

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

VIA ZOOM

MINUTES

MARCH 13, 2021

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by **President Bill Rosica** at 7:04 PM.

Invocation

The Invocation was given by **Chuck Roots**.

The Old Songs was played, and all sang along...on mute...

The National Anthem was played.

Roll Call

Secretary Jim Maass called the roll.

Board Members Present.

President Bill Rosica

Executive Vice President Nick Papageorge

Secretary Jim Maass

Treasurer Rich Owen

Immediate Past President Craig Hughes

DVP 1 SW Kathy Kileen

DVP 2 SE Kyle Williamson

DVP 3 NW Rich Postal

DVP 4 NE Chuck Roots

DVP 5 AZ Adam Kaufman

Contest and Judging VP Brent Littlefield

Music and Performance VP Rob Menaker

Past Presidents in attendance.

Craig Hughes

Gordon "Mongo" Bergthold

Allan Webb

Russ Young

Bernard Priceman

Bob Lally

Peter Feeney

John Krizek
Chuck Hunter
Terry Aramian
Sam Barger

Aloha	Davis-Vacaville	Orange Quartet
Bakersfield	Fremont-Hayward	Placerville
Barbary Coast	Fullerton	San Diego
Brea	Greater Los Angeles	San Fernando Valley
California Delta	Greater Phoenix	South Bay
Central Arizona	La Jolla	Stockton
Central California	Las Vegas	Walnut Creek
Coachella Valley	Mesa	Westminster

Management Team Members Present: Jeremy Loper, David Melville, Kenny Rios, Ray Rhymer.

Guests Present: Jim Clark from Harmony Foundation was also present.

Opening Remarks.

President Bill Rosica gave a brief run down from the board meeting the night before and said that there was discussion on what we can all do as we re-open our chapters after COVID. He mentioned that there are chapters struggling and that general consensus that those which were struggling before COVID are still struggling and we all must work together to help bring back all chapters. He also talked about resurrecting the Directors' Guild.

Approval of the Agenda.

It was moved and seconded that the agenda presented be approved. All Aye.

Approval of HOD minutes for October 10, 2020.

It was moved and seconded that the minutes be approved as presented. All Aye.

Introduction of Guests.

President Bill introduced Jim Clark from Harmony Foundation International. Jim briefly reported to the HOD that donor choice checks to the chapters and districts will be mailed out around March 31st. There is a new allocation procedure in place and everyone should see an increase in the amount of funds allocated this cycle. EFT will be available, and each chapter show investigate getting the automatic deposit. Be on the look out for an email to the chapter requesting this be set up. There is work being done on the Power of Harmony for Youth. He also mentioned the AIC virtual shows than have been presented as well as the AIC outreach fund. Regarding the BHS/HFI lawsuit, Jim reported the two groups will be going to mediation as the court case is put on hold. Jim also took several questions from the group.

Hall of Fame.

Gordon “Mongo” Bergthold, FWD current **HoF** awardee had some opening remarks and introduced members of the **HoF** who were in attendance. The usual presentation of the award is at the Spring Contest and Convention, but due to COVID and no convention, this year’s award would be presented via ZOOM during the HOD meeting. Mongo’s presentation appears in the minutes below.

Presentation of Hall of Fame Award Gordon “Mongo” Bergthold

Back in 1969, the Far Western District Hall of Fame Award was conceived to honor the all-time greats of the District. Those who have unselfishly, and with dedication and devotion, performed through the years in the District, Society and International arenas have been awarded this distinction. Before I proceed, allow me to introduce the HOF members in attendance:

- John Krizek 1994
- Terry Aramian 1995
- Sam Barger 1998
- Chuck Hunter, Sr. 1999
- Ray Rhymer 2004
- Ron Black 2010
- Nick Papageorge 2011
- Peter Feeney, Sr. 2013
- Richard Lund 2014
- Russ Young 2016
- Bruce Sellnow 2017
- Gordon Bergthold 2019

Whenever a nominee is selected for induction into the Hall of Fame, his award is traditionally presented at the Spring Convention, usually in March. However, with the interruption of our normal activities, that convention was cancelled in 2020 which made a presentation to the 2019 recipient seemingly impossible. I was fortunate enough to be that recipient, but the HOF Committee needed to find a creative manner by which to present the award. Using the leadership skills that helped land them in the HOF, they decided the best way to do this was on a Zoom call, something that we’ve become all too familiar with. But the committee went even further when Richard Lund, Patsy, Chuck Hunter and Pat appeared on my doorstep on July 1, 2020. They started a Zoom call and made the presentation with the remaining HOF members on the call. I was invited to say a few comments, and after my heartbeat slowed a bit, I said how humbled and honored I was to be included with those who were in the Far Western District Hall of Fame.

Therefore, by HOF guidelines, I’m the chairman for this presentation; once again brought to you by Zoom, and the Hall of Fame committee who have Zoomed in for this event. The incoming recipient has been very active in barbershop activities throughout his membership

in the society, both in choruses and quartets. He's held musical and administrative roles and always performed at the top level.

Our recipient is a dedicated family man with a musical family. He's a man with an outstanding work ethic and dedication to whatever task he takes on. He has helped barbershoppers worldwide through high-level instruction, coaching and performance. He is highly respected throughout the worldwide barbershop community as a strong leader. He is a perfect example of what a FWD Hall of Fame Member should be.

If that isn't enough to convince you of his qualifications for this prestigious award, he's a long-time member of the Masters of Harmony chorus, having served as section leader, quasi-Assistant Director and music team member. He's the former Musical Director of the Orange Chapter. He's a two-time International Quartet Champion, a Chorus and Quartet coach, and Certified Judge.

He stepped into a leadership role, making a significant contribution to the Contest & Judging Committee by turning a challenging transition into a successful endeavor. He is the type of individual who would step onto the stage in a commanding manner to accept this award and his voice in accepting this award would command everyone's attention. However, he's a giant of a man with a teddy bear heart.

Ladies and gentlemen please welcome the 2020 Far Western District's Hall of Fame Inductee, Mr. Brett Littlefield.

Brett, the Zoom microphone is yours.

(Note: Brett and his family were present on ZOOM for the presentation and Brett made some brief acceptance remarks.)

Vice President Reports.

Division 1 Southwest—Kathy Kileen.

Kathy reported that not much going on due to COVID. She has had one ZOOM meeting with chapter leaders. A number of choruses are in good shape. Some of the choruses are struggling and we need to encourage them. She gave a shout out to the Aloha chorus and the good things they are doing.

Division 2, Southwest—Kyle Williamson.

He mentioned that they are collecting all the ZOOM information from chapters using that platform and getting all the communication with the chapter using ZOOM links.

Division 3, Northwest—Rich Postel.

He has visited five chapters in the past few months via ZOOM. He mentioned that chapters need to have an agenda regarding ZOOM meeting and that planning several activities makes the meeting more productive with a purpose to move forward. He gave some examples of activities.

Division 4 Northeast—Chuck Roots.

Chuck reported that some chapters are meeting via ZOOM and are looking forward to getting back in person.

Division 5 Arizona—Adam Kaufman.

He, too, reported chapter meetings via ZOOM. Not much else going on at this time.

Contest and Judging—Brett Littlefield.

Brett had left the meeting. No report.

Music and Performance—Rob Menaker.

Rob mentioned to the HOD that any chapter who would like a coach, director or other outside guests for their chapter ZOOM meetings should reach out to him and he will help.

Management Team Reports

Membership—Jeremy Loper. No report

Events—Bill Rosica reported that he will be handling events as Bryan Forbes has left the position. Nothing specific to report at this time.

Marketing and Public Relations—David Melville.

David mentioned that not much in marketing this year as not much has been going on. He also said that he hoped for a convention this fall. He had a short video presentation on “Anything is Better Than Nothing.” With the options for a fall contest either in person or virtual.

Youth in Harmony—Kenny Rios.

He is planning on having high school quartet contest in 2022 as we all get past COVID and schools get back into regular session. He mentioned that Richard Lund is planning a fall Harmony Camp. John Krizek offered to help Ken.

Financial Development—Roe Darnell.

Endowment Funds

Donor Choice Allocations

Nothing to report.

Finance Update—Rich Owen.

The income statements are attached in the HOD brochure posted to the FWD website. Rich reported that because not much has been happening, the bank account is in good shape. Currently there is about \$80,000 in the bank.

Rich also reported that there are budgeted funds each year to assist quartets and choruses who are attending the International Convention. Since the conventions have been cancelled and since the SOP specifically allocates those funds, he requested HOD action to suspend the SOP and made the following motion:

Rich Owen moved to suspend the requirement of section 10.1.1 of the SOP for the first 2 Quarters of 2021 with those funds simply remaining in the FWD general unallocated funds. The motion was seconded. All Aye.

Rich will resume allocating dues moneys with the 3rd quarter dues payment from BHS (usually in October). There will be four quarters of allocated funds for choruses and quartets for 2022 travel.

Society Staff Update.

There was no BHS representative present.

Old Business

Status on Fremont-Hayward Chapter.

There was discussion on the proposed new Nevada chapter, (Paradise) in the Las Vegas suburbs. Several college students are meeting in a parking lot on a sporadic basis. The question was raised about this proposed new chapter using the existing Fremont-Hayward charter. Since the Fremont chapter is incorporated in California, it would be much more complicated to switch the charter to a NV incorporated chapter. It might be easier for the new chapter to just go through the steps to charter in the state of Nevada and the FWD continue to hold the CA Fremont chart for future use. No action was taken.

Directors' Guild

Scott Suwabe was not in attendance so Nick reported that he has located all the old information and will get that to Scott and assist in regenerating the Directors' Guild.

New Business

Awards Management and Fall 2021 Convention Dedicattee. No action taken.

Leadership Academy—Nick Papageorge.

There was a brief discussion on the February Leadership Academy in February held on ZOOM. While everyone agreed that it would be better if held in person, nonetheless the day was very successful. There was some discussion of a possible Hybrid format for future Leadership Academies.

Various Issues

The fall district contest was again brought up and there was considerable discussion regarding having an “in person” convention/contest or a virtual contest. It all hinges on the COVID restrictions, vaccinations etc. A decision will be made as soon as practicable.

Keep the Whole World Singing was played as all the guys sung along....muted.....

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Jim Maass
Secretary
Far Western District**