



Westags

The Far Western District Spring Convention in brief....
Sparks, Nevada. March 18-21, 2004



FOUR (Maybe More?) TO LOUISVILLE!

Achieving the "magic number" of 2736 points (76%) in Sparks at the Far Western District International Quartet Preliminary contest were:

GOTCHA! (3209, 89.1%)

Metropolis (3130, 86.9%)

Q (2877, 79.9%)

Hi-Fidelity (2790, 77.5%)

And, missing it by a mere .02% was the up-and-coming quartet from Westminster and MOH, **O.C.Times**. (Watch out next year!)

Still to come are the results of the FWD quartets that have chosen to compete out of District: **Finale** (competing in Evergreen District) and **Broadway** (competing in Sunshine District). Stay tuned for the results!

In FWD's first combination Spring Prelim-NorCal East Divisional, 19 quartets trod the boards with some opting for the Prelims, some for the Divisional and some for both.

The top NorCal East Quartet and qualifying for the Fall district contest was **WhirlWind** (Stockton and Santa Rosa).

Reno' *Silver Dollar Chorus* bested second place **Fresno** by a mere 3 points to win (again) the NorCal East Chorus Contest.

The High School Quartet Contest, which was judged by **Gotcha** and **Metropolis**, found four good-sounding young quartets vying for the crown. **The Burninators** took the gold with **Let It Ride**, **Namesake**, and **B Sharp** close behind. Awards were presented by last year's top High School Quartet Da **Isle Tones**, of Honolulu, Hawaii.

CONVENTION AWARDS

The convention was dedicated to long-time (over 45 year) Society member and Fullerton Chapter member, **Stan French!** At an active age of 87, he attributes his longevity to the three "B's": **Barbershopping**, **vitamin B** and **Budweiser**, in that order.

Past President John Krizek' **President's Award** was presented to a very surprised **Ellie and Deane Scoville** (Fullerton Chapter) for their continuous and active support of the district and the hobby. And, almost immediately after, **Deane** was inducted into the prestigious **FWD Hall Of Fame** by **Joe Saltz** and the near-dozen current members of HOF who were in attendance.

Placerville was named "*Chapter Of The Year*," as a result of their fine efforts in behalf of Barbershopping as a whole demonstrating leadership within FWD.

BOD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

FWD President, Peter Feeney opened his administration's first board of directors meeting on Thursday night and it was concluded before noon on Friday (recessing, of course at a reasonable time on Thursday night). All elected officers were present. Reports and issues discussed and resolved included:

- Comments by **Rob Hopkins**, Society President
- Observations by **Mike Lanctot**, the Society Board member representing FWD and Evergreen.
- The donation of two registrations for the Fall convention for the grand prize for the Harmony Foundation raffle.
- Approval of the current District Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) (See it soon on the FWD website).
- Approval for South Bay to compete in SoCal East to relieve the conflict brought about by the date change for the two contests. .
- Approval of the merger of East Bay and Walnut Creek chapters.
- To approve a one-time reduction of the seating requirement for the Fall 2007 convention from 3000 to 2300.
- To modify the budget to permit additional funds for COTS, Financial Development and Leadership Forum attendance.

HOD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Delegates and officers attending the Spring meeting of the FWD House of Delegates were treated to an inside look at the President **Rob Hopkins'** upcoming plans for the Society near and far term. Other important issues were presented to the assembled delegates and included:

- The winners of the FWD District Bulletin Contest
 - **1st Place (Large, 6+ pages):** Dick Cote, Fullerton Chapter, *Barbershop Clipping's*
 - **2nd Place (Large):** Alan Swanson, Sacramento, *Swipes & Tags*
 - **3rd Place (Large):** Mike Murphy, Rincon Beach. *The Wave*
 - **1st Place (Small, 6 or fewer pages):** Tom Ennis, Bay Area Metro, *Gold Standard*
 - **2nd Place (Small):** Frank Martin, Placerville, *Gold Rush Gazette*
- The world Premiere showing of the new FWD YMIH Video, Youth Harmony Camp. A 16 + minute chronicle of the recent YMIH summer camp in Sly Park in Pollock Pines, California. (**See it! Get one!**)
- Special contributions were made to the Westminster Chapter chorus to help them get to Louisville this summer. The **Orange Chapter** provided \$3500 and the **Sun Cities Chapter** gave \$1000!