



# WESTUNES

WESTUNES, established in 1951, is the official publication of the Far Western District Association of Chapters in the Barbershop Harmony Society, Inc.

Volume 59

Spring 2009

Number 1



**2009 International Senior Quartet Champion  
Audacity [FWD]**



**The Ranked FWD Youth Chorus - Heart of Gold  
Placerville, CA [Janet Matranga, Director]**

The FAR WESTERN DISTRICT includes  
Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada and Southern Utah







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Far Western District Association of Chapters in the Barbershop Harmony Society, Inc.

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**Aloha Fresno Prescott  
San Luis Obispo Visalia**

Issue	Deadline	Chapter News Submittal	to Div Editor Deadline
Winter	1 Nov	25 Oct	
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As I'm writing this, I've just returned from the Midwinter Convention in Pasadena. I know that by the time you read this you will have heard all about this great event, so I won't bore you by telling you how great the quartets were, how exciting it was to see and hear the youth choruses or even how much I enjoyed seeing, talking to and singing with so many old friends. But I do have to tell you how proud I am that our District has had its luster added to by virtue of Audacity becoming our new Senior Quartet Champs, thereby joining the Masters of Harmony and OC Times in this history making year. Audacity simply wowed the audience with a stand out emotional performance... and I DO mean Performance with a capital P! What great representatives they'll be for our hobby and our District in the coming year! Congratulations, John, Byron, Fraser & Greg!

Now, what I really want to talk to you about is you and your chapter. How are you both doing? Are you enjoying your weekly rehearsals and getting what you want from your chapter? Is your chapter getting what it needs from you? If the answer to both of these questions is yes, then I'm really happy for you. If it's no to either one, then you might take a serious look at the other question.

I'm not playing any tricks here... for you to fully enjoy your barbershop experience week in and week out at your chapter meetings, you have to give a bit of yourself in return. That might consist of taking on a chapter job or supporting a chapter officer or just making a guest feel at home. It might be something as simple as putting some effort into learning your music or working on good vocal techniques.

Actually, you'll have more fun if you do a little bit of all of the above.

I also want to take a moment to remind you about an upcoming event. Now that you're all through with your Singing Valentine Program (you did have one, right?) it's time to make plans for a trip to Las Vegas to enjoy the first ever combined Spring District Convention and Quartet Preliminary contest when the Far Western and Rocky Mountain Districts join forces to shake up the town and qualify who knows how many quartets to advance to the July International Convention in Anaheim.

Now I realize we have an abundance of riches here in our part of the world this year, and it might be difficult to take part in everything... especially considering our current economy. But, I urge you to at least

**Motto:  
Together  
in  
Harmony!**

consider two things, first, this may be the only year when all of these events take place so close to home, and second, that probably no other form of entertainment still gives you so much bang for the buck. Barbershop is still a pretty good deal.

Finally, I hope you'll give some thought this year to taking advantage of one of the several great training programs available to us all. There's the fantastic week of Harmony University or, if time is a problem, our own Harmony College West. It would also be a very good investment to consider sending your Music Director to Directors College. All of these opportunities offer the highest level of training by some of the most talented instructors anywhere. Do yourself and your chapter a favor, and take part; I promise you'll never regret it OR forget it.

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## **BEST MIDWINTER CONVENTION EVER!**

*by Peter Hensley. California Crossroads. La Jolla*

These are the comments we were hearing from attendees, who like California Crossroads, have attended many of these Midwinter Conventions in the past. This year's was held January 28-31, 2009 in Pasadena, CA, in fantastic 70+ degree clear weather.

### **Thursday Evening Harmony Foundation International**

Our quartet's weekend started on Thursday evening at the presentation by Ev Nau, and Sean Devine, about the Harmony Foundation International. Our quartet opened the event with a song, and then later at the conclusion, Masterpiece Quartet sang a few songs. Up to this point, we really know nothing about the Foundation. During the presentation we learned that its purpose is to promote the future of barbershopping through a number of avenues. These avenues include, but are not limited to: 1) Youth-Level camps and workshops, and providing free music to their music educators; 2) Collegiate-Level tours and quartet competition at the Annual Convention in July; 3) Youth-Level competition at the Midwinter Convention; and 4) Harmony College scholarships for Chorus Directors and quartets. In fact, the registration, hotel and food costs for all the some 240 Youth Chorus competitors at this convention were provided by this Foundation. Wow, was that impressive.

### **Friday California All-Star Chorus**

For the first time, an All-Star California Chorus was formed, to provide special entertainment at the convention. It was comprised of about 110 California chapter members from all over the state. (It did not include the Far Western District members who lived in other states, which peeved some of our fellow barbershoppers from Arizona and Nevada.) Its primary attraction was its director, Dr. Greg Lyne, who is well known throughout the Society, and especially in the Far Western District, where he was one of the original directors of the championship Masters of Harmony Chorus. The participants from the La Jolla, CA chapter, included Rod Deakers, Paul Girard, Pete

Hensley, Larry Thorpe and Mark Whelan. Rehearsals (which should have been promoted as a "Master Class,") included 90 minutes in the morning, and 120 minutes in the afternoon, which included a 30-minute sectional rehearsal, led by the members of the Masterpiece Quartet as the section leaders. Each of the members of the chorus was responsible for learning the music to "California Here I Come," and "Lost in the Night" in advance, from the music and learning tapes provided. With assistance from the talented section leaders, Dr. Lyne converted a bunch of rag tag singers of all stripes into a very impressive and accurate chorus. That prior effort by the singers, and the 3.5 hours of rehearsal resulted in an almost unbelievable singing return on investment. I just wish my entire chorus could have been in attendance, either singing or watching. The All-Star Chorus opened the Friday night Show of Champions, singing like a champion.



*All-Star California Chorus*

### **Friday Afternoon Senior Quartet Contest**

Although our quartet was disappointed that scheduling conflicts had precluded our competing in this year's Senior's Contest, having finished 8th in San Antonio in 2008, we were very pleased that our friends in Audacity, from Phoenix, won the contest handily. As is happening each year, the quality of the senior quartets is improving, as more and more previous International Medalist quartets are getting old enough to compete at the Senior Level (minimum age of 55 and average age of 60.)

### **Friday Night Show of Champions**

The participants in the Friday Night Show of Champions, after opening with the California All-Star Chorus, included previous Senior champions from 1998 and 2006, Jurassic Larks and Antigone Gold. The

*[Continued on page 5]*

## **District Executive Vice President**



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*Unfortunately, due to an unfortunate snafu in the printing of the last edition of Westunes, President Lally's article was repeated under my name and my end of year article was not printed at all. Although the error was rectified on-line, I have decided to more or less repeat that article here, with just a few changes.*

I am delighted to be writing this as your new FWD Executive Vice President. I can't write much about what I've done so far, of course, since I have only been EVP for a month at the time of writing this, but I can tell you a little about my job and some of the plans I have for the future. But before I do that, I want to say a big thank you to my predecessor Ivan Jensen, who did such a great job as Executive VP for the past year.

The most important functions of the Executive VP are to oversee the District Management Team (also known as the Operations Team), to report to the District President and to preside at Board meetings in his absence. Like many Districts, our governance system has changed over the years. Currently, the District Board is made up of President, Immediate Past President, Executive VP, Secretary and Treasurer along with our five Division VPs. Previously the Board was made up of the same first five men along with functional managers (of Membership, Music & Performance, etc.), as opposed to regional managers. Now these functions are managed by chairmen who are no longer members of the Board but make up the District Management or Ops Team that I will be overseeing. They may no longer be on the Board, but these men are among the most important in the District.

The functions that these chairmen cover are Chapter Support & Leadership, Chorus Directors, Contests & Judging, Events, Marketing & P.R., Membership, Music & Performance and Youth in Harmony. Although each job is independent of the others, the team meets once a year and interacts with one another often at other times. One of the first things I intend to do is for the team to meet, if only via conference calls, on a more frequent basis. I believe that when key men talk, they come up with ideas, followed by calls for action. There's lots to be done and we have talented men to do it, so I'm hoping that much will come out of these regular conversations.

The other thing I've learned over the years is that Joe Barbershopper doesn't always properly communicate with District leaders, or vice-versa. Getting out to meet the troops gives leaders a greater understanding of members' needs and members a greater understanding as to how the District is run and what opportunities they have to use District resources to improve their barbershop experience. As District leaders, we're committed to your success and we hope you will all take advantage of what we have to offer.

2009 is an exciting year, with one International Convention already under our belts (the very successful Midwinter convention in Pasadena) and our big International convention in Anaheim in July. I will strive to encourage every FWD member to be in Anaheim, as well as one or more of our local conventions. Many members still don't know how much fun these are, especially new members (who by the way are now entitled to a free registration the first time they attend a FWD convention). Our job is to educate them, encourage them to attend and watch them soak it all up. They'll thank us.

I am looking forward to serving you in 2009 and shaking hands with as many of you as possible during the year.

**FWD/RMD Spring Convention in Las Vegas**  
**March 19-22, 2009**  
**FWD & RMD Quartets Will Compete**  
**Come Witness ALL the Competitors!**



*[From page 3]*

College Champs, Ringmasters, were allowed only one song, and sang so well that the audience was screaming for more when they left the stage. Consequently, they were invited back for the Saturday Night show. The rest of the show was devoted to the 3rd, 4th and 5th place medalists from the 2008 International contest, Stateline Grocery, Redline and Old School. Overtones were galore from all three. Chris Vaughn, the lead from past champion, Gotcha, is now the lead for Redline, and is generating screaming overtones. Likewise, famous Joe Connelly, the only previous triple gold medal winner, is now the lead of Old School, and it showed in their fantastic singing.

### **Saturday Afternoon International Youth Chorus Festival**

This impressive event is called a festival because it is not as much a competition as an opportunity for these youth choruses to experience the thrill of singing on the International stage, and receive standing ovations from the appreciative audience. Scoring is done by grouping the choruses into three age-levels. Level-A includes those whose ages average under 19, about high school age. Level-AA includes ages which average 19-21, Level-AAA includes ages which average 22-24. There was only one Level-AAA chorus, and its 31 members scored an impressive average score of 77.1. Most experienced barbershop chapters would love to be able to score this high. There were three Level-AA choruses, whose average scores were also high at: 76.1, 73.9 and 68.4. The highest average score of the remaining Level-A choruses, all high school level, was still an impressive 63.1. Three other choruses participated but not for scores. One of them, Pacific Suns, from the San Diego area, was directed by Allan Webb, and organizationally assisted by Paul Girard. At the last minute, the majority of their members dropped out due to heavy school work, so Ringmasters agreed to sing with the remaining five members of that chorus-- what a thrill for those five kids. In all, about 240 boys, from eight different Districts in the USA, participated in this event, with almost all convention costs, except transportation, provided by Harmony Foundation International.



### ***Northwest Vocal Project, Western Washington 2009 Youth Festival Champions***

### **Saturday Night Show of Champions**

The Saturday Night Show included a chorus of past Senior champions, the 2008 Senior Quartet Champion, Eureka, and a second performance by College Champs, Ringmasters, back by popular demand. Then it got down to some performances that had to be equivalent to 90+ level singing. It started with Crossroads, who were 2nd in 2008, followed by our current 2008 champs, OC Times. The performance by Crossroads, had to have been better than any previous performance by any of its members, who were all previous gold medal Champions. It also may have occurred to OC Times, who was waiting in the wings to perform, that they were pleased that they wouldn't have to face Crossroads in the International in July in Anaheim. These two quartets generated an unbelievable number of ringing chords during their performances. And then, to cap off a fantastic evening of championship singing, the show was closed by the current International Chorus Champion, Masters of Harmony.

### **Saturday Night Back at the Headquarters Hotel**

Back at the Hilton Hotel, the lobby was ringing with chords from everywhere. Some of the gold medal singers were teaching tags to the kids, and some of the kids were singing tags with the Seniors. Almost everyone was singing or listening, because it was too noisy to talk. Our quartet found some nice looking ladies, who appeared to enjoy our singing to them. When we finally left at 2:00am, things were still going strong. It was a fantastic convention for California Crossroads. I hope you were there, and if not, try the International Convention in Anaheim in July.

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So, now that the dust has settled, where are all of the chorus directors? I want to hear from you. I want you to tell me what you want to do next. We have the potential for a CDWI in each division, a CDWI in conjunction with the Evergreen District (for very Northern California directors) I want to help you get certified if that is something you want to do, I want to help train your assistant directors. We have a pretty open slate and can use as many crayons to make this picture as you all may want it.

What coaches will you be bringing in? Do you want help choosing or paying for them? Do we want to restart training at convention weekends? What about the CDG? Are any of you doing other training? Are any of you planning to go to Director's College? Do any of you have ideas for training at HCW?

It is our ballgame, let's start defining the rules.

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**FWD/RMD Spring Prelims Convention**

The Far Western and Rocky Mountain Districts have joined forces in 2009 to hold a combined Spring Contest in Las Vegas, NV, March 19-22, 2009. This is the first time this has been attempted in the history of our Society. While this is only a trial, it may pave the way for similar events in the future.

Quartets from both districts will compete to earn the right to qualify for the International Quartet Contest in Anaheim next July. As per each Districts' protocol, the

FWD will advance 10 quartets and RMD will advance 8 (or more if scores dictate) to the finals round. There will be two mic testers for the finals: one from each district. The draw will be a mixed order of qualifiers from both districts. Individual score sheets for each district will be printed.

The RMD has traditionally held a VLQ Contest as part of their Spring Convention. This will continue as part of their contest weekend. The FWD will incorporate a variation of a small chorus contest as part of the VLQ round. Choruses from the FWD who meet the following requirements are eligible:

- 1- Open to FWD choruses only
- 2- Must have 35 or less singers on stage
- 3- Has not competed in a Division Contest in the past two years

This contest may serve as an alternative to the Division Contest as a qualifying round for the Fall District Contest. Choruses who meet the qualification score OR whose score warrants a wildcard invitation will be eligible to compete in the 2009 FWD Fall District Contest. Choruses may also request to compete for score only. In this case, their score will not be considered for District Contest eligibility. Choruses may compete in their Division contest as well, but must declare which contest between the two should be considered for District qualification upon registering for the event. There will be a limit of 10 choruses for this contest. Priority will be given to those competing for District qualification over those competing for score only.

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I hope you all took time to fill out the convention questionnaire that you were emailed about in October. There was one for those of you who attended, and one for those who did not. Keith Eckhardt spent a great deal of time and



thought putting this together, and he and others are still going over the answers in detail to determine not only what you all like (or would like), but also what you dislike (or would like to see changed). I, too, went over the preliminary results. As you may suspect, the answers indicated that we can't please everyone – many answers asked for things that others complained about.

We can see that the main reason for lower attendance at our conventions is the economy. No surprise there. Many of you are now coming without your wife/family and rooming with someone else doing the same; some of you are not coming at all due to the total cost.

A few of you hate Bakersfield; others think it's a great, centrally-located place for a convention. Several complained about the hotel rates (some did so and suggested L.A. for lower rates – we need to get these folks back into the real world). Our Bakersfield negotiated convention rates are some of the best in the state right now. We will try to add some lower rate hotels to our convention block in the future (at all venues).

Some members indicated that they don't come to a convention unless they are competing. I wish these folks would avail themselves of some of the many other opportunities available, like craft classes, woodshedding, the AHSOW room, past champs show, quartet and chorus CD sales, and now the hospitality rooms are back! Anyone staying home for this reason is really short-changing himself!

How did you like the buffet? (A few indicated that they did not, most did). We worked with the hotel to do this because of the construction (no restaurant area), but it worked out so well that we will be doing the buffet in Bakersfield again, and we're looking at doing so at some of our other venues as well.

Is everyone going to the Spring Prelims in Las Vegas? We're combined with the Rocky Mountain District, so this will be even more fun than usual, not to mention more good singing! Registrations were WAY DOWN as of late January, so be sure to send yours in if you haven't already.

Also note that the Alexis Park Resort is a non-smoking venue, so don't hesitate to go if smoke is an issue.

The SoCal West and SoCal East Division Contests are being combined again this year, and will be co-hosted by the Rincon Beach and San Fernando Valley chapters. By the time you read this, the date and venue will be finalized, and can be found on the district website

(spebsqsafwd.org). Speaking of these two contests and the contest dates, I have had quite a few complaints about the dates and date changes. SCW is always tentatively the first Saturday in May, and SCE is the second Saturday in May. We have combined the two contests several times in the last few years because of low attendance – the profit has to be worth the effort of the host chapter. (The combined contest will always fall on one of these two Saturdays). The Division Events Planners, Division VPs and I have been trying very hard to get host chapters since late last summer. While the judges assigned to these contests have a valid complaint if the date changes, if your chapter didn't step up to host a division contest, then your chapter can't very well complain about a date change. Please consider hosting a division contest. The Events Team will help in any way necessary, and the host chapter gets 50% of the profits, with a guaranteed minimum of \$500. Host chapter share is typically much higher.

Please remember that the Events Team and I are always open to your comments, suggestions or criticisms. We want you, the members, to get as much enjoyment from our conventions as possible.



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Have you studied your profession or hobby lately? As singers, our directors and teachers are always encouraging us to study and practice outside of our normal weekly meetings. It's a safe bet that no serious Barbershopper is solely showing up once a week to sing, and not practicing! To be successful, we must study and practice our craft! Therefore, it should be with our other endeavors in life! For myself, I count my successes as a Project Management Professional as a matter of study, and trying to learn something new about my profession on a regular basis.

As I am not one for any great "New Year" resolutions, I often do not make them! However, this year, I asked myself what is it that I can do to better serve the FWD and my office as Chairman of Marketing and PR? As this particular job is not something I have really ever aspired to, I sort of "fell" into it, I decided that one of the things I can do is become more proficient, or at least more knowledge in the field of Marketing. One of the things I have done is signed up for a website called Marketing Profs. This par-

ticular website has so many “white papers”, and other tools, that it seems to be an endless wealth of information! Now before you all jump on the bandwagon, please be aware that they do send out quite a few e-mail alerts. Nevertheless, if you can live with that, it is a good source of marketing info.

My point here is that in order to be good leaders, we need to know something about our office. Presidents and Vice Presidents, what have you read lately to make you leaders that are more efficient? Music VPs and Directors, what have you studied lately that would help your Chorus to sing better? All Board Members, Have you attended COTS (Leadership training) lately? Additionally, for all members, please remember to visit the society document center on the main society website. There you can find and download a plethora of helpful information.

I hope this year brings you plenty of successes for your Chapter.

Keep Smilin', Keep Singin',



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Howdy –

**The numbers:**

As of December 31, 2008, the official FWD Member count was **3,155** (including multiple memberships). That's a drop of some **297** paid-up members since 2007 year-end.

**Behind the numbers:**

- The society database shows we did a pretty darn good job of recruiting – new memberships in 2008 totaled **338**, or an average of **3.9** members per chapter.
- **HOWEVER** – the same data base indicates we had **647** non-renewals (615)/deaths (32) for the year (an average of 7.6 members per chapter), resulting in the 297 member net loss.
- Since 2001, we've dropped some **725** members.
- As stated above, the Society numbers include multiple memberships (members of more than one chapter). If we subtract multi members our real membership is **2,858**.

Think about it – if we had no non-renewals, we'd be at **3493** instead of 3155 – an average of 3.9 more guys per chapter. That means more quartets, bigger chorus sound, more volunteers to sell tickets, more guys to put up the risers – heck, just more friends!

Realistically, of course, we can't completely eliminate the non-renewal problem. What we can do – all of us – is ask ourselves what we can personally do to stem the outflow.

Like for instance:

- Make sure that guests feel warmly welcomed and wanted.
- Make sure new members are properly oriented and mentored, and that they quickly become valued, contributing members.
- Make sure that current members are involved and have an “ownership” stake in the chapter.
- Make sure that individual membership accomplishments are recognized and applauded.
- Make sure our musical product is the best it can be, by taking personal responsibility to learn our music (notes, words, moves) as well as we can, in the shortest possible time.

...and so on. Old stuff, but still valid. Know what? Whoever said “membership begins with ME” was right!

See 'ya around...



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No submittal this issue



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

1190 Tanglewood Rd.  
Prescott, AZ 86303  
928- 277- 4347  
El: jkrizek@aol.com

**College Champs Thrill School Audiences**

Once again we have witnessed the power of barbershop—as delivered by a fine young quartet—to thrill and inspire young people.

This time it was the Ringmasters—current international collegiate champion quartet, from Stockholm, Sweden—who visited the Far Western District for several days while en route to the Society Midwinter convention in Pasadena. In a six-day stretch, these outstanding ambassadors dazzled 850 students in 13 schools between San Diego County and Prescott, Arizona—not to mention presenting a clinic for music educators and entertaining chapters and other audiences along the way. On their final night in Prescott, an overflow audience filled one of the largest churches in town—an audience that included several students from the schools visited that day, who brought their parents and friends to see what got them so excited—an audience that gave the quartet at least three standing O's.


The whole thing was also an example of how barbershoppers come together to pull something like this off. Paul Girard of La Jolla hosted the quartet and ran their schedule in San Diego. Kim Hulbert and John Hulbert served as clinicians. After Westminster rolled out the red carpet at one of their rehearsals, Shawn York of OC Times hosted and delivered them to Ontario airport for their flight to Prescott. Lynn Grubb of Prescott helped make arrangements. The Song of the Pines Sweet Adeline chorus threw a welcoming dinner party. John & Kay Krizek hosted and provided shuttle service (with the help of a neighbor). Gary Steinkamp came up from Phoenix to serve as clinician. On their return to LA, Les Weiser of the MOH met their flight and delivered them to Pasadena.

Thanks to all. It was more than the music that made people smile. So now comes the task of following up with all those wonderful new school contacts—and thanking Emanuel, Martin, Rasmus, and Jakob of Ringmasters for their wonderful gift—to us and to our cause. I'll bet you know who we'll be cheering for when the Ringmasters compete in July in Anaheim!

Are you sponsoring a high school quartet to the spring convention in Las Vegas? Have you made contact with a college quartet seeking coaching and help getting to one of the divisionals? Have you booked a school choir on your next show? Have you offered to help sponsor a music teacher's attendance at Harmony U.? Have you considered hosting a youth harmony festival?

We have a wonderful product to sell, and there's a market for it. Let's do it.

**IT IS OK TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE  
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	<b>VP - Financial Development</b>
	<b>Harmony Foundation</b>
	<b>David Haedtler</b>
	210 Ada Ave Mountain View, CA 94043-4907 650-965-3305 E: davidhaedtler@hotmail.com

No submittal this issue

	"HE WHO LAUGHS, LASTS"
	<b>A TONIC EXPLOSION</b>
	(A Barbershop Quartet)
	presents <b>"COMEDY WITH CLASS"</b>
Contact: Lowell Reynolds (559) 627-5118 2930 South Willis Court, Visalia, CA 93277 reyking57@att.net	

### A TONIC EXPLOSION'S RETIREMENT

Hi Everyone. Well it has finally happened. A Tonic Explosion is calling it a day. After thirty one years of singing around the district, and hopefully entertaining at the same time, we are calling it quits.

We want everyone to know how much enjoyment we have had meeting all of the wonderful people in the various chapters. It is a great hobby and will be hard to give up. Of course the up side is that you won't have to listen to those corny jokes, and watch the silly routines any longer.

It's been a wonderful thirty one years.

Thanks for everything.  
George, Hugh, Wes and Lowell

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~ **Stephen Connolly**, Bass Vocalist  
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## 2008 FWD Quartet Champions Masterpiece

Hello all,

One of the nice things about being a part of the Far Western District (and there are lots of them) is that we get lots of opportunities to see and sing with our friends on a regular basis. As a relatively new quartet almost all of Masterpiece's performances have been for local chapters, both on formal shows and at their chapter meetings. It's been great getting to know so many of you better and we look forward to meeting more of you. Here are some of our recent activities:

Back in August we were pleased to sing on the annual Pearson Park show hosted by the mighty Fullerton Chapter that included the Westminster Chorus, Hi Fidelity (with their new lead Dan Jordan), California Crossroads, the Brea Gaslight Chorus and the Orange Empire Chorus. This was a fun outside amphitheater setting which is always so relaxing for the audience.

For the Christmas season we experienced our first out of district show when we appeared on the Atlanta Vocal Project's Christmas show in Atlanta, Georgia. This new chorus has already reached some big achievements placing in the top ten at the international in Nashville. It was a treat to make some new friends in the Dixie District and see plenty of long time friends as well.

We ended up being quite busy at the recent Midwinter convention, located close by in Pasadena. On Thursday of the convention we performed at a local hideaway called the Coffee Gallery along with Old School, the Ringmasters from Sweden and The Perfect Gentlemen (also with Dan Jordan!) After the show we sang a few songs for the President's Council of the Harmony Foundation.

On Friday we had a wonderful experience participating with the California Chorus directed by the iconic Dr. Greg Lyne. We were invited to be section leaders for this 100 man group of Californians who learned two songs to sing to open the Friday night show and it was amazing how quickly the singers came together to form a cohesive group. We were thrilled to have been able to sing the introduction to the first song ("California, Here I Come," naturally!) and have the chorus join us at the refrain giving us our own face time on the show where we were introduced as the current FWD quartet champions. Afterward we made appearances at some of the youth choruses' rehearsals to meet them and wish them luck. Most of them had no idea who we were but they were very kind and receptive to us "old" guys.

On Saturday we performed at the Chorditorium and for a couple of hospitality rooms after making a cameo with the Masters of Harmony on the Saturday night show. It was a full weekend and we enjoyed seeing so many of you there.

Our next goals (as of this writing) are a cameo appearance on the Masters of Harmony Youth In Harmony show on February 21, a show for the Tucson, AZ chapter March 14 and then on to the FWD/RMD Prelims in Las Vegas on the 21st. We're busy building our repertoire with fresh new songs as well as a few chestnuts and are looking forward to trying to represent our great district at the international in Anaheim. There's always a high level of expectation when you represent the Far Western District and we are doing our part to not disappoint.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Best wishes,

Rob, Mark, Brett and Alan

## Bay Section CMEA Conference (YIH Presentation)

by Richard Lund

A few months ago I was talking with a teacher (Barbershopper) friend of mine who indicated that the California Music Educators Association (CMEA) was having a convention in the Bay Area during the weekend of January 16-17 and his boss was one of the main organizers. If I was interested, he could give my name to her as a possible presenter in one of their breakout sessions. Obviously, I jumped at the suggestion!

Clearly I could bring someone in to talk about how barbershop attracts and hooks young men (and young women) and what the barbershop world is doing these days in Northern California. What an opportunity to talk directly to music educators! Well, after much stirring of the pot, Paul Engel jumped at the chance to be my clinician to speak to the music educators. Paul is a long time judge and arranger, and could speak their language.

In addition to Paul, my good friend Jason Dyer, bass of the college quartet, EPIC, readily agreed to have EPIC join us for numerous singing demonstrations. EPIC is the college quartet that won the 2008 NCENN College Division contest in Stockton and qualified to go to Nashville for the MBNA International College Contest where they finished 14th!

As events leading up to the day unfolded, things almost went down the drain. At the last minute (literally), the baritone of EPIC had a family emergency come up and he couldn't make it! Uh oh!!!! Now what does Jason do.... Well, Jason picks up the phone on the evening of Friday the 16th and starts dialing for baritones (not an easy task, let alone that this was while Jason was participating in a Debate Contest in Union City). Eventually, he turns to his friend Bruce Sellnow, who agrees with less than 12 hours notice to sing with EPIC in front of however many music educators at a CMEA convention! Bruce came through like the champ that he is! What a performance! EPIC never missed a beat. It was like Bruce had been singing with them forever. Sure, he had to hold music; but that in no way diminished EPIC's performance.

What a remarkable demonstration of the flexibility and giving nature of a TRUE Barbershopper. Thank you, Bruce! You are incredible.

It didn't stop there. The entire 80 minute session went off without a hitch. Paul's presentation and his use of EPIC to demonstrate the sounds and "soul" of the barbershop style was simply wonderful. The music educators, and to our surprise, a number of music students in the audience from UOP seemed to be captured by the harmony and enthusiasm of the young men and their "older" leaders - Paul and me.

We ended up, of course, with a few words about Youth Harmony Camp and a showing of the Camp video. It never ceases to

amaze me how good that video is, even after all these years, and all the times I have watched it. The audience was simply captivated by the video. We didn't really have to talk much about the many future barbershop medallists that were shown in the video. The audience "got it".

I believe in my heart that we not only made a number of real friends and future friends in the music educator community, but we really turned some heads of old time music educators that the Barbershoppers are truly here to help. We have the same goals as they do: to encourage young men, and women to not only learn to sing, but to sing for the rest of their lives. Our goal is not to "get" members; but help to create singers.

Now, the other aspect of the morning that really turned our heads was the "afterglow" that happened spontaneously after the session. While Jason, Bruce, and I were up in front answering questions from music educators, Munsoor, tenor, and Andrew, lead of EPIC, were in the back with the college kids teaching tags! Eventually, we all got in on the singing and after being kicked out of the facility - all wanted to go to lunch - we continued for another hour or so on the lawn of the San Jose State Campus. That opened my eyes to a real HOLE in the BHS Youth In Harmony program: college aged men and women. We stood there and sang tags for an hour with seven or eight college kids who were clearly having their eyes and ears opened to those great sounds of barbershop harmony for the first time. It was AMAZING! We just have to get something going with that age group.

During the drive back to Placerville from San Jose State, my wife and I began talking about the enthusiasm of the UOP students and what appears to be an opportunity to expand our Youth In Harmony activities with a one-day Festival geared toward college students. Anyone want to join me in setting up a Festival for these college age men and women sometime soon? We are in the talking stage and would love to have your thoughts and ideas.

That leads me back to reality with the 2009 Harmony Camp coming up later this year. Fortunately, we have an incredible line up of talent for the Camp. Gary Bolles, Connie Keil, Mark Freedkin are lined up for another year. We are excited to have a young college quartet out of Las Vegas joining us as well. Should be another wonderful weekend.

The upshot is that I'll be ramping up my fundraising campaign this month to not only generate funds for the Camp, but to energize You to get involved with the young people in your area and the youth outreach effort in your chapter to help get guys to come to Camp. The dates are September 25-27, and the location is again at the Sly Park Educational Center in Pollock Pines. Look for my email solicitation to your president and YIH guy; and let's get another great year of young men singing off the ground!





## 2008 FWD Chorus Champions Voices in Harmony

*by Max Bates*

It was announced that Voices In Harmony and the Pride of the Pacific (SA) will participate in the Tenth International Festival “Barbershop Harmony” during August 2009 in Saint –Petersburg, Russia. Dr. Greg Lyne will continue his tenth year as “Concert Master” The available VIH and POP members will be augmented by barbershop harmony singers and guests from across the United States.

After the FWD convention in Phoenix, Voices In Harmony (VIH) has remained busy with a holiday concerts in the California Theater ( San Jose) with Late Show and our sister chorus ‘Pride of the Pacific’ (also directed by Dr Lyne) and a cabaret performance sponsored by ‘Pride of the Pacific’, in Livermore.

VIH released their first CD in November. “Now and Then” is a musical trip through the years of changing song styles. What an extraordinary experience to record the CD at the facilities of the George Lucas Ranch campus in Marin county.

Jay and Susan Breen hosted a couple of rounds of quartet forming BBQ’s at their home with addition organizing efforts by Kevin Sullivan. This gave VIH members and any other bay area singers an opportunity to meet others interested in forming a quartet and at least trying out the intended mixes.

Officer elections were held in October for the 2009 VIH and the results were:

President – David Binette  
VP Music – Rob Sequiera  
VP Marketing – Randy Meyer  
VP – Membership – Ben Miller  
VP Operations – Ollie Brihante  
Secretary – Jay Breen  
Treasurer – Steve Roth  
Immediate Past President – David Haedtler  
Board Members At Large: Jamie Bedford, Chuck Leavitt and Greg Pounds.

The installation and awards dinner was held on January 10, 2009 at the Beverly Heritage Hotel in Milpitas, CA.

Congratulations to the 2008 Award Winners:

Perfect Attendance - Jay Breen , Ron Walker

“The Show Must Go On” Award - Andrew Meyer, Niklas Troedsson, Dave Freitas, Ben Miller. (All endured significant physical challenges during and through performances and contests but maintained their positions singing and contributing to the chorus successes.)

Rookie of the Year – Kevin Sullivan  
President’s Award – Steve Roth  
Director’s Award – Ron Walker  
Lifetime Contribution Award – Chuck Hunter, Sr  
Singers’ Choice – Gabe Caretto  
Barbershopper of the Year – Rob Sequeira

**FWD/RMD Spring Convention in Las Vegas**  
**March 19-22, 2009**  
**FWD & RMD Quartets Will Compete**  
**Come Witness ALL the Competitors!**

**REMEMBER THE FWD  
YOUTH EDUCATION FUND**







## OC Times

### 2008 International Quartet Champions

The past few months have been filled with excitement for OC Times - travelling, singing, recording and... more singing!

Our championship year has taken us coast to coast here in the US and even to Russia and Finland. The most rewarding of our events, however, may have been this past weekend right in our backyard - the Midwinter Convention.

Held this year in Pasadena, the Midwinter convention was full of energy, excitement and great singing. First off, congratulations to Audacity for winning the senior's quartet championship - Fraiser and his boys were fantastic. Way to prove that the FWD is THE district of Champions! The rest of the weekend was filled with great shows from the top five quartets in the country, surprise performances from Masterpiece and VoCa, and a grand finale with the Masters of Harmony.

The hit of the weekend, however, was seeing all of the great young people singing barbershop and, better yet, hooked on it.

Ringmasters (the current Collegiate Quartet Champions) is a young quartet that we had the opportunity to get to know in Sweden when we were there last year - if you haven't heard them, watch out, you will be blown away. They are fantastic singers and great guys, but beware, they steal shows - they received at least five standing ovations during their 20 minute set.

(Much like OC Times and Westminster, Ringmasters has an amazing young chorus called 'zero8' who is qualified to compete at international and will travel all the way from Sweden to compete in Anaheim! As you can imagine, their trip is going to be very costly. Check out their website [www.zero8.se](http://www.zero8.se) to find out how you can order a cd and

help get these guys to Anaheim! You won't regret it! Also, zero8, Ringmasters, OC Times and Westminster will all be appearing on a special show the week of international. Stay tuned for more details!)

OC Times was thrilled to sit and watch the Youth Chorus Contest and see 325 young men get up on stage and sing excellent barbershop. If you weren't there, you really missed out on seeing the future of the Barbershop Harmony Society. Made possible by generous donations from the Harmony Foundation, each of these guys got to get up on stage and sing for the best audience in the whole world. Two or three songs later they were done, but their time on stage will leave a lasting impression on them all, as it has all of us who have been "bit" by the barbershop bug.

But most impressive was the afterglow. I heard several barbershoppers who have a few years on me recall "this is what the afterglows used to be like fifty years ago!" The lobby of the headquarters hotel was FILLED with people laughing and singing. It was so full it was hard to walk around. Quartets would break into song for any group of two or three people and tags - low, high, soft and loud - could be heard from every direction. This carried on until at least 3 in the morning. Surveying this scene was something that I will not forget. We were blessed to be a part of it, and it is so rewarding to think that we had some small part in promoting it.

OC Times is also excited to announce that we are working on two new projects: a DVD to be released sometime this summer and a brand new CD that will hopefully be ready in the Fall! We're busy working with our arranger, Aaron Dale, on some new charts, as well as some arrangements from a few others. Mark Hale (Masterpiece, Masters of Harmony, Michigan Jake) is again producing the album and Brandon Guyton (Crossroads, 4 Voices) is mixing it.

We're off to Mexico today on our second annual weekend cruise and then two weekends will be one of our favorite events, the Masters of Harmony Youth Harmony Festival. The remaining half of our championship year will probably fly by even faster than the first half, but we hope that it includes singing for you all at a show, contest or convention.

Thank you for your continued support and for being the best group of friends that four guys could ever have.

In Harmony,

Shawn, Sean, Pat and Cory

OC Times

2008 International Quartet Champions

[www.octimesquartet.com](http://www.octimesquartet.com)





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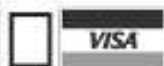
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## **2008 International Chorus Champions Masters of Harmony**

*by Ron Larson*

On December 6, the Masters of Harmony followed several Santa Fe Springs youth choral groups to an outdoor stage and performed in their host city's annual Tree Lighting ceremony. One week later, the Masters staged the annual Christmas show at Cal State Long Beach's Carpenter Center. For the first time in many years, the show was moved from its usual Thanksgiving weekend to a spot midway between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Despite concerns about the effects of the economic downturn experienced by so many in 2008, two large audiences greeted the Masters warmly as they presented their holiday program. One of the highlights of each show was the guest appearance by lyric soprano Megan Lyne, the daughter of former MOH Director Dr. Greg Lyne. Megan delighted the audiences with her beautiful, stirring rendition of "O Holy Night."

Continuing a tradition dating back to 1988, members of the chorus provided quartets for Santa Fe Spring's Santa Claus Float Program. During the nine days of the 2008 program, 26 men formed quartets, some performing more than once, and took barbershop-style holiday music to different parts of the city on each night. Some of the children waiting to visit Santa actually got to join that night's quartet on stage for some impromptu singing and photo ops for their proud parents. As the Santa float arrived, it was the quartet members who got to pose with Santa for their own photo op to memorialize a very enjoyable evening.

The 2009 Awards and Installation Banquet was held once again at Knott's Berry Farm Resort Hotel. Emcee J. Friedman's unique sense of humor kept the festivities moving along and the large audience well entertained. Long-time MOH friend and highly valued coach Greg Clancy, associate director of The Vocal Majority and

member of 2006 International Quartet Champion Max Q, installed the new board of directors and gave the keynote address. He reminded us that medals won in competition are actually by-products of the work we do throughout the year as we prepare for the opportunities that come our way. Justin Miller was named 2008 Barbershopper of the Year. His ability to take Erin Howden's excellent choreographic plan, explain it to the men on the risers, coach, drill, and refine it, was an important factor in the Masters narrow 7-point win in Nashville. Masterpiece, current Far Western District Quartet Champion, was named MOH Quartet of the Year.

Ten years after hosting the 1999 International Convention in Anaheim, The Masters are busily preparing to host another International Convention in Anaheim, this time without simultaneously being a competitor. With experience gained in hosting last Fall's Far Western District Convention and with the help of many friends and brother chapters from throughout Southern California, The Masters are determined to help maintain the Far Western District's preeminence in all things barbershop.

Since the last report, Jon Desprez, David Erickson, Chris Garrett, Chris Rossio and Michael Savarin have become members of the Masters of Harmony.

**International Convention in Anaheim  
June 28 - July 5, 2009  
Hosted by The Masters of Harmony  
Quartet Contest  
Chorus Contest  
College Quartet Contest  
Larry Ajer Show  
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**Come early; plan to attend the High School Quartet Contest on Friday night, May 15th. at the same high school. Details at <http://goldnotechorus.com>**

All contestants must purchase an all events registration for the appropriate age group.

**To register, complete the form below (or a copy of it). Checks need to be made out to: Fresno Chapter, SPEBSQSA, NCENN.**

**Mail the completed form to Jim Warner, 38265 Pepperweed Rd. Squaw Valley, CA 93675. Email [Jtmire@comcast.net](mailto:Jtmire@comcast.net) or call 559-432-8778 for assistance.**

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### VocalEase Retires

Rich, Todd, Scott and I wanted to be the first to inform you of a decision we collectively and reluctantly made about our quartet future. Due to family and work obligations, VocalEase has decided to retire as a quartet effective November 30, 2008.

Although our decision saddens us, we realize that this is the season for giving thanks and we have a lot to be thankful for. We thank Almighty God for blessing us with the gift of music. We thank our chapters and our FWD brothers and sisters for your tremendous support and applause. We thank our District leaders for their encouragement and well wishes. And, we thank our families for their love and support as the four of us ventured out to perform on your chapter shows over the last few years.

We've had a great time and we hope you've enjoyed us. There is no better feeling than being named a FWD Quartet Champion. We pray that we've served the District and you well.

God bless.

Joe D'Amore  
VocalEase  
2007-2008 FWD Quartet Champions  
2007-2008 Lloyd B. Steinkamp Standing Ovations Award

### Marty Mendro Retires - Again

That's right - but this has to do with my stock of "Reminiscing With the Mid States Four" CDs. I'm closing out - shutting down - and sellign off the remaining copies. When they're gone, so am I!

As an added incentive to buy I'm offering - FREE - a bonus copy of one of two recorded live performances of the quartet = Elgin, IL or Pekin, IL [with the Schmitt Bros. quartet]. Also available is a digitized CD of our two LP's "Memories and Madness" and "On Stage".

Order now, while supplies last. Make your check payable int he amount of \$15 plus \$2 for shipping and handling to: Marty Mendro 317 Poorman Creek Road, Twisp, WA 98856.

Also available are four copies of my three hole punched album [minus cover] containing the history of the Mid States Four, including copious quantities of pictures, score sheets from our early contests and a complete set of 18 arrangements charted by Buzz Haeger, Walter Latzdo and me complete with a CD "As arranged and sung by the Mid States Four". Marked down to \$25 each.





Far Western District and the Rocky Mountain District  
International Quartet Prelims  
Spring Convention  
March 19 □ 22, 2009

Contests and Show  
International Quartet Prelims  
Small Chorus Competition  
High School Contest  
Show of Champions



Meetings and Events  
District Board Meetings  
House of Delegates Meetings  
AHSOW  
Youth Afterglow

<u>Registration Prices</u>		<u>Hotel and Contest Venue Information</u>
All Contest Events and Meetings will be held at the Alexis Park Resort Hotel All Contestants Must Buy an All Events Registration for the Applicable Age Group		<b>Alexis Park Resort Hotel</b> 375 E. Harmon Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89169 • Reservations: 800-582-2228 • Hotel Direct: 702-796-3300 • Fax: 702-796-4334 \$119.00 plus tax Please Mention: Barbershop Harmony Society
<b>All Events Early Bird</b> (Postmarked by February 19, 2009)	<b>All Events Late / On Site</b> (Postmarked after February 19, 2009)	
<b>All Events:</b>	<b>All Events:</b>	
Adult: \$40.00 Student (under 23): \$20.00	Adult: \$50.00 Student (under 23): \$25.00	
Single Events (on site only): \$25.00 High School Quartet Contest: No Charge		

2009 Far Western District and Rocky Mountain District International Prelims and Convention Registration Form		Member	Wife/Guest	Child/Student	Dist. Officer	Delegate	VIP	Amount Due
Your Host: The Las Vegas Metro Chapter City of Lights Chorus								
Name (s)	District & Chapter (or City)							\$
1.								\$
2.								\$
3.								\$
4.								\$
5.								\$
6.								\$
7.								\$
8.								\$
Address								
City	State      Zip							
Telephone/Email	Chapter							
Quartet or Chorus Name:								

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

**Las Vegas Metro Chapter**  
**2009 Spring Convention**  
**c/o Wes White**  
**3503 President Circle**  
**Las Vegas, NV 89121**

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

**Total Enclosed \$□**

## Youth Harmony Camp 2009

*by Richard Lund*

*Director, Youth Harmony Camp*

Update Update The exciting news from Harmony Camp land is that OC Times, 2008 International Champs, has agreed to join us as the headliner quartet for 2010! But before getting into any more detail, just a reminder that Camp this year is September 25-27 at Sly Park Educational Center in Pollock Pines, California.

Wow! That means that with Realtime, 2005 International Champs, coming back for a second go round This Year 2009, we will have three International Champion quartets in the space of four years. That should get just about everyone excited about helping to get some of your neighbor boys to join in the fun. This is the kind of thing that comes from networking at conventions; and we just had a spectacular Midwinter Convention in Pasadena.

Pasadena was a blast for me! I made some new friends, talked with lots of old friends and networked for Harmony Camp, my favorite activity. I learned that Ron Black is coming back to Northern California from his hiatus in Texas and may be joining us at Camp. What a line up of talent that would be: Gary Bolles, Ron Black, Connie Keil and Mark Freedkin along with Realtime and Let It Ride – the college quartet from Las Vegas that has also agreed to join us.

While at convention, I also sang with Dr. Greg Lyne's California Chorus on Friday evening and felt that it was almost a life changing experience. I had never sung for Dr. Lyne before in a chorus and Wow, what a thrill. But the thing I kept thinking about was that this is exactly the kind of thrill that the three hundred and fifty boys must have been feeling as they performed in the Youth Chorus Festival Saturday on that big stage in front of all those cheering crowds of Barbershoppers.

The Placerville Chapter sent a youth chorus called the Heart Of Gold who performed very well getting a standing O for their final song Libertatum. How

bout that! A standing O for a latin language song!! But Barbershoppers know when they hear good music; doesn't really matter what it is.

Now that the boys are back, it seems that all they can talk about is Midwinter in Tampa, Florida next year! We already have a committee looking into the logistics and working to help the boys put the whole thing together. I guess if Atlanta, River Falls, Wisconsin, and Seneca Land District can get their choruses across the country and sing really well at a Midwinter in Pasadena California, then why not us taking a chorus the other way?

Anyway, this is extremely exciting stuff for our District and our particular area to contemplate. Should be fun watching and helping all this come together this next year.

All of these efforts are really coming together to rev up the young men to get involved in Barbershop. It's fun and exciting to be a part of it all. You can join us, of course. Send me an email or call to let me know that you want to join us as a volunteer at Camp. More importantly, help us with financial support. We are healthy and have a small growing fund, but each year we ask all the chapters in the Far Western District to contribute to the Youth Harmony Camp and many of the Choruses recognize that Camp is a really direct way for contributed funds to make an immediate and huge impact on sharing and spreading the joy and excitement of our "hobby". Please join us with your personal dollars and your chapter dollars to keep this wonderful "train" rolling down the tracks. It is so clear that whenever the boys hear that special sound and experience that feeling of ringing chords, it can be a life changing experience.

**REMEMBER THE FWD  
YOUTH EDUCATION FUND**



2008 1 OC Times - FWD



2008 CQ 1 Ringmasters



2008 SQ 1 Eureka



2008 2 Crossroads



2008 1 Masters of Harmony



2008 3 State Line Grocery

The attendees at the MidWinter Convention were privileged to witness performances from the 2008 top 5 medalist quartets:

- 1 OC Times
- 2 Crossroads
- 3 State Line Grocery
- 4 Redline
- 5 Old School

the 2008 Chorus Champions  
Masters of Harmony,  
the 2008 College Quartet Champions  
Ringmasters from SNOBS,  
the 2008 Senior Quartet Champion  
Eureka  
the 1998 Senior Quartet Champion  
Jurassic Larks  
the 2006 Senior Quartet Champion  
Antique Gold  
the 2009 Senior Quartet Champion  
Audacity  
and a special appearance of VoCA,  
a group comprised of a number of  
past Gold Medal Quartet members  
from the BHS and SAI.  
Who could ask for anything more?



1998 SQ 1 Jurassic Larks



2008 4 Redline



2006 SQ 1 Antique Gold



2008 5 Old School



2009 SQ 1 Audacity



VoCA - Special appearance of group with many BHS & SAI Gold Medalists





MidWinter Senior Quartet Contest Ranks 1 - 5. The rest are listed alphabetically. *Continued From Inside Front Cover*



Also seen around MidWinter Convention

**International Convention in Anaheim**  
**June 28 - July 5, 2009**  
**Hosted by The Masters of Harmony**  
**Quartet Contest**  
**Chorus Contest**  
**College Quartet Contest**  
**Larry Ajer Show**  
**Master's Class**  
**AIC Show**  
**Harmony Foundation Presents Show**  
**and MORE**

**IT IS OK TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE**  
**FWD YOUTH EDUCATION FUND**

**FWD/RMD Spring Convention in Las Vegas**  
**March 19-22, 2009**  
**FWD & RMD Quartets Will Compete**  
**Come Witness ALL the Competitors!**

**FWD DVP for Division 1 SCW****Bill Rosica**

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*[Ed note: Mike is undergoing some medical issues. A kind word or thought his way will be appreciated.]*

**RINCON BEACH****KEN DAY**

We were told that we would have to re-evaluate having a Christmas show because the theater where we were to perform had not sold any tickets. They had failed to advertise or put our show on their calendar, so nobody ordered any tickets. We had told our regular acquaintances and family members that they could purchase tickets at the door.

Therefore, we decided to have a free "Friends and Family Show" instead at our rehearsal hall and present it on December 15th. Most of the members pitched in to notify guests, order refreshments and plan to set up tables and chairs. We had about 70 people all together and everyone had a good time.

On December 21st, we sang a concert at the Ventura Harbor. On December 22nd, many of our members met in downtown Ventura and went caroling at the request of the Ventura Business Council. The next day the chorus sang our Christmas repertoire at a private company party for Tecom Inc.

**SAN FERNANDO VALLEYAIRES DUNCAN GILMAN**

**The Valleyaires** began 2009 with our 49th annual installation banquet. District Executive Vice President **Bernard Priceman** installed our new Board members, and we congratulate our BOTY for 2008 **Mitch Guzik** as well as all of our other award winners. Now entering our 50th anniversary year, the **Valleyaires** are excited to be bringing some 1950's era music to both our upcoming spring show and our consistently sold-out Ice Cream Social Cabaret in the summer. We are anxious to celebrate this milestone with you while we revisit some great music.

**FWD DVP for Division 2 SCE****Gene Clements**

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I believe we all want to see our chapters grow. New members always seem to give chapters a morale boost, especially if they really are singers. But, know this. The chorus must be singing well to keep those singers.

Now, what about the guys who come and really can't sing 'all that well'? We usually turn them away. But, should we? Me thinks NOT always!

I personally know old time BBSRs (we used to call them 'crows') who joined a chapter and with training did learn to sing quite well and become chorus members. In the interim time they served the chapter in many ways with their many, varied skills and knowledge because they enjoyed the fellowship the chapter gave them and their families.

So the next time one of this type comes as a guest, and he's not a good singer, but may have the potential to improve with rehearsal night (and some one-on-one) training, don't turn him away just yet. Be honest with him and tell him that he'd make a fine chapter member and with work (we now have many tools to assist him) and help, could become a singing chorus member! In the meantime, he might just become the best worker in and for the chapter, or a chairman, or president or even Barbershopper of the Year!

Give this proposal some thought, fellas... maybe give it a try... couldn't hurt.

Don't forget the Spring Convention in Las Vegas!

**Division 2 SCE Editor****Dick Girvin**

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**BREA****DAVE GUNTHER**

**The Gaslight Chorus** had a fun guest night in August. Of 10 singing guests, they now have two still singing with them: **Dan Durfey** and **Adam Rice**. Their first guest night for 2009 had eight singing guests and they have high hopes that several of them will join their ranks.

Their Christmas show, called "Best Time of the Year" featured the **Cornelia Connelly Advanced Women's Ensemble** under the direction of Brian Dehn. They were a highlight on their 2007 Christmas show as well. For their 2008 appearance, the Gaslight Chorus will be donating a check for \$750 to the music program at Cornelia Connelly High School.

Also on their show was a new group called "**Generation Revelation**" which included six high school and college kids. They did an excellent varied-theme package that was the hit of the show.

2008 was a year of firsts for the Brea Chapter. They introduced a new weekly chapter newsletter, the Gaslight Glow, and a new patron newsletter, the Gaslight Gazette. They also introduced contest qualification requirements and were not at all surprised that everyone qualified. This was a testament to their goal of being excellent singers. They obtained a permanent mailing address in the form of a PO Box in Brea. They performed on the Pearson Park stage for the Harmony under the Stars show put on by the Fullerton Chapter. They are grateful to their barbershop brothers for inviting them and hope to appear there again. 2008 was also the first year their chapter sent its chapter officers to the FWD Leadership Academy.

## COACHELLA VALLEY

## TERRY MANN

*[Ed note: This chapter report is somewhat long, but if you are wondering what you might do to capture new members or bring old ones back, talk to Terry to get more details about their plan. It, or a modification, just might work for your chapter.]*

Having adopted the plan for their shrinking chapter, proposed last April by their returning Founding Music Director, Dick Reed, a plan, which is designed for their chapter, not only "to survive, but to thrive." Here is a nine month progress report: During the first quarter of their new 'Operational Year (April 1 - March 31) they installed their new officers, who met several times to plan the year before their Snow Bird members flew away for the summer; Dick picked the new music for the year and for the next annual show (March 7th, 2009) and he created the four-part, stereo learning CD for them to begin practicing that repertoire during the summer. For their Finale for the quarter their VP Membership, Blaine Mack invented a new kind of a guest sing-in called, "The Great Sand Blaster Sing In" which was successful both because it resulted in about 20 prospects and a couple of new members.

During the second quarter of their new 'Operational Year, for the first time since 2001 they did not "go dark" for their three hot months. They met, they sang. Sometimes they had only five men, but always four parts, other times they had as many as 11 (men, not parts). They sang the new music every week. They created a solid "chorus core". This counters the effect of summer mind rot while not singing.

During the third quarter, just passed, of their new 'Operational Year, like a snow ball rolling down hill, they picked up their returning members one or two every week and their 'core group' loved being able to ring a chord here and there in their new music to astonish them.

Now, in the fourth quarter of their new 'Operational Year', they have performed once, to pay their rent where they are permitted to rehearse free, and they have had their second "Great Sand Blaster Sing In" to which they invited another 20 or 30 men to sing with them, and have another couple of new members.

And.....the most exciting news of this second Sing In was the attendance of four local high school boys who had attended

their show, last March, performing with their school chorus on their show, (YES!) and who despite instructions of their director, had sneaked inside the auditorium to hear Metropolis and California Cross Roads, their guest quartets. They were blown away (of course) and decided to form their own quartet!!! At the Pizza Parlor, after the second Sing In, where they treated their guests to an Afterglow, the boys sang their first (only) song for them, 'Too Ra Loo Ra'. The boys have named themselves "Moonlight Melodies" and they are being coached by Dick Reed. They have attended each of their rehearsals since then and they are working on a second song.

They end each of their meetings with the battle cry, or affirmation, "It's great to be a Sand Blaster" and, it really, really is!

## EL CAJON

## MIKE DORMAN

**The Music Masters** chorus held their annual installation of officers banquet on January 12. The chapter officers installed were: Joseph Perry, Pres.; Gary Mathews, Imm. Past Pres.; Roger Simpson, Sect/Treas.; Alphonse Conte, Chapter Develop./Membership; Edward Herron, VP Programs; Greg Price, VP Music/Performance; Paul Schmidt, Chorus Mgr.; and Maurice Rapkin, VP YIH. Board Members at Large are: Joel Starr. Jack Evans, Al Justice, Jeff Freeman and Frank McLaughlin. Chorus Director Tom Anderson led the men in some hearty and heartfelt singing, and a good time was had by all!

## FULLERTON

## DICK COTE

The Pacific Rim, The Fifth Pan Pacific Convention activities were well attended by 33 of the Fullerton Chapter, who sang their contest package with the story-telling moves provided by Coach **Dawn Castiglione**.

Director Craig Ewing's quartet **High Fidelity** walked off with the Open Championship and the Silver Medalists were the **Over the Edge** from New Zealand.

The chapter sadly remembers the passing of **Leon Williamson**, a Pearl Harbor survivor and a long time chapter member.

**Don Derler** is the new president with **Bob Calderwood** Secretary; **Ken Klein**, IPP; **Leonard Schlatter** VP Music and Performance; **C. J. Bowes** VP Chapter Development; **Don Levering** VP Marketing & PR; **Howard Wood** VP Community Services; **Jim Ilten** VP Program; **Pete Saputo** VP YIH. The BMALs are: **Stan French** (Lifetime member), **Dick Cote**, **Dave Baker**, **Jim Eacret** and **Steve Sarandis**.

## HEMET

## BRUCE SMITH

The chapter is mourning the loss of their long-time director, **Howard Messecher**, who passed away recently. As his health declined during the later part of the year he passed the baton to **Jack Morrisseau** but remained as the Show Producer. Sadly, he passed away just days before the annual show—which was subsequently dedicated to his memory. .



The new officers were installed by Society's icon **Emmett Bossing**, currently of the Riverside Chapter. The new officers are: **Norm Pabst** President; IPP **Dave Kelley**; VP Music and Performance **Harry Kaylor**; VP Chapter Development **Ed Youngs**; Musical Director **Jack Morrisseau**; Associate Director **Clay Panlaqui** (also VP of Vocal Training) and **Harry Kaylor**. The Secretary is **Art McMahon** and Treasurer **Bob Couse**. The BMALs are **Larry Hull** and **John Chandler**. **Bruce Smith** keeps his visor and blue pencil as Bulletin Editor of the chapter bulletin, UPBEAT. **Clay Panlaqui** is their 2008 BOTY

#### INLAND EMPIRE

#### DAVE COVEY

At the recent Awards Ceremony, **David Morketter** was reelected President and BOTY! **Don Sevesind** (current and past Treasurer) was awarded the Five Year Service Award and **Brian Hoerning** was VP Mtg/PR and the Rookie of the Year. Other officers that were installed by **Jim Eikenberry** were: VP Music and Performance **Tom Wallis**; VP of Chapter Development and VP Membership **Harry Sunquist**; VP Program **Dave Covey**; Secretary **Don Miller**; and BMAL's **Charles Caruthers** and **Leroy Lapp**.

#### IRVINE

#### STEVE YOUNG

Irvine's Chorus Sings on Gospel Radio

Irvine's immediate past President, **Irv Engel**, represented the **California Promise Chorus** live on-the-air on an Internet Gospel Radio Show. He had the opportunity to tell the radio audience about how Barbershop harmonies came from the Minstrel shows of long ago; the beginnings of their music came from musical roots in Black Africa and white church hymns. At first, he explained, the art form was performed by black men who were brought to these shores as slaves. Later, groups of white men performed the harmonies in black face and finally perfected the art form as "curbstone" singing and then "barbershop" as they know it today. Irv played a number of gospel songs from the chorus's CD and told about the chapter and the national Society.

#### ORANGE QUARTET

#### MARK SHELDON

Recent special drop-ins include **Easy Street** and **Fermata the Blue**. **Adam "Uncle Fester" Massey** and **Thomas Lowerre** were welcomed as members. Adam is a dual member with Temecula.

The Annual Installation Dinner was organized by **Bob Calderwood**. **Jim Ilten** from the Fullerton Chapter was the Installing Officer, and his Quartet **Preferred Blend** served as headline performers.

The Chapter continued its tradition of chorus and quartet Christmas caroling throughout Chapman Medical Center, arranged by Music VP and former Chapman employee **Mike Werner**.

**Balderdash** and **Bleu Lite Special** serenaded businesses around the Orange Circle to promote Singing Valentines. **Dave Gryvnak**, who has faithfully organized the Valentines program in recent years, passed the torch to **Dave Lowerre**.

#### PALOMAR PACIFIC

#### BILL SCOFIELD

On behalf of the **Temecula** Chapter, the **Music Men** took 25 chorus members to the Four Seasons Lodge in Murrieta., CA.

The **Music Men** sponsored and participated in Christmas Shows in Carlsbad and Escondido, with guest performances by the Sweet Adelines **Pacific Belles Chorus** and **El Camino High School** chorus. They performed in a Christmas show sponsored by the City of San Marcos Department of Recreation., with outstanding coverage of the show by the Coast News Group, including a Coast News cover photograph on the Dec. 19 issue

BOTM: October: **Roger Hufferd**; November: **Woody Cady**; and December: **Joe Quince**

DVP SCE and Chapter Counselor Gene Clements was the installing officer at the Installation Banquet for the Music Men. Installed were: **Norm Pincock**, President; **Jack Story**, Secretary; **Bob Swearingen**, Treasurer; **Al Leuthe**, Chapter Development VP; **Ken Burns**, Music and Performance VP; **Woody Cady**, Youth in Harmony VP; **Roger Hufferd**, Program VP; **Bill Scofield**, Marketing and Public Relations VP; **Dick LeBeau**, Immediate Past President; and **Harris Kermann** and **Jerry Mills** as Board Members-at-Large

**Jack Story** presented the BOTY to **Len Schaffner**; **Al Leuthe** received the President's Award; **Dick Schultz** was presented with the Director's Award by Chorus Director **John Hulbert**, and **Harris Kehrman** was named Rookie of the Year.

**Bob Hornstein** reports that the **Lakeside Harmonizers** chorus in Chabala, Mexico, has grown to 27 members, and is interested in becoming part of the worldwide Barbershop organization.

#### RIVERSIDE

#### BILL SHOVA

The director search netted big dividends for the chapter in the acquisition of **John Brockman**, of **The Crush** and the **Santa Fe Springs Chapter**. John will join the chapter in July after the International Convention.

FWD Secretary and Riverside member **Dick Girvin** installed the **New Gang** officers at member **Dr John Hawes'** home in Apple Valley. New and incumbent officers are: President **Gaylord Spence**; IPP **Bill Shova**; CVP Development **John Richardson**; Music VP **Steve Richardson**; Uniforms VP **Geoff Mordue**; Treasurer **Joe Shaw** and Secretary **Fritz Grunenwald**. BMAL's are **Ken Clark**, **Paul Rouse** and **Dick Girvin**.

#### SAN CLEMENTE

#### DON THOMAS

**Beach Cities Harmonizers** welcome new member **Cory Trenda**. His membership comes as a result of his hearing them singing during a Christmas gathering as a part of the festivities of the Mission in San Juan Capistrano.

In an effort to help them improve their singing they have had **Gregg Bernhart** of **Hi-Fidelity** and DVP SCE **Gene Clements** of **Masters of Harmony** coaching them.

## SAN DIEGO

The new year had a vigorous start with the Awards and Installation Dinner held on January 6. A lively and sociable group of chapter members and S.O.'s gathered at a local eatery for a tasty meal with great warmth and conviviality.

President **Craig Hughes** recognized several members for their 2008 contributions to the good life of the chapter and chorus, as did Director **Kathleen Hansen**. The annual awards were presented to the following: the Joe White Scholarship Award which includes tuition to this year's session of Harmony University to **Neal Palmer**; The Buck Jones Fellowship Award to **Walt Chisholm**; and the BOTY to The Flicker Flack, **Don Renz**.

District and International quartet Gold Medalist **Mike Lawton** conducted the installation of the 2009 Leadership Team.



### FWD DVP for Division 3 NCWH

**Steve Sammonds**

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Since I missed the last issue, let me first give a quick note of congratulations to the Voices in Harmony on winning the 2008 FWD Chorus Championship. I know how hard those guys work week in and week out to be the very best they can. The division was also represented in the quartet contest by Memory Lane, Motley Q, and Cali4nia, with the latter breaking into the Top Ten Finalists. I would love to see more members from our division attend these district conventions – you miss out on a lot of the fun and brotherhood that our hobby gives us. Once more, I ask all chapters to make sure they have representation at the House of Delegates. Only a quarter of our chapters have shown up at the past three meetings.

But in case you didn't hear, there were TWO conventions this past fall in the FWD. The Aloha Chapter hosted a very successful and fun Pan Pacific Convention in Honolulu. NCHW was well represented in the contests with Vintage Gold winning the senior gold medal and placing 5th overall. Pacific Trades and spam also represented our division. On the chorus side, the Sounds of Aloha Chorus and the Peninsulaires both competed. Overall, I was very impressed with the quality of quartets and choruses of our brother barbershoppers around the Pacific Rim. The quartet contest was won by FWD champ High Fidelity. The chorus contest was won by The Pride of Auckland Chorus (NZABS), a group of very energetic and talented young men (and one young at heart!). The top five choruses shows how far barbershop has developed across the Pacific with groups from New Zealand, Canada, Japan, and Australia. A whole lot of fun and great singing filled the weekend.

Looking forward to 2009, I know that many chapters are busy planning their spring shows. I wish you all great success and many sell-out audiences. The first quartet contest of the season

is fast approaching on February 28 in Ripon for novice quartets. This contest is a great opportunity to dip your toes in the contest pool or just get on stage and entertain the socks off an appreciative audience. Every quartet singer has to start somewhere, and the novice contest is a great place to begin.

Our division quartet and chorus contests will once again be combined with NorCal East-Northern Nevada Division in Fresno on May 15-16. We worked every possible angle have our own division convention in April, but conflicts with the Sweet Adelines and judge availability did not work in our favor. That said, last year's combined convention in Stockton received high praise for the increased exposure to a larger number of chapters and quartets with lots of camaraderie. Although Fresno is a little further, remember that the fall district convention will be in Sacramento. I hope to see many of you in Fresno either as chorus/quartet entrants or enthusiastic audience members and hall-way quartet singers. We're going to have a great time!

However you plan to enjoy your hobby this year, I wish you all many ringing chords and success as defined by you and your respective groups.



### Division 3 NCWH Editor

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## ALOHA

## JACK Y HASHIMOTO

Two years of hard work by Chairman **Don Raymond** and his team culminated in the very successful Great Pacific Harmony 2008 Pan Pacific V Convention in Honolulu, October 30-November 2. The Aloha Chapter hosted more than 850 attendees from Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Alaska, Vancouver, Canada and the FWD. Seventeen choruses, 25 quartets and three mixed harmony groups competed in the historic Hawaii Theatre with Barbershop Harmony Society judges and contest administrators scoring the contests.

Emcees included **Drayton Justus** and **Brent Anderson** from BHS and **Ian Miller** from AAMBS. The chorus contest was won by the **Pride of Auckland** from New Zealand made up of high school and college young men. Their Maori haka during the Show of Champions brought the house down and almost the Theatre as their fans forcefully and enthusiastically stomped their feet for an encore. The quartet champion was FWD's **Hi-Fidelity** and the Senior Quartet champion was again our own **Vintage Gold**. The **Pride of Auckland**, who could be the Westminster of New Zealand, also won the small chorus division. The intermediate chorus division was won by a new chorus from Japan called **The Tokyo Metropolitan** chorus directed by Aloha's **Mark Conching** and included several Aloha chorus members. The other Japanese chorus, the **Tokyo Barbers**, was directed by FWD's **Gary Steinkamp**. The large chorus division was won by the **Northern New Zealand Regional** chorus made

up of the **Pride of Auckland**, **City of Sails**, and **Mighty River Harmony** choruses.

The Pan Pacific Conventions were started in 1994 by the **City of Sails** and **Sounds of Aloha** with the first one being held in Auckland. Since then they have been held every 3-4 years, Honolulu, 1998; Melbourne, 2001; Christchurch, 2004 and again in Honolulu 2008. The next one will be in Brisbane, Australia in 2011. A big Mahalo! to the Pan Pacific Convention team made up of chairman **Don Raymond**, Core Committees Deputy Chair **Toby Rushforth**, Supporting Committees Deputy Chair **Bob Sypowicz**, and **Dan Tom**, **Glenn Crowder**, **Jeff LeFebvre**, **Steve Hokanson**, **Zig Palagyi**, **Ed Reid**, **Bill Joor**, **Ken Nelson**, **Mark Brandle**, **Mark Conching**, **Rich Corderio**, **John Higgins**, **Rick Klemm**, **Larry Paterson**, **Phillip Wee**, **Ernie Hong**, **Rod Schultz**, **John Char**, **Mike Johnson**, **De DeCrow**, **Charles Black**, and **Hiroshi Yuki**.

#### EUREKA

#### MAC GARDNER

The **Humboldt Harmonaires** made six Christmas presentations. One of our big audience favorites was "*All I Want for Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth*," with those teeth blacked out, and with all singers smiling brightly.

Rod Strom was re-elected as Chorus President, along with the "old" crew: Director **Jon Majors**; VP for Chapter Development and Membership **Bill Chandler-Klein**; VP for Marketing and Public Relations **Steven Plourde**; VP for Music and Performances **Bill Edmondson**; Secretary **Lyle Rosser**; Treasurer **Dick Johnson**; IPP **Harvey Raider**; "Redwood Resonance" Editor **Mac Gardner**.

**Paul Litza** is 2008 Barbershopper of the Year. A popular tenor, Paul is noted for his unselfishness. **Don Setterlund** received the Perpetuator of the Purple Pen Point Award for being mentioned most often in the chorus bulletin during 2008. **Doyle Doss** was named chief "Rabble Rouser" for his lively repartee.

#### FREMONT/HAYWARD

#### RAY SPINOSA

The **New Dimension Chorus** held its holiday Toys for Tots show in Fremont and guest performers included the excellent **Mount Eden High School Chamber** chorus, the **Harmony Fusion** Sweet Adelines Chorus and three chapter quartets.

The chorus participated in the annual "*Light Up The Season*" event in downtown Hayward, and also visited the downtown barbershop to sing for an appreciative audience.

#### MONTEREY PENINSULA

#### SAM KIER

The **Monterey Cypressaires** were pleased to be judged Nor Cal West Plateau A champions at the competition in Stockton. **VocalEase** headlined our annual show. We felt very fortunate because this turned out to be their "swan song." We recruited six new singers during the year, increasing our active membership by 20%, which resulted in a significant improvement in our sound and a reduction in the mean age of our chorus.

#### PALO ALTO/MOUNTAIN VIEW

#### DEAN JAMES

The **Peninsulaire Chorus** attended the Pan Pacific Convention in Honolulu, Hawaii. It was both a barbershop competition and a fun-filled event for barbershoppers from New Zealand, Australia, Japan, Alaska, Hawaii, and BHS Districts bordering the Pacific. Our Chapter purchased matching Hawaiian shirts for all members, and with those warm and humid Hawaiian days, they provided a welcome switch from our Peninsulaire travel shirts. The members of the Peninsulaire "family" group received Hawaiian leis. Island activities included: a kick-off dinner at Bubba Gump's; the Convention Welcoming Reception and Afterglow; more Afterglows; an authentic Hawaiian luau with exciting entertainment; and the Polynesian Cultural Center and fabulous evening show. We were amazed at how well quartets and choruses from New Zealand, Australia, and Japan sang barbershop. There wasn't a hint of an accent.

#### SAN FRANCISCO

#### DON KINGTON

**Cable Car Chorus** members, spouses and guests gathered for the 2009 Chapter Officer Installation Dinner. Outgoing President **Ed Rategan** administered the oath of office and incoming President **Newt Harband** gave the members a short and cogent set of marching orders for 2009. VP for Development **Fred Merrick** was named 2008 BOTY and Webmaster **Jerry Lester** was appointed a member of the Chapter Hall of Fame, with his name inscribed on the Bert Scharf Memorial Cable Car Bell. Entertainment was provided by **San Francisco Gold** [T **John Gomez**, L **Todd Troutman**, Br **Jerry Lester**, Bs **Hank Gomez**] and **Bayview** [T **Tom Carter**, L **Greg Goyhenetche**, Br **Jon Schuster**, Bs **Orv Teising**].

The 2008 highlight for the **Cable Car Chorus** was a successful (both financially and artistically) annual show. Three "in-house" quartets **SF Gold**, **Bayview** and **Top o' the Mark** were featured in the second half of the show.

#### SAN MATEO

#### THOMAS ADDISON

We presented six Christmas singouts, including a performance at the beautiful Filoli mansion. Many members participated in the VIH Virtuoso program. The singing instruction reinforced the wonderful instruction that we have been getting from our director **Judaline Ryan**.

Officers for 2009 are President **Andrew Eichenbaum**; VP Music and Performance **Tom Addison**; Secretary **Michael Kennedy**; and Treasurer **Arnie Miller**, with Members at Large **Dave McCann** and **Tom Dickerman**, and Assistant Director **Owen Doyle**.

#### SANTA CRUZ

#### LAWRENCE STERN

The **Gold Standard Chorus** Installation Dinner was held at Pasatiempo Inn. Installed were President **Ed Warner**; VP Music **Dan Jett**; Treasurer **Joe Pedota**; VP Membership **Jerry Orloff**; and Officer-at-Large **Les Stagnaro**. Former director **Duane King** presided over the installation ceremony while **Gina Jett** served as MC for the event. Awards for 2008 fol-



lowed the installation: **Lara Pacheco**, rookie of the year and director's award; **Joe Pedota**, Pat Lanphier Animation Award; **Bev Wesley**, president's award and O. C. Kashimoto award; **Dan Jett**, barbershop chair; **Gina Jett**, female BOTY; **Jordan Johnson** (director), male BOTY.

#### SANTA ROSA

#### RAY CROWDER

The **Redwood Chordsmen** enjoyed a successful Christmas show with both the matinee and evening shows well attended. Kudos to our guest quartet **D'Vine** from Sonoma County's **Pacific Empire** Sweet Adelines chapter. Lead **Melany Huston** formerly directed the **Redwood Chordsmen**. The chorus performed at Santa Rosa's Coddington Mall and at the Presbyterian Church of the Roses. **Redwood Rhapsody** performed at Alliance Church.

Our annual Installation and Awards banquet had as installing officer former Santa Rosa member **Dick Whitten**, who is currently President of the Reno chapter. The 2009 officers are: President **Dan Exelby**, VP Development and IPP **Jim Dechaine**, VP Music **Bill Jackson**, VP Membership **Ray Crowder**, VP Program **Lynn Brittan**, Secretary **Dan Schell**, and Board Members **Jim Estrella** and **Bill Smith**. Congratulations to the Santa Rosa BOTY **Val Pizzini**.

The Redwood Chordsmen are saddened by the passing of two former members **Ed Lawson** and **Bruce Bell**.

Welcome to newest Santa Rosa Basses **Bob Lappin** formerly with the Carson City chapter, and former member **Dave Bowman**.

#### SF BAY CITIES QUARTET

#### CASEY PARKER

We recently received the following email: Hello, I am searching for a nice little group of 4 men that can sing to my mother-in-law for her 65th birthday next week. I am in Peoria AZ and can be reached (by phone). I hope one of these links will be open to go to Los Altos CA to sing her two or three songs and bring her a flower. If you can help us in anyway, I would appreciate it. ....Sheri

As a result, **Roman Avila**, **Jordan Makower**, **Steve Gummarsal** and **Dick Zunkel** donned white shirts with black pants and set out to fulfill this request. The Happy Birthday Four made their way to Los Altos Hills with the help of a Garmin GPS, arrived with flowers in hand and sang a set of traditional barbershop songs including a woodshed version of Happy Birthday for Diane. Diane's husband was "in on the secret" so there were no embarrassing moments. The performance came off very well and all were pleased.

Follow up... We received a very nice thank you note and donation to the chapter from Sheri.

#### WALNUT CREEK

#### DICK JOHNSTON

The **Devil Mountain Chorus** held its annual dinner meeting as President **Brad Dewey** presided and **Chuck Hunter** administered the oath of office to the incoming board members:

President **Brad Dewey**; Secretary **Jack Harrell**; Treasurer **Ron Leiker**; VP Music **Larry Phair**; VP Program **Bob Dunn**; VP Publicity **Norm Colby**; Director at Large **Ed Fahm**; and IPP **Dick Hickman**. **Brad Dewey** was named BOTY. Brad also made a special Presidential Award to Music Director **Jm Stenson**, and member **Dick Johnston**.

Two chapter quartets entertained the diners: **The Creeksiders** (**Larry Phair**, **Jim Diggins**, **Al Eames** and **Ron Leiker**); and **Time Be Four Plus Two** (**Jim Stenson**, **Pete Miller**, **Bob Dunn** and **Don Nelson**). And the former BOTYs (a truly formidable group) produced an enthusiastic rendition of Hello Mary Lou.



#### FWD DVP for Division 4 NCENN

##### Jim Turnmire

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Greetings NCENN and the entire Far Western District.

It is with great joy that I share wonderful things that are happening in 3 of our chapters. There are probably more chapters that are doing great things, but I haven't been notified of that. All 3 of these chapters are heavily involved in promoting music in the schools, and have contributed tens of thousands of \$\$\$ throughout the years to the schools and Young Men In Harmony.

The Carson City Chorus of the Comstock is now a hotbed of barbershop activity thanks to Jim Crowley and his band of merry men. They have sold-out shows (even the governor attends!), various school groups have performed with the resultant swelling of the ranks of boys singing in high school choirs. Their membership has grown substantially also. Just ask Jim or any member of the CC chapter and they would be delighted to share their success with you.

I had the pleasure of installing the officers of the Davis/Vacaville Chapter recently. They have been involved for several years in promoting music in the local high school. Because of their efforts, the schools have benefited to the tune of tens of thousands of dollars! They also have increased their ranks and even competed in last year's division competition. A big congratulations to the Davis/Vacaville and their director, Ollie Brillhante.

I also had the extreme pleasure of installing the officers of the Placerville Chapter. Now there is a chapter that's on fire with youth outreach and promoting barbershop in their high school. They will have sent a chorus of 30 young men to the Youth Harmony Festival at Mid-Winter. They even paid for their transportation expenses. They have some of these young men now singing in their chorus, and one of them has become the assistant director. He teaches tags, and can sing each part. What a spark plug he is! What chapter wouldn't benefit with that infusion of youth, talent and enthusiasm!? Contact Ron Murray if you want more information and inspiration!

The combined NCENN/NCWHI convention and competition will be held in Fresno the weekend of May 15th & 16th. There will be a high school quartet contest held Friday evening. If any of you would like to sponsor a quartet, either a boys or a girls quartet, please contact me, and I will see that they are entered. There will be a \$500 prize to the school which sponsors the winning quartet. Even the 5th place quartet will receive \$100.



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#### CARSON CITY

#### DAVE RAMER

**The Chorus of the Comstock** grew to a count of 37 men last year, and this year we're shooting for 55. Director **Jim Crowley** and President **Orval Wetzel** inspired 38 young men to form a High School Chorus. We are about to hear what they have produced as they go to our Midwinter Convention in Pasadena. **Orval (Rook) Wetzel** is our 2008 BOTY. He has been a ball of fire and made things happen. If we all had his commitment the Society would double in membership. Our new Board of Officers for 2009 are President **Dave Ramer**; IPP **Orval Wetzel**; VP Membership **David Smith**, VP Music **Bert Lakenbaur**, VP Program **Norm LeBlanc**, Treasurer **Ted Nagel**, Secretary **Paul Muller**, and Members-at-large **Don Hunter** and **Tom Cheney**. **Dick Whitten** was installing officer.

#### CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

#### MILES SUTTER

The installation and awards ceremony was spearheaded by **Dick Compton**, who was also our MC and quartet jamboree chairman for the evening. Our installing officer was **Bruce Sellnow**. **Dave Wallace** announced **Siegfried Guntenspuger** as Rookie of the Year. **Dain Goad** presented the "Power and Influence" award to **Grady Williams**. **Ron Russell** presented the "Perseverance" award to **Greg Kramp**. **Dick Compton** presented membership pins to: **Howard Barber** – 40 years; **Miles Sutter** – 45 years; **Gerry Miller** – 50 years. **Roy Anderson** announced that the 2008 BOTY is **Ron Russell**.

The 12th Annual Don Goad Memorial Quartet Jamboree produced the following quartets:

- 1 - Dain Goad, Derick Sturke, Dick Compton, Howard Barber.
  - 2 - Bruce Sellnow, Buz Smith, David-Ramsey Warner, Howard Barber.
  - 3 - Dave Wallace, Miles Sutter, Ron Russell, Greg Kramp.
  - 4 - Dave Wallace, Roy Anderson, Scott Erickson, Ralph Harris.
  - 5 - Bruce Sellnow, Herb Andrew, Ted Meyer, Howard Barber.
  - 6 - Dain Goad, Dennis Zinner, Dave Wallace, Buz Smith.
- The first place winner was Quartet #5.

#### DAVIS-VACAVILLE

#### ROY BELLHORN

Our 20th annual Harmony In Our Lives fund raiser was held at the Davis High School's 500 seat auditorium with shows at 2:00 pm and 3:30 pm. Attendance for the 2 shows totaled 850. Each

show featured the **West Valley Chorus** followed by musical groups (a combined total of 10) from the Davis Joint Unified School system. The shows raised \$4,900 for the Davis School Arts Foundation to encourage and support music programs.

**Bill Tieberg** coached the **West Valley Chorus** in preparation for its upcoming annual shows.

Our installation dinner was held January 17th at the Paradise Valley Country Club where again the menu and service were impeccable. **Jim Turnmire** graciously performed the Installation duties. Chapter officers for 2009 are: President **John Minkler**; Treasurer **Claude Rohwer**; Secretary **Tom Powers**; VP Music **Steve Rollins**; VP Shows **Bob Hansen**; VP Programs **Mark Shreve**; VP Membership **Wayne Knight**; VP Marketing/PR **Will Ozier**; Member at Large **Bob Benson**. **Neal Peek** is the Sunshine Chairman and **Roy Bellhorn** is the Westunes reporter. **Ollie Brillhante III** and **Harry Peasley** continue as West Valley Chorus director and assistant director.

#### FOLSOM

#### STAN TRUMBULL

The Eleventh Month, the Eleventh Day and at the Eleventh Hour the **Harmony Express** sang a selection of patriotic songs at the Sylvan Cemetery honoring US Veterans.

**The Harmony Express** honored one of our own, **Bob Mehl**, a 35 year member of the BHS by singing at Pinebrook Retirement Village. Bob joined us for singing "Nellie".

**The Harmony Express** welcomes it first officially registered quartet with BHS: **42itus**, with T **Jim Lauppe**, L **Charlie Clark**, Br **Jim Campbell** & Bs **Doug Vestal**.

The 2009 board members were installed by **Roger Perkins**, who brought his guitar and installed officers with his own little ditty to the tune of "The Bluetail Fly". We all sang along on the chorus substituting "SPEBSQSA" instead of "Jimmy Crack Corn". Installed were: President **Doug Vestal**, Secretary/Treasurer **Stan Trumbull**, VP Membership **Wil King**, VP Music **Charlie Clark**, Sunshine **Les Cudworth**, and Members at Large **Bob Roberts**, **Robert Edmonds**, **Russ Duane**.

#### FRESNO

#### DAVID REITZEL

**The Gold Note Chorus** welcomes four new members--leads **Vince Carter** and **Glen Crownover**, and basses **Jim Irvine** and **Adam Kitt**.

A few days after directing the GNC in the Far Western District contest, **Dede Nibler** left for Hawaii to direct Voices Unlimited in the Sweet Adelines International Convention. From there she and husband Tim (GNC lead) headed to Australia, where she directed and coached Sweet Adelines choruses. Upon her return, and recently retired from her teaching position in the Fresno schools, Dede resigned as director of the GNC. For the present, Associate Director **Jim Turnmire** will preside, assisted by **Eric Essayan**, **John Hays**, **Wes Jackson**, and **Adam Kitt**.

The performance year ended with our Christmas show, **Ken Strauss** emcee. Two Roosevelt High School groups, the **PA (Performing Arts) Singers** and the **Chicklettes**—opened the show, followed by women's quartets **Group Therapy** and **Great Dames** and men's quartets **Up roar** and **Silver & Gold**. **The Gold Note Chorus** then performed Christmas songs and recognized Pearl Harbor Day & WW II vets with an audience-participation rendition of "America". **Voices Unlimited** and the **Jubilation Singers** rounded out the show, which closed with a combined VU-GNC performance.

**Jim Bryant** installed 2009 officers, first putting them behind little rubber 8-balls, then presenting them with Hero's badges. They are: President **Bill Holden**, IPP **Terry Starr**, Secretary **Bill Golden**, Treasurer **Mike Smith**, VP Music & Performance (also Workhorse of the Year) **Wes Jackson**, VP Chapter Development & Membership **Jim Warner**, VP Marketing & Publicity **Richard Wayne**, and Program Manager **Adam Kitt**. Board Members At Large are **Dean Clark**, **Mike Ragan**, **Jim Rathbun**, **David Reitzel**, and **Gerry Young**. **Doug Yarrow** continues as Chorus Manager. **Jason Jones** is Rookie of the Year. 2008 BOTY is **Jim Warner**.

#### NEVADA PLACER

#### ROGER PERKINS

The **Sierranaders** made their annual appearance at the Victorian Christmas in Nevada City.

Past FWD President **Lynn Brittan** installed officers. "Britt" was a member of the first Placer County Chapter 50 years ago. I sang in my first Society quartet with him in 1960. 2008 BOTY is **Verne Bagby**. Verne transferred to our chapter from the Sacramento Capitolaire and has been a tireless worker. He obtained a new venue for our annual spring show at the Bear River High School and also lined up the Magnolia Starmakers from the local middle school to perform on the show.

#### NORTH VALLEY

#### DENNY STRUB

The **Sound of the Foothills Chorus** were privileged to appear on both Chico's **Bidwell Generals** and **Sweet Adelines** Christmas Shows. After the SOTF Chorus' dozen or more holiday performances, director **Dave Burdine** and his wife Diana hosted a Christmas party at their new home in Paradise.

Our new "24-year-old" President, Tom Prosser, took over the reins in running mode. He has already impressed his Board of: VP Music (also 24!) **Matt Sutter**, VP Membership **Denny Strub**, VP Program **Gene Warner**, Secretary **Bob Britton**, Treasurer **Al Salazar**, and IPP **Don Franklin** — with his energy, maturity, and exuberance for the tasks ahead.

#### PLACERVILLE

#### BILL PECK

The Placerville Chapter made history by competing in the Final Chorus Contest at the FWD Fall Convention for the first time in our 25-year history.

The Chapter made history by having the reigning International Quartet Champion Quartet headlining our show. A great big

THANKS to OC Times for helping us out in our time of need as they demonstrated why they won the gold.

The Chapter hosted a 25th Anniversary party for members, spouses, significant others and guests. There are four charter members who are still active: **Neal Sisson**, **Gary Saich**, **George Spanos** and **Bob Roberts**.

#### VISALIA

#### BUD CASE

The chorus sang Christmas Carols for 19 senior care facilities not only in Visalia but also in Tulare and Hanford. These audiences love our style of music and showed their appreciation for the Christmas cheer we spread. This is a wonderful tradition of the **Mighty Oak Chorus** and a way to give back to our communities. We also participated in singing on two of the Visalia high school winter concerts.



#### FWD DVP for Division 5 ASNSU

#### Gordon "Mongo" Bergthold

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Since my last report our division has undertaken many challenges from the Leadership Academy November 15, 2008 to the arrival of the College Quartet Champs from Sweden in Prescott, Arizona for a full day of appearances at schools in the area.

The Leadership Academy, held in Mesa and hosted by the Mesa Chapter, was very successful and those 40+ men in attendance were impressed and appreciative of the instructors provided by the Far Western District.

I was the Master of Ceremonies for the Prescott Chapter show on October 18, 2008 which featured several chapter quartets and Sonoran Sound from Tucson along with a local Sweet Adeline quartet. They are still in search of a full-time director.

On November 8, 2008 I attended the Mesa Chapter show along with many of the valley barbershoppers who were in attendance. The show included about 7 or 8 chapter quartets and a young women's group from Scottsdale. Mesa is now directed by Dr. Ray Kahler.

The Greater Phoenix Chapter lost their Treasurer and fine bass, Bill Johnson unexpectedly in late November and the chorus sang at his memorial service on December 6th.

Most of the Division Chapters put on Christmas Shows making December a very busy month for all choruses. On January 10, 2009 I did the installation for the White Mountain Chapter and the Eastsiders Quartet from Tucson entertained those in attendance. On January 15th the Spirit of Phoenix Chorus put on a show in Mesa for a retirement park. January 18th was the Greater Phoenix Chapter installation dinner with Greg Dodge, bass of Audacity, as Master of Ceremonies.



On January 24th I MC'd the Prescott Chapter Show at the Sharlott Hall Museum. On January 27th John Krisek hosted the Ringmasters Quartet and escorted them all over the Prescott area. The young men from Sweden won the 2008 College Contest in Nashville and finished 18th in the main quartet contest. They were accepted with rousing applause and excitement at each school venue and finished off the day with a show at the Presbyterian Church hosted by the local women's barbershop chorus.

Collin McKinney is now directing the Paradise Valley Chapter and there is hope of rehabilitating the membership which was down drastically at the end of 2008.

To complete the month I attended the Mid Winter Convention in Pasadena and watched Audacity from Phoenix win the Senior's International Contest. It was a wonderful moment for the quartet receiving their gold medal, especially for Fraser Brown who has competed at nearly 30 international contests.

The most exciting program in the division is the Youth in Harmony push by Ron and Annie Hayes in Tucson. They continue to attract singers to the AMEA Festival along with their emphasis on exposing youth to our hobby. Many of the Arizona quartets support the youth events by their participation. The goal is to get the Phoenix area involved in this movement and that is our next challenge.



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#### ARIZONA QUARTET

**JIM MILNER**

We must be doing something right with 23 quartet enthusiasts and four quartets showing up. **Dry Heat** (L **Bob Sampson**; Bs **Collin McKinney**; T **Ben Gregg**; Br **Stu Willcox**) entertained with several sets of their humorous songs. **Two Under Par** (L **Charlie Nardon**; Bs **Dick Moore**; T **Barney Griffin**; Br **Terry Gregg**) sang most of their repertoire, as did **Silver Sounds** (L **Ron Steen**; Bs **JR Hooker**; T **Rod Cardon**; Br **Terry Gregg**). **Hospitality** (L **Lee Bourgeois**; Bs **Bob McColl**; T **Dick Cornwell**; Br **Jim Milner**) played host quartet. Two members transferred into our chapter: **Norm Wolfe** (Frank Thorne) and **Rex Touslee** (Loveland, Colorado).

Officers elected for 2009 are: President **Dick Cornwell**, VP Chapter Development **Bob McColl**, VP Music and Performance **Rex Touslee**, Secretary **Jim Milner**, and Treasurer **Dave Lyman**

#### CASA GRANDE

**LOREN ENGLUND**

**The Desert Sounds Chorus** was immensely pleased with the excellent community attendance and response at our Holiday Concert. Besides our chorus, we featured **4 Four Young** (local quartet); **Acquire** (local ladies chorus); and **Davetta McBride**, our local piano and solo artist.

Our Youth For Singing Coordinator **Jim Scheridan** recently arranged a presentation of barbershop style singing to the boys' chorus and class at Casa Grande High School. **Sam Warfel**, lead of the **4 Four Young** quartet, discussed the origin of barbershop style singing, and then the quartet demonstrated vocally what it takes to produce great harmony and ring chords.

Our most recent chorus public performance was at the largely attended Casa Grande Street Days.

#### GREATER PHOENIX

**JERRY MCELFRISH**

**The Greater Phoenix Chapter** had a great showing at the Far Western District Chorus Contest with the **Spirit of Phoenix** in second place, resulting in a wild-card invitation to the International chorus competition in Anaheim in July. Four of our quartets finished in the top 10 in quartet competition. **Audacity**, which placed fourth overall, also won senior quartet honors and will represent the FWD in the International Seniors Contest. **Sound Agreement** placed tenth and took novice quartet honors. **Oasis** was fifth; **Equinox** finished eighth.

A guest night in October drew 17 prospects. A number of them came back during subsequent weeks, and several became members and now have their spots on the risers.

Members were saddened at the loss of a brother, **Bill Johnson**, 51, who died as result of an aortic embolism. Nearly 50 members attended a memorial service for Bill and performed several inspirational hymns and gospel numbers. Bill, bass, had recently been re-elected for a second term as chapter treasurer.

The chorus, several quartets and a VLQ performed in two well-attended Christmas shows. A highlight of the shows was participation by several guests that had been invited to learn two of our songs and join us on the risers.

We participated at an expo in the newly opened section of the Phoenix Convention Center by providing a booth and strolling quartets. We added 21 people to our e-news list, 20 to our postal mailing list, and five men requested information about membership. Countless others stopped by our booth and took show flyers and business cards.

#### MESA

**JERRY FOX**

**The Mesa Lamplighters** completed a memorable year with several highlights occurring during the last quarter. Two quartets, **2 Under Par** and **Tapestry**, entertained in choir rooms of two local schools. Youth In Harmony Chair **Jerry Fox** helped with the combined division effort at the AZ Music Educators Convention. The chorus gave several performances to put audiences in the Christmas spirit. We built a database of local senior care centers and came up with nearly 30 facilities close to our meeting place. With this information in hand, we hope to provide a complimentary quartet or chorus performance for major holidays like Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, 4th of July, and next Christmas.

Thanks and a fond farewell to **James Brown III**, our director of four years. Like the rock star with the similar name, we called him the "hardest working man in barbershop." Not only did he help us to steadily improve, but under his leadership, we went from non-district-level singing to being invited to sing at district . . . and now, qualifying to compete on the district stage. We congratulate Assistant Director **Ray Kahler** on his ascendancy to front-line director.

Congrats to 2008 BOTY **Terry Gregg**. Now he will be our Music Vice President. **Jerry Fox** retains his YIH hat and takes on the presidential mantle, too.

#### PARADISE VALLEY

LEN LEVINE

**The Cactus Chordsmen** performed a Christmas concert for the Woodmark Assisted Living facility in Sun City during the Yuletide season. The mostly infirmed inhabitants were very appreciative of the entertainment. The chorus is still looking for a permanent director while **Dan Ryan** is pursuing his master's degree in music from ASU. Fortunately, **Jeff Dolan**, who is directing the Tucson Chorus, has agreed to direct the Cactus Chordsmen for the next few months and also help in increasing our membership.

#### PRESCOTT

SAM STIMPLE

The chapter's annual show "*The Wild & Wooly West*" was performed by the **High Mountain Chordsmen** and five chapter quartets twice. Arizona DVP **Gordon "Mongo" Bergthold** did a masterful job as master of ceremonies and added his rich voice to the chorus's bass section. **Dale McDonald** set up a realistic western stage complete with split-rail fence and imitation campfire. The icing on the cake was provided by special guest quartet **Sonoran Sound** from Tucson.

Many thanks to interim directors **Rich Ludwigson**, **Hap Lovejoy**, and **Sam Stimple** for holding the chorus together in recent months. Incoming officers who attended COTS came home with great ideas to share with fellow members.

The HMC chorus criss-crossed the Prescott metropolitan vicinity in December to deliver twelve holiday performances at several local care centers, Acker Musical Showcase, church potlucks and homeowners associations. **The High Country Four** quartet was invited to (Rich's mother-in-law) Georgia McEuen's 101st birthday on December 4th to sing "Georgia On My Mind," as well as "Happy Birthday" and a few Christmas uptunes. Upon leaving, the quartet heard Georgia say, "I'll see you next year, boys!"

#### SEDONA

LEE SHOPTAUGH

"How can we top this?" Those were the words voiced by **Harmony on the Rocks** singers following our successful 5th Annual Show at the Church of the Red Rocks in Sedona. We had 23 on stage with a standing-room-only crowd of more than 300. Guest quartets included headliner **Stardust** from Las Vegas and **RoadTrip**, a Sweet Adelines foursome. Rounding out the guest quartets were **InHarmoniX**, an upcoming group of

sophomores from Northern Arizona University, and **Composition 4** from the **White Mountain Chapter**. Local quartet, **Beauty and the Beasts**, also sang.

The 2009 officers are: President **David Lombardi**, Treasurer **Jack Edwards**, Secretary **Lee Shoptaugh**, VP Music & Performance **Neal Bigham**, VP Marketing/PR **Bob Butterworth**, VP Membership **Bob Carlson**, District Delegate **Roger Fitch**, Chorus Director **Charlie Lyman**, Assistant Director and BMAL **John McDougald**, BMAL **Tom Doeller**, and IPP **Don Tautkus**.

#### SUN CITIES

BOB MCGOWAN

Chapter quartets **Slo-Motion** (L **Jerry Roland**; Br **Ed O'Connor**; Bs **Bud Lowry**; T **Gene Sprenkle**) and **Sun Cities School Board** (L **Ken Corns**; Br **Bud Hesterman**; Bs **Doug Campbell**; T **Dave Tague**) are active. **Slo-Motion** recently auditioned and expects to be featured at one of the Spring Training Games in the area.

At its Installation of Officers for 2009, **Bud Hesterman** did a great job in his introduction of our BOTY **Bill Shaw**. The uniquely presented biographical sketch had the audience in stitches. Thanks to **Bill Kane**, Division Events Planner, for his humorous introduction of our new officers and board members. Bill made the introductions a "Roast" in true Dean Martin tradition. 2009 Officers are; President **John Petras**; VP Marketing & PR **Jack McGill**; VP Chapter Development **Ken Singleton**; VP Programs **Campbell Titchener**; VP Music & Performance **Bill Shaw**; Board Members-at-Large **Ed O'Connor**, **Fred Lantz** and **Dean Woeller**. **Bill Wagner** is our new webmaster. Director **Jerry Roland** will continue to be at the helm in 2009.

New members are **Eugene Brandwein**, with **Terrance Pierce** and **Spence Videon** (dual members with Cactus Chordsmen).

We sadly report the loss of **Wm. "Rocky" Rockafellow**, who passed away after an extended illness. Rocky enjoyed 19 years with the Barbershop Harmony Society and transferred to the Sun Cities Chapter in 1997. His wife Beverly supported him throughout the years.

#### TUCSON SUNSHINE

RON HAYES

**The Tucson Barbershop eXperience Chorus** continued to improve in numbers and quality. Credit goes to our steadfast, talented director, **Jeff Dolan**, who commutes 125 miles each way to attend chorus rehearsals and performances. He is also assistant director for the **Spirit of Phoenix**. Jeff is supported by an active Music Team of assistant directors and section leaders.

The TBX Chorus performed on the annual show of the local Sweet Adelines chorus, **Tucson Desert Harmony**, current Region 21 Chorus Champion.

At the Annual Holiday Banquet, the BOTY award was presented to former Chapter President **Ed Johnson**; Rookie of the Year honors went to **Kyle LaFollette**.

The TBX Chorus and quartets performed for a standing-room-only audience at Villa Capri, and on the Canada Del Oro Chapter's Christmas show.

#### WHITE MOUNTAINS

#### DOC DOCKENDORF

**The High Country Chorus** sang at the **Bill Hartzell** "Celebration of Life" service in November. Bill, a chorus bass, had passed away suddenly and unexpectedly. His wife Carol had asked that all songs be upbeat in keeping with his personality, so the chorus sang "Zip-A-Dee Doo-Dah", "This Little Light of Mine", and "A Spoonful of Sugar". Earlier the chorus held a work party to help Carol with raking and bagging pine needles, cutting, splitting and stacking wood for the winter, and helping put up her Christmas decorations. We will miss Bill immensely and will dedicate our 2009 show to his memory.

The HCC presented a Christmas concert at the Heber/Overgaard Methodist Church. Jim Dye, bass, with help from his wife Noni, pastor at the church, scripted the program and tied many of the songs to scripture verses, which made the evening more meaningful for both the chorus and the congregation.

The HCC held its installation of officers dinner with **Jim Dye** acting as MC. Our Division VP and installing officer, **Gordon "Mongo" Bergthold**, used a football team analogy for his excellent challenge to the incoming board of directors. Entertainment was provided by a "five man" quartet, represented by members of the **Eastsidiers** and **Joint Venture**.

**John Graham** received the "President's Award; **Joe Stone**, "Spark Plug" Award; and **Denny Shankland**, "Most Improved Singer" Award. BOTY honors went to **Lloyd Lange**, a charter member of the HCC.

#### YUMA

#### ROB BAILEY

**The Territorial Prisonaires** are back at it after the holiday break. The Christmas season saw chorus and quartet members dressed for the season, singing out around town. Sadly, we bid farewell to lead **Wayne Snell**, who has relocated to central California. At least he's still in Far Western District!

Happily, we are glad to welcome several new prospective members and everyone is having "Fun with Frank" (Durham), our director and chief stand-up comic.

#### Wanted:

Front-line director who wants to live in beautiful San Luis Obispo County; direct a competent group of singers who seek constant improvement; and be a member of a healthy chapter with a proud tradition of performance and hospitality.

Contact:

Pete Bennett, President

(805) 550-2874

peterbflat@gmail.com

## IS HAWAII YOUR BARBERSHOP PARADISE?

HAWAII'S SOUNDS OF ALOHA CHORUS IS SEEKING A MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

A strong leader and team player looking to continue the 61-year history of 55-70 great guys who are eager to support and sing for the right guy. You will be supported by a Board of Directors, Music Team and excellent Assistant Musical Directors. Our chorus learns music using the teaching skills of our director combined with custom-produced voice-part learning CDs and teaching quartets.

*Travel* - In 2009 we are attending the Anaheim International Convention as a mic tester chorus for the chorus competition. We competed at the Far Western District in 2006, finished 6th and

were the Plateau AA champions. In 2004 we attended the 4th Pan Pacific Convention in New Zealand and in October 2008 we single-handedly played host to over 850 attendees for the 5th Pan Pacific Convention. We look forward to competing at the 6th Pan Pacific in Brisbane, Australia in 2011.

We have great annual shows featuring International Champion guest quartets, as well as a Christmas show and numerous community performances for the military, university, civic organizations, and care facilities.



the  
Sounds of Aloha  
Chorus

Mail Resume To:

Bob Sypowicz

430 Keoniana Street #809

Honolulu, HI 96815

RSypowicz@aol.com





2009 Youth Festival Champions - Northwest Vocal Project, Western Washington - EVG



52eighty, Denver, CO - RMD



Carson High School, Carson City, NV - FWD



Georgia Spirit, Atlanta, GA - DIX



Heart of Gold, Placerville, CA - FWD



Pacific Suns, San Diego, CA - FWD



Seneca Land District youth Chorus - SLD



the505, Albuquerque, NM - RMD



Tri-Star - MAD



Wissota Voices, River Falls, WI - LOL

2009 Youth Festival, MidWinter Convention  
Pasadena, CA  
Northwest Vocal Project is the 2009 Champion.  
The other youth choruses are listed alphabetically.  
We of the BHS are fortunate to have these young men  
participating so enthusiastically in our great hobby.

## CONVENTIONS, SHOWS, EVENTS

### 2009

#### March

- 7 Coachella Valley Show
- 14 Inland Empire Show
- 14 Tucson Show
- 14 Visalia Shows

**19-22 FWD Spring Convention**  
**Las Vegas, NV**

#### April

- 2-5 SAI Region 12 Conv, Sacramento
- 4 Fullerton Shows
- 18 San Luis Obispo Show
- 25 AZ Divisional**
- 25 Palomar Pacific Show
- 25 Nevada-Placer Grass Valley Show

#### May

- 2 SCE/SCW Divisional**
- 2 Placerville Show
- 3 Palo Alto-Mt View Show
- 16 Combined NCAL Divisional**  
**Fresno, CA**
- 16 Pasadena Show
- 30 Bay Area Show
- 30 Santa Fe Springs Show

#### June

- 6,7 South Bay Shows
- 6/28-7/5 INT'L CONV Anaheim, CA**  
*Host: Masters of Harmony*

#### August

- 15 Reno

#### October

- 8-11 FWD Fall Convention**  
**Sacramento**
- 23 Nevada-Placer Auburn Show
- 24 Nevada-Placer Grass Valley Show

### November

- 3-7 SAI Int'l Conv, Nashville, TN
- 7 Walnut Creek Show
- 14 Leadership Academy **1 Day**
- 21 Leadership Academy **1 Day**
- 28 Santa Fe Springs Shows

### December

- 4,5 Fullerton Shows
- 6 Freemont-Hayward Show
- 12 Bay Area Show

### 2010

#### January

- 9 Leadership Academy **1 Day**
- 15 Leadership Academy **1 Day**
- 26-31 MidWinter Conv Tampa, FL**

#### March

- 6 Tucson Show
- 18-21 FWD Spring Convention**  
**Open for bid**

#### April

- 10 NCWH Divisional - Open for Bid
- 17 AZ Divisional - Open for Bid

#### May

- 8 SCW Divisional - Open for Bid
- 15 SCE Divisional - Open for Bid
- 22 NCENN Divisional - Open for Bid

#### June

- 6/27-7/4 INT'L CONV Philadelphia, PA

#### October

- 7-10 FWD Fall Convention, Bakersfield**  
*Host: SLO Gold Coast*
- 19-23 SAI Int'l Conv, Seattle, WA

### November

- 13 Leadership Academy **1 Day**
- 20 Leadership Academy **1 Day**

### 2011

#### January

- 18-23 MidWinter Conv Tucson, AZ**

#### March

- 5 Tucson Show

#### July

- 7/3-10 INT'L CONV Kansas City, MO**
- 11/18-22 SAI Int'l Conv, Houston, TX

### 2012

#### March

- 3 Tucson Show

#### July

- 7/1-8 INT'L CONV Portland, OR**
- 10/30-11-3 SAI Int'l Conv, Denver, CO

### 2013

#### June

- 6/30-7/7 INT'L CONV Toronto, ON**
- 11/5-9 SAI Int'l Conv, Honolulu, HI

### 2014

#### June

- 6/29-7/6 NT'L CONV Minneapolis, MN**

### 2015

#### June

- 6/28-7/5 INT'L CONV Pittsburgh, PA**

### 2016

#### June

- 7/3-10 INT'L CONV Nashville, TN**

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

# WESTUNES

## Magazine

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT  
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