



2025 Fall Brochure

House of Delegates, October 26, 2025 3 pm

ZOOM Online Meeting



Table of Contents

President’s Message	3
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda	4
House of Delegates Meeting Agenda	6
Board Member Reports	
District Secretary.....	8
Summer 2025 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes	9
Spring 2025 House of Delegates Meeting Minutes	13
Chapter Eternal.....	16
District Treasurer.....	17
2026 Budget.....	18-30
Arizona Division Vice President.....	31
Northeast Division Vice President.....	33
Northwest Division Vice President.....	38
Southeast Division Vice President.....	39
Southwest Division Vice President.....	40
Vice President Music & Performance	41
Vice President Contests & Judging.....	42
Immediate Past President	43
Events Manager.....	44
Management Team Reports	
Marketing & Public Relations Manager.....	45
Membership Recruitment & Education Manager	46
Youth in Harmony Manager.....	48
Community Outreach.....	49
Historian.....	50
Chorus Director Development.....	51

President's Message

Adam Kaufman

Far Western District President

president@farwesterndistrict.org



The Far Western District continues to thrive as we enter the final stretch of 2025. Chapter activity remains strong, and there's a sustained sense of energy and engagement across the district. Members are showing up, events are well-attended, and leadership teams at both the chapter and district levels are operating with impressive cohesion.

This past summer's AZ Summer Bash was a resounding success—filled with music, education and camaraderie. The event reflected the district's ongoing commitment to accessible and enriching programming that brings our community together.

In early September, we marked an exciting milestone with the first-ever Mixed Harmony Brigade west of the Mississippi, held in Tempe, AZ. The event brought together talented singers from around the world for an unforgettable weekend of quartet singing and musical connection. It was a clear success and a strong indicator of the growing enthusiasm for mixed harmony within the district and beyond.

At the international level, the 2025 Barbershop Harmony Society Convention in Denver was another highlight of the year. With excellent performances, solid attendance, and a continued focus on inclusion, outreach, and youth engagement, it's clear that the Society is moving in a direction that aligns well with our district's priorities and values.

And always remember—**"Barbershop is Fun!"** Let's keep spreading the word!



**Far Western District
Board of Directors Meeting
Agenda
October 9, 2025
6:00 pm
Fresno, California**

1. Call to Order Adam Kaufman
2. Pledge of Allegiance.....Adam Kaufman
3. Sing – The Old Songs.....
4. Roll call.....Greg Dreyer
5. Opening remarks..... Adam Kaufman
6. Introduction of guests incl. Past Presidents Adam Kaufman
7. Accepting the Agenda Adam Kaufman
8. Approval of Minutes from Summer BOD Meeting.....Greg Dreyer
August 9, 2025 ZOOM
9. Treasurer's Report.....Wally Smulson
 - a. Financial Status/Update
 - b. Receive report
10. Vice Presidents Reports:.....Kenny Rios
 - a. Division 1 SouthwestKenny Rios for Kathy Kileen
 - b. Division 2 Southeast.....Jeremy Loper
 - c. Division 3 NorthwestRich Postal
 - d. Division 4 Northeast..... Sue Atkins
 - e. Division 5 Arizona Aaron Burluson

- f. Contest and JudgingBen Porter
 - g. Music and PerformanceChris Hebert
 - h. Immediate Past PresidentKenny Rios
11. District Management TeamAdam Kaufman
- a. Membership Recruitment and EducationCody Littlefield
 - b. Chorus Director DevelopmentLaura Pallas Singer
 - c. Events/VenuesAdam Kaufman
 - d. Marketing and Public RelationsDavid Melville
 - e. Youth in HarmonyAntwun Puckett
 - f. Community Outreach..... Cary Burns
 - g. Historian.....Kenny Rios
 - h. YIH Grants and Programs.....Kenny Rios
12. Old Business:Adam Kaufman
- a. 55+ Chorus CompetitionRich Postal
 - b. Announcement of Chorus of the YearAdam Kaufman
 - c. Announcement of Convention Dedicattee for Fall.....Adam Kaufman
13. New Business:.....Adam Kaufman
- a. Discussion on West Tunes.....David Melville
 - b. Next Meeting Spring 2026
14. Sing – Keep the Whole World Singing
15. Adjournment Adam Kaufman

Far Western District
House of Delegates Meeting

AGENDA

October 26, 2025 3 pm

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 callGreg 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 2025 HOD Meeting
 - b. Chapter Eternal
9. Treasurers Report Wally Smulson
 - a. Financial Status/Update
 - b. Vote on 2026 budget
 - c. Receive Report
10. Vice Presidents' Reports (included in this brochure):.....Kenny Rios
 - a. Division 1 Southwest.....Kenny Rios for Kathy Kileen
 - b. Division 2 Southeast..... Jeremy Loper
 - c. Division 3 Northwest..... Rich Postal
 - d. Division 4 Northeast.....Sue Atkins
 - e. Division 5 Arizona.....Aaron Burleson
 - f. Contests and Judging.....Ben Porter
 - g. Music and Performance.....Chris Hébert
 - h. Immediate Past President.....Kenny Rios

11. District Management Team (included in this brochure):

- a. Membership Recruitment and Education.....Cody Littlefield
- b. Chorus Director Development.....Laura Pallas Singer
- c. EventsAdam Kaufman
- d. Marketing and Public RelationsDavid Melville
- e. Youth in Harmony.....Antwun Puckett
- f. Community Outreach..... Cary Burns
- g. Chorus Director Development.....Laura Pallus Singer

12. Nominating Committee Report

13. Old Business:

- a. None

13. New Business:

- a. Approval of Slate of Officers for 2026
- b. Next Meeting Spring 2026 - ZOOM.....Adam Kaufman

14. “Keep the Whole World Singing” (please MUTE your Microphone)

15. Adjournment..... Adam Kaufman



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).
2. Navigate to Media > Show Clearance Forms.
3. Download the file “*** IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS for PREPARATION & MAILING***”.
[BMI-SESAC Show Report Form_fillable_.pdf](#)
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 then print the form using your computer).
7. Have your Treasurer issue a check, payable to “BHS” for the amount due (usually \$60.00 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 in December

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.

Far Western District
Board of Directors Meeting
Summer 2025

Minutes August 9, 2025

ZOOM

1. Call to order by President at 10:00 am with the Pledge of Allegiance Adam Kaufman

2. Singing of “The Old Songs” on ZOOM

3. Roll call and establishment of a quorum by Secretary Greg Dreyer

Present:

Kenny Rios

Adam Kaufman

Greg Dreyer

Wally Smulson

Ben Porter

Chris Hebert

Jeremy Loper

Rich Postal

Sue Atkins

Aaron Burleson

Cody Littlefield

David Melville

Cary Burns

Absent:

Laura Pallus Singer

Antwun Puckett

Kathy Kileen

Guests:

Bud Case for Don Laursen – Grant request for Youth Harmony Explosion

David Kaufman – request for additional microphones

4. Opening remarks Adam Kaufman

Welcome guests: Bud Case and David Kaufman

5. Accepting the Agenda

Moved and seconded. Carried

6. Approval of Minutes from March 13, 2025 Greg Dreyer

Motion made by Greg Dreyer and seconded by Wally Smulson – carried

7. Treasurer’s Report by Treasurer as submitted in Google Drive

Wally Smulson

Discussion - BOD reviewed budget line-by-line. Motion to receive. An updated copy listed as “Official” will be on Google Drive. The annual expected deficit is lower than in previous years.

Motion by Wally Smulson and Seconded by Kenny Rios. Carried

8. VP Reports:

a. Division 1 Southwest – absent

Adam Kaufman

b. Division 2 Southeast as submitted in Google Drive

Kathy Kileen

c. Division 3 Northwest as submitted in Google Drive

Jeremy Loper

d. Division 4 Northeast as submitted in Google Drive

Rich Postal

e. Division 5 Arizona as submitted in Google Drive

Sue Atkins

f. Contest and Judging as submitted in Google Drive

Aaron Burleson

g. Music and Performance as submitted in Google Drive

Ben Porter

h. Executive VP – n/a

Chris Hebert

i. IPP – Kenny Rios mentioned that, in addition to his report, he has been assigned by Adam to start an Adhoc for YIH Grants and Program. Kenny also mentioned, as Historian, the expansion of work on the District Museum. He’ll be reaching out to the District for assistant curators.

Kenny Rios

9. District Management Team

a. Member Recruitment/Education Manager as submitted in Google Drive

Adam Kaufman

b. Chorus Director Development as submitted in Google Drive - absent

Cody Littlefield

c. Events/Venues as submitted in Google Drive

Laura Pallas Singer

Fall Convention 2025 - Fresno
Mid-Winter Convention - Pasadena, CA Jan 13-18, 2026
Spring Convention – (Northern California) March 12-15, 2026 tbd
Fall Convention October 2026 - Hawaii
Registration \$100-150, Lodging around \$200 a night.
Prices are going up!
Package deals are being formulated.

Adam Kaufman

d. Marketing and Public Relations as submitted in Google Drive

David Melville

e. Youth in Harmony as submitted in Google Drive - absent

Antwun Puckett

f. Community Outreach as submitted in Google Drive

Cary Burns

10. Old Business:

a. 55+ chorus

Rich Postal

Fall convention in Fresno to qualify for the Mid-Winter in Pasadena CA.
62 people have shown interest – 32 have signed up. Rehearsals are underway.

b. Update of Chapter of the Year

Adam Kaufman

This will be selected at the Fall Convention. DVP's still need to solicit applications.
Contributing factors will be community involvement, shows, membership,
of guests, etc.

c. BOD discussed request for the Youth Harmony Explosion and voted to give \$1500.00 for event.

Motion made by Kenny Rios and seconded by Ben Porter. Carried

11. New Business:

Adam Kaufman

a. David Kaufman presented information about the need for 2 more microphones

A donation was made and the microphones were ordered. They will be part of the FWD inventory.

b. David Melville is suggesting that West-tunes be done on an annual basis. The SOP would need to be changed. To be discussed at Fall meeting.

c. Motion to adjourn and seconded.

12. Sing "Keep the Whole World Singing" ZOOM

13. Adjournment at 12:26 pm

Respectfully submitted:

Greg Dreyer FWD Secretary



**Far Western District
House of Delegates Meeting
Fall Convention
Minutes
April 27, 2025
ZOOM**

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Call to Order at 3:01 pm | Adam Kaufman |
| 2. Sing “The Old Songs” | unavailable to share |
| 3. Sing “The Star Spangled Banner” | unavailable to share |
| 4. Roll Call to establish quorum | Greg Dreyer |

Chapters present: 30

Bakersfield, Barbary Coast, Brea, California Delta, Central California, Coachella Valley, Davis-Vacaville, Fullerton, Greater Los Angeles, Greater Phoenix, LA South Towns, La Jolla, Las Vegas, Maricopa Co., Mesa, Palo Alto-MT View, Placerville (Gold Rush), Salt River, San Diego, San Fernando Valley, San Mateo, Santa Clarita, Santa Cruz, Sounds of Aloha, South Bay, Stockton, Sun Cities, AZ, Visalia, Walnut Creek, Westminster,

Chapters absent:

Apple Valley, Central AZ QT, Conejo Valley, Crescenta Valley, El Cajon, Eureka, Folsom, Hemet, Inland Empire, Lake Forest, Marin, Monterey Peninsula, Napa, Orange QT, Palomar Pacific, Pasadena, Prescott, Redwood Chordsmen, Reno, Rincon Beach, Sacramento, Saddle Brooke, Santa Rosa, San Francisco Bay Cities, San Francisco, Santa Maria, Santa Monica, Sedona, Temecula, Tucson Sunshine, White Mountains, Yuma.

Quorum was present

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| 5. Opening Remarks | Adam Kaufman |
|--------------------|--------------|

Introduction of Past FWD Presidents: Kenny Rios, Bill Rosica and Craig Hughes

Introduction of Guests – Jim Clark from Harmony Foundation and Bob Cox from Barbershop Harmony Society

Comments from Jim Clark: request that chapters update their meeting nights on BHS site. Denver International AIC Tickets are on sale. HFI continues to return money to the District and to chapters. Chapter visitations are being scheduled. There are continued generational connections within BHS and in SAI.

Contact info: 720-290-4657 email – jclark@harmonyfoundation.org

Comments from Bob Cox (BHS) Ambassador – They are addressing challenges with districts and chapters.

Request that all chapters update listing of officers on BHS website. Membership growth is down from 21,000 in

2015 to 14,000 currently. New things at BHS- They are using more professionals in management positions to handle organizational needs. Harmony Hall is still for sale but may be sold by end of year. Still hoping to stay in Nashville, but looking at options. International Convention in Denver is shaping up nicely. The Honor Chorus is now full. Encourage attendance at Harmony University in Denver July/August.

Question for Bob from Robert Karlin: How can Chapters get assistance from BHS to get media resources?

Bob: have Marketing VP get in touch. Robert: Need more direct access BHS

They will discuss issues outside of this meeting.

6. Accepting of Agenda

Adam Kaufman

– Motion Tom Addison and seconded by Kathy Kileen – Carried

7. Secretary’s Report –

Greg Dreyer

a. Approval of Minutes from Fall Convention November 2, 2024 corrected copy

-Motion Al Wolter and seconded by Robert Karlin – Carried

8. Treasurer Report

a. Financial Status/Update –

Motion to receive report Al Wolter and seconded by Art Miller. Carried

9. Vice Presidents Reports (Reports are in HOD Brochure)

a. Division 1 SW

Kathy Kileen

b. Division 2 SE

Jeremy Roper

c. Division 3 NW

Rich Postal

d. Division 4 NE

Chuck Roots

e. Division 5 AZ

Aaron Burleson

10. District Management Team (Reports are in HOD Brochure)

Adam Kaufman

Member Retention & Education Manager (absent)

Cody Littlefield

Contests and Judging

Ben Porter

Update: As I just mentioned on the HOD call:

We have 70 quartets and 28 choruses competing in the District this spring. (prior to the Arizona convention next weekend, so these numbers assume that all 17 quartets and 6 choruses registered for that event do appear). 655 members compete in a chorus. This is likely the second highest totals in BHS, just behind the North Eastern District and similar to the numbers Mid-Atlantic is seeing.

After raising the bar for quartets to qualify for the Fall District contest to 71+, we already have 23 groups meeting that level (and we will almost certainly see several more this weekend out of Arizona). Chorus qualification remains the same: a score of 62+ qualifies for the Fall District chorus contest. All 21 choruses that have competed this spring have met that bar and are qualified. (again, in addition to those Arizona groups competing this weekend)

There are eight FWD quartets qualified for the International Quartet Contest this summer and we will see a total of five of our choruses there as well: from The Phoenicians in the mic testing slot, three competing choruses, to Westminster singing their swan set after their 2024 championship.

This is an unofficial list of all the groups who are qualified for this summer's International contests:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1NMJ63dM_BpWGNF1U0twRtQD5OBOsRTveJU5jIhmoQhs/edit?gid=1431813656#gid=1431813656

After the Arizona contest next weekend, I will send out the list of groups that are qualified for the Fall contest in Fresno.

Chorus Directors Development

Laura Pallus Singer

Question from Kathy Kileen regarding availability for assistance for chapters needing directors.

Laura: She will assist with this request.

Events/Venues

Adam Kaufman

a. 2025 conventions are set and advertised on FWD Website

Arizona Division Convention – May 2-4, 2025 - Phoenix, AZ

17 quartets and 6 choruses

Increased interaction with local Sweet Adelines

FWD Fall Convention October 9-12, 2025 - Fresno, CA

Looking at using food trucks

b. The Pan Pacific Convention will allow us to join with them with a FWD Fall Convention in Hawaii in October 2026

Marketing and Public Relations

David Melville

Commented on need for chapters to submit BMI Clearance requests.

Also commented on need for West Tunes Editor. This will be on agenda for next BOD meeting.

Youth in Harmony (absent)

Antwun Puckett

a. High School Quartet Competition still being held at Divisionals

Community Outreach (absent)

Cary Burns

Graphic Arts and Design Manager (absent)

James Halvorson

11. Old Business

none

12. New Business

- a. Next Meeting: tbd Adam Kaufman
- b. Blair Reynolds announced new director for California Delta 6/1/25
- c. Rich Postal requesting more encouragement for participation in the Senior Chorus
- d. Reinstatement of Kathy Kileen in the SW Divisional VP position and to finish term

Motion by Kenny Rios and seconded by Robert Karlin. Carried

13. Sing “Keep the Whole World Singing”

unavailable to share

14. **Motion to adjourn by Al Wolter and seconded by David Melville**

15. Adjourn at 4:07 pm Adam Kaufman

Chapter Eternal

Leslie Ray Crowder

Norman Wolfe

Miles Sutter

Richard Gardiner

Milos Koutsky

David Vorobyov

Edward Johnson

Charles Bevitt

Kurt Boutin

Jean Bernard

Robert Griffiths

Vicki Scrimger

William Cohen

Timothy Giroux

Robert Schiegel

Al Mau

Ronald Hansen

Ross Brown

Henry Haubert

James Graham

Daniel Reidy

Wesley Krause

Bert Fehlman

Charles Hudson

John Irely

John Dennis

Thomas Darby

Gil Berggren

Thomas McCullough

James Merker

Ronald Thorpe

Shane Scott

Edward Comingore

Joe Palmquist

Ivan Jensen



Board Member Reports

Wally Smulson

District Treasurer

treasurer@farwesterndistrict.org

See attached

2025 Profit and Loss

2026 Budget proposal



2026 Budget
Worksheet for 2026

2026 BUDGET WORKSHEET				Far Western District Assoc of Chapters SPEBSQSA			
2024 INCOME		2025 BUDGET		01/02/2025 to 09/17/2025 INCOME		2026 Projectio n	
Income		Income		Income			
500.00 - DUES-Members	61,546.91	500.00 - DUES-Members	\$64,000.00	500.00 - DUES-Members	\$62,486.25	\$64,000.00	
500.10 Dues Allocations-Events		500.10 Dues Allocations-Events					
Total for 500.00 - DUES-Members	\$61,546.91	Total 500.00 - DUES-Members	\$64,000.00	Total for 500.00 - DUES-Members	\$62,486.25	\$64,000.00	Cody Littlefield
501.00 - SPRING PRELIMS REV	23,258.63	501.00 - SPRING PRELIMS REV		501.00 - SPRING PRELIMS REV	\$5,451.22		
		501.05 Program Ad Revenue Spring	\$200.00			\$200.00	
501.11 Competitor Videos	630.00	501.11 Competitor Videos	\$600.00	501.11 Competitor Videos	\$1,175.21	\$600.00	
		501.00 - SRING PRELIMS REV-Registration, etc.	\$25,000.00			\$25,000.00	
Total for 501.00 - SPRING PRELIMS REV	\$23,888.63	Total 501.00 - SPRING PRELIMS REV	\$25,800.00	Total for 501.00 - SPRING PRELIMS REV	\$6,626.43	\$25,800.00	
502.00 - FALL CONVENTION REV	47,259.84	502.00 - FALL CONVENTION REV			\$19,125.00	\$48,000.00	
		502.06 Photos					
		502.05 Program Ad Revenue Fall	\$300.00			\$300.00	
502.08-Fall Conv Hotel	465.00						
		502.09-FALL CONV MISC					

502.11 - Contest Videos	213.63	502.11-Contest Videos	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00	
		502.00-FALL CONVENTION-Registration, etc.	\$37,000.00			\$37,000.00	
Total for 502.00 - FALL CONVENTION REV	\$47,938.47	Total 502.00 - FALL CONVENTION REV	\$38,300.00			\$86,300.00	
503.00 - DIVISIONAL CONV	0.00	503.00 - DIVISIONAL CONV		503.00 - DIVISIONAL CONV	-\$39.86		
503.10 - AZ	12,066.96	503.10 - AZ	\$13,500.00	503.10 - AZ	\$11,802.50	\$13,500.00	
		503.105 - AZ Division Ads Revenue	\$50.00			\$50.00	
503.30 - SO CAL WEST	24,352.86	503.30 - SE / SW Division	\$30,000.00			\$30,000.00	
		503.305 - SE / SW Division Ads Revenue	\$50.00	503.20 - SO CAL EAST	\$26,730.00	\$50.00	
		503.40 - NORTH WEST	\$8,500.00	503.40 - NOR CAL WEST	\$14,812.50	\$8,500.00	
		503.405 NE / NW Division Ads Revenue	\$50.00			\$50.00	
Total for 503.00 - DIVISIONAL CONV	\$36,419.82	Total 503.00 - DIVISIONAL CONV	\$52,150.00	Total for 503.00 - DIVISIONAL CONV	\$53,305.14	\$52,150.00	
		504.00 - WESTUNES		504.00 - WESTUNES	\$1,079.72	\$1,100.00	
		504.01 - ADS	\$400.00	504.01 - ADS	\$640.34	\$400.00	
		Total 504.00 - WESTUNES	\$400.00	Total for 504.00 - WESTUNES	\$1,720.06	\$1,500.00	
		505-Educational Events					
		505.01 AZ Leadership Summit					
		505.02 NE/NW Leadership Summit					

		505.03 SE/SW Leadership Summit					
		Total 505-Educational Events	\$0.00			\$0.00	
506.00 - OTHER	300.00	506.00 - OTHER		506.00 - OTHER	\$0.00	\$300.00	
		506.02-WEBCAST	\$1,000.00	506.02 - WEBCAST	\$228.00	\$1,000.00	
506.06 Miscellaneous Revenue	1,069.52	506.06 Miscellaneous Revenue	\$500.00			\$500.00	
Total for 506.00 - OTHER	\$1,369.52	Total 506.00 - OTHER	\$1,500.00	Total for 506.00 - OTHER	\$228.00	\$1,800.00	
510 - Donations	0.00	510 - Donations		510 - Donations	\$0.00		
		510.01 - Donations Awards					
		510.02 - Donations Youth Educa		510.02 - Donations Youth Educa	\$1,980.00	\$500.00	
510.03 - Donations NorCal Camp	300.00	510.03 - Donations NE/NW Camp		510.03 - Donations NE/NW Camp	\$9,577.00	\$300.00	
510.04 - Donors Choice HF	3,709.12	510.04 - Donors Choice HF	\$13,000.00	510.04 - Donors Choice HF	\$1,037.48	\$13,000.00	
		510.05-BHS DONORS CHOICE	\$3,000.00			\$3,000.00	
510.06 - Donations-Spring Conv.	123.00	510.06 - Donations Spring Convention				\$100.00	
510.07 - Donations-Misc.	250.00	510.07 - Donations Misc.		510.07 - Donations-Misc.	\$1,040.00	\$250.00	
510.08 - Donations-Fall Conv.	300.00					\$300.00	
Total for 510 - Donations	\$4,682.12	Total 510 - Donations	\$16,000.00	Total for 510 - Donations	\$13,634.48	\$17,450.00	
2024 INCOME		2025 BUDGET		01/02/2025 to 05/17/2025 INCOME		2026 Projectio n	
520.00 - Fees	0.00	520.00 - Fees					

520.01 - NorCal Youth Camp	725.00	520.01 - NE/NWL Youth Camp				\$750.00	
		520.02 - HCW / LA Fees	\$7,500.00			\$0.00	
		520.04 - Leadership Academy					
		520.06 - Senior Chorus Registration		520.06 - Senior Chorus Registration	\$825.00	\$1,500.00	Rich Postal
		Total 520.04 - Leadership Academy	\$0.00				
Total for 520.00 - Fees	\$725.00	Total 520.00 - Fees	\$7,500.00	Total 520.00 - Fees	\$825.00	\$2,250.00	
520.02 - HCW / LA	7,662.43						
		Uncategorized Income		Uncategorized Income	\$295.00		
Total for Income	\$184,232.90	Total for Income	\$205,650.00	Total for Income	\$158,224.36	\$251,250.00	
Cost of Goods Sold		Cost of Goods Sold		Cost of Goods Sold			
Gross Profit	\$184,232.90	Gross Profit	\$205,650.00	Gross Profit	\$158,224.36	\$251,250.00	
EXPENSES		EXPENSES	EXPENSES	EXPENSES	EXPENSES	EXPENSES	
2024 EXPENSES		2025 BUDGET		01/02/2025 to 09/17/2025 EXPENSES		2026 Projection	
Expenses		Expenses		Expenses			
601.00 - HCW/LA Expense	0.00	601.00 - HCW/LA Expense		601.00 - HCW/LA Expense	\$0.00		
		601.001 - Harmony University Registration		601.001 - Harmony University Registration	\$104.99	\$110.00	

		601.002 - Harmony University Travel		601.002 - Harmony University Travel	\$352.96	\$400.00	
607.117 - HARMONY COLLEGE WEST	3,782.80	607.117 - Harmony College West	\$4,000.00			\$0.00	
709.10 - Leadership Academy	0.00	709.10 - Leadership Academy					
		709.11 - LA - AZ	\$500.00			\$500.00	
		709.12 - LA - SE/SW Exp	\$500.00			\$500.00	
709.13 - LA - NorCal	335.35	709.13 - LA NE/NW	\$500.00			\$500.00	
Total for 709.10 - Leadership Academy	\$335.35	Total 709.10 - Leadership Academy	\$1,500.00	Total 709.10 - Leadership Academy		\$2,010.00	
Total for 601.00 - HCW/LA Expense	\$4,118.15	Total 601.00 - HCW/LA Expense	\$5,500.00	Total 601.00 - HCW/LA Expense	\$457.95	\$2,010.00	
601.10 - DS15 - District Spring	22,260.27	601.10 - DS15 - District Spring		601.10 - DS15 - District Spring	\$33,578.86	\$34,000.00	
601.10.23 Supplies	212.93	601.10.23 Supplies				\$250.00	
		601.10.24 Awards				\$440.00	
Judges-Meals	1,479.42	Judges-Meals	\$1,500.00			\$1,500.00	
Judges-Misc	5,383.78	Judges-Misc	\$6,000.00			\$6,000.00	
Judges Travel	4,413.50	Judges Travel	\$5,000.00	Judges Travel	- \$427.88	\$5,000.00	
		601.10 - DS15 - District Spring - Other	\$25,000.00			\$25,000.00	
Total for 601.10 - DS15 - District Spring	\$33,749.90	Total 601.10 - DS15 - District Spring	\$37,500.00	Total for 601.10 - DS15 - District Spring	\$33,150.98	\$72,190.00	
601.20 - AZ15 - AZ Div Exp	6,412.09	601.20 - AZ15 - AZ Div Exp		601.20 - AZ15 - AZ Div Exp	\$11,890.73	\$7,500.00	
		601.20.24 Awards				\$440.00	
Judges-Meals	293.08	Judges-Meals	\$400.00	Judges-Meals	\$1,163.60	\$400.00	

Judges-Misc	100.00	Judges-Misc	\$400.00			\$400.00	
Judges Travel	3,358.72	Judges Travel	\$4,000.00	Judges Travel	\$3,850.00	\$4,000.00	
		601.20 - AZ15 - AZ Div Exp - Other	\$8,000.00			\$8,000.00	
Total for 601.20 - AZ15 - AZ Div Exp	\$10,163.89	Total 601.20 - AZ15 - AZ Div Exp	\$12,800.00	Total for 601.20 - AZ15 - AZ Div Exp	\$16,904.33	\$20,740.00	
601.30 - SC15 - SoCal Div Exp	13,363.82	601.30 - SC15 - SE/SW Div Exp		601.30 - SC15 - SoCal Div Exp	\$13,528.63	\$13,500.00	
		601.30.24 Awards				\$440.00	
601.30.01Judges-Travel	9,690.76	601.30.01Judges-Travel	\$10,000.00			\$10,000.00	
601.30.02 Judges-Meals	852.84	601.30.02 Judges-Meals	\$1,000.00	601.30.02 Judges-Meals	\$1,656.08	\$1,000.00	
601.30.03 Judges-Misc.	798.87	601.30.03 Judges-Misc.	\$800.00			\$800.00	
		601.30 - SC15 - SE/SW Div Exp - Other	\$18,000.00			\$18,000.00	
Total for 601.30 - SC15 - SoCal Div Exp	\$24,706.29	Total 601.30 - SC15 - SE/SW Div Exp	\$29,800.00	Total for 601.30 - SC15 - SoCal Div Exp	\$15,184.71	\$43,740.00	
2024 EXPENSES		2025 BUDGET		01/02/2025 to 09/17/2025 EXPENSES		2026 Projection	
		601.50 - NC15-NE/NW DIV EXP		601.50 - NC15 - NoCal Div Exp	\$8,246.20		
		601.50.24 Awards				\$440.00	
		601.50.01 JUDGES - TRAVEL	\$7,000.00	601.50.01Judges-Travel	\$6,050.00	\$7,000.00	
		601.60.02 JUDGES - MEALS	\$900.00	601.50.02Judges-Meals	\$1,304.22	\$900.00	
		601.50.03 JUDGES - MISC	\$800.00			\$800.00	
		601.50 - NC15 - NE/NW DIV EXP - OTHER	\$5,000.00			\$5,000.00	

		Total 601.50 - NC15 NE/NW DIV EXP	\$13,700 .00	Total for 601.50 - NC15 - NoCal Div Exp	\$15,600 .42	\$14,140. 00	
602.00 - Fall Convention Exp	0.00	602.00 - Fall Convention Exp		602.00 - Fall Convention Exp	\$0.00		
602.01 - DF15 - District Fall	67,519. 50	602.01 - DF15 - District Fall		602.01 - DF15 - District Fall	\$200.00	\$200.00	
602.01.01Judges- Travel	6,050.0 0	602.01.01Judges-Travel	\$13,000 .00	602.01.01Judges-Travel	\$4,400. 00	\$13,000. 00	
602.01.02Judges- Meals	2,380.3 6	602.01.02Judges-Meals	\$1,200. 00			\$1,200.0 0	
602.01.03Judges- Misc	661.36	602.01.03Judges-Misc	\$400.00			\$400.00	
		602.01 - DF15 - District Fall - Other	\$14,000 .00			\$14,000. 00	
Total for 602.01 - DF15 - District Fall	\$76,611 .22	Total 602.01 - DF15 - District Fall	\$28,600 .00	Total for 602.01 - DF15 - District Fall	\$4,600. 00	\$28,800. 00	
602.23 Supplies	46.95	602.23 Supplies	\$100.00			\$100.00	
		602.24 Awards				\$440.00	
		602.00 - OTHER	\$100.00			\$100.00	
Total for 602.00 - Fall Convention Exp	\$76,658 .17	Total 602.00 - Fall Convention Exp	\$28,800 .00	Total for 602.00 - Fall Convention Exp	\$4,600. 00	\$640.00	
604.00 - BD MEETING	0.00	604.00 - BD MEETING		604.00 - BD MEETING	\$0.00		
604.01 - TRAVEL	3,412.7 8	604.01 - TRAVEL	\$4,000. 00	604.01 - TRAVEL	\$1,749. 26	\$4,000.0 0	
604.02 - MEALS	1,813.2 9	604.02 - MEALS	\$1,500. 00	604.02 - MEALS	\$598.78	\$1,500.0 0	
604.03 - LODGING	7,099.0 2	604.03 - LODGING	\$14,000 .00			\$14,000. 00	
		604.04 - BD Meeting - Supplies	\$600.00			\$600.00	
604.05 Meeting Rooms	1,400.1 8	604.05 - Meeting Rooms & refreshments	\$750.00			\$750.00	
Total for 604.00 - BD MEETING	\$13,725 .27	Total 604.00 - BD MEETING	\$20,850 .00	Total for 604.00 - BD MEETING	\$2,348. 04	\$20,850. 00	

605.00 - Insurance	190.00	605.00 - INSURANCE	\$190.00			\$190.00	
		606.00 Senior Chorus Expense					Rich Postal
		606.10 Senior Chorus Music/Tracks				\$1,500.00	Rich Postal
		606.20 Senior Chorus Director Expenses					Rich Postal
		606.00 SENIOR CHORUS EXPENSE				\$1,500.00	
607.01 - DIR DEVELOP	0.00	607.01 - DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT					
607.011 - SUPPLIES	526.31	607.011 - SUPPLIES	\$200.00			\$200.00	
Total for 607.01 - DIR DEVELOP	\$526.31	Total 607.01 - DIRECTOR DEVELOPMENT	\$200.00			\$200.00	
607.08 - C&J	0.00	607.08 - C&J		607.08 - C&J	\$0.00		
607.081 - SUPPLIES	200.00	607.081 - SUPPLIES				\$200.00	
607.082 - TELEPHONE	16.97	607.082 - Telephone				\$0.00	
607.084 - TRAVEL	473.19	607.084 - Travel		607.084 - TRAVEL	\$379.83	\$0.00	
607.085 - C&J CAT SCH	1,140.00	607.085 - C&J CATEGORY SCHOOL	\$1,500.00			\$4,500.00	
Total for 607.08 - C&J	\$1,830.16	Total 607.08 - C&J	\$1,500.00	Total for 607.08 - C&J	\$379.83	\$4,700.00	
607.09 - YIH	0.00	607.09 - YIH		607.09 - YIH	\$44.73	\$50.00	
		607.095 - AWARDS	\$200.00	607.095 - AWARDS	\$1,000.00	\$200.00	
607.096 - NoCal Youth Camp	11,264.65	607.096 - NE/NW Youth Camp	\$3,000.00	607.096 - NoCal Youth Camp	\$3,198.44	\$3,000.00	
607.097 Youth Festival Grants	2,000.00	607.097 Youth Festival Grants	\$2,000.00	607.097 Youth Festival Grants	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00	

Total for 607.09 - YIH	\$13,264.65	Total 607.09 - YIH	\$5,200.00	Total for 607.09 - YIH	\$5,743.17	\$5,250.00	
607.10 - EVENTS	0.00	607.10 - EVENTS					
607.101 - SUPPLIES	4,129.75	607.101 - SUPPLIES	\$3,000.00			\$3,000.00	
607.102 - TRAVEL	847.20	607.102 - Travel	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00	
Total for 607.10 - EVENTS	\$4,976.95	Total 607.10 - EVENTS	\$4,000.00			\$4,000.00	
2024 EXPENSES		2025 BUDGET		01/02/2025 to 09/17/2025 EXPENSES		2026 Projection	
607.11 - MUSIC & PERF	0.00	607.11 - MUSIC & PERFORMANCE		607.11 - MUSIC & PERFORMANCE	\$0.00		
607.110 - CHAPT COACHING	150.00	607.110 - CHAPT COACHING	\$200.00	607.110 - CHAPT COACHING	\$150.00	\$200.00	
		607.115 - GOLD RUSH (FORMERLY TOP GUN)	\$3,000.00	607.115 - GOLD RUSH (FORMERLY TOP GUN)	\$3,867.77	\$4,500.00	Cody Littlefield
Total for 607.11 - MUSIC & PERF	\$150.00	Total 607.11 - MUSIC & PERFORMANCE	\$3,200.00	Total 607.11 - MUSIC & PERFORMANCE	\$4,017.77	\$4,700.00	
		607.12 - MKTG & PR					David Mellvile
		607.12 - MKTG & PR - OTHER	\$275.00			\$275.00	David Mellvile
		607.122 - POSTAGE	\$50.00			\$50.00	David Mellvile
		607.123 - PROMO MATERIALS	\$300.00			\$300.00	David Mellvile
		607.124 - WEB EXPENSES	\$5,400.00		\$349.00	\$6,500.00	David Mellvile
		607.125 - Ads purchased/placed					David Mellvile

		607.127 - TRAVEL	\$2,000.00			\$2,000.00	David Mellvile
		Total 607.12 - MKTG & PR	\$8,025.00		\$349.00	\$9,125.00	David Mellvile
		708.00 - WESTUNES					
		708.00 - WESTUNES - OTHER	\$575.00			\$575.00	David Mellvile
		708.03 - WESTUNES TRAVEL	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00	David Mellvile
		708.06 - WESTTUNES - PRINTING	\$420.00			\$420.00	David Mellvile
		Total 708.00 - WESTUNES	\$1,995.00		\$0.00	\$1,995.00	David Mellvile
		Total 607.12 - MKTG & PR & WESTUNES	\$10,020.00		\$349.00	\$11,120.00	David Mellvile
		608.00 - DONATIONS					
		608.11 YOUTH SUPORT					
609.00 - MISC EXP	302.49	609.00 - MISC EXP					
609.01 - Dues Collection Fees	2,467.06	609.01 - Dues Collection Fees	\$1,800.00	609.01 - Dues Collection Fees	\$1,390.99	\$1,800.00	
609.02 - Merchant Acct Fees	5,518.81	609.02 - Merchant Acct Fees	\$5,000.00			\$5,000.00	
610.00 - INTERN. QT TRAVEL	1,401.56	610.00 - INTERN. QT TRAVEL	\$2,000.00	610.00 - INTERN. QT TRAVEL	\$1,489.81	\$2,000.00	
611.00 - INTERN CH TRAVEL	6,646.50	611.00 - INTERN CH TRAVEL	\$5,000.00	611.00 - INTERN CH TRAVEL		\$5,000.00	
612.00 - COLLEGE	6,568.38	612.00 - COLLEGE (612.00 COLLEGE TRAVEL)	\$0.00			\$0.00	
622.00 - GOV'T FEES	183.25	622.00 - GOV'T FEES	\$200.00	622.00 - GOV'T FEES	\$20.00	\$200.00	
700.00 - PRESIDENT	0.00	700.00 - PRESIDENT		700.00 - PRESIDENT	\$0.00		Adam Kaufman
600.00 - AWARDS	1,260.34	600.00 - AWARDS	\$2,000.00	600.00 - AWARDS	\$59.95	Moved to each event	

		607.13 - HISTORIAN	\$1,700.00			\$2,000.00	Kenny Rios
607.16 - HALL OF FAME	126.23	607.16 - HALL OF FAME	\$200.00			\$220.00	Bill Rosica
607.17 - President Exp Other	855.05	607.17 - President Exp Other	\$500.00	607.17 - President Exp Other	\$365.04	\$550.00	Adam Kaufman
		700.03 - TRAVEL	\$200.00	700.03 - TRAVEL	\$2,247.49	\$200.00	
700.04 - INTERNATIONAL EXP	3,309.18	700.04 - International Exp	\$2,500.00	700.04 - International Exp	\$2,362.48	\$2,750.00	Adam Kaufman
700.05 - Pres Mid-Winter Exp	2,709.31	700.05 - Pres Mid-Winter Exp	\$2,150.00			\$2,365.00	Adam Kaufman
Total for 700.00 - PRESIDENT	\$8,260.11	Total 700.00 - PRESIDENT	\$9,250.00	Total for 700.00 - PRESIDENT	\$5,034.96	\$8,085.00	Adam Kaufman
		701.00 - IMMEDIATE PAST PRES.		701.00 - IMMEDIATE PAST PRES.	\$0.00		
		701.01 - Travel & Meals	\$2,000.00	701.01 Travel & Meals	\$959.01	\$2,000.00	Kenny Rios
				701.02 Lodging	\$940.42		Kenny Rios
		Total 701.00 - IMMEDIATE PAST PRES	\$2,000.00	Total for 701.00 - IMMEDIATE PAST PRES.	\$1,899.43	\$2,000.00	Kenny Rios
703.00 - EVP	0.00	703.00 - EVP					
703.03 - TRVL & MEALS	1,136.70	703.03 - TRVL & MEALS	\$2,500.00			\$0.00	
		703.04 - EVP Supplies	\$100.00			\$0.00	
703.06 - EVP Mid Winter Exp	2,139.46	703.06 - EVP Mid Winter Exp	\$2,200.00			\$0.00	
703.07 - EVP LODGING	973.49	703.07 - EVP LODGING	\$2,000.00			\$0.00	
		703.08 - EVP Business Expenses	\$250.00			\$0.00	
Total for 703.00 - EVP	\$4,249.65	Total 703.00 - EVP	\$7,050.00			\$0.00	

704.00 - DVP	0.00	704.00 - DVP					
704.10 - DVP AZ	0.00	704.10 - DVP AZ					
704.13-TRAVEL	534.26	704.13-TRAVEL	\$330.00			\$350.00	
Total for 704.10 - DVP AZ	\$534.26	Total 704.10 - DVP AZ	\$330.00			\$350.00	
2024 EXPENSES		2025 BUDGET		01/02/2025 to 09/17/2025 EXPENSES		2026 Projectio n	
704.30-DVP SO CAL W	0.00	704.20 - DVP - SOUTH EAST					
704.33-TRAVEL	406.50	704.23-TRAVEL	\$330.00			\$350.00	
		Total 704.20 - DVP SOUTH EAST	\$330.00			\$350.00	
		404.30 - DVP SOUTH WEST					
		404.33 - TRAVEL	\$330.00			\$350.00	
Total for 704.30-DVP SO CAL W	\$406.50	Total 704.30 - DVP SOUTH WEST	\$330.00			\$350.00	
704.30-DVP SO CAL W 704.34 Lodging	356.82	404.40 - DVP NORTH WEST					
		404.43 - TRAVEL	\$330.00			\$350.00	
		Total 704.40 - DVP NORTH WEST	\$330.00			\$350.00	
		404.50 - DVP NORTH EAST					
		404.53 - TRAVEL	\$330.00			\$350.00	
		Total 704.40 - DVP NORTH WEST	\$330.00			\$350.00	
Total for 704.00 - DVP	\$1,297.58	Total 704.00 - DVP	\$1,650.00	Total 704.00 - DVP		\$1,750.00	
		705.00 - SECRETARY		705.00 - SECRETARY	\$0.00		
		705.02-POSTAGE	\$100.00	705.02 - POSTAGE	\$32.85	\$100.00	Greg Dreyer
		705.03-SUPPLIES	\$100.00	705.03-SUPPLIES	\$168.83	\$200.00	Greg Dreyer

		705.04-EQUIP REPAIR	\$100.00			\$100.00	Greg Dreyer	
		705.05-Training	\$100.00			\$100.00	Greg Dreyer	
		705.06-Travel	\$100.00			\$100.00	Greg Dreyer	
		Total 705.00 - SECRETARY	\$500.00		Total for 705.00 - SECRETARY	\$201.68	\$600.00	Greg Dreyer
706.00 - TREASURER	100.30	706.00 - TREASURER						
706.02 - POSTAGE	113.80	706.02 - POSTAGE	\$150.00			\$150.00	Wally Smulson	
706.03 - SUPPLIES	26.22	706.03 - SUPPLIES	\$100.00			\$200.00	Wally Smulson	
706.04-Subscriptions	368.98	706.04-Subscriptions	\$300.00			\$300.00	Wally Smulson	
706.05-Training	148.00	706.05-Training	\$200.00			\$200.00	Wally Smulson	
		706.06-Travel	\$100.00			\$100.00	Wally Smulson	
Total for 706.00 - TREASURER	\$757.30	Total 706.00 - TREASURER	\$850.00			\$950.00	Wally Smulson	
Total for Expenses	\$221,712.43	Total Expense	\$208,560.00		Total for Expenses	\$108,773.07	\$233,355.00	
Net Operating Income	- \$37,479.53	Net Operating Income	- \$2,910.00		Net Operating Income	\$49,451.29	\$17,895.00	
Other Income					Other Income			
Other Expenses					Other Expenses			
Net Other Income	0.00				Net Other Income	\$0.00		
Net Income	- \$37,479.53	Net Income	- \$2,910.00		Net Income	\$49,451.29	\$17,895.00	



Board Member Reports

Aaron Burleson

Arizona Division Vice President

dvp-arizona@farwesterndistrict.org

At the time of this report our desert chapters are close to the end of extreme heat and monsoon season.

“Snowbirds” have not yet started trickling back. Despite this slowdown, active chapters work to maintain camaraderie and enthusiasm for singing. The good thing is that the “snowbirds” will be coming back to choruses that are working hard to “hone the craft”. Learning tracks are important to the process.

Tucson Barbershop Experience - They have a 26 member count, up from 22. Having a Jay Nelsestuen as their director has inspired growth. They are proactive on their Facebook page in their quest to get new members. They plan for a busy holiday singing schedule.

Greater Phoenix - The chapter member total is 51, down from the 54 in the last report. One must check with them prior to a visit to know the exact time and place. They plan to compete in Fresno. They are searching for a new permanent director and desire to maintain connections with ASU. The Phoenicians hosted a successful Arizona Division Summer Bash August 16.

A Cappella Syndicate- They are doing well and have several shows scheduled throughout the year, both public and private. Their member count is 20, down from 22 in the last report.

Desert Aires Barbershop Chorus - Their chapter total member count is steady at 35. Rehearsals are averaging around 20 each week. They struggle in honoring singing requests from the community during the Summer but will be extremely busy with holiday gigs. They are planning for their annual Spring show. They will not competing in Fresno as many don't want to travel that far. Mid-winter is still up in the air. Some are planning to be a part of the 55+ chorus in Fresno.

Southwest Vocal Alliance- This chorus is doing quite well, increasing their membership from the last report of 49 to 50. They are competing in Fresno. They have moved their rehearsal place and now meet Desert Christian Fellowship Church, located near 15th & Northern Avenue.

East Valley Barbershop Harmonizers - They competed in 2025 AZ District Competition. Membership Increased to 28 from the last report 27. They were privileged to sing the National Anthem followed by God Bless America, to a crowd of over 1500 at Salt River Fields for the 9th annual Firefighters 9-11 Stair Climb. Over \$180,000 was raised for the Fallen Firefighters Foundation.

The High Mountain Chordsmen Chorus in Prescott is quite active for its size. They find many opportunities for sing-outs throughout the year. Their member count remains at 12.

Accapella Sedona (Harmony On The Rocks) in Sedona is holding its own and planning sing-outs in the community as available. Performances in Community Library Sedona, the Sedona Heritage Museum, the Sedona Performing Arts Center, Sedona Community Luncheon, as well as retirement communities and wineries around the Verde Valley.” Their annual show is now in the Spring. Their BHS member total is at 7. Their actual number of regulars is 18 - 19. We are trying to get their permanent visitors to join the Society. They are a mixed chorus.

Platoon Chorus - This quartet chapter meets monthly and their quartets continually have sing-outs Throughout the area. Their membership is down 1 and at 24.

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 are close to Tucson and sometimes cooperate with them.

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 High Country Barbershop Chorus – Sholow This chapter has 16 listed members but a number of regular singers are associated with them. They are planning 2 shows on September 20 with “Yes Dear” as their featured quartet.



Board Member Reports

Sue Atkins

Northeast Division Vice President

dvp-northeast@farwesterndistrict.org

Summary

The Northeast Division continues to show strong commitment to community service and musical excellence despite ongoing challenges. Since the August board report, several chapters have made notable progress in membership initiatives, outreach, and leadership transitions. However, some chapters remain in need of support, particularly with recruitment and financial sustainability.

Division-Wide Themes

- **Membership Growth:** New drives are underway (Voices of California, Gold Rush, West Valley), with early signs of success.
- **Community Outreach:** Chapters are preparing for the fall season with performances, fundraisers, and school engagement.
- **Leadership:** Transitions and role coverage are stabilizing in some areas.

Sacramento remains at risk, with their August 12 meeting results pending.

- **Financial Health:** Chapters continue to balance rising costs with show revenues. Grant opportunities and collaborations are being explored.

Recommendations

- Continue to encourage standardized reporting for easier comparisons across the division.
- Share successful membership drive strategies across chapters.
- Monitor Sacramento Chapter's viability and be prepared to offer division-level support if necessary.
- Highlight partnerships as models for sustainable collaboration.

Confirmed Board Members on BHS Website. At minimum, each chapter should list President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

- California Delta Chapter (VoCal & Stay Tuned): Board valid until 12/31/2025 & 1/30/2026 – 71 active members.
- Central California Chapter (Golden Valley Chorus): Board valid until 12/31/2025 – 18 active members.
- Davis Vacaville Chapter (West Valley Chorus): Board valid until 12/31/2025 – 27 active members.
- Folsom Chapter (Harmony Express): Board valid until 12/31/2025 – 9 active members.
- Fresno Chapter (Sierra Gateway Chorus): Board valid until 12/31/2025 – 14 active members.
- Placerville Chapter (Gold Rush Chorus): Board valid until 12/31/2025 – 29 active members.
- Reno Chapter (Nevada): Board valid until 1/31/2026 – 10 active members.
- Sacramento Chapter (Capitolaires): No active Board Members – 10 active members.
- Stockton Chapter (Portsmen Chorus): Board valid until 12/31/2025 – 27 active members.
- Visalia Chapter (Mighty Oak Chorus): Board valid until 12/31/2025 – 25 active members.

Save the Dates – Upcoming Events

- September 20, 2025: Free Show & Fundraiser – Stay Tuned Chorus (Citrus Heights, CA).
- September 20, 2025: Stay Tuned Chorus – Community Appearance at Fair Oaks Chicken Festival.
- October 11, 2025: FWD Fall Convention 2025 – Chorus Contest & Int’l Prelim (Sierra Gateway Chorus, Stockton Portsmen Chorus, Stay Tuned Chorus, Voice of California)
- October 23, 2025: Folsom Harmony Express Annual Recital.
- October 24–26, 2025: A Cappella Harmony Camp – Pollock Pines, CA. Weekend retreat for high school and college-aged young men who love to sing.
- October 2025 (TBD): Sierra Gateway Chorus performance at District Convention.
- November 15, 2025: Placerville Chapter Show.
- December 13, 2025: Stockton Portsmen Holiday Show – Unwrapping the Harmony (Stockton, CA).

Looking Ahead

The Youth Harmony Explosion in September was a major success and will serve as a model for outreach and visibility (see my review of the Youth Harmony Explosion below). Chapters are beginning Christmas show preparations and fall fundraisers. Sacramento’s future will be a key watchpoint; division support

may be needed. Continued encouragement for membership growth, leadership development, and financial planning remains essential.

Youth Harmony Explosion (Visalia, CA) Event: Youth Harmony Explosion

Date: September 19, 2025 - Host: Visalia Chapter – Mighty Oak Chorus

Clinician: Dr. Dan Wessler Featured Quartet: 7th Variety Quartet – Jacob Gonzalez (Tenor), Michael Keleshian (Lead), Emilio Pichardo (Baritone), Ross Valentine (Bass)

Overview

The Visalia Chapter hosted a successful Youth Harmony Explosion on September 13, 2025. The event provided students with a full day of vocal instruction, barbershop harmony education, and ensemble performance opportunities.

Participation

- Approximately 80 students attended.
- Participants included College of the Sequoias students and singers from many local high schools.
- Mighty Oak Chorus members supported with organization, logistics, and coaching.

Activities

- Vocal warm-ups and harmony fundamentals led by Dr. Dan Wessler.
- Sectional rehearsals and combined chorus sessions.
- Quartet coaching and live demonstrations by 7th Variety Quartet.
- Culminated in a public showcase performance for parents, teachers, and community members.

Key Learnings

- Singing and creating tags.
- Differences between singing in a choral choir versus a barbershop chorus —barbershop emphasizes fun and lifelong singing.
- Allowing the melody voice to shine.
- Breath control and efficient breathing (silent vs sharp breathing as part of rhythm).
- Understanding that barbershop is conversational singing.

- Using your ears more than your voice to tune and blend.
- Experiencing overtone ringing and finding the consistent overtone that unifies voices.
- Active listening and supporting each other's sound.
- Diction for clarity.
- Tempo awareness — tempo is the director's job, but maintaining it is the chorus's responsibility.
- How to internalize tempo, trust each other, and avoid waiting.
- Singing each note like playing a string instrument, with care and precision.
- Adding contrast to keep the music interesting.
- Inflecting feeling into non-words to convey emotion.
- Balancing louder vs softer dynamics while keeping the audience engaged.
- Maintaining energy and resonance, activating facial resonance, and engaging the core.
- Developing artistry and expression.
- Freeing singers from dependence on sheet music to improve dynamics.
- Techniques for resonance and sustaining sound across phrases.

Outcomes

- Students gained meaningful exposure to barbershop harmony and ensemble singing.
- The event strengthened ties between the chapter, local high schools, and College of the Sequoias music programs.
- Mr. John Sorber, Artistic Director at College of the Sequoias, played a pivotal role by encouraging approximately 40 college students to participate. His support, combined with providing the venue, was essential to the success of this program.
- During the final performance, College of the Sequoias students also performed two entertaining songs under the leadership of two student directors, a highlight that showcased both their talent and emerging leadership.

- Students were observed continuing to sing during breaks throughout the day, showing their enthusiasm, joy, and deep engagement with barbershop harmony.
- By hosting the event at College of the Sequoias, the program not only encouraged high school singers to consider becoming future barbershoppers but also enticed them to continue their musical growth by pursuing opportunities at the college level.
- Opened the door for future recruitment opportunities into chapter programs and district youth initiatives.

Acknowledgements

- Dr. Dan Wessler for expert leadership and instruction.
- 7th Variety Quartet — Jacob Gonzalez (Tenor), Michael Keleshian (Lead), Emilio Pichardo (Baritone), and Ross Valentine (Bass) for sharing their knowledge, spreading the joy of barbershop, and connecting with participants in an inspiring and memorable way.
- Mr. John Sorber, Artistic Director at College of the Sequoias, whose encouragement of 40 college students and support in hosting the venue made this event possible.
- Don Laursen, Bud Case, and all members of the Visalia Chapter/Mighty Oak Chorus, for a job well done in organizing, supporting, and ensuring the success of this event.
- Participating schools, teachers, and parents.
- The Barbershop Harmony Society for ongoing support of youth outreach initiatives.

Recommendation

In my opinion, the funding provided by the District for this event was worth every penny. The positive impact on students, educators, and our chapters demonstrates the tremendous value of these programs. I strongly recommend that the District continue supporting Youth Harmony Explosion and similar outreach efforts, while also encouraging chapters to help promote fundraising so we can expand and sustain these vital youth initiatives. If the Visalia Chapter hosts this event again next year, I will proudly continue to be a sponsor. This event exemplifies the type of outreach that strengthens our district's musical future and community



Board Member Reports

Rich Postal

Northwest Division Vice President

dvp-northwest@farwesterndistrict.org

Conducted five Chapter visitations this quarter. Many groups have been singing out in public at street fairs and Art and Wine Festivals.

Some of the Chapters have been experiencing lower attendance due to their members and/or their director going on vacation. Those groups who are planning to attend the Fall Contest and Convention are very active in polishing their contest set. In addition, some are prepping for a Fall Show and/or Holiday events.

A group who conducted free singing lessons and clinics during the summer months are also seeing growth in their Chapter membership.

On the negative side, after a Chapter visitation with a group in my Division and follow up consultation with their Chapter President, this chapter and board are reluctant to do much of anything to grow their Chapter. I suggested that their Chapter board meet and I offered to attend and help them, but they rejected my offer. They are now more of a social chapter that meets for the camaraderie, and spends approximately 90 to 105 minutes per week singing songs that they have been doing for years.

There is also good news in that the Senior Chorus has 48 folks that have purchased music and tracks and are looking forward to competing in the upcoming Fall contest.



Board Member Reports

Jeremy Loper

Southeast Division Vice President

dvp-southeast@farwesterndistrict.org

August report

Hello Far Western District! As always, it's a good time to be a barbershopper! And that is especially so in the SE Division. Coming off of an amazing international convention, I found myself even more proud of the FWD for putting on conventions that feel almost like an international.

The membership numbers for the South Eastern division are holding steady, which is historically better than we would see between contest cycles. The number of active quartets is up from this time last year. We had eight quartets and an impressive 7 choruses participating in the spring convention, with Pacific Coast Harmony chorus and The Essentials quartet winning the division contests. The Westminster Chorus made us all proud with an amazing showing at the Denver international convention in July.

There are some great events coming up on the district calendar. If your chorus has a show coming up, make sure you put it on the calendar and get your show clearance so we can all come out to celebrate you!

I am honored to remain your Division Vice President, and I hope to see everyone in the fall!

Board Member Reports



Kathy Kileen

Southwest Division Vice President

dvp-southwest@farwesterndistrict.org

Submitted by Kenny Rios

Kathy Kileen has busy with personal business and has asked that I assist her for the remainder of 2025 to which I agreed. I will be visiting SW chapters as time allows in the next couple of months. L.A. SOUTH TOWNS: Report from L.A. South Towns showed an increase of 9 members for a total of 41 on the books taking 26 to Spring Convention/Contest and under the direction of long-time director Caroline McLean, won the Southwest Division Plateau A Chorus Championship. The chorus has rebuilt their website with new graphics, designs and colors! The chorus remains involved in the community with several performances throughout along with singing with the nearby Coastliners Chorus.

GREATER LOS ANGELES: Report from Masters of Harmony shows that the Chorus is now setting their sights on International Competition in St. Louis, MO In 2026. The Chapter recently celebrated their 40th anniversary with a Dinner-Show featuring the Masters of Harmony (of course!), Masterpiece, Nightlife, Uproar and The New Fangled Four.

ALOHA, HI: Report from the Sounds of Aloha Chorus show them vigorously working with the Far Western District, New Zealand, Australia and other Pacific countries in putting together a joint venture for the Pan Pacific Competition (occurring every two years) and the Far Western District Fall Convention in Hawaii in 2026. Plans are still in the works and details will be shared soon. I know that the entire FWD will enjoy a once in a lifetime experience. Look forward to a party that only Hawaii can offer!



Board Member Reports

Chris Hébert

Vice President Music & Performance

music@farwesterndistrict.org

1. I was a coach at the FWD Summer Gold Rush in Fullerton. WOW! What a great event. Lots of amazing feedback from the competitors. One group was ready to breakup as they thought they could not go any farther, but after the weekend, they now realize they have places to go! Great job by Membership VP Cody Littlefield in making this happen.
2. SCAL coaching weekend July 24-28 set up by Brian Philbin went exceptionally well. Five quartets were able to make it and feedback was very positive about what coaching they received.
3. In discussions with FWD Historian Kenny Rios about FWD media assets. I have been digitizing my personal vinyl albums and many are FWD Contest albums. I also picked up a number of new ones from the Summer Gold Rush as Rob Menaker brought 20 albums to give away. Will see how we can preserve these for the FWD moving forward.
 - a. I will be bringing said albums to Fresno for those that wish to have them.
4. Learning tracks – people still struggle with finding tracks or having tracks generated for a reasonable price
 - a. I point them to a number of sites that have lists of tracks
 - b. Contact me for details
5. Song assessment (kept here for reference)
 - a. “Can I do this song in contest?”
 1. Is My/This Arrangement Contestable?
The BHS Contest & Judging program has a committee of Music & Performance category judges that are happy to address any questions you may have concerning the contestability of an arrangement. All questions should be directed to the Committee Chairman, Joe Cerutti at jcerutti@barbershop.org
Please note the following information in your email to Joe:
 - a. All submissions must be in machine-readable form–e.g., an e-mail message requesting a review, and any supporting attachments.
 - b. The requesting message should cover performer skills, time frame needed for reply, etc.
 - c. Required attachment can be either a .mus FINALE file (greatly preferred) or a .pdf file.
 - d. Optional supporting attachments might include: a copy of the original sheet music; a .mid or MP3 file of a rendition by the proposed performer; a .mid or .MP3 file of a rendition by another performer (Barbershop only)
 2. You should expect a response to your inquiry within two weeks.
 - a. “Will it score well?” – If you sing it well, then sure!



Board Member Reports

Ben Porter

Vice President Contests & Judging

drcj@farwesterndistrict.org

August report

This year the District was, as is our custom, very well-represented in the BHS International-level contests:

- Both of our representatives to the International Senior Quartet contest came home with a medal: Rhapsody with a 2nd place silver and Private Reserve a 5th place bronze
- The Desert Aires from Sun Cities represented the District in the Seniors Chorus contest at Midwinter
- The Sopranotes sang beautifully in the NextGen Junior Varsity Quartet contest at Midwinter
- At the NextGen Varsity Quartet content, we saw Incognito and Monosodium Glutamate both do quite well
- We had seven FWD quartets in the International Quartet contest in Denver: perennial favorites The Newfangled Four, winners of the Dealers Choice award The Seventh Variety, Yes Dear, Western Addition, The Summertimers Harmony Band, Creative Differences, and Never Too Late
- In the International Chorus contest, The Westminster Chorus sang away the trophy from their 2024 championship, Fog City Singers won a 4th place bronze medal, Masters of Harmony and Fog City Harmonia both competed at very high levels, and we saw Phoenicians return to the International stage as mic testers after a long absence Looking forward to this fall, we have 26 choruses and 32 quartets qualified for the Far Western District Chorus, Quartet, and Seniors Quartet contests coming up in Fresno on October 10-11. Contest entry is now open and will close at 5pm PT on September 10.

Next fall, the 2026 FWD contests are going to be in Hawaii in conjunction with PanPac. As a general tenet, Hawaii is part of the District and the rules around our qualifications will generally stay the same. We will have three Divisional contests in the spring and groups that score above the qualification score will be eligible to compete for the District championships in the fall. PanPac does have its own awards/contests, and groups who may not be eligible to compete for FWD awards can still come to PanPac and compete for those awards. All that said, I do want to make sure we are giving all our groups adequate opportunities to qualify for the 2027 International contests that we generally have prelims for in the fall: choruses and seniors quartets. As many of the Spring 2026 FWD contests as have at least a double panel will have international prelims for both choruses and seniors quartets. This is in addition to the qualifications that may occur in the PanPac contest in the fall. My goal here is to ensure that all our groups that want to qualify for 2027 International contests have the opportunity to do so.



Board Member Reports

Kenny Rios

Immediate Past President

pastpresident@farwesterndistrict.org

Greetings! I'd like to, again, express how humbled and grateful I am to continue to serve on the FWD BOD as Immediate Past President. Hats off to our current President, Adam Kaufman, for continuing on the path that we started over two years ago. Our continued success is because of the work you, as BOD and DMT members, continue to pursue. And thanks to our House of Delegates who also volunteer their time to keep moving the Far Western District Forward! Keep up the good work!

I've committed to Adam to fill any role he may need of me. So that means you may get an email from me from time to time asking, on Adam's behalf, of your progress on duties assigned to you...please don't take offense. As you know, we have a lot of moving parts in our District and working together will only guarantee our success. Thanks to those of you who have responded to my e-mails so far asking for a status check. Your work and response don't go unnoticed! As Chairman of the Nominating Committee, I can reassure you that we have selected the best candidate for each position on the Board of Directors. The only position to fill this year is Executive Vice President. All other positions will continue to be filled by their current occupants. As we look to the future, we have some exciting upcoming events. Mid-winter International Convention will be in Pasadena, California in January 2026 and our Fall District Convention for 2026 is scheduled for Hawaii!!

I look forward to all of us working together to make our District the best in our Society!

Slate of Officers for 2026:

President - Adam Kaufman

Executive Vice President - Cody Littlefield

Secretary - Greg Dreyer

Treasurer - Wally Smulson

Northwest Division Vice President - Rich Postal

Northeast Division Vice President - Sue Atkins

Southeast Division Vice President - Jeremy Loper

Southwest Division Vice President - Kathy Kileen

Arizona Division Vice President - Aaron Burlison

Vice President of Contest and Judging - Ben Porter

Vice President of Music and Performance - Chris Hebert

Immediate Past President - Kenny Rios



Management Team Reports

Adam Kaufman

Events Manager

events@farwesterndistrict.org

August 2025

Over the past few years, the landscape for hosting in-person events has continued to evolve. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, costs for venues, A/V services, lodging, insurance, and other critical logistics have steadily increased, often surpassing the projections used in our past budget models. This sustained rise in expenses has made it more challenging to secure high-quality yet affordable locations for our district conventions and contests. Venues that were once within reach are now financially difficult to justify without either making significant compromises or increasing fees for our participants. Looking ahead, we may need to adjust registration rates to ensure that our events remain financially sustainable while still maintaining the quality and integrity of the barbershop experience. Striking the balance between accessibility and sustainability is essential, and this will likely be an ongoing conversation for the board and membership. In terms of upcoming events, we anticipate returning to Riverside in Spring 2026 to host the Southeast–Southwest Convention. In addition, because our Fall 2026 District Convention will be co-located with the Pan Pacific Convention in Hawaii, international prelims will be offered at the division level, giving every chorus the opportunity to participate without the additional travel burden. As we plan for future events, I encourage collaboration and creativity. If you are aware of potential venues, community partnerships, or cost-effective alternatives, please share them with me. Local connections and innovative ideas can make a substantial impact as we adapt to these new realities. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to making our events memorable, enjoyable, and viable for years to come.

Remember, Barbershop is Fun!





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 I'll be working on migrating there later this year. More fun: I will need to change templates and framework when migrating to Joomla 5, making the migration much more complex.

Joomla 4 (current) support ends 26 October 2025. That does not mean everything will stop working, just that it is officially end-of-life and is no longer being supported.

Email accounts

Google will be enforcing 2-Step Validation (2SV) for our email in the coming months. Stand by for more information.

Email List

We are promoting Hawai'i 2026; a survey was sent out recently.

Convention Registration

Currently working with Adam on getting 2026 Spring Events set up.

Westunes

Propose making Westunes an annual "Year in Review" issue since it is essentially an historical record and not a "news" publication.

Social Media

Ethan continues to do a bang-up job of promotion and getting people engaged.

Graphics/Logo

Logos for our 2026 Spring events are in development.

James has created a beautiful logo for Fresno which we will be rolling out next time we are here.

Merch

I've asked James Halvorson to take over this project, and to compare our current vendor vs. an Amazon solution



Management Team Reports

Cody Littlefield

Membership Recruitment & Education Manager

membership@farwesterndistrict.org

FWD Gold Rush Event – August 2025

This past August, the Far Western District hosted a truly wonderful and memorable Gold Rush event. The weekend was filled with music, learning, and fellowship that reflected the very best of our district.

*Quartets: Eight quartets participated and delivered outstanding performances, each bringing their best and demonstrating remarkable growth throughout the event.

* Coaches: We were fortunate to have nine top-notch coaches, including eight implementation specialists, who generously shared their expertise. These individuals represented not only the Far Western District but also affiliates, creating a well-rounded and highly impactful coaching experience.

* Capstone Showcase: The weekend culminated in the Go for the Bowl show, where quartets presented what they had studied, rehearsed, and refined over the course of the event. It was inspiring to see everything come together on stage, and the audience was treated to a thrilling celebration of barbershop harmony. Each quartet left the event dialed in and prepared for upcoming district competitions. I have no doubt they will go on to achieve fantastic results, and I look forward to seeing their continued success.

I'm really excited as this is the highest morale of Far Western District membership I have ever witnessed. It's beautiful to bear witness and I'm honored to serve as the Manager for Membership and Recruitment for the FWD and the Director of the FWD Gold Rush program.

Reflections on Service

It has been my distinct honor to serve as Manager of Membership and Recruitment. This role has allowed me to contribute to the growth and vitality of our district, and I am proud of the strides we've made together.

As I transition into the EVP position, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to:

* The District Management Team for your collaboration and support,

* Adam and Kenny for your steadfast leadership,

* And to all members of the Far Western District for your passion and commitment to barbershop harmony!!!

Serving in this role has been a privilege and I look forward to continuing to serve the district in new ways.



Management Team Reports

Antwun Puckett

Youth in Harmony Manager

yih@farwesterndistrict.org

Here's a few updates/events in regards to youth in harmony in our district:

1. Registration for the High School Quartet Contest will be available very soon. All information on that is on our youth in harmony site. **<https://farwesterndistrict.org/events/high-school-quartet-contest>**
2. The Silver Statesmen will be involved in an all-day Tenor/Bass event out in Las Vegas on October 25, 2025. There expected to be about 250-300 students involved in that event.
3. The Southwest Vocal Alliance has received a grant from the AIC/HFI Youth Outreach Program. It is scheduled for 2026. Guest quartet will be tba
4. The annual Far Western District Harmony Camp in Pollock Pines,CA is scheduled to happen during October 24-26, 2025. Guest quartet will be The Summertimers and guest clinicians will be Kory Reid and Keith Harris. All information can be found at this link: **<https://farwesterndistrict.org/events/youth-harmony-camp>**
5. Westminster has been invited to perform at ACDA West in San Jose, CA. This will be a great opportunity for barbershop to be presented to choral students/teachers.
6. Midwinter in Pasadena, CA is quickly approaching us. We have a few senior quartets looking to qualify for this event as well as The Sopranotes returning to the Junior Varsity contest. It is imperative that we all show up and support these groups that are representing us.
7. Kenny and I will be reaching out to both Westminster and Masters about looking into having a joint Youth Harmony Explosion event sometime in the spring of 2027. Hopefully with the help of the HFI/AIC outreach program.
8. We are currently looking for people that would like to be on the Ad hoc committee. They will be in charge of finding out how we want to make the requirements necessary for the district to supply a chapter grant for their youth event.

That's all I have for now. The Sopranotes will be in Fresno, so please make sure to make them feel welcomed and please make sure to congratulate them for winning the HS Quartet Championship. This also applies to any other youth that will be in Fresno. I'm sure we all already know this, but let's make an extra effort to make the kids feel seen/loved.



Management Team Reports

Cary Burns

Community Outreach

cary.burns@farwesterndistrict.org

The role of Community Outreach is being developed as I speak with people around the district. I will be teaching a class in Fresno titled - ***Connecting to Your Community***:

Spreading the Joy of Barbershop. The class will explore ways of interacting with community members and groups, especially those who may not have heard of barbershop.

A portion of the class will be a round table discussion including topics such as chorus identity, repertoire, becoming known in the community, the guest experience, and identifying and aligning with the target demographic. I imagine that our discussion will touch on topics related to membership and marketing. This might create an opportunity for me to work with our Membership Recruitment & Education Manager and Division Marketing and Public Relations folks to align and exchange ideas to strengthen our chapters.

Using the ideas brought forth from the class as well as other input, I will put together an information sheet with best practices as well as other resources that can be made available to all chapters.



Management Team Reports

Kenny Rios

Historian

pastpresident@farwesterndistrict.org

As Far Western District Historian, I'm pleased to announce that we are moving closer to having a traveling museum to showcase some of our District's accomplishments and proud moments.

Through generous donations of current and past members, I have costumes from the early days of the Masters of Harmony and the Phoenicians. Thanks to Dan Jordon for safely keeping those items in storage! I also have original sheet music from 1920's and early recordings from Far Western District Conventions. Also in our stockpile are early publications of the Westunes and some old Harmonizers.

I also have a refurbished wood barber chair from what looks like to be from the turn of the century (possibly 1890's). I recently acquired a 1913 Kochs Barber chair in great condition that I am restoring. I am constantly looking to add the collection. Most items are property of the Far Western District but many are on loan to the FWD and are marked as such. Thank you to all who have donated items. If you have something that you would like to contribute, please feel free to contact me! Donations are always gladly accepted.

All items are presently stored at my house however I now need to move these items into a climate controlled storage unit. I'm also looking into the "cost" of a 5 x 10 cargo trailer with a drop down back gate to transport these items to our conventions. If you know of a trailer that someone wants to part with, please let me know!

I'm hoping to have our museum up and running for display at our Spring Convention. I am also looking for assistant curators to help "babysit" items on display while at our conventions. If interested in helping out, please contact me.



Management Team Reports

Laura Pallas Singer

Chorus Director Development

laura.pallus@farwesterndistrict.org

August report

I recently attended the FWD Southeast and Southwest Divisional Contest, where I had the honor of directing the Oceanaires in the chorus competition and also participated in the Seniors Novice Quartet contest.

On Friday morning, we held our second Directors Roundtable—a valuable and energizing gathering. The conversation focused on support tools for directors, including hands-on coaching opportunities and director-specific educational sessions. These meetings continue to foster connection, shared learning, and a sense of community among our directors.

A wonderful example of this collaboration came when Shawn, a new director from the Valley Harmony Singers, joined me in walking through the contest pattern. It was his first time taking a chorus to competition, and this kind of peer mentorship reflects exactly the kind of support we hope to cultivate through these roundtables. Backstage at the chorus contest, I enjoyed reconnecting with fellow directors. At the conclusion of the competition, each director was introduced from the stage—an acknowledgment that was genuinely appreciated. Several directors expressed how meaningful it was to be publicly recognized, and I recommend we continue this practice at future events.

Looking ahead, I'll be focusing on developing a set of Director Bio Profiles to help us learn more about each other and strengthen our network. I'm excited to continue this work at our next gathering in Fresno this October.