuck Hunter, and Sam Barger.

Guests present: Incoming Secretary: Greg Dreyer and Incoming Division 5 VP: Aaron Burleson, Harmony Foundation Jim Clark and Donny Rose, and BHS Representative Joe Cerutti.

The following roll call of the chapter representatives present:

Aloha	La Jolla	San Diego
Bakersfield	Las Vegas	Santa Rosa
California Delta	Maricopa County South Bay	
Central Arizona	Marin	South Orange County
Central California	Orange Quartet	Stockton
Fremont-Hayward	Placerville	Sun Cities
Greater Los Angles	Reno	Visalia
Greater Phoenix	Rincon Beach	Westminster

Hearing no objections, the Secretary reported a quorum present.

5. Opening Remarks

Bill Rosica

President Bill welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave some general remarks. He thanked all the board members and management team for all their hard work this past

year during COVID.

He then took time to mention each board member and management team member with personal recognition and a thank you.

- 6. Introduction of Guests Bill Rosica Bill introduced the several guests and past presidents in the room as well as BHS and HFI representatives
- 7. Special Guests

Joe Cerutti, BHS Representative, was recognized and gave some brief comments. He has been on BHS staff for 10 years and this is his first trip to the FWD and is having a nice time. He gave a brief membership update listing the numbers of men's chapter, mixed chapters, and female chapters. Society membership is now 13, 406 which is an increase over the year before.

He also reported that paid registrations for International in Charlotte exceeded SLC 2019. \$400,000 income for 2022 was reported. The biggest complaint remains the member center and he mentioned a new way to reach BHS using an online tool which gives the caller the ability to set up a date specific for the Society rep to return the call.

Midwinter will be in 2023 Feb Daytona Beach FL. He also mentioned bringing back the collegiate quartet program. Details to follow.

Comments from Harmony Foundation Reps

Jim Clark/Donny Rose

Time to sing a song...Jim Clark led group in Down Our Way.

Jim introduced Donny Rose, Regional HFI director, who is new to the organization. Donny use to work for the Society and the past several years has been the Dean for Harmony University. He is widely known throughout the Society. Donny mentioned the donations back program to the chapters and gave a breakdown of what the FWD and district chapter have received this past year. Total back to the district and chapters exceeded \$27,000.

HFI is now doing direct grants to chapters, \$64,000 total so far this year. The AIC outreach fund is working with HFI in putting on various youth singing events. He also mentioned the Youth incarceration program bring barbershop to those incarcerated. They are working with the Ohio state correctional system. The program is being looked at in several other states. HFI helps with the funding.

- 8. Additions to the Agenda
 - The agenda was accepted as presented
- 9. Approval of Minutes

Bill Rosica

Bill Rosica

It was moved and seconded to approve the HOD May 13, 2022, minutes as presented. All aye vote. Motion passed.

10. Reading of Chapter Eternal Names

Jim Maass

District Champions Vocalocity performed *Irish Blessing* as Secretary Jim Maass read the roll call of those FWD members who passed away during the previous year.

First Name	Last Name	Chapter
Harry	Kaylor	Hemet, CA
Ellis	Strange	Frank Thorne
Shelley	Herman	San Fernando Valley, CA
Karl	Diller	Aloha, HI
Timothy	Hasselman	South Bay, CA
Karl	Diller	Aloha, HI
Edward	Simons	Frank Thorne
Dennis	Strub	California Delta
David	Hanush	San Luis Obispo, CA
Bernard	Carlson	Placerville, CA
Charles	Fredrickson	Santa Maria, CA
Donald	Duperon	South Bay, CA
Allan	Webb	La Jolla, CA
Allan	Webb	Greater Los Angeles
George	Gerbi	Tucson, AZ
Eugene	Hall	Santa Monica, CA
Ralph	Brandt	Aloha, HI
Don	Wilson	Stockton, CA
Tim	Martin	California Delta
Tim	Martin	Nevada-Placer, CA
Berry	Bownds	Prescott, AZ
Robert	Henderson	Prescott, AZ
Jay	Uhler	Prescott, AZ
Robert	Steele	Prescott, AZ
Richard	Johnson	Eureka, CA
John	Smurda	FrankThorne
Terence	Oshaughnessy	Santa Monica, CA
Richard	Greenberg	Santa Monica, CA
John	Smurda	Santa Monica, CA
Donald	Ribeiro	Frank Thorne - D

Herman	Williams	Prescott, AZ
John	Vincent	Sun Cities, AZ
Robert	Pearson	Prescott, AZ
John	Vincent	Prescott, AZ
Kenneth	Preston	Reno, NV
Kenneth	Preston	California Delta
Terry	Diedrich	Frank Thorne - D
John	Eilers	Stockton, CA
John	Eilers	California Delta
David	Blasco	Prescott, AZ
Paul	Schmidt	San Diego, CA
Paul	Schmidt	El Cajon, CA
Gregory	Lyne	Bay Area, CA
Collin	McKinney	Mesa, AZ
Collin	McKinney	Greater Phoenix, AZ
Phil	Harris	Davis-Vacaville, CA
Douglas	Yarrow	Visalia, CA
Douglas	Yarrow	Fresno, CA
Vernon	Hesterman	Sun Cities, AZ
Roy	Gross	Greater Phoenix, AZ
Vernon	Hesterman	Greater Phoenix, AZ
William	Haddock	Greater Phoenix, AZ
Robert	Read	Monterey Peninsula, CA
Eugene	Allen	Yuma, AZ
Dwain	Chambers	Far Western District Test Quartet
Phillip	Smith	Greater Phoenix, AZ
Keith	Hedeen	Coachella Valley, CA
Keith	Hedeen	Hemet, CA
Keith	Hedeen	Aloha, HI
Donald	Kidder	Davis-Vacaville, CA
Rudy	Xavier	San Luis Obispo, CA
Rudy	Xavier	Santa Maria, CA
Alan	Veliquette	Davis-Vacaville, CA
Gary	Somerville	Mesa, AZ

11. Treasurer's Report

Rich Owen

Financial Update Treasurer Rich Owen gave an update on the financial status of the district. He said that COVID affected the expenditures since there were no conventions, but dues and other income still occurred. So the bank account increased and the district is in good shape with the cash reserves at this time exceeding \$170,000. He cautioned, however that we still must be diligent in budgeting so we can maintain good fiscal stability.

Presentation of 2023 Budget

Rich presented the 2023 budget and went over the income and expenditures. He mentioned that the income side of the budget is difficult to project. It is hard to guess attendance especially since COVID but he is encouraged about attendance this weekend in Fresno. The budget is a guideline and adjustments are made as the year progresses. There was some discussion of the proposed budget.

12. Special Business: Approval of the 2023 Budget Rich Owen

The Board of Directors at their meeting the previous day accepted the budget and is recommending the HOD approve the Budget.

It was moved and seconded to approve the 2023 budget as presented. All by aye. Budget for 2023 is adopted. (The Budget is attached to these minutes.)

13. Old Business

a. Nominating Committee—Presentation of Slate Craig Hughes

Craig presented the slate and thanked outgoing officers Jim Maass and Rob Menaker for their service.

Board Position	2023
President	Kenny Rios
Executive Vice President	Adam Kaufman
Immediate Past President	Bill Rosica
Secretary	Greg Dreyer
Treasurer	Rich Owen
VP Div. 1 SW	Kathy Kileen
VP Div. 2 SE	Cody Littlefield
VP Div. 3 NW	Rich Postal
VP Div. 4 NE	Chuck Roots
VP Div. 5 AZ	Aaron Burleson
VP Contest and Judging	Randy Meyer
VP Music & Performance	Chris Hebert

Kenny Rios presented an award to outgoing President Bill in recognition for his service as the FWD president for the past three years.

b. Election of new Officers

Since there were no contested positions, it was moved and seconded to approve the slate as presented by acclamation. All aye. Motion passed.

14. Installation of new Officers

Joe Cerutti

Joe Cerutti installed the new officers for 2023.

15. New Business

There was no new business to report.

- 16. Vice Presidents Reports
 - a. Division 1 Southwest Kathy Kileen She updated her HOD report mentioning that the Santa Maria chorus will be competing in Fresno as well as the SW division All-star Chorus will be performing.
 - b. Division 2 Southeast Cody Littlefield He reported that his division has five chapters here participating and gave some encouraging works that barbershop is back.
 - c. Division 3 Northwest Rich Postal Rich mentioned he has visited six chapters...one marginal attendance, others are doing ok.
 - d. Division 4 Northeast Chuck Roots
 Chuck said that it's on to the future post COVID and we're all looking to
 building back the choruses. He also gave a pep talk on getting involved in BBS
 singing. And encouraged guys to get InTouch with the FWD leadership. Let the
 leadership be of assistance to the chapters.
 - e. Division 5 Arizona Adam Kaufman AZ is happy to introduce SW Vocal Alliance, a new chapter for the division. Thanked everyone for their support as DVP as he is moving up to the EVP for next year.
 - f. Contest and Judging Randy Meyer Randy was busy at the auditorium getting ready for the chorus contest and was not in attendance at the HOD meeting
 - g. Music and Performance

Position Vacant

- a. Membership Jeremy Loper Current membership was up and then down a bit...but things appear to be looking positive.
- b. Chorus Directors Development Scott Suwabe
 Continuing to work on director workshops and director training. More
 information to follow. Any questions, please contact him. Any chapters who are looking for directors, please let him know.
- c. Events
 - i. Convention Manual Bill Rosica/David Melville Bill is still looking for a replacement events coordinator. He reported that he has finished the Spring Convention manual and is now working on the Fall Convention manual and will have all of it put together in one book.
 - Hawaii bid for Fall 2023 Convention Bill Rosica There are a number of issues including specific dates that need to be addressed. The FWD will continue to look to have HI host a FWD convention. More information is needed.
- d. Marketing and Public Relations David Melville
 FWD merchandise is no available online. Online FWD store is made to order
 stuff which brings down costs. Prices are set to encourage buying as the profit on
 the products is marginal. David suggested having a Logo contest to get ideas for
 upcoming convention logos.
- e. Youth in Harmony Kenny Rios He reported the YIH is alive and doing well. Thanks to HFI for their support for recent youth events and with the help of BHS, AIC and HFI support, the youth festivals were very successful.
- f. Financial Development Roe Darnell Roe was not present so there was no report
- g. Endowment Funds Roe Darnell No Report
- h. Donor's Choice Update Roe Darnell Roe was not in attendance, but Donny Rose did give an update is his remarks earlier to the HOD.
- i. Directors Guild No Report

Scott Suwabe

18. Secretary Jim Maass directed the group in Keep the Whole World Singing

19. The meeting was adjourned at 1:04 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Maass Secretary Far Western District

	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
500.00 - DUES-Members	
500.10 Dues Allocations-Events	\$0.00
500.00 - DUES-Members - Other	\$40,000.00
Total 500.00 - DUES-Members	\$40,000.00
501.00 - SRING PRELIMS REV	
501.06 Photos	\$0.00
501.00 - SRING PRELIMS REV - Other	\$10,000.00
Total 501.00 - SRING PRELIMS REV	\$10,000.00
502.00 - FALL CONVENTION REV	\$20,000.00
503.00 - DIVISIONAL CONV	
503.10 - AZ	\$5,000.00
503.30 - SO CAL WEST	\$9,500.00
Total 503.00 - DIVISIONAL CONV	\$14,500.00
504.00 - WESTUNES	
504.01 - ADS	\$500.00
Total 504.00 - WESTUNES	\$500.00
505-Educational Events	
505.01 AZ Leadership Summit	\$0.00
505.02 NorCal Leadership Summit	\$0.00
505.03 SoCal Leadership Summit	\$0.00
Total 505-Educational Events	\$0.00
506.00 - OTHER	
506.05 Contest Photos	\$0.00
506.06 Miscellaneous Revenue	\$300.00
Total 506.00 - OTHER	\$300.00
510 - Donations	
510.01 - Donations Awards	\$550.00
510.03 - Donations NorCal Camp	\$6,000.00
510.04 - Donors Choice HF	\$20,000.00
Total 510 - Donations	\$26,550.00
520.00 - Fees	. ,
520.01 - NorCal Youth Camp	\$9,000.00
520.04 - Leadership Academy	
520.041 - Fees Ldr Acad - AZ	\$0.00
520.043 - Fees Ldr Acad - NorCa	\$0.00
Total 520.04 - Leadership Academy	\$0.00
Total 520.00 - Fees	\$9,000.00
Total Income	\$120,850.00
Expense	¢120,000100
506.04 - Transfers Closed Chapt	\$0.00
601.00 - HCW/LA Expense	\$5.00
709.10 - Leadership Academy	
709.11 - LA - AZ	\$0.00
	ψ0.00

709.12 - LA - SoCal Exp	\$0.00
Total 709.10 - Leadership Academy	\$0.00
Total 601.00 - HCW/LA Expense	\$0.00
601.10 - DS15 - District Spring	
Judges-Meals	\$800.00
Judges-Misc	\$350.00
Judges Travel	\$7,000.00
601.10 - DS15 - District Spring - Other	\$10,000.00
Total 601.10 - DS15 - District Spring	\$18,150.00
601.20 - AZ15 - AZ Div Exp	
Judges-Meals	\$400.00
Judges-Misc	\$250.00
Judges Travel	\$3,500.00
601.20 - AZ15 - AZ Div Exp - Other	\$7,500.00
Total 601.20 - AZ15 - AZ Div Exp	\$11,650.00
601.30 - SC15 - SoCal Div Exp	
601.30.01Judges-Travel	\$5,000.00
601.30.02 Judges-Meals	\$1,000.00
601.30.03 Judges-Misc.	\$100.00
601.30 - SC15 - SoCal Div Exp - Other	\$12,500.00
Total 601.30 - SC15 - SoCal Div Exp	\$18,600.00
602.00 - Fall Convention Exp	
602.01 - DF15 - District Fall	
602.01.01Judges-Travel	\$10,000.00
602.01.02Judges-Meals	\$1,500.00
602.01.03Judges-Misc	\$600.00
602.01 - DF15 - District Fall - Other	\$20,000.00
Total 602.01 - DF15 - District Fall	\$32,100.00
602.23 Supplies	\$300.00
Total 602.00 - Fall Convention Exp	\$32,400.00
604.00 - BD MEETING	
604.01 - TRAVEL	\$3,500.00
604.02 - MEALS	\$1,000.00
604.03 - LODGING	\$5,000.00
604.04 - BD Meeting - Supplies	\$100.00
Total 604.00 - BD MEETING	\$9,600.00
607.08 - C&J	
607.085 - C&J CATAGORY SCHOOL	\$10,000.00
Total 607.08 - C&J	\$10,000.00
607.09 - YMIH	
607.095 - AWARDS	\$0.00
607.096 - NoCal Youth Camp	\$16,000.00
607.097 Youth Festival Grants	\$1,000.00
Total 607.09 - YMIH	\$19,500.00
607.10 - EVENTS	
607.101 - SUPPLIES	\$300.00

Total 607.10 - EVENTS	\$300.00
607.12 - MKTG & PR	
607.122 - POSTAGE	\$34.20
607.123 - PROMO MATERIALS	\$250.00
607.124 - WEB EXPENSES	\$5,000.00
607.125 - Ads purchased/placed	\$0.00
708.00 - WESTUNES	\$1,000.00
Total 607.12 - MKTG & PR	\$6,284.20
609.00 - MISC EXP	\$122.75
609.01 - Dues Collection Fees	\$2,630.25
609.02 - Merchant Acct Fees	\$1,735.88
610.00 - INTERN. QT TRAVEL	\$2,500.00
611.00 - INTERN CH TRAVEL	\$8,500.00
622.00 - GOV'T FEES	\$200.00
700.00 - PRESIDENT	
600.00 - AWARDS	\$1,150.00
607.13 - HISTORIAN	\$500.00
607.17 - President Exp Other	\$500.00
700.03 - TRAVEL	\$1,250.00
700.05 - Pres Mid-Winter Exp	\$1,250.00
Total 700.00 - PRESIDENT	\$4,650.00
703.00 - EVP	
703.03 - TRVL & MEALS	\$1,250.00
703.04 - EVP Supplies	\$100.00
703.07 - EVP LODGING	\$1,250.00
703.08 - EVP Business Expenses	\$250.00
Total 703.00 - EVP	\$2,850.00
704.00 - DVP	
704.10 - DVP AZ 704.13-TRAVEL	¢250.00
	\$250.00
Total 704.10 - DVP AZ	\$250.00
704.20 - DVP - SO CAL East 704.23-TRAVEL	
Total 704.20 - DVP SO CAL EAST	\$250.00
404.30 - DVP SO CAL WEST	
404.33 - TRAVEL	
Total 704.30 - DVP SO CSL WEST	\$250.00
404.40 - DVP NOR CAL WEST	
404.43 - TRAVEL	
Total 704.40 - DVP NOR CAL WEST	\$250.00
404.50 - DVP NOR CAL EAST	
404.53 - TRAVEL	
Total 704.40 - DVP NOR CAL WEST	\$250.00
Total 704.00 - DVP	\$1,250.00
705.00 - SECRETARY	
603.00 - INSURANCE	\$200.00

Total 705.00 - SECRETARY	\$200.00
706.00 - TREASURER	
706.02 - POSTAGE	\$100.00
706.03 - SUPPLIES	\$100.00
706.04-Subscriptions	\$200.00
706.05-Training	\$0.00
706.06-Travel	\$250.00
Total 706.00 - TREASURER	\$650.00
Total Expense	\$151,765.08
Net Ordinary Income	\$30,915.08
Net Income	\$30,915.08

Far Western District Board of Directors Meeting Minutes October 13, 2022 Time 1:30 PM DoubleTree Hotel Sequoia Room

- 1. The meeting was called to order by President Bill Rosica with the singing of *The Old Songs* directed by Cody Littlefield at1:38 PM.
- 2. Secretary Jim Maass called the roll. The following board members were present: Bill Rosica, Kenny Rios, Jim Maass, Rich Owen, Craig Hughes, Kathy Kileen, Cody Littlefield, Rich Postal, Chuck Roots, Adam Kaufman and Randy Meyers. The Music and Performance VP position is vacant. A quorum of the board was present.

Past Presidents in attendance: Craig Hughes, Gordon "Mongo" Bergthold

Management Team Members in attendance: Kenny Rios, Jeremy Loper, Bill Rosica, and David Melville.

Guests Present: Jim Clark, HFI. Don Laursden, HFI Trustee, Greg Dreyer, incoming FWD Secretary, Ray Rhymer, FWD Photographer, and other guests.

- 3. President Bill Rosica opened the meeting with the introduction of guests and some opening remarks. It's been an interesting three years and we're all glad to be back at "on site" meeting. He reported that the district is doing well and is very healthy and thanked everyone for all the hard work they have been doing.
- 4. Approval of the Agenda. Chapter of the Year item was added to New Business. Agenda was approved as amended.
- 5. Approval of minutes: Summer Board Meeting minutes August 27, 2022, were approved as presented. All Aye.
- 6. Treasurer's Report. Rich Owen reviewed monies received from Harmony Foundation. He also reported the general financial position of the district is very good since there has not been much spending the past few years due to COVID. Additional financial information will be available and posted at a later date. There was also some discussion on the Endowment funds.
- 7. BHS and HFI Special Guests

Joe Cerutti, Society Representative, gave a brief bio to the board. This is his first visit to the FWD even though he has worked for the Society for 10 years and is happy to be here

for the weekend.

Jim Clark, Harmony Foundation, introduced Donny Rose who is now on the HFI staff and will be the regional director. Jim noted recent HFI donations to the FWD of \$8300 and to FWD chapters in the amount of \$9000 with total today this year for the district of more than \$27,000. He reported that the AIC outreach has been very successful. There have been 17 events with more than 50 schools and 5000 students involved through the program to date. He gave a brief rundown of the activities and will share more at the HOD meeting the next day. There were several questions from the board.

8. Special Business. Treasurer Rich Owen presented the 2023 Draft FWD Budget which can be found in the HOD brochure prepared for the BOD and HOD meetings. He reported that there were no corrections from what he and the board had developed at the August BOD meeting. It was moved and seconded to present the budget to the HOD for their approval. All by aye.

Rich Postal brought up expenses and the \$50 per diem meal limitation. Rich Owen and Rich Postal will head up a committee to review the policy and bring back to the BOD recommendations at the Spring 2023 meeting. Chuck Roots would also join the committee.

9. Old Business.

a. Nominating Committee Report. Craig Hughes presented the completed slate of officers. He thanked Jim Maass and Rob Menaker for their service to the board. It was moved and seconded to present the slate of 2023 officers to the HOD at their meeting for approval the next day.

Board Position	2023
President	Kenny Rios
Executive Vice President	Adam Kaufman
Immediate Past President	Bill Rosica
Secretary	Greg Dreyer
Treasurer	Rich Owen
VP Div.1 SW	Kathy Kileen
VP Div. 2 SE	Cody Littlefield
VP Div.3 NW	Rich Postal
VP Div. 4 NE	Chuck Roots
VP Div. 5 AZ	Aaron Burleson
VP Contest and Judging	Randy Meyer
VP Music & Performance	Chris Hebert

b. Convention Venues. Bill Rosica mentioned that he's in contact with Marriot in Burbank for Spring Prelims but has not heard back. The date in March in in Conflict with SAI Region 21. FWD and BHS master calendar goes out 5 years because of the need to assess judging availability. Randy said the 2023 dates is set and cannot change. It was noted that BHS allows competitors to go out of district if there is a conflict. Bill also mentioned that Hawaii is still pursuing a FWD Fall convention in the future. There was some discussion. No action.

c. Barbershop Cruise. Bill Rosica again mentioned that it would be nice to have a BBS cruise...enjoyment only...no contest or convention. There was some discussion. No action.

d. Expense Reports. See discussion under budget topic for details.

e. Show Clearance Update from Jim Maass who gave a brief summary and what needs to be done by the chapter secretary to make sure chapters shows are cleared through the Society and BMI. He asked all DVPs to relate the importance of this to the chapters.

10. New Business

Chorus of the Year Award. Adam Kaufman brought this topic up looking to recognize outstanding chapters. There was some discussion on developing a process to mention what chapters are doing and from those nominated, select a chapter of the year. There was some discussion. No action was taken.

11.Vice Presidents' Reports

Division 1 Southwest

She updated her report which was in the HOD brochure and indicated that Santa Maria chapter will be at the convention this weekend. She also would love to visit all here chapters but receives mixed results when she reaches out to them Some friendly...some not so much. There was some discussion on this issue.

Division 2 Southeast

Cody said his division has five competing choruses this weekend. His goal is to push all his area choruses to get involved. Randy reminded that a chorus can sing for evaluation only and not be a part of the competition. Cody is enthusiastic in promoting barbershop singing.

Rich Postal Division 3 Northwest He has visited six chapters this quarter in various stages of health. Some good...some not so good.

Division 4 Northeast Chuck Roots Chuck reported that Covid has taken out a couple of chapters. Fresno, on the brink, is

Cody Littlefield

Kathy Kileen

making strides to regroup and hopefully to be back on stage next year. Four choruses from his division are competing this weekend. Smaller choruses are still hanging on making music.

Division 5 Arizona

Adam reported that only one chapter from his division is here this weekend. He is promoting...."Barbershop Is Fun". He hopes people use the hash tag on multimedia to direct barbershoppers to his promotion page. He also mentioned he is looking forward to his new EVP position for 2023.

Contest and	Judging
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Randy mentioned that the contest is full of competitors and should be lots of fun. Of the 33 quartets, there will be 14 in the finals. He has enough judges to do all the evals. All the awards will be presented on Saturday night. He gave a brief rundown of the judges who will be here.

Music and Performance

No Report

- 12. District Management Team Kenny Rios
 - a. Membership

Jeremy Loper Not much change in membership. Will have a better understanding on the numbers by next spring. As of October 1st,1318 active members in FWD. There were 1425 last year so membership is down a bit. Some chapters growing. Kenny asked Jeremy to work with him to help boost divisional contest attendance.

b. Chorus Directors Development Scott Suwabe No report

Kathy raised the issue. Is there something in place she can direct her chapters to for information?

- c. Events **Bill Rosica** There was continued discussion on the fall contest rotation with Bakersfield, Fresno and Mesa. HI might be in the mix but will deal with that when it happens.
- d. Marketing and Public Relations David Melville Mentioned the FWD merchandise...made to order store online. There was discussion regarding the Westunes on line and the FWD website and the need to get the information out to the members. However, David reported that the BHS email software problems need to get fixed so he can interface better with the email lists allowing a better flow of communication with the FWD members.

Randy Meyer

Position Vacant

Adam Kaufman

- e. Youth in Harmony Kenny Rios He report will move YIH events around the district. Looking for a new chairman and area coordinators getting all for areas and then HI getting things going with BHS and HFI involved. Las Vegas in January and then on to AZ.
- f. Financial Development Roe Darnell no report
- g. Community Outreach Charles Carothers Kenny reported he has talked with Charles and who is continuing the outreach program
- 13. Bill Rosica did a round table "Good of the Order."
- 14. Good of the order...board members shared some final thoughts.
- 15. The meeting was adjourned at 4:45PM with the singing of *Keep the Whole World Singing* directed by Joe Ceruti.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Maass Secretary Far Western District

Far Western District

Special Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes January 22, 2023

ZOOM

The meeting was called to order by President Kenny Rios at 5:00 pm. Meeting was recorded.

Secretary Greg Dreyer established that a quorum of the board was present.

The following board members were present:

Bill Rosica, Immediate Past President Kenny Rios, President Adam Kaufman, Executive VP Greg Dreyer, Secretary Rich Owen, Treasurer Rich Postal, VP Div. 3 NW Chuck Roots, VP Div. 4 NE Aaron Burleson, VP Div. 5 AZ

BOD Members absent:

Kathy Kileen, VP Div. 1 SW Cody Littlefield, VP Div. 2 SE Randy Meyers, VP Contest and Judging Chris Hebert, VP Music & Performance

Management Team:

David Melville, Marketing and PR Scott Suwabe, Chorus Directors Development Ben Porter, Contest and Judging Craig Hughes, Past President Richard Lund, NW/NE Events Jeremy Loper, Member Recruitment and Education Manager

Guests:

Mat LaCounte, Videographer Chase Ferrante, Webcasting Approval of the Agenda.: Agenda was approved as amended.

Point of Order Discussion:

Rich Owen made a formal complaint regarding this Special BOD Meeting was not proper, in that Special Meetings are only allowed when it is imperative that a decision be made.

Adam Kaufman defended the position in that the BOD would be authorizing an expense for the Spring Convention in March.

Rich suggested that any financial issues be discussed with him prior to the BOD Meeting so he can be more prepared.

With complaint being noted, the meeting went on as scheduled with presentations by two guests, Mat Laounte, Videography and Chase Ferrante, Webcasting.

Videographer for Spring Convention - Adam Kaufman introduced Mat who did similar video production work at the Fall Convention, October 2022 and wants to do it again in the Spring (March 2023). He would also be involved in webcasting. Estimated costs for Spring would be \$6,000.00 for video and \$2,500.00 – 3,000.00 for streaming.

David Melville interjected that the Convention Venue may have an in-house charge for productions at an additional price. Additional costs may be too extreme if we have to pay the venue as well as the production costs listed by Mat.

Bill Rosica, as Events Chairman, will be looking at the contract from the venue and examine any additional costs involved with videography and streaming.

Rich Owen stated that we also need to look at any requirements or fees for licensing. We would be looking at both Spring and Fall Conventions. He also gave high reviews for the Videography work at the last convention.

Adam Kaufman stated that there would be Webcasting in the Fall, but not necessarily in the Spring.

Rich Owen stated that a is a cost spreadsheet has specific line items in the budget for Videography and streaming.

Bill Rosica, as Events Chairman, will be making recommendations regarding this issue.

The meeting continued with Adam Kaufman introducing Chase Ferrante regarding webcast opportunities. Chase stated that fees can be negotiated on contracts with venues. The estimate for webcasting for a one-time fee is \$3,100.00 but would be lessened to \$1000.00 for the future due to us purchasing necessary equipment (computer, monitor and cables). Chase stated that facility fees could be the largest expense.

Adam will be looking into the training of staff members for future events. Chase said it would need to be staffed by him and three others.

Bill Rosica stated that there would be overlap with the services by Mat and Chase. Bill continued with the fact that costs are going up considerably and we need to understand that "Needs vs. Wants must be identified and remain within the budget". He also stated that we must be mindful that producing a quality webcast may reflect on a lack of attendance to the live event. David Melville stated that there is background information from previous conventions that this won't happen.

The BOD was reminded that there are multiple vendors for these services. The webcast should also include other Convention experiences beyond the competition. It's all about the income vs expenses. Mat and Chase were thanked for their presentations.

The BOD continued with discussion stating that "still" photos need to be part of our convention experience. BHS

BOD Nominations - The BHS BOD is looking for nominations for BOD members and our district can nominate up to three people. Rich Postal added that anyone being considered for a position must be asked before being nominated. Kenny added that having positions on the BHS BOD will help with giving a FWD presence. Chuck Roots suggested that Kenny approach potential nominees that he felt would be a great addition.

Westunes Articles need current data. David needs the BOD to contribute more and stated that both Rich Postal and Chuck Roots have already contributed. David also reminded the BOD that emails sent to him should not be on his "personal" email, but instead, on his Webmaster account. Next issue is March.

Corroboration with SAI– Adam reported that SAI is receptive but redisent about joining in wholeheartedly with BHS. It was suggested by Adam to form a "Joint Committee" with FWD and SAI (Region 21) to promote the artform of Barbershop singing.

State and Federal Taxes - Kenny reminded chapter leaders through their Divisional VP's to be current in their reporting. Some are not and that reflects on all of us. Rich Postal would like a list of all requirements from Rich Owen in order to forward info to chapter leaders.

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Kenny commented that our Conventions need to be more than Competitions. We are looking at having a Director's School of some type to be held on Thursday (Fall Convention) to be coordinated by Adam Kaufman and Scott Suwabe.

Motion made by Craig Hughes to adjourn. 2nd by Rich Owen.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:12 pm

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Far Western District

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Minutes January 22, 2023 (Corrected copy)

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Chapter Delegate's Credential Form

House of Delegates Far Western District Spring 2023 Meeting

March 24, 2023, 3:00 PM Marriott Burbank Airport Vine A & B Rooms Burbank, California



This will Certify that the Delegate of the:

(Chapter Name)		
Chapter # D	is	
(Delegate Name)		

Signatures:

Delegtate (Signature) Chapter President (Signature)

Completed credentials to be turned in upon arrival at the HOD Meeting.