



WESTUNES

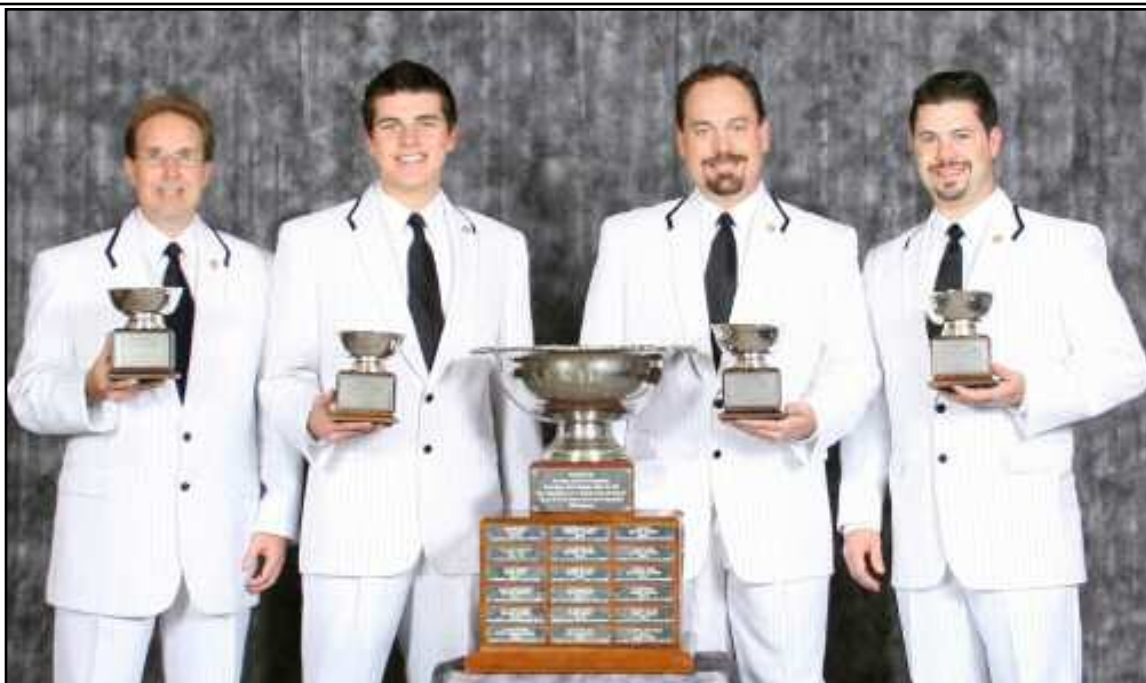
Magazine

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

Winter 2006

Number 4



2006 FWD Quartet Champion Late Show



2006 FWD Chorus Champion Westminster

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

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 - Photographs: use high resolution JPEG.
- Please identify people in photos clearly.

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Issue	Deadline	Chapter News Submittal to Div Editor Deadline
Winter	1 Nov	25 Oct
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Summer	1 May	25 Apr
Fall	1 Aug	25 Jul

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or use the secure Society website login
<https://secure.spebsqsa.org/members/login.asp>

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*The holiest of all holidays are those
Kept by ourselves in silence and apart-
The secret anniversaries of the heart
When the full river of feeling overflows...*
*Holidays 1875
H.W.Longfellow*

This is a very special time of the year for all of us. As you read this, we've just celebrated Thanksgiving, and if you have even half the things to be thankful for that I have, you are indeed fortunate. We are coming into the very special holiday season that inspires us to give gifts to those we love and to those less fortunate than we. It's the time of year when we should look back and review our accomplishments and the good things that happened to us and enjoy those memories. As we look forward to the new year we need to reflect a bit on the things that didn't go as well as they could have and resolve to move them into the plus column in the future. And we can all look forward to setting and meeting new goals in 2007.

The successes of Far Western District quartets and choruses at international have been reported on in the column before but look at what happened in San Jose in October. Westminster is seeded first for Denver and both our new Bay Area and Greater Phoenix Chapters are listed in the top ten! From the looks of the score sheets our new District champs, Late Show, will lead Stardust and VocalEase up to Reno to join Hi Fidelity and medallists O C Times and Metropolis in an assault on the qualifying for Denver. That's only six that I've mentioned and I know there's bound to be more. For instance, I really missed Men So Forte in San Jose and hope they sing in Reno.

How could I look back at 2006 without mentioning the wonderful Youth Harmony Camp above Placerville that Richard Lund organizes every year. This was the first year since it moved out

of the Coast range that I was able to attend and I can attest to its effectiveness. I stood on the risers next to a young man who came all the way up from Paso Robles, so don't think your chapter is too far away to encourage your local schools to participate.

Looking forward to 2007, we have some changes in the administration and management team of the FWD. Steve Sammonds will be the new VP for NorCal West/Hawaii. Since Steve is moving out of his position as Chairman of Chorus Director Development, we're delighted to welcome Tom Raffety as the new chair of this key critical group. Kevin Smith will be our Chair of Marketing and PR, replacing Michael Frazer. I've asked Michael to concentrate on helping chapters write grant requests, his specialty. Please contact him and ask for his help. The final change is in our Contest and Judging group. Dick Girvin has been filling in for Terry Aramian, but Dick has more than enough to do. We are fortunate to have Russ Young accept that responsibility. Our timing was right in that Russ just completed his responsibility as Society Category Specialist.

One area we can concentrate on for improvement is membership. We need individual effort and chapter effort. Almost any plan will work. You just have to make the plan and work the plan. It can be very simple, if you'll just do it. I believe in the KISS approach.

Another area to work on is participation in Division and District functions; conventions, CO15-18, TS, HCW, chapter shows (the other guy's, too) and on and on.

The amount of fun you will have will be directly proportional to your involvement.

Will I see you in Reno?

Thanks for all you did in 2006 and thanks for the memories.

Motto:
**“Thanks for
the
Memories”**

FWD Sunshine Chairman George McCay

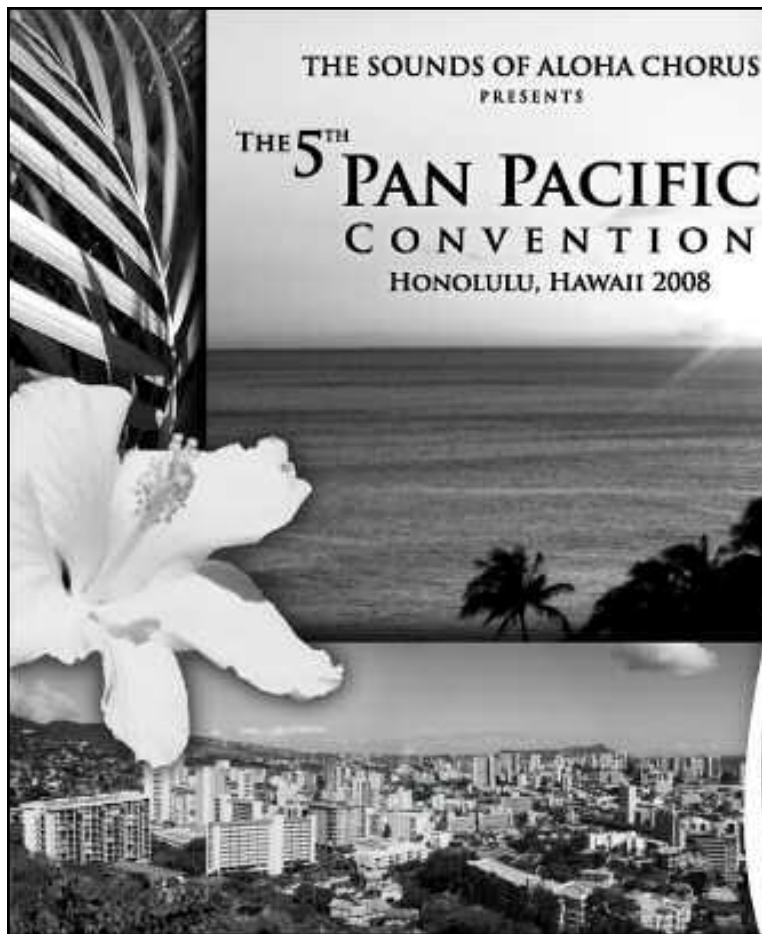
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**FWD Spring Convention in Reno
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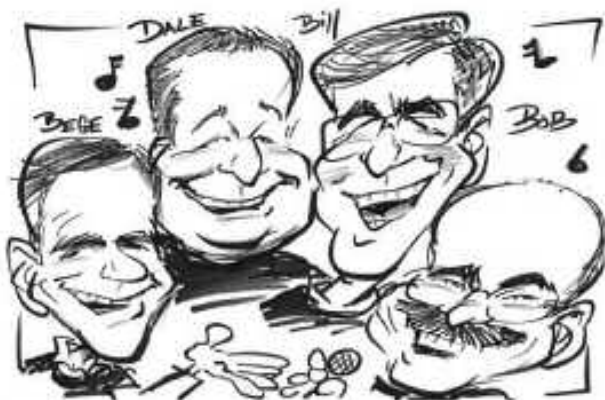


Presented by the Sounds Of Aloha Chorus, make your plans now to be part of "Great Pacific Harmony 2008 Pan Pacific Convention." Planning is well under way. The convention will be October 30th, 2008 through November 2nd, 2008 in Honolulu Hawaii. The venue is the Renaissance Ilikai Hotel on the island 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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Ed. note: Bob was on travel, so no article this issue.

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PAL-PAC IS BACK!

By Roger McCandless, Chapter President

Much has been happening at this north San Diego County chapter recently. Following the departure of Lloyd Steinkamp as director, and the unfortunate incapacity of Terry Aramian, the chapter launched into an intensive search for a replacement. With outstanding help from two Masters of Harmony, Gene Clements and Jonathan Friedman, the chapter forged ahead, interviewing and auditioning prospective directors.

When the dust settled, John Hulbert emerged as the man to lead the chorus. John is no stranger to Pal-Pac, having directed them for several successful years before business obligations forced him to give up his post. So, great things are expected in the near future, as the chapter rallies to regain former members and reach out to new ones.

One such new member is John Nettles. John is a professional musician, and former vocal music director at Vista (CA) High School. John has accepted the position of assistant director, and brings a wealth of musical knowledge with him.

Palomar-Pacific has now officially merged with The Rancho Bernardo Troubadours.

Several members of RB have already transferred their memberships to Pal-Pac, and the Music Men welcome their new brothers with open arms! One thing needs to be noted here. As a final gesture, the Rancho Bernardo BOD voted to donate \$1000 from their treasury to Youth in Harmony! Also, the merger meant that there was an extra set of risers. Gene Clements made us aware of a fledgling chapter up in Westminster that was in dire need of risers. So, with the good wishes from both RB and Pal-Pac, the risers were donated to the kids up in Orange County.

The chapter recently had an intra-chapter novice quartet contest, which featured eight competing quartets! Suave Joe Quince was the emcee, and guest quartet, Cloud Nine, from the San Diego Sun Harbor Chapter were the mike testers, Σ and were a tough act to follow. To be certain the contest was not fixed, the San Clemente Quartet Chapter provided Warren Willard and George Strom as judges. A great time was had by all. The winning quartet was Tom, Dick, and Hairy, comprised of a Tom, a Dick, some hairy guy, and someone not fitting the description of the quartet's name. As inconceivable as it may seem, there was a five-way tie for fourth place!

The chapter has recently performed three very successful package shows, based on the music and script from its annual spring show, and has at least three Christmas shows lined up. In addition to the Music Men Chorus, chapter quartets Sound Design, A Song and a Smile, and FREEDOM!, as well as the VLQ, The Baker's Dozen, continue to entertain our many patrons.

[Continued on page 5]

[From page 4]

Plans are also well under way for the spring 2007 show. The theme of This is My Country! will be a salute to our United States, from New York to California. Show chairman, Steve Butler, and Music and Performance VP, Al Leuthe, are part of the creative team for this show, and have lined up the popular quartet, District Champs Late Show as headliners.

Yes, things are looking goooood at Pal-Pac!



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Jackie & Steve Bishop Kim & Jerry Orloff
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STARDUST
a barbershop quartet
John Larry Buzz Jim
contact: John Mininger
jondonsing@aol.com
(702)-798-2041



John Larry
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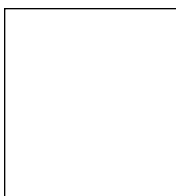


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FWD Convention in San Jose

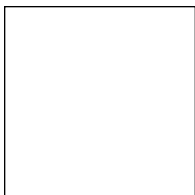
The Fall FWD Convention in San Jose is now "in the books". I congratulate Chairman Chuck Hunter on an outstanding convention. Please extend my gratitude to the entire Voices in Harmony team and the NCW barbershoppers that stepped in to help with the contest flow while Bay Area Chapter folks competed. I think the Friday classes, especially the "One hour convention and contest", were terrific. Thank you Keith Eckhardts for all your hard work – it is starting to pay off! Doug Maddox and Bill Stephens put on another masterful contest production. Thank you!!

The biggest problem we had (again) was the break time between the Chorus contest and the Quartet Finals. This has been a problem the last couple of years because there is not enough time to run the chorus contest; clear the hall; have chorus evaluations; give the judges a dinner break and then start the Quartet Finals on time. To avoid this in the future, we will move our Saturday chorus contest start time to 10:00 AM.



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Ed. note: Russ Young was just recently appointed, so expect an article next issue.

Show of Champions

We tried a new concept for the Show of Champions that has some exciting potential. We hope to continue it next year and make it even better. The concept is to have a "focused" Show of Champions and sell separate tickets to it to support local school music programs - through the local school music programs. We sold \$5 student tickets on line with \$4 returned to the school for their music program. \$10 adult tickets returned \$5 to the school program. This accomplished several things:

- Support to the schools for singing
- Exposing young singers to the best we have to offer in chorus and quartet performances
- Filling the unused seats in the hall for the Show of Champions.

We didn't start this early enough in San Jose to sell out the house, but we should set aside a block of seats in Phoenix (back of the house) for this purpose and do the advance work with the schools to make it happen. The money not going to the schools covers our expenses for the ticketing, etc.

RCPM changes

John Jones has agreed to take over the NCWH division. Thank you John and thanks to Dick Whitten for doing long distance double duty the last couple of years. For now, Ivan Jensen is handling the RCMP job in the AZ division (also double duty).

Combining SoCal East and West Divisional Contests in 2007

The Board/HOD agreed to a combined divisional contest since it will be district run. At this writing we still don't have a venue and don't



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Keith Eckhardt was busy taking care of COTS website and registration duties at Westunes submittal time. You would find it hard to believe how much information must be identified and administrated.

know which date May 5 or May 12 although May 5 is preferred.

I'm looking forward to 2006. I hope to see you March 16 – 19 at the FWD Spring Convention and NorCal East Division contest in Reno.

In harmony,

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--	---

First Impressions and the "Face"

Do you remember your first date? I sure do! All day long before I went to pick up Miss Lovely, I picked, cleaned, brushed, and preened. I must have taken a shower three times, used separate antiperspirant, and deodorant, brushed my teeth five times, splashed on the "Old English" (even though I really wasn't shaving yet!), changed clothes two or three times, and then spent two hours in front of the mirror contemplating how I looked! Phew.

You know, as well as I do, first impressions are key to enticing someone to wanting more. When planning out our Marketing Strategy we must constantly ask ourselves what "Face" we are presenting to the Public. In this age of dwindling numbers, we really need to concentrate on presenting the best "face" we can.

This presentation includes written material which is well thought out, and looks and reads well. In spoken word, from the MC to the Radio Spot, a clear and concise message, well spoken and clear. At our outings, singing the best we can. On our web pages, a good looking and "Semi-professional" design and layout. All these items send a message to the public; it can be really great, or just "so-so".

In the FWD, we are really fortunate that we have some really great "Faces". If you attended the District Convention in San Jose, I think you know what I mean! Aloha brought their "A" game, and spent hours just in the makeup room alone (A friend and I were going to sneak over and try and convince them we sang with them ^ we wanted their faces! We chickened out...) Great Frankenstein outfits Aloha!


The young men of Westminster WOWed us, the newly merged Voices in Harmony was great to behold, and there was energy enough for everyone! OC Times, Men So Forte, and our other young Quartets are electrifying. Gotcha and Metropolis continue to be proud crowd pleasers! And, High Fidelity leads even the a cappella circle!! This is what I consider to be the "Face" of the

Far Western District!

Certainly, this is not to say that we are not doing a lot of great things elsewhere! I simply put it to you that we always need to present ourselves with our best "Face". In the next year I hope to bring you more of the great things that others are doing in the way of their marketing "Face". Better yet, if your Chapter is doing something really outstanding - let me know! Perhaps we can begin to leverage the really great things we are doing, better our marketing plan because of it, and build on each others successes!

Marketing Tip: Ensure that all your Marketing materials point toward good/great presentation! WOW them!

Until the next pitch.

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--	---

Have we stopped the membership slide?

Let's hope so – as of October, we're at 3,206 members - UP 113 members (a gain of 3.52%) since September! That reflects the Society trend – UP 1022 members (3.44%) in the same period.

However – however – lest we go bonkers with glee, let's take a look at the REST of the story: We're DOWN 87 members since the first of the year, and DOWN 101 members since October 2005.

What can we do to continue the upward trend?

So many things:

How's about getting involved now with the 2007 "Music Man" 50th anniversary program – about which you'll be hearing much more in the coming months. It's pretty simple – and a natural – get involved with sponsoring, appearing in, taking part in one of the great Midwinter or International programs, or in any way participating in some aspect of the Music Man revival in your community.

Does your chapter have a 2007 Membership plan? Yes? Great – see how you can help make the plan a reality. No? Ooookay - so lean on your chapter leaders to get the plan in place.

Talked to your friends and neighbors lately? Maybe now's the time to get them involved in your chapter's Holiday Chorus (your chapter does have plans for a Holiday Chorus, doesn't it?).

Now's the time the Malls and other businesses are very approachable for "Auditions For Admission" – maybe with a holiday theme. A twist on the familiar – maybe do one at a Home Depot, Lowes, or other places guys go to shop – it's called "hunting where the ducks are".

How about setting up a non-singing event – maybe a crafts faire, manning the phones at your PBS TV station – maybe organize and sponsor a blood drive for area members (get some media involvement, of course).

Happy Holiday Hunting! See 'ya around...



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Harmony College West What Is It? and Why Is It?

Harmony College West is not something that is normally discussed at chapter meetings or chapter board meetings or at afterglows. People think of it as something that happens to come up after the spring show season and about the time of the "Go For The Gold" show.

Actually it is the one weekend of the year when Barbershoppers can get together from all over the Far Western District to get in-depth instruction in a variety of subjects, all of which will increase their knowledge, enjoyment and their skills in the hobby we all have chosen, either this year or fifty-some years ago.

It is the one weekend when quartets can immerse themselves in concentrated performance-enhancing coaching from truly gifted coaches. Where 100% of the evaluations of this year's quartet POD coaching said they were "Satisfied" - 13%, or "Very Satisfied" - 87% with the overall value of their coaching experience at Harmony College West! It is where 98% of those who took classes such as Sight Reading, Vocal Production, Arranging and seven others reported on their evaluations that they were "Satisfied" or "Very Satisfied" with their experience at HCW!

Why do we have Harmony College West? Because the Far Western District has always been a leader in the Barbershop Society. We have become known as the "Quartet District". And that is because we have always made it our policy to provide our chapters, our quartets and our individual members with the best and most educational programs possible. Harmony College West is the crown jewel of the Far Western District's educational programs!

Let me quote some of the comments from the evaluations returned after HCW 2006 which answer the question, *IS HARMONY COLLEGE WEST REALLY WORTH THE TIME AND MONEY???*

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

"Has been awesome!!! Don't fix it if it ain't broken!!!"

"It was a very productive weekend for me and my quartet."

"I found it excellent (2 times)"

"You did a great job. I am astounded that you could offer so much for such a modest fee, including the superb food, all thrown in with the global fee. (I hadn't realized meals would be included)"

"Without a doubt, HCW was one of the most incredible experiences of my life. Thanks."

"Just need to have more attendees next year. Let's start promoting it right away...make it a "must" event.

"I would certainly strongly recommend this experience to any quartets I know."

"Every rookie should be brow-beaten to come. I learned I might succeed switching to tenor."

"Thank you all SO MUCH for all the effort--it paid off for all of us, with a great experience for all."

"Had a neat time. Can't wait til next year."

"Excellent classes. First class presentations! Very Helpful."

"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."

The following are comments from members of quartets coached in the POD format - four quartets meeting twice with four coaches, each coach having a unique perspective.

"I've been to HCW for 3 previous quartet coaching sessions and this one was an exponential improvement. Please keep the POD system for future HCWs. I'm telling everyone about it - I have to believe it will lead to greater quartet participation."

"Sooooo much better than two years ago!"

"Being able to be evaluated, coached and practice and discuss each coaching session was great. Having the same coach back, note the improvements and changes, then coach some more was beyond great."

"Excellent, super, two orders of magnitude better than the "old" system!!!!"

"I felt it was extremely effective."

"Worked great."

"Worked well."

"Excellent. Each coach worked on different performance aspects. Working twice with each coach worked very well - immediate comfort level and the coaches pre-knowledge was helpful."

"Works very well."

"Timing was good. But the sessions were so great that they all seemed incredibly short!!!!"

"POD format worked exceptionally well. Meeting twice with a coach offered more opportunity for growth and improvement. Coaches maintained focus on their individual subject areas because they didn't feel pressured."

"Please, please, please make sure to implement the pod system in Hayward as well next year."

"I feel our quartet went from a high 50s score to a high 60s or low to mid 70s."

"Tremendous experience! Wish we had this much firepower at our disposal year 'round."

"Our quartet made huge improvements at HCW."

"This was the best year ever. I will be recommending future HCW to everyone if the pod system is used again."

Let me assure all you quartet men - the POD format will be used in Harmony College West 2007!

Don't forget the other reasons the FWD is so good. You can utilize the skills-based quartet workshops, the chorus coaching program and for your annual or cabaret shows you can schedule a Standing Ovation Program review. More on these next time.



**Chair : Young Men In Harmony
John Krizek**

1190 Tanglewood Rd.

Prescott, AZ 86303

Phone: 818-785-0498 [thro 3/9/06

E: jkrizek@aol.com

Ed. note: John Krizek communicated from South Africa to remember the 2007 Youth Harmony Camp [see below].



**VP - Financial Development
Harmony Foundation
Robb Ollett**

313 Hash Court

Petaluma, CA 94952-6117

707-769-8528 E: ollettjr@aol.com

Ed. note: Robb Ollett will be replaced for the year 2007 and following. If you have questions or concerns about Harmony Foundation, Robb will be pleased to provide answers while waiting for his replacement to be identified.

**FWD Spring Convention in Reno
March 15-18, 2007
Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!**



*Roy Anderson
Show Chair...GVC*

The Golden Valley Chorus (Central California Chapter) performed in one of their two annual shows in the Central Valley. The picture is taken at the after glow of the first show, Saturday, November 28th at the Merced College Theater. The photo is unusual because not only did the GVC have the newly crowned FWD champs "Late Show" on the show, but in attendance was the 1989 FWD champs "Harmony Spectrum".

We managed to get both quartets to sing on the afterglow and do a couple of songs together as well. This photo is of the two quartets singing together at the after-glow. It was noted that when Harmony Spectrum won in 1989, Jordan Litz (lead) of Late Show was one year old.

**FWD Youth Harmony Camp
September 21-23, 2007
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!**

Did You Know?

Posted to Harmonet by: "Steve Morin" stevem@edesignerz.com
Tue Oct 31, 2006 9:03 am (PST)

Just a reminder you can search free for Barbershoppers and the services they offer at www.bbshopBiz.com

This is a new resource for all barbershoppers around the world! This is just the start of a site dedicated to helping barbershoppers find and purchase the things they need from other barbershoppers. The idea is simple, use the search functions on the site to find fellow barbershoppers who sell items or services you need. That's it.... Give it a try :-). Remember this site is just starting out and it will grow over time, so comeback often!

**OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY, BHS, International Chorus Preliminaries and District Quartet Convention
Far Western District, Quartet Finals, San Jose, California, October 7, 2006**

Contest Legend: 1=Far Western District Quartet (2 Rounds), 2=Far Western District Novice Quartet (2 Rounds)

Finals	Song	MUS	PRS	SNG	Subt	Prev	Total	Avg
1 Late Show	You're The Girl I Love	252	248	249	1505	1489	2994	83.2
(1)	Dance With Me	252	255	249				
2 Stardust	Margie	246	237	239	1470	1451	2921	81.1
(1)	River Stay Away From My Door	253	248	247				
3 VocalEase	The More I See You	246	246	237	1450	1433	2883	80.1
(1)	Steppin' Out (Medley)	244	244	233				
4 Equinox	Where The Southern Roses Grow	212	214	204	1265	1249	2514	69.8
(1,2)	That's Life	213	218	204				
5 Oasis	They Called It Dixieland*	204	219	192	1227	1278	2505	69.6
(1)	Come Fly With Me	206	212	194				
6 Checkmate	It's Only A Paper Moon	211	213	208	1249	1234	2483	69.0
(1)	Shine	203	212	202				
7 Life's Good!	Look Me Up When You're In Dixie	206	212	197	1230	1232	2462	68.4
(1)	My Alabama	203	210	202				
8 Xtreme	Over The Rainbow	208	202	201	1229	1189	2418	67.2
(1)	You Make Me Feel So Young	207	211	200				
9 Uncalled Four	Freely	196	202	204	1205	1184	2389	66.4
(1)	When There's Love At Home	199	198	206				
10 Harmony 101	Aura Lee	201	199	188	1164	1188	2352	65.3
(1,2)	Mammy O' Mine	193	200	183				
Semi-Finals	Song	MUS	PRS	SNG	Subt	Prev	Total	Avg
1 Late Show	It's You	249	250	251			1489	82.7
(1)	It Had To Be You	249	249	241				
2 Stardust	All The Way	241	247	250			1451	80.6
(1)	Why Should I Cry Over You?	233	240	240				
3 VocalEase	I Can't Believe That You're Mine	234	236	238			1433	79.6
(1)	I'm In The Mood For Love	240	243	242				
5 Oasis	What'll I Do?	199	224	213			1278	71.0
(1)	Lora-Belle-Lee	205	227	210				
6 Equinox	Alexander's Ragtime Band	202	212	206			1249	69.4
(1,2)	Mississippi Mud	204	215	210				
7 Checkmate	Whippoorwill Medley	201	211	190			1234	68.6
(1)	I'm Always Chasing Rainbows	211	219	202				
8 Life's Good!	Breaking In A New Heart	203	204	202			1232	68.4
(1)	I'd Love To Fall Asleep And Wake Up In My Mammy'	206	208	209				
9 Xtreme	The Masquerade Is Over (I'm Afraid)	192	198	201			1189	66.1
(1)	Ain't Misbehavin'	192	202	204				
10 Harmony 101	The Boy I Used To Be	200	195	197			1188	66.0
(1,2)	Hey, Look Me Over	202	197	197				
11 Uncalled Four	I Found A Million Dollar Baby	197	193	204			1184	65.8
(1)	Dream A Little Dream Of Me	191	197	202				

Late Show is the District Quartet Champion.

Equinox is the Far Western District Novice Quartet Champion.

Panel: Administrator(s)

Don Crowl - SWD
Dick Girvin - FWD

Music

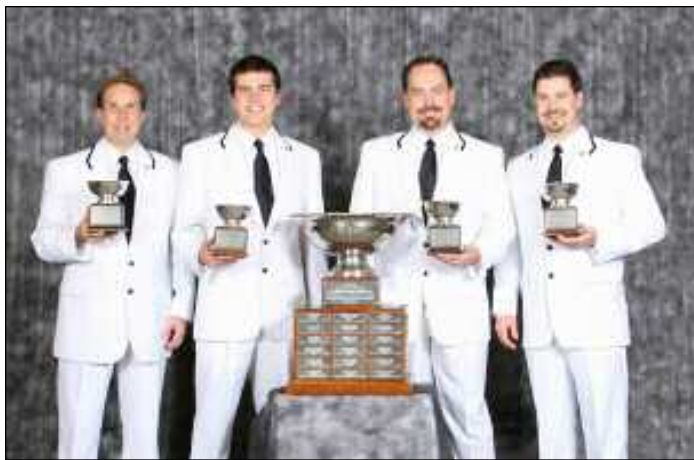
Rob Campbell - FWD
Jay Giallombardo - ILL
Jim Kahlke - EVG

Presentation

Marty Lovick - EVG
Reid Stewart - EVG
Gary Wulf - JAD

Singing

Brian Beck - SWD
Brandon Guyton - DIX
Ron Rank - ILL



2006 FWD Quartet Champions Late Show

Mike Stewart, Bass

Late Show is thrilled to have won the Far Western District contest in October! Winning this coveted title is a complete dream come true for all of us and we are honored to have shared the stage with such talented quartets. We knew, going into the contest, the competition would be fierce and we are humbled to have come out top. It is so true when people say that the FWD contest is a “mini-international” convention! So many of our friends graced the stage in San Jose and we were rooting for them just as much as we were rooting for ourselves (well . . . almost)!

Of course, none of this would have been possible without the tremendous support of our families, coaches, and fans. Special thanks go to Raymond’s wife, Pam; Gabe’s fiancée, Cindy; my wife and daughters, Amanda, Allison, and Melanie; and Jordan’s mom, dad, and sisters, Gayle, Bill, Megan, and Emily. Jordan’s girlfriend . . . oh wait . . . I forgot . . . he’s AVAILABLE, ladies! Our extended families – mothers, fathers, siblings, grandparents – are also part of the Late Show network and we thank them tremendously for their unending support.

As most of you know by now, we are somewhat of a “long-distance” quartet, with Gabe and Jordan living in the Stockton area and Raymond and I living in Reno. Getting together for rehearsal can be challenging, especially during the winter months when we are at the mercy of Mother Nature. We have relied on the generosity of several people who have allowed us to use their homes for rehearsals, which helps cut good chunks of time off the rehearsal commute. Special thanks go to Don and Rosye Salz in Sacramento, Roger Perkins in Auburn, and Ann Yonemura in Placerville for opening their homes to us and showing such incredible hospitality.

Our coaches, too, deserve special recognition. We truly could not have accomplished our goals without the valuable guidance of Mark Hale, our primary coach. Mark has opened up our world to a new way of singing. It is so refreshing to work with such a sensational coach who believes in us as a foursome,

offers very honest and constructive musical and interpretative feedback, and pushes us to be the very best. Thank you, Mark! Along the way, we also had the pleasure of working with the talented Greg Lyne, Russ Young, Nick Papageorge, and Cory Hunt (and yes ladies, Cory is available, too!), all of whom provided helpful advice and guidance throughout our development.

Finally, we must not forget our fans and home choruses. In our short year together, we have witnessed such tremendous generosity among our home chapters. The encouragement of the members of the Reno Silver Dollar Chorus, the Voices in Harmony, the Stockton Portsmen Chorus, as well as Mr. Frank Thorne’s support of Raymond (huh?) is greatly appreciated! Our cheering fans (okay, we know you’re mostly cheering for our studly and talented young lead, Jordan, but . . .) have been great! We have been humbled by your response at our shows and contests and we are grateful for your e-mails, praise, and well-wishes.

Now comes the part of our debut Late Show Westunes article that you’ve been waiting for—the featured quartet member section! We are taking a new twist on this portion of the article, too, by having the author write about ANOTHER member of the quartet! Of course, I could not pass up the chance to write about our young, athletic, and talented lead, Jordan Litz.

Jordan brings to the quartet a smooth, clean, and fresh sound. I would describe it as a cross between Joe Connelly (Interstate Rivals, Keepsake, and Platinum) and John Newell (Realtime). We always joke in the quartet about the “velvet stylings” of a particular voice, but I would venture to say that Jordan’s voice is just that—smooth and controlled with a clarity that allows it to appropriately sail above the other voices in the quartet.

I first met Jordan when he was all of 11 years old. He and his father, Bill, sang in the combined Divisional contest in Salinas, California, and my quartet at the time (Qyduhmix) was also competing. At some point while Cory was getting his rosy cheeks squeezed by an elderly lady, we ended up singing a tag with Jordan. I very specifically remember thinking at the time that Jordan was incredibly talented. Over next six years I would see him in many quartets, including Whirlwind (which was featured on Q’s CD) and Playback. Little did I know that I would eventually sing with Jordan, let alone see him featured in the July/August 2006 edition of The Harmonizer as the barber-shoppper with the “best future!”

When not singing barbershop (when is that?) Jordan leads a very busy life as a fulltime college student at San Joaquin Delta College. He also is an accomplished competitive swimmer who, while swimming for the Lodi City Swim Club, has competed against the best swimmers in the world at meets such as the Janet Evans Invitational in Los Angeles, California, and the American Short Course Championships in Austin, Texas. In short, he’s fast and is always sporting tan! Be sure to look for Jordan in a few years on the U.S. Olympic swim team.

[Continued on page 13]

OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY, BHS, International Chorus Preliminaries and District Quartet Convention

Far Western District, Chorus Finals, San Jose, California, October 7, 2006

Contest Legend: 1=Far Western District International Preliminary Chorus, 2=Far Western District Chorus, 3=Far Western District Most-Improved Chorus, 4=Far Western District Plateau A Chorus, 5=Far Western District Plateau AA Chorus, 6=Far Western District Plateau AAA Chorus

Chapter / Nickname	Song	MUS	PRS	SNG	Total	Avg	Cnt
1 Westminster, CA	<i>The Way You Look Tonight</i>	281	280	283	1688	93.8	50
The Westminster Chorus (1,2,3,6)	<i>South Rampart Street Parade</i>	285	285	274			
2 Bay Area, CA	<i>The Sunshine Of Your Smile</i>	250	267	259	1556	86.4	87
Voices In Harmony (1,2,6)	<i>Play That Barbershop Chord</i>	254	275	251			
3 Greater Phoenix, AZ	<i>You're As Welcome As The Flowers In May</i>	247	253	240	1482	82.3	70
Spirit of Phoenix (1,2,3,6)	<i>Smile, Dam Ya, Smile</i>	249	256	237			
4 LaJolla, CA	<i>Once Upon A Time</i>	229	231	229	1366	75.9	34
Pacific Coast Harmony (1,2,3,6)	<i>Strike Up The Band</i>	229	231	217			
5 Rincon Beach, CA	<i>What'll I Do?</i>	219	231	234	1356	75.3	26
Pacific Sound (1,2,3,6)	<i>Somebody Knows</i>	219	233	220			
6 Aloha, HI	<i>If I Only Had A Brain</i>	215	241	207	1333	74.1	40
Sounds of Aloha Chorus (1,2,5)	<i>Red Head</i>	219	241	210			
7 Reno, NV	<i>Sweetheart Of Sigma Chi</i>	220	216	214	1298	72.1	37
Silver Dollar Chorus (1,2,3,5)	<i>Look Me Up When You're In Dixie</i>	216	219	213			
8 Brea, CA	<i>You Make Me Feel So Young</i>	221	222	209	1296	72.0	21
Brea Gaslight Chorus (1,2,3,5)	<i>What'll I Do?</i>	219	218	207			
9 South Bay, CA	<i>Roses Of Picardy</i>	215	211	207	1240	68.9	36
Coastliners (1,2,3,6)	<i>Marching Medley</i>	204	202	201			
10 Riverside, CA	<i>Where The Southern Roses Grow</i>	206	190	202	1207	67.1	18
The New Gang on the Corner (1,2,3,5)	<i>Memphis Blues</i>	205	203	192			
11 Pasadena, CA	<i>Ring To The Name Of Rose</i>	196	200	195	1161	64.5	34
Pasadena Crown CityChorus (1,2,4)	<i>Old Songs Are Just Like Old Friends</i>	197	191	182			
12 Las Vegas Metro, NV	<i>It's So Seamy You</i>	201	202	182	1156	64.2	36
City of Lights (1,2,3,4)	<i>Rose Colored Glasses (Looking At The World)</i>	196	198	177			
13 San Fernando Valley, CA	<i>Stars Fall On Alabama</i>	198	194	182	1152	64.0	31
Valleyaires (1,2,3,5)	<i>Swanee</i>	203	199	176			
14 Fullerton, CA	<i>Lazy River</i>	189	191	183	1127	62.6	46
Orange Empire Chorus (1,2,3,4)	<i>Do You Know What It Means To Miss Now</i>	191	192	181			
15 Palo Alto - Mountain View, CA	<i>Permis From Heaven</i>	186	181	171	1095	60.8	28
Peninsulaires (1,2,3,5)	<i>Great Chorus Medley</i>	189	217	151			
16 Central California, CA	<i>Each Time I Fall In Love</i>	187	183	181	1089	60.5	24
Golden Valley Chorus (1,2,3,4)	<i>I'm Beginning To See The Light</i>	187	184	167			
17 Fresno, CA	<i>The Masquerade Is Over (I'm Afraid)</i>	185	188	168	1082	60.1	27
Gold Note Chorus (1,2,3,5)	<i>After You've Gone</i>	180	190	171			
18 Paradise Valley, AZ	<i>Love's Old Sweet Song</i>	186	174	171	1064	59.1	18
Cactus Chordsmen (1,2,4)	<i>Old St. Louis</i>	184	181	169			
19 Stockton, CA	<i>Yona From Arizona</i>	188	176	168	1043	57.9	23
Stockton Portmen (1,2,3,4)	<i>Ragtime Cowboy Joe</i>	179	178	154			
20 North Valley, CA	<i>How Deep Is The Ocean?</i>	182	179	167	1042	57.9	22
The Sound of the Foothills (1,2,3,5)	<i>I Can't Give You Anything But Love</i>	178	181	155			
21 Fremont-Hayward, CA	<i>My Father, My Friend, My Dad</i>	172	180	163	985	54.7	18
New Dimension Chorus (1,2,4)	<i>For Me And My Gal</i>	170	163	157			
22 Sacramento, CA	<i>Way Down Yonder In New Orleans</i>	169	171	141	950	52.8	24
Capitolaires (1,2,3,4)	<i>Mardi Gras March/South Rampart Street Pa</i>	164	171	134			
23 Santa Maria, CA	<i>Old Fashioned Girl (In A Gingham Gown)</i>	144	143	146	852	47.3	22
Central City Chordsmen (1,2,4)	<i>Roll On, Mississippi, Roll On</i>	145	140	134			
24 San Luis Obispo, CA	<i>It's A Beautiful Day For A Ball Game</i>	147	152	115	846	47.0	25
Gold Coast Chorus (1,2,3,4)	<i>You've Gotta Have Heart</i>	151	156	125			

Westminster, CA qualifies to represent the Far Western District at the International Chorus Contest next July.

Westminster, CA is the District Chorus Champion.

Las Vegas Metro, NV is the Far Western District Most Improved Chorus.

Pasadena, CA is the Far Western District Plateau A Champion.

Aloha, HI is the Far Western District Plateau AA Champion.

Westminster, CA is the Far Western District Plateau AAA Champion.

Panel: Administrator(s)

Don Groll - SWD

Dick Girvin - FWD

Music

Rob Campbell - FWD

Jay Giallombardo - ILL

Jim Kahle - EVG

Presentation

Marty Lovick - EVG

Reid Stewart - EVG

Gary Wulf - JAD

Singing

Brian Beck - SWD

Brandon Guyton - DIX

Ron Rank - ILL



2006 FWD Chorus Champions Westminster

Ed. note: Congratulations to Westminster for once again capturing the FWD Chorus Championship with an outstanding performance. It was a real treat to witness their superlative performance which implies a very high ranking in Denver, as in Indianapolis. Perhaps silver will transmute to gold.

**FWD Youth Harmony Camp
September 21-23, 2007
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!**

[Late Show from page 11]

I have had the pleasure of getting to know Jordan even better over past year. It is clear to me that he truly is, as our membership cards all state, a "congenial man of good character." Jordan is humble, approachable, kind, and witty. I'm honored to sing with him and call him my friend.

Okay . . . enough with the Jordan Litz love fest! Stay tuned later this spring when we write about our show schedule, song selection, and contest preparation and feature another member of Late Show. In the meantime please be sure to visit our website at www.lateshowquartet.com!

**FWD Spring Convention in Reno
March 15-18, 2007
Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!**

Did You Know?

Ed. note: Barbershoppers around the world post and read posts to the Harmonet which is sort of a Barbershop chat group. Burt Szabo posts periodically and his recent post is below ought to be of interest to those who want a new arrangement. If you don't know who Burt is, as the late FWD Hall of Fame Dave Stevens would say "well-l-l-l...."

Hello 'Netters - -

It's that time again - time for another mystery song. And would you believe, this song was a mystery for me also. I'd played this song in jazz groups and pick-up combos in my college days back in Michigan. It's a well-known jazz standard (well-known, if you're a jazz freak) and was recorded by almost every jazz star in the 50s and 60s. Imagine my surprise when, a few years ago, I discovered this song was published in 1920. It was written by the team of Otto Harbach and Louis Hirsch, at least one of whose names can be found on "Cuddle Up A Little Closer", "The Desert Song", "Indian Love Call", "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes", "Every Little Movement" and many, many more.

This song is one of the sweetest ballads you'll ever hear, and I've never heard it sung by a barbershop quartet or chorus. I think you'll fall in love with the song the first time you sing it. And - - it doesn't sound like an "old" song (whatever that means).

It's yours for one of those hard-to-find two dollar bills sent to me at the address below, along with your mailing address. And if you're late to the party, Two Dollar Arrangements #1 thru #8 are still available for the same ridiculously cheap price of a \$2 bill. And in case your ATM is temporarily out of those two dollar bills, ones will do, or anything else of equal value. Would you believe someone sent me a big bag of M&Ms?

Here's wishing you all good singing and lots of ringing chords.

Burt Szabo
burt.szabo@choralconcepts.com
407-381-5203

525 Conway Rd. #221
Azalea Park, FL 32807

THE JOYOUS SAGA OF “A REALLY GREAT CHORUS”

Written by the members of the
Peninsulaires Chorus

Edited by Dean James

As its second song in the Far Western District chorus contest in San Jose, the Peninsulaires (Palo Alto-Mountain View Chapter) sang “A Really Great Chorus,” an original parody saluting the Westminster Chorus (Westminster Chapter). This article describes our great fun preparing for and presenting this comedy performance. Readers who have not seen Westminster perform may wish to view a movie clip of their silver-medal performance before reading this. Just copy/paste this URL in your browser address box:

<http://video.google.com.au/videoplay?docid=221991700210212938&q=the+way+you+look+tonight>

A TOUGH SELL?

How do you convince a chorus of average barbershoppers to work hard for sixteen weeks on nine pages of new music that will only be performed once at a contest and then be thrown away? What do you say to convince them that they could be successful, creating a memorable performance while making complete fools of themselves? This challenge faced Peninsulaires Director Steve Sammonds and Music VP Paul Eastman last June. But the story actually started five months earlier.

THE GENESIS OF FOOLISHNESS

During the week of the Mid-Winter Convention in January, the Westminster Chorus, hosted by the Bay Area Chapter, performed at Dublin High School. After the show as we left the auditorium, comments were heard like “Boy, I wish there had been a chorus like that nearby when I was nineteen!” Thus was born the idea of doing a song about Westminster envy.

An Embryo Gag Idea: Shortly thereafter, when the Peninsulaires were rehearsing a low chorus move by bending their knees, a few mock groans in the struggle to get back up prompted Steve to note to Paul: “There’s a visual gag in that, maybe even a whole parody package.” Their post-rehearsal rehash inspired some other gag ideas and some lyrics that would fit with melody lines of songs well known to barbershoppers.



Fertilization by Steinkamp: After sharing a few more ideas during the next few months they decided to “get serious with doing a parody of the Westminster Chorus.” So Paul contacted an outside advisor, Lloyd Steinkamp. The song would not have happened without his encouragement and expertise with creating comedy packages, such as timing, set-ups to punch lines, reinforcing punch lines with sight gags, and building the presentation to a climax.

Multiple Arrangements Sprang Forth: All through the spring, Paul delayed finishing the arrangement because he was waiting to see Westminster’s fate at the International chorus contest in July. In the meantime, there were many revisions, with feedback from Steve, Lloyd, and Paul’s number-one best advisor on such things, his wife Sue. He later told the chorus that he had 18 arrangements in his head and he couldn’t remember which version was currently on paper.

WOULD THE CHORUS BUY IT?

At a Saturday workout session in mid-June, when the medley was nearly finished in Paul’s head, they decided to spring the idea on the chorus.

Risky Business: The chorus was asked to take some big risks:

- Should much of the next three-and-a-half months be spent working on a song that would be changed right up to what might be its only performance?
- Should funds be spent on new black tux shirts, red ties, and all those wigs and props?
- Should the Peninsulaires go beyond their usual performances to become clowns or even silly fools?
- Should they risk a low placement or even disqualification just to get hoped-for laughs?

The Fools Were Eager for Foolishness: Nevertheless, the chorus embraced the idea enthusiastically with only the first two pages of what would become a nine-page song. The goal was to entertain the District audience without worrying about scores or placement and to be the chorus that everyone talked about afterwards. To this day, Steve’s wife Terri cannot believe that he would propose such a goal! Throughout the development we would ensure that none of gags might be taken as mean-spirited or offensive; the song was to be a tribute, not a roast.



Finding a Goofiness Coach: The plan was to convince Lloyd Steinkamp to join us for an all-day session in August. But shortly after International came the sad news that Lloyd had been diagnosed with lung cancer. That just strengthened our resolve to make this performance one for the ages.

So Bob Hartley, the lead of the infamous Metropolis quartet, was asked to coach the August session. He gave us many ideas and effective coaching for both our ballad (“Pennies from Heaven”) and the parody. But, best of all, Bob gave us three simple words, “Over the Top.” It became our mantra, repeated several times every week and behind the contest.

GAG AND MOVE IDEAS FROM EVERYONE

The chorus members contributed many ideas to the package. After that day with Bob, we took off at full speed, proposing many ideas and moves, both big and small. Paul had developed most of the big moves and gags while putting the music together. The whole juggling bit, the Sean Devine rhyme with the face-masks, and the Mark Torrance curtsy as a tribute to Cory Hunt’s move with Qyduhmix were Steve’s gems.

A Mustache Goatee: Andrew Inenaga, one of our newest basses, discovered on the Men So Forte web site that their baritone is Japanese and has a small goatee. Andrew proposed he wear a false mustache; just before the parody quartet’s song, he would rip it off and paste it back on as a goatee. He was worried whether the audience would get the joke. Paul, from his chair in the auditorium, observed the whole Westminster block saw and loved the gag!



The Pin Servant: By the day of the contest, Tom Day, one of our long-time basses, had transformed a simple walk-on into a complete court jester routine, with a platter of pins, a kneeling bow, and an exiting flip of his wig when the “king” wasn’t looking.



The Jack Handle: During the chorus-tilt move, a long jack handle was needed for the “help getting back” gag. Paul had envisioned a slim pole about six feet long. However, Bert Laurence, our prop guy, walked in the door with a twelve-foot piece of three-inch PVC pipe, striped in bright red, definitely “Over the Top.” It allowed Dave Velleman to really “ham up” the routine. **Anxious Moments:** Could we really pull this off? Would the phrases smooth out? Could we navigate the nine key changes? Would the guys really let it go? However, it was getting better every week; the enthusiasm and energy levels were extremely high; new ideas were still forthcoming. With only 10 days to go, we added the glare at the judges on “should have been GOLD?”, the Cherry Coke bottle, the rubber chicken, and about a dozen other things.

IT ALL CAME TOGETHER AT THE END

The Dress Rehearsal: Tuesday night before the contest, an open dress rehearsal provided our first non-stop performance with full costumes and props. We could work on the real on-stage costume change. At last we realized we were going to pull this thing off.



The Energy Kept Building: As we always do for our annual shows, the gang pulled it all together on the day of the contest. The music was still a bit ragged, and the adrenaline surge removed any semblance of vocal support. But it didn’t matter---we went “Over the Top.”

AND THE AUDIENCE RESPONDED

Oh boy, did they respond! There were hopes that the audience would get the jokes and laugh, but the huge ovations were beyond imagination. A standing ovation in the middle of the song! We had over achieved our goals! Our euphoria was boundless!

[Continued on page 16]

[From page 15]

Post-Performance Moments: The audience didn't witness the last highlight of the performance. As we arrived back in the assembly room for photos, guess who was standing on the other set of risers? "Those Westminster guys" swarmed over to see who was wearing those crazy wigs and was dressed like them.

They showed our guys how to pose with a Westminster attitude for the photo and the correct way to form the "W" sign with our fingers. One of them quipped, "Just think, guys, in about 40 years that could be us!" The first gray hairs probably sprouted on those young heads right then.

The auditorium seats of several Peninsulaires were in or near the Westminster section. When it was flooded by returning young men, what were the comments they received? The talk was all about our performance, not theirs. What a kick!

One Disappointment: The men of Westminster were warming up during our performance and didn't see all the fun. There was

Chuck Thompson---Bob Hartley got us all psyched on being funny and "Over the Top!"

Dave Kocharhook---Like the Gilbert & Sullivan shows I did 30 years ago, this song had life, action, sparkle, and audience reaction throughout. The thrill of "wowing" the audience is why I came back to singing.

Jack Metz---This was an awesome experience. I have never seen a standing ovation like that.

Terry Moore---One judge said he was sorry he had to write down scores; he just wanted to sit back and watch us.

Al Ward---I'm hoping we take the song to Division Contest where the chorus can do better with the singing.

Dave Velleman---The best part was when all was done, the audience was on its feet, and we knew we had accomplished our goal. To me, there's no better drug in the world.

Bob Hartley---Now that the guys have tasted this kind of fun, I hope they will want to do more "Over the Top!"

hope of reprising the song for the Westminster guys during the Afterglow. By that time, many Peninsulaires had to leave; we were afraid that we might not generate the same mayhem without everyone's participation. It would have been fun to do it again!

WHAT NEXT?

Now there is a new problem. How do we top what we did? Have we spawned expectations for future contests? During a phone conversation with Paul, Bill Cale, FWD President, said, "I can't wait to see it again at the Division contest." Time will tell what we do next, but the wheels are turning.

FWD Spring Convention in Reno
March 15-18, 2007
Let's Get Our Conventions Singing Again
Come Join in the FUN!

FWD Youth Harmony Camp
September 21-23, 2007
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**OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY, BHS, International Chorus Preliminaries and District Quartet Convention
Far Western District, Seniors Quartet Finals, San Jose, California, October 6, 2006**

Contest Legend: 3=Far Western District Int'l Sr Prelim, 4=Far Western District Senior Quartet District

Finals	Song	MUS	PRS	SNG	Subt	Prev	Total	Avg
1 Vintage Gold	In The Heart Of The City That Has No Heart	221	224	219			1310	72.8
(3)	Peg O' My Heart	215	216	215				
2 Music Box	Down In New Orleans	186	199	193			1165	64.7
(3,4)	When Sunshine Comes Along	191	202	194				
3 It's About Time	Heart Of My Heart (Medley)	179	183	185			1090	60.6
(3,4)	Back In Dixie Again	180	177	186				
4 Twilight Time	Just A Song At Twilight	183	168	171			1058	58.8
(3,4)	Frog Kissin	187	179	170				
5 Top-Notch	My Ideal	182	175	163			1038	57.7
(3,4)	Ain't Misbehavin'	183	175	160				
6 Souvenir	You've Gotta Have Heart	174	182	169			1037	57.6
(3,4)	Let The Rest Of The World Go By	174	173	165				

Vintage Gold qualifies to represent the Far Western District at the International Seniors Quartet Contest next January.

Music Box is the District Seniors Quartet Champion.

Panel: Administrator(s)

Don Crowl - SWD

Dick Girvin - FWD

Music

Rob Campbell - FWD

Jay Giallombardo - ILL

Jim Kahlke - EVG

Presentation

Marty Lovick - EVG

Reid Stewart - EVG

Gary Wulf - JAD

Singing

Brian Beck - SWD

Brandon Guyton - DIX

Ron Rank - ILL

**OFFICIAL SCORING SUMMARY, BHS, International Chorus Preliminaries and District Quartet Convention
Far Western District, Quartet Semi-Finals, San Jose, California, October 6, 2006**

Contest Legend: 1=Far Western District Quartet (2 Rounds), 2=Far Western District Novice Quartet (2 Rounds)

Semi-Finals	Song	MUS	PRS	SNG	Subt	Prev	Total	Avg
11 Music Box	Down In New Orleans	186	199	193			1165	64.7
(1)	When Sunshine Comes Along	191	202	194				
12 The Usual Suspects	May I Never Love Again	190	190	192			1157	64.3
(1)	Love/Eyes (Medley)	194	195	196				
13 Four Fifteen	Alexander's Ragtime Band	190	194	196			1155	64.2
(1)	Hard Hearted Hannah	186	192	197				
14 Hit	Cabaret	191	196	189			1136	63.1
(1,2)	It Had To Be You	188	192	180				
15 Good Time Harmony	Nice Work If You Can Get It	193	183	185			1107	61.5
(1,2)	Broken Hearted	184	179	183				
16 The Big Time	I'm Beginning To See The Light	188	192	164			1102	61.2
(1,2)	It's Only A Paper Moon	193	189	176				
17 BLING!	Moonlight Becomes You	181	180	178			1075	59.7
(1)	Just Because/Shine (Medley)	186	180	170				

Panel: Administrator(s)

Don Crowl - SWD

Dick Girvin - FWD

Music

Rob Campbell - FWD

Jay Giallombardo - ILL

Jim Kahlke - EVG

Presentation

Marty Lovick - EVG

Reid Stewart - EVG

Gary Wulf - JAD

Singing

Brian Beck - SWD

Brandon Guyton - DIX

Ron Rank - ILL

Draw

1. Uncalled Four

2. Late Show

3. Checkmate

4. Xtreme

5. Equinox

6. Stardust

7. VocalEase

8. Life's Good!

9. Oasis

10. Harmony 101

2007 NORCAL WEST/HAWAII DIVISION CONVENTION
Far Western District Quartet and Chorus Qualification Event

Share the Harmony!

A Celebration of the Barbershop Community

April 14, 2007

Woodside High School, 199 Churchill Avenue, Woodside, CA 94062

(One mile East of Rt 1280 via the Woodside Road/Rt 84 exit)

Hosted by



The Peninsulaires
Palo Alto-Mountain View Chapter • Barbershop Harmony Society

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone Home (____) _____ Bus. (____) _____
Email _____

Registration confirmation will be sent by Email.

All registrations will be held for pickup at convention site.

Quartet Name _____

Chapter/Chorus _____

Singing Part

☐ Lead ☐ Tenor ☐ Bari ☐ Bass

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

Full Early Bird Registration Type (X One)	Full Late/On Site Registration Type (X One)	Single Events WILL BE SOLD ON SITE ONLY	Official Use Only
<input type="checkbox"/> Full.....\$30.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Child/Student.....\$15.00 Postmarked on or before 3/14/2007	<input type="checkbox"/> Full.....\$40.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Child/Student.....\$20.00 Postmarked after 3/14/2007	Sat. Quartet Contest.....\$25.00 Sat Chorus Contests/Show.....\$25.00 Contestants MUST have Full Registration	Date Recd. _____ Order # _____

Request additional tickets for guests on this same form by using the section below.

Guest Name	City	Child/ Student?	Fee	Official Use

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES

\$ _____

☐ Check made payable to: "NCW CONTEST"
☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

Cardholder Name _____

Card Number _____ Exp Date (month/year) _____

Return completed form with payment to: Bob Morrison, 2243 Camrose Ave, San Jose, CA 95130

Watch for online order link at www.barbershop-harmony.org

Questions? Call 408-866-6458 or e-mail robtmor@shcglobal.net

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

<u>HEADQUARTERS HOTEL</u> 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 <i>Contact the hotel directly and tell them you are a barbershepper</i> 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.
---	---

Make check payable to: Reno Silver Dollar Chorus, 2007 SPRING CONVENTION

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____ (fees are non-refundable)

Questions? Email dickwhit@sonic.net

FIRST (AND LAST) CALL FOR FWD BULLETINS

By Dick Girvin, FWD District Bulletin Coordinator

Here is the call for bulletins for the **2006** Far Western District Bulletin Contest. All FWD Bulletin Editors who have published **six or more *monthly*** printed issues (or **six months of *weekly or bi-weekly*** printed bulletins) during 2006 are eligible to enter.

Two classes of bulletins will be accepted for contest: **Large Bulletins** (more than 6 pages) and **Small Bulletins** (6 or fewer pages). Editors should submit three copies of three successive month's issues (monthly) or nine consecutive issues (weekly) or six consecutive issues (bi-weekly). One of the copies of each issue should be as printed and delivered to subscribers; the balance can be photocopied. (The Layout and Reproduction judges must see the actual *issue* --not the paste-up-- that went to their readers.)

The bulletins will be judged by certified PROBE Bulletin judges on the following: (actual score sheets available on request)

Content: (267 points maximum per issue), judged on how well the editor:

- Informs on coming events
- Records recent events
- Reflects views of chapter members
- Recognize efforts of chapter members
- Promote barbershopping
- Recruitment
- Encourage pride and participation.

Layout and Reproduction: (200 points maximum per issue), judged on how well the editor displays:

- The "stage presence" of the bulletin
- The layout of the Nameplate, Masthead and all printed material
- Readability, headlines, illustrations and reproduction.

Grammar and Style (200 points maximum per issue), judged on:

- Punctuation
 - Grammar
 - Style.
- (Normalized by dividing by "judgeable pages")

Entries should be mailed to the below address to **arrive on or before February 1, 2007** The contest results will be announced with trophies for the top **Large** and top **Small** bulletins at the Spring Prelim Contest in Reno on March 16—at the House of Delegates meeting. The top two scoring bulletins (regardless of size) will be entered in the International Bulletin Contest.

International Online Bulletin Contest (online bulletins of 2006).

- **No pre-qualification by district. Open to all editors publishing 6 or more per year.**
- Online bulletin contest information available on request.

FWD Bulletin Coordinator
34888 Lyn Ave
Hemet, CA 92545
Dickgirvin@juno.com



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Quartet Registration \$600.00

Individual Registration \$150.00

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<http://www.spebsqsafwd.org> or e-mail fwsturke@pacbell.net

CALIFORNIA STATE
UNIVERSITY





October 2006 FWD Final Contest Quartets 2-15



16 The Big Time

17 BLING!



1 SR Vintage Gold; Rep to Int'l; 2005 FWD Sr Champ

2 SR Music Box FWD Sr Champion



3 SR It's About Time

4 SR Twilight Time



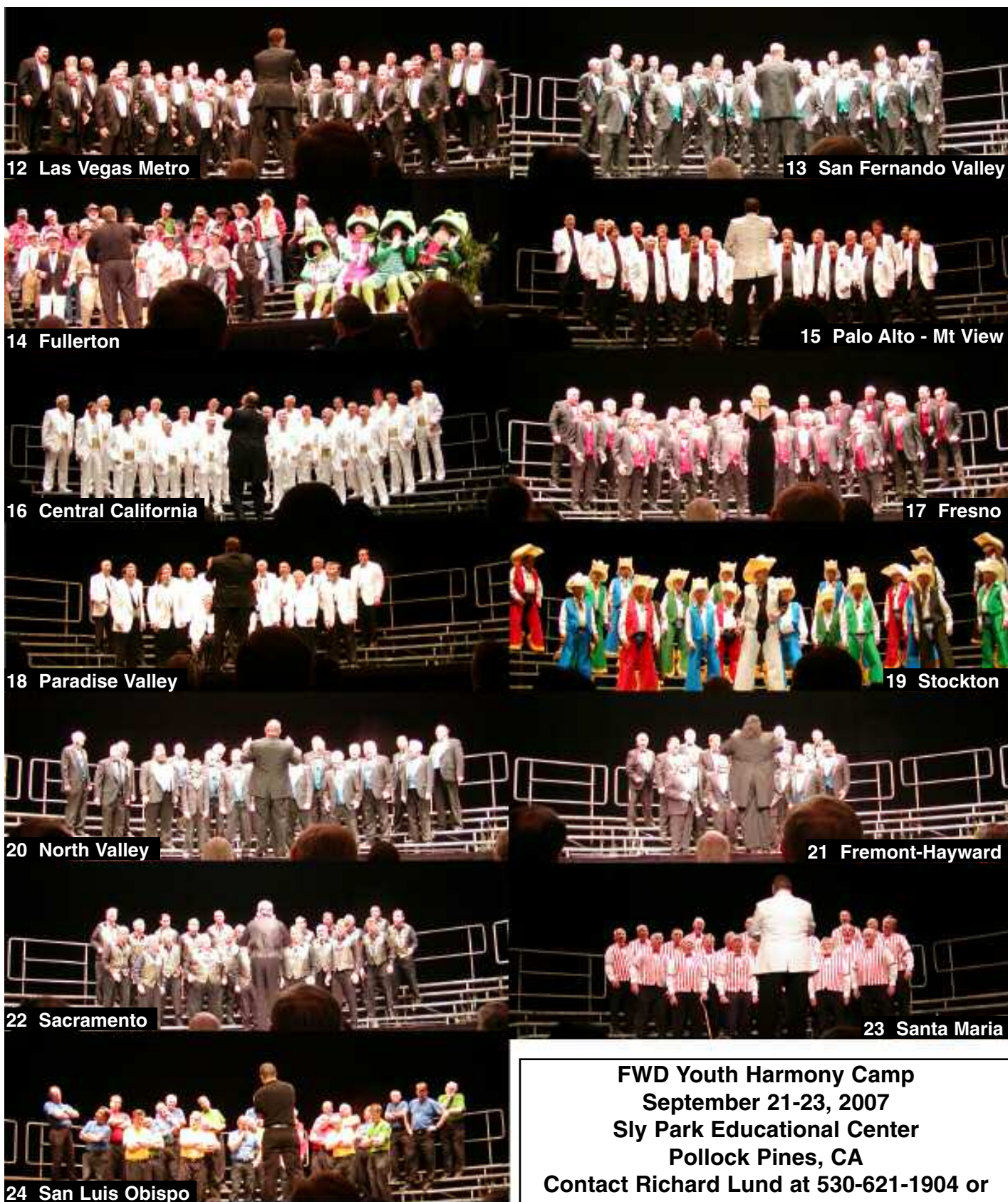
5 SR Top-Notch

6 SR Souvenir



1966 FWD Quartet Champions - The Thermalaires

October 2006 FWD Final Contest Quartets 16-17; Sr Quartets 1-6



FWD Youth Harmony Camp
September 21-23, 2007
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!

Did You Know?

Ed. note: Two recent "Input for Chapter Presidents" posts for consideration.

From: Steve Shannon sshannon1@houston.rr.com
Interesting thread, gents.

During my 50 years as an up-front director and chapter builder, I've seen an increasing number of once successful groups come apart at the seams because their Music Leadership and the Administrative Leadership were not on the same page. Even when both teams believed they were acting in the best interests of their chapter, the lack of unified teamwork lead to finger-pointing and the eventual demise of the organization.

It just doesn't have to be that way. Successful chapters do not operate on an "annual plan"; changing directions with each new board or director. They operate on a renewable success plan, with clear goals and clearly defined responsibilities for every member of the chapter.

I have been teaching an extremely effective "Chapter Development Workshop" for several decades. The foundation for this class is a comprehensive Questionnaire; parts of which are to be completed by every member and leader. If you want a copy, drop me a note. As always, you are free to use my material, in part or in whole, and may ask for phone and e-mail help as needed. If you want a weekend workshop, we'll work out details.

Yours for a song, Steve
Steve Shannon Chapter Development Consultant
Vocal Pervormance Coach Director - Quartet Guy - M.C.

From: Jim Dodge jamesdodge@comcast.net
Hi all,

This has been a fun thread and it's time to talk about it in real-time with less theory. With your permission, I'd like to do that from both perspectives...those of the administrators and those of the directors.

Here are some truisms from the administrative side:

1. A chapter that has not developed a mission statement and/or goals shared by all it's members is destined for some degree of conflict.
2. The single most important asset a chapter has is it's director. Unless your mission statement stresses that you are a social club, someone has to be responsible for the music and you hired this guy/gal to do the job.
3. The single most important event in the administrator's calendar is the day you interview the director for initial employment. This is the time to find out what this person stands for and what he will deliver. Be tough!
4. After that event has passed, the next single most important day is the annual assessment that the chapter does of the director. The essence of barbershop is singing, not uniform procurement or guest nights or annual budgets. Each has it's place but they are there to support the singing. The chapter must annually review

the director's performance. Failure to do so can eventually lead to conflict if checks and balances are not in place.

5. The leadership team must understand that the director is a creative person. He/she does what he does as an outlet for his/her creativity. Allow him/her to dream and to lead the chapter to places they might not envision. Betcha Jim Clancy and Mark Hale and Jay Giallombardo and Jim Henry are allowed to set goals and pick music for their chapters without a lot of administrative involvement. And I'll betcha they each involve the administrators because they understand the need for a flourishing organization.

6. If you are an administrator who always second-guesses the director, why don't you become one! Understand your role...be supportive. Insist on accountability that is measured on an annual basis and let your director lead. Make clear decisions on all the chapter business. My experience is that directors prefer to work under stable conditions and don't want input on the day to day stuff. But, because we are "driven" people, we will jump into the vacuum if important decisions are left hanging.

Now, because this is the Director's List, here are some truisms from our side:

1. Know who you are as a director. What do you stand for? What programs would you introduce? Where do you stand on taping, etc? Be prepared to articulate that at an interview. Be brutally frank during the interview. Let them know up front what to expect in the next year. If you are not a good fit for a particular chapter, you don't want to go there. And there will be another chapter who will want you for who you are and what you represent.
2. Insist on an annual review. Just as the chapter should review you annually to see if you are meeting their goals, you should be reviewing the chapter to let them know how well they are supporting you. Lay it all out on the table once a year so the air stays clear.
3. The single most important asset a chapter has is YOU! Live up to that responsibility!! And, if you think that this is a boisterous statement, talk to me about chapters who lost a talented director and went into long periods of doldrums or about chapters that found a talented director and began to immerge for the first time.

From my personal experience, I am now directing my fifth chorus since I started over 30 years ago. During that time, each chapter had it's curmudgeons who fought against everything the chapter wanted to do. I'd like to think that is pretty standard for almost all our chapters. The good news is that is usually only a handful at best, more often one or two. The important news is the chapter can't allow a couple of guys to destroy what it is trying to create. Take their views into account, test them for validity, and go from there.

As Steve Shannon so eloquently states "Even when both teams believed they were acting in the best interests of their chapter, the lack of unified teamwork lead to finger-pointing and the eventual demise of the organization." If done correctly, the teamwork will start at the interview.

Benevolently, Jim NED BOTY 2004
Director-Portsmouth (NH) Yankee Clipper Chorus



FWD DVP for Division 1 SCW
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 E: martinmt@aol.com

By the time you read this, COTS will be over, the holiday season will upon us and hopefully your chapter's planning for 2007 will be well under way. We have a busy year ahead of us, with some great opportunities.

First thing on everyone's agenda next year should be Singing Valentines. For many a chapter, it's the absolute best way to build up their chapter's funds. If you get so much business that you can't handle it, another local chapter will.

Next, we will have a combined SoCal East and SoCal West Divisional Convention and Contest for the first time in many years. Attendance at conventions has been dropping of late along with profits and this change is sure to help. Please make a note of the date and start encouraging everyone in your chapter to be there. It's going to be the biggest SoCal event for a long time.

Something else that's sure to be exciting next year is the International Convention in Denver. Southern California has yet another chance for a chorus gold medal with those Westminster youngsters in contention and who knows, it's possible we may even see a quartet gold medal from their chorus colleagues O.C. Times. Both have brought a youthful excitement to the barbershop world and Denver will be abuzz with attendees who will be there for that alone. I hope many of you will consider being there, too. Denver is not so far away that we can't fill the week with noisy and enthusiastic Far Westerners.

2007 is also going to be a year in which we can take lots of advantage of the 50th anniversary of the film "The Music Man". Your chapter can use the anniversary to attract potential members to guest nights or as themes for your shows. Take a look at all that the Society is doing and make use of their P.R. materials and ideas. Everyone loved the film and it's strong barbershop presence. We should (O.C.) cash in on that!

Here in SoCal West, we have had our share of struggling chapters recently. But what's amazing is that there are members in each area who are not giving up. New blood and new ideas are somehow breathing new life into these chapters and I'm hoping that down the line I may be able to report to you that each struggling chapter is now growing. There's certainly a role model in SoCal West with the success of the Pasadena Chapter. I am ready to help in any way I can.

That's it for now. I wish each and every one of you and your families a happy and healthy holiday season and prosperous New Year.

RINCON

MICHAEL MURPHY

2006 has been a very good year for the men of Pacific Sound. It started with being offered a spot in the International contest in Indianapolis. For most of us this would be the culmination of many years of division, district contests and A & R sessions. We had a great time competing but we had even more fun enjoying the fellowship of old friends and doing three performances around Indianapolis with our brothers from the Jacksonville, FL. Metropolitans. Back home from Indy we realized that we had a short time to prepare for our September 23rd. show in Santa Barbara. The show was a success and opened a new chapter in the life of The Rincon Beach Chapter. On to San Jose with an interim director, two rehearsals, WOW what fun! We publicly thank **Alan Gordon** for stepping in and giving of his time and talent.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

BRUCE POEHLMAN

The past few months have been very active for the **Valleyaires**; we have had a couple of shows, competed in the FWD contest, are preparing for some exiting upcoming events and shows, and have a new board of directors to break in! This summer we held our first annual Ice Cream Social and Quartet Show, which was a huge success, thanks in no small part to our special guest quartet and friends, **OC Times!** Many quartets were on display, including **Valleyaires** quartets **The Usual Suspects**, **Oddly Enuf**, **Bill's Bari Pie**, **Priority Male**, and **Ransom Notes**.

We most recently performed at our annual Fall Show at Forest Lawn's Hall of Liberty, which was beautifully staged, with guest Sweet Adeline quartet **Serious Treble** performing some fantastic numbers, and a special performance from the quartet **Razz-Ma-Tazz**, whom the Valleyaires met during a high school contest last year. The crowd especially loved the chorus' rendition of *Swanee*. And we can't forget great performances from **Big Time**, **Ransom Notes**, **Oddly Enuf**, **Bill's Bari Pie**, **Priority Male**, and **The Usual Suspects!**

The **Valleyaires** will be performing on television! December 24th, on KCET in Los Angeles and other area Public Television channels, the **Valleyaires** will perform live at the Dorothy Chandler Pavillion for the annual Christmas Special.

The 2007 Board of Directors are: President **Bruce Poehlman**; Past President **Tim Singer**; Secretary **Ed Shackman**; Mu & P VP **Michael Van Schoonhoven**; Ch Dev VP **Mark Tillman**; Treasurer **Len Wermes**; Mkt & PR VP **Bill Chase**; Program VP **Chuck Walton**; Webmaster and Communications VP **Bob Karlin**; Member at Large **Jeffrey Bunch**. We thank all departing members for their untiring work over the past year: **Bill Horst**, **Bruce Baird**, and **Jaime Klein**.

SANTA CLARITA CAL ERICKSON AND BILL SWOPE
Welcome to new members Bass **Larry Fletcher** and Lead **Harold Fairbanks**.

On September 11, the Chorus performed at the local Elks Lodge for an emotional Heroes Day Celebration to honor firefighters, law enforcement, and military. The event was also attended by our City Mayor and a Council member. The quartet **Blue Plate Special** opened the Southern California area Special Olympics bowling competition by performing the National Anthem. Our most recent Chorus performance was at Highland Hall in Northridge for their annual Halloween "*Pumpkin Patch*" celebration.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

PETE BENNETT

This summer was active with performances at the new Village gazebo in Arroyo Grande, the first annual "Fourth of July in the Park" in San Luis Obispo, the Downtown Farmers Market, and others. We picked up a couple of new members from among the guests, and the chapter continues to grow, despite the tragic loss of three great contributors to the life of the chapter: **Dana Bennett, Rick Kirn, and Ron Wheeler**. Each was a workhorse in his own way, and it will take at least six men to handle all the projects they took care of for us. Rick was president-elect for 2007; a hasty call for replacements went out, and **Pete Bennett** agreed to step into the breach. He was also chairman of next year's Singing Valentine program, and **Brian Davin** has stepped up to head that effort. Rick also stored and towed our riser trailer, and it will take two or three men to handle that. Dana was our ticket chairman and keeper of the mailing list, among other tasks. Ron was our accountant, and audited the chapter's books every year. Most importantly, though, the chapter lost three fine voices and three good friends.

SOUTH BAY – (COASTLINERS)

MIKE MARTIN

Emphasis on quartet singing has always been the prime directive of chorus director **Pete Neushul** and all the chapter quartets have had an active season of outside performances since the last Westunes. **The Perfect Gentlemen** found themselves in Brazil performing in a six city jazz festival. They were the only vocal group of the eight acts of the festival. **Docs on the Rocks** fit in a weekend for Harmony College. The **Coastliners** participated in the Beach Cities Relay For Life event held in Redondo Beach. The event raised over \$250,000 for the American Cancer Society.

The **Coastliners** met their goal of scoring as one of the top ten choruses in the FWD. One of the highlights of the convention for South Bay was meeting with the **Aloha Chapter** for an afternoon of singing and great camaraderie. A wonderful group of fun loving guys and what great stage performers. Another memorable event consisted of a large contingent of chapter members with spouses and friends who made the trip to San Jose, arranged by **Michael Thorpe**, via Amtrak aboard the Coast Starlight #14.

The chapter enjoyed a star-studded group of entertainers as we celebrated our annual alumni meeting night. On hand were The

Saints, FWD Champs-1959 and international medalists 1960 and 1961. These same four South Bay gentlemen (Bruce Guthrie, Rollo West, Chuck Crawford and Kurt Kenworth) have been singing continuously as a quartet for nearly 50 years and still sounding good. Another South Bay quartet, 139th Street Quartet, one of the Society's most medaled groups (Pete Neushul, Jim Kline, Dan Jordan and Doug Anderson) carried on with their usual shenanigans and superb singing. Other chapter quartets also participating were Docs on the Rocks (Don Duperon, Mike Martin, Bruce Beyne and John Saffery), Sound Union (Denny Lawrence, Rick Llewelyn, Karl Jacobs and Keith Klein) and Hoi Paloi (Dave Taylor, Ed Allen, Hugh Willette, and David Stein). Approximately 50 of the chapter's attending alumni combined for a contest against the current chapter chorus singing Sugarcane Jubilee. What a resounding sound they made. They should all immediately renounce their alumni status and return to the risers permanently. We miss them all.

The chapter is pleased to announce the following additions to the chapter's membership roster: **Ben Norman, Barden Smith, Tony Gione, Josh Cripps, Bill Kuhns and Jim Gallagher**.

WHITTIER

PATRICK BOYLE

In an effort to exercise one of the Chapter's Statements of Purpose-- "*We will support our community by providing our chorus and quartets for performances at community events.*"-- the Choralaires performed at two events: the opening of the "Voices of Whittier" exhibition at the Whittier Museum and La Mirada's "Celebration in the Park" at Neff Park. New director **Paul Gutierrez's** method of teaching and directing has the Chapter members hard at work with many saying to themselves "*Time really flies when your having fun.*" The Chapter welcomes new Baritone **Robert Stemen** and congratulates our re-elected President **Norm Bernier**.

SANTA FE SPRINGS CHAPTER

DANE HUTCHINS

Never a group to allow grass to grow under its feet, the Masters of Harmony maintained its ever-expanding activity schedule since the last issue of Westunes, with performances at the **Channelaire Chorus** show in Thousand Oaks, "*Summer Jazz at the Moonlight*" Series in Vista, and St. Vincent Meals on Wheels benefit at the Wilshire Ebell Theater in Los Angeles.


Congratulations to all FWD contest participants. It's no exaggeration to stipulate that all contest participants of the early October event were winners, regardless of contest outcome. As an example of the interwoven threadwork of mutual support that makes up the tapestry of Society choruses, we noted with pride that 14 MOH members were singing with the district champion **Westminster Chorus** and 12 others were singing with six different FWD choruses.


Mid-term presidential change. Former President **Ken Custer** left the Masters of Harmony at the end of September after assuming responsibility for 60 construction projects in Southwest Asia

for Northrop Grumman and the Department of Defense. The Board feels a tremendous appreciation for his leadership. New President **Kirt Thiesmeyer** assumed the office on August 1 and was subsequently elected for the full 2007 term. Kirt has already established a positive mark on the office.

The Arbe Kraft membership game book. With Kirt taking the presidential hand-off from Ken Custer, the Nominating Committee scoured the membership to fill Kirt's previous position as chapter development vice president. Wowing us right out of the chute, Arbe Kraft created new approaches to bringing in as many visitors as possible for our August 9th Guest Night. Based on previous guest nights, we were prepared for as many as 25 new male singers on the risers. Instead, we ran out of visitor materials when an astonishing 58 guests appeared, with 15 going on over the following weeks to apply for membership. Can Arbe maintain such a pace for encouraging new MOH members? He has already laid out extensive plans for the November 29th Auditions For Membership night to be a more formalized auditioning process, seeking experienced singers in surrounding communities to join our ranks as we begin gearing up for the next contest cycle. Arbe's goal is to boost the active membership to 150 singers by August 2007. If his early results are any indicator of the future, egad! We may end up with 300!

MOH welcomes its newest member Bass **Matthew Campisi**. For details on all MOH activities, check www.mastersofharmony.org

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COACHELLA VALLEY

TERRY MANN

The Sand Blasters awaken from their several month hibernation! On each Tuesday night from September to date (Oct 30) at least the minimum number (8) men, and in all four parts, plus a Director have been present. Last Tuesday night the 12 men included the first returned Snowbird member, **Perter Maver** from British Columbia.

Despite the inactivity between mid June and the first Tuesday in September, the chapter's 'Gig Booking Agent', **Blaine Mack**, has already lined up eight sing-out opportunities, almost all paid gigs, through March. The first is in mid-November with an hour long encore performance at the City of Palm Desert Community Music Series which kicks off the Palm Desert Arts season.

Last year the **Sand Blasters** small number of singers was augmented by the nearby **Riverside**, "**The New Gang On The Corner**" chapter and the **Tortilla Flats** comedy quartet. This year Riverside will be back again to help.

Last Spring the Board proposed as a strategic objective and the Chapter adopted the intention under Director **Alan Harrell**, "To sound the best that we possibly can!" (A 'theme' is nice, but 'intention' has commitment as its foundation!).

EL CAJON

MIKE DORMAN

Sunday, September 24, saw the **Music Masters** Chorus repeat its annual presentation of harmony and fun in the suburb of Lakeside. To know these good people is to love them. In turn, they love their country, they love their families, and, they love their barbershop harmony!

They were regaled by the chorus, and they were regaled by the quartets **Rollin Tones**, **Harmonically Correct** and **California Note Catchers**. **Bob House** was the M.C., and it's fair to say that the nearly four hundred worthy souls showed their appreciation...they wanted more, more! When the finale (America The Beautiful) was sung, they were on their feet, demonstrating with clapping hands and roaring throats, their obvious delight! Director **Tom Anderson** was obviously delighted, too!

FULLERTON

DICK COTE

Editor Dick in his Editorial Musing announces that despite his decision to hang up the visor and retire the blue pencil, he has agreed to continue "for a while." However, the nine-time award winning editor plans to produce the Clippin's as a bi-monthly and has decided to stop entering competitions.

The annual Pearson Park 2006 event was another in the 25 year series of Fullerton-sponsored spectaculars. Chairman **Al Bell** cites many features that made this one a bit special: 1. It was a significant departure from the historic structure of the past shows. 2. They shifted from a three to a two-chorus format. 3. They emphasized youth in the performer mix with the **Westminster** Chorus as the headliners, with the **Eastside Christian Church Youth Choir** supporting the theme. The "Pearson Team" consisted of over 30 members of the Fullerton chapter and featured not one but three MCS: **Don Derler**, **Warren Jones** and **Al Bell**. **Sweet Synergy**, an exciting young Sweet Adelines quartet and the regional favorites **The Stage Hogs** plus **CJ and Katie**, filled out the special bill.

HEMET

BRUCE SMITH

A group of "unsung heroes" were identified "in no particular order" by President **Bill McNaughton**, for their "above-and-beyond" support over Hemet's very busy year. **Bill Schmitz**, **Lee Krauss** and **Norm Pabst** were the first of many to be cited. Secretary **Art McMahon** and Treasurer **Dave Kelly** were added. **Don Freely**, **Bruce Smith** and **Ed Youngs** are the communicators and movers and shakers. The list goes on: **Jim Bunten**, **Bill Leader** **Tom Howell** and **Art McMahn** were named. **Gwen Kelly** and the Ladies Aux —topped his list.

Charter Member **Gene Slingerland** was the featured member in Jim Buntin's *Member Profile*, the September issue of UPBEAT.

INLAND EMPIRE

DAVE COVEY

The **Inland Empire Chapter** seems to be constantly on the move. The new Director, **Dennis Shearer**, who was formerly the Assistant Director, moved up when **Sy Bart** left the position after 12 years of faithful service.

September 19 was another "*Mystery Bus Ride*" which all enjoyed. A large "Thank you" to **Brea Chapter** for their hospitality, and to **Harry Sundquist** for arranging the trip.

October 7 found them presenting songs from the '50s to two classes celebrating the 50th anniversary of their graduation from two high schools in San Bernardino. A nice touch was serenading the lady who organized the combined reunion. Her name was "*Mary Lou*"—guess what they sang for her. October 31 they presented our "**Pizza Cabaret Show**" at the local pizza shop.

They are currently looking forward to performing in Riverside's "Festival of Lights" on November 25 and their annual Christmas Show on December 2.

IRVINE

JEFF YOUNG

Irvine Chapter computer guru **Bob Cossentine** recently provided a program for the chapter members. It can be installed on a home computer that will, with a microphone, determine what pitch one is singing. "It was designed for tuning string instruments but works good for voice as well," he observed. "It can also be used to see how close to the pitch you are". Interested Barbershoppers can contact him for details.

LA JOLLA

JOHN FORREST

Pacific Coast Harmony competed at the FWD District Contest and Convention in San Jose, CA. Led by the vivacious **Kim Hulbert**, PCH performed its contest set before a great audience. While their scores were not where they had hoped, they have redoubled their efforts and plan to challenge the top choruses in the very near future.

Making their first ever District stage debut was the PCH chapter quartet **HIT** featuring **T Bryan Soland**, **L Jim Powell**, **Br Pete Hensley**, and **Bs Andrew Eisen**. And a special thanks also goes to **HIT** for allowing Category Judges **Russ Young**, **Nick Papageorge** and **Lou Benedict** to use them for a teaching session on the judging system.

They were pleased to welcome **L Frank Cummins**.

PALOMAR-PACIFIC

BILL NIELSEN

Another successful Novice Quartet contest is history. Seven quartets participated. **Warren Grant** won "*Most Versatile Singer*" by appearing in three quartets singing three different parts. Last yeas winner **Sound Design** is still together.

Bob Hornstein and a pick-up group sang again at the VA

Hospital. Bob and his wife are currently vacationing in South Africa, touring and singing with local chapters there.

Wayne Beighley is back singing, looking good, recovering from a stroke. They missed his fine tenor.

John Hulbert's operation was so successful that he has now assumed full directorship.

RIVERSIDE

BILL SHOVA

The chapter rose to the occasion and agreed to host the one-day-SOCAL COTS held in the Redlands University in November. Several chapter members volunteered to be "taxi-drivers" to bring the instructors to and from the airport. A number of the chapter members were in attendance.

They received a special invitation inviting the chapter to the 2007 Buckeye Invitational in Columbus Ohio. The opportunity is being seriously considered by the board and membership.

New members on the Riverside Board are VP Mu&P **Bill Harper**, VP Ch Dev **James Haggerty** VP, and BMALs **Paul Rowe**, **John Hawes, Jr.** and **Dick Girvin.**

Craig Smith of Temecula received his new member packet.

SAN CLEMENTE

DON THOMAS

The **Beach Cities Harmonizers** are pleased to welcome newest members **Bob Haig**, **Scott Lolmaugh** and **Kevin Strong**.

They're having a December 3rd show with the Mission Viejo Sweet Adelines and the Madrigal singers from the San Clemente High School. Their guest night will be on Monday December 3.

The chapter, the district and the Society were saddened to learn that **Jack Kelly** passed away. Jack was a Society member and Southern California Barbershopper for well over 40 years. His humor, personality, friendship and countless outstanding gigs as an Emcee has touched thousands of Barbershoppers over the years. Jack was a prominent member of the **Crescenta Valley Chapter** before moving to Orange County. Barbershoppers paid their last respects and celebrating Jack's life on November 3rd. . After the Mass there was a no-host Jack Kelly Memorial Afterglow.



FWD DVP for Division 3 NCWH

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Hello to the members of Division 3! It is a great honor to join the board of the best district in the BHS. On behalf of the division, I thank outgoing VP John Jones for his service in 2006. Although he decided not to continue on the board, John takes the helm of our 2007 division convention, a position he held with great success a couple years ago.

A big thank you and congratulations to the Bay Area Chapter for hosting a successful FWD Convention in San Jose AND securing a wild card slot to next summer's International Chorus Contest. Ranked seventh going into that contest, we may see two medalist choruses from the Far West in 2007. It was also wonderful to see our brothers from the Aloha Chapter at the convention. Come back soon guys!

Congratulations to the eight division chapters with increased year-to-year membership (October 2005 to October 2006): Santa Cruz (up 28%), Eureka (21%), Monterey Peninsula (14%), Palo Alto-Mountain View (13%), Marin (12%), Fremont-Hayward (12%), San Mateo County (10%), and Bay Area (3%). These chapters are doing their part to stem the flow of declining membership.

Overall division membership, however, is down 1.4%. Five chapters had declining membership, one chapter folded, and another is in grave condition. Excluding the Aloha Chapter, the Northwestern section of California is down to 14 viable chapters in an area with a population of over 8 million people. Room for growth? You better believe it!

While two strong chapters merged to form one very strong chapter, we have several other struggling chapters. It is in everyone's best interest to reach out to these chapters and offer them assistance. In turn, those chapters must be open to receiving help. Over the years it seems that many chapters have become increasingly isolationist and that barbershop brotherhood only extends beyond the chapter a couple times each year at conventions. I intend to usher in a new era of increased cooperation, encouragement, and support between all chapters. Everyone has learnt lessons, both good and bad. Sharing them with each other will help us grow the collective chapters of NCWH.

Every chapter has key players that have made a difference over the years. As we begin to work together I hope to learn more about these men and encourage them to share their talents beyond the chapter level. The district needs a division representative for each of the required functional district committees as well as several other standing and ad hoc committees. A healthy district includes committee members from a variety of chapters. If you are interested in becoming more involved in the affairs of the division or district, please let me know.

I look forward to meeting you all in 2007. Whether at a chapter meeting or convention, please come up, introduce yourself, and let me know how I and the rest of the district leadership can help you get the most enjoyment from your Society.



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ALOHA

Do you know the way to San Jose? Preparing for the big day, large investments in time and energy. Getting there, big bucks. Winning Plateau AA and 6th Overall..... PRICELESS. We came away from San Jose energized, and thinking that the bar is now raised to a level that we cannot go below any more. Thanks to **Bay Area** for hosting the event, and doing a great job. Congratulations to **Westminster** for winning, and showing us all what talent and hard work can do. Kudos to the 24 choruses that competed. Thanks to **South Bay** for arranging that great get together on Friday. We'll see you again at the Pan Pacific Convention in 2008.

As for **The Sounds of Aloha**, we couldn't do it without our leader, Director **Mark Conching**, who made us believe that anything is possible with hard work; without our Creative Team, **Mark Conching, Phil Wee, Ken Foreman, Scott Nessler** and **Rob Hartley**, who put our parodies all together; without our Costume Designers **Mike Darcey** and **Bill Joor**; without our Chorus Manager **Ken Nelson**, who showed the way to San Jose; without our Make Up director **Fred Michaels**, who made us look like real Frankenstein Monsters; without **Joan Michaels** and the Ladies of Aloha, our Auxiliary, who applied our make up; and certainly not without the 39 members on the risers who stepped up to the plate, and swung for the fences. Look for us in 2009, if not sooner.

Aloha to the Michaels. We say a fond Aloha to **Fred** and **Joan Michaels** who leave us for Vancouver, Washington. Fred and Joan have been integral parts of the Sounds of Aloha and we will miss them.

BAY AREA CHAPTER

MAX BATES

What a great FWD contest! Congratulations to **The Westminster Chorus** and **Royce Ferguson** along with very special honors to **Late Show** for their spectacular performances. **Voices In Harmony** is very proud of all of the quartets in the contest especially the seven quartets who have at least one member who hangs his barbershop "shingle" with the **Voices In Harmony**. A very special thanks, to all of the volunteers who assisted in making the FWD contest a big success.

VIH chorus is very excited about the prospects for competing on the International Stage in Denver next July. Wonderful things happen when we follow the man with the "golden hands"... Thanks **Dr. Lyne**.

Voices In Harmony performed at the Summer Sunday Performing Arts Series held at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton in August.

In early November VIH performed in a concert to support the Liberty High School's A Cappella & Chamber Choirs and Quartets in their fundraising for the Liberty's Singers trip to England in June 2007. You can't help but be enthusiastic when you are around young people who love to sing.

The 2007 VIH board has been elected. President (again) **David Haedtler**, VP Music **Randy Meyer**, VP Membership **David Binetti**, VP Marketing **Bruce Lechner**, VP Public Relations **Ed Albanoski**, VP Operations **Ollie Brillhante**, Treasurer **Dave Sutton**, Secretary **Jay Breen**, CIO **Bruce Sellnow**, Members-at-Large **Chuck Leavitt**, **Chuck Hunter**, **Dave Theobald**, Immediate Past President **Jerry Larkin**.

EUREKA MAC GARDNER

Recently elected as chapter officers for 2007 are President **Tom Van der Ploeg**, Sec **Lyle Rosser**, Treas **Dick Johnson**, VP Membership **Lonnie Arney**, VP M&PR **Rod Strom**, VP Mu&P **Owen Peck**, IPP **Harvey Raider**, and Bulletin Editor **Mac Gardner**. In professional life, Tom is Senior Vice President and Chief Credit Officer with Redwood Capital Bank. He is a former member of the **Capitolaires Chorus** in Sacramento and an original member of the **Topcat Quartet**.

October was a big month with two Beer-and-Peanut Shows, plus a Guest Night. Three quartets also sang for city and county councils in observance of Barbershop Harmony Week. November 11 marked our fourth straight year as featured music at the Eureka Veterans Day program. We also have invitations to sing at some local senior care homes. We're popular, and busy (just the way we like it!).

FREMONT/HAYWARD RAY SPINOSA

In August, the members of the **New Dimension Chorus** once again manned a booth at the Fremont Festival of the Arts. For two days, passersby were regaled with barbershop harmony and enticed into singing a tag or two. Later that month, the chorus completed its summer church singing with a performance at Faith Lutheran Church in Castro Valley, CA.

For the first time in its history, the chorus competed in the Far West District contest in San Jose. Even though members had to be careful not to antagonize hundreds of Frankensteins who were also competing, the chorus took away valuable feedback from the judges and look forward to competing at that level again.

MARIN COUNTY RALPH KLING

Marin Chapter quartets were very active this fall attending workshops and performing at numerous venues including: The 1st Presbyterian Church in San Anselmo; the first day of school at Sun Valley Elementary School in San Rafael; a wedding reception in Huntington Park on Nob Hill in San Francisco; Aegis of Corte Madera; the Alma Via Home in San Rafael; and, the Tam Creek Home in Novato. **The Golden Gate Chorus, With Relish, Upscale and Harmony Express** quartets made their annual visit to the Smith Ranch Retirement Community in San Rafael where they entertained a near capacity crowd. The highlight of the fall season was our annual Holiday Harmony Show at the Showcase Theatre in San Rafael on November 5th. Featuring the newly crowned FWD Champion Quartet **Late Show**, our Chorus and Quartets paid tribute to the great American holidays with a lively program of song and skit put together by Show Director, **Ralph Kling**. Led by Chorus

Director **Phil DeBar**, this dazzling display of vocal talent and show business flair thoroughly entertained the sell-out crowd and earned them a standing O for their efforts!

MONTEREY PENINSULA DENIS VAN DAM

The Monterey Cypressaires performed their November 18 show, "Harmony Jubilee," celebrating our 50th anniversary as a chapter. It was presented at the Santa Catalina Performing Arts Center in Monterey. We have also selected new officers for 2007. They are as follows: President **Alan Mello**, VP Membership and Past President **Bryan Epps**, VP Music and Program Chair **Steve Brooks**, VP Public Relations/Marketing, **Denis Van Dam**, Chorus Manager **Sam Kier**, Show Chair **Bruce Bloxom**, Sec **Stan Giles**, Treas **Bob Read**, Activities Chair **Joe Pintacura**, and Co-Chairs for Webpage Design and Printing, **Howard Straus** and **Keith Eckhardt**.

PALO ALTO/MOUNTAIN VIEW DEAN JAMES

The Peninsulaires performance of "A Really Great Chorus" at the FWD fall contest exceeded our wildest expectations. The reactions of the audience were, to use **Bob Hartley's** coaching phrase, "Over the Top." Now the big question is, "What do we do next?"

Ten new members have joined us this year. And there are several more recruits "in process." Hey you singers from the SF Peninsula and South Bay. If you are without a chorus, come see what fun a barbershop chorus can be when its primary goal is entertaining our audiences. We're busy now preparing for our fall cabaret show and our several holiday performances.

S.F. BAY CITY QUARTET CASEY PARKER

And the fun just keeps rollin' on...The October 25 meeting was a grand success. Guest **Jordan Makower**, a veteran Lead recently relocated from New York State, joined in the quartet fun. Guest **Dave Tuttleman** (most improved voice in barbershopping) dropped in to ring a few chords as well. Our venerable woodshedmeister **Dennis Baker** brought us a ditty from 1922, "Blue." Music VP **Roman Avila** suggested we all take the music home to work on this tune that is tailor made for four part harmony. President **Steve Gummarsall** reported on his and Sarah's recent Amtrak Cruise to Branson, Missouri, entertainment center of the Midwest. Despite Amtrak's typical challenges, they had great music filled week. Quartets rang through the evening with a nearly unlimited supply of leads. The hall rang with Hofbrau Hospitality and harmony and finished with a rousing tag session.

SAN FRANCISCO DON KINGTON

Leading the **Cable Car Chorus** for year 2007 will be barbershopping veteran President **Charles Feltman**, IPP **Pete Wanger**, VP Chapter Development **Orv Teising**, VP Music **Greg Goyhenetche**, Treas **Fred Merrick**, Sec **Shel Rosenthal**, and Board Members at Large **Mark Russell**, **Ed Rategan** and **Jerry Lester**.

At the Wednesday, October 25, meeting the Chapter kicked off it's first session of its "A Cappella Boot Camp." A half-dozen men appeared promptly at 7:00 p.m. to sign up for the six-week

course taught by Chorus Music Director **Angela Suraci**. Each of the “trainees” showed enthusiasm and good potential as a singer. The participants are charged a small fee and furnished instructional material and music. No mention of joining the Chapter will be made during the course; however, when it is completed those who choose to join will receive full credit for the tuition against chapter dues. The planning and promotion of the Boot Camp was directed by VP **Orv Teising**.

SANTA CRUZ

LAURANCE STERN

Sing for Your Life 2006, our chapter's annual youth outreach show, was held on Nov. 4, at First Congregational Church with seven of the county's high schools sending their choruses. **UnderAge** was the headline guest quartet (for the third consecutive year) and **Duane King** was MC.

Thanks to **Jack Bentle**, the Barbershop Jamboree has been scheduled for July 21, 2007, in cooperation with the **Cypresses** and **Bay Belles** of Monterey County.

SANTA ROSA

RAY CROWDER

The **Redwood Chordsmen** are sad to announce that our great Director, **Melany Huston**, has decided to step down at the end of 2006 after seven years as our leader. We have seen a huge improvement in our chorus under Mel's outstanding direction, and she will be sorely missed. As we go to press, the Chordsmen are looking for a new director.

We're happy to welcome **Gary Smith** back on the risers after several months of being featured in a local production of “Bye, Bye Birdie”. It's also a pleasure to welcome back another fine bass, **Chuck Northup**, who was a member for several years, and a former director of the **Marin** barbershop chorus.

Our chapter coach **Ollie Brillhante** who drove over from his home in Solano County to assist us in a discussion of our goals. It was also fun ringing a few chords with him after the meeting

Ray Crowder has been coaching two quartets at Montgomery High, and another quartet from Maria Carrillo High, and they will probably audition to become part of our program.

WALNUT CREEK

DICK JOHNSTON

On October 21st the **Devil Mountain Chorus** staged its annual dinner show at the Shadeland Art Center in Walnut Creek. “Picnic In The Park” was the theme, and **Uncalled Four** from **Voices in Harmony** was the featured quartet. **JAG**, a quartet composed of four men from Liberty High School in Brentwood, opened the show, which also included three chapter quartets **Whatever 4**, **Times be Four** and **The Creeksiders**. (Discerning readers will note the shared concern that the audience be informed of the number of singers in a barbershop quartet)

Our Music Director **Jim Stenson** directed the chorus and **Gary Larsen** was Master of Ceremonies.



FWD DVP for Division 4 NCENN

Dick Whitten

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Well, our District Convention and Contest has come and gone. I would like to thank all the men that worked to put this one on. It was outstanding. I had more fun at this Convention than many of the previous ones. There was more free time and I got to sing with many of my old friends and also made new friends while singing. There were some things that didn't go as the committee expected them to, but that is the name of the game at these functions. I am sure the outcome will be reported in other areas of Westunes so I won't go into them here, but I want to congratulate all competitors. Without you there wouldn't be conventions and shows and contests. These events are the only true way of knowing how your individual chapter is performing. Next year, it would be good for all chapters to attend these events and get an honest evaluation of your worth. I encourage you all to think of these events as report cards and take the plunge to improve. Your shows and performances will not be well attended if you don't offer good value to your community. In your community you will not get a true picture of your value as an entertainer until it is too late. Being judged and critiqued by your peers is the measure of your entertainment value. Attendance at your shows and performances will increase immensely with better performances.

For the past year I have offered to visit your chapters. The offer still stands, because I have been re-elected to another year. I would like the opportunity to talk with you about a visit though. I used to just drop in, but I found some of the chapters were threatened by my unannounced presence, and that was not at all my intention. If you will call we can talk about the visit and make it fruitful for you. I just love Barbershop and I like to sing. A visit is as much for my pleasure as I hope it would be for you. Give me a call and let's work something out.

If any one in the Division needs any information or wants me to talk to the Board of Directors about a particular topic, please call and discuss it. If I think you're on the right path we can provide some guidance to the Board at the Spring Board meeting.

Until next issue, I wish you a successful year.



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DAVIS-VACAVILLE

TOM POWERS

We elected new chapter officers for 2007: President Tom Powers, VP Development & Membership Frank Blakeman, VP Marketing and PR Roy Bellhorn, VP & Show Chairman Bob Hansen, VP Program Mark Shreve, Secy John Minkler, Treas Claude Rohwer, and BMAL Steve Rollins.

This quarter we had several performances including Covell Gardens, an international family reunion at U. C. Davis, a Vacaville Thunderbirds baseball game, and the grand re-opening of the Nut Tree complex in Vacaville.

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 Harmony Express held their fall "recital" on Oct. 13 entitled "*A Tuneful Odyssey – or – How I Got To California*". It featured the chorus under the direction of **Kent Borrowdale** and the cast included "Good ole" **Charlie Clark**, his friend **Les Cudworth**, with outside guest soloist **Jan Vecchio**. One of the songs featured the beautiful voice of **Al Treadway**. The show was a trip from New York to California with renditions of regional songs. This was **Stan Trumbull's** inaugural stint as M.C. and he did a fine job. The featured quartet was **U4EA (Bill Seibel, Charlie Clark, Kent Borrowdale and Stan Trumbull)**.

NEVADA PLACER

ROGER PERKINS

The Sierranaders celebrated their 23rd anniversary on August 22 with the annual BBQ/swim party at **Steve Evans** home. There were about 50 people including members and families. The **Great Perko** barbecued tri tip once again and **Bill Beck** provided a wide range of beverages. The rest was an excellent variety of potluck dishes.

Our annual Cabaret Show (Oct. 20-21) was a huge success. As in the past we served lasagna with garlic bread and salad with cake for dessert. In Auburn we had record attendance with 129 people paying for the privilege of hearing the **Sierranaders** directed by **Roger Perkins** and our chapter quartets. The following night in Grass Valley we had 90 paid admissions. Quartets included **The 4T9r4** (Friday night), **New Edition**, **Pacific Standard Time**, **Chord Miners** and **Stampede**. There also was an appearance by the mixed quartet **Just 4 Fun**. The theme this year was "request night" and we allowed the audience to make a list of their favorite songs. We were able to perform some of their requests.

PLACERVILLE

KEITH ECKHARDT

On August 30 the **Preservation** Quartet visited Oak Ridge, Ponderosa and Union Mine High Schools. They started at 8:00 a.m. and finished after noon. They introduced the barbershop style of singing to the students and promoted the Youth Harmony Camp to 80 singers, of which 55 were young men.

The Youth Harmony Camp held at Pollock Pines was one again a big success.

SACRAMENTO

FRANK KINNISON

At the PROBE annual meeting at the International convention the Capitolaire's bulletin, *Swipes and Tags*, placed eighth. Congratulations to a great job by editor **Alan Swanson**.

The Barbershop Quartet Sequel show was held on July 29 at the historic Woodland Opera House. **The River City IV (Keith Slater, Gib Hertler, Kent Borrowdale and Jim Newlove)** opened the show. Joining in the show were the **Uncalled Four, The Ritz (S.A.), Velocity**, and **Vintage Gold**, 2nd place Int'l. Senior Quartet Champs.

The annual Cabaret Show "Cruisin' Down the River" was held Sept. 9. **Joe Sisson** did a great job as show chairman.

BOTM for June was **Joe Samora**, selected for his generosity and thoughtfulness for making the cake that was enjoyed at the 60th anniversary celebration.

Recognition was given to **Barbera Hertler** and **Irene Cudworth** by naming them co-BOTMs for July. Barbara was selected for the many get well cards and kind words she has sent to ailing members and Irene has been at meetings making sure that snacks are available at break time. Both are great supporters of the Capitolaire's.

Former longtime chapter and Society member, **Bill Bennett** died on July 22. He was chapter president and also FWD president in 1966-67. Bill sang in a Sacramento quartet, **The Silvertones**, consisting of employees at the local Sears store.

The Capitolaire's had another successful Sacramento Area Quartet Workshop on August 12. There were 14 quartets signed up, and coaches were **Bill Borah, Eric Brickson, Bruce Sellnow, Jim Crowley, Don Gubbins, Robert Lenoil, Matt McKee, Doyle Pope, Ray Rhymer, Rob Sequeira, Dan Warschauer, Jason Warschauer**, and **Alan LeVezu**. Alan once again did a great job coordinating the schedules, rallying all the coaches and making the whole day run smoothly.



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CASA GRANDE

ROGERS HORNSBY

The **Desert Sounds Chorus** spent the evening of Oct. 9 in fellowship and fun with the **Paradise Valley Chapter** members. After the meeting the fun and singing continued at a local pizza restaurant. Director **Jeff Dolan** is concentrating on improving individual vocal production within the chorus. The end result will be better ensemble singing.

Preparations for our November recruiting program are in progress. We're also expecting our winter visitors to begin swelling the ranks soon.

Rehearsals are under way for the Southern Arizona Combined Chorus' Christmas presentations. The Tucson Sunshine, Canada de Oro and Casa Grande choruses and various quartets will sing three Christmas shows together on Dec. 16 and 17.

Chapter officers for the coming year: President **Sam Warfel**, VP Membership **Patrick Dykes**, VP Program **Jim McBride**, VP Music **Rogers Hornsby**, Publicity & Marketing **Byron McConnell**, Sec **Loren Englund**, Treas **JeRay Bellon**, At-Large Delegates **Denny Johnson** and **Jim McClelland**.

GREATER PHOENIX

PHIL SMITH

The **Spirit of Phoenix Chorus** is planning to graciously accept a wild-card invitation to compete at the International Contest in Denver in July. We congratulate our FWD champions, the **Westminster Chorus**, and the new **Bay Area Chorus**, which also qualified to compete.

Collin McKinney, our new membership VP, has come up with a great idea, not only for recruitment but to try to keep every member active. He has divided the chorus into 10 teams, each named after an early Society quartet champion (1939-48). Team captains are charged to contact each of their members weekly, and the teams will compete in contests for program ad sales and ticket sales as well as recruiting new members. Big plans are being made for a guest night on Jan. 23.

With three Christmas shows (Dec. 3, 9 and 10) and our annual show ("Feelin' Groovy," featuring songs made famous by the Beatles, Jan. 19 and 20) coming up within six weeks of each other, the chorus is hard at work reviewing Christmas repertoire and learning new music.

Our chapter is also making plans to hold a benefit show in February to help raise funds for two local high school choral groups that have been invited to sing at Carnegie Hall next spring.

LAS VEGAS

ROC PUCCI

On Sept. 16, the **Gamble-Aires** held their annual Chili Cook-off at **Jerry Alvarez's** clubhouse. Of the several entrants, three were awarded certificates of achievement. The categories and winners were: Best Chili, **Rich Coon**; Hottest Chili, **Wes White**; and Most Unusual Chili, **Phil Sonneman**.

At our Oct. 12 rehearsal we had visitors from across the pond (Great Britain). Fourteen lovely ladies of the Ladies Association of British Barbershop Singers, in town for Sweet Adelines International Convention, joined us as guests. They sang us a song, and during our turn to sing, they joined us in two mutually known songs. That was a fun, new experience for most of us. In addition, several quartets entertained the ladies. Several of them brought their husbands, who professed that they could not sing. Most attended our afterglow. A great time was had by all.

Our co-director, **John Waugh**, has requested a leave of absence for an indefinite period. He will still sing with the chorus. **Albert Weiss**, our other director, will assume full control. This situation will probably extend through our Christmas shows on Dec. 9 and 14.

LAS VEGAS METRO

JOHN THOMPSON

The **CITY OF LIGHTS Chorus** has been a busy bunch during the late summer and fall. Our summer show, "*Dastardly Deeds in the Desert*," was a rousing success thanks to our chorus director **Scott Fewell** and his talented wife **Ami**, our coach. This melodrama, written by chorus member **Sterling Peterson**, was set in an old Western town when gold brought visions of grandeur and greed. Performances were held on Aug. 19 and 26. We were proud to have two featured guest quartets -- FWD champions **Hi-Fidelity** and SAI competitor **Premiere**.

On Aug. 12, the chorus, with **John Mackey** as coordinator, held our first-ever Southern Nevada Quartet Training Seminar. It was a full day of training, coaching and evaluation, attended by local quartets **From the Edge**, **Harmonetix** and **Rumble Seat Daze**, and an "oversized quartet" group of other chorus members. The excellent contingent of coaches included **Buzz Bossard**, **John Mininger**, **Warren Hettinga**, **Ami Fewell** and **Dale Roberson**. We hope to build on this and make it an annual event.

On Oct. 7, our chorus took 12th place at the Far Western District Convention and Contest. With 1156 points (106 points greater than the score posted in 2005), we earned the title of Most Improved Chorus!!

With active membership of just over 40 now, we are proud to announce two newly formed quartets, **Harmonetix** and **Veterans of Harmony**, bringing our quartets to a total of five.

MESA

DICK MURPHY

We had a few travelers this summer. Our director **Jim Brown** and assistant director **Ray Kahle** went to Directors College. Jim achieved a new and higher qualification as Barbershop Chorus Director. **Terry Gregg** also attended Harmony College.

Meanwhile, our folks going to Harmony College West included our **Two Under Par** quartet (**Charlie Nardin**, **Dick Moore**, **Dick Livesay**, **Barney Griffin**) and, individually, **Jed Young** and **Jerry Fox**.

We are meeting in a new place, as our old church "outgrew us!" Our new location is in the Activity Center at Eternal Life Lutheran Church, 7025 E. Main St., Mesa.

We are excited to have a new Annual Show venue at the Mesa Center for the Performing Arts. The staff there takes on much of the show logistics, and the auditorium is superb! We hope that many of our fellow barbershoppers were able to see our Veterans Day patriotic show! And Stardust as the headliner quartet!

PRESCOTT

DAVE SAMUELS

As the summer wound down for the **High Mountain Chordsmen**, the chorus was beginning to prepare for the Christmas season. Three, yes, three shows are scheduled in December. One will be held at the famous Elks Opera House in Prescott on Dec. 14 and the other two in Prescott Valley on Dec. 16. In addition, the chorus is expecting to participate in the annual Acker Showcase on Dec. 8 in downtown Prescott, where many entertainers perform in local business establishments for several hours. The streets are packed by residents and out-of-towners anxious to see the variety of talent.

Dry Heat quartet entertained the chorus a special guest night.

ST. GEORGE

GLENN VIRGA

The Color Country Chorus recently had a very profitable guest night. We gained many new members, including a lot of high school boys. They have added so much to our chapter.

We sponsor the World Senior Games here in St. George. One of our quartets preformed at intermission during their talent contest and was very well received.

We are practicing for our Christmas program held at our local LDS Tabernacle in December. On Nov. 11 we were scheduled to perform at a benefit sponsored by a local real estate company. This has helped us to get recognition in our area.

We are visiting our local high schools with a quartet to bring Barbershop harmony into the schools.

SEDONA

JOHN McDOUGALD

The chapter just held its third annual show, "*Barbershop Potpourri*," on Oct. 22 at the Church of the Red Rocks in Sedona. Under the direction of **Charlie Lyman**, the chorus performed a wide variety of selections, and our guest female quartet, **Sedona Swing**, and several chapter quartets were well received by the audience.

One of our local quartets, the **Red Rock Echoes**, will be competing at the International Mid-Winter Convention in the Buffalo Bills-Era Contest. **Tom Doeller, John McDougald, Bill Sabina** and **Don Tautkus** will bring 293 years of life experience and 125 years of consecutive Society membership (more like 160 years if you ignore a few lapses in membership) to the stage. All four members began singing barbershop in the '50s, so they should feel right at home in the contest.

SIERRA VISTA

ED RAYMOMD

In September we held our annual election of officers with the following results: President **Fred Whitley**, VP Chapter Development **Dave Germain**, VP Mu&P **Paul Godwin**, VP Programming **Ed Raymond**, Sec **John Graminski**, Treas **Bernie Martus**, Members-at-Large **Richard Newton, Ed Keene** and **Don Selvy**.

The guys are practicing for the Christmas carol get-together with the **Tucson** and **Casa Grande** chapters. This should be a rewarding event, as well as fun for all and a good chance to revisit friends from that area.

Watering Hole #3 (Paul Godwin, Dave Germain, Bernie Martus and Fred Whitley) continues to represent the chapter with appearances around the area, including a featured gig at the annual Forgach House gala in October.

SUN CITIES

BOB MCGOWAN

The Desert Aires had a successful guest night on Oct. 23. The program included a demo of barbershop basics, as well as some audience participation in singing a couple of songs. Our newest quartet **Extended Warranty (Gerry Roland, Bud Lowry, Gene Sprenkle, and John Vincent)** sang a couple of Barberpole Cat numbers. Director **Rich Thompson** touched on the basics of barbershop harmony and MC **Bud Hesterman** gave a brief summation of the origins of barbershop harmony and quarteting. The **Rainbow Quartet (Bud Hesterman, Ken Corns, Dave Tague, and Bill Shaw)** also entertained.

We were honored by an appearance by **Equinox** from the **Greater Phoenix Chapter**. As most of you in the FWD know, they took first place in the Novice category at District this year and fourth overall.

The evening was well attended and we managed to attract two new faces to our chapter: **Don Wetterlin**, who sings with a Minnesota chapter, and **Ed Petras**. Both will join us shortly. On Nov. 4 we held our Annual Picnic, where we invited members from other Valley chapters plus the **Prescott Chapter**.

Our Singout program is in full swing, and we have appeared at several local retirement facilities and churches this fall with our "Dreams" package.

TUCSON

JACK STATLER

Under the administrative leadership of Youth Outreach Committee Chairman **Ron Hayes** and the expert guidance of clinician **Connie Keil**, 27 young men from Tucson and surrounding area high school choral programs experienced a concentrated dose of a capella four-part harmony on Oct. 21. From 9 a.m. till 12 noon, they stood on the risers learning from **Eastsiders** and **Sonoran Sound** "teaching quartets" how to "sing, lock and ring" the chords from two songs. These attentive and eager young men were thoroughly dipped in hot barbershop—and they loved it!

A follow-up Youth Harmony Festival workshop for the fall of 2007 is already in the planning stages.

Tucson Sunshine Chapter officers and board members recently elected for 2007 are President **Ed Johnson**, VP Music **David Updegraff**, VP Membership **David Jager**, VP Program **Bill Archambeau**, VP Marketing/PR **Ron Schrubb**, Sec **Jim Stevenson**, Treas **Jim Anderson**, and Members at Large **Ed Hecht**, **Bob Topp**, **Don Smith**, **Ron Hayes**, **Dave Tompkins** and **Bob Stiff**.

WHITE MOUNTAINS ARIZONA CHAPTER

DOC DOCKENDORF

The chapter held its election of officers for 2007 in September with the following slate: President **Bob Koons**, VP Membership **Ron LaMar**, Sec **John Graham**, Treas **John Welker**, VP Music **Alan Beste**, VP Performance **Alan Johnson**, IPP **Bob Cutlipp**, and Board Members At Large **Bill White**, **David Wheeler** and **Jerry Schrunk**. LaMar volunteered to be 2007 Show Chairman, Schrunk will continue as Bulletin Editor and Webmaster.

The High Country Chorus performed at the Northland Pioneer College Performing Arts Festival on Oct. 7. The chorus was well covered by the press, and we had a large picture of the chorus in action in the White Mountain Independent newspaper.

We held our annual membership guest night on Oct. 10 and six prospective new members attended. In addition to the chorus, **The Pine Tones** sang, and the new prospective Sweet Adeline chapter chorus (**Mountain Belles**) sang for us. Two guests have already expressed interest in joining us.

We welcome new members leads **Wayne Jain** and **Bill Hartzell**.

YUMA

ROB BAILEY

The Territorial Prisonaires are back to a full rehearsal schedule following the summer hiatus. The chapter has renewed its affiliation with Arizona Western College, and offers a genuine, "for-credit" music class in Barbershop Harmony for interested singers. This is a special one-semester course running from October to March each year, granting one semester-hour of credit. No prerequisites. Contact director **Frank Durham** for more information on registering for this fun class, and participating in all Yuma Chapter activities.

The chorus rehearses at Ted's Cellar, corner of Main and Second streets in downtown Yuma, on Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. Come early and enjoy a tasty Italian dinner amid old cars, old music, and old friends. Call Frank at 928-329-7907, or Rob at 928-502-2652.

FWD Spring Convention in Reno March 15-18, 2007

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

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Just go to the FWD Webpage <http://spebsqsafwd.org>, click on the Westunes/Westtags name in the left hand column, click on the issue in the new screen, and it downloads. The new issue is usually available by the 15th of the month preceding publication.



2 Bay Area



3 Greater Phoenix



4 La Jolla

5 Rincon Beach



6 Aloha

7 Reno



8 Brea

9 South Bay



10 Riverside

11 Pasadena

CONVENTIONS, SHOWS, EVENTS

2006

December

- 1,2 Fullerton Shows
- 3 Palomar Pacific Show
- 3 Sacramento Show
- 3 San Clemente Show
- 9 Brea Show
- 9 Crescent City Show
- 9,10 Aloha Shows
- 9,10 Hemet Shows
- 14 Prescott Show
- 15,16,17 Whittier Shows
- 14 Prescott Show

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

- 14 *NCWH Division Contest*
Woodside, CA
Host: *VIH and PAMV*
- 14 Fullerton Shows
- 14 Palomar Pacific Show
- 19 Inland Empire Show
- 19-22 SAI Region 12 Conv, Sacramento
- 20,21 Whittier Shows
- 21 Santa Fe Springs Show
- 27-29 *Az/SN/SU Division Contest*
Moon Valley HS, Phoenix, AZ
Host: *Sun Cities Chapter*
- 28 Placerville Show

May

5 *SCE/SCW Division Contest*
NoSite yet

June

- 10 Palo Alto-Mt View Show

July

1-8 **INTERNATIONAL**
CONVENTION Denver, CO
14 White Mountains Shows

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

May

- 3 Santa Fe Springs Show

Jun29-Jul 6 INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION Nashville, TN

October

30-Nov 2 Great Pacific Harmony –
2008 Pan Pacific Convention

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

Clear all show dates with
FWD Secretary, Dick Girvin

WESTUNES

Magazine

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