



# Westags

The Far Western District Fall Convention in brief....  
Sacramento, California October 8-11, 2009



## In the Contest Arena

Were you there to see Westminster romp home a full 128 points ahead of the nearest competitor? If not,--you really missed something. But, did you watch it on the WEBCAST? If so, you joined Barbershoppers and patrons all over the Society who tuned in FWD's first webcast. The bottom line hasn't been calculated yet but by all early accounts, it was highly successful both on the patron's and the district's behalf.

Final contest results:

**Chorus Champion: Westminster (92.4%)**

**Bay Area (88.3%), La Jolla ( 75.2%).**

**Quartet Champion: The Edge (83.0%)**

**The Crush (81.16%), The Vagrants (78.1%)**

## Our Hosts: Sacramento

How about that great hosting job **Sacramento** did for us this past weekend? Many thanks guys. (and gals) You made the weekend the perfect place to be: great weather, great singing and great attention to detail by all of you. Again-- Our heartfelt thanks!

## The HOD in Action

Following a fine presentation by SBM **Lou Benedict** as keynote speaker, the HOD took a number of actions:

1. **Changes in the SOP** It approved number of for 2010. They are:

- Five-riser/ 4-step configuration plus a configuration for larger choruses as needed, will be the chorus contest norm
- Added a job description for a new Chairman of Financial Development, a DMT member.
- Reduced to 50 miles (instead of 100) between shows on the same date without a waiver.
- District Nominating Committee will continue to propose candidates for the International BMAL slots

2. **The annual FWD Memorial** carried the names of 51 brothers that have passed on since the last Fall meeting. One bright spot, however, was the error of inclusion of one member, **Scott Sievert**, who is reported very much alive --despite the report of his demise.

3. **New Chapter Formed.**

The **CALIFORNIA DELTA CHAPTER** (D-123), sponsored by Sacramento, was welcomed as FWD's newest chapter

## The Board Meeting in Brief

President **Bob Lally** opened the last board meeting of 2009., also the last board meeting of his administration, at 2 pm at the Hyatt Hotel in Sacramento on Thursday, October 8, 2009.

1. The board welcomed new member, Ted Sayle, DVP Arizona Division, recently elected to replace retiring Gordon Berghold.
2. All officers provided updates on their written reports as published in the Delegate's Fall Delegates Brochure.
3. The Invited Chairmen provided details augmenting their reports in the Fall Delegates Brochure.

The modified agenda included the following that were not included in the brochure:

- a. **Keith Eckhardt**, reporting on District membership status, noting that, among other points of interest, that the average age of member in FWD has *dropped 6%!* Further, that free registrations had been offered to the college or high school singers that would like to attend the convention. (results to follow)
  - b. **Richard Lund** reporting on the continuing success of the Youth Camp under his aegis.
4. The board was provided a proposal by Marketing and PR Chairman, Dan Jordan, for a promotional "Enhanced CD"(not quite a DVD) and accompanying brochure to be used by chapters and the district alike. The "Enhanced CD" will contain: documents., links to International et al., pictures, map of the FWD Chapters, logos, DVD footage of champion performances, audio samples, and a Power Point presentation. The accompanying tri-fold full color brochure will provide a visual picture of the many facets of the district and will identify the contents of the Enhanced CD. He sought and received approval for a quantity of 5000 of each subject to approve of the final material
  5. **Gordon Berghold**, now Chair of the CSLT gang, presented his plan for a new Chapter Service Representative to replace the Chapter Counselors with specialists in different categories to help the chapters to succeed.
  6. **Motions:**
    - To dedicate the Spring 2010 Convention to Sam Barger (MSP)
    - To approve the funding of the FWD promotional enhanced CD and brochure as presented, at a cost not to exceed \$4200, subject to approval of the final product. (MSP)
    - To authorize the treasurer to allocate monies from the Harmony Foundation Fund to pay for the category School for judges candidates and others needing to attend school. (MSP)