



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

March/April 2004

Number 2



Four Score in Performance



Four Score with students and Choral Director Nancy Gray of Poway High School. [story p 12]

Four Score Sings at Seven San Diego High Schools Demonstrating and Encouraging Use of Barbershop Style



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15 Dry Heat



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17 Curtain Call

2 FWD Quartets Compete in Int'l Sr Quartet Contest

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Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of BarberShop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

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Mid-Winter Convention

Greetings, Far Western District!

As I write this I have just returned from the Mid Winter Convention in Biloxi, Mississippi and I am happy to report that the Far Western District was extremely well represented by our International Medallist Quartets **GOTCHA!** and **Metropolis**. In addition, **Power Play**, our current International Gold Medal Champion Quartet, **Riptide** and **Uptown Sound** performed throughout the weekend.

Downstate Express, representing the Land O Lakes District, captured the 2004 Seniors Quartet crown. The quartet was best among 27 competitors in the contest.

The Top Five finishers were:

- 1) Downstate Express
- 2) Antique Gold
- 3) (tie) Antiques Road Show,
- 3) (tie) Senior Class Reunion
- 5) Savoir Four

The FWD was well represented by **Dry Heat** and **Curtain Call** who made a last minute decision to perform in spite of being quite ill. It was quite a weekend.

New Executive Director

The new Executive Director of the Society, **Don Harris**, was introduced at the convention. Don is an experienced association CEO from Dallas. The hiring decision came by unanimous vote of the Board of Directors, and, yes, Don is not a member of SPEBSQSA, but that shouldn't be a problem.

"We had a tremendous pool of qualified applicants," said **Society President Rob Hopkins**. "Don brings us an exceptional combination of talents and past achievement in association management, marketing, and strategic planning. We're excited to bring his fresh perspectives to the operation of our Society."

Don takes over from the very competent and popular **Darryl Flinn**. Darryl plans on stepping down in August.

Convention Plans

The FWD's Spring Convention and International Preliminary Quartet contest is only a few weeks away. The NorCal East

Northern Nevada Division [NCENN] contest will also take place at the same time. All the festivities will take place at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks, NV. Our Events Team, led by **Sam Barger**, and the *Get Our Conventions Singing Again Task Force* have put together a terrific program for us.

Non-Stop Harmony

Look for features like "*Jump Start Barbershop*" on Thursday evening, on Friday there will be a wide variety of tours, a slot tournament as well as the *Harmony for Lunch*. On Saturday there is *Woodshedding Class* in the morning and **Society President, Rob Hopkins**, will hold a one-hour *Q and A* at 9 am on Saturday. **Whirlwind** will also sing at the *Q and A* with Rob, so you won't want to miss it.

On Sunday morning you can come to the *Mo Rector Memorial Gospel Sing*. Mo was tragically taken from us in a traffic accident recently and in his memory we will sing more than a few of his Gospel arrangements.

All this and contests too! You will see and hear some of the best quartets in our Society. Among those singing to qualify for Louisville will be current International silver medal quartet **GOTCHA!** and bronze medal quartet **Metropolis**. With the exception of **Freestyle** I believe all the FWD quartets who qualified for Montreal will return. Be sure you're there!

Road Shows

The Society is conducting a series of 21 Road Shows across the country this year, and the Far Western District gets two of them. The first will be in the Los Angeles area on Tuesday March 23, and the second is in the San Francisco area on Tuesday April 27.

Years ago Society staff members used to do "dog and pony" shows which later changed to more educational visits to specific chapters. Under the direction of **Ev Nau**, the Society is doing it again. Each location will have a prominent Society presenter who will lead an evening of fun and barbershop awareness while inspiring attendees to invite more men to join us in our hobby.

Our presenters are **Bill Rashleigh** in Los Angeles on March 23 and **Jim Bagby** on April 27 in San Francisco. These are going to be very large gatherings of our brother barbershoppers so make your plans now to be at one of these locations. If Tuesday is your meeting night, all the better! I guarantee you that these Road Shows will be a hoot. You will not want to miss it.

Division Conventions

Finally, in addition to NCENN, many of our divisions will hold their convention and contest before our next edition, so I want to wish all the competing quartets and choruses the very best of luck! I hope to see attendance at all our division conventions increase this year, so plan on going and having some fun.

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It's OK to Get Involved

Some of you will receive this message prior to our Spring Convention in Reno. That's because our WESTUNES Editor, Ray Rhymer does such a good job putting out this publication. Ray is just another example of the kind of people we have in FWD willing to step forward to help us enjoy our barbershop-ping life to its fullest.

I want to mention three more men who have just stepped forward to do their best to help individual chapters sort through problems and become what they want to be. **Jim Turnmire, Gene Kai, and Virgil Gentzler**, are new participants in our Chapter Counselor program. They will each have at least two chapters to mentor and will be co-ordinating their activities with the VP's of the Divisions in which they will operate. Notice I used the word "mentor". That is really what our Counselors do. We need our chapters to involve our Counselors more to get that third party point of view, if nothing more. And we need more experienced Barbershoppers to join us in sharing their experience as mentors to other chapters.

For those of you who are reading this before Reno, we want you to come to Reno to experience the absolutely very best International Preliminary Quartet Contest in the whole Society. Come early and attend the House Of Delegates meeting at 2PM on Friday. If you're there on Thursday, sit in on and observe the BOD Thursday evening and Friday morning. Before you come, ask your chapter President to share with you the HOD Brochure he received and read the reports written by the men who work for you to make this hobby more enjoyable. Pick a committee that interests you and track down the chairman to see if there isn't some small way you can contribute.

Or, get on the FWD website and see all the other activities going on at RENO. Somebody had to make it all happen. You could be a part of making things happen, too. Think about it.

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

The Society ROAD SHOW

**An evening of pure barbershop fun that's
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LOS ANGELES March 23rd

(Venue TBA – check the FWD web site)

Contact **Bernard Priceman** at (818) 625-2832 or

bernard@thepricemanteam.com

SAN FRANCISCO April 27th

(Venue TBA – check the FWD web site)

Contact **Chuck Hunter** at (408) 730-9988 or

charles.hunter@sjeccd.org

Remember the "good old days" when there was no radio or TV? (OK, maybe that was a little before your time). Well in those days, one event was not to be missed - the traveling Road Show. What a marvel it was! Music men, medicine men, magicians, thespians, gamblers, side shows ... something for everyone. A time of fun, frivolity and friendship. The original *Road Show* may have disappeared, but now there's a new one, in the barber-shop style. 20 of them, actually, all around the country during March and April. They may just be the most entertaining evenings you've ever had as barbershoppers. They'll be a perfect time to bring your guests.

Kenosha has assigned a talented "*Roadshow Man*" to each event – **Bill Rashleigh** to LA and **Jim Bagby** to SF. They'll drive into town with their bags of tricks and present shows that you will not forget. There'll be singing, laughing and handshaking and free of charge, right before your very eyes, the *Roadshow Man* will show you simple and effective ways to increase your membership. This will be a wonderful and motivating celebration of our hobby. You and your chapter will greatly benefit by attending. We expect huge crowds.

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 Fresno, CA 93720
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 E: Jtmire43@netscape.net

Good News

Some great news! There is a new program that is being sponsored by the Society. In the past, there hasn't been a program to train aspiring directors. Now there is. The new program is called the "Director of the Future" program. It is a one-day class that will be offered at Harmony College West. This year Harmony College West will be held in Riverside July 16-18. This program is designed for those who have the desire to wave their arms and create music, but need the basics to accomplish that. The class will be limited to the first 20 students who apply. I have been asked to serve on the Society's Chorus Director Development Committee. My major responsibility will be to administer this Director of the Future program.

Some more great news! Our choruses are in great shape director-wise. Almost 100% of our choruses have musical directors. There are only two choruses that don't have directors. Hopefully, even these two choruses will be able to find the right person to help them out.

Chorus Director Workshops Intensive scheduled for the first part of 2004:

February 21: Hosted by the Mesa Chapter
 April 17: Hosted by the Riverside Chapter

Hopefully all 11 of the scholarships available to us will be awarded to directors for Directors' College in St. Joseph. Directors' College will be held the first week of August.



Chair: Contest & Judging
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 Sunnyvale, CA 94086
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A few thoughts from the DACJC

Contest time is upon us, and as we have seen in the recent past not knowing the rules can result in costly penalties when ineligible members take the contest stage. Anyone interested in competition should become thoroughly familiar with the contest rules, which can be downloaded and printed from the Society web page. What follows is a synopsis of a few questions that have been raised recently with regard to the eligibility to compete:

Q – Can Frank Thorne Chapter members compete in quartet contests?

A – Yes. With the exception of quartets from affiliate organizations which have been invited to participate in the international quartet or international senior quartet contest, all members of competing quartets must be members of one or more chapters, including Frank H. Thorne Chapter. At least one member of the

quartet must be a member of a chapter in the district in which the quartet elects to compete (Article I.A.1)

Q – Can a member of a competing quartet in one district who is also a member of a competing quartet in another district compete in both districts during a single year?

A – Yes ... and no! A member may compete in only one international preliminary quartet contest in a given year (Article I.A.3) but nothing would prohibit him from competing in a division or Fall contest in two districts.

Q – Are champion quartets eligible to compete again?

A – Again this is a yes and no answer. Division champion quartets are eligible to compete again for that championship (Article I.A.5), but championship quartets of other years at the District, Senior, Super Senior and International level are prohibited from competing again for the same championship.

Q – Do all members of competing choruses, except for female directors, have to be members of the Society?

A – No. The director of a competing chorus, whether male or female, is not required to be a member of the Society. Further, members of choruses from affiliate organizations must be members of that affiliated organization and the chapter or club that they represent in competition, but not members of the Society. (Article I.B.1), It should be noted that there is a potential land mine concerning this article as it applies to our barbershop affiliate members in Germany (B.I.N.G.) whose membership is both male and female. Thus far they have not petitioned to compete in our international contests.

Q – May a member transfer or take out dual membership in a chorus at any time and be eligible to compete.

A – Not exactly. To be eligible to compete with a given chapter as a transfer or dual member, a man must have established his transfer or dual membership status in the chapter prior to the commencement of the contest cycle in the district. In each district a contest cycle begins with the first contest, in a given calendar year, that is part of the process of selecting the district's representative to the international chorus contest. (Article I.B.4.a) However this requirement does not apply to a member who, after the commencement of the contest cycle, changes his place of residence and solely as a consequence of such change, transfers his membership to the chapter with whose chorus he thereafter competes.

There's obviously a good deal more in the official Contest Rules, but this should give you a little food for thought. I'm looking forward to seeing you all at a FWD Convention this year!

FWD Sunshine Chairman George McCay

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**Like Birds Do
now is the time to Migrate To Reno**

By the time you read this article I'm hoping that you all will have made your plans to be in RENO March 18-21 to enjoy a spectacular week end of barbershop music. Some of the top quartets in our society will be performing to qualify to go to the the International contest in Louisville in July.

As has been advertised in Westunes and on the FWD Web, we also have put together some great tours for those who want to do something beside the contests. Keith Eckhardt has also planned some great craft classes that everyone can take advantage of.

So if you haven't made your reservation at the Nugget Hotel get on the phone today and then "migrate" to RENO for a fun and relaxing week end of great music.

JUST A REMINDER. As I said in an earlier issue of Westunes, hotel reservation forms (for the Fall convention in Bakersfield) will be available in RENO and also on the FWD Web. These are the **ONLY FORMS** that the Bakersfield Convention Bureau will accept. **SEE YOU IN RENO.**

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E: fossenkemper@earthlink.net

OLD IS GOOD!

Many Barbershop chapters have expressed the desire to seek out "younger" customers for their annual shows, believing that the junior crowd is the audience of tomorrow and thinking we need to replace the old timers who keep falling asleep during the show.

Certainly Youth Outreach is a major goal of our future recruitment efforts but those very efforts have to be funded and that income will come from the people who know and appreciated our form of music, the over 50 crowd.

Some chapters have learned several tricks that aid them in developing this "senior" market and one of those is my former chapter, the **Phoenicians**.

I recently spoke with **Dr. Jim Conner** who has headed up the Marketing and Ticket Sales for the past several years. I asked Jim about the steps he uses to get the senior buyers to come to the Phoenix show, which in some years has approached 5,000 customers.

Jim advises that a "matinee show is a must," and his reasons are simple. Seniors have a hard time seeing after dark and when faced with driving to a strange part of town in at night, they will usually pass.

Another successful step that Phoenix has used is the "Bus Ride" ticket. In the ticket flier and in the news paper and radio ads they advertise that, for an additional \$8.50 you can get a round trip bus ride from your community to the theater. "This service has resulted in hundreds of ticket sales that would have never happened without it," says Mr. Conner. The bus will cost you about \$450 for a 50 seater. Pass this cost to your customer, don't mark it up.

If your direct mail list is lacking you can rent mailing lists for specific zip codes and thereby target the senior communities. You need to do two mailings to the seniors and if you have phone numbers then get a group of men to follow up. If you can't find volunteers you can hire some retirees in the target community to make the calls.

Another big potential target are the "Assisted Living Centers." These are senior complexes where the vast majority live in their own apartments. If the senior center is of reasonable size it will have an Activity Director who will be glad to distribute and post fliers. You can find these centers in any phone book. After you have talked to them do a special mailing with enough fliers that each resident's info box can be hit. Most of the bigger centers have their own fleet of shuttles are more than willing to take a group of ticket buyers to and from the theater if you arrange it with the Activity Director.

Another option is a "Show and Dinner." Find a restaurant near the theater that can offer an early dinner for \$15 or \$20 per person. Promote this to the senior communities that are more than 45 minutes away from the theater to help attract buyers who want a full afternoon of entertainment.

Finally, seniors will arrive to the theater very early. You need to entertain them from the time they walk in the door. One of the most effective ways is to have a lobby sing along. Have a piano player and a song leader in the lobby that gets the people singing some of the good old songs. Have song word sheets to pass out and start this about 45 minutes before curtain time. Believe me the seniors will love this touch and you'll get them back next year.

**Sound Judgment***A Barbershop Quartet*www.soundjudgment.orgTom Addison - Tenor, Lead
Pat Goulding - Lead, Tenor
Owen Doyle - Bass, CoachDave Stone - Baritone
Gary Scalice - Bass
Pete Wanger - Baritone

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Could We Be Scaring Them Away

Some of you may remember an article that I wrote several years ago titled "We Scare Them Away". Perhaps it's time to reconsider the results of our recruiting efforts and why they do not work like we think they should. As you know, our biggest problem in membership is that our attrition exceeds our recruitment every year, resulting in a net loss of members.

This is such a great hobby, why should we not be able to recruit more new members? There are the obvious answers (we don't invite enough men to join with us) and numerous other thoughts on the subject. In looking back over the last 20 years of Chapter meetings it seems to me that if we could increase our "close" ratio that we would have solved the problem. We seem to be able to get prospective members to attend one or more meetings but not nearly enough of them join and stay.

I hear retired men comment frequently that they thought that they would have all sorts of time on their hands after they retired but find themselves extremely busy. When we speak with those that are still employed the problem is much greater and when we speak with younger men who still have children in the home it gets even worse. Let's face it; lifestyles have changed tremendously over the last 25 years. Traditional "full retirement" is rare today for men between the age of 60 and 70. Many men are still active in some kind of occupational endeavor well into their 70's.

My point is this: today's lifestyles are much more demanding of our discretionary time. How does that affect the way we go about recruiting?

The prospective member is overwhelmed when he learns how much time most of us devote to Barbershopping. In our typical enthusiasm we tell prospective members that they will have numerous performance opportunities, that they will need to work on words and notes at home in order to keep up with the other chorus members. We tell them about the annual show, the Divisional contests, the District Contest and convention. We tell them about our Holiday show schedule. We emphasize the need to attend every chorus rehearsal and that we will have a weekend retreat prior to contest. If we belong to a competition minded chapter we tell them how important it is for us to move up in the standings this year. In essence, we describe a membership that involves a tremendous time commitment.

The prospective member cannot possibly imagine how he is going to fit all of this into his already busy life. So.... he walks away. I probably would have done the same thing 20 years ago if I had felt the need for such a commitment. Why didn't I.

Because I was allowed to become a part of the group and gradually become more and more involved. By the time I realized the extent of the commitment I was already hooked on Barbershopping.

Share your thoughts on this. We'll talk more about it in a future Westunes.



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Advice For Chapters In 'Cathedral Building'

Last Fall the *Nor'Easter*, the bulletin of the Northeastern District, included an article about building relationships with high schools by a music educator, Edward Tyler of Manchester High School in Connecticut. His advice rings true for all of us involved in youth outreach. The following is from his list of "Do's" for barbershop chapters.

DO #1: Remember, you are "Cathedral Builders." "The last thing your chorus needs is a handful of boys aged 14 – 16. Boys that age are prone to over-extending themselves, have terrible time-management skills . . . What you do need is that same handful of boys after they've graduated from high school, gone on to college, taken a steady job, moved into a community and grown some roots. . . You must look 15 to 25 years into the future when planning relationships with these boys."

DO #2: Be a helpful presence. "Don't add to the workload. There is nothing better than someone showing up a week before a concert or the big spring musical and saying, 'What can I do to help?'"

DO #3: Give the students an experience. The local *Silk City Chorus* books college a capella groups on their annual show and has them come early enough to put on mini-concerts at local schools. "My students love them . . . They associate the collegiate groups with the sponsoring barbershop choir, because they are being provided with an experience."

DO #4: Provide fundraising opportunities. The *Silk City Chorus* provides tickets for their annual show, which the students can sell and keep the profits for their own school choir causes. Members of the chapter who own local businesses buy ads in the school's Spring concert program. "*Silk City* has also invited my jazz choir to sing on their show, and then turned around and made a donation to their trip fund as payment for the students' services. They have buried fledgling quartets in sheet music."

(I can't help but add that many of our chapters in FWD are already doing these things, much to their credit.)

DO #5: **Every once in a while, do something big.** Five years ago, the chapter provided Edward Tyler with a scholarship to Harmony College. They paid his tuition and air fare, and needless to say, the experience was memorable.

"These relationship builders are like the support columns of a bridge. I look back on my history in the school and see those events as high points for me and my students. . . The relationship is built with the countless little things. I have never put on a concert or show in 15 years where at least one member of the Silk City Chorus hasn't been in the audience. Members are always saying hello to me and my students . . .

"In September, 1989, I set foot in Manchester High School. By November, I had met two members of the local chapter. After introductions, their first words to me were, 'If you need anything, we're here to help.' They have always lived up to those first words, and I'm proud that my students have gotten to know these fine gentlemen. And if some 33-year old walks into your chapter and tells you he's from a town just east of Hartford, CT, give the guys of the *Silk City Chorus* a big 'thank you' because they built that little cathedral a long time ago."

Thank you, Edward Tyler. Hopefully we're doing a good job of Cathedral Building here in the Far Western District.

Looking for YMIH News, Help or Advice?

Check the FWD YMIH web site www.web2035.com/ymih/ where we'll try to maintain a constantly updated roster of the news and resources. Watch for the availability of the new Youth Camp Video.

Are you providing support for a high school or college quartet? Getting to the HSQ finals in Reno can be a major financial burden for young people, and yet the experience and the rewards are great. See the ad in this issue for details, and contact chairman **Bruce Sellnow** with any questions. College quartets can compete in any of our divisional contests, to earn the right to go to Louisville in July. Ask for help if needed!



VP - Financial Development
Harmony Foundation
Robb Ollett
313 Hash Court
Petaluma, CA 94952-6117
707-769-8528 E: ollettjr@aol.com

Harmony Month and Taxes – is there a connection?

I've always used the Society's birthdate (April 11) to reflect upon my benefits in being a Society member. The fellowship, the music, the performances, the trainings, the conventions – all bring joy to my life.

I enjoy the heritage of the Society. That informal gathering of OC Cash and Rupert Hall with 24 friends on the rooftop garden of the Alvin Hotel in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on April 11th, 1938. They sang the old songs, beginning with "Down Mobile." They never dreamed that 66 years later, the Society would boast of 33,000 members in the United States and Canada, with affiliates in other countries, and thousands of beloved fans and followers.

My adoration of the Society is also effected in knowing that April 15th is the income tax deadline. It's the same time I reflect upon "what can I give back to the Society?" Happily, my wife (Jerri) and I agree that Harmony Foundation is our major charity. Harmony Foundation has re-positioned its mission to "preserve the musical legacy of SPEBSQSA through support of vocal music education in our schools and communities."

With Jerri's encouragement, we became charter members of the Founders Club in 1992, and will soon become charter members of the newly-created President Circle for annual giving.

Our supporting the Foundation brings comfort in knowing the Society will continue for generations to come. I see the high school quartet contests and the excitement generated, as well as the Seniors Quartets with equal enthusiasm. And the ability to file our giving as a charitable donation and tax deduction brings mutual benefit.

So, what can YOU do? How about a \$66 check to Harmony Foundation as a "thank you" for the many years supporting Society programs? Or perhaps \$66 to the Far Western District music program, Young Men in Harmony or Youth Harmony Camp? Or perhaps a larger amount to Harmony Foundation to further solidify your adoration of barbershop harmony, far and beyond what your dues can accomplish.

Make Harmony Month and Tax Time a joyful connection. Let's take our support of music and charitable giving from B-flat to B-sharp!

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

2004 Norcal West/Hawaii Division Contest



Hosted by San Jose Chapter SPEBSQSA

Saturday April 3rd 2004 - Single Day event

Quartet competition begins at 12:00 noon

Chorus Competition and Performances begin at 7:00pm

Quartet Evaluations held at the Convention Headquarters Hotel

Contest Location

Campbell Heritage Theatre
1 West Campbell Avenue
Campbell, CA 95008

Convention Headquarters Hotel

Campbell Inn	Rooms - \$69.00 plus tax
675 Campbell Avenue	Free Breakfast
Campbell, CA 95008	Call 408.374.4300
	Mention Barbershopper

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: Day: _____ Evening: _____

Voice Part Lead Tenor Bass Bari

Chorus _____

Quartet _____

Check all that apply

Chorus Contestant Quartet Contestant Non-Competitive Member

District Officer Wife of Member Guest

Disability Check here 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.

Check one	Type of Registration	Postmarked before 3/19	Postmarked After 3/19
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adult Registration	\$20.00	\$30.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Non Member Student	\$10.00	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Event Non member	\$20.00	\$20.00

Payment by Check Credit Card

Credit Card info

Name on Card _____

Amount _____

Card Type: Visa Master Card

Card Number: _____ Exp date month/year: _____

If you have any questions or issues please enclose an them on an additional sheet

Make check payable to: San Jose Chapter
SPEBSQSA
Mail this completed form and Check to:
San Jose Chapter, SPEBSQSA
P.O. Box 7447
San Jose, CA 95150-7447

**All Registrations will be held
for pickup at the Convention**
For Questions about the Convention contact:
[Richard Remmers](#) 408.247.1180



2003-4 FWD Quartet Champions

Q

Raymond Davis, Tenor

This month we'll shine the Q spotlight on our tenor, *Raymond Davis*.

Q: Raymond, how did you get involved in barbershopping?

Raymond: Well, actually, I was born into barbershop. My dad was a member of the **Palomar-Pacific** chapter in San Diego county and my mom sang with the **Sierra-Mar** (north San Diego County) chapter of Sweet Adelines. I was singing when I was about 5 years old and have always wanted to sing in quartets. I guess you could say that its in my blood.

Q: What other quartets have you sung in besides "Q"?

Raymond: My first quartet was with my dad when I was 12, and it was called "**The 3 1/2 4**". I had to stand on a stool to reach the height of the other three guys in the quartet. We entered the So. Cal. Novice contest in 1973 and I think we came in next to last, but it didn't matter to me because I was singing in a quartet and as far as I was concerned, just being on stage made it all worth while. After that, for the next few years I sang in various chapter quartets such as "**The 92054**", "**Phorguise**" and a short stint with "**Raisin' Caine**". I think my most memorable barbershop experiences were my early teens and 20's whenever I got the chance to fill in on tenor in my dad's quartet, "**The 4 City 4**". After I transfered from **Pal-Pac** to **San Diego** in the early 80's, I sang in a few district level quartets. "**Especially For You**" and "**On Location**" were some of my early groups. I also got to be a mummy in "**The Quackenbush Quartet**" for a year. Then, in 1988, "**Special Feature**" got together and that changed my whole outlook on barbershop.

Q: Why do you say that?

Raymond: Because it kicked the level of singing up several notches. We were District Champs our second year and competed at international 7 times I think, medaling at 5th place in 1993. We sang in about 20 states and in Canada over our 11 years together.

Q: What ever happened to Special Feature?

Raymond: Near the end, we were kind of notorious for singing a lot of doowop and non barbershop material and even though I

arranged a lot of it, that was why I eventually left the quartet in 2000. I'm not what you would call a "KIBBER", (Keep It Barbershop) but I didn't feel comfortable being hired to sing on a barbershop show and then only doing a few barbershop songs for the whole show and afterglow. Besides that, it was evident that we were never going to compete in another barbershop contest. We were also weening ourselves off of doing barbershop shows in preparation of trying to go semi-pro. Barbershop is what I really wanted to do, so I left the quartet. I do have to say that singing with those guys was an amazing experience. About a month or so later, I started singing with "**Applause!**"

Q: Didn't they live in Phoenix and you in Reno?

Raymond: Yes, it was a long distance quartet. That was another fantastic singing experience for 2 years. We won district in 2000 and that same year placed 15th in Kansas City, then 13th in Nashville in 2001.

Q: What happened with that quartet?

Raymond: The distance thing was hard at first but we worked smart and overcame it. Eventually though, my job wouldn't allow me the needed weekends off to rehearse. It was really fun while it lasted.

Q: And now with Q, you've won your third District Quartet Championship.

Raymond: Well, its a big deal...and it isn't.....all at the same time. I'm proud that I've managed to be lucky enough to win the FWD quartet championship 3 times but I'm always trying to keep it in perspective. When I was in my teens, I used to idolize the international and FWD district quartets. I would listen to the recordings and do all the moves they did, pretending that I was one of them. Then, I had a major let-down when I worked up the courage to ask one of my all time favorite quartets if I could sing a song with them at an afterglow. Basically, they said no. They were done singing and made no effort to sing with me and broke my 17 year old heart. From that day on, I said to myself that if I ever got into a good quartet, I would never do that to anyone. After all, where is the ENCOURAGEMENT in what they did to me? I think that the most important thing to remember if you're ever in a top quartet is to not let the celebrity of this whole thing take over. I'm lucky enough to be able to sing the way I do and I'm more than happy to share what I have with anyone who asks.



Q: What advice would you give to readers out there that want to get into a quartet?


Raymond: The best advice that I could give to anyone is to not get so serious with quartetting that you stop enjoying what you are doing. If it isn't fun, it isn't worth the effort. Also, try to find

3 other guys that you can get along with and enjoy singing with. I've been lucky in that effort with **Special Feature**, **Applause**, and now **Q**. You also need to find a balance of talent within the quartet. In our quartet, we've found that Robert has an awesome knack for writing intro's and I can arrange them pretty well. After we learn a song, all four of us have a good feel for interp and we bounce stuff back and forth until we settle on the way that Cory wants to do it. (just kidding!) The last thing that I could say about getting into a quartet is make sure that you have support from your significant other. Barbershopping can get pretty serious and intense sometimes and it really helps if your wife is on the same wavelength that you and your quartet are on. **Q** tries to limit our performances to twice a month. My wife thinks that we sometimes go a little overboard with the rehearsal and show schedule but at least I know that she supports me 100% in what I'm doing. Of course, singing a tenor solo for her every once in a while also helps to smooth things out.

Next issue, the **Q** spotlight will brightly shine on our lead, Robert Lenoil.

Until then, sing well and have fun...

Q
2003 Far Western District Quartet champs
Raymond, Cory, Robert and Mike



Mixed Metafour
a barbershop quartet

P.O. Box 1209, Aptos, CA 95001
orloffs@ix.netcom.com

Jackie & Steve Bishop (408) 377-5773	Kim & Jerry Orloff (831) 688-0909
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•/o 2206 Rockefeller Lane #3 • Redondo Beach, CA 90278
Metropolis@hamonize.com <http://www.hamonize.com/metropolis>

Four Score Press Release

FOUR SCORE BARBERSHOP QUARTET IS THE CURRENT COLLEGIATE CHAMPION OF THE FAR WESTERN DISTRICT, ONE OF THE SIXTEEN DISTRICTS THAT MAKE UP THE BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY (SPEBSQSA). THE MEMBERS HAVE ENTERTAINED A VARIETY OF AUDIENCES IN MANY VENUES ACROSS THE USA AND OVERSEAS.

HOSTED BY THE PALOMAR PACIFIC CHAPTER OF SPEBSQSA, THE QUARTET PERFORMED AT SEVEN SAN DIEGO AREA HIGH SCHOOLS ON WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, AND FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 8, AND 9, 2004.

ONE OF THEIR GOALS IS TO ENCOURAGE SINGING, BOTH IN THE SCHOOLS, AND AS A LIFELONG AVOCATION. THEY HAVE MADE THEMSELVES AVAILABLE FOR COACHING AND DEMONSTRATION SESSIONS TO MANY GROUPS.

THE QUARTET WAS FOUNDED IN MAY 1999 AT VALHALLA HIGH SCHOOL IN SAN DIEGO'S EAST COUNTY. ALL QUARTET MEMBERS WENT ON TO GRADUATE FROM VALHALLA AND NOW ATTEND VARIOUS COLLEGES THROUGHOUT CALIFORNIA:

THE MEMBERS ARE:
ANDREW BEARDEN (TENOR) IS A 4TH YEAR MUSIC MAJOR AT SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

MATTHEW SHOEMAKER (LEAD) IS A 2ND YEAR HISTORY AND ECONOMICS MAJOR AT UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT BERKELEY

MATTHEW FELLOWS (BARITONE) IS A 3RD YEAR MICROBIAL BIOLOGY MAJOR AT UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT BERKELEY

JASON JAMES (BASS) IS A 3RD YEAR BUSINESS AND FINANCE MAJOR AT UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO.

**How Do You Tame
Wild Hogs?**

**Put 'em On
STAGE**



2003-4 FWD Chorus Champions Westminster

Sean Devine, President

We were so proud to be the guests of the **Santa Fe Springs Chapter** for their annual Installation&Awards Banquet on January 10. The Westminster Chorus entertained the 200+ **Masters of Harmony** family and friends, including guest speaker **Jim Clancy** (director of the 10-time International Champion Chorus, **The Vocal Majority**). Our chapter quartet, **O.C. Times**, were also featured performers. As a special surprise, the MOH invited the Westminster officers up to be installed together. What a way to start off the new year! We can't thank our "big brother" chorus enough for all they do to support and encourage us.

On January 24 we found ourselves in Fallbrook, CA performing for the annual Pioneers weekend! Both the Chorus and **O.C. Times** were so excited to be invited to perform for this amazing group of barbershoppers! We were honored by the donation that was given by the Pioneers to help us prepare for our trip to Louisville. Thanks so much to **Marcheta** and **Virgil Pletcher** who organized our appearance-we had a blast!

We're really looking forward to Feb. 21, when we'll be the guest performers on the 4th annual Masters of Harmony Youth Festival. The event will consist of a day long clinic for over 300 young men from high schools throughout Southern California, culminating in a joint evening performance with the Masters. **O.C. Times** will also be appearing as the guest quartet, as well as clinicians for the day long workshop.

The **Harmony Showcase Chorus** wishes chapter quartets **O.C. Times** and **Q** much luck as they head to the Spring Prelims in Reno this March 19 and 20 - they'll be rooting you on to Louisville!

We'll be the guests of the Fullerton Chapter on their annual show on April 10-call (714) 680-3656 for more info! Later that month (April 25) we'll be appearing on the Rincon Beach spring show- for more details contact them at (800) 353-1632 or RinconBeach@peachgrove.com.

Calling all quartets! We'll be hosting (and performing) at the 43rd annual Novice Quartet Contest for SoCal, AZ, & NV-

Saturday, March 13 at 7pm. The event will be held in the beautiful Curtis Theatre in Brea (www.curtistheatre.com). For more info on competing or attending, contact us at (714) 847-0787 or pridout@socal.rr.com.

Our trip to the International Chorus Contest this July is fast approaching, and we can't wait! The Chapter would like to thank those of you who have helped us with donations and arranging fundraisers in your area. We are still looking for more opportunities to help offset the cost of getting 30 young performers to Louisville - please feel free to contact us with opportunities you see fit - WestminsterFWD@aol.com or (714) 290-6015.

You can also visit us online at www.harmonize.com/westminster

And, finally, congratulations to director **Terry Ghiselli** and his wife **Jennifer** on the birth of their twin boys! **Jen, Judah**, and **Elijah** are happy and healthy!

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





"He Who Laughs Last"

A Tonic Explosion

A Barbershop Quartet

presents

Comedy With Class

Lowell Reynolds (559) 683-6310
PO Box 475 • Oakhurst, CA 93644
lcrey@juno.com

2004 FAR WESTERN



DISTRICT SPEBSQSA

SOCAL EAST DIVISION CONVENTION

QUARTET AND CHORUS CONTESTS
SATURDAY, MAY 8, 2004

Servite High School Auditorium
1952 West La Palma Avenue, Anaheim, California

Hosted by the Riverside Chapter



Headquarters Hotel: Anaheim Park Hotel (formally Radisson Fullerton) 714-992-1700
222-West Houston Avenue, Fullerton, CA 92832 (only 2 miles from venue)

To register, complete the form below (or copy of it), attach your check made out to NewGang SCE-04, and send them to
Fritz Grunenwald, 26151 Kitt Ansett Drive, Sun City, CA 92586
Questions? Call (909) 679-7254 - Email: NewGangSCE@aol.com

FWD SPEBSQSA SOCAL EAST DIVISION CONVENTION/CONTESTS MAY 8, 2004

REGISTRATION FORM

Please type or print clearly.

NO RESERVED SEATING AVAILABLE

Name _____

Competition Status (check one)

Address _____

☐ Chorus Contestant ☐ Quartet Contestant
☐ Non-Competitive Member ☐ Guest

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Quartet Name _____

Phone Res. (____) _____ Bus. (____) _____

Chapter / Chorus _____

{ Check here 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.

Singing Part: ☐ Lead ☐ Tenor ☐ Bari ☐ Bass

Full Early Bird Registration Type (Check One)	Full Late/On Site Registration Type (Check One)	Single Events Registration Type (Check One)	Official Use Only
<input type="checkbox"/> Full.....\$20.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Child/Student.....\$10.00 EARLY BIRD CUT OFF April 8, 2004	<input type="checkbox"/> Full.....\$25.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Child/Student.....\$12.50 All Competitors Must have FULL Reg.	<input type="checkbox"/> Sat Chorus Contests.....\$15.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Sat. Quartet Finals/Show.....\$15.00 (SOLD ON SITE ONLY)	Date Recd. _____ Check # _____ Badge Code _____ Cash \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____ Please make check payable to: NewGang SCE-04 (Fees are non-refundable)
Return form with payment to: Fritz Grunenwald, 26151 Kitt Ansett Dr. Sun City, CA 92586, (909) 679-7254, Email: NewGangSCE@aol.com

(Optional) Your Email Address: _____ Confirmation only my Email



SOCAL WEST

2004 FAR WESTERN DISTRICT SPEBSQSA DIVISION CONVENTION REGISTRATION QUARTET AND CHORUS CONTESTS



Saturday, May 15, 2004
Ventura High School - 2155 F. Main Street Ventura, CA

Hosted by Rincon Beach Chapter

Convention Headquarters Hotel

Marriott Ventura Beach – 2055 Harbor Boulevard – Ventura 93001 - (805) 643-6000
Ask for Josh Hinks and mention the Barbershop Group for a \$99 double room rate
1.4 miles from the convention auditorium

To register, complete the form below (or a copy of it), to include credit card information
or attach your check made out to: Rincon Beach – SOCALWEST.

Mail the completed form to Dirk Gastaldo, 1541 Old Ranch Rd., Camarillo, CA 93012
Call (800) 353-1632 or eMail Bassor2002@yahoo.com for assistance

Use a separate form for each name. Badges will be available for pickup at the contest.

Cut here

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT SPEBSQSA SOCALWEST DIVISION CONVENTION/CONTESTS
Ventura High School, Ventura, CA – May 15, 2004
Mail completed form to Dirk Gastaldo, 1541 Old Ranch Rd., Camarillo, CA 93012
Call (800) 353-1632 or eMail Bassor2002@yahoo.com - for assistance.

Name _____ Chorus _____ Quartet _____ FWD Officer _____
Address _____ Non-competing _____ Wife _____ Guest _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Chapter/Chorus _____
Phone: Home _____ Work _____ Quartet Name _____
eMail _____ FAX _____ Singing Part: Lead Tenor Bari Bass
Credit Card: Visa Master Card # _____ Expires: _____

Check here if you have a disability and may require accommodation in order to fully participate
in the convention. You will be contracted by phone or email to clarify your needs.

Full Early Bird Registration Type (Check One) **	Full Late/On Site Registration Type (Check One)	Single Events Registration Type (Check One)	Official Use
Full/Competitor \$20.00 Child/Student\$10.00	Full/Competitor.....\$30.00 Child/Student.....\$20.00	Quartet Contest...\$20.00 Chorus Contest...\$20.00	Date Rcvd: _____ Check # _____ Badge Code _____

** EARLY BIRD CUTOFF - Postmark before May 1, 2003



Quartet Corner

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

QUARTET TRIVIA CONTEST

In the 1970's when chapter meetings used to include a program, **Art Taylor** (now of **Rincon Beach**) would have a program of Quartet Trivia. I loved that game even though **Paul Graham** always seemed to win. So let's pretend that we still belong to a chapter with a program and have a trivia contest. Send your answers to me at fossenkemper@earthlink.net. The winner gets a CD of the Portland top 20 quartets. In case of tie a drawing will be held with **Art Taylor** drawing the name.

1. Who replaced Bill Spangenberg in the Buffalo Bills?
2. Who was the first man to win 5 bronze medals?
3. Name two of the songs sung by the Gentleman's Agreement in their New Orleans 1971 victory!
4. Which Champion quartet is this?



5. What quartet appeared on the cover of the first Harmonizer?
6. Name this Champion foursome.



7. Who is "Red" Elliott?
8. Who has won the most quartet medals, how many did he win and what quartets did he sing with?
9. What quartet won in Washington D.C.?

OFFICIAL DELEGATES CALL

**Annual Spring Meeting
FWD House of Delegates
Sparks, Nevada
March 19., 2004**

Dick Girvin, FWD Secretary

To: District House of Delegates (Chapter Presidents or alternates, elected district officers, active past district presidents living in FWD)

When/where: 2 p.m. Friday, March 19, 2004, John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, Nevada

Eligibility (voting members): One delegate (or alternate) from each chapter, elected district officers, and past district presidents living in FWD and who are paid-up members of an FWD chapter in good standing.

Non-voting members: one delegate from chapters on licensed status, or newly formed groups on the date of the meeting, chapter counselors, district coaches and committee chairmen.

Quorum: Thirty percent of the eligible House of Delegates members. (no proxies.)

Registration: Chapter delegates are required to bring with them to the meeting the credentials card which accompanies the HOD report and to present this card to the appropriate credentials officer upon arrival at the meeting.

Agenda: As set forth in the FWD Statement of Policy (Article III) agenda items may be submitted by any Delegate and must be received by the district secretary no later than 45 days prior to the HOD meeting.

Recognition: Only members of the House of Delegates will be recognized for floor privileges.

Visitors: Visitors are cordially invited to attend the House of Delegates meeting, but are requested to refrain from taking seats at the official tables

Show by your prompt attendance and attention that you are sincerely interested in the business and progress of the Far Western District.



A Barbershop Quartet

Especially FOUR You!



Paul Schmidt • 619-282-9561

Bus. 619- 283-1900

4157 Fairmount Ave.

San Diego, CA 92105-1609

Redwoodin@aol.com

Harmony College West 2004

University of Redlands, July 16-18

Note: All classes are tentative until eight or more are signed up and paid on or before Friday, June 25th

Quartet Coaching (quartets only)

Along with our 2002 International Quartet Champion “**Four Voices**” and our 2002/2003 District Silver Medallist “**Hi-Fidelity**”, you will be coached by International and District quartet members, Chorus Directors, certified Judges and Music Coaches to get you “tuned up” to a level you never thought you could achieve, all in one weekend! You will sing better, look better, and come away all charged up with new ideas, new skills and renewed vigor! So get your quartet together and come to HCW for the singing time of your life! **Remember, we had to turn quartets away in 2002 and 2003, so act now!**

Vocal Production

Dr. Rene Torres, an accomplished musician and vocal coach, returns this year to help you with proper voice production techniques, warm-up exercises, physical and mental preparation, and lots of useful singing techniques. You will sing with improved quality, better tuning and you’ll have more fun in rehearsal and on stage. Individual voice coaching of this quality would cost you a ton on the outside...get it here for a bargain and have a ball besides!

Chapter/Quartet Web Site Construction and Administration

Instructor to be selected. How would you like to learn how to create and administer your Chapter or Quartet web site? We will help you unlock the mysteries of web page design. You’ll learn about typography, page layout, image handling, HTML, linking and how to get attention by the most popular internet search engines! You will also learn about web creation tools, and (hopefully) you will get a CD with free web editing tools and a template from which to build a Chapter web site. This will be a very popular class, so sign up early!!

Prerequisite: You must be fairly proficient with a computer and be comfortable in using the internet.

Barbershop Arranging

Instructor to be selected. An accomplished musician, arranger and vocal coach will teach this course at the beginning and intermediate level. This promises to be a great class with lots of techniques being shared on how to craft our barbershop harmony. Space is limited, so sign up right away!!

Prerequisite: You must have some background in music theory, including knowledge of chord construction and harmonic progressions using the circle of fifths.

Young Men in Harmony (YMIH) Seminar

Instructor to be selected. We all have seen the value of exposing young men to the barbershop style of singing. Here is your chance to work with a seasoned pro in the YMIH Program. You will share experiences, techniques and success stories with class members. There will be plenty of discussion time to lay out a plan, develop strategy and support it with Society materials and arrangements for younger voices. Plan on attending this comprehensive and motivating seminar!

Grant Writing Seminar

Michael Frazer will be teaching this excellent class again in 2004. You will gain all the knowledge and skills you need to write effective, successful grant applications. Michael has an impressive background on the subject, and you will take home hard-hitting class materials necessary to be sure that you get funds from companies and foundations for your Chapter needs.

Music Reading Seminar

Instructor to be selected. You will be able to read and rehearse your voice part using the piano keyboard and you will learn how to perform on stage in a quartet setting. Lots of quartet singing, vocal drills and tuning demonstrations will keep you ready for more. All class materials are included, along with some great exercises and techniques from the Quartet Coaching Manual.



Quartet Registration - Harmony College West 2004

July 16-18

Tuition: \$600* includes five meals, on-campus lodging Friday and Saturday night (double occupancy), the Saturday night Show and the Saturday Pizza Party!
(*no commuters, since you will be coached in your rooms)

Quartet Name:					
Quartet Type	Novice	Adult	Senior	Super Senior	College/High School
Quartet Level	Novice	Intermediate	Advanced	Placed ____ at district	Placed ____ at International

Tenor		
Name		
Chapter		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip
Telephone	Email address	
Special dietary needs: please describe		
Special physical needs: please describe		

Lead		
Name		
Chapter		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip
Telephone	Email address	
Special dietary needs: please describe		
Special physical needs: please describe		

Far Western District - Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America

Quartet Registration - Harmony College West 2004

July 16-18

Tuition: \$600* includes five meals, on-campus lodging Friday and Saturday night (double occupancy), the Saturday night Show and the Saturday Pizza Party!
(*no commuters, since you will be coached in your rooms)

Quartet Name:

Baritone

Name

Chapter

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone

Email address

Special dietary needs: please describe

Special physical needs: please describe

Bass

Name

Chapter

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone

Email address

Special dietary needs: please describe

Special physical needs: please describe

Send one check for \$600 payable to "Far Western District HCW" and this form to:

Jim Crowley
3586 Mission Mesa Way
San Diego CA 92120-1559

Note: All forms and fees must be received by Friday, June 25, 2004.

Far Western District - Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America

Individual Registration - Harmony College West 2004

July 16-18

Fees: \$150 tuition includes five meals, on-campus lodging Fri/Sat night (double occupancy), class materials, the Saturday night Show and the Saturday night Pizza Party!
 \$ 95 tuition includes five meals, class materials, Saturday Show and Saturday Pizza Party!

Lodging <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> ___ I will stay in the Dorms (\$150) ___ I will commute each day (\$95) </div>		
Name		
Voice Part <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; width: 100%;"> Tenor Lead Baritone Bass </div>		
Chapter		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip
Telephone	Email address	

Special dietary needs: please describe
Special physical needs: please describe

In the spaces below, check your class selection—if you have a second choice, show “1” for first choice and “2” for second choice.

- ___ Vocal Production
- ___ Chapter/Quartet Website Construction and Administration
- ___ Barbershop Arranging
- ___ Young Men in Harmony (YMIH) Seminar
- ___ Grant Writing Seminar
- ___ Music Reading Seminar
- ___

Send this form and a check for \$150 or \$95 payable to “Far Western District HCW” to:

Jim Crowley
 3586 Mission Mesa Way
 San Diego CA 92120-1559



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.

District Immediate Past President



Also Chair:
Young Men In Harmony
John Krizek
13615 Debby Street
Van Nuys, CA 91401
818-785-0498
E: jkrizek@aol.com

On Becoming a More Multi-Cultural Society

As some of you may know, for the last couple years in addition to serving as Far Western District President, I've been chairman of a Society Multi-Cultural Task Force. Our charge has been to help our Society, and our chapters, "Better reflect the communities we serve." Serving on this Task Force with me have been: **Kenny Hatton** of Bluegrass Student Union fame, who has led minority recruiting efforts in his native Louisville; **Jim Henry** of the Gas House Gang, who's Master's Thesis on the Black Roots of Barbershopping was adapted in a Harmonizer cover article in July/August 2001; **Alan Wile**, EVP of the Mid-Atlantic District and veteran of many Alexandria, VA, chapter community relations activities; and **Dan Washington**, baritone of the Northeast Connection quartet, director of the Beverly, MA, chapter chorus, and a businessman who happens to be Black. Our staff liaison, who has participated in all our discussions has been our own **Greg Lyne**.

We've approached this assignment both with care and urgency. We know, as we become more and more involved in community outreach activities, dealing with schools and community organizations, that we have a unique role in our communities, and both a challenge and an opportunity when it comes to attracting more people to our cause.

Many of us may not see a problem at all—after all, we're open to all "men of good character" who want to sing. But sometimes the rest of the world looks at us and what they see is a lily-white organization. This can be an issue when we are seeking funding support from some community organizations. But whether this is a problem or not, it is a wasted opportunity.

It is especially a wasted opportunity in the Black community. As we know from the work of **Jim Henry**, referred to above, and the teachings and writings on our history by **Val Hicks** and **David Wright**, the contributions of Black culture and quartets a century ago had a lot to do with the development of the barbershop art form. It is a contribution too little appreciated in today's world.

We know race goes away as an issue when the singing starts. We know in time, this issue will go away, as the next generation takes over.

But in the meantime, we are looking for ways to accelerate the process of education and acceptance. We recognize that whatever we do has to be done with care, sensitivity and good taste. We don't want to come across as insensitive or demeaning in any way. We also recognize that there are more men of many cultures—Hispanic, Asian, Mideastern, and others—who deserve the opportunity to share the risers and the stage and the joyful experience of ringing chords with us.

I mention all this because while our work is ongoing, we seek your awareness and concern, and any experiences you may have had in your chapter that you might share, to help open the doors and windows for the rest of us. We can't offer a "guide book" for attracting minorities. We're still working on the right questions, let alone the right answers.

If you've got a situation or an opportunity in your community where you can use some help and advice, let me know. We might be able to provide some tools or guidance. Hopefully a set of articles in a future issue of the Harmonizer will provide a lot of good examples, and advice on this issue. Watch for it.

Let's all work together to "Better reflect the communities we serve." We owe it to them—and to our Society.

Lots of entries are already in --
but there's still time to enter YOUR quartet in the



**Westminster Chapter 43rd Annual
Novice Quartet Contest**
for Southern California, Arizona, and Nevada
7:00 PM, Saturday, March 13, 2004

The Curtis Theater
1 Civic Center Circle
Brea, CA
<http://www.curtistheatre.com/>

**For information and registration materials,
contact the President or Quartet Chairman of
your own chapter, FWD Website, or:**

Contest Chairman: Phil Ridout
6962 Los Amigos Cir. (714) 847-0787
Huntington Beach 92647 pridout@socal.rr.com

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Society Board Member EVG/FWD



Mike Lanctot

5400 Harbour Pointe Blvd K-106
Mukilteo, WA 98275-5155
425-349-1749
E: mjlanctot@msn.com

Greetings Far Western District Barbershoppers:

As your Society Board Member, I am stepping into the sizeable administrative shoes of your own **Dr. Bob House** for the next three years as I serve your district. I will be trying to participate in all of your major District functions. I hope each of you will seek me out, introduce yourself and become good friends as I represent your district, Evergreen District and our Society. Society President, **Rob Hopkins**, wants SBM to participate with District Boards to tackle issues and topics critical to the continued success of our hobby. My role is to work in a team approach to enhance participation and enjoyment of barbershopping.

My articles in *Westunes* are written to promote dialogue and the sharing of ideas. Feel free to contact me at mjlanctot@msn.com or 425-349-1749 if you have input and ideas to share or to debate issues.

Our Society hired a new Executive Director. Daryl Flinn, Exec since 1996, will officially retire in July. The Society Board reviewed the applications of the three top candidates from a field of sixty-seven applicants identified by the Executive Director Search Committee and unanimously selected Donald Harris to lead us. He hails from Dallas Texas. Noteworthy is that he's not a barbershopper [yet], but a businessman with powerful credentials and experience working with non-profit organizations of our size. Don noted that membership and a refocusing of our vision and mission were issues of greatest importance in the near-term. He has vast experience developing strategies for increasing membership in previous non-profit organizations.

Our Society Board is revisiting our vision and strategic plan to address the changing mission and goals of our Society, Harmony Foundation and the future of our hobby in light of the recommendations of the 2003 Governance and Management Task Force Report. It's an exciting time of change and I'm thrilled that we can go down this new path road together. However, it can be difficult and unsettling. One of my responsibilities will be to keep you informed as we continue the process of refocusing our system. I know you'll be pleased with the results to be unveiled in the coming months.

Taking care of the little things....

When I started in the field of education over thirty-five years ago, my first Principal had an old maxim that he lived by – “take care of the little things and the big things will follow.” **John Krizek** reported to the Society Board that there was a dramatic drop of membership in Far Western District during 2003. In fact, membership dropped society-wide in 12 of the 16 districts. With a loss of 136 members (-4.0%) it's obvious that each member and chapter must recommit themselves to membership by – taking care of the little things – for membership retention and growth. Here are a few suggestions for growth:

- Make membership recruitment and retention one of your chapter's top priorities. Make it an individual goal, too.
- Have a process in your chapter to follow-up on members who may have stopped coming to weekly rehearsals.
- Recognize that one-on-one recruitment of new members is the best and most effective way. YOU are our best recruiting tool!
- Become familiar with the many new member recruitment plans developed by our Society and adopt them.
- Develop a plan and strategies to get new members, and keep the members you currently have.
- Plan quarterly activities to seek new members like: Open Houses, Alumni/Old Timers Nights and performances.
- Encourage links with local high schools and colleges.
- Identify and encourage the development of new extension sites, even within your community. The attitude of “not in my backyard” should be discarded. We need to share our hobby!
- Develop marketing tools that each member can use to identify new potential members to share the love of Barbershop with.
- Support of the new chapter member. On average, 50% of the new members drop out in their first year and 50% of the remaining will drop out during the second year.
- Utilize your Chapter Counselor to assist you in helping your chapter develop a new member recruitment plan and campaign.
- Try to have something for everyone when planning your weekly rehearsal program; ask the new members for their ideas.
- Educate your members about easy dues payment plans to help new and veteran members with their annual dues.
- Attend COTS to learn best chapter practices.
- Involve the barbershopper's family in your chapter activities; provide family oriented events at various times during the year.
- Provide an orientation program for the new member and his family so they understand what your chapter does.

The youth outreach activity level in Far Western District impresses me. Your district is one of the YMIH leaders in the Society. We need the infusion of younger talented male singers and your efforts are reaping benefits today and into the future. If each district in our Society adopted your youth outreach plan, we would see the future of the Society laid before us.

I'll be looking forward to seeing many of you at the Spring Prelims and NCENN Convention in Reno in March. Please don't hesitate to step up, shake my hand and bend my ear with your ideas and concerns about our great hobby. I am here to serve you.

Yours for a song,

ARIZONA / SO. NEVADA / SO. UTAH DIVISION CONVENTION

Saturday April 17, 2004

HOSTED BY

Tucson Sunshine Chapter 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

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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

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

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

Well, 2004 is now well underway, and I hope your Chapter is prospering. During the month of January, I had the privilege of being the installing officer for several of the new chapter boards of directors, and I was happy to see them all acknowledging the work of many of their members for last year as well as looking forward to moving ahead in the new year. One of the thoughts I shared with them was the hope that they would make a point this year of exposing their hobby to some new people. Take a moment and reflect on some of the wonderful musical moments you've had singing barbershop; think back to some of the great friendships you've made and the warm camaraderie you've experienced. There's no doubt in my mind that each of your communities contains hundreds if not thousands of men who love to sing and would truly enjoy our style of harmony as well as our fraternal spirit. So, I will issue the same challenge to each one of you as I did to the men at these installations... bring just one visitor to one of your chorus rehearsals this year. If you do, I guarantee you that you will put a smile on his face, and you just might gain a friend for life. By the way if you want to bring two or more, that's okay, too!

One of our division's major events in February is the Seventh Annual Regional High School Choral Benefit held in Thousand Oaks and Ventura. This consists of two shows featuring the top vocal groups from Ventura County High Schools performing along with men's and women's barbershop choruses, and the proceeds help fund high school music programs in the area. The festivities are emceed by **Dick Van Dyke** who also performs with his quartet, the **Vantastix**. I would like to acknowledge the hard work of Chairman **Larry Nixon** of the **Conejo Valley Chapter** for making this important event happen. He is helped immensely by several members of the **Harmony Oaks Chorus**, the **Rincon Beach Chapter** and the **Channel Island Clippers** of Ventura as well as several Sweet Adeline groups. This year is the first to also include a day long seminar and workshop for all the High School singers with **Jim DeBusman** from the Kenosha Staff as head clinician aided by **Ken Potter** of Pacific Sound and **Bobbette Ganz** of the Channelaire Chorus. New fans are always made for the barbershop style.

Finally, I hope you're all looking forward to our Division Convention and Contest in May as much as I am. It's a great time to see all your old friends as well as do some serious singing. As a plus, you'll get to hear some of the best Barbershop singing in the world... and that's not an exaggeration! There will also be a meeting of all the Chapter Presidents of our Division, and I look forward to sitting down with all of you.

Until then, keeping ringing those chords!

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

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

CONEJO VALLEY**RED EHRENBACH**

We have had about five new guests in the last few weeks, and they are working hard to learn the songs we will sing at the High School Choral Benefit Show. We expect them all to become Members very soon. We expect about 250 singers on stage for the finale, which will include The Harmony Oaks Chorus, The Sweet Adeline Chorus from Agoura Hills, and the High School Choirs doing *Anything You Can Do, I Can Do Better*, with **Dick Van Dyke** as the Star.

RINCON BEACH**BOB LALLY**

Here is a chapter on the move. Literally. Director **Ken Potter** and chapter moved to their new facility at the beginning of the year and are totally delighted with it. The **Curtain Call** quartet consisting of **Bob Cathaway**, **Max Frickey**, **Don Kileen** and **Jim Serdahely** are off to Biloxi, Mississippi to represent **Pacific Sound** and the FWD in the International Seniors Quartet Contest. Immediately on their return, the chapter will be gearing up to perform and assist at the 7th Annual High School Choral Benefit Show in Ventura. **Dick Van Dyke** will return as Master of ceremonies. **Pacific Express** quartet consisting of **Kent Brahams**, **Max Frickey**, **Babe Silva** and **Paul Silva** will be appearing on KSBY-TV February 10 to advertise Singing Telegrams.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEYAIRES**DON HEIST**

The recent installation dinner proved to be an extra special event with two members, **J.R. Rodriguez** and chapter director **Tom Raffety**, receiving their twenty-five year pins with the Society. Tom was also the recipient of a special appreciation certificate and J.R. was awarded *Barbershopper of the Year [BOTY]*. **Ben Marder**, Chapter Development VP announces two new members to the risers, **Brian Haulk** and **Mark Tillman**.

SANTA BARBARA**NATHAN STAPLES**

The **Channel City Chorus** enjoyed a very active holiday season, with about ten performances in the first 20 days of December! On January 10, our 2002 *BOTY* **Michael Frazer** and wife **Maybel** organized a wonderful Officer Installation Banquet, with lots of great authentic Filipino dishes at the Santa Barbara Filipino Community Center. All four **Vocal Maturity Quartet** members ran away with the awards: baritone **Don Scott** and tenor **Wally Crane**, were inducted into the Channel City Chorus Hall of Fame, lead **Bob Wilke** received the President's Award, and bass **Ed Morin** received 2003 *BOTY* for the second time in his 24 years as a member (in addition to 1999 *Barbershopper of the Decade!*). Rookie of the year went to our energetic new lead/baritone, **Peter Drew**.

SAN LUIS OBISPO**BRUCE MILLER**

The December 7th Christmas Parade was a great time. **Louise**

Justice, Grants Coordinator for the city of San Luis Obispo, joined the chorus on the float. The crowds were very enthusiastic and receptive. December 13th was the annual Toys for Tots performance at the SLO Veterans Hall. Attendance was good and many toys were collected. Welcome to three new members on the risers, **Jeff Elliott**, **Duane Hamann**, and **Dane Howalt**. Barberpole pins were awarded to: **George Loose**, **Brian Davin**, and **John Staley** for completing all 12 songs in the Polecat program.

SANTA FE SPRINGS

KIRT THIESMEYER

The **Masters of Harmony** held their annual banquet and installation of officers in January, a smash hit MC'd by "**Unca Lloyd**" **Steinkamp** and featuring special guest speaker **Jim Clancy**, music director of perennial champions **The Vocal Majority**. Chapter awards were presented to the deserving few and then Mr. Clancy installed the new officers and President **Ken Custer**, whose theme for his administration will be "*Thinking Outside the Box*" – highly appropriate as we move into a contest cycle in which the competition has never been more formidable. One new face graces our risers, bass **Kevin Brown**. All of our recent members are immersed in their studies for Masters University, our training program for hopeful future medal winners.

We expect a very successful Singing Valentines program spread over February 13 and 14, staged by **Joel Levitz** and **Jennifer Lorton** from our sister Harborlites Chorus, assisted by long-time fourman **Lefty Parasson**.

Over 200 young men from area high schools are expected to participate in an all-day festival sponsored by the **Masters of Harmony** and the *Southern California Vocal Association* at Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa on February 21. Augmented by performances from **O.C. Times** quartet, the Westminster Harmony Showcase Chorus and the MOH, the students will learn singing and presentation techniques and barber-shop basics, and then participate as a young men's chorus in a fine evening show for family and friends. This is a wonderful investment in our posterity.

The MOH is expanding its fan base to include participatory sports: baseball, bicycle riding, and the newly inaugurated Harmony Hikers. And what do they do at the end of the trail? Sing, naturally. Quoting a famous baseballer for the encouragement of new members: "Stay alert. You can observe a lot just by watching" – Yogi Berra.

Visitor Caution: Don't forget. Until further notice, our regular rehearsals are at Artesia High School, 12108 Del Amo Blvd. in Lakewood, 7:30 p.m. For further information, call (888) MOH-TUNE (664-8863) or check the website, www.mastersofharmony.org.

SANTA MONICA

JERRY WALKER

The **Oceanaires** had many holiday performances, including the UCLA hospital and the Century City Shopping Center.

In January, the **Oceanaires** installed their new slate of officers this year with FWD VP **Bob Lally** officiating. **Tom Laskey** is the new President and **Ken Scholtz** Chorus Manager. They will be supported by **Bruce Schroffel**, VP Program; **Marty Mitnick**, VP Development; **Dick Keagy**, VP Music; **Jerry Walker**, VP Public Relations; **John Smurda**, Treasurer; **Sam Samstag**, Secretary; and **Terry O'Shaughnessy**, Librarian. The "*Rookie of the Year*" award went to **Aaron Mood**, who joined the **Oceanaires** in May. He was also inducted into the Ancient Harmonious Society of Woodsheddors at the FWD Convention in Bakersfield, approved as a tenor and baritone.

Bruce Schroffel was awarded "*Journeyman of the Year*" by Director **Todd Benton** and **Terry O'Shaughnessy** was honored with the "*President's Award*". Quartet and chorus gold medalist, and Oceanaire veteran, **Earl Gauger** received the chapter's coveted *BOTY* Award.

On sad note, we are sorry to report the passing of long-time Oceanaire, **Bill Fulkerson**. In a moving memorial service organized by **Jim Leedom** and **Hank Marting**, Hank led attendees in Coney Island Baby, one of Bill's favorites. **Steve Demmer**, **Jack Fry**, **Sammy Lai**, and **Harry Stasney**, members of the quartet, **Recall**, performed from "From the First Hello" for a brother we loved and will miss deeply.

SANTA MARIA

LU HINTZ

Congratulations to chapter president **Gene Kai** who has accepted the responsibilities of being area counselor for the Lompoc and San Luis Chapters. Gene will also be performing in the capacity of interim director to replace **Brad Bormann**. Even though stepping down for health reasons, **Brad and Evy Dykema** agreed to be co-chairpersons again for the 2004 fall show. Chapter Music Librarian **Bill Young** received his 52nd year membership renewal. Congratulations! **Chuck Fredrickson** and his bride **Barbara** celebrated 50 Years of wedded bliss.

VENTURA

KEITH BOGOST

The **Channel Island Clippers** are celebrating 50 years of harmony. The last performance of the **Ventura Blvd Quartet** [**Bob Haynes**, **Bill Minea**, **Don Hansen** and **Dan Love** who is leaving the area] was December 16th at the Camarillo Mobile Home Park.

Bob Lally, FWD DVP, officiated at the installation of new chapter officers: **Keith Bogost**, President; VP Chapter Development, **Bill Butala**; VP Program, **Wayne Rear**; and VP Music and Performance, **Jim Sumstine**. Following the installation, the chorus sang for the audience, followed by **The Ancient Mariners** (**Wayne Rear**, **Ron Derrico**, **Chuck Killen** and **Keith Bogost**), **Take Four** (**Jim Sumstine**, **Bill Butala**, **Tom Leese** and **Gary Rice**) and **Harmony Channel** (**Duane Ashby**, **Bruce Hunter**, **Doug Van Bogelen** and **Brent Burningham**). The coveted *BOTY* went to **Ron Derrico**. The *Rang Hansen* award went to **Wayne Rear** and the *Gordon Petrie* award to **Jim Sumstine**. The Clippers participated in the annual Dave and Bob Talent Show on January 31 for an 11th straight year, raising funds for the Special Olympics.



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2004 is already in full swing with shows, conventions, recruitment campaigns, coaching sessions, social events, etc. all in the works. I'm looking forward to meeting with my SoCal East Presidents for the first time on February 21st. We have a lot to discuss and a lot to plan. So much can be achieved by co-operation and the sharing of ideas. We will motivate each other and come up with things that are bound to help us all enjoy our barbershop hobby even more.

One of the first events of the year that will bring many of us together will be the Society's Roadshow. It's coming to town soon (Los Angeles on March 23rd and San Francisco on April 27th) and for sure going to be a very memorable evening. The man who will be running the L.A. "show" will be Kenosha's **Bill Rashleigh**. I don't know what it is about Bill, but he cracks me up all the time. I can't wait to see what he's got in store for us that night. I'm expecting a big big turnout. Stay tuned for the location (which at this time has still not been secured). The FWD web site will be the place to get more information, plus I'll be e-mailing reminders to each SoCal President.

Now is the time, SoCal East guys, to think about recruitment. BTW, the Roadshow would be a great place to introduce a guest to barbershopping). In Northern California lives one of the greatest recruiters that our Society has ever had – **Jerry Orloff**. He never misses an opportunity to talk about our hobby. "You have a great speaking voice", Jerry will say to stranger. "Did you ever do any singing?" It's a great dialogue that readily opens doors and brings in new members. When I started my real estate career fifteen years ago, the broker's training director told us: "speak to as many people as you can; tell them what you do; make them like you". He could have been talking about how to recruit men into our hobby! I'd add a few words to the end, though, to make it read "make them like you and your hobby". If we all became big mouths and talked about what we love to do, we'd double our membership in months. Trust me. Or better still, trust **Jerry Orloff**. He's recruited men by the hundreds by being a big mouth (sorry Jerry – that's a compliment).

There are 18 chapters in SoCal East. Each one is doing something right ... and each one is doing something wrong. I'm planning for us to learn how each of us is faring. By meeting on a regular basis, we'll help each other improve. And meetings don't have to be in person. This is the electronic age. We can chat and share and plan by e-mail. I have set up a ListServ for the Division leaders and we're going to use it. I'm thinking of us as a team. We're going to try to lead the District by our "team-manship". And if no such word exists, then we in SoCal East are going to make it exist! Go SCE, go SCE.

APPLE VALLEY

Another great issue of the full-color *Desert Breeze* (www.bshop-news.com) reports that *BOTY* was awarded to Editor **Max Maxwell** at the installation meeting for 2004 with **Hal Waggoner** deftly emcing the event. Everyone agrees that Max will be missed when he ("retires" and) leaves later this year for Texas! Prior to the official opening of their rehearsal for the evening on 1/12, Hal got some of the men together who are going to sing on the Pomona Show in April, to take a stab at a first-time-run-through of "Five Foot Two." It was a lot of fun, and showed great promise for the future.

They have been working with **Kristen Taylor** the last few weeks as a possible new director. Chapter members report that she is so congenial and willing to learn the barbershop directing style, that it is a joy to watch her.

COACHELLA VALLEY

Both membership and attendance are reported up again this year, resulting in a couple of more men on the risers.

Ric Walker, a 'Snow Bird', dual member from Wisconsin (Thanks, Eau Claire), who with his wife, lives in their 5th wheel RV when here, went door to door, (or rather, RV to RV) to promote a "Pot Luck & Barbershop Harmony" party that he (invented) and **Don Preston**, who is another RV park resident 'Snow Bird' chorus member, organized for the residents of their RV park.

The audience brought their own food, utensils and drink, and they all paid \$5 per person for the show. The chorus and three quartets sang for them for an hour and the result was a check for \$905.00(!) from a paid audience of 181, recruited by Ric and Don, who publicized it, set it up and cleaned up afterward!. Many, perhaps half, of those in the audience were also in their audience a month later at their show.

EL CAJON

The **Music Masters** were glad when they finally got their new director **Tom Anderson**, but now, after a couple of months, they are really excited. Tom brings enthusiasm, knowledge and energy but best of all, his discipline and absolute love of a song well sung, is infectious. Everyone looks forward to great things for the chapter.

The new administration team for 2004 headed by President **Jim Reid** is off and running for the new year.

Congratulations to *BOTY* **Jim James**.

MAX MAXWELL

TERRY MANN

MIKE DORMAN

FULLERTON

DICK COTE

"Valentine quartets, start your engines," says Program VP and Quartet Development Chairman, Deane Scoville. The chapter is gearing up for another successful and profitable Singing Valentine Program, with **Art Clayton** and as the "guru".

Al Bell officiated at the awards banquet and gave his secrets to a successful installation: Keep it short; Make it personal; Make it simple; and make it a contract.

Mike Werner, basso-profundo, reports that "it's great to be back with Fullerton," citing **Craig Ewing** as director as one of the reasons he returned after five years absence in other local chapters.

Board Member for Life, **Stan French**, reports that "*Harmony For Lunch*" has a "guest list" that runs into the hundreds.

HEMET

BRUCE SMITH

Clay Panlaqui, VP Music and Performance in Upbeat's monthly column subtitled Habit vs. Attitude, points out that singers develop their own singing habits (good and bad) and usually someone comes along and tries, to change how they sing and to make a different sound from at they are used to feeling and hearing. "Last year," he opines, "we spent a lot of time trying to shape the mouth (externally) to produce a proper vowel sound...and this year, we are going to do more of the same.... Change is coming, so take an active part."

A survey is being conducted to determine the desires of the membership on what they want to do and how they want the chapter to develop. President **Dale Covey** urges all to do their bit to stem the membership erosion and bring barbershop style music back to the public view. "If we don't do it, who will?" he asks.

LA JOLLA

MICHAEL BAUER

After a holiday season full of concerts and guest appearances, the **Pacific Coast Harmony Chorus** is busy learning new songs, brushing the dust off the Singing Valentine favorites, and preparing for a "May Day" Spring concert at the Quail Valley Botanical Gardens.

SoCal East Vice President **Bernard Priceman** installed the 2004 Board of Directors at the chapter's very first installation banquet.

The chapter president, **Steve Bates**, recently introduced the chorus to the La Jolla Town Council, but the real crowd-pleaser was a demonstration of what Barbershop is all about when the quartet "**A Touch of Class**" sang two songs for the council.

As they approach their second anniversary, they report that are continuing to build their repertoire, and are actively promoting the formation of quartets.

PALOMAR PACIFIC

KEITH MULFINGER

Staff writer for the chapter bulletin *Clef Notes*, **Gene Hartzler**, (and Barbershopper Of The Month) points out in his front page column that The Palomar Pacific Chapter is looking forward to

October, 2004 and the celebration of their 50th year of existence in the annals of SPEBSQSA. Then International Board member **Reddie Wright**, and District Secretary **Gerry Graham** were signers of their charter in 1954 along with PalPac locals **Charles Sayre**, **Gene Mapes** and **Jack Story**, the only charter member still active in the group.

Editor **Keith Mulfinger** lists his Barbershop heroes in an inspiring piece to the chapter.

POMONA VALLEY

CHUCK MASON

The **Pomona Valley Carousel Chorus** enjoyed a great year; they participated in three fund raisers at The California Speedway; a wonderful Spring Show at Gardner Spring Auditorium; a very successful Christmas program, and a number of performances during the year that helped their hobby grow. They also enjoyed a great "*Ladies Night Out With the Chorus*" last August, and look forward to that becoming an annual event.

Sy Bart and **Dennis Shearer** remain as their Musical Director and Assistant Director, which pleases everyone as they report that they feel quite blessed to have these men leading their chorus.

97% of the chorus and their spouses attended their Installation Dinner on January 17, where they joined in a great dinner, entertainment and installation.

RANCHO BERNARDO

JIM LARKIN

Rancho Bernardo's weekly hand-out bulletin, *The Troub-A-Doer* has undergone a "face-lift" from the single black-and-white sheet distributed at each meeting. The new, good looking *Troub-A-Doer* is a four page, full color newsletter which is scheduled for distribution monthly to all members, active or inactive.

President **Don Goddard**, in his Presidential Prose column opined that "regular people" have musical expertise." He then, called on all members to make a personal commitment to "reducing their interference i.e. fear, doubt and anxiety to express their latent talent." To produce better performances, he recommended the works by **Dr. Greg Lyne**, **Larry Ager**, **Barry Green** and **Timothy Gallwey**—available at the Harmony Marketplace.

The women's auxiliary is being restarted, according to Coordinator **Maxine Monzo**.

RIVERSIDE

HEDLEY DUNCAN

Thanks to **Kevin Price**, **The New Gang on The Corner's** website is up and running. Check them out at www.thenewgang.org.

Notice: they moved their meeting place to St Paul's United Methodist Church in San Bernardino—come visit!

The installation dinner held at **Steve Caldwell's** house and **Dick Girvin**, past FWD president was installing officer. Congratulations to the incoming president, **Bill Shova** was also named *BOTY*. **Hedley Duncan** will be Secretary/Treasurer.

**FWD DVP for Division 3 NCWH****Dick Whitten**

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The NorCal West/Hawaii Division is alive and well! Since taking office I have had the privilege of talking to a number of the presidents in our division. It seems we are a very busy group of chapters and there have already been a couple of events.

The combined Norcal Presidents meeting will be held prior to the Novice Quartet and High School Quartet Contest on February 22nd in Walnut Creek. At the time I'm writing this there are no results, but from talking to the organizers and planners it's going to be a great event. Many changes occurred. The venue changed and the date and time were scheduled to cause the least amount of interference with other chapters and events.

The communication of events and the timing is an area in which we need to do a better job. In the past, when chapters applied for their ASCAP license the District secretary would clear the calendar and it would be published on the back of Westunes. This made it possible for chapters to know if they were planning events that were in competition with other chapters for ticket sales for their event. As we become less communicative we find we are also later in our planning. The date appears on the calendar the month of the event, and none of the neighboring chapters can come and support the event because they have scheduled a coaching session or tech rehearsal on the same day. We need to attend neighboring chapter events to support each other as well as get different ideas about doing things. We can learn many things through active participation with other chapters by visiting chapter meetings as a group.

We also need to recognize when a neighboring chapter is crying for help. There is nothing wrong with hiring a neighboring chapter to put their show on in your city as a guest performer. You control the ticket sales and the revenue. Pay them expenses or a fee and you reap the profits. The city fathers can attend and hear what it sounds like and learn to support the group that resides in their city. We all are aware that recruitment is becoming a critical issue in our Society, and nothing supports recruitment better than a great Barbershop sound. The old question we used to hear all the time was, "Are they good because they are big, or are they big because they are so good?" Great sound will attract good singers. We are all in this hobby because of the music. The music is our product, but it is also our most important tool for attracting new singers.

**Division 3 NCalW Editor****John Heather**

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I would like to introduce myself to you. I joined the society in 1990 as a member of the **San Mateo Chapter "The Golden Chordsman"** and assumed the editorship of the Chord Courier when **Bob Allen** passed away, many of you old timers will know Bob, and his shoes were hard to fill.

After about 3 years publishing the Chord Courier I transferred to the **Palo Alto Mountain View Chapter "The Peninsulairs"**. They had a struggling news letter that eventually died so I took on the task of reviving it and to date it is doing fine.

In my business life. I started with the BBC in London and was hired by Ampex of Redwood City and finished my working life at Sony. I am still involved with Television but now from the other side of the camera with a group of seniors producing TV shows for Public Access. You might like to take a look at our web site www.thebetterpart.com for more details.

BAY AREA METRO**TOM ENNIS**

December is usually a busy month for choruses and the **Pot O' Gold** Chorus was no exception. Although our holiday singing season really started in November with the Danville Christmas Tree Lighting, that was just a warm-up. On December 7th, Bay Area Metro presented their annual Christmas Cabaret to a sold out crowd of enthusiastic fans in Livermore. Joining BAM in the vocals was guest quintet **Meritage**.

The following week we presented our Christmas Show to a sell-out appreciative crowd enjoying the musical styling's of the **Pot O' Gold** Chorus who were joined by the **San Ramon Valley High School Chamber Singers**. Two more shows were presented at the Mormon Temple in Oakland. If you ever get the chance to view the temple grounds during the holiday season, take it. The lighting and decorations are out of this world.

Jim Clancy joined us for a coaching session on January 12th. We were looking forward to a coaching session with **Cindy Hansen** on the 19th but she had to postpone it due to illness.

EUREKA**AL STROM**

I received an E Mail from Al saying that he has just come out of hospital after having a stroke and is having to take it easy for a while, although it has not stopped him singing. I am sure that all of you will wish Al a speedy recovery and look forward to articles from him in the future. JH.

FREMONT/HAYWARD**RAY SPINOSA**

The **New Dimension** Chorus participated in the annual city of Hayward Christmas celebration, performing holiday songs in the city hall rotunda. Later, the chorus took to the adjacent street festival entertaining inside the downtown barbershop. A new Christmas tradition has begun!

In January, the chapter held its annual installation dinner. New President **Kevin Smith**, VP Music and Performance, **Demaster Survine**, VP Marketing **Ed Ocampo**, VP Chapter Development,

Lance Mangano, Secretary/Treasurer **Ray Spinosa**, Immediate Past President **Gordon Keeney** and Member at Large **Brian Carter** were installed by chapter counselor, **Ollie Brilhante**. The **Town Square Harmonizers** quartet provided entertainment.

ALOHA

ED REID

The **Sounds of Aloha** Chorus participated in the 2003 FWD Fall Convention in Bakersfield. The Fall Convention was dedicated to non-other than our own **Bill Joor** for close to 50 years of Barbershopping excellence. Called "*Mr. Barbershop of the Aloha Chapter, the Sandwich Islands, and all points East, West and down Under*," he is certainly deserving of this recognition. Meanwhile, after being away from FWD competition for a few years, our chorus finishes a satisfying 10th. Our **Tropichords** and **Castaways** also competed.

Harmony Explosion was chaired by **Bill Joor** & **Steve Hokanson** and 125 students gathered for two days of barbershop fun and learning. **Eddie Martinez** from Texas was our boy's clinician. The December Christmas show, "*The Elf Who Saved Christmas*" was written by our own comic genius **Ralph Brandt**.

The "change of command" Presidents Ball installed the 2004 Board, lead by President **Glenn Crowder**. **BOTY** for 2003 was **Bob Sypowicz**. Director **Mark Conching** was presented with the Presidents Award.

MARIN COUNTY

RALPH KLING

The holidays were seasoned this past December with a liberal sprinkling of chorus and quartet activities throughout the community and involving our entire membership. Lots of chorus members singing to lots of members of the community both young and old. Chords ringing in hospitals, shopping centers, town squares, retirement communities and private homes bringing the happy sounds of Christmas into our community. Chapter members also entertained hospitalized veterans at the VA Hospital in San Francisco as part of the national 'Salute to Veterans' program.

We now meet in SAN ANSELMO, CA, FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, KENSINGTON ROAD at ROSS AVENUE, TUESDAY, phone number is 415-383-4691

PALO ALTO/MOUNTAIN VIEW

JOHN HEATHER

The **Peninsulairs** formed their Holiday Chorus [for the third year], which is formed from Chapter Members and non members are invited to join us for the Holiday season. This year the Holiday Chorus had 6 performances, the most memorable was two performances at the Stanford Children's hospital. The Holiday Chorus is a good way to get new members interested in the society since they are singing from song books so do not have to commit the music to memory, and also the songs are familiar.

S.F. BAY CITY QUARTET

CASEY PARKER

The Chapter is no longer meeting at Home Town Buffet due to alterations. They now meet at Stuft Pizza or Harry's Hofbrau.

SAN FRANCISCO

DON KINGTON

Saturday night, January 3, Chapter members and their guests gathered for the Annual Installation Dinner. Officially installing the Chapter's officers was veteran barbershop harmony singer, arranger and composer **Paul Engel**. **Gerry Costanza**, long-time and successful Marketing Chairman, was named Barbershopper of the Year for 2003. Chapter President **Fred Merrick** presented three Special Merit Awards: to **Rich Postal** in recognition for outstanding jobs as show chairman for several past years; to **Jerry Lester** for his continuing superior work as webmaster for the Chapter's website, sfcablecarchorus.org; and to **Shel Rosenthal** for repeatedly being top salesman for annual show tickets, program ads and Singing Valentines. Shel was also named Chapter Secretary replacing **Thomas Lubrano** who found it necessary to resign because of a job change. Thomas remains active with the Chorus, however.

SAN JOSE

NEAL CAVANAUGH

CRAFT CORNER

In an effort to help the members of the chorus become more proficient in music, following are some technical definitions to help you understand better our director and the more musically astute members of our chorus.

Adagio fromaggio: to sing in a slow and cheesy manner.

Antiphonal: the prohibition of cell phones in the concert hall.

A patella: unaccompanied knee-slapping.

Bar line: what singers form after a show.

Basso profundo: an opera about deep sea fishing.

Concerto grosso: a really bad performance

D.C al capone: you betta go back to the beginning, capiche?

Frugalhorn: a sensible, inexpensive brass instrument.

Ground hog: someone who takes control of the repeated bass line and won't let others sing it.

Pizzacato: the act of removing anchovies from an Italian dish with short, quick motions and tossing them to a nearby awaiting cat.

Placebo Domingo: a faux tenor.

Schmaltzando: a sudden burst of music from the Guy Lombardo band.

SANTA CRUZ

LAURANCE STERN

Jim Stroupe is serving as interim director of the **Gold Standard** Chorus and still sings lead with **Top of the Mark** quartet. He is a third generation barbershopper. His father sang tenor with the famous **Buffalo Bills**. **Bill Gledhill** had to step down as chorus president because the army now requires extensive travel.

SANTA ROSA

SCOTT DOUGLAS

Harmony Camp, 2003: I had the good fortune to chaperone five Montgomery High students to Harmony Camp, held at Pollock Pines near Placerville. Nearly 100 students were treated to music sessions and rehearsals led by **Gary Bolles**. I watched as the students went through a transformation over the three days. They arrived not knowing what to expect and perhaps without much appreciation of barbershop. Then during the rehearsals,

breakout sessions, tag teaching and quartet performances, they began to come together as singers, joining to build powerful chords that may have surprised them. The weekend concluded Sunday with a concert for parents and guests. It was inspiring to see.

WALNUT CREEK

DICK JOHNSTON

The **Devil Mountain** Chorus staged its annual Christmas show as a timely satire on California politics entitled, "*Will Santa Be Recalled?*". The show featured **KaBLaM** as guest quartet, the **Men's Octet** from U.C. Berkeley, and **The Creeksiders**, a chapter quartet.

Norm Colby was named **BOTY** at the annual installation dinner as **Don Kidder** formally installed the following officers: **Bob Dunn**, President; **Russ Green**, Secretary; **Ron Leiker**, Treasurer; **Dave Wenrich**, Music VP; **Norm Colby**, Publicity VP; and **Jim Dial**, Director at Large. The chapter heartily welcomes the East Bay Chapter, which is merging with Walnut Creek.



FWD DVP for Division 4 NCENN

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Here it comes – Spring. Up here in the North, we like the sound of that. It means the weather gets less foggy and rainy – and snowy. It means we prepare for the Spring Convention and Spring shows. It means we have lots of opportunities to plan for serious fun – like inter-chapter visitations, picnics, competitions, and the like.

We're off to a running start – at least we're off to a run toward a running start. By the time this issue of *Westunes* hits the streets, we will have completed our NorCal Novice Contest and President's Council meeting, MidWinter will be a pleasant memory, and our coffers will be full to overflowing with Singing Valentines performances.

Dead ahead in March and April are the FWD Spring Convention and NorCal East/Northern Nevada Spring Convention (at which the President's Council will again convene), St. Patrick's Day performance opportunities, and a spectacular inter-chapter Road Show in the San Francisco Bay Area.

We'll be discussing and planning ways for even more inter/intra chapter events, such as visitations, picnics, competitions, and – well – ways to have FUN!

Finally, we'll be exchanging ideas, plans, and success stories on how we can grow our membership and keep our current members happy.

Whew! Busy, busy, busy! I'm exhausted – gonna go take a nap, but.....see 'ya around...



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CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

MILES SUTTER

The **Golden Valley Chorus** held its annual senior citizen Christmas dinner show at the Turlock Senior Citizen Center. They provided 10 turkeys for the event with able assistance from their wives. **COLLABORATION** and **SPYN** entertained the audience before, during and after the show.

The 7th Annual Chorus Installation and Awards ceremony was spearheaded by **BRUCE SELLNOW** and **DICK COMPTON**. Installing officers were **JIM TURNMIRE** and **BILL CALE**.

The 2003 **BOTY** was presented to **MILES SUTTER**, the humble bulletin editor and valued chorus member. He has been a barbershopper since 1957.

CHICO

LEE ATKINS

The Chico Chapter now meets at the Chico High School in the choral room thanks to their first Harmony Jamboree. They talked to **Lyn Bankhead** at Chico High School about her two quartets and she proposed the **BIDWELL GENERALS** become a part of the Chico Academy for the Arts. As part of this program they will have some 10-12 young men from her Men's Chorus joining in.

DAVIS-VACAVILLE

DAVID ROY

A great group of 2004 chapter officers were installed in January and we all have high hopes that together we can make great things happen for Davis-Vacaville.

Sadly, **DON KIDDER**, chorus director for many decades, resigned last October. He will be missed by all. This man has been an icon in the Davis-Vacaville Chapter. **LYNN SEDGLEY** has graciously stepped in as our interim director. A group headed by **BOB HANSEN** has been assembled to form a committee for a Director Search. If you know of anyone who may be interested, please contact Bob at (530) 753-7336 (e-mail: rjhansen@ucdavis.edu) or **Claude Rohwer** at (530) 758-5944 (e-mail: crohwer@pacific.edu).

FRESNO

GORDON BERGTHOLD

A new year and new challenges are facing the **Gold Note Chorus**. The chapter held their annual installation dinner buffet style. **Bruce Sellnow** from the **Central Valley Chorus** was asinstalling officer. **Chuck Irwin** was installed as our President for 2004 and his team of able-bodied men met Saturday to plan out the year.

Our **BOTY** is **Doug Yarrow**; he is bass section leader, on the music team, chorus manager and bass of **BOB** quartet. Needless to say, Doug was very surprised by this honor. The **Gold Note Chorus**, **BOB**, **Sierra Chord Express** and **Late Night Barbershop** entertained the guests with several songs.

Gary Smith is a dual member who doesn't get enough singing one night a week, so he travels to Fresno on Mondays to satisfy his cravings for harmony. He was named co-Barbershopper Of the Year in the **Visalia** Chapter.

NEVADA PLACER

ROGER PERKINS

The **Sierranaders** performed at the annual Victorian Christmas celebration on December 3 and 10 in Nevada City. This has become an annual event for the chapter. The streets were crowded with visitors and shoppers who stopped to listen and enjoy Christmas Carols sung in barbershop harmony. On the first evening we were joined by **CHRIS HARTWRIGHT**, a barber-shopper from England who was visiting **DENNIS LLOYD**.

Chapter advisor **PAUL GREISEN** installed officers on January 3 at Sizzler Restaurant in Auburn. **DEAN RICE** will be chapter president for the third year in a row.

NORTH VALLEY

PAT LYNCH

The **Sound of the Foothills** performed several singouts during the holidays - two tree lightings, two rest homes, a downtown preview, plus the annual singout at historic Bidwell Mansion in Chico, not to mention two chapter holiday potlucks with lots of singing. All this after putting on our annual show!

Last year was the advent of the chapter bulletin 'The Crescendo'. Our newsletter staff finished the year with a fancy picture collage insert of chorus members. **PROBE** mentors were astounded at the quality of this 'rookie' newsletter after only three issues and gave it high marks.

The chorus also hosted its first "Open House/Guest Night" in several years and it was a HUGE success by any standard. Of the 25 guests who came, several have returned. Good planning with participation by the whole chorus was the main factor to its success.

PLACERVILLE

FRANK MARTIN

Ron Murray has a very active YMIH program and reports that twice last year the chapter introduced barbershop singing to 600 students. One result was the two quartets that formed and performed on their Fall show.

The **Gold Rush Chorus** had a highly successful sold out fall show. They sold a lot of raffle tickets taking in \$870 for the Young Men In Harmony Program. For the first time ever they had a boy's and girl's high school quartet from Ponderosa High School included in their School Visiting Program.

Chapter counselor and NCENN DVP **Clark Abrahamson** installed officers at the annual installation dinner.

REDDING

JAMES BLOMSTER

Redding **Riverside Chorus** is beginning 2004 with enthusiasm. James writes: I have only been involved in barbershop for a short time, but the rewards have been great. Our organization has a

fine director, **Dan Warner**, who has the patience and musical talent to bring out the best in all of us. We have a very loyal and hardworking group of men both on the board and in general membership. There are several of us in the group who are new. We have been given the opportunity to serve on the board this year and give the "old timers" a well-deserved rest. We are thinking of ways to recruit new members and also to get more exposure in our community. Throughout the year, we perform public service shows for folks in retirement homes and convalescent hospitals, as well as a performance at our city hall, which is always fun. We also have a great time on Valentine's Day. We would like to see our chorus grow a bit and are willing to put in the time and effort that it takes to keep an organization healthy.

RENO

DAVE RAMER

2003 was good but 2004 is lining up to be great! The Chorus finished the old year by presenting our Christmas show at Trinity Episcopal Church, downtown Reno. We had a full house. They also came to hear "Q" our District Champion Quartet. We performed our annual performance for Washoe Medical Hospital Staff and every floor had Christmas music sung to them.

We now turn to preparations of promoting Barbershop style music for our annual Youth Harmony Festival in early February. We're working hard to be ready as the Far Western District, International Quartet Prelims and Norcal East Division Contest is but weeks away. March 18th-21st, 2004. See ya here!

SACRAMENTO

FRANK KINNISON

Clark Abrahamson, Chapter Development VP, reports that at the beginning of 2003 he set an aggressive goal of 80 members by the end of the year. He reports 74 members which is a net gain of 11, only 6 shy of the goal.

Larry Larson was *BOTM* for October. He works diligently at keeping the coffeepot filled and besides singing a good tenor gives the Capitolaire constant support. *BOTM* for November was **Ed Lucas**, who is there to help wherever needed. New members include **Steve Matthews**, and his father-in-law, **Tony Prowense**;oth transferred from the Nevada-Placer Chapter.

The Capitolaire had a successful holiday show at the Towe Auto Museum in Old Sacramento. The show called "*Planes, Trains, and Automobiles*" was written by Alan Levezu and **Eric Brickson**.

They also performed at the Capitol Rotunda, the Folsom Tree Lighting, and a show in Lincoln Hills. The show headliner was **Essential Harmony** from the **Nevada-Placer Chapter**. *Silent Night* was performed by **Derby**, with **Don Salz'** wife, **Rosye**, singing an Indonesian descant.

STOCKTON

KEP KEPLINGER

The **Portsmen** fall show was well received with the performance of seven songs which were interspersed with quartets from the chorus, **No Contest** and **Mallwalkers**. The young ladies of **Hot Commodity**, students at U.C. Berkeley, Stockton Delta College,

UCD and UOP, began the run of class acts. **Whirlwind** got a great response from the audience and **Jordan Litz** got an ovation for the song in which he was featured. The featured guest quartet **Late Night Barbershop** topped off a really great show.

Installation of the 2004 Board of officers was held with 52 members and guests present.

VISALIA

DEE BAUGHMAN

The **Mighty Oak Chorus** implemented a Barbershop program in all four of our local High Schools in Visalia. Once a week Associate Director **Lance Jepsen** and other members of the Chorus meet with each high schools men's choir for an hour to teach barbershop harmony. All of the school's choral directors have embraced the program. An article appeared in the local newspaper recently about the success of the program.

The **Mighty Oak Chorus** will be participating in the "Singing Valentine" program for the first time.

Jim Turnmire, FWD Chairman CDD, inducted new President **Gary Smith**, **Bob Peden** VP of Music and Performance and **Dave Warner** VP Membership. And for the very first time there were two **BOTYs**, **Gary Smith** and **Floyd "Doc" Elliott**.



FWD DVP for Division 5 Az/SNv/SUt

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I cannot believe it is time for another article. I am sure I just completed one a week or so ago. I am very happy to say many things are moving along at a rather rapid pace here in the Division. In this short time as your Division VP, I have had the opportunity to install chapter officers in two of the Division Chapters and have attended three chapter shows so do not be surprised if I show up on your door step in the near future. I am pleased to say that plans for the Division Contest are well under way by the **Tucson Sunshine Chorus** and their Convention Team. As you probably noticed in the last issue of Westunes, the Division Convention Registration Form has already been released so please take a few minutes to fill it out and send it in for a good fun filled weekend in Phoenix April 17, 2004. I know each chapter president has been contacted via email about the convention and there is plenty of information on the Tucson website as well as the District and Divisions websites. As more information is released, it will be posted so please stay tuned.

I am also very pleased to say that YMIH is alive and well in Phoenix, Tucson, Sierra Vista and maybe others I am not aware of. By the time you read this article, we will have manned a booth at the *Arizona Music Educators Conference* at Arizona State University in Phoenix and hopefully will have made a lot of contacts with Music Educators throughout Arizona. We were

able to present a Power Point Program on a laptop computer as well as provide music and videos for the Music Educators to see and hear. I anticipate it will be a very successful event and a big stepping stone for us to provide a lot more help in our school programs. We are looking at ways to have other areas of the Division including Southern Nevada and Southern Utah become involved in the YMIH program in Arizona as well as in their own states. This year on Friday April 16th before Division Contest we will have a Division Youth Show at the convention location. Several groups of students from the Phoenix, Tucson and Sierra Vista areas have been ask to participate again this year and things are looking good that we will have a good showing of students performing. There will be more coming out on this soon so stay tuned again to your computer and websites.

I am planning to have a presidents meeting at the convention but the time and place has not been finalized yet. I will be posting more on this as the time gets closer. I would challenge each and every chapter president to attend the meeting and meet me face to face before I show up on your door step. Guys and gals, this is our Division and I challenge you to make it the very best it can be and the best in the District. With your help it is no longer a challenge it is real. Lets have a great year, Keep the Whole World Singing and Keep a Melody Ringing In Your Heart while we Teach The Children To Sing.



Division 5 Az/SNv/SUt Editor

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EAST VALLEY

GARY EFRON

We had our induction of officers with emcee **Ivan Jensen**, our Division 5 VP. **Bob Shaffer**, our new and past president, presented our **BOTY** award to **Larry Callagher**, a new award, the President's Award, to **Dick Moore**. We also had our second annual **Dale Wolford** Memorial Luck-Of-The-Draw contest. Five quartets sang. The inductees are: President, **Bob Shaffer**; Secretary, **Loren Englund**; Treasurer, **Lloyd Unfred**; VP Music and Performance, **Ray Kahler**; VP Program and Chapter Development, **Larry Callagher**; VP Marketing and Immediate Past President, **Gary Efron**; and Members at Large **Rod Cardon**, **Dick Moore** and **Jim McClelland**.

We now have four organized quartets: **STRICTLY VINTAGE** [**Lloyd Unfred**, **Larry Callagher**, **Dick Moore** and **Jim McClelland**]; **LOVE@HOME** [**Roger Morrow**, **Bob Shaffer**, **Jerry Fox** and **Ray Kahler**]; **FUN-TASTICS** [**Rod Cardon**, **Gary Efron**, **Loren Englund** and **Terry Gregg**]; and **2 Under Par** [**Barney Griffin**, **Charlie Nardin** and **Gene Baxter**] (looking for a baritone).

East Valley Lamplighters quartets sang for four hours each night for 12 nights at the Luminaria at the Desert Botanical Garden.

GREATER PHOENIX

BILL KANE

The Greater Phoenix Chapter Holiday Party saw an installation of their officers by not one, but TWO past International Presidents. The Society's only father and son to hold the post, **Sam** and **Terry Aramian**, installed the Board and the Music Team: President **Bill Kane**, Secretary **Bill Williams**, Treasurer **Wes Stahler**, Music VP **Ray Estes**, Chapter Development VP **Randy Bingel**, Board Member at Large **Don Leggat**, Co-Director **Russ Young**, Co-Director **Gary Steinkamp**, Assistant Director **Cary Burns**, and Presentation Specialist **Randy Stringfellow**.

DRY HEAT, current Division Senior Quartet Champs had a great time representing the FWD and Greater Phoenix Chapter at the MidWinter Convention in Biloxi.

LAS VEGAS METRO

JOHN KINDE

The **City of Lights** Chorus installed 2004 officers at our banquet in January. President, **Greg Dreyer**; Immediate Past President, **Peter Feeney**; Chapter Development VP, **Dennis Johnson**; Secretary, **Carl Truman**; Treasurer, **Wes White**. **Scott Fewell** continues as director, and **Dick Morrison** continues as Chorus Manager. January also saw the chorus take a road trip for a performance in Moapa.

PARADISE VALLEY

LEN LEVINE

Newly elected officers for the Cactus Chordsmen are **Len Levine**, President; **Bob Hoge**, Treasurer; **Alan Korwin**, VP Membership; **Carl Eckhardt**, VP Music; and **Dave Lyman**, Secretary. Members at large are **Bill Cutler**, **Charlie DeFir** and **Bill Freck**. We are fortunate to have the directorship of **Dan Ryan**.

The chorus presented three shows at the impressive El Pedregal amphitheater in Scottsdale on Jan. 20.

The **Cactus Chordsmen** and all of the greater Phoenix area barbershop community were saddened by the death of longtime member **Lynn Reed**. Many of us will think of Lynn when we hear those incredible barbershop overtones. He was a gentleman.

The chapter sent the Senior Quartet **DRY HEAT** to the International competition in Biloxi.

PRESCOTT

SAM STIMPLE

The Barbershop Christmas Festival turned out to be a great way to introduce barbershop singing to men and boys unfamiliar with singing four-part harmony. Director **Josh Kervin** (no longer interim director) and **Sam Stimple** spent several hours trying to cram about 10 years of barbershop singing lessons into five weeks, climaxing with a performance of four holiday songs at the hosting church that were a big hit. One funny sidelight: The boys couldn't remember his name, so Sam became known as "**Leader Dude**"! In addition, the **High Mountain Chordsmen** had their usual busy schedule of holiday performances.

The Jan. 22 issue of *The Green Sheet*, the chapter's weekly bulletin, was No. 300! The newsletter has had several names, and the chorus has changed directors and meeting places several

times, since the first issue came out on Oct. 24, 1996, more than seven years ago. (Editor's note: Thanks, Sam, for keeping this very informative and entertaining bulletin going all this time!)

ST. GEORGE

KEN SUNDWALL

The St. George Chapter is happy to be experiencing an increase in membership. Recent new members are **Bob Coon**, **Brent Judd** and **Bryce Skelton**. They are a lead, tenor and baritone. (almost a new quartet!) The population of St. George swells dramatically in the winter months when folks from cold, snowy northern Utah, Idaho and other winter climes come south to enjoy the sun. Each year we welcome back "snowbirds" to the town and to the **Color Country Chorus**. Back on the risers with us this year are **Bob Coon**, **Hal Hunter**, **Bob Miller**, **Mel Owen**, **Earl Reed** and **Don Tew**. It's great to have these stellar voices back in time for Singing Valentines and our Annual March Show, and we hope some can stay with us long enough to join us for the Division Contest in April.

SIERRA VISTA

ED RAYMOND

The **Cochise Chordsmen** held their annual Installation Dinner on Jan 10. Our close friend **Charlie Bauder** came down from Green Valley to act as Installation Officer. **Gary Redding** was Master of Ceremonies. The inductees were: President, **Larry Graham**; Treasurer, **Bernie Martus** (who is Past President); Secretary, **Gary Anderson**; VP Chapter Development, **Ed Raymond**; VP Music and Performance, **Paul Godwin**; VP Programs, **Fred Whitley**. BOTY was awarded to **Ed Raymond**. After the ceremony, the audience was treated to selections by our own quartets **WATERING HOLE #3** and **FOLLICALLY CHALLENGED**. The high spot of the evening was the performance of the Green Valley quartet **OSTEO CHORDOSIS**, who performed songs from the ridiculous to the sublime.

We plan to field three Singing Valentine quartets to surpass the previous year's total of 62 serenades. Our offerings consisted of a song, a tag, a rose and a "Photo Op" with the quartet.

SUN CITIES

BOB MCGOWAN

The chorus gained three experienced members: **Ken Corns** from a Valley chapter; **Jay Kendall** from Keene, N.H.; and **Bill Shaw** from the Minneapolis Commodores. But we were saddened to lose one of our lead section, **Richard Fleming**, due to his necessary relocation to the East Valley. Richard was a sparkplug in the organization who worked within several committees.

Bill Rockafellow, known to many in the Far Western District, continues to improve in health after a serious accident at home. Despite the fact he is still in rehabilitation, he attends our meetings and insists he will perform on our annual show.

The chapter again donated to eight charities in the Sun Cities area and made a substantial donation to the Harmony Foundation. Chapter members feel strongly about giving in the community and have supported our singout schedule faithfully during the winter months.

TUCSON

FRED KOCH

David Jager, House Chairman and head risers wrangler for the Tucson **Sunshine Chorus**, was totally surprised when he was named *BOTY* at the Installation and Awards Banquet. **Jere Hill**, producer of the very successful September "ReMix and Friends" show, was named to the chapter Hall of Fame.

TSC member **Charlie Bauder**, who was honored by the **Green Valley Aires** upon his retirement as director after five years of service. He and his family were chauffeured by limousine to the surprise party, and the chorus gave him a huge 4-foot tall trophy in appreciation.

The chapter sponsored a Holiday Men's Chorus that included non-members. Special thanks to **Jere Hill** for arranging several performance opportunities for the group.

WHITE MOUNTAINS ARIZONA CHAPTER DOC DOCKENDORF

The NPC **High Country Chorus** held their Installation Banquet with **Dan Lewis** as chairman and MC. A special guest quartet, **Music Box** from the **Phoenix Saguaro Chapter**, installed the officers. They kept the audience in stitches with a theme patterned after the famous "Who's on First?" routine, which **Dan Wilson** rewrote to fit the occasion. We want to publicly thank them for making the 160-mile trip, through newly fallen snow, to be with us. President **Bob Cutlipp** presented the *Spark Plug Award* to **Alan Johnson** and the *President's Award* to **Doc Dockendorf**. The *Most Improved Singer Award* was presented to **Phil Rioux**, and the *BOTY* was awarded to **Steve Dygert**, in absentia. Son, **Cameron**, and wife, **Julie**, accepted the honor for him.

Steve Dygert had to leave us to seek employment in Omaha, Neb. Steve was not only co-director, he was a teacher (master's in music), a great singer, and most importantly a friend. He plans to sing with us at Divisional and to appear with us on our annual show in July, if he can work it out with his schedule.

YUMA

ROB BAILEY

Things are humming along (in four-part harmony) as winter visitors find their way to the Yuma Chapter. Recent visitors have included **Don Schell**, **Jim Knight**, **Chuck Morris**, **Ken Turnbloom** and **Jack DeWees**. These men have traveled from as far as Wisconsin, Minnesota, British Columbia and Alberta. Every year, the chorus' makeup varies a little -- this year the leads outnumber the basses; last year there were more basses than leads and baris combined! But what a great sound! Chorus Director **Bill Ellenberger** is working hard to expand the repertoire, including the new Pole Cat songs. Assistant Directors Rob Bailey and Frank Durham (el Presidente) have added Doo Wop and Rock 'n Roll songs for added pizzazz. **Wayne Snell**, lead singer of the **Unfourgettable** quartet, reported that they performed 34 singouts during the December holiday season. Join the **Desert Sunset Chorus** on Tuesday evenings at Kofa High School, 32nd Street and Avenue A, from 7 to 9 p.m. For directions or more information, call (928) 502-2652.

1996 International Quartet Champions

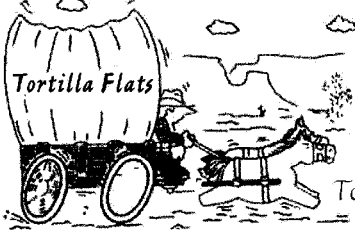
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THE RENO SILVER DOLLAR CHORUS PROUDLY PRESENTS THE

**FAR WESTERN DISTRICT
INTERNATIONAL QUARTET PRELIMS
AND
NOR CAL EAST NOR NEV DIVISION CONTEST
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

REGISTRATION PRICES		HEADQUARTERS HOTEL INFORMATION
ALL CONTESTANTS MUST BUY AN “ALL EVENTS” REGISTRATION FOR APPLICABLE AGE GROUP		
Adult (over 18 years) Student (18 years & under)		
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	

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
RV Parking (No Hook-Ups) available in the west parking lot at “ no charge”

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

CONVENTIONS, SHOWS, EVENTS

2004 _____

March

7 Santa Clarita Show
12-13 Fresno Show
18-21 *FWD Spring Convention
& NCENN Division Contest*
Reno

April

2-3 *NCWH Div Contest*
San Jose
3 Laguna Hills Show
3 Visalia ShowShow
10 Fullerton Show
16-17 *ASNSU Div Contest*
Phoenix
17 Palomar Pacific Show
17 Pomona Valley Show
17 San Louis Obispo Show
24 Whittier Show
25 Rincon Beach Show
30-May 1 Aloha Show

May

1 Santa Fe Springs Show
1 Crescent City Show
2 Palo Alto-Mt. View Show
8 *SCE Div Contest*
Anaheim
8 Santa Rosa Show
15 *SCW Div Contest*
Ventura
15 Placerville Show
22 Bay Area Metro Show

June

4-6 FWD Summer BoD
Pasadena
4-6 South Bay Show
26 San Francisco Show
27-Jul 4 **INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION**
Louisville, KY

July

10 White Mountain Show
16-18 *Harmony College West*
Univ of Redlands

August

1-8 *HCDC MWSC St. Joseph, MO*

September

11 Rincon Beach Show
September 30-October 3
FWD Fall Convention
Bakersfield [District run]

December

8 Crescenta Valley Show
11 Santa Rosa Show

2005 _____

March

17-20 *FWD Spring Convention
& SCW Division Contest*
Burbank

May

7 Santa Rosa Show

July

3-10 **INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION** Salt Lake City, UT

October

13-16 *FWD Fall Convention*
Pasadena

2006 _____

March

16-19 *FWD Spring Convention
& NCENN Division Contest*
Reno

July

2-9 **INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION** Indianapolis, IN

October

12-15 *FWD Fall Convention*
San Jose

2007 _____

March

15-18 *FWD Spring Convention
& NCENN Division Contest*
Reno

July

1-8 **INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION** Denver, CO

2008 _____

Jun29 -Jul 6 **INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION** Nashville, TN

2009 _____

Jun28 -Jul 5 **INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION** Anaheim, CA

2010 _____

Jun27 -Jul 4 **INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION** Philadelphia, PA

WESTUNES

Magazine

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