



WESTUNES

Magazine

WESTUNES, established in 1951, is the official publication of the
Far Western District Association of Chapters in the
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of BarberShop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

Volume 53

March/April 2003

Number 2



Greater Phoenix Chapter Receives Charter

Front row: Gary Steinkamp, Bill Kane, John Krizek, Russ Young



Sedona Chapter Receives Charter

Roger Fitch, Glen Leitzke, Tom Doeller, John Krizek, Don Tautkus, Eric Williams

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Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of BarberShop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

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| | |
|---------|-----------|
| Issue | Submittal |
| Jan/Feb | 1 Dec |
| Mar/Apr | 1 Feb |
| May/Jun | 1 Apr |
| Jul/Aug | 1 Jun |
| Sep/Oct | 1 Aug |
| Nov/Dec | 1 Oct |

Send change of address to:

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[Please include old and
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District President

John Krizek



On Barbershop Conventions

One of the other district presidents at the Midwinter convention was reminiscing how, when he was a young barbershopper, guys used to decide on Wednesday to load a bunch of guys in a car and the next day drive halfway across the country to attend a barbershop convention—just so they wouldn't miss out on any of the fun. I said he had

me beat, I remember deciding to do that on Monday of convention week.

Our lament was, barbershoppers don't do that so much any more—just go to conventions for the fun of it. Maybe the pressures of our busy modern-day lives are getting it the way. Competition has become the main reason people attend our conventions. Too bad. Not only is a lot of singing fun being missed, our conventions, at least at the district level, are not as well attended as they used to be.

As we head into the Spring cycle of International prelims, division contests and shows, I hope you'll be there, whether you're competing or not. Make it a point not to miss out on all the fun of getting together in the barbershop style. The International convention is a long way away this year (Montreal) so you'd better get your four-part "fix" while it's closer to home!

A Midwinter Report

In addition to all the meetings, the Midwinter in Albuquerque just completed featured a lot of good singing. Our own Metropolis sparkled in their first appearance as a medalist quartet. Our two senior quartets—A Touch of Class and Potluck—did well but didn't crack the top 10 in what has become an increasingly challenging competition.

There is some good news to pass along: The Society's Harmony Foundation-sponsored program of scholarships to Harmony College for first-time directors is being expanded to 75 slots from 50 last year. Each district will get two scholarships with the rest being drawn by lottery. Last year the FWD sent six directors on full scholarships, so we could send even more this year. The deadline for applications is April 1. This is a great program and too good an opportunity to miss. See VP CDD Jim Turnmire for details, or go to the Society web site.

Has your chapter incorporation status been brought up to date? We are reminded again that if you aren't properly incorporated as a nonprofit entity in your state, you aren't covered by Society insurance, you can't receive donated funds, your chapter basically doesn't exist. Let's make sure this requirement is taken care of.

Does your chapter have a visitation or other multi-chapter event planned this spring? There's nothing better to boost esprit de corps than getting together with neighboring chapters.

The plan to restructure the District along divisional lines is continuing. The Restructure Task Force met in January to "flesh out" the organizational framework, following the revised bylaws approved by the House of Delegates in October. More details about this important process will be discussed at the HOD in Reno in March.

Plateau System Report Due

Should we keep the plateau system (A, AA, AAA), which was intended to encourage small chapters to participate in District events—change it, or scrap it? The Task Force chaired by past district president Don Gubbins to study this issue will be making its report to the Board at the Reno convention. Should the small chorus contest be continued? Should we consider combining the International prelims and Spring District convention with one of the divisional contests, in the interests of economy? These and other important issues will be discussed at the House of Delegates meeting March 21st. Your input and participation is encouraged.

One thing for sure, our District nominating committee will have its hands full getting ready for next year. We're always looking for more good people to serve the District in various roles. If you have any inclinations about serving as a District officer, or would like to suggest someone, please get in touch with chairman Terry Aramian, or committee members Deane Scoville or Lloyd Steinkamp.

Are we having fun yet? See you in Reno! Let's Reach the Unreachable Star!

Motto:

**"to reach the
unreachable
star"**

FWD Sunshine Chairman George McCay

8564 Winding Way
Fair oaks, CA 95628
916-961-6112

mccayfwdsunshine@sbcglobal.net

The South Bay Coastliners



SOUTH BAY TO "KICK IT UP A NOTCH" "POW!"

South Bay is very proud of itself. We have 80 plus members, 11 quartets and put on four SRO shows plus a sold out Harmony Sweepstakes (This year featuring Dick Van Dyke and the Vantastics). We are now working on a children's Christmas show, which we are certain, will be another winner both artistically and financially.

One area that we have not concentrated on is the annual contest. We have decided to "KICK IT UP A NOTCH" this year. We won't do it in the usual way, i.e. kick out older or less talented members and/or steal members from the surrounding chapters but instead will do it in the time honored American way. We're rich, we'll buy them.

We are now in negotiations with the Los Angeles Master Chorale and the Screen Actors Guild to hire approximately 75 professional singers to round out the chorus for contest.

If there are any Barbershoppers out there who could use some extra cash please let us know. What we will need is your singing resume and your salary requirements. We are planning to rename the chorus from "The South Bay Coastliners" to "**The Professionals of Harmony**".

Chapter Quartets

| | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Perfect Gentlemen | Sound Union | Asterisk * | Somethin' Cool | Senior |
| Extempore | 5 th Amendment | Docs On The Rocks | The white Spots | Yesterday |
| Once More | Sands of Time | Ready, Willing & Mable | | |

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Hosted by *The Perfect Gentlemen*
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Address: _____ Number of Tickets _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Total Enclosed _____

Checks Payable to: South Bay Coastliners 22511 Cerise Ave. Torrance, Ca. 90505 Tel. (310) 325-7348

Jim Turnmire



At the Fall Convention House of Delegates Meeting, it was reported that we would be concentrating our director training efforts on presenting Chorus Directors' Workshops Intensive (CDWIs). (Hopefully, all chapters sent delegates, and these delegates reported this information back to their chapters.) We have already conducted several successful workshops in our District

the last couple of years, and are planning more. Below is a CDWI Overview for your information. If your chapter would be interested in hosting a workshop, or if your director would be interested in attending one, please contact me. The participants are personally invited, but I would appreciate knowing of anyone that is interested.

CDWI OVERVIEW

The *Chorus Directors' Workshop Intensive (CDWI)* is a powerful one-day educational experience for frontline chorus directors in which they receive one-on-one training and development in one or two areas of their choice. Each workshop experience is part of a long-term development program for the participating director, who can expect in each succeeding workshop to build on what he has learned in the past.

Mission Statement

The mission of the *CDWI* is to provide consistently high-quality training and development for chorus directors in a format which they find to be enjoyable, rewarding, and directly applicable to the challenges they face in their day-to-day musical leadership. As a result of enthusiastic participation in the workshop by chorus directors, the quality of music leadership in the Society will be significantly enhanced.

Defining Characteristics of the CDWI

- The CDWI is offered in a location convenient to the chorus directors; close enough to drive.
- The CDWI is scheduled in a single day, with no need to stay overnight
- Chorus directors are personally invited to participate

d. The CDWI is personally designed for each director based on his (or her) vision, goals, and requests, and is not based on preconceived ideas of what the trainers think the directors need, or what they ought to want.

e. The CDWI employs a training rather than a teaching mode. It seeks to effect a significant change in one or two skills, by providing the opportunity for repeated, reinforced practice on those skills during the workshop.

f. The CDWI employs a faculty to student ratio consistent with personalized training and coaching. The workshop involves two trainers, and a maximum of five chorus directors.

g. During the CDWI, the participant directs a live chorus, thus providing a realistic training environment

h. Consistent with the principle of providing clear and immediate feedback, participants are videotaped while directing, and review their performance on videotape with the faculty member as part of the training process.

i. The CDWI brings chorus directors in the same geographic region together, thus facilitating sharing of resources and mutual support following the workshop.

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|------------------------------------|----------------|-------|
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| Balance Orchestra | @ \$11.00 = \$ | |
| Front Balcony | @ \$ 8.50 = \$ | |
| Rear Balcony | @ \$ 6.50 = \$ | |

SATURDAY EVENING

| | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|--|
| Golden Circle (Rows 1-8 center) | @ \$20.00 = \$ | |
| Balance Orchestra | @ \$15.00 = \$ | |
| Front Balcony | @ \$10.00 = \$ | |
| Rear Balcony | @ \$ 8.00 = \$ | |

TOTAL ENCLOSED = \$

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Fullerton, CA 92833



VP: CS/LT

Bernard Priceman



Measurable goals

It's important that our leaders take stock of their chapter's well being every so often, just like a doctor might take a pulse. Most chapters want to improve their health and get themselves to the next stage, but if they are to do it, they probably ought to know what stage they're at now. And they ought to be comparing what

they're doing to what their mission statement says they ought to be doing. All too often we write our mission statements and then hide them away, never to be revised or critiqued. I wonder how many chapters really take the trouble to re-evaluate on a regular basis, to find out if they are truly meeting their goals.

More on evaluation or assessment later, but right now, let's look at goals. Has your chapter set any measurable goals for 2003? Like what, for example? Well, here's a measurable goal ^ to win the District chorus contest. Here's another ^ to raise \$100 per man for Harmony Foundation. And another ^ to increase membership by 20%. Those are all admirable goals and they're probably all achievable because they're all measurable. When a goal is precise, there's an opportunity for a plan to be drawn and that's a formula for success. Imprecise goals rarely work. So it's not good enough to say "our goal is to increase membership" or "our goal is to do better in contest". Be precise, draw up your plan and then measure its success.

Of course, no chapter is able to do everything. Goal setters will be the first to tell you not to be too ambitious. If you strike out in too many directions, you run the risk of striking out in every direction. Pick just a couple of goals and work hard at them. Involve the entire membership of the chapter. Make them all aware of what you're trying to achieve and get their help, every one of them. If you can manage to achieve two goals in a year, your pride will encourage you to go for more next year. Nothing succeeds like success.

But what of assessment or evaluation? Have you taken the pulse of your chapter recently? Are the members happy? Would they prefer to learn more music? Less music? Easier music? Would they like to do an extra show each year? Would they like to perform benefit concerts for deserving causes? Would they like to meet half an hour earlier or on Tuesday rather than Wednesday? Change is always good. I'm a firm believer in it. Find out what your members want. And it doesn't always have to be in the form of a written survey. I've taken part in many a "Town Meeting" where the leaders of the chapter bring ideas to discuss with the

general membership. All too often we forget this is a hobby and treat chapter management almost as a dictatorship! It shouldn't be that way. Yes, we've been given the job of running the chapter, but we need eyes and ears to be able to take the pulse of the chapter and make sure our decisions and ideas are popular.

So, what are our lessons for the day, chapter leaders? They are to set measurable goals, plan accordingly and listen to your brothers. If you plan, you will succeed and if you listen to your brothers, you'll know how to keep them coming back every week, hopefully with a friend. Our challenge is to improve ourselves continuously. These were a few ideas to help you do just that.



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VP: Events

Sam Barger



Scheduling Conventions

Subsequent to my last article in Westunes (Jan/Feb issue), I have received several inquiries that I will attempt to answer. During the 2002 Fall HOD meeting in Bakersfield, we were faced with the task of changing the Fall convention dates for 2003 and 2004. The reason for this modification was because of a conflict at the headquarters hotel. The dates for 2003 were changed to October 2-5. During the discussion, it was mentioned by one of our Jewish members that Oct. 5th (at sundown) was the start of Yom Kippur. Taking into account the convention will be over on Saturday (Oct. 4th) night, members should be able to return home in time to celebrate this holiday. The only people who are usually involved on Sunday morning are finished by 10:00 a.m. We make a concerted effort to avoid scheduling conventions on religious holidays by using a 15-year calendar. The convention scheduled for 2004 poses no conflict with the new dates.

Another question that has been presented is “why do we have conventions so far away from Southern California” (such as Reno). This year (2003) is the first time a Spring convention has been held in Reno in 6 years. As we search for sites for our conventions, we try to look for places that will present location changes in the District. Along with appropriate sites, we also need to look at prices for hotel rooms, auditorium(s) and availability of airline connections. – Expenses for remote areas will cost the District money. The Fall convention will be held in Bakersfield (which is considered Southern California) for the next 2 years. In 2005, we go to Pasadena and then to San Jose (2006). We are looking at San Diego, Phoenix and Burbank for future convention sites. The difficulty in getting efficient sites to hold conventions lies in the availability of acceptable auditoriums and a community (choruses) to promote them.

We need to look at costs of conventions from the viewpoints of management and participation. We also need to have our District brotherhood attend them. We cannot make everyone happy all the time, but we will keep trying. We will always need your help to support our District.

10 reasons to come to Reno:

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3. Old friends you haven't seen for months or years
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8. Monster Harmony for Lunch bunch
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10. Oh, and did we mention – GAMBLING? Get rich! Lose your shirt! Whatever!

OFFICIAL DELEGATES CALL ANNUAL SPRING MEETING FWD HOUSE OF DELEGATES RENO, NEVADA MARCH 21, 2003

John Ford, FWD Secretary

TO: DISTRICT HOUSE OF DELEGATES consisting of chapter presidents or alternates, elected district officers and past district presidents who are living in the Far Western District and are currently paid up members, in good standing, of a Far Western Chapter.

WHERE, WHEN: Friday, March 21, 2003, John Ascuaga's Nugget Reno Nevada.

ELIGIBILITY: One delegate or alternate from each chapter; elected district officers; and past district presidents who are living in the FWD and who are paid-up members of a FWD Chapter in good standing. Non-voting members of the HOD is one delegate from chapters on licensed status or newly formed groups on the date of the meeting, district coaches, and committee chairmen.

QUORUM: Thirty percent (30%) of the eligible House of Delegate members, (no proxies).

REGISTRATION: Chapter delegates are required to bring with them, to the meeting, the credentials card which accompanies the HOD report and to present this card to the appropriate credentials officer upon arrival at the meeting.

AGENDA: As set forth in the Far Western District Constitution and Bylaws. Agenda items must have the proposal ratified by a majority vote in the originating chapter. Such items should be submitted by the chapter delegate to the district secretary's office not less than sixty (60) days prior to the next meeting of the House of Delegates.

RECOGNITION: Only members of the House of Delegates will be recognized for floor privileges.

VISITORS: Visitors are cordially invited to attend but are requested to refrain from taking seats at the official tables.

SHOW BY YOUR PROMPT ATTENDANCE AND ATTENTION THAT YOU ARE SINCERELY INTERESTED IN THE BUSINESS AND PROGRESS OF THE FAR WESTERN DISTRICT.

VP: M&PR

Clark Abrahamson



An Inventory For The New Year

Before we get too far into the year, it might be a good idea to review where we are and where we're going as a chapter with regard to Public Relations/Marketing activities.

So – where are we?

For example have we:

- Met with our board and committees to map out a Marketing/PR plan – complete with calendar and budget?
- Assured ourselves that our Marketing/PR plans coincide with and support those of the overall chapter plan (i.e. Membership, Music, Youth Outreach)?
- Ensured that our house is in order – are we always prepared for guests? Do we have up-to-date guest music, sign-in procedures, buddy assignments, table displays (literature, calendar, awards/trophies, photos, etc.)?
- Put in place an effective guest/new member orientation?
- Provided all members with business cards and/or literature on our chapter, chorus, and quartets?

Really? Great! We're ready to lock and load – we're ready to rock 'n roll – we're ready to sing and swing!

Aaaand – where're we going?

I've recently had the pleasure of teaching several COTS Marketing/PR classes across the country. Actually, "teaching" isn't the right word, since I always seem to come away with far more information and ideas than I go in with. If we're on the same wave length with some of the chapters with whom I've been privileged, we might be going in the following directions in the months to come:

- We'll be "feet on the street" active in getting ourselves known in the community. That means calling on Chambers of Commerce, civic and fraternal organizations, schools, churches, senior centers, youth organizations, other musical organizations, Merchant groups, Local Government, etc. to let them know who we are, what we do, and how we can help them in their plans and goals.

• We'll be out making media contacts – newspaper and magazine writers/editors, radio/TV personalities – people who are looking for stories and articles. The thing to remember here is that they depend on interesting stories, articles, and tidbits – for their livelihood. We can provide them with just that – thereby helping them. Get to know them as the "jus' plain folks" they truly are, and a whole new world of opportunities opens up for the chapter.

Only two bullets there – but they're big ones. If we can successfully accomplish these two objectives, we'll have taken a giant step toward stamping out that abominable phrase (shudder) "we're the best kept secret in..."

Want more? Go to the Society Web Page www.spebsqsa.org. Click on "Run Your Chapter", then "PR" or "GET FAMOUS". There are ideas there that will knock you into the middle of next week. All it takes is to pick out what works for your chapter, and get started...

...to market, to market...

Clark

Bob George

Papa's Pride

A Barbershop Quartet

Dain Roy

Contact Roy Anderson
190 E. Gabriel Drive • Atwater, CA 95301 • (209) 356-0668

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Harmony Camp, Still Alive & Kicking

*Richard Lund
Camp Director
Placerville & Reno Chapters*

What is that old Mark Twain quote? "Reports of my demise are greatly exaggerated." Well, we'd like to report that the rumored demise of Harmony Camp is also greatly exaggerated! Harmony Camp will be held at the Sly Park Educational Center in Pollock Pines September 26-28 with **Gary Bolles** again as the Music Director. In addition, a dynamite Music Staff has been assembled to complement Mr. Bolles.

The funding of Harmony Camp is changing for 2003. The Far Western District cut funding for the Camp, and in doing so challenged us in the NorCal Region to support the Camp directly if we believe in its value. We are therefore proposing a new method for funding - that the cost be borne by all of the chapters in the NorCal Region. We believe that this is both equitable and sustainable for many years to come. Bringing Barbershop Harmony to our NorCal youth is one of our primary goals. It is also the future life-blood of Barbershopping!

But, you say, what is Harmony Camp? Glad you asked. Harmony Camp is a weekend retreat put on by one or more chapters (presently by Placerville and Sacramento) for the purpose of introducing barbershop harmony to high school aged young men. The Camp utilizes the services of high level educators in the Society to teach the young men barbershop harmony. The weekend retreat format provides allows a total immersion for the young men in Barbershopping that allows them to experience Barbershopping in a way that nothing else can.

As a first time volunteer at Harmony Camp last year, and one who only recently "discovered" the hobby, I was awe struck by the power and emotion of the weekend experience. My reaction now is "how can we get as many young men as possible to these camps?"

It is also clear that this weekend Harmony Camp creates "barbershoppers for life".

Some facts and the plan follow:

The total cost of Harmony Camp at Sly Park will be approximately \$12,000. Some of that total will be covered by fees paid directly by the young men who attend Camp, but a significant fraction will have to be raised independently.

We anticipate having to raise about \$7,000 independently.

There are thirty-three chapters in the NorCal Region, and we know that each chapter already believes in supporting Young Men In Harmony. Because of that belief nearly all of the chapters will likely "buy-in" to supporting Harmony Camp. Those chapters who do buy-in to supporting the Camp will have a natural propensity to become more involved with the Camp by sending a boy or boys, volunteering to help, or other. Chapters may choose to offer scholarships or other financial aid in addition to their direct support.

In order to raise these monies, we propose that an annual "fundraising campaign" be held over a specific time period. During this campaign, four or five committed YMIH fundraisers will contact individual chapters to solicit their contribution for Youth Harmony Camp and to encourage them to send young men from their area to Camp. \$250 from each chapter would raise the \$7,000, and provide a modest reserve.

Beginning March 1st, your chapter president can expect a telephone call from one of our "fund raisers" who will be asking for your chapter's help in supporting Harmony Camp by talking up the Camp in their chapter, talking up the Camp in their local schools - through their YMIH coordinator, and by putting their wallet where their hearts are and directly supporting Harmony Camp with whatever contribution their chapter can afford.

The facts are clear. The need is clear. The goal is clear. The way to get there is also clear. The rest is up to you. Please join us in supporting this worthwhile endeavor.

Thanking you in advance for your generous contributions.

FWD Directory Corrections

John Ford, FWD Secretary

Page 42:

Denny Lawrence email address should be
dolawrnce@aol.com

Page 1, page 2 and on page 40:

John Ford email address should be
j.fwdsec@varizon.net

A Membership Scenario



Gain a Member

Let's put ourselves in the position of a brand new member of our Society. We discovered barbershop harmony because a friend had invited us to a show and then to his chapter meeting. We were first intrigued by the music and the good fellowship we observed. We went to a couple of after-

glows and had a good time. After a few weeks of attending chapter meetings we were invited to join and, because we didn't want to disappoint our new friends, we did. What now?

Little by little we begin to learn more about this world of barbershop harmony. We were told about the dues structure when we joined, but now we hear that we are going to compete with other chapters at a contest, and this is going to cost some money for hotel, meals and travel. We begin to wonder what else we may not have been told.

Lose a New Member

As our first anniversary date rolls around we get a bill in the mail. There it is on the kitchen table in the same little pile with the electric bill, the gas bill, the car payment and the rent. Maybe we can just put that SPEBSQSA bill off for a month. A month becomes two and then we are a little embarrassed to go to the chapter meeting, so we don't. We'll start going again when we pay that bill. Before you know it, we are no longer thinking about barbershop harmony. When our barbershop friends call we are glad to hear from them, but we tell them that our lives have just become too hectic. We'll be back, we say. Just give us some time.

Turn It Around

Does this sound like a realistic scenario to you? As a Society we lose many men after just one year of membership. If we could do something to prevent this, we would, I'm sure. Two things come to mind that may help. The first is assigning a veteran member to look after the needs of new members for the first year of membership. The veteran would make it a point to anticipate and answer any questions the new member has. Issues like competition, convention expenses and uniform fees could be explained before they arise, and the benefits the costs pay for could be emphasized. Surprises could be avoided and opportunities for good, clean fun could be seized.

Expectations

The second is orientation. An organized program of orienting new members to the Chapter, the District and the Society is vital. The new member needs to understand the expectations of the chapter before he commits to joining, and after joining he needs to become aware of the rich traditions and practices of SPEB-SQSA.

Details, Details, Details


Singing is life, the rest is just details. The architect Mies van der Hohe once said, "God is in the details." This often-misquoted statement means that details can make the difference between mediocre and good work, or between good and excellent. Orientation helps handle the details. Check out <http://speb-sqsafwd.org/> for ideas and downloads. There you'll find an excellent PowerPoint presentation from Kenosha about recruitment and orientation and many other tools to help us succeed. Good luck, everyone. Let's recruit them and let's keep them!

Take the Challenge

Congratulations to the following men who accepted our challenge last year and made a personal commitment to recruit!

Thank you: **Kevin P. Smith:** 3 (Fremont-Hayward), **Max Sylver:** 1 (San Francisco and Walnut Creek), **Rob Sequeira:** 2 (Palo Alto – Mountain View), **Steve Sammonds:** 2 (Palo Alto – Mountain View), **Sean Clark:** 5 (Riverside), and **Chuck Thompson:** 2 (Palo Alto – Mountain View).





Sound Judgment
A Barbershop Quartet
www.soundjudgment.org

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Bass -- Gary Sealice | Baritone -- Dave Stone |
| Lead -- Tom Adame | Tenor -- Jim Daly |
| Lead -- Pat Goulding | Baritone -- Pete Waeger |
| Coach/Bass -- Owen Doyle | |
| Contact Person -- Jim Daly | 650-634-9993 |
| daly@soundjudgment.org | |



2002-3 FWD Quartet Champions Sam's Club

Ken Potter

So what have your champions been up to? Writing and rehearsing!! We had the pleasure of singing for the Whittier Chapter installation in January and we are preparing for three more upcoming events, as of today [1/29/03]. February is a very busy month for us. Sam's Club will be appearing at the Barbershop Pioneers show in Fallbrook on February 1st. The following weekend on February 8th we will be appearing at the Southern California Novice Quartet contest which will be put on by the Westminster chapter. And finally on February 15th, we will be appearing with the Masters of Harmony at the Young Mens' Harmony Festival at Orange Coast College.

We also have a community concert appearance scheduled with the Master in May. We are very excited about getting ready to perform again. Our show package is set and we are working hard on refining the details. We hope that you all get a chance to see us sometime.

On January 19th, we had the opportunity to be coached by David Harrington, lead of 1989 International Champion Quartet "Second Edition." David has been a hero of ours since the beginning of the quartet. He is a terrific sound and music kind of guy. He knows how to bring out the musicality in the sound of a quartet. I would encourage any aspiring international level quartet to seek out his advice.

So, is it easy to sing in a quartet that aspires to be at the top level? Of course not!! Finding time to rehearse is the biggest obstacle. All four members of Sam's Club have something to do with the music industry. So finding common ground can be very difficult. We struggle to fit our schedules together and often argue about how to go about making the show happen. All quartets go through growing pains and we certainly have had our share. Of course, on top of it all, we have to learn how to sing with each other and learn each others voices, particularly difficult when those voices are changing and growing. It is the natural growth process of every musical group.

In spite of the difficulty of quarteting, we still find enjoyment in ringing great chords. And I know the other guys have sensed

also, that troubles do melt away when the fun of ringing those great chords comes to life. Striving to ring better all the time is what barbershopping is all about. It is our wish that you get to enjoy hearing us someday. Music means nothing if you have no one to share it with.

2002 HARMONY FOUNDATION REPORT TO HOD

Joe Salz
FWD Harmony Foundation Chairman

Gentlemen,

I'm sorry to report that the FWD, once the perennial contender for the top Society District as far as contributions for charity, has slipped to 9th in total donations for the year 2002. Worse, we were 14th in donations per capita. **THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE.**

The good news is that I don't think we were that bad. Too many of our chapters have made donations or raised funds for local charities, including the Youth Harmony Fund, that haven't been reported to me or International.

In order to be recorded, these figures must have been reported prior to Dec. 31st of each year. I would like to congratulate those chapters who totaled over \$10 per man. That's only 24 chapters out of 91. I'm sure prompt and accurate reporting would change this ratio considerably.

| <u>Chapter</u> | <u>Per Man</u> |
|------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Davis-Vacaville | \$115.92 |
| 2. Fullerton | 40.17 |
| 3. Sierra Vista | 30.29 |
| 4. PaloAlto-Mountain | 28.03 |
| 5. Apple Valley | 28.00 |
| 6. San Fernando Valley | 27.93 |
| 7. Santa Monica | 24.48 |
| 8. Walnut Creek | 21.88 |
| 9. Sun Cities | 20.33 |
| 10. Rincon Beach | 19.89 |
| 11. Chico | 19.55 |
| 12. San Jose | 19.40 |
| 13. Palomar Pacific | 19.14 |
| 14. San Diego | 18.79 |
| 15. Monterey Peninsula | 17.87 |
| 16. Santa Rosa | 16.82 |
| 17. East Bay | 16.25 |
| 18. Santa Maria | 15.80 |
| 19. Westminster | 14.35 |
| 20. Santa Fe Springs | 14.15 |
| 21. San Luis Obispo | 12.42 |
| 22. Santa Clarita | 12.07 |
| 23. Carson City | 11.85 |
| 24. Paradise Valley | 10.70 |

**Singing Better Is
More Fun!**

Hello again,

There are many singing improvement programs available to you for invigorating your chorus and quartet experience, including the Standing Ovation Program, Chorus Coaching Reimbursement Program, Song Writing Program and the Champs Assistance Program. Why

not schedule one of these programs for your quartet or chorus? The reason is simple...the better you sing, the more fun you have!


FWD SPRING CONVENTION at RENO March 21-23

Make it a point to attend the spring convention and contest, and please submit your convention registration NOW. Our dedicated planning committee needs your support to ensure a fun-filled convention with more "non-competitor" activities. Also, be sure to attend the "Harmony for Lunch Bunch" gathering on Friday and watch the FWD List (email) and the FWD Web Site for convention updates.

The list of District OFFICIALS on page three of Westunes represents a commitment from the Far Western District Board of Directors to help you with just about any area of concern. Your board members are resource people and are eager to work with you personally or will refer you to additional resources as needed.


I look forward to your continuing support and participation for the remainder of the year; together we will make 2003 the best year yet for the Barbershop Experience!

In harmony,



A BARBERSHOP QUARTET

Especially FOUR You!



Paul Schmidt

282-9561

4157 Fairmount Ave. Business: 283-1900
San Diego, CA 92105

Why We Compete

Lance Abbott, The Garden City Chorus

Let me tell you a story. It happens to be true. About seven years ago there was a chorus who hadn't been to competition in many years. It did one show a year. "We aren't good enough to compete," everyone would say. We won't do well. Somehow the music team convinced the chapter that going to contest was something they ought to do. So back in the spring of 1994, they competed at contest.

How did they do? They came in last. Dead last. I mean it wasn't even close. They scored the equivalent of 642 points on a triple panel. They only received 35 points per judge per song. Those are low "D" level scores only because our judging system doesn't allow "Fs." Several members were upset. Some blamed the judges. Some didn't want to go back to compete next spring. They didn't have to worry about competing in the fall (they didn't qualify). But everyone who went at least enjoyed meeting other barbershoppers, singing tags in the lobby, watching the quartet competition, and seeing some of the other choruses.

By the time next spring rolled around, they had lost a director and gained a new one. They had their first chapter retreat (they did it in the fall, since they weren't competing), and they had worked during the year on what the judges told them at the evaluation session. This time the music team had to work harder to sell some of the members on going back to contest, but with some of the others it was easier (they wanted to go hear the quartets, if nothing else). The new director guaranteed that the chorus wouldn't come in last. They were pumped up. They went to contest, and do you know what happened? They came in dead last again!

But it was closer, a lot closer. They scored 830. If there had been a most improved award that year based on percentage improvement, they would have had a lock. They were sure they'd qualify for the fall contest the next year. Sadly, they didn't. It was close, but it wasn't until their 4th spring contest that they finally qualified to compete in the fall. They haven't missed a contest since. Along the way they have won the Most Improved Chorus award, the Small Chorus Championship, and have finished in the top 10 choruses in the District, but more importantly they have continued to improve. Along the way, they've had several directors come and go. It has not been a one-man effort.

This same chorus now does two shows a year, has a strong Singing Valentines program, and participates in contests twice a year. Competition is not the main focus of the chorus, but it is an important piece of what they do, and it continues to help them to be better musically. It also gives them a couple more events to focus on throughout the year and another reason to concentrate on improving.

[To page 14]



2002-3 FWD Chorus Champions SAN JOSE

Chuck Hunter, Sr.

An Unspoken Dream

A poll of the membership of the San Jose Garden City Chorus reveals the interesting fact that no one, even individuals who have belonged for 35 and 40 years, can recall a stated goal of the chapter being to win the Far Western District Championship. Each year the desire has been to do better at the contest than the year before, but neither the general membership nor various boards of directors have ever expressed a desire to concentrate on polishing two songs to the level needed to win the coveted championship at the expense of the overriding desire to have fun and sing well.

Several second place finishes have been achieved over the years, but the prevailing sentiment has continued to be to do a good enough job to improve upon the previous years' score irrespective of placement in the FWD contest. There have been several yoyo years, where a top five finish has been followed by a significant drop the following year, but this has been dealt with by aplomb by the membership, and none have left the chorus nor even expressed any great concerns when it has happened.

As has been done so many times in the past, the chorus scheduled a retreat this year to focus on improving their singing. This year's coach, Ron Black, somehow found the magic button that helped San Jose turn the corner. Suddenly the sound developed a crispness and resonance that we had never experienced before. It was a risk singing two ballads in contest, and the fact that the scripted scenario that had been performed at Nor-Cal West was eliminated in favor of singing from the heart and using faces to sell both songs was the cause of considerable anxiety.

Consequently this year's win, and the unfortunate controversy that accompanied it, has delivered a whirlwind of emotional flavors to the members of the chorus.

The FWD is blessed with an extraordinary depth of musical talent. The extremely tight umbrella over the top finishers in October clearly indicates that on any given day any one of a handful of choruses could have walked off with the top honors. None in this group has ever qualified for the International stage before, however, so now a new reality falls into place. How do you prepare?

An obvious starting point is the financial obligation for those chorus members who choose to take the stage in Montreal. With air fares in the \$400 range, four nights in a hotel at a shared cost of roughly \$65, and a convention registration of \$100, winning the championship will be costing each member who competes in Montreal well over \$800 when restaurant meals are thrown in. The Garden City Chorus is grateful for the FWD's chorus travel fund, which will provide seed money of approximately \$8500 to help offset expenses. Anticipating having 80 men on stage, it is obvious that a series of additional fund raisers will be needed in order to relieve some of this unexpected yet delightful financial burden.

It is readily apparent to anyone who attends an International Convention that singing well is a common denominator among all the choruses that qualify. Above and beyond that, it is the from the heart emotional impact and showmanship that separate the extraordinary performances from those that are merely excellent. Knowing this, San Jose's music team has scheduled intensive workshops with such luminaries as Ron Black, Cindy Hansen, and Jay Giallombardo to sharpen every facet of the planned contest set.

When the winner of the chorus contest was announced in Bakersfield no one was more surprised nor excited than the men of the Garden City Chorus. From that moment each member has come understand that his unspoken dream has been realized. And now, to show the Society that the FWD has a new name to add to the list of choruses that have so capably represented them over nearly six decades, our efforts are focused on developing a package that we will all be proud of.

Look out world . . . you ain't seen nothin' yet!

At an elegant dinner on January 31 the 2003 San Jose Chapter officers were sworn in by **Ron Black**. The officers are: **Randy Meyer**, President; **Dave Kaufman**, Program VP & Immediate Past President; **David Haedtler**, Membership VP; **Jack Steck**, Music VP; **Chuck Marr**, Young Men in Harmony VP; **Fred Grometer**, Secretary; **Joe Cleaver**, Treasurer; and **Chuck Hunter, Sr.**, **Jerry Larkin**, **Ed Massa**, **Bill Roman**, **Dennis Lipska** and **Rich Remmers**, Directors-at-Large.

Youth Harmony Evening & More



Young Men In Harmony continues to be one of the most exciting chapter activities for those chapters who have a YMIH program. Ask **Bill Barker** in San Diego or **Bill Joor** in Hawaii or **Ron Murray** in Placerville, just to name a few, how their programs have reenergized their chapters. Currently there

are about 30 chapters (out of 83) in the Far Western District who have reported a YMIH program. Those 30 chapters are all doing an outstanding job of leading the cause of encouraging vocal music in their schools and communities. Is your chapter ready to join the ranks of chapters with a successful YMIH Program? Call or email me and I'll help get you started..

Interested in a simple and low/no cost youth harmony event? The Youth Harmony Evening program can be run for \$100 or less and with 25 boys at a time can be a very simple and effect program for all involved. For more information contact me, or one of the District YMIH team members. To prove the effectiveness of this program, six chapters will received \$500 each, all the necessary sheet music, and detailed instructions from the District.

These days almost every High School student has Internet access (along with a cell phone, pager, PDA, laptop computer, and every other electronic device known to man). When looking for things to do, students turn to the web. Does your chapter have a web-site? No, well you can still get your YMIH program information on the web. Contact **Max Maxwell**, max@web2035.com, for information on how to get your chapter's YMIH information on-line. Maybe the next time a boy searches for something to do in your area, they'll find your chapter.

For many of us our children are grown and married. The last time we attended a high school function was when our daughter played the lead role in Anne or when our son played in a band show. Have you considered contacting the music educators in your area and asking to be put on their mailing list, booster club, or when their next show is? Too often we barbershop contact the educators and ask how we can help. Truth is, the best way we can help, in many cases, is buy a ticket and attend a show or help out with the booster club efforts. What better way to say we care than to help a local school fund a trip to Washington D.C. or Europe, or Hawaii, or Disneyland. Maybe your chapter can add a tag line, "Proud supporters of the George Washington School Choir." Or maybe you can get an editorial in your local news paper, "Barbershop singers help local high school band."

Speaking of High School band, how many chapters are contacting the band teacher too? When I was in high school I did not sing in the choir, not because I didn't like to sing, but because I didn't have an extra class period and if I had to chose between singing and band, I choose band. Band students are musicians too and there is a better then average chance that band students like to sing.

There are a thousand ways your chapter can be involved in Youth Outreach, your task is to pick one and, to steal the tag line from Nike, just do it!

[From page 12]

By now, some of you may have guessed that I'm writing about my own chapter, Augusta. Why am I writing this article for the Rebel Rouser? It isn't to blow our horn, even though we are very proud of how much that we've accomplished. It's because less than half of the choruses in the District competed at the last convention. Over half the chapters are missing the opportunity to use competition to improve, meet other barbershoppers, and generally have a great weekend.

People around the District have been commenting for several years on how good all the choruses and quartets at the conventions are becoming. Personally, I don't believe that there are enough "bad" choruses and quartets competing. If every chapter in the District competed in the contest next spring and listened to what the judges said during the evaluations, every chapter in the district would be singing better by the same time next year.

If your chorus hasn't competed in years, start talking to your director and music team now. Tell them you think you should go to the next contest. Don't be concerned about how many people you put on stage or how you finish the first time. Use it as a baseline. So what if you don't win? You only need 12 members on stage, counting the director. Take everyone in your chorus who is interested in the evaluation sessions to hear from the judges firsthand how you can improve. The judges in our society are very good at keeping things positive, and several of our members have learned a lot about how to improve their singing from listening to the judges at the evaluation sessions.

As the president of a small chapter, who has seen its constant improvement over the last seven years, if I were asked to give one piece of advice to a small chorus who wanted to grow (musically and in number of members), it would be to go to the district conventions. You will find nothing there but people who love our hobby, would like us all to improve, and are willing to help. Take everyone in your chorus to the evaluations session. Let them hear the feedback firsthand. It would be wonderful if we had 10 more choruses at convention in the spring. It would say great things about the health of our district.

VP: C&J

Dick Girvin



THE FWD 2003 CONTEST SEASON IS HERE!

And here we go --- off to another great season of contesting in the Far Western District, starting with the International Preliminary Quartet and the Small Chapter Chorus contests, followed by the five divisional contests in

Arizona, Northern and Southern California.

Dates for your calendar are:

March 20 – 23, 2003.

International Prelims and Small Chorus Contest
at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks [see page 16-17]
Reno hosting

April 12, 2003

NorCal West
at Country Day School in Santa Rosa [see page 18]
Santa Rosa hosting

April 26, 2003

Ariz./So.Nev./So.Utah
at Moon Valley HS in Phoenix [see page 19]
Paradise Valley hosting

April 26, 2003

NorCal East
at Vacaville Performing Arts in Vacaville [see page 20-21]
Davis/Vacaville hosting

May 3, 2003

SoCal West
at Pacifica HS in Oxnard [see page 23]
Rincon Beach hosting

May 10, 2003

SoCal East
at Servite HS in Anaheim [see page 25]
Santa Fe Springs hosting

Each of these events will showcase the very best FWD has to offer in quartet and choruses and will be enthusiastically supported by their chapters and fan clubs. However, it is again important to stress that while patrons must only register, contest-

ants must not only *register* for the convention (pay) but also *enter* the contest of their choice. Both are required.

Contestants should submit their entry via the FWD Website (www.spebsqsafwd.org) at least 14 days before the contest. Late entries will be accepted, however will receive an order-of-appearance by the Contest Administrator instead of being in the draw. Contestants can expect an e-mail acknowledgement of their intention to participate within two days—if not they should re-send their entry form. Further, a list of all contestants will be published 30 days before each contest on the FWD listserv (FWD-LIST). This provides the second assurance that the contestant is entered.

Finally, two weeks before the contest an order-of-appearance list will be published on the listserv identifying the contestants and their relative times-on-stage.

In this manner, all contestants (and patrons) should be fully aware of their status prior to the actual contest. Of course, things can happen that upset even the best intentions. And special consideration is offered to those so affected. The answer to any special consideration is "*communicate your needs--early!*" Tell the contest management personnel (DVP C&J, Contest Administrator, Host, or whomsoever) of the problem (going to be late, etc.) as soon as possible. In this manner a simple rearrangement of the schedule or whatever is necessary can be done in advance. Remember: **Choruses must compete in their own divisional contests.** Quartets, with advance notice and approval, may compete in other than their own divisional contests (FWD SOP 8.3.1.1 and 8.3.1.5)

Patrons should register early for the conventions/contest that they intend to attend, to give their hosts the courtesy of advance indication as well as funds to meet the before contest expenses. District events have reserved seating—and "first come, first served" is the seating protocol for reservations. Divisional contests are "open seating" which only requires an early arrival to be able to have the seat of choice. However, early registration is always appreciated by hosts.

Let the contests begin!



4 Old Times Sake

Jerry Fairchild*
Jim McKee
Bruce Maxey
Ron Criswell

Senior Quartet Champs
Far Western District 2001

Contact: (909) 792-8618*
E-mail: mjfair@empirenet.com

THE RENO SILVER DOLLAR CHORUS PROUDLY PRESENTS THE

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT SPRING BARBERSHOP CONVENTION & CONTEST FOR

2003

March 21 – 23, 2003

John Ascuaga's Nugget Rose Ballroom

Contest & Show

- International Quartet Prelims
- Small Chapter Chorus Contest
- High School Quartet Contest
- Show of Champions

Meetings & Events

- District Officers Board Meeting
- House of Delegates Meeting
- AH-SOW
- Youth Activities
- Afterglow

REGISTRATION PRICES

**ALL CONTESTANTS MUST BUY AN "ALL EVENTS"
REGISTRATION FOR APPLICABLE AGE GROUP**
Adult (over 18 years) Student (18 years & under)

| Full Early Bird (Postmarked by February 21) | Full Late/On Site (Postmarked After February 21) |
|--|--|
| ALL EVENTS: ➤ Adult \$30.00 ➤ Student \$15.00 | ALL EVENTS: ➤ Adult \$40.00 ➤ Student \$20.00 INDIVIDUAL EVENTS: Sold <u>ONLY</u> on site ➤ Adult \$20.00 ➤ Student \$20.00 |

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL INFORMATION

John Ascuaga's Nugget
 1100 Nugget Avenue
 Sparks, NV 89432-0797
Room Reservation (800) 648-1177
(775) 356-3300
 \$78.00 per night + tax (Single or Double)
 Tell the Reservation Clerk that you
 are with Barbershop Quartet Society

 RV Parking (No Hook-Ups) available in
 the west parking lot at "no charge"

REGISTRATION FORM (Only one person per form)

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Email: _____
 Phone: _____
 Chapter/Quartet: _____
 Special Seating Requested _____

| Please check one | VIP STATUS | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Early <input type="checkbox"/> Student Early <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Late <input type="checkbox"/> Student Late | <input type="checkbox"/> District Officer <input type="checkbox"/> AFWDC Member <input type="checkbox"/> Comm Chairman <input type="checkbox"/> Delegate HOD <input type="checkbox"/> Past FWD Pres <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ _____ _____ | # Adult Reg. _____ # Student Reg. _____ Amt. Enclosed \$ _____ Check # _____ Date Mailed _____ Sent # _____ |

Please make checks payable to: Reno Chapter, 2003 Convention
 Mail to: Reno Chapter, 2003 Convention
 Attn: Sam Barger
 P.O. 12602 Reno, NV 89510
 Email: Nevadasaml@aol.com
 Phone: (775) 851-0571

**FAR WESTERN DISTRICT
 SPRING BARBERSHOP CONVENTION & CONTEST
 March 20-23, 2003
 Schedule of Events – John Ascuaga's Nugget**

Thursday (March 20)

| | | | |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 7:30 p.m. | FWD Board Meeting | Bonanza A | 2nd Floor |
| 7:30 p.m. | Registration Opens | Foyer | 2nd Floor |

Friday (March 21)

| | | | |
|------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| 8:30 a.m. | FWD Board Meeting | Bonanza A | 2nd Floor |
| 9:00 a.m. | Registration Opens | Foyer | 2nd Floor |
| 9:00 a.m. | Barbershop Shop Opens | Fremont | 2nd Floor |
| 9:00 a.m. | AHSOW (all day) | Truckee | 2nd Floor |
| 11:30 a.m. | Harmony for Lunch Bunch | Round Table Pizza | Sparks |
| 2:00 p.m. | House of Delegates | Ponderosa A | 2nd Floor |
| 4:00 p.m. | Chapter Coaches Meeting | Ponderosa A | 2nd Floor |
| 5:00 p.m. | Judges Meeting | CA Hotel Room | TBA |
| 6:00 p.m. | Doors Open (Quartet Semifinals) | Rose Ballroom | 2nd Floor |
| 6:45 p.m. | Quartet Prelims Semifinals | Rose Ballroom | 2nd Floor |
| 10:30 p.m. | Evaluations (Quartets Not Advancing) | Southern Pacific A-F | 3rd Floor |

Saturday (March 22)

| | | | |
|------------|------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| 9:00 a.m. | Registration Opens | Foyer | 2nd Floor |
| 9:00 a.m. | Barbershop Shop Opens | Fremont | 2nd Floor |
| 9:00 a.m. | AHSOW (all day) | Truckee | 2nd Floor |
| 10:00 a.m. | Doors Open (Chorus Contest) | Rose Ballroom | 2nd Floor |
| 10:45 a.m. | Small Chapter Chorus Contest | Rose Ballroom | 2nd Floor |
| 12:01 p.m. | Chorus Evaluations | Southern Pacific A-F | 3rd Floor |
| 1:00 p.m. | High School Quartet Contest | Rose Ballroom | 2nd Floor |
| 6:00 p.m. | Doors Open (Quartet Finals) | Rose Ballroom | 2nd Floor |
| 6:00 p.m. | Barbershop Shop Closes | Fremont | 2nd Floor |
| 6:45 p.m. | Quartet Finals | Rose Ballroom | 2nd Floor |
| 9:00 p.m. | Show of Champions & Awards | Rose Ballroom | 2nd Floor |
| 10:30 p.m. | Hospitality Afterglow | 4 Warm-up Rooms | 2nd Floor |
| 10:30 p.m. | High School Afterglow | Bonanza A | 2nd Floor |

Sunday (March 23)

| | | | |
|------------|--|----------------------|-----------|
| 8:30 a.m. | Evaluations (Finalist Quartets) | Southern Pacific A-F | 3rd Floor |
| 9:00 a.m. | Barbershop Shop Opens (Closes at Noon) | Fremont | 2nd Floor |
| 10:00 a.m. | Youth Outreach | Genoa | 2nd Floor |



The Santa Rosa Chapter of SPEBSQSA, Inc.
PROUDLY PRESENTS
The FAR WESTERN DISTRICT'S NOR-CAL WEST
**Barbershop Chorus and Quartet
Contest**

APRIL 12, 2003

**SONOMA COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL
4400 DAY SCHOOL PLACE
SANTA ROSA, CA**

____ Check here if you have a disability and may require accommodation in order to fully participate in the convention.
You will be contacted to discuss your needs.

| Full Early Bird Registration Type [X One] | Full Late/On Site Registration Type [X One] | Single Events Registration Type [X One] | Official Use Only |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full.....\$20.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Child/Student...\$10.00 [non-member] | <input type="checkbox"/> Full.....\$25.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Child/Student...\$12.50 non-member] | <input type="checkbox"/> Sat. Quartet Contest.....\$15.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Sat. Chorus Contest/Show..\$15.00 | Date Recd _____ Check # _____ Badge Code _____ |

Late registrations: postmarked after March 12, 2003.

Please type or print clearly [one person per form, please]:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone Res. [_____] _____ Bus. [_____] _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____ Please make check payable to Redwood Chordsmen, NCW
[Fees are non-refundable]

Return completed forms with payment to: Jim Dechaine, 1405 Heidi Place, Windsor, CA 95492
Phone: [707] 838-3744

ARIZONA / S. NEVADA / S. UTAH DIVISION CONVENTION

Saturday April 26, 2003

HOSTED BY

Paradise Valley Chapter, S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A.

Moon Valley High School Auditorium, 3625 West Cactus Road, Phoenix, AZ

Quartet Competition begins at 12:00 (**NOON**), Sat April 26
Chorus Competition & Performances begin at **7:00 P.M.**, Sat April 26

CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS HOTEL

PREMIER INN

10402 Black Canyon Fwy (I-17 @ Peoria Exit), Phoenix, AZ

CONTACT : Joanne Giardina or Lillian Sloan

@ (800) 786-6835 for reservations

Complimentary Breakfast Buffet served daily 6:30 - 10:00 A.M.

Budget Rooms \$45.95 + Tax = \$51.04 / night

Standard Rooms \$57.95 + Tax = \$64.37 / night

Two double beds or one king bed per room available

USE ONE SHEET PER NAME

REGISTRATION

USE ONE SHEET PER NAME

Complete this portion, and mail with check payable to:
THE CACTUS CHORDSMEN c/o Randy Bingel
2400 E. Binner Drive, Chandler, AZ 85225-4103 phone-(480) 917 - 8939
Registrations will be held for Pickup in Phoenix

NAME _____ VOICE PART: Bass Bari Lead Tnr (Circle One)

ADDRESS _____ CHORUS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE(H)(____) _____ (W)(____) _____



Check box if you have a disability and may require accommodation in order to fully participate in the convention. You will be contacted to discuss your needs.

| TYPE OF REGISTRATION | COST IF POSTMARKED <u>BEFORE</u> MARCH 26, 2003 | COST IF POSTMARKED <u>AFTER</u> MARCH 26, 2003 |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Adult Registration | \$20.00 | \$30.00 |
| Non Member Student | \$10.00 | \$20.00 |
| Single Event Non Members ONLY | \$20.00 | \$20.00 |

Check all that apply

Chorus Contestant

Quartet Contestant

Non-Competitive Member

District Officer

Wife of Member

Guest

Davis-Vacaville Chapter proudly presents:

2003 NorCal East Division Contest Individual Registration

Vacaville Cultural Center
Allison Drive & Highway 80, Vacaville
April 26, 2003

Quartet Contest:
Saturday, High Noon

Chorus Contest:
Saturday, 6:00 pm

Show of Champions:
(Following Chorus Contest)

Limited Seating in Theater – Please register early!

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT SPEBSQSA NCE DIVISION CONVENTION/CONTESTS FORM CR-300D
Vacaville, April 26, 2003)

Please type or print clearly.

Name _____

Competition Status (check one or two)

Address _____

Chorus Contestant Quartet Contestant
Non-Competitive Member Guest
Other (Explain) _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone Res. (____) _____ Bus. (____) _____

Singing Part: Lead Tenor Bari Bass

Chapter / Chorus _____ Quartet Name _____



Check here if you have a disability and may require accommodation in order to fully participate in the convention.
You will be contacted to discuss your needs.

| Full Early Bird Registration Type (X One) | After 3/26/03/On Site Registration Type (X One) | Single Events Registration Type (X One) | Official Use Only |
|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full.....\$20.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Child/Student.....\$10.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Full.....\$25.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Child/Student.....\$12.50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sat. Quartet Contest.....\$15.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Sat Chorus Contests/Show...\$15.00 | Date Recd. _____ Check # _____ Badge Code _____ |

Rev. 01/01

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____ Please make check payable to: **Davis-Vacaville 2003 Division Contest**
(Fees are non-refundable.)

Return completed forms (one per person) with payment to:
Kent Borrowdale, 2459 Rogue River Dr, Sacramento, CA 95826
Questions? Call 916-366-3413

Davis-Vacaville Chapter proudly presents:

2003 NorCal East Division Contest Housing Information

Hampton Inn - Hdqtrs
800 Mason Street
Vacaville 95688
707-469-6200
Rates: \$109.00

Courtyard - Marriott
120 Nut Tree Parkway
Vacaville 95687
707-451-9000
Rates: \$109.00

Fairfield Inn Marriott
370 Orange Drive
Vacaville 95687
707-469-0800
Rates: \$89.99

Residence Inn
360 Orange Drive
Vacaville 95687
707-469-0300
Rates: \$129.99

Best Western Heritage Inn
1420 E. Monte Vista Dr
Vacaville 95688
707-448-8453
Rates: \$69.00 1 bed;
\$76.00 2 beds

Vaca Valley Inn
950 Leisure Town Rd
Vacaville 95687
707-446-8888
Rates: \$64.00 1 pers;
\$69.00 2 pers

Other motels are within 10 miles of the Vacaville Cultural Center. When making reservations with the above hotels, please mention "Barbershop Convention."

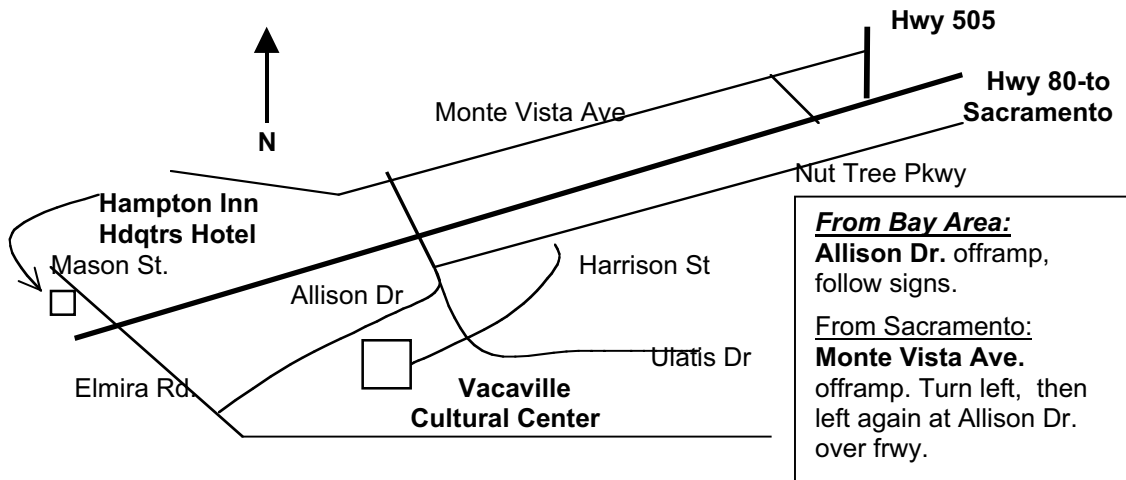
Large Chapters: Hampton Inn has four large suites opening on an interior courtyard. Inn Management invites their use for hosting afterglow gatherings.

RV Information

RV parking at the Vacaville Cultural Center parking lot is \$10.00 per night. Dry camping only. For information and reservations, contact Don Kidder, 707-448-2832 or Chuck Rogers, 707-446-1010.

A Sam's Club and a Wal-Mart are also nearby, but not within walking distance.

Neil's Vineyard RV Park, 707-447-8797, has complete hookups and is located 6-7 miles from the Cultural Center. Be sure to mention "Barbershop Convention."





Another Great Midwinter Convention!

I'm just back from Albuquerque as I write this article, and I continue to be impressed with the great Midwinter Conventions we have year after year. John Schneider, the Managing Director, Conventions & Events in Kenosha, and the Society's Events Committee get a lot of the credit, but the local Albuquerque chapter members are to be comple-

mented for their work in making the convention so successful.

Albuquerque is a terrific convention city--a variety of good food to choose from, a wide choice in shopping opportunities, and plenty of places to visit. Many attendees took advantage of the balloon rides for which Albuquerque is famous. The weather more than cooperated, while we were there; the normal average high temperature for January is 49 degrees, but we had highs close to 60 degrees every day.

The five medalist quartets from the previous July International Quartet Contest are the headliners in two shows at these conventions, and all were marvelous. Our FWD medalist quartet, **Metropolis**, was enthusiastically received by the conventioners.

The Society Board of Directors (SBOD) held its first meeting of the year during the convention. The recently established Marketing Task Force submitted its first Status Report in which they noted their capstone statement, which will guide the Task Force's work: The Barbershop Harmony Society must increase membership by reaching targeted potential members through a compelling message about the benefits of the barbershop singing experience. The group will be conducting research which will lead to a marketing plan designed to improve recruitment and retention of members and to a growing awareness of our Society. An initial budget of \$50,000 was approved for their work in 2003.

District Presidents and Vice Presidents have been meeting each year at a Leadership Forum held near the end of October. During this meeting the vice presidents meet with their Society Committee Chairmen to plan the following year's activities as described in the Society Work Plan. The importance of also having the District Treasurers at this planning meeting was emphasized by the District Presidents and this action was approved by the SBOD.

The importance of having all chapters incorporated as nonprofit organizations in their home states was again emphasized by the Society Laws and Regulations Committee Chairman Jim Warner. Any chapters who have not completed this task are subject to suspension which could lead to charter revocation by the Society. During the suspension period, current Society regulations require that all members of a suspended chapter not receive their Harmonizers, the chapter chorus cannot com

The Society Contest and Judging and Events Committees have been directed to jointly study the feasibility of establishing a qualifying score in district-level contests for choruses to compete in the International Chorus Contest. This would be similar to the qualifying score requirement for quartets to compete in the International Quartet Contest.

For those who may be interested, the minutes of all Society Board Meetings are posted on the Society Website shortly after the meetings are held. There is much to be seen on that site. I recommend you take the time to view it (www.spebsqsa.org).

I've found that some of my best memories from barbershop-ping have come from attending the District and Society conventions. The next opportunity for FWD members to attend a convention is the next International Preliminary Quartet Contest and FWD Small Chapter Chorus Contest and Convention to be held in Reno, NV, March 20-23, 2003. The next Society Convention will be at the International Convention to be held in Montreal, Canada from June 29-July 6, 2003. Have you experienced the excitement that happens with these activities? If not, give some thought to attending your first convention in 2003. See you there?

'Til next time. . .

2802 West 145th Street
Gardena, California 90249
Phone: (310) 327-3788
Email: rmenaker@ix.netcom.com
www.harmonize.com/Nightlife

SPEBSQSA International Quartet Champions
Rob Menaker/Tenor John Sasine/Lead Jeff Baker/Baritone Brett Littlefield/Bass



SOCAL WEST

2003 FAR WESTERN DISTRICT SPEBSQSA DIVISION CONVENTION/REGISTRATION

QUARTET AND CHORUS CONTEST

May 3, 2003

Hosted by Pacifica High School
Rincon Beach Chapter 600 E. Gonzales Road, Oxnard, CA

To register, complete the form below (or a copy of it), attach your check made out to Rincon Beach – SOCALWEST, and mail to Rick Davis, 229 Hillview Dr., Goleta, CA 93117-1106 (805) 685-3363 or eMail rickmdavis@hotmail.com

Use a separate form for each name. Badges will be available for pickup at the contest

✂ Cut here -----

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT SPEBSQSA SOCALWEST DIVISION CONVENTION/CONTESTS

Pacifica High School, Oxnard, CA May 3, 2003

Mail completed form to Rick Davis, 229 Hillview Dr., Goleta, CA 9311706

Call (805) 6853363 or eMail rickmdavis@hotmail.com for assistance.

Name _____ ☐ Chorus Contestant ☐ Quartet
Address _____ ☐ Non-Competing Member ☐ Guest
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Chapter/Chorus _____
Phone: Home _____ Work _____ Quartet Name _____
EMail _____ FAX _____ Singing Part: ☐ Lead ☐ Tenor ☐ Bari ☐ Bass



☐ Check here if you have a disability and may require accommodation in order to fully participate in the convention. You will be contacted by phone or email to clarify your needs.

| Full Early Bird Registration Type (Check One) | Full Late/On Site Registration Type (Check One) | Single Events Registration Type (Check One) | Official Use |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full/Competitor \$20.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Child/Student\$10.00 EARLY BIRD CUTOFF Postmark by April 5, 2003 | <input type="checkbox"/> Full/Competitor \$25.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Child/Student.....\$12.50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Quartet Contest...\$15.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Chorus Contest...\$15.00 | Date Rcvd: _____ Check # _____ Badge Code _____ |

FWD IPP

Deane Scoville



New FWD Governance Package For 2004

The proposed transition from the current governing system back to the geographical District Vice-Presidents where there is one DVP for each division is on course to be effective January 1, 2004. This article repeats much of the information previously published, but I feel it is very worthwhile for

the FWD Members to see it again. There may be some amendments to the previous report, but in essence, we plan to make a significant district governance change next year. Assignments to carry on this work for this year have been made and are listed below. Please feel free to contact these gentlemen, or your Chapter Counselor for assistance at any time.

Division I, SoCal West (Plus Santa Fe Springs) – (16 Chapters)
Bernard Priceman (8 Chapters) – Bakersfield, Crescenta Valley, Long Beach, Rincon Beach, San Fernando Valley, Santa Clarita Valley, Santa Fe Springs, Santa Monica.

John Ford (8 Chapters) – Conejo Valley, Lompoc, Los Angeles, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Maria, South Bay, Ventura.

Division II, SoCal East (Minus Santa Fe Springs)– (21 Chapters)
Dick Girvin (6 Chapters) – Dana Point, Hemet, Inland Cities, Laguna Hills, Pomona Valley, Riverside.

***Jim Holder** (6 Chapters) – Apple Valley, Coachella Valley, Orange, Pasadena, San Gabriel, Whittier.

***Gene Clements** (5 Chapters) – Brea, Fullerton, Irvine, Palomar Pacific, Westminster.

Jim Crowley (4 Chapters) – El Cajon, La Jolla, Rancho Bernardo, San Diego.

Division III, NorCal West/Hi – (19 Chapters)

Ed Bejarana (9 Chapters) – Crescent City, Eureka, Marin, Monterey Peninsula, Napa Valley, Rohnert Park, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, Ukiah.

Jim Sherman (10 Chapters) – Aloha, Bay Area Metro, East Bay, Fremont/Hayward, Palo Alto/Mt View, San Francisco, San Francisco Bay Quartet, San Jose, San Mateo County, Walnut Creek.

Division IV, NorCal East/NoNev (15 Chapters)

Clark Abrahamson (6 Chapters) – Folsom, Nevada Placer, Placerville, Sacramento, Stockton, Sutter Creek.

Jim Turnmire (6 Chapters) – Central California, Chico,

Davis/Vacaville, Fresno, North Valley, Visalia.

Sam Barger (3 Chapters) – Carson City, Reno, Truckee-Tahoe.

Division V, Az/SoNev/SoUtah (16 Chapters)

Peter Feeney (5 Chapters) – Las Vegas, Las Vegas Metro, Prescott, St. George, Sedona.

***Ivan Jensen** (5 Chapters) – Canada Del Oro, Sierra Vista, Tucson, White Mountain, Yuma.

***Carl Truman** (6 Chapters) – Central Arizona Quartet, Greater Phoenix, Mesa, Paradise Valley, Phoenix, Sun Cities.

* Chapter Counselors **Gene Clements, Jim Holder, Ivan Jensen** and **Carl Truman** have been deputized by John Krizek to assist in the contacting several chapters as part of this program.

Sing well, sing barbershop and have fun!

Gary Steinkamp
Dean Waters
Scott Kidder
Joe D'Amore*
* Contact:
626.963.8604
409 Greenfield Ct
Glendora, CA 91740
jpdamore@earthlink.net

John
Larry
Jest for phun?
A COMEDY BARBERSHOP QUARTET
Jim
George Dallas
818-597-0820
* 1992 Senior Quartet Champs *

Comedy
Barbershop Style
Dick Williams, Tenor
Leon Higbee, Lead
Don Shelton, Bass
Bob Patterson, Bari
(909) 987-2879
tortillaft@aol.com

2003 FAR WESTERN DISTRICT SPEBSQSA SOCAL EAST

DIVISION CONVENTION QUARTET AND CHORUS CONTESTS

May 10, 2003

Servite High School

1952 West La Palma Avenue, Anaheim, CA

Hosted by the
Santa Fe Springs Chapter



Headquarters Hotel: Radisson Fullerton 714-992-1700
222 W. Houston Ave., Fullerton, CA 92832 (only 2 mi. from venue)

To register, complete the form below (or a copy of it), attach your check made out to MOH-SCE, and send them to Bill Boeck, 949 Longwood Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90019, 323-939-0822, {HYPERLINK mailto:wcboeck@aol.com} Use a separate form for each name. Badges will be available for pickup at the contest.

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT SPEBSQSA SOCAL EAST DIVISION CONVENTION/CONTESTS

Servite High School, Anaheim, CA – May 10, 2003

Please type or print clearly.

Competition Status (check all that apply)

Name _____

☐ Chorus Contestant ☐ Quartet Contestant

Address _____

☐ Non-Competitive Member ☐ Guest

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Chapter / Chorus _____

Phone Res. (____) _____ Bus. (____) _____

Quartet Name _____

E-mail _____ FAX (____) _____

Singing Part: ☐ Lead ☐ Tenor ☐ Bari ☐ Bass



☐ Check here if you have a disability and may require accommodation in order to fully participate in the convention. You will be contacted to discuss your needs.

| Full Early Bird Registration Type (Check One) | Full Late/On Site Registration Type (Check One) | Single Events Registration Type (Check One) | Official Use Only |
|---|---|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Full.....\$20.00 <input type="radio"/> Child/Student.....\$10.00 (non-competitor) EARLY BIRD CUT OFF Postmark by April 11, 2003 | <input type="radio"/> Full.....\$25.00 <input type="radio"/> Child/Student.....\$12.50 (non-competitor) | <input type="radio"/> Sat. Quartet Contest.....\$15.00 <input type="radio"/> Sat. Chorus Contests/Show...\$15.00 | Date Rec'd _____ Check # _____ Badge Code _____ |

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____ Please make check payable to MOH-SCE. (Fees are non-refundable.)
Return form with payment to: Bill Boeck, 949 Longwood Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90019, 323-939-0822, wcboeck@aol.com



2002 International Champions SANTA FE SPRINGS

IRV LEVINE

Greetings! We're always delighted to have visitors at our Wednesday night rehearsals. As you step in the door you'll be welcomed by our new greeters, **Jonathan Friedman** and **Jim Holder**.

Our annual awards and installation banquet aboard the Queen Mary on January 4 was fun for all. The highlight of the evening was the Barbershopper of the Year Award, which went to the always dedicated and hard-working bassman, Mr. **Jim Sickles, Sr.**

Not soon to be forgotten was another event, hosted by the **Masters of Harmony**, this time held at the Charles M. Schulz Theatre at Knott's Berry Farm, in Buena Park. The AIC spectacular show featured four international champion quartets, **The New Tradition**, **The Gas House Gang**, **FRED**, and the current champs, **Four Voices**.

We're proud of two MOH guys, **Dean Kirkland** and **Lou Tedesco**, who are part of "A Touch Of Class" quartet. They just returned from competing at the International Midwinter Senior Quartet Contest in Albuquerque. The foursome finished in the middle of the field of 25 quartets. They were proud of their performance and so were we.

Valentine's Day is almost upon us. So, naturally we're busy brushing up on mushy tunes to make many folks happy.

Learning new music is always a challenge. And boy are we being challenged now. But when we get the response of very happy listeners, then it's always worth the effort. We are enjoying the new songs, and we know that our audiences will too.

Just learned that our own District Quartet Champion "**Sam's Club**" will perform at the February 8 Novice Contest.

February 15 will find the Masters hosting our Third Annual Young Men's Harmony Festival at Orange Coast College. Over 150 young men from high schools throughout Southern California will participate in an all-day barbershop clinic and perform jointly with the **Masters of Harmony** during the public performance in the evening.

The Masters will host this year's SoCal East Convention and Contest to be held at Servite High School in Anaheim May 8-10.

Chairman **Bill Boeck** is busy planning and organizing the event. Check the ad in this month's issue and be sure to register early. The cutoff date for early bird registration is April 11, 2003.

After that we will further prepare for an appearance on the Long Beach Community Concert Series at the Richard and Karen Carpenter Center in Long Beach on May 18; matinee and evening performances at the Long Beach Terrace Theatre on June 7; and a few performances at the International Convention in Montreal in July.

ATTENTION ALL DIRECTORS

*Jerry Knickerbocker,
Vice-Chair – Chorus Director Training
Society Chorus Director Development Committee*

75 FULL TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS TO DIRECTORS COLLEGE

Don't miss this chance of a lifetime opportunity to spend a week of total immersion in the Barbershop style.

This year we are excited to be able to award 75 full tuition scholarships for Directors College to be held in St. Joseph, Missouri on July 27 – August 3. Once again we are guaranteeing each district a minimum of *two* scholarship winners.

There are only two criteria that you must meet to qualify for this exciting experience:

1. You must be a front line director of a SPEBSQSA chorus.
2. You must be a first time attendee (you have never before attended Directors College.)

Travel and other expenses are not included, but are a legitimate chapter expense. There are no forms to fill out. Just mail or email the following information to me: Your name and address, the name of the chorus you direct, the district to which you belong and your email address.

The submission date for the scholarship application to Directors College, 2003 is **now April 5, 2003**. This is earlier than previously noted in Direct-ly Involved, but it will allow us the time to process and notify the recipients in a more timely fashion.

Don't let this wonderful Barbershop opportunity pass you by.

APPLY NOW!

In harmony, Jerry

Email: jerrykn@csonline.net

Mail: 515 West Elm St.
Titusville, PA 16354-1424

QUARTETING – THE ULTIMATE EXPERIENCE

Glenn Van Tassell

IT'S A LISTENER'S GAME

You have taken the steps to get started with a pretty good quartet and have discovered that making progress is not the easiest task in the world. There is so much to do in order to reach your greatest potential. As an individual singer in a quartet, you want to know how you can best contribute to the cause. The answer to that concern is to listen. Listen to the other voices around you. Are you contributing a vocal presence that enhances them or does it diminish them?

As the lead, you have a truly special assignment. It is your privilege to sing the song, to present the melody (most of the time) and to begin the process of selling your story to an appreciative audience. If you do that pretty well, you will be on the right road, but you are not alone in the journey. Listen to the character of your voice; it's color and intensity as it tells the story. Is it being presented in a believable way? Are there characteristics in any of the other voices that, if you matched them would enhance the telling of the story? Are you consistently showing the excitement, the drama that demonstrates involvement with the song? You must believe that every consonant, every vowel, every accent and every beat has impact on the telling of the story. Each phrase progresses out of the previous phrase and leads into the next. Maintain energy and drive throughout the song. There are no throw away elements. Discuss with your quartet partners just who you are, collectively, in the presentation of this song? Remember, you are the lead, not the leader.

Baritones are often advised to be seen and not heard. That could not be more wrong. Depending on the chord structure, the bari may need to be quite strong, indeed. Gentlemen's Agreement bass, Bob Whitledge always told me that my job was to make him sound good and, guess what, sometimes that was exactly right. At other times, I had a greater responsibility to enhance the sound of the lead, Drayton Justus. When he sang high and strong and I sang low, allowing my voice to disappear would not have been a good plan. The experts on chord structures and on one's place in each chord can tell us which voices should or should not be prominent in the chord, but you will never truly understand that concept until you hear and feel the results when it is just right.

The bass and tenor each make very special contributions to the sound and the character of the chords within a song. They are most effective when they listen to the impact their voices make in the overall sound and presentation. There have been gold medal quartets wherein the tenor or bass was quite prominent and yet the result was quite special. I suspect that they listened to what it was that defined the character of their sound. Within that framework, the best quartets work their magic. There may

be guidelines for the building of a quartet's sound and character, but there definitely is not a formula. Grow and learn. Apply tried and true principles as you develop within your quartet, but listen to the results of your efforts and know what produces the best overall effect. Don't just do it once, do it all of the time. Voices grow and change. The state of the art grows and changes. The game goes to those who listen best.

THE BARONS NAMED 2003 SENIORS CHAMPION

The Barons won the 2003 International Seniors Quartet Contest held at the Albuquerque Midwinter Convention. The foursome from the Cardinal District, who had placed second in last year's contest, was a clear winner in the field of 25 quartets. Quartet members are **Bud Haggard**, tenor; **Carl Taylor**, lead; **Ken Buckner**, baritone; and **Bill Woodward**, bass. Haggard and Woodward are members of the Lexington, Kentucky chapter; Taylor is with the Ashland, Kentucky chapter; and Buckner is a member of the Louisville chapter.

OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY, SPEBSQSA, Inc.
International, Quartet Finals Seniors, Albuquerque, NM,
January 25, 2003

| | | Avg |
|----|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | The Barons | CAR 71.2 |
| 2 | Gym Class | ILL 70.1 |
| 3 | Auld Lang Syne | MAD 69.2 |
| 4 | City Slickers, | MAD 69.0 |
| 5 | Sound Association, | ONT 68.9 |
| 6 | The Central Statesmen, | CSD 68.8 |
| 7 | Antique Gold, | EVG 67.9 |
| 8 | The Classics, | EVG 67.3 |
| 9 | Close Encounters of the Seventh Kind | NED 66.9 |
| 10 | Chordial Exchange | AAMBS 66.8 |
| 11 | Antiques Roadshow | PIO 66.7 |
| 12 | Senior Class | JAD 66.2 |
| 13 | A Touch of Class | FWD 63.5 |
| 14 | The Olde Tymers | LOL 63.4 |
| 15 | Replay | SWD 62.5 |
| 16 | Cincinnati "Pops", | JAD 62.3 |
| 16 | Yesterday's Heros | RMD 62.3 |
| 18 | Potluck | FWD 62.2 |
| 18 | Senior Class Reunion, | RMD 62.2 |
| 20 | Joint Venture | DIX 62.1 |
| 21 | Cactus Jack | SWD 61.9 |
| 22 | Still Standin' | SLD 60.8 |
| 23 | Sage | MAD 60.3 |
| 24 | Good Time Singers | DIX 57.5 |
| 25 | Happy Daze | SUN 55.5 |

Division 1 SCal West

Editor Mike Martin

CONEJO VALLEY

RED EHRENBACH

The Chapter's Installation Dinner/Dance/Auction at the Sunset Hills Country Club was very well attended and all had a good time. **Neil Pennywit** made arrangements. The Chapter members are looking forward to the Singing Valentine's Promotion and the High School Benefit Show's in February At the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza and the Ventura High School Auditorium. Both Show's will have **Dick Van Dyke** as Master of Ceremony and he will also perform with his Quartet, **The Vantastics**.

Finale will be the headliner Quartet on our Annual Spring Show April 12th and of course we will be preparing for the SOCAL West Division Contest May 3rd. **Larry Nixon** is now our official Front Line Director.

RINCON BEACH

BOB LALLY

The **Pacific Sound Chorus** finished 2002 on a high note. Their joint Christmas Show with the Channelaire Chorus of Sweet Adelines, Inc., filled the Civic Arts Plaza theater in Thousand Oaks with an appreciative audience. Special thanks for this successful performance go to Producer **Bruce Hunter**, **Key Grip Brent Burningham**, and to **Brent Anderson** and **Mike Marion** for their work with publicity; also to **Jim Browne** for his handling of ticket sales. The Chapter rounded out the season with additional performances for the Unity Shoppe and Casa Dorinda. Another highlight of the season was the release of our first CD recording entitled AYuletides.@ It arrived just in time for the Christmas show and has almost sold out the first printing.

A holiday party was hosted by **Brent** and **Sue Anderson** at their home in Santa Barbara, and chorus members and their families were treated not only to wonderful hospitality and food, but to a humorous installation of the chapter's Board of Directors for the coming year. They are **Rick Davis**, President, **Monty Clark**, Secretary, **Bob Cathaway**, Treasurer, **Brent Anderson**, Public Relations Officer, **Ken Day**, VP Chapter Development, **Jim Serdahely**, VP Music and Performance, and Board Members at Large **Larry Krause**, **Bob Lally**, **Mike Marion**, and **Bob McGee**. The comedy team of **Garth Ratliff** and **Phil Wilson** carried out the installation.

The New Year starts with a performance at the Annual Gala of the Santa Barbara Chamber of Commerce and continues with preparations for the Divisional Contest in May and the Chorus trip to St. Petersburg, Russia, in August where they will represent SPEBSQSA at a festival for Russian music educators and barbershop singers.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEYAIRES

DON HEIST

After eleven years, **Don Heist**, editor of the Valleyaires Vocalizer has chosen to step down and his job will be taken over by **Jeff Barsky**. Jeff will be bringing a new style to The Vocalizer and he is also the Chapter Web-Master. He will have some large shoes

to fill. Good luck Jeff. It seems the Valleyaires like to hold on to good men for a long time. **Tom Mayfield** also steps down from the president position after four years of service. Must be some kind of record. **Tim Singer** received Barbershopper Of The Month honors. Congratulations Tim. The Chapters annual banquet and award program was held at the Encino Glen Banquet Hall. The Chorus is planning a trip to Ireland in 2003 and have so far signed up 72 people. Look in this issue of Westunes for their ad if you would like to join them. The **Valleyaires** will be joining the **South Bay Coastliners** for a joint meeting in Redondo Beach in February. That should be a lively meeting between two great choruses.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

BRUCE MILLER

Pete Bennet, 2002 chapter president, stepped down but not before thanking all the guys who made the year so successful. Membership Chairman **Jim Hawkins** announced that the annual show may be performed in Paso Robles the weekend after they perform two shows at Clark Auditorium in Arroyo Grande. **Gil Brown** chaired and **George Loose** co-chaired the January installation dinner. The **Caught In The Act** quartet performed for the members of the Chumash Village community December 13 and was a smash success. The Chorus entered a float and performed in a Christmas parade, which was chaired by **George Loose**, and all enjoyed it. Assisting George were, **Bill Rollins** for creating great banners, **Greg Schifano** for the sound system, and **Stan DeVoe** for the truck and trailer used in the parade. While the day was wet and cold, spirits were warm. Also helping out with the parade were **Del Clegg**, **Leigh Willard**, **Brian Davin** and **Hugh Hoadley**.

The Chorus welcomes two new members. **Henry Wessels** who brings art and theater experience with him and **William Helfrich** who joins the lead section. **Rick Marshall** and **Rick Kirn** both received their Polecat pins and certificates for successfully performing all twelve Polecat songs to the satisfaction of the Polecat Chairman **Pete Bennet**. The Chorus had a very success filled day working with the Marine Corps League Det 680 as they performed their third Toys For Tots concert. Great job fellas.

SANTA CLARITA VALLEY

BOB LANG

Performed at local retirement community of Friendly Valley on 11/5 (election night), which worked out great as our chapter meeting place was being used as a polling place. Our host treated with coffee and cake, and then we went out for Pizza! The chapter was well represented in kicking off the Christmas Season by the "truckload" in the local mall's Christmas parade just before Thanksgiving. They hosted a Sunday Serenade at Marie Calenders in Valencia on 12/15, with chorus and quartets. Their thanks go to **The Energizers** quartet, and **Phillip Pettus** from San Gabriel chapter for helping them out. Everyone had a great time. The Chapter hopes to make this a quarterly event.

December 20 was a combination chapter Christmas party and (baritone) **Elling Sagan's** 70th birthday party, at a banquet facility in Newhall. The Sagan family invited the whole chapter

(including families) for a full dinner and to celebrate, and celebrate we did with a dance floor and a live dance band. The chorus also performed our package, as well as quartets "**Fraternal Harmony**" and a two-song reunion of "**It's Not Our Fault**", plus several pickup quartets. Thanks again Elling!

Short story: On December 20 "**Fraternal Harmony**" quartet had a gig to sing for the Castaic Senior Center. **Bob Lang** stood in for the bari who couldn't make it, but on the way he was stopped by a Highway Patrolman who gave him a "present" for making a "California rolling stop". After the performance, the guys handed over all the proceeds to Bob to help with the ticket! Thanks guys; that is what I call real "Fraternal Harmony"!

The Chapter will have completed their high school quartet workshop (1/25) and contest (2/11) by the time this goes to print. They hope to have the winners perform and receive their check on their annual show. The Valentine program is set for 2/14 with three quartets participating.

Show songs are coming along well, and the Chapter will be singing them for you on March 1, at Valencia High School at our 31st annual show, 2:00 and 8:00 P.M

SANTA MARIA

LU HINTZ

Chorus director **Brad Bormann** continues on the ill list while **Lew Law** takes up the reins in his absence and doing a fine job too. The Chapter sent Lew to COTS and he picked up a whole new perspective on directing and had fun doing it. The Chapter decided that the fall show would have a circus theme. Eight youths will be sponsored by the chapter to the Young Men In Harmony Festival this year. **Lu Hints** and **Don Ward** will be handling the Singing Valentines this year. The installation of Chapter officers was held January 18 at the Rancho Bowl.

SOUTH BAY

MIKE MARTIN

A very busy couple of months as South Bay closes a very successful year on several fronts. Financially, several events worked out very well and the coffers are fat. A very successful show with four sold out houses was biggest contributor along with a number of local singouts. Several Christmas appearances drew good crowds with the season topped by winning the two major categories of the El Segundo Christmas Parade, which were; the Best Adult Entertainment Organization and The Grand Marshall's Prize. The **Coastliner** presentation consisted of several chapter quartets working in tandem with the Chorus as it worked its way to the judge's stand. Several antique cars owned by chorus members, **Bob Greenwood**, **Pete Neushul**, **Dick Wyckoff**, **Mike Martin** and **Dan Ullfig** were also part of the entry. The Coastliners took these same two awards the prior year as well.

Program VP **Damian Curran** is preparing to establish the First The Annual Elmo Tanner Whistling Quartet Contest which will be open to all interested chapters. There will be an actual cash award for the winning group. The whistling group does not necessarily have to be a quartet. More to come on this. **Rick**

Llewelyn will again be chairing the Valentines Day activities for the chapter with plans to beat last year's record sing outs. **Karl Jacobs** is establishing the O.C. Cash Fellows program to further enhance the Chapters cash position with some very worthwhile goals in mind. It is by special invitation to members (past and present) and friends of South Bay. Former South Bay member **Deane Scoville** and his wife performed the swearing in ceremonies at the Chapter's installation dinner held at the Torrance Hilton on January 19. The Chapter had one of its largest turnouts in several years. The food and company was outstanding. **Bernie Baron** did a fine job as the MC.

Will Hamblet, winner of last years BOTY presented the award for 2002 to **Denny Lawrence** who will be Chapter president for 2003. Denny by the way, has started the New Year and his position as president with a list of suggestions he had solicited from Chapter members over the past month. His first meeting was conducted efficiently with much accomplished and little time wasted. It appears he plans to put the same savvy into his new job as he did with the very successful 2002 annual show. **George Jackson**, winner of the ROTY for 2001 presented the award to the new ROTY **Jim Labor**. Both of these fellows were outstanding selections for two guys who did so much for the Chapter in 2002. The Chapters own Hey Hey Honeys, the sweethearts of the men who sing in the chorus and do so very much for the Chapter and the Society, held a raffle at the installation dinner. The two major prizes were won by **Bernie Baron** and **Keith Klein** which were fashioned by Chapter wives **Jacqui Martin** and **Donna Lawrence**.

VENTURA

KEITH BOGOST

All the Chapter quartets were busy over the holiday season. **Ventura Boulevard** (**Bob Haines**, **Don Hansen**, **Bill Minea** and **Dan Love**), **Harmony Channel** (**Duane Ashby**, **Bruce Hunter**, **Doug Van Bogelen** and **Brent Burningham**) and the **Ancient Mariners** (**Wayne Rear**, **Ron Derrico**, **Chuck Killen** and **Keith Bogost**). The annual installation dinner in January took place at the Wedgewood Banquet Center and was chaired by **Tom Leese** and emceed by **Bart Bleuel**. Tom will be taking over as the Chapter president for 2003. The Chapter web site is now up and running thanks to Webmaster **Paul Leibowitz**. The Chapter is also celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2003 and **Jim Sumstine** has agreed to be chairman for a show to celebrate the event. Plans are also underway for a Spring Ice Cream Sociable. The Channel Island Clippers are pleased to welcome two new members who are **Doug Dow** and **Ray Deering**. Both of these gentlemen bring music backgrounds with them. On January 25, the Clippers appeared on the Dave and Bob Talent Show for the tenth straight time. The show is used to raise money for the Ventura County Special Olympics. In addition, the Chapter is set to appear on the sixth annual High School Choral Benefit Show on February 22 with **Dick Van Dyke**. This will be a joint effort with the Rincon Chapter and The Channelaires, a Sweet Adeline Chorus.

Division 2 SCal East

Editor Gene Hartzler

FULLERTON

December was certainly a busy month for the Orange Empire Chorus. Starting off with the traditional Christmas cabaret that was forced to move to new location after eight previous events at the same venue, but the new place proved to be a genuine winner with the patrons. Then there were the six chapter quartets that were kept busy entertaining holiday gatherings of various organizations as they socialized for the Season. Five groups were enjoyed by the John Wayne Airport holiday travelers as the guys roamed departure gates, baggage areas, and waiting areas. A bonus for their offerings came as traveling barbershoppers, Sweet Adelines, and choir singers stopped to identify their home groups of singers.

The December Clippin's is loaded with lots of nice photos that confirm what a great time was had by the quartets, the Orange Blossoms and the chapter even squeezed in a HFLB date where the **Shenanigans** quartet performed for the gang.

Editor **Dick Cote** in his Editorial Musings recognized and thanked all the members who contributed during the year, many more than once. All 42 names were listed for all to see. Dick paid complements to postman **Leon Williamson**, label maker **Gene Renck**, photographers Joan, Patty, and Hugh. He did not forget his "long-suffering proofreader, copy editor and wife Kay.

One time OEC chorus director, **Paul Olguin's** smiling face graced the back page in an article by Lee Anderson, chapter webmaster.

HEMET

BRUCE SMITH

The January issue of the UPBEAT was enhanced by a full page (front and back) of color photos of the chorus and quartets at the Christmas Show. The 2003 chapter President is **Lee Krauss** who was installed in early January at the Seven Hills Country Club. **Bruce Smith** was named BSOY. Installer was affable **Ernie Hills** and Howard acted as MC for the lovely event.

Music Director **Howard Mesecher** has revealed the theme of the Spring Show. It will be a Western Melodrama, so the men will start to sharpen their spurs and oil their saddles.

ORANGE

RICHARD ACTON

Paul Kelley reports that seven quartets are registered from the Orange Chapter and some others are "cooking" for the Novice Contest.

Rich Lewis reports that Thirty (30) of "us quartetters and wannabees" have volunteered for the up-coming Valentine Chapter fund raiser.

Thanks to **Bill Snyder** for the new up-to-date member roster! (Ed.Note: Nice Job.)

The parody on "Alice Blue Gown" brought a smile to all who read it. **Stanley Tinkle** has come up with 17 suggested songs for a quartet that are fun to sing, easy to master, and fun to listen to.

PALOMAR-PACIFIC

KEITH MULFINGER

BSO, for October was **Earl McDougal** and **Jack Fellows** became November's honoree.

As is usually the case, the chapter installation dinner at the Lake San Marcos Country Club was a lovely and of course hilarious the way Lloyd and his assistant Fifi performed as they awarded a passel of special and kinky awards to seven surprised and sometimes embarrassed recipients. None of nominees for each trophy was actually awarded a trophy, which added to the fun. Affable **Warren Grant** was named President, **Al Leuthe** as VP-Chapter Development. Board Members at-Large are **Fred Bennett**, **Ron Grant**, **Vince Kater**, **Jerry Mills** and **Keith Mulfinger**. Past President is **Wayne Beighley**. **Terry Aramian** repeats as VP Music and Performance and **Chuck Youde** and **Gene Hartzler** Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. **Chuck Youde** received the Presidents Award and **Bill Peaker** was selected as Rookie Of The Year. BSOY was none other than "our music man" **Jack Fellows!**

The Christmas show in Fallbrook was brightened during intermission when the chorus sang happy birthday to **Lloyd Steinkamp** and presented him a gigantic birthday card signed by all the guys.

WHITTIER

DAVID GUNTHER

True to the Whittier tradition, the **Choralaires** 2002 Christmas Show was a resounding success. Their presentation of Holiday music ran two days and three performances so they were a very busy chorus! All in all it was a total chapter effort both musically and with many members and wives running the total endeavor for three appearances at the Whittier Center Theatre in Uptown Whittier.

Genial **John Gassman** was the overwhelming choice of the chapter nominating committee to be the 2003 President. The board can look forward to lots of fun and comradeship with John at the helm each month.

The January Issue of the Showcase included a nice centerfold of excellent photos taken by the **Gunthers** covering the Christmas Show and the annual retreat at Pilgrim Pines.

Division 3 NCal West

Editor Don Kington

BAY AREA METRO

Dave Tibbets

With all the holiday performances behind them, the Bay Area Metro Chapter is actively working on two top priorities: increasing active membership and preparing to re-enter the contest cycle.

In less than six months since BAM began rebuilding under new director, **Rob Campbell**, active membership has actually dou-

bled! Many former and inactive members have returned and several new members have joined them on the risers. With about 45 active members, and several guests preparing to become members, BAM expects to reach its goal of having 60 performing members by the District contest in October.

After staying out of the contest cycle for two years, the **Pot O' Gold Chorus** will be back in the race at the NorCal West Division contest in Santa Rosa in April. To that end, the Chorus is currently whipping its contest package into shape. They've retained **Deanna Curulla** to assist with choreography and will be coached during February and March by three of the Society's top men: **Jim Clancy**, **Mark Hale**, and **Bobby Gray**. Both Jim and Mark will visit BAM at different Monday night meetings, and Bobby will spend the weekend at the Chapter's annual Winter Advance (never say "retreat").

As this is written, BAM is also readying its quartets for Singing Valentines and preparing for its annual Spring Shows on April 5, featuring last year's International medalist quartet, **Metropolis**. (See ad, Inside Back Cover, in this issue.)

The following officers will lead BAM throughout 2003: **Dave Tibbetts**, President; **Herb Florence**, VP Membership & Chapter Development; **Bruce Lechner**, VP Marketing & Public Relations; **Chuck Leavitt**, VP Music & Performance; **Walt Patterson**, Secretary; **Earl Walker**, Treasurer & Immediate Past President; and **John Durden** and **Tim Bormann**, Board Members-at-Large.

HONOLULU (ALOHA CHAPTER)

ED REID

The Aloha Chapter had its Installation Banquet Saturday night, January 25, at the Ft. Shafter Club. **Noel Mau** was named Barbershopper of the Year and **Dan Tom** received the President's Award. Kudos go to **Charles Black** for arranging the affair.

EUREKA

MAC GARDNER

Mac tells us in his December 2002 edition of Redwood Resonance that he has turned "the editor's 'Blue Pencil' over the **Al Strom**" -- meaning that Al will be the new editor of the Chapter bulletin and his name will be appearing up where you now read Mac's. We thank Mac for his always-faithful supply of nuggets from the north!

FREMONT/HAYWARD

RAY SPINOSA

The **New Dimension Chorus** helped the city of Hayward mayoral staff get into a festive mood by performing a set of Christmas songs at the staff's holiday party. Immediately after, director **James Hall** led his troops to the streets of downtown Hayward, where the chorus took part in the annual festival by singing Christmas songs at several locations, including an impromptu visit to a barber shop where the proprietor was serenaded with several barbershop songs.

The chorus was able to garner some valuable publicity when a reporter from the local Hayward newspaper visited the Chapter,

interviewed several members, and wrote an article which appeared, along with pictures taken at the mayor's staff party, in the newspaper on December 12. The article also appeared later in an Oakland newspaper.

The Chorus also made a 30-minute tape for the Hayward public-access television station, which included both traditional barbershop and holiday songs. The tape was shown for five consecutive weeks. Many thanks to the **Three Amigos Quartet** from the San Jose Chapter, for joining the Chorus and performing a really fine set of songs.

NAPA VALLEY

ROGER SWARD

Quartets, octets and the full Chorus accumulated 35 performances during the year singing in retirement homes, corporate meetings, private gatherings and downtown malls throughout Napa County. A total of 10 Christmas performances capped a busy year for members of the **Napa Valley Barbershop Chorus**.

This year's calendar of coming events features Chorus performances in every month of the year including the annual Valentine's Day Singing Valentines. The annual show "They Wrote 'Em In The Good Old Days" will be presented on May 10.

Last year generous scholarships were given to Napa High School students who showed interest in vocal music plus a donation supporting the school music program. This year's Justin Sienna High School hopes to have its first boy's barbershop quartet and have eight girls working on Sweet Adelines arrangements. The third high school in Napa, Vintage High, is expected to field a boy's quartet this year. The Chapter plans to have all three schools represented on the annual show.

For the third year the Chapter is staging its annual garage sale which nets over \$3,000 a year for youth activities. Donations for the sale are advertised through newspaper ads and flyers. Collecting items for the sale will go through February and March and up to the sale on April 28.

S.F. BAY CITIES QUARTET CHAPTER CASEY PARKER

At the December 11, 2002, meeting Chapter President **Steve Gummersal** presented **Bob Bird** with his 62 year membership card. Bob has the fourth longest membership in the Society.

SAN FRANCISCO

DMK

The **Cable Car Chorus** members' good friend and director for a few past months, **Don Gubbins**, did the "swearing in" (after some mild roasting) of each of the Chapter's 2003 officers on Saturday night, January 11. **Marvin Gold** was named Barbershopper of the Year and assistant director and Music & Performance VP **Charles Feltman** name was added to the Cable Car Bell Trophy as the latest member of the Bert Scharf Hall of Fame.

In a deviation from the past three years the Chapter's annual show is scheduled for October 11, 2003. Stay alert for forthcoming details!

SANTA CRUZ

LAWRENCE STERN

Bill Gledhill, chapter president, nearly missed the Inauguration Dinner when his U.S. Army unit was called up for a short mobilization for readiness processing. Fortunately, his commanding officer gave him a pass that allowed him to sing all night at the Inn at Pasatiempo.

At a recent rehearsal **John Hazen** was under the weather so **Jim Stroupe** stepped in. Jimmy (his S.F. colleagues were never this informal!) demonstrated his method of directing while facing the audience. A water bottle placed in his back pocket helped emphasize the technique. The chorus hopes he will use two water bottles next time, as the Chorus has only half assessed the method. John led a quartet (with **Rich Miller**, **Jerry Paul**, **Jim Stroupe**) into Soquel High to demonstrate four part harmony to a chorus class and plans to visit Aptos High in the near future. Guest night is scheduled for Feb. 20.

SANTA ROSA

SCOTT DOUGLAS

Sunday night, January 5, the Chapter held its Installation Dinner. Member **Robb Ollett**, former International and FWD officer, installed the following stalwarts for 2003: **Dan Schell**, President; **Jim DeChaine**, VP Chapter Development; **Dugh Schrift**, VP Membership; **Larry Wendt**, VP Music & Performance; **Jim Estrella**, VP Program; **Mike Ferrel**, Treasurer; **Noel Lyons**, Secretary; and **Terry Johnson**, **Val Pizzini**, **Jeff Reynolds** and **Gabor Roth**, Board Members-at-Large.

Awards were present to: **Bill Myatt**, Rookie of the Year; **Scott Douglas**, Mr. Versatile; **Ray Crowder**, Old Bones-Hume Bacon Memorial; **Jeremy Donley**, Mr. Esprit de Corps; **Val Pizzini**, Unsung Hero; **Wayne Hovedesven**, Ed Hildebrand Memorial Hall of Fame; **Gabor Toth**, President's Award; and **Rex Huston**, Barbershopper of the Year.

WALNUT CREEK

DICK JOHNSTON

The Chapter staged its annual Christmas show to enthusiastic audiences at both a matinee and evening performance on Saturday, December 14. On Thursday, December 18, the **Devil Mountain Chorus** sang to more than 300 members of SIRS and their guests at St. Mary's College in Moraga.

The annual dinner meeting for installation of officers was Saturday, January 11. President **Bob Dunn** was named Barbershopper of the Year. **Jim Sherman** administered the oath of office to the assembled officers for 2003.

Division 4 NCal East

Editor Bill Crocker

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

MILES SUTTER

The annual senior citizen Christmas dinner show was a great success. It was held at the Senior Citizen Center in Turlock. **Chris Baird** purchased ten turkeys and all of the food that goes with a Christmas dinner. Chapter members and wives stuffed and roasted the birds to perfection.

The kitchen crew performed its usual magic in preparing the dinners. The crew was composed of **Gary Soderstrom**, **Floyd Rough**, **Stu McElwain**, **Dick** (need more rolls!) **Compton**, **Juan Quijano**, **Ray Baker**, **Ron Logan**, **Derick Sturke**, **Bill Gelderman**, **Joe Gornick**, **George Tallman** and **Bob Stanley**.

Dave Wallace and **Ron Russell** were the "spotters." Mike Viss served water and Jose Gornick served coffee. **Phil Lustri** handled the salad tray and pumpkin pie cart.

An outstanding program of barbershop and Christmas selections was offered under the direction of **Dain Goad**. **Papa's Pride**, **Common Bond** and **Collaboration** provided the quartet portion of the program.

Floyd Rough was presented with the coveted barbershopper of the year (BOTY) award at the sixth annual awards banquet and officer installation dinner. This December 3 event was held at the Hilmar Cheese Factory.

The tri-city visitation was a resounding success. Ninety-two barbershoppers from the Stockton, Sacramento, Central California, Sutter Creek, Placerville and Folsom chapters trekked to Stockton on January 21 for the second annual get-together.

Golden Valley Chorus members provided a huge cake for the occasion. The special guest was **Bill Cale**. Some familiar faces were present as well. **Al Wolters**, **Steve Leipelt**, **Steve Taylor**, **Pat Henley** and **Milton Bates** showed up along with quartets a plenty. **KaBLaM!**, **Generation Blend**, **Missing Parts**, **Common Bond** and **Collaboration** lent their wonderful harmony.

CHICO

LEE ATKINS

Bob Riedel, long time member of the Chico chapter, scored a double-header. He was elected chapter president for 2003 and barbershopper of the year for 2002. And if that wasn't enough, he has agreed, again, to serve as the 2003 annual show chairman. Bob is one of a kind and a very important member of the chapter.

Hec Rivas was elected VP chapter development; **Duke Andrus**, VP music; **Duane Kinkade**, secretary; **Don Thomas**, treasurer and **George Smith**, chorus manager.

Bidwell Generals offered its Christmas program at a senior mobile home community and an assisted living facility during the Christmas season. The chorus was welcomed by an appreciative audience at each place.

Vintage Sound was asked to participate in the Yuba City Christmas Stroll for the second time on December 6. The quartet made its way for three hours through the stores crowded with shoppers and sang at least one song in each place. The guys ran into a local female quartet in the pet shop. The two quartets sang for each other in the corner of the shop next to the hamster feed. The hamsters could be heard chirping in harmony nearby.

DAVIS-VACAVILLE

West Valley Chorale is preparing for its annual shows in February. It is also preparing to host the 2003 NoCal East Division Contest in April and gearing up for the singing valentines program.

Claude Rohwer was elected president at the January 11 evening ceremony. Claude was sick with the flu so his wife, Lynn, presented his speech and special awards. Now that's devotion to a spouse's avocation!

Other officers elected were: **John Minkler**, secretary; **Don Fish**, treasurer; **Jeff Mech** and **Marion Gribskov**, VP membership; **Mick Simmons** and **Phill Harris** VP program and **Jack McPhilips**, VP music.

Mike Simmons, in addition to assuming VP program responsibilities, was also elected barbershopper of the year.

Gas Light, Now & Then, Special Blend and **High Rollers** provided the installation evening's entertainment along with **West Valley Chorale**.

FRESNO**GORDON BERGTHOLD**

For those friends who were not aware, it is a sad note to report that **Rich Hasty**, the new chorus director, was in a serious automobile accident while returning home from the AIC show in Anaheim. He suffered two broken legs and a fractured hip. He is now home and receiving rehabilitation. He will be wheelchair-bound for a couple of months. Many may know Rich as a member of **Late Night Barbershop**. Rich would like to hear from his friends. You may contact him at rich_hasty@msn.com.

Gold Note Chorus members have been very generous by helping the Hasty family retrofit their home for wheelchair access and other responsibilities. They have also stepped up their participation in chapter affairs to fill in for Rich.

Chorus members have been very busy with Christmas shows, installation, awards dinner, singing for Fresno State football and basketball games and various other performances throughout the community. The chorus is receiving some great coaching from **Kendall William** and **Jay Giallombardo**.

Quartets have formed to provide the annual singing valentines. The annual show is scheduled for April 12 and will feature "**Flipside**," one of the top ten finalists in Portland last July. Following the division contest on April 26, assuming that the chorus is successful, members will work on the FWD contest songs followed by a September retreat with **Bobby Gray Jr.**

NEVADA PLACER**ROGER PERKINS**

The chapter's annual installation dinner was held on January 4 at Auburn's Senior Center. **Paul Greisen**, the chapter coach, was the installing officer. He presented himself as an FBI agent and did a very clever installation ceremony. **Dean Rice** was re-elected president.

DAVID ROY

Sierranaders performed with the Auburn Youth Symphony Orchestra in the orchestra's annual Christmas show. The performance was very well received by an enthusiastic audience.

PLACERVILLE**BILL PECK**

December was a very busy month for the chapter. There were several chorus and quartet sing-outs. The new year holds lots of promise with international top ten quartets on the shows, three or more quartets for singing valentines and the Harmony Youth Camp in September.

Chapter members now have new chorus jackets. The jackets are sure to dress up the chorus's look and provide a recruiting tool.

RENO**HOWARD STEVENS**

The chapter is preparing to host the Far Western District Spring Convention in March. **Sam Barger** is the convention chairman and is preparing a great gathering.

David Galloway was re-elected president for another year. In addition, he was presented with the barbershopper of the year award. A double-header! Congratulations to David.

The chapter members are promoting the first high school music festival in February.

SACRAMENTO**FRANK KINNISON**

The 2003 officers installation dinner was held at the Buggy Whip on January 11. Chapter coach, **Bill Cale**, installed **Gibson Hertler** as president; **Frank Kinnison**, secretary; **Tom Reaves**, treasurer; **Clark Abrahamson**, VP chapter membership/development; **Keith Slater**, VP music and performance; **Gary Heal**, VP program; **Phil Crawford**, VP marketing; **Alan Swanson**, VP public relations/bulletin editor and **Morrie Schlesinger**, chapter youth outreach. **Alan Swanson** was presented with the barbershopper of the year award for his dedication and outstanding performance as editor of the newsletter "Swipes and Tags." Alan was also responsible for creating a chapter roster with color photographs of each member. Installation dinner entertainment consisted of **Capitolaire**s singing "It Had To Be You" and "Something."

Chapter members have formed eight quartets to present singing valentines this year.

TRUCKEE-TAHOE**LARRY COLBORN**

The year 2002 was a very good one for the chapter. There were eleven donated sing-outs for various causes, twenty-three singing valentine deliveries, fourteen paid gigs and a very successful annual show.

OB's Restaurant in downtown Truckee reverberated with barbershop harmony at the annual dinner. After the re-installation of last year's officers, **Don Schaller** was honored as the barbershopper of the year. Don was roasted and toasted for his 35-plus years of barbershop singing and for his continued contributions

to the chorus. Don was also one of the original co-founders of the Truckee chapter, so he has seen it all.

Ben, Ryan, Alex, Richard and Owen - they may be "**Easily Distracted**" - but these five young men have made a major contribution to the chorus during the past year. They were also a major hit in the annual show. Chapter members acknowledge those graduating from Truckee High School this year and hope that they will continue to enjoy barbershop harmony throughout their lives.

Chapter members have formed two quartets to present singing valentines this year. The recipients will be serenaded and presented with a rose in a vase. Male recipients will receive a coffee mug. The proceeds will be given to the newly formed "Inner Rhythms" local arts organization.

VISALIA

DEE BAUGHMAN

Gary Smith was elected president and **Bob Pedan** of Hanford was the barbershopper of the year. Bob sang with the Kingsmen Chorus of Hanford for many years until the Hanford and Visalia chapters merged.

Might Oak Chorus, under the direction of **Tank Waldrum**, continues to prepare for the April show, "Here Comes The Judge."

Division 5 AZ/SoVNV/SoUT

Editor Phil Smith

GREATER PHOENIX

BILL KANE

This new chapter has now chartered, only 90 days after its first forming meeting. Auditions are under way for membership in the chapter and its **Pride of Phoenix** Chorus. Attendance has been averaging around 40 enthusiastic men (and a number of supportive wives) since the first rehearsal on Oct. 1. Co-directors **Russ Young** and **Gary Steinkamp** are busy instilling the joy of singing barbershop with good vocal techniques. A first performance was for family and friends during a Christmas celebration at the Dec. 17 meeting. A first public performance is scheduled for Feb. 23 at the church where the chapter meets, Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran, 1500 W Maryland Ave., Phoenix.

LAS VEGAS

LEON ROSE

Oscar Goodman, "the happiest mayor in America," did the honors on Jan. 10 at a special installation banquet for new officers and directors of the Las Vegas Chapter. The charismatic leader of Nevada's popular adult playground, who is unopposed for a second term, insisted on having the **Gamble-Aires Chorus** and quartets entertain him before conducting a brief installation ceremony, then stayed around to listen even though he had another commitment that same evening.

New officers and directors include: President, **Rich Coon**; VP of music, **Stanley Ackers**; VP of chapter development and membership, **Roc Pucci**; VP of public relations and marketing, **John Thompson**; VP of programs and special events, **James Reilly**;

secretary, **Jerry Alvarez**; treasurer, **David Kennedy**; members at large, **Rick Ives** and **Howard May**.

Several special awards were presented. These included: Barbershopper of the Year, **Richard Millburn**; Director's Award, **David Kennedy**; Rookie of the Year, **Andre Jones**; Achievement Award, **Dan Paymar**; and President's Award, **Albert Weiss** and **John Waugh**.

This year's Singing Valentine fund-raising program is being conducted in association with a major Las Vegas florist who will be doing extensive promotion and acting as the central order taker and operations headquarters. With this double-barreled approach to marketing by both the chapter and the florist, it is anticipated that a record number of orders will be taken.

LAS VEGAS METRO

JOHN KINDE

Congratulations to our award recipients at our annual banquet: Barbershopper of the Year, **Peter Feeney**; President's Award, **Dale Roberson**; Director's Award, **John Mackey**. The **City of Lights Chorus** has been busy with singouts. We look forward to Singing Valentines in February and our annual "Sounds of Las Vegas" show on March 1.

MESA

ROD CARDON

We have been the pride of Mesa for eight years and now have a great opportunity to move one mile over the border into Gilbert. Our guys are from all over the East Valley, and so are our service projects and performances. So at the beginning of this year the Mesa Lamplighter Chapter name has been changed to the **East Valley Lamplighter Chapter**. We moved into a new practice location at New Hope Community Church, 1380 E. Guadalupe Road, Gilbert. The Salvation Army people had generously helped us with a meeting place for many years, and we will continue to ring the bells for them in the future. We really appreciate them. We have many new excited visitors that live close to our new location, and the camaraderie has greatly improved. We have been working hard on vowel sounds, and many say we are sounding a lot better. We are working hard on getting ready for Singing Valentines. We can hardly wait to see all those surprised and smiling faces as we hand them chocolate candy, roses and sing "I Love You Truly". We still practice every Thursday night starting at 7:00 P.M. in Gilbert!

SO COME and LET US SING. Our fourth annual youth benefit show on April 5 is coming together. **Acoustix** will be our headliner. Harmony Foundation has helped generously. We strongly suggest YOU apply for a Harmony Foundation grant also. Also generously support the foundation financially all you can!

Thanks and welcome to new member, quartetter and board member, **Larry Callagher**. He has talent, experience and chutzpah that really helps us get things done!

For more information about our chapter, see the web site at www.evbarbershop.org.

PARADISE VALLEY

PHIL SMITH

The Paradise Valley Chapter had a unique situation: We had agreed to host the Division 5 Contest on April 26, and we also needed to come up with a date and location for our Annual Spring Show. Then the light bulb came on. Why not combine the two events in the same venue on the same weekend and get a built-in barbershop audience? So our annual show, "Singing Feels Good," will take place at 7:30 p.m. Friday April 25 at the Moon Valley High School auditorium, where the quartet and chorus competitions will be held the following day. Our guest quartet is **The Perfect Gentlemen**, champions of the National A Capella Harmony Sweepstakes. We invite all our Division 5 brethren to come in a day early and take in the show. Of course, anybody else who can make it is invited also. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at the door or by contacting **Gordon Limburg** at (623) 846-4169 or by e-mail at gojulimb@aol.com.

At this writing we are lining up radio, TV and newspaper publicity for what we expect to be another highly successful Singing Valentines program on Feb. 12-14.

Longtime barbershopper and outgoing Treasurer **Ben Gregg** was honored as Barbershopper of the Year at the **Cactus Chordsmen's** Installation Banquet on Dec. 1. Other award winners: Extra Mile, **Bob Hoge**; Unsung Hero, **Warren Stump**; Mr. Dependable, **Larry Fultz**; Smile Award, **Dave Lyman**; Sparkplug Award, **Alan Korwin**; and President's Award, Director **Dan Ryan**. Fifty-year barbershopper **Hank Nahass** was installed as president for his second year. Thanks to **Russ Young**, who served as installer, and **Bill Freck**, who has been the major person behind the success of these banquets for several years.

PRESCOTT

SAM STIMPLE

Keith Kelly was very deservedly named Barbershopper of the Year at the Installation of Officers Banquet. Keith is a 24-year member of SPEPSQSA and has offered the Prescott Chapter his expertise in many areas: chapter coach, Show Committee chair for two years, lead section leader, quartet promoter and lead singer of Senior Moments. Keith is a dual member (Phoenix Saguaro Chapter, where he serves as secretary) and has served in many capacities for the FWD and our division. And he always has time for us here in Prescott. This year he is serving as VP for music and performance and chair of the music team. Congratulations, Keith!

A sad event on the day before did not prevent the High Mountain Chordsmen's annual show, "How the West Was Really Lost," from being a hilarious success on Nov. 2. On Nov. 1, 26 chorus members attended funeral services for eight-year member **Jim Piechocki**, husband of former Music Director **Joan Piechocki**, who succumbed on Oct. 25 after a 27-year struggle with Parkinson's disease. The chorus sang In the Garden and It Is Well With My Soul, directed by **Rich Ludwigson**. Special thanks goes to Joan Piechocki, who went ahead with her featured role in the show, exuding her usual enthusiasm in the midst of her sorrow.

The chapter is already planning its 29th annual show, "It's a Great Day for the Irish," tentatively scheduled for Nov. 8.

The highlight of a busy Christmas season was a performance with local Sweet Adelines at the Hassayampa Inn on Dec. 13 as part of the Acker Musical Showcase. On Oct. 19, six members participated in a cleanup session on the mile of Highway 89A that the chapter has adopted: **Thom Christie, Dick Toelken, Clint Langston, Keith Kelly, Jim Davis** and **Sam Stimple**.

ST. GEORGE

KEN SUNDWALL

At our annual Installation Banquet after our Christmas show, **Allan Bridgewater** was honored as Barbershopper of the Year for 2002. Allan has been a stellar lead, a member of a past Rocky Mountain District Seniors champion quartet and "Mr. Pitch" for many years.

The **Color Country Chorus** will present its annual Spring Show on March 14 and 15 at Cox Auditorium, Dixie State College. The headliner quartet will be the Far Western District's own **Finale**.

SEDONA

DON TAUTKUS

We are fairly new, but getting very busy with performances. Here are some of the most recent ones: On Oct. 10, the **Red Rock Echoes** quartet performed at the Sedona Community Center during a weekly luncheon. This was followed by the chorus performing at the Sedona Arts Festival on Oct. 12. Both events were very well received, and a wonderful chance for our chorus to get known. The **Harmony of the Rocks Chorus** then sang for the American Cancer Society Run on Oct. 25.

December was especially busy for our chapter! The **Red Rocks Echoes** did a Christmas performance for a private party at the Canyon Mesa Country Club. They were greeted with a very enthusiastic crowd! Then the chorus performed for a chorus member's Christmas party on Dec. 15, and at The Church of the Red Rocks' Friendship Potluck on Dec. 18.

A local theater requested the chorus to sing for 15 minutes at the beginning of a Christmas play on Dec. 19, 20, 21 and 22. The response they received was tremendous! They followed this up with a singout at the Verde Valley Manor Senior Citizens Club on the 20th. Then to finish 2002 on a very happy note, the chorus participated in the 50th wedding anniversary/vow renewal celebration of the chapter's secretary, **Glenn Leitske**, and his wife, **Vera Mae**. What a fabulous celebration!

SIERRA VISTA

ED RAYMOND

The **Cochise Chordsmen** are on a roll! In addition to polishing the program for our Annual Show, we are practicing for our return to the halls of competition (after many years). This will be at the Division Convention in Phoenix this April.

In December, the chapter held its Installation Dinner, presided over by **Ivan Jensen**, chapter coordinator. Ivan came down from Tucson for the installation, giving the ceremony a quasi-judicial twist that captivated the audience.

Since our last Westunes report, we have gained four members, and by the time that this issue appears, we hope to have many more.

Our Valentine's Day Serenade program has been much improved. This year we anticipate about 60 recipients.

SUN CITIES

BOB MCGOWAN

The **Sun Cities Desert Aires** have earned the distinction for 2002 of having the most new members enrolled. This is particularly gratifying, considering the age group of our chorus.

The chorus had a successful singout season, in 2002, performing at 18 locations between January and December. These events brought the community some nostalgic music and a true meaning of barbershop singing.

In January, the chorus donated to eight local charities, as well as to the Harmony Foundation. Our successful annual show made this possible.

Our new president, **Ralph Brooks**, is looking forward to a successful season in 2003.

In addition to Ralph, the chorus elected **Wayne "Bud" Lowery** to VP program, **Bob Rich** returns as VP membership, **Don Rubertus** returns as VP music, **Bob Messamer** returns as treasurer, and **Bob McGowan** was elected secretary. New board members at large are **Jim Dale**, **Chuck Thompson** and **Otto Mielenz**.

This past quarter, we sadly sang our farewell to a longtime barbershopper, **Allan Jones**, who sang lead in several choruses over 14 years in the Society. Allan was a consummate barbershopper, with a quick wit and a love of Irish humor, and will be missed by all who knew him. Age has caused retirement of several more members, such as **Don Nelson**, with six years with our group; **Phil Wachtel**, with six years; and **Dale Allen**, with 13 years of barbershop experience. **Fred Barley** also announced that he will not return. We will miss each and everyone of them.

TUCSON

FRED KOCH

At the annual Installation Dinner and Holiday Party on Dec. 8, 34-year member **Ron Hayes** was named Barbershopper of the Year. Over the years, Ron has led by example with his show ticket and ad sales, help with prop building and transporting chapter property. He has been editor or co-editor of the award-winning chapter bulletin, *Sunshine Sayings*, for more than a decade. Ron also has held several chapter offices, including public relations VP, program VP and board member at large. He is also the chapter's representative on the Tucson Arts Council.

Our annual show, "Barbershoo Pirates ... or Mutiny on the Risers," with **Ron Hayes** providing comedy relief as a cocky parrot, was a riotous success on Feb. 1. The chorus also had two shows in November. The annual concert in Green Valley and the annual Afternoon of Harmony at Christ Community Church, at

which patrons and members donated 184 pounds of food and \$25 in cash to the Community Food Bank.

The Sunshine Chorus and especially the Koch family had even more than usual to be grateful for this Thanksgiving. On Nov. 1, **Dave Koch**, son of Fred and the first tenor of the **Thursday Nite 4-Um**, underwent five hours of successful surgery for a brain tumor. The doctor met with the family after he was done and said that he had removed the entire tumor and it was NOT cancer! Things went so well that Dave was back home just two days after the surgery and was cleared to return to work on Nov. 25! The Kochs thank all of those who offered their prayers, e-mails, letters and phone calls in support.

WHITE MOUNTAINS

DOC DOCKENDORF

Greetings from the Highest Chapter in the Society! Our three Christmas shows went very well. We held a special Installation of Officers dinner on Jan. 11, with **Broadway** acting as installing officers. The quartet installed each officer by singing a specially prepared appropriate song for each office. Notable was "Money, Money, Money" for the treasurer, and "How Can We Miss You If you Won't Go Away" for the immediate past president. Inducted were **Bob Cutlipp**, president; **Lloyd Lange**, VP; **John Welker**, treasurer; **George Slone**, secretary; **Everett Peterson**, music VP; **Tom Pennell**, IPP; and **Bob Koons**, **Howard Walz** and **Alan Johnson** as board members at large. The President's Award went to **George Slone**, the Spark Plug Award went to **Steve Dygert**, and the BOTY award went to **Dan Neeley**. We are looking forward to having another successful Singing Valentine program, preparing for the AZ/SoNev/SoUtah Divisional Convention in April, and our annual show, "A Tribute to Al Jolson", in July.

YUMA

ROB BAILEY

The Yuma chapter held its annual Officers Installation Banquet on Jan. 14. The site was the landmark huge dome house belonging to bass **Mark Henrikson**. The acoustics are remarkable. With nearly 50 people in attendance, the sound was extraordinary -- echoes are still ringing. The newly installed officers are **Frank Durham** as president (and secretary as well), **Tony Gottsponer** as treasurer, **Wayne Snell** as VP for member development, **Rich Stewart** as VP for marketing and public relations, **Rob Bailey** as program vice president, **Bob Ellenberger** as chorus manager and librarian, and **Bill Ellenberger** as chorus director. Best wishes to all as we set a new course for 2003. Quartet activities continue to be a strong part of the chapter's musical program. Packed houses have been cheering quartet shows all through the holidays, and performances continue nearly every weekend this winter. There's a simple reason that 75,000 folks from up north spend their winters in Yuma: good ol' barbershop harmony (tempered by 70-degree weather every day)! Come on down!!!

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CONVENTIONS, SHOWS, EVENTS

2003

Mar 1 Santa Clarita Show
8 San Fernando Show
8 Laguna Hills Show
15 San Jose
20-23 FWD Spring Convention
Reno [pg 16]

Apr 5 Bay Area Metro Show
11-13 NCW Div Contest
Santa Rosa [pg 18]
12 Fullerton Show
12 Conejo Valley Show
12 Santa Monica Show
12 San Luis Obispo Show
12 Pomona Show
12 Fresno Show
12 Sierra Vista
19 Visalia Show
25 Paradise Valley Show
25-26 Az/SoNV/SoUT Div Contest
Paradise Valley [pg 19]
25-26 NCE Div Contest
Davis - Vacaville [pg 20]

26 Placerville Show
26 Chico Show (T)
26 Whittier Show
27 Palamar Pacific Show

May 2-3 Aloha Show
3 SoCal West Div Contest
Rincon Beach [pg 23]
10 SoCal East Div Contest
Masters Of Harmony [pg 25]
15 Santa Rosa Show
18 Los Angeles Show
30-31 South Bay Show
31 Central California Show

Jun 1 South Bay Show
7 Masters Of Harmony Show

Jun 29-Jul 6 INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION
Montreal

Oct 2-5 FWD Fall Convention
Bakersfield [District Run]

Nov 1 Placerville Show

2004

Jan 25-Feb 1 INTERNATIONAL
MIDWINTER
Biloxi, MS

Mar 18-21 FWD Spring Convention
Reno

Jun 27-Jul 4 INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION
Louisville

Sep 30-Oct 3
FWD Fall Convention
Bakersfield [District run]

2005

Mar 3-6 FWD Spring Convention
Reno

Jul 3-10 INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION
Salt Lake City

Oct 13-16 FWD Fall Convention
Pasadena

2006

Mar 16-19 FWD Spring Convention
Reno

Jul 2-9 INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION
Indianapolis

Oct 12-15 FWD Fall Convention
San Jose

2007

Jul 1-8 INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION
Denver

WESTUNES

Magazine

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