

**FAR WESTERN DISTRICT**  
House of Delegates Order of Business  
Fall 2019

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel  
1150 Ninth St, Modesto, CA 95354  
October 11, 2019 – 1:30 PM (Friday)

**MINUTES**

1. **Call to Order:** President Craig Hughes called the meeting to order at 1:35.
2. **The Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Gordon Bergthold.
3. ***The Star-Spangled Banner*** was led by Nick Papageorge.
4. ***The Old Songs*** was led by Brett Littlefield.
5. **The Invocation** was given by Chuck Roots.
6. **Welcome.** President Craig welcomed the delegates to Modesto and to the HOD meeting.
7. **Introductions:** President Craig introduced past presidents, district officers and other dignitaries.

**Past Presidents:** Gordon “Mongo” Bergthold, Allan Webb, Bernard Priceman, Chuck Hunter, Terry Aramian and Sam Barger.

**District Officers:** Bill Rosica, Jim Maass, Rich Owen, Brent Anderson, Nick Papageorge, Dick Whitten, Chuck Roots, Adam Kaufman, Brett Littlefield, Scott Suwabe and “Mongo” Bergthold.

**Management Team:** Steve Salmon, Jeremy Loper, Bryan Forbes, Roe Darnell, David Melville, and Richard Lund.

**Other Dignitaries:** John Miller, Society Executive VP, Bernard Priceman, Society Board Member, Blair Brown, Society Board Member Elect, Chad Bennett Society Community Engagement and Show Production Manager, Jim Clark, Harmony Foundation, David Melville, Convention Dedictee, and Richard Lund, Convention Chairman.

**8. Roll Call:** Secretary Jim Maass called the roll of the chapters. The following were present.

Aloha	Placerville
Bakersfield	Reno
Brea	Rincon Beach
California Delta	Salt River Valley
Central Arizona	San Diego
Central California	San Fernando Valley
El Cajon	San Luis Obispo
Freemont-Hayward	Santa Cruz
Fresno	Santa Fe Springs
Greater Phoenix	Santa Maria
La Jolla	South Bay
Las Vegas	Stockton
Mesa	Sun Cities
Orange Quartet	Walnut Creek
Palo Alto – Mountain View	Westminster

Secretary Maass reported that a quorum was present.

**9. Memorial to Departed Members:** Secretary Jim Maass read the names as District Champions Capital Ring sang *Nearer My God to Thee*.

Henry Nahass	Sun Cities
Gary Brinkman	Conejo Valley
Kenneth Potter	Folsom, Nevada Placer
Robert Landes	Palomar Pacific
William Redmon	Hemet, Coachella Valley
Everett Heer	Sun Cities
Louis Tedesco	Santa Fe Springs
Robert Hornstein	Palomar Pacific
Woodrow Yoder	San Francisco Bay Cities, Palo Alto-Mountain View
Kevin Price	Santa Fe Springs
Douglas Ward	San Fernando Valley
H. David Taylor	South Bay
Stephen Diamond	South Orange County, Laguna Hills
William Helfrich	Santa Maria, San Luis Obispo
Robert Barry	Sacramento, South Orange County
Donald Levering	Orange Quartet, Fullerton
Alan Ringer	Coachella Valley
Donald Kileen	Bakersfield, Santa Fe Springs, Rincon Beach
Earle Holt	Walnut Creek
R. Devon Hansen	Conejo Valley
Gordon Limburg	Frank Thorne
Martin Judd	Las Vegas

Charles Rastatter	Greater Phoenix
Raymond Kahler	Greater Phoenix, Mesa, Central Arizona, Sun Cities
Francis Donnelly	Frank Thorne
Raymond Schultz	Sacramento
William Scofield	Palomar Pacific
Jim Laverty	Frank Thorne
Michael Werner	Fullerton, Santa Fe Springs, South Orange County, Orange Quartet
Denis Van Dam	Monterey Peninsula
Ted Bradshaw	Western Continentals

## **10. District Presidents Remarks.**

2019 has been an eventful and successful year. The quality of singing has never been better, and the variety speaks for itself. We have begun to expand our joy of harmony across male, female and mixed choruses and quartets. All will be on display this weekend. While this change has added chapters and increased the vitality of some of our existing chapters, we have also seen our men's chapters prosper. It is truly Everyone in Harmony.

Let's salute our International Champion Westminster Chorus. Their record setting performance in Salt Lake City was electric. You had to be there! And guess what? They will be here tomorrow night to rejoice with us on our Show of Champions. Their leaders contacted me the night of their victory to ask if it would be ok if they performed for the District in October. Wow. One of their first thoughts was of the District. That speaks volumes.

This is my last opportunity to address the House of Delegates as your President. The last few years have been quite a ride. Our District is a complex organization and then we expand with Everyone in Harmony and all the possibilities that brings and it can get overwhelming. I asked that we Keep Calm and Keep Singing and we did just that.

Thank you to all the Leaders at the Chapter and District level and our members. The open-mindedness and willingness to embrace a new definition of Barbershop Harmony has made us a stronger District. I encourage you to do Barbershop your way and share with others.

**11. Approval of the Agenda.** Moved and seconded to approve the agenda as presented. All by aye voted. Approved.

**12. Approval of Minutes:** It was moved and seconded to approve the March 22, 2019 as presented. All aye. Approved.

**13. Receipt of HOD Reports.** It was moved, seconded and approve to accept the HOD reports.

**14. Additional Officer/Committee reports.**

**Youth in Harmony:** Steve Salmon

Steve discussed the Youth Harmony Camp coming up this October. The registration

each participant pays is about half the cost. Chapters and members from the district help make up the difference. All donations are encouraged.

High School Quartet Contest. He reported that it is expanding and moving to the divisional level this coming spring contest season. Each quartet will have the experience of competing and receiving an evaluation from a certified judge. There will be one champ from each division and the quartet with the highest score will be the HS District Quartet champ. There is no fee to participate. Any high school/middle school aged student is eligible from public, private, home schooling. Steve encouraged everyone to contact school music people to let them know about the contest. Quartets can be made up of any gender combination.

Bill Rosica announced that Steve will be leaving his position at the end of the year.

**Financial Development:** Roe Darnel

Roe made a pitch for those contributing to Harmony Foundation....be sure to utilize Donor's Choice to designate up to 30% of your donation split between your chapter and district. He reported that the Lloyd Steinkamp endowment is at 100K. Note: there isn't an upper goal but it can start getting accessed at 200K

**Membership:** Bill Rosica recognized Jeremy Loper for the great job he is doing in membership.

**Events:** Bryan Forbes

Bryan listed the contests set for 2020. Northeast/west will be May 15-16 in Stockton. Spring Prelims and SoCal East/West will be March 19-22 in Ontario. (not yet under contract but a back up is in place... Garden Grove). Arizona will be April 17-18 in Mesa. The fall contest will be the cruise with Bakersfield as a backup if the cruise convention is cancelled. The 2021 Fall convention will be in Mesa, 2022 will be in Fresno...both are under contract. 2023 will be in Bakersfield which is not yet under contract. They are all cleared of conflicts.

Bryan also noted that the cycle for fall contests going forward will be three locations: Fresno, Bakersfield and Mesa.

Bryan also mentioned the photography at the contests. The District has been hiring a photographer for a fee but is no longer cost effective. Now the district is sending HD video to contestants and photos can be taken from the video. There was some discussion of placing competition videos on YouTube. There are copyright issues involved.

Donna Hisey gave a brief update on the cruise bookings. She said there are mostly "barbershop fans" booking cabins. We will need more competitors to sign up. Signup need to go through Donna, not Carnival Cruise Line for the FWD to get credit for the

block of cabins. January 15 is the deadline to determine if the Convention Cruise is a “go or no go.”

#### **15. Society Board Update:** Bernard Priceman

Bernard reported to the HOD regarding the structure of the BHS Board of Directors. Blair Brown is a new female addition to the board. He indicated that the board’s responsibility is to set policy and governing. The operation of the Society is done by the staff. He outlined several things the board is doing including getting ready for the Cleveland International and EIH. There was some discussion on a variety of issues.

#### **16. Society Staff Update.** Chad Bennett, Society Community Engagement and Show Production Manager

Chad talked about the things happening on the new direction of the contests and asked for feedback. He pointed out a flyer recently mailed to all BHS members which showed that there are mixed and female groups and quartets registered with BHS but the overwhelming number is still all male. He also discussed several things going on at the society level as changes are taking place.

#### **17. Harmony Foundation Update.** Jim Clark

Jim asked HOD delegates to go back to their chapters to encourage members to get feedback to the BHS board. It makes a difference. He also talked about Donor Choice program. While giving increased last year, there has been some decrease this year. He recognized John and Sharon Miller and their 50K match program during this contest season. He also discussed legacy giving.

#### **18. Old Business.**

President Craig said there is none to report.

#### **19. New Business.**

**Change to SOP.** The following change has been approved by the board. It also needs the HOD approval to take effect.

##### 8.3.2.1.2. HIGH SCHOOL CONTESTS

The FWD High School Quartet Contests shall be held during the Spring ~~International Preliminary~~ Division Quartet Contests ~~weekend~~. The members of the High School quartet shall each be a currently enrolled junior high or high school student from any combination of high schools located within the boundaries of the Far Western District. Each competing high school quartet member plus one coach or chaperone for each quartet shall receive an all events registration for the ~~Spring Prelims~~ Contest at no charge, to encourage their exposure to a high level of barbershop quartet singing. ~~Furthermore,~~

~~admission to the high school quartet contest session shall be free and open to the general public, with open (nonassigned) seating.~~ The High School Quartet Contest shall be administered under the auspices of the District Representative for Contest and Judging working with the District Chairman for Youth in Harmony. For ~~this~~ these contests, the procedures governing the operation, scoring, CA duties, evaluation and publication and announcement of results shall be identified in the ~~District Spring Convention~~ **Division Contest** Regulations. **Champions for each Division will be awarded and the highest scoring Quartet after all Division Contests will be named the Far Western District High School Quartet Champion.**

It was moved, seconded to approve the SOP change. All Aye. Approved.

**Approval of the 2020 FWD Budget.** Rich Owen.

Rich reported that the proposed budget is in balance with a small ending balance. It was moved, seconded to approve the budget. Motion passed.

## **20. Board of Director Highlights.** Craig Hughes

President Craig gave a brief review of the board meeting held the day before. He reported that lots of governance issues were discussed. The current budget is in balance and we will finish 2019 in the black. He also mentioned the Memorandum of Understanding/Collaboration with the Society on three upcoming projects for this year: Directors' Guild. The Cruise. Youth Quartet Contest.

**21. Nomination Committee Report:** Gordon "Mongo" Bergthold. He listed to slate of officers.

President – Bill Rosica  
EVP – Nick Papageorge  
Treasurer - Rich Owen  
Secretary - Jim Maass  
C&J – Brett Littlefield  
M&P – Rob Menaker  
IPP – Craig Hughes

### **DVP's**

NorCal West – Dick Whitten  
NorCal East – Chuck Roots  
SoCal West – Brent Anderson  
SoCal East – Kyle Williamson  
Arizona--Adam Kaufman

## **22. Election of Officers**

It was moved, second and approved to elect the slate of officer as presented for the 2020 year.

**23. Installation of Officers.**

Bernard Priceman, Society Board Member installed the newly elected FWD officers.

**24. Awards.** Chuck Hunter

He reported that John Krizek will be the dedicatee for the Spring 2020 convention.

**25. Future Convention Update.** Bryan Forbes. He briefly repeated the convention schedule which appears previously in these minutes.

**26. Next Meeting.** President Craig said the next convention will be March 19-22, 2020 in Ontario.

Bill Rosica presented outgoing President Craig with a plaque with a gavel with all the FWD past presidents engraved on it.

**27. *Keep the Whole World Singing*** was led by Chad Bennett.

**28. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Jim Maass  
Secretary  
Far Western District