



Westunes Vol. 68 No. 3

Fall 2018



WESTUNES

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



The Newfangled Four

6th Place

Artistic License

9th Place



Suit Up!

25th Place

2018 FWD International Quartets

INSIDE: Orlando Pix • Keep Calm & Keep Singing • Harmony Foundation • MoH • Youth Camp



FRESNO 2018



Far Western District FALL CONVENTION

October 11-14, Fresno, California

Harmony Platoon	Quartet Contest	Board of Directors
AHSOW	Chorus Contest	House of Delegates
Harmony for Lunch	Show of Champions	Past Presidents
Joe Barbershop	AFWDC Late Show	Hall of Fame
Barbershop Shop	Afterglow Show	AFWDC Breakfast

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events.farwesternndistrict.org



WESTUNES



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Westunes is published quarterly by the Far Western District Association of Chapters in the Far Western District, Inc. dba Far Western District, and is distributed electronically at farwesternndistrict.org.

Here are some Advertising Rates (per issue)

Ad Size	1 Issue	2 Issues	4 Issues
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Full Page	\$50.00	\$40.00	\$30.00
Half Page	\$25.00	\$20.00	\$15.00
Quarter Page	\$12.50	\$10.00	\$7.50
Business Card	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$3.00

A complete list of rates and specs appears later in this issue.

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NORCAL DISTRICT BOUND QUARTET SHOW

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2018 • 7:00 PM

INFORMAL RECEPTION • 6:00 PM

WITH LIGHT HORS D'OEUVRES AND LOTS OF SINGING!

ADVENTURE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
1500 NORTH MARKET BLVD.
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834

Modeled after the traditional "Go For The Gold" event in Southern California, the NorCal District Bound Quartet Show provides an opportunity for Northern California and Nevada quartets who have qualified for District to **strut their stuff** for an appreciative audience prior to the Far Western District Contest in Fresno October 12-13.

Minimum donation \$15.00 per person — all proceeds will support the NorCal Harmony Camp.

Reserve your seat by sending a check (payable to "FWD Harmony Camp") to:

Richard Lund, 6164 Windlestraw Road, Placerville, CA 95667

Payment by check (\$15.00) or PayPal (\$15.60) /ticket. Paypal@VoicesofCalifornia.org.

SEATING IS LIMITED TO THE FIRST 225 PEOPLE!



2018 Far Western District Chorus International Contest Final Rank in Orlando, FL



2nd Place Silver Medal Westminster



7th Place Fog City Singers

Explosion of Harmony

What you get for \$15*

- Award winning Color Country Chorus
- 2017 Intl Champion Quartet MAIN STREET
- 5 up and coming Quartets



In the Cox Auditorium at Dixie
State University

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*DSU Box Office Fees Apply



"The beauty of Southern Utah, the vocal talents of the Color Country Chorus, MAIN STREET and 5 other quartets for \$15*, we must be out of our minds. This should cost \$83 a ticket, but it's only \$15*, we're crazy!" - Ben P. (Pres. CCC)



November 9-10

7:30-9:30 PM

colorcountrychorus.org



Keep Calm and Keep Singing

A message from the Far Western District Board of Directors

On June 19th, the Board of Directors of the Barbershop Harmony Society announced a bold change to our Society's Bylaws. Effective immediately everyone can join our Society. Everyone includes women. The BHS is now gender neutral.

The announced strategy and vision for our Society is "Everyone in Harmony". This has been in place for a while and now everyone means everyone. The execution of the change is going to take a little time. As of now women can join the Society. The membership process for the Districts and Chapters will be announced by the end of the year.

It is important to note that the makeup of your Chapter will be determined by the members of your Chapter. That decision is part of your Chapter bylaws. The actions by the Society are intended to add opportunity not subtract options. If you want to remain a male Chapter you can. If you want to add women to your Chapter you can. If you want to have more than one Chorus in your Chapter you can. The choice is yours. The Board and Staff of the Society have made it clear that the fellowship and brotherhood of an all-male

chapter is special and not in jeopardy.

More information will be delivered over the rest of the year. The BHS website (www.barbershop.org) has an article, "BHS Announces Next Step Toward Everyone In Harmony" on the home page. Please take the time to view the video and read the Frequently Asked Questions. Answers about contest categories and new District and Chapter bylaws are on the way.

For now the Board of the Far Western District suggests that you start the discussion with your friends at the Chapter and give some thought to the possibilities this change provides. We are here to help you with your decision around what Barbershop will look like going forward. We support your decision. The only correct answer is what works best for your Chapter.

To paraphrase the 1939 British Ministry of Information motto: Keep Calm and Keep Singing. There is a bright future of

Harmony in the Far Western District. We look forward to seeing you at our District Convention in Fresno in October.



PACIFIC SOUND CHORUS PRESENTS:

EVERYONE IN HARMONY!

AN EVENING OF UNFORGETTABLE A CAPPELLA MUSIC YOU
WON'T WANT TO MISS!

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 15, 2018

MARJORIE LUKE THEATRE

721 E. COTA ST., SANTA BARBARA



2018 SOUTHWEST DIVISION
PLATEAU AAA CHAMPIONS

CARPE *Diem* CHORUS
2017 SAI SMALL CHORUS
CHAMPIONS



2018 TOP 10
INTERNATIONAL QUARTET
COMPETITORS



2 Shows!

2 pm & 7 pm

\$50 - Gold Section

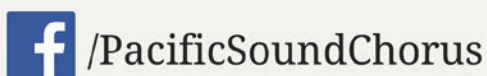
\$25 - General Admission

\$20 - Senior

\$15 - Student

pacsound.eventbrite.com

1-800-353-1632



Harmony Foundation

Far Western District gives the gift of song

We have a lot to be proud of in the Far Western District: International Champions, outstanding Chapters and the best Barbershoppers in the World. One measure of all Barbershoppers is their heart. None are bigger than those in the Far West. The contributions given to support and expand vocal music have been incredible. We sponsor youth camps and workshops all over the west. We invite other groups to sing on our shows. We reach out to educators to help with their programs. We give generously of our time and money.



The Harmony Foundation is one way to share and the Far Western District leads the way in donations. Here is a three year average:

- Total # of FWD Donors: 504 (out of 2,063 current members)
- Total Annual Giving from FWD Donors: \$646,142.00 per year

If you are not currently giving and strongly feel that your life has benefitted by belonging to the BHS and are interested in making a small tax-deductible donation back to an organization dedicated to preserving this "hobby" for generations to come, I urge you to make a donation at any level. Here is the link...[Harmony Foundation](http://HarmonyFoundation.org)

What many of you don't realize is you can choose to have up to 30% of your donation passed on to your Chapter and/or your District to support local programs.

Currently our FWD members donate about \$650,000 to HFI but only \$48,000 comes back to the chapters or to your FWD. If all the current donors took advantage of the 30% allowed for donor's choice that could be \$195,000. Just imagine how that extra money could help your Chapter and your District? I urge you to revisit your HFI membership at 615-523-3040 or sogiba@harmonyfoundation.org and elect to direct your full donor's choice back to your chapter and please send a percentage to your district.

Here's a list of the members that directed a portion of their Harmony Foundation contributions to the District in 2017:

Shreyas Amin	Robert Gray	Kevin Palmer
Rog & Linda Anderson	Shelley Herman	David & Barbara Plum
Bob & Bobbi Apple	Craig & Barbara Hughes	Ray & Sandy Rhoads
Max Bates	Grace Hughes	Ray & Sandy Rhymer
Jamie Bedford	Steve Hunt	Joe Salz
Pete & Shirley Bennett	Cliff Johnson	Kevin & Karen Smith
Gordon & Elizabeth Berghold	Ray Johnson	Austin Snow
Gary & Bridget Bolles	Ken Klein	G & Diane Spence
Dave Briner	James & Marlene Kline	David & Christine Starcevic
Jim & Patricia Browne	John & Kay Krizek	Sam & Carol Ann Stimple
Richard Burch	Chuck & Kynn Leavitt	Rofer Stoddard
Joey Buss	Ron Leutbecher	Dale Summer
Jay Ciccotti	Wally Mees	Dave & Cathy Tautkus
Les Cudworth	John & Kim Mertens	Mark Travis
Jim & Delain DeChaine	Donald Miller	Jim Turnmire
Fair Weather Quartet	Terry & Edith Moore	Tom Wallis
Norma Feenstra	James Nelson	Edward Warner
Dominick Finetti	Jim & Janice Newlove	David Weatherford
Marlin & Nancy Fors	Joanne Newman	Al & Donna Wolter
Max & Judy Frickey	Victor Onufrieff	

Thank you!

In addition the Far Western District was the only District Sponsor for the Youth Festival in Costa Mesa this year. Half of our \$10,000 sponsorship came directly from our chapters with the rest from our general funds.

Bakersfield	The Golden Empire Chorus	D-005	SW	\$500.00
Palo Alto-Mountain View	Peninsulaires	D-022	NW	\$450.00
San Diego	Sun Harbor Chorus	D-023	SE	\$303.07
Visalia	The Mighty Oak Chorus	D-029	NE	\$500.00
Santa Fe Springs	Masters of Harmony	D-046	SW	\$364.00
Fullerton	Orange Empire Chorus	D-056	SE	\$1,804.09
Jeff Freeman - President, El Cajon	Music Masters Chorus	D-086	SE	\$100.00
Rincon Beach	Pacific Sound	D-103	SW	\$500.00
Salt River Valley	A Capella Syndicate	D-125	AZ	\$260.00
TOTAL				\$4,781.16

I want to give special recognition to Jay Campbell from the Fullerton Chapter. Jay used a Corporate Matching program to double the large donation from the Chapter.

Thank you for all you do to support Harmony in the Far Western District.

President
Far Western District
Barbershop Harmony Society



2017 International Champion Chorus

Santa Fe Springs Chapter

The Masters of Harmony

by Ron Larson

The Road to Orlando and Beyond

The Orlando Convention Swan Song

All championship choruses are expected to prepare a swan song set for the next International contest to be performed between the end of the chorus contest and the announcement of the new chorus medalists. For 2018, the outgoing champion **Masters of Harmony** turned to emeritus member **Dr. Rob Campbell**, who had arranged the chorus's 2012 swan song set. For this set, Rob looked to the songs of Stephen Schwartz, winner of three Grammys and three Academy Awards. He selected six songs designed to entertain an audience that had already listened to dozens of chorus songs throughout the day. The medley included the spiritual uplift of "Day by Day," the delightful whimsy of "It's All for the Best," the soulful search for meaning in "Corner of the Sky," the interconnectedness of life in "Colors of the Wind," "Popular," a song that showcases the vocal and comedic talents of **The Newfangled Four**, and a moving tribute to those who have enriched our lives in "For Good." Enhanced by **Erin Howden's** choreography and **Tony De Rosa's** vocal coaching, Dr. Campbell's brilliant arrangements give Director **Justin Miller** an especially powerful musical package

to present to the audience as the Masters of Harmony end their memorable championship year. (Note: For a detailed description of Masters of Harmony activities in Orlando, read **Maurice Freleaux's** article "Another Swan Song Triumph for the Record" on the Masters of Harmony website.

The Masters of Harmony Spring Show – "Harmony Tribute Tour"

On May 12, the Masters introduced the spring show audience at Cal State Long Beach's Carpenter Theater to their new show opener "You'll Never Go Wrong With a Song." This high-energy song is designed to wow audience members from the get-go, and it did just that. Soon thereafter, the audience was introduced to the aforementioned Stephen Schwartz Medley, and the audience once again roared its approval.

Other songs in the program included the Gold Medal package from Las Vegas – "Too Darn Hot/Fever" and "I Have a Love/One Hand, One Heart," the ever-popular Simon and Garfunkel Montage, and the listed show closer, Circle of Life. Although the Masters rarely do encores, they broke with tradition and sent out long-time audience favorite **Les Weiser** to reprise his rendition of Professor Harold Hill singing "Ya Got Trouble," a soliloquy that warns the good River City folks about the evils inherent in their local pool hall.

Adding visual appeal to several show numbers were interpretive dance movements performed by eight sprightly young women of **To The Pointe**, a dance production team founded by Lindsey Dixon. The two guest quartets were 2017 International Top Ten Quartet The Newfangled Four (**Joey Buss, Jackson Niebrugge, Jake Tickner, Ryan Wisniewski**) and 2017 Sweet Adelines International Silver Medalist Quartet **ClassRing (Mary Duncan, Heather Krones, Hailey Parks, Michaela Johnson)**. After intermission, the two groups formed an octet and delighted the audience with "Is There Anybody Here from My Home Town," a song styling reminiscent of the interplay between the **Buffalo Bills** and **Shirley Jones** in "Lida Rose/Will I Ever Tell You" from *The Music Man*.

The New Masters of Harmony Website

Masters of Harmony Webmaster **Bob Czubiak** announced that an improved MOH website is up and running. He says the new site features a simplified design that shows what the Masters of Harmony is all about, and visual elements designed to keep website visitors engaged. Its built-in tools can help the site get MOH articles placed prominently on search engine pages. Stop by and take a look!

The Masters of Harmony Honor the Memory of Brian Harmon

On May 6, 2018, Masters of Harmony member **Brian Harmon** lost a valiant battle against kidney disease. On May 19, about 50 past and present MOH members joined Brian Harmon's extended family in his Long Beach Cornerstone Church for a Celebration of Life Ceremony. Speakers noted how Brian's deep devotion to his family and his Christian faith guided him throughout his life. Speakers described how Brian's gentle spirit and understanding heart enriched the lives of those who encountered him. In his 20 years with the Masters, Brian won six gold medals and one silver. His final gold medal, that he won last year in Las Vegas, is noteworthy for several reasons. First, it took herculean efforts for him to even be on the risers. Though his need for periodic dialysis treatments sapped his endurance, he insisted on being granted no special performance favors . . . and none were

granted. Brian wanted to do things "the Masters way." Secondly, standing nearby on the risers was his son, Jeff. When father and son embraced after receiving their gold medals, there were many moist eyes in the awards ceremony room. Rest in peace, Brian. You will be missed by many people whose lives are better because they knew you.





2018 Youth Harmony Camp

September 21 – 23 • Sly Park Education Center Pollock Pines, CA

DO YOU ??????

Have an interest in promoting barbershop / a cappella singing in young men today and in the future

Supporting singing in our schools and communities

Ensure that young men will continue to experience the joy of singing

Develop confidence and self-esteem in young men

Provide inter-generational experiences through barbershop harmony

YOU CAN BE A PART OF THESE GOALS !!!

Spread the word about Harmony Camp in your community

Ask local businesses to provide scholarship support to a young man in your community (full scholarship of \$95.00; partial scholarship in any amount)

Personally make a donation to either Harmony Camp 2018 or the Lloyd Steinkamp Endowment Fund for FWD Harmony Camps

The Lloyd Steinkamp Endowment Fund has been established to ensure the continuation of Harmony Camp in the future. A double match for donations up to \$400 is in place through 2018.

Harmony Camp is my passion. Join me in supporting our barbershop hobby now and in the future.

Richard Lund, Director

Harmony Camp

6164 Windlestraw Rd, Placerville, CA 95667

530-621-1904

harmonycamp@farwesterndistrict.org

<https://farwesterndistrict.org/events/youth-harmony-camp>

NorCal District Bound Quartet Show

Adventure Christian Church

1500 North Market Blvd

Sacramento, CA 95834

On Saturday September 15th, Northern California and Nevada quartets who qualified to compete at the Far Western District Contest in Fresno will be featured at the 2nd Annual NorCal District Bound show.

Modeled after the traditional "Go For the Gold Show" the evening will provide an opportunity for the

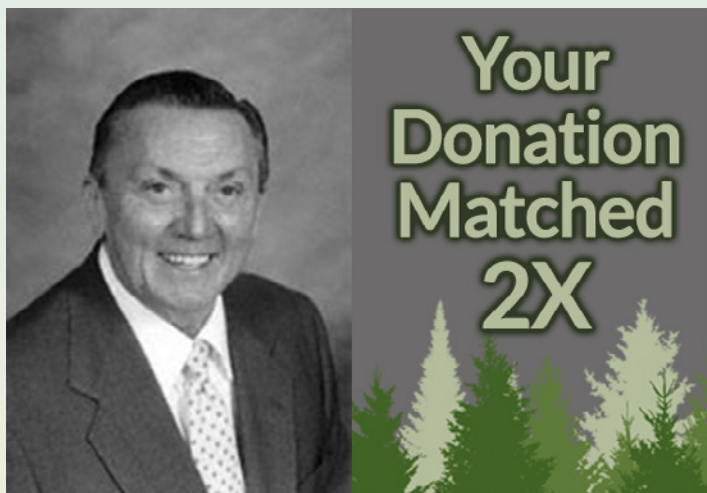
quartets who have qualified for District to "strut their stuff" for an appreciative audience. The show starts at 7:00 pm preceded by an informal reception at 6:00 pm with light hors d'oeuvres and lots of singing.

An afterglow will follow the show.

Minimum donation of \$15/person. **All proceeds support NorCal Harmony Camp.**

Reserve your seat by sending a check (payable to FWD Harmony Camp) to Richard Lund, 6164 Windlestraw Rd, Placerville, CA 95667 or PayPal (\$15.60) PayPal@voicesofcalifornia.org.

Lloyd Steinkamp Endowment Fund for FWD Harmony Camps Double Match Challenge



CONSIDER A CONTRIBUTION TO THE LLOYD STEINKAMP ENDOWMENT FUND FOR HARMONY CAMP

The Double Match Challenge for the Lloyd Steinkamp Endowment Fund for FWD Harmony Camps has been extended into 2018.

With the goal of providing an opportunity for all barbershop members to participate in the funding of Harmony Camps in the FWD in perpetuity, a major donor has agreed to continue the double match challenge in 2018. Your contribution in any amount up to \$400 will be double matched by this generous donor. For example a donation of \$100 will be matched with \$200, effectively yielding a \$300 donation to the Steinkamp Fund. You may make a onetime donation or donate on a monthly basis.

Lloyd Steinkamp was a true giant in the Far Western District and it was Lloyd who created the concept

of Harmony Camp. The first camp was in 1996 at Camp Wrightwood near San Bernardino. This was not only the first Harmony Camp in the FWD, but also in the nation.

Today the FWD Harmony Camp remains strong with 92 young men attending the 2017 camp in Pollock Pines, CA. The purpose of the Lloyd Steinkamp Endowment Fund is to provide, in perpetuity, supplemental financial support for weekend long Harmony Camps within the Far Western District of the Barbershop Harmony Society. Initially all funds donated to the Endowment will be used to build the capital of the fund toward an initial goal of \$200,000. Once the fund balance reaches this goal, withdrawals may commence to help finance the FWD Harmony Camp, consistent with the policies of the Sacramento Region Community Foundation.

Donations may be made by credit card at <https://ssl.charityweb.net/sacregcf> Find the "Lloyd Steinkamp Endowment" in the drop down box preceded by the words "please use my donation for:". You may also donate by check payable to Sacramento Region Community Foundation with a note in the memo box "Lloyd Steinkamp" and mailed to 955 University Avenue, Suite A, Sacramento, CA 95825.

As of December 31, 2017 the Lloyd Steinkamp Endowment Fund has a balance of \$64,000. Our goal for 2018 is to increase the Fund by at least \$60,000. I invite you to join me in ensuring that Harmony Camp will exist into the future for the benefit of future barbershoppers.

Richard Lund, Director
Far Western District Harmony Camp
harmonycamp@farwesterndistrict.org
530-621-1904



Association of
Far Western District Champions

Presents:

THE LATE SHOW

Featuring



**Suit Up!
2017**



**The Newfangled
Four 2013**



**Masterpiece
2008**



**Artistic License
2011**

These great performers
and other surprises

FRIDAY OCTOBER 12TH
FOLLOWING THE
QUARTET SEMIFINALS
TICKETS \$20

Order online at events.farwesterndistrict.org





Craig Hughes

Far Western District President

president@farwesterndistrict.org



What a summer in the West! I know you have all been busy singing and enjoying Barbershop. My itinerary included the District Summer Board and Management Team Meeting in Fullerton, International in Orlando and a Leadership Summit in Nashville. All were fun and reminded me what I love about this hobby. Harmony and fellowship with incredible people.

We accomplished a great deal at the Board/Management Meeting. This summer meeting is the time we firm up the budget and plans for next year. Our team worked well together and achieved its goals. The results will be included in the report prior to the Fall House of Delegates meeting on Friday – October 12 – in Fresno. All Chapters are encouraged to attend. There are several items that need HOD approval going forward and we want your input.

On Tuesday, June 19, (two days after our Board Meeting) we were all surprised by the announcement that the Barbershop Harmony Society is now gender neutral. Women can join BHS as full members. The process for the Districts and Chapters will be rolled out by the end of the year. There is a statement by the FWD Board on page 7 of this Westunes. The short message is **“Keep Calm & Keep Singing.”** Your Chapter now has additional options but can stay the same (all male), if it chooses. The ability to incorporate women into your Chapter and ensembles is exciting and should be explored but you and your Chapter members will decide your weekly experience. The Board is here to help in any way you like.

The International Convention in Orlando was a lot of fun. For those keeping score:

Chorus Contest:

- **The Westminster Chorus** (2017 FWD Champion) - 2nd place - Silver.
- **Fog City Singers** (2017 NE Division Champion) - 7th place.

Quartet Contest:

- **The Newfangled Four** (2013 FWD Champion) - 6th place.
- **Artistic License** (2011 FWD Champion) - 9th place.
- **Suit Up** (2017 FWD Champion) - 25th place their first time out.

Next Generation Quartet Contest:

- **Thunderbolt!** (Brand New) - 14th place.

Note: We are so blessed. We get to see these “local” acts at our FWD Conventions and the rest of the Society is jealous. Next chance in Fresno!

- My International experience included leadership meetings, volunteering as a ticket scanner, and singing with our 2017 International Champion **Masters of Harmony** at a number of events.
- Special thanks to all the FWD members that volunteered to help make the convention a success. You are the best.
- Mark your calendars for 2019 (Salt Lake), and 2020 (Los Angeles). Both are close and promise to be great.

Executive Vice President Bill Rosica and I attended a Leadership Summit in Nashville and came away with a lot of good training and discussion with the leaders of the other 16 Districts. We do a lot of things right in the FWD and owe thanks to the many leaders that set us on track and keep us on track. Bill and I encourage your help and feedback as we move into a new chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

Set your calendars for our Fall Convention in Fresno – October 11-14. House of Delegates, Harmony Platoon, Chorus & Quartet Contests, afterglows and so much more. Who knows what may happen at this one! Be there and find out.

Thank you for everything you do for your Chapter and the District.

Keep Calm and Keep Singing – in Harmony.

Bill Rosica

Executive Vice President

evp@farwesterndistrict.org



Well, it's been a very busy Summer so far. July began with a bang and a week-long trip to Orlando. The Masters of Harmony was scheduled for quite a few performances as well as rehearsals. On top of that I had a meeting with Marty Monson, our CEO, regarding "Everyone in Harmony". That topic alone took up many hours of discussion and questions. As outgoing Chorus Champions, the Masters gave each competing Chorus a little gift and best wishes on their endeavor. My chapters were Fog City and The Heralds of Harmony. Both Choruses were very cordial in their acceptance of both.

I then had a week off to recuperate and get ready to go back to Nashville for the President's Council Meeting and later, the Leadership Summit. Again, and in greater detail, were questions regarding "Everyone in Harmony". Marty was there to answer all of our questions and take under consideration some of our concerns.

Your President, Craig Hughes and I split up the classes offered at the Summit so we could cover as many bases as we could. I was able to meet many officers from the other 16 Districts to discuss how they handled areas such as Membership, low attendance at Contests and finding qualified people to fill the rolls of the District and Chapter Boards.

One area that I needed to concentrate on was how Leadership Academies were run and how to bring more members to attend. This year we will shake things up a bit and bring in some of the Nashville folks to help bring in new and improved information. No longer will we hold Leadership Academies, but will offer Leadership Summits. Summits are meant to train members to be "Leaders" and have breakout sessions for certain offices. This way you won't hear the same thing you heard last year.

I have attended the Leadership Summit for two years now and have learned each time how to be a better leader, both for my Chapter and for the Far Western

District. So keep an eye out for more information to follow for the three Summits.

Our District Fall Convention and Contest are just around the corner. The House of Delegates will have much to discuss after your Board meets on Thursday. Presidents! It's up to you or your representative to attend. Please make sure your Chapter has a voice in the decisions that will be made. Also, there may be a surprise or two announced for a future Fall Convention and Contest. Bryan Forbes and I are still working out the details, but it will "Rock your Boat".

Finally, at this writing, I am recovering from shoulder surgery but should be back in action in no time. Bicep tendon had to be cut and re-attached, plus a few frayed tendons had a little grooming.

Hope to see you all in Fresno in October. Where else would you want to be?

Brent Anderson

VP Southwest Division

dvp-southwest@farwesterndistrict.org



Welcome to Fall...

As summer winds down and we ready for the Fall Convention in Fresno, here's a short report on what happened over the summer in our great Division.

In no particular order, I had the good fortune to visit **South Bay Chapter** and take in their terrific show, entitled *Scarface, The Musical*. It took place in a Speakeasy, and they actually set one up...a real one, cleverly disguised as a warehouse, with drinks and snacks and a variety of acts (**Ready Willing and Mabel** were terrific) including the **Rockin' Moroccans** 20 piece band, and the French Foreign Legion (in a speakeasy?). Musical guest soloists were from **LA Southtowns** SAI chapter, and also a put-together quartet of **Alan Gordon, Patrick Haedtler, Pete Neushul** and **Jim Kline** sang old **139th Street Quartet** songs. You should have been there...and I'm glad I was.

Congrats to the **Newfangled Four**, who performed to delight the crowds in Orlando and finished a solid sixth place, just a few points from a medal. **Joey Buss, Jackson Niebrugge, Ryan Wisniewski, and Jake Tick-**

ner made us all proud. They are one of the most entertaining quartets in the whole Society and the attracted even more fans to their ever-growing fan club. By the way, they will be the featured quartet on the Sept. 15th Rincon Beach Chapter shows in Santa Barbara. See the ad in this issue of Westunes.

The **Masters of Harmony** also successfully traveled to Orlando in July to sing off their 2017 International Chorus Championship and they represented well. There's quite a respect and friendship that has developed between the top groups...each fiercely wants to win but respects what it takes to be in the position to win. As you probably all know, **Westminster**, under **Justin Miller**, finished a close second to the great **Vocal Majority**, under **Greg Clancy**, who finished second last year to the great **Masters of Harmony**, also under **Justin Miller**. We are so proud of the Masters and any chapter in our division or district can learn so much from how they operate their chapter.

Speaking of which, the MOH is willing to share info. You want more members, look in the FWD directory and contact their membership VP to discuss ideas. Maybe something they do, will work for you. Want to put on a show but feel you lack the experience...? Contact their show chair and get some pointers on organization.

All chapters are willing to share. If you see some chapter with a capacity you think you'd like to improve upon, use the FWD website and directory to make contact.

San Fernando Valley had a successful Ice Cream Social as did **Santa Maria Chapter**. **Bakersfield** had a show that filled their small show venue to capacity, and, no resting on laurels, they are already looking for a larger venue for the next show.

Rincon Beach, which meets in Ventura, but which draws members from Santa Barbara to the north, and San Fernando and Simi Valley to the south and east, also had a spring show in Ventura. They shared the stage with **Channelaire**, the Camarillo-based SAI chapter and it was both profitable and fun.

Smaller shows can be more frequent than the big venues, and they are easier to stage, and sell and they expose your chorus to more public, from which we gain new members.

The best membership tool is to sing well and sing in public. It doesn't need to be 12 songs you barely know, but six good songs you sing well, and that shows off the fun that is barbershop chorus singing. And don't

be embarrassed to sing *Coney Island Baby*, *Hello Mary Lou* or *Chordbuster's March*. Sing them well, and the audience thinks that's the greatest music they have ever heard.

A word of caution however. Those three songs have been "woodshedded" by all of us for all our barbershop lives. We all sing slightly different versions and in a chorus, that becomes muddy and unclear. Get the official music and the learning tracks (BTW, they are professionally done by Tim Waurick, and very inexpensive from the BHS) and get everyone singing the same notes and rhythms.

I need to mention that my chorus, **Rincon Beach Chapter (Pacific Sound Chorus** under the direction of **Mike McGee**) will be having their big show in Santa Barbara on Sept. 15th and we'd love to see you all in the audience. See the ad elsewhere in Westunes. In addition to our stars, **Newfangled Four**, we have a local quartet called **The Acetones**, who are composed of three brilliant PhD candidates from UCSB, and one old guy (**Tom Cristiani**, **Chris Freeze**, **Tobias Brown Heft** and **Garth Ratliff**). They are fantastically entertaining and this will be their final show as the baritone has just received his doctorate and is leaving the very next day to take a job in Portland.

Well, that's it for now. I'll hope to see all of you in Fresno. Even if you are not competing, the purpose of the meeting is convention...which, by definition, is a meeting for people of like interests. Come for the chance to see and visit with old friends, to sing tags and songs with old friends and new friends, and to watch some great competition and performances from some of the best quartets and choruses in the Society.

**HIGH PRIORITY
— QUARTET —**

Bass
Dan Davenport
480-259-6633
HighPriorityQret@gmail.com

*2016 International
Sr. Quartet Champion*



Nick Papageorge

VP Southeast Division

dvp-southeast@farwesterndistrict.org



If it's Fall, it's time to acknowledge and praise all of our Southeast Division members who had the opportunity to perform/compete at the International Contest in Orlando. Congratulations to **The Newfangled Four** for once again placing in the Top Ten of the International Quartet Contest; this time moving up to 6th Place! We love you guys. And so does the International Audience!!

Also, congratulations to our own **Westminster Chorus**, who came home with 2nd Place medals in the International Chorus Contest. They sang and danced incredibly and were just amazing onstage! Unfortunately, the **Vocal Majority** (153 strong), was on their game that week, and was crowned International Champion. Again, to Justin and all members of Westminster, we thank you for your performance. You made us all proud!!

Of course, we must also give a shout-out to our friends from up north, **Artistic License**, for placing 9th in the International Quartet Finals. Also, congratulations to the **Fog City Singers** (Barbary Coast Chorus), who placed 7th in the International Chorus Contest. Great job to both organizations! And lastly, congratulations to our current FWD Quartet Champions, **Suit Up!**

Speaking of Quartets and Choruses in Contest, the following Southeast Division Quartets and Choruses are preparing to compete in our District Contest (and Convention), to be held in Fresno on the weekend of October 11 -14. In alphabetical order, the Quartets are:

Blowin' Off Steam!, Four Fifteen, Fortunate Sons, Good Times, Syzgy, Tipping the Scale, and VOX.

And here are the Southeast Choruses that are competing:

Brea Gas Light Chorus, Fullerton Orange Empire Chorus, Inland Empire Inland Sound Chorus, Las Vegas Silver Statesmen Chorus, San Diego Sun Harbor Chorus, and the Westminster Chorus.

Good luck to you all, and thanks in advance for representing the Southeast Division. We'll be there to cheer you on!!! Make sure you are all in Fresno in October!

Of course, at this time of year, I always feel compelled to nudge all of our Chapter Officers to make sure that their respective Chapters have filed all forms for the IRS and State Tax Agencies. If not, you need to do it NOW! Please take care of all Chapter business-related paperwork **now**, so that your Chapters remain in good status, and are not in jeopardy of losing their Charters! Call me if you need help, or go to the **"Member Center"** and watch the videos that show you the forms, how to find them, and how to fill them out! If you still have any questions, have your President call me and I'll get the correct person in touch with you!

Also at this time of year, each Chapter is beginning to start the voting process for next year's officers. If you are interested in being part of your Board of Directors, let your President know. Chapters are always looking for up-and-coming Board Members. Why not make that "Up-and-Coming Board Member" be YOU?! Most Chapter Presidents are always looking for more Chapter members to help in the every week running of the Chapter. **Help you Chapter: it is very rewarding!**

Just as last year, many of our Chapters will be producing a Holiday Show, or booking caroling outings at many public places. Please help your Chapter Directors and Music Team in the next few months by learning your notes and words! As a director, nothing makes me happier than my Chapter learning their music quickly. This allows the Chorus to get on to the fine-tuning, interpretation, and performance of the music. What we sing doesn't become music until we interpret it and make it sound great. And while you're at it, sign up for a committee to help produce the show! Oh yeah, and SELL TICKETS! I know you'll want your family and friends to attend the show just to see how much fun you really have while you're singing!

Lastly, I want to give a shout out to Papageorge family close friend, Dave Briner (Uncle Dave, to my kids and grand-kids). His arrangement "I Just Found Out About Love" has recently been published by the Society and was sung at the International Convention by International Champions, "Forefront." Check it out on YouTube. It's a great arrangement!

See you all in Fresno!



Dick Whitten

VP Northwest Division

dvp-northwest@farwesterndistrict.org

It is once again time for me to speak to the men of the Northwest Division. We have just finished one of the highlights of our Barbershop year. The International Convention and Contest in Orlando Florida. Our District was well represented this year both in the Quartet Contest and in the Chorus contest with great performances by the Westminster Chorus and the Fog City Chorus as well as The Newfangled Four and Artistic License all finishing in the top ten groups in the world. Congratulations to all from all the Chapters in the Northwest Division. We all appreciate your hard work and dedication to your music.

This month has been quite busy for me with my Chapter entering a director search and the Marin Chapter also in a director search. I visited the Marin Chapter and they informed me they have three candidates and are beginning the audition process. The Chapter held a great meeting with their interim director, and the Chapter officers ran the meeting very well. As for the Santa Rosa Chapter, they have their director until sometime in late October, but he will be leaving then and hopefully they will find a new director before he leaves.

I personally want to congratulate the Walnut Creek Chapter for being awarded Chapter of The Year by the Far Western District. They also won their Plateau at the recent Divisional Convention and Contest. Our own Fog City Singers were the Overall Champions, and the Marin Chapter took the award for Most Improved Chorus in the Division. Well done to all.

At the Summer Far Western Board Meeting, I received a "well done" for the number of Chapters that participated in the Division Convention. The Events Team was extremely happy that nearly all the Chapters in the Northwest and Northeast Divisions were participating in their Convention. Ron Black and I put out a blast to our Divisions and you all responded by registering and coming. I believe that is the way to most

enjoy our hobby. It truly is more fun when everyone comes and is active with all of the people and other Chapters. I know how much fun I had, and hope you all enjoyed the Convention as much as I did.

Till next time ...



Chuck Roots

VP Northeast Division

dvp-northeast@farwesterndistrict.org

This summer has been zipping by at an alarming rate, leaving me virtually breathless! Having spoken to several of you, I'm hearing the same thing. Several of the Choruses in the Northeast Division are in search of a director. My personal theory when selecting a director comes from both personal experience and a basic understanding of human nature. Let me explain . . .

First, have your board draft a job description for what you are looking for in a director. The board may choose to select a committee to do the research for a job description, but make sure you know what you are wanting as a Chorus. You do not want to bring in a director who envisions the Chorus going completely in another direction. You can fracture your Chorus irreparably this way.

Second, as you well know the Barbershop style of singing is utterly unique. There is no other vocal art form like it, that I'm aware of. Thus, it behooves any Chorus search committee to do their homework. Look for a director who is steeped in Barbershop harmony. This means someone who is already established and known within the Barbershop family. Where do you look for such a person? Start with someone already in your Chorus. If they're singing Barbershop weekly, then they are committed to our musical style. Ask each of your guys to write up a brief bio which emphasizes their musical background and training, both vocal and otherwise. You may have someone who is quite capable of stepping into the directorship. If the Chorus does not have someone who is "home-grown," then look at other Choruses to see if there is a potential director among their members.

Third, only as a last resort should you go after

someone not involved in Barbershop. This person may be a local elementary school or high school music teacher, or even a junior college or even a university music instructor. Tread carefully! They may be willing, and have great credentials, but they may not want to stay focused on the Barbershop style. Sooner or later, this individual may shift the focus to more of a contemporary music style, shifting away from what makes Barbershop so special.

Ah, the love of Barbershop singing! That four-part harmony is so rich; and it thrills the soul! But, I guess I'm preaching to the choir. Even during a normal week-night rehearsal when we're all expected to be in our best voice with all the notes and words comfortably memorized (cough!), we are frequently, if not delightfully surprised when we actually ring a few chords.

At our Golden Valley Chorus rehearsal, we start each session by singing "The Old Songs," followed by "My Wild Irish Rose." Why do we do this? Because by singing "The Old Songs" it reminds us of our roots in music which is then emphasized by the classic, "My Wild Irish Rose." Once we're well into Rose, a tenderness in tone and volume has settled in, so that by the time we sing the final phrase leading into the Lead part of "Rose," every other part gently, dare I say tenderly, merges into the final chord creating the sound we all strive for. When that chord rings at the end, it wouldn't be all that out of order to simply say good night, and everyone goes home. Of course, we don't do that, but on those rare occasions when it all comes together, well . . . it's a beautiful thing.

Keep singing, gents!



We are having a hot time here in the Arizona Division....well, at least in most of the Division. Those guys up in the mountains have it good this time of year!

As expected, the International competition was a real "Barn Burner". I am so proud of our local representatives Suit Up! placing 25th in their first International competition. Leading up to the contest they held a "Go for the Gold!" show which was an incredible night of Barbershop and a very successful fundraiser to help offset the extreme travel expenses involved in attending an International competition. The FWD provided Suit Up! with a check for \$1360.80 which I had the honor of presenting to them.

The East Valley Harmonizers, who have been in existence since 1993, will be competing at the District level for only the 3rd time in the Chorus's history, and I know they are very excited! They will be joined by perennial competitors The Phoenicians & the Tucson Barbershop Experience. Division Champions, A Capella Syndicate, have decided to sit it out this year. In addition to the Quartets listed in my previous article that qualified for the District at the Division Contest, congratulations to Saucebox for being offered a spot!

Here in Arizona we are looking forward to the Fred Koch Memorial Bash August 17-19. This is the event that lets us know that fall is almost here and that cooler weather is on the way. It is also the time of year your Chapter should be looking for its next Board. Get those nominations going!

There will be an Arizona-based Leadership Summit January, 12 2019. Different than previous years' Leadership Academy, rather than just being for the incoming executive board, we will be putting more of a focus on building leadership in general. Anyone who wants to improve their leadership skills, even if you have never considered Chapter leadership, may find that it sparks an interest in you. We look forward to seeing you at the Leadership Summit!

Finally, there are many interesting things going on in the Barbershop world today. The place to have your Chorus's voice heard by the Board of Directors is at the HOD meeting. I encourage each Chapter to make sure it is represented!

I hope to see all of you at the FWD competition in Fresno. As always, if there is anything I can do or ideas that I can communicate to the BOD, please do not hesitate to contact me either by e-mail a.kaufman@yahoo.com or on my cell: (516) 770-3743.

We know Barbershop is awesome. Let us share it with the world!

"Don't be afraid to fail, be afraid not to try!"



In my last article I wrote about the FWD leadership team without going into detail about the District Vice Presidents for the five Divisions in our District. I'm talking about these men because they are the communication conduits for all of our leadership team. They have contact with all of our Chapters and report to the president and executive vice president on many issues involving our Chapter members and the Chapter leadership.

Starting with the Arizona Division, the DVP is Adam Kaufman. Adam lives in Mesa, Arizona and sings with the Mesa Chapter. Adam heads up the Chapter Program and Activities for the Chapter. He's been on the FWD Board for one year and looks forward to assisting the Division Chapters whenever requested.

Nick Papageorge is the Southeast DVP. Nick is no stranger to the FWD and has sung in several International Qualifying Quartets, the most notable being The Occidentals. He is on the FWD Production Team and is very active in his Division activities; and he communicates and visits regularly with the Chapters.

Brent Anderson is the Southwest DVP. Brent has been very active in his Division Chapters and has assisted others outside his Division with revitalization and community performances. He too has a long

history of Quartet activity and Chapter leadership; and he can assist any Chapter with promotional ideas pertaining to performances and Chapter survival. Just ask the members of the Bakersfield Chapter about his assistance with their Chapter.

Dick Whitten is the Northwest DVP. Dick has been in the society for many years and has served on the FWD Board in several capacities during his Barbershop tenure. He lives in Santa Rosa, California and communicates with his Chapters on a regular basis. Don't let his quiet manner mislead you; he will respond to your needs when requested and usually has sound advice based on many years of experience.

Chuck Roots is the newest member of the Board and he is the DVP for Northeast. He lives in Ripon and sings with several Chapters in his area. Chuck was a military Chaplain and he has communication skills developed during his military career and as an Ordained Minister. Chuck offers an opportunity for Chapter leaders and members to get feedback based on his varied background. Get to know this man and you'll thank the District for his selection to the Board.

Now you have a very quick overview of our District Vice Presidents for the five Divisions. They are available to respond to your questions and they are the best method of communicating with the FWD leadership team. Try contacting them and get to know your DVPs. You'll be better off and so will your Chapters.

As stated by Thomas Edison: "If we all did the things we are capable of doing, we would literally astound ourselves"

The Barber Shop Emporium logo features a circular emblem at the top with the text "THE WESTERN DISTRICT" and "SPEAKERS" inside. Below the emblem, the text "THE BARBER SHOP" is written in a large, bold, serif font, and "EMPORIUM" is written in a smaller, bold, serif font inside a red banner. The entire logo is set against a white background with a decorative border.

"SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP" AT THE FALL CONVENTION

THE BARBER SHOP
EMPORIUM

Proudly showcasing performers from the
Far Western District
Friday, October 12 & Saturday, October 13
Doubletree Hotel ♦ Fresno, California



Brett Littlefield

VP Contests & Judging

candj@farwesterndistrict.org

Here are the singing orders, drawn by the lovely Mrs. Littlefield, for our choruses and quartets who are competing at the Far Western District Fall Convention in Fresno. There are 20 choruses and 29 quartets competing.

Chorus Competitors: 20

1. Palo Alto - Mountain View, CA - Peninsulaires
2. Central California - Golden Valley Chorus
3. South Bay, CA - Coastliners
4. Bay Area, CA - Voices in Harmony
5. Santa Monica, CA - The Oceanaires
6. La Jolla, CA - Pacific Coast Harmony
7. Santa Cruz, CA - The Gold Standard Chorus
8. Westminster, CA - The Westminster Chorus
9. Barbary Coast, CA - Fog City Singers
10. Inland Empire, CA - Inland Sound
11. San Diego, CA - Sun Harbor
12. Mesa, AZ - East Valley Barbershop Harmonizers
13. Fullerton, CA - Orange Empire Chorus
14. Marin, CA - Marin Golden Gate Barbershop Chorus
15. Rincon Beach, CA - Pacific Sound
16. Brea, CA - Gaslight Chorus
17. Greater Phoenix, AZ - Phoenixians
18. California Delta - Voices of California
19. Stockton, CA - Stockton Portsman
20. Las Vegas, NV - Silver Statesmen

Quartet Competitors: 29

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The Front Line | 11. Elephants Gerald |
| 2. Alternate Route | 12. Syzygy |
| 3. Just4Kix | 13. Argenta |
| 4. Four Fifteen | 14. Some Friends Of Mine |
| 5. Desert Crossing | 15. Tipping the Scale |
| 6. Heatwave | 16. Capitol Ring |
| 7. Dynamix | 17. Western Addition |
| 8. Old Folks | 18. Fortunate Sons |
| 9. Classic Edition | 19. Sauce Box |
| 10. The Artful Codgers | 20. VOX |

21. Velvet Frogs
22. High Priority
23. R.I.C.K.S.
24. Dilly Dilly!
25. Montage

26. Good Times!
27. Seaside
28. Blowin' Off Steam
29. Intonation



Craig Ewing

VP Music & Performance

musicandperf@farwesterndistrict.org

Harmony University... HU... what an amazing week! 600 class choices included, plus private instruction available in arranging, conducting, performing, and voice. Students are encouraged to adjust their schedule if they find a course is too rudimentary or advanced or just not what they find interesting.

The school this year had more music educators as students than ever before. I shared a number of classes with people on the Chorus Director Track, and found that both new and very experienced directors benefited from learning new techniques and the opportunity to regroup in conducting fundamentals. I had the opportunity to meet some FWD directors including Dr. Theresa Dick (a music educator department head who is directing Show Low Arizona), and Michael Vo and Tony Spar from Tucson Arizona. These talented musicians will be bringing some new ideas and excellent skills to our AZ division chapters.

Attending the quartet performance track was VOX with Jon Sutherland (tenor), Matt Ordaz (lead), Vernon Brock (bari) and John Saylor (bass). Look for them at Fresno's fall quartet contest! Having the best acappella coaching in the world had results that were enthusiastically appreciated by the HU Saturday Night Show audience.

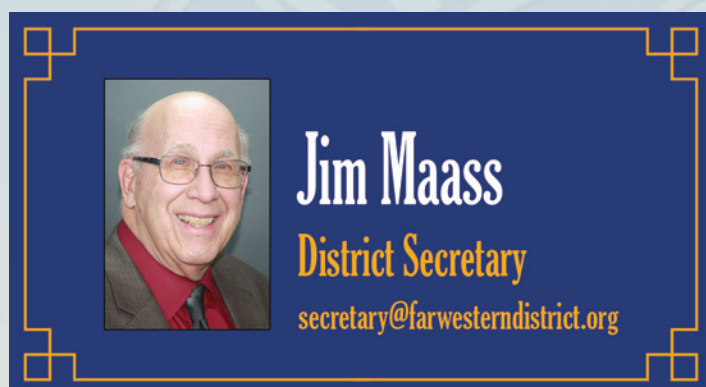
Many students participated in honor choruses. The men's and women's NextGen groups would have been in the top 5 at most district (BHS), area (Harmony Inc), or regional (SAI) chorus contests.

If you've ever been to a Far Western District convention, BHS International event, Harmony University, or barbershop cruise, it is likely that you've sung a tag with the legendary Les Cudworth. He enthusiastically led Barberpole Cat tunes at general sessions. The Har-

mony Marketplace unveiled the “LES IS MORE” t-shirt, presenting Les with the first one. If you’ve sung with Les, you have the button. Now you’ll probably want to get the limited edition shirt honoring this NorCal barbershop ambassador.

Harmony University gets better every year, and should be on your bucket list (if you have attended before – and especially if you have not). I enjoyed one pre-breakfast elective on management that I wish I had been made available to use in my day job. Ending every night with ice cream and tag singing tops off the day!

Hope to see you all in Fresno and feel free to ask me about HU, educational programs available to you, your quartet, and your chorus...of just sing a tag with me.



Chapter Show Clearance Procedures

Hey Guys. Here’s a heads up on some of the details for clearing your chapter shows and keeping your performances “legal”. It’s easy, doesn’t cost much money and needs to be done in a timely manner. The FWD SOP Section 9.2 gives all the requirements in a nutshell. Here it is.

1. **No show clearances are to be granted on District convention weekends, or Divisional Leadership Academy (see Art. XII para 12.3) Harmony Jubilee, Harmony College West or Chorus Director Seminar weekends.**
2. **Show clearance will not be granted on the same date as a chapter’s own division quartet or chorus contest.**

As you begin your show planning process, be sure to check the FWD calendar and be sure the dates you are looking at do not conflict with any of the dates listed in paragraph “a” and “b” above. Here are the specific dates you need to avoid for the next year. Be pro-

active and get this clearance requirement done early in your show planning process.

Mark your calendars of dates you need to avoid:

- **November 3, 2018**--SE/SW Leadership Summit
- **November 17, 2018** -- NE/NW Leadership Summit
- **January 12 2019**-- Arizona Leadership Summit
- **March 21-14, 2019** Spring Prelims & NE/NW Division
- **April 12-13, 2019** Arizona Division
- **May 10-13, 2019** SE/SW Division
- **October 10-13, 2019** FWD Fall Convention

Once you determine your show date, you need to file for a “BMI Show Clearance”. The process is simple. For all the information and forms go to the district website: farwesterndistrict.org. Click on the Media Tab. Look for “Show Clearance Forms”. Two documents are available:

- **IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS for PREPARATION & MAILING** (That’s where you will find my mailing address), and
- **Application for Show Clearance BMI & SESAC License Form.**

Complete the form making sure you sign and date it. Enclose the check made out to BHS and **mail two copies of the form and the check to me.** I will process it within a few days of receipt. It’s that simple.

One final note: Also on the “Important Information...” page is information about your chapter’s responsibility to submit its annual ASCAP clearance document and fees if appropriate. That form goes directly to BHS in Nashville. That’s about it.

Remember, let’s keep our shows “legal”.





David Melville

Marketing & Public Relations
marketing@farwesterndistrict.org

Marketing wisely on a shoe-string budget

This is the third in a series of articles intended to help chapter marketing teams maximize their “bang for the buck”, particularly when faced with a limited budget. Last time we looked at some no-cost ways to get the word out, a.k.a. the “free stuff”. This time, let’s take a look at what should be the backbone of your marketing and branding strategy: your website.

If you don’t yet have a website, there is no better time than now to start. If you do have a website, read on, because there are some things to consider that may make it more effective. I’ll try to make this as non-technical as possible, but that’s not always easy to do, so if you have any trouble absorbing this, please send me an email and we can set up some time to talk on the phone.

First, let’s make it clear that a Facebook page does not replace the need for a website for two simple reasons: 1) not everyone uses Facebook, so if you rely on it exclusively you are limiting yourself to a subset of your potential market; and 2) anything you post to your page has a very short lifespan in a typical user’s timeline before it scrolls off into oblivion. For example, we have around 830 “Likes” on the Far Western District’s Facebook page, and a typical post may reach 150-200, meaning it appears in their timeline; from that we typically have 10-20% engagement, i.e., clicks to read the post. Those are not terribly good odds, and so while Facebook is a good and free supplement, it should not be your only iron in the fire. A better approach is to use your Facebook page as a means of drawing people to your website where you can present the full pitch of “who, what, where, when, why, and how” in a clean and concise manner, where you have full control of

how it is presented.

If the reason you don’t have a website is because you think, “I’m not a programmer”, or “I don’t know HTML” then relax because nowadays there are tools that make it as easy as creating a Word document. With a little practice, you’ll get the hang of it in no time, and you will be pleased with the results.

Domain name

When planning a website, the first thing to consider is your domain name, as this is your initial “branding” to get people to visit your site. A domain name is a unique name that identifies both you and your website. It is case insensitive; so don’t worry about upper and lower case. A good candidate is the name of your chorus or quartet, followed by a suffix.

Common suffixes include “.com”, “.org”, and “.net”. It really doesn’t matter which suffix you choose, but I personally prefer “.org” since we are an organization, not a commercial business. Keep in mind that domain names are cheap, so you may want to consider getting all three as a way of securing your identity (more on that later).

Keep in mind that the domain name **MUST** be unique, so find out if that name is available. There are a number of tools to do this, and you can find them by searching for “domain name search tools”. If you find that the name is already taken, then try adding hyphens (musicmakers.org -> music-makers.org) or appending “chorus” or “quartet” to the name (musicmakers.org -> musicmakerschorus.org) and search again.

Unfortunately there are some “scalpers” that will buy up domain names by the score and then try to sell them at a premium price. I’ve seen some popular names that are available for a “mere” \$20,000.00! A typical name is in the \$10-15 range, so forget that and keep searching.

Web hosting

Once you have identified your domain name, it’s time to shop around for a web-hosting provider. There are hundreds to choose from, and besides price, here are some things to consider.

Storage

For most small and medium web sites, several gigabytes should be plenty of storage. Some hosts may offer “unlimited storage”. *Caveat emptor!* Read the

fine print!

Bandwidth

Bandwidth is the amount of data that your host will let you and your visitors upload and download (cumulatively) in a given month. Some hosts offer “unlimited bandwidth”; again, read the fine print.

Subdomains

If you’re just starting out, you’ll likely begin with a single, public facing website. But maybe later on you’ll want to add a “members only” site, or one to sell show tickets or merchandise. These are often done using what is known as a subdomain, which is actually a separate website that resides in a subfolder.

Database

Today’s websites store their content in a database, usually MySQL, so make sure the web host offers that feature. You’ll need a separate database for each subdomain, so also consider the number of databases they provide in the hosting plan.

Email

Do they offer email accounts or forwarding options? These are very useful for providing consistent email addresses for your group, particularly your chapter officers, *e.g.*, *president@mychapter.org*.

Tech Support

Find out when, where, and how you can get support when you need it, and well as the response time you can expect. Stay away from hosts that only offer support through a web-based “ticketing” system; 24x7 phone support is the best option.

Site Backup

Stuff happens. Your web host should offer AUTOMATED, daily backup of your website files and databases. If they do not, keep looking.

Website Security

Although less common, websites can get attacked by malicious activity, similar to a virus getting on to your computer. Your web host should offer both detection and correction as a service.

Building your website

Many hosts now offer “website builders” that profess to have your website up and running in a matter

of minutes. While that may be somewhat true, I’ve looked at several offerings, and can advise that you’ll wind up with a very basic website that you’ll quickly find does not serve your needs going forward.

A better solution is to start from the beginning using something called a Content Management System (CMS). A CMS helps you to manage the creation and modification of your website and – best of all -- it allows multiple users to work together in collaboration. In other words, you provide the guys in your chapter with a tool that uses a template for a common look and feel, and they become responsible for the content. It’s really a win-win, because your chapter leaders can easily create and edit their own articles, maintain the calendar, and much more without needing to come to you every time.

The three most popular CMS are WordPress, Joomla, and Drupal. All three are open source and free to use. WordPress is by far the most popular and is a good fit for most chapter or quartet websites; it’s also considered to be the easiest to learn. Next up is Joomla, which is a little more complex in terms of setup, but offers greater flexibility while still being very easy for your users to manage content. Drupal is technically the most advanced, but also requires a good deal of technical expertise and programming skills; it’s probably not a good choice unless you’re a seasoned programmer.

Your web host should at the very least offer WordPress and/or Joomla, and they should also offer a super-easy installer for your CMS of choice.

Securing your website with SSL

Nowadays we need to consider protecting our information as well as the visitors to our website. Although there is an additional cost involved, the solution to this is to protect your website using something called Secured Socket layer (SSL).

In layman’s terms, when you have SSL, the stream of data that travels between the web server and the web browser on the visitor’s computer is heavily encrypted (scrambled), making it virtually impossible for malicious programs to capture any information. A website secured with SSL has an address starting with “https”; an unsecured website starts with “http”. If you are selling any products your website, it is ESSENTIAL to have SSL enabled. It’s also a strongly advisable to use SSL anywhere you allow people to log in, such as your “members only” site.

For sites that are public facing, with no log-in capability, having SSL is still optional; however, be advised that in July 2018, Google rolled out an update to its "Chrome" browser – which currently has 62% market share, followed by Internet Explorer with only 12% -- which will display a big, new **Not Secure** warning next to your domain name in the address bar if it is not secured with HTTPS. Moreover, back in 2014 Google confirmed that their search engine – which currently holds 91% market share, followed by Bing with 3% -- scores a higher search engine ranking for websites having HTTPS than those who do not.

If this sounds like Google is driving the technology, you're absolutely correct. But it seems like every other day you read about some web site getting hacked, or personal information getting compromised, and so they are absolutely correct in moving this forward. The Internet is an amazing resource in terms of marketing, and it allows us to do some great things at a fraction of the cost, but we need to also make sure it is a secure and safe place for our members and our visitors.

Wrapping things up

We've covered a lot of territory this time, and if your head is spinning I again apologize if this was too technical. So let me close this installment by repeating that I am here as a resource to help you, and encourage you to contact me if you would like further assistance.



Continuously moving forward with an extended plan, I'm pleased to announce that our Fall Convention dates and venues are secured through 2024, and dates for Spring Prelims and Divisional Conventions are cleared through 2022. Locations for the 2019 Spring events have been secured for the Spring Prelims, NE/NW Divisions, and SE/SW Division, with a signed contract for the Arizona Division event expected soon.

Mark your calendars for the following:

FALL CONVENTIONS

- **Oct. 11-14, 2018**, Fresno, CA, William Saroyan Theater
- **Oct. 10-13 2019**, Sacramento, CA, Sacramento Memorial Auditorium
- **Oct. 08-11, 2020**, Bakersfield, CA, Rabobank Convention Center
- **Oct. 14-17, 2021**, Mesa, AZ, Mesa Arts Center - Ikeda Theater
- **Oct. 13-16, 2022**, Fresno, CA, William Saroyan Theater
- **Oct. 12-15, 2023**, Bakersfield, CA, Rabobank Convention Center
- **Oct. 17-20, 2024**, Sacramento, CA, Sacramento Memorial Auditorium

SPRING and DIVISIONAL CONVENTIONS

- **March 21-24, 2019**, Spring Prelims, NE/NW Divisions, Mamie Starr Performing Arts Center, Stockton, CA
- **April 12-13, 2019**, Arizona Division, venue contract in negotiation
- **May 10-11, 2019**, SE/SW Divisions, Colony HS Theater, Ontario, CA
- **March 19-22, 2020**, Spring Prelims, SE/SW Divisions
- **April 17-18, 2020**, Arizona Division
- **May 15-16, 2020**, NE/NW Divisions
- **March 11-14, 2021**, Spring Prelims, NE/NW Divisions
- **April 23-24, 2021**, Arizona Division
- **April 30-May 1, 2021**, SE/SW Divisions
- **March 10-13, 2022**, Spring Prelims, SE/SW Divisions
- **April 8-9, 2022**, Arizona Division
- **May 13-14, 2022**, NE/NW Divisions



Bill Kane

Quartet Activities

quartetactivities@farwesterndistrict.org

Orlando Observations

You may have been lucky enough (as I was at a webcast party of the Orlando finals), to see Quartet singing at its highest level. Congratulations to *New Fangled Four* and *Artistic License* who made FWD very proud with their Top Ten finishes. We were especially proud of our AZ guys (FWD Champ *Suit Up*), who finished #25 in their very first International contest.

And boy, were we proud of our only International Champ from Arizona!

Yes, it was the 50-year anniversary of the Western Continentals. Although Phil Foote had passed away this last year, the other three were all at Orlando to be honored, along with their supportive families. It is really true their coach advised them not to go compete in the FWD contest back in the early 60s because they were "not ready", and then they went and won the District Contest anyway! Guess they found a new coach after that.



(L to R) Lead Ted Bradshaw, Tenor Al Mau and Bari Paul Graham

Al says about the experience, "It was a good convention at a great venue. It brought back many memories and it was wonderful to see old friends."

With BHS now accepting women into membership,

it was just a coincidence that the Harmony Platoon Champs in Orlando consisted of two men and two women. Congratulations to the Champs named *I Don't Care* from West Virginia, Alabama and Washington, who sang *Jeepers Creepers* to win.



(Left to right: Don, Freddy, Janine, Pat)

Tenor Don Russell (AL) - Athens - (DIX)

Bass Freddy Walkover (WV) - Greater Kanawha Valley and Huntington Tri-State (JAD)

Lead Janine Roberts (WA) - Lions Gate (SAI Region 13) and Pacific Edge (MBHA)

Bari Pat Larre (WA) - Lions Gate (SAI Region 13) and Pacific Edge (NBHA)

Speaking of Platoons, the four great old Barbershop classics they sang in Orlando Platoon can be yours this fall since we'll repeat them at FWD Fall Convention in Fresno. You've still got time to learn them, but I'll bet you know at least one already . . . remember the *Pacificaires* singing *It's A Good Day*? How about 1970 International Champ *Oriole Four* singing *Jeepers Creepers*, or *Suntones* doing *Chordbuster's March*. If you sang them in Orlando, please come to Fresno and join us at no extra charge. For most of us, it's only \$20 bucks for a chance to sing these songs for a day prior to start of the FWD Fall Convention. Just register for Platoon when you get your convention registration, or go to our website: HarmonyPlatoon.org.



LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT

Plan now to attend the Far Western District Leadership Summit being held in your area:

- **SoCal - November 3, 2018**
- **NorCal - November 17, 2018**
- **Arizona - January 12, 2019**

The **NEW** Far Western District Leadership Summit is more than just a new name for the same old classes; Leadership Summit is meant to train our members to be "leaders". It's a course track for all who are interested in developing themselves so that their individual actions can inspire others to be more and learn more so that all can continue to sing.

Leadership comes in all shapes and sizes, including from our experienced individuals and possibly less experienced! The Leadership Summit is dedicated to developing your personal and group leadership, whether that be in your chapter, your chorus, your quartet, or even just your day-to-day life.

Registration begins in September
events.farwesternndistrict.org



Looking for My Tribe and Your support

I am so excited for the opportunity to serve as the Youth in Harmony District chairman. There is a lot to do and all of it is for a good cause.

To be successful I have Identified 2 things that we must do. First I need to identify those in the district who have the heart of a child and want to play in the Youth in Harmony Sandbox (My Tribe), and secondly we need to have resources to do all the crazy and fun things we decide to do.

If you love Youth Outreach and want to help Youth throughout our District and your area excel on their musical journey and find the joy of ringing chords and changing their life for the better, then I need to hear from you. **Contact Me** through the District website. <https://farwesterndistrict.org>, click on the "ABOUT" tab and then go to the "District Officers" tab. I'm all the way at the bottom, then click on my name STEVE SALMON and type away. Please share what Chapter and division you are in, and your desire to help. I hope to have a strong presence in each of our divisions.

Now the funding- There are so many options here hopefully I can be brief.

Option one is the **Harmony Foundation**. We all know the success of these programs for our District and Society. If you choose for all or any portion of your 30% to return to the District, outreach activities do receive a portion of those funds. For more info to donating to the Harmony Foundation look here. <https://harmonyfoundation.org/ways-to-give/>

Option two is more local. We have the **YOUTH HARMONY CAMP** in Pollock Pines, CA. If you don't know about this camp, please take the time to find out. <https://farwesterndistrict.org/yih/welcome>

The camp has been running for over 15 years. For

many people this is a real labor of love and blessing given to Thousands of Young men. Though located in the northern portion of our district boys from all over have benefited from this camp. The camp is supported long term by the

Lloyd Steinkamp Endowment Fund for FWD Harmony Camps

Please learn about this opportunity which currently has a **DOUBLE MATCH** program that you can learn more about on line. If you can please donate to this local Endowment Fund.

<https://farwesterndistrict.org/news/district/204-double-match-challenge>

Option three is the closest to home, our own operating funds. The above Foundation and endowment are deserving of our support, but do not make funds readily available to support immediate current outreach programs. Our District budget is set up to receive individual donations from Chapters, Quartets, and Individuals who would like to make immediate funds available for Youth Outreach. With President Hughes approval I am asking each chapter when they meet for Chapter meetings the first week in November to **Pass the Hat for Youth Outreach**. This will generate some immediate and much needed funding to support the Youth Outreach program in our District. I hope each chapter will support this initiative, so we can start sharing the JOY of Harmony with the Youth of our District.

Finally, I will have a table in the Lobby at our Fall Convention and hope to meet many of the Youth in our District as well as YOU of the Youth in Harmony Tribe. Please say Hello and leave me with your contact information.

Steve Salmon

FWD Youth in Harmony Chairman



2018 International Next Generation Quartet Contest
14th Place Thunderbolt!

A **FREE** Barbershop Harmony Workshop for Students

CREATING A BETTER WORLD THROUGH HARMONY

ALL-DAY WORKSHOP
+ EVENING SHOW!

YOUTH **SAN DIEGO** Harmony Day



Saturday, November 10TH, 2018

Lewis Middle School / 5170 Greenbrier Ave. / San Diego, CA

Check In: 9:00 AM / Evening Performance: 7:00 - 8:30 PM



TEACHING QUARTETS



FOURTUNATE SONS

SOLO VOCE



CLINICIANS

Kathleen Hansen

*Master Director
San Diego Chorus*

Royce Ferguson

*Director
Pacific Coast
Harmony*

Contact your choir or music teacher even if you are not in choir. Register as a group or individual online at:

YouthHarmonySD.com/workshops.html



Introducing new members of the the District Leadership Team

Jeremy Loper

Member Recruitment & Education



Jeremy Loper has accepted the position of Chair of the Member Recruitment & Education Team. He brings the fresh ideas and enthusiasm we need to build membership in our new environment.

Jeremy has been a proud member of the Far Western District for the past 20 years. He started off in the California Promise Chorus based out of Irvine when he was 14, and spent the first five years of his time in the Society there. Since then he has had the honor of crossing the stage with his brothers from the Masters of Harmony and the Westminster Chorus. His wife, Lara, is also enjoying our craft as a member of the Sweet Adelines Harborlites Chorus for the past 3 years, and is a member of their board of directors.

In his own words, "I am grateful for the brotherhood and lessons I have received since the day I joined the Society. The hobby is my passion and I love to share that gift with others. I am proud to be joining the FWD team in order to help the district grow and thrive. I look forward to working with everyone, and I invite people to reach out so that we can work to grow the FWD together."

Dr. Roe Darnell

Financial Development

Roe Darnell has accepted the position of Chair of our Financial Development Team. It is a very important role, especially with the two Endowment Plans in place to support our Outreach, and we are lucky to have Roe in the District.

Roe Darnell retired from the Yosemite Community College District in 2010 af-



ter 43 years in education and served as President and Chancellor of four community colleges for 33 years. He graduated from the University of LaVerne with an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership with an emphasis on organizational development.

Roe joined the Central Valley Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, singing lead, in 2011 and has served as President of the chapter for the past 5 years. As a young man Roe sang in the Darnell Family Quartet, an A Capella gospel quartet. He also experienced the joy of singing in college and church choirs.

Dan Jordan

FWD Historian



As a long-time collector and preserver of District and Society memorabilia, it seems only natural that Dan Jordan accept the role of FWD Historian.

Dan is a 44-year member of the Society, an International Quartet Champion, 4-time International Bronze Medalist, and 2-time FWD Quartet Champion. He was co-founder of the AFWDC, a former Stage Presence Judge, and has served on the FWD Leadership Team on several occasions.

Dan is an avid quartet man, and over the years he has sung with: The Grand Tradition, Dapper Dans of Disneyland, The New Tradition, Nightlife, The 139th Street Quartet, ¡The Amigos!, Hot Pipes, The Perfect Gentlemen, and Hi-Fidelity. He currently is lead of The Hillbilly Barbers (184).

Dan works for the Security Protection Group at Warner Bros Studios for the Conan O'Brien show. Additionally he supplies talent to cruise lines, casinos, and private and celebrity gatherings.

WELCOME ABOARD!



Arizona Division

Bob Shaffer • Division Editor

Central Arizona Chapter

By Bill Kane

The chapter hasn't met much since the Division Convention in April, but we did have an excellent contingent at the Harmony Platoon that weekend in Mesa at the Holiday Inn. Congrats to two of our members who were crowned champs at that "fun" competition: Tenor **Adam Kaufman** and Bass **Bill Kane** (along with Bryan Thompson from Mesa and Frank Hartline of Tucson). Rehearsals began in May for those participating in Harmony Brigades over the summer, and the Harmony Platoon in Fresno in October.

We are going to have a VLQ entered in the AZ Summer Bash weekend contests. We expect to win (of course), however, we'll report on our success next time.

Mesa Chapter

By Ray Aalvik

The **East Valley Harmonizers** added three new members this quarter. New member **Bob Flannagan** (Bass), dual member **Chaz Chesser** (Bass), and transfer **Dale Hobein** (Baritone). **Bob Shaffer** received his 4th Man of Note award for introducing Bob Flannagan to Barbershopping. Summertime attendance has the usual challenges with vacations and the heat, but we have many new

visitors and expect to be at about 50 on the risers come fall.

We hosted the Arizona Division Contest and Convention in Mesa, AZ. The contest was well attended by six choruses and nine quartets including two Out-of-Division Quartets. Over 300 folks enjoyed the entertainment by these competitors.

The Harmonizers are proud to be sending the following Quartets to the FWD Fall Contest in Fresno in October: **Montage** (**Greg Grace, James Souhan, Shreyas Amin, Cary Burns**) and **Saucebox** (**Randy Bingel, Adam Kaufman, Bob Shaffer, Don Koehnlein**). The **East Valley Harmonizers Chorus** also qualified for the Chorus Contest and will be making their first appearance at the Fall Contest in almost a decade.

If you find yourself in the Phoenix area on a Thursday night, please drop in and sing with us at St Mark's Episcopal Church, 322 N Horne, Mesa, AZ 85203 at 7:00 to 10:00 PM. Come and have some fun Chorus singing with **Russ Young** and some Quartet singing, followed by an afterglow.

Prescott Chapter

By Sam Stimple

Several Arizona Barbershoppers met at Mesa High School for our Divisional Convention and Contests on April 14. **Tommy Keenan** and

Ed Massa were part of the Platoon activities. **Antique Parts** Quartet competed and were declared (for the second time), Division Senior Champs and **FWD Super Senior Champions**. **Western Connection** Quartet's initial appearance was wildly applauded by the audience. **The High Mountain Chordsmen** Chorus earned Most Improved Chorus award with these two songs: "It's You" and "I'll Be a Song and Dance Man Again."

On April 20 **Antique Parts** sang during a memorial service for our late Barbershop brother **Dr. Bob Henderson**. In May the Quartet also entertained at the Prescott Valley Adult Care Center, the Smoki Museum, and Prescott Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. **The High Mountain Chordsmen** presented three patriotic songs during the Citizens' Cemetery outdoor Memorial Day program.

The Chorus was invited to the 'umpteenth' Father's Day celebration at the Arizona Pioneers' Home and gifted the audience with a 40-minute program of song and fun. The following Tuesday, twenty Chapter members drove to Cottonwood for an inter-Chapter visitation with the Sedona **Harmony On the Rocks** Chorus and the **Verde Valley Voices**.

Salt River Valley Chapter

By Eric Bjornsen

Now in its fourth year, **A Cappella Syndicate** endeavors to change people's lives for the better through a cappella music.

In April 2018, the **Syndicate** won the Arizona Division Contest, retaining top Arizona honors. Our own **Heat Wave** Quartet advanced to the District competition.

May brought two of our favorite coaches to town for a vocal workshop. Vocal coach **Debra Lynn** shared her skill with the Chorus and through individual sessions, continued to move the group toward a unified sound with optimal placement and resonance. Performance coach **Theresa Weatherby** also continued to provide her expertise in that workshop, as well as in other sessions. We are so grateful for these excellent coaches.

Current director of the **Sound of the Rockies** Chorus **Mark Hale** also shared his talents with our ensemble and continued to assist in the **Syndicate's** goal of unified singing. The **Syndicate** also performed before private audiences, and began preparations for upcoming performances in the Christmas Season.

The **Syndicate** was proud to host a *Go for the Gold* event, in honor of **Suit Up!** Quartet, who was invited to compete at this year's BHS International Convention and Quartet Competition in Orlando, Florida. Our own **Brent Graham** sings Baritone in the group. The *Go for the Gold* event was well-attended with fans from around the Phoenix Metro Area, who were entertained by various Quartets and of course, **Suit Up!** Placing 25th overall at the International

event, with a score of 81.0, **Suit Up!** represented Arizona and the Far Western District very well.

Syndicate musical leadership continues to be in demand by the Society; Artistic Directors **Gary Steinkamp** and **Brent Graham** are also active BHS judges.

Sedona Chapter

By Michael McCaffrey

What do Ludwig Beethoven, Robert Schumann, Felix Mendelssohn and **Harmony on the Rocks** have in common? **HOTR** entertained an enthusiastic audience at the intermission of the 18th season of the Verde Valley Sinfonietta in May. Singing in the lobby of the Sedona Performing Arts Center, which had wonderful acoustic resonance, the Chorus wowed a spellbound "standing room only" crowd at the break. We hope this leads to future collaborations.

The **Harmony on the Rocks** Chorus participated in a History of Barbershop seminar put on by the Verde Valley Voices under the leadership of Joy Simons. Joy shared musical selections and the history of the formation of Barbershop from the early days then turned it over to guest Barbershoppers from the Sedona Chapter as well as the Prescott Chapter's High Mountain Chordsmen, to regale the audience in the packed room to dual mini concerts.

Harmony on the Rocks also engaged in a community outreach singout at the Montessori School in Cottonwood Arizona and even had one of the students sing along with Wild Irish Rose.

Finally, as the program for our November show is further fleshed out, we have secured the musical

talents of Phoenix Chapter's **Intonation** as our guest Quartet.

Tucson Chapter

By Frank Hartline

The **Tucson Sunshine Chapter** has hunkered down for the summer as our snowbirds sought cooler climes and some members decided to take a break - promising to return for the Fall season. Our hard-core ensemble of 20 Barbershop singers, however, bravely met weekly to ring some chords, learn some new songs and perform in local churches. Experienced and talented Barbershopper **Ken Sylvia** has been reminding us of the need for vowel matching and core breathing, and we are coordinating for coaches for the fall. Our two assistant directors, **Mike Vo** and **Tony Spar**, went to Harmony University to become certified Barbershop directors, while **Gil Storms** continues to keep us focused on the straight and narrow in preparing for our Christmas and Annual Shows. Chorus Manager **Wes Kraus** and Directors **Mike Vo** and **Tony Spar** laid out a good schedule of performances through the April 12-13 AZ Convention.

We performed Memorial Day for the Tucson Estates west of Tucson and are preparing for a joint concert with the talented Sweet Adeline's **Tucson Desert Harmony** (TDH) Chorus on Sep 23. We are again planning a Youth in Harmony Festival with TDH for Sep 15 at Rincon/University High School, under **Ron and Annie Hayes'** leadership.

White Mountains Chapter

By Doc Dockendorf

We spent the second quarter welcoming, and getting used to,

our new Director, **Dr. Theresa Dick**, as she worked on our 2018 show music in preparation for our Annual Show, **Happy Trails II You**, a revisiting of our 2005 Western show, **Happy Trails**. The show was held at our local Show Low District Auditorium on July 14. We have added two songs to the program, *Riders In the Sky*, and *If They String Me Up, I'll Never Live It Down*, both challenging songs, but songs that will add a lot to the

program. We have booked **Second Wind** as our headliner Quartet. They finished second in the **RMD District Competition** and qualified for the International Competition in Orlando this year. Additionally, we were able to also book a Sweet Adeline Quartet called **One Voice**, who were two-time Region SA Champions.

Chapter Quartets are working on the songs they will be singing on the show, **Ponderosa Pines**, *Cool*

Water, Spectrum, Along the Navajo Trail, and **Pine Trails**, *Yona From Arizona*.

New singers that have joined the High Country Chorus are **Ryan Carmichael** (Tenor), **Gavin Bailey** (Lead), **Stefan Bailey** (Lead), **Ken Fitschen** (Baritone), **Jeff Walker** (Lead), and **Keith Napier** (Bass). Welcome to you all, and hear's hoping that you will enjoy Barbershopping as much as us old timers do.



California Delta Chapter

By Jim DeChaine

Our **Artistic License** Quartet represented us at the Far Western District at the BHS International Convention in July by placing 9th with a score of 86.5. They were one of two Quartets from the FWD to be in the top 10, the other being **The New Fangled Four** in 6th place with a score of 88.6.

VoCal added an additional two new members during this past quarter: **Charles "Chuck" Thurman** from Stockton and **Frank Brannon** from Granite Bay.

We congratulate our member **Charles "Chuck" Roots**, who has assumed the position as **Vice President** for the **Northeast Division of the Far Western District Board of Directors**, replacing **Ron Black** who has relocated to the Fort Collins, Colorado area. Chuck is a 28-year Barbershopper, and

currently a dual member with the Central California Chapter.

VoCal is focusing on defining and reinforcing what we call the **"VoCal Sound"** in preparation for our Milestone Performance – **The Far Western District Contest** on October 13 in Fresno!

"New Home" for VoCal. We have now established a new "permanent" meeting facility, at the Adventure Christian Church, located at 1500 N. Market Blvd., Sacramento on Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. Stop by and pay us a visit! Thanks to **Richard Lund** for locating this new building.

Speaking of **Richard Lund**, he is responsible for organizing the Harmony Camp again this year from September 21-28 at the Sky Park Education Center in Pollock Pines, CA. We have four clinicians: **Gabe Caretto** (dean), **Ron Black**, **Chris Lewis** and **James Estes**. Forty-

five volunteers are lined up to assist us for the weekend. Funds are still needed for the camp. If any of you can donate to help make this the best youth camp ever, please contact Richard Lund at 530-306-8460. These camps don't just happen by themselves. Our immediate operational needs for Harmony Camp 2018 and the Steinkamp Endowment Fund for FWD Harmony Camps, which will provide funding long-term for camps in the future, could use your help!

Central California Chapter

By Miles Sutter

"The Melody Lingers On"...but the memories will last FOREVER! Thank you, **Marc Jantzen**, for putting together what I consider our best show ever! Twenty-one GVC members singing eleven Irving Berlin songs made a very favorable

impression on our audience, **Dan Warschauer's** silhouette of Irving Berlin was fantastic, and MC **Dave Cooper** told the life story of Irving Berlin. **Greg Pyatt**, our soloist for the show, accompanied on the piano by **Yvonne Thompson**, sang three Berlin songs. Our lone Barbershop Quartet was **The Canal Boys** from Turlock High School. Our featured entertainment, **The Creole Jazz Kings**, provided just enough diversity to want to hear more!

"I WANT YOU TO KNOW HOW MUCH WE ALL APPRECIATE YOU PERFORMING FOR US. IT'S SOMETHING WE ALL LOOK FORWARD TO!"

This was said to me after our performance on Tuesday evening (June 26) by one of the residents of Covenant Village. Many members of the Chorus were conversing with the audience as we were leaving, and I'm sure they were receiving thank-yous, as well. Performing at Covenant Village is like 'Home Coming Week' due to the many times we have been there over the years. We performed our Irving Berlin package, 11 songs in all, much to the delight of our audience. Also performing was our Quartet **R.I.C.K.S. Chuck Roots** was our MC.

Folsom Chapter

By Doug Vestal

The Folsom Harmony Express performed at the Granite Bay Eskaton. We did our Campout show once again and it was well received by over 30 of the residents. Two Chapter Quartets sang for them, the **Denny's Four** and the **Atria Quartet**. After singing his solo on the song **Ghost Riders In the Sky**, **Roger Perkins** did his rope spinning

routine, jumping in and out. This is something he has been doing since he was 10 years old.

Nevada Placer Chapter

By Roger Perkins

The **Sierranaders** held their annual **Somewhat Serious Quartet Contest and Bean Feed** on June 12. This was founded in 1990 by our former Membership VP, the late **John Gurule** and has been quite successful for the past 28 years. We had very good attendance this year with about 80 people from surrounding Chapters including Placerville, the Capitolaire, Stockton, Central Valley and Voices of California. **VoCal** had the best attendance with 28 members. Our MC was **Richard Lund** once again and the judges were **The Atria Quartet (Roger Perkins, Kent Borrowdale, Ken Potter, Doug Vestal)**. There were 21 Quartet entries this year. At the end of the contest we had entertainment by a new mixed chorus, the **Soundbites** under the direction of **Kent Borrowdale**. This was followed by the NE Division Champions, **Capitol Ring (Dallas Halverson, Larry Halverson, Kevin Palmer, Mike Stewart)**. The winning Quartet was **SMASH [Tim Martin, Dallas Halverson, Kevin Palmer, Richard Lund]**. The **Tinhorns** took second place and **Note Tonight Dear** was third.

Stockton Chapter

By Ben Buckman

We are thrilled to be 1 of 25 Choruses to be invited to compete in the 2018 Far Western District Competition that will be held in Fresno, CA in October. We plan to step up our game to get better vocal and performance judging

scores. We now have vocal warm ups, section leaders, a music team, and a music schedule every week.

The Chorus performed at Stockton Ports games, Lodi & Tracy Street Fairs. On Memorial Day we sang patriotic songs at the Cherokee Memorial Park and later that evening sang the National Anthem at a Stockton Ports game 7th inning stretch. We had our 2nd guest night of the year with at least 10 guests in attendance.

We recently lost a dear friend and Chapter member, **Bill Relf**. His funeral service on June 12 was well attended with a great turnout by friends, family and our Stockton Chapter. We sang in his honor, and the **For Get Me Notes** did a stirring rendition of one of Bill's favorite songs, **PIG**. Thanks, Bill, for the memories.

The Chapter now owns a projector that has been a great addition to our practices. We had a very good Chapter turnout June 12 at the annual **Bean Feed** in Auburn. When I first became president, one of my main goals was to see the Chapter double in size during my time in office. We are now on a growing spurt with lots of new faces at practice and welcomed four new members. Maybe my dream might happen after all.

The Barbershop Harmony Society agreed it is time for our ladies to become full fledged members. This means that as of January 1, 2019 our ladies will have all the Barbershop rights that we as guys have, including being elected officers. Our Barbershop Harmony Society motto is now: "Harmony for All".



Northwest Division

Don Shively • Division Editor



Marin Chapter By Paul Goldsmith



Deborah Benedict is thrilled to become the new director for the **Marin Barbershop Chorus**! She has dedicated her life to singing, first as a trained opera singer (Santa Fe Opera Apprentice, New England Conservatory graduate with a Master's in voice, and roles with companies across the US.) In addition, she has had an active teaching schedule, teaching voice, opera workshops and musical theater workshops at UC Berkeley, San Francisco State University and Dominican University. She is the choral contractor for Skywalker Ranch, singing in and assembling choruses for videos and movies. Deborah has also been the musical director at Saint Patrick's Church in Larkspur, CA for the past

10 years, and conductor of the Rodef Sholom Choir for the High Holy Days at the Marin Civic Center for the past 15 years. It is with great enthusiasm that she looks forward to continuing the singing tradition of Marin Barbershop Chorus.

Palo Alto/Mountain View Chapter By Larry Valencia

The Peninsulaires Chorus Musical Director, **Dr. Sean Abel**, has returned from a trip back East where he received his well-earned **Doctorate of Musical Arts in Music Education**. The event was held on May 20, 2018 at Boston University – at the College of Fine Arts Convocation. Congratulations and welcome back **Doctor Abel**!

Our annual free Vocal Clinic, coordinated by **Jerry Wong**, was a great success. Thank you to our guest vocal instructors, **Chris Lewis – Fog City Singers, Curtis Mannah – Voices in Harmony, Paul Eastman – The Peninsulaires**, and **Dr. Sean Abel – The Peninsulaires**. We had 57 registered men and women who attended our Thursday rehearsals from May 17, 2018 through to our Open House "graduation" and performance on June 28, 2018. Twenty-seven dedicated students were presented with their Diplomas and they joined the visiting Sweet Adelines – **Mission Valley Chorus** and **The Peninsulaires Chorus** on

the risers for an 8-part arrangement of **Do You Hear the People Sing**. Two men who graduated from our Vocal Clinic joined the Chorus. Welcome aboard to official candidates **Jacob "Jake" McEvoy** (Baritone) and **Jianling "Jay" Zhang** (Tenor)!

On July 17, **Peninsulaires** members, family, and friends gathered at the Sunnyvale Elks Lodge for our summertime BBQ and Potluck, prepared by **Dr. Sean**. One of the highlights of this afternoon was when we all got together to sing (belch, Lol) a few tunes for our guests. Singing on a full belly... what fun! Our thanks to **Terry Blumenthal** for making his lodge available for this event and to **Chapter President, Jim Sherman** & his wife **Jane** for bringing it all together.

San Mateo County Chapter By Tom Addison

The Faultline Chorus had many summer performances arranged including the **San Mateo County Fair, Burlingame Art on the Avenue, the Millbrae Labor Day Festival**, and the **All Saints Church Festival in Hayward**.

Director **Cort Bender** has us hard at work learning new songs for our upcoming show **Jukebox Saturday Night** featuring songs from Doo Wop to Motown.

Several members attended the **International Convention**

in Orlando, Florida, to cheer on our brothers from **Westminster** and **Barbary Coast Chapters** who finished second and seventh respectively. **Owen Doyle**, and yours truly then went on to the **Caribbean Gold Barbershop Cruise** on the Oasis of the Seas where we enjoyed

the company of the **Gas House Gang** (celebrating the 25th anniversary of their International Championship), **Crossroads, Vocal Spectrum, Mixed Metafour**, and **The Buzz**. All of these Championship Quartets performed multiple times on the cruise, and had time for every one

of the 250 fellow Barbershoppers on the cruise to get the opportunity to **"Sing with the Champs."** True to the new **BHS** motto, **"Everyone in Harmony"**, many women sang with the male champs for a truly fun and interesting week.



El Cajon Chapter **By Paul Schmidt**

Unfortunately, we must share two items of sad news from the Music Masters family. Linda, wife of our director, **Tom Anderson**, recently lost her brave decades-long battle with Ataxia. In happier days, Linda had been a very active member of the San Diego Chorus of Sweet Adelines and had shared her considerable presentation skills with our Chorus. We were also shocked to learn of the recent death of **Joe Perry** in an auto accident. Joe was a longtime Lead in our Chorus who generously spent time and effort to learn the Tenor part when there were times we were without a Tenor section. He had retired to Hemet, CA and we understand was driving home from a Temecula Chapter meeting when the incident occurred.

We have been performing regularly, receiving good reviews and invitations to return soon. Our numbers are growing with the addition of **Larry Good**, Lead and

Mike Mullert, Tenor, dual members, father and son **Emilio** and **Angel Ozuna**, Leads and **Brad Sullivan**, Baritone. In these days of shrinking Society membership, we are happy to be experiencing this growth and the confirmation that we are headed in the right direction.

Inland Empire Chapter **BY Gaylord Spence**

Our Chapter conducted our annual summer show at Sun Lakes Country Club in Banning. We have been hosting this show at about the same time period (the third Sunday in August) since 2011. We are fortunate to have acquired the use of this great facility but it all wouldn't have happened without the sponsorship of the Chorale of Lakes, in which six of our members also perform. The ballroom in which we host our shows is an extremely busy venue but, due to the help of the Chorale, is obtained at no charge, allowing us to keep our admission price at a moderate \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. We are also very happy to have our sister

Chapter of the Sweet Adelines, the Inland Empire Chorus, to perform with us on the show. In addition, we plan to team up with them in the hosting and production of our joint Christmas show at the Magnolia Center Church of Christ on December 15. An additional perk to having the Ladies perform with us is also having their director's Quartet, **Ms. Cellanious**, singing and sharing their particularly infectious brand of humor.

Las Vegas Chapter **By Peter Feeney**

The members of the Chapter were saddened to learn in the spring of the passing of two longtime members of the Chapter, past FWD president **Carl Truman** and **Gary Greene**. Both men were very active in the Chapter and are held in high regard in the memory of all.

The Chorus and Chapter Quartets performed the Spring Show produced at UNLV's Doc Rando Recital Hall in May together with the Color Country Chorus from

the St. George, Utah Chapter. The show was an artistic success under the direction of **Jim Halvorson** and show director **Greg Dreyer!**

The Chapter once again teamed up with the Men's Club of Temple Sinai in Summerlin to host a pancake breakfast in late June. The event has been coordinated for a number of years now by Chapter member **Ivan Lambert**. It is a performance opportunity enjoyed by all Chapter members and their families.

The Silver Statesmen were again invited to perform the National Anthem at the Las Vegas 51s baseball game. The invitation was especially welcome since the July 3 game was heavily promoted by the team and included a spectacular fireworks show. The team moves to a new park next season and the Silver Statesmen look forward to performing in the new stadium.

The Chorus is working hard preparing for the Fall Convention in Fresno. The Chorus has always enjoyed performing at the Saroyan Theater and is grateful for the hospitality of the Fresno Chapter. The Chorus will be directed by Associate Director **Gordon Lankenau** due to the unavoidable absence of Director Jim Halvorson. The Silver Statesmen look forward to "Raisin the Bar in Fresno!"

Palomar-Pacific Chapter

By Tom Redler

Little did the Pal-Pac Chapter know how much the hiring of our new Director, **David Garstang**, would raise the level of musical performance of our Music Men Chorus, and also our morale and enjoyment, as a result of his boundless enthusiasm and faith in our capabilities! Not only has his extensive Barbershop background

(including three International Quartet medals) enabled him to be a patient teacher, but his willingness to stress techniques, tonal quality, and stage presence has resulted in marked improvement across the board. In addition, his wife Marlene, a former dancer and teacher has provided us with new choreography that enabled us to score high in the performance category when we sang *Ring to the Name of Rose* in our last contest. And, as if that was not enough, his daughter Jennifer (a computer programmer), is helping to redesign our website in order to attract younger members. We were certainly lucky to be able to tap into all that talent!

We have had a very busy and enjoyable summer of performances. In June, we sang the National Anthem to open a Lake Elsinore Storm baseball game. They are the San Diego Padre's farm club in the California League. We also sang *God Bless America* during the seventh inning stretch to enthusiastic applause. We then had the pleasure of providing the entertainment for the eightieth birthday party for **Bill Schofield** (one of our longtime members), in front of a large audience at his residence. We decided that we should advertise our ability to entertain at birthday parties and anniversaries, much like we do for our "Singing Valentine" program in February. We pass that along as a way to create extra revenue with little effort.

After three more Chorus performances in August, we will start rehearsals for our big Christmas programs. We try to include new holiday repertoire each year, and that requires extensive rehearsal time. As I hope you can tell by this

report, our Chapter is making great strides toward again becoming a major factor in the cultural life of San Diego's North County. As director Garstang has repeatedly declared: PAL-PAC is BACK!

San Diego Chapter

By Louis Regas

The San Diego **Sun Harbor Chorus** sang at the Mount Miguel Covenant Village, an annual event. We are building camaraderie with a Chorus picnic, a Quartet contest and a monthly afterglow. For the contest six Quartets were randomly selected from among the Chapter members. Each one performed a Barberpole Cat song before the group. The winners received "gold" medals!

Our major late summer production will be held in September in the Casa del Prado Theater in historic Balboa Park.





Southwest Division

Justin McQueen • Division Editor



Bakersfield Chapter

By Mike Kennedy

The Golden Empire Chorus

had a very successful show in May. The show was a box office “sell out”, mostly due to our Chorus members’ enthusiasm for both the theme, which was *Beatles, Beach Boys and Barbershop*, and our headliner Quartet: “**Hi Fidelity**”. The show was so successful that the Chorus is reviewing what to do next year about increasing the seating capacity, either by finding a larger theater or having two shows. The show was a favorite of the Chorus as well. We had so much fun learning the songs that most of us grew up with in the 50s and 60s.

Attendance at our rehearsals has been reasonably steady, 15-18 members (the “usual” summer slump excepted), and we have had a couple of members return after a long absence. Our new director, **Eric Dyer**, comes with 30-plus years of experience in Choral directing and is a music educator/choral director in a local high school. He is taking a couple months off to recover from an Achilles tendon repair but will be back in front of the Chorus in September. We are in the planning stage for our next show in the spring of 2019 and are looking forward to a new and expanded schedule of performances for the 2018 Christmas season.

San Fernando Valley Chapter

By Ben Marder

It is with great pleasure that I announce our newest member of the San Fernando Valley Chapter, Valley Harmony Singers, 14-year-old **Kevin Longobart**. Kevin is a wonderful Baritone, and a very good musician. Hopefully becoming a member will change Kevin’s life, like it did for me 26 years ago.

We conducted our 12th Annual Quartet Ice Cream Social entitled *Beach Party Barbershop*. It was a big success thanks to the leadership of **Dave Kirby**. A special thanks has to go out to **Mark Wolf** and **Shelley Herman** for setting up the audio system. Thanks to our MC **Tim Singer** for keeping our audience in stitches. Featured soloists were **Laura Pallas** and **Mark Nudelman**. The following Quartets performed: **The Velvet Frogs**, **Oddley Enuf**, **Bill’s Bari Pie**, the wonderful SoCal **Swing Sister** and **The Great American Sound Company**.

It is without our deepest sympathy that I announce the passing of **Lenore Press**. Lenore was the wife of **Jack Press** (a Lead in our Chorus.) Lenore was always at Jack’s side supporting the Chorus at our shows, community sing-outs, and at contest. Lenore will be deeply missed by all.

Santa Maria Chapter

By Eugene Kai

The great news is we’ve got three new guys attending and two have already joined the Chapter.

We’ve also got some sad news regarding our member **Ralph Musalo** who fell off a balcony in his home and died of his injuries. He will be sorely missed because of his steadfast dedication.

The Chapter is rehearsing for their Sweets and Old Songs Show Sept. 23, 3 pm at the Santa Maria Elks Lodge. Guest Quartet the “**Treblemakers**», Chapter Quartets «**Vintage Blend**», **FourGiven**, ensemble «**Show Time**” and the Chordsmen will grace the stage. A \$10 free will donation is encouraged. Hope to see you all there. In Haaarmooooony....

Santa Monica Chapter

By Marty Mitnick

For the past many years, **The Oceanaires** have been invited to sing at the Woodlawn Cemetery in Santa Monica for the observance of Memorial Day. We are proud to claim that every segment of the military is represented by members of **The Oceanaires**.

Our annual spring show this year was a complete success judging by the great numbers in attendance and their response to the entertainment. *The Show Might*

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Go On was written and produced by our very own **Tim Singer**, with the Chorus under the direction of our Master Director **Laura Pallas Singer**. The wonderful **Singer Sisters** were our Special Guest performers. A special treat was added to the program by the appearance of the **Oceanaires'** own Quartets: **Fermata the Blue** [David Livingston, John White, Jim Leedom, Andrew Lehto]; **Sound Stage** [Jerry Walker, Tom Laskey, Alan Hanson, Bob Curran]; **Overland Avenue** [Jack Walton, John White, Frank Giffen, Andrew Lehto]; **Gen Gap** [Bruce Schroffel, Vance Heron, Bob Heron, Andrew Lehto].

The Barbershopper of the Month awards were presented as follows: April: **Andrew Lehto** for his planning and directing our Guest Night; May: **Tim Singer** for his writing and producing our spring show; June: Our president **Jerry Walker** for his untiring search for our Spring Show venue and doing all of the necessary negotiations necessary for a very successful conclusion.

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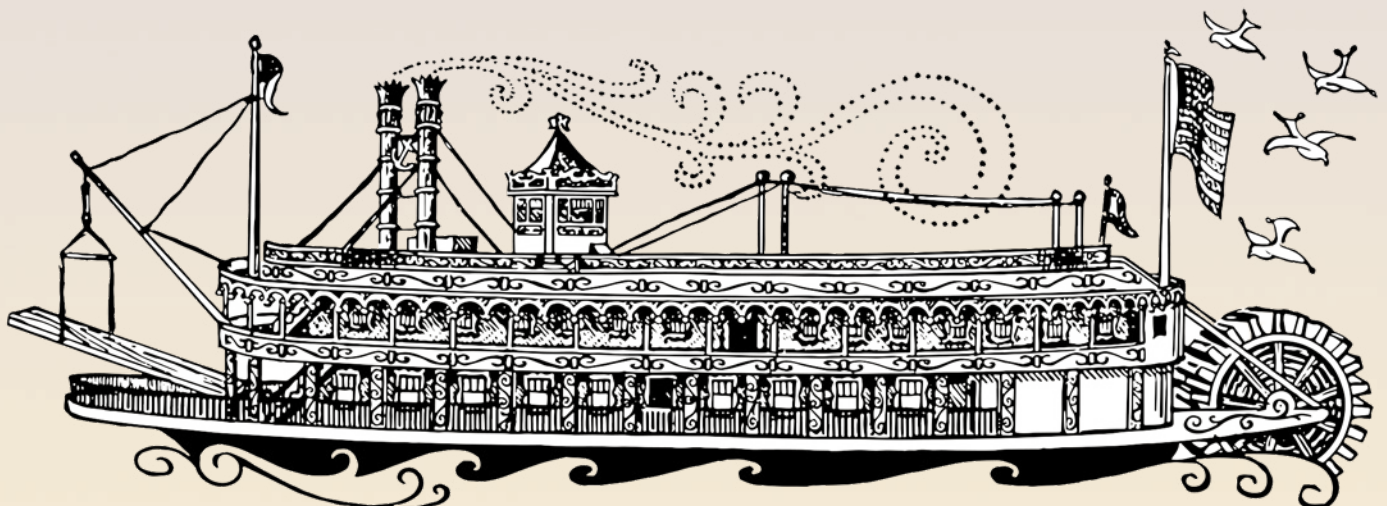
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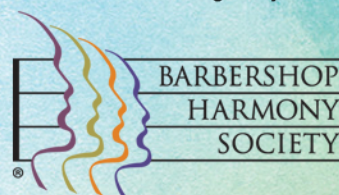
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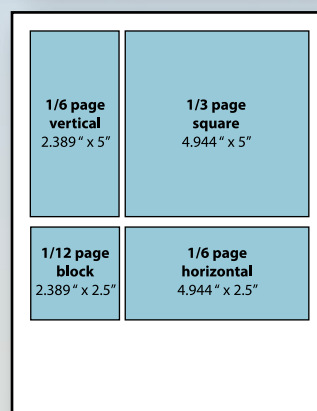
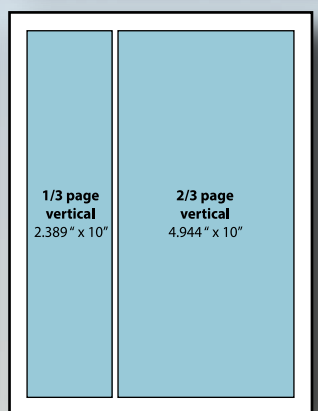
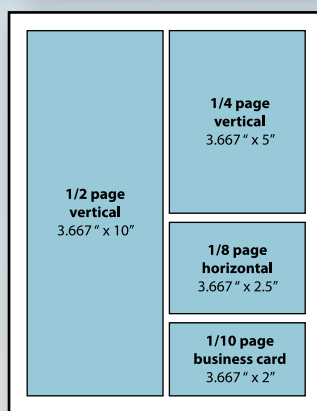
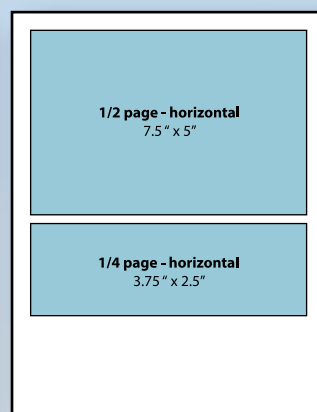
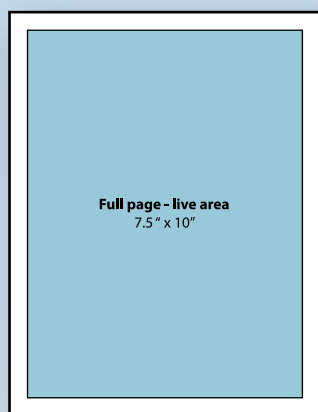
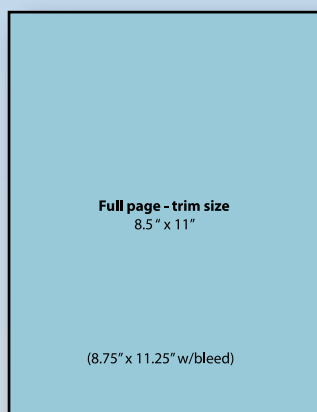


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View the official Far Western District Calendar at
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- **October 11-14, 2018** FWD Fall Convention, Fresno, CA
- **January 22-27, 2019** International Midwinter Convention, Nashville, TN
- **March 21-24, 2019** FWD Spring Convention, International Quartet Prelims, NE/NW Division Contests

For an extended list of conventions, visit
farwesterndistrict.org/events/conventions

LEADERSHIP SUMMITS

- **November 3, 2018** - SoCal
- **November 17, 2018** - NorCal
- **January 12, 2019** - Arizona

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To report important life events that occur with our members, please contact your Division Vice President

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