



# 2024 Fall Brochure

House of Delegates, November 2 at 10:00 AM

**ZOOM Online Meeting**



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## President's Message

# Kenny Rios

*Far Western District President*

[president@farwesterndistrict.org](mailto:president@farwesterndistrict.org)

### Greeting from the Far Western District!

Having held many different positions in a chapter, I always KNEW how difficult it was to run a Chapter. However, I never realized how much work goes into running a District. But as my term as President comes to an end, I glad to see that we have accomplished A LOT in the past two years, a lot of what I had dreamed.

We brought back the Director's Roundtable (formerly Director's Guild) where are vision was to instruct, guide, motivate and bring together that talent in a roundtable table discussion within the FWD so that NO Chapter is without a well educated director. We developed a Meet and Greet at conventions to meet FWD BOD and Management Team allowing members to socialize, eat, drink and sing tags together. We developed a Saturday night Afterglow , with free food and drinks, for ALL members to enjoy, without cost to any member, to hear their favorite quartet to perform. We brought back name tags and eliminated those pesky wrist bands and brought back a Tot's Room at our conventions. I have created a new position, Graphic Arts and Design Manager, to design convention and District logos to keep us on the edge of innovation. We brought back the Leadership Academy at conventions for new (and old) Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers to receive education on their positions. We are planning on expanding that to include Membership VP in the future. We brought classes to at our conventions for a free education in a variety of topics as well as an additional Harmony College West in the late summer. We reduced the cost of putting on a Convention for FWD by selecting cities that would offer a significant savings to the FWD by negotiating hotel, venue and site rates. We have introduced a Seniors' Chorus to represent the FWD at future Mid Winter Conventions. We are working on bringing the Pan Pacific (New Zealand, Japan, Australia and another other Pacific Coast Region) and FWD together for a convention in Hawaii in Fall 2026. We are actively involved in the District President's Council (DPC) to seek a better representation and voice for BHS members. Hopefully, this will reduce the shock of changes by BHS. We have made our conventions exactly that...a Convention and not just a competition. I envisioned a convention for EVERYONE...a family affair. Little by little we are getting there. But my time as FWD President is up and 2 years just didn't seem like enough time to make all the improvements that I/we wanted. My belief is that the FWD BOD/Management Team is here for the members.

And there's more to come. Look for an expansion in our Youth in Harmony program with a return to High School Quartet Contests at each Divisional Convention with the overall winners receiving a cash prize of up to \$500.00 for their school choir program and an invitation to sing at the Fall Convention. Also look for an expansion in Harmony College West.

I am proud to be FWD President and I Thank you for the opportunity to serve you. I look forward to continuing serve the district as Immediate Past President!

Thank you helping this thing we call Barbershop a true Brotherhood/Sisterhood and for proving that **"Barbershop Music is not a hobby... It is a way of life!"**



In Harmony,

**Kenny Rios**

**President, Far Western District**

**Moderator, District President's Council, BHS**



**Far Western District  
Board of Directors Meeting  
AGENDA  
October 17, 2024, 7:00 pm  
Hyatt Place  
Riverside, California**



1. Call to order ..... Kenny Rios
2. Pledge of Allegiance ..... Kenny Rios
3. "The Old Songs" ..... Jeremy Loper
4. Roll call ..... Greg Dreyer
5. Opening remarks ..... Kenny Rios
6. Introduction of guests incl. Past Presidents ..... Kenny Rios
7. Accepting the Agenda ..... Kenny Rios
8. Approval of Minutes from Summer BOD Meeting, September 7, 2024 ..... Greg Dreyer
9. Treasurers Report ..... Wally Smulson
  - a. Financial Status/Update
  - b. Presentation of Budget
  - c. Receive Report
10. Vice Presidents 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 ..... Ben Porter
  - g. Music and Performance..... Chris Hébert
  - h. Executive Vice President ..... Adam Kaufman
11. District Management Team:
  - a. Membership Recruitment and Education..... Cody Littlefield
  - b. Chorus Director Development ..... Laura Pallas Singer
  - c. Events ..... Adam Kaufman
  - d. Marketing and Public Relations ..... David Melville
  - e. Youth in Harmony..... Antwun Puckett
12. Old Business:
  - a. 55+ Chorus Competition - Status ..... Rich Postal
  - b. Nominating Committee Report ..... Bill Rosica
13. New Business:
  - a. Sponsorship Accelerator ..... Adam Kaufman
  - b. SOP Updates (to be tabled)..... Kenny Rios
  - c. District Convention in Hawaii, 2026 ..... Kenny Rios
  - d. Next Meeting Saturday March 13, 2025, Riverside, CA ..... Kenny Rios
14. "Keep the Whole World Singing" ..... Chris Hébert
15. Adjournment ..... Kenny Rios



**Far Western District  
House of Delegates Meeting  
AGENDA  
November 2, 2024, 10:00 am  
ZOOM Online Meeting**



1. Call to order ..... Adam Kaufman
2. "The Old Songs" (*please MUTE your Microphone*)
3. "The National Anthem" (*please MUTE your Microphone*)
4. Roll call ..... Greg Dreyer
5. Opening remarks and introduction of guests and Past Presidents ..... Adam Kaufman
6. Accepting the Agenda ..... Adam Kaufman
7. Approval of Minutes..... Greg Dreyer
  - a. Spring HOD Meeting
  - b. Special HOD Meeting
8. Chapter Eternal ..... Greg Dreyer
9. Treasurers Report ..... Wally Smulson
  - a. Financial Status/Update
  - b. Presentation of 2025 Budget
  - c. Receive Report
10. Vice Presidents Reports (included in this brochure):
  - 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. Contests and Judging..... Ben Porter
  - g. Music and Performance..... Chris Hébert
  - h. Executive Vice President ..... Adam Kaufman
11. District Management Team (included in this brochure):
  - a. Membership Recruitment and Education..... Cody Littlefield
  - b. Chorus Director Development ..... Laura Pallas Singer
  - c. Events ..... Adam Kaufman
  - d. Marketing and Public Relations ..... David Melville
  - e. Youth in Harmony..... Antwun Puckett
12. Old Business:
  - a. None
13. New Business:
  - a. Next Meeting Saturday, April 26, 2025 - ZOOM..... Adam Kaufman
  - b. Nominating Committee Presentation of 2025 Slate of Officers..... Bill Rosica
  - c. Election and Installation of 2025 Officers
14. "Keep the Whole World Singing" (*please MUTE your Microphone*)
15. Adjournment ..... Adam Kaufman



## Board Member Reports

### **Adam Kaufman**

*Executive Vice President*

*Events Manager*

**evp@farwesterndistrict.org**

**events@farwesterndistrict.org**

The role of the Executive Vice President is to learn how to be President, and I am honored to have such a stellar example in Kenny. It is an understatement to say that Kenny and I complement each other. While we do not always agree on everything, we both believe that the Far Western District is the best in the Society. We are dedicated to maintaining and enhancing our legacy of excellence for the future. Our shared philosophy centers on service to our members, which is reflected in our commitment to education and inclusion.

Kenny and I are focused on creating conventions rather than contests. After an 8- year hiatus we have revived Harmony College West, and next, we are working on a Top Gun school and a Go for the Gold event to support our quartets as they prepare for international level competition. We are also committed to involving youth in Barbershop, a passion shared by both of us. We are exploring ways to ensure the future of our musical style— not just for the next 5 years, but for the next 50 or even 100 years. It is crucial that our wonderful style of music continues to thrive and grow!

A key focus of mine has been on FWD events. As the FWD Events Coordinator, I prioritize offering “something for everyone.” The upcoming convention in Riverside will feature “Harmony College West Lite,” with 12 classes covering topics from grant writing and vocal warm-ups to fostering inclusivity in your chapter. Continuing the commitment to leadership development classes for Presidents, Secretaries, and Treasurers will be offered. Additionally, under the direction of Laura Pallas Singer, we are launching a new “Director’s Roundtable” to provide front - line directors with a space to discuss improvements and learn from each other. On Friday night, we will continue the tradition of showcasing our FWD Champion in the AFWDC. New this year, a 55+ chorus will be forming with the goal of qualifying to compete at the Mid-Winter in San Antonio. And, of course, we will have a District-Wide Afterglow party on Saturday night.

Oh...and there will also be a contest!

While I know I cannot please everyone all the time, I will certainly do my best. If you have suggestions for the district, I would love to hear them— and do not be surprised if I ask you to help make them happen!

For years, I have been giving out my “Barbershop is Fun” stickers as that is what matters most ... fun!

Adam Kaufman

EVP/Events Coordinator FWD



## Board Member Reports

**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](http://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.
9. Please include your email address

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](http://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.



**Far Western District**  
**Spring 2024 Board of Directors Meeting**  
**MINUTES**  
**March 14, 2024**  
**Fremont Marriott Silicon Valley**  
**Fremont, California**



1. Call to order by President at 7:08 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance ..... Kenny Rios
2. Singing of "The Old Songs" ..... Cody Littlefield
3. Invocation ..... Chuck Roots
4. Roll call and establishment of a quorum by Secretary ..... Greg Dreyer
  - Present: Kenny Rios
  - Adam Kaufman
  - Greg Dreyer
  - Rich Owen
  - Bill Rosica
  - Kathy Kileen
  - Rich Postal
  - Chuck Roots
  - Aaron Burleson
  - Chris Hebert
  - Randy Meyer
  - Antwun Puckett
  - David Melville
  - Cody Littlefield
  - Absent: Jeremy Loper
5. Opening remarks, welcome guests ..... Kenny Rios
  - Past Presidents: Chuck Hunter, Bill Rosica
  - HCI Jim Clark hoping to get here for HOD meeting.
6. Accepting the Agenda ..... Kenny Rios
  - Addition of information from Rich Owen on Travel reimbursement
7. Approval of Minutes from October 12, 2023 ..... Greg Dreyer
  - Motion: Adam Kaufman,
  - - 2nd Ben Porter - carried
8. Treasurer's Report..... Rich Owen
  - Travel Expenses update (see email) fillable online. Please send receipts!
  - Financial Status/Update with P/L – There was a loss in 2023 of 50K on paper.
  - Rich will work with Wally Smulson in the near future to bring him up to speed.
  - Comments from BOD: Bill Rosica suggested to solicit display ads for the convention program to help with
  - convention expenses. It was also suggested to have hosting chapters find local sponsors.
  - Motion to receive: Adam Kaufman, - 2nd Ben Porter - carried

9. VP Reports:

- a. Division 1 Southwest..... Kathy Kileen
  - as submitted in HOD Brochure
- b. Division 2 Southeast (absent) .....Jeremy Loper
  - as submitted in HOD Brochure
- c. Division 3 Northwest ..... Rich Postal
  - as submitted in HOD Brochure
- d. Division 4 Northeast..... Chuck Roots
  - as submitted in HOD Brochure
- e. Division 5 Arizona ..... Aaron Burleson
  - as submitted in HOD Brochure
- f. Contest and Judging ..... Ben Porter
  - as submitted in HOD Brochure with update:
    - Competing at Spring Convention -10 choruses and 20 quartets.
    - Looking forward to Hawaii in 2026 for Fall Convention coinciding with the Pan Pacific Convention.
    - Possibility of using Spring Convention to qualify for International for those not attending in Hawaii. (action item)
- g. Music and Performance..... Chris Hébert
  - as submitted in HOD Brochure
- h. Executive VP ..... Adam Kaufman
  - as submitted in HOD Brochure

10. District Management Team

- a. Member Recruitment/Education Manager ..... Cody Littlefield
  - as submitted in HOD Brochure
  - Membership Portal is “challenging”
- b. Chorus Director Development ..... Laura Pallas Singer
  - Introduction of newest member of Team. Laura has vast experience and brings excitement to this position. She received a great deal of support from the BOD.
- c. Events/Venues..... Adam Kaufman
  - At current time, this convention is 82% sold out. Very successful! Not just a contest, but lots of opportunities for attendees. Looking to continue this mode in Bakerfield, Fall Convention 2024.
  - Harmony College West is now open for registrations. Barbershop is Fun!!!
  - Upcoming conventions:
    - SE/SW Divisionals – May 11, 2024 Ontario, CA – Venue - Colony HS
    - Fall Convention – October 17-20, 2024 Bakersfield, CA
    - Spring Convention 2025 – There is a conflict with the date.
    - Fall Convention 2025 - Fresno - venue tbd
    - Fall Convention 2026 - Hawaii
- d. Marketing and Public Relations ..... David Melville
  - 341 registrations for this convention. Registration for Bakersfield is being setup.

e. Youth in Harmony ..... Antwun Puckett

- as submitted in HOD Brochure

11. Old Business:

a. 55+ chorus ..... Rich Postal

- Looking for a renowned director for this project to lead chorus @ District Conventions. Need to know howc many will be competing in this event. There will be two songs selected. Looking at expenses of music, learning tracks and licensing of which performers will need to pay. Action Item.

b. Update of Chapter of the Year ..... Adam Kaufman

- This will be selected at the Fall Convention to be more inclusive. DVP's will solicit applications.
- Contributing factors will be community involvement, shows, membership, and # of guests, etc.

12. New Business:

a. Visalia Chapter/Mighty Oaks Chorus requesting \$5000. For Youth Program..... Antwun Puckett

- 9/14/24 - Goal is to increase the number of students to plant seed for future members. Vocal Spectrum to assist. Visalia is also looking into grant resources.
- Motion made by Ben Porter and 2nd by Chuck Roots to offer \$1500.00 for this program. Carried

b. Greater Phoenix Chapter is requesting \$500.00 for Youth Program ..... Antwun Puckett

- Looking for a Phoenicians "reboot" by joining with ASU singers as base group led by Jordan Rikita (BHS) \$500.00 is to fund student members for 1 year. This will be an agenda item at the June Budget Meeting.
- Motion made by Chuck Roots and 2nd by Chris Hebert. Carried.
- Kenny will also be looking into endowment money from HFI.

c. Next meeting will be at Summer ZOOM Meeting on June 22, 2024 at 11 am

- Motion to adjourn David Melville and 2nd by Rich Owen

13. Sing "Keep the Whole World Singing" ..... Laura Pallas Singer

14. Adjournment at 8:45 pm ..... Kenny Rios

Respectfully submitted:

Greg Dreyer, Secretary

Far Western District





**Far Western District  
 Summer 2024 Board of Directors Meeting  
 MINUTES  
 September 7, 2024  
 ZOOM Online Meeting**



1. Call to order by President at 10:34 am..... Kenny Rios
2. Roll call and establishment of a quorum by Secretary ..... Greg Dreyer
  - Present: Kenny Rios
  - Adam Kaufman
  - Greg Dreyer
  - Wally Smulson
  - Bill Rosica
  - Kathy Kileen
  - Rich Postal
  - Chuck Roots
  - Aaron Burlison
  - Chris Hebert
  - Ben Porter
  - Antwun Puckett
  - David Melville
  - Cody Littlefield
  - Jeremy Loper
  - Absent: Laura Pallas Singer
3. Opening remarks, welcome guests ..... Kenny Rios
  - a. Past Presidents: Craig Hughes, Bill Rosica
  - b. Kudos to BOD members and Management Team for hard work
4. Accepting the Agenda ..... Kenny Rios
  - Motion to accept by Ben Porter and 2nd by Kathy Kileen. Carried
5. Secretary’s Report ..... Greg Dreyer
  - a. Approval of Minutes from March 14, 2024
    - Motion: Bill Rosica, - 2nd Jeremy Loper – carried
  - b. Chapters are submitting BMI Clearances but evidently not all chapters are having shows.
    - Comment from Kathy Kileen that chapters need assistance in marketing their shows to local audiences.
    - David Melville commented that all approved shows are on FWD Calendar.
    - Kenny Rios suggests that the two of them get together to discuss.
6. Treasurer’s Report..... Wally Smulson
  - a. Financial Status/Update. Kudos to Rich Owen in helping transfer data.
  - b. Request to BOD and Team to complete Budget requests and reimbursement vouchers.
    - Motion to receive: Jeremy Loper, - 2nd Greg Dreyer - carried
  - c. 2025 Budget to be discussed under new business

## 7. VP Reports:

- a. Division 1 Southwest..... Kathy Kileen
  - as submitted in report
- b. Division 2 Southeast .....Jeremy Loper
  - In addition to report, Jeremy is working on IRS issues with some chapters.
  - Comment from David Melville that Chapter Treasurers need Leadership Training.
- c. Division 3 Northwest ..... Rich Postal
  - as submitted in report
- d. Division 4 Northeast ..... Chuck Roots
  - as submitted in report
- e. Division 5 Arizona ..... Aaron Burleson
  - In addition to report, Aaron commented that some members are not members of BHS.
  - Kathy Kileen suggests using monthly payment plan to help.
- f. Contest and Judging ..... Ben Porter
  - In addition to report, Ben is proposing some new potential changes to the SOP to discuss at Fall Convention HOD
- g. Music and Performance ..... Chris Hébert
  - as submitted in report. Congratulations on Harmony College West!
- h. Executive VP ..... Adam Kaufman
  - as submitted in report. Harmony College West very successful!

## 8. District Management Team

- a. Member Recruitment/Education Manager ..... Cody Littlefield
  - as submitted in report
- b. Chorus Director Development-absent - no report..... Laura Pallas Singer
- c. Events ..... Adam Kaufman
  - Upcoming conventions:
    - Fall Convention – October 17-20, 2024 Riverside, CA
    - Spring Convention 2025 –tbd
    - Fall Convention 2025 - Fresno - venue tbd
    - Fall Convention 2026 - Hawaii
- d. Marketing and Public Relations .....David Melville
  - as submitted in report
- e. Youth in Harmony ..... Antwun Puckett
  - as submitted in report

## 9. Old Business:

- a. 55+ chorus ..... Rich Postal
  - There are problems with participation. Only 17 signed up so far.
  - Rich is asking for better PR for event and support from FWD.

- b. Update on Chapter of the Year ..... Adam Kaufman
- There has been little activity for this and may need to be postponed.

10. New Business:

- a. Presentation of 2025 Budget..... Wally Smulson

- Preliminary report has missing data. Wally needs input from all BOD and Management Team to complete budget. Adam reminded BOD that budget is a guideline for expenses. Items not on budget may get denied. Adam and Wally will get together to fill in missing data. David Melville is also in process of submitting updated numbers. Motion was made to receive budget. No second. Motion failed. New revisions will be sent out to BOD and will be discussed at Fall Convention BOD Meeting.

- b. Updated SOP has been tabled to Fall convention in Riverside. .... Kenny Rios

- c. Slate of Officers: Bill Rosica announced the following:

- Immediate Past President – Kenny Rios
- President – Adam Kaufman
- Exec. Vice President – Kathy Kileen
- Secretary – Greg Dreyer
- Treasurer – Wally Smulson
- Music and Performance VP – Chris Hébert
- Contest and Judging VP – Ben Porter
- SW Division 1 - TBA
- SE Division 2 – Jeremy Loper
- NW Division 3 – Rich Postal
- NE Division 4 – Sue Atkins
- AZ Division 5 – Aaron Burleson

- d. FWD Merchandise – Jeremy is encouraging a marketing strategy for promoting merchandise for attendees.

- e. Harmony Foundation – Bill Rosica suggested that we include an HFI liaison on Management Team. Kenny to confer with Bill on this.

- f. After Action Report – Kenny will be listing of “Who and When” action is required

- g. Next meeting will be at Fall Convention Meeting on October 17 2024 at 6 pm.

- Kenny is asking all BOD Members to wear FWD jackets and attend the Meet/Greet activities.

- h. Motion to adjourn by Ben Porter and 2nd by David Melville. Carried.

12. Adjournment at 11:35 am ..... Kenny Rios

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Dreyer, Secretary

Far Western District





**Far Western District**  
**Fall 2024 Board of Directors Meeting**  
**MINUTES**  
**October 17, 2024**  
**Hyatt Place Riverside Downtown**  
**Riverside, California**



1. Call to order at 6:06 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance ..... Kenny Rios
2. "The Old Songs" .....Jeremy Loper
3. Invocation ..... Chuck Roots
4. Roll call and establishment of a quorum ..... Greg Dreyer
  - Present:
    - Kenny Rios
    - Adam Kaufman
    - Greg Dreyer
    - Wally Smulson
    - Bill Rosica
    - Jeremy Loper
    - Rich Postal
    - Chuck Roots
    - Aaron Burleson
    - Chris Hébert
    - Antwun Puckett
    - David Melville
    - Cody Littlefield
    - Ben Porter
    - Laura Pallas Singer
    - Cary Burns
  - Absent:
    - Kathy Kileen
    - James Halvorson
5. Opening remarks, welcome guests..... Kenny Rios
  - Past President: Craig Hughes
6. Accepting the Agenda ..... Kenny Rios
7. Approval of Minutes from Summer Meeting September 7, 2024 ..... Greg Dreyer
  - Motion: Ben Porter, second Jeremy Loper - carried
8. Treasurer’s Report by Treasurer..... Wally Smulson
  - a. Financial Status/Update
  - b. Presentation of Proposed Budget
  - c. Proposed budget 2025 to be approved at HOD meeting.
    - Motion to receive: Jeremy Loper, second Chuck Roots- carried
9. VP Reports:
  - a. Division 1 Southwest (Absent) ..... Kathy Kileen
    - as submitted

- b. Division 2 Southeast .....Jeremy Loper
  - as submitted
- c. Division 3 Northwest ..... Rich Postal
  - as submitted
- d. Division 4 Northeast..... Chuck Roots
  - as submitted
- e. Division 5 Arizona ..... Aaron Burleson
  - as submitted
- f. Contest and Judging .....Ben Porter
  - as submitted
- g. Music and Performance..... Chris Hébert
  - as submitted
- h. Executive VP..... Adam Kaufman
  - as submitted
- 10. District Management Team
  - a. Member Recruitment/Education ..... Cody Littlefield
    - as submitted with additional comments regarding “Top Gun” June 2025
  - b. Chorus Director Development ..... Laura Pallas Singer
    - Read report. Starting Chorus Round Table this convention
  - c. Events ..... Adam Kaufman
    - All conventions now on sale for 2025 on website
    - Upcoming conventions:
      - FWD Spring Convention March 13-16 2025 – Riverside, CA with Southern Divisions
      - Northern Divisions Convention – March 28-30 2025 - Davis, CA
      - Arizona Division Convention – May 2-4, 2025 - Phoenix, AZ
      - FWD Fall Convention October 9-12, 2025 - Fresno, CA
    - The Pan Pacific Convention will allow us to join with them with a FWD Fall Convention in Hawaii in October 2026
  - d. Marketing and Public Relations .....David Melville
    - as submitted, adding that
      - There have been over 700 registrations for this convention.
      - Working with Adam on upcoming conventions.
      - Currently setting up Zoom meeting for HOD November 2, 2024.
      - Kudo’s to Ethan for Media PR.
  - e. Youth in Harmony ..... Antwun Puckett
    - as submitted with additional comments regarding the HS Quartet Contests to be held in 2025 as part of the divisional contests.
  - f. Community Outreach ..... Cary Burns
    - Newly appointed, no report

g. Graphic Arts and Design Manager .....James Halvorson  
• Newly appointed, no report

11. Old Business:

a. Nomination Committee Report - 2025 Slate of Officers

- President – Adam Kaufman
- Immediate Past President – Kenny Rios
- Executive VP – Kathy Kileen
- Secretary – Greg Dreyer
- Treasurer – Wally Smulson
- Contest/Judging VP – Ben Porter
- Music/Performance VP – Chris Ebert
- VP Division 1 SW – open
- VP Division 2 SE – Jeremy Loper
- VP Division 3 NW – Rich Postal
- VP Division 4 NE – Sue Atkins
- VP Division 5 AZ - Aaron Burlison
  
- Motion to approve slate made by Chuck Roots and seconded by Ben Porter. Carried.
- Sue Atkins introduced by Chuck Roots to be the new VP Division 4 NE.

b. 55+ chorus – Rich Postal

- There will be 25-30 people in this chorus

12. New Business:

a. Sponsorship Accelerator Program ..... Adam Kaufman

- Adam presented this program but need other members to take on the responsibility. There is an opening fee of \$8500.00.
- No one volunteered, so program is tabled for now.

b. SOP Updates (tabled) ..... Kenny Rios

c. Money for judging candidates (money is in the budget) ..... Ben Porter

d. Higher scored to qualify to District Fall Convention..... Ben Porter

e. District Convention in Hawaii is still a “go” for Fall 2026 ..... Kenny Rios

f. Next meeting will be at Spring Convention in Riverside, CA on March 13, 2025.

- Motion to adjourn made by David Melville and seconded by Chuck Roots

13. “Keep the Whole World Singing” ..... Cary Burns

14. Adjournment at 7:15 pm ..... Kenny Rios

Respectfully Submitted,

Greg Dreyer, Secretary  
Far Western District





**Far Western District**  
**Spring 2024 House of Delegates Meeting**  
**MINUTES**  
**March 15, 2024**  
**Ohlone College**  
**Fremont, California**



1. Call to Order at 2:20 pm and Pledge of Allegiance ..... Kenny Rios
2. "The Old Songs" ..... Kathy Kileen
3. Invocation ..... Chuck Roots
4. Roll Call to establish quorum ..... Greg Dreyer
  - Chapters present:  
 Bakersfield, Barbary Coast, California Delta, Central Arizona, Central California, Fremont, Greater Los Angeles, Greater Phoenix, Lake Forest, Las Vegas, Mesa, Orange Quartet (online), Palo Alto-Mountain View, Placerville, Salt River Valley (online), San Mateo County. (online), Santa Monica, Santa Rosa, South Orange County, Stockton, Sun Cities, Temecula (online), Visalia, Walnut Creek, Westminster.
  - Chapters absent:  
 Aloha, Apple Valley, Brea, Coachella Valley, Conejo Valley, Crescenta Valley, Davis-Vacaville, El Cajon, Eureka, Folsom, Fresno, Fullerton, Hemet, Inland Empire, L.A. South Towns, La Jolla, Maricopa County, Marin, Monterey Peninsula, Napa Valley, Palomar Pacific, Pasadena, Prescott, Reno, Rincon Beach, Sacramento, SaddleBrooke, San Diego, San Fernando Valley, San Francisco Bay Cities, San Francisco, Santa Clarita, Santa Cruz, Santa Maria, Santa Rosa, Sedona, South Bay, Tucson, White Mountains, Yuma.
  - Quorum was present
5. Opening Remarks ..... Kenny Rios
6. Accepting of Agenda ..... Kenny Rios
  - Motion maid by San Mateo and seconded by- California Delta - carried.
7. Introduction of Guests
  - Jim Clark from Harmony Foundation (online)
  - Past Presidents: Chuck Hunter, Sr. and Bill Rosica
8. Comments from Jim Clark of HFI
  - Grants are available.
  - The incarceration program has been successful.
  - The Annual Giving Programs are still available.
  - The Lumbard Family has presented a \$150,000.00 match challenge.
9. Secretary's Report ..... Greg Dreyer
  - a. Approval of Minutes from Fall Convention October 2023.
    - Motion made by Stockton and seconded by Westminster – carried.
  - b. Announcement of increase in BMI Clearance fees to \$60.00.
10. Treasurer's Report ..... Rich Owen
  - a. Financial Update
  - b. Questions regarding 2024 Budget from HOD - None
    - Motion to receive report made by Lake Forest and 2nd by California Delta - carried.
11. Vice Presidents Reports (Reports are in HOD Brochure)
  - a. Division 1 SW - stands as written ..... Kathy Kileen
  - b. Division 2 SE - stands as written ..... Jeremy Roper
  - c. Division 3 NW - stands as written ..... Rich Postal
  - d. Division 4 NE - stands as written ..... Chuck Roots
    - Chuck also brought up the need for a replacement for himself.
  - e. Division 5 AZ - stands as written..... Aaron Burleson

- f. Contest and Judging - stands as written..... Ben Porter
- g. Music and Performance - stands as written ..... Chris Hébert
- h. Executive Vice President - stands as written ..... Adam Kaufman
- 12. District Management Team (Reports are in HOD Brochure)
  - a. Member Retention and Education - stands as written ..... Cody Littlefield
  - b. Chorus Directors Development - introduction of newest member of the team ..... Laura Pallas Singer
  - c. Events ..... Adam Kaufman
    - 1) Spring Convention Update
      - Leadership Training will be on Friday.
      - Fremont is 82% sold out and considered successful. It's not just a contest – there are lots of opportunities. Fall Convention in Bakersfield will be continuing with this mode of thinking/ planning.
      - Harmony College West is now open for registration and has a tremendous staff. Barbershop is Fun!!!
    - 2) 2024-26 dates are set:
      - May 11, 2024 – SE and SW Divisionals Ontario, CA (Colony HS)
      - October 17-20, 2024 – Fall Convention Bakersfield
      - Date/location tbd – Spring Convention 2025 – Southern California
      - Date tbd - Fall Convention Fresno October 2025
      - Date tbd – Fall Convention Hawaii October 2026
        - Possibly use Spring Convention to qualify for those not traveling to Hawaii.
      - Harmony College West August 23-25, 2024 – Sparks, NV
  - d. Marketing and Public Relations ..... David Melville
    - 341 registrations for Spring Convention. Fall Convention planning is in process.
  - e. Youth in Harmony - stands as written ..... Antwun Puckett
    - See “new business”
- 13. Old Business
  - a. 55+ Chorus Competition still looking for a director Rich Postal
  - b. Chapter of the Year award re-instated and Divisional VP's are Adam Kaufman soliciting nominees. Nominations should be sent to President Kenny Rios. Criteria: Attendance, Guests, new members, Shows, Charitable events, etc. This award will be presented at the Fall Convention.
- 14. New Business
  - a. Visalia Chapter is requesting \$5000.00 for a Youth Harmony Festival 9/14/24. Motion made by Ben Porter and seconded by Chuck Roots at BOD Meeting 3/14/24 to approve \$1500.00 for this event – carried.
  - b. Greater Phoenix Chapter is requesting \$500.00 to fund membership for 1 year to ASU students who are joining the Phoenixians in a reboot campaign. Motion made by Chuck Roots and seconded by Chris Hébert at BOD Meeting 3/14/24 to approve \$500.00 for this event – carried.
  - c. Next meeting: October 18, 2024 at Fall Convention in Bakersfield, CA
- 15. “Keep the Whole World Singing” ..... Laura Pallas Singer
- 16. Adjourn at 3:20 pm ..... Kenny Rios

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Greg Dreyer, Secretary  
 Far Western District





**Far Western District**  
**Summer 2024 Special House of Delegates Meeting**  
**MINUTES**  
**September 7, 2024**  
**ZOOM Online Meeting**



1. Call to Order at 10:04 am ..... Kenny Rios
2. Invocation ..... Chuck Roots
3. Roll Call to establish quorum ..... Greg Dreyer
  - Chapters present:  
 Aloha, Bakersfield, Barbary Coast, California Delta, Central Arizona, Central California, Conejo Valley, Greater Los Angeles, Greater Phoenix, L.A. South Towns, Lake Forrest, Las Vegas, Maricopa County, Marin, Mesa, Monterey Peninsula, Palo Alto-Mountain View, Placerville, Rincon Beach Salt River Valley, San Francisco, Santa Rosa, Sedona, Stockton, Sun Cities, Temecula, Walnut Creek, Westminster, White Mountains, Yuma
  - Chapters absent:  
 Apple Valley, Brea, Coachella Valley, Crescenta Valley, Davis-Vacaville, El Cajon, Eureka, Folsom, Fresno, Fullerton, Hemet, Inland Empire, La Jolla, Napa Valley, Orange Quartet, Palomar Pacific, Pasadena, Prescott, Reno, Sacramento, SaddleBrooke, San Diego, San Fernando Valley, San Francisco Bay Cities, San Mateo, Santa Clarita, Santa Cruz, Santa Maria, Santa Monica, South Bay, South Orange County, Tucson, Visalia
  - Quorum was present
4. Opening Remarks ..... Kenny Rios
5. Special Business: Potential ZOOM Meeting for HOD Meetings ..... Kenny Rios
  - Motion made by Ben Porter and seconded by Art Miller that All future HOD Meetings to be held within 30 days after BOD Meetings in the SPRING and the FALL via ZOOM
  - Discussion:
    - Aloha: Why is this necessary?
    - Kenny: Mainly for attendance of delegates
    - Bakersfield: Request a specific date to be put in motion
    - Kenny: Not wanting to be specific date to allow interaction from delegates and flexibility with other events
    - Jeremy Loper: suggest ZOOM Meeting be close to convention dates
    - Kenny: Meeting will be the following weekend or at least within 30 days of the BOD Meeting
    - California Delta: List of chapters needs to be updated
    - Kenny: So noted
    - David Melville: Is it necessary for meeting to be on weekend?
    - Kenny: Survey supports Saturday mornings at 10 am as best time
    - Wally Smulson: Hawaiian time needs to be considered
    - Kenny: So noted
    - Rich Postal: Need to check with district calendar to avoid conflicts
    - Jeremy Loper: No need to set specific date

- Las Vegas: Zoom make it easier for last minute substitutions
- Bakersfield: still wants a specific date to be in motion
- Stockton: Concerned about ZOOM meetings taking away attendance from convention
- Kenny: Recent HOD meetings were barely able to reach a quorum. HOD meeting on Convention weekend has not been incentive for increased attendance to Convention. Working with Adam to make conventions more than just contests to increase attendance.
- Adam: Reasoning for motion is due to attendance
- Bill Rosica: reminder that only delegates get to vote on this issue

**Vote taken: Motion carried 22-3**

6. Next meeting tbd with possibility to be on Saturday October 26, 2024 at 10 am

- Motion to adjourn by Richard Harvey and seconded by Howard Wolf.

7. Adjourn at 10:30 am ..... Kenny Rios

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Dreyer, Secretary  
Far Western District





The following Far Western District members have passed on since the last report in October 2023.

- *Willard Klaus*
- *Gerald Alvarez*
- *Rocque Pucci*
- *Richard Coon*
- *Weston White*
- *Joseph Payton*
- *John Hulbert*
- *Herbert Craig*
- *Jack Hashimoto*
- *Caryl Carstensen*
- *Willard Kleen*
- *Edward Wolfe*
- *Richard Wells*
- *Lloyd Daniels*
- *Clayton Panlaqui*
- *Marvin Bertelson*
- *Richard Pruden*
- *Richard Morrison*
- *W John Bloomquist*
- *Gene Butterfield*
- *Ronald Allison*
- *Gene Burns*
- *Charlie Clark*
- *Paul Girard*
- *James Hart*
- *Richard Burch*
- *Leslie Cudworth*
- *John McGill*
- *Dale Hobein*
- *Morris Schlesinger*
- *Marlyn Byrd*
- *Patricia Bowen*
- *Robert Maurer*
- *Bob Morgan*
- *Don Pierce*
- *James Turnmire*
- *David Updegraff*
- *Thomas Raffety*
- *Bill Joor*



## Board Member Reports

**Wally Smulson**

*District Treasurer*

[treasurer@farwesterndistrict.org](mailto:treasurer@farwesterndistrict.org)

Please see the 2025 Budget Worksheet on the pages following.

2025 BUDGET WORKSHEET					
		2023 TOTAL	2024 Budget	1-1-24 TO 8-28-24	2025 PROJECTION
<b>500.00 - DUES-Members</b>					
500.10 Dues Allocations-Events				\$0.00	
500.00 - DUES-Members - Other		\$47,333.28	\$63,540.00	\$44,975.66	\$64,000.00
<b>Total 500.00 - DUES-Members</b>		<b>\$47,333.28</b>	<b>\$63,540.00</b>	<b>\$44,975.66</b>	<b>\$64,000.00</b>
<b>501.00 - SRING PRELIMS REV</b>					
501.06 Photos			\$0.00	\$0.00	
501.05 Program Ad Revenue Spring					\$200.00
501.11 Competitor Videos			\$0.00	\$630.00	\$600.00
501.00 - SRING PRELIMS REV-Registration, etc.		\$11,220.00	\$20,435.00	\$23,258.63	\$25,000.00
<b>Total 501.00 - SRING PRELIMS REV</b>		<b>\$11,220.00</b>	<b>\$20,435.00</b>	<b>\$23,888.63</b>	<b>\$25,800.00</b>
<b>502.00 - FALL CONVENTION REV</b>					
502.06 Photos					
502.05 Program Ad Revenue Fall					\$300.00
502.09-FALL CONV MISC		\$1,000.00			
502.11-Contest Videos		\$1,050.00			\$1,000.00
502.00-FALL CONVENTION-Registration, etc.		\$36,332.75	\$37,865.00		\$37,000.00
<b>Total 502.00 - FALL CONVENTION REV</b>		<b>\$38,382.75</b>	<b>\$37,865.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$38,300.00</b>
<b>503.00 - DIVISIONAL CONV</b>					
503.10 - AZ		\$6,050.00	\$14,420.00	\$12,066.96	\$13,500.00
503.105 - AZ Division Ads Revenue					\$50.00
503.30 - SE / SW Division			\$19,445.00	\$24,352.86	\$30,000.00
503.305 - SE / SW Division Ads Revenue					\$50.00
503.40 - NORTH WEST		\$8,205.00			\$8,500.00
503.405 NE / NW Division Ads Revenue					\$50.00
<b>Total 503.00 - DIVISIONAL CONV</b>		<b>\$14,255.00</b>	<b>\$33,865.00</b>	<b>\$36,419.82</b>	<b>\$52,150.00</b>
<b>504.00 - WESTUNES</b>					
504.01 - ADS			\$100.00		\$400.00
<b>Total 504.00 - WESTUNES</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$400.00</b>
<b>505-Educational Events</b>					
505.01 AZ Leadership Summit					
505.02 NE/NW Leadership Summit					
505.03 SE/SW Leadership Summit					
<b>Total 505-Educational Events</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>506.00 - OTHER</b>					
506.02-WEBCAST		\$1,155.00			\$1,000.00
506.06 Miscellaneous Revenue			\$300.00	\$1,069.52	\$500.00
<b>Total 506.00 - OTHER</b>		<b>\$1,155.00</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$1,069.52</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>
<b>510 - Donations</b>					
510.01 - Donations Awards			\$550.00		
510.03 - Donations NE/NW Camp		\$3,215.00	\$8,000.00		
510.04 - Donors Choice HF		\$9,590.84	\$15,000.00	\$2,702.22	\$13,000.00
510.05-BHS DONORS CHOICE		\$1,962.40	\$4,000.00		\$3,000.00
510.06 - Donations Spring Convention				\$123.00	
510.07 - Donations Misc.		\$1,838.27	\$1,000.00	\$250.00	
<b>Total 510 - Donations</b>		<b>\$16,606.51</b>	<b>\$28,550.00</b>	<b>\$3,075.22</b>	<b>\$16,000.00</b>
<b>520.00 - Fees</b>					
520.01 - NE/NW Youth Camp			\$1,750.00		
520.02 - HCW / LA Fees				\$7,916.80	\$7,500.00
520.04 - Leadership Academy					
520.041 - Fees Ldr Acad - AZ			\$0.00		
520.043 - Fees Ldr Acad - NE/NW			\$0.00		
<b>Total 520.04 - Leadership Academy</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Total 520.00 - Fees</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,750.00</b>	<b>\$7,916.80</b>	<b>\$7,500.00</b>
		<b>\$128,952.54</b>	<b>\$186,405.00</b>	<b>\$117,345.65</b>	<b>\$205,650.00</b>

	2023 TOTAL	2024 Budget	1-1-24 TO 8-28-24	2025 PROJECTION
<b>506.04 - Transfers Closed Chapt</b>				
<b>601.00 - HCW/LA Expense</b>				
607.117 - Harmony College West			\$3,782.80	\$4,000.00
709.10 - Leadership Academy				
709.11 - LA - AZ	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$500.00
709.12 - LA - SE/SW Exp	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$500.00
709.13 - LA NE/NW			\$335.35	\$500.00
709.14 - LA - Membership (general)				\$2,500.00
<b>Total 709.10 - Leadership Academy</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$335.35</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>
<b>Total 601.00 - HCW/LA Expense</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$4,118.15</b>	<b>\$8,000.00</b>
<b>601.10 - DS15 - District Spring</b>				
601.10.23 Supplies	\$249.64		\$212.93	
Judges-Meals	\$938.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,479.42	\$1,500.00
Judges-Misc		\$500.00	\$5,383.78	\$6,000.00
Judges Travel	\$6,317.07	\$8,500.00	\$4,413.50	\$5,000.00
601.10 - DS15 - District Spring - Other	\$37,499.80	\$25,000.00	\$22,260.27	\$25,000.00
<b>Total 601.10 - DS15 - District Spring</b>	<b>\$45,004.51</b>	<b>\$35,000.00</b>	<b>\$33,749.90</b>	<b>\$37,500.00</b>
<b>601.20 - AZ15 - AZ Div Exp</b>				
Judges-Meals	\$387.72	\$500.00	\$293.08	\$400.00
Judges-Misc	\$434.43	\$250.00	\$100.00	\$400.00
Judges Travel	\$3,885.60	\$4,250.00	\$3,358.72	\$4,000.00
601.20 - AZ15 - AZ Div Exp - Other	\$7,274.88	\$9,000.00	\$6,412.09	\$8,000.00
<b>Total 601.20 - AZ15 - AZ Div Exp</b>	<b>\$11,982.63</b>	<b>\$14,000.00</b>	<b>\$10,163.89</b>	<b>\$12,800.00</b>
<b>601.30 - SC15 - SE/SW Div Exp</b>				
601.30.01Judges-Travel		\$8,500.00	\$9,690.76	\$10,000.00
601.30.02 Judges-Meals		\$1,000.00	\$852.84	\$1,000.00
601.30.03 Judges-Misc.		\$500.00	\$798.87	\$800.00
601.30 - SC15 - SE/SW Div Exp - Other		\$12,500.00	\$13,363.82	\$18,000.00
<b>Total 601.30 - SC15 - SE/SW Div Exp</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$22,500.00</b>	<b>\$24,706.29</b>	<b>\$29,800.00</b>
<b>601.50 - NC15-NE/NW DIV EXP</b>				
601.50.01 JUDGES - TRAVEL	\$6,869.84			\$7,000.00
601.60.02 JUDGES - MEALS	\$905.32			\$900.00
601.50.03 JUDGES - MISC	\$801.12			\$800.00
601.50 - NC15 - NE/NW DIV EXP - OTHER	\$6,816.13			\$5,000.00
<b>Total 601.50 - NC15 NE/NW DIV EXP</b>	<b>\$15,392.41</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$13,700.00</b>
<b>602.00 - Fall Convention Exp</b>				
602.01 - DF15 - District Fall				
602.01.01Judges-Travel	\$6,050.00	\$12,750.00		\$13,000.00
602.01.02Judges-Meals	\$1,026.17	\$1,500.00	\$796.43	\$1,200.00
602.01.03Judges-Misc	\$200.00	\$750.00	\$372.97	\$400.00
602.01 - DF15 - District Fall - Other	\$39,738.88	\$25,000.00	\$11,600.00	\$14,000.00
<b>Total 602.01 - DF15 - District Fall</b>	<b>\$47,015.05</b>	<b>\$40,000.00</b>	<b>\$12,769.40</b>	<b>\$28,600.00</b>
602.23 Supplies	\$1,600.16	\$300.00	\$46.95	\$100.00
602.00 - OTHER	\$58.37			\$100.00
<b>Total 602.00 - Fall Convention Exp</b>	<b>\$48,673.58</b>	<b>\$40,300.00</b>	<b>\$12,816.35</b>	<b>\$28,800.00</b>
	<b>2023 TOTAL</b>	<b>2024 Budget</b>	<b>1-1-24 TO 8-28-24</b>	<b>2025 PROJECTION</b>
<b>604.00 - BD MEETING</b>				
604.01 - TRAVEL	\$4,484.04	\$4,000.00	\$1,515.77	\$4,000.00
604.02 - MEALS	\$1,296.65	\$1,500.00	\$920.21	\$1,500.00
604.03 - LODGING	\$16,515.01	\$12,000.00	\$7,060.17	\$14,000.00
604.04 - BD Meeting - Supplies	\$636.51	\$200.00		\$600.00
604.05 - Meeting Rooms & refreshments			\$1,400.18	\$750.00
<b>Total 604.00 - BD MEETING</b>	<b>\$22,932.21</b>	<b>\$17,700.00</b>	<b>\$10,896.33</b>	<b>\$20,850.00</b>
<b>605.00 - INSURANCE</b>	<b>\$190.00</b>		<b>\$190.00</b>	<b>\$190.00</b>
<b>607.01 - DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT</b>				

607.011 - SUPPLIES			\$526.31	\$200.00
<b>Total 607.01 - DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$526.31	\$200.00
<b>607.08 - C&amp;J</b>				
607.082 - Telephone			\$16.97	
607.084 - Travel	\$660.20		\$473.19	
607.085 - C&J CATEGORY SCHOOL	\$6,326.97	\$1,600.00	\$1,140.00	\$1,500.00
<b>Total 607.08 - C&amp;J</b>	\$6,987.17	\$1,600.00	\$1,630.16	\$1,500.00
<b>607.09 - YMIH</b>				
607.095 - AWARDS		\$0.00		\$200.00
607.096 - NE/NW Youth Camp	\$4,181.71	\$15,000.00	\$2,753.88	\$3,000.00
607.097 Youth Festival Grants	\$1,250.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
<b>Total 607.09 - YMIH</b>	\$5,431.71	\$16,000.00	\$4,753.88	\$5,200.00
<b>607.10 - EVENTS</b>				
607.101 - SUPPLIES	\$455.23	\$300.00	\$2,529.59	\$3,000.00
607.102 - Travel			\$847.20	\$1,000.00
<b>Total 607.10 - EVENTS</b>	\$455.23	\$300.00	\$3,376.79	\$4,000.00
<b>607.11 - MUSIC &amp; PERFORMANCE</b>				
607.110 - CHAPT COACHING			\$150.00	\$200.00
607.115 - TOP GUN				\$3,000.00
<b>Total 607.11 - MUSIC &amp; PERFORMANCE</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$3,200.00
<b>607.12 - MKTG &amp; PR</b>				
607.12 - MKTG & PR - OTHER				\$275.00
607.122 - POSTAGE		\$50.00		\$50.00
607.123 - PROMO MATERIALS		\$2,535.00		\$300.00
607.124 - WEB EXPENSES	\$4,231.46	\$3,754.00		\$5,400.00
607.125 - Ads purchased/placed		\$0.00		
607.127 - TRAVEL	\$438.99			\$2,000.00
<b>Total 607.12 - MKTG &amp; PR</b>				\$8,025.00
<b>708.00 - WESTUNES</b>				
708.00 - WESTUNES - OTHER		\$475.00		\$575.00
708.03 - WESTUNES TRAVEL				\$1,000.00
708.06 - WESTUNES - PRINTING				\$420.00
<b>Total 708.00 - WESTUNES</b>				\$1,995.00
<b>Total 607.12 - MKTG &amp; PR</b>	\$4,670.45	\$6,814.00	\$0.00	\$10,020.00
<b>608.00 - DONATIONS</b>				
608.11 YOUTH SUPORT	\$700.00			
609.00 - MISC EXP	\$26.27	\$150.00		
609.01 - Dues Collection Fees	\$1,893.33	\$3,000.00	\$1,804.21	\$1,800.00
609.02 - Merchant Acct Fees	\$4,459.41	\$2,000.00	\$5,510.50	\$5,000.00
610.00 - INTERN. QT TRAVEL		\$3,000.00	\$1,401.56	\$2,000.00
611.00 - INTERN CH TRAVEL		\$10,000.00	\$3,280.50	\$5,000.00
612.00 - COLLEGE (612.00 COLLEGE TRAVEL)			\$4,815.47	\$0.00
622.00 - GOV'T FEES	\$175.00	\$200.00	\$183.25	\$200.00
	<b>2023 TOTAL</b>	<b>2024 Budget</b>	<b>1-1-24 TO 8-28-24</b>	<b>2025 PROJECTION</b>
<b>700.00 - PRESIDENT</b>				
600.00 - AWARDS	\$871.95	\$500.00	\$1,057.34	\$2,000.00
607.13 - HISTORIAN		\$1,000.00		\$1,700.00
607.16 - HALL OF FAME	\$160.80			\$200.00
607.17 - President Exp Other	\$436.35	\$500.00	\$542.96	\$500.00
700.03 - TRAVEL	\$1,048.92	\$3,000.00		\$200.00
700.04 - International Exp	\$3,065.20		\$3,309.18	\$2,500.00
700.05 - Pres Mid-Winter Exp		\$3,000.00	\$2,709.31	\$2,150.00
<b>Total 700.00 - PRESIDENT</b>	\$5,583.22	\$8,000.00	\$7,618.79	\$9,250.00
<b>701.00 - IMMEDIATE PAST PRES.</b>				
701.01 - Travel & Meals	\$196.80			\$2,000.00

Total 701.00 - IMMED PAST PRES		\$196.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
703.00 - EVP					
703.03 - TRVL & MEALS		\$2,483.82	\$2,500.00	\$1,136.70	\$2,500.00
703.04 - EVP Supplies		\$19.49	\$150.00		\$100.00
703.06 - EVP Mid Winter Exp		\$1,787.80		\$2,139.46	\$2,200.00
703.07 - EVP LODGING			\$2,000.00	\$973.49	\$2,000.00
703.08 - EVP Business Expenses			\$250.00		\$250.00
Total 703.00 - EVP		\$4,291.11	\$4,900.00	\$4,249.65	\$7,050.00
704.00 - DVP					
704.10 - DVP AZ					
704.13-TRAVEL		\$0.00	\$300.00	\$534.26	\$330.00
Total 704.10 - DVP AZ			\$300.00	\$534.26	\$330.00
704.20 - DVP - SOUTH EAST					
704.23-TRAVEL		\$0.00	\$300.00		\$330.00
Total 704.20 - DVP SOUTH EAST		\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$330.00
404.30 - DVP SOUTH WEST					
404.33 - TRAVEL		\$0.00	\$300.00	\$229.20	\$330.00
Total 704.30 - DVP SOUTH WEST		\$0.00	\$300.00	\$229.20	\$330.00
404.40 - DVP NORTH WEST					
404.43 - TRAVEL		\$0.00	\$300.00		\$330.00
Total 704.40 - DVP NORTH WEST		\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$330.00
404.50 - DVP NORTH EAST					
404.53 - TRAVEL		\$0.00	\$300.00		\$330.00
Total 704.40 - DVP NORTH WEST		\$0.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$330.00
Total 704.00 - DVP		\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$763.46	\$1,650.00
705.00 - SECRETARY					
705.02-POSTAGE		\$31.19	\$100.00		\$100.00
705.03-SUPPLIES		\$172.68	\$200.00		\$100.00
705.04-EQUIP REPAIR		\$299.99	\$200.00		\$100.00
705.05-Training			\$100.00		\$100.00
705.06-Travel			\$100.00		\$100.00
Total 705.00 - SECRETARY		\$503.86	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
706.00 - TREASURER					
706.02 - POSTAGE			\$100.00	\$40.80	\$150.00
706.03 - SUPPLIES		\$267.50	\$100.00	\$26.22	\$100.00
706.04-Subscriptions		\$124.95	\$200.00	\$288.98	\$300.00
706.05-Training		\$138.00	\$100.00	\$148.00	\$200.00
706.06-Travel			\$100.00		\$100.00
Total 706.00 - TREASURER		\$530.45	\$600.00	\$504.00	\$850.00
Total Expense		\$180,079.35	\$188,264.00	\$137,209.44	\$211,060.00
Net Ordinary Income		-\$51,126.81	-\$1,859.00	-\$19,863.79	-\$5,410.00
(Loss)		-\$51,126.81	-\$1,859.00	-\$19,863.79	-\$5,410.00



## Board Member Reports

### Aaron Burleson

*Arizona Division Vice President*

**dvp-arizona@farwesterndistrict.org**

This being the warmest time of the year and monsoon season in Arizona, the desert chapters lose members temporarily to cooler climates, impacting attendance at rehearsals. Despite this, most of the chapters have shows and/or “sing-outs” planned in their communities. Most have holiday performances lined up.

**Tucson Barbershop Experience** They have 22 members with around 13 in rehearsals now. They have a new member with them that shows great promise as a primary director. They have 2 other members that have been splitting the director’s responsibilities. They have a show scheduled in November. They plan for a VLQ at the AZ Summer Bash.

**Phoenicians** As last reported, the chapter is undergoing major changes. The chapter member total is 45. It is unknown as to the number in the actual Phoenicians singing chorus. That number was 22+ at the Spring convention. This Summer their rehearsals were open to anyone wanting to sing and new auditions were scheduled to begin August 22. They plan to compete in the Fall competition in October. Also planned is a Youth Harmony Workshop on November 11 as a reach-out for new singers.

**A Cappella Syndicate** They are doing well and have several shows scheduled throughout the year, both p[ublic and private. They do not plan to compete in the Fall at Riverside. Their member count is 21.

**Desert Aires Barbershop Chorus** They are staying quite busy despite the “snowbirds” being gone. In previous years Every 5th Tuesday instead of rehearsing they put on a show at one of the Senior Centers as a community service. As a result, some of these places are booking a paid return for a holiday show. They do not plan to compete in the Fall at Riverside because of the missing “snowbirds”. They have been invited to mid-winter as a senior chorus and are still trying to get enough men committed to travel that far because of the expense. Their member count is 34.

**Southwest Vocal Alliance** This chorus is growing and doing quite well. Recently back from International, they are hosting the AZ Summer Bash on August 31. They are planning a holiday show and will be performing at the AZ State Fair on October 4. They recently had a guest night that resulted in having 12 guests. Membership is 50 and Summer rehearsal attendance is 26.

**East Valley Barbershop Harmonizers** Kirk Hyder has joined them and become their Director. He brings a rich background of barbershop experience to the table. They are not planning to compete in the Fall at Riverside. Several performances are planned in both November and December. Membership is 31, with their Summer attendance of 8 – 10.

**The High Mountain Chordsmen** in Prescott is quite active for its size. They find many opportunities for sing-outs throughout the year. They have already done some this year and may have as many as 20 – 22 more singing 7 or 8 songs at each.

**Harmony On The Rocks** in Sedona is holding its own and planning sing-outs in the community as available. They have moved their annual show from the Fall to Spring. BHS has their member total at 9, however, their actual number of regulars is 18 -19. Attendance now is around 13. This is a mixed chorus. They would love to have more men join them.

**Platoon Chorus** This quartet chapter meets monthly and their quartets continually have sing-outs throughout the area. Their membership is listed as 25.

**Saddlebrook** There are only 4 members in this chapter. They sometimes have as many as 8 come to rehearsals. They do have sing-outs throughout their community. They plan to have a show with the Newfangled Four as their headliner. This is a last-ditch effort to keep their chapter alive, hoping it will draw from the community. With their finances, this will about wipe them out but they are willing to gamble that it might help.

**Yuma** This chapter has 3 members and typically has 5 - 8 for rehearsals. John Barczynski is their director. This chapter is in an area that is very transitory and struggles to find men to sing.

**White Mountain (Sho Low)** This chorus is directed by Phd Theresa Anne Ordian Dick, Professor of Music at Blue Ridge High School. They are a mixed group with a large number of younger people that have been taught in school by their director. They recently had a successful show with the New Fangled Four as their headliner. They have 15 BHS members but have a chorus in the mid-20s.

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron Burleson  
AZ DVP



## Board Member Reports

### Chuck Roots

*Northeast Division Vice President*

[dvp-northeast@farwesterndistrict.org](mailto:dvp-northeast@farwesterndistrict.org)

#### **California Delta – Voices of California (VoCal)**

VoCal is doing what VoCal has been doing since they began as a chorus. They are constantly improving their craft under the direction of Gabe Caretto. It should be noted that Gabe will be stepping aside in mid-2025 primarily due to his challenging work schedule which requires him to be catching planes continuously. They had a Retreat/Rehearsal with guest singer Keith Harris. Keith is a frequent guest hosted by VoCal and brings a tremendous amount of singing acumen. Recently they have had about eight new members. I asked how they managed to do this. I was told that they used 'social media,' in particular one web site, 'Meet Up.' VoCal will be attending the Fall Convention in Riverside.

#### **Central California – Golden Valley Chorus (GVC)**

GVC has had a few struggles over the past year or more. Their director, Zach Stillman, had to step aside for a time, but has returned to assume the director role as of August. The chorus is delighted to have him back! Several guests have visited with two joining the chorus (tenor, lead).

### **Clovis, CA – Sierra Gateway Chorus**

This newly formed (reformed) chorus in the Fresno area of Clovis is struggling to gain its footing, but they have a good director and guys who love to sing, so the future holds promise. This past April they were invited to sing at the Mighty Oak Chorus' Spring Show. Plans for an event by October are in the works, including some ladies from the Sweet Ads, plus a couple of quartets.

### **Davis-Vacaville, CA – West Valley Chorus**

As is true for many of our choruses, both large and small, the West Valley Chorus has struggled with attendance. However, they are averaging 15+ on rehearsal night – not bad! They recently sang at the Yolo County Fair. New members have been coming in, in particular some ladies who previously sang with the Sweet Adelines but switched to the West Valley Chorus because it's so much closer than the Sweet Ads. They have also been advertising in the local paper and handing out fliers. They have big plans for sing-outs and senior centers.

### **Folsom, CA – Folsom Harmony Express**

The Harmony Express is hanging in there with 11 showing up on rehearsal night. On Wednesday 23 October they are performing at the VFW post in Fair Oaks. The program starts at 7:00pm. They have quite a line-up of performers. Besides the Harmony Express, they will have a ladies group called, "Sound Bites" (love this name), also the "Delta Breeze Quartet" and the Stockton Portsmen Chorus. A flier on the event will be distributed soon. On Veterans Day, 11 November, the Harmony Express Chorus will be performing at the Sylvan Cemetery of Citrus Heights in honor of those who have served in our nation's military.

### **Placerville, CA – Gold Rush Chorus**

Nothing to report.

### **Reno, NV – Reno Silver Dollar Chorus**

In late July the Silver Dollar Chorus participated in ARTOWN, which was held in a mall in central Reno. They paired with the High Desert Harmony, a Sweet Adelines chorus. This combination of the two choruses was well received. The Silver Dollar Chorus is running around 14 singers. They are planning their Christmas events (which all of us should be doing!). Their director, Dave Gaunt, taught Music at Reno High, but has more recently moved to a middle school.

### **Sacramento, CA – Sacramento Capitolaires**

The Capitolaires are hanging in there and have had some folks recently join their chorus. As I was told, "We have enough to sing." They are anxious to have the opportunities to perform – always a good sign!

### **Stockton, CA – Stockton Portsmen**

The Stockton Portsmen are coming off a wonderful trip to France in June. They were invited some time ago to participate in the 80th Anniversary of D-Day. They chorus had about 20 singers make the trip, leaving 4 June and returning to the Good Old USA on 12 June. They sang at a number of venues, including, the American Cemetery at Utah Beach, the Luxemburg Gardens in Paris, and several small towns throughout Normandy. The weather cooperated and everyone had a great time. Some of the sights they were able to enjoy were the Eiffel Tower, a boat ride on the Seine River, the Louvre Museum, and much more. Great trip! The Portsmen will be competing in Riverside for our Fall Convention. They are planning to have 20 on stage.

### **Visalia, CA – Mighty Oak Chorus**

The Mighty Oak Chorus is on a roll! Besides the annual Christmas show they are planning, and an annual Spring Concert in April, they are hosting a one-day event on Saturday, 14 September. It's called "Youth Harmony Explosion", and this is their 4th year. It is held at the College of the Sequoias. Check out this lineup: the teaching quartet is Vocal Spectrum. Dr. Dan Wessler (bass for After Hours, and director for Westminster) will be conducting a session for chorus directors. And a guest clinician is Eric Dalbey (lead for Vocal Spectrum). If you'd like to get more information on the "Youth Harmony Explosion" 14 September you need to go to their web site <[visaliamightyoakchorus.org](http://visaliamightyoakchorus.org)>, or call Bud Case, cell 559-901-4615, for additional information.



## Board Member Reports

### **Rich Postal**

*Northwest Division Vice President*

**dvp-northwest@farwesterndistrict.org**

Visited 6 choruses from late spring to present. I also made contact with 2 others via phone. My goal was to advertise Harmony College West, distribute flyers for FWD Senior Singers, and to observe and recommend procedures that might encourage membership enjoyment and retention of existing members. All the Chapters are meeting regularly and there has been some integrating new singers into the barbershop style.

Due to getting a late start for the Senior Chorus, I'm not sure if we will achieve our expectations for additional attendees who are not competing during this Contest and Convention. Besides having another singing experience for both men and women at our Convention, another aim was to increase revenue to offset the higher cost of putting on this event and keep costs to attend at a reasonable rate.

My goal for the Senior Chorus would be to have the musical director in place and the song selections ready to send out to the registrants five months before the event. It would also give the DVP's a chance to physically distribute flyers and promote this event during their Chapter visitations.

I'm looking forward to a great Contest and Convention in October and have the attendees return home saying this was the best weekend ever!

Rich Postal

FWD VP Northwest



## Board Member Reports

### Jeremy Loper

*Southeast Division Vice President*

[dvp-southeast@farwesterndistrict.org](mailto:dvp-southeast@farwesterndistrict.org)

I am happy to report that the Southeast Division is one of the best places for barbershop in the world! Our community is growing. As a whole, our division membership is up, and I'd like to commend the following chapters for increased membership since last year.

- **Coachella Valley**
- **Fullerton**
- **Lake Forest**
- **San Diego**
- **Temecula**
- **Westminster**

We were well represented by the following quartets and choruses in this year's spring convention. Thank you to all the groups that participated and helped make our community great!

#### Quartets:

- **Speakeasy**
- **Motley Q**
- **Secret Sauce**
- **Midnight Laundry**
- **Westringsters**
- **Bardic Inspiration**
- **Balancing Act**
- **Old Town Rascals**
- **Coastal Classic**
- **Twilight**

#### Choruses:

- **Pacific Coast Harmony**
- **SoCal Mix**
- **Vocal Mixology**
- **Orange Empire Chorus**
- **Sun Harbor**
- **Coachella Valley Barbershop Chorus**
- **Inland Sound**
- **Temecula Wine Valley Harmonizers**
- **Silver Statesmen**

A special shout out to Speakeasy for achieving an international qualifying level score their first time out!

The next round of accolades goes to the quartets and choruses that went to this year's international competition in Cleveland.

#### Quartets

- **The Newfangled Four**
- **The Summertimers Harmony Band**

#### Choruses

- **The Westminster Chorus**
- **Pacific Coast Harmony**

We couldn't be more proud of all our southeast division groups, but a big congratulations to The Newfangled

Four for breaking into the top five, and our very own Westminster Chorus for a truly amazing performance that brought home the gold!

I had the pleasure of attending the recent show put on by the Orange Empire Chorus in a stunning outdoor venue. It was fun, casual, entertaining, and a wonderful way to spend the evening with friends. There was food, drinks, and lots of socializing. I would love to see more chapters do this kind of fun, barbershop-under-the-stars kind of show, and will be looking into my own chapters doing so as well

Jeremy Loper, Southwest Division VP.



## Board Member Reports

### Kathy Kileen

*Southwest Division Vice President*

[dvp-southwest@farwesterndistrict.org](mailto:dvp-southwest@farwesterndistrict.org)

#### **Aloha, HI - Sounds of Aloha Chorus**

Sounds of Aloha Chorus has consistently maintained their membership. BHS member center reports a net growth of at least 1 member. They are very active in their community with annual shows and performances. They are planning on attending District Contest in Riverside this October. They are currently involved in hosting the Far Western District contest for October 2026 in conjunction with the Pan Pacific Convention and Contest. This event also recognizes and celebrates the 80th Anniversary of the Far Western District.

#### **Bakersfield, CA - Golden Empire Chorus**

Current District membership reports reflect a decline in membership for the Golden Empire Chorus. They have 9 members on their roster at this time. The Chorus is currently inactive, and no rehearsals are scheduled for the immediate future. They have, however, elected officers and have scheduled a meeting for early September to discuss new options for moving forward with efforts to Revive the chorus and build membership.

#### **Conejo Valley, CA - Channel Islands Harmony Chorus**

BHS membership site shows that the chorus currently has 13 members. Director, Jim Browne, reports that the chorus has remained very active in the community this year. Plus, they have multiple performances on their calendar. He has also polled the chorus and found that they are very interested in increasing their membership and welcome any input from the district in accomplishing this goal.

#### **Crescenta Valley, CA - Highlanders**

The Highlanders Chorus is currently inactive. BHS membership site reflects 2 members. However, they are not actually members of this chorus, but placed there in error. The membership center is in the process of moving them to their official choruses. Earlier, the three remaining members transferred their membership to the Valley Harmony Singers.

### **Greater Los Angeles - Masters of Harmony Chorus**

Current records reflect 127 members, which is a small decline in membership. Masters of Harmony has quite the full calendar for 2024. Events include coaching with Dan Wessler, Steve Scott, and Erin Howden. A highlight was the Normandy Freedom Chorus trip to France to participate in the 80th Anniversary of D-Day. Masters is the current SW Div champs and will be competing at District Contest in October at Riverside.

### **L.A. South Towns - L.A. South Towns Chorus**

BHS membership site reports 40 members. This is an increase of 7 members. LA South Towns Chorus competed in the divisional contest in Ontario and qualified to compete in the Fall District Contest. By all appearances they have been quite successful in making the move to BHS.

### **Pasadena, CA - Crown City Chorus**

Membership records reflect 7 members, a slight decrease over last year's report. They are active and meeting on a regular basis but are not scheduling performance at this time.

### **Rincon Beach - Pacific Sound Chorus**

BHS records reflect 7 members, a decrease by 1 member. They do not have a director and do not meet on a regular basis. They do not have sitting officers but have kept current with their international requirements. Brent Anderson, who acts as my contact, reports that their biggest obstacle is a lack of director. The chorus welcomes input and suggestions from the board as to how to best find a director and rebuild.

### **San Fernando Valley - Valley Harmony Singers**

BHS records reflect 24 members. This is very consistent with earlier numbers. They have been very successful in converting to an all-gender chorus.

This chorus is doing many things right. They are active in their community and have their annual show on their calendar this fall. I expect that they will have a holiday show as well. This has not been verified.

Although they competed at District Contest recently, they did not compete at the division contest earlier this year.

They recently lost their esteemed director Tom Rafferty. I have not yet spoken with them regarding the effect this is having on the chorus, or their plans going forward. I will be visiting with them soon to offer my condolences in person and see what I can do to help them through this unfortunate process.

### **Santa Clarita, CA - Harmony Hills Chorus - (formerly Men of Harmony Chorus)**

Harmony Hills Chorus has 11 members shown on its records. That reflects an addition of 1 member. They are now an all-gender group. They remain active with weekly rehearsals and local performances.

### **Santa Maria, CA - Central Coast Chordsmen**

BHS membership records show 21 members. This is a decline of 3 members over last year. According to their chapter president they have about 15 members who attend regularly. They are active in their community with a Singing Valentines program and annual show. In addition, they have their annual Christmas show on their calendar.

### **Santa Monica, CA - The Oceanaires**

BHS membership records reflect 32 members. That reflects an increase in membership of 3 singers.

They competed at the Division contest in Ontario and qualified to compete at the Fall Convention and Contest in October in Riverside. They remain active in their community with numerous public performances. They have also found success as an all-gender chorus.

### **South Bay, CA - Coastliners Chorus**

BHS membership records show 39 members. This reflects an increase of 3 members. The Coastliners competed at Division contest in Ontario last spring. It was great seeing them back on the contest stage. They did not disappoint as they brought their usual entertaining character driven performance. They continue to be involved in their community. They continue to have annual shows, including their Patriotic program, Hermosa Beach Saloon, and fall and holiday shows.

Recap:

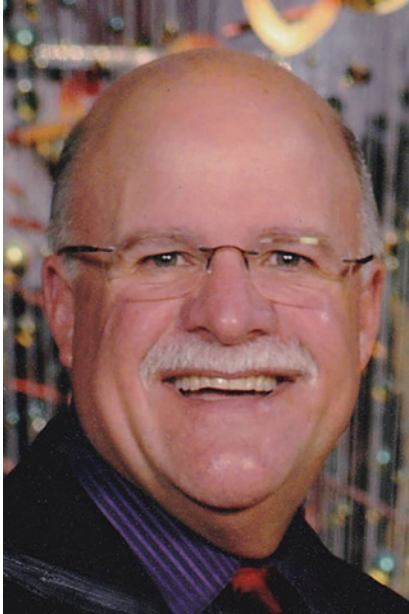
There are 15 registered chapters in the SW Division. Comparison 2023 to 2024 is net plus 16 members. Inactive 0 members - 3

1-10 members - 3

11-20 members -2

21-30 members -2 31-40 members -2 41-50 members -1 51-60 members -0 61-70 members -1 121-130 members -1

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Kileen, Southwest Division VP



## Board Member Reports

### Chris Hébert

*Vice President Music & Performance*

[music@farwesterndistrict.org](mailto:music@farwesterndistrict.org)

1. Designing/writing new class content
  - a. HCW 2024
    - i. PVI class
    - ii. "What a Singing Judge Listens For"
    - iii. Both classes had the highest number of sing-ups
  - b. FWD District 2024
    - i. Sight Reading 101
    - ii. "Barber-Myth Busting"
2. Fall Convention
  - a. Having the judges come in a day early and teach curriculum of their choice
    - i. Chris to teach two classes
    - ii. Others?
3. TO DO: Poll Chorus Directors and MusVPs
  - a. What do they need? What could they use? How can we make the better/help their chorus/etc.?
  - b. Need email list of all these people
4. Top Gun School
  - a. Discussions held with Adam K re: logictics and ROI
5. One chorus took advantage of the \$150 reimbursement for coaching
6. Misc. emails about learning tracks, appropriate music levels, etc.

## Board Member Reports



### **Ben Porter**

*Vice President Contests & Judging*

**drcj@farwesterndistrict.org**

This spring, 27 choruses and 48 quartets competed in one of our contests, an incredible showing! About 50% of the District's members actively participated in a competing group this spring. The performance level in the Far Western District keeps getting better, which was represented in the scores! I am proposing to make some changes to raise the bar to reflect the continued growth in excellence we are seeing across the District. More on that below.

We are at the point in the cycle of certifying new contest judges where new candidates are starting to travel to various conventions to practice their skills with the aim to become certified judges in a couple years. The FWD members who have reached this step are (all in the Administrative Judge category) Ryan Collins, Marcus Nielsen, and Don Shively. The district is happy to support Ryan, Marcus, and Don as they embark on the next steps toward certification. I propose that we keep \$1500 in the 2025 budget to continue to support Ryan, Marcus, and Don as they travel around the Society to practice their skills over the next year. Also, many thanks to all fifteen certified judges from across the District for your service!

For several years, the score a quartet has needed to achieve at a spring Division contest to qualify for the fall District contest has been 68. This year, a whopping 32 groups met that bar. In 2023, 22 groups did. We need to limit the Fall District Quartet contest to about 25 quartets for scheduling and cost purposes. When we also account for the five Seniors and two Hawaii groups (who have different and additional qualification paths), that becomes a challenge as so many groups perform at such a high level. Therefore, I am proposing to raise the score to automatically qualify for the District Quartet Contest from 68 to 71. We will still invite the five highest-scoring Senior quartets and up to two groups from the Aloha Hawaii chapter who do not need to come to a spring contest to qualify. Additionally, we will still fill a field of at least 25 groups by inviting the next-highest scoring groups who did not score 71, if necessary. Finally, I propose we set a minimum score for all groups at 65.

Had the automatic qualifying score been 71 in the last few contest cycles, since the return from Covid, we would have had:

In 2023: 19 quartets automatically qualify, two of whom were Seniors, so an additional three Seniors quartets would have been invited. One of the automatically-qualifying groups declined, and there were no groups from Hawaii. That would have ended with one additional wildcard group invited to fill a field of 25 quartets.

In 2024: 26 quartets automatically qualify, two of whom were Seniors, so an additional three Seniors quartets would have been invited. Two of the automatically-qualifying groups declined and there are two groups from Hawaii. That would have given us a total field of 29 quartets.

This new target score is the highest bar that any District in the Society places on groups to qualify for their fall District contest. Only two other Districts have any bar at all. The Northeastern District has a similar automatic qualifying score which they are also raising this fall to be 68. In the Mid-Atlantic District, they invite each of their Division champions automatically then fill a field of 25 groups based on score. It is a testament of the skill and passion that the Far Western barbershop community has that we can hold ourselves to this high standard.

v/R

Ben Porter



## Board Member Reports

### **Bill Rosica**

*Immediate Past President*

[pastpresident@farwesterndistrict.org](mailto:pastpresident@farwesterndistrict.org)

As your current Immediate Past President, I serve as Chairman of the Nominating Committee. It is my pleasure to present you with our recommendation for the 2025 FWD Board of Directors

## **Nominating Committee Report - 2025 Slate of Officers**

- President – Adam Kaufman
- Immediate Past President – Kenny Rios
- Executive VP – Kathy Kileen
- Secretary – Greg Dreyer
- Treasurer – Wally Smulson
- VP Contest/Judging – Ben Porter
- VP Music/Performance – Chris Hébert
- VP Division 1 SW – (OPEN)
- VP Division 2 SE – Jeremy Loper
- VP Division 3 NW – Rich Postal
- VP Division 4 NE – Sue Atkins
- VP Division 5 AZ – Aaron Burleson



## Management Team Reports

### David Melville

*Marketing & Public Relations Manager*

*marketing@farwesterndistrict.org*

*Webmaster*

*webmaster@farwesterndistrict.org*

*Registrar*

*registrar@farwesterndistrict.org*

#### Website

- Joomla 5 is out, and Joomla 4 is now officially EOL. I'll be working on migrating there sometime next year. Never a dull moment!
- We will also be expanding our fundraising campaign using GiveButter.

#### Email List

- We are ramping up email marketing for the Fall Convention and 2025 events.
- Email open rates remain well above industry average. It's still the most effective way to reach our members.

#### Westunes

- Don Shively has taken over Westunes.
- This is me doing the "happy dance".

#### Convention Registration

- All 2025 events have been set up on Eventbrite.
- Adam and I plan to launch registratoon for all of these events at the 2024 Fall Convention.
- Logos have been created for all 2025 conventions. I've placed them here for your perusal

David Melville  
Marketing & Public Relations Manager.



**ARTZONA '25**

**Far Western District  
Arizona Division  
Convention**

May 2-4, 2025  
Phoenix, Arizona



**Far Western District  
Northern Divisions  
CONVENTION**

March 28-30, 2025 • Davis, California



**FAR WESTERN DISTRICT FALL CONVENTION  
OCTOBER 9 - 12, 2025  
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA**



## Management Team Reports

# Cody Littlefield

*Membership Recruitment & Education Manager*

**membership@farwesterndistrict.org**

### Resurrecting Top Gun

Subject: Top Gun & the AFWDC

As the Membership Recruitment & Education Manager of the Far Western District (FWD) of the Barbershop Harmony Society, I am excited to propose the resurrection of the Top Gun school, with a planned relaunch in June 2025. This initiative aims to reinvigorate our district's commitment to excellence in barbershop singing and to foster the camaraderie that has always been a hallmark of our community.

The primary goal of the Top Gun school is to provide a focused, high-caliber training opportunity for quartets within the FWD. This event will be tailored for quartets striving to elevate their singing abilities to the next level, whether they are preparing for the district contest or simply aiming for personal improvement.

#### Proposed Structure:

Formation of the Top Gun Team: I will create a dedicated team within the Association of Far Western District Champions (AFWDC) to oversee and execute this initiative. This team will include experienced AFWDC members and FWD supporting staff who will take on teaching and organizational roles. The FWD Board of Directors (BOD) and District Management Team (DMT) may be requested for assistance. Marketing will be coordinated between the AFWDC and a FWD Social Media representative.

- **Quartet Coaching and Workshops:** The program will offer coaching sessions, vocal workshops, and performance critiques by individual AFWDC members, AFWDC quartets, and supporting coaches. Our goal is to ensure that every participating quartet leaves the event with significant improvements in their performance, vocal technique, and overall musicality.
- **The "Go For The Gold" Show:** The event will culminate in the AFWDC's famous "Go For The Gold" show on Saturday evening. This showcase will feature the talents of each quartet and chorus who will be competing at International in Denver 2025. We are also exploring additional opportunities for Top Gun participating quartets to showcase their improvements, either during the Go For The Gold show or at a later date. This event will serve as both an inspirational finale for the participants and an engaging experience for the broader FWD community.

#### Benefits:

- **Astonishing Momentum for Quartets:** This program is designed to provide quartets with the tools and confidence they need as they head into international and district competitions. The focused environment of Top Gun will allow for rapid development and fine-tuning that is difficult to achieve in regular rehearsals alone.

- That FWD Camaraderie: Beyond the technical benefits, Top Gun will continue to rekindle the sense of unity and shared purpose that has been somewhat elusive in recent years. Bringing together quartets and champions in this collaborative setting will help strengthen bonds and reestablish a vibrant, supportive network within the district.

It is time for the Far Western District to lead the way once again. By resurrecting the Top Gun school under the guidance of the AFWDC, we can provide our quartets with the exceptional training they deserve while fostering a renewed sense of community and excitement within our ranks.

Let's come together to make this vision a reality in 2025. Your support, enthusiasm, and participation will be key to the success of this endeavor.

In Harmony,

Cody Littlefield

Membership Recruitment & Education Manager



## Management Team Reports

**Antwun Puckett**  
*Youth in Harmony Manager*  
**yih@farwesterndistrict.org**

Hello everyone!

Here's a few updates since I last saw you all:

- Mr. Adam Kaufman and Jordan Rakita have been doing a lot of great things in the Phoenix area as of late. They have revived The Phoenicians and have a youth workshop planned for on November 11th, 2024 which will also include The Phoenicians. We are looking at having more of these workshops throughout the district in hope of getting the good word of barbershop out to music educators, and most importantly, the students.
- The Visalia Chapter will be having their annual Youth Harmony Explosion event on September 14th, 2024. They will be having Vocal Spectrum as their guest quartet with Eric Dalbey as their Head Clinician and Dr. Dan Wessler there to talk and discuss barbershop with local choir directors.
- I have gotten in touch with Grand Terrace High School (local high school close to Riverside) about having a quartet do a small demonstration on what barbershop is and how they can get involved. The quartet that will be doing this is The Seventh Variety. They will be there on October 16th between 12:30-2pm. I picked this specific week because it also coincides with our district convention. Unfortunately, I won't be in town until the 17th, so I will be reaching out to some of you to see if you could help represent our district/ myself for this event. I'm also looking to do more youth outreaches like this during the week of our district convention, so if you know of any music educators that would be interested in something like this, please send them my way so we can arrange something.

- I have been looking around for the high school quartet trophy for about a year and haven't found any leads to it's whereabouts, so it's looking like we're going to have to purchase a new trophy and get all of the past champs engraved onto the new trophy. I will have an estimated cost (roughly \$200) put into the 2025 budget form.
- The annual Youth Harmony Camp will again be taking place in Pollock Pines, CA. With guest quartet High Priority and clinicians Gabe Carreto, Keith Harris, and Kory Reid, It's looking to be a great weekend of singing and learning for the students. It will take place October 25-27th, 2024.
- Getting the High School Quartet Contest off the floor again is definitely a challenge and has been for years. I will be reaching out to people on the BOD and to chapters throughout the district to hopefully put together a team to get some high school quartets together and hopefully encourage them to compete in the contest.

It's definitely been a step forward this year in regards to Youth in Harmony for our district and I look forward to continuing serving this district the best I can for the upcoming year and onward!

Antwun Puckett  
Youth in Harmony Manager

***See you in RIVERSIDE!***

