



WESTUNES

Magazine

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

Volume 54

November/December 2004

Number 6



2004 FWD Quartet Champions O.C. Times



2004 FWD Chorus Champions Masters of Harmony

The FAR WESTERN DISTRICT includes
Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada and Southern Utah



1 O.C. Times



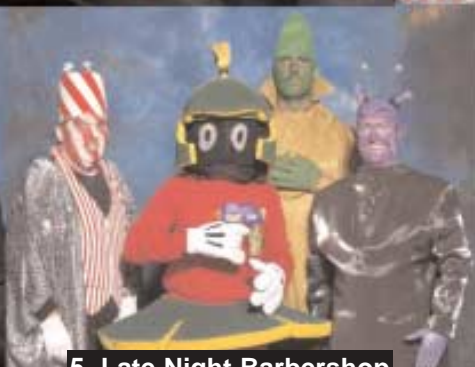
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4 Velocity



5 Late Night Barbershop



6 High Five



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8 Counterpoint



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11 After Hours



12 Stage Hogs



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May/Jun	1 Apr	25 Mar
Jul/Aug	1 Jun	25 May
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Don Harris

The Barbershop Harmony Society's new Chief Executive Officer was our Society Representative at the Convention. It was a pleasure to spend some time with him. Our Q&A session with him on Saturday morning was very well attended and Don was very open and informative about his plans for the future. Changes have been made and more are on the way. It won't take long for you to see the results of all the hard work that has been going on behind the scenes. One thing that Don made very clear is that the objective of everyone in the leadership of the Society is to enhance the barbershop experience of each and every one of our members. You can't argue with that.

Beautiful Weekend in Bakersfield

What a wonderful convention we had in Bakersfield! The FWD Convention held over the weekend of October 1 and 2, 2004 was a great success. Congratulations to all the wonderful performers who were on stage and especially to our new Far Western District champions, **O.C. Times**, **Sands of Time** and the **Masters of Harmony**. If you were there you know how much fun it was, and if you weren't there, plan on being at the next one. It is in Burbank, California next March.

Thank you!

There so many people to thank for working so hard to make the convention a success that the list at times appears endless, but we must start with the competitors who worked so tirelessly to bring their best performance to us. It was truly a wonderful weekend of music and we can't thank you enough for your dedication to our musical art form. It was inspiring.

I would also like to thank the judges who traveled long distances and gave up their weekend to be with us and perform their vital role in the contest. Theirs is a very tough job, second in degree of difficulty only to the competitors themselves.

Thanks to the District Events Team, the **Fullerton Chapter** and to all those that made the convention the success it was. Special thank you to our convention chairman **Dave Prigge**. Congratulations, Dave on another super job!

Convention Honoree

Congratulations to our convention honoree **Gene Hartzler**, a long time barbershopper and current member of the Palomar Pacific Chapter. Gene and his lovely wife Maxine were honored at the convention and presented with a commemorative plaque. Gene was born in 1915, joined the Society in 1965 and competed with his chorus in the chorus contest. It was a pleasure being with the Hartzlers and honoring their contributions to the Society.

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

COTS

As you read this, COTS will only be a few short weeks away. Please send your leadership team to COTS. You will be doing your chapter a service that will pay dividends immediately. We will have two COTS this year in order to make travel easier. The first will be held on November 13 & 14 in Los Angeles at the LAX Hilton and the second will be held the following weekend at the Hilton Arden Fair in Sacramento. Come to COTS, you will not be disappointed.

House of Delegates

We had a very productive HOD meeting in Bakersfield. The House approved a number of items, including a move back to Bakersfield in 2008, and awarded the Fall Convention in 2007 to Phoenix. Next spring we will meet in Burbank and in the fall we will meet in Pasadena. The following year (2006) we will go to Reno and San Jose. In 2007 we will meet again in Reno and the aforementioned Phoenix.

The House also discussed but failed to pass a motion put forward by the Central California Chapter delegate Mike Barkley to alter our rules regarding qualification for the fall District Quartet Contest. Although the vote was close, the required majority was not reached. I want to think Mike for a thoughtful and professional presentation of the issue. New ideas and approaches to enhance the enjoyment of our hobby are always welcome.

One change to our contest system that was made at the HOD merits mention here. In 2005 the five top scoring senior quartets, plus any senior quartets from the Alohas chapter, will be entered in the Fall Senior Quartet contest to be held concurrently with the semifinals of the District Quartet Contest on the Friday night of the convention weekend. The senior quartet achieving the highest score in the Fall will represent the District at the Society Contest held at the Mid-Winter.

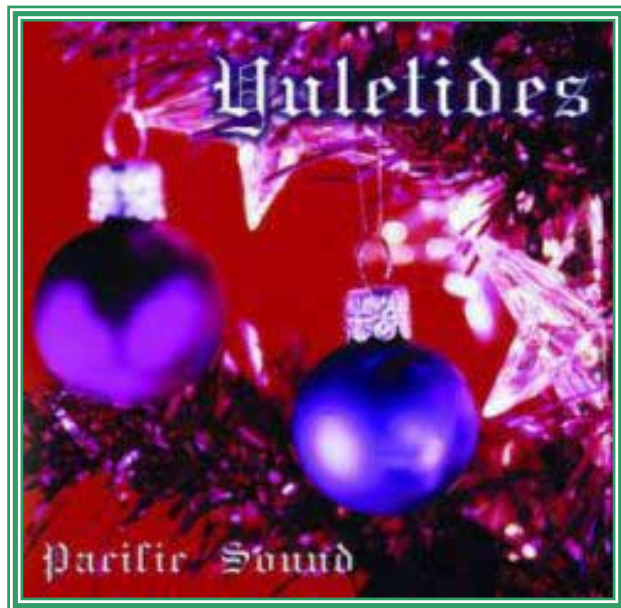
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“Wow...who Are you guys?” – Steve Delahanty Music Judge, NY

“I have so much admiration for the Pacific Sound Chorus. Wonderful gentlemen. They care deeply about music and quality ensemble singing. You’ll hear this and more in their Holiday recording. . .!”

Dr. Greg Lyne, Director of Music Education and Services – Barbershop Harmony Society.

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A Successful Convention in Bakersfield

Editor Ray gave us a few extra days to turn in our articles for this issue, just in case the District Convention in Bakersfield had any influence on what we had to say. How could it not influence us? What an outstanding convention! It's impossible to name all those who made it so memorable because I'd have to name all the competitors (and there were 832 men just in the choruses) as well as all the people in the audience. Even during the Friday afternoon Senior Contest, when the buffet dinner was open, the auditorium had lots and lots of enthusiastic attendees in the seats. Speaking as one of the contestants, we were absolutely delighted at the number in the audience and the response we got.

Several times, during the weekend, the Far Western District was called the District of Champions because of the number of medals our groups have won over the years in International competition. Recognizing how many medals are involved is nice, but we really need to recognize the Championship Character of those men who wear those medals. What a wonderful thing for **NIGHTLIFE**, **REVIVAL**, and **GOTCHA!** all to come to their District Convention just to sing for us and to cheer on the competitors. That wasn't as easy as some of you might think. John, lead of Nightlife, lives in Utah. Mike, lead of Revival, lives in Pennsylvania. And Chris, lead of Gotcha!, lives in Colorado. True Champions, all.

We have other Champs in our midst. I refer to the men who are serving as your Division VP's. At our BOD meeting these men embraced and dedicated themselves to the team concept within their respective Divisions. They will build teams using the

Chapter Counselors and Chapter Presidents in their Divisions and will help co-ordinate the activities of the District Management Team (read Committee Chairmen) within each Division. There's no doubt in my mind, the level of participation and satisfaction of the individual member will soar.

I can't close without saying how excited I am about the Bakersfield Contests. We have a wonderful Spring quartet contest to look forward to and I fully expect FWD will be sending more quartets to Salt Lake City than any other district. And after being blown away by the chorus contest, under the new preliminary chorus contest setup in Salt Lake, we should lead the way in numbers of choruses.

1996 International Quartet Champions

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Youth Harmony Camp 2004!

Richard Lund, Camp Director

Wow! What a great time and what a learning experience for some sixty-two boys.

Youth Harmony Camp 2004 was held for the second year September 17-19 at Sly Park Educational Center in Pollock Pines, California (a couple hours east of Sacramento off of Hwy 50). It is a wonderful woodsy setting with room for the boys to let off a little steam and learn a ton about barbershop harmony from some of the best in the business. Our faculty consisted of **Bill Weiser** (Reno Silver Dollar Chorus), **Connie Keil** (Tucson Sunshine Chorus), **Chris Peterson** (Professor of Music at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee), **Michael Martin** (just starting a PhD program in music at Kent State) and **Jerry Fox** (Mesa, Arizona assistant director), headliner quartet “**Q**”, and **WhirlWind**. In addition, we had fifteen volunteers from a number of chapters who served as chaperones and food servers. What a dynamite group!

The boys learned five songs in a day and a half including Sittin on Top of the World, Coney Island Baby, In My Room, Sound Celebration and The Water Is Wide – an incredible arrangement by our own Rick Spencer of Kenosha.

As it turned out our attendees included seven Quartets! They received extensive coaching from some of our best. They certainly went home with a far greater understanding of barbershop and barbershop harmony. As some like to say.... Harmony Camp makes *Barbershoppers for Life* and those of us who participated in the Camp believe this.

Let's also talk about the contributions that YOU made – providing the funds for this Camp. Ten chapters, individuals, and outside organizations contributed a total of \$9,700 in support of Harmony Camp 2004. Your financial support allows us to continue our search of the entire country for the best music educators and the best quartets possible. As was the case last year also, we are able to immediately make a deposit and reserve the campsite for Harmony Camp 2005.

An area I feel we need continued dialogue on is how we – the barbershop community - view Harmony Camp. In the past, the District charged the boys a small amount (\$25) and subsidized the remainder of the cost for each attendee. In my opinion that model devalued the experience and resulting perception of value of the Camp in the eyes of the boys and their parents. There were cases of boys who had registered simply not showing up for Camp because they put so little value on it. That model also put a large strain on our barbershop community. In order for that model to succeed we in the barbershop community must raise upwards of fifteen thousand dollars each year. We are rapidly moving away from that model. In its place we want to encourage a “buy-in” on the part of the boys and their families and thereby raise the value of the camp in their eyes. The Camp must succeed or fail on its own with the ultimate customer - the boys and their families - who perceive value in the Camp and are willing to pay for it.

To that end we are doing a couple of things: one, we are raising the price of Camp for each attendee to more nearly reflect our true cost (the price to each attendee in 2003 was \$60; the price for each attendee in 2004 was \$70); two, we are setting aside a pool of dollars to be used for scholarships for those who cannot afford the higher price (as was the case in 2003 and 2004 partial scholarships are encouraged); and three, we are talking with chapters and encouraging them to reconsider their policy of paying the full cost for each boy in their area who wants to go to Camp. Chapters could, instead, offer scholarships either by helping to fund the Camp scholarship fund, or by offering their own partial cost or scholarships.

Just for your edification, the Singing Buckeyes in Columbus Ohio charge \$250 for their four day Camp, and this past summer they had some 270 boys and girls in attendance. This is not necessarily what we see for the future of our Camp, but it is good to check out successful models.

Our price for a two-day Camp was \$70 per attendee - up from \$60 last year. This cost represents about a third of the total cost of the Camp. Our near term goal is to increase the attendance and continue increasing the price so that approximately two thirds of the cost is borne by each Camper.

How can we expect to increase both price and attendance, you say? At \$70 or even \$100, a full weekend Camp including room and board is still a fantastic “deal”. You then add a couple of top quartets, barbershop educators from across the country and classes, talent shows and the Big Sunday Show why, how can you question a measly price of just \$xx dollars? (or whatever the final price turns out to be).

Enough of the heavy hitting on pricing philosophy and fund raising. I want to end with a story - names excluded to protect the individuals.

We had one lad who seemed to be unaware of what Harmony Camp was about and why he was there... so much so that by Saturday morning he became more than a bit disruptive and we sent him home. One of his compatriots, who seemed similarly unaware of why he was at Camp continued his stay with a somewhat less than enthusiastic attitude.

However, at some point during the weekend, Bill Weiser, our Music Director, commented to this boy, “You know, you could be a really good bass!”.

The boy apparently heard Bill's comment loud and clear and this past weekend I found both boys at Bakersfield!! They now have a goal of singing in a quartet, singing in the local Chorus, and making barbershop a part of their lives!!!!

What was that earlier cliché about Harmony Camp making *Barbershoppers for Life* and more importantly providing an avenue through which these young people now have an identified goal in their lives?



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The following message is from **Lance Jepson** from the **Visalia** Chapter. Lance was the recipient of the Far Western District's scholarship to Directors' College in St. Joseph, Missouri in August.

Thank you and the Far West District for giving me my first experience to Directors College this year. It was/is such a great and rewarding time. Everyone in our society should go at least once.

The classes and instructors were outstanding :
 "Directing Techniques" by Dennis Morrissey showed me alot of good tools to lead a chorus (and a chance for everyone to practice them in class). "Sound Management was very good, and "Theory II" taught by Paul Drummond was super; he made the material interesting and you wanted to learn more. I have been using the things I was taught and information presented to advantage with our "Mighty Oak Chorus"

I was very impressed with how well organized and smoothly run Harmony/Directors College was handled. The leaders all deserve "gold stars" for their efforts.

All the fellows there were extremely friendly; we really do have a special society in barbershop. I look forward to possibly attending next year's college (more to learn, to sing, and to improve).
Thanks Far West District.

Lance Jepson, Mighty Oak Chorus



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Quo vadis?

Where are we going indeed? My high school Latin does not permit me conjugate verbs nor to even generate more than a simple barely remembered phrase. However the significance of that question as it pertains to the FWD is an apt one at this point in our history. Recent discussions and disagreements on contest procedures have resulted in the generation of some rather considerable heat generation, but now that our annual fall convention and contest is history we can take a few moments to reflect upon the course we have elected to steer.

An idea precipitated by the unusually small number of quartets achieving the qualifying fall contest score at the combined

International Prelims/NorCal/NorNev Division Contest generated concerns resulting in a proposal that would have allowed FWD quartets to compete in more than one division contest if they failed to reach the qualifying level. This was widely discussed prior to Bakersfield and, after considerable discussion in the House of Delegates, was narrowly defeated. Seen by some as an opportunity to encourage quartetting, others viewed it as an artificial qualifying device not found in other competitive endeavors. Perhaps one major factor against the proposal was that the wording would have made the change permanent, rather than specifying that after a trial period the approach would have been evaluated and then either made permanent or set aside.

A problem with this year's Seniors Quartet Contest was brought about by the fact that a modification to the SOP had been made that permitted any senior quartet scoring over 60 points to compete in the fall contest. As outlined in the previous issue of WESTUNES, this generated an enormous logistical problem that was resolved only after a petition was submitted to the ICJC and permission was received to conduct a separate contest with a single panel of judges. In order to avoid the problems experienced this year the policy will revert to having only the top five senior quartets from the division contests qualify for the fall competition.

It is a fact of life that there are certain expenses associated with conducting conventions and contests, one of which is for judge travel. Recently it was pointed out that the expenditure for judge travel in the FWD has totaled \$79,035 since the year 2000. That's a lot of money, but in isolation the figure is relatively meaningless. After determining the number of judges who have traveled and the total revenue generated by these conventions a more meaningful analysis can be made.

Since 2000 there have been 30 contests in the FWD involving a total of 274 judges. The gross revenue generated by these contests is \$618,620. Translated, the average cost of travel for a judge to participate in the FWD has been \$288.44, which represents 11.9% of the generated income. Looking at the costs from this perspective it would appear that even though some judges are traveling great distances the average travel costs are relatively low.

Of course if we were able to use FWD judges for all of our contests the costs would be lower yet. That is not, nor has it ever been, possible. However if we had more judges it might lead to lower costs for us, which is particularly important at the division level where sometimes it is difficult to meet expenses due to low registration numbers. So, as a final thought, if you are thinking about applying to the judging program, **DO IT NOW!** The deadline is December 31st.



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DISTRICT CONTEST = GREAT WEEKEND

Both quartet and chorus contests were really exciting! I noticed a couple of things which you and your chapter ought to consider.

Just as we saw last year, when the Westminster Chorus won with 27 men on stage, this year Rincon Beach, Pacific Sound Chorus won third place with only 22 men on stage, and Riverside's The New Gang On The Corner chorus was seventh with only 18 men on stage!

What can we learn from this? Your chapter doesn't have to pass up contests just because you don't have 50 men to put on stage. The secret is to have each man in your chorus sing better!

How can your chapter do that? - Funny you should ask.

S.I.N.G. = S.inging I.mprovement N.ow G.uaranteed. This is a program offered by the Far Western District through the Music and Performance Committee. It works like this: Have your Director and Music and Performance Vice-President get together and decide which are the two or three most important areas of singing that they would like to have improved. That includes anything that would improve the overall performance of your chorus. Remember, a better singing chorus will attract and keep more members, more patrons who will become fans and promoters of your public performances, and most of all, it will make every chapter meeting more fun, give you a better disposition and increase your life-span.

How do you accomplish this modern miracle? If your Director and M & P V.P. agree that they would like to improve the singing level of your chorus, simply contact me. I will send a list of successful FWD chorus directors who have agreed to coach choruses on a meeting night, for a full day, or a weekend retreat. The FWD will reimburse to your chapter 50% of the expenses incurred - travel @ \$.25 per mile or airfare, meals and lodging (but not any coaching fees).

Call or email the coach you want to help your chorus. Set a date and get your chorus pumped up!

The reason this program will work for your chapter is that these coaches know what they are doing and have proven that in competition. And, if your chorus really wants to improve, they will, even if they only put into practice 25% of what the coach tells them and/or demonstrates. 100% is much better, but let's be reasonable.

Hint! Have three or four guys with good tape recorders (video if you have it) record every minute of his coaching session. Place the tapes in three different locations so as to get everything he says and does.

BEFORE THE NEXT REHEARSAL! have them write a transcript of the important points made and/or demonstrated, and give a copy to the Director so he can get started reinforcing at the next rehearsal what they learned, before he and the chorus forget it. The Director should incorporate the examples, techniques and demonstrations into all his regular rehearsals.

For heaven's sake, don't invite a knowledgeable chorus director to come help your chorus sing better and then never incorporate his suggestions into your singing. If you will work at what he (or sometimes she) says, your chorus will improve! Guaranteed as in S.inging I.mprovement N.ow G.uaranteed.



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Thank you for following my articles on Harmony Foundation and Far Western District activities.

I also appreciate the assistance for this past year, and hope these great men will continue with me next year - Michael Frazer (Santa Barbara chapter) in grant instructing, JP LaMontagne (San Diego chapter) handling Founders Club prospects, and HF Chairman Don Salz (Sacramento chapter) continuing with convention attendance.

Every chapter should send a representative to the Grant Writing classes offered at COTS this coming November. This is the one time for specialized training in ways to augment member dues and raising funds for chapter operations. I'll be seeing the Southern California, Arizona and Nevada chapters at November COTS where I'm teaching in Marketing/PR.

As always, you will soon receive a year-end appeal to give to Harmony Foundation. Realizing that only 10% of the Society membership contributes, I'm hopeful FWD will do more than their share toward these annual gifts to perpetuate our barbershop harmony hobby (outside of dues).

I am eager for the Harmony Foundation planning session in Chicago over the weekend of December 8-10 to jump start our activities in 2005. I will be asking Society CEO Don Harris and Foundation President/CEO Clarke Caldwell to swing through the FWD not only to visit chapters, but also to meet our Harmony Foundation donors. We would arrange special receptions/meals in the San Diego, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Sacramento areas. Stay tuned for those details.

Again, many thanks for your attentiveness and support for Harmony Foundation. Keep alert for articles in WESTUNES on updates and ways to give to our important charity. As always, let's B#.



2004 FWD Fall Convention Dedicated to Gene Hartzler

*[This article appeared in
the Convention Program]*

The Far Western District
Board of Directors and the
district membership take
great pride in dedicating
this 2004 Fall

District Convention to
Gene Hartzler --

Mister Barbershop of the El Cajon, San Diego, Rancho Bernardo
and Palomar-Pacific Chapters!

Gene was born in White Pigeon, Michigan on April 5, 1915. His
main interest, all of his life, has been music. He played in the
band at every school he attended. This included his college days
at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo where his major
was accounting, but his minor was music. He went on to suc-
cessful employment with the Conn Musical Instrument
Company in Elkhart, Indiana utilizing both talents.

Gene and Maxine met in Kalamazoo in 1936 and were married
in 1938, coinciding with the birth of the SPEBSQSA in Tulsa,
Oklahoma. This year, Gene and Maxine celebrate their 66th
anniversary along with their two daughters and families, includ-
ing four grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

In the Big Band era of the 1930's and 40's, Gene played clarinet
and was male soloist with a popular dance band. the Hartzler

Family moved to California in January, 1950, having enjoyed all
the cold weather they needed. But he didn't leave his clarinet
behind. He is currently on call to play with The Pomerado
Community Concert Orchestra.

Gene became a member of the SPEBSQSA in 1965 when he
joined the brand new El Cajon licensed chapter and served as
their first Treasurer. He guided the chapter through all the incor-
poration legalities and at the 1965 FWD Fall Convention in
Phoenix, he was presented the el Cajon Chapter Charter by FWD
President Don Galvin.

He transferred to the San Diego Chapter in 1966 and performed
with The Sun Harbor Chorus under the direction of the late
Marvin Yerkey when they competed in Chicago at the
International Convention, winning a fifth place bronze medal.

In 1972, Gene was elected Secretary of the Far Western District
and served in that office for 14 years. He served on the interna-
tional Chapter Officers Training Schools for many years teach-
ing chapter secretaries.

When Gene and Maxine moved to North San Diego County, he
transferred to the Rancho Bernardo Chapter. Again, another
move brought him to Escondido and he moved his membership
to the Palomar-Pacific Chapter. Each Tuesday evening, he con-
tinues to be one of the chapter's most active lead singers.

Without the continued efforts and total involvement of members
like Gene Hartzler on all Society levels, there would be no Far
Western District, nor even a Barbershop Harmony Society. So,
step up to Gene sometime this weekend, shake his hand, say:
"Thanks" and harmonize to his lead singing a Barberpole Cat song!



Nightlife, Revival and GOTCHA! Perform at Convention Show of Champions



1996 Int'l Champions Nightlife

1998 Int'l Champions Revival

2004 Int'l Champions GOTCHA!



All Quartet, Senior Quartet and Chorus Contest Photographs Taken by:

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WE DID IT IN GRAND STYLE!!!! FULLERTON STORMS BAKERSFIELD

By Deane Scoville, Chapter For Hire Chairman
deanescoville@verizon.net

Fullerton was the "Chapter for Hire" at the district fall convention in Bakersfield during the weekend of September 30th through October 3rd. As chairman of this group, I wish to acknowledge the outstanding participation that we had from our chapter members and their sweethearts.

They say "Actions speak louder than words" and our "actions" in Bakersfield at the FWD fall convention prove that we are not only "*NUMBER FUN*", but we know how to take on an assignment and carry it out in great style.

Many people from President Peter Feeney on down to Joe Barbershopper congratulated us for the outstanding job that we did as the "Chapter for Hire" supporting the District Events Committee to make this a successful convention. Dave Prigge, Convention General Chairman, was extremely helpful in guiding us with respect to our responsibilities to the district. He made two trips from his Fresno home to Fullerton prior to the convention weekend to assist us a great deal in the planning process. Also, in the mix was Sam Barger, FWD Events Chairman, giving us a taste of his expertise which was very helpful.

We must also not overlook the support that the Palomar/Pacific Chapter members gave to us while we were getting ready to compete and, of course, while we were on stage. They were extremely helpful in giving us a helping hand by supplying ten men to assist with the ushering and back stage duties. We could not have done it without them. *Thank you Pal/Pac.*

There are many people in our chapter to thank and I know I will not be able to thank each one of them by name. However, there are several key people that were extra valuable in the jobs that they performed plus being available for pre-planning our week-end of heavy duty work.

Here are some accolades in random sequence. I know we would have never made it without **Millicent Cook** and the large group of gals and guys that handled the registration responsibilities. Then there is a man named **Pete Saputo** and his riser crew that really did "rise" to the occasion. They started early, had some hard work, with breaks, and then a late-late job Saturday night for teardown. The Judges Services were handled by **Kent Fossum** and his associates, which included "Speedy Gonzales", aka "Stanley Tinkle" who made several trips to the printer and back with score sheets.

Certainly **Art Clayton** and his crew of ushers deserve a lot of credit for keeping things going. For a change, I never heard any

complaints from the emcee or the judges about loud tags being sung in the lobby during competition time this year.

The Competitor Hosts under the guidance of **Fred Robirds**, the cake baker, and the Stage Monitors guided by **Sam Gloriosso**, the raffle money man, deserve a special thanks for not only the job they did, but the fact of the matter was that they never had an opportunity to see any part of the competition. I hope they were able to see the Show of Champions on Saturday night.

It was a real pleasure to have **Dick Cote**, the bulletin guy, as our Assistant Chairman. I was "out of touch" at two meetings, plus being the emcee of the Senior Quartet Contest for six consecutive hours from eleven until five on Friday, so Dick had to take over. He reported that we were in fine shape when I finally returned after being submerged for so long a period of time.

Certainly thanks are in order to **Craig Ewing**, our wonderful director, for putting up with all of this interruption of rehearsal time. We love you, boss!

Last, but certainly not least, my personal thanks to President **Ron Soderquist** for his support all the way through this heavy duty assignment.

In conclusion, I simply say "Thank you, one and all for making Fullerton the *Number Fun* and the *Number One* chapter in my humble opinion. You all were great performers in Bakersfield.



"He Who Laughs, Lasts"
A Tonic Explosion
A Barbershop Quartet
presents
Comedy With Class
Lowell Reynolds (559) 683-6310
PO Box 475 • Oakhurst, CA 93644
lcrey@sti.net

FWD Spring Convention & SCW in Burbank
March 17-20, 2005
Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!



2003 FWD Quartet Champions

Q's championship year has come to a close. In this final article, Q discusses their experience as FWD champions and tells us about its future.

What was it like becoming district champions?

ROBERT: After our names were added to the FWD trophy and I read the fifty years or so of champions, it started to sink in how we had joined an august body of very fine singers. It had been a very long time (since the San Francisco Storm Door and Whale Oil Company) since my chapter had a district champion in its ranks and I was very happy to bring that honor home for them.

MIKE: I had looked up to so many AFWDC quartets for so many years—it was overwhelming to think that we had become one ourselves. Winning the district championship was truly a dream come true for me.

RAYMOND: *Q* was my third district champ quartet, which not too many men have been lucky enough to attain. As they say, the third time's the charm!

CORY: I started wearing my district champ pin to class every day, hoping to pick up girls...

Would anything have been different if you hadn't won?

MIKE: At the district convention last month, we had a number of responsibilities as the outgoing champs—mic testing, singing on the show of champions, and teaching a class. Apart from that, I suspect we would have done pretty much the same things even if we hadn't won last year.

RAYMOND: Yeah, I don't think we let winning go to our heads or anything.

ROBERT: It's possible that as a one year old quartet we wouldn't have made our CD if we didn't have the cachet of being FWD champs to help sell it. That was quite an experience, one I think we're all proud of and will always remember.

CORY: I wouldn't have had that cool pin to help me pick up girls...

How many shows did you do?

RAYMOND: We performed for the Reno, Sacramento, Truckee, Davis/Vacaville, Palo Alto/Mountain View (with Travis Maslen filling in for me), Placerville, San Diego, San Francisco, and Sutter Creek chapters, plus a few more things like guest judging the Nevada/Placer chapter's Somewhat Serious Quartet Contest.

MIKE: ...and singing the national anthem for the Oakland A's.

CORY: ...and being the teaching quartet at the NorCal Youth Harmony Camp.

ROBERT: We also were picked to sing at the Bolton Landing festival in New York, but the festival was canceled this year due to funding difficulties. Hopefully, they'll be able to resume it next year.

What was the high point of the year?

MIKE: Making top twenty at international was certainly right up there.

ROBERT: I think making and releasing our CD will stand out for me as a significant achievement. I can tell my grandchildren someday about how we did at contest, but actually giving them our CD will I think prove that grandpa used to be cool... if CDs haven't gone the way of eight track tapes thirty years from now and can still be played.

RAYMOND: Those things were nice, but I think the true high point of the year was receiving a standing ovation when we walked onto the stage at district to sing our swan song set. That's when we really felt how much we've meant to the Far Western District.

CORY: I was going to say "picking up all those girls," but think I'll have to agree with Raymond. The support of our fans and the great FWD is directly linked to our success. Without all of you, we wouldn't be anything like what we are now, not to mention we'd have no one to sing for!

The low point?

CORY: The chronic back pain from picking up all those girls. Maybe I should have just asked them out.

RAYMOND: I guess Robert's big news had to be the low point of the year.

ROBERT: In July I announced that I would be leaving *Q* in October so that I could devote myself to my new insurance business in its critical first years. Leaving *Q* was very difficult to reconcile myself to, but I really didn't have any other choice.

[continues on page 12]

[from page 11]

MIKE: It wasn't an easy decision for Robert, but we three understand the reasons and wish him all the best.

What does the future hold for *Q*?

RAYMOND: To be honest, we're not sure. We had hoped to announce a replacement lead by now, but we have nothing to report on that front.

MIKE: Robert's left some pretty big shoes to fill; we don't want to make any hasty decisions.

CORY: We definitely want Westunes readers to know that it's not too late to audition if you think you have what it takes to step into *Q* and join us in our journey for excellence. *Q* consistently sets higher goals for ourselves and next year, the international finals are in our sights.

ROBERT: While I won't be a part of *Q*, I'm applying to the contest and judging program. If all goes well, three years from now you may see me wearing a presentation judge badge and helping decide the FWD champs of the future.

Any last words?

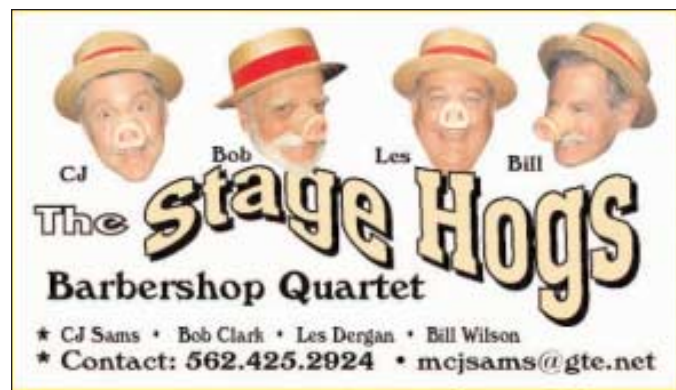
RAYMOND: It's been a great year! We'd all like to thank the district for being so supportive.

MIKE: Absolutely! You've been great fans. Thanks, too, to our families, coaches, and home chapters.

ROBERT: Ditto. I'm going to miss this big time. But don't worry...in the immortal words of California's governor, "I'll be back!"

CORY: Congratulations to OC Times on becoming the new champs! Take it from me, fellas—the pin really works with the ladies! Also, I'd like to thank Mike, Raymond and Robert for being my friends, mentors and brothers in song. I'm very blessed to have had the opportunity to sing with people of such personal and musical integrity and look forward to what the future may bring.

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March 17-20, 2005
Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!**





2003 FWD Chorus Champions

*Sean Devine, Chapter President
Russ Squires, VP Chapter Operations*

What a year it has been! It's hard to believe the road we've been on since this chorus formed just two years ago. We have been so honored by the enormous support we've received all along from the great Far Western District. So many of you have opened your hearts to our chorus and showed it through your encouraging words, warm receptions, and incredible financial assistance. We are just so thankful.

Our chapter was once again well represented at the Far Western District convention, when - for the third year in a row - one of our own captured the quartet championship. **OC Times**, our section leader quartet, was crowned the 2004-2005 FWD Champs. We also had several of our members win the chorus contest as dual members of the Santa Fe Springs Chapter - our big brothers, **The Masters of Harmony**.

Although **Westminster** wasn't able to compete in Bakersfield for several reasons, we're already looking forward to returning to the contest stage in the '05 division contest.

Watch for upcoming news regarding the annual *Westminster Novice Quartet Contest* - we will have all the info to you via the FWDnet, the FWD website, www.harmonize.com/westminster, and the next issue of the Westunes!

The great **Lloyd Steinkamp** imparted to us early on that this hobby was founded on *fraternity*, and this chorus is the epitome of your local college fraternity - both in our administrative structure, and in our fellowship outside of the music. Remember that young men will join for the fun of ringing chords, become enamored with the excellence in music, but will stay for life because of the fellowship and friendships this hobby can bring.

Stay in touch with The Westminster Chorus via our website - www.harmonize.com/westminster

2004 Far Western District Chorus Contest Results

1	Santa Fe Springs, CA Masters of Harmony	89.8
2	Greater Phoenix Spirit Of Phoenix	84.3
3	LaJolla, CA Pacific Coast Harmony	77.9
4	Rincon Beach, CA Pacific Sound	76.6
5	Bay Area Metro Bay Area Metro Chorus	74.2
6	San Jose, CA Garden City Chorus	72.5
7	Riverside, CA The New Gang on the Corner	69.8
8	South Bay, CA Coastliners	68.9
9	Reno, NV Silver Dollar Chorus	66.8
10	San Fernando Valley, CA Valleyaires	64.8
11	Whittier, CA Choralaires	64.3
12	Palo Alto - Mountain View, CA Peninsulaire	63.9
13	North Valley, CA The Sound of the Foothills	63.0
14	Santa Rosa, CA Redwood Chordsmen	62.9
15	Fullerton, CA Orange Empire Chorus	60.9
16	Sacramento, CA Capitolaires	59.0
17	San Diego, CA Sun Harbor	58.8
18	Irvine, CA California Promise Chorus	58.3
19	San Luis Obispo, CA Gold Coast Chorus	58.3
20	Central California, CA Golden Valley Chorus	56.1
21	Paradise Valley, AZ Cactus Chordsmen	55.3
22	Rancho Bernardo, CA The Troubadours	55.2
23	Palomar Pacific, CA The Music Men	54.0

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT INTERNATIONAL QUARTET PRELIMS AND SO CAL WEST DIVISION CONTEST

Contests and Show

International Quartet Prelims
So Cal West Quartet Contest
So Cal West Chorus Contest
High School Quartet Contest
Show of Champions

FOR
2005


MARCH 17-20, 2005
Burbank Airport Hilton
Academy Ballroom

Meetings and Events

District Board Meeting
House of Delegates Meeting
AH-SOW
Youth Afterglow

REGISTRATION PRICES		HEADQUARTERS
ALL CONTESTANTS MUST BUY AN ALL EVENTS REGISTRATION FOR THE APPLICABLE AGE GROUP		HOTEL INFORMATION
ALL EVENTS EARLY BIRD (Postmarked by February 17 th)	ALL EVENTS LATE / ON SITE (Postmarked after February 17 th)	Burbank Airport Hilton 2500 N. Hollywood Way Burbank, CA 91505 Room Reservations (818) 843-6000 \$99.00 per night + tax (Sngl or Dbt) \$129.00 per night + tax (1 b/r suite) Tell the reservation clerk you are with the <i>Barbershop Harmony Society</i> No RV Parking
ALL EVENTS: Adult \$30.00 Student (under 23) \$15.00	ALL EVENTS: Adult \$40.00 Student (under 23) \$20.00 SINGLE EVENTS \$20.00 each	

2005 FAR WESTERN DISTRICT SPRING CONVENTION & SO CAL WEST REGISTRATION FORM

	Member	Wife/Guest	Child/Student	District Officer	Chap. Delegate	AFWDC / VIP	Early Bird Rate
Name(s)	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
Address							
City							
State							
Zip							
Telephone/Email							
Chapter							
Quartet Or Chorus Name							

Mail one form for your party (up to eight names per sheet), and a check covering all registrations to:

Bob Cathaway

6504 Audene Way, Bakersfield, CA 93308

Make check payable to: **FAR WESTERN DISTRICT**

c Check here if you have a disability that may require accommodation in order for you to fully participate in the convention.

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

Questions? Phone (661) 399-6292 or email rwccathaway@bak.rr.com



Photos by Dick Cote of the Fullerton Chapter



Quartet Corner

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

Good Vocal
Production in Quarteting

As many of you in the FWD know, Stan Sharpe is one of the most respected vocal production coaches in our society. Stan's quartet accomplishments (two District Championships) and his many years of successful chorus directing for both the men's and Sweet Ads has clearly established his credentials. I first saw Stan at work back in the early 70's when he became the vocal coach of the Phoenixians and played a big role in their first and second gold medal bids. Since that time Stan has always been a source of great advice and encouragement for dozens of other quartets and choruses. I recently corresponded with Stan and asked him to share some ideas on vocal production.

QC: Stan, I know that vowel matching is one of your favorite subjects. Can you tell me what you would recommend that quartets in the 21st century can use to simplify and solidify this critical element of good quartet singing?

SS: "Duetting is still the most effective tool to match vowels. Stand in a square facing each other with the bass and lead duetting. The other two listen and help adjust the vowel matching. Next have the bari duet with the lead and then the tenor/lead. Watch for proper mouth/vowel positions, inside smile, and jaw and tongue placement."



QC: Today's best arrangers are creating more demanding charts, ones that require broader ranges for the lead and bass. What can a quartet do to increase their effective range?

SS: "Several good Vocal Exercise Tapes are available like the one the society uses by Paul Mayo or go on-line for the Roland Wyatt product. I also have a CD available for all barbershop voice parts Do these exercises daily, except on performance days."

QC: I just listened to the new Max Q CD and a couple of their intros and tags have lead and bass hangers that are beyond belief, in length and power. What exercise can you suggest to help the average quartet member improve his breath support?

SS: "The best one I have come across in 50 years is called "The World's Easiest and Greatest Vocal Exercise." (TWGVE) In just 30 days, it will vastly improve your breath support. I have given this exercise to over 800 of my vocal students and they all tell me that the results are outstanding. It is extremely easy to do and only takes 7 minutes a day." [Ed note: at the end of interview]

QC: What about warm-up exercises? Do you recommend any specific steps before a rehearsal or show?

SS: "To get your voice ready for a rehearsal, show or contest, start with humming, and then do some range extenders Nothing heavy. Add the (TWGVE) to get your breathing muscles warmed up. About ten minutes overall. This way you will hit the stage relaxed and ready to sing. Save the long hard vocal exercises for days other than performances."

QC: What can the average quartet man do to keep his voice in top form?

SS: "Daily singing. Put CD's or tapes in your car and sing along with the better quartets. The key is daily vocal exercises except on performance days.

The road to vocal success is long and takes a "never give up" attitude. You can always improve, but you must continue to do things necessary to accomplish your goal.

Look at Jimmy Kline of Gotcha! His quartet career has spanned three decades and he is singing better now than when he was in his 20's. because he was determined to improve and took the necessary steps to accomplish his goal. Ask him if it was worth the extra work."

Stan Sharpe can be reached at:

VocalTeacher@msn.com
1765 N. Cedar Glen Dr. #A, Anaheim, CA 92807
(714) 970-7306

World's Easiest and Best Vocal Exercise By Stan Sharpe, Vocal Specialist

"This exercise will benefit you in many ways"

1. It will strengthen all the support muscles in your abdomen, which will enable you to sing with more clarity and breath support.
2. It will enable you to sing as loud or as soft as you wish in all vocal ranges.
3. It will strengthen the 15 muscles that surround the vocal mechanism.
4. It will build endurance, increase stamina, and eliminate the "break" in your voice when switching from chest to head (falsetto) voice.

[continues on page 17]

Sound too good to be true??

If you will do this exercise every day for at least 30 days, I guarantee you will notice a dramatic change! I have given this exercise to over 800 singers, and they have told me the results are incredible. It can be done as many times a day as you wish. The more times you do it the faster your progress will be. A Throat Specialist who deals with singers who have vocal problems, hoarseness or nodules created it. Let's begin.

On a volume level from 1 to 10, 1 being the softest you can sing and produce a clear tone, do all three parts of the exercise. Remember level 1 – nothing louder.

Part 1. The Warm Up

Sing any pitch in your lowest Falsetto voice. The vowel sound is EEE. The goal is to sing the EEE at a volume level of 1 for at least 45 seconds. Time yourself to see how much work you have to do to attain this goal. (15 seconds is Poor, 30 seconds is average and 60 seconds is great. Do this part 1 only one time.

Part 2. Stretching

Start at your lowest pitch, and then slide slowly up the scale to your highest pitch. The vowel sound is OH, volume level is again 1. The goal is to slide slowly from bottom to top without any break in your voice. Do this step four times. Then, reverse, slide from top to bottom, again without a break. Repeat four times. Then slide up then down four times without stopping and without a break in the voice.

Part 3. Power

Sing any pitch in your lowest Falsetto voice. Vowel sound is OH. Volume level is still 1. The goal is to sing the OH at a constant volume level of 1 for at least 45 seconds (repeat ten times)

Now, the only thing that counts is time. Check the second hand of your watch; take a big breath, sing OH as long as you can. When you're out of breath, check your watch and note the number of seconds. Take a bigger breath and sing it again. Try to beat your previous time. Note: For maximum benefit, you must do this exercise ten times in a row, without resting, except to take a maximum breath to do it again. It will be difficult at first, but your time will gradually improve as you gain strength and coordination. If you are looking to improve rapidly, these are the exercises for you.

Good Luck, Good Health and Good Singing.

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2004 Far Western District Quartet Contest Results

1	O.C. Times	79.8
2	Hi-Fidelity	78.0
3	Stardust	74.4
4	Velocity	66.8
5	Late Night Barbershop	66.4
6	High Five	65.9
7	In The Zone	65.7
8	Counterpoint	64.8
9	WhirlWind	62.9
10	Uncalled Four	62.7
11	After Hours	62.1
12	Stage Hogs	61.7
13	Music Box	61.6
14	Four Fifteen	61.4
15	Eastsidiers	60.8
16	Preferred Blend	60.5
17	Fastrac	60.4
18	BLING!	59.0
19	The Usual Suspects	58.6

2004 Far Western District Senior Quartet Contest Results

1	Sands of Time	69.2
2	Potluck	67.2
3	Fuzzy Logic	64.2
4	Top Notch	63.0
5	Memory Lane	62.3
5	Dry Heat	62.3
7	Master Works	62.0
8	Added Attraction	61.7
9	SINGERS, LTD.	61.3





11 Choralaires

12 Peninsulaires



13 The Sound of the Foothills

14 Redwood Chordsmen



15 Orange Empire Chorus

16 Capitolaires



17 Sun Harbor

18 California Promise Chorus



19 Gold Coast Chorus

20 Golden Valley Chorus



13 Music Box



14 Four Fifteen



15 Eastsiders



16 Preferred Blend



17 Fastrac



18 BLING!



19 The Usual Suspects



21 Cactus Chordsmen



22 The Troubadours

23 The Music Men

FIRST (AND LAST) CALL FOR FWD BULLETINS

By Dick Girvin, FWD District Bulletin Coordinator

Here is the call for bulletins for the **2005** Far Western District Bulletin Contest. All FWD Bulletin Editors who have published **six** or more **monthly** issues (or **six** months of **weekly** or **bi-weekly** bulletins) during 2004 are eligible to enter.

Two classes of bulletins will be accepted for contest: **Large Bulletins** (more than 6 pages) and **Small Bulletins** (6 or fewer pages). Editors should submit three copies of three successive month's issues (monthly) or nine consecutive issues (weekly) or six consecutive issues (bi-weekly). One of the copies of each issue should be as printed and delivered to subscribers; the balance can be photocopied. (The Layout and Reproduction judges must see the *actual issue* --not the paste-up-- that went to their readers.)

The bulletins will be judged by certified PROBE Bulletin judges on the following: (actual score sheets available on request)

Content: (267 points maximum per issue), judged on how well the editor:

- Informs on coming events
- Records recent events
- Reflects views of chapter members
- Recognize efforts of chapter members
- Promote barbershopping
- Recruitment
- Encourage pride and participation.

Layout and Reproduction: (200 points maximum per issue), judged on how well the editor displays:

- The "stage presence" of the bulletin
- The layout of the Nameplate, Masthead and all printed material
- Readability, headlines, illustrations and reproduction.

Grammar and Style: (200 points maximum per issue), judged on:

- Punctuation
- Grammar
- Style.

(Normalized by dividing by "judgeable pages")

Entries should be mailed to the below address to **arrive on or before January 1, 2005**. The contest results will be announced with trophies for the top **Large** and top **Small** bulletins at the Spring Prelim Contest in Reno on March 20—at the House of Delegates meeting. The top two scoring bulletins (regardless of size) will be entered in the International Bulletin Contest.

**FWD Spring Convention& SCW in Burbank
March 17-20, 2005
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Come Join in the FUN!**

International Online Bulletin Contest (online bulletins of **2004**).

- **No pre-qualification by district. Open to all editors publishing 6 or more per year.**
- Online bulletin contest information available on request.

FWD Bulletin Coordinator
57 "F" Calle Cadiz
Laguna Woods, CA 92637-3941
Dickgirvin@juno.com>

Did You Know?

OWEN CLIFTON CASH (1892-1953) was born in Missouri on February 13, 1892. His family moved to the Cherokee Indian Territory in 1897 or 1898 when he was age 5 or 6. The territory was later to become part of Oklahoma. As a youth, he played in the hometown band and sang in a barbershop quartet as early as age 18, when it is reported he gathered at home plate with three other baseball players.

In 1938, that now-famous chance meeting with Rupert Hall in the Muehlebach Hotel in Kansas City led to the founding of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America. What started as a casual get together quickly became a highly organized, musically proficient, aggressively promoted hobby organization bringing music and fun to hundreds of thousands of singers and millions of happy listeners around the world.

O.C. Cash never held any official title in the Society, preferring instead to bask in the limelight as Founder and "Third Assistant Temporary Vice-Chairman." In that role, he penned many articles that appeared in Society publications the SPEBSQSA Barber Shop Re-Chordings (1941) and Th Harmonizer (1943-1953). In columns spanning his interests as fly fisherman, cook, and, of course, the world's greatest barbershop baritone, Cash's writings defined the cheeky, devil-maycare, light-hearted spirit of the Barbershop Harmony Society. He spiced his work with anecdotes about his hundreds of friends and acquaintances throughout the Society, inside jokes about top quartets and tall tales and self-deprecating humor.

As a body of work, Cash's writings provide valuable insight into one man's view of a hobby he adored, although it should be noted that his views were not always shared by all, and may or may not have reflected the "official policy" of his times. Nevertheless, today, almost 50 years after his death, O.C. is still fondly remembered and revered as a visionary and elder statesman, to the degree that his name is often invoked in reference to "the way things ought to be." Consequently, many opinions and words attributed to O.C. Cash have appeared through the years in various SPEBSQSA publications, and in correspondence and opinion pieces written by others. Some of these quotations were accurate; others were quoted incorrectly.

[Preface, "Founder's Message" and "The Founder's Column"
2002 SPEBSQSA, Inc., found at www.spebsqsa.org/occash]

2005 NORCAL WEST/HAWAII DIVISION CONVENTION
Far Western District Quartet and Chorus Qualification Event

Share the Joy

A Celebration of the Barbershop Community

April 9, 2005

Heritage Theater, 1 West Campbell Ave, Campbell, California 95008

Hosted by

THE PENINSULAIRES CHORUS

PALO ALTO-MOUNTAIN VIEW CHAPTER OF THE BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

Please type or print clearly

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Home (____) _____ Bus. (____) _____

Email _____

Registration confirmation will be sent by Email.

All registrations shall be held for pickup at convention site.

Quartet Name _____

Chapter/Chorus _____

Singing Part

☐ Lead ☐ Tenor ☐ Bari ☐ Bass

☐ 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.

Full Early Bird Registration Type (X One)	Full Late/On Site Registration Type (X One)	Single Events SOLD ON SITE ONLY (X One)	Official Use Only
<input type="checkbox"/> Full.....\$25.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Child/Student.....\$10.00 (non-member) Postmarked on or before 3/9/2005	<input type="checkbox"/> Full.....\$30.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Child/Student.....\$12.50 (non-member) Postmarked after 3/9/2005	<input type="checkbox"/> Sat. Quartet Contest.....\$20.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Sat Chorus Contests/Show.\$20.00 Contestants MUST have Full Registration	Date Recd. _____ Check # _____

Request additional tickets for guests on this same form by using the section below.

Guest Name	City	Child/ Student?	Fee	Official Use

SUB TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES

\$ _____

ADD \$1.00 THEATER PRESERVATION FEE PER PERSON

\$ _____

TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED (Fees are non-refundable.)

\$ _____

☐ Check made payable to: "NCW 2005"

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard Cardholder Name _____

Card Number _____ Exp Date (month/year) _____

Return completed form with payment to: Bob Morrison, 2443 Camrose Ave., San Jose, CA 95130

Questions? Call 408-866-6458 or Email RobtMor@aol.com

District Immediate Past President



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

The Responsibility Of Running This District

The name of this organization is the **Far Western District Association of Chapters**. The governing body of this Association is the House of Delegates, which meets twice a year. At the recent HOD in Bakersfield, 42 chapters out of 85 were represented—not quite 50%. (With officers and past presidents the overall participation was 54% of eligible voters. A quorum is 30%.) This percentage of attendance is consistent with recent years. In years past we had participation as high as 80%.

Was your chapter represented, and taking your rightful role in the governance of this District? Or was it among the missing? If you think the House of Delegates is just a rubber stamp for board action, think again. At the Bakersfield meeting there were two votes that were so close it required a standing head count of delegates to decide the outcome. One had to do with the awarding of the 2008 convention to Bakersfield—a proposal that was not recommended by the board.

The other had to do with the proposal put forth by Mike Barkley, delegate from the Central California Chapter, to change the District Standard Operating Procedures so as to permit quartets to compete in as many division contests as they might want in order to qualify for the fall contest. The HOD brochure looked like an election pamphlet with all the pro and con arguments. After a good and open discussion, the proposal was narrowly defeated. That's how we do business in this District.

The HOD also provided an opportunity to meet and hear from Don Harris, the new CEO of the Society; and to pay our respects, through an emotional tribute led by retiring champs Revival, to the 44 members of the District who passed away during the year.

The new divisional governance system we inaugurated this year seems to be taking hold, with many positive signs indicating improved communications and membership gains. Some clear avenues have emerged to help make all the functional services offered by the District more readily available, through the VPs to the chapters, with the goal of helping every man in every chapter get the most out of his barbershop experience.

Are you part of making that happen? Make sure your chapter is part of the House of Delegates every convention. It's our Association. It's the responsibility of all of us to make it work.

FWD Spring Convention & SCW in Burbank
March 17-20, 2005
Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!

We Complain About P.A. Systems In September, 1943, O.C. Cash wrote:

"No one can say that the P.A. system at Medinah Temple was perfect—or even nearly perfect. Actually, it wasn't even good. And a number of good quartets suffered as a result. But it proved one thing—that every quartet should study mike technique as carefully as they study their blend, their notes and their harmony. Even with a perfect P.A. system, a knowledge of the use of a mike properly is highly essential."

A question: "Do you think studying mike technique might still be applicable today?"



FAR WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Holiday Inn Select, Bakersfield, California
September 30, 2004

MINUTES

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

All transactions of the board meeting have been recorded and are available to be reviewed at the office of District Secretary.

Following are the results of the motions presented to the board.

Motion 1 MSP (Lally/Abrahamson) To approve the minutes of the previous (Summer) meeting.

Motion 2 MSP (Krizek/Jensen) To change the date for the 2007 Fall Convention to September 29-30 weekend.

Motion 3 MSP (Abrahamson/Whitten) To recommend acceptance of the bid from Greater Phoenix Chapter to host the 2007 Fall Convention.

Motion 4 MSF (Priceman/Jensen) To recommend Bakersfield be accepted as the location for the 2008 Fall District Convention.

Motion 5 MSP (Krizek/Jensen) To donate two registrations for the fall convention to be used as the grand prize for the Harmony Foundation raffle.

Motion 6 MSF (Krizek/Sherman) To accept the recommendation to modify SOP. 8.3.2.4.

Motion 7 MSP (Girvin/Jensen) To reconsider Motion 6 regarding SOP 8.3.2.4.

Motion 8 MSP (Priceman/Jensen) That the FWD returns to the printed version of the HOD brochure and mailed.

Respectfully submitted
Dick Girvin, FWD Secretary

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING

Holiday Inn Select, Bakersfield California
1 p.m. October 1, 2004

MINUTES

Present were all current district officers, 8 Past Presidents and delegates from 42 chapters (54%) providing a quorum (30% needed). Special Guest was Don Harris, CEO of the Barbershop Harmony Society who gave the keynote address and installed the 2005 Officers.

All transactions of the board meeting have been recorded and are available to be reviewed in the office of the District Secretary.

Following are the results of the motions presented to the House of Delegates.

Motion 1 MSP (McAvoy/Barger) To approve the minutes of the previous meeting as published in the Fall delegates' brochure.

Motion 2 MSP (Aramian/Salz) To receive the officer, director and chairmen reports as provided in the delegates' brochure.

Motion 3 MSP (Truman/Jensen) To approve the bid of Greater Phoenix for Fall 2007 Convention.

Motion 4 MSP (Aramian/Sherman) To approve the Fall 2008 Convention location for Bakersfield

Motion 5 MSP (Salz/Jensen) To accept the current budget as provided in the delegates' brochure.

Motion 6 MSP (Aramian/Krizek) To approve the SOP changes numbers 1-5, and 7-9 as provided in the delegates' brochure.

Motion 7 MSF (Alan LeVezu.Sacramento /Bruce Lechner, BAM) To accept SOP change #6 as provided in the delegates' brochure. (As proposed by Mike Barkley, delegate from the Central California Chapter). (25 Yes, 29 No)

Motion 8 (Amendment to Motion 7, offered by **Keith Eckhardt**, Placerville, failed to receive a majority vote). (21 Yes, 29 No)

Motion 9 (Deane Scoville, Chairman of the Nominating Committee) Advised that inasmuch as no additional nominations had been received within the prescribed time limits (SOP 11.2.6 e—District Nominations), thus the 2005 Slate of Officers as published in the delegates' brochure is elected by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted
Dick Girvin, FWD Secretary

COTS Individual* Registration Form

NOV. 13-14
NOV. 20-21

LAX HILTON Hotel
SAC HILTON Hotel

Los Angeles, California
Sacramento, California

Everyone come have some FUN at the **FWD District COTS!** If you are going to be a Chapter Officer in 2005, you should be there. If you are interested in some of the great Supplemental Classes, you should be there. If you are interested in becoming a Leader in your Chapter and your District, **YOU SHOULD BE THERE!**

NAME				SPEBSQSA MEMBER NO.	
ADDRESS					
CITY/ STATE		ZIP		TELEPHONE	
CHAPTER				E-MAIL	

YOUR REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES LUNCH AND DINNER ON SATURDAY, BREAKFAST SUNDAY MORNING AND HALF A DOUBLE ROOM AND

THESE GREAT CLASSES:

What class will you be attending? (Check appropriate box)

☐ PRESIDENT ☐ SECRETARY ☐ TREASURER ☐ CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT
☐ MARKETING & PR ☐ MUSIC & PERFORMANCE ☐ CHORUS DIRECTOR ☐ YMIH
☐ CHAPTER COUNSELOR ☐ { DISTRICT CLASS TBA } ☐ SAMPLING (ANY OR ALL) ☐ District Officer

Fee Schedule – Postmarked before October 31: **\$125.** On or after November 1: **\$135**
 (Fee includes registration fee, meal package and room cost—double occupancy)
 **Single Room: \$175**
 **Want to come Friday night? Add \$50** for half a double room—no meals
 **Bringing your wife? Add \$50/night** Room cost only (meals/classes not included)
 **Not staying at the hotel? \$100** Registration fee and meals
 **Roommate: _____ Chapter: _____**

Enclosed is a check for \$_____ for **FWD DISTRICT COTS** (circle one)

SOCAL

Nov. 13-14, in Los Angeles

NORCAL

Nov 20-21 in Sacramento.

Make check payable to: **FWD**

Mail this form and applicable fees to:

* Group Registration Forms available

Registrations can be transferred but not refunded.

Dick Girvin
District COTS Coordinator
57 F Calle Cadiz
Laguna Woods, CA 92637-3941

email: **dickgirvin@juno.com**
 Phone: **(949) 380-0732**

COTS is for EVERYONE

By Dick Girvin, FWD COTS Coordinator

Are any of these names familiar to you?

Jerry Easter (Dean)
"Digger" MacDougal (President course)
Ted Leinbach (Secretary course)
Steve Stojowski (Treasurer course)
Dave Dicken (Chapter Development course)
Robb Ollett (Marketing and PR Course)
David Byrd (Music and Performance course)
J. Knickerbocker (Chorus Director course)
Bob Coant (YMIH Course)
Don Fuson (Chapter Counselor Course)

They will be—when you attend the SoCal FWD COTS class in Los Angeles on November 13-14, because they are the specially appointed instructors for the classes shown. What a cast!

And, if you are going to be at the NorCal COTS, November 20-21 in Sacramento, here's the equally prestigious group with whom you will be working:

Brian O'Leary (Dean)
Don Challman (President course)
Ray Briggs (Secretary course)
Dick Newton (Treasurer course)
Dave Dicken (Chapter Development course)
Bruce Anderson (Marketing & PR Course)
Mel Knight (Music and Performance course)
Dave Gelb (Chorus Director course)
Al Bonney (YMIH Course)
Judd Orff (Chapter Counselor Course)

It is COTS, the annual opportunity for the newly elected officers and every Barbershopper to see first hand, the inside view of what is going on in the Society along with hints and kinks on their own areas of interest. With this wide selection of talent from all over the Society, how can you not help but come away with all you need to know about your special job for 2005?

As can be seen, the various courses are primarily identified with the elected chapter officers, however, if you want to know more about ANY of the above jobs in your chapter, why not plan to attend and sample the wares? Even if you were there last year, you will find a new look with refreshing approaches to the old problems and innovative solutions to everyday situations. And, on top of that, here is a great chance to meet, mingle and enjoy singing with representatives of all the FWD chapters who have come together for the annual "drinking from the fire-hose."

PLAN NOW to attend. Wives are welcome—special shopping arrangements are being made for them.

See the signup form on the opposite page. Send your chapter checks made out to FWD to:

Dick Girvin, COTS Coordinator
 57 F Calle Cadiz,
 Laguna Woods, CA 92637-3941
 e-mail: dickgirvin@juno.com

Schedule overview

Saturday	
9-11am	Registration
11-1230pm	First General Session and lunch
1245-535pm	Classes and General Session
620-720pm	Dinner
730-930pm	Classes and General Session
930pm	Afterglow 'till?
Sunday	
7-750am	Breakfast
8-1050am	Classes
11-1130am	Last General Session

FWD Spring Convention & SCW in Burbank
March 17-20, 2005
Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!

Is Hawai'i Barbershop Paradise?

- An energetic motivator with excellent directing and teaching skills. Dedicated to singing great Barbershop and entertaining audiences.
- A strong leader and team player, eager to continue a **57 year history** of 60 to 100 great guys who are eager to support and sing for the right guy. You will be supported by a **Board of Directors, Music Team** and excellent **Assistant Musical Directors**. Our chorus learns music using the teaching skills of our director, combined with custom produced part-tapes and teaching quartets.
- Travel - We attended the Portland International Convention in

July, 2002, where our performance at the World Harmony Jamboree received a standing ovation. We competed at Far Western District the fall of 2003 and finished in the top 10. In 2004, we're traveling to New Zealand to compete at the Pan Pacific Convention. Great annual shows featuring International Champion guest quartets. We are a family-oriented chapter with lots of Aloha. Upper level compensation package for a barbershop director.

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

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

Mail Resume To:
 Bob Sypowicz
 430 Keoniana Street #809
 Honolulu, HI 96815
 RSypowicz@aol.com



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

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

The Fall Convention and Contest has come and gone, and SoCalWest swept the day! Our very own **Masters of Harmony** was crowned District Chorus Champions and will represent us in Salt Lake City next July! Then **OC Times** progressed from taking last year's Novice Quartet title to becoming the new 2004-5 District Quartet Champs! There were several other representatives from our Division filling out the Medal ranks in both contests, all in all making a dramatic representation for SoCalWest. Full scores and rankings are shown elsewhere in this issue.

The next major event is the **COTS** school in November. I hope your Chapter will not only send all its newly elected officers, but also those who are repeating their jobs and attended last year's COTS. The faculty will be all new and have some great new ideas for making your Chapter even more successful. Remember fees for this school are a legitimate Chapter expense.

Following hot on the heels of COTS will be the *Christmas extravaganza at the Shrine Auditorium on December 5*. It will not only be a fabulous show featuring the **Masters of Harmony**, but also a great opportunity for members of your chorus and your guests to perform in this world famous auditorium. What a great way to warm up for your own Christmas show plus give some potential members the thrill of singing with World Champions! Contact District Membership Chair **Warren Willard** for details.

After all these wonderful events I hope you take the time with your families to have a wonderful Holiday Season. I'm setting up a schedule that will enable me to visit each of your Chapters in the New Year, and I look forward to seeing you all then.

In the meantime, Happy Holidays!

**Division 1 SCW Editor****Mike Martin**

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

RINCON BEACH

Pacific Sound had a very rewarding week at *Harmony College*. Twenty-one members of Rincon Beach chapter traveled to Missouri for a week of learning and coaching. They performed at the Wednesday night event and had the honor to perform on the Saturday show and were thrilled to receive two standing ovations. Saturday following their return home, they boarded a bus at 6:00 am for Long Beach to entertain attendees at a printer's convention. October brings the chorus to Bakersfield and then The Santa Barbara Jazz festival the following week.

MICHAEL MURPHY**SAN FERNANDO****BRUCE POEHLMAN**

San Fernando celebrated its 45th anniversary in barbershopping with a large party filled with good memories and a well-organized program by member **John Wright**. It was attended by many of the current and former active members. Several great quartets including, **Happy Hour**, **Great American Sound Company**, **Usual Suspects**, **Bill's Bari Pie**, **Sands of Time** and **Ransom Notes** were on hand to perform. **Lew Weitzman** did an outstanding job as MC of the event. The **Valleyaires** welcome new member **Jack Casey** who transfers in from the **Conejo Valley Chapter**.

The chorus is again deeply indebted to **Tom Hanson** who continues to renew the most generous **Rang Hanson** endowment, established in memory of his grandfather, a longtime and enthusiastic member of the chapter. The endowment will be used to make the **Valleyaires** one of the best-dressed choruses in the FWD. (Wouldn't endowments such as this be an outstanding gesture for more chapters to receive or be considered for by families of members to whom barbershopping was a large part of their lives?)

The **Valleyaires** have spent the latter half of the summer primarily on two things: preparation for the FWD contest in Bakersfield and their fall show. We had a great retreat in September in preparation for Bakersfield, coached by **Laura Pallas**, **Kelly Shepard**, and our own "**Dr. Dave**" (**Dave Tautkus**). We are all looking forward to a successful competition, and to seeing all of our fellow Barbershoppers at the convention!

SANTA FE SPRINGS**KIRT THEISMEIR**

Now for a brief lull during the contest cycle, as the **Masters of Harmony** prepares another stellar Christmas show with **Harborlites** at the Carpenter Performing Arts Center on the campus of California State University, Long Beach, on November 27, and our sixth recording to be produced in time for the 2005 International Convention to be held in Salt Lake City. We will be giving back to the ever-supportive City of Santa Fe Springs with our annual Christmas Tree Lighting on December 4. We will also participate in the Far Western District's barbershop showcase, "Holiday Harmony at the Shrine Auditorium" on December 5, along with premier quartets **Metropolis** and **The Perfect Gentlemen**.

New leads **Ray Johnson**, **Tom Burson** and **Justin Grant**, and basses **Kevin Meyer** and **Jovani McCleary**, are beefing up the MOH ranks, while **Scott Hansen** is undertaking to lead a fitness program designed to reduce the beef on the risers and put us in contest trim (and so the risers will last at least one more cycle). A slate of officers for 2005 has been presented to the members by Nominating Committee chairman and Immediate Past President **Bernard Priceman**. Many of the Board-to-be have signed up for the COTS classes in November, which will also be graced with MOH instructors.

Special credit and gratitude go to our brother **Taylor Anderson** who, though now resident near Phoenix, continues to monitor, innovate and expand our website, www.mastersofharmony.org, keeping the design features and public access at the pinnacle of

the webmaster's art. This "other voice" of the Masters is a worthy reflection of the quality we strive for in stage productions. Taylor's only "flaw" is his impossible non-commute to Santa Fe Springs. We keep a light burning in the window for him.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

RUDY XAVIER

The **Gold Coast Barbershop Chorus** has had an active two months! Having been judged "*Most Improved Chorus*", in the SoCal West division of the FWD, we're pleased to be competing in Bakersfield.

San Luis has had an active performing record as well. We performed at a patriotic showing along with the **Sweet Adeline's Pacific Horizon Chorus** on 9/11 on the landmark San Luis Mission steps. Barely two weeks later, the chorus produced two forty minute performances at the Farmers Market in historic downtown San Luis Obispo including stellar performances by our quartet **Caught in the Act** with **Rob Mills**, [L], **Rene Foster** [T], **Pete Bennett** [Bs] and **Richard Marshall** –our Music Director- [Br].

The chapter welcomes its newest quartet, **Coastal Aires** consisting of **Jesus Padilla**, lead, **Thomas Bourne**, tenor-and also alternate director, **Don Poole** singing bari, with **Dane Howalt** singing bass. This added to our other quartets **Fair Weather Four**, **Four of Us**, and **Still Kids at Heart**, makes the **San Luis Obispo Chapter** quite the quartet Chorus.

George Loose, VP Chapter Development has to be credited with a tremendous contribution. Not only can he sing in all part ranges, he is responsible for the sound setups for our outdoor performances, using his own high-powered sound equipment.

Two new members joined us in September: **Jeffrey Guss**, a dual-membership member of the **Palomar Pacific Chorus**, and **Rudy Xavier**, who is also the new Nuggets editor. Rudy acquired the new domain name "SLOGOLD.ORG" which will be up and running soon and with the help of **George Shepard** (our webmaster) managed to put the newsletter up on our current website as well.

The **Gold Coast Chorus** is proud to announce (and have presented) a forty-year service award in a special ceremony for **Gil Brown Jr.**, who has been our Chapter Secretary for thirty consecutive years!

SANTA MARIA

LU HINTZ

The **Central City Chordsmen** held a going away party for **Brad Bormann** a member of the chapter for over twenty years and chorus director for over twelve. The chorus is saddened by his plans to move to Tucson, Arizona with his Diane Borman but wish him well. The festivities were held at the home of **Larry Los**. Brad was also recipient of the Barbershopper of the Month award. The chapter had two successful shows of "Moments to Remember" on Sept 18 with guest quartets **Men So Forte** and **Late Night Barbershop**.

SANTA MONICA

JERRY WALKER

The **Oceanaires'** Ice Cream Social was a hit with 300 people in the sold-out performance on August 28. It was an evening of wholesome fun for the entire family. **Patrick Kellogg**, **Dick Keagy**, **Jerry Walker** and **Jack Weeks**, with lots of pretty smiles, performed ice cream scooping duties with great help from **Carmen Garcia**, **Ann Mitnick**, **Marion Scholtz**, and **Lora Walker**. We also are grateful for the wonderful assistance of **Marty Mitnick** and **Sibyl Tapscott** for managing ticket sales, and **Pauline Kiwasz** for selling raffle tickets.

Kids of all ages lined up eagerly when the doors opened at the First United Methodist Church in Santa Monica. The highlight of the evening was a performance by more than a dozen children, who took the stage to blow bubbles while the chorus sang "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles." The **Barnacle Bills** quartet with **Bruce Schroffle**, **Aaron Mood**, **Carl Rogers**, **Tom Laskey** (L,T,Br,Bs), and **Recall**, with **Steve Demmer**, **Harry Stasney**, **Jack Fry**, **Sammy Lai** (L,T,Br,Bs) sang even though **Sammy Lai** had just flown in from Japan a few hours earlier. **Sound Stage**, the Super Senior Division Champions, with **Mike Martin**, **Harry Stasney**, **Bob Heron**, **Tom Laskey** (L,T,Br,Bs) sang crowd favorites. Three quartets, including **Zing**, with **Jerry Walker**, **Aaron Mood**, **Alan Hanson**, **Dan Barling** (L,T,Br,Bs) also performed. **Bruce Schroffle**, aka the *Great El Moldo*, the group's resident magician, augmented the evening of song with highlights of his greatest exhibits of "prestidigitation."

SOUTH BAY COASTLINERS

JIM LABOR

The **Coastliners** started their plan to get more local exposure with a well-received singout at the Rolling Hills Covenant Church under the capable direction of assistant director **Dick Wyckoff**.

President **Denny Lawrence** has appointed **Michael Thorpe** as Quartet Development Chairman to emphasize the formation of more quartets in the Chapter, and encourage more quartet singing. We are pleased that **Mike Martin** has transferred back into South Bay. **Rob Leonard** also recently joined as a new member in the bass section. South Bay has recently initiated a fledgling on-line version of the long running (over 50 years) *Hey, Hey Herald* bulletin on the Chapter website, with Secretary **Jim Labor** as Editor.

Music V.P. **Will Hamblet** led a group of **Coastliners** who attended the Motzkus Benefit Show, which was organized by South Bay member **Dan Jordan**. Dan sang with other members **Pete Neushul**, and **Jim Kline** with the "139th Street" quartet, and with member **Jim Campbell** with "The Perfect Gentlemen".

The Chapter devoted a recent rehearsal night to celebrate South Bay member **Jim Kline's** gold medal with **GOTCHA!**. A large crowd was there to honor him, including some former members of the "139th Street" quartet, **Doug Anderson**, **John Sherburn**, and **Pete Neushul**. Also there were **Dan Jordan**, **Chuck Crawford** (the "Saints"), **Bob Hartley** and **Brian Philbin** (Metropolis).

Pete Neushul roasted **Dan Jordan** at a recent rehearsal in recognition of Dan's *Bachelor of Harmony* award. Pete has also started a program of a cappella music at the "Catalina Chord Company" on the third Sunday night of each month located at 126 N. Catalina Ave in Redondo Beach, and it's free.

VENTURA

KEITH BOGOST

The **Channel Islands Clippers** have a new slate of officers for 2005. President - **Bill Minea**; VP Chapter Development - **Bill Butala**; VP Program - **Wayne Rear**; VP Music and Performance - **Jim Sumstine**; VP Publicity and Bulletin Editor - **Keith Bogost**; Secretary - **Jim Wilson**; Treasurer - **Ron Derrico**; Members-at Large - **Tom Leese** and **Joel Rogosin**.

The chapter is still in a director search. In the meantime, interim directors from the chorus are **Bill Minea**, **Jim Sumstine** and **Wayne Rear**.

A welcome-back party will be held at the Elk's Club in Ventura for **Wayne Rear** (including his 50th anniversary celebration) and the chorus will sing as a surprise Sep. 25.



FWD DVP for Division 2 SCE

Bernard Priceman

5150 Avenida Hacienda

Tarzana, CA 91356

(818) 625-2832

E: bernard@thepricemanteam.com

The FWD District Convention at Bakersfield has been and gone and was a great success. **Dave Prigge** as Convention Chairman (for the last time, for now) and **Sam Barger** as head of the FWD Events Team did a wonderful job organizing the event, running around all weekend and taking care of every little detail. And the SoCal East Division was well represented with 7 of the competing choruses and representatives in 6 of the competing quartets. Now it's time to prepare for our Christmas shows and *COTS* and the installation of our 2005 officers. Gosh a barbershoppers life is full of excitement, isn't it?

In addition to all of the Bakersfield festivities, your FWD Board was hard at work meeting and discussing how best to serve you. We're still in a learning process this year with our revised governance system so we five Division VPs are still feeling our way as to the process. Among the many things discussed at the Board meeting, two stuck in my mind. The first is that the DVPs need to liaise more with both the functional chairmen and the Chapter Counselors so that as a team we can interact more with the chapters and assist them with such things as membership, YMIH, musical skills, marketing, etc. One thing that would help is for the chapters to approach us with clues as to where they may need the most help. Take a little while to think about it, perhaps at your next Board meeting, and let your DVP know what you might need.

The second thing that struck home was the need for the VPs to visit chapters. I have managed to visit a handful of chapters already this year, but plan to visit many more down the line. It has been a pleasure seeing how very different the chapters can be from each other, yet each still flourishing and happy with what they are doing. One suggestion I have to all chapter leaders is that they make a point of letting their DVP and their Chapter Counselors know when they're planning a special event such as a visitation or a guest night. Those are ideal times for us to visit. We want to be in touch with you and encourage you all along the way.

As the new year approaches, we begin to think of upcoming plans. A new Board, new ideas, new energy, new members. *COTS* will be very fresh in everyone's memory towards the end of the year and it's a great time to arrange a planning meeting. It's amazing what one can accomplish in a few hours on a Saturday afternoon around a dining room table, away from the time pressures of a Board meeting or the noise of a rehearsal night. I hope you will consider that. Maybe asking your Chapter Counselor to be there could help, too.

This may be the last time I have a chance to chat to you before the year end, so may I take this opportunity to wish each of you, your families and your fellow chorus members a happy and healthy new year and a barbershop year full of fun in 2005.



Division 2 SCE Editor

Dick Girvin

57 "F" Calle Cadiz

Laguna Woods, CA 92653

949-380-0732

E: dickgirvin@juno.com

BREA

JOHN GASTON

The **GASLIGHT CHORUS** is in the process of preparing for its second annual Christmas show titled "*Presents*." A matinee and an evening show will be held on Saturday December 4th at the Brea Curtis Theatre. Many acts are on tap in addition to the great sounds of the Gaslight Chorus including, a symphony orchestra, twin grand pianos, and of course several quartet spots. Several new arrangements by our director **Phil Ordaz** will be introduced to the public for the first time at these shows.

Four-Fifteen, one of their chapter quartets made up of **Bryan Forbes**, **Larry Gassman**, **John Gassman** **B Frank Gilb** has been reported preparing diligently for the upcoming District contest. Their many hours of rehearsals and coaching have had impressive results.

COACHELLA VALLEY

TERRY MANN

They are very excited to be able to announce that **Nightlife** will be their featured guest quartet in our next show, March 5th, 2005.

Chapter quartet, **Four on the Richter Scale**, and a board member attended Harmony College West, in Redlands in July; and, a new member and that board member attended Harmony College

in St. Joe in August.

Three board members, with wives, enjoyed the competitions and other events at the FWD convention at Bakersfield. Scribe **Terry Mann** opines: "Who will ever forget the last song, of the last performance of **Revival**, the featured quartet at our 2001 show, who ended with their famous, *All Is Well With My Soul*...Glorious! Thanks, for the memories, **Revival**."

FULLERTON

DICK COTE

Fullerton's award winning *Barbershop Clippin's* headlined the July "pool party" hosted by editor **Dick** and **Mrs. Cote**, which was well attended by the members of the **Orange Empire Chorus** and guests from throughout the FWD. Looked like the season's highlight!

The loss of three close friends of the chapter was mourned in the issue: **Kelly Smith**, **Bill Cain** and **Sandy Brown**, wife of **Jerry Brown**.

An inter-chapter visit by **Brea**, **Whittier** and **Irvine** was well documented with story and pictures by their Program Vice President, **Deane Scoville**. A bright evening was had by all in spite of the fact, as Deane noted: "Nobody even sang Bright Was The night...what a shame."

Bass Section Leader, **Mike Werner**, now heads the Barber Polecat program for the chapter.

The California Senate recognized OEC for their Holiday Cabaret Show with a *Certificate of Recognition* signed by **Senator Dick Ackerman** of the 13th District. Good PR at work here.

Stan French, the perennial Board Member At Large, Chairman of the Fullerton Harmony For Lunch Bunch, celebrated his 45th consecutive attendance as delegate at the FWD House of Delegates meeting October 1, 2005.

HEMET

BRUCE SMITH

They held their first Guest Night in several years on Thursday October 21st, with festivities beginning when they walked in with their guests. Featured were: Society music, badges, folders, and chapter members making guests feel welcome.

The Program included teaching three songs to the guests, a performance by the chorus and a round of refreshments: coffee and cookies plus a sheet cake & ice cream.

New member, **Harry Kaylor**, a retired fire fighter was profiled by Program VP Jim Bunten in the latest issue of *Upbeat* the chapter bulletin.

ORANGE

STAN TINKLE

September saw **O.C. Times**, paying the **Orange Quartet Chapter** another visit to show off their contest song package, just prior to the FWD Contest in Bakersfield. Their baritone, **Patrick Claypool**, counts the Orange Chapter as his first barber-

shop home, because his grandfather, tenor **Rich Lewis**, gave him his start here. President **Dave Gryvnak** had emailed everyone to announce that a surprise quartet would appear at the meeting, so attendance was high.

September also saw the annual End of Summer Sing at the home of **Phil** and **Phyllis Roth**, which involved a potluck dinner and an afternoon and evening of singing in every quartet combination imaginable.

The Orange Quartet Chapter's innovative *Sing With a House Quartet Program* has progressed to the point that two or even three members step up to try out a new song with a house quartet. A standing joke is that **Indigo Quartet** becomes Indigo Light, or Robin's Egg Indigo, or even A Touch of Indigo, as new singers dilute it. The chapter also heard **Fermata The Blue** become Fermata The Light and Fermata Left Field. They may yet hear **The Orangetown Four** teach "You Must Have Been a Beautiful Baby" and become The Beautiful Orange Babies in the process.

PALOMAR PACIFIC

BILL NIELSEN

The chapter bid a last farewell to long-time Barbershopper, chapter member and Bass of the Champion **Suntones**, **Bill Cain**. A special gathering to Celebrate a Life was held at a local country club. Twenty-five **Pal-Pac** members attended along with members of the **Suntones**, friends from the Far Western District and others from various parts of the country. **Bill Cain** will be sorely missed by Barbershoppers everywhere.

In other news, the **Music Men** performed at a tribute show at the San Marcos Civic Auditorium, called the Baker's Dozen. A mini chorus entertained at a local senior home and a quartet consisting of **Bill Swearinton** (Ba) **Woody Cady** (L) **Warren Grant** (Bari) and **Bob Hornsby** (T) entertained at the La Jolla Veterans home—something they do often to the enjoyment of the veterans.

A fun-filled, pool-side cook-out at **Arnie Hyman's** Ocean Breeze home complex was well attended.

RANCHO BERNARDO

JIM LARKIN

The chapter bulletin *The Troub-a-doer*, resplendent in bright colors and slick paper, chronicled the upcoming FWD Fall Convention, and carried a number of fine features. President (and scribe) **Jim Larkin's** front-page question: "What does the FWD mean to you?" was an eye-catcher in appearance and content. His concluding comment said it all: "The staff of the FWD is changing their focus as well in an effort to help chapters more...they are some of our strongest allies..."

New member, **Frank Terschan**, in his auto-biographical feature asked "Why did I wait so long..." a common complaint of new Barbershoppers. Frank is making up for lost time with the **Troubadours**.... and, is preparing to celebrate his 60th wedding anniversary with Mrs. T. (Margaret).

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

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The Far Western District Fall Convention is now history! Santa Rosa, Palo Alto/Mt. View, San Jose, and the Bay Area Metro Chapters represented the NorCal West Division very well finishing 14th, 12th, 6th, and 5th respectively. Well done everyone!

This was also a great singing convention because of the efforts of Keith Eckhardt. He started on Thursday with a gathering called Jump Start Barbershop. Quite a few men were singing before many people even arrived at the convention. Then he went on to do a few other events along the same line creating a lot of singing all over the convention site. Way to go Keith! If you didn't attend you missed a real good old fashioned Barbershop weekend.

The HOD meeting was full of important issues and several items required a vote of attending chapter delegates. This is why it is so important to have a delegate from your chapter attend. The amendment to the SOP proposed by Mike Barkley as the Delegate for the Central California Chapter was narrowly defeated after quite a bit of discussion. A proposal was made that we should try it for two years before adopting the motion. I'm sure we will see some additional actions on this issue. The election of board members was conducted and the officers were installed for 2005.

Our new Society Executive Director was in attendance and addressed some of the upcoming issues. His keynote address to the HOD was excellent and many people I talked with agreed with his comments. It looks like we are in good hands. If you didn't attend you missed out on your personal Question and Answer period with our leader.

Plan now to attend the Spring convention and be a part of this wonderful Society.

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ALOHA**JACK Y HASHIMOTO**

On August 19 **The Sounds of Aloha** had the honor of singing at the Aloha Council Boy Scouts of America Outstanding Citizen's award dinner, held at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel. We sang "God Bless America" and "Scout Vespers" I dare say there were a few moist eyes during God Bless America, both in the audience and within the chorus.

Presentation Coach **Jim Turnmire** of the Fresno chorus made an appearance at our August 26 rehearsal. We thank him for his helpful advice in that area.

We support the Sweet Adelines! The Na Leo Lani chapter held their long awaited show, "Barbershop Bandstand", on August 28 at the Paliku Theater on the campus of Windward College, and what a show it was. The **Sounds of Aloha** helped in many ways. On stage actors from our chorus **Don Raymond, Don Pierce** and **Rod Shultz** wowed the crowd. The **Pacific Trades** Quartet sang, and backstage our own **Noel Mau** helped. The show was chaired by **Christine Wee**, wife of our own **Phillip Wee** (of Pacific Trades fame) and featured the 2002 International Sweet Adelines Champion quartet **Fanatrix**.

While the chorus and significant others partied on September 11 at the home of premier Bass **Steve Hungerford** and his wife **Karen**, the **Tropichords** held forth at the University of Hawaii Rainbow Wahine volleyball game. They led the fans in singing the "Star Spangled Banner" and our State Anthem, "Hawaii Pono' i". The next Saturday it was the **Sounds of Aloha Chorus** who thrilled the volleyball crowd with the two anthems.

BAY AREA METRO**TOM ENNIS**

The *Pot O' Gold Chorus* has been very busy whilst preparing for district contest. On July 25th, the chorus sang at Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church for their two Sunday services. The church came alive with an introit of Gospel Medley. The anthem was a heart felt, Sweet Hour of Prayer and the benediction, Irish Blessing.

On August 16th, The Chorus also had a special coaching session with **Ron Black**. Five days later we were out bright and early at 7:00am at the Lynnewood United Methodist Church in Pleasanton for our 2nd Annual Yard Sale. This is a real fun and profitable event and it always yields some humorous stories. Fortunately, we were made aware that the mountain bike we were in the process of selling belonged to a customer and was not a donation for sale. It would have taken all our profits to replace it.

The big news in August is that the **Bay Area Metro** chapter officially changed their chorus name from *Pot O' Gold* to **BAM**. The reasons behind the choice of Pot O' Gold, no longer existed. Someone suggested we just call ourselves **BAM**. Most people outside of the chapter already refer to us as **BAM**. So, **BAM** it is.

The Chorus had an all day advance on September 11th with **Brian Beck** coaching. The advance was followed by an evening performance for the benefit of Habitat for Humanity.

September 25th was the date of the Walnut Festival in Walnut Creek. The chorus was an appreciated addition to the entertainment and will likely see a return engagement next year.

FREMONT/HAYWARD**RAY SPINOSA**

The **New Dimension Chorus**, continuing the summer practice of appearances at local churches, sang at a service at the United Methodist Church in Hayward. Director **James Hall** led the cho-

rus in several religious songs, interspersed throughout the service.

Another tradition was continued when the chorus appeared at the Fremont Festival of the Arts, for the fourth year in a row. One quartet sang for an infant girl in her mother's arms. She was asleep, (the baby not the mother) by the end of the song. We take that to mean that she liked the performance.

A new tradition was begun when for the first time the chapter manned a booth at the Castro Valley Fall Festival. Despite being within ear shot of the main stage, members still sang from the booth.

Besides the activities at the chapter booth, the chorus also performed a set of songs on the main stage, preceded by the **Town Square Harmonizers - Bob Eger, Dave Rail, Pete Sparaco, Gordon Keeney** [L,T,Br,Bs]. Many thanks for their fine performance and their help in the recruiting effort at both festivals.

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/> for the latest location since it does change from time to time.

SAN FRANCISCO

DON KINGTON

Chapter leaders for 2005 have been elected. They are: **Pete Wanger**, President; **Bruce Applegate**, VP for Music & Performance; **Orv Teising**, VP for Chapter Development; **Newt Harband**, VP for Marketing; **B**, Treasurer and Immediate Past President; **Shel Rosenthal**, Secretary; and **Jorge Portugal, Ed Rategan** and **Tim Williams**, Board Members-at-Large. These worthies will be installed Saturday, January 8, 2005, at a dinner at the Chapter's meeting place, Grace Lutheran Church, Ulloa and 33rd Avenue, San Francisco.

SAN JOSE

NEAL CAVANAUGH

The **San Jose Garden City Chorus** has chosen two Stephen Foster songs, "Old Folks at Home" and "Camptown Racetrack," for its new contest set. There was an actual race track in Camptown, PA, and there was a specific horse with the popular name "*Bob Tale Nag*."

The 1850's rural costumes presented a challenge. For example, many of the members will be wearing "painters" caps sprayed with brown, black, or grey spray paint, tea-dyed dress shirts with the collars removed, and either suspenders or vests from old three-piece suits.

WALNUT CREEK

DICK JOHNSTON

Walnut Creek received a visit from **San Francisco's Cable Car Chorus** in September, the first inter-chapter visit for the **Devil Mountain Chorus** in several years. The San Franciscans sang to us under the direction of **Angela Suraci**, and we responded in kind with **Jim Stenson** directing. The visitors' quartet **Top of the Mark**, with Charles Feltman, Fred Merrick, Jim Stroupe, Rich Postal [T,L,Br,Bs] was impressive. And we had some good tag singing directed by **Jim Stroupe, Jim Stenson**, and **Rich Caniglia**.

Later that month we once again operated a beer booth at the annual Walnut Creek Walnut Festival. **Don Nelson**, our resident genius, supervised the erection of the booth, which he designed and built many years ago, and he supervised the operation of the concession for the first two days, in the absence of **Ron Leiker**, whose return to active employment, after allegedly retiring, occasionally interferes with his barbershopping activities.

Before this issue of Westunes reaches its readers we will have sung to the residents of Rossmoor on September 30, participated in an evening of barbershop music at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Walnut Creek on October 16, and staged our first cabaret-type show on October 24.

UKIAH

DICK MACK

This summer was a busy one for the **Redwood Regionaires** doing benefit performances for Relay for Life and The Saturday Afternoon Club, our place of practice.

Our show chairman, **Mark Grover** was instrumental in having our chorus sing on stage at the 25th Anniversary of the Ukiah Symphony. To prepare us for this sing, Mark, brought in Mr. **Phil Debar**, to tune up the chorus. After the chorus sung, the crowd of a couple thousand symphony fan's, were treated to the harmonics of the **Heirloom** quartet, who captured said crowd with a wonderful set of song's.



FWD DVP for Division 4 NCENN

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Membership in NorCal East/Northern Nevada stands at 598 through August 2004. We're up 15 members from a year ago – that's a good thing! Congratulations to the following Chapters showing a net gain year to date:

Folsom (+2)

Nevada Placer (+4)

North Valley (+4)

Placerville (+2)

Reno (+4)

Sacramento (+4)

Stockton (+4)

Yosemite (newly chartered - +10)

Unfortunately, we had some chapters in the negative numbers. I'm certain those numbers will turn into pluses in the months to come. The neg numbes are mostly onesies/twosies – shouldn't be difficult to overcome – I suspect a lot of them are simply late membership renewals.

Coupla happnin's since last report:

Sacramento, under the guise of the late, great **Top Cats/Nine Lives** quartet, hosted another very successful Quartet Workshop – this is becoming a great, not-to-miss tradition...

Rick Spencer, Music Specialist from Kenosha, visited several chapters in NCE/NN. **Placerville** and **North Valley** hosted multi-chaper meetings, and Rick visited approximately 10 high school music classrooms. He likes us – we like him!

Great Fall Convention – NCE/NN again took the lead, thanks to our own **Keith Eckhardt** and company, in making the convention hum with tons of fun activities.

Here comes the busy season – I look forward to hearing about a lot of great shows, inter-chapter visits, membership gains - all the fun stuff.

...see 'ya around...



Division 4 NCENN Editor

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CENTRAL CALIFORNIA MILES SUTTER

The chapter had a " *Welcome Home Celebration*" for Pastor **Chuck Roots**, who spent the last 21 months in Africa and Iraq. They performed the song "Can You Feel the Love Tonigh" as sung by the Vocal Majority at Ripon's Stouffer Park. While on active duty Chuck received the following honors: Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Reserve Chaplain of the Year and promotion to the rank of Captain.

CHICO LEE ATKINS

The **Bidwell Generals** currently have 25 members with 19 active. They have set a goal of 30 men on the roster by the end of the year. They plan a more aggressive public relations campaign using the media as much as possible and will be hanging invitations on doorknobs for their next guest night.

Mike Panzarini offered to take the office of Program Chairman.

FOLSOM HERSH ROBY

Folsom Harmony Express always has well attended afterglows at a local Denny's restaurant after our Thursday night meetings. But last month member **Gene King** surprised us all by inviting

the whole chapter to an afterglow at his house with the enticement of being served strawberry shortcake by his wife, **Donna**. This sure got our attention and more than the usual number of afterglow attendees showed up.

The chapter shows its appreciation to the significant others that allow us to pursue our hobby by having an *Appreciation Night* twice a year. We treat them to a prime rib dinner with all the trimmings at a local restaurant and after dessert we top off the evening by serenading them, the chorus performance under the direction of **Kent Borrowdale**.

Dusty Rhoads has an annual picnic with all the barbershoppers in the area invited. This year's was unusual because it rained, but it didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the singers. Good fellowship, good food, good harmony. We don't let a thunderstorm stop us. We set up some canvas shelters, moved the food inside, and kept on singing.

FRESNO

GORDON BERGTHOLD

The **Gold Note Chorus** is recharging and refocusing under the musical leadership of long-time member **Eric Essayan**. **Rich Hasty** resigned due to differences in the desired musical direction of the chorus.

Fresno elected to skip the FWD competition in Bakersfield to concentrate on the selection of a new director.

NEVADA PLACER

ROGER PERKINS

The annual BBQ/swim party took place once again at the home of **Steve** and **Anne Evans** on August 24. The tri tip was barbecued to perfection by the perennial chef, **Roger Perkins**, and drinks provided by the hard working **Bill Beck**. Chapter members and their families brought a variety of side dishes. This was the biggest ever with 54 people as well as the coolest weather. It didn't feel like August. There were no complete quartets but we were able to fill in with substitutes so that all could sing. The **Sierranaders Chorus** put on a good show for wives, families and visitors.

PLACERVILLE

FRANK MARTIN

The chapter had their annual potluck on August 22, hosted by **Dick Lund** and **Patsy Miller**. They graciously opened their home to all of the **Gold Rush Chorus** Members and the only requirement was that you bring a side dish.

The chapter sent Chorus Director **Ray Rhymer** to Director's College at Missouri Western State College.

The **Gold Rush Chorus** invited surrounding barbershoppers to attend their meeting on Sept. 21 with special guest, **Rick Spencer** of the Society Music Staff. He is a YMIH specialist and also a great coach and quartet man with **Road Show**. There were more than 35 eager singers including visitors from the **Nevada Placer** and **Folsom Chapters**. The Placerville chapter always does it up right and at the break served a variety of cakes, cook-

ies, fruit, fresh-squeezed apple cider from Apple Hill and specialty coffee prepared by President **Keith Eckhardt**.

RENO

DAVE RAMER

The Reno Show was only out-shown by the beautiful sundown previous to a most successful performance. The show was MC'D by two local Radio celebrities, **Ross Mitchell** and **Monica Jaye**. Our 20th place International Quartet "Q" wowed them and our local Sweet Adeline chorus added to the icing on the cake.

There has been no grass growing under our feet as we have had **Dr. Greg Lyne, Dawn Texiera** and **Bob Gray** coach the chorus. We only want to be better and these winners have been more than an inspiration.

Other notable events are the opening of the Reno Rodeo, sending up the Eagle Balloon after singing, "I'm Proud To Be an American" and "The Star Spangled Banner", at the 2004 Reno Great Balloon Races.

SACRAMENTO

FRANK KINNISON

The *Sacramento Area Quartet Workshop* (SAQW5) was held on August 14 and was a great success. There were 12 quartets participating including **Prime Time, 4T9R4, River City Music Co., Collaboration, Over the Top, Central Valley Fusion, Chordovans**, and **WoodShredders**. The faculty consisted of **Pat LeVezu, Julie Starr, Ray Rhymer, Jerry Fairchild, Dan Warschauer, Robert Lenoil, Eric Brickson, Bruce Sellnow, Tim Huntsinger, Bill Cale** and **Jason Warschauer**.

The **Capitolaires** chapter bulletin, *Swipes and Tags* edited by **Alan Swanson**, placed *sixth* in the International Bulletin Contest for 2004. There were 27 chapter bulletins entered with each district allowed two entries. Alan was named July Barbershopper of the Month for his accomplishments with the bulletin.

VISALIA

DEE BAUGHMAN

Our Assistant Director, **Lance Jepsen**, attended Harmony College this year and came back with renewed vigor and lots of new ideas for the Chorus. He is also able to share these ideas with the local High School Chorus's that Lance works with through the Young Men in Harmony program.

The **Mighty Oak Chorus** will be hosting a quartet workshop on Saturday, October 23rd in Visalia.



FWD DVP for Division 5 ASNSU

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WOW! What a weekend.

I, like you, hate to rehash old news especially when it is a few weeks old already. As I write this article, I cannot stop thinking

about the wonderful weekend we had at the District Convention in Bakersfield. I cannot tell you what a joy it was to see and hear our Division Quartets and Choruses competing and representing the Division in a very fine fashion. I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every person from Division 5 who participated and attended this weekend. Great job by all and keep up the good work.

Now as we enter into the busy time of the year, I would ask that you please get out your writing tools and paper and take note of several events down the road. First and for most is the SoCal COTS in LA November 13th and 14th and I hope each and every chapter will be represented with at least one person attending. With all the changes in the Society and the way things trickle down, it would help all of us to attend COTS to learn about the new things taking place.

Let's not forget membership during this busy time, we in Division 5 were blessed through the first six month of the year in that we were the only Division that had 9 of 16 chapters with a gain in membership. In fact the White Mountains Chorus even received a Society Presidents Award for 25% New Member gain. Great job guys, keep up the good work.

A couple more things to keep in mind when planning is our Division Contest to be hosted in Phoenix by the Greater Phoenix Chapter, The Spirit of Phoenix Chorus on April 15 and 16, 2005. There will be a lot more information coming out on this as time gets closer but please mark you calendars now so we can do better than we did this year for attendance and competitors. We will again be hosting a Youth Festival and show in the April time frame but I have not heard the firm dates. More information will be coming on this subject as well. It is not too early to start thinking about attending International in 2005 since it will be in our own back yard so to speak. Salt Lake City is a great city to visit, not too far away and our choruses and quartets can always use the support.

There are many other activities and news items to keep up on but this column is too short. Please log on to the District and Division WebPages all of the latest happening. Have a great Holiday Season, and Keep the Whole World Singing



Division 5 ASNSU Editor

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CASA GRANDE

DICK TIMMERMAN

The **Desert Sounds Chorus** is the newest addition to Division 5. Its formative meetings took place last October, and we licensed in June with 17 members. Since then four more men have joined and two others have committed verbally. With the arrival of winter visitors we are hoping to nearly double our ranks by the time

of our charter show on March 12 at Pence Auditorium on the Central Arizona College campus.

We made a visit to our sponsoring chapter, **Greater Phoenix**, on Sept. 21. It was a great joy to hear the wonderful sound they are making in preparation for District competition. We were honored to be able to sing a song for the Spirit of Phoenix. They were quite complimentary of our small ensemble.

Our director **Carroll Hulla**, has now moved to Casa Grande, so we are quite fortunate to have his skills available to guide us to better singing all the time. In addition, we have had the good fortune to have **Satyam Patel** of the Voice Institute come to Casa Grande once a month to provide many of our members with help in developing proper vocal presentation.

The chorus has sung at several nursing homes and for several local events, including a Pinal County Town Hall meeting in May and the National Night Out event in August. We have several Christmas activities planned, including singing in the annual Christmas Lights Parade.

Any and all are welcome to visit us on Thursday evenings at First Presbyterian Church in Casa Grande. We do have great fun singing!

GREATER PHOENIX

BILL KANE

The curtain came down on a great tradition with the final performance on Sept. 12 of the **1972/1976/1983 International Champion Phoenixians**. The audience loved the show, typical of the razzle dazzle which has always been a characteristic of this fine chorus.

The **Phoenixians** are all now part of the **Greater Phoenix Chapter**, whose chorus (**Pride of Phoenix**) is the current Division champion. The combined chorus has been hard at work in preparation for their first public appearance, with great coaching from **Mark Hale**, **Dawn Texeira** and **Garry Texeira**. They take the stage in Far Western District competition as the **Spirit of Phoenix**, under the direction of **Russ Young** and **Fraser Brown**.

Although a major retreat in September represented the most concentrated effort of the chapter members, they took time out to play in August. The Division Bash on one weekend, with a parade of quartets, a mix-and-match quartet contest, a comedy quartet contest and a golf tourney . . . whew! And . . . on the prior weekend a *Go for the Gold Show* by the Division quartets qualified for District (thanks, **Mike Goodrich**), who had just completed an all-day workshop (thanks to Chairman **Allen Fossenkemper**) with such coaches as **Russ Young**, **Gary Steinkamp**, **Cary Burns**, **Connie Keil**, **Terry Aramian**, **Alan Gordon** and **Randy Stringfellow**. Besides all the fun, each of these activities made significant contributions to Young Men in Harmony programs.

Yes, it is hot in Arizona. . .very hot. . .barbershopping, that is.

LAS VEGAS

ROGER BUEHRER

Longtime Far Western District barbershoppers will remember the newest member of the **Gamble-Aires**. **Bill Miller** has moved back to Las Vegas and rejoined the chapter. He was a quartet man and officer (including president) of the Phoenix Saguaro Chapter in the 1950s, and after moving to Las Vegas, directed the **Gamble-Aires** in the 1970s.

The chapter elected officers for 2005 in September. They are: President, **Rich Coon**; VP Chapter Development, **Rick Ives**; VP Music and Performance, **Al Copp**; VP Public Relations and Marketing, **John Thompson**; VP Program and Events, **Dennis Johnson**; Secretary, **David Larsen**; Treasurer, **Phillip Sonnoman**; Board Member at Large, **Wes White**.

LAS VEGAS METRO

JOHN KINDE

The **City of Lights Chorus** had their annual retreat in mid-September to work on Christmas music for their two shows Dec. 18.

The **Burninators** high school quartet recently performed *Forever Plaid* at their school and showed exceptional acting ability along with their musical talents. We're very proud of them.

Our public performance in September was outstanding, and attendance was excellent at both the shows. We are looking forward to entering the contest cycle again next year.

MESA EAST VALLEY

GARY EFRON

The **Lamplighters Chorus** was well represented at the recent Division 5 Bash. In the *Luck of the Draw* contest, 13 of the parts in the 11 quartets were filled by **Lamplighters**, and two quartets, **Love@Home** and **2 Under Par**, sang in the Parade of Quartets. And two members of **2 Under Par**, **Charlie Nardin** and **Barney Griffin**, finished first and second in the golf tournament.

New Director **Jim Brown** has done an outstanding job since taking over in July. Under his direction the chorus is making great progress on the songs and the visual package for their show "*You Ain't Heard Nothin' Yet*," a tribute to Al Jolson, scheduled Oct. 30.

PARADISE VALLEY

LEN LEVINE

The **Cactus Chordsmen** have been working hard on improving our stage presence capabilities in preparation for the District competition in Bakersfield. It has been a struggle but one that Director **Dan Ryan** believes will pay dividends in improved performances. Thanks go to **Pat Carter** from the Scottsdale Sweet Adelines for her efforts on our behalf.

Installation of new officers will take place this year on Dec. 5. A slate of directors is being prepared with emphasis on membership and marketing. The latest additions to the membership ranks have reduced the average age of the group dramatically.

We are looking forward to getting the full complement of singers back from the cooler climates and beginning our rehearsals for a spring concert.

PRESCOTT

SAM STIMPLE

The **High Mountain Chordsmen** have a new meeting place on Thursday nights. It's the Seventh-day Adventist Church, 2980 Willow Creek Road.

The chapter put on its 30th anniversary show on Sept. 25 at the Elks Opera House.

A new member is **Joe La Barge**, a transfer from chapters in Lewisburg, Pa., and Colorado Springs, Colo. His strong bass voice is welcome.

The **High Country 4** quartet performed in the gazebo on the grounds of Sharlot Hall Museum in August.

ST. GEORGE

KEN SUNDMAN

When our good friend and fellow Barbershopper **Val Hicks** passed away recently he left a vast collection of music, including many unpublished scores and arrangements. His dear friend, **Hoda Katicha**, was named executrix of his estate, and she decided that this remarkable musical legacy should go to the Barbershop Harmony Society. **Joe Liles** came here as a representative of the Society and spent a week going through the collection, cataloging it and shipping it to Kenosha. Hoda asked that a *Val Hicks Memorial Scholarship to Harmony College* be established and that all future royalties from sales of his arrangements go to that scholarship fund. She also donated a substantial amount to start the scholarship fund.

The St. George Chapter has Val's collection of Harmonizer magazines from the 1940s to the present. The chapter will entertain offers for this historic collection, and any proceeds will go to the Val Hicks Memorial Scholarship Fund.

SUN CITIES

BOB MCGOWAN

With a new season upon us, the **Desert Aires Chorus** is in the midst of our 2005 show music preparation. During the summer a couple of our quartets have been visiting hospitals and care facilities to bring cheer to some of our shut-in friends. There have been visitations to the **Arizona Quartet Chapter**, and we enjoyed the presentations by **Hospitality**, which has a really good blend attributable to its members' years of barbershop harmony experience.

For 2005, we will see several new officers at the helm. President-elect for 2005 is **Otto Mielenz**, who is an accomplished musician and a great bass. The VP Programs-elect is **Joe Salz**, who many in the FWD know, and who brings broad experience to the job. Our 2005 VP Music-elect is **Campbell Titchener**, our premiere scriptwriter and an anchor in the lead section. **Bud Lowry**, who has been with us since 2001, will serve as VP Membership. Our Secretary, **Bob McGowan**, and Treasurer, **John Vincent**, will serve another year in these posts. And we have a new Board member at large-elect in **Bill Shaw**, who brings more than 39 years of experience in the Society with him. He will make a welcome addition to the governing board.

During the summer, one of our quartets (still not officially named) appeared for the farewell dinner of a group of Chinese exchange students. The students were favorably impressed with the barbershop style of music and vowed to look for groups in China that sing it.

TUCSON

FRED KOCH

Summer may mean a slowdown for chapter activities for many, but not the **Tucson Sunshine Chapter**. For us it means the opportunity to again provide music for area churches. This year we programmed four Sundays during July and August for the "*Tucson Sunshine Chapter Ensemble*" under the direction of our assistant director, **Hap Haggard**, and provided music for Catholic, Lutheran, Presbyterian and Methodist churches in the Tucson area. The 15 to 20 members of the ensemble enjoy providing this free service, and also the opportunity to have brunch after the service with our ladies. Thanks to **Jack Statler**, who provides the personal contact with each church to make sure that our musical program will fit into their service.

On Aug. 14, about 60 people gathered in Green Valley for our chapter picnic. They included members from the **Sierra Vista Chapter** and the **Green Valley Aires**, plus ladies and guests. Aour new resident hosts this year were **Rose** and **Hans Hangartner**, who did a fine job.

The Arizona Daily Star did a fine feature article on **Vic Menely**, a bass in our chorus, who is still actively playing basketball at 83. He also plays tennis three times a week.

WHITE MOUNTAINS ARIZONA CHAPTER

DOC DOCKENDORF

Two men from the chapter, Assistant Director **Keith Gore** and Director **Doc Dockendorf**, attended Directors College this year, which was a wonderful experience for both. It was Keith's first exposure to the school, and he came back really charged up.

As part of our community service initiative, we performed our September biannual road cleanup and then held an "Octoberfest" party that evening, to bid our summer singers a fond adieu.

We welcomed two new members to the chorus, **Bill White** and **Joel Empie**, both baritones. Bill immediately was pressed into service as our music librarian, and he has done a fantastic job in reorganizing and filing our new music. He also was voted the August *BOTM* by the chorus.

The chorus appeared on the Blue Ridge High School annual talent show for the fourth year, as well as singing for President **Bob** and **Judy Cutlipp** as they celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary by renewing their wedding vows.

Baritone and Immediate Past President **Tom Pennell** rejoined the chorus after undergoing quadruple bypass surgery. We hope that he totally regains his voice after unfortunate damage to his vocal chords during the surgery.

YUMA

ROB BAILEY

The **Yuma Chapter** is back in full swing with weekly rehearsals on Tuesday nights at Kofa High School. **Frank Durham** has taken over the lead director position, injecting his humor into each evening's activities. **Bill Ellenberger** and **Rob Bailey** are helping out as Frank's assistants, directing a couple of songs each, providing a little variety to the show. The new slate of officers for 2005 has been selected, pending approval by the general membership. The chapter is also considering a name change for the chorus -- stay tuned ... Meanwhile, when visiting the Yuma area, check in at (928) 344-5930 for an update on scheduled barbershop activities.

Division 5 Summer Bash a Great Success

By Phil Smith

The weekend of Aug. 26-27 was an outstanding one for the Arizona/Southern Nevada/Southern Utah Division. Our quartets had a chance to perform, and there were plenty of opportunities for fellowship and woodshedding. It was the annual Division 5 Summer Bash, and everybody seemed very satisfied with the new location, the Grace Inn at Ahwatukee.

The highlight of the weekend for me was the emergence of a new (to most of us in attendance, anyway) comedy quartet, **Watering Hole #3** from **Sierra Vista**, which easily captured the comedy quartet contest, performing a parody, *Darkness on the Desert*, and a fine Christmas comedic number, both aided by props. Its members are **Paul Godwin, David Germain, Bernie Martus**, and **Fred Whitley** [T,L,Br,Bs]. To my knowledge this is the first time that a quartet from Sierra Vista has won anything at any level in the Society, and they certainly deserved it.

A large audience turned out Friday night for the Parade of Quartets, which included three Sweet Adelines quartets and a mixed quartet. Donations totaling \$665 were received for youth harmony projects. The mike testers were the **Desert Drifters**, from the new **Casa Grande Chapter**. Another chapter rarely heard from **Canada Del Oro**, was represented by the **Desert Blends** quartet. Also performing Friday were two quartets from the **Mesa East Valley Chapter**, **2 Under Par** and **Love@Home**, and two quartets from the newly merged **Greater Phoenix Chapter**, **Music Box** and **Broadway**.

Eleven quartets participated Saturday night in the Luck of the Draw contest. The winning quartet was made up of **Dick Timmerman, Hans Hangartner, Jeff Klein** and **Bernie Martus**. **Bob Schaffer** of the **Mesa Chapter** was a member of both the second- and third-place quartets. Others in the second-place quarter were **Jack Deaton, Sam Stimple** and **Dick Shuman**. Others in the No. 3 quarter were **David Germain, Jerry Fox B** and **Charlie DeFir**.

In the sixth annual Desert Knights Golf Tournament, the coveted green jacket went to **Charlie Nardin** of the **Mesa Chapter** and **2 Under Par**. His fellow quartet member, **Barney Griffin**, was second, and **Jerry Gustafson** was third. **Hedy Fossenkemper** was the women's division winner. **Bob Robinson**, a previous green jacket winner, got the prize for low putts. **Dick Livesay** got an award for the most putts, and **Bob Apple** got a special prize for the most strokes.

After the comedy quartet contest Saturday, the 2003 winners, the **Desert Blazers**, performed their zany antics. Three of the members -- **Joe Salz, Chuck Rastatter** and **Sam Aramian** (Lloyd Steinkamp is the fourth) -- are members of the **Desert Knights**, the 1956 Far Western District quartet champions. They will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of their formation next year, and hope to perform at next year's Bash.

FWD Spring Convention & SCW in Burbank
March 17-20, 2005
Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!

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2 Spirit of Phoenix



3 Pacific Coast Harmony

4 Rincon Beach



5 Bay Area Metro Chorus

6 Garden City Chorus



7 The New Gang on the Corner

8 Coastliners



9 Silver Dollar Chorus

10 Valleyaires

CONVENTIONS, SHOWS, EVENTS

2004 _____

November

- 6 Placerville Show
- 6 Monterey Peninsula Show [T]
- 13 Palo Alto Mountain View Show
- 13-14 COTS-LA at LAX Hilton
- 20-21 COTS-Sacramento at
Hilton Arden Fair West
- 27 Santa Fe Springs Show
- 28 Palomar Pacific Show

December

- 4 Palomar Pacific Show
- 5 Rincon Beach Show
- 5 Bay Area Metro Show
- 12 Bay Area Metro Show
- 18 Santa Rosa Show
- 18 Santa Fe Springs Show
- 18 Las Vegas Metro Show
- 18-19 San Diego Shows
- 19 Irvine Show

2005 _____

February

- 4-5 Davis Vacaville Shows
- 5 San Fernando Valley
- 27 Sun Cities Show

March

- 17-20 FWD Spring Convention
Int'l Prelims & SCW Division
Contest, Burbank

April

- 8-9 NCWH Div Contest
San Jose
- 16 Fullerton Show
- 22-23 A/SN/SU Div Contest
- 30 Santa Fe Springs Show

May

- 7 Santa Rosa Show
- 7 Eureka Show
- 7 Placerville Show
- 14 SCE Div Contest
- 14 San Jose Show
- 21 NCENN Div Contest

June

- 3,4,5 South Bay Shows
- 18 Bay Area Metro Show

July

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

17-24 HC/DC Location TBD
[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**

September

- 27-30 FWD Fall Convention
Phoenix
- [Note date is moved to September]

2008 _____

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

2009 _____

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

2010 _____

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

*Clear all show dates with
FWD Secretary, Dick Girvin*

WESTUNES

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