



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 54

January/February 2004

Number 1



**2004 Far Western District President
Peter Feeney**

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Far Western District Association of Chapters in the
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Chair: Contest & Judging

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Chair: Events

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Chair: Marketing & Public Relations

Allen Fossenkemper

Chair: Member Services

Warren Willard

Chair: Music & Performance

Stan Sharpe

Chair: Young Men In Harmony

John Krizek

VP - Financial Development Harmony Foundation

Robb Ollett

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New Year, New Organization

Greetings, Far Western District! This is my first column in Westunes written as your new District President. Thank you for the high honor and please wish us all good fortune as we begin 2004 together!

The most significant change for 2004 is the return to the Division management structure. Your board of directors now includes five District Vice Presidents (DVP), one for each of our five divisions. They are **Clark Abrahamson**, **Ivan Jensen**, **Bob Lally**, **Bernard Priceman** and **Dick Whitten**. The DVPs are there to provide active managerial liaison between the District Board and the chapters for district matters. Working with chapter presidents and chapter counselors the DVP will be a source of encouragement and help to our chapters as we work toward achieving our goals. One of his more important responsibilities will be to ensure that each chapter has ready access to advice and counsel from district specialists. We want to make sure that our chapters are receiving needed resources and that their voice is heard at the district level.

We have also revived the office of the Executive Vice President (EVP). Our EVP is **Bill Cale**, and Bill will also serve as chairman of the CSLT committee, and will serve as the coordinator of the new Operations Team. Also serving on the board will be **Dick Girvin** as Secretary, **Jim Sherman** as Treasurer and **John Krizek** as Immediate Past President and chairman of the YMIH committee.

Operations Team

Delivering the needed resources to our chapters is the newly formed Operations Team (OT) comprised of the functional committee chairmen. Each is an appointed position and is responsible for supporting all chapters in the district in such areas as Chorus Director Development, Marketing and PR, Membership Development, Music and Performance and Young Men in Harmony, etc. These committee chairmen are not members of the board unless they hold another position that is included on the board, such as in the cases of John Krizek and Bill Cale.

The Operations Team is the working group designed to deliver the resources to our chapters to help maximize the barbershop

experience for all our members. You'll be learning more about the OT as well as the new board structure as time goes by.

Spring Convention

Our Spring Convention this year will be held in Reno/Sparks Nevada at John Ascuaga's Nugget. Believe it or not, it is just around the corner and will be here before you know it. Building on the success of last fall's district convention, our events team is again planning a convention chock full of singing and activities to please almost everyone. Check out the FWD website (www.spebsqsafwd.org). Our webmaster **Keith Eckhardt** is working hard to keep everyone informed about the convention plans. Make a habit of checking the site often.

Bachelor of Harmony

Keep your eyes open for information about our new Bachelor of Harmony program. **Keith Eckhardt** and **Lloyd Steinkamp** have put together a program that recognizes the many hardworking barbershoppers in our district who are so very active in supporting our hobby. It will be a lot of fun.

Harmony Foundation

Robb Ollett has accepted the responsibility of the office of Vice President of Financial Development and Harmony Foundation. This special position will direct the development of fund raising for the Harmony Foundation as well as activities in support of district and chapter initiatives. The Harmony Foundation is undergoing a change in direction and Robb will keep us posted as things develop.

Keep a Melody Ringing in Your Heart

I wish all the members of our district, and our Society a very happy and joyous holiday season and a very successful 2004! Our Society President for 2004, Rob Hopkins, has adopted as his slogan "*Keep the Whole World Singing.*" It is a simple, straightforward restatement of our Society's mission and as a slogan or motto, I think it does the job.

I have adopted as the motto for my term "*Keep a Melody Ringing in Your Heart.*" To me it speaks to the way we intend to accomplish that mission, i.e.

with a happy heart. Keep the joy of our hobby first and foremost in your thoughts as you attend your chapter meetings and participate in our many activities. While competition is fun, it's good to remember that the gift that O.C. Cash gave us is our fraternity. As much as anything else, O.C. loved the sociability of barbershoppers. While he and Rupert Hall didn't invent the barber-shop quartet, what they did invent is even more important: SPEBSQSA. The more you give of yourself to others in our hobby, the more you will receive. Get involved and stay involved!

Motto:
**"Keep a
Melody
Ringing in
Your Heart."**

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Front Balcony	\$ 8.50	\$10.00
Rear Balcony	\$ 6.50	\$ 8.00

District Executive Vice President



**Also Chair: CSLT and
OPS Team Co-ordinator**

Bill Cale

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A new year, a new FWD organization

Most of your FWD Leadership Team was fortunate to be in attendance at our Society's Leadership Forum in November. The most prominent topic of discussion was the planned operational organization intended to take place across the entire Society in 2005. How much of a surprise to any of you is the fact that the FWD is ahead of the curve with these changes already in place?

The functional responsibilities formally held by the VP's of CSLT, Member Services, Music & Presentation, etc., will be handled by committee chairmen in the same fields of endeavor. These chairmen will, as a group, comprise the majority of the members on the Operations Team. They will be joined by the FWD Pres., EVP, Treas., Sec., and VP Harmony Foundation.

We are most fortunate in that our CSLT Committee consists of all four of the former VP's of CSLT under the old organization, **Dick Girvin, Bernard Priceman, Dick Whitten and myself.** We will continue to train and oversee our growing group of Chapter Counselors and Mr. Girvin will be our COTS Co-ordinator. At our 2003 COTS we had an outstanding participation by our existing Counselors and had four new men attend as a first step toward becoming a Certified Chapter Counselor.

With the move to Divisional organization headed by VP's, the Counselors will be working closely with and communicating with the new Div VP's. The intent is to make the Barber Shop experience the best it can be for the individual member.

Digger Mac Dougall, one of our Canadian, brothers shared a credo with me:

"There is no future without progress, no progress without change, no change without pain, but leadership will overcome the pain."

I urge each of you to step up into a leadership roll.

**Spring Convention, International
Preliminary and NCE Division Contest
March 18-21, 2004 Reno, NV**

DIRECTOR SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2004

GREAT NEWS! There will be eleven scholarships available next year for Directors' College. (Ten of these are funded by the Society board and Harmony Foundation. The remaining scholarship is District funded). The criteria for those applying this year have been expanded considerably. Priority will still be given to front line directors who have never attended Directors' College. If there are any remaining scholarships available, the following will be considered in awarding them:

- 1. Barbershop Experience**
- 2. Size of Chorus**
- 3. Contest Score in the last contest with this director**
- 4. Time since participation in the last competition**
- 5. Time since the director last attended Directors' College**

Also, if there are still some scholarships available, associate directors may be eligible. The scholarship covers the tuition only (\$475). It is up to the director and his/her chapter to provide the transportation costs. Please know, that the College is scheduled for August 1-8, 2004 in St. Joseph, Missouri. To apply for a scholarship, please provide the following information and either email me your information, or send it US mail.

1. Name and membership number (female members won't have a membership number)
2. Chapter name and number
3. email address
4. mailing address
5. Home phone
6. Work phone
7. If you have attended DC in the past, list the years you attended

All applications received on or before February 10, 2004 will be considered.

Looking forward to LOTS of applications!

Jim Turnmire, FWD Chair, Chorus Director Development
1349 E. El Paso Fresno, CA 93720
559-432-8778 jtmire43@netscape.net



Meet the Desert Aires

Bob McGowan, Secretary, Chapter D-101

Since 1997, the Sun Cities Desert Aires have been proud to be associated with the Far Western District and the many fine Chapters within the area. The competence of the Chorus has grown over the years, and with the average age of members hovering around 76 years of age, we are one of the few all Senior Chapters in the Western U.S. This provides our Director Rich Thompson with some unique challenges, especially when it comes to performing on the Risers, and performing numbers where choreography is an important part of the performance. But age does not dampen enthusiasm, and we are a very positive and dynamic group, bringing song to a number of the Seniors living in the Sun Cities area, here in Arizona.



Our Director Rich Thompson is seen leading. (L-R) Bill Kimmel, Doug Campbell, Ralph Brooks, Ev Heer, Rich, Joe Salz & Sully (of Paradise Valley)

This year at our Annual Picnic Chapter Meeting, we were fortunate to have a number of invited barbershoppers with us from The Prescottones (of Prescott, AZ), and the Cactus Chordsmen (from Paradise Valley). There was a lot of woodshedding and group singing as witnessed in the pictures below.

We are now in rehearsal for our 2004 Show, which will be at the Sundial in Sun City, Arizona on February 22nd, with two performances, and featuring Guest Quartets "Late Night Barbershop" from Fresno and "Stardust" from Las Vegas. We expect an audience of about six hundred at each performance, and a number of barbershoppers from the other five valley Chapters. Our theme of "Girls, Girls, Girls" reprises a number of old favorites in the Barbershopping Repertoire. And, we hope to see a number of Far Western District friends, when we are in competition on April 17, 2004, in the Phoenix area.



(L-R) Allan Brighton of Prescott, Rudy Sikler, Sam Stimple, Don Buntenbach & Guest.

Is Hawai'i Barbershop Paradise?

It can be! The Sounds Of Aloha Chorus is looking for

- An energetic motivator with excellent directing and teaching skills. Dedicated to singing great Barbershop and entertaining audiences.
- A strong leader and team player, eager to continue a 50 year history of 60 to 100 great guys who are eager to support and sing for the right guy. You will be supported by a Board of Directors, Aloha Team and excellent Assistant Musical Directors. Our chorus learns music using the teaching skills of our director, combined with custom produced part-tapes and teaching quartets.
- Travel - We attended the Portland International Convention in July 2002, where our performance at the World Harmony Jamboree received a standing ovation.

We just competed at Far Western District this past fall and finished in the top 10. In 2004, we travel to New Zealand to compete at the Pacific Convention. Great annual shows featuring International Champion guest quartets.

We are a family-oriented chapter with lots of Aloha. Upper level compensation package for a barbershop director.

If you're interested and think you qualify, please send us your resume (including your Barbershop and occupational history). We will reply to all applicants. Please include a phone number.

Mail Resume To:
 Bob Sypowicz
 430 Keoniani Street #609
 Honolulu, HI 96815
 RSypowicz@aol.com

The Sounds of Aloha Chorus



Chair: Chorus Director Development
Jim Turnmire
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 Fresno, CA 93720
 559-432-8778
 E: Jtmire43@netscape.net

D.O.F.

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to direct a chorus? Do you have a "feel" for music? Would you like to feel the power of creating music with your hands? Don't know how or where to begin? *DO WE HAVE A CLASS FOR YOU!!!*

The Society will be presenting a program called "Director of the Future". This class is designed for aspiring directors and will be offered for the first time in our Far Western District at Harmony College West at Redlands University the weekend of July 16 – 18. There will be more information in future issues of Westunes.



Chair: Contest & Judging
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Changes Are In Progress

Today I find my feet sliding about in the enormous pair of shoes I've been asked to fill. **Dick Girvin**, my predecessor as DVPC&J, performed as flawlessly in that role as he has in every other that he has undertaken during his long and illustrious career as a leader in the FWD. The task became even more challenging when we loaded five large boxes of recorded contest and judging history into the trunk of my car. On the one hand it was fascinating to go back and find score sheets from my first quartet competition in 1969. On the other hand it was sobering to realize that at least for the next two years it will be my responsibility to see that all contests in the FWD are organized and run in a manner that will provide the best possible experience for our competitors, judges, and audiences.

In that regard, we are about to make history in the FWD by combining a Division Contest with the International Preliminary Quartet Contest in Reno next March. This is an exciting prospect, but also one that is going to provide some real challenges. The FWD has eliminated the Small Chapter Chorus Contest from this annual happening, but it still means that we will be obliged to hold both a quartet and chorus contest to determine the division standings as well as a quartet contest with semi-finals and finals to establish the quartet competitors that will represent the FWD at next year's International Contest in Louisville.

We will not combine the division quartet contest with the International Prelims. Hence on Friday evening we will have the quartet semi-final round for the International Prelims, with the final round on Saturday evening. Where do we fit the Division

contests? As this is being written in November no decision has been made, but it is likely that the Division Quartet contest will be held Saturday morning, and the Chorus Contest in the afternoon.

In turn, this means that we are going to have to split the triple panel, so that we will have a double panel for the International Prelims, and a single panel judging the Division Contest. As you might imagine this will also entail a fairly complicated schedule for doing evaluations, but somehow it will all come out in the wash!

I hope to see a large turnout in Reno. If you're not able to make that convention please plan on being at your Division contest. Above and beyond the scores and placement this hobby is really about the fellowship we enjoy. Be sure you get your fair share!



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Booking A Convention

"so you want to know how we book a convention site? There is a lot more to it than what you can imagine.

When we look for a convention site for a Spring or Fall convention there are many things we have to look for. Hotel, contest site, meeting rooms, available eating facilities are just a few of the things needed to run a successful convention.

During the Far Western District major conventions (Spring and Fall) rooms are needed for meetings, quartet and chorus warm up rooms, barbershop shop, AHSOW and the contest site itself.

Let me use as an example what we go through when we book a convention in Reno. Since we don't use a separate facility for the contest the venue for the contest falls under the contract with the hotel. We estimate how many sleeping rooms will be needed for the duration of the convention. In this case (2004) we feel that 275 rooms are needed for Friday and Saturday or n550 room nights. At this point the hotel agrees to how many meeting rooms they will give us (without charge) if we fulfill our room commitment> The contest site (Rose Ballroom) normally rents for \$5,000. If we don't fill our room block we are then subject to a penalty which would add a big cost to the convention.

So we need you all. This is one of those times everyone can stay at the headquarters hotel. The room rate (\$88) is supter for a top rated hotel facility. Support your district and make your reservations NOW for the 2004 Spring Convention. See the Westunes or the district WEB site for more information.

**Spring Convention, International
 Preliminary and NCE Division Contest
 March 18-21, 2004 Reno, NV**



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Marketing in 2004

The International Marketing and PR Committee Chairman for 2004 is Clark Abrahamson. Clark recently chaired the Leadership Forum in Racine for all District VPs and Committee Chairmen responsible for the Marketing and PR programs for the coming year.

The primary Marketing and Public Relations goals for the chapters (society wide) for 2004 will be:

- Promote and participate in the 2004 United We Sing event on Veteran's Day Nov. 11th. This date was selected because it has important meaning to both the U.S. and Canada. The successes of the 2003 9/11 presentations were a clear indicator of how a properly planned and marketed event can greatly enhance the image of Barbershoping in a community and also allow the chapters and quartets to play an important role in the social fabric and community celebrations. As the details of this North American event unfold, each chapter in the Far Western District will be kept informed and supplied with the tools necessary to a successful effort.
- The second priority from International is to insure that each chapter has an elected or appointed Public Relations and Marketing person on the board or reporting to the President. In the past most chapters limited their public relations and marketing to their shows but declining society membership and the desire to improve the image of Barbershop calls for each chapter to also have someone dedicated to image building and community relations.

With the new structure in our district, each chapter will have a significant support team in their Division Vice Presidents, Chapter Coaches and District Marketing and PR Chairman.

Chapter Boards can now call upon their elected or appointed Marketing and PR man to work with the District and International resources to greatly enhance the visibility and image of their chapter.

The FWD and Society are establishing communications tools that will be available to all chapter M&PR men. These important tools will make possible the sharing of ideas, materials and problem solving.

However, all of these PR and marketing efforts require that each chapter have someone dedicated to implementing the tools.

Chapter President, if your Board does not include a Marketing and PR member please send me and e-mail or call me so I can help you solve this problem.

Membership Matters

There's no U in Membership. Or, to say it another way, there's no *YOU* in membership. It seems to be one of those areas that we expect someone else to take care of. We can debate the reasons for declining membership until the cows come home but the simple fact of the matter is that the ultimate responsibility as well as the ultimate solution falls on us, *all of us*.

If someone is receiving a rewarding Barbershopping experience most every week, they generally remain members for many years. If they cease to have that rewarding experience, they leave us. I realize that there are some of us that wouldn't leave even if everything went to hell in a hand basket. We must be careful not judge others by ourselves. We all look at our hobby in a slightly different way.

The alternative opportunities and options available to us are great, as are the increasing demands on our time. Today's lifestyles are very demanding of our time. We find ourselves constantly having to make choices based upon the amount of discretionary time we have.

So, having said all that, what are some of the more obvious reasons that our membership continues to diminish? At the risk of offending some of my fellow Barbershoppers, let's consider who has the greatest week-in and week-out influence on the members of the Chapter or chorus. You have probably already picked the most logical answer - the music director.

Now ask yourself this question; "in my chapter, does our music director contribute greatly toward insuring that the members, new and old, are having a rewarding Barbershopping experience every week?" If you cannot say yes, then you have just identified one of the reasons for our declining membership. I caution you to understand that we have only identified ONE reason and I know my remarks will not offend the many outstanding musical leaders that work hard to insure that rewarding experience week-in and week-out.. There are many other reasons for declining membership and we will discuss them in future issues of Westunes.

If this column fails to appear again, it's probably because I have been directed to jump off the end of the San Clemente pier wearing concrete boots. I cannot imagine who might be responsible, but perhaps the culprit thought that my remarks were a little "off key".



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

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Van Nuys, CA 91401
818-785-0498
E: jkrizek@aol.com

FWD Programs to Benefit YOU

As your FWD Chairman of Music & Performance, I will be doing articles to benefit your Quartet or Chorus. Please feel free to contact me on any of the subjects.....

CHAPTER COACHING REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

All Chapters need coaching. No matter what your goals are, you can benefit from coaching. Many Chapters are not aware of where good coaches are located. A list of coaches *BY DIVISION* has been created to assist you in the selection process. In order to entice you further, please read carefully, the following change in coaching reimbursement fees: *THE FWD WILL NOW REIMBURSE THE CHAPTER FOR 100% OF THE COACH'S EXPENSES (UP TO \$150.00 PER SESSION) WITH A CHAPTER CAP OF \$300.00 PER YEAR !* Download and fill out the chorus coaching reimbursement form from the FWD web site at <http://spebsqsafwd.org/programs/reimburse.html>.

CHAMPS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CAP)

All Quartets need coaching, but where can you get good coaching for *FREE* ? The Association of Far Western District Champions continues to offer a FREE coaching session to any Quartet. Just e-mail Stan Sharpe at vocalteacher@earthlink.net for a list of Coaches in your Division, or call him at (626) 961-7280. His address is 14814 E. Gale Ave. #B6, Hacienda Heights, CA 91745-1301.

STANDING OVATION PROGRAM

Earl Moon used to say: "Every Barbershopper should go to Harmony College at least once." Well, I say, "Every Chorus should have a review from the Standing Ovation Program at least once." My Whittier Chorus has one every year, and I can tell you they are VERY helpful. Just this year we had **Lloyd Steinkamp** and **Terry Aramian** review our Annual Show. We met after the Matinee, and they made several suggestions that we immediately incorporated into the evening Show which made it MUCH better. We will continue to have Reviews every year because of the many wonderful things they do to help make us aware of what we need to do to get that (Standing Ovation) we're all looking for. All it takes is 2 tickets in the 1st row of the balcony, plus mileage, plus overnight, if he has to stay over. So, when your Chapter Secretary writes to the FWD for show clearance and ASCAP approval, contact **Lloyd Steinkamp** at unkalloyd@juno.com or call him at (858)268-4841 to schedule a review. You will be glad you did.

There's no such thing as easy retirement for Far Western District presidents any more. So here I am back as chairman of youth outreach. Thanks to the leadership of **Ed Bejarana**, who's had this job the last couple years, the youth activities momentum in this District has grown exponentially. (That's a big word meaning a lot.) Ed's leaving us for the Evergreen District, but he's left a major stamp on this District. With so much going on, it's going to be fun to keep up. There is lots of news to share.

YOUTH CAMP VIDEO COMING SOON

A powerful new tool to help spread the barbershop message at the high school level will be available soon after the first of the year. Filmed at the NorCal Youth Harmony Camp in September, this 15-minute program, designed to be shared with students, school choirs, teachers and family members, is being edited as this column goes to press.

The project was conceived by **Ed Bejarana** and **Lawrence Stern** of Santa Cruz, and funded by the District Youth Education Fund. A professional film crew—led by the mother of a former teenage member of the **Placerville chapter, Sean York**, now singing Tenor with **OC Times**—got carried away and shot 13 hours of videotape, which has made for a difficult editing challenge. But the material was too good to pass up. There are lots of interviews of campers, tag-singing with **Metroloplis** and **Q**, and a performance by the 93-voice camper chorus which was "off the paper" on five songs between Friday night and the Sunday morning show for parents and friends. Altogether, an incredible experience.

Chapters will be asked to purchase multiple copies of the video for \$10 each, to help cover the cost of production and distribution, and share with schools. Watch this space and the District web site for news of its availability.

YOUTH FESTIVALS ABOUND

Chapter-hosted one-day youth harmony festivals have been popping up all over the District, from Honolulu to Mesa to Reno. On February 21st, a double-header will provide barbershop exposure to students throughout Southern California. At Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa, the 4th annual Young Men's Harmony Festival will be sponsored by the **Masters of Harmony** and the Southern California Vocal Association. Last year 130+ young men from over two dozen high schools from San Diego to Los Angeles participated in the all-day affair, and joined the MOH on stage in the grand finale of the show for parents and friends. Meanwhile, on the same date the **Conejo Valley** chapter's annual fundraiser for local high school choirs—which last year expanded to two shows with help from the **Rincon Beach** chapter, and featured **Dick Van Dyke** as MC—will be a festival for Ventura, Conejo, and Simi Valley high school singers. It will be

held at Newberry Park High School and include a barbershop component with guest clinician, Society staff music educator **Jim DeBusman**. Over 100 singers are expected. Jim will be visiting high schools in the Conejo/Ventura area in preparation for the event.

Mark Freedkin, SoCal YHIM coordinator, will again chair the MOH event; **Larry Nixon** is in charge at Conejo. If any other chapters are interested in hosting festivals, let us know—the District has a growing body of expertise ready to be shared.

HIGH SCHOOL QUARTET CONTEST

The 14th annual FWD high school quartet contest will be held in conjunction with the Spring convention and international prelims in Reno, on March 20th. (See announcement page 21.) Local competitions throughout the District before then are being encouraged, such as the **Santa Clarita Valley** chapter's annual quartet contest, and the Northern California high school quartet competition which is part of the NorCal novice contest. Last year the **Aloha** chapter staged a high school contest where first prize was a trip for the quartet to the District finals in Reno—where they won the trophy! Such events provide opportunities for more young men to participate, receive coaching, and gain experience. Cash awards are provided at the District finals to the competitors' school music programs.

Throughout the Far western District, we can proudly say that youth outreach is a way of life. I'm sure there are many chapter programs worthy of mention here, that I don't even know about. Bravo. Let us know. Write them up. Send Ray pictures for Westunes. Many of these projects are ideal candidates for funding through local charitable grants. Does your chapter have someone seeking such grants? Is your chapter YMIH chairman logged in with this office? Have you booked a school choir or high school quartet on your next show?

Join the parade. It's our life. It's fun. And it's our future.

OC Times: Barbershop Ambassadors

District third place finalist quartet OC Times, all members of the **Westminster** chapter, have been busy conducting clinics for college and high school singers.

In October the quartet (**Sean York Sean Devine, Patrick Claypool and Drew Harrah**) conducted a "Masters Class" for the choral department at Cal State University San Bernardino, with an overflow crowd of 60 students getting a dose of barbershop enthusiasm, and the quartet getting rave reviews. In November, they participated in a special choral music clinic for high school singers held at the University of California Irvine campus, sponsored by professor of choral music **Dr. Joseph Huszti**. The professor directs a men's ensemble called Men in Blaque. Over 60 singers from several Orange County high schools attended, and the men's choirs from two of them also performed.

After their performance, **OC Times** stepped outside and—as we barbershoppers might expect—kept singing for several of the young men at the end of the clinic. When **Sean York**—who is completing his degree in music education and student teaching at Irvine High School—returned to his class the next day, he was flooded with comments from the students about how cool barber-shop quartets are.

The oldest member of **OC Times** is 27, and two of them are alumni of the FWD high school quartet competition.

	VP - Financial Development Harmony Foundation Robb Ollett 313 Hash Court Petaluma, CA 94952-6117 707-769-8528 E: ollettjr@aol.com
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"They'll be some changes made..."

Returning from the Leadership Forum in Racine and COTS in Los Angeles, many people asked about this new position and the Foundation. I hope these frequently asked questions help:

What is changing about Harmony Foundation?

Although the Foundation management structure remains, the Trustees are asking districts to create a new network of volunteer talent. Through a newly created district vice president of financial development, the rest of team consists of a grant resource person and a major gifts person. The intent is to provide a referral service to the districts, as well as maintaining the connection to the Founders Club Endowment and annual giving to the Foundation.

When did all this change occur?

The concept and framework was presented to the Society Board of Directors and District Presidents at the Montreal International Convention in July 2003 for implementation at the Leadership Forum in October 2003.

How do the new positions affect the Far Western District?

Our district is fortunate to have many of these changes in place. **Michael Frazer** (Santa Barbara chapter) continues the grant writing instructing, and HF Chairman **Don Salz** (Sacramento chapter) continues the successful convention raffle portion. **Robb Ollett** (Santa Rosa chapter, and professional fund raiser) was asked by the district board to become the vice president of financial development for Harmony Foundation. By the way, this is NOT a new district-elected office; it is new within the operational side of the district management.

What changes will we see in the district?

Most likely very little change will be obvious over the next few months. Robb is assembling the remaining members of the team, and working with Harmony Foundation President **Clarke Caldwell** in Kenosha on the details of the plan.

What about the grants that Harmony Foundation used to provide?

The Foundation was pleased to provide grants to music programs for the past many years. In the restructuring and eagerness to search for other sources of funding, the Foundation granting program has been suspended for now. The new focus is to find effective ways to support the Society's programs, and teach districts (and chapters) on how to get state and local community grants.

What if I want to contribute directly to one of the district's program?

All donations are appreciated and can be channeled through the district framework. It is possible that others will join for underwrite something specific. For the immediate, the district officers and Harmony Foundation will join forces to agree on needed programs, the best channeling of funds, and announce the opportunity.

What if I want to give locally and not through Harmony Foundation?

Harmony Foundation is grateful for all donations. They also encourage chapters to give locally – a school, a hospital, food shelter, whatever the chapter decides is the best use of funds for being good community ambassadors. All the Foundation asks is to be kept informed of your intentions in case there is a "larger cause" that all Society chapters could invest. It also allows the Foundation to share the good ideas that chapters use to raise funds in communities – arts council grants, park and recreation funds, symphony joint concerts, pizza sales, corporate gifts, etc.

If I have other questions, whom do I contact?

Your best source is **Robb Ollett** (ollettjr@aol.com or 707.769.8528) living near San Francisco. With his many years of Society and district experience, he is best suited to track an answer for you.

10 Reasons to attend Spring Prelims at Sparks

- You get to hear the FWD's finest quartets as they prepare to compete at International.
- You live in NorCal East/NorNev and your chorus or quartet is competing
- You live in NorCal East/NorNev and you want to support your favorite quartet or neighboring chorus that is competing.
- You have lots of barbershopper friends to see and sing with.
- You need a "harmony fix" and Reno is the place to get it.
- You get a real high listening to the High School kids compete
- You like craft classes and Reno has them
- It's an absolutely beautiful drive or train ride through the Sierras.
- Reno is a great place to visit with lots to do and see.
- You've never been to a Spring Prelim Convention



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1942-2003

*Singing was his passion.
His life brought music to us all.
May his melody continue to
comfort our hearts.*

**We love you Papa G.
— Kaylee & Alanna**

GORDON WILL BE TRULY MISSED.
HIS VOICE NOW JOINS A GREATER CHORUS.



Finale FWD Ambassadors

My name is Ron Dodd and I am a member of the Nanaimo Tidesmen Barbershop Chorus. We are found on Vancouver Island, Canada. We have had

the privilege of having Finale as our headline quartet for two shows on Saturday, Nov 8. My wife and I hosted Finale in our home for their time on the island. This foursome could do a seminar on how be guests in someone's home. Theirs was a seamless visit; we never felt pressed or in any way having to alter our normal way of life with them in our home. Their performances both at the shows and afterglow were superb. They hung in until very late at night (morning) and sang with highschool boys who attended the afterglow. This is what Barbershop is all about!

They do your district proud!

I just hope that many more choruses have the opportunity to enjoy Finale

Thank You
Ron Dodd
Show Chairman
Tidesmen Barbershop Chorus



2003-4 FWD Quartet Champions

Q

Raymond Davis, Tenor

Q has had quite a whirlwind year! A year ago as of this writing, we weren't even a quartet! With a lot of hard work and dedication to this great hobby of ours (and a LOT of driving on Robert's part), we were lucky enough to qualify for International after only eleven weeks together, win the divisional contest a month later, compete at International in Montreal in July (placing twenty-eighth in the world and celebrating our six month anniversary on the same day), and then, a few months later, win the FWD quartet championship...PHEW! To top all this off, we welcomed a new member to the **Q** family, Allison Jane "Baby Q" Stewart, born October 20 to Mike and his lovely wife, Amanda. Wow! It really HAS been a whirlwind year.

No one was as amazed as we were when we were announced as the new Far Western District Quartet champion last October. We knew there was some very stiff competition and, after the final round, we seriously thought we had placed no higher than second. A lot of people told us they knew we would win, but we didn't think so at the time. Now we're humble enough to admit that we were wrong!

Our fans in the FWD have asked us questions over the past few months and we thought we would answer them over the next several issues of WESTUNES. A lot of information about **Q** is also available on our web site: www.Qtet.net.

Q: How did Q get together?

Cory: We all met at Mike's house. We walked through the front door and then stood in the living room. It was a cold day, if I remember correctly.

Mike: Cory and I have sung together in the Reno chorus for over a decade and we were in *Qyduhmix* for about four years.

Robert: And when they broke up because of a job relocation, they wanted to form a new quartet. Raymond was their first choice for tenor, because he lives in Reno and because he's an awesome singer.

Raymond: My last quartet, *Applause*, had disbanded because my work schedule didn't allow me to rehearse; but things even-

tually lightened up and Mike, Cory, and I started talking about putting a quartet together. However, we couldn't find a lead.

Cory: Yup, one very cold day...

Mike: We spent many months searching, discussing and hop-ing. I had sung tags with Robert several years ago at Harmony College and remembered him having an excellent voice.

Robert: At this point I was living in the Bay Area and singing in a pretty good quartet called *Out Of The Box*. I heard through the grapevine that these guys were looking for a lead. What they or my quartet at the time didn't know was my girlfriend, Ann, and I had been talking about moving up to the Sierra foothills, which would make a Reno-based quartet worthwhile, if it had potential.

Raymond: I think we actually got together sometime in September of last year to see how it would sound. I thought it was really good and that we could maybe make top five at district in October.

Cory: Now there's cold and then there's COLD...

Robert: It didn't sound bad, but that first meeting didn't make me want to quit my quartet and job and move to Reno. Two things happened our second time together. First, we all sent some charts to each other and agreed to learn them for the meeting, and second, I was much further along in deciding to leave the Bay Area.

Mike: Our voices worked quite well together, too...

Raymond: And I think we were lucky in the fact that Robert was moving. He was in the right situation at the right time.

Cory: We're talking frigid here...

Robert: That second meeting was a real work session and it was then the four of us got the sense that we had the talent and work ethic to make some music together. Right after I got back from that rehearsal, *Out Of The Box's* baritone announced that he was leaving to join *Late Night Barbershop*. A month later, Ann and I took a house-hunting trip and found our new home in Placerville. Raymond: I think we had kind of decided to be a quartet in mid December but didn't actually have our first rehearsal until the first week of January with the goal of singing four songs at Prelims, eleven weeks later.

Robert: Yes, everything just kind of came together. So once the four of us decided that we shared the same goals, we decided to give it a go.

Cory: It was FREAKIN' COLD!

Q: Is Cory available? My Daughter thinks he's really cute.

Cory: I think I'll field this question. It's funny how many people approach me with the comment, "I have a granddaughter your age" or, "Here's a picture of my daughter". I think I should go out with all these ladies and we could make a reality TV show out of it ("Average Joe Barbershopper"). It could be the next big hit! Seriously, I'm not seeing anyone right now, but that could change. I'll be accepting applications on our web site in the next few weeks.

Do you have questions for Q you'd like answered in future issues? Send an email to: Qquartet@yahoo.com.

Freestyle on "mute"

A message from the Freestyle-guys to all our friends, fans and family (the 3 Fs)...(but not necessarily in that order.....family would be first, then fans, then friends.....unless you count our best friends, in which case you would have the three Fs plus 4 Ds.....make that 3Ds cuz Todd doesn't have a dog. So it would be family, 3 dogs, 1 goldfish, fans then friends).....and groupies.....11 groupies, 1 best boy and a key grip.....plus the family, etc. So it would actually be F, 3Ds, 1 GF, F, F, 11 Gs, 1 BB and a KG:.....

OK, we're not quite sure where we were going with that but perhaps you should expect the unexpected from the unbalanced so hold on to your pitch pipe, cuz this one might knock you over...Or is it "knock you out"? Or maybe "over and out"? Just hold your pitch pipe.

For all those that attended the men's international in Montreal this year, you witnessed one of the highlights of our collective barbershop experiences, when we got to mic-test the finals sessions and share the stage with many of our idols to open the Saturday night show. All this, as Freestyle continued the inexorable march (perhaps more "baby-like crawl" than a true march) up the rungs of the barbershop ladder. For those keeping track at home, our results over the past six years have shown a steady, if somewhat schizophrenic (what's the opposite of "meteoric"?) rise. We've gone from 17th to 15th to 12th to 36.5 to 12th to 11th.

And now that it's time to break in to the top 10.....we're hitting the "pause" button. Yep, by golly, Freestyle will no longer be accepting new show bids or competing for the immediate foreseeable future. Lest you think this is a joke, there aren't very many things that we wouldn't not probably be less likely to never not joke about.....ever. (editor's note: There was a question about the use of the word "lest", but we think we have managed to work it into the general dialogue quite nicely. We believe most people will blow right by it without noticing....)

Truth is, this hobby of ours demands an amazing amount of sacrifice, as the time spent rehearsing and flying all over the country to perform on shows, compete and do clinics is time that is not spent with our families. This sacrifice is something we have always embraced and our families have always been extremely supportive. Unfortunately, the youth of our children is fleeting, as any parent can tell you, and the goofball that lives on the end of the quartet (don't worry Todd, we're talking about Andy) has decided he needs to focus all his energies on his two young sons as they move from adolescence to teen-hood. This decision has been labored over and prayed over (we also tried an Ouija board, spin the Bruce and a few rounds of Rho-sham-bo) and it always comes out the same - barbershop will still be here, but the kids need Dad now.

Please understand that there is absolutely zero rift amongst the members of the group. We are all like brothers to one another

and continue to enjoy this incredible ride together as we share our songs, our laughter and our faith. As you might guess from our sets at international and from our shows, our rehearsals each week are 4 hours of non-stop fun. We will miss the weekly fraternity above all else. We all hope that, as life gets a bit more manageable some day, we can jump back on the train and continue our ride. We have show commitments into 2005, and we'll use them to vent all the pent-up zaniness that isn't being spent towards contest.

Speaking of contests, we'd like to publicly thank Darryl Flinn for his offer to sponsor a new "international mic-testing competition" in the spring. We think the idea is a solid one and only wish that we could compete (maybe we could mic-test?). We hope our decision doesn't impact the momentum behind that movement.

During this undefined hiatus, you may see one or more of the guys from Freestyle (NOT Andy, mind you) in other quartets, trying to get their fix of harmony. We all love this hobby and have competitive streaks that are a mile wide. For the record, Bruce's is actually 2 miles wide, but its controlled through medication.

We are in the process of producing a Freestyle video for those that have asked, and we're hoping to have something available by Christmas....we're not sure which Christmas but it will definitely be available by Christmas.

And so, to all of our friends, family, fans, pets AND groupies, thank you so much for all the love and laughter you have shared with us these past six years. We plan on many more memories to come...we're just not quite sure when to expect them.

The laughter's not gone, we're just on "mute"...

Todd, Rich, Bruce and Andy
Freestyle

**Spring Convention, International
Preliminary and NCE Division Contest
March 18-21, 2004 Reno, NV**

**FWD Sunshine Chairman
George McCay**

**8564 Winding Way
Fair oaks, CA 95628
916-961-6112
mccayfwdsunshine@sbcglobal.net**



2003-4 FWD Chorus Champions WESTMINSTER

Sean Devine.

Friends,

As many of you know, in March of 2002, a group of five young barbershoppers met to discuss forming a new chorus, a chorus composed of other young singers, as a means of involving more of their peers in singing barbershop harmony. In October of 2003 this group, under the guidance of the well seasoned Westminster chapter and now comprised of 25 singers, took the Far Western District by storm in winning the District competition and earning the right to represent the FWD at the International Contest in Louisville in July of 2004. At an average age of 20 our desire is simple, to bring the joys of four part barbershop harmony to our peers. Of our 25 singers on stage, 15 found barbershop through this experience.

We also wanted to recognize our 3 chapter quartets who were very active in Bakersfield - **O.C. Times** (2003 3rd Place FWD medallists and 2003 FWD Novice Quartet Champions), **Sam's Club** (2002 Far Western District champion quartet), and the 2003 Far Western District champion quartet, **Q**. We're so proud of you guys!

We wanted to take a moment and thank all of our friends and family in the Far Western District who have made this ride possible, and yet in reality, our journey is just beginning. We have a long road ahead of us as we prepare for Louisville this summer and what lies beyond. We know that this chorus, started for fun, can have a much greater impact on the future of our society than any of us imagined. We are ready to take the challenge.

Now we would like to bring our passion for barbershop to your chapter. The Westminster Chorus would like to make an open call for performance opportunities. Whether it is a chapter show or youth harmony event, we would like to offer up our services. We have a heavy financial burden facing us in attempting to bring 30 young people across the country.

So many of you have already helped by giving donations and offering to set up fundraisers in your area. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. We promise we will make the Far Western District proud!

Please feel free to contact us with any opportunity you see fit.

Contacts:

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Chorus Manager
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russsquires@hotmail.com

The Westminster Chorus
c/o Sean Devine
PMB #355
18032-C Lemon Drive
Yorba Linda, CA 92886

**Spring Convention, International
Preliminary and NCE Division Contest
March 18-21, 2004 Reno, NV**





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&

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Sunday, February 22, 2004 2:00 PM
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This is the third year Mr. Van Dyke will be supporting
this event. To date, 12 local participating high
schools have received over \$50,000.



Honorary chairman: Mr. Dick Van Dyke
www.harmonyfoundation.org



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Quartet Corner

Allen Fossenkemper - Editor
OK Chorale Quartet, Lead
Standing Ovation Team Member

You Deserve a Standing Ovation

In 1985 the late, great Bob Johnson, then Musical Leader of the Society, asked Lloyd Steinkamp, Darryl Flinn and Harlan Wilson (Suntones) to put together a seminar for coaches to help them learn the skills and develop a more positive approach to their coaching sessions. The next year Lloyd Steinkamp rolled out this important program in his Keynote Address at Harmony College then followed that with two years of HC training sessions. Lloyd's presentation was video taped and can be acquired from International just ask for "How to earn a Standing Ovation," (SO)

"Uncle" Lloyd is still very much involved with the program and in recent communications expressed his concern to this editor that quartets are not embracing this program with the same enthusiasm as choruses.

"Select material to showcase your best talents"

QC: Uncle Lloyd, why do so many quartets fail to see that the SO as something that can benefit them?

UL: If you talk to the members of some of the Society Champion and top Show Quartets and ask them how long it took them to get standing ovations at each performance, they'll all say "YEARS!" I'm talking about the traditional show audience, not a contest or barber-shop crowd.



It takes a long time to develop the "act"- the stuff that goes between the songs on stage. Unfortunately, too many quartets are satisfied with whatever audience reaction they get when, in reality, the audience may only be comparing them to the other acts that preceded them in the show.

QC: Can you identify the single biggest mistake quartets make in their shows and public performances?

UL: Lack of planning in song order, which is really another term for poor timing.

The history of theatre, Broadway, Movies and, television all tell the same story. The performer must select material to showcase his/her best talents.

Most of all the order in which that material is performed is crucial and designed to keep the listener on the edge of the seat. It's easier to jump to a standing position from the edge of one's seat than slouching deep down and waiting for the time to pass.

QC: Many Quartets like to add comedy to their show package but many also fail to get more than a titter from the audience. As someone who is known for your comedic timing and creativity, what advice can you give quartets on how to handle comedy?

UL: If you don't have a truly funny guy in the quartet, then don't try to invent one. Have your spokesman share information about the songs that you are singing. A small bit of research can solve this problem rapidly. You display your strengths, not your Achilles' Heel!

[See "Constructing a powerful and professional Quartet Show Script " Quartet Corner- Westunes Jan/Feb 2003]

A performer must know who he is and project that personality, just a little larger than life. The secret is to get the audience to like you and then to love you. Keep the talking to a minimum and get off at the right time.

OC: Do you think quartets can benefit from SO evaluation of their contest packages too?

UL: To my knowledge, EVERY Quartet who has requested a review has benefited dramatically and have told us so. I'm talking about Champions and Medalists. It should be that the better you sing, the more professional the act will be. 'Tain't so."

QC: How does a quartet make arrangements for a SO evaluation?

UL: Just contact me or the 2004 Chairman of the FWD Music & Performance Committee, Stan Sharpe at vocalteacher@earthlink.net

QC: Can you name a few FWD quartets that do a great job with their show packages?

UL: I think the best demonstration of my advice is my own quartet The Desert Knights, regardless of our age and vocal deterioration, we can still get an audience on their feet through pure entertainment. Add to the list VARIETY, NIGHTLIFE, FINALE and MICHIGAN JAKE and you have some good examples of quartets who pay attention to the fundamentals.

I am convinced that everyone who has had the desire and opportunity to perform in public wants to give their best and receive the audience's best in return. The best an audience can give is a standing ovation.



2004 District Spring Convention and NCENN Division Convention

Non-stop Harmony

Our surveys continue to show that YOU want more opportunity to sing at our conventions and that you also want more fun things to do. You'll find lots of both at the Convention in Reno. It'll be non-stop all the way.

Many of you will want to arrive on Thursday with so much happening on Friday, so we'll jump start the weekend on Thursday evening with some fun casual singing. We're even planning a Somewhat Serious Quartet Contest then. Just show up, find 3 other guys, chose a song and a quartet name, and sign up to compete. The winners get bragging rights for the whole weekend.

On Friday we are planning two classes on Vocal Production. Come learn about producing better sound. If you like to sing tags, we'll have a couple sessions on that too. How about a group sing on music we'll have available for a small fee?

You say you can't make it to classes because you have to attend the House of Delegates meeting? OK, you can attend the Friday morning sessions.

Some responses on the convention survey indicated lack of attendance because there is nothing for the wife to do. Well, look elsewhere in this issue about the many offsite activities on Friday. Also, everyone that registers for the convention is welcome in any of the classes (well, the women may be a bit self-conscious in the Joe Barbershopper Chorus as mic testers. We don't recommend that one.) Soon we hope to announce a ladies breakfast on Saturday morning. Sorry guys, we aren't invited.

Some of you enjoy playing the slots and the hotel is setting up a Tournament just for us on Friday from 11am to 4pm. There will be plenty of prizes and the entry fee is only \$10.

The ladies should certainly enjoy our plans to have a Comedy Quartet Hour on Saturday afternoon after the High School Quartet Contest. We'll have a number of our district's comedy quartets on stage to entertain you and get you laughing. It will be a YMIH benefit (\$5 at the door) and any student 23 and under gets in free. Does your quartet use comedy? Wanna learn more about getting your audience laughing? Bring your quartet to the Comedy show and learn from our stars!!!

Then on Sunday morning before you head back to your "other" world, join us for the Gospel Sing. It'll put you in a great frame of mind for travelling.

Oh yes, it will be a really good idea to get your hotel room reserved now. Our block of set-aside rooms will go very quickly and while the hotel has extra rooms at the moment, this may not last.

See you there for that Non-stop Harmony,

Keith Eckhardt
Chairman: Get Our Conventions Singing Again Task Force

Quick Look Schedule

Thu 7p	Barbershop Jump Start
Fri 9a	Tours, classes, AHSOW
Fri 11a	Slots tournament
Fri 11:30a	Harmony For Lunch Bunch
Fri 2p	HOD, classes
Fri 7p	Quartet Prelims
Sat 8:30a	Woodshedding class
Sat 9a	Society President Q&A
Sat 10a	Joe Barbershopper Chorus
Sat 11a	NCENN Chorus Contest
Sat 1pm	HS Quartet Contest
Sat 3p	Comedy Quartet Show =YMIH \$
Sat 7p	Quartet Prelim Finals
Sat 9p	Show of Champions + the public
Sat 10:30p	Hospitality rooms
Sun 10a	Gospel Sing

Details of all the events are on the FWD website at www.spebsqsafwd.org. You must sign up for many of these extra events and low enrollment will require cancellation.

ACTIVITIES IN AND AROUND RENO

Tour #1 - Downtown Reno- Friday 3/19 - 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Shuttle bus will pick up passengers at the Nugget between 10 am and 3 pm, circulate through downtown Reno and return to the Nugget. Participants can get on and off the bus at the specified stops, as follows:

The National Auto Museum, the Harrah Collection - Docent conducted tours at 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM, or just browse the Harrah Collection. Reduced price of \$6.00 on tickets are available for tour participants.

The Nevada Museum of Art - Opened in 2003 and contains 9 galleries including a special exhibit, "Selections from the Carnegie Collection" Café Musee' open 'til 3 PM. (Admission not included in tour - price is \$7, Seniors \$5)

Meadowood Mall - Reno's premium shopping mall, anchored by Sears, Macy's and J C Penney and over 100 other shops. A gift "scratch card" for merchandise and discount book await tour participants.

Truckee "River Walk" - Stroll along the famous Truckee River which bisects downtown Reno. See the famous "Wedding Ring Bridge." Enjoy pleasing vistas, classic architecture and the new kayak course. Only a block from the casinos on South Virginia Street.

Luncheon Options - Downtown - The Siena Casino, the Café Musee' and downtown restaurants. At the mall , a food court offers the usual fare, and several upper scale restaurants are within a 10 minute walk of the mall.

Tour Price - \$8 Minimum Subscription - 40 persons

The shuttle tour price includes: transportation to and from the Nugget, special discount on admission to the National Auto Museum, and a gift package from Meadowood Mall.

Tour #2 - Virginia City Tour - Friday 3/19 - 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Virginia City, Nevada, once called "The Richest Place on Earth," offers glimpses of its splendid past on every corner. Visit underground mines, historic saloons, stately mansions open to the visitor, old cemeteries, or a trolley ride with narrated history of the mines and buildings.

Delta Saloon - Opened in 1863, it is the oldest operating saloon in VC. Home of the world famous "Suicide Table," 1870 world globe, antique photos, memorabilia and period hanging lamps. Luncheon will be served in the "Sawdust Corner Restaurant", part of the Delta. (Sourdough sandwich, cole slaw, coffee or tea and dessert.)

Pipers Opera House - During the mining on the Comstock, Pipers was the largest, best know entertainment venue West of the Mississippi. See where Lily Langtree, Maud Adams, Edwin Booth and many other famous actors performed for the miners

and elite of VC. Bring your quartet and enjoy the opportunity of performing in this stage.

Territorial Enterprise - Visit the home of the Territorial Enterprise where Samuel Clemens became "Mark Twain."

Museums - Several other museums call VC their home. Most are walkable from the Delta. Walk the sheltered wooden side-walks, to relive the Comstock era. Many shops are here offering everything from hard candy and fudge to precious geological relics to western wear. There's even a hat store, the likes of which I haven't seen elsewhere!

Note: VC, except the main street , is up and down hill. People with limited mobility probably wouldn't enjoy this tour.

Tour price: \$35 Minimum Subscription - 40 persons

Includes: Bus, luncheon at The Delta Saloon, tour of Piper's Opera House, discount coupon book, and "explore " time.

Tour # 3 - Lake Tahoe /MS Dixie Friday 3/19 - 10:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Visit historic *Lake Tahoe*, America's premier alpine lake. Cruise to *Emerald Bay* , the lake's most photographed location. The narration complements the natural beauty of Lake Tahoe as you take in dazzling vistas of the Sierra, the dramatic splendor of Emerald Bay, Fannette Island and the unique Vikingsholm Castle.

Tour Price: \$50 per person. Minimum subscription - 45 persons.
Luncheon on board the MS Dixie (Sandwich, salad & beverage) included.

Tour #4 - Slot Machine Tournament Friday 3/19 - 2:00PM

The Nugget will run a slot machine tournament, just for the bar-shoppers. Each player pays an entry fee of \$10.00. (There is no other cost.) At the conclusion of play, the purse is split up on a sliding scale among the top ten winning scores. (Less house fees.) Sound like a fun?

Tour Price: \$10 per person Up to 250 players, with a minimum subscription of 40 players.

Details- All tour subscriptions must be equal to or greater than minimums shown. Money will be refunded in the event that participation is less than required. Cut-off date for receipt of check and payment is February 15, 2004. Details (boarding, etc.) will be available at registration. Questions? For information e-mail Howard Stevens at n6mte@intercomm.com or call Rich McClain at 775-425-5660. To subscribe, send check and list of tours to:

Sam Barger
PO Box 12602
Reno, NV 898510

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INTERNATIONAL QUARTET PRELIMS
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FOR**

- Contest & Show**
- International Quartet Prelims
 - Nor Cal East Qt & Chorus Contest
 - High School Quartet Contest
 - Show of Champions

2004

March 18 – 21, 2004

**John Ascuaga' s Nugget
Rose Ballroom**

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

<div>REGISTRATION PRICES</div> <div><u>ALL CONTESTANTS</u> MUST BUY AN "ALL EVENTS" REGISTRATION FOR APPLI CABLE AGE GROUP</div> <div>Adult (over 18 years) Student (18 years & under)</div>		<div>HEADQUARTERS HOTEL</div> <div><u>INFORMATION</u></div> <div>John Ascuaga' sNugget 1100 Nugget Avenue Sparks, NV 89432-0797 Room Reservation (800) 648-1177 (775) 356-3300 \$88.00 per night + tax (Single or Double) Tell the Reservation Clerk that you are with Barbershop Quartet Society</div> <div>RV Parking (No Hook-Ups) available in the west parking lot at " no charge"</div>
Full Early Bird (Postmarked by February 18)	Full Late/On Site (Postmarked After February 18)	
ALL EVENTS: ➤ Adult \$30.00 ➤ Student \$15.00	ALL EVENTS: ➤ Adult \$40.00 ➤ Student \$20.00 INDIVIDUAL EVENTS: Sold <u>ONLY</u> on site ➤ Adult \$20.00 ➤ Student \$20.00	

REGISTRATION FORM
(Only one person per form)

Name: _____
Address: _____
City,State,Zip _____
Email: _____
Phone: _____
Chapter/Quartet: _____
Special Seating Requested _____

Please check one	VIP STATUS	
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Early	<input type="checkbox"/> District Officer	# Adult Reg. _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Early	<input type="checkbox"/> AFWDC Member	# Student Reg. _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Late	<input type="checkbox"/> Comm Chairman	Amt. Enclosed \$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Late	<input type="checkbox"/> Delegate HOD	Check # _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Past FWD Pres	Date Mailed _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Seat # _____
		Rec _____

Please make checks payable to: Reno Chapter, 2004 Convention
Mail to: Reno Chapter, 2004 Convention
Attn: Sam Barger
P.O. 12602 Reno, NV 89510
Email: Nevadasam1@aol.com
Phone: (775) 851-0571

Reno Is A Runnin':

Dave Ramer

Plans for your West District Convention, March 2004, are being worked on as you read this article. If you are on line, look up the fun tours and singing opportunities that are being made available to you. Sign up now and plan to have a great time. Bring the family and don't delay. I'm encouraging you to register now, so that this convention can be more than you've ever experienced before.

Do you like vintage automobiles? You might want to sign up for the, Reno National Auto Museums Tour. Do you like the Old West? Take the Virginia City Tour. Look into the other activities we're planning and perk up your existence. It is O.K. to Sing until your lungs collapse but bring the family along and let them enjoy planned events while you sing-till se. Plan it so you can do the good fun events and make this a memorable time. We want to include everyone.

Barbershopping for most of us is a passion but family members may not have the same feelings. So provide them with fun activities that make them want to be where you are. It is so much more enjoyable when everyone is involved. The Reno Chapter is doing all we can to make our singing convention an event the whole family will remember. If you are not on line, contact Barbara Barger or Sandy Whitten C/o Silver Dollar Chorus for registrations. Contact Howard Stevens for tours etc.

We will see you in Reno, In March so plan ahead.



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Jackie & Steve Bishop Kim & Jerry Orloff
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Owen Doyle - Bass, Coach Pete Wanger - Baritone

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BACHELOR OF HARMONY

Lloyd Steinkamp

Brothers in Harmony: Serving on the FWD Awards Committee has got to be one of the most enjoyable tasks around. You have the opportunity to say thanks to a great bunch of givers. Recognition is one of the most important elements in membership retention. So, along those lines, we will be introducing the rebirth of a great achievement program that RAY USSERY created and managed many years ago. When Ray transferred to Evergreen, we lost the engineer and the train stalled.

Now, with the genius of our own Web Master, Keith Eckhardt, and his electronic magic, we will be bringing back the BACHELOR OF HARMONY PROGRAM for the veterans who earned their badges and certificates years past and the new brothers who want to get more involved in hot barbershopping! The program will be introduced in 2004 so look for details in future issues of WESTUNES...and Matriculate In Music..."MIM's the word!

Fraternally, Uncle Lloyd



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Metropolis@hamonize.com <http://www.hamonize.com/metropolis>



4 Old Times Sake
Senior Quartet Champs
Far Western District 2001

Jerry Fairchild
Jim McKee
Bruce Maxey
Ron Criswell

909-792-8818
email: mjfair@empirenet.com



Announcing the



14th Annual Far Western District High School Quartet Contest

March 20th, 2004 in Reno/Sparks, NV

Fun • Fellowship • Harmony



ALL TOP 10 QUARTETS
will earn **cash awards** for
their school music programs!



There is no registration fee to enter,
but we do need you to pre-register!

**For details, contest rules, entry information, and much more,
contact your local chapter's Youth Activities representative,**

OR

HSQC Coordinator
Bruce Sellnow
1774 Ruth Dr
Ripon, CA 95366
(209) 599-2094
bsellnow@gvc.org



As many as 21 high school quartets have competed in the past! Don't miss out on all the FUN!

You'll find ***EVERYTHING*** you need to know on our website at:

www.gvc.org/hsqc.html

The High School Quartet Contest is fully sponsored by The Far Western District of The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

ARIZONA / SO. NEVADA / SO. UTAH DIVISION CONVENTION

Saturday April 17, 2004

HOSTED BY

Tucson SunshineChapter S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.

Moon Valley High School Auditorium, 3625 West Cactus Road, Phoenix, AZ

Quartet Competition begins at 12:00 (NOON), Sat April 17
Chorus Competition & Performances begin at 7:00 P.M., Sat April 17

CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS HOTEL

PREMIER INN

10402 Black Canyon Fwy (I-17 @ Peoria Exit), Phoenix, AZ

Call 1 (800) 786-**6835** then '**0**' for reservations

Complimentary coffee & donuts served daily 6:30 - 10:00 A.M.

Standard Rooms \$45.95 + Tax = \$51.04 / night

Lanai Rooms \$57.95 + Tax = \$64.37 / night

Two double beds or one king bed per room available

For questions or information about the Convention contact Fred @ (520)747-1215 fktucson@aol.com

USE ONE SHEET PER NAME

REGISTRATION FORM

USE ONE SHEET PER NAME

Complete this portion, and mail with check payable to:

Tucson Chapter SPEBSQSA c/o: Jere Hill

P.O. Box 31833, Tucson, AZ 85751-1833 phone -(520) 760-0406

Registrations will be held for pickup in Phoenix

(Circle One)

NAME _____ VOICE PART: Bass Bari Lead Tenor

ADDRESS _____ CHORUS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ QUARTET _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE(H)(_____) (W)(_____) _____

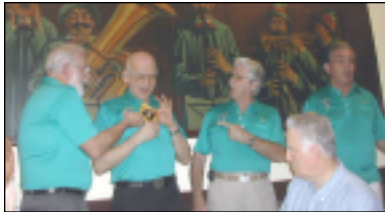


☐ Check the box if you have a disability and may require accommodation in order to fully participate in the Convention. You will be contacted to discuss your needs.

TYPE OF REGISTRATION	COST IF POSTMARKED BEFORE MARCH 19, 2004	COST IF POSTMARKED AFTER MARCH 19, 2004
Adult Registration	\$20.00	\$30.00
Non Member Student	\$10.00	\$20.00
Single Event Non Members ONLY	\$20.00	\$20.00

Check all that apply

- ☐ Chorus Contestant
- ☐ Quartet Contestant
- ☐ Non-Competitive Member
- ☐ District Officer
- ☐ Wife of Member
- ☐ Guest



Chord Minors: Dean Rice, Bill Beck, Roger Fox, Elmer Fairbanks. Kent Borrowdale in the foreground.

Harmony for Lunch Bunch

Kent Borrowdale

It's the third Thursday – any third Thursday of any month. At the Plaza Haufbrau in suburban Sacramento, between thirty to fifty of the faithful are gathered in the back room, munching on corned beef sandwiches, coleslaw and other German delicacies. Promptly at 12:00 noon, their leader arises, blows a Bb on his pitchpipe, and everyone begins singing The Old Songs, usually followed by Down our Way. Thus, another Harmony for Lunch Bunch is underway. This has been happening in the same place at the same time each month for thirteen years.

What happens at 12:00 noon is predictable, as is the singing of Keep the Whole World Singing at 1:00 pm. What goes on in-between is neither predictable nor ever the same. For example, in November, the anniversary month, among the forty-one patrons present were seven organized quartets and six current or former chapter music directors. Every quartet got to sing two of their best songs to enthusiastic applause. In between, there was gang singing, tag-in quartets, pick-a-quartet-for-a-buck, lots of laughing, tag singing and announcements of Barbershop and Sweet Adeline chapter activities.

This group was founded by **Howard Donley**, who now lives in Cody, Wyoming with wife Joanne. When Donley moved from the San Francisco Bay Area to Sacramento, he saw there was no Harmony for Lunch Bunch similar to the one he had regularly attended. He talked to fellow barbershoppers, and the first meeting was held at the Haufbrau in November, 1990. The restaurant furnishes the room at no cost but expects everyone to have lunch. Patrons go through the cafeteria line or the salad bar and pay regular prices. Seniors get a 10% discount for the asking.

HFLB was originally co-chaired by **Bill Donnell** and **Clark Abrahamson**. Donnell is now deceased and Abrahamson is the incoming Division Vice President for Northern California East. The chair is now ably handled by **Jack McPhillips**, who is well known throughout the Sacramento area. People who attend

come from as far as Chico, Stockton and the Bay Area. **Ev Nau** from the Society staff has attended on several occasions and we have been visited as well by **Tom Gentry**. Usually, four Barbershop and two Sweet Adeline chapters are represented.

To remind everyone of an upcoming meeting, a one-page publication is distributed ten days beforehand. Copies go out by snail-mail and by e-mail. **Jack McPhillips** is the "scribe," **Kent Borrowdale** is the editor and publisher. Donations from the group support mailing expenses.

What keeps the patrons coming back month after month? It isn't because of great administrative organization . . . there's none, outside of McPhillips and Borrowdale. It's not that people expect to listen to great singing . . . no quartet performing there was ever on the International stage; and the men and women that attend and sing are Joe and Jill Barbershoppers. No, it's something else: the fun of participating, the comradeship and the joy of ringing chords with old friends with your mouth half-full of good German food. It's what Barbershop should be . . . the fun of singing. We know it will continue – on the third Thursday of each month – for a long time to come.



Masters of Harmony Top-Notch: Dan Place, Les Weiser, Larry Goodfried, Art Taylor

Toy Express

Larry Goodfried

During the months of November and December, chapter quartets from the Masters of Harmony boarded the Holiday Toy Express Train,

sponsored by Metrolink, and traveled to over forty stations throughout the system. At each stop the quartets performed for large crowds as Santa Claus and local fire departments collected toys for needy families. Pictured above is **Top-Notch** as they prepare for a trip through Riverside and Corona. Also participating in the event were MOH quartets **Fourth Row**, **Fuzzy Logic**, and **OC Times**.

Q

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George Dallas
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Jim

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Your Membership Advantage — Advertising That Reaches Your Target

Dear Barbershopper, FWD Member and Westunes Advertiser:

Westunes is pleased to announce a new ad policy for the Westunes Magazine to serve the marketing needs of our members and barbershop harmony enthusiasts. Very favorable advertising rates [see page 1] coupled with a dedication to excellence will make Westunes the best advertising buy available to reach the audience that will respond best to your ads.

Westunes is delivered bi-monthly to nearly 4,000 members and their families and friends in five states. Your ad can let everyone know that your quartet or chapter is active and performing. Show advertisements and Quartet performances can be effectively announced to draw the crowds. In addition, some new featured ads will let everyone know which quartets are available for public performances.

As a Barbershop Harmony Society member, you may also benefit by advertising your business in our Member's Guide Business & Professional Directory. If you offer voice and music lessons for hire, we recommend Westunes as the place to advertise. As a business, you can maintain the interest of your colleagues and associates and attract new ones by advertising your merchandise, services and availability.

Westunes focuses on the activities of our District's chapters, quartets, members and your District's special activities, such as Fall and Spring Conventions, officer training, awards, Young Men In Harmony and musical education opportunities. Your ad will be surrounded by this information of value and use, thereby increasing the chances your ad will be seen — and responded to.

We are sure you'll find advertising in Westunes the most cost-effective way to reach the barbershop harmony and singing enthusiasts you want to reach.

Sincerely,

Philip Pettus
Advertising Director, Westunes
626-286-4450

Ray Rhymmer
Editor, Westunes

Clark Abrahamson
VP Marketing and Public Relations 2003

New Ad Policy:

1. General ads for publication in Westunes:
 - Accepted from any source (excluding Credit Cards, Insurance, and Travel Agencies), provided the offering is deemed generic to and or potentially beneficial to Barbershop Society individuals or entities.
Examples: Uniforms/apparel, risers, voice lessons/coaching, music arranging, etc.
2. Barbershopper-to-Barbershopper Business Services Directory ads for publication in Westunes:
 - Accepted from verifiable Barbershop Society Members only.
 - Will appear in specific, indexed page(s) of Westunes.
 - Confined to 1/16th page advertising specifications.
3. All ads are:
 - Subject to published advertising rates, space-available restrictions, and acceptance of advertising content is at the discretion of Westunes Advertising Director and/or Westunes Editor.
 - Confined to business goods and services ads only — no personal ads will be accepted (i.e. "sofa for sale").

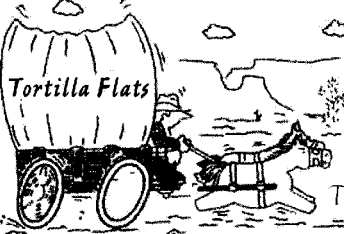


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Ad Size	1 issue	3 consecutive issues	6 consecutive issues
1-Page	\$144	\$136	\$130
1/2-Page	\$97	\$88	\$80
1/4-Page	\$48	\$44	\$40
Bus. Card	\$30	\$25	\$20
1/16 Page*	\$15	\$13	\$10

* For special directories, only.

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1 Pg	\$130
1/2 Pg	\$80
1/4-Pg	\$40
Bus. Card	\$20

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Customers qualify for a guaranteed special discount rate by agreeing to buy at least one ad for 6 consecutive issues.

Advertisers may change the content and size of their ad as often as they wish as long as they agree to meet the production deadlines and pay in advance.

All Rateholder rates are net and do not qualify for any other discounts for any reason or promotion.

We design and typeset ads. All prepaid 6-issue contract ads will be produced at no extra charge!

- Basic black and white and spot color ads that use line art, type and photos can be produced by our advertising department.
- Normal ad set-up fee is \$25 for the first proof. If the customer signs an order to place ads in six consecutive issues, the set-up fee is waived.
- All business card ads will be reproduced or re-typeset for best appearance. Our goal is that all ads appear as clear and crisp as possible.
- Camera-ready artwork should be of original high-resolution quality.
- Proofs of all ads will be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to the customer and must be approved prior to publication.
- Advertisers are welcome and invited to change ads from issue to issue.
- Ads using more than one photograph or requiring the drawing of detailed maps and illustrations are welcome but may be charged additional production fees, depending on the time required to produce them. All such fees will be discussed with the advertiser for their approval prior to ad production.

Special Provisions

Spot color is available at \$100 per Pantone/PMS color or \$75 per process color. Position or location of ads is determined by the publisher based on the size, color requirements and contract agreements. No guarantee of position or location is assumed or promised, except for full page ads with color and for specific ad-news packages. Free-standing ads such as 1/4 and 1/2 page ads will be rotated from issue to issue, unless part of pre-sold news-ad package.

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**FWD DVP for Division 1 SCalW****Bob Lally**

1357 School House Road
 Santa Barbara, CA 93108
 (805) 969-9701
 E: boblally@cox.net

**Division 1 SCalW Editor****Mike Martin**

2262 Bagley Ave
 Los Angeles, CA 90034-1109
 310-558-4949
 E: martinmt@aol.com

Well, as we start the New Year there are a few major changes to our Barbershop way of life here in Southern California. This marks the return to a more localized form of governance with each Division having it's own District Vice President. After several years of being without that office, it was decided that there was a loss of communication between the local chapters and the District hierarchy, and a decision was made to reinstate the former office. It's hoped that this will make an easier road for all chapters to follow in servicing their members' needs. Having spent almost my entire barbershop life in SoCalWest I am especially pleased to serve as your representative on the District Board for the year ahead. I know that we all share similar problems having to do with growth, fundraising, etc., and that together we can pool our resources to achieve more positive results in all these areas.

One of the major problems in our division in recent years has been reduced participation at our division convention and contest in the Spring. A chief contributing factor to that was a difference in growth patterns in our area resulting in reduced membership numbers for SoCalWest. It's difficult to get a chapter to host a contest with the work that entails and finish with a minimal profit for their troubles due to lack of contestants and participants. I believe this has been addressed very favorably by the realignment of several of our Chapters resulting in the addition of the **Pasadena, San Gabriel, Santa Fe Springs** and **Whittier** Chapters to our ranks in this division. I can hardly wait for the SoCalWest Division Convention and Contest on May 15, 2004! It should be a barn-burner, and I hope you'll start making your plans now to participate in this exciting event. We'll talk more about that in the months to come.

Until then, I wish you all well in your singing life for the year. Support your Chapter's Board of Directors in their efforts to make your barbershop experience a better one. If they have any problems in administration or organization, I urge them to call upon your Chapter Counselor for input and advice. These men can give you the benefit of their years of experience in our hobby and point you to the many valuable resources in place to help you. In addition, feel free to drop me a line if you have any questions or concerns regarding your chapter's well being.

Remember, it's all about the singing, and all this organization stuff is just there to help make the singing more rewarding and more fun.

Have a great year!

CONEJO VALLEY**RED EHRENBACH**

A Publicity Planning Meeting was held at one of our newer Member's home, **Ray Eden**, and another newer Member, **Ralph Mauriello**, was there, and he is in Charge of the Publicity for the 7th Annual High School Benefit Show Starring **Dick Van Dyke**. Other attendees included members of both SPEBSQSA and Sweet Adelines International. It sure is nice to see new members jump in and take charge.

RINCON BEACH**BOB LALLY**

Since the last issue, **Pacific Sound** has had to get their feet back on the ground after an exciting trip to Russia with the chorus under the direction of **Ken Potter**. Congratulations to **Jim Brown** who has been certified as a chorus director. Among the newly elected District Vice Presidents at the Fall Convention was **Bob Lally** for SoCalWest. Congratulations also to **Curtain Call** Quartet with members **Max Frickey, Donald Kileen, Bob Cathaway** and **James Serdahely** who won the FWD Senior Quartet Championship. Big welcome to some of the chapter's newest members **Brent Anderson, Jeff Ditto** and **Dirk Gestaldo**.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEYAIRES**DON HEIST**

After a relatively short absence, **Don Heist** has returned as editor of the **Valleyaires** newsletter, the Vocalizer. Welcome back Don. **Bruce Poehlman** is the new Chapter Communications VP and publisher of the Vocalizer. Chorus director **Tom Raffety** was pleased with their recent performance at FWD Fall Convention and had special thanks for the efforts **Dave Tautkus, Gary Bailer, Jim Brown, Duncon Gillman, J.R. Rodriguez** and the Music Team. Kudos also to **Jeffery Bunch, Gary Bailer, Jay Howe, Jeffery Flexer** and **J.R. Rodriguez** for the highly successful hospitality suite at that convention.

SAN LUIS OBISPO**BRUCE MILLER**

The SLO Chapter has already selected their officers for the new year. Lots of familiar faces remain on hand for the new board. Member **Dave Hanush** joined **Lyn Hanush** for part of the "Great American Journey" walk across the United States as he traveled with them for a while in Gillette, Wyoming. Member **Bob Curran** continues with his sailing adventure around the world last reporting from Trinidad. What a life! The Gold Coast Chorus welcomes new member **Randy Gesdahl** to the lead section of the risers.

SANTA FE SPRINGS**KIRT THIESMEYER**

The glorious Christmas show by the **Masters of Harmony** has passed into history, with vows by one and all that the enrichment provided by our sisters from Anaheim's **Harborlites Chorus** will not be a one-time thing; we sound too good together. For

now, we hunker down into “contest mode” as we continue our preparations for the long trek to Salt Lake City in 2005 and the rigors of a divisional competition in May. To assist us, new members **Tim Boeck, Bob Cossentine, John Francis, Zach Materne, Luis Padilla** and **Sam Wang** have recently been welcomed to the risers.

In addition to the Christmas show, MOH sang for the Santa Fe Springs Annual Tree-Lighting Ceremony in early December and then fielded eight quartets to man the Santa Claus Christmas floats touring the city each evening over a two-week period, giving back to our very supportive community — and enjoying it, too. Meanwhile, four chapter quartets, **O.C. Times, Top-Notch, Fuzzy Logic** and **4th Row**, shared entertainment duties aboard the Metrolink rail line, as it ran the Holiday Toy Express Train to some forty-six stops in Los Angeles, Riverside, Orange and San Bernardino counties over a month of weekends, together with brass bands, assorted elves and Old Whiskers himself. 4th Row kept hearing comments like “dude, those great-looking guys with the smooth blend were, like, totally awesome; when are they coming back?”

Our own homegrown Professor **Ken Custer** has just completed a multi-week series of MOH lectures on music fundamentals for barbershoppers, everything from basic orientation around the Grand Staff to intervals and accidentals, with an emphasis on learning to sight sing. Comments from the well-attended sessions include: “Astounding!”, “stupendous!” and “before I took Mr. Custer’s course, I was lost and lonely; now I am the most popular guy in my section.” Prof. Custer is a welcome addition to the faculty of Masters University, our periodic MOH boot camp for the new and unvoiced.

Long-time bass and former chapter president **Dan Fullerton** was recently inducted into the Masters of Harmony Hall of Fame, along with five-time medal-winning baritone, charter member and chorus choreographer **Wayne Mendes**, both of whose enormous contributions have been integral to the success of the chorus. In its 18-year history, MOH has recognized only four others with this honor. Dan has found a new challenge enhancing the ranks of **The Vocal Majority**, while Wayne will be running a pub in Cheshire, England, and no doubt singing with BABS. There is life after MOH.

Visitor Alert: Members of MOH and guests, who are always welcome, should take notice that, commencing January 7 and at least until March, our regular rehearsals will be conducted at Artesia High School in Lakewood, 7:30 p.m., so that the Town Center Hall in Santa Fe Springs can undergo needed improvements. For further information, call (888) MOH-TUNE (664-8863) or check the website, www.mastersofharmony.org.

SANTA MONICA

TOM LASKEY

A new year seems a good time for starting things. The **Oceanaires** are getting off on the right foot by forming some new quartets. A new quartet named **Recall** has been formed by

members **Steve Demmer** (lead), **Harry** (going back to Texas) **Stasney** (tenor), **Sammy Lai** (bass) and **Jack Fry** (bari). **Tom Laskey** (bass), a veteran of several Music Man productions through the years, has brought together the **Barnacle Bills** quartet with **Bruce Schroeffel** (lead), **Aaron Mood** (tenor), and **Carl Rogers** (bari). The specific purpose of the group is to learn the music and auditioning for upcoming theatrical productions of that popular show in the upcoming year.

Jerry Walker, Dan Barling, Aaron Mood and **Alan Hanson** have formed another quartet as yet unnamed. Some of these fellows are fairly new to barbershopping and quartetting for the first time. The **Oceanaires** will have Valentine’s and Mother’s Day well covered.

On a more sober note, we report the very serious illness of one of our most popular members, **Bill Fulkerson**. Bill came into the Society after a long career of piano virtuosity in the employ of several local dinner lounges. No one loves harmony more than Bill.

A happy occasion for the **Oceanaires** was the November return of **Dave Ogden** after many months of a near disastrous surgery and illness. Dave is especially noted for his excellent work as show chairman. The 2004 Oceanaire Show will be back in one of their previous venues, the beautiful Morgan-Wixen Community Theater in Santa Monica. The show theme will be “Movies”. A pleasant surprise at recent Chapter afterglows have been the repeat visits from inactive members **Jim Leedom, Hank Marting, Vance Heron** and **Art Purcell**. Keep coming guys!

SANTA MARIA

LU HINTZ

The **Central City Chordsmen** are coming down off a natural high from two great performances of their annual show. It was co-chaired by **Brad Bormann** and **Evelyn Dykema** and directed by **Lew Law** and **Gene Kai**. Joining in the program were the **Silver Notes, Note Worthy Four** and **Priority Mail** quartets and a newer chapter quartet **Just Passing Through**. The guest quartet was national champion **Most Happy Fellows**. On the mending list is chorus director **Brad Borman** who hopes to return to action in February and Chapter president **Gene Kai** who is recovering from hip surgery. Congratulations to **Darrell Boyd** for receiving BOM for September and **Gorden McGuire** for BOM for October. The chapter also welcomed new member **Bob Maurer** and presented a fifth man of note to **Larry Los**.

SANTA BARBARA

NATHAN STAPLES

The **Channel City Chorus** and audience greatly enjoyed their November 1 Fall Show, “Harmony Harvest”, with a Dixieland jazz band, guest performers, and cookies and apple cider to boot! Co-Barbershoppers of the Month for November, **Ed Olson** and **Chris Story**, did great work in bringing themselves to performance level for the show after returning from extended leave. We’re now recruiting nonmembers in preparation for performances about town as the Holiday Harmony Chorus – strolling and caroling along State Street at noon for the first three Saturdays in December, as well as performing at churches, retirement homes, and other local venues to help spread the cheer of the Holiday season.

Director, **Juleine Schmidt**, will host the chapter Christmas party Monday evening, Dec. 22 at "Chez Schmidt". Festivities will include our traditional "white elephant" gift exchange. Also in 2004, we will continue our 2003 commitment to making charitable performances in the community every month or two.

The Santa Barbara Chapter Banquet and Installation of new officers will be held on Saturday, January 10, 2004 at the Santa Barbara Filipino Community Center. 2003 BOTY, **Michael Frazer** and wife **Maybel** have planned a buffet feast of authentic Filipino cuisine! Tropical attire is encouraged. Longtime chapter quartet, **Vocal Maturity**, seems to have a lock on 2003 Barbershopper of the Year, since three of them are the finalists being put to a vote (**Ed Morin**, **Don Scott**, and **Bob Wilke**).

VENTURA

KEITH BOGOST

Congratulations to the **Channel Island Clippers** as they celebrate their 50th anniversary. A special event to mark the occasion was held at the Wedgewood Banquet Center with most of the current chapter members in attendance enhanced by the return of several past members for the event. To further highlight the gathering, Founders Awards were presented to **Art Johnson**, **Dave Bishop**, **Jim Garner** and **Wally Tamyose** for their continued support of the Ventura Chapter. Sustained Leadership Awards were presented to **Art Janssen**, **Dave Bishop** and **Jack Theys**. Chapter Growth Awards were presented to **Jack Theys** and **Chuck Killen**. Long Term Participation Awards were given to members who have been with the chapter over 20 years. These included **Jack Theys**, **Jim Sumstine**, **Bruce Hunter**, **Bob Haines**, **Monty Clark**, **Doug Van Bogelen**, **Chuck Killen** and **Art Janssen**. Music Quality Award to **Paul Jacobson**. A special "Super Clipper" Award was presented to **Bruce Hunter** for performing great continuing support to the chapter and its members by exemplary demeanor, participation in chapter activities, leadership and personal musical skills. **Keith Bogost** was awarded the Chapter Communication Award for their newsletter and local publicity. Congratulations guys. Speaking of **Keith Bogost**, he will be stepping down after six years as editor of the chapter's newsletter *Seabreeze* to assume the responsibilities of chapter president. Stepping up to fill this important vacancy will be **Tom Faragher**.



FWD DVP for Division 2 SCALE
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Happy New Year everyone. And happy new Far Western District governance system. For the first time in many years, the Far Western District has made a major change in the way we run things. Instead of having our Vice Presidents be in charge of functions such as marketing or events or YMIH, we now have "managers" responsible for such functions and the FWD Vice Presidents will now be responsible for geographical areas – the five FWD Divisions. The change is for the better. It will enable

the FWD Board to be more responsive to the needs of the chapters because the Division VPs will be more in touch with their chapters than the whole Board could have been previously. Also, camaraderie and co-operation will be increased within each of the Divisions whilst at the same time, hopefully, we'll experience a little more competitiveness between the Divisions. Kudos to **John Krizek** and his 2002 FWD Board for the change after which the whole Society decided to follow our initiative.

So, who makes up our SoCalEast (SCE) Division? Well there's been a little redrawing of the boundaries recently, with four chapters moving from SCE to SCW. SCE now has 18 chapters, SCW and NCW/H each have 19 chapters and NCE and A/SNV/SUt have 16 each. It's about as even as it could be now. Just in case you don't know, our SCE chapters are – **Apple Valley**, **City of Brea**, **Coachella Valley**, **Dana Point Harbor**, **El Cajon**, **Fullerton**, **Hemet**, **Inland Cities**, **Irvine**, **Laguna Hills**, **La Jolla**, **Orange**, **Palomar Pacific**, **Pomona Valley**, **Rancho Bernardo**, **Riverside**, **San Diego**, **Westminster**. You can check out the rest of the FWD chapters at the FWD web site.

These 18 SCE chapters are a varied bunch, ranging in size from chapters with as few as 12 members to around 100 in a couple of cases. Although every chapter exists to promote the hobby and the art form and every chapter has fun, they do it in different ways. Some chapters rarely compete but others compete regularly and hard. (At the Fall Contest in Bakersfield, we're proud to note that first and second place went to SCE with the **Westminster** and **La Jolla** choruses). Some chapters put on regular and very successful shows, others don't have the manpower or the patronage. Some chapters organize popular social events, others do not. What they all have in common, though, is membership of our great Society and the brotherhood that goes with it. However they achieve their fun, we want to encourage them to keep doing it.

As the year begins, each of our five new Division VPs is bound to have a few hot topics for his chapters. Our new District President **Peter Feeney** has prioritized his goals for 2004 as follows – recruitment, chorus performance, leadership, public image and quartet performance. If we look at the obvious first goal, it is to recruit and retain more members. Actually, SCE did a little better than the District as a whole in 2003, but I think we can do a lot better in the future. Look for me to institute new programs involving recruitment through co-operation between neighboring chapters. We can achieve so much if we just work together. There's a whole world out there who doesn't know a thing about barbershopping. How sad. Let's get them tuned in.

During the year, it is my intention to try to visit every SCE chapter. I also want to arrange leadership meetings during the year, so that we can put our collective heads together for the betterment of all. If you're a chapter leader, I will welcome any ideas you may have and will try my best to implement them. Before too long, I will be extending an invitation to each SCE chapter President to attend a leadership meeting. The first of them is

likely to be **February 21st**, so save the date. There we will start to plan how we can work together to make us even more successful as a Division. It's going to be fun working as a team. Let's give the other Divisions something to think about.

Happy New Year. 2004 is going to be marvelous.



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SoCal East General (from the Digester)

Dick Girvin

Happy New Year. Here comes another year of opportunities to chronicle your chapter for the district. Make the most of it!

If you find your chapter mentioned here but no Editor shown, it means that I found the information for your chapter elsewhere.

If you have news, shoot me an e-mail and/or be sure I get your bulletin in time to get your news (and name) in WESTUNES in a timely manner. Thanks.

APPLE VALLEY

MAX MAXWELL

Apple Valley's fine bulletin, *The Desert Breeze*, is published on-line for all to see in full color with great pictures. Give it a look at www.bshopnews.com.

Their officers for the coming year are: President, **Jim Dugdale**; Chapter VP Chapter Development, **Earl Christopherson**; Chapter VP Music and Performance, **J Keith Murphy**; The Secretary is **George Long** and Treasurer is **H. Maxwell**, also Webmaster and under whose experienced hand the on-line bulletin enjoys color pix and current news bits. **Frank Bescos** is the Chorus Director.

The **Hi-Country Harmonaires** will join forces with Riverside's **New Kids On The Block** chorus in March in a new venue at the Cultural Arts Center in Victorville. Each chapter will provide several quartets to augment an evening of old barbershop favorites.

Editor Max has provided his readers access to the Society's and FWD's system of e-mail checking to determine if their addresses are current. The system provides the e-mail address to the owner, but is configured to prevent spam "robots" from harvesting the addresses.

BREA

TERRY KENNEDY

The **Gaslight Chorus**, of Brea reports having the "perfect Tenor Section," with **Brian Hinds**, **Dan Jensen** and **Max Ordaz** keeping resident tenor **Bryan Forbes** honest. These three young men, who are still looking forward to their 16th birthdays, are able to hit their high notes without making strange faces. All three are musically gifted and can usually found to be involved in a local theater production. They continue to amaze the rest of

the chapter in how thoroughly and quickly they are able to learn their music!

Editor Terry opined that "Just like golf, singing is a hobby we should have picked up when we were young."

New officers for 2004 include: President, **Terry Kennedy**; Chapter Secretary, **John Gaston** and Treasurer, **Bryan Forbes**. Chorus Director is **Phil Ordaz**.

COACHELLA VALLEY

TERRY MANN

Chapter Vice President of Chapter Development, Terry, proudly reports that for the first time in five years, the **Sandblasters**, who are reported in a rebuilding mode, competed last year in SoCal East where their efforts netted a great time for all members.

Chapter attendance is reported *growing* (not declining) over the past several years. This is particularly notable in that it is not difficult when the age of their members permits them to assemble several groups of four with a total age of over 300 years. Death and disability are tough competitors in their attempts to add to their membership. Progress is slow, but they report that they are having fun and that is paramount.

New officers for 2004 include: President, **Chancy Lott**; VP for Chapter Development, **Terry Mann**; Chapter VP for Music and Performance, **Alan Harrell**; VP for Chapter Program (and Quartet Activity Chair), **Milton Rhea**; Secretary, **Dick Reed** and Treasurer **Ivan Munson**. **Blain Mack** takes over as Chorus Director from **Dick Reed**.

DANA POINT HARBOR

DICK DICKEY

The **Beach Cities Quartet** chapter has completed all of their licensing chores and should be shown as a chartered chapter before long, according to President **Dick Dickey**.

Their Harmony For Lunch Bunch meets the first Thursday of the month at Hennessey's Tavern, Dana Point Plaza, 34111 La Plaza, (Pacific Coast Highway and La Plaza), in Dana Point. Why not join them for a little harmony overlooking the waterfront?

EL CAJON

The **Music Masters** Chorus, is continued to be directed by **Gene Rague**. New Chapter Officers for 2004 include: President, **James Reid**; Chapter VP Chapter Development, **Alphonse Conte**; Chapter VP for Music and Performance, **Gary Mathews**, and Secretary/Treasurer, **Robert Harshberger**.

FULLERTON

At the helm for Fullerton in 2004 are: President, **Ronald Soderquist**; Chapter VP for Chapter Development, **Fred Robirds, Jr.**; Chapter VP for Music and Performance, **Thomas Nichols**; Chapter VP for Programs, **Deane Scoville**; Secretary **Kenneth Klein** and Treasurer **William Bowring**. **Craig Ewing** continues as the director of the **Orange Empire** Chorus.

HEMET

BRUCE SMITH

Dale Covey takes over from **Lee Krauss** for Hemet's Presidency. Other officers are: Chapter Development VP **Lee Krauss**; Chapter VP Music and Performance, **Clay Panlaqui**; Secretary **Arthur McMahon**; Treasurer, **Norman Pabst** and Bulletin Editor, **Bruce Smith**. **Howard Mesecher** continues his well appreciated front line directing the **Hemet Harmonizers**.

INLAND CITIES

New officers for 2004 are listed as: President **Tom Farrington**; CVP Chapter Development, **Geoffrey Mordue**; Chapter VP Music and Performance, **Russell Roof**; Secretary, **Dave Covey**, and Treasurer **Bill Shoup**. **Kevin Price** directs the Harmony Express Chorus.

IRVINE

Terry Ghiselli is the new director for the **California Promise** Chorus. **John Wilson** takes over from **Dane Hutchins** as President for 2004 with Chapter VP Chapter Development **Pat Rodgers**, Chapter VP Music and Performance, **Tim Bradley**; VP Marketing and PR, **Dane Hutchins**, Secretary **Darrell Tuntland** and Treasurer **Dick Cowles**.

LA JOLLA

Steve Bates continues as Chapter President, with Chapter VP Chapter Development **Kerry Witkin**; **Mark Clement** continues as Chapter VP Music and Performance; **Jim Brandt** starts the year as Chapter Secretary and **Louis Tauch** returns as Chapter Treasurer. **Kim Hulbert** continues her proven magic in directing the **Pacific Coast Harmony** Chorus.

LAGUNA HILLS

Fred Eastman takes over from **Jim Kay** as President of the quartet chapter. He is aided and abetted by **Doug Setterholm** as Chapter VP Membership, **Hugh Scallon** as Chapter VP Program; VP Music and Performance **Glen Woodmansee**, and the chapter secretary, **Don Thomas**. **Warren Willard** continues as the Chapter Quartet Activity Chair

ORANGE

PAUL LEWIS

Rick Little (IPP) has handed the baton to **Dave Gryvnak**, who takes over from as President for 2004, and leads the chapter with the able assistance of: Chapter VP of Membership, **Mike Werner**; VP of Music, **Rich Lewis**; VP of Program, **Don Engel**, Secretary, **Paul Lewis** and Treasurer, **Phil Roth**. Their chapter bulletin, *The Orange Squeezin's* can also be found on -line: www.harmonize.com/orange

PALOMAR PACIFIC

KEITH MULFINGER

The chapter's first-ever hosting of a District Contest (Bakersfield) was considered a job well done by all. Many compliments for the District level were received on their cooperation and competence.

A special eulogy by Editor **Keith Mulfinger** and **Elinor Martin** was written for **Les Martin**, who had recently joined the "Great Chorus." During his 20 or more years with PalPac, Les was a

board member, a long-time uniform chairman and many times chaired the annual installation dinner. "He never missed a contest or performance, health permitting," opined Mulfinger. "We need more Les Martins in our chapter."

A letter of appreciation was received from the local "Theater West," citing the chapter's generous support toward their recent Academy Awards Night. "With your help, this fund-raising evening was a great success," was the accolade from the community theater Recreation Supervisor.

Continuing under the directorship of **Lloyd Steinkamp**, The **Music Men** have elected the following for the upcoming year: President, **Alvin Leuthe**; Chapter VP Chapter Development **Dale McDonald**; Chapter VP Music and Performance, **Terry Aramian**; Treasurer, **Chuck Youde** and Secretary **Bob Swearingen**.

POMONA VALLEY

Pomona Valley's new officers for 2004 are: President **Chuck Mason** taking over from **Bob Patterson**; **George Lee** continues as Chapter VP Chapter Development and Chapter VP Music and Performance is **Kenneth Clark**. **Eugene Wright** continues as Treasurer and **Richard Mueller** is the new Chapter Secretary. Director, **Sy Bart** will be out front of the **Carousel** Chorus, as he has for a number of years.

RANCHO BERNARDO

JIM LARKIN

The **Troubadours** will be performing Christmas shows at the Oaks North Community Center on December 10th, and at Olde Poway Park on December 13th, under the able direction of **John Hulbert**. Their excellent meeting facility at the Community Center is free, in return for this Christmas show, and they recommend that all chapters should consider these mutually beneficial arrangements as marketing and PR opportunities.

Incoming President **Don Goddard** and VP of Marketing **Jim Larkin** attended COTS this year. They report that big changes are coming to the **Troubadours**! Everything from new logos, new uniforms, new members, and qualifying for the District convention are in the planning stages. Look out world, here they come!

Leading the **Troubadours** Chorus again for 2004 is **John Hulbert**. The new officers are: President, **Don Goddard**; Chapter VP Chapter Development **Tim Hannegan** and Chapter VP Music and Performance, **David Evanson**. **Larry Taylor** is Secretary and **Frank Urban** continues as Treasurer.

RIVERSIDE

Bill Shova is the 2004 President, taking over from **Sean Clark**. The new team consists of: Chapter VP Chapter Development, **Fritz Grunenwald**; Chapter VP Music and Performance, **Kevin Price**, (who also is the chorus director) **Sean Clark** is Secretary and Treasurer.

They have just completed a chapter survey to determine their approach to their goals for 2004. Watch for them on the contest trail and on the boards of your chapter as "guest chorus."

SAN DIEGO

The **Sun Harbor** Chorus is gearing up for an active 2004 with **Ricky Benito** as the new president taking over from **Clarence Stover**. Chapter VP for Membership is **Craig Hughes** and Chapter VP Music and Performance is **Neal Palmer**. Board Members at Large include **Dave Miller**, **Chris Martinson**, **Guillermo Figueroa** and **Jack Simpson**. The Secretary is **Ross Pyle**.

WESTMINSTER

The District Champion Chorus for 2003-4, will continue to be directed by **Terry Ghiselli**. New officers are: President, **Sean Devine**; Chapter VP Chapter Development, **Patrick Claypool**; Chapter VP Music and Performance, **Shawn York**; **Philip Ridout** is the new Treasurer and **Jason Halliday** is the new Secretary.



FWD DVP for Division 3 NCalW

Dick Whitten

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For a few years now the Far Western District, and for that matter the Society as a whole, has noticed a problem creeping into the smooth operation of its management. This year at COTS many issues were addressed, but the main emphasis was on the art of communication. It has been noticed that the main avenue of communication in the past was the Division Vice Presidents. The Far Western District has seen this as a challenge and has chosen to lead the way back to the future, so to speak, and has reinstated the Division Vice Presidents. (DVP) There are five in the District, and I have been fortunate enough to be elected to serve as your DVP NorCal West for the next term. I look forward to serving you all and welcome any input you might have about changes for the future. In the meantime, I have been working with **Clark Abrahamson** (NorCal East DVP) and the **Walnut Creek** and **Bay Area Metro** Chapters, and we have scheduled a combined NorCal President's meeting the day of the NorCal Novice Quartet Contest. It will be on February 22, 2004, at the Shadeland Facility in the Walnut Creek vicinity, and it will begin at 11:00 AM. There will soon be information in the FWD Website and it will have the particulars about the meeting. All presidents in Norcal East and West should plan to attend. It will be a chance for us to start this communication process. Clark and I will moderate the meeting and we hope to have you all share chapter information so we can avoid conflicts with dates and other things. We will also try to explain the role we will play in achieving the District Goals for 2004. See you all there,



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[Westunes Editor: The Far Western District owes Don a BIG THANK YOU for the 15 years he devoted to being the NCW

Editor. That may very well be a record in longevity for service to us in that capacity. May Don enjoy his retirement from editing.]

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

Materials for the next edition are to be sent directly to the new editor for Division 3 NCal West, John Heather. John's e-mail address is jtheather@yahoo.com. His postal address is 1058 Celilo Drive, Sunnyvale, CA, 94087-4004, telephone, (408) 732-3276. There is no FAX. John's deadline in February 1. He would greatly appreciate your input by January 25th.

BAY AREA METRO

TOM ENNIS

On October 13th, the chorus hosted an alumni night. It was a fun event with the singing of a lot of old songs and a few new ones. There were almost as many alumni on the risers as active members.

On October 26th, new board officers were installed at our annual Installation and Award banquet. They are, President, **Earl Walker**; VP Music & Performance, **Chuck Leavitt**; VP Membership & Chapter Development, **Ric Cederwall**; VP Marketing, **Bruce Lechner**; Secretary, **Dave Sutton**; Treasurer, **Earl Walker**; and Members at Large, **Walt Patteson**, **Tim Bormann**, and **Al Eames**. The BOTY award went to **Bruce Lechner**.

In November, BAM partnered with the Pleasanton schools to put on the Partners In Harmony show. Several hundred young singers raised their voices to an appreciative, packed auditorium of parents, grandparents, and guests. The highlight of the performance was a combined chorus of kids and the Pot O' Gold Chorus singing Edell Weiss and Seventy-six Trombones.

November 28th, the Pot O' Gold Chorus performed at the Danville Tree Lighting. Clear skies in the evening brought out large crowds to the downtown section.

FREMONT/HAYWARD

RAY SPINOSA

A Veteran's Day performance at the Hayward Senior Center kicked off a busy November for the **New Dimension** Chorus. The performance was highlighted by a patriotic narrative, put together by **Kevin Smith**, interwoven around the chorus performance of "God Bless America". After the performance, members walked through the adjacent Japanese Gardens for some picture taking and an impromptu version of "Old Mill Stream;" an appropriate suggestion by **Ted McCall**, when the group approached a small brook.

Later that week, the Chorus took part in a benefit performance for the Tennyson High School Band. The set included "Lo How a Rose ere Blooming," with an introduction by **Brian Carter** setting the historic background of this 400-year-old song. Also performing were the **Town Square Harmonizers**, with new bass, chapter President **Gordon Keeney**.

Finally, the Chorus performed in Oakland at a dinner for administrators of California Community Colleges. After the performance, the President of Chabot College, where the Chorus rehearses each week, came back stage to shake hands with members.

MARIN COUNTY

RALPH KLING

Ralph's lively bulletin, *The Pitch*, informs us of the **Golden Gate Chorus's** Annual Show (49th in fact!) titled, "Showtime Barbershop Style!"

It was held on Saturday, November 2, and featured the Chorus, local quartets plus guest quartets "**Whirlwind**" and Sweet Adeline foursome, "**On Q**."

PALO ALTO/MOUNTAIN VIEW CHAPTER

JOHN HEATHER

Chapter officers and board members for Year 2004 are: **Dan Curtis**, President; **Rob Sequeira**, VP for Music and Performance; **Chuck Thompson**, VP Chapter Development; **Patrick Herlihy**, Secretary; **Dave Morley**, Treasurer; **Jack Metz**, Chorus Manager; and **Max Lanfranconi**, **Bert Laurence** and **Bill Nelson**, Members at Large.

S.F. BAY CITIES QUARTET CHAPTER CASEY PARKER

The Chapter had its first meeting at Stuft Pizza Nov. 19 (north side of Campbell Ave, east of South Thomas Aquino). The usual venue, HomeTown Buffet, is closed for re-modeling; The former meeting spot, Harry's Hofbrau, was booked for Christmas parties.

SAN FRANCISCO

DMK

The guys and gal of the **Cable Car** Chorus ended 2003 with a flurry of public-performance activities. It started with a successful Annual Show on Saturday, October 11. Next was a 20-minute performance before some 3,000 conventioners at the new Moscone West Center. On Sunday, November 16, the Chorus was back downtown, this time at Moscone North singing for another large convention.

A first for the Chorus was the tree-lighting ceremony at Ghiradelli Square on Friday, November 28. Then came a private party on December 10, followed by, on December 17, singing Christmas Carols at the Stonestown Mall in the city.

SAN JOSE

NEAL CAVANAUGH

This year's Chapter leaders are **Randy Meyer**, President; **Dave Kaufman**, Immediate Past President; **Glen Barrett**, Program VP; **Jerry Irving**, Membership VP; **David Haedtler**, Music VP; **Chuck Marr**, Young Men in Harmony VP; **Craig Wynn**, Secretary; **Joe Cleaver**, Treasurer; **Chuck Hunter, Sr.**, **Jerry Larkin**, **Jack Steck**, **Bill Rodman**, **Dennis Lipska** and **Rich Remmers**, Directors at Large.

SAN MATEO COUNTY

DAVID JUNGROTH

The **GOLDEN CHORDSMEN** pulled off another smashing fall Cabaret Dinner Show. Many guests arrived with great and imaginative costumes.

We are experimenting with Sound and Lighting under the leadership and expertise of **Mike Devitt**, and making solid improvements at each show.

Guest quartets included **JIM & TONIC** and two iterations of **SOUND JUDGEMENT** from the **GOLDEN CHORDSMEN** Chorus; **THE BUSKERS** and **ROCK STREET** from local chapters; and a teen-aged group/quartet called **THE TAQUITOS**. And wouldn't you know it was the teen-agers that brought down the house ! The best part is that there are young men out there singing Barbershop and liking it.

SANTA CRUZ

LAWRENCE STERN

The financial success of the **Gold Standard** Chorus's annual show, "Teach the People to Sing!," made it possible for Director **John Hazen** to present a check for \$2,200 to **Meri Pezzoni**, chorus director at Aptos High School. The show was billed as "An Event In Celebration and Support of Music Education." The **Aptos High Madrigal Choir** sang a few numbers in the annual show and joined **Gold Standard** for the finale. Aptos High will use the money to travel to Carnegie Hall in April to sing with **John Rutter**. The chorus hopes to travel to China in 2005.



FWD DVP for Division 4 NCal
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Well, lookee here - a whole new year - and welcome to it!

Some years ago, as some of us remember, we had Division Vice Presidents, whose purpose it was to facilitate communications and cohesiveness within and between chapters in their respective Divisions. Well – wee're baaaaack!

In the weeks and months to come, you'll be hearing from us as to how we'll be working as a team with your Chapter Counselors to help make the chapters in our divisions (in my case, NorCal East/Northern Nevada) successful in all they undertake.

We'll be concentrating, of course, on some core issues – such as membership growth/retention, youth outreach, events participation, administrative issues, music and performance enhancement, etc.

But equally important, we'll be focusing on Division unity and esprit – as a team within ourselves. Look for emphasis on inter-chapter events (perhaps some friendly competition), Presidents Councils (the first of which will take place at NorCal Novice contest – more later), and generally ways to get more fun and meaning into our chapter lives.

Let me know your ideas, concerns, questions, suggestions – I'm looking forward to a fun and productive 2004 and beyond – with you.

...ain't we got fun?...

**Division 4 NCAIE Editor****Roger Perkins**

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CENTRAL CALIFORNIA**MILES SUTTER**

The Golden Valley Chorus performed on Sept. 16 for the Ripon Arts League at the Ripon High School cafeteria. Featured quartet for the evening was **ATONIC EXPLOSION**.

On September 11 members of the G.V. Chorus joined forces with Big Valley Grace Community Church chorus under the direction of **Darrell Cummings** to create a 125 voice tribute to those who perished on Sept. 11, 2001. Retired **Marine Lt. Col. Oliver North** was the featured speaker at the event, honoring the first responders and the military on that tragic day. About 3500 people attended the tribute.

The chapter performed a version of "Remember Radio" for the Modesto Adventist Academies annual fund raiser. With the chorus was **ATONIC EXPLOSION, SPYN, WHIRLWIND, COLLABORATION, KaBLaM, and MISS AMBER SELL-NOW**, soloist. **BRUCE SELNOW** was event coordinator and M.C. Food was provided by **HOWARD BARBER**.

CHICO**LEE ATKINS**

The **Bidwell Generals** are keeping busy and recently sponsored the first Harmony Jamboree for high school students. They also put on their fourth annual Cabaret Show on November 1st.

They had the good fortune of getting **WARREN HASKELL** as Music Director and became a part of the Butte College system.

Their bulletin had an interesting profile of chapter member **HEC RIVAS**. He joined the Society in 1955 and in 1959 was lucky enough to become the bari of the "**Forte-Niners**" who were FWD champs in 1961. He has sung in several quartets through the years and currently is singing lead with **VINTAGE SOUND**.

FOLSOM**HERSH ROBY**

NOW & THEN sang for voters on October 7th and were featured local TV. The quartet consists of **JACK MCPHILLIPS; DUSTY RHOADS, KEN POTTER & MARION GRIBSKOV**. Since Ken was out of town, they used **HERSCHEL ROBY** as bari. Marion alerted Channel 3, 10, & 13. KCRA sent a photographer who spent nearly an hour visiting with them. They arrived about 6:30 AM and sang off and on all day long. Voters would finish punching their ballots then stand and listen to the quartet. Their poll was at John Barrett Middle School where they made contact with the Band and Choir Teachers. Classes would line up outside the poll room and listen to them sing. Many of the afternoon voters exclaimed, "Hey, you're the Quartet we just saw on TV." After 14 hours they closed the polls with "Keep America Singing".

The Harmony Express held their Fall "Recital". It was well attended with about 130 people in the audience. The chorus performed under the direction of **KENT BORROWDALE** followed by chapter quartets, **U4EA, HIGH ROLLERS**, and a Sweet Adeline quartet, **SENIORS IN A-CHORD**. Refreshments were served, and the second half featured **PRIME TIME (JEANNE DROUIN, KATHIE FAGERSTROM, KENT BORROWDALE & AL DROUIN)**.

FRESNO**GORDON BERGTHOLD**

The **Gold Note** Chorus completed their joint Christmas Show with the **California Heartland** Chorus. What a year this has been: we've had our director and family in an auto accident, lost one member to the Heavenly Chorus, received the most improved chorus award at the FWD Contest in Bakersfield, sent our ex-chorus manager, **Ken Nelson** to Honolulu, Hawaii to help their chapter with his clipboard and whistle, and now are anxiously awaiting the return of our incoming president, **Chuck Irwin**, who is recovering from a bacterial leg infection in a Santa Cruz hospital.

A food and drink booth where the Bulldogs indoor sports are held and the home for the Fresno Falcons hockey team is a fund raiser and provides an opportunity for the chorus to receive exposure. "**BOB**", one of our chapter quartets, sang the national anthem last month at a Falcon's hockey game. **Sierra Chord Express** traveled to Hawaii the first week of November and sang for the Sweet Adeline and men's chapters in Honolulu, and anywhere they could find an audience. They were hosted by **Jane and Chuck Irwin** in their home near Diamond Head.

NEVADA PLACER**ROGER PERKINS**

Long time chapter member, **DENNIS LLOYD**, got married to the lovely **SUE BLACK** on Sept. 27. **STAMPEDE (NORM KENDALL, PAT JONES, DENNIS, and ROGER PERKINS)** was reunited to sing two songs.

The **SIERRANADERS** held their 20th annual Cabaret Show on October 24th and 25th in Auburn and Grass Valley. A lasagna dinner was featured once again

NORTH VALLEY**PAT LYNCH**

Harmony Explosion 10 is now a very fond memory. The **Sound of the Foothills Chorus**, Paradise High and Middle Schools, Chico's Pleasant Valley High, **A Tonic Explosion**, and **Revival**, all on the same stage! Two tremendous audiences! 200 singers for the finale! Wow...And the new Associated Students auditorium facility in the Bell Memorial Union is fantastic. Dressing rooms through the afterglow all in one building. What a great, new 'home' for our concerts. **Revival** sounds better and smoother every time I hear them. What a great headliner quartet!

PLACERVILLE**FRANK MARTIN**

Placerville co-sponsored the Nor Cal Youth Harmony Camp with Sacramento on September 26 & 27 at Pollock Pines with 93 young men in attendance. Every one of the young men had a chance to sing with either **METROPOLIS** or **Q** who also

coached, sang and entertained. The boys learned five songs as a chorus, which they performed on Sunday for parents. Comments ranged from "I am shocked!" to "I had no idea that my son could sing that well." Much thanks to **RICHARD LUND**, H.C. Director and **RON MURRAY**, YMIH chairman.

REDDING

HAL MUNS

The **Riverside** Chorus Had a visit from **Ed Bejarana** who was nice enough to call and schedule a meeting on his way through Redding. This was our first visit from a District officer in many years. He had some good ideas for recruiting new members and even gave a listen to our very new novice quartet **The Shasta Songster**. The Chorus has four singouts scheduled for December including our participation in The Northern Gateway Chorus annual Christmas show.

RENO

DAVE RAMER

The **Silver Dollar** Chorus slipped down the ladder in Bakersfield but we will do a lot better next time. We can stand proud as "Q", 3/4 of the quartet-Reno Chapter members, won District. Hip-Hip Hooray!!!

The Chorus was very busy singing for the Reno Air Races, Balloon Races, chorus coaching sessions, preparing for Bakersfield, and our Christmas show. See you all for Division competition, Reno, March 18-21, 2004 at John Ascuaga's Nugget. This has to be the best venue for competition with everything in one place. What a blast!

SACRAMENTO

FRANK KINNISON

CLARK ABRAHAMSON, V.P. Membership, reports that they had 12 guests at their open house on September 23.

Secretary **FRANK KINNISON** reported their membership is now at 66. The chapter has had a full plate over the past few months, says President **Gib Hertler**. The KVIE summer pledge drive, the California State Fair, Cabaret Show, and Youth Harmony Camp (sponsored by the **Capitolaires** and the Placerville **Gold Rush** Chorus).

ALAN SWANSON was barbershopper of the month for July followed by **KEITH SLATER** for August and **CHUCK KENNEY** in September.

VISALIA

DEE BAUGHMAN

Mighty Oaks Chorus member **BILL WARD** and his wife, **RITA**, joined the Valleyaires from the **San Fernando Valley** Chapter for a tour of Ireland in September. The Valleyaires were featured performers in Cork at the Irish World Harmony Jamboree.

JOHN WILLIAMS, a junior at Golden West High School joins the baritone section, sponsored by **CLAYTON RICHEY**. Also joining the chapter this past summer is **J. PETER HIRBOUR**, a former public school music teacher. He is a barbershopper of 32 years. He was formerly an active member of the **Waterbury-Derby Valley Chordsmen**.



FWD DVP for Division 5 Az/SNv/SUT

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Here we are entering yet another year and what a great year it is going to be. With the many changes taking place in our Society and Districts, it is going to make things interesting and fun for all of us in this wonderful hobby we call barbershop. I cannot tell you how excited I am to be serving as your Division 5 representative on the District Board and to have this opportunity to help you make this Division what you want it to be. I know each and everyone one of you wants to make this wonderful hobby—way of life—the most meaningful experience possible for your selves and your family and friends. I want that also and we can only do it if we all work together and from the same page to make it happen. One of the ways we can accomplish this task is to communicate with each other and I for one think we can do that if we put our hearts and minds to it. Sharing ideas, thoughts and experiences makes us all stronger and better at what we do. We sing well but we can do better, we administer well but we can do better. By just reaching out to the people in our division we will show the importance of helping to share the joy of singing. President Peter says in his motto "Keep a Melody Ringing in Your Heart" and Society President Hopkins says in his motto "Keep the Whole World Singing" now it is up to us in Division 5 to do our part, reach out and help each other to make this hobby the best experience possible for each and every one of us. Ladies and gentlemen of Arizona, Southern Nevada and Southern Utah this is our show and I am here to help you make it the very best performance of your life. Lets make this a great year and have nothing but fun along the way.



Division 5 Az/SNv/SUT Editor

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ARIZONA QUARTET CHAPTER

JIM MILNER

We have changed our meeting night to the first, third and fifth Wednesday at the same location (Community Christian Church, 1701 S. College Ave., Tempe). Our 2004 officers are the same as the 2003 group: **Rudy Sikler**, President; **Bob Porter**, VP Chapter Development; **Lee Bourgeois**, VP Music & Performance; **Jim Milner**, Secretary; **Dave Lyman**, Treasurer; and **Bill Kane**, Past President.

Our new meeting program format is quite popular, with a Mystery Quartet having a private room to rehearse and then singing a set for the whole group, followed by a "sing with the champs" session, one at a time from the audience. There is plenty of opportunity to sing with three other guys tuning to each other, objective being to help singers improve their quartet abilities.

GREATER PHOENIX BILL KANE

The **Pride of Phoenix** Chorus (now almost 60 men strong) is busy preparing to host the first trip west of the Mississippi this century by the **BOSTON COMMON**. The two shows are on Feb. 28 at the Orpheum Theatre, at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. Also appearing on the show is International finalist **FINALE**. And at least one International Champion quartet has ordered tickets to come see this show (hint, it's **NIGHTLIFE**), and there's a rumor they will appear on the afterglow.

Roland Wyatt, vocal coach of the Manhattan Transfer, has made his first visit to work with POP members, and a second trip is planned for early January. Individual vocal development is also available weekly before the meeting with assistant director **Cary Burns**. The chorus is working hard under the skilled hands of co-directors **Russ Young** and **Gary Steinkamp** to prepare for their first competition in April at Division. But hoping to avoid all work that would "make Jack a dull boy," they celebrated the holidays with a Dec. 23 party instead of a rehearsal.

POP's very own **DRY HEAT**, current Division Senior Quartet champs, will be representing the Far Western District in competition at the MidWinter Convention in January.

LAS VEGAS METRO

JOHN KINDE

The **City of Lights** Chorus is now under the leadership of our new director, **Scott Fewell**. Our founding director, **Jim Halvorson**, is directing his energies to quartet work, and we're expecting to see some exciting things on the competition stage in 2004. **Skylar Jewell** has joined our board and is serving as our assistant director. We're excited about our holiday show, "Holiday Lights," and our upcoming performance in Moapa. The end of November energized us with our chorus retreat at Mount Potosi.

MESA

ROD CARDON

The **East Valley Lamplighters** had three quartets performing on Nov. 22 for the Gilbert Days Parade and Festival at various locations along the parade route. We enjoy being involved in many different civic events around the Valley. Our chapter sent eight men to COTS for training, and flying from Arizona to California singing part of the way was an interesting experience.

The Boy Scouts of America invited our chapter to provide all-day entertainment at the local Scout-A-Rama. Lots of sunshine and cold sprinkles of rain didn't prevent us from singing patriotic and fun songs with some audience sing-along participation. Our chapter now has five well-organized quartets that also participated. What a fun day! We are looking forward to participating in Las Noches Luminarias at the Desert Botanical Garden. This is a 12- night event with thousands of people strolling about enjoying the spirit of Christmas music and lights.

PARADISE VALLEY

Effective Dec. 2, the **Cactus Chordsmen** will officially be moving to Tuesday evening rehearsals to be held at the Church of the Holy Innocents, 2501 E. Cactus Road, Phoenix, at 7:30 p.m.

On Nov. 21, the Cactus Chordsmen performed for the Sean Hannity radio show on KFYI, Phoenix, under the direction of **Dan Ryan**. The program consisted of patriotic music before an audience of 1,500 dignitaries and guests, and was well received by KFYI producers and personnel.

On Nov. 29, the chorus presented its annual Christmas show at Glendale Glitters on the City Hall Amphitheatre stage amongst a million lights, followed by fireworks and various other festivities.

PHOENIX SAGUARO

TED SAYLE

The Grinch returned to the North Pole to try to disrupt Santa and the elves in the Phoenixians' popular Christmas show, which had two performances Dec. 6 at Apache Junction and another Dec. 13 in Glendale. The world-renowned Southwest Brass also appeared on the Apache Junction shows.

The **Phoenixians** were saddened by the sudden death Nov. 29 of longtime member **Gordon Hamlin**. A chorus made up of members of the **Phoenixians** and the **Pride of Phoenix** sang at the funeral on Dec. 4.

PRESCOTT

SAM STIMPLE

The **High Mountain Chordsmen** sponsored the Men's Holiday Chorus, open to any Yavapai County men who wanted to take part in a performance as part of the Acker Musical Showcase on Dec. 5. Although not an official chapter activity, the chapter hopes to gain some new members. Public relations guru **Lloyd Ewart** has contributed greatly to this effort by arranging radio spots, a newspaper ad and fliers at businesses around town.

After 93 years on this earth, **Hank Wair** stepped over into eternity in early November. Hank had been a barbershopper since 1952 and a Prescott Chapter member since 1987, serving twice as chapter president.

On Oct. 31, five hardy chapter members braved the cold and the wind to pick up trash on the mile of Highway 89A the chapter has adopted. **Jerry Harbeson** was recently appointed a board member-at-large to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of **Bill Cottrell**. **Bob Ables** recently renewed his Society membership for the 40th time!

ST. GEORGE

KEN SUNDWALL

Newly elected officers for the St. George Chapter are **Fred Wahlgren**, President; **Jim Duncan**, VP Music and Performance. VP Chapter Development is going to be handled by a three-man team of **Merrill Hardy**, **Ray Ritche** and **Kevin Holt**. This underscores the chapter's drive to increase membership. Treasurer will be **David Stucki**, Secretary is **Del Kresser** and **Hal Birkland** is Member at Large. The chorus is busily rehearsing for its major Christmas program on Dec. 15.

SIERRA VISTA

ED RAYMOND

The **Cochise Chordsmen** have two emerging quartets since the demise of **THREE DADS AND A DUDE**. **Gary Anderson**,

Paul Godwin, Bernie Martus and Fred Whitley comprise the foursome known as **WATERING HOLE #3**, while **Mark Day, Larry Graham, Augie Jaxel and Ed Raymond** make up the aptly named **FOLICALLY CHALLENGED**.

SUN CITIES

BOB McGOWAN

We commenced our singouts in October and are now in full swing, with four more in November. In the 25th Anniversary Parade at Sun City West on Nov. 1, two dozen of us serenaded the folks along the parade route, earning the Judges Award (for excellence).

Four of our officers attended the FWD COTS program at LAX this year, came away with a new perspective on making our chapter better, and making some new friends on the way. We also gained two new members and a transfer during the past quarter. We are proud that the over-70 group can still attract new faces.

TUCSON

FRED KOCH

Jan. 31 is the date for the Tucson Chapter's annual shows, which will be presented in our new location, Sahuarita High School. This is an exciting new location with ample free parking and without the problem of other events as in the past at the Tucson Convention Center Music Hall. Our featured quartet will be **SPARX** from the Tucson Goodtime Singers Sweet Adeline Chapter. Also featured will be our own **EASTSIDERS**, chapter quartets and the Sunshine Chorus.

WHITE MOUNTAINS

DOC DOCKENDORF

The chapter is busily working on preparations for our Christmas performances at a nursing home, Wal-Mart and at our new Home Depot store. [We have no malls.]

We welcomed our newest member, bass **Larry Kennedy**, in November. Larry is a retired airline pilot, and he and his wife reside in Pinedale, near an area that was devastated by the Rodeo-Chediski fire of 2002. We lost longtime member **Tom Moeller**, a bari who transferred from Arizona to Alaska as part of his job working for the government with American Indians. Tom will be missed, because not only was he a good bari, he was our music librarian. On the last evening he was with us, he was awarded the Barbershopper of the Month award. The certificate was mailed to the Anchorage, Alaska, Chapter for presentation on his first visit to that chapter.

Three chapter officers, **Dan Lewis**, Membership VP; **John Welker**, Treasurer; and **Steve Countryman**, Secretary, attended COTS, and came back charged up and ready to lead us in 2004. They reported that other than the 11-hour drive each way, it was a fantastic weekend.

YUMA

ROB BAILEY

It's great to be back together after the summer break. Numbers are up to nearly thirty men and sounding as good as ever. The Yuma Chapter participated in the Arizona Western College Christmas Gala show on Dec. 5 and 6. The annual show featured ensembles from the AWC music program, including orchestra,

chorus, men's and women's barbershop choruses and quartets, chamber singers, and a grand finale including all the groups, more than 200 musicians. It's SRO every year.

Quartet activities continue apace. **UNFOURGETTABLE's** show schedule is filling fast, with regular appearances at Emerald Springs and Desert Rose, as well as most of the RV parks in Yuma County.

The **Desert Sunset** Chorus is running a recruiting drive and seeking singers of all skill levels, so stop in and visit us on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Kofa High School Choir Room. Call (928) 344-5930 for more information.

Wanted!

The Far Western District needs for Multi-media LCD projectors to use at COTS, Harmony College West, and our conventions. As our society moves into electronic communication, we have more needs to show videos or computer images to large groups.

If you have such a projector going unused, would you consider donating it to our district? [Receipt for tax purposes provided.]

If you can help us, please contact
Clark Abrahamson at (916) 983-1141 or clarka@calweb.com

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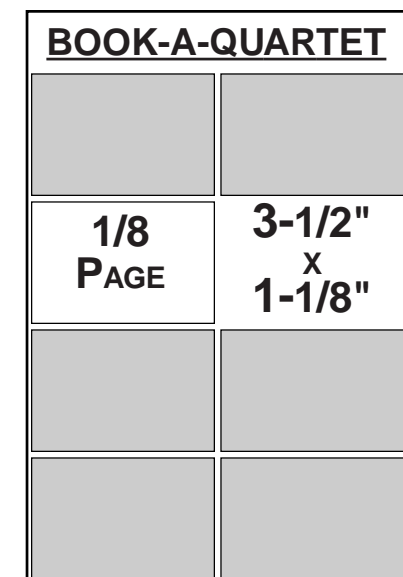
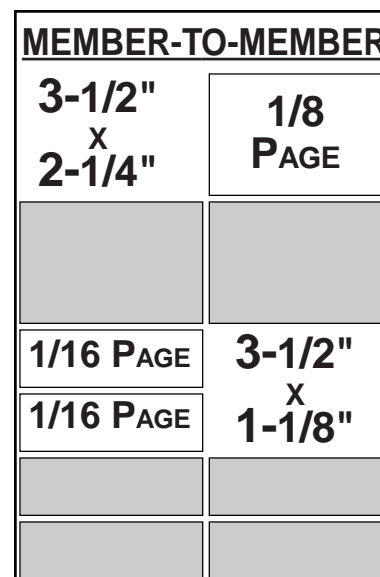
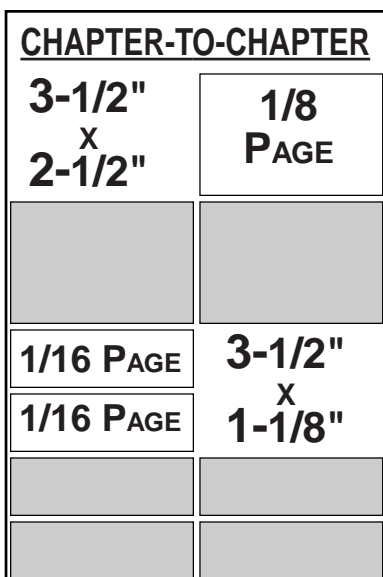
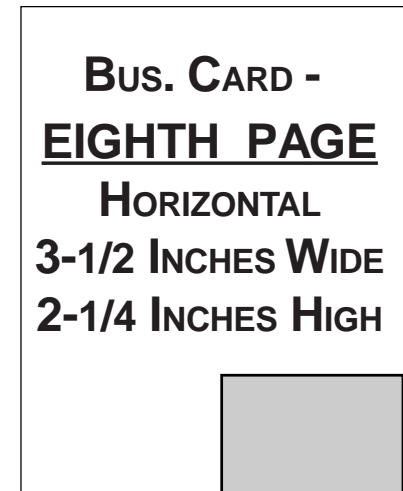
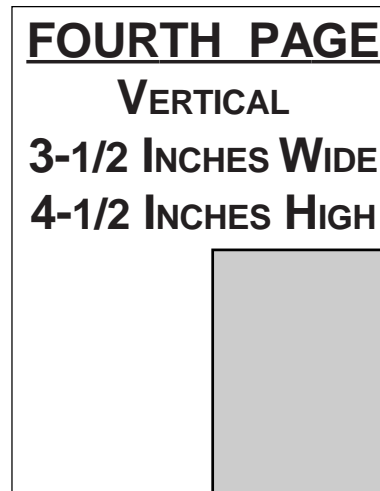
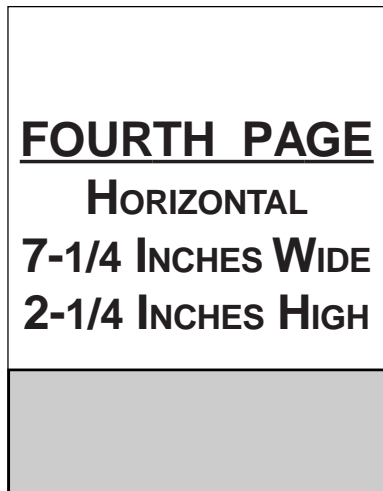
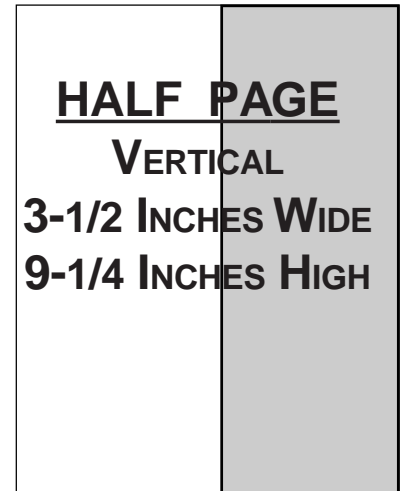
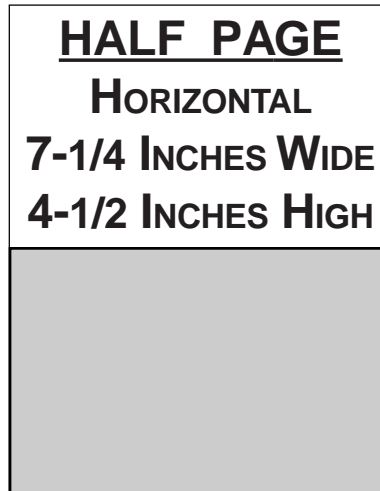
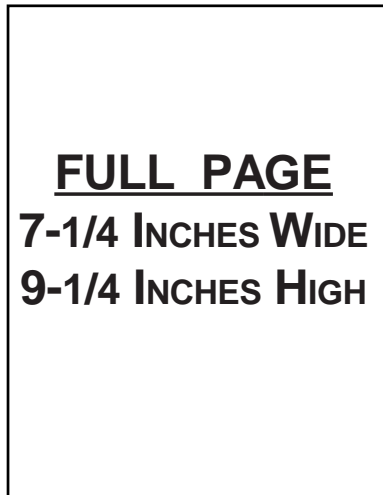
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- WESTUNES on the WEB is fully downloadable and printable – you can print any pages you wish.
- WESTUNES on the WEB is a much more economical method of distribution, which means that opting for this method would save the District significant money in production and mailing costs.

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Be sure to clearly state your name, address and membership number. We're also working on a method for you to exercise this option on the FWD Website.

Just go to the FWD Webpage <http://spebsqsafwd.org>, click on the Westunes/Westags name in the left hand column, click on the issue in the new screen, and it downloads. The new issue is usually available by the 15th of the month preceding publication.

DISPLAY ADVERTISING MODULAR SIZES



CONVENTIONS, SHOWS, EVENTS			2004	2007
Jan 25-Feb 1	INTERNATIONAL MIDWINTER Biloxi, MS	Jul 10	White Mountain Show 16-18 Harmony College West Univ of Redlands	Mar 15-18 FWD Spring Convention & NCE Division Contest Reno
Feb 6-7	Davis-Vacaville Show	Aug 1-8	HCDC MWSC St. Joseph, MO	Jul 1-8 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION Denver, CO
15	Davis Vacaville Show	Sep 11	Rincon Beach Show	
21-22	Rincon & Conejo Valley V.S. Benefit [T]	30-Oct 3	FWD Fall Convention Bakersfield [District run]	
22	Sun Cities Show			2008
28	Pride of Phoenix Show	Dec 8	Crescenta Valley Show	Jun29 -Jul 6 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION Nashville, TN
Mar 18-21	FWD Spring Convention & NCE Division Contest Reno	11	Santa Rosa Show	
Apr 2-3	NCW Div Contest, San Jose			2009
10	Fullerton Show	2005		Jun28 -Jul 5 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION Anaheim, CA
10	San Luis Obispo Show	Mar 17-20	FWD Spring Convention & SCW Division Contest Burbank	
16-17	A/SN/SU Div Contest, Phoenix	May 7	Santa Rosa Show	
17	Palomar Pacific Show	Jul 3-10	INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION Salt Lake City, UT	2010
17	Pomona Valley Show			Jun27 -Jul 4 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION Philadelphia, PA
24	Whittier Show	Oct 13-16	FWD Fall Convention Pasadena	
25	Rincon Beach Show			
30-May 1	Aloha Show	2006		
May 1	Santa Fe Springs Show	Mar 16-19	FWD Spring Convention & NCE Division Contest Reno	
2	Palo Alto Show	Jul 2-9	INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION Indianapolis, IN	
8	SCE Div Contest, site TBD	Oct 12-15	FWD Fall Convention San Jose	
8	Crescenta Valley Show			
8	Santa Rosa Show			
15	SCW Div Contest, site TBD			
15	Placerville Show			
22	Bay Area Metro Show			
Jun 4-6	South Bay Show			
27-Jul 4	INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION Louisville, KY			

WESTUNES

Magazine

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT
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