

*REPORTS OF THE  
FAR WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICERS  
DISTRICT MANAGEMENT TEAM &  
OTHER COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN TO  
THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES OF THE FAR WESTERN DISTRICT*

MARCH 18, 2011  
SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA

SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF  
BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA, INC.

*D/B/A*

BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Program Schedule .....	3
Welcome to the Delegates .....	4
Bernard Priceman, FWD President.....	4
Alan Lamson, BHS President .....	5
Ed Watson, BHS CEO .....	7
HOD Order of Business .....	15
House of Delegates Roster.....	16
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting .....	17
Minutes of the Fall HOD Meeting .....	19
Board of Directors' Reports.....	22
Bernard Priceman, President.....	22
Peter Feeney, Secretary.....	24
Robert Heron, Treasurer .....	25
Bill Rosica, Division 1 Vice President.....	27
Allan Webb, Division 2 Vice President .....	28
Steve Sammonds, Division 3 Vice President.....	30
Jim Turnmire, Division 4 Vice President.....	32
Theodore (Ted) Sayle, Division 5 Vice President .....	33
District Management Team Reports .....	34
Gordon "Mongo" Bergthold, CSLT Chairman .....	34
John Minsker, Chorus Director Development Chairman.....	35
Ron Black, Contest & Judging District Representative .....	36
Jack Peters, Membership Chairman.....	37
John Jones, Events Chairman .....	38
John McDougald, Financial Development Chairman.....	40
Greg Titus, Marketing and Public Relations Chairman .....	41
Nick Papageorge, Music & Performance Chairman.....	42
John Krizek, YIH Chairman .....	43
Committee Chairmen Reports.....	44
Steve Sammonds, Chorus Plateau Coordinator .....	44
Terry Mann, Long Range Planning.....	45
Lynn Brittan, Ethics Committee Chairman.....	46
Chapter Delegate's Credential Form.....	47

**Program Schedule**  
**FAR WESTERN DISTRICT**  
**SPRING BARBERSHOP CONVENTION & CONTEST**

March 17-20, 2011  
 Elizabeth A. Hangs Theater  
 Santa Clara Convention Center  
 5001 Great America Parkway  
 Santa Clara, CA

Thursday (March 17)

	2:00 pm	FWD Board Meeting	Marriott Hotel
	7:30 pm	Registration Open	Marriott Hotel

Friday (March 18)

	9:00 am	FWD Past District Presidents Meeting	TBD
	9:00 am	Registration Open	Convention Center
	9:00 am	AHSOW (all day)	Convention Center
	11:30 am	Harmony for Lunch Bunch	TBD
	1:00 pm	Beginning Woodshedding	Convention Center Classroom A
	1:00 pm	Class	Convention Center Classroom B
	1:30 pm	House of Delegates	Convention Center
	2:00 pm	Form quartets – 3pm contest	Convention Center Classroom A
	2:00 pm	Sing a Bunch of Songs	Convention Center Classroom B
	3:00 pm	Impromptu Quartet Contest	Convention Center Classroom A
	3:00 pm	Tag Singing	Convention Center Classroom B
	5:00 pm	Judges Meeting C.A.	TBD
	6:00 pm	Doors Open (Quartet Semifinals)	Eliz A. Hangs Theater
	6:45 pm	Quartet Prelims Semifinals	Eliz A. Hangs Theater
	10:30 pm	Evaluations (Quartets not Advancing)	Marriott Hotel

Saturday (March 19)

	9:00 am	Registration Opens	Convention Center
	9:00 am	AHSOW (all day)	Convention Center
	10:00 am	Doors Open (Chorus Contest)	Eliz A. Hangs Theater
	10:45 am	Northwest Chorus Contest	Eliz A. Hangs Theater
	1:00 pm	Chorus Evaluations	Eliz A. Hangs Theater
	2:30 pm	High School Quartet Contest	Eliz A. Hangs Theater
	6:00 pm	Doors Open (Quartet Finals)	Eliz A. Hangs Theater
	6:45 pm	Quartet Prelims Finals	Eliz A. Hangs Theater
	9:00 pm	Show of Champions & Awards	Eliz A. Hangs Theater
	10:30 pm	Afterglow	Convention Center
	10:30 pm	High School Afterglow	TBD
	10:30 pm	Evaluations Finalist Quartets	Convention Center

Sunday (March 20)

	8:00 am	Joint Meeting: Chapter Presidents / FWD Board and Management Team	Marriott Hotel
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## Welcome to the Delegates



### **Bernard Priceman, FWD President**

This report has been compiled in order to streamline the mechanics of the FWD House of Delegates meeting so that all delegates are well informed regarding district affairs. It includes minutes of previous HOD and BOD meetings, reports of the FWD Board of Directors, the District Management Team and committee chairmen and a schedule of events for the Spring 2011 Convention and Contest.

Voting members of the Far Western District HOD are the following: Chapter Delegates, District Board Members and Past District Presidents. A quorum shall consist of 30% of the delegates or alternates, no proxy votes accepted.

#### **Chapter Delegates:**

Please download, print, cut out and sign the Credential Card provided on the last page of this report. The chapter president is the HOD Delegate, however he may designate a chapter member as Chapter Delegate. In that case, both the president and the delegate should sign the card. Bring the card with you to the HOD meeting at 1:30 pm on Friday, March 18, 2011. Please don't mail it.

We recommend that delegates read this report prior to attending the meeting and obtain any chapter input on issues provided. Upon arrival at the HOD meeting, proceed to the table reserved for your division and present your credentials card to your District Vice President seated there. Delegates may not vote without presenting valid credential cards.

After the meeting, we recommend that delegates file reports with their chapter secretaries as part of a permanent record of the House of Delegate Proceedings.

#### **District Board Members and Past District Presidents:**

No Credential Card is required for your participation in the HOD. Please be seated at your respective locations as follows:

- District Vice Presidents: with your respective divisions
- Past FWD Presidents: with your chapters or wherever convenient.
- A quorum will be determined from the credential cards presented to the district secretary by the respective District Vice Presidents.

These procedures for seating delegates and establishing the quorum at the spring and fall meetings were approved previously by the FWD Board of Directors and incorporated into the FWD Statement of Policy and the FWD Convention Regulations. Your observance of these procedures will facilitate the conduct and enhance the integrity of the meeting

Thank you,

Bernard Priceman, President  
Far Western District  
Barbershop Harmony Society



As we approach the membership issue, we struggle with some of the statistics – and we have heard them all before. There is a potential out there in our Society’s geographic area for millions of members. Most of them have not been asked. I think we will all generally agree that if we can get them to come in the door the first time, we have a pretty high probability of seeing them join (from one-third to, in some cases, three-quarters of them). We also know that we lose 37% of new members in the first year and more than 50% of new members by the end of their third year. Recruiting new members is a huge investment of effort by a chapter in focus and manpower. It can take as much as 30 to 40 man hours to recruit one new member. Have we ever asked ourselves why we don’t make that time investment in keeping them? My guess is that it doesn’t take that much manpower to retain them. What it takes is attention and empathy.

And how do we lose those 37 percent in the first year. My fraternity ‘little brother’ joined a chapter in another area of the country just a year ago. He has been a singer since our days in college and I was thrilled to find out he had become a barbershopper. Today he is one of the 37% from 2010!!! What happened? He joined the chapter and once he had joined, the support stopped. No one coached him through the first several months of his participation in a new life style. No one told him what to expect. No one called him when he missed a meeting or two. The chapter told him that they needed leads and he should sing lead. He is a bass. After a few months the singing was physically taking a toll on him. Finally, he ended up going to the doctor who told him he had to stop singing for several weeks or face more voice issues. When the rest was over he returned asking to sing bass and was told “No. You need to sing lead.” Then he volunteered to be chapter secretary. No coaching, no assistance, just give it a shot and you will learn. The duties were a little overwhelming – especially for a new member. At the end of one year (one month ago) he said that he didn’t need this, resigned as secretary, resigned from the chapter and told the chapter why he was leaving. For him, he is still singing but with another community group and not barbershop. Our loss.

Another friend, a long-time barbershopper (23 years), had moved in retirement to a new area of the country and joined a chapter in that area. He has been a member of that chapter for about 10 years. This past year he had some physical problems including surgery. During that time no one from the chapter called on him to see how he was; no one let him know that he was missed and no one called to wish him well, a speedy recovery, and a quick return to the chapter. He felt cut off and unwanted. He has made the decision to drop his membership. Our loss.

There are a hundred stories like this. But what do they tell us? We need to learn from each one of these. WE EACH need to learn from each one of these stories. Being interested in our members and developing relationships with our members is not the responsibility of our chapter presidents or of our vice-presidents for chapter development. It is the responsibility of each one of us. So challenge your members and your chapter’s leadership to take up the baton of membership growth and each do their part. It is essential to us to ensure that we will have barbershop for our children’s and our grandchildren’s generations.

I am trying to do my personal part in my chapter. Can we count on you and all of your members to do their part in 2011?

I think we can.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial letter 'A'.



## Ed Watson, BHS CEO

### **73<sup>rd</sup> International Convention in Kansas City**

July 3-10, 2011 we'll be in the *brand new* Sprint Center arena for the Kansas City convention. The new state of the art arena is within walking distance from most convention hotels. Along with that is a new "Power and Light District" which features many new restaurants, shops, etc. There is much to do and see in Kansas City due to a \$5 billion city renovation. The price of registration remains the same this year and youth and family packages are available once again. And remember, you can select your own seats online at [www.barbershop.org/kansascity](http://www.barbershop.org/kansascity) or by calling 800-595-4849. Chapter leaders should especially encourage their brand new members to attend and take advantage of the "Buy one get one" offer each new member receives in his New Member Kit.

### **Virtual World of Barbershop**

There are many ways to stay connected to your barbershop friends. Here is a menu of items to choose from:

**www.barbershop.org**: The Society's website. This site changes on a daily basis with news, upcoming events, a show calendar, and more resources than you could ever imagine designed to grow your chapter, train your singers, train your leaders, or simply download free sheet music. Interested in SBOD updates? It's all there. Try to visit the website at least once a week; you won't be disappointed!

A new "**Membership Resources**" page has been developed and can be found at [www.barbershop.org/membership-resources.html](http://www.barbershop.org/membership-resources.html). There are great tools for your chapter to learn to grow its membership, raise money, and much more. More content will continue to be added as time goes on.

**The Blog**: [www.barbershophq.com](http://www.barbershophq.com): Two-way communication between all Barbershoppers and Society leadership – that's what this site is all about. Some topics are purely informational, some are intended to open a serious dialog, some late-breaking news, and some just plain fun. Here's the place to learn what's happening before it happens and be part of the ongoing discussion on how to Keep the Whole World Singing!

**LiveWire**: The Society's weekly e-newsletter. LiveWire is distributed every week with the latest news or time-sensitive information. Join more than 7,000 subscribers and be current with what's happening in the Society...and perhaps even contribute an article every now and then! To subscribe, visit <http://tinyurl.com/bhslivewire>. To view past editions of LiveWire, visit [www.barbershop.org/livewire](http://www.barbershop.org/livewire).

**Facebook**: The Society's Facebook page has more than 4,000 fans and continues to grow. This is a great forum for Facebook folks to "hang out" and chat about barbershop, watch some videos and meet up with folks from all barbershop organizations across the world. It's more for the group members to connect with other Barbershoppers than it is for Society leadership to "push" information to you. We will only chime in when needed. You can search for "Barbershop Harmony Society" on Facebook. *There is also a guide* hung on our website here: <http://www.barbershop.org/news-a-events-main/293-social-media-for->

[barbershop-quartets-and-choruses.html](#) that will help your CHORUS and QUARTET use Facebook and other social media to your advantage. Won't that be nice?

**Twitter:** Another way to stay informed on little tidbits of information. Visit [www.twitter.com/barbershopnews](http://www.twitter.com/barbershopnews).

**Groupanizer:** The Society has worked out a deal with the folks at Groupanizer to discount the use of this fantastic online chapter organization tool that helps chapters with everything from repertoire to attendance, to music learning tracks. Chapters will receive a 20% discount off the already low price and start with a two-month free trial. Visit [www.barbershop.org/resources/website-tools.html](http://www.barbershop.org/resources/website-tools.html) for more.

### **Marketing News You Can Use**

**Media Contacts for ALL Chapters:** through the web-based software, Vocus. This program provides media contacts, outlets and a distribution service – and the Society's subscription gives chapters direct contacts for all media in their local community! This is FREE to all Society chapters. Contact Melanie Chapman ([mchapman@barbershop.org](mailto:mchapman@barbershop.org)) and request a media list within a certain mile radius from your town or city. Use this list to distribute press releases about upcoming shows or events.

**Downloadable Video and Radio Public Service Announcements:** to promote membership are available from the Society website - FREE. We encourage every district and chapter website to embed the Youtube code for one of these videos on their website. Don't know how? Call Melanie Chapman, X4137 and she'll help, or visit [www.barbershop.org/resources.html](http://www.barbershop.org/resources.html) and follow the links.

### **American Harmony**

This fabulous movie, sponsored in part by the Society, is a delightful depiction “behind the scenes” of several International Conventions and the competition for quartet gold. You may purchase a DVD of the movie in the Harmony Marketplace, but now here's an opportunity to raise some funds for your chapter and spread the word of Barbershop at the same time: the four wall phase.

A four wall screening is one which can take place in any space with four walls, seating, and the right projection and sound equipment, and which is usually scheduled for one night (or two). The venue could still be an actual movie theater (if the financials work) or a hotel ballroom, library screening room, church hall, or a community center.

The four wall release plan will allow any barbershop chapter the ability to put on a public screening of *American Harmony* not only for their members, but for family, friends, and possible members, and make some money to boot.

Under this plan, the chapter becomes the producer of the event (as a membership drive, fund raising event, etc), and *American Harmony* is just the “hired entertainment”. The advantage to this approach is that the chapter, being a 501(c)3 non-profit entity, may be able to get venues at a discounted price (or even free). Visit <http://www.americanharmonythemovie.com/fourwalldocs.zip>

for more information.

### **Associates**

The Society welcomes our Associates, and hope that many more women will display an interest in this program. At half the price of Society dues, *Associates* receive:

- Member pricing on all events, music and merchandise
- A new lapel pin & kit unique to Associates
- Limited Ebiz access

- Access to password-protected content at [www.barbershop.org](http://www.barbershop.org)
- Higher inclusion in Society communications and marketing
- Subscription to the Harmonizer magazine
- Networking opportunities with other associates and members
- Vested interest in the Barbershop Harmony Society
- Recognition for recruiting new members into the Barbershop Harmony Society
- Searchable listing in the Society database

The Society *encourages* all female directors to be Associates, and all male directors to be members and the payment of those enrollment fees are a legitimate chapter expense. To enter and perform in a Society competition, defined as any event using Society Judges, a chorus director *must be* either a member (male) or an Associate (female). That is not a requirement for any other event.

### **Aptify/eBiz**

Our powerful membership database and members only “eBiz” was implemented with the intent to empower more people in the field to take care of their barbershop business whether personal info, quartet, or chapter related. While we will never stop trying to get more and more out of this mega-tool, and we hope you notice when we add more features, you’d be amazed at what you are able to do on your own at your own computer. If you have any questions regarding a member, chapter, or the Society **it is recommended that you** go to [www.barbershop.org](http://www.barbershop.org) or to <https://ebiz.barbershop.org/ebusiness> . You might be surprised how much information is readily at your fingertips.

### **Update to Record**

When Joe Barbershopper has an update to his personal record, he can go onto eBiz himself and update it, or his chapter secretary or other chapter officers can edit Joe's record for him with the updated info. In that way, the Harmonizer, District Bulletins or just other singers will be able to find Joe and he won't fade away.

### **Dues Renewals via eBiz**

On-line renewal with a current (working) credit card is the quick-n-easy way to get the renewal accomplished. It speeds the clearance of the payment and the card renewal processing. If you’re worried about contest, the fastest way to renew is on-line. **Repeat after me: The fastest way to renew is ONLINE.**

### **Chapter Secretary Dues Payments**

Chapter Secretaries have the authority to look at all overdue chapter members and pay their dues with a credit card via eBiz. For those members who procrastinate or "never remember" what their renewal dues are the secretary has a quick way to view, select and pay for any member in this category.

### **Chapter Dues Changes**

When your chapter board votes to change your chapter dues, the local chapter secretary can go onto the chapter eBiz page and input the new dues records at least *60 days in advance* of their effective date. It is quicker than calling or sending an email to HQ.

### **Chapter Officer Reporting for 2011**

eBiz is the easy-to-use repository for creating a Chapter Role record for all chapter elected and appointed positions. HQ, your district and other Society members use these records to contact the various positions within your chapters to share information or seek chapter solutions to common circumstances. If you

didn't get your officers entered after your elections last fall, please take the time to report your 2011 Chapter Officers.

### **“Find Member” Proximity Search**

Want to find BHS members who might have moved to your area but have yet to visit? Do a search from Find Members > Proximity Search (fill in zip code and miles radius). Invite them to a meeting or a show! Want to try and find some of the chapter's former members that are lost? Do a search from Find Members > Proximity Search and UNCHECK the "current members" button. This list will contain both deceased and former members at their last known addresses. *Mail a card to the former members and invite them back for an alumni night at your chapter.*

## **Financial**

### **Taxes**

All US chapters, districts and subsidiaries must report to the IRS by May 15<sup>th</sup> each year. The IRS is now requiring **ALL** non-profits, regardless of size, to file an annual return. Failure to do so in a timely manner may result in either financial penalties for each day a return is late or *loss of non-profit status* or both. Loss of non-profit status would cause all receipts to become taxable.

The thresholds for determining which Form 990 return to file have changed for the 2010 tax year. For 2009 and prior, a non-profit had to have gross receipts of less than \$25,000 in order to use the Form 990-N (e-Postcard). For 2010, chapters with gross receipts up to \$50,000 can use the Form 990-N. The Form 990-N is by far the shortest and the easiest of the 990s to file, so this is great news for our chapters and subsidiaries. Please note however that the Form 990-N does not exist as a paper form. It is only available to be filed online. The required information and link to file can be found by visiting the IRS website at <http://www.irs.gov/charities/article/0,,id=169250,00.html>.

If a chapter, district or subsidiary had gross receipts in excess of \$50,000 for 2010, it will have to file either a Form 990-EZ or Form 990 along with Schedule A and possibly other schedules. *Please note that the threshold for using the Form 990-EZ has been greatly lowered for 2010.* Previously, non-profits with gross receipts up to \$500,000 could use the Form 990-EZ. For 2010, gross receipts must be less than \$200,000 to use the Form 990-EZ. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or greater, a full Form 990 is required. Due to the detail of this form, assistance from a paid tax preparer may be needed.

### **Financial Reviews**

ALL chapters, both US and Canadian, must complete a financial review for 2010 by May 15th. This is not difficult, is not an audit and merely requires a financially savvy person, other than the treasurer, to inspect your books.

Please send copies to headquarters when you have completed each of these steps. Please also update your chapter's Ebiz page under the “Financial Filings” heading to indicate that these requirements have been met. Lists of non-compliant chapters are pulled from the Ebiz data, so updating it will prevent your being contacted unnecessarily.

### **Insurance Certificates**

Please note that our general liability insurance certificates as well as the request form to get a third party listed as an additional insured are available on the Society's website under Documents: Business & Finance: Medical and Insurance Documents. The completed request form can be faxed to the insurance agency or the requested information can simply be e-mailed to them. Their contact details are on the form. They will provide you the certificate you need.

### **ASCAP**

A chapter that performs in any show which is not exempt under U.S. Copyright law (see section 7.1 of 2011 Chapter Secretary Manual) must pay at least the minimum fee of \$222 for the year.

A blanket agreement between ASCAP and the Society is in force. All Society chapters are covered by this agreement. Please read the following carefully.

- 1) If at the end of a calendar year a chapter has a gross show revenue for the year of less than \$48,667 they will pay the annual minimum ASCAP fee (\$222).
- 2) If the chapter's total annual gross show revenue is greater than \$48,666, see the 2011 Chapter Secretary Manual for details.
- 3) Chapters that do NOT perform in ANY show during a given year are not required to submit any payments. These chapters need to inform their District Secretary of this, who are asked to record this information, should the Society be asked to report this information to ASCAP. Additional questions or clarification as to whether or not a chapter's performances do not require payment should be directed to Erin Elkins at [library@barbershop.org](mailto:library@barbershop.org).
- 4) We suggest that chapters send their yearly ASCAP payment to their District Secretary along with their first Show Clearance BMI/SESAC form (<http://barbershop.org/document-center/category/71-show-clearance-and-legal-ascap-etc.html>) and separate required payment, so that they may forward these payments to the Society upon receipt.
- 5) Chapters paying ASCAP fees should send a check payable to "Barbershop Harmony Society" along with the ASCAP Reporting Form, which can be found within the *Chapter Secretary Manual* or *Chapter Secretary Manual Exhibits – 2011* (<http://barbershop.org/document-center/category/69-chapter-secretary-documents.html>) or by itself at <http://barbershop.org/document-center/category/71-show-clearance-and-legal-ascap-etc.html>). BHS will collect all fees and make all payments to ASCAP. Chapters MUST NOT send any payments to ASCAP directly.

### **All Chapter Visitation**

It was agreed upon at the Society Midwinter Board meeting in Las Vegas that every chapter in the Society would be visited during 2011. BHS staff, District leaders and even the Society Board members themselves are all pitching in to achieve this goal. The visits are to be cordial and positive, extending a helping hand where needed and wanted and reinforcing the tremendous fellowship that our Society thrives upon. The CSLT committee, in coordination with all 17 District Presidents, is producing a short list of questions to be used as a standardized guide for all visitors. The BHS Education Department will be making a short video which will be available on line that will also assist in helping the visitors standardize and properly focus their visits in a positive and productive manner. Stay tuned for more updates as these tools begin to take shape.

### **Chapter Achievement Program**

All chapter presidents and secretaries were sent an email inviting them to participate in the Chapter Achievement Program (CAP) survey for calendar year 2010. This survey encourages chapters to report significant information to Headquarters. They will achieve competitive points in various categories. This allows for some friendly competition among chapters (who don't necessarily compete musically) while gathering information at the same time. So far, 123 chapters have participated. District support and encouragement would be appreciated. Take the CAP survey anytime at the following web site [www.bhscap.org](http://www.bhscap.org) You must be a chapter officer registered in eBiz to take the survey. A web site will be available soon that allows chapters to see where they stand with respect to all other chapters of their size, both district and Society wide. However, no chapter will be able to see any other chapter's specific results.

### **CACM**

BHS is once again encouraging member attendance at Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meeting workshops by offering a \$20 rebate to any *member* that attends a workshop in 2010. This program has

been highly successful so far and has received rave reviews. It must be emphasized that the rebates are meant to *lower the cost to the MEMBERS*, NOT the Districts. For information about the rebates contact Paul Wietlisbach, BHS Director of Education at [education@barbershop.org](mailto:education@barbershop.org). For information on how you can get your chapter, or chapters in your area, to schedule a CACM, contact Chuck Greene at [Chuck@21stn7th.com](mailto:Chuck@21stn7th.com)

### **Harmony University**

Joe Barbershoppers, Directors, Quartets, and CHAPTERS are all invited and encouraged to attend. As a matter of fact, it is not too late to sign up *your chapter*. Enrollment has begun! Contact the education department to enroll.

#### ***Harmony University Highlights Include:***

- Date: July 31- August 7
- Special Guest Quartet: Storm Front!
- Keynote Address by Gene Cokeroff
- On the beautiful campus of **Missouri Western State University**
- **ICE CREAM!!!**

*Registration is now open...*

<b>Tuition prices in effect</b>	<b>January 1, 2011 to March 15, 2011</b>	<b>March 16, 2011 to June 15, 2011</b>	<b>After June 15, 2011</b>
<b>Members, Associates, Affiliates</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$565	<input type="checkbox"/> \$615	<input type="checkbox"/> \$715
<b>Non-Members</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$690	<input type="checkbox"/> \$740	<input type="checkbox"/> \$840
<b>Commuters, includes meals</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$440	<input type="checkbox"/> \$490	<input type="checkbox"/> \$590
<b>Non-Member Commuters, includes meals</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$565	<input type="checkbox"/> \$615	<input type="checkbox"/> \$715
<b>Next Generation</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$425	<input type="checkbox"/> \$425	<input type="checkbox"/> \$525
Payment must accompany registration! <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 penalty for cancellation after June 1, 2011 <input type="checkbox"/> NO refund for cancellation after July 1, 2011			

We are pleased to announce the availability of approximately 85 scholarships. These will be distributed to Music Educators, Directors, Assistant Directors, and the "Bring Your Baritone Free" Scholarship for Quartet College, all made possible by the generous support of our members to Harmony Foundation International.

#### **Harmony University Scholarship Information**

**Directors College** – Front line directors, assistant / associate directors, section leaders, and up and coming directors who have not received a BHS / HF sponsored scholarship within the last 5 years are eligible to apply. Application deadline is April 1, 2011.

**Earl Moon** - For those who have never experienced Harmony University! Application deadline is May 1, 2011.

**Larry Ajer** – In a top 10 district quartet? Check and see if your quartet is eligible for this scholarship! Application deadline is May 1, 2011.

**Bring Your Baritone Free** – First come-first serve. The first quartets to apply can bring their baritone to Quartet College FREE! Chance of a lifetime with an incredible team of Coaches!

The Harmony University website: [www.barbershop.org/HarmonyU](http://www.barbershop.org/HarmonyU)

New online registration coming soon!

### **Youth in Harmony**

In 2010, 44 Youth Harmony Workshops were reported where approximately 6500 students across the United States and Canada had the opportunity to experience barbershop harmony – most for the first time in their lives. While we saw an increase in the number of reported workshops, the numbers of attendees were down slightly from last year. What's important to remember is that the number of attendees in 2009 was still double that of 2008. Over 275 music educators were present at these same events in 2010. This is an increase over 2009.

In 2010, 15 Harmony Explosion Camps were reported (one less than 2009), where just over 1300 students experienced barbershop in a multi-day camp setting working with some of the best clinicians and teaching quartets the Society has to offer. Close to 70 music educators were present at these same events in 2010.

In 2010, a near-record 64 quartets competed in the collegiate quartet contest preliminary rounds, with 29 of those competing at the International Contest. The International Collegiate Quartet Contest was moved to the Tuesday of the Convention, and only one quartet of the 29 felt that this change negatively impacted their experience. *2 rules were changed* at the recent Society Board of Directors meeting. The international qualifying score for collegiate quartets not "winning" their districts increased from 70% to 71%. Also - effective after the 2011 International Collegiate Quartet Contest in July, collegiate quartets may only contain one past International Collegiate Champion (or BHS champion) singer. The current rule allows for 2 past champions.

At Midwinter 2011, we hosted our 4th annual International Youth Barbershop Chorus Festival where 19 youth choruses from New Zealand to New Jersey sang in both a competitive, but also educational environment. 574 competitors crossed the stage and had the time of their lives. 10 of these choruses were brand new to the Festival. One of the choruses has participated all four years. The largest chorus had 84 singers, the smallest had 15. In 2008, we had 6 choruses with 187 singers. In 2009, we had 9 choruses with 267 singers. In 2010, we had 11 choruses with 327 singers.

Along with all of these Society and District-level programs, there is the immeasurable support happening at the chapter level, all across the Society. The best "guesstimate" we can give – based on reports from the YIH DVPs - is that our Society chapters expose close to 20,000 students – both male and female – to barbershop harmony, each year. For more information go to: [www.barbershop.org/youth-zone](http://www.barbershop.org/youth-zone)

For questions or comments, [ewatson@barbershop.org](mailto:ewatson@barbershop.org)

Thanks,



E. D. Watson

Executive Director/CEO



**HOD Order of Business**  
**FAR WESTERN DISTRICT**  
**FALL HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING**  
**SANTA CLARA, CA**  
1:30 PM FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2011

- |                                                 |                     |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Call To Order                                | Bernard Priceman    |
| 2. Pledge of Allegiance                         | Bob Lally           |
| 3. "The Star Spangled Banner"                   | Allan Webb          |
| 4. "The Old Songs"                              | Bill Rosica         |
| 5. Invocation                                   | Peter Feeney        |
| 6. Welcome                                      | Convention Chairman |
| 7. Introduction                                 | Bernard Priceman    |
| a. Past Presidents                              |                     |
| b. Other Dignitaries                            |                     |
| c. District Officers                            |                     |
| 8. Roll Call                                    | Peter Feeney        |
| 9. District President's remarks                 | Bernard Priceman    |
| 10. Keynote Address                             | Rick Ashby          |
| 11. Approval of the Agenda                      | Bernard Priceman    |
| 12. Approval of previous minutes                | Bernard Priceman    |
| 13. Receipt of HOD Reports                      | Bernard Priceman    |
| 14. Additional officer/Committee reports        |                     |
| 15. Tabled Business: Quartet Activity Committee |                     |
| 16. New Business                                |                     |
| a. Changes to the SOP                           | Peter Feeney        |
| b. Awards                                       | Deane Scoville      |
| 17. BOD Highlights                              | Bernard Priceman    |
| 18. Future Convention Plans                     | John Jones          |
| 19. Next Meeting time/Location                  | Bernard Priceman    |
| 20. Keep the Whole World Singing"               | Russ Young          |
| 21. Adjourn                                     | Bernard Priceman    |

## House of Delegates Roster

### Past Presidents (12):

Barrie Best  
 Bill Cale  
 Bob House  
 Carl Truman  
 Chuck Hunter  
 Deane Scoville  
 Don Gubbins  
 John Currin  
 John Krizek  
 Lynn Brittan  
 Sam Barger  
 Terry Aramian  
 Bob Lally<sup>1</sup>  
 Peter Feeney<sup>2</sup>

### Board Members (10):

Allan Webb  
 Bernard Priceman  
 Bill Rosica  
 Bob Heron  
 Bob Lally  
 Jim Turnmire  
 Peter Feeney  
 Russ Young  
 Steve Sammonds  
 Ted Sayle

### Chapter Delegates (83):

#### Division 1

Aloha  
 Bakersfield  
 Conejo Valley  
 Crescenta Valley  
 Lompoc  
 Long Beach  
 Los Angeles  
 Pasadena  
 Rincon Beach  
 San Fernando Valley  
 San Luis Obispo

Santa Barbara  
 Santa Clarita  
 Santa Fe Springs  
 Santa Maria  
 Santa Monica  
 South Bay  
 Ventura  
 Whittier

#### Division 2

Apple Valley  
 Brea  
 Coachella Valley  
 El Cajon  
 Fullerton  
 Hemet  
 Inland Empire  
 Irvine  
 La Jolla  
 Laguna Hills  
 Las Vegas  
 Las Vegas Metro  
 Orange (Quartet)  
 Palomar Pacific  
 Riverside  
 San Clemente  
 San Diego  
 St George  
 Temecula  
 Westminster

#### Division 3

Bay Area  
 Crescent City  
 Eureka  
 Fremont-Hayward  
 Marin  
 Monterey Peninsula  
 Napa Valley  
 Palo Alto - Mountain View  
 Rohnert Park  
 San Francisco  
 San Francisco Bay Cities

San Mateo County  
 Santa Cruz  
 Santa Rosa  
 Walnut Creek

#### Division 4

California Delta  
 Carson City  
 Central California  
 Chico  
 Davis-Vacaville  
 Folsom  
 Fresno  
 Nevada-Placer  
 North Valley  
 Placerville  
 Redding  
 Reno  
 Sacramento  
 Stockton  
 Visalia  
 Yosemite

#### Division 5

Canada Del Oro  
 Casa Grande  
 Central Arizona Quartet  
 Greater Phoenix  
 Mesa  
 Paradise Valley  
 Prescott  
 Sedona  
 Sierra Vista  
 Sun Cities  
 Tucson  
 White Mountains  
 Yuma

Note:

Quorum = 30% (32)

<sup>1</sup> Current Board Member

<sup>2</sup> Current Board Member



**FAR WESTERN DISTRICT**  
**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Bakersfield, California**  
**October 7, 2010**

**Minutes**

**Call to order at 2:02 by President Priceman**

All Board Members present.

Guests:

Allan Webb, Terry Aramian, Dan Jordan, Bill Tieberg, Bob Cathaway, Convention Chairman Ray Johnson, Deane Scoville, Ray Rhymer, Gordon Bergthold, Bob Heron, Richard Lund, Bill Cale, Doug Maddox, Sam Barger, John Jones, John Krizek, Ken Galloway, Fritz Grunenwald, Lynn Brittan, Joe Salz, Nick Papageorge, Terry Mann, Casey Parker, Buz Smith, Dave Tautkus, Dick Whitten, Sean Devine.

- 1. Motion to accept agenda: Motion passed.**
- 2. Motion to approve Summer BOD. Motion passed.**

Remarks by Convention Chairman Ray Johnson

Reports of the DVPs received by the board.

Connie Keil joined the meeting via telephone.

Ted Sayle reports that Phoenix is bidding on the 2012 convention.

**Old Business:**

Committee report re Board composition chaired by Russ Young has been delayed.

Committee report re convention locations by John Jones has been delayed.

Bernard Priceman commented on the issue of chapters who have shows on the weekend of FWD conventions. What sanctions are appropriate? Discussion ensued.

**New Business**

Bernard Priceman introduced potential changes to the SOP.

The issue of contract approval was discussed.

- 3. Motion to recommend to the HOD that we amend 10.10 to include Division Conventions and strike 10.6.3. Motion passed.**

Revised deadlines for the HOD reports. Ref. 11.2.1.

- 4. Motion to recommend the HOD amend the SOP to remove the term "BOD" from 11.2.1. Motion passed.**

Harmony College West attendance policy.

Terry Aramian was appointed as a committee chairman to report back to the Board regarding the attendance of young people at chapter events, meetings, etc. He was asked to identify the risks of exposure to lawsuits when youths attend BBS events or meetings. The Board will discuss his findings via Skype. High School Quartet Contest calendar. The board asked President Priceman to add two high school contests as an experiment without changing the SOP.

Deane Scoville reported that the honoree for the next convention is Jim Sherman.

**5. Motion to name Jim Sherman as the honoree at the Spring Convention. Motion passed.**

Connie Keil commented on the state of the Society and took questions from the board.

Society proposal for 2 year chorus cycle was discussed. Each board member gave his opinion. The consensus was that the two year cycle is not a good idea. The board thinks the present system should be left as is (9 against change, 1 in favor).

Executive Session (5:00 pm)

Meeting recessed at 5:20 pm

Discussion of the format of the reporting required from the DVPs and others who report to the president.

In an effort to continue to make the HOD meetings more meaningful to the Chapters, in the future, all items that will be acted upon at the HOD meeting will be listed prominently in the agenda of the HOD. This should help call attention to the actions that the HOD will be asked to take/

President Priceman introduced the topic of planning meetings. Discussion ensued.

The Planning meeting will be held on June 24, 2011. Board members will arrive on June 23, 2011. The board meeting will be held on June 25, 2011 in Fullerton, CA. Board members and some other men will be invited.

SAI conflicts were discussed; no action taken.

Registration fees for conventions were next discussed. Bob Lally was asked to prepare wording to propose changes to the SOP to give discretion to the Convention Chairman to grant complimentary registrations

John Jones introduced new wording for the SOP to clarify the split of profits from the District contests and Division contests.

**6. Motion to propose wording changes to the SOP to clarify the payments to be made to host chapters or chapters for hire. Motion passed. (John Jones to provide wording to be included in minutes upon receipt by Secretary. Copies will be sent to all board members.)**

Barbershop Shop discussion: no action taken.

President Priceman appointed committee chairmen to review the Convention Manual and the SOP to resolve any conflicts and to clarify roles and responsibilities. Chairmen Bill Rosica and Jim Turnmire.

Discussion of the issue of non-compliance with regard to incorporation and IRS forms (990).

Incorporation status? California Secretary of State, and other States. The District Secretary will write to each chapter and inquire regarding their status. Copy the DP.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 pm.



## Minutes of the Fall HOD Meeting

BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

1:30P.M. FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2010

President Bernard Priceman called the House of Delegates Meeting to order at 1:30 pm, Friday October 8, 2010, in Bakersfield, California

The following officers, directors, guests and delegates were present:

### Past Presidents

Lynn Brittan 1970-71  
 Sam Barger 1984-85  
 Chuck Hunter 1988-89  
 Carl Truman 1998-99  
 Deane Scoville 2000-01  
 John Krizek 2002-03  
 Peter Feeney, 2004-2005  
 Terry Aramian, 1986-1987  
 Bill Cale, 2006-2007  
 Bob Lally. 2008-2009

### Board Members

Bernard Priceman, President,  
 Peter Feeney, Secretary  
 Jim Sherman, Treasurer  
 Russ Young, Executive Vice President  
 Bob Lally, Immediate Past President  
 Bill Rosica, DVP Div. 1—Southwest Division  
 Gene Clements, DVP Div. 2—Southeast Division  
 Steve Sammonds, DVP Div 3—Northwest Division  
 Jim Turnmire, DVP Div. 4—Northeast Division  
 Ted Sayle, DVP Div. 5—Arizona. Division

### Distinguished Guest (Non-voting):

Connie Keil,	Society Board Member (via Skype)
Ken Galloway,	Evergreen District DP
Barry Towner,	Former Society Board Member and Ontario District EVP.
Sean Devine,	Harmony Foundation Inc.

### Chapter Delegates:

#### **Division 1**

Aloha  
 Bakersfield  
 Pasadena  
 Rincon Beach  
 San Fernando Valley  
 San Luis Obispo  
 Santa Fe Springs  
 Santa Monica  
 South Bay  
 Ventura  
 Whittier

#### **Division 2**

Brea  
 Coachella Valley  
 Fullerton  
 Inland Empire  
 Las Vegas  
 Las Vegas Metro  
 Orange (Quartet)  
 Palomar Pacific  
 Riverside  
 San Diego

#### **Division 3**

Bay Area  
 Fremont-Hayward  
 Marin  
 Palo Alto – Mtn. View  
 San Francisco Bay Cities

#### **Division 4**

California Delta  
 Central California  
 Fresno  
 Nevada-Placer

Placerville  
 Reno  
 Sacramento  
 Stockton

**Division 5**  
 Greater Phoenix  
 Sedona  
 Sun Cities  
 Tucson

Remarks: President Priceman

Keynote address: Society Representative, Connie Keil. Emphasis was on membership.

Memorial to Departed Brothers. "Stand by Me" sung by FWD District Champion, "The Edge."

**Motion to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.**

**Motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion Carried**

**Motion to receive the reports in the District Delegates Brochure. Motion Carried.**

**Motion to approve the 2011 Far Western District Budget. Motion Carried.**

Remarks: Sean Devine from Harmony Foundation, Inc.

Remarks: Sam Barger regarding Choral Festival next May in Reno.

**Motion to approve the changes to the SOP included Brochure. Motion Carried.**

**Motion to establish the position of Quartet Activity Chairman for the Far Western District (Ad Hoc Committee, not a District Management Team position). Motion tabled.**

Board of Directors' Meeting Highlights: President Bernard Priceman

Nominating Committee Report: Bill Cale (report in the Brochure).

They are:

Bernard Priceman  
 Bill Rosica  
 Bob Lally  
 Allan Webb  
 Bob Heron

Jim Turnmire  
 Peter Feeney  
 Russ Young  
 Steve Sammonds  
 Ted Sayle

**Motion to vote approval of the slate. Motion Carried.**

Officers installed by Barry Towner.

Awards Report: Deane Scoville .

Discussion led by Bernard Priceman regarding the proposed 2 year contest cycle.

Question by the chair: has the HOD informed itself of the issue of the two year contest cycle.

Some Comments:

- It is a bad idea to prohibit people from competing.
- Steve Sammonds believes it is a bad assumption to think that people will come back to a convention if they go once.
- Bill Rosica says that choruses will be excluded the year following their competition on the contest stage.
- Joe Salz says that Divisions would be hurt if big choruses sit out.
- International is the best contest and this would reduce the chances that the best compete against the best.
- Steve Sammonds says that Jim Henry's argument (they would have sat out the year they actually won.)
- Terry Aramian said that HQ is trying to fix something that isn't broken.
- John Krizek said that our culture is different from the SAI culture.

The HOD's sense is that the 2 year cycle should be rejected: 38 against the change, 3 for the change and 1 abstention.

Future convention plans: John Jones:.

**Motion to approve the Bay Area Chapter to host the Spring Prelims in Santa Clara, Motion Carried.**

Next meeting March 18, 2011 in Santa Clara, CA.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Peter Feeney, Secretary

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## Board of Directors' Reports



### Bernard Priceman, President

Since I last reported to the HOD in the 2010 Fall brochure, much has happened in our great Far Western District, beginning with a first at the Fall Convention itself when our Society Representative, Connie Keil, was unable to attend at the last minute and unable to deliver his keynote address. But this is the technological age and being in Tucson didn't prevent him from listening to the meeting and delivering his address. We all saw him and heard him via Skype while he delivered his address to the delegates.

The Fall Convention was better attended than many recent conventions and was well run by the San Luis Obispo Chapter and their many helpers. And our second web cast actually made a small profit and has set the stage for many more to come, thanks to Dan Jordan's effective promotion.

In November, I and seven other members of the Far Western District Board and District Management Team attended the Society's Leadership Forum in Dallas. It was a very worthwhile event and many great ideas were brought home.

Also in November, we held three Leadership Academies in the District. Attendance was not great but each Academy received good reviews, despite some changes to the tracks. I have appointed a committee to review the 2011 Leadership Academy. There are many different ways to handle these events, though none is the obvious choice. We may try something new again this year and would welcome any input you may have.

In December, I made three changes to the District Management Team. Clark Abrahamson (Membership), Dan Jordan (Marketing & P.R.) and Dave Tautkus (Chorus Director Development) were replaced respectively by Jack Peters, Greg Titus and John Minsker. Each of these men will have written brief reports in this brochure and are already working hard in their areas. We thank the men who stepped down for all of their efforts on our behalf. Other replacements in the pipeline at this time are Bulletin Editor of the Year Coordinator, Leadership Academy Coordinator and Sunshine Chairman. Announcements for each position are expected to be made shortly.

In January, the Society's Midwinter Convention was held in our own back yard, in Las Vegas. Attendance was the highest ever and the Las Vegas Metro Chapter, along with other local volunteers, ran a very smooth event. I tried throughout the previous year to encourage FWD youth choruses to compete and we managed to get four choruses there. Kudos to all who took up the challenge. We were very well represented. Also at the Midwinter Convention, District Presidents met with the Society Board for the first time ever, an event that came about after I asked the Society EVP a year earlier why we never met. The meeting went very well and has already been designated as a regular event.

I continue to send out my monthly emails to every FWD member and judging by the response, it is still being well received. My aim to is to keep the general membership informed and for everyone to know that I am always here to answer questions, receive input and help in any way I can.

We have several important plans in the pipeline for 2011. Since membership is our number one priority, planning for a district-wide recruitment program is my number one goal. Last week I hosted a conference call with a group of doers, to set in motion a program that should be rolled out in May and will be repeated in the Fall. This will be our version of a tried and tested program which I am hoping will be a huge success.

The FWD Board approved a web cast for this convention, though we have never had one in the Spring before. We do not expect to make any money, but we do feel that it is a valuable service to help distant barbershoppers watch the best of the best when they are unable to make the journey. If you are not able to make it to Santa Clara, I hope you will support Greg Titus' efforts to market and run this program.

There are plans for three High School Quartet Contests this year, to give contestants a chance to find a closer location for them to compete. The main contest will still be part of the Spring Convention, but at least there will be other opportunities for distant quartets to show their wares. Thank you Bruce Sellnow and John Krizek for your help with this.

Finally, I want to continue trying to increase attendance at our all important HOD meetings. In the Fall we started half an hour earlier than usual and opened up the floor to delegates to discuss the hot topic at the time – the proposed two-year rotation for International Chorus competitors (since abandoned). I want to do the same thing this weekend and the hot topic will be Leadership Academy. The Board and DMT will be looking for your input. This is your opportunity to make your views and ideas known. I will also be continuing our Sunday morning combined Chapter Presidents / FWD Board meeting and hope to see every attending Chapter President (or representative) there.

I look forward to shaking hands, chatting and perhaps singing with many of you this weekend.

Respectfully submitted,

**BERNARD PRICEMAN**

Far Western District President





## **Peter Feeney, Secretary**

### **SOP**

The 2010 edition of the FWD Statement of Policy (SOP) has been reviewed and approved by the Society and is available for download at the FWD website: [www.spebsqsafwd.org](http://www.spebsqsafwd.org) . President Priceman appointed a committee last fall to review the SOP. Their review resulted in the elimination of some outdated material and the correction of some typographical errors. The SOP will continue to be reviewed with an eye towards making it easier to use. We encourage you to read the SOP and send any suggestion for improvement to me at [peterfeeney@embarqmail.com](mailto:peterfeeney@embarqmail.com) .

If your suggestion results in a proposed change to the SOP it will be presented to the FWD board for their consideration and then to the HOD for their action. A standing agenda item for the HOD is “Changes to the SOP”. As I write this there does not appear to be any changes for the HOD to consider, but some may be proposed prior to the meeting on March 18, 2011. They can be approved then with the consent of the HOD or held until the fall meeting if the HOD prefers.

### **Show Clearances**

Thank you for your continuing effort to request show clearances as early in your show planning as possible. Not only does it permit the district to help promote your show, it makes it easier for other chapters to avoid conflicts with your show. Please remember that no show can be cleared for a date that conflicts with the Spring or Fall District convention or Harmony College West, nor can a show be cleared that conflicts with your Division convention or Leadership Academy in your division. Also, shows within 50 miles of another chapter show already scheduled cannot be cleared without the consent of the other chapter. You can check the calendar kept on the FWD website to avoid such conflicts.

When applying for a show clearance the chapter secretary need only send one copy of the request to me at

Peter Feeney  
5320 Coral Gables Drive  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89130

I will make the additional copies, return one to your chapter and send three to Nashville for processing with your check.

Peter Feeney  
FWD Secretary



**Robert Heron, Treasurer**

Far Western District Association of Chapters of SPEBSQSA, Inc.			
Balance Sheet			
12/31/2010			
ASSETS			
Cash-Bank of America-Checking		\$8,080.93	
Cash-Bank of America- Savings		\$44,092.33	
Cash-Bank of America- CD		\$51,626.26	
Prepaid Expense -		\$1,467.50	
Returned Checks		\$950.00	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS			\$106,217.02
TOTAL ASSETS			\$106,217.02
LIABILITIES & RETAINED EARNINGS			
International Quartet Travel Reserve		\$1,565.22	
International Chorus Travel Reserve		\$3,611.99	
Youth Ed. Reserve		\$8,276.05	
Nor Cal Youth Camp Reserve		\$9,918.89	
Harmony Foundation Donor Choice		\$5,584.57	
Leadership Forum Reserve	2010	\$4,481.34	
Leadership Academy Reserve		\$614.00	
C&J Category School Reserve	2010	\$750.00	
PR/Marketing Reserve - TriFold/CD		\$2,500.00	
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES			\$37,302.06
Retained Earnings		\$63,995.11	
Current Retained Earnings		\$4,919.85	
TOTAL RETAINED EARNINGS			\$68,914.96
TOTAL LIABILITIES & RETAINED EARNINGS			\$106,217.02

Jim Sherman:  
Renewed for 7 mo to  
5/29/11

Jim Sherman:  
Santa Clara Conv Prelims  
2011 dep \$1467.50

					<b>BUDGET AMOUNT</b>	<b>BUDGET AMOUNT</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>						
Dues and Assessments						\$52,500
International Prelims-			Bay Area			\$3,000
Fall District Convention-			Fresno			\$22,000
Divisional Contests	ARIZONA		Phoenix	\$2,500		
	SOUTHWEST			\$1,200		
	SOUTHEAST			\$1,200		
	NORTHWEST		w/Prelims	\$0		
	NORTHEAST		Central Cal.	\$1,200		\$6,100
Westunes Ads & Subs						\$600
Interest-Savings						\$650
Other Revenue-Web Hosting						\$0
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>						<b>\$84,850</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
President				\$2,300		
	Awards			\$500		
	Awards Committee Exp			\$800		
	Travel-International			\$2,500		\$6,100
Immediate Past President						\$0
Society Board Member(SBM)						\$0
Executive Vice President						\$3,000
DVP-ARIZONA				\$500		
DVP-SOUTHWEST				\$500		
DVP-SOUTHEAST				\$500		
DVP-NORTHWEST				\$500		
DVP-NORTHEAST				\$500		\$2,500
Secretary						\$1,200
Treasurer						\$200
Officers Meeting Expenses						\$14,000
Committee Chapter Support & Leadership				\$1,400		
	Leadership Academy			\$4,000		\$5,400
	Chorus Director Development					\$1,500
	Contest & Judging			\$4,200		
	Reserve C&J			\$1,500		\$5,700
	Events					\$3,000
	Marketing & PR			\$2,300		
	Web-Public & FWD			\$1,200		
	Westunes	4 issues		\$12,000		\$15,500
	Convention Activities Chairman					\$1,500
	Member Services					\$800
	Financial Development Chairman					\$1,200
	Music & Performance			\$2,000		
	Chapter Coaching			\$2,000		
	Harmony College West			\$5,000		\$9,000
	YIH					\$2,500
Quartet Travel Fund						\$2,730
Chorus Travel Fund						\$6,300
Leadership Forum						\$3,300
Miscellaneous						\$2,300
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>						<b>\$87,730</b>
<b>NET RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS</b>						<b>-\$2,880</b>



### **Bill Rosica, Division 1 Vice President**

Well, here it is, 2011. It seems that 2010 just started. Are we sure we got all the months in? Did we leave any out? Where does the time go? I believe we are given only so many opportunities in life. It is up to us to take advantage of them. Since my last update the Far Western District held our annual Fall Convention and Contest. I am proud to say that all five chapters who qualified from the Southwest District took the opportunity and competed in October. Good job, gentlemen. We also held the Southern Leadership Academy in Pico Rivera. I would have liked to have seen more participants, but those who took the opportunity and showed up enjoyed our day and took back some good information to their chapters. By the time this is published, we will have had a week with Adam Scott, Music Educator from Nashville. Both the Southeast and Southwest Division participated in giving Adam plenty to do. I hope you took the opportunity and joined us along the way.

What is in store for the future? How about getting every chapter to participate in the Divisional Contest in May? Even if your chapter is not interested in competition, come in and sing a show package for us. Put a quartet together and give the competition stage a try. And if that doesn't fit your schedule, just come and encourage your brothers-in-harmony in both the chorus and quartet contests. Just another opportunity to enjoy our hobby.

I know I'm beginning to sound like a broken record, but we still need more representatives at our House of Delegates meetings. Each Chapter President or his appointed man should attend to conduct the business of the District. This is your District and you need to make sure your chapter voice is being heard. Last fall, your House of Delegates voted on whether or not we were in favor of a two-year cycle for International Chorus Contests. On any given HOD meeting we could decide where the next few conventions will be held. Are you taking the opportunity to have your voice heard? If you don't attend conventions because they are too far away or are in a town which is too expensive and your chapter didn't send anyone to vote, you missed your opportunity. My personal belief is that the fall and spring conventions should be a chapter expense for the President or his representative to attend, especially if your chapter is not otherwise involved.

Last but not least is the hosting of conventions. If your chapter had the opportunity to host a convention and make some money for your treasury, would you be interested. Even if the convention is held in Bakersfield or Pasadena, most of the work can be done from your own area. Only during the convention weekend do you have to have people at the site. Give San Luis Obispo a call and ask them how they did it in Bakersfield last fall. I worked with them and they seemed to not only have a good time but made money as well.

If you see me in the hallway this weekend, stop and say hello. Better yet, blow a b-flat.



## Allan Webb, Division 2 Vice President

Since the last HOD meeting in Bakersfield (and as a result of one of the votes taken there), the Southeast Division has had a changing of the guard. I took over for the retiring Division VP, Gene Clements, on Jan 1, 2011, and have since had the honor of being the installing officer for the boards of the San Diego, Palomar-Pacific, Inland Empire, and Coachella Valley chapters. I look forward to future opportunities to participate in that capacity with other Southeast Division chapters next year, so don't hesitate to ask.

In November, the Southeast and Southwest Divisions put on a joint Leadership Academy, where chapter officers have the opportunity to both receive training in their respective positions, as well as talk and brainstorm with their counterparts from other chapters. While this event generally went off well, attendance was not anywhere near 100% of the potential attendees. The board has had some subsequent discussion about possible revamping of the Leadership Academy for 2011 which would increase both the value to chapters officers as well as overall attendance. More details will be forthcoming later this year.

As the incoming DVP, I took the liberty of refreshing the Southeast Division website, which had fallen into a bit of disrepair (broken links, very out of date or missing information, etc). It is currently in a very simple form, with a simple description of Division 2 and navigation links to a list of chapters in the Division (which link to their detailed info elsewhere on the District site) and to a new DVP Blog (which includes a comment feedback section). I intend to have the first blog entry up sometime in early March, and look forward to your responses. Here is the link to the web site:

<http://www.spebsqsafwd.org/div2>

We have, at long last, finalized the Southeast Division convention for May 14, 2011, in Primm, NV, which will be hosted by the Las Vegas Metro Chapter. Details should be available on the District web site well in advance of the HOD meeting. We are taking a gamble (no pun intended) by going to Primm, as the cost structure there is higher than the usual high school auditorium. This is a calculated risk, from a financial perspective, but it provides an opportunity for some chapters in our division who have not historically participated in the division convention to do so. I hope that you all view this not as a contest, but as a place to gather with your barbershop brothers and ring some chords, have some fun, and enjoy your hobby. I look forward to seeing you all there.

On the membership front, the Southeast Division is generally doing about the same as the rest of the Far Western District and the BHS. That is to say, not all that well. Year over year net membership losses were pretty significant in 2010 across all levels of the organization (Division, District, Society). While we are making major inroads with a younger demographic these days (did you see the 650 youth singers at Midwinter, more than double last year?), we are not yet offsetting our attrition through death or non-renewal.

In looking at the statistics for the division, the one that strikes me the most is that all but three chapters in the Division showed double digit non-renewal percentages, some as high as 33% of their 2009 membership. Now, I know in at least a couple of cases, there were some non-renewals that were actually deaths which weren't reported yet in the stats, and there are also those who are still with us but are in failing health and choose not to renew. But those cases aren't solely enough to explain our losses. There

are significant numbers of people staying home instead of participating as a BHS member, and we need to find out why. As Ed Watson pointed out in a recent Harmonizer, we need to focus on both recruitment \*and\* retention, if we are to turn this membership slide around. I have some thoughts on this which I will start talking about on the DVP blog soon, as this space isn't nearly sufficient for my long-windedness.

I've had the opportunity to speak directly with a number of chapter presidents about the state of their chapters, the issues that are confronting them, and how I or the District can assist in helping with those challenges. If I haven't had a chance to talk to your chapter president, board, or director, yet, I plan to soon. I hope to speak with many of you at the Spring convention, but I am always available to schedule time to talk on the phone or via email. My primary job as the DVP is to help your chapters succeed and to represent your interests to the District Board, so don't be a stranger.

Here's to a successful 2011!

Best regards,

Allan Webb

Southeast Division VP



### Steve Sammonds, Division 3 Vice President

2010 was another encouraging year for members as the year-over-year loss in membership across the division fell to less than 1% (0.8% to be exact). This continues the trend of slowing losses from last year's 3% loss and the 17% membership loss in 2009. Two-thirds of the division chapters did not post a loss last year. This trend, combined with the slowly improving economic climate, inspires guarded optimism that 2011 will show at least minimal membership gains by the end of the year. While my report a year ago hoped to see positive growth in 2010, I am still encouraged and pleased with the progress made so far.

	Feb 2011	Feb 2010	Feb 2009	Difference 2010-2011
Bay Area	103	114	129	-11 (- 9%)
Crescent City	2	2	3	0 ( 0%)
Eureka	38	38	37	0 ( 0%)
Fremont-Hayward	26	24	25	+ 2 (+ 8%)
Marin	28	29	32	- 1 (- 3%)
Monterey-Peninsula	38	33	32	+ 5 (+16%)
Napa Valley	24	21	24	+ 3 (+13%)
Palo Alto-Mountain View	61	60	60	+ 1 (+ 2%)
Rohnert Park	12	11	14	+ 1 (+ 7%)
San Francisco	20	23	24	- 3 (-13%)
San Mateo County	27	27	32	0 ( 0%)
Santa Cruz	20	25	19	- 5 (-26%)
Santa Rosa	35	30	24	+ 5 (+21%)
SF Bay Cities	14	13	13	+ 1 (+ 8%)
Walnut Creek	34	36	35	- 2 (- 6%)

I always like to recognize those chapters that have shown growth over an extended period. The past three years have been very challenging for chapters throughout the district and Society. These four chapters bucked the trend and have shown growth from the start of 2008 to 2011: Santa Rosa (7 members, 25%), Eureka (6 members, 19%), Palo Alto–Mountain View (5 members, 9%), and Monterey Peninsula (2 members, 6%).

Only eight of the fifteen chapters attended the Northern California Leadership Academy. Those who did attend gave high marks both to the new facility and the classes. Still, the lack of attendance is a great concern and being studied in committee at the district level.

I know of no chapters that have expressed interest in hosting the 2012 division convention. In the past few years when the convention has been held within the division, the hosting has been handled by only two chapters. While they have both done commendable jobs, other chapters are encouraged to host, both to help share the burden and to take advantage of the profit sharing with the district. District events chair John Jones and I will be contacting chapters to gauge their interest in hosting a future convention.

The division was well represented at the fall district convention in Sacramento. The Voices in Harmony placed second in the chorus contest and earned their fifth consecutive berth to the International Chorus Contest. Other choruses competing were Palo Alto-Mountain View (13th), Santa Rosa (19<sup>th</sup>), and Marin

(20<sup>th</sup>). Two other choruses (Fremont-Hayward and San Francisco) elected not to compete. spam and Motley Q represented the division in the quartet contest.

My responsibilities as chapter music director along with a new job will continue to make chapter visitations difficult. My aim is to get to as many chapters as possible during the year as time permits. I still enjoy receiving updates from chapters whether they be in the form of chapter bulletins, board minutes, or sharing weekly emails to the chapter membership. Those communications have slowed down lately, so please keep me on your lists.

To those who have stepped up to take on a leadership position in their chapter this year, I thank you for your service and wish you a successful and harmonious year.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Sammonds



### **Jim Turnmire, Division 4 Vice President**

In 2010, our Northeast Division averaged almost 3 new Society members per month. The California Delta led the way with 9 new Society members, and the Davis-Vacaville Chapter was close behind with 7 new members. So far in 2011, we have only taken just 2 new members in over a month. Ouch! I know we can improve on this.

Last year at the Divisional convention, we had 9 of our 15 chapters compete. It would be wonderful if we could improve on this number for 2011. Some chapters may not be aware that they could choose to **not** compete, but could choose to do a performance package instead. They would be able to be evaluated by the panel of judges without having their scores published on the scoresheet. This would be a wonderful opportunity to get valued feedback on improving their product that they put in front of the public. That would be a win for their audience, and a win for their chorus, and a win for barbershopping in general. The better the product, the better the chance their chapter will have of attracting **singers**.

The California Delta Chapter sponsored a wonderful Youth chorus, The Really Big Quartet, at the recent Las Vegas Mid-Winter Convention. They placed 5<sup>th</sup> out of the 19 competing Youth Choruses with 43 young men on stage. It was a real thrill to experience the nearly 650 young men getting turned on to our hobby.

The Stockton Chapter is planning a local Youth Chorus Festival in their area on Thursday, April 12. It would be great if you would contact them to see how you could help.

The Reno Chapter will be hosting the very first Quartet Brigade to be held on the west coast. It is scheduled for the last weekend in August. This is designed to be the maximum quartet experience. Any one who has participated in one in the past stated that it was the most fun he ever had in barbershopping. Challenging, but well worth it! Please contact David Queen from the Reno Chapter for more details. Any participant is required to learn several songs before the event. Music and a learning CD will be sent to all who register.



### **Theodore (Ted) Sayle, Division 5 Vice President**

Events chair Ivan Jensen is hard at work, organizing the Div. 5 Convention and contest scheduled for April 15th & 16th.

Likewise, Ivan is working with Bob Sampson and Jack Mauney to secure the 1012 FWD convention for Mesa, AZ. Much work has been done, and much remains.

All chapters have installed their new officers for 2011, with the High Mountain Chordsmen of Show Low chapter acknowledging the 50 years of service by Carl (Doc) Dockendorf., during Russ young's installation of their new officers.

Work on revamping the LA (formerly COTS) is underway

Respectfully submitted,

Theodore (Ted) Sayle

Div. 5 VP

## District Management Team Reports



### Gordon "Mongo" Bergthold, CSLT Chairman

Having just returned from the Mid-Winter International Convention in Las Vegas I'm really stoked about the Youth movement in the society. Nineteen choruses with over 600+ young men stirred the hearts of those in attendance and those who watched via closed circuit television. We are definitely on our way to exposing the younger singers to barbershop thanks in part to the generosity of those donating to the Harmony Foundation and the Foundation's dedication to supporting youth.

As we move forward in our activities here in the FWD the leadership is bent on assisting the chapters and their members in excelling in the various areas of musical performance by offering seminars and expertise from our pool of experienced men who have volunteered to help. I'm again referring to the Chapter Service Representatives (CSR's) that are available for the asking. We are in the process of streamlining the various areas of need that seem to be the most needed, such as membership retention and recruitment, developing marketing material, assessing chapter health, developing chapter goals with plans for implementation, and brain storming new ideas that could save or promote your chapter.

Assisting in leadership training is an ongoing challenge for the Chapter Support and Leadership Training team and we want to do what's best for the FWD chapters. Again, we need to hear from you so that we can design and create meaningful seminars and provide qualified, experienced CSR's as requested by the FWD chapters. There have been several chapters who have requested assistance and we've been able to provide men on rather short notice. Utilize the services that are available and amazing things can happen that will benefit the members and the chapter leadership.

We've been working on streamlining the Leadership Academy (LA) format and many of us talked about it last weekend in Las Vegas. Volunteers have come forward with ideas for assistance and we appreciate the thoughts that have gone into assisting us, the district leadership positions. Keep thinking about what can help enhance the LA experience and share it with us. This is a very important element of leadership training that has dwindled in past years and we feel that it is paramount in our district planning to do this seminar in the very best way possible so that you, the chapter leaders, receive the best the FWD has to offer.

Please keep this thought in mind: *"The doors we open and close each day decide the lives we live."* Flora Whittemore

We can choose to open a lot of doors that have not been opened and our lives could be greatly improved by such a small action.

In Harmony,

Gordon "Mongo" Bergthold

CSLT Chair



### **John Minsker, Chorus Director Development Chairman**

I'm honored to have been named Chairman of Chorus Director Development by Bernard Priceman.

It's quite a challenge and quite an opportunity.

I feel that if we can coordinate the wealth of directing talent from within our District and encourage continuing education, the sharing of knowledge and experience and recognize the achievements of those directors', we will continue to be one the most vibrant, most active and most artistic Districts in our Society.

Here's a breakdown of what's been started:

I've been in correspondence with past District Chairmen, specifically, Dave Tautkus, Steve Sammonds, Jim Turnmire, and Jim Crowley. They have all been very gracious and generous with copies of their files and offers of help and encouragement.

Carson City has requested a CDWI. Within the next couple of weeks (from this writing) I will coordinate putting the right people together for that.

Dave Tautkus is bringing me the Far Western District Chorus Champion Directors' plaque. I will update it and have it ready for the District Contest in October. It has not been updated (or presented) since 1994.

I've been in contact with Nick Papageorge and Russ Young as founders of the 1987 Director's Guild. It is my hope to revive the Guild to create renewed interest in all our directors' for continuing education within our district. By the time this report is read, I hope for a Skype organizational meeting with them. Nick is planning an expanded Directors' "track" at Harmony College West.

I've compiled a list of chapters with their listed directors and asst. directors. I'm in contact with them to ascertain their needs and to work toward the creation of a director's pool to provide new/interim/replacement directors within the district.

I'm also in contact with the two Sweet Adeline regions within our District to see if there is an interest in being a part of that pool.

It's my intention to have a Westunes article EVERY issue.

There's a start, I welcome your thoughts.

Yours for a song,

John Minsker



## **Ron Black, Contest & Judging District Representative**

The Fall District Convention was a huge success, great participation and upbeat mood. 21 Choruses appeared in contest, and 22 quartets. A total of 88 quartet men and 763 chorus men participated.

We selected our 2010 District Champ Quartet "The Crush", and our 2010 Chorus Champ and representative to the International Chorus Contest Santa Fe Springs "The Masters of Harmony". Two other choruses qualified for the International Contest: Bay Area "Voices in Harmony", and Greater Phoenix "Spirit Of Phoenix".

2011 is the year for new applications to the Contest and Judging Program, and the following men have applied to be a judge:

### **Contest Administrator**

Randy Bingel, Mesa, AZ  
 Jim Haggerty, Palm Springs, CA  
 Kent Richardson, San Diego, CA

### **Music**

Jason Dyer, El Dorado Hills, CA

### **Presentation**

Patrick Claypool, Glendale, CA  
 Martin Fredstrom, Tustin, CA  
 Steve Sammonds, San Jose, CA

### **Singing**

Jim Browne, Camarillo, CA  
 Jason Remley, Burbank, CA

We look forward to an active participation of FWD quartets and choruses in the upcoming Division conventions, and encourage everyone to attend their Division Convention!

Ron Black



## **Jack Peters, Membership Chairman**

Thanks to our web master, Keith Eckhardt for his most able assistance getting me oriented in this new position.

### **Introductory letter**

On January 5<sup>th</sup> I e-mailed a letter to all FWD chapter membership VP's introducing myself and stressing that our biggest job for the year will be R&R, Recruiting and Retention of members. Also mentioned was the goal of opening up communications throughout the District especially between Membership VP's and sent them all each other's contact information. I stressed the value of a Singing Valentines program and referenced a successful role model chapter to contact should they wish more information.

### **Membership VP's aid**

January saw 3 chapters contact me for ideas and assistance to get their membership programs off the ground to which I responded. Follow ups are in progress.

### **"It's Cool To Sing"**

With our districts membership age average at 67 years, we need to appeal to our younger men. With the "voice only" singing programs now popular on TV and stressing that "singing is cool", we'll be tagging in on it with our own "It's Cool To Sing" recruiting campaign to be used when ever and where ever possible.

### **Westunes article**

I've submitted an article to appear in the spring Westunes giving our entire membership specific hands on ideas to do, all the time, to continually build our membership.

### **Free Singing Lessons**

Yet to be officially named, a staff of district officials are working feverishly to have a program similar to the SAI's, Ready, Set, Grow, and Sound Of the Rockies, Ready, Set, Sing, available for our chapters to easily implement very soon. The concept is to invite all outside singers to a series of *6 free singing lessons* with the ultimate desire to keep them as members. The program outline and generic materials will be produced by the district for each chapter to implement after adding their own specific area of influence.



## **John Jones, Events Chairman**

### **Upcoming District Conventions Fall District Conventions**

2011 - Oct 13-16 - Fresno, Fresno Host  
 2012 - Oct 11-14 - Phoenix has submitted bid  
 2013 - Accepting Bids

### **Spring District Conventions 2012 / 2013 – Accepting Bids**

#### **2011 Division Conventions**

April 16, 2011 - Arizona Division - Phoenix Chapter  
 May 7, 2011 - Southwest Division - Pasadena Chapter  
 May 14, 2011 - Southeast Division - Las Vegas Metro Chapter  
 May 21, 2011 - Northeast Division - Central California Chapter

#### **2012 Division Conventions**

April 13, 2012 - Northwest Division  
 April 21, 2012 - Arizona Division  
 May 5, 2012 - Southwest Division  
 May 12, 2012 - Southeast Division  
 May 19, 2012 - Northeast Division

#### **Harmony College West**

2011 – Aug 19-21 – Hayward

#### **Events Committee**

Event Chairman – AZ – Ivan Jensen  
 Event Chairman – Southeast – Paul Sandorf  
 Event Chairman – Southwest – Jim Serdahely  
 Event Chairman – Northeast – Sam Barger  
 Event Chairman – Northwest – John Jones  
 Registration Chairman – Bob Cathaway  
 Production Director – Doug Maddox  
 Convention Activities Chairman – Keith Eckhardt

Welcome to our 2011 Spring Preliminary Convention. Locating affordable venues in today's environment is a challenge and it is good to have access to a theater with the style, grace, and acoustics of the Elizabeth A. Hanks Theater at the Santa Clara Convention Center. Our thanks goes to the Voices in Harmony Convention Committee headed by Jay and Susan Breen and to the Bay Area Chapter under the

leadership of Dave Headtler. I have a new appreciation for the effort involved to produce a District level convention. Do let the local folks know of your appreciation.

We have chapters across the District busy preparing the rest of the 2011 conventions, so get these dates on your personal and chapter calendars. Event registration forms are in the lobby, in the Spring issue of Westunes, and online at <http://www.fwdconventions.org/>

Do us all a favor and get your registrations to the chapters in a timely fashion. Online access to the BHS contest registration site is also at the District website.

April 16, 2011 - Arizona Division - Phoenix Chapter  
May 7, 2011 - Southwest Division - Pasadena Chapter  
May 14, 2011 - Southeast Division - Las Vegas Chapter  
May 21, 2011 - Northeast Division - Central California Chapter  
Oct 13/16, 2011 – Fall District – Fresno Chapter

Jim Turnmire, Terry Starr and a host of Fresno chapter members are beyond the early planning stage and well into the implementation stage of our 2011 Fall District Convention. The proximity of the headquarter Radisson Hotel to the Fresno Convention and Entertainment Center along with multiple spaces for staging choruses and quartets will create an environment where performances will peak on stage to the satisfaction of performer and audience alike. Get excited now about your Divisional Contest and be sure your chorus will be represented on stage in Fresno. Check the lobby.

The Spirit of Phoenix Chapter is presenting their bid for the 2012 Fall District Convention to be held in Mesa, Az on Oct 11/14 at this convention. Phoenix has always provided an entertaining and professional convention. More information is located in the lobby.

Needed: Hosts for the balance of the 2012 conventions. Please let your District Officers and/or your Event planners know of your interest. When approached with ample time to plan, locate venues, and identify a team, hosting and producing a convention can be a creative and satisfying way to enjoy our hobby.

Barbershoppers are fun to watch when they are having fun.....thanks, john



## **John McDougald, Financial Development Chairman**

I've just completed my first full year as Financial Development Chair for the Far Western District, and I think it's fair to say that the experience has been filled with both frustration and satisfaction. I'll get the frustration out of the way first and speak no more of it in this report. It has proven to be extremely difficult to get chapters to report what they are doing in the way of charitable activity. It's the old 80/20 rule. 20% of the chapters are right on the ball and promptly respond to requests for information. The rest – well, you know the old “pulling teeth” story. I know there's a lot more going on out there than I'm hearing about – stories and activities that we ought to be sharing with one another and the rest of the Society. As you will see in the next paragraph, the Far Western District has a lot to be proud of.

I had to wait until my Fall, 2010 report to provide the results of the FWD giving to Harmony Foundation for calendar year, 2009. This spring, I at least get to provide some overall statistics in my report to give you a hint as to how much the FWD accomplished in its support of Harmony Foundation in 2010. More details and related awards will be presented at the Spring convention, so I don't want to spoil the surprises. This report combines the giving at both the chapter level and by individual chapter members. In 2010, thirty chapters (and their members) in the FWD made contributions to Harmony Foundation. This is down from the number of chapters that were involved in 2009, but there are still some very positive statistics. Total giving from the FWD topped \$272,000, which is more than double the giving level for 2009. Two new chapters were added to the list of contributors, and nine chapters exceeded the \$5,000 giving level for the year. Sean Devine will be presenting the awards at the convention, so I'll leave the rest of the details for him to share. I haven't seen the results for the other Districts in the Society, but I believe the FWD will be leading the pack again in this very important charitable area. Thank you to all of the 30 chapters who participated in 2010.

I have initiated contacts to my counterparts in the other Society Districts to find out what they are doing in the way of charitable activities. Not all of the Districts have a Harmony Foundation Chair (or Financial Development Chair), but there are about ten of us, and I'm anxious to see what I can glean from others in the Society who may have been working on these issues for longer than I have. I hope to be able to share some of that information with you in upcoming issues of Westunes and/or via direct e-mail correspondence.

We have some great stories right here in the FWD. A number of chapters have established meaningful relationships with other musical organizations in their local schools and communities. I'll highlight just one based on recent correspondence. The Placerville Chapter has been deeply involved in local music programs for nearly 15 years. They have made cash contributions to local high school choral groups, supported a choir composed of home-schooled students, sponsored quartets who have attended district and international contests, helped retain a middle school music teacher with financial support and have been a steady contributor to Youth Harmony Camp since 2003. In addition to “preserving” the barbershop style, I think this is what our Society is all about. I know there are other stories out there just like Placerville. Help me share some of these great activities with our fellow barbershoppers.



### **Greg Titus, Marketing and Public Relations Chairman**

In late January, the BOD determined we will have a webcast available at the Spring Convention (first time ever!), so if you (and your family, friends and neighbors) are unable to make it, you'll be able to catch all the exciting action. We will be partnering with Lions Mane Productions again to provide this service. Moving forward, we should consider approving a webcast at least 3-4 months in advance of the event in order to ensure availability of the production company, securing webcast hosts, to acquire adequate advertising revenue, as well as to begin the sales process.

Considering we are all marketing representatives of our organization, I'd like to solicit ideas on how we can make the FWD bigger and better for the future. Also, if you would like to volunteer to provide copy, articles, reviews, polls, or would like to help update our social media sites, take photos, or any other contribution to enhance our marketing reach, I'd like to hear from you.

We will continue to develop additional tools that can assist in building public awareness of our great hobby, and marketing each chapter, chorus and quartet. Although I have lots of ideas, I'd like to hear yours. One man cannot do it alone, but together, we can move mountains.

Greg Titus  
FWD Marketing & Public Relations  
[marketing@spebsqsafwd.org](mailto:marketing@spebsqsafwd.org)



## Nick Papageorge, Music & Performance Chairman

This year's Harmony College West is scheduled for Cal State East Bay in Hayward, CA. during the weekend of August 19-21, 2011. I encourage as many of your chapter members to attend as possible because the classes and coaching at this event are invaluable to the entire chapter's musical health. Ask your chapter to give scholarships to section leaders, chapter members, or directors. Or talk to me about having your entire chapter attend: your chapter would attend classes half of the time and be coached the other half. Last year the entire Santa Monica Chapter attended and had the time of their lives being coached by Justin Miller!

We will again be offering a class called "Making It Happen," taught by Dr. Greg Lyne. This class is for all current and past front line directors of our FWD chapters. Greg is known throughout the world as a Master Teacher of how to get the most out of your chorus through communication with your hands. He will teach our directors how to "make it happen" through their directing skills. He will also cover areas of the musical experience and what to listen for in your ensemble. This class will also be open to assistant directors and non-member directors, so spread the word. Remember, much of having a Compelling Chapter Meeting is determined by having a knowledgeable and well-equipped Director. Here's a great tool for all of our chapter directors.

Our district is once again in need of exciting and vibrant new directors. Harmony College West is also offering a beginning directors class as well. This class is for any member of your chapter who leads polecat songs, or sing-alongs, or who just thinks they may be interested in directing. Who knows, the next Jim Clancy may come straight out of this class!

John Minsker (our new District Chorus Director Development Chairman) and I have been discussing an expanded chorus directors' track and HCWest. (for those of you who don't remember our FWD Chorus Director's Guild and its annual seminar, it was a tremendous program with an annual seminar that was the precursor to the Society's Director's College). Look for these exciting new classes and...SEND YOUR DIRECTOR!

As always, the school will offer classes in arranging, vocal techniques, sight-reading, and more. Also, don't forget the Pod Style Quartet Coaching that will be going on as well. Your quartet will benefit greatly from the outstanding array of coaches. (See the HCWest Flyer in this issue of Westunes) Of course, there will be a show on Saturday Evening featuring the quartets being coached, and our quest quartets, as well as an afterglow. (Guest Quartets for the weekend are being finalized at this time and will be announced when confirmed) All in all, Harmony College West will be the place to be on the weekend of August 19 -21, at Cal State East Bay, in Hayward, California. Don't miss this educational and fun-filled event!

About 6 Chapters took advantage of the District's Coaching Reimbursement Program, and quite a few Chapters requested and received a Standing Ovation Review for one of their Chapter Shows. Please contact me for either one of these great programs!

Lastly, PLEASE SUPPORT your DIVISION CONVENTIONS/ CONTESTS, as well as our SPRING DISTRICT CONVENTION/INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY CONTEST.

Have a musically rewarding Spring,

Nick Papageorge



## John Krizek, YIH Chairman

**International Youth Chorus Festival:** It was a blast. Of the record 650 young men in 19 choruses participating in the annual Society-sponsored event—held this year in Las Vegas January 29<sup>th</sup>—some 130 were in four choruses representing the FWD. They were from Phoenix, San Diego, Sacramento, and Las Vegas. Fullerton gave it a try but couldn't get a chorus going in time. The Sacramento and Phoenix guys finished second and third, respectively, in the average-age-under-21 plateau.

The Phoenix *Arizona Spirit* definitely plans to continue and grow as a year-round entity, and is doing show gigs; the Sacramento *Really Big Quartet*—which had its beginnings at Youth Harmony Camp—is polling its members to see about doing the same; the San Diego *Pacific Suns* will consider reconstituting when the occasion presents; no report yet from Las Vegas. All sure looked like they were enjoying themselves.

Congratulations to all who participated in a wonderfully inspiring event. Next year, the International Youth Chorus Festival will be in Tucson!

**Workshops/Festivals:** By the time you read this, the annual MOH and Rincon Beach festivals will be history, and hopefully Santa Maria will have staged their inaugural event. San Diego is planning a vocal ensemble showcase with collegiate men's a cappella groups, and including some barbershop, in April. Phoenix and a couple of chapters in NorCal are talking about doing festivals, but I'm not aware of dates being set. Tucson already is planning its next event in September. The one-day events that include workshops for young singers remain one of the most effective ways to expose young men to barbershop. We'd love to have at least one workshop/festival in each division. The District has a wealth of experience to share with any chapter willing to give it a try.

Meanwhile Conejo Valley and Santa Cruz continue to rack up major recognition and appreciation for their high school choir showcase events.

**High School Quartet Contest:** This year, in addition to the District HSQ championship in March at the Prelims, plans are in the works for regional contests, at the Arizona division contest in Phoenix in April, and the SoWest contest in Pasadena in May. Any young quartet unable to make it to Santa Clara is invited to participate in the division contests. Hopefully this will increase the total number of quartets able to participate. Any questions, contact HCQC chairman Bruce Sellnow.

**International Staff Visits:** For the first time in a while, the Society is making staff music experts available for field trips. The FWD is fortunate to have three such week-long visits this year. In February, Adam Scott landed in San Diego, visited schools and coached quartets from there to Rincon Beach, conducted multi-chapter events at PalPac and San Fernando Valley, and wound up as a clinician at the MOH festival in Orange County. All reports on his visits have been estatic. Two other music staff visits are scheduled: one in September in NorCal, to culminate in the staffer serving as a clinician at Youth Harmony Camp; the other in late October-early November, keyed to provide assistance with a South-Bay Area youth harmony festival. Anyone interested in hosting one of these staff visits, contact your Division VP.

**YIH Roster:** The list is up to about 40 names of area and event coordinators, and chapter YIH officers or contacts. If your chapter isn't in the loop, please let me know.

There's a lot more going on in FWD, but space and your time is limited. Please brag about your activities in Westunes—which is where I sometimes find out about it.

YOUTH OUTREACH ROCKS!

## Committee Chairmen Reports



### Steve Sammonds, Chorus Plateau Coordinator

Below is the complete list of chapters with their assigned chorus plateau for 2011. Changes from 2010 appear in bold.

As stipulated in the SOP, chapters have the option to compete in a higher plateau, but can only compete in a lower plateau if they petition the C&J Chair with a valid reason for doing so.

Aloha	A	Crescent City	A	Laguna Hills	A
Apple Valley	A	Crescenta Valley	A	LaJolla	AAA
Bakersfield	A	Davis-Vacaville	A	Las Vegas	A
Bay Area	AAA	El Cajon	A	Las Vegas Metro	AA
Brea	AA	Eureka	A	Lompoc	A
California Delta	AAA	Folsom	A	Long Beach	A
Canada Del Oro	A	Fremont-Hayward	A	Los Angeles	A
Carson City	A	Fresno	AA	Marin	A
Casa Grande	A	Fullerton	AA	Mesa	A
Central California	AA	Greater Phoenix	AAA	Monterey Peninsula	A
Chico	A	Hemet	A	Napa Valley	A
Coachella Valley	A	Inland Empire	A	Nevada-Placer	A
Conejo Valley	A	Irvine	A	North Valley	A
Palo Alto-Mtn View	AA	San Fernando Valley	AA	South Bay	AA
Palomar Pacific	A	San Francisco	A	St. George	A
Pasadena	AA	San Luis Obispo	A	Stockton	A
Placerville	A	San Mateo County	A	Sun Cities	A
Prescott	A	Santa Barbara	A	Temecula	A
Redding	A	Santa Clarita	A	Tucson	AA
Reno	AA	Santa Cruz	A	Ventura	A
Rincon Beach	AA	Santa Fe Springs	AAA	Visalia	A
Riverside	AA	Santa Maria	A	Walnut Creek	A
Rohnert Park	A	Santa Monica	A	Westminster	AAA
Sacramento	AA	Santa Rosa	A	White Mountains	A
San Clemente	A	Sedona	A	Whittier	A
San Diego	A	Sierra Vista	A	Yuma	A



### Terry Mann, Long Range Planning

The format of the 2007 Survival Analysis and Action Plan was in six parts.  
(For the original document GoTo the URL)

This status is reported in 'score card' format. A more detailed, suggestion by suggestion 'score card' format will be available by, and at, the March 2011 BoD meeting.

Section	Comments still true	# of Suggestions	# Suggestions Implemented	# No Action	# Encouraging	# Mixed Results
<b>Introduction and Executive Summary</b>						1
<b>Retention</b>	3	7	2	5		
<b>Recruitment</b>	3	9	0	8	1	
<b>Revenue</b>	1	5	0	3		2
<b>Revival</b>	2	13	2	8	1	2
<b>Training</b>	1	2	0	1		1
<b>Youth</b>	1	0				
<b>Summary</b>	13	36	4	25	2	6

It was then, and it is our conviction now, that no single idea for improvement and no group of ideas for improvement are enough to stem the decrease in membership and revenue in the face of the two thirds of our current membership who have died in these past 5 and/or who will die in the next 10 years. We predicted the BHS layoffs and dues increase. We will continue our membership and financial decline until many of our suggestions, and suggestions of others, are implemented, before we will be again at our previous membership, but with a new generation in charge!

Respectfully,

Terry Mann, LRPC Committee Chair

thePCmann@Gmail.com



**Lynn Brittan, Ethics Committee Chairman**

No issue is currently before the committee.

Please Remove and Present to the DVP

### Chapter Delegate's Credential Form

**House of Delegates  
Far Western District  
Spring 2011 Meeting**



This will certify that the Delegate of the

\_\_\_\_\_ Chapter

is \_\_\_\_\_

Signatures:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Delegate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chapter President