



The 2010 Fall Convention is dedicated to George "Fritz" Grunenwald

The Far Western District Board of Directors and the District Membership are proud to dedicate the 2010 Fall Convention to Fritz Grunenwald. Read on to learn why the Awards Committee selected this gentleman for this honor.

In 1969 Fritz attended his first barbershop chapter meeting at the Whittier Chapter and for the next two years he was a part-time member due to work commitments. In 1971 he committed full time to the Whittier Chapter and has been active in barbershopping ever since. The Chapter President appointed him as Bulletin Editor, a board position, and for the next twenty years he was a member of the chapter board in various positions. He held every elected office except Treasurer. He became Chapter President in 1977 and again in 1986 when the chapter had grown to over 200 members, the first double century chapter in the Society.

Fritz joined the Whittier Show Production Staff in 1972 and worked as Producer/Director/Set Designer for the next 20 years. He and other members of the Show Staff wrote the Show Production Manual that the Society used as a guide for many years. He has continued in this capacity upon retiring, after moving and joining the (old) Riverside, Inland Cities and ultimately the (new) Riverside Chapter.

Also in 1972 he was sent to COTS (Chapter Officers Training Seminar) by the chapter to take the Bulletin/PR Class. He ended up teaching the class and was a COTS instructor for many different Chapter Board Positions for 26 years. In addition during the 70's he was WESTUNES SoCal East reporter/photographer. In 1986 he became Editor of WESTUNES for the next two years. Another milestone in 1986 was becoming assistant to the FWD RCMPC (Regional Convention & Meeting Planning Chairman). Fritz became SoCal RCMPC in 1994 and held that job until 1998 when he became FWD VP Events. As RCMPC he re-wrote and up-dated the Convention Regulations Manuals, making them informative and user friendly. He has constantly been revising the manuals and his latest edition of the information on how to run a convention (produced on a CD) was delivered to the FWD Board Members in March 2010.

As FWD Events VP, Fritz recruited excellent men as Events Planners and formed the FWD Events Team to manage all FWD Conventions, using chapters-for-hire as the labor force many times. He has committed himself to Barbershopping since joining over 41 years ago. He also has been an active quartet man for many years and is currently singing in a quartet with his old friend Emmett Bossing.

Fritz has one daughter Celia who resides in England with her husband. His six grown grandchildren and six great-grandchildren are his pride and joy. You might wonder why he is known as "Fritz" and not his given name "George." Well, when he started getting grandchildren, grandfathers, great-grandfather and uncle were all named "George." So in 1972 he became "Fritz," a good German name that fits him and his personality. He is retired and lives in Menifee (Sun City) California with his friends, quartet, and computer.

Fritz, like many barbershoppers, is well educated, had a very successful business career, was in the service of his country (Air Force - 8 year commitment) and is very deserving to have this

convention dedicated to him. If you see Fritz during this weekend, please greet him and shake his hand and congratulate him for all he has done for the Far Western District barbershoppers. A hug is also okay.