



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 Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

Volume 54

July/August 2004

Number 4



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5 Finale



20 O.C. Times



35 Q



42 Broadway



47 Metropolis



52 GOTCHA!



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Jan/Feb	1 Dec	
Mar/Apr	1 Feb	
May/June	1 Apr	
Jul/Aug	1 Jun	
Sep/Oct	1 Aug	
Nov/Dec	1 Oct	

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Greetings, Far Western District!

Division Contests

I had the wonderful opportunity to attend all the division contests this year and I had a ball. It was a lot of fun seeing all the competitors and enjoying the good fellowship of so many of our brothers in harmony. Words of thanks are due so many people who make these contests the success that they are, starting with our convention chairmen. These hard working men are responsible for so many things at the contest that it boggles the mind. You can be sure, however, that if the day goes smoothly, it usually is because of the planning and execution of the team assembled by the convention chairman.

Second only in importance to the contestants themselves are the judges and contest administrators. Have you considered the sacrifices these men make to help us enjoy our hobby? In addition to giving up many weekends during the year to travel to contests they must stay on top of their game by re-qualifying every few years. Where would we be without them? One of the major benefits of our system is the evaluation that takes place for both choruses and quartets. How many of us have been helped by the insightful comments of the judges? We owe them a very big thank you!

Change that results in growth.

How is the new governance system working? As I mentioned above, we have just completed all the division contests and each division VP has had the opportunity to meet with the chapter presidents collectively at each site. The feedback I have received leads me to conclude that things are on the right track, but you are the judge. Please let us know if the return to division management of the district is working for you. Our goal is to provide each and every member the opportunity to fully enjoy the barbershop harmony experience.

Plan for Bakersfield.

While the fall convention may seem a long way off, it isn't. Before we know it we will be packing our bags. The convention gets underway on Thursday night September 30 with the fall board of directors meeting. Our meetings are all open, so come and see the way your board operates. The next day the House of

Delegates (HOD) will meet and we will probably be asking the delegates to make some decisions, or ratify some that the board made previously. The HOD is the decision making body of the district and one of the items they will vote on will be next year's budget. Each chapter has a vote.

Qualifying for District

Before I was elected president I didn't realize that each district can qualify quartets to compete in the fall district contest in different ways. It makes sense when you think about it; our districts are of varying sizes and geographical dimensions. We're taking a look at the way we do things here in the FWD.

Last year we decided to combine one division contest each year with the International Prelims held in March each year. The board is looking at the effect of this change and we expect to send a report to the HOD this summer, and we will summarize it in Westunes. If any changes are proposed the HOD will consider them this fall. We have received quite a bit of feedback on the qualifying process already, but we are always interested in how you think things should be done. Let any of the board members know of any concerns or bright ideas you may have.

Summer doldrums?

Don't let your chapter fall victim to the summer time blues. Now is the time to plan ahead. Although the calendar year starts on January 1, the rhythm of our lives is such that we begin many of our activities in September. Vacations are usually over, school is starting, and men are open to starting new activities. Think about how many bowling leagues start in the fall.

What does this mean for us? Well, it is a good time for guest nights, a good time to advertise the start of the community chorus program for the holidays, and a good time to ask someone to join our hobby. It's just that time of the year when many things begin. Let's take advantage of that and recruit some new members!

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

Congratulations!

Congratulations and best wishes for a great contest to all those quartets and choruses that qualified to compete in Bakersfield, and hats off to all those men who supported our hobby by taking part in the division contests. You can check out the names of all the qualifiers at our website, www.spebsqsafwd.org. The website just keeps getting better and better, thanks to our intrepid webmaster, Keith Eckhardt and his band of merry Internet men. The latest addition (as far as I know) is the show site. See it at <http://shows.spebsqsafwd.org>, and more importantly, keep us updated on your shows by completing the update form at the website. Make it a habit to check the website frequently because news features are being added all the time.

We look forward to seeing you all in Bakersfield. Until then, keep a melody ringing in your heart!



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Your Board of Directors and House of Delegates increased the COTS budget at the Spring convention in Reno. This will enable us to have session in LA on November 13-14 and a session in Sacramento on November 20-21. We are returning to the LAX Hilton this year and those of you who attended last year's COTS will remember what a great facility that was. In Sacramento we've secured the Hilton Arden West which is currently in the process of being completely refurbished. This facility will rival the Lax Hilton for class.

For those of you in Northern California who might live outside of any population center, you might want to consider this venue a wonderful opportunity to score really big points on the home front. The Hilton Arden West is just across the freeway from the Arden Fair Mall and the hotel has a free shuttle. Our meeting will be the weekend before Thanksgiving, so what an opportunity to

bring someone along to take care of some early Christmas shopping for you. If you're driving, play tourist before or after COTS and visit Old Sacramento, down along the river. It's wonderful. Come early and we'll get you the reduced room rate afforded us for the meeting.

It's not too early to plan on attending COTS this year. The Society's CSLT Committee is working diligently on putting together a format that will definitely be worth your while. We are ahead of the curve with respect to our structural changes, but the other Districts and The Society are coming on board so look for lots of new information in the meeting. Just because you attended last year, don't think this year will be repetitive. This might just be the most important and best COTS you've ever attended. Registration forms will be in the next issue of WESTUNES.

FWD Sunshine Chairman George McCay

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For more information —
Jeanne Cathaway, Chair of Regional Seminars at jcathaway@cox.net or (661) 3996292

ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

Significant Changes Made to Fall Schedule For Bakersfield

At the just concluded FWD Summer Board meeting some scheduling changes were made for the Fall Convention in Bakersfield Sept 30 through October 3, 2004.

These changes were brought about due to the large number of competitors both in quartets (32) and choruses (25).

Society C&J rules require that a contest consisting of more than 25 quartets be conducted in two sessions. The need for a second session for quartets has necessitated the following scheduling changes.

Note that these changes are for 2004 only.

Thursday September 30, 2004

**2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. FWD Board Meeting
7:00 p.m. to finish. FWD Board Meeting (cont)**

Friday, October 1, 2004

**1:00 p.m. House Of Delegates Meeting
3:30 p.m. Senior Quartet Contest
6:45 p.m. Quartet Semi-Finals
10:45 p.m. Non-finalists Quartet evals**

Saturday, October 2, 2004

**8:00 a.m. Senior Quartet evaluations
10:30 a.m. Chorus Contest
3:45 p.m. Chorus evaluations
6:45 p.m. Quartet Finals
9:00 p.m. Show Of Champions
10:00 p.m. Finalist Quartet evaluations**

Because of the busy contest weekend schedule these changes are very important for the conduct of a successful convention.

The complete schedule of meetings, craft classes, etc., will be published at a later date.

Also, due to popular demand, details are being worked to provide a buffet dinner both Friday and Saturday. More on this later.

**Contestants and FWD Barbershoppers,
please convey these important schedule changes to
everyone coming to Bakersfield.**

ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION!



Chair: Chorus Director Development

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DO YOU SING WHILE YOU DIRECT?

One of the biggest problems that beginning directors have (and a few experienced ones as well), is singing out loud as they direct. This happens not only in rehearsal but in public performance and competition as well.

Most directors are singers, but a lot of bad things can happen when you combine these two aspects of music at once:

- 1) You don't hear the chorus very well.
- 2) Mistakes that you do hear may be your own
- 3) In performance the audience will hear more of you than the chorus (especially if you are near a microphone) causing a serious distraction.

There may be a few times when singing with the chorus could be helpful. If you are demonstrating how a part should go, or how a particular vowel is shaped or the proper tone quality desired, then singing to the chorus is legitimate. Usually the chorus is listening to you or singing with you very softly. In this context, singing to or with them might shorten a long explanation. Also, if you are the only baritone at the performance, it's probably better to sing than have no baritone at all?

Most of the time, however, the director shouldn't sing along, and music educators would agree that it is not a good instructional technique. If you are one who does sing along, try this next time:

- 1). Instead of singing, LISTEN for wrong notes. It is nearly impossible, for instance, to hear errors in the bass part if you're singing lead. The chorus will be thrilled that you finally heard that mistake and fixed it.
- 2) Instead of singing, LISTEN for unified word sounds. Your word sounds may be perfect, but can you really hear the chorus over the top of your own great sounds?
- 3) Instead of singing, LISTEN for scooping and unsure landings on notes. The chorus may be scooping and diving for notes after you land on them.
- 4) Instead of singing, LISTEN for precision in attacks and releases. You may be the only one to start and end phrases at the "right" time.
- 5) Instead of singing, LISTEN to the words. Does every singer have the lyrics memorized, or has he depended on YOU to carry him along? Try not even moving your mouth once during a song and see if they really know the words.
- 6) Finally, instead of singing during a performance, just DIRECT. Your audience may realize, after years of attending your shows, that barbershop music is not a solo (you) with chorus accompaniment!

Singing along with your chorus is an obsession which is often difficult to stop. You may need to ask a friend in the chorus to remind you when it is happening. Concentrate on it. Be aware of it. Remember that good singing is a matter of making certain fundamentals a habit. Why not make good directing without singing a habit too? You'll hear a lot more!

Thanks to "Direct Line" for the above information



Chair: Contest & Judging

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Wanted, a Few Good Men ... and a few other summertime thoughts

Every three years each member of the C&J community re-certifies by going through an intense five-day school at Western Missouri State College just prior to the beginning of Harmony College. From the moment the school begins on Wednesday evening until the graduation ceremony on Sunday there are no certified judges. Every year there are new men joining the ranks as well as those who step down, either through retirement or because their performance at the school did not meet the requisite standard.

Within the Society there are approximately 150 men participating in the Contest and Judging program. Recently the FWD boasted of having slightly more than 20% of all certified judges and Contest Administrators, but normal attrition combined with a significant number of individuals moving from the FWD has thinned the ranks considerably. In 1999 there were 29 men certified in the FWD. This year 17 from our district will be invited to participate in Category School.

If you have ever given thought to becoming a part of the C&J community this is the year that the window of opportunity opens. From August 1st until December 31st any individual interested in becoming an applicant needs to contact me and request an application form. It, as well as letters of recommendation, will be returned to me, and in turn they will be presented to the appropriate Category Specialist for approval. Once the applicant status has been confirmed the individual will begin a three year training program, during which at his own expense he will participate in a limited fashion in contests while beginning to develop his skills. If satisfactory progress is made the applicant will then be invited to attend, again at his own expense, Candidate

**FWD Fall Convention in Bakersfield
September 30-October 3, 2004
Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!**

School at Missouri Western next year. By successfully passing the school he will become an official candidate. During the subsequent two years prior to the next Category School each candidate will be permitted to serve on panels at contests and participate in those facets of post-contest activities as appropriate for his particular category.

There are obviously many pluses when one becomes a certified member of the C&J community. There is the satisfaction of an accomplishment that has significant prestige; one that represents an enormous amount of time, effort and expense. There is the opportunity to travel, though in all honesty much of it is far from glamorous and often at inconvenient times. Many certified judges have reached an understanding with their families that includes the notion that Mother's Day will be celebrated after the return flight from a competition that might be four or five hours away eventually reaches home ... even if it means dinner on Monday night! Being a member of a judging panel means that it is likely there will be very little time to socialize or relax at contests, since it is not uncommon to have evaluation sessions running very late in the evening and starting very early on mornings when sleeping in sounds like a marvelous idea. At the same time there is the opportunity to give back to the Society in a small measure some of the pleasure and encouragement that each of us has enjoyed on so many occasions. And, needless to say, you will always have the best seat in the house when you serve on a judging panel.

I'll be looking for your application request! Try it ... you'll REALLY like it!



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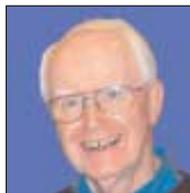
We have three guaranteed, certified, exciting learning experiences set up for the month of August for Far Western District quartets!!

The first of these will be held in **Sacramento** on August 14th, 2004. This will be the fourth of fifth quartet workshop the **Sacramento Chapter** has held on their own initiative. Having coached there three years ago, I can attest that it will be well run and very valuable for both participants and staff. For more information, call **Keith Slater** @916-786-7898 Home, or 916-369-4643 Work, or email him kwstenor@ quiknet.com

The next one will be held on the following Saturday, August 21, 2004. It will be for SoCalEast and SoCalWest quartets and will be hosted by the **San Fernando Chapter**. It will take place at St.Mark's Episcopal Church, 14646 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, CA 911406, (one block west of Van Nuys Blvd.,) from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. For more information please call **Tom Raffety**, who will be in charge, at 818-997-0468 Home, or 626-304-1300 Work or email him trw1942@aol.com

The third workshop will be held in the Phoenix area. The **OK Chorale** has committed to sponsor this event to help those Division 5 quartets which have qualified to prepare for the District Contest coming up in Bakersfield. **Allen Fossenkemper**, the head honcho (a little western talk, there) says that \$400-\$500 will be donated to the Division 5 Young Men In Harmony program, and that another \$100 will be donated to YMIH by the **OK Chorale**. There is a great example of giving back to your hobby! **OK Chorale** is to be highly commended!

The good news about this Phoenix Workshop is that it is **SOLD OUT!** The bad news about this Phoenix Workshop is that it is **SOLD OUT!** So.....Division 5 quartets, listen up! This workshop will be offered again next year to only those Division 5 quartets which qualify for District. So get busy and prepare.



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Holiday Harmony at the Shrine

Be a part of the **Far Western District Holiday Chorus** spectacular event on Dec. 5, 2004 at the fabulous Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles.

A very special event, Holiday Harmony at the Shrine, will take place on Sunday afternoon, December 5th. This presents an outstanding opportunity for Barbershoppers to play a part in an event that will be long remembered.

The Al Malaikah Shrine of Los Angeles has generously donated the use of their magnificent, historic auditorium and event center for a District sponsored event. The event will become an outstanding opportunity to showcase our wonderful music style to an audience of thousands who will attend at **NO COST**. The giant stage will be filled with a huge Holiday Chorus consisting of Society members as well as guest singers that have rehearsed with local area Chapters to prepare themselves for this exciting event.

The event will be further enhanced with the addition of several of the more outstanding District quartets and perhaps a "mystery" chorus that will wow you.

Every Chapter in the District is encouraged to participate by recruiting guest singers and rehearsing traditional holiday music with these singers at several meetings prior to the event. The District will furnish the music, at no cost. Learning tapes will be available at regular Harmony Marketplace prices if desired.

The participating Chapters will be provided with reproducible advertising and other public relations material to support their recruiting efforts. Major sponsor opportunities exist for firms that would like to support this civic event by underwriting a portion of the newspaper advertising that will take place.

Be a part of what promises to be a most memorable Barbershopping event. Imagine the possibility of singing with a chorus of several hundred men on stage in front of an audience of thousands. Indicate your intentions to be a part of this historic event by having a Chapter officer respond by email identifying the Chapter with Holiday Harmony in the subject line and addressed to: Willard@cox.net



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The Far Western District has been blessed over the past 60 years with some really brilliant, innovative movers and shakers.

One of these is **Lloyd Steinkamp** who has contributed many, many things to the district as well as to the Society. From great quartets to wonderful arrangements, leadership, on chapter, district and International level to coaching, judging and now a sure-fire program to get your audiences to give your quartet or chorus a spontaneous standing ovation. He calls it his - *Standing Ovation Program* or SOP.

Check your Jan-Feb Westunes for an excellent article by Allen Fossenkemper where he interviewed Lloyd concerning his SOP.

Programs are nice, but the proof is in the execution of them. I was fortunate to see the Palomar-Pacific show on April 17. What a perfect example of the SOP ideas in practice!

The 10 page "Program" given to the audience was in the style of a local newspaper. The front page headline was a picture and a story about Hi-Fidelity, the headliners plus a brief article by Lloyd about Barbershop and Pal-Pac.

The rest of Pal-Pac's 50th Anniversary "Program" took you back 50 years with a show entitled "That Old Quartet Of Mine" with various articles about the chapter, members, and article about their upcoming guest night and a Thomas Guide map of how to get there, pictures of 5 chapter quartets and a "Bakers Dozen" and four pictures of Hi-Fidelity, plus some old 1950s ads. Before the first note, the audience was ready to reminisce.

From the opening, a short greeting and a quick 2-song community sing, right into the nostalgia trip, reading from a '50s Fallbrook newspaper. Two chapter quartets were followed by some of the longtime chapter members singing two chorus songs typical of that era, directed by Jack Story, a 50 year member/20+ year director of the Pal-Pac Chapter.

Another quartet, plus three songs from the whole chorus and then one from the Bakers Dozen. All this with no "white space". Chorus for one, another chapter quartet with a ballad and three more by the chorus.

Before the audience knew it- intermission.

Second half, a chapter quartet with two of their contest songs and then the Headliner! Hi-Fidelity did their normal superb job and the show ended with two chorus songs, the last of which was a great arrangement of two patriotic songs. The audience loved it and viola, a Standing Ovation!

The chapter followed the book. They got a standing ovation and an audience which will come back next year. Your chapter can put on this kind of program also.

And to drive the point home, the next weekend I went to the Whittier Show, and BAM! another great chapter show. It started with energy, flowed smoothly, no white spaces, quartets were spaced properly, good chorus presentations and a finale that left the audience wanting more. Whittier also got a standing ovation. They followed the book.

Your chapter and your quartet can too. Just email, write or call me to schedule a Standing Ovation Program Evaluator. The FWD will reimburse 50% of the evaluator's travel expenses. You can't beat a deal like that!

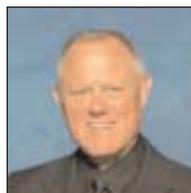


4 Old Times Sake

Jerry Fairchild
Jim McKee
Bruce Maxey
Ron Criswell

Senior Quartet Champs
Far Western District 2001

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



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

Pal Pac Launches Pilot Project In Early Music Education

A full house of over 400 elementary school students, parents, teachers and community members participated in a joyful and pioneering singing event at a school in Oceanside, CA, in May, thanks to the efforts of the **Palomar-Pacific** chapter.

Like **Tucson, Marin**, and many other chapters around the country, **PalPac** was inspired by the

“Get Northern Michigan Singing. . .Again” video distributed by the Society, and decided to adapt that program to promote vocal music. According to YMIH VP **Bill Scofield**, the chapter has distributed over 1,000 copies of the “Get America Singing . . . Again” songbook, mostly to middle schools.

But this effort led to a new awareness of a potential crisis—and an opportunity. Of 14 school districts in northern San Diego County, all but four or five had eliminated formal music programs in the elementary schools, due to budget cutbacks. While the G.A.S. program is especially beneficial at the 4th through 6th grade levels, there was nothing to prepare students at the earlier grade levels.

With the help of chapter member and Rotarian **Larry O’Hara**, the chapter obtained a grant of \$1,000 from the Oceanside Rotary Club. They engaged the services of a respected local music educator, Steven Traugh, and his firm, Kiducation, which produces specialized music education materials worldwide. The result was a package of songs and age-specific materials designed to introduce young children in the primary grades to the joys of making music, involving clapping, movement, and curriculum-specific content. Over several weeks, the professional staff visited and worked with the classes and teachers at the selected elementary school.

The culminating event at Libby School in Oceanside was declared a rousing success. A 15-member contingent of **PalPac** members sang to demonstrate barbershop harmony. The program was videotaped by the Kiducation staff, to help promote the concept for other schools.

A specific objective, according to **Scofield**, was to provide singing/learning opportunities to school districts facing the loss of music and arts funding, and to supplement and reinforce—not replace—the need for full time, ongoing music education in the curriculum. The program is progression-oriented, with sequential benefits as students move on to higher grades.

The **PalPac** project, while still in development, may provide yet another tool for our chapter YMIH representatives, when they contact local school officials and say, “What can we do to help?”

Make Plans For Youth Harmony Camp

The Youth Harmony Camp video, introduced in March, has been stirring up a lot of interest in this year’s camp, to be held at the same NorCal location the week-end of September 17-19. A full house may be anticipated. Once again the **Placerville** chapter is taking the lead organizing and hosting this premier event. (See the ad in this issue, and details posted on the district web site.) Advice: If your students aren’t already signed up, be ready to move as soon as school reconvenes after the summer break!

Remember The FWD Youth Education Fund. Youth camps and videos cost money.



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

Revising member orientation topics? Add this one!

As we learned in our chapter operations training, successful chapters have an engrained cycle of recruiting new members, renewing members, and orientation sessions to explain the Society, the district, the chapter, our programs and activities, right?

And, of course, there is a presentation about Harmony Foundation? NO?? Well, try these few paragraphs for your now-revised orientation:

Harmony Foundation was founded in 1959 as a charitable subsidiary of SPEBSQSA. Its mission of “preserving the musical legacy of SPEBSQSA through support of vocal music education in our schools and communities” is summed up in a simple slogan - SING...for life!

The philosophy practiced is that Harmony Foundation, the District and Chapters are all on the same team to generate funds to further the barbershop harmony art form.

The Foundation (now numbering three staff people) possesses the fundraising expertise that is a resource to all levels of the Society. Their responsibility is to develop a volunteer cadre of Barbershoppers trained in assisting district and chapters in raising more money for self-support.

To date, Harmony Foundation has successfully trained more than 50 chapters and is credited with generating more than \$270,000 in grants income for those chapters!

The Far Western District has a cadre of grant writing instructors, planned giving (bequests and estate planning) and professional fundraisers available.

And as a chapter, we are continually finding sources of community-minded, performing arts and music supporters to help us through grants and sponsorships.

I hope these paragraphs help your member orientation session – or perhaps spur you on to creating one!

REMINDER: Join Michael Frazer at Harmony College West in Redlands, CA, on July 16-18 to learn about grant writing for your chapter!



Revival Retires!

Hello All,

1998 Champs, Revival, have collectively decided to hang up the old pitch pipe at this summer's convention in Louisville.

While performing in nearly 40 states and 4 foreign countries, the quartet looks back on the past nine years with a great deal of pride and gratitude for all of the audiences and special friends who have supported us with their applause, standing O's and provided us with lasting memories.

Family and friendships have played a huge part in our success and while their isn't enough bandwidth to list them all, we would be remiss if we didn't say a few special thank you's. Our coaches and arrangers - Cindy Hansen, Greg Lyne, Kim Hulbert, David Wright, Dave Briner, Ed Waesche, Jim Casey, and Bob Gray, Jr. have inspired us to heights we never thought attainable. Our chapters - San Diego, Sante Fe Springs "Masters Of Harmony" and La Jolla have supported us from beginning to end. The GREAT Far Western District...what can we say? As 1997 FWD Champions, it has been an honor and privilege to represent you at every city, town or burg that we've visited. Most importantly, we acknowledge our wives, Denise, Joann and Kim and ALL of our children and grandchildren whose time was given so that we could experience this wonderful art form to it's fullest.

Know this, we are retiring to spend more needed time with our families and jobs. We love each other and have a boat load of wonderful memories to share for our lifetimes. Certainly the logistics of travel and with Lead, Mike Spencer moving to Pennsylvania two years ago have added to the challenge, but we will be finishing out our show, convention and HEP school schedules into the Spring of 2005. Also we are nearly finished with our second recording entitled, "Joyfully,..." which will be out in Fall, hopefully in time for our last performance at the FWD convention in Bakersfield, CA.

While we can't believe that this time has actually come, we look forward to saying a special thanks in Louisville on the AIC show

Warmest Regards and God Bless,

Royce Ferguson, Mike Spencer, Mike Lawton and Bill Myers
1998 International Quartet Champions



Super Supper Singers!

Every 2nd and 4th Friday evening of the month a group of avid BarberShoppers gather at Don's Family Restaurant in Victorville, CA for a fun filled evening of fellowship and BarberShop. This has been a tradition for the last 7 years and keeps growing in size.

SSS started in 1992 as a regular *Harmony For Lunch Bunch* at the same restaurant, but was held at noon each Friday. Attendance usually was maybe a quartet or sextet and was quickly written off as a waste of time for the two or three people who attended.

Then, **Dick Schneider** (Tenor, **Apple Valley Hi-Country Harmonaires**) suggested we meet for a dinner meeting and invite the wives and girlfriends. Wow! What a turnout! We had probably over 40 at the first meeting. A success was born!

Under the guiding hands of **Earl Christopherson** (Bass, **Apple Valley Hi-Country Harmonaires**) and **Jim Dugdale** (Baritone, **Apple Valley Hi-Country Harmonaires**) we have kept this tradition alive and well in Victorville.

The program usually starts with dinner at 6 PM followed by quartets, gang singing, woodshedding at 7PM until? Frequently we invite out of town guest quartets to come up the hill and enjoy a meal and entertain us for 10-15 minutes of the program.

The program has also rewarded us in the gaining of several new members who just dropped by as guests. The whole restaurant can hear us through the door (which is usually open!).

If you're going to Las Vegas plan your trip to include 2 hours in Victorville (6-8 PM) on any 2nd or 4th Friday of the month. [Just leave 2 hours early!!] Join us at "*Super Supper Singers*" for a song or tag. You'll be glad you did! If you're a quartet, let us know you're coming and we'll plan our program around you!

Where: Don's Family Restaurant, 14403 7th St, Victorville, CA
When: Every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month at 6:00 PM
Contact: Jim Dugdale, (760) 955-8192



2003-4 FWD Quartet Champions

Q

Cory Hunt, Baritone

This month we'll shine the Q spotlight on our baritone, Cory Hunt.

Q: Cory, when did you start barbershopping?

Cory: I started when I was seven years old. A family friend, Bill Weiser, was starting up voice lessons and I was to be one of his first students (he now is the director of the Reno Silver Dollar Chorus, one of the most popular voice teachers in Reno, and is just finishing his first book on the human voice.) He invited me a few months later to come visit the chorus. My mom took me down, every Tuesday night and she sat in the audience while I was placed under the care of 25 of my adopted brothers, fathers, grand fathers (and some great grandfathers, for those really old guys like Sam Barger.) I joined shortly thereafter and the rest is history!

Q: What made you want to be a barbershopper?

Cory: Honestly, I don't know. People often said I was seven going on 30, but I'd like to think I saw the musicality in it. The guys in the chorus were pretty cool and I saw an opportunity to do something fun that not a lot of kids my age typically did or would do, so, I went for it.

Q: Does your dad sing?

Cory: No, unfortunately my dad does not sing, although he knows all of our songs and, along with my mom, is our number one fan.

Q: What is your most memorable barbershop moment?

Cory: I've had so many things in these past few years, its impossible to say which is most memorable. Of course winning the quartet championship and the chorus championship stick out, but things like being stood on a chair at the Nevada-Placer Bean Feed and having to sing "My Wild Irish Rose" (my favorite song) or good memories like wearing Royce Ferguson's jacket and singing with Revival when I had my famous broken arm (actually a thumb) at district in Phoenix. More than the events themselves, the memories along the way are what I remember the most, I guess it really is the journey that matters most.

Q: What are your barbershop goals?

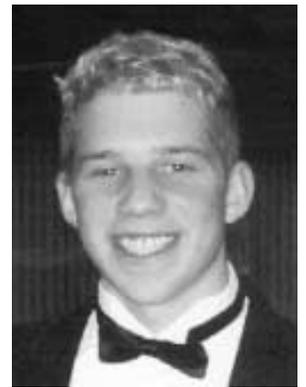
Cory: I'd like to win the collegiate contest, "regular" and then senior quartet contest adding to the FWD high school quartet championship. I'd also like to win a gold medal with a chorus and maybe even someday direct one. In the meantime, I'm contemplating applying to be a certified singing judge, hope to get as deep into the international quartet contest as I can with Q and someday, learn how to sing bass. More than personal accomplishments, however, I'd also like to help keep this society growing and progressing. I'd like to see more support for people like Richard Lund who run YMIH programs and I'd like to be a part of the society board as someone who has to look down the line 25 or 50 years, not simply five to ten years.

Q: What other plans do you have?

Cory: I'm planning to finish my education at the University of Nevada, Reno and go on to a career doing something I enjoy. My career is still very much up in the air at this point, but I think I'll figure it out eventually...

Q: Anything else to add?

Cory: I'd like to thank, of course the guys in the quartet for putting up with me. It's got to be hard sometimes for them to deal with the problems of a teenager again—finals, homework, cars, finances, etc. I must say, it's quite a ride singing and performing at this level. I also must thank the Reno Silver Dollar Chorus for allowing me to join at such a young age. I've grown so much from being around those old guys for so long...(it is yet to be determined if their influence on me has been positive) In all seriousness, the SDC is a great group of guys whom I owe many thanks. I also owe the Westminster Chorus a big thanks for all their support and for letting me sing with and learn from them. In addition, all the people who allow me to sing with them, Nightlife, Revival, Metropolis, Gotcha!, OC Times and the list goes on. It's my privilege to sing with you all. And finally, I must thank my parents, without whom I would be lost and more than likely, not be singing barbershop! THANK YOU ALL!



To contact Cory or to get a date with this handsome, single, baritone (no that is not an oxymoron) e-mail him at bari@qtet.net.

**FWD Fall Convention in Bakersfield
September 30-October 3, 2004
Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!**



\$1208.75 Check to Westminster

Russ Squires [left], of Westminster Chorus, accepted \$1208.75 on behalf of the NorCal chapters from Bruce Ledchner [right], President of BAM. The collection was taken at the recent Road Show night at Pleasanton. The contribution will be added to the funds to help get the chorus back to Louisville to compete in the International Chorus Contest.



Road Show in Pleasanton

The Road Show sponsored by the Society was hosted by Chuck Hunter, Sr. The program was presented by Jim Bagby [above] to an estimated gathering of 300, representing 16 Chapters from Northern California. The event was a part of 20 such Road Shows being held Society-wide.

Pictures and article by Earle Holt Earleholt@aol.com



Sound Judgment
A Barbershop Quartet
www.soundjudgment.org

Tom Addison - Tenor, Lead	Dave Stone - Baritone
Pat Goulding - Lead, Tenor	Gary Scalice - Bass
Owen Doyle - Bass, Coach	Pete Wanger - Baritone

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Mixed Metafour
a barbershop quartet

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

Jackie & Steve Bishop	Kim & Jerry Orloff
(408) 377-5773	(831) 688-0909



The Stage Hogs
Barbershop Quartet

★ CJ Sams • Bob Clark • Les Dergan • Bill Wilson
 ★ Contact: 562.425.2924 • mcjsams@gte.net



2003-4 FWD Chorus Champions Westminster

Sean Devine, President

As we write this update, the chorus is in full swing preparing for our performance at this year's International Chorus Contest in Louisville, KY on July 3. This has been the most amazing journey, and we can't thank enough the great FWD for all your support and encouragement - we are so proud to represent you!

We've had the best time performing on chapter shows this spring - we want to thank the Pioneers, Santa Fe Springs, Fullerton, San Diego, and Rincon Beach chapters for having us appear on their shows. We'd also like to thank all of you who have helped us with donations and arranging fundraisers in your area. You've made it possible for 30 young performers to get to Louisville - and for that we are so grateful!

We want to recognize our amazing coaches for everything they've done for our cause - Dawn&Garry Texeira, Sandy Robinson, David Harrington, and Mark Hale. They represent the absolute best in barbershop, and we're so blessed to have them on our team.

Congratulations to our chapter quartets that will be competing at this year's International Contest - O.C. Times and Q. We're also sending a college quartet, the Nile Manski Trio - we'll be cheering you all on as you represent us in Louisville!

The chorus was very busy at this year's SoCal East Convention, serving as mic-testers and appearing on the Show of Champions. Thanks to our hosts, the Riverside Chapter, and the entire SoCal East division for your support! Kudos also to our all-chapter quartet, O.C. Times, for winning this year's SoCal East Championship! The guys scored an 80.2%, and qualified to move on to the fall district contest in Bakersfield.

We are so proud to be hosting our very own "Meal Ticket Show" on June 12 - guest groups include The Alley Cats, Metropolis, and Nightlife! Also - thanks to the San Diego Chapter for staging a special fund raiser performance for us on June 13. Along with Westminster, guest groups include current FWD quartet

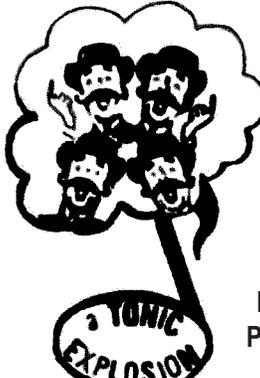
champions Q, FWD college champs Four Score, and '98 International gold medalists Revival!

A special thank you to our V.P. Operations and Chorus Manager, Russ Squires - for going above and beyond with all our preparations for our trip to International. It is his vision that has made so much of this possible, and we know we wouldn't have made it this far without him. You're the MAN, Russ!

For more information on The Westminster Chorus, please check out our website at www.harmonize.com/westminster.



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Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!**



"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

COTS is for EVERYBODY!

Two COTS Planned: LAX and SAC

By Dick Girvin, FWD COTS Coordinator

Yes, COTS is for EVERYBODY: Chapter Officers, Will-be Chapter officers, Would-be Chapter Officers and equally important, **chapter members**. **Just look at the acronym C O T S: Chapter OPERATIONS Training Seminar.** “Operations” is the operative word: and if that doesn’t tell you it is for **everyone** — what will?

Sure, there are special tracks for Chapter elected officers, but there is much more. “Chapter Operations” embodies everything from singing The Old Songs to making coffee and greeting guests. Barbershoppers attending COTS without a fixed “track,” (i.e. following the routine established for an elected officer) will have the opportunity to audit and share in any and all courses including the “horror” stories (?) in the Treasurer’s Class (IRS related?), or enjoy a well presented leadership treatise by a noted instructor, or even learn how to set up a web-site. Interested? Read on!

In response to the overwhelming wishes of the district, there will be two COTS this year: one in Los Angeles and another in Sacramento. The dates: LAX November 13-14, and in SAC November 20-21. Both at well appointed, centrally located (near airports) Hilton Hotels. The cost is a nominal \$125 (\$135 late) and it is an authorized expense for chapter officers, and a great bargain for chapter members. It covers three meals and a half of a double room and a full weekend of total immersion Barbershop! (Wives are invited and shopping tours etc., are being planned.)

What’s in store this year? In addition to the two-day, (three meals) never-ending flow of barbershop (like drinking from a fire-hose), there will be a Dean of prominence from the list of Society “greats” and individual instructors for the officer “tracks.” Subject matter abounds; sample any or all of it: **Recruitment, Retention, Internal Public Relations, Conducting skills, YMIH subjects, (Working with Students, etc) Open House/Guest Night Planning, New member Orientation, Grant ideas, Creative Marketing ideas, Dealing With the News Media**, and more and more. Couple this with an afterglow, a number of general sessions with special presentations with songs to learn and sing, make this truly a **chapter OPERATIONS** weekend. You and your chapter will certainly benefit from this concentrated “shot in the arm” by talented facilitators from all over the Society.

Watch this space for more details. And if you want to be sure you have a spot for this weekend (whether you have been elected or not....) you can send your check now (\$125 each chapter member that wishes to come) to the below address:

FWD COTS (NorCal)
November 13-14, 2004
LAX Hilton

or

FWD COTS (SoCal)
November 20-21, 2004
Sacramento Hilton Arden West

Dick Girvin
57 F Calle Cadiz
Laguna Woods, CA
92653-3941
(949) 380-0732



Barbershop Pioneers Come West to Fallbrook January 23-25, 2004

For the 5th year, the Barbershop Pioneers founded by **O.T. (Tom) Neal** have come to the beautiful *Grand Tradition Estate* for their winter woodshedding get-together. Known as the Western Pioneers, arrivals from all over the U.S. moved into Fallbrook (a rural community one hour north of San Diego) for their annual three day convention.

Barbershop Quartet music could be heard all over the serene and peaceful valley from sun-up until the wee hours each morning. Woodshedding is when four like-minded lovers of four-part harmony (bass, baritone, lead and tenor) strike up a tune of the "Good Old Songs". This originates back to the old days when the guys went out behind the woodshed to test their pipes (voices).

During the three day event quartets could be found singing their hearts out in the hallways, bar-room, restrooms verandah and all over the grounds of the picturesque Grand Tradition. The Grand Tradition is a 30 acre Victorian Estate designed for special events and created by **Earl "Mac"** and **Beverly "Bev" McDougal**. Earl is an old timer to barbershopping and a member of the **Pal-Pac Chapter**.

At the final Saturday evening event called the "Big Show" there were over 200 in attendance. The M.C. for the evening was **Dan Jordan** who ironically performed twenty years ago at the Grand Traditions Grand Opening with the International medalist quartet called "**The Grand Tradition**". Friday night's amateur contest winner "The Quartet You Have Been Waiting For" opened the show. Participants **Pete Tyree (1954 International Champs the Orphans)**, **Marcheta Pletcher**, **Dan Whipple** and **Dan Gonzalez** got the evening rolling.

"**The Senior Edition**" followed next with **Tom Keehan** (a Fallbrook resident and member of the **1962 International Champions the Gala Lads**), **Gene Nichols**, **Buddy Yarnell** and **Lefty Parasson**.

Third in the lineup was the impressive quartet "**Touch of Class**" with **Pete Hensley**, **Buddy Yarnell**, **Lou Tedesco** and **Dean Kirkland**.

The audience was treated to a quality and humorous 30 minute performance by the "**Perfect Gentlemen**" (**Dan Jordan**, **Tim Reeder**, **Mike Economou** and **Jim Campbell**).

The special treat for the evening was a performance by the Far Western Championship, **Westminster Chorus**. Only one and a half years together with several in the chorus new to barbershopping and with ages from 17 to 28, you need not worry about a need for new blood coming into the barbershopping arena. The audience was treated to a prelude to their competition later in the year at the International competition in St. Louis. Four of these young men also performed three songs as the quartet "**O.C. Times**".

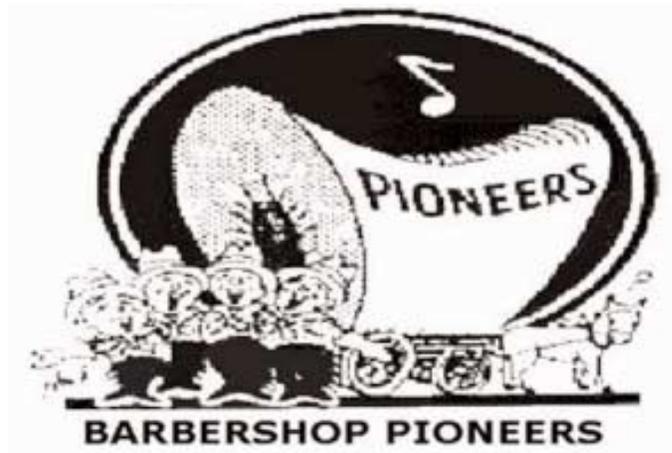
The final performance of the evening was the "**Late Night Barbershop**" (**Doyle Pope**, **Rich Hasty**, **Matt McKee** and **Gregg Lapp**). These guys not only look sharp but sound solid.

For the final closing of a great and entertaining show, Pioneers founder **Tom Neal** led the audience in the traditional barbershop tune, "*Keep America Singing*".

The next mid-west Pioneer Convention will be once again in Chicago on September 9th, 10th and 11th, with the Western Pioneers Convention scheduled for January 26th, 27th and 29th of 2005 once again at the Grand Tradition in Fallbrook. www.grandtradition.com

For additional information please go to the Pioneers web-site at www.barbershoppioneers.com. To learn more about Fallbrook check out Fallbrook's Chamber of Commerce web-site at www.FallbrookChamber.org

(Author Don McDougal; submitted by Casey Parker)



**FWD Fall Convention in Bakersfield
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Quartet Corner

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

FORTY TWO YEARS AGO

Jerry could feel the bead of sweat moving down his forehead, just above his right eye. Then it changed direction and traveled sideways across his brow going behind his left ear, down his neck it slid and then again, horizontally across his cheek toward the corner of his mouth. His mind raced with confusion at what was happening. "How can sweat move like this?" He completely forgot that he was standing on the International stage in the Saturday night finals.

After what seemed like hours he forced his attention back to the song but no sooner had he refocused when the sweat started moving vertically toward his left eye. He strained to look down at it. My GOD! There it was. But wait, it was looking up at him. "Oh no, not that," his mind shouted!

In the 60's and 70's if there was one thing quartet men feared more than death itself, it was seeing those six letters "D.F.O.Y.F.S.," scribbled on your score sheet. Yes poor Jerry was going to fall victim to the "Dreaded Fly On Your Face Syndrome." The C&J rules back then were clear. If you even dared to think about brushing it off you were doomed to last place. "The true professional," they would smirk at the A&R, "must grin and take it!"

Jerry glanced at the pit, OH NO, the judges could see it too, he was sure that their eyes sparkled with anticipation. They saw the muscles twitch in his face, his eyes darting around trying to locate the monster. Who would win this battle? Would the fly crawl in the corner of his mouth and gag him like a hairball? Would he lose his composure and start swatting? Too bad but, this was after all, the quartet's first International and here they were on the finals. They hadn't "paid their dues," this would humble them!

Jerry's mind jolted back to reality and he suddenly became aware that he didn't know where he was in the song. "OK this is it! I can't take anymore." He would fake a coronary and fall off the stage into the pit. That would end his nightmare. Then SCHAZ-AM! Just like that they were done. They had sung the tag and were taking their bow. "How did I do it?" thought Jerry. But now he could see the judges begin to huddle and talk. "I must have woodshedded my way through the tag. My quartet is going to be disqualified because of me!"

As they walked off stage, nobody really spoke much. Joe being the leader in more than voice said he didn't want to stay around. They decided to head for the little bar across the street and wait

for the end. The one thing that was positive was their friends the Gala Lads had sung so well that it seemed impossible for anyone to beat them.

After what seemed like a long time Jay and Gene headed back to the auditorium. Jerry and Joe went their separate ways. They all found some friends and paid no attention to what was happening on stage. Unknown to them the Chairman of the Judges mounted the stage and began with.

"Ladies and Gentlemen – your 1962 Fifth Place medalists from the Far Western District – SIDEWINDERS!" Now another problem developed. Where were the Sidewinders? No one could find them. Minutes passed and the other medalist quartets took their bows and sang their acceptances but no Sidewinders. Finally they straggled in back stage. How had they survived this nightmare, thought Jerry? Later that night he learned the "the rest of the story." Sure, the SP judges saw the monster on Jerry's face and after the Winders finished singing the judges huddled to discuss the possibility of letting them sing their package again, sans the green-eyed-monster. Instead, they decided to give the quartet some bonus points for their handling of the situation. Enough points it turned out, that it put the Winders into the medals.

Of course two years later the Sidewinders became our 1964 International Quartet Champions. This year marks their 40th anniversary of their victory in San Antonio. Always one of the most popular show foursomes of the 1960's, the Sidewinders are still loved by those of us who were privileged to see and hear them. Lead, Joe Daniels passed away a few years ago but bari Gene Boyd, Bass Jay Wright and the Tenor Jerry Fairchild are still going strong.



Jerry credits his survival of the FLY with having worked so hard to learn his music that even in the face of near tragedy he sang his way to a medal.



Bronze Medal Fly

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 18th

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

Craig Ewing is an accomplished vocalist and the tenor of **Hi-Fidelity**. He will 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 TBD). 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 is a very popular class, so sign up early!! **Prerequisite:** You must be fairly proficient with a computer and comfortable with using the internet.

Barbershop Arranging

Mr. Dave Briner, 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

Mr. Mark Freedkin is a YMIH Master! 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; 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 by the best in the business!

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 have all the tools to do a bang-up job on your first grant application!

Music Reading Seminar

Instructor TBD. 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.

Director of the Future

Mr. Jim Turnmire (2004 Far Western District CDWI Chairman) will work with aspiring and newer front line directors to develop your music and directing talents! There are only eighteen slots left as of April 1, so get your registration form in right away.

Woodshedding / Tag Singing

Instructor TBD. This class will help you develop your tuning and improvisation skills; **Jim Crowley** will teach the tag segment on Sunday; have lots of fun all weekend!



Quartet Registration - Harmony College West 2004

July 16-18, 2004

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, 2004

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.

Individual Registration - Harmony College West 2004

July 16-18, 2004

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		
___ I will stay in the Dorms (\$150)		___ I will commute each day (\$95)
Name		
Voice Part		
Tenor	Lead	Baritone Bass
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 (Craig Ewing)
- ___ Chapter/Quartet Website Construction and Administration
- ___ Barbershop Arranging (Dave Briner)
- ___ Young Men in Harmony Program (Mark Freedkin)
- ___ Grant Writing Seminar (Michael Frazer)
- ___ Music Reading Seminar
- ___ Director of the Future (Jim Turnmire)
- ___ Emcee Seminar (Terry Aramian)
- ___ Woodshedding / Tag Singing (TBD / Jim Crowley)

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



Young Men In Harmony Youth Camp 2004

**Harmony Camp
2004 - Sly Park**

**With Music Director Bill Weiser
and FWD Champs: "Q"**

Youth Harmony Camp
Friday—Sunday, September 17 - 19, 2004
Sly Park Educational Center
Pollock Pines, California

Pollock Pines is nestled in the pines of the Sierra Foothills just off Highway 50 approximately half way between Sacramento and South Lake Tahoe.

Harmony Camp is designed for high school aged young men.

The cost is \$70 for the camp. Scholarships are available.

No young man will be turned away for lack of financial resources.

Check out our new website at: <http://spebsqsafwd.org/ymih/camp>

Yes, I am interested. Send me more information. This form is NOT for Registration. You will receive a Registration Package after filling out this form and handing it to your Music Teacher, or giving it to the nearest Barbershopper; or sending this form to the address below:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State & Zip _____

Phone (optional) _____ Email _____

Experience (optional) HS Choir _____ Band _____ Other _____

This Camp fills up fast, so get your name in early.

Hand this to your Music Teacher

Richard Lund, Camp Director

Give it to a Barbershopper

6164 Windlestraw Road

Or send the completed form to:

Placerville, CA 95667

The Gold Rush Chorus of Placerville, CA is coordinating the Camp under the auspices of the Far Western District of The Society For The Preservation And Encouragement Of Barber Shop Quartet Singing In America, Inc. "SPEBSQSA". Website: www.spebsqsa.org

For More Information,
Contact Richard Lund
530-621-1904
Fax: 530-621-4438
Email: rlund@innercite.com

**"Teach The
Children To
Sing"**



Directory Corrections

Bay Area Metro, D-094 (pg 43)

Correct Dave Sutton's e-mail address to read
davesutn@astound.net

El Cajon President (replaces Reid)

Edward Herron
1701 Circo del Cielo Dr
El Cajon, CA 92020-8109
e: ebherron@cox.net
h: (619) 447-2898

Marin Chapter D-039

Change of meeting place:
Now meet at the First Presbyterian Church,
Kensington Road and Ross Ave in San Anselmo
(415) 383-4691

Paradise Valley, D-062

Change of Meeting Place and day:
Thursdays (7:30 to 10 p.m.) in The
Church of the Valley, 4104 E. Shea, Blvd. Phoenix AZ

Orange Secretary (replaces Lewis)

Dan Whipple
13292 Marshall Ln
Tustin, CA 92780
714-838-0619
hsmwhipple@msn.com

Rancho Bernardo, D-077

Timothy Hannegan, VP Chapter Dev. new address:
17495 Plaza Dolores
San Diego, CA 92128-2240

San Jose, (D-026)

Correct the spelling of Chris Hebert (pg 46)
Correct his e-mail address (pg 40) to
c.herbert@comcast.net

St George, Utah (D-111)

Meeting place address: 155 West St George Blvd

Walnut Creek (D-032)

Should be listed under Dick Whitten as NCW

Whittier

Meeting date: Beginning Tuesday June 1, and for the
following 9 Tuesdays, will alter its meeting night at the
United Methodist Church in La Habra. We return to our
regularly scheduled meeting schedule on Wednesday,
August 4.



High School Quartet Gets Check

President **Rich Coon** and **Greg Dreyer**, president of the **City of Lights Chorus** presented a check for \$400 to **Let It Ride**, the second-place finisher in the FWD High School Quartet Contest in Reno.

FWD Fall Convention in Bakersfield
September 30-October 3, 2004
Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!



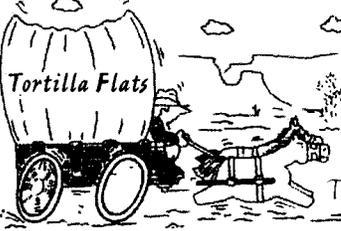
A BARBERSHOP QUARTET

Especially FOUR You!



Paul Schmidt • 619-282-9561
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4157 Fairmount Ave.
San Diego, CA 92105-1609
Redwoodin@aol.com

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Barbershop Style



Dick Williams, Tenor
Leon Higbee, Lead
Don Shelton, Bass
Bob Patterson, Bari

(909) 987-2879
TortillaFlats@ATT.NET



FAR WESTERN DISTRICT

and

S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A., INC.



Contests and Shows
 International Chorus Prelims
 Overall and 4 Plateaus
 Most Improved Chorus
 FWD Quartet Championship
 FWD Senior Quartet Contest
 Show Of Champions

THEATER
 Bakersfield Convention Center
 1001 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, California
 Bakersfield, California

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL
 Holiday Inn Select - Hotel & Conference Center
 801 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, California

Meetings and Events
 Board Of Directors
 House Of Delegates
 PROBE - AHSOW
 Hall of Fame Luncheon
 Chorus Directors Guild
 YMIH

REGISTRATION FORM

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT SPEBSQSA 2004 FALL CONVENTION/CONTESTS
September 30-October 3, Bakersfield, California

Please type or print clearly.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Phone Res. (____) _____ Bus. (____) _____

Competition Status (check one)
 Chorus Contestant Quartet Contestant
 Non-Competitive Member

VIP Status (check one)
 District Officer Delegate HOD
 AFWDC Member Past-FWD President
 Comm. Chairman Other

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.

Quartet Name _____
 Singing Part: Lead Tenor Bari Bass
 Chapter / Chorus _____

FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE

Full Early Bird Registration Type (Check One)	Full Late/On Site Registration Type (Check One)	Single Events Registration Type (Check One)	Official Use Only
c Full.....\$30.00 c Child/Student.....\$15.00 EARLY BIRD CUT OFF Aug. 30, 2004	c Full.....\$40.00 c Child/Student.....\$20.00 All Competitors Must have FULL Reg.	c Fri Evening Qt. Semi Finals..\$20.00# c Sat Chorus Contests.....\$20.00 c Sat. Quartet Finals/Show.....\$20.00# (SOLD ON SITE ONLY)	Date Recd. _____ Check # _____ Seat # _____ Badge Code _____ Cash \$ _____

Registrants whose forms are received as a group will be seated together.

Guest Name	City	Child/Student?		Fee	Seat # Official Use
		Y/N	Fee		

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____ Please make check payable to: **FWD FALL CONVENTION 2004**
 (Member + Guests)

Return completed forms with payment to:
FWD FALL CONVENTION
c/o BOB CATHAWAY
6504 AUDENE WAY
BAKERSFIELD CA 93308

Questions? Call (805) 969-3696 or (661) 399-6292 - Email: rwathaway@cox.net

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Pasadena Westin
Pasadena, California
June 4-5, 2004

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Feeney at: 8:30 a.m.

Present were:

Peter Feeney, FWD President
Bill Cale, Executive Vice President
John Krizek, Immediate Past President
Dick Whitten, DVP NorCal West/Hawaii
Clark Abrahamson, DVP NorCal East/Northern Nevada
Bob Lally, DVP SoCal West
Bernard Priceman, DVP SoCal East
Ivan Jensen, DVP Arizona/So. Nevada/So. Utah
Jim Sherman, Treasurer
Dick Girvin, Secretary

FWD Functional Committee Chairmen:

Chuck Hunter, C&J Committee
Sam Barger, Events Committee
Warren Willard, Membership Committee

Invited Guests:

Steve Sammonds, Long Range Planning Committee
Mike Lanctot, Society Board Member
Robb Ollett, Financial Vice President,
Harmony Foundation.

Note: All transactions of the board meeting have been recorded and are available from the District Secretary. In addition the officer's written reports are on file with the District Secretary.

Motions that were duly made, seconded and passed (MSP) are shown below:

Motion 1. To receive the report of the Nominating Committee. Cale/Lally MSP

Motion 2. That the bookkeeping of the recent SoCal East/SoCalWest conventions be resolved pursuant to the existing rules.. Further, that the FWD make restitution to ensure that the SoCal East Host does not sustain a loss Lally/Cale. MSP

Motion 4. FWD 2005 Directory to be carried in the January, 2005 issue of WESTUNES. Girvin/Abrahamson MSP

Motion 5. At the October, 2004 Fall Convention, the HOD be moved to 1 p.m. on Friday. Krizek/Priceman MSP

Motion 7. Modify the parts of the FWD SOP (4.1.2 and 4.1.10) that require both the EVP and IPP to hold chairmanships of Functional Committees to read they may hold such dual office. Cale/Girvin MSP

Motion 8. Modify the FWD Contest and Judging Plateau System to use the most recently available membership figures from the Society. Priceman/Jensen MSP.

Motion 9. Approve the disposal of obsolete computer previously provided to the district. Abrahamson/Cale MSP

Motion 10. Accept the proposed budget and provide it to the HOD for approval. Girvin/Abrahamson MSP

The meeting was adjourned at 4: 45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
R. Girvin FWD Secretary

To: Peter Feeney, FWD President
From: Deane Scoville Chairman Nominating Committee
Lloyd Steinkamp, Member
John Krizek, Member

Re: Nominees for 2005 FWD Board of Directors

The Nominating Committee is pleased to inform you of the nominees selected for the Far Western district Board of Directors for the year 2005:

President: Peter Feeney
Executive Vice-President: Bill Cale
Secretary: Dick Girvin
Treasurer: Jim Sherman
Immediate Past President: John Krizek
District Vice-Presidents:
Bob Lally, Division 1, SoCal West
Bernard Priceman, Division 2, SoCal East
Dick Whitten, Division 3, NorCal West Hawaii
Clark Abrahamson, Division 4, NorCal East Nor Nevada
Ivan Jensen, Division 5, AzSolNevSoUt

Respectfully submitted,

Deane Scoville, Chairman
Lloyd Steinkamp, Member
John Krizek, Member

**FWD Fall Convention in Bakersfield
September 30-October 3, 2004
Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!**

2004

FWD FALL CONVENTION/CONTESTS
BAKERSFIELD SEPT. 30-OCT 3

HOTEL REGISTRATION FORM

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT SPEBSQSA 2004 FALL CONVENTION/CONTESTS

September 30-October 3, Bakersfield, California

Table with 4 columns: HOTEL, SINGLE, DOUBLE, DBL/DBL. Lists various hotels and their rates for single, double, and double-double occupancy.

CUT OFF DATE IS AUGUST 31, 2004

RATES DO NOT INCLUDE 12% SALES TAX

Please complete form and return to:
THE GREATER BAKERSFIELD CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU
P.O. BOX 192 BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA 93302-0192
Fax: 661-325-7074

ONLY MAILED OR FAXED REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED

Name: _____ Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: (____) ____ - _____ Fax: (____) ____ - _____ Email: _____

ARRIVAL DATE: _____ DEPARTURE DATE: _____

CHOICE OF HOTEL: Please select 3

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

Type of Room: Single _____ Double _____ DbI/DbI _____
Single: 1 bed 1 person Double: 1 bed 2 persons DbI/DbI: 2 beds 2 persons

CREDIT CARD (ONE NIGHTS DEPOSIT)

Type: _____ # _____ Exp. Date _____

Cancellations will not be accepted unless a 48 hour notice is received.

**FWD DVP for Division 1 SCW****Bob Lally**1357 School House Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93108
(805) 969-9701
E: boblally@cox.net

First, congratulations to the six choruses, nine quartets and five senior quartets from SoCalWest that will be going on to represent us at the District Contest in October in Bakersfield. They'll also be joined by a fine young college quartet from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

Now that the Division contests are past it's time to start making plans for summer activities for your Chapter. Though summer is travel time for many, it's no longer the summer doldrums that most Chapters used to experience. There are plenty of activities to keep interest and attendance up. Harmony College is right around the corner, both the national version in St. Joseph, MO, in August and our very own *Harmony College West* taking place in July in Redlands and run by Dean Jim Crowley. You can find information about that event pages 17-20 in this issue. It's also a great time of the year for social events for your chorus with many groups banding together for area celebrations. Another popular activity is offering to fill in for your local church choirs when they take their summer vacations. This is definitely a win-win situation. Your chorus makes a contribution to your community, you have additional performance opportunities and not so incidentally might just pick up a few new members along the way.

So have a great summer, and keep up the great singing while you're at it!

**Division 1 SCW Editor****Mike Martin**2262 Bagley Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90034-1109
310-558-4949
E: martinmt@aol.com**RINCON BEACH****MICHAEL MURPHY**

The **Rincon Beach Chapter** produced a successful show on April 25th featuring **Late Night Barbershop** and The **Westminster Chorus** with **O.C. Times**. Also performing were **Pacific Sound Chorus, Fastrac, Curtain Call, and Chordial Gentlemen**. There have been five guests attending and 2 have started the audition process.

On May 15th, we hosted the SoCal West Divisional contest at Ventura High School. Twenty-one quartets and eight choruses performed. Our own **Pacific Sound Chorus, Fastrac** and **Counterpoint** quartets qualified for district.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEYAIRES**DON HEIST**

Congratulations to the **Valleyaires** as they celebrate 45 years of musical excellence. Member **Don Wright** has accepted responsibility for the planning of a special event to mark the occasion.

Music director **Tom Raffety** sent out a special thank you to **Don Heist** and **Bruce Poehman** for a job well done with the chapter newsletter and especially getting it online. **Bill Horst** took home the prize as top ticket salesman for the annual show by selling 42 tickets. Other top salesmen were (in order) **Ron Malkin, Tom Raffety, Ed Schckman, Bob Karlin, Bill Cohen, Lew Weitzman** and **Ross Brown**.

SANTA FE SPRINGS**KIRT THEISMEIR**

The **Masters of Harmony** and all its affiliated quartets are so excited about what is about to happen that it's hard to accept as this is being written that everything may be over by the time you read it. First, to past events, we held our "most successful show ever" according to some attendees who are not relatives of the chorus. The reason is because we had both The **Boston Common**, 1980 champions, and **Brava!**, 2004 Sweet Adelines International champions, on the show, along with a special solo by **Pam Pieson** of the Harborlites and a cameo by our own **O.C. Times**, now a wild card going to Louisville in July. **O.C. Times** will be joined in the international competition by **Metropolis, Gotcha!, Hi-Fidelity** and **Finale**, making the MOH well represented -- hopefully in the top medals category.

We then proceeded to the SoCal East divisional competition on May 8, with **O.C. Times** winning; and the new upstart quartet **Mach 4**, comprised of **Cory Brendel, Kelly Shepard, Ken Potter** and **Colby Stroud**, capturing second place; and **Top-Notch** staying in contention for the district competition in the seniors class. **4th Row**, beloved of this writer, was also present.

As this issue goes to press, the MOH Chorus burst forth at the SoCal West divisional competition in Ventura on May 15 taking first place. Competing quartets with MOH chorus members were **Hi-Fidelity** (1st place), **L.A. Sound** (2nd place), **Sound Stage** (Super Senior champions), **Curtain Call, Fermata the Blue, Fastrac**, and **Fuzzy Logic**. A special thank you to the **Rincon Beach Chapter** for being such great hosts for this event.

Finally, we are planning a repeat performance of our spring show in Bakersfield (sans The Boston Common and Brava!) on May 22, just in case our members haven't had their fill of singing in the month. If the members' high activity and achievements were not already boringly consistent enough, there have been shows and benefits all over the southland to help our brother chapter and current district champion, the **Westminster Harmony Showcase Chorus**, get to Louisville for their first appearance on the international stage. With several dual members, it is great to know that the MOH's absence from the stage does not signal the absence of MOHers. Good luck to all competitors and especially to our own!

SANTA BARBARA**NATHAN STAPLES**

The **Santa Barbara Chapter** was pleased and proud of our performance in the So Cal West Division contest -- our first in two years. We nearly doubled our active membership and made huge musical strides in route to competing on stage, all after only SIX

WEEKS under the guidance of new director, **Jim Browne!** Of course, our success was partly founded on former tutelage under recently retired director, **Juleine Schmidt.** We also debuted our new chorus title, the *Flying Dolphin Chorus*, in honor of our local landmark statue at Stearns Wharf. We are thrilled with Jim's enthusiasm and direction, and look forward to continual musical improvement as a chapter. We are actively looking for a new rehearsal venue for our Tuesday night meetings, and are planning many chapter activities and performances for the summer and fall 2004. Look for our upcoming events, and catch a ride with the new Flying Dolphin Chorus!

SANTA MARIA

LU HINTZ

Congratulations to **BOTM Bill Leas** for all his efforts toward getting the new striped chapter vests. The Board presented a check to the Solvang Lutheran Church to assist in repairs caused by the recent Paso Robles earthquake. **Gene Kai** and **Lu Hintz** have taken on the responsibility of updating the chapter's information booklet.

SANTA MONICA

JERRY WALKER

It was with mixed emotion that the **Oceanaires** accepted the resignation of our talented Director, **Todd Benton.** For more than ten years, Todd has led the Oceanaires to new levels. While we will miss his talent, leadership, and encouragement, we wish him the best as he makes more time for his family.

A Search Committee was appointed: Bob Heron, Jack Fry and Jerry Walker welcome expressions of interest and suggestions of individuals who should be contacted. Bob can be reached at rcheron@aol.com, Jack can be reached at smokyjack@earthlink.net (after May 28), and Jerry can be reached at jbwalker@usc.edu. **Bob Heron**, the Assistant Chorus Director, has agreed to serve as Interim Director until the search process has been concluded.

The chapter was coached by **Kelly Shepard**, a member of "Sam's Club," and **Laura Pallas**, Director of the Santa Monica Sweet Adelines, in preparation for the So Cal West Convention.

Dick Keagy was selected as **BOTM** after researching and contracting for a new site for our annual Spring Show.

Between preparing for the So Cal West and the Spring Show, members of the **Oceanaires** performed for an Hadassah luncheon in West Los Angeles.

VENTURA

KEITH BOGOST

The **Channel Islands Clippers** director search continues, as **Duane Ashby**, our present director, will be leaving for other activities at the end of July. On May 18, a celebration took place at the regular weekly rehearsal. **Len Koenig** was sung to and given a plaque in honor of his 90th birthday. The plaque read *Longevity Award* and read: "The **Channel Islands Clippers** present this award for outstanding achievement in a single lifetime: for his being an indispensable part of the Ventura, CA

Chapter of the Men's Harmony Society, for his good will, for his past and future good deeds and for his harmonious voice in a chorus or in any group. The Clippers are a finer organization and appreciate his generous contributions to the Chapter and to every individual who has come into contact with him." The award was a complete surprise to Len and refreshments and cake followed it.



FWD DVP for Division 2 SCE

Bernard Priceman
5150 Avenida Hacienda
Tarzana, CA 91356
(818) 625-2832

E: bernard@thepricemanteam.com

I met with Presidents of the SoCal East Division for the second time this year on May 8th at the SCE Convention. We discussed a handful of topics which FWD President Feeney and the FWD Board have designated as priorities. Perhaps the most important among the topics were the two R's - recruitment and retention. Warren Willard, Chairman of the FWD membership Committee, was there to add his perspective and ideas. So far this year, the SCE Division has not met its membership goals and attendees had a number of thoughts on the issue. The Presidents agreed to buy in to a recruitment drive to take place on October 5th throughout the Division. It may be that other Divisions would follow suit. Each chapter will begin by identifying advertising and P.R. opportunities and the project will build from there. In addition, the meeting recognized that one of the most vulnerable times in a barbershopper's career is at the end of his first year when his dues are to be paid. A 9 month survey is to be designed to ascertain whether new members are happy with their new hobby and will allow time for remedial action where necessary. (I also want to touch on one other topic here - how we treat our guests. The recent "spy" article in the Harmonizer was very revealing. Don't let your chapter be accused of ignoring guests. Overwhelm each new face with friendship and encouragement. We want guests to go home enthusiastic and excited about returning the following week).

The next topic we discussed was chapters' involvement in youth activities. Many opportunities are being lost and much satisfaction and fun missed by not contacting local high schools and colleges. Simple presentations to schools can generate interest in quartet contests, youth camps and appearances by youngsters on barbershop shows. This is the future of our hobby and the chapters who are involved are not only having a blast, but get great pleasure from seeing how much the young guys love our music. Each chapter will be encouraged to talk to pre-identified contacts at their local schools through a tracked system.

The Presidents also discussed convention attendance. There is a need to overcome the most common excuse for not attending - "I'm not competing this year, so I have no reason to go". Many barbershoppers (especially newer members) just don't know how much fun it is to be surrounded by hundreds of their singing brothers nor realize that they are missing the chance to see per-

formances by some of the finest quartets and choruses in the Society. To help this cause, the District is looking for even more ways to help members participate at conventions, even if they're not actually competing.

As we approach the quieter Summer season, chapter leaders have time to meet and plan for great things in the second half of the year. Trying to tackle too many things at once often ends up with nothing being done very well. I would urge chapters to try and concentrate on just two or three topics, perhaps just the ones discussed above – recruitment, youth, convention attendance. A few chosen men in each chapter can accomplish a lot and membership will appreciate and benefit greatly from your efforts.

See you in Bakersfield, if not before.



Division 2 SCE Editor
Dick Girvin
57 "F" Calle Cadiz
Laguna Woods, CA 92653
949-380-0732
E: dickgirvin@juno.com

APPLE VALLEY

MAX MAXWELL

With a new director, **Kristen Taylor**, at the helm, **The Hi-Country Harmonaires** are proceeding forward and working on several upcoming venues.

The music team has started preparing a repertoire list of songs that all members should know and learn. Some new music has been started already in anticipation of the annual Christmas program. The Music team has determined that they should do two shows a year (Spring and Christmas) and the chapter is headed in that direction with a successful March show under their belts.

Apple Valley garnered "top billing" on the spebsqsafwd.org web site with an article on how they have changed HFLB to SSS! (If you haven't read it, do it now. Is this a trend to come?)

New member, **Wayne Bell**, Bass, is hard at work learning the chapter repertoire.. There are two other tentative new members in the wings.

COACHELLA VALLEY

TERRY MANN

Saturday, June 26th **The Coachella Valley Sandblasters** will conduct their 3rd annual Brain Storm BBQ and Think-Tank. No normal business, just a "no holds barred" evaluation of the chapter's goals, and the strategy and tactics to reach them. "If you can't get out of the box, then try to enlarge the box!" might be a good description.

Their attendance (which includes a number of Snowbirds) is STILL holding up to the levels they used to see in January and March due to the increasing membership, especially "full timers." Editor Terry opines: "We used to be desperate for basses, now we have plenty, and enough Baris and Tenors, but we

need Leads. *We will be dark (and hot?) in July and August. See ya' Tuesday, September 7th!"*

EL CAJON

MIKE DORMAN

The members of the **Music Masters Chorus** sang enthusiastically at the fun-filled "sing-out" April 18 at the Coronado Flower Show which was outdoors. They are enthusiastic about the growth of the membership, and especially enthusiastic about the ever-improving SOUND the chorus produces. The latter due to the untiring efforts of director, **Tom Anderson**, who is insistent on well-sung chords. He tells them: "There are chords, and then there are finely-tuned chords that ring like a bell". They are obviously listening. Yes, enthusiasm is the by-word in El Cajon!

FULLERTON

DICK COTE

The "brain-child" of Chairman, **Dick Bobo** and the show committee, **BIG TOP BARBERSHOP** proved to all of **Fullerton's Orange Empire Chorus** and their many patrons that "Vaudeville is back!" From the start of the show with recorded calliope melodies acclimatizing the patrons, through the firing of "Captain Cannonball (**Sam Glorioso**) out of a cannon, to the final "post mortems" and letters of praise from their enthusiastic patrons, the show was claimed "the wonderful failure that succeeded." The effort involved the entire chapter with special inputs from Director **Craig Ewing**, seven (count 'em) chapter quartets and a multitude of other folk carrying out tasks that go with a successful show. Headliners included clowns Pretzel (**Rick DeLung**), Kritters (**Kelly Delung**), Dilly Dally (**Dori Schwartz**), the **Westminster Chorus** and **A Capella Gold**.

New member, **John** (the Fireman) **Miller**, provided special insight in the latest Barbershop Clippin's, into the organization, energy and camaraderie that he sees in Fullerton Chapter as compared with other non-singing groups that he has either founded or was a member. "In most organizations," he noted, "there are those who make it happen, those who let it happen and those who ask 'What's happening.?' In Fullerton... we all pull together and contribute our best to make it happen."

Long time member, **Stan French**, reports that his popular *Harmony For Lunch Bunch* continues to draw many Barbershoppers and fans from the surrounding area, proving that "the only place to be on a Friday at noon is at Giovanni's Pizza on the corner of Imperial and Harbor in Fullerton..."

HEMET

BRUCE SMITH

Sweethearts On Parade, **The Hemet Harmonizer's** most recent show came off despite a few beforehand glitches and "...produced some memories that will not soon be forgotten," according to Director **Howard Mesecher**. The "memories" included everything from a "horrible Friday rehearsal," to the ultimate staging of a highly successful show by the immediate action of their talented membership.

President **Dale Covey** lists a new goal for the chapter: "more challenging music."

Great color pictures in the chapter bulletin, UPBEAT, were provided by member **Bill McNaughton**.

IRVINE

JEFF YOUNG

The past month was highlighted by Guest Night, May 24th. The guests were entertained by the **California Promise Chorus** (Irvine) and guest quartets from the **Laguna Hills Quartet Chapter**, which included **Harmony Partners (Don Thomas, Warren Willard, Jim Gaskell, and George Strom)**, **Skylark, (Fred Eastman, Dennis Kirven, Alan Wood and Michael Halpern)** and **The Harbormasters, (Donald Thomas, Albert Pruitt, Hugh Scallon and Dana Bullock)**.

The Cancer Volunteer group from Hoag Hospital was entertained by the chorus, under the direction of Associate Director, **Nick Gaspar**, at the Huntington Beach Hyatt Hotel on April 8.

LA JOLLA

MICHAEL BAUER

La Jolla's Pacific Coast Harmony Chorus placed first in the SoCal East Division Chorus contest, winning the Division in only its second year.

During the month of May, they performed at a Rotary Club "Garden Wine Tasting" event; recorded its demo marketing CD; and has introduced a new up-tune for the chapter when they compete in the District Contest in October.

The chorus will be the featured performers at the opening of the USS Midway Museum in June.

ORANGE QUARTET CHAPTER STANLEY TINKLE

Any Barbershopper can find out what it is like to sing and ring a chord in a group of four guys by merely coming by the **Orange Quartet Chapter** on any Monday evening. Members sing informally at 6:00 and set up random quartets at 7:30.

4/4 Harmony, one of Orange's most active gig quartets, reports that they were the Headliner Entertainment at the annual YMCA Campaign Extravaganza at Crean Mansion in Orange. Charts of the favorite songs of 4/4 Harmony and other quartets have been purchased by VP Music Rich Lewis, so that all interested members can learn them from those quartets. Rich explains this innovative program in the June Squeezin's.

The Chapter is proud of **Fermata The Blue**, which competed in the So Cal West Division contest in May, scoring twelfth on their first time out singing "Old Saint Louie" and "Ain't Misbehavin'."

New member **Rich Spencer**, a former engineer with Boeing, introduced himself to the chapter with an article, explaining how fate led him to the Orange Quartet Chapter, and why he's learning so many songs so quickly—he sings them every Monday.

On April 5, **Gene Clements**, who teaches Vocal Technique with the Masters of Harmony, conducted a "hands on" evaluation of

several Orange quartets, with the help of the other chapter members. The results: everyone agreed that every quartet sounded markedly better at the end of the session!

Skylark, an entertaining quartet from the **Laguna Hills Chapter** that just keeps getting better, dropped by in May and performed for an enthusiastic audience.

POMONA VALLEY

CHUCK MASON

The **Carousel Chorus** is moving quickly ahead in enthusiasm. To wit:

They proudly announce two **BOTMs** for May: **Gene Wright** and **Dennis Shearer**. They both have been instrumental in advancing the concepts of our hobby and thanked by the chapter for their efforts, their enthusiasm, and their commitment to help the chapter grow.

A great Guest Night at the end of April was enjoyed by the chapter, thanks to the guidance and direction of Chapter VP, **George Lee**, who set up a great evening of entertainment, food and fun.

Editor Mason (also Chapter President) personally lauded members of the board that have taken on assignments over and above their assigned duties to help the chorus with enthusiasm, excitement, noting that some of them are going through medical and physical challenges. "You continue to work hard and voraciously for our hobby," he stated, our thanks to you and your families for your great support."

RANCHO BERNARDO

JIM LARKIN

Rancho Bernardo's Troubadours continue their prowess under director, **John Hulbert**, as they prepare to host the RB Chamber of Commerce, the RB Alive, their annual show at Poway and the Fourth of July in Poway.

At the recent SoCal East Contest Rancho Bernardo nearly captured the "Most Improved Chorus award," being narrowly "squeaked out by Irvine. Fine performances were turned in by **Four Heaven's Sake, California Recall** and SCE's new Senior Champion Quartet, **Added Attraction**, containing editor Jim Larkin.

A "senior moment" had to be claimed by Digester **Dick Girvin**, in the last digest, mistakenly identifying **Bruce Cannon** (now residing in Poland with wife and two sons) for brother **Brian**, an energetic member of RB. Bruce will be long remembered for his active membership in the Pomona Chapter (when Digester Dick was there...the connection?)

Three new members now claim RB as their home: **Len Smith, Tom Buckles and Earl Chimm**.

RIVERSIDE

HEDLEY DUNCAN

April and May were busy and rewarding months for the Riverside Chapter. Associate Director **Kevin Price** organized the CDWI event at Upland High School in April, which was well received by all who attended. The chapter also hosted the So Cal

East Division convention. The chapter and FWD thanks **Fritz Grunenwald** and his team for all their hard work in making the event a well run success.

In addition to running the convention, the Riverside Chapter and two of its quartets, **BLING** and **Tour De Fource**, also competed. The chapter is very pleased at their second place finish in the contest and is looking forward to the next round in Bakersfield. They are also proud of **BLING!**, who was named Novice Champion for SoCal East and who scored well enough to qualify for the FWD convention in Bakersfield, Way to go guys!

Welcome new members **Joe Shaw** and **Ken Kersey**.

	<p align="center">FWD DVP for Division 3 NCWH Dick Whitten 7022 Cinnamon Drive Sparks, NV 89436 (775) 626-5433 E: dickwhit@sonic.net</p>
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This month I want to talk to all of the chapters about Dick Bek's tour of the Northern California chapters and his perception of our District. His comments were all positive with regard to our chapters and people. His report was about the same for all the chapters he visited and he used a standard format report form. There were some differences; where he felt there were some notable items he added comments. All of his remarks were positive except in the area of recruitment. We sure hear that a lot! Some chapters are actually growing and they are probably getting tired of hearing they need to do a better job. To you I offer a hearty Thank You and Congratulations! The other chapters in our Division need to take note and honestly look at their chapters. If your members are leaving or worse yet dying, something needs to be done about replacing them. If your chapter isn't offering what the men are coming for, they will leave. If you see declining membership numbers, you need to visit with your board members and take an active approach aimed at growing your chapter again. If you are seeing some new folks but they don't return and join your chapter, you need to look at your program and see what is happening at your meetings. It obviously isn't what they want to invest their time in.

I will leave my soap box now and reiterate my promise of a visit this year. I have been to several chapters, and some have been visited by other District officers. I still have quite a few to do but I will do it. I really enjoy chapter visits so it makes it easy to plan trips to accomplish these visits. Three of my visits have been centered around chapter shows, but I will be visiting either your board meeting or your regular chapter meeting sometime before the end of the year... if the Lord be willing and the creek don't rise.



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The editor way out.

Aoccdrnig to a rsechreear at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mtttaer in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoatnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteer be at the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit it bnieg a porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Amzanig, huh? Go figue....

ALOHA

JACK Y HASHIMOTO

May started with a bang, bang and a Yahoo! Our Annual Spring Show (April 30 and May 1) entitled "*Rhinestone Rides Again*", a melodrama of the Old West, was held at the historic Hawaii Theatre Center in Honolulu. Feature quartet the **Four Voices** wowed the crowd with voices, heart and soul. The 2002 International Quartet Champs stormed in and took over. They had the crowd in the palms of their hands by night's end. The Voices had a busy week. With their "entourage" of wives, significant others and children along, they still found time to play golf with the **Sounds of Aloha** hackers at, arguably, the most challenging golf course in the world, Koolau Golf Club in windswept, rain threatened Kaneohe. I won't go into individual scores, but it was agreed that everyone got their money's worth, and brought enough golf balls. Add to that a free concert at the First Presbyterian Church, and Choral Workshop at Central Union Church in Honolulu on the Sunday after the show.

And speaking of the show, we were fortunate to have great audiences both nights. They enjoyed it and so did the chorus members. Special kudos to the following for their leadership: **Zig Palagyi, Bill and Sandy Joor, Rich Cordeiro and Roz Cole, Dan Tom, Bob Sypowicz, Dennnis Kawamoto, Larry Paterson, Steve Hokanson, Phillip Wee, Mark Conching, Stehanie Conching, Vic Harrington, Janet Harrington**, and many more, and of course THE CHORUS, for the many hours of rehearsals, and for demanding only the best from themselves.

BAY AREA METRO

TOM ENNIS

February is always a great month because of Valentines Day. This year, **BAM** delivered messages of love and tender wishes both Friday and Saturday. Seven quartets criss-crossed the Tri-county area to bring heart-felt messages of love as only they can do. For those who participated in a quartet, the memories will be lasting.

March came in like a lion and will go out the same way because the NorCal West division contest falls on the first weekend in April. It started with an intense weekend advance in Ben Lomond with our guest coach, **Wayne Mendes**. This was Wayne's last coaching weekend before heading across the pond

to open a pub in merry England. BAM thanks him mightily for his contributions to our chorus. Our normal rehearsal night is Monday. Having an advance over the weekend is certainly no reason to skip our regular rehearsal night, so the very next day we were right back at it. Wayne was there again (he left for England the next day).

We had some time to relax come mid-month and take in a great Spring Convention in Reno. The quartets were fantastic with **Gothca**, **Metropolis**, **Q**, and **Hi-Fidelity** all qualifying for international. Congratulations to them and what a fine job by all those who competed.

After such an invigorating weekend, you're all revved up and ready to go, which was a good thing. **Mark Hale** came up for a coaching session. Not to say that he's intense or anything but.....*HE'S INTENSE*.

April started out on such a high for the **Pot O' Gold Chorus** that it would take a meeting with Timothy Leary to get any higher. We kicked off the month by winning the NorCal West division title. This was an important step for the chorus because they not only achieved their goal of winning, but they also achieved their goal of improvement over their fall scores.

There was no time to rest after NorCal because we had our spring show coming up in May. There was new music to learn and, we had to put together a finale for the show with the Mission Valley Sweet Adeline Chorus. The show was arguably one of the best BAM has ever put on. **The Mission Valley Chorus** was tremendous and **Saturday Evening Post** gave every indication that they will be climbing higher into the top ten at Louisville.

EUREKA CHAPTER

GREG DUERDEN

On the sick call list we have had a couple besides **Al Strom's** stroke (he is doing great, by the way, even if progress is slow and tough; he's doing rehab and singing with a swing band as therapy). **Don Setterlund** (Lead) had a four-way by-pass and within 10 days of surgery he was sitting in the chapter singing! **Bill Ayers** (Bass) was in the hospital with a severe attack of Bells Palsy and undergoing treatment for Prostate Cancer. His Bells Palsy responded well enough for him to perform with the chorus for the Redwood Jazz Festival in March.

The Chorus has had two successful performances. We sang with the jazz band Blues Street for a free Sunday morning Gospel show at the 2004 Redwood Jazz Festival. And, on April 17 we had a highly successful Spring Show in Eureka High School's Auditorium with featured quartet **FLIPSIDE** (#8 in the World from Montreal's Convention) based out of Portland. We had a prett full house and a 48-page program filled with over 200 ads (very profitable but a lot of work by our members!).

Bill Cale, FWD Ex.VP, was kind enough to come up and provide our chapter with a *Standing Ovation Evaluation* which we are taking to heart.

FREMONT/HAYWARD

RAY SPINOSA

Members of the **New Dimension Chorus** had a full day at the NorCal West Division Contest. Many members arrived early and helped set up the stage for the performance, including some interesting times with recalcitrant rafters. However, all was ready by early afternoon, when the quartet competition began. Congratulations to **Matt Fellows** and the other members of the college quartet **Fourscore**, on their superb performance. When not competing or setting up, members found time to sing informally outside the theater and later gave an impromptu performance while seated at a large table in a local restaurant.

A recent chorus rehearsal was graced by the appearance of some unexpected visitors. A group of pre-schoolers who were in the corridors outside the classroom at Chabot College where the chorus rehearses, heard the sounds, and inspired their teachers to ask if they could come in for a moment. The chorus was happy to oblige and serenaded the youngsters with a couple of songs. The first experience with barbershop harmony for some future Barbershoppers or Sweet Adelines perhaps?

On a more conventional guest night, several somewhat older but equally welcome visitors spent an evening learning some new songs, and singing in quartets. Also, members and guests spent one evening attending the Roadshow instead of the regular chapter meeting. Especially interesting was the session on woodshedding. Thanks to the organizers for a job well done.

MARIN COUNTY

RALPH KLING

The **Golden Gate Chorus** celebrated its *50th year this June*, by entertaining a thousand or so delighted Mountain Play attendees at the outdoor amphitheater on Mt. Tam.

Resplendent in their brand new suspenders and performing beneath a logo-spangled banner, they were indeed a sight to hear and behold.

Chapter quartets were also active doing road shows at the public schools, entertaining the elderly and performing at various luncheons, saloons, birthday parties and private events.

PALO ALTO/MOUNTAIN VIEW

JOHN HEATHER

The chapter is now settling down for the summer and some interesting performances to audiences of non barbershoper's.

The last couple of months have been busy, we competed in the Norcal West Convention in Campbell, where we were honored with the most improved chorus and Plateau A trophy's. This was followed by our annual show at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, where we had an almost sell out audience that enjoyed our performance and the performance of our headliners **Q**.

S.F. BAY CITY QUARTET

CASEY PARKER

"The S. F. Bay Cities Quartet Chapter was chartered March 1998. For the past six years we have been preserving and

encouraging barber shop quartet singing. We are the pioneer quartet-first chapter in Northern California. Our membership is limited to twenty to allow every member many opportunities to sing in quartets at every meeting. Quartets are made available for sing-outs upon request. We have no Chapter dues. We welcome dual members. All quartetters are invited to our meetings on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays. See <http://www.sfbayquartets.org/sfbn>"

SAN FRANCISCO

DON KINGTON

The members and director of the **Cable Car Chorus** will be meeting at a new venue still in the city's Sunset District but a bit farther south, i.e., the Grace Lutheran Church, 33rd Avenue and Ulloa. The day of the week and time remain the same – each Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Public transit is via L. Taraval MuniMetro or the 66 Quintara bus to 30th Avenue and Ulloa.

SAN JOSE

NEAL CAVANAUGH

WOW! What a barbershop week in San Jose! After a final rehearsal on Tuesday evening, a tech rehearsal on Thursday evening, and a dress rehearsal on Friday evening, James Bond saved the day twice on Saturday, May 22. The evil "*GoldSinger*" was defeated at both performances of the **Garden City Chorus'** annual show. Thanks to all six show quartets, including the "**Perfect Gentlemen**," the afterglow rang with laughter and song 'til midnight.

On Sunday the chorus closed our song-filled week with our respects and memories at a memorial service for late long-time barbershopper **Jack Boyd**.

SANTA CRUZ

LAURANCE STERN

Duane King is the new director of the Gold Standard Chorus. **Gary Haraldsen** has joined the board as Music V-P. November 6 has been set as the date for the Chorus's next annual show.

The focus will be on youth outreach with all secondary schools in Santa Cruz County asked to participate with full choruses or a contingent.

SANTA ROSA

SCOTT DOUGLAS

The **Redwood Chordsmen** just had their annual show, "*Arrgh! There be Pirates Amongst Us!*," featuring the chorus in full piratical garb performing a show written by **Bill Jackson** and **Susan MacLean**. There were scalawags, swordfights and songs. With guest quartet **Late Night Barbershop**, and chapter quartets **Sound Committee** and **Group Therapy**, our audience had a terrific evening. Special thanks to **Rex Huston** for set design and the construction of a ship that looked ready to sail off the stage!

The chorus will sing at a morning Memorial Day service and then have an afternoon picnic.

A Guest Night brought in six interested singers, and at our booth at the Wednesday Night Market in downtown Santa Rosa we will show the community what we do throughout the summer. **Group Therapy** will give demonstrations to music students of two more high schools, accompanied by Professor **Phil DeBar**. Meanwhile

it's full speed ahead to the FWD Chorus Contest in October. Thanks again for your efforts.

SAN MATEO

DAVID JONGROTH

The **GOLDEN CHORDSMEN** had a great time again a NOR-CAL WEST contest under the direction so **Alice Bollard**. Not surprising, the A&R suggestions sounded quite a bit like last year. Our attempt is to target just a few of the opportunities for improvement, concentrating on those throughout the year.

Our annual spring show "*Moments To Remember*", tracking Barbershop singing through its history as the technology of communications changed. The story line was created by **Josh Ryan** and **Mike Dive**. Chapter quartets **Sound Judgement** and **Jim & Tonics** were featured.

We were also delighted to present a contingent of the "San Francisco Girls Chorus, Level III" directed by **Judaline Ryan**.

WALNUT CREEK

DICK JOHNSTON

On April 24 the **Devil Mountain Chorus** sang at an outdoor Kid's Day program hosted by the Walnut Creek Lions Club at Castle Rock Park in Walnut Creek. It was a bright, sunny day, and the audience that assembled under the sheltering shade of a large tarp enjoyed the music. As usual, president **Bob Dunn** provided the sound equipment.

For about the past year Walnut Creek has dedicated the fifth Tuesday, of each month that has one, to quartet singing. Everyone at the meeting is assigned to a quartet (some with five members, because all parts are not equally represented) and everyone enjoys the experience of singing in a quartet. Some try their hands at woodshedding. We find this more successful than having the entire chorus attempt to woodshed, since woodshedding is not really very satisfying as a group activity.



FWD DVP for Division 4 NCENN

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The big news hereabouts is the formation of a brand-new NCENN chapter in **Oakhurst**. I attended their licensing ceremony May 4th, and believe me, these guys have definitely got it together! They're already involved in the community – they have at least one Chamber of Commerce Member in their midst, and have negotiated the use of a wonderful old theatre as a meeting venue. By the time you read this, they will have sponsored a quartet contest, with a 1st prize of \$500 – donated by a prominent business in the community. Hey – stop by and visit if you're in the area – which, by the way, is at the doorstep of Yosemite Park – tough assignment, to be sure, but someone's gotta do it. Look on the FWD website for more info on this great new chapter.

Speaking of the FWD Website – check out the latest on all the

can't miss activities at the Fall Convention in Bakersfield. If you haven't registered yet – why not, for Pete's sake? The list of activities reads like a what's-what of all the reasons you're a barbershopper: TONS of singing (including the opportunity to record your quartet on CD), classes to help you sing better, great competitions, family activities, seeing old friends, making new friends – I mean, what else is there? Affordable accommodations? Done. Check it out – write a check - check in.



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CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

MILES SUTTER

April 15th the **Golden Valley Chorus** performed in Merced at the United Methodist Church. The banquet room was at capacity, thanks to the fine promotional advertising by our Chapter Development VP **Ray Baker**. **Max Muralt**, **Stu McElwain**, **Ray Baker**, and our outstanding chef, **Mike Belluomini**, did the preparation of the food while the remainder of the chorus delivered the food to our patrons. Special mention goes to **Tommy, Howard** and **Betty Barber's** grandson, for helping feed the hungry throng! Three quartets performed: **Fancy That**, an SA quartet, as well as our own **Collaboration!** and **Common Bond**. Our newest member, **Herb Andrew**, was the MC. He's no newcomer when it comes to this and did a very professional job.

We attended the Society's Roadshow in Pleasanton, **Jim Bagby** "ring master," and it provided an excellent opportunity to introduce friends, family and remind yourself why we sing barbershop. 214 people attended, representing 17 chapters, with one member from Oregon. We were entertained by **Heirloom**, **Uncalled Four**, and **Velocity**. They collected over \$1200 to assist the Westminster Chapter with their trip to Louisville.

The chapter held its spring concert entitled "*Planes, Trains and Automobiles*" on May 15. Guest quartet was **Whirlwind** along with chapter quartets, **Collaboration** and **Common Bond**.

CHICO

LEE ATKINS

The **Bidwell Generals'** annual show went very well at Laxon Auditorium thanks to the expertise of **Bob Riedel** and his helpers. They sang a total of 8 songs with the assistance of the young men of Chico Sr. High School. Our director, **Warren Haskell**, did a fine job. Thanks to **Lyn Bankhead**, the audience was treated to the girl's quartet, **Chico Chic**. Other quartets included **Girls Night Out**, **Vintage Sound** and our headliners, **Whirlwind**. Thanks to those who put on the afterglows, **Pat** and **Duane Kincade**, **Bob** and **Judy DeMarois**, **Gerry Andrus** and **Madeline Smith**. **Abe Bailly** was *BOTM* for his fine MC'ing.

FRESNO

GORDON BERGTHOLD

The **Gold Note Chorus** has been busy with performances for the

Veterans of Foreign Wars, a pre-show performance for the Carol Channing appearance in Fresno, Grizzly Baseball Games, and various other events requesting our talent. Quartets from the chapter are still doing special performances in the area and have started working with high school directors to encourage and support singing in the public school system.

NEVADA PLACER

ROGER PERKINS

On May 21 and 22 we held our 21st annual show entitled *Harmony Roundup* in Auburn and Grass Valley. We performed a skit on the first half singing all Western music. Since we have six in-house quartets (not bad for a 38-man chapter) we didn't hire any outside talent this year. Featured were **Essential Harmony**, **Chord Miners**, **Foothill Express**, **The Arrangement**, **Stampede** and a mixed quartet, **Prime Time**. Also two octets performed for the enthusiastic audience. The show was followed by a guest night on May 25.

PLACERVILLE

FRANK MARTIN

The 16-minute video made at the 2003 Youth Harmony Camp was a great success. It is a distillation of 13 hours of taping and is the best description of the reasons for the existence of the camp. If you are curious about the camp, acquire a copy of the video and look it over. It leaves no doubt about the attendee's sudden appreciation for music, particularly in the Barbershop style.

Miller's Hill School no longer has the \$15,000 budget to hire a vocal music teacher, so the music program was dropped! **Ron Murray** jumped into action and asked how the **Gold Rush Chorus** could help. The answer was "money". An action committee consisting of **Ron Murray** (chairman), **Bernard Carlson**, **Keith Eckhardt**, and **Richard Lund** was formed. An agreement was reached and the school will provide \$6,000, Parent's Club \$4,000, and the **Gold Rush Chorus** \$5,000. The Placerville Rotary Club has already donated \$500 and other local organizations show promise of additional funds.

RENO

DAVE RAMER

After hosting the March Divisional Contest we experienced the Summer Blahs. Seemed like every week for the last 6-8 weeks we've had a different mix of chorus members. Vacations hit us hard, but now the snowbirds are returning.

An honor court was held for **Eric Maass**, as he received his Eagle Scout award. **Jim & Nancy Maass**, the proud parents, gleamed as the **Silver Dollar Chorus**, including (Dad) **Jim Maass** sang to the 100 attendees

SACRAMENTO

FRANK KINNISON

Bill Borah was named *BOTM* for March. He is Assistant Director and has 41 years of experience in the Society. He was especially helpful to the **Capitolaires** in preparation for the NCENN contest in Sparks, NV. He diligently provided the warm ups and insight into improving the singing quality of the chorus in preparation for the contest.

STOCKTON

KEP KEPLINGER

The **Portsmen Chorus** entertained at the Stockton Asparagus Festival at the new downtown venue on Saturday, April 24. It was a full dress affair and a 45 minute show. Two quartets also participated including **Tune Struck** with **Bill Litz, Bob Yater, Steve Taylor** and **Al Wolter**. A demonstration of the singing valentine program was given by a quartet with **Brian Besser, John Boge, Steve Taylor** and **Al Wolter**. On April 23 the program was repeated. Entertainment was provided on Sunday by **Hot Commodity** (**Megan Litz, Nikki Gloudeman-Jump, Angela Borba, Lesley Walker**).

No Contest (**John Boge, Bill McCarty, Al McIntire John Eisler**) opened the Stockton 99 Speedway event with the Star Spangled Banner and are invited to return.

Whirlwind with Stockton's' **Jordan Litz**, tenor, was the high-light attraction of the **Golden Valley Chorus** show on May 15th. **Tune Struck** also participated.

VISALIA

DEE BAUGHMAN

The **Mighty Oak Chorus** held it's 23rd annual show, "*Broadway Memories*", in April. Under the direction of Show Chairman **Bob Peden** and our Director **Tank Waldrum**, it was our highest grossing show in the chapter's history. Besides our guest quartet, **The Perfect Gentlemen**, we had a combined chorus of all four of the local Visalia High Schools on the program. Our "Young Men In Harmony" Chairman, **Lance Jepsen** coordinated the effort with the high schools. The Chorus followed the show with a guest night and several guests in attendance.

The Chorus also performed at the Tulare Antique Equipment Show, an annual event for the **Mighty Oak Chorus**.



FWD DVP for Division 5 ASNSU

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I cannot pass up the opportunity to thank each and every one of you that attended the Division 5 Contest in April. I can honestly say that it was one of the most enjoyable weekends I have had in a long time. We had 21 quartets and 11 choruses competing, high school quartets and college quartets, and a small but wonderful Youth Outreach Event on Friday evening before contest on Saturday. With a total of 749 registrations for the contest and events, we showed great support for the choruses and quartets and showed the District that we know how to have fun and set the pace for others to follow. Again my thanks to all competitors and to all who took time from their busy schedules to support our hobby, Society, District, Division and Chapters by participating. With all of that said, I would ask that you look forward just a bit to August 27th and 28th when we will be going back to the Phoenix area, Ahwatukee, for the 2004 Summer Bash, in a new

location at the Grace Inn [room deals we cannot refuse]. Look at the Division 5 web page for all the information and registration forms. Also looking ahead, please do not overlook that each chapter should have appointed their nominating committee in January and that committee should be hard at work to fill any vacant positions you may be facing this fall. Elections should be completed by October 15th and all of the new and returning officers should attend COTS. Keep in mind that COTS is no longer just for the officers, it is also a time for everyone to have fun for the weekend. Please start planning now to attend COTS in the fall. IT IS GREAT BEING A BARBERSHOPPER IN SUCH A GREAT DIVISION. Thanks for all you do.

Keep The Whole World Singing and Keep a Melody Ringing in Your Heart while we Teach the Children to Sing.



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ARIZONA QUARTET CHAPTER

JIM MILNER

The chapter has moved its meeting location back to where we started, at the Tempe Elks Lodge, 2320 S. Hardy Drive. A new manager there invited us back, and the members were glad to return to a rehearsal site where liquid refreshments are available. The chapter meets every first, third and fifth Wednesday.

GREATER PHOENIX

PHIL SMITH

The **Pride of Phoenix Chorus** experienced the heights of exhilaration on April 17 when we took first place in the Division 5 Contest and qualified for the District Contest in Bakersfield by posting the second-highest score in the district.

The elation didn't last long, however, as a few weeks after the contest co-director **Gary Steinkamp** tendered his resignation for personal reasons. The remaining members of the music team – **Russ Young, Cary Burns, Ray Estes** and **Randy Stringfellow** – are pulling together to lead the chorus onward and upward. At the same time, chorus members are working behind the scenes hoping to persuade Steinkamp to reconsider his resignation and return as co-director.

LAS VEGAS

ROGER BUEHRER

The **Las Vegas Gamble-aires** celebrated one of their most successful months of May in recent years. On May 15, the chorus presented its annual show "*The Memories Linger On, a Musical Tribute to Irving Berlin*." More than 30 chorus members, including five chapter quartets, performed two performances, including a near SRO on Saturday night. During the performance, President **Rich Coon** presented a check for \$500 to the Leoni El Cantar Chorus from Clifford J. Lawrence Middle School for their positive support of musical enrichment. The show culminated with a visit by Berlin himself (**Roc Pucci**). The following

week President Coon and **Greg Dreyer**, president of the **City of Lights Chorus** presented a check for \$400 to **Let It Ride**, the second-place finisher in the FWD High School Quartet Contest in Reno. If that weren't enough, the chapter also conducted a singout at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, held a special guest night, and is now preparing for the annual Father's Day Breakfast Bash in June.

MESA

GARY EFRON

The **Lamplighters** are striving to win the Division 5 Most Improved Chorus Award again next year and hopefully earn an invitation to the District competition in Pasadena. **Ray Kahler** and committee have completed their search for a director successfully. We are bringing on board **Jim Brown** as our next director, starting July 1. Jim previously directed the **Scottsdale Copperstatesmen Chorus**. He is currently the director of the **Sun Lakes Chorus** (which only meets when the snowbirds are here). Not only is Jim an excellent director, but he is also the tenor in the quartet **After Hours**.

We are happy to have **Bob Shaffer** back singing with us after his bout with diabetes that cost him his lower leg. He is very active in quartetting. He sings lead with **Love@Home** and bass with the newly formed **Desert Song** quartet. **Lloyd Unfred** was appointed president when Bob stepped down due to health problems. We had our May board meeting in his home.

We have yet another quartet in the chapter. **Sam Doherty** (lead), **Jed Young** (tenor), **Terry Gregg** (bari) and **Phil Smith** (bass from **Pride of Phoenix Chorus**).

PARADISE VALLEY

LEN LEVINE

The **Cactus Chordsmen** were proud to be one of three choruses to qualify at the Division 5 competition for the District Contest in Bakersfield. The loss of some members due to the summer trek to cooler weather has put a strain on the membership, but thanks to an energetic advertising campaign by Membership VP **Alan Korwin**, we are seeing new faces at each rehearsal.

The chapter has moved its rehearsal site back to the Church of the Valley, 4101 E. Shea Blvd. Since the church was available only on Thursdays, we had to change our rehearsal night from Tuesday to Thursday and unfortunately lost our dual members from the Mesa Chapter, which also meets on Thursday.

PRESCOTT

SAM STIMPLE

The last two weeks in May were a busy time for the **High Mountain Chordsmen**. At the May 20 rehearsal, we welcomed **Gary Steinkamp** as a guest chorus coach. On May 22, the chorus performed as part of the Chino Valley Spring Fest 2004. This was a benefit for director **Josh Kervin's** high school music program. And on May 29, members gathered to clean up litter on the mile of Highway 89A that the chapter sponsors.

Thanks to **Lloyd Ewart** for arranging a good news story about the chorus in the Prescott Courier. On April 15, the **High Mountain Chordsmen** and the **Song of the Pines Sweet**

Adelines jointly hosted a very successful open house. And last but not least, congratulations to **Josh** and **Shawna Kervin** on the birth of their son, **Liam James!**

ST. GEORGE

KEN SUNDWALL

The **Color Country Chorus** continues to have a very active spring performance schedule. Recent dates have included a patriotic performance for the American Legion, singing the national anthem to open the annual convention of the Utah Truckers Association, a concert-in-the-park for a church group picnic and a musical tribute at the funeral of **Hubert "Hub" Hickman**, a longtime barbershopper and retired member of the **Beehive Statesmen Chorus** in Salt Lake City.

We welcome new member **Rick Wells** to our bass section. The chorus has moved to a new rehearsal facility for the summer season. We will be at the new St. George Senior Center building each Thursday night. The new location will be far more pleasant during the hot St. George summer season.

SIERRA VISTA

ED RAYMOND

In spite of temporarily reduced numbers due to summer vacationing, the **Cochise Chordsmen** continue to work on the goal of ever-increasing improvement. Musical presentations for current patriotic events, as well as those numbers for our annual show this fall, are being polished up through the joint efforts of director **Linda Gilbert** and section leaders **Paul Godwin**, **Bernie Martus**, **Dave Germain** and **Fred Whitley**. We welcome our newest member, **James Graminski**, son of chapter Secretary **John Graminski**.

On a sad note, we recently sang at memorial services for two former members of the chorus, **Pierce Abbott** and **Horace Huff**. Abbott was a "snowbird" and spent several seasons in Sierra Vista as a member of our chorus. The service was attended by many of his friends from his seasonal home at the Sierra Vista Mobile Home Village, along with a representative group from the chapter.

Huff was one of the founding members of the **Cochise Chordsmen** as well as the Bass for **The Four Mugs**, a widely known and celebrated quartet in the early years of the chapter. Failing health had prevented him from singing for the past few years, but we had the pleasure of visiting him and singing with him on a number of occasions at his home. The services were attended by many of the friends that Horace had made over the years, and we felt honored to remember him in song. We were especially pleased to see **Fred** and **Lois Koch** from our sponsoring chapter in Tucson.

SUN CITIES

BOB MCGOWAN

Don Rubertus regretfully resigned his positions of associate director and music VP for personal reasons. We will miss Don, who has served as the associate director for more than three years and has taught the members a great deal during that time. We wish Don and his wife Lorraine well, and look forward to his return at a later date.

Ed Dane was appointed to replace Rubertus as both Music VP and associate director. Ed, who has a lifetime of musical experience, including several years in an award-winning quartet, will attend Directors College in August to further prepare him for the associate director duties. Ed, a baritone, is also coaching a chapter quartet, which will perform both gospel and barbershop favorites in the local area. His solid experience in voice fundamentals which he developed as a choir director in Ajo, Ariz., will serve him well in further developing the singing skills of our chapter members.

Our chapter has made steady progress in competitive singing, as evidenced by our placement in the recent Division 5 contest. This has been very satisfying for our director, **Rich Thompson**.

TUCSON

FRED KOCH

With 21 quartets and 11 choruses competing, the hosting **Tucson Sunshine Chapter** had quite a challenge in moving 418 performers on and off stage at the Division 5 Convention. Using cellphones (and minutes) provided by Alltel to stay in contact with backstage, the hosts gained 7 minutes in the schedule through the Quartet Contest and another 6 minutes through the Chorus Contest. Kudos go to **Carl Schultz, Jack Dennis, Norm Diltz, Jim Spurling, Mike Wilson, Sally Mazur and George Gibson**. Also thanks to all the members of other chapters in the division who helped out during the convention.

The convention weekend was a big one for **Accidental Harmony**, a Sunshine Chapter-sponsored college quartet from the University of Arizona, who competed and also sang in the Youth Benefit Show on April 16. The lead, **Dallin Durfee**, also was accepted as a chapter member and sang with the chorus in the contest.

On March 30, the **Sunshine Chapter** and the **Tucson Goodtime Singers Sweet Adelines Chapter** held a Friends & Family Night as a dress rehearsal for both choruses' upcoming competitions. In addition, several youth quartets and ensembles sang. More than 500 people packed the Mother of Sorrows Church Parish Hall to see more than 150 performers.

WHITE MOUNTAINS

DOC DOCKENDORF

The **High Country Chorus** appeared April 8 at the Methodist Church, singing The Lord's Prayer for the annual presentation of Michelangelo's The Last Supper, which Pastor **Bob Cutlipp**, one of our lead singers, directs.

Twenty-four of our members attended and sang on stage at the Divisional Convention in Phoenix on April 17. We had a good time presenting the Pass The Apples Medley and bombarding a surprised audience with our nerf apples at the end. We offer our congratulations to Mesa for winning the Most Improved Chorus trophy, which we hated to give up. We will dutifully maintain the spot on top of our music file cabinet for its safe return one day.

On May 11, we appeared on a benefit concert for **Candy Porter** at Blue Ridge High School. Candy is a teacher at the school, but

more importantly she is the wife of our bass **Jim Porter**. We wish Candy well in her fight against cancer. Her spirits are high, as is her sense of humor, as any of you who saw her at the convention with her bald head, adorned with various tattoos.

Saturday morning May 15 found the chorus picking up trash on our adopted city street, which winds thru a beautiful pine forest but is always littered due to its remote location. That night we held a party at the Dockendorfs' to kick off the return of our summer singers.



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You now have the option to suspend mailing of your copy of WESTUNES, and opt for electronic distribution only, via the Far West Website. The advantages of doing so:

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



Far Western District Fall Convention Bakersfield, CA

Sept. 29-Oct. 2, 2004

The Fall Convention is looking good for plenty of fun singing and craft classes to boot. Even if you are competing you can find some extra activities to add to your weekend. Not all the details are in place, but the current plan includes:

Jumpstart Thursday Evening Somewhat Serious Quartet Contest

Join us at 7:30pm on Thursday for an impromptu quartet contest. Show up, find three others, practice your song and compete. While the quartets are honing their performances, the "audience" will get in on a community sing. If you were at Reno you saw the Cat In The Hat folks that wore their silly hats all weekend. Don't expect less at this toss-out-the-normal-rules contest.

Vocal Production Class

OK, you couldn't make it to HCW. Come learn in this abbreviated version of the class.

Tag Singing

This is a fun singing time with one of our tag meisters.

How to be a better Tenor/Lead/Bari/Bass classes

None other than our 2003-2004 FWD Quartet Champs, Q, will be teaching this class. Come learn about how to sing your part better and have fun getting acquainted with these super guys.

Harmony For Lunch Bunch

Held Friday noon at a local Pizza restaurant, this is a great time of singing and chatting with friends. Join us

Quartet Recording Sessions

Would your quartet like to have two of your songs recorded on a CD? Perhaps you have a remote coach in mind you'd like to use, but airfare is pricey. Send a CD instead. Maybe you want a couple songs to send to a chapter before they schedule you for their show? Maybe you just want a copy for your own library. This is a YMIH fun raiser. You donate \$25 to YMIH and have a professional sound engineer record your quartet. Soon there will be an online form where you can register. Watch the FWD website.

Mic Tester Chorus

Join this Saturday morning chorus and give the Chorus Contest a rip roaring start.

Buffet dinners Friday and Saturday

This popular event is being repeated with plans for a much larger crowd.

Woodshed Quartet Contest

Quartets will register early in the weekend, choose a melody from our stockpile, privately work up their arrangement, and compete Saturday night in an afterglow setting where the audience does the judging.

Audience Sing

We're working to set up some time(s) for the whole gang to sing. What a sound with thousands of voices singing.

Division Quartet Contest

There's been some bragging on which division can produce the best chorus from their non-competitors. We're hoping to find out in a winner-takes-all-bragging-rights contest.

We'll have more details soon on the FWD website and a schedule in the September Westunes.

CONVENTIONS, SHOWS, EVENTS

2004

June

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*
21 Fullerton Show

September

25 Prescott Show
September 30-October 3
FWD Fall Convention
Bakersfield [District run]

October

9 Stockton Show
23 Napa Valley Show
23 San Mateo County Show
24 Marin Show

November

6 Placerville Show [T]
13-14 COTS-LA at LAX Hilton
20-21 COTS-Sacramento at
Hilton Arden Fair West

December

5 Rincon Beach Show
18 Santa Rosa Show

2005

March

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

April

8-9 *NCWH Div Contest*
San Jose
22-23 *A/SN/SU Div Contest*

May

7 Santa Rosa Show
14 *SCE Div Contest*
14 San Jose Show
21 *NCENN Div Contest*

July

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

17-24 *HCDC MWSC St. Joseph, MO*
[dates are a one-time change]

October

13-16 *FWD Fall Convention*
Pasadena [host: Santa Fe Springs]

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

October

11-14 *FWD Fall Convention*
Tentative location

2008

Jun 29 - Jul 6 **INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**
Nashville, TN

2009

Jun 28 - Jul 5 **INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**
Anaheim, CA

2010

Jun 27 - Jul 4 **INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**
Philadelphia, PA

Clear all show dates with the FWD Secretary, Dick Girvin

WESTUNES

Magazine

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