



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 56

Fall 2006

Number 3



OC Times



Metropolis



Late Show



Stardust



VocalEase



Hi-Fidelity



Men-So Forte



Dazzle!

FWD Quartet
Results
2006 International
Quartet Contest in
Indianapolis

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4	Metropolis
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**Every fragment of song holds a mirror
to a past moment for someone.**

**Fanny Cradock
*War Comes to Castle Rising***

For those of you who had the good fortune to be able to attend our Society's International Convention in Indianapolis you've got many, many memories of magnificent melodies. For those of you who weren't there, I hope you caught the web cast. For those of you who couldn't see the competitions, you missed the tightest quartet and chorus contests in years. The Westminster Wunderkinds might have just missed winning the contest, but they certainly won the Convention! Did you read Marty Mendro's interview in the May/June issue of the HARMONIZER ?

And kudos to La Jolla and Rincon Beach, both of whom showed the depth of quality choruses we have here in the Far Western District. We're so proud of all of you. Plan on coming to San Jose in October to see and hear these three choruses along with Phoenix and the new Bay Area Voices in Harmony directed by Dr Greg Lyne. These five will be joined by some 20 other chapters showing the level of musical wealth that exists in FWD. Ask me about my predictions for the next three years.

What other district sent eight quartets to Indy? Nadda! How could you not expect OC Times and Metropolis to win medals, again? It was exciting to see our first-timer, Late Show, make the top twenty and Stardust, Hi-Fidelity, Men-So-Forte, and Dazzle all demonstrated, once again, the musical leadership that exists in the FWD.

How about those college quartets, and all in the top ten. Wow, what a future we have with the likes of Afternoon Delight, CHP and Let It Ride. With the job they did, we are truly blessed.

**FWD Fall Convention in San Jose
October 5-8, 2006
Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!**

You may have noticed some seats were better than others in Indianapolis.. That took some rather sharp powers of observation, didn't it? Access to those seats also included access to a special area where holders of those seats could go to access refreshments and restrooms that were convenient to the main floor. Part of the package was a special reception during an evening when there was no contest. Interested? Get in touch with Ev Nau and tell him Bill Cale said he could help you get the deal.

Thanks are due to Chuck Leavitt for working out the afterglow details and thanks to David Haedler for MCing. No question in my mind it had to be the biggest and best afterglow at the convention.

Enough about Indy. Now we have to make San Jose that special place where we choose our chorus representatives to go to Denver in 2007. We qualified three for 2006, we should have more for 2007. My check of the records says the International has never been held in Denver before. All the more reason to give them something to remember, like two chorus medals and three quartet medals. Of course the quartets will be chosen in the Spring beginning with Reno in March. You can start planning to attend Reno right after San Jose.

Anyone reading this should grab his chapter President and insist a chapter delegate be sent to the HOD meeting in San Jose and again in Reno. We need your involvement.

**Motto:
"Thanks for
the
Memories"**

Something to think about; Harmony Brigade. Those of you at Indy saw this concept demonstrated with over 100 quartet men singing together on stage. Interested? Let us know.

Thanks in advance for the memories we're going to make in San Jose.

FWD Sunshine Chairman George McCay

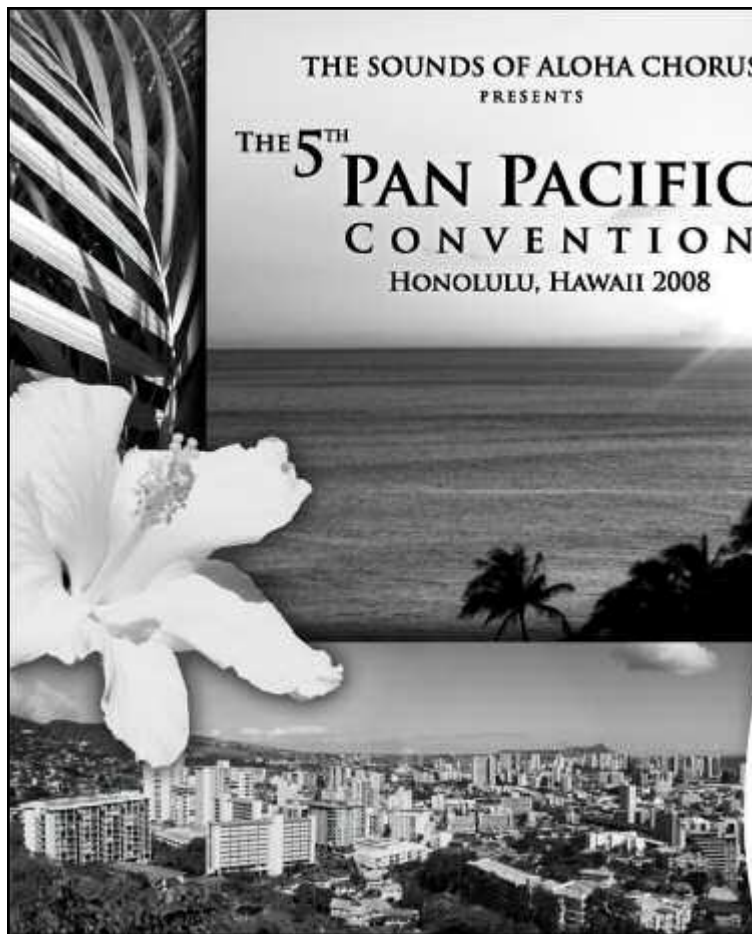
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Bill Bennett, 1966-67 FWD President passed away on July 22, 2006 in Sacramento, CA. One other event in his life of significant interest: he was present on the U.S.S. Missouri to witness the surrender of the Japanese Prime Minister to Gen. McArthur.

THE SOUNDS OF ALOHA CHORUS
PRESENTS

THE 5TH PAN PACIFIC CONVENTION HONOLULU, HAWAII 2008

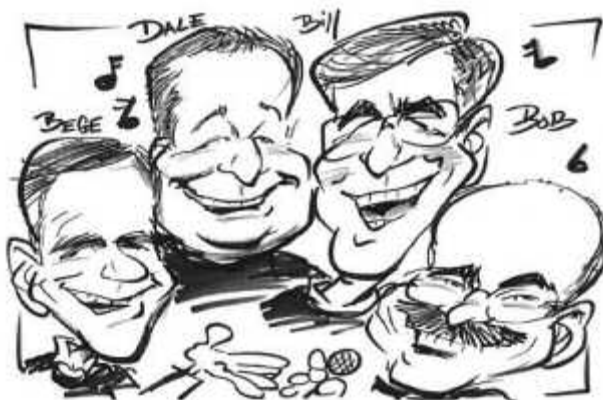


Presented by the Sounds Of Aloha Chorus, make your plans now to be part of "Great Pacific Harmony 2008 Pan Pacific Convention." Planning is well under way. The convention will be **October 30th, 2008 through November 2nd, 2008** in Honolulu Hawaii. The venue is the Renaissance Ilikai Hotel on the island of Oahu (ilikaihotel.com). The convention is designed to be a barbershop competition and fun filled event for barbershoppers who reside on the Pacific Rim, encompassing **New Zealand, Australia, Japan, Alaska, and Hawaii**, and including parts of the Barbershop Harmony Society's **Far Western District** and parts of the Evergreen District bordering on the Pacific. In the Far Western District this is Divisions' 1 SCW, 2 SCE, and 3 NCW. In the Evergreen District this is Division's I, II, and IV. If you are part of this geography please make your plans to join us and compete in 2008, and even if you are not, come join us anyway and enjoy the fun! The **Sweet Adeline's International 2008** convention is in Honolulu the following weekend. You can take in two fun filled barbershop events for the price of one air fare and enjoy paradise all at the same time.



For further information,
contact chairman Don Raymond
at donraymond@hawaii.rr.com.
Check out the Sounds of Aloha Chorus
at www.soundsofaloha.org.

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Man, I can't believe how this year is flying by. They say that time appears to pass more quickly as one ages, and now I know why they say that.

Most barbershoppers tell time by certain events. Installation banquets start off the year for most of us quickly followed by Singing Valentines. Then it's the District's Spring convention with the accompanying International Quartet Preliminary contest and, for many of us, a Spring Chapter Show. Next on the agenda comes the season for Division Conventions and Contests followed quickly by setting off for the fun and excitement of the International Convention and maybe an adjoining family vacation.

You're no sooner back from International than it's time for Harmony University or our own Harmony College West and the opportunity to improve your singing skills as well as enjoy some great music and fellowship. Some of us also get the chance to help our local churches out by filling in for their vacationing choirs.

Now, here we are approaching Fall and the District Convention in San Jose where we can join in not only to help our District organization move ahead, but again we get to hear some great music and meet with old friends to catch up on old times and sing a few songs. It's also time to have our Chapter elections and select our leaders for next year so they can have the opportunity to attend one of the Chapter Officer Training Schools and learn the latest management tricks from the best teachers in the country.

Somewhere along the way there will probably be another Chapter Show and then it's time to get ready for Christmas with an additional show and some caroling,

When you put all this together with weekly chorus and quartet rehearsals, occasional smaller performances, visits to other chapters, monthly chapter board meetings and many other events, it's not surprising that the year passes quickly for someone in our hobby. But, guess what! All of the above is either in the pursuit of fun and wonderful music, or learning how to make those things even better. What a blessed life that is!

If you haven't participated in most of the above events, then you're really missing out on some of life's joys. There's so much more fun to be had in addition to your regular weekly chapter meetings. You might consider adding one or more of those

missed events to your schedule in the coming year... trust me, you won't regret it!

I'll see you in San Jose, and I hope you'll take a moment to stop and say hello.

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Rob Menaker • John Sasine • Jeff Baker • Brett Littlefield

Far Western District Youth Harmony Camp 2006 – September 22nd – 24th

Did you enjoy the article “Life Values” in the May / June issue of the Harmonizer as much as I did? The tremendous number of examples of boys and young men growing up with Barbershopping as part of their world, and the impact the experience has made in their lives is simply stunning. Well, we have a number of similar examples right here in the Far Western District. You all are well aware of Cory Hunt who was one of the features of the article. Another outstanding example is the lead from Late Show, that old timer, Jordan Litz who will also be at this year’s Camp. Jordan has been to how many Camps now; this will be his sixth or seventh? And he just graduated from high school. WOW! What a mentor and example for the boys! When you look at all of these examples, you see so clearly that we are on the right track in terms of what we are creating with our youth efforts. It’s working!

Because of all of this, I have tremendous confidence in the future of Barbershopping. And it is because of your support for these events like Youth Harmony Camp that the Jordan Litz’ of this world are able to become so successful and that the long range future of the Barbershop Harmony Society looks so bright and healthy.

As I write this article it is the beginning of August and I’m preparing to attend Harmony University. That said, I am also looking forward to the Youth Harmony Camp weekend September 22-24 and ringing chords with about a hundred young men, and twenty-five of the most committed barbershoppers in the country! This year’s Camp promises to be the very Best ever with perennial top guns: Gary Bolles, Connie Keil and Mark Freedkin leading the way; and our newest top gun, Gabe Caretto of Late Show and Voices In Harmony. I’ve seen Gabe work with the boys at previous Camps and know from personal experience just how effective and well-liked he is by the campers.

In addition to our top gun coaches, “Men In Black”, 17th place at International in 2006 and Collegiate champions in 2005 from Hartford, Conn. and New York City are joining us as one of two teaching quartets.

Our second quartet is the extremely talented Men-So Forte joining us to augment our youth quartet mentors for the boys. With one of their members going back east to graduate school this will likely be the final official appearance for Men-So Forte.

Last but not least, we hear that some of the “old” guys from Q and Playback who put that new quartet together, what’s it called... oh yea, Late Show may join us for a portion of the weekend.

So what’s the message? Contact music educators in your area, talk to your church choir leaders, discuss how Harmony Camp can impact youth theatre in your area – and all of the other pos-

sibilities you can think of. Encourage music educators to attend camp at the cost of the Far Western District. Challenge your members to spread the word about one of the best kept secrets available for our young men. I find it overwhelming that the future of a young man can be so greatly impacted in a positive way with this simple but effective weekend. It works!

The cost for the weekend is \$70 per camper with partial or full scholarships available. Additional information and forms are available on our website www.spebsqsafwd.org/ymih/camp or email me directly at rlund@innercite.com or phone me at 530-621-1904.

In closing, I ask the question “why does it work?” It works because of YOU. YOU provide the support for this weekend and this Camp. Without each of YOU, this camp would not happen. So take pride in what YOU have done with your chapters and your support for Camp. It’s working because of YOU and the young men thank YOU.

**FWD Youth Harmony Camp
September 22-24, 2006
Sly Park Educational Center
Pollock Pines, CA
Contact Richard Lund at 530-621-1904 or
rlund@innercite.com
Get Our Youth Out to Join in the FUN!**



**FWD Fall Convention in San Jose
October 5-8, 2006
Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!**



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You Too Can be a Good Leader

In one of my COTS sessions as part of the Chapter Support and Leadership Training program, the instructor talked about "How to Be a Good Leader". In so doing, he shared an article that appeared in Newsweek, April 2005 by Jack Welch with Suzy Welch and can also be found in his book "Winning". Here are his eight steps to good leadership:

#1 LEADERS RELENTLESSLY UPGRADE THEIR TEAM, USING EVERY ENCOUNTER AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EVALUATE, COACH AND BUILD SELF-CONFIDENCE.

The team with the best players usually does win. And that is why, very simply, you need to invest the vast majority of your time and energy as a leader in three activities. You have to evaluate—making sure the right people are in the right jobs. You have to coach—guiding, critiquing and helping people to improve their performance in every way. And finally, you have to build self-confidence—pouring out encouragement, caring and recognition.

#2 LEADERS MAKE SURE PEOPLE NOT ONLY SEE THE VISION, THEY LIVE AND BREATHE IT.

Leaders have to set the team's vision and make it come alive. How do you achieve that? First of all, no jargon. Targets cannot be so blurry they can't be hit. You have to talk about vision constantly to everyone. A common problem is that leaders communicate the vision to close colleagues and it never filters down to people in frontline positions.

#3 LEADERS GET INTO EVERYONE'S SKIN, EXUDING POSITIVE ENERGY AND OPTIMISM.

An upbeat manager with a positive outlook somehow ends up running a team or organization filled with ... well, upbeat people with positive outlooks. A sourpuss somehow ends up with an unhappy tribe all his own. Unhappy tribes have a tough time winning.

#4 LEADERS ESTABLISH TRUST WITH CANDOR, TRANSPARENCY AND CREDIT.

Your people should always know where they stand. They have to know how the business is doing. And sometimes the news is not good—such as imminent layoffs—and any normal person would rather avoid delivering it. But you have to fight the impulse to pad hard messages or you'll pay with your team's confidence and energy.

Leaders also establish trust by giving credit where credit is due. They never score off their own people by stealing an idea and claiming it as their own. They don't kiss up and kick down because they are self-confident and mature enough to know that their team's success will get them recognition, and sooner rather than later. In bad times, leaders take responsibility for what's gone wrong. In good times, they generously pass around the praise.

#5 LEADERS HAVE THE COURAGE TO MAKE UNPOPULAR DECISIONS AND GUT CALLS.

There are times you have to make hard decisions—let people go, cut funding to a project, or close a plant. Obviously, tough calls spawn complaints and resistance. Your job is to listen and explain yourself clearly but move forward. You are not a leader to win a popularity contest—you are a leader to lead. Don't run for office. You're already elected.

#6 LEADERS PROBE AND PUSH WITH A CURIOSITY THAT BORDERS ON SKEPTICISM, MAKING SURE THEIR QUESTIONS ARE ANSWERED WITH ACTION.

When you are an individual contributor, you try to have all the answers. When you are a leader, your job is to have all the questions. You have to be incredibly comfortable looking like the dumbest person in the room. Every conversation you have about a decision, a proposal, or a piece of market information has to be filled with you saying, "What if?" and "Why not?" and "How come?" Questioning, however, is never enough. You have to make sure your questions unleash debate and raise issues that get action.

#7 LEADERS INSPIRE RISK TAKING AND LEARNING BY SETTING THE EXAMPLE.

These two concepts often get lip service—and little else. Too many managers urge their people to try new things and then whack them in the head when they fail. And too many live in not-invented-here worlds of their own making. If you want your people to experiment, set the example yourself.

Consider risk taking. You don't need to be preachy or somber about your errors. In fact, the more humorous and lighthearted you can be, the more people will get the message that mistakes aren't fatal.

As for learning—again, live it yourself

#8 LEADERS CELEBRATE.

Why does celebrating make managers so nervous? Maybe throwing a party doesn't seem professional, or it makes managers worry that they won't look serious to the powers that be, or that, if things get too happy at the office, people will stop working their tails off.

What a lost opportunity. Celebrating creates an atmosphere of recognition and positive energy. Imagine a team winning the

World Series without champagne spraying everywhere. And yet companies win all the time and let it go without so much as a high five. Work is too much a part of life not to recognize moments of achievement. Make a big deal out of them. If you don't, no one will.

Wow! These eight steps can apply tremendously to each of our chapters and their officers. After all, they are the leaders of the chapter. Find out how YOU can become a more effective leader by attending the next COTS coming up in November. You Too Can Be A Good Leader.



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See C&J Article on page 16 with details you all want to know.



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Conventions are to be convened

What better way to join with your fellow barbershoppers than in song. And the singing starts Friday, October 6, at the Harmony For Lunch Bunch at 11 AM. Then at 1pm we have two tracks of classes where you can sing for fun and learn to sing better.

Track 1: Education

Vowel Matching is a key to making your quartet sound better, a lot better. Come learn and experience what this technique will do for you. (Ray Rhymer, 1 hour)

Voice Coaching is individual coaching for several volunteers while the more timid watch and learn. You'll learn how to produce the best sound along with how your vocal apparatus really works. (Bill Pearson, 2 hours)

Track 2: Fun Singing

Woodshedding is the original way barbershop was sung and you can do it too. Our AHSOW team will demonstrate woodshedding and coach you on how to get started. Then they'll give you the opportunity to show you can do it and join this society with-in a society. (1 hour)

Tag Singing led by one (or more) of our tag meisters is just pure fun. And it will help tune you up for the weekend. (TBD, 1 hour)

Chorus Sing-a-long is just that. Singing song after song for the joy of joining your voice with others. (Kristen Taylor, 1 hour)

Track 3: MORE?

If I get another room, I'll find more fun things to do.

Don't forget the Saturday Mic Tester Chorus. If you aren't competing in a chorus, you can still be on stage singing your heart out. Don't forget, 10AM, Saturday morning at the Civic Center.

Watch your E-Mail for a FWD Notes update soon. Be sure your spam filter accepts messages from webmaster@spebsqsafwd.org or you'll miss out on all the hot scoop.

The FWD website at www.spebsqsafwd.org now has lots of info about the Fall Convention.

One final note. There is another convention in San Jose the same weekend and hotel space will go fast. Sign up for your room --

NOW!



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E: ChuckLeav@aol.com

I have talked to many people this year about our FWD contests and conventions and there is a TON of confusion about how they work. Our FWD Standard Operating Procedures and our Convention Manual provide extensive information, but here is the "Cliff's Notes" version.

Spring District Convention/Contest is where we hold our International Preliminary Quartet Contest to select the FWD quartets to compete at the International convention that summer. Any registered FWD quartet can compete and if they achieve a qualifying score (set by the BHS BOD), they will go to the International quartet contest. We also hold our FWD High School Championship at the Spring Convention. ALERT - we usually combine this convention with one of the division contests so there is other stuff going on as well -- more on that below.

The **division contests** are held in the five divisions of FWD on separate dates in March, April and May. We sometimes combine

division contests for various reasons. The division contest is where we crown our division quartet and chorus champions and select the chorus and quartet competitors for the Fall District convention. Any chorus or registered quartet in the division can compete and will go to the FWD District contest if they achieve a qualifying target score (set by the FWD BOD--see article elsewhere in this issue). We also include the Collegiate Barbershop Quartets in the division contest. They sing for score and the top ones qualify for the International Collegiate Contest that summer. The top five scoring senior quartets of all the division contests qualify to go to the district contest.

The highest scoring Super-Senior Quartet from the five division contests is the ***FWD Super Senior Champion Quartet*** if they haven't held the honor before. If they are planning to be at the Fall Convention, they will be asked to sing on the Parade of Champions Show.

As I said last issue, the division contest is competitor friendly and an enjoyable Barbershop experience. Starting next year, quartets and choruses can sing for evaluation at ANY Division contest except they must qualify for District at their own Division contest. Another rule change permits past FWD Senior Champs to sing in the Fall Contest without pre-qualifying at division.

Fall District Convention/Contest is where we select the chorus champion to represent the FWD at the International Convention the following summer. We select the FWD quartet champion too – but they still have to qualify for International at the Spring Convention. We also select our district senior quartet champion and the senior quartet to represent FWD at the International Winter Convention. (They are not necessarily the same; the highest scoring senior quartet, past champion or not, is the FWD representative to the International Senior Quartet Contests. The highest scoring senior quartet who has not been District Champ before is the district senior champion). The FWD usually sends extra choruses and senior quartets to the international contests as wild cards.

I hope you will attend the Far Western District Fall Convention in San Jose, Oct 5-8 hosted by the new Voices in Harmony Chorus. You can register on-line at www.spebsqsfwd.org or www.vihchorus.org. Or, you can tear out the registration page from this Westunes, fill it out and send it to the indicated address.



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that we all have had one or more of these events visit us as we pursue our love of this hobby, in our quest for that perfect chord or overtone.

Well, I have a couple of tips for you that might just give you an answer to the concerns named previously. You are asking, about now, "What could he be talking of? I want to present my answer to these questions in a couple of easy thoughts that you may or may not have heard of as yet.

First, I want you to take a minute and read up on the details of something called "The 100% Club", in your copies of "The Harmonizer". This program, simply put, encourages each and every one of us to bring that new guy, old friend, past member, or any other type of male contact that we may have, to the next practice or show of your chapter. When that person joins the Society, you receive credit, which translates into the Society underwriting 20% of your dues for the 2007 dues period, up to 5 new members or 100% of your dues for the next dues period. Imagine the surprise of your spouse, when you show her that you have just eliminated your Society dues because you just brought 5 new members into the chapter. Think also, of how happy your Director will be with 5 new guys in the chorus. What an easy way to make a number of people happy, by simply opening your mouth and telling someone about your hobby, for which you already open your mouth to create the sound you sing. I'm doing it...how about you?

Second, as your chapter works to get financially ready for the next year rapidly approaching, why not explore the possibility of becoming a qualified Grant Writer for your chapter, so that they may realize a new source for funds for programs for the new year. You may ask, "How do I become a qualified Grant Writer?" The answer is simple. Take your desire to your Board of Directors, and ask that they agree to send you to the up-coming C.O.T.S. classes on Grant Writing in November, and you too, can become one of the "money guys" that we all want to go to when our chapters need money. Do it now, and look for registration forms coming out soon, and be the first to sign up from your chapter. I'll be there...will you?

You can reach me at my new e-mail address @ Diamond_Group1@prodigy.net to ask any questions or share your ideas.



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Have you ever been in a situation where you could use more money? Maybe to pay your dues? Make that year-end tax-deductible donation to your chapter, district or to the Harmony Foundation? Or have you ever received the inquiry from your spouse about how much your barbershop activities cost? I know

100% Club – what's in it for you?

I'm puzzled – why don't so few of our members in the Far Western District seem to know about and/or participate in the **100% Club** membership campaign? Is it because:

- They don't read Harmonizer or LiveWire?
 - They haven't checked out the Society Website lately?
 - We haven't effectively communicated the details?
- Dunno – maybe all of the above. Nonetheless, if your chapter – that means you – aren't in the mix yet, now's the time!

The details:

- For each member recruited, the recruiting member will receive a waiver of 20% of his 2007 Society dues.
- Recruit 5 members – get 100% of your Society dues waived in 2007.
- Ummmm– what else...y'know what? –nothing! That's it! Simple? Duh!

Chapter/District involvement:

- The District will participate in the incentive as well – watch for details.
- Your chapter will likely wish to participate in the incentives as well – in part or in total. Yes, the chapter will lose part (or all) of the recruiting member's dues for 2007 – **but those dues will be replaced by the new member's dues!**

Example:

# Members Recruited	Chapter Dues (example)	Recruiter Dues Lost @ 20% Per Member	New Member Dues Gained	Net Dues Gained
1	\$50	-\$10	+\$50	\$40
2	\$50	-\$20	+\$100	\$80
3	\$50	-\$30	+\$150	\$120
4	\$50	-\$40	+\$200	\$160
5	\$50	-\$50	+\$250	\$200

- Is this a win-win, or what? Talk to your chapter leaders – what's your chapter doing?

What's in it for you? Well, excluding the obvious dollar incentives:

- More members = bigger - and better sound
- More members = more guys to share the workload – ticket sales, chapter jobs, committee members, etc.
- More members = more potential quartet singers.
- More members = more friends.

Check it out – www.barbershop.org/theclub

...see 'ya around...



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WOW! What A Weekend! I would like to have you read about it from someone who was on the front lines. He taught four 2 hour classes and was the MC for the Saturday night show. This is from a long-time super- knowledgeable Barbershopper from Houston, Steve Shannon.

Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Nothing Blue

by Steve Shannon

FWD has done it again. Dean, Jerry Fairchild, and his super "Git 'er done" men Keith Eckhardt, Derick Sturke and Dick Girvin, produced another "You really shoulda been there!" Harmony College West.

Quartets were coached by such luminaries as Connie Keil, Emmett Bossing, Dawn Castiglione, Gary Bolles, Gary Steinkamp, Phil DeBar, Stan Sharpe, and the Happiness Emporium. Under Keil's guidance, the coaches used a new "pod" approach, wherein groups of coaches share the same quartets, and confer with each other on their observations and progress. This produced real continuity in the coaching, and the results were dramatic. (Your quartet needs to be at the next HCW, but we only have room for 32 foursomes. Plan for next year NOW!)

Everyone else selected 1 to 4 of 9 truly amazing classes: Arranging - Dave Briner; Beginning & Intermediate Sight Reading - Phil Ordaz ; Individual Voice Coaching - Jim DeBusman; Vocal Production - Royce Ferguson; How to have the Chapter you REALLY want, How to make your audience WANT you back, Discovery Singing (i.e. REAL Woodshedding) and How to have a GREAT Quartet Rehearsal! - Steve Shannon.

The "buzz" from every class was: "Ya shoulda been in MY class!" (Yes, YOU shoulda been there and your Music Team and your Board shoulda been there. We only have room for 280 non-quartet students, next year. Plan for next year NOW!)

Sunday morning, Champion Choreographer, Dawn Castiglione presented an astonishing demonstration of how vital "visual communication" is to our performance. "This is not radio. Our audience expects full-color, laser sharp, big screen TV with surround sound!" Her demo quartets then proved her point by singing with and without "moves", and/or "face". Just adding appropriate visual instantly raised the performance from D to B sound! EVERYone in your quartet or chorus should have been there!!! (Plan for next year NOW!)

Then, there was the Saturday night show....

Jerry Fairchild and MC, (yours truly) Steve Shannon, went to the auditorium at 5:30, to make sure everything was set-up right for the 8 p.m. show. Good thing they did. They discovered that the brief afternoon thunderstorm had knocked out the power to the auditorium! No lights! No sound!! No air!!!

To make it even more fun, the ONLY person the school had available to help with the show, was a very capable sound man -- in a power wheelchair! He had no idea how to restore anything and had never even seen the various power panels! But, he knew that they were somewhere in the bowels of the building.

With daylight from an open outside stage door, we found a flash-light... and started a methodical search of the facility. Eventually, I descended several flights of steep stairs, and in cave-like blackness, found some huge power panels. I reset all of the breakers... nothing happened. Then, I found the main and reset the main breaker and PRESTO, we had lights and sound... but, no AC.

We could hear the fans moving, but no cool. There had to be another breaker. "Gee," said the sound guy. "We just had a new compressor installed a few months ago... but that's outside...." 20 minutes later, the cool was on... and, it was now 7:10 p.m.!!!

I borrowed a car, rushed back to the dorm to shower and dress for the show. And at 7:55, was back stage. "Git 'er done Derick" had all the quartets ready and at 8 p.m., sharp, right on schedule, it was "Show Time!" Thanks Derick!!! (Just another "no big deal" Barbershop show!) The HCW quartets each sang one song, and did themselves proud. Then our current Bronze Medalists, O.C. Times, did (pardon the expression) an AWE-SOME! 20 minute set that earned them an ecstatic standing ovation. Wow, are they good!

After a ten minute intermission, which included a lively audience sing-a-long, it was time for our headliners: 1975 Champs, Happiness Emporium. Now, I've known and loved these guys since way before they won... but, after hearing some "old" champions perform on other shows, I was apprehensive about having these antiques wedged between O.C. Times and the Westminster Chorus. (Hey, those kids weren't even born when the Emporium won their Gold!)

I'm sure many people in the audience shared my concern: "Sometimes it's better to remember our heroes as they were --- in their prime." But, my fears were totally unfounded. Even before their first note, the Emporium's powerful visual presentation jumped across the footlights, grabbed the audience by their imagination and made them believe "this will be a show to remember!" It certainly was.

Their opening chords electrified the crowd and kept them on the edges of their emotional seats for an astonishing 20 minute montage of songs, stories, bits and shtick about getting older. It was hysterical. It was poignant. It was a non-stop Gold Medal performance. The crowd responded with a long, long, standing ovation which forced them back for an encore. They closed with their "signature" piece, "Minnesnowta" which brought tears of

laughter and left no doubt that these men are the epitome of the word "Champion."

Next, was The Westminster Chorus. How does one adequately describe this group? They are the future of the art that so many thousands of men have given their hearts to Encourage and Preserve since 1938. With an average age of 22, these remarkable young men already understand what most of us are still trying to learn. Consummate performers, they live the passion of the lyrics they share with us. Visually, they move and feel songs as though they are one being. And, off-stage, they are humble, courteous and eager to learn from their fellow Barbershoppers. Director Royce Ferguson, has instilled in these young men the pride and "class act" attitude of Revival and the Masters of Harmony. Gentlemen, we have seen the future and Barbershopping is in very good hands.

Yes, you really should have been there. Don't let anything keep you from the next HCW. Plan for next year NOW!

Is Harmony College West worth it? Read this feedback:

"The opening speaker said "All of you here have the opportunity to go home a better singer". Last night I went to sing with the AZ Quartet Chapter and was given accolades for how much I had improved. Thank you HCW"



**Chair : Young Men In Harmony
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It's A New World

By now everybody knows of the Westminster Chorus and its impact on the barbershop world. In Indianapolis last month the young men of Westminster made clear, once and for all, what we've know in FWD for some time: That young men not only love barbershop, they can do it stunningly, passionately, and powerfully well.

What may not be as well known—yet—is that the Westminster guys—like the true barbershoppers they are—are actively promoting a plan to expand youth harmony as rapidly as possible throughout the land—and beyond.

Key to the plan is the creation of a series of young men's choruses around the country, with the mentoring support of larger chapters, leading to new chorus competition for them at the Society Midwinter convention. According to Westminster co-founder Russ Squires, the plan is aimed at providing a means of helping young men, especially those of college age, learn to love the barbershop style in an environment comfortable for them, without the burden of Society or chapter membership.

Continued on page 12



2005 FWD Quartet Champions Hi-Fidelity

by Craig, Tom, Gregg and Martin

Hi-Fidelity is having an incredible and wonderful championship year! We have to thank the entire FWD and especially the wonderful chapters that we have had so much fun with on shows so far this year – Thank you!!

One of the most exciting things for us recently has been our “recurring” role on the NBC Late nite show, “Last Call with Carson Daly.” This is the show that follows Leno and Conan, and we have become known to 1.5 million viewers as the LCB-MJE - “The Last Call Barbershop Monologue Joke Explainers!” For those of you that have stayed up late enough, you know what we are talking about. If you haven’t seen it, check out our website for more info. We will continue to update the website when we have upcoming appearances – Very exciting indeed!

We have had some great times recently on the Yosemite chapter show in May (They should put a national park there!) and the White Mountains show in Sho-Lo Arizona – Another beautiful location. We are looking forward to the Las Vegas City of Lights show Aug. 26, as well as the Rincon show on Sept. 23 (rumor has it that the Addams Family will be doing this show – don’t miss it!). We also were invited and sang at the South Bay guest nite, and we had a blast! Thank you South Bay for your generosity. We also have to say it was a thrill to receive a standing ovation on the international stage in Indy as “The Addams Family”. We are the kind of quartet that tries to “stand out” and take risks, and we were thrilled that this package was so well received by the audience. Let us also congratulate ALL of the FWD quartets that competed in Indy, especially our medalist quartets and heroes, OC Times and Metropolis. We have to again thank our wonderful chapters that have supported us in so many ways. We love you Fullerton and Masters of Harmony!

As promised, the final 2 “up close and personal” bios from Hi-Fi:

Craig Ewing - Tenor

Craig Ewing, tenor of Hi-Fidelity, started doing solos at church

at the age of 5. Being young and undisciplined, his mother told him “don’t be funny”. He has been successful at this for many years. While getting his degree in Choral Vocal Music it was noted that many of his compositions sounded funny.

He has a job as the director of training for a security guard company and is a consultant on emergency preparedness, evacuation, workplace violence, and terrorism. Not much opportunity for mirth.

His two previous district champion quartets were known for being entertaining. However, as the monk in Musician’s Choice (1988) he was the “serious one” in Robin Hood’s merry band. Rhythm & Rhyme (1993) relied on their “macho baritone”, Les Dergan, to provide comedic turns while Craig would look on in amazement.

Craig is blessed with a very supportive wife who tolerates his attempts at humor, and allows him to go out with Hi-Fidelity, Masters Of Harmony, and direct the Fullerton Chapter. They have 4 daughters, 8 grandchildren, and 2 great granddaughters – which is not funny, but a bit strange as Craig claims his 50th birthday will be coming up shortly.

Gregg Bernhard-Baritone

Gregg was introduced to Barbershop while in Jr. High in Orange, CA when a young choral student teacher named Greg Lapp came in and did a little barbershop clinic – He was hooked! Ironically, many years later, Gregg and Greg would sing together in one of the many versions of Late Night Barbershop, and actually made the top 20 in 1997 along with Mark Feiner and Rich Hasty (Gregg actually sang tenor in that foursome) – This is not a funny story, but Gregg singing tenor was funny.

Gregg (with 3 G’s) was an avid musician from a young age – With piano lessons forced upon him since the age of 5, Gregg naturally became a trombone player. It was actually his trombone playing that got him into Cal-State Fullerton, where he earned a BA in American studies (not funny) and a minor in Music.

Gregg is a charter member of the Masters of Harmony, and remembers singing bass with that “small chapter” back in the mid 1980’s when he was only 7 years old (yea, right). After a great stint with the Valleyairs chorus, and his first taste of International competition in 1987, he was hooked (wait, I thought he was hooked in Jr. High, but I digress)! During that time, Gregg sang with Razzle Dazzle, and later with Martin in Vocal Union and On Location.

Gregg and his lovely wife Anna have a wonderful 3-year-old named Jason, and live in Corona, CA. Gregg can be spotted selling real estate all over S. Cal. Anna is one of the “Harborlite” twins – Anna and her identical twin sister Dawn Anne are both front row members of this International Champion SAI chorus! This is not a funny situation, but a fact worth mentioning. Gregg is an avid baseball fan, and since he is originally from New York, he can often be caught wearing Yankee garb.

Learn more about Hi-Fidelity at www.hifidelityquartet.com

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It's not a plan to recruit young men into existing chapters, Squires makes clear—although that might be a byproduct somewhere down the road. The important thing is to get young men singing barbershop.

A special meeting to discuss the plan was announced in Indianapolis for the next day, and so many people showed up, the meeting had to be moved to a larger room. Details of the plan are being worked out with Harmony Foundation and Society officials—more will be announced soon. Meanwhile, anyone interested is more than welcome to contact Russ at: russquires@hotmail.com.

Opportunities Coming Up

The annual **FWD Youth Harmony Camp** is coming up September 22-24 at Pollock Pines in Northern California. (See article elsewhere in this issue.) Once again run by **Richard Lund** and his excellent Placerville chapter crew, and with **Gary Bolles** once again leading an all-star musical staff, the camp will provide an outstanding experience for young men—and their teachers. Joining the faculty this year will be former college champs **Men In Black** all the way from New York, and our own collegiate and international competitors, **MenSo Forte**. Space may be limited, so contact Richard for enrollment information at: rwlund@earthlink.net.

The **Tucson** and **Sacramento** chapters are planning youth festivals this fall. For Tucson (October) contact: **Ron Hayes** at: ronann@juno.com. For Sacramento (November) contact **Norm Smith** at: rvngolf@starstream.net. They'll want and deserve all the participation and support we can provide. We should be having youth harmony festivals in every corner of the District!

A new tool to help promote festivals is in the works. **The Santa Fe Springs** chapter has commissioned a short documentary-style film, keyed to the successful MOH/SCVA festival in February, which should be available at COTS. For details contact **Mark Freedkin** at: mfreedkin@yahoo.com.



**VP - Financial Development
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We're "tweening" – so let's think about financing our hobby for the next generation!

So, here we are - reading our favorite district publication, basking in the afterglow of the International Convention, knowing Harmony College West has come and gone, Harmony University

in Missouri has come and gone, and enjoying the last of summer. Yep, we're "betwixt and between" Summer and Fall activities – that's "tweening!"

As long as we're tweening, have you thought about Harmony Foundation?? All these summer activities are involved in Harmony Foundation's primary purpose – supporting and funding the Society's summertime activities!

Amazing! Harmony Foundation pours more than \$250,000 back into the Society's programs to promote participation and education for our future leaders by funding:

- Youth Harmony Camps
- Youth Music Festivals
- Collegiate Quartet Scholarships (MBNA College Quartet Contest)
- Quartet Scholarships to Harmony University
- Harmony University Scholarships for Music Teachers
- Director's College scholarships
- And Growing our Society

So, what can you do? Let's review ways to "give back" through Harmony Foundation:

Ambassadors of Song – a monthly sponsor program where any level gift can be deducted from your bank account or charged to a credit card to provide funds over time.

Presidents Council – an annual giving program beginning at \$1,000 per year can also be paid monthly on a credit card.

Donor Choice – what a concept! In either of the programs above, you can designate up to 30% of your giving BACK to your district or chapter. What a great way to assist in underwriting a program of your choice!!

Founders Club – Those involved either provided an outright gift (minimum \$1000) or a planned gift (e.g. bequest, life insurance, charitable trust, estate) to build an endowment. .

Tributes – gifts in honor (or in memory) of a fellow singer or family member to celebrate the wonderful occasions in our barbershop life.

For all members already involved with Harmony Foundation – **THANK YOU!!** I am coordinating with the Fall Convention Committee (Chuck Hunter et.al.) for a special invitation-only reception for all Harmony Foundation supporters attending the FWC Fall Convention in San Jose. Watch the mail for your invitation and details!

It is so easy to be involved in the Society's future and supporting music programs. So, let's B# - check updates on www.harmonyfoundation.org. , WESTUNES, and the district website!! "Tweeners" unite!



2005 FWD Chorus Champions Westminster

Cory Hunt

Dear Friends,

What an amazing week this past international was! Congratulations to our great friends, Vocal Spectrum on their fantastic performances and to the Vocal Majority for yet another stunning demonstration of the Vocal Majority at their best.

We want to take this opportunity to reflect upon the special week we spent in Indianapolis. What a great week for the FWD: three outstanding choruses, eight great quartets and three college competitors, what more could you ask for? We entered the contest wanting to give the best performance of our lives, no matter where the chips fell. To be considered anywhere in the ball park of the VM is an honor and a dream I never believed I would see come to fruition. We were blessed to have the support of every member of the audience, every chorus on the stage, fans and choruses around the world watching on the web cast and the backing of our strong cast of coaches, mentors and brothers in harmony. Without you all, we could not have done it.

Allow us a moment to thank some special people in our lives...

To the Choruses and Members of the Far Western District, thank you for your undying support and encouragement of our chorus. Thank you for putting up with our rowdy guys and the patented Westminster Slow Clap at district and divisional contests, and thank you for allowing us the privilege of representing you at this international level. (Also, congrats to our fellow FWD choruses, Pacific Coast Harmony and Pacific Sound!) The overwhelming support from our district began the day our chorus first stepped foot on the contest stage and has helped us grow to the level we are today. We strive to represent you all in everything we do and hope we make you proud. Thank you.

Secondly, what greater mentors and brothers in harmony could a chorus ask for than the Masters of Harmony? While about ten of us get to share the risers with the Masters regularly, the Masters of Harmony have always encouraged the growth of our chorus in a number of ways. We have a unique opportunity to glean from one of the smoothest running organizations in our society effective administrative and organizational practices as well as musi-

cal and performance theologies. From lending us your risers and help with uniforms, to the support and friendship you have constantly shown us, you have demonstrated time and again what a Champion chorus you are and inspire us on every level. Thank you.

To our coaches, Mark Hale and Dr. Greg Lyne, thank you for keeping us to a high standard of excellence. Thank you for pushing us to perform to the best of our capabilities and to constantly look to improve our performance. Not only do you keep us honest, you inspire us to strive for higher goals and to present our absolute best each time we sing. Thank you.

To our families, friends, wives (yes, one or two of us are married!) and girlfriends, thank you for putting up with our rehearsals, shows and time spent at the beach. =) Thank you for understanding that we love this chorus greatly and while at times it may appear we love it more than you, that's just not possible. (Right guys?...Right?) Thank you.

To our director, Royce Ferguson, thank you for pushing us to a new level at each rehearsal. Thank you for your musical leadership, patience and understanding. Without you, we are just a bunch of guys who like to sing. You harness our energy and apply it to make music more beautiful than we ever imagined and shape us into a chorus that is unlike anything we ever hoped we could be. THANK YOU!!

To the members of the Barbershop Harmony Society and those who have sent countless e-mails or who have cornered us in the lobby at international, thank you for your love and encouragement. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to give our gift to you. Our silver medal is something we all cherish but those hugs and handshakes are what the medal truly represents. It reflects the magical performance we were blessed to give and we will never forget that moment in time. Just thinking about the smiles on the faces of every member of the audience--judge and fan alike--is reward enough. Thank you.

Finally, we'd like to thank the members of the Vocal Majority for their support. After our performance, we were greeted by countless members of the VM who had nothing but raving reviews of our performance. A class organization all around, the members of the VM had nothing but support and encouragement for us all throughout the week. We were encouraged by your rehearsals and inspired by your performance. To be considered anywhere close to you is a great honor to say the least. Jim Clancy's remarkable leadership and heart shine through each member of the VM and are evident throughout each aspect of their organization. We are honored to be second to the Vocal Majority; they are truly deserving Champions and nothing less. Thank you and congratulations.

We are confident this next year will prove to be a great one for the Westminster Chorus and barbershop itself, full of growth and

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beautiful music. We as Barbershoppers all have a unique gift and opportunity to touch the lives of countless audiences in nearly every corner of the globe. We hope that you all can be blessed with a performance as magical as the one we experienced in Indianapolis--it's something not a single member of our chorus will ever forget. Thank you to all of you for making that performance a possibility. Without you, we could not have done it. Until next time... thank you.

**FWD Fall Convention in San Jose
October 5-8, 2006
Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!**

A Correction regarding Harmony Sweepstakes

Friday, May 26, 2006 7:14 PM

Ray,

Just a slight correction and information regarding past barbershoppers winning Harmony Sweepstakes, re; recent article about Hi Fidelity.

Most likely forgotten from the past, The Knudsen Brothers were the first Barbershoppers, or at the time former Barbershoppers, to win Harmony Sweepstakes in 1990 as a six-some. The Kbros, are past 1985 FWD Champions, and 1984 and 1986 from Phoenix, and 1992 International top 10 finalists.

Although not connected to BHS now and currently residing in Las Vegas, they were the first BHS connected ensemble to win HS. After 25 years of singing, they are professional entertainers and recording artists, headline entertainment for Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines, high-end corporate/convention entertainment, opened for numerous celebrities all over the world, have had their own show in Las Vegas and currently will be participating by incredible invitation in the new NBC "America's Got Talent" competition series airing and commencing on June 21, hosted by Regis Philbin and produced by Simon Cowell.

BHS and FWD are their roots and should not be forgotten.

Thanks
Randy C Stringfellow
Spirit of Phoenix Chorus
PRS Judge
Personal Assistant to the Knudsen Brothers (Stage name SIX Real Brothers)
www.sixrealbros.com <<http://www.sixrealbros.com>>




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2005 BHS International Champions Masters of Harmony

by Dane Hutchins

Indy Farewell. The Masters of Harmony presented its farewell set as outgoing international chorus champion and two other performances at the Indianapolis Convention in early July. With only one rehearsal dark after the convention, there was very little time for rest and relaxation, with multiple shows coming up this fall.

Harmony College West. Several members attended HCW in Redlands, July 21-23, all reporting back that it was an outstanding weekend of training, camaraderie, and fun. International silver medalist Westminster Chorus was on-hand for the Saturday evening show, wowing attendees with their exciting performance style. Other first-rate groups showed how harmony should be delivered, both at the Saturday show and afterglow. The 1975 International gold medal winners, The Happiness Emporium, demonstrated that they're better than ever, with splendid singing and very funny bits throughout. Also at both events, Indy third place bronze quartet medalist OC Times rattled the rafters and tantalized the audience. The HCW format and program are highly recommended. Those who attended vowed to return again next year.

Presidential Change. MOH President Ken Custer will be leaving the Masters of Harmony in September to provide oversight responsibility for 60 construction projects in Southwest Asia for Northrop Grumman and the Department of Defense. He will be headquartered in Iraq northwest of Baghdad and, unfortunately, the only nearby barber shops will be military. Ken has provided enormous creativity and leadership through the many changes at MOH and he will be sorely missed. Despite our sorrow at Ken's departure, we are excited with him about the magnitude of his new responsibilities and the trust that has been placed in him. We know he will remain passionately interested in MOH affairs, and his wisdom and advice will be as close as an e-mail. Kirt Thiesmeyer has been appointed to fill Ken's unexpired 2006 term. Kirt, an attorney and most recently Vice President for Chapter Development, joined MOH four years ago, and has won gold medals in Portland 2002 and Salt Lake City 2005. Kirt was a recipient of the MOH Journeyman Award in 2003 and the President's Award in 2005. We know he will help MOH continue in its ongoing pursuit of excellence.

New Members. A hearty MOH welcome to new members Chris Burns (bari), Gary Ewald (bass), Terry Henson (lead), and Bill Kliever (bass). These men have shown that they're up to the challenges ahead and we are very pleased to welcome them aboard.

Upcoming Events:

- Aug 9 -- Guest Night at Santa Fe Springs Town Center Hall
- Sep 17 -- Channelaire Chorus Show, Thousand Oaks Civic Art Center
- Oct 1 -- "Summer Jazz at the Moonlight" Series, Moonlight Amphitheatre, Vista
- Oct 21 -- "Meals on Wheels" Benefit Show, Wilshire Ebell Theater, Los Angeles
- Nov 25 -- Annual Christmas Show, Carpenter Center, California State University, Long Beach

For details, check our website www.mastersofharmony.org.

FWD Youth Harmony Camp
September 22-24, 2006
Sly Park Educational Center
Pollock Pines, CA
Contact Richard Lund at 530-621-1904 or
rlund@innercite.com
Get Our Youth Out to Join in the FUN!





Chair: Contest & Judging

Dick Girvin

34888 Lyn Ave

Hemet, CA 92545

951-926-8644

E: dickgirvin@juno.com

Target Scores

And how they affect the slate for the Fall Contests.

The current assignment of target scores for qualifying for the FWD Fall contests stem from the SOP Paragraph 8.3.1, Divisional Contests, which states:

c. Annually, at the Fall District Board of Directors meeting, the District Chairman of the C&J Committee (DDC&J) will propose to the BOD and HOD, a target score for choruses and one for quartets that will be used to qualify contestants for the Fall Contest. The target score will be in the form of a percentage of possible scores allocated by either a single, double or triple panel. The target score will be provided in advance via WESTUNES and/or other written means to all contestants by the DDC&J prior to the first contest of the annual contest cycle.

The use of target scores in FWD replaced the earlier approach of selecting the top contender from each division and then adding the next highest scoring competitors to fill the slate of 25 contestants. This latter approach was unpopular in that the contestants would have to wait until after the completion of all the divisional events to know if they were included in the slate for the Fall.

The current target score is calculated annually to produce 25 contestants. Why 25? Current C&J Rules require separate sessions to be established where the number of contestants exceeds 25 as can be seen below.

Art. V. TYPES OF CONTESTS.

If there are more than 25 contestants, they will be divided into two or more contest sessions, scheduled as separate events. In unusual circumstances, an exception to this rule in the international quartet and chorus contests may be made by the Society Contest and Judging Committee Chairman, and an exception in division or district contests may be made by the appropriate district vice president for contest and judging.

So, how is the Fall slate determined?

Seeking to fill the 25 contestant slate, the target scores for the past several years have been **60%** for choruses and **65%** for quartets. Reviewing the 2006 statistics for the **chorus competition** we find that of the 38 choruses entered, 17 achieved the target score. The slate for the 2006 Fall Contest included these plus the four that were “seeded” (International competitors—see below) leaving the way for the addition of four “wild cards” to total 25.

FWD SOP 8.3.2.5

b. Additional "wild cards" shown below

- (1) The Aloha Chapter may enter without pre-qualification.*
- (2) Any chorus representing the FWD in the previous International Contest that did not win the top honor will be seeded to the Fall District contest without the need to qualify in their divisional contest.*

Similarly, a review of the **quartet scores** achieved for the 2006 contest year shows that of the 66 quartets entered, 19 scored the required 65% or more. In accordance with the FWD rules (below), the top five senior quartets who have not been FWD Senior Champions before were added to the slate, plus one FWD Senior champion quartet who opted to compete and two Aloha quartets that wish to compete this year. The grand total was 27.

SOP 8.3.2.3. a. Quartets achieving the established “target score” as identified in Paragraph 8.3.1, in their respective divisional contests, with the following exception: A total of two quartets (regular and/or Senior) from the Aloha Chapter in Hawaii may compete in the FWD Fall Contest without previously qualifying in their divisional (NorCal West) contest. Competing quartets must fulfill all other Society C&J requirements regarding eligibility and must advise the FWD District Chairman of the Contest and Judging Committee (DDJ&C) of their intent to compete no later than June 1 of each calendar year in which they intend to compete. If the total number of qualifying quartets including Seniors, as identified above is less than 25, the Fall slate will be filled to 25 by inviting the next highest scoring quartet(s) from the divisional contests.

*FWD SOP 8.3.2.4. *Past FWD Senior Quartet Champions may opt to compete for score only in the FWD Fall Senior Contest without pre-qualification in the divisional contests by notifying the District C&J Chairman prior to June 1st of the year they intend to compete.*

**(Approved by unanimous vote in FWD Spring House of Delegates meeting)*

As can be seen; the current target scores come close to providing the optimum number of competitors for the Fall Contests. However, in accordance with the requirements of the SOP, these data support a small recommended change in the target scores. The change that will be proposed to the FWD BOD and HOD for 2007 is: **59%** as the **chorus** target score and **66%** as the **quartet** target score to qualify for Fall Contest. If approved, these new target scores will be implemented in the 2007 contest cycle.

FWD Fall Convention in San Jose

October 5-8, 2006

**Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!**



Photo by Derick Sutrke

Dick Girvin and Dean Jerry Fairchild issuing registration.

Harmony College in Redlands July 2006

by Channell Wasson

The weather was hot but the music was cool!

Another member of the Peninsulaires shared driving down together. We had a good trip. Fortunately the car was air conditioned as the temperature continued to climb as we approached Redlands University where it was about 112 degrees when we arrived. The Harmony College team was the greatest of hosts! Air conditioned spaces everywhere were welcome too. On our arrival room assignments and keys were given along with all our linen. A welcome dinner was waiting for us too. (By the way, what great food was offered all weekend!)


Our evening kickoff meeting was started with a voice warm-up by Jim DeBusman from Kenosha headquarters. He told us warm-ups should last 15 to 18 minutes at the most. This warm-up presumed a pre practice warm-up. Recommended was an individual light warm-up of humming high head tones while driving to practice. After our welcome and warm up, all 100 or so attendees together learned a song in 8 minutes. The final result was impressive and great fun.

The three days of classes were very helpful and entertaining. My sight reading class was excellent with Phil Ordaz. Here I learned how to find the key for a song and the value of "do"! Now it is no longer just a word. Also it was a pleasure to take an individual voice coaching class with a Pro like Jim DeBusman. Other classes included Vocal Production class with Royce Ferguson, the leader of the Westminster Chorus, A class on chapter building with Steve Shannon who also taught a class on Wood Sheding, and another class by Steve titled Have An Entertaining Quartet. Steve is a real barbershop enthusiast with a great sense of humor. He has brought over 400 new members into barbershop choruses and quartets! One of his secret sources for recruiting new members seems to come from "hanging out" at Karioke

bars where he walks around with a big badge that says "TAL-ENT SCOUT". When a good suspect appears, he approaches him with praise for his singing and hands his prospect a form to fill out and a personal proposal to come to a barbershop singing practice. Other classes offered were Arranging with Dave Briner, and there were several other instructors working all day with quartets who had come for special coaching.

The Saturday night show was a treat as we listened to many excellent quartets including our own Peninsulaire chorus member Al Ward and his new quartet Super Nova. Another high light was hearing the new 2006 National Silver Medal winners, the Westminster chorus directed by Royce Ferguson. We were treated to their recent contest set. The song "How You Look Tonight" was a real spine chiller. The OC Times quartet out of director Royce's famed Westminster group gave us a Blue Ribbon Show too. Then what a great set we heard from "Happiness Emporium", the national gold medal quartet winners in 1975. They have been singing together for 34 years! They gave us such good music with lots of good humor. After the show After Glow at Uncle Howie's pizza restaurant was enjoyable entertainment all the way up to 2AM!

This was the first Harmony College I had attended, but now I have been there, and I've learned that it is one of life's good times that should not be missed. A true barbershop bargain too. I'm going back next year!



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FWD Fall Contest Order of Appearance

Dick Girvin, FWD C&J

	Quartets	Choruses
OOA	<i>Quartet Name</i>	<i>Chapter</i>
1	Aloha 2	Santa Rosa, CA
2	Uncalled Four	Rincon Beach, CA
3	Oasis	Aloha, HI
4	Velocity	Santa Maria, CA
5	Xtreme	Fullerton, CA
6	Expedia	La Jolla, CA
7	It's About Time	Sacramento, CA
8	Music Box	Brea, CA
9	Life's Good	Fremont-Hayward, CA
10	Souvenir	Central California, CA
11	Harmony 101	San Luis Obispo, CA
12	Vintage Gold	Fresno, CA
13	TAG	San Fernando Valley, CA
14	Stardust	Reno, NV
15	BLING	Stockton, CA
16	Dazzle!	Las Vegas Metro, NV
17	Checkmate	Riverside, CA
18	Aloha 1	North Valley, CA
19	VocalEase	Palo Alto-Mountain View, CA
20	Twilight Time	Paradise Valley, AZ
21	The Usual Suspects	Pasadena, CA
22	Late Show	Greater Phoenix, AZ
23	Top-Notch	Westminster, CA
24	The Big Time	South Bay, CA
25	Entourage	Bay Area, CA
26	Equinox	
27	Sonoran Sound	

Nominating Committee Announces Slate for 2007

In accordance with District policies, the FWD Nominating Committee hereby announces its slate of nominees for the District Board of Directors for 2007. They are:

President, Bill Cale
Executive Vice President, Bob Lally
Secretary, Dick Girvin
Treasurer, Jim Sherman
VP Division 1, SoCalWest, Bernard Priceman
VP Division 2, SoCalEast, Gene Clements
VP Division 3, NorCalEast/NN, Dick Whitten
VP Division 4, NorCalWest/H, John Jones
VP Division 5, AZ/SN/SU, Ivan Jensen
Immediate Past President, Peter Feeney

Additional nominations may be made in accordance with Standard District Bylaws, Art. V (Section 5.05 c) which state:

Nominations may be made from the floor by any delegate provided that he has obtained the consent of his proposed nominee and has notified all delegates in writing at least 10 days in advance of the meeting of his intention to make such a nomination.

The election of officers and directors will take place at the House of Delegates meeting at the fall convention in San Jose on Friday, October 6th.

Submitted: John Krizek, Chairman Terry Aramian Peter Feeney

BARBERSHOP AND ROCK AND ROLL TWO GREAT REASONS TO BE IN SAN JOSE OCTOBER 5-7 2006

Why should you plan on coming to the FWD Fall Contest in San Jose? How about 25 of the finest quartets in the Society vying for the FWD Championship? In addition, 24 outstanding choruses will be going toe-to-toe to see who will wear the FWD crown for 2006. Leading the list will be International Silver Medalist winners Westminster, but snapping at their heels will be an amazingly strong group of contenders including Rincon Beach, La Jolla, Greater Phoenix and the newly formed Voices in Harmony from the Bay Cities Chapter. Adding a special flavor to the mix will be the Sounds of Aloha chorus from Honolulu, who will be giving one of their infrequent but always dazzling performances for their FWD fans!

The same weekend will also expose our devotees to an extremely large group of runners and rock and roll enthusiasts who will be participating in the very first Rock and Roll Half Marathon and Health and Wellness Expo in downtown San Jose expected to attract as many as 15,000 participants! It is going to be quite a weekend for sure!

There will be non-stop activity throughout the downtown area for the entire weekend, and hopefully we may get some of the runners and rockers to sing a little barbershop! However the anticipated crowd is such that housing in downtown is going to be at a premium! If you are planning on coming (and why wouldn't you want to?) register for the convention and make your room reservations now!!!

For those with an interest in the creative arts the largest quilt show west of the Rocky Mountains is being held this weekend in nearby Santa Clara, reachable by light rail that travels door-to-door from the headquarters hotel to the Santa Clara Convention Center. There will be a wonderful Ladies Hospitality Room where a beautiful quilt will be raffled off, AHSOW will be attracting lots of singers, and as always you will have a chance to meet and sing with friends that you only see at our conventions. A special reception for members of the Society's President's Council will be held on Friday afternoon at 5:30 in the Marriott Hotel.

This promises to be one of the most well-attended conventions with the promise of the most competitive fields in both the chorus and quartet competitions in years!

DO YOU KNOW THE WAY TO SAN JOSE???

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT QUARTET AND CHORUS CONTEST AND CONVENTION OCTOBER 5-8 2006 San Jose Civic Auditorium

Contests and Shows

District Quartet Contest
International Chorus Prelims
and District Chorus Contest
District Senior Quartet Contest
Show of Champions
AFWDC Show

HOSTED BY THE



Meetings and Events

District Board Meeting
House of Delegates Meeting
AH-SOW
Youth Afterglow
Ladies Tour of the nation's first
museum of quilts and textiles

REGISTRATION PRICES ALL CONTESTANTS MUST PURCHASE AN ALL EVENTS REGISTRATION

ALL EVENTS EARLY BIRD <i>Postmarked by September 5th</i>	ALL EVENTS LATE/ONSITE <i>Postmarked after September 5th</i>
ALL EVENTS: Adult \$40.00 Student(under 23) \$20.00	ALL EVENTS: Adult \$50.00 Student(under 23) \$25.00

Save Time & Money! Register Online at www.vihchorus.org

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL

San Jose Marriott
301 S. Market Street
San Jose, CA 95113
1-800-228-9290

Room rate - \$99 single/double/triple/quad
Contact the hotel directly and tell them you are a barbershopper

Ramada Limited
455 S. 2nd Street
San Jose, CA 95113
(408) 298-3800

Room rate - \$90 single/\$95 double/\$100 triple/\$105 quad
Room rates do not include tax

2006 FAR WESTERN DISTRICT FALL CONTEST AND CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM			Member	Student	Dist. Officer	Past Dist. President	Dist. Comm Chairman	Delegate HOD	AFWDC Member
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COTS Now More Affordable! New, Updated curriculum—now only \$50 per person!

By Dick Girvin, FWD COTS Coordinator

It is **COTS**, the annual opportunity for the newly elected officers and every Barbershopper to see, first hand, the inside view of what is going on in the Society along with hints and kinks on their own areas of interest.

Now even more affordable—send the whole leadership team! **Only \$50 per person.** How can that be? The new, one-day format providing a full curriculum and two meals does not involve high cost hotels. Come and go the same day or find local low-cost accommodations for the night.

NorCal COTS: November 11 at Stockton (Delta College)

SoCal COTS: November 18 at Redlands (Redlands University)

With a wide selection of instructor talent from all over the Society, how can you not help but come away with all you need to know about your special job for 2007?

While the various courses are primarily identified with the elected chapter officers, if you want to know more about ANY of the above jobs in your chapter, why not plan to attend and sample the wares? Even if you were there last year, you will find a new look with refreshing approaches to the old problems and innovative solutions to everyday situations. And, on top of that, here is a great chance to meet, mingle and enjoy singing with representatives of all the FWD chapters who have come together for the annual “drinking from the fire-hose.”

PLAN NOW to attend. Register early so you won't be left out. See the COTS Schedule and signup forms elsewhere in this issue. Send your chapter checks for \$50 ea (early registration) made out to FWD to:

Dick Girvin, COTS Coordinator

34888 Lyn Ave

Hemet, CA 92545

e-mail: dickgirvin@juno.com enjoyable entertainment all the way up to 2AM!

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

How a Chapter Can Jump-Start Quartets

By Stanley Tinkle, Fullerton and Orange Chapters

A good quartet inspires the chorus chapter that is its home base. A chorus needs several quartets under its roof if it is to sound good and thrill its audience. But the better quartets tend to look far afield to find four singers whose voices, personalities and goals are a good match. Frankly, such a quartet won't be of much help to any chapter except for show time. What a chorus chapter wants to develop is "in-house" quartets, which help it every time it rehearses. The Fullerton Chapter does this; check its excellent web site at: <http://oechorus.org/>.

The key to starting up quartets is to draw your new members into the process. New singers often lose a year or more before discovering the Barber Pole Songs, because their chapter is busy with chorus repertoire, contests and shows. But the "Pole Cats" are vital to the development of quartets. Even the Orange Quartet Chapter, which has no chorus to enter in contests (and no shows), uses the Barber Pole Songs to warm up, tune our ears, and greet visitors. Here's how Orange promotes quarteting, and I recommend the system to every chorus chapter as well.

As soon as every new member knows what part he will sing, buy him a CD of the Barber Pole Songs and tell him to play them as often as he can fit them into his driving schedule. Use them as warm-up songs in your chapter rehearsals, demanding as much vocal quality from your chorus when it sings "My Wild Irish Rose" as you do for a contest song. You will discover beautiful chords that you didn't know existed, and the good habits of muscle memory will carry on into your contest singing.

Open the meeting room an hour early for the singing of the BPS (Barber Pole Songs). Allow the new guys to get their feet wet by singing along sometimes, but avoid hurt feelings by explaining the Fifth Wheel Rule up front. Start a chapter BPS program to give new guys recognition and the status that they always crave from their chapter. Give special status to all members who learn a second part; it's easy and it may point the way for them to enter new quartets.

Even those members who choose not to sing in quartets are still helping their chapter by learning the BPS. This common repertoire is always productive when sung by a double quartet, and most of us enjoy double quartets as much as full-chorus singing.

Finally, bend every effort to make your break and your afterglow quartet-friendly times. Your in-house quartet members can reach out and pull in three other guys at random for a quick song, and a lot of good feeling will happen. If that pickup quartet sounds pretty good, give them a funny name and have them sing to the entire chapter immediately after break. They become your entertainment program for the evening. And at the glow, pass a Styrofoam barber pole down the table and limit the singing to one quartet at a time. For more ideas, contact the O.Q.C. at <http://www.harmonize.com/Orange/>.

COTS Individual* Registration Form

NORCAL NOV. 11 Delta College

Stockton, CA

SOCAL NOV. 18 Redlands University

Redlands, CA

Everyone come have some FUN at the **FWD District One-Day COTS!** If you are going to be a Chapter Officer in 2007, you should be there. If you are interested in some of the great Supplemental Classes, you should be there. If you are interested in becoming a Leader in your Chapter and your District, **YOU SHOULD BE THERE!**

NAME				SPEBSQSA MEMBER NO.	
ADDRESS					
CITY/ STATE		ZIP		TELEPHONE	
CHAPTER				E-MAIL	

**YOUR REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES LUNCH AND DINNER ON SATURDAY
AND**

THESE GREAT CLASSES:

What class will you be attending? (Check appropriate box)

<input type="checkbox"/> PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SECRETARY	<input type="checkbox"/> TREASURER	<input type="checkbox"/> CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> MARKETING & PR	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC & PERFORMANCE	<input type="checkbox"/> CHORUS DIRECTOR	<input type="checkbox"/> YIH
<input type="checkbox"/> LEADERSHIP	<input type="checkbox"/> GRANT WRITING	<input type="checkbox"/> SAMPLING (ANY OR ALL)	<input type="checkbox"/> (District Class: TBA)
<input type="checkbox"/> WEB DESIGN	<input type="checkbox"/> CHAPTER COUNSELOR	<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT OFFICER	

Fee Schedule – Postmarked before October 31: **\$50** On or after November 1: **\$60**
(Fee includes registration fee and meal package)
.....**Advise if motel or hotel accommodations needed.** (List will be forwarded via email)

Enclosed is a check for \$_____ for **FWD DISTRICT COTS** (circle one)
NORCAL **SOCAL**
Nov. 11: Stockton Nov 18: Redlands

Make check payable to: **FWD**

Registrations can be transferred but not refunded.

Mail this form and applicable fees to:

Dick Girvin

email: dickgirvin@juno.com

* Group Registration Forms available

District COTS Coordinator
34888 Lyn Ave
Hemet, CA 92545

Phone: (951) 926-8644



Blue Plate Special



Docs on the Rocks



Harmonically Correct



HIT



It's a Hoot



It's About Time



Oddly Enuf



Souvenir



Supernova



Two under Par



Unkown



Jim DeBusman in class



Connie Keil



Fairchild & Staff



Lunch



Happiness Emporium with host Sturke

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT QUARTET AND CHORUS CONTEST AND CONVENTION MARCH 15-18, 2007 - John Ascuaga's Nugget Hotel

Contests and Shows

International Quartet Prelims
NCE/NN Chorus & Quartet Contest
High School Quartet Contest
Show of Champions

HOSTED BY THE

*Reno
Silver Dollar
Chorus*

Meetings and Events

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

REGISTRATION PRICES

NOTE: ALL CONTESTANTS MUST BUY AN ALL EVENTS REGISTRATION.

ALL EVENTS EARLY BIRD <i>Postmarked by February 14</i>	ALL EVENTS LATE/ONSITE <i>Postmarked after February 14</i>
ALL EVENTS: Adult \$40.00 Student(under 23) \$20.00	ALL EVENTS: Adult \$50.00 Student(under 23) \$25.00 Single Event registrations available onsite

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL

John Ascuaga's Nugget
1100 Nugget Avenue
Sparks, NV 89432
(800) 648-1177
(775) 356-3300

Room rate - \$94 single/double/triple/quad
Room Rates do not include taxes

Contact the hotel directly and tell them you are a barbershepper

RV parking available in West Parking lot at no charge
(no hook-ups)

2007 FAR WESTERN DISTRICT SPRING CONTEST AND CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s)		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Phone Res. ()		
Phone Bus. ()		
E-mail address		

Chorus Name: _____

Quartet Name: _____

- ☐ District Officer
- ☐ Past District President
- ☐ Delegate HOD
- ☐ AFWDC Member
- ☐ Other

Mail one form for your party (up to 8 names per sheet),
and a check covering all registrations to:

Dick Whitten, Registration Chairman 7022 Cinnamon Drive, Sparks, NV 89436	<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if you have a disability that may require accommodation in order for you to fully participate in the convention.
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Make check payable to: Reno Silver Dollar Chorus, 2007 SPRING CONVENTION

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____ (fees are non-refundable)

Questions? Email diskwhit@sonic.net

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting San Jose, California June 10, 2006

MINUTES

The Summer Board Meeting of the FWD Board of Directors was called to order at 8:30 a.m. on June 10, 2006 by President Bill Cale.

Officers and Directors Present;

Bill Cale, President	Bob Lally, Executive Vice President
Peter Feeney, Immediate Past President	Dick Whitten, DVP NorCal East/Northern Nevada
John Jones, DVP NorCalWest/Hawaii	Bernard Priceman, DVP SoCal West
Gene Clements, DVP SoCal East	Ivan Jensen, DVP Arizona/So. Nevada/So. Utah
Jim Sherman, Treasurer	Dick Girvin, Secretary

Special Guests:

Mike Lancot, SBM	Jerry Fairchild, Chair Music and Performance Committee
Chuck Leavitt, Chair, Events Committee	John Krizek, Chair YIH Committee
Chuck Hunter, General Chairman, Fall Convention	

The following actions were taken by the Board of Directors;

a. Motions

- Motion 1.* To approve the agenda as amended. (MSP)
- Motion 2.* To approve the minutes of the Spring 2006 Board Meeting (MSP)
- Motion 3.* That the FWD will provide the funds, not to exceed \$650 for any afterglow at the International Convention requested by the FWD competitors. (MSP)
- Motion 4.* To modify the current policy to provide that the chapters hosting divisional conventions be guaranteed \$800 against the 50/50 split and that the "chapter for hire" to be paid \$500. (MSP)

b. Budget

The budget for 2007 to be presented to the Fall House of Delegates was established and reviewed.

c. OOA Draw.

The draw for appearance at the Fall District Contest was completed and will be released after July 9, 2006

d. Action items identified:

Responsible	Due Date	Item
Gene Clements	1 Sept	Brochure report: Review and recommendations of the SOP regarding ` Seeding of FWD cho ruses to District Fall Contest
All	Oct 5	Review of District participation of 100% Club
Chuck Leavitt	Sept 1	Brochure report: • Combining SCE And SCW 2007 • Uncoupling Divisional Contest from the International Prelims and adding an Acappella concert • Combining NorCal East and NorCal West 2008
Chuck Leavitt	Sept 1	Review the schedule with regard to adding the SALT quartet
All DVPs	Oct 5	Review needs for the Kenosha Staff and advise desires.
Secretary	Immediately	Letter to Dana Point re license
Jensen, Brilhante & Girvin	Sept 1 or sooner	Prepare a "hot-line" document for CCs to take to chapter meetings to contain questions for chapter management. .

The next meeting will be the Fall BOD meeting on October 5, in San Jose, California.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m

Respectfully submitted

R. Girvin, Secretary



FWD DVP for Division 1 SCW
Bernard Priceman
 5150 Avenida Hacienda
 Tarzana, CA 91356
 818-345-4125
 E: bernard@thepricemanteam.com

Our exciting barbershop calendar never ends. We begin our year with chapter officer installations and planning sessions, put on our Spring shows, compete at Prelims and Division, have our barbeques and bean fests, attend Harmony College, International, District Conventions and COTS, then put on our Xmas shows and start all over again. Is that all fun, or what? Of course, I've missed out a ton of stuff that we do, too – put on youth festivals and camps, take part in visitations, guest nights, sing outs, etc. As I said, our exciting barbershop calendar never ends and I hope you are managing to fill your own calendars with fun.

This year, I'm trying something new in the SoCal West Division. Following my meeting with presidents and other chapter leaders in Northridge, we decided to try to arrange a twice annual event across the Division. So far, lots of chapter leaders have agreed to buy into the idea. What we decided was that since chapter visitations are such fun, we should arrange them twice a year. And because they're such fun, why not make sure the public is invited too and see if we can pick up a few new members. So, instead of guest night, we could call it "open house". As long as we get warm bodies through the door, any name will do. The timing we chose was straight after first Division and then District, when our hard work was over and we needed a fun time. You may not be part of our Division, but we encourage you to think along the same lines. If we all pick up a member or two, and have fun while we're doing it, what could be better?

I decided to drive from L.A. to the Far Western District Board meeting in San Jose this June. I took my wife Ruth along and we got the chance to visit the San Luis Obispo and Santa Maria chapters on the way home. That made the total of chapters visited so far this year half of the 18 in SoCal West. By the end of the year I should have visited every chapter in the Division and I have to tell you what a pleasure it is to see you all in action. Barbershop is alive and well, in the North, South, East and West and the similarities are amazing. We all love our hobby and we're all having fun. **SO TELL SOMEONE ABOUT IT!** Don't ever pass up the opportunity to recruit someone. Invite them to your next meeting and the rest may be history.

See you in San Jose in October. What a great convention it is going to be.



Division 1 SCW Editor
Mike Martin
 2262 Bagley Ave
 Los Angeles, CA 90034-1109
 310-558-4949
 E: martinmt@aol.com

PASADENA

SEAN CHASWORTH

Yes, Pasadena's Back! 2006 is becoming a banner year for Pasadena's **Crown City Chorus**. Not only was the chapter awarded the prestigious 2005 Far Western District Chapter of the Year, the chorus competed in its Division competition in May for the first time in several decades. The men placed third overall, first in the Class-A category, and now aims for the October District competition in San Jose. The Chapter of the Year Award was given to Pasadena because of the chapter's revitalization over the last few years, not only in membership, but in its method. Due in large part to the talents, humor and mission statement of our Musical Director, **John Minsker** "Sing Well, Have Fun", the chapter grew more than 25% this past year and now touts a total of over 40 members, with more joining each month. Our formula for success in growth is simple. Our guests feel welcome from the time they walk in the door. They are greeted by just about everyone, they receive a guest music book and are encouraged to sing. The difference is our guests come back the next week. As veteran member, **Jack Wheatley**, commented recently, "... not bad going from 9 guys sitting around a table to 40 in just a couple of years.

The chapter prides itself on civic involvement by providing chorus sing-outs and quartets for community events and organizing a school auditorium renovation project. Chapter President **Randy Thorpe** and his board are actively seeking partnerships with local businesses and organizations to provide a means for the Pasadena Chapter to truly become the Crown Jewel of Southern California.

Check out our website at CrownCityChorus.com and stop in and visit some Thursday night if you are ever in Pasadena. Come celebrate with us, or pay us a visit at www.crowncitychorus.com

SANTA CLARITA (HARMONY HILLS)

CAL ERICKSON AND BILL SWOPE

10 members who alternated in a double quartet in June for four performances of the stage production "**WAR TIME ROMANCE**" at the new Performing Arts Center at College of The Canyons are still buzzing about that exciting venue.

The chorus sang the National Anthem at a fund raiser benefitting the Special Olympics which was sponsored by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's office. We sing quite often for Special Olympics events.

The chorus traveled to Walter Reed Middle School where our new director **Janice Kueppers** teaches - for an all barbershop night. Also performing were her student mixed barbershop chorus, girls and boys quartets, and the Verdugo Hills Chapter of Sweet Adelines. The finale included the entire cast (over 100 voices) performing "Lida Rose".

The Chorus performed patriotic songs to a full house at the Valley Oaks Senior Housing complex on Independence Day.

SANTA MONICA (OCEANAIREs) MARTY MITNICK

The Spring Season got off to a smashing start with the Oceanaires Spring Shows in May of "Out With The New...In With The Old" under the hand of **Bob Heron**, our wonderful director. Pre-program piano overture of oldies were performed by our **Bob Lipson**. The show this year was specially written by **Saul Jacobs**, long time barbershopper lover and supporter of the Oceanaires and with a special number written by our very own assistant director **Todd Kolberg**, a conversation between two people using only song titles.

Our featured guest quartet was Serious Treble, our friends from the Santa Monica Chorus Sweet Adelines with Melissa Hochenberger, (T), Shelly Wilner, (L) Debra Hochenberger (B) and Jeannie Vercillo (B).

Adding their talents to the show were our very own quartets: **4 To The Bar**, **Day-Os**, **Barnacle Bills**, and **Sound Stage**.

Dick Keagy again hosted a terrific members Bucks Night bar-b-cue at his home where the food and fun continued way into the night. Thanks again Dick.

A special welcome to our newest lead, **Earl Trusty**, who has brought his beautiful voice and smiling countenance to the Oceanaires

SOUTH BAY – (COASTLINERS) MIKE MARTIN
Harmony Sweepstakes, an annual event for a cappella groups and sponsored by the **South Bay Coastliners** each year, was another resounding success this year. With a great list of entrants participating, the barbershop quartet **Hi Fidelity** took the top honors not only as best singing group but they also won the audience favorite award as well. (They later went on to win the nationals.)

This year, the chapter's musical comedy show "The Aviationist" had four performances at the Hermosa Beach Playhouse and it too was a stunning success, from the free champagne at the beginning of the show for all ticket holders to the great afterglow at the nearby Eagle's Lodge on closing day. "The Aviationist" was a hilarious take off of the Howard Hughes movie "The Aviator" Taking the leading role of Howard Hughes over the top was Don Duperon. A twelve-piece band named "The Denny Goodman Orchestra" (D.O.G.) was formed for this show by members of the chapter who hadn't played their musical instruments for many years. It was originally expected to be a crude sounding group but after three or four months of practice they ended up producing a more than passable sound and are now a permanent part of the Coastliners entertainment package. The headlining quartet for the show was the cool jazz sounds of Pete Neushul's quartet **Ready, Willing and Mable**.

Family and friends night at South Bay last June found that fantastic group **Hi Fidelity** back and being its star attraction to round out a special night. What a superb group they are and what nice guys as well.

It has been a very busy time for several of the chapter's quartets. **Docs on the Rocks (Don Duperon, Mike Martin, Bruce Beyne and John Saffery)** performed three sessions for the Mira Costa High School music department to attract young members to chapter meetings (it worked). Other gigs included the LA South Towns (Sweet Ads) Lemonade Social as well as a few assisted living facilities. The Docs also spent a fun filled weekend at Harmony College West this year at Redlands University. **Sound Union (Denny Lawrence, Karl Jacobs, Bruce Beyne and Rick Llewelyn)** tuned up for a church in Westminster, and a patriotic dinner in Long Beach last 4th of July. **Swizzlestick (Michael Thorpe, Jim Labor, Don Barton and Bernie Baron)** assembled to perform at novice contest in Huntington Beach having fun all the way. **White Spots (Lloyd Hild, Paul Ivanick in for Charlie Thompson, Damian Curran and Fred Workman)** performed for the fifth year in the Westchester 4th of July parade.



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*A report by Roger McCandless
President, Palomar-Pacific Chapter*

On Monday night, June 26th, a dedicated group of barbershoppers met at an Oceanside restaurant with Todd Wilson, Director of Marketing for the Society. The group consisted of officers and interested parties from the SCE Division. Members from El Cajon, San Clemente, San Diego Sunharbor, Rancho Bernardo Troubadors, and seven members from Palomar Pacific Music Men.

Todd did an impromptu survey of the attendees, seeking to determine what the most pressing needs were for the respective chapters. I think he might have already known. It came down to membership attraction and retention. The Division reflects pretty much the dilemma of the Society, with dwindling and aging membership.

A roundtable discussion ensued. Aspects of the "You Can Sing, Too" campaign were revisited, as well as the obvious advantages of the *100% Club*. Todd distributed CDs outlining the "You Can Sing, Too" methods, so that chapters can try them out on their own. Many innovative and novel ideas were thrown out on the table for discussion, ranging from want-ads in the newspaper to lawn signs, shouting 100 Singers Wanted!.

It was an evening of give-and-take, and the opportunity was appreciated by all attending. Ironically, the man who engineered the entire thing, Gene Clements, was absent, have suffered a mild heart incident earlier that day!

We are grateful to Gene and Todd for their planning and willingness to share a wealth of information.



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BREA

The **Gaslight Chorus'** inaugural spring show was a success in spite of the 100 degree, 90% humidity conditions in the open air Muckenthaler theater in Fullerton. Many thanks go out to all those who contributed to this event. **Bob Tomes** and his wife **Ginger** were instrumental in securing this exclusive venue for the chorus. **Bryan Forbes**, the chorus show director, was flawless in managing the many complexities involved in theater and ticketing details as usual. Extra thanks go out to the Forbes family, Bryan's wife Priscila, and his daughters Loren and Lindsey for going way above and beyond with their handling of the ticket collection, raffle and door prize coordination, refreshments and the list goes on and on. Our show would not have been the success it was without their support.

The Chapter is also planning to carry its SCE Division championship towards the FWD contest with a rigorous summer rehearsal schedule. **Sam Papageorge** has assumed the Assistant Directorship role and will work with **Phil Ordaz** to hone the chapter's performance skills.

The chorus would also like to welcome its newest member **Dave Gunther** to the tenor section. Dave's 21+ years of Society membership and mastery of all four voice parts will undoubtedly enrich the chorus fabric.

COACHELLA VALLEY

TERRY MANN

Their three chapter quartets including **The Four States Four** are all snow birds. **Aftershock** (**Dick Reed**, **Al Paolini** and Tenor **Blaine Mack**) is without their snowbird Bass. **In A Chord** is meeting irregularly (as travel schedules permit) working on new repertoire but without their snow bird Bass (who is in the Vancouver, BC Chorus, under Charlie Metzger's direction)

In mid June they send an augmented quartet (two basses and two leads) to sing the National Anthem on opening day of the baseball season for the Palm Springs 'Power' semi pro baseball team. It went well and the audience seemed to like the traditional flavor of their SPEBSQSA arrangement.

EL CAJON

MIKE DORMAN

The **El Cajon Music Masters** chorus gave their annual performance at the San Diego county fair in Del Mar. Belting out songs on the outdoor stage, the members wowed them with snappy numbers from their repertoire. Interspersed among the offerings were quartet breaks, featuring **The Rollin' Tones** and

Harmonically Correct. As usual, both quartets were wildly applauded! And, according to scribe Mike, "Believe me, it's hard to applaud holding a hot-dog-on-a-stick and a coke!"

FULLERTON

DICK COTE

Director **Craig Ewing** put the Fullerton beliefs on the line "exactly where they belong." This soft spoken icon of the Society declared that the chapter, from this moment on, would sing the Society theme songs *Keep the Whole World Singing* and *The Old Songs* with "mental attention and vocal quality they deserve...and no other activity will be permitted during the performance of these songs!" Nuff said!

Deane Scoville has stepped back into the president's spot for Fullerton, replacing **Spence Graves** whose health issues demanded his full attention.

The "Board Member For Life", **San French**, celebrated his 90th birthday on July 18 with many of his regulars assembled to share his birthday cake.

HEMET

BRUCE SMITH

Scribe **Bruce Smith's UPBEAT** continues to be timely, with eye-catching color, well read and appreciated by chapter members.. The latest issue contains good input from chapter officers and members (even one from their Ladies Auxiliary!)

President **Bill McNaughton** plugs the 100% Club with pictures of the "neat badge," offered to 100% Club members. **Jack Morrisseau**, VP M&P extols the virtues of "fun singing," (nicely done) and Director **Howard Mesecher** reported on Indy and the start up plans for the Christmas show.

The New Member Profile by long time member **Jim Bunten** features **Norm Pabst** who has retired to the Hemet area after 35 years in the auto rental business. His hobbies, along with barber-shop, are golf, and restoring old autos.

INLAND EMPIRE

DAVE COVEY

Due to their first venue's not honoring their contract, the **Inland Empire Chapter** (nee Pomona Valley and Inland Cities Chapters) "Spring Show" became their "Summer Show." They rolled with the punch, and as a result, June 24, 2006 will live in the memories of many folks as a gold-letter day. Everyone was on point, and they delivered one of their best shows ever. The title was "*You Ain't Heard Nothin' Yet!*" and the audiences at both performances agreed on its veracity.

It was reported that even the "perpetual deadpan" guys in the chorus brightened up, and one or two even forgot themselves and broke into smiles. They drew energy from the audience and gave it back to them in spades.

The Upland High School quartet **We Might Be Somebody**, though relative novices, showed a high degree of professionalism. Disappointed by an administrative foul-up, they "sucked it up," stepped in, and delivered far more than asked of them.

July 2 found a quartet doing the National Anthem, "Armed Forces Medley," and "God Bless America" for the congregation of the church where they rehearse.

IRVINE

JEFF YOUNG

The California Promise Chorus is pleased to welcome it's newest members **Mike Morse** and **Steve Young**.

Last month the chorus celebrated the one year anniversary of **Nick Gaspar** being the Director. And a great year it has been!!

The annual show in September, "Stately Songs", will feature arrangements that highlight many of the states in our nation, including *New York, New York; California Here I Come, Home On The Range, Oklahoma* and *God Bless the U.S.A.*

ORANGE

STANLEY TINKLE

Early in July, several members of the **Orange Quartet Chapter** went to the International in Indianapolis to cheer on their new member **Sean Devine** and his quartet the FWD Champion **OC Times**. **Rich Martinez** reported that OC Times was a smash hit with the audience as was the FWD Champion Westminster Chorus, which came within 17 points of dethroning the reigning Vocal Majority.

Another new member, tenor **Mark Sheldon**, found Orange on the Internet this spring. Mark had been a quarteter while a Cal Tech undergrad, and his 20-year reunion was coming up. They helped him polish a pair of songs, and in the process he rediscovered the pleasure of barbershop. Now Mark is a valued regular at Orange, rehearsing in a new quartet with us.

Member **Sam Barker** has solved the mystery of the "Barberpole Cat 2 Program", which had been rumored for years. Sam found a letter from Joe Liles to AJ Manker of the MOH, which listed six songs. Four of which are taught already at Orange. You can find the list online by searching for "the Squeezin's newsletter".

The evening of July 18 saw Orange members attending the 90th Birthday Party of **Stan French**, Fullerton's "King of the Lunch Bunch". In Stan's honor, several Orange quartets serenaded him, as they have done for years every Friday afternoon.

Michael Werner, President of the Orange Quartet Chapter, published a lead editorial in which he invited members to proceed carefully as they adjust their public persona in the modern era. Quartets know what the public likes about the music, and Mike wants to preserve their "structural integrity". To paraphrase Duke Ellington (1932): "It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that ring!"

PALOMAR-PACIFIC

BILL NIELSEN

Pal-Pac has been having some director problems lately, but is still plugging along. **John Hulbert** of Rancho Bernardo has taken over as interim director while they search for a more permanent director.

Meanwhile chapter members are hard at work polishing up song for three sing out shows—one in August and two in September—one being a "9/11 Remembrance" Show.

Pole-cat songs were alive and well on Tuesday July 11 as they bid farewell to **Marv Ewing**, long time member, all around nice guy and Pole-Cat booster. Marv is moving to Orange County (Their gain, Pal-Pac's loss). Most of the evening was spent singing all those familiar songs with lots of tagging quartets —**Song and A Smile** and **Premium Blend** joined in the fun.

RIVERSIDE

BILL SHOVA

A new use for cell phones was demonstrated at the **New Gang On the Corner's** meeting in July. Midway through the rehearsal the power failed in the area, plunging the rehearsal room in St Paul Church into utter and complete darkness. But, strangely enough, lights seem to come from everywhere as members carefully stepped down from the risers and wended their way between chairs and other obstacles in the black room. The lights? They were not flashlights but cell phones which lit the way-- another great use for these modern devices.

SAN CLEMENTE

DON THOMAS

The **Beach Cities Harmonizers** continue to extend an open invitation to all who are tired of risers but still are interested in chorus singing mixed with some quarteting. Please come and join them at the San Clemente Presbyterian Church, 119 N Avenida de la Estrella in San Clemente 92672



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Wrap up the 2005/6 cycle, enjoy the 2006/7 cycle and then start on the 2007/8 cycle.....

The 2006 Indianapolis International Convention provided another exciting barbershop experience, especially for us folks from the FWD. The Boys of Westminsteruh, Men of Westminster played with the big boys, and came 18 points away from knocking off the daunting Vocal Majority. What performances by both choruses and we all won. The fifth place medalists from Greenville, WI, presented one of the most creative productions I have seen. Set in an aquarium, they had visual excitement, vocal excellence, and just the right amount of humor to move the presentation along. This was followed up with a couple of turtle escapees that kept the audience in stitches long after the judges had put down their pencils. You gotta order the video!!!!

You are reading this in the fall Westunes ahead of the 2006 San Jose District Fall Convention. Our hats are off to the Bay Area Chapter for hosting this event. Our best wishes to the quartets and choruses looking to compete in Denver next year. Denver is on our side of the country so start planning.

Meanwhile, the Palo Alto Mountain View Chapter and the Bay Area Chapter are initiating the planning for the 2007 NorCalWest/Hawaii Spring Convention. We will be gathering on Saturday, April 14, 2007 at the newly opened Woodside High School Theater. Since the school is located in the middle of the San Francisco peninsula, our division chapters should have relatively easy access. This is a wonderful venue with great space, a "no bad seat" auditorium, and a campus with plenty of additional rooms. These divisional conventions provide an opportunity to introduce both new and old friends to our hobby. Remember your first exposure to quartets in every corner singing away! These can be lasting memories for singers and listeners alike. While much of our efforts are driven by the competition between quartets and chapters, we need to share the joy of barbershopping with folks outside the immediate family. They just might become lifelong fans.....



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ALOHA

JACK Y HASHIMOTO

May got off with a bang for the **Sounds of Aloha Chorus** with our annual show with guest quartet **Metropolis**. **Ron Bright's Castle Kids** sang and danced into the hearts of everyone. **Pacific Trades** quartet was also featured. Our theme was "*Pirates of the Caribbean*", a rollicking parody of the adventures of a crew of pirates of yesteryear, lost in the 21st Century. Thanks to Show Chairman **Ken Nelson**, Musical Director **Mark Conching**, Artistic Director **Stephanie Conching**, and script writers **Steve Hokanson & Ralph Brandt** for putting together a great show.

Speaking of thespians, a couple of our members are budding actors. **Don Pierce** (Bs) and **Dean Reiners** (L) appeared in the Joe Moore production of *The Unlikely Lawman*. Joe Moore is well known in Hawaii as the Anchor of the Channel 2 News.

On July 29 we bid Aloha to **Larry** and **Addie Lamberth** at a party hosted by Pres. **Glenn** and **Liz Crowder**. Larry, a 15 year member of the chorus has served as president, secretary, treasurer, and many other jobs. Larry and Addie head for Pennsylvania.

BAY AREA CHAPTER

MAX BATES

The Voices in Harmony chorus members continue to enjoy the process of being part of a "new" chorus. We are working really hard learning better ways to sing and improve the chorus ensemble sound. It is such a delight to have Dr. Lyne artfully direct the chorus to a greater appreciation for music and performance. Each rehearsal reveals more opportunities for improvement. We're working hard and having a terrific amount of fun in the process. What a great way to fill your life with enjoyment. The process continues to be exciting, with regular infusions of new music for upcoming performances.

After several different rehearsal venues have been tried, at least for the time being we are rehearsing at the Niles Banquet Hall at 37270 Niles Blvd., Fremont.

Cindy Hansen has set out a very rigorous plan for song presentations, to have the chorus internalize more performance skills, and to build on those skills during regular coaching sessions.

On July, **Randy Meyer**, VIH music VP, and his wife Diane opened their home for a VIH summer party.

EUREKA

AL STROM

Vice-President of Marketing (Membership) **Lonnie Arney** is working hard to keep our chorus growing. He recently presented **Tom Slater** [L] with his official membership kit. Tom is Pastor of Hope Lutheran Church in Fortuna. Recognizing the special role that baritones play in our chorus, **Ron Goble** renewed his membership (16 years)! Ron is also essential to **Mirth First** quartet's fun and fantasy. **Tom Vander Ploeg**, formerly of the Sacramento chorus and a lead, has his application in. Tom is Senior Vice President and CCO with Redwood Capital Bank.

Lonnie Arney is also at work to replace our old name tags (circa 1905?) with new stylish ones

FREMONT/HAYWARD

RAY SPINOSA

The Fremont-Hayward chapter participated in the American Cancer Society 'Relay for Life' in May. During a period of 24 hours, at least one chapter member walked around the California State University East Bay track. The efforts resulted in a total contribution of \$3456. **The New Dimension Chorus** also sang at the opening ceremonies. Many thanks go to chapter president **Kevin Smith** for his leadership in spearheading this worthwhile activity. Also in May, the chapter entertained at the Baywood Court Retirement Center in Hayward, Ca. An enthusiastic group of seniors listened to the chorus and a chapter quartet, the **Town Square Harmonizers**. This was followed in June by a church performance at Bay Hills Community Church in Hayward.

Belated congratulations to two members honored at the installation dinner: **Burt Yin** was named 2005 **BOTY** and **Brian Carter** received special recognition for his outstanding efforts in organizing fund raising concerts for tsunami victims during 2005.

MARIN COUNTY

RALPH KLING

Marin Chapter quartets were very active this summer performing at numerous venues including: San Domenico & Tam Valley Schools; the giant Marin County Human Race non-profit fund raiser; Mother's Day at the Elk's Club in San Rafael; a vaudeville style show at the Redwoods; and the Tam Creek Home in Novato. Our **Golden Gate Chorus** also made a triumphant return to the Ben & Jerry's Stage at the Marin County Fair on the 4th of July, which earned them a standing ovation from the youthful crowd! The Chorus also drew a record-setting crowd for their annual appearance at the Redwoods Retirement Community in Mill Valley. We bade farewell to our long-time

Director **Chuck Northup** whose patient leadership we have enjoyed for some 20 odd years! We are delighted to announce that noted Society Baritone, Quartet Member, Chorus Director; Radio Show & Webcast Host; Contest Judge; Festival Producer; Voice & Ensemble Coach; and Studio Recording Consultant **Phil Debar** has agreed to become our new Chorus Director

MONTEREY PENINSULA

DENIS VAN DAM

The Monterey Cypressaires had a lively Jamboree with **The Gold Standard** (from Santa Cruz) and the Bay Belles on July 29. A party was held at Monte Del Lago in Castroville with food, singing, and good times. The **Cannery Rogues** recently completed a run in a local production of *The Music Man* at the Forest Theatre in Carmel. We are also adding new members.

PALO ALTO/MOUNTAIN VIEW

CHANNELL WASSON

See page 17.

S.F. BAY CITY QUARTET

CASEY PARKER

Ten Year Anniversary: **Century Notes** licensed SFBC in 1996! Thanks Earl, Bruce, Orville & Casey. **Roman Avila** opened the meeting with *The Old Songs & Down Our Way* followed by the **Re-Qualified Four** singing *Hello Mary Lou*. Our rousing meeting included a fine woodshed ditty, *The Little Red Shawl My Mother Wore*, brought to us by Dennis Baker. Organized quartet **No Contest** sang from their ever expanding repertoire. Chapter Music VP & coach **Roman Avila** assisted **Joe Ingram** with learning new music. We sang a rousing *Happy Birthday to Bob Jackson*, veteran bari and all around good fellow. The hall at Harry's rang with a rousing *Happy Birthday* to celebrate Orv Hanel's 97th. Orv is a "bari's bari".

SAN FRANCISCO

DON KINGTON

Beginning October 18 and for six succeeding Wednesday nights the **Cable Car Chorus** will host "*A Capella Boot Camp*," a musical opportunity for men who want to sing a capella. Each Wednesday evening will include a 30-minute lesson and 30 to 60 minutes of singing and learning music. At the end of the six weeks the **Cable Car Chorus** will give a performance that will include the singers from the *A Capella Boot Camp*. The small tuition fee includes all music and the weekly 30-minute voice lesson. Those Boot Camp members who join the chorus at the end of the program will have the fee applied to their membership.

SANTA CRUZ

LAURANCE STERN

The June 24 Cabaret Night saw a full house with two guest mixed quartets, **Vocal Gentry** and **Four-te**. Success of the event was credited to extreme hard work of **Pat Lanphier**, **JoAnn Armstrong** and chorus director **Jim Davis**.

On May 31 the chorus held it's second "Fifth Wednesday" night, led by **Joe Pedota** and **Jerry Orloff**, singing at several restaurants along the Capitola Esplanade as a recruiting/publicity strategy. On June 27 **Gold Standard** visited neighboring **Cypressaires**, and on July 4 an octet from **Gold Standard** performed at Wilder Ranch for their annual Independence Day celebration.

SANTA ROSA

RAY CROWDER

The Redwood Chordsmen thrilled a large crowd at Santa Rosa's annual "*Avenue Of The Flags*" ceremony on Memorial Day. Opening with "*The Star Spangled Banner*", and closing with "*The Armed Forces Medley*", it was an inspirational event.

Our Robin Hood themed sho "*Maid Marion And Her Merry Men*" was a big hit. Director **Mel Huston** was perfect as Maid Marion, and her hubby **Rex Huston** did a great job as Robin Hood. Featured guest quartet, **The Perfect Gentlemen**, really wowed the audience at both the afternoon and evening shows.

Former members **Michael Rankins**, **Jeremy Donley**, and **Terry Johnson** come back to visit us. However, we're sad to be losing our Music VP, and basso profundo **Eddie Moss**.

SAN MATEO

THOMAS ADDISON

The San Mateo Chapter had a busy summer learning new music, with Hot Dogs and Harmony at the Burlingame "Art in the Park" festival, and singing and serving root beer floats at Home Town Days in San Carlos. Our usual contingent of members will make their annual pilgrimage to St Joes and will be joined by our new director **Judaline Ryan** for the first of what we hope will be many trips to that hallowed ground

WALNUT CREEK

DICK JOHNSTON

A **Devil Mountain Chorus** quartet calling itself the **Devil Mountain Dandies** sang at both Sunday morning services of Unity Center of Walnut Creek on April 23. The congregation at the second service surprised the singers by giving them a standing ovation!

The chorus performed at Quail Lodge in Antioch, and on the 4th of July we sang in Pleasant Hill at the city's park.



FWD DVP for Division 4 NCENN

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Once again it is time to write an article for the Westunes publication. What a treat this is. I get to address a number of people all at once, and if you know me you understand why I continually volunteer to serve on the District Board of Directors. This time of year it becomes even more of a delight because of all the great things that go on in the summer.

First of all, International this year was wonderful. I offer my sincerest congratulations to all competitors. The District was well represented and you all should be proud of your part in the contests and convention. Our competitors were always very much in evidence and mingling with the crowd at the convention. Once again congratulations to all. I'm sure the other District officers will offer their impressions as well so I won't dwell on the score and medals.

We had a very good Summer Board and Management Team meeting in June. We were treated to a stay in the headquarters hotel for the Fall Convention. It is conveniently located across the street from the contest sight. I found the hotel easy to get to and the staff was very helpful. This promises to be a great convention. Y'all Come, heah!

I experienced another first this year in my never ending quest to promote inter chapter visits and combined events. I attended the "Somewhat Serious Barbershop Quartet Contest and Bean Feed", hosted by the Nevada Placer Chapter. I have often wanted to attend this event but had not been able to because of conflicts in scheduling. What a hoot! This is what Barbershopping is all about. Lots of people I hadn't seen for a long time were there. The quarteting was impromptu and sometimes adequate. There was a lot of music and fun as well as renewed friendships. Next year everyone should work to attend this event.

Finally, I would again like to offer to visit any chapter that would like to see me and ask questions about our Society and hobby. All you have to do is invite me. I will not descend on you unless you want me to. If you want help, there are many avenues you can pursue and I would be happy to help in any way that I can.



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CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

MILES SUTTER

July 16th was just the date of the annual *Micke Grove Picnic* sponsored by the **Stockton Chapter**. Each year seems to get better and better. Mokelumne was the reserved area for the festivities, right next to Fun Town, the mini amusement park/carnival and zoo. Eleven pick-up quartets did the entertaining. **Tune Struck** was the featured quartet, which included former GVC members **Al Wolters** and **Steve Taylor**. The barbecues were there for our use as well as the picnic tables. There were tags, quartets, pick-up quartet contest, etc. The "tag quartet" portion of the afternoon was rather innovative. Flip cards were used, with countless song selections, and you only sang about 7-8 measures of one song, then the card was flipped naming a new song and key change! Quite challenging, but a lot of fun. Many thanks to **Bill Legg**, who was the official MC for the afternoon, and the **Stockton Chapter** for organizing this activity.

CHICO

LEE ATKINS

Three quartets sang for the Singing Valentine project, delivering about 65 valentines, earning about \$2000. March performances were for two convalescent hospitals and retirement homes.

The Bidwell Generals moved into their new quarters located in the new Veteran's Hall in April.

Late Show, our NCENN champs, headlined our annual show at the Chico State University campus. The Cast Party was held at **Bob DeMarois's** house with help from **Dads and Lads, Vintage Sound**, and **Acappella**.

The chorus sang at the Chico Outlaws baseball game in June. **Vintage Sound** sang at a game earlier in the season as well as a 60th anniversary party in Bidwell Park. In July the chorus performed at Roses & Ivy Elder Care facility.

DAVIS-VACAVILLE

TOM POWERS

We have been working diligently at breaking our new director **Ollie Brillhante** into our standard repertoire. Ollie is doing a wonderful job of putting his stamp and style to our songs without confusing the chorus by making too many changes.

Speaking of changes, our board of directors recently made a subtle, but meaningful change in the name of our chorus. We are now the **West Valley Chorus**, not "Chorale".

We have changed both our meeting night and location. We meet Monday nights at 7:30 PM at the Grace Fellowship Church at 535 West H Street in Dixon. Come visit us sometime.

FOLSOM

HERSH ROBY

The Folsom Chapter held a "*Wife's Appreciation Night*" on July 13. The wives were treated to a fine dinner. **The Harmony Express Chorus** sang as did chapter quartets.

On a sad note **Ken Potter's** wife, Marie, lost her battle with cancer on July 4. A memorial service was held on Sunday, July 9, with about 100 people in attendance.

Assistant chorus director **Les Cudworth** attended the convention in Indy to receive his Society 50-year pin. **Ken Potter** also has 50 years, but was unable to make the trip this year.

NEVADA PLACER

ROGER PERKINS

Our 14th annual *Somewhat Serious Quartet Contest and Bean Feed* was held on June 6. Once again, it was a fun time with 96 members from **Chico, Folsom, Placerville, Stockton, Reno, Nevada Placer, Sacramento** and **Frank Thorne**. **Bill Beck** did his usual thing providing all of the food and drink and the chef's preparing the beans and weenies were **Roger Perkins** and **Tom Klasey**. **Mike Gagon** set up the sound system and kept it running smoothly all evening. Our masterful M.C. was **Clark Abrahamson**. The person living furthest away was **Bob Angel** from Tucson. We had 22 quartets, some good and some even better. Finishing in 3rd place was *A Sleigh and 3 Reindeer* with **Kelly Sleigh, Steve Bernstein, David McCartney** and **Carl Miller**. Quartet #2 was *Three Men and a Bald Guy*, **Roger Perkins, Brian Besser, Steve Taylor** and **Bob Yater** and in first place was *Delta Dogs*, **Al Wolter, Brian Besser, Steve Taylor** and **Alan LeVezu**,

proudly wearing their gold medals. Special thanks goes to **Roger and Phyllis Fox**. Roger runs the event every year and Phyllis does all of the score keeping and paper work with her laptop. This year our judges were our NCENN quartet champs, **Late Show**, starring **Raymond Davis, Jordan Litz, Gabe Caretto and Mike Stewart**. Not only did they do the judging, but they also sang beautifully after the contest and hung around until after 11:00 p.m. singing songs and tags with their friends and fans.

PLACERVILLE

KEITH ECKHARDT

The Gold Rush Chorus and its quartets have been busy with outside performances. They provided Barbershop Harmony for the First Christian Church of Placerville at their annual picnic and festival; the residents of Eskaton Lincoln Manner, and the Millenium Sports club to delight of their members. The chapter quartets have been equally as busy by performing at the "Older Americans Day" celebration, the El Dorado County Fair grounds, the residents at the Placerville Pines Nursing Home, and the residents of the Cameron Park Mobil Home Estates.

RENO

DAVE RAMER

As the chorus moves toward our summer show and eventually competition, **Dawn Castiglione** took time out of her busy life for a coaching session and a look at new choreography. The National Anthem sung at the Reno Rodeo was accepted with a thunderous ovation. Next an Art Town performance for the citizens of Reno was received with affection, appreciation and a thunderous ovation. Fourth of July was observed as the Chorus performed alongside the Reno Philharmonic in the oldest settlement in Nevada, the town of Genoa. Not only did the Philharmonic receive their kudos but the chorus had, you guessed it, a thunderous ovation. Next, came the Reno Host Lions Festival and performance at the Reno International Airport, and the Bartley Ranch Annual show July 22nd.

SACRAMENTO

FRANK KINNISON

Capitolaire's quartets spreading harmony! **The Ambassadors** sang for 400 K-4th graders on St. Patrick's Day. Bass **Don Sheffield** and his wife, **Sally**, are grandparents to two of the children. **The 4T9r4** [Steve Mathews, Verne Bagby, Lynd Bishop and Tony Prowence] performed two Olios between acts of the 1890's melodrama, *The Fortune Hunter's Daughter*.

The Lucky Four [Norm Smith, Frank Kinnison, Ed Comingore, and Les Cudworth] was named *BOTM*. Les also attended the Int'l. convention to receive his 50 year pin. *BOTM* for May was **Dave Jones**, PR Vice President.

The June 2006 edition of the *Swipes & Tags* bulletin was entitled, "Founder's Edition", and included the chapter history as told by the late **Joe Trousdale**, who founded the chapter in 1946. Joe joined the Society in Tulsa in 1942 and had the opportunity to sing with our founder OC Cash. Another article was a reprint written by Bill Seibel which gives details about the founding of the chapter. Congratulations to the Capitolaire's on their 60th anniversary. On June 20 the chapter celebrated with a pot luck

dinner and a proclamation was presented by the City of Sacramento commemorating the 60 years. FWD President Bill Cale presented the chapter with their 60-year Society certificate. **The River City Music Co. (Gib Hertler, Jim Newlove, Kent Borrowdale and Roger Santiago)** performed on a morning Sacramento TV show to inform the public of the chapter's 60th.

The chorus and quartets performed once again at the Sacramento Jazz Jubilee on Memorial Day weekend.

STOCKTON

KEP KEPLINGER

The Stockton Portsmen hosted their annual summer picnic at Micke Grove Park on Sunday July 16. The special event was the celebration of Folsom's **Phil Taylor's** 90th birthday. There to help celebrate were some old friends from the Stockton chapter. **Les Drury** (95) and **Larry Schatz** (88) along with a bunch of others that sang with Phil during his Stockton days. **Al Treadway** instigated an annual pick-up quartet award program for the BEST QUARTET, HIGHEST NOTE, LOWEST NOTE, LONGEST NOTE. The quartet of **Phil Taylor** (Bari), **Les Drury** (Lead), **Larry Schatz** (Bass) and **Don Wilson** (Tenor) remarkably won the first place quartet award. **Marion Gribskov**, also from Folsom not only brought **Phil Taylor** but also brought a Tag Song program for a bunch of fun and laughs. **Chuck Kenney** did a great job assigning the guys to the pickup quartets. A big thanks to **John Eilers** for the PA system. **Jan Roston** of the Portsmen did a professional job putting the picnic together.

VISALIA

DEE BAUGHMAN

The Mighty Oak Chorus sang in June at the Hanford "Concert in the Park" with the Kings County Symphony Orchestra with the new Barbershop arrangement for orchestra & chorus of *Summertime in the Park*. Joining with us was several of the barbershoppers from the Bakersfield chapter. This was the very first time that this had been performed anywhere in the country. The chorus performed this with the Kingsburg Community Band in July. In between the Mighty Oak Chorus & quartets were featured at the City of Tulare's concert in the park series. The chorus also performed for two local churches in Visalia & Tulare & for a Habitat for Humanity fund-raiser in Hanford. The quartet **Some Assembly Required** sang for the Visalia Downtown Merchant Association, at the city of Tulare's fireworks show, the Visalia Restaurant Association's annual awards dinner & the Kings County Fair. The chorus is pleased to have **Lynn Sedgley**, formally of the **Davis-Vacaville West Valley Chorus**, as the new chorus director. We were pleased to have as our guest, **John Scott**, Director of the St. George, Utah Color Country Chorus.

YOSEMITE

JAMES CRAIG

The Yosemite Chapter had a fantastic show on May 20th. How can it not be fantastic with **Hi Fidelity**? Our attendance has dropped to the extent that we have decided to go dark for the summer. BUT, every third Monday we get together for the Harmony for Lunch Bunch. We'll meet at the Double D in Coarsegold. If you're in a quartet, or a singer, drop by and join us for lunch at noon.

**FWD DVP for Division 5 ASNSU****Ivan Jensen**

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Since even email does not seem to work every time, I guess I had better get busy and send my article to the printer a little early so I do not miss another issue. To this day, I have no idea what happened to my article for the summer issue. The article was sent three times but never arrived in time to be included. I did share it with all Division 5 Chapters so it did get a little mileage.

For some reason, this appears to have been a fairly quiet summer at most of our chapters. I have had no feedback on any activities so far this summer. I know we have several members and their families out of town during the summer and our winter visitors are not even thinking about returning at this point. I am asking our chapter counselors to contact each of the chapters to see what activities they may have had during June and July. It will be interesting to see what is happening in your location.

By the time you receive this issue, we will have completed our summer Bash. It is still eighteen days away and I know we had a great time.

You may think it is a little early, but we need to be thinking about our slate of officers for 2007, October is just around the corner and all elections need to be completed and results turned into the Society by October 15th. Get those nominating committees working if they aren't already. Once you have the officers identified for 2007, make sure you get everyone scheduled for COTS November 18 & 19th. This year promises to be bigger and better than years past and you may be in store for some new information and some changes. Put it on your calendar and plan to attend.

One additional item you do not want to forget is the FWD District Convention and Contest in San Jose, CA. October 5-8. We in Division 5 have Spirit of Phoenix, Las Vegas Metro and Paradise Valley choruses and 8, Sonoran Sound, Oasis, Equinox, Music Box, Let It Ride, Xtreme, Dazzle and Stardust Quartets representing us. We should all go to San Jose and cheer them on. Each and every chapter has a delegate who is the representative for the chapter at the House of Delegates Meeting on Friday October 6th. This meeting is an approved chapter expense so we should have all sixteen chapters from the Division represented at the meeting. Remember, you will be receiving the information package about 30 days prior to the meeting so you can and should address things with the chapter so your delegate can respond and vote from a chapter view. Your input and vote is important.

I am pleased to announce that it looks real good that Sun Cities will be hosting our Division Contest April 20 and 21, 2007. We

are in the final stages of selecting the hotel and venue for the contest and we hope it will be the same as this past year. Start planning now to attend another great contest.

My last comments for this issue will be on membership. It seems we in Division 5 have settled in with others in the District and Society. For the first time in several years we have more chapters that lost members than we do that gained members. In June 2005, we had 11 of our 16 chapters showing a gain in members and we have kept that number pretty steady until May of 2006. In June of 2006, we have 9 chapters that have lost members and 7 who have gained. Those seven are Yuma (+2), Mesa (+4), Las Vegas Metro (+12), Sun Cities (+3), White Mountains (+2), Sedona (+4) and Casa Grande (+5). Great job guys and keep up the work. With all their effort, those seven chapters could not make up the lost members from the nine that lost so we are down 25 from June 2005. I hope the nine chapters will get busy and start talking with those seven chapters to see what they are doing right.

Gentlemen, I hope you have had a great summer and are looking forward to an even better Fall, Winter and Spring. Keep The Whole World Singing.

**Division 5 ASNSU Editor****Phil Smith**

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CASA GRANDE**ROGERS HORNSBY**

On May 6, the **DesertSounders** traveled 12 miles east to put on a brief program for the Stanfield Women's Club. Chapter quartet **Once Upon A Time** also sang.

Previous director **Carroll Hulla** returned for a brief "surprise" visit the same night our current director **Jeff Dolan** was heading to Indianapolis to sing with Dazzle in the International Contest. The four husbands and wives of the short-lived **Ovation** quartet (**Hulla, Dick Timmerman, Bill Kane** and **Rogers Hornsby**) had a farewell get-together at the Timmerman residence.

If you're in the Casa Grande vicinity at 6:45 PM on a Monday night, drop by the First Presbyterian Church at 702 E. Cottonwood Lane (near intersection of Trekell Road) and LET'S SING TOGETHER!

GREATER PHOENIX**PHIL SMITH**

The Spirit of Phoenix Chorus hard-working marketing and PR guru **Allen Baum** has produced an excellent promotional DVD showing off what the chorus does on its shows.

In conjunction with this a group sales team headed by **Ray Bizzigotti** is contacting 140 RV parks and senior facilities in the Valley to promote group sales. And **Jim Conner** is heading an

expanded Ride the Bus program to make sure that all groups who need transportation are accommodated.

Chapter quartet **Music Box (Dan Wilson, Jack Nelis, Bob Szabo and John Bloomquist)** found out when they won the Division 5 Senior quartet championship that there were no awards available for that title. So they decided to do something about it. So they had made and donated to the Division a trophy they have dubbed the "AARP" Trophy to serve as a perpetual traveling trophy. Thanks, guys, for closing a long overdue gap in the Division awards process.

LAS VEGAS

ROC PUCCI

A couple of changes have occurred within the **Gamble-Aires**. Firstly, our president **Dennis Johnson** had to resign due to very tight business and personal time constraints. Dennis, thanks for the time you devoted to the Gamble-Aires while you could. Las Vegas' eternal president **Rich Coon** stepped up to assume the President's duties. This is his sixth year as president. Secondly, **Roger Buehrer** had to resign as VP of PR and Marketing for similar reasons. I volunteered to take his place.

New chorus members are: **Todd Miller**, bari; **Danny Horvat**, bass; and **Tim Giffei**, tenor.

During International our college quartet **Let It Ride** came in ninth place out of 22 college quartets.

On July 15th at the infamous Pucci Resort & Spa the chorus had a barbecue and pool party. Of course singing was heard throughout the neighborhood, but not one complaint.

LAS VEGAS METRO

JOHN THOMPSON

Our **City of Lights Chorus** took the stage in April at the Division Contest/Convention in Phoenix and proudly came away with the Plateau A championship.

We put on our Spring Show "*What's This Crazy Thing Called Love*" at the Winchester Cultural Center. Three chapter quartets **From the Edge**, **Shenanigans** and **Rumble Seat Daze**, and featured quartets – **Stardust** and **Electra** from the SAI performed.

On July 4, several of our members and happily some wives "manned" a fund-raising booth at Anthem Hills Park selling "meat on a skewer" and raised about \$1,000.

We are moving our weekly rehearsal location to Sand Creek Mobile Home Park Clubhouse, 2627 S. Lamb Blvd.

Our Barbershopper of the Quarter awards went to **John Mackey** (first quarter) and **Dick Morrison** (second quarter). **Jason Dougherty** has been named assistant director, and **Larry Kent** is now Music VP.

PRESCOTT

DAVD SAMUELS

The High Mountain Chorus held its June show at the historic Elks Opera House, which continues to be renovated. Titled

"*Harmony at the Elks*," the show featured four chapter quartets and had as their headliner **Dazzle!** from Phoenix. The purpose of the show was to increase awareness of the renovations going on and to provide funds for the supporting foundation. As a result, the chapter voted to contribute a theater seat which will have the chorus' name on it. Under the chairmanship of **Lynn Grubb** (a transplant from the Mid-Atlantic District), the show went smoothly. We even had a local barber as emcee, who is now getting ready to join us as a member.

ST. GEORGE

KEN SUNDWALL

This has been a very busy and satisfying summer for the **Color Country Chorus**. It began with an appearance at the city's annual Memorial Day Service. The chorus opened the Independence Day Celebration with a concert on Main Street Plaza.

On July 19 we presented a patriotic concert before a full house in the St. George Tabernacle. We were greeted with a standing ovation at the end of the evening.

We are losing one of our stellar basses, **Fred Wahlgren**, who is relocating to the Reno area. Fred is immediate past president and BOTY. He is a former senior Quartet Champion in the Rocky Mountain District and recently has been in a registered quartet.

SIERRA VISTA

ED RAYMOND

Paul Godwin and **Dave Germain** are doing a wonderful job as interim directors through the summer. We are brushing up on old repertoire, doing pick-your-own quartetting, and exploring new numbers and new interps -- a lot of fun!

We welcome new member **Richard Newton** [L]. Dick is well known locally for the many singing groups in which he performs.

For the third consecutive year, the **Cochise Chordsmen** were asked to provide songs for the Memorial Day Ceremony at the Southern Arizona Veterans Memorial Cemetery. **Watering Hole #3 (Paul Godwin, Bernie Martus, Dave Germain and Fred Whitley)** continue to perform at various community activities. Their gigs help to increase Sierra Vista's appreciation of our chapter. They have been asked to perform at the retirement party for **Russ Watson**, a former member (and director for several years) of the Chordsmen.

SUN CITIES

BOB MCGOWAN

Preparation of Learning tapes has been completed and our members are preparing for our 2007 show.

A number of the chorus members perform each Tuesday at a McDonald's in Sun City, and recently sang for the 150th time there. The management arranged for press coverage of the event. As a result, the chorus was invited to present music on KTVK, Channel 3 in Phoenix, on the morning of July 4 on Good Morning Arizona. We had 26 men there, and the station production crew was impressed with the performance the Chorus presented. A short interview with some members allowed us to remind the viewers of where and when the chorus meetings are held.

The **Desert Aires** continue to be among of the top recruiters of new members in Division 5. Joining the chorus recently were basses **Chuck Hill** and **Johnny McCullough**.

Our own **Vintage Voices** continue to perform gigs locally with their repertoire of old standards.

TUCSON

JACK STATLER

Front-line Director **Rich Kates** decided to pursue other interests. A Director Search Committee chaired by Past President **Ed Johnson** is actively pursuing a replacement. **John "Hap" Haggard** has been named interim director, assisted by Music VP **Ken Sylvia**, who recently received his Director's Certification.

Fred Koch is rehabbing nicely after successful surgery, although the chemo and radiation therapy has sort of taken him out of it for the time being.

Under the guidance of **Connie Keil**, the Music Leadership Team has developed a schedule of systematic rehearsal of the chorus repertoire to keep it fresh performance-wise. In addition, a Show Committee outline, based on the Society's Show Production Manual, has been implemented which will eventually contain the name of every member listed on the attendance sheet. The purpose is to spread the responsibility by involving literally every chapter member in a task.

WHITE MOUNTAINS ARIZONA CHAPTER

DOC DOCKENDORF

Jack Miller [L] and his fiancé **Pat Bell** were married at our chapter meeting on July 26. The ceremony was held in the church adjacent to our meeting hall and was presided over by one of our basses, the Rev. **Jim Porter**, pastor of the Episcopal Church where the High Country Chorus meets. The chorus sang *The Lord's Prayer* and *Heart of My Heart* to wish the happy couple well, and then Jack and Pat joined us for our regular Tuesday night rehearsal. They planned to honeymoon later.

The chorus performed our Western package at the Venture In RV park. **Crooks Trail** and the **Pine Tones** quartets performed at the Relay for Life cancer walk. **The Pine Tones** also sang for the Arts Alliance of the White Mountains old-fashioned ice cream social. For the fifth consecutive year, the chorus appeared and sang in the Show Low 4th of July Parade.

We held our annual show "College Days" in July to a crowd of over 900 for two performances. Our headliner quartet was **Hi-Fidelity**, one of the most entertaining quartets we have ever had, and by far the best singing quartet our audience has ever heard. We had 30 singers on stage, our largest performing chorus. The chorus again performed the Western package for the White Mountains Roundup, a celebration of the Great American Cowboy. The package was emceed by our own home-grown Texan, **Jim Dye**, who had the audience in stitches.

The chorus welcomes newest member Bari **David Wheeler**.

Chorus Directors Wanted

Crescenta Valley Chapter

Bruce Campbell 626 - 299 - 0892

Fremont/Hayward Chapter, New Dimension Chorus

Demaster Survine 510 - 780 - 0613

Palomar-Pacific

Sierra Vista Chapter

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CONVENTIONS, SHOWS, EVENTS

2006 _____

September

- 9 Sacramento
- 16 Pasadena
- 16 Santa Maria Shows
- 23 Rincon Beach Shows
- 24 El Cajon

October

- 5-8 FWD Fall Convention San Jose
- 10-14 SAI Int'l Conv, Las Vegas, NV
- 14 Eureka Show
- 20,21 Nevada Placer Shows
- 21 Eureka Show
- 21 Walnut Creek Show
- 21 Stockton Show
- 21 Rohnert Park Show
- 21 Santa Fe Springs Show

November

- 4 Placerville Show
- 4 Santa Cruz Show
- 5 Marin Show
- 11 NC COTS, 1 Day, Delta College
- 18 SC COTS, 1 Day, Univ of Redlands
- 18 Monterey Peninsula Shows
- 25 Santa Fe Springs Shows

December

- 3 Sacramento Show
- 9 Crescent City Show
- 9,10 Hemet Shows
- 14 Prescott Show
- 15,16,17 Whittier Shows

2007 _____

January

- 21-28 Int'l MidWinter Convention Albuquerque, NM

March

- 4 NCal Novice Contest
- Shadelands in Walnut Creek
- Sponsors: Walnut Creek and The Bay Area Chapters

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

April

- 13-14 NCWH Division Contest
- No Site yet
- 14 Fullerton Shows
- 19-22 SAI Region 12 Conv, Sacramento
- 20-21 Az/SN/SU Division Contest
- No Site yet
- 20,21 Whittier Shows
- 28 Placerville Show

May

- 5 SCW Division Contest
- No Site yet
- 12 SCE Division Contest
- No Site yet

July

- 1-8 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION Denver, CO

September

- 27-30 FWD Fall Convention Phoenix
- [Note date is moved to September]

October

- 9-13 SAI Int'l Conv, Calgary, Alberta

November

- 10 NC COTS, 1 Day
- 17 SC COTS, 1 Day

2008 _____

April

- 3-6 SAI Region 12 Conv, Sacramento
- 12 Fullerton Shows

Jun29-Jul 6 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION Nashville, TN

*Clear all show dates with
FWD Secretary, Dick Girvin*

November

- 4-8 SAI Int'l Conv, Nashville, TN
- 15 NC COTS, 1 Day
- 22 SC COTS, 1 Day

2009 _____

April

- 2-5 SAI Region 12 Conv, Sacramento

Jun28-Jul 5 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION Anaheim, CA

2010 _____

Jun27-Jul 4 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION Philadelphia, PA

2011 _____

Jul 3-10 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION Kansas City, MO

2012 _____

Jul 1-8 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION Portland, OR

2013 _____

Jun 30-Jul 7 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION Toronto, ON

2014 _____

Jun 29-Jul 6 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION Minneapolis, MN

2015 _____

Jun 28-Jul 5 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION Nashville, TN



2006 International Chorus: Westminster 2nd Place Medalist



La Jolla 19th Place



Rincon Beach 22nd Place

WESTUNES

Magazine

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