

**Congratulations to The  
Sunshine District  
Contestants in Philadelphia**



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Look Inside	
<i>D. LaBar Award</i>	3
<i>Year End Obligations</i>	4
<i>Set Yourself Up for Success</i>	5
<i>Society Report</i>	6
<i>Labor Day Jamboree</i>	8
<i>Compel Attract Chpt Mtg</i>	9
<i>Harmony Explosion</i>	10
<i>Harmony Foundation</i>	11
<i>Chap &amp; Q' tet Happenings</i>	12
<i>H.O.F. Xmas Show</i>	15
<i>W.I.T.S.</i>	15
<i>Chorus Director Development</i>	16
<i>A.O.S. Registration</i>	17
<i>Fall Convention Registration</i>	18
<i>Photo Shop</i>	19

## Dave LaBar Emcee Award



**Mark Schlinkert**  
Exec. Vice Pres.



**2010 Recipient**  
**Keith Hopkins**

The Dave LaBar Emcee award, named for one of our departed Society giants, honors an individual who embodies greatness in the "Art of the Emcee."

This award is given to an Emcee who:

- 1 Has achieved outstanding success at the chapter, district, and international levels as an emcee.
- 2 Understands how to communicate with the audience as both a presenter and an entertainer when appropriate
- 3 Has always used material that is suitable for barbershop audiences of all ages.
- 4 Is always prepared and is very comfortable when addressing the audience by developing an excellent rapport.

**One of the most important elements of a quality performance is a "first-rate" Master of Ceremonies.**

**Dave LaBar Emcee Award Introduction**  
**Philadelphia, July 2010**  
**Presenter, Bill Colosimo**  
**Recipient, Keith Hopkins**

Good afternoon!

The Society's Music & Performance Committee serves our membership and our art form by developing, encouraging and supporting programs and resources that increase the quality of performances by our chapters, choruses and quartets. One of the most important elements of a quality performance is a "first-rate" Master of Ceremonies.

The Committee's selection for this year's award has been a Society member since 1977. He currently serves our Society as President of the Sunshine District and his own beloved Winter Park, Florida Chapter. He was named Sunshine's Barbershopper of the Year in 2008 for his service and accomplishments. He has sung with such entertaining Society quartets as Four Man Vocal Band, Special Edition, the Fabulous Mavericks, and--in the 1990's--Shenanigans, in which he sang with this award's very namesake, Dave LaBar! From 1998 until 2004, he performed full-time with the Dapper Dans at Walt Disney World, still "subbing" with them from time to time. Throughout his barbershop career, he has honed his passion for combining music and engaging entertainment and has become a sought-after Emcee Society-wide...for countless shows, contests and--in recent years--for five of our International Mid-Winter Convention extravaganzas where his wit and novelty have even taught his audiences the art of "Barbershop Haiku Poetry!"

Married since 1999 to the talented front-row member of the Toast of Tampa Chorus, Pat Nugent, he now owns a Math and Reading Center which encourages young people to build their academic skills.

Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in congratulating the 2010 Dave LaBar Award recipient,

**KEITH HOPKINS!**

**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.**



*Lewis Law  
Sunshine District Secretary*

Yet another year is screaming by, and as chapter secretaries, we have the end of year obligations staring us down. Most importantly, our election of officers is coming up. As a chapter leader, we need to confirm that our chapter offices such as President, Secretary, Treasurer, and all VP positions are presented for election and filled. This responsibility must be complete by the second week of October. Then all updates completed on e-biz, accessible from the members only site of [www.barbershop.org](http://www.barbershop.org).

This is a great opportunity to update member information as well. So frequently we change address' and general contact information but neglect updating our information on the web. Don't worry this is not a difficult task. If you haven't done this before, go to the Barbershop Harmony Society members section, <https://ebiz.barbershop.org/ebusiness>, log in and go to Chapter Info and select "Report Chapter Officers." From there all you need is your chapter number "P-xxx" and the member numbers of the newly elected.

Keep in mind that there are many positions that can be filled, but if you do not have a selection for that function the President should assume the roll. This allows Society and District information to flow properly to the chapters. Also, your elected officers should mark their calendars for Leadership Academy (LEADAC) at Crystal River in January. Even if you have been there many times in the past, there is always something new that can be picked up or passed on.

Speaking of elections, please encourage your 2010 President and District Delegate to attend the House of Delegates (HOD) meeting in Ocala before Fall convention. HOD is always crucial to attend as district decisions made at HOD affect all of us in Florida. This Fall is your opportunity to cast your vote for Sunshine District officers as well.

I should also mention that the District officers are committed to you and would be more than happy to perform your chapter installation of officers. All that is required is asking one of the officers if they can attend. If they have a conflict in schedule, they will be delighted to assist in locating another officer to perform the installation for you.

Lastly, Christmas is only three months away and I know many of us will be involved with Christmas shows. Please remember to send me your BMI/SESAC applications as soon as possible, to Lewis Law, 6399 Alleghany Ave. Cocoa, FL 32927. This allows me to approve and send the application to society in time for your show.

Gentlemen, your chapter, District, and Society really appreciate the effort you put forth to make your chapter run smooth. Have a GREAT remainder of the year.

See you in October,  
Lewis Law

### BMI /SESAC show approvals.

**September 18, 2010 Fort Walton Beach P-019**  
**November 06, 2010 Orange Ridge P-051**  
**December 04, 2010 Englewood P-038**  
**February 26, 2011 Sarasota P-014**  
**March 04, 2011 Naples/Ft. Myers P-023**  
**March 05, 2011 Naples/Ft. Myers P-023**  
**March 12, 2011 Charlotte County P-006**  
**March 18, 2011 Englewood P-038**  
**March 19, 2011 Englewood P-038**  
**March 19, 2011 Manatee P-004**  
**March 19, 2011 Cape Coral P-037**  
**March 26, 2011 Daytona Beach P-003**

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

**ADVERTISE in The Sunburst**

## Set Yourself Up For Success !



**Jeremy Conover**  
**Director, Music & Performance**

There's not much more fun than to put a CD of our favorite quartet champ or chorus performance into the car and sing along, imagining what it would be like to sing those songs at the highest of levels.

We all do it, myself included.

While I firmly believe that we all have what it takes to be champions, it's important to recognize that the stage of that journey is different for everyone, and being sure to pick the right music for your chorus or quartet will set you up to succeed. It's easy to get caught up in how well those songs are sung and how easy they sound...but remember, they may not be!

As a certified judge, I'm asked all the time: **"Why was my score XYZ? We sang the song just like 4 Voices did on their CD."**

It's important to remember that nearly all of the top groups have songs arranged specifically for them and for what their voices can do...and no two voices are alike! Just because I grab three other guys and try to sing my favorite gold medal song, it doesn't mean it's going to come out the same way.

When you are heading into contest, remember that there are no points awarded for degree of difficulty. In fact, there's a section on every scoresheet entitled "Suitability to Performer". That means exactly how it sounds: Is the chorus or quartet currently at a skill level where they can effectively perform and execute the specific song and the vocal and musical elements that are required?

So set yourself up for success! Choose music for your chorus or quartet that you can lock and ring. Songs that you can sing well and revel the in sounds that your group is making and that your audiences will enjoy listening. This will also boost the confidence of your group and hopefully encourage further development.

The next obvious question is: **"How do I do that?"**

First, it requires musical leadership that is grounded and realistic as to where the current developmental level of their chorus or quartet is. Secondly, it requires some patience and a lot of listening! **There are over 200,000 songs that are arranged in our style... and we're singing about 1% of them! We're all trying to sing the same stuff!** Do some research. Find some old chestnut that isn't being sung and make it your own. Most importantly, look at the makeup of the song. Look at range, tempo, dynamics, lyrics, etc and find songs that will allow you to ring chords. **Don't forget, the SUN Coaches Guild is ready and willing to help your chorus continue to develop.** This has nothing to do with contest. We just want to help you sing better!

**Need some help?** Contact me! I'm currently devising a program where the M&P arm of the district leadership can provide advice and assistance in choosing music and recommendations on where your group should head next. It will be a collaborative decision between an appointed advisor and your musical leadership, based on current recordings, contest results, chorus desires and developmental plans.

Hopefully, we'll all be able to work together to help put your group on the right path for success!

More to come...

J

Jeremy Conover  
BHS Singing Judge  
Director of Music & Performance - Sunshine District  
Bari - The PURSUIT  
(912) 596-8123

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](mailto:StandingOvations@SunshineDistrict.org).

# Society Board Meeting Report



**Shannon Elswick**

Well, here we are, cruisin through the summer and bearing down on fall already. By the time you read this, Philadelphia will seem like distant tail lights. In addition to all the incredible singing and performing we experienced there, we did have a couple of board meetings and I thought you might like to know what went on.

Even though it took two days, what we had was technically one meeting with an overnight recess. For this article I've summarized just some of the highlights from the meeting. I welcome feedback as to whether you want more or less of this kind of stuff in the future.

I am proud to be your official liaison to the Society Board and I hope to hear from you or see you at a barbershop function or convention sometime soon.

Shannon Elswick  
Shannon@rareblendquartet.com

Our meeting started with singing the Canadian and American national anthems and the Old Songs. Mr. Biffle, our Society President, read the Mission and Vision Statements of the society and we observed a moment of reflective silence to remember the honor of service and focus on the tasks at hand. The shorter portion of the meeting which was held on the second day was, as always, a little more formal. President Biffle thanked and acknowledged the past Society Presidents, District Presidents and other dignitaries in attendance.

## Committee Reports:

**Connie Keil** reported for the Global Strategy Development Task Force. The current strategy is mostly a tactical connection which is relational in nature. The current affiliates are Australia, Germany, Holland, Finland, Ireland, New Zealand, Sweden, South Africa, and Great Britain. **Gary Bolles** serves as the BHS representative to the world harmony council. Spain is a possible new affiliate. There are groups in Japan, China and Israel, but we have not yet been officially contacted by any of them. The board voted to establish a written policy to formalize our current position and convey a desire to become even more engaged in world harmony outreach over time.

**Rod Sgrignoli** reported for the Board Education Task Force. Rod will send to the board a formal report and the members of the task force will be working with Paul Wietlisbach to prepare specific recommendations to present to the board at the fall meeting.

**Noah Funderburg** gave the report from the Membership Growth Task Force. The 100+ page report had been delivered to the board in advance of the meeting. Noah thanked all the participants who worked on the 4 mini-task forces and presented the formal recommendations as follows:

1. We should constantly say, and mean what we say, that membership growth is our number one priority. If decisions have to be made between competing interests, membership should win out for the foreseeable future. Every Society member needs to continually place membership growth and retention at the top of our priorities for EVERY decision we make regarding our activities.
2. While every effort should continue to identify and secure new funding to support the Society and membership efforts, the Society must implement effective strategies immediately irrespective of the availability of additional funding.
3. The President should appoint a strategic plan task force, comprised of Board members and staff members, to jointly develop a membership strategic plan for the Society using the data gained from the mini-task force reports, and future information gathering efforts. The objective of the Membership Strategic Plan Task Force is to plan how the Society can best utilize available resources in a reasoned and strategic manner to secure the greatest results at the fastest pace possible.
4. Membership growth and retention strategies should focus on educating, empowering, and assisting chapters in their membership growth and retention efforts.

*continued on page 7*

# Society Board Meeting Report (cont'd)

continued from page 6

5. The following task forces should be continued, with new members appointed:
  - a. New Chapter Task
  - b. External Focus Task Force
  - c. Delivery Mechanism Task
  - d. All Ages Task Force
  
6. As recommended by the All Ages Task Force, the Society should form a standing committee to formulate and implement aggressive communication policies.

The board voted to adopt recommendations #3 and #5 of the MGTf final report as presented above. In addition, the board voted to establish an executive limitation charging the CEO to ensure the appropriate structure exists to provide for effective communications (in response to recommendation #6 above).

**Skipp Kropp** reported on work which has been done on the Operations Manual and Board Policy Document. Several issues such as language related to the former positions of Paired District Board Members were addressed and some policy elements were removed from the operations manual. The board voted to form a task force to create job descriptions for all board positions to be inserted into the rules and regulations.

**Shannon Elswick** and **Rick Ashby** gave the report of the Annual Planning Cycle Committee. After discussion, the board voted to endorse the three-year rolling plan as shown below:

## Three-Year Rolling Plan Proposal

**AIM #1 - The Society reverses the declining membership trend, returns to positive growth, and increases the number of chapters.**

Metric #1: Increase the number of chapters

2010	By 5 to 816
2011	By 10 over 12/31/10 number
2012	By 10 over 12/31/11 number
2013	By 10 over 12/31/12 number

Metric #2: Total annual net membership change

2010	Decrease loss to 600 by 12/1/10
2011	Positive net gain by 12/1/11
2012	Increase total membership by 2%
2013	Increase total membership by 2.5%

In addition, the CEO shall make monthly progress reports on metrics #1 and #2 and will develop a membership growth plan for each subsequent year by October 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **AIM #2 - Chapters enrich lives through singing in community service.**

Metric #1: Increase number of chapters reporting community service - establish a base line of how many chapters report community service through singing by 12/31/10 and then increase the number by 5% each successive year thereafter

Metric #2: Develop a program for meaningful reporting by chapters - establish the program in time to get meaningful data by 12/31/10 and then in subsequent years refine the strategic plan to address the established focus for chapter development resources

The committee also suggested adding an AIM to increase awareness of the Barbershop Harmony Society as the leading male a cappella singing organization in the world. The board discussed the proposal and instructed the committee to continue working on language/metrics and bring the issue back for further discussion at the fall meeting.

**Ed Watson** gave the board an update on future convention sites:

- 2014 will be in Las Vegas at the MGM Grand. All amenities and convention activities will be inside the hotel.
  
- 2018 will be in Orlando at the Peabody Hotel. The convention activities are next door at the Orange County Convention Center.
  
- 2019 will be in Salt Lake City at the Grand America. There will be free light rail to the convention center with minimal busing.

continued on page 8

## Society Board Meeting Report (cont'd)

*continued from page 7*

**Jim Lee**, Treasurer, gave the financial report. The audit for 2009 is substantially complete and should be finalized soon. Expenses are approximately \$100,000 better than plan for the first five months of the year but it is too soon to know what the final bottom line will be for the convention. The balance sheet is stable.

**Clarke Caldwell** gave the Harmony Foundation report. He reviewed the following three objectives from the communication report:

- Increase the awareness of the target audience aware of the financial challenges of the society
- Increase the awareness of philanthropy as a means to address those needs
- Increase the awareness of the general society as to what the Harmony Foundation does to try and meet those needs

There are regional volunteers in place and a mass marketing initiative on the drawing board to kick off the next phase of development. The initial focus of the capital campaign will be on two of the program elements, TAG and Four on the Road. Ambassadors of Song average giving is up from \$44 to \$210 and the average President's Council annual contribution has gone from \$1,480 to \$1,706.

**Ed Watson** gave the CEO report and stated he is optimistic about the future of the society. President Biffle has been energetic and relentless in his support for membership as job one and the staff continue to maintain that focus. The goal for 2010 is to decrease the annual net membership loss to 600 or less. As of the date of his report, the society net membership loss for this year to date was ZERO. **Christian Hunter**, DVP for Membership in the Mid Atlantic District was held up to the board and the meeting attendees as a shining example of using innovative ideas and exceptional organizational skills to create positive results in his district.

Also included in the CEO report was an update on the proposal to move the international chorus contest to a two-year cycle. **Steve Jamison** and **Kevin Keller**

fielded questions from the board and the audience. This proposal will continue to be vetted with the competitors and district leadership and will come back to the board at a future date.

### Elections:

**Jim Warner** assisted **President Biffle** with the annual elections. These men were elected to the following positions:

**Alan Lamson** – Society President

**Shannon Elswick** – Executive Vice President

**Dwayne Cooper** - Treasurer

**Don Fuson** – Board Member

**John Miller** – Board Member

The board meeting was formally closed with all in attendance singing Keep the Whole World Singing.

## Labor Day Jamboree

Hope you've already sent in your registration to compete in the "Grapefruit League" Contest, which will determine the 2010 Sunshine District Novice Quartet Champion. The Contest will be held on Saturday, Sept 4, at 4:00 P.M., at the Labor Day Jamboree Site at Crystal River. The winner gets to sing on the Saturday Nite Show, along with being presented the Rik Ogden Trophy.

Ribbons will be presented to the top three finishers. I challenge every Chapter to send at least one Quartet to Compete. If any of the Quartets would like a little extra coaching, E mail me at Bari007@aol.com, and we'll be glad to find you an excellent coach to work with you for an hour or so. Registration forms are on the District web site, and when you submit your registration, I get a copy. This is a chance to have wonderful experience, compete against your peers, and participate in a FUN contest.

In Harmony,  
**Bob Cochrane**,  
Novice Contest Coordinator.



# Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meeting



Bart VandeMark

On Saturday, September 11, the Sarasota Chapter will host a Compellingly Attractive Chapter Meeting workshop created and moderated by Chuck Greene, Music Director of the highly successful Asheville, North Carolina Chapter. This will be the third in the District. Music leaders from as far away as three hours have been invited. If yours are able to attend, you will see remarkable results.

The following is taken from the 21<sup>st</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> website: <http://www.21stn7th.com/>. (Chuck gave me permission to use as much as I'd like so I'll use it all. I couldn't say it better).

*It won't be the richest, or the largest, or the youngest barbershop chapters, or the best singing, or the smartest, most experienced or most determined who survive and thrive—it will be those who correctly adapt to the changing context of their time.*

It's important that BHS chapters adapt and thrive. Humans are genetically hard-wired to feel wonderful in the presence of consonant vocal harmonies—especially a cappella harmonies. \*\* That gives Barbershop, as an art form, far greater potential to enrich lives than most would imagine.

21st & 7th trains chapter leaders to share the gifts of Barbershop harmony by creating compellingly attractive chapter meetings and popularizing the style and their chapters. The new knowledge, tools, skills and innovations needed are here for you. Sing...Learn...Teach...Create...Thrill...Share... Laugh...Entertain. **Grow. What's Causing Barbershop Harmony Society Membership Decline?**



In short, changes in our North American social context—changes like electronic media usage, suburban commute lengths, vocational demands and the speed-up of everyday living. These changes have caused men to shift their priorities when it comes to what they value in their discretionary time. This is not a pet theory or an armchair guess—this is from rock solid research. **The research shows . . .**

## What Strategies Have to Change?

**To thrive**, Barbershop Harmony Society chapters need to provide what today's men value in their discretionary time—and provide it at a compellingly high level. Through research, sociologists have identified 13 Attractive Value Characteristics people consider when deciding whether to join or renew membership with a non-profit, chapter-structured organization like the Society. All 13 are important, but for the Society, seven are so pivotal they are considered

DealMakers\*\* . . . Believability: **We have proof.**



From (Martin/St. Lucie), Florida to Portland, Oregon, the chapters who actively use the strategies are enjoying success. Beginning in January, 2006, beta-testing in the Asheville, NC Chapter has resulted in **eye-popping statistics. . . .**

**Workshops!** There's a time in the life of each chapter when guys say, "We have got to start thriving—how do we get that done?" 21st & 7th has proven answers. Strategies, tools and training are ready and available now through **workshops. . .**

*The ideas presented in this workshop have helped my chapter, the Martin St. Lucie Mariners, grow by 19 (63%) members since January, 2007. No brag, just fact.*

*Most Music Leaders in the district who have participated have seen positive results. I hope yours will, too.*

*This will not be the last one. But, the sooner we begin to adapt, the sooner we'll see the results.*

Stay tuned.

Bart VandeMark

Music Director, Martin/St. Lucie Mariners  
SUN Director of Chapter Development  
SUN Board of Directors  
BHS Membership Committee

## Harmony Explosion



On June 17, 76 young men and 10 music educators eagerly gathered at the **Florida Institute of Technology** in Melbourne, Florida to begin a three-day adventure into barbershop harmony. The registration process was very smooth and everyone was on time. **Dan Brinkmann** picked up the teaching quartet, **Prestige**, from the airport and brought them to the Camp. Prestige hails from Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio, and is currently the Bronze Medalist in the Collegiate ranking. Dan also did another airport run to pick up a student from Durham, NC. Dan Brinkmann's work wasn't done yet as he then made his first trip to bring drinking water to the Camp.

An orientation meeting was conducted by **Ken Carter**, the new Harmony Explosion Camp Director, who reviewed the rules and regulations of the Camp. Let me add now that Ken did a marvelous job running this Camp. Not only was he new to the job, but he had to deal with a new venue and a new crew at the University. He is to be commended. It's not an easy job.

**Dr. Bill Adams**, one of our clinicians from North Carolina, then taught a "Vocal Health Primer" class regarding taking care of our voices. Normally you'd think this would be a very boring class for a group of young boys, but with Dr. Bill's style of teaching it was anything but boring. While this was going on, the music educators and the chaperones met and rehearsed an eight-part song for men and women titled "**And So To Sleep Again**" as sung by **Acoustix and Panache**. This is a difficult number but when 12 music educators and 10 good chaperones dug into it, it made a wonderful number for the Saturday night show.

After dinner (the food was fantastic at FIT) the boys, Prestige, and our two clinicians, Dr. Bill Adams and **Dr. Steve Jamison**, really began to work on the 5 songs to be performed on the Saturday night show. This was Dr. Jamison's first time as a clinician at the Sunshine Harmony Explosion Camp. He did an outstanding job. Dr. Steve is the Society's Chairman of Judges. Dr. Bill is an educator and professional musician, in both voice and instrumentals. He is also a regular at our Sunshine Harmony Explosion Camp.

**What a great example for the HX boys to see that barbershopping can continue after their high school days are over.**

The next two days were filled with warm-ups, sectional rehearsals, and chorus rehearsals. Prestige was extremely helpful to the boys at chorus rehearsals and conducted all the sectional rehearsals and several of the warm-up exercises. On Friday evening Prestige and Dr. Steve ran a quartet formation program, encouraging boys to form quartets, and to try out for the Saturday evening show. Later on Friday evening at our pizza party held at the Rat, FIT's Rathskeller, two groups out of six qualified to sing at the Saturday evening show.

We were honored on Saturday to have the **HD Chorus**, (they finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place at the Mid-Winter Youth Contest held in Tampa, FL) directed by **Alex Rubin**, attend our rehearsals and also sing on the Saturday evening show. What a great example for the HX boys to see that barbershopping can continue after their high school days are over.

The Saturday evening show was truly spectacular with the great **HD Chorus, Spanglish, Powerhouse, Fortissimo**, (all three quartets qualified for International in  
*Continued on page 14*

## Harmony Foundation

**V. P. Financial  
Development:  
Dick Shaw**



Sunburst District Barbershoppers,

*I have recently received the following message from Ev Nau at the Harmony Foundation:*

Warren Capenos, a Chairman-level member of the President's Council and \$50,000 sponsor of the Foundation's 50th anniversary, has issued a \$250,000 challenge to the Foundation. He has challenged us to raise \$250,000 between now and the end of the year through 200 new President's Council memberships plus any additional donations from existing members. Warren has provided \$250,000 in seed money toward this project, and the Foundation has responded at the Philadelphia convention with 19 new President's Council memberships and new donations from the President's Council totaling more than \$51,000 in just three weeks. We are confident that we will meet his challenge and encourage anyone to leverage his gift to the foundation via the Capenos challenge.

What a great opportunity. If you have been considering becoming a member of the President's Council, this would be a great time for all the reasons mentioned by Ev. One way would be for you to email me at [rshaw2@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:rshaw2@tampabay.rr.com) and I will see that you get an invitation to our reception at the fall convention in Ocala.

Speaking of Ocala, some of you may wish to take advantage of the Ambassadors of Song free registration event. You will receive two registrations for the fall contest (\$80 value) in exchange for a \$20 per month (\$240 for the year) contribution to this special category of giving. Sunshine District will receive the 30% donor choice amount (\$72) to cover your registration. It is a wonderful way of participating in our charity on a regular basis. See the registration form elsewhere in the Sunburst. Remember to send it to me as per the instructions so that I can guarantee your registration.

Keep Cheering,  
Dick Shaw

## Another New Kid

**Director Conventions:  
Chad Bennett**



Sunburst 2010 Summer

Yet Another New Kid on the Block!

Ever since the first time I was invited to work behind-the-scenes for Sunshine District Conventions, I have enjoyed taking on new challenges. Serving as your new Director of Conventions will be no exception. I sincerely appreciate the confidence and support of the Convention and Events Teams, and look forward to exceeding all your expectations.

Your Fall Convention is just around the corner! Hopefully, you've secured your Early Bird registrations. If you didn't get them by August 15th, the price went up to \$60. Rooms at the Hilton Ocala are going fast at \$99/night, so be sure to make your reservation well before the September 10th deadline. Your all-events registration includes all contest sessions and the Saturday Night Show. As more options are added to your conventions, the registration will continue to allow you entry to all events.

In recent years, our District Conventions have shifted most of the focus to contest and judging. Over the next several years, we will experiment with many different aspects of your convention, including seminars, mass sings, coaching observation, archival presentations, and much much more. One of the things being enhanced this Fall is your Show of Champions. In addition to the 2010 Sunshine District Quartet Champions, second place, and third place quartets, our highest scoring International Chorus Representative will also be invited to perform. There will be at least two special guest quartets as well, to be announced via SunshineNet in the coming weeks.

If you haven't been to one of our Conventions in a while, I'd like to know why. Drop me a line, give me a call, get in touch somehow. Whether it's the expense of attending, the lack of events outside contest, whatever your reason, please let me know what would bring you back. We have lots of ideas bouncing around, but it's YOUR convention. Make your vote count, and send me a message. You'll start to see more offerings in the Fall, but

*continued on page 12*

## Chapter & Quartet Happenings

### Hernando County

By George Williamson

As part of their ongoing efforts to help support community organizations, the Hernando County Chapter arranged for the Pine Chords quartet to deliver a donation check of \$400 to Sue Henry for the Hernando Pasco Hospice. The quartet then serenaded patients and staff with songs.

Photo: Gene Schuh, Jerry McPhail, Sue Henry, Art Ellingsen and Pat Lanphier.



Singers serenaded donors and staff workers at the LifeSouth Blood Center. Members of Hernando Chapter performed there as part of their annual Singing-4-Life community performance.

Photo: Doug Stewart, Pat Lanphier, Chuck Swenson, Web Lott, Tom Rooney, Bob Terriciano, Paul Brazil, Heidi Reinert (staff employee), and Linda Darsell (donor).



### Cape Coral

By John Feldmann

If you're driving around Cape Coral, you might encounter a car displaying this magnetic sign promoting the Cape Chorale. Chorus members are putting them on their cars as part of our ongoing membership drive. Ten in 2010 is still our goal!



With snow birds gone and "locals" on vacation, rehearsal attendance has been a little thin but we are still half way through getting off the paper on the six new songs we'll add to the repertoire this year. Each week, Dave Barton, our director, emails an agenda for our rehearsals to the membership, detailing the songs we'll be working on. That way the guys can review their music and the snow birds will know what they need to be working on. We'll be glad to see them back.

*continued on page 13*

## Another New Kid (cont'd)

*continued from page 11*

Spring is when we'll kick things into high gear. Keep an eye on the SunshineNet for more convention news, updates, and other important information. My contact info is included elsewhere in the Sunburst, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

See you in Ocala!

## Chapter & Quartet Happenings

### Pensacola



On Monday, July 12th, we lost a giant in Barbershopping, not only locally, but also the Sunshine District, and The Barbershop Harmony Society.. On this day John P "Jeb" Stewart (TAGMASTER) was received into glory. He was the Youth in

Harmony advocate for the panhandle of Florida, being a leader in getting young folks introduced to barbershop harmony. He had a history of many years of teaching, singing, and participating in many of the activities of The Barbershop Harmony Society . He will be missed by all that knew him whether they sang with him, worked with him or was one of his students.

In July, The Chorus presented a twenty minute Patriotic Show to residents of eight (8) different Assisted Living and Nursing Homes in Pensacola. This is part of our service to the community of those that are less fortunate.

The Pensacola Fiesta Barbershop Chorus will be holding its annual show on Saturday, August 21st. The theme of the show is Barbershoppin' Broadway featuring local artists, A Different Arrangement quartet, as well the Fiesta Chorus. Future gigs for 2010 and 2011 will feature the chorus on shows with Gulf Coast Choral in October and the Pensacola Chorale Society in the Spring of 2011. In February 2011, "Storm Front" will be the featured Quartet in our 2011 show.

A Youth in Harmony Clinic is scheduled for Monday September 20, 2010. This clinic will involve Schools in Santa Rosa County and will be hosted by The Pensacola Chapter and The Fort Walton Chapter. Jack Champlin is the Mover and Shaker for this event with help from members of both chapters.

Keep Smiling and Singing in Harmony,  
Ralph G. Fisk  
President

### Suncoast

#### View from the Suncoast

The Suncoast Statesmen have had most of the summer off while we search for a new director. We are interviewing several and hope to have someone in place by September.

We are moving ahead with plans for the Christmas Holidays and our annual show in March. We are excited about the show as we are featuring the 1975 Gold Medal Quartet Champs, "Happiness Emporium" and the 2010 Gold Medal Senior Quartet Champs, "Resisting-A-Rest." All of this entertainment will be in a wonderful venue, the new Charlotte Harbor Event Center. We are planning on having an afternoon show followed by a dinner and an afterglo. This will allow members to have a full day and still get home early.

We have been a growing chapter and continue to try and fill the risers with good singers. During the summer our local year round singers dip to about 12, so we try and make up for the slow down with a very active Winter season. With a new director in place, we should accomplish our goal.

Gary Branch,  
President

---

### BARBERSHOP DIRECTOR SEARCH

**SEARCHING FOR PART-TIME MUSICAL  
DIRECTOR FOR SUNCOAST  
STATESMEN BARBERSHOP CHORUS  
IN PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA.**

**CONTACT: JERRY ANDERSON,**

312-914-8064 [jerrythegerm.com](http://jerrythegerm.com)

## Happenings (cont'd)

### Tallahassee

Barbershop harmony has been a hot ticket in Tallahassee, thanks to the energetic and capable leadership of the Capital Chordsmen's new director, international medal-winning barbershopper Mike McGee, and to the hard work of our chapter officers and members.

In addition to dozens of community performances, our quartets sang eighty "Sweetheart Serenades" in the city and county on Valentine's Day. On March 27, the Chordsmen entered a float in the city's huge Springtime Tallahassee parade and serenaded the delighted crowd with strolling octets and quartets down several blocks of Monroe Street. That same evening, we also delivered an extremely successful "Quartet Extravaganza" for a packed house at the Tallahassee Little Theatre.

Our annual July summer show at Tallahassee Community College was a blast to produce. In an appreciative parody of Garrison Keillor, the Capital Chordsmen staged "A Harmony Home Companion"—a true musical variety show featuring the full chorus, Bill Jones and his bluegrass band Pasture Prime, our own barbershopper Andy Moody at the piano, tongue-in-cheek commercials, and six quartets: The Bar-Berriens, Equal Time (our men's and women's mixed-voice quartet), In-A-Chord, The Metro Four, Revised Edition (our ladies' quartet), and The Tally Tones. A week later we performed the show again at Westminster Oaks. Our big show included inspirational and patriotic numbers, comedy routines, love songs, and music that took our audience from Old Cape Cod to the Old South, with Coney Island and the Big Apple in between.



July 4th  
Quartet

This summer, a quartet representing the Capital Chordsmen sang patriotic songs at a live television Political Bandwagon forum, which was rebroadcast several times. Additional members of Chordsmen will sing for the larger October candidates' event prior to the general election. This fall, the Chordsmen will also be delivering a gospel show for local churches, getting coaching and competing at Camp Timpooshee in the Joe Breedon Panhandle Regional Festival, and preparing for Sunshine District competition in Ocala!

Can anyone find a better hobby than barbershopping?!

**Bruce Bickley—VP for P/ R and Marketing**

## Harmony Explosion (cont'd)

*Continued from page 10*

Philadelphia), the 2 HX qualifying quartets, the Music Educator/Chaperone Chorus, Prestige and the 2010 HX Chorus. To top it all off, all quartets and the three choruses joined together to sing "Keep the Whole World Singing", under the direction of Dr. Bill Adams, as a finale.

Last, but certainly not least, one of our music educators was honored for his dedicated work and encouraging attitude with his students. **Mr. Wes Rainer** from Seminole Ridge High School was honored. Wes is not only the Choral Director but the Band Director and Band Choreographer as well. It was an honor well deserved. As usual, our chaperones kept the boys safe and made sure they were all accounted for at all times. Our thanks to chaperones, **Dick and Martha Baird, Kathleen Carter, Bob and Dottie Vincuilla, Jeffery Pierson, Hari Barrett, Wendell Putney, and Jeannette Bernard**. A special thanks to **Dave Kirkpatrick** of the Central Florida Chapter for transporting the risers from The Villages to Melbourne and back.

All of this would not have been possible without the financial help from our chapters, the **Association of International Champions, Harmony Foundation**, and a few anonymous donors.

*Bill Bernard  
Retiring Camp Director*

### Calendar of Events 2010

Sep. 3-6	Labor Day Jamboree	Crystal River
Oct. 1-3	SUN Fall Convention	Ocala
Jan. 8-9	Leadership Academy	Crystal River

**Next Sunburst Deadline  
November 15, 2010**

## The "Heart of Florida Chorus" *Christmas Show*



Savannah Center, The Villages, FL  
Saturday, December 4, 2010 at 7:00 PM.

Our featured guests will be the famous  
Ditchfield Family Singers and the quartet: My Three Sons.



Plus...The Heart of Florida Chorus and Our Chapter Quartets will perform!  
Seats \$15.00 Tickets are available at the Villages Box Office! Call (352) 753-3229!

## W.I.T.S.

WITS is Woodshedders in the Sunshine, an informal group comprised of all the AHSOW members in the Sunshine District. What??? You don't know what AHSOW means? Why that's the Ancient Harmonious Society of Woodshedders. What's that you ask? It's the ORIGINAL barbershopping.... Where it all began. When O.C. Cash met his buddies on the rooftop in Tulsa, they didn't have any sheet music. One guy sang a melody for everyone, then sang it again with three guys harmonizing to it. And that's the way it was for years. There were actually objections when people started introducing sheet music.

AHSOW preserves that grand tradition and provides many with the most fun they have ever had barbershopping. In woodshedding, the joy is in ringing the chords rather than getting through the song. The song moves very slowly, allowing each singer to find his notes. Woodshedding ISN'T done by more than four singers at a time, except during a group-learning process or when

a novice needs to hear Barbershop chords. Woodshedding ISN'T 'faking' a fourth part along with three singers who are singing an existing written Barbershop arrangement. Woodshedding ISN'T trying to sing a song you've never heard (at least once) and woodshedding ISN'T singing a Polecat or tags.

If you've never tried it before, it's a lot easier than most people think. You don't need a great voice, just a good ear. If you've tried it before and didn't like it, maybe you were trying it with the wrong people. WITS is having its next gathering at the Labor Day Jamboree, Saturday from 12:00 noon to 4:00. It's free and you don't have to be registered for the weekend to come. Just show up, all materials are provided. If you've never tried it, there will be people there to help you learn how. Find us on Facebook. Just look for AHSOW.

Questions? Call me at 727 410-5696.

Lance Lubin

# Chorus Director Development



**Dave Jacobs Director  
Chorus Director Development**

First, a couple of housekeeping issues:

Harmony U. Several SUN directors and assistant directors were able to attend HU during the first week of August. Some attended on a Harmony Foundation scholarship. If you went thru the director's track, please pop me an email. (CDD@sunshinedistrict.org) Part of my job is to keep track of which directors attend and who utilizes director's scholarships. Part of my job is to encourage all our directors to take advantage of learning opportunities like HU, and to help SUN directors utilize scholarship funds when possible. HU is a wonderful experience for directors of all levels. Chapter Presidents, please make it a priority to encourage your director staff to attend Director's College if at all possible.

We continue to work on scheduling CDWIs (Chorus Director Workshop Intensive) around the district. Luckily, we're blessed with more chapters willing to host workshops than we have interested/available directors. (Each workshop requires five directors and one host chorus.) I'm trying to schedule workshops in part to minimize travel for everyone involved. If your chorus can't host immediately, we'll keep them in the hopper for the next time around

Now, let's talk about a tool that's available to help us, as directors, be more successful: coaching.

When is the last time you invited someone in to work with your chorus? It's been a long time? Never? ... why? A coach wouldn't be a benefit? ...wouldn't be a good fit for your chorus?

Let's look at the benefits of bringing in a coach:

- 1) A coach will help reinforce the good techniques you teach every week, but since he or she is the "expert" or "stranger with a briefcase", they give those techniques more credibility.
- 2) A coach can bring a fresh approach to solving an old problem. If your chorus is struggling to learn a specific skill, an experienced coach may be able to provide you with new, different and innovative approaches to try.
- 3) A coach may identify issues you may not have noticed. Let's face it, the director may be the best musician in the chapter, but we aren't experts in all things. There have been times when I knew

[fill in the blank] just wasn't working, but couldn't identify why. A fresh set of ears can be a great asset.

- 4) Bringing in a coach keeps us on our toes. Knowing someone is coming in to work with us forces both us and our singers to be prepared and on top of our game.
- 5) It adds variety to your weekly routine. It helps keep things interesting and your chorus interested. I like this one. Your singers will enjoy it. A particularly good coaching session will stick with them. "Remember the time [Coach X] came in and had us do that thing? Man, that was cool."

Ok, that's cool, but who'd want to work with my group? Well, here are two ideas:

- 1) Directors of nearby groups. Is there a SUN District, Sweet Adeline International or Harmony Inc. chapter nearby, whose director you respect? Try trading coaching sessions with them. It's a great way to create harmony between chapters.
- 2) The Sunshine District Coaches Guild. Our district has many gifted coaches, who will come work with your chapter at a minimal cost to you. Contact Jeremy Conover, our Director of Music and Performance, and he'll find the right guy for your needs.

Coaching. It's a wonderful tool.





# Ambassador of Song Special Registration

## Sunshine District Fall Convention – Ocala – October 1-3

This special promotional offer includes two free registrations to the above convention (\$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 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 attendee

I Sing  Tenor  Lead  Baritone  Bass

## Spouse/Guest Name Badge Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Form of payment

Please charge my credit card or checking account as follows:

\$20 per month - Donor choice 30% option to Sunshine District - (choose method below)

MC  Visa  Disc  AMEX or  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)875-4077]



**SUNSHINE DISTRICT CONVENTION  
FALL 2010  
OCTOBER 1 - 3  
OCALA, FLORIDA**



HDQTRS HOTEL: OCALA HILTON, 800 602 4023  
CONTEST VENUE: WEST PORT HIGH SCHOOL

**REGISTRATION**

<b>FIRST NAME</b>					<i>As you wish to see it on your name badge</i>					<b>LAST NAME</b>					
<b>CHAPTER NAME</b>					<b>EMAIL ADDRESS</b>										
<b>COMPETING CHORUS</b>					<i>if applicable</i>					<b>COMPETING QUARTET</b>					
<small>SINGING PART</small>		<small>PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL</small>		<small>HOF</small>		<small>50 YEAR</small>		<small>1ST TIMER</small>		<b>PHONE NUMBER</b>					

**ADDITIONAL REGISTRATIONS** *(Name as it should appear on Name Badge)*

	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Last Name</i>	<i>Singing Part or Guest?</i>
REGISTRANT #2			
REGISTRANT #3			
REGISTRANT #4			
REGISTRANT #5			

**REGISTRATION ORDER**

**ALL COMPETITORS ARE REQUIRED TO PURCHASE AN ALL EVENTS PACKAGE  
EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 15**

NAME BADGES, AND TICKETS, ARE REQUIRED TO BE SHOWN EACH TIME UPON ENTRY/REENTRY TO THE AUDITORIUM

ALL EVENTS PACKAGE (EARLY BIRD RATE)	\$40.00	x	QTY	=	\$	
ALL EVENTS PACKAGE (AFTER AUG 15)	\$60.00	x	QTY	=	\$	
ALL EVENTS PACKAGE YOUTH (UNDER 24)	\$20.00	x	QTY	=	\$	
SINGLE EVENT TICKET - ADULT	\$20.00	x	QTY	=	\$	SPECIFY: ___ QTS ___ CHORUS ___ QTF
SINGLE EVENT TICKET - YOUTH (UNDER 24)	\$10.00	x	QTY	=	\$	SPECIFY: ___ QTS ___ CHORUS ___ QTF
VIDEOS (ONLY 1 PER CHORUS OR QUARTET)	\$20.00	x	---	=	\$	
GRAND TOTAL FOR ALL PURCHASES				=	\$	

**BE GREEN AND SAVE GREEN. ORDER ON LINE AT [WWW.SUNSHINEDISTRICT.ORG/CONVENTIONS](http://WWW.SUNSHINEDISTRICT.ORG/CONVENTIONS)**

OTHERWISE SEND WITH CHECK,

(MADE OUT TO SUNSHINE DISTRICT) TO:

TONY FORTUNE  
2901 CYPRESS RIDGE TRAIL  
PORT ORANGE, FL 32128  
FAX NO: 386-760-1008  
EMAIL: FOUNTAIN9@BELLSOUTH.NET

OR:



NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CREDIT CARD

CREDIT CARD NUMBER EXP. DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

# Photo Shop



Sunshine contingent at the Griffon statue, Missouri State Western University (Harmony University 2010)



Prestige, our HX Teaching Quartet from Bowling Green, Ohio College



Dr. Bill Adams and Dr. Steve Jamison, our Clinicians with the HX chorus .



The Capital Chordsmen Bandwagon



The Sunshine Boys Harmony U 2010



The Capital Chordsmen Show set and chorus

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