



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.