



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 55

Summer 2005

Number 3



Bob Oertel *[Posthumously]*



Photo by Sandy Rhymer

Ray Rhymer

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Far Western District Association of Chapters in the
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of BarberShop Quartet Singing in America, Inc.

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 - Photographs: use high resolution JPEG.
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Issue	Deadline	Chapter News Submittal to Div Editor Deadline
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Summer	1 May	25 Apr
Fall	1 Aug	25 Jul

These are new dates for the new
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Send change of address to:

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or use the secure Society website login
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Wonderful Convention

The FWD just had a marvelous time in Burbank, CA attending the Spring Convention. The competition and special events were just great, and the meetings were all productive. Congratulations to all the qualifying quartets who will now go to Salt Lake City, and to those quartets and choruses from SoCalWest qualifying to appear in the District contest this fall. Congratulations also to all competitors and all attendees at the convention. It was grand to see and hear you all and to enjoy your company.

We Enrich Lives Through Singing

A large part of the House of Delegates meeting was devoted to hearing about many of the changes that are taking place in our Society. Our Society board member, **Mike Lanctot** of the Evergreen District talked with us about membership growth and its critical importance to the preservation of our Society. The Far Western District reported some pretty good numbers through February so Mike was complimentary of our efforts. I'm eagerly awaiting the publication of the quarterly numbers to see how we did. I'll be reporting on those numbers on the website and through email. In any event, I was more than happy to accept Mike's kind words on your behalf. Keep up the good work.

David Haedtler of the **San Jose Chapter** had a busy weekend. David is helping to roll out the vision statement of the Society and he treated us to a 20-minute presentation explaining it. David did a very good job, and then went on to sing with his quartet and qualify for District! David will be visiting as many districts as possible to spread the news about our new vision statement.

Membership Matters

This new and exciting recruiting campaign is now underway. You can read the entire plan on our website, www.spebsqsafwd.org, or in the latest issue of the Harmonizer. The campaign is the largest effort undertaken by the Society to increase membership in years. The plan includes national advertising, and incentives for individuals and chapters, including monetary rewards.

To be eligible to participate in the monetary rewards program new members recruited must be recruited with membership applications processed between August 1 and October 31, 2005. Other incentives are also available. Chapters can earn free arrangements by an arranger of note for achieving new membership growth for a least two consecutive quarters in 2005. The grand prize for the chapter with the greatest net membership gain in 2005 is a weekend retreat with Dr. Greg Lyne.

Your House of Delegates ratified a decision by your board to donate \$2 per member to the Society to help fund this important program. Chapters are welcome to reimburse the district for this donation and while a few chapters have already done so, it is entirely up to the chapter.

All of the activities in the program lead to a national membership guest week during the week of September 12 – 16, 2005. The key to success will be preparation! Each chapter must take responsibility for creating a welcoming environment for our guests. We'll need you to keep records so we can track the numbers of guests, and each chapter will need to have someone on the leadership team focused on Marketing & PR working closely with VP for Membership and Chapter Development.

International in Salt Lake City

Motto:
**"Keep a
Melody
Ringing in
Your Heart."**

Westunes will now be published quarterly so this issue is intended to cover the months of May, June, July and August as we transition to the new schedule. The next issue will be the fall issue and will be published in late August. This will be the last issue before our International Convention in Salt Lake City. I want to again wish all the best to our district champion chorus, the **Masters of Harmony** and our two wild card contenders, the **Spirit of Phoenix Chorus** and **Pacific Coast Harmony** as they prepare to compete. All the best also to our qualifying quartets: **Metropolis**, **OC Times**, **Stardust**, **Hi-Fidelity** and **Dazzle**. Please stay current with District events by checking the FWD Yahoo email group and checking the website frequently.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to our *2004 President's Award* recipient, **Warren Willard**, and to our *2004 Chapter of the Year* **Fremont Hayward**! Congratulations to all award winners at the convention and finally, a big "Hats Off" to our *Westunes* editor **Ray Rhymer** who was inducted into the *FWD Hall of Fame*.

Please have fun at your division conventions! While I will not be able to visit each division this year, I hope to see many of you at these conventions, contests and The Go for the Gold Show on June 18, 2005.

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Contact: Rich Lewis
Singqtet@cox.net
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I'm writing this shortly after attending our annual FWD Spring Convention in Burbank. This was another instance where we combined the Society International quartet preliminary contest with the contest for the FWD "District" qualifying competition. Since the location was in SoCal West, the quartets and choruses from that division shared the venue. Segregating the "Division only" quartets and allowing them to sing first seemed to work very well and I would expect this procedure to continue whenever it's necessary to combine contests in the future, such as in Reno next March.

When I got home on Sunday, I checked my e-mail and saw one of those messages that arrive all too frequently these days. **Floyd Holmquist**, a 42 year member of Stockton, and then Sacramento Chapters, had passed away. He had been able to share his love for our music with his son, Dwight, for 36 of those years. As I sat in the memorial service and listened to his life's accomplishments, I was taken by how involved with his community he was. He had been involved in Little League, been a Boy Scout leader, helped build his church and was Superintendent of its Sunday School, among other things. The more I thought about all Floyd's activities, the more I thought, "How typical of a Barbershopper to show his love for his community as a whole."

I didn't have far to look for other examples close to where I live. Just look at the letter inside the back cover of last month's *Westunes*, and you'll see where two members of the **Fremont-Hayward Chapter** stepped up and in 19 days organized and presented a joint a cappella concert that resulted in over \$13,000 being sent to help the victims of the tsunami in Southeast Asia. Thank you, **Kevin Smith** and **Brian Carter**. Money is still coming in, so it is not too late for any or all of you to participate in this worthwhile project. Chapters might consider contributing part of their show revenues.

Another, higher profile individual comes to mind as being a kind of "Community Hero." The Friday night before COTS in Sacramento last November, I was watching the local late night news in my hotel room and they were covering a story about the collecting of Christmas gift packages for our troops in Iraq. I saw a man walking through an office carrying an armload of boxes and adding them to a huge pile. I said, "Whoa, I know that guy." It was **Andy Wallace**, baritone and Clown Prince of **Freestyle**. Andy was president of his local Rotary Club and had volunteered his office as a collection point for the gifts.

Above are examples of senior members, followed by middle-agers, and then someone in a bit younger bracket. This dedication to community doesn't stop here but extends even to our high school members. **Jordan Litz**, lead of a brand new quartet, **Playback**, is considered by the Lodi High School swimming coach as his top individual medley swimmer.

I could go on at length and don't mean to pass over anyone, but this gives a glimpse of the way this community involvement pervades our Society no matter the age group. It's just another reason I'm so proud to be a Barbershopper.

Revised Chorus Plateaus Expected At This Fall's HOD Meeting

By Steve Sammonds
Chairman, FWD Long Range Planning Committee

After three years of work, first by the Chorus Plateau Task Force and then by the Long Range Planning Committee, the FWD Board of Directors received a new proposal to revise the chorus plateaus at their March meeting. The board will vote on the plan at their June meeting, and then forward it to the House of Delegates for final approval this Fall. This article is to inform the district membership of the proposed change and solicit your feedback.

The proposal establishes three plateau levels based on average scores from the two most recent district contest appearances within the past three years:

- Plateau AAA: Average score of 71% or higher or returning International Chorus Champion
- Plateau AA: Average score of 61% to 70.9%
- Plateau A: Average score below 61% or has not competed at district in the past three years

Any chorus can opt to compete in a higher plateau. For example, during their first year of competition Westminster and LaJolla were eligible to compete in Plateau A, but either of them could have opted to compete in AA or AAA. Choruses, however, cannot compete in a lower plateau than their average score dictates, although they may petition the district C&J committee to move down a plateau due to significant changes in the chapter.

The complete document submitted to the board will be posted to the district web site. It fully explains the proposed system along with the pros and cons of this system versus other systems considered. A summary of the main points follow.

Plateaus were established to place choruses on a relatively equal playing field with similar groups and provide them with intermediate contest goals short of winning first place. But plateaus based on chapter size no longer accomplish this goal because chapter size is less relevant today. First, chapter size and chorus size are neither synonymous nor directly proportional. Second, smaller choruses now experience more success in contest than

before. This may or may not be attributable past judging category changes, but the smaller choruses from Westminster, LaJolla, and Rincon Beach have shown that they can compete at the highest levels of district competition. At the Society level, The Northern Lights and The Alliance choruses have both recently finished in the top five.

In our district, many chapters and choruses have shrunk and therefore tend to clump together in the A and AA plateaus. Consider these numbers from the 2004 district chorus contest with twenty-three competing choruses:

- The four Plateau A choruses number of Men on Stage ranged from 17 to 29, and their contest rankings ranged from 4th to 22nd.
- The twelve AA choruses ranged from 19 to 50 on stage and ranked from 3rd place to 23rd place.
- The seven AAA choruses ranged from 21 to 109 men on stage and ranked from 1st to 17th place.
- Santa Rosa and North Valley both had 29 men on stage but were in two different plateaus based on chapter size.

Over the past couple years, different plateau criteria have been considered including one presented in the November 2003 issue of Westtunes and another plan based on chorus rankings. Those other plans have been scrapped in favor of one that can be more simply calculated and explained. This new proposal is similar to plateaus already used in the Sunshine and Illinois districts.

The current plateaus no longer group choruses that are similar. The new plateaus will.

The district really has two options this year. The first is to approve the new plan. The second is to eliminate plateaus altogether and only present awards for first, second, and third place. There are valid arguments for both options, but the new plateaus will provide choruses at least two intermediate goals short of winning first place: winning a plateau and raising their scores to move up to a higher plateau. The plateaus reward contest performance achievement and do not discourage chapters from growing their membership.

I welcome your comments or questions regarding the proposed plateaus at sammonds@comcast.net. Please use the subject line "Chorus Plateaus" so I can automatically sort them from my Inbox. If any common questions arise, I will either address those through the web site or through the fwd-list. Finally, please be sure your chapter sends a delegate to the Fall HOD meeting to vote on the proposal. Thanks!

Youth Harmony Camp 2005

Dick Lund, Director

Planning for Youth Harmony Camp is well under way and our 2005 Camp looks to be another "best ever". Camp will be held again at Sly Park Educational Center, Pollock Pines, California.

This is half way between Sacramento and Tahoe off of Hwy 50. Camp dates are September 23-25, 2005.

Gary Bolles has again graciously agreed to be the Music Director and this year we will have the outstanding musicianship, humor and teaching ability of **12th Street Rag** quartet from Kansas City. **Connie Keil** will also join us once again with his incredible level of musical ability and gentle teaching skills. Some of you may recall reading in the July issue of the Harmonizer that **Jim Clancy** of the Vocal Majority views Connie as his personal advisor for outside objective wisdom. In other words, we constantly strive to provide the boys with the very best musical experience possible by bringing the very best men that the Society has to offer to Camp for a weekend of pure "hot dipped" barbershop experience.

What can you do to help, you say? Talk about it with your neighbor's boy, your grandson, your friend from work. Tell them about this Camp for high school boys that is geared for singing! SINGING, they might say? Why on earth would I want to do that? The answer is simple, because the girls love it! Just that simple; and you will too.

What else can you do? You can help with the funding of Youth Harmony Camp. That's right, with the money. No, no, not your own money, although your money is welcome as well. Your chapter officers will be asked in the next month or so whether your chapter supports the idea of Youth Harmony Camp and if they feel strongly enough to help with the funding. In addition to the fee of \$70 paid by each boy, Camp requires about nine thousand additional dollars each year to make it happen. If every chapter in Northern California contributes an equal amount, that would be about 300 dollars from each chapter. Can your chapter afford that? Alternatively, can your chapter afford not to support youth? It's just that simple.

Now..... Once your chapter has contributed some amount (and *any* amount is *Very* welcome) to help with the cost of Camp, you may find yourself just a little more interested in the outcome of the Camp. Good! Come join us as a volunteer! Find a boy and tell him about the Camp. It's your money; make it count in a positive way!

I mentioned above that the cost to each boy is \$70 which includes meals, room, everything. Scholarships are available; no boy will be left behind for lack of the money. All anyone has to do is let us know if a boy needs assistance; we will take it from there.

Finally, we still have a number of 2003 Camp videos that are for sale for ten bucks. The video is truly *Remarkable!* It tells the story of what Camp is all about in a fast paced, entertaining way that anyone watching will be moved to support the idea of Youth Harmony Camps.

So, join us in our support of Youth Harmony Camp; help with your chapter's support of the Camp, tell a boy about Camp, order the video... Get involved. You'll find you will have Fun doing so.



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Chapter Counselors meet in Burbank

What a great weekend of singing in Burbank and what a great meeting of Chapter Counselors.

Thirteen Chapter Counselors met on Friday, March 18th after the House of Delegates meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to get to know some of the newer Chapter Counselors and to share stories and ideas for how the Chapter Counselors can become more effective.

Welcome to the newest Chapter Counselors who were in attendance; **Dave Updegraff** and **Carl Shulz** from the Arizona/So. Nevada Division, and **John Jones** from the Nor Cal West Division.

The Chapter Counselors discussed the importance of visiting their respective chapters and talking up the Society's Marketing & Membership Plan – "*Membership Matters.*"

Below are some of the ideas that came out of the meeting:

- Biggest success is to visit your chapters on a regular basis
- Encourage "grouping" of chapters and have combined events (i.e. performances, picnics, BBQs etc.)
- Suggest periodic "all Presidents" meetings for purposes of sharing ideas, strategies and other opportunities
- Visit board meetings and chapter meetings/rehearsals
- Visit the Society Website frequently to keep up with major events and news that affect everyone
- Be a good communicator to your Chapters
- Suggest to your chapters to revisit their "mission statements" and identify what kind of chapter they are or would like to be (Quartet Only, Social only, Competitive, Semi-competitive, Community Chorus, Show Chorus etc.)
- An idea of having a "Harmony Fair" was shared and suggested as a good way to market our hobby locally, to recruit new members
- Access the FWD Website frequently to keep up to date with District events and news that may affect your chapters

Be sure to contact your Chapter Counselor and make him a part of your Leadership Team. They are your "friend" and are there to help.



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FWD Scholarship Awarded

Congratulations to **Duane King**!! I am very pleased to announce that he is the recipient of the Far Western District's scholarship to Directors' College in August. Duane is the frontline director of the **Santa Cruz Gold Standard Chorus**, and has been their Musical Director for about 10 months now. I predict that great things are in store for the Santa Cruz Chapter.

The Society and Harmony Foundation has funded 10 other scholarships to Directors' College. This is the 3rd year that they have done so. We had about twice as many applicants this year than we ever had before. I was able to recommend 10 frontline directors who've never received a scholarship before. And only one of these applicants had attended DC before, and that was eleven years ago! The staff at Kenosha will be notifying the recipients soon as to what they need to do next.

Director of the Future

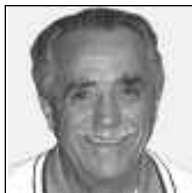
The *Director of the Future* class will be held at *Harmony College West* again this year. This is an introduction to directing. It is designed for those who think they might be interested in directing, but don't know where to start. It also would be valuable for assistant directors and section leaders. This introduction to directing includes basic conducting patterns, posture, directing cutoffs and pickups, tone production, elements of the warm-ups and elements of being a leader. What more can you ask for in an introductory class?? This class will go all day on Saturday, with time on Sunday morning for individual attention as needed or requested.



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LOOKING AHEAD AT CONVENTIONS

Another great convention is over and for those of you who were not there you missed a great week end of music and fellowship.

I'm sure you will find all of the details and the results elsewhere in this issue.

My thoughts are dealing with a challenge we have (as a district) if we want to have more of these fun conventions.

I have talked before about how we plan and contract these conventions years in advance. Right now we are working on Spring 2008 and the year 2009. As we all know prices are continually going up and it is getting more difficult to find an acceptable venue for our conventions.

It used to be that we were required to use nothing but auditoriums with all raised seating. We have now had to go to flat floors because of the high price of theaters. Flat floors requires us to build a venue which means staging, drapes, lights, sound, seating, etc. which mean higher costs.

When we use a facility (such as we did at the Burbank Hilton) there are contracts we have to make with the hotel. To get all of the space we need for meetings and contest space we have to agree to a number of sleeping rooms we will fill. If we meet this number we get all of the function space for free. If people (attending the convention) do not stay at the hotel and we do not fill our room block we have to pay a penalty and that can be very large.

Over the last years the attendance at our Spring and Fall conventions has been on a steady decline. That means that room blocks at hotels are not being filled and we have to pay to use the function space. This also means that we are not going to make the money that is needed to help run our district.

If this trend is to continue and we want to continue the FWD tradition of great conventions we must take measures to help pay for the venues. My recommendation to the board is that a dues increase is necessary.

I don't want all of this to sound like I'm being negative. It is just a fact of the times we are living in. If we don't get more support in attendance at our conventions other solutions must be found.

	Chair : Marketing & Public Relations Michael S. Frazer, MBA PO Box 23601 Santa Barbara, CA 93121-3601 805-445-1970 E: Field_Auditor@prodigy.net
--	--

CALLING ALL CHAPTER OFFICERS!

Now that we've started our division contests and conventions, I want to take a minute to reach out to all Chapter Presidents, and Marketing & Public Relations Vice Presidents of our fine district. Many of you have already heard from me either via e-mail or had a chance to meet with me at the SCW Division

Contest/Prelim Contest in Burbank.

I want to take a minute to specifically reach out to all of you who have not had a chance to either respond to my e-mails or attend my seminars. I will be attending the SCE and the NCENN Division Contests in order to discuss the new Society Marketing Plan being put into play this year. If you are planning to be at these contests and have a desire to attend this meeting, please take a minute and let me know via e-mail (as shown above), or contact your respective Division Vice President, so that I can determine how much space to reserve. I want to encourage any Chapter Officers that have not taken a minute to review the Society Marketing Plan to please do so prior to attending these meetings, in order to be more informed of the actions being taken for your benefit.

For those Chapter Presidents and Marketing & Public Relations Vice Presidents in the ASNSU wishing to meet with me, I am working on a separate meeting outside of your Division Contest, and your Division Vice President, Ivan Jensen, is assisting with this meeting. Please contact him regarding this meeting.

Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the Division Contest for NCWH, but would be happy to arrange a separate meeting for the appropriate officers of that division. Please contact either myself at my e-mail or Dick Whitten, your Division Vice President if you are interested in this meeting.

Finally, I want to take a minute and encourage all who have not considered Harmony College West yet, please seriously think about joining us the last weekend of August in Hayward, Ca. I will be teaching the Grant Writing Class for any of you who might just need an extra \$5,000 or \$10,000 to help fund something for your chapter next year. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to e-mail me.



Chair: Music & Performance
Jerry Fairchild
671 W Cypress Ave
Redlands, CA 92373-5817
909-792-8618
E: jerryfairchild@verizon.net

HARMONY COLLEGE WEST AUGUST 26 - 28, 2005

CAL STATE EAST BAY (FORMERLY HAYWARD)

Now is the time to register to get the classes you want or to make sure your quartet is registered before all the quartet slots are filled.

In this issue I am including from six of the instructors, in their own words, a brief description of what they plan to cover, their concept of the importance of their class, and why it will be valuable to you.

A COACH IS A PROFESSIONAL GIVER

One of the definitions of the word "coach" is "a private tutor who prepares a student for an examination" and for the word "tutor", "one who gives additional, special or remedial instruction". So there is no expertise or degreed requirement to be a coach other than to care and to want to help. Coaches need to be prepared to give direction, friendship, an audience to sing to, constructive criticism, resources and honest encouragement. Over and above these basics, the more experience in the performing arts is a bonus.

If the coach is successful in maintaining a giving philosophy, the web of control and ownership can be avoided. The coach can then continue to give the gifts of optimum performance while helping to develop the God-given talents of many more performers.

So, the question is...what kind of coach do you choose to be? A Giver or a Taker?

Dr. Dave Tautkus Vocal Procuction

Keeping your voice healthy through good vocal production

In this class I will introduce exercises and vocal techniques that will help you overcome a variety of common (and some unusual) vocal maladies. As someone who was told that I had to quit singing for six months or potentially lose my voice forever, I have made it a personal goal to help other people avoid being told the very same thing. I plan to help tune your ears in more to potential assets and potential problems of the voice. I plan to use class members (as they are willing) to share their stories and help them work through these issues along with the rest of the group. I don't claim to be able to solve all of the problems that may exist, but if I can help save 1 voice, it is worth it. If there is extra time, I propose to use class time to listen to examples of good singing and how to improve your performance through singing and non-singing issues.

Dawn Texeira Performance

SEEING IS BELIEVING

Do pictures conjur up memories or emotions for you? Let's face it. Most of us on this planet are very visual beings. When we see things with our own eyes, a lasting impression is made and identifiable emotions are stirred within us. This is the very principle behind why we use visual tools to enhance our musical performances in Barbershop. Pretty simple, huh?

But how do we get a hundred guys or even just four guys to paint the same picture as they physically move through a song? Well, there are very concrete tools that anyone can learn which will accomplish this task with ease--and a great deal of enjoyment, too!

Come and learn how to deliver an exciting visual performance rewarding to both you and your audience!

LET'S SEE, UPSTAGE IS, ER...OR IS IT DOWNSTAGE/

A hands-on class to understand the skills applied backstage at a show and how to ask for what you want. Topics covered include lighting, sound, staging, planning, timing, organization, crew management, and, as they say...much, much more.

Ray Rhymer So You Want To Be In A Quartet

We will take the weekend to discuss many of the factors of being in a quartet, beginning with how to start one and ending with competition issues. We'll use language throughout that we will all understand. Participation is vital to the learning process, so we'll all sing and do as much as possible. This will be an action class, so come prepared to be active.

We'll go through the "Now What?" that follows starting a quartet. We'll spend time coming to understand and apply how to conduct ourselves during non-singing time, which is rarely taught. We'll video ourselves in action. Be prepared to recognize and say: "I didn't know I did that." Music selection is always important and not only will we talk about how to do that, but we will do a demonstration or two. Most quartets want to sing for somebody; we'll address how to do so and not to embarrass ourselves. Many quartets want to compete, so we'll discuss and demonstrate contest parameters.

There is no such thing as a "dumb" question, so here's your chance to ask. I may not have the answer, but there'll be enough experts available during this HCW weekend that we'll get the answer.

Jim Turnmire Director of the Future

This class is a one-day class designed for aspiring directors, assistant directors, and section leaders. This is a beginning class that introduces basic conducting patterns, vocal techniques, warmup techniques, and what is involved in becoming an effective leader. This class is for individuals who have a feel for music, a desire to create music with their chorus, but don't have the tools to get started. Each participant will have several opportunities to be coached in learning conducting patterns, attacks and releases.

The rest of the classes will also be designed to solve Barbershop problems, develop your skills, increase your knowledge, help your chapter, and make Barbershopping more enjoyable for you and for those who hear it.

SPECIAL NOTICE!!!

There will be a special class provided for Music Educators, vocal teachers in public and private schools. They will be our guests at Harmony College West for a class presented by **Jim DeBusman**, himself a music educator and on the staff of the Barbershop Harmony Society. It will give them a hands-on view of our style of music, how we learn it, interpret it, accomodate voices to it and it to voices, and how the schools can incorporate

it into their vocal programs, for girls as well as for boys (men and women in college). Please make sure you bring this to the attention of any vocal teacher you know in your area. In the long run it will help your chapter and Barbershopping.



Chair : Young Men In Harmony

John Krizek

13615 Debby Street

Van Nuys, CA 91401

818-785-0498

E: jkrizek@aol.com

Too Much To Do?

With all the changes taking place with our Society—new name, new logo, new membership marketing campaign—one thing that remains constant is the commitment to our mission: to be leaders in the cause of encouraging vocal music in our schools and communities.

And yet, about half our chapters have no one assigned to this important role, and nothing going on in the area of youth outreach. Is it because the task is too daunting? Sure, there are a lot of choices, of things you and your chapter can do:

- Host a youth festival for high school singers
- Sponsor a high school quartet, or a college quartet
- Do a “Get America Singing Again” program for a middle school
- Hire a school choir on your show
- Provide funds for sheet music for a school choir
- Volunteer to help at a school choir show
- Arrange for a (quality) quartet visit to a school
- Provide a scholarship for a music educator to Harmony College
- Provide a music educator with music, tapes, CDs
- Raise funds for a school music event or cause
- Help some high school young men get to Youth Harmony Camp

If the choices seem overwhelming, pick one. There’s plenty of assistance available. And whatever your chapter may choose to do, remember it starts with a simple question posed to a music teacher at your local school: How can we help?

Those of us who have been involved in this effort know that few things in life are more satisfying than seeing the faces of young men lit up by the sharing of their first barbershop chord—and knowing that, one way or another, we’ve made a difference, and this joyful harmonic endeavor will endure.

Overtones High School Champs

Winners of the 15th annual FWD High School Quartet Contest held during the Burbank convention March 19th were four young men who attended the Masters of Harmony/Southern California Vocal Association Youth Harmony Festival in February, and

decided to go home and form a quartet. The **Overtones**, representing Tesoro High School in Orange County, took home lots of smiles, a big trophy, and a \$500 check for their school music program. Once again chairman Bruce Sellnow had this event running like clockwork.

Youth Harmony Camp Sept. 23-25

Once again the fabulous FWD Youth Harmony Camp will be hosted by the Placerville Chapter at Sly Park in Pollock Pines, in the Sierra foothills. Once again, the music faculty will be led by **Gary Bolles**, with **Connie Keil**, **Mark Freedkin**, and special guests as a teaching quartet this year **12th Street Rag**, a very popular international top-20 quartet from the Central States District who have participated in several Society Harmony Explosion camps. The facility is fantastic, **Richard Lund** and his crew from Placerville and surrounding chapters do a fantastic job running the show, and the experience is one your young men—and their teacher—will treasure. See the ad elsewhere in this issue for details, and get your boys signed up.

Music Educator Class at HC West

“So how can I use barbershop in my music program?” The question often asked by music educators will be answered at Harmony College West at Cal State Hayward in August. A special class will be conducted for guest educators by Society staff dean **Jim DeBusman**, a music educator himself, with probable help from other experts. Music educators will be guests of the Far Western District, so their only cost will be getting there. What a wonderful form of professional help you can offer to a teacher in your area. See Jerry Fairchild’s HCWest class schedule and registration data elsewhere in this issue.

SANDBLASTER CHORUS SEEKS DIRECTOR

Coachella Valley Chapter, in the winter playground and golf capital of Southern California is looking for an experienced music director.

24-man chorus rehearses 2 _ hours weekly, September through June, sings in local venues and performs in an annual chapter show. Email qualifications to Alan Harrell, Music V. P. (acharrell@aol.com)

William P. Pearson

VOCAL TEACHER & CLINICIAN
VOICE THERAPY

Student of Joseph J. Klein

Member of Placerville CA Gold Rush Chorus

Telephone: 530-626-0556

561 Shady Oak Lane

Diamond Springs, CA 95619

E-mail: pmusic66@hotmail.com



**VP - Financial Development
Harmony Foundation**

Robb Ollett

313 Hash Court
Petaluma, CA 94952-6117
707-769-8528 E: ollettjr@aol.com

Just say- Thanks!

I'm delighted that so many chapters reach out to their community and to Harmony Foundation. These chapters received certificates at the House of Delegates meeting for their gifts in 2004, but I wanted to share the listing to encourage the remaining chapters to become part of this listing for THIS year. My personal thanks to these efforts to help your community – and Harmony Foundation!

BRONZE community donations

Pasadena - \$20/member
South Bay - \$23.43/member
Chico - 25.17/member
Santa Barbara - \$27.66/member

BRONZE Harmony Foundation donations

Tucson - \$15/member
Palo Alto-Mountain View - \$15.21/member
Apple Valley - \$15.38/member
Frank Thorne - \$15.72/member
Reno - \$18.84/member
Walnut Creek - \$19.92/member
Stockton - \$20.58/member
Bay Area Metro - \$21.48/member
Paradise Valley - \$21.75/member
Bakersfield - \$23.85/member
Rincon Beach - \$24.19/member
Santa Rosa - \$27.56/member

SILVER community donations

Santa Fe Springs - \$30.09/member
Truckee-Tahoe - \$52.17/member

SILVER Harmony Foundation donations

Santa Monica - \$30.58/member
El Cajon - \$50.83/member

GOLD community donations

Fullerton - \$78.74/member
Sun Cities - \$85.94/member
Placerville - \$126.39/member

GOLD Harmony Foundation donations

San Francisco Bay Cities - \$76.06/member
Lassen County - \$336.11/member (no typos here!!)



1996 International Quartet Champions

Nightlife

2802 W. 145th Street
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contact us at: rob@nightlifequartet.com
www.nightlifequartet.com

Rob Menaker • John Sasine • Jeff Baker • Brett Littlefield

STARDUST

a barbershop quartet

John Larry Buzz Jim

contact: John Mininger
jondonsing@aol.com
(702)-798-2041



2004 FWD Quartet Champions OC Times

by Shawn York

Since our last article, a lot of changes have taken place. In case you couldn't tell by the photograph, OC Times has had a membership change. We thought this would be a great opportunity to get all our barbershop friends and family caught up with our current status, as well as some other exciting stories from the last few months.

Early in February, we received the unfortunate news that our bass, Drew Harrah, would be stepping down in order to focus on school, work, and most importantly, family. With two months remaining until prelims, and a handful of show obligations, the quartet was left in a tough spot. Not sure of whether we would even be able to continue as a quartet, our first (and last) resort was a phone call to Cory Hunt. At the time, Cory was well known for singing baritone in the quartet; Q, but what most people didn't know is that he is also a mean bass! After a lot of brainstorming, arranging how to fly Cory out for all our shows and practices, and of course, the rejection of the name "Q-Times," Cory was announced the new bass of OC Times.

Our first performance was to mic-test at Westminster's annual novice quartet contest. After a several hour practice the night before, we took the stage, and delivered nothing less than a FWD champ performance. Cory had taken the ball and run with it, and it was clear that the quartet hadn't skipped a beat.

Our next performance occurred two weeks later at the 2005 Young Men in Harmony Festival. We spent the day as section leaders, and had a great time hanging out with all the high school students. That night we performed a full set on the evening show to a very "responsive" audience.

A week later we took a scenic drive down to beautiful San Diego, and performed for the Palomar Pacific chapter show, along with Four Score. Upon arriving, we were challenged to a game of football by none other than the "Football Hero's" themselves,

Four Score. It all went down in the park directly outside the theatre, and much to their chagrin, the "football hero's" were overtaken by the superb passing, and long arms of OC Times.

The very next weekend, we had the great opportunity to perform on the Valleyaires show in Reseda, California. While backstage, were told that both Dick Van Dyke and Alyssa Milano had been invited to the show. To our disappointment, Alyssa was a no-show. But as luck would have it, Dick Van Dyke was not only in attendance, but thrilled to meet us, and granted our many requests to take photos with him.

With several performances under our belt, we were two weeks from the international prelims contest with a minor problem. Cory would not be flying back until the night before the contest. With quite a few kinks to work out before we would be ready, we scheduled a short coaching session with Mark Hale the night of the contest, and hoped for the best.

That night we tried our best to relax and have fun. Since stressing out before a contest never really "worked" for us, we did our best to enjoy each other, and have a good time. After some great advice from Mark Hale, we walked on stage, and had a blast. It was by far the best we had ever performed, and to our amazement, the audience jumped on their feet in approval. Our second song ended in the same fashion. We ran off stage and celebrated.

For the finals, we delivered our new "Elvis" set (masterfully arranged by Aaron Dale). Beginning with the ballad "Love Me" and closing with "Good Luck Charm," we were overwhelmed when both songs received standing ovations. Probably the most memorable moment of this set was during our final bow, watching Garry Texeira rise above the rest of the audience in applause, by standing on his chair.

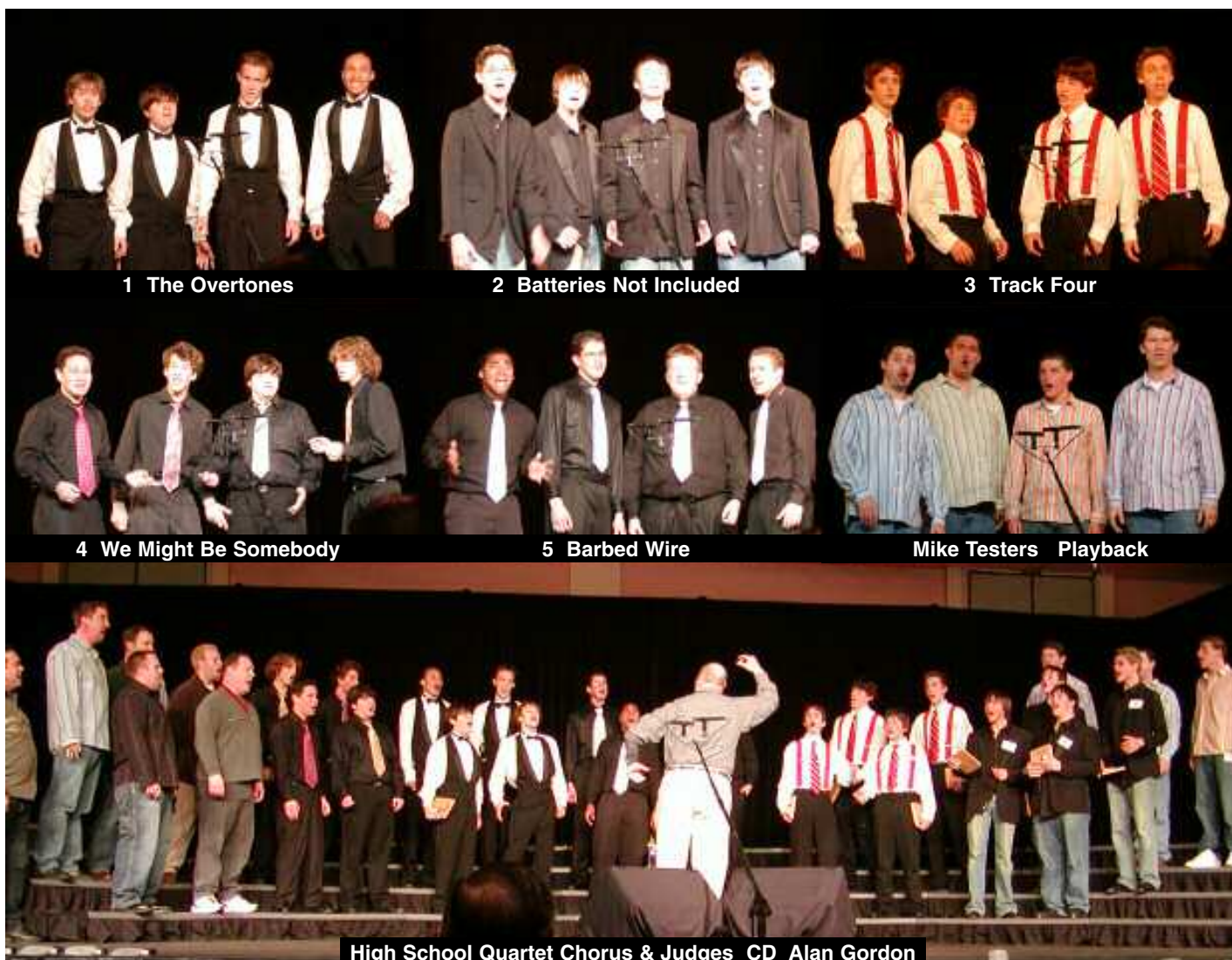
Hoping for a qualifying score (but secretly shooting for the illusive 80), we were absolutely stunned when our score was announced. Not only did we qualify, but we surpassed every goal we had ever set for ourselves up to this point, by qualifying with a score of 84.3, seating us in the top ten for the International contest.

We are currently on our way to picking up a new set in preparation for a possible finals performance, and (more importantly) shopping for a new outfit!

In closing, we wish to thank our friends and family, the Masters of Harmony, and our coach; Mark Hale, for their deep support and encouragement through our last two "transitional" months. We will be working hard to make FWD proud in Salt Lake City!!

To stay connected with OC Times, please check out their website at www.OCTimesQuartet.com

<<http://www.OCTimesQuartet.com>>



The FWD is fortunate to have high school quartets who are interested in singing the Barbershop style of harmony and who participate in the High School Quartet Contest. One benerfit: **GOTCHA!** and **Metropolis** judged the competition and coached afterwards.

It has been observed around our country that young men who sing Barbershop harmony and in quartets generally find “instant success” with the style and have a great time doing it. Contrary to “popular opinion”, singing is not “sissy” nor is it looked down upon. As a matter of fact, young ladies tend to like young men who sing. Singing appeals to them. Barbershoppers, you and your chapters, can bring this message to young men in your area. If you don’t know whereto go and what to do, contact the FWD YMIH Chair John Krizek, 818-785-0498, E: jkrizek@aol.com, and he can offer any number of suggestions you will find helpful for your situation. Dave Stevens said: “I never met a member who didn’t wish he’d found Barbershop sooner.” Go ahead - contact John.

John Larry

Jest for Phun?

A COMEDY BARBERSHOP QUARTET

George Dallas
818-597-0820

Jim

* 1992 Senior Quartet Champs *



Mixed Metafour

a barbershop quartet

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Jackie & Steve Bishop
(408) 377-5773

Kim & Jerry Orloff
(831) 688-0909



2004 FWD Chorus Champions Santa Fe Springs [Masters of Harmony]

by Dane Hutchins

There's been no letup in the demanding Masters of Harmony rehearsal schedule as we continue our push toward Salt Lake City for July's International Convention. We know we cannot simply rest on past achievements and expect to simply "coast" into first place; there are too many wonderful choruses out there who are anxious to move up from silver and bronze medals. So we're taking the challenge seriously, spending considerable time during each practice drilling not only the songs, but also the complex choreo designed specifically for our new uptune, now just beginning to reach the stage where the moves and the lyrics are becoming "married" into a believable, compelling presentation. To help reach our highest possible performance levels in SLC, we've instituted internal testing methods to assure that each participant is up to the task.

Beyond the competition, a good number of MOH members who won gold medals in the past are excited about joining the Gold Medal Chorus to sing with the prestigious Mormon Tabernacle Choir on Sunday morning following the contest. Singing in such an august assemblage will certainly be a high point for all participating singers.

We're happy to report that chapter membership has grown considerably over the past few months. We have recently welcomed Bob Cathaway, Les Dergan, Fred Merrick, David Rakita, Mark Reich and Bill Schilling into the fold. In addition, at the time of this writing, it appears that Mark Eckardt, James Hawkins, Steve Saxon and Jonathan Tappan will join us in the next couple of weeks.

Our congratulations to Hi-Fidelity, who recently won the SoCal West Divisional quartet contest and qualified for International. We're pleased that three of the five FWD quartets that qualified have strong MOH ties, including Metropolis, who will try to be an unprecedented second MOH champion quartet in a row, and O.C. Times in their second try for the medal positions.

In addition to our regular practice schedule, the Masters are looking forward to several other upcoming events, including guest-coaching sessions by some of the Society's finest directors. On May 4th, Greg Clancy, Associate Director of The Vocal Majority, will be with us. On May 25th, one of our revered prior directors,

Dr. Greg Lyne, will join us for the evening. We're counting on these gentlemen to point out improvements that could possibly help us eke out a few extra contest points as we drive toward the final stretch. June 3rd marks the beginning of our pre-convention retreat weekend, where we'll be concentrating fully on putting the finishing touches to our contest presentation and solidifying our mutual reliance in the common enterprise. We are honored to be representing the Far Western District at the Convention.

If it's still April when you receive this, don't forget our Spring Show, "Time after Time," on April 30th at the Terrace Theater in Long Beach, performances at 2 and 8 p.m. Visitors to our Wednesday night rehearsals at Santa Fe Springs Town Center Hall are always welcome.



• c/o 2206 Rockefeller Lane, #3 - Redondo Beach, CA 90278

Metropolis@harmonize.com <http://www.harmonize.com/metropolis>



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The Stage Hogs

Barbershop Quartet

★ Cj Sams • Bob Clark • Les Dergan • Bill Wilson
★ Contact: 562.425.2924 • mcjsams@gte.net



Southern California West Division Chorus Finals Contest

Choruses scoring 1080 points or greater qualify for the District Chorus Contest

<u>Chapter, Nickname</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Average</u>
1 Rincon Beach, Pacific Sound	1380	76.7
2 San Fernando Valley, Valleyaires	1216	67.6
3 Whittier, Choralaires	1162	64.6
4 South Bay, Coastliners	1119	62.2
5 San Luis Obispo, Gold Coast Barbershop Chorus	1063	52.9
6 Santa Barbara, Flying Dolphin Chorus	953	52.9
7 Santa Monica, The Oceanaires	871	48.4
8 Conejo Valley, Harmony Oaks Chorus	864	48.0

Individual Registration - Harmony College West

August 26th - 28th, 2005

Fees: \$150 full tuition with lodging in school dorms
 \$95 full tuition, no lodging, daily commuting

Full Name		
Voice Part <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-weight: bold;"> Tenor Lead Baritone Bass </div>		
Chapter Name		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip
Telephone	Email (optional)	
Lodging <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <input type="checkbox"/> I will stay in the Dorms (\$150) <input type="checkbox"/> I will commute each day (\$95) </div>		
Special dietary needs: please describe		
Special physical needs: please describe		

In the spaces below, enter the number **1** next to your first choice class, then a **2** next to your second choice class, etc. Please indicate your top **5** choices. You will likely be in several classes.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arranging (Engel)
<input type="checkbox"/> Backstage Magic (Maddox)
<input type="checkbox"/> Director Of The Future (Turnmire)
<input type="checkbox"/> Discovery Singing / Ear Singing (Shannon)
<input type="checkbox"/> Grant Writing (Frazer)
<input type="checkbox"/> How To Be A Good MC (Aramian)
<input type="checkbox"/> How To Coach A Quartet (Steinkamp) | <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation (Texeira)
<input type="checkbox"/> Sight Singing/Sight Reading (Ordaz)
<input type="checkbox"/> So You Want To Be In A Quartet(Rhymer)
<input type="checkbox"/> Song Writing And Arranging (Olguin)
<input type="checkbox"/> Vocal Production (Ewing or Tautkus)
<input type="checkbox"/> Young Men In Harmony (Krizek) |
|---|---|

Send your check payable to "Far Western District HCW" for \$150 (includes lodging) or \$95 (commuting) and this **form** to:

Jerry Fairchild
 671 W Cypress Ave.
 Redlands, CA 92373-5817

(909) 792-8618
jerryfairchild@verizon.net

All forms and fees must be received by **Friday, July 29, 2005**.

Quartet Registration - Harmony College West

August 26th - 28th, 2005

Fees: \$150 per person, tuition, with five meals and lodging in school dorms
 \$ 95 per person, tuition, with five meals, no lodging, daily commuting

Quartet Name:
Quartet Needs: (What does your quartet want to accomplish at HCW?)
What was your last contest score? (or an estimate)
Do you want to be on the Saturday night show? Yes No Do you want to be scored Saturday night? Yes No

Tenor

Full Name		
Chapter Name		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip
Telephone	Email (optional)	
Lodging ___ I will stay in the Dorms (\$150) ___ I will commute each day (\$95)		
Special dietary needs: please describe		
Special physical needs: please describe		

Lead

Full Name		
Chapter Name		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip
Telephone	Email (optional)	
Lodging ___ I will stay in the Dorms (\$150) ___ I will commute each day (\$95)		
Special dietary needs: please describe		
Special physical needs: please describe		

Quartet Registration - Harmony College West

August 26th - 28th, 2005

Baritone		
Full Name		
Chapter Name		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip
Telephone	Email (optional)	
Lodging <input type="checkbox"/> I will stay in the Dorms (\$150) <input type="checkbox"/> I will commute each day (\$95)		
Special dietary needs: please describe		
Special physical needs: please describe		

Bass		
Full Name		
Chapter Name		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip
Telephone	Email (optional)	
Lodging <input type="checkbox"/> I will stay in the Dorms (\$150) <input type="checkbox"/> I will commute each day (\$95)		
Special dietary needs: please describe		
Special physical needs: please describe		

Fees:	<input type="text"/> # with lodging at \$150 =	\$ <input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/> # commuting at \$95 =	\$ <input type="text"/> Total \$ <input type="text"/>

Send one check payable to "Far Western District HCW" and this **form** to:

Jerry Fairchild
 671 W Cypress Ave.
 Redlands, CA 92373-5817

(909) 792-8618
jerryfairchild@verizon.net

All forms and fees must be received by **Friday, July 29, 2005.**



The FWD International Preliminary Quartet Contest was combined with the Division 1 SCW Division Contest this year in Burbank, CA. With all Quartets competing in one session, the audience needed a program to tell who was singing in which contest, and some Quartets were singing in both. The International Contest results are presented above. SCW results are presented on the facing page. Titles indicate rank, Quartet name, and average score.



1 Hi-Fidelity 77.5

2 Usual Suspects 67.1

3 Sands of Time 66.3



4 Chordial Gentlemen 64.8



5 Preferred Blend 63.6



6 Top-Notch 58.2



7 Cobalt 56.1



8 Still Kids At Heart 54.3



9 Quantum Force 54.2



10 C Nile Sound 52.9

Far Western District, SoCal West Division Quartet Semi-Finals, Burbank, California, March 18, 2005

Contest Legend: 2=Far Western District Super Senior Quartet District , 3=SoCal West Division District Qualification Quartet , 4=SoCal West Division Quartet , 5=SoCal West Division Novice Quartet , 6=SoCal West Division District Senior Quartet Qualifying Contest , 7=SoCal West Division Out Of Division

1	Hi-Fidelity	3,4	1395	77.5
2	Usual Suspects	3,4	1208	67.1
3	Sands of Time	3,4,6	1193	66.3
4	Chordial Gentlemen	3,4,5	1167	64.8
5	Preferred Blend	3,4	1145	63.6
6	Top-Notch	3,4,6	1048	58.2
7	Cobalt	3,4,5	1009	56.1
8	Still Kids At Heart	2,3,4,6	978	54.3
9	Quantum Force	3,4,5	976	54.2
10	C Nile Sound	3,4,6	952	52.9
	Uncalled Four	7	1238	68.8

Competing out of Division 3 NCWH
to qualify for FWD Finals



Uncalled Four 68.8

The Super Senior Champion will be determined after all division results are completed. Quartets scoring 1170 points or greater qualify for the District Quartet Contest. Hi-Fidelity is the SoCal West Division Champion.

Chordial Gentlemen is the SoCal West Division Novice Quartet Champion.

District qualification for Senior quartet contestants will be determined after all division results are completed.

Uncalled Four is competing out of Division for District qualifying score only.

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT QUARTET AND CHORUS CONTEST AND CONVENTION FOR 2005

Contests and Show

District Quartet Contest
International Chorus Prelims
and District Chorus Contest
District College Quartet Contest
Show of Champions

HOSTED BY THE

MASTERS OF HARMONY

OCTOBER 13-16, 2005

Pasadena Civic Auditorium

Meetings and Events

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

REGISTRATION PRICES

ALL CONTESTANTS MUST BUY AN ALL EVENTS REGISTRATION
FOR THE APPLICABLE AGE GROUP

ALL EVENTS EARLY BIRD (Postmarked by September 13 th)	ALL EVENTS LATE / ON SITE (Postmarked after September 13 th)
ALL EVENTS: Adult \$30.00 Student (under 23) \$15.00	ALL EVENTS: Adult \$40.00 Student (under 23) \$20.00 SINGLE EVENTS \$20.00 each

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL INFORMATION

Hilton Pasadena

168 S. Los Robles Avenue,
Pasadena, CA 91101

*For additional information, call the
Pasadena Convention & Visitors
Bureau at 626-795-9311.*

See separate form for reservations



2005 FAR WESTERN DISTRICT FALL CONTEST AND CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

	Member	Wife/Guest	Child/Student	District Officer	Chap. Delegate	AFWDC / VIP	Amount Due
Name(s) Chapter or City:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
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Address							
City State Zip							
Telephone/Email Chapter							
Quartet or Chorus Name							

Mail one form for your party (up to eight names per sheet), and a check covering all registrations to:

Bob Cathaway

6504 Audene Way, Bakersfield, CA 93308

Make check payable to: **MASTERS OF HARMONY**

☐ Check here if you have a disability that may require accommodation in order for you to fully participate in the convention.

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

Questions? Phone (661) 399-6292 or email rwccathaway@bak.rr.com

The Far Western District

October 14-15, 2005

Pasadena, California

HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

The Pasadena Convention & Visitors Bureau will make hotel assignments upon receipt of this official form. Rooms are assigned based on the order received and your stated hotel preference. Please mark your hotel choice in the order of preference (ex. 1,2,3). All reservations must be made through the housing department to receive the conference-discounted rates. Reservations will not be accepted by phone. All reservations, changes or cancellations must be submitted prior to **September 9, 2005**. After **September 9, 2005** any changes or cancellations must be made directly with your assigned hotel. Please contact the housing department at (800) 307-7977 if you have not received an acknowledgment letter within 30 days of submitting your form. Hotel check-in is 3 p.m. and check-out is noon. Use only one form per room.

Fax or mail your housing request to: **The Pasadena Convention and Visitors Bureau, Housing Department**
171 S. Los Robles, Pasadena, CA 91101 / Housing fax: (626) 844-0790 or make your reservation online at
www.pasadenacal.com/housing

Indicate Hotel Preference (ex. 1,2,3)	SINGLE 1 bed, 1 person	DOUBLE 1 bed, 2 people	DOUBLE/DOUBLE 2 beds, 2 people	TRIPLE 2 beds, 3 people	QUAD 2 beds, 4 people
SHERATON PASADENA	\$99.00	\$99.00	\$99.00	\$114.00	\$129.00
303 E. Cordova Street (Adjacent to the Conference Center) {Parking for overnight guests is currently \$7.00 (self-park) per day, subject to change without prior notice}					
HILTON PASADENA	\$99.00	\$99.00	\$99.00	\$124.00	\$149.00
(HEADQUARTER HOTEL) 168 S. Los Robles Avenue (One block from the Conference Center) {Parking for overnight guests is currently \$10.00 (self-park) and \$14.00 (Valet) per day}					
WESTIN PASADENA	\$99.00	\$99.00	\$99.00	\$114.00	\$129.00
191 N. Los Robles Ave. (Two blocks from the Conference Center) {Parking for overnight guests is currently \$6.00 (self-park) and \$11.00 (Valet) per day}					

☐ New Reservation

☐ Change Reservation

☐ Cancel Reservation

HOUSING DEADLINE: September 9, 2005

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Daytime Phone # (____) _____ Fax # (____) _____

Address: _____ E-mail: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

Sharing room with: _____
(California State Law requires all additional occupants to be registered.)

Accommodations Desired:

☐ Single (1 bed) ☐ Double (1 bed) ☐ Double/Double (2 beds) ☐ Triple (2 beds) ☐ Quad (2 beds)
(One person) (Two people) (Two people) (Three people) (Four people)

Special Request(s) Based on Availability: _____

Payment: Reservations require a credit card guarantee or advance deposit by check or money order equal to one night room and tax. Room rate does not include bed tax of 14.5%. Please make check payable to the **Housing Bureau**. All cancellations must be made 72 hours prior to arrival to avoid being charged one nights' room and tax.

Payment by: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ American Express ☐ Diners Club ☐ Discover ☐ Check # _____

Card Number: _____ / _____ / _____ Expiration Date: _____ / _____

Signature (required): _____

Note: Groups securing more than 5 rooms require a back to back copy of the credit card & a letter of authorization from the card holder.

If you haven't registered for these conventions/contests by the time you read this, your registration will be "late". Call or email to find out what to do, or come directly to the convention site.

For Both Conventions/Contests

All competitors MUST have FULL Registration.

Full Late/On Site Registration

Full	\$25
Student	\$12.50

Single Events, sold on Site Only

Quartet Contest	\$15
Chorus Contest	\$15

The Conventions/ Contests

Division 2 SoCal East

Saturday, May 14, 2005

Contest site: Woodrow Wilson High School
4300 East 10th Street, Long Beach

Hosted by the Riverside Chapter

Call: 951-679-7254 or

Email: NewGangSCE@aol.com

Division 4 NorCal East/ Northern Nevada

Saturday, May 21, 2005

Contest site: Modesto High School
18 H Street, Modesto

Headquarters Hotel: Red Lion 209-521-1612

Hosted by the Central California Chapter

Call: 209-358-3713

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Burbank Airport Hilton March 17, 2005

MINUTES

The Spring Meeting of the FWD Board of Directors was called to order at 2 p.m. on March 17, 2005, by President Peter Feeney.

Officers and Directors Present:

Peter Feeney, District President

Bill Cale, Executive Vice President

Jim Sherman, Treasurer

Dick Girvin, Secretary

John Krizek, Immediate Past President

Bob Lally, DVP Div. 1 SoCal West

Bernard Priceman, DVP Div. 2, SoCal East

Dick Whitten, DVP Div. 3 NorCal West/Hawaii

Ivan Jensen, DVP Div. 5, Az/SoNev/SoUtah

(Absent) Clark Abrahamson, DVP Div 4, NorCalE/Nor Nev

Special Guests:

Mike Lanctot, Society Board Member

Ray Rhymer, WESTUNES Editor

Steve Sammonds, Chair Long Range Planning Committee

David Haedtler, Society Representative reporting on Society Mission and Vision Statements.

Keith Eckhardt, Chair, Convention Activities Committee

Actions were taken by the Board of Directors were:

Motion 1, MSP Approval of the Consent Agenda, Receive BOD Reports in Brochure, and Approval of the Active Agenda

Motion 2, MSP Approval of the October 2004 BOD Minutes

Motion 3, MSP Approval of the Outstanding E-Motions Minutes

Motion 4, MSP Approval to add the minutes of the Telephone meeting to the agenda

Motion 5, MSP Approval of the minutes from the Telephone meeting

Motion 6, MSP To table the proposal of the Long Range Planning Committee regarding the new Plateau System until the Summer Meeting .

Motion 7, MSP To approve the recommendation of the WEST-UNES Editor, Ray Rhymer, to reduce the frequency of circulation from 6 to 4 per annum, beginning with the next issue.

Motion 8, MSP To direct the Secretary to dispose of draft materials collected to support the minutes of previous meetings.

Motion 9, MSP To recommend approval to the HOD of the SOP changes provided in the HOD Brochure.

Motion 10, MSP To approve the Laguna Hills Chapter name/location change to San Juan Capistrano Chapter to be located at 29251 Camino Capistrano, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

President Feeney announced that the next meeting of the FWD Board of Directors (including the District Management Team) to be in Las Vegas on June 10 and 11th respectively.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, R. Girvin, Secretary

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT SPRING HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING Burbank, California 2 p.m. Friday, March 18, 2005

MINUTES

President Feeney called the Spring FWD House of Delegates to order at 2 p.m. Friday, March 18, 2005. Those present were :

Board Members (9)

Peter Feeney, President

Bill Cale, Executive Vice President

Dick Girvin, Secretary

Jim Sherman, Treasurer

Bob Lally, Div. 1--DVP SoCal West

Bernard Priceman, Div. 2--DVP -SoCal East

Dick Whitten, Div 3--DVP NorCal West/Hawaii

Ivan Jensen, Div. 5--DVP Arizona, So. Nevada So Utah
 John Krizek, Immediate Past President
 (Absent) Clark Abrahamson, Div. 4--NorCal East NorNev

Past Presidents (11)

Lynn Brittan 1970-71, Fred Koch 1980-82, Don McAvoy 1983
 Sam Barger 1984-85, Terry Aramian 1986-87, Lloyd Steinkamp
 1990-91, Dick Girvin 1992-93, Bob House 1996-97, Carl
 Truman 1998-99, Deane Scoville 2000-01, John Krizek 2002-
 2003

Chapters Present (36)

Apple Valley	Orange (Qt)	San Jose
Central California	Palo Alto-Mountain View	Santa Barbara
Coachella Valley	Palomar Pacific	Santa Cruz
Conejo Valley	Placerville	Santa Fe Springs
Davis-Vacaville	Reno	Santa Monica
Folsom	Rincon Beach	Santa Rosa
Fremont- Hayward	Rohnert Park	South Bay
Fullerton	Sacramento	Stockton
Irvine	San Diego	Sun Cities
Laguna Hills (Qt)	San Fernando Valley	Tucson
Las Vegas	San Francisco	Ventura
Las Vegas Metro	San Francisco Bay Cities	Whittier

Distinguished Guests (Non voting)

Mike Lancot, SBM
 David Haedtler, Society Rep. Mission/Vision Statements
 Carl Schultz, Casa Grande, (Licensed Chapter)

Actions taken by the FWD House of Delegates were:

- Motion 1. MSP (U) Approval of previous minutes.
- Motion 2. MSP (U) Receipt of HOD Reports.
- Motion 3. MSP (U) Approval of the SOP changes as provided in the Delegate's Brochure
- Motion 4. MSP (1 No vote) Approval of the District expenditure of \$6800 to contribute the \$2 per member for the Society Marketing Plan.

Special Reports:

- 1. David Haedtler: Society Mission/Vision plan
- 2. John Krizek: FWD Youth Camp Video
- 3. Jerry Fairchild: Harmony College West

President Feeney identified the next HOD meeting to be in Pasadena, on October 14. 2005

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.
 Respectfully Submitted, Dick Girvin, Secretary

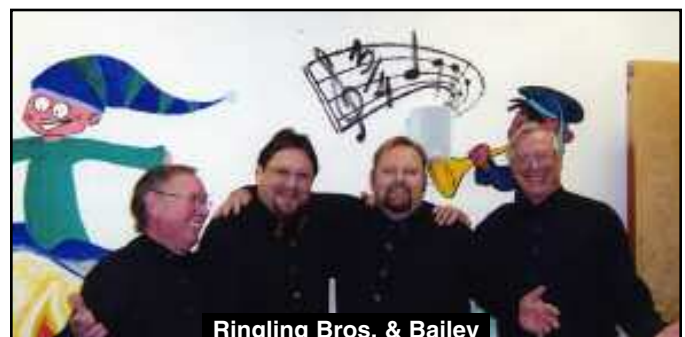
Pal-PacChapter Novice Contest Update

Gene Hartzler

In a recent telecon with Rich Lewis of the Orange Chapter, he was enthralled to learn of Pal-Pac Chapter's Novice Contest [reported in the Jan/Feb issue of Westunes].

Now we have eight with names and uniforms [of course matching sox]. We aren't planning to unseat Orange Chapter from their lofty seat as the Society's original and the most established quartet chapter. Incidentally they had 7 quartets ready as Valentine messengers.

The proliferation of newly formed quartets has fostered a fresh wave of interest not seen in a long time in the attitude of all the guys. Things are different and we're seeing an increase in pick-up quartets before and at break time vying for a slot to sing on Paul Schmidt's break time program. One can see a glint in both Lloyd and Terry's eyes as they are asked to check out these new quartets.



Bob Oertel Receives Posthumous Hall of Fame Award

By Deane Scoville, 2004 Hall Of Fame Chairman

The objective of the Far Western District Hall Of Fame Award is to honor the all-time “greats” of the District, the individuals who have unselfishly, and with dedication and devotion, performed through the years the highest degree of service to the District.

The guidelines of the Hall Of Fame allow “a posthumous award to be made at the discretion of the committee, in addition to and in the same manner as the regular award.”

On the evening of March 19, 2005 at the Far Western District Spring Convention, it was announced that BOB OERTEL had been inducted into the Hall Of Fame. Here is a brief history of his barbershopping career.

Bob joined the Oak Park, Illinois, Chapter in April 1946. One of the featured quartets in that chapter was the “Barber Q 4”, with our own Emmett Bossing and a bass named Tom Watts. Not only did the chapter get a new member but Tom got a brother-in-law when Bob married Tom’s sister, Jean.

The Oertels moved to California in 1950 and Bob transferred to the San Gabriel Chapter. When the word got out that Bob had been a choir director, he was pressed into service and for the next 20 years, directed choruses in Arcadia, Fullerton, Pomona, Newport Harbor and West Covina. He also held membership in the Whittier Chapter and served as President in 1978. He and Jean were so active in the chapter, they were named “Mr. & Mrs. Barbershopper of The Year” in 1981.

Bob was a certified Judge in the Balance & Blend, Voice Expression and Stage Presence Categories, and served the district as Chairman of the Contest & Judging Committee for several years. He was instrumental in raising the level of our judging as well as our competitors. He was given the Judge Emeritus Award by the Society in 1985.

Bob served as a Vice President on the District Board and continued to share his expertise as a coach and arranger. He was also much in demand as an M.C. for shows and contests.

Jean Oertel now lives in Northern California and was unable to attend the presentation, but she designated Floyd Thaller, veteran barbershopper and Past District Secretary to accept the award for her.

Arrangements have been made for the Hall Of Fame plaque, lapel pin and name badge to be presented to Jean at her home in Napa, California.

In closing, here is a short story that was told by the Pastor at Bob’s Memorial Service. He said words to the effect that Bob accomplished something that he had been trying to do for a long

time, which was to “fill every pew in the church”. We miss Bob and his unique humor that filled the air wherever he went.

Ray Rhymer Inducted Into FWD Hall of Fame

By Deane Scoville, 2004 Hall Of Fame Chairman

On Saturday, March 19, 2005, Ray Rhymer was sent into a state of “shock” when it was announced that he was the honoree to be inducted into the Hall Of Fame that night. The site was the Burbank Airport Hilton Hotel and the evening was capped off with the Show of Champions, following the Quartet Finals of the Spring Prelims. The presentation was made during the Show of Champions.

To reach the heights of becoming a member of the HOF, you must be voted in by the current members, which is no easy task. Each of the past Hall of Famers that are present at the event reads a segment of a prepared biography of the new guy coming in. Soon the honoree figures it out that he has been chosen to be a member of the HOF and he immediately goes into an emotional shock. What follows is the wording that was shared by the Hall Of Fame members when Ray was inducted.

Our Hall Of Fame winner joined the Society in the Illinois District in 1949, while still a student in high school. Following graduation, his development in barbershopping was temporarily interrupted by the Korean War when he volunteered to serve in the United States Marine Corps. Unable to get those ringing barbershop seventh chords out of his head, our honoree used his limited spare time harmonizing whenever he had the chance and could find three “good men”.

Following his discharge from service, he returned to continue his education, receiving a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Tennessee and a Master of Science Degree from the University of Southern California.

He is a recipient of Aerojet’s prestigious R. B. Young Technical Innovation Award. Now retired, he spent 34 years as an aerospace engineer and manager and his last assignment was program manager for N.A.S.A.

Our honoree is an active quartet man, as a tenor, lead or baritone with: Summer Sounds, Four Points West, Sixty Something, Foothill Songsters, Older Than Dirt and Preservation.

He is a charter member of the Far Western District Chorus Directors’ Guild and has directed choruses in Simi Valley, Oxnard, Conejo Valley, Sacramento and Placerville.

In 1972 he became a Judge Candidate in the Harmony Accuracy Category; then a Certified Sound Category Judge from 1975 to 1993, judging the International Contests in Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Kansas City and San Francisco. In 1998 he was recertified as a Singing Category Judge.

He is "on call" constantly as a coach for quartets and choruses locally, district-wide, at our own Harmony Colleges West, at Harmony Incorporated Music Seminars and on coaching faculties at Harmony College in St. Joseph, Missouri.

On the chapter level, over and above his service as chorus director, our honoree has served on most chapter committees and held almost all offices including president.

On the district level, he has served as Area Counselor, Assistant Contest & Judging Chairman, Assistant Director of Music Education, Vice-President for Music & Performance and later, for Youth Activities and Editor of WESTUNES since 2002.

Our Hall Of Famer has received the Conejo Valley Barbershopper of the Year in 1979, became a Whittier Chapter Honorary Life Member in 1979 and Placerville Chapter's Barbershopper of the Years 1997 and 2000.

We have all been the beneficiaries of this man's talent and generosity for over 40 years. His personal motto is: "ENCOURAGE...ENJOY...ENTHUSE... EXCITE!"

His successes over these many years, aided by his attention to detail, and devotion to the basic principles of harmony have made him the obvious selection for the Far Western District Hall Of Fame.

Ladies and gentlemen... Our Hall Of Fame winner for 2004 – Mr. Ray Rhymer!



Convention Dedicated To Doug Maddox

The Far Western District Board of Directors and the district membership take great pride in dedicating this 2005 Spring District Convention to Doug Maddox -- the Cecil B. DeMille of the Far Western District, the Masters of Harmony and the Santa Fe Springs Chapter.

All of us who attend FWD Conventions recognize Doug as the stagehand par excellence, hilariously manning the broom when the occasion warrants, and standing lanky and tall on both sides of the curtain for every aspect of show production. For the competitors, he's the last one they see before making their entrance, and the last one to wish them good luck.

A native Californian, Doug was born in Redlands. He was attracted to music at an early age and, as a result, learned to play the French Horn and the cornet. We were unable to discover how his wife, Jan, and he met nor when and where they were married. Maybe they'll share that with us later! Backstage...with a Little Theatre Group perhaps?

Doug became a member of the SPEBSQSA in 1973 when he joined the Pasadena chapter, serving several years as music director. In 1977, he moved to Atlanta, Georgia, and was music director of the Atlanta Peachtree Chorus for 2 years; then another move to Detroit in 1981, serving as the assistant music director. He transferred to Dallas, Texas, in 1984 and joined The Vocal Majority. Finally, in 1988, Doug returned to California and immediately transferred his membership and tenor vice to The Masters of Harmony. Holding a BSc from Cal Poly, Pomona, Doug has been a longtime staff engineer and project manager with Unisys Corporation.

He has served on the Far Western District as well as Society Events Committees, taught classes in stagecraft, and demonstrated creative marketing and technical theater skills both in our district as well as Harmony College in St. Joseph, Missouri. He has been the Production Manager of the Masters of Harmony since 1988 and the Production Director for all FWD contests for over ten years. Preparing for shows and contests are high-pressure, time-critical activities and Doug gets it all done with humor and style. He began working with Greg Clancy at the Society level in 1999 when the International Convention was held in Anaheim and hosted by the Masters of Harmony. As a part of the Society Events Committee, he was one of the chief contributors to the study that produced a standardized district convention technical manual that includes extensive recommendations for sound and lighting standards. This has now become the official Society Handbook for all sixteen districts in the Society.

Numerous awards have been presented to Doug Maddox including five President's Awards, Mr. Broadway Award [1977], Director's Award [1992 & 2001], and the Barbershopper Of The Year [1990]. He also has all five Gold Medals won by the Masters of Harmony...plus one with the Vocal Majority.

Without the continued efforts and total involvement of members like Doug Maddox on all Society levels, there would be no Far Western District, nor even a Barbershop Harmony Society. So, step up to Doug sometime this weekend, shake his hand and say: "thanks." He's more than a Class Act...because he'll all class and no act!

**FWD DVP for Division 1 SCW****Bob Lally**

1357 School House Road
 Santa Barbara, CA 93108
 (805) 969-9701
 E: boblally@cox.net

**Division 1 SCW Editor****Mike Martin**

2262 Bagley Ave
 Los Angeles, CA 90034-1109
 310-558-4949
 E: martinmt@aol.com

If you didn't get to hear enough great singing at the combined District Prelims and SoCalWest Division Contests in Burbank, I can only assume that you weren't there, and you have my sympathy. Five quartets will be heading to Salt Lake City in July including **Metropolis**, **OC Times** and **Hi-Fidelity**, all with members from our Division. Considering there are some strong medal contenders in that group we have every right to be proud and wish them the best. The Division contest results are sending 3 quartets and 4 choruses on to the District contest in October to represent SoCalWest, and I know they'll all do a fine job. Special congratulations go to Division Quartet Champs **Hi-Fidelity** and Division Chorus Champs **Pacific Sound**!

Actually, all of our competitors have a right to be proud of their efforts in Burbank. This is a great opportunity to strut your stuff in front of your brothers as well as get a progress report on how you're doing musically. If your group for some reason was unable to join in the contest this year, I hope you'll consider making it a priority to participate in next year's Division contest. We'd love to hear and see you, and your chorus or quartet will benefit greatly from the experience.

Nine SoCalWest chapters sent representatives to the House of Delegates meeting where we heard quite a bit about the management and organization changes taking place in our Society. A key part of the presentation outlined the major, national membership campaign taking place this year. You can find out more about this by checking both the Society and District web sites, or consulting with your Chapter Counselors. There will be national advertising, cash prizes and some great ideas for mounting your own chapter's membership campaign. Be sure to get involved in this; it offers a great opportunity to give your membership numbers a boost.

Also, with summer in the offing, it's time to make plans for attendance at one of the fine musical training schools being offered. The Society's Harmony College will move this year from its long time home in St. Joseph to Ohio State University. It's a much larger and more modern facility, and the class schedule will be expanded to fit the new surrounding. If you're looking for something shorter in duration and closer to home, our own Harmony College West will take place in August at Cal State Hayward under the direction of Jerry Fairchild. HCW also has an expanded class structure with something for everybody.

I hope you all have a great summer and that your joy in singing continues to grow.

CONEJO VALLEY (Harmony Oaks) EVERT GERRITSEN
 February had to be the highlight of all times for the **Conejo Valley Chapter**. On Feb 20 we held our annual High school Benefit Show starring **Dick van Dyke**, in "*Right here in River City*". Five local High Schools performed in front of an enthusiastic audience at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza, which was nearly filled to capacity. **Dick van Dyke** had the crowd laughing and cheering and made no bones about his love for Barbershop music. Our soloist was **Sarah Ford**, the granddaughter of former long-term secretary of the FWD, **John Ford**, who mesmerized the audience as well as Dick with an incredible rendition of Lida Rose. We raised a record amount of money for the participating High Schools, and **Dick van Dyke** already announced that he wanted to work with us next year. He is a true Barbershopper.

SANTA MONICA – (Oceanaires) JERRY WALKER
Bruce Schreffel was honored as *BOTM* for December 2004 for coordinating the joint holiday show with the ladies of the Santa Monica Chorus of the Sweet Adelines. Bruce was also awarded 2004 *BOTY* for his creative leadership.

Acting Director **Bob Heron** was honored as *BOTM* for January 2005 for preparing the Oceanaires for the busiest holiday season performance calendar in memory. **Pat Kellogg** was honored as *BOTM* for February 2005 for organizing a Valentines Day concert to 300 veterans and their guests at the VA Hospital in West Los Angeles. The Oceanaires were proud to perform the National Anthem and a host of other songs for this deserving and appreciative audience.

Steve Demmer managed our record-breaking Singing Valentines performances on February 12-14. He accepted orders on his home phone, gathered checks and order forms, printed customized valentines cards, and assigned performances to quartets. We thank Steve very much for his highly successful efforts.

Our small, but mighty, band of men competed in the So. Cal. West Convention. **Dick Keagy** hired a hall, and **Alan Hanson** organized a retreat to help us prepare for the competition.

SAN LUIS OBISPO (Gold Coast Chorus) RUDY XAVIER
 The San Luis Obispo Chapter is in full swing. Going to contest in Burbank and doing fairly well in the competitions with **Still Kids at Heart**, senior quartet, doing quite well. The chorus is now in the throws of preparing for their annual show at the Clark Center Theater in Arroyo Grande April 9 and again in Paso Robles May 1, 2005. The show is about Baseball and the idea comes from the stage show, "Damn Yankees." Starring a cast of players from the chorus and built around the song, "You've Gotta Have Heart"

which is the name for the show. The featured quartets are Freestyle and Men-So Forte, along with chapter quartets: Caught in the Act, Coastal Aires, Still Kids at Heart, and Billy Buckner Quartet.

Singing Valentine's was a big success with over 150 sing outs making wives, girl friends or boy friends happy. Eight quartets went all over the county bringing cheer and happiness on this Valentine's Day.

The chorus is continuing its search for new members and have inducted **Joe Livingston, Kurt Walker** and **Steve Guenney** as members since the beginning of the year.

SOUTH BAY – (Coastliners)

MIKE MARTIN

St. Valentines Day was a tremendous success for the chapter. One quartet (**Docs on the Rocks**) logged over 300 miles for a fourteen hour day delivering Singing Valentines.

Harmony Sweepstakes, a national a capella contest, which has been hosted by the **South Bay Coastliners** for many years for the Los Angeles area, again had a standing room only event. The contest winner for 2005, **Undivided**, will move on the nationals.

South Bay was well represented at the recent Novice Quartet Contest in Costa Mesa. **Please Open the Doors** (Very Large Quartet category) accepted the first place trophy while **Cloolest** (**Michael Thorpe, Bill Cloo, John Upp** and **Ron Sipes**) were second. **The White Spots** (**Damian Curran, Lloyd Hild, Fred Workmon** and **Charlie Thompson**) were fifth.

The **Coastliners** again hosted the 41st Annual St. Patrick's Day Quartet Contest. First place winners for the night were the **Orange Town-4** from the **Orange Chapter**.

Special congratulations also to chapter members in the **Sands of Time** (**Chuck Brooks, Bob Platzer, David Livingston** and **Mike Hemphill**) for winning the senior quartet contest. They qualified to compete in the International competition in Utah.

The **Coastliners** are pleased to report the recent addition of *twelve* members to the roster: newest member **Phil Gold** of **Perfect Gentlemen**, **Bill Wilson, Bob Clark** and **C.J. Sams** of the **Stage Hogs** and **Doug Anderson** of the **139th Street Quartet**. Returning after many years (under dual membership) are former South Bay members **Dave Briner** and **Dave Miller**. The prize for greatest distance to travel for Wednesday night rehearsals has to go to new member Andy Holt who lives in Colorado Springs, Colorado, but who rarely misses a meeting.

WHITTIER

PATRICK BOYLE

A busy spring is planned for the **Choralaires**. Chorus Director **Stan Sharpe** prepared us for competition on March 19. The Chapter sent kudos in the form of a honorarium to the music program at St Paul of the Cross School for the participation of their Bell Chime Chorus in the **Choralaires'** Christmas Show. The respectful discipline that these 8th grade and younger students

showed to their teacher Cathy O'Neil, was evident in the audience response to an excellent performance. VP Program **Dave Gunther** is encouraging the Chapter to have more "sing outs." He feels that a monthly outing will help the Chorus maintain a performance edge and a connection with our communities (La Habra, La Mirada, La Habra Heights, and Whittier). The Choralaires welcomes new members Bass **Rich Hinojosa Jr.** and Lead **Kirk Koehler**.



FWD DVP for Division 2 SCE

Bernard Priceman

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Tarzana, CA 91356

(818) 625-2832

E: bernard@thepricemanteam.com

One can't help but notice the changes that are taking place in our hobby. I'm sure I won't be the only person referring to these changes in this edition of Westunes. My view though, unlike some, is that changes are good. I always welcome them. And, let's face it, with our dwindling membership numbers, our beloved Society was probably due for a few changes. Changes are a sign of progress. If there were no changes, we'd still communicating everything by snail mail, be calculating on an abacus or be riding around on horses.

So, let's look at a few of those changes. The first major change is the one that has removed the acronym SPEBSQSA from the public's view. It was a fun moniker for many years but it may have outlasted its usefulness. It reflected a former vision of our hobby and did not reflect that we have moved with the times. The "Barbershop Harmony Society" is a concise and modern description of who we are and what we do. I welcome that change and see it is an opportunity to attract more men and especially more young men.

The next change we have all seen is the one to our long time logo. There is no doubt that the former logo was classic, but too it did not reflect change. The new logo reflects our hobby very subtly - four singers with a music background. It is modern in style, which will help us move toward not just a younger generation of singers, but an overall wider population of singers. I welcome the logo change too and puzzle at those who only see fit to criticize it. I know those folks don't want to go back to riding horses or using an abacus. Why are they so afraid of change?

And lastly, I see a major change in the willingness of the Society to promote itself to the big wide world out there. In September we'll be doing something we've never really done before - we're mounting a national advertising campaign. I am so excited about this opportunity. I wanted to get such a campaign going last year in SoCal East, but it just didn't happen. Now the Society is getting each chapter to buy in to the campaign plus is offering advice and help to encourage individual chapters or local groups of chapters to do even more promotion in their areas. Your FWD Board already took a major step to encourage this additional pro-

motion by footing the almost \$7,000 bill for this District to the Society. Now we're looking to each chapter to step forward and start its work. I'll be talking to each of my chapters and working with them to do what they need to do to reap the benefits of the campaign. All it will take is buy-in and a little co-operation. How nice it would be to increase our membership dramatically. Are you ready?



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BREA

The **Gaslight Chorus** is in the final stages of preparing for its first divisional contest appearance. For several of the chorus members this will be the first time they have been on the contest stage. **Phil Ordaz** and **Adam Kitt** have done great work bringing the chorus up to contest readiness.

Doug Wolven and **Brian Hines** have both been accepted for membership in the chorus. (Chalk up two more for the baritone section).

The chorus recently performed for approximately 400 dinner guests at the Evangelical Free Church in Fullerton.

COACHELLA VALLEY

Their first annual Valentines Day project was successful and generated a very nice cash windfall. They delivered Valentines on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, using their four chapter quartets and the "quartet corps" (group from whom which they can draw any four (parts) and send them out.)

Their audience seemed very pleased with their 27th annual show, which held for the first time at the Annenberg Medical Sciences—a very intimate and interesting auditorium with no curtain and no back stage entrance/exits. Of course they should have been pleased with **Nightlife** and **Friendly Advice** (Evergreen) as their headliners. After the final curtain the two headliner quartets offered "One More Song," while the chorus left the stage and re-convened on the balcony under a high glass dome over the central rotunda. As the people came out of the auditorium into the rotunda the **Sandblasters** sang several more songs to them in a cathedral-like setting. It was the highlight of the chorus performance and it was a real crowd pleaser

They sadly report the retirement of their Music Director **Blaine Mack**. At age 84, he has decided that he is 'old enough' to retire from his several rigorous obligations, and to spend his time with his wife.

They are pleased to welcome their newest member, **Jim Haggerty**, who is a Bari who used to sing barbershop 'years ago'.

JOHN GASTON

But by their standards, he is still a young man, and within the new target age group!

FULLERTON

DICK COTE

For the *eighth* time in as many years, Editor, **Dick Cote**, brought home the top honors in the FWD District Bulletin Contest. In fact his name is the only one on the traveling trophy awarded at the recent FWD House of Delegates meeting in Burbank.

BOTY for 2004 was **Deane Scoville**, who received the news at their annual Awards and Installation dinner via a unique "Wheel Of Fortune" type display. Rookie of the Year, was **Don Derter**.

The National Association of Music Merchants awarded **Hershell Green** a "Lifetime Achievement Award," for his continuing efforts over the past 20 years with the organization.

"Don't pitch those pitch pipes," opines Editor Cote, citing the opportunity to have them refurbished and retuned for under \$15 (shipping and handling included) by the manufacturer. Any takers?

Singing Valentines were very much in order in Orange County as the Red Vested, Silver Crested barbershop harmony singers showed up all over Orange County on St. Valentines day.

A special tribute by the "Orange Blossoms" (the ladies of the chapter) completely surprised the chapter when they recently presented a decorated cake and all the goodies to show their appreciation and express their pride in the chapter.

BMAL for Life **Stan French's** report on their Harmony For Lunch Bunch reads like a "Who's Who" page in a society magazine. It is still the most frequented H4LB group in SoCal.

HEMET

BRUCE SMITH

Winner of the FWD "*Small Bulletin*" (fewer than 6 pages) contest for 2004, Editor **Bruce Smith** headlines a story and a great color pix of their *BOTY* for 2004, **Tom Howell**.

Director **Howard Mesecher** graphically reminded the Hemet Harmonizers of their obligation to their upcoming show, *Let's Get Away From It All* with an eight-point directive. Each point had the same message: "Practice, practice, practice, practice."

Member since 1991, **Joe Emge**, was featured in **Jim Bunten's** Member Profile, chronicling his pre-barbershopper life as a retired Electro-Mechanical designer.

IRVINE

JEFF YOUNG

The **California Promise Chorus** is singing farewell to Director, **Terry Ghiselli**. A new job takes him and his family to Austin Texas where he will most likely continue to share his musical talent. He has directed the chorus for nearly two years and has left a memorable impression on all that have met him and especially those that benefited from his Barbershop experience and knowledge. Also, it will be remembered that he directed the

Westminster Chorus to the Far Western District Championship and a remarkable 9th place finish in international competition. His final directorial role for the chorus was at the Laguna Woods Quartet Chapter's Show.

Interested Director applicants may contact Chapter President, John Wilson at pnkrjohn@yahoo.com

ORANGE

STANLEY TINKLE

The **Orange Quartet Chapter** delivered Valentines Day serenades on all four days of the weekend of February 14 this year. **Rich Lewis** and **Rich Spenser** sent out six quartets across the county, backed up by chapter members who sold Valentine orders through newspaper articles and personal contacts, for a memorable and highly successful event.

March 16 saw the Saint Patrick's Day Contest at the **South Bay Chapter**, where Orange quartets were out in force. **The Plaza City Serenaders**, led by lead **Paul Kelley**, won first place. **Balderdash**, led by **Dave Gryvnak**, won third, but Judge **Peter Neushul** said they probably would have won first if they had sung only one song. Pickup quartets competed after the break, and **Phil Roth** and **Lee Anderson** were in the winning foursome.

Recent visitors to the Chapter have included **Kenneth Kline** and that Beach Nut baritone, **Charlie Brown**, plus a sizeable feminine contingent. **Patrique Gryvnak** and **Marcheta Pletcher** have been prevailed upon to sing in impromptu quartets.

The Orange Quartet Chapter welcomes all singers who would like to try the quartet experience. Members are looking forward to a visit on Monday April 18 by **Gene Clements**, who will coach everyone on improving their product.

POMONA

CHUCK MASON

2005 will be an exciting year for **Pomona Valley Chorus**. They report have many exciting items on the drawing board, including a great annual show entitled "*Jukebox Saturday Night*" featuring songs of the Beach Boys, the Beatles, Harry Belafonte, Louis Armstrong, the Drifters, etc.

They continue to have fundraisers and singouts, and look forward to increasing the size of the chorus this year. "Our hobby is growing and becoming even more enjoyable in the Inland Empire. We look forward to visiting with many of our Barbershop Brethren in Salt Lake City" reports Scribe Mason. FLASH: This just in: Members of **The Pomona Valley** (D019) and **Inland Cities** (D-061) Chapters unanimously agreed to merge the two chapters.

RANCHO BERNARDO

JIM LARKIN

Director **John Hulbert**, in his front-page salute to the chapter, presented special kudos to Show Co-coordinators, **Brian Cannon**, **Tom Buckles**, **Roger Musgrave** and the entire chapter (in advance) for their efforts for the upcoming show.

The 2004 Award winners **Frank Terschan**, **Jim Larkin** and their **BOTY Roger Musgrave** were singled out for rousing CONGRATULATIONS. **Odie Kelly** was the first new member to join the chapter in 2005.

Valentines were delivered throughout the areas by **Frank Terschan**, **Hector Sanchez**, **Wayne Hull** and their cast of quartets.

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO

DON THOMAS

The **San Juan Capistrano** quartet chapter continues to enjoy meeting every Monday night at its new location at Rancho Capistrano at the Avery exit off the I-5 freeway at 29251 Camino Capistrano in San Juan Capistrano. They invite all to come stop by some Monday and join in if you like to do quarteting !"

WESTMINSTER

SEAN DEVINE

The **Westminster Chorus** is keeping busy this Spring, updating our repertoire, welcoming new members, and looking forward to returning to the SoCal East contest stage on May 14 in Long Beach. We are overjoyed with our new director, **Royce "gramps" Ferguson**, and all he is bringing to our chapter!

We are pleased to announce a new college quartet from our chorus, **Afternoon Delight** (**Justin Miller**, **Sam Papageorge**, **David Rakita**, and **Matt Whiffen**) - good luck guys! A special congratulations to our chapter quartet, **OC Times**, for recently qualifying for the International Convention in Salt Lake City.



FWD DVP for Division 3 NCWH

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As we enter spring the NorCal West/Hawaii Division has already had a couple of events.

The combined NorCal President's meeting was held prior to the Novice Quartet and High School Quartet Contest again this year. At the time I'm writing this I am preparing to send the minutes to all Chapter Presidents. This Contest was again a great NorCal happening. The venue as well as the date and time were scheduled to cause the least amount of interference with other chapters and events. However, because of the lack of attendance at the combined Presidents' Meeting, I would like to hear from each of you as to what we can do to make it easier for you to attend in the future.

We had a lot of inter chapter visits occur this year, but we still need to attend neighboring chapter events to support each other as well as get different ideas about doing things. We can learn many things through active participation with other chapters, by visiting chapter meetings as a group, and by attending chapter shows.

I have just returned from a rip-roaring contest in Southern California. The District Preliminary Contest is where we choose our representatives for the International Convention and Competition. We will be sending 5 quartets to Salt Lake City in 2005, and because it is very close geographically you should all attempt to fit it into your vacation plans. If you've never been to an International this would be a perfect opportunity.

I would like to congratulate Uncalled Four from the San Jose Chapter for their 7th place finish overall and their qualification to advance to the Far Western District contest in the Fall. I would also like to congratulate Shades of Blue from the Santa Rosa and BAM Chapters for their placement as mike testers for the finals on Saturday night. You all are great representatives of our NorCal West Division.



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ALOHA

JACK Y HASHIMOTO

Our annual Christmas Show was held at the Paliku Theater at Windward Community College. This year's show was entitled "Christmas Without Santa (Santa's Been Outsourced)" It was written again by our brilliant comic genius **Ralph Brandt**.

Our new Board of Directors include **Glenn Crowder** - President, **Jonathan Spangler** - Membership VP, **Ed Reid** - Program VP, **Bob Gibson** - Music and Performance VP, **Ron Watanabe** - Marketing and Public Relations VP, **Dan Tom** - Secretary, **Zig Palagyi** - Treasurer and Board Members at Large **Charles Black**, **Mike Tiemann**, **Larry Paterson**, and **Ernie Hong**. **Bob Sypowicz** is filling the position of Immediate Past President. **Phillip Wie** was honored as the 2004 *BOTY*.

Ben Ayling, bass for International Champions the **Ritz**, visited and gave of his time to coach quartets at **Larry & Addie Lamberth's** (who were also hosting Ben for his stay here). He also came to our rehearsal the following Thursday and coached the chorus. Thanks, Ben.

At our annual Quartets Contest, winning quartets were **Tropical Storm** (Mike Tiemann lead, Phillip Wie bass, Jonathan Spangler tenor, Ken Foreman baritone) in the Registered Quartets category; and in the Novice, **Sea Notes** (Mike Tiemann lead, Jack Hashimoto bass, Mike Darcey tenor, Glenn Crowder baritone).

Singing Valentines, headed by **Hank & Gloria Drayton** and **Dan Tom**, quartets did enough gigs to earn about \$6,500.

On March 5 we did a double gig, singing the *Star Spangled Banner* at the Hawaii v. Fresno State basketball game, and then rushed over to the Honolulu Choral Festival.

BAY AREA METRO

TOM ENNIS

When you're a barbershopper and you think February, the first thing that pops into your mind is Singing Valentines. BAM is full of barbershoppers so visions of valentines were dancing through everyone's heads. Not only did the eight quartets have a great time delivering their songs, but the chorus broke its record for sales with 84 this year. A great job by the marketing crew and the whole chorus to get the word out on our product.

We had our annual winter weekend advance with guest clinician was Bobby Gray Jr. It's difficult to believe you can work so hard and still have fun doing it, but this year's was one of the best. If you're outside of NorCal West, you'll just have to wait for Pasadena to see what we came up with.

Like most courses, March has been devoted to getting ready for our division convention. Oh, we did take a little time to enjoy the NorCal West novice contest. Three quartets made up of members from **Bay Area Metro** and **Santa Rosa** finished in the top five. In fact, they finished 3, 4, and 5. Then, the fourth place quartet, **Shades of Blue**, went down to Burbank and managed to become the mike tester for the quartet finals.

FREMONT/HAYWARD

RAY SPINOSA

Once again, quartets from the **New Dimension Chorus** performed Singing Valentines this past February. One of these involved a young couple (in their 90's), who rewarded the quartet with chocolate chip cookies. Another venture led to an office where no one knew the Valentine recipient. After several phone calls, it was discovered that she was an employee visiting from Boston. The tears of joy after the song were well worth the wait.

New Dimension chorus director **James Hall** has offered special coaching sessions and extra chorus rehearsals for the upcoming contest. Also, speaking of competitions; congratulations to the **Town Square Harmonizers** - **Bob Eger** lead, **Dave Rail** tenor, **Pete Sparaco** baritone and **Gordon Keeney** bass - for their fine performance at the recent Novice Quartet competition in Walnut Creek.

In Harmony For Asia, the name under which the **Fremont-Hayward** and other bay area chapters held 2 concerts to benefit tsunami relief efforts this past January, has received the proceeds from a concert held in March. This one was principally organized by **Clockwork**, one of the a capella groups which performed in January. These funds will be contributed to the ongoing relief efforts.

MONTEREY PENINSULA

HOWARD STRAUS

Like many SPEBSQSA chapters, the **Cypressaires** has historically used Valentine's Day as an opportunity to help support the chapter financially, while bringing joy and pleasure, and sometimes surprise, to spouses, fiancées, friends and lovers around the

Monterey Peninsula. Historically, we would send around quartets to about 50 or 60 locations.

This year, however, one of our members succeeded in getting the two largest newspapers on the Peninsula to produce feature articles on the program, including color photographs of a delivery. This resulted in such an overwhelming response that even "borrowing" a quartet from neighboring Santa Cruz, we had to turn down about a dozen requests. The final tally: in the two day period, we delivered 120 Singing Valentines, complete with red roses and personalized cards! Many of the senders were so delighted with the service that they have already signed up for next year, and we got phenomenal exposure for the chapter when we delivered to offices, hospitals, schools and restaurants, as a dozen or more people would hear the music, stop whatever they were doing, and gather around to enjoy a moment of close harmony with their colleagues. If your chapter is not yet using this means of raising funds, you are missing a great bet!

PALO ALTO/MOUNTAIN VIEW PATRICK HERLIHY

Hearts were melting as the Palo Alto Mountain View chapter quartets kept the love-light glowing with our Valentine deliveries. Barbershop sophomore **Ron Walker** experienced the joy of delivering his first Valentine this year and is still smiling ear to ear!

The chapter welcomes our newest members, **Dave Weatherford** and **Patrick Mahoney**. Both bring singing experience that will lift our chorus and quartets to greater achievements.

Quarteting is thriving in the chapter with five registered quartets now active. Four of these, **Toast**, **Quattro**, **Boomerang** and **Supernova**, competed at the Norcal Novice Contest, expertly hosted by the **Bay Area Metro** chapter. All performed well with **Toast** taking 2nd place. The growth of quartets in our small chorus is attributable to tireless efforts by **Chuck Borreco** and **Rob Sequeira**, and contributes to our improving chorus sound.

S.F. BAY CITY QUARTET CASEY PARKER

Northern California's only chartered quartet club since 1998. Meetings held the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in the Santa Clara Valley, California Dinner meeting and quartet singing from 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.,

Meeting Highlights, March 9th Stuft Pizza always brings out the best of our membership for evenings of song and fellowship, and March 9 was true to form.. **Phil Sterling**, Program VP kicked off the evening. Introducing the first quartet, Tenor-in-residence **Steve Gummarsal**, Bari-in-residence **Orv Hanel**, Leads **Casey Parker**, **Dennis Baker**, **Alex Hochstraser**, and Basses **Roman Avila**, **Phil Sterling**, and **Joe Ingram** cycled in and out to form numerous combinations. By popular demand the **Naughty Novices Steve, Casey, Roman** with **Orv** on Bari sang *Darkness on the Delta* and *Hello Mary Lou*. Dr. **Dennis Baker**, DW (Doctor of Woodshedology), passed out a full size copy of an Ernie Ball sheet *Good-Bye Good Luck, God Bless You*. Several quartets improvised harmony to this tear jerker.

SAN JOSE

DEAN JAMES

Chris Hebert has stepped down as Musical Director of the **San Jose Garden City Chorus**. He needs to spend more time with a new position at work and with his family at home. Chris will remain a member of the chapter and will sing with us when he can. We owe Chris a huge thank-you for 14 years of coaching and continual coaxing to improve our performance. Through his efforts, we qualified for an exciting series of trips---from Columbus to New Zealand and Australia, from Hawaii to Montreal and the 2003 International Finals---while presenting ever-improving, more entertaining Annual and Holiday Shows locally.

SANTA CRUZ

LAURANCE STERN

At a super installation dinner, all members of the **Gold Standard Chorus** were presented with a pin for years in barbershop and/or an award plaque: **Joe Pedota** the Most Improved, B the Founder's Award, **Pat Lanphier** the Overtime Award, **Gary Haraldsen** the Director's Award, **Lawrence Stern** the President's Award, and **Dale Thoreen** the Anchor Award. Dale will be retiring this month after 21 years with USPS. He was one of the founders of Gold Standard in 1989, and has headed up the annual Valengrams for many years. He and his wife Marlys will be moving to Oregon where Dale expects to continue barber-shopping. Director **Duane King** was named *BOTY* for 2004, and was also given the first-ever Harmony Chair Award, a miniature barber's chair with brass plaque to be kept for one year.

SANTA ROSA

SCOTT DOUGLAS

Santa Rosa Chordsmen had two of our active quartets competing and showing well. **Hallmark**, with **Ed James**, **Jim Estrella**, **Tom Ennis**, placed 3rd in the NorCal Novice Contest, and **Shades of Blue** with **Jim DeChaine**, **Mike Rankins**, **Jeremy Donley**, and **Eddie Moss** placed 11th in International Prelims in Burbank, and were the Mic Testers for the finals of the contest.

SAN MATEO

TOM ADDISON

The **Golden Chordsmen** final "push" before contest included the presentation of "Harmony Through the Ages" where both matinee and evening audiences were entertained by the chorus and quartets **Sound Judgment** and **Jim and Tonics**. "Irish" **Bruce Robertson** and lead **Dave McCann**, led the audience in a rousing collection of popular Irish music to the delight of all the Irishmen and Irish wannabes in attendance. Many happy faces were seen during the show and at the complimentary afterglow where numerous comments included: "I just didn't want it to stop!" and "Every year you guys just get better and better!" **Paul Engel** came up critique the show at the dress rehearsal and gave many helpful comments. The show that was presented was much tighter and better than the one he saw, thanks to his sage advice.

We had a successful quartet night (every month with a fifth Tuesday) led by **Don Miller**. This tradition was started at the founding of the chapter in 1967, and preserved through the diligent attention of member Casey Parker, who attends religiously

even though he must drive over 100 miles to do so. Over 35 different quartets sang during the evening doing everything from barber polecats to show tunes, ringing chords, and enjoying the fellowship of our fellow barbershoppers from around the region.

In August, a contingent of about nine Chordsmen will make the annual pilgrimage to Harmony College to work on perfecting our art form and enjoying good fellowship with babershoppers from around the country. With nearly one third of our active members attending, every year we win the award for the largest percentage of chapter members in attendance!

WALNUT CREEK

DICK JOHNSTON

Hosted jointly by the **Devil Mountain Chorus** and **BAM**, the Novice Quartet Contest on March 13 was by any standard one of the most successful ever held. **Scene M-B4** (a name to be pronounced rapidly), a quartet from **The Central California-Golden Valley Chorus**, placed first. The members, **Mike Boyd**, baritone; **Mike Viss**, bass; **Bruce Sellnow**, lead; and **Howard Barber**, tenor, were all baritones originally. So for their encore after receiving the winners' trophy, they sang a medley of three polecat songs - all singing the baritone part in unison!



FWD DVP for Division 4 NCENN

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The Numbers:

NCE/NN membership through February 2005 is 583. We're down 13 members from a year ago, a net loss of 2.23%. As a comparison, the Society had a loss of 1.14% (346 members), and the Far Western District had a gain of .39% (13 Members) during the same period). Average membership is 35, compared to 38 in the Society, and 39 in the FWD. In the past 3 months, several Chapters are to be congratulated for membership gains:

Nevada-Placer: +3

Fresno: +2

Carson City, Chico, Stockton, Sutter Creek: +1

All of which says we need to continue to focus on membership. The new Membership program, '*U Can Sing 2*', scheduled to kick off in August, will provide our greatest opportunity ever to gain members. If you haven't already seen the details, talk to your Chapter leaders. The plan details are also accessible via the FWD/Society Websites, or at (http://www.spebsqsafwd.org/files/2005_Marketing_and_Membership_Plan.pdf).

But why wait? The key to success is to begin your campaign now!

We had another successful, lively discussion at our NorCal President's Council meeting in Walnut Creek in March. Sure wish we could have had more Presidents in attendance...

Hey - really lookin' forward to seeing y'all in Modesto May 21st at NCENN Division convention/contest! From all indications, it's gonna be waaaay more fun than we should be allowed to have.

...see 'ya around...



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CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

MILES SUTTER

Sixty-six Valengrams were delivered by the **Golden Valley Chorus**. Credit goes to **Ron Russell** and **Howard Barber** who took phone calls and arranged all the time slots geographically. **Collaboration** and **Common Bond** were kept busy all day.

The **Golden Valley Chorus** presented an evening of barbershop for the Modesto Adventist Church School congregation. The purpose of the program was to thank them and show appreciation for the wonderful accommodations that they have so graciously offered us for our weekly rehearsals. As an additional show of gratitude, all revenue received from our performance was donated to the church.

Thanks to **Dain Goad** for scripting the show, and **Roy Anderson**, who stepped in for an ailing Greg Kramp at the last minute, and did a great job as MC for the evening. **Collaboration** and **Common Bond** provided the quartet portion of the show with 'spiritual harmony' as well as 'old fashion barbershop harmony'. **Howard Barber** led the community singing (and calisthenics) portion of the evening as well as doing the voice-over with **Dick Compton** on Java Jive!

CHICO

LEE ATKINS

The **Bidwell Generals** had a combined Christmas Party, Installation of Officers and White Elephant Auction. **Leeds Lacy** acted as installing officer. Entertainment was provided by chapter quartet **Vintage Sound** (**Duke Andrus**, **Hec Rivas**, **Leeds Lacy** and **Bill Stenzel**). **Don Thomas** was named *BOTY* for 2004. Don is chapter treasurer and spends countless hours keeping books, paying bills and helping in other ways. He has quite a history in the area having been born in Chico. He was owner of Orland Sand and Gravel Co. for 36 years. Don manages to keep busy singing in church choir, the Glenn Chorale and the Bidwell Generals chorus.

The chapter produced three quartets that delivered more than 70 Singing Valentines.

Mike Panzarini earned the *BOTM* award for February for his hard work building easels for chapter meetings and taking care of chapter music. The chapter's newest member, **Eli Smith**, has offered to be Webmaster.

NEVADA PLACER

ROGER PERKINS

The **Sierranaders** had four quartets delivering Singing Valentines. It was a disappointing year with only 11 in the Auburn area. The Lincoln Hills quartet only came up with two deliveries. Luckily the Grass Valley area was more productive, but we have over 100 silk roses left over for next year.

Our membership has been slowly growing once again and we are now up to 47 members. Now if we could only figure out a way to get them all singing with the chorus...

NORTH VALLEY

PHIL BARTEK

The **North Valley Chapter** is again hot on the Membership bandwagon and will be adding yet more members to its already steady line up of singers. After countless hours of rehearsal and practicing choreography, the chorus is feeling confident it can once again qualify for the BIG Show in October. They already have a consecutive 10-year string going and hopes are high to keep it going.

They are also experimenting with the 5th Wednesday concept of quartetting and will be hosting a Chapter Pizza Night where the chapter meets at a local pizza parlor and sings as quartets and as a group. A little fun AND a little exposure for the chapter that we hope will attract even more guys to our hobby.

RENO

DAVE RAMER

Singing Valentines was again a large success as three quartets sang across Reno, Sparks and adjoining towns. It was engineered by past President **David Galloway** and staff.

Cory Hunt, former bari of 2003 FWD Champs, **Q**, has decided to move and leave our ranks. He moved to Southern California to attend college and sing bass with **OC Times** and to attain status in the judging category. To most of our chorus it feels like one of our very own children moved away. Cory started with us at the tender age of seven and is currently a sophomore.

We sang for Sagewind, an organization that deals with drug and alcohol addiction, child abuse, etc. The people of Reno and Sparks turned out for the auction and spaghetti feed. Final amount topped \$80,000 to help keep it functioning. We had a weekend retreat at Lake Tahoe with **Bobby Gray, Jr.** coaching.

SACRAMENTO

FRANK KINNISON

The **Capitolaires** had another successful Valentine's Day taking in about \$4500. Responsibilities were: **Norm Smith** taking orders and organizing quartets, **Keith Slater** flyers and purchased roses, **Al Swanson** business cards, **Tom Reeves** the "ask me about singing Valentine's buttons", **Cal Smith** dispatcher and **Jim McKenzie** radio and TV appearances and newspaper exposure.

At the installation of officers banquet, outgoing President **Gib Hertler** presented a plaque to **Eric Brickson** to honor his 5 years as chorus director. Our interim director is **Bill Borah**.

Long time member **Frank Jensen** died on Feb. 7, 2005. He was awarded the President's award in 1998 and was *BOTM* twice. He was also awarded Best of Division for pies at the California State Fair. (On a personal note I was the video photographer at Frank and Bonnie's outdoor wedding 20 years ago. Frank was a good friend and I will miss him. RIP, NCENN Editor)

BOTM for December is **Alan LeVezu**. *BOTM* for January is **Norm Smith**, who was instrumental in preparing a grant request, and taking orders for the January show that featured **GOTCHA!**

VISALIA

DEE BAUGHMAN

The Chorus held a ladies night the Tuesday after Valentines Day. We also held our induction of officers the same evening. **Gary Smith** will again be Chapter President. **Galen Grant**, who has served as Chapter Secretary for the past three years, was given the *BOTY* honor.

Our Annual show will be held on April 2nd with the **Stage Hogs** as our guest quartet. Also joining the Mighty Oak Chorus on stage will be the Bakersfield Chorus as well as the men's choruses from all four Visalia high schools. The Chorus will be bringing on a new Director in a few months. **Charles Culbreath**, who is the current director of music at Redwood High School in Visalia, has agreed to lead the Chorus. He has past Barbershop directing experience. **Tank Waldrum** and **Lance Jepsen** will also continue to direct music during the year.

YOSEMITE

JAMES CRAIG

The **Yosemite Chapter** is the new kids on the block. We started less than a year ago and now have 14 members with a registered quartet and qualify for our charter. On May 14 the chapter will put on our first show combined with the charter presentation. Our sponsoring chapter, the **Fresno Gold Note Chorus**, will participate with their quartets, **Smile** and **Sound Heritage**. Rounding out the program will be our own **Chordinators**, **Mountain Mischief**, **Steppin' Out, S.A.**, and the headliners, **Atonic Explosion**. We're doing a dessert and show type format.

The chapter has performed at several Kiwanis functions, several dinner affairs and at a Christmas program with our local Chamber Singers. We are in the process of working with the music director at Yosemite High School, and will demonstrate the art of barbershop harmony to a group of his boys. We hope they will show some interest in our style of music.



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Wow! What a fast three months. I mentioned in articles last year that things in the Society, District, Division and Chapters were all part of the Changing Winds. I also mentioned that I thought it was going to be a very exciting but fun ride on those Changing Winds. I hope all of you have been keeping up with the programs, policies and proposals being sent from Harmony Headquarters. I am still very excited about the many changes taking place and hope you are as well. I encourage each and every one of you to again look at the new Barbershop Harmony Society Marketing Plan, look at the updates and changes and see if you do not agree that we are heading in the right direction for a bigger and better Society. As you have all seen by now, the Society has delivered a new Society Logo and I like many others had my reservations at first but then realized that it was not a bad thing but a change that will present a better and more modern image for our hobby. We were also given the information about the new Society wide recruiting campaign later in the year. I am very pleased to say that I think our District board did the right thing to ensure that each and every chapter is involved in the program. By the District paying the entry fee of \$2 per man we are all going to be eligible for the prizes and awards for membership growth during the campaign. You will be hearing a lot more about the campaign in the coming weeks. One thing that is requested of you and your chapter is that if you can find a way to take up a collection or do some other thing to raise money, we encourage you to replenish the district reserve for the two dollars a man that was paid up front. If it is not possible to help, do not worry about it, but if you can in any way help out, your contribution will be greatly appreciated so the funds will be available the next time we need to help out with something.

There are many other exciting things to pass on from the Society but let's direct our attention to some of the activities here in the Division. Since this is the first issue of the now Quarterly *Westunes*, we have a little longer time frame to cover. We just completed the Spring Convention in Burbank and even though our Division representation at the House of Delegates was only four, we were still able to have the meeting and get some work accomplished. It would have been even better if we could have had more input from our chapters. Start planning now to attend the House of Delegates meeting in October at the Fall Convention in Pasadena. Division 5 had three quartets competing in Burbank with two of them earning enough points to go to the International in Salt Lake City. To all of our quartets, you did a great job and represented the Division well. For **Stardust** and **Dazzle**, good luck in Salt Lake. We will be there supporting you.

I have been able to attend several chapter shows this year and am very pleased with what I am seeing and hearing, please keep up the good work and I look forward to seeing more as the year goes on.

By the time you read this, we will have completed our Division Contest in Phoenix. Again it looks like we will have a very good convention. We already have 10 choruses and a large number of quartets registered for the contest. We also have two college quartets scheduled to compete so things should be a lot of fun.

In July when it is hot on the desert, it is a good time to head to the White Mountains and yes you guessed it, there will be a Barbershop Show on July 16 so check that web page and plan to attend if you are in the area. Don't forget while planning ahead to consider attending the BASH on August 26-27 in Phoenix at the Grace Inn. Another great time is anticipated with golf, comedy quartets, food, old quartets, new quartets and plenty of pick-up quartets. Always fun so plan to attend. I am sure I have forgotten something but stay tuned and I will try to keep you updated via email. Have a great summer, sing a lot and Keep the Whole World Singing.



Division 5 ASNSU Editor

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PARADISE VALLEY

LEN LEVINE

The February Singing Valentines went extremely well this year under the capable direction of **Joan** and **Hank Nahass**, with more than 100 delivered. This lucrative fund-raiser could be expanded to other venues including Mother's and Father's Day.

The Cactus Chordsmen put on an artistically successful "Salute to Disney" show in March. In addition to the headliner International champion quartet **Four Voices**, the show featured our own **After Hours**, **Cool Breeze** and the youthful **Biggie and the Smalls**. The chorus would like to continue to bring this level of barbershop entertainment to the Valley each year.

The chorus under the able direction of **Dan Ryan** is currently working toward achieving a qualifying performance in the upcoming Division Contest in April.

The Cactus Chordmen appointed **Carl Eckhardt** as our Music VP to replace **Gordon Limburg** due to personal reasons.

ST. GEORGE

KEN SUNDWALL

February and March were lively months for the **Color Country Chorus!** Right in the middle of rehearsals for our Spring Show came Singing Valentines. This year was a record-breaking year for us on this happy event. A total of 114 Singing Valentines were performed by two quartets and a VLQ. Counting the singers, drivers, schedulers and support people, more than three-fourths of the chapter members were involved. Our Annual Spring Show was produced on Saturday, March 26, with an afternoon and evening performance. The show was scripted as an all-comedy show and was titled: "Whiffen-Spoof, Celebrating Laughter and Song in the Barbershop Style." **Hi-Fidelity**, reigning Far Western District Silver Medalists, was the feature quartet for the show. They put on two fine performances.

SUN CITIES

BOB McGOWAN

Our Annual Show has once more played to very appreciative audiences, and many of our loyal patrons say the production "Under The Big Top" was our best effort yet. Highlighted with a circus cast of band members, clowns, vendors, animals, audience and the other folks essential to a circus, the **Desert Aires** dazzled the audience with both music and comedy. The appearance of **Hi-Fidelity** performing their "Addams Family" routine and a return visit by **Finale** gave balance to the show. The elaborate costuming was a first effort by the chorus to project a circus theme. The Sad Clowns performed by our own **Vintage Voices (Ralph Brooks, Jim Dale, Jack Deaton and Rich Thompson)** sang some crowd favorites, and our Monkey and Vendors Quartets did specialty parts to enhance the chorus rendition of the *Monkey Medley* and *When The Circus Came To Town*. Our animals entertained in *Don't Go In The Lion's Cage Tonight* and *Tiger Rag*. And the Clowns Octet added flair to the performance. Our sing-outs for the remainder of the year will require the costumes, sans most makeup, for cast members.

LAS VEGAS METRO

KENNY RIOS

February kept the **City of Lights Chorus** busy with Singing Valentines. There's nothing like presenting someone with a true gift of love from a loved one. We delivered Singing Valentines from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. A long day, but very profitable for the chorus.

In February, the chorus also performed two shows, one in Sienna Community and the other in Sun City – Anthem. Both communities are upscale developments in Las Vegas and the crowds were extremely receptive. The shows were titled "*Phantom of the Barbershop*." **Sterling Peterson** played the phantom and **John Mackey** played the off-stage announcer. Chapter quartet **Shenanigans** entertained the audience with barbershop sounds as well as **P.T. and the Cruisers** with a set of doo-wop harmony.

In March, the chorus saw **Shenanigans** compete at the International Prelims. The quartet walked away learning a lot from the judges. They were, however, upstaged by the chorus' High School Quartet Contest entry, **Trac 4**, who placed third in the contest and brought back \$300 for the Las Vegas Academy of Performing Arts and a plaque for their memoirs.

We were informally visited by the Far Western District head of Director Development, **Jim Turnmire**, who was able to give Chorus Director **Scott Fewel** some good tips on how to better direct the chorus.

EAST VALLEY

PHIL SMITH

The Singing Valentines program was another success, thanks to the fine coordinating job by Chairman **Lloyd Unfred**. Unfred also arranged a February show for the residents of Trilogy, a large development in Gilbert where he lives. The chorus and four chapter quartets **Love@Home**, **Two Under Par**, **Desert Song** and **Desert Valley Four**, put on a nearly two-hour show. A month later we repeated the show as a fund-raiser for the church where we rehearse, New Hope Community Church.

Thanks to the efforts of Uniform Chairman **Dick Livesay**, the chorus has a new outfit that includes vest, shirt, accessories, pants and shoes. We wore it for the first time at the Feb. 4 show.

Bob Shaffer has taken over as Program VP and Bulletin Editor, and he's putting out a fine weekly bulletin, *The Lighter Side*. He publishes the bulletin early in the week so that members can see the rehearsal schedule in advance and prepare for it.

GREATER PHOENIX

PHIL SMITH

The **Spirit of Phoenix Chorus'** first Annual Show, "*Let's Celebrate*," was both an artistic and a financial success. The chorus got standing ovations, as did our guest quartet, **GOTCHA!**, 2004 International champs, and our hilarious MC, **Freddie King**.

The chorus has stayed busy since then doing modified versions of that show as a fund-raiser for the church where we rehearse, Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran, and for community groups in Rio Verde and Casa Grande.

Singing Valentines has always come at a bad time because of being close to annual show time, but this year **Paul Sullivan** took charge and made a big success out of the program.

The chorus had the first of what will be several workshops with **Dr. Greg Lyne**, the Society's Director of Music, in preparation for competing at International in Salt Lake City. That afternoon we went en masse to attend the memorial service for 96-year-old **Ed Barker**, who had been a chapter member and supporter for more than 30 years.

TUCSON

FRED KOCH

The **Sunshine Chorus'** annual show in late January was a hilarious spoof of secret agents with such characters as Jimmy Blond, Dr. Watt and his trusty cat Shadow. The show was written and directed by **Jay Ayers**, lead of the **Eastsiders** quartet. In addition to the **Eastsiders** and **Sonoran Sound**, a new chapter quartet debuted, **Old Pueblo Chord Conspiracy**.

The chapter ended up getting great PR when it was asked to have a quartet sing on the 6 p.m. Channel 9 news for the wife of weekend weatherman **Dave Hecht**. **Forevermore** did a great job, as did the **Eastsiders** on a KJLL radio 5 p.m. show.

The chorus performed and had an exhibit table at the 2005 Family Arts Festival at the Tucson Convention Center, and at the invitation of the Arizona Music Educators Association, conducted a live YMIH workshop with a quartet from Rincon/University High School under the direction of **Connie Keil**. **Sonoran Sound**, with **Rich Kates** filling in as bass, was the first of about 80 groups to sing and catch the attention of the audience.

WHITE MOUNTAINS ARIZONA CHAPTER DOC DOCKENDORF

February activities of the **High Country Chorus**, were highlighted by our Singing Valentines program. We delivered 45

valentines, with three quartets participating: **Ponderosa**, the **Pine Tones**, and our newest quartet, **Crooks Trail**. For **Bill White**, **Bob Cutlipp**, **Larry Kennedy** and **Bob Lawson**, this was the first time they had experienced delivering a valentine. They were absolutely thrilled by the emotions of the recipients. **John Welker** did his usual fine job of chairing the program.

We had two chapter coaching sessions from **John Erickson**. We want to publicly thank John for taking the time to drive the 350 miles round trip to coach us. That's what barbershopping is all about. **Bob Lawson** has done a fine job as the chairman of the convention planning.

On Maundy Thursday, the chorus sang The Lord's Prayer at the First Methodist Church presentation of the Last Supper. Our chapter president, **Bob Cutlipp**, the church pastor, and **Bill White** appeared in the presentation as disciples. Both said they were moved by the chorus singing, and wished they could have sung with us.

We are pleased to formally welcome leads **Steve Taylor** and **Tim Cox** as our newest members. Steve is a local artist who has sung in many musical productions, as well as appearing on our last two chapter shows, as Al Jolson's manager and as our radio announcer in "Remember Radio." Tim is brand new to barbershopping and decided to join us after hearing the chorus sing at the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. **Dan Lewis** was announced as our January *BOTM*.

YUMA

ROB BAILEY

Yuma, Arizona, home of the famous Arizona Territorial Prison of the old West, is also the home of the **Yuma Territorial Prisonaires Barbershop Chorus** with their prison uniform costumes.

On St. Patrick's Day in March, two of the Prisonaires entertained the students in Miss Glodowski's fourth-grade class at Mary E. Post Elementary School in Yuma. The full 35-man chorus taped a greeting to the class and sang My Wild Irish Rose.

The children quickly learned the words to the chorus of I Love That Old Barbershop Style and joined in singing Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah and God Bless America. The class learned some stage presence to go with the barbershop songs they have learned.

The **Territorial Prisonaires'** school outreach program has also included a half-hour concert by the quartet **UnFourGettable** to the entire second grade at Salida del Sol Elementary School. The March concert was donated as part of the local public radio station's annual fund drive. The happy donor was teacher **Sara Lydick**, who arranged the visit to coincide with the school's Music Introduction Month.

DESERT KNIGHTS' 50TH TO HIGHLIGHT DIVISION 5 BASH

In 1955, four guys got together to form a quartet that became known throughout the Society for its comedy routines. **The Desert Knights -- Chuck Rastatter, Joe Salz, Sam Aramian and Lloyd Steinkamp** -- will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of their forming at the annual Arizona/Southern Nevada/Southern Utah Division Bash on Aug. 26 and 27 at the Grace Inn at Ahwatukee. The following year the **Desert Knights** won the 1956 District championship, and they have been entertaining audiences ever since. This is a weekend not to miss.

The usual Bash events will all take place, starting with the parade of quartets on Friday night to benefit Young Men in Harmony. **Dick Timmerman** is arranging the golf tournament on Saturday. In the evening there will be a dinner, followed by a comedy quartet contest and a luck of the draw impromptu quartet contest.

Rooms at the Grace Inn will be just \$49 per night for up to four people. At this writing **Fred Koch** is in the final stages of putting things together, and by the time you read this, registration forms will be available from Fred at ftucson@aol.com or (520) 747-1215.

FWD Sunshine Chairman George McCay

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CONVENTIONS, SHOWS, EVENTS

2005

May

- 1 Rancho Bernardo Show
- 7 Eureka Show
- 7 Las Vegas Metro Shows
- 7 Palo Alto Show
- 7 Placerville Show
- 14 *SCE Div Contest*
Long Beach [see page 22]
- 14 San Jose Show
- 14 Yosemite Show
- 21 *NCENN Div Contest*
Modesto [see page 23]

June

- 3,4,5 South Bay Shows
- 4 San Francisco Show
- 11 Santa Rosa Show
- 18 Bay Area Metro Show
- 18 Fresno Show
- 18 Go For The Gold Show
- 25 Fremont - Hayward Show

July

- 3-10 **INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION** Salt Lake City, UT

31-Aug 7 *HC/DC Columbus, Ohio*

August

26-28 *Harmony College West*
Cal State East Bay [formerly Hayward]

October

- 13-16 *FWD Fall Convention*
Pasadena [host: Santa Fe Springs]
- 29 Stockton Show

November

- 5 Placerville Show
- 12-13 *NC COTS, 2nd weekend*
- 19-20 *SC COTS, 3rd weekend*
- 26 Santa Fe Springs Show

2006

January

16-22 **INTERNATIONAL MIDWINTER CONVENTION** Sacramento, CA

February

24-25 Greater Phoenix Shows

March

16-19 *FWD Spring Convention*
& NCENN Division Contest, Reno

April

22 Fullerton Show

June

10 Santa Rosa Show

July

2-9 **INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION** Indianapolis, IN

October

12-15 *FWD Fall Convention*
San Jose

November

11-12 *NC COTS, 2nd weekend*
18-19 *SC COTS, 3rd weekend*

2007

March

15-18 *FWD Spring Convention*
& NCENN Division Contest, Reno

July

1-8 **INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION** Denver, CO

September

27-30 *FWD Fall Convention*
Phoenix

[Note date is moved to September]

November

10-11 *NC COTS, 2nd weekend*
17-18 *SC COTS, 3rd weekend*

2008

Jun29 -Jul 6 **INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION** Nashville, TN

November

8-9 *NC COTS, 2nd weekend*
15-16 *SC COTS, 3rd weekend*

2009

Jun28 -Jul 5 **INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION** Anaheim, CA

2010

Jun27 -Jul 4 **INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION** Philadelphia, PA

Clear all show dates with
FWD Secretary, Dick Girvin

WESTUNES

Magazine

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