



Sunburst

Volume 42, Issue 1

Feb-May 2011



Midwinter Convention  
Sunshine District  
Competitors  
HD Chorus  
Great Western Timbre Co.  
DOUBLE PLAY

Top- HD Chorus, Plateau AA Champion  
Second place over all with a score of 82.1

Center- Great Western Timbre Company  
placed fifth with a score of 69.9

Right- DOUBLE PLAY placed 26 with a  
score of 63.3



Photos by Miller Photography

Sunshine District Spring Convention Winners



Main Street



The PURSUIT

Qualified for International



iQuartet

Qualified for Harmony Foundation Collegiate Quartet Contest



Flashback



Click

District Senior Quartet Champions

DOUBLE PLAY



Heralds of Harmony

District Chorus Champions

## Your Sunshine District 2011 Management Team



**President:**  
**Keith Hopkins**  
[Keith.Hopkins@sunshinedistrict.org](mailto:Keith.Hopkins@sunshinedistrict.org)



**Exec. Vice Pres:**  
**Mark Schlinkert**  
[Mark.schlinkert@sunshinedistrict.org](mailto:Mark.schlinkert@sunshinedistrict.org)



**Immediate Past Pres:**  
**Bill Billings**  
[Bill.Billings@sunshinedistrict.org](mailto:Bill.Billings@sunshinedistrict.org)



**Secretary:**  
**Dan Brinkmann**  
[Dan.Brinkmann@sunshinedistrict.org](mailto:Dan.Brinkmann@sunshinedistrict.org)



**Treasurer:**  
**Dave Kannberg**  
[dave.kannberg@sunshinedistrict.org](mailto:dave.kannberg@sunshinedistrict.org)



**V. P. Financial Development:**  
**Dick Shaw**  
[dickshaw@sunshinedistrict.org](mailto:dickshaw@sunshinedistrict.org)



**At Large Member:**  
**John Spang**  
[johnspang@sunshinedistrict.org](mailto:johnspang@sunshinedistrict.org)



**At Large Member:**  
**Bob Brutsman**  
[robertbrutsman@comcast.net](mailto:robertbrutsman@comcast.net)



**Director Chorus Director Development:**  
**Dave Jacobs**  
[d.jacobs@juno.com](mailto:d.jacobs@juno.com)



**Director Contest & Judging:**  
**Harold Lathom**  
[HLathom44@yahoo.com](mailto:HLathom44@yahoo.com)



**Director CSLT:**  
**John Pennington**  
[jpennington@comcast.net](mailto:jpennington@comcast.net)



**Director Marketing & P. R.:**  
**Christopher Baker**  
[Christopher.Baker@sunshinedistrict.org](mailto:Christopher.Baker@sunshinedistrict.org)



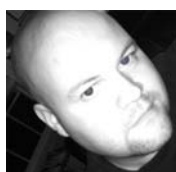
**Director Student Activities:**  
**Arne Helbig**  
[Arne.Helbig@sunshinedistrict.org](mailto:Arne.Helbig@sunshinedistrict.org)



**Director Chapt. Development:**  
**Bart Van de Mark**  
[roadwarriorbvd@gmail.com](mailto:roadwarriorbvd@gmail.com)



**Director Music & Performance:**  
**Jeremy Conover**  
[bowbarbershopper@hotmail.com](mailto:bowbarbershopper@hotmail.com)



**Webmaster:**  
**Ken Delaney**  
[ken.delaney@sunshinedistrict.org](mailto:ken.delaney@sunshinedistrict.org)



**Director Events:**  
**Nick Schwob**  
[nickschwob@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:nickschwob@tampabay.rr.com)



**Director Conventions:**  
**Chad Bennett**  
[chad@humdingers.org](mailto:chad@humdingers.org)



**Sunburst Editor:**  
**Bob Johnston**  
[bob.johnston@sunshinedistrict.org](mailto:bob.johnston@sunshinedistrict.org)

### Sunburst Ad Prices

Per Issue	
Business Card	\$15
1/8 Page	\$25
1/4 Page	\$50
1/2 Page	\$75
Full Page	\$125

**COLOR ADS** available on a "Space Available" basis.  
Contact the Editor for details

Annual Rate (3 issues)	
Business Card	\$40
1/8 Page	\$65
1/4 Page	\$130
1/2 Page	\$200
Full Page	\$330

Finished Ad Sizing	
Business Card:	2" X 3.5"
1/8 Page:	2.5" X 3.5"
1/4 Page:	5" X 3.5"
1/2 Page:	5" X 7.25"
Full Page:	10" X 7.25"

To see the **colored** version of the **SUNBURST** go to the District website:  
<http://sunshinedistrict.org/>  
Scroll to bottom of screen and click on Current Sunburst Issue

Secretaries and other chapter leaders--as was mentioned at the House of Delegates meeting at the Spring Convention in Orlando, it is time to confirm your Florida state incorporation status renewal is complete. This should have been done by May 1. 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, then please confirm that it is complete. If you are late, you may be required to pay a late fee to complete the transaction. **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.

Since you must list a chapter agent, 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.

Another annual housekeeping function regards filing your taxes. Again this applies to all chapter leaders and especially Treasurers. The 990s for fiscal year 2010 should be filed by May 16, 2011. If you have not done so, it is better to be late than to completely fail to do so. Instructions can be found at <http://www.barbershop.org/document-center/category/67-tax-documents.html>. AND once you have completed this, it is imperative that you log onto eBiz (<https://ebiz.barbershop.org/ebusiness/>) for your chapter and complete the "Financial Filings" entries for the fiscal year 2010.

Enough annual requirements? Here is one more. 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.

ASCAP fees payable to the Barbershop Harmony Society have changed once again for 2011. If your chapter grosses less than \$48,667 in ticket sales for all performance(s) during the year 2011, you will be required to submit an ASCAP reporting form with a check for the minimum amount of \$222.00. Last year the annual minimum fee to ASCAP was \$219. Make your check payable to the Barbershop Harmony Society and either send it directly to Nashville or to me with your BMI/SEAC Show fees. 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.

### Dan Brinkmann District Secretary



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.

You folks who are heading "up north" be careful and we look forward to your return.

## Chapter and Quartet Happenings

Gray Poehler, VP Marketing  
Phone 239-304-2815

Small ensembles from the Paradise Coastmen Barbershop Chorus spread holiday cheer at many local restaurants the eve of December 17. The groups sang traditional carols of the season and then passed the hat for donation to benefit the Salvation Army Christmas fund. When all was said and done, the singers gathered at Bokampers Restaurant to celebrate the collection of \$4,000 in donations to help feed and clothe local people in need.

The Paradise Coastmen are the performing chorus of the Naples-Ft. Myers Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. They have entertained local audiences for over 30 years. For more information on the group, log on to [www.naplesbarbershopchorus.org](http://www.naplesbarbershopchorus.org).



Pictured Left to Right are Bob Rose, chairman of the event Captain Pierre Smith, Salvation Army Area Coordinator Bob Slade, President Naples-Ft. Myers Chapter.

### Singing and ringing with the Capital Chordsmen, Tallahassee

The **Capital Chordsmen** have had another busy and award-winning fall and spring. In August and October, several of the men sang tags to keep the political candidates on time as they gave their pitches at the annual Band Wagon forums in Tallahassee.

In September, we won the Joe Breeden Panhandle Region chorus competition at Camp Timpoochee and later won the most improved and fifth overall chorus awards at the District competition in Ocala. To change the tune a bit, we also presented several gospel concerts this fall and spring featuring both the full chorus and our quartets—at the Westminster Oaks retirement complex, Capital City Christian Church, First Baptist Church in Quincy, John Wesley United Methodist Center and Lake Talquin Baptist Church. We also presented our annual Holiday Concert at the Tallahassee Senior Citizens Center and Capital City Christian Church.

On Valentine's Day, a half-dozen quartets delivered 90-100 Sweetheart Serenades (two songs, a tag, a heart-shaped box of chocolates, a carnation and a digital photo) all over the Tallahassee and Leon County area. We are still receiving thank-you notes—and orders for season tickets! Meanwhile, all year long various quartets and VLQ's have sung for more special and invited occasions that we have the space to summarize here.

In March, we performed our second annual "Barbershop Quartet Extravaganza" at the Tallahassee Little Theatre, an ideal setting for singing and ringing, because the enthusiastic audience is almost in your lap, so to speak. Our quartets, **The Bar-Berriens**, **Equal Time** (our men and women's mixed quartet), **In-A-Chord, Revised Edition** (our affiliated ladies' quartet) and **The Rolling Tones** had a blast designing and delivering their 15-minute packages of harmony, humor and nostalgia too. Our guest quartet, **Southern Comfort** from Fort Walton raised the roof with their rousing routines but dropped it safely back in place in time for a wine and cheese afterglow—and more enjoyable singing—to close out the evening.

Several of our most stalwart members marched and sang tags all the way down Monroe Street on April 2 for Tallahassee's annual Springtime Tallahassee Parade. Attendance at the parade that Saturday ran somewhere between 150,000 and 200,000. Talk about exposure. . . .

Our annual show this year: June 3 and 4 at Tallahassee Community College's Turner Auditorium. Theme: "A Year in the Life of The Capital Chordsmen," a variety show that literally showcases what our chapter sings and how we sing it across the four (plus!) seasons of a typical year. Go to our chapter website [www.capitalchordsmen.org](http://www.capitalchordsmen.org) to order tickets or to contact our ticketmaster.

**Dr. Bruce Bickley**  
VP Marketing and Public Relations

### Punta Gorda Suncoast Statesmen Gary Branch

Here in Punta Gorda, the Suncoast Statesmen have been going through some big changes this winter. In September of 2010, while in the search for a new director, we chose a man, Paul Brewer, to take the helm. Paul directed us through the Christmas season. We as a chapter were struggling trying to find a night that we could get everyone including the director together.

While this struggle was taking place, I had the opportunity to talk with a man that had recently moved to Florida from Michigan. He told me that he had been out of barbershop for a couple of years, but would be interested in getting back to directing. He visited the chorus rehearsal and decided that he would be willing to help us. What a turn of events! His name is Jack Slamka, 2003 Gold Medalist with Power Play. He was living only 15 miles from us. He is in the process of getting us into shape for our annual show on March 12, 2011.

The members have shown a renewed interest and are working hard. Our show this year will feature 1975 International Quartet Winners, "Happiness Emporium" and 2010 Senior International Winners, "Resisting-A-Rest". Our show will be held in the Charlotte County Event Center in Punta Gorda, the site of the Sunshine District 2012 Spring and Fall conventions.

Ticket prices are \$15 and the show is at 2:00 pm followed by a dinner and afterglo at 5:00 pm. Tickets for the afterglo are \$20.

We are awarding our first annual Music Scholarship Award for music students in the Charlotte County area. For interested persons, tickets may be purchased by contacting Gary Branch, [twig35@charter.net](mailto:twig35@charter.net) or by calling 941-423-0476.

## Sunshine District International Quartet Preliminaries



Main Street, Qualify for International Quartet Contest. 80.8 Avg 1



The PURSUIT, Qualify for International Quartet Contest. 80.7 Avg 2



iQuartet, Sunshine District Collegiate Quartet Champion. Qualify for the Harmony Foundation Collegiate Quartet Contest. 78.3 Avg C1



Flashback, Qualify for International Quartet Contest. 76.3 Avg 3



Click, Qualify for the Harmony Foundation Collegiate Quartet Contest. 73.0 Avg C2



Monkey Business 69.8 Avg 4



odd MAN out 68.7 Avg 5



Gravity Tractor 66.8 Avg 6

Sunshine District International Quartet Preliminaries (continued)



DOUBLE PLAY, District Seniors Quartet Champion 63.5 Avg  
7 S1



The Best Of Times 63.3 Avg 8



Live Gators 61.7 Avg C3



Tropical Blend 60.2 Avg S2



On The Szame Page 59.7 Avg 10



Sunny Boys 58.8 Avg S4



Afterthought 57.3 Avg 11 S5



The 4 Sharps 57.0 Avg 9 S3

All Contest Photos by Three Oaks Photography

## Sunshine District's Barbershopper of the Year



**Alex Rubin** is Sunshine District's **Barbershopper Of The Year [BOTY]** for 2010. Alex started Barbershopping at the age of nine and is currently the Musical Director of the **Fort Lauderdale Chapter, Sunshine Chordsmen**. This **BOTY** award was presented at our Spring Convention in Orlando on Saturday, April 9, 2011.

**Alex Rubin** has been a fixture in the Sunshine District for years and has always been someone who can be relied upon to help in any situation. The one hundred points awarded for registered quartets are for his membership in Fortissimo and Throwback and the points awarded for quartet competition are for the District and International conventions. Coaching points include awards for coaching Spanglish, JB4, Uprising, and the HD chorus.

He served as a clinician in one District YIH festival & teaching quartet in another. He's a consultant to the District VP for Youth In Harmony. He gives his time unselfishly to improving and furthering the Barbershop art form. He is the frontline Director of the **Fort Lauderdale Chapter** and the **HD Youth Chorus**. His dedication and ability to communicate with young men who like to sing has resulted in a youthful chorus of energetic great singers who will continue to keep Barbershop in their lives. He is the ideal role model for our District and Society.

In addition to being Musical Director, he is also the webmaster for both the Chapter and the **HD Chorus**. As a direct result of his musical abilities and leadership qualities, membership in his chapter has increased by twenty members in the last year alone. His activities and accomplishments prior to last year are extremely impressive and include three District Quartet Championships, four appearances at nine International Quartet competitions with four different quartets, and one College Quartet competition.

Under his leadership, his Chapter chorus has competed in seventeen District conventions coming from AA (55% av) to AAAA (78.1% av). Even when he was competing in chorus or quartet, he was a behind-the-scenes contributor to ensure conventions ran smoothly. He demonstrates maturity beyond his years, reflects great credit on the District and fully deserves this **BOTY** distinction. He is also capable of greater leadership roles in the District.

Nomination narrative

**Dan Brinkmann, BOTY 2004**

**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.**

### BMI/SESAC show approvals.

5/22/2011	Jax Big "O" P-034	Florida State College of Jacksonville
6/03/2011	Tallahassee P-024	Tallahassee Auditorium, Tallahassee College
6/04/2011	Tallahassee P-024	Tallahassee Auditorium, Tallahassee College
11/30/2011	Cape Coral P-037	Cape Coral Yacht Club
2/25/2012	Sarasota County P-014	Riverview Performing Arts Center
3/03/2012	Cape Coral P-037	Island Coast High School
3/10/2012	Charlotte County P-006	Charlotte County Events Center
3/23/2012	Naples/Ft Myers P-023	North Naples UMC .





*Chad Bennett*  
Director of Conventions

What a weekend! If you were unable to join us in Orlando, you missed one of the best Sunshine District Conventions yet! The Orlando Airport Marriott was a great place to gather for our Spring Convention, Headquarters hotel and competition venue all in one. Some of us waited a while for lunch on Saturday, but overall, the hotel went above and beyond in accommodating our needs. There were plenty of quiet places to sing, ample meeting space, and helpful staff at every turn. Even though we had never visited them before, they welcomed us with open arms and we look forward to returning in the Fall.

There's a reason Sunshine District Conventions are among the best in the Society, actually several reasons – like your entire Convention Team. It takes an army of people working behind the scenes to hold a successful event. Please take a minute to look at the list inside the front cover of your program or on the Conventions web page. These individuals volunteer their time and talents to make sure your weekend experience is enjoyable. When you see any of these folks, remember to let them know what a great job they're doing. I want to mention a couple names that were inadvertently left out of the program, or joined us after we went to print... Dave Kirkpatrick and his team from the Host Chapter, the **Heart of Florida Chorus**, filled in everywhere you looked. From competitor guides, to ushers, to the riser crew, and much more. Gary Raulerson handled most of the Afterglow details, Andrew Borts helped with competitor recordings, and many others stepped up during the weekend when help was needed. Volunteers are always welcome, so let us know if you want to join the Team.

Here's a quick recap of the contests: Sixteen quartets competed for the right to represent the District, and twelve choruses sang it out for the title of 2011 Sunshine District Chorus Champion. After three great contest sessions, here are the quartets and choruses that took home the top awards. Seniors Quartet Champion **Double Play**, District Chorus Champion **Heralds of Harmony**, and Most Improved Chorus **Cape Chorale**. Be sure to cheer on our representatives to the 2011 International Contest: two College Quartets - **iQuartet** and **Click**, and three International Quartets - **Flashback**, **The PURSUIT**, and **Main Street**. These quartets will join the **Big Orange Chorus** and the **Heralds of Harmony** in representing the Sunshine District in Kansas City. Good luck to all!

While waiting for the draw after the quartet semifinal round, we were thrilled by the sounds of the **HD Chorus**. You may have noticed some of the college competitors on the risers with them. It's great to know the future of barbershop is in good hands. Following the chorus contest, the **Jax Big O** sang away the trophy and **Alex Rubin** was awarded Barbershopper of the Year. As always, there were a few events Saturday afternoon to keep us busy. For example, the YouBarberShop Podcast team was in attendance for a live recording featuring our top quartets, and the Video Vault showcased our 1981 Spring Convention. Following the quartet finals, our two representatives to the International Chorus contest, Jacksonville and Tampa, joined together for a few numbers. Before the results were read, special guests **Return 2 Zero** wowed the audience with their vocal ability. After the competition, the Capri Ballroom became our "cozy" afterglow venue... close quarters, but there was plenty of food, drink, and singing to enjoy. In all, a great Convention weekend!

It's never too early to start planning for the Fall Convention. The registration form is included in this issue, so take advantage of the early bird pricing while you can. Ticket prices have increased slightly, but your Convention is expanding. The biggest addition is the Sunshine District Association of Quartet Champions (SDAQC) Friday Night Show. Starting right after semifinals, this new show will feature the SDAQC Chorus under the direction of **Tony DeRosa**; outgoing champs **The PURSUIT**; several other past SUN quartet Champions; and showcase our special guest - 1959 Sunshine District and 1961 International Quartet Champion, the **Suntones!** The next archive from the Video Vault will be the SUN 1991 Fall Convention featuring **Keepsake**, and watch for other special events as they are confirmed.

Thanks again to all who attended in Orlando and best of luck to all our representatives in Kansas City. The next article will focus on the Fall Convention and include more details about the extra activities we're planning for you. As always, please let me know what we can do to improve your convention experience. If you have any comments, questions, or concerns, just drop me a line at [conventions@sunshinedistrict.org](mailto:conventions@sunshinedistrict.org) and I'll make sure you get a quick response.

## Sunshine District Pioneer Fred L. Breedon Jr.



Fred L. Breedon, Jr.

The last surviving brother of the Barbershop pioneer family (Sam Breedon, 1991 and Joe Breedon, 2008) 50 year Society member and charter member of the Tampa (1948), Jacksonville (River City, 1953) and First Coast Metro Chapters (1996), Fred L. Breedon Jr passed away December 19, 2010. Instrumental in the organization and establishment of the Sunshine District while President of the Dixie District in 1958, he was honored to be the very first BOTY winner of the Dixie District and the (new) Sunshine District in 1958. Was Sunshine District President in 1960 and was inducted into the Sunshine District Hall of Fame in 1996. Was baritone of the Dixie District Champs, The Florida Knights in 1949 and competed at International won by the Mid-States Four. Sang baritone in several registered quartets including the Florida Keys (runner-up to the Suntones in 1960) and Hi-Jacks. Competed again on the International stage with all three generation family singers, including his four sons (Fred III, George, Bob and Jim) and grandson (Jamie) with the 2006 Sunshine District Chorus Champions, The Metropolitans.

As important as he was to the International and Sunshine District community he remained, if not the very first, ardent "youth" supporter of the craft having all four sons and a grandson participating in the Barbershop Harmony Society as well as introducing his daughter (Ann Moody), granddaughter (Sara Breedon) and daughter-in-law (Mary Breedon) to the hobby who have all participated on the International stage of the Sweet Adelines organization.

He will be remembered as a great leader and pioneer for the Sunshine District, a great baritone in his day, one who loved his family beyond measure and was devoted to his friends without hesitation.

In 2006 as part of the International week and prior to, I believe, the AIC show, there was a performance by 300 singers on stage in the first ever "Grandfather, Father, Son" Chorus which the Breedon family were honored to participate along with many, many Sunshine District friends and their families. That photo actually made the Harmonizer that fall. In the picture is Dad followed my



my brother Fred Breedon III who is holding his grandson Grayson, me (George "Gabby" Breedon), Bob Breedon, Jim Breedon and his son Jamie Breedon. Four Breedon generations were on stage to sing two songs....of course when we got through the first bar of "When There's Love At Home" none of us could sing as Dad was the first to start weeping...I touched his shoulder as I was standing next to him on the risers and then when I felt my brothers hand on my shoulder I turned to see all of us touching each other as tears welled for us all...it was the most special time I've ever had....singing on the International stage with Dad!!!



In the picture with us all in our military costumes was the same "Guys" along with our sister, Ann Moody, who has been a Sweet Adelines member in the past, as she supported us by not only attending but dressing her part as well.

Regards,  
George "Gabby" Breedon



# SUNSHINE DISTRICT CONVENTION

FALL 2011  
SEPT 23 - 25  
**ORLANDO, FLORIDA**



**HDQTRS HOTEL AND CONTEST VENUE:  
ORLANDO AIRPORT MARRIOTT  
800-380-6751 OR 407-851-9000**

## 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>				
<b>SINGING PART</b>		<b>PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL</b>		<b>HOF</b>		<b>50 YEAR</b>		<b>1ST TIMER</b>		<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 26**  
**REGULAR PRICE CUT-OFF IS SEPT. 16**

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

ALL EVENTS PACKAGE (EARLY BIRD PRICE TO 8/26)	\$45.00	x	QTY	=	\$	<b>Check New Price Structure!</b>
ALL EVENTS PACKAGE (REGULAR PRICE 8/27-9/16)	\$65.00	x	QTY	=	\$	
ALL EVENTS PACKAGE (AFTER 9/16)	\$75.00	x	QTY	=	\$	
ALL EVENTS PACKAGE STUDENT (UNDER 24)	\$20.00	x	QTY	=	\$	
ALL EVENTS PACKAGE STUDENT (AFTER 9/16)	\$25.00	x	QTY	=	\$	
SINGLE EVENT TICKET - ADULT	\$25.00	x	QTY	=	\$	
SINGLE EVENT TICKET - STUDENT (UNDER 24)	\$10.00	x	QTY	=	\$	
VIDEOS (ONLY 1 PER CHORUS OR QUARTET)	\$20.00				\$	
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

**SEE PAGE 26 FOR HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION**

## Harmony Foundation

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



If you attended the Spring Convention, you heard Ev Nau of the Harmony Foundation give a remarkable report about his special efforts to enlist new members for the Ambassadors of Song. Each chapter visit he made resulted in a significant number of the men in attendance being impressed with his message to the extent that they signed up on the spot. We more than doubled the number of Ambassadors in the Sunshine District as a result.

Ev also reported that only about 7% of our members participated in our options for giving, including the Founder's Club (planned giving), President's Council and Ambassadors of Song. That is not nearly enough to impress those who offer grants and cash awards to nonprofit organizations such as Harmony Foundation. They will believe in what we do when we begin to believe it ourselves.

If you are not yet convinced of the value of these funds, talk to someone who has attended midwinter convention in the last three years and seen the young men's choruses in competition. Think back to our own spring convention and recall the three college quartets that competed there. Then attend the show produced following the upcoming Harmony Explosion Camp in Melbourne on June 18.

For a long time I have searched for an incentive to get men to consider membership in Ambassadors of Song. The Sunshine District Board has provided an excellent one by offering two free convention registrations for the fall contest in exchange for a \$20 per month gift to AOS. Elsewhere in this issue of the Sunburst is a special registration form that provides for this. Don't forget that there is a donor choice feature that will allow you to designate up to 30% of your gift to return to your chapter, the district or some combination of the two. You don't have to choose an option at all and all of your gift will go to our youth projects.

I wish Ev were standing in front of you now with his incontrovertible arguments about why you should join. I think this is the best we can do on paper but if you need more, call me. I'm involved in all three giving initiatives and have enjoyed the fruits of my philanthropy to the fullest. Jump right in, the water's fine.

Are you supporting your Chapter by learning your words and notes at home? How about volunteering for a Chapter job that needs to be filled? Bring someone new to a Chapter meeting. He will thank you for it.

## Announcing Regional Leadership Academies

This fall, the Sunshine District will bring the training of our chapter officers closer to our chapter locations which will reduce chapter costs and will provide an opportunity for more chapter officers to attend. In other words, the district is bringing the schools to the chapters. Four academies will be held in various locations around the district – one in the Panhandle area, another in the Southeast, in the Southwest, and one in the Central area. That's right, four academies with seven instructors for each chapter office at each academy.

The proposed dates and locations are as follows: In the Panhandle, Oct. 22 at Ft. Walton Beach; the Southeast, Nov. 5 at Stuart; Central, Nov. 19 at Lady Lake (The Villages); and the Southwest, Dec. 3 at Venice. By having four academies, we have tried to locate them in such a way as to have each chapter within a two hour drive limit. We realize that a few chapters will fall outside of that goal.

The cost for each student will be \$80 for the one day of intensive training. This represents a savings of \$100 per student as compared to our last academy which would result in a \$10,000 savings to our chapters.

A couple of important reminders for all chapters are that the elections be held and results submitted to the Society Headquarters by October 15, and that each chapter provide the funds necessary for the officers to attend. We will provide additional details in future Sunbursts.

Dave Roberts  
VP of CSLT  
Sunshine District

## BHS CHORUS DIRECTOR NEEDED!

Sadly, Dick Grayson is retiring after over 20 years of outstanding service. So Palm Beach County Chapter has an immediate need for an energized director to build on our 50+ years of tradition as we rejuvenate our chorus with an exciting repertoire of traditional and contemporary music. We assure you a warm, southeast Florida welcome and payment for annual director training.

Contact D. Ferguson  
at 702.493.2340 or [vegasferg@gmail.com](mailto:vegasferg@gmail.com).

# District Chorus Competition



Top, Tampa Heralds of Harmony 78.5  
District Chorus Champion  
District AAAA Champion



Right, Ft Lauderdale  
Sunshine Chordsmen 77.7

Below, Winter Park  
Sunshine Jubilee 75.3  
District AAA Champion



Top, Central Florida  
Heart of Florida 66.4



Left, Sarasota  
Chorus of the Keys 64.8



## District Chorus Competition (continued)



Left, Fort Walton Beach  
Emerald Coast Chorus 64.8

Below, Sebring  
Heartland Harmonizers 62.5



Left, Cape Coral  
Cape Chorale 62.0

Below,  
Naples/Fort Myers  
Paradise Coastmen 61.6



Left, Melbourne  
Harbor City Harmonizers 60.4

## District Chorus Competition ( continued)



All Contest Photos by Three Oaks Photography

Top, Orange Ridge Sentimental Journeyman	57.6
Right, Clermont Vocal Express	45.9



## Chapter and Quartet Happenings

### The Everglades Chapter

Dennis Roussey  
President & Secretary

The Sunshine District's newest chapter is off to a fast start. Organized less than a year ago, the Everglades Chapter ("Chorus of the Everglades") is made up mostly of veteran barbershoppers with a total of more than 700 years of SPEBSQSA experience.

In the eight months they've come together, they have participated in a Christmas show, a patriotic show and several sing outs. They entertained at three Valentine parties and-- coming up in March--have another sing out and their first annual (charter) show. They will be joined in their charter show by members of their sponsoring chapter—Martin/St. Lucie.

Also on their program will be participation in Naples' largest public celebration—the St. Patrick's Day Parade, which is viewed by thousands. Chapter members will serenade those thousands and provide candy for the kiddies from a decorated float.

The chorus is directed by a true veteran of the craft—Bart Plescia, a 52-year member of SPEBSQSA and a joy to work with. Bart has coached quartets and choruses over the years, including the Montclair Chorus which place fourth and fifth at the International, and others which earned a second place in the Sunshine District and a sixth in the Mid Atlantic District. Bart's quartet, The Hallmarks, placed in the top ten internationally for three consecutive years.

Also in the works for the new chapter is a website designed to inform the public about the chapter and its activities, to encourage men to visit and consider joining the BHS, and to provide personal information to chapter members through a "members-only" website.

The chapter's motto, "No man left behind," is indicative of the friendly and supportive atmosphere which the group espouses.



*Members of the District's newest chapter—the Chorus of the Everglades—pose for picture following their performance as invited guests in a show presented by a Knights of Columbus group. The 25 members and director Bart Plescia represent more than 700 years of barbershop singing experience. Their promise: "To have fun while providing quality entertainment."*

*A message from your Sunshine District Society Liaison for 2011- Jim Sams, Society Board Member-at-Large.*

I bring warm greetings from your Society President, Alan Lamson, and my fellow Society Board members. Being from Dixie I feel as though I have a very close relationship to my barbershop family in Sunshine since at one time we were one District. Over the years through my administrative experiences I have had the privilege of working closely with a number of your leaders, both past and present. It has been a great pleasure working alongside one very special Sunshine leader, Shannon Elswick, the last 2-1/2 years. He has faithfully served as a Society liaison to both Dixie and Sunshine these last two years. I am delighted to have been asked to serve as your liaison to the Society Board during the remainder of this year and, hopefully, into 2012 as well.

I have officially been a barbershopper since 1980. But I was singing in barbershop quartets as early as 1961 in junior high school with the straw hats, striped vests and canes! I attended my first barbershop show in 1980 in Memphis and have been hooked ever since. I have been active in administration at the chapter level since 1981 and have served on the chapter board for over 25 years currently serving again as a Treasurer. I have been on the Dixie board for over 20 years serving as Treasurer, President, and currently as VP of Contest and Judging. I have been serving the Society as a COTS instructor, a Contest Administrator in the Society C&J program for the last seven years, and am currently in my third year as a Society Board member. I have been married to my high school sweetheart, Doris, for 42 years and have two wonderful children and four very loving grandchildren. Barbershopping has been an integral part of my lifestyle for all of these 31 years and I have truly enjoyed meeting other barbershoppers and working alongside some of the finest gentlemen in this Society for many years.

**My greatest desire is to see the Sunshine District grow both numerically and musically reaching out to the very heart of every chapter in every corner of your District.**

*Jim Sams*  
Sunshine District Society  
Board Liaison



I am very excited to have the privilege of serving your District by working very closely with your President, Keith Hopkins, and your Sunshine Leadership Team in the coming months. My greatest desire is to see the Sunshine District grow both numerically and musically reaching out to the very heart of every chapter in every corner of your District. Whatever resources I am asked by your Leadership Team to provide, I will gladly share and utilize them to best of my ability. I only hope that through my efforts, the Society Board can help make a positive difference in your District. I am a barbershopper at heart like each of you and am willing to listen and to share your needs and concerns as well as your accomplishments in every area of District and chapter life. Please feel free to contact me at your convenience using the information listed below.

[jimsamsca@bellsouth.net](mailto:jimsamsca@bellsouth.net) I look forward to meeting and greeting many of you in the coming months.

Jim Sams  
Society Board Member-At-Large  
Contest Administrator  
VP Contest & Judging-Dixie  
Dixie Hall of Fame  
Sage Lake Member  
Presidents' Council charter member  
O.C. Cash Founders Club member  
Com.Gen.(Rtd) Confederate Harmony Brigade  
Chapter Treasurer-Memphis, TN  
[jimsamsca@bellsouth.net](mailto:jimsamsca@bellsouth.net)  
H: 901-861-0676  
W: 901-226-4996  
C: 901-488-3128

**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.**



# Ambassador of Song Special Registration

## Sunshine District Fall Convention – Orlando – September 23-25

This special promotional offer includes two free registrations to the above convention (\$90 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.

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. (choose method below)

MC  Visa  Disc  AMEX or  Checking Account Debit

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Bank Name \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Bank Routing # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Account \_\_\_\_\_

30% donor choice to () Sunshine District () My chapter above () None

Mail or fax this form to:

Dick Shaw, 35 Vagabond Lane, Winter Haven, Fl 33881 [Fax (863)875-4077]

## Chapter and Quartet Happenings

### The Chapter of the Everglades

The Sunshine District's newest chapter—the Chapter of the Everglades—held its first annual show March 26 in Naples, Florida. Titled “Seems Like Old Times,” the show featured a selection of barbershop golden oldies as well as a few newer tunes.

The new chapter's 26 singers were joined by a similar number of barbershoppers from the Martin/St. Lucie Mariners Chorus, the sponsoring group. Both chapters also presented numbers by their various quartets. The final two songs were sung by the combined choruses to the delight of the audience.

The Naples-area men were flattered by the effort which the Mariners men made. They drove across the state to support the new chapter and to participate in their first show. Members of both groups enjoyed one another's company during an Afterglow party at a nearby community club.

“What a great effort the Mariners made to drive all the way across the state in order to encourage us in our charter show,” said Den Roussey, President of The Everglades Chapter. “We'll appreciate that forever.”

The “new” chapter in fact consists almost entirely of experienced barbershoppers. Their combined association with SPEBSQSA totals more than 700 years.



The Mariners under the direction of Bart Van de Mark were a big success with the Naples audience.



The Everglades Chorus of Naples enjoyed the applause of an appreciative audience. Director Bart Plescia stands at far right.



The combined Everglades and Mariner Choruses closed the show with two songs, one each directed by the the two "Bart" directors--Plescia and Van de Mark.



The Everglades Chorus's Timepiece Quartet opens the show with the theme song "Seems Like Old Times." They came on stage appearing to be the janitorial staff, causing the Martin/St. Lucie Mariners to wonder if there was a mistake.

### Calendar of Events 2011

July 5-10	International Conv.	Kansas City
Sept. 2-5	Labor Day Jamboree	Orlando Airport Marriott
Sept 23-25	SUN Fall Convention	Orlando Airport Marriott
Oct. 22	Leadership Academy	Ft. Walton Beach
Nov. 5	Leadership Academy	Stuart
Nov. 19	Leadership Academy	Lady Lake
Dec. 3	Leadership Academy	Venice

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

**ADVERTISE in The Sunburst**

Spring is springing and it was chilly but beautiful in Nashville the last weekend in March. The Barbershop Harmony Society Board met for its spring planning meeting and here is a summary of what we did. Thanks to Shannon Elswick, EVP SBOD, for putting this article together for the SBOD members.

As always, I look forward to your comments and/or questions. Feel free to contact me anytime if I can be of service to you or your chapters.

Jim Sams, Society Board Liaison for Sunshine District  
jimsamsca@bellsouth.net  
901-488-3128

The Society Board met on Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at the Society offices in Nashville. Friday's meeting was devoted to board education. Alan Valentine, President and CEO of the Nashville Symphony gave a keynote address and told the story of the turnaround of his organization. Our facilitator for the afternoon session was Doug Brown, Founder and CEO of Paradigm Associates. The board members were privileged to be able to tour the Schermerhorn Symphony Center.

Saturday's meeting was dedicated to Society Board meeting. President Alan Lamson called the meeting to order at 8:30 am and adjourned to executive session to receive official notice of the retirement of our CEO. Ed Watson has served with distinction and led the Society through some difficult transitions. Ed will remain in office until after the Kansas City convention. President Lamson will appoint a committee to oversee the CEO transition.

The regular meeting was reconvened with the official routines of singing the national anthems, reviewing the mission and vision statements and accepting the minutes of the midwinter meeting. In addition to the board members, staff and governance representatives, Bob Brutsman, Chairman of the Harmony Foundation, was also in attendance.

**Treasurer's Report** – Dwayne Cooper, Society Treasurer, introduced Becky Harrell, Audit Partner with KraftCPAs, our audit firm in Nashville. Becky presented the preliminary results of the 2010 consolidated audit. The Board discussed the report and asked questions to more fully understand the numbers and required footnote disclosures.

Dwayne Cooper and Heather Verble gave the financial report. Net income through two months of the new fiscal year was \$129,472 which was significantly better than the budget due to a very successful Midwinter Convention in Las Vegas.

*Jim Sams*

### Sunshine District Society Board Liaison



**Operations Team Reports** – Written reports were received from the following committees; Chapter Support & Leadership Development, Chorus Director Development, Contest & Judging, Events, Marketing & Public Relations, Membership, Music & Performance and Youth in Harmony. Board member questions regarding the reports and plans for moving forward with the various program ideas represented in the reports.

**Board Standing Reports** – Written reports were received from the following committees; Annual Planning Cycle, Education, Ethics, Governance & Bylaws, Hall of Fame, Honorary Membership, Joint Audit Review and Nominating. The board also received a report from the Strategic Planning Task Force.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Harmony Foundation Cash Flow Analysis** – Society Treasurer, Dwayne Cooper, and Harmony Foundation CEO, Clarke Caldwell, led the board through an analysis of the timing of pledges and cash flows through the Foundation. Discussions included a review of the breakout of Foundation functional expenses and funding back to the Society.

**Refinancing HQ Mortgage Loan** – Regions, Sun Trust and USBank have submitted proposals for refinancing the HQ mortgage. A board committee was appointed to review and recommend which bank to choose. IPP Bill Biffle, recommended a committee be appointed to review and monitor the consolidated liquidity of the Barbershop Harmony Society and the Harmony Foundation.

**Timing of Preliminary Contests** – Ed Watson reported that there was not sufficient support from the districts to move in the direction of consolidating preliminary contests in any manner. It was reported that 14 of the 17 districts make money on both Spring and Fall conventions each year. The board discussed the possibility of allowing districts to arrange for their quartets to qualify in other districts. Ed Watson will discuss with C&J and the District Presidents and then report back to the board.

**Report of the Strategic Planning Task Force** – Bill Biffle presented the report on behalf of Noah Funderburg, Ed Watson, Shannon Elswick and himself. The three primary

*continued on page 20*

*continued from page 19*

areas of focus recommended by the task force are membership growth, creation of new chapters and development of an enhanced external focus. Ed Watson commented that he was in full support of the major focus areas but wanted to review the specific programs which were being discussed. It was agreed that the list would be reviewed by Ed and his staff with input to come back to the board for further review.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Annual Planning Cycle Committee** – Rick Ashby reported on behalf of the committee. The spring meeting in the cycle is simply the preliminary discussion of the board regarding the AIMs for 2012 and beyond. There was discussion suggesting an alignment of 2012 AIMs with the major areas of focus recommended by the Strategic Planning Task Force.

**District Liaison Assignments** – Shannon Elswick lead a discussion regarding the district liaison assignments and the current process for assigning society representatives to district conventions. It was decided that Shannon would communicate with the District Presidents and revise the liaison assignments if needed. It was noted that the fall schedule has six conventions on the weekend of September 30<sup>th</sup>. That weekend will present multiple scheduling challenges.

**CEO Report** – Ed Watson reported our total membership as of the date of the meeting is 25,002, which is up from year-end. An additional license kit has been issued to bring the total of outstanding license kits to 13.

Ed gave an overview of income and expenses related to supporting the Affiliates. The basic affiliate agreements are being rewritten and will be presented to the Affiliates for review. The group in Spain is poised to become an official affiliate of the society but no official action has come to the board for action.

Chapter Achievement Program results are finalized for the 2010 cycle. The number of chapters participating was 327, or 41%. The results will be tabulated and shared with the board, districts and participating chapters.

The pace of registrations for Kansas City has picked up and we are now on pace to reach the budgeted level of 6,250.

### **CLOSING:**

President Lamson thanked the board members and staff for their time and diligence on behalf of the Society. The attendees sang Keep the Whole World Singing and the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

The next regular meeting of the society board will be in Kansas City the week of the International Convention.

### **Director Search - Daytona Beach**

The Daytona Beach Surfside Chorus is searching for a director to take over the continued development of our chorus, as our current Director has relocated due to employment.

Our new director must be able to lead us and continue to improve the quality of our singing, the artistry of our performances and the membership of our chapter. The Surfside Chorus has been in continuous operation since 1950. During that time we have entertained thousands in the Central Florida area.

Currently, the chorus has 30 active members and a number of scheduled public performances throughout the year. We have an experienced and effective board of directors and an active Music Team.

We meet on Tuesday evenings, 6:30 pm, at the Daytona State College, Building 230, Daytona Beach, FL.

Compensation package is subject to negotiation. Interested persons please contact the Director Search Committee:

Robert Cochrane<bari007@aol.com> (386) 212-5080

Robert Stump<bobstump@cfl.rr.com> (386) 882-4274

Myron Menaker<myronm@bellsouth.net> (386) 788-7258

### **CORRECTION**

On page 22 in the last issue of the Sunburst, **SHEET MUSIC FOR SALE**, the internet address was incorrect. For anyone trying to contact the seller, the correct address is **fyi2868@comcast.net**. You can review that offer in the last Sunburst, (Oct/Nov/Dec 2010) on the District web site.

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).**

## JUDGMENT DAY TAG SUB-SIZZLE

2011 May 20-22

(For those who don't know about Judgment Day, google "May 21, 2011".)

### The fabulously historic Desert Inn and no Spa, Yeehaw Junction, FL

See: <http://www.desertinnrestaurant.com/>

Starts Friday eveningish and goes through sometime Sunday morning, assuming there is one. Nothing fancy to distract us. No show. No afterglow.....well,..... maybe.

Learn to learn tags, to teach tags and to maybe compose tags with three other men. Become your chapter's tag-master. Be the guy who bestows instant success upon a first time visitor or an old-timer for that matter. Watch their faces when they feel the chords. There's a good chance they'll be back for more. Feel the thrill when it's YOUR tag they're enjoying.

This is not a quest for perfection. It is a quest for learning and confidence and an ability to teach at least ONE eeeeasy tag to the guy who walks in the door. Maybe he'll get what it's all about right away. Let's call it instant orientation. And we'll find a new member.

(There will likely be some other barbershopping going on, too, in spite of our best efforts.)

Rooms are \$40.00/ night, if you paid for a whole room yourself. Figure the math for two or three in a room. Or four, even. Let me know if you don't mind sleeping on an air mattress. It might come in handy. We'll give you a discount. If you prefer, you're welcome to commute.

You're on your own for food and drink, but the Desert Inn Restaurant and Club is the finest you'll find between Kenansville and Fort Drum. There is also a Stuckey's and a Pilot Gas Station with a Subway three football fields away and a vegetable stand just across Rt. 60, and a stable 350 ft to the west to board your horse. Bring cash, just in case. Beverages of all types will be available until 2AM, if we want.

The Inn is on the intersection of FL60 and US441, NW corner, at the only stoplight for about 60 miles in any direction, and less than ¼ mile from the FL Turnpike.

Contact Bart Van de Mark.

[Membership@sunshinedistrict.org](mailto:Membership@sunshinedistrict.org)

Limited to 20 men over the age of 21. Plus some famous "Tagmasters" (mostly over the age of 21). No prerequisite necessary. Just a "want to."

First 20 are in. You don't have to pay anything now. Just tell me if you're interested. ....And how strongly.

We're a little bit flexible, but.....We'd kinda like to know in advance.

We'll give you a couple of tags to work on in advance to get your feet wet.

## Contest and Judging

Harold Lathom  
Director  
Contest & Judging



Spring, 2011

What a successful convention and contest weekend we had in Orlando. Hats off to the entire convention team for a job well done.

It is great that we are sending three qualifying quartets and two collegiate qualifying quartets to the big sing in Kansas City. The Sunshine District will be proud to be represented by such good quality quartets.

Your Board of Directors appointed a committee to look at our current chorus Plateau awards. The consensus has been that our Plateau system needs some type of revision and the appointed committee has been working hard to come up with the much needed changes.

What has been proposed by the committee is to have an overall Most Improved Chorus Award and then recognize/award those choruses that have shown grade level improvements. The details of this will be communicated to all chapter secretaries in the near future.

For this fall's contest we will keep the current Plateau system in place and recognize/award the winner's of all four Plateau levels. In addition we will be determining who would have received the new awards. How we will communicate this has yet to be determined.

For those of you who will be submitting the CJ 20 for your quartet/chorus for this fall's contest, please make sure that you read the comments section of the CJ 20 and communicate what is there to your entire quartet and chorus prior to the contest. This spring we had some issues with a few quartets who said they were unaware that the evaluations for the finalist quartets would be held on Sunday morning. This was clearly communicated in the CJ 20.

Exceptions to the scheduled evaluations will be considered if you contact me well in advance of the contest weekend. We will try and accommodate legitimate requests to the best of our ability. We do need to allow our judging panel sufficient rest periods. Naturally, any emergency situations that arise at the contest will be taken care of the best we can.

There are some changes being developed in the CJ 20 contest entry process. These changes will be communicated to all District Directors/VP of C&J at our annual meeting at Kansas City in July. I will not be setting up the fall contest for CJ 20 entry until after that meeting. Remember, the earlier you enter your quartet or chorus prior to the contest allows those on the convention team time to plan for the contest more efficiently. The contest entry deadline will be at midnight, September 9, 2011.



*Shannon Elswick*  
Sunshine District Society  
Board Liaison

Hello and goodbye (well not really). This will be my last article for you in my former capacity as the official society liaison for our district. I am very proud to say that Jim Sams has agreed to take over my responsibilities for the Dixie and Sunshine districts. Jim is a great man and a good friend. We will most definitely be in good hands.

I'm not actually going away, however. My responsibilities as Society EVP will keep me busy but I will still be kicking around at our conventions and hanging out with our district leadership when they will let me do so.

Just to show I can listen, this is a abbreviated summary of the society board meetings which were held at our 2011 Mid Winter Convention in Las Vegas. As always, please don't be shy about asking questions or giving Jim and me your suggestions. Be safe and keep smiling!

Shannon Elswick  
shannon@rareblendquartet.com

## 2011 Mid Winter Society Board Meeting

The Society Board met on Thursday and Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> at the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas. Both days the meeting was called to order and those present sang the American and Canadian national anthems. Immediate Past President Biffle read aloud the mission and vision statements of the society. The second day of the meeting, January 28<sup>th</sup>, President Lamson acknowledged Past Presidents, distinguished visitors, members of the Governance and Bylaws Committee and society staff who were in attendance.

### OLD BUSINESS:

The board approved minutes of the October 2010 meeting.

### Treasurer's Report – Dwayne Cooper, Treasurer

- Fiscal Year 2010 was completed with a net income from operations of \$470,931 against a breakeven budget.
- The board empowered the CEO to obtain a commitment for refinancing the mortgage on Harmony Hall.
- Liquidity requirement of \$1.5 million is met and exceeded with approx \$2.3 million in unrestricted cash and equivalents.

Reports were received from the following committees and task forces:

- **Global Policy Task Force** – Ed Watson, reporting for Chairman Keil
- **Board Education** – Gary Parker, Chair
- **Board Job Descriptions** – Jim Sams, Committee Chair
- **Membership Growth Task Force** – Bill Biffle, MGTF Chair
  - o **All Ages Task Force** – Jack Fitzpatrick, Chair
  - o **Delivery Mechanism Task Force** – John Donehower, Chair
  - o **New Chapters Task Force** – Don Fusion, Chair
  - o **External Focus Task Force** – Gary Parker, Chair
- **Strategic Planning Task Force** – Noah Funderburg

### Two Year chorus Rotation Update – Ed Watson, CEO

- District Presidents generally do not support and discussion has faded completely
- **The two-year chorus discussion, as originally discussed, will not be pursued**
- Some districts are asking to convert C&J rules to allow prelims in one contest per year and that request is being reviewed and evaluated  
The most recent suggestion which has been tentatively supported by C&J

### Governance and Bylaws Report

#### Youth in Harmony recommendations:

- Changed minimum score from 70 to 71 for qualifying for CBQC contest **beginning in 2011**
- Accepted recommendation that only 1 past CBQC or BHS champion per quartet be allowed **beginning in 2012**

#### Society Contest Rules

- Codified the current practice of having the SCJC **Chairman** serve as the Panel Chairman for the International Contest.

*continued on page 23*

*continued from page 22*

- Affirmed the priority order of audience, contestant, then panel for resolving environmental issues at contests. This is the practice which has previously been followed but is now formalized **in the rules**.

**Subsidiary Requests** – three requests for subsidiary organizations were reviewed. The one for the **High Sierra Harmony Brigade** was approved.

#### **CEO Report** – Ed Watson, CEO

- The society finished in the black for 2010
- Mid Winter 2011 sold out twice and the same day ticket sales were very strong
- Final 2009 audit has been complete and will be sent to the board
- Spanish Association of Barbershop Singers ready to affiliate
- Bing (Barbershoppers in Germany) is making two song books, one for men and one for women

**Installation of Officers** – Skipp Kropp officiated to recognize and install the following new officers:

**Don Fuson** – Board Member  
**John Miller** – Board Member  
**Dewayne Cooper** – Treasurer  
**Shannon Elswick** – Executive Vice President  
**Alan Lamson** – President

**Board reports for district delegates, guests and visitors**

**Review of the Governance process**

**Special presentation of appreciation to Bill Biffle**



Your chapter wants a bulletin, or they have a chapter bulletin, but they want you to be the editor. Sounds like that would be fun to do and it would be good for the chapter to have a bulletin. But what kind of information do you want your bulletin to contain? I guess it would inform, entertain, teach and whatever else you can think of. A kind of “serve all needs” to help the chapter function and run smoothly.

Well, who supplies all of this information? If you are in a chapter whose officers and members take an interest in helping you to make the Chapter bulletin the best it can be by submitting articles, you will have no problem in putting together a product the whole chapter can be proud of. A bulletin, be it a weekly, biweekly or monthly, etc. is only as good as the inputs you receive from the ones you are trying to serve. In other words, it's a group project.

Why, you ask, are you rambling on about Chapter Bulletins? Well, I'm glad you asked. The society is conducting a number of contests each year to recognize those editors who submit their work to be judged, both on the District and International level. The Sunshine District only had one editor who submitted his work to be judged, who was eligible to compete. I would guess that there are more editors out there in the District who would have qualified also. There were a few who submitted their work who did not qualify.

How do you qualify? Go to the Barbershop Harmony Society web site, <http://www.harmonize.com/probe/>. All the requirements for entering the contest are listed there. Things to look for are:

1. First & Foremost, all entrants must be a member of PROBE for both the year being judged (2011) and the year of judging (2012) which would apply for this year's Bulletins. This is a person membership and not a chapter membership. The cost is \$10.00 a year and is normally an expense paid by the chapter.
2. To be eligible to enter the International contest, you must first enter the district contest. Again, the rules for the district contest are listed at the same web site shown above.

If you just want a judge to review your bulletin for help in improving your publication, you can ask that your submission not be scored, but for review only.

Bob Johnston  
 Editor

**Next Sunburst Deadline  
 AUGUST 31, 2011**

## HD Chorus

This past year was an amazing one for the youth movement in the Sunshine District. Over the last year, HD Chorus has started to expand, more than doubling our membership from 22 members in January 2009 to 49 members in January of 2010. The members are mostly located in South Florida and we're hoping to expand our geographic location statewide.

HD Chorus is helping to pave the way for a new idea on getting the youth involved in our hobby, and it is working. The track record for youth choruses in the Sunshine District hasn't been great: a few have formed over the years, but none have lasted longer than a year. We're all very excited to be a part of the first Sunshine District youth chorus to surpass that milestone, and we're still growing and going strong.

## Preparing for Las Vegas

The Road to Vegas wasn't easy—we kept our promise to have at least one rehearsal or performance a month, but working with members who are not only young in age but also in spirit can be a double-edged sword: the best thing about a youth chorus can make it challenging to have great attendance at every rehearsal. Thankfully, the youthful energy and enthusiasm worked to our advantage in the end, making it possible for us to have a few extremely productive rehearsals in the final weeks before the Mid-Winter Convention.

Early last year, we picked our contestable songs *Yes Sir*, *That's My Baby* and *On The Street Where You Live* (both arranged by David Wright). The excitement of singing these two songs was countered by the difficulty of executing the plan, but with the help of our section leaders (the members of Spanglish) and our directors, both songs took form quickly.

## The Third Song

When the time came to select a third, non-barbershop song to round out our set, none of us could agree. After realizing our lack of consensus was only leaving us with less time to prepare, we agreed to let our director, Alex Rubin, make the decision for the entire group, and that we would trust his creative direction. On the first week of January, Alex presented us with a song that resonated very well with all of us—that song was *Loch Lomond*. After devoting most of our remaining rehearsals to this song, the hard work paid off: when we finished singing *Loch Lomond* on stage in Las Vegas, there wasn't a dry eye on the stage and a great wave of emotion came over us as we received a standing ovation from a very encouraging audience.

Amos Velez  
HD Chorus



## Will Rodriguez

Our tenor section leader, Will was diagnosed with stage 4 Hodgkin's Lymphoma only 5 weeks before the Las Vegas convention. He put forth an amazing amount of effort toward keeping HD Chorus going throughout all of 2010 and he's a major part of the reason why we made it this far. We were very saddened that he was not able to come to Las Vegas with us and he was most definitely missed. Before going on stage we called him on speaker phone and were all able to tell him how much we love him and how much we wished he was there with us, to which he replied "Guys, whether you know it or not, I'm with you. My heart is with you". At that point we started preparing for stage and Albert Rico (Lead, Spanglish) called him again and took him on stage with us (thankfully he wasn't singing along – the cell delay would've killed our synchronization). We were all happy and proud that technology allowed our brother to be a part of HD Chorus in Vegas.

**"guys,  
whether you  
know it or not,  
I'm with you..  
My heart is  
with you".**

## Support and Encouragement

While preparing for Las Vegas, HD Chorus received tons of support from the Sunshine District and its members. We owe a debt of gratitude to the Ft. Lauderdale Sunshine Chordsmen for allowing us to borrow their directors to lead our young group. We also send a very warm thanks to the other chapters who have helped us along the way, including the St. Lucie Mariners, the Palm Beach Coastmen, and the Heart of Florida chapters—they have each gone above and beyond to help HD Chorus achieve our goals, and we could not have come this far without your help. A HUGE thank you also goes out to the *Breedon Memorial Scholarship Fund* Board of Trustees, who graciously donated \$4,000 to our Las Vegas Mid-Winter Convention Fund and made the trip financially possible.

Finally, we would like to thank every single member of the Sunshine District for the moral support and encouragement that we have received since our inception. We love and respect you all, and hope what we do makes you proud and brings you joy.



## The Pursuit of...

*The PURSUIT of...*

**FAMILY** – *The TPQ* family continues to grow! We are very happy to announce that Chris, MaryGail, and Anna welcomed Owen William Coffee to the their family in January and by all accounts he is a keeper! You may recall that last year, just days before Prelims, Jeremy and Jennifer added Riley Kate Conover to our extended quartet family, too. We aren't making any predictions as to whether anyone is going to perpetuate the "TPQ-Add-One-Kid-a-Year" (TPQ A-OKAY) precedent that has been set. Also, Paul is embarrassed to announce that his 13 y/o son, Quinn, officially has a lower range than he does. Every time he tries to teach Quinn a tag, Quinn sings the bass part back an octave lower. Oh, yeah, Owen has more hair than Jeremy, too. Darn kids...

**CONTEST & FUN in KANSAS CITY** - The International Preliminary round is in the books and we are thrilled to be joining Main Street and Flashback as SUN Quartet Representatives in Kansas City. This will be our third trip as SUN Reps and it looks like it's going to be a banner year. We're talking with the other quartets about jointly hosting our own little SUN hospitality room just for SUN family and friends. Details are being worked out, so when you get to Kansas City, find one of us and we should have the information on the when, where, and how for you. Let's make this a celebration of the great things to come for our District!

**FRIENDS** – The Region 9 ladies were kind enough to invite us back to sing on their Thursday Night Live show in April - where we shared the stage with Flashback as the BHS quartet contingent. Being our usual, affable selves (and knowing this was their casual, pre-contest showcase) we showed up in our blue jeans and matching quartet shirts only to discover someone forgot to tell us the ladies were all going with a "glitz" theme for the night's festivities. (We should have known better – have you ever seen a Sweet Adeline that wasn't in full-blown sparkle mode?) Never fear, we made a few last minute "adjustments" and managed to clean up well enough to be allowed to sing. Jeremy was the Belle of the Ball with a little help from Debbie Cleveland from The Buzz. (see photo) While the guys were tucking in their shirt tails and slicking back their hair (except for Jeremy, of course) there was a hilarious retelling of how TPQ was directed to find their "Inner Sweet Adeline" in order to be more sensitive to the new balads we are singing. More on that below...



*The Sunburst*

**SHOWS** – If you want to hear more about our search for our "Inner Sweet Adeline", you'll have to catch us at one of our shows...or...have us sing on your upcoming show. (Subtlety is overrated!) Give Jeremy a call or email so we can come sing for your chapter and we promise to wear our nice suits for you. (Sparkles not included.)

Chad, Chris, Jeremy and Paul – The PURSUIT  
Jeremy@ThePURSUITQuartet.com  
Call Jeremy at 912-596-8123  
www.ThePURSUITQuartet.com

## Chapter Happenings

### Greater Canaveral Chapter

#### "United We Sing"

Tribute to the Tenth Anniversary of 9-11-2001 sponsored by the Greater Canaveral Chapter, Cocoa, FL

The Greater Canaveral Chapter of The Barbershop Harmony Society invites all men who love to sing, and would like to honor America in song, to sing with The Space Coast Chorus in United We Sing, a moving patriotic program to be presented several times throughout the next few months.

The program includes such well-know favorites as "America the Beautiful," "Battle Hymn of the Republic," "This Land Is Your Land," "God Bless America" and of course, "The Star-Spangled Banner." It will be presented with music in hand, and music will be distributed to all participants. Participation is free and there is no obligation to join.

All men interested are invited to attend rehearsals on Tuesdays from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the second floor Choral Room of the B. W. Simpkins Fine Arts Building (# 4) on the Cocoa Campus of Brevard Community College, 1519 Clearlake Road Cocoa FL 32922

For information, call Phil Hansen at (321) 454-3823 or Arlan Ropp at (321) 636-0900, or go to [www.spacecoastchorus.net](http://www.spacecoastchorus.net)

Bill Ross

Secretary, Greater Canaveral Chapter P-017

Space Coast Chorus

Things are happening in the CDD world here in the Sunshine District.

CDWI - At this writing we've had one CDWI (Chorus Director Workshop Intensive) director training event in Sarasota (see the [CDWI article on this page](#)) with another coming in a couple of weeks in Ft Walton Beach. Huge thanks go out to the Sarasota Chorus of the Keys, especially Chapter President Jim Stoup and his wife Janet for personally hosting our trainers. Without a great chapter willing host, these CDWI events would not happen. More CDWIs will be happening. Let me know if you are interested.

Directors College at Harmony U – We had tremendous response from our SUN district directors, assistant directors and other chapter leaders to Directors College Scholarships. I don't have a final count of how many people from the SUN District were awarded Directors College Scholarships, but I know I had at least a dozen inquiries, and I wrote eight reference letters, myself, with more being written by some chapter presidents around the district.

Outstanding in Front – I want to point this program out to our chapter leaderships, again. Outstanding in Front (OIF) is a program to develop musical and leadership to anyone who gets in front of the chapter during a chapter meeting. If you'd like a more dynamic, better trained music team, this is the program for your chapter. The target audience is for your section leaders, assistant directors, tag teachers, program VP, tag teachers, future directors and section leaders, etc. ...whoever you want to include, even the whole chapter. (Did I hear "great training for a chapter with compellingly attractive chapter meetings?") It can happen as a weekend workshop, as a couple of weeknight sessions, even during a chapter meeting. It can be held by one chapter or several. (You can split the cost of bringing in the trainer.) If you're interested, contact me and I'll get you in touch with the OIF program director.

SUN Coaches Guild – This is an underused program with tremendous potential. If you'd like help getting ready for your next show or competition, or just want to become a better singing chorus, bring in a coach. The District has some great coaches who have agreed to help our choruses and quartets enhance their skills. And directors, this is a great way to learn, also. If vocal production is not your strength, ask for someone to come in and teach vocal production for a night. If you'd like help choosing music that's appropriate for the level of your singers, the Coaches Guild can help there, also. Contact Jeremy Conover, VP Music and Performance – he'll find a coach to suit your needs.

*Dave Jacobs*  
VP Chorus Director  
Development



### CDWI – Sarasota

Imagine your director getting a day long directing workshop and coming back with comments like "... a fabulous day!", "...well worth the trip and time. A good program run by talented coaches!" This is what Chris Owens from Sarasota and Doug Stewart from Hernando County had to say about their CDWI experience.

With a student-teacher ratio of 5 to 2, five SUN district directors got intensive training with two Society trained CDWI trainers, practicing in front of a real chorus. What a great opportunity!

"CDWI" is **Chorus Director Workshop Intensive**. Gold-Medal quartetter and chorus director, John Devine (The Insiders) and Music Educator and chorus director Raisha Quinn met with five of our SUN District directors for an all day workshop. Chris Owens (Sarasota), Dave Barton (Cape Coral), Nick Folkes (Polk County), Doug Stewart (Hernando), and Paul Hanover (Orlando) got to discuss the issues they face as directors, and choose the skills each of them want to work on. In the afternoon, they worked on those skills with the trainers in front of a chorus made up of men from Sarasota, and surrounding chapters. It was a long day for the singers, but invaluable for the directors involved. Nick Folkes, director of the Citrus Lakes Chorus, told me "Man, this was great. I'm so excited to get back to the chorus with the stuff I've learned."

Special thanks to the Sarasota chapter for hosting the workshop, and especially to President Jim Stoup for hosting the trainers for the weekend. Your service to the district is invaluable!

### Sunshine District 2011 Fall Convention

Orlando, FL September 23-25, 2011

#### Headquarters Hotel & Contest Venue

Orlando Airport Marriott

7499 Augusta National Drive, Orlando, FL

#### Reservations Available Now

800-380-6751 or 407-851-9000

When calling, be sure to ask for:

#### **Sunshine District**



# Sunshine District Labor Day Jamboree

September 2-5, 2011  
Orlando Airport Marriott  
in Beautiful Central Florida



## Our Headliners



Plus...  
Many more Surprises  
in store!



**Get Away From It All and Have The Barbershop Time Of YOUR Life!**

*Relax and Enjoy the Sun & Fun in the Heart of the Central Florida Attractions District*

Love Golf? Register for the Dave LaBar Almost Classic Classic Golf Tournament



***Want Barbershop Shows?***

We get only the Best Every Year

**Hear Old School & the Buzz Live**



Hear Fantastic Barbershop Quartets from Sunshine District & Region 9 Sweet Adelines Saturday Night

Spend the days swimming, volleyball, jogging the fitness trail or visiting attractions

Join Us for a *Florida Tradition* of

**Singing, Golf, Singing, Swimming, Singing, Volleyball, & Singing**

in our **NEWEST Family Friendly Resort**

**Florida Green Lodging Program Rooms from \$99 a night**

Rates guaranteed until August 17, 2011

For Reservations or information go to

**[www.labordayjamboree.com](http://www.labordayjamboree.com)**



Bob Johnston, Editor

2509 Diplomat Dr.  
Melbourne, FL 32901  
321.727.3338  
editor@sunshinedistrict.org

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT #1  
MANASOTA FL

## ATTENTION:

If your chapter needs help in printing

- Annual Show Programs
- Monthly Newsletters
- CD Covers

or any other publicity printing

## WE CAN HELP!



Spotlight  
Graphics  
INC.

**Guaranteed Quality Work at Affordable Pricing**

6054 Clark Center Ave. • Sarasota FL 34238

941.929.1500 • 800.600.8779 • 941.929.1600 Fax

print@spotlightgraphics.com • www.spotlightgraphics.com