



Volume 62

Summer 2012

Number 2

WESTUNES



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

Far Western District Quartets That Qualified for International in Portland



1 Masterpiece 87.4



2 The Crush 84.1



3 Artistic License 80.7



4 95 North 77.9

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FWD Webpage: <http://www.spebsqsafwd.org/>
WESTUNES and FWD data continuously updated.

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

Advertising rates per issue:

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

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BoD, DMT and other contributors can
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and providing information as
required

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Div 2 SE Craig Hughes

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Div 4 NE Richard Lund

Div 5 AZ John Bloomquist

FWD District Management Team

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Issue	Deadline	Chapter News Submittal to Div Editor	Deadline
Winter	1 Nov	25 Oct	
Spring	1 Feb	25 Jan	
Summer	1 May	25 Apr	
Fall	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]
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It's hard to believe that we're almost half way through 2012. By the time this issue is printed, we will have completed all of our Division Contests with a full slate of choruses and quartets preparing for our big Fall Convention in Mesa, Arizona. As I write this, I'm reflecting back on the outstanding performances that have hit the stage this spring. Our very successful combined Southern California Divisions and District Prelims drew near record numbers in attendance. Helping with the success of the weekend was the new "Harmony Platoon" activity in Ontario, where over 70 quartet participants singing from Thursday through Saturday night delighted so many with great singing. Much credit goes to Bill Kane (FWD Quartet Activities Chairman), Don Salz (Platoon coordinator extraordinaire), and Keith Eckhardt for their hard work in putting this first-time event together. Thanks, men, for a GREAT experience!

Headed to Portland this July are our District Chorus Champions, Voices In Harmony and Pacific Coast Harmony from La Jolla who qualified as a wildcard competitor. Quartets who will make their appearance on the "big stage" include Masterpiece, The Crush, Artistic License and 95 North. Also having members from the FWD is Quadraphonics and Momentum. The Far Western District continues to be well-represented in the International Competition. If you aren't able to be in Portland, you can still cheer on our representative quartets at the AFWDC Go For The Gold Show on June 16th at Plummer Auditorium in Fullerton. Look for more information in this issue of Westunes. Good luck to all of our competitors!

We often think of summer as a time when we go through a lull in our barbershop activities. On the contrary, summer is one of the busiest times of the year with chapter shows throughout the district, the International Convention and Contest, Harmony College West, and a

plethora (that's right!) of events right on through August. Don't let these great times pass you by. Check out the schedule on the FWD Website.

And speaking of websites, look forward to a change in ours coming soon! District Marketing Chairman Greg Titus and Webmaster Keith Eckhart have been working on a new and exciting site with the expectation of unveiling it late summer or early fall. From what I hear it's going to be spectacular!

The next issue of Westunes marks a milestone in our history, as it will be the final printed edition. Although Westunes has been available online for a few years, it will be available in online format only from that point forward. Your Board has thought long and hard about this and realized that the time to move ahead is now. Delivering by this means will result in a savings to the District of approximately \$8000 annually. The best part is that it will be available in full color and can still be printed at home for those wishing to have something in hand while reading. Westunes Editor Ray Rhymer will continue his outstanding work in creating a quality product for our members.

Finally, in celebration of our District and to emphasize my motto, you will find later in this issue a copy of an original song titled, "One Song At A Time". Written and arranged by the barbershop legend Joe Liles, this song is available to ALL Far Western District members, quartets and choruses to use royalty free! This is my gift to the District with hopes we will all learn it and sing it...from the heart! It makes a great show closer and I hope to use it over the next couple of years as our District Theme Song. Learning tracks will be available on the District website soon, where you will be able to download and learn at your leisure. Our District Music and Performance Chairman (and recent Hall of Fame inductee) Nick Papageorge is preparing to direct the song at every convention, school and gathering possible. So, gather 'round with three other parts and enjoy. I challenge everyone to learn this song as a tribute to barbershop and the wonderful things songs can and have the power to do. Remember....



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District Executive Vice President



Allan Webb

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Since the last issue of the Westunes, the Far Western District has held both the combined Spring/SE/SW convention as well as two other Division contests, with one more to go as of this writing. While the combined Spring/SE/SW Convention was a great success in several ways (musically, fraternally, financially, and attendance-wise), it got me to thinking about the circumstances which drove us to combine these events.

When I first joined the Society 25 years ago (as a member of the Palomar-Pacific Chapter, in the SouthEast Division), the Division contest was attended by practically all chapters in the Division. In the case of the SouthEast Division, I remember events where 18 or so chapters from the Division were present (which would have represented the vast majority, if not all, the Chapters in SE at the time). That resulted in essentially full quartet and chorus contests constituted entirely by members of one Division (with perhaps one or two quartets competing from a different Division for various reasons). The other Divisions had similar experiences at the time as well, I'm sure.

Over the years, attendance at Division has dwindled to the point that we have now been forced into combining some Division contests (as well as the Spring Convention) into a single event in order for it to be viable. While it would be easy to attribute this to the fact that we have less members today than we did in the late 80s, it's not that simple. Taking the two Southern CA Divisions (SE/SW) as an example (not to pick on them), each of them has on the order of 700 members and approximately 18 Chapters, which is theoretically plenty to fill a hall and have a full slate of both choruses and quartets if everybody

showed up. In fact, if everybody showed up, the sheer number of chorus competitors would require two separate events.

That, my brothers, would be a healthy Division event, where you could go and enjoy the company and music of your brother chapters in the Division. All it takes is the commitment of your Chapter to attend, ideally as a chorus competitor (so you can receive valuable feedback and coaching from the judges), but even if not as a competitor, at least as supportive audience members.

And, btw, if your Chapter hasn't competed in a while (and many of you haven't), due to any reason along the lines of "we had a bad experience with the judges evaluations", let me tell you: things don't work that way anymore (and haven't for quite a while). I've also heard reasons like "we don't think we'd do a good enough job on the contest stage". The Division contest is precisely the place where you should be willing to put your chorus and chapter quartets out there, even if you feel a little shaky about the contest environment. Walking the boards, getting a score, and getting feedback about how your chapter chorus or quartet can sing and entertain even better than you already do, is invaluable.

If you haven't been to your Division contest in a few years, now is the time to start planning for next year. Start the conversation in your chapter today, while everybody has a lot of time left to make the commitment to go. It's a ton of fun.

Westunes Announcement

The FWD Board of Directors determined in the 2011 Fall meeting that the interest of the members is best served to continue Westunes electronically, i.e., no longer print and mail it.

Westunes has been posted electronically for 10 years on the FWD website and that will continue. The Spring, Summer and Fall issues will be both printed and electronic. Starting with the Winter issue, Westunes will be electronic only.

The Sacramento Capitolaire and the American River Chorus consider unification.

After extended internal discussion, the Capitolaire (Caps) board approached the American River Chorus (ARC) board about the possibility of unifying the two chapters. The boards felt there was sufficient merit to refer the unification question to the membership of both chapters.

A joint committee was formed to consider the benefits and process of unification. Detailed questions and answers about unification as well as the proposed covenants of the combined group were developed and distributed to members so they could make an informed decision. Each chapter held a town hall style meeting in April to answer questions and address concerns of the members. Voting in each chapter was held one week later after final discussions.

The FWD was represented by Chuck Leavitt, the NW Div VP, because NE Div VP Richard Lund is a member of ARC. All members showed a tremendous

amount of respect and an appreciation of what makes each chapter unique. Everyone was clearly trying to do what was best for barbershop in Northern California.

The results of the voting* are:

Caps:

In favor of unification: 9; against unification: 27

ARC:

In favor of unification: 16; against unification: 46

*Society bylaws require a two-thirds vote in favor of such a merger by each chapter.

The Capitolaire and the American River Chorus have demonstrated their commitment to continuing the support of each other and of barbershop in Northern California. We congratulate both chapters for this outstanding effort.

Chuck Leavitt, DVP, NW Div
Richard Lund, DVP, NE Div

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For a brochure with all of the cruise information, please call or email Edward Pio at 831-206-0450/edwardpio@gmail.com or Jo Black at 916-253-9293/jomamabass@gmail.com Make your reservations today!

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Chair: Chapter Support & Leadership
Gordon "Mongo" Bergthold

[FWD Contacts](#)



Chair: Chorus Director Development
John Minsker

[FWD Contacts](#)



Chair: Contest & Judging
Ron Black

[FWD Contacts](#)

The chapter support and leadership training program is being revised and the Chapter Service Representatives list is being reviewed to determine that we have the right people available for chapters when requested. Since only a couple of chapters have contacted us over the past two years it is doubtful that anyone will notice the changes. However, we want you to know that the district is determined to provide help to all chapters requesting assistance and only you, the members, can make this happen.

Throughout the Barbershop Harmony Society chapters have the same opportunity to receive help from a similar program that we have offered for two years. The CSLT program is offered in lieu of the chapter counselor program that originally put a man in charge of an area within the district to cover all aspects of chapter activities. We came to the conclusion that was an unrealistic assignment and that most of the counselors were not qualified to address all elements of chapter activities, especially when it came to musical matters. General administrative issues could be addressed by a seasoned veteran but to expect him to handle all issues and challenges essential to the success of a chapter was deemed unreasonable.

Hence, the Chapter Service Representative program was instituted. If you have questions please do not hesitate to give me a call (928) 830-0877, or email me at glbergie@cableone.net.

Building a successful chapter that continues to grow, both musically and in membership retention, is an extremely important leadership responsibility and one that is challenging to obtain. Every leader at every level needs to contribute to this important organizational goal and leading by example is the place to start.

We're here to help; take advantage of the Far Western District's expertise, we're loaded with talent.

Spring contest season in FWD is almost completed, only the NE Division is still outstanding (May 19). Elsewhere in this issue you can see the results of the International Preliminary Quartet Contest in Ontario, including the Southwest and Southeast Divisions, plus the results of the Northwest and Arizona Divisions. Please check out the FWD "eNews" to get results for the other division in May (Northeast May 19). Go here:

<http://www.spebsqsafwd.org/scores/2012/index.cfm>

Watch the above site after May 19. Posted there will be:

- All quartets who have qualified for the Fall District contest (scored higher than 66%)
- All choruses who have qualified for the Fall District contest (scored higher than 58%)
- Any quartets and choruses added as wildcards.
- The top five Senior Quartets who can enter the Fall contest
- The FWD 2011 Super Senior Quartet Champion, who can sing on the Fall Show.
- Collegiate quartets who have qualified for the College Quartet International

Write if you have contest questions. I receive LOTS of e-mail this time of year with questions, and some are forwarded to me by others. Please utilize my help with anything relating to contests. And go to the convention, whether you are in the contest or not! It's fun.



Chair: Events
John Jones

[FWD Contacts](#)

Welcome to the New Year 2012! Midwinter in Tucson, Az, Prelims in Ontario, Ca, International in Portland, Or and our FWD Fall Convention in Mesa, Az. Travel is the key to celebrating our hobby this year. Plan ahead and go enjoy!

Here's hoping many of you had the opportunity to enjoy the 2012 Midwinter Convention in Arizona. With an outstanding Seniors Contest (thanks to the Velvet Frogs for ably representing the FWD), the Dixieland Band in the lobby, and the ever astounding Youth Chorus Festival, featuring three FWD choruses (congratulations to the Boom Town Chorus for scoring tops in their Plateau). Tucson was delightful.....

Oh.....wait a moment...that was the start of my input for the Spring Issue which I failed to send to Ray, I wrote it then blew the delivery...sorry.....

Our joint Southeast/Southwest/Prelims convention was a delight. Colony High School has a beautiful theater, a wide open SoCal campus, with classrooms and spaces allowing for multiple coaching session for all choruses. A booster's concession provided hot dogs, hamburgers and toasted cheese sandwiches, compensating for the lack of local eateries. With 17 choruses and 25 quartets we had an attendance over 900 folks. This was bolstered by the presence of the Platoon activities. Sixty plus quarteting men occupied every nook and cranny of the hotel starting Thursday. It was a delight to see and hear!!!

Moving into the summer of 2012, we have had Conventions in the Arizona, the Northeast and the Northwest Divisions. Preparing material and honing skills are a fun part of the hobby experience which then lead to the presentation of musicality at our FWD 2012 Fall Convention in Mesa, Az. We cannot emphasize too strongly the need to plan for this event now. The town of Mesa is pretty, the weather

perfect in October and both the venue and the headquarters hotel are great. A genuine getaway for Oct 11- 14, 2012 and making travel arrangements a part of the preparation process will make it all that more enjoyable. The convention hosted by the Phoenix chapter is being managed by a top-notch team that has hosted both District and International events including active participation in the recent Midwinter. Watch for highlights and registration forms headed your way.

March 8/11, 2012 – Prelims, Southeast/Southwest, Ontario, Santa Fe Springs Chapter

April 13/14, 2012 – Northwest Division, Woodside, Palo Alto Mountain View Chapter

April 20/21, 2012 - Arizona Division, Phoenix, Tucson Chapter

May 18/19, 2012 - Northeast Division, Sacramento, Sacramento Chapter

Oct 11/14, 2012 – FWD Fall Convention, Mesa, Phoenix Chapter

Oct 10/13, 2013 – FWD Fall Convention, Bakersfield, Chapter - TBD

Oct 9-12, 2014 – FWD Fall Convention, Fresno, Fresno Chapter

Here are your Division Event Planners:

Northeast – Sam Barger nevadasam1@sbcglobal.net

Northwest – John Jones johnkathyjones@aol.com

Southeast – Paul Sandorf patosand@yahoo.com

Southwest – Jim Serdahely sirdaly@aol.com

Arizona – Ivan Jensen ivanbbs@thejensens.com



Chair : Marketing & Public Relations
Greg Titus

[FWD Contacts](#)



Chair : Member Services
Jack Peters

[FWD Contacts](#)

Well Hallelujah! The first quarter of this year has shown a very steady FWD membership count. Now we hope that we're at the bottom of a declining graph and we'll only see an up swing from here.

Congratulations to the Santa Rosa Chapter for recently hosting a very successful "open house" with more visitors than members. That's what is waiting for us all if only we'll share what we have.

In my spring Westunes article, I was talking about how to handle new prospective singers, by **getting** their contact information instead of **giving** them yours. I trust you're all out there everyday, rehearsing this technique. Success is guaranteed if only you'll practice it, just as you must do with your music!

Recently I was at a new car dealer looking for new wheels, and noticed the salesman doing his job of fact finding in order to assist me better. I didn't buy and as I was heading out the door, *he made sure he had my contact information* for his files, follow up, special pricing, whatever, before he *gave me his card*. I didn't intend to call him back but within hours he called me. You know what? I just picked up that new car! This is exactly how it works when we talk with someone about singing with us. He probably won't call us, so we need his info to share and invite him to experience what we're really all about.

What we really should be concentrating on in our sport is Giving vs. Getting. I was eavesdropping on a couple of fellas' small talk at a sandwich bar while waiting for a delayed flight last week. I heard one of them talk about his affiliation with the Elks in Pasadena and how they did so many great *things for others*. I eventually joined the conversation by mentioning that was why I belonged to the organization I do, too. He was impressed and just so happened to also love singing. I got *his* card and the Pasadena chapter now has his information to make contact with him from my referral. **Giving**, gives us a PURPOSE of being. Singing with our buddy's **Get's** us great pleasure but with an *altruistic purpose*, we are so much more, even with inter chapter referrals.

To help you strike up a conversation with strangers, in case you're a bit shy, wear the "I Sing" button from the Society, also ----- wear your chorus class B or casual class C shirts with chorus logo *in public*. These shirts are not usually expensive, so get several. To only wear them at conventions and competitions keeps us hidden *inside our own skin*. What about the other billions who have no idea what or who we are? Stick your chest out there and be proud of what you do. Your community needs to be well aware of the multi faceted opportunities we offer like; a cappella, quartet work, ensemble singing, (no requirement to read music), free singing lessons every time we meet, fun, friendships and we also *give to local charities and school projects*, etc.

When seeing your shirt/pin, they'll ask; "What is that organization you belong to?" Your response --- "I sing with a bunch of guys on Tues night in an a cappella ensemble right here in River City. *Soo - Where do like to do your singing?*" This will open the doors wide to ask for his business card or phone # to talk with him later. (If they're not necessarily singers, always bring up the fact that the majority of our fellas don't read music and don't usually have great voices, but memorize the songs from learning track CD's and then get together to sing them on Tues nights in a larger group.) It's a blast to create live music together, and together is the magic.

Have a great summer and talk with someone every day on how they may also learn to love our sport. Share our joy wherever we are and remember; there are nearly 800 chapters, world wide, to welcome them. **Give** of our time and talent, and let's "Get America Singing!"



Chair: Music & Performance
Nick Papageorge

[FWD Contacts](#)

**REGISTER ONLINE NOW for
HARMONY COLLEGE WEST**

HARMONY COLLEGE WEST is two months away. INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATIONS and QUARTET REGISTRATIONS, as well as, class descriptions are

available now on the FWD Web Site. Click any on the above underlined words and go to it's web page.

Two of our faculty members are: John Brockman, who will be teaching the Arranging Class, and Craig Ewing who will be teaching vocal techniques.

John has been barbershopping since 1997 when he joined a high school barbershop chorus, a high school barbershop quartet, "No Refunds", as well as the local barbershop chapter, the Gents-in-a-Chord Chorus from Lompoc, CA. He is now a brand new MUSIC judge, the baritone of our 2011 District Quartet Champion, The Crush, the director of the New Gang on the Corner from Riverside, and assistant director of the Westminster Chorus. How's that for participation at a high level? John received a Music degree from Pepperdine in Music Theory and Composition, and still is a staff arranger for the school's annual "Songfest." And to top it all off, he has earned 3 Chorus Gold Medals in 4 years with the Westminster Chorus and the Masters of Harmony.

Craig Ewing is a 35-year barbershopper. Craig has a music degree from Cal State Long Beach in Choral Conducting specializing in Cambiata (changing adolescent male voices). He was the tenor section leader of the 1984 Olympic Honor Chorus, which sang at the 1984 Olympic Games. Craig is an avid quartet man. He has won 3 FWD Quartet Championships, as well as the Pan Pacific Championship, the Buckeye Invitational Grand Championship and the National A cappella Sweepstakes Championship. He has directed many choruses in our district, and is currently the director of the Fullerton Chapter.

I am still looking for 2 "small choruses" that would like to participate in the chorus-coaching track. This is a "class" that has a small chorus being coached for 4 hours, and then their members take classes for the remaining four hours. Last year the Eureka California Chapter attended as a chorus and was coached by Gary Bolles. They had the time of their lives! Get your small chorus enrolled now.

ATTEND HARMONY COLLEGE WEST!



**Chair : Young Men In Harmony
Jim Halvorson**

[FWD Contacts](#)

Greetings, Mighty FWD!

Spring is upon us and the end of the school year is just around the corner. Now would be a great time to reflect and see how your chapter has involved itself in the Youth in Harmony movement. Have you sponsored a youth festival or youth harmony camp? Have you done any workshops or clinics at the local schools? Maybe even invited the local HS choir to come down and sing for your chapter and share an evening of harmony? If you haven't, there may still be time to get your chapter involved. The end of school is approaching fast, so now might be a great time to invite guys to sing for the summer. These young men get to share in the thrill of ringing those "barbershop" chords and get the benefit of our fraternity of harmony. I know that in my school, I just started teaching daily tags and barbershop warm-ups in my choirs and they are eating this stuff up.

Chapters should also start contacting your local schools to see about how you can assist them in the next year. You could offer to support a quartet with coaching or assisting them to a Youth in Harmony event. You might also offer to have your chapter or quartet emcee, usher, or serve as lobby entertainment at a choir concert. Even better, offer to share a concert with them, the only stipulation being that you get some quality time teaching the men about the barbershop style. All these ideas need is YOU taking the first step. Most choir directors will love the help, and if they know you have the secret to bringing more men into their program, they will be all ears.

While you are planning your youth invigoration initiative, think about how you can help the district keep our district wide plans alive by contributing to the Youth Education Fund. While the Harmony Foundation helps all districts out, the YEF gives our district youth activities the boost they need to be at the top of the organization. Every year we have cho-

ruses and quartets involved in our youth activities, and it would be great to be able to make sure every youth that wants those barbershop experiences can have a district that can make that happen.

If you're not heading to Portland this summer, make sure to check out our quartets through the webcast as they take the stage, keeping the mighty FWD atop the barbershop world. Have an awesome summer and "tag till it hurts", then sing one more!



**Chair : Quartet Activities
Bill Kane**

[FWD Contacts](#)

Inaugural Quartet Harmony Platoon Expanded to Fall District Convention

Sixty men from 32 different chapters participated in the first ever Harmony Platoon at the 2012 FWD spring convention. Several dozen more participated in the second one at the NE Division convention in May. They were a part of something new and special that may catch fire across the barbershop world. FWD has often led the way with the latest and greatest things barbershop and we believe Harmony Platoon will be among them.

Harmony Platoon can be enjoyed by the average barbershopper. **If you can accurately sing (in tune) your chorus numbers in a quartet, you probably have the skills to enjoy the Harmony Platoon.** All it takes is learning 4 songs of moderate difficulty, have the stomach for an informal quartet contest, and commit to hang with your Platoon brothers at the FWD convention for 24 hours beginning 3:00 PM Thursday, October 11, 2012 in Mesa Arizona, right before the fall District Convention begins.

WE ESPECIALLY NEED TENORS. It is projected that we will have at least 15 quartets as we did in the spring, which is super; however, since many of the guys who participated in the spring have already signed up for fall, we may exceed that number.

CHAPTER LEADERS, not every member reads these announcements so identify your good singers and encourage them to give this a try. Recall that quartet experience improves one's ability in the chorus and increases member retention.

Fill out the registration form at:

Fall District Harmony Platoon Information

or contact me with questions. You know you'll love it.

FWD Fall Convention in Mesa, AZ October 11-14, 2012

FWD Choruses Will Compete to become the 2012 FWD Champion and to Qualify for the June 30 - July 7, 2013 International Chorus Contest in Toronto, Canada
FWD Quartets Will Compete to become the 2012 FWD Champion.

**HOD meeting is Friday, October 12, 2PM.
Chapter Delegate 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"**



Quadrphonics also qualifies for Portland

as a result of singing in Ontario and achieving a score of 78.3. They are registered in the Evergreen District, but you will recognize a current and a past member of the FWD singing Tenor [Ken Potter] and Lead [Dean Waters].



2011 FWD Quartet Champions Artistic License

by Gabe Caretto

GEARING UP FOR PORTLAND

What a thrill to have qualified for the “big dance” in Portland... especially for Jason, this will mark his first trip ever to compete (not counting his appearances with Epic, his former college quartet). And I couldn’t be more thrilled to debut in EVG, the district where I grew up and spent the better part of 20 years in... it’ll feel like a bit of a homecoming for me, in many ways... heck, maybe even some “home court advantage”?!?

We were very pleased with our performances down in Ontario and can’t thank you all enough for your support and encouragement as we begin our musical journey. The Masters of Harmony did a wonderful job of hosting, the pros that they are, and the venue was grand! I don’t know about you, but I certainly wish I had an auditorium like that when I was in High School... geez! We did, however, have cow pastures like that, so I shouldn’t complain too much!

Prelims afforded us some much needed “bonding time”... just the four of us drove down part way on Thursday night, and arrived early Friday afternoon... refreshed and ready to go! We enjoyed plenty of silliness, story sharing and a bit of craziness... and we came away from the road trip with tons of inside jokes and such. This weekend literally marked the 1 year anniversary for Artistic License... the first of many more to come!

Congratulations to Masterpiece, The Crush, 95 North and Quadraphonics – we got a chance to see them all perform and wow!! We’re gonna see some serious FWD presence at International, of that I have no doubt! I know that we are motivated to perform at our very best and will continue working to bring more musicality, more artistry, more heartfelt emotion and more energy to the stage. Representing the Far Western District we take very seriously and hope that we can make you all proud (and even give those other quartets a run for their money!)

Our wish is that we are able to bring to the stage in Portland the best of us. We spend a lot of time talking about who we are...if you were to ask us, we have 6 words that describe our quartet and who we want to be. It’s super important for quartets to do that... look at all of the past International Champs – each and every quartet has very tangible characteristics that you can differentiate them from the rest of the competition. So our goal in Portland is to make a memorable impression and to set ourselves apart as a unique musical ensemble. We certainly can’t control what the other groups do on stage, so we’ll let the chips fall where they may... (have you SEEN the scores that quartets are putting up?!? WOW...)

We’ve been working a LOT on the comments we received from Ontario...the judges were right on the money with their comments and provided us with a lot of great feedback on how to consistently bring the most artistic A-level stuff to the stage. We are lucky to have worked with Alan Gordon, Rik Johnson and Cindy Hansen over the past year... but especially lucky to have Ron Black here in town helping challenge us to bring only the best, each and every time. You know, that sort of butt-kicking that you enjoy?!!

We are getting a lot of stage time, especially this spring... we had a GREAT show up in Eureka (is there any more beautiful place?!?) and will be entertaining as part of the Oroville Community Concert Series in May. Also, we’ll be performing at the Northeast Division Convention in May and the annual Bean Feed up in Auburn in June. Check us out as we are rolling out our website... www.artisticlicensequartet.com – we look forward to seeing you all up in Portland... if not sooner! Thank you all so much for your love and support... we are truly blessed!



SouthEast Division Vice President Craig Hughes presents a FWD travel fund check for the 2012 International Contest in Portland to La Jolla Chapter President Lou Benedict.

The FWD budgets funds annually to help offset chapter and quartet travel expenses to the International Contest. They represent the FWD at the BHS level when competing with other representatives from other districts and also affiliates from around the world. Our other qualifying quartets and chorus will also receive checks for the same purpose.

Remember the “Go for the Gold” show on June 16, 2012 at the Plummer Auditorium in Fullerton. This is a fundraiser for travel for the 4 quartets pictured on the front page who will be representing us in Portland. You will get to hear them sing their contest sets during the course of the evening just a couple of weeks before the “Big Show” up north. It will be your best opportunity to support them in their endeavor and to wish them well and a safe journey.

Nick Papageorge Inducted into FWD Hall of Fame



I would like to let you all know that I was extremely surprised and honored to be inducted into the Far Western District’s Hall of Fame at our Spring Convention in Ontario. But more importantly, I was overwhelmed by your loud and lasting ovation as I took the stage. I am honored and humbled to be part of a group of men who have served our district in such huge ways. It is truly a moment that I will never forget and I thank you all.

Youth Harmony Camp 2012

September 21 – 23, 2012

**Sly Park Educational Center
Pollock Pines, CA**

Music Dean – Gabe Caretto

Quartets:

**OC Times - 2008 Int’l Champions
Artistic License - 2011 FWD Champions
First Strike - 6th Place Int’l Prelims**

**You are getting your high school young
men excited about this and signed up,
aren’t you?**



2011 International Chorus Champions The Masters of Harmony

by Ron Larson

[Ed note: the two paragraphs below were inadvertently omitted from the Spring issue]

Congratulations go to Far Western District President Bernard Priceman as he steps down at the end of his two-year term. For the past two years, chapters throughout the district have benefited from the significant time and effort he put in on behalf of his fellow district barber shoppers. Bernard traveled widely throughout the district and surveyed almost every chapter. Along with his fellow board members, Bernard oversaw a period of remarkable success for the district's two international chorus championships, the best midwinter convention ever, excellent district and divisional conventions, and continued sponsorship of youth activities that will help keep our marvelous hobby alive well into the future. Best wishes for continued success to Incoming President Russ Young and his fellow board members!

It is with great sadness that the Masters note the passing of one of their most beloved members, Mark Feiner. Formerly director of the Temple Beth Enet Choir in Anaheim, at the time of his passing, Mark had just established the South County Chorus Sound chorus, and was in demand for his quartet coaching expertise. He was one of 12 Masters men to earn all eight MOH gold medals. He was part of a three-generation barbershop family and had the rare distinction of earning a gold medal with his father Murray (now deceased) in Calgary, and two with his son David in Nashville and Kansas City. In the Kansas City con-

test, Mark stood next to David, making the Kansas City chorus picture a special treasure for anyone familiar with the Feiner family's long association with the Masters of Harmony. At his funeral service, a show of hands in the overflow audience revealed almost every man present had sung with Mark at one time or another. So, Mark's legacy, inherited from his father and nourished during his tenure with the Masters, will continue on with David and be carried forward into the lives of so many who were blessed by knowing him.

The Masters of Harmony's latest CD, "The Dream Is Carried On," honors a relationship that spawned and nurtured The Westminster Chorus. Westminster took that spirit further when a group of its members, led by Joey Buss, decided to create an even younger youth-oriented chorus. Joey's music team recruited members from local Orange County high schools, Youth in Harmony events, and by word of mouth. The new ensemble adopted the name Boom Town Chorus and grew to 23 members ranging in age from 13 to 26 with an average age of 18. Eight of the members are current or past members of Westminster and/or MOH, and they mentored the young men as section and assistant section leaders. In October 2011, chorus rehearsals focused on competing in the International Youth Barbershop Chorus Festival in Tucson, Arizona, in January 2012. The Harmony Foundation and other donors provided needed financial support. Under Joey's leadership, the Boom Town Chorus won the Plateau A chorus competition with a score of 75.9, the only Plateau A chorus to earn a "Superior" score from the judges. Congratulations to you, Joey, and to the young men you directed!

[Continues on page 14]

[From page 13]

One month later, the Masters held the 12th Annual Young Men's Harmony Festival at Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa. This year's event drew 203 young men from 19 high schools and one middle school throughout Southern California. More than 70% of the attendees were first-timers, while 30% were repeat attendees. With expert coaching from OC Times and Dave Tautkus, Jason Remley and Ken Potter, the students worked all day to get ready for their part in an evening show that included Tenacious Q, The Crush, Boom Town Chorus, OC Times and the Masters of Harmony. For the show finale, 275 singers crowded the risers to sing a rousing rendition of "America the Beautiful/Overlay." The result was a long, loud standing ovation from the audience of parents, families, teachers and friends. This year's event brings the 12-year attendance total to well over 2,700 students who have participated in one or more youth festivals. Once again, special congratulations go to Youth Festival Coordinator Mark Freedkin. Over the years, Mark's many hours of organizing work have made this event a great success, one now a model for similar events all around the country. Who knows how many of these young men will be inspired by this experience to join youth choruses like the Boom Town Chorus and someday, to Society chapters around the country? This festival and others like it are how we can make sure "The Dream is Carried On!"

In March, the Masters of Harmony performed for the eleventh time on the Calimesa Community Concert Series. This year, the series moved from the familiar Mesa Grande Academy Auditorium in Calimesa to a new, permanent home in the University of Redlands Memorial Chapel. The beautiful ambiance of the chapel was the perfect place to perpetuate a musical love affair that has been bringing the Masters of Harmony and Calimesa concert audiences together for over 20 years.

Three weeks later, the Masters of Harmony hosted the Far Western District Spring Convention in Ontario, California. For the first time, the convention was combined with the Southwest and Southeast divisionals and it resulted in the largest attendance for a Spring Convention in the last 10 years. The MOH experience gained hosting two past International Conventions (1999 and 2009, both in Anaheim) was brought to bear on the larger-than-usual logistics involved in convention hosting duties, and the consensus is that this year's Spring Convention was a successful one.

The Santa Fe Springs Chapter was honored at the House of Delegates meeting for its high level of donations to Harmony Foundation, and Mark Freedkin was announced as dedicatee for the FWD Fall Convention to be held in Mesa, Arizona, in October. MOH quartets Masterpiece and The Crush took first and second place, respectively, in the Prelims, and the Harmadillos won the Collegiate Quartet Contest. The Westminster Chorus won the Southeast Divisional Chorus Contest. Five MOHers directed choruses – Craig Ewing (Fullerton), Kelly Shepard (Rincon Beach), John Brockman (Riverside), Martin Fredstrom (South Orange County), and Justin Miller (Westminster).

In April, the Masters of Harmony presented their annual spring shows at the Downey Civic Theatre. It was a "bitter-sweet" experience for the MOH family since it was the last local performance by Mark Hale as MOH director. However, the Masters rose to the occasion with performances that thoroughly entertained the near-capacity audiences. The shows started with a unique format – that of a small town radio show with radio-type commercials, creatively produced by Gary Stone and harmonized by the American Pastime quartet. In his role as "disc jockey," Jeff Baker captivated the audience as he introduced "jingle" singers hawking make-believe local products. One of the highlights of the MOH portion of the shows was the introduction of a new Hoagy Carmichael Medley, beautifully arranged by Rob Campbell and featuring soloists and a quartet. Masterpiece showed the audience why it is a top contender for International Quartet Gold, and the zany antics of Tenacious Q wowed the audiences in its own clownish style.

It is with great sadness that the Masters note the passing of beloved member Terry Blood.

Since the last edition of Westunes, Ed Churchill (bass), Foster Howlett (bass) and Taylor Price (lead) have become members of the Masters of Harmony.

FWD Sunshine Chairman Les Cudworth

**3227 Root Ave
Carmichael, CA 95608-3415
916-489-3910
lesimpact@netzero.net**



5 Velvet Frogs 70.5



6 First Strike 67.6



7 Four Fifteen 66.6



8 The American Heralds 66.6



9 Mother's Favorite 61.6

The rest of the FWD International Preliminary Quartet Contest competitors.

Far Western District

2012 Fall Contest and Convention

Contests and Shows

District Quartet Contest
(Fri & Sat 6:45 PM)
District Chorus Contest
(Sat – 9:30 AM)
District Senior Quartet Contest
Show of Champions
Past Quartet Champs Show

Hosted By:

Greater Phoenix Chapter
October 11-14, 2012
Mesa Arts Center

Meetings and Events

District Board Meeting
House of Delegates Meeting
Past District Presidents Meeting
AH-SOW
Classes and Workshop

<div>Registration Prices</div> <div>ALL CONTESTANTS MUST PURCHASE AN ALL EVENTS REGISTRATION FOR THE APPLICABLE AGE GROUP</div>		<div>Headquarters hotel is the Marriott</div> <div>200 N. Centennial Way Mesa, AZ 480-898-8300</div> <div>Hotel is across the street to the north from the Mesa Arts Center.</div>
<div>ALL EVENTS EARLY BIRD (Postmarked by Sep 8th)</div>	<div>ALL EVENTS LATE/ON SITE (Postmarked by Sep 8th)</div>	
<div>Adult \$40</div> <div>Young Adult (under 26) \$20</div> <div>Non-Member(under 13) Free</div>	<div>Adult \$50</div> <div>Young Adult (under 26) \$25</div> <div>Non-Member(under 13) Free</div> <div>SINGLE EVENT \$25/12.50</div>	

*Registrations can be made online at <http://www.sopchorus.org/registration2012.php>

2012 FAR WESTERN DISTRICT Fall Contest and Convention Registration		Member	Wife/S.O.	Child/Youth	District Officer	Chapter Delegate	AFWDC/VIP	Amount Due
Name(s)	Chapter or City							
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* Address:		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Total: Checks payable to: Greater Phoenix Chapter </div>						
City: State:								
Email:								
Competing With:								
Mail one form for your party (up to 8 names per sheet), and a check covering all registrations to: Randy Bingel 5410 E. Farmdale Ave. Mesa, AZ 85206 Info: 480-278-0749								



Discover Mesa Arizona

Far Western District Barbershop Harmony Society Fall Contest and Convention

October 11-14, 2012

The Greater Phoenix Chapter welcomes you to nearby Mesa, Arizona for this year's Far Western District Barbershop Harmony Fall Convention. We are pleased to be hosting this year's convention and ready to make this one for the history books.

Hotel	Distance from Mesa Arts Center	Rate	Number
Marriott (Headquarters)	2 blocks	\$109	480-898-8300
Best Western Mezona	½ mile	\$79	480-834-9233
Holiday Inn	2 ½ miles	\$94	480-964-7000
Comfort Inn & Suites	½ mile	\$69 - \$74	480-621-6375
Travelodge	½ mile	\$80	480-964-5694

Registrations can be made online at <http://www.sopchorus.org/registration2012.php>

ONE SONG AT A TIME

inspired by Russ Young, Far Western District President 2012-13
created for Far Western District

Words, Music and Arrangement
 by JOE LILES

JoeLilesMusic@gmail.com

Swing! **R** *ppp* = R *r*0

Tenor Lead

Bari Bass

One song at a time, _____ one song at a time, _____

bm buh bm one at a time. _____ One _____ time.

_____ chang - ing _____ the world _____ one song at a time. _____ time. _____

with one

Keep - a sing - in'! One One song at a time, _____

your voice blend - ing with mine. _____ Chang - ing _____ the the,

©2012 Joe Liles
 All Rights Reserved Used by Permission

14 world, 15 one song, 16

chang - ing the world with one me - lo - di - ous song, with

17 one song, 18 at a time! 19 touch - ing hearts, 20

one har - mo - ni - ous song, reach - ing out, touch - ing hearts,

21 one song at a time! 22 23 24

one song at a time! Oh, yeah!

time, buh bm one at a time!

Optional Tag

22 23 24

Oh, YEA!

buh bm one at a time!



The SoCal Comedy Quartet Contest Returns: July 28, 2012

By Mark Sheldon, Orange Quartet Chapter PR

From its earliest days as a performance art, Barbershop has evolved with a healthy dose of comedy in its repertoire. Today, quartets of all types work humor into their routines. Comedy quartets that have won the International Championship such as FRED and Storm Front show that a quartet can be funny and still sing at the highest level. Barbershoppers know and respect the challenge of doing both together.

The SoCal Comedy Quartet Contest is a great way for your quartet to show off its comedic chops as well as its barbershop singing prowess. In this contest, both count!

This is the third year the contest will be hosted by the Orange Quartet Chapter, continuing the tradition established for many years by the Palomar Pacific Chapter. The Orange Chapter offers this contest to promote the kind of audience-pleasing entertainment that O. C. Cash and Rupert Hall sought to "preserve and encourage" when they formed the Society.

The Contest will be held at 7:00pm on Saturday, July 28, 2012 at: The Village Theater, 1140 N. Tustin Street, Orange, CA 92867. General Admission Tickets are \$15; children 11 and under are half price. Come with family and friends to cheer on the quartet competitors!

Judging will be generally along the lines of standard Barbershop Harmony Society practice. Certain areas will be relaxed in

order to enhance the opportunities for comedic presentation. The membership rules are also relaxed to allow for non-member competitors as long as at least one quartet member belongs to the Barbershop Harmony Society, Sweet Adelines International, or Harmony Incorporated. Quartets can be either gender, or mixed. The entry fee for competing Quartets is \$25 (competitors do not need to purchase tickets for themselves).

Details of the Quartet rules, contest registration, and ticket ordering are available via the Orange Chapter website: orange.harmonize.com.

it's Back!

By Popular Demand...

The Orange Quartet Chapter of
The Barbershop Harmony Society
presents the Southern California

Comedy Quartet Contest!

7:00pm, Saturday, July 28, 2012

The Village Theater
1140 N. Tustin St., Orange, CA

Entry Fee
\$25.00
per quartet
CHEAP!

Audience Tickets
\$15
Kids Half Price

Send entry forms
and ticket requests to:
Orange Quartet Chapter, SPFBQSA
PO Box 2418
Orange, CA 92859

Info: (714) 442-8500 orangequartets@gmail.com orange.harmonize.com





FWD DVP for Division 1 SW
Bill Rosica

[**FWD Contacts**](#)

2012 is well upon us. The Division Contests for the Southwest and Southeast were combined with the International Preliminaries this year. The Santa Fe Springs Chapter with yours truly as Convention Chairman and John Jones as the all-around get-R-Done Guy had a great time in Ontario. The idea was to combine the three separate contests to save the cost of three judging panels, three venues and three of everything else that goes with a contest. By all accounts, all went very well and the Nor-Cal guys are planning the same thing for next year. The Ontario venue fit us like a glove. The school was very accommodating and it wouldn't surprise me if we were back there in a few years.

Operation Harold Hill has begun with seven chapters from the Southwest Division signing up. Thanks to: South Bay, Conejo Valley, Pasadena, Aloha, Santa Monica, San Fernando Valley and San Luis Obispo for taking full advantage of a great program. If your chapter has not looked into the program, please do so. You have everything to gain and virtually nothing to lose. If that doesn't float your boat, we have a "Learn to Sing" program that Jack Peters is running with help from Alan Gordon.

How many of you have enrolled in the Chapter Achievement Program? It's a great way to see how you stack up with other chapters within and from outside our own district. I remember, years ago, completing similar forms each month for the Bakersfield Chapter.

In my chapter, it was decided that we will have a guest night the Wednesday following our annual shows. So without a lot of fanfare, we announced the Guest Night from stage and had a few members from the audience show up. Three men have decided to give it a try and one was actually on the risers with us for a special Choreo rehearsal we had on a Tuesday. Now that's dedication. One way I found to at least

get the conversation going is to wear a small lapel pin on my collar. Those who know me, know that I wear it every day. You'll be surprised how many people ask, "What is that pin you're wearing?" "Glad you asked. I sing with the world's largest men's singing organization." If you haven't tried it, give it a whirl.

Portland will be the place to be in July. It's close. OK fairly close. And it will be a barn-burner of a contest. The top quartets are bunched close together and there could be a dark horse or two break in as well. The Ambassadors of Harmony out of St. Charles will be back to defend their title with Great Northern Union nipping at their heels. Make plans to attend because next year you'll need a passport.

Hope to see you in October in Mesa, Az. for our Fall Convention. Registration forms and hotel reservations are on-line. Sign up now and get a great seat.



Division 1 SW Chapters
Ken Day, Editor

[**FWD Contacts**](#)

ALOHA

We had six gigs and activities during the first quarter of 2012. **Sean Devine** installed new officers at our banquet, and the major awards presented were:

BOTY - **Ken Nelson** has been our Chorus Manager for over 10 years, and toiled mostly under the radar.

Rookie of the Year - **Bryce Irvine** is a freshman at Windward College of the University of Hawaii. He is a leader in the YMIH chorus 8zero8.

President's Award - **Lars Isaacson** displayed great enthusiasm since he has joined our chorus two years ago [came from the **Vocal Majority**]. He was responsible for the activation and formation of our YMIH chorus 8zero8.

Singing Valentines, our annual fund and FUN raiser was accomplished with 19 singers and 2 drivers participating. Behind the scenes 20 people performed jobs such as marketing, web site and form development, scheduling, order taking, call backs to buyers, card preparation, rose assembly, notebook assembly,

and sign holding and waving in traffic. Generally our expenses were 9% of our gross, making for a very profitable endeavour. Project co-chairs were **Hank Drayton** and **Dan Tom**.

BOTM for the first quarter were: January - **Dan Tom**; February - **Hank Drayton**; March - **Bobby Ing**

BAKERSFIELD **BOB CATHAWAY**

Director **Bob Cathaway** is forever trying to get the chorus members interested in barbershop activities the members have not tried before.

Tenor **Stan Haymaker** encouraged his quartet **Four Old Guys Singing** [F.O.G.S.] with **Jim Mahoney** and **Dave Fletcher** to attend the annual western gathering of the *Barbershop Quartet Preservation Association* (BQPA, formerly known as The Pioneers) in Mesa, AZ. One of the quartet had never really tried real woodshedding before, so he got his baptism by fire and is now hooked more than ever. Each of the quartet put his name in for the drawing of the random quartet contest. First place was Jim's quartet, and Stan, Bob and Fletch placed second! Bakersfield was back on the map (kind of).

PASADENA **BILL CAULEY**

After putting in a huge amount of effort during the past few years, we have experienced a net gain in membership, have learned several new songs, are seeing the formation of new quartets, and have generally raised the level of singing expertise in all areas. Almost half the participants in the spring division contest were first timers, and all are looking forward to going to the competition in Mesa, AZ in the fall.

Our rehearsals are jammed with new activities, and new guests are arriving weekly. This is due in no small part to the enthusiasm exhibited by our membership, and the desire to follow our motto of "*singing well, and having fun!*" Our community involvement is proceeding through gaining membership in local chambers of commerce, and promoting our activities by using those resources. Performances have been scheduled in the coming months to showcase the barbershop style, as we grow our chapter.

RINCON BEACH

KEN DAY

We started 2012 in a director search with anticipation to revive our singing skills so that we could raise our competition scores as well as return to the singing that we were so proud of in the past, for entertaining our audiences.

After auditioning **Kelly Shepard**, **Angel Velez**, and **John Revheim**, we selected Kelly. He started in February and in three weeks, we won the SoCal West Division. We are on our way back.

We sold 34 Valentines for that special day. One Valentine was sold to the editor of a local newspaper which resulted in a front page article with a picture.

In late March an Octet [**Bernie Sentianin**, **Monty Clark**, **Lu Hintz**, **Jay Pryor**, **Mike Murphy**, **Doug Van Bogelen**, **Jim Serdahely**, **Ken Day**] sang at a memorial for a long time barbershopper **Fred Stoliker** held at the Commemorative Air Force hanger at Camarillo Airport.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

BRUCE POEHLMAN

The Valleyaires had a great contest and are now getting ready for our spring show on June 10th, at the Hall of Liberty in Hollywood Hills, "*It's Summertime*". With special guest the CSUN A Cappella group **Vocal Percussion Radio**, Sweet Adelines quartet **Invitation**, as well as **From the Top**, **Oddly Enuf**, **Bill's Bari Pie**, and others, it will be a great show! See our website: www.valleyaires.info for more information.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

PETE BENNETT

SLO Chapters 2012 Singing Valentines were a success thanks to **Ted Henson's** leadership and help from **Ken Taylor** and **Rudy Xavier**.

The lead section welcomes new member **Bill Bloom**, a bicoastal singer who divides his time between San Luis Obispo and Long Island.

Quartet mates **Greg Schifano**, **Rick Ridge** and **Pete Bennett** attended the inaugural FWD Platoon event in Ontario, and had so much fun they've signed up

for the North East Division Platoon to be held in Folsom in May. They congratulate **Bill Kane** for putting the "Q" in FWD!

President **John Staley** revived the popular *Nuggets* newsletter - you can view the newest issue at: <http://www.slogold.org/docs/Nug01Apr12.pdf>.

If you come to the Central Coast to visit Pismo Beach, why not extend your stay so you can sing with us on Monday night? Before heading this way, visit our website www.slogold.org and/or call Pete Bennett at 805-550-2874.

SANTA BARBARA ERIC FENRICH

In April, the **Channel City Chorus** marked the beginning of our 56th year singing in Santa Barbara. During this past quarter, we added **Bill Rourke** as a new member. **Nick Pierce**, our current *BOTY*, celebrated fifteen years as a member of the Society and **Craig Pierce** eclipsed the twenty year mark! **Walk 'n' Roll** got the opportunity to promote the CCC when a local television crew found them delivering Singing Valentines, leading to even more visitors to our chorus!

SANTA MARIA RICHARD BURCH

We hosted a Youth in Harmony Festival and had sixty-one participants from five different high schools, up from the year before when we had forty participants. Thanks to **Blue Steele** out of Albuquerque, NM for their training and willingness to help with this festival. **Robert & Donna Maurer** with **Chuck Fredrickson** coordinated the event.

Singing Valentines had more participants than in the past. **Mary Lou Los** makes sure every event is in all the local papers, **Jeannie Young** helps any chance she can. It may have something to do with the fact that her father, **Bill Young**, started singing barber-shop so long ago that **O. C. Cash** is the one who signed his membership certificate. Bill hangs it proudly on his wall.

We started breakfast at Applebee's as a fundraiser. Thanks to **Dean Ubben** for putting it all together.

SANTA MONICA MARTY MITNICK

The **Santa Monica Oceanaires** welcome **Frank Giffin** and **Adam Marangakis**.

A small contingent of the **Oceanaires**, under the direction of our assistant director **Ben Lowe**, performed at St. Jeromes Catholic Church in honor of the nuns of the parish.

While rehearsing for our upcoming Spring Show, a sample of our program was presented to members of The Optomists Society of Pacific Palisades at their annual fund raiser.

West Coast Brigade Junkie: **The Oceanaires** have a real junkie on their hands. **Jim Leedom**, a 26-year chapter member, was bitten by the Harmony Brigade movement in the summer of 2008 when Harmony U staged its inaugural weekend of eXtreme Quarteting. After learning 10 very challenging songs for that one weekend of quartet singing with 54 strangers it was clear that this was THE most exciting 36 hours of Barbershop he had ever experienced. Since then Jim has attended 14 Brigade weekends all over the country and by the end of this year will be a member of 4 of the existing 7 Brigades (and a Charter Member of both Great Lakes and High Sierra). Imagine the thrill of receiving 10 to 12 new songs every 3 months, learning them by heart, and singing with up to 120 guys in different combinations all weekend long. Now THAT's eXtreme Quarteting! If you think you're up to it just contact Jim at the **Santa Monica Oceanaires** for more details.

SOUTH BAY JOE NAGLE

The Coastliners once again participated in the Singing Valentine's program, thanks to the efforts of coordinator **Rick Llewelyn**, and the assistance of his lovely wife, Kay. Several chapter quartets including **C-Nile Sound** (**Bruce Beyne, Denny Lawrence, Karl Jacobs, Rick Llewelyn**) and **The Boys Are Back** (**Paul Ivanick, Don Duperon, Dave Clark, Charlie Thompson**) delivered numerous valentines throughout the South Bay area.

On March 11th, a chorus of some 20 Coastliners performed at a luncheon sponsored by the Peninsula

Seniors at the Terranea Resort (the former Marineland site) in Palos Verdes.

This year's annual show "*The Ozard Of Wiz*" featured **Alli Tsukamura**, who turned in spectacular performances as Dorothy. Our featured quartet was 2010 FWD Champion **The Crush**.

VENTURA **JAN TAVARES**
The Channel Island Clippers are delighted to welcome **Larry Deering** and **Jeff Erskine**.

FWD IPP **Bernard Priceman** officiated at the Awards and Officer Installation ceremony - new chapter officers are: President **Jan Tavares**, VP Music and Performance **Jim Sumstine**, VP Marketing and PR **Verne Arnold**, VP Chapter Development **Bill Winfield**, Secretary **Lu Hintz**, Treasurer **Jay Shapiro**, and Members At Large **Fred Engle & Ron Lindsay**.

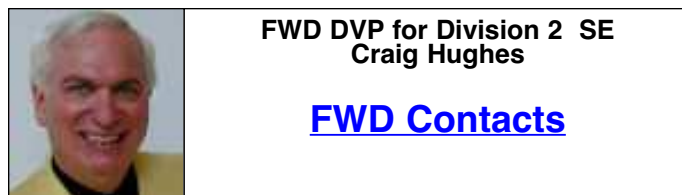
BOTY was presented to **Vern Arnold** and "*Rookie of The Year*" to **Bill Winfield**.

The chapter is very grateful to **Bill Butala** for his past leadership in rebuilding the chapter from a time some years ago where we had so few members that we considered giving up our charter.

WHITTIER **PAUL FEINZIMER**
We have not yet recruited a new Director. **Steve Peacock**, our longtime multi-Chapter member, has selflessly taken on the role of volunteer chorus leader and music/performance teacher. We remain deeply indebted to Steve for all the help he has given us.

Norm Bernier, **Steve Peacock** and I attended the Spring FWD House of Delegates meeting. It was my first HOD meeting and I found it to be an interesting and enlightening experience.

Uptown Whittier [**Ron Leutbecher**, **Steve Peacock**, **Bill Thompson**, **Ed Schoemann**] performed three times: for Beta Sigma Phi, a women's social group, for **Suzanne Nassen** [the wife of **Bill Nassen**] on Valentine's Day, and for the Senior Friends of the New Life Community Church of Artesia.



What a start to 2012. The SE/SW Division Contest, High School Quartet Contest and International Quartet Prelims in Ontario was great fun! Combining four events with the inaugural Barbershop Quartet Platoon provided something for everyone. Special thanks to our host Chapter (Masters of Harmony), the District Events Chairman (John Jones), the Temecula Chapter for hosting the Harmony for Lunch Bunch, and many others that made this such a stellar event. It always amazes me that something this complex appears seamlessly to the audience. It is a mad house back stage with pieces moving in all directions. Think of herding cats. The folks that pull this together deserve a special place in the pantheon of Barbershopping.

The Southeast Division had 12 competing choruses and put 331 men on the risers. Two of many highlights were watching the Westminster Chorus win the SE Contest with the highest scores of the weekend. Westminster was also recognized with a Harmony Foundation Gold Award for donating an average of \$278.85 per man to this outstanding cause. They continue to lead the way in so many areas. A second highlight was watching Nick Papageorge's induction into the Far Western District Hall of Fame. Much deserved and a complete surprise for Nick.

Membership recruitment is high on everyone's list and "Operation Harold Hill" is a valuable resource. The Southeast Division has 11 chapters enrolled. If your chapter isn't already involved in the process please consider doing so. Through March our Division membership is up 11 men over prior year end. Seven chapters grew and eight shrunk. Part of my role is to identify the things that work in the growing chapters that might transfer to the rest of us. If you have ideas please send them to me.

Summer is fast approaching and there are many opportunities to celebrate our unique hobby, enjoy

the fellowship, and improve your skills. Consider International in Portland (7/1-8), Harmony College West in Redlands (7/20-22), Harmony University in St. Joseph (7/29 -8/5), and the High Sierra Harmony Brigade in Reno (8/24-26). Speaking of International, our own Pacific Coast Harmony (La Jolla) is competing in the Chorus Competition. Break a leg!

My goal for 2012 is simple. Visit as many chapters as possible and help where ever needed. It is a privilege to represent you on the Board and I look forward to meeting all of you. Don't hesitate to contact me for any reason.



Division 2 SE Chapters
Dale Vaughn

[**FWD Contacts**](#)

APPLE VALLEY

ALAN MORIER

The Hi Country Harmonaires, an energetic group of guys, performed throughout the high desert area of Southern California and spreading cheer and happiness to many clubs, hospitals and associations. President **Dave Genung** helped coordinate one of our best Singing Valentine programs in many years. Director of Publicity **Alan Morier**, along with members **Merlyn Kimbell** and **Harry Putnam**, helped with publicity fliers. Long time member **Buford Strange** received his pin for 62 years in the Society. We now boast 2 nonagenarians in **Keith Murphy** and **Doug Waas**, both regular members whose energy, wit, and experience add to each and every meeting.

Director **Mike Smith** was a tremendous hit in the local college production of "*The Music Man*" as a member of the barbershop quartet. **The Mojave Range Rovers** [Gary White, Frank Bescos, Merlyn Kimbell, Doug Waas] have been performing regularly throughout the high desert.

BREA

MARK STOKES

The Gaslight Chorus welcomed 7 new singers to the risers for our second annual show. We thank **The Crush** for being our headliners and wish them good luck in Portland.

We added 8 new members so far in 2012. Our goal is to put 40+ men on the risers at district in October which will be a 40% increase over last year.

COACHELLA VALLEY

TERRY MANN

We reelected essentially the 'in place' BoD, with only our Music Director **Dick Reed** handing over the Secretary job to **Dave Hawks**.

For the first time in about 15 years we chose to compete at the Divisional contest. We are implementing the advice of the coaches and are aiming for next year to be 'The Most Improved Chorus'!

We ended April with 17 full timers, 11 snow birds and the 8 emeritus and 1 MD = 37, up 10 percent in 4 months. Our new full timers are **Vic Guder** and **Bob Adamson**. Our new Snow Bird is **Peter Cox**, a Lead from the Greater Vancouver, Canada area.

EL CAJON

BILL SOUKUP

Harmonically Correct and **One Mor Tyme** delivered a total of 28 Singing Valentines. **Harmonically Correct** followed up with a Barbershop Quartet Demonstration at the Coronado Middle School to about 40 students enrolled in chorus course in their 6th, 7th, and 8th grades.

The Music Master chorus once again performed at the annual Coronado Flower Show on April 21, and returned to sing to the residents at Waley Palms. The audience's applause during the show and questions about where and when we practice adds to our pleasure for bringing Barbershop music to them.

FULLERTON

DICK COTE

Jeff Young installed **Orange Empire Chorus** members to serve the 2012 term: President **Leonard Schlatter**; Chapter Development **Mac McDougall**; Music & Performance **Steve Hansen**; Marketing & PR **Elwood Berry**; Community Services **Gary Maxwell**; Program **CJ Bowes**; Youth in Harmony **Pete Saputo**; Secretary **Bob Calderwood**; Treasurer **Ken Klein**; Members at Large **Stan French** (lifetime), **Dick Cote**, **Jim Eacret**, **Steve Sarandis**, **Eli Peralta** and **Don Levering**.

The following were honored with presentation of Annual Chapter Awards: *BOTY* – **Don Derler**; Rupert Hall Award – **Rick DeLung**; Director's Award – **Neil Poll**; Shooting Star Award – **Andrew Coward**; Quartet of the Year – **Triglycerides**; *Rookie of the Year* – **Bud Lang**; President's Award – **Jay Campbell**; Special Director's Award – **Terri Derler**; Special Director's Award – **Art Clayton**.

HEMET

DAVE KELLEY

The Harmonizers sang valentine songs at a Mall and a large men's barber shop and then sang for 25 individual "sweethearts". We even got our picture in the local papers!

On a sad note, President **Jack Morrisseau** died suddenly of a heart attack on March 12th. His melodic bass voice, great smile, directing abilities and leadership will be sorely missed. His memorial had 52 of us singing for the gathering. New President **Leroy Krauss** will carry us through the year.

We welcome **Will Wingard** and **Tom Jewell**.

INLAND EMPIRE

DON SEVESIND

Tom Wallis lead our successful Valentine fundraising event. In the SW Division contest in Ontario, our chorus scores were the best in the last ten years and we qualified for FWD Fall Convention in Mesa, AZ. Thanks to **Tom Moore** (MOH) for coaching both the chapter and the chapter's newest quartet **Mother's Favorite Quartet** (**Jeff and Jared Hathaway, Ed Tolman, Don Sevesind**). They did well enough to sing in the Saturday night finals in their first competition.

The spring show theme was "*A Salute to America*" and was put together by our own director **Dennis Shearer**. The 'special feature' for our show was **Double Treble** (ladies from Upland HS and Mt. San Antonio College) and **The Upland High School Men's Barbershop Chorus** under the direction of **Roger Estrada**. The show stopping event occurred when the young men joined the chapter on the risers to form a one hundred man chorus to sing *The Battle Hymn of the Republic*.

LA JOLLA

DALE VAUGHN

Our Annual Singing Valentines were once again a huge success under the capable direction of Chair **Mark Whelan**. For the sixth year, we included complimentary Singing Valentines to family members of deployed military service personnel through the San Diego Chapter of Operation Homefront.

Members of PCH again served as ushers for the Annual Partnership Choral Honor Concert in March which showcases youth honor choirs from Elementary Schools, Middle Schools and High Schools throughout the San Diego area.

We welcomed **Randy Clemens, Jim Schumacher & Steve Fitzgerald** to the risers and also **Jamie Brandt** returning to us after his years of military service. **Aaron VonderHaar** left for San Francisco.

Now, we're off to Portland... Contestant #6 (we traded singing positions with the Big Apple Chorus because they have many dual members in Hell's Kitchen, NY who are singing #5).

LAS VEGAS

LARRY LITCHFIELD

THE 2014 INTERNATIONAL BHS

CONVENTION IS AT THE STARTING GATE!

It'll be in our glitzy hometown -- Las Vegas -- and we're hyped to the hilt! So get ready for some heavy duty rock 'n' rollin' barbershop-style in America's hottest fun-destination city -- literally and figuratively! MARK YOUR CALENDARS (6/29-7/6, '14) NOW!

The Las Vegas Metro and the Las Vegas chapters will "co-host" the event. A preliminary meeting with the Society's Dusty Schleier has already happened.

Our Spring Show took on a new look this year due to venue costs, so we offered up a Vaudeville-themed show at two different locations. The chorus's tux attire was accented by spiffy new red spats and the front row sported stylish skimmer hats and canes! We wowed both audiences!

Twenty-four Gamble-Aires drove 500 round-trip miles to compete in the SE Division Contest. Two chapter quartets also competed. Newly formed '**Til Morning**

Comes [Steve Salmon, Gilberto Cuevas, Dennis Johnson, Ryan Wisniewski] won Best Novice Quartet. **Broadcast** [Rick Ives, Albert Weiss, Dave Kennedy, John Waugh] received rousing applause.

We have seven quartets in the chapter, the rest are:
The Four Suits [Stu Willcox, Larry Litchfield, J.D. Massa, Dave Floyd]
The Silver Knights [Warren Hettinga, John Mininger, John Hulbert, Chuck Wines]
Good Old Daze [Mike Blume, Roger Buehrer, Dennis Johnson, Chuck Wines]
Older 'n Dirt [Rich Coon, Roger Buehrer, Larry Pechart, Dave Floyd]
Double Down [Patrick Goulding, Tom Marty, Ross Marty, Stu Willcox]

ORANGE QUARTET **MARK SHELDON**
Orange collaborated with **Fullerton** to provide Singing Valentines, coordinated by **Dave Lowerre**.

On February 20 the Orange Chapter held a dinner to celebrate the *twentieth* anniversary of its charter and to install officers. Award recipients included **Mike Evans** (Shooting Star Award), **Ken Tillmanns** (Rupert Hall Award), **Gerald Fleischmann** (*Rookie of the Year*), and **Stan Tinkle** (*BOTY*).

The Lowerre family organized a Parade of Quartets show in Fullerton with **Reformed Villains**, **The Finishing Touch**, **Triglycerides**, **Wavemakers**, **Fantastic Shenanigans**, and the **Orange Plaza Gang** performing.

Seven Orange Chapter members, plus family, participated in the BQPA 2012 Spring Festival in Tempe, AZ. **Mike Werner** sang in the winning Random Draw Contest quartet.

Members were saddened by the passing of **Robert "Scotty" Donald**.

PALOMAR PACIFIC **JIM WINNINGHAM**
The Music Men Chorus of the Palomar Pacific chapter has a new Director, **Lucy Cartano**. **Coast to Coast**, one of the chapter's four quartets, competed in the Novice contest in Tustin.

RIVERSIDE **GAYLORD SPENCE**
The New Gang On The Corner Chorus from the Riverside Chapter again garnered the coveted "*Most Improved Chorus*" award during the recent SE Division Contest. This is a feat that is extremely hard to duplicate in back-to-back contests. This attests to our dedication to learning the techniques taught by director, **John Brockman**.

We are very pleased to add **Bruce Dills** to our growing tenor section. Wow! That's two new tenors since the first of the year!

SAN DIEGO **DUCROT PEPYS**
Sun Harbor took a strong core group of singers to the District Contest, which was a first time experience for **Carr Ferguson** and **Louis Regas**. Carr joins us from Connecticut during the cold months. Although fairly new to Barbershop, Carr's father was a founding member of the District of Columbia Chapter in 1946, the same year our Chapter was formed. Barbershop is in his genes and he is making the best of it.

Louis and **Neal Palmer**, our assistant director, were both in NYC and visited the Big Apple Chorus directed by **Justin Miller** of the **Westminster Chorus**. Louis pointed out that Justin stressed exactly the same things that our leader, **Kathleen Hansen**, repeats weekly.

Sun Harbor welcomes new member **Bill White**.

SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY **CHARLIE HEIZMAN**
South Orange County, the newest chapter in the SE Division, completed our first year with our **South County Sound Chorus** capturing the Plateau A Championship in our first competition. Formed one year ago by a merger of the Irvine and San Clemente chapters, the move has been an overwhelming success, with 35 to 40 enthusiastic singers regularly attending meetings. And membership is growing.

Our first show was a big success, put on in conjunction with the music therapy program of the National Parkinson's Foundation.

We were fortunate to be directed by **Mark Feiner** until his untimely death in January. **Martin Fredstrom** became our new director.

Kudos to our current and past presidents, **Randy Watson** and **John Dillon**, for shepherding us through the startup of the chapter and the first competition.



FWD DVP for Division 3 NW
Chuck Leavitt

[**FWD Contacts**](#)

I'm writing this several days after our very successful Northwest Division Contest in Woodside. Congratulations to Palo Alto – Mountain View, you put on a terrific event! I heard tags all day long everywhere I went. Santa Rosa has obviously been working hard this past year because they not only won the A Chorus Plateau and most improved chorus trophy, they won the contest. Palo Alto – Mountain View won the AA Chorus Plateau and along with Monterey Peninsula and Marin qualified for District contest in Mesa this Fall. Way to go!

Geek's Quad won the quartet contest with an impressive first outing. Gray Pride won the senior contest and came in second overall. Jet was third and the Novice Champ. These quartets along with CONSTELLATION all qualified for the District Contest. B-Sides also qualified for Mesa as an out of division contestant.

We had terrific performances from Walnut Creek who sang for evaluation only and from Santa Cruz who was invited to perform after the competition closed. A special treat was the first performance of their International contest set by Bay Area (Voices in Harmony). You can probably tell I am a contest/convention fan. It is great fun and even if we don't compete, by participating we get an objective measure of performance progress. We all want to get better – right?

FWD membership chairman, Jack Peters, gave his "Supercharge Your Chapter" presentation at Woodside that was well attended and right on target. The Northwest Division is off to a good start with

membership so far this year. More than half of our chapters have signed up for their version of Operation Harold Hill (OHH). Our division membership was up 1.7% at the end of the 1st quarter and we have gained 8 brand new members so far in April (4/25 this writing). I'm pretty excited about these gains and encourage all chapters to consider OHH. Even more importantly, we need to design chapter programs that are fun so we can keep the members we have.

The Harmony Foundation's youth outreach programs are the future life blood of our hobby. At the FWD Spring House of Delegates meeting in Ontario, Clarke Caldwell of Harmony Foundation honored the FWD chapters that made significant contributions to the Foundation. Bay Area received the silver award with contributions of \$158.98 per man, Napa Valley received the Bronze with \$55.56/man as did Walnut Creek (\$32.73), Palo Alto-Mountain View (\$29.67) and Santa Rosa (\$26.63). Members in all but two Northwest Division Chapters gave to Harmony Foundation. The only FWD Platinum award went to Mesa (\$666.67) and the only FWD Gold award went to Westminster (\$278.85). I strongly urge all members to consider giving to Harmony Foundation with any amount you can afford. Giving by more BHS members is as important as the amount donated because large corporate donors often gauge the "value" of a charity by how many of their members are donating themselves.

Finally, the 2012 BHS International Convention is in Portland this year. Portland is a super convention town and pretty close to us as these things go. Voices in Harmony is representing Div 3 and the FWD in the chorus contest. I'll be there and I hope to see you there too!



Division 3 NW Chapters
John Heather, Editor

[**FWD Contacts**](#)

FREMONT HAYWARD **RAY SPINOSA**
The New Dimension Chorus once again performed Singing Valentines in February. Since then the chorus

has spent the bulk of its time preparing for the Northwest Division Convention in April; preparing and recording a set of patriotic songs and learning songs for church choir replacement performances beginning in May. The chorus recently visited en masse, the **Walnut Creek** chapter. Many thanks are due to Walnut Creek for their hospitality. One of the evening's highlights was a joint performance of "*Swing Down Chariot*".

MONTEREY PENINSULA SAM KIER

After waging a successful singing Valentines campaign in February, the Monterey Chapter focused on preparations for the District Contest in Woodside and spring performances in the Monterey area. Music Director **Julie Starr** of the **Bay Area Showcase Chorus** came to help the **Cypressaires** polish their contest package. The verdict of the judge was that the **Cypressaires** have advanced from C-level singers to a solid B chorus.

The Monterey Chapter, accompanied by its counterpart, the Bay Belles Women's Chorus, presented selections from their 2011 Annual Show *At the Hop* at the Good Old Days celebration in Pacific Grove.

PALO ALTO/MOUNTAIN VIEW DAVID WEATHERFORD

The Peninsulaires hosted the 2012 Northwest Division Convention and Contest in Woodside. **The Redwoods Chordsmen** from the Santa Rosa Chapter won the chorus contest. **The Peninsulaires** were a close second. **The Voices in Harmony** and the **Devil Mountain Chorus** sang for evaluation only, and the **Gold Standard Chorus** of Santa Rosa Chapter were our invited guests. Four choruses qualified for the District Contest: **Santa Rosa, Palo Alto/Mountain View, Monterey Peninsula, and Marin. Geek's Quad** won the quartet contest, and three other quartets also qualified for District: **The B-Sides** (out of division), **Jet**, and **CONSTELLATION. Gray Pride** is the Seniors Quartet Champion, and **Jet** is the Novice Quartet Champion for the NW Division.

"*Silicon Valley Farmers*" was the theme of our Spring show this year, with special guest quartet **The Velvet Frogs**, 2011 FWD Senior Quartet Champions.

SAN FRANCISCO DON KINGTON

At this writing, **Cable Car Chorus** members were looking forward to a special Wed. night meeting in early May that will be a special performance for guests, members' significant others and anyone else who might wander in.

SAN MATEO THOMAS ADDISON

Having completed our successful Spring Show "*After You've Gone*", the **Golden Chordsmen** are moving ahead with our summer program and preparing for performances at the Filoli Estate, and our annual fundraiser selling root beer floats at San Carlos Days.

President **Fred Moraga** and event Chairman **Dave McCann** are planning another Halloween Cabaret. Harmony University will again beckon several of our members including our director, **Cort Bender**, who although very experienced with vocal music is new to our art form and hobby.

SANTA ROSA RICHARD PARRY-JONES

The Redwood Chordsmen were thrilled at winning the NW Division Chorus Championship for the first time in their history. We also achieved our goals of winning the Plateau A Championship and the Most Improved Chorus award. We scored just under 70 points and had 29 men on the risers, a true indication of our resurgence. Extra rehearsals scheduled by Music VP **Kelly McConnell** really paid dividends.

NINE new members: **Jeff Brant, Mike Cohoon, Andrew Cook, Matt Blumenthal** and **Ben Falstein** are new to the Chordsmen. **Adam Ehrenpfort, Dave Key, Neal Rogers** and **Milt Danoff** are former members who have returned.

The Guest Night saw 40 guests and 40 members. Host was Membership VP **Shelly Albaum**, who quickly won over the crowd with his infectious enthusiasm. The chorus performed five songs before the guests were invited to sing along with guidance from our directors **Phil DeBar** and **Jan Lappin**.

Our chapter is succeeding in spreading the word to the local community about Barbershop Harmony and

the **Chordsmen** in particular. We have arranged fund-raisers and sing-outs in the coming months to boost our membership and our 'bottom line'. **Dave Key** is running our Facebook page and is hearing from a lot of former members, while our Membership Committee of **Shelly Albaum, Randy Barron, Ray Crowder** and **Richard Parry-Jones** are using every possible tool to promote our cause. Shelly has resurrected our weekly newsletter *Chord Trimmin's* and his Polecat program has been a huge success with many more members singing in pick-up quartets.

SF BAY CITIES QUARTET

JORDAN MAKOWER

Our small, friendly group met in Harry's Hofbrau, San Jose, for dinner as usual, the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, and clustered around a few long tables for some group singing. **Dave Laubscher** had provided us with some older barbershop songs, that some of us had never seen or heard before. **Dan Heckerman, Roman Avila** and **Dave Tuttelman** switched parts, alternately singing the Bass and Bari parts to each song. **Bill Beck** and **Jordan Makower** provided the Lead parts, and **Steve Gummingsall** was in his glory, beautifully providing the Tenor.. We closed just as the Banjo Players next door burst into their stringed concert.



FWD DVP for Division 4 NE
Richard Lund

[**FWD Contacts**](#)

Well the old Subaru is getting a workout. It just turned over 300k this week; I've been to 12 chapters of the current 14 in the NE Division including the new chartering chapter in Elko. It has been eye opening, hugely informative and a whole lot of fun.

The NE Division is pretty darn healthy currently with a growth of about five percent year over year for the first quarter of 2012. I want to mention the Reno chapter who has welcomed 5 new to the BHS members while also welcoming back previous members. Way to go, Reno.

Membership enrichment remains our number one issue in the Society; most of our chapters have jumped on board the Operation Harold Hill project being directed by the Society. If you have not signed up to participate in OHH, I urge you to do so. You won't be sorry. You can also go to the FWD website <http://www.spebsqsafwd.org/> to view the presentation.

By the time you read this, all the Divisional contests for 2012 will be over and we will know who all is heading to Mesa for District. In reviewing scores from last year and recalling the enthusiasm and excitement with all of my chapter visits, I am struck by the fact that everyone is getting better - a Lot better! Be prepared for a whole lot of choruses who have improved!

Our newbie on the block, Elko, is progressing well with their efforts to charter. They are well down that path and we may be able to have a simply fabulous "surprise" announcement from the stage in Mesa! What a kick that would be!

One of my goals this year is to encourage and facilitate communication among chapters and within the NE Division and the FWD. Whenever possible I encourage you to attend the shows of other chapters. Support your fellow barbershoppers while also getting additional ideas for your shows. A reminder to notify Peter Feeney about your show so it can be listed on the FWD website.

You may have heard that 2013 Prelims will be geographically held in the NE Division and I have been spending a great deal of time on these plans. As of this writing the plans call the venue to be Hutchins Street Square in Lodi March 21 – 24.

On a very happy note, I want to report that I had the rare privilege of presenting Don Kidder and his sons a commemorative plaque at the Davis-Vacaville show in March for the momentous twenty fifth anniversary of their quartet, Kidder and Sons, Inc., winning the Far Western District championship in 1987. What a thrill that was for me!

See you at the Nevada Placer Bean Feed, June 5.



Division 4 NE Chapters

Roger Perkins, Editor

FWD Contacts

CALIFORNIA DELTA

RAY RHYMER

The American River Chorus assisted in sponsoring a youth chorus [**Sacramento Sound**] that participated in the 2012 Youth Chorus Festival at the Mid-Winter Convention in Tucson. **Rich Bruner** directed the young men to an "Excellent" rating in Plateau AA.

Three quartets from the ARC participated in our successful Singing Valentines program.

We are pleased that **Artistic License** qualified for the 2012 International Quartet Contest.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

MILES SUTTER

The GVC held their 15th annual installation and awards banquet to begin 2012. **Herb Andrew** gave the blessing and was our MC for the evening. Awards were handed out to **Roe Darnell** (Rookie of the Year), **Grady Williams** (President's Award), **Howard Barber** (Director's Award). **Bruce Sellnow** had a special presentation for Howard honoring him for 42 years of unselfish service as a board member. A special certificate was presented to **Mark Jantzen** for supporting Youth in Harmony. Special recognition was made to **Ralph Harris** for his 50 years in barbershop. The 2011 *BOTY* is **Bruce Sellnow**.

The DAIN GOAD MEMORIAL QUARTET JAMBOREE contest was won by quartet #3, consisting of [**RON RUSSELL, BRUCE SELLNOW, MIKE VISS, BOB CLARK**]. Quartet #6 [**DERICK STURKE, TERRELL CHAMBERS, BRUCE SELLNOW, JUAN QUIJANO**] took second place.

75 'scheduled' Valengrams were delivered. Members of **Fourtune Hunters, Ron Russell's, Mike Viss'** and **Dr. Bob's** quartets made up the four quartets needed to perform. **Ron Russell** and **Howard Barber** handled the phone calls. **Grady Williams** advertised with displays, posters, and handouts, and also via the Modesto radio stations.

GVC sponsored the NorCal FWD Novice Quartet Contest for the fifth consecutive year with fifteen quartets participating.

The GVC held their annual dinner show April 14 with a spaghetti feed and concert. The entire membership helped to make it a success.

DAVIS-VACAVILLE

TOM POWERS

The West Valley Chorus presented two performances of its annual show *My Way: Songs of Frank Sinatra*. Frank performed and/or recorded over 400 songs during his long career, so it wasn't that hard to put together a show with only Sinatra numbers both for the chorus and the chapter quartets. The show started with a rousing solo rendition of "New York, New York" sung by our director **Ollie Brillhante**.

At our March 31st show, we featured a commemoration of **Kidder & Sons, Inc.'s** 25th anniversary of their FWD quartet championship. NE DVP **Richard Lund** presented **Don Kidder** a certificate thanking him for his many contributions to barbershopping. Don directed a few songs by a chorus composed of the **West Valley Chorus**, two of his sons, and many men from the area who had sung under his leadership during his long career.

At our April 7th show at Pioneer High School in Woodland, we repeated the Sinatra program, but featured a mixed chorus from that high school. They sang *Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend* to a cheering audience. We formed a partnership with Pioneer High and split the show profits with them as a contribution to their choral music programs.

FOLSOM

DENNIS STOHL

Gordon Fawkes is our newest member. He formerly sang in the **Indian Wells Valley Chapter** chorus in Ridgecrest, CA. He sang lead in the **Medallions** and the **Gold Canyon Express** quartets during his 26 years in Ridgecrest.

FHX chorus sang at two retirement centers with a program entitled *Our Favorite Songs*. Chapter quartets **Now and Then** and **TBDL** also entertained.

Chapter quartets **TBDL**, **Sittin' in the Dark**, and **Now and Then** sang to Singing Valentine recipients this year.

The FHX chorus hosted a *Fifth Thursday Open Mic Event* in lieu of their regular rehearsal. Members and guests sang their favorite barbershop songs as a chorus with organized and impromptu quartets.

FRESNO **DAVID REITZEL**
GNC a Cappella and our quartet **Silver & Gold** helped celebrate the Clovis Centennial with a singing program. In March, we performed in a Variety Show at the Mountain View Christian School in Fresno.

April found us ringing chords at the Clovis Veterans Memorial Building in our second annual Spring Show. Post-luncheon entertainment featured a group of high school boys and girls from the 102-member Bach Children's Chorale, directed by **Valerie Quiring**. Seven boys later joined GNC a Cappella in a stirring rendition of *You're Sixteen* directed by our own **Adam Kitt**. Two quartets — **Silver & Gold** and a surprise group of wayfaring strangers, **Four Fifteen** (Brea Chapter) — rounded out a harmonious spring afternoon.

NEVADA PLACER **ROGER PERKINS**
Pacific Standard Time (**Tim Martin**, **Roger Perkins**, with two subs, **Kent Borrowdale**, **Dan Wilson**) performed for a group that does volunteer counseling for Placer County.

Singing Valentines was successful this year with more than 40 delivered in Auburn, Grass Valley and Roseville. **The Wildwood Four**, **4T9r4** and **Pacific Standard Time** made the presentations.

The annual chapter show was *Deep In the Heart of Texas* and used mostly songs of the old West being sung on a cattle drive. The headline quartet was FWD Senior champs, the **Velvet Frogs**. The show also featured chapter quartets **Now & Then** (dual members with **Folsom**), the **4T9r4** and the **Rustlers**. **The Riders of the Purple Stage**, an octet, also performed.

RENO **STEVE SHURTLIFF**
Our membership has grown to the point that we are trying out new rehearsal spaces in downtown Reno, which gives us walk-by traffic and a lot of people coming in to see where the music is coming from!

The International Women's Bowling Association tournament is in Reno and will continue for about 3-4 months. We sang at the opening ceremonies and will perform again later on this year.

We heartily welcome to our ranks new members **Ryan Huff**, **Lane Saunders** and **Luke Sorensen**.

SACRAMENTO **JOE SAMORA**
The Capitolaires participated in Singing Valentines. **Blair Reynolds**, **Don Salz** and **Dick Spies** were recognized for making the event a success.

Randy Finger and **Mark Coldiron** are the Capitolaires Co-Directors replacing **Ron Black**.

The Capitolaires are hosting the NE Division Convention at Folsom High School on May 19. **Clark Abrahamson** and **Don Gibbons** are Co-Chairs.

Where Singing Happens! is the theme for the Capitolaires Annual Cabaret Show on June 30 in St. Ignatius Catholic Church, Sacramento. **Dan Swink** is the show chair.

STOCKTON **AL WOLTER**
Stockton was represented at the NorCal Novice Quartet contest by 10 members and two associate members in two men's quartets and 3 mixed voice's quartets. The **CAND Goods** quartet, made up of Stockton and Central California Chapter members came in third in mixed voice. Stockton's **Fat City Four** was the winner of the Men's Quartet crown. Manteca High School student and Stockton Member **Dan Rohovit** competed in both of the High School Quartets singing lead in one and tenor in the other. He took first place singing lead.

The Chapter is looking forward to singing the National Anthem for Stockton Ports games, either through Chapter Quartets or the Chorus.

VISALIA

BUD CASE

We had an abundance of requests for Singing Valentines. We appreciate **Some Assembly Required** (TJ Withnell, Ken McNutt, Dee Baughman, Ed Grant), **The Occasional Quartet** (Rich Crain, Lee Smith, Lance Jepson, Pat Harrison) and **Sound Projection** (Bob Peden, Landes Dung, Bob Browne, Rod Robison) for their dedication and effort.

Our 31st annual show *Come RV with Me* featured songs from around these great United States of America. That meant our new director **Adam Kitt** had only two months to catch up. Our interim director **Tank Waldrum** passed the baton to Adam.

Right up to curtain time we were making adjustments (what's new?) but the show was entertaining and two audiences appreciative. Our feature quartet was **The Perfect Gentlemen**. In the evening show we were privileged to hear newly organized quartet **Sing Street** (Doyle Pope, Dave Douglas, Ken Wenger, Adam Kitt). We tapped into other musical genres with a Broadway show song and soft shoe cameo performed by **Kana Cartwright** (daughter of **Ted Petersdorf**) and **Koleen Secrest**. **Joseph Sosa** and friends performed stringed numbers in the lobby before each show.



FWD DVP for Division 5 Arizona
John Bloomquist

[**FWD Contacts**](#)

The Mesa Chapter hosted an inter chapter gathering on Feb 2nd highlighted by a visit by Society Music Educator, Mike O'Neill. Members of other local Phoenix area chapters attended, which made this a wonderful barbershop evening. Thanks to the Mesa for your efforts in this regard and for hosting such an educational event. The next day Mike O'Neill was in attendance at the Arizona Music Educators Association conference as a presenter. Additionally, at this event, Ron Hayes and his team, as usual, had a very nice display set up promoting Youth In Harmony. Thanks for your efforts Ron!!

The Tucson Sunshine Chapter, with Chairman Ron Schrubbs as lead and his crew, hosted a very successful AZ DIV Convention and Contest at which 7 quartets and 3 choruses qualified for the District Contest to be held here in Mesa AZ this October. Great Job to all of my Tucson brothers. During this event, District Membership VP, Jack Peters, travelled to AZ and made a presentation on "Supercharging your Chapter". Again, this points to increasing membership and the various techniques used for doing just that. This would be a great time to challenge our membership to watch the video that our District has put on our website (www.spebsqsaFWD.org) and take the time to check out the presentation. This program, going hand in hand to the Operation Harold Hill which, I am proud to say that most our Chapters have signed up for OHH!

At this writing, the Mesa Chapter is finalizing plans for a Youth In Harmony event, at which Public school and charter school and even home schooled students will receive scholarships - and some school programs will receive grants to their programs, too. During the evening, high school youth, Fiesta Chorus of SAI, the Mesa chorus and quartets will all sing. We will give away resources, CDs, etc to music educators and interested home schooling groups and kick off plans for youth harmony for the upcoming school year. It is events like this that helped put the Mesa Chapter as one of the highest average donation per member participants in the Harmony Foundation. Way to go guys!!

With the Summer coming to the Division, things are heating up with activity culminating with the Fred - Koch Memorial AZ BASH the weekend of August 17-18 in Phoenix. More to come on this later!!



Division 5 Arizona Chapters
Frank Ortega, Editor

[**FWD Contacts**](#)

ARIZONA QUARTET

JIM MILNER

For the second year in a row, the Arizona Quartet Chapter hosted the kick-off event for the BQPA/Pioneers Quartet Festival in April. After a

delicious spaghetti dinner provided by the Phoenix American-Italian Club, everyone enjoyed two sessions of “luck-of-the-draw” quartet performances. Thanks to **Scott Bratcher** and **Frank Fliszar** for organizing the event.

Chapter attendance at our twice-monthly meetings has been averaging nearly 20, proving the popularity of our quartet-only format.

GREATER PHOENIX JERRY MCELFRESH

The Spirit of Phoenix chorus and six of eight chapter quartets qualified in Arizona Division competition for the Far Western District Contest this fall in Mesa. The chorus scored an average of 81.8, up considerably from our FWD contest score last fall.

Of the chapter’s six qualifying quartets, **Audacity** was first, **Whoop ‘Em Up** took second, **Vocal Edition** placed third, **Power Hour** was fourth, **Game On** came in fifth, and **4** finished seventh. **Music Box** was eighth and 10th place **Arizona Chord Company** was the Novice Quartet Champion.

We welcomed five new singers into membership: **Justin Klemballa**, **Chad Campbell**, **Neal Ketcher**, **Scott Wiegand** and **Dave Bickler**.

The Scottsdale Chorus, 2011 Sweet Adelines International Gold Medalists, joined the **Spirit of Phoenix** and quartets for SOP’s annual spring show (matinee and evening performances) at the Phoenix Orpheum Theater. The Chandler High School Young Men’s Chorus had a spot on the program. Guest quartets **Audacity**, 2009 International Seniors Quartet Champion, **Vocal Edition** and **Whoop ‘Em Up** added musical variety. A tribute to the Arizona Centennial and the combined men’s and women’s choruses in two finale numbers were among the most memorable parts of the show.

The chorus had several other performances during the quarter, including a sold-out show in the San Tan Ballroom at Sun Lakes. The ballroom was the scene of another sellout last year, and tickets went quickly for this year’s performance.

Dave Warkentin, lead section leader, was named *Barbershopper of the Month* for working to make improvements in the lead section and for facilitating joint meetings of the Board and Music Committee.

MESA

BOB SHAFFER

After a few years of being absent from the division contest stage, the **Lamplighters** made their return this year with a splash of new color (striped vests) and a great new sound. We were thrilled to present a 3-song performance package, and are thankful for the many fine and congratulatory comments we received afterwards. Thank you, Director **Dick Naas**, for teaching us well! Chapter quartet **Backspin** (**Andy Harry**, **Dale Weatherford**, **Bob Shaffer**, **Jerry Fox**) participated as mike testers for the afternoon quartet contest. Unfortunately, dual member **Doc Dockendorf’s** quartet, **The Pine Tones**, was a late scratch from the contest.

The chapter welcomed new member **Bruce Bartsch**, dual members **Rick Wilson** and **Doc Dockendorf**, and reactivated member **Norm Understiller**. Also joining the chapter is **Bill Johnson**, who sang with the **Phabulous Phoenicians** in the 1970’s and ‘80’s.

The Lamplighters had a successful Singing Valentines program again this year with a total of 58 Singing Valentines delivered! The program would not have been a success without the participation of 21 members who sang in various combinations to form five different quartets over three days, many times singing different parts than they usually do. Thanks go to **Jerry Fox** for organizing all the quartets and to **Bob Shaffer** for wrangling the orders as they came in by phone, Internet, and email.

PRESCOTT

SAM STIMPLE

For the 20th consecutive year, the **High Mountain Chordsmen** delivered Singing Valentines in the quad-cities area. One recipient had lost her husband only days before, and she publicly thanked him for ordering the SV. “That’s just what a generous man he was!” We nearly ran out of Kleenex on that special occasion. The chorus and chapter quartets kept busy with performances during the first quarter.

Prescott's newest member **Jim Burton** was introduced to barbershop two years ago through the "Real Men Sing" program. Jim is a bright, energetic 14-year-old who is learning to harmonize well with guys five times his age. He depends on chorus members for rides to meetings because he won't get his driver's license for another two years.

Our annual Installation of Officers & Awards Banquet, held at the beautiful Prescott Lakes Club House, attracted nearly 40 members and guests. **Bill Hill** (no relation to Harold) was named *BOTY* for 2011. He is a goodwill ambassador for the chorus because of his good cheer, compassion, and unconditional love. Bill plays guitar in Prescott's new, folk music group Radio Flyer. He has accomplished much in his three years of membership as a board member and chorus manager. Like delicious cream, he rose to the top and was the chapter members' first choice for this award.

In early February, District Chorus Director Development Chairman **John Minsker** provided coaching to add sparkle, enthusiasm, and precision to our contest package.

The chapter sadly reports the recent passing of **Allan Brighton**, a dedicated 17-year-member, who participated in all 19 holiday performances last December.

SEDONA

LEE SHOPTAUGH

We began the New Year with the loss of a few members who transferred out of Arizona to Oregon, Colorado, and New Mexico. With these losses affecting the viability of our relatively small chapter of about 20 members, Director **John McDougald** charged the entire chorus to bring in at least one member each during 2012.

As a result of involvement in the Operation Harold Hill program, our recent Guest Night, led by VP Membership **Michael Steele**, yielded 14 prospective members. During the evening, our director "unleashed" a new barbershop arrangement that we all learned together. That helped our guests become comfortable with our director's teaching style and the rehearsal setting. We are encouraged by the positive

feedback we received and hope to convert some of those guests into members.

The BarberPole Achievement Award was presented to **Don Tautkus** for his long-term service in the Barbershop Harmony Society. He will become a 50-year member this year.

Several quartets delivered Singing Valentines this year. They offered a Valentine's medley, a greeting card, a teddy bear, and a long-stemmed rose – all of which were previously advertised. One quartet provided a photo of the recipient with the quartet. This non-advertised extra was well received by recipients.

Some of our members attended the International Midwinter Convention in Tucson. We really enjoyed the seniors quartet competition and the youth choruses. One of our members qualified as an AHSOW certified woodshedder. What a "kick!"

The Harmony on the Rocks chorus performed at the Masonic Lodge in February, then did a return visit at Rainbow Acres in March. One of our chapter quartets performed at a 70th Wedding Anniversary where the celebrants, married 28 March 1942, were 90 years old. The quartet sang some "old" love songs, such as *My Wild Irish Rose*, *I Want A Girl*, the Valentine's medley (which includes *Let Me Call You Sweetheart*, *I Love You Truly*, and *The Story Of The Rose*), and finished with *I'm Sittin' On Top Of The World*.

SUN CITIES

CAMPBELL TITCHENER

For the second straight year, the **Desert Aires** built on a successful annual show to boost membership. Last year we invited interested singers to attend our "Guest Night" the following Tuesday. Seventeen prospects showed up, and nine eventually became members. This year President **Bill Shaw** repeated the invitation from the stage and a dozen potential members visited our next rehearsal. Our membership is now approaching 75 – an all-time high!

Our show *Main Street – A Stroll Down Memory Lane* held at the Sun Dial Auditorium, came close to setting a record for attendance, ticket sales, and commercial ad revenue. Guest quartets **TNS**, from

Nashville's **Music City Chorus**, and **Ms. Cellaneous**, a delightful Sweet Adelines foursome from the Scottsdale and Harborlites choruses, were outstanding. The Nashville group's exciting version of *Jezebel* was exceptional.

Another innovation that paid off nicely was our Singing Valentines effort. This year we offered honorees a choice of a long-stemmed rose or a Teddy Bear. Orders were up 15 percent over last year, and almost half the recipients asked for both the rose and the bear. **David and Gloria Moses** were in charge.

The Desert Aires VLQ, a group that shows up at various places to promote the chorus and its activities, was active again, singing at an open house for the Daily News Sun and at the annual Sun City Fun Fair.

TUCSON JACK STATLER

The Tucson Sunshine Chapter hosted the 2012 International Midwinter Convention in January. If you have never experienced such a task, you may not be able to comprehend the total commitment required. Under the leadership of General Chairman **Ron Schrubb**, who coordinated the event with the Barbershop Harmony Society, virtually every TSC member was involved in carrying out the necessary duties. Marketing Vice President, Chorus Manager and Chief Hustler **Michael Elbert** organized several tours to popular attractions in the area. The Hospitality Center, a popular spot, was supplied by the Sunshine Gals and headed by **Marcia Hill**.

In addition to the Seniors Quartet Contest, Youth In Harmony Chorus Festival and the Show of Champions, which are the main attractions of the midwinter conventions, TSC held its annual show at the Tucson Community Center Music Hall in January. Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Arizona statehood, the show featured songs published in 1912, performed by the **Tucson Barbershop eXperience** and augmented by the Centennial Chorus. Guest artists **OC Times** and the **Spirit of Phoenix** (No. 1 barbershop chorus in Arizona) were joined on stage by TBX (No. 2 in Arizona) and other chapter quartets.

WHITE MOUNTAIN JOHN WELKER

The White Mountain Chapter re-elected its slate of officers from 2011 with the exception of **Doug Krueger** as the new Membership Vice President.

A concert at the Northland Pioneer College's Performing Arts Center, called "*Big Band and Barbershop*," featured the **High Country Chorus**, **White Mountain Belles** (a women's barbershop chorus), **Better Late Than Never** quartet, and the NPC's **White Mountain Big Band** in a night filled with big band tunes and four-part barbershop harmony.

Tim Foley, a cellist with the White Mountain Symphony, is helping each voice part learn its music using the cello, the closest instrument to the human voice. When the note is in tune, it resonates; when not in tune, it dies. What a great learning tool! We want both Tim and his cello to become members of our chorus!

YUMA ROB BAILEY

The Yuma Chapter bade farewell to **Johnny Miller**, aka Colonel Sanders, who moved to the Atlanta area for work with the famous fried chicken chain. Our loss is Dixie District's gain, as Johnny is an enthusiastic barbershopper who has served us well as chapter secretary. Several other members have headed back north as the hot Yuma weather sets in.

FWD Fall Convention in Mesa, AZ October 11-14, 2012

**FWD Choruses Will Compete to become
the 2012 FWD Champion and to Qualify for
the June 30 - July 7, 2013 International
Chorus Contest in Toronto, Canada
FWD Quartets Will Compete to become the
2012 FWD Champion.**

**HOD meeting is Friday, October 12, 2PM.
Chapter Delegate 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"**

Youth Harmony Camp

September 21 – 23, 2012

Pollock Pines, California



With Music Dean Gabe Caretto assisted by clinicians Jim Halvorson, Connie Keil and Darin Drown we are looking forward to another awesome camp this fall. Our teaching quartets are OC Times, Artistic License and First Strike. Talk about dipping our youth in Barbershop Harmony and positive vibes!

This camp continues to be an inspiring weekend not only for us as Barbershoppers but also for those young men who attend and especially their vocal music teachers. I have

found that personal contact by each of you is the most effective way to inform young men of our camp. Make contact with the school(s) in your area, talk to those young men in your church community, and don't forget the community theatre groups. I am happy to provide camp DVDs for you to share with music educators. Should you have contact information for those you believe might have an interest and for whatever reason you are not in a position to contact them please send me the information or call me and I will follow-up with them.

In 2011 we had an enthusiastic group of music educators attend camp. These educators can elect to join us for the entire weekend or part of the weekend. We do meet with them on Saturday – Mike O'Neill conducted the meeting with them last year and we received wonderful feedback from them. Moving camp up a week in 2012 was the result of the educators' recommendation. Music educators are invited to attend camp free of charge however we do need to know they are coming. They certainly can attend even though there may not be young men from their school attending and this is a great introduction to incorporating barbershop into their school program.

Although Camp is primarily focused on high school aged young men, we do consider junior high ages on a case by case basis. And college age young men are always welcome. As always we welcome financial support from Chapters and individuals for Harmony Camp

Additional information is available at www.bhsfwd.org/ymih/camp/, or by sending me an email at rwlund@innercrite.com or even by calling me at 530-621-1904.

Richard Lund, Camp Director



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Ray Rhymer, Editor
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CONVENTIONS, SHOWS, EVENTS

2012

June

2 Santa Cruz Show
9 California Delta Show
9 La Jolla Show
10 Palomar Pacific Show
10 San Fernando Valley Show
16 Go For The Gold Show - Fullerton
16 Santa Rosa Show
23 Bay Area
30 Sacramento
30 Westminster Show

July

7/1-8 INT'L CONV Portland, OR
20-22 Harmony College West - UR
28 So Cal Comedy Quartet Contest
Host: Orange Quartet Chapter

August

11 Sedona Show
18 Fullerton Show
19 Riverside Show

September

21-23 Youth Harmony Camp - Sly Park
29 Bay Area Show

October

11-14 FWD Fall Convention Mesa
Host: Greater Phoenix
20 Monterey Peninsula Show
20 Stockton Show
26 Nevada-Placer Show
27 Nevada-Placer Show
27 San Mateo County Show
10/29-11/3 SAI Int'l Conv, Denver, CO

November

3 Placerville Show
3 Walnut Creek Show
4 Santa Cruz Show
4 Sedona Show
10 Central California
24 Santa Fe Springs
30 Fullerton Show

December

1 Bay Area Show
1 Fullerton Show
2 Fremont-Hayward Show
7 Brea Show
8 Brea Show
14 Canada Del Oro Show
15 Pasadena Show

2013

March

14-17 SAI Region 11 Convention
21-24 FWD Spring Convention, TBA

May

11 Santa Fe Springs Show

June

6/30-7/7 INT'L CONV Toronto, ON

October

10-13 FWD Fall Convention
11/4-9 SAI Int'l Conv, Honolulu, HI

2014

March

20-23 FWD Spring Convention

June

6/29-7/6 NT'L CONV Las Vegas, NV

October

9-12 FWD Fall Convention

11/3-8 SAI Int'l Conv, Baltimore, MD

2015

March

19-22 FWD Spring Convention

June

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

10/5-10 SAI Int'l Conv, Las Vegas, NV

October

15-18 FWD Fall Convention

2016

July

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

10/17-22 SAI Int'l Conv, Las Vegas, NV

2017

July

7/2-9 INT'L CONV Minneapolis, MI

10/9-14 SAI Int'l Conv, Las Vegas, NV

2018

July

7/1-8 INT'L CONV Orlando, FL

2019

June

6/30-7/7 INT'L CONV
Salt Lake City, UT

*Clear all show dates with
FWD Secretary, Peter Feeney*