



# WESTUNES

Magazine

WESTUNES, established in 1951, is the official publication of the Far Western District Association of Chapters in the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of BarberShop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

Volume 52

November/December 2002

Number 6



**The Garden City Chorus, Chris Hebert, Director  
2002-3 FWD Champions, San Jose, CA**



**Sam's Club  
2002-3 FWD Champions**

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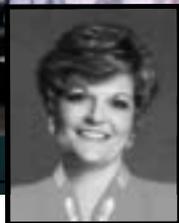
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# WESTUNES Magazine

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## District President

John Krizek



## Making It Work: A District Report

The Society's annual work plan begins with this statement about the values we hold dear:

"We are guided by the knowledge that singing songs in the barbershop style and enjoying fellowship with barbershoppers worldwide give real value to a man's life and times. . . that work toward goals at quartet, chorus, chapter,

district and Society levels allows for authentic human interactions for men to grow in music, administrative and leadership skills . . . that the joy of self-expression and fulfillment is a natural extension of active participation . . . We also believe that these values extend beyond the barbershopper and can, indeed, enrich family and community life."

Nowhere are these values expressed more clearly than at a Far Western District convention. So many chords, so many hugs! I would hope, as we head into the holiday season, we can reflect on how lucky we are, and determine to reach out and touch more people with what we have to share.

We congratulate our new District champions: the **San Jose Garden City Chorus** which will be making its first trip to International; **Sam's Club** who excited us with the prospect of another medalist-level quartet; and **Time Honored**, our new senior quartet champions. Once again we congratulate all our competitors, about whom I'm sure you will be reading in the other pages of this magazine.

Convention chairman **Dave Prigge** and his crew of helpers from the **San Luis Obispo** chapter worked harder and longer than you'll ever know to make things work as smoothly as they did. The District events team, assisted by **Sam Barger** and **Bill Rosica**, hosted the convention. Once again I can attest to the back-stage professionalism of **Doug Maddox** and **Carl Truman** in maintaining the contest flow.

A lot of other things besides singing went on during the Bakersfield convention, which deserve your attention.

Meetings by your District board started Thursday afternoon with a planning session that resulted in a set of goals to guide our efforts over the next few years. At its regular session starting Thursday night the board accepted the resignation of VP Events **Chris Wilson**, who's new job takes him on the road, and installed **Sam Barger**, the nominee apparent, as his replacement. Considering attendance trends at the chorus directors' seminar,

the board decided to drop the seminar next year and focus more on the CDWI (Chorus Director Workshops Intensive) program led by **Jim Turnmire**.

Nearly 250 members benefited from the outstanding quartet coaching programs so far this year, orchestrated by M&P VP **Jim Crowley**. A task force will be assigned to review the plateau system for our chorus competition, and help determine if it should be continued. A new youth policy was explained by VP YMIH **Ed Bejarana**. With more minors participating in our programs and traveling with their chapters, a new parental approval form is being provided for the protection of all concerned.

Membership VP **Peter Feeney** reviewed new audio-visual tools provided by the Society. A revitalized chapter counselor program was explained by CSLT VP **Bernard Priceman**. Two new classes being offered at COTS by the District—webmastering and fundraising—were explained. Chapters were advised that in order to take advantage of fundraising opportunities, they need to have their nonprofit status properly registered with the state, and sadly, many chapters are in arrears in that regard. Those who have not filed tax forms and been properly audited could face suspension. See treasurer **Jim Sherman** to see if you're on the list.

The House of Delegates approved a break-even budget for 2003, and elected the slate of officers for next year. All are holdovers except for the change of Events VPs noted above, and the election of **Dick Girvin** as VP for Contest & Judging. We thank **Tom Raffety** for his years of excellent service in this job.

The HOD approved a bylaws change that's the next step toward the return to a division VP system of governance in 2004. The HOD also awarded the 2005 fall convention to Pasadena. Due to housing conflicts with a business conference, the dates of the 2003 and 2004 conventions in Bakersfield have been moved up a week. A charter was presented to the new Brea Chapter.

Society Board Member—and past District President—**Bob House** delivered the keynote address and reminded us of our commitment to being "An ever-growing fraternity of barbershop-style singers, leading the cause of encouraging vocal music in our schools and communities." Harmony Foundation chairman **Joe Salz** reported donations to our official charity, Harmony Foundation, are lagging, because so many chapters are making direct contributions to local schools and causes. The catch-22 here is that while such contributions are wonderful and support the Society's overall charitable mission, unless those chapters report such donations to Joe, nobody's getting the credit they deserve.

I thank the House of Delegates for their diligence and participation. You've got a great team running this District, and it's a pleasure to be part of it. Now let's make it even better.

*About the chorus contest: The Westminster Harmony Showcase Chorus was announced as winners of the chorus contest, and then declared ineligible due to a membership rule infraction. For updates on this situation, see the FWD web site.*



**Owen H. Edwards, Jr**

August 29, 1921 - September 23, 2002  
with his bride, Kathy

**WESTUNES Editor  
1990-2001**

Owen Edwards was born in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, in 1921. A propitious location, as some of you might recognize. The first quartet champion of the Barbershop Quartet Society back in the late '30's was the Bartlesville Barflies. I don't think Owen was in it.

He grew up mostly in western Kansas. His father was a railroad man, his mother was a cook. He attended 17 different grade schools, then attended and graduated from high school in Ashland, Kansas. He joined the Navy in 1941, and was on the battleship West Virginia at Pearl Harbor. He spent the rest of World War II as a fireman on destroyers. He was back in the Navy during the Korean War, where the ship he was on got sunk. (We should have asked more about that episode!)

After the wars, Owen went to Washington, D.C., where he became an engineer with the Department of the Army. He was testing munitions, and traveling to places like Panama, and Ridgecrest.

In 1960 Owen joined the Barbershop Society, in the Washington chapter. We all know Owen's proclivity for getting involved. Well, so what's new. Three weeks after joining, he was the chapter secretary. He spent most of his time in the Mid-Atlantic

District in the Prince George's County, Maryland, Chapter. One of his proudest moments was in 1976, when the Society's Midwinter convention was held in Washington, as part of the nation's bicentennial. Owen was an organizer of the "Salute to America" program at that convention, held at the Kennedy Center, which featured 225 barbershoppers from several chapters in the Washington area, as the combined Chorus of the Potomac. Freddy King and Bob Johnson led the chorus, and were most grateful to Owen for putting it together.

In 1980 he retired from the Army job, and headed for retirement in Carlesbad, New Mexico. On the way he and his wife stopped to visit family in Texas, where she got sick and died. Owen stayed there, with his daughter and son, and joined the Arlington, Texas, Chapter. But retirement wasn't his thing. He went to Kenosha, and met with then Executive Director Hugh Ingraham.

Out of that conversation came a new concept: a volunteer corps of membership ambassadors for the Society. Owen became the first international membership counselor. In early 1982, he bought a motor home, and for much of the next three years, was on the road. He visited over 100 chapters in 42 states and five provinces of Canada, starting several new chapters and helping the others in countless ways. I might add that it was during those years when the Society membership reached its all-time high of 38,000.

While on tour in early 1984, Owen was visiting the San Luis Obispo Chapter, and up from Los Angeles for their annual show was legendary barbershopper Howard Scanlon. With Howard was his daughter, Kathie. Well, guess what. Kathie and Owen met in February that year, and by April they were married.

That was the end of Owen's road show. They settled down in the Valley, in Reseda. Owen first joined the Santa Clarita Valley Chapter and directed them for a time, then joined the Valleyaires which became his long-time home. He was with us in Hartford in 1987, (but wasn't singing on the risers?) He remained active on Society COTS faculties, teaching membership classes, until the late '80's. One year after they got married, Owen and Kathie launched their direct mailing business and spent the next 16 years together "24/7."

In 1990, then District president Lloyd Steinkamp remembered an offer Owen had made, to serve the District in any way he could. Westunes was in need. Owen became editor, and Kathie office manager, and for the next decade, and all the way up to last year, they produced and mailed our District magazine—a humongous job, that only someone who has ever been in that business can appreciate. It was an awesome contribution, which the District can never forget or fully appreciate.

One of the institutions Owen and Kathie are famous for is the Howard Scanlon Afterglow Without A Show and Woodshed contest. Many of you never had the privilege of knowing Howard.

[cont'd on page 5]



## Honor Thy Director

Have you stopped to think about who holds your music program together? Who is there every week with a smile on his face ( I hope ) teaching new music or techniques, reviewing songs, providing encouragement, etc. Who brings the members back each and every week? I would suggest it's the Music Director. Music Directors are the

lifeblood of our chapters and key to our membership retention for the Society. For after all, are we not there to sing?

But our directors are human too and need positive reinforcing. Could directors be temperamental? ...Sure, but not on purpose. How can you help keep your director happy? Pretty basic really.

- Learn you music quickly – nothing gets more tiring to a director than teaching the same things over and over again;
- Get off the paper – come to the rehearsal to rehearse...let your director do what you want him/her to do...which is to make music. Notes on the paper are not music!
- Show your respect for what he/she is trying to share with you with some riser discipline and minimal talking..... its just non-productive;
- Smile and say you appreciate them – if you have a particularly good rehearsal, say so. Directors really are approachable...believe me. They like to get positive and constructive feedback.
- Be a player – can you help in the music program? Can you work with a section or an individual to do better; work on learning tapes; taping quartet; music selection; clearances. There's a multitude of things to be done. Check with your Director and/or Music and Performance VP.
- Chapter Officer Role – Chapter Officers that take initiative and provide the singers, budget, facilities, tools, training, programs, events, etc., can permit the Musical Director to focus on what he is there to do.....create and execute a strong musical program working toward your chapter goals.

(Many thanks to **John Hohl** from the Mid-Atlantic District for this article)

## SPEBSQSA Directors' College 2002

*Linda Gilbert  
Director of the Cochise Chordsmen*

It was with a certain degree of trepidation that I faced my trip to Directors' College in St. Joseph, Missouri. To begin with, I'd only been directing the **Cochise Chordsmen** for two months, and I figured that most of the directors I'd meet there would be much more experienced. In addition, I'm a woman directing a men's chorus, and I had no idea how small that minority might be. The **Cochise Chordsmen** have treated me with the greatest respect, but would I face a wall of cold shoulders from the men in general? However, I participated in a CDWI on June 1 this year, and the teachers, **Jim Turnmire** and **Dave Leeder**, were very welcoming and supportive, as well as the four male directors at that workshop. Also, the Far Western District had enough faith in me it award me that coveted scholarship. Deep in my heart, I knew that things were going to be fine.

I quickly learned why this program is called "college." It certainly reminded me of those days long ago when I arrived and immediately began to be shuffled through the registration process. I took the music theory test and, due to a weak area in my background, I was assigned to Theory I. I learned that the videotape I had sent of me directing my chorus had shown that I could bypass Directing Techniques I and could be placed in Directing Techniques II. In addition, I was assigned to the other classes that are required for a director on his/her first year at Directors' College- Sound Management I, Performance, Leadership, and On to Rehearsal. The Directing Techniques and Sound Management classes lasted for 1 hour and 45 minutes per day for six days. The other courses were 45 minutes per day. Of course, we were on a college campus, so we had to walk to various building to attend our classes. Thank goodness, the shuttle bus that ran constantly saved my poor, arthritis feet when they got too sore!

Each class I attended provided me with valuable knowledge and insight. In addition, I learned that these classes all were on the list of requirements for director certification, so I got the paperwork and filled out the application to become a certified director. It should take about 2 more years at Directors' College and a couple of correspondence courses to fulfill all the requirements.

[cont'd on page 5]



"HE WHO LAUGHS, LASTS"

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[from page 4]

Each day all participants of both Directors' College and Harmony College joined together for a general session right after breakfast where we heard announcements, did physical and vocal warm-ups, and learned a tag or sight-read one of the several songs in our music packet. These sessions always were exhilarating, and, thanks to my handy little tape recorder, I acquired some wonderful warm-ups and tags to bring home to my chorus.

Directors' College offered a lot of entertainment as well as education. The **Freddie King Show** on Monday night had people laughing so hard they were holding their sides! What an amazing performer! **Joe Liles** lead a gospel sing on Thursday night that had me singing some of the great old music I hadn't sung since my youth. I was so wound up after that session, which began at 10:00 p.m., that I couldn't go to sleep till after 2:00 a.m.! On the Friday night Parade of Quartets, 23 quartets who has come to Harmony College to get intensive coaching from excellent coaches each put on costumes and stepped on stage to entertain us. At the end of that program, all 23 quartet stood together on risers and sang a song for us. Wonderful! The Saturday night show was a laugh-filled comedy show that featured a men's chorus, the youth chorus, and several of the faculty. The special guests were the **2001 International Quartet Champion, Michigan Jake**, who gave a rousing performance both on the stage and later at the Afterglow. Yes, I bought a CD!

A Wednesday night bash was held outdoors in the quad between dorms. There was a huge picnic, which included whole, roasted pigs, and entertainment by a variety of performers. That evening was capped by a chorus contest between the first-year students who wore red beanies and the first-year students who wore blue beanies. In addition, every night people gathered at the student union to eat ice cream, with all the trimmings, and sing the old songs together. Just imagine- singing barbershop music and eating ice cream at nearly the same time. Life doesn't get any better than that!

I returned from Directors' College late on Sunday night, and I began to use my knowledge with my chorus the following Tuesday. We did an excellent warm-up, thanks to exercises I had learned, and I began trying out the new directing techniques I had learned from **Paul Drummond**. Thanks to superb ideas I learned from **Ev Nau** in my Performance class, I already have written a 25 minute performance package that the chorus will begin using next week when we open auditions for the speaking parts and a solo.

I truly thank the Far Western District for supporting me financially in this enriching and fulfilling experience. I assure you that your money was well-spent.

[from page 3]

He was deservedly a legend in his own time. He was a character. Jutting jaw and twinkling eyes under a big wide hat—a guy who remembered vaudeville. He remembered prohibition. He was there. He had stories. He knew more songs than most people could ever count. Especially songs that none of us young whippersnappers had ever heard of. He'd throw out a melody line and challenge a quartet to woodshed around it. The 139th Street Quartet used to plant him in the audience at afterglows, sometimes even in show audiences, so they could call him up to the stage and demonstrate the fine art of woodshedding. I was forever amazed at how he could keep surprising even them. So it was entirely fitting that his legacy live on, through Owen and Kathie.

Owen was a citizen of the Barbershop world. When I would come home from Society board meetings, or committee meetings, or Leadership Conferences in Kenosha, I could share my stories, my adventures with whatever revolution I was fomenting at the time, with Owen. He was not only interested, he knew the cast of characters I was dealing with, the political landscape, and the organizational obstacles. He was a great sounding board. He'd give me that muffled chuckle you're all familiar with. And of course with Kathy being well wired in the Sweet Adeline world, the two of them were my favorite listeners.

Our loss is temporary. The great chorus in the sky has gained a real do-er. I'll bet he'll have the woodshed contest well organized by the time we get there. I suspect Howard Scanlon has already given him a couple new verses to songs none of us has ever heard of—and he's grinning with anticipation.

Thanks, Owen, for sharing your time with us.

John Krizek  
President, Far Western District

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**VP: CS/LT**

**Bernard Priceman**



## SAY HELLO TO YOUR CHAPTER COUNSELOR

Many of you will remember the old Area Counselor system. It operated for quite a while with a bunch of experienced barbershoppers ready to help local chapters get the most out of their barbershop hobby. But the program died a

few years ago, to some extent because of lack of leadership and guidance from above. The objectives of the program were good but the execution was lacking. I have heard that many barbershoppers viewed their Area Counselor as spies! That's unfortunate. The intentions of the Area Counselors were honest. They just may not have gone about their business in the best possible manner.

Well, all of that changed for the better when several years ago the Society set up the Chapter Coach program. Experienced barbershoppers with good communications skills were recruited all around the country and sent to Milwaukee for training. I was one of the early candidates and received intensive training and all the tools one could hope for to do the job. Later, the training system was revised and coach candidates were trained at their local Chapter Operation Training Seminars, which is still the system today. Once a coach had been active with at least two chapters for two years, he could apply to move up from coach candidate to become a certified coach.

Since its inception, the Chapter Coach program has had many successes but has recognized some deficiencies, too. And so the Society set up a Chapter Coach Advisory Committee this year to take a hard look at the program and see what changes, if any, should be made. One of the things we constantly told them was the fact that the word "coach" was misleading. Though we were exclusively there to help the chapters administratively, we all received calls asking for what I call "artistic" help. "We have a problem with our tone quality, can you pay us a visit and help us?" "We'd like to improve our S.P. skills. When could you spend an evening with us?" Our very name was causing unnecessary confusion. And so, one of the important changes to come from the Advisory Committee was a name change. We're now **CHAPTER COUNSELORS**. Phew! That was the end of that problem.

Of course, a name change was not the only thing to come out of the Committee. Much was changed from an administration point of view, too. Without going into all the details, the bottom line is that the running of the program has for the main part now been

turned over to the District Vice President for Chapter Support and Leadership Training. In the Far Western District, that's yours truly. It means that I alone am responsible for recruiting and managing the work of the Chapter Counselors. That's a good thing. If we decide to make changes here in the West, we don't need to worry about objections from outside.

Another important change in the program is the Society's new guidance as to how Counselors should interact with their assigned chapters. Whereas previously, the coaches felt bad if they didn't visit their chapters on a regular basis, the Advisory Committee's suggestion was that Counselors should indeed make themselves known to their chapters, but need only be truly active when the chapter itself asks for help. And when the chapter does ask for help, the Counselor should be prepared to work with the chapter to set up measurable goals, which together they can achieve. So now, the onus is more on the chapter to know that there is help available and that they may call for it whenever necessary.

Before I end this article, I thought I'd let you know what sort of coverage we now have for our licensed and chartered FWD chapters. At the beginning of the year we had 24 coaches covering 52 of the 84 chapters. Today we have 23 coaches covering 78 of 88 chapters. We did this by getting each of the Counselors to cover more chapters than they originally bargained for. They know, however, that as more Counselors are trained, their workload will reduce. By the time you read this, with the new Counselors expected to come on board at COTS, we will be able to cover every one of the 88 chapters in the District. No chapter will be able to say "you forgot us". That said, I have a feeling that some chapters still may not know they're covered or who their Chapter Counselor is. If you really don't know, e-mail me. You'll know in minutes!

Thanks for listening. I hope you continue to enjoy your barbershop experience.



## Hi-Fidelity Wins Grand Champion Honors At Buckeye

by Craig Ewing

It was a California sweep at the 2002 Buckeye Invitational in Columbus, Ohio. The winners of the "best male quartet" and "entertainment" categories were **Hi-Fidelity** from the **Fullerton** and **Santa Fe Springs Chapters**. The **Verdugo Hills Showtime Chorus** won all the honors in the chorus division.

**Hi-Fidelity** was announced the quartet Grand Champion on Friday night, beating out quartets representing SPEBSQSA, Sweet Adeline International, BABS, and Harmony, Inc. They performed a 12 minute routine as the Addams Family from the classic TV show. **Tom Moore** played Gomez Addams, **Craig Ewing** pestered as Uncle Fester, **Martin Fredstrom** loomed as Lurch, while **Gregg Bernhard** performed as both Cousin Itt and "Thing".

**Hi-Fidelity** received a great complement after reprising their Addams Family package at the show of champions on Saturday night. As **Walt Miller**, vice chairman of the Invitational, handed **Hi-Fi** the huge perpetual trophy he told the audience: "this is what the Buckeye is all about ... these guys understand the performance concept".

The **Verdugo Hills Showtime Chorus** took home best large chorus, best panel score, entertainment, and best women's chorus awards. They are directed by **Alan Gordon**, the baritone of FWD Champs and International finalist quartet **GOTCHA!** It was a very impressive win, since about 25 of the VHSC ladies were unable to make the trip to Ohio.

The best female quartet honors went to **Four Bettys** from Illinois and best panel score went to **Intgrigue** from Ontario, Canada.

The fun never stops at the Buckeye Invitational, where they also had a competition for comedy quartets and mixed (both males and females in the same group) quartets. The comedy quartet champs were **Peanut Butter Conspiracy** from Oregon while the mixed quartet champs were **M.O.D.** winning in their home town of Columbus Ohio.

If you have never been to a "Buckeye" you are missing one of the most enjoyable events in Barbershopping. Great guest talent, lots of variety in the competitions, performance packages instead of "two song syndrome", and magnificent fellowship with some of the most avid fans from every organization devoted to ringing barbershop chords. You'll never find more singing, fun, and appreciation of the art of barbershop entertainment!

## Concentric Circles

by Brent Graham, Bari Excalibur, former FWD member from the "Harmonet"

... the "concentric circles" theory I have been espousing for many years now. It goes like this.

Barbershop is comprised of songs/arrangements that lie in concentric circles. The inner circle is filled with songs like "Down Our Way", "My Wild Irish Rose", "5'2" and myriad others that would satisfy every KIBber. The next circle contains all of those songs per force, and other songs that are a bit further from the center, like "Ain't Misbehavin'" and "How Deep is the Ocean?". The next circle has all of the above, but also includes songs like "Alley Cat" and "Lazy Bones". Each succeeding circle takes you a bit further from "centrist Barbershop", until you reach the outermost circle, which would contain such pieces as "Stars & Stripes", "When I Look in Your Eyes" and "When I Fall in Love" -- charts not suitable for contest, but still recognizable as "Barbershop".

The point is twofold: (1) if we ever stop singing the songs/charts that lie in the inner circle, we lost our identity; (2) if we never sing songs/charts in the outer circle, we stop growing and stagnate. What we need is a careful balance of songs in all circles -- a high percentage of songs in the inner circles, with a sprinkling of songs from the "outer limits". In this way, we preserve our style and evolve it for the next generation.

So, there it is. A clear way for centrists (like Montana Jack) and progressives (like me) to coexist. And a clear path into the future. I hope we take that path.

P.S. Does it strike anyone else as odd that Excalibur is now the KIBber in the Top Ten? :)

P.P.S. And can we PLEASE quit using the "KIB" moniker? I want to sing Barbershop as much as the next guy -- maybe more! -- but I do NOT want to be associated with the fringe "KIB" movement. How about we call those who prefer the inner circle "centrists" and those that prefer the outer limits "progressives"? Or maybe we just call all of us "Barbershoppers"!



## VP: M&PR

Clark Abrahamson

## Activities You Can Do!



Winter forecast: flurries. Maybe not snow flurries for most of us in Far West, but certainly flurries of activity as we wrap up the year and deal with the holidays.

What a great season for Marketing/PR activities!

Some of the things I'm certain all chapters are planning for November and December:

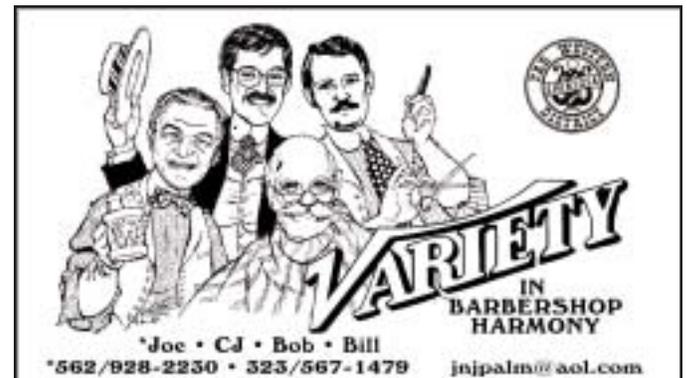
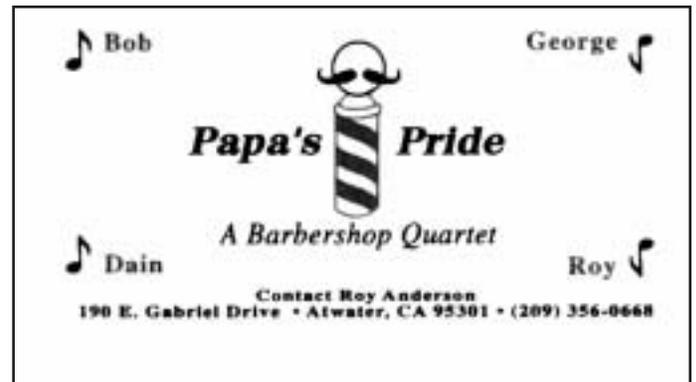
- Planning a **United We Sing** activity for Veterans' Day – November 11th.
- Organizing a **Men's Holiday Chorus** (complete details can be found on the Society Website (<http://www.spebsqsa.org/ChapterSupport/holidaychorus.htm>).
- Making plans to include **Youth Musical Groups** (High School/Middle School choirs, jazz choirs, bands, orchestras, etc.) in our Christmas performances.
- Scheduling free holiday **Outside Performances** at places that will truly appreciate them – i.e. nursing homes, seniors' housing facilities, hospitals, homeless shelters, etc.
- Contacting **community and civic organizations** – i.e. Chambers of Commerce, merchant associations, City/County/State governments, Boy Scouts, fraternal organizations etc. – to explore how we can become a part of their holiday plans.
- Marketing paid holiday quartet/chorus performances to **commercial entities** – i.e. malls, shopping centers, department stores, home improvement stores, etc.
- Aligning with other **musical entities** – i.e. Sweet Adelines, Harmony International, community orchestras/choruses, church choirs, etc. – to explore joint holiday performances.
- Contacting **media sources** – i.e. radio stations, TV stations (don't forget community and public radio and TV), newspapers, community and neighborhood bulletins, etc. – to secure Public Service Announcements, Calendar listings, Human Interest articles/stories, talk show interviews/performances, etc.

Ha! ...and you thought you could just sit back and relax, since the year is winding down. I'm sure there are a ton of other

Marketing/PR activities you can think of to create awareness, make money, and attract members. You know that old phrase, "we're the best kept secret..."? – NOT BLOODY LIKELY!

...to market, to market...

Clark



## QUARTETING – THE ULTIMATE EXPERIENCE

by Glenn Van Tassell

Lead - Auto Towners - 1966 Champions

Bari - Gentlemen's Agreement - 1971 Champions

Bari - Center Stage - Silver Medalist - 1982-3-4

In a previous article, I suggested that it is up to you to cause the quartet experience to happen in your life. Let's assume that you have reached out to some other like-minded people and actually organized that quartet. But now, lots of questions arise: How do we make the best use of our time? What are the roles of the individual members of the quartet? How do we select our music and where do we get arrangements? What about coaching? What should we expect of ourselves, individually and collectively?

Planning, making the best use of your time together is very important. No different from a chorus, a quartet needs to establish a working schedule that will allow for productive, ongoing vocal exercises, learning new music, defining and understanding the music and preparing it for performance. You will want to determine the special strengths of the individual singers and of the quartet as a whole and plan to make productive use of them as the personality of the quartet develops.

Someone in a quartet may be well organized and can help everyone to make good use of the time together. Others may be good at recognizing the musical elements of the rehearsal and assure that correct chords are being sung, that good balance and matching of sounds are happening and that pitch is being maintained. This is a partnership. Think twice before asserting opinions and do so only if you can do it very tactfully and positively. Do not assume the role of "boss" in your quartet. It is the surest road to quartet oblivion. Build mutual respect based on the desire of each singer to become the best that he can be, and individually live up to that pledge. In the long run, it will be far more productive to seek the help of a good fifth person to guide you in areas of defining, polishing and refining your musical presentations. There are judges, arrangers, AIC quartet singers and coaches at all levels of experience who live near you and will be happy to help you to grow in our hobby. Ask them. It is that simple, really!

There will be a need for someone to see to the business of the quartet. Details like public relations, correspondence with chapters for shows and with district and international offices for registration and entries for contests require a businesslike follow-up. Music selection should also be handled in an organized fashion. The society headquarters at Kenosha offers a marvelous selection of barbershop arrangements that are readily available. Ask for a list and select songs that are interesting to you and songs that you can handle at this stage of your growth. The fact that, let's say **Platinum** won their gold medals with a particular song does not assure that you will be able to perform that song well. When you grow to the level of performing really well and begin making an impact in contests and shows, you will be able to con-

tact some of the wonderful arrangers in our style and I think they will welcome your performance of their work.

Expect more of yourself and of your singing partners than you have ever given before. The quartet experience is very rewarding, but it requires more TLC than you have ever given any other endeavor except, perhaps your marriage. Do the work and reap the rewards. Sing in a quartet.

---

## HARMONY FOR LUNCH BUNCH

*Bob Morrison, FWD Chairman*

*2443 Camrose Avenue*

*San Jose, CA 95130*

*Phone: (408) 866-6458 /Fax: (408) 378-8712*

*Email: robtmor@aol.com*

"Welcome to the first singing event of the convention." With that exclamation, **Jim Crowley** our District VP for Music and Performance, commenced the FWD Harmony For Lunch Bunch gathering at Pizzaville USA in Bakersfield on Friday, October 4. Now an official convention event, HFLB has hosted barber-shoppers at the Spring Prelims and Fall Conventions for the past several years. It all started with **Stan French** and the Fullerton bunch. A few years ago, not wanting to miss the usual Fullerton Friday get together, Stan arranged for his group to convene in Bakersfield. The following year, I asked Stan if others could join in. He was delighted to extend the invitation and ever since Stan and I have worked together to continue the tradition.

In Fresno last spring, we welcomed over 50 guests including society president, **Roger Lewis** and convention honoree **Val Hicks**. In October in Bakersfield, there were over 100 attendees. According to the sign up sheet, chapters represented were: **Fullerton, Palo Alto-Mountain View, Westminster, Orange, Santa Fe Springs, Las Vegas, Conejo Valley, Hemet, Prescott, Placerville, San Luis Obispo, Phoenix, Coachella, Pal-Pac, Frank Thorne, Bakersfield, Fresno, and Laguna Hills**. We had the privilege of hearing from a number of quartets and singing many songs led in turn by chorus directors **Jim Crowley, Jim Turnmire, Jim Casey, Craig Ewing** and **Tom Nichols**. We were pleased that **Rhythm and Rhapsody**, a competing quartet from Phoenix, dropped in and shared a number of songs with us. A good time was had by all

Plans are underway to hold a HFLB in Reno at the 2003 Spring Prelims. Please plan to arrive a little early on that Friday and join us for a singing lunch. We meet from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Meanwhile, check the FWD web site for a HFLB directory and visit your nearest Harmony For Lunch Bunch. If you do not have one nearby, start one. I'll be glad to help.

[See photos Inside Back Cover]

## VP: MemServ

Peter Feeney



This issue of **WESTUNES** should reach your mail box just a few short weeks before we begin the holiday season in earnest. Many chapters have shows planned during this period and early next year. I hope we are all considering the wonderful recruiting opportunity these shows present. It is a chance for us to share our hobby with like-minded men of goodwill and an opportunity for them to actually experience the sensation of ringing a chord.

Many chapters have employed the very successful model of the Holiday Chorus. Men from the community are invited to join the chapter's chorus to rehearse holiday music in the weeks preceding the holiday show. The chapter doesn't put any pressure on the guests to join, but simply shares the joy of singing and then performing in front of an audience. For many guests, the decision to join is a natural one that follows the experience. Most men who like to sing enjoy singing songs of the holiday season and most know the words and are very familiar with the melody. Why not give the Holiday Chorus idea a try? Start with just a few songs, or schedule a full program. Either way, it is a proven method of getting men to experience our hobby and enjoy the thrill of performance.

If the Holiday Chorus is not your cup of tea, how about **United We Sing**? Check out the web site for more information about this show (<http://www.unitedwesing.org/>). This program is not designed to do anything but give average men in any community a chance to express their national pride and love of their homeland through song. It is not meant to be strictly a recruiting program, but if guests decide to join, they are most welcome.

**United We Sing** is a new initiative for chapters based on the successful Holiday Chorus Program. Using it, your chapter can invite men from the community to sing with your chorus and learn some great songs about their own country. Just like holiday music, men who like to sing generally know the songs included in the show. Some of the songs included are America, Home on the Range, Take Me Out to the Ballgame, Battle Hymn of the Republic and others.

The website has all the information you need, including a suggested rehearsal and recruiting program for those new to our hobby. Why not check it out now?

While we are speaking about website, please be sure you visit the website for ReMembers and download the August edition. It is chock full of good ideas and articles about chapter development, recruiting and member health and welfare. You can find the latest edition ready to be downloaded at <http://www.spebsqsa.org/Membership/Remembers.htm>

The Society has some very effective new tools for recruiting that may already be available as you read this. One is a short video about our Society that has good production values and makes an excellent impression. The other is a Power Point presentation about recruiting and orientation produced by Ev Nau. Both tools should be in the hands of each chapter's leadership to help us reverse the disappointing trend in membership. More about these tools next issue. In the mean time, let's get out there and talk about Barbershop Harmony! In other words, let's have some fun!

ANDY RICH BRUCE TODD

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Walt Pleasnick welcomes us



Walt registers Phil Calef



Music Team Seminar General Session @ Cal State Hayward



Dean Jim Turnmire



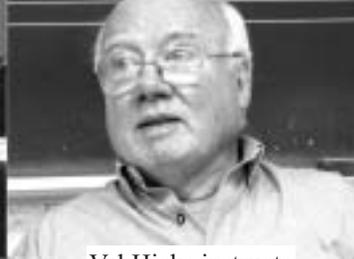
Melany Huston teaches



Val Hicks instructs



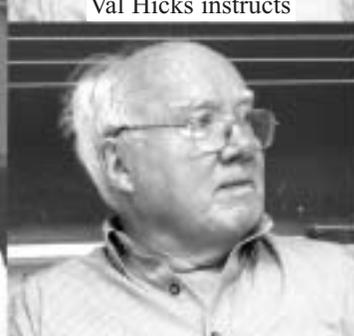
Ron Black greets



Lloyd Steinkamp teaches



Ron Black teaches



Ron Black chats



Freddy King in action



Lloyd & Dick Lund



Black, Huston, Turnmire, Campbell



Thompson & Sammonds



Front Line CDs in class



As we wind up the year 2002, I hope that you have increased your enjoyment of our great hobby and that you have renewed old friendships and made plenty of new friends.

As you know, my emphasis this year has been on assisting choruses and quartets with hands-on coaching by many dedicated individuals. I plan

to continue this program in 2003, and we will refine these programs further. For planning purposes, Harmony College West is slated for August 22-24, 2003 at California State University, Hayward.

We have many options available to improve your chorus and quartet experience including the **Standing Ovation Program**, the **Chorus Coaching Reimbursement Program**, **Song Writing Program** and the **Champs Assistance Program**. Now is the time to schedule one of these assistance programs for your quartet or chorus. The reason is simple: The better you sing, the more fun you have!

Remember that this is YOUR hobby, Society and District. Your District officers need your input and recommendations regarding the many programs we put on each year. If we are meeting your needs, that's great...if you have an idea for a new initiative, let us know and we will do our best to accomplish it.

Support your Chapter and especially your Chapter Board of Directors...offer your assistance and be a part of the Chapter decision-making process. Sing in the community and offer to assist local school music programs, especially during the holidays. And, be sure to attend the District/International conventions and contests so you can really enjoy the family, fellowship and camaraderie that is such an important part of the barbershop experience!

Finally, I wish you and yours joy and happiness this holiday season. Be extra careful on the roads, and spend time with your families and let them know how much you appreciate their support in letting you "go out and play".

In harmony,

Jim Crowley

**FWD Fall Contest Scoring Summary  
October 4-5, 2002**

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Quartet</u>	<u>%</u>
1	Sam's Club	77.3
2	Hi-Fidelity	76.0
3	Broadway	75.8
4	Late Night Barbershop	73.9
5	Lucky Streak	73.1
6	4.0	72.7
7	Out Of The Box	72.3
8	L.A. Sound	70.9
9	Harmony Quest	67.9
10	OK Chorale	67.8
11	TopCats	66.6
12	Authorized Personnel	64.7
13	A Touch of Class	63.3
14	Potluck	63.2
15	In The Zone	63.0
16	Prestige	62.8
17	Rhythm And Rhapsody	62.2
18	Time Honored	61.1
19	Dry Heat	60.6
20	Top-Notch	59.3
21	Harmony Agents	58.6
22	Curtain Call	58.1

A Touch of Class qualifies to represent the FWD at the International Seniors Quartet Contest next January. Time Honored is the FWD Senior Quartet Champion. Rhythm and Rhapsody is the Novice Quartet Champion.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Chorus</u>	<u>%</u>
1	San Jose, CA	76.5
2	Rincon Beach, CA	76.3
3	San Diego, CA	72.8
4	Reno, NV	72.1
5	Las Vegas Metro, NV	71.4
6	Irvine, CA	70.7
7	San Fernando Valley, CA	69.9
8	Fresno, CA	69.6
9	Santa Rosa, CA	69.3
10	Riverside, CA	67.4
11	Whittier, CA	65.7
12	North Valley, CA	65.6
13	Palo Alto, CA	63.1
14	Conejo Valley, CA	60.4
15	Fullerton, CA	59.1
15	San Francisco, CA	59.1
17	St George, UT	58.3

San Jose, CA is the Most Improved Chorus  
San Jose, CA is the Plateau AAA Champion  
Rincon Beach, CA is the Plateau AA Champion  
Reno, NV is the Plateau A Champion



## SANTA FE SPRINGS

IRV LEVINE

If you want to take off your shoes, go ahead. It's okay! Whatever it takes to eliminate unnecessary noise on the risers when we're making a recording is what you can do! Yes, that's what happened recently in a session at Cal State Long Beach where we kicked off our sixth recording. It's a good start but we need one or more sessions to complete the new album, which is planned for release in mid-2003.

The Vocal Group Hall of Fame honored the Masters of Harmony by inducting the chorus into the Barbershop Hall of Fame in Sharon, Pennsylvania. Although we weren't there to accept the honor, we sent a videotape of director **Mark Hale's** acceptance along with a clip of part of our winning performance in Portland.

Congratulations go to **Steve Katz**, our new front row captain. Steve has big shoes to fill since former captain, **Sean Sherrodd**, moved out of state for a job opportunity.

We held chapter elections in September to elect our board of directors. President **Bernard Priceman** will remain at the helm for a third consecutive term. Twelve of the 15 board members will return in 2003.

As this message goes to press, the October 20th "Champions on Parade" Show will be history. But chances are a few thousand folks will still be hearing gold-medal chords from the all-champions show. We hope you were at the Long Beach Terrace Theatre to be a part of it.

On November 30, we're going back to school! Two terrific Christmas shows (matinee and evening performances), titled "Our Holiday Wish," will be held at Royce Hall on the campus of UCLA in Westwood. We're pleased to present the award-winning Mt. San Antonio College Chamber Singers under the direction of **Bruce Rogers** and also our favorite soloist **Pam Pieson**. The theatre is as beautiful as we expect the music to be! We're looking forward to a great kick-off of the Christmas season. See the ad in this issue for further details [inside front cover].

[An article submitted by a FWD member]

Dear Ray,

My name is Ron Asplund. I'm a member of the Golden Valley Chorus of Turlock, Ca., and occasionally write for our chapter newsletter. I recently attended Harmony College West at Redlands, and it was an outstanding event. Jim Crowley out did himself.

After the event, I wrote a little piece, humorous I hope, and **Jim Turnmire**, who I believe you know, urged me to send it to you. So here, in case you can use it, is my little essay:

## DERICK AND THE 'TIX

by Ron Asplund  
Member - Golden Valley Chorus

At Harmony College West, our man **Derick Sturke** was very much in evidence. He was one of the select few picked by Dean **Jim Crowley** to put on this super event, which was held at the University of Redlands, Redlands, California. What a great time we had! But Derick may just have had the best time of all.

As you can imagine, there are all kinds of tasks for the staff people, like Derick, to do. Did Derick work in registration? No. Did he set up chairs and organize classrooms? Nope. Did he, perhaps, have something to do with the absolutely terrific (no kidding) meals? Noooooooo.

Well, what DID Derick do? Derick was put in charge of the care, feeding, and general welfare of the **ACOUSTIX** for the entire weekend!! Wow! Derick was the most envied guy there. And the **ACOUSTIX**, who headlined the official Saturday night show, really liked Derick and appreciated his efforts. At the afterglow, where they entertained us again, the **ACOUSTIX** were so lavish in their praise of Derick, I really thought they were going to adopt him!

Derick, by the way, was the MC of the afterglow, and he did a splendid job. Dottie, **Jim Turnmire**, **Steve Taylor**, and I didn't do so bad ourselves. We came in, early for once, but the room was already packed, and we had to scramble for seats in the back.

But guess what? By the time the Pizza provided by **Jim Crowley** was consumed, and the entertainment was beginning, the back became the front! Suddenly we were sitting just 5 feet from the quartets. Let me TELL YOU, 5 feet from the **ACOUSTIX** when they are singing full out is really something!!! Going to Harmony College West, even when its way down in Southern California, is well worth it.



Dear Far Western District! Young Men In Harmony is alive and well! But you know this, especially if you were in Bakersfield this past October. Evidence that the Youth are the future of our organization was in most of the choruses that competed.

In each issue of the Westunes you read my words which say, send

more money! By now I'm sure you are tired of hearing me say it, so I'll quite it down a bit. The need for more money is still there, but I'm going to devote more time to what is working and less to what isn't.

Congratulations to the **San Diego** and **Hawaii** chapters for receiving district dollars! **San Diego** stepped up to the plate and held the SoCAL Youth Harmony Camp. For their efforts, the Far Western District has contributed \$1,000 towards covering the expenses. The **Hawaii** chapter held a Youth Festival last year and the Far Western District pledged \$500 to the cause. Their check is now in the mail. Furthermore, I have pledged another \$500 to support this year's Youth Festival in Hawaii too.

The **Placerville, Sacramento, Stockton, Davis-Vacaville, Reno Chapter**, and a host of others are hosting the Northern California Youth Harmony Camp. The Far Western District is providing the \$1,500 to cover the deposit and is pledging another \$1,500 if 100 students attend the event.

Lastly, I am working with other chapters throughout the district to set up festivals with the goal of reaching 2003 boys next year. The District Board has pledged \$10,000 to make this happen. Is your chapter interested in applying for District Dollars to help with a YMIH event? Put together a plan (with a budget) and send it to me for review.

Now, rather than spend the rest of this article telling you what I know, I'm going to turn it over to a couple of guys so that they can tell you what they've been doing.

**Chuck Marr** heads the **San Jose** Chapter YMIH program up. Chuck Marr writes...

*"Two of our chapter quartets conducted two assemblies at a local elementary school to give them an introduction to barber-shop harmony. Each assembly included participation of the students in a sing-a-long.*

*Our annual show featured the Women's Choir and the Concert Choirs of Lincoln High School in San Jose. Both choirs were Grand National Champions in 2001 and 2002. The choirs participated in a "pilot" ticket sales program which resulted in them raising \$750 for their music program.*

*Our Valentine's Day quartet delivered a singing valentine to the music educator at Castellero Middle School. The quartet then spent time teaching tags with the boy's choir. This was our third visit to the school during the school year.*

*Our chorus performed a benefit show for the Wilcox and Santa Clara High Schools music programs. We conducted a "guest night" for the Castellero Middle School Boy's Choir and utilized the evening to a) have them warm-up and sing with us, b) have them perform for us and c) help them raise money for their school program. The fundraiser was the idea of our membership VP. He gave the school \$10 for every male adult Castellero put on our risers for the evening. The school left with \$200 cash. We didn't get any new members, but we did get one of the adults to express interest in helping us work with the high school his son is now going to."*

**Caleb Stevens**, from the **San Diego** Chapter writes...

*"In the July/August issue of Westunes Magazine the questions was posed, "what is Young Men In Harmony?" For the San Diego chapter the answer is: a dynamic, energetic, all-out committed outreach program involving many members and led by **Bill Barker**, V.P. for Youth Outreach.*

*In the second year of his newly-created position, Bill, a retired educator, has taken the program into the school system and won the hearts and minds of students, teachers and administrators alike. More than 60 students participated from several area middle and high schools in the last year. Chorus Director **Ron Black** had donated hundreds of hours teaching and coaching these students.*

*The program was elevated to a new level in 2002, in response to a request by school administrators to include young women. A new identity emerged in July 2002, when name "Harmony Adventure" was chosen for the rededicated effort to "Teach All The Children To Sing."*

*In June, 2002 a Harmony Day was held at a local high school for 32 students and 4 teachers from 11 different schools in San Diego and Phoenix. **Ron Black** directed teaching assisted by the **LA Sound** quartet. More than 20 members of the chorus participated in organizing, transporting, feeding and coaching those attending.*

*In June 2003 a two day Harmony Adventure summer camp is planned with 200 students expected to take part. The Navy has generously agreed to sponsor the event by providing lodging, meals and a tour of an aircraft carrier, all at a very low cost."*

Your program can also be included here in the Westtunes. E-Mail a typed MS Word Document or standard Text Document to bbsbari@cruzio.com. All articles submitted will be posted on the District YMIH Web-Site, but each issue will feature one or two of your articles.

These days you are being asked to donate money to dozens of different places. With the cancellation of the Youth Harmony Camp program I know you may feel that your donations to the Youth Education fund isn't accomplishing what you hoped it would. I hope this article will help convince you that YOU are making a difference. 100% of you contribution to the Youth Education Fund goes to YMIH.

---

## Official SPEBSQSA Contest Rules

[Exerpts applicable to recent Fall Contest]

### I.B. Choruses

1. Except for those choruses from affiliated organizations which have been invited to participate in the international chorus contest, all members of competing choruses, except the director, must be members of the Society and of each chapter they choose to represent in competition. Chapters represented in Society chorus contests must be in good standing with the Society and their districts. All members of competing choruses from affiliated organizations, except the director, must be members in good standing of that affiliated organization and of the chapter or club that they represent in competition.

4. In each district, a contest cycle begins with the first contest, in a given calendar year, that is part of the process of selecting the district's representative to the international chorus contest.

a. To be eligible to compete with a given chapter as a transfer or dual (including reinstated dual) member, a member must have established his transfer or dual membership status in the chapter prior to the commencement of the contest cycle in the district. This eligibility requirement will not apply to a member who, after the commencement of the contest cycle, changes his place of residence and solely as a consequence of such change, transfers his membership to the chapter with whose chorus he thereafter competes. A membership transfer or dual membership will be established upon receipt, at the Society office, of the necessary request for transfer or dual membership, and all necessary approvals thereof.

b. A dual or transfer member may participate, either as director or singer, with more than one chorus in any contest.

*[About the chorus contest:*

*The Westminster Harmony Showcase Chorus was announced as winners of the chorus contest, and then declared ineligible due to a membership rule infraction. For updates on this situation, see the FWD web site.]*

## 2002 - A Year of Re-Building

2002 will go down as a year of re-building. As you know, attendance at the Youth Harmony Camps have been declining (overall) over the last three years. Now we must add a 20 month decline in (overall) donations to the District Youth Education Fund.

Why? The biggest impact to the program comes from the recession. The second biggest impact is from the events of 9/11. Contests, Annual Shows, Caberets, etc factor in this as well... But these are all "glass half-empty" arguments. I want to change the view from looking at what we don't have, to what we do have.

Two Thousand Three in 2003. Our collective goal, as a District, is to reach 2003 children with our YMIH programs in 2003. Every student counts and every chapter is needed to reach this goal. Here is an excerpt from our YMIH six year plan for youth outreach.

Year	Goal	Students Per Chapter Average
2003	2003	25
2004	4006	50
2005	6009	75
2006	7992	100
2007	9990	125
2008	12000	150

"But wait, my chapter can not host 150 boys!" Sure you can, just not all at once. In this program, less is more if it is more often!

What does it mean to "reach" a child. Well, there is no one right answer. For some chapters, reaching a child may mean working with one at a time, teach him or her the joys of singing as a life long activity. Or, your chapter may reach children in mass. No matter how you do it, there is one simple rule, it must be fun! That old saying, "first impressions are lasting" is never more true than with children.

Our hobby is proven to build self confidence, individual pitch recognition, improved intonation, and better vocal projection and emotional involvement in all who participate. This is music to a music educators ears.

To drive my point home, lets assume that 1 out of every 10 children we introduce to barbershop eventually join a barbershop organization. Then from our efforts in 2003 the barbershop organizations will gain 200 new members.



## Quartet Corner

*(written and edited by Allen Fossenkemper –  
OK Chorale Quartet)*

### "Fraser's Back In Town."

In Barbershop Quartet circles, one of the true indicators of a man's stature occurs when fellow competitors begin to sing parodies about him and his quartets. Enter stage right, Fraser Brown. With three District Quartet Championships, three International Quartet Medals and 23 consecutive appearances on an International stage, Fraser has now become the subject of parodies by quartets from FRED to the most recent "Tribute to Fraser Brown" performed by Hi-Fidelity. These tributes only add to his impressive record of vocal durability and tenacity.



With considerably more hair and sitting on two canes, Fraser Brown came on the Barbershop scene in 1966. As a Charter member of the Scottsdale Chapter and one year out of Arizona State, where he majored in Theory and Composition, he now confesses "I

started as a tenor because I loved harmony more than melody." It's hard to believe that one of the most talented lead voices in our society would rather be a baritone. I recently had the opportunity to interview Fraser following his 23rd consecutive and 25th overall appearance at International.

### "The Iron Man of International"

It all began on Wednesday afternoon at the 1976 International competition for four quartet men from Phoenix who got their chance to sing in Thursday's Quarter Finals when Mike Senter's foursome dropped out at the last minute. From that unusual starting point was born a competitive hunger that would manifest itself as the Society's equivalent to Cal Ripken.

"26 years, five combinations, two hip replacements, significant hair loss and a hundred thousand miles later, the Iron Man of International competition is still at it and there appears to be no end in sight. "Most people with Fraser's physical limitations would be content to sit home and watch television, but this guy is a bottomless pit of barbershop energy," explains Past International President and Fraser's baritone in 1976, Terry Aramian.



Fraser attributes his vocal longevity to his frequent vocalization habits. He has been a continuously performing member of the Phoenicians since 1973 in addition to his perpetual quarteting and church choir activities, all of which add up to three or four nights of singing each week. "I don't do any daily vocal exercises, but I should," he notes, "I am convinced that proper warm up and frequent vocalization has kept my voice in good shape." He recommends that quartets take a half hour to prepare their voices before every rehearsals or performance and he advises to get voice lessons from someone who understands barbershop.

In addition to his chorus and quartet participation, Fraser has contributed to our society in so many other ways. He has been an Assistant Director of the Phoenicians for more years than he can remember. He served several years as a Certified Judge, he is a highly regarded arranger, coach, music committee member, section leader and the only guy who was able to get along with Rick Wells, Galen McClain and Al Mau for more than eleven years.

"I've always looked up to Fraser as a Father Figure," exclaims Rick Wells, who has sung with Fraser for almost 20 years. I remember when my Mother took me to the Phoenix shows, before I could drive, and there was Fraser with one of his quartets. I said, "Mom I hope that Mr. Brown is still singing when I become a man, I sure would like to sing with someone as good as him," Wells remembers.

Fraser has earned more than the respect of his quartet. He is the most recognizable face in international competition and I have yet to meet a Barbershopper with anything bad or negative to say about this fine, (gentle) man and his unique approach to life and our hobby.

At the recent District Competition Fraser's latest ensemble, Broadway, made their District debut by placing first in the semi-finals and third overall. Together less than a year, they will undoubtedly be a contender for yet another Brown championship next fall.

So how much longer does Fraser plan to compete? "Who knows," he exclaims, "I'm just starting to have fun. Jim Casey has helped Rick and I improve more than any other coach I have worked with. I see no reason to retire as long as my voice still has room to grow," Fraser concludes.

So Fraser is truly "Back in Town." He will continue to share his beautiful and distinctive lead voice with us for many more years and somehow I think we are the winners as much as he.

Allen Fossenkemper  
Fossenkemper@earthlink.net



1 San Jose, CA • Chris Hebert, Director



2 Rincon Beach, CA • Mike McGee, Director



3 San Diego, CA • Ron Black, Director



4 Reno, NV • Bill Weiser, Director



5 Las Vegas Metro, NV • James Halvorson, Director



6 Irvine, CA • Russ Adkisson, Director



7 San Fernando Valley, CA • Russ Adkisson, Director



8 Fresno, CA • Ron Black, Director



9 Santa Rosa, CA • Melony Huston, Director



10 Riverside, CA • Bill Harper, Director



11 Whittier, CA • Stan Sharpe, Director



12 North Valley, CA • Jack Woodard, Director



13 Palo Alto-Mountain View, CA • Steve Sammonds, Director



14 Conejo Valley, CA • Larry Nixon/George Dallas, Directors



15 Fullerton, CA • Craig Ewing, Director



15 San Francisco, CA • Don Gubbins, Director



17 ISt George, UT • John Scott, Director



Also competing Westminster, CA • Keith Sharpe, Director



Mike Testrs • All Star Chorus • Lloyd Steinkamp, Director



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Visa or MasterCard (circle one)

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_



**1 Sam's Club**

Ken Potter [T], Sean Devine [L], Kelly Shepard [Bs],  
Sam Papageorge [Br]



**2 Hi-Fidelity**

Craig Ewing [T], Tom Moore [L], Martin Fredstrom [Bs],  
Gregg Bernhard [Br]



**3 Broadway**

Ray Estes [T], Fraser Brown [L], Rick Wells [Bs],  
Bill Haddock [Br]



**4 Late Night Barbershop**

Doyle Pope [T], Mark Feiner [L], Greg Lapp [Bs],  
Rich Hasty [Br]



**5 Lucky Steak**

Warren Hettinga [Br], Steve Salmon [L], Scott Fewell [Bs],  
John Mininger [T]



**6 4.0**

Jerry Lovell [Br], Larry Halvorson [L], James Hawkins [Bs],  
Jim Halvorson [T]



**7 Out Of The Box**

Dan McQuigg [T], Robert Lenoil [L], Greg Sawyer [Bs],  
Matt McKee [Br]



**8 L.A. Sound**

Ken Larsen [T], Kevin Soto [L], Bryan Sandberg [Bs],  
Pat Claypool [Br]



**9 Harmony Quest**

Dave Garstang [T], Brad Roberts [L], David Miller[Br],  
Ron Black [Bs]



**10 OK Chorale**

Tom Kish [Bs], John Fynmore [T], Allen Fossenkemper[L],  
Dan Davenport [Br]



**11 TopCats**

Bruce Sellnow[Br], Alan LeVezu [Bs], Tim Huntsinger[L],  
Eric Brickson [T]



**12 Authorized Personnel**

Brad Kelso [T], Blair Dowd [L], Todd Benton [Bs],  
Brian Dowd [Br]



**13 A Touch of Class**

David Yarnell [T], Lou Tedesco [L], Dean Kirkland [Bs],  
Peter Hensley [Br]



**14 Potluck**

Bill Cale [T], John Gilliland [L], Jim Sherman[Bs],  
Bill Borah [Br]



**15 In The Zone**

Jussi Ratsula [T], David Tautkus [Bs], Adam W. Kitt [L],  
Russell S. Adkisson [Br]



**16 Prestige**

Larry Nixon [T], Dan Cardin [L], John Brockman [Bs],  
Ken Barker [Br]

**Just Add Water  
and Stir Well**

Yakov Smirnoff made the point. He is a Russian comedian, who emigrated to the United States. He said he wasn't prepared for the incredible variety of instant products available in American grocery stores. He said, "On my first shopping trip I saw powdered milk--you just add water, and you get milk. Then I saw powdered orange juice--you just add water, and you get

orange juice. And then I saw baby powder, and I thought to myself, 'What a country!'"

Most barbershoppers I have known seem to have assumed that by attending their chapter meeting each week they will learn all the notes and words of the chapter repertoire, as well as improve as a singer. That is a little like baby powder giving us an instant baby, which would be pretty wonderful, if you think about it.

I would like to encourage each of us to think of ourselves as barbershoppers in progress--barbershoppers who want to become better singers and then doing something about it; barbershoppers wanting to learn the new songs better and faster and then doing something about it; barbershoppers wanting to get the most out of this hobby as possible and then doing something about it.

Doing homework was the way to get ahead in school, and it works in barbershopping as well. Spending as few as fifteen minutes a day on music and singing and vocal production is bound to get you ahead. Some barbershoppers have taken voice lessons in order to improve their voice. Spending some extra time every day will bring about improvement, whether you sing in the chorus or a quartet. There is no instant success.

And how about chapter officers and committeemen wanting to do a better job, too. I hope they registered for COTS to take advantage of information about their position. Again, it is important to do something extra in order to learn something about the area in which you wish to do well.

And Joe Barbershopper who wishes to learn more about his hobby should take advantage of Harmony College West or Harmony College next summer.

Need I say more? There is no instant success. Stir well!

'Til next time. . .

Gary Steinkamp  
Dean Waters  
Scott Kidder  
Joe D'Amore\*

\* Contact:  
626.963.8604  
409 Greenfield Ct  
Glendora, CA 91740  
jpdamore@earthlink.net

John  
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Jim

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Rob Menaker/Tenor John Sasine/Lead Jeff Baker/Baritone Brett Littlefield/Bass



**17 Rhythm And Rhapsody**

Mark House[Br], Shreyas Amin [Bs], Tim McMullan [L],  
Grant Fox [T]



**18 Time Honored [Sr]**

Robert Heron [Br], Tom Benton[Bs], David Livingston [L],  
Stan Haymaker [T]



**19 Dry Heat**

Bob Reidel [Br], Collin McKinney [Bs], Bob Sampson [L],  
Ben Gregg, Jr. [T]



**20 Top-Notch**

Les Weiser [Br], Dan Place [Bs], Larry Goodfried [L],  
Art Taylor [T]



**21 Harmony Agents**

Bill Barker [T], Ken Baker [L], Lou Benedict [Bs],  
Rod Deakers [Br]



**22 Curtain Call**

Don Kileen [L], Bob Cathaway [Br], Jim Serdahely [Bs],  
Max Frickey [T]



**Mike Testers Finale [2001 FWD Champions]**

Ken Potter [T], Sean Devine [L], Kelly Shepard [Bs],  
Sam Papageorge [Br]



**Jest For Phun 2002 Super Sr Quartet Champions**

John Ford [Br], Larry Krause[Bs], George Dallas[L],  
Jim Laverty [T]



## **FAR WESTERN DISTRICT GOVERNANCE CHANGE INFORMATION**

This article briefly covers the proposed transition from the current governing system back to the geographical District Vice-Presidents where there is one DVP for each division. Please refer to the May/June 2002 issue of WESTUNES for

details regarding the House of Delegates action, which was taken at the Spring 2002 Convention.

The FWD Board Of Directors recommended the change and the HOD approved the plan and we are currently underway toward implementing this process. You will be kept informed of the progress, either through WESTUNES and/or the 2003 HOD Brochure.

As an interim step toward establishing better contact with our chapters, a district officer, or otherwise authorized representative of the district board, will contact every chapter, ask questions, and ask for a response. This contact would normally be with the chapter president. Following that, of course, was the hope for a reply from the chapter. The progress has not been overwhelming, as you will see by the numbers quoted below. These figures are as of October 1, 2002.

Here is a progress report:

Our district officers have contacted 77 of 84 chapters, or 91.7%. Of those 77 chapters, 39 have replied, which is 50.6%

The responses are varied with some being very brief and others are quite detailed. This is a start and the district officers thank everyone who has participated in the replies to date. However, there is much to be done, both on the part of the district officers and on the part of the chapter officers who have been contacted. If you fit into either category, please do your part by participating in this ongoing program.

Sing well, sing barbershop and have fun!

## **International Prelims Heading to Reno**

*Luke Sorensen, Reno Chapter*

Springtime...when a young man's fancy turns to love and our waiting ears turn to the sounds of the cream of our very own harmonious crop. However, while another summer is gone and eyes are set for District contest, we in Reno are looking ahead to our spring convention. We expect this to be one of the best ever, with jaw-dropping competition, and fun all around.

The Headquarters Hotel has already been designated as Mr. John Ascuaga's "Nugget," and boy are our guests in for a treat! With restaurants galore that serve delicious food, stage shows and concerts for those of you haven't gotten enough great singing, a nice swimming area with a swimming pool and hot tub, and an arcade for those of you with kids or if you just want to go wild. At our Headquarters they also feature a gym for a great workout and a mini-spa for those ladies who feel like a good pampering, and right across the street there is a Century Theaters waiting for those looking for some entertainment a little less musical. Parking is spacious and plentiful, so have no worries.

But we all know why you're really there: to hear some killer 7th chords! We'll have some great barbershop for all of you. We expect to have our representatives from the Far Western District there, so be sure to thank them for their dedication. They are: 5th place Metropolis, 6th place Gotcha!, 10th place Finale, 12th place Freestyle, 23rd Broadway, and 33rd place Late Night Barbershop. Ladies and Gentlemen, that is all of our quartets in the top thirty-three out of forty-three. We hope to see them all qualify again when they venture "down our way" come March. And there are even rumors of a very prominent Evergreen quartet heading down to Reno to qualify.

For those of you with money burning a hole in your pocket, we will keep our tradition of a well-stocked Barbershopper's Shop for all of you to meander through, and I believe that we'll have some RV accommodations for all of those fine people who would like to get here early and/or stay late. We have much more than the Nugget to hold your attention. It is, after all, the city where Garrison Keillor said, "You can go up to the mountains and ski in the morning and then come down and golf in the afternoon." And we support any and all of you to do that. With our many snow resorts nearby at Lake Tahoe, there should be a good time for all. I am sure, as well, that you are all getting prepared for our fine golf courses and cool weather. Be sure to look for more details in the next Westunes.

Also, we'll keep you up to date with our up-and-coming website. Save up your money for your registration to this guaranteed great time. Look for said registrations in Bakersfield this coming October. It's sure to be a contest to remember, and we in Reno are waiting anxiously for the chance to show you fine people a good time.

THE RENO SILVER DOLLAR CHORUS PROUDLY PRESENTS THE

## FAR WESTERN DISTRICT SPRING BARBERSHOP CONVENTION & CONTEST

FOR

# 2003

**March 21 – 23, 2003**

**John Ascuaga's Nugget  
Rose Ballroom**

- Contest & Show**
- > International Quartet Prelims
  - > Small Chapter Chorus Contest
  - > High School Quartet Contest
  - > Show of Champions

- Meetings & Events**
- > District Officers Board Meeting
  - > House of Delegates Meeting
  - > AH-SOW
  - > Youth Activities
  - > Afterglow

<b>REGISTRATION PRICES</b>		<b><u>HEADQUARTERS HOTEL INFORMATION</u></b>
<p><b>ALL CONTESTANTS MUST BUY AN "ALL EVENTS" REGISTRATION FOR APPLICABLE AGE GROUP</b></p> <p><b>Adult (over 18 years)      Student (18 years &amp; under)</b></p>		<p><b>John Ascuaga's Nugget</b> 1100 Nugget Avenue Sparks, NV 89432-0797 <b>Room Reservation (800) 648-1177</b> <b>(775) 356-3300</b></p> <p>\$78.00 per night + tax (Single or Double) Tell the Reservation Clerk that you are with Barbershop Quartet Society</p> <p>RV Parking (No Hook-Ups) available in the west parking lot at "no charge"</p>
<p><b>Full Early Bird</b> (Postmarked by February 21)</p>	<p><b>Full Late/On Site</b> (Postmarked After February 21)</p>	
<p><b>ALL EVENTS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; <b>Adult            \$30.00</b></li> <li>&gt; <b>Student        \$15.00</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>ALL EVENTS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; <b>Adult            \$40.00</b></li> <li>&gt; <b>Student        \$20.00</b></li> </ul> <p><b>INDIVIDUAL EVENTS: Sold <u>ONLY</u> on site</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; <b>Adult            \$20.00</b></li> <li>&gt; <b>Student        \$20.00</b></li> </ul>	

### REGISTRATION FORM (Only one person per form)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

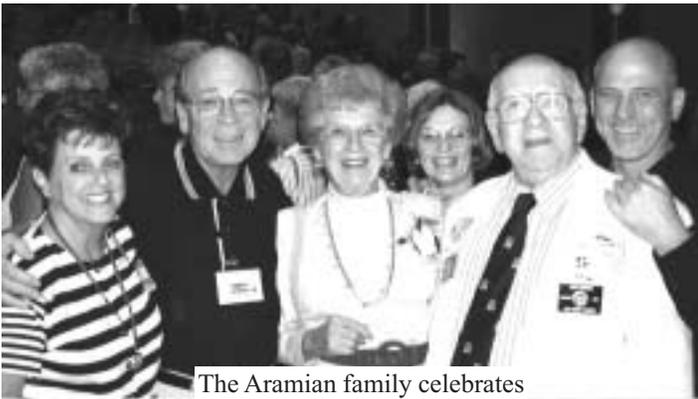
Chapter/Quartet: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Seating Requested \_\_\_\_\_

<p><i>Please check one</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Adult Early</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Student Early</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Adult Late</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Student Late</li> </ul>	<p><i>VIP STATUS</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> District Officer</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> AFWDC Member</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Comm Chairman</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Delegate HOD</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Past FWD Pres</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</li> </ul>	<p># Adult Reg. _____</p> <p># Student Reg. _____</p> <p>Amt. Enclosed \$ _____</p> <p>Check # _____</p> <p>Date Mailed _____</p> <p>Seat # _____</p>
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Please make checks payable to: Reno Chapter, 2003 Convention

Mail to: Reno Chapter, 2003 Convention  
Attn: Sam Barger  
P.O. 12602 Reno, NV 89510  
Email: Nevadasam1@aol.com  
Phone: (775) 851-0571



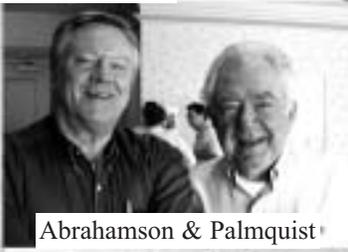
The Aramian family celebrates



Bill & Craig with friends



Doug Maddox



Abrahamson & Palmquist



One of many gatherings of friends



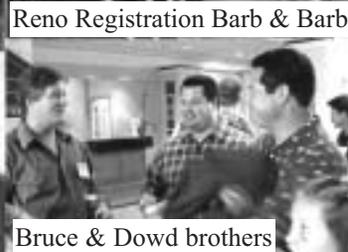
San Jose is represented



Reno Registration Barb & Barb



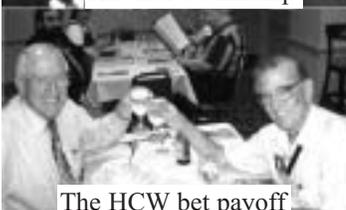
Another Steinkamp



Bruce & Dowd brothers



AHSOW Quartet



The HCW bet payoff



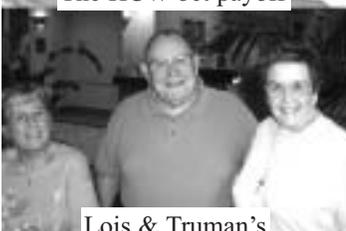
Sam Aramian



Ron, Bobbi & Bernie



Paul Olguin



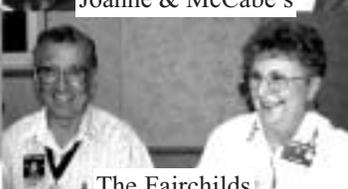
Lois & Truman's



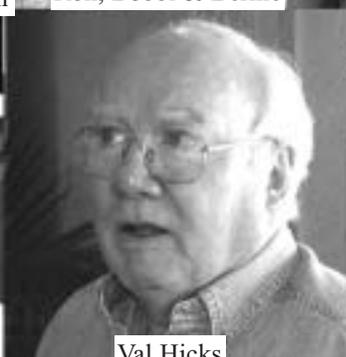
Joanne & McCabe's



Salz & Sherman



The Fairchilds



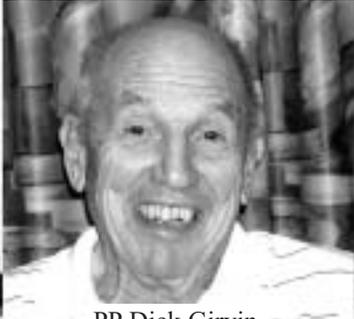
Val Hicks



Joanne Newman



PP Terry Aramian



PP Dick Girvin



PP Don McAvoy



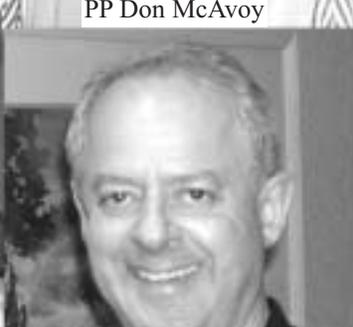
Convention Chair Dave Prigge



PP Lynn Brittan



SBM Bob House



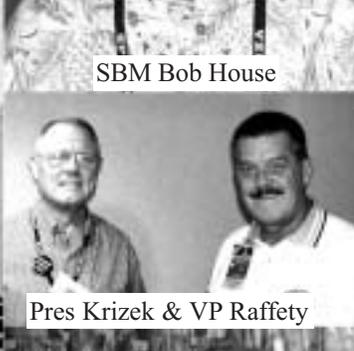
VP Bernard Priceman



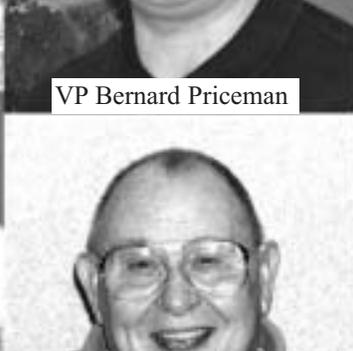
VP Sam Barger



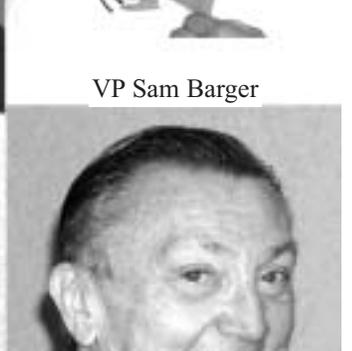
Webmaster Keith Eckhardt



Pres Krizek & VP Raffety



PP Carl Truman



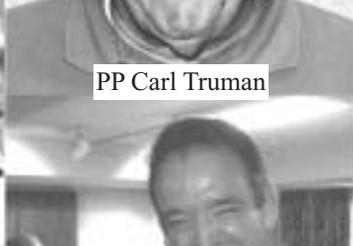
PP Lloyd Steinkamp



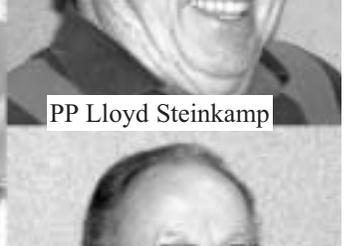
Paul Jockinsen & Stan French



Mann & VP Turnmire



Newlywed Fraziers



Dick Whitten



BreaChapter gets Charter



Newlywed Fraziers



Dick Whitten



House of Delegates Observers



2003 FWD Board of Directors

## Division 1 SCal West

Editor Mike Martin

### CONEJO VALLEY

### RED EHRENBACH

**Zack Noonan**, their "honkin" new 13 yr. old tenor, is a front line performer and anchors one end of the quartet Generations. Tying down the other end is the lead, 72 year old **Devon Hansen**. In between is bass **Willy Daw** and bari **Lance Ashkenasy**. Lenny & The Carls, another new Quartet in the Chapter consists of four college age performers. **Javier Macias** sings bass, **Michael Gutierrez** is the lead, **Eric Eckels** is tenor and **Andrew McDougald**, bari is the old man of the group at 21 yrs. The other two Quartets, **Jest 4 Phun?**, 1992 District Senior Quartet Champions and **Prestige**, Novice Quartet Champions makes four, count em, four excellent Quartets in this small Chapter. All four of them are helping the chorus to become better as well! The word is that Conejo Valley Chorus is still looking for a director.

### RINCON BEACH

### BOB LALLY

There was the occasional vacation absence, but chapter activities were many and varied during the Summer for Rincon Beach. There were performances ranging from the Ventura County Fair to the Santa Barbara Club along with a benefit show for the Unity Shoppe of Santa Barbara and appearances at several local churches for Sunday services. At the Unity Shoppe performance Pacific Sound was pleased to treat our audience to the incredible comedy antics of **Jest For Phun** who had 'em rolling in the aisles. Most of these performances were arranged by the hard work of PR VP **Brent Anderson**.

Membership VP **Ken Day** announced our newest members, **Max Frickey** of San Luis Obispo, **Garth Ratliff** from the Ventura area and **Eric James**, baritone of the College Quartet Grand Avenue. Five other men are in various parts of the audition process at this point and will hopefully be on the risers soon. Pacific Sound is hard at work preparing for the Fall FWD Chorus Contest in Bakersfield with coaching sessions from **Mark Hale** and **Cindy Hansen** and a retreat in September with **Dr. Greg Lyne**.

There was also a first orientation meeting for next year's visit by Pacific Sound to the Russian Barbershop Festival in St. Petersburg. This session was conducted by previous Festival participants **Mike McGee** and **Ed & Valerie Sweatt** showing some spectacular video footage from last year's festival.

### SANTA CLARITA VALLEY

### BOB LANG

Announcing a new chapter director, Mr. **David Kilpatrick!** David has previously directed L.A. Chapter and has much musical teaching experience, not to overlook that great Bass voice! With **Keith Goudy** as assistant, the chapter is looking forward to them bringing out their very best, while having fun too. **Dick Winger** is the new Membership Chairman, and plans are already in the works to have fifty guys singing by the end of the year! The Chorus had **Stan Sharpe** out for a 'tune up' and learning session late in May which was very beneficial. On July 27th a

pickup quartet attended the district quartet seminar marathon sponsored by **San Fernando Valley** to take advantage of at least seven topnotch coaches for only \$10. What a deal! That's less than a dollar an hour per person. Don't miss it next time around. That same pickup quartet is now going to sing together on a regular basis as the Chorus section leaders. This month the chorus has been revisiting tunes from last February's show for a comprehensive performance package, as well as learning new music for the upcoming show March 1st. As a fundraiser, the chapter bought out a Saturday matinee performance of the Music Man from the local Theater Guild company. They resold the tickets at a profit and will use these funds to support their High School Quartet Contest next winter. Mostly barber-shopper friends and family attended and a 'good time' was had by all. Credits to: **Greg Finley** (lead of **Chordz A Poppin'**); a great Professor Harold Hill, son Garret Finley (2001 high school district champ); as town Councilman, and **Jack Matson** (lead **Blue Plate Special**); as a town Councilman. The chapter is very proud of to have these talented guys as members. The Board approved a Singing Valentines program for next February; and four quartets have been identified and they are hoping for more. The chorus also attended the Second Sunday Serenade in Pasadena in September, which all enjoyed.

### SAN FERNANDO VALLEYAIRES

### DON HEIST

**Tom Mayfield**, chapter president, announced the completion of recording sessions and ready to go into production for their first CD/audio tape. **Tim Singer** came up with a winning graphic design for it. Plans are underway for a trip to Ireland in 2003 and six performances to be given there. **Cliff Jacobs** chaired a highly successful District Quartet Workshop with seven quartets enrolled. Coaches **Bill Tieberg**, and **Chuck Mitchell** and internal coaches **Gary Bailer**, **Dave Tautkus** and **Don Heist** as well as director **Tom Rafferty** have engineered remarkable progress in the chorus sound and presentation levels. In addition, **J.R. Rodriguez** has joined in to guide and better the Valleyaires presentation skills. This chapter is vying for their first top five medalist finish since 1990 when they finished fifth and it looks as though they are doing all the right things.

Hats off to **Dave Tautkus**, a newer member of the chapter who, it just turns out, is an outstanding vocal coach as well. He was unanimously selected as BOTM for August.

### SAN LUIS OBISPO

### BRUCE MILLER

Chapter president **Pete Bennet** offered congratulations to **Max Frickey** and **John Staley** for putting together a great script and a great cast which was performed at the brand new Clark Center For The Performing Arts. What a treat to sing on a brand new stage and nearly full house.

Quartet Development Chairman **Greg Schifano** is encouraging the chapter members to get moving on their quartets. After some difficulty getting started, the chapter's newest quartet **Three Great Guys** with **Bill Million**, **Ron Kyker**, **Hugh Hoadly** and **John Lewis** look good to make it this year.

Membership Chairman **Jim Hawkins** and **Dave Harmish** are planning for Harmony College in St. Jo, Missouri and encouraging other chapter members to join them. Jim, by the way, was recognized for his outstanding efforts for selling ads for the 2002 annual show program.

The Fall Dinner Show is being planned and organized by **Dave Prigge** and is to be held at the Elks Club September 20. Dave, a very busy guy, is also the District Convention Chairman for the Fall Convention. The Chapter gives a special welcome to new member **Bryce Lacey** who adds lustre to the bass section. Way to go men!

#### SANTA MONICA

#### CARL ROGERS

Barbershop quartets are usually quite pleased to sing for a sell-out crowd in a 600-seat auditorium. But to sing instead before 47,000 takes the pleasure to the thrill level. Plus, when you're singing The National Anthem, you know going in you'll be taking your bows before a standing ovation as well. That was the thrilling Dodger Stadium experience for chorus director **Todd Benton** and his quartet normally known as **Authorized Personnel: Brad Kelso** (Tenor), **Brian Dowd** (Bari), **Blair Dowd** (Lead), and **Todd** singing Bass. For the special ball game performance the foursome was identified as "**The Oceanaires' Quartet**," but that was enough of an identification to make all the Oceanaires in attendance proud to be wearing their Oceanaires logo shirts. None thought to bring cameras, but a videotape of the Jumbotron (large video) screen projection at the stadium recorded the memory for all time. (Yes, the Dodgers won, and some great fireworks topped off the balmy September evening. A memorable night all around.)

The **Oceanaires** last sang for slightly fewer than 47,000, (about 46,700 fewer, in fact) but it was an enthusiastic audience as well. They received a standing ovation at their annual Ice Cream Social at the Santa Monica First United Methodist Church. Making the hall especially festive with bunting and balloons was **Earl Gauger**, whose earlier coordination of their largest promotional mailing ever, left the chorus board with little question of who should be the Barbershopper of the Month for August. Special thanks and recognition also went to fellow **John Payne**, longtime head Ice Cream Scoopmaster of the yearly event. Members brought in a score of donated gifts and services for door prizes and raffle offerings, and resident magician El Moldo The Magnificent (a.k.a. **Bruce Schroffel**) gave them out with his usual great flare. In addition to Authorized Personnel there were engaging performances from two other Oceanaires-based quartets: **SoundStage**, made up of **Randy Edwards**, **Harry Stasney**, **Tom Laskey** and **Mike Martin**; and **Time Honored**, whose members are **David Livingston**, **Stan Haymaker**, **Tom Benton** and **Bob Heron**. The chorus, all agreed, sang well, and left feeling confident they would see many in that audience next December at their Holiday Sing now being planned with their sister singers of The Santa Monica Sweet Adelines.

#### SANTA MARIA

#### LU HINTZ

The Central City Chordsmen will have put their annual show "Cowboy Jamboree" to bed by this writing. The cowboy theme will be the chapters performance package for the next few months. Lots of work leading up to the event and director **Brad Bormann** very pleased with the chorus sound.

Chapter president **Larry Long** announced that the district president presented **Bill Young** his fifty year pin. Congratulations Bill. Also honored were charter members of the **Chordsmen**, **Gene Kai** and **Dean Ubben**, and as a member of the 1962 International Champion quartet The Gala Lads, **Gordon Lees**. Big hats off to **Evy Dykema** for all her great efforts in keeping the show activities on track. The chapter couldn't have had a better show chairperson. The big barbeque ran into the best kind of trouble. 300 showed up and plans were for only 250. Still, everyone was fed.

#### SOUTH BAY

#### MIKE MARTIN

From the mountains to the sea. South Bay's annual retreat and seminar left its traditional mountain location for the sea this year. The new venue was located in Huntington Beach and well arranged for by **Dick Wyckoff** working under a last minute deadline when the mountain retreat facilities found they were overbooked. **Bob Griffiths** acted as program manager for the retreat and arranged for six top coaches to work with the chorus over the weekend., the largest coaching staff yet for the event. The coaches were: **Jim Campbell**, **Caroline McClean**, **Ken Potter**, **Stan Sharpe**, **Terry Aramian**, and **Bill Harper**. This had to be the most intense and best thought out coaching weekend ever. Music VP **Will Hamblet** and director **Pete Neushul** have developed an outstanding show package to take on the road for public performances and a lively one it is.

Treasurer **Bernie Baron** announced that success of the annual show last June has put the treasury in the best condition it has been in years.

The Coastliners welcome new member **Mike Thorpe** to the tenor section although he might have chosen any part. His first night with the chapter he sang all four parts of a barberpole song.

Hey Hey Honeys representative **Cathy Corter** announced their next meeting for September 25. Nice to see these great supporters of South Bay back in the swing of things. Not only a great singing chorus, South Bay is proclaiming itself as also being one of the worlds largest if not THE largest Elvis Presley mens choruses in the world. More on that to come.

With a focus on improving vocal production and perfecting the chapters show package, it is planned that coaching sessions with top notch Society coaches will now become a regular event at chapter rehearsals. **Jim Campbell** was the first on the coaching roster having already made several visits over the past few weeks. The Chorus and several of its quartets have already been scheduled for several holiday engagements one of which is with our very good friends the L.A. South Town Sweet Adeline

Chapter and their annual show October 11 and 12. Always a great event.

## VENTURA

## KEITH BOGOST

Director **Duane Ashby** after recently attending Harmony College wants to institute some ideas he has acquired for gaining new members. He would also like to find an assistant director who would eventually replace him and recruit a younger person, inexperienced and teach him how to be a director with the idea he will eventually direct a chorus somewhere. Great forward thinking Duane.

**Gary Rice**, who joined the chapter last year has stepped up to the plate and taken on the job of Music VP giving **Dan Love** a needed break. Dan, who had been holding down two positions, will continue as Performance VP.

The chorus presented a totally unexpected surprise to long time member **Wayne Rear** and his wife Verla as they performed to honor them on the occasion of their 48th wedding anniversary at the Ojai Holy Cross Church.

Summer has been a busy time for the chorus and **Ventura Boulevard Quartet**. They have had numerous singouts in the area. The chorus also attended Harmony College West and had some great experiences there as well. **Len Koenig** reports that the chapter had a great evening of fun and musical learning last August 27 as they were invited to a rehearsal at the Rincon Chapter in Newbury Park where **Mark Hale**, director of the **Masters Of Harmony**, was guest director. The Nominating Committee consisting of **Bill Butala**, **Keith Bogost**, **Len Koenig** and **Wayne Rear** have made their selections for a few good men to serve on the Board for next year.

Meanwhile, **Sam Ballinger** and **Bart Bleuel** are looking for a few good designs for a new chapter shirt. All the chapter quartets are reminded to prepare for their Fifth Tuesday Quartet Extravaganza on October 29. The Ventura Chapter is beginning their Fiftieth year as a members of SPEBSQSA and are planning an anniversary show, most likely in the Fall of next year. **Wayne Rear** has already volunteered to be show chairman with assistance from **Jim Sumstine** and **Keith Bogost**.

## Division 2 SCal East

*Editor Gene Hartzler*

## FULLERTON

## DICK COTE

President Kent, penned a very nice piece, "It's Orange Blossom Time" albeit is most likely is way overdue. That is the accolades to the chapter gals and all that they have accomplished for the good of the chapter, doing "girl things" that men don't normally have talent in. How nice that the FWD and Fullerton Chapter were so wonderfully represented at the recent Buckeye Invitational bash in Ohio. Music Director Craig who had never had the pleasure, was happy to have represented all of us there and he will no doubt be first in line in '03!

June's BSOM was **Vince Preece** and July was - you guessed it-

none other than Editor **Dick Cote** for his second time becoming Int'l. Bulletin First Place winner!

The Fullerton visitation on September 10, was a fantastic moral builder as a prelude to the following day and what a wonderful time we all had! We had the pleasure and honor to welcome **FWD President John Krizek** to San Marcos for his presentation of the license to the new group, The Pacific Coast Harmony. Pal-Pacs alert front desk greeting man **Dick Davis** provided some nice numbers of visitors like: Fullerton visitors: 45 strong; Pacific Coast Harmony members: 31 great voices under the direction of notable **Kim Hulbert**. Oh yes, we were so happy to welcome several wives, husbands and friends who applauded so enthusiastically for all the harmony that filled the sanctuary to the very top beams.

Fullerton even provided their own lady photographer and what a friendly gal she was!

## HEMET

## BRUCE SMITH

Our own **Howard Mesecher** was among the FWD barbershoppers who was honored be awarded his 50 year pin in Portland.

Christmas in July, despite the heat saw the Harmonizers rehearsing Sammy Kaye's original "We Wish You A Merry Christmas" which will be the opening number.

Chorus Manager **Bill Leader** has implemented the "Buddy System" to make visitors and new members feel comfortable and he has picked **Joe Emge** and **Elmer Olson** to oversee the workings of it.

**Clay Panlaqui** was profiled in the last issue of the Upbeat.

## ORANGE

## RICHARD ACTON

**Rich Martinez's** article "Achieving The True Joy In Quarteting" came up with five criteria that will make the novice quartet man feel comfortable and enjoy the song.

**Rich Lewis's** new "The Pitch By Rich" makes you want to join and enjoy the regular Monday chapter meetings with the nation's first quartet chapter.

## PALOMAR-PACIFIC

## KEITH MULFINGER.

President Wayne's nice complimentary piece on Lloyd and Terry as our musical directors really says it profoundly.

Long-time member **Jack Story's** article How I See It brought back many pleasant musical memories when he speaks of The **Schmidt Brothers** and **Buffalo Bills** quartets of the early '50's.

## PACIFIC COAST HARMONY

## Arbie Kraft

At the Fullerton Chapter's visitation on 10 September to Pal-Pac, the PCH chapter's 39 men had their first public performance under the direction of **Kim Hulbert** and what a gig it was! They have launched into rehearsals for their first Holiday show scheduled for 14 December at Mandeville Auditorium on the UCSD campus. The San Diego Sweet Adeline Champs chorus will

make a guest appearance on the show along with **Revival** and **Acappella Gold** quartets.

Their current member roster boasts 55 men already are preparing for their initial Divisional competition next May!

**RANCHO BERNARDO** **Erwin Castillo**

Recently the **Troubadours** performed with the San Diego Chorus in a joint show, "Ba, Ba, Ba, Bing" which was a musical success and all the men had a fun time doing the Crosby take off idea.

The Troubadours sang in two assisted living homes as their contribution to their community service.

The chapter is doing well under their new director, **John Hulbert** and feel that they are on the "up swing" again with 35 men attending rehearsals regularly.

Long time chapter secretary, **Wayne Hull** was relieved of his secretarial duties while he recovers from an illness.

The chapter will hold its third guest night on 3 October in the Oaks North Community Center in Rancho Bernardo. An open invitation is extended to all North County barbershoppers to visit any time,

**WHITTIER** **DAVE GUNTHER**

The Choralaires were most welcomed in the Pearson Park's Youth Benefit show in August. Music VP **Wes Reed** did masterful job in **Stan Sharpes** place who was sick and couldn't appear.

The annual retreat to Pilgrim Pines in Yucaipa was highlighted by special guest, **Lloyd Steinkamp**, who was a hit with the men with his special brand of motivational techniques.

Three new members, **Juvet Dakay**, **Fred Vera**, and **Reed Phillips**, are welcomed by the Choralaires

President Clay's article Now's The Time and **Stan Sharpe's** Portland Blast, and several other pieces make for a jam packed Showcase issue. A separate article John's marriage was one we all will treasure. Tina and Dave's 25th anniversary was one they'll cherish forever.

(Ed. Note It is with great sadness that Linc's passing is reported as I loved the guy. Gene H.)

## Division 3 NCal West

*Editor Don Kington*

**HONOLULU (ALOHA CHAPTER)** **ED REID**

The **Sounds of Aloha** Chorus opened the local Rotary Club's "Celebrate America -- Celebrate Aloha" concert on Saturday, September 7, at the Waikiki Shel. The Chorus sang the National

and State anthems and three other patriotic songs.

A year ago the Aloha Chapter debuted its "Harmony Explosion" a cappella workshop/festival for high school boys. On Friday and Saturday, November 15 and 16, the Chapter is repeating the workshop. Heading the clinic is legendary father-son barbershop harmony team, **Lloyd and Gary Steinkamp**.

In September members were once again given the chance to sing in quartets on rehearsal nights.

**BAY AREA METRO** **DAVE TIBBETTS**

BAM is still getting used to new director **Dr. Rob Campbell**, though the honeymoon period is almost over: Rob is really working the guys, combining the traditional BAM commitment to vocal excellence with some great new songs and a fun approach to learning. New members are auditioning and old members are returning, and there is excitement in the air.

Many members attended the Annual Fourth of July Picnic in Moraga (held on July 27 this year), held in late July, where there were "beans and burgers and kegs of root beer" for all. On August 21st the **Pot 'o Gold Chorus** had a heartwarming experience performing for the Veteran's Hospital in Livermore, a beautiful facility and a very appreciative audience of American's finest. Thanks to **Pete Miller** and **Ollie Brillhante** respectively for organizing these events.

September 11th was an important day for the chorus, as we sang patriotic music in a commemorative ceremony at the Alameda County Fairgrounds for Pleasanton's One Year Later: Remembrance and Hope program. Chapter president **Dave**

**Tibbetts** collaborated with community leaders to feature the chorus along with local police, firefighters and religious leaders. The audience of over 1,000 sang along in a stirring rendition of America the Beautiful, with the society quartet overlay ably performed by chapter quartet Vocal Fource.

On September 22nd Pleasanton's Annual Barbeque Cook-Off provided the chorus with a nice outdoor venue to try out some new songs. On a gorgeous day, the open booths of the street vendors and the smell of championship barbeque made for a great mix with the sounds of four part harmony!

September 28th found the chorus working hard in an all-day "advance" as the chorus starts work on its new contest package for next year. Also in the works on December 1st is the annual Christmas Cabaret show, featuring our annual Guest Chorus of community members and singers who come out once a year to join in creating a larger chorus for the holidays. Featured will be chapter seniors quartet **Potluck**.

**EUREKA** **MAC GARDNER**

The Humboldt Harmonaires performed at the "Festival By the Bay" on Labor Day, September 2.

The Harmonaires now legendary "Beer-and-Peanuts Show" was once more successfully held on Friday, October 25.

#### FREMONT/HAYWARD

RAY SPINOZA

Don the Digester owes Ray and the Chapter's members for having misplaced and omitted his contribution for last issue.

The recent performance by the **New Dimension Chorus** at a benefit for Tennyson High School in Hayward, was an enjoyable and successful evening for Chorus members and the high school audience.

You should have read about the Chapter's first-ever show in this space last issue. Ray reports that Chorus director **James Hall** scheduled additional chorus practice sessions, while show director **Kevin Smith** continued to hold actors' and technical rehearsals. This flurry of activity follows chorus appearances at two local festivals, where members spent their weekend promoting the show, recruiting new members and forming impromptu quartets to entertain the many passersby.

#### MARIN COUNTY

RALPH KLING

**Jerry Lloyd**, who head's the Chapter's Youth Outreach, continued to lead the "Marin All Star" quartet performances at local youth camp programs this past summer. As a result the Chapter was deluged with letters of thanks from camp staffs, to wit" "...the campers really enjoyed your show and singing with a barbershop quartet." -- "The kids really enjoyed the time you spent with them." -- "thank you for teaching us about singing!" -- "You were great. Not only did the kids love it, but so did the staff!" Good job Jerry!

#### PALO ALTO/MOUNTAIN VIEW

JOHN HEATHER

(Formerly the PENINSULA CHAPTER)

The August edition of the Chapter bulletin, PeninsulAIRE MAIL, reports that the Summer Music Workshop Series was a big success. It began on guest night, Tuesday, June 18, that had been promoted by a feature article in the San Jose Mercury. Eight guest joined with regular member in learning more about effective sining techniques. For nine weeks the first 90 minutes of each chapter meeting was devoted to the "basics. The series was the brainchild of Music Director **Steve Sammonds**. Assisting Steve was **Thomas Atwood**, **Robert Lenoil** and **Rob Sequeira**.

The Chapter will hold its annual show on Saturday, November 16.

#### SAN FRANCISCO

DMK

At this writing the men of the Cable Car Chorus are putting the final touches on the two songs they will deliver in Bakersfield on Saturday, October 5. While most of the 21 singers have put in quite a few hours in preparation, no one has spent the hours that Music Director **Don Gubbins** has. In addition to all the extra hours any director must devote to preparing a chorus for competition, Don travels about 150 round-trip miles just to get to rehearsal!

#### SAN JOSE

NEAL CAVANAUGH

Did you know that within the **Garden City** Chorus there are 14 registered quartets and members who sing in four mixed, male-female quartets? Granted some of the 14 quartets may contain members from other chapters, but the San Jose Chapter definitely emphasizes the Q in SPEBSQSA.

#### SANTA ROSA

SCOTT DOUGLAS

Members of **The Redwood Chordsmen** held an "advance" (that term, started by BAM, must be catching) the weekend of August 10-11 at the Isis Oasis Lodge in Geysersville.

The Chapter Christmas Cabaret Show is Saturday, December 14. Don't miss it!

#### WALNUT CREEK

DICK JOHNSTON

This summer members of the **Devil Mountain** Chorus continue their practice of substituting for the choir at the Sunday-morning services of a number of local churches.

Tuesday, September 10, the Walnut Creek Chapter celebrated its 30th birthday with a party at Shadelands Art Center in Walnut Creek. Visitors from 11 other chapters to include the **Santa Rosa Redwoods Chordsmen** under the direction of **Melany Huston**. Four choruses were organized on the spot with **Rich Canaglia**, director, East Bay Chapter, **Rogers Hornsby**, a BAM member, Melany and **Gary Bolles**, retired director of BAM, each taking charge of a chorus.

### Division 4 NCal East

*Editor Bill Crocker*

#### CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

MILES SUTTER

Chapter members started off the month of August with a BANG. Actually, it was July 30, August 1 and 4. July 30 was a chapter meeting night filled with the singing of favorite songs and sprinkled with tags. The night was topped off with a visit to the members' favorite pizza joint where the harmonizing continued.

Next was Youth Harmony Day. **Blossom Valley Sweet Ads**, who generously invited GVC members' participation, sponsored this event. Three members snapped up the offer to help out. The volunteers and several women worked with a dozen or so kids, ranging in age from eight to 14 and with singing experiences ranging even more widely.

The kids were placed into voice parts, were taught some of the basics and learned three songs in four-part harmony. This was accomplished in just a few hours under the leadership of director **Dixie Tirre**. The noon break included pizza - again.

GVC participated in a program at Graceada Park along with two sweet ads choruses and quartets of both persuasions. The new kid's chorus performed the three numbers that they had learned earlier in the day. A rousing finale, "God Bless America" by the

combined co-ed, multigenerational chorus with **Dain Goad** directing, closed the evening's entertainment. The crowd loved it.

Sunday's ice cream social was held in Turlock with the all-out support of those fabulous GVC wives. The entertainment featured **Derick Sturke** the "Train Singer," complete with guitar and railroad engineer's attire. Derick was careful to ensure that the audience did not mistakenly hear that he was a "trained singer." **Papa's Pride** did itself proud, as always, and the social was lucky to showcase a featured quartet of the caliber of **KaBLaM!**

## CHICO

## LEE ATKINS

Bidwell Generals are meeting, temporarily at Chico State University's Newman Center. The chorus and **Vintage Sound** quartet participated in a candle light service on the center's front steps during the evening of September 10. The short program consisted of scripture readings, a homily by Father Mike and songs by the chorus and quartet in remembrance of the September 11, 2001 event.

**Vintage Sound** is back in its collective saddle after a summer of inactivity. The quartet performed the national anthem for the August 19 Chico Heat baseball game. When the team gained a spot in the post-season play-offs, the quartet was called up again for the September 3 game.

The quartet performed the national anthem as part of the "In Celebration of America" event that occurred at the Paradise Performing Arts Center on September 11.

**Vintage Sound** roamed Yuba City's "Dried Plum Festival" on September 7 and 8 performing for sponsors, vendors and festival attendees. A "My Mother's Eyes" rendition brought one woman to tears and she insisted that the quartet visit her at the KKCYS Radio-County 103 booth to record a song for a later broadcast.

The "Dried Plum Festival" is the politically correct name recently given to the "Prune Festival." The "Prune Festival" has been a Yuba City tradition for many years. The name change was probably a good thing. Since **Vintage Sound** is a senior quartet, it's probably best that the quartet doesn't have a prune gig in its resume'.

The annual "Palermo Days" festival was held on September 14. **Vintage Sound** was on stage as one of the featured musical groups. One of the songs performed was "Orange Blossom Time In Sweet Palermo." This song was written in the 1890s and had not been performed in Palermo for several decades. **Leeds Lacy**, the quartet's bass, sent the melody to arranger and friend **Mike Menefee** who performed his magic and arranged the song in the barbershop style.

The annual cabaret show was held on October 19 at Memorial Auditorium in Chico. It was well attended, as usual. All enjoyed the lasagna dinner and the superb entertainment.

## NEVADA PLACER

## ROGER PERKINS

Five new members were added to the chapter roster this summer.

The chorus performed at the Nevada County Fair. The annual quartet contest took place after the fair with eight quartets competing. Taking first place was **Chord Miners** composed of **Dean Rice, Bill Beck, Roger Fox** and **Elmer Fairbanks**. Second place went to **Stampede** with **Tom Klasey, Pat Jones, Dennis Lloyd** and **Roger Perkins**. Not far behind in third place was **Rustlers** with **Tom Klasey, Roger Perkins, Dennis Lloyd** and **Al Drouin**.

The chapter's 19th birthday was celebrated with a barbecue and swim party at **Steve Evan's** home in Loomis. The weather was a little cool for swimming but everyone enjoyed the tri-tip and side dishes.

The annual cabaret show was held on October 25 and 26 in Auburn and Grass Valley respectively. This year featured a lasagna dinner and performances by **Sierranaders Chorus** and four quartets.

## PLACERVILLE

## BILL PECK

**Gold Rush Chorus** performed on September 28 at the International Food Fest at the M.O.R.E. facility, which is a workshop for physically and mentally challenged people. The chorus performed for 30 minutes for an audience of 300 to 400 people.

A couple of members reported on their harmony experiences. **Ray Rhymer** attended Harmony College West where he coached a dozen quartets with emphasis on vowel targets. **Richard Lund** and **Ron Murray** attended the FWD Youth Harmony Camp. The experience was gratifying with 85 young men soaking up everything like sponges.

**Frank** and **Jeanne Martin** attended the Portland convention and reported having a great time. They then took time to drive to Alaska to visit their daughter.

## SACRAMENTO

## FRANK KINNISON

**Capitolaire**s performed at the First Methodist Church in Sacramento on August 11. The chorus substituted for the church choir that was enjoying its summer vacation period.

The September 14 fall cabaret show was a complete success with 350 attendees enjoying the all American dinner and show and another 100 who came just for the show. All enthusiastically enjoyed the American Legion band that played during dinner. The quartets were great and the Capitolaire's were fantastic.

A guest night was held on October 15. A great time was experienced with some new faces.

The **Capitolaire**s will be performing at the lighting of the Christmas tree in Folsom on December 6.

The chapter's Christmas show will be held on December 8 with a performance in the afternoon and evening.

The second annual holiday harmony Christmas chorus will be held on December 14 at the First Methodist Church at 21st and J Streets in Sacramento. All male singers are invited to join the members as guests and fill the risers for the occasion.

A Christmas song performance will be held on December 18 in the rotunda of the California State Capitol.

Visit the chapter's new website at [www.sacramentobarbershop.org](http://www.sacramentobarbershop.org)

#### **VISALIA** **DEE BAUGHMAN**

A "glow-ball" golf tournament and dinner was held in September in Exeter.

Chorus members hosted the Barbershop & Big Band Cabaret show on October 19. The Rythermaires, a big band from Fresno, played many of the old songs for those who liked to dance or listen. A special reunion of the **Saturday Night Bandstand Review Quartet** entertained the crowd. The reunion brought together **Bob Peden**, tenor; **Gale "Smitty" Smith**, lead; **Tank Waldrum**, bass and **Hugh Schaffer**, baritone. This quartet had not performed for several years.

**Mighty Oak** Chorus is looking for a new director. **Tank Waldrum** has expressed interest in stepping back to assist in the chorus.

### **Division 5 AZ/SoVNV/SoUT**

*Editor Phil Smith*

#### **ARIZONA QUARTET CHAPTER** **BILL KANE**

Arizona Quartet Chapter members enjoyed a late summer visitation to the **Mesa Lamplighters** Chapter and participating in the Division Bash, where the parade of quartets raised well over \$700 for Young Men In Harmony. The pool party of Membership VP **Charlie DeFir** was also great fun for members and wives. Member **Dave Lyman** has posted a flier at nearby Arizona State University that has resulted in several young men starting to attend the chapter. He also has spearheaded new costumes for the "Chapter Quartet," which we all sing in (only four at a time, of course).

The chapter is reviewing local Tempe charities to select one that it will support. Construction at the church where we meet knocked out air-conditioning through the summer months. . .110-degree days. Whew! It promises to be completed in October (just in time for cooler weather).

#### **GREATERPHOENIX** **BILL KANE**

A new barbershop chapter is forming in Arizona around a fantastic music team. Co-directors are **Russ Young** and **Gary Steinkamp**; assistant directors are **Dan Ryan** and **Cary Burns**; visual coordinator is **Randy Stringfellow**, while Music VP **Ray**

**Estes** coordinates it all. The Greater Phoenix Chapter hopes to achieve its goal of "new" members early this fall so it can charter. Membership is at 16 men as of mid-September. Meetings are being held on Tuesday evenings, starting at 7:30 p.m., at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 1500 W. Maryland Ave., at the northwest corner of 15th Avenue and Maryland. Now to the biggest task that any quartet or chorus can face. . .getting agreement on a name.

#### **LAS VEGAS** **RICH COON**

The Las Vegas Chapter held its annual elections for chapter officers on Sept. 26. The 2003 line up is President **Rich Coon**, VP-Membership **Roc Pucci**, VP-Music **Stan Ackers**, VP-Programs **Jim Reilly**, Secretary **Jerry Alvarez**, Treasurer **David Kennedy**, and members at large **Rick Ives** and **Howard May**.

The chapter hosted a 29-family yard sale as a fund-raiser and the **Gamble-Aires** did a show with the MellowTones Big Band.

We are now busy working on our upcoming holiday show, "I Remember Christmas," which will be presented on Dec. 7.

#### **MESA** **ROD CARDON**

In September our **Mesa Lamplighters** Chapter was invited by the city of Mesa to participate in a patriotic musical tribute to our U.S. Constitution, which is now 215 years old. A crowd of about 5,000 was expected to show up at the outdoor Mesa Amphitheater for the musical production "Take Off Your Hat As The Flag Goes By." It was really great to sing patriotic and family songs outside the amphitheater at the main entrance as people of all ages entered before the show. Our chapter enjoys community service and singing to smiling faces. We along with parents and children on and off stage learned to appreciate our Constitution.

#### **PARADISE VALLEY** **PHIL SMITH**

The **Cactus Chordsmen** were privileged to be a part of "I Love America Day" on Sept. 22 at the church where we rehearse, Church of the Valley. **Pastor Larry Fultz**, a chapter member, organized a very touching service, and our chorus contributed with our National Anthem, America the Beautiful and God Bless America. As this is written, a busy fall and Christmas season of performances awaits us, highlighted by a Nov. 29 schedule that includes two afternoon performances at El Pedregal Marketplace in Scottsdale followed by an evening performance under the stars at the "Glendale Glitters" celebration at the Glendale Amphitheater. Our chapter has agreed to host the Division Spring Convention on April 26 at Moon Valley High School in Phoenix, and in conjunction with that we have scheduled our Annual Show for Friday night April 25 at the same location.

#### **PHOENIX SAGUARO** **BILL WILLIAMS**

The recent election of officers for 2003 turned out to be an old-timers night, with 108 members coming out to vote. **Mike Goodrich** was elected to serve the chapter as president in its 60th anniversary year.

**The Phoenicians**, in conjunction with the Phoenix Police Department, hosted a noontime Sept. 11 memorial observance at Patriots Square downtown, enjoyed by a large lunchtime audience. Upcoming performances include Christmas shows on Dec. 8 at the Sundome in Sun City West and Dec. 14 at Apache Junction High School. The chapter's 60th anniversary celebration and Annual Show are scheduled for Feb. 14-15, 2003. Check out our Web site, [www.phoenicians.org](http://www.phoenicians.org), for more details.

#### PRESCOTT

#### SAM STIMPLE

The **High Mountain Chordsmen** are working hard to prepare for their Annual Show, "How the West was Really Lost," scheduled for two performances on Saturday Nov. 2 at the Yavapai College Performance Hall. The featured quartet will be **The O.K. Chorale** from Phoenix. **Bob Steele** was elected to a second term as chapter president at the election on Sept. 26. The chapter now has 36 members, including four who have joined during 2002: **Jim Davis**, **Gene Vandervoort**, **Ed Wolfe** and **Lloyd Ewart**. In July, the chorus had two major performances -- one during the annual Frontier Days in Prescott, and the second annual Evening of Barbershop Harmony on the Square.

#### ST. GEORGE

#### KEN SUNDWALL

August and September were very busy but enjoyable months for the **Color Country Chorus**. Our wives, dates and friends joined us for an evening that included dinner, singing and socializing in Pine Valley, a cool spot in the mountains nearby. The chorus presented a concert in the historic St. George Tabernacle as part of the summer concert series. It was an opportunity to show off new uniforms for the first time.

A full-day chorus retreat and rehearsal was held during which we were put through strenuous paces by coaches **Scott Fewell** and **Ami Roberson**, who came up from Las Vegas for the day. Scott returned for a follow-up session the following week at our regular Thursday night rehearsal. The chorus gives heartfelt thanks to Scott and Ami for sharing their performance expertise with us.

#### SIERRA VISTA

#### ED RAYMOND

As this is being written, the **Cochise Chordsmen** are preparing for our annual Open House to be held on Oct. 1. This event has been publicized for weeks, by newspaper, radio, fliers and word of mouth. Our director, **Linda Gilbert**, has written a package show that will be the feature of the night. The boys quartet from Bisbee High will be guest performers. One of the show numbers is a takeoff of *Darkness on the Delta* which Linda has rewritten as *Darkness in the Desert*. We are looking forward to the open house as part of our ongoing membership drive.

The chapter recently held a most successful garage sale which in addition to enriching the treasury also attracted a new resident, **Larry Graham**. Larry previously sang with the Channel Island Clippers in Ventura, Calif.; he hopes to join us as soon as he gets settled.

Congratulations to our slate of officers-elect: **Bernie Martus**,

President/Treasurer; **Paul Godwin**, VP Music & Performance; **Ed Raymond**, VP Chapter Development; **Jon Hanson**, Secretary; **Nick Germain** and **Wayne Vandever**, Members-at-Large.

Our schedule of coming performances now extends through early December, and we are planning a program of caroling for the local hospital and assisted living and care centers.

#### SUN CITIES

#### BOB MCGOWAN

The **Desert Aires** are in rehearsal for their 2003 show, which will feature a musical tour of the USA. A number of old favorites and several lesser-known songs will make up the show. The chapter has planned for several quartets to participate. This format has proved very popular in past shows.

The chapter now boasts 20 members with 20 or more years of membership in the Society, and our most senior member is **Ben Hall**, with 57 years. Close behind at 54 years is **Joe Salz**, who many in the region know well. And eight members have between 30 and 49 years in the Society. This may be a record for a chorus of our size. Still with all the experience, tenors are rather scarce. The chapter has seventeen currently scheduled singouts in the area for the fall/winter period, and a few more are expected.

#### TUCSON

#### FRED KOCH

The Tucson Chapter sang at Lord Of Grace Lutheran Church as a part of the special service on Sept. 11. Here are the comments from **Pastor Dale Moe**: "God bless you and all your men in your singing and ministry. ... It is a special group." Thanks, Pastor Dale.

WOW! What a time we had at the "Bash" in Scottsdale!

The Friday night parade of quartets totaled 16, both Sweet Adeline and Society quartets who sang up a storm. Tucson's longest-established quartet, **Thursday Night 4-UM**, did their "swan song" and furnished cake for those in attendance. Between the donations at the door and raffle sales of chapter show tickets the event took in \$704 for the youth program. The final profit from the Bash was \$969.89, which is a record.

In golf, 26 people took part, also a record, with **Jim Haggard** of Tucson winning the "green jacket" as the top golfer who is a member of our Society.

Saturday night's dinner was another record with 108 attending. We had 10 "Luck of the Draw" quartets and two comedy quartets, with **Love at Home** from the Mesa Chapter winning the comedy contest. Fun? "You bet!" How about next year...Aug. 22, 23 & 24, 2003, at the same location, the Holiday Inn SunSpree.

#### WHITE MOUNTAINS

#### DOC DOCKENDORF

In September, the chapter sang at a 9/11 memorial service and a Pinetop/Lakeside Fall Festival talent show. We welcomed to the chapter **John Don**, **Jerry Schrunk**, **Bob Cutlipp** and **Phil**

**Rioux.** Plans are under way for our July 12, 2003, show, which will be the tribute to Al Jolson "You Ain't Heard Nothin' Yet" package. We are looking forward to our biannual road cleanup and Octoberfest, and to preparing for our Christmas shows. Our new board has been nominated, and **Bob Cutlipp** has agreed to be our new chapter president. Bob was a former president of the Tucson Chapter. **Steve Dygert**, head of music at Northland Pioneer College, has been working with us on vocal production. It is the time of year when we lose our summer singers, whom we will miss, but we know that when the spring comes they will return.

**YUMA**

**ROB BAILEY**

Yuma's premier quartet, the **Unfourgettable Quartet**, played a major role in the community's celebration of the first anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and were featured in a Sept. 12 article in the Yuma Sun. The foursome -- **Rich Stewart, Wayne Snell, Frank Durham** and **Rob Bailey** -- started their odyssey at 4 a.m. at a ceremony to raise an enormous 120- by 65-foot American flag. It took 12 men and a crane to hoist the flag 25 feet off the ground. The quartet sang God Bless America and America the Beautiful at the ceremony, then at a fire station, at City Hall, at St. Francis of Assisi School and at the offices of the Yuma Sun. What a day!

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**Pioneers West**

Now that the 18th annual "National" Pioneer convention is over -- it's time to make plans for the 5th annual Western Pioneers Roundup to be held January 31 through February 2, 2003 at sunny Fallbrook, California in north San Diego county. Come to the greatest Woodshedding weekend in all of Barbershop. Tell everybody you know not to miss this unstructured fun gathering. We have a beautiful meeting facility with great food and libation, and we'll sing until the Tenors drop in their tracks. A huge crowd is expected, so book early. Isn't this convention the greatest? Just ask anyone who has attended!

Be sure to fill out the registration form and it will be automatically sent in, available at [www.grandtradition.com](http://www.grandtradition.com).

See you in January -- Whee!

Tom Neal, Founder

P.S. Remember "The Big Show" on Saturday night with many great quartets!

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**Verdugo Dons**

*by Jerry Fairchild*

*Tenor - Sidewinders- 1964 Champions*

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the **Verdugo Dons** winning the Far Western District Quartet Championship in San Jose in October 1952.

The members were **Dick Blackhurst**, Tenor, deceased; **Bufe Strange**, Lead, who lives in Apple Valley and is program Vice-President of the Apple Valley Chapter; **Don Plumb**, Bari, deceased; and **Dub Stallings**, Bass, who is living in Ft. Worth.

Bufe & Dub met in the Navy, formed a quartet, woodshedded all their arrangements and entertained for 3 years while they were in the Navy. "The Dons", all members of the Glendale - Burbank Chapter, formed in 1950. They won the FWD Quartet Championship two years later and continued singing for 5 years.



4 Old Times Sake

Jerry Fairchild\*  
 Jim McKee  
 Bruce Maxey  
 Ron Criswell

---

Senior Quartet Champs      **Contact: (909) 792-8618\***  
 Far Western District 2001      E-mail: [mjfair@empirenet.com](mailto:mjfair@empirenet.com)

**Notice - Rumor Dispelled**

There has been an ugly rumor circulating around the FWD that **4 Old Times Sake** has retired and is no longer singing for chapters, shows, birthdays etc.

It reminds me of a quotation from Mark Twain, "The reports of my death are greatly exaggerated."

**4 Old Times Sake** is alive and well and singing.

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**HELP WANTED**

**Los Angeles Chapter Musical Director**

We are currently seeking a Musical Director to lead our small but eager chorus. We meet freeway-close in North Hollywood 7:30 pm Tuesday. All applicants are most welcome. Call **Herb Silverman**, president, at (818) 781-4237



**Far Western District Fall Convention in Bakersfield  
Harmony For Lunch Bunch, Fullerton performing in lobby, Owen's Memorial Service**

**CONVENTIONS, SHOWS, EVENTS**

2002

Nov 2 Placerville Show  
 2 Monterey Show (T)  
 8 NCal COTS  
 Pleasanton  
 10 San Fernando Show  
 15 SCal COTS  
 San Bernadino  
 16 Marin Show  
 Dec 1 Palamar Pacific Show  
 1 Bay Area Metro Show  
 7 Bay Area Metro Holiday  
 Concert (T)  
 7 Crescenta Valley Show (T)  
 7-8 Hemet Xmas Show  
 8 Palamar Pacific Show  
 12-14 Whittier shows  
 14 Walnut Creek Xmas Show  
 14 Santa Rosa Show

2003

Jan 19-26 INTERNATIONAL  
 MIDWINTER  
 Albuquerque, NM  
 Feb 7-8 Vacaville Show  
 8 Westminster Novice Quartet  
 Contest  
 23 Conejo Valley High School  
 Benefit Show  
 15 Davis Show  
 Mar 8 San Fernando Show  
 20-23 FWD SPRING  
 CONVENTION- Reno  
 Apr 5 Bay Area Metro Show  
 11-13 NCW Division  
 12 Fullerton Show  
 12 Conejo Valley Show (T)  
 25-26 NCE Division Contest  
 Vacaville

25-26 /SoNV/SoUT Divisions

26 Placerville Show  
 26 Chico Show (T)  
 26-27 Whittier Show  
 May 3 SoCal West Division  
 10 SoCal East Division  
 15 Santa Rosa Show  
 30-31 South Bay Show  
 Jun 1 South Bay Show  
 7 Masters Of Harmony Show  
 21 Masters Of Harmony Show  
 Jun 29-Jul 6 INTERNATIONAL  
 CONVENTION  
 Montreal  
 Oct 9-12 FWD Fall Convention  
 Bakersfield District Run  
 Nov 1 Placerville Show

2004

Jan 25-Feb 1 INTERNATIONAL  
 MIDWINTER  
 Biloxi, MS  
 Mar 18-21 FWD SPRING  
 CONVENTION- Reno  
 Jun 27-Jul 4 INTERNATIONAL  
 CONVENTION  
 Louisville  
 Oct 7-10 FWD FALL CONVENTION  
 Bakersfield [District run]

2005

Mar 8-21 FWD Spring  
 Convention- Reno  
 Jul 3-10 INTERNATIONAL  
 CONVENTION  
 Salt Lake City

Oct 7-10 FWD Fall Convention  
 open for bid  
 2006

Jul 2-9 INTERNATIONAL  
 CONVENTION  
 Indianapolis  
 Mar 16-19 FWD Spring  
 Convention- Reno  
 Oct 12-15 FWD FALL CONVENTION  
 Bakersfield [T]

2007

Jul 1-8 INTERNATIONAL  
 CONVENTION  
 Denver

**WESTUNES**  
**Magazine**

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