



One Voice

2010 Sunshine District International "Wild Card" Chorus Representative

Voices	3
SDAQ Welcome	4
Leaders	4
Spring Registration	5
HD Chorus	6
New Kid	7
Mid-Winter Report	8
Capt & Q'tet Happ.	9
Sec. Report	9
SOP	12
AOS A Winner?	15
Director Help	17
YMIH	18
CSR Plan	18
In Memorium	21
One Voice	21

Congratulations!

Our Newest SDAQC Member



Lucky Day

See Story
on
Page 4

Keep your address current in the Society database.. That is where the address list is taken from prior to each mailing.
DO NOT send address changes to the Editor or any of the district staff.

Articles with no byline are contributed by the Editor. Clip art courtesy of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

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LET ME INTRODUCE VOICES

by Marianne Schlinkert (Mark's Mom)

At the request of Harmony Foundation, five widowed women met to consider putting together a group that would make contact with widows or widowers, even a family member just to let them know we understand (which we truly do) and that we are there for them and willing to give whatever assistance we can with any questions they may have.

Here's our story. One morning we woke and we were widows. Where do we go from here? What do we do next? There was overwhelming support from the barbershop community. They were at the house, on the phone, cards, e-mails, all wanting to be there to ease the heavy burden. They stood beside us through tough decisions, tears and always with music in their hearts.

In the months following, when many things didn't make sense, one thing did. We wanted to stay close to the **Barbershop Harmony Society** and our dear friends. We wanted to give back however and wherever we could but what could we do? We found out very quickly all we had to do was ask.

Under the invitation and guidance of **Harmony Foundation**, six women came together, formed a group that would develop a process for reaching out to recent barbershop widows, widowers and/or a member family. As a group, we shared our experiences as Barbershop widows, a common thread that gave us a purpose and a way of supporting the barbershop community.

The process begins when we receive notification from the

Society, Harmony Foundation or even the districts. We use the information to make a contact. It may be a phone call, a card, a follow up note whatever lends itself to the information provided. Our aim is to give support and a listening ear to anyone dealing with a loss during a very difficult time. We want them to know that the entire barbershop community cares.

From my personal experiences, I have learned that spouses are very appreciative that we have called. Many have said "I can see you understand". Many have asked questions about how to continue receiving the **Harmonizer**, make contact with **Harmony Foundation** or those at the International Headquarters in **Nashville**. One very important aspect for Voices is; even when a spouse is not involved in the hobby, we find the courtesy phone call is well received. It's important to know that we accept their feelings and respect them.

We invite you, as **Sunshine District**, to make our **Voices** a part of your ongoing communication link with your barbershop extended family.

Voice Contacts

Susan Sauls @ ssauls@insightbb.com

Marianne Schlinkert @ maschlink@msn.com

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Name of Deceased.....

Chapter Affiliation.....

Date Member passed away.....

Spouse Name.....

Telephone Number.....

Address of spouse (if available).....

* These specifics are requested for these reasons:

1. It provides us with personal and timeline information.
2. If unable to reach by phone, a note is sent on behalf of Voices and Harmony Foundation.

SDAQC - Welcome to our newest inductee



By Andrew Borts

This past fall, we welcomed into our 49 other District Quartet champs, **Lucky Day!** An AMAZING four guys with an equally amazing past, we heard some great singing from **Roger Ross, Eric Bell, Jay Hawkins,** and **Paul Gilman.** These are four faces we're ALL familiar with.

Eric Bell their Lead, graced the international stage in the past with **Vantage Point** an AMAZING quartet that placed 27th in their first year at internationals, and now with **Lucky Day** this past summer placing 21st in the world! His clarity and control are an amazing addition to this group!

Tenor man **Roger Ross** – who's a **Dapper Dan** by day, has also graced the stage with **Keepsake** another Sunshine District Association of Quartet Champs member. **Keepsake** went on to win internationals in 1992. Now the high notes for **Lucky Day** have never sounded so great!

Going to the extreme low end, **Jay Hawkins** – the bass of the group has an amazing past, singing with one of the game changing quartets, that brought such bright singing to the barbershop contest stage before it's time, was the anchor man for **Interstate Rivals!** **Jay** went on to win another gold with **Marquis**, a personal favorite quartet of mine for their transmission of the very heart and soul within the songs they sang. Also you'll recognize **Jay** as the Photographer for the international competitions.

Paul Gilman, another member of the group **Interstate Rivals** has been bringing up the baritone part for **Lucky Day.** **Paul** also went on with **Jay** to sing in **Marquis.** **Paul's** clarity and amazing control over the baritone part is amazing! You know he's there, you just don't know HOW HE DOES IT!!! He becomes **Eric's** brother in tone and quality when he needs to, then without fail, he locks into bass **Jay** like a laser guided SINGING MISSILE!

These four are an AMAZING addition to the quartets found in the Sunshine District Association of Quartet Champs! Starting with our first inductee, the **Suntones**, back in 1959, and now **Lucky Day** in 2009 50 years later, has already made the Sunshine District proud!

Our new trophy, redesigned last year and debuted in the fall contest will have their name in the center for an entire year before the name is placed in it's final destination after the 2008 champion. Make sure you congratulate them and CHEER FOR

THEM at internationals in 2010!

Contact information for **Lucky Day**, is as follows;

Contact Dude: Roger Ross

Email: rarchloe@cfl.rr.com

Phone: (407) 595-5359

Website: www.luckydayquartet.com

**Our new trophy,
redesigned last
year and debuted
in the fall contest
will have their
name in the
center**

Our Hobby Develops Leaders!

Have you ever been a **chapter leader**? If not, why not? If so, great! Are you helping to **cultivate new leaders** who will take your place? Let's all get moving on this!

Have you **been a member for years**, but never have had a chance to play a leadership role? Tell your leaders that you want to help **strengthen the chapter** that's given you so much.

Or are you a **new member** who's not ready to jump in with both feet? How 'bout one foot? Ask your leaders to give you a **simple job.** You'll find it very rewarding, and there are **far more jobs than members** in virtually every chapter!

Keith Hopkins
Sunshine District
President



Does your chapter have a relationship with your **community**? You'll become better known, **attract new members**, sell paid performances, and **do some good** for your neighbors. You could connect with a service organization, charitable foundation, school, or church/temple/mosque, etc., and **volunteer your talents** for a couple hours a month (or more) as singers, ushers, chaperones, manual laborers, etc.?

Have you been to an **International Convention**? **Harmony University**? **Sunshine Sizzle**? **Labor Day Jamboree**? Have

Continued on page 19



Spring Convention
Jacksonville, FL
April 9-11, 2010

All Events Registration

Friday Evening Quartet Semi-Finals
Saturday Morning Chorus District Championship
Saturday Evening Quartet International Qualification
And Parade of Champions

Office Use Only

No.

Date

Early Bird All Events Package for Competitors and Guests

Absolute Deadline for discount is Midnight, April 4, 2010!

Please register at District Website or complete this form and mail to:

\$40
BEFORE

Tony Fortune
2901 Cypress Ridge Trail
Daytona Beach, FL 32128-6967

or Fax to: **386-760-1008**

\$50
AFTER

Make checks payable to **Sunshine District**. Please do not staple check to form. No phone orders, please.

Registration must be made using this form, or via the District website, at www.sunshinedistrict.org.

Forms received after Sunday, April 4, will not receive the discount. Please print clearly.

For **confirmation** of receipt please include SASE or request by e-mail to: fountain9@bellsouth.net

Registration and Name Badge Information

Name..... President's Council ☐ HOF ☐ 50 Yr. ☐ ?

Chapter Name..... Singing Part(s) T L Bs Br

Chorus Name..... Home Phone.....

Quartet Name..... e-mail.....

Spouse or Guest Name Badge Information

Spouse's Name.....

Guest Name..... Singing Part(s) T L Bs Br

Guest Name..... Singing Part(s) T L Bs Br

Check here ☐ if you are a first-time convention attendee.

Event Selection for Competitors and Guests

Quantity	Amount
<u>All Events Registration Pass</u>	
<u>and Competitors Badge</u>	
.....Received before Sunday, April 4 @ \$40 = \$.....	
.....Received after Sunday, April 4 @ \$50 = \$.....	
.....Student (Under 24 + Student ID) @ \$20 = \$.....	
<u>Single Event Spectator Tickets</u>	
.....Quartet Semifinals (Fri, Apr 09) @ \$20 = \$.....	
.....Chorus Contest (Sat, Apr 10) @ \$20 = \$.....	
.....Quartet Finals (Sat, eve Apr 10) @ \$20 = \$.....	
.....Student Single Ticket Price @ \$10 = \$.....	
TOTAL	\$.....

Payment Information

Circle One

Visa Master Card Check No:

.....
Please print name as it appears on Credit Card

.....
Card Number

Exp. Date.....

.....
Signature

Online Registration at: www.sunshinedistrict.org

Name badges are required to be shown each time upon entry/reentry to the auditorium.

Harold's Dimension; the HD Chorus

By Amos Velez

One can't imagine how much of a thrill it is to achieve what you have set out to do until you get a little taste of it.

On the Wednesday before the **2010 International Youth Barbershop Chorus Festival** at Barbershop Harmony Society's Mid-winter Convention, the leadership team of the HD Chorus sent an email to the members that ended with this quote by author **Norman Vincent Peale**: "Formulate and stamp indelibly on your mind a mental picture of yourself as succeeding. Hold this picture tenaciously. Never permit it to fade. Your mind will seek to develop the picture."

The story behind the HD Chorus:

In May of 2009 the man who affected the life of so many people throughout his teaching career had a vision and wanted to enlist the help of **Fortissimo** (a local collegiate barbershop quartet) to help coordinate what he called his "one last great musical experience".

He said that once he had that experience he would be able to leave the world without any regrets, and his wish was to put together a young men's chorus to compete at the **International Youth Chorus Festival**.

The man who is the inspiration for the HD Chorus fell ill in August of 2009 and after a few months of battling his illness, he passed on without that "one last great musical experience" he'd planned for. The boys in **Fortissimo** decided to go ahead and finish what he started and with the help of **Alex Rubin** (Musical Director of the **Fort Lauderdale Chapter**, Barbershop Harmony Society) drafted 22 boys into the chorus.

After 3 full rehearsals the HD Chorus finished in 3rd place with an average score of 81% which would put the chorus

among the top 20 choruses internationally. At the contest the HD Chorus presented an exciting and emotional performance of "**The Way You Look Tonight**" (Arr. **Mark Hale**), "**Smile Medley**" (Arr. **Clay Hine**), and "**It is Well with my Soul**" (**Daniel Cochran**, Soloist; Arr. **David Harrington**) in honor of their beloved director, **Harold Bradley**,

The Name:

The chorus had a very tough time coming up with a name, because they wanted something catchy as well as meaningful. They had an idea to name it after **Harold Bradley's** beloved "**Dimension 20**" honor choir, but it just didn't quite click with the guys who didn't have a connection to "**Dimension 20**" and/or **Forest Hill High School**.



The HD Chorus in Competition

One idea was to name it "**The Vocal Minority**" (a play on the name of award-winning ensemble "**The Vocal Majority**" from **Dallas, TX**), as most of the boys in the chorus are minorities, but they agreed that it wasn't serious or meaningful enough. After more brainstorming, the decision was made to use "**Harold's Dimension Chorus**" (aka HD Chorus) as a tribute to **Harold Bradley** and his legacy.

Harold G. Bradley:

Harold G. Bradley was **Forest Hill High School's** "Music Man" for almost 30 years. Though not originally a barbershopper, he fell in love with the style when he was asked to direct a group of Florida's elite barbershoppers (the **All-Florida Singers**) in the early 1990s.

Continued on page 7

Another New Kid on the Block!



*Harold Lathom
Director, C & J*

It is my distinct pleasure to have accepted the position of District Director, Contest & Judging, Sunshine District for 2010. When you see **David Kannberg**, give him a hug/handshake/pat on the back (or all three) for serving in this position for 7 years. Dave has accepted the position of Assistant Treasurer for the Sunshine District and I am sure that he will serve the district as efficiently in that position as he did as District Director Contest & Judging.

Spring Contest is near

Our contest in Jacksonville is fast approaching. All quartet and chorus contest entries (CJ-20) can be made on the Society Website. The cutoff date for contest entries is March 26. I will be conducting the draw on March 27. The draw will be posted to the district Web Site shortly thereafter and an email will be sent to the email contact on the contest entry with the draw. Once the draw has been completed, a quartet or chorus may request (through me only) any special requests for changes in the Order of Appearance, but no later than April 1.

As a friendly reminder, all quartet and chorus competitors must have their Society membership current (paid) by the contest date. For quartets, I will be monitoring this through the Society Web Site. For choruses, I must rely on the secretary of each chapter to insure that all competing members have their Society Membership current (paid) by the contest date.

Qualifiers & Champs to be Named

Last year the Sunshine District qualified five quartets for International. I hope we qualify close to that number this year and send a message to the other districts that the Sunshine District is ready to compete. We will also select a Collegiate Quartet representative to the International Collegiate contest. The 2010 Seniors District Champion will also be determined. Both the Collegiate and Seniors competitors will compete as part of the Semi-Finals on Friday evening.

Evaluations

Quartet evaluations for the finalist quartets is being moved to Sunday morning. There will be two rounds, the first starting at 8:30 AM and the second at 9:35 AM. Moving this to Sunday morning will allow the finalist quartets to sing in hospitality rooms. Evaluations for the quartets not continuing on to the finals will have their evaluations on Friday night after the semi finals session. Chorus evaluations will be held after the chorus contest.

At this point, I do not see a change in the Plateau designations. The plateau assignments will be based upon the average of the last two contest scores. We will also select the most improved chorus.

We have an excellent experienced panel for this contest.

Music Judges

Bob Brock (EVG) and Clay Hine (DIX);

Presentation Judges

Bobby Gray (SWD) and Brian Zink (JAD);

Singing Judges

Larry Deters (DIX) and Allen Gasper (SWD).

Contest Administrators

Chris Buechler (MAD) and Don Leonard (ILL).

There is a possibility that we may have several guest (candidate) judges.

See you in Jacksonville.

HD (continued)

Continued from page 6

Since then, **Harold** was very instrumental in the spread barbershop singing in Florida's school districts. Harold influenced many barbershoppers in Florida, including **Dan** and **Alex Rubin**, **Keith Hopkins**, **Ken Thiboult (Humdingers)**, **Amos Velez**, **Juan Amarilla**, **Daniel Cochran** and many more.

The Future of the HD Chorus:

Alex Rubin of the HD Chorus says, "We are honored and excited to have finished in third place at our very first festival. We're going to add as many boys as we can over the next year and have set a goal of 80 members for the 2011 festival. We are hoping to be a part of youth music workshops and also get involved with our community, and are counting on the support of the local school district and the support of the HD Chorus' home in the Barbershop Harmony Society, The Sunshine District."

Anyone willing to lend a helping hand please go to www.hdchorus.com and ask what you can do to help.

The HD Chorus would like to send our love and thank Mrs. **Karen Bradley** and the Bradley family for all of their support and encouragement.

Mid-Winter Board Report

Shannon Elswick



Mid-Winter in *Tampa* was terrific. We saw record attendance and everyone had a good time. And what an incredible youth chorus contest! Wow is all I can say about that. Wow, Wow, Wow!!!

board, it sounds like a very interesting concept.

Although it was by far not the most exciting activities of the convention, the Society Board did meet on Thursday afternoon and Friday morning of the convention. The most substantive portions of our meetings were reports from the various committees and task forces. Here are some of the items I thought were of particular interest.

BHS Chief Financial Officer, **Heather Verble**, reported that the society finished the year 2009 with an unaudited loss of approximately \$22,000. The good news is that this compares to a projected loss of \$150,000 for 2009 and an actual loss in 2008 of \$333,000. Revenues were much less than projected for 2009 but expense reductions more than made up for the lower income.

Affiliates

The board heard a report from the International Affiliates Task Force which is chaired by **Connie Keil**. A considerable amount of time and energy has gone into working with the affiliate organizations to determine their thoughts and ideas about how to best relate to the society. I was most impressed with a preliminary conversation with one of the affiliates about possibly becoming a district someday.

New District

Skipp Kropp, Chair of the Carolinas District Task Force, submitted a report on the progress of that effort. You may remember from my last board update that the society board gave approval for the task force to form a new district based on the plans which were presented to the board at the fall meeting in Nashville. At the time it was anticipated that the task force could iron out all the details and the new charter would become effective on or before January 2011. The work of the task force is not yet complete so the board will be watching for updates at future meetings.

Chorus Qualifying

The board heard a preliminary report from the Contest and Judging Committee on a special project to evaluate the possibility of moving international chorus qualifying to a two year cycle. Although there is much testing and surveying left to be done before any final recommendation will be made to the

a special project to evaluate the possibility of moving international chorus qualifying to a two year cycle.

Mini Task Forces

Four mini-task forces have been formed under the leadership of **Noah Funderburg** and the Membership Growth Task Force. Each of the mini-task forces gave a preliminary report at the meeting. The groups are tasked with completing their work and making a final recommendation to the full board at the July meeting. The four groups are listed below with their chairs.

Delivery Methods	Alan Lamson
New Chapters	Alan Wile
External Focus	Gary Parker
All Ages	Shannon Elswick

One other thing worth noting, at least in my opinion, is that Dixie District's own **Jim Sams** was the Sergeant-at-Arms for the Midwinter society board meetings and Jim gave the finest SA report I have ever heard.

In Closing

As I have noted in the past, these are merely some of the highlights of the meetings as opposed to a detailed description. Please feel free to let me know if you want more of less of this kind of information. I appreciate hearing from you when ever there is something on your mind which relates to the policies and/or governance of the barbershop harmony society. I continued to be humbled and honored to serve as your designated society board liaison.

If not before, I hope to see as many of you as possible in Philly. Until then, keep singing and keep smiling.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR A MUSIC DIRECTOR

The Melbourne, Florida Chapter is seeking applicants for the position of Music Director. The Chapter is an active chapter of about 45-50 men and are seeking to continue to improve their quality of sound.

If interested, please contact:

Don Anderson donander@cfl.rr.com

Phone: 321-636-1751

Happy 2010

Lewis Law
Sunshine District Secretary



As a chapter leader, it is time to confirm your Florida state, incorporation status renewal is complete. This should be done by April's time frame. If you find your chapter is deficient in this status, you can renew immediately online at <http://www.sunbiz.org>. If this function is normally done by the chapter Treasurer than please confirm that it is complete. **Caution;** if your chapter fails to pay the annual renewal fees, legal actions may be taken against your chapter with the potential of being administratively dissolved.

It is a good idea to have the names and addresses of your chapter officers before going to the *Sunbiz* web site, as this allows you to readily confirm or change information easily.

Update Your Chapter Files

Another annual housekeeping function should include your personal information with society. Though you should have already updated your chapter officers with Nashville, I encourage all members to log on to <https://ebiz.barbershop.org/ebusiness> and update your personal information. Chapter officers may consider offering assistance in this function to your chapter members.

Secretary Manual Updated

If you attended Leadership Academy in January, you were informed that the Chapter Secretary Manual had been updated from the hard copy you were given. Though most of the information remains the same, an update has been performed on Societies web site, with the next update to take place in March. Check back with Society regularly as the internet era, allows us to make changes more regularly than in years past.

Fee Changes, Be Aware

ASCAP fees payable to the Barbershop Harmony Society have changed once again for 2010. If your chapter grosses less than \$48,667 in ticket sales for all performance(s) during the year 2010, you will be required to submit an ASCAP reporting form with a check for the minimum amount of \$219.00. The 2009 annual minimum fee to ASCAP was \$215.

In either case, weather you are catching up for last year or preparing for the year to come, you will make your check

Continued on page 22

Chapter & Quartet Happenings

Tallahassee

By Rodney Atherton

Quartet In-A-Chord, from the *Tallahassee Chapter*, was asked to perform at **Bobby Bowden's** Christmas open house at his home. The request was for them to perform right before the retiring **Mickey Andrews** was presented with a plaque commemorating his 25 very successful years as defensive coordinator for the *FSU Seminoles* football team.

But by the time the gig occurred, **Bobby Bowden** had also announced his retirement after 34 years as the legendary head coach of the *Seminoles*. *In-A-Chord* members **Steve Pennington**(lead), **Nate Golden**(bass), **Robbie Brunger**(tenor), and **Rodney Atherton**(bari) arrived at just the right time to serenade Mickey Andrews' wife in the driveway outside before going in.

The large gathering of FSU coaches and friends and families enjoyed several songs sung by In-A-Chord. Apparently their rendition of *Mr. Grinch* did not hex the team, because two weeks later the Seminoles went on to win the *Gator Bowl* in convincing fashion over the much higher ranked *West Virginia Mountaineers*.



Coach Bowden & In_A_Chord

The Capital Chordsmen tried a new strategy for the 2009 holiday season. Our goal was to find paying performances for the entire chorus before large audiences the first three weeks in December. We scheduled most of these on Thursdays, our regular rehearsal night, to ensure maximum attendance from our members. The end result was an hour-long Holiday Harmony concert that we performed at three Tallahassee locations, in addition to a 30-minute concert for 150 parishioners at a community dinner held at the First

Continued on page 10

Chapter & Quartet Happenings (continued)

Continued from page 9

Baptist Church in Quincy.

We also performed a Sunday evening show as part of *Capital City Christian Church's* ongoing guest-artist concert series. A very appreciative audience of over 400 people attended our show, and, along with a handsome stipend, we were rewarded by pyramids of homemade cookies and other treats at a reception following the event.

In addition, we were one of the first groups to perform at the brand-new *Maguire Center Auditorium* at Westminster Oaks' beautiful retirement community. We also presented our Holiday Harmony show for almost 200 people at the *Tallahassee Senior Center auditorium*, where we rehearse each week.

The Capital Chordsmen sounded great on stage under the guidance of our new director, **Mike McGee**. And our shows included plenty of quartet numbers from four quartets, as well as a very-well-received puppet quartet in a musical comedy skit designed by one of our leads, **Paul Maurer**. We fulfilled our goals and cleared over \$3,000 from our four chorus performances.

Busy as we were ringing holiday chords all over Tallahassee, we did not neglect our usual community service performances. The following quartets sang at about a dozen assisted-living facilities, retirement centers, and a children's home: *The Tally Tones*, *In-A-Chord*, *Four Old Guys Singing Barbershop*, and *Revised Edition*—our Sweet Adelines quartet that has sung for several years in our annual shows and that participated in many of our outings and in our big Holiday Harmony performances.

To top off the holiday season, we rode

and walked along with a float we built for the Tallahassee Winter Festival



At the Winter Festival Parade

Parade—and we had a blast! Talk about great PR exposure – an estimated 100,000 people gathered in downtown Tallahassee for the festival activities and for the “Magic on Monroe Street” parade of nearly 100 floats. Our quartets and octets sang over and over again for enthusiastic parade attendees all the way down Monroe Street to the foot of the State Capitol. We are sure “The Ghosts of Governors Past” smiled and clapped, too.

Several guests at our chapter meetings this fall have become chapter members. Moreover, we handed out invitation brochures to more than 200 men in our holiday concert audiences after they joined us on stage for enjoyable audience sing-alongs.

Along with a warm holiday atmosphere, Tallahassee definitely felt a “barbershop buzz” this winter!

Orlando

By Larry Palomino

So what's new with Orlando Barbershop Chorus? Well, In July we changed our meeting place to *Reeves Methodist Church* located @ 1100 Ferncreek Dr, Orland Fl., on a temporary basis, while we are looking for a more permanent location. We are planning on growing. But more on that later.

In the fall we did a sing out for the *Walk for Autism*. This was our fourth consecutive appearance. We also did a performance at the *Museum of Arts*, for the *Festival of Trees*. (where different organizations submit decorated trees). The trees are then sold off with the profits going to local charitable organizations. There was excellent attendance. The chapter also did other sing-outs for some churches and outsider Christmas parties during these past few months.

In December we had our Annual Installation of Officers dinner. Great food was presented by The *Olive Garden* and staff. It was co-ordinated by **Dr. Dick Bame** and his wife. The installation duty was handled very well by **Bart Van de Mark**, District Director of Chapter Development. We were able to retain/convince existing officers to continue with their post. An important post that was filled was Membership V.P. we were fortunate that **Rusty Phillips**, a new member, took a liking to this position.

Since we didn't have one as membership, he fit in well. There were also many awards given out by Secretary **Jim McElravy** to the other officers. The main award, *Barbershopper Extraordinaire* for the Years 2007-2009, was presented to **Larry Palomino**, V.P. Marketing and Public Relations for extra work put forth.

One of our ways of attracting new members was by erecting a billboard on a major corner, Curry Ford and Semeron, where a large number of vehicles per day pass by. This should give us new exposure. It was scheduled for January. We are also exploring other avenues of advertising. The marketing man has also charged each member to pursue getting new members there by getting Men of Note for themselves.

Continued on page 11

Chapter & Quartet Happenings (continued)

Continued from page 10

Our goal is to get back to having a chorus of reasonable size. We are once again involved with the Valentine singouts.

Orange Ridge

By Dick Shaw

November 14 was a significant day in the young life of the Orange Ridge Chapter. We produced our charter show with the help of many of Sunshine's most generous barbershoppers. The show was a critical and financial success. In terms of encouragement, our members were energized and very excited by the experience. It is certain that an "annual" show is now a part of our culture.

We were headlined by two fantastic Sunshine journeymen quartets. **Hotshots** made a second trek to central Florida in the space of two weeks to give our audience a dose of good singing and entertainment. They came for expenses only (as is typical for a charter show) and they stayed right through the after-afterglow singing and teaching tags. It was a special experience for many new to our hobby and one they will cherish. Thanks very much guys.

Harmonious Hunks turned in a very special performance that had our audience wrapped up in harmony and humor. They lit up the stage during our 'tween glow starring funny man, **Byron Poore**. By that I mean that to Byron, everything is funny, and his infectious laughter that the whole room rocking. In case you were wondering, there were leftovers after the meal so they were not that tough to feed. We loved them and our audience is still praising their performance.

The **Sunshine Jubilee** chorus from the **Winter Park** Chapter performed for us as well and gave the audience a lesson in good singing. They lived up to their reputation as Sunshine's most polished small chorus and, came at their own expense.

District President **Keith Hopkins** was our MC and by the end of the show he had my 5 year old grandson singing "What Can You Do In A Case Like That?" He entertained and demonstrated that good "G" rated material is still the best formula.

We want to thank all these performing units for their generosity and devotion to good entertainment even when fees are waived. Our men were impressed and amazed at the generosity shown and the overall quality of a standard parade show. That coupled with the camaraderie shown by our guests has had a lasting impression on these "newbies."

Sunburst

Citrus County

By Bob Spence

Citrus County barbershoppers from the **Chorus of the Highlands** chapter, prepared for the three days of *Singing Valentines* by performing in a large group for **Wal-Mart**, when they picked up their candy and Valentine's flowers. They sang in a large group for the employees and later added red vests for their quartet performances in the county, including a dinner for the **Methodist** Men and Spouse's Sweetheart dinner.



The Citrus Chorus Entertains

The Ditchfields & My 3 Sons

By Stephen Ditchfield

My Three Sons proudly announce the marriage of **Michael** and **Taylor Ditchfield**. The happy event took place on Friday, February 12th, 2010! During the ceremony, **Michael** surprised **Taylor** by singing her favorite song, "You Raise Me Up" which attracted her to **Michael** the first time she heard him perform it!

At the reception, the bride sat beautifully adorned in her traditional wedding gown as her new husband, father-in-law and two brothers-in-law serenaded her with "Maybe I'm old-fashioned feeling as I do, maybe I am living in the



Taylor Joins My 3 Sons in Song

past...but...**when I fall in love, it will be forever!**" To

everyone's surprise, **Taylor** then took **Nathanael's** microphone and joined the quartet, singing tenor on a great jazz arrangement of "Pa-

Continued on page 14

Jan/Feb/Mar 2010

What We've Learned Through Standing Ovation Reviews

By Jon Wagner

Two years into the expanded Sunshine District SOP program, it's interesting to reflect on the performance critiques by our District Reviewers. While we don't share these written reviews openly, I receive copies of each which gives me a unique perspective from which to draw some conclusions about how our District performs in public. Believe me when I say you aren't alone in the struggle to do better. In both the SOP Reviews and my coaching experiences, there seems to be common problems. I'd like to share some of these insights with you.

Don't Be Afraid of Our Help!

Standing Ovation (SOP) doesn't rate shows numerically or with grade-letters nor do we assign adverbs such as 'bad', 'weak', 'acceptable'. As experienced Barbershop performers, we comment on your strengths and suggest some alternate ways toward improvement.

Our reviewed shows have been so good that we wonder if only the groups confident of their abilities are asking for reviews. (smile) Hmmm. *That could be the case...* perhaps the choruses and quartets most in need of help are fearful of having someone point out weaknesses they might not like to hear. Would you believe that almost every Chorus has identical problems?

Common Issues

One common problem we've seen involves stage equipment. Too often it's the fault of the individuals - people need to be instructed on how to use the microphone to maximize *their* voice. Everyone in front of a microphone (even if only for a few words) needs to practice their role before the show starts (so they must come earlier?).

Someone in the back of the auditorium/audience-area needs to correct them until they are heard properly... raise or lower the microphone, speak into the device rather than turning their head away (particularly important with lapel microphones), etc. If sharing the microphone with one or more people, it needs to be rehearsed how to let each of them be effective. I know this is a boring detail, but nothing is more frustrating to the audience than not hearing what is happening. As an aside, if more than one person is using a mic, then a different type of mic is needed.

Lighting can be a problem OR can add great impact, if used properly. If nobody in your chapter understands stage-lighting and sound, and the venue doesn't have someone familiar with their own equipment to make suggestions, you can still get help from the district. Contact the head of the Coaches Guild or Standing Ovation Program for a reference to someone in your area who can help.

Before a Reviewer takes a seat in your audience, you've done lots of in-house preparation between singing and program-development of costumes, themes, staging, scripts, etc. You've no doubt worked very hard just learning your words and notes, right? "I'll have you know, Charlie, to get those physical moves down pat is no easy feat either." So, you're doin' just the best you can, right?

How Can You Improve?

Probably so. How can you do better? Very easily do better? Quickly do better? Immediate changes even YOU can see, hear and feel over-night? Read on.... You first need to know what you need help with? Ah-Ha! This is the biggie! The single-most problem seen by SOP Reviewers is the easiest to resolve. Too often, the Music Teams are trying to do everything by themselves. EVERY CHORUS and QUARTET needs to have *outside* coaching and/or 5th ears. Solution: Sunshine District Coaching Guild Hey! It's even FREE~!

Would you believe that almost every Chorus has identical problems?

Here are some problems we see regularly and at least one suggested resolution for each:

1. Too many groups are singing rather than performing. Audiences don't expect us to be professional entertainers, but they do expect (and rightfully so) that we be: 1) happy to be singing; 2) happy to be singing with one another; 3) happy to be singing for them.

Answer: Every chapter has a member with a video camera. USE IT at rehearsals. Get tough and demand that your singers have fun!

2. Performances start with a Stage entrance or curtain-opening and until the program is over, there should be nothing but smiles and joy radiating from the stage.

Answer: Rehearse EVERY facet of the program from ground -0- to the end. Your audiences deserves nothing less than the best you can give... and that's 100% while on-

Recognition (continued)

Continued from page 12

stage.

Another aside: Every time we sing we should be enhancing our **performance**, not just rehearsing words and notes. Rehearsing is what you do at home to learn your words, notes and practice stage presence.

3. Less than 10% of Chapter quartets have ever practiced stepping out of the chorus, determined the most pleasing and exciting way to approach a microphone, rehearsed SP, figured out how to spread apart at the end of a song or how to take a bow. Most never smile while singing.

Answer: Do all of the above boring tasks until they are natural movements for everyone by doing them with every song you sing. Have someone watch, offer corrections or suggestions. This could be one or more wives, a Music Team member or even Joe Blow Neighbor if he's the only person available. If Joe's not home, try a video camera. An excellent tool for all kinds of improvements.

4. I doubt that you would believe the number of times the reviewers cannot understand the lyrics to a song. The Director and Music Team don't hear the problem because they *know* what the words are. Have someone sit in on rehearsals who isn't afraid to tell you the truth.

Answer: Fixing the problems of vowel-singing/matching, enunciation, pronunciation is a big job. Sometimes just saying the phrases together is helpful. The Music Team can't do this and teach words and notes at the same time. Do *your* part, okay?

An Easy Solution

These and other exceptions to smooth performances can all be fixed with the most *under-used* FREE district program called the **Coaches Guild**. There are knowledgeable people willing to come to your rehearsals and help you achieve greatness...well, perhaps just great-improvement. All it costs the Chapter is for their mileage to and from. *You will get that much and more back in more ticket sales* because your shows are better... in demand, even!

You can also use more than one coach without hurting their feelings. These guys are good, but what one misses, the other one catches. They need not even be on the same rehearsal night. I try to schedule more than one Reviewer to each SOP event... At a **Herald's of Harmony** SOP, there were three reviewers seated separately in the audience, specifically selected for their greatest area of expertise — staging and technical production, presentation and music. Coaches can be selected by the same criteria.

Barbershop Humor

Provided by Don Himmelman

What's the difference between a lead and an onion?
No one cries when you chop up a lead.

Why did the chicken cross the road?
To get away from the baritone section rehearsal.

What do you call a bass with half a brain?
Gifted.

What's the difference between a lawn mower and a tenor?
You can tune the lawn mower.

What's the difference between Rush Limbaugh and a baritone?
One of them's loud, offensive, abrasive, and loved by a few mis-guided weirdos. The other's a TV commentator.

What's the range of a lead?
About ten yards, if you've got a good arm.

How do you get a lead to sound like a baritone?
Have him sing louder, flatter, and miss every third note.

What did the bass get on his IQ test?
Drool.

How can you tell when a tenor is out of tune?
His lips are moving.

But first, you need a general idea of what *someone outside of the Chapter* sees and hears as your major problems. This can be singers from a nearby chorus or quartet. Other Directors and their Assistants can be effective when asked to sit in on your rehearsals, especially if your Chapter offers the same help to them. A Church Choir Director can also be used and perhaps even recruited.

Summation: Sunshine District wants to help your chorus and quartet be the best you have to offer.
Would you let us?

Find a Coach:

Jeremy Conover (bowbarbershopper@hotmail.com)

Schedule a Standing Ovation:

Jon Wagner (StandingOvations@SunshineDistrict.org)

Chorus & Quartet Happenings (continued)

Continued from page 11

per Moon", in what must certainly have been one of the most unusual quartet costumes in history!

Taylor has been singing with *The Ditchfield Family Singers* for the last two years, since joining us at Christmas '07 when **Nathanael & Gina** were expecting baby **Timothy** during our busy Christmas concert season! Strangely enough, it was at **Michael's** insistence that we invited **Taylor** to continue singing with us after **Timmy** was born and **Gina** was back on tour with us. **Michael** assured us it was not for personal reasons; he simply felt she added a lot musically to our sound! :) We had a feeling there was more to it than that! The whole clan is now delighted with the new addition to our FAMILY, as well as our singing group! Wedding photos are on our website, and on Facebook, as are music videos and plenty of updates!

We'd be remiss if we didn't give a quick report on the success of our first *Ditchfield Family Singers'* Royal Caribbean Cruise in January. We were invited to do two shows in the main theater on board *The Independence of the Seas*, and did two additional performances over the course of our 6-night cruise. Our Head Waiter also asked us to perform on the staircase for the three-tiered dining room crowd, and *My Three Sons* brought the house down with the tag on "I'll Fly Away!" We had such a great time, we're considering doing it again on an even grander scale in November 2011! We hope you'll make plans to join us so we'll have plenty of voices to form a cruise chorus to perform in our final show!

We have a theater engagement the weekend of spring convention so we'll miss you all again, but we wish all the contestants the very best, and hope to see you around the state in a show sometime soon! For bookings, please contact **Bernice** at

941-923-2013. www.DitchfieldFamilySingers.com

**Don't Lose Out On Your Chance To
Promote Your Show or Quartet To
A Vast Sunshine & National
Audience**

ADVERTISE in the Sunburst

Suncoast Statesmen

By Gary Branch

The *Suncoast Statesmen* of *Punta Gorda* are holding their annual show on March 20, 2010. The show will start at 3:00pm and will be held in the new *Charlotte Harbor Event Center* in Punta Gorda and will feature the "*Harmonious Hunks*" as our special guests. For tickets or information, call: 941-276-3658 or email: aladanspencer@comcast.net. This is our second year in this new venue and it is a great place to sing.

Our chapter is alive and well and singing with about 38 members. We have our Director, **John Jordan**, primed and the chorus is singing well with several new singers (snow birds). Because we have so many people going back north early, we won't have enough singers to compete this spring. **Bill Lucast**, our sparkplug for many years, is in poor health and not able to be active at this time. However, you can't keep him down and we expect him back in form soon.

Pensacola

By Ralph Fisk

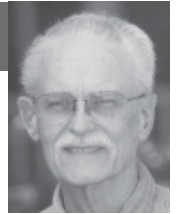
As the new year of singing Barbershop Harmony begins in the far Western gate of the sunshine state of Florida, a new slate of officers was installed at the installation banquet by **Jim Brown**, the Sunshine District Chapter Advisor from *Ft Walton Beach*. The new officers for 2010 are: **Ralph Fisk**, President; **Dave Casssens**, Treasurer; **Richard Kirk**, Secretary; **Dave Doheny**, VP Membership; **John Harnish**, VP Music and Performance; **Dale Bragan**, VP Public Relations; with board members at large, **Robert Whitcomb**, **William Ford**, and **Phil Peterson**. Past President, **Scott Harrington**, acted as Master of Ceremonies.

The BOTY for 2009 was announced and awarded to **Phil Peterson** for his work in organizing the music library and bringing it into compliance with copyright regulations. The rookie of the year for 2009 was **Sean Henderson** for his involvement in supporting the chapter as the tenor in quartets along with his starring role in "*Music Man*" as a member of the "Schoolboard Quartet" that was presented by *Penscola Little Theatre*.

A very special Presidents Award was given to **Dave Doheny**. He was recognized for his work as the *Singing for Life* Coordinator and contact facilitator for the annual chapter Patriotic Parade and Tannabaum Express presentation of barbershop music to the nursing homes and as-

Continued on page 16

AOS Can Be A Winner For You



Dick Shaw
V P for Financial
Development

In January your district Board approved a new incentive for you to consider membership in the **Ambassadors of Song** program sponsored by the Harmony Foundation. This program is the major funding vehicle available to every member who can devote at least \$10 per month towards a tax deductible donation to the Foundation. It is accomplished by designating the amount you choose to come directly from your checking account or credit card account.

The Board has agreed to give a member two free registrations to the spring or fall

convention, (an \$80 value) in exchange for a \$20 per month contribution to **Ambassadors of Song**. The participant must designate the 30 % donor choice amount to the **Sunshine District** (a \$72 value) over the period of a year. The entire \$240 that is donated is tax deductible as a charitable donation.

A separate application form (BELOW) is needed to qualify. All you need to do is complete the form and sent it to me. I will inform the **Harmony Foundation** of your wishes and see that your registration plans are forwarded to **Tony For-**

tune for the convention.

Gentlemen, our thanks goes to the Sunshine District Board for this special incentive. I hope you all will take advantage of this one time opportunity to support the **Harmony Foundation** and thereby the Society programs that it funds. And, the two free registrations ain't bad either.

Ambassador of Song Special Registration

This special promotional offer includes two free registrations to the **Sunshine District 2010 Spring Convention – Jacksonville** (\$80 value) in exchange for a commitment to the Ambassador's Of Song Harmony Foundation program in the amount of \$20 per month for a year. This monthly tax deductible donation will be from your credit card or checking account and the 30% "donor choice" option (\$72 value) will be designated to the Sunshine District.

___ I agree to these conditions.

Name _____ Member # _____

I am also part of ___ President's Council ___ Hall of Fame ___ 50 yr. member

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Email _____

Chapter Name _____ Chorus Name _____

Quartet Name _____ I am a first time convention attender _____

Spouse/Guest Name Badge Information

Name _____ Singing part ___T ___L ___Bar ___Bs

Form of payment

Please charge my credit card or checking account as follows:

\$20 per month. Donor choice 30% option to Sunshine District.

___ MC ___ Visa ___ Disc ___ AMEX ___ Checking Account Debit

Credit Card Number _____ Bank Name _____

Exp. Date _____ Bank Routing # _____

Signature _____ Name on Account _____

Mail or fax this form to:
Dick Shaw, 35 Vagabond Lane, Winter Haven, FL 33881 (Fax (863)324-6044

Chapter & Quartet (continued)

Continued from page 14

sisted living facilities in **Pensacola**. In addition, he was involved in Youth in Harmony activities, and when our director **Karen Jordahl** was injured, took on the responsibility of being the assistant director on short notice.

Singing Valentines were successfully concluded with a total of 50 gigs being sung over three days. This fund raising activity is always looked forward to by the chorus as an opportunity to entertain and present the art of barbershop harmony music to the community.

Great Western Timbre Company

By Roger Smeds

The Great Western Timbre Company quartet would like to thank all of the members of Sunshine District for the tremendous support you have provided the quartet over the past several years as International Seniors Quartet Representatives and especially this past year as Sunshine District Senior Quartet Champions.

While the quartet intends to continue representing the Sunshine District in the Seniors International competition, providing we qualify, we wanted to inform the district that we will not be competing in the Fall District Competition here in Sunshine District. This is because of a conflict that will prevent us from being present at the Fall competition. Our Bass, **Ron Black**, has recently moved back to **California** and is directing a chorus that is in the **Far Western District** Fall Competition which happens to have been scheduled on the same weekend as the Sunshine District Competition.

We will, therefore, be competing out-of-district in the **Far Western District** Competition for a wild card spot (score only) for the opportunity to represent Sunshine District at the 2011 Mid-Winter Convention in **Las Vegas**. We thought it best to let the district know this fact as soon as possible so that other senior quartets are aware that we will not be in the competition and may be encouraged to compete for the opportunity to be the official Sunshine District Representatives to the International Mid-Winter Convention in **Las Vegas**.

We wish all the other senior quartets the best of luck, and again thank all members of Sunshine District for their support over the past few years.

Pinellas County

By Lance Lubin

My Chapter has a unique promo opportunity and as Marketing VPI want to maximize it. We are in **Pinellas County**, Florida.

The major city in the county is **St Petersburg**. The newly elected **Mayor of St Petersburg** is a friend of mine. He is also a barbershopper and has joined our chapter. He is being inducted March 1st. We are, of course, in contact with all the local media (radio, papers, TV). I'm considering having a professional photographer and videographer come so we can get high quality stuff we can post on **You Tube**, **Facebook**, etc. I've been in touch with HQ and will be preparing an article for the **Harmonizer**. At the induction, we're going to have the Mayor sing a tag.



50 - Year Barbershoppers

The following men of the Sunshine District have recently reached their 50th anniversary in the Barbershop Harmony Society:

Frank Thorne:	Robert Fedel
	Gabe Lanzano
	Neel Tyree
Manatee:	Phil Wilding
Orlando:	Robert Geil
Pinellas:	Bill Boll
Sarasota:	Earl Sterling
Palm Beach:	Sid Schulman
Palm Harbor:	John Gaug
Jacksonville and Panama City:	Fred Breedon
Jacksonville:	Robert Lau

Help For Your Directors

*Dave Jacobs
Director, CDD*



Most of us would agree that our chapter chorus directors are instrumental to the health of our chapters. An effective director helps make our chapter meetings a fun musical experience, motivates us to learn more, and to sing our best. He can be the difference in whether our members want to come back week after week. And, has a major impact on whether our guests come back for a 2nd visit.

My job as Director of Chorus Director Development is to help provide the resources our directors need to be as effective as they can be. This year, my goal is to reach out to all of our directors with education opportunities to help every director, assistant director, and aspiring director be their best.

Over the past month, I've attempted to contact every director in the district. If I've missed you, please send me an email at cdd@sunshinedistrict.org. Let me know how I can support you. Let's work together to make your chapter the best it can be. Being a director myself, I believe the musical product your chorus produces depends on your strength as a director. The director's ability to teach and motivate his singers is what shows in the quality of your chorus' musical product.

My theme this year is director education. Here are some of the resources we have available to us:

CDWI – Chorus Director Workshop Intensive. Continuing education personalized for you in front of a volunteer chorus. Two CDWI trainers work with a maximum of 5 directors. You work with the CDWI trainers to identify the skills which you want to improve. You work those skills in front of a host chorus, including one-on-one video reviews with the trainers.

Directors College – August 1-8, 2010. Directors College at Harmony U is the greatest week of education you can possibly receive as a director. It's an opportunity to be immersed in a curriculum specifically designed for barber-shop chorus directors. It's designed for directors of all levels, from the experienced music educator to the section leader who aspires to become a chorus director. You improve your directing techniques, learn sound production, music theory, and the leadership techniques needed to be effective directors. Most of the DC faculty have higher education degrees in their subject area, and for you music educators, CEUs are available.

Directors College Scholarships – Harmony Foundation funds scholarships for Director's College. Scholarships are available for front line, assistant, and aspiring directors, who have not received a Directors College Scholarship in the past 5 years. All you have to do is commit to the dates and commit to becoming a Certified Director. Applications are accepted between March 1st and April 1st. Let's take advantage of this great program.

Director's Certification – This is a program to encourage continuing education for those of us who direct and teach music in our chapters. It helps instill a habit of life-long learning in chorus directors, as well as develop a network of directors to share experiences and learn from each other, resulting in the development of better directors. Better directors make our chapters a better place to be. (Remember, if you received a Directors College Scholarship in the past, you committed to becoming a Certified Director. Let me help you fulfill those requirements.)

Coaching – Take advantage of the Sunshine District Coach's Guild. If you've never had a coach work with your chorus, you should. It's an opportunity for both you and your chorus improve your skills. And it's affordable enough for ANY chapter. Both Jeremy Conover and I would love to help arrange some coaching for your chorus.

Sunshine Sizzle – our district mini-school. Let me know what courses you'd like to see. We want to make Sizzle work for you.

Just a friendly reminder that Standing Ovation Reviewers across the State are willing to come to your next chorus or quartet performance - for free even - to give experienced opinions and suggestions on what they see and hear. The intent of this Society program is to bring help to local chapters - to improve Barbershop Shows nationally and give greater satisfaction to you, the performers who work so hard to make these events special.

**To schedule a review, email Jon at
StandingOvations@SunshineDistrict.org.**

Youth-Based Harmony

What an amazing Mid Winter Convention! Thanks to **Nick Schwob** and his hard working team for making this a smooth running event! The Youth Chorus Festival was certainly one of the highlights of the convention.

The Festival began three years ago with about 125 participants. The event has almost tripled with eleven competing choruses totaling 325 young singers in this Mid Winter! Every chorus was wonderful, each bringing something unique to the show with some posting International level contest scores.

I was especially proud of the three choruses competing from the Sunshine District. **Vokal Kombat**, directed by **Tony DeRosa** and **Debbie Cleveland** took 2nd place with an average score of 81.4 and were the Plateau AAA (average age over 22 years old) Champions! Their rendition of "Joshua Fit the Battle of Jerico" brought down the house!

In 3rd place with an average score of 81.0 was the **HD Chorus**, directed by **Alex and Dan Rubin**. Everyone at Mid Winter will always remember their very touching and emotional performance of "It is Well with My Soul" honoring their inspiration, **Harold Bradley**. From the Navarre High School, the **Raider Men** directed by **Chris Brown** did a great job singing some familiar YMIH tunes. I believe they were the only group exclusively from a single school.

Neww HE Camp Director

After more than a decade of amazing and dedicated work, **Bill Bernard**, our Harmony Explosion Camp Director, is moving to Ohio. **Bill** and his wife **Jeannette** will be greatly missed by all of us. It will be tough to see them leave. **Bill, Jeannette** and their team,

Arnie Helbig
Director, Student Activities

including **Ken Carter**, have built one of the best Harmony Explosion Camps in the country. I am happy to announce that **Ken Carter** has agreed to become the new Harmony Camp Director! **Ken** has been significantly involved for years in this program. His exceptional leadership skills will continue to make this a great experience for the youth of our state. Thanks **Ken**! Please support **Ken** and his team with this very worthwhile event with your generous contributions.



Stay Tuned for More

It's an exciting time in the Youth in Harmony arena! You will be hearing more about the Youth Choruses, Harmony Explosion Camp and Youth Harmony Workshops in the months ahead. I encourage you to support them in any way you can, including participating in the Ambassador of Song program. It is probable the Youth Choruses will be competing in *Las Vegas* at the next Mid Winter convention and will need our help. Please keep them in mind as you are completing your chorus budget or planning your chorus shows. Thanks!

YOUTH CHORUSES TO APPEAR AT JAX CONVENTION!

You missed the Youth Chorus Festival at the Mid-Winter Convention?

You were there, but you'd love to see our Sunshine District Youth Choruses again?

Good news: They're gonna sing in Jax while the judges tally the scores at our April Chorus Contest! Plan to be there!

A CSR Plan

John Pennington
Dir. CSLT



The Chapter Service Representatives (CSR's) have put together a plan to contact every chapter in Sunshine District three times this year. When you are contacted, be prepared to share where your group is and what needs you might have to become a better representative of the Barbershop Harmony Society. Chapters exist to serve your members. Be the best that you can.

We now have enough CSR's to assign every chapter a qualified member from our team. Several good men have stepped up to this challenge. (If you have interest in know what we do and want to look into helping us, please contact **Pete Peters**, **Dave Roberts**, or me.) Chapter Service Representatives are resources for our membership to bring the best that is available in terms of information and bringing qualified assistants to you. It is amazing how many people are working to bring their best talents to our great hobby. One of the jobs of the CSR's is to know who those people are, and get them in touch with you.

The CSR assignments will be showing up on the district web page soon. If you have any questions as to whom is your CSR, contact **Pete Peters**, **Dave Roberts**, or me.

We live in a day where much of our information comes from the internet. I strongly suggest that every chapter make efforts to bring their chapter website up to date. Some chapters don't have a website. If someone is in your area and wants to find out where their nearest chapter is, we can tell them. If they want to know what you are doing, they will look for your website. If any-

CSR (cont'd)

Continued from page 18

one needs information or help is bring these pages into fruition or bringing them up to date please contact me. We have people qualified and ready to help.

The recent Leadership Academy was a great success. The only down-side is the numbers of leaders that were not there. Our faculty is the best in the society. In the COTS program we were prepared to train officers. In the Leadership Academy we are prepared to train officers and other areas of interest. We offer such classes as Grant Writing, Web Design, both beginner and advanced, Chapter Meeting skills, and Chorus/Event Management. We will offer other classes as we find interest. Let me know of your thoughts on this.

This year, for the first time, all Leadership Academy faculty were from within our district. These men work for months preparing the best class material and presentation skills to impart what you need to know to do your job. They are certified as Leadership Academy faculty with the society and work to maintain their excellence in their respective areas. If you have been to COTS in the past and think there is nothing new to learn, you might be mistaken. One of the pluses of these gatherings, beyond the class material, is the sharing with other leaders that are doing the same thing you do and do it differently. Listening to them share may give you some good ideas of how to do your job better. Think about January 8-9, 2011 for a great learning and fellowship experience.

The Chapter Support and Leadership Training (CSLT) program is designed to develop the best interface with the leaders of our district. Our purpose is to train and listen. Please let us know how we can help.

Chapter BOTY Awards

The Barbershopper Of The Year award is one of the most prestigious awards that an individual can receive. It is given in recognition of that member's contribution to their individual organization. It is an honor worth recognizing and to that end we honor those who have earned this level of respect from their fellow chapter members.

Chapter

Greater Canaveral

Englewood

Miami

Sarasota

Tallahassee

Fort Walton Beach

Jacksonville

Ft Lauderdale

Winter Park

Melbourne

Tampa

Cape Coral

Hernando County

Pensacola

Boca Raton

Polk County

Martin/St. Lucie

Central Florida

Naples/Ft. Myers

Ponta Gorda

Palm Beach County

Pinellas

Daytona Beach Metro

Winner

Dick Ricker

Jay Teutenberg

Bob Bohm

Bob Amer

Dr. Bruce Bickley

Schuyler (Sky) Cuniff

John Alexander

Joe LaCorte

Jeff Cokeroff

Carmen DeAngelis

Bryan Hevel

John Wickes

Tom Rooney

Phil Peterson

Art Goldstein

Dr. Alton Smith

Roger Smeds

Jim Gehrlein

Max Meier

Stuart Pease

Tom Randolph

John Nuss

Walt Streicher

Leaders (cont'd)

Continued from page 4

you **sung in a quartet**? In a contest?

Are you helping to finance **Harmony Foundation's** Youth Programs? Only \$10/mo. makes you an **Ambassador of Song**, and \$84/mo. or more puts you in the **President's Council**. Your generosity helps open **young eyes & ears** to barber-shop harmony, and it's entirely **tax deductible**.

Have you **volunteered** to assist with **District activities**? We need loads of help. Please contact me or Mark Schlinkert, our Executive Vice-President (evp@sunshinedistrict.org).

Our hobby has many wonderful and rewarding facets, and those of us who've enjoyed most of them ought to **share these opportunities** with our newer members. They deserve our encouragement to participate in **more than just chapter meetings**! Let's help them become **lifelong members**... like us! If you've read this far... thanks! If you have any questions or suggestions, please call or write.



THE MELBOURNE CHAPTER

BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY

Presents



Featuring

The Harbor City Harmonizers

Under the Direction of Lewis Law

SPECIAL GUEST ARTISTS

Fantasy Gold Medal Quartet



Tim Waurick

● Vocal Spectrum



Joe Connelly

● Interstate Rivals
● Keepsake
● PLATINUM



Jeff Oxley

● Rapscaillions
● Acoustix
● MaxQ



Tony DeRosa

● Keepsake
● PLATINUM
● MaxQ

Saturday, March 13, 2010

Matinee 2:00 PM

Evening 7:00 PM

**Gleason Performing Arts Center, Florida Tech Campus
150 W. University Blvd. Melbourne, FL**

Admission \$20.00

**All seats are reserved. To purchase tickets on line, go to:
HCHarmonizers.harmonize.com or Telephone 321-752-0250
For additional information contact us at hcharmonizers@gmail.com**

In Memorium

Carl Sperry

*From Mitch Greenberg; as written by
Marv Farbstein*

It is with deep sadness that I must inform you that our brother, Past Director, **Carl Sperry**, passed away on Monday, January 24.

It is hard to find the right words to adequately express just what Carl Sperry meant to our Barbershopping. He was a member, Past President, and Music Director of the original **Manhattan Chapter**, and joined the **Big Apple Chorus** when it was formed in 1983 rising to become Chapter President. He earned the distinction of have served as President of BOTH Manhattan Chapters!

Carl was also a member and Past President of the **Westchester County NY Chapter**, and maintained a dual membership there during his life. After his retirement, Carl and his bride **Suzanne** moved south to **Palm Beach Gardens, Florida**, where he promptly joined the **Palm Beach County Chapter**, and served there as Assistant Director. Carl became a founding member and Chorus Director of the **Boca Raton Chapter**. Ever the loyal Big Apple Chorus member, Carl succeeded in the bringing the entire Chorus to Florida (on his own dime!) to sing on our Boca Chapter's Charter Show. The show was such a success that he brought the Big Apple Chorus back for an encore engagement the following year!

Carl's barbershop career spanned nearly six decades, and his love and enthusiasm for all things barbershop never waned. Carl was also an avid quartetter, and he will always be remembered as a gentleman who epitomized the very best of what Barbershopping is all about. To say that he will be missed by his legion of

friends both within and outside of the Barbershop world would be the grossest kind of understatement. The **Sun Spots Quartet** visited Carl and sang with him when schools were closed for Martin Luther King Day. This was our second trip to visit Carl.

Suzanne is planning a Memorial Service. Condolances may be sent to Suzanne Sperry at 1010 Diamond Head Way, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418. Our prayers and thoughts go out to Suzanne Sperry and Carl's family at this difficult time.

May our dear brother Carl Sperry rest in peace, and in eternal harmony.

A "ONE VOICE" STORY

*by Jim Stoup, President, Sarasota
Harmony Society Chapter*

A Rising Tide Floats All Boats:

Sarasota's "One Voice" is thrilled to be joining the current standard bearer "Big O" Chorus in representing the Sunshine District this summer in Philadelphia. We all believe that the Sunshine District is capable of placing even more than two representatives in International Competition in the years to come. In our case, the route to Philadelphia has been a little different than that of other choruses.

The Art Of Giving:

A little over a year ago, a vision, grounded in quality and excellence, was conceived by the Sarasota Chorus of The Keys. Our concept was for men from all over the state, the country and the world, if so desired, to meet on a monthly basis, and striving for excellence and fellowship, share our musi-

cal passion with other committed men who may not ordinarily get the chance to perform on an International level. We have continued to meet in brotherhood, working hard, playing hard, and taking a journey together.

One Voice is dedicated to the principle that through our striving to be excellent, the District becomes better and the bar is raised. Our passion will always be to honor our brothers in the Sunshine District.

Creating New Opportunities:

One of our founding principles was never to place a man in a position to choose between his home chapter and One Voice. I, myself, have often competed in District competitions with more than one chorus. In almost all cases, one of the two was expected to be a more serious competitor in that contest.

In all cases, my primary commitment and loyalty remained with my home chapter. In that same spirit, One Voice is dedicated to providing the same opportunity for those who want the best of all worlds; that is to support their home chapter and, also, to compete at a high level.

We believe that anyone who joins with us will not only continue their primary loyalty to their home chapter, but enhance and augment that chapter with the experience gained with One Voice.

Our Hope:

Our hope is to challenge ourselves be the best that we all can be. In doing so we trust that we will go forward with many other great Sunshine District choruses to make the Sunshine District the pride of the Society at future International Competitions. I believe this is a proud vision that all Sunshine District Barbershoppers can embrace and share.

Continued on page 22

Jan/Feb/Mar 2010

Happy 2010 (cont'd)

Continued from page 9

payable to the Barbershop Harmony Society, and send it directly to Nashville. This process applies to 95% of our chapters. Keep in mind the annual minimum fee is just that—an annual fee, not a per show fee.

BMI/SESAC licensing is no joke. We pride ourselves in being able to show our friends and family all the hard work we put into learning our craft. However, if your chorus fails to submit a BMI/SESAC for show clearance, your time and effort could end up behind locked doors. That's not the worst of it. If you fail to obtain proper show clearance, you may not be properly covered for insurance purposes. So, check, double check, and triple check that you have that show clearance on hand the day of your performance.

Oh, by the way, start rallying your chapter board now for attendance at House of Delegates on April 9th, 2009.

BMI/SESAC show approvals.

March 05, 2010 Naples/Ft. Myers P-023
March 06, 2010 Naples/Ft. Myers P-023
March 06, 2010 Sebring P-048
March 06, 2010 Sarasota P-014
March 07, 2010 Sebring P-048
March 07, 2010 Sarasota P-014
March 13, 2010 Cape Coral P-037
March 13, 2010 Melbourne P-036
March 20, 2010 Charlotte County P-006
March 20, 2010 Venice P-001
March 27, 2010 Daytona Beach Metro P-003
March 27, 2010 Polk County P-026
March 27, 2010 Manatee Sandpiper P-004
March 27, 2010 Martin/St. Lucie P-030



From Society HQ

The Chorus Director Development Committee has put together a list (attached) of all chorus directors who have reached Director Certification status (Certified or Master). We are asking the Districts to include mention of that in your respective convention programs. The kicker is it will require a little cross checking on your part.

The list I am sending is an Excel spreadsheet which is currently sorted alphabetically by State. You will see chapters these men (and women) currently direct as well as chapters they have directed in the past. Please check the choruses that are competing at your upcoming contests, cross check / reference with this attached names on the list, and denote their Certification status (either Certified Director or Master Director) in your program.

We are very grateful for your efforts in including this important recognition. We think the ongoing training and education these directors receive only makes them better and we would love to see more directors take part in the program. Thank you ahead of time!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mike O'Neill

Music Educator

**Next Sunburst Deadline
May 15, 2010**

**YOUR SHOW COULD BE
ADVERTISED IN
LIVING COLOR
ON THIS PAGE.**

**CONTACT THE EDITOR
FOR DETAILS!!**

Calendar Of Events

2010

Apr. 9-10	SUN. Spring Convention	Jacksonville
Jun. 18 - 19	SIZZLE	FTT
Jun 28 - Jul 4	Int'l. Convention	Phil, PA
Oct. 8 - 9	SUN Fall Convention	Ocala



The Tag Corner

Burt Szabo



But There's No End To My Rainbow

But there's no end to my rain - bow;

true?

Why don't my dreams come true, — come true?



Ron Hesketh, Editor

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ATTENTION:

If your chapter needs help in printing

- Annual Show Programs
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or any other publicity printing

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