



Summer 2013 Volume 63 Number 2



WESTUNES

WESTUNES, established in 1961, is the official publication of the
Far Western District Association of Chapters in the Barbershop Harmony Society

Far Western District Quartets that Qualified for the 2013 International Quartet Contest.



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Calendar

The FWD Website now contains the official FWD calendar - go to <http://barbershopfwd.org>

Acronyms

BOTM	Barbershopper of the Month
BOTY	Barbershopper of the Year
DP	District President
DRCJ	District Representative Contest & Judging
DVP	District Vice President
CSLT	Chapter Support & Leadership Training
CDD	Chorus Director Development
C&J	Contest & Judging
E	Events
EVP	Executive Vice President
M&PR	Marketing & Public Relations
Mem Ser	Member Services
Mu&P	Music & Performance
QA	Quartet Activities
YIH	Youth In Harmony
OSS	Official Scoring Summary

Featured Articles

HCW offers your Golden Opportunity

It's a Golden Opportunity for singers, directors, arrangers and administrators who want who want to sharpen their Barbershopping skills.

It's the annual Harmony College West, sponsored by the Far Western District. This year it's scheduled for August 9-11 on the beautiful California State University East Bay campus in Hayward, California. (Little-known fact: Women are welcome to enroll for all HCW classes.)

The Golden Opportunity comes from the fact that classes will be taught by three Gold Medal chorus directors, Greg Lyne, Mark Hale and Justin Miller, and a number of other quartet and chorus Gold Medal winners.

Enrollees can sign up for classes in Vocal Techniques, Arranging, Directing, Chapter Leadership, Small Chorus Coaching and other topics.

Quartets also will receive coaching from some of the Society's top coaches and all students can participate in activities including Woodshedding, tag-singing and having a great time with other singers.

In addition up to four small choruses can be coached for four hours each and the weekend will be capped off by a Saturday Night Show with great student quartets and guest quartets

Find out more about Harmony College West in "Dean" Nick Pappageorge's column in Leadership Articles. Also see the announcement in Notices for even more details and the link to sign up on the FWD Website.

See you in Hayward!

Youth Harmony Camp Sep 20-22, 2013

Harmony Camp 2013 is on the horizon! Camp this year is going to be a Great one! Storm Front will be "Stormin' in" from the Rockies to deliver the kind of awesome singing, humor and fun times that they have been delivering around the country and the world ever since they arrived on the scene a couple of years ago (well, more than a couple).

Along with Storm Front, we have another magnificent teaching faculty with Gabe Caretto, Dean, Ron Black, Jim Halvorson and Darin Drown. (baritone of Storm Front)

We plan an awesome camp again this year. Each year we hear "this was the best camp ever" so we are looking to continue that trend. Got a grandson who hasn't been to Camp? Get him there. We have tools to assist you in recruiting young men to join us at Camp. The DVD is still an awesome tool to use in introducing young men to the idea of Camp and getting them to join us there.

At the suggestion of music educators who joined us for the weekend last year, we have produced a tri-fold you can distribute to music educators in your area. The tri-fold includes biographies of our four clinicians. When talking to the music educators let them know they are welcome to join us as guests of the District for all or a part of the weekend. And remember, the music educators are planning their 2013-2014 classes now so get those tri-folds to them before school is out.

We have continued to grow over the past 10 years and I anticipate we will reach 100 young men in the near future. In looking back on these 10 years, I am impressed with the number of young men who have joined us at camp and now participate in high school contests, High Sierra Harmony Brigade, are singing in quartet contests and are singing with choruses as members of the BHS. I have now started to track this participation of Harmony Camp attendees in BHS activities and plan to be able to release this exciting information within the next six months.

The lifeblood of Camp is the awesome volunteers we have each year. At this time, we have the volunteer side of Camp covered for 2013 however financial support is always a top priority. We are always looking for more support from you and/or your chapter. And you have always come through for the young men! I am constantly amazed at the generosity of barbershoppers and their love for passing on this great hobby of ours to the next generation. I ask that you talk with your chapter

president about whether your chapter has made a contribution. It'll remind him that it's not too late.

I have the tri-folds and DVDs. Send me an email or call me and I will get them to you. I am also more than willing to talk with any parent or music educator about Camp.

Looking forward to meeting that grandson or neighbor of yours,

Richard Lund
530-621-1904
rlund@innercite.com

FWD Spring Contest Results

Preferred Blend is the
2013 Super Senior Quartet Champion

FWD Fall Contest Qualifiers

The 21 Quartet qualifiers, based on attaining 66.0 average score, are:

American Pastime	78.8
The Newfangled Four	78.3
Vocal Edition	78.0
Don't Tell Mom	74.5
Speakeasy	73.2
Velvet Frogs	72.3
SBPC	72.1
Voices Of Excellence	71.6
Pipes	70.9
Joint Venture	70.7
Frequency	70.3
Whoop 'Em Up	69.2
The Outliers	68.9
First Strike	68.3
The Front Line	68.2
4 Octaves	67.2
Four Fifteen	66.9
Heatwave	66.5
Behind The Barn	66.5
CONSTELLATION	66.3
Unanimous	66.1

The following 4 Senior quartets also qualified, in addition to Joint Venture above, are:

Preferred Blend	64.7
Silver & Gold	63.7
Classic Edition	62.6
Sound Encounter	59.3

Qualifiers for the 2013 International Collegiate Contest in Toronto are:

The Newfangled Four	78.3
Flightline	72.3
SBPC	72.1

The 26 Chorus qualifiers, based on attaining 59.0 average score, are:

Santa Fe Springs	91.7
California Delta	80.3
Bay Area	80.1
La Jolla	78.8
Greater Phoenix	78.7
Brea	76.1
Reno	74.4
Rincon Beach	73.8
Fresno	66.8
Riverside	66.3
Las Vegas	65.9
Santa Rosa	65.6
South Orange County	65.2
Davis-Vacaville	63.6
San Diego	63.3
Santa Monica	62.8
Fullerton	62.4
Pasadena	62.3
Sacramento	62.2
Palo Alto	61.6
Marin	61.4
South Bay	61.3
Placerville	61.1
Walnut Creek	61.0
Tucson	59.7
Santa Barbara	59.4

NW and NE Division Competing Quartets in alphabetical order.





NorthWest Division Competing Choruses by rank.



NorthEast Division Competing Choruses by rank.





District President Russ Young

The Far Western District continues to be a leader in so many ways. By the time you read this article we will have completed our spring cycle of contests. And once again, the FWD will be well represented at the International Contest and Convention in Toronto this July. Congratulations to quartet qualifiers Vocal Edition, 95 North, Artistic License, The Crush, and Masterpiece, as well as the Voices of California and Westminster choruses as they head to the International stage. I know you will do us proud! And, you can come and help support our quartets by attending the Go For The Gold Show on June 15th. Plan on being at Plummer Auditorium in Fullerton where you can see the best of the best! You won't find a better bargain anywhere. Go to the FWD website for more information.

We will be making history in Hayward this August at the FWD Harmony College West. For the first time ever, we will have FOUR International Gold Medal Chorus Directors on staff. Thanks to the efforts of Music and Performance Chairman Nick Papageorge, with help from the Chorus Director Development Chairman Dr. Greg Lyne, the finest staff for any barbershop educational event has been assembled. Chapters are encouraged to bring your entire music team and get that shot of enthusiasm to bring back to your chorus. You won't want to miss it!

Planning for the Fall Contest & Convention is underway as the convention team is working hard to provide yet another outstanding weekend of barbershop in Bakersfield. The slate of competitors is coming together and we should see the order of appearance soon after the Summer Board meeting in June. Mark your calendars for October 11-13th.

By now you have probably seen the new FWD website. This was a project 3 years in the making. While the full functionality has not yet been realized, there is an entire new look that is a feather in the cap of the FWD. Our new Webmaster David Melville assures me that this is only the tip of the iceberg and that so much more is on the horizon. Some of the new features soon to be up and running include online payments for events and products, plus detailed information for chapter shows and other District activities. We are also looking at other options for electronic delivery of the Westunes (such



as printable features). If you haven't already done so, spend a few minutes and check it out.

As I close, I'd like to extend a hearty "thank you" to retired FWD Webmaster Keith Eckhart for his years of service to our District. He spent countless hours creating data based management systems that laid the foundation for many features found in our current website. Keith plans on continuing his work with the Society as they go through IT changes in the near future. Keith will remain the Convention Activities Chairman for the FWD. You have been a valuable part of our District, Keith, and we are better for it.

I look forward to seeing many of you over the next several months. And remember, Together We Can Change The World... One Song At A Time!



Executive Vice President Allan Webb

Several issues ago, I wrote about the decline in attendance at Division conventions, which precipitated the move towards combined Division events (sometimes with Spring Prelims as well). This year, both the combined NE/NW/Spring and the combined SE/SW conventions had a solid turnout of competitors. In fact, the SE/SW event had a good "problem" to have: so many quartets signed up to compete just before the deadline that we had to expand the judging panel and shuffle the schedule somewhat to fit everything into a one-day event. Many thanks to the Events Team, our outgoing Events Chairman John Jones and incoming Chairman Ted Sayle, as well as Convention Chair for this event, Fritz Grunenwald, and his team.

Despite the behind-the-scenes scrambling necessitated by that large of a turnout, this is exactly what we have all collectively been working toward by encouraging the participation of choruses and quartets at Division events. Next year, we may find ourselves in the position of having to split the SE/SW/Spring event into two events again, but that will require a few more chapters in both Divisions to commit to participating in the chorus contest. In order for a standalone Division event to make financial sense, we really do need over 10 choruses and around 15 quartets to participate in each Division.

It would be extremely helpful, across all Divisions, for Chapters and quartets to indicate as early as possible their intention to participate in a Division event, so we can make an educated decision on whether to combine events or not and contract for appropriate venues. The Division events are a great place for your Chapter chorus and quartets to get some stage time and sing for your brothers in harmony. Nothing would make me happier than to be able to hold separate Division events next year with 15+ Chapters represented in each chorus contest, and a similar number of quartets.

Let the fun begin!



***District Vice President 1 SW
Bill Rosica***

As I climb ever closer to retirement, both from work and from the two Boards on which I sit, I have begun to reflect on the past just a bit. What would my life have been without Barbershop?

I can't count how many great people I have met over the years. The two chapters I belong to, Bakersfield and Santa Fe Springs, have allowed me to grow as a singer and as a person. As many of you know, I have been fortunate enough to win a few accolades along the way, but more than that, I have been able to entertain thousands of people I have never met. I may not have met them, but I feel like I know each one of them by having sung for them.

One of my fondest memories has been attending conventions and tipping a few with my friend and your Hall of Fame Member and Past District President Lynn Britton. Lynn and his sidekick Wayne and I have sat in my hotel room before dinners and solved the problems of the world with a few snacks and a bottle or two of Scotch. Lynn happened to be a judge back in the days when my Dad's Quartet, the Thermalaires, was competing. He has many stories of the old days before I joined and I have enjoyed them many times over.

Of course being General Chairman has been an interesting journey as well. My first mentor was Walt Berry, from the Bakersfield Chapter. He was the do-all, go-to guy prior to my arrival. We didn't always agree on everything, but I learned a lot. My next mentor was Jack Hines, who would fly into Bakersfield to go over all the logistical things that

needed to be tied down. With many conventions under my belt, I was asked to chair the big one in Anaheim in 2009. Call me crazy, but it had always been a dream of mine to chair an International Convention. Luckily for me, I had a great team of guys and gals in the MOH Family. They pulled off a wonderful week and I managed to sing a little as well.

Last, but certainly not least, were all those Giants in the Far Western District. Lloyd Steinkamp and his son Gary became close friends. Val Hicks spent some time with The Masters and was a wonderful gentleman. Although Larry Ajer was a bit before my time, Kim Ajer had a very large impact on how I look at music, when she talked to the chorus after we sang, "When Day is Done". The directors who waved their hands in front of me will always be fond memories.

That and the fact I have been involved with four Small Chorus Championships, six FWD championships and five International Championships makes these 31 years something I would not trade for the world.

And all this happened to me because my Mom and Dad, Peg and Joe Rosica, were introduced to this fine hobby way back in 1960 at a Shell Oil Company picnic. We heard and sang tags on trips across country and listened to records of the top quartets and choruses most of my teenage years. So, when you tell someone about your "Hobby", be sure he understands that it is more of a "Lifestyle" than a hobby. It will change one's life "For Good", as the song says.



***District Vice President 2 SE
Craig Hughes***

***What a great time to be a
Barbershopper!***

I am a fairly new member with just over 10 years' experience. I love the "old timers'" stories of what we "used to be". Probably exaggerated but still pretty darn sweet. I have to say that what we "are" isn't so bad either. We have maintained and built on a tradition of great song and fellowship. We have one foot in the past and one in the future. While that sounds precarious, I think the balancing act keeps us current and vibrant.

Two recent experiences brought this home. The first was the incredible Spring Convention hosted by the

California Delta Chapter in Lodi, California. The fellowship started early and ended late each day. We all enjoyed excellent song and performance with a palpable sense of goodwill. From “One Song at a Time” in the lobby to “Keep the Whole World Singing” in the hall, it was inspiring and reminded me of why I love this “hobby”. The second was the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. Birthday Party hosted for all by the San Diego Chapter. It was a night of joy and celebration that embraced a 59-year member – Jack Story of Palomar Pacific – and new members with less than one year. Many commented, “This was what we used to do.” It’s what we “still do” and need to do more. There is a video at www.sunharbor.org that shows some of the highlights of the evening. What it doesn’t capture is the energy and love in the room.

We are a “feel good” throw back to “better” times. I state that as a uniquely positive thing. Today is an exciting time with opportunities that O.C. Cash couldn’t have imagined. We offer a rare commodity. It isn’t free. We work very hard at the craft and dedicate many hours to the cause but it is truly a labor of love. I closed the San Diego Party with a comment that “we have a vaccine for anger, depression and old age - Barbershop Harmony!” We all need to share this with the rest of the world. Our Anniversary Year has just started. Get out and vaccinate!

Now for the numbers: Our Division has six more members than a year ago with Westminster up nine, Coachella up seven, and Brea up six. No big drops at any of our Chapters, just flat or small declines. One exciting note: The two Las Vegas Chapters have merged as the “Silver Statesmen”. They expect nice growth as things settle down. It will be fun to see them at future contests.

Kudos to the Riverside Chapter for hosting the SE/SW Division Contest held in Ontario on May 11. A big thank you to Chairman Fritz Grunenwald and his team!

Planning for the 2014 Spring Convention in Southern California is well underway and will be announced at the House of Delegates Meeting in October. Mark your calendars for March 20-23 for the best Spring District Convention in the Society as evidenced by Lodi 2013.

Thank you for your support of the Division. We are the best of the best. I look forward to meeting you over the next year.



District Vice President 3 NW Chuck Leavitt

Within the last few weeks I've seen performances of almost every chapter in the Northwest Division.

As Contest Administrator at the March 22-23 NE/NW Division Contest in Lodi, my judge area seat gave me a unique opportunity to view your contest sets. The biggest benefit of competition is getting a good measure of how well you are performing along with advice on improvement from the judges. Contest results are reported elsewhere, so I won't repeat them here, but I do want to congratulate Marin for being the most improved chorus this year and congratulations to all competitors – well done. One more take away from the contest: only four NW quartets competed. They did a very nice job, but come on, only four? Every chapter should have at least one quartet competing!

As for the chapters that did not compete:

On April 13, I saw the San Mateo chapter show in Burlingame. Blues, Gospel and Barbershop was the theme saluting the roots of Barbershop. The Golden Chordsmen song sets were well done and included several configurations of the chapter mix and match quartet - Sound Judgment. The day was topped off with a super performance set by PDQ from SAI.

On April 20, my wife and I saw a great show at the Arkley Center for the Performing Arts in Eureka put on by the Humboldt Harmonaires. They presented Harmony in Vaudeville to a sold out house. The fast-paced show had vaudeville vignettes by the Gaslight Vaudevillians throughout as well as four chapter quartets. The headliner was 139th Street Quartet – always an outstanding performance.

The best part of both these shows is that the performers were having a good time and brought the audience along for the ride.

On April 23, I visited Napa Chapter, as did 11 members from the Santa Rosa Chapter. This was an old-style chapter visit with combined singing and craft work. Each group sang to the other and quarteting went on for more than an hour after the meeting.

Also in the NW Division are the Monterey Peninsula, San Francisco Bay Cities Quartet and Santa Cruz chapters; I'll be visiting you soon!

So what have I learned so far? The chapters that are growing have decided what kind of chapter they want to be and are providing a fun and compelling experience on chapter nights.

All NW chapters want and need more members. Men will join if you invite them, your group sings well (enough) and the meetings are fun. There are lots of ways to have fun. Find some that work for you! The FWD has initiated several programs to help you make better music. Your chorus and especially your music team will benefit from attending Harmony College West this August at Cal State East Bay in Hayward. If they can't make it, why don't YOU? You will help your group perform better as a result.



***District Vice President 4 NE
Richard Lund***

First off, Congratulations to Voices of California (new name of American River Chorus) for their wonderful performance at Divisional Contest in Lodi last March: a performance that elevated the chorus to the ranks of International qualifiers, joining Voices In Harmony with their long reign of qualifying for International.

The rise of VoCal, as they would now like to be called (rather than ARC) has been truly spectacular. I was reminded by a friend of mine that no chorus from the Sacramento area has ever qualified for International until this year with VoCal! Well Done, guys! Go show 'em what a great chorus you have become in such a short time. And yes, this accomplishment has required focus, commitment, and hard work.

Congratulations are also in order to the nine NE Division choruses that participated in the Lodi convention. What an awesome showing. I am looking forward to seeing even more NE chapters participate in the combined NE / NW Division contest May 17, 2014. Now is the time to get this event on your Chapter calendar.

Along with that theme of Prelims and the Divisional Convention in Lodi, we had 37 new members who participated in the Convention. That's a pretty good number itself! We keep hearing about the dearth of new members, and yet we do need to pause and recognize the guys who have actually come through the door as new members, shake their hands and welcome them to the fraternity lest they simply turn

around and go back out the door! Yes, I'm talking about retention! I believe that a focus on our retention programs as well as our membership programs – taking care of our existing members in addition to recruiting new members - will reap rewards for the future of our Society.

What is it that we always say? "I came for the singing, but I stayed for the fraternity." I thoroughly believe that line, and believe that a robust retention focus will truly impact our membership slide and would result in a significant dent in our "membership losses".

I'm not going to point out all the actions and practices that are already out there that "could" be done, and aren't. I am simply raising the question, suggesting that each of you individually and as a chapter "take a look" and see what you are doing to retain members. Probably the biggest single thing that has the greatest impact is just asking, "I (we) missed you last week. Are you all right?" I know from experience that when I'm not feeling well, or something comes along, and I cannot make rehearsal one time, I cannot help but feel a certain amount of "hurt" when the second, third and fourth days pass and there is no call or email from anyone asking "what gives! Where were you?"

We don't need a program to make this happen. We don't need an assignment to make this a regular practice. We just need to take it on as an individual action and part of our barbershop experience to make that call, send an email to our riser-mate or our riser friend that we realized was not there, and just ask the question: "what gives! Where were you?"

The "Talk doesn't cook rice" – here's to the doers" by Lorin May in the November/December 2012 issue of the Harmonizer puts it clearly – **JUST START**



***District Vice President 5 AZ
John Bloomquist***

The ARIZONA DIVISION always seems to be very busy!

Springtime means Division conventions and contests, and in the AZ Division that is true again. The Tucson Chapter hosted this event held in Phoenix April 20. A big THANKS to the Tucson Chapter for lending your expertise once again for what was a most organized and successful event under the watchful eye of Convention Chairman Frank Heartline as well as to

Jere Hill for taking on the thankless job of Registration Chairman. Great Job everyone!

The AZ Division qualified two Choruses and six quartets for the District contest in Bakersfield! In addition to winning the AZ Division Quartet contest, our friends Vocal Edition also qualified for the International contest in Toronto. We couldn't be more proud! Way to go guys! Also, our Senior Champs Joint Venture are sure to be District Senior reps for the Division with a new high score for them! The AZ Division Novice quartet was Speakeasy which formed recently and did an outstanding job gaining them a 2nd-place finish with a 73.2 average... what a way to start!

As we approach the summer months, August will also bring the AZ Division "Fred Koch Memorial" BASH on the 16th and 17th! This is a great weekend of barbershop harmony and with Luck Of the Draw pick-up quartet contests, a parade of quartets and an always-popular VLQ contest, much singing will be done! I invite everyone in the District to come on over to this event which helps to provide funds for our Youth In Harmony efforts. Keep an eye on our Division website for more information regarding registration at <http://div5.barbershopfwd.org/> In fact, there is info about the housing posted there already.

As I said before, it is GREAT to be part of this awesome Division!

Velvet Frogs Card



CSLT Gordon Berghold

As we head into the summer activities many chapters tend to go into a hibernation mode and just exist rather than planning for the future with leadership retreats and other motivational sessions. I would suggest that this is a great time of year to rejuvenate the chapter with attendance at division contests, visitations with other chapters, attendance at the International Convention in Toronto where we will be celebrating the society's 75th anniversary, and other events that stimulate rather than vegetate the members.

Several chapters are just presenting their annual shows, which is another way of getting your chapter recognition and introducing barbershop to many potential, new singers. Others are planning summer family get-togethers in the form of a campout or, in the case of the Arizona Chapters, a "Bash" where men form a quartet for the day and participated in friendly competition; or they form a VLQ (very large quartet) and compete with the other chapters. Whatever you decide to do, do it with enthusiasm and with a goal of getting people together to sing and enjoy the camaraderie.

Golf tournaments are also popular this time of year and these can go along with the campout or bash, or whatever event you plan. Anytime you can get men together singing, good results occur. Why? Because singing is good for your health and mental acuity and it takes your mind off the mundane, everyday challenges of life.

Now you may be thinking, what does this have to do with the CSLT job? As the chair of this committee I'm challenged with helping chapters develop leadership within their organization and nothing promotes leadership more than getting people together planning events that will get members engaged in what they enjoy most: singing. I've copied a short bit of text from WalktheTalk.com to illustrate what a leader owes to others:

- You owe it to your organization – the one that has given a vote of confidence by placing you in your current position ... the one that entrusted you with its most valuable resource: its people.
- You owe it to your team members – those who depend on you for leadership and guidance ...

those whose performance and results are inextricably linked to yours.

And MOST importantly ...

- You owe it to yourself – the one who must live with the image you see in the mirror ... the one who ultimately benefits from, or is hurt by, the actions you take and the track record you add to each day.

Give these things some thought and have a wonderful, active singing summer.



CDD Greg Lyne

WISH TO BE INSPIRED?

Dear chorus directors,

Looking for a way to re-charge your batteries? Seeking an opportunity to gain inspiration and insights so that you can be the best director you can be for your chorus singers? Here's a great suggestion for you.

Attend Harmony College West, August 9-10! It will be held at the California East Bay campus in Hayward, CA. At this exciting event there will be an incredibly talented faculty and participants, who, like yourself, are filled with passion about barbershop singing and directing!

I have long admired what the Far Western District provides its members in the way of leadership and music classes. This year may well be the most exciting Harmony College West ever! You'll have the chance, as directors, to gain insights and awareness from an excellent faculty including three gold-medal chorus directors! Don't miss this chance to spend time learning with Mark Hale, Royce Ferguson and Justin Miller. This could be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and I urge you to be there!

Chorus coaching, quartet coaching, and classes in vocal techniques, barbershop arranging and many more offerings are being provided by Dean Nick Papageorge, my friends. All FWD barbershoppers should plan on being with us this weekend.

Every director in the Far Western District should attend! If you wish to get re-charged and rejuvenated, this event is designed especially for you! Sign up soon! I'll be there also and will look forward to saying hello to each of you.

Here's to our continued musical development in the FWD! See you at Harmony College West!



DRCJ Ron Black

Spring contest season in FWD is completed, results are found elsewhere in this issue. Also go here to find the results on the FWD web site:

<http://farwesterndistrict.org>, which is the FWD, home page. Now hover the cursor over the "Media" tab, and click on "Documents and Forms", then "Contest Scores", then the scores of interest.

- 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

If your quartet or chorus has qualified for the Fall contest, you will already have been contacted by me to enter your CJ-20 Contest Entry Form on ebiz.barbershop.org. If you have qualified but have not entered the contest yet, please do prior to June 10. **Enter the form even if you don't have your songs selected yet, so that we know you plan to participate!**

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!



E Ted Sayle

The March NW/NE & Prelims convention in Lodi was a huge success. Attendance topped expectations, and taxed facility and staff, but they handled it professionally (what a nice problem

to have). The California Delta chapter (VoCal) hosted the event without a hitch under Chairman Morrie Schlessinger and president Rich Brunner. They were ably assisted by advisors (and Division VPs) Richard Lund and Chuck Leavitt. VoCal and VIH won their respective division chorus contests, separated by a mere .02% in total score, and 4 quartets (Masterpiece, Artistic License, 95 North, Vocal Edition) qualified for International. The Crush also qualified by competing in another district. Well Done!

Then came the SoCal SW & SE division contest in May, at Ontario, Calif, hosted by the Riverside chapter. There was great attendance (776) and 24 quartets crossed the stage. The entire event was under the leadership of Fritz Grunenwald.....

A summary of quartet and chorus qualifiers for the FWD Fall Final Contest is presented elsewhere in this issue.

It is gratifying to see that the spring contests in 2013 made money.

The plan for HCW in Hayward, CA is in the final stages of scheduling. It looks to be the biggest and best ever. The dates this year will be August 9th, 10th, and 11th under the leadership of Nick Papageorge. FWD Marketing Manager Jerry McElfresh listed upcoming events, so I won't duplicate that here.

Here are your Division Event Planners.

Northeast – Sam Barger nevadasam1@sbcglobal.net

Northwest – Larry Wiess ltweiss@comcast.net

Southeast – Paul Sandorf patosand@yahoo.com

Southwest – Jim Serdahely sirdaly@aol.com

Arizona – Ivan Jensen ivanbbs@thejensens.com



M&PR Jerry McElfresh

BHS 75th anniversary not over yet -- take advantage of the marketing and PR opportunities

The BHS 75th anniversary on April 11 has passed but that doesn't mean the celebration has to end. All of 2013 is our anniversary year and a chorus that is having its annual show this summer or fall can still capitalize on that great history.

In the last edition of Westunes I suggested that a guest night stressing our history, a performance, a party or other public program such as a singing flash mob could serve to get the word out about who we are and what we do. My own chapter, for instance, had some success using the 75th anniversary plus the chapter's 70th anniversary to obtain a newspaper article and a TV appearance by our director and a quartet prior to our annual show.

If you haven't already taken full advantage of this great marketing and PR opportunity go to the BHS website home page and click on the 75th Anniversary logo. You'll find information on a free show and music based on the celebration and plenty of other useful material. Give it a try.

Westunes changes

You know that our quarterly Westunes district magazine underwent a change at the beginning of the year when the mailed hard copy was dropped and it became available only online in a website format. Depending on your age, background and reading habits this thrilled some people and upset some others.

Editor Ray Rhymer works hard on the publication and he wants all of us to have access to the valuable information found in it so he is going to work even harder and will begin with this edition producing a PDF copy of the magazine in addition to the Web version.

It will look much like the archived versions of Westunes that you found online until this year. (That was another complaint from some, that the 2013 editions weren't archived because it was a difficult thing to do.)

Thanks to Ray, you now can have it both ways. Read it, enjoy it and learn from it.

New FWD website

In March District Webmaster David Melville went live with a new website

(<http://www.barbershopfwd.org/>) [see update below]

that is colorful, classy and complete. David has created or imported a great deal of information that is available on the site and he says more is to come. In one example, Arizona Division contest results were posted the night of the contest.

If you haven't gone to the website give it a try. It apparently is a "hit" with more than 13,000 views as of early May.

May 10, 2013 update: the website is renamed to
<http://farwesterndistrict.org>

On the calendar

We have a number of important events coming up throughout the year that your chapter and quartet members and in most cases the public should be aware of. Do your part in getting the word out about them.

Included are the Go for the Gold Show on June 15 in Fullerton featuring our five Far Western District quartets who are headed for International competition in Toronto, Ontario. See elsewhere in this edition for ticket information.

Others events of note are the International Convention and Contest, June 30 – July 7; Harmony College West, Aug. 9-11 at Cal State Hayward (note those are different dates from the ones originally listed); and the FWD Fall Convention, Oct. 10-13, in Bakersfield. Looking ahead into 2014 we'll be the host district for the BHS Midwinter Convention, Jan. 28 – Feb. 2 in Long Beach and the 2014 International Convention, June 29 – July 6 in Las Vegas. See ya there.



Mem Serv Jack Peters

The secret to chapter growth has been discovered

Hard work with direction!

Below are a couple of reports from chapters doing something to further their altruistic purpose, thus preserving our sport and brotherhood for all time!

From Gerry Stone at the Santa Cruz chapter:

“We’re consistently using Paul Ellinger’s, SUPERCHARGING YOUR CHAPTER coupled with FWD’s LEARN TO SING FOR FREE program, and the constant assistance of all our members aptly led by Assistant Director, Dale Summer.”

For the second time in two years, the Santa Cruz chapter went out and got 20 newbie singer students for five, one-hour, and free, weekly singing lessons with the chorus.

Week 1	4/10	Randy Meyer, Instructor “Posture & Breathing”
Week 2	4/17	Ray Rhymer, Instructor “Freedom of Vocal Mechanism”

Week 3	4/24	Dr. David “Tony” Dehner “Resonance, Vowels, & Singable Sounds”
Week 4	5/1	Jordan Johnson “Sight Reading”
Week 5	5/8	Chris Hebert “Vocalizing”

(Chapter goal is for five new members from these sessions. One has already signed at this writing, week #3)

Santa Cruz has it goin’ on. Contact them if you want the formula and fever for your chapter at gpstone@comcast.net.

From Shelly Albaum of the Santa Rosa chapter:

“We have taken on a chapter mentoring role with the smaller Napa chapter”.

Fifteen members of the Santa Rosa chapter visited the 15 Napa members on 4/23 along with Division VP, Chuck Leavitt.

Three primary and remarkable things happened.

- The bigger, more opportunistic chorus, Santa Rosa, got to increase their awareness of the broader Barbershop world, small chapters under 20 members, which make up 27% of the FWD.
- Napa guys got to instantaneously sing with 30 fellas, not just the same 10-15, which clearly energized them.
- Nearly all got to sing in a new pick-up quartet, which was invigorating and **fun for all**.

Looks like a win, win, win idea here with bigger choruses visiting smaller ones for a “shot in the arm” to both. Dual memberships will form and the smaller chapter will strengthen its posture in the community. This all takes some effort but the pay is worth every minute. Good job, Shelly, Chuck, Craig, and Patty!

Hats off to San Luis Obispo – they’re doing something right with three new members in just the first four months of 2013, nearly 9% of their membership.

Report from South County Sound

One of our long-time faithful members has been trying to get one of his church choir members to visit our chorus for nearly 20 years. Jin walked into our rehearsal / meeting two weeks ago and now can’t get enough. After the afterglow, till the cops send us

home, he sings all parts (not at the same time-- yet) and is picking up our repertoire faster than we can provide it. Tags are a snap for him and I can see a very good tag master in the making here one day --- in a month or so!

As is usually the case, Jin wishes he had visited 20 years ago!

A VLQ sing-out was enjoyed by all at a City Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon two weeks ago after our Marketing VP, Irv Engle had been working to convince them of our talents for over a year.

It's all about timing - so don't give up!

We all love our hobby, so to constantly share what we do with others, every day, is the way we open up doors and literally "Keep the Whole World Singing"!

I trust you will all have a very memorable Armed Forces Day on May 18th, Memorial Day, the 27th and Independence Day, July 4th. These are all great sing-out days that really kick off summer, baseball and apple pie --- and of course, live singin' in 4-part harmony!

Have a great summer and be a SINGER BRINGER!



Mu&P Nick Papageorge

**FWD (CHAPTER)
HARMONY COLLEGE WEST
AUGUST 9 – 11, 2013
Hayward, CA**

ALERT, ALERT - CHANGE OF DATE - ALERT, ALERT

You may be wondering why I have Re-Named HCWest. Well wonder no more!

Dr. Greg Lyne and I have collaborated on a new vision for Harmony College West. For those of you who don't yet know, Greg has been named Far Western District's Chairman of Chorus Director Development. (Greg has already produced a very successful Chorus Director's one-day seminar in Northern California just this past February.)

Greg and I are very proud to announce that this year's Harmony College West will feature our own Far Western District Gold Medalist Chorus Directors, teaching Seminars for our FWD Chorus Directors!

Where else will you find Gold Medal Chorus Directors in one place, teaching our chorus directors

all of their secrets? We will also offer our usual HCWest classes (as well as any other class that you may want offered – just ask me!) and Quartet Coaching. All of this at one college!

BIG NEWS: Remember that our Chorus Directors are nothing if they don't have well-educated chorus members; so when a Chorus Director from any chorus in our district brings **four** other of his chapter members with him to The University of California, East Bay for Harmony College West, **the tuition for all five members of the chorus will be discounted by 10%.** That's a little more than an \$85 discount for the five of you!

PLAN NOW to ATTEND HARMONY COLLEGE WEST AUGUST 9 – 11, 2013 Cal State East Bay, Hayward, CA

Remember that there will still be eight hours of quartet coaching in the usual pod coaching arrangement. And there will be classes in vocal production, arranging, beginning directing, theory, coaching, and chapter leadership. Plus, lots and lots of singing! (If you don't find what you like, let me know and we'll see if we can find five other students who also want to take a class with you.)

Even if you can't attend with your Chorus Director, you don't want to miss the excitement and learning that happens every year at Harmony College West. You and your Chorus will only thrive by your attendance! You can find the class descriptions, registration forms, and payment, online, on our new website! <http://farwesterndistrict.org>

We will also be continuing our "Small Chorus Coaching." This is a "class" that has a small chorus being coached for four hours, and then their members take classes for the remaining four hours.

ATTEND HARMONY COLLEGE WEST 2013!



QA Bill Kane

YOU + 3 other guys = A fun time at Harmony Platoon

By the end of the spring conventions in FWD this year, over 200 men will have signed up to participate in at least one Harmony Platoon. Many have been at more

than one, and a few have gone to nearly every one of the six that have been held, starting in spring of 2012.

Want to know more about why these guys keep coming to Harmony Platoon?

Our Platoon guys have enjoyed hours and hours of quartet singing. They have learned up to 20 new songs they can sing besides Polecats, with fellows from other chapters throughout the District. There are only a handful of chapters who haven't had someone at Platoon (and it is just a bit too far to travel from the Aloha Chapter, so we understand). A number of guys have also formed quartets with contacts made at Platoon, and/or entered Novice and Division contests with newly-learned Platoon songs.

Have you missed out on all that fun ... so far?

It may not be too late. Watch for announcements this June about Platoon activity at the Fall FWD Convention in Bakersfield. Deadline for registration will be August 1.

Drop me an email with any questions you may have about Harmony Platoon.

Or go to our website: HarmonyPlatoon.org



YIH Jim Halvorson

Hey there FWD'ers!

The first half of the year is almost over and time surely flies. We have had some great youth activities and attendance at our youth events. Let's keep up the good work and work to expand our horizons even further! If you haven't had a chance to read the November/December issue of the Harmonizer, you need to. There is a fabulous article about our CEO, Marty Monson, and the education staff meeting with Dr. Tim Sharp, CEO of the American Choral Directors Association. The BHS is working diligently to develop a symbiotic relationship with this powerful music organization and it is a wonderful read about how we, as barbershoppers, can get ourselves involved with the school and help encourage (and educate) directors about the opportunities that are available to them through inclusion of barbershop into their program. There is also a new HARMONIZE.TV video out that summarizes much of this article. There has never been a better time to take a stab at getting

involved with your local school music programs. We are forging relationships that will bear amazing fruit but we have to be the ones "tending to the garden" as it were.

As the school year ends, now would be a great time to set up a summer program option with your chorus. Promote your chorus to the schools as a summer educational opportunity. Guys generally come with fewer skills when they come into choir, so you could tell the teacher that this would be a great summer program to get young men up to speed before next year. I guarantee they would come back next fall to their school with a renewed energy and sense of confidence. Maybe even plan a concert or performance in late August or early September that features these gentlemen and get the local choral directors to come see what you have accomplished. They will leave begging you to take in more of their students.

If you can hook the young guys over the summer, you can sell the Youth Harmony Camp and maybe even get a chorus formed for the Midwinter in Long Beach, CA. Better yet, you can get four guys from a school to get a quartet started over the summer with the intention of helping the choir director recruit in the fall. There are so many ways we can help spread the joy of barbershop singing to the younger generation and at the same time educate and encourage our colleagues in the choral music field. We are at the tipping point of a great time in barbershop. Make sure you are doing what you can to help be a part of the legacy for our future.

95 North Card



A BARBERSHOP QUARTET
FROM RENO & LAS VEGAS NEVADA

Jim Halvorson (Tenor)
Mike Stewart (Bass)
Nick Pizzo (Bari)

Contact Larry Halvorson (Lead)
702-813-6873
95northquartet@gmail.com

95 North

Jim, Larry, Mike and Nick

Reaching for a goal can take so much time and effort. You operate under the impression that it will all be worth it. Our quest for the Far Western District took us three long years. The journey was and continues to be worth the every minute. Now we are six months into our championship year and the time seems to fly by. Before you know it we will be has-beens.

For 95 North the weekend in Meza AZ. was the catalyst to a new adventure. After what felt like no time at all we were headlong in competition at the spring prelims. Very were very happy with our results and are looking forward to joining our FWD quartet brothers in Toronto for the international contest. It will be our honor to share the stage with Masterpiece, The Crush, Artistic License and Vocal Edition, who are making their first trip to international as a quartet.

We have a couple of shows lined up but still have plenty of room in our calendar for your chorus. Please feel free to look us up on our Facebook page or call Larry Halvorson at 702-690-1568.

Our tenor Jim has been able to spend more time arranging music for the quartet and all the music on the entry form for Toronto save one are original arrangements done by him. We have recently had some great coaching with Warren Hettinga and feel like we are continuing to open new doors and progress at a steady pace. To say we are excited about our future would be an understatement.

Please join us in the fall as we get the honor of presenting the championship trophy to a new set of champs and make plans to see the AFWDC Late Show on Friday night. It promises to be awesome.

During the Far Western District Spring Convention and Contest in Lodi in March the Lodi News-Sentinel published this article and photo about the convention and our ongoing efforts to introduce Barbershop Harmony to young men. Thanks to Author Sarah Jane Pohlman and the News-Sentinel for permission to use this fine representation of who we are and what we love to do.

Jerry McElfresh, FWD Marketing & Public Relations Chairman

Barbershop harmonies ring though Hutchins Street Square



Ian Jonsson/News-Sentinel

Top RawMen, from McNair High School, sing in the high school quartet contest at Hutchin's Street Square in Lodi on Saturday, March 23, 2013.

Posted: Sunday, March 24, 2013 1:21 am

By Sara Jane Pohlman/News-Sentinel Staff Writer

Four teenage boys in red and pink ties singing about heartbreak and love lost doesn't sound like a recipe for happiness.

But add in acapella stylings and something special that is exclusively found in barbershop harmonies, and just try to keep your foot from tapping and a grin from spreading across your face.

Dozens of quartets and choruses from California, Arizona, Utah and Nevada gathered for the three-day Far Western District Spring Convention and Contest less than a month shy of the Barbershop Harmony Society's 75th birthday on April 11.

The lineup included preliminary competitions for the international contest in Toronto in July, lessons on how to read music, and performance evaluations to use each session on stage as a chance to improve.

Hundreds of men sporting various shiny silk vests and bow ties over crisp white button-downs milled about at Hutchins Street Square waiting for the next performance or their call for a group photo.

District President Russ Young said the best thing about Barbershop Harmony is that it makes each man a better singer. In such a small group, there's nowhere to hide and no one else to cover your part. Plus, it's easy to rehearse without any instruments to bring along.

"There's just something different about it," Young said. "When you get in the middle of a performing quartet and you hear those ringing chords ... you can't explain it. You have to experience it."

But among the silver-haired and middle-aged core group, the performance that called the most attention was mid-afternoon on Saturday, when teenagers took the stage. Five high school quartets were dressed up and ready to belt out tunes with nothing but a pitch pipe to keep on track.

It might seem difficult to persuade a 16-year-old to spend hours a week practicing a four-part harmony in a song from his grandfather's teen years.

The key is to find youths who love music, teach them how to hold their own in a performance, and welcome them into the society with open arms.

The system works, said Young, because of the youth outreach work. Each summer, the Far Western District holds Harmony Camps. The local Stockton Portsmen host them in the Lodi area.

It was at one of these camps three years ago that Harvey Ching, now 18, first got the hang of barbershop harmony. He pulled three of his musically inclined friends into the hobby, and they soon found themselves spending several hours a week poring over sheet music, selecting arrangements and practicing scales. They were among the quartets that took the stage on Saturday under the group name Top RawMen. The four teens from McNair High School earned a standing ovation from the audience for their performance.

"Songs from today are different, sure. But if the music sounds pleasing to my ear, and if it makes me happy, then I like it. And we try to instill that in what we do," said Ching.

His friends echoed that emotion, saying the support from the veteran singers inspires them to be better at their craft.

"Not many people our age are into this," said Joshua Cabardo, 17. "It keeps us open."

Contact reporter Sara Jane Pohlman at sarap@lodinews.com.

Tune Struck Card



BARBERSHOP FRIENDSHIP & CAMARADERIE...Geezer Style!

*By Larry Litchfield, Immediate Past President
Las Vegas Chapter of the
Barbershop Harmony Society's FWD
(In close collaboration with best pal and fellow
Geezer, Dave Kennedy)*

A few months after the exciting new Silver Statesmen Barbershop Chorus was born on New Year's Day 2013, incoming Las Vegas Chapter President Steve Salmon buttonholed me one night at rehearsal. He asked if I'd write an article about "friendship and

camaraderie” as it impacts the barbershopping world – with special focus on our Chapter and new Silver Statesmen chorus.

He envisioned sharing the article with other chapters via the Harmonizer and/or the FWD’s Westunes; and in our Chapter’s sparkly new newsletter -- the **Nugget!**

Steve particularly wanted me to link his requested topic to **The Great Geezer Getaway Guys**, a unique friendship that has tightly bonded two senior Las Vegas Chapter members for more than five years!

He likens the Geezers – as a prime example of two “elderly” barbershoppers forging a rock-solid comradeship – to many close friendships that have been created for the last 75 years in Society chapters dotting the landscape of America and beyond.

Camaraderie: A Core Barbershop Credo

Barbershoppers are familiar with our hobby’s ingrained, much publicized philosophy that member prospects signing on with a chapter can build a lengthy friendship and foster warm and enduring camaraderie with the newly discovered pastime. Such a result of a Barbershop membership doesn’t come automatically, however.

Friendships of varying intensities are an acknowledged barbershopping benefit or else most of these singing guests would last only a meeting or two and then possibly turn to a different avocation. Smiles, welcoming pats on the back, singing soaring barbershop seventh chords and enjoying friendly, encouraging conversations with veteran chorus members often result in a new member eagerly signing on.

And with continuous cordiality and sharing pre-existing common interests or experiences, the likelihood of two gentlemen barbershoppers forging a close and lasting friendship increases dramatically. To become close Chapter buddies, it’s not necessary for both to sing the same voice part, either.

**So, please allow Dave and me to share with you
the unique story of the on-the-go,
unique barbershopping Geezers.**

To appreciate our strong bond of friendship, you need to understand how we met and a little about what

we’ve done together in the last five years – besides singing barbershop in our chorus and, for a couple of years, in the same registered quartet. I’ve been told that close friendships usually are fueled by commonalities. In our case, it’s been attributed to (1) our common hardships as in caring for our wives for long periods of time before their deaths; and (2) having mutual interests, like barbershop singing and enjoying the great outdoors.

The Geezers Met in 2007

It happened in late 2007 when I first attended the then-Gamble-Aires chorus rehearsal. It’s traditional for newbie guests to be introduced, usually by the Membership VP, and for the guest to stand and tell the chorus members a little about himself. And that’s just what I did.

I announced that I’d sung all my life, having been a barbershopper many decades earlier in Southern California, working then as a newspaper reporter and, later, as a public relations professional in various business sectors. I also told the chorus I was a recent widower, that my wife of 45 years had lost her valiant fight with cancer on Sept. 2, 2007 and that we’d moved to Las Vegas in 1993 from the San Francisco Bay Area.

At the rehearsal’s break, a short, stocky, elderly gentleman, sporting a nifty handlebar mustache and a warm smile, greeted me and said his name was **Dave Kennedy**, then in his eighth year of barbershopping with the G-As. He said we had some unique commonalities: he’d also been married 45 years, cared for his wife for many years and pointed out that she had died only two months after mine.

We shook hands and that was it for a while. We both recall that our friendship did not take off like a rocket. Commonalities kept emerging for several months, including both of us having one grown, happily married daughter and no grandkids. We later learned our daughters were nearly the same age. We’re also on fixed-income budgets.

Dave’s wife passed on Nov. 17, 2007. After holding positions in mining, banking and gaming, he retired after 30 years in retail merchandising. After his two beloved dogs died in early 2009, a year after his

retirement, Dave started serious hiking, taking scenic photographs around the valley with emphasis on the beautifully rugged Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area. Many of his Red Rock pictures have been published in a designer book and appear on his Facebook page and in his Google photo albums.

In 2008, with the formation of a new registered quartet, our friendship gained momentum and Dave and I began nurturing it with photo hikes throughout Southern Nevada and just hanging out. We attended our first movie (Avatar) together and began seeing movies often, taking day photo excursions and enjoying suppers together at local establishments.

Geezer Getaway 1 Launched!

In the spring of 2010, we decided to take a motor camping trip throughout the Southwest and Rocky Mountains. Neither of us had done anything like that before. We carefully defined our route, borrowed some camping gear from a barbershopper friend and boldly casted off on July 26 in Dave's 2008 Honda Fit packed to the roof with our gear and grub. We maintained a blog and our barbershopping friends and family followed our trip with postings of awe and encouragement.

Eighteen days and eight states later, we returned to Las Vegas, exhausted, happy and filled with memories of our adventure that took us through eight states on our 3,750-mile adventure. We were surprised when a two-page article on our trip appeared in the AAA magazine Traveler. We also were interviewed at length by the Las Vegas PBS radio station.

In these publicity events we consistently mentioned barbershopping as the birthplace of our friendship...and we are pleased to promote our hobby widely through our Geezer antics.

GGG 2 Explored the Pacific Northwest

In 2012, we did it again with new camping gear donated by a major national recreational equipment outfitter. This time, we drove 3,900 miles in 19 days into the Pacific Northwest as far north as Oregon and Washington. In the summer of 2011, we took a four-day mini-getaway into Sedona and Oatman, AZ. This summer, we're planning GGG 3 into the wilds of Southern Utah.

Between these major getaways, we've taken frequent day trips to areas throughout the Greater Southern Nevada region and have constructed a unique day-trip illustrated flyer and tri-fold brochure, compliments of the Geezers. These "handouts", describe a dozen, close-by, unique destinations that we strongly recommend. We'll be offering this "been there/done that" day-trip flyer to the planning committee of the upcoming International Barbershop Convention scheduled for Las Vegas in the summer of 2014.

In all, we estimate our major Getaway adventures (including our upcoming trip into Southern Utah and many day jaunts) have taken us more than 10,000 miles.

We've also built a short, no-charge electronic picture show that Dave and I narrate together during presentations at Valley senior centers and residences, assisted living facilities, hospitals, rehab centers and before other audiences. We've taken many thousands of photos during our travels.

Life indeed is good for the barbershopping, adventurous Great Geezer Getaway Guys who strongly endorse the Society's stated mission: bringing men together in harmony and friendship to enrich lives through singing!

Note: For information on the Geezers' photo presentations, email us at greatgeezergetaway.net; or visit our website in progress at www.geezergetaways.org.



Left to right: Larry Litchfield, Dave Kennedy

Santa Cruz “Learn to Sing for Free” Event

Our membership program for 2013 started at Lodi with the membership VP meeting with Jack Peters. We received input from Shelly Albaum concerning their successful “Supercharging Your Chapter” program which used the Turbo Growth Program DVD by Paul Ellinger. We bought the DVD and showed it to our chorus during a “Supercharge Practice” session. The DVD presentation motivated our board and chorus members to support the program.

Our next step was to implement Alan Gordon’s “Learn to Sing for Free” program. We had experience from our successful 2011 program and implemented what we had learned from that. We wanted to duplicate its success and increase the number of new members recruited.

The first lesson, April 10, was presented by Randy Meyer to 20 students and the chorus. Randy has a lot of experience with Barbershop. He presented a dynamic lesson on “Posture and Breathing.” Randy was very well received and was paid many compliments. During refreshments, Randy charmed the students with his demonstrations and singing. Ten students stayed for practice.

The second lesson, April 17, was taught by Ray Rhymer. Ray is a popular FWD Hall of Famer. He has impressive credentials. His subject was “Freedom of the Vocal Mechanism and Resonance.” He had the students in the palm of his hand from his opening remarks. Ray has a wonderful way of interacting with students. It was most obvious on the face of our newest, youngest chorus member Caleb Riley, age 15. We had 22 students and 11 stayed for practice.

The third lesson, April 24, was presented by Dr. David Anthony “Tony” Dehner, Director of Music at the Monte Vista Christian School in Watsonville. Dr. Dehner is no stranger to our chorus or to Barbershop. With his educational training and his experience he brought the subject “Resonance, Vowels, and Other Singable Sounds” to life. Tony stayed for the beginning of practice and used the chorus members for a demonstration of how placement of each singer is determined. Tony is always a personable favorite!

Eleven stayed for practice and we signed up our first new member.

Dale Summer, our Associate Director has been very effective in moving the L2S4F program forward this year. Prior to the showing of the Turbo Growth Program DVD, Dale explained how it would work. There was a lot of negative feedback. She said she would turn the nay-sayers around and she did, in spades. She and her music team are the center of the effort to charm the students and get new members. As a part of the “Energize Your Chapter” program the chorus members were given examples of how to be friendly and ‘sell’ your chapter to prospective members. The core of this effort is called “riser buddies” and is implemented by the section leaders (Dan Jet, bass; Glenn Davis, tenor, Marti Dolciamori, lead; Trudy Mock, baritone). All are prodded by Dale as the leader of the music team. Thanks to the music team we will reach or exceed our goal of five new members.

San Diego 75th Anniversary Celebration

by Craig Hughes, San Diego Chapter

April 11th, 2013 was an evening to remember. Over 100 barbershoppers from all corners of San Diego County gathered at the Junior League House in downtown San Diego to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Barbershop Harmony Society. All reflected on our special fraternity of Harmony.



Video at: www.sunharbor.org

The singing started immediately and continued throughout the night. The “program” was coordinated by Craig Hughes, VP Marketing – San Diego Chapter, and included a proclamation from

Bob Filner, San Diego Mayor, designating Barbershop Harmony Week. Jack Story, 59 years in Society and charter member of the Palomar Pacific Chapter, told us “stories” of the early days of San Diego Barbershop. We sang happy birthday to “S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. and Stan”. Stan Christman was born in San Jose on April 11th, 1938. Stan is singing with the Heavenly Chorus now but his spirit was evident throughout the evening. All were invited back for the 100th Anniversary in 2038!

The Afterglow included Cake, Punch, and roof top singing. Special thanks to the San Diego Chapter for hosting and the Junior League of San Diego for donating the venue.

This is a crazy Singing Valentines story

By Keith Bogost, Palomar Pacific Chapter

As you probably know, the US Post Office does NOT deliver.

But, the Barbershop Harmony Society, which has been around for 75 years ALWAYS does!

Singing Valentines have been faithfully delivered for years all around the country.

After receiving an order to DELIVER the goods at a local hospital, a valiant quartet from the Palomar Pacific Chapter discovered that the recipient (an elderly woman) was in the hospital. When they went to the hospital, they were told that she was in an isolation room. They could not even crack the door to her room to sing to her. Following "doctor's orders," they donned face masks and completed their mission.

BRAVO!



The Quartet sings in appropriate hospital face masks.

Sunshine Chairman Card

**FWD Sunshine Chairman
Les Cudworth**

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Division 1 SW Chapters Ken Day, Editor

Aloha Chapter By Jack Hashimoto

The highlight of our quarter was the January visit by FWD Chapter Leadership and Support Chair **Gordon "Mongo" Bergthold**.

Thanks to Mongo for his very timely and informative visit and to President **Russ Young** for making it possible. On the Thursday that Mongo arrived he attended our weekly rehearsal and got a feel for how it was run. On Friday, Mongo convened a mini Leadership Academy for the leadership and members of our chapter. We spent the morning at the Ala Wai Golf Course Clubhouse taking in all the knowledge that he had to give us on Chapter and Chorus matters. That same night Mongo sang the Star Spangled Banner and Hawaii Ponoï (the state anthem) with us at the University of Hawaii basketball game, held at Stan Sheriff Center, on campus. He finished with a flurry, installing our 2013 Board of Directors at our banquet, held at the Tree Tops Restaurant. Mongo left Hawaii with a lot of aloha from our members. Thanks to **Bill** and **Sandy Joor** for hosting him while he was here.

Singing Valentines took our quartets to all corners of the island of Oahu, as we spread the love around. Thanks to co-chairs **Hank Drayton** and **Dan Tom**, to the grunge work people, **Larry Paterson**, **Hiroshi Yuki**, **Mike** and **Eli Joor**, **Ed Reid**, **Rick Klemm**, **Glenn Crowder**, **Don Raymond**, **Mark Brandle**, **George McQuat**, **De DeCrow**, **Gloria Drayton** and all the quartets.

We had a Bucks Auction at the home of **Hank** and **Gloria Drayton**. We gathered in party mode, clutching our Aloha Chorus Barbershop Bucks, awarded each member as an incentive for attendance at our activities. Then we bid on items purchased by **Ed Reid** (the organizer) for the chorus from Harmony Marketplace. Thanks to **Hank** and **Gloria** for being such fine hosts.

We sang at the Hawaii volleyball game and our new performance aloha shirt debuted to the public. The shirt fabric was designed by our own **Phil Wee** (a labor of love). This is his second such design for the chorus (we have performed with his first creation since 2003), and will happily sing in this new shirt for a long time. Chorus Manager **Ken Nelson** was honcho for this event.

BOTM were: December - **Mike Johnson**, January - **Phillip Wee**, February - **Phil Chang**, March - **John "Doc" Char**.

Conejo Valley Chapter By Neil Pennywitt

Our college quartet, **The Harmony Hurlers**, had several performances at Moorpark College events, and is even generating a fan club! Our sponsorship of the Barbershop Club at Newbury Park High School, with regular meetings and over a dozen members, continues with weekly coaching sessions.

The consensus in the chorus is that we're adding members because we are really having fun in rehearsals and in

performances by focusing on entertaining the audience. Good barbershop singing is important, but we really try to make our performances more like a variety show, with a theme and a mix of show tunes, comedy, and ballads.

Both chorus quartets, **Harmony Connection** and **Sound Check**, continue to sing at numerous community events. **Harmony Connection** was asked to return to the upcoming Southern California Comedy Quartet Contest in Orange, CA to serve as judges for the 2013 competition (which they won last year).

For more information about Harmony Oaks, and to see all that we are doing, visit the chapter website @ www.CVHOV.com.

Pasadena By Bill Cauley

Hello from Pasadena! We're still having fun and enjoying our singing. The chapter hasn't grown to what we want, but more importantly, we haven't gotten smaller. The work to lessen attrition is as great as the work to attract new members.

Marketing and Public Relations will be pushed in the coming months as a major priority. The surrounding communities must know that you're there. We continue to interface with chambers of commerce, schools, and religious entities.

We stress, as all should be doing, talking up the society to all that we meet. It makes it much easier to sell those tickets, as we recognize the competition that's out there. This is especially a necessity as we're now selling tickets to our annual spring show.

The spring show is "A Little Traveling Music" by the Crown City Chorus. Our guest quartet this year is **The Velvet Frogs**. Wildly entertaining and fun, they are brought back by popular demand. They are the FWD 2011 Senior Quartet Champion and they were awarded 4th Place at the International Seniors Quartet Competition in Tucson, Arizona in January 2012.

Rincon Beach By Ken Day

We had a combination of three quartets sing on Valentine's Day. In Santa Barbara, Brent Anderson's

Quartet DuJour had a couple of configurations with **Art Taylor** (t), **Garth Ratliff** (L), **Walt Rugh** (B), and **Brent Anderson** (Bs). In the afternoon and evening, it was **Craig Schmidt** (t), **Garth Ratliff** (L), **Max Frickey** (B), and **Brent Anderson** (Bs). They sang 16 paid and 6 more promotional Valentines. As they sang during the day they carried promotional materials and sold 6 more Valentines than were scheduled. In the southern section, Ventura, Camarillo, Newbury Park, Thousand Oaks and Simi Valley, **Priority Male** sang with **Bill Chase** (t), **Jim Browne** (L), **Mike Murphy** (substituting on bari for **Jim Rodriguez**), and **Bill Crome** (Bs). Other singers that participated were **Monty Clark**, **Jim Serdahely** and **Jay Pryor**. A huge thanks goes out to **Lu Hintz** for coordinating the Valentines. All told, 44 were sold.

On February 21st, the chorus performed at the Leisure Village retirement recreation building for the Players Club. We had an enthusiastic audience of over 300 people.

On March 8th, two configurations of quartets sang at the Kingdom Center, a home that takes care of homeless people. At the morning registration the quartet was made up of **Walt Rugh** (t), **Monty Clark** (L), **Mike Murphy** (B), and **Jim Serdahely** (Bs). At the dinner that evening the quartet was made up of **Jay Pryor** (t), **Bernie Sentianin** (L), **Mike Murphy** (B), and **Jim Serdahely** (Bs). All together the quartets sang for 200-300 people.

San Fernando Valley Chapter

By Bruce Poehlman

The **Valley Harmony Singers** (formerly the Valleyaires) are gearing up for our salute - "Songs of Celebration, Hope, and Life" - to living and fallen heroes. The performance will be on May 25th, 7:00pm at the First Presbyterian Church of Encino. We will be partnering with several other singing groups and will honor heroes both living and deceased, from military, police, fire, and other first responders. This should be a wonderful and moving event.

San Luis Obispo Chapter

By Pete Bennett

Thanks to a team effort led by **Tom Zirk**, **Scot Sheldon** and **Ted Henson**, the chapter enjoyed another success this year delivering Singing Valentines. We scored a PR coup when chapter quartet "**Treble Makers**" surprised KSBY TV's news anchor **Jeanette Trompeter** with an early Valentine and gained exposure on several newscasts.

Members **Pete Bennett** & **Greg Schifano** attended the Spring Convention in Lodi. Greg judged the Platoon event, while Pete competed and was the bass of the "surviving" quartet "**Beats Me**" that earned the opportunity to sing as mic testers at the beginning of the Friday night quartet contest.

The **Gold Coast Chorus** welcomes four talented singers to our ranks: new members **Ron Sheldon** (Scot's brother), **Richard Burch** (a transfer from Santa Maria), **Miles Brown** (at 27, full of youthful talent and enthusiasm); and **Darrell Mann**, an experienced bari.

Make your summer vacation to the Central Coast coincide with our chapter show, "Travel Time USA" on Saturday, June 8 at the Clark Center for Performing Arts in Arroyo Grande. Show Director **Dane Howalt** and Music Director **Thomas Bourne** have developed a catchy script and the Chorus and chapter quartets are well on the way to perfecting songs and choreo. Call (805) 550-2874 for tickets and information.

Santa Barbara Chapter

By Eric Fenrich

The **Channel City Chorus** is returning to the contest stage having entered the SW Division Contest after many years of being away. In addition, **Centerpiece** will take part in the quartet event. We are excited about performing and receiving the feedback of an appreciative audience as well as the constructive criticism of the judging panel that will help us continue improving. The CCC recently added bass **Paul Bergevin** to its roster and we look to keep on growing!

Santa Fe Springs Chapter

By Ron Larson

The Annual Young Men's Harmony Festival held at Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa and now in its 13th year has long been regarded as one of the nation's premier choral music festivals. For years, the event has been co-sponsored by the **Masters of Harmony** and the Southern California Vocal Association, a professional organization for choral music teachers. The success of the event has helped create similar events for young men and women around the country. This year's festival, held on February 16, drew 204 young men from 26 high schools and 3 middle schools. More than 70% of the attendees were first-timers while 30% were returning participants. Once again, extensive background work by event organizer **Mark Freedkin** helped ensure a smooth-running event. Expert coaching assistance by members of **The Crush**, **Dave Tautkus**, **Jason Remley**, and **Dr. Chris Peterson** helped prepare the young men to perform on stage what they had learned prior to and during the all-day workshop. An evening show featured songs by the youth chorus, performances by quartets and small ensembles from individual schools as well as performances by **Masterpiece**, **The Crush**, **The Westminster Chorus** and the **Masters of Harmony**. The grand finale featured over 320 singers filling the risers to overflowing singing "Fun In Just One Lifetime" and America The Beautiful/Overlay. The audience of over 350 parents, teachers and friends responded with standing ovations for the amazing vocal and visual spectacle they had just witnessed. This year's festival boosted the 13-year attendance total to over 2,900 students. Mark Freedkin gave special thanks to three organizations whose generous financial support make this event possible-the Association of International Champions (AIC Endowment Fund), the Far Western District (Youth Education Fund) and Harmony Foundation.

On February 14, Valentine's Day, the Masters of Harmony participated in a unique Singing Valentines program. Unlike previous programs managed in-house, the chorus used an on-demand car service company known as Uber. Those who clicked on the Uber app on a smart phone got a black SUV ready to take them wherever they wanted to go. For Valentine's Day, Masters members who had signed up (as well as some from other choruses), were paired with a driver who took them to a designated location for someone who had gone to the Uber site and requested a "Singing Valentine" delivery. The locations included private homes, businesses, even restaurants. One quartet was assigned to the Uber office in San Diego and six others to Uber's headquarters in West LA. Just 10 minutes after the Singing Valentines program went online, four quartets were on their way to deliver a beautiful red rose and sing "Heart of My Heart" to a surprised and delighted recipient of Valentine's Day ardor. The event was scheduled for 8 am to 6 pm but ongoing demand kept the last quartets busy until 8 pm. The seven quartets involved delivered over 100 Singing Valentines and netted a sizable amount for Masters of Harmony coffers.

The Masters held a Guest Night on March 6. This was an opportunity to introduce potential new members to barbershop harmony and show former members why current members are so excited about having **Justin Miller** as director. At the break, cake and other snacks provided by the Harmony Sweethearts gave the 120 singers in attendance time to reconnect, reminisce,

and share the ongoing Masters of Harmony vision with friends old and new. Overall, it was one of the most memorable Guest Nights in MOH history!

This year's Far Western District Convention was held in Lodi, California. The California Delta Chapter (**Voices of California**) hosted the well-run, well-attended event. On Friday evening, 24 quartets competed in several different contests. Masterpiece (**Rob Menaker, Patrick Haedtler, Alan Gordon and Brett Littlefield**) took first place in the International Preliminary contests with a score of 88.5%. Other quartets qualifying for Toronto were **Artistic License** (83.5%), **95 North** (81.6%) and **Vocal Edition** (76.3%). On Saturday, competing choruses tried to wow the judges and 12 had enough wow to qualify for the fall contests. The Bay Area Chapter (**Voices in Harmony**) won the Northwest Division title (80.1%) while the host chapter, California Delta Chapter (**Voices of California**) won the Northeast Division Contest (80.3%).

At the House of Delegates meeting in Lodi, The Masters of Harmony was the only Far Western District chorus to receive the Platinum Award from Harmony Foundation. MOH members contributed \$674.94 per man in 2012. This amount includes both contributions from the Santa Fe Springs Chapter as well as members who have chosen to become members of the President's Council and Ambassadors of Song programs.

On Saturday, April 20, the Masters of Harmony returned to the Downey Civic Theatre for its annual spring show. The show was reprised in Riverside's historic Fox Theater on Sunday, April 28. The Masters' repertoire included Broadway show tunes, inspirational songs and a tribute to America's armed forces. At one point, Justin paid tribute to the 75th Anniversary of the Barbershop Harmony Society. He described how one of our society's most beloved quartets, the **Buffalo Bills**, made over 1500 appearances in Meredith Willson's musical, *The Music Man*. He then introduced the **American Pastime** quartet whose members sang "Lida Rose." Singing the "Sweet and Low" song made famous by Shirley Jones in the 1962 movie version of the play were **Megan Lyne** (Downey show) and **Ashley Estrada** (Riverside show). Featured quartet Masterpiece wowed the audiences with a level of talent that could help it win quartet gold in Toronto this summer. The Masters' Armed Forces Medley features the theme song of each service. Audience members who are serving or have ever served were asked to stand when the song for their service branch was played so the audience could honor their service with applause. The Masters closed the show with **Jay Giallombardo's** hauntingly beautiful arrangement of "Song of America."

Since the last edition of Westunes, the Masters welcomed **Ryan Collins, David Livingston, Don Sevesind, Matt Swann, and Ed Tolman** into membership.

Santa Monica Chapter
By Marty Mitnick

Spreading the joy of barbershop singing is what it's all about. **The Oceanares** were again invited to sing at Visitation Catholic Church for their annual dinner honoring the wonderful and dedicated nuns of the parish. Another program of marvelous singing was presented by **Overland Avenue**, one of the talented

quartets that are a part of The Oceanares roster. Members are **John White, Jack Walton, Frank Giffen and Aaron Mood**. This program was presented at the Pacific Palisades Lutheran Church where **Walter Mees**, president of **The Oceanares**, is the pastor.

On April 7th, just days before the 75th Anniversary of the Barbershop Harmony Society, **The Oceanares** had its own celebration, the 70th birthday of its immediate past president, **Dr. Jerry Walker**. The group met at USC's baseball field, Dedeaux Field (a surprise), so Jerry didn't know we were going to be there. What a fitting place for the game, as Jerry was Associate Provost at USC, attended Stanford as a student, and lo and behold Stanford was playing USC that day.

We warmly welcome our newest members to The Oceanares: **Jim Gilbreth, Brian Hatfield and Kyler Liu**.



Division 2 SE Chapters
Dale Vaughn, Editor

Apple Valley Chapter
By Alan Morier

The **High Country Harmonaires** continue to provide Apple Valley, Victorville and Hesperia California with the great sounds of our happy group of singers. One of our quartets, the **Mojave Range Rovers (Frank Bescos, Gary White, Merlyn Kimbell, Doug Waas)**, were making the rounds and performed in this year's Senior Star Search, receiving a standing ovation of a sellout crowd of over 400 people enjoying their songs. They were also a featured attraction at the grand opening of a new Macy's store where crowds of shoppers stopped in amazement, several of whom asking, "What kind of wonderful music is this?"

Long time member **Keith Murphy**, in the hospital for a few weeks, recovered well enough to sing for his former fellow residents as we performed for a thrilled group of patients enjoying themselves.

For the fourth year in a row, we will be presenting our annual "Memorial Day" program at one of our local memorial parks where so many veterans are in attendance. This has become a very important part of the region's celebration of the fine men and women who have served our country and paid the supreme sacrifice.

Along with the many short programs at local churches and service clubs we are providing, we find that we are busy presenting the great music we all love and are proud to belong to the **High Country Harmonaires**.

Visit us at: www.hicountryharmonaires.com

Coachella Valley Chapter
By Stan Gile

The **Sandblaster Chorus** under the direction of **Dick Reed**, put 33 men on the risers, who enjoyed performing for two sold out audiences and standing ovations at our Annual Show on March 7th at the UC Riverside Palm Desert Campus Auditorium. Joining the Chorus were three Chorus quartets, **Sound**

Foundation, **Hummbugs**, and **Faultline**, and the featured quartet, **The 139th Street Quartet**. The theme was The 75th Anniversary of the BHS, and opened with *Celebrate*, narrated by Chorus bass and radio personality, **Corbett Brattin**.

We had a sing-out at the Royal Palms RV Park in February and our quartets performed at the La Quinta Museum. We also sang at the Palm Springs Air Museum and the Joslyn Center in April.

The Sandblasters were well represented at the Harmony Platoon held at the Convention in Lodi, CA. **Mike Ostrom** sang Bass and **Stan Gile** sang Lead. Mike was part of the winning quartet in the second round. Stan was part of the final round winning quartet along with **Pete Bennet**, San Luis Obispo (bass), **Keith Engel**, Bay Area (tenor), and **Jon Goetke**, Marin (bari) and their quartet, **Beats Me**, got to be mike testers for the Convention Quartet competition. Anyone who wants to improve their quartet ability and have a great time at the same time, should really join the next Platoon in Bakersfield in October.

We recently held a Sing-In at the Atria Center and had nine first-time guests and their families join us for an evening of exploring the joy of Barbershop harmony. Three have just joined us as new members and two others are snowbirds who expressed an interest in joining us.

Visit us at: www.cvbarbershop.org

El Cajon Chapter

By Bill Soukup

We launched the New Year in January with a rousing installation dinner for our 2013 officers and Board members.

February was highlighted by the “Barbershopping” of Valentine's Day by three of our quartets. One of those participated in the Valentine's Day promotion by Uber San Diego, the company that “connects passengers with drivers of luxury vehicles for hire.” In Uber's words, “This Valentines Day, Uber San Diego Brings You ... On-Demand Roses Delivered by Barbershop Quartets.” The company's promotion went on to say, “By requesting on-demand roses delivered by Barbershop Quartets, you will leave a lasting impression your sweetheart will always remember.” Our other quartets provided Valentine's Day serenades for those who responded to our own promotion.

Visit us at: www.ecmusicmasters.com

Fullerton Chapter

By Don Derler

Our Singing Valentines sales runneth over every year because the product speaks for itself. When I address the media I often call it a win, win, win, win program. The purchaser is excited about his gift, the recipient is delighted, the quartets have a ball, and most of the funds go to support our music education programs.

For the first time in our twenty-two year history of delivering Singing Valentines, we had to shut down our marketing effort prior to Valentine's Day and stopped taking orders. We ended up with 189 orders, but it was the first time since 1995 that we did not get well into the two hundreds with our highest number being 298 in 1999. We achieved those numbers in those years because we were able to field ten quartets on Valentine's Day. **Leonard Schlatter** did a yeoman's job organizing the quartets again this

year, but we were only able to field seven all-day quartets plus one quartet that came online at 3:00 pm on the 14th.

That leads me to our hostess with the mostess, **Sheila Lowerre**, with some guidance from hubby, **Dave**, basically did all the routing and scheduling this year. When Sheila wasn't at the keyboard, she was tending to all the other tasks of managing headquarters and accommodating all the singers as they came and went.

Vi and Fred Robirds took over the rose bouquet duties from **Leon Williamson** five years ago. Can't resist - it's a thorny job. Our bouquets add a touch of class to our product.

For the fifth year in a row, students from the jazz studies program at Fullerton Union High School delighted their family and friends with their performance at the Sweet Night of Jazz. The annual fundraising event, held at the Fullerton Ebell Club on February 8, welcomed more than 220 guests.

“Since it's inception, the Sweet Night of Jazz event has been the source of funding for the jazz band and choir's festival activities, raising more than \$40,000 over the years,” said **Jill DeWeese**, director of Jazz Studies at Fullerton Union High School. “This could not have been done without the amazing support of our students, parents and in particular two community organizations who have been with us since the beginning.” DeWeese was referring to the on-going support of the **Orange Empire Chorus** and **Friends of Jazz**.

We sponsored over 50 students to attend the workshops presented by the **Harborlites** and the **Masters of Harmony**. These students honed their skills for the program and a great difference could be seen from the start of the day and the final performance.

Tom Nichols and **Woody Woodson** have been coaching quartets at both La Habra and Fullerton High Schools. These students (both girls and boys) have started to learn the joy of singing with each other and to present their music to their fellow students. The instructors are asking for coaching from the OEC and with the help of our members we are filling the assignments. We give support to the schools in our district for music education because this is one of the building blocks to a better education. We are doing our part by supporting the choral programs (coaching, money and materials) in the Fullerton High School District.

Visit us at: www.oechoorus.org

Inland Empire Chapter

By Don Sevesind

The chorus just completed its spring concert(s) commemorating the Society's 75th anniversary, as its theme. Joining us were almost 30 young men from the Upland High School Barbershop Chorus, under the direction of Mr. **Roger Estrada**. The young men always bring with them such enthusiasm. When they join us for a couple of songs it is pure magic. The school's fine choral program has one of the largest presences at the annual Youth in Harmony Festival put on by the **Masters of Harmony**. Our show chairman was **Tom Duval** and our MC was the very talented **Brian Hoerning**, all under the direction of **Dennis Shearer**.

The Chorus continues to ebb and flow with regard to our men on the risers. The new guys are quite good. They include **Robert Sheldon** – baritone, **Tom Scali**, **Marlon Usher** and **Frank Pray** – leads. These men and others that are looking to join us keep us smiling and singing!

As a result of the spring show, the chorus received requests to perform for (pay) at least three outside organizations. Let's see – new members and more paid gigs, that's music to our ears.

Visit us at: www.welovetosinging.com

La Jolla Chapter

By Dale Vaughn

The **Pacific Coast Harmony** crew began February in high gear with the completion of yet another successful Ready, Set Sing! Program. We welcomed a host of enthusiastic, eager-to-learn guests for five weeks of classes given by our fabulous Director, **Kim Vaughn**. This program has proven to be most rewarding for both guests and the chorus but the ultimate reward we can realize is that some of our guests still remain with us on the risers today... as new members of the chorus!

We followed with what was to become our most successful Singing Valentines event in recent memory! Led by Chairman **Mark Whelan** and his able Committee, quartets delivered Singing Valentines to surprised recipients in person throughout San Diego County and via telephone all over the good old U.S.A.! For many years now, our program has also included the delivery of complimentary Singing Valentines to family members of deployed active military service personnel through Operation Homefront.

Chorus members escorted San Diego area high school boys to attend the **Masters of Harmony** Young Men's Barbershop Festival at Orange Coast College on February 16th.

PCH members served again as ushers at the Annual Partnership Choral Honor Concert on March 2 at Point Loma Nazarene University. This is part of our ongoing support for Youth in Harmony.

Many PCH members attended the 75th BHS Anniversary Party on April 11 hosted by the **San Diego Chapter**. Many thanks to our Brothers from the **Sun Harbor Chorus** for a wonderful event!

The chorus performed for the Friends of the Scripps Ranch Library Music Series on April 21. A Scripps Ranch High School Boys group and Quartet along with a Chapter Quartet helped the chorus fill out the program for a most appreciative audience.

PCH is thrilled to welcome three new members onto the risers: **Tom Davis** (Bari), **Chris Moreno** (Bari) and **Dan Rapps** (Bari).

Visit us at: www.pacificcoastharmony.org

Las Vegas Chapter

By Larry Litchfield

We've had quite a ride these first four months as the exciting new **Silver Statesmen Chorus**.

This quarter's lead item is about our great new director! The Chorus welcomed three outstanding candidates, each of whom auditioned their unique directing skills and sparkling personalities. The choristers filled out and returned detailed candidate critique forms. The Music Team, headed by Music & Performance VP **Albert Weiss**, had previously interviewed each candidate and, after the auditions and reading the critiques, recommended the hiring of veteran barbershopper/seasoned chorus director **Jim Halvorson**, mostly based on the chorus' enthusiastic comments. Jim was unanimously confirmed by our Board. He's exceeding everyone's expectations!

ABOUT OUR NEW DIRECTOR: Jim has a BA in Vocal Music Education from St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN, with graduate studies from UNLV. He taught elementary music for 11 years in Las Vegas. He's the current choral program director at local Cheyenne High School, where he oversees 150 students in four choirs. He joined the Society at 10 in mid-1983 with the **Minneapolis Commodores**. In 1986, he was a charter member of the **Great Northern Union** chorus and sang with them until 1998, when he moved to Las Vegas and became a charter member (and director) of the **City of Lights Chorus** until 2003. Two years after that, he signed on as director of the Sweet Adelines' **Celebrity City Chorus** through 2011. Jim sings tenor in the FWD 2012 Champion Quartet **95 North**, and is the FWD Youth in Harmony Chair.

SMILEY NEW FACES: We're continuing to grow by leaps and bounds, now 87. New members through April 29, 2013 were: **Dallas Halvorson**, **Dale Halvorson**, **Jim Halvorson**, **Larry Halvorson**, **Billy Hill**, **Skyler Jewell**, **Ernie Krausman**, **Paul Kreider**, **J.D. Massa**, **Alexander Mercer**, **Hon Poon**, **Dale Robertson**, **Philip Spinks**, **Sully Sullivan**, **Gerald Thomas** and **Joseph Wyson**.

THE 2014 CONVENTION: The Society's International Convention's local on-site team has finalized its executive committee of **Martin Judd**, General Chairman; **Greg Dreyer** and **Steve Salmon**, Vice Chairmen; **Wes White**, Treasurer; and **Allison Salmon** (Steve's wife), Secretary. We're delighted with the event's clever theme: It's the Music. The convention hotel is the sprawling "big green" MGM Grand Hotel/Casino in the heart of the famous Las Vegas Strip. "This convention will be unique," says Marty, "in that the entire event will be under one roof with lots of rooms, plenty of parking and reasonable prices!"

SINGING VALENTINES: Seven quartets harmonized love songs to deserving recipients throughout the Valley: **4 EVER YOURS** (Ed Cotton, Keith Pratt, Marty Judd, Randy Preston) (9); **RUMBLESEAT DAZE** (John Lenox, Roger Anderson, Bud Adler, Dick Morrison) (7); **FOR HEARTS** (Rick Ives, Dennis Johnson, Dave Kennedy, Larry Litchfield) (4); **SUN CITY SOUND** (Mike Hurwitz, Fred Goldberg, Stan Ackers, Philip Spinks) (4); **OLDER 'N DIRT** (Rich Coon, Roger Buehrer, Larry Pechart, Dave Floyd) (3); **GOOD TIMES** (Mike Conner, Dave Pruszka, Greg Dryer, Dean Hunt) (1); and a special quartet for the occasion – **Gil Cuevas**, **Steve Salmon**, **Colin Salmon**, **Isaac Salmon** (3). Local radio station KJUL (104.7 fm) hosted **4 Ever Yours** on Friday as a promo for Singing Valentines.

SOCIETY's 75th BIRTHDAY BASH! On April 11, our risers were full, the atmosphere was electric, smiles were contagious,

guests of all ages were plentiful and the side events were fun-loaded. The “break” highlight was a creative pick-up quartet contest with **Larry Halvorson** as the emcee. Upwards of a dozen foursomes were assembled and performed. The winning quartet was comprised of four ladies from the neighboring Celebrity City Chorus: **Melanie Halvorson** (bari), **Becky Halvorson** (lead), **Jan Sloan** (bass) and **Resa Page** (tenor).

VIP VISITOR: At our April 18th meeting, the chapter welcomed very special guest **Jim Clark**, the comedic lead of 2010 Society Gold Medalist **Storm Front** quartet. He is the new Director of Development for the Harmony Foundation International (a partner with the BHS). Before “doing business”, Jim assisted Director **Jim Halvorson** in rehearsing one of our new repertoire songs.

Visit us at: www.gambleaires.com

Orange Quartet Chapter

By Mark Sheldon

Orange again collaborated with Fullerton for Singing Valentines, coordinated by **Dave Lowerre**.

On February 25, the Bachelor of Harmony Award was presented to **Dave Lowerre**.

On March 5, a quartet with **Dave Lowerre** (T), **Art Iniguez** (L), **Ken Tillmanns** (Br), and **Mike Werner** (Bs) performed as **No Strings Attached** for the Orange County Puppetry Guild.

At our regular weekly meeting on March 11, **Masterpiece** dropped by to perform, and included songs from their Spring 2013 Contest set for a very appreciative chapter.

Visit us at: www.harmonize.com/orange

Palomar Pacific Chapter

By Keith Bogos & Patrick Fairchild

The annual Valentine’s Day sing-outs were fun. The **Music Men** had it covered by 3 quartets. They were **Sound Design** (**Jim Winningham**, **Joe Quince**, **Joe Pascucci**, **Bob Landes**), **Coast to Coast** (**Bob Cowan**, **John Rhodes**, **Mike Cowan**, **Norm Pincock**) and **Keynotes** (**Paul Bloom**, **Norm Pincock** (doing double V-day duty), **Don Naegli**, **Dick Schulze**. **Don Naegli** and his wife, **Carol**, took the orders. **Chuck Youde** was our dispatcher and **Jim Winningham** did the advertising.

The most unusual sing-out was at a hospital, where Coast to Coast looked forever for the Valentine recipient. They finally located her, in an isolation room camouflaged and guarded with standing floor panels and a closed door. They were unable to crack the door to sing due to hospital restrictions. Eventually, after persuading the staff that the “show must go on,” they were forced to don masks in order to gain entry to the room. Thus, the songs were a bit muffled, but the ill woman cheerfully accepted her singing Valentine.

On February 26, a special treat was in store for the chorus because **Alan Webb**, the Executive VP of the Far Western District, was our guest and coach for the evening. He helped us with our vocalizing and then doubled as coach for the chorus and its quartets.

On April 11, at least 19 members (plus wives and other guests) of the Chapter were invited to the **Sun Harbor Chorus** Chapter in San Diego to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the **Barbershop Harmony Society**. Much singing, fellowship, fun and cake were enjoyed. Hats off to the Sun Harbor Chapter for hosting such a fun evening.

Visit us at: www.musicmenchorus.org

Riverside Chapter

By Gaylord Spence

The **Riverside Chapter** just completed what is, for a small chorus, a huge job in hosting the combined SW/SE Division Contest. It was well attended and we hope everyone had as great a time as we all did. Kudos to our Contest/Convention Manager, **Fritz Grunenwald**, for another outstanding job!

We are also delighted to welcome two new members to our chapter and chorus, **Kent Broersma** and **Mark Faber**. Both gents are outstanding musicians and we welcome the contribution of their voices and experience.

The **New Gang** is pleased to introduce our new Director, **Carl Buntin**. Carl is a graduate of San Diego State University with a Bachelors of Arts in Music Education. He is an assistant director with **Pacific Coast Harmony**, the **La Jolla Chapter** of the Barbershop Harmony Society. He has had many volunteer directing positions at 7 schools in the San Diego Unified School District in the Youth In Harmony Program and the California Music Project. Carl is an Eagle Scout and a three-time recipient of the Louis Armstrong Jazz Award.

Visit us at: www.newgangchorus.org

San Diego Chapter

By Ducrot Pepys

Happy Birthday from the San Diego Chapter.

April 11th was a night to remember for all San Diego Barbershoppers. We hosted a County-wide event celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Barbershop Harmony Society. Well over 100 Barbershoppers and friends were there. The **San Diego**, **Palomar Pacific**, **El Cajon**, **La Jolla**, and **Frank Thorne** Chapters were represented. We also had members of the **Thursday Songsters**, **Royces Voices**, and **The Menchtones**. Pulling this off was the work of everyone in the Chapter. Special thanks to **Maurice & Cindy Souza**, **Craig Hughes**, **Bob Dunn**, **Bill Beacom**, **Sam Alexander**, **Kerm Taylor**, **Neal Palmer** and **Kathleen Hansen**. Check out the video on our website: www.sunharbor.org.

We are busy with several public performances and getting ready for Contest.

Each rehearsal is a master class with our Director – **Kathleen Hansen**. Music, performance, and laughter are constants that keep bringing us back. One recent rehearsal had us on teams trying to convey an emotion to the other team through song and expression. We discovered that it is possible, fun, and improves everything about the experience. **Kerm Taylor** started a quartet workshop the hour before rehearsal that gives more members that valuable experience. **Dave Garstang**, **Maurice Souza**, and **Sam Alexander** are always looking for a fourth to ring tags after

rehearsal. Tuesday night starts early, runs late, and is an awful lot of fun.

Visit us at: www.sunharbor.org

South Orange County Chapter

By Irv Engel

Irv Engel, the PR and Marketing manager for **South County Sound** in Orange County, California wrote a news article about the chorus and submitted it to several local news organs both online and in print. Irv already got a response from one of them who stated that what we're doing sounds "exciting". The article told about singing at assisted living homes and working with local high schools' choral departments to help young men who love four-part harmony.

Also identified was the fact that we have two shows a year at a local church or senior center that lets us use their auditorium. When our new show flyer is handed out, Irv will forward that to the same newspapers and will follow-up throughout the year whenever we do anything that's newsworthy.

Irv also made a contact at the City Hall of the city where we rehearse and asked is we could put on a mini show for them sometime during the year. The contact arranged for us to sing at an annual event that they're having on the 25th of this month. A number of the city officials are scheduled to be there. The hope is that the city will then consider us when they are looking for entertainment for their annual summer concert series, which takes place at a local park.

Visit us at: www.scsound.org



Division 3 NW Chapters

John Heather, Editor

Eureka

By Mac Gardner

Singing Valentines is a popular project for the **Humboldt Harmonaires** Barbershop Chorus in Redwood Country. Once again our quartets delivered love songs from southern Humboldt County to the north end.

Joy, smiles and tears made it all worthwhile. Good publicity came through posters, radio spots and TV exposure. **Harvey Raider** again capably directed this money-earning activity.

Webster's Dictionary describes the word "Vaudeville" as meaning---"miscellaneous theatrical entertainment." That aptly describes our 2013 big show at the Arkley Center for the Performing Arts in April. (**Steve Morris** was chairman.)

Themed to "Harmony in Vaudeville," our chorus songs were cheered by an enthusiastic audience. **John Meyers** not only wrote the script, but did a top job as emcee. For the first time in our history, we had four (count 'em!) quartets from our chorus---**Mirth First, Four Chords of Redwood, Party of Four and Sound Choice**. Attendance was up over last year, perhaps due to the "good word" being spread about our headliners---the famous **139th Street Quartet**. They brought down the house!

We again sang for the Memorial Day program at Oceanview Cemetery with flag ceremonies and a rifle squad. Another

traditional highlight each year is singing at the opening game of the Humboldt Crabs, the oldest semi-pro baseball team in the nation. The players and fans alike enjoy our special version of "Take Me Out to the Ballgame."

Marin County

By E. Bond Francisco

When last we spoke, we regaled you with tales of our efforts to become a better chorus, to sing better, to have more fun, to become more organized, and to focus on the Division and District conventions. All that work paid off on March 23rd in Lodi. We got up on the risers, started snapping our fingers to "Nevertheless" while the curtain was opening, and sang our way to the Northwest Division Plateau A championship! And the Most Improved Chorus for 2013! It's been a long time coming, and we can now include the two words "award winning" in front of every piece of publicity we send out. There's a new enthusiasm in the chorus, and we're going to ride it all the way to Bakersfield.

In other news:

- We've had our first Annual Fall Show meetings, picked a theme, and started working on securing talent. We've put together a great team, and are looking forward to celebrating the 75th Anniversary of SPEBSQSA/BHS in grand style.
- We've also secured a gig to sing the National Anthem and several baseball-related songs at the July 4th San Rafael Pacifics ball game at historic Albert Park. The Pacifics are the first and only professional sports team in Marin County, and we're the only Barbershop Chorus, so it's a great mix!
- Our quartets are busy singing up a storm, and we've got a number of local gigs lined up for the chorus.

Monterey Peninsula

By Sam Kier

On April 13, the Monterey **Cypresses** performed at the Pacific Grove Good Old Days Celebration. Following their performance, members of the chorus prowled the streets of "America's Last Home Town" and continued to entertain the crowd. This was their first opportunity to air the batch of new music that has been introduced by our Director **Duane King**.

The following Tuesday night was more laid back than usual as the Monterey Chapter turned their regular rehearsal night into the "First Annual Disorganized Quartet Contest and Tasty Snack Festival." Those attending were assigned to quartets and, at the most, were given enough time to pick a song, run through it once and agree on a name for their foursome. Since it was a "disorganized contest", screw-ups were applauded. Visitors and new members were given handsome plastic medals for participating in their first "quartet competition." The chorus is now back to business, preparing for the Memorial Day Concert at the Naval Postgraduate School and polishing the music for our fall show.

2013 had its somber moments, as well, as the **Cypresses** flocked to memorial services and sang goodbye to old friends and riser-mates, **Ernie Smith, Bryan Epps and Larry Head**.

Palo Alto/Mountain View
By David Weatherford

Six quartets from the PA/MV chapter delivered over 60 singing valentines around the Bay Area this year.

Two quartets represented the chapter at this year's Novice Contest: **Never Too Old 4** (**Bruce Bunting, Chuck Mollett, Ric King, John Jones**) and **Plead the Fifth** (**Chuck Borrecco, Nigel Endersby, Jeff Harris, John Hinkle**).

The **Peninsulaires** took 21 men to the NE/NW Division contest in Lodi and qualified to compete in the District contest next October.

Our 2013 Spring Show entitled "We've Got Rhythm" was May 18th at the Mission City Center for Performing Arts in Santa Clara. Celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Society, the show features both old standards and new favorites, with performances by the chorus, **Never Too Old 4, Boomerang (Al Ward, Ramin Keyvan, Dave Morley, Steve Wolfe)**, and our 2012 District Champions, **95 North**.

We lost a long-time member and friend, **Walt Kaestner**, in February. Rest in peace, **Walt**.

San Francisco
By Don Kington

The **Cable Car Chorus** competed in the contest in Lodi with remarkably good results for a chorus of its size. The members were pleased with their performance, the audience's reaction and the comments and ratings of the judges. Music Director **Charles Feltman** guided the 14 singers smoothly through the classic "I Want a Girl" and Irving Berlin's "Always" with strength and conviction.

Saturday, April 6, the Chorus had the opportunity to have photographs taken in and around an actual San Francisco Cable Car on California St. Chorus member and bass **Charles Haletky**, an executive with SF's Muni, arranged the photo shoot.

San Mateo
By Thomas Addison

No More Sorrow: Blues and Gospel; The American Roots of Barbershop Harmony was the title of the Chapter's Spring Show, that celebrated the 75th anniversary of the Barbershop Harmony Society. A small but enthusiastic crowd, including Far Western District Northwest Chapter Vice-President, **Chuck Leavitt** enthusiastically enjoyed the show which featured Sweet Adelines perennial District Champions **PDQ**, and chapter quartet **Sound Judgment**. VP **Leavitt** invited the chapter to resume competing in the District competition, which we have been unable to do for several years due to a lack of a director and small chapter membership. We do intend to compete in 2014, if we can just find some contestable songs! (Our 2014 show will feature Doo Wop!)

Following the show, Membership VP **Rick Cram** put together a successful guest night where we welcomed 12 guests celebrating the 47th anniversary of the San Mateo County Chapter. We welcome back previous member **Jeff Cleary**, and new member **Alan J Coleman**.

Santa Cruz
By Allen Takahashi

The chorus is currently executing the LTS4F membership program under the guidance of **Gerry Stone**. We've had good turn-outs so far, and have learned a lot from the likes of **Randy Meyer, Ray Rhymer**, and **Dr. Tony Dehner** who have generously donated their time to help us grow. It looks like this program will ultimately result in a couple more members for the chorus. Our most recent additions to our bass section who come from opposite ends of the age spectrum are high schooler **Caleb Riley**, and retiree **Aubrey King** from the Washington State The Strait Men! chorus located near the Straits of Juan de Fuca.

We had almost every chorus member both male and female sing in one or more chapter quartets for Valengrams over several days. Mixed voice chapter quartet **Coastal Blend (Dan Jett, Nancie Barker, Ian Blackwood, Dale Summer)** did an appearance on the KSCO radio morning show as an advertisement for Valengrams. They also entertained at a 100th birthday party where they had Guest of Honor **Lou** singing along to the old-oldies barbershop favorites, while the "younger" guests enjoyed their new-oldies doo wop selections.

Our newest chapter quartet - **Redwood 4, (Larry Hardison, Bob Folker, Marty Dolciamore, Glenn Davis)** formed so they could compete in Novice Quartet competition. Subbing **Nick Roberto** for **Marty** (who was sick) the day before contest, they came in 2nd in the male quartet division.

Constellation (Jordan Johnson, Allen Takahashi, Bill McCain (Frank Thorne), Mark Torrence (Peninsula)) competed in the combined NW/NE Division quartet contest in Lodi and took second place in NW division with a comedy routine finalized just prior to walking on stage - earning enough points to qualify for District competition. One of the competition songs they sang was the public debut of a song (**Lucky Day/Innocent When You Dream Medley**) arranged by our chorus director **Jordan Johnson**.

Santa Rosa
By Ray Crower

We really enjoyed our February performance at the new Green Music Center on the campus of Sonoma State University in honor of the annual Barclay Concert. Choral groups from four Santa Rosa high schools, along with the **Chordsmen**, performed before a capacity crowd, and we were thrilled to receive a standing ovation.

The lads had another successful Guest Night in April with more than 20 guests, many of whom have returned in subsequent weeks. Another tip of the hat to Membership Veep, **Shelly Albaum**, who is also our Program VP, and is putting a lot of life into our meetings.

We're really happy about our Plateau AA victory at the Northwest division contest in Lodi, and director **Phil Debar** is working hard to prepare us for our journey to Bakersfield in October.

We have a new registered quartet, **Rare Form (Andrew Cook, lead, Richard Parry-Jones, bass, Eldon Guinn, tenor, and Ray Crowder, bari)**. They're already in demand having performed at

Rincon Valley Mobile Estates, and Vintage Apartments senior complex with a command performance requested by the residents of both places.

Welcome to our newest members, **Elliott Smeds**, and **John Millious**, who is also a dual member of the Napa chapter. We also want to welcome back **Jim Estrella**, and **Chris Miller** to our active roster. Recent guests and potential new members include **Eugene Jones**, **Ari Neverez**, **David Lee**, **Joe McCarty**, and **Bruce Weitzel**.

SF Bay Cities Quartet

By Jordan Makower

Harmony For Lunch Bunch is a group that meets the 1st Wednesday of every month at Harry's Hofbrau. It is open to all barbershoppers, in any chapter. Harry's is the same place that our group, the San Francisco Bay Cities Quartets, uses for dinner on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. Usually, the same people come to both gatherings. It never fails that something remarkable happens once a month, and this was no exception. **Chuck Mollett** had joined us, on a lunch break, and saw **Bill Beck**, a person he had sung with over 25 years ago! Bill moved back to the bay area a year ago, and joined our group. Chuck had been busy day and night with his business, this was the first occasion the two had seen each other in all that time, and they had a lot of 'catching up' to do. There were other human interest stories that could be told of the group meeting that day. Join us at Harry's, have fun singing with us; you'll also have time to talk to our guys, and their 'significant others'. This is a 'NO-PRESSURE' group, where you will rediscover what you joined BHS for in first place!



Division 4 NE Chapters **Roger Perkins, Editor**

California Delta Chapter By Rich Brunner

This spring's been remarkably busy for the Voices of California. We held our annual retreat and had almost the whole chorus in attendance. We tried an urban retreat this year instead of heading off to the mountains for seclusion. Everyone had a great time, learned a bunch and loved the comfy hotel beds much more than the cabin cots. As our guest clinician, we were blessed with the talents of Dave Calland, who is the lead of International Finalist **The Allies** and the director of perennial top-ten chorus **The Alliance**. Dave is one of the few officially designated "Master Directors" in our Society, and it was quite clear throughout the weekend why he has been recognized as such. He had us all singing up a storm and by the end of the weekend, the unity of mind and sound was quite evident.

VoCal hosted our first ever convention in Lodi for the Spring Contest and it was a resounding success in all aspects. The convention was a fiscal win for the District, coming in ahead of budget, and the chorus also walked away with the top prize, against a top flight field. The convention dedicatee, as picked by the District Awards committee, was none other than our own **Bruce Sellnow**, and they could not have picked a more deserving guy. We were thrilled to have had members in 12 different competing quartets, but we were most excited that the

weekend went off so smoothly, and that all competitors seemed to have an enjoyable time. Quite a humbling process, and we owe a huge thanks to our Convention Chairman, **Morrie Schlesinger**, to his hand-picked committee chairmen, and to District Events guru **John Jones**. I'm sure we'll do that again.

We've had over 20 guests in the past month after a very successful guest night, and we've had quite a few of them stick around to join in the fun on an ongoing basis. Kudos to Membership VP **Stan Trumbull** and his very cohesive team of cohorts. New guys with great smiles and with talent too!

Our big show was on May 11th featuring **Four Voices**, in one of their only four public appearances this year, and our very own **Artistic License**. The show was titled, "The Great American Cookbook." Now doesn't that pique your curiosity?

Central California Chapter

By Miles Sutter

On February 16th we held our first Valentine's dinner for our wives at an Italian restaurant in Turlock. Seventy-seven scheduled Valengrams were delivered. Members of **Fortune Hunters**, together with **Ron**, **Herb**, and **Roe's** quartets, made up the four quartets needed to perform throughout the day. Credit goes to **Ron Russell** and **Howard Barber**, who handled all the phone calls for Stanislaus County, Merced County and surrounding areas. Ron Russell arranged all the time slots geographically for all the local quartets as did Howard for the Merced area. A major reason for this greatly successful event was the type and of advertising made available. **Grady Williams** supplied us with the displays, posters, and handouts, as did **Juan Quijano** with his posters. Grady was able to advertise the event via the Modesto radio stations and Modesto Bee.

On February 23rd the GVC again had the pleasure of sponsoring the FWD Northern California Novice Quartet Contest for the sixth consecutive year at the Ripon Calvary Reformed Church. **Ron Russell's** work crew was **Phil Lustri**, **Herb Andrew**, **Roe Darnell**, **Ted Meyer** and yours truly (**Miles Sutter**). The contest had 21 quartets and among them was one mixed voice quartet and three high school quartets. Just about all members had a task. **Bruce Sellnow** was Contest Chairman/Coordinator, assisted by **Howard Barber**. The mixed voice quartet winner was "**Jim's Quartet**" from Stockton. The high school winning quartet was "**Top Raw Men**" from Ronald E. McNair High School. Third place in the Novice Contest Quartet contest was "**Goosebumps**", Davis-Vacaville, second place was "**The Redwood Four**", from Santa Cruz and the Novice Contest Quartet Champion was "**Sherlock Tones**", California Delta and Bay Area.

The Merced Dinner Show put on by the Golden Valley Chorus took place on April 13th at the United Methodist Church, Merced. Congratulations to **Mike Boyd**, our gourmet spaghetti maker and kitchen chief, and his 'kitchen crew' comprised of **Gail Boyd**, **Sue Boles**, **Greg DeMers**, **Ce Ce Verver**, **Donna Darnell**, **Roe Darnell**, **Bob Chapman**, **Scott Hutchinson**, **Juan Quijano**, **Terrell Chambers**, **Derick Sturke**, **Phil Lustri** and **Dave Wallace**. The GVC sang seven songs and our own GVC quartets "**Four on the Floor**" and "**Fatherly Bond**" performed. Merced High School's quartets, both boys' and girls', showed their talents. Merced's singers joined us on the

risers. **Dan Warschauer** and **Steve Leipelt** (the Dan and Steve show) thoroughly entertained our guests with jokes and piano and banjo audience sing-a-long. It was great seeing former GVC members **Pete Snook** and **Gene Eason**. A very special 'thank you' to **Dan Warschauer**, our MC for the evening.

Davis-Vacaville Chapter

By Tom Powers

April was our annual show month this year. On three successive Saturday afternoons we gave performances in Rio Vista, Woodland and Vacaville. The show in Rio Vista was our first public performance in that city. Locating a suitable venue in that small town was not easy, but we found a delightful small theater at the Emigh Creative Arts Center in the First Congressional Church.

Our second show was given at Pioneer High School in Woodland. The theme this year was "Great American Composers." The chorus sang six Irving Berlin songs while three club quartets harmonized hits by other well-known American composers. We sang "You're the Flower of My Heart, Sweet Adeline" in commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Society. The **Delta Divas Quartet** sang the female obbligato part to "Lida Rose" with the chorus. Our headline quartet was **First Strike**. A special performance by the Pioneer High School Choir rounded out the program. Our final performance was April 27th at the Vacaville Community Presbyterian Church.

We finished sixth out of 17 choruses at the joint Northwest/Northeast Division Contest in Lodi, easily qualifying to compete at the FWD District Convention in Bakersfield in October.

Folsom Chapter

By Dennis Stohl

The **Folsom Harmony Express** held their annual Family & Friends night on March 14, a week prior to the contest and convention in Lodi. We had good attendance and received some good coaching on our two contest numbers. Our M.C. for the evening was **Roger Perkins** who gave a demonstration of his rope spinning abilities as members of the chorus were dressed up in their Western gear for our two songs.

Nevada Placer Chapter

By Roger Perkins

Singing Valentines were a little slow this year with a total of 26 delivered by two quartets. Our area is quite spread out through Nevada and Placer Counties. The **4T9r4** (**Steve Mathews, Verne Bagby, Corley Phillips, Tony Prowense**) made 13 deliveries in Lake of the Pines, Grass Valley and Nevada City. **The Rolling Tones** (**Tom Klasey, Burt Weichenthal, Dan Wilson, Roger Perkins**) delivered 13 in the Placer County area including Auburn, Loomis and Roseville. **Cliff Johnson** handled the PR by sending an article and photos to the newspapers in Auburn and Grass Valley. It really helped in getting last-minute phone calls for Singing Valentines.

Our annual show Celebrate Harmony took place on April 20 at Bear River High School once again. We not only celebrated the 75th Anniversary of the Barbershop Harmony Society

(SPEBSQSA) but also the 30th anniversary of the **Nevada Placer Sierranaders**. Our Master of Ceremonies was **Richard Lund** (Northeast Division Vice President) who once again played O.C. Cash as only he can. Chapter quartets on the show included a new version of **Now & Then** (**Roger Perkins, Elmer Fairbanks, Ken Potter, Hersh Roby**), the **4T9r4** (**Steve Mathews, Verne Bagby, Corley Phillips, Tony Prowense**), the **Rustlers** (**Tom Klasey, Roger Perkins, Ken Potter, Al Drouin**) and **Pacific Standard Time**. P.S.T. had to make some last minute changes due to health problems that cropped up, Roger and Al were joined by **Kent Borrowdale** on lead, and **Roger Santiago**, tenor and they did a fine job as last-minute replacements. Kent had a full day of barbershop having sung in a quartet on the Davis-Vacaville show in the afternoon in Woodland and then driving up to Grass Valley for his second gig. They were both greatly appreciated. Our headline quartet was our wonderful 2011 FWD Champs, **Artistic License** (**Todd Kidder, Rich Brunner, Gabe Caretto, Jason Dyer**). They captivated the audience with their style and beautiful singing. They weren't too shabby at the afterglow at the Northridge Restaurant either.

We were saddened to lose long-time barbershopper **Jack McPhillips** on March 21. He joined the Society in 1957 and sang with the **Sacramento Capitolaire**s, the **Folsom Harmony Express** and the **Nevada Placer Sierranaders**. Jack also sang tenor with some of the top FWD quartets including **The Mystics** and **The Rumors** as well as **Somewhere In Time** in 2000 for a production of **The Music Man** at Marysville High School. He mostly sang baritone with **Pacific Standard Time** (**Tim Martin, Roger Perkins, Jack McPhillips, Al Drouin**) in the Nevada Placer Chapter. He had an unknown number of tags in his head which he taught whenever he had the chance. He also ran the **Harmony For Lunch Bunch** that met in Sacramento for over ten years. He had to step down from that task a little over a year ago due to health problems. Jack was a good friend and will be missed by all who knew him.

Reno Chapter

By Steve Shurtliff

The Spring Contest in Lodi was great fun, and we were very happy with our 3rd place finish. The evals just keep getting better, and we learned things that we know will help us to continue to improve as a chorus. It really is more fun the better you sing!

We are also singing out in the community more. We did several UNR basketball games this year, as well as singing the National Anthem for the U S Bowling Congress women's and men's events.

Our BOTY for 2012 is **Pete Martens**. He is relatively new to our chorus and to the Society, yet has a great vision and really sees how far our chorus can go. He has helped us tremendously with our show programs, posters, and many other areas as well. We are becoming more professional in our marketing and appearance, and Pete is the main force behind that. He is very deserving of this award and we are very happy to have him on the risers with us.

We heartily welcome **Dan Wager, Nick Nicosia, Don Verhoef, Amos Wilson, and Jordan Stanfield** to our chorus.

Sacramento Chapter

By Joe Samora

The **Capitolaire**s quartets sang during the Singing Valentines program, February 14-15. Forty Valentines were delivered and the event raised over \$2000. **Dan Swink** coordinated the event.

The Capitolaire passed the audition on February 23 to sing the National Anthem during a **Sacramento River Cats** baseball game and will be singing for them this summer.

Past President **Jim Corson's** memorial was held March 16 in the First United Methodist Church in Sacramento. Two dozen Capitolaire and former members sang during the services.

Twenty-two Capitolaire competed in the NE Division Chorus Contest in Lodi on March 23 under the direction of **Ron Black** and **Randy Finger**, the chorus sang "Side by Side" and "Somewhere Over the Rainbow". We placed seventh among 16 choruses and are eligible to compete in the FWD Fall Contest.

Seven Capitolaire served as waiters for the Lincoln Arts League Tea on March 24. Midway through the dinner, they became a "flash mob" and delighted the diners singing several songs from their repertoire. **Chuck Kaul** was the event planner.

"Harmony! Barbershop to Baroque" was the theme of the **Capitolaire**s annual spring show held at St. Ignatius Center on April 6. The show chair was **President Clark Abrahamson**. The chorus was directed by **Ron Black** and **Randy Finger**. The **Ambassadors (Don & Rosye Salz, Eric Reininga (VoCal), and Steve Allison)** put on a good performance. Guest performers included **Anticipation (SAI)** and the Davis High School Madrigals. One hundred and fifty people enjoyed the show.

Stockton Chapter

By Craig Vincent

Barbershop has been buzzing abundantly in Stockton this spring. **Tunestruck** and **Fat City Four** competed in the NE Division quartet contests. Also huge congratulations to **Top Rawmen** from McNair H.S. for winning the spring high school quartet contest! While the **Stockton Portsmen Chorus** did not sing in the contest (our associates sing with us), most of our chorus was in the audience enjoying a terrific convention.

The chorus has been out and about the community performing at retirement homes and the Asparagus Festival. Both quartets have had community appearances including National Anthem singing at the Stockton Ports baseball and Stockton Thunder hockey games.

Visalia Chapter

By Bud Case

Three of our chapter quartets provided about 40 romantic settings with their Singing Valentines this year. Fortunately it remains a favorite in Tulare County and provides the chapter operational funds.

This year's show held March 9th was "The Fabulous Fifties". It offered a tribute by the chorus to the era's music like "At the Hop" and "Sh-Boom". Dr. J (**Wes Jackson** from GNC) whisked us back to a simpler time when Mearle's Drive-In was THE place to be in Visalia surrounded by hot rods and sassy waitresses on skates. MOC quartets **Sound Projection (Bob Peden, Bob Browne, Rod Robinson & Landes Dung)** and **Some Assembly Required (Landes Dung, Ken McNutt, Dee Baughman & Ed Grant)** brought back memories with favorites like "Dream a Little Dream", "Love Letters in the Sand", "In the Still of the Night" and "Get a Job" while Fresno GNC's **Silver & Gold (Richard Nielsen, Mac McIntosh, Doug Yarrow & Terry Starr)** tickled our auditory receptors with "Duke of Earl" and "Silhouette". **Front Line (Mike Douglass, Dave Douglass, Adam Kitt & Ron Whisenant)** revved up "Caroline" and "You're Sixteen". The cameo number, "Gonna Wash that Man Right Out of My Hair" by Jana and Coleen and the gum-smacking waitress, Caroline (**Virginia Speckman**) helped transport us to way back when. Our guest quartet, "**Hi Fidelity**" sated our senses with their "Elvis" package in the second half. Both crowds responded to our revelry.

Our stage set design and production crew, led by **Ted Petersdorf**, did an outstanding job again to help set the stage as the Mearle's Drive-In that graced Visalia's Mooney Blvd. for more than half of the last century. Ted, who announced his retirement from about 30 years as set designer/production chief, was ably supported by the crew, **Paul Simon, Evert Christoffels, Jerry Mitchell** (who provides the set production facilities in one of his barns) and **Jeff Gricewich**. To add authenticity on the stage, **Lee Smith** arranged to borrow actual original booths, stools, etc. from the Mearle's owner and **Patrick Harrison** provided transportation of a genuine Juke Box from the local A & W Root Beer Restaurant (one of our long-time supporters).



Division 5 AZ Chapters

Frank Ortega, Editor

Casa Grande Chapter

By Loren Englund

The Casa Grande **Desert Sounds** chorus has grown the last number of months with the addition of seven new members. **Jeff Klein** has taken on the challenge of chorus director, grooming new singers to the barbershop style of singing. Future performances are in the planning stage. "Love of Harmony" is our motto.

Greater Phoenix Chapter

By Bob Szabo

Eight members of the **Greater Phoenix Chapter** are serving in leadership roles for the Far Western District in 2013. **John Bloomquist** is Vice President of the Arizona Division and a District Board member. Named to the District Management Team are **Gordon Berghold**, Chapter Support & Leadership Training Chairman; **Jerry McElfresh**, Marketing & Public Relations Chairman; and **Ted Sayle**, District Events Chairman. Committee chairmen are **Bill Kane**, Quartet Activities; **Dave Melville**, District Co-Webmaster; **Dan Wilson**, Song Writer's Guild Chairman; and **Terry Aramian**, Laws & Regulations

Chairman. In his second year as District President is **Russ Young**, former director of the **Spirit of Phoenix Chorus**.

Giving up his holiday to travel to New York, **Justin Klembala** represented the Spirit of Phoenix in an international event at Carnegie Hall the day after Christmas. While most people celebrate the holidays with family, Justin found his own way of “giving.” He and 104 other young singers joined hands with Japanese musicians to perform a benefit concert at Carnegie, raising significant donations to support the “Superstorm Sandy” relief effort. Playing at Carnegie Hall was the USA-Japan Goodwill Concert, which featured the **No Borders Youth Chorus**. **Ray Kahler**, serving on the staff for the event, noted that Justin, in typical Klembala fashion, jumped in to keep things going. Each time the chorus took a break (in their one and only rehearsal), Justin gathered a crowd of young men and continued to teach tags, fine-tune some of the music, and generally promoted barbershopping on an international scale.

Jerry McElfresh was named Barbershopper of the Year for 2012 at the annual installation banquet in January.

FWD Events Coordinator **Ted Sayle** appointed **Randy Bingel** as AZ Division Events Planner. Randy replaced **Ivan Jensen** who retired from that position to travel extensively. Randy also handled registrations for the 2012 FWD Fall Convention in Mesa and served as stage manager for the April 2013 Divisional Contest.

The SOP pushed to form quality quartets and sell Singing Valentines to help build public awareness of the chorus and generate operating funds. Chairman **Mike Moyer** and Assistant Director **Cary Burns** were in charge of forming quartets and coordinating the delivery of Singing Valentines on February 14.

It took a lot of teamwork, six quartets, many miles traveled, hundreds of phone calls, e-mails and texts, a lot of songs sung and a strong “can-do” attitude to make the SOP’s Singing Valentines program a huge success. A highlight of the day was when **Carefree (Steve Schneck, Bob Sampson, Tom Lyon and Mongo Bergthold)** went to Thunderbird Samaritan Hospital to sing for **Allen Clift** just hours before he was to go into his third surgery in two months. **Whoop ‘Em Up (Gary Steinkamp, Ray Estes, Dave Warkentin and Rodney Armstrong)** had the biggest gig of the day, singing for a homeowners’ party in Scottsdale, handing out 50 roses, and singing five songs for a happy crowd. They also veered off the beaten path to take two late-evening gigs. Bill Kane saved the day for the Uber quartet, filling in on bass with **Curt Struyk, Dan Wilson and Jim Beutel** until **Marv Peterson** could arrive around 1 p.m. (Note: Uber is an on-call driver service who provided the vehicle, driver, flowers and customers and paid us our normal fee for orders.) Bill then switched to tenor and sang with **AZ Chord Co. (Peter Lourie, Hap Lovejoy and Don Koehnlein)**. A quartet made up of **Bo Larson, Rodney Brandt, Mike Moyer** (who also was chairman of the SV program) and new member **Paul Yates** had about 10 orders to fill and gladly took on a few more as they came in during the day. Also carrying a big load was the quartet comprised of **Kent Pyper, David Hale, Mel Reekes** and especially **Bob Robinson**, who filled in for a member who couldn’t make it.

Mike Moyer was named Barbershopper of the Month for all his contributions to the successful 2013 Singing Valentines program.

The original **Phoenix Saguaro Chapter**, now known as the **Greater Phoenix Chapter** (Spirit of Phoenix Chorus) joyfully celebrated its 70th birthday on March 15.

A sold-out St. Patrick’s Day show was held at the Velda Rose Church in Mesa on March 17.

Mesa Chapter By Rich Carey

The Mesa **Lamplighters Chorus** turned some heads recently at their spring show in March at the First Baptist Church of Mesa. With over 400 tickets sold, the 30+ chorus delivered their “Hi Neighbor” concert full of traditional barbershop songs, four chapter quartet performances, and showcased a young girls’ quartet, **The Dreamcatchers**, from the “Rising Star” competition. **Dick Naas** not only directed the chorus with vigor, but also participated as a storyteller and bearer of occasional wit and humor. Many audience members commented that it was the best sound they’ve ever heard from the chorus.

Since early Fall 2012, the Mesa Chapter has attracted new members, set up a caring administrative and music team, and generally improved the chorus’s singing quality, presentation and enthusiasm thanks to the expertise of **Dick Naas, Russ Young, Jim Brown and Doc Dockendorf**.

The chapter got rave reviews for hosting the Leadership Academy in January. Chapter attendees were **Jerry Fox, Rich Carey, Jim Brown, Bernie Esberner, Dick Moore, Dale Weatherford, Bob Shaffer, and Bill Johnson**. Bill also provided the signage for the event. Special thanks go to **Barney Griffin** for picking up a sumptuous lunch provided by the chapter for all registrants.

In February, the momentum forward generated successful delivery of Singing Valentines, organized by **Bob Schaffer**. Chapter quartets **Two Under Par, Mostly Vintage**, and three pick-up quartets delivered more than 50 messages of love.

Rehearsals continued to be fun-packed and well-attended. This new vibrancy has resulted in bringing barbershoppers from around the valley over to Mesa to check them out.

New to the Lamplighter’s ranks are **Doc Dockendorf, Rich Carey, Bernie Esberner, John VanWestrienen, Carl Schultz and Thom Olmstead**. **Vic Bowen, Randall Bingel, Jason Bullock and Russ Young**, all from the Greater Phoenix Chapter, will have dual memberships.

One innovation instituted by new member **Rich Carey** this year was to have all members fill out an emergency card so that, in the event of a sudden illness or injury during a rehearsal/performance, EMS personnel will have access to the personal information needed to expedite the care given. Every chapter in the District should consider this policy.

Prescott Chapter
By Sam Stimple

Members of the **High Mountain Chordsmen (HMC)** have been sharing their life stories at recent chapter meetings. This idea came from the late **Chuck Greene's** seminar on "Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meetings." Each presentation is supposed to last 90 seconds. Everyone has gone over the time limit -- not a problem.

Four new or returning chapter officers attended a well-planned Arizona Leadership Academy in Mesa on January 26. These men are already sharing what they gained.

Under the second-year leadership of **Clay Miller**, registered and mix-n-match quartets delivered about 40 Singing Valentines to unsuspecting spouses, friends, and family. This was the Prescott Chapter's 25th year of participating in this annual fundraising activity.

One of our weekly highlights is learning a new tag during chorus rehearsal time, such as: M-I-C-K-E-Y M-O-U-S-E (in memory of Annette), I'll Be Seeing You, Wedding Bells Are Breaking Up, Lonesome Rose, and The Sunshine Of Your Smile. These tags are among many that offer awesome barbershop chords. Assistant Director **Sam Stimple** plans to help the chorus compose its own tag soon.

The City of Prescott is fortunate to play a prominent role in support of the Arizona Commission on the Arts. This year, Prescott hosted the annual Buckey Awards for Excellence in the Arts. HMC was honored to be among the list of finalists for the award in the "Outstanding Musical Artists" category.

Sun Cities Chapter
By Campbell Titchener

The **Desert Aires** annual show "Salute to America" was one of the best received in years, in part because of the presence of members of all five branches of the armed services who appeared with their flags as part of the program. We now take this show on the road for a performance at a July 4th celebration in Sun City West.

Business was brisk during our annual Valentine's Day celebration. **David & Georgia Moses** ran the program again and reported business equal to last year, but with an additional feature. In the past, we offered a choice of teddy bears or roses; this year, we also offered edible flowers.

A number of **Desert Aires** took part in the inaugural Harmony Platoon that opened the Arizona Divisional Convention in April. Bass **Lee Phillips** sang in the third-place quartet called **Harley**, appropriately named for his favorite ride. The consensus was that the Harmony Platoon was a success and should become part of all division conventions from now on.

The **Desert Aires**, with **Jerry Roland** directing, successfully repeated as Plateau A Chorus Champions.

New members include dual member **Dick Steele** and **Hadley Cook**. Long-time treasurer and tenor stalwart **Dave Tague** is moving away from the Sun Cities area, but will still be in

Arizona. We plan on attaching a lengthy rope to his ankle so we can haul him back for performances and next year's show.

Tucson Chapter
By Jack Statler

The **Tucson Sunshine Chapter** board members attended the Arizona Division Leadership Academy in Mesa -- great instructors in all phases of chapter leadership.

TBX members had the opportunity to man a booth for three days at the Park Place Mall, one of Tucson's two largest shopping centers, to advertise Singing Valentines and our annual chapter show, promote membership growth, and demonstrate the barbershop style and tag singing.

Ron & Annie Hayes ably represented barbershop and Youth In Harmony at the American Music Educators Association Conference in Mesa.

TSC's Singing Valentines program, coordinated by **Rich & Martha Kates**, ran for three days, as six chapter quartets produced their share of tears and laughter, satisfying dozens of happy Valentine's recipients.

The 3rd Annual TBX Golf Tournament was held at the Vistoso Golf Club. Prizes and trophies were awarded to the various winners; the chorus sang at the dinner that followed.

TBX performed at the widely publicized and well-attended Tucson Festival of Books at the University of Arizona.

Celebrating the Society's 75th Anniversary and the Tucson Chapter's 65th Anniversary, TBX presented its annual show, "Celebrate Harmony," on the recently renovated stage at Catalina Magnet High School. **Audacity** headlined the show and **Joint Venture** was featured with an authentic barber chair. **Contempo** joined the chorus in the ever-popular "Lida Rose" and a high school quartet belted a spirited "Coney Island Baby."

Tucson Mayor **Jonathan Rothschild** proclaimed the week of the annual show as Barbershop Harmony Week and issued a proclamation to that effect.

TSC hosted the 2013 Arizona Division 5 Convention in April. **Joint Venture**, the Seniors Quartet Champion, finished third overall and is eligible to compete in the FWD Quartet Contest this fall. TBX, the Plateau AA Champion, took second overall and will advance the FWD Chorus Contest in October.

Harmony College West Flyer

Harmony College West & Chorus Director's Guild Seminar

FWD's own 3 GOLD MEDALIST CHORUS DIRECTORS

together for the first time to teach the art of chorus directing

Dr. Greg Lyne, Mark Hale, Justin Miller

Chorus Directors will learn from the FWD's Gold Medalist Chorus Directors

Individual students Follow a course of study designed to make for better singers and better chapter members. Or pursue a new area of our hobby (such as chorus directing)

*Classes in: Vocal Techniques, Barbershop Potpourri, Directing
Arranging, Chapter Leadership, Small Chorus Coaching*

Quartets Receive a full weekend of coaching from our Society's top coaches

All students Participate in activities to build and grow our singing fraternity. Woodshed, tag-sing, and have a great time with other great barbershoppers in our District.

Small Choruses up to 4 small choruses can be coached for 4 hours*

Saturday Night Show

**Featuring FWD's Great Student Quartets,
and Guest Quartets**

*Spend a weekend of work, harmony and fellowship at the beautiful
California State University East Bay campus*

August - 9 - 11, 2013

**California State University EAST BAY
Hayward, California**

**Quartet Registration \$800.00 (early bird: \$785 prior to June 4th)
Individual Registration \$175.00 (early bird: \$165 prior to June 4th)**

**Chorus members will register as Individuals for Harmony College West, but will enroll in "chorus coaching" with their chorus for one 4-hour class period-leaving 4 hours for individual class time*

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT

2013 FALL CONTEST AND CONVENTION

Contests and Show

District Quartet Contest
District Chorus Contest
District Senior Quartet Contest
Show of Champions

HOSTED BY THE

MIGHTY OAK CHORUS
OCTOBER 10-13, 2013

Rabobank Convention Center
Bakersfield, CA

Meetings and Events

District Board Meeting
House of Delegates Meeting
Past District Presidents Meeting
AH-SOW
Harmony Platoon
Classes and Workshops

REGISTRATION PRICES

ALL CONTESTANTS MUST BUY AN ALL EVENTS REGISTRATION
FOR THE APPLICABLE AGE GROUP

ALL EVENTS EARLY BIRD
(Postmarked by September 10th)

ALL EVENTS:

Adult \$45.00
Young Adult (under 26) \$22.50
Non-member under 13 Free

ALL EVENTS LATE / ON SITE
(Postmarked after September 10th)

ALL EVENTS:

Adult \$55.00
Young Adult (under 26) \$27.50
Non-member under 13 Free
SINGLE EVENT.. \$25.00 / 12.50 each

HOTEL INFORMATION


All Hotel Reservations
must be made online
using the FWD website

farwesterndistrict.org

Contact a chapter member if you do not have
computer access.

For Chapter Room Blocks and/or
Afterglow rooms contact Bob
Cathaway at rwcathaway@bak.rr.com

2013 FAR WESTERN DISTRICT FALL CONTEST AND CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s)	Chapter or City:	Member	Wife / S.O. / Guest	Child / Young Adult	District Officer	Chapter Delegate	AFWDC / VIP	Amount Due	
*		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
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*Address									
City	State								Zip
Email	Phone								
Competing with:									

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

DEE BAUGHMAN – FALL REGISTRATIONS, 5236 W Oriole Ave., Visalia, CA 93291

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

Make your check payable to: **MIGHTY OAK CHORUS** or include your Credit Card information below

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____ ☐ Visa ☐ M/C ☐ Discover ☐ Amex CSC*: _____ (What's this? See below)

Number _____ Expiration ____ / ____ Signature X _____

Find online order link at farwesterndistrict.org

Questions? Call (559) 625-1468 or e-mail sherm8@gmail.com

* The Card Security Code (CSC) is the 3- digit code on the back of your Visa, M/C, or Discover card, and the 4 digit code on front of your Amex card.

SoCal Comedy Quartet Contest

Save the Date: SoCal Comedy Quartet Contest July 20, 2013

By Mark Sheldon, Orange Quartet Chapter PR

The Orange Chapter is proud to once again present the SoCal Comedy Quartet 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 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!

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.

This is the fourth year the contest will be hosted by the Orange Quartet Chapter, continuing the tradition established for many years by the Palomar Pacific Chapter.

The Contest will be held at 7:00pm on Saturday, July 20, 2013 in the Little Theater at Orange High School, 525 N. Shaffer Street, Orange, CA 92867. The entry fee for competing Quartets is \$25 (competitors do not need to purchase admission tickets for themselves).

For the audience, General Admission Tickets are \$15; children 11 and under are half price. Competitors are encouraged to bring fellow barbershoppers and other friends/family to cheer them on!

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 20, 2013

Orange High School
525 N. Shaffer Street
Orange, CA 92867

Entry Fee
\$25.00
per quartet
CHEAP!

Audience Tickets
\$15
Kids Half Price

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



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