



Fall 2013 Volume 63 Number 3



WESTUNES

WESTUNES, established in 1961, is the official publication of the
Far Western District Association of Chapters in the Barbershop Harmony Society

2013 International Quartet Champions Masterpiece



1996
International
Quartet
Champions

2013 International Quartet Champions

2013
2nd Place
Quartet
Region 21



ONE NIGHT ONLY!

Saturday, September 21, 2013

7:30 pm @ The Center Theater

Long Beach Performing Arts Center

300 East Ocean Blvd.

Long Beach, CA

Silent Auction

6:30 pm

\$35 Premium Seating

\$20 Limited Side View

WIN

\$1000

Only 100 tickets

\$20 per chance

Theater Parking

\$10 per car

www.ticketmaster.com

ticketmaster®

www.GoldenSandsChorus.com

Table of Contents	Page	FWD News	24
[Click the page number to go there]		95 North	24
Acronyms	3	High Sierra Harmony Brigade	25
FWD Chorus Results	4	Sunshine Chairman Card	26
FWD Quartet Results	5	Division 1 SW Chapters	27
Proposed 2014 FWD Slate of Officers	5	Division 2 SE Chapters	30
The Las Vegas Silver Statesmen Double-Debut	6	Division 3 NW Chapters	32
Youth Harmony Camp	8	Division 4 NE Chapters	33
“Variance Process” Coming to the BHS Judging Program	10	Division 5 AZ Chapters	35
District President Russ Young	12	Notices [at end, printing optional]	37
Executive Vice President	12	One Song at a Time, p1	37
District Vice President 1 SW	13	One Song at a Time, p2	38
District Vice President 2 SE	14	FWD 2013 Fall Registration	39
District Vice President 3 NW	14		
District Vice President 4 NE	15	Calendar	
District Vice President 5 AZ	16	The FWD Website now contains the official FWD calendar - go to http://barbershopfwd.org	
Velvet Frogs Card	17		
CSLT Gordon Bergthold	17	Acronyms	
CDD Greg Lyne	18	BOTM	Barbershopper of the Month
DRCJ Ron Black	18	BOTY	Barbershopper of the Year
E Ted Sayle	19	DP	District President
M&PR Jerry McElfresh	20	DRCJ	District Representative Contest & Judging
Mem Serv Jack Peters	20	DVP	District Vice President
Mu&P Nick Papageorge	21	CSLT	Chapter Support & Leadership Training
American Pastime Card	22	CDD	Chorus Director Development
QA Bill Kane	22	C&J	Contest & Judging
YIH Jim Halvorson	22	E	Events
95 North Card	23	EVP	Executive Vice President
		M&PR	Marketing & Public Relations
		Mem Ser	Member Services
		Mu&P	Music & Performance
		QA	Quartet Activities
		YIH	Youth In Harmony
		OSS	Official Scoring Summary

**FWD Chorus Results
2103 International Chorus Contest**



2 Westminster



18 California Delta

FWD Quartet Results After Masterpiece Who Won the Gold 2103 International Quartet Contest



6 The Crush



11 Artistic License



19 95 North



31 Vintage Edition

Proposed 2014 FWD Slate of Officers

IPP: Russ Young
President: Allan Webb
EVP: Gordon Bergthold
Treasurer: Max Bates
Secretary: TBD

DVP SW Division 1: Neil Pennywitt
DVP SE Division 2: Craig Hughes
DVP NW Division 3: Chuck Leavitt
DVP NE Division 4: Richard Lund
DVP AZ Division 5: John Bloomquist

Open Chairman positions in the District Management Team for 2014 are:

CSLT, Events [mid-year], Membership, Finance Development, L & R

Other open positions are:

Long Range Planning, Audit



Photography by Lee McDonald

The Las Vegas Silver Statesmen Double-Debut

By Larry Litchfield

We really pulled it off!

The long-anticipated community *double-debut* of the new Las Vegas Silver Statesmen Barbershop Chorus was a major happening for its more than 50 excited gentlemen bedecked in tuxes, royal blue shirts and silver ties/pocket handkerchiefs.

The on-stage, before-the-curtain-opened atmosphere was electric with high-voltage anticipation!

Both performances were only 20 miles apart on Saturday evening, Aug. 10 at the Starbright Theater in upscale Summerlin and Sunday afternoon, Aug. 11 at the Winchester Cultural Center in a southeast Las Vegas,

The curtain at both shows opened to near-full auditoriums amidst rousing applause. In years earlier, Las Vegas had seen far fewer barbershop singers on stage from either of the former local men's barbershop choruses – the 53-year-old Gamble-Aires or the 15-year-old City of Lights. The two merged, effective Jan 1, to create the larger Silver Statesmen Chorus. We're now the largest men's barbershop ensemble in Nevada...and growing!

The front row singers at both shows were all boys and young men who can't seem to get enough *barbershopping*! This emerging generation's exuberance is contagious! (see related story)

Director **Jim Halvorson** was magnificent and brought out the best the chorus could muster to the delight of both audiences. Thanks also are owed to narrator **Phillip Spinks**.

The colorful show program, created by PR/Marketing VP **Fred Green**, was heralded as "Celebrate Harmony" saluting the Society's 75th Diamond Jubilee anniversary. The show opened with that titled song, written for the occasion by legendary Joe Liles.

As the curtain opened, the spotlight focused on quartet **Rumbleseat Daze** surrounding one of their own sitting in a red antique barbershop chair getting a shave! They moved to stage center to formally open the show with a rendition of *Heart Of My Heart*.

This dissolved into a demonstration of how tag quartets work, drawing enthusiastic audience response and laughs. The event quickly attracted a large number of singers scrambling helter-skelter down from the risers to tag out part pals and join in the frenzy. At the end, nearly a dozen singers were awaiting their turn to bust a chord. It was a hoot and really hooked the applauding, laughing audience.

Other performing Chapter quartets were veterans **Broadcast** and **Good Times**.

The tune *Lida Rose/Dream of Now* -- from Meredith Willson's famous 1962 Broadway musical *The Music Man* -- featured **Kathy Sturm**, director of the Las Vegas Sweet Adelines' *Celebrity City Chorus*, singing the counter melody as teacher "Marian Paroo." The song received generous applause. Music & Performance VP **Albert Weiss** skillfully portrayed wily con man "Harold Hill"



An exciting highlight of both shows was the offering by Chapter-affiliated, 2012 FWD gold medalist quartet **95 North**, comprised of Chapter members/brothers **Jim** and **Larry Halvorson**; and **Nick Pizzo** and **Mike Stewart**. They received thunderous applause during their set!

Other Chorus tunes earning audience appreciation included *America The Beautiful*, and oldies *A Little Street Where Old Friends Meet* (made famous by the *Suntones*) and *It's All Over/So Long Dearie*.

The chorus' next event is on Oct. 5 at Desert Spring United Methodist Church. And later that month, of course, we'll be competing in Bakersfield at the FWD's convention.

Audience comments expressed to random mingling chorus members after the two shows included:

"The merger of the two choruses is a great benefit for the community."... "We will anxiously follow your growth."... "This is the first time we've heard the new chorus and it was very impressive."... "The entire demeanor was polished and the music was wonderful."... "It was more than we'd expected."... "My wife and I will follow your growth and progress with considerable interest."... "We especially liked the fun demonstration of tag quarteting!"

Also making its on-stage debut during show #2 was the newly formed, chorus-embedded quartet, **A capocalypse**, comprised of four outstanding young Silver Statesmen.

They are bass **Brandon McNabb** (18); tenor **Dallas Halvorson** (12), son of lead section leader Larry Halvorson; and bari **Isaac Salmon** (16) and lead **Collin Salmon** (14), sons of Chapter president Steve Salmon.

[L-R: **Dallas Halvorson**, **Collin Salmon**, **Brandon McNabb**, **Isaac Salmon**]

When asked after the show if *A capocalypse* was planning to register as a Society quartet, Isaac responded with a sly smile, "...we're thinking about it."



Dad Larry said the young foursome plans to compete at the FWD's division convention in Riverside next March, adding "Steve and I will do everything we can to encourage them and help them have a great time."

Chiming in, Dad Steve added: "On their first time as a quartet on stage, they did a great job. By the end of the night they had created a fan page on **Facebook** and are now designing their logo. I'm thinking Larry and I are going to have a hard time keeping up with these guys! *A capocalypse's* performance drew impressive reviews from their older chorus mates.

"They are not registered yet with the Society as a quartet, but they definitely have caught the barbershop bug, so we'll work to make them 'official'!"



Youth Harmony Camp **September 20-22, 2013**

Harmony Camp 2013 is on the horizon! At the suggestion of music educators who joined us for the weekend last year, we have produced a tri-fold you can distribute to music educators in your area. The tri-fold includes biographies of our four clinicians. When talking to the music educators let them know they are welcome to join us as guests of the

District for all or a part of the weekend. And remember, the music educators are planning their 2013-2014 classes now so get those tri-folds to them before school is out.

The trifolds are reduced in size and shown below so you can see what they look like.

I have the tri-folds. Send me an email or call me and I will get them to you. I am also more than willing to talk with any parent or music educator about Camp. *[Editor note: Trifolds are on the next page]*

Looking forward to meeting that grandson or neighbor of yours,

Richard Lund
530-621-1904
rlund@innercite.com

Youth Harmony Camp

Is financially supported by BHS chapters of northern California and northern Nevada, the campers themselves, donations and the Harmony Foundation.

The cost of the camp is \$80 per camper and scholarships are available. No young man will be turned down for lack of financial resources.

**THIS CAMP FILLS QUICKLY
REGISTER EARLY!**



Youth Harmony Camp operates under the auspices of the Far Western District of the Barbershop Harmony Society

Richard Lund
Camp Director

6164 Windlestraw Road
Placerville, CA 95667

<http://yhb.farwesterndistrict.org/youth-harmony-camp>

Phone: 530-621-1904
rlund@innercite.com

Richard Lund,
Camp Director

Eleven years of
harmony among the
pines!

Youth Harmony Camp

September 20-22, 2013
Friday-Sunday

A weekend retreat for high
school boys



Sly Park Educational Center
5600 Sly Park Road
Pollock Pines, CA

Nestled in the Sierra Foothills off
of Hwy 50 about halfway between
Sacramento and South Lake
Tahoe, California

Tel: 530-621-1904

HARMONY CAMP...Fun...ringing-chords...friends...ice cream...tags...talent-show...music...mentors...international-champions...ping-pong...barbershop...vocal production...rehearsal...singing...quartet coaching



Storm Front
our 2010 Teaching Quartet
2010 International Quartet
Champions

Comedy, entertainment, and surprisingly great singing at times...Storm Front is Lead Jim Clark, Tenor Jeff Seltano, Baritone Darin Drown, and Bass Syd Libsack.

2013 will bring Youth Harmony Camp our fourth International Champion Quartet to work as teachers for the weekend. In past years we have hosted 2005 Champions *Realtime* (twice), 2006 Champions *Vocal Spectrum*, and 2008 Champions *OC Times* (twice).

OC Times on Sunday Farewell Show



Time at camp is divided among general sessions with all campers and mentors...smaller class sessions affording the campers a chance to ask questions and interact with the clinicians and teaching quartets...time to relax...fun social activities like the camp talent show and sing along. Choral directors are always welcome to join us at no cost and we have a special session devoted to your questions and concerns. All meals...and nightly ice cream...are served in the dining hall. Hot meals are prepared by the camp staff and served by an army of Barbershoppers. The staff to camper ratio is roughly 1:2.



Richard Lund coordinates all aspects of Youth Harmony Camp, from the recruitment of clinicians, teaching quartets, and volunteers to welcoming late night arrivals at Camp. In his 11th year as director Richard is the heart and soul of Youth Harmony Camp.

Meet Our Clinicians



Gabe Carreto, Dean
MS Music Education
University of Oregon
Eugene, OR
PWD Quartet Champion
Late Show 2006
Artistic License 2011
Joined BHS...age 16

Gabe Carreto is a 26-year member of the Barbershop Harmony Society and has been active as a quartet singer, chorus coach, youth chorus clinician, music director and educator throughout the country. Currently Gabe is the Music Director of Voices of California in Sacramento, CA. A former high school choral music educator, he now works as the financial manager for CSHQA Architects in West Sacramento.



Ron Black
Vocal Performance
Immaculate Heart
Occidental College
Los Angeles, CA
PWD Quartet Champion
Great Western
Timber Co. 1996
Joined BHS...age 23

Ron Black - Ron majored in Renaissance vocal and instrumental performance and has conducted both vocal and instrumental performances of classical works and musical theater. He currently directs the Sacramento Capitulares and is Associate Director of Voices of California. He continues to coach many quartets and choruses in the U.S. and abroad. While living in Texas, Ron served as part-time faculty member at Texas State University, San Marcos. He is a Singing Category Specialist for the Barbershop Harmony Society and currently judges in the music category.



Jim Halvorson
BS Music Education
St. Olaf College
North Field, MN
Current PWD Quartet
Champion with
95 North
Joined BHS...age 10

Jim Halvorson - Serving his third year at Youth Harmony Camp, Jim brings three decades of barbershop experience to Sly Park. A member of the BHS since the age of 10, Jim has used barbershop to help steer him to a career path in music. He currently serves as the choir director at Cheyenne HS in North Las Vegas, NV. In addition to arranging, Jim also is director of the Silver Statesmen and is chairman of Youth in Harmony activities for the Far Western District of the Barbershop Harmony Society.



Darin Drown
BS Music Education
University of Nebraska
Lincoln, NE
2010 International Quartet
Champion with
Storm Front
Joined BHS...age 10

Darin Drown - Darin is musical director of Sound of the Rockies in Denver, CO. He is a sought after vocal and performance instructor to male and female choruses world-wide in addition to being active in numerous quartets. Darin is in his 14th year as vocal music teacher with the Cherry Creek School District in Colorado, teaching vocal music in the high schools. This is Darin's second year as a clinician at Youth Harmony Camp.



“Variance Process” Coming to the BHS Judging Program

By the Society C&J Committee

Over the years, occasionally we have seen a single score that is significantly off from the other scores on the panel for a given performance. After reflection, if the judge realizes he “missed” it, there is no recourse. And it could be that the judge who is significantly higher or lower than the other judges in his category has a valid point why his category’s score should be closer to his. This process allows the category to review the scores when a score is significantly off from the others, review their notes, and determine if any of the scores for that category for that song should be changed. Any of the scores can be changed or left alone. It is much like “instant replay” in sports; judges want to make sure the score is correct. It shouldn’t happen very often in a contest, but it provides a way when one score is significantly different to be reviewed before becoming official.

FAQ’s (Frequently Asked Questions) concerning Variances

We’ve never allowed judges to change their scores. What is “broke” that we would allow it to happen now? It isn’t so much that things are “broke” as they could be improved. Just like in sports where “instant replay” has been used, it is used in specific instances to make sure the right call is made. Our quartets and choruses work hard and if a variance occurs, it often creates angst, especially when it is low. With wild card systems where we compare quartets and choruses by points to award wild cards, every point matters. We do not want C&J to hold a quartet or chorus back from advancing to District or International because a variance occurred and upon reflection a judge feels his score is wrong. It has happened that a judge admits he got it wrong and it happens that quartets and choruses miss the next level because of variances. We have had no system in place to make up for this. This is a step in that direction.

Can’t you train for these situations vs. allowing judges to change their score? There are so many possibilities for performances leading to variances that it is impossible to cover it. We ask judges to judge.

Will I know if my quartet’s performance had a variance? No. Your scoring analysis will only have the final scores the judges awarded and no indication will be provided on your scoring analysis or the official scoring summary.

Won’t this add to the length between the final quartet and the announcements? In trials during the Spring 2013 season, most decisions were made quickly. It is anticipated that it may add a few minutes at most, depending upon other factors.

Could it affect placement? It is possible that it could, both upward as well as downward. The score won’t change dramatically but in a tight contest, it could affect it either way.

Is this in place for all contests, or just Prelims? This will be in place for all contests (Division, District, Prelims, and International).

Can all panel members get to change their score if a variance occurs? In general, no. Only the judges within the category that the variance occurs can reconsider scores. Only in the case of a single judge panel could other judges from the other two categories reconsider their score.

Why do other judges in the category get to change their scores? Why isn’t it just the judge that is far off from the other judges on the panel? C&J recognizes that categories can score differently for a given performance, depending upon what happened. In general, scoring is aligned between categories but it doesn’t always have to be. It could be that the judge that had the low or high score could convince the others from a category perspective that it should have been closer to theirs. Or, the category decides that the average of the scores is likely a closer representation for their category. During the simulation in the Spring 2013 season, it didn’t happen often but it did happen that the category aligned on an average.

If my first song got a variance but my second one didn't, and the judge decides to change his score for song 1, can he also change it for song 2? No. No scores can be changed for any song that did not have a variance unless the judge can demonstrate to the CA that there was an error in transcribing the score, wrote down a score from a different quartet, etc. These situations are rare with the systems we have in place to ensure the right score makes it into the CA's computer.

If a judge moves his score by 2 points, was it worth it? We find that any significant difference in scores within a category or across a panel becomes a source of angst and anxiety for a quartet or chorus. They often become fixated by that difference and not getting a good assessment of what "the number is." This fixation clouds the evaluation and no one benefits from it. So if our assessment is relatively precise (little differences between judges), the competitor is more open to the evaluation process.

I've heard of judges being asked to judge "fearlessly"; to write down the score they think it is. Doesn't this drive a behavior of trying to get the score the panel is thinking rather than scoring "fearlessly"?

Actually, we believe the opposite could occur. The judge will be able to write down the score they think the performance earned and if they are way off, the system will catch them. During the Spring 2013 we found that the judges were judging exactly the way they always were judging before; we don't expect that to change.

When will variances be reviewed? At the end of the contest round, the CA will present each category with any variances that occurred for their category.

Wouldn't it make more sense to present variances to the judges when they occur, or at least intermission? These were considered in the development of this process. In fairness to all competitors and to keep the judges focused, the end of the contest round made the most sense. It could change in the future, but for now it will be at the end.

How many variances would you expect to get in a contest? A historical analysis of scoring data showed about 5% of song performances got a variance (or 1 in 20 songs). This could be 1 in every 10 quartets. However, often times both songs got a variance so in reality it will be 1 in every 15-20 quartets receiving a variance. In Spring 2013, we expected 5% and actually saw 5.4%.

How many times did a judge actually change his score (or judges)? We saw about two-thirds of the time a score (or scores) were changed and the rest of the time the scores remained as they were.

Were any scores officially changed during the Spring 2013 contest season? No. We gathered the data and simulated how it would work, but no scores were officially changed.

Do you see variances all occur in the same category? The Spring 2013 simulation had them spread out, with each category receiving 1-2% of variances. It wasn't exactly equal but it was close enough.

How do you calculate a variance? We are using Dixon's Q test with a 90% confidence level. You can search for it on the Internet and find many sources. We added one more rule. It is possible to have a variance but the difference between the isolated score and the panel is 4 points or less. This is well within reason for judge variability. The isolated score must be 5 or more points away from the next score before a variance is noted.

When does this go into effect? It will be in effect for the Fall 2013 season and going forward for all contests.

Featured Articles



District President Russ Young

The 2013 International Convention is now a fond memory, and what memories the FWD has to share with the world. Toronto felt the impact of the competitors representing the District as quartet gold medals went to Collegiate Champions **The Newfangled Four** and International Champions **Masterpiece**. In addition, the Westminster Chorus took a very close second to the Toronto Northern Lights Chorus and brought silver home. Of course our other outstanding competitors represented the competition field in great fashion. Voices of California Chorus, Vocal Edition, Artistic License, The Crush and 95 North showed audiences that the FWD remains the best in barbershop. Congratulations to all of our representatives. You make us proud!

Another highlight of the International Convention came when our own Dr. Greg Lyne was inducted into the BHS Hall of Fame. Dr. Greg has a long history of success as a musical leader and fine example to chorus directors worldwide. Congratulations Greg and thank you for all of your contributions.

The Fall District Convention is our next big event, and it's only a few weeks away. Have you made your plans to attend? As always, our contests are the best anywhere. Judges have even referred to our District Contests as "Mini Internationals" because of the caliber of the competitors. Let's take advantage of what we have right here in our own back yard by making your presence known in Bakersfield.

Our 2013 Harmony College West was a huge success. The weekend of August 9th & 10th found many of our members at the UC East Bay in Hayward, CA. Chords were ringing everywhere! Classes on directing, arranging, comedy, vocal techniques and coaching for quartets and choruses provided great opportunities for all in attendance. If you missed this one, you missed one of the best. These are opportunities we provide for our members so you'll want to keep an eye out for future HCW opportunities.

There will be three Leadership Academies in the District this November. Chapters are highly encouraged to send your board and potential future chapter leaders to one of these weekends. Careful selection of instructors will ensure you learn from the best of the best. There has also been a focus on bringing new ideas to every session, as well as the "necessary" curriculum. If you believe you've "been there, done that", think again. All three weekends will be within close proximity to your division, so distance is no longer a concern. I'm looking forward to seeing well-attended weekends this year.

I look forward to seeing all of you in Bakersfield in October. Until then, remember that we can change the world...One Song at a Time!

In Harmony,
Russ Young
FWD President



Executive Vice President Allan Webb

Over the last week, I've been reading hundreds of updates on Facebook from attendees at Harmony University. What an amazing experience that week is! The sheer amount of barbershop knowledge that's transferred in the space of a week is phenomenal, and that doesn't even include all the great things that happen outside of the official classroom time. There were two events which stood out for me in the reporting from Missouri Western State University (our last year there, btw, as next year Harmony University will move to Belmont University in Nashville, TN): Priscilla Shaw, a

high school music educator and barbershop director from the Rocky Mountain District, raised \$500 for Harmony Foundation during the week in a pretty unique way. She happens to be an avid Denver Broncos fan, and couldn't abide the proximity of the Kansas City Chiefs training camp happening on campus at the same time without showing her Bronco spirit, so she offered to do orange and blue fingernail polish on anybody who donated \$1 to Harmony Foundation. She got a whole bunch of takers for that, including many famous barbershoppers/coaches/judges and quartets like Ringmasters (some of whom got yellow and blue Swedish flag colors). Everybody had a great time with it and Jim Clark (of Storm Front, and the RMD/RWD Harmony Foundation rep) received a \$500 donation from Priscilla's efforts.

The second event that struck me happened as a result of a raffle at HU where the winner receives a free registration to the next International Convention (which will be in Las Vegas, in our own backyard, next July). The winner donated his registration to an HU attendee who was under the age of 25 and who was participating in the Next Generation Chorus class. This set off a chain reaction of other barbershoppers who stepped up to donate a registration for an under-25 HU attendee, with the ultimate result that 78 registrations were donated; enough for the entire Next Generation Chorus membership to receive a free registration for Las Vegas. What an incredible gesture by the HU attendees. The recipients were overwhelmed by this show of support for them and their pursuit of the barbershop hobby.

Isn't it great to be a barbershopper?



***District Vice President 1 SW
Bill Rosica***

So here we are again, looking at a Fall Contest and Convention in Bakersfield. Sure hope I can find my way to the Rabo Bank Theater. All kidding aside, this should be a great contest and convention. Take a look at the competitors in both the quartet and chorus contests. Anyone of them could be next year's winners in Las Vegas. As an added attraction, International Silver Medalist Chorus, Westminster will perform. And although not confirmed, I wouldn't be surprised if the International Gold Medal College Quartet Champs, New Fangled Four will be around, since they all sing with Westminster. And then there is Masterpiece, our newest Gold Medal Quartet Champs.

The Rabo Bank Theater has a little over 3,000 seats and is a great venue for our style of singing. How about grabbing a few of your friends and heading to Bakersfield this October? You're not doing anything, anyway. There are plenty of hotel rooms, although there is another convention in town, so it's a good idea to get your room early, if you haven't already done so. Basque and Mexican food is just around the corner and lots of great weather that time of year. I can't think of a better place to be.

As I mentioned before we'll have great singing from all the guys who garnered hardware in Toronto. At the same time I ask for your prayers and support for Jim Haggerty who lost his partner George to an auto accident while in Toronto. Jim just became a Certified CA in July and is a great guy.

This will be my last "Fall Article" as Division VP and I have to say it has been a wonderful experience. I regret I live so far away from most of my chapters and couldn't visit each of them. My riser-mate and former Barbershop Boss, Bernard Priceman did get in a few visits for me. I hope I have left the Division in good enough shape for my successor.

And speaking of successor, each chapter should have a representative to vote in that successor at the House of Delegates. Your Board works very hard and puts in a lot of time, but the final vote comes to the chapters, so send someone to let your voice be heard. The SW Division seems to be lacking delegates each convention. Even when that chapter is competing, we don't see a Rep. Please send someone from your chapter so that you have a "Say-so" in the workings of your District.

Finally, make it your goal to bring in one new member between now and the end of the year. If you do that, not the guy beside you, but you, you'll double the size of your chapter by January 1, 2014. How hard can that be?

I wear a lapel pin on my collar every day, and you'd be surprised at how many people ask about it. What a great way to begin a conversation! Bring in that new guy. You and he will be glad you did.



District Vice President 2 SE
Craig Hughes

It's been a wonderful Barbershop Summer in the SouthEast Division.

Summer started early with the SE/SW Convention in Ontario. A great event hosted by the Riverside Chapter. We had 7 SE Choruses compete and all qualified for the District Contest. La Jolla is the SE Division and Plateau AAA Champion, Brea is the Plateau AA Champion, the new Las Vegas Chapter is the Plateau A Champion, and San Diego was most improved. 5 SE Quartets qualified for District Contest. The Newfangled Four (an exciting collegiate quartet) are the new SE Division Champions, Preferred Blend are the Senior Champions, and These Guys are the Novice Champions. A big thank you to Chairman Fritz Grunenwald and his team!

Speaking of Contests. The SE/SW was the envy of the Society at International in Toronto with Westminster bringing home the Chorus Silver Medal and Masterpiece the Quartet Gold. Our current Division Champion Quartet, The Newfangled Four, won the College Quartet Gold. It was a week to remember in Toronto and demonstrated the quality and character of our Divisions. Plan now to attend Midwinter in Long Beach and International in Las Vegas. A rare Far Western Double Play.

Be sure to visit the Chapter Reports and see all the fun things they have been doing this summer and consider joining a quartet if you aren't already. I am in two and it brings another level of joy to the hobby. I will spend part of Friday night singing for an engagement party. Fun and rewarding. Meredith Willson said "Barbershop quartet singing is four guys tasting the holy essence of four individual mechanisms coming into complete agreement." How often does that happen?

Now for the numbers: Our Division is down 10 members this year BUT we have 54 members that are behind on their dues. If we recover 20% we will be flat and if we recover more we will show growth. Secretaries, please reach out to the past due members and let's all tell the world about the joy of Barbershop Singing.

Planning for the 2014 Spring Convention in Southern California is well underway and will be announced at the House of Delegates Meeting in October. Mark your calendars for March 20-23 in 2014 for the best Spring District Convention in the Society as evidenced by Lodi 2013.

Thank you for your support of the Division. We are the best of the best.



District Vice President 3 NW
Chuck Leavitt

It was very gratifying to see how well the FWD did at the International Convention this summer in Toronto. Starting with the college quartets; **New Fangled Four** took 1st with a score that would have put them in the "big show" top 20, **SBPC** was 11th and **Flightline** 15th. These quartets have a bright future and I hope they continue together.

Has anyone not heard that **Masterpiece** won the gold in the quartet contest? **Artistic License** was 11th and the finals mic tester, **95 North** was 19th and **Vocal Edition** came in 31st.

In the chorus contest, **Westminster's** great set was a close second behind a terrific **Toronto** veggie package. **VoCal** came in 18th performing a very clever Chef routine.

BHS judges are certified/re-certified every three years in July at category school at Missouri Western University. Ron Black, our District Rep for C&J, writes elsewhere about all judge categories in the FWD, but I want to shout out to my FWD CA buddies. Randy Meyer and I recertified as CAs. Jim Haggerty (MOH) and

Kent Richardson (MOH) certified after completing the arduous two year candidate cycle. Zig Palagi (Aloha!) and Chuck Hunter (VIH) decided to retire from CAing this year. Chuck Hunter was my mentor and one of the reasons I became a CA. Chuck made a major imprint on C&J and especially administration.

If you are interested in being a scoring judge or a contest administrator - now is the time to apply. This opportunity comes every three years after category school. The application process must be complete by December 31 so check it out now!

Category school ended late morning on Sunday July 28. As we were waiting for the bus to take us to the Kansas City airport, the first contingent was arriving to attend Harmony University. Talk about excitement and energy! They piled off singing and talking and already having a good time - maybe next year for me.

The FWD International Prelim Chorus contest this October in Bakersfield will be a doozie. La Jolla, MOH, Phoenix, VIH and VoCal have all represented the FWD at International in the last few years. Only one chorus can win, but all could qualify as a wild card. Wouldn't it be cool to have 5 or 6 choruses at next year's International contest in Las Vegas?

This year's Chapter Leadership Academy for Northern California will be November 23, 2013 at McGeorge Law School in Sacramento. A directors' class will likely be added to the curriculum.

Looking ahead, the 2014 Northwest Division Contest will be May 17 combined with Northeast Division at the same facility in Lodi as this year.



***District Vice President 4 NE
Richard Lund***

You come for the singing, you stay for the camaraderie. Those are the words that we often hear when talking about recruiting, membership and member retention. My personal barbershop story certainly exemplifies those words. I came for the singing and in the process experienced camaraderie and friendship in addition to personal growth. I believe my "story" parallels the story of many of you. I would like to expand a bit on a somewhat different path than what those words may say "straight up".

I see essentially three "paths" in barbershop that each of us may choose, often unconsciously, as we become involved in a barbershop chapter. The initial path is to enjoy ourselves and simply sing with the guys and perhaps help out a bit with chapter needs. A second path is the competition path either with a quartet or with a more competitive chorus. We can all identify with this path; it is the path that is most visible and perhaps most difficult. It means that you dedicate yourself, quite enthusiastically, to the commitment of going as far as you can in the competitive arena of barbershop. For those who pursue this path the feeling we experience when our quartet or chapter chorus improves our scores is a real high. And yes, it is more fun to sing well.

The third path is becoming involved in a leadership role within our individual chapter and within the Far Western District and the Barbershop Harmony Society. A leadership path is often undertaken in conjunction with paths one and/or two above and participating in the leadership of the society helps assure the continuation of the Society for years to come. And let me be clear, your leadership role can be low key – it is just as important. As an example, personally invite new members in your chapter to attend District events with you – Harmony College West, Leadership Academy, etc. You are providing an example for the new member, the new member will meet members from other chapters, learn more about the society, and make new friends. This is the camaraderie that develops.

I, like most of you came for the singing, and I like most of you have developed lifelong friends through consistent attendance at District events. Unwittingly, some 10 or 15 years ago while still a real newby singing with the Placerville chapter, I became involved in a leadership role. I find the personal rewards meaningful and looking back, the impact significant. The point I want to make in this message is that being a chapter treasurer, secretary, membership VP - any leader within the chapter - gives you many opportunities to expand your

network of friends. The more connected each of our members is to a chapter, the Far Western District and Society, the stronger our ability to retain our members.

You often hear the question put to you at a Leadership Academy “how many of you joined barbershop in order to be a chapter show chairman, treasurer or president?” It is not a trivial question; and it often stops you in your tracks and gives you a sense of perspective on what you have contributed to this hobby of ours.

I like to reminisce sometimes and think back to my early days with Harmony Camp. The idea of getting the best music guys to Camp was not high on anyone’s mind at that time and I would go to District conventions and literally stalk the hallways looking for guys like Gary Bolles and quartets like Metropolis to invite to Camp to help us get this thing to the next higher level. It was kind of terrifying at the time, not knowing whether the next Camp would have enough music guys or volunteers to make it work; but in retrospect it was also a lot of fun trying to overcome my fear and reluctance and just talk to people that I didn’t know or who didn’t have a clue who I was.

Another of the experiences that barbershop has offered me is that of Harmony University. As I am writing this message, I am on a Southwest flight heading to Kansas City for the “last” Harmony University to be held in St. Joseph Missouri. I’ve been to five or six before, so the experience is not new; but this one has the potential to be something special. I have made the cut, so to speak, to sing with the Honors Chorus that is being directed by none other than Steve Armstrong, yes that one who just broke through after some five silver medals and finally took gold out of the reaching hands of the young guys from Westminster. I am so looking forward to working with Mr. Armstrong and getting to know a brand new gold medal winning chorus director. It should be incredibly educational and fun and isn’t that what it’s all about anyway? And I would be negligent in not acknowledging that I am looking forward to seeing old friends I have met along the way at Harmony University.

Well, I leave encouraging you to expand your barbershop experience and invite a new chapter member to join you in the journey. Join us at Harmony College West, Leadership Academy (you don’t need to be an officer), invite a chapter member to attend another chapter’s show – the possibilities are endless. Just make em’ good ones – smile.



District Vice President 5 AZ
John Bloomquist

The Far Western District rises to the top again!!!

AZ Division Quartet Champions our friends **Vocal Edition** did an outstanding job at their first International contest in Toronto. They not only improved their placement, but also improved upon their qualifying score!! We couldn’t be more proud! Way to go guys!

Speaking of Toronto, we offer a hearty CONGRATULATIONS to our own FWD International Championship Quartet **MASTERPIECE!!** Congrats also to **The Crush**, **Artistic License**, and **95 North** for carrying the FWD banner very high. Additionally a masterful job was done by our brothers the **Westminster Chorus!** Your grace and class carries you higher than your awesome 2nd place finish. A terrific first time showing at the Big Show by **VoCAL** cannot go unnoticed! Remember it always men. And how about **The Newfangled Four**, our new 2013 International Collegiate Quartet Champions from the Far Western District. We are all very proud of everyone!

The AZ Division qualified 2 Choruses and 6 quartets for the District contest in Bakersfield! Everyone is busy in preparation for this contest weekend and hope to make a huge impact at the District level.

As we wind down the summer months, August brings the Fred Koch Memorial AZ DIV BASH on the 16th and 17th! By the time this article hits the press this great weekend of barbershop harmony will have come and gone. With the “luck of the draw quartet contest”, a parade of quartets and the always popular VLQ contest, much singing will have been done! Additionally the annual BASH Golf outing provided another opportunity for fun and fellowship. I hope you will all put this wonderful event on your calendars for 2014 and join in on the fun. Aside from a generally great weekend, the event helps to provide funds for our Youth In Harmony efforts. So, Come on out!!

I hope everyone takes advantage of Executive Director Monson's initiative to help to increase our Society membership by taking the survey if it comes your way. Get out and promote Barbershop singing to your local music educators at every opportunity.

As I said before, it is GREAT to be part of this awesome Division!!!

Velvet Frogs Card



CSLT Gordon Bergthold

Having joined many of my friends from the Far Western District in Toronto last month, it was a joy watching **Westminster** and **VoCal** perform their packages during the chorus contest. I was so proud of the FWD singers who crossed the stage that day and the way that they entertained so many people from around the world. Our college quartet from the FWD **The Newfangled Four** won the collegiate contest and Masterpiece walked away with the gold medal in the quartet finals.

Westminster was only two points off out of 7,000 plus points, so you only imagine how tight the chorus contest turned out to be...especially with **Toronto Northern Lights** finally winning the gold after so many second place finishes.

This international overview may be old news to you but it never ceases to amaze me how many of our FWD members are involved with the various contest venues throughout the year. Doug Maddox handled everything backstage from sound to keeping the stage cleaned after so many different competitors tried to really mess it up; Russ Young, our FWD President worked in the TV truck helping the audiences enjoy the contest from the large screens in the auditorium. Allan Webb, the FWD EVP, worked with the webcast crew of Bob and Brian of **Metropolis** fame doing interviews and adlibbing where necessary to bring a constant flow of barbershop trivia to the listening audience.

Yes, we have talent in this district beyond the entertainers and gold medals that they bring back from these events annually. I'm so proud to be a member of the district leadership that I sometimes wonder where it will end...if ever!

Now it's time to participate in Harmony College West, August 9, 10 and 11, the FWD Leadership Academies, to be held in November of 2013, and the various functions found in the FWD website events schedule. Get out and participate and learn what's available in your district. There are many ways to enjoy barbershopping

besides standing on the risers weekly. Educate yourself through the various events available and pass on the enjoyment to others remembering, if you're too busy to sing, you're just too busy!!!!



CDD Greg Lyne



DRCJ Ron Black

Please congratulate the newly Certified Judges in FWD!

CA – Kent Richardson CA – Jim Haggerty PRS – Martin Fredstrom
And re-certified are:

CA - Chuck Leavitt	
CA - Randy Meyer	
MUS - John Brockman	SNG – Ron Black (change from MUS)
MUS - Cary Burns	SNG - Craig Ewing
MUS - Rob Campbell	SNG - Alan Gordon
MUS - Justin Miller	SNG - Chris Hebert
MUS - Phillip Ordaz	SNG - Warren Hettinga
MUS - Ken Potter	SNG - Brett Littlefield
PRS – Mike Louque	SNG - Christopher Peterson
PRS - Gary Steinkamp	SNG - David Tautkus

A keen observer will note that NOW is the time! What time? To accept Applications to be a Judge! If you're interested, contact me or one of the men above to find out more.

The Fall Convention in Bakersfield, CA is just around the corner. Get the registration form elsewhere in this issue and just go. Go for the convention, the competition, the Platoon, the classes, the singing in the lobby, and watch the best in our District sing for us. And we get to celebrate our newest FWD International Gold Medalist, Masterpiece.

Here is the draw for the Fall Chorus and Quartet contests (SBPC had to scratch, their baritone is leading role in a musical this fall):

	Quartets	Choruses
1	Voices Of Excellence	La Jolla
2	Heatwave	Santa Rosa
3	Speakeasy	South Bay
4	Don't Tell Mom	Palo Alto
5	CONSTELLATION	Riverside
6	Vocal Edition	Tucson
7	Joint Venture	Davis-Vacaville
8	Preferred Blend	South Orange County

9	Silver Knights	Pasadena
10	4 Octaves	Sacramento
11	The Newfangled Four	Santa Barbara
12	These Guys	Central California
13	First Strike	Rincon Beach
14	The Front Line	Reno
15	The Outliers	Fullerton
16	Velvet Frogs	Santa Monica
17	Behind The Barn	Marin
18	Unanimous	Fresno
19	Classic Edition	Las Vegas
20	Four Fifteen	San Diego
21	American Pastime	California Delta
22	Sound Encounter	Santa Fe Springs
23	Frequency	Bay Area
24	Pipes	Brea
25	Silver & Gold	Greater Phoenix



E Ted Sayle

It's almost here!

The Fall District Convention & Contest in Bakersfield is just around the corner on October 10th through 13th. The beautiful Rabo Bank Theater will again host our activities with excellent seating & viewing. Bud Chase and the Visalia chapter will host with the able assistance & experience of Bob Cathaway. Look for some new and innovative ideas in your welcome registration packet. Please be sure to send your delegate to the HOD meeting.

While this article is being written, the Harmony West College is experiencing it's best ever list of instructors, and expects to break lots of new ground at Cal State East Bay in Hayward, CA.

Be sure to mark your calendar to attend the Spring Convention which includes the International Quartet Prelims and SE/SW Division Contests in Riverside, CA on March 20-23. The Spring House of Delegates meeting will also be held. The host chapter (Brea, Ca) under the leadership of president Bryan Forbes is working to make it one of the best in recent memory. The elegant Fox Theater will be the performance venue, and is sure to please everyone.

Encourage all your chapter members to attend these exciting events. Even if you do not compete, there is so much to do and see, not to mention the joy of meeting up with fellow barbershoppers from around our fine FWD.

2014 FWD Event dates for your calendar are:

Jan 28 - Feb 2 International MidWinter Convention in Long Beach, CA

Mar 20-23 FWD Spring Convention with Int'l Quartet Prelim & SE/SW Division Contests in Riverside, CA

May 2-3 FWD AZ Division Contest in Mesa, AA

May 17 FWD NW/NE Division Contests in Lodi, CA

Jun 29 – July 6 International Convention in Las Vegas, NV

Oct 9-12 FWD Fall Convention and Finals Contests in Fresno, CA

Your Division Event Planners are [use <https://ebiz.barbershop.org/ebusiness/> to find their contact information]:

Northeast = Sam Barger

Northwest = Larry Weiss

Southeast = Paul Sandorf

Southwest = Jim Serhahely

Arizona = Randy Bing



M&PR Jerry McElfresh

The Far Western District's fall convention and contest is shaping up to be a great one. Choruses are working hard to qualify for a competition slot in the 2014 International contest in Las Vegas and quite a few quartets are aiming for the District quartet championship.

It's a contest you won't want to miss. You also won't want to miss out on the early bird registration fee of \$45 for adults, \$22.50 for those under age 26 and free for non-members under 13 -- if your entry is postmarked no later than Sept. 10. After that date the rates are \$55 and \$27.50. Single-event tickets are \$25 and \$12.50 each regardless of when purchased.

You'll find a mail-in registration form elsewhere in this edition of Westunes. Fill it in, write a check and send it off before the Sept. 10 deadline. With three great contests (quartet prelims, chorus and quartet finales), a show of champions and lots of woodshedding and tag singing, you'll find that the music and fellowship will make it well worth the price of admission.

If you can't be in Bakersfield for the fall convention and contest, you don't have to miss out on the action. For only \$30 you can sign up for a live Webcast of the Friday night Quartet semi-finals contest, the Saturday Chorus contest and Saturday night Quartet finals.

You and your friends and family can watch all of the streams as they happen, as well as have access to all sessions on-demand beginning the following Monday. Even if you are in one of those contests, some of your supporters back home may want to sign up to watch you sing your best in Bakersfield.

You can register now at [FWD Fall 2012 Contests Webcast](#) or <http://www.fwdwebcast.com/>

The fall convention and contest is the main item on the calendar now but don't forget two other important events coming up in 2014. We'll be the host district for the BHS Midwinter Convention, Jan. 28 – Feb. 2 in Long Beach and the 2014 International Convention, June 29 – July 6 in Las Vegas. Both are great opportunities for us to see and hear the best that Barbershop has to offer.



Mem Serv Jack Peters

I trust your summer is going well and you're singing a lot.

We welcomed 78 new members in our district the first half of this year and we're very grateful for these new singers and those of you who made the joyful effort of inviting them to see what we're all about.

While I was watching the web cast of the International quartet contest last month, I couldn't help but think our new Gold medal winners **Masterpiece** all had to start somewhere. Here's what they told me after they returned to a joyful and exuberant reception in mid-July at their home chorus, the **Masters of Harmony**.

Alan Gordon – Bari:

“Both of my parents had orchestra backgrounds, and sang BBS. I remember singing BBS at age 5 at home and joined the Society at age 10. I didn’t do school choir since I already had BBS but did sports instead. Bounced around several chapters and quartets but by the ripe old age of 21 won the FWD District competition and finally got it all put together at 27 in 1998 with **Gotcha**. It was thrilling to again win the gold with **Masterpiece** for 2013.”

Rob Meneker – Tenor:

“My dad sang in a barbershop quartet at his work. An ad in the local Columbia, Maryland paper in 1973 attracted him to join that chapter. Because he wanted to learn the tenor part, he made me learn the lead, so he could practice. I started attending chapter rehearsals/meetings when I was 14, sang in a pickup quartet called **Lads and Dads** with my dad and another father /son combo for a summer camp out that year. After joining that chapter at 15, I sang in various quartets there until moving to southern California in 1980. Found the South Bay chapter, then the Santa Monica chapter, and finally joined the **Masters of Harmony** in 1988 while all along, continually quarteting. Got it right with **Nightlife** in 1996 after several years of working through the ranks, and then gold once again 17 years later with **Masterpiece**, 2013. What a thrill!”

Patrick Haedtler – Lead

“My dad was in a production of The Music Man when he was in high school. He had joined a chapter in Niles, Michigan but only sang with them for a year. 30 years later, however, he introduced me to the Society when I was 13. (editor’s note: talkin’ bout, lying dormant, then pow!) We both joined the San Jose chapter (now Bay Area) in 1996 and were quite active until I moved to Southern California. In 2001 I joined the **Masters of Harmony** and then also **Westminster** chorus in 2002. **Masterpiece** is my first quartet gold medal. My dad is still very active with the **Voices In Harmony**, and a well-known and highly respected FWD chorus and quartet man.”

Brett Littlefield – Bass

“I had heard a quartet in high school and really enjoyed it. I had sung in middle and high school choirs, so singing wasn’t foreign to me. When I later saw a newspaper ad in late 1979 inviting men who liked to sing, I answered it and soon joined the then, Santa Ana, CA chapter. As captain of the high school track team and also a sprinter (with my best time in the 100 yd. @ 10 seconds flat and 220 yd. @ 22.7), winning wasn’t foreign to me. 17 years after joining the Santa Ana chapter and applying myself to the principles of good singing that the **Masters of Harmony** taught from their inception, our quartet **Nightlife** won the gold in 1996. Now again, I find gold around my neck with **Masterpiece**. What a ride!!”

Thank you to these 4 very fine accomplished artists for briefly sharing here how they got started in this life long musical experience, we all enjoy. They’re busy boys’. Outside of traveling all over the world singing, Brett and Alan are BHS Certified Judges, Rob is the Tenor Section Leader and also member of the illustrious front row along with Patrick for the **Masters Of Harmony**. Patrick is also member of the **Westminster** chorus and Alan chairs the Learn to Sing For Free program for our great District. Oh yes, all have full time paying jobs and families too.

Soooo --- Don’t be bashful when it comes to somehow introducing your sons, grandsons, nephews and neighbors to our hobby. See what can happen?

Ok now – let’s go have some fun and be a “singer bringer”.

Ya don’t have to sell it, just share it!



Mu&P Nick Papageorge

American Pastime Card

www.apquartet.com



626-786-5830

Graham Pence
Tom Moore

grahampence@gmail.com

Scott Kidder
Joe D'Amore

QA Bill Kane



FWD Quartet Activity is soooooo alive and well.

First I want to say congrats to ALL of our FWD quartets for their great performances in Toronto. They did us proud. An extra special Attaboy to our new champions **Masterpiece**. Boy, weren't they terrific, with some very tough competition!

Equally as important as our great performances on the stage, are the good works of our quartet guys. There are many stories, but I happen to know one cause it was local to my home here in AZ.

Jessica Ashkenasy, whose father sings with **Masters of Harmony**, was spending her 24th birthday at the Mayo Clinic in Arizona, with a very serious medical condition. Fellow MOH member Les Weiser thought to reach out to quartet guys in Phoenix to see whether a quartet could bring some joy to Jessica for her birthday. Although no registered quartet could manage it, Audacity tenor John Fynmore pulled together the young lead and bass from the current AZ Division Novice champs, **Speakeasy** (RJ Esquivias and Elliot Liles), then added in the mainstay of the AZ Quartet Chapter Jim Milner on baritone. They sang a Frazer Brown *Happy Birthday* arrangement, plus a couple of Polecats and brought a smile to Jessica. I am so proud of all the FWD quartet guys who are always willing to take our harmony and spread some joy where it is needed.

If you are attending the fall convention in Bakersfield, be sure and come in time for the Friday afternoon Harmony Platoon finals contest and show of champions, open to anyone attending the convention. We will have our largest Platoon event yet, with 80 guys from 30 different chapters, singing in 20 quartets.

If you'd like to find out more about Harmony Platoon, just take a look at our website:

HarmonyPlatoon.org

YIH Jim Halvorson



The fall is upon us and s the school year has started. What is your chorus doing to share the wonder of barbershop harmony with our youth this fall? If you haven't already contacted your local high schools and junior high, make sure you do before the school year starts or as soon as you can. Most choral directors fill up the year quickly so if you want to have a chance to help them or present barbershop to them and their students, NOW is the time!

If you have men that are in your chorus or are in a school you visit, have you thought about sponsoring them to attend the NorCal Youth Harmony Camp, September 20-22 at Sly Park in Pollock Pines, CA? This is one of our amazing camps that is held in the FWD and one of the only multi-day camps in existence in the society. This

year Richard Lund has brought together some talented clinicians and none other than your 2010 International Champion quartet, STORM FRONT as the featured clinicians. This is an opportunity none of your young men will forget and they will return to your local programs with a zeal and passion for barbershop. Please make sure you contact Richard Lund (rwlund92@gmail.com) to see if there is still room for this amazing event.

Have you also thought about helping to sponsor or send your young men to participate in a youth chorus at the Mid-winter convention? We have a number of choruses that exist and your students may be close enough to one of those to get started. If not, check in your community to see if there would be interest in sending a new group. The experience is unbelievable. Please contact me if you want more information about youth choruses in your area or how you can get one started.

Lastly, I need to call out to all YiH chairmen in your chapters. In my first year in this position the one thing I have been in need of is information. I need to know what is going on with your chapters so I can promote it. We all are familiar with the "big events" that go on in our district because of the Westunes, our website and email but I need to know about what you are accomplishing at the chapter level to make our voice heard with our music educators. My goal is to take all that we do and share this with other teachers, ACDA and state music educator's associations. They need to know how you support youth singing and how great an ally our organization can be. Please take the time to send me details, photos, video and any other information you feel is pertinent so we can build an updated database. This will also help us update our Youth in Harmony Page on our website so we have the most current info when we send educators to our website for information.

Thanks for all you do to promote our hobby to the next generation. There is few things more rewarding than breaking down the generation gap by ringing a chord.

As always, you can reach me at fwdyihchair@gmail.com.

95 North Card





95 North

Jim, Larry, Mike and Nick

Nick Pizzo, Baritone, 95 North

Oh wow—our final Westunes write-up of our FWD Championship year! This year has been one of new heights for **95 North** . . . and what a wonderful year it has been! I can confidently say that the four of us have enjoyed every moment of it, especially the moments we’ve shared with our FWD family throughout the year in California and Nevada. Those present in July at the Air Canada Center in Toronto during the announcement of the top 20 singing order would agree; we could not be more thrilled with our 19th place finish! This year marks the first time Jim, Larry, and I have made such an achievement. Additionally, having the support of the 60 men of the *Westminster Chorus* made it much more memorable. We offer our most sincere congratulations to *Masterpiece*, *The Crush*, *Artistic License*, *Vocal Edition*, *The New Fangled Four*, *SBPC*, and *Flightline* on their tremendous achievements in Toronto as well. It is a privilege to be a part of a district so rich with talent!

Throughout our championship year, we have had the pleasure of appearing on a few chapter shows and district/division-level events. These times were met with fond memories and we have forged new friendships with so many of you throughout the district. Plus, we acquired some rather notable and flashy new jackets from Betabrand in San Francisco (and, despite our joking about it, we are not sponsored by Reynolds Wrap or Jiffy Pop!). As we close out our championship year, we are determined not to plummet into “has been” land. In fact, we are actively learning new songs and we would love to sing on your chapter shows and, I might add, your

Christmas shows. We have a nice show set of Christmas tunes ready to dust off at a moment's notice! Please reach out to us on our Facebook page or e-mail us at 95northquartet@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you in Bakersfield in October and hopefully busting out a few tags with many of you over the weekend! We have a number of new tunes we want to share with you, so please be sure to attend the Association of Far Western District Champions' "Late Show" on Friday, October 11 after the quartet competition, and stick around for the "Show of Champions" on Saturday night. We are so excited to be part of this very special contest weekend and extend a hearty "good luck" to all the competitors. We will definitely be cheering for all of you!

As we wrap up this wonderful year, we again want to thank you, our fans, for making it so fantastic. Your support, and that of our families, friends, and coaches, has been nothing short of phenomenal. All of you hold a special place in our hearts and we hope that we have touched your hearts in a memorable and special way. We look forward to seeing you on your shows and at district events for years to come.

High Sierra Harmony Brigade

by Richard Lund



HSHB Photos by Mike Deputy RMD

Last weekend (Aug 23-25, 2013), I and some 75 other barbershop quartetting fanatics got together in Reno at the High Sierra Harmony Brigade to sing our hearts out, visit several high schools to "spread the good word about the barbershop style" and perform in a show for a highly enthusiastic audience ... oh, and we also held a rather unique quartet competition along the way.

What a weekend of singing! Back in April we each received charts and tracks for eleven songs – that's right eleven – to learn and be able to sing cleanly and easily right out of the chute with three other guys, picked at random, to make up one of some twenty such randomly selected quartets. Yes, you'd better know your

music Really Really well; I mean Really well!! If you don't, you risk being rejected by your quartet mates (yep, that's one of the rules of Brigade) and replaced by someone else.

You then make up a name for your quartet. Some of the names are incredibly clever and humorous. You are given one of those eleven songs and a couple hours to prepare for the preliminary competition on Friday night.

95 North made up the judging panel, with an assist from FWD's own Dave Briner, and Jim Clark our FWD Harmony Foundation representative on Friday evening. The top ten quartets from Friday's competition went on to the final on Saturday, along with a Wild Card quartet made up from a random selection of the guys from the bottom ten quartets – just to add some spice. The Wild Card quartet has occasionally won the Saturday night finals!!

The finals are even more intense and potentially difficult, especially if you don't know all the songs Really Well. One quartet name at a time is selected to sing; that quartet comes forward and draws the song that they will sing as they go on stage.

If this sounds like your cup of tea, by all means, you should sign up now for next year's event. It will be held August 22-24, 2014 in Reno. Check out their website: <http://www.highsierrahb.org/>

It is an amazing weekend of singing and more singing! If you have any desire to improve your singing, improve your ear, sing with some Really good singers, and have a ton of fun with barbershop, then you really should

consider signing up. It is Not for everyone, though. You really need to contact one of the members - yes, we now have our first class of actual High Sierra Harmony Brigade members. It takes three consecutive years of participation in order to qualify to become a member. And there are now some twenty-eight brand new members of the HSHB!



This is an invitational event; in other words, once you contact a member, he will put his reputation on the line and recommend that you be invited. A list of members can be found on the website under the roster tab. If you don't know any of these gents there is still a path for application for you on the website.

It is now Monday morning, and I am finally starting to recover from the Wonderful Weekend! I am already looking forward to next year!!

Sunshine Chairman Card





Division 1 SW Chapters Ken Day, Editor

Aloha Chapter By Jack Hashimoto

The performance highlight of this quarter was our Annual Spring Show. We honored the men who served on the USS Missouri with a musical tribute. Patriotic, military, and songs of the sea were the fare that greeted the appreciative audiences who attended our matinee and evening performances. We opened with the National Anthem and closed with The Navy Hymn (Eternal Father). Our guest quartet was **Vocal Spectrum**, the 2006 International Champions. **Tim Waurick**, **Eric Dalber**, **Chris Hallam** and **Jonathan Moroni** wowed the crowd, especially with their rendition of "Bring Him Home" from *Les Miserables*. **Aloha Spirit** the SAI two-time regional medalist from the Honolulu Blend Show Chorus and our own quartets **Resonance** and **Funnybones** also performed. Our pride and joy **8zero8**, the young men's chorus that we sponsor and formed two years ago, did their delightful schtick. **Lars Isaacson** did well in his first stint as Show Chair. Others of note were Musical Director **Rob Hartley**, Show Director **Steph Conching** and Playright **Ralph Brandt**. The two standing Os were much appreciated. A special surprise to most of us at the afterglow was the marriage proposal/engagement announcement by **Mike Darcey** to his sweetheart **Lisa Serrano**. **Vocal Spectrum** performed at both these after-events.

We also performed at the Annual Mayor's Memorial Day Ceremony at Punchbowl National Cemetery of the Pacific and at the Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

Rob Hartley has resigned as Musical Director effective June 30 to concentrate on being a bass in the chorus. We thank Rob for his past four years of service to this chorus.

Bonnie McKibben, director of the Honolulu Blend Show Chorus (SAI), will direct our chorus. Bonnie has a list of accomplishments that runs long and deep. Here are some of them: directed six SAI choruses; won over 20 regional and 3 International medals including Gold with **Panache** (**Panache** later sang to President Ronald Reagan at his 80th birthday party); is a member of the Coronet Club and Queen's Court in SAI; is a Certified judge in Showmanship; and sings with two-time regional medalist quartet **Aloha Spirit**.

BSOM for the quarter: April - **Glenn Crowder**, May - **Lars Isaacson**, June - **Ken Foreman**

BAKERSFIELD By Bob Cathaway

The Bakersfield chapter now meets on Thursday evenings, and our new meeting location is the office of Dr. Bill Weisman, 1415 18th St. in Bakersfield @ 7:00 p.m. The location was changed because, as free tenants in our previous location, if anything whatever came along needing our meeting room, we were bumped. This was happening more and more frequently.

The meeting night was changed to accommodate our director, **Bob Cathaway**, and his new job directing the Bakersfield Sweet Adelines South Valley Sound Chorus on Tuesdays.

We are surviving the hot summer with its typical attendance shrinkage, and look forward to attending the fall convention in October.

Conejo Valley Chapter By Neil Pennywitt

The chapter performed a patriotic show on July 4th for a retirement community in Simi Valley, and was moved when a number of the audience joined us in song several times during the show.

The chapter's comedy quartet **Harmony Connection** (**Gary Wetzel**, **Neil Pennywitt**, **Herb Jacobowitz**, and **Nick Larsen**) returned from competing in the annual Southern California Comedy Quartet Contest where they won for the second consecutive year. They bested a field that included two other past champion quartets and had the audience howling in laughter during their unique comedy interpretation of **I'll Be Seeing You**.

For more information visit the chapter website @ www.CVHOV.com.

Long Beach Chapter By Joe Nagle

The International City Chorus continues to sponsor and meet with the Barbershop Singing Club in Leisure World every Tuesday night. We've had as many as 25 singers join us at times. We congratulate the **Newfangled Four** on winning the College Quartet Championship at the Toronto International Convention. Although they are not members of the Long Beach Chapter, they are all students at Cal State University Long Beach, and we are proud of them anyway.

Pasadena Chapter By Bill Cauley

The chapter's activities with regard to perfecting our singing and performances are ongoing and strenuous. I report that Thursday evening rehearsals with the Pasadena Chapter continue to be a fun place to be. Our very energetic music director, **John Minsker**, away for a much needed vacation, left the music to the able hands of **Sean Chasworth** with the assistance of **Jonathan Hinckley**. Upon John's return we have continued to improve our understanding of the intricacies of barbershop music, using improved techniques, whiteboard presentations, and thoughtful singing exercises.

Steve Swinney took on the task of fund raising, marketing, and public relations, and has already set a plan to focus our attention on our local community, the City of Pasadena and its institutions. He'll be directing the movement beyond our current friends and family model. We need many new friends, and more of the public who, up until now, have not heard of their namesake barbershop harmony chorus.

We'll certainly be in attendance in Bakersfield in October, perhaps in a new costume, with a sincere hope to move up the rating scale. And before you know, it'll be time for the Christmas Show.

Rincon Beach By Ken Day

The Pacific Sound Chorus has been working hard on all of the areas that the judges at the So Cal East/So Cal West Divisional contest suggested needed improvement. Arrangements are being finalized for a special coach for a Saturday retreat, probably in August, to bring things into clearer focus.

We had a quartet made up of **Jay Pryor, Doug Van Bogenlen, Bernie Sentianin** and **Jim Serdahely** on Mother's Day at the Livingston Memorial Home in Ventura. The entire chorus performed at a new business called the Magic Shop. There were four different segments of entertainment: our singing, a classical guitar player, a magic show, and an Improv Comedy show.

For Conejo Valley Days, a quartet made up of **Jay Pryor, Bernie Sentianin, Mike Murphy**, and **Jim Serdahely** sang at the historic Stage Coach Inn in Newbury Park.

The Stage Coach Inn put on an Ice Cream Social for the 4th and **Walt Rugh, Jay Pryor, Bernie Sentianin, Andrew De La Torre, Jim Rodriguez**, and **Bill Crome** performed.

We want to welcome new members, **Phil Easterday** and **Larry Fletcher** to our chorus.

San Luis Obispo Chapter

By Pete Bennett

The Gold Coast Chorus had our annual show in June, moved to a new rehearsal location in July, prepared for outdoor performances in late August, threw in a church performance for our new hosts, and a joint National Anthem presentation at the SLO Blues baseball game with our SAI sisters the **Pacific Horizon Chorus**.

We're looking forward to the First Annual Multi-Chapter BBQ hosted by the Santa Maria Chapter August 10th, and also to our annual Atascadero Lake Park concert and picnic August 31st.

Miles Brown is now with the Redwood Chordsmen, since he moved to be close to his family.

Our new meeting place is: **United Church of Christ** at 11245 Los Osos Valley Road, adjacent to the Laguna Lake Golf Course.

San Fernando Valley

By Bruce Poehlman

The Harmony Singers paid tribute to one of our friends who just passed, **Lew Weitzman**, who had been an integral member of our chorus for many years.

We say goodbye to our President for the last 7 years, **Bruce Poehlman**, (his job takes him out of the area).

We welcome new member Danny who we know will be a great addition to our lead section.

The Valley Harmony Singers will also be hosting our annual Ice Cream Social on August 25th. See our website (www.valleyharmonysingers.com) for details and other upcoming events!

Santa Barbara Chapter

By Eric Feinrich

After nearly a decade away from the contest circuit, the **Channel City Chorus** participated in the Southwest Division Chorus Contest and qualified for the District Contest. Under the guidance of Director **Bobby McGee** since last September, the chorus has made great overall improvements, but most noticeably in the quality of our singing and our ability to blend together.

Centerpiece [**Stephen Watson, Tim Dunvan, Michael Frazer, Eric Feinrich**] made their first appearance in the Quartet Contest and finished as Novice Champions.

The chorus performed at the Fourth of July celebration at the Santa Barbara Courthouse Sunken Garden along with the West Coast Symphony Orchestra and select members of the Santa Barbara Singers and the Master Chorale. The singing culminated with a joint performance of *The Battle Hymn of the Republic*. It was a great experience to sing with the orchestra and other singers from our community.

Santa Fe Springs Chapter

By Ron Larson

One of the performance mantras **Masters of Harmony** singers have been urged to follow is "master the stage." This means adapting to the unique sound characteristics of each performance venue and over the years, thanks to the skill and hard work of **Doug Maddox, Jim** and **Sharon Ernsberger**, that mastery has been consistently achieved at a very high level. A corollary of that mantra is "master the situation," meaning to adapt to unexpected circumstances that might otherwise hinder a performance. When the Masters reprised their April 20, 2013 Spring Show in Riverside's historic Fox Theater the following week, both mantras were fully tested. For the first time in 14 years, the regular director was not present to lead the Masters in a scheduled performance. MOH Director **Justin Miller** teaches choral music at Mater Dei High School and he was in New York City, honoring a previous commitment as part of a contingent that included the Mater Dei Chamber Singers and other directors on a trip that included performances at Carnegie Hall and on NBC's Today Show. What an incredible opportunity that was for the young men and women whose vocal talents Justin helps shape! Fortunately, **Brett Littlefield** and **Alan Gordon**, two MOH stalwarts who had directed MOH in the past, stepped up and helped produce a performance lavishly rewarded by long, loud, enthusiastic applause from the audience. Way to go, Brett, Alan and Justin!

Then came the combined Southeast-Southwest Division Chorus Contest at Colony High School in Ontario — the important first step needed to earn a spot in the 2014 International Chorus Contest in Las Vegas. The Masters took the stage with just 76 men, well below the average of 95 men in a contest at this level. With Justin Miller back at the helm, the Masters introduced a new ballad, "On the Street Where You Live", from My Fair Lady, a song first performed on the 2013 Spring Show. The uptune was "Alabama Jubilee," the song that had helped MOH win gold in Kansas City in 2011. Newly appointed Presentation Coordinator **Sean Sherrodd** helped guide the restoration of this fun-loving, rip-roaring song to its highest performance level since the Kansas City contest. The judges panel gave the contest package a score of 1100 points (out of 1200 possible) for an average of 91.7% — the highest MOH divisional contest score in over a decade. MOH quartets took top honors in Ontario for each division — **American Pastime (Graham Pence, Tom Moore, Scott Kidder, Joe D'Amore)** was named Southwest Division Quartet Champion while college quartet **The Newfangled Four (Joey Buss, Jackson Niebrugge, Jake Tickner, Ryan Wisniewski)** took first-place honors in the Southeast Division.

In July, the city of Toronto hosted its first International Convention in 50 years. For the Masters of Harmony family, the Toronto Convention was a bittersweet experience. It started off in terrific fashion when The Newfangled Four won the gold medal in the collegiate contest. Then, the next day, a tragic auto/pedestrian accident caused the death of **George Vivieros**, the life partner of MOH baritone **Jim Haggerty**, and painful injury

to MOH lead **Amnon Avidor**, who was standing close to George when it happened. While the freakish accident was undoubtedly on the minds of convention goers, it was a major test of “master the situation” for the Masters extended family. In the Friday chorus competition, **The Westminster Chorus** gave an incredible performance in search of its third gold medal. However, the Toronto **Northern Lights** chorus, in search of its first gold after five silver and six bronze medals, was just a wee bit more incredible, winning gold by the razor- thin margin of just two points. In quartet competition, **Masterpiece (Rob Menaker, Patrick Haedtler, Alan Gordon, Brett Littlefield)** led wire to wire to become the sixth quartet that included MOH members to bring gold home to the Far Western District. **The Crush (John Brockman, Matt Gray, Josh Szolomayer, Paul Tabone)** made an impressive jump from 13th in 2011 to 6th place, just a few points outside a medalist spot. As the convention drew to a close, it was clear that the Masters extended family had performed with a beauty and sensitivity that George would have loved — a fitting tribute to a man whose gentle, caring nature endeared him not only to Jim, to the Harmony Sweethearts with whom he worked so tirelessly, but to many others who crossed his path. Rest in peace, George, and heartfelt condolences, Jim.

Also in July, some of the Masters family, along with professional colleagues and other associates, gathered at the beautiful hillside home of MOH President **Ron Andreas** as he and his wife **Bonney** celebrated their tenth wedding anniversary with a renewal of vows ceremony. A feast served by Ron and Bonney themselves followed the beautifully prepared, emotionally moving ceremony. As one of the speakers noted earlier, one way to measure the impact of the people in our lives is to ask, are we better for being around them? In the case of Ron and Bonney, the answer is a resounding “Yes.”

Since the last edition of Westunes, **Bob Czubiak, Jeff Hathaway, Bill Niemand, Ernie Reyes, and Ed Schackman** were welcomed into membership.

Santa Monica

By Marty Mitnick

As a tribute to the 75 years of barbershop harmony, the **Oceanaires** presented its annual Spring Show in April at Paul Revere Middle School before an audience of over 200 barbershop lovers. A special thanks to **Tenacious Q**, our guest quartet, for coming out and wowing our audience.

Memorial Day found the **Oceanaires** performing at the annual City of Santa Monica observance of this special day of remembering. The Woodlawn Cemetery with its quiet surroundings came alive with the singing of barbershop harmony uplifting the spirits of all in attendance.

The chorus attained 3rd place in points earned at the Southwest/Southeast Contest.

Sound Stage [Bob Curran, Jerry Walker, Alan Hanson, Tom Laskey] performed for the parents of new-borns at the Cedars-Sinai Hospital Neo Natal Department. Arrangements were very ably organized by **Katie Walker Boeck**, wife of Oceanaires member **Tim Boeck** and daughter of **Jerry Walker**.

The Oceanaires celebrate the achievement of **Todd Kolberg**, our previous Director, in attaining his degree of Doctor of Education at the University of Southern California.

The Oceanaires sang the National Anthem at the home of the Galaxy Soccer team.

We congratulate our BOTMs for March, **Amnon Avidor** and for April, **Chuck Bevitt**.

South Bay Chapter

By Joe Nagle

The Coastliners Chorus, under the direction of **Peter Neushul**, qualified at the Southwest convention to sing in Bakersfield at the Fall District convention. Be sure to stop by our hospitality room – what we lack in singing ability, we more than make up for in party throwing!

The Coastliners Chorus also performed for the annual “In The Garden” event at the Mary & Joseph Retreat Center in Palos Verdes. Quartets featured were: **C-Nile Sound (Bruce Beyne, Denny Lawrence, Karl Jacobs, Rick Llewelyn)**, and **The Boys Are Back (Bruce Beyne, Don Duperon, Dave Clark, Charlie Thompson)**. This performance is a favorite among the membership, as after our performance we are treated to the world's best homemade strawberry shortcake.

Ventura

By Jan Tavares

The Channel Islands Clippers welcome member **Tony Banando**, a new lead with lots of choir experience, to our chapter. This was just in time for him to get ready for our participation in this year's hugely attended Ventura 4th of July Street Fair.

What a great audience we had at the fair celebrating the 4th, the 75th Anniversary of the Barbershop Harmony Society and the 65th Anniversary of the Channel Islands Clippers. They were so appreciative and enthusiastic. People kept arriving and staying to the end even though most had to stand. They were especially appreciative when we did our mid program patriotic set. They cheered, applauded and sang along. We had quartets singing all day to enthusiastic audiences on the street and had some possible recruits express interest in our chapter.

Many thanks to our chapter faithful in a magnificent team effort: **Lu Hintz, Jim Sumstine, Jay Shapiro, Tom Leese, Fred Engle, Bill Winfield, Wayne Breese, David Ayala, Larry Deering, Bill Butala, Ron Lindsay, Tony Banando, Verne Arnold** and our fine director, **Jim Browne**.

Whittier Chapter

By Paul Feinzimer

On Memorial Day, the **Whittier Choralaires** with **JOLT**, (a quartet from **Pasadena's Crown City Chorus**), sang for the residents of California Mission Inn, a large senior residential facility. The Choralaires, under the direction of **Judy Kertes**, and **JOLT** sang two performances - one for regular senior residents and one for assisted living residents. The music was a mixture of traditional barbershop songs and patriotic music.

The Choralaires and **JOLT** again joined forces in their “*Summertime Harmonies*” show. A Boy Scouts color guard presented the American flag for the rendering of the National Anthem and the colors of the individual armed services for *The American Armed Forces Medley*. The chorus and quartet also sang a representative sample of songs from their current repertoires. The winning of door and raffle prizes also gave a bonus of joy for some lucky audience members. Thanks to the vendors and Choralaires members and their wives who donated

the gifts for these prizes. Our show can be viewed in two parts on the media page of our website, www.choralaires.org.

The Choralaires members began preparation for their Christmas Show.

The Whittier Choralaires are now on Meetup.com and [Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) in its new member recruitment effort. Check us out on these social networking websites.



Division 2 SE Chapters

Dale Vaughn, Editor

Brea Chapter

By Mark Stokes

With the doubling of our membership over the last 18 months, the **Gaslight Chorus** is experiencing the challenges brought on by our successful membership drives. This growth required the Chorus to continue to

add choral risers to the point where it just plain ran out of floor space in our old meeting location. Since most of our guests desired to become singing members of the Chorus, a change was in order.

On April 23, 2013, the Gaslight Chorus turned the page and now calls the Family Life Center at Christ Lutheran Church in Brea home, for its Tuesday evening rehearsals. We now have space to set up chairs for learning music and choral risers for rehearsing in performance mode. With our dramatic scoring improvement at the recent division contest in Ontario CA, we are excited about our future.

Christ Lutheran Church - Family Life Center, 820 W. Imperial Highway - Brea, CA 92821

Visit us at: www.gaslightchorus.org

Coachella Valley Chapter

By Stan Gile

With all of our snowbirds gone North to escape the heat here in the Coachella Valley, things have been a little quiet at our chapter meetings. Our director **Dick Reed** has been working more on Harmony craft than new music until our full compliment of Chorus members returns in the Fall. They have missed some great training and, of course, the ash from the Idyllwild forest fire. Things are returning to normal again for which we are all very thankful.

In June, a chapter quartet consisting of **Corbett Brattin**, **Dave Hawks**, **Stan Gile**, and **Fred Anderson** performed at the Marriott Resort for the American Association of Travel Agents.

We welcome bass **Dick Hammer**.

Visit us at: www.cvbarbershop.org

El Cajon Chapter

By Bill Soukup

In the last quarter we performed five times; three of those were very enjoyable and pleasing for us and for the listeners – evidenced by their applause, smiles and comments. Two were held at assisted living facilities that continue to invite us every year and one at the annual Coronado Flower Show, (a repeat).

The difficult two were a reflection of our affection for, and a tribute to, **Maurice (“Maury”) Rapkin**, who, at the age of 95, died peacefully on June 14th after having had a very busy and

successful life. Maury was a retired civil engineer and a retired Army Reserve Colonel who was awarded a Bronze Star for his service in World War II. He was well known for his passion for ballroom dancing. In virtually all of our performances, he would leave the stage and select a lady from the audience to dance with him to our singing. He also invited the entire chapter to his birthday party every year, and for many years collected our donations to the **Harmony Foundation**.

Tenor **Gary Matthews** had a great time attending the meeting of the **Barbershop Quartet Preservation Association (BQPA)** in Tempe, AZ.

Jeff Freeman continues to prepare and distribute notes a couple of days after each meeting to help us remember what we learned at the meeting, which is also useful for any who were unable to attend the meeting.

Visit us at: www.ecmusicmasters.com

Fullerton Chapter

By Don Derler

Our O.E.C. annual show is, indeed, a SHOW, with a story line, costumes, props, and lots of (bad?) jokes. [Ed. Note: If you’d like a detailed description and perhaps the script, contact Don Derler.] The headliner quartet was the **Dapper 4**. We also had the La Habra High School Quartet, **Charmony**.

Rick DeLung reported that **Spit Tunes** performed their comedy musical magic show for the Grace Christian Church in Placentia.

Well **Don Derler** has done it again. Don not only came up with the several designs that the chorus finally decided on, but he prepared the truck for the application, cut out the vinyl at the sign shop (where he occasionally works), and matched and applied the decals onto the truck panels - no mean task. The truck will still have the old **SPEBQSA** round insignias placed on either side of the truck. We now have a rolling billboard that signifies who we are, what we do and why we do what we do.

Congratulations to **Preferred Blend** on becoming the 2013 Far Western District, Southeast Division, Senior Quartet Champion.

We have been trying to come up with a performance package that will be fun and entertaining, and are making great use of the Society’s pamphlet, “**An Information Manual for Barbershop Quartets**”. In general it outlines four elements: planning; having fun; promoting the barbershop image; and leaving your audience wanting more. The **Sugar Daddies** spent their last meeting creating a balanced song mix consisting of up-tunes, easy-beat/swing, ballads and novelty songs. The pamphlet even makes suggestions as to the order and number of each type of song to create variety and entertainment.

We love to sing for (other) old people! Our 37 songsters performed a mini version of our annual show, boiled down to a fast moving 14-song and 5-quartet non-stop hour of entertainment 40 miles south to the **Covington Gardens Retirement Home**. Leader **Craig**, our director of mirth and music, did his usual outstanding MC duties interpreting and explaining the show script along with his humorous quips and observations.

Visit us at: www.oecchorus.org

Inland Empire Chapter

By Don Sevesind

The chorus recently performed for the Relay for Life event held at the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds.

One of our newest members, **Robert Shelton**, thought that the lead part was too easy and quickly mastered the baritone part. Robert has quite a background in music and he even tried his hand at directing the chorus. It just so happens that we were in the market for an associate director. Robert got the position and will soon be on his way to Harmony College West to perfect his directing skills.

Chapter quartets have been singing the national anthem at the Quakes Stadium and one of them, **Lords of the Ring** will be singing at the Little League World Series, which will be aired on CNN.

Visit us at: www.welovetosinging.com

La Jolla Chapter

By Dale Vaughn

The men of **Pacific Coast Harmony** once again came away as the SE Division Chorus Champions at the contest hosted by the **Riverside Chapter, New Gang on the Corner Chorus**. We are super proud of two quartets that represented PCH and qualified to compete in the FWD Fall Contest: **Behind the Barn** [Jude Thomas, Dave Pfizenmeier, Mark Whelan, and bass Neal Palmer from the **San Diego Sun Harbor Chorus**] and **Preferred Blend** [with PCH Pete Hensley]. **Preferred Blend** was crowned Super Senior Quartet Champions for 2013.

The Annual Dinner Show was conducted in La Jolla to a sold-out crowd. Our guests enjoyed a delicious dinner prepared by our Head Chef and his PCH members and guest helpers. The show followed immediately and included numbers by the chorus, many chapter quartets and our headliner quartet, **The Perfect Gentlemen**.

Our Assistant Director and Baritone Section Leader **Jude Thomas** moved to New York City in pursuit of his Masters Degree in Music Composition. Jude has already visited the **Hells Kitchen Chapter**. Jude... we wish you all the best and know we will see you again in the future!

Members and guests enjoyed the BHS International Contest from Toronto via the webcast, hosted in the home of **Kim & Dale Vaughn**. It was thrilling to watch our FWD favorites represent us so well as we cheered home medalist performances by **Masterpiece** – International Quartet Champs, **The Westminster Chorus** – Silver Medalists, **The Newfangled Four** – Collegiate Champs. Congratulations gentlemen!

We welcome two new members onto our risers – **John Rhodes** and **Michael Cowan**.

Visit us at: www.pacificcoastharmony.org

Las Vegas Chapter

By Larry Litchfield

The **Silver Statesmen** developed a classy name logo and new mission statement - check it out at www.silverstatesmen.com. The logo appears in imaginative places throughout the widely populated Las Vegas Valley. And the new newsletter The Nugget is as informative and professional as any chapter newsletter in the Society.

THE ROLLER COASTER RIDE of our greatly expanded chapter and Nevada's newest and largest Barbershop Chorus reached the end of another exciting quarter of music-making fun and positive results. Our sound has improved and we know our

camaraderie has intensified, and made Director **Jim Halvorson** a very happy fellow. Jim graciously accepted an invitation to offer up these personal thoughts on the threshold of our inaugural performances: "As director, I'm very excited about the enthusiasm and energy that is circling around the chorus. Members are learning new music, new skills and a new passion for sharing barbershop harmony in the community."

"As for our quartet, **95 North**, now affiliated with Las Vegas, has had a banner championship year that will be capped off in August with performances at our inaugural shows and participation as judges and featured quartet in the High Sierra Harmony Brigade in Reno, NV at the end of the month. We look forward to ending our competitive year with a great weekend at the fall convention and with subsequent local Christmas shows."

The chapter headcount is a record high 87 and we continue to welcome prospective members to our rehearsals....and lest we forget, we owe all this to our recent, visionary merger and our two heritage choruses: the Gamble-Aires and the City of Lights.

Joe Payton, a 10-year member, was appointed the Chapter's Sunshine Chairman by President **Steve Salmon**.

Our section leaders – **Albert Weiss** (tenors) **Larry Halvorson** (leads), **Dean Hunt** (baris) and **Billy Hill** (basses) are working hard with their respective singers to polish the four parts for all our upcoming stage events.

Visit us at: www.silverstatesmen.com

Palomar Pacific Chapter

By Keith Bogost & Patrick Fairchild

Pal-Pac performed a successful Spring Concert. **The Velvet Frogs** were outstanding as the headliner quartet. The performance also featured our resident quartets, **Coast To Coast** (**Steve Cowan, John Rhodes, Mike Cowan, Roger Hufferd**), **A Song and A Smile** (**Jerry Mills, Al Leuthe, Bill Scofield, Norm Pincock**), and **Sound Design** (**Jim Winningham, Joe Quince, Joe Pascucci, Bob Landes**). Thanks to all who worked so hard on this show, particularly **Milos Koutsky**, Chair of the Show Committee, and our director, **Lucy Cartano**.

On a bittersweet note, the **Music Men** bid a fond farewell to our youngest member, bass **Silas Burdick**, who leaves to pursue law studies in New Hampshire. **Charlie Wendt** is the new chapter librarian. **Bill Scofield**, now a 40-year member this July, renewed his membership, and has 22 Man of Note awards to his credit.

The chapter held its first annual "Boot Camp Quartet Sing Off". Members were instructed to master two songs from the existing chorus repertoire, with the understanding that multiple quartets would be formed by lot, and NO ONE knew just who would be in each quartet beforehand. The foursome of **Bob Hornstein, Joe Quince, Joe Pascucci** and **Silas Burdick** garnered the gold and even received medals for their effort. **Tal Klaus** took the coveted prize for "Mr. Congeniality". The entire event was ably captained by **Norm Pincock**.

Pal-Pac had five attending the BHS International Convention in Toronto: **Al Leuthe, Ben Read, Milos Koutsky, Rich Kellam** and **Silas Burdick**.

Visit us at: www.musicmenchorus.org

Riverside Chapter

By Gaylord Spence

The **Riverside Chapter** is pleased to announce our move to a new meeting/rehearsal site: the University United Methodist Church in Redlands. Its close proximity to the University of Redlands offers us greater potential for the recruitment of younger voices. This, with the amazing progress of our new (and youthful) director, **Carl Buntin**, sets the tone for a new sense of excitement within the chorus!

We are also pleased to announce new member **David Rivas**. The current attendance of other new and younger voices, some poised for application for membership, lets us know that our move was a most positive decision!

With all of this excitement we have also ramped up our performance schedule for the summer by singing the National Anthem at the Rancho Cucamonga Epicenter, singing the devotionals at St. Paul's Methodist Church in San Bernardino, our 3rd Annual Show at Sun Lakes Country Club in Banning, and another show at University United Methodist Church in Redlands.

Visit us at: www.newgangchorus.org

San Diego Chapter By Ducrot Pepys

Sun Harbor won "**Most Improved Chorus**" at our Division Contest and we are looking forward to entertaining the audience and judges at District. We have half the members (**Dave Garstang & Neal Palmer**) of a District qualified quartet: **Behind the Barn**.

Our Director **Kathleen Hansen** keeps our current rep of 20+ songs performance ready while adding a couple each season. We are preparing for a number of shows.

Our quartets were active with a corporate gig for Whole Foods and an engagement party on the Harbor. **Bill Beacom, Sam Alexander, Neal Palmer, and Craig Hughes** make up one of several quartets.

Three members attended Harmony University: **Louis Regas, Gary Mathews, and Eric Adams**. Eric won the **Joe White Memorial Scholarship** for his enthusiasm and commitment to performance.

San Diego is a mecca for visitors and our rehearsals draw guests from around the world. JD from Oklahoma City visited recently. He is a 53-year member of the Society and spent the entire evening on the risers with us. We later learned that he is a very young 93.

Visit us at: www.sunharbor.org

South Orange County Chapter By Irv Engel

It's a very exciting time to be a member of **South County Sound**. Under the direction of **Martin Fredstrom**, we are singing better than ever. With some welcome publicity from the local newspaper, we've had more qualified guests than ever, and our numbers are growing. In our recent show *Songs Across America*, we got to sing to a sold-out audience that was very enthusiastic.

We are having fun at every meeting which adds enthusiasm. The only way that a man can be certain that he knows his part perfectly is if he can carry his part in a quartet. As quarteting is a lot of fun for most of us, and as we have added spontaneous quarteting to every meeting, we give everyone the incentive to know his part perfectly in the context of a good time. Singing in a chorus where every man knows his part is very attractive to

our guests and also a big bonus to our audiences when we put on a show. Men just love being a part of creating a quality sound.

Visit us at: www.scsound.org



Division 3 NW Chapters **John Heather, Editor**

Marin County By Ken Petron

Hi Neighbor! This'll be quick! Marketing and PR are our primary concerns, as a successful resolution comes with potential growth in membership and audience. Because we're singing better than we have in a long time! So when we get 'em in the door

we have a chance.

In other news, we're happy to have put on a show for the Marin County fairgoers, and proud to have sung the National Anthem on the 4th of July at the San Rafael Pacifics ball game. Plans are underway for our 59th annual fall show, so stay tuned!

Visit us at www.marinbarbershopchorus.org

Palo Alto/Mountain View By David Weatherford

The Peninsulaires annual Spring Show, entitled "*We've Got Rhythm*," drew a large crowd to the Mission City Center for the Performing Arts in Santa Clara. Our guest quartet, **95 North**, wowed the audience with their smooth renditions of old favorites, while chapter quartets and the chorus entertained with selections covering the 75-year history of the Society.

World Music Day in Palo Alto, held each Father's Day, this year hosted over 50 musical groups of all genres, including **The Peninsulaires**. Appreciative crowds welcomed the chorus as we sang, led by our Assistant Director, **Mark Torrence**. You can find a brief video on YouTube that features our performance of *God Bless America* at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_i3XviEdtZ4. (Scroll to the end)

July was busy with four public performances, including July 4th at Ardenwood Historic Farm, followed by a San Jose Giants baseball game, a Los Gatos Meadows retirement community, and the Palo Alto farmer's market. We had our annual picnic, featuring master chef **Jim Turner's** mouth-watering barbecue.

Another session of the Singer's Voice Clinic starts September 10th and runs for six weeks. Spread the word! Tuesday nights at 7:30, 535 Old San Francisco Road, Sunnyvale.

Visit us at www.barbershop-harmony.org

San Francisco By Don Kington

For the first time, at least in memory, the **Cable Car Chorus's** annual performance at the annual Memorial Day ceremony at the Presidio National Cemetery received both newspaper and TV coverage. The chorus, under the direction of Assistant Director **Jason Poyner**, sang *God Bless America* and received a standing ovation from the large crowd.

A quartet made up of chorus members: **Tom Carter, Orv Teising, James Campbell** and **Greg Goyhenetche** (under the alias **SF Cable Car Quartet**), sang for the retirement ceremony

and the reception that followed for **Captain Robert Forgit** of the Coast Guard, honoring 30 years of service. The quartet sang the *Stars Spangled Banner* during the ceremony while the Colors were flown. **Captain Forgit**, a former barbershopper, had specifically requested a barbershop quartet for his retirement event. At the later reception the captain joined the quartet as the lead singing *Lida Rose* to his mother and *Sweet and Lovely* as a baritone to his wife.

Fred Merrick, chorus bari/lead as needed, was an organizer of and performance "star" at the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association, 2013 Reunion. **Fred** served in the US Navy from 1963 to 1972. He had duty in the Vietnam Zone at sea in the 1960s. He is an ordained pastor for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Visit us at www.sfcablecarchorus.org

San Mateo

By Thomas Addison

The **Golden Chordsmen** moved to a new venue for our Tuesday night chapter meetings. After more than 25 years at the Burlingame Intermediate School music room, we moved to the First Presbyterian Church of Burlingame. While we had many happy memories at BIS we are very excited to move to a community church where our Director **Cort Bender** is the music director. We had a successful guest night from which we were able to recruit three new members.

Visit us at www.goldenchordsmen.org

Santa Rosa

By Ray Crowder

Our annual summer show, "*Celebrate Harmony*", was a huge success. Despite performing at a new venue, Redwood Covenant Church, we had large audiences at both our matinee, and evening performances. Kudos to our 2013 Show Chairman, **Shelly Albaum**. Also, a big thankyou to our chapter quartets, **Chordhouse Squares**, **Just One More Song**, **Rare Form**, **Singularity**, and our guest quartet, 2013 NE Division quartet and college champs **SBPC**.

Shelly Albaum, who is also our super Program Veep, initiated a chapter Harmony brigade by drawing names to create seven individual quartets who will have two months to learn a song to perform in front of the chorus. We might even take some of these quartets down to the Santa Rosa Wednesday Night Market which really draws large, enthusiastic crowds. This is a great way to get everybody involved in quartet singing, and we have 28 members involved in this program.

One of our new registered quartets, **Rare Form**, was busy recently with multiple performances at the Vintage Park Seniors complex, and an appearance at the Wild Oak Saddle Club.

We welcome our newest members **Joe McCarty**, **David Lee**, and **Miles Brown**, and we welcome back several current members who have been on extended summertime leave **Ben Fynan**, **Jeff Brant**, and **Caden Hare**. Our recent guests include **Gary Huntsman**, **David Nelson**, **Jordan Reese**, **Bob Giannini**, former Chordsmen **Richard Burby**, and former Director of the Napa barbershop chorus, **Craig Rode**.

Visit us at www.chordsmen.groupanizer.com

SF Bay Cities Quartet

By Jordan Makower

Every organization experiences a temporary drop in attendance during the summer, as people travel, or take a vacation. So it was with the SFBCQ, as a bunch of us sat around a large table to sing the *Barber PoleCat* songs. We probably felt like the castaways on the old TV show, "Gilligan's Island". The group that gathered included a retired Navy Engineer, an Electrician, a Businessman, a Lawyer, a few retired teachers, and a Mining Consultant.

Bill Beck and his wife, **Cecile**, told us of the BHS 75th Anniversary Convention in Toronto. **Bill** was wearing a jacket bedecked with patches from each convention he had attended throughout his long membership in SPEBSQSA/BHS. **Sieg** and **Ruth Yoder** told of their recent visit with friends and family in Finland. **Dave Laubscher** talked about his quartet, **Four Gents In Accord**, and their recent singing engagements. **David Tuttelman** did remarkably well in singing bass and bari parts in various songs. **Sam Morocco**, a bass banjo player from the Wednesday night group at Harry's Hofbrau, briefly joined us, as he and **Bill** exchanged stories about the choruses they both sang in, recalling people they had sung with.

We meet for dinner the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month in Harry's, and the 1st Wednesday (as the Harmony For Lunch Bunch). Always glad to welcome new and familiar faces.

Visit us at www.sfbayquartets.org



Division 4 NE Chapters

Roger Perkins, Editor

California Delta Chapter

By Rich Brunner

Voices of California presented our annual Spring Show "*The Great American Cookbook*" in May at the grand old Crest

Theater in Sacramento. The two shows also featured **Four Voices** (who came out of semi-retirement to participate) and **Artistic License**, the 2011 FWD Champions. Our first time in this venue presented a handful of unique challenges, such as working without a curtain, but none were insurmountable and the audience seemed to have a great time. The afterglow was held right there on site and singing went on (and on and on) until the wee small hours of the morning. The first half of the show featured all cooking or restaurant related tunes, such as *As Long As We're Cookin' (medley)*, *Put It On A Ritz*, *Recipe For Love*, *Be Our Guest*, etc. The show ended with a "once in a lifetime" performance, singing *All Rise* with **Four Voices** and **Artistic License** joining the chorus and the amazing **Lester Rector** blowing the roof off the theater with the featured solo.

Immediately after the show (all right, we took a whole 24 hours off to exhale), the chorus started heads-down work on our first ever International performance. The guys had great fun buffing and polishing a pair of songs for about 6 weeks so we could make a positive first impression in Toronto. The major troop movements involved in getting 78 guys all the way back to Toronto (got your passport?) were quite a logistical effort for this rookie troupe. We all had fun with the whole process and appreciated every step in our first time together on the big stage. Not the least of the effort was trying to figure out how to get an entire professional kitchen from Sacramento to the stage in Canada. Our last-minute preparations included figuring out how to plug in **Lunch Break**, the comedic darlings of the

International stage, who made a brief on-stage cameo in the midst of one of our songs. Nice to work with real pros.

Our performance in Toronto was a highlight that none of the participants will likely forget. Everyone felt very ready and the stage itself was very friendly. The positive energy on stage was palpable during our eight minutes and the guys had an absolute blast sharing our performance with the world. What's more, we were thrilled to receive our highest score ever in contest. We were all very proud to represent the mighty Far Western District and can't wait to go back and apply our lessons learned in subsequent years.

Central California Chapter

By Miles Sutter

The weeks of May 21st thru June 4th were 'dark' but we weren't inactive! We went to Walnut Creek, Stockton and Auburn respectively. It was a perfect time to mingle with our fellow barbershoppers.

The Walnut Creek **Diablo Vista Ice Cream Social Sweet Adeline's Chorus** hosted their annual event to raise funds for their Young Ladies Youth Harmony Camp. It featured a quartet performance by **Ladies First** from Concord High School plus a performance by 43 girls. We heard from quartets, our hosts, the Sweet Adelines, octets and even our own **Bruce Sellnow** with his new quartet **Velocity**. Our financial contributions will help send girls to the Sweet Adeline summer camps—very similar to what we do with the young men. **The Golden Valley Chorus** entertained the crowd with *It's A Good Day, River of No Return*, and *Lullaby In Ragtime*.

The **Stockton Portsmen** graciously invited us to perform the National Anthem with them on this Memorial Day, and we got to enjoy the baseball game afterwards! Later on, someone I took to be a Banner Island bigwig had some very complimentary things ("best rendition I've ever heard") to say about it.

Twelve of us made the trip to Auburn and experienced the 22nd "**John Gurulé Memorial Somewhat Serious Quartet Contest and Bean Feed**". Thank you, **Nevada Placer Chapter**, **Roger Perkins** et al, for a very entertaining evening. 21 quartets performed in front of 100 guests, and were very well received. **First Strike**, former Novice Quartet Champs, performed at the start of this evenings festivities, and closed this prestigious occasion with four additional songs. Barbershoppers have to have food, and we weren't disappointed. **Richard Lund** (aka O. C. Cash) did a fantastic job as MC! Special thanks to **Stratt Riggs** for providing the transportation for Herb, Derrick and myself.

We are recruiting new members for the Youth Chorus and have a steady group of 8, plus Director. We need 12 including Director to compete in Long Beach.

Davis-Vacaville Chapter

By Tom Powers

We have been working hard on our contest package for Bakersfield this October, brushing up on our current repertoire, and starting to learn new music for our annual show next spring. We plan to continue what we started last year by presenting a series of scheduled holiday performances featuring songs from the Society's song book as well as several non-religious pieces—all to be sung without song books or printed sheet music.

We're working on Polecat songs with the goal of qualifying every member for a Polecat pin. Each man must sing each song in a quartet with meticulous records being kept by our eagle-eyed attorney and bass section leader, **Claude Rohwer**. The obvious side benefit of this program is to improve the overall quality of the chorus' singing and performance techniques.

The **Davis-Vacaville Chorus** agreed to be the host chapter for this year's Leadership Academy (previously known as "COTS") to be held at McGeorge Law School in Sacramento. The tentative date is Saturday, November 23rd.

Folsom Chapter

By Dennis Stohl

The **Folsom Harmony Express** members participated in the funeral services for **Jack McPhillips**, a long time "Barbershopper" and a member of our chorus. He originally was a member of the **Sacramento Capitolaire**s and later joined our chorus as well as the **Nevada Placer Sierranaders** in Auburn.

We sang patriotic songs for Memorial Day celebration, and this has become a tradition for our chorus and for the Citrus Heights chapter for the Veterans of Foreign wars.

"*Barbershop Olympics*" was the theme of the May 30th meeting. Awards were given for the longest note, highest and lowest note, and many other categories. Winner received Olympic style medals. They also tasted very good as they were made of chocolate.

Our chorus took top honors at the Nevada Placer Sierranaders Bean Feed and Somewhat Serious Quartet Contest on June 4. We had the best attendance out of about eight different chapters that participated.

Chorus members sang for the residents of the Eskaton Village highlighting the old songs.

Bill Dunbar joined our chorus this month. We are happy to have another fine tenor in our chapter.

Nevada Placer Chapter

By Roger Perkins

The **Sierranaders** held their 22nd annual **John Gurulé Memorial Somewhat Serious Quartet Contest and Bean Feed** on June 4. We had close to 100 in attendance. We started serving the beans and hot dogs at 6:00 p.m. once again on the back deck at the Senior Center where the Sierranaders practice weekly. **Tony Prowense** and **Verne Bagby** provided the food and several helped with the cooking and serving beans (**Tom Klasey**, **Ron Zandona**, and **Richard Graydon**). **Ken Potter** did a great job providing the drinks, (beer, wine, sodas and water), and he had help from **Marion Gribskov**. **Mike Gagon** set up and operated the sound system. **Roger** and **Phyllis Fox** did all of the technical work for the contest which included getting the names of the participants and their quartets. The rules allow 25 quartets (one song each) and this year we had 21 that signed up.

We were privileged to have **O.C. Cash** as our M.C. this year. I know that is hard to believe, but **Richard Lund** brought him to our installation dinner this year and was also our show MC, so we thought he might make another appearance at this annual event. **Ray Rhymer** sat in the front row to take pictures of all of the quartets. This year our third place quartet was **Three Men and a Crutch**. In second place was **The Four Tenors**

(Steve Mathews, Les Cudworth, Roger Perkins, Ozzie Palos) and in first place **Above C Level** (Roger Santiago, Kent Borrowdale, Ken Potter, Bob Roberts).

We were fortunate to have **First Strike** come all the way up from Menlo Park to act as our judges. They were NorCal Novice Champs two years ago and placed 6th in the Int'l prelims in Lodi in March. They first sang as mic testers and after the contest performed a few songs for the audience. Northern California barbershoppers came from Sacramento, San Jose (VIH), Placerville, Folsom, Reno, Central Valley, Stockton, VoCal and Nevada Placer. Folsom won the award this year for the best participation. Chorus Director **Kent Borrowdale** was presented with the award.

Reno Chapter By Steve Shurtliff

Our annual show had a very good and appreciative house, and we were proud to have the 2013 Sweet Adeline champs **Touché** as headliners. The **Velvet Frogs** performed very well also.

The **Reno Aces**, (our triple-A baseball team), hosted this year's AAA All-Star game, with a Home Run Derby event for which we sang the National Anthem. It went very well, and the Aces have let us know that they will definitely want us back.

We are now in mid-July, and in Reno that means **ArtTown**, which is a month-long celebration of the arts with many kinds of music, theater and visual arts going on all over town. The house was packed, and gave us a very enthusiastic response. It seems Barbershop harmony is getting more and more popular around here!

We heartily welcome many new visitors to our chorus! Our membership is growing overall, and once some paperwork goes through I'll have more new members to announce.

Sacramento Chapter By Joe Samora

Dan Swink, Membership Vice President, is recuperating from heart surgery. Several members are performing his duties until he returns.

The **Capitolaire**s had a good time once again participating in the annual **Bean Feed/Somewhat Serious Quartet Contest** hosted by the **Nevada Placer Chapter** on June 4. Attendance was excellent once again.

Twenty-one **Capitolaire**s sang the National Anthem during the **Sacramento River Cats** Baseball Games on June 23 and July 22 under the direction of **Randy Finger**.

The **Capitolaire**s are conducting a nationwide chorus director search after the departure of **Ron Black**. Any person interested in more information should visit our website www.capitolaire.org and contact **President Clark Abrahamson** c.abrahamson@comcast.net. **Randy Finger** has been appointed Director through December 31, 2013.



Division 5 AZ Chapters Frank Ortega, Editor

Casa Grande Chapter By Loren Englund

The **Desert Sounds** chorus got a great boost recently by the visitation of 11 singers from the Mesa **East Valley Lamplighters**, including their Assistant Director **Jim Brown**. A nice afterglow followed, and prospective members showing interest in joining added to the evening's festivities.

Greater Phoenix Chapter By Bob Szabo

Vocal Edition [Eric Bjornsen, Tim McMullen, Dan Davenport, Danny Ryan] qualified at Prelims to represent the **Spirit of Phoenix** in Toronto.

In April, the Greater Phoenix Chapter, in recognition of its 70th anniversary, presented their annual show "Through the Years" at the Orpheum Theatre in downtown Phoenix.

SOP took first place at the Arizona Division Chorus Contest, qualifying for District in Bakersfield this October. Five chapter quartets also qualified: **Vocal Edition**, **Speakeasy** (Novice Quartet Champs, too), **Frequency**, **Whoop 'Em Up**, and **Heat Wave**.

David Melville and **Bob Szabo** received Bachelor of Harmony awards for their many contributions and participation throughout their barbershop careers.

The chorus got excellent outside coaching during this period by former FWD member **Brent Graham** and, by now, "Two-Time International Quartet Champion" **Brett Littlefield**. Many worthwhile techniques and recommendations were used throughout the two different coaching weekends.

Longtime quartet man and former Assistant Director **Fraser Brown** was acknowledged in the 75th Anniversary issue of The Harmonizer for setting a Barbershop Harmony Society record. Fraser made 27 consecutive International appearances from 1980-2006. In 21 of his first 22 appearances, his quartets finished in the semifinals 21 times. He finished third twice and in the top ten 13 times. No one else even comes close to this record! Congratulations again to Fraser Brown, baritone of the 2009 Seniors Quartet Champion, **Audacity**!

Mesa Chapter By Rich Carey

The **Lamplighters** participated in the Arizona Division Contest doing an entertainment set. Chapter quartet **Back Spin** [Dale Weatherford, Bob Shaffer, Andy Harry, Jerry Fox] competed in the quartet contest.

The chorus presented a \$500 scholarship, as well as \$500 matching funds from the AZ Division Youth in Harmony Fund, to two local senior student musicians from Chandler High School (**Steven Juniel** and **Jonathon Sheldon**).

Two new quartets joined the chapter's quartet list: **Mostly Vintage** [Roger Morrow, Rich Carey, Jim McClelland, Jim Brown] and **TILT** [Ron Steen, Rich Carey, Ray Stasko, Bernie Esberner]. The chapter now has four quartets: **Back Spin**, **Two Under Par**, **Mostly Vintage** and **TILT**.

The Lamplighters performed at the Westchester Senior Living facility in Tempe in June. Back Spin did a set; Mostly Vintage and TILT made their debut.

Nine chapter members visited the Casa Grande Chapter in July to ring some chords and have fun.

Jim Beutel became a dual member with Mesa and Greater Phoenix. **Adam Rutherford** was welcomed into membership.

Prescott Chapter

By Sam Stimpfe

Several members attended the annual Prescott High School Spring Concert. Entirely student-produced and superbly presented with the assistance of the music and drama staff, the evening's entertainment was the musical called "*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*." We are in touch with the school's director of choral music to let him know we support what his choruses are doing, and we want to encourage some of the young singers to consider the wonderful world of barbershop.

Lynn Grubb designed a new chapter website, and everyone is invited to check it out at

<http://highmountainchordsmen.org>.

Our 35-year-old chorus risers have new back railings, refurbished carpet treads, and white skirting. With these additions and improvements, the risers should last another 30 years.

The **High Mountain Chordsmen** are pleased to announcement the revival of Harmony for Lunch Bunch. We will meet every fourth Friday at 11:00 am at the Golden Corral (1901 E. State Route 69) in Prescott. Call President **Ed Massa** at 928-273-1397 for more information. All barbershoppers, barbershop lovers, guests, and especially out-of-town visitors are 'chord-ially' invited. The next gathering will be held August 23.

The chapter produced another successful cabaret dinner show. It was an evening of 'good food and fun' at the Moose Lodge in Prescott Valley, with lots of chorus and quartet singing and an audience sing-along.

On the Friday afternoon of the Father's Day weekend, the chorus entertained the residents and guests of the Arizona Pioneers Home. This has become an annual tradition that always receives rave reviews.

Sedona Chapter

By Lee Shoptaugh

Harmony on the Rocks extends a warm welcome to our newest Sedona Chapter members, **Phil Rosen** and **Matt Brown**. Phil decided to join after attending a couple of guest nights. Matt literally walked in off the street looking for a barbershop chorus. He has blessed our chapter with this luck of "serendipity." The average age of our chorus is a little more than 70, and Matt has helped us lower that average considerably.

Secretary and Chorus Manager **Lee Shoptaugh** was named 2012 Barbershopper of the Year.

The chorus performed at the Sedona Elks Club on a program billed as the "*Lids of Life*." **Bob Carlson**'s script and prop referred to a "hat rack" that eventually contained a number of hats symbolizing each song that we sang. Some numbers included, for example, "*When I'm 64*" (birthday party hat), "*Cool Water*" (cowboy hat), and "*Breaking Up Is Hard To Do*" (hard hat).

Matt Tucker volunteered to take over the webmaster task.

Chorus Director **John McDougald** recently added a temporary rehearsal technique that places our approximately 20 members in a circle facing each other. So far, the "chairs-in-the-round" seems to be catching on favorably. The technique is intended to promote "smiling faces" looking at each other.

Storm Front's lead **Jim Clark**, representing the Society's Harmony Foundation, attended our rehearsal in late July, spent the evening with us and, of course, convinced some of us to give to Ambassadors of Song to help strengthen the Society's youth music education program.

Tucson Sunshine Chapter

By Jack Statler

TSC hosted the 2013 AZ Division 5 Convention in Phoenix. The Quartet Harmony Platoon program **was** held the previous Friday. Chapter quartet **Joint Venture** earned Senior's champion recognition and finished third overall, eligible to compete in the District Contest this fall. **Tucson Barbershop Experience** (TBX) was named Plateau AA Champion, finished second overall, and qualified for District competition in October.

TBX has wowed fans at four Tucson Padres baseball games with their performance of the national anthem. During the 7th inning stretch, the chorus has led them in singing "*God Bless America*."

TBX Ensemble had a return engagement at the annual Tucson Medical Center's Centenarian's Recognition Luncheon, performing for the 100+ year-olds who had a grand old time, especially the repeat attendees just glad to be there.

At the request of Program VP **Larry Castriotta**, a Unitarian-Universalist Church member, TBX performed for their Pastor Installation Ceremony, singing the inspirational "*You Raised Me Up*."

Chapter members attended a pizza party/fundraiser for Sweet Adelines Regional Quartet Champion **Contempo**, on their way to compete for the GOLD at the SAI International Convention in Hawaii this November, and were treated to a dazzling performance by the foursome. TBX Director **Dayle Ann Cook** sings lead in this talented quartet.

TBX performed as the substitute choir at Sunday services for the Church of the Painted Hills and St. Andrews Presbyterian Church and the Pantano Baptist Church. This activity provides an excellent outreach to receptive congregations, introduces them to the barbershop medium, and gives the chorus rewarding performance opportunities during the slower summer months.

TSC's operative year started on July 1, 2013, with the following board members: President **Jim Rapp**, Secretary **Dave Tompkins**, Treasurer **George Gibson**, Music VP **Jim Hart**, Program VP **Larry Castriotta**, Youth In Harmony VP **Ron Hayes**, Immediate Past President **Frank Hartline**, and at-large members **Doug Rhoads**, **Ed Hecht**, **David Jager**, **Mike Elbert**, and **Wes Krause**.

White Mountain Chapter

By Rich Hall

The **High Country Chorus** presented its annual show in June and audiences enjoyed all the entertainment, including quartet performances by **4 Wheel Drive**, **Knotty Pines**, **Crook's Trail**, and **Broken Record**. The **White Mountain Belles** (SAI) were guest artists on the show.

Crook's Trail participated in the local Wal-Mart fundraiser for the Children's Miracle Network by singing barbershop music while strolling through the store.

One Song at a Time, p1

ONE SONG AT A TIME

*inspired by Russ Young, Far Western District President 2012-13
created for Far Western District*

Words, Music and Arrangement
by JOE LILES

JoeLilesMusic@gmail.com

Swing! **R** *ppp* = **R** *r0*

1 One song at a time, one song at a time, —

2 —

3 —

4 —

5 —

6 —

7 —

8 —

9 —

10 —

11 —

12 —

13 —

bm buh bm one at a time. — One time.

chang - ing the world — one song at a time. — time. —

with one

Keep - a sing - in'! One One song at a time, —

your voice blend - ing with mine. — Chang - ing the the,

©2012 Joe Liles
All Rights Reserved Used by Permission

One Song at a Time, p2

2

One Song at a Time

14 world, _____
 chang - ing the world _____ with one song, _____
 15 one song, _____
 16 me - lo - di - ous song, _____ with

17 one song, _____
 one har - mo - ni - ous song, _____ at a time! _____
 18 touch - ing hearts, _____
 19 reach - ing out, _____
 20 touch - ing hearts, _____

21 one song at a time! _____
 one song at a time! _____
 22 Oh, _____ yeah! _____
 23 time, _____ buh bm one at a time! _____
 24

Optional Tag
 22 Oh, YEA! _____
 23 buh bm one at a time! _____
 24



FWD 2013 Fall Registration
for Convention and Contest in Bakersfield

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT 2013 FALL CONTEST AND CONVENTION

Contests and Show

District Quartet Contest
District Chorus Contest
District Senior Quartet Contest
Show of Champions

HOSTED BY THE


MIGHTY OAK CHORUS
OCTOBER 10-13, 2013
Rabobank Convention Center
Bakersfield, CA

Meetings and Events

District Board Meeting
House of Delegates Meeting
Past District Presidents Meeting
AH-SOW
Harmony Platoon
Classes and Workshops

REGISTRATION PRICES		HOTEL INFORMATION
ALL CONTESTANTS MUST BUY AN ALL EVENTS REGISTRATION FOR THE APPLICABLE AGE GROUP		All Hotel Reservations <u>must</u> be made online using the FWD website http://www.fwdconventions.org Contact a chapter member if you do not have computer access. No Chapter Room Blocks this year. Individual registrations only.
ALL EVENTS EARLY BIRD (Postmarked by September 10 th)	ALL EVENTS LATE / ON SITE (Postmarked after September 10 th)	
ALL EVENTS: Adult\$45.00 Young Adult (under 26).....\$22.50 Non-member under 13Free	ALL EVENTS: Adult\$55.00 Young Adult (under 26)\$27.50 Non-member under 13Free SINGLE EVENT ..\$25.00/ 12.50 each	

2013 FAR WESTERN DISTRICT FALL CONTEST AND CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s)	Chapter or City:	Member	Wife / S.O. / Guest	Child / Young Adult	District Officer	Chapter Delegate	AFWDC / VIP	Amount Due
* _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
_____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
_____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
_____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
_____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
_____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
_____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
_____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
_____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
_____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
*Address _____								
City _____	State _____ Zip _____							
Email _____	Phone _____							
Competing with: _____								

Mail one form for your party (up to eight names per sheet), and a check covering all registrations to: **DEE BAUGHMAN – FALL REGISTRATIONS, 5236 W Oriole Ave., Visalia, CA 93291**

☐ Check here if you have a disability that may require accommodation in order for you to fully participate in the convention. Make check payable to: **MIGHTY OAK CHORUS** or include CC info below

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____ ☐ Visa ☐ M/C ☐ Discover ☐ Amex Number _____

Card Expiration ____/____/____ Signature _____

Find online order link at www.fwdconventions.org —

Questions? Call (559) 625-1468 or e-mail shermbl@hotmail.com