

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



2010 FWD President Bernard Priceman from the Santa Fe Springs Chapter

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



2010 2nd Place International Senior Quartet Vintage Gold



2009 FWD Senior Quartet Champions Motley Q

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Subscriptions:

Domestic \$15/yr Foreign \$20/yr

Advertising rates per issue:

<u>Ad Size</u>	<u>1 issue</u>	<u>2 issues</u>	4 issues
1 - Page	\$150	\$140	\$130
1/2 - Page	100	90	80
1/4 - Page	50	45	40
Bus. Card	30	25	20

1- Page: Inside Front Cover or Inside Back Cover \$200 per issue, one or more issues

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Thanks to Sir Valour for Cover Art Design

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Summer 1 May 25 Apr 1 Aug 25 Jul

> These are new dates for the new Quarterly publication schedule

Send change of address to: Barbershop Harmony Society, Inc 110 - 7th Ave. N, Nashville TN 37203-3704 1-800-876-7464 [SING]

or use the secure Society website login https://ebiz.barbershop.org/ebusiness/

Spring 2010 • WESTUNES 1

District President



Bernard Priceman

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I have just returned from the BHS Midwinter Convention in Tampa, FL. It was the best attended Midwinter ever and a jolly good time was had by all. (By the way, it's only February and registrations for the International Convention in Philadelphia are already close to 6,000 and will soon surpass last year's convention in Anaheim. Register early). The two main contests in Tampa were for Youth Choruses and Senior Quartets – for men at both ends of our barbershop age scale. Our own Audacity, last year's Senior winners, gave sterling performances and without doubt would have won the contest again, had they been eligible to compete. But our own Vintage Gold took second place again and did us proud. FWD quartet The Vagrants, Collegiate winners in Anaheim, performed several times and were crowd favorites. Unfortunately none of the eleven youth choruses was from the FWD. Next year the Midwinter Convention will be in Las Vegas. Start looking for youth choruses like NOW, so that we have great representation in our own back yard. And I'm looking for record attendance from you. Let's show 'em what FWD is made of.

I attended a day long meeting of District
Presidents in Tampa and also the Society's Board
Meeting. I learned a great deal about how other
Districts do things and will be advising the FWD
Board, with a view to possibly making some changes.
One of the changes I have already implemented is
regarding the frequency of our Board meetings. My
feeling was that holding only three meetings per year
does not help run a District efficiently. And so I have
already begun monthly Board conference calls via
Skype. It's a great way to bring remote meeting participants together, at no cost.

The Society Board was presented with some interesting statistics in Tampa. Almost 2,600 new members joined the Society in 2009 but due to mortality and non-renewals, net membership fell yet again. There are some excellent trends, though. First, the average age of new members has dropped again. It was 48 years old in 2009, with 22% of new members aged 25 years old and under! In 2007, the most popular single age of new members was 68 years old. Last year it was, wait for it, 19 years old. Wow! Are we a changing Society or what?

One of the ways to grab new members and retain old ones is to hold attractive chapter meetings. Many FWD members have already taken advantage of Chuck Greene's daylong event known as CACM (Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meetings). We have held them in Northern and Southern California so far and the reviews are exceptional. There'll be another in Arizona before too long and then additional CACMs later in the year. Don't miss the next one. The things you will learn will transform your meetings and your chapters.

I could go on and on (and I sometimes do), but since I'm now chatting to you electronically every month, that will just about do it for now. One last thing, though. Many of you will be at the Spring

Convention in Reno but many of you won't. If you're new to the Society, chances are that no-one has told you much about conventions. I cannot stress enough how great they are - seeing some of the best quartets and choruses in the entire Society, singing with men you know ... and don't know ... and

enjoying all the extra fun events that there are at every convention nowadays. Reno is vacation city and a fun place to visit. I hope you will read this and seriously considering attending. I promise you the absolute best value for your money.

I am proud and excited to be your FWD President and I hope that my term in office will prove to be positive and fruitful for the District. With your help, it most certainly will. Join in the fun.





For Information (714) 871-7675 or go to oechorus.org



BARBERSHOP SINGERS INVADE AMEA CONFERENCE

Barbershop harmony was in abundance at the Arizona Music Educator Conference held at the Mesa Conference Center over the weekend of January 7th through 9th. This year's annual conference was attended by approximately 700 educators.

This was the 6th consecutive year that Ron and Annie Hayes have operated exhibits for Sweet Adeline International and Barbershop Harmony Society. We had the opportunity to speak with countless music educators and mingled with other exhibitors. Educators were asked to fill out an information questionnaire for follow-up. Some even had a chance to sing a tag within a barbershop quartet. At our exhibit, we were assisted by other Barbershop and Sweet Adeline chapter representatives from the Phoenix area.

Each year, at the invitation of AMEA we have provided clinicians, and, performing groups, to include quartets, ensembles, and choruses. This year it included The Good Vibes, a girl's quartet from Flowing Wells HS in Tucson; The Treblemakers, a girl's ensemble from Chandler HS who were assisted by a boy's quartet(unnamed); and, The Mix, a Sweet Adeline quartet from Scottsdale, who opened the Awards Luncheon with their rendition of the National Anthem. This all occurred on Friday. On Saturday, PHX, a men's barbershop quartet from Phoenix performed in addition to The Good Vibes, who stayed over to sing a 2nd day. In addition, The Spirit of Phoenix Barbershop Chorus also performed, in concert, on Friday night.

Lucky music educators received a cd or dvd of a medallist quartet in drawings held during the conference. This in addition to sheet music, brochures, music educator kits, and other barbershop information were provided the educators.

Each year we receive compliments for the fine young, and, older experienced quartets who grace the halls of the Annual Conference. It is our hopes that the music educators bring this same music back

to their own classrooms to allow their students to experience this thrill we continue to receive at each and every chapter meeting.







FWD Spring Convention in Reno March 18-21, 2010 Quartets Will Compete to Qualify for International in Philadelphia

BACHELOR OF HARMONY AWARD WHAT IS IT? HERE ARE SOME ANSWERS!

By Deane Scoville Far Western District Awards Chairman deanescoville@ca.rr.com, (714) 898-5030

To receive the award you must have significant experience in a variety of chapter, district and/or society activities and positions.

When you qualify for this award, you will receive a colorful patch to wear on your chapter jacket, a certificate suitable for framing. (Actually, your chapter officers should frame the award before it is presented to you.)

If you wish to apply for this award, you may do so by taking the following steps:

- 1. Go to www.spebsgsafwd.org/ on the internet. If you do not have internet service, contact me. I can help.
- 2. Click on "Members Only"
- 3. Follow the instructions to open the website. If you do not have a password, you can scroll down and apply for one.
- 4. After you receive your password, go to Members Only and click on "Apply for the Bachelor of Harmony Award".
- 5. Then follow the instructions listed on your screen.

You must score 300 points or more in order to qualify for your Bachelor of Harmony Certificate. If you do not qualify, then get involved in a new activity within your chapter, the district or the society to increase your point total.

If you have enough points to qualify for the award, your accomplishments will be sent to your chapter president or another appropriate chapter officer for authentication. When that step is completed, your application will be forwarded to the proper administrator for processing.

Thanks for listening and be sure to call me if you have any questions.

FWD Sunshine Chairman Jim Holder

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FAR WESTERN DISTRICT **SPRING CONVENTION** PIONEER CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS RENO, NEVADA

MARCH 18TH THRU 21ST 2010

Are you ready for a good time? Make your reservations, pack your bags and get ready to travel to Reno, the Biggest Little City in the world.

Great hotel, wonderful rates, can you believe \$49 Sunday thru Thursday, \$89 Friday & Saturday. That \$49 rate is also good for the following Sunday thru Thursday. Wonderful food, \$150 discount coupon book with your reservation and more fun than you can shake a stick at. (Whatever that means?) Come early and stay late so you can enjoy all the things to do, places to see and shows to enjoy. (And if you want to make two weeks out of it we have arranged to have the Harrah's company offer a rate of \$69 or \$99, depending on what tower you choose, at Harvey's at Lake Tahoe.)

Log on to the FWD web site and look over the informational flyers posted there for Harrah's Hotel and the Offsite Activities flyer, that describes the myriad of things you can do and see in the Reno area. You can also log on to www.harrahsreno.com and RenoTahoe.com for the same and additional information.

The Pioneer Center for Performing Arts is a short two block walk from the hotel along with other hotels and entertainment venues.

We look forward to seeing you there and ringing those four-part chords.

SILVER DOLLAR CHORUS



Chair: Chapter Support & Leadership Gordon "Mongo" Bergthold

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As 2010 begins I'd like to express my appreciation for the many positive events that have taken place in the Far Western District since my tenure as CSLT Chair began. There have been two Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meeting (CACM) seminars held in California; the first in Stockton in November of 2009 and the second in Venice in January 2010. Both were highly successful and those who attended learned some new techniques for improving chapter meetings, retaining and recruiting members and getting the most out of the available musical leadership.

Arizona is working on a venue and schedule to hold a CACM seminar by mid-year. That information will be forthcoming as we determine the details and solidify Chuck Greene's availability. For those of you wanting information pertaining to the seminar, please checkout Chuck Greene's website at: http://www.21stn7th.com.

At the last FWD House of Delegates meeting I lined out a potential program for Chapter Service Representatives (CSR) and mentioned that the Chapter Counselor program would be replaced by a number of qualified men from the district who would be available to chapters requesting help. Well, over 25 have stepped up and volunteered to serve as CSR's representing all of our divisions. The list is being streamlined to better serve the district's chapters and it will be available online by the March meeting in Reno. I appreciate all of the spontaneous emails and telephone calls pertaining to the CSR program and I will be in touch with those volunteers as soon as we are able to determine the level of expertise that be can offered by each and how they will be utilized in the future.

The CSLT position requires much participation from division and district leaders and to date I've received many good ideas and suggestions for improving the communication pertaining to aiding the chapters who want help. Our leadership is dependent on communication in a timely fashion; otherwise we just meet and discuss the same issues on a regular basis and that is frustrating to all concerned. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome and I will do my best to acknowledge your comments with a prompt response.

We have the energy and talent in our district. Where should it be invested?



Chair: Chorus Director Development

Dave Tautkus

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Congratulations to Justin Miller and the Westminster Chorus for their victory at the FWD Fall Convention.

They will be awesome representatives to the International contest in Philly this summer. Also representing the FWD will be Dr. Greg Lyne and Voices in Harmony. Both choruses and directors are gearing up for battle. It'll be a barn burner! We're proud you are representing us so well!

There have been some recent developments in directing positions: Gary Steinkamp has accepted the directorship of the Spirit of Phoenix Chorus, Ron Black, Sacramento Capitolaires, Gabe Caretto with the American River Chorus, Laura Pallas with San Fernando Valley, and Bruce Sellnow as the new director of the Central California Golden Valley Chorus. Congrats to each of these choruses and their new directors.

We had a great luncheon at the Fall convention.... Let's make that an annual event. We discussed many things, including the reemergence of the Chorus Directors Guild, Training and certification opportunities, and of course enjoyed the musings of Jay Giallombardo.

I currently have had a couple of requests to begin working toward a CDWI experience in the Sacramento area..... anyone willing to host???

How about the standing ovation program? It would be a great opportunity for evaluation of your show (including the musical product). Region 21 recently posted a request for one of their chapters in need. I forwarded the information as a blast to choruses in the area. If there are any others interested, the Coachella Valley area has an opening. You can contact me for more information.

What else can I help with? It is all in our hands!



Chair: Contest & Judging Ron Black

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Wow, it is really great to be "back home" in the FWD. My (almost 6 years) time in SWD was a great experience, I learned a lot, had a bunch of opportunities to influence barbershop in SWD, and made many new friends there. It was awesome to get back to teaching part-time at Texas State University for the last 2 of those years, and have an influence on 60 young music majors in the Men's Chorus.

So here we are, the Spring of 2010, and the convention and contest season is upon us.

Allow me a moment to reminisce on the "good old days". We had 5 Division Contest weekends, with 20 or so quartets and 10 or more choruses at each event. And we had a 6th weekend, the International Quartet Prelims and Small Chapter Choruses (and High School Quartets). Some 2200+ FWD members participated in those events.

But the times, we say, have changed. We stay at home more. The costs and time to attend a barbershop convention are a luxury, not a given.

But I say to you, fellow barbershoppers (I feel like I'm channeling Unka Lloyd Steinkamp at this moment). Your lives are made better by singing. By singing in a quartet or chorus. By getting your quartet or chorus to go to the Convention, enjoy the camaraderie, enjoy the contest and show, and get yourself "high" on singing. You become enriched, a better person as a result of that experience, and you contribute to others having the same result.

So grab four guys and GO to the convention. Or 20 guys in your chapter. Just GO. And compete for the halibut.

So (stepping off my soapbox), here's how to do it (enter your contest).

- 1. You must be an active member of the Society
- 2. You must be an active member of your FWD quartet or chorus
- 3. Your quartet or chorus must be registered at the ebiz.barbershop.org site to compete*
- 4. You must register for the convention

And you can go to the FWD Website Conventions page (http://www.fwdconventions.org/) to find out everything you need to know.

*The contest entry form (CJ-20) is filled in by you on the Society website. It is available for you to enter now. Go to here:

https://ebiz.barbershop.org/ebusiness/CJ20/ContestE ntryPreviousEntries.aspx

to enter your quartet in a Division Contest (contact me if you have any problems). JUST DO IT. Let's show the Society what the FWD is all about. We are the BHS LEADERS, right?



Chair: Convention Activities Keith Eckhardt 5449 Robert Road

Pollock Pines, CA 95726 530-644-4151 E: webmaster@spebsgsafwd.org



Chair: Events **John Jones**

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Along with President Bernard Priceman and others, I am assuming new responsibilities for the District this year. Change always provides an opportunity to introduce new approaches and new ideas while preserving what has worked well. As we move into these new roles we are especially open to the thoughts, suggestions and concerns of our fellow barbershoppers. So get in touch and let us know what you think. Bob Cathaway and I are working together to insure a smooth transistion and Bob will continue to collaborate with Ray Johnson and the San Luis Obispo Chapter to produce our Fall Convention in Bakersfield Oct 7-10.

As an early heads up, the Bakersfield Convention Bureau is implementing an on-line hotel registration process which eliminates a lot of manual administrative labor. Bob will be publishing a "how to." guide well in advance of the Convention. When you get a chance please join me in thanking Bob for all his contributions to the District as Events Chairman.

Our President has embraced the concept that our hobby should be fun and that all of us should keep that in mind as we move forward. "Join in the Fun" becomes a guiding principle. I will be looking for everyone involved in our events to seek to create an environment where all performers can focus on giving their best because "that's what the audience would really want!"......and that is just more fun!



Chair : Marketing & Public Relations Dan Jordan

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So, it's 2010 and we've all made some resolutions, right? Well here's a resolution for each member of the FWD. Bring in one new member this year. If you get just one...one other guy to come out and join in on all the fun, our district will double in size. Wouldn't that be incredible?! You bet it would. "Okay Dan, how do we do this?" is there any special item that could help me get that one new member to join me at the weekly chapter meeting? Well gentlemen, there's a very handy item kit that will not only help you get that one new member, but will also help those new members who've joined our ranks recently, and want to know more about the great Far Western District. What is it? It's a kit that contains a full-cover informational trifold brochure (which can be mailed as is or inside of a #10 envelope with 44 cents postage), and an enhanced CD which contains music, dvd footage, pictures, live web links, informational documents and even a membership application....all downloadable and printable too! Pretty cool, huh?!

Last year your wonderful FWD Board of Directors agreed to have this kit produced, so yours truly hopped on the project and by the time each of you attend the International Prelims in Reno on March 18-20, these kits will be available to you in either single copy or bulk quantities at a very nominal "per kit" cost. For more information about the kit and the costs, and to per-order some for your chapter (a great item to use with your ongoing membership efforts...hint, hint), just drop me an e-mail and we'll chat about getting some of these into your hands.

Don't forget these important upcoming events.

- 1) FWD International Prelims Reno, NV March 18-21
- 2) Divisional Contests (see the website for dates and locations www.spebsqsafwd.org)
- 3) Go For The Gold Show (check the AFWDC website for details www.afwdc.org)
- 4) International Convention Philadelphia, PA June 28-July 4
- 5) FWD Fall Convention & Contest Bakersfield, CA October 8-10

Let's Harmonize!



Chair: Member Services
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The numbers – as of the latest Society data available (November 2009):

FWD Membership 2771 – down 215 from end-of-year 2008. This decline tracks pretty closely with the decline in 2008 (230). I'd guess that when the end-of-year numbers become available, they'll reveal a slightly higher decline.

It's a little too early to tell what effect the CACM (Compelling Attractive Chapter Meetings) program will have on the slide – but judging from reports from other Diatricts, it's had a positive effect. I'll be closely monitoring the membership numbers of those

chapters who participated in FWD sessions and are embracing the concept.

If you haven't yet participated in or heard of CACM, I'd urge you to seek further information. Go to the FWD Website www.bhsfwd.org, or contact your Division Vice President for further info.

Looks like we recruited about 234 new members in 2009 – not bad! If we average it out, that's about 2.5 members per chapter. Problem is, if we're going to grow, we need to at least triple this number – or drastically reduce the number of non-renewals – or both.

I have plans to re-instate the Membership Workshops I introduced last year – concentrating on some of the "nuts and bolts", as well as interactively exploring what your chapter can do to grow. Stay tuned...

And – have a great year!

See 'ya around...



Chair: Music & Performance Nick Papageorge 1661 Brookdale Ave La Habra CA 90631 562-691-4072 E: n.papageorge@verizon.net

Good things are happening in the area of Music and Performance. Many chapters are taking advantage of the Coaching Reimbursement Program as well as the Standing Ovation Program. The Standing Ovation Program helps chapters take their show productions and performances to the next level of greatness. Our certified evaluators come to your show (and/or your dress rehearsal) and give valuable suggestions for everything form the flow of a script to the ease of parking the car and finding the lobby of your venue. Everything your audience experiences, our evaluators experience. Try it out by emailing me and I will find an evaluator in your area. You just need to provide a couple of tickets to your show and reimbursement for mileage. An SOP review will provide you with valuable suggestions for an outstanding chapter show.

Harmony College West 2009 unfortunately had to be cancelled. However, we went ahead with an all day Quartet Coaching Clinic for the quartets who registered for Harmony College West. 6 quartets in Northern California, and 3 quartets in Southern California were coached by 9 of our district's finest coaches. Each quartet came away from the day with new techniques in singing, musicality and performance.

This year's Harmony College West is scheduled for University of Redlands during the weekend of July 16-18, 2010. I encourage as many of your chapter members to attend as possible because, the classes and coaching at this event are invaluable to a chapter's musical health. Ask your chapter to give scholarships to section leaders, chapter members, or directors. Or talk to me about having your entire chapter attend. Your chapter could attend classes half of the time and be coached the other half. That's right, I would like to have up to 4 local chapters come en masse and get a very full educational experience.

Lastly, it is imperative to the health of our district that each chapter member remains involved in District-Sponsored Events. Contests/Conventions, Schools, and Leadership Academies (COTS) are all just part of what your chapter needs to keep growing musically. But in addition, your chapter members will enjoy their hobby much more. In order for the District to keep programs and events going, we must have participation. I think we all know that the greater the barbershoppers in one place, the more singing and fun is had. PLEASE SUPPORT your DIVISION CONVENTIONS/ CONTESTS, as well as our DIS-TRICT CONVENTIONS/CONTESTS.

As a beginning to this participation effort, President Bernard has given me a charge to head up a new idea for the format of our division contests. The Arizona Division will be putting on a Friday evening event that will encourage all chapter members to participate. The success of this event will hopefully be a new beginning for all chapters in our district.

Thank you for all of your support, kind words, and suggestions in my first 6 months as your Music and Performance VP.



Chair: Young Men In Harmony John Krizek

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An Anniversary Remembered

On March 20th in Reno we will be celebrating our 20th annual Far Western District High School Ouartet Contest.

We didn't know what to expect the first time out. Our colorful mentor and then District President Lloyd Steinkamp stirred the pot and challenged chapters to come up with high school quartets, and a half dozen did. After that first contest in San Diego, a small group of the high schoolers were sitting on the floor in Lloyd's hospitality suite, obviously transfixed by the parade of top-level quartets parading through.

Lloyd asked them, "Do you guys really LIKE this stuff?"

"Oh yes!" was their quick response. "It gives us instant success."

Ringing a barbershop chord is a timeless joy—no matter what the song, or what the generation. Two of those young men-brothers from Hawaii-went on to pursue musical careers at prestigious Boston academies. Their mother told Lloyd their experience with barbershop was a major factor in encouraging them toward their musical careers.

Two participants in another of those early high school quartet contests went on to found the Westminster chorus—our current "Chorus of the World." It was a bunch of those kids at one of their afterglows 14 years ago who came up with the idea for youth harmony camp. How many veterans of the high school competition have gone on to win medals and participate in chapters and pursue music education careers we don't know because we've lost track.

In recent years it's become harder for some of our chapters to sponsor high school quartets and get them to the District contest. But the quality of the competition keeps getting better—as does the appreciation from music educators for all we're doing to encourage young men to enjoy singing.

The High School Quartet Contest has become an institution in the FWD—run with expert smoothness by chairman Bruce Sellnow. It's an institution worthy of all the support we can provide, on its

20th anniversary.

STARDUST Done With Contests

As the new contest season is getting ready to get underway Stardust wanted to let you know that we will no longer be competing at division, district or international contests. We have enjoyed great success over the past years and we are very proud of our division championships, three district third and three district second place finishes in arguably the best district in the society.

We are still available to do your chapter show and will always endeavor to provide the same level of entertainment and musicianship that made us what we are today. This is not a good-bye but rather a change. We can not thank the district enough for all the support that we have received over the years. We are sure that you will see some of the faces from Stardust in competition quartets again in the future and the other Stardust members will be there to cheer them on.

No quartet can achieve the level of success they want without the support of their family. Stardust is blessed to have strong supporters on that front. Each of us recognizes that our families have had to sacrifice a great deal for the quartet. The words thank you fall far to short of sharing truly how thankful we all are.

We look forward to the future and supporting other quartets as they reach for the stars.

Stardust

Jim, Larry, Buzz, John



2009 FWD Quartet Champions The Edge

Hi everyone.

We'd like to take this opportunity to let you know what's been happening with The Edge.

Since we had the great fortune to win the Far Western District quartet contest, we've been working very hard. Believe it or not, we put together a Christmas package and performed for multiple engagements.. Highlighting the winter were two shows. The Pasadena Chapter's Christmas show and then the very next day the Verdugo Hills Sweet Adeline chapter's Christmas show. Both shows went off without a hitch and we had a wonderful time.

The Edge has embarked on a new project. We have begun the long and drawn out process of making a CD. Our first recording session was on January 17th with Nick Papageorge at the control board. We think we have two songs in the can, and after Prelims and International we look to finish the recording process. It is our hope to have copies for sale by District in October.

We have several shows coming up as well. On February 6th we will be clinicians for the Second Annual Central Coast Youth in Harmony Festival in Oak Park California. We always enjoy these venues and the kids without question put on a great show.

On February 27th we will be performing with the Masters of Harmony at the newly renovated Fox Theater in Riverside California. What an honor to perform on the same stage as the 7 time international champion chorus. The city of Riverside has spent millions of dollars to renovate this wonderful theater, and we look forward to being part of this concert series.

We have been invited to perform with the Palm Springs chapter on March 6th, and then it's off Reno for the great Far Western District International Prelims where we will debut at least 2 new songs, maybe more if they are ready. One of the new songs will be for the contest and one for the hospitality rooms. We think your going to like them.

So as you can see, we've been VERY busy. Our spring and fall calendar is filling up, so contact us soon so we can book your chapter show.

Thanks to all our fans for the kind words and notes posted to our website www.TheEdgeOuartet.com And our Facebook. Keep them coming.

See you in Reno!

Sam, Tom, Jason, and J. The Edge www.theedgequartet.com

> **FWD Spring Convention in Reno** March 18-21, 2010 **Quartets Will Compete to Qualify** for International in Philadelphia

NE Division Quartets and Choruses also compete in Reno to qualify for the **FWD Final Contest which will** take place at the Fall Convention in Bakersfield, October 7-10, 2010.

You will be there, won't you?

The Barbershop Quartet Preservation Association, The Pioneers

Is once again hosting it's annual spring convention in Phoenix on April 7-10, 2010. Convention details can be found at: http://www.bgpa.com/Events.html

Don't have a quartet? No problem. There will be quartet singers galore just waiting for your voice part.

Agenda: we don't have one – we just quartet sing and not a riser in sight.

Convention tours: see agenda

Contests: one – a tongue in cheek luck of the draw contest on Friday night. Any and all may enter.

Shows: one – a Saturday night Parade of Quartets. All quartets are welcome to sign up. Contact Paul Ludwig at: 4tetbari@gmail.com or 520-722-3163.

Still have questions? Contact Rex Touslee at rmtous@msn.com or 970-988-5652 or 623-583-5929

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

Our FWD membership supports YHC financially and that is why the camp has happened in recent years. Our youth are the ones who benefit in the short term, and our Society in the long.

FWD Spring Convention in Reno March 18-21, 2010 **Quartets Will Compete to Qualify** for International in Philadelphia



OFFICIAL DELEGATES CALL **Annual Spring Meeting FWD House of Delegates** Reno, Nevada March 19., 2010

To: District House of Delegates (Chapter Presidents or alternates, elected district officers, active past district presidents living in FWD and members of FWD chapters.).

When/where: 2 p.m. Friday, March 19, 2010, Harrah's, 219 N. Center Street, Reno, Nevada.

Eligibility: (Voting members): One delegate (or alternate) from each chapter, elected district officers, and past district presidents living in FWD and who are paid-up members of an FWD chapter in good standing.

Non-voting members: delegates from chapters on licensed status, or newly formed groups on the date of the meeting, chapter counselors, committee chairmen, visitors and Society officials...

Quorum: Thirty percent of the eligible House of Delegates members. (no proxies.)

Registration: Chapter delegates are required to bring with them the credentials card which accompanies the HOD report and to present this card to the DVP of their respective divisions upon arrival at the meeting.

Agenda Items: As set forth in the FWD Statement of Policy (Article III) agenda items may be submitted by any Delegate however, must be received by the district secretary no later than 45 days prior to the HOD meeting.

Agenda: As printed in the Delegate's Brochure sent to delegates 30 days before the meeting.

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

Visitors: Visitors are cordially invited to attend the House of Delegates meeting, but are requested to refrain from taking seats at the official tables

Show by your prompt attendance and attention that you are sincerely interested in the business and progress of the Far Western District.

Dick Girvin **FWD Secretary**

2009 FWD Chorus Champions Westminster

The Westminster Chorus is working hard and getting ready for what will prove to be an outstanding contest in Philadelphia this summer. We are honored and excited to be representing the Far Western District at the International Convention! Are we going to see YOU in Philadelphia?!

Along with the busy rehearsal schedule that this entails, the chorus is going into the studio to finish up recordings for our next album! We

have had two recordings, thus far, at Capitol Records! The first two sessions went amazingly well and we just can't wait to get back in there and make some more music! We have two more recording sessions scheduled and hope to have this album out by Mid-June; just in time for International. Keep your eyes and ears open for more word as we get closer to the **International Convention!**

Westminster will be hosting the SoCal East Division Contest in Alta Loma, CA. The event will be held on May 15th, 2010, at Alta Loma High School. We encourage all registered choruses and quartets to get on stage and participate! Look for the SoCal East Division Contest Entry Form and sign up as soon as possible. We'd love to have you all come out to compete! If you're not in the SoCal East Division and live nearby, come on by to enjoy a great day of barbershop!

One last exciting message, Westminster will be hosting our Annual Spring Show on April 17, 2010 in Whittier, CA. The venue is the wonderful Vic Lopez Auditorium at Whittier High School. The chorus will perform a full show set and will be sharing the stage with your 1996 International Quartet Champs, Nightlife, and your 2001 International Quartet Champs, Michigan Jake! Both of these quartets are coming out of retirement for THIS SHOW ONLY. Also making an appearance will be the Top 20 Semi-Finalists, The Crush, and the 2009 International



Collegiate Quartet Champs, The Vagrants! show is packed full of exciting quartets and will prove to be a fantastic barbershop experience. A page on the Westminster Chorus website is being prepared and will be ready in the next week or two. You will be able to find the venue address, ticket pricing, and be able to purchase your tickets through our website. We certainly hope to see you there!

FWD Harmony College

This year's Harmony College West is scheduled for University of Redlands during the weekend of July 16-18, 2010.

Classes will be taught for individuals, Quartets will be coached, and coaching is being offered for Chapters.

Look to the FWD Website

http://www.spebsqsafwd.org/ for schedule, registration materials, maps, and other vital information.

A long time ago, Bob Johnson said "Come get hotdipped in Barbershop." Of course that was in reference to Harmony College. BUT, the same can be said for our own FWD Harmony College. Try it, you'll like it.

Chicago Keynoter Asks Return To An **Uncomplicated Society**

1959 Harmonizer Article

Six years ago, four fine young men from Rock The Vikings, Island. Became our International Champion at Detroit. (How many of you remember the hail on the roof of the auditorium and ho "When You're Smiling" suddenly became inaudible?) And the Grand Rapids Chorus won the International Convention Chorus Contest. That was 1953 and our membership was 24,654.



Six years ago the Society was considerably different . . our Headquarters was in a hot, cramped storeroom in Detroit, not the beautiful, efficient office building inn Kenosha which so many of you have seen this past week.

Six years ago we had no House of Delegates. Our Society was run by a group of dedicated, selfless men call the "Board" which dispatched the business of the Society in beautiful simplicity of operation with the Executive Committee.

Six years ago, if you'll pardon a personal note, I had more hair, was somewhat more agile, not a whit less handsome and considered myself the finest bass in the Society, which I also do, today. I had the honor then of being a Board member and the dubious distinction of presenting some legislation to the Society which, in my opinion, has definitely changed the face of the Society.

Today what kind of a Society do we have? It's a better Society without question in many respects. We have better quartets, better choruses, better arrangements, better headquarters, better attendance at our International contests and conventions, better public relations and better acceptance of our wonderful style of singing by the people of North America, better ethics, better dedication to the principles of Barbershoppping by our members, better this and better that. Better everything but membership, organization, and devotion to our basic ideal.

Why, in the face of a growing America haven't we kept abreast? Why, in the face of our best thinking and our best efforts, haven't we grown? Why have countless thousands of words, letters, sessions, surveys, meetings – all designed to solve this enigma – been fruitless? Why is it, today, that our membership is only 22,386 in comparison with 24,654 in 1953?

Are we resigned to be a group of characters, thwarted hams, graduated glee-clubbers and otherwise lovable extroverts banded into a small solid circle into whose perimeter other's drift, flit about momentarily, sing a few songs and then drift away?

Or are you, like I, convinced that Barbershopping is a way of life, an avocation (Which is far more than just a hobby) which can literally change a man's character and his outlook on life? Those are pretty strong words but I can remember when the members of my quartet were bums – all but me, that is. Look at them today - still bums - but graduated into a sort of fringe of semi-acceptance. Seriously, there is no member - or there should be no member - of this Society who cannot thank the Society for the gift of harmony, the gift of the thrill in locking a chord, the gift of bringing happiness to others through singing, the gift of laughter – even that deep belly laughter when Tom O'Malley of the Pittsburghers slaps little Dutch Miller around the gift of transcendental thrill in hearing those beautiful melodies - and singing them too - in songs like "Love Me and the World is Mine" and "Cabin on a Hilltop" and "All Dressed Up With a Broken Heart".

I, for one, will fight to retain all of this for myself and my two boys who have learned to love Barbershopping as I do.

This is what the prospective members see and appreciate when they come to their first Barbershop meeting – the Barbershop Chord – the fun – and the fellowship. But, let's look behind the curtain back of the scenery, and see if there is another picture. Let's look at membership. In my own chapter, we were lucky last year. Taking the opportunity given us by our superb International staff, we used the "Re-Member" plan for renewing members in 1959. I understand that less than 100 of our more than 600 chapters took advantage of this plan. Why? In Buckeye Chapter, we, today, have 89 members. However, and this is important, 8 members of 1958 failed to renew. We have added new members easily but those 8 members would put us close to the century mark. We failed to hold the interest of those men in the most impelling organization in the world, today. Perhaps they were maladjusted and perhaps they shouldn't have joined in the first place. Official membership records disclose that if each member had always renewed his membership, our Society would today be over 50,000 strong – which is in pace with our country's growth - and which the leaders of our Society believe is perfectly feasible.

Where is the fault and why? Did the establishment of the present House of Delegates plan scatter the interests of the members in too many directions? After all, aren't we primarily interested in our chapter and in the International Society? In the beginning, it was chapters who banded together to form the International Society and it was during that period we experienced our greatest growth. Is it possible that the strength of our Society has been weakened through the diffusion of responsibilities?

It has been conclusively proved that the type of road we are following will lead to the eventual breakup of the Society unless we recognize the signs and take steps in the right direction. John E. Tsouderos, professor of social Sciences of the Georgia Institute of Technology and a foremost authority in his analytical study of Voluntary Associations determined that such groups are born from appealing ideas; they prosper at first, with little formal organization; they then realize the need for some regulation; they adopt simple controls and continue to expand, always with the basic appealing idea as the dominant factor. At this point, Mr. Tsouderos states there are two roads to follow, one simple and one complex. On the simple road, the appealing ideas always the primary interest an attraction; the other road leads gradually into a maze of conflicting interests created by the institution of a complicated an overlapping organizational structure.

Let's look at our organization. From the simple and effective system of a singe Executive Committee and Board, with an efficient and hardworking headquarters staff, we have drifted into 15 societies, in effect, each trying to out-do the other; each trying to prove the reason for its existence; and each, in itself being exposed to the never-ending trend of sub-grouping.

It won't work, gentlemen. Can you project the Society ahead another six years? Say, to 1965. Let's see – I'll then be 39 years old, Jim Knipe 86, Staff Taylor 102. The Society will be 27 years old. The face of the nation, our towns, our transportation will be changed. Can you, in your imagination, project yourself into that year and say what the Society will be? Based upon the present picture and those of the last 6 years, our Society, will still be about 25,000 members – the same as today – but with twice as many divisions, each with its own officer, committees, boards, groups within groups, resulting in an entangling web of everything but singing. Everybody will be busy running everybody else. The whole Barbershop tribe will be composed of chief and no Indians. Is this what we want? I hardly think so. But facts are facts and are inescapable. We can't be ostriches and hide our heads in the sand and say "All's well because, basically, you can't destroy the Barbershop chord". Gentlemen, it can be destroyed.

Like the man who bought a new suit and was questioned by his tailor, "How do you like you new suit?" To which our boy replied, "Well there are three things wrong". The tailor replied, "Well, that shouldn't be difficult to fix. What are they"? To which came the answer, "The coat, vest and pants". It's not quite as bad with our Society – but there are still three things wrong. (1) Organization, (2) membership, (3) lack of devotion to O.C. Cash's original appealing idea – and each fundamentally related to the other.

Deac Martin's wonderful "10 Year History of the Society", from 1938 to 1948, should be a best-seller in our Society. Each new member should be required to read it. It is double engrossing for between its factual and historical lines the new man will learn the real reason for our Society's tremendous growth dur-

ing those formative years. He will learn that a basic need for bringing beauty into drab lives existed in those days as badly as it exists today. I use the word "beauty" in its broadest sense, because everything as fine and wonderful as our Society, is surely beautiful and I believe you will all admit that our lives would be drab indeed without this Society (Can you imaging no quartets, no choruses, no contest, no thrilling chord, no afterglows, no shows, no nothing? The very thought is horrible!) We had a magnetic, colorful leader in our Permanent Third Assistant Temporary Vice Chairman, the world's greatest baritone, our beloved O. C. Cash.

I've spoken of what our Society is today – top heavy with organization from the chapter, up through the area, the district and into the International level. Our band of Indians is decreasing and our Chiefs are increasing.

I recently attended my district's convention held in conjunction with the Regional Preliminaries. I was in the convention city 42 hours, including two nights I actually slept 10 hours of that time. The contest judging took 9 hours, the following clinic 3 hours, the district meeting 5 hours – 5 hours mind you. Add that all up and it comes to so much that I remember woodshedding only 2 songs! I ached to sing more - to allow my rich and resonant bass to highlight three other voices. I wanted to get back to singing, to the reason for my joining the Society. This personal example is paralleled by hundreds and hundreds of our members all over the country. I have spoken of what our Society could be in the future - a Society of 50,000 or more members, engrossed in singing for others and for themselves a Society with finer shows, greater contests, with better quartets and choruses. A Society in which our children will want to follow in our footsteps, maintain our traditions and do the job better than we did. A Society demonstrating that harmony among people can extend the world over. Am I asking too much?

Gentlemen, the decision is up to you. Which will it be? The return to a simple, streamlined, uncomplicated system of running our Society, devoted to the basic idea of our founder, or the continued expansion of a cumbersome, costly system of multiple groups in which the details for operating the organization over-shadow all else – the "all else" being the singing, the fun and the fellowship that our founder had in mind.

So little has changed. And why?" This article was published exactly 50 years ago, and yet it still looms brightly as a reminder that we all need to be involved and proactive on the membership front and in promoting this great organization. We're all in this together. Have any questions or need some ideas? Contact me: I'm here for each and every one of you.

Fraternally yours,
Dan Jordan
Marketing & Public Relations Chairman
T: 818-244-4361 - ext. 3
E: DJordanFWDPR@aol.com

So What Is The House of Delegates Anyway?

Steve Sammonds, DVP, Northwest Division

When I joined the Barbershop Harmony Society 22 years ago, I had no idea how the organization ran beyond the fact that there was a chapter board of directors. Over time I slowly gained a better understanding by reading Society and district magazines, observing, and asking questions. But in talking to people around the district, many members do not know how things are run or decided. Yes, we joined this wonderful organization to sing, but we also pay dues to the Society and the district, a fact which should make us at least a little interested about how our money is used and how decisions are made. This article seeks to demystify at least one part of our Society's hierarchy: the district House of Delegates (HOD).

Simply put, the HOD is the governing body of the Far Western District Association of Chapters (FWD). The district Statement of Policy (SOP) requires that the HOD act on the following matters:

- a. Election of district officers.
- b. Revision of dues.
- c. Awarding of District convention bids.
- d. Amendments to the FWD Statement of Policy.
- e. Agenda items submitted by chapters, delegates or district Board of Directors (BOD).
- f. Approval of the District budget.
- g. Any other matters acted upon by the BOD when deemed proper or necessary by the District President.

So who comprises the House of Delegates? Every chartered chapter may send one delegate to attend the HOD, which meets at every district convention. Chapter presidents are the customary delegate, but they may send a designee in their place. The rest of the HOD is comprised of the ten District Board Members and all Past District Presidents who maintain their Society membership. The current number of delegates is 108 (82 chapters + 10 BOD + 16 Past Presidents) with 30% comprising a quorum (currently 33 delegates).

There is a cynical feeling among some of our members that the HOD is merely a rubber stamp for decisions already made by the BOD. Whether that is fact or fiction depends entirely on the delegates who attend. They have the vote. They also have the responsibility to read the materials that are sent to them prior to the meeting and to be familiar with all the matters to be voted upon. Quite frankly, we have witnessed some delegates arrive ill-prepared to cast a knowledgeable vote. In recent years, the district presidents and other board members have encouraged more discussion at the HOD to ensure that delegates are not blindly approving motions. In the end, the delegates of the HOD are the determining factor in how votes are decided.

If your chapter is not sending a delegate to the HOD meeting, then you have no direct representation. The district SOP states that "Representation of each chapter in the FWD is expected at the bi-annual House of Delegates meetings." However, many chapters NEVER send a delegate to the HOD, and we frequently have fewer than half of our chapters attending. Fortunately, the quorum is low enough to be met given the number of district board members and past presidents, but the district would be better served by having more chapters actively participate in district governance through their delegate.

A lot of valuable information is dispensed to the chapters via the House of Delegates meeting. Information flows in two directions at the HOD. In addition to the delegates having a vote and a voice in district governance, they receive news directly from a Society representative, a report on the previous day's board meeting, and other presentations dictated by the agenda. Additionally, the HOD brochure includes written reports from every board member and district chairman.

To see all that happens at the HOD meetings, visit Westags on the district web site to view all district board and House of Delegates meetings dating back to 2001. Here are a few key motions voted upon this past decade:

[Cont'd on page 17]

[From page 16]

- Approved increasing district dues and fees for both division and district conventions
- Approved a new chorus plateau system
- Failed by a vote of 25-29 to approve changing the quartet contest qualifying procedures
- Passed multiple resolutions asking the Society board to restore the previous Society logo
- Approved and later reversed changing to a single riser set for chorus contests

Ideally, a chapter delegate communicates with his chapter members before and after each HOD meeting. Prior to the meeting, the delegate reviews the materials in the brochure, paying particular attention to matters coming up for a vote. He then presents that information to the chapter during one of their weekly meetings and determines the sense of the chapter before attending the HOD. Following the convention, he communicates back to the chapter the results of any key votes and reports other key information from the meeting. Depending on the nature of the information, he may impart it to the full membership, the chapter board, or key officers.

The House of Delegates is an important part of district governance. Ask your chapter president whether he plans to attend or send a delegate to the next convention. You might even consider volunteering yourself. It's your district, gentleman. Make sure you have a voice in the House of Delegates.

> **FWD Spring Convention in Reno** March 18-21, 2010 **Quartets Will Compete to Qualify** for International in Philadelphia

HOD meeting is Friday, March 19, 2PM. Chapter Officer or not, you can attend to witness how the HOD functions. If you approve [or disapprove], contact your DVP to let him know. "IT'S YOUR DISTRICT"

> REMEMBER THE FWD YOUTH EDUCATION FUND

Far Western District Spring and **Northeast Division Convention** March 18-21, 2010

Expected schedule. Approved schedule will be in place in early March on the FWD Website.

Thursday (March 18)

2:00 p.m. FWD Board Meeting

7:30 p.m. Registration Opens

7:30 p.m. Jump Start Barbershop

Friday (March 19)

8:30 a.m. FWD Board Meeting

9:00 a.m. Registration Opens

9:00 a.m. Barbershop Shop Opens

9:00 a.m. AHSOW (all day)

11:30 a.m. Harmony for Lunch Bunch

1:00 p.m. Classes

2:00 p.m. House of Delegates

2:00 p.m. Classes

3:00 p.m. Classes

4:00 p.m. Leadership Meeting

6:00 p.m. Doors Open Pioneer Center Auditorium

6:45 p.m. Quartet Prelims Semifinals Pioneer Center

10:30 p.m. Evaluations (Quartets not Advancing)

Saturday (March 20)

9:00 a.m. Registration Opens

9:00 a.m. Barbershop Shop Opens

9:00 a.m. AHSOW (all day)

10:00 a.m. Doors Open Pioneer Center Auditorium

10:45 a.m. NE Chorus Contest Pioneer Center

12:00 p.m. Chorus Evaluations

2:00 p.m. HSQC Pioneer Center Auditorium

6:00 p.m. Barbershop Shop Closes

6:00 p.m. Doors Open Pioneer Center Auditorium

6:45 p.m. Quartet Prelims Finals Pioneer Center

9:00 p.m. Show of Champions & Awards

10:30 p.m. Hospitality Rooms

10:30 p.m. High School Afterglow

Sunday (March 21)

8:30 a.m. Evaluations (Finalist Quartets)

9:00 a.m. Barbershop Shop Open (Closes at Noon)

9:00 a.m. Youth Outreach Meeting



December 16, 2009

Group Sales Department

CONVENTION FARE DISCOUNT

INFORMATION FOR PASSENGER

You may present this information to the Amtrak Ticket Agent or your Travel Agent to assist them in providing you with this discount

Fare Code Number: X11B-980 Valid For Travel: March 8, 2010 – March 24, 2010

> Amtrak Agents please refer to: (G/TAR/TA9/P80) -Arrow ~F12, Option 2, TAR, TA9, Page 80- Rail Res

Barber Shop Harmony Society

Amtrak offers a 10% discount off the lowest available rail fare to Reno, NV between the above dates. Includes travel up to three days prior to the convention start date and three days following the last day of the meeting. To book your reservation call Amtrak at 1 (800) 872-7245 or contact your local travel agent. Please refer to Convention Fare Code X11B-980 when making your reservation a 10% discount has been approved. Conventions cannot be booked via Internet. This offer is not valid on the Auto Train and Acela service. Offer valid with Sleepers, Business Class or First Class seats with payment of the full applicable accommodation charges. Fare is valid on Amtrak Regional all departures seven days a week, except for holiday blackouts.

If you have any questions or need any further assistance, please feel free to contact us at 1-800-USA-1GRP (1-800-872-1477) Monday through Friday, 6:00am-4:30pm Pacific Time.

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT SPRING CONVENTION PIONEER CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS RENO, NEVADA MARCH 18 THRU 21, 2010

You can take a car. You can take a bus. You can take a plane. Or better yet, you can take a train! We have made arrangements with Amtrack for your chorus or any group of twenty or more coming to Reno to receive a ten percent discount on travel to Reno for the Spring Convention/Contest. No muss. No fuss. No stress and worry about the weather. Sit back and relax or better yet work on your contest songs or just sing some good old four-part harmony. Save your energy to participate in all the fun things there is to do in Reno, the Sierra's, Lake Tahoe and the surrounding countryside. (See page 18.)



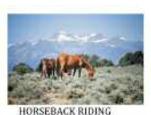














Not to mention the wonderful shows, dining and of course gaming that we have to offer. Please join us this March in the Biggest Little City. We look forward to hosting you.

THE RENO SILVER DOLLAR CHORUS



FAR WESTERN DISTRICT **QUARTET AND CHORUS CONTEST AND CONVENTION**

MARCH 18-21, 2010 - Pioneer Center for Performing Arts

Contests and Shows

International Quartet Prelims NE Division Chorus & Quartet Contest High School Quartet Contest Show of Champions

Keno Silver Dollar Chorus

HOSTED BY THE

Meetings and Ev

District Board Mee House of Delegates Mee AH-S Youth After Cla Mic Tester Ch Harmony For Lunch Bu

		ION PRICES	
		MUST BUY AN ALL EVE	ENTS
REGISTRATI	ION.		
ALL EVENTS EARLY	BIRD	ALL EVENTS LATE/	ONSITE
Postmarked by Februa	ry 17	Postmarked after Febi	ruary 17
ALL EVENTS:		ALL EVENTS:	
Adult	\$40.00	Adult	\$50.00
Young Adult (13-25)	\$20.00	Young Adult (13-25)	\$25.00
Child 12 and under:	Free	Child 12 and under	Free
Single Event	t registro	itions available onsite	•

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL Harrah's Reno

219 N. Center Street Reno, NV 89501 (800) 427-7247

Contact the hotel directly and use Code: S 10 SIN

ROOM RATES for Single/Double: March 14 through 18 - \$49 March 19 and 20 - \$89 March 21 through 25 - \$49

2010 FAR WESTERN DISTRICT SPRING CONTEST AND CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM	Chorus Name:Quartet Name:
Name(s)	
	☐ District Officer ☐ Past District President ☐ Delegate HOD ☐ AFWDC Member ☐ Other
Address	
City State Zip	
Phone Res. ()	
Phone Bus. ()	
E-mail address	

Mail one form for your party (up to 8 names),

ind a check covering all registrations to:

Questions? Email: d-s.whitten@sbcglobal.net

Dick Whitten, Registration Chairman	Check here if you have a disability that may
7022 Cinnamon Drive,	require accommodation in order for you to fully
Sparks, NV 89436	participate in the convention.

Make check payable to: Reno Silver Dollar Chorus, 2010 SPRING CONVENTION

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____ (fees are non-refundable)

Youth Harmony Camp September 24-26, 2010

Richard Lund, Director

OK guys, last year was Realtime. This year it's OC Times!! The willingness of these consistently high level headliner quartets to spend a weekend at Youth Harmony Camp is absolutely energizing and invigorating for the youth (to say nothing of the excitement of the volunteer staff). I can't recall being as excited as I am right now, except perhaps last year at this time looking forward to Realtime. In addition to OC Times, we welcome Ron Black as our Dean of Music this year. Gary Bolles has retired (to Australia - tough); however I expect he might still show up at times. I don't anticipate missing a beat under Ron's leadership at Harmony Camp 2010 and look forward to the enthusiasm he brings. I have to be one of the most envied guys in the Far Western District to be working with such incredible music personnel, quartets, barbershop volunteers, and most of all the youth of the Far Western District.

That said, it's time to get down to the business of actually making this all happen. Fortunately, you all know the drill. It takes money, a lot of money to make it all happen. Let's go through it once again quickly: it takes \$12,000 - \$14,000 to put on Camp each year. Of that, the boys (and often you as sponsoring chapters for each boy) provide about a third with the \$75 fee (an increase of \$5 per boy in 2010). The second third comes from your chapter as a direct contribution to Youth Harmony Camp. About 10 to 12 chapters in Northern California and Nevada make contributions and I would love to increase this number to 20 in 2010; so that's about \$300 to \$400 per chapter. The Barbershop Harmony Foundation now contributes the final third based in an amount for each attendee. As an aside, did you know that when you make your donation to the Barbershop Harmony Foundation you can designate a percentage of the amount be returned to the Far Western District Harmony Camp Fund. If you want additional information on this option please contact me. A final comment on the finances - individual Barbershoppers may also make a donation to be used as a scholarship for boys attending camp. In 2009 11 boys attended camp on scholarships as a result of your generosity. And lastly, all funds contributed to the Far Western District Youth Harmony Camp are used only for Youth Harmony Camp. We carry over any excess funds from year to year. My ultimate goal is to develop an endowment for the Far Western District Youth Harmony Camp – but more on that later.

I know, I know, that financial stuff is all boring and complicated. However, it is the life blood of Youth Harmony Camp and it's really best if all of you know exactly what kind of dollars it takes and where they come from. In reality, each of you bestowed upon Youth Harmony Camp the profound honor of dedicating the Fall Convention to its director; but as I have said all along, it is You, the Far Western District Barbershopper who is such an integral a part of ensuring that Youth Harmony Camp

in the Far Western District continues to be a viable option for the youth of our District!

On another note, in addition to your financial support for Youth Harmony Camp, we rely on you to get the word out to the boys in your community through the schools, church activities, etc. We send information to music educators throughout Northern California and Nevada regarding Harmony Camp. However, your personal touch and follow-up is what really gets the boys there. Any activities in your community where you can promote Camp are incredibly helpful. As an illustration, in January 2009, the quartet EPIC, Paul Engel and I were invited to give a presentation to the CMEA conference in San Jose upon the recommendation of Curtis Mannah, a barbershopper and school choral director from Stockton. As a result of this presentation we had four young men and their music teacher from Lynbrook High School in San Jose attend Harmony Camp 2009. We received the following note after camp: "My boys had a wonderful experience at camp and I do hope to recruit more guys for next year. We are going to meet at the noon hour to practice barbershop. Thank you so much for giving us this opportunity."

I don't know about you, but I continue to read articles that point to the importance of the arts in the education of our youth today. Through our programs in the schools, our Harmony Festivals, and Youth Harmony Camp we are providing a much needed activity and educational resource for youth in an economy that is increasingly driven by creativity! And how often can each of us cite an experience when our barbershop activities made the difference in a young man's life? I am inspired by articles and information on the aspects of arts education in our schools and communities that I often read in a newsletter published by the Dana Corporation http://dana.org/news/artseducationinthenews. Let me be honest here, my wife is the one who most often reads these articles and guides me to them (bet you already had that one figured out). Patsy's contribution in time and effort to Harmony Camp is incalculably (look it up) important! Thank you Patsy!

So I'll be sending out my usual email soliciting your chapter's dollars in whatever amount your chapter feels is appropriate for you. And I am really excited about this upcoming Camp. So lets' get out there and Make It Happen!

Contributions by chapters or individuals can be made with a check made out to: FWD Youth Harmony Camp and sent to Richard Lund, 6164 Windlestraw Road, Placerville, CA 95667.

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

Editor note: As Richard says, our FWD membership supports YHC financially and that is why the camp has happened in recent years. Our youth are the ones who benefit in the short term, and our Society in the long.

2010 Arizona Division Quartet and Chorus Contest

April 24, 2010 Hosted by the Tucson Sunshine Chapter

Contest Location Moon Valley High School 3625 West Cactus Road Phoenix, AZ 85029

Quartet Contest 12:00 Noon Chorus Contest 7:00 PM



Headquarters Hotel

Ramada Plaza 12027 N 28th Drive Phoenix, AZ 85029 Tel: 602-548-6000 866-610-6220 toll free \$45 Standard Room Rate \$55 Upgraded Room

	Registration Prices	
All Events Early Bird	All Events Late /On-Site	Single Event Tickets
Adult \$30.00	Adult \$40.00	Quartet Contest \$20.00
Student \$15.00	Student \$20.00	Chorus Contest \$20.00
Postmarked by Mar 27, 2010	Postmarked after Mar 27 2010	

Registrant Information Name ___ City____ _ State___ Zip____ Phone____ Email_ Address_ Quartet Name_ Judge/Contest Adm Quartet Competitor Chorus Competitor Non-Competing Member **Amount Due** District Officer Spouse/Guest Child/Student Name Chapter

Multiple Registrations may be listed on this form. Payment must be for ALL registrations on this form. (Cash/Checks Only) [] Check here if you have a disability that may require accommodation in order for you to fully participate in the convention

Total \$ Enclosed Make Checks Payable to the **Tucson Sunshine Chapter**

Mail Registrations and Check to: Jere Hill, Registrar 5080 N Stonehouse Place Tucson, AZ 85750 Tel: 520-749-2979 Email:

All Badges will be available at Moon Valley High School, Saturday, 9:00 AM, April 24, 2010

!!!!!Please note the new date and new venue!!!!! 2010 NORTHWESTERN DIVISION CONTEST AND CONVENTION

A Far Western District Quartet and Chorus Qualification Event

Share the Hobby!

A Celebration of the Barbershop Harmony Community May 22, 2010

Woodside High School, 199 Churchill Avenue, Woodside, CA 94062 (One mile East of Rt I-280 via the Woodside Road/Rt 84 exit) Hosted by



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Spring 2010 • WESTUNES 23



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

14006 Westdale Drive Bakersfield CA 93314 Phone: 661-589-4983 E: brosica@sbcglobal.net

What are you going to do for your hobby in 2010? Volunteer to help out your chapter? Sing in a pick-up quartet? Attend the Divisional and the two District Conventions? Go to another Chapter's show? Bring in a new member? These are all activities that can make your barbershop experience more rewarding. Remember, your Chapter meetings and rehearsals are only a small part of your barbershop life.

A famous comedian once said, "Life is like a sewer: What you get out of it depends on what you put into it." Now that might not be the best line he ever used, but it seems to fit a lot of things. First of all, I'd like to see at least one representative from each chapter at the spring and fall conventions and participate at the House of Delegates. Conventions are the best place to meet new barbershoppers and rekindle those old friendships. As I get older, those times become more important.

Now, how about helping out your chapter. I'm sure there are plenty of things to do. Step in and ask those officers you just installed if there is something you can do. Start small and work your way into a position of authority. Take roll, help with refreshments, or help a new guy at break with his choreography, to name a few.

If you look at the back of a Westunes, you'll notice that all chapter shows are listed. Find one close to you and make an evening out of it. You never know. You might see something your chapter can use. It's also a good place to find some of those friends you haven't seen in a while.

Recruitment has always been a job that involves everyone. As you probably know, most men become members because of a barbershopper has invited them to a Chapter meeting. Volunteer to pick up that new recruit and bring him home after rehearsal. President Bernard will be handing out pins that are great ways to start conversations about our hobby. Without new members, we will find that this hobby we love so much will begin to dwindle down more than it already has. There have been plenty of recruitment programs initiated by the Society, but number one is the "Singer-Bringer".

Finally, enjoy your hobby to it's fullest using whatever method you choose. For me, it is going to be a very busy and exciting time. If you see me at any of the functions I mentioned, come up and say hello. Let's sing a tag or two.

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



Division 1 SW Chapters Ken Day, Editor

1019 S La Grange Ave Newbury Park CA 91320-5313 Phone: 805-498-4218 kday98296@roadrunner.com

ALOHA JACK HASHIMOTO

The Sounds of Aloha had a gig at the Royal Hawiian Shopping Center, also with our newly formed Select Mini-chorus.

Elections were held for the new Board of Directors with the following results: President Rod Schultz, Secretary Dan Tom, Treasurer Glenn Crowder, VP Marketing and Performance Rick Klemm, VP Chapter Development Bill Joor, VP Public Relations Phil Chang, VP Program Ed Reid, Directors Larry Paterson, Peter Matsumoto, Kawika Mitchell, Ernie Hong, and Jack Hashimoto, IPP Zig Palagyi.

We performed our 45 minute Christmas gig at the Kahala Retirement Home to perfection, and the residents loved it. We repeated several more times during the Christmas season at the Hale Loa Hotel, Maile Skycourt Hotel, One Kalakaua Senior Residences, the Ala Moana Hotel and the St. Louis (School) Alumni Association Clubhouse.

BOTMs were Ken Nelson for October, Ken Foreman for November, and Ernie Hong for December. New members are Al Harkness, John Keaulana and Richard Takashima.

CONEJO VALLEY **NEIL PENNYWITT**

The annual Ice Cream Social show in October was our most successful with over 225 attending. The chorus and our two society-registered quartets, Sound Check (Scott Spindell, Larry Nixon, Brian Dowd, Bryan Stokes) and The Harmony Connection (Gary Wetzel, Neil Pennywitt, Herb Jacobowitz, and **Bob Homkes**) performed.

One focus of the Chorus is to get more of our members involved in quarteting on a regular basis. We're sounding better than ever, having loads of fun and we're attracting new members.

President Bryan Stokes is joined by Music VP Mark Gomburg, Public Relations VP Neil Pennywitt, Secretary Charlie Barrett, Treasurer Gary Wetzel, IPP Bob Homkes, and Members at Large Rick Abbott and Al Schettini. BOTY is Bob Homkes and Rookie of the Year is Mark Gomberg.

Our annual High School Benefit Show starring Dick Van Dyke, scheduled this year for May 9th at the Kavli Theater in the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza. To date we've raised and distributed over \$115,000 to local high school choral programs.

PASADENA ROB SCHAUMANN

Pasadena is popping! Under the leadership of newly elected President Bill Cauley, the Pasadena chapter is hitting the ground running. Our 2010 board: Secretary Jose Ochoa, Treasurer Dick Winger, Music VP Steve Peacock, Operations VP Leonard Jensen, Show VP Ken Van Oort, Membership VP Pierre Debbaudt, and Marketing VP Rob Schaumann. Board members at large are Barclay Tucker, Harvey Bryan, and Larry Oberlander. Several chapter members attended the "Compelling Attractive Chapter Meetings – CACM" workshop.

Music director John Minsker, is continually working on the quality of our singing, with tone, placement, interpretation as tools of his trade. Each week, word by word, and phrase by phrase, he guides us through a symphony of harmony; all done with commitment, passion and a sense of humor, that keeps us coming back for more.

RINCON BEACH KEN DAY

President Bernie Sentianin arranged a chorus performace for a Christmas party at the Camarillo Springs homeowners association. Membership VP Barry Liker arranged a chorus performance at Sanmarkand, an upscale retirement village in Santa Barbara. Longtime barbershopper and a founding member of the Rincon Chapter Brent Anderson arranged contacts to sing at Casa Dorinda, another upscale retirement village, and at the beautiful Paseo Nuevo Mall. We finished the evening at Harry's Bar and Grill with more singing.

FWD IPP Bob Lally installed the Board Of Directors at a potluck party at the home of **Bobbette Gantz**, our great director.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY **BOB KARLIN**

The Valleyaires topped off our 50th anniversary year by participating in the 50th annual LA County Holiday Celebration on Christmas Eve, which was broadcast live locally on KCET and globally online. More information, including our artist bio, can be found at http://www.lacountyarts.org/holiday.html.

We were honored to have FWD IPP **Bob Lally** as our installing officer for our recent installation banquet. Congratulations to all of our award winners: Duncan Gilman, Ed Schackman, Bill Horst, and our BOTY Tim Singer.

SAN LUIS OBISPO **RUDY XAVIER**

The Gold Coast Chorus, without a front-line director, is fortunate to have two Assistant Directors, John Staley and Don Poole, both of whom have put in yeoman's work to keep the chorus on track.

Chapter Secretary George Shepard and IPP Pete Bennett, VP PR Rudy Xavier, and Chuck Mills attended Leadership Academy and CACM Workshop in Stockton. On returning from Chuck Green's inspiring course, we implemented many of his methods into our chapter meetings, including the efficient 45-minute songlearning process, circle-singing, and special coaching.

FWD IPP Bob Lally installed the Board Of Directors at our Annual Awards Dinner. Dane Howalt kept the chorus primed with learning tracks for our show songs through his website. In addition to leading Lead Section Rehearsals, he took on the task of directing the whole chorus on occasions when both Assistant Directors were absent. In recognition for his many efforts, Dane received both the coveted Director's Award and BOTY. Gil **Brown Jr.** was given a Lifetime Achievement Award. We can't begin to thank him – as a founding member - for over 30 years of service as Chapter 'Secretary for Life'.

We host the District Convention in October with an able manager, Ray Johnson and co-chair Jerry Levine. We look forward to seeing you all in Bakersfield.

SANTA BARBARA MICHAEL FRAZER

The Channel City Chorus welcomed back individuals who sing with us each Christmas season. They love to sing for the season w/o commitment for the entire year. We had numerous events including singing for the merchants and shoppers in Downtown Organization on State Street in Santa Barbara over the course of three Sundays in December, and singing at three different locations for the seniors of Santa Barbara. Our three chapter quartets had several chances to perform, both within the chapter performance events, and on their own.

The Chapters Installation Banquet and Awards Dinner was especially memorable, as we honored our oldest member, Ed Morin as he crossed the threshold of 90, with a special award entitled "Old Dawg Emeritus". Ed has done so much in so many positions in the leadership over his 28 years of membership. Our "Old Dawg" is presented to each President upon their retirement from the position. We thank Ed for his ongoing service. Longtime Barbershopper Brent Anderson, who is also an "Old Dawg", presented the award and acted as the Emcee for the evening. Performing the installation of officers was our new FWD President, Bernard Priceman, accompanied by his lovely Wife, Ruth. We were also pleased to welcome IPP Bob Lally. President Michael Frazer was installed for his 4th term, as were Craig Pierce at VP-Program, Philip Cook at VP-Music, Eric Fenrich at Treasurer, Ed Morin at BMAL, and Howard Lange at VP-Marketing. BOTY is Craig Pierce to recognize his endless efforts to develop quartets in the chapter and get all members into quartets.

SANTA CLARITA VALLEY **BILL WOLF**

A few years ago "THE MEN OF HARMONY" took on this new name and began a journey to excellence. We recruited: Dick Roelofs, a great pianist; Keith Oberg, a balloon sculptor who charmed children and adults alike wearing his tall Doctor Seuse hat; Gerry Staack, our new go-getter secretary and music historian; and straight from the "Hundred Acre Wood", Christopher Robbin, a strong lead.

David Kilpatrick's creative energy gave us the "Flash Mob" singing and dancing at the local mall. We had to sneak in, sing and leave. We were warned that chorus singing in the mall was 'off limits". So, we were in and out before the startled shoppers stopped applauding and the guards could stop us. Later the mall manager invited us to come back and sing Christmas Carols.

Our awards banquet had singing and noisy fun. **David Norman** is our new President. **David Kilpatrick** is Membership VP; **Gerry Staack** is Secretary, **Jack Matson** is Treasurer and **Bill Wolf** is Marketing VP whose involvement with the City has us now on the ART ATTACK committee to perform more impromptu 'Flash Mob' events together with fellow community artists in Santa Clarita. Installed as our Board as members at large were **Keith Oberg, Richard Roelofs** and **Cal Erickson**. Director, **Duncan Gilman** (recently married to beautiful Eve) has crafted the best sound we have ever produced and was named BOTY.

SANTA FE SPRINGS RON LARSON

The Masters of Harmony returned to a Christmas show date of the Saturday after Thanksgiving, to stunning success. In anticipation of seeing both the seven-time International champion Masters of Harmony and The Westminster Chorus -- named "Choir of the World" in international competition in Wales last summer -- the matinee sold out completely and the evening show was close behind. Under the direction of Mark Hale, the Masters featured a well-paced mixture of guest directors, individual soloists, chapter quartets, and even instrumentalists. Following Justin Miller's lead, the young men of Westminster performed six songs that demonstrated why they earned their title and why they are a top contender for chorus gold in Philadelphia this summer.

The men of the Masters assembled at a Hollywood sound studio to record "The Dream Is Carried On" with The Westminster Chorus, a song that absolutely wowed the International audience in Anaheim last summer. After two hours of demanding work, the Masters men got on the crowded L.A. freeways to Santa Fe Springs, arriving just in time to take part in their host city's annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony.

A tradition since 1988, members of the chorus provided quartets for Santa Fe Springs' Santa Claus Float Program. Between December 7 and 17, a Masters quartet took barbershop-style holiday music to three different parts of the city each night. In all, eight quartets comprising 28 men took part. Some of the children waiting to visit Santa joined each night's quartet on stage for impromptu carol singing and photo ops for delighted parents.

The Knott's Berry Farm Resort Hotel was the scene of the 2010 Awards and Installation Banquet. For the fourth consecutive year, MC **J. Friedman** kept events moving along smoothly and attendees thoroughly entertained. The Masters were honored to have **Bill Biffle**, Barbershop Harmony Society President, deliver the keynote address and install the new board of directors. Incoming Masters President **Bill Rosica** was named BOTY. Collegiate Quartet Champion **The Vagrants** was named MOH Quartet of the Year. Special kudos went to **Steve Johnsrud** for six years of perfect attendance at every MOH rehearsal, contest, show or other event -- a Cal Ripkenesque record!

The Masters traveled to Calimesa to make their tenth appearance on the Community Concert Series, now in its 25th year. Despite driving up to two hours, most Masters look forward to performing for what some of them call a "home-run audience" that not only applauds, but adds vigorous foot stomping to their approval.

The Crush and The Vagrants, two youthful chapter quartets moving steadily toward international success, were special treats. Adding to the ambiance of the venue was a dusting of snow, something Masters' veterans had never before seen in Calimesa.

Roger Crumley, a retired throat surgeon, joined the chapter.

SANTA MARIA RICHARD BURCH

The Chordsmen had a packed house for our Christmas show and sang in a variety of venues during the Christmas season. The result is we have had several visitors come our way, most of whom are in the twenties.

Our newest member is a young college student named **Champion McConnell**, who also is a professional level classical guitarist.

Our youth program is growing thanks to the tireless efforts of **Bob Maurer**. Good relations are being strengthened with several local high schools. The madrigals from two of the high schools participated in our Christmas show. We will also be involved in the Youth Festival in San Luis Obispo on April 10.

SANTA MONICA MARTY MITNICK

Following are the Oceanaires 2010 officers: President Vance Heron, VPs Chapter Development Tom Laskey & Bob Lipson, VP Marketing & Public Relations Bruce Schroffel, VP Music and Performance Ben Lowe, Secretary Jerry Walker, Treasurer John Smurda - 20th term (really), Members-at Large David Erickson, Alan Hanson, Jim Leedom, Aaron Mood, Chorus Manager Ken Scholtz.

Presentation of awards to those **Oceanaires**, who have gone far beyond the expected, went to **Ben Lowe**, **Jerry Walker**, **Bruce Schroffel**, **Todd Kolberg** and **Alan Hanson**. BOTY was presented to **Alan Hanson**.

2009 saw a wonderful growth of chorus musical achievement under the direction of **Todd Kolberg** as well as an increase in new and very talented young members.

SOUTH BAY JOE NAGLE

The Coastliners' new VLQ (Very Large Quartet - leads Mike Borrett and Barden Smith, tenor Tim Kessler, baritones Jim Labor and Bob "Nick" Nicholson & basses O.J. Rand, Steve Bunker, and Jack Newman) made their debut for the Salvation Army Halloween Dinner. The VLQ is designed to give some of our lesser experienced members some experience singing in something smaller than the chorus, preparing them for future quartet singing.

Stam Hill and Joe Nagle lent their talents to the Sweet Adeline's Southland Harmony Chorus, directed by Coastliner Jim Campbell, for their annual show. The Saxy Docs (Mike Cavanaugh, Bruce Beyne, Don Duperon and John Saffery)

also performed, and mixed quartet Ready Willing & Mabel (Caroline McLean, Peter Neushul, Kate Walker and Jim Campbell) was the headline quartet.

26 Coastliners performed for the L.A. Southtowns Show Chorus annual show. Coastliner quartet C-Nile Sound (lead Denny Lawrence, tenor Bruce Beyne, baritone Karl Jacobs and bass Rick Llewelyn) were also featured. The chorus also performed at the Los Alamitos Navy Golf Course for the annual Submarine Veterans Christmas Luncheon for the fourth time. Other chorus holiday season performances included Santa's arrival at the Rolling Hills Peninsula Center, and caroling at Del Amo mall, followed by our annual pizza party.

2009 Program VP Tom Schleier moved his family to Connecticut. Tom was a tremendous asset to our humble little troupe in his short time here.

VENTURA JAN TAVARES

We welcome new member Donn Coon. Don Dittman got his 2nd "Man of Note" pin. in less than a year. The Don, of course, recruited Donn.

We joined with the Santa Clarita Chapter and members of other local chapters like the Valleyaires, Pasadena, etc., to participate in David Kilpatrick's U Tube adventure ... "Shockaella Mayhem - Under the Board Walk" at several Santa Clarita venues starting with Santa Clarita's big shopping Mall. A group of 50 or more barbershoppers just appeared one at a time in the mall, and suddenly started singing! Then after the one song "Under the Board Walk" we just silently went off on our ways as suddenly and independently as we had appeared. This was put on U Tube with the purpose of recruiting singers to the society and our own chapters. The technique of such happenings has been put on U - Tube to entertain millions of viewers.

Christmas season was filled with performances, e.g., Ventura's Pacific View Mall, Ventura's "Christmas on Main Street" next to the mission, the Olivas Adobe Historical Park open house, an open house put on by Chapter Secretary Lu Hintz, in Oxnard's historical park: Heritage Square, and the COUNTRY VILLA, Oxnard Manor - retirement home.

"4 Jays Quartet" [Bs Joe Smith, Br Jay Shapiro, L Jim Wilson, and T Jim Sumstine, substituting for Jan Tavares] got to participate on board Jay's boat in the Ventura Marina Festival of Lights, singing the entire time, of course. This boat won the first prize award for the Ventura Marina's Festival of Lights for 2009! Special recognition to **Jim Sumstine** who was ill with dangerous infection - he was hospitalized for 5 days afterward.

Director Jim Browne, President Jan Tavares, and Asst. Director Jim Sumstine attended the FWD CACM work shop (Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meetings). It was so much fun that we couldn't believe it was over when it was over.

WHITTIER

NORM BERNIER

Congratulations are in order for our new President **Jeff Pulice**. Many Board members who have served for several years will continue in their respective offices. Outgoing president Norm **Bernier** served as president for three years.

Deane Scoville, past president of the FWD, presided at the Annual Banquet & Installation of Officers. Entertainment was presented by "The Four Spacious Guys" quartet. Director Paul Gutierrez and his quartet sang many nostalgic songs and our many guests were touched in rememberance.

Among the many Trophies and awards were BOTY to Paul Feinzimer, Mr. & Mrs. BSY to Dick & Judy Manis, Spark Plug of the year to Jeff Pulice, Presidents Award to Dick Manis, Hall of Fame to Steve Peacock, and a special award presented to Director Paul Gutierrez. Dick Stemen was awarded a special plaque. Our Behind the scenes award went to Henry Nassen, Ron Luetbecher and James Olson.



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

21725 Esmalte Mission Viejo, CA 92692-1029 Phone: 949-581-5544 EI: GRClements@aol.com

To all Southeast Division new chapter officers and board members, Congratulations on accepting your new responsibilities. To all of you who are continuing in office, ditto! You have been elected to be the leaders of your chapters in 2010, and I know that you won't let down your chapter members.

Know that I am here to help you in any way that I can. You only need to ask. My contact info is above and on page 1.

Again, congratulations! Now, let's get to work. Remember that our division's contests are May 15th. Good luck.



Division 2 SE Chapters Dick Girvin, Editor

34888 Lyn Ave Hemet. CA 92545 Phone: 951-926-8644 E: dickgirvin@juno.com

BREA MARK STOKES

The Gaslight Chorus enjoyed another fantastic Holiday season, their annual Christmas show was the best ever. Ticket sales were good and in spite of rainy weather, the afternoon show was sold out and the evening show was very well attended. Their guest quartets, Masterpiece and California Crossroads, were well received by an appreciative audience.

They are experiencing continued growth and they're looking forward to participating in their first Singing Valentines' program this year. They have two new songs for their next divisional contest in May 2010 and they have submitted an audition tape to the California Angels to perform the national anthem.

EL CAJON BOB HOLLOWAY

The Music Masters most senior member Maury Rapkin turned 92 years old this last autumn. A party was held in his honor at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot Officer Club hosted by family members. Maury's niece wrote and read a beautiful poem for the occasion. Almost all of the chapter attended. Marury is one who won't waste music on just singing; he danced with audience members sitting near by.

Even in these lean economic times, the chapter continues to obtain sing-outs thanks to the aggressive effort of lead singer **Jack Evans**. Their engagements were all over San Diego County from Chula Vista to the South to La Jolla in the North.

Director **Tom Anderson** tells them that their sound, timing and stage presence are improving at each rehearsal. He is assisted by **Roger Simpson** and **Greg Price**.

New Officers for 2010 are: President Joseph Perry, Secretary / Treasurer; Roger Simpson, VP Membership Dev Alphonse Conte, VP Music and Performance Greg Price, IPP Gary Mathews, BMALS Jack Evans, Al Justice, Jeff Freeman and Frank McLaughlin.

FULLERTON DICK COTE

Ray Ashcroft, a 30+ year Society member, is their 2009 BOTY. He represented Fullerton as the Society's Public Relations Officer of the years 2005, 2006 and 2007.

Past District President and active Fullerton chapter member, **Deane Scoville** announced that "...the time has come..." indicating his desire to curtail many of his barbershop activities. He will remain as a member.--just not as active as before..

The chapter is mourning the loss of long time member **Howard Wood** (4/1/1923-11/17/2009). His contributions to the chapter (and the world) will be long remembered.

Oh Yeah!--Spence Graves is in another quartet! In fact that is the name: Oh Yeah!--With him in this one are Ken Koch, John Hulbert and Gary Cartano.

2010 officers are: President Dan Derler, IPP Ken Klein, Chapter Development VP CJ Bowes, Music and Performance VP Leonard Schlatter, Marketing and PR VP Gary Maxwell, Community Services VP Ray Ashcroft, Program VP Woody Woodson, YIH Pete Saputo, Secretary Bob Calderwood, Treasurer Ken Klein, BMALS Stan French (Life-time member), Dick Cotes, Jim Eacret, Steve Hansen and Steve Sarandis.

HEMET BRUCE SMITH

FWD Hall of Fame member, Jerry Fairchild installed the Hemet officers: President Dave Kelley, IPP Norman Pabst, Secretary Art McMahan, Treasurer Robert Couse, BMAL

Clay Panlaqui, Director Robert Doty, Asst. Dir. Jack Morrissea, Bulletin Editor Bruce Smith and Show Chairman Larry Hull. Bruce Smith is well on the road to recovery from a recent stoke.

INLAND EMPIRE DAVE COVEY

FWD President Bernard Priceman installed the 2010 officers at their annual Awards Dinner: President Don Sevesind, IPP and Secretary Dave Morketter, Treasurer Alan Mackey, VP Marketing and Asst Musical Director Brian Hoerning, VP Membership Dev. Harry Sunquist, VP Music and Perf. Tom Wallis, VP Program Bob Patterson, Director Dennis Shearer, BMALS Leroy Lapp, Don Gilbert, John Richardson, John Duval and Mike Brown.

President **Don Sevesind** is making a mighty effort to e-mail communicate with all the guys in the Chapter on a regular basis. It is believed that his efforts, as well as things they got from CACM, should make this a banner year.

Long-time member and FUNTONES' Lead **Ralph White** is reported recovering from open-heart surgery and expects to be back on the risers and with the quartet soon.

LA JOLLA PETER HENSLEY

Their December Holiday Show returned to a concert format after a few years of scripted shows, and the audience appreciated a varied repertoire of religious and secular numbers.

True to their commitment to the Youth in Harmony movement and their mission to support the arts in San Diego, they included both high school and college a cappella groups in their show line-up. "Pointless" from Point Loma Nazarene University put on an exciting show that would have earned high marks in the popular "Sing Off" competition on TV. "Noteworthy," an octet from Poway High being coached by barbershoppers added to the fun with some cute holiday fare.

Mike French and Lou Benedict joined the Board as Member at Large and VP Music and Performance respectively at the installation. Congratulations to BOTY Jason James, Esq.

In 2010 they are focusing on membership recruiting and retention, and will bypass competition this year, for the first time. They feel that bringing the quality of their performance packages up to the level of their contest songs can encourage new membership. They are embarking on a "new look" for their chapter meetings and a new recording program to be used for self-improvement in their singing. They will be given the learning materials and music-team reviews of their taping for personal improvement to help improve the chorus to a consistent "A-level," to which they aspire. They have consistently ranked just below the four big choruses, Masters of Harmony, Westminster, Voices In Harmony, and Greater Phoenix. Now, once again, they want to return to the Int'l competition stage, which requires "A-level" scores.

LAS VEGAS LARRY LITCHFIELD

The Las Vegas Gamble-Aires turned 50 years young and we're roaring into what promises to be an equally fabulous 2010 Jubilee Year and beyond! Our headcount continues to climb along with our musical prowess and enthusiasm.

Our chapter recently received an unexpected honor from the Las Vegas Metro Chapter and its City of Lights chorus. CoL music director Scott Fewell presented us with the CoL's prestigious 2009 Director's Award at their annual installation banquet (Jan. 16). Our sincerest thanks to Scott and the chapter for this recognition. Could this be the first inter-chapter award of its kind?

Our Christmas production, billed as our anniversary's kickoff event, earned significant income, attracted a nearly full house and was honored with a special guest appearance of our brothers in harmony, the City of Lights Chorus. The show ended with 50 combined singers on the risers offering three beautifully rendered Yule songs led by each of the three directors from the two chapters. Our three quartets - Broadcast, The Four **Suits** and **Older 'n Dirt** – also offered seasonal selections.

The Gamble-Aires officially welcome new chapter members lead Jeremiah Riesenbeck and lead Ed Allen.

Rick Ives replaces J.D. Massa, who resigned for personal reasons, as 2010 President. VP of Music/Performance is Co-Music Director and Broadcast tenor Albert Weiss. Bill Lusk is IPP. Other 2010 officers are VP Membership Dennis Johnson, VP of PR/Marketing Larry Litchfield, Treasurer Philip Sonneman, Secretary David Larson, and Member-At-Large Music Director John Waugh. Installing officer Ed Cotton, 2010 President of the Las Vegas Metro Chapter. John Waugh was presented with the 2009 BOTY award, the Director's award went to Dennis Johnson, Rookie-of-The-Year was Larry Pechart, and the President's Award was accepted by yours truly

LAS VEGAS METRO JOHN C. THOMPSON

The City Of Lights Chorus traveled to Moapa to perform "Let Freedom Sing" for the Moapa Arts Council. This is an original patriotic show, written by their VP-Music Greg Dreyer with a masterful portrayal of Ben Franklin by chorus member and local actor, Ken Phillips. The same show was held at Nellis Air Force Base for the benefit of the servicemen and servicewomen stationed there.

The annual Christmas Show "Christmas Magic" had funny and heart rendering stories, delightful songs, sentimental journeys, and the magic of Christmas. Performances were held at Freedom Hall in Sun City Anthem, and at the Winchester Cultural Center. In addition to 12 chorus songs, there were performances by their 5 chapter quartets Good Times!, Ready Or Not, Rumble Seat Daze, Sun City Sound, and Vegas Lights.

The City Of Lights Chorus joined with the Gamble-Aires **Chorus** on their Christmas show to help them kick-off and celebrate the beginning of their 50th Anniversary Golden Jubilee.

ORANGE QUARTET

MARK SHELDON

At the annual Installation and Awards Dinner, outgoing President Steve Moore gave an award of special recognition to Glenn Ragland, and announced Dave Lowerre as 2009 BOTY. Don Levering joined the incoming board as VP Student Activities, nominated by incoming President **Bob Calderwood**.

The Chapter continued the holiday tradition of using their meeting night to go Christmas Caroling for the staff and patients at Chapman Medical Center. The chapter first sang as a chorus at the nurses' stations, directed by Music VP Mike Werner; then quartets broke off to visit patient rooms.

All were saddened by the passing of Bill Snyder in January. Bill had been a member of the Santa Ana Chapter as well as a founding member of the Orange Quartet Chapter. Bill's quartetting included singing Bass in Across the Years.

PALOMAR PACIFIC WILLIAM SCOFIELD

President Joe Quince heads the 2010 officers recently installed by Allan Webb [Rookie of the Year-Pal Pac 1987]. The evening's program, guided by Master of Ceremonies Al Leuthe, saw Woody Cady named the 2009 BOTY. He was chosen by former winners of this award for his outstanding service to the chapter. Bill Scofield received the President's Award from Norm Pincock. Larry Anderson received the Director's Award from John Hulbert.

2010 Board members are: President Joe Quince, Secretary Al Leuthe, Treasurer Don Naegele, and the new Vice Presidents Chapter Development Norm Shute, Music and Performance Joe Pascucci, Youth in Harmony Woody Cady and Programs Roger Hufferd. These officers and the IPP Norm Pincock will serve on the Chapter Board of Directors. Other Directors named as Board Members at Large were Len Schaffner, Bruce Robin and Jack Story.

RIVERSIDE **BILL SHOVA**

Director **John Brockman** is injecting his fine brand of humor, enthusiasm and talent into the chapter's repertoire. Newest songs are Dave Briner's arrangement of Love Is A Many Splendored Thing, and A Wink and A Smile.

Chapter officers were installed by member **Emmett Bossing** at **Dr John Hawe's** home in Apple Valley. They are: President Ken Clark, IPP Gaylord Spence, Treasurer Joe Shaw, Secretary (also BOTY) Fritz Grunenwald, VP Chapter Membership/Development John Richardson, VP Music & Performance Steve Richardson, BMALs Roger Cromey, Paul Rowse, Dick Girvin, and Assoc. Director Mike Smith.



FWD DVP for Division 3 NW Steve Sammonds

1128 Beaumont Drive San Jose, CA 95129 Phone: 408-252-4093 E: sammonds@comcast.net What a wonderful day we had in Stockton on November 14 as over 150 men and women attended the Leadership Academy. As I hope you read elsewhere here, the most popular offering by far was the Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meetings workshop (CACM). If your chapter leadership, including your music director, have not attended either CACM offered in the district, be sure to keep an eye out for the next one.

From what I saw, it was a very busy late fall and holiday season for many chapters. I am sorry that my own chapter and quartet schedule did not afford me the time to see other shows. However, I did make it to the bay area gathering of barbershop chapters on December 15 in San Jose, co-hosted by the Bay Area, Fremont-Hayward, and Palo Alto-Mountain View chapters. I believe we counted around 145 men on the risers plus several more in the chairs. Everyone had a great time singing with a mass chorus under the direction of Gabe Caretto and Dr. Greg Lyne. Lots of impromptu quartet and tag singing ensued after the formal program ended.

The Santa Cruz Chapter produced another successful Sing For Your Life show to support music programs in several local schools. This show has grown bigger over time and should be replicated in other communities. Not sure how to start? I am confident the folks in Santa Cruz will offer you advice based on their experience.

I receive weekly news from the San Francisco Chapter that keeps me informed of what is happening there. I would love to hear from other chapters, whether it be a weekly newsletter, chapter bulletin, or even board minutes. Although I communicate with the chapter presidents from time to time, my email and phone are open to any member who has questions or concerns. Finally, please be sure you circle May 22 on your calendar, the date of our Northwest Division Convention in Woodside. We have plans to make it more than just two contests in one day, so I hope to see everyone there. If your only barbershop experience is confined to your chapter, you owe it to yourself to attend this convention and meet barbershop singers from all over our great division. More details will be coming through email to your chapter leaders. I look forward to seeing YOU in Woodside.



Division 3 NW Chapters John Heather, Editor

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FREMONT-HAYWARD RAY SPINOSA

The New Dimension Chorus participated at the Fremont Festival of the Arts, performed at the Baywood Retirement Center and sang at a charity event hosted by the Centreville Business and Community Association at the restored Niles Train Depot. A back yard barbecue was held at the home of Bob Horwitz. The chorus also competed at the Far West District Convention in Sacramento.

The chorus returned to the Villa Fairmont Mental Rehabilitation Center to entertain recovering patients. Holiday events including the Hayward Light up the Season celebration and our own holiday show. Thanks to the Mt Eden High School Chorus, the Harmony Fusion Sweet Adelines Chorus and Sweet Adelines quartet **Ignite** for brightening up the season. The show was the best attended and most successful of all of our holiday shows.

MARIN COUNTY PAUL GOLDSMITH

The Marin Chapter is riding a wave following their successful annual show "Those Were the Days" last November. Holiday sing-outs spread joy throughout the community. The Board received an infusion of new members including Ken Petron (Member-at-large) and Bond Francisco (Secretary), who ran a very productive strategic planning retreat in early January. The Annual Installation Dinner was MC'd by the unshakable president Paul Goldsmith, and featured several in-house quartets rendering their favorites, plus the reading of several of Bob Engan's hilarious poems. 2009 BOTY is Michael Vaughan, who worked tirelessly on our recent performances and is our new Treasurer. There is a renewed sense of enthusiasm as the Chapter embarks on 2010.

PALO ALTO/MOUNTAIN VIEW **DEAN JAMES**

The Palo Alto/Mountain View Chapter again formed its annual Holiday Chorus. We used radio and newspaper announcements and fliers to invite all men in the South San Francisco Bay area to join the Peninsulaires during the first hour of our Tuesday night rehearsals.

The Holiday Chorus then went forward to:

- support a fund raiser for the Filoli Historic Mansion and grounds at Filoli in Woodside
- sing at the Mountain View Tree Lighting ceremony in the City Hall Plaza; this is an annual event for families.
- entertain at the Bishop Elementary School in Sunnyvale during a school fund-raiser that included a crafts fair.
- perform for members of the Chateau Cupertino Retirement Home. That evening, sing (in the rain for 30 minutes) for the families awaiting the arrival of Santa on the Santa Train at the CalTrain Station in Palo Alto.
- sing for the residents of the Life's Garden Retirement home in Sunnyvale
- · become strolling carolers for the shoppers in downtown Los Gatos.
- entertain the shoppers at the downtown Palo Alto Farmer's Market

At each event, we augmented our white shirts and black pants with festive sweaters; Santa hats; and long red, white, and green scarves that a group of our wives have knitted for us. The Holiday Chorus continues to be a rewarding time for the Peninsulaires and a great new-member recruiting technique.

SAN FRANCISCO **DON KINGTON**

Members of the San Francisco Cable Car Chorus, their spouses and other guests, gathered at the clubhouse of Harding Park Golf Course (site of the President's Cup golf match last year) to install its officers for 2010.

NW Division VP Steve Sammonds installed the 2010 officers. Steve gave a short and inspirational talk, urging the officers and members to continuing making strides to enlarge the Chorus's membership. The 2010 officers are: President Newton Harband, VP Membership Fred Merrick, Secretary Greg Goyhenetche, Treasurer Charles Haletky, and Web Master Jerry Lester.

President Newt presented a special award [a certificate and bottle of wine] to Leon Sorhondo, who brings his own homebaked banana bread and other delectable to each Chorus rehearsal. Newt then recognized Chorus Director Charles Feltman as 2009 BOTY.

SAN MATEO THOMAS ADDISON

The Golden Chordsmen are happy to welcome two new members, including a much needed tenor.

Our installation dinner, arranged by **Dave McCann**, was a big success. Jim Bryant installed four new officers for 2010. All were at the "Compelling Attractive Chapter Meetings" session in Stockton in November, and many good suggestions are being adopted by our music committee under the direction of Terry Weisbricht.

We presented a performance in Half Moon Bay's "Coastal Repertory Theater's" annual fundraising talent show, where we opened what proved to be a three hour show of varied performances. We thank John Heather for arranging our participation in this lovely event.

SANTA CRUZ ED WARNER

This past year we lost a dear friend and auxiliary singing chorus member Caralyn Steinberg. A few weeks before her death the chorus was able to visit and sing Christmas carols for her.

We had our annual "Sing For Your Life" school benefit shows on Saturday and Sunday. We returned over \$7600 to the Music Departments of the nine schools that were involved.

This past year we were excited to gain eight new members, this is a 50% gain for our small chorus, our greatest gain.

The following 2010 officer's were installed at our annual Installation and Awards Banquet: President Ed Warner, Music VP Mark Logan, Membership VP Gerry Stone, Treasure Joe Pedota, Secretary Roy Prevost, At Large Les Stagnaro.

RAY CROWDER SANTA ROSA

The Redwood Chordsmen performed on the Marin Chapter show, then staged their own successful Christmas show.

The Chordsmen experienced both happiness, and sadness, on January 16th when they joyfully sang at the wedding of their illustrious bass Dave Bowman and his lovely bride Eunice Arrowsmith, and then sprinted across town to attend a memorial Service for beloved bass Gary Smith. Both gentlemen have made substantial contributions to the Santa Rosa chapter, and we owe an immeasurable debt of gratitude to both. Our best wishes go to Dave and Eunice for a happy life together, and our hearts go out to Debra Smith, and her family.

The chapter, with both chapter quartets Just One More Song and Redwood Rhapsody, performed at Presbyterian Church of the Roses.

Officers for 2010 are: President Dan Exelby, Music VP Bill Jackson, Membership VP Ray Crowder, Program VP Lynn Brittan, Treasurer Wayne Hovdesven, Development VP Jim Dechaine, Secretary Richard Parry-Jones, Members At Large Keith Brandt, Bob Lappin, Bill Smith, Dan Schell.

Congratulations to Bob Lappin and Jan Young on their wedding. Bob is one of our outstanding basses, and Jan is director of the Rohnert Park Chapter. Welcome back to former member Lead Jeremy Donley.

SF BAY CITIES QUARTET CASEY PARKER

San Francisco Bay Cities Quartets District Champ Bob Bird [Forte Niners, Rejects] renewed his 69 year membership. He made his annual appearance with his wife Joyce and daughter Pamella. **Dick Zunkel** [Bari] is nominated as *Barbershopper of* the Decade for his long service as WebMaster. Eliot Wirt retired from active baritoneing: he is honored as Historian of the Half-Century for his book The Fifty Year History Of the Far Western District, now online at the district web site. **Dr. Dennis** Baker is our Ambassador to Tuolumne where he will form a quartet chapter woodshedding only rose songs.

Here is a testimonial from our newest Man Of Note, Jordan **Makower**: "The thing I really appreciate about the SFBCQ Chapter is that I have fun whenever I attend the meetings, which is almost every one. The fun comes from singing in a quartet, without any pressure to perform. We sing with our friends, to our friends, and most times, the friends bring their 'significant others'. I practice the Barberpole Cat songs before I go to the meetings, since that is mainly what we sing. We encourage each other, and applaud, and even if a few mistakes are made, no one yells at the 'culprit'. It is all in good spirit, it is relaxing, and it is FUN! How many other chapters, striving to reach some goal, forsake the happiness of their members on the trail of that pursuit. I wish them well, but I am Really happy to be a member of the SFBCQ."

WALNUT CREEK DICK JOHNSTON

The Devil Mountain Chorus held its annual business meeting and dinner party. President Brad Dewey presided, and 011ie **Brilhante** (the Bay Area Chapter VP Operations) administered the oath of office to the newly-elected officers. Don Nelson is 2009 BOTY, who was similarly honored in 1980.

Continuing a practice he initiated last year, Brad presented Special Presidential Awards to Ron Leiker, Jim Stenson, and Mits Tamura. Ron was the chapter's Treasurer from 1989 to 2010, and Brad acknowledged the many services he has rendered to the chapter. Jim was the chapter's Music Director for over 18 years, and he continues to contribute as a strong singer in the lead section and by assisting Music Director Dolores Mendenhall in many ways. Mits has taken over as Quartet Chairman. He's a worthy successor to Phil Haag, who performed that job for many years prior to his death. Brad said that he had first called on Mits for help when Phil was down with a stroke, and that Mits had handled the job perfectly, making many helpful suggestions, and "he has been doing it ever since."



FWD DVP for Division 4 NE Jim Turnmire

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Just in case you've not heard, there have been some changes in chorus music directors in our division, and the formation of a new chorus.

The Golden Valley Chorus of the Central California Chapter recently appointed Bruce Sellnow as Musical Director. This is Bruce's inaugural foray into the area of chorus directing. He brings a wealth of talent and enthusiasm to the chorus. A winning combination for any chapter. We wish them much success in the future.

Ron Black has taken over the director's reins of the Sacramento Capitolaires. The Sacramento Chapter will undoubtedly grow and improve under his expert direction.

The new chorus that is creating a lot of buzz, is the American River Chorus, also from the Sacramento area. The lucky guy directing the ARC is none other than Gabe Caretto. Gabe was the baritone of our District Champion Quartet, Late Show and had been the assistant director of the Voices in Harmony Chorus. Their first competition will be the Northeast division contest in Reno.

Most of our NE division chapters sent representatives to the Leadership Academy in Stockton last November. The majority of the participants attended the Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meetings section. I am very interested in hearing of any and all success stories for the chapters who are following the guidelines set down by this CACM class.



Division 4 NE Chapters Roger Perkins, Editor

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CARSON CITY

DAVE RAMER

The year ended with a very successful Christmas show, something the chorus had not done in many years. We added approximately one new member per month and ended the year with 42 members, a far cry from five active members, three years ago. We attribute our growth to fine choral directing by Jim Crowley, who was also honored as our 2009 BOTY. At our officer installation dinner, the most distinguished Mr. Richard (Dick) Whitten traveled to Carson City all the way from Sparks, Nevada, to install the following gentlemen as our 2010 officers: President Paul Muller, IPP Dave Ramer, Membership VP Ralph Denny, Program VP Rook Wetzel, Music and Performance VP Dan Wager, Secretary Dave Smith, Treasurer Rudy Moreno, Members-at-Large Don **Hunter** and **Tom Cheney**.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA MILES SUTTER

Being able to share the Christmas spirit with the wonderful and enthusiastic people at the Turlock Covenant Village convalescent home made the season truly bright! David Ramsey-Warner and Howard Barber led the "merry men" and Herb Andrew was the MC. Herb also did the voice over on Silent Night, with **Dr. Bob Clark** singing the verse. **Phil Lustri** was our narrator for the beginning of White Christmas, with Terrell Chambers as soloist. The evening was also enriched with the voices of Grandpa's Pride (Greg Kramp, George Cooper, Bob Clark, Roy Anderson). Bob Chapman provided the intermission part of our performance with his playing of the ever popular "Name That Tune" on the piano.

We also shared the Christmas spirit with the Amateur Radio Club of Turlock which included family and guests. A tri-tip dinner was served by the Radio Club, thanks to Grady Williams and his fellow members. David Ramsey-Warner and Howard Barber led the chorus, and Herb Andrew was the MC. Also featured were the voices of the Fortune Hunters (Greg Kramp, Howard Barber, Mike Viss, Terrel Chambers). Bob Chapman played piano once again. Special thanks goes to Derick and Rachel Sturke for the great looking holiday decorations added to our shirts!

The GVC begin 2010 with our installation and awards ceremony at the home of Howard & Betty Barber. It was our first time there for this prestigious occasion. The event was again spearheaded by Dick Compton, our MC and quartet jamboree Chairman. Our installing officers were Atonic Explosion of Fresno. Gary Magelssen earned the honor of being Rookie of the Year. Director's award was presented to **Derick Sturke**. Great Communicator award was presented to Grady Williams. Ron Russell announced 2009 BOTY is Howard Barber.

CHICO

LEE ATKINS

The Bidwell Generals, under the direction of Donald Corrie, presented our Christmas Music Package, which consisted of eight Christmas songs, to five retirement homes over a period of five weeks. Don has also organized winter, spring, and fall singout packages, as well as practice schedules.

FOLSOM DOUG VESTAL

The Eleventh Month, Eleventh Day, Eleventh Hour again was observed in song by the Harmony Express Chorus at the Veteran's Day Ceremony at Sylvan Cemetery in November. A moving dedication with speeches from local dignitaries and patriotic songs combined to provide a tribute to our veterans.

The Harmony Express sang at the Orangevale Community Center for the Annual Christmas tree lighting. Jim Lauppe performed his first ever solo with a wonderful rendition of Silent Night. 42ITUS quartet sang Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas. The annual Christmas party was hosted this year by Kim and Russ Duane.

Quartet TBDL sang at the Nevada-Placer cabaret show in Grass Valley. They also performed as the featured Quartet with the Sierra Gold SAI chapter. TBDL was featured at the Winter Choral Concert presented by the Folsom High School Music Department, and earned a Standing O.

Clark Abrahamson installed the chapter officers and board members: President Doug Vestal, Secretary Stan Trumbull, Treasurer Burt Weichenthal, Music/Performance VP Ozzie Membership VP Wil King, Sunshine Chair Les Cudworth, Member-At-Large Bob Roberts. Stan Trumbull was presented the 2009 BOTY award.

FRESNO DAVID REITZEL

The Gold Note Chorus welcomes tenor Aaron Pierce [age 13½], son of bari Jerry Pierce who joined a year ago.

Associate Director John Hays led two singouts of patriotic songs, one took place at Fresno Veterans Hospital and the other at Fresno's Northwest Church. The GNC took its annual stroll in Clovis singing Christmas music. Our Christmas show opened with a "Singspiration" which is congregational singing of Christmas hymns, led by Pastor Bob Small. GNC followed with a variety of Christmas music, including Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming by novice quartet Avenue 10. Quartet Silver & Gold finally learned the plural of "hippopotamus" with help from the audience. Highlights of the evening were Silver & Gold's Altar Boy and the GNC's O Holy Night with Director Adam Kitt singing the solo part.

Led by John Hays, GNC sang Christmas carols on KMPH TV's morning program "Great Day." Silver & Gold, who still needed help with the plural of "hippopotamus," was featured.

MC Jim Warner presided at our annual installation and awards banquet. Bill Tieberg of Oceanside installed the officers: President Bill Holden, IPP Terry Starr, Secty Bill Golden, Treasurer Mike Smith, VP Music/Performance Wes Jackson, VP Membership/Development Richard Wayne, VP Marketing & PR Jim Warner, Program Terry Starr, Chorus Manager Doug Yarrow, Members-at-Large Clint Cole, Jim Rathbun, David Reitzel. Among the awardees were Doug Yarrow, Administrator of the Year; John Hays, the Unsung Hero; and Clint Cole, both the Workhorse and the Rookie of the Year. Wes Jackson, M.D. received the 2009 BOTY Award.

NEVADA PLACER ROGER PERKINS

Our Cabaret Show with Special Feature was enough to attract two new members. We welcome Lead Trent Bass and Bass Bob Klein.

The Sierranaders performed at the Victorian Christmas in Nevada City for 25 years and again this year. At various times we have sung in rain, snow and ice. This year we had snow drifts and ice and it was bitter cold. It's still fun no matter what.

Installing officer Jim Turnmire did his usual great job installing each officer, this time in rhyme. Awards were handed out to two wives, Jeanne Drouin and Phyllis Fox (who was unable to attend) for their annual service at our shows and the Somewhat Serious Quartet Contest. The well deserving 2009 BOTY is **Cliff Johnson**.

NORTH VALLEY **DENNY STRUB**

The Sound of the Foothills Chorus had a wonderful show chaired by Don Franklin, which featured past FWD Champions Hi-Fidelity!, local quartet Gesundheit!, plus the Chico Sweet Adelines. We also performed 17 Christmas singouts! Our newest member, high school senior Damian Massey sang bass at every venue.

2010 officers helping out our director David Burdine, will be: President Don Franklin, Music VP Denny Strub, Membership VP Al Salazar, Secretary Al Bedrosian, Treasurer Jack Montgomery, Program VP Gene Warner, and IPP Tom Prosser.

Three people attended the "Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meetings" seminar in Stockton. We expect progress under this new program.

PLACERVILLE BILL PECK

Chorus Director Ray Rhymer was in a nasty motorcycle accident in September and is still recovering. Associate Director Jason Dyer, a product of the chapter YIH program, took command and excelled in that role.

John Herrman purchased new risers and donated them to the chapter. Since there were a few extra risers the Board decided to offer the extra equipment to any local school that could use them. Ron Murray contacted the Oak Ridge High vocal music teacher who said, yes, they could use whatever we had. The following week we delivered them to a very pleased teacher.

RENO STEVE SHURTLIFF

In many arenas, "Installation Dinner" might seem like one of those formal events one sort of has to attend. Not in Barbershop! With the great food, greater company and the singing that was really fun, we couldn't have had a better evening. SDC alumnus Cory Hunt of OC Times did the installation and was truly an inspiration. Long - time barbershopper Carl Truman (who I am sure many of you know) was welcomed as our new president. **Ryan Jensen** took home well deserved honors as BOTY.

The Silver Dollar Chorus held its annual Christmas show and we were proud and gratified to perform to a Standing O. Guest artists **Mike Stewart** and **Weather Permitting**, along with some fine local high school performers, rounded out the show.

The Reno chapter is hosting the Far Western District Spring Convention March 18-21. We have a very experienced group that has hosted many conventions in the past, and I can guarantee we'll have a great one this year. There is much to do here in Reno, the hotel deals are very good and the competition will be excellent. Hope to see you in March!

SACRAMENTO JOE SAMORA

A dozen Sacramento **Capitolaires** attended the workshop "Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meetings" during the Leadership Academy (COTS) in Stockton.

The Holiday Express Show, a joint venture between the Sacramento Capitolaires and the Sacramento Valley Chorus (SAI), was held in Fair Oaks. Guest performers were the Antelope High School and Oasis Chamber Choirs. Blair Reynolds co-chaired and served as MC. Directors were Ron Black, Bill Borah, Mark Coldiron and Randy Finger. Quartets included The Ambassadors, Quartessence, Vibrance and Gemtones. The show finale featured the Capitolaires joined by the Sacramento Valley Chorus to sing Baby It's Cold Outside in eight part harmony.

The Capitolaires sang in the State Capitol rotunda to an appreciative group of tourists and state employees. Chorus members also sang at several local retirement homes.

STOCKTON MARC JANTZEN

The Stockton Portsmen went from the Annual Show to Holiday Songs. The Chorus, broken down into Quartet's, sang at three shopping centers in Stockton, providing music to Lincoln Shopping Center on nine occasions, Sherwood Mall twice, and Weberstown Mall once. The chorus earned \$2,200 for their effort. The Forget Me Notes, a group of nine who practice over morning coffee, also participated in the singing at the shopping centers. The Forget Me Notes also did a surprise party for a member of the Portsmen who was retiring.

Tune Struck and **Fourmost**, sang for Micke Grove Historical Society at their Annual Festival of Trees. The Chorus also sang one day strolling around the Museum bringing holiday spirit to all who attended. **The Portsmen** also did a Holiday Concert with the Lodi Community Concert Band.

Fourmost has been working with students from Manteca High School. A quartet from the school appeared on our show and also appeared at a Manteca High Choir Holiday Concert. **Fourmost** joined nine students for one song and then did a three song set by themselves.

Tune Struck sang Holiday Season performances at Micke Grove Zoo, Dillard's VIP Shopping Event, Heritage Oak Winery Christmas Boutique, Emerald Foods Holiday Luncheon and a special appearance with Zion Lutheran Church. **Tune Struck** is learning the Canadian National Anthem for the Stockton Thunder, the local hockey team.

Jim Turnmire installed the 2010 officers: President Craig Vincent, VP Music/Performance Al Wolter, VP Chapter Development Nick Adams, VP Marketing & PR Tracy Frederickson, Secretary Marshall Woodward, Treasurer John Eilers, Members-at-Large Bob Yater and Marc Jantzen, IPP Jan Roston. Marc Jantzen is the 2009 BOTY.



FWD DVP for Division 5 Arizona Ted Sayle

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The Arizona Div. 5 folks have mostly all completed their new officer installations. I attended 3 of them already this month and found them to be excellent. Show Low, AZ managed a few feet of snow for the occasion.

Gordon Bergthold (FWD CSLT Chair) is currently trying to schedule a CACM seminar for March of this year. Having polled our chapters, most seem eager given the awesome reports from those Chapters who have already experienced this seminar.

I am very pleased to see our Executive Director Ed Watson emphasize the need for all of us to help our fellow chapters. His "Straight Talk" article in the current Harmonizer is exactly correct. Helping out in shows, competitions, meetings, community involvement and youth activities. Please look at the back cover of any Westunes magazine to see the various chapter show dates........Go attend some, and invite other chapters to your own show....Same for SAI chapters.

All the necessary info to register for the FWD March Chorus contest and convention is in this Westunes. The Reno Silver Dollar Chorus will sparkle as they always do.

Be sure you have the 2010 Quartet and Chorus Contest and Convention on your calendar for April 24th. Tucson will host the event with skill and enthusiasm as always. The location will be Moon Valley High School once again. If you have any questions, call Jere Hill at 520-749-2979



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CANADA DEL ORO

DON VALENTINE

The Canada del Oro Chorus, under the direction of Nancy Bergman and Assistant Director Rogers Hornsby, presented the Saddlebrooke Harmony Holiday Concert to a sold-out audience. Four guest quartets 2008 Sweet Adelines Region 21 Medalist One Voice, 2009 International Seniors Champ Audacity, Sonoran Sound and PHX—performed individual sets then joined the chorus on stage for the last group of songs. The finale was wonderful and the audience showed its appreciation with a standing ovation. It was a great night, and we thank the quartets for their help in making our show the best yet.

CASA GRANDE LOREN ENGLUND

The Desert Sounds Chorus joyfully presented its Annual Holiday Concert at our local Christian church. Chaired by Jim McClelland, the program centered on songs children love, adults too, such as "Santa Claus Is Coming To Town," "Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer," etc. Much credit for the entertaining program goes to some local groups, especially the Choralaires from the new Vista Grande High School, women's barbershop chorus Acquire and, of course, gospel singing pastor Devetta McBride.

The Membership Recruiting Committee is busy formulating a program and materials for attracting new members and interesting former members to reconnect with the chorus.

The chorus now meets at the Southern Baptist Church, 2492 N. Trekell Road, Casa Grande, courtesy of the church and Pastor **Jim Staggs**. Rehearsals begin at 6:45pm every Monday. For information, call **Loren Englund** at (520) 876-9383.

GREATER PHOENIX JERRY MCELFRESH

The annual Arizona Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk asked the **Spirit** of **Phoenix** to sing and help in other ways as the walkers came into their camp in Tempe on the second day of the program.

Interim Director **Jeff Dolan** took a job with a dinner theater company that required him to work six nights a week starting in December. Jeff stepped down and Interim Assistant Director **Cary Burns** was appointed to the job for the remainder of the year, including directing our Christmas shows. The Chorus Director Search Committee put out a call for candidates for the position and seven applied. A special meeting of the chapter Board of Directors resulted in a vote to hire **Gary Steinkamp** as director and **Cary Burns** as assistant director. Gary directed the Phoenix chorus in the 1990s.

A "Welcome Home, Gary" Party at the home of **Terry** and **Chris Aramian** was well attended by current and former members of the chapter and their wives and sweethearts. Earlier that week, Gary took on another new role in life. His daughter Audrey gave birth to a baby girl, Gary's first grandchild.

Eight SOP members rode and sang on member **David Hale's** family float in the Phoenix Fiesta of Light Electric Light Parade. The float took first place in the Founders Award class this year

with the theme of "Go Green for the Holidays by Remembering the Troops." Each float is required to have its own Christmas music playing throughout the parade and David's music was provided by the amplified chorus members. Along the way, they were filmed by a TV news crew and they delighted (no pun intended) parade watchers, who cheered for them "like rock stars," David said.

PARADISE VALLEY LEN LEVINE

Due to declining membership, the Cactus Chordsmen voted, at a special meeting of the membership, to **DISSOLVE** the Paradise Valley Chapter effective February 12, 2010. The members also voted to donate the chapter assets as indicated in the record of the vote. We would like to thank the loyal membership who tried to maintain the chapter for the last nine months. Special thanks go to our Director Collin McKinney who sacrificed a great deal to support the chapter. We are also grateful for President Carl Eckhardt who worked very hard to provide the legal requirements for the dissolution process. The chapter members who still have musical interests are joining other established groups such as the Spirit of Phoenix, Orpheus Male Chorus of Phoenix, and the Fountain Hills Community Chorus. To all the membership of the Cactus Chordsmen, thanks for the memories and keep supporting barbershop music wherever it presents itself.

PRESCOTT SAM STIMPLE

The chapter hosted the REAL MEN SING festival. Far Western District Youth In Harmony Chairman **John Krizek** led the one-day program for nearly 100 participants.

2010 officers are: President Sam Stimple, VP Music & Performance Joe La Barge, VP Chapter Development Ed Massa, VP Marketing & PR Dick Patton, VP Youth Activities Lynn Grubb, Secretary Ed Wolfe, Treasurer Bob Steele, Board Members at-Large Dale Kanagy, Bob Henderson, Bill Hill. Several of the newly elected officers motored 100 miles to Mesa's Leadership Academy.

The **High Mountain Chordsmen** sang at no less than 18 venues for winter holiday performances: Prescott Valley Civic Center tree lighting, several nursing homes, senior living communities, a live radio show above the ice hockey rink belonging to the Arizona Sundogs, a 16th annual appearance for Prescott's J.S. Acker Musical Showcase, and the Prescott Community Center. The **High Country Four** quartet sang "*Happy Birthday*" and "*Georgia On My Mind*" to **Georgia McEuen** on her *102nd* birthday. A year ago she said, "I'll see you next year, boys!" And she meant it.

SUN CITIES CAMPBELL TICHENER

AZ DVP **Ted Sayle** was installing officer at our installation and awards banquet. We applauded **Stu Leck** as 2009 BOTY. President **Ed O'Connor** presented a special award to Director **Jerry Roland** and recognized **Joan Dale** and **Bev Rockafellow**, widows of two long-time members, for continuing to help chorus members with make-up.

Our VLQ, numbering nine to 13 members has become a regular feature at Sun City West Newcomers coffee events. Their appearance in January was their fourth in the last two years. The group also performed at the Sun City Recreation Department's Christmas Party, and was featured entertainment at the 50th Anniversary Open House of the Daily News Sun in Sun City. The VLQ functions as part of a public relations effort spearheaded by VP PR and Marketing Jack McGill.

Our seasonal activities began in November with the annual DesertAires picnic in Beardsley Park in Sun City West. Beautiful weather, great fried chicken, and singing.

TUCSON SUNSHINE JACK STATLER

Tucson Barbershop eXperience (TBX) kicked of its fall show season with a performance on the Green Valley-aires' annual show. Sharing the stage was quartet Joint Venture.

The three finalists vying to perform the National Anthem at University of Arizona sports events—which included TBX Ensemble—were part of the Friday Night Homecoming Football Pep Rally. Although the judges put them in 2nd place to a UA Music School soprano, there were promises of future opportunities for TBX to sing at upcoming sports events.

Larger mobile home parks with clubhouse auditoriums and organized activities offer ideal performance opportunities. TBX and chapter quartets performed shows at two parks. The performances catered to the tastes of appreciative audiences on their home stages for a modest entertainment dollar—and they walked home after the show.

TBX's annual holiday show "Spirit of Christmas" was performed at Berger Performing Arts Center with the traditional, familiar holiday selections plus some surprises. Unplanned was the delay in the arrival of the lead of Sonoran Sound, the featured quartet, coming from a previous gig. The situation was 'saved' in true show-biz tradition by an extra set from Joint Venture, TBX digging into their repertoire, and nimble wording by MC-Director Jeff Dolan. The appreciative audience was understanding and delighted.

A chapter VLQ, led by Jere Hill, added to the holiday festivities of the University Medical Center Oncology Clinic's annual Christmas Party, singing carols and other holiday songs. Then Sonoran Sound strolled the wards bringing their songs to bedbound patients.

WHITE MOUNTAINS DOC DOCKENDORF

The High Country Chorus traveling for the first time to Saint Johns, Arizona, to sing at their celebration of the 12 Days of Christmas. The HCC appeared twice at Walmart and also performed for the Tall Pines Assisted Living facility, the Show Low tree lighting, and for the Pinetop Lions Club Camp Tative. We launched a new website <wmhcbc.com>. This site allows the HCC to sell tickets on line, and promote chorus sponsorships, an idea developed by our Revenue Enhancement Team.

Crooks Trail quartet performed at the Bread of Life Mission in Holbrook at their annual fund raising banquet, at the Pinetop Baptist Church as part of an "Evening of Religious Music," and at their Lead Reverend Bob Cutlipp's two parishes - United Methodist Churches in Holbrook and Winslow. They sang the "Irish Blessing" at the marriage of bari Rich Hall's son.

During the past several months the **Knotty Pines** quartet entertained folks at birthdays, weddings, holiday parties, art galleries, group homes (by invitation), the local hospital, and singing Christmas carols at Camp Tatiyee in support of mentally and physically challenged children.

At our Officer Installation Dinner, the OK Chorale quartet installed the officers with a clever Western theme. Also entertaining were the Crooks Trail and Knotty Pines quartets. AZ DVP Ted Sayle attended to give us a few words of encouragement. Officers installed were: President Denny Shankland, Membership VP James Burden, Music & Performance VP Bob Cutlipp, Marketing & PR VP Steve Voller, Secretary Jim Dve, Treasurer John Welker, IPP Ron LaMar, Members at-Large Joe Stone, Ron Monette, Steve Pansulla. IPP Ron LaMar presented the "Newcomer of the Year" award to Steve Pansulla, the "Spark Plug" award to Steve Voller, and the "President's Award" to Jerry Schrunk. The BOTY Award, presented by Lloyd Lange, went to James Burden, who had a spectacular list of accomplishments. Everett Peterson did an excellent job as MC. We want to thank the OK Chorale and **Ted Sayle** for driving 160 miles each way to be with us.

ROB BAILEY YUMA

The Territorial Prisonaires recognized Johnny Miller, tenor extraordinaire, as 2009 BOTY, at the chapter's annual installation banquet. Among many other contributions, Johnny spearheaded the effort to finalize the incorporation of the Yuma Chapter under the laws of Arizona and took the lead in arranging for the receipt, pickup, delivery and storage of six sets of risers from the dissolved Paradise Valley Chapter.

The hard work by the chorus and affiliated quartets The Cell Tones, Interstate 8 and UnFourGettable to present good fourpart harmony throughout the area is paying off.

Special thanks to Director Frank Durham, Assistant Director Bill Ellenberger, and IPP Gary Head for a great 2009. Also, thanks to the Paradise Valley Chapter for their MAJOR contribution of risers.

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

Our FWD membership supports YHC financially and that is why the camp has happened in recent years.

Our youth are the ones who benefit in the short term, and our Society in the long.



Association of Far Western District Champions

Volume 1, November 1, 2009

OUR NEW CHAMPS

Welcome to "The Edge" our new 2009-2010 FWD Quartet Champions. Tom, Jason, J. and Sam. Their average score was 83. Most of the audience agreed after their Friday night Performance that they were the quartet to beat. They were equally as impressive on Saturday night and achieved the victory in grand style.

Check out their web site at theedgequartet.com

"LATE SHOW" A SUCCESS

The "Late Show" in Sacramento was attended by about 130 patrons. The show featured, OC Times, Masterpiece, Hi-Fidelity, and The Great Western Timbre Company, with Craig Ewing filling in on tenor.

We had a great response to the show and everyone had a great time.

Please plan on attending and seeing "The Edge" in Bakersfield, October 8, 2010.

2009 CHORUS CHAMPS

Westminster Chorus won the 2009 District Chorus
Championship. They are going to be a force to be reckoned with in
Philadelphia. Their biggest competition will be the Vocal Majority from Dallas, TX.
Editor's note: Remember 2006 in Indianapolis when they lost to them by 17 points. A lot of us thought they had won.

"SCORPIONAIRES"

The "Scorpionaires" did an outstanding job as the last chorus to perform. Had a great amount of fun and as always, the audience loved us. "Old Quartet of Mine" never sounded better. We always enjoy doing this for the district.

UP AND COMING

Flyers will be available in Reno, NV March 18-21, 2010

at the International Prelims contest announcing the date of the "Gold for the Gold" show. As soon as we know who will be representing the FWD in Philadelphia, a new flyer will be available on line to promote the show. This year's show was very well attended and wouldn't it be nice to sell out the main floor of Chapman Auditorium in Fullerton, CA June 19, 2010. The funds from this show and the "Late Show" at district help defray expenses for our competing quartets at International. In addition we have been able to buy the Lloyd Steinkamp High School quartet trophy, along with the individual trophies presented to our new District Quartet Champs each fall.

GREAT CHORUS IN THE SKY

Tom Keehan, Bill Cockrell, "West Coasters" 1954 and "Gala Lads" 1962 International Champs. Dan Hall, "Thermalaires" 1966, and Bill Adank, "Stage Four" 1972.

EDITOR

Bill Tieberg, Bari wtieberg@cox.net

Check out our web site at www.afwdc.org



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Addressee or Current Resident

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT Association of Chapters Barbershop Harmony Society, Inc. Ray Rhymer, Editor 4339 Whispering Oaks Circle Granite Bay, CA 95746

CONVENTIONS, SHOWS, EVENTS

2010

March

- 6 Coachella Valley Shows
- 6 Tucson Show
- 6 Visalia Shows
- 6-7 Hemet Shows

18-21 FWD Spring Convention & NE Divisional - Reno

27 San Francisco Show

April

- 10 Fullerton Shows
- 10 Pal-Pac Show
- 24 AZ Divisional -

Phoenix Tucson Host

25 Irvine Show

May

- 1 Freemont Hayward Show
- 1 Santa Fe Springs Shows
- 8 Palo Alto Mt View Shows
- 8 SW Divisional

Ventura Rincon Beach Host

- 15 SE Divisional Alta Loma, CA
- 22 NW Divisional Woodside, CA
- 22 Las Vegas Show
- 22 Pasadena Show

June

- 5 California Delta Shows
- 12 Bay Area Shows
- 12 Santa Rosa Shows

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

July

16,17,18 Harmony College West Redlands

August

14 Reno Shows

October

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

November

- 6 Walnut Creek Show
- 13 Leadership Academy 1 Day
- 20 Leadership Academy 1 Day

December

- 3.4 Fullerton Shows
- 5 Fremont-Hayward Show
- 18 Las Vegas Show

2011

January

8 Leadership Academy 1 Day 15 Leadership Academy 1 Day 18-23 MidWinter Conv Tucson, AZ

March

5 Tucson Show

17-20 FWD Spring Convention & NE Divisional - Reno

April

9 NW Divisional - Open for Bid 16 AZ Divisional - Open for Bid

May

7 SW Divisional - Open for Bid 14 SE Divisional - Open for Bid

July

7/3-10 INT'L CONV Kansas City, MO

October

13-16 FWD Fall Convention, Bakersfield Host: Fresno 18-22 SAI Int'l Conv, Houston, TX

November

13 Leadership Academy 1 Day 20 Leadership Academy 1 Day

2012

January

8 Leadership Academy 1 Day 15 Leadership Academy 1 Day

March

3 Tucson Show

15-18 FWD Spring Convention, TBA

July

7/1-8 INT'L CONV Portland, OR

October

11-14 FWD Fall Convention, TBA 30-11-3 SAI Int'l Conv, Denver, CO

2013

March

14-17 FWD Spring Convention, TBA

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

11/4-8 SAI Int'l Conv, Baltimore, MD

2015

June

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

10/6-10 SAI Int'l Conv, Las Vegaa, NV

2016_

June

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

10/18-22 SAI Int'l Conv, Las Vegas, NV

Clear all show dates with FWD Secretary, Dick Girvin

This SE Dividion Registration form arrived after Westunes went to the printer.

Please get it to your Chapter President, Secretary or individual members as needed.

Because of circumstances, this page follows the back cover of Westunes.

2010 FWD SOUTHEAST DIVISION CONTESTS & CONVENTION

May 15, 2010
Alta Loma High School
8880 Baseline Road, Alta Loma, CA 91701

Hosted by:

Name



Competition Status (check one)

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Return completed forms with payment to: Sharon Miller, Registrar, 2 Toluca Estates Drive, Toluca Lake, CA 91602

Questions? Call Alex Carlson at (415) 894-2219 or email carlsoja@gmail.com

Please make check payable to: Westminster Chorus