



Volume 60

Winter 2010

Number 4



WESTUNES

WESTUNES, established in 1951, is the official publication of the Far Western District Association of Chapters in the Barbershop Harmony Society, Inc.



2010 FWD Quartet Champions - The Crush



2010 FWD Chorus Champions - Masters of Harmony

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

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CONVENTION - BRISBANE
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Subscriptions:

Domestic \$15/yr Foreign \$20/yr

Advertising rates per issue:

Ad Size	1 issue	2 issues	4 issues
1 - Page	\$150	\$140	\$130
1/2 - Page	100	90	80
1/4 - Page	50	45	40
Bus. Card	30	25	20

1- Page: Inside Front Cover or Inside Back Cover
\$200 per issue, one or more issues

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- Articles: use MS Word or PDF files [embed fonts]
- Photographs: use high resolution JPEG.
Please identify people in photos clearly.

1- page ad is 9.5" h x 7.375" w

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Issue	Submittal Deadline	Chapter News to Div Editor	Submittal 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
Quarterly publication schedule

Send change of address to:
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or use the secure Society website login
<https://ebiz.barbershop.org/ebusiness/>

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I'm sure you've all heard by now how great our Fall Convention was in Bakersfield. The best run, best singing (in the whole Society) and best fun that one could possibly have for \$40.00. We who attended feel sorry for those of you who missed out, but you can make up for your loss next year at the Spring Convention in Santa Clara, at your Division Convention at a location near you and at the Fall Convention in Fresno. You might also want to start the year off at the International Midwinter Convention in Las Vegas. Talk about fun – we're expecting 25-30 youth choruses to be competing there. Wow! I promise it will bring tears to your eyes.

In three days I will be attending the Society's Leadership Forum in Dallas, along with eight other members of the Far Western District Board and Management Team. There we will share information with leaders from other Districts and learn what's working and what's not. Different Districts do things in different ways and it's always great to offer and to hear new ideas.

Something I mentioned a while ago is the Chapter Achievement Program. The best chapters are not necessarily the ones who win the most contests. It's the ones who do most things right – produce chapter shows, do community work, attend Leadership Academy, hold regular Board meetings, have regular quartet activity, file their tax returns, compete in a contest, etc., etc., etc. The CAP is a contest, in a way, to see which chapters are the most accomplished. You can take part in the survey at www.bhscap.org. I'm pleased to say that almost half of our 83 FWD chapters have already taken part, a higher percentage than any other District.

Talking of being a successful chapter and contributing to the well being of our hobby, I want to mention again the three chapter men that I'd love every chapter to have - a Harmony Foundation VP, a Youth in Harmony VP and a Program VP. For our Society to flourish we need many things to happen, but I think these three things are among

the most important – money, youths and fun. In every chapter, these VPs are the ones who are most likely to help. My goal would be for every single chapter to have each of these positions filled by time I leave office at the end of 2011. How is your chapter doing?

Among all the many good things in the Far Western District this year, one thing that has not been so good is that three chapters decided to hold their chapter shows on the same date as a Division or District event. That's a big no-no and against the rules. Your support of our conventions is hugely important to the well being of the District and there can be no support if a chapter has a show at the same time. Each of the culprit chapters apologized profusely and promised never to make that mistake again. I hope we never see another chapter slap us in the face like that.

Every year the Society sends its Music Educators around the country to help chapters get the most out of barber-shopping. These men are capable of holding sessions which range from stage presence coaching to voice lessons to working with youth to putting on great shows. They'll also arrange just a fun evening, if that's what chapters want. But they won't come here unless you ask for them. I can't emphasize enough how wonderful such visits are. Talk to your Division VP about when you'd like to have such an evening next year and he'll organize it for you, and perhaps for another couple of local chapters at the same time. It's free so the Society staff gets booked up quickly. The sooner you get your requests in the better.

Finally, I have a question for you - when you finish singing Keep The Whole World Singing at the end of your meetings, do you shout out: 'It's great to be a barbershopper'? I hope you do because IT IS GREAT TO BE A BARBERSHOPPER. Tell a friend. If we all got one man to join next year, we'd double our size. Imagine that!

Happy Holiday Season everyone.

FWD Sunshine Chairman Jim Holder

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Prescott Real Men Sing Choral Festival

by John Krizek

Prescott's second annual Real Men Sing choral festival October 2, 2010 was another resounding success, concluding with a combined chorus of 60 students and adults performing for an appreciative audience in Prescott Mile High Middle School's Hendrix Auditorium.

Clinicians Kelly Shepard, working with the students, and Russ Young working with the adult group, were assisted by teaching quartets PHX and Audacity, as each group learned four songs to perform. The adults consisted of the Prescott High Mountain Chordsmen augmented by barbershoppers from Sedona, Mesa, Phoenix, and as far away as Tucson.

With only three public high schools in the area to draw from—and the universal need expressed by music teachers to encourage more boys to participate in school choirs—the all-ages Real Men Sing approach works well in a community the size of Prescott, according to event chairman John Krizek.

It was a “Gold Medal Moments” according to Mark House of the PHX quartet [from Phoenix]. “It was enormously fulfilling in so many ways! PHX was privileged to help a great group of young men. . . It was great!” Sixty singers, ages 10 to 83, participated in Prescott's second annual Real Men Sing festival.



Above: Directors accepting audience applause following the evening show performance were, from left: clinician Kelly Shepard, who worked with the students during the day; Matt Kiesling, choral director at Prescott High School; and Russ Young, clinician for the adult group. Also recognizable are Gregg Dodge and Fraser Brown of the Audacity quartet, who participated as a teaching quartet.



Left: Getting into the swing of things on “The Lion Sleeps Tonight” under the direction of Kelly Shepard (left) were fifth-graders Wesley Bradstreet (center) and Luke Hogue (right), along with seventh-grader James Burton (striped shirt). The boys were among the 30 participants from local high schools and middle schools in the Prescott Real Men Sing festival.



Left: Twelve-year old seventh-grader James Burton sang a tag with InHarmonix on the evening show portion of the Prescott Real Men Sing festival October 2nd. Members of the InHarmonix quartet, all students at Northern Arizona University at Flagstaff, are, from left: Miguel Saucido, Elliot Liles, and Andrew Surrena.

District Executive Vice President



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What an exciting Fall Convention we had in Bakersfield! If you were one of those who were unable to attend, you missed a great one. Our level of competition continues to lead the Society as evidenced by the FWD sending three choruses representatives to Kansas City next July. Congratulations to the Masters of Harmony on their outstanding win, and to the Voices in Harmony and the Spirit of Phoenix for qualifying as wildcard reps. And of course to our newest quartet champs, The Crush on their first place finish.

Some took advantage of the webcast. Hosts Dan Jordan, Brian Philbin, Martin Fredstrom and Bob Hartley kept the contest sessions moving right along with creative commentary. Thanks, guys, for giving your time to bring this great contest into the homes of those who couldn't be with us.

My last Westunes message made a plea for chapter representatives to attend the House of Delegates Meeting in Bakersfield. Thanks to the many familiar faces and a few new ones who participated. Your efforts help assure the FWD remains the pioneers in barbershop that we have become.

The Late Show, sponsored by the AFWDC, was well attended. Eight past champs graced the stage to make this one of the best shows in the history of the organization. Thank you, champs, for your time and talents, and to Nick Papagorge (founder and current President of the AFWDC) for organizing an event that is the closest thing to an International Semi Final round you'll find anywhere.

Lastly, allow me to thank the Convention Team and our District Events Chairman John Jones for their attention to details in planning the Bakersfield weekend. You are all pros and we are fortunate to have you working so hard for all of us.

The FWD Senior Quartet Final Contest was held in Bakersfield, CA on October 8, 2010. The quartets qualified to appear in the finals during the five Spring Division Contests. Congratulations to our new FWD Champions, the Silver Knights from Las Vegas, NV.

Quartet	% Score
1 Silver Knights	66.4
2 From The Top	65.6
3 Silver & Gold	63.3
4 Preferred Blend	59.7
5 Motley Q	59.6
6 Top-Notch	59.3
7 Music Box	58.4

Great Western Timbre Co. 70.3

Occasionally a quartet will compete from out of District to establish a qualifying score for the International Senior Quartet Contest at the MidWinter Convention. Such is the case with the Great Western Timbre Co. who are registered in the Sunshine District, even though two members live in the FWD, Dwight Holmquist & Ron Black. As a point of interest, the four on stage have sung together since about 1984. You may remember the GWTC was the 1986 FWD Quartet Champion with Gary Bolles singing bari.

The International MidWinter Convention is in Las Vegas, NV in January 2011. Remember to cheer on all our FWD related Senior Quartets.

IT IS OK TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE FWD YOUTH EDUCATION FUND.

Editor note: Our FWD membership supports Youth In Harmony financially and that helps create the ability to conduct the HSQC. Our youth are the ones who benefit in the short term, and our Society in the long.

An Invitation to Sing in a Mixed Chorus on Your 2011 International Vacation

BARBERSHOP CHORUS VIP CHINA TOUR

September 1 - 12, 2011

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Ron & Jo Black

You are invited to join Ron and Jo Black on a very exciting Barbershop Chorus tour in China. This will be the first Barbershop tour since 2002. In 2001 and 2002 there were three teams that traveled to China to teach the Barbershop style of singing at universities and music conservatories. Team members included Kenny Hatton, Brian & Holly Beck and Kim & Jerry Orloff. Two student quartets from Tsinghua University in Beijing performed at the Barbershop Harmony Society's International Convention in Portland, Oregon in 2002. We will be joined in our Shijiazhuang performance by a 90-member Seniors Chorus, one of the choruses that the teaching teams worked with. During this tour there is the opportunity to interact with Chinese citizens of all ages.

Ron currently directs the Sacramento Capitolaire and is Associate Director of the American River Chorus. As a past Singing Category Specialist and a former Contest & Judging Committee chairman, Ron currently judges in the Music Category.

12-Day Tour
\$2878

double occupancy

\$598

single supplement

The All-Inclusive Tour Price Includes: International air from to San Francisco, Two China domestic air flights, U.S. & China International departure taxes & fuel surcharges, China domestic airport taxes, Hotels -- All 5 stars, double occupancy, All meals--American buffet breakfasts, Deluxe motorcoaches, transfers, admissions & sightseeing, English-speaking guides--National & Local, Acrobatic Show, Xi'an Dumpling Dinner & Tang Dynasty Cultural Show, and the Peking Roast Duck Banquet.

The Tour Price does not include: China Visa fee (if applicable), tips and personal expenses, extra baggage charges (if applicable).

For a brochure with the daily itinerary, reservations or more information, please call or email Edward Pio at 831-206-0450/edwardpio@gmail.com or Jo Black at 916-253-9293/jomamabass@gmail.com

We're Stepping Into the Spotlight!
The 49th Annual - Southern California - 2011
Novice Quartet Contest



Saturday
January 15, 2011
7:00pm

The Village Theatre
1140 N. Tustin
Orange, CA

Tickets - \$10 and \$15
Kids are half fare

Join In The Fun!

See the host chapter's website for further information for competing quartets and for ticket purchases.

Presented by the
Fullerton Chapter
oechorus.org
(714) 871-7875



And the Orange
Quartet Chapter
orange.harmonize.com
(714) 442-8500



FWD Spring Convention in Bakersfield
March 17-20, 2011

Quartets Will Compete for the Honor to
Represent the FWD in Kansas City

HOD meeting is Friday, March 18, 2PM.
Chapter Officer or not, you can attend
to witness how the HOD functions.
If you approve [or disapprove], contact
your DVP to let him know.

"IT'S YOUR DISTRICT"

SPECIAL
FEATURE

A CAPPELLA

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In an attempt to not be repetitive I'm going to shorten this article to include the latest leadership achievements in our quest for improved leadership. We had a successful Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meeting seminar in Mesa in September with 42 students from South Dakota, California and Arizona.

Although this article may reach you late for the upcoming seminars I need to mention that the Leadership Academies are/were scheduled for November 13th in Arizona and Southern California and Northern California on November 20th.

Our continuing plea is for the chapters to respond to the respective registrars on a more punctual basis so that the instructors can make the necessary preparations for travel and motel accommodations. We tend to procrastinate in making reservations for all barber-shop events but this small favor would help create more effective seminars and provide the services we offer the members of the FWD.

We will continue to talk about communication and I am once again asking that you provide feedback to us so that we can make the leadership offerings more beneficial to you the attendees. We welcome your comments and constructive criticism and encourage you to let us know how we're doing in this area of continuing education for our chapter and district leaders.

"To become a courageous leader, you must realize that accepting responsibility is not optional – it's mandatory".



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As you will read elsewhere in this issue, the Fall Convention last month in Bakersfield was an uplifting event. Congratulations to all who were participants! Kudos to all who attended!

It's official, 3 chapters will represent FWD at the 2011 International Chorus Contest:

Our District Champion Chorus, the Santa Fe Springs Masters Of Harmony, are seeded 3rd headed for the International Convention next July 4-10 in Kansas City. (My guess is, they will really crank it up to out-sing Toronto Northern Lights and The Vocal Majority. What a contest that will be!). Bay Area Voices In Harmony are ranked 9th, and Greater Phoenix Spirit Of Phoenix are ranked 11th. Our District could (again) bring in three top-10 choruses!

Our District Champion Quartet, The Crush, posted the second highest score across the Society! 95 North was seventh over all, Tenacious Q was 11th, and Catcher Block was 18th. Please note, the District quartet scores do not qualify any quartet for International, that happens next March 18-19 at the Prelims convention in San Jose.

But the most important Contest and Judging news is:

The door is open! Applications for the Judging categories are open right now! This only happens every three years, and this is the year to apply for (potential) certification in 2013.

So if you want to enter the training program for BHS Judges, you have until December 31 to get your application to me. (Actually, aim for November 30, so we have time to get all the application pieces in place). Go to the link below and download the Contest and Judging Handbook. Beginning on page 130 are the instructions to apply to be a judge.

<http://www.barbershop.org/document-center/category/6-general-contest-judging.html>

And if you know of a guy you think should become a BHS Judge, grab him, shake him, and convince him to apply!



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Bakersfield.....The Crush did just that. Masters of Harmony were indeed masterful and the Silver Knights will now charge off to do battle at the Midwinter in Las Vegas.

Congratulations, and thanks to the 21 quartets and 21 choruses that faced off in front of a convention attended by close to 1500 folks. Ray Johnson and the entire San Luis Obispo Chapter did a magnificent job, supported by Bob Cathaway and Bill Rosica. I got to play Doug Maddox and wear the headphones for the chorus contest since Doug was featured in the MOH winning performance. Pushing the old broom across the stage was great, although the shouts of "We want Doug!....We want Doug!..." were a bit distracting! I certainly hope everyone else enjoyed the weekend as much as we did and came away with their own memories.

As earlier reported, we have chapters across the District busy preparing for 2011, so please get these dates on your personal and chapter calendars.

March 18/19, 2011 - Spring Prelims/NW Division - Bay Area Chapter

April 16, 2011 - AZ Division - Phoenix Chapter
May 7, 2011 - SW Division - Pasadena Chapter
May 14, 2011 - SE Division - Las Vegas Chapter
May 21, 2011 - NE Division - Central California Chapter
Oct 13/16, 2011 – Fall District – Fresno Chapter

All activities, including chapter shows, for the District are listed at the following internet address thanks to our webmaster Kieth Eckhardt and our District Secretary, Peter Feeney. Check it out! <http://spebsqsafwd.org/form/fwdcal.cfm> Do use this calendar to avoid scheduling conflicts as you plan your chapter shows and events.

2012 is just now appearing on the horizon, and our 15-year calendar has the following dates blocked out:

March 15/18, 2012 - Spring Prelims/Northwest
April 13/14, 2012 – NW Division
April 20/21, 2012 - AZ Division
May 4/5, 2012 - SW Division
May 11/12, 2012 - SE Division
May 18/19, 2012 - NE Division
Oct 11/14, 2012 – Fall Convention – Bid from Phoenix

REQUEST: With the pending installation of new officers in all chapters, I would like very much to hear by the end of January 2011 from any chapter interested in hosting a convention.

Here are your Division Event Planners.

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Southeast – Paul Sandorf patosand@yahoo.com

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Here's wishing all the best of holiday seasons. Do get out and use your musical talents to spread good cheer on your block, in your town, in resident halls, wherever folks gather.



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Howdy –

The numbers (Society Data as of October 1, 2010):

FWD Membership (Excluding Multiple Members): **2774**, down 196 from year-end 2009. Same old story – we continue to do a pretty good job of recruiting, only we lose more than we recruit.

Kudos to those chapters who have shown a gain for the year so far: **Santa Rosa, Palo-Alto/Mountain View, Ventura, Prescott, Monterey Peninsula, Santa Barbra, Santa Monica, San Fernando Valley, Central Arizona, Napa Valley, San Mateo County, Fremont-Hayward, Tucson, Brea, La Jolla, Temecula, and California Delta.**

The breakdown: Of 83 Chapters, 17 have gained members, 10 have no change, and 56 have lost members.

Not to sound like a broken record, but once again might I suggest - ain't no one can make your chapter grow 'cept YOU! Take a close look – if you're losing members, why? If you're not recruiting members, why? If you need to change things, what – and how? Hint: Get together with your chapter leaders and ask how you can help – and if you are a chapter leader, start with a plan that includes every member in your chapter taking an active role.



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Midwinter, Here We Come!

The international youth choral festival, which has become the hallmark of the Society's Midwinter convention, is coming to Las Vegas the last week of January. Last year some 300 young men converged on Tampa, Florida, for this event. Can you imagine what we have in store for us?

I'm hearing rumors and reports of "all-star" high school choruses rehearsing in Sacramento, San Diego, and Phoenix, and possibly Las Vegas. I hope there are others. It would be a shame for the host Far Western District—home of the International champion Westminster Chorus, and the past-champion college quartet The Vagrants—not to be well represented. All it takes is 12 guys to enter! With rooms and at least one meal covered by Harmony Foundation, the cost is minimal—all it takes is getting them there, to enjoy and compete.

So what if you just can't put a chorus together to compete? If you've got a young man or two, interested in barbershop but not able to muster a chorus, how about getting them to Las Vegas, just as guests of your chorus. Can you imagine the effect of just hanging out with 300 young guys from all over the planet who like to sing? Can you imagine the enthusiasm they might bring back to their school, your community, and your chapter?

Two of the college-based past winners of this competition have gone on to become chapters in the Society. Now they are "Westminster Wannabees." This is too good to miss. See you there!

Special Feature: *Second Time Around*

by Paul Olguin

If you've been a barbershopper for less than ten years, you may only know Special Feature as a quartet on the list of ancient Far Western District Quartet Champions, or as quartet that somehow sneaked into the top five in International Competition back in the 1990s. If that's the case, here's a short primer to get you caught up. Raymond Davis (Late Show, Q, Applause) sings tenor, Jamie Arrington sings lead, and BJ Hill is the bass. I'm Paul Olguin, and I get to sing baritone. We first got together on December 7, 1988. We won the Far Western District Quartet Championship on our second try in 1990. We competed at International seven times, finishing as follows: 1990 – 14th, 1991 – 7th, 1992 – 7th, 1993 – 5th, 1994 – 9th, 1996 – 8th, 1999 – 19th. Though we sang some arrangements by several of the Society's top arrangers, we mostly did original songs and arrangements that were written at first by me, then later by Raymond, and finally by all four of us. Over the years we released two barbershop recordings, and one award winning doo-wop CD. We recorded, but never released a fourth collection of pop songs, mostly from the sixties. (Warning: shameless plug ahead) All of these tracks can now be downloaded at www.nakedvoicerecords.com.

By 2000, some of our individual musical paths had changed so much that we decided to call it quits. Let me tell you, when you've been together for twelve years and you know that you are in the quartet of your lifetime, the last thing you talk about is your exit strategy. You simply assume that you'll always be together, like a marriage. Without an exit strategy in place, our disbanding didn't go particularly well, causing some fractures to the friendships that had been forged over the many years.

Then in 2007, Katlyn Hill, BJ and Julie's daughter (born seven weeks after the quartet), was to graduate from high school. She decided that what she wanted for a graduation present was to have Special Feature sing at her graduation party. By this point, time had

healed most of the hurt feelings, so everyone was on board for the party. Besides, we couldn't say “no” to Katie. As we started singing on that warm June afternoon on the back patio of the Hill's home, any remaining hurt feelings were melted away by the wonderful sounds and songs. We had such a great time reminiscing and singing that someone (I think it might have been Julie) suggested that we ought to plan to sing on the AFWDC show in 2010, the twentieth anniversary of our championship.

BJ and Jamie had not been active in barbershop for several years, focusing on other priorities, but soon after Katie's graduation, BJ became active again in the Reno Chapter, bringing his son, Brandon, into the fellowship of harmony. Then in 2008, Jamie was cajoled back into the Society by his dad, Doug. In the summer of 2009, Raymond's quartet, Late Show, broke up. Suddenly everyone was back in barbershop and not in a serious quartet. Someone in the quartet (Was it Julie?) threw out the idea that maybe we should just get together for our entire anniversary year with new outfits and everything. In spite of the fact that we were now a long-distance quartet, (Albuquerque, Portland and Reno) everyone agreed to the idea.

At the first rehearsal, the rustiness was quite evident, but we could still hear a hint of the Special Feature sound beyond the cobwebs. During that first weekend, after about six hours of rehearsal, we drove from Reno to Grass Valley and sang on the Nevada/Placer County Chapter's Cabaret Show. The singing was rough, with some shining moments, but the connection with the audience was as magic as ever.

After a couple more weekend rehearsals, we competed in the International Preliminary Contest. With huge support from the audience and high scores from some overly-generous Presentation judges (and much to our surprise) we qualified for Philly. The experience of rehearsing, performing and simply being together was so enjoyable that someone (Julie, I think) floated the idea, “Why don't we just get back together?” And so it was decided. Well, now all of a

[Continued on page 10]

[From page 9]

sudden we had long-range plans, and going to Philadelphia didn't quite fit into them.

Since we've been back together, we've sung on the Reno, Albuquerque and Nevada/Placer shows, and then finally (and in the face of every possible obstacle – another story) on the AFWDC show at the FWD Convention in Bakersfield to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of our championship and (now) our return to the barbershop world. Many of our fans and friends tell us how happy they are to see us back together, but they couldn't be half as happy as we are. As wonderful as it is to get together and rehearse, nothing quite compares with having the opportunity to share our God-given gift with you and your marvelous audiences. We're working hard to become the best Special Feature ever. God willing, there will be many more songs to create, audiences to love, afterglows to close and precious barbershop friends to sing with. To have had the first twelve years together was a profound gift. To have a chance to create even more music and memories with such beloved friends is something that is hard to think about without getting a little teary.

**FWD Spring Convention in Bakersfield
March 17-20, 2011
Quartets Will Compete for the Honor to
Represent the FWD in Kansas City**

**HOD meeting is Friday, March 18, 2PM.
Chapter Officer or not, you can attend
to witness how the HOD functions.
If you approve [or disapprove], contact
your DVP to let him know.
"IT'S YOUR DISTRICT"**

**REMEMBER THE FWD
YOUTH EDUCATION FUND**

Far Western District Contest Results Bakersfield, October 2010

Chorus	%	On stg
1 Santa Fe Springs, CA	92.4	102
2 Bay Area, CA	84.9	61
3 Greater Phoenix, AZ	83.4	70
4 California Delta, CA	78.7	70
5 South Bay, CA	70.7	35
6 Brea, CA	70.3	23
7 Las Vegas Metro, NV	69.4	21
7 Reno, NV	69.4	30
9 Fresno, CA	68.7	29
10 San Fernando Valley, CA	68.7	31
11 Rincon Beach, CA	66.9	20
12 Riverside, CA	64.8	23
13 Palo Alto - Mountain View, CA	64.7	36
14 Sacramento, CA	62.6	28
15 Pasadena, CA	62.2	28
16 Fullerton, CA	61.8	46
17 Central California, CA	60.4	16
18 White Mountains, AZ	58.9	26
19 Santa Rosa, CA	57.7	19
20 Marin, CA	54.6	19
21 Sun Cities, AZ	54.3	29

Quartet	%
1 The Crush	83.3
2 95 North	78.1
3 Tenacious Q	77.4
4 Catcher Block	75.4
5 Audacity	73.9
6 On Tap	72.1
7 Tahoe Blue	72.0
8 Hit	70.9
9 Equinox	70.4
10 Aftershock	69.3
11 PHX Crazy	66.9
12 Silver Knights	66.4
13 From The Top	65.6
14 Silver & Gold	63.3
15 spam	61.9
16 Preferred Blend	59.7
17 Motley Q	59.6
18 Top-Notch	59.3
19 Music Box	58.4
20 Upoar!	55.7
Great Western Timbre Co.	70.3



2010 FWD Quartet Champions **The Crush**

by Paul Tebone

Greetings from The Crush,

As we said in Bakersfield and will say again, we are honored and humbled to be the 2010/2011 Far Western District Champions. We just wanted to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Far Western district, especially our home chapters of the Masters of Harmony and The Westminster Chorus, for all of their coaching, love, and support throughout the past four years. A very big thank you to John's wife, Crystal, Matt's girlfriend, Heather, and Paul's fiancée, Ruthie, for all of their unconditional support over the years.

As every quartet experiences, we have had our ups and downs, but through it all, we overcame challenges, and kept our eyes on the end goal. Mind you, this district contest was just one step towards where we hope to take this quartet. We are already looking to FWD prelims, and beyond to International in Kansas City, where we will (hopefully) have the privilege of representing the FWD and trying to make you all proud!

Beyond that, it is our intent to stick around a while and become a household name in the FWD, and the BHS. We definitely plan on being around long enough to entertain and meet as many of you as possible during this year and many years to come! Take

care, and we will see you all in San Jose. In the meantime, keep singing--we sure will!!

Matt, Josh, Paul, John

Fullerton/Orange Sponsor the 2011 SoCal Novice Contest

By Mark Sheldon, Orange Chapter PR VP

The 49th Annual Southern California Novice Quartet Contest will be held in Orange on Saturday, January 15, 2011. This year the event will be co-sponsored by the Fullerton and Orange Quartet Chapters for the first time, carrying forward to the tradition maintained for so many years by the Westminster Chapter.

The event will start at 7:00 pm at the Village Theatre, 1140 N. Tustin St, Orange CA 92868 (the same location where this year's SoCal Comedy Quartet Contest was held). Audience tickets are available for general seating sections priced at \$10 and \$15 for adults, half price for children under 12.

All barbershoppers are encouraged to consider participating in the contest! Quartets do not need to be Society-registered, though all four members should be current SPEBSQSA members. There will be an entry fee of \$25 for each competing quartet. As in years past, a handicapping system will be used based on quartet members' past experience in competition.

Please watch the host chapter's websites (oechoorus.org for Fullerton and orange.harmonize.com for Orange), for further information for competing quartets and for ticket purchases. Inquiries can also be made by phone to the Fullerton at (714) 871-7675 or Orange at (714) 442-8500.

This event is a great way for new barbershoppers to gain experience in competition, or for singers at any level to take a new quartet combination out for a spin. For those who show up to watch, it's a great way to see and support the talents of your fellow barbershoppers!



Gene Hartzler
1915-2010
FWD Hall of Fame

*[This article appeared in the
2004 FWD Fall Convention Program]*

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

Gene Hartzler

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

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

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

In the Big Band era of the 1930's and 40's, Gene played clarinet and was male soloist with a popular dance band. The Hartzler Family moved to California in January, 1950, having enjoyed all the cold weather they needed. But he didn't leave his clarinet behind. He is currently on call to play with The Pomerado Community Concert Orchestra.

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

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

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

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

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



2010 FWD Chorus Champions The Masters of Harmony

by Ron Larson

On July 31, members of the Masters of Harmony family celebrated “Family Appreciation Day” at the Palomar Observatory for a guided tour of the facility that houses the historic 200-inch Hale Telescope.

At the end of the tour, the group assembled for a picture beneath the giant telescope and gave the facility staff a rousing rendition of “Keep the Whole World Singing.”

In mid-August, the Masters bid a sad farewell to Justin Miller, who accepted a teaching position at his former high school in Connecticut. During his nine years as a Masters member, Justin became a superb choreography coach and assistant director. While a student at Chapman University, he became the director of The Westminster Chorus. Under his dynamic leadership, Westminster won “Choir of the World” honors in 2009 and the International Chorus Championship in 2010. In addition, he became one of 13 MOH certified judges when he qualified as a Music judge last summer.

Congratulations to MOH Board Member Rich Owen for securing another grant from the Los Angeles Arts Commission. The grant will provide financial assistance for the Masters to continue supporting youth outreach programs and spreading the word about our hobby.

On September 1, for the first time, the Masters of Harmony offered online ticket ordering. Anyone

wanting to attend the MOH Christmas shows on December 11 at Plummer Auditorium in Fullerton can go to the MOH website (www.mastersofharmony.org) and select specific seats for either show. Patrons can order tickets online using all major credit cards without any processing fees or by fax, phone or direct mail.

On October 9, the Masters qualified for the 2011 International Contest in Kansas City by winning the Far Western District chorus crown in Bakersfield and set up the long-awaited head-to-head match-up with The Vocal Majority.

The Crush won the FWD quartet title. In fact, each of the top four quartets at Bakersfield included singers from the Masters of Harmony-Westminster family.

On October 13, current and former members of the Masters of Harmony gathered to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the founding of the chapter. Hall of Famer Joe D’Amore described how he and eight other idealistic founding fathers decided to try to create a chorus “dedicated to musical excellence,” one able to perform and compete at world-class levels. After more than 300 performances, seven gold medals and seven recordings, Masters of Harmony music now reaches around the world.

Since our last report, Christian Espinoza and Bill Finlan were reinstated and Michael Norcross, Jake Tickner and Jeff Wilson were welcomed as new members of the Masters of Harmony.







2 Bay Area, CA



3 Greater Phoenix, AZ



4 California Delta, CA



5 South Bay, CA



6 Brea, CA



7 Las Vegas Metro, NV



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in Harmony

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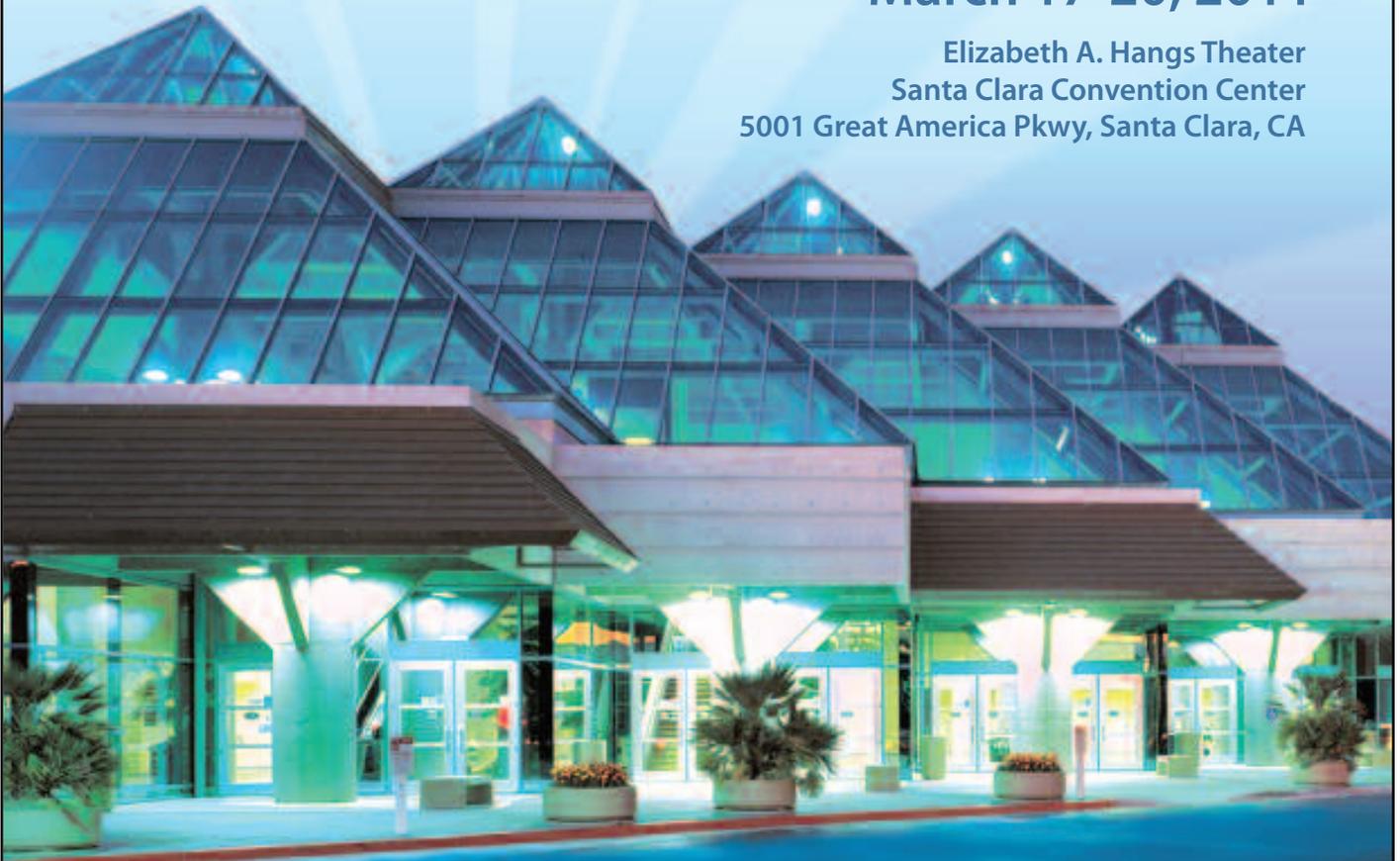
for the



2011 FWD SPRING CONVENTION QUARTET PRELIMS and NORTHWEST DIVISION CONTEST

March 17-20, 2011

Elizabeth A. Hangs Theater
Santa Clara Convention Center
5001 Great America Pkwy, Santa Clara, CA



Join us in Santa Clara for an incredible convention and contest. This beautiful state-of-the-art theater has 607 seats and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. In the event of a sellout, additional seating is available in a VIP room - set up just outside the theater to see and hear the contest sessions on a big screen - and you won't miss any of the action. Mark the date and get your registration early!

3 WAYS TO REGISTER:

- By Phone - 24/7 Hotline: **1.800.838.3006**
- Online: **www.brownpapertickets.com**
- By Mail with the registration form

**Phone and online orders require an additional fee of \$1.99 per-registration.*

For more information visit www.fwdconventions.org/2011Spring





2011 FWD SPRING CONVENTION

QUARTET PRELIMS and NORTHWEST DIVISION CONTEST

Santa Clara Convention Center Theater, 5001 Great America Parkway, Santa Clara, CA

MARCH 17 - 20, 2011

Hosted by



Contests and Shows

International Quartet Prelims
 NW Division Chorus Contest
 NW Division Quartet Contest
 Show of Champions

Meetings and Events

District Board Meeting
 House of Delegates Meeting
 AH-SOW, Youth Afterglow
 Classes, Mic Tester Chorus
 Harmony For Lunch Bunch

REGISTRATION PRICES

ALL EVENTS EARLY BIRD

(Postmarked by February 17th)

Adult\$40.00
 Young Adult (13 - 25).....\$20.00
 Non-member under 12.....Free

ALL EVENTS LATE / ON SITE

(Postmarked after February 17th)

Adult.....\$50.00
 Young Adult (13 - 25).....\$25.00
 Non-member under 12.....Free

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL

Santa Clara Marriott

2700 Mission College Boulevard
 Santa Clara, California 95054 USA

Phone: **408.988.1500**

Web: **tinyurl.com/2011FWDHQHotel**

Group Code: vihviha

Single/Double Occupancy

Rate per night: \$89 *(plus tax)*

SINGLE EVENT - \$25.00 each available on site only.

**A \$1.99 per-registration fee will be added to registrations purchased online or by phone.*

ALL CONTESTANTS MUST PURCHASE AN ALL EVENTS REGISTRATION FOR THE APPLICABLE AGE GROUP

Name _____ Quartet _____

Address _____ Chorus /Chapter _____

City State Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Bass Bari Lead Tenor

Check here if you need disability accommodation in order to fully participate in the convention. You will be contacted to discuss your needs.

District Officer AFWDC Member/VIP Chapter Delegate Other VIP

Guest Name	City / Chapter	VIP	Amount

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES \$ _____

Check - payable to "Voices in Harmony" Visa MasterCard

Cardholder Name _____ Signature _____

Card Number _____ Exp Date (month/year) _____

Return completed form with payment to: FWD/NW Contest, 1797 Michon Drive, San Jose, CA 95124

Convention details are available at www.fwdconventions.org/2011Spring Questions? Email jaybreen@sbcglobal.net



2 95 North



3 Tenacious Q



4 Catcher Block



5 Audacity



6 On Tap



7 Tahoe Blue



8 Hit



9 Equinox



10 Aftershock



11 PHX Crazy



12 Silver Knights & SeniorQuartet Champs



13 From The Top



14 Silver & Gold



15 spam



16 Preferred Blend



17 Motley Q



18 Top-Notch

19 Music Box



20 Upoar!

Great Western Timbre Co.

eXtreme Quartetting is Moving West!

Did you hear the buzz at the fall FWD convention in Bakersfield? You may already be aware of and know a bit about eXtreme Quartetting and the Harmony Brigade movement! But, did you know that it was moving west? The inaugural rally of the High Sierra Harmony Brigade is scheduled for the weekend of August 26-28, 2011 in Reno, NV. Currently, the closest Brigade is in Indiana.

XQ is an invitational weekend for good quartet-level singers who are vocally capable, committed to learning challenging arrangements, and who are prepared to enjoy success in rally activities. The charts are of championship caliber, challenging, and would be beyond the ability of less experienced men. It is not a chorus or District affiliated event. Participation is open to members in good standing of the BHS from across the country. Participation is by invitation, or in the case of the inaugural rally, an individual may apply and list references as to their ability to sing on key, learn music, and dedication to preparedness.

About four months before a Brigade rally, registered participants receive music and a part dominant learning CD of the songs they will be singing. Quartets are formed, by random

draw, at the rally and each member is obligated to “hold” their own part without further rehearsal. It is not necessary to be a district or international quartet champ (although they are more than welcome and enjoy these rallies as much as anyone). Commitment to learn the music is key to rally success because the three other guys are depending on you to come prepared.

If you are in a registered quartet, Brigade is a great way to add to your repertoire. If your family or work life prohibit the weekly commitment of singing in a quartet, Brigade is the perfect remedy because you learn your music on your own and attend the rally one weekend out of the year! Maybe you just can’t get enough barbershop in your life! Many quartets have been created from Brigade members that have gone on to compete at the District and International level with a few becoming District Champions.

By the way ladies (I know you read this, too)...Brigade registration makes a great Christmas gift... providing that you know that it is something that he wants to do. If this sounds like something you might be interested in, please check out the website www.harmonybrigade.org/hshb





FWD DVP for Division 1 SW

Bill Rosica

14006 Westdale Drive
Bakersfield CA 93314
Phone: 661-589-4983
E: brostica@sbcglobal.net

believe this is a great opportunity to get to know your District VP's and us to get to know you.



Division 1 SW Chapters

Ken Day, Editor

1019 S La Grange Ave
Newbury Park CA 91320-5313
Phone: 805-498-4218
kday98296@roadrunner.com

Well, it's the end of another year in the Far Western District and it was a pretty good year. Westminster stepped up to the plate and put it out of the park in Philadelphia. Our International quartet competitors keep getting better and better. Our recent fall contest was well-attended, which will keep our District Treasurer happy. Congratulations to The Crush and the Masters of Harmony for their fine championship performances. Actually, congratulations to all the competitors who crossed that stage. All are winners.

I hope that all of you chapter officers took advantage of the Leadership Academy in your area. I've been attending either as an officer or a member of the staff for over 25 years and still find something of worth each time. You chapter officers need to know that help with any issue is just a phone call away. Those of us who signed on as District Officers can only help if we know what you need. Even though I live in Bakersfield, I work in the LA Basin from time to time and can meet with your chapter team, if needed.

Each issue of Westunes seems to be full of news about recruitment and our numbers. Without dwelling on it too much, I'd like to see each chapter set a goal for recruitment. Too many times we just assume that our chapters will grow when we have a guest night or auditions for admission night. I have found that if the entire chapter buys into the idea that we're going to grow by X number of guys, things begin to fall into place. Your Chapter Development guy needs all the help he can get. His job is the most important on the Board. Give him a hand and let him know you're willing to help. Having served that position many times, I can tell you that he cannot do it by himself.

Finally, begin planning for the Spring Convention up in the Bay Area. The District depends on attendance at our fall and spring conventions to keep us the best district in the society. I'd like to see many more chapters participate in the House of Delegates. Typically, the Southwest Division has the fewest participant of all the divisions. We can do better. President Bernard had a great Sunday morning meeting of the Chapter Presidents where we discussed many interesting topics. It's a chance to let your District Officers know what you need and how you feel. I

ALOHA

JACK HASHIMOTO

The highlight of our quarter was our Annual Retreat at Camp Mokuleia on the beautiful North Shore of Oahu. Friday night began with a potluck dinner and lots of conversation and song. Saturday was work day as guest coach **Joe Cerutti**, Master Director of the Alexandria Harmonizers, put us through our paces. Joe let us know that this day was not a "vacation day" for us or him. He dotted every "i" and crossed every "t". We were mentally and physically exhausted after each session, and came away with a great appreciation of what it takes to get to the next level of performance, which is our goal. Sunday was wrap-up day, as we reviewed the weekend; what we accomplished and what we have to do to become more successful. It was a great weekend for us and we thank Joe for helping make it so. Thanks to Chairman of the Annual Retreat **Mark Brandle**.

BSOM for the Quarter were: July - **Kawika Mitchell**, August - **Ken Foreman** and September - **Ken Nelson**.

BAKERSFIELD

BOB CATHAWAY

The Bakersfield Chapter is slowly improving, although being a small chapter we occasionally have a strange meeting night. One meeting in September we had five basses show up early. We waited, then... (drum roll) we waited some more. Finally we had one baritone show up. That was it. We usually have 10 to 12 at a meeting with all four parts covered, but this night was just strange with an unusual combination of conflicts.

We sang at the funeral of the mother of one of our newer members. Many in his church didn't know yet that he sang with us. While singing with us that day would have been difficult for him at best, his friends were very impressed that he was a member of the Golden Empire Chorus!

CONEJO VALLEY

NEIL PENNYWITT

Proceeds from our annual High School Benefit Show, hosted by **Dick Van Dyke**, allowed us to donate over \$16,000 to five area high school choral programs! Checks

went out to the five schools in time for fall classes. The funds will really make a difference with the choruses. Watching **Dick Van Dyke** at the center of high-kicking students during Oak Park High School's elaborately choreographed set from Broadway's A Chorus Line was just one of the highlights - - - especially when he "outkicked" the kids!

Conejo Valley Harmony Oaks raised and donated over **\$150,000** to 13 area high school choral programs since 2000. Some of those schools rehearsed quartets to perform with Harmony Oaks in the chapter's annual Ice Cream Social. It was a great show, with the chorus and several quartets from the chorus performing, surrounding an intermission during which chorus members serve the audience ice cream sundaes.

Harmony Oaks has a 20% net increase in membership over the past two years largely because of our involvement with the high schools. The kids go home energized about singing close harmony and their dads contact us to find out why!

PASADENA **ROBERT SCHAUMANN**
Pasadena is beginning to sound a lot like Christmas as we prepare for our annual Holiday show. **The Crown City** chorus under the direction of John Minsker is polishing up all the old holiday favorites.

Our Membership committee under the leadership of VP **Pierre Debbaudt** is using this opportunity to invite and welcome men from the community to join us to sing the Christmas songs that we all grew up with. Music VP **Steve Peacock** and the music team are instituting an evaluation system to improve accuracy and unity of individual chorus members.

Have you heard? Pasadena is hosting the **FWD SW Division Convention** slated for May 7th 2011. Chairman **Lenard Jensen** has assembled a brilliant team to lead the whole chapter in this all hands on deck event. "Pasadena is a great destination for all our guests and we want to make their contest experience smooth and enjoyable." says President **Bill Cauley**. Look for upcoming contest information, and book your chorus early. Come this May, Pasadena will be the place to "Sing Well and Have Fun".

RINCON BEACH **KEN DAY**
The Rincon Beach Chorus sang at the Camarillo Farmers Market, followed by a "FlashMob" at the Camarillo Outlet Mall. Although the crowd was small at

the outlet mall, those in attendance seemed genuinely surprised and pleased.

The chorus participated at the **53rd Anniversary Celebration** for the **Santa Barbara Channel City Chorus**. They had invited past and inactive members to attend. An afterglow was held at Harry's Bar and Grill with a large and enthusiastic turnout.

We hosted our own show at Ventura's Poinsettia Pavilion with guest quartets **Top Notch, Priority Male, Harmony Channel** and our headliner **The Edge**. The dinner show format worked well with great Bar-b-que and song.

Alan Gordon worked with us several times with the result that breathing is better and there is a lot less forcing of sound. The overall sound is more balanced and kept within the total scope of what we are working for. We competed at the October Fall Contest to find the flaws that we thought we fixed weren't. But we feel that we are headed in the right direction.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY **BRUCE POEHLMANN**

The Valleyaires were excited to come in 10th at the district contest, the first time since 2004 we've been in the top 10! Our director **Laura Pallas** has been awesome in getting the chorus in shape for this, and our numbers have grown as well - we were up to 30 on the risers in Bakersfield! New members who are helping to keep the Valleyaires singing strong are **Mark Wolf, Kirk Prather, Dave Kirby, and Patrick Lockwood**.

Our Fall Show, "*The Perils of Nell*", a "Mellowdrama" was the best show in years! Special thanks to **Bob Karlin, Tim Singer, and Laura Pallas**, who were the primary creative geniuses behind the show! A special thanks to **Bob Czubiak** for putting the sets together and **Shelley Herman** and **Mark Wolf** for managing the sound.

SAN LUIS OBISPO **RUDY XAVIER**
Convention Chair **Ray Johnson** and Vice-Chair **Jerry Levine** dedicated a great deal of planning to hosting the Fall Convention in Bakersfield. A solid core of people contributed untold hours preparing records, forms, registrations, program development, and uniforms. We have heard from many participants that our hosting activity was well received.

We are grateful to the **Santa Maria Chordsmen**, and the (Sweet Ads) **Pacific Horizon** and **Central Coast**

Celebration choruses for letting us borrow their risers. Our riser team is very grateful for the tremendous physical effort required to transport and set up as many as eighteen section risers! We are also indebted to many of the wives of our own **Gold Coast Chorus** singers as well as members of Sweet Adelines from **Pacific Horizon** and **South Valley Sound** for “man”power at our registration and auditorium management.

The Gold Coast Chorus performed in the Summer Park Series for Arroyo Grande at the Rotary Bandstand, the Templeton Performing Arts Center, and held its annual sing out and picnic with the **Pacific Horizon Chorus** in Atascadero.

Paul Silva returned as Director and new board members are President **John Staley** and Member-at-Large **Chuck Mills**. **Rob Mills**, who supplied Convention uniforms, also volunteered to be Valentines Chairman. Long-time member **Ron Kyker** has left the area.

SANTA CLARITA

MARV ROTER & BILL WOLF

After **David Kilpatrick** and **Roger Baartman** attended the recent FWD Convention, in Bakersfield. David participated as a bass with the **South Bay Coastliners**, which won the AA Plateau and fifth place among all choruses. Roger, a man of four part talents and decades of Barbershop experience, joined the Ancient Harmonious Society of Woodshedders (AHSOW). An outstanding feature of the Convention was the large number of young quartets and singers. It is an encouraging sign that the future of our art form is in good hands.

New director **Bobby Halvorson** has wasted no time getting down to the business of “making music with our friends, improving our sound and having fun.” New choreographer **Judy Turkheimer** gives us plenty of moves to work on. We get kicked in the knee once in a while but always in rhythm.

The “Art Walk of Santa Clarita,” takes place monthly and includes a Farmer’s Market. **The Men Of Harmony** chorus stroll up and down Main Street singing whenever we find a gathering. At the annual Street Festival, the **Blue Plate Special - Jack Matson, Bob Lang, Roger Baartman** and **David Kilpatrick** entertained enthusiastic participants. Scattered among the enthusiastic crowds listening to the quartet were our chorus members, **Dave Norman, Keith Oberg, Gerry Staack, Marv Roter, Cal Erickson, Don Carson, Judy Turkheimer** and **Bill Wolf**

who sang as shills to encourage the listeners to sing along as part of the fun.

SANTA MONICA

MARTY MITNICK

“Sweet and Hot”. Now isn’t that a terrific name of a most wonderful musical experience. **The Oceanaires** were invited to perform as part of a four day weekend of music of the forties, fifties and sixties. The annual event was again presented this year at the Marriott LAX with over 3000 music lovers enjoying all kinds of performances in seven venues at the hotel. **The Oceanaires** were the first barbershop contingent to be invited.

The Oceanaires performed at the Pacific Palisades Lutheran Church where our member **Wally Meese** is Pastor. The program was to raise funds for the Westside Food Bank to enable them to restock their shelves for those in need.

Most recent new members are: **Clark Baker, Tim Boeck**, (who is the son of old time member “Doc” Bill Boeck), **Erick dePaz** and **Carlos Soto**. After being away for too long a time, we welcome back our terrific bass **Samy Lai**.

A special thank you to **Bill Finlan** for his PoleCat program to teach Oceanaires to qualify for the PoleCat pin.

SOUTH BAY

JOE NAGLE

The Coastliners are proud to welcome our newest members, **Joel Dalton** and **Bob Hartley** to our ranks. Joel is a brand new member who sings lead with the chorus, but he frequently subs as bass in our renowned mixed quartet “Ready, Willing & Mabel” (**Kate Walker, Caroline McLean, Peter Neushul, & Jim Campbell**). Bob, the talented lead from the two-time International medalist quartet Metropolis, is largely credited with bringing sexy back to the South Bay.

C-Nile Sound (Bruce Beyne, Denny Lawrence, Karl Jacobs & Rick Llewelyn) entertained the residents of The Canterbury retirement home in Palos Verdes in August for approximately one hour. They also competed at the Orange Chapter’s “Comedy Quartet” contest, finishing 4th out of 8 quartets, which should have earned them a Blue Ribbon, but due to a “mix up” they never actually received it.

The chorus performed for a smallish audience at the Manhattan Beach Hometown Fair in October. The organizers were impressed with our ability to perform our entire 45 minute package in less than 30 minutes, which was rel-

atively simple to do without having to wait for all that pesky applause.

2011 officers are: President **Joe Nagle**, Chapter Development VP **Don Duperon**, Program VP **Michael Borrett**, Music VP **Stam Hill**, Marketing & PR VP **Don Barton**, Show Chairman **Denny Lawrence**, Secretary **Jack Newman**, Treasurer **Steve Bunker** & Manager **Joe Corter**. At Large Directors will be: **Bruce Elkind & Barden Smith**. Congratulations to outgoing President and 2010 BOTY **John Upp** for an outstanding year.

VENTURA JAN TAVARES

The Channel Islands Clippers Chorus new officers are: President.(Youth In Harmony) **Jan Tavares**, Chapter Development VP **Joel Rogosin**, Music & Performance VP **Jim Sumstine**, Secretary **Lu Hintz**, Treasurer **Jay Shapiro**, At Large Board Members **Fred Engle & Ron Lindsay**.

Former local area Barbershopper **Ben Arrellanos** has been successfully on the road to recovery from a stroke. We welcome him back.

The CIC participated in the Ventura County Fair along with **The 4 Jays (Jim Wilson, Joe Smith, Jay Shapiro & Jan Tavares)** at this very popular Southern California County summer event.

We participated in the Flag Retirement Ceremony at The California Veterans Home of Ventura. We were proud to sing "The Star Spangled Banner" and "Irish Blessing" in the Barbershop style to a most appreciative crowd of veterans, local politicians, active duty military and their families. And, they asked us to come back in November for a Veterans Day Flag Retirement Ceremony.

WHITTIER NORM BERNIER

The Whittier Choralaires celebrated their **60th ANNIVERSARY** with a wonderful dinner party. A silent auction was made possible by two friends of the Choralaires, **Marilyn Bernier** and **Marie Sofi**, fund raisers extraordinaire. Director **Paul Gutierrez**, our chorus and many past members came forth to sing. Singing songs we all knew brought many smiles. Historical albums were displayed and filled with past news items, and photographs decorated the many pages. Many old timers paused to reflect of the years gone by. Sharing the many stories at each table and renewing friendships made smiles glow. A special warm welcome to new member Bass **John Lafever**.

Many Board officers return for 2011: Treasurer **Robert Stemen**, Secretary **Robert Sowell**, Music VPs **Bill Thompson & Steve Peacock**, Show Chairs **Jeff Pulice & Bill Nassen**, Programs VP **Paul Feinzimer**, Operations VP **Henry Nassen**, Membership **Dick Stemen** and President **Norm Bernier**.



FWD DVP for Division 2 SE

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by Gene Clements

Well, guys, this is my last official article as your DVP. I just want to say "thanks" to all of you who have accepted some of my thoughts, suggestions, general information and, yes, edicts for the last four years. I do believe we've made progress in many areas, and that's good.

Now, this doesn't apply to everyone, but the one area where I think many of the Southeast Chapters could do much better is in responding to communications either from your DVP or other men serving the FWD. And, with that now said, I will not say good bye, but "see you around." Take care, all y'all.

by Allan Webb

Greetings! I am excited to be your DVP for 2011, and am looking forward to working with all the chapters in the Southeast Division over the coming year. I am here to help you achieve your chapter's goals, as well as be your liaison to the Far Western District board.

While the majority of my time will be spent in whatever way is most helpful to you, that liaison role is a two way street, so I'll occasionally need to discuss the business of running a chapter (particularly IRS and Corporate reporting requirements which allow our chapters to function as 501c3 non-profit entities), or be the messenger for FWD or BHS messages to chapter leadership.

There are a lot of exciting things going on in 2011, not the least of which is the upcoming Division Convention planned for Primm, NV (as of this writing). It's going to be a blast! Don't miss out on the fun!

Even if your chapter chorus or quartets don't usually compete at Division, come on out and sing for evaluation only. It's a great opportunity to sing for your barbershop brethren, get some free feedback from your brothers in the

judging program, and partake of the fellowship that I'm sure will be in abundance this coming May.

I will be contacting the leadership of all SE Division chapters to discuss a number of topics, some of which you may see discussed here in future Westunes articles.

Here's to a happy and productive 2011!

	Division 2 SE Chapters Editor Needed
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APPLE VALLEY MIKE SMITH

Earl Christopherson (1935 – 2010)

On September 7, the Apple Valley chapter lost one of its most treasured members, **Earl Christopherson**. Earl had been a member of the old High Desert chapter back in the 1960s, and one of the senior members of the current Apple Valley chapter. Earl served in just about every capacity possible with the chapter, including Chapter Development VP and co-chair of Programming this year. No one smiled more when they sang than Earl, and the end of "Shine On Me" will never be the same without Earl singing his trademark, "Lighthouse, little lighthouse, won't you shine, shine, shine on me!" Ring some chords with the big boys up there, Earl!

BLING!, featuring chapter members **John Hawes and Mike Smith**, had to scratch in Bakesfield because their lead **Paul Rowse** was getting over the flu and unable to sing well.

COACHELLA VALLEY TERRY MANN

Summertime, in the Coachella Valley, and the livin' is easy...Although over half of our active "go to meetin' members" are snow birds and are gone May through November, we thrive with lots of parking and very little traffic... We all manage to get away for some time during 'the hot spell', but we did manage to meet, and managed to have a director plus at least 4 or 5 guys, but usually 8 to 11, and with all four parts, every week!

And, the GOOD NEWS!: We are proud to announce that we have three brand new Barbershoppers! - **Stan Gile, Dave Hawks and Ralph Spencer**.

At the last meeting of October we were pleased to greet the return of two of our snow birds: **Sam Kennedy** from

Washington State and **Steve Tavizon** from Rancho Cucamonga, CA. Also in October we were visited by FWD President **Bernard Priceman** and FWD Webmaster **Keith Eckhardt**.

Our new website is <<http://www.CVbarbershop.org>> Thanks to **Lee Goodman** and **Dick Reed**.

HEMET HARMONIZERS DAVE KELLEY

We are a small chapter but an active one. We put on a very successful Spring show *Springtime in Ireland*. We had seven community performances for retirement communities and assisted living homes. We sang the Star Spangled Banner at the Storm Triple A baseball game, performed for fund raisers for charity for the Hemet Rotary Club and for the San Jacinto Humane Society and have four more community performances in December. We lost two members - **Dick Girvin** and our favorite baritone **Elmer Olson**. Our award winning "Upbeat" editor **Bruce Smith** had a serious stroke and is still not able to do our bulletin so **Bill McNaughton** took over the duties. Bruce is now back singing with us with the use of a walker. New officers for 2011 are President **Bill McNaughton**, Secretary **Art McMaho**, Treasurer **Bob Couse**, Music & Performance VP **Harry Kaylor**, Vocal Training VP **Clay Panlaqui**. Members at large **Bob Doty & John Chandler**.

INLAND EMPIRE DAVE DOVEY

Everybody is busy preparing for our Christmas Show here in the Inland Empire. We're presenting a great mix of sacred and secular numbers, including an arrangement of "Carol of the Bells" by our own Brian Hoerning, and David Wright's arrangement of "The Hallelujah Chorus."

At last count, there were five chapter quartets planning to add to the festivities, and possibly one or two more coming along. The best part is that most of them include some of our new members.

Our Spring Show will be about the Music Man — thirty years later, when he returns to River City. The Iowans are still stubborn, but now they're all singing barbershop. Should be a hit.

ORANGE CHAPTER MARK SHELDON

The Orange Chapter hosted the SoCal Comedy Quartet Contest for the first time. In addition to the many members who planned and operated the event, current/recent Chapter members competed in **Shenanigans** [**Ed Paulvir, Jeff Parmer, Stan Tinkle, Don Derler**], **ReformedVillains** [**Thom Lowerre, Dave Lowerre, Jim**

Lowerre, Jim Gruver]. Triglycerides+1 included **Fullerton** members **Tom Nichols (T)** and **Art Clayton (L)** along with dual members **Stan Tinkle** and **Don Derler**.

The annual Summer Sing was hosted by the Lowerre family, giving a well deserved break to **Phil** and **Phyllis Roth** who had made this Party a chapter tradition.

The Chapter welcomes new members **David Kilpatrick** (also with Santa Clarita and South Bay), **Mark Logan** (also with Fullerton), and **Joe Sutherland**. **Thom Lowerre** received the Man of Note award for introducing Joe to the Society.

Orange has a new chapter quartet, the **Plaza Gang (Thom Lowerre, Dave Lowerre, Bob Calderwood, Mike Werner)**.

Officers for 2011 are President **Bob Calderwood**, IPP **Steve Moore**, Secretary **Rich Spencer**, Treasurer & Program VP **Dave Lowerre**, Music VP **Mike Werner**, Membership VP **Paul Sandorff**, PR VP **Mark Sheldon**, YIH VP **Don Levering**, and At-Large Members **Ken Tillmanns** and **Thom Lowerre**.

All were saddened by the passing in September of **Dave Gryvnak**, a long time member of the Orange Chapter, the Masters of Harmony, and many quartets (most recently as Lead of Balderdash).

RIVERSIDE

GAYLORD SPENCE

Congratulations go out to **THE CRUSH**, as the FWD District's first place winner in the recent District Quartet Contest in Bakersfield, and the **MASTERS OF HARMONY** as the first place Chorus competition winner. We are particularly proud of **THE CRUSH** as our chorus director **John Brockman** sings baritone in the quartet and we have watched their rapid progress with-in the district over the past two years, including the Bakersfield District Contest in which we proudly participated. It'll be amazing to have these two groups as our representatives for the FWD, and see them have the chance to bring home the gold in both categories in Kansas City.

Our chorus is also very excited to receive and accept an invitation to be a part of the Inland Empire Sweet Adelines chapter Christmas Show slated for December 12th. With the musical talents of **John Brockman** leading us, we are looking forward to sharing our Christmas repertoire with many more of the music lovers in the I. E.



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As 2010 winds down it is time to look forward to changes in 2011. Within each chapter, there may be new officers joining your board. Remember that they are elected to serve the chapter, not to do every job in the chapter. Going into the new year, rather than wait for someone to ask you to do something, try stepping up and asking one of your chapter officers or chairman, "How can I help you?"

A big change in 2011 is the date of the Northwest Division convention, which has been combined with the Spring District Convention. Please make sure you have blocked off the weekend of March 18-20 for this weekend in Santa Clara.

The change to a new year is often a time of reflection for many of us. I encourage you to take a few minutes to think about your experience this past year in the Barbershop Harmony Society. What was the highlight? What do you wish was different? If you feel you are not getting everything out of your barbershop experience that you need, talk to a chapter leader. I am also interested in hearing your thoughts, so feel free to drop me a note or phone call if you have a thought, an idea, or just want to get something off your chest.

However you choose to celebrate the different holidays at the close of 2010, I wish you all a happy, healthy, and harmonious season. Let's make 2011 the best year ever for our hobby, our chapters, and the BHS.



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BAY AREA

GREG TITUS

What a great contest in Bakersfield - and the opportunity to see our district brothers!

We participated in another successful Youth in Harmony Camp in Sept. The first week in Oct, we participated in the 2010 Real Men Sing event held at San Jose State University - another huge success with over 400 students! **Dr. Lyne** served as clinician for the college-level singers

and **Chris Hebert** assisted during the program. We look forward to an even larger event next year.

We volunteered to host the FWD Prelims and NW Division contest in March.

On top of that, every night is guest night at our rehearsals. We've averaged 10 guests every night since our return from Philly - and it's definitely keeping us busy. We welcome new members **Joe Farrante, Larry Zuckerman, Tim Salaver, Chris Lewis, Scott Seki.**

EUREKA **DOY ANTOGNAZZI**
The Humboldt Harmonaires are proud to be celebrating our *50th Anniversary* by hosting our annual Spring Show with the theme (A walk down memory lane). We have two charter members still active, **Glen Woods** and **Bob Bauer**. The polls are in and this years line up for board members are: President **Bob Bauer**, Membership VP **Bill Candler-Klein**, Music and Performance VP **Bill Edmondson**, Public Relations VP **Lonnie Arney**, Treasurer **Richard Johnson**, Secretary **Steven Plourde**, Show Chairman **Don Atterbury**, Members at large **Doy Antognazzi** and **Steve Morris**.

FREMONT HAYWARD **RAY SPINOSA**
The New Dimension Chorus once again spent a weekend singing for passersby at the annual Fremont Festival of the Arts. Chorus members also chatted with potential new members and people interested in upcoming chorus activities. The chorus returned to the Baywood Court Retirement Home to perform for an appreciative group of seniors.

The chorus spent a day being coached by **Ron Black** who gave the chorus plentiful tips, and techniques for improving the chorus sound.

MARIN COUNTY **E. BOND FRANCISCO**
The Marin Chapter competed in it's first FWD convention competition in over 30 years, and we're darned proud to say that we didn't finish last! It was a great experience, and hopefully one we can build on so that it's not 2050 before we compete again! Our thanks to the **San Luis Obispo Chapter** for putting on such a great convention.

MarinTones (**Sierra Salin, Daniel Will-Harris, Jon Goerke, Bill Griffin**) did a 2 hour gig at the Point Reyes farmers' Market where they were handed pit apples and received no thrown rotten tomatoes. **Serendipity** (**Norm Reynolds, Fred Merrick, Jon Goerke, Dale Steinmann**), current Senior Quartet Champions of the

FWD NW Division, sang at a *Celebration of Life* for our long-term member **Bob Engan**.

MONTEREY PENINSULA KRISTEN THOMPSON
The Monterey Peninsula Cypressaires are busy as ever this holiday season, spreading joy and shopping fever. We performed our Annual Show "2010: A Barbershop Odyssey." It was a smashing success, thanks to the HAL 9000 'crashing' in through the ceiling backstage. **The Bay Belles** Women's Chorus, with the help of **EmCee Squared**, managed to make HAL's dreams come true by introducing the JOY 9000. **Hi Fidelity** lent an outer space touch with their terrific singing and hilarious Star Trek package. Our Show featured more in house quartets and (soloists) than ever before, proving that the joy of ringing chords is worth doing more than once a week. During the following Tuesday night, new men walked in the door wanting to be a part of the fun.

It takes a village to put on a show, meet the villagers: President **Mike** (more Cowbell) **Clancy**, IPP **Sam** (Play It Again) **Kier**, Treasurer **Robb** (Love to Dance) **Haase**, Show Chair **Bruce** (Man of Many Hats) **Bloxom**, Secretary **Denis** (These Boots are Made for Walkin') **Van Dam**.

Youth Outreach is off to a good start. A Salinas High School as well as the El Sistema Youth Orchestra program requested visitations. A quartet was warmly received and the students enjoyed singing along.

PALO ALTO/MOUNTAIN VIEW **DEAN JAMES**
The Peninsulaires made a good showing in Bakersfield with 32 men on stage, under the direction of **Steve Samonds**. We received an early position in the draw so we were able to enjoy the performances of the last 2/3 of the chorus contestants.

The Peninsulaires invited non-members to join the chorus to form our Holiday Chorus and perform with us at various locations over the holiday season. This is a good opportunity to introduce non-members to our hobby.

SAN FRANCISCO **DON KINGTON**
When the members of the **Cable Car Chorus** decided, weeks ago, to schedule a Guest Night for Wednesday, October 27, they had no way of knowing that the SF Giants would be playing the first game of the 2010 World Series - and right here in town!

The plans were made and an ad had run, so the lights were on at the meeting place. About half the usual number

showed up, all listened to the final innings of the game on a portable radio a member had brought. After the Giants' great victory of the first game, the group was entertained (further) by **Serenditipy**, the FWD Senior 2010 Championship quartet.

The Guest night plans called for a follow-up meeting the following Wednesday night. The guys, all Giants fans of course, are hoping to put away the Texas Rangers in no more than five games.

SAN MATEO **THOMAS ADDISON**
The Golden Chordsmen had two Singouts at the famed Filoli Estate in Woodside, several Church fairs, and an Ice Cream Social. We remain in search mode for a new director, but chapter meetings have been run by the music team led by **Terry Weisbrich**, with help from assistant directors **Bill Wood** and **Owen Doyle**. Preparations are moving forward for our first Christmas Show and many holiday singouts during the month of December. 2011 Board members are: President **Fred Moraga**, Secretary **Paul Buchanan**, Music VP **Tom Addison**, Treasurer **Pete Wanger**, Chapter Development VP **Rick Cram** and Members at Large first year member **Dean Stocker** and veteran **Dave McCann**. Most will be attending the leadership conference in November. We continue to host quartet night the fifth Tuesday of the months with five Tuesdays, and invite any willing quartet men to join us for an evening.

SANTA CRUZ **ED WARNER**
Grants totaling \$2600 were given to six schools in Santa Cruz for their music programs. This is one of two memorial funds our chapter has set up for schools music and music students recommended by their teachers to further their music education.

Our chapter quartets were busy in the month of October, singing one Saturday at Wilder Ranch in Santa Cruz and one singing at the Board of Supervisor's meeting.

SANTA ROSA **RAY CROWDER**
Redwood Chordsmen Director **Phil Debar** worked hard to get us prepared for district competition in Bakersfield this year, and the chorus thanks him for his effort.

Gabor and **Mary Jo Toth** hosted the chorus summer social which included entertainment by **Hip Hug-Her**, an excellent band fronted by the Toth's Son-In-Law, **Ralph Rodriguez**.

Thirteen young men from various Santa Rosa area high schools attended this year's Youth Harmony Camp. Seven students from Maria Carrillo High and their choral director **Gail Bowers** sent "thank you" notes to the Santa Rosa chapter for their role in promoting barbershop harmony in the Sonoma County area. Thanks to **Bob Lappin**, **Lynn Brittan**, **Bill Jackson**, and **Kelly McConnell** for handling transportation and logistics for the students. **Ray Crowder** is currently coaching one of the quartets from Maria Carrillo High.

The Chordsmen had successful performances at Oakmont's Berger Center, and Varena, retirement communities in Santa Rosa including appearances by our registered quartets **Just One More Song**, and **Sunrise**.

Our newest members are both students at Santa Rosa Junior College: lead **Matthew Whitaker** and tenor **Justin Holgersen**. Out of more than 80 chapters in the FWD, the Redwood Chordsmen are proud to be one of 20 chapters to show an increase in membership during 2010. Also, welcome back **Doug Hayward**.

SF BAY CITIES QUARTET **CASEY PARKER**
Our meetings open with *The Old Songs* and *Down Our Way* as a group sing. Then quartets sing for the balance of the meeting.

We honor renewals with a ceremony, awarding of the renewal, clapping once for each year of service and the honoree forms a quartet & chooses songs. A photo is taken for the web site. Man of Note count on the card is announced.

Orvil Hanel, our 101 year old baritone, was having more and more trouble traveling to sing with a quartet. So we reversed, and now have a quartet traveling to Orvil's retirement community to sing.

Members say "why I attend the quartet club meetings:"
1) Good food
2) Good fellowship
3) Another try at ringing a chord
4) In a quartet I can hear where my note should be without another singer in my part to lean on.
5) No peer pressure just good friends out for a good time
6) The applause!! whether the song was good or not.
7) Somebody has to bring the pitch pipe
8) And finally, did I mention the food?

We close with Keep America Singing as a group.



FWD DVP for Division 4 NE

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Congratulations to the American River Chorus for placing 4th in their very first District Contest. They were also our division's largest chorus with 70 men on stage.

On Friday during our Fall Convention in Bakersfield we held the House of Delegates meeting. We congratulate the following chapters for sending delegates: Placerville, Central California, Reno, Fresno, Nevada-Placer, California Delta, Stockton and Sacramento. They are now apprised of the latest information to take back to their chapters. Several important topics were discussed and voted on. On Sunday morning several of our chapter presidents, or their representative, attended a Chapter President's meeting. This was an informal meeting for discussing different issues and a more intimate opportunity to ask questions of the board. If you weren't able to attend either meeting please plan on attending at the Spring convention to be in March hosted by the Bay Area Chapter.

The Fresno Chapter will be hosting the 2011 Fall Convention. This promises to be a wonderful and affordable convention. I hope to see ALL of our chapters represented.



Division 4 NE Chapters

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CALIFORNIA DELTA RICH BRUNNER

The American River Chorus was pleased to place 4th in the Fall Chorus Final Contest in Bakersfield. Our "Scarecrow" set received kudos from many in the audience - thank you audience. Thanks to the judges for clearly stated evaluations, something that we Barbershoppers forget to acknowledge. Our congratulations to the FWD Champions **Masters of Harmony**, and the **Voices in Harmony** and the **Spirit of Phoenix** who appear to have scored well enough to earn "wild card" invitations to Kansas City.

The ARC performed on the Sacramento KCRA/KQCA morning show to promote our Free Voice Lessons pro-

gram, the Placerville Show, and the upcoming joint Holiday Show with the **Capitolaires** and **Sac Valley** of SAI. We actually got "air time" in spite of the huge breaking story of the multi-million dollar Galleria Mall fire.

We were excited to be the "Headline" performers for the **Placerville Chapter** Fall Show, our first guest performance. Consider inviting chapters close by to perform on your show - it serves us all well, and a finale with combined choruses singing a song or two is uplifting to the audience [and to us as well].

CARSON CITY

COLIN SOONG

We are delighted to announce that our new chorus director is **B.J. Hill**, a veteran barbershop bass singer with the **Reno Silver Dollar Chorus**, and numerous quartets including the international competition quartet **Special Feature**. Spearheaded by **Phil Malinas**, preparations for our Christmas show "Holiday Harmonies" are underway.

Assisted Living [David Smith, Bob Wilcox, Don Hunter, Lester Harris] performed at local functions including Kit Carson Shrine Club and Sierra Place.

An October rehearsal was highlighted by guest appearances of **Paul Olguin** and **Jamie Arrington** of **Special Feature** and great quartet singing at our afterglow.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

MILES SUTTER

The GVC performed a baseball comedy presentation in the chorus contest in Bakersfield. The judges said that the audience laughed at a very high percentage of the stuff that was intended to draw laughs. One judge said he was so engaged by the performance he forgot to jot down some of his specific criticisms. Among the many in our audience who had been avid "M.A.S.H." fans, this brought back to life their favorite TV sitcom and its characters. **Ron Russell** was unable to appear because of his recent cardiovascular surgery, so there were only 16 of us onstage. Kudos to **Greg Kramp** who did a brilliant job of writing the parody lyrics, **Howard Barber** who was about the zaniest angel imaginable and Director, Producer, General Chairman, Stage Manager, Fac Totem and the glue that makes it all happen, **Bruce Sellnow**.

FOLSOM

STAN TRUMBULL

The **Harmony Express** sang for the Redeemer Convenent Church's Tuesday night dinner, a fund raiser for the "Feed the Hungry" program. The chorus provided entertainment for an appreciative audience of diners and contributors.

TBDL [Ozzie Palos, Kent Borrowdale, Ken Potter, Stan Trumbull] was a third place finisher at the Nevada County Fair in Grass Valley. This was the second year TBDL entered the contest and placed in top three Barbershop quartets.

Citrus Heights "*Sunday Funday*" is an annual event to support local organizations and businesses. **The Harmony Express** manned a booth with singing and fun. Thanks to **Bob Roberts, Doug Vestal, Wil King, Les Cudworth, Kent Borrowdale, Ken Potter, Ozzie Palos,** and **David McCartney** for their help.

The second "*Open Mic Quartet Night*" had 15 quartets performing, many of whom were formed that night. This event is designed to encourage quartetting, one of the prime objectives of the **Folsom Harmony Express**. We intend to host the "*Open Mic Quartet Night*" each quarter to encourage quartetting in the FWD NE division.

Board members for 2011 are: President **Doug Vestal**, Secretary **Dennis Stohl**, Treasurer **Burt Weichenthal**, Music Chair **Charlie Clark**, Sunshine Chair **Les Cudworth**, Members-at-Large **Marion Gribskov** and **Russ Duane**.

FRESNO **DAVID REITZEL**
GNC a Cappella (aka **Gold Note Chorus**) new members are **Steven Ewert, Brian Makely,** and **Jim Weyenberg**, basses all.

Planning for the 2011 Far Western District Convention is well under way. GNC a Cappella hosts it at the William Saroyan Theatre and Convention Center in Fresno, just across the street from the headquarters Radisson Hotel.

NEVADA PLACER **ROGER PERKINS**
The Sierranaders sang once again at the Nevada County Fair with 24 members on the risers, and featured our quartet, the **4T9r4**. The performance was followed by the annual quartet contest. The top three quartets were:
#3 TBDL (Ozzie Palos, Kent Borrowdale, Stan Trumbull, Ken Potter)
#2 Pacific Std. Time (Tim Martin, Nick Nero, Roger Perkins, Al Drouin)
#1 Wildwood Quartet (Carolyn Winters, Cap Wallington, Roger Fox, Elmer Fairbanks)

The Gold Country Fair in Auburn held their annual talent contest. **Pacific Standard Time** with **Dan Wilson** substituting for **Al Drouin** took first place in the adult category.

Our annual Cabaret Shows "*A History Lesson*" were held in Auburn and Grass Valley. A brief history of composers was given before each song. This format turned out to be very popular with the audience. Most patrons enjoyed hearing about such prolific composers as Harry Warren, Jerry Livingston, Harry Woods and Johnny Mercer. We also learned that the composer of **Keep America Singing**, **Willis Diekema**, was presented with the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action while serving in the 91st Aero Squadron in France during WWI. Performing quartets were the **Great Perkos, 4T9r4, Chord Miners** and **Pacific Standard Time**. We had a special performance by **Ozzie Palos** and **Sally Weber**, AKA **Sunshine Express**, singing two songs.

PLACERVILLE **BILL PECK**
Our two newest members are **Brent Minton** and **Kyle O'Neill**. Brent was raised in South Lake Tahoe, graduated from Calif. State University, Sacramento with a BS degree in Business Administration. He sang in the concert choir and took numerous voice classes. Kyle lives in Shingle Springs and would like to sing in a quartet.

Placerville was pleased to feature the **American River Chorus** on our fall show. Their performance was excellent, which led to many positive comments after the show.

RENO **STEVE SHURTLIFF**
We're back from the convention in Bakersfield and a great weekend! I can still hear the chords ringing from some of the great performances we saw and heard. The performances by **Westminster, MOH** and **ARC** were awesome, and we of the **Silver Dollar Chorus** were quite happy with finishing tied for 7th overall.

Our show featured **FRED** who was absolutely outstanding. **Special Feature, Tahoe Blue** and the SDC received many great comments about the performances.

We sang at the Balloon Races on 9/11, and for four days at the Reno Air Races, sharing the opening weekend days with country star **Aaron Tippin**.

We welcome new members **Shane Avansino** and **Justice Colby**, and welcome back **Kirk Howell**.

SACRAMENTO **JOE SAMORA**
Several **Capitolaires** assisted at the Youth Harmony Camp in Sly Park. The Capitolaires fall retreat was held at Camp Lodestar above Jackson. About 25 members attended. **American River Chorus Director Gabe Caretto** was our

coach. Thanks to **Ron Black**, our Music Director and the Music Committee for a successful weekend.

The Capitolaires competed in the FWD Chorus Contest with 25 men and placed 14th. Many **Capitolaire**s and ARC members rode AMTRAK to and from Bakersfield and sang during their journey. The train conductor was surprised when the men burst out with a hardy rendition of "**You're as Welcome as the Flowers in May**". Kudos to **Keith Slater** for making the arrangements.

The Capitolaires hosted a *Holiday Chorus Open House*. We encourage men who like to sing to rehearse with the Capitolaire for three months and then perform in the annual holiday show.

STOCKTON MARC JANTZEN

The Stockton Portsmen put on our *56th Annual Show* with two performances. This year we had two high school quartets in our show, the **Buff Tones** from Manteca High made their second appearance on our show, and the **Riveters** from Lincoln High in Stockton. Also appearing was **Generation Gap** [SAI] from the Sacramento area. Other Portsmen groups that appeared included **The Forget Me Notes**, **Tune Struck**, **Fourmost** and **Fat City Four**.

The Forget Me Notes sang for an elementary school and entertained over 100 students. Two members of the **Forget Me Notes** had birthdays - **Jim Keating** celebrated his 84th and **Bob McDonald** his 81st.

Fourmost appeared at Flag City RV Park in Lodi during the Labor Day weekend and sang for the Delta Chamber of Commerce. They sang for a fund raiser at the Old River Mill in Clarksburg and in Jamestown for Mark Twain Days.

The Fat City Four sang the National Anthem at the recent Air Show at Kingdom Air Park in Lodi.

VISALIA BUD CASE

The annual spaghetti feed cleared close to \$1900. **Fred Speckman** was head chef with **Evrett Christoffels** his primary helper. **Bob Browne** was the water boy and **Dee Baughman** was the organizer. We had a great deal of help from the wives. Best of all beside the fun time was listening to **Silver and Gold** Quartet from Fresno.

The Visalia City Council awarded the **Mighty Oak Chorus** \$3,000 toward next year's Youth Harmony Barbershop Music Festival. It is being planned for fall 2011 to expose youth of the area to our wonderful music

style. We will be contracting a quartet or two from the Westminster Chapter to work with the group during the day, provide them with lunch and dinner. At the end of the day they will put on a show for family, friends and the community. The guest quartets will culminate the evening with their performances. The project will provide music and learning CD's for up to 200 juniors and seniors from Tulare and Kings counties and possibly extending the invitation to Fresno and Kern counties.



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Like the rest of our FWD, Arizona Div 5 was more than just busy. Of course, the District Contest and Convention in Bakersfield was a big success. Attendance was up (yea) and it appears that Phoenix will qualify for International next July in Kansas City. We await news of how many Div. 5 quartets will qualify. Our Sun Cities and White Mountain chapters traveled the farthest of any chapters to this convention.

Meanwhile, Gordon Bergthold orchestrated a dynamic CACM seminar for Arizona in Sept. which attracted almost 40 attendees,, including one from Rapid City, ND.

The Leadership Academy was held in Mesa, AZ on Nov. 13th with an outstanding group of Instructors including past Society President Terry Aramian and FWD chair of CSLT Mr. Gordon (Monggo Bergthold). The Mesa Chapter under the guidance of President Jerry Fox and Music Director Ray Kahler hosted both of these seminars flawlessly. Thank You Mesa !

Kudos to our sisters in harmony, "Scottsdale Chorus" under the direction of Lori Lyfort, who claimed the SAIA Gold Medal, by winning the contest in Seattle during late October over 31 other chorus competitors. Several "firsts" were claimed by Scottsdale.....most notable among them is the fact that they were the first chorus to ever win from a wild card slot, and that Scottsdale set a record for the highest number of points ever scored at a SAIA contest. **WAY TO GO LADIES !**

Watching the faces of these ladies made me think us fellows could learn a lot about how to "live" our performances, and not just sing them.



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CANADA DEL ORO WILLIAM DON VALENTINE

The Canada Del Oro Chorus (aka the **Saddlebrooke Mountain Boys**) will be having its 5th Annual Christmas Show, titled “*The Christmas Holiday Harmony Hullabaloo*.” We had complete sellouts (nearly 500 patrons) the last four years and expect to have our fifth. Several quartets will be featured: **Audacity, PHX** and **One Voice (SAI)**. Director **Nancy Bergman**, assisted by **Rogers Hornsby**, worked very hard to prepare this show.

CASA GRANDE LOREN ENGLUND

The Desert Sounds Chorus, under the direction of **James Staggs**, continued to rehearse regularly during the summer months to hone the repertoire for our community concert on December 4. We are starting to attract new members and are looking forward to the return of winter visitors to our chorus.

MESA BOB SHAFFER

The Lamplighters hosted a Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meeting (CACM) workshop, Forty-three barber-shoppers from Arizona, Fullerton, CA and Rapid City, SD attended. They absorbed some great ideas and participated in many demonstrations of how we can make our chapter meetings more appealing to men of younger generations. Seven Lamplighters attended, and we are already implementing many of the ideas.

We welcome back returning member **Bob Shaffer** and inducted **Dave Boussetot, John Grosnick, Ray Stasko and Roy Murray** into membership.

Chapter quartet **In A Chord** was awarded the Novice Quartet trophy at the Arizona Division Convention & Contests. Congratulations to tenor **Ray Kahler**, lead **Ron Steen**, baritone **Roger Morrow**, and bass **Bill Johnston**.

Take me out to the ballgame! **The Lamplighters** made a habit of appearing at Chase Field this season. Chapter quartet **2 Under Par (Barney Griffin, Charlie Nardin, Terry Gregg Dick Moore)** sang the national anthem. In July, it was Barbershop Week for the Diamondbacks, as the **Lamplighters** performed a pre-game concert on the 19th and **In A Chord** sang the national anthem on the 21st. These appearances were sandwiched around chapter

friends **OK Chorale**, who sang the national anthem on the 20th. The Lamplighters were invited back.

Bill Johnston, Ray Kahler and Roy Murray attended Harmony College West. Members **Jerry Fox and Ray Kahler** attended Harmony University.

PHOENIX JERRY MCELFRISH

The Spirit of Phoenix Chorus placed third in the FWD contest with an A-Level 83.4 average and qualified for a wild card invitation to next summer’s International chorus contest. With five chapter quartets in the contest, **Audacity** placed 5th; **Equinox** was 9th; **Aftershock** took 10th; and **PHX** was named as mike testers. **Music Box** competed in the Seniors category.

2011 officers are headed by President **Terry Aramian**. Terry served as Far Western District and Society President. Others are Music VP **Robbie Robbins**, Program VP **Roger Godin**, Marketing VP **Rodney Brandt**, Membership VP **Roy Gross**, Secretary **Bob Gray**, Treasurer **Harry Whilden**, Chorus Manager **Jack Mauney**, and Directors-at-Large **Eric Bjornsen, Jerry McElfresh** and **Gary Ciba**.

Our traditional Oktoberfest was resumed this year with a party in **Vic & Pat Bowen’s** backyard attended by 60 chorus members, **Kindred Spirits** members and guests.

Several members met with **Chuck Greene** to experience the Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meetings (CACM) seminar.

Director **Gary Steinkamp** and Assistant Director **Cary Burns** successfully completed all the requirements of the BHS Contest and Judging Program and certified judges in the Presentation and Music categories, respectively.

Students met at the *Chandler Center for the Arts* for a mixed choral Youth in Harmony workshop. The program is developing key contacts in the Valley that will help spread the word and challenge the best high school vocalists to learn what makes barbershop a unique art form.

PRESCOTT SAM STIMPLE

In the words of DuBose Heyward (with musical help from George Gershwin), “Summertime, and the living is easy” in our part of central Arizona. **The High Mountain Chordsmen** serenaded the community with patriotic music from a flatbed truck in the Frontier Days Parade. Much to our surprise, the chorus won first place in the

Traveling Music category. The chapter held its first cabaret show. Members served dinner and put on an extraordinary musical program. A few days later, the **Antique Parts** quartet provided entertainment at Jean Winslow's second 40th birthday. Jean is a veteran Sweet Adeline and a friend of our director **Joan Piechocki**.

Several chapter members, including Director Joan, attended the Arizona "Compelling Attractive Chapter Meetings" Seminar. The Prescott Chapter is already implementing much of what we learned. Weekly attendance has increased dramatically.

SUN CITIES CAMPBELL TITCHENER

The newest Desert Aires quartet **Cactus Chordsmen** are **Terry Pierce, Bob Riedel, Gary Johnson and Bill Shaw**.

Director **Jerry Roland**, Associate Director and Music VP **Bill Shaw** and President **Ed O'Connor** led 30 Desert Aires singers and 12 wives on a bus for Bakersfield and the FWD Convention. With the average age of the chorus at a shade over 76, we figure that makes us the oldest chorus in this year's competition, and maybe the oldest to have ever competed in the FWD.

Joe Salz finally applied and received a Bachelor of Harmony degree. His barbershop resume dates back almost 60 years, and includes service to the Society as an officer at division, district and international levels. The real story goes back to 1955, when a quartet called the **Desert Knights** was registered. In 2008 it was the longest-serving quartet with the same personnel in Society annals. We will never forget **Joe, Lloyd Steinkamp, Sam Aramian and Charles Rastatter** doing their patented "all fall down" routine. Actually, Joe reports, "Charley and I have been singing together since the first grade."

TUCSON SUNSHINE JACK STATLER

TSC was joined by **Lois Koch** and family at the annual **Fred Koch** Summer Bash held in Tempe. **Joint Venture** performed in the Friday Night Parade of Quartets. **Frank Hartline** won the infamous Green Coat as top golfer. Rating high in the "Luck-of-the-Draw" Quartet Contest was a quartet that included **Mike Elbert, Frank Hartline and Paul Kriegshauser**.

More than 200 young men and women participated in the 5th Annual Southern Arizona Youth In Harmony Festival. The eager singers from nine high schools represented six school districts. Nationally acclaimed clinicians **Mark Freedkin and Anna-Lisa Glad**, joined by quartets **Joint**

Venture (BHS), **Havin' A Blast** (SAI), and student quartet **The Good Vibes** (Flowing Wells High School and University of Arizona), led the workshops. An evening concert, which capped off the full day of singing and rehearsals, featured the songs the students had learned. Kudos to members of the **Desert Harmony** and **Tucson Sunshine** chapters—especially Youth In Harmony VP **Ron Hayes**—for putting it all together.

Barbershopping lost a valued member and good friend with the passing of **Jim Anderson**. In a memorial service, **Tucson Barbershop eXperience** sang several songs and **Jeff Dolan**, who eloquently delivered a fitting eulogy written by **Jim Porter**, paid tribute to our departed brother. Rest in Peace!

Five TSC members including Director **Jeff Dolan** attended the Society-hosted "Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meetings" seminar. The annual chapter picnic was held.

A 19-voice TBX VLQ performed the national anthem at a University of Arizona Women's Volleyball match.

WHITE MOUNTAINS DOC DOCKENDORF

The High Country Chorus presented their annual show "*A Decade of Harmony*" which celebrated the chapter's 10th anniversary. **Saturday Evening Post** was featured and **The Knotty Pines, Crooks Trail and The Pine Tones** also performed. 15 HCC members attended Harmony University and four of our youth singers, so inspired by the experience, have formed a quartet called **Sunset Lane**.

A new chapter quartet called **Better Late Than Never** received coaching. The HCC competed in its first district contest and we were thrilled to finish in the 18th position.

If you would like to have a collection of Westunes from 1965-1990+, I have a box full that I will donate to anyone willing to pay for the shipping. Please contact me directly at <carlow@frontiernet.net> if you are interested.

The HCC has a new website that you can see here <www.wmhcbc.com>.

YUMA ROB BAILEY

The **Territorial Prisonaires** established a new tradition of "singing all summer." Kudos to Director **Frank Durham** for making some long trips back from his vacation home to be on duty every Tuesday night. Chorus members returning from summer trips are finding a sharp-sounding bunch with several "new" songs in the repertoire. Our 2011 Treasurer is **Larry Lickfelt**.

CHAMPS



PAGE

*Association of Far
Western District
Champions*

*Volume 4 November 1,
2010*

THE CRUSH

Our new District Quartet Champion is **THE CRUSH!** Matt, Josh, John & Paul were first all the way. Their average score was 83.3. Look out Kansas City!! The four members of this quartet are also dual members of both **WESTMINSTER** and the **MASTERS OF HARMONY**. John also directs **THE NEW GANG ON THE CORNER**, from Riverside, CA. **THE CRUSH** will be great champions, so make sure you hire them for your upcoming shows. They will be great ambassadors for your chapter. Congratulations guys; the AFWDC is proud to

welcome you to our association.

THE LATE SHOW

These notable past champions appeared on our annual LATE SHOW at our District Convention in Bakersfield this past October. **139TH STREET QUARTET**, 1976, **THE GREAT WESTERN TIMBRE CO.**, 1986, **SPECIAL FEATURE**, 1990, **HI-FIDELITY**, 2005, **LATE SHOW**, 2006, **MASTERPIECE**, 2008, **THE EDGE**, 2009, and **OC TIMES**, 2004, who also won the 2008 International Quartet Championship. The show was well attended by over 200 patrons to whom we want to thank for their patronage and support.

MASTERS OF HARMONY

The **MASTERS OF HARMONY** under the direction of Mark Hale won the District Chorus Contest and will represent the FWD in Kansas City in July 2011. As always, they presented a marvelous package and once again proved that they are a contender for another Gold Medal. For the first time they will be in the contest with the **VOCAL MAJORITY** who placed second in the last two International Contests. The **MASTERS OF**

HARMONY will be trying for their eighth consecutive gold medal. Also representing the FWD in Kansas City will be **VOICES IN HARMONY**, Bay Area Chapter under the direction of **Dr. Greg Lyne**, and **SPIRIT OF PHOENIX**, Greater Phoenix, Arizona under the direction of **Gary Steinkamp**. **WESTMINSTER** Chorus will also be in Kansas City to pass on the gold medals to the new chorus as our 2010 International Chorus Champions. We sure have a lot to be proud of in this District.

GO FOR THE GOLD SHOW

The **GO FOR THE GOLD SHOW** will be June 25, 2011 at the Plummer Auditorium in Fullerton, CA. In addition to the quartets that qualify in the FWD preliminary contest in March, we will be presenting the **MUSICAL ISLAND BOYS**, our current fourth place Medalists, and also **VOCAL FX** the current NZABS Chorus champions. Please mark your calendars as you do not want to miss this show. Watch for more information on the FWD list.

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CONVENTIONS, SHOWS, EVENTS

2010

December

- 3.4 Fullerton Shows
- 4 Bay Area Show
- 4 Inland Empire Show
- 4 Phoenix Show
- 4 Sacramento Show
- 4 Santa Fe Springs Show
- 4 Santa Rosa Show
- 4 San Mateo County Show
- 4 Sedona Show
- 5 Fremont-Hayward Show
- 5 Rincon Beach Show
- 11 Brea Show
- 11 Canada Del Oro Show
- 11 Phoenix Show
- 11 Santa Fe Springs Show
- 12 Tucson Show
- 18 Las Vegas Show
- 19 Pasadena Show

2011

January

- 15 Fullerton & Orange Show
- 25-30 MidWinter Conv Las Vegas, NV

February

- 5 Davis-Vacaville Show
- 19 Santa Fe Springs Youth Festival
- 19 & 20 South Bay Shows - 3
- 20 Sun Cities Show

March

- 5 Coachella Valley Show
- 5 Tucson Show
- 5-6 Hemet Shows
- 12 Visalia Show
- 17-20 FWD Spring Convention & NW Divisional - San Jose
- Host: Bat Area

April

- 2 Phoenix Show
- 9 Fremont-Hayward Show
- 15 & 16 AZ Division - Phoenix

- 16 Fullerton Show
- 30 Palomar Pacific Show

May

- 7 SW Division Pasadena
- 14 SE Division Las Vegas
- 20 & 21 NE Division Central California
- 21 Santa Fe Springs Show

June

- 25 Go For The Gold Show in Fullerton
- 25 Palo Alto Mountain View Sjpw

July

- 7/3-10 INT'L CONV Kansas City, MO

August

- 19-20 Harmony College West
- CSU East Bay

October

- 13-16 FWD Fall Convention, Fresno Host: Fresno
- 18-22 SAI Int'l Conv, Houston, TX

November

- 12 Leadership Academy NCal
- 19 Leadership Academy SCal

2012

March

- 3 Tucson Show
- 15-18 FWD Spring Convention, TBA

April

- 13-14 NW Division -
- 20-21 AZ Division - Phoenix
- July
- 7/1-8 INT'L CONV Portland, OR

May

- 5 SW Division

Clear all show dates with
FWD Secretary, Peter Feeney

- 12 SE Division
- 18-19 NE Division

July

- 7/3-10 INT'L CONV Portland, OR

October

- 11-14 FWD Fall Convention, TBA
- 10/30-11/3 SAI Int'l Conv, Denver, CO

2013

March

- 14-17 FWD Spring Convention, TBA

June

- 6/30-7/7 INT'L CONV Toronto, ON

October

- 10-13 FWD Fall Convention

- 11/5-9 SAI Int'l Conv, Honolulu, HI

2014

March

- 20-23 FWD Spring Convention

June

- 6/29-7/6 NT'L CONV Minneapolis, MN

October

- 9-12 FWD Fall Convention

- 11/4-8 SAI Int'l Conv, Baltimore, MD

2015

June

- 6/28-7/5 INT'L CONV Pittsburgh, PA

- 10/6-10 SAI Int'l Conv, Las Vegas, NV

2016

June

- 7/3-10 INT'L CONV Nashville, TN

- 10/18-22 SAI Int'l Conv, Las Vegas, NV