



# Westags



The Far Western District Fall Convention in brief....  
Phoenix, Arizona, September 27-30 2007

## Convention Highlights

### Contests

Another great one for FWD—thanks to General Chairman, **Jack Mauney** and his events team and ably supported by the entire **Phoenix Chapter**. A standing “O” for this group is indeed warranted.

**Masters of Harmony, VocalEase** and **California Crossroads** (Senior Quartet) won their places as 2007 **district champions**, with **Audacity** qualifying to represent FWD at the Senior Competition in January. The chorus contest saw 18 choruses trod the boards for an afternoon of great singing, a total of 697 chorus singers were on stage—not counting the “*All Star Barbershop Chorus*—mic testers composed of non-competing members.

There were 23 division qualifiers in the regular plus senior quartet competition.

### BOD Meeting Highlights

The FWD Board meeting convened at 2 pm Thursday and considered a full slate of issues. Among those were:

- Motion 1: To approve the agenda as amended. (W/o Obj)
- Motion 2: To approve the minutes of the Summer 2007 Board Meeting (MSP)
- Motion 3.: To increase the FWD mileage reimbursement to \$.30 per mile effective January 1, 2008 (MSP)
- Motion 4: To remove from the table Motion 10 from the Summer BOD meeting. (MSP)
- Motion 5: To suspend the print version of the WESTUNES effective immediately with the stipulation that the electronic version continue to be published in accordance with the SOP. MSFailed
- Motion 6: To transfer \$1000 from the 2007 Budget, Leadership Forum Item, to Marketing & PR to cover 2007 Web Design costs. (MSP)
- Motion 7: To increase the 2008 budget for Westunes from \$2000 to \$5000.. (MSP)
- Motion 8: To establish a reserve from 2008 Westunes expense not to exceed \$5000. (MSP)
- Motion 9: To accept the recommendation of the DDC&J Chairman for qualifying scores for District competition effective January 1, 2008. (i.e. reducing Chorus Target score from 60% to 58%) (MSP)
- Motion 10: To remove part of the Administrative Changes to the SOP concerning the Standing “O” award. (SOP Art XIV 14.11) (MSP)

Motion 11: To name Nick Papageorge as the dedicatee for the 2008 FWD Spring Convention (MSP)

Motion 12: To recommend to the HOD that the qualifying age for the Super Senior Quartets be as of the date of the Fall Senior Contest. (SOP Art VII, 8.3.1.1c,1) (MSP)

### HOD Meeting Highlights

The HOD meeting convened at 2 PM on Friday, September 28 with all district officers, ten past presidents, and delegates for 33 chapters present. The Keynote Speaker was **Lou Benedict**, Paired SBM, who provided insight to the current status of the Society and described the new facility at Nashville.

District champion quartet, **Late Show** provided the background to the annual reading of the members (50) who have passed away in the past year. One happy note was registered when it was reported that **Kenneth Baker** of La Jolla, while reported deceased by Nashville, was in fact most alive and well.

Actions of the HOD included:

- Approved the change in the 2008 budget
- Approved the replacement of the District Regional Convention Chairmen (RCP) with Division Events Planners (DEP)
- Approved the new target score for choruses for 2008 of 58%.
- Approved the change from 14 to 28 days in the contestant registration time for contests.
- Denied the change in SOP to permit “Wild Card” choruses to International to bypass divisional contests in order to qualify for the following year district contest.
- Approved the 55% lower limit for filling to 25 the district chorus contest.
- Approved the 20% plus a pro rata share of the chorus travel fund to given to the champion chorus representing FWD at International.
- Approved the Administrative changes in the SOP as provided in the Delegates Brochure
- Elected and installed the current slate of district officers. (**Bob Lally**, President; **Ivan Jensen**, EVP; **Jim Turnmire**, DVP Division 4 (NorCalEast); **Gordon Bergthold**, DVP Div 4 (ASNSU) –the balance were incumbents.)
- Announced that the Spring Convention + SCW Divisional will be in Bakersfield, March 13-16, 2008.