



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 56

Spring 2006

Number 1



**2006 Int'l Sr 2nd Place
Vintage Gold**

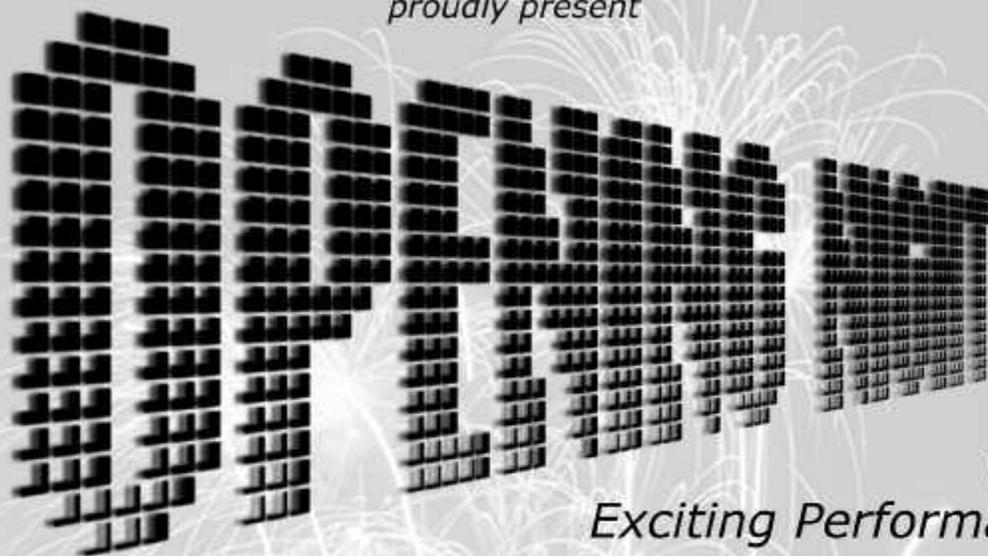
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Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

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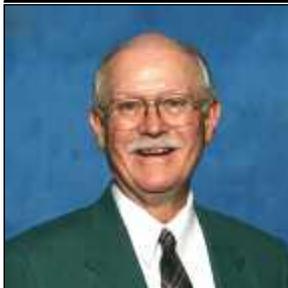
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Issue	Deadline	Chapter News Submittal to Div Editor	Deadline
Winter	1 Nov		25 Oct
Spring	1 Feb		25 Jan
Summer	1 May		25 Apr
Fall	1 Aug		25 Jul

These are new dates for the new
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SPEBSQSA, Inc
7930 Sheridan Road
Kenosha, WI 53143
or use the secure Society website login
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District President



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It's somewhat of a tradition for the Presidents of the Far Western District to choose a motto or theme. Quite often, and appropriately, the theme is a song title and one of the arrangements sent out in 2005 as part of our Society's Premier Music Subscription program jumped right out at me. With apologies to a great American entertainer, Bob Hope, I will use "Thanks for the Memories" as my motto because it not only recognizes there have been many marvelous barbershopping happenings in our past but it presumes there will be many more things worth remembering in the future.

Those of us who are "Golden Oldies" can sit around for hours hashing and rehashing great memories, but there are many things even most of our newest members can already point to as memorable. In just this past year the Far Western District claimed the International Quartet Champion GOTCHA! for more than half the year and then saw and heard the Masters of Harmony win the Society Chorus Gold Medal. In addition to that, Metropolis and O C Times earned Society medals.

Then, at our fall convention in Pasadena, Hi-Fidelity won our District Quartet Gold and Vintage Gold earned the Senior championship. I know we'll be hearing more from both these fine quartets in the future. Speaking of the future, our future and the future of Barbershopping seems safe after watching Westminster win Chorus Gold. You know they had to be exceptional if a chorus as fabulous as Phoenix didn't win. You can bet we'll hear more from Phoenix in the future.

Now, what about the other kind of memories? If we can learn from the disappointments and be successful next time around,

then we've turned a poor experience into something worthwhile. Last year we had an unacceptable reduction in membership, lost a large amount of money at the spring convention in Burbank, and were far under earnings projection at Pasadena. We need to overcome these problems and improve the memories associated with them.

'Nuf 'bout last year. Already in 2006 the Far Western District has shown the rest of the Barbershopping world we're willing and able to maintain our leadership role. The Sacramento Chapter hosted a first class Society Midwinter Convention in Sacramento, highlighted by Vintage Gold winning silver medals within two points of gold, performances by Metropolis, O C Times and the Westminster Chorus, with the latter joined by a group of high-schoolers who attended a harmony festival on Saturday. This was the first harmony festival in the Society this year. What a start to the year, with FWD leading the way.

Administratively, Immediate FWD Past President Peter Feeney took his seat on the Society Board of Directors as Board Member at Large and yours truly joined the newly formatted Society Operations Team, assisted by FWD Executive VP Bob Lally. Here's your chance. In addition to your Chapter Counselor and Division VP, you now have the names of three men from the FWD who are directly connected to the Society organizational structure. It's your District and your Society. Contact us. What do you want; what changes are needed; what suggestions do you have; what can we do for you?

Motto:
**"Thanks for
the
Memories"**

Upcoming memory generators: Reno, Indianapolis, San Jose District Convention, COTS (one day), the Music Mentor Program, 100% Club, YIH camp and festivals, and the "Anything Goes" chorus festival. And these are all things with District or Society involvement. How much more are you going to do with your chapter?

What a full year we're going to have!

**FWD Spring Convention in Reno
March 16-19, 2006
Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!**

FWD Sunshine Chairman George McCay

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

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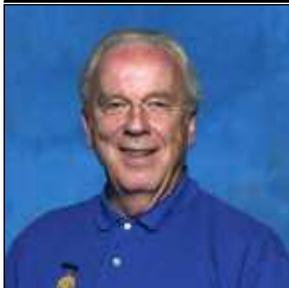
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District Executive Vice President



**Also
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One of the primary duties assigned to the EVP for the District is coordinating the efforts of the various committee chairmen and their activities. Those are the men who really make things happen to assist all of us in having the best barbershop experience we can have. Just to remind you, among those committees are Music & Performance, Chorus Director Development, Events, Marketing & PR, Membership and Youth Harmony programs. While each these groups are headed by outstanding men who have great enthusiasm for their jobs, each one of them could use some help in both bringing their skills to bear on your problems and identifying chapters and individuals who would benefit from their attention. If you have a feeling for one of these areas of interest and would like to be involved in helping your fellow singers succeed, drop a note or make a call to one of the Committee Chairman. I know he would be thrilled to hear from you. Contact information for all of them, as well as all District Officers, can be found in the front of this issue of Westunes, and articles from most of them are elsewhere in these pages.

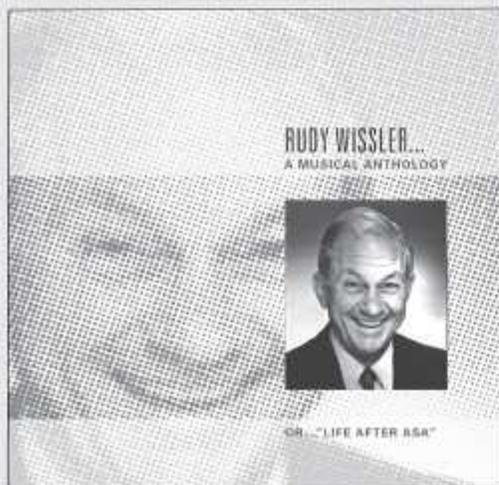
Next on our horizon is a round of Division Conventions and Contests, and I hope each of you will attend one of these fun events. Remember, competing at them is not so much about winning as it is about getting an expert opinion on how you're doing in your musical development. But that only takes a few hours of your time; the rest of the weekend you can spend meeting with old friends, singing a few tags and enjoying the sound of our great style of music. Do you have a better way to spend a weekend? I didn't think so! Make your registration now, and take advantage of the early bird rate.

If you haven't done so already, it's also time to make your plans for the summer. What will it be? The International Convention in Indianapolis with three of our FWD Choruses competing along with several serious FWD Quartets? The re-vitalized Harmony University in St. Joe in August? One of the Harmony College West events or quartet coaching sessions? We're truly blessed with a wealth of choices, and whichever one you make will be a winner!

Until the next time.

**FWD Spring Convention in Reno
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Voices In Harmony

by Bruce Lechner

Greg Lyne to Direct the New Northern California Chorus, "Voices in Harmony"

Well, it's true! The earth did indeed move in Northern California, in fact, two major "events" occurred within the span of 2 days.

On January 3, 2006, the members of the Bay Area Metro and San Jose Chapters elected to merge and launch a new effort to place Northern California on the map as the home of a top chorus within the Society. What began as a dinner conversation between the presidents of BAM and San Jose last October led to an experiment where the choruses combined for their Holiday shows, and this included a visit and coaching session in late November by Dr. Greg Lyne. With approximately 100 men on the risers for the Holiday shows and an audience reaction that was overwhelmingly positive, the members of both chapters recognized a unique opportunity to merge and turn an experiment into a musical journey. On the evening of January 3rd, in separate meetings, the members cast a nearly unanimous vote to merge chapters and create a new chorus, now officially named "Voices in Harmony".

Forty-eight hours later the celebrations began in earnest when Greg Lyne accepted an offer from this new chorus to become its Director with the simple words "Let's Do It". With these three simple words, Greg had current chorus members singing the Hallelujah Chorus at work, many of our inactive members rushed to transmit high priority e-mails asking about the next rehearsal, and the new leadership team immediately signed a contract for a bigger rehearsal venue. Greg's last message to us, and to you, read as follows: "What a pleasure it will be to return to the wonderful Far West District! This opportunity in the Bay Area promises to be great fun. We are hopeful that we can, as a chorus, make a meaningful contribution to the District and to the Society."

Needless to say, it's a very exciting time and things are moving quickly. On January 20th we hosted a Benefit Concert for Westminster to raise funds for their trip to International. Needless to say, they received a standing ovation and we were able to add over \$3,000 to their bank account. Special thanks to Larry Weiss who won the \$600 grand prize in our raffle, and immediately handed the cash to Royce; now that's support!! On January 27th, we dined, danced and sang the night away as Bill Cale, FWD President, helped us install our new Board for 2006. February 5th found us co-sponsoring the Nor Cal West Novice Contest with the Walnut Creek chapter, followed by an Afterglow where we sang for every Super Bowl touchdown, regardless of who scored! The weekend of February 24-26 we were working hard with Greg at our Winter Advance in Occidental, California as we began preparations for our Spring shows on April 23 and May 6, appropriately entitled "Opening Night" to celebrate our new beginning. You'll see our ad for this show in this issue of Westtunes and we cordially invite you to join us for our debut and to welcome Greg to the FWD.

While there has indeed been a lot of celebration and excitement to date, it pales by comparison to what we think the future holds. David Haedtler, the newly elected president of the chapter summed it up best with the following remarks:

"Greg used the term 'opportunity' in the note above, and that really reflects what is in front of us at this point. Through the merger we have combined some great musical talent into one organization, we hope to build something very special here in the Bay Area, and we are truly blessed to have Greg as our Director as we move forward. The real work lies in front of us, but simply having the chance to achieve what might be possible now is, by itself, truly exciting. As somebody once sang...."We've only just begun....."



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With 2006 off to a great start I thought I'd remind everyone why they should use a chapter counselor. I won't take any credit for this article as it's right off the Society Website but I thought it was excellent.

Five reasons to use a chapter counselor

You're getting coaching for your chorus.....but what about for your chapter?

What's missing from your chapter? The insight of a well-informed outsider—a chapter counselor—can have as much impact on your chapter experience as a good vocal coach can have on your chorus's sound.

Many times, a skilled outsider may have access to resources and insights that are less obvious to chapter members and can break through political logjams. That's why the Society has a chapter counselor program and why many chapters have an ongoing relationship with their counselor. Here are some of the real day-to-day challenges that chapter counselors have been responding to across the Society.

To help chapters deal with director issues

One chapter acquired a new director who had no barbershop background but said he would devote the time and energy to learning the art form. Not only did he not try to master barbershop, he was consistently late to practice because of other commitments. Resolution: The chapter counselor was able to help the chapter terminate the arrangement with this director.

Another chorus director wanted the chapter to get 20 new songs ready for the next show, but the chapter just wanted to sing the songs they were comfortable with. The chapter counselor facilitated discussions in the chapter to clarify needs and expectations all around. The resulting compromise had the chapter learning new songs using quartets and octets, but also preserved many of the "old favorites."

To help chapter leaders develop ideas to keep them on task

One chapter had not had a board meeting for some time until its counselor asked to meet with the board to get acquainted, discuss mission and goals, etc. A more regular schedule of board meetings ensued.

Another chapter was struggling with internal conflict. The counselor facilitated discussions to help the chapter understand the range of needs and priorities of its members and find ways to structure activities to meet them, without conflict.

Another chapter wanted to change to have more fun and gain

members. They tried a lot of things that didn't work—in fact they lost a few more members. Their chapter counselor helped them structure and conduct some fun and productive discussions to clearly establish what the chapter members wanted and did not want to do. Armed with this insight, the board was able to move in directions fully supported by the membership.

Another chapter felt isolated from other chapters, district officers, and the Society. Its chapter counselor helped organize some visits from district officers and a Society music man. He also hosted a meeting of local chapter presidents and encouraged them to plan several inter-chapter events.

To help chapters grow and retain members

One chapter was frustrated at not being able to recruit younger members. Their chapter counselor engaged the district's YMIH VP to help the chapter build a relationship with a local community college.

Another chapter was losing members faster than they were bringing them in. Their chapter counselor was able to arrange for a round table meeting of Chapter Development VPs with the district VP of Chapter Development. As a result, the chapter gained a lot of good ideas and tools to plan and run successful guest events.

Another chapter had no problem bringing guests in, but had trouble getting them to join. The chapter counselor was able to share some guest orientation and support programs with the chapter board and urged them to use the "Singing is Life" video once a month to make the case for being a barbershop singer.

To help chapters enhance enjoyment and fun at chapter meetings

One chapter had membership that was demoralized, demotivated and quitting. Their chapter meetings were boring, and the members were tired of hearing the same things from their director. Their chapter counselor helped them focus on basics and introduce fun fellowship activities to their chapter meetings. Soon, there was a lot of excitement and interest in seeing what would happen every week.

To help chapters develop strategies to create more community awareness

One chapter grew tired of being the "best-kept secret" in their community. The chapter counselor helped them identify opportunities to become more active and visible. He encouraged them to visit local media, schools, government, and business organizations to deliver birthday, anniversary and other celebration greetings. He tapped into the DVP of Marketing and PR to get them examples of how to provide information to local cable stations, radio stations, and community newspapers. And he engaged the YMIH DVP to assist them in getting involved as supporters of the local school choir program.

If you see your chapter in a situation like one of these, give your chapter counselor a call. He is there solely to help you. Not sure who your counselor is? Not to worry. Just contact your DVP of CSLT for assistance.

And if you're interested or know of someone who might be a good candidate for Chapter Counselor, please let your DVP. We currently have a need for more good, dedicated chapter counselors.

Sing-cheerily,



Chair: Chorus Director Development
Steve Sammonds
1128 Beaumont Drive
San Jose, CA 95129
Phone: 408-252-4093
E: sammonds@comcast.net

Top Society recruiter Jerry Orloff once gave me a very good piece of advice as a chorus director: "The membership guys will get them in the door. It's YOUR job to make them want to keep coming back for more."

I take that advice to heart every week I step in front of my chorus. As the Barbershop Harmony Society continues to struggle with declining membership, everyone must look at how they interact with their fellow Barbershoppers and prospective members. The chorus director, being the most visible and arguably most influential person at the weekly chapter meeting, carries a large part of the responsibility and burden in making sure every member enjoys the night enough to want to come back for more.

During our planning sessions last fall, the district chairmen of membership, marketing, and chorus director development discussed how to work together on the "membership problem." I reiterated Jerry's words, and we each agreed to do our part in getting new men to the chapter meetings and making sure that all members, whether veteran Barbershoppers, rookies, or guests, never want to miss a single meeting night.

To all the dedicated men and women who stand in front our choruses every week: THANK YOU! And remember the important role you play every week in keeping our Society growing and thriving.

To everyone else: Remember that your directors, assistant directors, and music team members cannot do it alone. Support them every way you can and be sure to let them know when you are having fun as well as how they can make your hobby even more fun for you! Together, the Barbershop Harmony Society and the Far Western District will turn the corner and experience a renewed era of growth and musical prosperity.



Chair: Contest & Judging
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951-699-9149 909-938-9149 [cell]
E: TerryAramian@adelphia.net

Terry, recovering from his recent stroke, was heard singing with Singers LTD in recent weeks. Way to go, Terry!



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E: ChuckLeav@aol.com

It is division convention time!

I hope you are planning to attend your division convention. The division convention is much more than a district contest qualifying event for the BIG BOYS. You will meet old friends and make new ones. It's a great place for choruses and quartets to compete in a supportive environment -- plus it's a blast! If you aren't into the competition thing, choruses have the option of singing in the contest for evaluation only (you won't appear in the scoring summary). Or, your chorus can present a 10 minute performance package. What a great way to get advice on how to get better. That's something we all want to do -- right? I hope your chorus is going to sign up. If they're not -- ask why not.

If your quartet hasn't signed up yet -- do it today! You can find the easy quartet online registration form at <http://www.speb-sqsafwd.org/form/QuartetRegistration.html>. If you aren't in a registered quartet -- form one! How about signing up the guys you sang with on Valentines Day?

We are looking for chapters to host the 2007 and 2008 division events. Talk it over with your chapter leadership. Hosting a division convention is a great service to your fellow barbershoppers plus you can make some money for the chapter. We have an excellent convention handbook to help you plan and execute a great convention. There is an experienced regional convention planning manager (RCPM) in each division that will help you locate and approve venues and give advice about running the events. Our RCPMs are:

Az/SoNV - Fred Koch - FKTUCSON@msn.com,
NCE - Sam Barger - nevadasam1@sbcglobal.net
NCW - Dick Whitten - dickwhit@sonic.net
SCE - Fritz Grunenwald - Grunenwald@aol.com
SCW - Bob Cathaway - rwcathaway@bak.rr.com

I plan to attend at least three Division Conventions myself. The first one is the FWD Spring Convention and NorCal East Division contest March 16 - 19 in Reno. Will I see you there?



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Welcome to the New Year!

I want to take a minute and wish you all a Happy New Year, and

express my wishes for more chords and even better experiences in harmony. In the year ahead, I want to be able to help you get the best experience in harmony whether it be to sing on a show, singing in contest, or just having a great practice each week. You may ask how I can help you do this? Allow me to open a door for you that you may never have considered before. I am working to reach out to more chapters this year, as we seek to take our hobby out to those who may never have heard of us before, or may have forgotten that they once used to have a great time doing creating chords that make you have those goose bumps.

How do I want to do this? I want to reach out to chapter presidents and marketing officers and ask for your help as I seek the best of the best among your chapters that might be that guy who has all of the contacts in town, or seems to know everybody. I am working to create a team within each division to assist your chapter or those close to you to help you grow both in the market that you draw your audience from, or to draw possible visitors and/or new members. I have the tools and ideas that can help you to make this happen, and the leadership of the Far Western District is anxious to be working with you.

You may ask, "How do I become a part of this team?" Here's how... If you are a chapter president or any other officer, and happen to know of a guy who would be "Just what we're looking for", or have a new guy with special talents that might help your chapter gain new members or audience, I'd love to hear from you. Even if you just have a "Great" idea, I want to hear from you. I can be reached at Field_Auditor@prodigy.net and let me know of that possible candidate or idea, and I'll take it from there.

Additionally, keep in mind that Harmony College West will happen again in Redlands, Ca. on July 21-23, 2006, and be sure to remind your chapter's members to put this fantastic event on your calendar. For those chapter presidents looking for new ways to create money for your chapter, start looking for the ideal candidate to attend my course entitled "How to Write a Successful Grant Request"

	<p>Chair : Member Services Clark Abrahamson 186 Big Valley Rd Folsom, CA 95630-4648 Phone: 916-983-1141 E: c.abrahamson@comcast.net</p>
--	--

Looking for ideas to attract potential members? Here are a few that might be a little different (with taglines to spark your imagination):

- A.A. (that's Alcoholics Anonymous for you teetotalers) - men looking for "other interests")
- AFA - Home Depot, Sports stores - where men shop/congregate.
- Apartments/Condos - activities directors - diverse audience.
- Big Brothers -looking for role models
- Civic/Business orgs (i.e. Rotary, Elks, Chambers of Commerce, Merchant clubs, Toastmasters) - men 35 - 54.

- Corporate/Government employees (Hospitals, large companies) - large pool of prospects.
- Door hangers - canvass neighborhoods - all the info plus a "hook" (i.e. "free voice lessons")
- Ethnic/minority community (black, hispanic, gay).
- Fire Departments - young guys - large blocks of time off.
- Neighborhood/Homeowner organizations - sing for events.
- Newcomers/Welcome Wagon - literature in their welcome packages
- Newspaper personals ads - consistency - consistency - consistency.
- Other arts organizations (little theater, community chorus, etc.) - similar interests.
- Police Departments (see Fire Departments)
- Realtors (neighborhood newsletters) - include chapter blurb.
- Retirement communities/homes - Duh!
- School, church orgs (PTA, K.C.s, Drama Clubs etc.) - more similar interests.
- Singles clubs/Parents Without Partners - see A.A.
- Sports teams/organizations (Hunting clubs, car clubs, sports teams, etc.) - men, 35 - 54.
- Women's orgs - "get the 'ol man out of the house on Tuesday night".
- Yellow Pages - "organizations, clubs" - offer to sing for their meetings.
- Youth organizations (Boy Scouts...) - have them usher, sell tickets - offer a percentage of the gate.

Any more ideas? I'd love to hear of unique ways your chapter has succeeded...drop me a line c.abrahamson@comcast.net.

Next up - ways to keep them coming back once you get them through the door. - see 'ya around -

	<p>Chair: Music & Performance Jerry Fairchild 671 W Cypress Ave Redlands, CA 92373-5817 909-792-8618 E: jerryfairchild@verizon.net</p>
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July 21st, 22nd, 23rd - 2006
Harmony College West University of Redlands

FLASH Great news! The Far Western District's trend setting, electrifying, exciting, mesmerizing award winning Westminster Chorus is going to headline the Saturday night show, July 22nd, 2006, at Harmony College West! This will be their first public appearance after dazzling the International audience at Indianapolis. The Association Of International Champions quartet, Happiness Emporium, will share the stage that night. They won the Championship in 1975. This will be a wonderful opportunity to witness our cherished hobby as a truly lifetime hobby!

There will be several new things at this year's Harmony College West and some things which will remain the same - as a direct

result of the email evaluation forms sent to you the day after HCW in Hayward.

Some new things are: There will be twelve separate classes with eighteen different choices of 2 hour, 3 hour, 4 hour, 5 hour or 8 hour classes. See the registration pages in this issue of Westunes for a listing of them (as of now.) No more hot Memorial Chapel for the Saturday night show. It will be held in Redlands High School's Clock Auditorium. It is old, but it is a real theater. As a matter of fact, in the early 80's my quartet, RSVP, sang The Music Man there. It's a great place to sing.

As a result of the comments and suggestions on the evaluation sheets concerning HCW 2004 here in Redlands, we will have different, refurbished and air-conditioned dorms. We will have evaluations again this year for you to help make next year even better, if that's possible.

There will be a different (and better, I am told) method of quartet coaching. I asked Connie Keil, the man who gave us that incredible presentation of The Fourth Wall, last year at HCW at in Hayward (Cover picture on the March/April Harmonizer.) Four coaches will work with six (or four) quartets on a rotating basis. Each coach will concentrate on one category: Singing, Music, Presentation, and Performance. While four quartets are being coached, the the other two quartets will have breaks to work on material and techniques just learned. I asked Connie to write a concise explanation of these four categories. Here it is.

MUSIC: How to bring a song to life artistically in the barbershop style. The focus is on maximizing consonance, establishing and developing the musical theme(s), improving delivery and musicality, and taking technique from competence to artistry.

SINGING: How to achieve high quality, in-tune vocalization with a high degree of unity, ensemble consistency and artistry in the barbershop style. The focus is on intonation, vocal quality, unity of word sounds, flow, diction, synchronization, expansion and "ring".

PRESENTATION: How to maximize overall entertainment value for the audience with artistic and unified vocal and visual expression. The focus is on creating "from the heart" emotional impact from the musical and emotional theme(s) in the song.

PERFORMANCE: How to create a "standing ovation" performance with your unique persona. The focus is on developing contest and show packages which work for you, including song selection, set development, costuming and on stage behavior."

Probably the best thing to remain the same is the cost!!! It will still be only \$150 to stay on campus (two nights and 5 meals) and \$95 for commuters (5 meals). This hasn't changed in 4 years.

For those of you who attended HCW in Redlands two years ago, you will be thrilled to know that the same marvelous cuisine will be available. If this will be your first time at the University of

Redlands I'm sure you will agree.

The coaches and instructors will be as good as or even better than last year. You can count on a top-notch staff. There will be the same easy check-in and check-out as the last time at the U of R. Of course, there will be the same beautiful campus.

FREE CHAPTER CHORUS COACHING - for sing-outs or for contests: Every chapter, particularly those who would like to sing better, look better, and entertain their audiences better should take advantage of the 50% discount offered by the Far Western District on expenses of having a well- qualified coach work with your chapter chorus for a night or a weekend special rehearsal. Your chapter can be reimbursed up to \$150 for mileage (the FWD still pays \$.25 per mile - better than a poke in the eye with a sharp stick), meals or other reasonable expenses. Coaching fees are not included in the discount program.

All you need to do is call or email me and request a coach. I'll give you a name or names of coaches who are in your chapter's area. When you set a date with the coach, email or call me with the date, and download an FWD Chorus Coaching Reimbursement Form from the FWD website. After the coaching session, fill out the form completely and return it to me. Be sure to tell the coach to keep mileage and any receipts. They should be attached to the request. I will authorize reimbursement to your chapter and send it to the District Treasurer who will cut a check for your chapter.

SKILLS-BASED QUARTET WORKSHOP To be offered by the Fullerton Chapter on June 17th: This is being held in the SoCal East Division, but any quartet is able to attend. Those quartets in other Divisions should ask your your Division Music & Performance VP or the Division Vice-President to arrange such a workshop in your Division. To find a description of this type of workshop, please see the Fall 2005 issue of Westunes, on page 7. Your chapter can sponsor one of these workshops! A complete "Guidelines For Conducting A Quartet Workshop" is available. It is a complete "How To" manual. The June 17th workshop will follow the "Guidelines...."



**Chair : Young Men In Harmony
John Krizek**
1190 Tanglewood Rd.
Prescott, AZ 86303
Phone: 818-785-0498 [thro 3/9/06
El: jkrizek@aol.com

Off To A Good Start

The year is only a month old at this writing, and already we have highlights to share.

In Arizona, for the second year, a team led by Ron Hayes with assistants including Jerry Fox hosted a booth at the annual convention of the Arizona Music Educators Association. This year's

event featured a clinic conducted by Society music specialist Rick Spencer, assisted by our top-10 college quartet MenSo Forte who flew in from San Luis Obispo, and a local Sweet Adeline high school quartet called 4Ever 4. Phoenix quartet Dazzle singing the national anthem was a highlight of an awards luncheon.

Division YIH coordinator Ken Corns reports: "MenSo Forte was sensational, at the booth, at the registration desk, in the hallways, and of course, at the clinic. . . Rick Spencer did an absolutely outstanding presentation, and what he had the quartets do was of great interest to the music educators. . . The responses from the MEs was that it was the best clinic of any that they had attended . . . There was NOT ONE music educator who visited the booth who wasn't thrilled with our program and what we had to offer."

Many thanks to Ken, Ron, Jerry, Dazzle, and MenSo Forte for representing us so well, and setting the stage for a bright future for barbershopping in Arizona.

In Sacramento, the Society Midwinter convention was thrilled by a performance by our champion Westminster Chorus which bussed up from Los Angeles. In addition, the Sacramento chapter hosted what is expected to be its first annual Youth Harmony Festival. Chairman Norm Smith and music honcho Bruce Sellnow ran the event, with participation by clinicians Eric Brickson, Mark Freedkin, and Metropolis. During the afternoon, OC Times and Westminster arrived to demonstrate their rehearsal (and pizza-eating) techniques. Nineteen young men were "off the paper" in less than a day on "Sittin' On Top of the World", and joined the Westminster Chorus on stage to perform that song opening the Saturday night show, in an unforgettable demonstration of the power of the youth outreach program.

One of those high school participants wrote: "Words cannot express how enjoyable Saturday's festival was for me. Just to

The 16th annual FWD high school quartet contest will return to Reno March 18. Has your chapter encouraged, coached, sponsored, and supported a quartet this year? See the ad elsewhere in this issue, and get in touch with Bruce Sellnow right away. If nothing else, you can contribute to the pizza fund for the YIH afterglow.

see those quartets and the Westminster chorus perform live would have been a momentous occasion, but to have the opportunity to sing WITH them, and PERFORM with them . . . I can't even put into words how awesome that is!!!"

Another young man wrote: "I thought it was awesome .

. . . I learned to sing and found out it's not so bad after all. I liked it a lot and would love to come back." Hopefully the future will hold many more such musical moments for students throughout NorCal, thanks to the Sacramento guys.

Meanwhile, in Southern California the annual MOH/SCVA youth festival—which was the subject of such a great spread in the last issue of the Harmonizer—was already at sell-out level with over 250 registrations a month before the event on February 18th. "There sure is excitement around here about the

festival," writes one teacher. "We're bringing 28 guys to this year's festival . . . We can't wait!" writes another.

It works. The future is indeed here. We have much to be proud of.



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

Harmony Month and taxes – a singing connection??

I've always used the Society's birthdate (April 11, 1938) and Harmony Month to reflect upon my benefits in being a Society member. The fellowship, the music, the performances, the training, the conventions (having just returned from Midwinter in Sacramento) – they all bring joy to my life.

My adoration of the Society drives me to invest in Harmony Foundation, since they are the funding arm to keep Harmony Camps, Youth Festivals, Directors College and other music programs alive for generations. Their mission is "to preserve the musical legacy of the Barbershop Harmony Society through support of vocal music education in our schools and communities."

So, if you considered "giving back to the Society," let me review a quartet of ways to invest in Harmony Foundation:

- **Ambassadors of Song** – a monthly sponsor program where any level gift can be deducted from your bank account or charged to a credit card to provide funds over time. Our district has 20 members involved.
- **Presidents Council** – an annual giving program beginning at \$1,000 per year can also be paid monthly on a credit card. Benefits include preferred seating and Gala Celebration at International and MidWinter conventions, plus a free summer contest recording. Our district has 25 members involved.
- **Donor Choice** – what a concept! In either of the programs above, you can designate up to 30% of your giving BACK to your district or chapter. What a great way to assist in underwriting a program of your choice!!
- **Founders Club** – the initial program started in the 1980s to create an endowment. Those involved either provided an outright gift (minimum \$1000) or a planned gift (e.g. bequest, life insurance, charitable trust, estate). Our district has 60 members involved. You can make the Foundation a part of your estate plan.

And since Harmony Month and Tax Time fall within the same month, remember that these are tax deductions (especially if you itemize). Think about it – sing and deduct!

So let's make Harmony Month and Taxes a joyful connection by supporting our music and charitable giving. And be B# - check updates on www.harmonyfoundation.org.



2005 FWD Quartet Champions Hi-Fidelity

by Craig, Tom, Gregg and Martin

Wow! The thrill of being announced as the Far Western District Champions is something special! We thank you again for the calls and e-mails of congratulations – of course the greatest reward is the invitations to sing on your annual shows (hint, hint)!

As usual, Hi-Fidelity has been keeping busy with LOTS of events!

We were recently invited to sing at the Barbershop Pioneers Convention in Boulder City, NV and shared the stage with The Suntones – great innovators and a true class act. Also featured was Stardust who did a bang-up job as well. You have to love a hobby where we give our all in competition, then turn around and become the best of friends on the show circuit.

At the recent Masters of Harmony Annual installation dinner we were very honored to receive the Hugh Ingram Memorial Award as Quartet Of The Year from our MOH brothers! By the way, don't miss the MOH shows in Indy – a lot of fantastic new music is being prepared!

On a completely different subject...what does it feel like to get a standing ovation from a room full of network television comedy writers? Well...the opportunity came up to help one of the writers pull a great practical joke on the writing staff for "Crumbs" and "Still Standing". They went NUTS!! It takes too long to explain the inside joke, but ask us about the "stool song" when you see us.

Coming up soon you can catch us at the Harmony Sweepstakes, hoping to carry on the tradition of success started by Metropolis and The Perfect Gentlemen. Rumor has it that the Addam's Family may just come out of retirement for this very special event.

We are sad to announce that we will not be at the Reno Pre-lims. (We hate when Craig's job interferes with barbershopping!) We will however be going to the Evergreen District contest (in

Canada) in our bid for international qualification, so wish us luck. You may remember that our last trip to Canada was Montreal International where we had to scratch due to illness. You could say we are itching for success in Canada!

And now for some very unusual Hi-Fi trivia for you to work on – 2 of us have the same middle name, 2 of us have wedding anniversaries on the same date (to our wives, not each other!), and 2 of us live on the same street name in different cities...All 4 guys have part in one or more of these fun facts - Get the answers by San Jose FWD contest and win a prize!!

Well, it's time to run – we're on our way to the benefit for Terry Aramian. We'll be singing with some amazing quartets that are giving up Superbowl Sunday to honor one of our beloved barbershop heroes.

For more stuff about us go to our website at www.hifidelityquartet.com. Recently added is a link to our XBox video game commercial (it's PAINFUL!!). This is by far our strangest project to date!

With our love and thanks,



William P. Pearson

VOCAL TEACHER & CLINICIAN
VOICE THERAPY

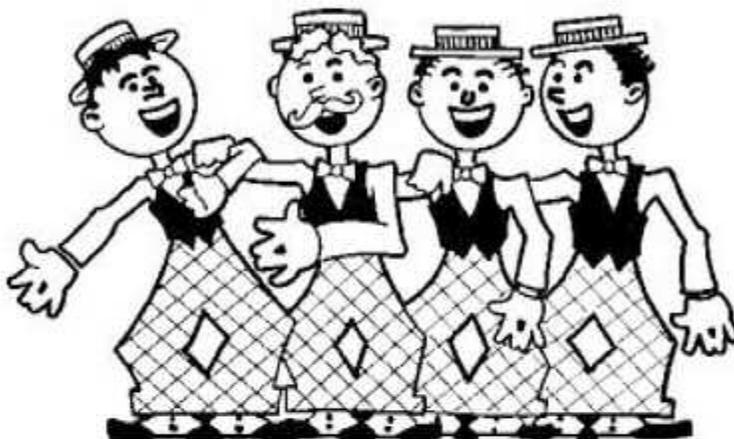
Student of Joseph J. Klein
Member of Placerville CA Gold Rush Chorus

Telephone: 530-626-0556 561 Shady Oak Lane
Diamond Springs, CA 95619

E-mail: pmusic66@hotmail.com

The Fullerton Chapter Proudly Presents
The Quartet Workshop
June 17, 2006

With room for only 8 quartets, this all day event on June 17, Saturday, will fill up quickly! Some of the top Judges and Coaching Staff in the Far Western District will be on hand to help you tune up your quartet so that when contest comes around in October, your quartet will be *awesome!*



Quartet name: _____

Quartet contact: _____ Phone: _____

Quartet Personnel:

Lead: _____

Bass: _____

Tenor: _____

Bari: _____



Coaching staff to be announced soon! Lunch will be served. Sessions will start promptly at 8 am, and conclude at 5 pm ending with a quartet contest. Winners may have a spot on the 2007 Fullerton show!

Fee: \$75.00

Location: Eastside Christian Church
2505 Yorba Linda Blvd • Fullerton, CA
(Between the 57 fwy and State College)

Further Inquiries: Spence Graves, 714 328-3478(Cell)
Checks made payable to: OEC (Orange Empire Chorus)
Non refundable

Send check and form to:
Spence Graves
161 E. Orangethorpe Ave., #113
Placentia, CA 92870

A Family Reunion

Upbeat, Vol 63, No. 5 - February 7, 2006

Barbershop truly is a family affair and this past Sunday almost 500 family members gathered in the Fallbrook, California High



School theater for a "Celebration" honoring and supporting one of it's finest.

Terry Aramian, as most of you know, suffered a stroke in 2005. He has been undergoing extensive rehabili-

tation and although he has for now, lost the use of his left arm and leg, he was, thank God, spared the loss of speech and/or personality. But, as you can imagine, Terry needs are spiritual and financial. He deserves and is getting the help of his brothers and sisters in harmony, to overcome this significant event in his life.



And what else can we do but extend a hand to the man who has given our Society so much of his time and energies. Orchestrated by Terry's Quartet "Singers Limited" and with special efforts of the Steinkamp family,

Terry got a significant boost in both of his critical areas of need. Sitting dead center in the auditorium, surrounded by the extended family, Sandy and Terry were treated to an old style barbershop parade of quartets and all the proceeds of the event went to the trust fund



that Gary Steinkamp arranged to lend support to Terry's rebuilding efforts. Terry can now stand and walk with the aid of a support, and he can laugh, joke and even find humor in his situation.



MC Lloyd Steinkamp injected funny stories about Terry's exploits with MA 101 and he was joined on stage by OC Times, Ready, Willing and Mabel, Dazzle!, Acapella Gold and Hi Fidelity all of whom, not only gave of their time and talent but, in some instances, traveled hundreds of miles at their own expense, to do so.

But this is not the end of the story. Terry is still months if not

years away from recovery and will continue to need our support and contact as he fights his battle

So, if you haven't sent some money to the trust fund yet or if you haven't called him or dropped him a line, mark you calendar for once a quarter, to do so. If we all took just skipped one of our Starbuck's Double Grande Half Caf/DeCaf Arabian Mocha Sanani Maciado, with room for steamed cream and a caramel swirl, just once a month and sent that 4 bucks to our buddy's rehabilitation fund, we might just see him back on the risers again.

READY WILLING & MABEL

DEBUT CD JUST RELEASED
ORDER NOW!

A COCKTAIL FOR THE EARS
\$17.99 includes S&H

mail order to
Ready Willing & Mabel
125 S Irena Ave
Redondo Beach, CA 90277

or online @
WWW.READYWILLINGMABEL.COM (310) 543-1902

METROPOLIS

• c/o 2206 Rockefeller Lane, #3 - Redondo Beach, CA 90278
Metropolis@harmonize.com <http://www.harmonize.com/metropolis>

ARIZONA/SO. NEVADA/SO.UTAH DIVISION CONTEST

Saturday April 22, 2006

HOSTED BY

TUCSON SUNSHINE CHAPTER

Barbershop Harmony Society

Moon Valley High School Auditorium

3625 West Cactus Road Phoenix, AZ 85029

Quartet competition begins at 12:00 Noon, Sat. April 22, 2006

Chorus competition begins at 7:00 PM, Sat. April 22, 2006

Headquarters hotel

RAMADA PLAZA

(602) 866-7000-----NO 800 NUMBER

12027 N. 28TH Drive Phoenix, AZ 85029

Room rate of \$45 per night (plus tax) includes American Breakfast Buffet

For questions or information about the convention contact Hap @ 520-298-8208 or haphaqq@aol.com

USE ONE SHEET PER NAME

REGISTRATION FORM

USE ONE SHEET PER NAME

Complete this portion and mail with check payable to:
Tucson Sunshine Chapter, Barbershop Harmony Society
5080 N. Stonehouse Place, Tucson, AZ 85750

Phone 520-760-0406 Fax 520 749-2618 email cactusdata@aol.com

Reservations will be held for pickup at the Convention site

Name _____ Voice Part: Lead Tenor Bari Bass

Address _____ Chorus _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Quartet _____

EMAIL _____

Phone Res _____ Bus. _____

Check all that apply:

- Chorus contestant
- Quartet contestant
- Non-competitive member
- District Officer
- Wife of Member
- Guest

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 need.

Full Early Bird (Check One)	Full Late/On Site (Check One)	Single Events SOLD ON SITE ONLY	Official Use Only
<input type="radio"/> Full..... \$30.00	<input type="radio"/> Full..... \$40.00	<input type="radio"/> Sat Chorus Contests \$20.00	Date _____
<input type="radio"/> Child/Student..... \$15.00 <small>(non-member)</small>	<input type="radio"/> Child/Student..... \$20.00 <small>(non-member)</small>	<input type="radio"/> Sat. Quartet Finals/Show. \$20.00	Rec'd _____
EARLY BIRD CUT OFF Sat. March 25	AFTER SAT, MARCH 25		Check # _____



2005 International Chorus Champions Santa Fe Springs [Masters of Harmony]

by Dane Hutchins

The Masters of Harmony celebrated Christmas with multiple performances as well as participating again on the annual Santa Fe Springs Christmas floats, with MOH quartets stopping at temporary staging sites to sing and warm up the crowd for the appearance of Santa himself! We also sang at the City's Holiday Fest and Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony, much expanded from previous years. The same week, the Masters were proud to give a nice donation to the City's Christmas Basket Program for needy seniors. We are very happy to give back to the City that has given so much to us over the past many years.

The MOH now shifts our Indy racecar up one more gear in preparation for performances at the International Convention in July. We'll be singing our farewell set as Society champs and "passing the torch" to the next gold-medal winner. Not content to simply bow out graciously, our musical leadership is intent upon us being the best we can be even in saying our goodbyes, which translates to diligent rehearsal workouts ahead.

We're excited about our upcoming "Medal Madness" show this April 29th at the Terrace Theater in Long Beach. This will not be just another "ho-hum" barbershop show, what with appearances by Realtime, the current international quartet champion; Harborlites, the 2005 Sweet Adelines International chorus champion; Westminster Chorus, the current FWD chorus champion; OC Times, the current International 5th place bronze medalist quartet; and Hi-Fidelity, the current FWD quartet champion. (How does our production team keep making every show better than the previous one?)

The chapter continues to welcome new members. The newest men to take ownership of their riser positions: Kurt Leingang, Don Laursen and Avi Blockburger.

We were pleased and honored for new Society President Dr. Drayton Justus to install our incoming Board of Directors as his first official act, and deliver the keynote address at our Annual Awards & Installation Banquet. After an outstanding dinner, with entertainment provided by Hi-Fidelity and OC Times, we were proud to introduce the 2006 officers: Ken Custer retained his post as President, and we added three new Board Members-At-Large to replace our retiring stalwarts.

Speaking of "proud," we showed our respect and admiration for the ongoing dedication of so many of our chapter members to the tenets and goals of the chapter, district and Society by presenting our annual awards, especially including our Barbershopper of the Year, Ken McDowell. Our Ladies Auxiliary presented the chapter with two scholarships to Harmony University.

With dedicated officers in place and an inspired membership eager to continue improving our singing and performance skills, the Masters of Harmony looks forward to another great year in the Far Western District, and the performances of our talented FWD brothers in international quartets and choruses.



2006 NORCAL WEST/HAWAII DIVISION CONVENTION
 Far Western District Quartet and Chorus Qualification Event

Spring into Harmony

Another Celebration of the Barbershop Community

April 8, 2006

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



HOSTED BY THE MERGED
 BAY AREA METRO AND SAN JOSE
 CHAPTERS
BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

Please type or print clearly

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone Home (____) _____ Bus. (____) _____
 Email _____

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.

Registration confirmation will be sent by Email.

All registrations will be held for pickup at convention site.

Full Early Bird Registration Type (X One)	Full Late/On Site Registration Type (X One)	Single Events WILL BE SOLD ON SITE ONLY	Official Use Only
<input type="radio"/> Full \$30.00 <input type="radio"/> Child/Student \$15.00 (non-member) Postmarked on or before 3/8/2006	<input type="radio"/> Full \$40.00 <input type="radio"/> Child/Student \$20.00 (non-member) Postmarked after 3/8/2006	<input type="radio"/> Sat. Quartet Contest \$20.00 <input type="radio"/> Sat. Chorus Contests/Show \$20.00 Contestants MUST have Full Registration	Date Recd. _____ Order # _____

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: "NCWH 2006"

Visa **Mastercard** Cardholder Name _____

Card Number _____ Exp Date (month/year) _____

Return completed form with payment to: Chuck Leavitt, 2315 Tree Creek Place, Danville, CA 94506

Buy online at www.vihchorus.org Questions? Call 925-837-5817 or e-mail NCWH2006@aol.com

NORCALWEST/HI DIVISION

Spring into Harmony

CONVENTION & CONTESTS

April 8th, 2006

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

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2006

TIME	EVENT
10:00 a.m.	Registration Opens
11:30 a.m.	Doors Open Quartet Contest
12:00 p.m.	Quartet Contest Starts
03:00 p.m.	Quartet Evaluations at Headquarters Hotel
06:00 p.m.	Doors Open Chorus Contest/Show
06:45 p.m.	Chorus Contest Starts
09:15 p.m.	Show of Champions
10:15 p.m.	Chorus Evaluations in Theater
10:30 p.m.	Afterglow

Headquarters Hotel

Campbell Inn
675 East Campbell Ave
Campbell, CA 95008
Reservations: 408-374-4300
Convention Rate: \$79.00 per night

Afterglow

Sonoma Chicken Coop
200 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell, CA

The Reno Silver Dollar Chorus presents

INTERNATIONAL QUARTET PRELIMS and NCE/NN DIVISION CONTEST

March 16-19, 2006

JOHN ASCUAGA'S NUGGET – Rose Ballroom

Contests & Meetings

- ✓ International Quartet Prelims
- ✓ NCE/NN Chorus & Quartet Contest
- ✓ High School Quartet Contest
- ✓ District Board Meeting
- ✓ House of Delegates Meeting
- ✓ AH-SOW
- ✓ Youth Afterglow

Headquarters Hotel Information

John Ascuaga's Nugget
 1100 Nugget Avenue
 Sparks, NV 89432-0797
 (800) 648-1177
 (775) 356-3300

\$91 per night – single or double.
 Indicate you are with the Barbershop
 Harmony Society.

RV Parking available in West parking
 lot at no charge (no hook-ups)

***** All contestants must buy an 'All Events' Registration *****

FWD SPRING INTERNATIONAL QUARTET PRELIM & NCE/NNCONVENTION/CONTESTS

March 16-19, 2006

Please type or print clearly.

Name(s) _____

 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Phone Res. (____) _____ Bus. (____) _____
 E-mail address _____

VIP Status

- District Officer
- Past-PWD President
- Delegate HOD
- AFWDC Member
- Other _____

Chapter/Chorus _____

Quartet Name _____



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	Full Late Registration Type	Total Registrations Requested:	Official Use Only
Full.....\$40.00 Child/Student.....\$20.00 (non-member) EARLY BIRD CUT OFF February 14, 2006	Full.....\$50.00 Child/Student.....\$25.00 (non-member) POSTMARKED AFTER February 14, 2006	___ Adult Early ___ Adult Late ___ Student Early ___ Student Late	Date Rec'd. _____ Check # _____ Seat # _____

Return completed form with payment to:

2006 Spring Convention
 c/o Dick Whitten
 7022 Cinnamon Drive
 Sparks, NV 89436

Please make check payable to: **Reno Chapter, 2006 Convention**

Total Enclosed \$ _____
 (fees are non-refundable)

Questions? Email dickwhit@sonic.net

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT
 SPRING BARBERSHOP CONVENTION & CONTEST

March 16-19, 2006

Schedule of Events - John Ascuaga's Nugget

Thursday (March 16)

2:00 p.m.	FWD Board Meeting	Genoa	2 nd Floor
7:30 p.m.	Registration Opens	Foyer	2 nd Floor
7:30 p.m.	Jump Start Barbershop	Freemont	2 nd Floor

Friday (March 17)

8:30 a.m.	FWD Board Meeting	Genoa	2 nd Floor
9:00 a.m.	Registration Opens	Foyer	2 nd Floor
9:00 a.m.	Barbershop Shop Opens	Carson	2 nd Floor
9:00 a.m.	AHSOW (all day)	Truckee	2 nd Floor
9:00 a.m.	Vocal Production	Southern Pacific E	3 rd Floor
9:00 a.m.	Tag Singing	Southern Pacific C	3 rd Floor
10:00 a.m.	Group Singing	Southern Pacific C	3 rd Floor
11:30 a.m.	Harmony for Lunch Bunch	Godfather's Pizza	TBA
2:00 p.m.	House of Delegates	Ponderosa B	2 nd Floor
2:00 p.m.	Vocal Production	Southern Pacific E	3 rd Floor
2:00 p.m.	Tag Singing	Southern Pacific C	3 rd Floor
3:00 p.m.	Group Singing	Southern Pacific C	3 rd Floor
4:00 p.m.	Chapter Coaches Meeting	Ponderosa B	2 nd Floor
5:00 p.m.	Judges Meeting	C.A. Hotel Room	TBA
6:00 p.m.	Doors Open (Quartet Semifinals)	Rose Ballroom	2 nd Floor
6:45 p.m.	Quartet Prelims Semifinals	Rose Ballroom	2 nd Floor
10:30 p.m.	Evaluations (Quartets not Advancing)	Southern Pacific A-F	3 rd Floor

Saturday (March 18)

8:30 a.m.	Woodshed Class	Tahoe	2 nd Floor
9:00 a.m.	Registration Opens	Foyer	2 nd Floor
9:00 a.m.	Barbershop Shop Opens	Carson	2 nd Floor
9:00 a.m.	AHSOW (all day)	Truckee	2 nd Floor
10:00 a.m.	Doors Open (Chorus Contest)	Rose Ballroom	2 nd Floor
10:45 a.m.	Nor Cal East Chorus Contest	Rose Ballroom	2 nd Floor
12:00 p.m.	Chorus Evaluations	Southern Pacific A-F	3 rd Floor
1:30 p.m.	High School Quartet Contest	Rose Ballroom	2 nd Floor
3:00 p.m.	Comedy Quartet Show	Rose Ballroom	2 nd Floor
6:00 p.m.	Doors Open (Quartet Finals)	Rose Ballroom	2 nd Floor
6:00 p.m.	Barbershop Shop Closes	Carson	2 nd Floor
6:45 p.m.	Quartet Prelims Finals	Rose Ballroom	2 nd Floor
9:00 p.m.	Show of Champions & Awards	Rose Ballroom	2 nd Floor
10:30 p.m.	Hospitality Rooms	Various	Various
10:30 p.m.	High School Afterglow	Ponderosa A	2 nd Floor

Sunday (March 19)

8:00 a.m.	Evaluations (Finalist Quartets)	Southern Pacific A-F	3 rd Floor
9:00 a.m.	Barbershop Shop Open (Closes at Noon)	Carson	2 nd Floor
10:00 a.m.	Youth Outreach	Ponderosa A	2 nd Floor

Quartet Registration - Harmony College West

July 21-23, 2006

Fees: \$150 per person, tuition, with five meals and lodging in school dorms
 \$ 95 per person, tuition, with five meals, no lodging, daily commuting

Please write legibly below.

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

Tenor		
Lodging ___ I will stay in the Dorms (\$150) ___ I will commute each day (\$95)		
Full Name		
Chapter Name		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip
Telephone	Email (optional)	
Special dietary needs: please describe		
Special physical needs: please describe		

Lead		
Lodging ___ I will stay in the Dorms (\$150) ___ I will commute each day (\$95)		
Full Name		
Chapter Name		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip
Telephone	Email (optional)	
Special dietary needs: please describe		
Special physical needs: please describe		

Quartet Registration - Harmony College West

July 21-23, 2006

Baritone		
Lodging <input type="checkbox"/> I will stay in the Dorms (\$150) <input type="checkbox"/> I will commute each day (\$95)		
Full Name		
Chapter Name		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip
Telephone	Email (optional)	
Special dietary needs: please describe		
Special physical needs: please describe		

Bass		
Lodging <input type="checkbox"/> I will stay in the Dorms (\$150) <input type="checkbox"/> I will commute each day (\$95)		
Full Name		
Chapter Name		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip
Telephone	Email (optional)	
Special dietary needs: please describe		
Special physical needs: please describe		

Coaching will be in the dorm rooms and at least one quartet member must have a room	_____ # with lodging at \$150 =	\$ _____
	_____ # commuting at \$95 =	\$ _____ Total \$

Send \$150 (includes lodging) or \$95 (commuting) and this form to:

Derick Sturke
1514 East G Street
Oakdale, CA 95361

Make checks payable to "Far Western District HCW". All forms and fees must be received by Wednesday, June 21, 2006.

Individual Registration - Harmony College West

July 21-23, 2006

Lodging		
<input type="checkbox"/> I will stay in the Dorms (\$150)	Includes instruction, lodging and five meals	
<input type="checkbox"/> I will commute each day (\$95)	Includes instruction and five meals	
Full Name		
Voice Part		
Tenor	Lead	Baritone
Bass		
Chapter Name		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip
Telephone	Email (optional)	
Special dietary needs: please describe		
Special physical needs: please describe		

Choose 8 hours of classes by placing a 1 next to your most desired class, a 2 by the next one, and so on until you have 8 hours selected. Put an "A" next to any alternate classes you would choose.

- Vocal Production:** Royce Ferguson - 4 hours - 2 sections
- Individual Voice Coaching:** Jim DeBusman - 2 hours - 4 sections (Limit 6 students per section)
- Beginning Sight Reading:** Phil Ordaz - 4 hours - 1 section
- Intermediate Sight Reading:** Phil Ordaz - 4 hours - 1 section
- Discovery Singing/Woodshedding:** Steve Shannon - 4 hours - 1 Section
- How To Have The Chapter You Really Want:** Steve Shannon - 2 hours - 1 Section
- Quartet Singing To Entertain Your Audience:** Steve Shannon - 2 hours - 1 Section
- Singing Rhythm Songs Successfully:** John Rae-Grant - 2 hours - 1 Section
- Quartet Rehearsal Techniques:** John Rae-Grant - 2 hours - 1 Section
- Leadership in Your Quartet Or Chorus:** John Rae-Grant - 2 hours - 1 Section
- Teamwork Within A Quartet Or Chorus:** John Rae-Grant - 2 hours - 1 Section
- Quartet Rehearsal Techniques:** John Rae-Grant - 2 hours - 1 Section
- So You Want To Coach A Quartet:** Lloyd Steinkamp - 8 hours - 1 Section
- Arranging:** Dave Briner: 8 hours: 1 Section (Limit - 10 Students)
- Professional Show Production For Amateurs:** Dave Maddox - 8 hours - 1 Section

Send \$150 (includes lodging) or \$95 (commuting) and this form to:

Derick Sturke
1514 East G Street
Oakdale, CA 95361

Make checks payable to "Far Western District HCW". All forms and fees must be received by Wednesday, June 21, 2006.

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT



SOCAL EAST DIVISION

2006 CONVENTION/CONTESTS

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2006

QUARTET CONTEST 11:45 AM - CHORUS CONTEST 6:45 PM

ALTA LOMA HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

8880 BASELINE RD. ALTA LOMA, CA 91701

FWD Events Team Run - Hosted by the Riverside Chapter



HEADQUARTERS HOTEL – ONTARIO AIRPORT MARRIOTT

2200 E. Holt Blvd. Ontario, CA – Phone: 909-975-5000

To register, complete the form below (or copy of it), attach your check made out to NG-SCE-06, and send to
 Fritz Grunenwald, 26151 Kitt Ansett Drive, Sun City, CA 92586
 Questions? Call (951) 679-7254 - Email: SCE RCPM@aol.com



FWD BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

SOCAL EAST DIVISION CONVENTION/CONTESTS MAY 13, 2006

REGISTRATION FORM

Please type or print clearly.

NO RESERVED SEATING AVAILABLE

Name _____

Competition Status (check one)

Address _____

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

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Quartet Name _____

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

Chapter / Chorus _____

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

Singing Part: • • Lead • • Tenor • • Bar1 • • Bass

Full Early Bird Registration Type (Check One)	Full Late/On Site Registration Type (Check One)	Single Events Registration Type (Check One)	Official Use Only
<input type="checkbox"/> Full.....\$30.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Child/Student.....\$15.00 EARLY BIRD CUT OFF April. 13, 2006	<input type="checkbox"/> Full.....\$40.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Child/Student.....\$20.00 All Competitors Must have FULL Reg.	• • <input type="checkbox"/> Sat Chorus Contests.....\$20.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Sat. Quartet Finals/Show.....\$20.00 (SOLD ON SITE ONLY)	Date _____ Recd. _____ Check # _____ Badge Code _____ Cash \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____ Please make check payable to: NG-SCE-06 (Fees are non-refundable)
 Return form with payment to: Fritz Grunenwald, 26151 Kitt Ansett Dr. Sun City, CA 92586
 Phone: (951) 679-7254 - Email: SCE RCPM@aol.com

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

2006 SOCAL WEST DIVISION CONVENTION

May We Sing?

Another Celebration of the Barbershop Community

May 6, 2006

Northridge Middle School

17960 Chase St., Northridge, CA 91325-3811

Please type or print clearly

Name _____

Quartet Name _____

Address _____

Chapter/Chorus _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Singing Part

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

Lead Tenor Bari Bass

Email _____

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.

Registration confirmation will be sent by Email.

All registrations will be held for pickup at convention site.

Full Early Bird Registration Type (X One)	Full Late/On Site Registration Type (X One)	Single Events WILL BE SOLD ON SITE ONLY	Official Use Only
Full.....\$30.00 Child/Student.....\$15.00 (non-member) Postmarked on or before April 6, 2006	Full.....\$40.00 Child/Student.....\$20.00 (non-member) Postmarked after April 6, 2006	Sat. Quartet Contest.....\$20.00 Sat Chorus Contests/Show.\$20.00 Contestants MUST have Full Registration	Date Recd._____ Order # _____

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

Guest Name	City	Child/ Student?	Fee	Official Use

HOSTED BY THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY VALLEYAIRES



TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED (Fees are nonrefundable.) \$ _____

Check made payable to: "SCW 2006"

Visa MasterCard Cardholder Name _____

Card Number _____ Exp Date (month/year) _____

Return completed form with payment to: Len Wermes, Treasurer, San Fernando Valley Valleyaires
P.O. Box 8356 Van Nuys, CA 91409

Buy online at <http://www.valleyaires.info/>. Questions? Call 925-837-5817 or e-mail SOCALW2006@aol.com

VANCOUVER QUARTET WINS SENIORS SINGING CONTEST

Like sons, like father: Bringing home the gold

Sacramento, Calif. (Jan. 21) ...**Antique Gold** of Greater Vancouver, B.C., took the gold this afternoon in the hotly contested Barbershop Harmony Society's international seniors quartet competition.

Only two points separated **Antique Gold**, with a score of 856 points, from the second place **Vintage Gold** of California's Bay Area. Only four points made the difference between first and the third-place **Chicago Times** of the greater Chicago area. A total of 26 quartets from the U.S., Canada, Sweden and England competed in the annual contest.

This may be the first time a father and sons won their respective competitions within months of each other. Members of **Antique Gold** are tenor Tom Bates, 70; lead George Wakeham, 63; baritone Charlie Metzger, 59; and his brother bass George Metzger, 58. Charlie and George are father and uncle, respectively, of Tom and Mark Metzger, two members of **Realtime**, the quartet that swept the regular quartet internationals last July.

Members of **Vintage Gold** are tenor Ron Bass, 64; lead Gary Bolles, 58; baritone Pat Henley, 69; and bass Jim Sherman, 67.

Chicago Times members are: tenor Ray Henders, 77; lead Eugene Koth, 61; baritone Dave Cowin, 67; and bass Dave Boo, 59.

Rounding out the top five medallist positions are:

Fourth place: **Play It Again!** from Ottawa, Ontario—tenor Rod McGillivray, 67; lead Jim Whitehead, 71; baritone Andre Carriere, 65; and bass Bill Vermue, 57.

Fifth place: **Silver Chords** of Bellevue, Wash.—tenor Dave Brasher, 70; lead Les Walter, 63; baritone Barry Knott, 59; and bass Dick Swanson, 76.

Quartets that place in the top five receive a medal and bragging rights. Like all members of the Barbershop Harmony Society, competing quartets sing as a hobby. No member of any competing seniors quartet may be younger than 55, and the cumulative age of the quartet must be 240 years or more. They are judged on presentation, singing and music.

FWD Spring Convention in Reno
March 16-19, 2006
Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!

2006 International Senior Quartet Contest

Finals [Top 20]	Total	Avg
1 Antique Gold	856	71.3
2 Vintage Gold	854	71.2
3 Chicago Times	852	71.0
4 Play It Again!	840	70.0
5 Silver Chords	832	69.3
6 Talismen	825	68.8
7 Catalyst	821	68.4
8 RING!	805	67.1
9 Sound Association	804	67.0
10 Antiques Roadshow	803	66.9
11 Easy Days	802	66.8
12 City Slickers	799	66.6
13 Aarps-a-Chord	796	66.3
14 Riverblend	794	66.2
15 Medium Rare	783	65.2
16 Perfect Timing	783	65.2
17 Sterling Silver	777	64.8
18 Mid Life Crisis	763	63.6
19 River City Rhythm	744	62.0
20 ARCADE	726	60.5



Photo by Earle Holt

Good Time Harmony

Good Time Harmony from the Central California Golden Valley Chorus wins Northern California Novice Contest, hosted by the Bay Area Metro Chapter on February 5, 2006 in Walnut Creek, CA. Official Scores are below:

Finals	Avg
1 Good Time Harmony	63.3
2 Shades of Blue	61.8
3 The Haircut and Harmony Quartet	56.3
4 Simplicity	54.5
5 Cordless	54.2
6 Just One More Time	51.3

Administrator	Music	Presentation	Singing
Randy Meyer	Paul Engel	Robert Lenoil	Phil DeBar



FWD DVP for Division 1 SCW
Bernard Priceman
 5150 Avenida Hacienda
 Tarzana, CA 91356
 818-345-4125
 E: bernard@thepricemanteam.com



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

I don't want to hit you with too many topics in my first article as VP SoCal West, so how about just two. The Far Western District will have 3 chorus competitors at the International Convention in Indianapolis and I am sure we'll have the usual amazing number of quartets. There's not a District in the Society who can match us in contest prowess. But as anyone who has performed in public knows, performers live for the support of their audience. They look and listen for reaction during their performance and wait for the acclaim after it. Unfortunately, if there is one thing that we could do better in the Far Western District, it's to be there for our contestants.

As you will no doubt hear elsewhere, the District did pretty badly financially in 2005. Much of the reason is that our conventions are too poorly attended. Registration fees that boost our income. Convention costs are getting higher and higher and attendance is not. I never understood why. Most of us who attend conventions attend every one. They're too much fun to miss. Our name may have changed recently, but we're still a Society built on encouragement. And so I urge every one of you regular convention attendees to encourage your fellow barbershoppers, the old and the new, to attend every convention possible. The next big one is in Reno. What a venue. What a fun place to take a mini-vacation with wife and family. Not competing? All the more reason to go – first to have more time for fun and second to be able to support our fellow performers. I promise you, every person you encourage to attend will thank you and you'll be helping your District enormously.

On a totally different matter, I wonder how many have kept up with how the young Westminster Chorus is doing. If you get to Indianapolis, you're going to see how much they've grown this past year. Their members are continuously inviting friends to join them .. and they are! Why? Because they were asked. And because they came to a rehearsal and had so much fun. I have gotten a lot of mileage out of a story that Past FWD President Chuck Hunter tells about himself. Many years after joining the Society (which he did fairly late in life because he didn't know about it earlier) he met up with an old High School chum who he found was directing a barbershop chorus. "How long have you been singing barbershop?" Chuck asked him. "Since High School" the chum replied. "So, how come you didn't tell me about it?" asked Chuck. "I didn't think you'd be interested" said the friend. How sad. How many new members could we get if we just told people about our hobby, just asked them to come to a rehearsal. How many? Ask the Westminster Chorus. They know how many ... enough to practically double in size in one year! Talk to people, guys, it pays off.

Happy singing. See you in Reno.

SANTA CLARITA (Harmony Hills) CAL ERIKSON
 The Chapter Chorus was busy in December, with Christmas sing-outs at two local Senior Centers, an elementary school fund raiser, and a City Of Hope luncheon. **Jan Tavares** is once again coordinating the enthusiastic participation from local schools for the YIH contest.

Sadly, we will be losing some valued members soon. Our BOTY, former director, assistant director, and some of the "glue" that has held the Chapter together for over 20 years, **Keith Goudy**, is moving to Texas. **Matt Campisi**, another BOTY and bass of **Blue Plate Special**, is taking the marriage plunge and will also be leaving the area.

Our present director, **David Kilpatrick**, is unable to continue his directing duties after our March 2006 show. We are actively seeking a new director. Please contact Jim Thompson, Chapter President, at (661) 250-7471.

SAN FERNANDO (Valleyaires) BRUCE POEHLMAN
 We had a great Fall Concert at the Hall of Liberty, with special performances by chapter quartets **The Usual Suspects**, **Priority Male**, **60 Something**, **Bill's Bari Pie**, and a hilarious debut by **Oddly Enuf**. This was our director **Tom Raffety's** last show. The **Valleyaires** owe a debt of gratitude for his unflinching efforts as director and inspirational leader of our chorus for more than a decade. **Dr. Dave Tautkus** has agreed to be Interim Director.

On Christmas Eve, the **Valleyaires** debuted at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. We sang at the annual Holiday Performance before a full auditorium and a live television audience. This yearly event airs on KCET, and we proudly brought the barber-shop sound to the entire city of Los Angeles. Our holiday set, under the direction of Dr. Dave, was well received, and we have already been invited to return next year.

At our Awards and Installation Banquet this year, **Peter Feeney** honored us as our installation officer. **BOTY** went deservedly to **Duncan Gilman**. Duncan served as Secretary, Presentation Coach, and Assistant Director, in addition to co-writing and co-directing our spring show, and singing in three quartets. Not surprisingly, he also won the *Roger Dixon Award* for his musical contributions. Other honorees were **Tom Raffety** with the *Rang Hansen Award* for chapter contributions, and **Bruce Baird** with the *Owen Edwards Award* for personal achievement.

SANTA MONICA (Oceanaires) MARTY MITNICK
 The **OCEANAIREs** were well represented at COTS with **Bob Heron**, **Tom Laskey**, **Bob Lipson**, **Pat Kellogg**, **Aaron Mood** and **Marty Mitnick** attending.

The **OCEANAIRE**S had a busy schedule of performances [7] for the holidays at the close of 2005.

The 2006 Board of Directors, with **Jerry Walker** as president, was installed by the members of **Sound Union Quartet** who entertained us with their delightful singing and also bestowed upon the new officers their job requirements. The young men from the USC acappella group Trojan Men under the direction of Evan Bregman also performed. *BOTY* was presented to **Marty Mitnick**.

Welcome our newest Oceanaire, **Dale Williams**, singing bass. Welcome back **Jack Blackwood**, bringing his basso profundo with him.

SAN LUIS OBISPO CHAPTER

**Rudy Zavier and
George Loose**

Our front line director **Rick Marshall** is back in action after being out for a few months due to illness. Special kudos to **Thomas Bourne** and **Don Poole** for directing during Rick's absence.

We finished 2005 with a passionate, mini-chorus Christmas caroling at rest homes and retirement centers on two consecutive Sundays. Thanks to **Rick Kirn** who lead this program! **Gil Brown Jr.** chaired our installation dinner, with about 80 in attendance. *BOTY* went to **Bill Long**, also elected 2006 chapter president and annual show co-chairman. **Hugh Hoadley** received the annual Hall of Fame award. Hugh suffered a stroke not long after our annual show last year but has been an inspiration to us all. **Rene Foster** was recipient of the Directors award for his undying dedication to music and our chorus. **Jim Turnmire**, as installing officer, did a marvelous job with a lighthearted and entertaining delivery. Jim has been a wonderful friend, inspiration and great help to this chorus as a guest chorus and quartet coach, and we certainly appreciate everything he does.

2005 was a successful year for recruitment, adding 6 new members. **Billy Davin, Brian Davin Jr., Steve Gurney, Joe Livingston, Kurt Walker** and **John Saylor**.

SOUTH BAY (Coastliners)

MIKE MARTIN

The **Coastliners Chorus** participated with the **LA South Towns Sweet Adeline Chorus** in mid November in their production of "Why Do The Wrong People Travel?" Assisting in addition to the complete chorus were **Sound Union, Somethin Cool, C-Nile Sound** and **Ready Willing and Mable** quartets. **Stam Hill** again putting together a wild crazy script as well a playing leading man. **Bruce Beyne** made a splendid prince as did **Rick Llewelyn** as Sheik Al Askar. **Bob Griffiths** pulled duty as stage manager, bar keep, ticket sales and finally cleanup.

The **Fullerton Chapter** came in full force to visit and share a meeting night with South Bay for an evening of fun and frolic. It was a wonderful program of quartets performing from both chapters as well as pickup quartets consisting of two members from

each chapter. Thanks to Program VP **Stam Hill** for arranging the visit. The **Coastliners** again came away as winner of the annual El Segundo Holiday Parade. Included in the parade were several quartets, the chorus and a number of vintage cars owned by some of the chorus members. The Emerald Isle is calling as the Perfect Gentlemen, South Bay, and the LA South Towns prepare for a visit to Ireland for a fall convention in Athlone, Ireland.

The new slate of chapter officers were installed. Most of the board members for 2005 have returned for 2006 again under the leadership of chapter president **Rick Llewelyn**. **Dan Jordan**, lead singer with **The Perfect Gentlemen** acted as installing officer with a hilarious program. **Stam Hill** presented Rookie of the Year Award to **John Saffery** while the *BOTY* was presented to **Stam Hill** by **Jim Labor**. **Don Barton**, president of the *O.L.D.D.O.G.s* (a group of former chapter presidents) welcomed **Rick Llewelyn** as its newest member. Quartets performing at the dinner were **Docs on the Rocks, Sound Union, White Spots** and **C-Nile Sound**.

Special welcome to two new faces on the risers, **Phil O'Laughlin** and **Bob Wardell**.

WHITTIER (Choralaires)

PATRICK BOYLE

"No no Stan (Sharpe), not a one-horse open sleigh; it's with baby Jesus in the sleigh," says Sister Maripat Donovan of Late Night Catechism fame in the opening of her new production, Christmas Catechism. The Choralaires opened the show with a few Christmas carols and songs when suddenly the sister made her presence known with the correction. The Whittier Chapter and one of its quartets, **A-Chordingly Yours**, were privileged to perform, thanks to **Jim Ilten**, in the Christmas Catechism show at the La Mirada Theater in November.

A month later the Chapter's Christmas Show at the Whittier Community Center Theater was performed highlighted by a script written **Jim Ilten**, and read by **Carol Ilten, Steve Peacock**, and **Shelley Herman**. Steve also led a rousing audience participation of the *Twelve Days of Christmas* with individual Choralaires leading sections of the audience for each of the days. It didn't take long for **Fred Vera** to evolve his Partridge in a Pear Tree to all sorts of animals occupying that tree, including an elephant! **Ray Mitchem** changed the sixth day from the six geese.... to the Aaaflaaact duck. The audience vigorously participated with activities including flapping their elbows like a bird, clucking, drumming, and simulated milking of a cow. The finale also included the audience, but this time family and friends joined the **Choralaires** on the stage to sing traditional Christmas Carols. Solos by **Earl Greene, Bill Thompson, Steve Nering, Mark Stokes** and **Jim Ilten** added a special touch to some of the traditional Carols.

Congratulations to the Whittier Chapter's new president **Norm Bernier**. We know that he will do a sterling job.



FWD DVP for Division 2 SCE
Gene Clements
 21725 Esmalte
 Mission Viejo, CA 92692-1029
 Phone: 949-581-5544
 E: GRclements@aol.com

It seems that quite a lot has happened over such a relatively short period of time. Pal-Pac has a new musical director, Jonathon Friedman. Our longtime barbershop pal and FWD Secretary, Dick Girvin married his sweetheart, Shirley, and moved back to Hemet.

Chapter Christmas shows were performed. "Singing Valentines" activities were generated. Plans for the earlier chapter shows got underway. New music was in the offing. Chapter Installation and Recognition festivities were successes. First meetings of the new Boards were held. Plans were being tested and finalized for division contests..woops! All except our's, as of this writing. That brings up a new subject.

If any of our SCE chapters want to consider hosting the division contests in 2007, let me know as soon as its feasible to do so. The biggest challenge is to find a venue that won't cost an arm and a baritone. Please give it some thought...seriously.

I'm not the DVP-SCE for just chapter officers, but for every barbershopper in the division. In the event that you need to contact me, my email address is: GRclements@aol.com. In the subject line, please identify yourself as a "SCE Barbershopper" so I don't dump it as spam. If you are not on-line, my address is: 21725 Esmalte, Mission Viejo, CA. 92692, and my phone number is: 949 - 581 - 5544.

Now, go out among 'em, and bring a singing guest to your chapter meeting.



Division 2 SCE Editor
Dick Girvin
 34888 Lyn Ave
 Hemet, CA 92545
 951-926-8644
 E: dickgirvin@juno.com

APPLE VALLEY

JIM DUGDALE

Editor Jim reports that recently his doctor sent him to have an MRI. He was flat on his back, earplugs in place, when he heard a strong, rather low, steady vibration. He was asked to hold his breath for about twenty seconds while pictures were being taken. During this time, a steady vibration was always present.

His thoughts: "I began to think about the vibration as I was holding my breath. I thought, "Don't vibrations contain over-tones?" I listened. I didn't hear any. I concentrated again, but this time I focused my mind on the octave of the vibrating sound and I heard it. During the next twenty-second picture taking session, I focused my mind on the third above the octave. The octave tone

disappeared and the tone for which I was listening broke out, loud, pure and clear. I couldn't believe it. Then I began to listen for the root, third and fifth tones of the vibration and was able to move amongst them by just thinking about the tone I wanted to hear. Every time I changed tones, I could hear only that tone and the root. I could never hear more than that at one time. On one occasion, two rather low vibrations were presented at the same time. This time, I was able to listen to the octave, first, and second tones above the root of the lower of the two tones, but was not able to hear any other tones.

"I am not sure what all of this means, from a musical perspective, but it sure helped me pass the time of an MRI in a most fascinating manner."

BREA

JOHN GASTON

The Gaslight Chorus is looking forward to an exciting 2006 mostly due to the way 2005 wrapped up. Their 7th place finish at the FWD Contest in their first contest appearance on the District stage coupled with two outstanding Christmas shows energized the chorus members.

All this hard work has also assisted the chorus in attracting new members. The chorus has increased it's membership 25% over the past year and has since had a number of high quality singers express an interest to join their ranks.

Over the past quarter the **Gaslight Chorus** welcomed **John Gassman** to the baritone section with 33 years of chorus and quartet experience.

COACHELLA VALLEY

TERRY MANN

The Sand Blasters recently paid the rent for their meeting hall as is done two or three times per year with a half hour show. This was their Christmas offering which was well received, as always. Two chapter quartets, **The Four States Four** and **In A Chord** also performed Christmas gigs for various other groups,.

They have simplified their Valentines' Day project and are ready for a second go at it, hoping to repeat or exceed last year's results.

EL CAJON

MIKE DORMAN

Persistence Pays Off. **The Music Masters Chorus** met at a downtown hotel to sing Christmas songs for a group of engineers, during their pre-banquet happy hour. Understandably, they leaned more toward voltage drops than rising melodies, toward loose connections than tight chords. "Our challenge was daunting, and the group's response to our opening songs confirmed it...the turning point seemed to be our spirited rendition of 'Jingle Bell Rock'... we finished with 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas,' it was answered with joyful approval and sing-along cheers! We had won them over! Talk about your drama! Boffo!"

The following officers were installed: Pres **Gary Mathews**, CD **Tom Anderson**, IPP **Jim James**, VP Mbr **Paul Schmidt**, PVP **Roger Simpson**, Sec/Treas **Bob Harshberger**, VP Mu&P **Joe Perry** and VP YMIH **Maury Rapkin**.

FULLERTON

At the annual Awards and Recognition Banquet the major honoree as *BOTY* was long time, faithful Treasurer, **Bill Bowring**.

Fullerton presented its twelfth annual Christmas Cabaret, a tradition in the City of Fullerton. This effort, chaired by founder **Art Clayton** and with total support of Director **Craig Ewing**, represents a major effort, and especially by our devoted and hard working Orange Blossoms Ladies Auxiliary, led by Millicent Cook.

The **Orange Empire Chorus** continues to award grants to local educational and youth oriented performing arts institutions, some going to the Fullerton Children's Repertory Theater, and to the Fullerton High School Jazz Singers to help them in their upcoming trip to New York City to appear in Carnegie Hall.

Fullerton wound up the year in frantic fashion, with major efforts including the Cabaret, a major sing out at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Long Beach, our annual caroling tour through St. Jude Medical Center in Fullerton, our annual Christmas party hosted by **Lynn** and **Beth Abbott**, and numerous quartet performances.

HEMET**BRUCE SMITH**

Great color pictures of their most recent Christmas Show graced the chapter bulletin, *UPBEAT*. Special kudos from director **Howard Mesecher** were offered to **Larry Hull**, **Clay Panlauqi** and **Jack Morriseau** for the show prep—with similar tips of the fedora to **Art McMahon**, **Bill Leader** and **Don Felly** for staging. A rousing “thanks” went to the ladies for their help.

New officers for the year are: Pres **Art McNaughton**, IPP **Terry Hambly**, VP Mu&P **Larry Hull**, Sec **Art McMahon**, Treas **Dave Kelley**, VP Ch Dev **Ed Youngs**, and PVP **Jim Bunten**.

INLAND EMPIRE**DAVE COVEY**

Inland Empire Officers Sentenced

In a trial conducted Saturday, January 21, 2006, the entire roster of Officers of the Inland Empire Chapter was sentenced to a year of hard labor. With **Gene Clements** acting as the Judge and Prosecuting (Persecuting?) Attorney and their spouses acting as Defense Attorneys, members of the Board faced a series of outlandish charges reflecting portions of their personal histories. In his inimitable style, Gene included enough hard facts to make each charge (almost) believable. Unaccused members of the Chapter, acting as the Jury, sentenced them to a year of hard labor on behalf of the Chapter.

Awards for the evening were: **Keith Culbreth**, Rookie of the Year; **Ralph White**, Mr. Woodshed; **Bob Patterson**, Mr. Afterglow; **Sy Bart**, Special IPP Award; and George Lee, *BOTY*.

The Christmas Show played to a SRO crowd. They also performed for La Iglesia Del Nazareno, the church where they rehearse. It's a singular experience (pun intended) to have a Spanish translator for the M. C. and then to sing the songs in English.

DICK COTE**IRVINE****JEFF YOUNG**

Director **Nick Gaspar** and associate director **Justin Martin** are hard at work with the chapter preparing for the Spring Show and the upcoming competition. Specialists are on tap for their special input to the chapter.

Sunshine Chairman, **Wayne Jones**, feels a new excitement about and in the **California Promise Chorus**. “We are adding some sunshine to our chorus in the faces of members returning to us, as well as new young faces we are just getting to know.”

LA JOLLA**JOHN FORREST**

Pacific Coast Harmony closed out a successful 2005 with some great holiday shows and several sing-outs in the community.

Their installation ceremony and awards dinner welcomed the Board of Directors for 2006: Pres **Frank Borik**, Treas **Pete Hensley**, Sec **John Forrest**, VP M&PR **Henry Schrik**, VP Ch Dev **Mark Whelan**, VP Mu&P **Paul Girard**, and M-a-L **Rod Deakers**, **Larry Thorpe**, and **Kerry Witkin**.

The awards ceremony honored “Rookie of the Year” **Leo James**, “Mr. Broadway” **Jason James**, “Quartet Man of the Year” **Pete Hensley**, “Quartet of the Year” **Smooth Sailin'**, “Mr. Afterglow” **Bryan Soland**, and *BOTY* **John Forrest**. President's Awards were presented to **Henry Schrik**, **Michael Bauer**, **Don Jackson** and **Mark Whelan**. The Director's Certificate of Recognition and the Director's Award were presented to **Dick Fields** and **Paul Girard**, respectively.

PCH welcomed new members **Lou Benedict** and **Dave Miller**.

ORANGE QUARTET CHAPTER DOROTHY ACTON

President **Mike Werner** points out in the new “Squeezin's” that: “2006-It's Going to Be Quite a Year!” The year is going to see some serious changes starting with the Board of Directors: **Rich Spencer**, **Gary Phillips**, **Paul Gutierrez**, and **Wes Reed** as brand new members of the board, and **Don Engel** and **Phil Roth** have swapped jobs this year.

More than 150 people paid their respects to the recently departed **Rich Lewis**, the chapter “spark plug,” and Society icon. At least 50 of the attending barbershoppers were on stage, directed by Rich Lewis' grandson, **Pat Claypool**. A gang-sing of “I Believe” was directed by **Mark Freedkin**. Senior Pastor, **Stan Smith**, kept things going smoothly at the reception—all arranged by **Marcheta Pletcher**.

PALOMAR PACIFIC**BILL NIELSEN**

Good News for friends of **Terry Aramian**! He attended Palpac's installation dinner and with a little standing help, lent his good baritone in a song with **Singers Limited**.

New officers installed were Pres **Roger McCandless**, Treas **Tom Spears**, VP Ch Dev **Paul Bloom**, VPMu&: **Al Leauth**, VP YMIH **Warren Grant**, VPM&PR **Chuck Youde**. BMAL **Woody Cady**, **Dick Lebeau**, **Norm Pincock** and **Bob Swearingen**.

Thanks to **Gene Clements**, for taking over as director and getting the chapter through three Christmas shows. New director is **Jonathan Friedman**, late of MOH, (Santa Fe Springs).

Quartets singing during the Christmas season were **Premium Blend, Smile and A Song, Sound Design, and Bakers Dozen**. (Editor's note: *Bill Scolfield, not Bill Getty should have been shown as the head of the Youth In Harmony activity in WEST-UNES Winter edition. Sorry!*)

SAN CLEMENTE

DON THOMAS

The San Clemente Chapter, the **Beach Cities Harmonizers** has members from all over the southern coast of California including the surrounding cities. They invite everyone to join them any Monday evening at 7 PM for both chorus and quartet singing. We don't have risers! (Nuff said?) Call 949-495-8183 or E-mail hodat@msn.com for directions.

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Since retiring in 2000 my wife, Kathy, and I have been able to attend the International Convention every year. This January in Sacramento was my first ever Midwinter Convention and what a great barbershop experience that is. Not only did our NorCalWest/Hi Senior Quartet and District Senior Quartet Champion, Vintage Gold, take Silver in the International Senior Quartet Contest, we got to hear the top five International medalists from the Salt Lake City convention last summer, the Westminster Chorus, our College Quartet champs and just lots of great quartets. The relaxed atmosphere, fellowship, and opportunity to listen in the hallways to medalists from all different quartets from all different years constituted a really new barbershop experience. Next year it will be in Albuquerque, NM. This is next door for us Californians so do plan on attending.

Meanwhile back in the Bay Area, the same relaxed atmosphere, fellowship, and singers in the hallways permeated the NorCal Novice contest on Feb 5th. Congratulations to the top quartet, Good Time Harmony, and thanks to all the quartets that participated, including the "Adjudicator's".

The Presidents of the NorCalWest/Hi division met before the contest and initiated efforts to develop a divisional support structure. We have formed a committee to define the mission of the president's council and to develop an initial set of priorities. A number of operational functions were identified and the Presidents are now in the process of identifying individuals to handle these rolls. If you have an interest in serving your fellow barbershoppers in any of the following activities, please let your chapter President know how your skills and interest could be applied. Here are some of the areas for which we would like to find support.

- Divisional Youth in Harmony
- Division Web Site – Technical Administrator
- Division Web Site – Content Manager
- Division Public Relations – Logistics/Channel Development
- Division Public Relations – Content Manager
- Division Grant Writing
- Division Membership

At the recommendation of members of the San Francisco Chapter, the Presidents are developing a division wide handbook of chapter biographies and styles. To be sure we can provide a barbershop experience for a broad range of individuals; such a handbook becomes a very useful tool in the process of introducing new men to our hobby.

I am again looking forward to joining the NorCalWest/Hi community on April 8th in Campbell at the "Spring into Harmony" Convention, as sponsored by the "Voices in Harmony" chorus. Come share the joy of barbershopping!!!

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Bay Area Metro and San Jose Chapters merged and are now identified as the Voices In Harmony. See article on page 5.

ALOHA

JACK Y HASHIMOTO

The Christmas Show theme was "*Santa Lite*", staged at the Paliku Theater, on the grounds of Windward Community College in Kaneohe. Virtually everyone had an important hand in making this show a success. On the production side, **Zig Palagyi** - Chair, **Mark Conching** - Musical Director, **Stephanie Conching** - Show Director, Script - **Ralph Brandt and Steve Hokanson**, to name a few. On the performance bill **Scot Izuka** was Santa, **Adam LeFebvre** played Rudolph, and Mrs. Claus was **Shelly Sypowicz**.

The new elected Board is Pres **Glenn Crowder** (third consecutive term), Sec **Dan Tom**, Treas **Zig Palagyi**, VP Mu&P **Noel Mau**, VP Ch Dev **Charles Black**, VP M&PR **Ron Watanabe**, and BMAL **Jack Hashimoto, Larry Patterson, Mike Tiemann** (in absentia, still serving our country in the Desert), and **Ernie Hong**. IPP **Bob Sypowicz** (for the third consecutive year).

At the Annual Banquet **Mark Conching**, our Director of Music was named *BOTY*. More than music direction, he provided great leadership and inspiration to the membership. The President's Award went to **Mike Darcey**.

We finished the quarter with a rousing rendition of the *Star Spangled Banner* at the Fresno State - Hawaii basketball game. Hawaii spanked Fresno, to the chagrin of Chorus Manager **Ken Nelson**, a former member of the **Fresno Chapter**.

FREMONT/HAYWARD**RAY SPINOSA**

The **New Dimension Chorus** again was involved with the Harmony College West program. **Kevin Smith** provided and set up the sound equipment for the Saturday evening show. Also, the chapter gave up its regular meeting so that **Jim DeBusman** could host a kickoff program, the night before the Harmony College West weekend began.

The **New Dimension Chorus** joined forces with the **Harmony Bay Sweet Adelines** chapter to put on a joint Christmas show. Highlights included an eight part performance of 'Baby it's Cold Outside' with two directors! Also, a quintet known as Director's Cut including chapter members **James Hall, Burt Yin, Ted McCall, Bill Sandau** and **Kevin Smith** performed. After the performance a festive afterglow was held.

MONTEREY PENINSULA**DENNIS VAN DAM**

The **Monterey Cypressaires** put on a successful show, "Radio Days," in the renovated Golden State Theatre, built in 1926 in Monterey. Their new aqua sparkle uniforms were a big hit. This year marks the *50th anniversary* of the **Cypressaires**, and an Award and Installation Dinner was held to celebrate. We have a new website: www.cypressaires.com.

PALO ALTO/MOUNTAIN VIEW**PATRICK HERLIHY**

The **Peninsulaire**s once again packed the house for two performances at our annual Cabaret; **Uncalled Four** thrilled our audiences with their solid sound.

The **Peninsulaire**s extend a very warm welcome to bass **Andrew Inenaga**, and leads **Dave Kocharhook** and **Chuck Elvert**.

FWD President **Bill Cale** provided his unique light touch of formality to our awards and installation dinner. *BOTY* was awarded to **John Jones**. Rookie Of The Year was awarded to Music Librarian **Dave Weatherford**. The Chapter experienced growth and great success in the past two years and expressed great thanks to our president for the past two years, **Dan Curtis**. In 2006, he handed the reigns over to **Terry Moore**. Continuing on the board are **Dan Curtis, Patrick Herlihy, Dave Morley, Ron Walker, Paul Eastman, Al Ward** and joining are **Mark Torrance** and **John Jones**.

The Chapter is also proud to have the VP for Norcal West/Hawaii, **John Jones**, FWD Chorus Director Development Chairman, **Steve Sammonds** and NCW Westunes Editor, **John Heather**, in our ranks.

S.F. BAY CITY QUARTET**CASEY PARKER**

My name is **Casey Parker**, Secretary of the **SF Bay Cities Quartet Chapter**. The many guests at our quartet dinner meetings discover the joys of quartetting in our great hobby, an alternative to chorus only evenings. If you send me an information sheet on your Chapter, I will include it in a package that we will provide to our guests. The sheet should include where and when you meet, a point of contact, website and anything you want to include about your chapter. Please include the percentage of

meeting devoted to quartetting. Hopefully, this effort will help 'Keep America Singing' in quartets. The San Francisco Bay Cities Quartet Chapter meets on 2nd & 4th Wednesday evenings at Home Town Buffet, El Camino & Kiely, Santa Clara, CA Agenda: Sing in quartets 6 to 8 PM, BPC & HC songs or your choice. There are no dues, no risers, just fun ringing chords. Email: caseypar@garlic.com Website: <http://www.sfbayquartets.org/>

SAN FRANCISCO**DON KINGTON**

The **Cable Car Chorus** closed out the *60th year* of providing fine a cappella singing in and around San Francisco with four pre-Christmas performances. Under **Angela Suraci** direction the chorus performed at a private banquet and sang three 20-minute sets at San Francisco's Stonestown Mall, followed by a triple set at SF's Union Square Hilton Hotel, and finally three performances at Serramonte Shopping Center in San Mateo County.

The Chapter's seventh decade began with its installation dinner, **Jorge Portugal** was in charge of the arrangements. Adding to its elegance was a four-page program designed by **Jerry Lester**. NorCal West DVP **John Jones** installed Pres **Pete Wanger**, VP Ch Dev **Orv Teising**, Treas **Fred Merrick**, and BMAL **Ed Rategan** and **Jorge Portugal**. John also installed, in absentia, VP Mu&P **Bruce Applegate** and Sec **Shel Rosenthal**. **Orv Teising** was named *BOTY*.

The program concluded with Angela leading the Chorus and performances by **San Francisco Gold** and **Top O' The Mark**.

SANTA CRUZ**LAURANCE STERN**

The chapter's annual youth outreach show was held with four of the county's high school choruses participating, and high school quartets were **JAG** from Brentwood, CA, and **UnderAge** from Cupertino CA, Sunnyvale CA and Rogue Ricer OR, as well as guest barbershop chorus **Ladies First** from Concord, CA.

Paul Eastman installed Pres **Ernie Johnson**, VP Mu&P **Les Stagnaro**, Sec **Dan Jett**, Treas **Dave Bornstein**, VP Ch Dev **Jerry Orloff**; VP M&PR **Lawrence Stern** and IPP **Pat Lanphier**. Awards were presented to *BOTY*, **DAVE BORNSTEIN**; President's Award, **Joe Pedota**; Director's Award, **Gina Jett**; Most Improved, **Ernie Johnson**; Sparkplug Award, **Kim Orloff**; Overtime Award, **Todd Troutman**; Tireless Award, **Lawrence Stern**. The rotating Barbershop Chair Award went to **Jerry Orloff**, and the O.C. Kashamoto Award was presented to **Dan Jett**. Our new director, **Jim Davis**, was presented with a cup, which makes it official.

SANTA ROSA**RAY CROWDER**

The **Redwood Chordsmen** held their annual Christmas Cabaret and Dinner shows, and enjoyed three guest high school quartets from Montgomery High, and Santa Rosa High.

At the Installation Dinner and Awards Banquet, **Phil Debar** installed Pres **Jim Dechaine**, and his worthy cabinet followed by the presentation of *BOTY* to **Mike Ferrel**.

The Redwood Chordsmen have been at the forefront of the Youth Outreach program for many years, and the chorus will be featured in the annual Barclay Concert to be held at Santa Rosa High. This event is attended by 1,000 choral and music students from all the high schools in the Santa Rosa area. During the year **Group Therapy** and other chapter quartets perform at local schools bringing barbershop to youth all over Sonoma County.

WALNUT CREEK **DICK JOHNSTON**
The high point of the the **Devil Mountain Chorus** annual dinner for the installation of officers was **Don Nelson's** presentation of **BOTY** to **Neal Higgins**.

Ollie Brillhante, the chapter coach, presided over the installation of Pres **Dick Hickman** [2nd year], Sec **Russ Green**, Treas **Ron Leiker**, VP Mu&P **Norm Reynolds**, PVP **Hal Rutledge**, VP Mbr **Larry Phair**, VP M&PR **Norm Colby**, BMAL **John Serr**, and IPP **Bob Dunn**.

As we enter spring the NorCal East/Northern Nevada Division has already had a major event.

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Our own Sacramento Chapter was host to this year's International Mid Winter Convention. This Convention was a great happening and its location was very convenient for most of us. Our own District Senior Champion, Vintage Gold was the Silver Medalist Quartet. Congratulations to all the members for a job well done. The attendance by Northern California Barbershoppers was outstanding. There was a lot of singing both on and off the stage. The Saturday evening show was another plus for most of us. We all had a blast and this Convention will be remembered by most of us for years to come.

I would like to promote the idea of inter chapter activities. When I first joined this great Society we visited other chapters in the area at least twice a year. We would all plan to descend on a neighboring chapter and take refreshments as well as our singers. When we arrived it kind of threw the director some kind of curve but it never took the program any more than a few minutes to be altered to a fun get together. We still need to attend neighboring chapter events to support each other as well as get different ideas about doing things. We can learn many things through active participation with other chapters by visiting chapter meetings as a group, or attending and performing on each others shows.

My chapter this year is hosting the combined NCENN Division, and the District Quartet Preliminary Contest. This is where we will choose our district representatives for the International Convention and Competition. We will be seeing 2 quartets that

medaled last year in Salt Lake City and many others that sing very well. If you've never been to an International this would be a perfect opportunity to experience the level of performance for an International competitor. Come and join in the fun at this convention. There will be lots of activity for everyone.

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CENTRAL CALIFORNIA **MILES SUTTER**
The Merced annual dinner show, dinner prepared by our own "Chef Reynaldo" **Mike Belluomini**, included a musical interlude by **Bob Chapman**. Thanks to **George Tallman**, **Herb Andrew**, **Ray Baker**, **Howard Barber** and **Peter Kesting** for their performances. **Good Time Harmony**, **Collaboration** and **Common Bond** provided the "quartet" portion of the program.

We held our annual senior citizen Christmas dinner show at the Turlock Senior Citizen Center. GVC provided 11 turkeys for the event, and **Good Time Harmony** and **Collaboration** provided the before show entertainment.

FWD President **Bill Cale** was the installing officer at our 9th annual installation and awards ceremony. 70+ members attended. Bill had them cover one eye and "formally" installed them pirate style. Sharing the lectern were **Gene Eason**, outgoing president, and **Ron Russell**, incoming president. The awards ceremony followed with Rookie of the Year award going to **Peter Kesting**, Director's Award to **Greg Kramp**, Membership Award to **Lowell Oldenburg**, Miles of Smiles Award to **Leo Van Vliet** and **Ralph Harris**, President's Award and **BOTY** to **Dick Compton**.

The year was ended with a performance at a convalescent home with over 250 people in the audience. **Common Bond** performed and **Bob Chapman** provided piano accompaniment to the audience's participation in The Twelve Days of Christmas.

CHICO **LEE ATKINS**
The Bidwell Generals celebrate the 5th Wednesday of the month by meeting at Rico's Pizza.

Vintage Sound [Duke Andrus, Hec Rivas, Leeds Lacy and Elmer Fairbanks filling in for Bill Stenzel] performed for the Paul Bunyan Days celebration over Labor Day weekend in Ft. Bragg.

DAVIS-VACAVILLE **TOM POWERS**
The West Valley Chorale produced its *seventeenth* "Harmony in Our Lives" Benefit Show in Davis and its *tenth* show in Vacaville. The show is presented in conjunction with the Davis School Arts Foundation, which was established in the 1970s after Proposition 13 devastated fine arts programs in the public schools. Its goal is to get the fine arts in general, and music in

particular, back into the schools in grades K-12. In Davis, five different school choruses at all grade levels appeared on each of two shows with the Chorale being the opening act. Each year we award a *Harmony-in-Our-Lives* plaque at the show to someone or some organization that has made a long-term contribution to the musical enrichment of the community. We seek nominations from the public at large. This year we cleared \$5,300 that will be used for grants to fund choral music projects throughout the school district.

We have been putting on a similar show in Vacaville and had six groups perform this year raising almost \$3,000, which will be divided among the performing choruses.

FOLSOM

HERSH ROBY

The Harmony Express installation dinner was attended by forty people. **Charlie Clark** was installed as the continuing president by master installing officer **Clark Abrahamson**, who did a clever routine singing to the tune of "*Irene, Goodnight*" with chapter members singing the chorus. The well deserving **BOTY** was Assistant Director **Les Cudworth**. The presentation was made by 2004 **BOTY**, **Bill Seibel**.

FRESNO

JERRY JONES

Gold Note Chorus Christmas Shows under the direction of **Leslie Knudsen** brought joy to many in the audience and viewers of Channel 26, KMPH, who featured the Chorus on one of their season's morning shows.

Our annual Installation of Officers and Awards Banquet was chaired by **Doug Yarrow** and **Richard Wayne**, who was our MC for the evening. **Howard Barber** installed the new officers, which, as he cleverly noted, looked amazingly similar to those leaving office. **Terry Star, Bill Golden, Mike Smith, Kent Shepherd, T.W. Scott, Richard Wayne, and Mike Ragan** continue in their respective positions as Pres, Sec, Treas, VP Mu&P, Chapter Dev., VP M&PR, and PVP. BMAL now include **Tom Dorn, Jerry Jones, and Keith Sharwood**. **BOTY** was presented to **T.W. Scott**. Entertainment was provided by **Smile (Terri Star, Kent Shepherd, Bill Golden, and Jim Bryant), Best of Breed (B.O.B.) (Mac McIntosh, Richard Nielsen, Doug Yarrow, and Ken Wenger), and the chapter's newest quartet, Band of Brothers...In-Law** consisting of new barbershoppers **Steven Quan, Erwin Sue, Keith Sharwood, and Jerry Jones**. They received a standing ovation singing *Lida Rose* with Jerry's wife Elizabeth singing "*Will I Ever Tell You*".

NEVADA PLACER

ROGER PERKINS

The Sierranaders did their annual Victorian Christmas performances in Nevada City. A slight drizzle the first night didn't dampen spirits. We had about 25 men singing and the streets were packed both nights with holiday shoppers and celebrants.

Our installation dinner was held at a new location, and everybody in attendance agreed it was the best ever. It was quite a surprise when 60 people showed up after planning for 46. The

owner had to scramble to set up more tables in the banquet room. Westunes Editor **Ray Rhymer** did a fine job as installing officer once again. **BOTY** was presented to Chorus Director **Roger Perkins** by last year's **BOTY** **Bill Beck**.

PLACERVILLE

FRANK MARTIN

Chapter installation was performed by FWD Pres **Bill Cale**. **BOTY** went to **Frank Martin** and was presented by **Ron Murray**. It was a complete surprise to Frank. His wife co-authored the remarks Ron made and she managed to keep it a secret for over a month.

RENO

DAVE RAMER

Our Christmas season created the opportunity to sing with the Reno Philharmonic and **Toni Tenile** of *The Captain and Tenile* fame.

The Chorus entertained at a trendy affair described as the opening of "*The Trench*" WOW! This was down town Reno, cold, in a tent with State Senators, Reno Mayor, dignitaries and approximately 200 people. All this so people won't have to listen or see the locomotives and pass through town. Why? Because the choo choo is in "*The Trench*".

Sam Barger performed the installation of officers at the chapter installation dinner which included friends and brides.

SACRAMENTO

FRANK KINNISON

The Capitolaire have **moved** their meeting hall to the *Pilgrim Hall of Sierra Arden United Church of Christ, 890 Morse Ave.*

The chapter participated in the *Youth Harmony Camp* in conjunction with the **Placerville Chapter**. Ninety young men aged 11 to 18 spent the weekend learning more about harmony and brotherhood. **Richard Lund** deserves a round of applause for putting it all together. It was a joy to see **Gary Bolles, Connie Keil, Mark Freedkin** and **Larry Bean** work with the young men. Guest quartets were **Playback** and **Four Score**.

Potluck sang for the opening at the Valley Fair Mall in Santa Clara. The **4T9r4** sang for the National Model A Clubs of America, and the **Capitolaire**s did two performances of "A Season of Joy", written by **Alan LeVezu** at the Towe Auto Museum. The Capitolaire also provided Christmas music at the rotunda of the State Capitol in Sacramento. **River City Music Company** and **The Ambassadors** performed at holiday functions.

The Woodland Opera House Concert Series presented "*An Evening of Barbershop*". Quartets performing were the **Ambassadors, Tune Struck** from Stockton, **Fourte'** from the Bay Area and **Late Show**, a new quartet with **Raymond Davis and Mike Stewart**, formerly of **Q** and **Jordan Litz** and **Gabe Caretto** formerly with **Playback**.

BOTM for September was **Chuck Meyer**. October was **Norm Smith**, November was **Les Cudworth**.

VISALIA

DEE BAUGHMAN

The Visalia Mighty Oak Chorus was very busy in December, singing for more than fifteen different groups during the month. The Chorus also held it's annual Christmas Party where there was more good singing and a lot of food.

We lost one of our hard working members, **Bob Claus**, who was Chapter President in 1991. He passed away in Bakersfield in January. Bob's family asked the Chorus to sing several of Bob's favorite Barbershop songs at his service.



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I don't know about you but I find it hard to believe that 2005 has come and gone and 2006 is already a month old. Having said that and looking back at last year I can understand where the time went. Seems like I was never home, always visiting somewhere, singing something or working, planning and meeting with someone. And it was all a great time.

In 2005 we had a very successful Arizona Music Educators Conference in Phoenix and I might add, we just completed 2006 conference and it was bigger and better than last year. We were honored to have the Rick Spencer, from BHS Headquarters as the clinician for the music educators. Along with Rick we had Men-so-Forte from Cal Poly College in San Luis Obispo, California and 4Ever4 an YWIH high school quartet from Eagar, Arizona and the entertainers and demonstrators for the workshop Rick presented. We were also pleased to have Dazzle perform the National Anthem and God Bless America for the Award Luncheon and several impromptu performances during the day of the session. Once again a great job by Ron Hayes, Jerry Fox and Ken Corns. Now the real work begins as we follow-up on all the leads we received from the music educators to see how we can help them in their music programs.

Last year in April, we had a very good Division Contest and after a great deal of aging, we are finally set to have another great contest in April 2006. I know you will see and hear about it in other places but I will tell you that we have the venue back at Moon Valley High School and we have a great deal on a headquarters hotel. In my last article I mentioned that we would be trying to use the Grace Inn and the Clarion Hotel but we did one better than what we had there. We will be house at the Ramada Plaza which is 1.1 miles from the contest site and is even on the same side of the road. We have great room rates until we sell out and we will even have meeting rooms and the ball room for the afterglow. An American breakfast is served each morning as well as having a full restaurant on the premises. All and more for only \$45 plus tax. How can you not afford to see, hear and participate in a great weekend of Barbershop? See you in Phoenix.

As good as last year was in many ways, we did have one down fall that is not like us as a division. Nearly all year we had growth in membership and at time lead the district in that area. When the final tally was made in December 2005, we found ourselves actually behind 2004 by 3 members. I am hoping that 2006 will again show the district that we do enjoy sharing our hobby with others and we can continue to bring in more new members along the way. Six of our chapters actually gained members at the end of the year and they were Prescott with a plus 6, Yuma at plus 2, Mesa at plus 3, Las Vegas Metro with plus 13, White Mountains with plus 3 and Casa Grande with plus 1. Great job guys, keep up the good work.

Youth in Harmony is very active again this year with Connie Keil as the primary clinician working in the schools in the Tucson area and maybe in the Phoenix area if we can work it into his busy schedule. Work is being done by Division 5 Youth in Harmony Chairman Ken Corns to identify additional clinicians in the youth programs.

We have a very busy year behind us and now a very busy and challenging year ahead of us, but I know we are up to the challenges we face. Let's have another great year as we Keep the Whole World Singing.



Division 5 ASNSU Editor

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GREATER PHOENIX

PHIL SMITH

It was certainly appropriate that the committee of past award winners chose **Allen Baum** as *BOTY*. His PR and marketing expertise played a major role in making big successes of the **Spirit of Phoenix** Chorus' two Christmas shows, both in new venues. Baum, who also received a Directors' Award, got a bigger surprise when his son-in-law, an Army Reserve captain stationed in Iraq, walked into the room, having been granted leave to come home for the occasion.

There never seem to be enough awards to honor all the deserving people in a busy chapter. Even so, four members went home with both a President's Award and a Directors' Award: **Ted Sayle, Ted Bradshaw, John Bloomquist** and **Jeff Dolan**. **Pierre DePrez, David Melville, Allen Fossenkemper** and **Paul Sullivan** also received awards from outgoing President **Bill Kane**. Directors **Fraser Brown** and **Russ Young** also gave awards to **Jack Mauney, Bill Kane, Ray Estes** and **Cary Burns**.

The chapter began 2006 with an all-day planning session that helped us refine and redefine our long-term goals. Nearly 70 members participated, and each had an opportunity to make his wishes known. In addition, **Shirley Schreiber**, one of the

youngest 88-year-olds you'll ever find, introduced the chorus to Psycho-Cybernetics, a method of steering the mind toward useful productive and predetermined goals. Mrs. Schreiber was so impressed with the chorus' enthusiasm to use her methods that she joined our support group, the Kindred Spirits.

LAS VEGAS

ROGER BUEHRER

The **Gamble-aires** are coming off a successful holiday show and into the new year. Fox television morning anchor **Heidi Hayes** conducted the installation of officers. **Rich Coon**, who served five consecutive terms as president, was honored as the *BOTY*. The Director's Award was given to **Roc Pucci** and **Roger Buehrer** received special recognition by outgoing President Coon. Inducted were Pres **Dennis Johnson**, PVP Ch Dev **Rich Coon**, VP Mu&P **Rick Ives**, VP M&PR **Roger Buehrer**, Music Directors **John Waugh** and **Albert Weiss**, Sec **Dave Larson**, Treas **Flip Sonneman**, and BMAL **Bill Lusk** and **John Waugh**. Lusk returned to the chapter after serving on a goodwill mission to Africa during December.

Treasurer **Sonnemann** stepped forward and offered housing to fellow barbershopper **Ryan Wilson**, who is spending six weeks in Las Vegas with his work.

MESA

PHIL SMITH

Thanks primarily to the efforts of coordinator Charlie Nardin, the **East Valley Lamplighters** successfully completed the biggest project they had ever tackled, providing a quartet for four hours on each of 22 nights for the Luminarias event at the Desert Botanical Garden. Most of the nights were handled by three chapter quartets: **Love@home** (**Ray Kahler**, **Roger Morrow**, **Bob Shaffer** and **Jerry Fox**), **2 Under Par** (**Barney Griffin**, **Charlie Nardin**, **Dick Livesay** and **Dick Moore**) and the **Desert Valley Four** (**Jed Young**, **Sam Doherty**, **Terry Gregg** and **Phil Smith**). The effort was a moneymaker for both the chorus and the participating quartets and provided great exposure for barbershop harmony.

PRESCOTT

DAVE SAMUELS

The **High Mountain Chordsmen** hosted a show at the historic Courthouse Plaza (outdoors) in September to honor the police and fire personnel for all the fine work they have done since September 11, 2001. **Jerry Harbeson** was chairman, and the public-relations coverage was very good. The chorus shared the stage with the local Sweet Adelines chorus, **Song of the Pines**.

The Chapter performed a successful Christmas show with all four chapter quartets participating, at the Elks Theater, an historic landmark, holding its first performance more than a century ago.

The annual installation dinner was held at the exquisite Hassayampa Golf Club. All had a great evening, thanks to **Rich Ludwigson**, outgoing president, who arranged all the details. The new year has started with a bang with plans for annual shows in June and again in December.

ST. GEORGE

KEN SUNDWALL

A major change in our chapter rehearsal location is taking place. For the past 24 years, the **Color Country Chorus** has had the luxury of meeting in its own "Harmony Hall," a former roller-skating rink above an auto parts store. It sold. President **Merrill Hardy** led a search committee to find a new location. It appears that the committee has found what should be a good one -- the choral music room of a local high school. The school administration has been very cooperative. Storage of our risers, choral shell, uniforms and music files still presents a problem. It was great having our own permanent home.

SIERRA VISTA

ED RAYMOND

Following a tradition of many years, the **Cochise Chordsmen** visited local care centers, Alzheimer's units, an assisted-living center, and the Sierra Vista Hospital, treating the staffs, patients and residents to a program of Christmas carols.

Members and guests were treated to an outstanding performance by **Dave (Germ) Germain**, retiring president, who wowed them as he showed up in "Riverboat Gambler" costume to conduct mock trial proceedings at the installation. The elected officers are Pres **Ed Keene**, PVP **Fred Whitely**, VP Ch Dev **Ed Raymond**, Treas **Bernie Martus**, and Sec **John Graminski**. Our quartet **Watering Hole #3** and a guest ladies quartet, **Desert Song**, performed.

We welcome new member **David Jones** to our bass section and also the return of dual-membership lead **Harry Miller**.

SUN CITIES

BOB MCGOWAN

The **Desert Aires Chorus** presented our circus-themed show "Under the Big Top" to 18 venues, including retirement facilities and Sun City recreation centers. **The Vintage Voices** performed at most shows and wowed the audience with their mellow sound.

Five new members joined the chapter, bringing the roster to 66 members. **Al Pierce** joined the original Desert Aires Chorus in 1986 and sang with the chorus until health problems forced his retirement in 2005.

Chapter officers re-elected are Pres **Otto Mielenz**, PVP **Joe Salz**, VP Mbr **Bud Lowry**, VP Mu&P **Campbell Titchener** and Treas **John Vincent**. Newly elected Sec is **Gene Sprenkle**. BMAL are **Bob Apple** and **Everett Heer** who are joined by **Jim Rich**. IPP **Ralph Brooks** will continue to serve with the board.

TUCSON

FRED KOCH

DVP **Ivan Jensen** installed the 2006 officers and **Jay Ayres**, lead of the Eastsiders quartet and the director/script writer of several recent chapter shows, was named *BOTY*.

There are not many barbershoppers who can claim 50 years membership in the Society, much less 50 years in the same chapter. **Paul Ludwig**, who was 20 years old when he joined the Tucson Sunshine Chapter in 1954, recently was presented with his 50-year pin at a chapter meeting.

The chapter once again sponsored the Men's Holiday Chorus during the Christmas season. It is open to all men in the community, and is a good way to recruit members. **Jere Hill, Ken Sylvia** and **Hap Haggard** made this another successful season.

Youth in Harmony Chairman **Ron Hayes** reports that two successful workshops were conducted by **Connie Keil** at Palo Verde High School in November in conjunction with the Sweet Adelines.

**WHITE MOUNTAINS ARIZONA CHAPTER
DOC DOCKENDORF**

We really don't want to dwell on it, but the **High Country Chorus** is making Limony Snickett and his Series of Unfortunate Events look like an amateur so far this year. With the death of treasurer-elect **Dean Baseley**, lead **Bill Sachak's** serious car accident and confinement to a wheelchair for four months, lead **Denny Shankland's** hospitalization, bass **Jim Porter's** visit to the hospital. It had to get better. But it didn't. Before this article could go to press, bass **Jim Morrow** slipped on the ice and broke his arm and bass **Keith Gore** was injured in a car crash while delivering mail to New Mexico.

The **Eastsidiers** quartet from Tucson installed our officers and then treated us with their entertaining style of barbershop. We give them a big hat's off for their support and inventive Installation of IPP **Bob Cutlipp**, Pres **Bob Koons**, VPs **Dan Lewis** (Membership), **Steve Taylor** (PR), **Alan Beste** (Music) and **Alan Johnson** (Performance), Treas **John Welker**, Sec **Jim Murphy** and BMAL **Jerry Schrunk**, **Phil Rioux** and **Bill Sachak**. **Everett Peterson** received the Spark Plug award. **Dean Baseley** was given the President's Award posthumously, with his wife Jean emotionally accepting. Most Improved Singer was **Larry Kennedy**, and **Alan Johnson** was named *BOTY*. The chorus sang at Baseley's memorial service. The January From the Edge newsletter was dedicated to Dean and may be viewed at our Web site, www.spebsqsafwd.org/wmac.

We also wish to acknowledge the **2 Under Par** quartet from the Mesa Chapter for making a surprise visit to **Bill Sachak** at his recovery home in Mesa. That is what barbershop is all about.

We welcome our newest member bass **Jim Dye**.

**FWD Spring Convention in Reno
March 16-19, 2006
Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!**

Chorus Directors Wanted

Crescenta Valley Chapter
Bruce Campbell 626 - 299 - 0892

Fremont/Hayward Chapter, New Dimension Chorus
Demaster Survine 510 - 780 - 0613

San Fernando Valley Chapter
Tim Singer 323-478-9722

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Westminster Performs at MidWinter



YIH: Royce emphasizes rhythm



YIH: Freedkin teaching



YIH: Westminster with boys



YIH: the boys rehearse



YIH: They started with music



YIH: YIH Chair Krizek participates

Many of you are aware that the FWD hosted a Youth Harmony Workshop in Sacramento during the MidWinter Convention. NORM SMITH headed this up with a lot of help from the SACRAMENTO CAPITOLAIRES. Our clinicians included MARK FREEDKIN and RICK SPENCER, and featured the time and talents of METROPOLIS, OC TIMES, LATE SHOW, and GOOD TIME HARMONY. The highlight of the day was when the entire WESTMINSTER CHORUS arrived, to rehearse a song with the boys that they got to perform with them on the Saturday Night's Show! Thank you SO MUCH to all the guys who helped make this a success! Some unedited comments from one of the high school students that attended our workshop follow:

What worked for you? EVERYTHING! I absolutely loved it! Seriously. As a barbershop singer and member of a quartet, this opportunity to sing with the best quartets/chorus in the FWD is easily the highlight of my life. The guest directors were great, just like they have been at the other Youth Harmony events that I have been to. But, the highlights of the day were definitely singing tags with the guest quartets and then watching them perform for us, and singing with my favorite collegiate barbershop chorus (I knew and adored them even before this festival) The Westminster Chorus, and getting to sit in on their rehearsal. Saturday was a day full of events I will not soon forget and I will probably still be bragging about it with my friends months from now.

Other comments: Overall, words cannot quite express how enjoyable Saturday's festival was for me. Just to see those quartets and Westminster Chorus perform live would have been a momentous occasion, but to have the opportunity to sing WITH them, and PERFORM with them....I can't even put into words how awesome that is!!!.....I cannot express enough gratitude to Norm and everybody involved in setting up and running this festival....Mere thank you's cannot quite encompass just how grateful and blessed I feel to have been apart of this occasion. There is a reason barbershop singing has lasted so long in this country, and that reason is the dedication and support shown by people like you who spend countless hours planning and organizing events like this to spread the joys of barbershop to young boys everywhere.....Once again, although the words are not quite adequate, Thank You so much for putting on Saturday's festival, and I look forward to hopefully seeing you all again in Reno this March.

CONVENTIONS, SHOWS, EVENTS

2006 _____

March

- 4 Coachella Valley Shows
- 4 San Fernando Valley Show
- 11 Casa Grande Shows
- 16-19 FWD Spring Convention
& NCENN Division Contest, Reno
- 25 San Mateo County Shows

April

- 1 Palomar Pacific Show
- 7-8 NCWHDivision Contest
Campbell, CA
- 21-22 Az/SN/SU Division Contest
Phoenix, AZ
- 21-22 Whittier Shows
- 22 Fullerton Shows
- 22 La Jolla Shows
- 22 Placerville Show
- 22 San Luis Obispo Shows
- 22 Visalia Shows
- 23 Voices in Harmony Show [tentative]
- 29 Santa Fe Springs Shows

May

- 6 SCW Division Contest
No Site yet
- 6 Voices in Harmony Show [tentative]
- 13 SCE Division Contest
No Site yet
- 19-20 Nevada Placer Shows
- 20 Yosemite Shows
- 21 Palo Alto-Mountain View Show

June

- 10 Santa Rosa Show

July

- 2-9 **INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION Indianapolis, IN**
- 15 White Mountains Shows
- 21-23 Harmony College West,
University of Redlands

October

- 5-8 FWD Fall Convention
San Jose [Corrected Date]

November

- 11-12 NC COTS, 2nd weekend
- 18-19 SC COTS, 3rd weekend

December

- 2 San Francisco Shows
- 15, 16, 17 Whittier Shows

2007 _____

March

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

April

- 13-14 NCWH Division Contest
No Site yet
- 20-21 Az/SN/SU Division Contest
No Site yet
- 20-21 Whittier Shows

May

- 5 SCW Division Contest
No Site yet
- 12 SCE Division Contest
No Site yet

July

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

September

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

November

- 10-11 NC COTS, 2nd weekend
- 17-18 SC COTS, 3rd weekend

2008 _____

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

November

- 8-9 NC COTS, 2nd weekend
- 15-16 SC COTS, 3rd weekend

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

Magazine

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