



Far Western District

Hall of Fame

Joe Salz - 2002

Joe Salz has been a barbershopper for over 50 years, starting in high school in Dubuque, Iowa. He joined the Society in 1948 as a member of the Hollywood Chapter and formed his first quartet, The Harmony Hi-Liters, at his first meeting. He has been actively involved since then and continues to contribute as one of the all-time greats of the Far Western District.

On the chapter level, in addition to active participation in quartets and chorus, competition and local performances, Joe has held every office and committee position and some of them several times. He has been an active member in Dubuque, IA, Altoona, PA, Phoenix, AZ, South Bay, CA, Sacramento, CA, and Sun City, AZ. He was President of the Phoenix Chapter when they first became a century chapter. He proudly wears a Gold Medal won with the Phoenicians in 1972.

On the district level he has served nine years on the Far Western District Board of Directors as District Treasurer and has also served on the Ethics Committee, Long Range Planning Committee, and taught the Program VP Classes at District COTS. Most recently he was Chairman of the FWD 50-Year Celebration Committee. He is the proud recipient of the FWD President's Award bestowed in 1981.

Joe has sung in numerous quartets, starting with the Harmony Hi-Liters, that have brought recognition to the Far Western District. The 1957 FWD Champion Desert Knights, who along with the "Knight Nurses" are still performing on chapter shows; the 1972 FWD Champion Stage Four; The Coastliners, International Representatives in 1963, 1964 and 1965, placing as high as 11th in Society competition.

Quartetting has taken Joe to the four corners of the USA, to Canada, and on tour with USO in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, along with the late Bud Thomas and the Champion Four Bits of Harmony. Other quartets include the Rolling Tones, the J-Walkers, Nostalgia, and the Gold Standard.

Joe has been a prominent figure in the Far Western District and has been deeply involved in the making of its history and reputation for most of its existence. Among Joe's many awards and mementos is one which he wears with great pride—his 50-Year Member Pin awarded to him at the Society Convention in Atlanta in 1998.

Professionally Joe Salz is semi-retired as the Arizona Representative of Geiger Brothers/West, offering specialty advertising. He retired from a long career as a Credit Union Manager and Treasurer.