



Volume 62

Spring 2012

Number 1



# WESTUNES

WESTUNES, established in 1951, is the official publication of the Far Western District Association of Chapters in the Barbershop Harmony Society, Inc.

## 2012 FWD President Russ Young



The FAR WESTERN DISTRICT includes  
Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada and Southern Utah

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**Div 3 NW Chuck Leavitt**

**Div 4 NE Richard Lund**

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**FWD District Management Team**  
[See pp 6-10 for contact information]

## Table of Contents

### Features

- 3 Youth Chorus Festival in Tucson
- 5 BQPA in Tucson
- 10 Orange Novice Quartet Contest

### 2011 Board of Directors & Div Dig

- 2 President Russ Young
- 4 EVP Allan Webb
- 6 - 10 District Management Team Articles
- 21 - 37 DVP Articles & Division Digests

### Ads

- IFC Westminster Show
- 5 Ron & Jo Black Alaska Tour
- 14 Learn To Sing Sample

### District Notices

- 12 Call for Bulletins
- 15 2012 Spring Convention
- 16-17 Mesa Registration & Hotels
- 18 NW Division Registration
- 19 AZ Division Registration
- 20 NE Division Registration
- IBC Youth Harmony Camp
- BC FWD Calendar

Issue	Deadline	Submittal	Chapter News Submittal
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<https://ebiz.barbershop.org/ebusiness/>

Spring 2012 • WESTUNES 1

## **District President**



**Russ Young**  
**FWD Contacts**

The New Year is underway and there are so many things already underway for us in the Far Western District. January opened with a bang in the form of the Mid-Winter Contest & Convention in Tucson. What a great crowd of barbershoppers who experienced a tremendous event. Our own Velvet Frogs brought home fourth place honors in the Seniors Quartet Contest. We were also proud to have had five out of the fifteen International Youth Choruses from our own District. The Fullerton Honors Chorus, Chandler (AZ) High School Men's Chorus, Boom Town Chorus, Sacramento Sound, and Pacific Standard all showed the audience that the future of barbershop is in good voice. Congratulations to all of our competitors. You make us proud!

By now you've probably heard about Operation Harold Hill. This program was launched late in 2011 and is already in full swing. This is a great opportunity for your chapter to gain membership. The program was proven successful a few years ago and promises to be bigger and better this time. Our District currently has 28 out of 77 chapters enrolled with more signing up daily. Don't miss the chance to work with some of the best "Harold Hills" in our Society as they guide your chapter in attracting members. Best of all...it's at NO COST to you, your chapter or our District.

Our Learn to Sing Program is also moving along nicely. Under the expert leadership of Alan Gordon, this is another chance for your chapter to attract singers. It also works well for existing members to get a refresher on vocal techniques. Alan has done a tremendous job of identifying qualified clinicians to work with prospective members and help them shed the shyness that sometimes keeps men from joining a chorus. I'm excited that reports have come in with rave reviews about L2S. Contact Alan for details on how you can be a part of it.

We have started laying the groundwork that will provide musical, administrative and organizational assistance to

chapters at their request. Our CSLT Chairman Gordon Bergthold is finalizing plans that will put chapters in contact with individuals having expertise in these targeted areas. Our District has men with such high levels of skill from which everyone can benefit. Look for details on that in the very near future.

I hope to see all of you at the upcoming Spring Prelims/Division Convention & Contest in Ontario. The team has been working hard to bring you another exciting weekend of harmony and friendship.

There is so much more to tell you, but this is already too long. I hope everyone is as excited as I am as we move forward into another year of barbershop at its best in the Far Western District. I look forward to serving you as your District President and hope to continue the tradition of musical excellence and the pioneer spirit that has made our District the best in the Society!

*"Together we can change the world...one song at a time!"*

## **Westunes Announcement**

The FWD Board of Directors determined in the 2011 Fall meeting that the interest of the members is best served to continue Westunes electronically, i.e., no longer print and mail it. It is time for the FWD to enter the electronic age.

One reason for this action is to reduce FWD expenditures, considering the prevailing economic circumstances. Westunes has been posted electronically for 10 years on the FWD website and that will continue. The Spring, Summer and Fall issues will be printed and electronic. Starting with the Winter issue, Westunes will be electronic only.

## **FWD Sunshine Chairman Les Cudworth**

**3227 Root Ave  
Carmichael, CA 95608-3415  
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lesimpact@netzero.net**



## 2012 International MidWinter in Tucson Your Chorus Festival Results

*Article and Photographs by Bill Faulkner  
American River Chorus & Gold Rush Chorus*

Fifteen Choruses participated in the Youth Harmony Festival at the Midwinter Convention in Tucson Arizona. Five Youth Choruses from the Far Western District did themselves and the district proud.

The show started off with a bang when the Chandler High Young Ladies Chorus from Mesa Arizona entertained the audience performing five songs some of which were barbershop arrangements.



They were followed by their male counterparts from the Chandler High Young Mens Chorus who were the first in the lineup of contestants in the Youth Harmony Festival.



The next Far Western District Chorus was the Boomtown Chorus from Southern California who had a very entertaining package which won them first place in Plateau A (average age 19 or less).



They were followed by Fullerton Honors Chorus who had a whopping 45 members on stage.

Later in the contest the other two Far Western District Choruses Sacramento Sound and Pacific Standard dazzled their audience with their performances.



Sacramento Sound finished their set by casually strolling off both sides of the stage while singing Feelin' Groovy. The crowd went wild wondering if they were coming back to take their applause.



Finally Pacific Standard did great job to the glee of their audience. They were under the direction of not just one, or two, but three talented directors.

## ***District Executive Vice President***



**Allan Webb**

### **FWD Contacts**

For those of you who may not be familiar with the reporting structure outlined in the FWD SOP, the FWD EVP position oversees the activities of the chairmen of the various standing DMT committees (Chapter Support and Leadership Training, Chorus Director Development, Contest and Judging, Events, Marketing and PR, Member Services, Music and Performance, Youth In Harmony, and Financial Development). As such, it is fundamentally an operations role, similar to that of a corporate COO, but the bulk of the real work falls on the shoulders of the committee chairmen, the members of their teams, and their counterparts at the chapter level (where applicable).

I'm excited about all the things we have percolating in these areas for the coming year, but we have an immediate need to fill two of the chairmen positions which are either currently vacant or about to be vacated: Financial Development, and Events. We have not had a Financial Development Chairman for quite some time, and we have recently been informed by our rockstar Events Chairman (John Jones) that he has some plans for retirement that he'd like to pursue as soon as we can find a replacement for him. The Events Chairman position is particularly critical from an operations standpoint, as we have event dates set in stone which have to be planned for and executed upon. Anyone with a background in event planning, contracting with hotels and performance venues, project management, etc, would be a good candidate for this position. Both of these positions would involve selecting others to serve on your committee and to help share the load.

Per the SOP, the Financial Development Committee Chairman will:

1. Maintain a program for identifying notable charitable activities by individual chapters toward schools, charities or other non-profit organizations and publicly acknowledging those chapters in a suitable fashion.
2. Prepare a comprehensive financial development plan for the district with annual updates for board approval and endorsement. The plan shall include recognition of sources including chapters, events and identify suggested recipients including Harmony Foundation, local not-for-profit community services and/or charities.
3. Lead the annual district goal-setting process to determine challenging yet appropriate goals
4. Ensure that the best available volunteers accept the functional chapter and/or divisional chairmen positions
5. Include potential volunteers in ways that help identify skills and fit for future needs
6. Participate in the district annual fund- raising program planning process
7. Implement the district goals of the District Financial Development plan through chapter and/or divisional representatives, and provide the necessary information to the district recognition program identifying chapter donations to Harmony Foundation, local community service, and any other eligible not for profit organization.
8. Provide district key-item information monthly directly to the District President and others as he suggests.
9. Participate monthly with the President of the Harmony Foundation to formally review the key-item report generated from data supplied by both parties at the end of each month. Make that report available as directed by the District President.
10. Report to the district president, and serve on the work planning and budgeting team.
11. Attend all district board and house of delegate meetings when specifically invited by the District President.

The Events Committee Chairman is responsible for:

1. The effective planning and budgeting, site selection and operation of all events held within the district, including conventions, music festivals, alternatives to competition, music and leadership training schools. Etc.
2. Interpreting all Society regulations as they apply to district conventions.
3. Assuring that district convention manuals are up-to-date and used.
4. Maintaining a comprehensive convention history file on past and potential convention sites.
5. Acts as liaison with the Society Events Committee
6. Serves as chair of the District Events Committee and is responsible for filling all key positions on the Committee
7. Actively monitors the activity of his representatives in each division, who will regularly review and update possible venue sites.
8. Attending FWD BOD and HOD meetings when specifically invited by the District President.
9. Shall annually appoint a Division Event Planner (DEP) for each Division to approve venues and supervise/support conventions and contests that are held in the Division.

If you or someone you know would be a good candidate for either of these positions, please contact me.

## Spring Festival - 2012 BQPA

The dates of April 11-15 have been set for the Spring Festival in 2012, in Tempe, AZ. Once again, we have the Embassy Suites reserved - all suites have upgraded bed and bath linens and new flat screen TV's. Go to:  
[www.embassysuitestempe.com](http://www.embassysuitestempe.com) for hotel details.

The room rate is \$102.00 per night, which is still a bargain, considering the entire package that we receive. And, because of the numbers we bring in, the charges for meeting space and set up fees are very minimal.

Our block of rooms will be held for us until March 12, 2012. After that date, the hotel is free to release the balance of our room block to others. Last year there were some very late registrants and it was not easy to get the convention room rate for them. The hotel has a very lenient cancellation policy if your plans change. This is a very popular hotel for nearby ASU; they house many spring sport teams and families. Register early to be sure you have a room.

For reservations it is best to call the hotel directly and tell them you are coming for the Barbershop event. 480-797-7444. Use this number for the complementary airport shuttle as well.

A schedule of events will be posted as we get closer to the dates.

To get a jump start on your quartet weekend, plan to arrive on Wednesday, April 11th. The Arizona Quartet Chapter will again host an evening of quartet singing at the American-Italian Club, 7509 N. 12th St., Phoenix, AZ. It all begins at 5:30 pm with the spaghetti buffet provided by the club for a mere \$7.00 a plate with meatballs, salad and bread. Quartet time begins at 7:00 pm and there will be several rounds of 'draw' quartets. Transportation can be provided from the hotel. Contact me at [rmtous@msn.com](mailto:rmtous@msn.com) but please do so early enough that I can make arrangement for the cars.

See you there !!

Rex Touslee [rmtous@msn.com](mailto:rmtous@msn.com) 970-988-5652

### **After the 2012 International Convention in Portland, Oregon ALASKA BARBERSHOP MIXED CHORUS CRUISE**

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For a brochure with all of the cruise information, please call or email Edward Pio at 831-206-0450/[edwardpio@gmail.com](mailto:edwardpio@gmail.com) or Jo Black at 916-253-9293/[jomamabass@gmail.com](mailto:jomamabass@gmail.com) Make your reservations today!

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**Chair: Chapter Support & Leadership  
Gordon "Mongo" Bergthold**

**[FWD Contacts](#)**

I just returned from the International Mid-Winter Convention in Tucson, Arizona and I'm just thrilled to share a bit of that experience with you through this quarterly newsletter. You'll undoubtedly hear a lot from President Russ Young but for my money this was one of the most enjoyable experiences I've had in 48 years in the Society.

First, this is a leadership and training position I hold in the FWD and there is no better training tool than attending a convention. The people you meet each have something to offer and the events are always educational if you just take the time to think about what is being offered at the time.

The Tucson Chapter, host for this year's event, did a great job and had a special show Thursday night, January 19th with the Spirit of Phoenix Chorus as their guest. The chapter quartets did a very good job in presenting a portion of the show. Friday night featured the past senior's quartet champs in the form of a chorus directed by none other than Joe Lyles of BHS fame. We also were treated to two of the top five quartets plus the Disneyland Quartet who replaced Main Street who couldn't make the performance.

Saturday morning we were treated to 15 youth choruses from the US and Canada in a presentation that brought the house to its feet repeatedly until about 2:30pm when the adjudicators applied their ratings to each competitor. Each chorus exhibited their expertise in a unique fashion that let us all know that the BHS is in good shape for the future. Our appreciation goes out to the Harmony Foundation for supporting the youth choruses and to those in the society and others who support the Foundation.

On Saturday night the show opened with the International Championship Scottsdale, Arizona Sweet Adelines chorus who were the highlight of the weekend for me. One hundred plus singers who danced, sang and thoroughly entertained the audience for about 30 minutes. They were followed by the Musical Island Boys and Old School, the number 2 and 1 medalists in 2011.

I think the reason I feel so strongly about attending conventions is that this is a way to experience what our founder, OC Cash, had in mind when they first met in Tulsa,

Oklahoma. We are blessed to have such an outlet for our stressful lives and I say, "Keep the whole world singing"



**Chair: Chorus Director Development  
John Minsker**

**[FWD Contacts](#)**



**Chair: Contest & Judging  
Ron Black**

**[FWD Contacts](#)**

I was so disappointed to miss the Mid-Winter Convention in Tucson. On Tuesday before the weekend, my wife Jo had some significant dizziness, which didn't abate before Wednesday a.m. So after a trip to the doctor, at which he recommended a whole battery of "tests", I felt like staying home with her was the right choice. She's better now, but all the tests are not done yet, so we don't have any diagnosis yet. Thanks to all of you who knew Jo was not well and sent regards.

2012 presents a "boosted" convention format for International Quartet Preliminaries, March 9-11, in Ontario. But combined that weekend are both the Southwest and Southeast Divisions. So we could have 25+ quartets and 20+ choruses, easily. And the venue is very centered for both Divisions. Should be a great weekend, don't miss it!

The other three Divisions are in April and May, check the FWD calendar for the information.

Please plan to attend your Division Convention. There are new events and classes being offered, check out the registration pages elsewhere in this issue. And please note, if you plan to compete, here's the four "must do's":

1. You must be an active member of the Society
2. You must be an active member of your FWD quartet or chorus
3. Your quartet or chorus must be registered at the [ebiz.barbershop.org](http://ebiz.barbershop.org) site to compete\*
4. You must register for the convention

And you can go to the FWD Website Conventions page (<http://www.fwdconventions.org/>) to find out everything you need to know.



\*The contest entry form (CJ-20) is filled in by you on the Society website. It is available for you to enter now. Go to here:

<https://ebiz.barbershop.org>

Login and go to Contest Entry. Compete! DO IT! You won't regret it.



**Chair: Events  
John Jones**

**[FWD Contacts](#)**



**Chair : Marketing & Public Relations  
Greg Titus**

**[FWD Contacts](#)**



**Chair : Member Services  
Jack Peters**

**[FWD Contacts](#)**

There are two major areas of growth for our sport of singing, 4 part, a cappella harmony, that we should all make our personal goals for 2012.

Growth in quality

Growth in quantity

Below, I'll discuss several ways to make these happen.

- (1) If you're having fun –
- (2) They will come!!

### **Sing better, more often, and share our secret**

#### **Having fun**

Making sure you're having fun at a chapter meeting, always learning how to create good sounds, singing good popular songs and serving your community, so you are healthy and having fun. If you're 10 to 15 or so guys and not having fun, e-mail me, and I'll share with you some very successful tested and proven programs. I also have a formula for the smaller chapters (10-25) to perform monthly, make \$600 every time they do, and spread the good sounds of songs everybody loves. Please e-mail me at: [jjack1@verizon.net](mailto:jjack1@verizon.net) if you're interested in more information, due to space restrictions here.

### **Operation Harold Hill – BHS sponsored program**

I encourage each chapter to join up and be a part of OHH. There are 14 helpful hints within this program on how to expose your chapter to your community and bring in new singers. By signing up, you'll be assigned a special Harold Hill assistant that will be your special rep to talk to and work closely with throughout the year for even more "bang for the buck".

[www.operationharoldhill.org](http://www.operationharoldhill.org)

### **Learn To Sing 4 Free – FWD sponsored program**

Now part of the OHH program is the Learn to Sing program. Our district has taken a leadership role in the LTS program by modifying it so your chapter doesn't need to supply the instructors. The FWD will provide your instructors and we have some of the best in the business right here in our district. Your job is to provide the interested students. Our trial year last year has now morphed into; The entire chapter should plan to attend these sessions and not just the new visitor/students. It's a fabulous opportunity for all to get on the same page with certain basic and progressive elements of singing correctly, together, and better.

Contact Alan Gordon at [gotchabari@juno.com](mailto:gotchabari@juno.com) or myself at [jjack1@verizon.net](mailto:jjack1@verizon.net) or (714) 496-4909 cell.

Look on page 14 for the LTS4Free flyer.

### **Old Habits – New Concept**

Did you know 99.9% of the 7 billion people on this planet, can sing. That doesn't mean they sing well or even on pitch, but the vocal chords were installed by nature and they can make a noise. It only takes using them as a vocal instrument to sing, similar to using a musical instrument that might otherwise be stored in a closet. So 3 ½ billion of these people are males who we want to talk with. We will *give them hope* that they can sing without being soloists, and have fun doing it. Here's what's different --- Instead of telling everyone about your hobby and trying to interest them in it, here's a new way to approach everyone. *Established and refined over the past two years by Paul Ellinger, VP Membership, PIO.*

You ask the question -- **"SO, WHERE DO YOU DO YOUR SINGING?"** Every day there are opportunities for you to bring this question into a conversation, just look for them. Most will respond with "In the shower" or "with the radio". Your response is: "Me to, but that's why I sing with a bunch of guys on Tues night. None of us are professional but singing together produces a unit sound that we could never do alone. We learn new techniques every time we meet and sing all kinds of music from show tunes, 50's, 60's, oldies, pop, gospel, holiday, you name it. 60% don't even read music. You should come over and take a

look.” (the closer) **“COULD I GET YOUR CARD? I’LL CALL YOU LATER AND WE CAN TALK MORE”**. Get their phone # and a name to call them later. Only then will you formally invite them to your meeting.

This is far different than you handing them a card or flyer. **Getting their** information, you control inviting them to your chapter meeting. **Give them** your information and they pre judge what you’re talking about and you’ve lost that control before they ever get to sing a tag or hear you in action. You’ve all heard; – *“Sell the sizzle – Not the steak.” Singing with a group of guys, none professional, but making great a cappella music together* is the Sizzle.

Good active singers will tell you they are, and we certainly welcome them also. They would be interested in having fun too, but with quartet work, competitions, show performances, solo’s, musical directorships, administration work, etc. With the two kinds of singers out there – *sing for themselves – sing for others*, we can satisfy both! After all – we are the world’s largest men’s singing organization, headquarters in the Music City of Nashville.

Ok, practice makes perfect, and as Garry T. says, permanent. So let’s all get crackin’, every day, and have some **FUN!** If you’re having fun – They will come!



**Chair: Music & Performance**  
**Nick Papageorge**

**[FWD Contacts](#)**

**HARMONY COLLEGE WEST**  
**JULY 20 – 22, 2012**  
**REDLANDS, CA**

The University of Redlands in Redlands CA. will be our home for this year’s HARMONY COLLEGE WEST. Members of the FWD will be rocking with music during the weekend of July 20-22, 2012. BARBERSHOP MUSIC! The members of the faculty are today’s legends that will be talked about tomorrow. The classes are more fun than you can imagine and the extra curricular activities, especially the late night tagging and old song singing, are worth the registration cost. Attendees will gain knowledge that will help them become better singers and enjoy their hobby more. But more importantly, their chapters will be rewarded because of the vast knowledge that will be brought back to the chapter.

In order to entice about 100 more FWD barbershoppers to attend the school this year, I am changing the structure a little bit by creating a “track-type” schedule. Each track will have different courses within it, and students can choose between them. In most cases, the courses will be hierarchal. However, students can choose to take any course in any order if they so desire. This tracking system will offer a more understandable vision of what courses they may want to take now, and in the future.

Here are the prospective Tracks and the Courses:

**Barbershop Potpourri:** So You Want To Be A Judge? Tag Singing/Woodshedding. Society District Videos. Barbershop Smorgasbord (What are – Society, FWD, My Chapter....)

**Directing:** So You Want To Be A Director? Directing I, Directing II, Making It Happen (front-line directors)

**Vocal Techniques:** Vocal Techniques 101. Vocal Techniques I. Vocal Techniques II. How To Be A Great (Lead, Tenor, Bass, or Bari).

**Chapter Leadership:** Membership/Retention (includes Society and District Programs). YMIH Chairmen. Leadership Class.

**Arranging:** Barbershop Theory. Arranging I. Arranging II.

**Quartet Coaching:** 8 Hours of coaching from the District and Society’s greatest quartet coaches.

Every one of us has an immense impact on the attendance at our District school. Without your continued support over these next 4 months, the attendance will remain the same: about 115 students. Our district desperately needs this attendance to double, and not just monetarily. HCWest is the greatest place to immerse our newer members in our hobby. Ask them to attend with you. Go to your chapter meeting and encourage your fellow members to join you this year as well! Greater attendance will allow us to offer the great classes that you want to take. The lower the attendance at the school, the lower the class offerings. So, help keep those offerings at a high level.

We will also be continuing “Small Chorus Coaching.” This is a “class” that has a small chorus being coached for 4 hours, and then their members take classes for the remaining four hours. Last year the Eureka California Chapter attended as a chorus and was coached by Gary Bolles. They had the time of their lives! Get your small chorus enrolled now. **ATTEND HARMONY COLLEGE WEST!**

By the time you read this, the District Board will have put the final touches on the newest Music and Performance program: Chapter Coaching. This will allow Chapters that normally don't receive coaching to be coached by one of our outstanding District coaches. Stay tuned for the specifics! Also, remember to continue to use our Coaching Reimbursement Program, and Standing Ovation Review Program.

Lastly, I strongly urge your chapter to attend or participate in your divisional convention/contest. Not only does attendance at these conventions provide revenue to keep our district programs alive, but it also allows us to renew old singing friendships and foster new ones! **See You There!**



**Chair : Young Men In Harmony  
John Krizek**

**[FWD Contacts](#)**

### **A Change in FWD YIH Leadership**

There's a new hand on the helm of the Youth In Harmony committee in the FWD. Jim Halvorson has taken over as chairman. I urge all chapters and members of the YIH team to provide Jim with all the support and help you can.

Most of you will recognize Jim from his many trips across the competition stage, most notably in quartets like Stardust, and currently 95 North. Jim is a high school music educator in Las Vegas and eminently qualified to take on this challenging role.

The youth outreach movement—which has its roots in this District—has truly become the wave of the future of our Society. Youth festivals, camps, workshops, school visits, joint performances, high school and college quartet contests, and direct support for school choirs, have become a way of life in this District. Thanks to all who's dedication and contributions have made it all possible. Those are the people who know the joy of sharing, not just our music and our lifestyle, but of enriching lives.

I will be working with Jim to help "break him in" and keep things working smoothly. I'll still be around, to help where I can. But after all these years—going all the way back 20 years ago to those times when Uncle Lloyd Steinkamp, the 139th Street Quartet, and a few others were stirring the pot, creating the high school quartet contest and

youth harmony camps, etc.—it's high time for me to retire from this role.

Cheers! John K

1/28/12

Thanks John! I have mighty big shoes to fill but I am excited to dig in and keep building on the many strengths of the best district in the society!

I am eager to get out and about this year to connect face to face with as many members as possible to hear about your youth activities and how you are helping to spread the word to the next generation of barbershoppers.

We have already had an exciting start to the year with the youth chorus festival held at our Midwinter convention in Tucson, AZ. We were represented by five outstanding groups (the most representatives from any district) and a great time was had by all in attendance.

In February we will have presentations at the Arizona Music Educators Association state conference and the Masters of Harmony youth festival. March will bring our spring prelims contest and annual High School quartet contest. In April I will even be giving our first barbershop presentation in a long time to the Nevada Music Educators Association state conference, so in our first few months we are already filling the calendar with great events.

As I find my way through this job, I will definitely miss a thing here or there. Luckily, I have the master, John Krizek to help me keep my head above water. However, if you have questions, comments or ideas, please feel free to drop me a line at [fwdyihchair@gmail.com](mailto:fwdyihchair@gmail.com) and check the YiH websites often for info and updates. This should be an exciting year to continue and nurture our youth movement.

Jim Halvorson

1/29/12



**Chair : Quartet Activities  
Bill Kane**

**[FWD Contacts](#)**

Will you be at the March FWD spring convention in Ontario CA?

If so, you have an opportunity to see the Inaugural FWD Quartet Harmony Platoon Contest Finals and Show. It will take place on Friday afternoon, March 9, at 3:00 in the

convention headquarters Holiday Inn Express in Ontario. It is open to anyone registered for the convention.

You will see the top quartets from a preliminary contest held on Thursday, which pitted 15 quartets representing 32 chapters from throughout the district. The 60 men will have spent two months learning four songs from high quality learning tracks. Then they will have enjoyed the prior 24 hours of fun singing in various random combinations. Judges for the contest are drawn from the ranks of prior District quartet champs, including 139th Street, TNT, Gotcha, Hi-Fidelity, Musicians Choice, Rhythm & Rhyme, Western Union and Revival (and that's just four guys).

Additional platoons are scheduled for the Northeastern Division contest weekend in Folsom CA in May, and the fall District convention in Arizona. The NE Division Platoon is open to singers from any Division. For details contact:

Don Salz, FWD Quartet Activity Committee  
PO Box 188506 Sacramento CA 95818  
916-813-2959 Don@aquartet.net

Platoon is based on concepts of the popular eXtreme Quartetting Harmony Brigade. Many of you will want to sign up to attend the second annual Harmony Brigade held in FWD this August in Reno NV. This is a 3-day event, so there is more time to sing more songs and have even more fun than with Platoon. You can apply for the Brigade yourself, but better hurry. They only have room enough left on some parts for 4 or 5 more guys. Just go to the website: [www.highsierrahb.org](http://www.highsierrahb.org)

Putting the Q in BHS

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### 50th Annual SoCal Novice Quartet Contest

*By Mark Sheldon, Orange Chapter PR VP*

The 50th Annual Southern California Novice Quartet Contest was held January 28, 2012, at the Village Theater in Orange. The Orange Quartet Chapter hosted this year's event, carrying on the long-standing tradition of the Westminster Chapter to promote the formation and development of quartets.

Many Chapter members contributed their time and skill to this year's event. The leadership and many-hats effort of Bob Calderwood was particularly critical to its success.

Don Derler was an entertaining emcee who kept everything moving smoothly onstage (and also contributed the graphic arts for our publicity).

Each competing quartet performed two songs and was scored according to standard Society methods. Three Society Judges made themselves available: Christopher Peterson (SNG), Sam Papageorge (PRS), and Phil Ordaz (MUS). Evaluations followed the contest. A handicap system based on past experience in competition was used.

Fourteen quartets with membership from several Southern California chapters participated. The Quartet personnel represented a wide range of experience from first-time competitors to an International Quartet Gold Medalist.

When the handicapped scores were finalized, fifth place went to Hometown, fourth place to Vox, third place to Monsters of Harmony, second place to Minor Fourth.

The 2012 SoCal Novice Quartet Champion was



Quantum Mass [Tenor Timothy Gedney, Lead Mark Lewis, Bari Chris Freiling, Bass Michael Parish], all from the Temecula Chapter.

Quantum Mass' winning song set was "Down by the Old Mill Stream" and "Keep Your Sunny Side Up."

Other quartets participating included 4 Octaves, Just 4 Fun, Coast to Coast, Impromptu2+2, Harbor Knights, Art-Tet, The Old and the Restless, 222nd Street, and Three Amigos Plus One.

In addition to the competing quartets, the Orange Plaza Gang performed as Mike Testers, and the outgoing Novice champs Reformed Villains performed while the scores were tallied.

Before the awards were announced, Reformed Villains' Lead and Orange Chapter President Dave Lowerre spoke eloquently about the positive role that the Novice Contest had played in the development of his quartet. The Orange Chapter is proud to continue to provide this contest so that all participants, whatever their level of ability, can take the opportunity it provides to advance their own growth.





## 2011 FWD Quartet Champions Artistic License

*by Jason Dyer*

Hello again! Artistic License here, very much enjoying being current FWD champs. The four of us actually arm wrestled to see who got to write the article for this Westunes addition. As the only former offensive lineman, and youngest guy by a longshot, I'll let you know it wasn't close (although Officer Kidder in the Tenor section did have his other hand on his gun while we wrestled – he knows all the dirty tricks in the Crafty-Old-Dude's-Intimidation Handbook!).

Even though Fresno was almost half a year ago, it seems like just yesterday, and every moment since has been sweeter knowing that we got to sing for the best crowd money can't buy. Some of the guys in the quartet have made this journey before... in fact, there's only one guy in the quartet who hasn't (me). So this experience has been especially wonderful for me, and very thought provoking as well. I've been trying to soak in as much of it as possible, and as a result many things have been swirling around in my head (there's lots of room for swirling). As such, I thought I would organize some of my disjointed and mildly amusing thoughts into an article form that some of you (other than my Mom) might enjoy. So here it is, the Top 10 Things I Love About Being a Far Western District Champion.

1. First of all, the applause and love of the fantastic FWD audience. Saturday night in Fresno was a particularly memorable performance for all of us in the quartet, and the memory of our audience reception and how much you embraced us will be forever etched in our hearts and minds. Each time a person came up

to us later and told us how they felt about the performance was also a treat (well, except for that one guy, but I think he was more of a heavy metal fan who just got turned around).

2. The next wonderful thing is that now the pressure is off and we don't have to make it through Divisionals and we don't get scored when we sing at the District convention anymore. Phew!! It sure is wonderful to perform in front of the FWD audience (no place better), but now that we'll get to do it without worrying about those darn judges (and their pencils), it should feel just that much better.
3. Another thing I love about being a FWD champ, is what I'm doing right now, writing this article. Getting four opportunities to share ourselves with all of you through these articles is a wonderful privilege. We even got on the cover of Westunes! Look, I'm Famous(ish)!! Anyways, for four total barbershop-heads like we are, it's so neat to have a chance to share our love of this hobby with you.
4. At the Show of Champions on Saturday night at District, the best moment as a new champ was when last year's champs [The Crush] came onto the stage to present us with the pins and trophies I've dreamed about for years. This seemed to make it official (they can't take it back, right?), and the best part is the big District Champion trophy, which I "got to carry" all the way back to Sacramento after the convention. By the way, as a College student I've been only momentarily tempted to use it as a party punch bowl. That thought always passes quickly.
5. Speaking of cool hardware, a great perk of being a champ is getting to wear one of those sweet black badges that all the old guys... I mean "previous champs" wear. These are worthy of their own entry because our names are on them, and they are much more noticeable than the pins. Everyone will say (under their breath), who's that kid and did he really win that badge or did he swipe it? And by the way, if you happen to have no life at all, be very lucky, and win, let's say, four district championships (paging Mr. Brunner to the ostentatious section), you can have all of the quartets listed on one (way too big) black badge!
6. There's a very special chorus in our district, one that rehearses very, very hard, and puts on a super intense show each district convention. I am of course talking about the Scorpionaires. I can't believe I actually get to sing with all the FWD legends now (and like forever and ever?) Some of those guys are older than dirt

*[Continued on page 12]*

[From page 11]

but can still kick my behind in singing and performing on stage. I want to be that good when I'm 105 like them.

7. The AFWDC (aka, "Past Champs") Show held on Friday nights after the 1st round of quartets has always been one of my favorite parts of a district convention. Now we get to sing on it! Me, on the same stage as the Great Western Kidder Spectrum, how cool is that? By the way, do I still have to pay Mr. Tieberg to get in (starving students need to know these things...)?
8. Only 3 left... Okay here we go! One of the coolest parts about this whole process, is that if you didn't make any really dumb mistakes (like losing the big trophy within minutes of winning it or something like that), then at the end of your year as a champ you get to join the Association of Far Western District Champions (assuming the nice gentlemen say it's OK). Being a member of this prestigious group has long been a dream of mine, and since I'm still in the "pinch me to prove this is real" phase, I'm offering bribes to anyone necessary to make sure I get in (That's how Mr. Caretto said it was done...).
9. Winning the district contest is a fantastic experience in and of itself, but of course it wouldn't be anywhere near as great if it weren't for all of you! Being a district champ presents the opportunity to meet a lot of people in our district, and even come and sing on various chapter shows (keep those calls coming!). We would certainly love to come spend a day or two with any of the fine chapters in the FWD, as we love sharing our music with you and with your audiences. We love being a part of a great show, so give us a call if you would like us to sing for you! (I think that's called "a plug", right?)
10. Lastly, and most importantly, the best part about being a FWD champ is that we get to represent the best district in the world at each show and competition we go to from here on out. As a Candidate Judge in the Music category, I get to interact with people throughout the Society, and it's amazing what respect people share for the Far Western District. Nothing beats knowing that when we step on stage, the whole FWD is behind us with their support. Thank you so much!

So there are my ramblings. Hopefully you found them mildly entertaining, and if not, then Rich wrote this article. Until next time, great people of the Far West!

Artistic License

**To: Chapter Presidents, VP Marketing and Bulletin Editors**

**From: Bruce Schroffel  
District Contest Coordinator**

**Now is time to bring fame and recognition  
for your hard working Bulletin Editor &  
chapter Marketing VP.**

### **CALL FOR ENTRIES Chapter Bulletin Editors**

**Start getting your entries ready.**

**You will need:**

- **To submit 2 consecutive issues of your bulletin**
- **Have at least 6 ssuies for the year**
- **Be a member of PROBE**

**DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS APRIL 1  
Contact me for details.**

**Bruce Schroffel  
<bls@netadvantage.com>**

**FWD Spring Convention in Ontario  
March 8-11, 2012**

**FWD Quartets Will Compete to Qualify for  
the July 1-8, 2012 International Quartet  
Contest in Portland, OR**

**SW & SE Quartets and Choruses Will  
Compete to Qualify for the October 11-14,  
2012 Fall Final Contest in Mesa, AZ**

**HOD meeting is Friday, March 10, 2PM.  
Chapter Delegate or not, you can attend  
to witness how the HOD functions.  
If you approve [or disapprove], contact  
your DVP to let him know.  
"IT'S YOUR DISTRICT"**



## 2011 International Chorus Champions The Masters of Harmony

*by Ron Larson*

The Masters of Harmony kicked off a busy holiday season by returning to Riverside's beautifully renovated Fox Theater for a Christmas show. Many in the capacity audience were hearing the Masters for the first time and they joined returning fans in loud, sustained applause throughout the show. Despite being thoroughly drained by the performance, the Masters men reassembled on stage about a half hour after show time for two additional hours of show quality videotaping under the direction of videography expert and chorus member Gary Stone. The taping will be used to produce a promotional CD that demonstrates the show worthiness of barbershop style harmony to future concert planners.

For the second year in a row, the Masters staged their annual Christmas show in Pasadena's legendary Ambassador Auditorium. Because of its ability to faithfully reproduce all the musical shadings of which performers are capable, the Ambassador Auditorium has been called the Carnegie Hall of the West. Based on audience reactions, the combination of the Masters talent in a world-class setting, with fresh, innovative program staging and scripting, produced probably the chorus's most spectacular and entertaining Christmas show ever. New to this show were a ukulele band, a new rousing song by audience favorite Les Weiser and his always crowd-pleasing Boyz in the Band combo, and even costumed Nativity actors in the sacred set at the end of the concert. In a hushed finale with house lights dimmed,

the Masters filed off stage holding candles and encircled the audience while singing "Silent Night."

For most of its history, the Masters have been fortunate to have excellent, well-furnished, centrally located rehearsal facilities generously provided by its host and namesake city, Santa Fe Springs. As they have for many years, the chorus once again repaid this generosity in several ways. One was to perform a mini-concert, along with other city music groups at the city's annual tree-lighting ceremony. Another was by providing quartets to sing holiday songs on a float preceding the Santa Claus float that travels to designated city locations each night for two weeks in mid-December. Special kudos go to Larry Goodfried who for years has worked tirelessly to make sure that a quartet is available for each night of this event, and to volunteer Ken Arnold, who for most of its long history has superbly managed an event so eagerly anticipated by kids and their parents throughout the community. At some point in the quartet entertainment, willing kids are invited onto the float stage and sing along with the quartet while parents proudly snap pictures of kids who may one day grace the stage of American Idol . . . or become future barbershoppers!

Thanks to the efforts of AJ Manker, the Annual Awards Banquet and Installation of Officers found a new home at Khoury's Restaurant in Long Beach. Keynote speaker for the event was Bob Lally, four-time gold medalist with the Masters of Harmony and past president of the Far Western District. Bruce Oldham received the 2011 Barbershopper of the Year Award. The zany, crowd-pleasing foursome known as Tenacious Q was named the top chapter quartet for 2011.

# Learn2SING!

This is a *sample* of one of the flyers available to your chapter to customize and promote your own Learn2Sing! Program.

**Men can discover or improve their singing talents with 6 FREE vocal lessons!**

- Week 1: Singing Posture and Proper Breathing
- Week 2: Freeing up the Vocal Mechanism
- Week 3: Vowels, Diphthongs, Singable / Non-Singable Consonants
- Week 4: Care of the Voice, Dynamics, Range Expansion
- Week 5: How to Read Music in 50 minutes!
- Week 6: Fundamentals of the Barbershop A Cappella style

The District will provide top quality instructions at no cost to you.

For more information to **grow** your chapter contact:

**Jack Peters**  
jjack1@verizon.net  
714.496.4909

or

**Alan Gordon**  
gotchabari@juno.com  
714.981.3820

Classes will be taught by world class educators, performers, judges and coaches.





# FAR WESTERN DISTRICT 2012 SPRING CONTESTS AND CONVENTION

## Contests and Show

International Quartet Prelims  
SE and SW Division Choruses  
SE and SW Division Quartets  
District High School Quartets  
Show of Champions

HOSTED BY THE  
**MASTERS OF HARMONY**


**MARCH 8-11, 2012**  
Colony High School Theater  
3850 E. Riverside Drive  
Ontario, CA

## Meetings and Events

District Board Meeting  
House of Delegates Meeting  
Past District Presidents Meeting  
AH-SOW

REGISTRATION PRICES		HOTEL INFORMATION
ALL CONTESTANTS MUST BUY AN ALL EVENTS REGISTRATION FOR THE APPLICABLE AGE GROUP		
ALL EVENTS EARLY BIRD (Postmarked by February 8 <sup>th</sup> )	ALL EVENTS LATE / ON SITE (Postmarked after February 8 <sup>th</sup> )	<b>All Hotel Reservations must be made directly with <i>Holiday Inn Express &amp; Suites – Ontario Airport</i> 2280 South Haven Ave. Ontario, CA 91761 (909) 930-5555 or <a href="http://www.hiexpressontario.com">www.hiexpressontario.com</a></b>
ALL EVENTS: Adult ..... \$40.00 Young Adult (under 26) ..... \$20.00 Child under 13 ..... Free New Member First Conv'n ..... Free (Check New Member Offers)	ALL EVENTS: Adult ..... \$50.00 Young Adult (under 26) ..... \$25.00 Child under 13 ..... Free SINGLE EVENT ..... \$25.00 each	

## 2012 FAR WESTERN DISTRICT SPRING CONTESTS AND CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s)	Chapter or City:	Member	Wife/Guest	Young Adult	Child <13 / New	District Officer	AFWDC / Other VIP	Amount Due
*		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
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		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
*Address		 Far Western District <b>ONTARIO</b> SW/SE Divisional, Spring '12						
City								
State								
Zip								
Email								
Phone								
Competing with:								

Mail one form for your party (up to eight names per sheet), and a check covering all registrations to:

**BOB CATHAWAY – SPRING REGISTRATIONS**  
6504 Audene Way, Bakersfield, CA 93308

☐ Check here if you have a disability that may require accommodation in order for you to fully participate in the convention.

Make check payable to: **MASTERS OF HARMONY** or include CC info below    **TOTAL ENCLOSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Visa   ☐ M/C Number \_\_\_\_\_    Card Expiration \_\_\_\_\_    Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Find online order link at [bhsfwd.org](http://bhsfwd.org) — Questions? Call 661-399-6292 or e-mail [rwathaway@bak.rr.com](mailto:rwathaway@bak.rr.com)

# Far Western District 2012 Fall Contest and Convention

## Contests and Shows

District Quartet Contest  
District Chorus Contest  
District Senior Quartet Contest  
Show of Champions  
Past Quartet Champs Show


## Hosted By:

Greater Phoenix Chapter  
October 11-14, 2012  
Mesa Arts Center

## Meetings and Events

District Board Meeting  
House of Delegates Meeting  
Past District Presidents Meeting  
AH-SOW  
Classes and Workshop

Registration Prices		Headquarters hotel is the Marriott  200 N. Centennial Way Mesa, AZ 480-898-8300  Hotel is across the street to the north from the Mesa Arts Center.
ALL CONTESTANTS MUST PURCHASE AN ALL EVENTS REGISTRATION FOR THE APPLICABLE AGE GROUP		
ALL EVENTS EARLY BIRD (Postmarked by Sep 8 <sup>th</sup> )	ALL EVENTS LATE/ON SITE (Postmarked by Sep 8 <sup>th</sup> )	
Adult \$40 Young Adult (under 26) \$20 Non-Member(under 13) Free	Adult \$50 Young Adult (under 26) \$25 Non-Member(under 13) Free SINGLE EVENT \$25/12.50	

2012 FAR WESTERN DISTRICT Fall Contest and Convention Registration		Member	Wife/S.O.	Child/Youth	District Officer	Chapter Delegate	AFWDC/VIP	Amount Due
Name(s)	Chapter or City							
*		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
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* Address:								
City: State:								
Email:								
Competing With:								
Total:								
Mail one form for your party (up to 8 names per sheet), and a check covering all registrations to: Randy Bingel 5410 E. Farmdale Ave. Mesa, AZ 85206 Info: 480-278-0749								



## *Discover Mesa Arizona*

### **Far Western District Barbershop Harmony Society Fall Contest and Convention**

October 11-14, 2012

The Greater Phoenix Chapter welcomes you to nearby Mesa, Arizona for this year's Far Western District Barbershop Harmony Fall Convention. We are pleased to be hosting this year's convention and ready to make this one for the history books.

Hotel	Distance from Mesa Arts Center	Rate	Number
<b>Marriott (Headquarters)</b>	<b>2 blocks</b>	<b>\$109</b>	<b>480-898-8300</b>
Best Western Mezona	½ mile	\$79	480-834-9233
Holiday Inn	2 ½ miles	\$94	480-964-7000
Comfort Inn & Suites	½ mile	\$69 - \$74	480-621-6375
Travelodge	½ mile	\$80	480-964-5694

# 2012 NORTHWEST DIVISION CONVENTION

## Quartet and Chorus Contest, Woodshedding Workshop

Woodside High School Performing Arts Center, 199 Churchill Avenue, Woodside, CA

Saturday, April 14, 2012

Hosted by



REGISTRATION PRICES		HEADQUARTERS HOTEL
ALL EVENTS EARLY BIRD (postmarked by March 14) Adult (26 or older) \$30 Young Adult (under 26) \$15 12 and under Free	ALL EVENTS LATE / ON SITE (postmarked after March 14) Adult (26 or older) \$40 Young Adult (under 26) \$20 12 and under Free	Best Western Executive Suites 25 Fifth Avenue Redwood City, CA 94063 800-386-7377 Group code: barbershopfwdnw

Every contestant must have a Full registration.

Single-event (quartet or chorus contest) registrations for non-contestants are available at the door for \$20.

**Instant electronic registration, with secure payment via credit card, is available at**

**<http://barbershop-harmony.org/convention-2012.html>**

**Or mail the form below with a check (payable to "PAMV Chapter, BHS") to:**

Terry Moore, 3351 Alma St. #228, Palo Alto, CA 94306-3507

Name _____	Quartet _____
Address _____	Chorus/Chapter _____
City State Zip _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Bass <input type="checkbox"/> Bari <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Tenor
Phone _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if you need disability accommodation in order to participate fully in the convention. You will be contacted to discuss your needs.
Email _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> District Officer <input type="checkbox"/> AFWDC	

Guest Name as it should appear on the badge	City or Chapter	Amount

Questions? Contact Terry Moore at [tmooresing@gmail.com](mailto:tmooresing@gmail.com) or 650-736-4089.



# 2012 ARIZONA DIVISION Quartet and Chorus Contest

April 21, 2012

**Hosted by the Tucson Sunshine Chapter  
Tucson Barbershop eXperience**

## Contest Location

Moon Valley High School  
3625 West Cactus Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85029  
Quartet Contest 12 Noon  
Chorus Contest 7:00 PM

## Headquarters Hotel

Holiday Inn (Formerly Ramada Plaza)  
12027 N. 28th Drive  
Phoenix, AZ 85029  
Tel: 602-548-6000

**\$72.50 Room Rate**

Registration Prices								
All Events Early Bird			All Events Late/On-Site			Single Event Tickets		
Adult \$30			Adult \$40			Quartet Contest \$20		
Student \$15			Student \$20			Chorus Contest \$20		
Postmarked by March 24, 2012			Postmarked after March 24, 2012			At the Door		

Registrant Information								
Name _____					Chorus Name _____			
Address 1 _____					Quartet Name _____			
Address2 _____					Telephone _____			
City, State, Zip _____					Email Address _____			

Name	Chapter	Bass	Bari	Lead	Tenor	Guest	District Officer	Amount Due

Multiple registrations may be listed on this form. Payment must be for ALL registrations on this form. [checks only]  
☐ Check here if you have a disability that may require accommodation in order for you to fully participate in the convention

Mail Registrations and Check to:  
 Jere Hill Registrar  
 5080 N. Stonehouse Pl. Tucson, AZ 85750  
 Or send questions to  
[Tussilverfox@aol.com](mailto:Tussilverfox@aol.com)

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to the Tucson Sunshine Chapter

All badges will be available at Moon Valley HS, Saturday, 9:00 AM, April 21, 2012



# 2012 Northeast Division Convention and Contest Make Singing Happen!

Saturday, May 19, 2012  
Jill Solberg Performing Arts Theater  
Folsom High School  
1655 Iron Point Road  
Folsom, CA 95630



**HOSTED BY  
THE SACRAMENTO CAPITOLAIRES**



Full Early Bird Registration Type (Choose One) Postmarked on or before 4/20/12		Full Late/On-Site Registration Type (Choose One) Postmarked/purchased on or after 4/21/12		Single Events SOLD ON-SITE ONLY	
Full Adult	\$30	Full Adult	\$40	Quartet Contest	\$20
Youth (Under 26)	\$15	Youth (Under 26)	\$20	Chorus Contest	\$20
Under 13	Free	Under 13	Free	Contestants MUST have Full Registration	
Guest Name		City	State	Zip	Price

**TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Received** \_\_\_\_\_

**Order #** \_\_\_\_\_

## Headquarters Hotel:

HILTON GARDEN INN, 221 IRON POINT ROAD, FOLSOM, CA. 95630, (916) 353-1717 Ext.5005

Contact: KARLA WEYMOUTH

**Room Rates:** \$89.00, plus all pertinent taxes, 2 persons per room maximum, 1 King or 2 Twin beds

**Specials:** Includes full off-the-menu breakfast for the length of your stay (\$10.95 per night per person value)

[http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/S/SMFFHGI-BHSF-20120519/index.jhtml?WT.mc\\_id=POG](http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/S/SMFFHGI-BHSF-20120519/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG)

## SELECT YOUR METHOD OF PAYMENT:

☐ **CHECK** made payable to: Sacramento Capitolaire

Return completed form with check to:

Blair Reynolds, 4305 Winding Woods Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628

☐ **Online:** For online registration information, go to: <http://www.capitolaires.org/>

**Questions?** Blair Reynolds (916) 967-1601



**FWD DVP for Division 1 SW**  
**Bill Rosica**

[\*\*FWD Contacts\*\*](#)

2011 is now a faint glimmer. What did your chapter accomplish last year? What do you have planned for 2012? There are plenty of opportunities out there. Your Board and your Chapter Service Reps are ready to lend a hand.

Keith Eckhardt has begun signing up chapters for Operation Harold Hill (OHH). I hope your chapter will take advantage of this program to grow your membership. I have already seen many chapters already signed up and it would be great if the Southwest Division had 100% buy-in. You have absolutely nothing to lose and everything to gain. Contact Keith and let him know you're interested.

Well, your officers made a brave effort to visit each chapter in the Southwest Division in 2011. With the help of Immediate Past President, Bernard Priceman, we visited most chapters. For circumstances beyond our control, like different schedules and rehearsal changes, we were not able to hit all the chapters. I believe we got to 90% of you, though. We had a few questions to ask the movers and shakers to better serve you. I think we got a lot of good information that will help us help you. Look for more in the Westunes.

I hope your chapter was successful last year. Did you attend or compete in an FWD contest? Did you hold an annual show? Did you add new members to your roster? And finally, did you have fun? I hope you managed all four, but if not I hope the last one was at the top of your list. We must enjoy ourselves to keep our membership current and our hobby fresh.

We had a great time in Sacramento for the Leadership Academy in November. Those of you who attended, thank you. Those who couldn't make it, there is good news. Next year we'll hold the Academy in Southern California. These academies are a good source of ideas and you can meet and pick the brains of some of our more successful chapter leaders. Please pencil

in the weekend prior to Thanksgiving for Leadership Academy and the District will do what we can to make it a productive event.

Finally, let me know of your accomplishments and challenges. I hear from some chapters, but not nearly enough. As you know I live in Bakersfield, but my job takes me into the LA environs quite often. We can work together to let me visit your chapter or even your Board Meeting so I can get to know you and your chapter a little better. I don't have all the answers, but I'm willing to work with your leadership to see if we can come up with a few suggestions that may be just what you want. Let me know!



**Division 1 SW Chapters**  
**Ken Day, Editor**

[\*\*FWD Contacts\*\*](#)

## **ALOHA**

## **JACK HASHIMOTO**

October was a month saddened by the passing of our beloved lead singer and friend **Bobby Reyes**. Bobby leaves his wife Joanne, children and many friends in the Sounds of Aloha Ohana. The chorus sang at his funeral on October 29.

We performed aboard the USS Missouri in observance of Veterans' Day. It was a performance in which it was hard for us to keep our emotions in check because many of us had served.

We prepared and performed in many a Christmas gig. For some performances we did a skit, written by our own **Ralph Brandt**, called *Santa Moves to Hawaii*.

Elections for the 2012 Officers and Directors were held and the following were elected: Pres **Jack Hashimoto**, VP Prog **Ed Reid**, VP Ch Dev **Larry Paterson**, VP Mu&P **Mike Darcey**, VP Marketing **Chris Lowe**, Sec **Dan Tom**, Treas **Glenn Crowder**, Directors at Large **Ken Nelson** and **Jonathan Spangler**. Hold-over Directors are **Lars Isaacson** and **Bill Joor**. Newly appointed committee chairs are **Don Raymond** - 2012 Annual Show, and **Phil Chang** -Uniforms. BSOMs were October - **Lars**

**Isaacson**, November - **Larry Paterson**, December - **Mark Conching**.

## **CONEJO VALLEY NEIL PENNYWITT**

The 2010 Holiday season saw **Harmony Oaks** performing at private parties and making visits to our own members who have fallen on tough health times.

We're looking forward to our entry into chorus competition at the 2012 Spring District Convention. Conejo Valley stopped competition because we felt that small choruses were not recognized for what we did well instead of only being criticized for all we were lacking. It's been seven years since the chorus has competed and a number of our new members wanted to see what it was like. Here's hoping that the judging has become a bit more positive!

The Chorus held its annual Installation Dinner to present the 2012 Board of Directors to the members, their wives, and guests. **Gary Wetzel** was introduced as President, and **Bob Josephson** was named 2011 BOTY. Chapter comedy quartet **Harmony Connection** (**Gary Wetzel**, **Neil Pennywitt**, **Herb Jacobowitz**, **Nick Larsen**) had the room howling with laughter. The chapter website is [www.CVHOV.com](http://www.CVHOV.com).

## **PASADENA BILL CAULEY**

2012 Chapter Board of Directors are Pres **Dan Madsen**, Sec **José Ochoa**, Treas **Pierre Debbaudt**, VP Membership **Larry Oberlander**, VP Mu&P **Jonathan Hinckley**, VP Operations **Leonard Jensen**, VP Shows **Michael Alexander**, and Board Member **Barclay Tucker**.

Our annual installation dinner was arranged by the team of **Steve Peacock**, **Bill Cauley**, and **John Hursey**. Entertainment was provided by **IMPACT** (**John Minsker**, **Randy Thorpe**, **E. Phil Aydon**, and **Sean Chasworth**). **Dr. Jim Kline**, installing officer, became a member of our chapter while a freshman at Pasadena College. **Mike Senter** was the director then. **Crown City Good Time Music Company** was spawned from the Pasadena Chapter. Later with his joining **139th Street Quartet** he continued his record-setting march toward gold including 20 consecutive international competitions with them. He

established a record 30 attempts at gold on the international stage finally winning with **Gotcha!**

**Larry Oberlander** is the Pasadena Chapter / Crown City Chorus 2011 BOTY. 2011 Presidential Awards were presented to **Steve Peacock**, **E. Phil Aydon**, **José Ochoa**, **Larry Oberlander**, **John Hursey**, **Dan Madsen**, **Jay Marcott**, and **Leonard Jensen**.

## **RINCON BEACH KEN DAY**

The 2012 Chapter officers are: Pres **Monty Clark**, IPP **Bernie Sentianin**, Sec **Bill Chase**, Treas **Bruce Hunter**, Membership VP **Barry Liker**, Music VP; **Michael Murphy**, Public Relations VP **Ken Day**, Program VP **Walt Rugh**, and Members at Large, **Jim Serdahely** and **Bill Crome**.

We sang at the Lighthouse Church's Holiday Festival for the second year in a row, and for the Camarillo Springs Homeowners Association, the Padre Sera Catholic Church Seniors Luncheon, and the retirement home in upscale Santa Barbara-Sanmarkan.

## **SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BRUCE POEHLMAN**

We decided to spend 2012 as a rebuilding year; both in building membership and quality of singing. Stay tuned for progress reports. Congratulations to 2011 BOTY Ed Schackman. **Todd Kolberg** installed the 2012 officers: Pres **Bruce Poehlman**, IPP and Program VP **Tim Singer**, Music VP **Michael Van Schoonhoven**, Membership VP **Ben Marder**, Sec **Ed Schackman**, Treas **Len Wormes**, Communications VP **Bob Karlin**, Members at Large **Shelley Herman** and **Mark Wolf**. Also recognized for special awards were: Rang Hanson Award - **Shelley Herman**, Roger Dixon Award - **Ben Marder**, Owen Edwards Award - **Mark Wolf**, and the Lady of the Valleyaires Award - **Eilileen Marder**. Check out our website [www.valleyaires.net](http://www.valleyaires.net)

**SAN LUIS OBISPO PETE BENNETT**  
The **Gold Coast Chorus** enjoyed a successful Holiday Show, performed jointly this year with our sister **Pacific Horizon Chorus** (SAI). Former Gold Coast Chorus director **Bob McGee**, now director of the **Central City Chordsmen** and lead of



**FourGiven**, installed our 2012 chapter officers. Long-time chapter contributor **Ric Snodey** was inducted into the founder's Hall of Fame and Director **Thomas Bourne** was honored as 2011 BOTY.

New member **Ted Henson** followed his "*Rookie of the Year*" award by stepping up to head the 2012 Singing Valentines Committee.

Visit our website [www.slogold.org](http://www.slogold.org) and/or call Pete Bennett at 805-550-2874.

**SANTA BARBARA** **ERIC FENRICH**  
**The Channel City Chorus** celebrated the holidays with several performances in the Santa Barbara area in addition to our traditional caroling up and down State Street in downtown.

Unfortunately, the new year begins with a sad note for us with the sudden passing of **Ed Morin**, our current BOTY and a beloved member of our chorus. Ed joined the CCC thirty years ago at a time when most people retire. Our Installation and Awards Banquet, originally scheduled for the day after Ed's passing, was rescheduled for February 4.

**SANTA MARIA** **RICHARD BURCH**  
We added new members, had more sing-outs and increased our exposure in 2011. The result is, we had a packed house for our Christmas show. We have already had a couple of good sing-outs. We will have three, maybe four quartets for Singing Valentines. We also have a Youth in Harmony festival scheduled for February 25 that is being coordinated by **Bob Maurer**.

Our board has a couple of changes. One of our new members, **Doug Daniels**, is our Membership VP and **Dick Mininger** is serving as Program VP.

Our newest member is **Alex Foley**, a 19 year old. We had a quartet that started in high school visiting and expressing interest. They have sung with us in our last two Christmas shows.

**SANTA MONICA** **MARTY MITNICK**  
**The Santa Monica Oceanaires** welcomes newest member **Rob Gordon**, a Baritone.

Our 2012 officer's installation had 60 happy people enjoying the humor of MC **Jim Leedom** and **Bruce Schroffel** (special awards). Our installing officer was dear friend **Laura Pallas**, Master Director of the famed award winning **Santa Monica Chorus**, and director of **The Valleyaires**.

2012 officers are: Pres **Jerry Walker**, Sec **Wally Mees**, Treas **Sam Lai**, Chorus Manager **Ken Scholt**, VP Mu&P **Ben Lowe**, VP Development **Jack Fry**, VP Marketing & PR **Bruce Schroffel**, Librarian **Dan Palodichuk**, Members-at-large **Jack Walton**, **Bill Boeck**, **David Erickson** and **Amnon Avidor**.

Two *BOTYs* were presented: **Jerry Walker** and **Bill Finlan**. Presidential Awards were presented to **Jack Fry** and **Dan Palodichuk**. The Director's Journeyman's Award went to **Ben Lowe**. A special Sweet Heart Award was given to **Sue Leedom**, wife of **Jim Leedom**, and to **Claire Heron**, wife of **Bob Heron**.

Special recognition goes to three sets of father-son members of The Oceanaires: **Bob & Vance Heron**, **Larry & Brandon Boone** and **Bill & Tim Boeck**.

**SOUTH BAY** **JOE NAGLE**  
**The Coastliners** had several Christmas season performances: the RE/MAX Palos Verdes Office Christmas Party, the El Segundo Christmas Parade (won a trophy for Best Adult Performance), and our annual Del Amo Caroling & Pizza Extravaganza, where we were joined by several members of the **Orange Empire & Orange Quartet Chapters**.

Nineteen Coastliners performed for a crowd estimated in the thousands at the Mary Star of the Sea St. Vincent de Paul Society Fundraiser. Directed by **Peter Neushul & Dan Ullfig**, the chorus' performance was augmented with quartet performances by **C-Nile Sound** (**Bruce Beyne**, **Denny Lawrence**, **Peter Neushul** (substitute), **Rick Llewelyn**) and **Charlie's Quartet** (**Paul Ivanick**, **Don Duperon**, **Dave Clark**, **Charlie Thompson**).

**VENTURA** **JAN TAVARES**  
We performed a one-hour show at Saint-Columba's Episcopal Church and received a bit of a standing

ovation. **Harmony Channel (Bruce Hunter, Duane Ashby, Brent Burningham, Doug Van Bogelen)**, and **Priority Male (Jim Browne, Bill Chrome, Bill Chase, Jim Rodriguez)**, members of the Rincon Beach Chapter, made the event like a chapter show.

We had three Christmas performances. At the Olivas Adobe, we sang for two hours to very appreciative audiences in the waiting room. Director **Jim Browne** encouraged the audience to sing with us. At the Adolpho Camarillo House, we sang for the huge crowd waiting in line to see Santa. We also strolled down Christmas Tree Lane while caroling.

**The Channel Islands Clippers Chapter** Awards and Officer Installation ceremony was conducted by **Bernard Priceman**. Chapter officers are: Pres **Jan Tavares**, Sec **Lu Hintz**, Treas **Jay Shapiro**, VP Marketing and PR **Verne Arnold**, VP Mu&P **Jim Sumstine**, IPP and VP Chapter Development **Bill Butala**, and Members At Large **Fred Engle** and **Ron Lindsay**. 2011 BOTY is **Vern Arnold** and **Bill Winfield** is *Rookie of The Year*.

#### WHITTIER

#### PAUL FEINZIMER

**Norm Bernier** asked me to fill in while his computer is on the mend. I am Co-President for 2012 with Norm. Our other officers for this year are Sec Pro-Tem **Norm Bernier**, Treas **John LeFever**, Music VPs **Steve Peacock** and **Bill Thompson**, VP Operations **Henry Nassen**, VP Programs **Paul Feinzimer**, IPP **Norm Bernier**, Board Members at Large **Ed Schoemann** and **Dick Manis**, Installing Officer **Steve Peacock**, and our Show Committee **Dick & Judy Manis**, **Jeff Pulice**, and **Bill Nassen**. Steve Peacock conducted the Installation ceremony.

Director **Paul Gutierrez** moved on to other pursuits. We are now recruiting a new Director. In the interim, **Steve Peacock**, a longtime multi-chapter and quartet member, has graciously and voluntarily taken on the role of conductor and music/singing educator/trainer.

FWD IPP **Bernard Priceman** visited our Chapter to conduct the Society survey. We had a very pleasant and productive meeting with Mr. Priceman, who discussed the many resources that the FWD has to offer.



FWD DVP for Division 2 SE  
Craig Hughes

#### [FWD Contacts](#)

What is it about the joy of Barbershop Harmony? I find myself harmonizing with the buzz of a fan or the usually annoying hum of an engine. I was watching a political debate the other night and found myself wanting to teach the four candidates a Tag. Harmony is an awesome thing and improves just about any situation. We are a bunch of lucky men and need to spread the word to everyone else.

I attended the Midwinter Convention in Tucson. Midwinter is an amazing blend of “old and new” showcasing the Senior Quartets and the Youth Choruses. The SE Division was well represented. Bill Wilson (Fullerton Chapter) sang Bass in The Velvet Frogs (4th place Senior Quartet) that brought down the house with their routine. Nick Papageorge directed the Fullerton Honors Chorus in the Youth Chorus Festival. The young men received an Excellent rating. Young men singing tags with Society Members until the wee hours is inspiring.

The 2013 Division Contest will be hosted by an SE Division Chapter. Timing and requirements are yet to be determined. Several of our chapters have already expressed an interest in “bidding for” the opportunity. As I get more info I will start the process. Please consider this opportunity for your Chapter.

Membership recruitment is high on everyone’s list and “Operation Harold Hill” is a valuable resource. As of January 25th SE had 6 of 19 chapters enrolled. If your chapter isn’t already involved in the process please consider doing so. At the end of 2011 our division membership was down 2% from prior year. Four chapters had double digit growth. Part of my role is to identify things that work in those chapters that might transfer to the rest of us. If you have ideas please send them to me.

Summer is fast approaching and there are many opportunities to celebrate our unique hobby, enjoy

the fellowship, and improve your skills. Consider International in Portland (7/1-8), Harmony College West in Redlands (7/20-22), Harmony University in St. Joseph (7/29 -8/5), and the High Sierra Harmony Brigade in Reno (8/24-26). Speaking of International, our own Pacific Coast Harmony (La Jolla) is competing in the Chorus Competition. Break a leg!

My goal for 2012 is simple. Visit as many chapters as possible and help wherever needed. It is a privilege to represent you on the Board and I look forward to meeting all of you. Don't hesitate to contact me for any reason.



**Division 2 SE Chapters**  
**Dale Vaughn**

[\*\*FWD Contacts\*\*](#)

#### **BREA**

#### **MARK STOKES**

**The Gaslight Chorus** just celebrated its tenth anniversary. A special thanks to **Jack Peters** (Membership Chairman for the FWD) for being our installing officer. We invited back the original founding members and all others who have sung with us over the past 10 years. We concluded our program by inviting them to join us on the risers for two of our chorus standards and the sound was awesome.

We sold out the house for our Christmas show at the Curtis Theatre. Our shows are unique as we not only performed as a chorus but we also put 11 quartet/octet combinations on stage (and that's from a show that had 25 total singers.)

#### **COACHELLA VALLEY**

#### **TERRY MANN**

This, the first quarter of the calendar year, is our busy quarter. Almost all of our members are here, both full-timers and seasonal snow birds, and most of our performances are in this quarter of the year. But this year for the first time in many years we will perform at our Divisional competition, and not just for an evaluation score, but as a competitor! We have been judged by our Panel of Senior Barbershopper Wives who deems us ready.

We lost three members in 2011, one by death, one by family requirement, and one who became a snow bird, but added **Fred Anderson** and **Bob Adamson**.

We are enjoying our new way of having weekly quartetting. Any man who wants to participate tosses his name badge into one of four hats, for the part he wants to sing and at break time, sets of four are randomly selected. During the break, each quartet then chooses one song and rehearses it two or three times. The quality of our quartets is amazingly better, much more fun to be in and much more pleasant to hear!

#### **EL CAJON**

#### **BILL SOUKUP**

A terrific ending to a great year was highlighted by four Christmas carol performances and a fun caroling evening together with spouses and friends arranged and hosted by Program VP **Bob Harshberger**.

We thoroughly enjoyed having SE DVP [now EVP] **Allan Webb** visit us twice: first at a regular meeting, and again for the installation of our officers for 2012. Installed were Pres **Ed Herron**, Sec/Treas **Roger Simpson**, VP Chapter Development and Membership **Paul Schmidt**, Program VP **Bob Harshberger**, and Chorus Manager **Jack Evans**. Director **Tom Anderson** presented awards to **Ed Herron**, **Al Justice**, and **Roger Simpson**. The Most Improved Singer Award was given to **Bill Soukup**.

IPP **Joe Perry** recognized **Ed Herron** with the President's Award; **Maury Rapkin** as the 2011 **BOTY**; and **Jack Evans** with the Certificate of Merit.

#### **FULLERTON**

#### **DICK COTE**

Eleven, eleven, eleven, eleven, eleven... that's a lotta' elevens, and the inspiration for our Orange Empire Chorus to sing a lot on such a memorable day. And so it was that we sang on the 11th day of the 11th month of 2011 at 11 o'clock 11 songs as part of the La Habra Veteran's Day program. It was quite an inspiring program honoring all veterans past and present, and including color guard, bugle, the VFW, American Legion, a slide show, presenting blue star flags to families and speeches by the mayor and council members honoring veterans.

The Annual Fullerton Christmas Cabaret Show was a huge hit! For the 18th year in a row, and applying a pattern of “*everything old is new again*,” our super show producer **Art Clayton** skillfully melded portions of past shows with innovative entertaining new ideas to make things rewarding and thrilling for our loyal attendees as well as to hook new patrons... as it surely did.

Happy 90th Birthday wishes were surprised on **Deane Scoville** when 20 or so of his barbershop friends marched down the center aisle at the Mount Calvary Lutheran Church in the middle of Sunday service. And yes, he was happily surprised!

Memorial tributes were written for member **Paul Kelley** and **Anita French**, wife of **Stan French**.

Long-time Barbershop Clippin's Editor **Dick Cote** and wife **Kay** celebrated completing their 15th year as publisher/editor of this award-winning publication. Dick continues his recovery from heart surgery and here's to the next happy and healthy 15 years!

#### **HEMET** **DAVE KELLEY**

Due to extenuating circumstances, we cancelled our spring show on March 3rd & 4th. We are concentrating on singing more in the community and singing Valentines. In December the chorus performed twice at the Camelot Retirement Community and also sang for the tree lighting in downtown Hemet.

Our slate of officers for 2012 are: Pres **Jack Morisseau**, Sec **Dave Kelley**, Treas **Bob Couse**, VP Mu&P **Harry Kaylor**, VP Vocal Production **Clay Panlaqui**, Assistant Director and Member at Large **Larry Hull**, and Member at Large **Dave Kelley**. Our Director remains **Bob Doty**.

#### **INLAND EMPIRE** **DON SEVESIND**

A local cable TV company invited some leaders and members of the chorus to record a segment for their show. Following the question and answer portion of the taping we then recorded four songs.

We installed new and some returning board members at an installation banquet. MC was **Bob Patterson**.

The chapter is gearing up for Singing Valentines and competing at the Spring Convention in Ontario. We have signed up for the Harold Hill program and we can't wait to get it going!

#### **LA JOLLA** **DALE VAUGHN**

**Pacific Coast Harmony** marched right into the holiday season as we prepared yet again for another successful joint-holiday show with the **San Diego Sweet Adeline Chorus**. Special thanks to our new Chorus Manger and Show Chair **Dave Pfizenmeier**! The highlight of our two shows was the hugely successful toy collection for the Marines Toys for Tots Program.

SE DVP **Craig Hughes** installed new PCH Officers: IPP **Jerry Kemp**, Pres **Lou Benedict**, VP Marketing & PR **Dale Vaughn**, VP Membership **Bryan Thompson**, VP Music **Jude Thomas**, Sec **Ken Baker**, Treas **Pete Hensley**, Youth Dev **Paul Girard**, Members At Large **Mike French** & **Jim Watt**. Annual Award Winners honored were: *BOTY* to **Jude Thomas**, President's Award to **Dave Pfizenmeier**, Director's Award to **Jerry Kent**, Dave Miller Award for Barbershop Excellence to **Dale Vaughn**, Mr. Dependable to **Mike French**, Mr. Inspiration to **Mark Whelan**, Mr. Broadway to **Carl Buntin**, Rookie of the Year to **Bobbie Reynolds**.

Constantly present in our minds is our continued work toward the upcoming Division contest in Ontario in March as well as our shot on the International stage in Portland this July!

#### **LAS VEGAS** **LARRY LITCHFIELD**

**Martin Judd** -- re-elected president of our brothers in harmony, **Las Vegas Metro's City of Lights Chorus** -- was Installing Officer at our Installation Banquet. 2012 officers are Pres **Larry Litchfield**, Mu&P VP **Dennis Johnson**, Membership VP **Rick Ives**, Treas **Dave Kennedy**, Sec **David Larson**, Chorus Manager **Ross Marty**, Members-at-Large **Roc Pucci** and **John Waugh**, and IPP **Bill Lusk**. Thanks to outgoing treasurer **Phillip Sonneman** for his service to the Chapter for the last six years.

Dennis Johnson is the 2011 *BOTY*. **Larry Pechart** received the Director's Award; and the President's



Award went to Director **Albert Weiss**. **Cecilia Pechart** (Larry's wife) was surprised with a *Very Special Award* for her many unselfish Chapter contributions as our beloved 'house mom'. **Dave Kennedy** was recognized as Most Durable Player.

We continue to foster camaraderie between three local registered choruses and heighten public awareness of our common hobby with a pledge to hold more joint events. **The Gamble-Aires** congratulates the **CCC** ladies on their 50th anniversary this year!

Our chapter enrolled in the Society's Operation Harold Hill membership campaign with the chorus' unanimous vote of support. Our "Harold" is **Terry Mercing** from the Little Rock, AR Diamond Back Chorus. **Rick Ives** heads up our OHH effort.

Music Director **John Hulbert** joined **John Mininger**, **Warren Hettinga** and **Chuck Wines** as bass in the Silver Knights (2010 FWD Sr champions).

#### ORANGE QUARTET CHAPTER

##### MARK SHELDON

Members were saddened by the passing of **Phil Wortman**, most recently with the **Orange Chapter** and the **Orange Town Four Quartet**.

The chapter welcomed new members **Charles Carothers** (dual member with **Santa Fe Springs**), **Michael Evans** (dual member with **Fullerton**), and **John Ragland**. **Rich Martinez** reached his 50-year Society membership milestone.

A new quartet combination is singing as **Finishing Touch**, with **Don Thomas**, **Phil Roth**, **Stan Tinkle**, and **Paul Sandorff**.

On January 28 the Chapter hosted the 50th Annual SoCal Novice Contest. **Bob Calderwood** was the lead organizer. Many other chapter members volunteered and/or participated in the contest.

#### RIVERSIDE

##### GAYLORD SPENCE

Year 2011 was an exceptional year for the Riverside Chapter. Our much hyped show at Sun Lakes Country Club in Banning was even more of a success

than we had envisioned, and because of its success our "on-site" sponsor for the show, the Sun Lakes Chorale, has invited us to make this an annual event.

Our "explosion" of growth that we experienced in 2010 and 2011 is still happening. We added **Henry Vaughn** to our tenor section, replacing **Paul Zambino**, who was transferred to Idaho.

#### SAN DIEGO

##### DUCROT PEPYS

**The Sun Harbor Chorus** celebrated the holiday season with our usual panache - Elf Suits and pointy ears. Our 34th Annual Christmas Show was held in the Historic Casa Del Prado Theater in Balboa Park. It featured a solo by **Louis Regas** who sang a verse of "Silent Night" in Greek. The Show was described as "best ever" by many audience members.

We Elf-ed ourselves to more spirit lifting fun by participating in the San Diego Christmas Tree Lighting and the annual December Nights. We have been the opening act with the Mayor for years and enjoy singing to thousands of San Diegans as well as the consistent media exposure. We are the "poster boys" for Christmas in San Diego!

Five Board Members (**Aaron Aubuchon**, **Craig Hughes**, **Eric Jones**, **Neal Palmer** and **Kerm Taylor**) attended the Leadership Academy in Sacramento, all five paying their own airfare to preserve chapter funds.

**Paul Graham**, baritone of the 1965 International Champs **The Western Continentals** installed our officers at a formal dinner coordinated by Paul Schmidt. 2012 President **Kerm Taylor** challenged us to a 12-12-12 plan in 2012. Grow by 12 active members. Give 12 performances. Improve our contest score by 12 points.



**FWD DVP for Division 3 NW**  
**Chuck Leavitt**

[\*\*FWD Contacts\*\*](#)

If you have dutifully come to this spot every issue, you noticed an absence of my column for the past

couple of issues. There were multiple reasons, but I do apologize for my lack of contributing to Westunes. One reason was that I resumed working last year after nearly two years of unemployment. The demands of the new job along with increasing family commitments have started to mount. So this is my farewell article as your District Vice President representing the Northwest Division. It has been an honor and privilege to represent you on the FWD Board these past five years. I leave you in very capable hands.

Hopefully all of the chapters have enrolled in Operation Harold Hill, a program to provide expert guidance to chapters in developing successful membership programs. If you have not heard about this program in your chapter, please ask your leadership and get involved with your chapter's membership program in 2012. The most successful chapters are those where every member considers himself part of the membership team.

Please be sure you have Saturday, April 14 set aside on your calendar for this year's Northwest Division Convention in Woodside. The Woodside High School Performing Arts Center is a wonderful venue for our quartet and chorus contests. The opportunity to gather with Barbershoppers from other chapters to sing and exchange ideas is one of the most fun things we do in our hobby outside the walls of our own weekly chapter meetings. Whether you choose to compete, perform for evaluation only, or just come and cheer on your brother singers, you will have a memorable day full of harmony and camaraderie.

Although I am no longer your DVP, I am always available to assist or advise as my time allows. Please contact me any time. I will see you in Woodside.

*Steve Sammonds*

Hello Northwest Division,

I want to thank Steve for his terrific service to our division over the past five years. I really appreciate his energy and commitment as a chorus director, quartet man and district officer. I'm going to work hard to pick up and carry forward his district efforts.

I want to meet as many of you as I can at your chapter meeting or at district events. The NW Division convention in Woodside on April 14th would be a great place to start – especially if you also come with your chorus or quartet.

I strongly believe that our collective focus should be on the chapter – your chapter. How can you (and I) help make it even more fun? Think about it – we'll talk soon.

*Chuck Leavitt*



**Division 3 NW Chapters**  
**John Heather, Editor**

**[FWD Contacts](#)**

**FREMONT HAYWARD**      **RAY SPINOSA**  
**The Dimension Chorus** held its annual holiday show with guest performer Mt. Eden High School who again wowed the crowd with a stellar performance. The show was co-hosted by young **Dominic Survine**, son of chorus director **Demaster Survine**. Dominic completely upstaged his adult co-host **Kevin Smith** and everyone else.

The chorus once again performed at Villa Fairmont Mental Rehabilitation Center. The chorus was proud to again make this performance as a public service and has done so for the past several years.

At January's installation dinner, former director **James Hall** installed the officers for 2012. Our director **Demaster Survine** is the 2011 **BOTY**.

**MONTEREY PENINSULA**      **SAM KIER**  
**The Cypressaires** entertained holiday season shoppers at Del Monte Center.

A portion of every Tuesday evening rehearsal is devoted to the recording of the chapter's best choral and quartet efforts. The recordings will be archived and used for marketing the chorus and providing a learning aid for new members.

**The Cypressaires** established a significant online video presence with the recent creation of the Cypressaires Chorus Channel on You Tube (<http://www.youtube.com/user/CypressairesChorus>). This Channel features video clips of chorus and quartet performances from several of the Cypressaires' Annual Shows.

Four young men from Seaside High School are becoming student members of the **Monterey Chapter**. The four hope to become a chapter quartet. **The Cypressaires** will fund their attendance at Youth Harmony Camp this coming summer.

#### **PALO ALTO/MOUNTAIN VIEW**

##### **DAVID WEATHERFORD**

**The Peninsulaires Holiday Chorus** welcomed 10 holiday-only singers who joined with the regulars in presenting holiday songs to seven appreciative audiences. Some of them sang with us "just for December", but liked it so much that they became regulars.

The celebration of the past year's accomplishments and the swearing-in of our new officers took place at our annual installation dinner. Retiring president **Dave Kocharhook** handed over the reigns to incoming president **Chuck Mollet**. Other officers for 2012 include Sec **Ian Marshall**, Treas **David Morley**, Program VP **Gary Miller**, Marketing VP **Nigel Endersby**, Members at Large **Jeff Harris** and **Paul Eastman**, Music VP **Terry Moore**, and Chapter Development VP **John Hinkle**. Our FWD NE Division Vice President **Richard Lund** gave charge to the new board in eloquent fashion, drawing upon the wisdom of President Abraham Lincoln by means of pithy quotations relevant to each office.

In 2011 the Peninsulaires held two sessions of "*Free Voice Lessons*." As a result we have gained 10 new members. Congratulations are in order to **John Hinkle** who organized the events and to **Paul Eastman** who gave the lessons.

Preparations are well under way for the Northwest Division Convention and Contest, to be hosted by the **Palo Alto/Mountain View Chapter** on April 13th and 14th in Woodside, California. See you there!

#### **SAN FRANCISCO**

##### **DON KINGTON**

The Chapter held its Installation Luncheon at the Basque Center in South San Francisco. FWD NW Division VP **Steve Sammonds** administered the oath to the following stalwarts: **Greg Goyhenetche**, President; **Charles Haletky**, Treas; **Tom Carter**, Sec; **Jason Poyner**, VP Music; **Fred Merrick**, VP Membership; **Leon Sorhondo**, Board Member at Large; **Newt Harband**, IPP. **Charles Feltman** continues as Music Director.

#### **SAN MATEO**

##### **THOMAS ADDISON**

**The Golden Chordsmen** performed at hospitals, shopping centers, and at the famed Filoli Estate during the Christmas season. 2012 officers are: Pres **Fred Moraga**, Sec **Paul Buchanan**, VP Music **Tom Addison**, Treas **Pete Wanger**, VP Chapter Development **Rick Cram**, and Members at Large **Dean Stocker** and **Dave McCann**. We are pleased to welcome four new members to our dynamic chapter led by Chorus Director **Cort Bender**.

We continue to host quartet night the fifth Tuesday of the months with five Tuesdays, and invite any willing quartet men to join us for an evening of quartetting.

#### **SANTA ROSA**

##### **RICHARD PARRY-JONES**

**The Redwood Chordsmen** held their annual dinner to present awards for 2011 and install the new Board for 2012. The event was hosted by last year's BOTY **Phil DeBar** with **Britt Brittan** serving as Installing Officer. Award winners were **Jan Lappin**, **Gabor Toth**, **Koty Hall**, **Shelly Albaum**, **Kelly McConnell**, **Allan Jones**, **Mike Ferrel**, **Dan Exelby**, **Jeremy Donley** and **Larry Wendt**. **Mark Sundahl** received the BOTY trophy for the Rohnert Park Wine Country Troubadours and **Richard Parry-Jones** was the 2011 BOTY for the Chordsmen.

New 2011 Officers are: Pres **Allan Jones**, Development VP **Randy Barron**, Membership VP **Shelly Albaum** Program VP **Dan Exelby**, and Members at Large **Larry Resnikoff** and **Mark Sundahl**. **Wayne Hovdesven**, **Kelly McConnell**, **Dan Schell**, **Britt Brittan** and **Richard PJ** return to serve for another year.

**Bob Lappin** and **Mark Sundahl** are working on our new web site.

**STOP PRESS:** The chorus performed at the Barclay Concert at Santa Rosa High School. The kids are so enthusiastic and rewarded us once more with standing ovations. Now, if we can just get a pupil (or his father or uncle) to join us.

## **SF BAY CITIES QUARTET**

### **JORDAN MAKOWER**

At the request of his family, a SFBC Chapter quartet (**Roman Avila, Mike Irvin, Dave Laubscher, Steve Gummersall**) sang at a "Celebration of Life" for **Bob Jackson** in Walnut Creek CA. Bob was a founding member of the SFBC Quartet Chapter, and also sang with the San Jose chorus for more than 20 years.

**Bill Beck** and **Dennis Baker** joined us at the January 11th meeting, Dennis traveling about 170 miles to do so. We sang tags that some of us had never seen before. **Bruce Bunting** and **David Tuttelman** showed their versatility by taking turns singing different parts in a few quartets. **John Heather** and his wife Bess, **Steve Gummersall** and his wife Sara, **Dave Laubscher** and **Jan Petrinovics, Sieg Yoder** and his wife Ruth all shared in our bi-monthly meeting at Harry's Hofbrau. **Roman Avila**, our Music VP, led us in a few group songs, and helped improve our singing technique. We meet for Lunch Bunch on the 1st Wednesday each month, and the 2nd and 4th Wednesday evenings at Harry's, 390 Saratoga Avenue, in San Jose. Call Jordan Makower 408-735-8515 for more information.



**FWD DVP for Division 4 NE**  
**Richard Lund**

[\*\*FWD Contacts\*\*](#)

I am excited to be your new Northeast Division Vice President and plan to be doing a lot of traveling – to get to know and join all of you on the risers. I have already visited several chapters for incredible evenings of song and fellowship: Davis-Vacaville, Sacramento, Reno, Placerville, Redding, Nevada Placer have all shown this old barbershopper how it's

done! During this first quarter of my tenure I have also had the honor of being the installing officer for Reno and the Peninsulaires.

We have an exciting event about to take place in the Northeast Division and that is the chartering of a new chapter in Elko, Nevada. This group of about 15 men has been meeting for two months and have let the society know they are ready to Charter. How exciting is this? Congratulations to our own Sacramento Sound youth chorus having just completed their competition at Midwinter in Tucson! This chorus was assembled by Rich Brunner, president of ARC and lead of Artistic License and directed by Jason Dyer, bass of Artistic License. The work and effort that goes into supporting our youth and making this happen is incredible; and all of the men of this chorus should be very proud of their accomplishments.

And for all of you seniors out there, go and look at the International Midwinter Seniors Contest results. You will only see one, that's right, only one Far Western District quartet in the list of 27 quartets: Velvet Frogs in fourth place - congratulations Frogs! Wow! What an opportunity for all of us senior guys. Let's make sure that next year in Orlando there are many from the great Far Western District. I know that my quartet will be working toward that goal.

Many chapters in the Northeast Division (9 total) have signed up for mentoring through Operation Harold Hill. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to get some significant hands-on recruiting support within our chapters from volunteers throughout the society. If your chapter has not registered to participate in this activity, I strongly encourage you to do so.

In looking at Jim Turnmire's membership report for YOY (year over year) fourth quarter, it appears that three chapters in the Northeast Division increased their membership numbers: Stockton +3, California Delta +2, and Reno +4. The remaining chapters lost a total of 43 members. That's a net of -34, or  $34/529 = .064$ . Doesn't seem like much when put it in fractional form, however our Northeast Division does not compare favorably with the FWD loss of approximately 65 men, or .024 in 2011. Our commitment to



OHH can assist each of our individual chapters to turn this around. I would like to challenge each chapter to show a net increase in members for the first quarter of 2012. I know we can do it – let's make that our goal.

Speaking of goals, let's set another one Northeast Division – 100% of our Chapters represented at the Northeast Division Contest in Folsom, California May 19th. Hosted by the Sacramento Capitolaire, the venue is the beautiful Folsom High School. How cool would it be for all 14 Chapters in the Northeast Division to be represented?

Lastly, I will be sending a brief e-letter to all NE Chapter Presidents and Secretaries on a monthly basis – a way to stay in touch with each Chapter. Please feel free to contact me for any assistance or just to talk and I look forward to seeing many of you at Prelims in Ontario March 8th – 10th and perhaps even the NW Divisional in Woodside April 13th – 14th. I'll be there; if you are there, please come up and introduce yourself.



Division 4 NE Chapters  
Roger Perkins, Editor

[FWD Contacts](#)

**CALIFORNIA DELTA** **RAY RHYMER**  
**Todd Kidder**, tenor of **Artistic License**, installed the 2012 officers for the **California Delta Chapter (American River Chorus, aka the ARC)**: Pres **Rich Brunner**, Sec **Carl Miller**, Treas **Earl Walker**, Marketing VP **Tim Huntsinger**, Membership VP **Steve Greene**, Mu&P VP **Ray Rhymer**, and Members-at-Large **Max Bates & Keith Slater**. 2011 *BOTY* is **Steve Taylor**. *Rookie of the Year* is **Bobby Georges**. The Director's Award went to **Don Franklin** and the President's award went to **Winston Char**. Special recognition was given to **Patsy Miller-Lund** for her steadfast and significant assistance over the last 2 years.

The joint holiday show with the **Sacramento Capitolaire** was conducted with a great spirit of cooperation and the event yielded a significant profit for each chapter.

The ARC embarked on a three-year vocal improvement program, intending to navigate its way continuously to better singing and performing.

#### **CARSON CITY**

**COLIN SOONG**

Our membership will sadly miss the good fellowship and song with longstanding BHS bari, **Howard Stevens**. Singing barbershop favorites at his funeral brought back many fond memories and on the same day **Bill Weiser** dedicated a Christmas performance by the **Reno Silver Dollar Chorus** to his memory.

Director **BJ Hill** is preparing us for a Carson Music Club performance at the Brewery Arts Center and his individual quartet tutoring is preparing us for Singing Valentines in February.

We are proud to announce that this year's president, a veteran barbershopper of 42 years, is **Carl Truman**. You may remember Carl as the past president of the FWD 1998. He was a quartet finalist in FWD competition and also sang with the 1974 second place 101-man International Medalist chorus, the **Peninsulaire**.

#### **CENTRAL CALIFORNIA**

**MILES SUTTER**

Our Fall show featured the Northeast Division Champions **American River Chorus** who were fabulous, and GVC performed, perhaps, its best show to date! The 'special feature' for our show was the high school students from Merced, Ceres, and Manteca, performing as quartets and ensembles. The students then combined forces and performed as a chorus under the directorship of **Gabe Caretto**. Thank you Marc, Juan, Bruce and Howard for taking the time to go to these high schools and introduce our wonderful hobby to them. Our own quartet, **Four On The Floor**, (**Howard Barber, Terrell Chambers, Mike Viss, Greg Kramp**) also performed. The finale for the evening was the combined choruses of ARC, GVC and all the high school students, 140 voices strong, performing *God Bless America* together with audience participation. Special mention goes to our volunteer theatre crew of **Melany Huston and Nate Finley**, and also director **Bruce Sellnow**.

The GVC had the pleasure of sharing the stage with our local **River Lights Chorus (SAI)** for their annu-

al holiday concert at the Gallo Center for the Arts, each chorus performing their individual Christmas repertoire for a very appreciative audience. GVC joined RLC on stage for the grand finale singing *Do You Hear The People Sing?*

The afterglow presented a very touching moment for a very beautiful young lady, 12 year old **Audrey Hull**, who has Williams Syndrome. It was mentioned to one of our members by her mother that Audrey's love of music was barbershop, and when asked if she had one wish, what would it be, she said she wanted a straw hat. GVC was able to grant her wish and presented it to her at the afterglow, together with a barbershop quartet vest. We serenaded her with two songs, much to the delight of the people gathered around. The following email, from our Facebook "Fan Club" page, is from Audrey's mother: *"Thank you Golden Valley Chorus for the wonderful performance tonight and the special after-show for my daughter Audrey. She enjoyed every minute of the show and LOVES her new hat and vest! What you did for her was truly an amazing act of kindness and she will never forget it. I am so grateful. We look forward to seeing you again soon!"*

#### DAVIS-VACAVILLE

#### TOM POWERS

**The West Valley Chorus** conducted our 23rd Annual *Harmony in Our Lives* Benefit Show. We raised over \$6,400 for grants to be given for choral music projects in the Davis schools. We have a partnership with the Davis School Arts Foundation (DSAF), and turn over show proceeds to the DSAF, who identifies and issues grants for musical projects in the Davis schools. Last year we provided the seed money to get two new choruses formed as well as fund various smaller music projects.

Our show actually consists of two back-to-back performances on a Sunday afternoon. Davis High School has a 500-seat theater and we virtually fill it for each performance. **The West Valley Chorus** opens each show, performing for a large audience primarily made up of proud parents and relatives who are not usually in our regular audiences. Each performance features 15-minute acts from five different schools, so we have 10 different choruses on stage in

the course of the afternoon. We honor someone each year who has contributed to the long-term musical enrichment of the community. This year we honored the conductor of the high school's symphony orchestra, which was named as the best high school orchestra in the nation last year by a prestigious magazine.

#### FOLSOM

#### DENNIS STOHL

**The Folsom Harmony Express** winter activities included the annual recital, singing Christmas carols for the Orangevale Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony, providing music on Veterans Day at the Sylvan Cemetery in Citrus Heights, singing Christmas songs at the Folsom Zoo, and a Christmas party.

2012 Officers were installed by **Clark Abrahamson** who was accompanied by his wife, **Rosemarie Doug Vestal** was the MC and he was installed for his 7th year as chapter president. Chorus Director & 2010 BOTY **Kent Borrowdale** presented the 2011 BOTY award to the "NorCal" **Ken Potter**. Ken is a 56-year Society member and was recognized as a founding member of the chapter and for his faithful attendance to all chapter meetings and functions.

#### FRESNO

#### DAVID REITZEL

**GNC A Cappella** (aka **Gold Note Chorus**) held our annual Halloween Cabaret which produced a host of ghosts, goblins, and critters, all entertained after dinner by the **GNC**, **The Ovation Girls Chorus** directed by **Leslie Knudsen**, and **Silver & Gold** with Tenors **Jim Warner** and **Richard Nielsen** alternating.

Highlighting November was our participation in the Visalia youth workshop and show which featured **Visalia's Mighty Oak Chorus** and quartets, **GNC a Cappella**, **Silver & Gold**, and a lively program by **Tenacious Q**. **Tenacious Q**, **GNC** director **Adam Kitt**, and Visalians spent much time introducing the appreciative mixed youth chorus to Barbershop.

We joined **Voices United**, **Dede Nibler's** women's group, in a standing-room only Christmas program.

The New Year brought our annual installation of officers, President **Bill Holden** presiding. **Gale (Smitty) Smith**, a long-time member of **GNC**, installed the

officers: Pres **Bill Holden**, IPP **Terry Starr**, Sec **Bill Golden**, Treas **Mike Smith**, VP Mu&P **Wes Jackson**, VP Membership & Development **Clint Cole**, VP Mktg. & Publicity **Jim Irvine**, Program VP **David Reitzel**, Chorus Manager **Doug Yarrow**, and Board Members-at-Large **Alan Dorfmeier**, **Harold Fast**, and **Richard Wayne**. Director **Adam Kitt** presented singing awards to **Bob Bergstrom** and **Josh Burrow**. **Josh Burrow** is the *Rookie of the Year*. **David Reitzel** is our 2011 *BOTY*.

**NEVADA PLACER**                      **ROGER PERKINS**  
**The Sierranaders** sang at the annual Victorian Christmas in Nevada City for the 21st time. The **RRKK Quartet (Roger Santiago, Roger Perkins, Kent Borrowdale, Ken Potter)** performed for the Retired Government Employees of Grass Valley and then for the Singles Club at Del Webb Lincoln Hills.

Our installation dinner was held at the Powers Mansion B&B for the 4th year. Owner Alfred Lee loves to have our chapter and provides a wonderful buffet. Installing officer was the ever-popular **Clark Abrahamson** accompanied by his lovely wife, **Rosemarie**. He installed officers this year to the tune of *Bill Grogan's Goat*. **Verne Bagby** will be returning as president and **Tony Prowense** is the 2011 *BOTY*.

Long-time member **Al Drouin** broke his right ankle in November. He had his "boot" removed, and he and Jeanne were able to go to Tucson for the Mid-Winter Convention, but getting around was a chore.

**RENO**                                      **STEVE SHURLIFF**  
We did our annual Christmas show in early December and sang to two packed houses and received standing ovations at each show.

**Richard Lund** was kind enough to come up and do our officer installation and I'm happy to say that **Tony Kruk** is serving a 2nd term as president. **Jeff Healion** is the 2011 *BOTY*, and is once again in charge of the new guys. He has been doing a great job as is shown by the recent growth of our chorus. We welcome new members **Joe Young**, **Todd Betterton**, **Brandon Hall** (not to be confused with **Brandon Hill**), **Michael Young**, and **Father Ed McDonagh**.

Last but not least – one of our newest members, and our youngest, **Brandon Heath**, did a great job starring as Aladdin in his school play, *Aladdin Jr*.

**SACRAMENTO**                                      **JOE SAMORA**  
**The Capitolaire**s sang during the Veteran's Day Program at Four Seasons Community Lodge. **Ron Black** directed the chorus in patriotic songs for a couple hundred residents and veterans.

The FWD Leadership Academy was hosted by the Capitolaire on November 19 at McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento.

Our annual holiday show called *A Holiday Celebration* was performed jointly with the **American River Chorus** in the Cosumnes Oaks High School Performing Arts Center in Elk Grove. Special guest performers included **Oasis Chamber Choir** and **RSVP**. **Dan Swink** and **Blair Reynolds** were co-chairs.

The Capitolaire sang holiday carols in the Capitol rotunda on Dec. 13 and ended the year by serenading at local area retirement homes.

The Annual Awards Banquet was held with President **Steve Allison** as the MC. **Blair Reynolds** is the 2011 *BOTY*. Entertainment included the **Ambassadors (Don & Rosye Salz, Steve Allison, Ron Black)** and tag quarteting. **Joe Samora** received a Capitolaire logo jacket for sponsoring 10 new members. **Russ Burgess** and **Keith Slater** received achievement certificates for attending 50 rehearsals last year, nearly perfect attendance.

**STOCKTON**                                      **AL WOLTER**  
**The Stockton Portsmen Chorus** presented a Holiday Review, which featured local quartets **Forget-Me-Notes**, **TuneStruck**, **Fat City Four**, **Delta Divas** and special guests **Flashpoint!**

The Chapter's 57th Annual Show *No Place Like Home for the Harmony*, featured **Austin Spurlock** as a grouchy air traveler stuck in an airport, and **4-XLT** (aka **Flashpoint!**).

The Installation of Officers was conducted by **Sean Devine**. 2012 Officers are: Pres **Craig Vincent**, VP Mu&P **Bill McCarty**, VP Ch Dev & PR & Marketing **Al Wolter**; Sec **Marshall Woodward**, Treas **John Eilers**, Board Member **Bill Litz**, and Associate Board Member **Sandy Mosley**. **Harry Williams** is *Rookie of the Year*. **Craig Vincent** was named 2011 *BOTY*.

**The Forget-Me-Notes** celebrated Bill Legg's 90th birthday with help from some members of Sacramento's Bunch-for-Lunch. **Fat City Four** sang for the Portsman's annual show, and for Rich Ibarra's (KCRA Channel 3) retirement party. **Tune Struck** sang for the Portsman's annual show, and during the four hours of dinner distribution at the Stockton Emergency Food Bank where they met Congressman Jerry McNerney.

## VISALIA

## BUD CASE

**The Visalia Chapter** hosted our first Youth Harmony Festival where 50 students from six Tulare County high schools (including home-schoolers) and the College of Sequoias Jr. College participated. Almost half were young ladies, so next year we will provide female quartet/coaches as well. **Tenacious Q** from Orange County was our featured quartet and coaches for the day along with a show for/with the youth and Visalia and Fresno Chapters. **Adam Kitt** (Fresno GNC director) graciously stepped in to direct since our director moved out of state in July. The youth learned and sang two songs by themselves and plus two with the combined Visalia/Fresno Chapters. Families were invited to the evening show and were thoroughly entertained. The Visalia MOC provided this event free to all students/schools via donations/grants valued at \$9,000+! Many thanks for the support of all MOC members, the wives, Fresno GNC & Silver & Gold Quartet members, high school and COS directors and parents that helped make this a success that will grow in our fertile barbershop harmony "soil" of the San Joaquin Valley.

We are proud to announce that **Adam Kitt** has agreed to direct the Mighty Oak Chorus.



**FWD DVP for Division 5 Arizona**  
**John Bloomquist**

[\*\*FWD Contacts\*\*](#)

The Tucson Sunshine Chapter, with Chairman Ron Schrubbs as lead and his crew, hosted a very successful Midwinter Convention! Great Job all of my Tucson brothers. The weather was Arizona perfect and everyone who visited our beautiful state couldn't have asked for more! On Saturday, the AZ Div was represented in the Youth Chorus Festival by the Chandler High School Men's Choir. What an awesome job they did for their first time appearance at Midwinter. We are very excited about the youth movement here. Ron Hayes and his team are very active and will be representing us at the upcoming Arizona Music Educators Association conference Feb 3-5. Thanks Ron.

The Tucson Chapter also presented a show on Thursday to start off the Convention with a bang. Their guests included the Spirit of Phoenix Chorus and AUDACITY (2009 Sr. Champions) who are both AZ Division members as well as past International Champions OC TIMES. It must be stated as a member of the Spirit of Phoenix, that singing a couple of songs with our Tucson brothers was a highlight. What a fun way to start the convention. Thank you from all of us. Hopefully, this type of event will become a regular occurrence at the Mid-Winter Conventions of the future! Great Work!

The Mesa Chapter will be hosting an interchapter gathering on Feb 2nd highlighted by a visit by Society Music Educator Mike O'Neill. Members of local Phoenix area chapters are expected to attend, making this a wonderful barbershop evening. Thanks Mesa for your efforts in this regard.

It is our goal this year to encourage as much participation at the many barbershop events as possible by our membership such as Division Contests and associated afterglows, the AZ BASH, interchapter events such as shows and chapter meetings, etc. These are the things that answer the question "when are we



going to start having more fun?" Like anything in life, if we don't do something, it becomes the norm not to do it. This can be held true for membership issues or lack of attendance at events. It just gets easier to not attend. Let's start to create the excitement in our members by making our events memorable and something to not miss. With the assistance of AZ Division Events Chair Ivan Jensen, this is going to be an exciting year.



**Division 5 Arizona Chapters**  
**Frank Ortega, Editor**

[FWD Contacts](#)

#### **CASA GRANDE**

#### **LOREN ENGLUND**

**The Desert Sounds** chorus has changed its meeting day from Monday to Friday to better accommodate our members and visitors. The rehearsal site and starting time remain the same.

Due to job-related conflicts, Director **James Staggs** has assumed the position of assistant director with **Davetta McBride** now directing the chorus. All chapter officers will remain the same for 2012.

We were immensely pleased to have new participants for our 6th Annual Christmas Concert. Most impressive were the Casa Grande Union High School Choir, directed by **Greg Kepler**, and the Casa Verde High School Orchestra, directed by **Maureen Aikin**. Adding to the playbill were the Awatukee Brass Band and the East Valley Lamplighters quartet **2 Under Par**. All received standing ovations.

#### **GREATER PHOENIX JERRY MCELFRISH**

**The Spirit of Phoenix Chorus** launched a full schedule of nearly a dozen performances during the fall and winter season with a successful show at King of Glory Church in Tempe. November's "*Boys to Men*" Concert provided an afternoon of fine male choral singing with a barbershop overtone that pleased the audience and 300 singers from seven choruses. As it was last year, the **Spirit of Phoenix** was a crowd favorite, receiving applause on our five-chord swipes and a standing ovation at the end.

**Bill Williams** and **Don McGunagle** were honored as October's *BOTM* and **Bo Larson** as November *BOTM*.

The chapter's Guest Night drew nearly 20 visitors with 8-9 prospective singers who entered the membership audition process, including several invited during the party after the "Boys to Men" concert. The Kindred Spirits continued their great job of supporting the chorus by providing refreshments at our Guest Night, selling show tickets, and distributing programs and future show flyers.

The chorus presented a total of five Christmas shows during December, all well received by enthusiastic audiences. We sang for one show in Surprise, three in East Mesa, and one at the Mesa Mormon Temple.

**Ray Estes** was named 2011 *BOTY* and **Ruth Ann Garner** received the *Kindred Spirit of the Year Award* at the chapter's installation and awards banquet. Ray was honored for his work in shepherding prospective members through the chorus audition process, acting as a baritone section leader, working on the chorus presentation team, and exhibiting skillful work in carpentry, and playing the trumpet. The Kindreds Award went to **Ruth Ann** for her willingness to take on any job for the group and for doing so cheerfully. In accepting the award, she said all members of the Kindred Spirits deserved it for the work they do, and she accepted it on their behalf. The 2012 Board of Directors and Kindred Spirits Board were installed by **Russ Young**, Far Western District President and former director of the Phoenix Chorus.

#### **MESA**

#### **BOB SHAFFER**

**The Lamplighters** made local appearances during the Christmas season: in Gilbert at the SanTan Mall's "*Festival of Trees*," the Citadel Assisted Living Center in Mesa, and the annual Christmas lights celebration in Chandler. **2 Under Par** entertained the residents of Fellowship Square in Mesa, and **Backspin** appeared on the Casa Grande Chapter's Christmas show.

The following officers will lead the Mesa Chapter in 2012: **Jerry Fox** (Program), **Terry Gregg** (Music), **Dick Moore** (BMAL), **Roy Murray** (Marketing),

**Bob Shaffer** (Secretary/Treasurer), **Ray Stasko** (Membership), and **Dale Weatherford** (President). In a bit of history repeating itself, Dale was the first president when the chapter was formed in the 1990s.

**Russ Young** and **David Harris** were welcomed into membership.

**PRESCOTT** **SAM STIMPLE**  
**The High Mountain Chordsmen** “chordially” welcomed **Isaac Benson-White**, **Jack Bobango**, **Jack Johnson**, and **Larry Lancaster** to the chapter. With these four singers and six more reported in the previous quarter, Prescott gained 10 new members in 2011. These new voices have added great strength and dimension to the sounds of the chorus.

**Antique Parts** entertained an appreciative audience at Orchard Ranch on Veteran’s Day. The quartet led the singing of our national anthem. In late December, the quartet sang for three hours at a local church’s outdoor evening holiday event. The hospitality folks made sure the singers were occasionally rewarded with hot chocolate, apple cider, and goodies galore.

In mid-November the chorus provided the musical entertainment for a dinner show sponsored by a new organization called Woody’s Supper Club. HMC also performed Christmas selections at 19 venues during the month of December. The highlight of the holiday season was the Acker Musical Showcase in downtown Prescott. The chorus, **SilverSounds** and **Antique Parts**, and our new bluegrass folk group **Radio Flyer**, brought Christmas cheer to several hundred visitors.

**SEDONA** **LEE SHOPTAUGH**  
Those who attended the *Sedona Harmony on the Rocks Chorus Concert* in November were treated to “Doo Wop” and “1950s Era” song renditions. Fellow chorus member **Wally Reule**, ably assisted by fellow “bobby-soxer” **Luci Gaudreau**, scripted and narrated the show entitled “*Barbershop Bandstand*.” Presentations included a crowd favorite “*Does Your Chewing Gum Lose Its Flavor On The Bedpost Overnight?*” The second half featured the 2011 Arizona Division Quartet Champion, **Vocal Edition**.

**Harmony on the Rocks** extends a warm welcome to newest Sedona Chapter members **Allen Rector** and **Tom Fox**. The chapter also bids farewell to **Fred Chapman**, **Bill Sabina**, and **Neal Bigham**, who have moved away from Arizona, but have joined chapters in New Mexico, Colorado, and Oregon.

Director **John McDougald** was named 2011 *BOTY*; **Wally Reule** and **Luci Gaudreau** received Barberpole Achievement awards.

Elected officers for 2012 are: Pres **Wally Reule**, Treas **Jack Edwards**; Sec **Lee Shoptaugh**, VP Mu&P and Assistant Director **Tom Doeller**, VP M&PR **Bob Butterworth**, VP Membership **Michael Steele**, District Delegate **Jack Edwards**, Chorus Director and BMAL **John McDougald**, BMAL **Don Tautkus**, and IPP **David Lombardi**.

**SUN CITIES** **CAMPBELL TITCHENER**  
**The Sun Cities Desert Aires** were honored to have incoming Far Western District President **Russ Young** as installing officer at our annual Officer Installation and Awards Banquet in December. Officers for the coming year are **Bill Shaw**, President; **Dave Starcevich**, Secretary; **Dave Tague**, Treasurer; **Ed O’Connor**, IPP and VP Chapter Development; **Bob Riedel**, VP Music; **Gary Johnson**, VP Program; **Jack McGill**, VP PR and Marketing; and Members-at-Large **Bud Hesterman**, **Carl Spencer**, and **Dave Moses**.

**Dave Starcevich** was honored as *Rookie of the Year* and **Campbell Titchener** was named 2011 *BOTY*. Musical highlights of the program included a surprise visit by **The Mix**, a Sweet Adelines quartet that appeared on our annual show last February. Director **Jerry Roland** led the chorus in a rendition of “Silent Night” with **Paul Camenzind** singing the German version.

On a sad note, we lost **Ross Stover**, 85, in January. He was a long-time barbershopper and chorus director here and on the West Coast.

## TUCSON

## JACK STATLER

**Tucson Barbershop eXperience** held a “Promo Night” to produce a DVD that shows examples of what the chorus can provide to an audience. Director **Jeff Dolan** put the focused chorus through its paces, and TBX member and experienced videographer **Hawkeye Richardson** captured the action – later to be edited into a demo DVD.

**TBX** and **Joint Venture** shared the stage with the **Green Valley Aires Chorus** at the Annual Green Valley Show. This was the 21st year that Tucson has performed a fall concert for Green Valley audiences.

**The TBX Ensemble** put on a delightful Christmas show for members of the Arizona Senior Academy at Academy Village Assisted Living. They also treated attendees at the annual Tucson Medical Center Volunteers Luncheon to a similar Christmas program.

The Tucson Sunshine Chapter’s Annual Awards Banquet & Christmas Party lived up to its long title with events of recognition, celebration, and awards. Board Members for 2011-2012 are: **Wes Krause**-President; **Jim Porter**-VP Membership/Chapter Development; **Jim Hart**-VP Music Performance; **Michael Elbert**-VP Programs & Chorus Manager; **Ron Hayes**-VP Youth-in Harmony; **Dave Tompkins**-Secretary; **Jim Sellers**-Treasurer; **Ed Johnson**-IPP; and Board Members-at-Large **Kyle LaFollette**, **Ed Hecht**, **Lucas Snyder**, **David Updegraff**, and **Doug Rhoads**. **Gary Tuell** was named 2011 *BOTY*, and **Tony Spar** was the 2011 *Rookie of the Year*. Two members were inducted into the Tucson Sunshine Chapter Hall of Fame: **Jeff Dolan** (departing director) and **John (Hap) Haggard** (posthumously).

## WHITE MOUNTAINS

## JOHN WELKER

The town of Show Low, Arizona, has a Holiday Stroll Program (three Thursdays in December) to give the community a beautifully decorated Main Street, inviting them to stroll along the sidewalks while checking out the merchandise being offered in all of the shops. This year, the **High Country Chorus** was invited to provide caroling at different stores. The chorus sang on one Thursday and 4 Wheel Drive quartet sang on another. 4 Wheel Drive also repre-

sented the chorus and sang at a Christmas program at the local TV station. Two chapter quartets spread Christmas cheer during the month – **Knotty Pines** sang at the local Chase Bank, while **Better Late Than Never** sang *White Christmas* on the radio and Christmas carols at the Village 8 Theater. To round out a series of outings in December, the chorus sang carols at the Lions Camp Tatiyee for the Handicapped.

## YUMA

## ROB BAILEY

Our well-attended installation banquet was held at Da Boyz Pizza on Yuma’s historic Main Street. Last year’s board of directors was re-elected to serve another year, and thanks go out to all for their work on behalf of the chapter. **Larry Lickfelt** was named 2011 *BOTY* for his excellent support of chapter activities and willingness to step into the harness whenever needed. Larry is a good baritone, too, and we all know how wonderful THAT is. As a result of our after-dinner singing, two guests have asked to join in the fun.

For folks visiting from out of town, please join us at our new rehearsal location, the Activity Room at St. John Newmann Catholic Church, 11545 E. 40th St., Yuma, AZ 85367. Call Rob at (928) 502-2652 or Art at (928) 581-6551 for more information or directions.

### Youth Harmony Camp 2012

September 21 – 23, 2012

Sly Park Educational Center  
Pollock Pines, CA

Music Dean – Gabe Caretto

Quartets:

OC Times - 2008 Int’l Champions  
Artistic License - 2011 FWD Champions

You are getting your high school young  
men excited about this and signed up,  
aren’t you?



# WEST TUNES



Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 181  
San Gabriel, CA

Addressee or Current Resident

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT  
Association of Chapters  
Barbershop Harmony Society, Inc.  
Ray Rhymer, Editor  
4339 Whispering Oaks Circle  
Granite Bay, CA 95746

## CONVENTIONS, SHOWS, EVENTS

### 2012

#### March

3 Hemet Show  
4 Hemet Show  
4 Sun Cities Show  
**8-11 FWD Spring Convention AND  
SW & SE Division Contests**  
**Ontario, CA Host TBD**

15-18 SAI Region 11 Convention  
23 South Bay  
24 Greater Phoenix Show  
24 South Bay  
25 South Bay  
31 San Mateo County

#### April

13 Brea Show  
14 Brea Show  
**13-14 NW Division - Woodside**  
*Host: Palo Alto/Moountain View*  
**20-21 AZ Division - Phoenix**  
*Host: Tucson*  
21 Fresno Show  
21 Inland Empire Show  
26-29 SAI Region 12 & 21 Conventions  
28 Fullerton Show  
28 Placerville Show  
28 Santa Monica Show

#### May

6 Palo Alto-Mountain View Show  
14 Central California  
**18-19 NE Division - Sacramento**  
*Host: Sacramento*  
26 Pasadena Show

#### June

2 Santa Cruz Show  
9 California Delta Show  
10 Palomar Pacific Show  
10 San Fernando Valley Show  
16 Go For The Gold Show in Fullerton  
16 Santa Rosa Show  
30 Westminster Show

#### July

7/1-8 INT'L CONV Portland, OR

#### September

29 Bay Area Show

#### October

**11-14 FWD Fall Convention**  
*Mesa Host: Greater Phoenix*  
27 San Mateo County Show  
10/29-11/3 SAI Int'l Conv, Denver, CO

#### November

3 Santa Cruz Show  
3 Walnut Creek Show  
4 Santa Cruz Show  
4 Sedona Show  
24 Santa Fe Springs

#### December

1 Bay Area Show  
2 Fremont-Hayward Show  
7 Brea Show  
8 Brea Show  
15 Pasadena Show

### 2013

#### March

14-17 SAI Region 11 Convention  
**21-24 FWD Spring Convention, TBA**

#### June

6/30-7/7 INT'L CONV Toronto, ON

#### October

**10-13 FWD Fall Convention**  
11/4-9 SAI Int'l Conv, Honolulu, HI

### 2014

#### March

**20-23 FWD Spring Convention**

#### June

6/29-7/6 NT'L CONV Las Vegas, NV

#### October

**9-12 FWD Fall Convention**

11/3-8 SAI Int'l Conv, Baltimore, MD

### 2015

#### March

**19-22 FWD Spring Convention**

#### June

6/28-7/5 INT'L CONV Pittsburgh, PA

10/5-10 SAI Int'l Conv, Las Vegas, NV

#### October

**15-18 FWD Fall Convention**

### 2016

#### July

**7/3-10 INT'L CONV Nashville, TN**

10/17-22 SAI Int'l Conv, Las Vegas, NV

### 2017

#### July

**7/2-9 INT'L CONV Minneapolis, MI**

10/9-14 SAI Int'l Conv, Las Vegas, NV

### 2018

#### July

**7/1-8 INT'L CONV Orlando, FL**

### 2019

#### June

**6/30-7/7 INT'L CONV**  
Salt Lake City, UT

*Clear all show dates with  
FWD Secretary, Peter Feeney*